



Swimmers place third at state finals

- Sports, B1



City gears up for holiday festivities

- Community, A2

Novi News

THURSDAY November 27, 2008 Your hometown newspaper serving Novi and the Lakes area for 52 years 50 cents

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Black Friday brings thousands to Novi

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

As a shopping Mecca of Michigan, tens of thousands of people are expected to visit the City of Novi on Black Friday.

The day after Thanksgiving is known as the biggest shopping day of the year, with the majority of retailers offering sales and discounts on the holiday season's hottest items.

"Virtually every store this year is offering something special," said Peggy Hayes, marketing director of Twelve Oaks Mall. "Some of them will have door busters, others

SHOPPING SAFETY TIPS

- Leave purses at home
- Carry cash in front pockets
- Shop with a friend
- Carry a cell phone
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry
- Park in well-lit areas
- Place purchases and valuables in trunk
- Lock car doors
- Avoid using the ATM

will be having sales all weekend."

Although the mall doesn't open until 7 a.m., Hayes said

J.C. Penney will be the first store open at 4 a.m., followed by Macy's and Sears at 5 a.m. and Nordstrom and Lord & Taylor at 7 a.m.

"People can come early or people can come late," she said. "The crowd that comes in first thing is the dedicated shoppers. For some people it just gets them in the holiday spirit."

From 6-9 a.m. the Breakfast Club from WNIC-FM (100.3) will broadcast live from Lifestyle Cafe Food Court. Shoppers are encouraged to stop by the Holiday Stage in the food court to enter for a chance to win a

\$100 mall gift card. Hayes said four winners will be chosen at random every other hour from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

With more than 200 stores in the shopping center, located at Novi Road and Interstate 96, the mall Web site is the best resource for specific stores and sales.

One hot item Hayes predicts for the holiday season is the new Black Berry Storm offered at Verizon Wireless, which is located on the lower level of the mall.

"It's going to be a phone that rivals the (Apple)

Please see **SHOPPING, A8**



FILE PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Macy's at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi will welcome shoppers this Friday.

Turkey trotting



PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Margaret Carnaghi, left, and Annie Kennedy dressed as a Pilgrim lead a group of walkers around Novi's Fox Run community on Thursday, Nov. 20, for their annual Turkey Trot. Fox Run offered residents and local school kids a variety of ways to walk around the property to encourage fitness for the upcoming holiday season.

Fox Run helps those in need this holiday season

Residents and staff of Novi's Fox Run retirement community collected 1,125 pounds of non-perishable food for Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan at the sixth annual Turkey Trot last Thursday.

Fox Run residents and staff members had the choice of three different courses to walk in support of the cause.

The Turkey Trot culminated in Fox Run's Signatures Restaurant with beverages and goodies for participants.

Children from Franklin Road Christian School, which is located just east of Fox Run, also joined in the walking event.

Each participant was asked to make a donation of non-perishable food items and cash dona-

tions for Gleaners were also accepted.

Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan is headquartered in Detroit.

Andrea Peragine, Fox Run senior community services manager, said the Gleaners truck picked up 26 boxes of food to distribute to those in need throughout the holiday season.

Road construction: It's a wrap

Interstate 96 and Wixom Road interchange top 2008 projects

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

The end of another road construction season will soon come to a close bringing relief to Interstate 96 travelers.

After about eight months of lane closures, orange barrels and construction speed zones, I-96 and the Wixom Road interchange commuters will no longer be restricted.

Novi city officials projected the interchange to fully reopen the first week in December, but Craig Bryson of the Road Commission for Oakland County said last week the Michigan Department of Transportation officials expected the project to be complete and fully functional Nov. 26.

Improvements to the lighting and final restoration of the project is scheduled to resume in April 2009.

The \$20 million project was com-

structed to improve traffic flow, mirroring the Beck Road and I-96 interchange, located about one mile east.

City projects

Surface improvements to the 10 Mile and Beck roads intersection are complete, but signal improvements are still underway. Along with repaving and traffic signal updates, all avenues were widened to accommodate a right-turn lane.

A similar project is underway at the intersection of 11 Mile and Meadowbrook roads. The upgrades will include the addition of a traffic signal and widening of the east portion of the intersection for a dedicated left turn lane.

"Eleven Mile and Meadowbrook should be done later this month," said community relations coordinator Matt

Please see **ROADS, A13**



PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

The southbound lanes of Wixom Road over Interstate 96 were almost ready for traffic earlier this month. The project, which began in the spring, cost \$20 million.

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Special Section



Volume 53 Number 27

Novi invites residents to Ring in the Holidays

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

Residents are invited to join the City of Novi in Ringing in the Holidays at the annual community event along Main and Market streets, Friday, Dec. 5.

"This year is the seventh annual Ringing in the Holidays event," said Derek Smith, recreation supervisor of the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department. The family-friendly event kicks off at 6 p.m. with the second annual kids Jingle Bell Jog. Pre-registration is available at www.cityofnovi.org for \$10, or at the event for \$15. Check in begins at 5:15 p.m. Kids ages 5-6 will participate in the 100-yard dash, ages 7-8, quarter-mile and ages 9-10, half-mile.



FILE PHOTO BY JOHN HERRINGTON/NOVI NEWS

A colorfully lit Christmas sleigh, packed with gifts, makes its way along Main Street during last year's Ringing in the Holidays parade in Novi.

Those seeking photo opportunities with Santa Claus can visit The Atrium of Novi, located on Main Street between MiXX Lounge and Larson Jewelry, beginning at 5:45 p.m.

The Atrium will also house the Talcom Kids Arts and Crafts Zone, Pump It Up bounce, entertainment by the Novi Youth Choir, The Family Self Defense Center, The Performing Arts Academy and the Novi Concert Band, and the

Holiday Tree Silent Auction. After colder than usual temperatures at last year's event, the city opted for heated tents for restaurant vendors.

"It was the coldest year ever," Smith said. "Because of the wind last year, we couldn't do marshmallow roasting. It became a safety hazard."

The city will attempt marshmallow roasting again this year, but other food vendors include Potbelly Sandwich Works, Caribou Coffee, Pizza Marvelous,

RINGING IN THE HOLIDAYS

For sponsorship information, contact Susan Cusick at (248) 347-0588 or scusick@cityofnovi.org. For parade entry information and restaurant vendor opportunities, contact Derek Smith at (248) 347-0474 or dsmith@cityofnovi.org.

Virginia Barbeque, Boston Market, Biggy Coffee, Oberweis Ice Cream and Dairy Store and Famous Dave's.

Novi Mayor David Landry will address the commencement of the Electric Light Parade and present the Spirit of Giving Award.

"The Electric Light Parade, which is the highlight of the event starts at 7:30 p.m.," Smith said. "We backed it up this year so it would allow people more time to enjoy the other festivities we have going on."

This year's parade will include about 40-50 entries, with about 10 floats. The festivities will conclude at 9 p.m.

kmurad@gannett.com
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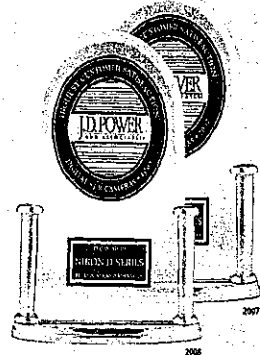
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Bring new hope for new year

BY FAN FLEMING
STAFF WRITER

The holidays can be a difficult time, especially for those who may have recently experienced the death of a loved one or whose memory is simply drawn to people in their lives no longer around.

But, thanks to the kindness and generosity of a local business, an event next month can lead to brighter outlooks for many in the future.

Local developer Tall Heathers will host the event "New Hope for the New Year" from 7-9 p.m.

on Friday, Dec. 5, at the Chelsea Federal Model Home, 50641 Drakes Bay Drive on Wilcox Road just north of Ten Mile Road in the Island Lake subdivision in Novi.

The evening will include hors d'oeuvres, beverages, musical entertainment and raffles, with proceeds going to the New Hope Center for Grief Support in downtown Northville. Some of the local restaurants participating by donating appetizers or desserts are Cassie's Catering, Gemma's Hide-in-the-Wall Restaurant, Little Italy, Senate Cones Island, Wildflours and

Edward's Cafe and Catering. Toll Brothers will also provide complimentary valet parking and tours of the model home.

