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Novi News



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THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2008

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VOLUME 52 #36 50 CENTS



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Puppeteers in Training!

Using their hands as puppets, Novi Woods Elementary students follow along with instructor Mel Hatch of Madcap Puppet Theatre as she presents an in-school puppeteering class on a recent Tuesday afternoon. Hatch, of Cincinnati, was at the Novi school for a week teaching a series of workshops to give kids the fundamentals for puppeteering theatre.

A plan for the future



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi City Manager Clay Pearson, center, participates in judging last Tuesday's Future City Competition at the Rock Financial Showplace.

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

Seventh- and eighth-grade students from around the state gathered at Rock Financial Showplace last week to share their visions for the future.

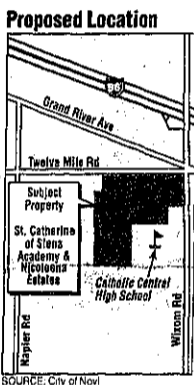
The 16th annual Future City Competition featured nearly 40 schools traveling the slippery winter roads from as far as Kalamazoo, Crosswell and Mayville (both north of Port Huron) to as near as host city Novi and neighboring Northville and Farmington Hills. Twenty-six participating schools hailed from Detroit.

The Regional Competition is organized by the Engineering Society of Detroit and sends one winner to the national competition in Washington, D.C. each year to compete against winners from 39 other regions.

Each team is required to display residential, commercial and industrial areas, power plants, transportation systems, community services and communication systems. Environmental controls, traffic density, taxes and operating budgets are other issues meriting consideration in the project.

The Novi Middle School project, continued on 6A

Girl's school going, going, gone?



Developer pulls plug on Catholic campus

By Kelly Murad
STAFF WRITER

A rezoning disagreement between the city and owner of the property located south of 12 Mile Road between Wixom and Napier roads, might prohibit plans of an all-girls Catholic high school from moving forward. Property owner Frank Pellerito had plans to donate a portion of the 116-acre adjacent to Detroit Catholic Central High School to

the development of St. Catherine of Siena Academy, and keep the remaining portion for a 230-unit duplex residential development, Nicoleena Estates.

But after last Tuesday's city council meeting, Matt Quinn, representing Pellerito, said all bets are off.

Quinn said Pellerito is in no hurry to develop his 116-acre, and the developers for the school already began looking for property in Wixom and Lyon Township. The reason the school may be moving west centers on a failure to agree on property zoning.

Council approved to rezone the property from I-1, light industrial; R-1, one-family residential; and R-A, residential acreage, to R-4, one-family residential with consideration of a planned rezon-

ing overlay to adjust the density permitted according to the ordinance.

Council's approval was in accordance to a recommendation made by the planning commission from its Nov. 28, 2007, meeting and public hearing.

But Lakeside Oakland Development, owned by Pellerito, wanted to rezone the property RM-2, high-density, mid-rise, multiple-family residential; and R-T, two-family residential, with consideration of a planned rezoning overlay.

Council members voiced concern regarding the applicant's request because it goes against the Master Plan.

Representatives for Lakeside

continued on 5A

DeRoche recall just a distraction, legislator says

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

The Michigan Democratic Party launched a recall campaign against State Rep. Craig DeRoche (R-Novi) on Monday, but the minority House leader said the effort is more a distraction to voters than anything else.

"It's a hyperpolitical distraction because of the \$350 million surplus. Democrats have an 83 percent disapproval rating because they raised taxes during a budget

surplus," he said. "Things ran pretty well until the Democrats took control and raised taxes. Now they're looking for a scapegoat to divert attention."

"I haven't heard anyone in the district say they want to raise taxes and send it to Lansing."

The Democratic Party is pressing DeRoche for his role in recall efforts against other House members and for voting against a proposed repeal of liability protection for pharmaceutical companies in cases of wrongdoing.

"They have to go through a process and get 1,000 signatures from voters, something like 25 percent of the people who voted in the last election," DeRoche said of



Craig DeRoche

the recall process. "The election will be three months after the signatures are turned in. I have a Feb. 13 hearing (for the approval to send out the petition). It's a six-month process. I'm out of office Dec. 31 anyway (because my term is up)."

Although the recall would only shorten DeRoche's term by about a month, he said there's still room for concern. He said the recall announcement was an effort to sway an introduction of property tax relief bills next week.

"We're focused on doing what

we can to fix the economy and the district," he said, noting improvements to the Beck and Wixom road interchanges and school funding.

"I think the voters of the Novi and South Lyon area know I was fighting for them. I hope they see it for the political stunt that it is."

DeRoche was singled out in the recall campaign by Democratic Chairman Mark Brewer.

Last year, Brewer said he intended to target two Republicans for recall for every Democrat who was singled out

for supporting the income and business tax hikes.

According to Gannett News service, so far, anti-tax groups are working on recall petition drives aimed at five members of the state House, four of them Democrats, and have suggested they will target up to a half dozen others in both parties.

Novi News staff writer Chris Jackett can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or cjackett@gannett.com.

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NOVI WEEKEND PLANNER

FRIDAY
Novi Theatres presents the Mardi Gras Cabaret at 6:30 p.m. at the Lyon Oaks Golf Course and Banquet Center, 52251 Pontiac Trail in Wixom. The event will feature music and dancing with the Tony Lannen Quartet, a Broadway-style performance from the Michigan Opera Theater, a buffet dinner with beer, wine and cocktails, and silent and live auctions. The event is being emceed by WNIC's Lisa Barry. Tickets are \$40 per person, \$75 per couple or \$375 per table. Call (248) 347-0400, visit www.novitheatres.com or stop by the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, 45175 W. 10

Mile Road, to purchase tickets or get more information.

SATURDAY
Get a jump on Valentine's Day from 9:30-11:30 a.m. with Moms Day Valentines through Community Services Programs, 49045 Pontiac Trail in Wixom. For \$22 a couple, kids and the moms can create 15 unique valentine's cards. Pre-register before the event by calling (248) 624-2850.

SUNDAY
Get a brisk morning run in at 9 a.m. at the Super 5K Run at Novi Town Center, 43271 Crescent Blvd. The Running Fit event will be set up in five-year age groups with awards for the top five in each group handed out at 9:45 a.m. All racers will get a T-shirt and "plenty of junk food at the finish" of the 3.1-mile race. The first 500 finishers will also receive a commemorative pint glass. Pre-registration is \$24 and race day registration is \$29. Call (734) 929-9027 or visit www.runsuperbowl.com for more information. Afterward, go home and relax to watch the 6 p.m. Super Bowl XLII match up between the New England Patriots and the New York Giants on Fox-TV (Channel 2).



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MY INDEX

| | | | |
|----------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| Bulletin Board | 12A | Food for Thought | 4B |
| City Council | 5A | Letters | 10A |
| Commentary | 11A | Public Safety | 7A |
| Community | 3A | Real Estate | 1C |
| Education | 6A | Senior Citizens | 8A |
| Entertainment | 9A | Sports | 1B |



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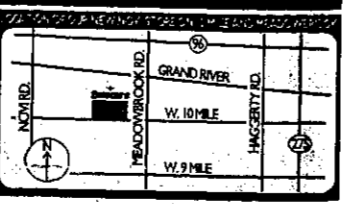
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Victoria Mitchell, editor
(248) 348-1700, ext. 102
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MY NOVI COMMUNITY

Thursday, January 31, 2008
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Marching to the beat of a different drum

State of the City addresses Novi's strengths

By Kelly Murad
STAFF WRITER

With cadence and control, the Novi High School Drumline set a dynamic tone for last Thursday's State of the City Address - and Mayor David Landry's optimism echoed the opening act.

"The city is thriving and growing, we are not only beating the odds, we are beating the drum," he said. "We are setting the rhythm for the state of Michigan to march out of recession."

As about 300 Novi residents and business owners attended the luncheon at Rock Financial Showplace, Landry shared the city's successes of 2007 and strategies for 2008.

In Michigan's state of economic strife, Landry credits Novi's success, primarily, to its ability to maintain a diverse tax base.

"According to Plante and

Moran's comprehensive financial report of the 2006-07 fiscal year, the diverse tax mix of residential; manufacturing; office, service and technology; and retail, recreation sectors, reduces Novi's impact of adverse economic cycles and provides a stable environment for new investments.

"The City of Novi is open for business," Landry said. "Economic development is a top priority."

Some of the developments Landry referred to from last year included Toyota Boshoku, Red Level Networks, ITC Holdings Corp., Ryder System Inc., Lotus Bank, Nordstrom and the Twelve Oaks Mall expansion, among others.

Maintaining a diverse tax base not only contributes to Novi being fiscally healthy, but it ensures sufficient revenues to pay for city services such as roads, public safety and water and sewer, Landry said.

"Today, in the state of Michigan, unemployment is rising, property values are declining and cost of living is increasing,"

Landry said. "As a result of these economic factors, the demand for traditional services provided by cities is increasing. Cities are constantly challenged to do more with less."

Although these traditional services may not be the most glamorous, Landry said they are absolutely necessary for the long-term infrastructure of the city.

"We take it seriously and we approach it professionally," he said. "Infrastructure is the framework for which daily life rests."

Not only did Landry emphasize the city's diverse tax base, but he said the overall diversity of the community has become, and will be, the defining aspect of Novi.

"We have become a destination for residents and businesses around the world," he said. "Thirty-five businesses based in Japan and 14 businesses based in Germany call Novi their Michigan-home."

With statistics showing one-third of the student body in the Novi Community School District is of Asian or Indian origin,

As reported first on Novinews.com

Landry believes the growth Novi is experiencing could be a result of being a diverse community.

"In this town, the state of each of us, is the state of all of us," he said. "We live in Novi by the motto 'no one of us, is smarter than all of us.'"

With positive outlook, Landry looks confidently at the future of Novi being a safe place to live, raise a family and conduct business.

"The life of the people in Novi is the life we make for ourselves. It's born of challenges and raised on actions."

"Many lifetimes have been, and will be lived in this community we call Novi."



Novi Mayor David Landry presents his State of the City address last Thursday at Novi's Rock Financial Showplace.

Residential energy meeting

The City of Novi is hosting a seminar on how to make your residence more energy efficient 6:30 p.m. tonight at the Novi Civic Center. The session is free and open to the public.

Detroit Edison energy experts Larry Kaufman and Gerald Polk will be leading the sessions, discussing the importance of green currents and energy efficiency.

"The average homeowner, with the tips we give them, can save 50 percent on their energy bills," Kaufman said. "I have a 2,700-square-foot home and I spend \$1,500-\$1,600 a year (in energy bills)."

Aside from energy efficiency, Kaufman, who has been hosting energy seminars for eight years, is going to discuss the importance of

My Novi, briefly

Green currents. "Green currents is our new volunteer renewable energy program," he said. "I encourage people to practice energy efficiency and take the money they save and invest it in green currents."

Guest artists from the Detroit Opera Theater entertain with song and dance selections from their internationally acclaimed Broadway Revue featuring songs from Gertrude, Cole Porter and Andrew Lloyd Webber. Silent and live auctions round out the festivities. Auction items include use of a car from Tom Holzer Ford, tickets to the Detroit Opera Theater and a Boyne Mountain vacation package.

The Mardi Gras Cabaret is Feb. 1 at Lyon Oaks Golf Course and Banquet Center. Dinner includes a roast beef carving station, New Orleans chicken, several side dishes and spirits. Purchase tickets online at www.novitheatre.com or

Basilian Fathers residence discussion

A public hearing on the request of the Basilian Fathers of Milford was held last week in front of the City of Novi planning commission for consideration of a parcel zoning change for the construction of a Basilian Fathers residence. The petitioner is requesting the zoning of about 4.15 acres, located north of 11 Mile Road and west of Taft Road, is changed from one-family residential to two-family residential or low density, low-rise multiple family residential. A favorable recommendation by planning commission members would send the Basilian Fathers residence request to the City Council.

Novi Parks Daddy Daughter Dance

The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department will host its annual Daddy Daughter Dances on Friday, Feb. 8 and Saturday, Feb. 9 from 6:30-9 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center.

