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# Novi News

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2008

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's "Farm Lady" Margaret Schmidt, left, was one of many people who turned out for a discussion last Friday on the future on Novi's Furst Farm. Schmidt brought along a toy tractor, right, and other mementos of Novi's farming past.

## To preserve or not to preserve

■ Furst Farm property under review

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

The dynamic group of roughly two dozen members of the Novi community all had one thing in common at Friday's Focus Group session - an interest in the future of Furst Farm.

"Our goal here today is to generate as many ideas as possible," said Terry Croad, vice president of McKenna Associates, Inc., the planning consultants for the city-owned property. "There are no wrong answers."

Friday was the fourth and final Focus Group session, wrapping up one phase of the process to develop a plan for the property at the southeast corner of Taft and 10 Mile roads.

"There's been some interesting concepts," said Randy Auler, director of the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.

Currently, upon the 6.5 acres sits a home, three barns, a well house, gardens and an orchard.

Much to people's dismay, Croad revealed the buildings on the property are in a state of disrepair.

"I'm disappointed in the demise of this property," said Novi resident Dave Lussier.

The farmstead is listed on the State Register of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places.

Attendees of Friday's session seemed concerned in the preservation of the property's historical significance.

Referred to in Novi as "the farm lady," Margaret Schmidt shared a number of ideas on how the farm could be transformed into an educational, recreational and historical focal point for the

city. "It is not an eye sore, it is a farm," she said. "It needs to be fixed up."

Other preservation ideas generated were to create a farmer's market on the property and an ice skating rink during the winter months. "I'd hate to see something like Margaret's belief disappear, it's too valuable," Lussier said. "History is hard to preserve."

"I do think a volunteer group would need to be put together with goals, time frames and marketing support."

A number of people expressed the need for a signature park within the City of Novi, but the general consensus was the location of the Furst Farm property isn't suited for such an endeavor.

As part of city council's goals for the upcoming year, strides are already being made to acquire property for such a park, including possibilities of a recreation center and amphitheater.

"The idea to review potential uses for the property became a priority with plans for the new library."

"With the library construction project, it will require the old town hall to be relocated and we only want to do that one time," Auler said last month. "We'll take the community input and all the research that's being conducted to come up with options and recommendations for the property that will best serve the community."

The consultants are expected to submit a plan with recommendations to the city by the beginning of March.

Included with the report will be recommendations regarding the permanent location of the Old Township Hall, whether it is the Furst Farm or another location, and the long-term uses of the farmstead property.

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

## Leader of the pack



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Leader Dog candidate, Lada, goes for a quick walk outside her Novi home with temporary owners and trainers Randy Bridgeman and Irina Mackay.

By Tracy Estes-Mishler  
SPECIAL WRITER

Who would have thought a life-enhancing, sometimes life-saving resource could have four legs and be dubbed "man's best friend?"

Rochester-based Leader Dogs for the Blind have been helping the visually impaired see through the eyes of their four-legged friends since 1939 and have since raised and graduated more than 14,000 working person and dog teams since its inception.

With the help of people from all walks of life assisting in raising puppies and training them, Leader Dogs has helped provide heroes to those in need of well-trained seeing eye dogs across the globe.

Irina Mackay and her husband, Randy Bridgeman, of Novi, recently brought home a nine-week-old female yellow Labrador retriever, whom they named Lada.

Mackay said Lada, one of three girls and four boys in her litter born Dec. 5, will live with her family for about 12 months before she is returned to start training extensively for the Leader Dog program.

In the mean time, she will learn house manners, basic obedience and gain exposure to many real-world experiences including shopping malls, loud sirens, other animals, busy sidewalks, bicycles, sporting events, grocery stores and even church.

"I'm a dog trainer, and I work for PETCO," Mackay said. "We travel a lot, and I can't get my own dog. I decided I wanted to do something nice."

"I will do a great job and bring so much joy to someone who can't see. It's great."

Mackay said working at PETCO, she has the ability to bring Lada to work with her, to interact with other dogs, learn and encounter new environments.

Leader Dogs for the Blind, funded by donations from Lions

and Lioness Club members, individuals, foundations and corporations dedicated to community service, have puppy raisers in 22 different states and Canada.

According to Leader Dogs staff, once a puppy is 12 to 15 months old, they are returned to the Rochester location for extensive training of learning the responsibility of their job.

"People have asked me if it's going to be hard to give Lada up," Mackay said. "I've loved her and will continue to love her. It's part of my soul."

"My love will go on with her to someone else and it will bring life... To be blind is darkness. With these dogs, people can go out and live and enjoy their lives."

Mackay said she doesn't know where Lada will end up once her training is complete, but she will take her love with her.

continued on 6A

## District growth slows, funding uncertain

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

Although it's happening slower than in the past, Novi Community School District is still growing.

The first of two annual student count days took place last Wednesday and saw a head count of 6,304 k-

12 students at Novi schools, up from the 2007 numbers of 6,289 on Sept. 26 and 6,296 Feb. 13.

February Student Count Day accounts for 25 percent of the district's budgeted student enrollment numbers, with September's count making up the other 75 percent. The blended total is used to determine the amount of money the district will receive from the state.

"Generally, counts are down a little in February because of early graduations at the high school," said Bob Schram, assistant superintendent of human resources, noting this month's increase as a welcome change. "It's just kids here or there. There's no trend. Elementary is down, which is the (only) trend we've seen."

The five k-four elementary schools accounted for 2,314 students last week, up from 2,298 last September and 2,296 one year ago. Compared to other classes over the past decade, Schram said numbers have slowly dwindled.

"The senior class is 488 and kindergarten is 399," he said. "We are, obviously, just by a straight line, down 89 students. There are more kids out of the pipeline than into the pipeline."

To cover the number of outgoing seniors this spring, next year's kindergarten class would need to boast at least 89 more students, a class size more than 22 percent larger than this year's group of 399.

Helping the monetary cause, however, will be an increase in per pupil funding through the State Foundation Allowance. The district received a \$48 increase last year amid the Lansing budget crisis and currently earns \$8,743 per pupil.

With Gov. Jennifer Granholm's newly proposed budget, Novi could receive a \$108 per pupil increase this year, setting the number at \$8,851 per pupil.

continued on 7A

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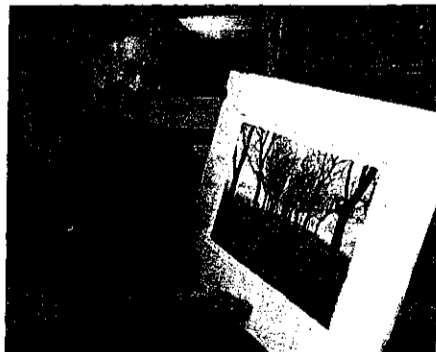


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Photographer Monte Nagler holds up one of his prints.

## Through a photographer's lens

■ Monte Nagler at Novi library tonight

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

Monte Nagler quit his job to follow his dream.

"I was 42 when I made the change," Nagler said. "I just figured, if you don't ever try, you're never going to know."

Now, more than 20 years later, Nagler has traveled the world and made a name for himself as a

nationally, and internationally, renowned photographer.

"It's a super job," he said. "If you could make a living doing your hobby, what could be better than that?"

Nagler will be sharing personal experiences and professional pieces with the Novi community 7 p.m. tonight at the Novi Library.

"Discovering the Artist Behind the Lens" is part of a monthly evening lecture series, sponsored by the Friends of the Novi Public Library.

Each monthly program is open to the public at no charge, but reservations are required.

"I really have nothing planned," Nagler said. "I encourage questions, that's why I just ad-lib and get everyone involved."

All self-taught, Nagler studied with Ansel Adams in the summer of 1979.

It was shortly after that, he converted his hobby into a career.

"It's seeing mother nature through the view finder that gets me excited," Nagler said. "In total, it's been 38 years, as a profession it's been about 25."

His work is currently featured throughout the United States at

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## Elementary additions approved, residents concerned

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

Novi residents will see three elementary schools expanding this summer, but some parents are concerned with the placement of the project at one of the sites.

Village Oaks, Orchard Hills and Parkview elementary schools will each have a new gym, art room and music room added to the existing buildings during the spring and summer months. The projects will begin in March and wrap up before school begins in the fall, funded through May 2007 bond proceeds.

But the Parkview Elementary School project, located between a soccer stadium on the east and the Walden Woods subdivision on the west, has drawn commentary from residents to the \$3.13 million project that will add a gym and classrooms to the south side of the building. The monetary amount includes 12 of the 26 beds required for the project, with the rest to be awarded in coming weeks.

The project will displace the playground and soccer field on the south end of the building to an area of open land southeast of the school, closer to a hill leading down to Novi Meadows and the preschool, where a future parking lot may add about 36 more parking spaces later this summer.

The building extension would also require the current "lollipop" cul de sac fire drive along the west side of the building to be extended further, cutting into a walking path along a line of trees separating the school from residents' backyards.

The current baseball diamond would also be removed because there would not be enough room for the outfield between home plate and the new gym.

A full-size soccer field may be put in its place, said Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations Gail Credit.

"As soon as the ground thaws, we'll begin the clearing of the land," she said. "The renovations inside start the day after school ends for summer."

Some parking at the south end of the soccer field next year will not be immediately adjacent to the building and will likely not be close enough for those who will be using the gym."

Suggestions for the gym addition are to place it on the north side of the building along 11 Mile Road, cutting out about half of the available parking spaces at the school, which residents argue are already more than ample with about 200 spaces.

However, putting the gym in front of the school would require the current water main, which runs along the front and eastern sides of the school, to be moved and extended, as structures cannot be built above a water main for safety and maintenance reasons, officials said.

It would cost an additional \$1.7 million to move the gym to the front of the building, it would be impractical," Superintendent Peter Dion said.

Credit said putting the addition in the front would create windowless classrooms and require the school to be moved, which would be a costly and disruptive process.

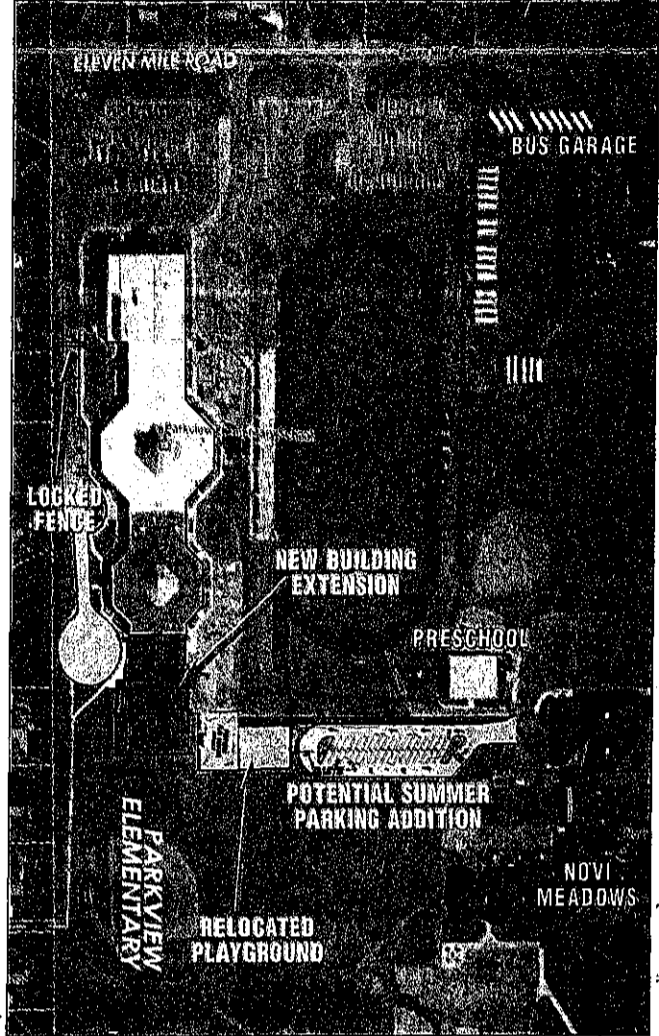
Although residents question the estimate, they also suggest getting in additional parking southeast of the school near the preschool and Novi Meadows to accommodate the south-side gym entrances and move the fire route so it doesn't run along residential backyards. But a large hill and a poorly maneuverable access route for fire services nullified the idea.

Residents urged the Board to think long-term when suggesting delaying the construction at Parkview, mentioning that moving the soccer stadium altogether may be an ideal way to create space.

"If you go forward with the construction at Parkview at all, which we question, then you owe it to the children of Parkview and the community at large to select a plan that can work in the long term," Vera-Brugos told the board at its Feb. 7 meeting. "Times have changed in Novi and the decision to build needs to be reconsidered based on the current environment."

One of the largest concerns the

### Parkview 2008 Additions



Source: Fanning Howay Associates, Inc.