The New Hope Center offers low-specific grief support programs, meaning those who have suffered from the death of a child, spouse or parent are grouped together. This enables each group to be able to relate to the type of emotions and situations that particular types of losses bring.

The cost is \$40 per person by Monday, Dec. 1, or \$45 after Dec. 1 or at the door. No credit card payments will be accepted

the night of the event. Out of the \$40 or \$45 charge, \$30 is tax deductible.

Those interested in attending are encouraged to fax a reservation form available online to (248) 348-0115 or register online. Checks can be made payable to New Hope Center for Grief Support and mailed to 113 E. Dunlap St., Northville, MI 48167.

For more information, call the center at (248) 348-0115 or go to www.newhopecenter.net. Tickets will not be provided; guests can simply check in at the door. Additional memorial donations are also being accepted.

Those attending the Dec. 5 event are also encouraged to bring a donation for the KIDZ Program, which is in need of gift certificates from Costco, Sam's Club, Office Depot, Michaels, Borders Bookstore or Barnes & Noble Bookstore. Supplies such as Model Magic, Modeling Clay, fabric paint and colored markers are also being requested.

Min Nordstrom, left, of Plymouth and Pauline Bazzy of Commerce Township at last year's "New Hope for the New Year" fund-raiser at one of the Tuscan Reserve model homes in Novi. This year's event benefiting the New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville will take place on Friday, Dec. 5, at Toll Brothers' Island Lake subdivision in Novi. Cost is \$40 by Dec. 1 and \$45 after Dec. 1 or at the door, \$30 of which is tax deductible.



Min Nordstrom, left, of Plymouth and Pauline Bazzy of Commerce Township at last year's "New Hope for the New Year" fund-raiser at one of the Tuscan Reserve model homes in Novi. This year's event benefiting the New Hope Center for Grief Support in Northville will take place on Friday, Dec. 5, at Toll Brothers' Island Lake subdivision in Novi. Cost is \$40 by Dec. 1 and \$45 after Dec. 1 or at the door, \$30 of which is tax deductible.



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Beaumont Hospital announces layoffs, turnaround plan

BY PATRICIA ANSTETT
STAFF WRITER

Beaumont Hospital's last week announced a \$60-million financial turnaround plan, including layoffs, executive and physician pay cuts and holds on many construction and expansion projects, including a Novi medical building.

The Royal Oak-based health system, long one of metro Detroit's most successful hospital systems, is making the moves to offset \$22 million in projected losses by year's end — its first losing year in more than four decades.

Ken Matzick, Beaumont's president and chief executive officer, blamed the losses on a downturn in Michigan's economy that has led to a 1.5 percent drop in better-paying commercially

insured customers and an increase in money-losing Medicare business, caused by the aging of Michigan's population.

The turnaround plan includes:

- Pay cuts beginning Dec. 1 of 10 percent for Beaumont's top executives and doctors to 4 percent for mid-level managers.
- A hiring freeze, began Sept. 1, that cut 200 positions, up to 300 other jobs will be eliminated from areas not showing revenue increases, beginning this week through the first of December. Most of the cuts will be in non-patient care areas.
- Postponing some new construction at Beaumont's Royal Oak and Troy hospitals, including abandoning plans for a Novi medical center, now to be

merged with one planned in Commerce Twp. Beaumont also has postponed plans, possibly until spring, on a \$159 million high-tech, proton beam cancer radiation center. Plans for a medical school continue because they are part of Beaumont's long-term strategic plan that includes moves to train doctors to replenish Michigan's aging physician workforce, Matzick said.

The changes will help Beaumont save some jobs and should allow it to make \$31 million in fiscal 2009, for a 1.4 percent net operating margin, on \$2 billion in revenues, Matzick said.

Beaumont first noticed the changes in July and waited an additional month to see if the drops were "a blip" or much more, before beginning a freeze on job hiring in September, Matzick said.

TWELVE OAKS MALL HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Visit with Santa

Santa and his elves arrived from the North Pole 10 a.m. Nov. 7 and will depart Dec. 24. Santa will see visitors Mondays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. with breaks from 1-2 p.m. and 5-6 p.m.; and on Sundays from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. with a break from 2-3 p.m. New this year is a partnership with Shutterfly, the online photo publishing service that allows consumers to share, print and preserve photos. The Santa photo operations are sponsored locally by Bright House Networks.

Free greeting cards

Beginning Nov. 7 and while supplies last, guests will receive a free holiday greeting card with each mall gift card

Black Friday events

Aside from sales, shoppers now have more reasons to visit the mall Nov. 28. Stop by the Holiday Stage in the Lifestyle Café Food Court and enter for a chance to win a \$100 mall gift card. Four winners will be chosen at random every other hour from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. and each will win a \$100 mall gift card. Visit www.shopweloveaks.com for complete contest rules and alternative entry methods.

Also from 6-9 a.m. shoppers will have the opportunity to meet their favorite Breakfast Club personality as WNCN-FM (100.9) broadcasts live from the Lifestyle Café Food Court.

Sounds of the season

Enjoy the sounds of the season weekends from noon to 8 p.m. during the holidays. Most

performances will be at the Holiday Stage in the Lifestyle Café Food Court beginning Nov. 28. Performances include Beebe, the Rick Lieder Trio, Dickens' Carolers, Kroon, Dave & Jose and Kevin Devine.

Pet photo day

Guests are invited to bring their dog or cat to Twelve Oaks Mall Sunday, Dec. 7 from 9-10:45 a.m. for a photo with Santa. A portion of the proceeds will go to a local animal rescue organization. Reservations are a must; call (248) 348-9438 to reserve a spot.

Twelve Oaks Mall is located at Interstate 96 and West Road. Shopping hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Extended holiday shopping hours are available by visiting www.shopweloveaks.com.

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section

CITY OF NOVI SNOW REMOVAL

The Department of Public Work's goal is to provide a bare pavement quickly recognized by many Snow Belt cities. Proper control of parking and traffic contributes significantly to reducing response time and operational costs. Residents are asked to cooperate in the following ways:

- If a private contractor is hired for snow removal services, remind them not to plow snow into the public roadway. This is not only disruptive to local traffic and snow removal operations, but it is illegal.
- Refrain from parking vehicles on any street during snow and sleet. If a snow emergency is declared, all parked vehicles must be removed from the street.
- Do not use snow blowers to blow snow into the street.

The area around a resident's mailbox must be cleared or mail will not be delivered.

- Do not let children play on the mounds of snow near the roadway. It is difficult for snowplow operators to see behind or over the mounds.

The highest priority for the DPW during the winter months is safe winter driving. To ensure the safety of motorists traveling in Novi, the following priorities for removing snow and ice from local roads are:

1. Major road networks and school bus routes.
2. Police and fire facilities, bridges, hills and curves.
3. The balance of the local roads.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding snow removal, contact the DPW at (248) 735-5640.

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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Home covered in eggs and vegetables

Numerous eggs and vegetables were thrown against a house on Windrop Drive, near 10 Mile and Novi roads between noon Nov. 13 and 9:30 p.m. Nov. 17, reports said. According to the resident, the siding and window frames, located on the east-side of the home, were damaged. Several glass bottles were also shattered on the driveway, reports said.

Gate damaged at water treatment plant

An officer was dispatched to the water treatment plant at West Road and West Park Drive on report of damage to the entry gate. According to the report, between 2:30 p.m. Nov. 13 and 9 p.m. Nov. 16, the right portion of the swinging, double gate was bent and dented; the left gate was broken from the hinge; and the left post was bent. Police said it appeared as

though a large truck pushed against the gate until the welds on the left side broke. The gate was found still chained and padlocked in the center, with significant denting and bending on the right side, reports said.

Fresh vehicle tracks were found leading to the back of the property, which appeared to be made by a dual, rear-wheel truck with highway tread on the front and more aggressive all-terrain or snow-tire tread on the rear, reports said.

Stereo system suspected stolen

According to a recent police report, between Nov. 12-17 a compact disc player was suspected stolen from a vehicle while parked at the Suburban Chrysler Jeep dealership on Haggerty Road, between 10 Mile Road and Grand River Avenue. The 2001 Jeep Grand Cherokee was taken to the dealership for maintenance issues, which were completed at about 5 p.m. Nov. 12, reports said. The

vehicle was then parked on the west-side of the complex near the service bay doors.

The owner of the Cherokee followed up with the service manager requesting additional repairs, which is when the black Kenwood multi-disc CD player was discovered missing, reports said.

