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rival Northville**

- Sports, B1



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Novi News

THURSDAY January 29, 2009

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PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Precious Moments

Sue Adams and her 2-year-old daughter, Emma look at a book together at the Novi Public Library on a recent Friday afternoon.

No rest for politics in Novi

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

Novi politicians are throwing in their hats, announcing candidacies for upcoming elections in 2009 and 2010.

Mayor Pro Tem Bob Gatt announced Monday his candidacy for the Michigan Senate, representing the 15th District of Commerce, Highland, Holly, Lyon, Milford, Rose, West Bloomfield and White Lake townships, and the cities of Northville, Novi, South Lyon, Walled Lake and Wixom.

Sen. Nancy Cassis, who currently holds the position, is term-limited and will vacate the seat December 2010.

"We need strong leadership in Lansing, and I have prepared my whole life for this opportunity," Gatt said. "Michigan is in a fiscal crisis. I honestly believe that I am the right person, at the right time, with the right background, the right education and the right work experiences to help fix our problems."

A former employee of the Novi Police Department, Gatt currently serves as chief of operations for Oakland County Community Corrections.

"During my 34 years of law enforcement experience, it has become abundantly clear that our state prison system is broken. It's going to take someone with my background to fix it," he said. "The state is bleeding money through the Correction's department. We need fresh, innovative ideas about how to house our prisoner population."

Representing the Republican



Fischer



Gatt

party, Gatt has already received endorsements from Novi Mayor David Landry, Oakland County Commissioner Kim Capello and Blair Bowman of Rock Financial Showplace, among others.

In preparation for a more immediate race, Novi Zoning Board of Appeals member Justin Fischer announced his candidacy for Novi City Council in the November election.

"I am running for City Council to give back to a city that has given me so much," he said. "I want to ensure that Novi remains the best city to raise a family, run a business and enjoy retirement."

In addition to Zoning Board of Appeals, Fischer serves as treasurer of the Novi Parks Foundation and volunteers as treasurer of his homeowner's association.

As a financial analyst for Ford Motor Company, Fischer believes his experience will be beneficial in tackling economic issues facing the region, state and country.

Council members Terry Margolis, Andrew Mutch, Brian Burke and Mayor Landry are up for re-election in November.

kmurad@gannett.com | (248) 349-1700, Ext. 263

Dryer vent ruled cause of Novi apartment fire

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

The fire marshal determined a dryer vent caused a Novi blaze, which damaged four apartment units near Nine Mile and Haggerty roads Sunday afternoon.

"We have found that the accidental cause of the fire was a Kenmore gas dryer," said Novi Fire Chief Frank Smith. "It appears that this dryer vent, which is exhausted to the outside, had become detached and was not fixed to the dryer itself, and it does get hot."

No one was injured.

Smith said the vent was exhausting into the utility room of a first-floor apartment, where combustibles, which likely ignited the fire, were present.

Residents of 22814 Lodge Court in the Pavilion Court Apartments alerted maintenance personnel at about 2 p.m. after noticing smoke in several of the units.

"The actual damage was confined to about four units," said Smith, noting the three or four families who were unable to stay in their apartments overnight stayed in Novi hotels. "The fire traveled up a common wall from the first floor to the second floor."

The Farmington Hills Fire Department assisted with the incident.

"Tracking down the fire is the most difficult part," he said.



PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

A smoke and flame charred roof-mounted chimney and long icicles caused by firefighter's hoses are all the evidence that's left of a weekend fire severely damaging a number of dwellings at Novi's Pavilion Court Apartments at Haggerty and Nine Mile roads.

"In a lot of cases the smoke has gone down considerably, but the fire is still spreading somewhere."

"We had it out within a couple of hours of arriving on scene."

Smith recommends residents have dryer vents cleaned, keep combustibles away from the vents and use rigid flexible aluminum vent ducts, not plastic.

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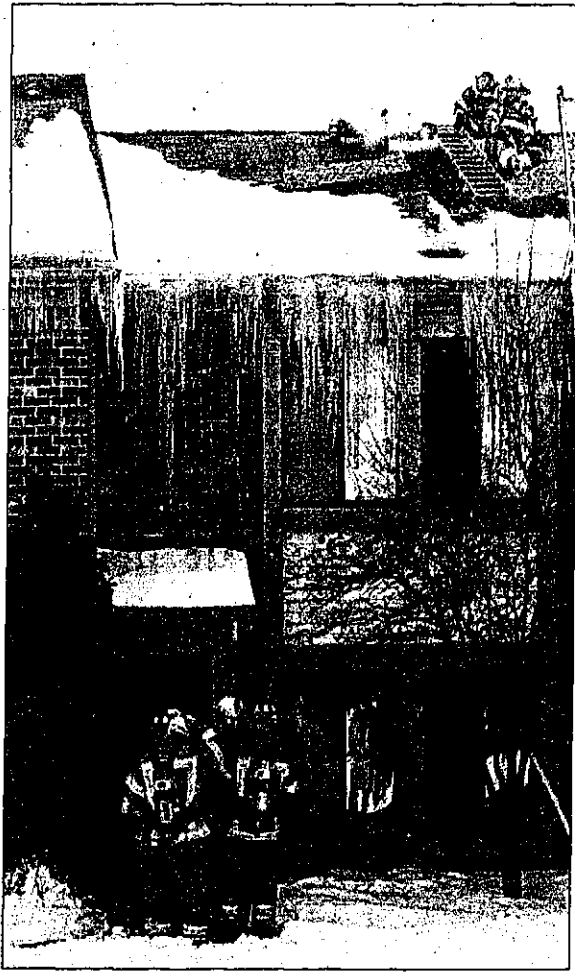


PHOTO BY HANS NYBERG

Novi firefighters respond to a Jan. 25 fire in an apartment building on Lodge Court. Farmington Hills Fire Department provided mutual aid. The fire started in a first-floor laundry room and spread to the attic. Families were displaced but, there were no injuries to residents or firefighters.

Hometown photo contest deadline extended

Faces of Novi entries wanted by Feb. 6

BY VICTORIA MITCHELL
STAFF WRITER

What is your image of Novi? If it can be captured in a photograph, the Novi Historical Commission is looking for you.

The deadline for the Fourth Annual Hometown Novi Photo Competition, sponsored by the Novi Historical Commission and the Novi News has been extended.

Photographs submitted should be of an image that represents the photographer's interpretation of "The Many Faces of Novi," the theme of this year's competition.

"The Historical Commission

is always looking for old photos, but we also need to select and preserve contemporary photos representative of the community as it is today," said Kathy Mutch, chair of the Novi Historical Commission. For that purpose, the Historical Commission partnered with the Novi News in 2005 to sponsor an annual photo competition.

Winning entries have featured landscapes, wildlife, historic structures and people at work and play.

The contest costs \$2 per entry, with a five-entry maxi-

Please see **CONTEST, A6**

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**Daddy daughter
dance upcoming**
Community, A2

Volume 53 Number 36

Surveys highlight city's strengths, weaknesses

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

The 2008 National Citizen Survey revealed city parks, code enforcement and police services as key factors among Novi residents' overall perception of the quality of the community.