This community-favorite event will feature a Rock Around the Clock Sock Hop theme. Dads and Daughters will make great memories while twisting their way through hits of the 50s and 60s, including Elvis and more. Classic dresses or poodle skirts and James Dean type attire are welcome. Hors d'oeuvres and lavish desserts, including the ever-popular chocolate fountain are sure to be enjoyed by all.

Registration for the Daddy Daughter Dance ends tomorrow. The price is \$20 each for residents and \$22 for non-residents. Registrations received online are eligible for a \$5 discount (\$15 for residents and \$17 for non-residents). Corsages are available for pre-order for \$8 and will be available at the dance. A 4x6 digital photo and a special themed gift bag are included in the event price.

For more information about the Daddy Daughter Dance, please contact Derek O. Smith, Recreation Supervisor, at (248) 347-0474.

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Super Bowl brings big business to local sports bars

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

A typical Super Bowl Sunday scene is a bunch of people eating, drinking and watching the big game together.

For sports bars like Buffalo Wild Wings in Novi, the big day means things will get a little busier.

"Compared to the last couple years, we should be full," said Garrett Onernik, general manager at Buffalo Wild Wings. "This year could be a little busier with the Patriots going for the most wins in an undefeated season. A lot of people do want to go out and see it. People are saying (Giants quarterback) Eli (Manning) could do it."

Onernik said Super Bowl patrons begin piling into the bar and restaurant as early as noon, among the post-churchgoers.

"If you're anywhere from two to four hours early. From noon-1 p.m., at least one-third of the restaurant (gets picked with Super Bowl spectators). From 3-4 p.m., we start picking up," he said.

Bob Barnett, owner of Library Sports Pub and Grill, said house parties draw away from sports bars, but they still fare well for the big game.

"I think a lot of people have home parties. We'll still fill up. It would've been bigger if Green Bay had made it," Barnett said. "When the Super Bowl was here in Detroit, it was probably our best turnout. We had a lot of Pittsburgh people who couldn't get tickets and they wanted to come out and party."

Sports bars are popular locations for viewing major sporting events because of how easy they make it. Dozens of people don't have to huddle around a single television and almost everyone there is into the game.

"One of our biggest things is the atmosphere," Onernik said of Buffalo Wild Wings. "We've been updating to more advanced technology. Getting high-definition on plasmas. We'll have seven big screens and 10 plasmas in the building."

Barnett compares the Library Sports Pub and Grill to a smaller, more comfy setting.

"We have that local flavor. We've been here 13 years. It's like watching the game in your den," he said. "It's a very comfortable

place to watch the game." The pub will also offer beer, wings and pizza specials, and giveaways from beer company names and T-shirts to mugs and an LCD television.

"We're trying to offer some good drink specials and giveaways. There will be trivia as perkins to teams in the game," Barnett said.

Homeward help

Although crowds come early and compare with those on a Friday night, Onernik said overall business at Buffalo Wild Wings is similar to an average football Sunday. He also agrees most people have Super Bowl parties at home instead.

He does warn those who want a seat for the game need to arrive early or risk missing out.

"We don't take reservations, so get here early. For huge games, it's impossible," he said.

For those already planning a party at home, many sports bars cater to those needs as well.

Buffalo Wild Wings has more business in takeouts than in the bar during the day.

"We do an enormous amount of takeouts. Takeouts are for as much as we sell in a week, we'll sell that day. People order just large quantities of wings," Onernik said. "We have a takeout book dedicated to them."

"From about 1-6:30 p.m. just before the game, it's solid takeouts. It's probably 15,000-20,000 wings on Super Bowl Sunday for just takeouts."

The restaurant's carryout prices for wings are the same as its dine-in prices. With 50-, 75- and 100-

Super Bowl XLII

New England Patriots (18-0) vs. New York Giants (13-6)

University of Phoenix Stadium

6 p.m. Sunday on FOX-TV



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

With plenty of television monitors, food and drinks for Super Bowl visitors, Novi's Buffalo Wild Wings in Fountain Walk Plaza will be ready for football fans Sunday.

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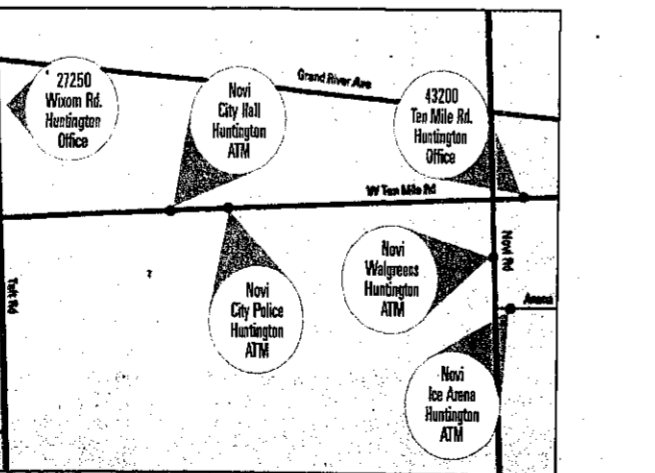
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Victoria Mitchell, editor
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102
vmitchel@gannett.com

MY CITY COUNCIL

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Fuerst Farm study begins; massage therapists utter concern

Council unanimously approved to award McKenna Associates, Inc. with a professional services contract in the amount of \$23,500 to prepare a Master Plan for the Fuerst Farmstead property.

The 6.5 acres of city-owned property, which is located at Taft and 10 Mile roads, is currently a historical site with a home, three barns, a well house, gardens and an orchard.

Some city officials feel the public property is an underutilized resource in the core of the community so council approved to review potential uses for the property.

McKenna Associates will facilitate community input sessions for people to voice their opinions regarding the property.

According to the agreement with the city, McKenna Associates will submit a plan with recommendations by Feb. 28.

Novi residents Linda Krieger and Carol Crawford participated in an audience participation to voice their opinions regarding the importance of Fuerst Farm as part of Novi's history.

Massage therapists against increased fees

During an audience participation at last week's council meeting, Greg Bond of Visions Spa and Salon asked council members to reconsider the recent increase of massage business and massage therapist license fees, as well as the business registration fee.

Bond said he felt it was prohibitive, as a business owner, to continue offering those services in the City of Novi.

Council approves increase of general fund - fund balance

The City of Novi finance department requested last Tuesday to increase the general fund - fund balance reserve range from 14-22 percent.

Currently, Novi's policy for the reserve of its general fund - fund balance is 8-12 percent of budgeted expenditures.

Council members did not agree with the 14-22 percent, but rather unanimously agreed to approve an increase of 14-18 percent.

Councilwoman Terry Margolis said she understands increasing the 8-12 percent because the city has been carrying an excess of that in their balance, but she thought 14-22 percent was too much.

"I would be comfortable to changing it to 14-18 percent. That is more reasonable," she said.

Developer pulls plug on Catholic campus

continued from front

Oakland Development said the requested rezoning is needed to adjust the property appraisal value, which is necessary to make the project financially viable.

"The city is willing to explore possibilities with St. Catherine and Mr. Pellerio," said Mayor David Landry. "But that is not maintaining the integrity of the Master Plan."

The proposed density of Nicolletta Estates is 3.6-units per acre. The density standards of R-4 is 3.3-units per acre, which reduces the residential development by 18-units.

"The city only wanted this property to develop at 3.3-units per acre," Quinn said. "They're tugging up on the philosophy of the Master Plan."

Even though the plan was to donate a portion of the property to St. Catherine's, Quinn said a lower density would not produce enough money for Pellerio to cover the cost of operations of the school for its first four years, as he intended.

City officials said the current property zoning is worth more than the proposed residential zoning.

According to Landry, an educational facility is not allowed under the current zoning, but the city indicated they would work with Pellerio to tweak the ordinance.

Novi News staff writer Kelly Murad can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or kmurad@gannett.com.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOTEBOOK

Council refers completion agreement to ordinance review

Singh Development LLC, requested approval last Tuesday for a revised completion agreement for the Bolingbroke Site Condominiums north of 12 Mile Road and west of Old Novi Road.

The two-year completion requirement Singh agreed to, expired in November. Only the clearing and grading has been

completed because the developer does not have a builder.

"We are in tough times, I think we all understand that up here," said Mayor Pro Tem Kim Capello. "But I don't think we can give you the relief you are asking according to our ordinance."

Since approving the applicants request would go against the city's ordinance, Capello made the motion to table the issue and refer it to the Ordinance Review Committee to determine if

changes need to be made to the current ordinance.

The motion carried 6-0.

Transfer of jurisdiction from Wixom to Novi

Council approved, by a 5-1 vote, to approve transferring a portion of 12 Mile Road from the City of Wixom jurisdiction, to the City of Novi.

Councilman Andrew Match opposed the matter because he doesn't see any long-term benefits to the city.

Novi and Wixom have been discussing a transfer since 2005 to not only facilitate construction of

the 12 Mile Road entrance of Knightsbridge Gate subdivision, but also to provide Novi with control and maintenance of the road, which benefits Novi more than Wixom.

There is a portion of 12 Mile Road that will remain within Wixom city limits, but Novi will be responsible for its winter maintenance.

Second reading of zoning ordinance text amendment approved

Council unanimously approved the second reading of text amendments to the City of Novi Zoning

Ordinance. Modifications were made throughout the section related to special land use approvals, regarding the standards, applications and requirements for submittal of a noise analysis.

Council recognized the modifications as examples of how the city is trying to accommodate and promote business in Novi.

Council meeting notes were taken from the Tuesday, Jan. 22 regular meeting of the Novi City Council. Councilman David Staudt was absent. Next meeting: 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Rd.

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A plan for the future

continued from front

presented by seventh graders Ankit Nistala, Raghav Madan and Colette Boileau, created a coastal Michigan-based city called Tiera City.

"The dishes use wind to separate air and the carbon is chilled with liquid to create solid carbon. (When melted), it gives off energy and is used for nanotechnology."

The city featured a casino, four major theme parks, little league and major league parks, residential areas for about two million people and other educational, entertainment and business attractions.

Two of the most futuristic aspects of the city, set about 300 years into the future, were the transportation system and the central business hub.

The central business hub sat on a platform more than 200 feet above the ground that moved once every hour to best angle the business towers to collect the sun's rays to energize the solar-powered facilities.

of creativity by this group. Sixty percent of ideas they threw out are on this board or in the presentation.

"It was easy to be a mentor. They were coming to me with some pretty sophisticated questions (though). It was really easy, really rewarding."

Madan and Colette both credit the game with sparking their interest in the competition.

The fact that Colette's father had judged the event since before she was born also played a factor for her.

Nistala had a completely different reason for his interest.

"Space," he said. "I want to work for NASA."

One of the most well thought out cities on display, Tiera City failed to place in the top five overall, although it did win two other awards.

The abundance of parks and recreation, plus glowing student interest at a level of education never seen before,

helped earn Tiera City the "Best Place to Raise a Kid" award. The group also took home the "William Barclay Parsons Excellence Award."

Royal Oak Middle School took first place and St. John Lutheran School took second place.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

With a scale model of their plan in front of them, members of the Novi Middle School Future City engineering team explain their design of "Tiera City" to William Quinan, right, of American Axle manufacturing.

oped a multiple-terrain city based in southern Alaska called Triksala. "It's tri" for the three sections and the other half is "Alaska" spelled backwards because we're going to turn Alaska around and make it an economic powerhouse, not just a really cold

place," said eighth grader Rachel Hill. Along with eight graders Paulina Hankey and Jerald Storey, presented the city that is only one-third on land.

With a tunnel system connecting the three levels of Triksala and battery-powered vehicles for transportation, the city is based in the year 2150. Similar to Tiera City's use of carbon, Triksala utilizes nitrogen in a freeze and melt method to create energy and stay away from fossil fuels and its pollution.

Triksala took home the "Best Architecture and Engineering Design" special award.

Novi News staff writer Chris Juckett can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or cjuckett@gannett.com.

Franklin Road Christian School open house; parenting fair

Franklin Road Christian School is hosting an open house from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 12. Prospective parents may stop in, speak with faculty and administrators and take a tour of our beautiful facility.

Scholarships offered for Walled Lake High School students

Now through April, the Lakes Area Rotary Club is accepting scholarship applications from Walled Lake High School students, including attendees of the Oakland Technical Center, Wilson Campus.