The missing stereo system was discovered by the service technician who is unsure if the doors were left unlocked because he was pushing the unlock button on the key fob while approaching the vehicle, reports said. There were no signs of forced entry.

Slashed tire

The right, rear tire of a Saturn Vue was slashed between 11 p.m. Nov. 12 and 7 a.m. Nov. 13, reports said. The vehicle was parked in the driveway of a residence on Mountain Avenue, near Napier Road, north of Island Lake. Police observed a half-inch straight cut on the side of the tire by the tread.

2 teens arrested in string of larcenies from cars

BY SUE BUCK AND STACY JENKINS STAFF WRITERS

A good eye and even better cooperation led to the arrest of two teens who are suspected of stealing items out of cars in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

"We've had a rash of larcenies from cars, and so has the City of Farmington," said Farmington Hills Assistant Police Chief Craig Summers. When Farmington Public Safety Detective Pat Spelman spotted a suspect, he contacted FHPD Detective Richard Webby, and the two agencies worked together to bring in the

SONIC unit and the Directed Patrol Unit to survey the suspect and his accomplice.

"They watched the suspect and another suspect do a number of LPAs in the Nine Mile and Halsted area," Summers said. "They were stealing items out of cars."

Police arrested the two Novi men, ages 18 and 19, at about 2 a.m. Nov. 20. Most of the larcenies were reportedly at apartment complexes in the Nine Mile and Halsted area and around 12 Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Farmington Public Safety Cmdr. Frank Demers said

the men admitted stealing from numerous cars in the Jamestown Apartments; Chatham Hills Apartments; and the Kensington Manor Apartments at Nine Mile and Farmington Road, and in surrounding subdivisions. Demers asks anyone who has had items stolen out of their cars, or knows of someone who has, to report their losses now by calling (248) 474-4700.

Items recovered from the suspects included electronics, credit cards, checkbooks and cell phones, said Summers. stbeck@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2014

HOME COOKING FIRES PEAK ON THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires and the National Fire Protection Association is urging the public to keep safety in mind when preparing holiday meals.

In 2005, cooking fires were involved in about 1,300 reported home structure fires on Thanksgiving, which is almost three times the daily average.

Studies show cooking fires are the largest one cause of home fires and home fire injuries, with hundreds of Americans killed each year and thousands more injured.

Annually, cooking fires cause more than half a billion dollars in property damage to homes and the belongings inside. It is important to remember

to monitor meal preparation closely as most cooking fires start because cooking has been left unattended.

The National Fire Protection Association offers these tips for safer cooking:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food.
- If you must leave the home for even a short period of time, turn off the stove or oven.
- If you are simmering, baking, boiling or roasting food, check it regularly and remain in the home while food is cooking.
- Stay alert. Don't cook if you are sleepy, have been drinking alcohol or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy.

- Keep things that burn — potholders, oven mitts, paper or plastic — off your stovetop.
- Don't store things that can burn in an oven, microwave or toaster oven.
- Clean food and grease off burners, stovetops and ovens.
- Wear clothing with sleeves that are short, close fitting or tightly rolled up.
- Keep kids away from cooking areas by enforcing a "kid-free zone" of three feet around the stove.
- Use the stove's back burners whenever possible, and turn pot handles inward to reduce the risk that pots with hot contents will be knocked over.
- Never hold a small child while cooking.

SHOPPING

FROM PAGE A1

iPhone," she said.

Black Friday bargains

Here are some Black Friday bargains, according to www.black-friday.net.

- Target, located on Wixom Road just south of Grand River Avenue, will open at 6 a.m. Sale items include an 8GB Apple iPod nano for \$145 with a free \$15 gift card; and a Nintendo Wii Guitar Hero World Tour Guitar Bundle for \$59.
- Best Buy, located on

Haggerty Road just north of Eight Mile Road, will open at 5 a.m. Offers include Garmin global positioning system units starting at \$119; DVD's starting at \$4.99; and a Dynex 42-inch plasma high-definition television for \$299.99.

• Dick's Sporting Goods, located at Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk, will open at 5 a.m. The first 250 customers with a \$100 purchase will receive a \$20 gift card. Other specials include Sole ellipticals or treadmills for \$999.98 with a free 15-inch LCD television and DVD player.

• "Fox 'R' Us, located in the West Oaks shopping plaza, will open at 5 a.m. Sale items include a Hannah Montana Light n' Sound Stage for \$24.99; and a LeapFrog Leapster L-Max for \$49.99.

• J.C. Penney, located inside Twelve Oaks Mall, will open at 4 a.m. Sales of up to 60 percent off select clothing items and 55 percent off select bedding.

For more information regarding Black Friday sales at Twelve Oaks Mall visit www.shoptwelvoaks.com.

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Thanksgiving recess

The Novi Community School District will be closed for Thanksgiving recess Nov. 27-28. On Dec. 1, there will be no classes for students for a district records day. Classes will resume, Tuesday, Dec. 2.

Raising Resilient Kids

Novi School District is pleased to present Raising Resilient Kids. The free workshop with parent coach Nancy Prishly will take place 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27 inside the Community Education (ITC) Forum. Has your child ever felt left out? Had challenges getting along with other kids? Been faced with other difficult situations? Conflict and emotional pain are a part of life and kids can actually become stronger from these experiences and better able to deal with them in the future. This resilience - the ability to draw strength when bad things happen. Participation in this workshop will provide strategies to help children become more resilient.

Senior All Night Party

Putting on a Senior All Night Party requires many volunteers and many funds. In an effort to raise money for this memorable

CLASS NOTES

evening, the Novi High School Class of 2009 Senior All Night Party Parent Committee will be hosting a fund-raiser at the California Pizza Kitchen at Twelve Oaks Mall. The event will be held from 5-9 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 9. Enjoy dinner and in return, California Pizza Kitchen will donate 20 percent of each dinner bill to the SANP. Participants will need to present a flyer that can be found on the Web site, www.novi.k12.mi.us, by visiting the high school home page and clicking on the "Senior All Night Party" link. A flyer may also be picked up at the High School office, 24062 Taft Road.

Construction completion open house

The Novi Community School District will host multiple open houses 5-8 p.m. Dec. 4 and 9 at Village Oaks, Parkview and Orchard Hills to view the completed renovations and construction projects. The schools now have designated music and art rooms and gymnasiums. Renovations in other areas of the buildings are also complete. Tours will be provided.

Novi High School Athletics Web site

The Novi Athletic Boosters' new Web site is www.noviathleticboosters.com. The site is the source for upcoming Novi Athletic Boosters events, fund-raising events and Wildcat game schedules. The Novi Athletic Boosters raise money to support Novi Wildcat student athletes at Novi High and middle schools. Proceeds are used to purchase uniforms, equipment, training and so more students can participate at a higher level.

CARE program open house

The Novi Community Education Infant and Toddler CARE Program is hosting an open house 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9 at Novi High

School, 24062 Taft Road. The program is open to all Novi residents, employees of The City of Novi, employees of the Novi Community School District, as well as Providence Park Hospital employees.

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Novi High School Athletic Booster meeting

The next Novi Athletic Booster meeting will be 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10 in room 160 at Novi High School, 24062 Taft Road. Meetings cover the various efforts of the Boosters along with updates on athletics at the high and middle schools.



PHOTO BY JANET FLORES

Hands On Museum visits Village Oaks Elementary

Earlier this month, the Village Oaks Elementary School was transformed into a poopy good time. An Arbor's Hands On Museum provided an evening of informative hands-on fun for the students and staff. There were balloon rockets, buckets of squishy goo, opportunities to defy gravity and the sound of Big Ben. Every station was full of excitement and learning. Students experienced some amazing science created from simple items found in the home such as glue, borax, water, vinegar, baking soda, coffee filters and kitchen cooling racks.

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section

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OPINION

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Thursday, November 27, 2008 Community Weeklies

www.hometownlife.com

NOVI LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Meadows receives lesson in giving

On Oct. 31 a group of Novi Meadows parents loaded vehicles until they were ready to burst and brought donations to Neinas Elementary School. We had over nine millions of collections. When we got there, we were greeted by a group of Neinas fifth graders who helped us unload the clothes. We took over the gym. The floor was covered as clothing, housewares, books and games were spread out. The families of Novi Meadows really did themselves.