"We tried to look at the community life in terms of sense of community, quality of life," said Matt Pegouskie, community relations coordinator for the City of Novi. Dr. Thomas Miller of the National Research Center, presented Novi City Council with a summary of survey findings at Monday's regular meeting. Of the 1,200 surveys sent to randomly selected

residents in November and December, 367 were completed.

"We received a 33 percent response rate. That is about right in the middle of what we generally see," Miller said. "The perceptions of the community were quite high."

Among the 34 questions were items regarding public safety, government services, city employees, traffic, diversity and community life.

Novi City Councilwoman Terry Margolis said the compiled information is helpful during goal setting and budget season.

Residents ranked Novi as a good place to raise children and were satisfied with the overall quality of the neighborhood, but scored availability of walking trails and bike paths below average.

This process is helpful to us as an organization in identifying our strengths and weaknesses," said Novi City Councilman Andrew Mutch.

As a result of the findings, Miller recommended the city look into recycling opportunities and the overall value of city services paid by Novi residents.

Shopping opportunities, access to quality health care, education and openness and acceptance of people of diverse backgrounds fared well among participants.

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NOVI BRIEFLY

Master Plan review nears

The City of Novi is preparing to review the Master Plan for Land Use, which is required by the state about every five years. Although three key areas were reviewed in 2008, the Master Plan as a whole was last approved in 2003. The City of Novi's Master Plan for Land Use is a long-range, broad-based policy document used to guide land use and community development. Novi Planning Commission's Master Plan and

Zoning Committee will review the existing plan and prepare planning reviews of the following areas: Special Planning Project Area 1, identified in the current Master Plan as land on the south side of 10 Mile Road, east of Novi Road; an area near the northeast corner of Beck Road and Grand River Avenue; and other areas deemed appropriate by the committee after review of the plan.

The intent is to complete the review process by mid-2009. Public input opportunities are

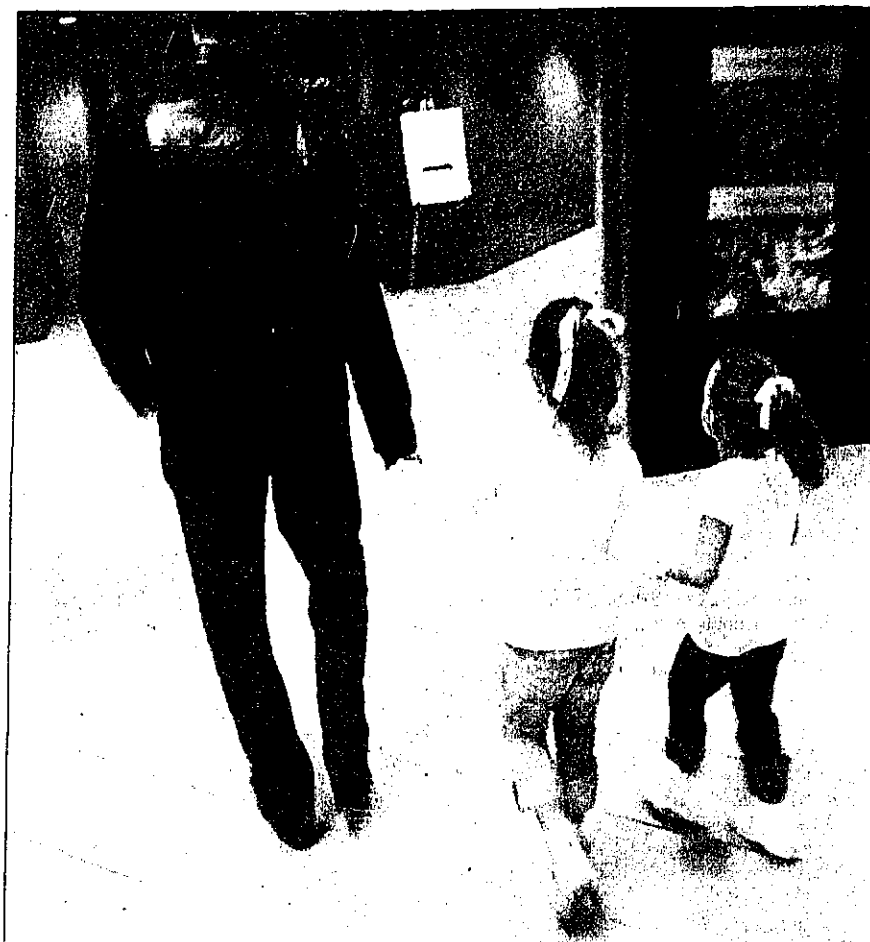
available. For more information, visit www.cityofnovi.org or the Community Development Department at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road.

Parks Foundation board
The Novi Parks Foundation introduces its new executive board of 2009: President, Linda Blair; vice president, Jay F. Dooley; treasurer, Justin Fischer; and secretary, Brian Bartlett. For more information regarding the foundation, visit www.noviparks.org.

'Grease' auditions

Auditions for Novi Theatre's version of the 1950s classic "Grease" are set for 7-10 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24 and Thursday, Feb. 26, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. Audition packets are available Feb. 2 at www.cityofnovi.org or at the Novi Parks office. Anyone who auditions is expected to sing a selection and perform a reading from "Grease," as well as learn a dance as part of the audition.

Rehearsals begin March 3 and will be 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays. Performances are May 8-17. Contact Novi Theatre at (248) 735-5815.



Tom Smith walks into last year's Daddy-Daughter dance with daughters, Ashley, 6, and Tiffany, 4.

Novi's daddy daughter dance, an elegant affair

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

7-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6 and Saturday, Feb. 7
Novi Civic Center
45175 W. 10 Mile Road
Register online by Jan. 30 at www.cityofnovi.org for \$12 per person.

Corsages and a sterling silver charm available for an additional \$9 each.

Daddy's little girls will be treated to a night of "Glitter and Glam" at the Novi Parks Department's annual daddy daughter dance Friday, Feb. 6, and Saturday, Feb. 7.

"Last year, the theme was 50s, this year it's more of a formal event, and we're rolling out the red carpet," said Derek Smith, recreation supervisor of the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.

As platinum sponsor of this year's event, Novi Larson Jewelry and Design is offering a sterling silver "Daddy's Little Girl" commemorative charm.

school too," said Smith, explaining the annual event has become a tradition for many of the couples.

Included with the registration fee is a variety of appetizers and desserts, provided by local businesses such as Virginia Barbeque, Busch's and Max & Erma's, and swag bags. Photo packages will be available at the event for an additional fee.

Attendees will have the opportunity to dance the night away, and be entered into a raffle for a teddy bear give-away.

For more information about the event, contact the Novi Parks Department at (248) 347-0400.

Mayor addresses hundreds at chamber luncheon, says Novi is remarkable

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds from the Novi community gathered in the Diamond Ballroom at Rock Financial Showplace last Thursday afternoon to hear Mayor David Landry address the state, health and position of the city, as well as the overall economy.

"The state of the City of Novi at this time, is remarkable," he said. "While 2009 is certainly going to be a challenge, Novi is definitely up to the challenge."

Reflecting on the past

While reflecting on the economic struggles of 2008, including bailouts and the state's 10 percent unemployment rate, Landry applauded the City of Novi for its successes.