Class NOTES

ing with the school and have actively participated in community service during their high school years.

secured through the school counselors or by contacting Rotarian Lorrie McVey at (248) 390-8572.

Parenting fair

The 16th annual Walled Lake Schools Parenting Education Fair will be 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. March 8 at Walled Lake Northern High School.

Priority Interlochen applications deadline approaches

Interlochen Arts Camp is currently accepting applications for its summer programs for young artists currently in grades three-12.

REPORT CRIME: Call (248) 348-7100 for non-emergencies in Novi

Victoria Mitchell, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102 vcmitchell@gannett.com



MY PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, January 31, 2008 www.novinews.com fax: (248) 349-9332

Jury deliberating Pittao murder trial

By Chris Juckett STAFF WRITER

After four weeks in court, the trial of Daniel Pittao for the alleged murder of Tamara Pittao on Thanksgiving Day 1997 sits in the hands of a jury of 14 Oakland County residents.

Attorneys for both sides made closing arguments Monday afternoon and the jury went into deliberations at about 3 p.m., continuing through the day Tuesday without reaching a decision on Pittao's fate.

Pittao, 48, plead not guilty to beating, suffocating and slitting his wife's throat.

The prosecution built its case around Pittao's abusive history of beating his then-12-year-old

son for not taking out the garbage, pushing his first wife down a flight of basement stairs while they were engaged and threatening to kill Tamara, then-30, if she ever left him. The two were separated and going through divorce proceedings at the time of Tamara's death.

Testimony also revealed Pittao was not at work Nov. 24, 1997, the estimated afternoon of Tamara's death, and witnesses claim to have seen the then-Davisburg resident at her Novi apartment complex that afternoon.

The defense claims Pittao was not in the area, as indicated by the lack of evidence at the murder scene.

Pittao hair or finger print was found in Tamara's apartment by Michigan State Police.

The lack of hard evidence and what the defense feels is a bias from law enforcement officials to pinpoint the defendant as Tamara's killer, based largely on his past, both weigh heavily on the case and could allow Pittao to walk free.

If he is found guilty, Pittao faces life in prison without parole for first-degree murder.

The final verdict by Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Michael Warren could be announced today. Check the Web for breaking news updates.

Novi News staff writer Chris Juckett can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or cjuckett@gannett.com.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Daniel Pittao confers with his attorney Richard Coventino, left, at the Oakland County District Court.

500-pound boat dock gone

A 500-pound, floating boat dock was reported stolen from Drakes Bay, between Jan. 2-13.

According to the complainant, he discovered his 5-foot-by-20-foot boat dock missing at about 10:30 a.m. Jan. 13.

Although he was unsure of when he last saw the dock, he said it was sitting in a muddy, weeded area to the west of his beach.

According to the report, he looked along the lake, at the boat house and drove around the lake on Drakes Bay, Island Lake and Shereline and didn't see any loose docks.

Police said there was no damage to the bushes or grass and no signs of scraping in the mud or turf from sliding the dock out.

It would have taken multiple people to carry the dock and it would have been lifted and carried over the landscaping and grass to not cause damage, reports said.

According to police, there are no suspects at this time.

POLICE BRIEFS

Trailblazer started yelling at him, saying he took his parking spot.

The complainant left the scene, but when he returned to his vehicle at 11 p.m., he noticed key marks on the driver's side of the vehicle, reports said.

Police contacted security to obtain footage from the surveillance cameras.

The complainant said he wishes to prosecute in this matter if a positive identification can be made.

Hammer launched through car window

A hammer was launched through a car window while parked at a residence on Greenwich Drive between 1:30-9:45 a.m. Jan. 13, reports said.

According to the victim, he arrived at his friend's house at 1:30 a.m. and when he returned to his vehicle at 9:45 a.m., the back window had been shattered and windshield had been cracked on the passenger-side.

Upon further investigation, a hammer that was found on the passenger seat was identified as the source of the damage, reports said.

Neither the homeowner, nor the complainant noticed any suspicious persons or vehicle in the area, reports said.

According to the victim, he does not have any conflicts with any person.

Police said it appeared that the hammer was launched with the velocity that it must have been



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Training center opens

Novi Police Lt. Victor Lauria stands inside the new Firearms Training Center on the grounds of the DPW site Monday afternoon.

thrown from a fast-moving vehicle or from a slingshot. Neighbors were interviewed, but to one saw or heard any suspicious activity.

According to police, there are no suspects at this time.

For breaking news on the Web: www.novinews.com

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Physical Therapy Rehabilitation Update by Julie Rickett, P.T. GETTING BACK INTO THE ROTATION Sports injuries among young athletes and weakening shoulder tissue among older adults contribute to make rotator cuff tendinitis inflammation the most common cause of shoulder pain.

IHA Welcomes Peter Dews, MD, MS

IHA is pleased to announce their newest physician, Dr. Peter Dews, who collaboratively with IHA, will open the IHA Plymouth Internal Medicine office in Plymouth, Michigan in late February.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 18.221 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVY CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 18.221, to amend Ordinance No. 97-18 as amended.

CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be meeting to interview applicants for appointment to the Beautification Commission.

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CALLING ALL SENIORS: Check out your section of our calendar on page 13A

Victoria Mitchell, editor
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MY SENIOR LIFE

Thursday, January 31, 2008
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-OBITUARIES-



CHARLES W. OLENZOPF

Age 81 of West Street, Galway, NY passed away Thursday, January 24 at his home. Born in Albany, March 25, 1926, he was the son of the late Charles and Helen Olenzopf. He was an Army veteran of World War II and Korea and was honorably discharged as a 2nd Lieutenant. Charles earned a Bachelor Degree from Siena College and a Masters Degree from SUNY Oneonta. He was an elementary school teacher, who taught many lives at Galway Schools, Scotia Schools and later retired from Schenectady Schools in 1980. Charles was a charter member of the Galway Ambulance Corp and formed the committee which purchased their first ambulance. He served as mayor of the village of Galway in the early 60's. He was a member of Galway United Methodist Church, Broadbent Masonic Lodge, Galway Fire Co., Independent Order of the Odd Fellows, American Legion of Galway, Galway Preservation Society, the Saratoga County Society for the Deaf, of Horse Trails and VFW of Broadbent. Charles was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years Leah Hunter Olenzopf; 2 daughters Peggy Jean Jenkins of Laurens, and Sharon Lynn Parvana and her husband James of Novi, Michigan; 5 grandchildren Paul Llewellyn Jenkins Jr., Stephen Charles Jenkins, Ryan James Jenkins, Alexandria Lee Parvana and Jessica Hunter Parvana; sister Barbara Greer of Carlsbad, CA; brother John Olenzopf of Gloverville and several nieces. A celebration of his life was held January 27 at Galway United Methodist Church, East Street, Galway. Burial will be in Galway Cemetery in the Spring. Memorial contributions may be made to Galway Ambulance Corp, 2167 Galway Road, Galway, NY 12074 or Galway United Methodist Church, 2056 East Street, Galway, NY 12074. Arrangements by Armer Funeral Home, Inc., 39 East High Street, Ballston Spa.

Seniors celebrate first super Saturday of 2008

Next event Feb. 23

By Kelly Murad

In an effort to promote an active, healthy lifestyle for community members, Novi is providing weekend events for local seniors to keep them energized through the winter months. For the third year, the City of Novi is hosting a series of Super Saturday events at the Novi Senior Center, which is located on Meadowbrook Road between 10 Mile Road and Grand River Avenue. "People can be so busy in the summer and you're outside more," said Rachel Zagoroff, senior services manager. "This is a good way to get out of the house on a Saturday." Tickets, which are sold in advance for \$7, often sell out for the themed-events, which occur once a month, over the course of three months. "The hundred and twenty-eight people is our sell-out amount," Zagoroff said. "The tickets go so fast. I guess they love Super Saturdays."

Upcoming Super Saturday Events

Tropical Day
4-6 p.m., February 23
Novi Senior Center
Admission is \$7
Tickets are limited and must be purchased in advance

Spaghetti Dinner
4-6 p.m., March 29
Novi Senior Center
Admission is \$7
Tickets are limited and must be purchased in advance

Super Saturday event of the season. "We do our food and then we have entertainment," Zagoroff said. "It's a time to have fun. The music is absolutely fabulous." In honor of Polish Day, the Kielbasa Kings, a Dearborn-based Polish band, performed traditional Polish music. "People actually get up and dance," Zagoroff said. "We all love to dance. For all those seniors who didn't head south for the winter, the senior center is going to bring the spirit of summer to Novi for the next Super Saturday event, Feb. 23. With the theme of Tropical Day, area seniors can expect island-style food and Hawaiian music. The March event will be a traditional Italian dinner - spaghetti, garlic toast, salad and dessert. Musical entertainment will also be provided for the final Super Saturday event, March 29. For more information regarding senior activities contact Rachel Zagoroff at (248) 349-9114 or visit www.cityofnovi.org. Novi News staff writer Kelly Murad can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or kmurad@gannett.com.



Senior Center volunteer Peggy Steinhebel gets ready to serve the Polish food at the first Super Saturday event.

Questions to ask yourself when you near retirement

Whenever you see people enjoying a comfortable retirement - traveling, volunteering, pursuing hobbies, taking up a new career - you can be pretty sure it all didn't happen by accident. In fact, success at retirement is similar to success in just about any endeavor - you have to plan for it. Of course, your planning could take many different forms. But, as you get close to retirement, you might find it easier to organize your efforts if you ask yourself these five key questions: • Where am I today? Shortly before you retire, make a detailed list of your financial assets, such as your bank accounts, investments, IRA, 401(k), etc. You may want to consider consolidating as many of these accounts as you can with just one company. This consolidation will help you get a clearer picture of your overall situation, and it may even help you reduce maintenance fees and make it easier to calculate required minimum distributions (RMDs) you might have to take once you reach 70 1/2. On the "flip side," you'll want to list out all your obligations - mortgages, home equity credit lines, car loans and other debts. • How much will I need to enjoy the retirement lifestyle I've envisioned? You'll probably need between 80 percent and 100 percent of your pre-retirement income to maintain your standard of living in retirement. But this is a general rule; your actual needs will depend on what you want to do during retirement. So, if you want to travel extensively, you might need more income than if you chose to stay close to home, volunteering and pursuing hobbies. In any case, try to estimate your annual expenses during retirement, knowing that your plans may change later. • How much can I withdraw each year? Your investment portfolio is likely to account for a good percentage of your retirement income. Consequently, you'll want to work with your financial advisor to determine how much you can take out each year without running out of money. The percentage you withdraw each year will depend on several factors, including your portfolio's rate of return, the age at which you start taking Social Security and the size of the distributions from your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. • What portfolio and lifestyle adjustments do I need to make? Once you've determined how much you can realistically withdraw each year, you may need to rebalance your investments to get the right proportion of equities and fixed income. You also might need to look beyond your portfolio to see what lifestyle changes you may need to make. For example, you may decide that you wouldn't mind working for an additional year or so to take some of the pressure off your investments as an income source. • How can I stay on course? Over time, your goals, health or income needs may change, so you might have to update your withdrawal and investment strategies. At this stage of your life, you'll want to review your situation with your financial advisor at least once a year. By asking yourself these questions - and then answering them - you can go a long way toward enjoying the retirement you deserve.

income needs may change, so you might have to update your withdrawal and investment strategies. At this stage of your life, you'll want to review your situation with your financial advisor at least once a year. By asking yourself these questions - and then answering them - you can go a long way toward enjoying the retirement you deserve. This column was provided by Mark Whitfield, Financial Advisor, Novi Town Center, 43240 11 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

Crafting for a Cause

Donna Kraska joins other Novi Neighbors at the Novi Senior Center on a recent Thursday morning to finish up some quilts. The group makes quilts throughout the year, which they donate to veterans organizations, the Salvation Army and the Denby Center in Detroit - a home for unwell mothers.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Make This New Year's Resolution PAINLESS!

Don't live another year with the pain and discomfort of varicose veins.

Jeffrey H. Miller, M.D.

Dr. Miller has over 12 years experience in treating venous diseases and has received many honors and awards including being named one of "Detroit's Top Docs" by Hour Magazine.