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Victoria Mitchell, editor  
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# MY GOVERNMENT

Thursday, February 21, 2008  
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## Novi legislators react to Granholm budget proposal

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

Gov. Jennifer Granholm announced her state budget proposal earlier this month and Novi's legislators have mixed feelings.

"The budget is definitely in much better shape than it was a year ago," said Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Nowi). "Her message was very positive in terms of parsimony and working together."

House Minority Leader Craig DeRoche (R-Nowi) said Granholm's lack of new taxes is a highlight of the proposal, but he disagrees on some of the other items.

"We favor that there is no new taxes and fees, but disagree with structural deficits and drawing from one-time funding," he said. "She spends all of our surplus this year in creating a structural deficit. She's using hundreds of thousands of one-time funds. She takes away from the state employ-

ment pension fund. It's risky and irresponsible."

DeRoche said Granholm's budget takes \$300 million of the pension state employee pension funds and invests it with venture capital firms.

"We learned from the 21st Century Job fund that it will end up in the hands of firms (involved with politics). Leave it alone," DeRoche said.

Cassis said the program, the Invest Michigan Fund, borrows 1 percent of the state employee pension fund to give the credits to the top 50 businesses.

However, she doesn't feel Granholm's fund is necessary because of a self-sponsored Entrepreneurial Exemption law



Craig DeRoche

already in place that eliminates tax liabilities for three years for businesses that create 20 jobs while investing \$1.25 million in the state.

"We have the same goal to rejuvenate the economy. We just have different ways of getting there," Cassis said. "She takes from Peter to pay Paul and there are winners and losers here."

Cassis suggests looking at privatizing corrections and consolidating small educational and most branches of government services, such as police and fire, at all levels from the state down.

She also emphasizes the need to produce, keep and draw jobs to Michigan.

"How can we best stimulate the economy? We've got to think much more out of the box to compete in the 21st century. Government doesn't create jobs, it's the private sector that does. We need to open up the marketplace and let the marketplace determine who's going to be

successful," Cassis said. "Michigan is outstanding as a technological, innovative state and we should pursue that with all diligence and do anything we can to attract those kind of high-tech, innovative businesses into Michigan."

She suggests looking into the Right to Work law, which has helped other states' job growth.

The Right to Work law would have the choice up to workers as to their membership in an employee union.

"I'm convinced we should at least start talking about it the places and the unions. Otherwise, we'd stay behind the eight ball and businesses may go to North Carolina, Virginia,



Nancy Cassis

Georgia, Texas and even Utah," Cassis said. "The message of unionism was important 30-40 years ago. A lot has changed since then. We're not the same state or country we were 40-50 years ago."

tion," DeRoche said.

Cassis echoed a statewide need for specialized programs through schools at all ages, rather than dividing larger schools as suggested in Granholm's proposal. She also said the kindergarten-through grades are important developmental years that will set the stage for high school and college performance.

Cassis said the next six months of budget negotiations will be interesting and shouldn't go down to the wire like last year. She said there will not be a billion-dollar deficit, but rather, major policy issues, which should be faster to resolve.

"Working with the governor and the other side of the aisle to reach a core and common ground is really important. We all want to see Michigan be successful. How we get there is worthy of debate and discussion, but to reduce the rate of animosity is very important," Cassis said. "What is the proper role of the government? Stay tuned."

## Wireless Oakland County project further delayed

By Alison Bergsleker  
STAFF WRITER

What appeared to be a project nearing its completion is actually becoming a project put on another waiting list.

Oakland County officials recently announced that plans to roll out the Wireless Oakland initiative, which would provide wireless Internet service throughout the county, are delayed once again due to concerns from partners footing the bill for the project.

The county does not own or operate the wireless network, but has instead created private and public partnerships by providing businesses access to assets county taxpayers have already funded, which in turn allows the partners to provide free wireless access.

Pontiac-based MichTel Communications is the Internet service provider and contractor for the project, and is working under an agreement that expires in 2020. But other partners have been more hesitant to come on board, according to Oakland County officials.

Recently, Earthlink, a large dial-up Internet provider, released statements that mass wireless networks need more financial back-

ing from governmental agencies to be successful. Oakland County officials said Earthlink's statements have affected the project's delay in Oakland County, as well as other government-sponsored initiatives across the country.

But county officials said the delay still puts the project ahead of other national initiatives.

"National experts are saying that Oakland County has the best model in the county," said Phil Bertolini, deputy county executive. "High-tech companies will be coming to a high-tech county because of Wireless Oakland."

Robert Dastman, county communications officer, said MichTel continues to work with private investors to get the funding required for the project.

"The company is very confident it will be successful in accomplishing this goal some time in early 2008," Dastman said.

Private sector providers and their investors are looking for government to guarantee revenue over the life of a given contract, thus reducing the risk.

Phase 1 of Wireless Oakland was implemented in July 2005 in seven communities — Birmingham, Madison Heights, Oak Park, Pontiac, Royal Oak,

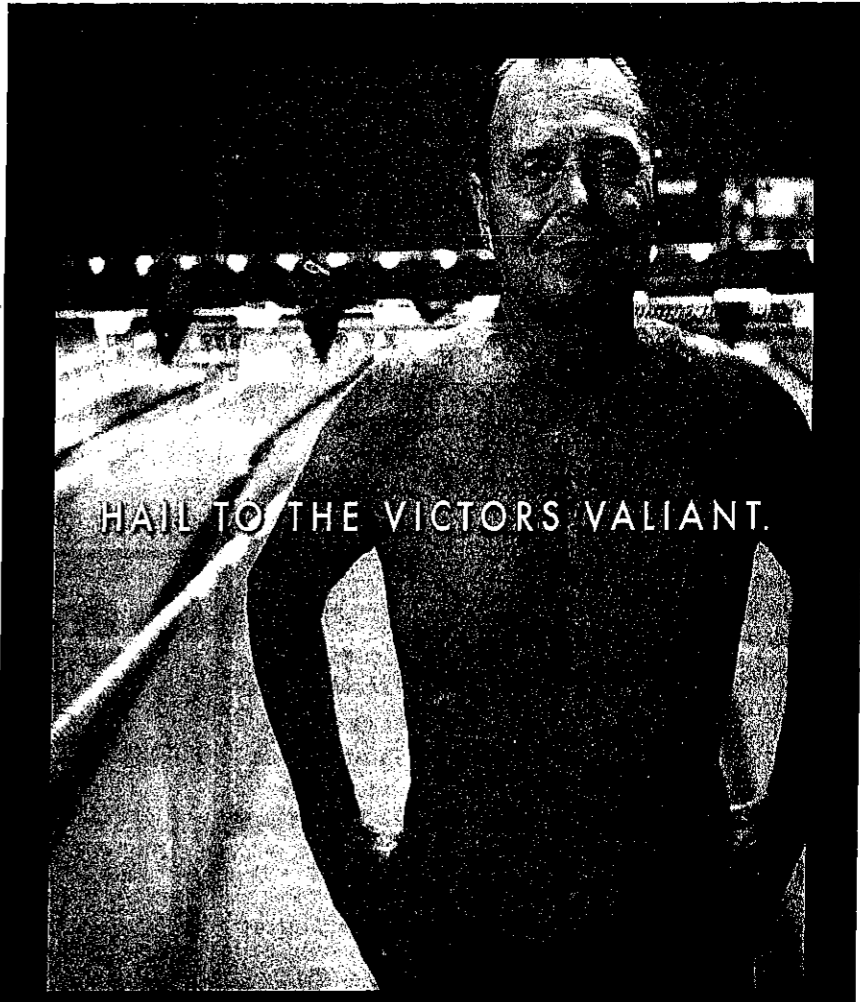
Troy and Wixom. The service currently has 15,370 subscribers, covers 18.5 square miles and reaches 78,172 people in 35,277 households, Bertolini said. Those figures are much higher, he said, than what was projected so far.

When Phase 2 is complete, all 910 miles of the county will have wireless Internet service and will provide low- or no-cost computers and training to low-income resi-

dents. A portion of bandwidth, 128K, will be free for all residents, visitors and businesses, but subscribers will be able to upgrade to 512K for \$19.95 a month, Bertolini said. Almost 200 users have

upgraded to a higher bandwidth.

Plans to blanket the county with wireless Internet won't be announced until MichTel finds the \$75 million required from private sectors to fund the program.



## Road resurfacing

The Road Commission for Oakland County approved \$25 million in funding for 2012 projects at its Feb. 8 meeting.

Three resurfacing projects are in Novi. Two will take place on Nine Mile Road and one on Meadowbrook Road.

The first \$163,800 Nine Mile Road project will resurface the area between Novi and Taft roads. The second, a \$169,800 project, will resurface Nine Mile Road from Meadowbrook to Haggerty roads.

The \$169,900 Meadowbrook Road project will resurface the roadway between Eight Mile and Nine Mile roads.

"This year, we were able to fund nearly 30 miles of resurfacing projects," said Dennis Kolar, deputy managing director and county highway engineer for the commission. "This will help to ensure that some of the paved roads in the worst condition in the county receive a smooth new surface."

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# Local family raises funds for pediatric rehabilitation center



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

With her triplet siblings, Jack and Alivia acting as ballast, Alex Foltyn, 5, uses her legs to push them backward during her rehab for her cerebral palsy at Novi's Providence Hospital Rehabilitation Center with therapist Stephanie Herrle. Alex's parents have purchased some equipment for the center to help patients with their physical therapy.

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

Alexandra Foltyn spends more than an hour a day, three days a week in physical therapy.

Foltyn, 5, is the only one of triplets to suffer from a mild case of cerebral palsy, a physical disability that affects the muscles from her mid-core down.

Her therapy helps strengthen and stretch her petite muscles.

"She misses out on some of the physical things her brother (Jack) and sister (Alivia) do," said mother, Cassandra Foltyn. "But she has not plateaued in her recovery, which is great."

"And they're her little helper bees."

For the past three years, Alexandra has been working with physical therapist Stephanie Herrle through Providence's Rehabilitation Services.

After witnessing a little boy being discharged because he didn't have the money to continue therapy, Cassandra and her husband Michael began raising money to benefit such causes.

Share Your Love for an Evening of  
**Wines around the World**  
in honor of the  
**Pediatric Rehabilitation Fund**  
at Providence Park Hospital, Novi, Mich.  
Tuesday, February 26, 2008 - 7:00 to 9:00 pm



The Foltyn's set-up the Pediatric Rehabilitation Scholarship Fund and began raising money through golf outings four years ago.

"Anytime a kid has a problem and insurance won't cover it, we've set up these funds," Cassandra said. "A lot of kids this year are getting rejected for claims. We've bought several walkers (for kids)."

Tuesday, the Foltyn's will host their first wine tasting event.

Wines around the World will consist of 16 wines from eight different regions, including California, New Zealand, Spain, Italy, Argentina, France, Michigan and regional organic wines.

The event will take place at O'Callaghan's Irish Pub in Brighton and will include food pairings to match the regions of the wine.

Tickets are \$55 in advance and \$65 at the door.

"The money is going to expand the new rehabilitation center for the kids," Cassandra said. "Our goal was to raise \$8,500, but we'd like to raise a little more than that."

Cassandra is hoping the money raised will help to fulfill the need for new rehabilitation equipment.

"We already bought the rock wall that is going in there," she said.

The Foltyns feel fortunate to have been able to provide Alexandra with the treatment and equipment necessary to deal with her disability, and are trying to help those less fortunate.

"I need no recognition," Cassandra said. "I just need to know the kids have what they need."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi residents Irina Mackay and Randy Bridgeman hang out with their future Leader Dog for the Blind "Lada." They are raising the yellow Labrador retriever for the next year until she will be returned to the Leader Dog program.

## Leader of the pack

continued from front  
**Raising a pup**

Mackay said during her time with Lada she has begun crate training and teaching her to focus.

"You need to work very hard to make progress with a puppy," she said. "It's like having a baby."

Mackay said she did her research before becoming a puppy raiser for the Leader Dogs and is happy she did.

"It's very rewarding," she said. "These dogs really make a difference in peoples' lives."

"We waited a long time to get her and we will do our best to get her ready for her future. We plan on getting more dogs in the future and raising them for the Leader Dogs as well."

Beverly Blanchard, puppy program development manager for Leader Dogs for the Blind, said there is about a nine month to a year waiting list for people looking to raise a Leader Dog.

"We would not be able to provide Leader Dogs at all if it weren't for volunteer puppy raisers. Right now we have about 400 puppies in 22 states and

Canada growing up learning about the world around them," Blanchard said. "The exposure that the puppy raisers provide is an intricate part of the dog's extensive training needed to become a Leader Dog."

Creating a responsible candidate to become a Leader Dog entails a great deal of socialization. The more the puppy sees and experiences during the first year of its life, the more adapting and calm it will be when exposed to future experiences.

Blanchard said anyone can apply to become a puppy raiser.