We were able to meet the mom of the family taking care of the 13 kids and even some of the children who attend Neinas. She was quite overwhelmed by our delivery and wondered if it would be OK to share it with other families in need at the school. It was great that our volunteers got to talk with the family and work with them as we all helped sort. They were wonderful people and very grateful for the support.

The timing of our visit was perfect. We were even able to find Halloween costumes among the donations for some of her kids. Little Jesse, a first grader, couldn't have been happier when I pulled out a Pokémon costume. He put it on immediately.

While the family was shopping, another family arrived. This family was actually the parents of some of the kids that were being cared for by the foster family. They were in the process of being able to bring some of their kids home. The dad had a job interview and was hoping for something to wear. We were lucky enough to find a sport coat and dress shirt in the donations that would fit him.

As we were getting ready to leave, the school principal brought down a little boy she was hoping we could help. He had lost his warm jacket and his family couldn't afford another one so he was wearing a hooded sweatshirt as his winter coat. We were able to find a jacket that fit him as well.

I received a call from the school thanking us for everything we had done. By 2 p.m. everything was gone. This was a spur of the moment effort and the timing of the visit to Neinas was hard to fit into everyone's schedules. But it was worth it. Everyone at Meadows should be proud of what was accomplished.

Thanks for your continued support.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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Kelle Vela
PTO chairwoman, Novi Meadows

OUR VIEWS

Be grateful and have a happy Thanksgiving

"Happy Thanksgiving." We'll hear this greeting a lot this week, but how can we have a "happy" Thanksgiving when the economy is in such sad shape?

So many people have lost their jobs, their homes, their retirement savings. The national unemployment is 6.5 percent, the highest since March 1994. In Michigan, it's 8.7 percent.

A record 1.2 million homes were in foreclosure during the second quarter of 2008, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association. According to some estimates, another 2 million families could lose their homes to foreclosure in the next two years.

In October, the Dow Jones Industrial Average suffered its worst week of losses ever. The Big 3 is seeking a government bailout, and leading economists say the likelihood of a prolonged U.S. recession has increased significantly as economic conditions continue to deteriorate.

Yet, happiness doesn't come from material possessions. They make it easier to live, but they don't bring lasting and genuine joy.

True happiness comes from being content with what we have — no matter how meager our possessions or how trying our circumstances.

Put the happy in your Thanksgiving this year by being grateful for your many blessings.



This Thanksgiving, emergency nurses urge roadway safety

This Thanksgiving, tens of thousands of people will travel "over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house" and to thousands of other destinations to spend the holidays with friends and family.

Sadly, some of those trips will end in tragedy with traffic accidents and ambulance rides to emergency rooms.

Many of the injuries and fatalities sustained in those accidents will have been preventable.

A new report recently released by the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) highlights the kinds of laws that could prevent many accidents, injuries and fatalities.

The 2008 ENA National Scorecard on State Roadway Laws: A Blueprint for Injury Prevention reviews the roadway safety laws in all 50 states and the District of Columbia based on 13 criteria supported by evidence and research.

The criteria address: seat belt use; child passenger safety; graduated driver licensing for teens; universal motorcycle helmet requirements; igni-

tion interlock devices to prevent drunk driving; and giving the proper officials the authority to develop, maintain and evaluate a state trauma system. The types of legislation that meet these criteria are proven to reduce injuries and fatalities on our nation's roadways.

States received one point for meeting each of the criteria.

Only two states, Oregon and Washington state, received perfect scores of 13. Arkansas was the lowest scoring state with three points, followed by North Dakota and South Dakota, with four points each.

Across the country, emergency nurses care for thousands of accident victims every year. As the largest organization of emergency nurses in the United States, the ENA is working to reduce motor vehicle injuries and fatalities by pointing out the gaps in roadway laws and promoting legislation to address them.

"Every year, there are more than 40,000 deaths on our nation's roadways," said ENA President Denise King, RN, MSN, CEN. "We can reduce

those numbers and we know how. When it comes to injury prevention, the public is in the driver's seat. We must call on our policy makers to pass laws that are proven to reduce injuries and fatalities. Across the country, emergency department nurses, who treat roadway accident victims every day, are encouraging more and better traffic safety laws."

The ENA released its first National Scorecard in 2006.

That year, Arizona received the lowest score. In the intervening two years, the Arizona Emergency Nurses Association (AZENA) has worked with state lawmakers to enact five new safety laws and regulations recommended by ENA.

Since 2006, only seven states — Alabama, Arkansas, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming — failed to make progress in increasing the number of recommended roadway safety laws.

Roadway safety must remain paramount today and throughout the holiday season.



Breaking New Ground
Guests at this month's ground-breaking ceremony for the new Novi Public Library.

Is there a constituency for change in Michigan's schools?

Pain, it is coming to a school near you. We are watching the meltdown of our State, nation and the world's economy. Michigan's unemployment rate is 9.3%, the highest level since July 1992. Families across Michigan are hurting.

Across the country, governors and legislators are trimming — no, whacking — state budgets by the hundreds of millions of dollars as tax revenues shrink and shivel up almost as fast as jobs are disappearing and consumers stop spending. Michigan will be no exception. By early December, Governor Granholm, only two months into the new fiscal year and faced with declining revenue and a state constitutional mandate to maintain a balanced budget, will be executing hundreds of millions of dollars of budget cuts.

Believe it or not, Michigan is in far better shape fiscally than many other states because of last year's legislative action to raise taxes.

Knowledge and talent will drive Michigan's future. Yet we continue to dis-invest in what will make us competitive on the world stage. In spite of the political rhetoric that "education is our top priority," it is anticipated that our public schools, community colleges and universities will see once-promised revenue eliminated.

Perhaps the governor and legislature will once again perform a Houdini and find money around cuts to education — but given the economic implosion, it seems unlikely. Further, even if they dodge the cuts, staying even is falling behind in the 21st century knowledge economy.

So, what is to become of our children's education? And what are schools going to do when, after having received less-than-inflation budget increases for the past six years and claiming to have already "cut to the bone," the cuts come again? These budget cuts are exponentially more difficult to accomplish as they come four months into the school year when staff and programs are contractually in place.

The economic pain will continue, that fact cannot be denied. How our state and school leaders manage and lead the change is the unanswered question.

We can no longer afford to run our schools and government like nothing has changed, when everything has changed. We are witnessing what happens to an entire industry, i.e., the Domestic 2 auto companies, when reality is denied for too long.

As the fiscal realities smack our schools in the coming weeks and months, let's hope the educators can model innovative problem solving that is flexible and student-focused as they find creative solutions to these difficult problems. If they can't, what hope is there for the 1.7 million students they are responsible for teaching?

The economic pain will continue, that fact cannot be denied. How our state and school leaders manage and lead the change is the unanswered question.

SCHOOLS NEED TO CHANGE
In the long run, our political and education leaders are going to have to garner the courage to make tough decisions.

Milford legislator ends tenure in state House

Inited outgoing state Rep. Chris Ward, R-Brighton, to drop by my office last week for a chat. This young man — still only 34 — was once regarded as a rising Republican party star. Elected a Brighton Township trustee just out of college and then township clerk, he won a landslide victory six years ago when he was elected to the House. His district includes Milford.

Barely out of the gate, he was the main author of a useful bill consolidating elections. Then, in 2006, he got himself elected Minority Floor Leader. People talked about Ward as having one of the best legislative minds of his generation. He was a detail-oriented tactician who would create Winston Churchill one moment and play tough partisan hardball the next.

That is, until Michigan's budget deficit crisis erupted last fall, and he made the fatal mistake of doing the right thing.

The state faced a \$1.8 billion deficit, nearly 20 percent of the entire general fund budget, the only measure the legislature really has discretion over. Frenzied arm-waving and red-faced partisan rhetoric didn't help matters. Personal relationships got frayed.

House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford Township, Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, and Gov. Jennifer Granholm, all holding each other in minimum high regard and unwilling to talk in person, at one point tried to negotiate a solution by text messages.

Not surprisingly, it didn't work. The state Constitution requires a balanced budget by Oct. 1, every year. On the evening of Sept. 30, 2007, with no balanced budget in sight, Michigan government teetered on the edge of complete shutdown. As the clock ticked towards disaster, the bad idea of the moment was a 6 percent tax on a bizarre array of services, such as baby-shoe bronzing. This was an incomprehensible and unenforceable levy that made no sense whatsoever — except to a bunch of politicians desperately looking for a way out.