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My father Melvin was 88 and had been married and independent all of his life. He had lived in the same comfortable house for 54 years. Dad was frail and had been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. After the death of my mother, he moved out of state with me, but after 60 days he missed his home and community. With a few small steps, I was able to help my dad stay at home with the aid of a wonderful home aide. She prepared meals, took him shopping, trips to the zoo, and on countless lunches. This allowed my father to regain a great deal of independence which would have been lost had I put him in a nursing home. I was constantly amazed on how strong his desire was to return to our front porch and neighbors, and how this drove him to participate in life again. Never underestimate the power of motivation when you help older people in crisis consider their options. Too often families make hasty and drastic decisions in crisis situations. If you or a loved one feel the need for extra assistance that would allow you or them to stay at home, I highly recommend this creative approach.

Cory Jacobson

For a consultation please contact Toni Barchak at (248) 773-9373

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FIRST FRIDAY

Events feature a rock poster artist, live demo

By Pam Fleming

Tomorrow evening's First Friday and Fashion's First Friday will take place at the gallery from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Over his 25-year career, Arminski has explored a diverse range of outlets for his creativity, including print making, murals, body painting, sculpture, product design and poster design. He is viewed as one of the leading rock concert poster artists of the 1990s and has works in the permanent collection of the German museum for Kunst und Gewerbe (Museum of Arts and Crafts) in Hamburg. His latest creations incorporate type, collage, fabric and other materials that unite in paintings that are striking, colorful and iconic. He uses his paintings to explore and research subjects who fascinate him, with the final product an interpretation and reflection of his knowledge. "We're very excited about him coming to the Art House and our ability to offer such a variety of artists to the Northville community," said Jeff Cancellori, Northville Arts commissioner. "We're going to have some of his more recent work." Arminski's show will continue through Feb. 21. Admission to Art House shows are always free.

Sherus Gallery of Fine Art

Just up the street at Northville Square, 153 W. Main St., Suite 210, the Sherus Gallery of Fine Art will provide a live painting demonstration from 6-9 p.m.

Kenny Tay, the name three acrylic/mixed media artists made for themselves as a group, will present "A Painter's Play Act III" exhibit and sale at the gallery through Feb. 29.

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MY ENTERTAINMENT

Live in the now with 'You Are Here'

By Tracy Estes-Mishler
SPECIAL WRITER

There's no better time than the present according to Livonia-based filmmaker Tim Jeffrey. And he makes that point clear in his latest flick "You Are Here," which previews at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at the Emagine Theater in Novi.

The movie, which Jeffrey filmed in and around the metro Detroit area, stars Lizzy Chamberlain, a Detroit-based model, and Randy Murzynski, a California-based actor. "Everything we see in the film seems to be coming from the main characters' eyes," Jeffrey said. "The film is a story about our own lives and perceptions of reality. "It raises questions of perceptions of ourselves and love itself." Jeffrey said "You Are Here" is a touching film that seems to be between a husband and wife, but is really about the relationships in our own lives. "How seriously we live in the moment... how we embrace life," he said. "We're a culture that is very attached to the past, and for some people that's a bad thing. The behavior severe enough to affect work, lifelong hobbies or social life, according to the National Alzheimer's Association. Jeffrey said his film, like the disease, affects all age groups differently. "This is an important topic," he said. "There's been a uniform overwhelming response from folks who've come out. They say they've never been struck by a film that way. "It's hard not to be affected, while some have called it life changing. The movie especially changes the awareness of (the disease)." Jeffrey said it seems that many people were not aware this disease could affect someone as young as the main character. Mimi played by Chamberlain. "I show the world through the eyes of the main character," Jeffrey said. "Like in the movie 'The Sixth Sense,' the story structure is a mystery... it helps the audience understand what's happening to the character more in the end." Jeffrey said he is excited for the movie's debut in Novi and hopes the audience enjoys it and leaves more informed about Alzheimer's disease. "It's a film that will not only inspire and touch you, but also inform you," he said. "It's information everyone needs. People have to understand this is literally not a subject to ignore."

During the production of "You Are Here," filmmaker Tim Jeffrey (left) confers with Brian Hewett, one of the movie's shooters.

Submitted photo

TALK ABOUT IT: Join in discussing our stories online via Story Chat at novinews.com

Victoria Mitchell, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102 vmitchell@gannett.com

MY OPINION

Thursday, January 31, 2008 www.novinews.com (248) 349-9832

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Victoria Mitchell, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102 vmitchell@gannett.com

COMMENTARY

Thursday, January 31, 2008 www.novinews.com (248) 349-9832

PHIL POWER:

School pensions could be funded through land trust

If you can understand the language of accountants, you'll often find that their dry words all too often mask a troubling cesspool of financial trouble lurking beneath the surface.



About Phil Power

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan, and was a regent of the University of Michigan from 1987 to 1999.

For "Restrictions in credit availability and instability in the sub-prime housing mortgage market," sounds pretty lame ... that is, unless you just got a note from your friendly mortgage company saying your house is about to be repossessed.

Here's another and even scarier case: A 2004 report from the non-partisan Citizens Research Council found "unfunded pension and health liabilities" for Michigan school employees now amount to around \$19.3 billion.

In this case, a "liability" means money legally owed to pensioners who have retired, confident their pensions would take care of them after their years of service.

"Unfunded" means just that. There are no assets on the books allocated to cover the \$19.3 billion in pension and health care liabilities promised by the system.

School districts make annual contributions to cover pension and health care obligations for their employees, both active and retired. These contributions today consume around 23 percent of all local school budgets.

And that means that school districts, already hit hard by inflation and the funding rigidities imposed by Proposal A, risk being eaten alive by their fixed costs.

Want evidence that this idea might work? Here are the numbers: A 2005 report from the Education Policy Center at Michigan State University and the Citizens Research Council puts total depreciated book value of buildings and infrastructure of Michigan schools at \$32.6 billion.

Naturally, the schools will have to pay rent on the buildings they've leased. If the trust needs to get a 5 percent return on its \$30 billion investment by the buildings, that's \$1.5 billion a year.

But consider that the real estate trust would without doubt maintain and maintain the buildings for more efficiently than school districts do.

Department of Education figures for 2006 show a \$1.8 billion cost for building operations and maintenance.

Could that be halved? Possibly. What seems certain is that the figure could be greatly reduced. So even without counting building maintenance savings, there's enough money to provide a return for investors in the trust.

Here's another advantage. Selling school buildings to a real estate trust

Department of Education file listing current capital assets shows a slightly lower number — \$27.1 billion as a reasonable estimate. Now suppose that school buildings and land could be sold for \$30 billion, once the dismal real estate market begins to revive.

From that, you take \$19.3 billion to fund the entire unfunded pension and health care liability. That leaves you \$10.7 billion.

(Maybe you use some of that money to fund the \$8.7 billion that the Education Policy Center estimates is needed to fix the building and infrastructure needs of Michigan's poorer school districts.)

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Here's another advantage. Selling school buildings to a real estate trust

Naturally, there are all kinds of serious objections to this proposal. The biggest is that school districts and their citizens own the buildings in their district. That means they'd have to be persuaded that it's in their advantage to sell and lease back. But if a consequence of the deal was to shed their pension and health care payments, they might be very interested.

The point here is that our state is in a financial bind, big time. And the best method of getting out of tight binds is to think outside the box.

It may well need tweaking. But it would make a lot of sense for the school system, the legislature and the governor to take a careful look.

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Novi News

Victoria Mitchell, Editor Richard Perleberg, EXECUTIVE EDITOR Greece Perez Perry, GENERAL MANAGER

In our opinion: Stay super sober Sunday

Nothing goes better than a great game and a cold beer, right? Well we can think of one other thing that goes well with that combination, a designated driver.

LETTERS

Let's do our homework

This is a critical time in our country. We need a President who will be a true leader. One who will inspire the best in all citizens. Let's get past the hesitation in supporting a candidate who is a different gender than ours; a different color; a different religion.

What do you think?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

Issues in Democratic Campaign

The Clintons are blamed for injecting race into the Democratic campaign for president. Race has always been an issue along with sexism (gender) and ageism (McCain being too old in the Republican campaign). All have been the "elephants in the room" and all forms of media know how to capitalize on each wretchedly and covertly.

Another Opinion

For a newspaper serving a Republican-leaning community, it comes as no surprise to see someone attack the messenger [Tom Watkins] when they don't like the message [column of Jan. 17] even if he is one of their own.

Tom Watkins: Power politics and lost opportunities

"The Prince" by Machiavelli is a classic study of power — how to get it, expand it and use it for maximum effect. Many view Machiavelli's treatise as one of the most influential books on politics, especially on the acquisition, perpetuation and use of political power.

mind, the New Democrats of the late 80s and early 90s and their "third way" approach represented a call for fundamental reform, not just of the Democratic Party but also of the country's industrial-age government.

For that, Bai continues, he has been pilloried by Republican business interests, who were doing just fine under the old system, and "lukewarmly" defended by Democrats who resist any real break with the past.

No Constituency For Change Fast forward to today in Lansing and you can see why little major systematic, structural change has been undertaken or accomplished in our state capital.

For that, Bai continues, he has been pilloried by Republican business interests, who were doing just fine under the old system, and "lukewarmly" defended by Democrats who resist any real break with the past.

the focus back to Michigan. It may provide a glimpse into why little of major substance in the way of reform has been accomplished in our state capital.

defend him half-heartedly. Quick, name the "change" lobbyist in Lansing. What is their budget to effect change that would benefit the people that pay the bills — the hard-hit taxpayers? Who benefits from fundamental structural reform? How much campaign cash or volunteers to stuff envelopes, staff phone banks and knock on doors will change the status quo generate?

Why have these obvious changes not been made? The Prince, published in 1532, tells us why: "It must be considered that there is nothing more difficult to carry out, nor more doubtful of success, nor more dangerous to manage, than to undertake and accomplish in our state capital, it is unlikely to be done unless the pain for doing nothing is greater than the pain the change will bring. There is no significant constituency for change. Change is the most talked about and least acted on concept in our state capital today.

Why have many legislators been eager to make changes in the health care benefits for teachers while they drag their feet over sensible reforms in their overly generous benefits? Lawmakers have acknowledged that the January 2008 revenue-estimating conferences are likely to produce another \$500 million deficit. This means they have not made the tough structural changes necessary to adjust spending with revenue. This, after they just raised taxes! Remember, it is

an election year — and there will be no "coverage" for a tax increase this year. Why have these obvious changes not been made? The Prince, published in 1532, tells us why: "It must be considered that there is nothing more difficult to carry out, nor more doubtful of success, nor more dangerous to manage, than to undertake and accomplish in our state capital, it is unlikely to be done unless the pain for doing nothing is greater than the pain the change will bring. There is no significant constituency for change. Change is the most talked about and least acted on concept in our state capital today.

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Life continues as national celebrities draw focus

What makes the news is truly an amazing feat. Going through journalism school at Michigan State University, the best in the state, I was taught several things make something newsworthy. From children to the elderly, to locality and politics, there's a lot going on in the world.

Contrary to popular belief, violence on Super Bowl Sunday takes place primarily on the field, not in the home. I began this article with the intention of investigating the correlation between Super Bowl Sunday and domestic violence. To some of you, this may sound completely far-fetched, but actually, it is a well-known perception that the Super Bowl Sunday sees the highest number of domestic abuse cases than any other day of the year.

Granted, there may be crime problems in the city. Granted, the state is having economic issues of its own. Neither of these help out the state's image, nor does Kipitrick, the embodiment of serenity and one of the key people involved in helping turn things around, who is stuck in an adulterous scandal where he lies under oath.

If we can't trust the mayor of our largest city, whom can we trust? Is there much going on in Lansing that we don't know about? What about in Washington, D.C.?

This is a presidential election year, so there's room for change in D.C. It's long been needed. With Gov. Jennifer Granholm's re-election last year, we can hope that her path toward helping the state recover can be hastened by an end to party-line bickering between legislators.

lot of partying and drinking that goes along with the "Super Bowl." Morrison said, "I can't say there's a significant pattern," he said. And let's keep it that way. If it is no secret there are a lot of in-home parties on Super Bowl Sunday, but to the best, Molloy recommends serving alcohol responsibly.