"The application procedure gives us an idea of the environment our puppy is going into," she said. "Some have never had a dog. Some families simply want another. I raised my first when I was 11."

Blanchard said there is no perfect family or person to apply and the Leader Dogs try hard not to deny puppy raisers as long as their past pet history is clean.

"We have students from all over the world (including Mexico, Spain and Argentina) and the people who raise the dogs, who guide our students, are very important to us," she said.

Blanchard said when the puppies return to Leader Dogs after their 12-month stay with their

puppy raisers, they are thoroughly evaluated for medical history and personality traits.

She said puppies that pass the evaluation are trained one-on-one for the next four months by a professional instructor and carefully matched with an individual who is legally blind. The team then trains together at Leader Dogs for a month before leaving the facility and returning home.

"We want all dogs to become Leader Dogs, but that's like saying all kids are going to become doctors," Blanchard said. "Not every dog we raise is going to make it into our program. If the dog graduates he or she is matched with a student, if not, those who raised it have the first opportunity in adoption."

Blanchard said only 65 to 70 percent of the dogs raised through Leader Dogs become guides.

Mackay said though she has only had Lada a few months, she knows her pup will be a leader.

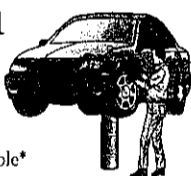
"I will put all my love and soul into this baby," she said. "I will do it and must do it. It's very important that Lada make it into the program."

"If she does not, however, the first person for adoption would be us and we'll be happy to have her back."

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## NOTICE

### PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to state law, a public sale will be held on **February 23, 2008** at 11:00AM at **COLONIAL MINI STORAGE**, 48200 West Rd, Wixom, Michigan 48393. Contents will be sold by competitive bidding for **cash only** to the highest bidder and include miscellaneous household, furniture, tools and personal items including clothing. Units are as follows:

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 147 Jennifer Fields      | 248 Pamela Stover       |
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| 536 Cathy Jo Leibold     | 615 Linda Vasquez       |
| 645 Thomas Harrison      | 663 Brian Schwartz      |
| 709 Gloria Baty          | 715 Tricinia Miller     |
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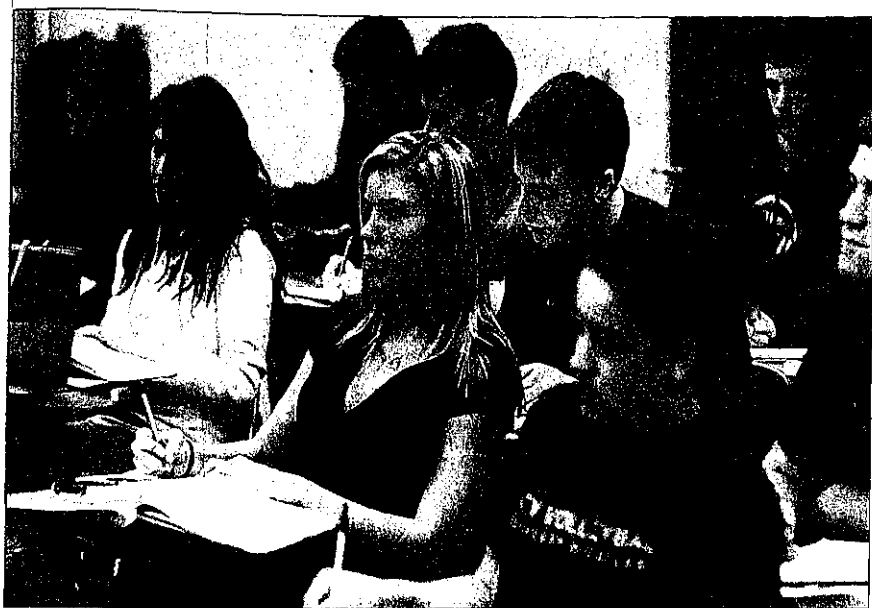


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi High School students in the statistics class of teacher Maggie Laine on last Wednesday's Student Count Day. Even though 5 inches of snow fell early Wednesday, classes were not canceled as schools derive funding from the head count taken that day.

**District growth slows**

continued from front

Schram said the \$108 would be welcomed, and also a steady increase on the \$48 raise last year, but it is still not enough. "Anything positive helps the district. We're lobbying to get a cost of living increase. Cost of living increased about 3 percent, so we'd need about \$230-250," he said. "It helps, but it doesn't solve our problem. We haven't gotten a cost of living increase in a while. It just adds up."

**Full-Time Equivalent**

Using the Full-Time Equivalent student numbers, which was eight lower than the head-count number in September, the district's numbers are officially tallied for the State Foundation Allowance. Last week's Student Count Numbers won't be made FTE-known to the district until 30 days after the count. The FTE incorporates part-time, home-schooled and partial students as less than one on the final fund-based student count.

**Student Count Day Enrollment**

	2007		2008	Feb. '07-08 Difference
	Feb. 13	Sept. 16	Feb. 13	
High School	1,923	1,934	1,936	+13
Middle School	1,047	1,085	1,089	+42
Novi Meadows	1,030	972	965	-65
Deerfield	476	513	523	+47
Novi Woods	444	469	476	+32
Orchard Hills	475	427	435	-40
Parkview	516	442	445	-71
Village Oaks	385	447	435	+50
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,296</b>	<b>6,289</b>	<b>6,304</b>	<b>+8</b>

Source: Novi Community Schools

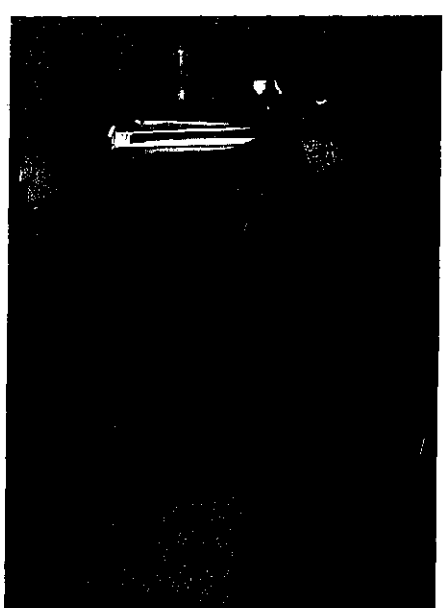


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Photographer Monte Nagler works with his enlarger in his Farmington Hills home darkroom.

**Monte Nagler at Novi library tonight**

continued from front

An Advice in New York City. Corporate Art Group in Chicago, An Expressions Gallery in San Diego and the Tom James Gallery in downtown Northville. As a fine art photographer, most of Nagler's work consists of landscape, architecture and people from all over the world. "I like all areas," he said. "There's a picture everywhere." Although Nagler does color photography as well, his passion is in black and white. "It's more of a challenge to the photographer," Nagler said. "I think there is an emotion to black and white that color doesn't give you. Color is like going to see the

movie and black and white is like reading the book. I've never purchased a color photograph, always black and white, it's more artsy." Along with being a photographer, Nagler has also written five books and wrote a photography column for the Observer and Eccentric newspaper for 25 years. In his third book, Nagler, an Ann Arbor native who now lives in Farmington Hills, captures the beauty of his home state. "Monte Nagler's Michigan" features photographs of the Lake Michigan shoreline, lighthouses, waterfalls and the state Capitol, among other Michigan scenes. "It's all Michigan in black and white," Nagler said. "It's not touristy things, it's more artsy." Nagler will have copies of "Monte Nagler's Michigan," along with his latest book, "Amos Walker's Detroit," to sell and sign at the event. To register for the program visit [www.novilibrary.org](http://www.novilibrary.org) or call (248) 349-0720.

**Cable studio launches SWOCC Shop**

If you're still post holiday shopping, why not stop at SWOCC Studios new "SWOCC Shop". New for 2008, SWOCC Studios launched its own customized merchandise online shop which includes sweatshirts, T-shirts, tote bags, clocks and much more. Each item includes either the logo of the SWOCC or the SWOCC Studios or fun television catchphrases. To log on click on [www.swocstudios.com](http://www.swocstudios.com) and hit the 'shop' tab. From there, it will direct you to the Web site Café Press ([www.cafepress.com](http://www.cafepress.com)), the hosting online marketplace that offers sellers complete e-commerce services to independently create and sell products where you can shop at your leisure. Everything is mailed directly to you and a portion of the sale from each purchase goes directly to SWOCC Studios to support access TV. There's something for everyone. Support access television and shop SWOCC.

**My Novi, briefly**

The Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission provides community, government and public access for the cities of Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi, and is a very important resource for local information. For more information, contact Melissa Cohn, community relations, (248) 473-2840.

NxtGen will invest \$1.2 million to locate its North American administration and manufacturing facility in Wixom. The project is expected to create 47 jobs over the next five years and 106 jobs by 2017. To support the project, the City of Wixom has approved a 50 percent abatement of the company's new personal property taxes for five years valued at \$1,000. NxtGen Emission Controls is a high-technology company that delivers clean, efficient diesel technology.

takes these hot topics and teaches us step-by-step just how to do them. This program cablecasts:

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If these times are not convenient, you can also view this program on local On Demand. On Demand allows you to start anytime, pause, fast forward and rewind all with your digital remote. To access On Demand, hit the VOD button on your remote control, go to 'Local,' choose a subcategory (SWOCC programs fall under Government and Community) then choose the program of your choice.

**Cassio announces nearly tax credit for Wixom company**

State Sen. Nancy Cassio (R-Novi) announced today that a Wixom company received a nearly \$1 million tax credit from the Michigan Economic Growth Authority. The High-Technology Employment Tax Credit for NxtGen Emission Controls USA Inc. is valued at \$909,000 throughout 10 years.

**SWOCC how to special**

Do you ever wonder "how to" store music on different electronic music devices today? Or "how to" improve your car's fuel economy, "how to" tape that great home vacation video or "how to" create your own free personal Web site? On this month's SWOCC Around The Block, SWOCC staff

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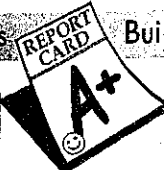
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**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING:** 7 p.m. Feb. 28 inside the Educational Services Building on Taff Road

Victoria Mitchell, editor  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
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# MY EDUCATION



Thursday, February 21, 2008  
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## Novi High's robotics club still ready to rumble

By Alex P. Kellogg  
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

They are heavyweights in the robotics crowd, putting off a national championship and some near misses in recent years that would make other teams swoon. This year could be the toughest one in a while for Novi High School's storied robotics club, though.

The club, now with 47 members, has been around since 2001. The group won its division at the 2005 world championships, and came close the next two years, making the semifinals two years ago and quarterfinals last year.

The Novi club has a number of important competitions in the coming months. But for the first time in years, it's missing some hard-core veteran leadership, according to some students.

A son of the coach graduated last year, along with a handful of other kids who'd helped the club grow, students say.

"We're missing all of that leadership experience," said Katie Dale, a 16-year-old junior, "and it's been really hard recovering from that."

Parents aren't too concerned, though. Other kids will pick up the slack, they say.

The club heads to a Midwest regional competition in Chicago at the end of February, another regional at Eastern Michigan University in late March, and to the world championships, for which it has already secured a bid, in Atlanta in mid-April.

"I expect us to compete very well," said Craig Hepler, 46, the club's sponsor, which means he's the coach.

It will be a little bit more of an uphill battle, he says. His 18-year-old son, Eric, an important team member, graduated last year. He is now a freshman at Grand Valley State. Hepler's other son, Jeff, 22, attends Eastern Michigan University. Jeff graduated from Novi High in 2004, and also was an important member of the team. Hepler's wife, Lynn Hepler, 49, also is active with the club and helped him found it.

"I don't know exactly where we'll end up," said Craig Hepler, a senior software engineer at a software development company, "but I expect we'll be making it into the elimination rounds at every competition we go to."

Lake hundreds of teams across the globe, Novi High's robotics club competes in For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) robotics competitions.

The events, now in their 16th year, reach more than 30,000 students annually from Canada to the Netherlands.

A public charity founded in

1989, FIRST aims to encourage kids to go into engineering and technology-related fields.

Kids learn important, hands-on technical skills, according to parents.

"It's very educational," says Paulo Pastorelli, a native of Brazil whose 15-year-old son, Pedro, is a member of the club.

Students have the opportunity to learn things that will help them in the workplace, Pastorelli said, "as opposed to myself, who learned it when I worked for the first time," he jokes.

Most robotics clubs have business sponsors. Novi High's is Inter Automotive, a Tier 1 auto supplier that pumps about \$45,000 in support and equipment into the club each year.

FIRST provides some of the parts — motors, electronics, chassis, wheels, etc. Teams build a robot to perform a different task each year. Last year, teams had to build a robot to pick up inner tubes and place them on rings on a track. This year, the competition is "NASCAR style," Craig Hepler said. Teams will be required to move colored balls around a course as fast as possible.

"It's drive fast and faster, and to the left," he said.