Ward thought that idea was silly and said so. The Michigan Chamber of Commerce agreed. Nonetheless, the service tax was approved in October, then just before it was to be implemented, the legislature changed its mind and replaced it with the Michigan Business Tax in December. Eventually, lawmakers also added a surcharge to the new tax, which may not have been a great idea, but which made more sense than taxing the shoe bronzers.

But Ward already had done himself in with his caucus. In a courageous and responsible move, he and his fellow Republican, State Rep. Ed Gaffney, R-Grosse Pointe, had wound up voting to increase the state income tax from 3.9 to 4.35 percent.

That was the other utterly unavoidable step that had to be taken to keep the state from crashing and burning. Though at one point it looked as though there were up to seven GOP lawmakers willing to do the right thing at the end of the day, Ward and Gaffney were the only ones who made the responsible tough vote.

The budget got balanced, but Ward got the shaft. GOP House members wanted to make a fetish of sporting the anti-tax label in the 2008 elections, and booted him out of his leadership position.

He lost his nice office ... and he lost some people he thought were his friends. And he gained the respect of a lot of people who saw a responsible young statesman who didn't buckle in a crisis.

Ward is finishing his 6 years in Lansing, term-limited out at the end of this year. He's put on a little weight and suffered through a divorce, but he still is clear-eyed about what really was at stake.

"Republicans had a chance to bargain for real structural changes in the way Michigan government is organized and how much it costs," he notes.

"We could have leveraged real government reform off the vote on the income tax, but at the last minute we didn't have the guts. People in Michigan were prepared for real change, but it never happened. Instead, we got a Michigan Business Tax and a surcharge on top of it that is widely regarded as unfair and anti-business."

Ward's basic argument is — imagine this if you will — that good policy makes good politics.

"We've (the Republicans) been tooting the anti-tax-at-all-costs horn for 20 years," he explains. "And during those 20 years, we've lost 20 seats in the House."

"We ceded the middle ground and we lost a chance to participate in serious reforms that are very much needed. Being politically partisan is the easy thing to do. It satisfies the party base. It makes the fire-breathers happy. It's knee-jerk."

"But it doesn't get anything done at the end of the day."

Ward's looking for a job these days. It's a sad commentary on our state that one of our most capable young politicians had the courage to do the right thing ... and paid a heavy price as a result.

At this session of Thanksgiving, I hope you'll join me in offering a word of thanks for people like Chris Ward. We sure need him ... and people like him ... as we enter what promises to be a long winter of economic discontent.

Former newspaper publisher and University of Michigan Regent Phil Power is a longtime observer of Michigan politics and economics, and a former chairman of the Michigan chapter of the Nature Conservancy. He is also the founder and president of the Center for Michigan, a centrist think-and-do tank which publishes the Michigan Scorecard. The opinions expressed here are Power's own and do not represent the official views of the Center. He welcomes your comments at power@thecenterformichigan.net.

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Novi News

GANNETT

Published each Thursday

Victoria Mitchell
Community Editor

Peter Nell
Vice President/General Manager

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor

Jeanne Parent
Senior Director of Sales & Marketing

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

SAVVY SENIOR

TOYS FOR TOTS AND TIPS FOR GRANDPARENTS

Dear Savvy Senior: With Christmas right around the corner, I'm looking for some new toys for my grandkids but could use some help. First, where can I go to get some good toy gift ideas? Second, how can I find out if

the toys are good quality and safe? And third, what toys or games can you recommend that are fun to do together?

Playful Grandpa
Dear Playful: With more than 300,000 toys and children's products on the market, the process of finding the right toys or games for your grandkids can be challenging. Here are some tips that can help.

into a toy store and sorting through their massive display of inventory. Another great resource is The Toy Insider (www.thetoyinsider.com) which is a panel of toy experts that offers their list of top 20 age-appropriate toys and gifts for the holidays.

After you find a few toys you like you can check their safety at ToyWise.org, where you can see the list of toys that have been recalled. Some other good resources you need to visit are Toytopia.com, Toys.com and Drtoy.com. These are sites that actually test and evaluate new toys and games, check their durability, ease of use, safety, scalability and value, and offer unbiased reviews and ratings based on their findings.

TOY SELECTING
To help you narrow your search and ensure you buy the right toy(s) there are three basic things you need to keep in mind: Your grandchild's age, interest and skill level. While this may seem like a no-brainer, many toy-buying grandparents, especially those who aren't around their grandkids on a regular basis, tend to forget.
Looking for toy gift ideas? The best place to browse is online at toy stores like Toys.com, Toysrus.com and Ktoys.com. These sites are organized so you can search by age, gender, toy category, price range, new items and even best sellers - much easier than walking

games that promote intergenerational play.

In the meantime, some good categories to focus on are "arts and crafts," "learning and building" and "puzzles and games." Toys that facilitate these types of activities are not only fun to do together, but can greatly benefit your grandchild both mentally and socially.

Here are some examples to get you started:
- Arts and crafts: There are literally hundreds of products and kits that offer painting, drawing, coloring, jewelry making, clay molding and more that can promote your grandchild's creativity not to mention they're fun, simple and affordable.
- Puzzles and games: Putting a puzzle together or playing a game (board games, card games, educational games and even backyard games) is a fun way to get your grandchild's thinking and problem solving - which is good for you too.

- Learning and building: There are books you can read together, Legos, blocks, and model cars you can build together, science, magic, and invention kits you can work on together, and easy-bake meals you can bake together. All great ways to spend fun and productive time together.
- Electronics: For school-age

kids and beyond, the Nintendo Wii (wii.com) gets top marks for intergenerational play - especially the Wii Sports and Wii Music games. These are fun interactive game that will get you both up and moving. For younger kids, a karaoke system can be fun for the whole family.

HOLIDAY BLUES

There are lots of factors that can contribute to an older person's sadness or apathy around the holiday season such as the loss of a spouse, sibling or a close friend. Some seniors feel alone and isolated because their grown children and grandchildren live far away. While others may feel blue because of financial concerns, poor health or because they're unable to perform routine holiday activities like shopping, baking or even attending religious services.

SAVVY TIP

For grandparents that don't live near their grandchildren, a great way to connect during the holidays and beyond is through a Web service called MyGrandchild.com. A savvy new site that for \$5 (or \$95 per year) allows you to read interactive books, play games and do activities with your grandchild in real time from anywhere in the world.

HOW TO HELP

Depending on what's making you or another blue during this holiday season, here are some tips that may help:
- Be a good listener: Talk to your mom about how she's feeling and why. Very often just being able to share feelings with someone can help.
- Prevent isolation: Encourage family members to be around your mom as much as possible during the holidays. If you can't be there physically, be sure to call more often.

BEATING THE HOLIDAY BLUES

Dear Savvy Senior, Over the past few years my mother, who is 75, has gotten where she dreads the holiday season and becomes very melancholy. What can I do to help?

Hating the Holidays
Dear Hating: Millions of people experience the holiday blues this time of year, but seniors tend to be especially vul-

We regret to inform our customers that a printing error has occurred in our After Thanksgiving Sale circular, valid Friday, November 28 & Saturday, November 29, 2008. On page 18, the Kmart, area & kitchen rugs and doormats should have a sale price range of \$4.49-\$15.99, not \$4.49-\$9.99 as printed. We are sorry for any inconvenience that may have been caused.

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Dr. Miller has over 13 years experience in treating venous diseases and has received many honors and awards including being named one of **TOP DOCS**

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The City of Novi invested \$1.2 million in the 2008 Neighborhood Road Improvement projects, which have been completed, benefiting more than two miles of neighborhood streets. One notable project west of CSX Railroad right-of-way.