"There is no one in this room that doesn't know someone who has been laid off," he said, noting Novi's unemployment rate is less than 5 percent.

"(But) we've come too far to let a recession take us down."

Landry recognized the city's approach to diversifying its tax base as a major reason for Novi's fiscal health.

He acknowledged growth in the retail, medical and financial industries, and noted developments such as ITC Transmission, Ryder Systems, The Art Institute of Michigan, Harman Becker, Staybridge Suites, JPRA Architects, and a number of medical facilities as significant additions to Novi's



Mayor David Landry presents the State of the City address at the Rock Financial Showplace.

more than 1,600 businesses. "Cities are economic engines of the country, and there is no better example of this than Novi," he said.

During 2008, Landry said the nonresidential tax base in the City of Novi increased by \$50 million.

"You have to keep a well-balanced tax base and make sure your infrastructure is up to speed," he said.

Substantial improvements are among the reasons Novi was selected as one of the top 100 places to live by Money Magazine.

He said jobs, safety, education and parks and recreation are among the reasons Novi was selected as one of the top 100 places to live by Money Magazine.

Looking ahead
As Landry looks to the future, he notes the importance of maintaining the "big three," highlighted upcoming developments and addressed challenges expected in the upcoming year.

Communities statewide will continue to experience a



About 300 people, the largest crowd to date, attended the Novi Chamber of Commerce State of the City address by Mayor David Landry at the Rock Financial Showplace.

decrease in state shared revenue, and will be faced with finding other ways to make up for the lost revenue.

"Complaining does no good," he said. "A challenge yes, but we can handle it."

Landry said raising the general fund, fund balance from 8-12 percent to 14-18 percent has allowed the city to stash more money away.

"We're actually becoming more prudent, more fiscally conservative."

Landry expects voters to be faced with a bond proposal in 2009, for the development of a Signature Park on the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Beck roads.

"We have always pursued enhancements to our parks and recreation facilities, and we have a very unique opportunity here," he said. "Any building, any center, the most expensive part is the land, and we have an opportunity to acquire the land basically for free."

"In the face of the economy, you don't stop what you're doing, you just get smarter. This is exactly the time to be enhancing our parks and rec because we need to stay competitive to keep our tax rates down in the long term."

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Look for a selection from these items at Rocky's of Northville:

Stuffed Atlantic Flounder - Sherry Shrimp Sauce, Mushroom & Shrimp Stuffing, Basmati Rice

Cracker Encrusted Ocean Perch - Stone Ground Mustard Sauce, Willet Spinach, Mashed Redskin Potatoes

Baked Stuffed Shrimp - Sherry Shrimp Sauce, Crab & Shrimp Stuffing, Rice Pilaf

Chargrilled Atlantic Swordfish - White Wine Sauce, King Crab Risotto, Asparagus

Tempura of Sole & Gulf Shrimp Sauté - Sweet & Sour Sauce with Pineapples, Cashews, Scallops, Basmati Rice

Gulf Shrimp Sauté - Chorizo Shrimp Sauce, Peppers, Leeks, Onions, Fettuccine

Seafood Cioppino - Little Neck Clams, Mussels, Shrimp, Salmon and Tomato-Fennel Broth with Pappardelle Pasta

1 lb. Lobster - Corn on the Cob, Mussels, Redskin Potatoes

Panini Encrusted Cape Bay Scallops - Black & Orange Tea Rice, Oriental Vegetables, Caramel Sauce

Salmon Croquette - Marinated Cucumbers, Sautéed Potatoes, Asparagus

Roasted Gulf Shrimp - Tomatoes, Almonds, White Wine, Herb, Rice Pilaf

ENTREES

Look for a selection from these items at Steve & Rocky's:

Corn Fritter Crusted Rock Shrimp "Cornodog"

Shameless Snag Harbor Mussels, Bloody Mary

Gulf Shrimp Diablo

Gratin of Jonah Crab - Angel Hair Pasta, Artichokes, Capers and Vermouth

Smoked Salmon & Sweet Corn Cake - Spicy Remoulade

Baked Flounder Haddock - King Crab Sauce and Warm Potato Salad

Swordfish Sauté Rockefeller - Pernod Sauce, Provençal Tomatoes, Mustard Mashed Potatoes

Gulf Shrimp Tempura - Ginger Sauce, Rice Cake, Asian Slaw

Baked Lemon Sole - Stuffed with Jonah Crab, Sherry Sauce, Julienne Vegetables

Sea Scallops Sauté Carbonara - Potato Gnocchi with Prosciutto, Peas, Parmesan and Cream, Red Pepper Caulis

West Coast Halibut "Fish & Chips" - Warm Redskin Potato Salad

Atlantic Salmon Spring Roll - Asian Broth, Julienne Vegetables, Wasabi and Kimchi

Southeastern of Norwegian Salmon - Clams, Mussels and Shrimp

Great Lakes Whitefish Sauté - Potato Crust with Coarse Grain Mustard Sauce

Cracker Crusted Lake Perch - Remoulade, Steamed Rice, Vegetables

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Outstanding intern!

Novi High School student Rachel Copley was selected as the Outstanding Co-op/Work Experience Student of the Month for January 2009. Copley has worked as an office assistant at Orchard Hills Elementary School since last summer. Her supervisors commented on her excellent attitude, initiative and strong work ethic. They said she is a great asset to the office.



Members of the Novi middle school pompon team celebrate their first place victory at the Mid American Pompon Regional Competition with coach Erin Basgall. Members of the team are: Rachael Appelbacher, Gillian Auttersson, Laura Baumgarten, Mackenzie Betts, Lauren Collins, Patricia Dixon, Morgan Egner, Maddie Egner, Marisa Giampa, Kathryn Giroux, Paige Gurizian, Sara Hudgens, Megan Jamroz, Kaley Kennedy, Brooke Laney, Kelsey Lewinski, Jackie Mullins, Kaley Oppat, Morgan Shepherd, Desi Sheppard, Julia Tituskin, Drew Thomasson, Delaney Ullie, Emma Weil, Renee Weil and Maggie Wilk.

Novi Middle School pompon earns first place at regional competition

The Novi Middle School pompon team took first place at the Mid American Pompon Regional Competition held at Livonia Churchill High School on Jan. 17. Garden City Middle School placed second and Livonia Middle School earned third place.

Novi Middle School pompon is comprised of 26

seventh-through eighth-grade girls, and the team is coached by Erin Basgall. This is Basgall's first year coaching in Novi. "I am so proud of the girls for all of their hard work and dedication throughout the season," she said. "We were honored to be a part of the Mid American Pompon Regional Competition and

to earn first place was an accomplishment that we will never forget." Each team performed a traditional Mid American style, original pompon routine. Novi performed to the song "Godspeed" by Anberlin. The routines featured athleticism, visual effects, rhythmic timing, showman-

ship and outstanding kicklines. Teams were judged on 10 categories by a select group of pompon experts. In addition to the middle school division, Regionals is a qualifying competition for high school pompon teams from throughout the state to earn the right to compete in the State-Wide Championship.