**OBITUARIES**

**JOHNNIE CRAWFORD**  
Age 91, February 13, 2008 Beloved husband of the late Ada. Dear father of Rita Strath and Keith (Sharon) Crawford. Loving grandfather of Julie Eric and Whitney. Great-grandfather of Lucas and Isaac. Services were held followed by interment in Great Lakes National Cemetery. Online sympathy message at: www.funeralservices.com

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The first seven lines of an obituary are published free of charge. After that, there is a fee of \$3 a line. Pictures may be published for \$25.  
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For more information, call 888-999-1288, or contact your funeral home.  
\*Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

## Drop everything and read

Sylvan Learning Center of Novi will be sponsoring a "DEAR" (Drop everything and read) event 1-3 p.m. Saturday, March 1 at the center on Novi Road to celebrate Read Across America Day in cooperation with the National Education Association.

Elementary students from all of the Novi elementary schools are invited to bring a favorite book, pillow and/or blanket to share special reading time and refreshments with us. Every child who attends will also be eligible to win a Border's gift card so that he/she can purchase new books to "DEAR" at home. Every Novi elementary school will have a winner. Call the office at (248) 344-1474 to reserve a reading spot.

### CLASS NOTES

**Winter and spring vacation periods approved**  
The Oakland-Intermediate School Board approved a five-year common calendar for all county schools for the winter and spring vacation period. This year, the winter vacation will run from Dec. 22 through Jan. 2, 2009. The Spring Break for the 2008-09 school year will be from April 6-10, 2009.

**Walled Lake Schools win award**  
The Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) awarded the Meritorious Budget Award for excellence in the preparation and issuance of a 2007-08 school system annual budget to the Walled Lake Consolidated School District.

**Green Gala**  
The Novi Educational Foundation is hosting its annual Green Gala 7

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Victoria Mitchell, editor  
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# BE SCENE IN NOVI

Thursday, February 21, 2008  
www.novinews.com  
fax: (248) 349-9832

## Winter Activities



A Novi Meadows student sleds while at winter camp.

Student Mia Gurlizzian sews a winter hat.

Bryan Koukoudian and Peter Swanson have fun in the snow while attending Faith Community Preschool.

Emma Lehnert (left) and Jona Larm make snow snacks during the day at Faith Community Preschool.

Novi Meadows' students learn to make several siring figures, including the star shown here while inside at winter camp.

Art Cowell cross country skis at Novi's Lakeshore Park last Wednesday afternoon. Cowell, who was skiing with his son Eric, was taking advantage of some nice new snow that had fallen the night before.

Novi student Bruce Paputa models his winter camp hat.



Back row, Diego Burgess, Nikita Patel, Brady Harris, Lilly Peters, Jonathan Jackson, Jason Aurilla, Jona Larm, and Isabel Acosta. Front row, Emma Lehnert, Ben Prisky and Spencer Harris enjoy fun in the snow at Faith Community Preschool.

Dana Esser, 17, shovels her Novi home's driveway — instead of enjoying a day at Novi High, because classes were canceled that day.



Novi Meadows' students and Ms. Glomb wait their turn for a run down the sledding hill while at the Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center for winter camp.

Galway Road resident Grant Huckabone throws a white cloud of snow through his snowblower one morning earlier this month, cleaning up from a 4-inch snowfall the night before.

BREAKING NEWS: Go to the Web at novinews.com for updated news and info

Victoria Mitchell, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102

MY FAITH & RELIGION

Thursday, February 21, 2008 www.novinews.com

Meadowbrook Congregational... CONTACT: Rev. Arthur R. Ritter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7757 or visit www.mbcoc.org

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross... CONTACT: (248) 427-1175 or www.churchoftheholycross.com

Oak Pointe Church... CONTACT: (248) 912-0043 or visit www.oakpointe.org

Sunday Faith Club... CONTACT: (248) 473-0355 or visit www.usbahai.org

Faith Community Presbyterian... CONTACT: (248) 349-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org

Crosspointe Meadows... CONTACT: (248) 427-2700; 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org

First Baptist Church of Novi... CONTACT: (248) 349-3647 or www.firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org

Church of the Holy Family... CONTACT: (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamilynovi.org

St. James Catholic... CONTACT: (248) 347-7778

St. Paul Lutheran... CONTACT: (248) 349-3140

The Bahai Faith... CONTACT: (248) 349-5665

GracePointe Presbyterian Church... CONTACT: Rev. Brian C. Steeth, Pastor (248) 497-3178

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE... NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 W. Ten Mile Road

NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ADVERTISEMENT TO BID... Bid proposals will be received by the Novi Community School District located at 25345 Taft Road, Novi, Michigan, 48274, by mail or hand delivered by 2:00 p.m. local time on Monday, March 3, 2008

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW... Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review shall convene in its first session at 9:00 a.m. EST, Tuesday, March 4th, 2008 in the Novi Assessing Department at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the assessment roll

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE... NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider NOVI CORPORATE CAMPUS PARCEL & SITE PLAN NUMBER 07-74 FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, WOODLAND PERMIT AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE... NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider SHRYVAN OFFICE BUILDING, SITE PLAN NUMBER 07-76 FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, WOODLAND PERMIT AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL

CHURCH DIRECTORY... For information regarding rates call The Northville Record or Novi News (248) 349-1700

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

Victoria Mitchell, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102

MY PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, February 21, 2008 www.novinews.com

Vehicles broken into at Lifetime Fitness

Two vehicles were broken into while parked at Lifetime Fitness on High Point Boulevard, in the afternoon Feb. 10, reports said. Between 2:05-3:35 p.m., the rear driver-side window of a white Dodge was smashed in, reports said.

POLICE BRIEFS

Ignition damaged... According to recent police reports, a vehicle was damaged while parked on Pleasant Run Street between 5-7 p.m. Feb. 8. The owner of the vehicle said he parked his car when get home from work at about 5 p.m. and left the doors unlocked. When he returned to his vehicle at about 7 p.m., he noticed part of the ignition mechanism was broken off and on the floor.

Suspect stole tools and cash... Tools and \$500 were stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked in the driveway of a residence on Birchwoods Drive between 5:30 p.m. Feb. 7 and 5:20 a.m. Feb. 8, reports said. According to the victim, he had just cashed a check and placed the \$500 inside the case for a pair of sunglasses in his vehicle. The Chicago Pneumatic wrench set and Husky socket set were located behind the seat, reports said.

Radio stolen from defunct vehicle... An Alpine in-dash compact stereo and radio was stolen from a vehicle between noon Feb. 7 and 8:30 p.m. Feb. 8, reports said. There was no damage to the exterior of the Jeep Cherokee, which was parked outside the residence with a dead battery, reports said. According to the report, the victim believes the driver-side door was slightly ajar, providing the suspect access to the vehicle. Both the driver-side and passenger-side doors were unlocked and the victim said they were locked prior to the incident. The steering column and plastic around the column were broken inside the vehicle, reports said.

Novi Police Department earns prestigious awards

The City of Novi Police Department was honored with two distinctive awards in Traffic Safety earlier this month from the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning and AAA Michigan.

For Excellence in Traffic Safety for agencies with 50-80 officers. The Novi Police Department was the only department to earn two awards. Having earned these distinctions, the Novi Police Department automatically will be submitted to the International Association of Chiefs of Police to compete for the same recognition internationally. The Award for Excellence in Commercial Vehicle Safety recognizes Michigan police agencies across the state with 36 or more officers who conduct comprehensive commercial vehicle safety efforts throughout their respective jurisdictions.

Winners of the MACPO/HS/AAA Michigan Traffic Safety Award must demonstrate a clear and convincing commitment to traffic safety within their communities. Programs are judged on four components: Scope and duration of the project; Complexity or difficulty of the project; Degree of innovation involved; Results achieved.

Increased police visibility at community events allowed the Novi Police Department to reduce injury crashes by 271. Increased seat belt usage was observed and the city only experienced one traffic fatality and speed or alcohol were not a factor in the crash. "In 2006, we learned from the National Citizens Survey that Traffic Safety ranked in the 89th percentile (above the norm) from community members evaluating the quality of Novi's Public Safety Services. This award amplifies the survey results," commented David E. Molloy, Novi's Chief of Police. "I commend the dedication of the men and women of our Police Department for their continued commitment to achieving such excellence."

Lakes Area Citizen's Police Academy begins

Recruiting has begun for the 27th Lakes Area Citizen's Police Academy. This 11-week program begins March 6, and ends with a graduation dinner on May 15. The academy meets once a week from 6:30 p.m. to about 9 p.m. Applications can be picked up at the Novi Police Department or by visiting the city Web site at www.cityofnovi.org. The registration deadline is Feb. 29. Anyone interested can also contact Matt Conquest at (248) 347-0530.

What is it? The Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, Wolverine Lake and South Lyon police departments have created the Lakes Area Citizen's Police Academy. The academy is designed to give the public a working knowledge of the police department's personnel and policies. It is a series of classes held once a week for three hours. The instruction covers a different area of the police department every week for 10 weeks and also includes a graduation. The Lakes Area Citizen's Police Academy has one session in the spring and one in the fall.

The Purpose? The Lakes Area Citizen's Police Academy was created to provide information to the citizens so they are able to make informed judgments about the police department and police activity.

For breaking news on the Web: www.novinews.com LOW FARES flylansing.com Fly Lansing

"Am I Crazy?" Local Contractor is "Giving Away" \$4,780 Lennox Furnaces for \$984 with Off-Season Central Air...

We did this program last March and 45 homeowners saved an incredible amount of money on their new home comfort system and we kept our install crews busy and didn't have to send them home! Yes, it's absolutely true. You can actually replace your old (and probably very inefficient) furnace and air conditioner as a package for at least \$3,798 less than you would have to pay on any other time. Let me explain. Every year, the months of February and March are "kill" months and it can take me the remaining ten months to make up for them. And I'm looking for the same thing to happen this year.

My Problem Is Your Opportunity... I've decided to give up trying to make a profit during the "killer" months. If I can only minimize my losses during February and March, I will come out ahead of the other ten months. Here's how this (admittedly daring) offer came about. Every year, the big manufacturers of air conditioners have to push how many to build to meet the demand. Of course, they're never exactly right. So, they always have some inventory they must hold over until the next summer season. I want to lennox and contracted for the purchase of 48 premium air conditioners and furnaces in the four most popular sizes used in this area. And, because of the quantity and time of year, I was able to buy them at drastically reduced, dirt cheap, off-season prices. They are brand new 2008 models. And they are NOT the "seconds" or "blemish" or "standard" "builder" model. They are factory-fresh, premium Lennox air conditioners and furnaces and have a full factory warranty.

Here's How You Can Get A Lennox For \$984... By putting this furnace and air conditioner package together with Lennox and committing to a do-or-die purchase agreement of 48 systems, I was able to buy both the furnace and the air conditioner for less than anyone should have a right to pay for. So, if you buy one of these brand new, premium air conditioners (but only if one of the four sizes I have will fit your house, of course), I am "giving" you the furnace and all I ask for is the \$984 in labor and materials it costs to have your furnace installed.

David Schmidt Frustrated Contractor... No Obligation. Even after I completely explain the installation, there is absolutely no obligation. If you decide you don't want to take advantage of this spectacular savings... that's okay. I will give you a surprise gift worth \$50 because you are kind enough to read this letter and give me a chance to solve my problem. I want you to think well of PYRO Heating even if you don't buy.

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Why This Offer Can't Last

You must act before March 31st. Here are two reasons why. 1. I can only have 12 of each of the four sizes. When all of our air conditioners are sold and the furnaces are "given away" in a particular size, there are no more at this price. 2. If I have any of the 48 systems left on March 31st (although I doubt I will), this offer still ends.

Here's Why. The only reason I am making this virtually no-profit (for me) offer is because of the "killer" months. My business always starts to improve in April and because the furnaces cost me so little, I can sell them at 2007 prices next November and December and still come out ahead. Give me a call now at 517-548-2114 and I will set an appointment for your no-obligation survey.

Why This Offer Can't Last... Here's Why. The only reason I am making this virtually no-profit (for me) offer is because of the "killer" months. My business always starts to improve in April and because the furnaces cost me so little, I can sell them at 2007 prices next November and December and still come out ahead. Give me a call now at 517-548-2114 and I will set an appointment for your no-obligation survey.

Pyro Heating & Cooling Inc. 772 McPherson Park Dr. Howell, MI 48843 517-548-2114

By letting you win big now, I will win at the end of the year. I'm betting that if I make you offer that is "irresistible" (at least it should be if your furnace or air conditioner is over 8 years old) and I barely mark it up above the price I paid, I will accomplish two things: 1. I will cover my rent, utilities, insurance and taxes in the "killer" months. 2. I can pay my professional staff of 12 technicians to work instead of paying them to sit at home. If I can accomplish these two objectives, I will minimize my losses.