So, come game day, celebrate with good food, good company and go Gians! For those of you who do not know me, don't be confused. I am neither a die-hard Gians fan, nor am I a die-hard football fan — although I do enjoy watching the sport, especially on Super Bowl Sunday.

My choice of who to root for is not a statistical proof that spikes great increases of crisis calls or people going into a shelter (Super Bowl Sunday), Morrison said. However, that is not to say it doesn't occur or it isn't a serious problem, but there is no conclusive evidence backing the theory that domestic violence increases during the Super Bowl.

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For breaking news in Novi, click www.novinews.com

NOVI NEWS STAFF Kelly Sellar - Advertising kellar@gannett.com (248) 349-1700, ext. 116

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continued from 13A

Sunday - Winter Nature Detectives: 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9 - Ice Fishing for Beginners: 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10 - Bugs in Winter: 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16 - Jr. Girl Scouts Frosty Fun: 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 17 - Great Backyard Bird Count.

Ice Harvesting
DATE: Saturday and Sunday
LOCATION: Farm Learning Center
DETAILS: See ice harvesting demonstrations and learn about importance of ice in times past.
Sleigh Rides or Hayrides
TIME/DATE: Noon-4 p.m. every weekend at the Learning Center, weather permitting.

Winter Master Gardener Class
TIME/DATE: 6-10 p.m. Thursday evenings through Apr. 10
LOCATION: Executive Office Building Conference Center, Oakland County Service Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford
DETAILS: Each session focuses on a different horticultural topic that will prepare you to fulfill a 40-hour community service commitment to earn Master Gardener Certification. First-come, first-served; \$25 application fee, class fee \$300.
CONTACT: (248) 858-0887 or visit www.msue.edu/oakland. Look under horticulture and gardening.

Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Center
LOCATION: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road
CONTACT: For more information and to register call (734) 462-4443
Divorce Support Group
TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of month
LOCATION: Women's Resource Center, Room 225 McDowell Center
DETAILS: Open to anyone contemplating, in the process of, or having difficulty adjusting to divorce; first meeting group discussion with facilitator Cynthia Kippin, MA, LPD, LLP; second meeting features a speaker; no fee or registration required.
Women's Resource Center

Luncheon Series
TIME/DATE: 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Friday
LOCATION: Schoolcraft College, VisiTech Center
DETAILS: Joel Thurluff, Detroit Free Press reporter, tells the story of Plymouth's historic Wilcox House; \$15 per luncheon; prepaid registration required; no tickets issued; limited seating; doors open 11:15 a.m.
Ask an Attorney
DATE: 5-7 p.m. second and third Monday of each month
DETAILS: Ask an attorney about divorce and family law; first come, first served; sign-in begins at 4:30 p.m.; Sept.-May; walk-in; no fee
CONTACT: (734) 462-4443
Money Matters in Divorce
DATE: 5-7 p.m. first Monday of each month
DETAILS: Opportunity to ask a certified financial planner about the financial concerns related to divorce; walk-in, no fee; sign-in begins at 4:30 p.m.

University Musical Society, University of Michigan
PERFORMANCE LOCATIONS: Hill Auditorium, 825 North University Ave.; Rackham Auditorium, 915 East Washington St.; Power Center, 121 Fletcher St.; Michigan Theater, 603 East Liberty St.
CONTACT: (734) 764-2538, (800) 221-1229 or visit www.ums.org.

Assad Brothers' Brazilian Guitar Summit
TIME/DATE: 8 p.m. Friday
DETAILS: Tickets \$22-\$46; Rackham Auditorium
Celebration of the Keyboard
TIME/DATE: 8 p.m. Saturday
DETAILS: Tickets \$10-\$56, Hill Auditorium
Chicago Classical Oriental Ensemble
TIME/DATE: 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8
DETAILS: Tickets \$20-\$40; Rackham Auditorium
Garneri String Quartet and Johannes String Quartet
TIME/DATE: 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9
DETAILS: Tickets \$22-\$46; Rackham Auditorium
Wa Man, pipa and Bay Area Shawn Band
TIME/DATE: 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10
DETAILS: Tickets \$18-\$36;

Rackham Auditorium
Christian Tetzlaff, violin
TIME/DATE: 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14
DETAILS: Tickets \$10-\$50; Hill Auditorium
Nalem08
TIME/DATE: 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15
DETAILS: Tickets \$16-\$40; Power Center
An Evening with Ahmad Jamal
TIME/DATE: 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16
DETAILS: Tickets \$10-\$42; Hill Auditorium

Winter KinderConcerts
Sponsored by the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra
TIME/DATE: 10-11 a.m. Friday
LOCATION: Ypsilanti Library, 5577 Whitaker Road
TIME/DATE: 9:30-10:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 8
LOCATION: Multi-purpose Room of the Ann Arbor Library, downtown branch.
DETAILS: Children enjoy learning about the sound of woodwind instruments in this creative demonstration, with Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra principal flute player, Penny Fischer, and are led through dance by Gari Stein to songs played by Fischer accompanied by pianist Kathryn Goodson.
CONTACT: Call Rebecca at (734) 994-4801.

Arthur LIVE!
TIME/DATE: 1 and 4 p.m. Sunday
LOCATION: Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township
DETAILS: Marc Brown's Arthur the aardvark comes alive in this all-new musical production; performances last 90 minutes including a 20 minute intermission; ticket prices are \$25 for Gold Circle Seating, \$20 for Reserved House Seating and \$15 for children age 12 and under; special rates for groups of 20 or more; tickets on sale now; call (586) 226-4737.

Send your calendar items to [venitchell@gannett.com](mailto:NoviNews, 104 W. Main Street, Suite 101, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-9832; or e-mail to <a href=).



Martian Mile
Parkview Elementary School students jog around the gym as they complete a mile-long run on a recent Tuesday. Parkview is working with Running Fit to get kids interested in a "Martian Marathon" where students have as long as they want to run a marathon-length course (26.2 miles).

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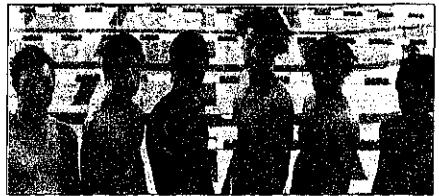
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Senior Day!

The Novi swim and dive team celebrates senior day tonight against South Lyon.



SPORTS GALLERY: CC SPORTS

PAGE 3B

MY NOVI SPORTS

See Novi atop KVC hoop standings SPORTS 2B

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2008 • WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM • SPORTS SUBMISSIONS: JTHEISEN@GANNETT.COM • PAGE 1B

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT: GIRLS BASKETBALL

STORY CHAT: WHAT DO YOU THINK? TELL US AT WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM

HILL HAS THE NEED FOR SPEED



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi guard Chantel Hill looks to make a pass during the Wildcats' home game against South Lyon.

Junior guard likes to play up-tempo game

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

Novi junior Chantel Hill is thinking one thing when she gets the ball in her hands — go fast.

"She's the fastest girl, probably, in the league," Novi head coach Bill Kelp said. "She can beat anybody one on one. That's her strength, using the ability that she's got and

making smart decisions."

The Wildcats are fighting for the KVC title, sitting at 12-2, 7-1.

Hill, listed at 5-foot, 2-inches, is usually one of the smallest girls on the court, but she brings a large game for Novi.

"The way I like to play is driving mostly ... to spread the court with me driving and help my team out," Hill said. "I penetrate more to get the (defense) into me and help my team-

mates get open."

Staying healthy

With injuries and illnesses taking a toll on the Wildcat lineup, Kelp knows the importance of keeping Hill away from the injury bug.

See BASKETBALL, 2B



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Wildcat goalie Kevin Michalzuk follows the puck through the crease of the net as he works with teammates in a two-on-one drill during practice.

Michalzuk is into denial

Senior goalkeeper standing tall as last line of defense

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

No hockey position deals with quicker emotional changes than a goalie.

Make a great save and the fans start cheering. Miss by a half inch and the red light goes on, sparking a celebration by the opposition.

But goaltending is something that Kevin Michalzuk has been doing well all season for the Wildcats.

"His work ethic has been better than it's ever been since we've been together," Krygier said. "He gets to the rink early, he gets on the ice early, he tries to take as many extra shots as he can. Those are all the little things that can help a guy play better and be better."

"The harder you work and as things fall into place, the more confidence you get. I think Kevin has got a lot of confidence in himself this year because he's actually worked harder."

Carry over

Novi struggled to get things going throughout last year's regular season, which was also head coach Todd Krygier's first year with the Wildcats.

But something clicked and Novi raced to the final four of the playoffs. One of the biggest reasons was the goaltending by Michalzuk, something that has carried over to this year.

"Personally, I think it's the

See HOCKEY, 2B

Novi boys hoops alone in first place

■ ROUNDUP:
Wrestling gets blowout wins

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi boys basketball teams continues to pile on the wins, beating Hartland 67-49 Jan. 22 and Milford 54-51 last Thursday.

The Wildcats (9-4, 7-1) are one game up in first place in the

KVC.

Novi used big first and third quarters to pull away from Hartland, outscoring the Eagles 20-12 in the first and 21-12 in the third.

Brandon Bradford led the scoring with 24 points.

Chris Bellary hit seven on his nine shots, including two of three from deep to score 16 points. He also grabbed 10 rebounds and had eight steals.

Caleb Dean also scored in

See ROUNDUP, 6B

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Wildcats keep on winning

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

Novi stays in a tie for the KVC lead with a pair of wins last week against league opponents.

The Wildcats hammered Hartland 46-26 Jan. 22 and slipped past Milford 34-29 Friday. Defenses dominated the Milford contest.

The Mavericks scored the game's first four points, only to see the Wildcats score the first seven points of the first quarter for a 7-4 lead.

The lead stayed at three, 15-12 at the half.

Novi pushed ahead to a 26-17 lead after three quarters of play.

The Mavericks fought back to within one with 3:11 to play, but Novi went on an 8-4 run the rest of the way, entirely from the free throw line.

Milford struggled mightily in the first three quarters from the floor, hitting just four of 24 shots. Milford did improve their numbers in the fourth quarter by hitting five of seven shots, but still finished 9-for-31 on the night.

Novi was actually worse from the floor, hitting on eight of 33 shots, but did make 10 more free throws.

Katie Chaklos led the Wildcats with eight points.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game," Chaklos said. "Milford always comes out hard. A lot of younger guys stepped up, and we played hard to the end."

The wins are good news, but more bad news struck with center Jessica Cingel suffering an injury that will probably keep her out the rest of the year.

"We spread it out a lot more without a true post player," Novi head coach Bill Kelp said. "We've got people contributing all over the place."

Jeff Theisen can be reached at jtheisen@gannett.com or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.



Katie Chaklos brings the ball up court in a home game against South Lyon.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

BASKETBALL: Up-tempo style

continued from front

"I know we haven't had a practice where we've had our whole team this year," he said.

But foul trouble can also keep Hill off the floor.

"It's been," Kelp said. "When she gets in early foul trouble, we don't move as much. She obviously makes things happen."

"She knows. She's heard it all year about not getting fouls in the first half."

Teams are showing different defensive strategies to try and slow Hill and the rest of the offense down, but few have worked.

Milford threw a box-and-one defense at Hill on Friday. Other teams have gone zone to try and cut down on her penetration dribbling, but Kelp knows there are ways to beat both.

"To beat the zone we try to beat them in transition. That's the little engine that tries to do that," said Kelp with a nod to the Hill.

The other side of the coin to fastbreak basketball is the amount of turnovers tend to increase.

"We live with that because

that's how we score. That's how we played, starting with last year, is getting the ball and going," Kelp said.

One more year

Hill will have one more year as a Wildcat, and that makes Kelp comfortable after going through such a wild year of roster juggling.

"Where she started with us as a freshman two years ago, she's moved up to the first place in the league. Hopefully she just continues to get better."

Hill said her goals are simple down the stretch, stay healthy and win the KVC. The Wildcats are currently tied with Brighton for first place in the league.

The showdown with the Bulldogs for first place is set for Feb. 8 at Novi. Novi won the first battle.

Expect one thing for sure, the short girl wearing #30 will have to bring a big game if she and the rest of her team want to finish the final KVC as champions.