Band trailer damaged

The Novi High School band trailer was damaged between noon Jan. 10 and 6 p.m. Jan. 14, while parked in the lot of Novi Middle School, reports said.

According to the complainant, the vehicle was parked outside a residence on Shorecrest Drive, near West Park Drive and Pontiac Trail, at about 9:30 p.m. Jan. 15.

No other vehicles in the area appeared to be missing wheels, reports said.

The lug nuts were found in the snow, and aside from the tires, nothing else was missing from the vehicle, reports said.

Drunk driving ends in fender benders

The owner of a Ford Fusion found his ear resting on two

landscape retaining wall bricks, in place of four aluminum wheels with tires, at about 7 a.m. Jan. 16, reports said.

According to the complainant, the vehicle was parked outside a residence on Shorecrest Drive, near West Park Drive and Pontiac Trail, at about 9:30 p.m. Jan. 15.

No other vehicles in the area appeared to be missing wheels, reports said.

The lug nuts were found in the snow, and aside from the tires, nothing else was missing from the vehicle, reports said.

Drunk driving ends in fender benders

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At Haggerty and 10 Mile roads, in reference to a vehicular accident involving a silver Pontiac G-6 and green Ford F-250 occurring at about 6:30 p.m. Jan. 20, reports said.

According to the report, a male driver was stopped at a red light and rear-ended by a woman driver.

The officer arrived on scene and smelled an odor of intoxicants coming from the woman, but she denied drinking, reports said.

The man was provided a crash report number and released from the scene, and the officer conducted field sobriety tests on the woman.

A preliminary breath test revealed a blood alcohol concentration of .2 percent and the

vehicle was arrested for operating while intoxicated.

She was also cited for open intoxicant after an open, half-gallon carton of wine was found in her vehicle, reports said.

Wallet suspected stolen from warming car

A wallet is suspected stolen from a vehicle on Abbey Drive, near 11 Mile and Beck roads, between 5:30-5:50 a.m. Jan. 16, reports said.

According to the complainant, he went outside to start the Dodge pickup truck for his son, and left the vehicle unlocked while parked in the driveway.

At about 5:50 a.m. he went back outside to shut off the

vehicle, because his son's school was cancelled, reports said.

The son discovered his wallet missing from the center console of the truck at about 4 p.m. The wallet contained items including a driver's license, credit cards and \$45.

Armed robbery at CVS

At about 5:50 p.m. Jan. 25,

Wixom police were dispatched to the CVS store, located near Wixom and Charns roads, on report of an armed robbery.

According to reports, an unknown suspect entered the store armed with a knife and went to the pharmacy counter demanding narcotics.

An employee sustained superficial injuries to her hands from the knife, and the suspect

who is believed to be a white male in his early 30s, was able to get away with an undisclosed quantity of narcotics, reports said.

Employees and customers of the store described the suspect as about 5 feet 6 inches tall, and about 130 pounds, wearing a grey hooded sweatshirt with a dark piece of clothing covering a portion of his face.

While exiting the store, there was brief altercation between the suspect and customers, and a woman was injured. She was treated for non-life-threatening injuries at a local hospital, reports said.

The suspect was last seen running west from the area.

The case remains under investigation.

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OBITUARIES

KIMBERLY A. AHOLA

Age 43, of South Lyon, died Jan. 24, 2009. Funeral Service was held Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2009, at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48176. Burial was held at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48176. Online guestbook www.ohobitfuneralhome.com

DANIEL ROY KENNEDY

Of South Lyon, MI, Age 57, died suddenly January 13, 2009. He was born December 13, 1951 in Detroit, MI the son of Calvin and Jane (Hille) Kennedy. Daniel was a truck driver with Schneider Trucking. He is a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and was a member of the Michigan Skin Diving Council. Survivors include his parents Calvin and Jane of South Lyon, his daughters: Kathleen of Algonac and Margaret of New Baltimore and his brothers: David of South Lyon, Brian (Marsha) of Troy, MI and Paul of Hamburg, VA. A funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 24, 2009 at Borek Jennings. Burial in Fairview Cemetery in Brighton. Memorial contributions are suggested to the family for future designation. Please leave a message of comfort to Daniel's family by calling 877-231-7900 or visit and sign his guestbook at www.borekjennings.com.

JESSE F. "JACK" WESTMEIER

Age 92, Passed January 18th. Memorial Service with Military Honors January 31, 11 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 26630 Grand River (at Beech Rd.), Redford, in lieu of flowers, donations to Grace Lutheran Church. The Lutheran Chorale of Northville VFW 4012.

HERBERT E. "RED" ZACHOW JR.

A long time resident of Milford, died on Jan. 23, 2009. Funeral Services were held at Lynch & Sons, Milford, on Monday, Jan. 26, 2009. Memorial services may be made to Clinton Valley Council of Boy Scouts of America.

LILLIAN B. KOTARSKI

Age 98, of South Lyon, passed away January 24, 2009. Mrs. Regan was born on October 2, 1910, in Detroit, to the late Anthony and Agnes (Stafel) Gdula. Lillian was very artistic and she enjoyed puzzles and reading. She is survived by her sons: Leonard (Agnes) Kotarski of South Lyon and Kenneth (Margaret) Kotarski of Harrison Twp.; grandchildren: Deborah Higgins and Randy Kotarski and great-grandson Jason Higgins. She was preceded in death by her husband Leonard Kotarski. A Funeral Mass was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church on Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2009. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Catholic Church, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48176. Funeral Arrangements entrusted to PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

GEORGE C. REGAN

Age 80, of South Lyon, passed away January 24, 2009. Mr. Regan was born on November 20, 1928, in Chicago, to F. Weldon Sr. and Adria (Wike) Regan. George moved to South Lyon in 1954 and worked for C&O Railroad. On September 10, 1955, he married Jean L. Worley in Milford. Most of his electrical career he worked at Ingersoll Rand in Farmington Hills. He retired from General Motors in 1995. Mr. Regan was an active member of St. Joseph parish and served as an Extraordinary Minister. He was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus, the Father Edmund Battersby Council No. 7586 and also of the Carmelites. George and Jean have a Raspberry Farm and have enjoyed their customers for 28 years. George is survived by his loving wife Jean; his six children: Jean (Gretel) Dow of Shepherd, George (Rene) Regan of Webberville, Martha Guse of Dexter, Anne (Randy) LeFevre of Gregory, Paula (Brad) Braun of South Lyon, and Gregory Regan of South Lyon; 11 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, and one brother. Visitation was held Tuesday, January 27 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon, from 1:00-8:00 p.m. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Lyon, at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 28. Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimers Association Michigan Great Lakes Chapter, 310 W. Main St., Suite 100, Chelsea, MI 48118-1291 or to St. Joseph Parish, 830 Lafayette, South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com



JAMES P. WALDEN

Age 84, Of Howell, formerly of South Lyon, passed away Saturday, January 24, 2009. He was born April 19, 1924 in Detroit, the son of Ralph S. and Stella I. (Morse) Walden. He was married to Mildred R. (Steele) Walden whom he married May 26, 1951 in Northville. Dear father of James D. (Mary) Walden of Wolverine Lake, MI and Jim (Gray) Brigman of Naperville, IL. Also survived by grandson, Jeffrey Walden of Mountain View, CA and granddaughter, Stephanie Walden of Wolverine Lake, MI. James was a graduate of Walling Lake High School in 1942, a World War II Army veteran and had retired in 1979 from GM Proving Grounds. Funeral services were held Monday, January 26 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Fowlerville. Burial in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia. Arrangements by MacDonald's Funeral Home, Howell (517-546-2800). Memorial contributions may be made to Medford of Howell or St. John's Lutheran Church. Please visit the family's online guestbook at www.macdonaldsfuneralhome.com

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OBITUARY POLICY

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Or fax to: 419-231-7318

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The first series "Golden Rule" of an obituary will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a photo of your loved one for an additional cost of \$25. Symbols and emblems may be included at cost (example: American flag, religious symbols, etc.)