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continued from 15A

**Thursday and Friday, Feb. 28-29:**  
10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, March 1; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, March 2

**DETAILS:** Admission is \$9 for adults, \$4 for ages 6-14 and under 5 is free; parking is \$5.

**The Michigan Golf Show**  
TIME/DATE: 2-9 p.m. Friday, March 7; 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, March 8; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, March 9

**DETAILS:** Nation's largest golf show. Admission is \$10 for adults, ages 12 and under are free. \$5 to park.

**CLASS REUNIONS**

**Northville High School Class of 1968**  
DETAILS: Anyone interested in a 40th reunion for the Class of 1968, please contact Ron Barnum at (248) 347-8808.

**Northville High School Class of 1968**  
DETAILS: The Class of 1968 is planning a 20th reunion for the weekend of July 26, 2008. For further information, please contact Jennifer Clarkson at jclark-

son2004@yahoo.com.

**Plymouth High School Class of 1968**  
DETAILS: The Class of 1968 is looking for classmates for their 40th Class Reunion to be held July 19, 2008 in Livonia. For more information, contact Janet (Sheedy) Johnston at (734) 437-3534 or e-mail to phs40threunion@charter.net.

**South Lyon High School Class of 1963**  
DETAILS: The Class of 1963 is hosting a 45 year reunion on August 10, 2008 at Baker's of Milford. For more information, call Barb Cook at (248) 349-5982.

**REGIONAL**

**City of Wixom**  
CONTACT: Community Services Programs, 49045 Pontiac Trail, Wixom, (248) 624-2850

**Senior Ongoing Programs**  
Some of these activities have a fee

Monday: 10-11 a.m. Exercise Class  
Tuesday: 10 a.m.-noon Knu/Crochet and Sew Group; noon-2:30 p.m. Line Dancing

Wednesday: 10-11 a.m. Exercise Class

**Second Monday: 11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch**  
Second Tuesday: 10 a.m. Senior Commission

Second Thursday: 11:30 a.m. Bingo

Fourth Thursday: 10-11:30 a.m. Blood Pressure

**6th Annual Wine Tasting**  
TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. Friday  
DETAILS: Taste wines from Australia and enjoy cheeses, crackers and fruits; also beer and non-alcoholic tables; ages 21 and up only; \$29 per person; pre-registration by 3 p.m. Feb. 20

**Easter Egg Hunt**  
TIME/DATE: 12-30 p.m. Sunday, March 16

LOCATION: Gilbert Willis Park  
DETAILS: Hunt starts promptly at 1 p.m. for ages 2-10. Fee is \$3 per child, no pre-registration required. No personal baskets.

every weekend at the Learning Center, weather permitting.

**Winter Master Gardener Class**

TIME/DATE: 6-10 p.m. Thursday evenings through April 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.msu.edu/okland. 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

**Women's Resource Center Luncheon Series**  
TIME/DATE: 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29

LOCATION: Schoolcraft College, Vista Tech Center  
DETAILS: Joel Thurlert, 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.

**Second Annual Basket Raffle**  
TIME/DATE: 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 18

LOCATION: VistaTech Center, D'Ponzo Room  
DETAILS: Spaghetti Dinner and wine golf followed by the program. Tickets are \$30 per person.

**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

**SFJAZZ Collective**  
TIME/DATE: 8:00 p.m. Thursday, March 13

LOCATION: Hill Auditorium  
DETAILS: The SFJAZZ Collective explores the last 50 years of jazz repertoire through new compositions written by band members and new arrangements of seminal works from modern jazz history. Led by Joe Lovano, the concert pays tribute to the genius of saxophonist and composer Wayne Shorter. Ticket prices are \$10 - \$44. For information, visit www.ums.org and click on "Education and Community."

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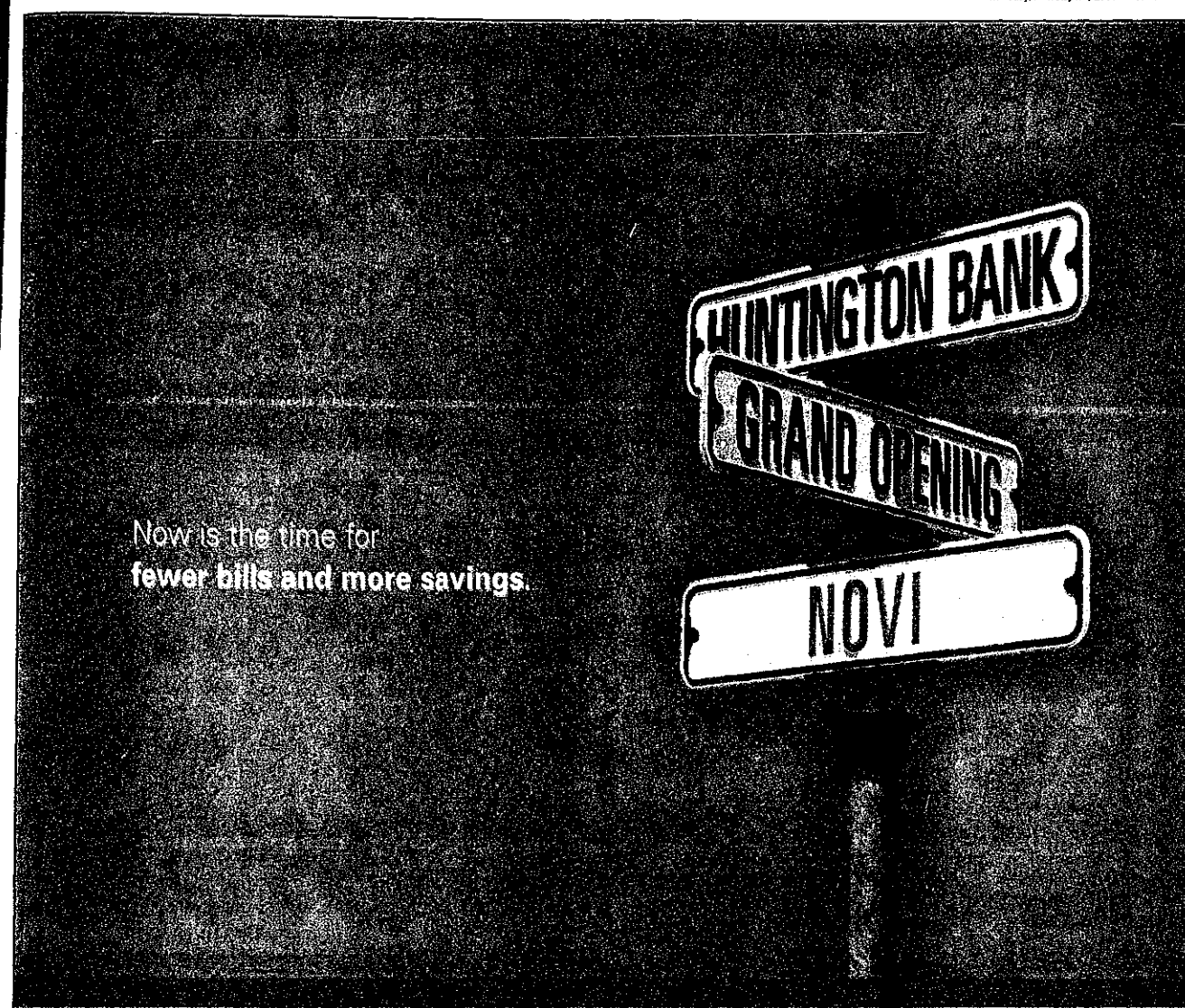
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\*Rates are determined by adding an index and a margin. The margin is determined by specific underwriting criteria, such as credit history, loan amount, loan to value ratio and owner occupancy status. Rate is variable, and can change monthly, but will never be higher than 18.0%. Programs and conditions are subject to change. Insurance must be carried on the property securing the loan, and if it is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area, flood insurance may be required. Making only the minimum payment during the first 10 years will not reduce the principal balance on the account. Minimum payments will be higher during the repayment period to allow for the repayment of principal.

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## Doctors and dieticians offer tips on heart health

February is heart awareness month

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

In honor of February being heart awareness month, the topic of St. John Providence Park Hospital's upcoming Dinner with a Doctor event is "You Heart What You Eat."

"The number one killer in this country is heart attacks," said cardiologist Dr. Jamal Zarghami. "Since heart attacks kill, if we can reduce our risk factors, we can reduce the number of deaths."

The event will include a presentation by Zarghami and registered dietitians to address the importance of proper diet and nutrition in heart health.

A five-station strolling dinner will be served, providing attendees with recipes and suggestions to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

"It will be a full heart-healthy meal from appetizer to dessert," said Susanne Gunstork, director of foods and nutrition at Providence Park Hospital. "We want to guide people to make good choices."

Through food and demonstrations, the dietitians will address issues such as the use of sodium, appropriate amounts and types of fat, portion control, use of fiber and adequate water intake.

For example, at one station, a chef will prepare grilled chicken with Spanish rice while talking about low sodium.

"The current recommendation is 2,300 mg of sodium and the average American probably eats 7,000 mg a day," said Gunstork, noting that high amounts of sodium are found in seasonings and convenience foods.

The chefs will also demonstrate appropriate portion sizes. "In this country, we've gotten really carried away in our portion sizes," Gunstork said. "Most restaurant meals are double a normal portion size."

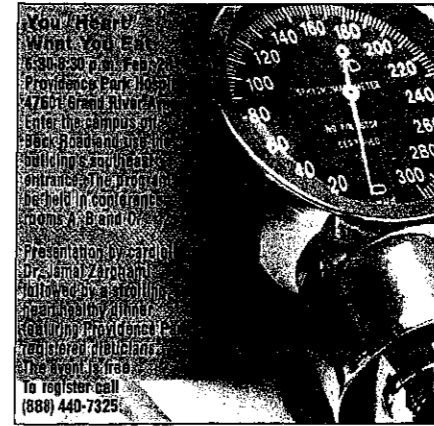
Bottles of water will be handed out at the food stations as well. "Use water for at least half of your beverage intake for the day," said Gunstork, noting eight cups of fluid is recommended per day. "When you drink more water, you eat less food. Juice is good for you, but drink juice in moderation because it's a calorie-dense food."

Another factor in maintaining a healthy heart is the importance of exercise.

"Exercise is good to maintain normal weight and blood pressure, and managing stress, which is really important for heart health," Gunstork said. "Exercise is also important for heart health because it helps to increase the HDL (high-density lipoprotein) which is good cholesterol. I call it happy cholesterol."

Since heart disease is a combination of lifestyle and genetics, Zarghami tries to encourage his patients, and their families, to

### Dinner with a doctor



Source: St. John Health

lead healthy lifestyles.

"This is a family-oriented prevention program, so that children understand a healthy diet can prevent heart disease in the future," he said. "Most of the problems here (in this country) are probably related to lifestyle."

Zarghami said a common misconception among people is if they are not experiencing chest pains they are not going to have a heart attack.

"You can still have increased risk of having a heart attack, even if you're not experiencing any chest pain," he said. According to Zarghami, chest pain is normally a sign that an artery is 70-80 percent blocked, and heart attacks normally occur when there is 50 percent blockage.

"The sooner you can get to a heart attack patient, the more muscle you can save," he said.



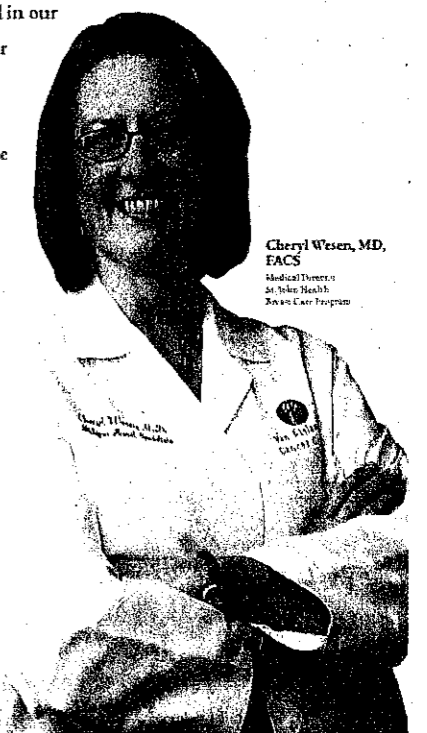
Photo by JOHN HEIDERMAN/NOVI NEWS

Novi Providence Hospital cardiologist Dr. Jamal Zarghami checks the heart of patient Jeff Gilreath. Gilreath suffered a large heart attack a month ago and is feeling much better after Zarghami installed two stents into arteries near his heart.

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Cheryl Wesen, MD, FACS  
Medical Director  
of Breast Health  
Breast Care Program



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**CITY OF NOVI  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.672 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING OF PROPERTY IN SECTION 20, LOCATED AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF TEN MILE AND BECK ROAD, FROM R-1, ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, TO B-2, COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT. The subject property is 24.3 acres.