Future MDOT projects
 The Michigan Department of Transportation held a public information meeting for future MDOT projects slated for 2009. The projects are:
 • Patching and repaving eastbound and westbound Interstate 696 and I-96 from Novi to Haggerty roads
 • Replacement of eastbound and westbound I-96 bridges

over CSX Railroad right-of-way. Rehabilitation of Novi Road and Meadowbrook Road bridges over eastbound and westbound I-96.
 • Replacement of Michigan 5 bridge over eastbound I-696.
 • Reconstruction of on-ramps from north- and southbound Novi Road to eastbound I-96, and off-ramp from eastbound I-96 to Novi Road.
 • Construction of a new auxiliary lane on westbound I-96 from M-5 to Novi Road to help mitigate congestion in the "spaghetti bowl" region, where M-5 and Interstates 96, 696 and 275 converge.
 For more information regarding Novi road construction projects, contact the city's engineering division at (248) 347-0454.
 knw3d@novi.com
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Dole Cranberries 2/\$4.00 \$2.00/12 oz. package	Louisiana Yams 69¢ lb.	Golden Ripe Whole Pineapples \$2.99 ea.	Traditional Sage Stuffing \$4.99 lb.
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Meridian Wines \$6.99 ALL VARIETALS	Stone Cellars Wine 2/\$11.00 Perfect for the Holidays!	McMannis Wines \$9.99 ea. All Varietals	Holiday Wreath Cakes are back. Order now to complete the perfect family event!
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SPECIAL EVENTS

MEZZA MEDITERRANEAN GRILLE
Mezza Mediterranean Grille restaurants throughout metro Detroit will be open for special Thanksgiving Day hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Carry-out orders over \$50 will be 10 percent off. Orders start around \$15 and you can easily feed a family of four for \$50-\$60. Call (248) 349-7770.

EPOCH RESTAURANT GROUP

Epoch Catering is hosting a Thanksgiving Buffet from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. inside the Diamond Center at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi. Adults, \$24.95 per person. Seniors, \$19.95 per person. Children (5-12) \$12.95. Children 4 and under, free. Dinner will include roast turkey with giblet gravy, herb dressing, honey glazed ham, roasted sirloin au jus, candied yams and more. Call (248) 348-5600, ext. 200. Walk-ins welcome.

The Gold Exchange

The Gold Exchange, a precious metal company which buys scrap gold, will be at the Hotel Barronette in Novi 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Saturday, Nov. 29, Dec. 6, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20. Call (248) 305-8831.

Signature Landscape Lighting
Signature Landscape Lighting Company in Wixom was asked to contribute to an "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" project for a family home, located in Holt. Without hesitation, company co-founder Bob Borai was eager to get started. The call came in from Instant Shade, Inc. landscape firm, contributing with the Michigan State University Landscape Architecture Design Team for the "Extreme Makeover Home" project. They were looking for a sponsor that could offer a turnkey landscape lighting system. The new home will be featured on the show airing 8 p.m. Sunday. For more information, visit the Signature Landscape Lighting Web site at www.signaturelights.com or call (877) 347-1117.

Nov. 28 and 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Nov. 29 in its Twelve Oaks Mall store, 27708 Novi Road, upper level near Lord & Taylor. Receive your choice of keychain or compact mirror free with \$75 Pandora Jewelry purchase. Limit one per person and must be present to win. Call (248) 374-7000 or visit www.ARTISANJEWELERS.com.

TOP HONORS

PREMIER RELOCATION

Premier Relocation, LLC, in Novi, an agent of the nationwide household goods carrier Mayflower Transit, was honored recently by the van line for exceptional professional performance. The recognition was conferred during Mayflower's 2008 Convention with more than 400 Mayflower representatives in attendance.

ANNIVERSARIES

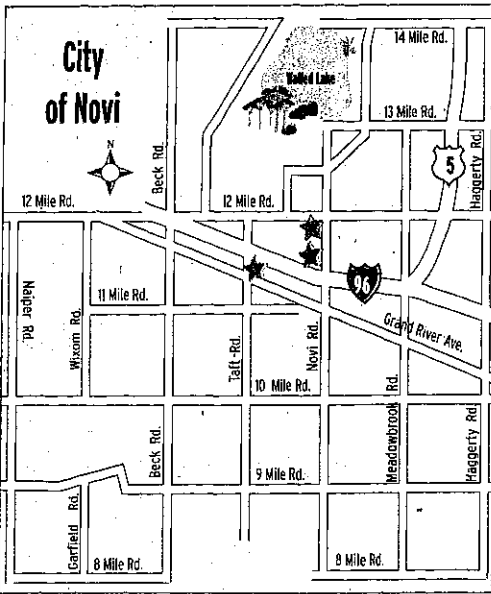
DOUBLETREE HOTEL

The Doubletree Hotel Detroit-Nowi celebrated its first anniversary on Nov. 15. The multi-million dollar renovated facility is located at 42100 Crescent Blvd. Call (248) 344-8512.

TRUNK SHOWS

Artisan Jewelers

Artisan Jewelers will be hosting a PANDORA JEWELRY trunk show 8 a.m.-9 p.m.



OPENINGS

Benito's Cafe
24270 Novi Road
(248) 348-2600

Pel Wei Asian Diner
43170 Grand River Avenue
(248) 675-0040

Biggy Coffee
43346 Grand River Avenue
(248) 596-0100

Penn Station East Coast Subs
24274 Novi Road
(248) 374-0800

CLOSINGS

THE BAMBOO CLUB

44375 12 Mile Road

SALON BLOW

22002 Novi Road

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Q. Who is behind Better Health Market?

A. Tedd Handelsman, owner

Q. Where did you grow up?

A. Tedd grew up in Brighton

Q. Tell us about your business?

A. Better Health Market offers high nutrition organic foods, including meats, produce, grains, dairy, plus nutritional supplements, gluten free, low sodium, and diabetic. The market also offers educational seminars, a cafe where people can eat organic salads, fresh sandwiches, piedmontese beef, special speakers - national and local, flyers and books on nutrition and a very knowledgeable staff that educates customers.

Q. When did the business open?

A. The business began in 1998. Novi opened in March 2005.

Q. How many employees?

A. 130, of which most are full time

Q. What makes your business unique?

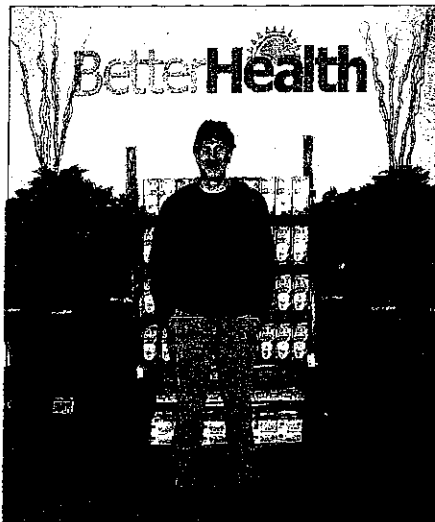
A. We are the largest Michigan-owned chain of natural food stores, plus the high value we put on educating our customers to improve their health.

Q. How did you first decide to open your own business?

A. I wanted to help people. We are passionate about the natural food and supplement industry, and wanted a place for people to go to get healthy. We had sold the previous family business and wanted something new. Good education, good food, good prices.

Q. How did you decide to locate in the Novi community?

A. I lived in Novi at the



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tedd Handelsman, owner of Better Health Market, stands inside his Novi store.

time and shopped at the Vic's that was previously in our current location. We were excited about the downtown development and saw an opportunity when Vic's moved out. The response to our store in the community has been very encouraging. The community loves our store and the products we offer. There is really nothing quite like us in the area. Our rewards program has also been well received.

Q. Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share?

A. There is one story that will be with me for a long time.

We learned of a young man who was very sick. His mother happened to see a segment on TV 2 in which we were featured that dealt with his particular problem. The mom called TV 2 and was directed to us. With the help of TV 2, and the specialty foods and education materials we have, we all were able to save this young man's life. It's amazing what people can do when they work together for the common good.

We have other stories like this one, and it is our goal to educate and help as many people as we can.

CHAMBER CHAT

The Novi Chamber of Commerce and Rock Financial Showplace invite community members to join the first Diamond Center Holiday Party. This holiday season brings unprecedented community challenges as well as celebrations and gifts. The Novi Chamber of Commerce and Rock Financial Showplace are teaming up to create a brand new seasonal event aimed at gathering the community together during this difficult economic period. The Diamond Center Holiday Party, Dec. 18 and 19 at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., is being launched as a collective event designed to bring multiple small groups together for one large party.

It's a giant banquet and networking event for all offices, businesses, organizations and clubs. Live entertainment, a lavish holiday buffet by Epoch Catering, door prizes and special gift bags are all included in one low price. Reservations are available for dinner 5-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18 featuring sultry jazz by the Sheila Landis Trio or lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19 with

acoustic holiday classics from singer-songwriter Jill Jack. Prices are:

- Parties over 10 guests: Lunch \$20/Dinner \$28
- Parties from five-10 guests: Lunch \$22/Dinner \$30
- Parties of four or smaller: Lunch \$25/Dinner \$33
- ***plus 19 percent gratuity and Michigan sales tax.