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

Mr. & Mrs. Menchinger

Wallace and Joan Smith of Novi are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Amanda Jenna Menchinger of Northville, to Matthew Eric Menchinger of Elkhart, Ind. The couple was married on Sunday, Sept. 28, 2008 at the home of the bride's parents. Amanda is a 2008 graduate of Novi High School and a 2007 graduate of Hillsdale College. Matthew is a 2002 graduate of Jim Town High School in Elkhart, Ind. and a 2006 graduate of Hillsdale College. Amanda and Matthew are both employed at E & E Manufacturing Company in Plymouth and are working on their MBA degrees.



Mr. & Mrs. Menchinger
Amanda and Matthew are both employed at E & E Manufacturing Company in Plymouth and are working on their MBA degrees.

CONTEST

FROM PAGE A1

Entries must be postmarked by Friday, Feb. 6, to be eligible — the contest's extended deadline. The Commission will award cash prizes for the top three photographs as judged by a committee of professional photographers based on contest entries. A People's Choice award will also be selected by popular vote of those attending an exhibit of entries in February.

"This year marks the 40th anniversary of the City of Novi. The photo competition is a great opportunity for everyone to participate in creating a community snapshot of Novi as it is today," Mutch said. "Places, faces, events — capturing the diversity of our community is the goal of this competition. We would like as many people as possible to participate."

Winning photographs will be published in the Novi News, online at www.hometownlife.com, and remain in a winner's exhibit at the Novi Public Library.

Eligible photographs may not be altered, and entries must be 8x10 photographic prints. Photos will not be



Former Novi News editor Phil Jerome and photographer Marsha Valentini help judge the 2007 Hometown Novi Photo Contest last year in the old Novi Township Hall. The contest is sponsored by the Novi Historical Commission.

Returned entry forms (available online), and fee to the Novi City Clerk's office at 4575 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375. Winners will be announced Feb. 9.

Mutch said in today's digital world, photos are easy to take and even easier to share. The multitudes of images reveal in part what we value and find noteworthy. But for local historians it has not been as easy to find images of Novi's past.

The Historical Commission is doing its part to see this will not be a problem in the future. "Although some documents, official records and assorted artifacts have survived, few images of Novi's early history can be found in public collections," Mutch said.

For more information, contact the Novi Historical Commission at (248) 224-4211 or visit www.hometownlife.com, click on the hometown tab and enter the Novi News.

Visit us online at hometownlife.com

Your Invitation to Worship

Brighton

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH
5051 Pleasant Valley Road • Brighton, MI 48114
810-227-3113
9:30 a.m. Communion Worship
10:45 a.m. Sunday School
Rev. Dale Haddad, Pastor
www.lordoflifelc.com

HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL
at the corner of Winnetka Lake & Musch Rd.
810-225-0150
Fr. John Recus, Pastor
Weekend Masses Saturday 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Please visit our website at www.holyspiritlc.com

Farmington Hills

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA
Farmington Hills 22225 Old Rd. • 248-474-6554
Between Grand River & Freedom
Sundays 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Sundays 11:15 a.m. Contemporary
Sunday School - all ages 10:15 a.m.

Highland

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH
2350 Harvey Lane Rd. (248) 667-4556
Contemporary Service
9:00 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sundays
Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
2nd & 4th Saturdays at 10 a.m.
3rd-6th Grade Youth: Tuesdays 7-8 p.m.
Pastor Ned Ruffin

HIGHLAND CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
1211 W. Livingston Rd., Highland 248-887-1402
8:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
11:00 a.m. Worship Service & Children's Church
6:00 p.m. Sunday Evening Fellowship
Wednesday - 7:45-11:15 a.m. Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday - 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study
which includes program, discussion

NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
120 Bishop St., Highland off Milford Rd., 2-718 miles N. of M-59
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study Wed. 7:00 p.m.
Pastor Danny Mullen
888-7253 or 887-4568

HIGHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
680 W. Livingston Rd., Highland, MI 48327
248-887-1314 • www.humc.org
Sunday Worship 8:30, 10 & 11:30 a.m.
Kids Church 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Youth Night - Wed. 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Plus Youth Adult, Recovery, Disciples, Kids, Gay & Lesbian

HIGHLAND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1605 N. Hickory Ridge Rd. (248) 887-1515
8:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service & Kids Church
10:30 a.m. - Worship Service & Kids Church (9:30 - 11:30 a.m.)
Children's Ministry: Thurs. 7:00 p.m.
Children's Ministry: Thurs. 7:00 p.m.
Children's Ministry: Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
3100 Harvey Lane Rd., Highland 248-887-0584
Rev. Leo T. Lullo, Pastor
Mass Schedule: Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. & 11 a.m. Monday 8 a.m.
Holy Day 8 a.m. & 11 a.m. First Sunday 9 a.m.
Confession - Saturdays 11 a.m. & 8 p.m. or by appointment

Livonia

FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Services held at: Macdonald University • Kresge Hall
36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia
Parking fee in NW corner of Levee & Schoolcraft
Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m. & 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Dr. James N. McGuire • Ministry Provided

WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
40000 Six Mile Rd., Northville
Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m. & 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m. & 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m. & 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m. & 10:30-11:30 a.m.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH
770 Thayer, Northville
WEEKEND LITURGIES: Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Church 340-2821, Church 340-3810
Religious Education 340-2559
Rev. David Thompson, Pastor

Milford

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAL & KIDS • Mrs. Sybil
620 General Motors Rd., Milford
Church office: (248) 684-0885
Regular Sunday Service: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Jan. 18 - Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.
Monday Evening 7:00 p.m.
The Rev. Richard E. Papa, Pastor

FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD
133 Detroit St., Milford • 484-5695
Pastor Steve Swartz
Sunday School (all ages) 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m. • Prayer Service - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
Awards for ages 3 to 5th grades
Sunday & Senior High programs

SOUTH HILL CHURCH, S.B.C.
1333 South Hill Rd., just south of downtown Milford
(248) 685-3580 • www.aboveallthings.com
Contemporary Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
10:30-11:15 a.m.
Bible Study for ages 9-15 a.m.
Sunday 7 a.m. Children's Church 9:30 a.m.
Call about our current small group studies

WEST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
11166 S. Hickory Ridge Rd., Milford, MI 48320
248-887-1218
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Bible Ministries 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday All Ages 7:00 p.m.

MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
230 N. Main Street, Milford MI (248) 684-2805
Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.
Rev. Timothy Haggan, Pastor
Rev. Henry Sands, Associate Pastor
Parish Office: 348-8847 • www.holyfamily.org

New Hudson

NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
56730 Grand River
Rev. Gary Hunter
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
248-437-6212
www.newhudsonumc.org

NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation
5785 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165
Phone: 248-474-1181
Sunday Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister
Website: <http://www.newhopeuu.org>

Northville

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Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School and Children's Programs
www.northvillecc.org
41955 Six Mile Road
248-349-0030

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
348-1144
Sunday Worship Services:
8:30, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Dr. Steven Buck • Rev. Lisa Cook
www.firstunitnorthville.org

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
200 E. Main St. at I-96 • (248) 349-0911
Worship & Church School - 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Children's Ministry: 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
Rev. Dr. Steven Buck • Rev. Lisa Cook

WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
40000 Six Mile Rd., Northville
Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m. & 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m. & 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Sundays 9:00-10:00 a.m. & 10:30-11:30 a.m.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH
770 Thayer, Northville
WEEKEND LITURGIES: Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Church 340-2821, Church 340-3810
Religious Education 340-2559
Rev. David Thompson, Pastor

Novi

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
5 Mile & Meadowbrook
Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 8:45 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Thomas E. Schneider, Pastor • 248-4555

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 & 11:00 a.m.
Reverend George Charnay, Pastor
Parish Office: 347-7178

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
44400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-345-2545
1/2 mile west of Novi Rd.
www.faithcommunity-novi.org
Worship and Sunday School: 10 a.m.
"Children, Youth and Adult Ministries"

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Mile
248-348-7757 • www.mbcsc.org
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.
Rev. Arthur Rittner, Senior Minister

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24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375
Westland Manor
Sundays 9 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)
Sunday 7:30 a.m. 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.<

Today's Health

The road to a new you

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Two out of every three Americans are overweight or obese — defined as having a body mass index over 25.

Obesity and being overweight may cause serious health problems. Diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and problems with mobility are just some of the significant health consequences of being overweight. Even if you're not overweight, many of these illnesses may be prevented by a balanced diet and by an active lifestyle.

You don't need to go to the gym five times a week to be healthy. For instance, a 45 minute walk at a brisk pace (3 to 4 miles an hour) can burn up to 300 calories.

In order to lose weight, you have to burn more calories than you consume.

Most restaurants serve more food than one person needs at one meal. Take control of the amount of food that ends up on your plate by splitting an entrée with a friend, or asking the wait person for a "to-go" box and wrap half your meal as soon as it's brought to the table. Take the leftovers home, refrigerate and enjoy another meal or a snack tomorrow.

Instead of an alcoholic beverage, try a diet soda or club soda with fresh lemon or lime. You will consume less calories.

Try mixing 100 percent fresh fruit with club soda for a refreshing alternative to soda or packaged drinks.

Try to work activity into your daily life by setting realistic goals. Activity doesn't have to take up a lot of time in your day — in fact, many people find that they can significantly increase their activity just by taking a few small steps.

Source: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, www.smallstep.gov

Start small

Improve your fitness, well being with small changes that pack big results

BY MIKE HOGAN
SPECIAL WRITER

Are you determined to make a big change in your health? Start small. Even the slightest changes in your daily life can vastly improve your well-being.

The first changes can be made in the morning. "Eat breakfast," said registered dietitian Kevin Sarb. "It gets your metabolism going."

Sarb holds a master's degree in nutrition and has 30 years of experience in the field.

Currently a nutrition coach in Novi, Sarb said his job is all about taking the complicated concepts of the human body and "breaking them down into terms people can understand."

Sarb recommends that a person eat between five and six moderate meals and snacks in a day.

It keeps your blood sugar steady throughout the day," Sarb said.

When choosing what to eat, Sarb suggests organic foods. If organic is too pricey, Sarb recommends low-fat dairy products and foods with simple carbohydrates, like fruits.

But improving health isn't just about what you eat — it's also about what you do. For those with deskbound jobs, Sarb has a few tips for keeping the metabolism up while working.

"Look for patterns to raise your metabolism," Sarb advised. "I tell people to put a box at their desk to put their computer on, so they can stand while they work."

Sarb also recommends replacing the average desk chair with an exercise ball, which keeps a person constantly in motion all day. Even small actions that keep you moving are helpful, according to Sarb. He suggests taking short breaks to pace around the office, or just bouncing your leg or tapping your foot.

Get off the couch

Changing your night-time routine from couch potato to treadmill walker is an easy way to burn calories without missing your favorite prime time TV shows.

"Instead of going home and watching TV, make it a point to exercise," said Carol Rochoon, owner of Snap Fitness in Novi.

"We are open 24 hours a day, so we make it convenient to work out on a busy schedule. And we'll make sure you don't miss your favorite shows."

To kick-start your workout, Rochoon recommends a 15-minute cardio routine in the morning to boost metabolism throughout the day.

Trainers also are on-hand at Snap Fitness to personalize workouts, so less time is wasted on the wrong exercises.

Boo Sadikot, certified trainer and owner of Fitness Together in Novi, said achieving your fitness goals can be easier if you have a personalized plan.

"We're a private personal training studio, so we definitely help our clients make small changes by holding them more accountable," Sadikot said. "In this environment, there is never a distraction or waiting for equipment."

Each client receives an individualized exercise plan tailored to their goals and capabilities so that training can be immediately effective.

Trainers at Fitness Together will also modify your food intake with a safe and easy-to-follow meal plan.

Fitness professional Dave Pacheco says stretching at your desk can put off body fatigue a little longer. He recommends an overhead stretch every 15-20 minutes.

But Pacheco would rather see a person set aside a good amount of time for their health.

"If your body is not performing at your best, then you're not going to do a good job," Pacheco said.

Pacheco, a fitness professional for more than eight years, is a certified member of the International Sports Sciences Association and is one of several ISSA certified trainers at Snap Fitness in South Lyon.

'A' for effort

For Pacheco, making that big health change takes more than rules or plans. It involves a bit of mental effort, a foundation to build your changes upon.

"You need the right foundation to stay motivated," Pacheco said. "Whether it's a professional (consult) or a book, some kind of drive to help you stay on track."

This foundation can include



PHOTO BY MIKE HOGAN

South Lyon Snap Fitness Manager Sharon Sower demonstrates simple stretches using an exercise ball at work. Replacing the average desk chair with an exercise ball at work will keep you in motion all day. Take short breaks to pace around the office to keep your metabolism and energy levels up.

CHANGE IT UP

If you normally...

Drive to work
Park as close to the store
Drive the kids home from school
Let the dog out back
Take the elevator
Have lunch delivered
Relax while the kids play
Use a shopping cart

Try this instead!

Walk, rollerblade or bike
Park further away
Walk to pick the kids up
Take the dog for a walk
Take the stairs
Walk to pick up lunch
Get involved in the activity
Carry a shopping basket

Source: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, www.smallstep.gov

picking the right workout program or the right nutrition program, which can be found easily by speaking with a certified trainer or nutritionist. Pacheco suggests using a trainer because it encourages accountability, or another person to keep the progress going.

In order to keep these small changes, Pacheco encourages his clients to continue to make the best choices.