To receive a part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 20, T1N, R1E, City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan being Parcel 22-02-00-000 more particularly described as follows:

The South 880 feet of the East 1580 feet of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 20, except the West 385 feet thereof, containing 21.24 acres.

FROM: R-1 ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT  
TO: B-2 COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, March 12, 2008.  
Published February 21, 2008

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION  
MICHAEL MEYER, SECRETARY

(2-21-08 NN 401059)

**CITY OF NOVI  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

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To receive a part of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 20, T1N, R1E, City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan being Parcel 22-02-00-000 more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the Northwest corner of Section 20, thence proceeding along the East 1/4 of Section 20 (fronted by C/O. of Beck Road) 503'50" N72°E, 378.89 feet; thence S89°45'W 429.87 feet; thence N02°01'17"E, 378.89 feet; thence along the West 1/4 of Section 20 (fronted by C/O. of Ten Mile Road) N64°25'17"E, 456.87 feet to the point of beginning, containing 4.0 acres.

FROM: R-1 ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT  
TO: OS-1 OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT

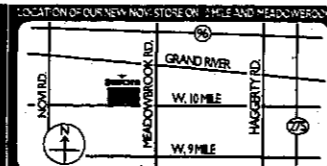
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Published February 21, 2008

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION  
MICHAEL MEYER, SECRETARY

(2-21-08 NN 401061)

UP TO 5% MANUFACTURER'S COUPONS  
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# Grand Opening!



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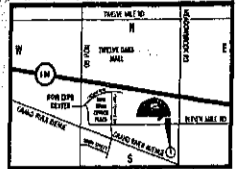
41430 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI  
(Located on the Northwest corner of Meadowbrook & Grand River)

(248) 348-0401

(248) 348-0422 Fax

Visit us on the web at: [www.market-village.com](http://www.market-village.com)

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## Featured Items

Sale starts Thursday, February 21st, and runs thru Wednesday, March 5th. All items are while supplies last.

### From the Market

Specialty and Organic Groceries

Assorted Varieties  
**Horizon Premium Organic Milk**  
gallon \$4.99

Assorted Varieties - 56 oz.  
**Breyers Premium Ice Cream**  
Buy 1 get 1 FREE

Assorted 12pack 12oz. cans  
**Pepsi Products**  
3 for \$9.99

12pack 12oz. bottles  
**Corona or Heineken Beer**  
\$12.99 plus tax plus deposit

24pack 12oz. cans  
**Budweiser or Bud Light Beer**  
\$14.99 plus tax plus deposit

**Tender Ridge Black Angus New York Strip Steak**  
\$6.99 per pound

**Fresh Bananas**  
29¢ per pound

### From the Wine Shoppe

Spectacular Wine Room

**Robert Mondavi Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon**  
750ml  
\$19.99 plus tax

**Kendall Jackson Chardonnay** 750ml  
\$10.99 plus tax

**Blackstone Merlot** 750ml  
\$7.99 plus tax

**McManus Cabernet Sauvignon** 750ml  
\$7.99 plus tax

Assorted  
**Yellow Tail Wines**  
750ml  
\$5.99 plus tax

### From the Deli

Featuring Boar's Head Meats and Cheeses

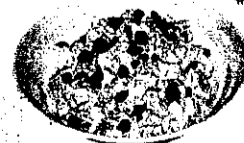
**Boar's Head Oven Gold Turkey Breast**  
\$5.99 per pound

**Boar's Head Tavern Ham**  
\$5.99 per pound

**Boar's Head White or Yellow American Cheese**  
\$4.99 per pound

Fresh store made  
**Mediterranean Hummus**  
\$5.99 per pound

**Market Village's Michigan Cranberry Chicken Salad**  
\$6.99 per pound



Market Village is not responsible for any pictorial or typographical errors.

# My Novi Sports

## CC wrestlers win district, advance seven

SPORTS, 3B

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2008 • WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM • SPORTS SUBMISSIONS: JTHEISEN@GANNETT.COM • PAGE 1B

**SPORTS SPOTLIGHT: HOCKEY**

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

# Ready for another long playoff run



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Wildcat Erik Aepelbacher wins a faceoff. Novi hopes to repeat last year's playoff performance with another extended postseason run.

## Wildcats finishing last year's season in Final 4

By Jeff Theisen  
SPORTS WRITER

Last year's Novi hockey team got hot at the right time of the year and rode the momentum all the way to the final four.  
Second-year head coach Todd Krygier is hoping the Wildcats can go on another extended winning streak as the playoffs approach.  
"We have several returning players that have won regionals the last two years in a row, and over half the team participated on last year's team that lost in semifinals," Krygier said. "These type of experienced

players know what to expect and the additional work, effort and discipline to win in the playoffs."  
Nothing is going to come easy for the Wildcats, as they draw one of Division II's biggest heavyweights in Brother Rice for the opening round Feb. 25 at Novi Ice Arena.  
But Krygier isn't worried about who the Wildcats have to face.  
"In order to win a State Championship we have to beat the best teams at some point in the process," he said. "We have a great opportunity to do that in the first and second games of the playoffs."  
"Brother Rice is an excellent hockey team,

who can draw players from all over the state, coming off a good season and Farmington is an excellent hockey team having a great season."  
Farmington is on the other side of the bracket and plays Walled Lake Western the game before Novi's opener.  
The Wildcats have used a strong defense paired with quality goaltending to stay with teams this year. The offense hasn't been quite where Krygier would like it, but if all comes together, the Wildcats could be ready for

See HOCKEY, 4B

# Double Time: Novi hoops best in KVC

Wildcat boys win final KVC title outright, girls share

By Jeff Theisen  
SPORTS WRITER

The final KVC basketball titles will have one name tattooed with it forever — Novi.  
The Wildcat boys won the title outright with a 12-2 league record, 14-6 overall.  
"Being able to win the last KVC is a great honor," said first-year head coach Cory Heitsch. "I am continually impressed with our team's ability to show resilience, focus and to play with the consistency needed to win 12 games in a tough 14-game schedule."

Novi wrapped up the outright title with a 64-62 win against Hartland on Friday.  
"Also, winning it the same year as the girls adds a wonderful touch," Heitsch said. "Coach Bill Kelp does a fantastic job, and for the boys and girls programs to grab hold of the last KVC title means a lot."

The Novi girls overcame all sorts of obstacles this year to tie Brighton for the top spot. The Wildcats were 12-2, 17-3.

It was Novi's first title since 1999. The Bulldogs have won it every year since.

Novi beat Brighton both times this year, and had a one-game lead with two games left. But the Wildcats fell 42-41 in overtime Feb. 12 against South Lyon.

The Wildcats had to beat Hartland to secure the tie, and ran away with a 45-37 victory against the Eagles.

"With everything the team has gone through, injuries, illnesses and personal losses, for them to win the KVC is a testament to what these kids are all about," Novi head coach Bill Kelp said. "We haven't won it since '99. To close out the league was something special."

For the boys to also get their names on the final trophy just adds to the school pride for Kelp.

"What's nice about that is both programs support each other a great deal," he said. "It's just fantastic. It says a lot about the cohesiveness between the programs."

The news continued to get better for the girls. Caroline

### KVC Standings

Boys Basketball			
	W	L	W L
Novi	12	2	13 6
Lakeland	11	3	16 3
Hartland	9	5	12 7
Pinckney	8	6	12 6
South Lyon	7	7	11 8
Brighton	5	9	8 12
Millford	4	10	6 12
Howell	0	14	0 20

Girls Basketball			
	W	L	W L
Novi	12	2	18 2
Brighton	12	2	14 6
Lakeland	9	5	11 9
Millford	8	6	11 9
South Lyon	8	6	11 9
Howell	5	9	9 11
Hartland	2	12	7 13
Pinckney	0	14	3 17

### All-KVC Girls

- First Team: Caroline Johnson, Player of the year; Katie Chaklos
- Second Team: Chantel Hill
- Honorable Mention: Paige Janer, Melissa Gasiorok, Kelsey Masserant

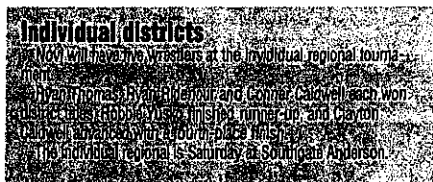
Johnson, a sophomore was voted the KVC Player of the Year. Joining her on the first team is senior Katie Chaklos.  
Chantel Hill made the All-KVC Second Team. The Honorable Mention team includes Paige Janer, Melissa Gasiorok and Kelsey Masserant.  
The Wildcats also included 13 players on the All-Academic team: Chaklos, Janer, Katie Barry, Heather Armiak, Meghan Robinson, Alyssa Armiak, Erin Zerito, Emily Hall, Katie Kozak, Masserant, Johnson, Marissa Kalaj and Gasiorok.

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

# 'Cats beat Northville for district title

By Jeff Theisen  
SPORTS WRITER

Novi won the wrestling team district in wild fashion last Thursday.  
The Wildcats faced rival district host Northville for the title. The match came down to the final pairing, with Northville leading 33-31.  
The Mustangs Dave Owens faced Novi's Joey Shada with everything on the line for the 215-pounders.  
The first period went scoreless, but Shada took the lead with an escape point in the second.  
Owens started the third in the down position but was unable to get the escape point as the two were put in the middle with 11 seconds left in the match.  
Owens tried to stand up right



away, but Shada pulled him back to the ground near the edge of the circle. Shada appeared to be working on Owens' arm to turn him over, but the referee called Shada for stalling and awarded Owens a point, tying the match with two seconds left.  
"I was upset," Shada said. "I was rolling the wrist over. He nails me for stalling while I'm working on top. I didn't know what he was thinking."  
The Novi bench erupted in anger, while the Mustangs celebrated wildly, knowing their chances of a victory were salvaged.  
The two were put back in the middle for sudden-death overtime. Just 14 seconds in, Shada went with a bull rush and got the two-point takedown as the two landed just in front of the Novi bench.  
Shada got the win, and Novi

got the title by a 34-33 margin.  
"I needed to get the win there to move my team past districts and move on to regionals," Shada said. "You got to do what you got to do. You've got to gut it out."  
"It felt damn good. It makes it even more fun beating Northville, our Baseline rival. It was a great match."  
Novi started with a 12-0 edge as Northville voided at heavyweight and the Wildcat's Conner Caldwell won by pin with four seconds left in the first period.  
Mustangs streak  
Northville didn't panic. The Mustangs instead ripped off 29-straight points over the next six

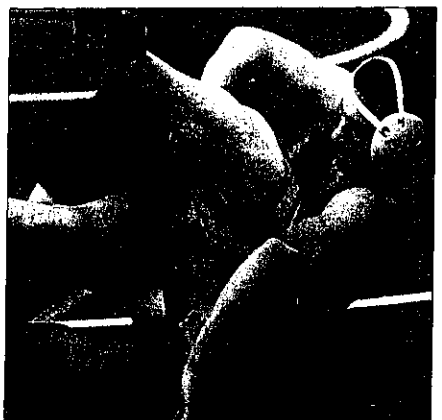


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's Ryan Thomas has his North Farmington opponent in a near-pin situation during the district meet held at Northville High School.

See WRESTLE, 2B

## CLEARANCE SALE

40-70% OFF Entire Snow Sports Department

Sale ends this Sunday 2/24  
**(248) 449-4544**  
Visit us at [www.PlayNovi.com](http://www.PlayNovi.com)

## WRESTLE: Novi knocks off Northville in district final

continued from front

Mike Bagian (112) and Jimmy D'Anna (119) each won 12-0 to pull within four points. John Hebert (125) won 6-2 to pull within 12-11.

Evan Bentley (130) put the Mustangs ahead 17-12 with a pin 1:11 into the first. Matt Ladhoff kept the momentum going with a pin 2:34 into the match at 135 pounds.

Aaron Towne (140) gave the Mustangs their biggest lead of the night at 29-12 with a pin 4:31 in.

"It was exciting," Northville head coach Jeff Balagna said. "That's what wrestling is supposed to be. My guys, they laid it out there."

"I'm really proud of the way my guys wrestled."

The match changed at 145 pounds. Northville's Brian Bagian picked up Aditya Sathi and dropped him on his left shoulder. Sathi screamed in pain and the match was stopped.

Sathi was unable to continue, and the injury was deemed a dangerous move, which awarded Novi with six points, putting the Wildcats within 29-18.

"I do not jump up and down too much," Novi head coach Brad Huss said. "I thought that was a poor performance on our part. When we go out there to win, we do fine. You could see a couple of them trying not to lose, trying not to lose and, of course, they lost."

"Hopefully, they learned a good lesson that that's not going to cut it."

Matt Hagan earned a 15-7 win for Northville at 152 pounds for a 33-18 lead, but it was Novi's turn to go on a run.