For party reservations, call (248) 662-0104.

Area businesses also have the opportunity to participate in sponsoring the Diamond Center Holiday Party. A \$50 donation to the Novi Chamber of Commerce will allow your company to insert post holiday discounts or special offers into 1,000 gift bags, which will be distributed at the party and other early 2009 events at the Rock Financial Showplace. This unique and inexpensive marketing opportunity is aimed at supporting business traffic during the slow mid winter months and offering special savings to party guests as well.

The Novi Chamber of Commerce Holiday Membership Luncheon is 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3 at the Rock Financial

Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave. Register online at www.novichamber.com or call (248) 349-3743. \$25 pre-registration / \$35 at door.

The Novi Chamber of Commerce Business Breakfast is 8-9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10 at The Art Institute of Michigan, 28175 Cabot Dr. Networking and refreshments will be provided. Register online at www.novichamber.com or call (248) 349-3743. No fee.

The Novi Chamber of Commerce After 5 Event & Holiday Bazaar is 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17 at Mezza Mediterranean Grille, 42050 Grand River Ave. Shop for holiday gifts offered by Chamber Members. Networking and appetizers will be provided. Register online at www.novichamber.com or call (248) 349-3743. \$15 registration.

The Novi Chamber of Commerce is an active, progressive chamber offering a variety of events, educational programs, an enhanced Web site, and involvement with local charities. For membership information, visit our Web site at www.novichamber.com or call (248) 349-3743.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS



Cassandra Foltyn

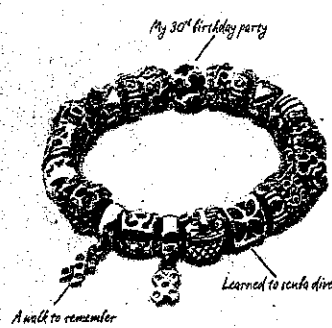
Cassandra Foltyn of Novi, was recognized for her commitment to Providence Park Hospital. She is a determined mother of young triplets who helps her daughter Alexandra, who has special needs, strive to be as mobile as possible. The family has access to traditional physical therapy and the benefit of additional recreational, therapeutic activities and wanted to help others not as fortunate. Foltyn holds fundraisers annually to benefit the Pediatric Rehabilitation Scholarship Fund at Providence Park Hospital so other children can gain access to needed treatment.

Cary Wood

Sparton Company, based in Jackson, hired Cary Wood, COO of Citation Corporation, a private company based in Novi in the business of foundry, machining and assembly operations. Interim Sparton President and CEO Richard Langley will retain the position of president, according to a statement.



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WILDCATS THIRD AT STATE



The Novi swimmers and coaches celebrate the third-place trophy earned this past weekend at EMU.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Kalinosky swims to four All-State performances; Abel, Cote earn three

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

Novi swim and dive head coach Scott Teeter's long-term goal was to help turn the Wildcats into a powerhouse program.

The dream became a reality in only his second year at the helm as Novi placed third at the state finals Friday and Saturday at Eastern Michigan University.

"We put high expectations on this group and they achieved it," Novi head coach Scott Teeter said. "Now we've got to figure out a way we're going to knock out Pioneer. That's going to be a challenge."

"We don't ever want to move backward."

The Wildcats sent eight swimmers to state, and came away with several All-State nominations.

Ann Arbor Pioneer ran away with the title, earning 349.5 points. Ann Arbor Huron was next with 165, followed by Novi with 160.

The All-State swims started with a third-place finish by the 200 medley relay team of Ashley Bush, Lauren Kalinosky, Kerry Abel and Becca Berman (1:49.42).

A couple of events later, the Wildcats got a pair of All-State swims in the 200 individually medley by Kalinosky and Meredith Cote.

Kalinosky finished fifth in 2:09.03, with Cote in sixth at 2:09.21.

Please see **SWIM, 85**

The Novi medley relay team of Becca Berman, Lauren Kalinosky, Kerry Abel and Ashley Bush stand to the right of center after placing third, earning All-State and All-American status.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

NOVI 3, DAKOTA 1

The Wildcats again pounced on their opponent the next night. Perpich netted a natural hat trick in the first period. Earning assists were Brandon Juodikis (2), Nolan Vallean, Zach Mohr and Kyle Masiarczyk.

The lone Dakota goal came late in the second period.

Michael Pesendorfer picked up the first win of the year in goal. He was also in net for the opener.

"I thought the guys worked hard and performed well," Novi head coach Todd Krygier said. "Except for the second period in the first game, we executed our systems well."

"We have a lot to be positive about, and we will only get better from here."

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Novi wrestling to gain experience on the fly

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

Novi wrestling will be a young squad.

The Wildcats only have four seniors on the roster.

Head coach Brad Huss knows his team may suffer some lumps early, but it will only help in the long run.

"We only have four seniors so the young guys will have to wrestle varsity this year -- not ideal, but they will become tough and gain valuable experience that will help them in the future," he said. "We have good young wrestlers who will be very good if they follow through and wrestle through-

out high school."

But young doesn't mean the cupboards are bare.

Clayton and Connor Caldwell, Ryan Pollard, Alex Engbretson, Beau Bielski and Tom Szygiel are top returnees from last year's 11-6 squad.

In the running for some open spots are sophomores Auston Cook, Ben Farley David Sparring, and John Deleon. Juniors Adam Paul and Adam Trober are also looking for varsity time.

The move to the KLAA Central division should be an easier transition than in years past. Gone from the schedule are KVC power-

houses Hartland, Brighton and Howell.

But, in place are rival Northville and Stevenson. Familiar face South Lyon, new school South Lyon East and Salem fill out the division.

Huss isn't setting a season goal with such a young group, just an expectation.

"We are young and inexperienced, so our goal is to improve each week and to be the best conditioned team so we can compete at a high level until we become really good with our technique," Huss said. "This will come with time."

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Novi's Connor Caldwell wrestles a Livonia Franklin opponent last season. Caldwell is one of the returnees for the Wildcats.

PHOTO BY JOHN HELDER/NOV NEWS

A good time to read

BY JERRY MITTMAN

With winter fast approaching, a natural inclination may be to back off running outdoors and head inside to a treadmill. A better approach, however, would be to do a combination of outdoor and indoor running. By adding a little extra cold weather running gear and doing shorter runs, one can have some invigorating and enjoyable times outdoors. Outdoor running offers much more variation to the body than running on a treadmill and helps strengthen a greater number of muscles.

The important thing is to stay active throughout the winter months in order to maintain your fitness level and avoid a few extra pounds. This is a good time to try a new activity and do something different.

Winter is also an opportunity to catch up on some reading. If you are running less, why not use the extra time to learn how

to improve your running skills or to just enjoy a few running stories. Some book suggestions are listed below. The books are available at local running stores and libraries (and also make excellent Christmas presents for runner friends).

TRAINING BOOKS

"Galloway's Book on Running" is considered to be one of the best all-around running books for both the beginner and the veteran. Jeff Galloway, an Olympic runner, provides insights on training, motivation, nutrition, his work break concept, injuries and numerous other topics.

"Daniels' Running Formula," written by Jack Daniels, one of the world's top running coaches, provides training information and programs for all levels of running and for short through long distances. The book simplifies terminology and workouts so it is easy to understand and apply.

If a marathon is your goal, consider reading "Marathon Training" by Joe Henderson. The book provides "everything you wanted and needed to know about marathon training" - whether you are a competitive runner or just want to finish.

"Chi Running" by Danny Dreyer, is based on the centuries-old principle from Tai Chi that less is more. It provides a new approach to effortless and injury-free running by relaxing muscles - not building bigger ones.