"Baked instead of deep-fried, broiled not sautéed," Pacheco repeated.

But the first step is just to make a decision to start.

"Within the first week, that first bit of training, we see that people are a little more energetic," Pacheco said.

Sharon Sower, ISSA certified trainer and manager of Snap Fitness in South Lyon, said that first step involves dumping some tired ideas about the gym.

"Gyms are now user-friendly," Sower explained. "All walks of life, from teenagers to senior citizens, belong in the gym."

To Sower, these small changes lead to big changes, and not just physically.

"We see a lot of people who change themselves outside and we see them change inside, too," Sower said.

"They have more confidence and more self-esteem."

Today's Health

The road to a new you

THE HEALTH SPOT

Update your eyes

The latest in eyewear trends, procedures

BY AMY SKIMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

If you're ready to try a new look for the new year, don't forget about your eyes. A new pair of glasses can offer you a quick style upgrade while improving your vision.

This year, rectangular frames are big, with designs around the temples for women and a heavier, European look for men, according to Lisa DuBuis of Henry Ford Optics in South Lyon.

A popular new line of frames for men is the Randy Jackson collection, designed by the "American Idol" judge for which it was named.

"That's the latest one that we just got in," said DuBuis.

The list of popular women's brands reads like an inventory of designer handbags, with names like Juicy Couture, Valentino, Bobe, BCBG and Kate Spade.

Dubuis expects the big styles now will stay popular for a while — "at least a couple of years," she said.

Of course, it's also important to take into account what will look good with your facial shape. Dubuis said a good rule of thumb is to look at frames opposite the shape of your face. A person with a round face, for example, would best be able to pull off rectangular frames. Also remember to take skin tone and facial size into account when selecting new glasses. You don't want to pick a frame in a color that will wash you out or in a size that will look too big or too small.

If you can't figure out what looks best on you, just ask. Dubuis and other employees are there to help.

While you're thinking about new glasses, don't forget to protect your eyes from the sun with a new pair of sunglasses. As well as looking stylish, sunglasses also shield eyes from harmful UV rays. Exposure to UV rays has been associated with the development of cataracts and age-related macular degeneration.

This year, bigger is definitely better, especially for women. Expect to see a lot of oversized, plastic frames both in stores and out on the street.

"We are finding that women's fashion is more of the thicker, colorful plastics or a completely rimless, nude look, like you're not wearing anything at all," said Tom Hein, owner of Heinsight Optical, the only private eye practice in Milford.

"People are getting away from the kids sunglasses, like Oakley, and they're going for a classic look, like Mani Gym, Kate Spade and Coach."

Frame lines for kids are especially popular this year too, with Hannah Montana and High School Musical-inspired looks all the rage for kids.

"Kids used to cry when they had to get glasses, now they cry when they can't get glasses," Hein said. "We have kids that come in and thank the eye doctor."



PHOTO BY AMY SKIMIN

Lisa DuBuis of Henry Ford Optics in South Lyon said rectangular frames with designs around the temples are a popular look for women this year.

test on purpose because they want glasses so bad."

Glasses not your style?

If you would rather not deal with glasses — no matter how stylish — at all, there are several new choices in contact lenses.

"People are getting away from the two-week disposable lenses and we're having more requests for the daily disposables, which are healthier for the eyes," Hein said. "The price

is coming down more and more and they're available in all prescriptions now, including astigmatism."

A more permanent solution for people ready to go glasses-free is LASIK surgery. The current procedure uses two lasers to cut a flap in the cornea, then re-shape it. Past versions used only one laser, and unlike when the procedure was in its early days, it can now fix vision problems beyond nearsightedness.

"It can be done for everyone, if the patient is qualified," said Philip Kontry, D.O. of OptiEyes. Conditions that would disqualify a patient include thin corneas, past corneal injuries, dry eyes and autoimmune diseases. To find out if you're qualified, consult your eye doctor.

LASIK surgery is performed in a doctor's office on an outpatient basis, and involves no general anesthesia. In most cases, people can return to work the day after having the procedure.

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Anti-Aging ~ Functional Medicine Physician

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GET YOUR FEET IN SHAPE, TO GET IN SHAPE!

With the New Year having arrived, many of us have made resolutions to lead a healthier lifestyle. For most of us that means exercising to drop those few extra pounds put on over the holidays.

One of the biggest deterrents to exercise is painful feet! Often arch/heel pain, corns, calluses, bunions, ingrown nails, sprains, and ill-fitting shoes keep us from reaching our fitness goals.

Don't let your painful feet get in the way of your fitness resolutions. Let Dr. Anthony Mastrogiacomo and his staff help you to get off the couch and back in the gym. From a diagnostic foot consult including x-rays, to customized orthotics we are enthusiastically ready to handle all your foot and ankle care needs.

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- Arthritis Feet
- Orthotics
- Warts
- Children's Feet

Watch for positive changes in investment climate

If you look at the performance of the stock market in recent weeks, you'll see some good days and even good weeks — followed by not-so-good days and rough weeks. But if you look beyond these volatile numbers, you might see a story that offers some encouragement for investors in the not-too-distant future.

Specifically, you'll want to pay attention to these factors:

- **Efforts by Treasury** to stabilize financial system. Just a few months ago, the government did not intend to prevent the failure of Lehman Brothers and other financial services giants. In recent weeks, though, we've seen the U.S. Treasury provide massive support to Citigroup and other major banks. These efforts should contribute to increased stability in our financial system.

- **Actions by Federal Reserve** to increase flow of credit. The Federal Reserve has acted aggressively to free up the flow of credit to consumers and businesses. As a result of the Fed's moves, inter-bank lending costs have dropped dramatically and we've seen an increase in the issuance of commercial paper, which are unsecured obligations issued by corporations or banks to finance their short-

term credit needs. And, as the Fed has dropped short-term interest rates to zero, mortgage rates have begun dropping. If 30-year mortgage rates fall to the low-four-percent range, many more consumers should begin to refinance existing homes and even purchase new ones, thus bringing demand back to the housing market.

- **Economic stimulus package** from Obama administration. President Obama and the new Congress are poised to enact a stimulus package including spending on infrastructure, aid to individual states, a middle-class tax cut, aid to homeowners and other elements. This type of stimulus could have a large, positive and immediate impact on the economy.

- **Possible last stages** of recession. Clearly, we're in the midst of a harsh recession. But we might be closer to the end than the beginning. And, in fact, a majority of the economists polled in the well-respected Blue Chip Economic Indicators poll said they expected the recession to end in the second half of 2009. Of course, even the official end of the recession wouldn't necessarily indicate a robust economy, but it would almost certainly improve the investment environment.

Attractive stock and bond prices. A long bear market tends to drag down the prices of most stocks — even those issued by strong companies whose prospects are good. Consequently, you can now find many good stocks selling for reasonable prices. When the market recovers, these quality stocks are often the first to show impressive gains.

And stocks aren't the only good investment opportunity available, either. In recent weeks, bond "spreads" — the difference in yields between Treasury bonds and those bonds issued by other agencies, such as municipalities or corporations — have been wider than we've seen in many decades. Because bond prices move in the opposite directions to their yields, the high yields offered by municipalities and companies likely mean that these types of bonds are now priced relatively low.