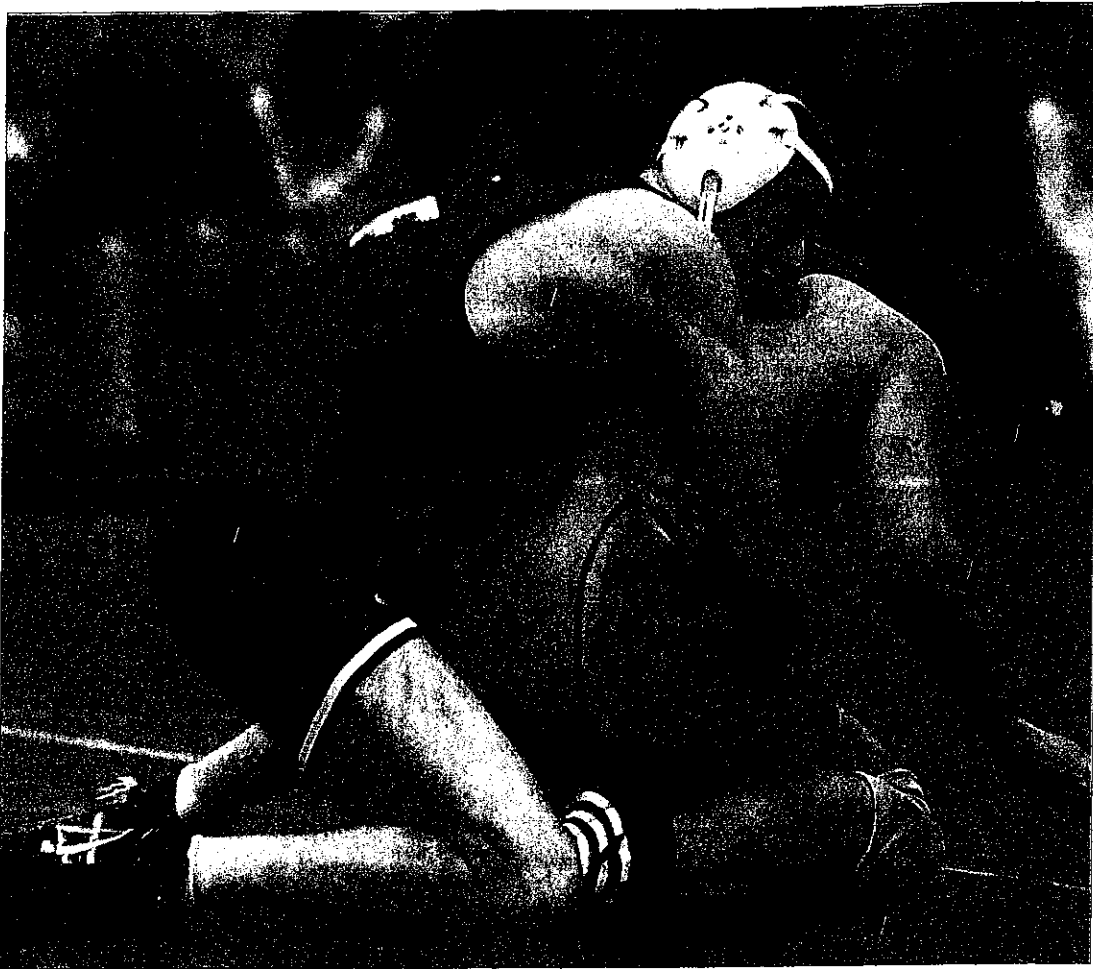


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's Robbie Yusko, left, goes up against Northville's John Hebert in a district meet.

### The tide turns

Ryan Thomas won 18-11 at

160. Joe Pritchard (171) won by pin 18 seconds in and Ryan Ridemour won 9-1 at 189 to set up the winner-take-all final match.

"You can't be discouraged when you lose a good match like that," Balagna said. "It's supposed to come down to the last match, Novi rolled through North

ville vs. Northville. It's just unfortunate Novi came out on top of us."

Farmington 48-23 in the district opening round. Northville came down to the final match in its first match, beating Stevenson 29-28.

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

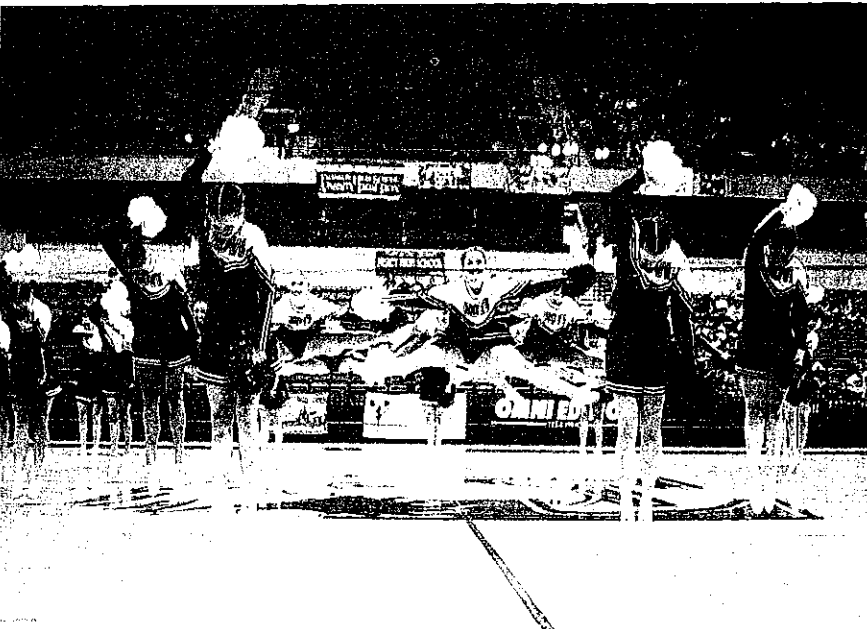


Photo submitted

### State placers

The Novi pom pon team finished fourth in the state for Class A varsity Feb. 10 at Eastern Michigan University. The Wildcat junior varsity team placed fifth.

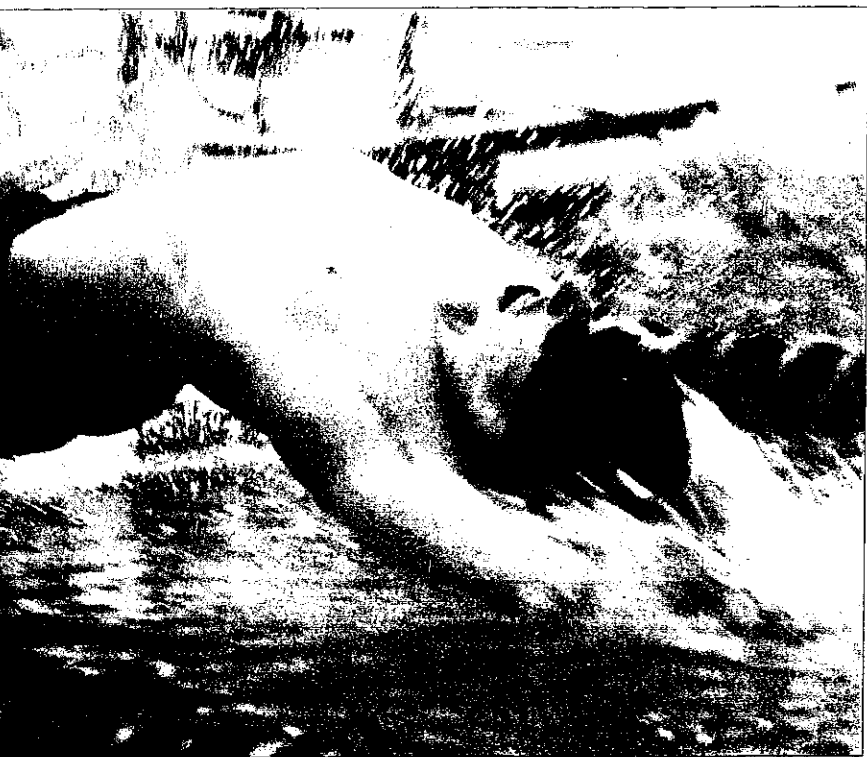


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

### Next up: League meet

With a backwards dive from the water, Novi's Dan Meister starts off the backstroke portion of the 200 medley. The KVC meet begins Friday and finishes Saturday at South Lyon East.

## Wildcat roundup: Boys ski 4-4 in duals

By Jeff Theisen  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi girls finished their dual season 4-4, the boys finished 2-6 at Alpine Valley Ski Resort. The team raced at Mt. Brighton on Feb. 6 for the KVC Champlain Meet.

The boys finished sixth with Eric Jones taking 20th in the Slalom and Garrett Farley finishing 19th.

The girls took fourth place with Danielle Fakhome taking 14th and Lindsey Johnson 20th in Giant Slalom. Danielle also placed ninth in Slalom with Megan Burns 12th and Sara Sheeran 16th.

### Swim and Dive

The Novi 400 freestyle relay team won the final race of the night, and the Wildcats edged Pinckney 96-89 Feb. 12.

Dan Meister, Dan Kiefer, Tyler Vincent and Jon Chung combined to finish in 3:32.53, beating the Pirates' time of 3:33.46.

Other Novi wins included the

200 medley team of Meister, Chung, Kiefer and John Lu (1:48.63), Chung in the 200 individual medley (2:07.91), Travis Vincent in the 500 freestyle (5:23.75) and Tyler Vincent in the 100 breaststroke (1:09.46).

### Cheer

The Novi cheer team just beat South Lyon in the last regular season KVC meet.

Novi led 197.5-196.5 after the first round. The Wildcats poured it on and won the second round 198.89-185.71.

The Lyons came storming back in the final round and outscored Novi 284-271.5, but the Wildcats finished up 667.89-666.21 for the win.

The Novi JV team fell 621.483-546.535 to Brighton on Feb. 11. The freshmen also lost to the Bulldogs, 622-574.52.

The JV and freshmen teams competed at South Lyon, though the Lions only had a varsity team. The JV team scored 517.725, and the freshmen scored 494.46 to finish out the season.

## Sport Shorts

### Cripps on All-American Academic Team

Novi's Stephanie Cripps hit the books just as hard as she played on the court, being voted to the All-American Academic Second Team. Qualifications to make the team include being a nominated senior that not only had top volleyball talent, but also among the best grades in the state.

Cripps helped the Wildcat's roll all the way to the final four while setting a school record in kills for a season (404) and ace blocks (131). She was also voted KVC First Team, All-Region and Third Team All State.

Cripps maintains a 4.0 GPA and was accepted to Notre Dame in the pre-med program.

### Shamrock lacrosse fundraiser

There will be a Catholic Central lacrosse fundraiser at BD's Mongolian BBQ on Thursday, March. Seatings will be at 7 and 8 p.m. for walk-ins.

Questions or donations can go to [coachdewilson@yahoo.com](mailto:coachdewilson@yahoo.com).

### Novi Youth Baseball Registration

The 2008 Novi Youth Baseball season is almost here. League registration began Feb. 1 and will run through March 15. The NYBL is open to all children 7-18.

See [www.noviyouthbaseball.org](http://www.noviyouthbaseball.org) for more information and registration.

### Youth Lacrosse Teams

Travel team lacrosse will be offered for boys at all skill levels in fifth-eighth grades. Northville lacrosse will play the top teams and participate in the Cranbrook Jambores.

The season runs March 17-June 1, practice is M-W-F. The cost is \$195 for Northville residents.

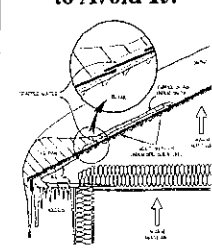
Girls lacrosse will learn the fundamentals and play four-six games. Season runs April 14-May 30. Cost is \$120 for Northville residents.

New teams are forming now for the spring. For more information please contact Kathy at (248) 365-9776.

Send sports submission to sports writer Jeff Theisen at [jtheisen@gannett.com](mailto:jtheisen@gannett.com).