BOOKS FOR ENJOYMENT

If adventure running, unusual locales, and humor interest you, read "My Life on the Run" by Bart Yasso. The book is as enjoyable as the author (whom I met at the 2008 Reykjavik Marathon). It recounts his experiences throughout the world - including burro racing, running in Antarctica and Death Valley, being chased by a rhino and

biking across the United States. "Duel in the Sun" is the story of two American runners, Alberto Salazar and Dick Beardsley, competing in the 1982 Boston Marathon. They ran neck and neck for the entire 26.2 miles before finishing in just under 2 hours 9 minutes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• Dec. 7: The Jingle Bell 5K Run/Walk begins at 9 a.m. at Northville Downs. There is a Snowman Shuffle for children. (www.arthritis.org)

• Dec. 13: The Holiday Hustle 5K & 1 Mile in Dexter at 4 p.m. - just before the "Home for the Holidays" parade. (www.runholidaysK.com)

Northville resident Jerry Mittman is an avid runner and has completed more than 650 races, including 62 marathons. He can be contacted at jim997@hotmail.com.

CC wrestling looks to get back with elite

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

Catholic Central wrestling took a severe hit from graduation, but that doesn't stop Hancock from setting lofty expectations.

The Shamrocks lost a two-time state champion in Mike Martin and a total of five All-State honorees.

But Hancock knows you can't worry about what's gone. Back are eight starters, including state runner-up Shea Hasenauer and Oakland County champion Trevor O'Connor to lead the way.

"These guys epitomize the word leadership, they come in everyday ready to lead and guide this team in accomplishing our goals," Hancock said.

Other guys expected to step up and help lead are Doug Ekridge, Mike Kintville, Andrew Johnson and Niko

Palazeti. "They expect to be state champions and step in immediately and contribute," Hancock said. "That's what we want here at CC. We want guys that aren't looking to make the line-up. We want young men who want to win state championships."

Hancock knows it's early in the season to go predicting what the Shamrocks might be capable of, but he likes what he sees so far.

"It's becoming more enjoyable watching these guys practice and competing on a daily basis," he said. "These young men are special and know what I expect from them."

"They are sick of hearing about the 1988 team and coach Rod's team state championship banners on the ceiling. They want to raise one of their own."

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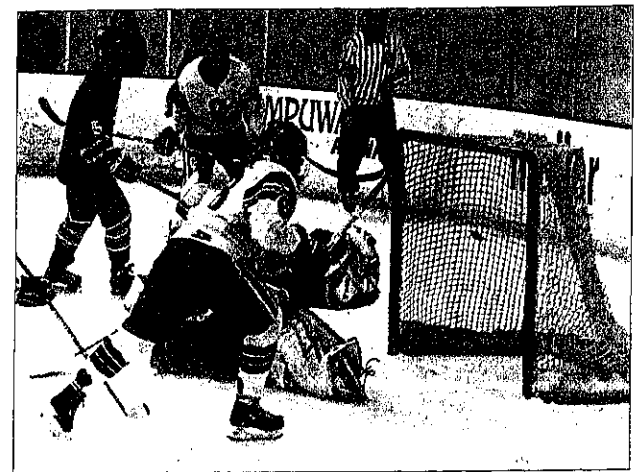
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The Novi WSSL Boys U12 2008 Fall went undefeated and remained champs for the third season in a row. Top (from left): Asst. coach Julian Sherborne, Griffin Burr, Rohit Moyalapalli, Tommy McMaster, Adam Tobias, Tanvir Singh, Bridger Joy, Nakoul Makim and coach Mark Tobias. Bottom: Prateek Kashyap, David Burke, Michael Sherborne, Aaron Pringle, Zachary Gassel and Rommy Hage. PHOTO SUBMITTED



The Shanrocks find the back of the net during a 6-3 win to open the season Saturday against Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY DONIS BARNES

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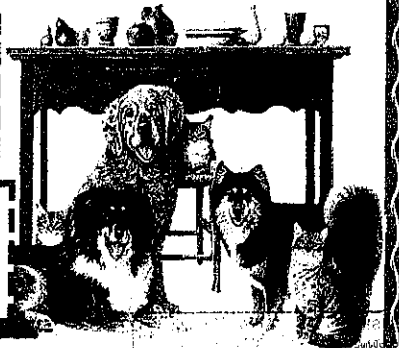


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The Novi swimmers and coaches are presented with the third-place trophy at the state finals Saturday. PHOTO SUBMITTED

SWIM
FROM PAGE B1

Abel picked up her second All-State swim in the 100 butterfly. She finished seventh in 59.15. The Wildcats had a pair of All-State performances in the 300 freestyle. Berman swam to fourth in 5:06.66, and Cole wasn't far behind in seventh (5:08.56). Kalinoski earned yet another All-State swim in the 100 backstroke with a third-place finish in 57.69. The 400 freestyle relay team capped off the meet with a

fifth-place finish in 3:36.90. Kalkoski earned her fourth All-State honor in four events. Also on the team were Berman, Cole and Abel. Cole and Abel earned three All-State honors. The Wildcats also just missed out on another All-State swim as the 200 freestyle relay finished ninth, one spot out of All-State. "It was a special group," Teeters said. "The chemistry made it special. Everybody wanted to succeed." The Wildcats practically rewrote the school records at the state finals. New records were set in the medley relay, 200 IM, 50 freestyle, 100 butterfly, 500 free (by 10 seconds), 100 backstroke and 400 free relay. The 100 free just missed being reset. "What a difference between this year and last year with how the girls performed under pressure," Teeters said. "We didn't talk about team place, just having fun and the results spoke for themselves." The KLA Central Division was well represented with Novi third, South Lyon in 10th (107), Salem 14th (59.5), Stevenson in 15th (55) and Northville in 25th (16.5).

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- Arizona at Philadelphia
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- Denver at New York Jets
- Miami at St. Louis
- New Orleans at Tampa Bay
- New York Giants at Washington
- San Francisco at Buffalo
- Baltimore at Cincinnati
- Atlanta at San Diego
- Pittsburgh at New England
- Kansas City at Oakland
- Chicago at Minnesota
- Monday, December 1, 2008
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Residents can choose from nine floor plans with one or two bedrooms, with or without a den, and many offer walk-in-closet options. All apartment rental fees include a daily continental breakfast, luncheon in the grand dining hall, daily housekeeping, weekly maid service, scheduled chauffeured transportation, a complete schedule of organized events and activities, round-the-clock staffing and a state-of-the-art medical alert system. A full-facility generator, two elevators and electronic key entry offer additional reassurance.

Heat, water, electricity and basic cable are included, and the community is also pet-friendly.

A variety of personal care options are provided onsite by a Medicare-certified provider. Medical and personal care plans offer an alternative to traditional assisted living options, allowing residents to tailor care packages to their specific needs. The result: a customized retirement lifestyle that is affordable and easily adaptive to life's changes and challenges.

"Every option is available here at Abbey Park," said Administrator Tamra Ward. "From dawn 'til dusk, we offer our residents a variety of options and services. Each one of our employees is trained to serve our residents with care and consideration — as we ourselves would like to be treated," she stressed.

A full-time Activity Director will offer a menu of field trips and activities ranging from trips to the theater, restaurants, local land-

marks and festivals, shopping malls and regular trips to the market. Within the community there will be exercise classes, current event and book discussion groups, craft and sewing projects, card games such as bridge, poker and Euchre, weekly live entertainment, ice-cream socials and happy hour, bingo, bunco in addition to holiday parties and celebrations.

Independently owned by Oakland County residents Joe Norber, Ed Rosenbaum and Dr. Ben Stein, the new Lyon Township community is the second in the Abbey Park family. Abbey Park at Genesys, located in Grand Blanc, has been in operation for more than nine years and

the partners have more than 30 years experience serving the seniors in the Detroit metro area. Community policies for both facilities are family-centered — there's no entry fee required and no long-term lease.

Careful consideration was given to programs and services offered at the new facility.

"As we age, our daily needs change," said co-owner Dr. Stein. "We are proud to offer a community that adapts to these changes in our lives and is also affordable during these challenging economic times. Abbey Park at Mill River offers freedom — a change to be free from household maintenance and routine. We also offer security — not just for our residents

but for their families and loved ones, too."

Tours are available during regular office hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday; and from noon to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Advance reservations for tours are encouraged. For additional information on Abbey Park at Mill River, call (248) 437-6550, email info@abbeyparkatmillriver.com or visit their Web site at www.abbeypark.com.



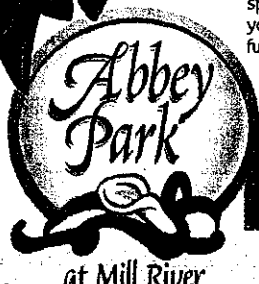
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