Jeff Theisen can be reached at jtheisen@gannett.com or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Novi, CC schedules



Cheer
2/2 at Ladywood, 7 p.m.
2/6 at Brighton, 7 p.m.

Skating
2/7 at Divisional Championship, 9 a.m.

Pom Pon
2/10 State finals at EMU, TBA

Novi

Boys Basketball
1/31 vs. Howell, 7 p.m.
2/5 at Lakeland, 7 p.m.

Girls Basketball
2/1 at Howell (Parker), 7 p.m.
2/5 vs. Lakeland, 7 p.m.

Hockey

2/6 vs. Brighton, 6:30 p.m.

Wrestling

1/18 at Brighton, 5:30 p.m.

Boys Swim and Dye

1/31 vs. South Lyon, 6 p.m.
2/1 at Oak County (Royal Oak), TBA
2/2 at Oak County (Royal Oak), TBA

Bowling

2/1 South Lyon at Brighton, 4:30 p.m.

Figure Skating

2/4 at Farmington, 4 p.m.

Catholic Central

Basketball
2/1 vs. Brother Rice, 7:30 p.m.
2/5 at Ol. St. Mary, 7:30 p.m.

Hockey
2/2 vs. De La Salle, 7 p.m.

Wrestling

2/2 Clash of the Counties (Clarkston), 9 a.m.

Bowling

2/2 Tri-County at Five Star, TBA
2/4 Bishop Foley at Royal, 3:30 p.m.
2/6 De La Salle at Astro, 3:30 p.m.

Health

Energy drinks full of caffeine

We were in the car rushing somewhere, running late as usual, when I stopped for gas. My son I thought nothing of it and when he returned with some kind of crazy looking drink with a Monster or Bull or something on it I thought nothing of that either.

He showed me the cool can and I quickly realized how attractive this looked from ordinary water or juice, especially through young eyes. He explained it was an energy drink he saw some rock star drinking and it was guaranteed to get him fired up.

Over the next year I began to see these drinks popping up everywhere, dance events, sports events and parties. Children had their favorite energy drink. Children 12-17 years of age are drinking these drinks several times a week if not several times a day. With a million listings on the list of things for parents to worry about for our kids, my wife brought up the question...

As I pondered this question I realized this is a new invasion in the world of potential health threats to our children, which certainly has more than enough threats already, as is evident with the ridiculously high child obesity rates. We have dealt with soda and sugar drinks but now these new brands launched this year alone, bringing caffeine into our children's lives at a very early age. A typical 16 oz energy drink has 160 mg of caffeine, drastically up from 36 mg in a diet soda. That's over four times the amount of caffeine.

Most adults have been drinking coffee since the 10th century, with the first coffee house opening in Istanbul in 1471 (no it wasn't Starbucks). With this long history we had time to witness the affects of caffeine on adults, and most of us didn't start this caffeine habit until at least college. What we don't know is the long term affects on children.



Chris Klebba

"I'm not sure that caffeine is harmless for young people. At a minimum, we know it causes anxiety and disrupts sleep. It's a powerful stimulant. Do you think it's appropriate for kids to be anxious and sleepless? If so, then give them caffeine." Doctor Wilson goes on to say "The human brain is wiring itself up to around age 21. Anything like this can affect the growing brain, but we are not sure exactly how." There are also some early signs that high caffeine may be contributing to attention deficit disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder and others.

Bottom line parents, add the worry of caffeine for your children to your list. (sorry, we know how you feel). Caffeine is a drug and needs to be treated as such. Caffeine beverages have no real nutritional value and may reduce the consumption of other more healthy beverages such as water, milk or juice.

This column was written by fitness expert Chris Klebba. Chris owns and operates Planet Fitness in Northville and Waterford, and is a regular columnist and public speaker. For fitness questions e-mail planet-fitness@sbcglobal.net and for more information call 248-449-7634 or go to www.planetfitness.com.

Shamrock sports shots



Brett Smith fights up a shot in traffic against Divine Child.

Submitted photo



Catholic Central's Ryan Houska brings the ball upcourt during a recent game.

Submitted photo



Standings

| KVC | Lakeland | 5 | 2 | 8 | 6 |
|-----------------|------------|---|---|---|----|
| Boys Basketball | Milford | 4 | 4 | 7 | 7 |
| | South Lyon | 4 | 4 | 7 | 7 |
| | Howell | 3 | 5 | 7 | 7 |
| | Hartland | 1 | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| | Pineck | 0 | 8 | 3 | 10 |

| Novi | 7 | 1 | 9 | 4 |
|------------|---|---|----|----|
| Hartland | 6 | 2 | 9 | 4 |
| Pineck | 6 | 2 | 10 | 2 |
| Lakeland | 5 | 3 | 9 | 4 |
| South Lyon | 4 | 4 | 8 | 5 |
| Brighton | 2 | 6 | 5 | 9 |
| Milford | 2 | 6 | 4 | 8 |
| Howell | 0 | 8 | 0 | 14 |

| Girls Basketball | W | L | W | L |
|------------------|---|---|----|----|
| Novi | 7 | 1 | 12 | 2 |
| Brighton | 7 | 1 | 9 | 5 |
| Brighton | 6 | 1 | 2 | 10 |
| Hartland | 5 | 3 | 1 | 10 |
| Lakeland | 5 | 4 | 1 | 10 |
| Howell | 5 | 4 | 1 | 10 |
| South Lyon | 4 | 3 | 3 | 8 |
| Milford | 4 | 2 | 7 | 8 |
| Novi | 4 | 5 | 7 | 9 |
| Pineck | 0 | 9 | 0 | 31 |

FROM THE PEOPLE WHO BROUGHT YOU MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING AND BECAUSE I SAID SO COMES THE FUNNIEST ROMANTIC COMEDY OF THE YEAR!

"HILARIOUS! DON'T MISS THIS ONE!" JAMES THOMAS, ABC-TV

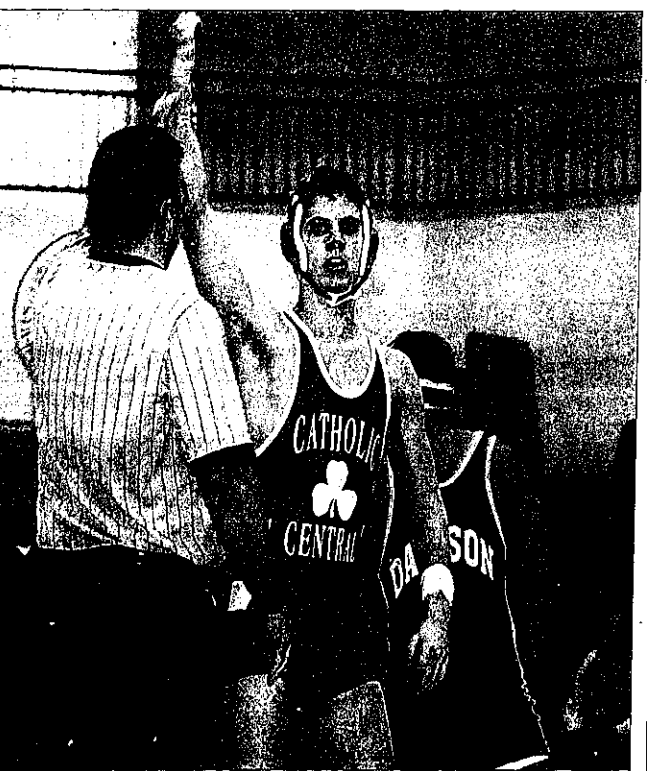
"THIS IS A 10!" LUIS MUÑOZ, CBS-TV

She Died On Their Wedding Day, But She's Not Letting Go Of Her Fiance.



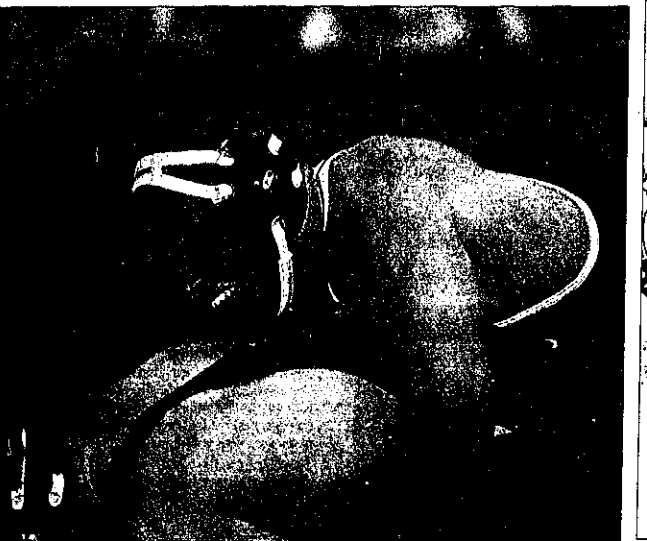
STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

PHILADELPHIA 23, CLEVELAND 19, BOSTON 17, PITTSBURGH 16, CINCINNATI 16, COLUMBUS 16, INDIANAPOLIS 16, JACKSONVILLE 16, MEMPHIS 16, MIAMI 16, MINNEAPOLIS 16, NEW YORK 16, OMAHA 16, PHOENIX 16, PORTLAND 16, SAN ANTONIO 16, SAN DIEGO 16, SEATTLE 16, TAMPA 16, WASHINGTON 16, WICHITA 16, WASHINGTON STATE 16, WYOMING 16



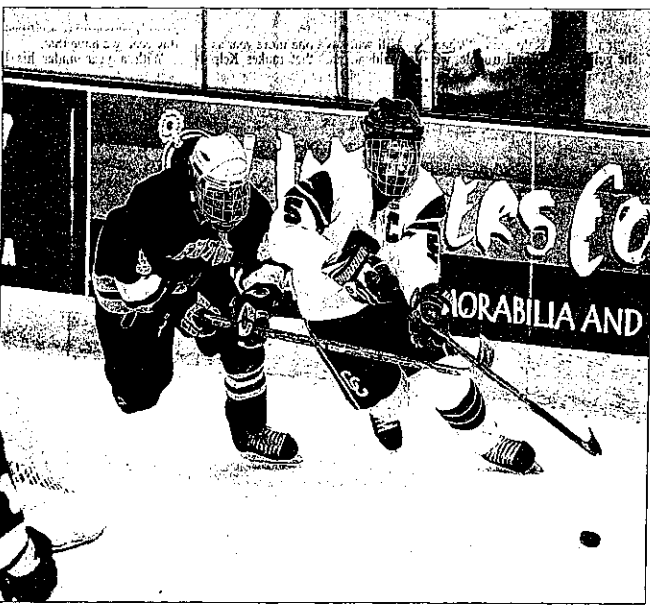
Shamrock wrestler Shane Butwill is victorious during a recent match.

Photo submitted by Dennis Barnes



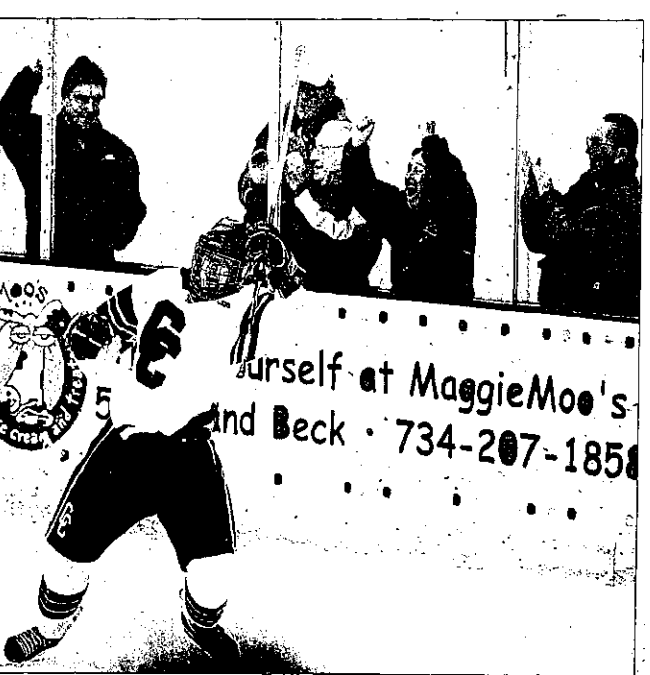
Shamrock wrestler Stephan Gatt works over an opponent during a recent match.