# Shamrocks roll on

## Home Owners Do You Know... What causes Ice Damming & How to Avoid It?



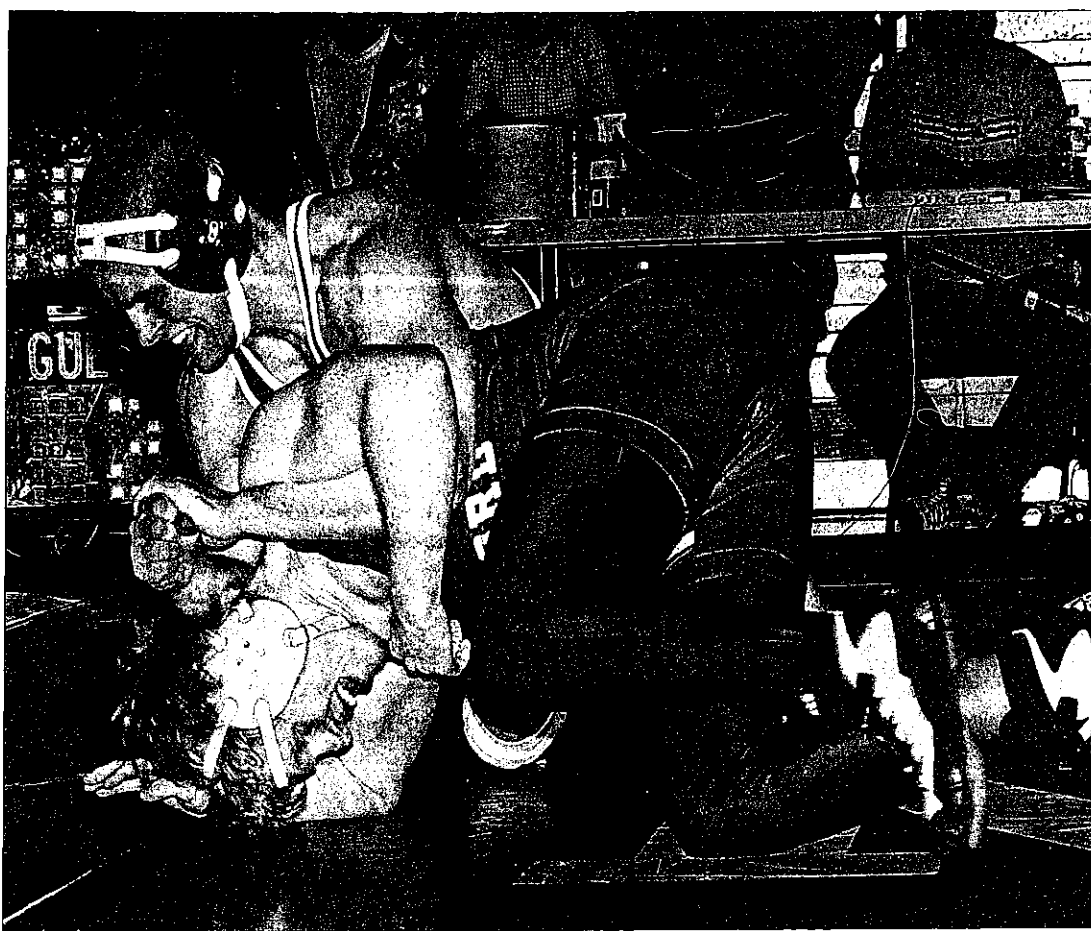
Ice damming and attic condensation are related—both are caused by warm (moisture laden) air migrating from the house and entering the attic. The problem may be more pronounced in newer homes since they are built tighter at the sides encouraging warm air to rise into the attic.

ICE DAMMING LEADS TO:  
• SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURE DAMAGE AND LEAKS

• PREMATURE DETERIORATION OF SHINGLES AS THE WARM AIR CONDENSES ON COLD SURFACES

• NAIL POPS AND BUCKLING SHINGLES AS THE WOOD EXPANDS WHEN IT'S WET AND CONTRACTS AS IT DRIES OUT

• GROWTH OF MOLD/MILDEW WHICH CAN LEAD TO ROOF ISSUES AND RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS FOR THE OCCUPANTS



Photos submitted

Catholic Central's Stephen Gatt works over an opponent during districts.

## CC wins team district

By Jeff Theisen  
SPORTS WRITER

The Catholic Central wrestling team took care of business during district wrestling.

The Shamrocks won the team district and wrestled at the regionals yesterday in Holly. If the Shamrocks win the regional, they advance to the state finals Feb. 29 in Battle Creek. Regional results can be found at [www.mhsaa.com](http://www.mhsaa.com).

At the individual district, Catholic Central

advanced seven wrestlers out of a very tough field that included several ranked teams.

Moving on are Doug Eldridge (Second place - 119 pounds), Trevor O'Conner (Second - 135), Shea Hasenauer (First - 140), Stefan Gatt (First - 160), Matt Aubrey (Second - 189), Joe Kinville (First - 215) and Mike Martin (First - HWT).

The individual regionals are Saturday at Hartland.

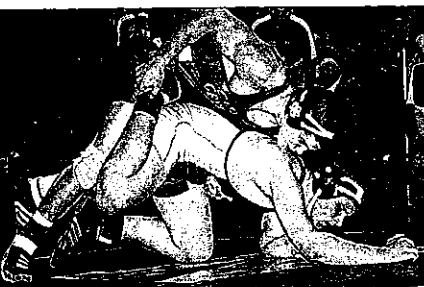
Jeff Theisen can be reached at [jtheisen@gannett.com](mailto:jtheisen@gannett.com) or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.



Shamrock Matt Aubrey wins a district match.



Shea Hasenauer breaks down his opponent during district wrestling.



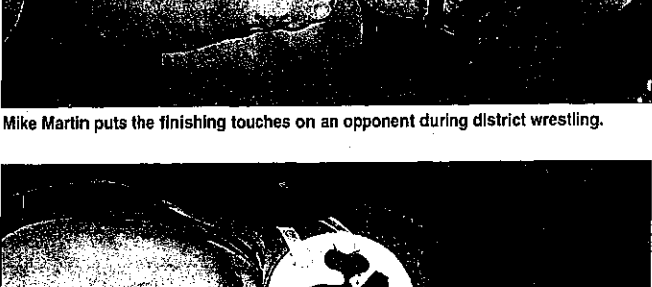
Shamrock Joe Kinville grabs his opponent's leg during district wrestling.



Doug Eldridge, left, keeps a grasp on his opponent during district wrestling.



Mike Martin puts the finishing touches on an opponent during district wrestling.



Trevor O'Conner works above his opponent during districts.

A well insulated and sealed attic will quickly have ice dams—there will be no warm air to melt the snow. If there is sufficient insulation to keep heat from the house escaping into the attic, and there are no holes or air leaks, then the attic should be in good shape. The attic should be cool and dry just like the outside air (ice dams are rarely seen on barns or detached garages). Ice damming occurs when there is a significant depth of snow on the roof and outside temperatures are below freezing for a long period of time with little or no wind. A good sign of an ice dam is when the snow near the peak of the roof. As the melted snow reaches the colder soffit area, it refreezes creating a dam for water underneath. A good sign of an ice dam are icicles at the gutters.

There are methods to minimize ice dams and their effect. Installing self-sealing membranes about 3' from the eave under the shingles does not stop ice dams; they just prevent the water from leaking through the roof sheathing. Removing gutters will keep them from becoming ice traps, but may lead to further problems such as wet basements and perhaps foundation settlement, or wet fascia and soffit areas. Electric cables may alleviate the problem but can use a significant amount of electricity as well as being an eyesore. The best way to fix a weeping attic is to locate the source and to stop air movement from the house into the attic space.

Following the principle of 1 square foot of ventilation for every 300 square feet of insulated attic space split between the roof and soffit vents (1 Sq. Ft. to 150 Sq. Ft. in colder climates or low-sloped roofs) should be sufficient.

We can provide information for hot to minimize warm air into the attic and reduce and prevent ice damming from occurring.

Call us if you would like your home evaluated for proper insulation, ventilation, and ways to help avoid ice damming.

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Randall Patterson  
Certified Pillar To Post  
NACHI-CRI Home Inspector  
Member IAISTP

Randall Patterson is a Certified Home Inspector with Pillar To Post® and a Certified Real Estate Inspector with the National Association of Home Inspectors, serving Western Oakland and Livingston Counties.

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## MY TRAVEL

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## Planning a stress-free winter escape

### FAMILY FEATURES

Imagine spending a crisp, clear day at a major metropolitan zoo and casually taking your time through each of the exhibits, without any of the usual crowds. Or, how about sipping a Pinot Noir at a Napa Valley vineyard and chatting with the winemakers about their passion for crafting fine wine... an experience you're not likely to duplicate during the busy harvest season.

Whether you are visiting family for a special occasion or holiday, traveling for business or just booking a special winter retreat, don't forget to take a little extra time this season to strategize and think creatively before your trip. Winter travel can be very rewarding, especially if you are visiting with far-away family or have the opportunity to get outside and enjoy a variety of fun winter activities. Travel this time of year, however, also has the potential for frustration with potential airport delays and bad weather.

Be prepared by following a few key tips and tactics designed to keep you stress-free.



### Selecting and Booking Your Destination

For many winter travelers, external circumstances often dictate their destination.

For example, business travelers don't have a choice of where they're going — but they can invite their spouse, partner or family and extend the trip into a weekend mini-vacation. For those travelers who have the freedom to choose, be resourceful. Narrow down what you hope to achieve on your trip (relax, play golf, shop) and then determine what type of climate would suit you best. (Do you want to escape winter's chill or capitalize on its frosty beauty?)

Once you've settled on your destination, it's time to shop around for the best deals on hotel, airfare and car rentals. You may find the most value for your dollar at an upscale, mid-priced hotel — which doesn't skimp on amenities, and still offers attractive package deals with extras such as complimentary breakfast and gift cards to local establishments. A top choice of travelers in recent years has been the Hilton Garden Inn, which offers the Holiday Breakfast Deal at many of its locations. The deal includes complimentary breakfast at the hotel's restaurant for up to four people (staying in the same room).

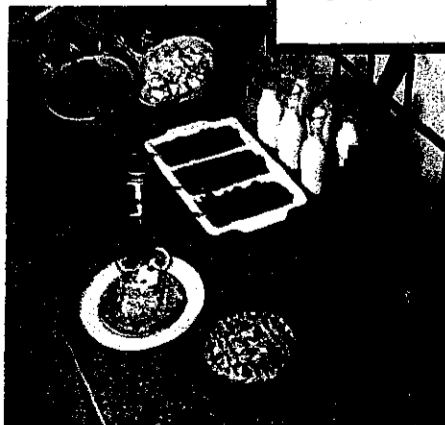
### Planning Activities

As with all aspects of travel, research is vital when scheduling your itinerary. Take some time beforehand to research your destination online. StayHGI.com offers a convenient database of attractions by city or ZIP code. Simply type in your destination and you'll be provided with local weather forecasts, as well as a number of choices in local dining, entertainment, festivals, shopping, sports and more. Pick up a guidebook to take along on your trip for useful insider travel tips and to double as great reading material to help pass the time.

### Coping With the Weather and Other Mishaps

There's no doubt that unpredictable winter weather can wreak havoc on your schedule so before you leave, check the weather forecast as well as your flight, train or bus schedule, so you know up front if you'll be facing major delays. Be sure to carry "emergency" rations — snacks like apples, granola bars or crackers — and other essentials, such as books, pocket games and medications. With the number of travelers on the road, checked bags sometimes get lost along the way so take an extra change of clothing and toiletries in your carry-on. Leave valuables like costly jewelry at home or keep them close by in your carry-on. To help spot your bag on the luggage carousel, add a personalized decoration or string a bright ribbon on your luggage handle.

Following these simple tips and incorporating a little extra planning will help get you on your way.



### Hot Tips for Cool Winter Fun

Travel expert and award-winning author Marybeth Bond — also known as the "Gussy Traveler" — offers these do's and don'ts to make the most of your travel this season.

- Do prepare for delays — pack books, games and snacks.
- Do be patient — build in extra time whenever possible.
- Don't overbook your days — adopt a leisurely pace to make the most of your trip.
- Do consider the comforts of a hotel over staying with relatives, for a stress-free visit.
- Do extend business trips into weekend escapes.
- Don't forget your home town — local getaways can add up to big fun.
- Don't pay too much for lodging — look into mid-priced hotels that feature special packages that include complimentary breakfast, like the Hilton Garden Inn Holiday Breakfast Deal.
- Do consider off-season getaways — you'll save money and avoid the crowds.

For more information on the Holiday Breakfast Deal or ideas on inspired winter getaways, visit [StayHGI.com](http://StayHGI.com).

### Amenities 101

When choosing the hotel that's right for you and your family, be sure to take a look at what amenities they offer, to find the right fit.

- Eating — Whether or not you plan to eat meals at your hotel, or on the go, will influence your choices. However, it's always wise to select a hotel that offers a complete range of food and beverage offerings, from a full-service restaurant and lounge, to in-room microwaves and mini fridges, to the 24-hour Pavilion Pantry® where guests can find healthy snacks, microwaveable meals and sundries.
- Sleeping — Find out what kind of bedding hotels offer to get a good night's rest. Hilton Garden Inn locations offer crisp white duvets and pillows and the innovative Garden Sleep System™ that allows guests to adjust the firmness and softness of their bed.
- Staying Fit — Even though you're traveling, there's no reason to leave your workout schedule behind. Take advantage of the hotel's fitness center or, if you'd prefer to work out in the privacy of your own room, check out the Stay Fit Kit® from the Hilton Garden Inn front desk. It features a yoga mat, strap and bricks, eight-pound abs ball, three-pound hands weights, a Pilates band and a resistance rope.