Photo submitted by Dennis Barnes



Senior captain Greg Merrill circles the net against Trenton.

Photo submitted by Michael Rossi



Catholic Central fans help celebrate a Shamrock goal against Trenton.

Photo submitted by Michael Rossi

TALK ABOUT IT: Join in discussing our stories online via **Story Chat** at novinews.com

Victoria Mitchell, editor
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102
vmitchell@gannett.com

MY FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Thursday, January 31, 2008
www.novinews.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

flavor up your game day party

For big flavor during your big game get-together, use sausage in a variety of dishes — it's sure to make you the MVP of the party. There's no easier way to add flavor to any party than with juicy, great-tasting sausage. From breakfast links to bratwurst, Italian or smoked turkey, versatile sausage stars in breakfast casseroles, appetizers and main dishes recipes from the kitchen at Johnsonville that will please your hungry sports fans all day long.

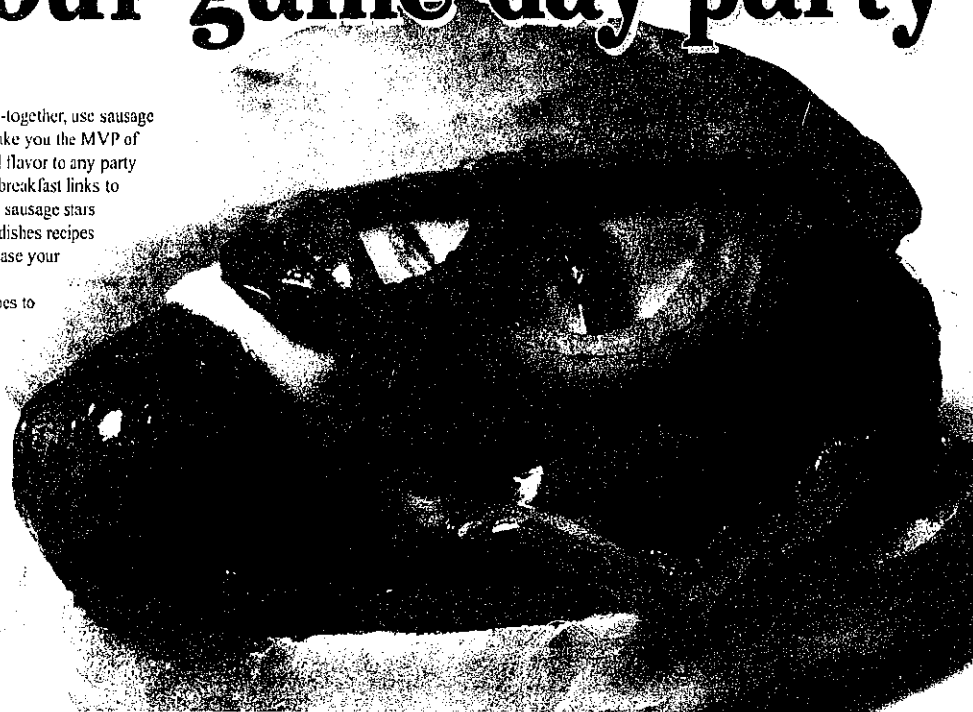
Visit www.johnsonville.com for great recipes to flavor up any get-together!

Philly Brats

Servings: 5
Prep/Cook: 25 minutes Grill: 25 minutes

- 1 package (19.76 ounces) Johnsonville Original Bratwurst
- 1 medium sweet red pepper, sliced
- 1 medium yellow pepper, sliced
- 1 medium green pepper, sliced
- 1 large onion, sliced
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 3/4 cup Cheez Whiz process cheese sauce
- 5 bratwurst rolls, split

Grill brats according to package directions; keep warm. In skillet, sauté peppers and onion in oil until tender. Place a brat in each roll. Top with peppers, onions and cheese sauce.



Italian Seafood Portobellos

Servings: 25 to 30 appetizers
Prep: 30 minutes Bake: 20 minutes

- 25 to 30 medium portobello mushrooms (about 1-1/2 pounds)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon each salt, pepper and garlic powder
- 1 can (6 ounces) lump crabmeat, drained
- 1 package (5 ounces) frozen cooked salad shrimp, thawed
- 1/2 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 package (16 ounces) Johnsonville All Natural Ground Italian Sausage
- 1 egg

Remove stems from mushrooms; chop stems and set aside. Place mushroom caps on waxed paper, bottom side up. Mist or brush caps with oil; sprinkle with salt, pepper and garlic powder.

In food processor, combine crabmeat, shrimp, cheeses, garlic powder and mushroom stems. Pulse 10 to 15 seconds until coarsely chopped. Transfer to large bowl. Crumble sausage over crabmeat mixture. Add egg; mix just until combined. Spoon into mushroom caps. Place in greased shallow baking pans. Bake at 350°F for 20 to 25 minutes or until thermometer inserted into filling reads 160°F.

Tips: For a spicier version, add 1/2 teaspoon cayenne and 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes.

To make this appetizer a meal, serve over a bed of pasta with Alfredo sauce.



Cheese-filled Breakfast Puffs

Servings: 14 breakfast puffs
Cook/Prep: 20 minutes Bake: 15 minutes

- 1 package (12 ounces) Johnsonville Original Breakfast Sausage Links
- 2 tubes (8 ounces each) refrigerated crescent roll dough
- 5 slices deli cheese, cut into thirds

Cook sausage according to package directions; drain. Unroll crescent dough; separate into 14 triangles (these are two extra triangles). Place one strip cheese and one sausage link onto wide end of each triangle. Roll up, starting with wide end. Place seam side down on ungreased baking sheets. Bake at 375°F 10 to 12 minutes or until golden brown.

Tip: Great for dipping! Serve with cheese sauce, salsa or spicy jam.

Touchdown Italian Chili

Servings: 12
Prep: 35 minutes Cook: 20 minutes

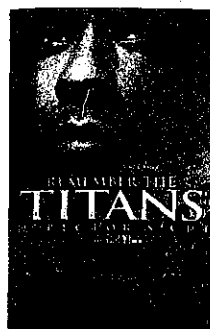
- 1 package (19.76 ounces) Johnsonville Italian Sausage Links
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 3 celery ribs, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 each large sweet red, yellow and green pepper, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 cans (14-1/2 ounces each) Italian recipe stewed tomatoes
- 1 can (15 ounces) butter beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can (6 ounces) tomato paste
- 3/4 cup sliced black olives
- 1/4 cup cream sherry, optional
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil
- 1-1/2 teaspoons baking cocoa
- 1/2 to 1 teaspoon pepper

Grill Italian sausage according to package directions; cut into half moon slices and set aside. In soup kettle, sauté onion, celery, sweet peppers and garlic in oil until tender. Add sausage and remaining ingredients; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 20 minutes or until flavors are blended.

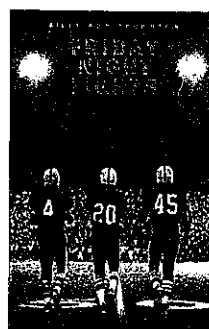
Tip: Sprinkle chili with grated Asiago, Romano or Parmesan cheese.



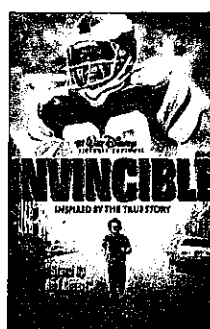
Kick off the Super Bowl festivities this year by watching some football favorites. Here's a list of movie primers sure to satisfy every pigskin fan in the family



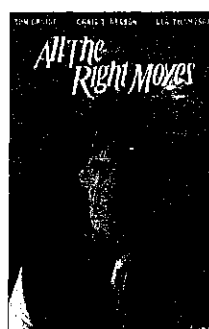
Remember the Titans — Based on the true story of Coach Herman Boone, Denzel Washington gives an amazing performance as the coach who forced integration on his football team only to have the team discover that friendship and loyalty are colorblind.



Friday Night Lights — Director Peter Berg took his cousin's best-selling novel and adapted it for the screen. The resulting film doesn't paint the prettiest picture of a small Texas town, but it does provide a brutally realistic look at the Panhandle Panthers football program back in the late 60s.



Invincible — Mark Wahlberg stars in this true story based on the incredible tale of Vince Papale, a part-time bartender who loved football yet never dared to dream of playing in the NFL. But when Dick Vermeil took over as head coach for the Philadelphia Eagles, he opened up tryouts to anybody and everybody.



All the Right Moves — Tom Cruise as the star of a mill-town high school team who tries to make sure he doesn't follow the same path as his parents. Craig T. Nelson is the evil coach in this one.



We Are Marshall — The moving story of how Marshall University, its students, teachers, and members of the community were able to fight back after a horrible plane crash took the lives of their football team and supporters on November 14, 1970.



Rudy — The inspirational true story about an undersized underdog who dared to dream about playing football for Notre Dame.



Jerry Maguire — The movie starring Tom Cruise that introduced the world to the phrase "Show me the money!"



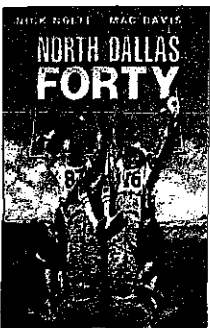
Brian's Song — The poignant classic about Gayle Sayers and Brian Piccolo of the Chicago Bears. This one will leave even the toughest fan misty-eyed.



Semi-Tough — Burt Reynolds and Kris Kristoferson are best friends on and off the field, and they also compete for the love of Jill Clayburgh.



Wildcats — Goldie Hawn takes a rag-tag team of high school misfits and molds them into a championship team in this comedy that also had a great message.



North Dallas Forty — Nick Nolte and Mac Davis star in this account of the seedy side of pro football. Nolte plays a gruff and cynical tight end addicted to painkillers.



The Paper Lion — 36-year-old journalist George Plimpton joins the Detroit Lions as a third-string quarterback, and relates his saga through training camp while trying to keep his identity a secret.



Horse Feathers — This Marx Bros. comedy pokes fun at higher education and college football and is as funny today as it was in 1932.



The Replacements — Coach Gene Hackman is commissioned to form a team, led by quarterback Keanu Reeves, after a professional football players' strike happens.



Heaven Can Wait — Warren Beatty stars as a quarterback who returns to earth in a Remake of the 1941 comedy-drama "Here Comes Mr. Jordan."



The Waterboy — The goofball antics of Adam Sandler will leave your kids in stitches.



The Longest Yard — Burt Reynolds is a former football player sent to prison for stealing his ex-girlfriend's car. The warden is a football fan who forces Reynolds to organize a team of inmates to play the guards.



Necessary Roughness — Scott Bakula stars as the aging quarterback of a cheating Texas college football team forced to play without scholarship players.



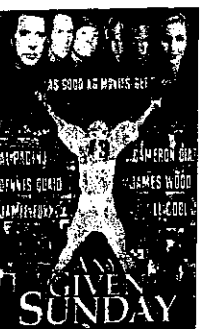
Knute Rockne - All American — Ronald Reagan plays the Fighting Irish's first All-American and delivers his classic deathbed plea to "win just one for the Gipper."



Something for Joey — Made-for-TV movie exploring the relationship between Heisman Trophy winner John Caposetti and his youngest brother, who was stricken with a life-ending disease.



The Program — James Caan stars as the college football coach of a fictional team, the ESU Timberwoolves. This movie provides an inside look at the intricacies of college football.



Any Given Sunday — Oliver Stone's realistic look at professional football and the relationships between owners, players, coaches and fans.



Varsity Blues — A look at the West Texas high school football way of life and the effects of celebrity on the well-adjusted player. Jon Voight plays the evil coach.



Black Sunday — Terrorists attempt to detonate a dart-firing blimp to wipe out a Super Bowl crowd. Stars Bruce Dern and Robert Shaw.



The Best of Times — After reliving the humiliation of a bobbled pass, banker Robin Williams decides to restage the Big Game with quarterback Kurt Russell and thus rewrite history.

Super Bowl XLII

New England Patriots (18-0) vs. New York Giants (13-6)

University of Phoenix Stadium

6:17 p.m. Sunday on CBS

Add pizzazz to your party

Your favorite NFL team didn't make the playoffs. Or maybe you don't have a favorite team. Or perhaps you don't even know the difference between a corner blitz and a shotgun formation. It makes no difference. You can still enjoy Super Bowl Sunday by making the game the centerpiece of a dinner party.

You can serve something beyond the usual, ho-hum chips and hot dogs," says Karen Brown, author of "The Dinner Party Cookbook" (Meadowbrook Press).

"I'm not saying that you should break out the tuxedo," Brown says. "But why not make the party more memorable?"

Brown suggests sending out invitations on stationary adorned with football images or in the colors of the competing teams. Ask your guests to bring their replica jerseys or in the garb of their collegiate alma mater.

Before the guests arrive, decorate your house with pennants, pom-poms and toy footballs. On the main table, nestle a real football under a centerpiece of flowing ribbons and miniature NFL figurines.

Once guests show up, put on some college football songs. Or organize a football pool with token bets. Your guests should be getting the impression that this party is far beyond the routine gather-round-the-tube event.

If there is any doubt about the party's uniqueness, it will vanish when you reveal the appetizers. Brown suggests warm crab dip with pita chips, offered with Bloody Marys. An ideal second course is green beans and potatoes with a light vinaigrette.

Shortly after the game begins, serve the main course: beef tenderloin on rolls. Guests who were expecting bland burgers will be overjoyed. A nice red wine, like a Merlot, goes perfectly with the meat.

As the game enters its final quarter, present your guests with dessert. Caramel brownies complement the feast and satiate your guests.

Regardless of who wins the game, your guests will have nothing but praise for your exceptional taste," Brown says. "And you will have succeeded in throwing a Super Bowl party that is unique and enjoyable to die-hard fan and sports novice alike." Touchdown!

PARTY TIPS

- Ask guests to dress in the colors of their favorite team.
- Decorate with pennants, pom-poms, and toy footballs.
- Serve food and beverages as a buffet, or assemble box lunches that guests can balance on their laps during the game.
- For a centerpiece, use a real football surrounded by mums, ribbons, and miniature football figurines.
- Get things started by organizing a pool with low-dollar bets.
- Try a menu of warm crab dip on pita chips, green beans and potato casserole, beef tenderloin on rolls, caramel brownies, and Bloody Marys.



Janer Awarded Scholarship

Novi senior Paige Janer is one of eight recipients of the 2007 Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association Scholarship. It's awarded to high school volleyball players who demonstrate leadership, character and outstanding academic performance throughout their high school career.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi news



Submitted photo

Senior Day

The Novi swim and dive team celebrates senior day tonight against South Lyon. The meet begins at 6 p.m. at the Novi High School pool. This year's seniors include: First row, from left: Ronak Chhaya, Kyle Malarkey and Henry He. Second Row: Jim Brunner, Dan Mlester, Javier Petriz, Eric Baumgarten, Danny Kiefer and Alessandro Donini.

Novi Roundup

continued from front

double figures with 15. The Novi defense forced 24 Eagle turnovers and did not allow a three-point shot.

Against Milford, the Wildcats used a furious fourth quarter comeback to steal the win. The Mavericks used a 17-7 edge in the third quarter to hold a 37-29 lead heading into the final quarter. Novi outscored Milford 25-14 in the final frame for the win.

Beilamy scored 15 points to lead the way, including a perfect 6-for-6 at the line in the fourth quarter.

Dean had a huge night on the boards, grabbing 18 rebounds to go with 13 points.

Shaun Rydzewski chipped in eight points.

Wrestling

Novi wrestling posted a pair of wins against KVC opponents last week, beating Lakeland and Pinckney.

Posting wins against Lakeland were Conner Caldwell (103 pounds), Robbie Yusko (pin at 119), Aditya Sathi (125), Thomas Szczygiel (130), Steve Debono (pin at 135), Ryan Thomas (152), Joe Pritchard (171), Ryan Ridenour (215) and Joey Shada (pin at HWT).

Wins against Pinckney came from Caldwell (pin), Yusko (pin), Sathi (void), Szczygiel (pin), Debono (pin), Abdul Khan (void at 140), Alex Engebretson (145), Thomas (tech), Pritchard, Ridenour (tech), Ben Farley (215) and Shada (pin).

The JV team competed at the Fenton tournament. Adam Paul and Shabbag Sidhu both won their pools with 3-0 records.

Chris Caverly, Abdul Khan, Adam Troher and Ben Farley all went 2-1, taking second in their pools.

Hockey

After getting back to .500, the Wildcats (7-9-1) lost two games last week to KVC foe Howell and a non-conference game to Forest Hills Central.

Cheer

The Novi cheer team had little trouble with Howell, racking up 689.37 points to Howell's 321.608.

The JV team also beat Howell, 512.104-483.570.

Jeff Theisen can be reached at jtheisen@gannett.com or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Sport Shorts

Super 5K Run

The Super 5-kilometer Run will take place 9 a.m. Feb. 3 at the Novi Town Center. Pre-registration is \$24 and \$29 on race day.

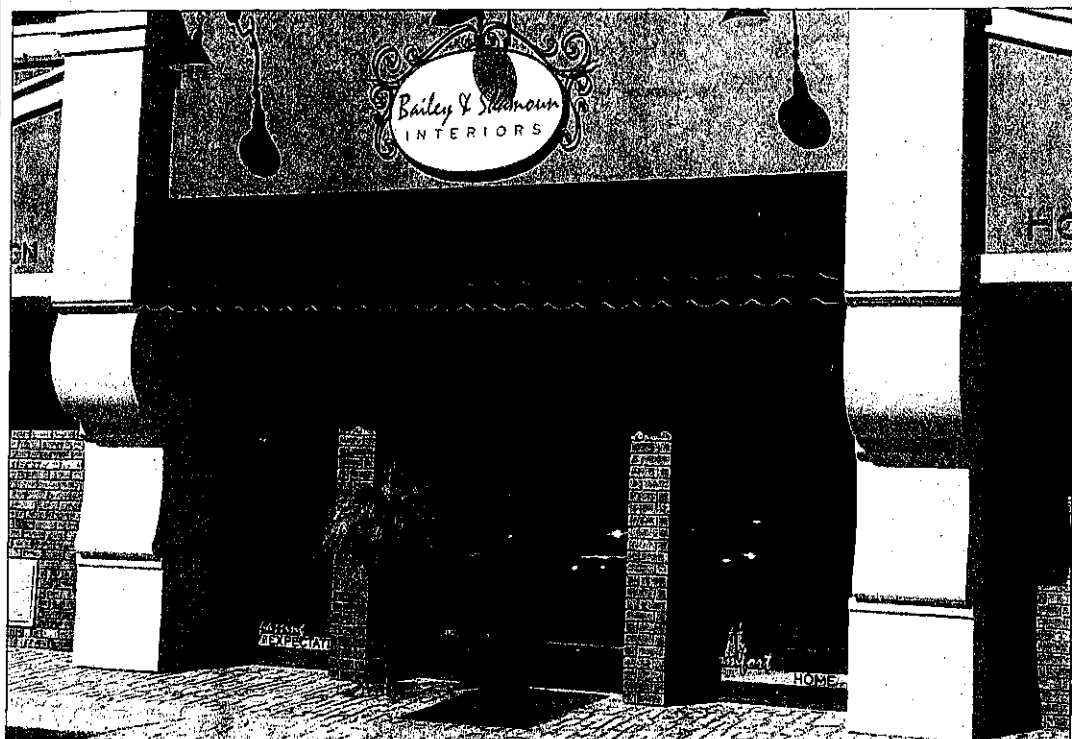
For more information or to pre-register online, go to www.unsuperbowl.com or call (734) 929-9027.

Soccer Shootout

The University of Michigan mens soccer team is hosting the sixth annual three-on-three Micro-Soccer Shootout Camp on Feb. 9-10 at the Oosterbaan Fieldhouse.

The fee of \$100 includes a four-game guarantee for each team. Ages range from 7 to adult with recreational and competitive divisions available for boys and girls. Registration forms can be found at www.unsoccer.com. Further information is available by calling (734) 647-1201 or by e-mailing ldtckee@umich.edu. Registration forms must be postmarked by Feb. 1 or dropped off by Feb. 4.

ADVERTISEMENT



Photos by JOHN R. HALL

Basma Shamoun and Kathryn Bailey are always happy to welcome clients into their 'second home', Bailey & Shamoun Interiors, which is located on Doheny street, just past the railroad underpass off of South Main Street in Northville.

Bailey & Shamoun turns houses into homes

By John R. Hall
SPECIAL WRITER

For the past five years, Kathryn Bailey and Basma Shamoun have welcomed the Northville community into their second home — a special place where people gather to visit, share ideas, and lovingly plan the environment that they call home.

Both women are not just your friends or neighbors, they are experienced interior designers whose growing business — Bailey & Shamoun Interiors — has made a major impact on interior designs throughout Northville, metro Detroit and various parts of the country.

"We are a part of this community," Kathryn said. "We live here, our kids are in school here, people see us out and about. Part of our mission is to give back to the community that has supported us while we have grown the business."

An example is the recently completed Tipping Point Theatre in Northville. Bailey & Shamoun worked with the theater directors and builder to create a unique interior experience that is uniquely Northville.

"We set out to give Tipping Point a look and feel that people will remember," Basma said. "The finished result has been something all of us in Northville can be proud of."

Giving is one thing that both women have done so well — giving visions of what professionally designed space can look like. They accomplish this with their unique home accessory store and interior design studio on Doheny Drive in Northville.

"The design studio allows us to transport people to a certain environment highlighted with colors and fabrics," Kathryn said. "In these environments we provide solutions to what people could do within their own homes."

Basma added, "We want people to come and let us inspire their imaginations."

REMODEL SERVICES

With their team of experienced, bonded, and licensed contractors, the women can handle all of the design and remodeling needs, from floor to ceiling, including plumbing, tiling, painting, and carpentry.

BAILEY & SHAMOUN INTERIORS

767 Doheny, Northville

Phone
(248) 380-7898

Hours
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday through Saturday

Basma said that she and Kathryn are the architects of many beautifully designed homes. "We can remodel, design-build, or take the whole home apart," she said. "Our understanding of spatial planning strikes a fine balance between functionality and esthetics. The result is a stunning interior that excels in livability — an elegant showcase tailored around the client's exact needs and unique lifestyle."

One added bonus of working with Kathryn and Basma is very obvious: clients get the value of two experienced interior designers for the price of one. Each woman is uniquely qualified to work as a team to give their clients the greatest design experience. And each goes about their work with a high degree of integrity.

"Clients know they can trust us," Kathryn added. "They can trust the quality of the furniture and accessory lines we carry, too." Bailey & Shamoun offers several furniture lines including Century, Jonathon Charles, Taylor King, Vanguard, Hekman, Hooker, Sherill, Bernhardt and more.

In addition, several unique home accessory lines are available to add special touches to your home.

"If we don't have what you need, we can find it via our connection to the Michigan Design Center and other sources across the globe," Kathryn said.

ACCESSORY SHOPPING

Besides being home to one of the more exciting interior design firms in metro Detroit, Bailey & Shamoun Interiors is also a retail store with many unique ideas for gifts and last minute shoppers. With the holiday season fast approaching, the business has a large selection of special hostess gifts and unique holiday items.



Teamed up to design a complete home interior — from the floor to ceiling — are, left, Basma Shamoun and Kathryn Bailey.

Store hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Design services are by appointment, but both women encourage everyone to stop in for a visit.

"There is something that people will miss if they don't come in for a visit," Basma said. "We are set up to create an amazing shopping experience — with unique home accents added on a weekly basis."

Kathryn and Basma realize that their clients have busy lifestyles and that their job is to make the interior design experience as easy as possible. That's why they

believe that meeting clients and getting comfortable with them is so important — an atmosphere of trust and sharing (sprinkled in with some good old fun) puts people at ease and makes everyone's job easier.

"We love our jobs," Kathryn said. "We love coming to work in our home away from home — and inviting people in."

For interior design and gift ideas, visit Bailey & Shamoun Interiors at 767 Doheny, just past the railroad underpass off of South Main Street, or call (248) 380-7898.