So the next time you find yourself shaking your head over the stock market's gyrations, try to focus on building an investment strategy for the future — which may be brighter than you thought.

This article was provided by Mark Whitfield, financial adviser, 43290 11 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.



Dr. Judith Margerum, (left) Jennifer Harvey, Eudora Adolph and Yodit Mesfin Johnson will present their program titled, "The Wealth of Women" at the February Novi Oaks Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association meeting.

'The Wealth of Women' program on tap

Eudora Adolph saw a need for women to take control of their lives, especially where it concerns their wallets. Adolph and three top professionals have put together an incredible program called the "The Wealth of Women™." Developers include Adolph, who is a Financial Growth Engineer with AveraTrust Advisors LLC, psychologist and

attorney Jennifer Harvey and Yodit Mesfin Johnson, a business consultant with YMJ and Associates. These four women vowed the Novi Oaks Charter Chapter of American Business Women's Association in November with the first session of their four-part series entitled, "The Wealth of Women."

The topic of money was addressed from the financial, legal, psychological and logical perspectives. The only thing that would have made all of the attendees in November happier was to have had more time with these sharp professionals. "Our mission is to enable women to be more successful in their daily lives. The statistics for women show that we aren't prepared enough," Adolph said.

"Money is just a tool for us to do what really matters, and we need to learn how to manage it better and how to have a good relationship with it." The group now invites all women in the community to attend The Wealth of Women™ program, beginning next month. The cost is \$16.

The Feb. 11, May 13 and Aug. 12 sessions of "The Wealth of Women" will be held in Novi at the DoubleTree Hotel, 42000 Crescent Blvd. Pre-registration is required. Visit www.abw-novi.org for more information. The American Business Women's Association is an organization for all women: working, retired, returning to work, or just starting a career. The Novi chapter meets on the second Wednesday of every month.

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LET'S TALK
 WITH **GARY S. WEINSTEIN**
 JEWELRY GEMOLOGIST

A GEMSTONE WITH ROYAL BEARINGS

The lovely purple amethyst sets the color standard for all other purple gemstones. And while it boasts the famed color of royalty, amethyst is well within the budget of just about anyone. There is something inherent in the color of this transparent purple variety of quartz that endears it to those who prefer to make a fashion statement in shades that range from light to dark. Purple amethyst is also relatively hard and fairly brilliant. In addition, this wearable gemstone is available in very large sizes. All of these factors make amethyst probably one of the most beautiful stones available at a moderate price. So wonder this purple gemstone suits such passion!

Because royalty has always adored the color purple, February's birthstone abounds in ornaments of the ancient Greeks and Egyptians as well as in the British Crown Jewels. And St. Valentine is said to have worn an amethyst engraved with the figure of a tiny Cupid, making romance a "must" at least once a year. Amethysts are also a wise jewelry choice because fine quality gems are available at relatively low prices. Let us help accentuate your wardrobe with rich, royal amethyst jewelry from WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI, 41900 Grand River Ave. PH: 248-347-0303. We are licensed by the city of Novi to offer loans on jewelry. Our regular business hours are: Tues. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Wed. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Thurs. & Fri. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. & Mon. we are closed.

P.S. Amethyst, the birthstone for February, has been included in royal collections from the ancient Egyptians to the British crown jewels.

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 Strictly Business
 page on B5

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Faith Community Preschool

OPEN HOUSE
 Saturday, January 31
 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Now registering for fall classes!
 Preschool classes for 3 and 4 year olds, Parent/child class for 2 year olds.

248-349-7911
www.FaithCommunity-novi.org
 44400 W. Ten Mile, between Novi and Taft Rds.

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Marley & Me
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SHOW TIMES:
 Sat & Sun Matinees: 1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.
 Fri, Tues, Wed, Thurs Matinees: 4:00 p.m.
 Nightly, Tues thru Sat: 7:00 p.m. - Closed Monday

The Lyon
 120 E. Lake • South Lyon
 248-438-0900 • www.thelyon.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
 LOCATION: 200 E. Main St.
 CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 or visit: firstpres.org

Sunday Worship
 TIME: 9:30, 11 a.m.
Walking in the Park
 LOCATION: Meet at the Visitor's Center of Heritage Park (Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads)
 DETAILS: Group meets for lunch afterwards

CONTACT: Sue (734) 459-0016
Single Place Ministries
 TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m. social time: 7:45 p.m. opening: 8:00 p.m. program, every Thursday
 DETAILS: Informative and entertaining programs of interest to singles; \$5 per person. Check Web site for details: singleplace.org

Divorce Recovery Workshop
 TIME/DATE: 7:30-9 a.m. Thursdays to Feb. 19
 DETAILS: Regardless of age or circumstances, this workshop helps in a healthy recovery.

Northville Women's Club Meeting / Local Events
 TIME/DATE: 1:30 p.m., Feb. 6
 DETAILS: Paul Kaveril will be the guest speaker, discussing the "Purple Gang." This day will also be a guest day.

CONTACT: 248-349-3064 Jill Engerer

OKA POINT CHURCH
 LOCATION: 50200 N. 10 Mile Road
 CONTACT: (248) 912-0043 or visit: okaoint.org

Worship Services
 TIME: 5:15 p.m. Saturday: 9:15 and 11 a.m. Sunday

Revive Life Ministries
 TIME/DATE: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday
 DETAILS: Ongoing Life Groups that support and facilitate personal growth, healing, learning and change from a Christian perspective.

CONTACT: For more information or to register call (248) 912-0043 or visit: okaoint.org

Charmed Influence
 TIME/DATE: 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday
 DETAILS: Studying the book "Surviving a Spiritual Misadventure in Marriage"

CONTACT: Joy Ruby at joy@okaoint.org or call the church.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST OF NORTHVILLE
 A Stephen Ministry church
 LOCATION: 177 W. Eight Mile Road
 CONTACT: (248) 349-1144 or fumnorthville.org

Sunday Worship
 TIME: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m.
 Coffee hour at 11 a.m.

Healing Service
 TIME/DATE: 4 p.m. first Monday of every month
Radical Joy
 TIME/DATE: 6-8 p.m. first and third Thursday of every month

DETAILS: All women seeking to strengthen their faith and connect with other women are invited to attend, irrespective of church affiliation. Cost is \$25 per four-week session. Sign up for the entire year for only \$50. Dinner is served and child care is available on request.

Logos Youth Club

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

FOUR PAWS UP!
 NOW-TV (OLD TV) JEFFREY & HOWARD

HOTEL FOR DOGS
 NOW-TV (OLD TV) JEFFREY & HOWARD

NOW PLAYING
 SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT: THE HAZARD (MOVIE) (RATED PG-13) (CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATRES AND SHOWTIMES)
 Pick up a pup! Text DOG to 3287 to download a wallpaper of your favorite stinky.

TIME/DATE: 5:15-8:15 p.m. every Wednesday, through May
DETAILS: For children in grades 4-12. Every week, this four part program includes Bible study, dinner, choir/ worship and activities.

NOVI UNITED METHODIST
 LOCATION: 41571 W. 10 Mile Road
 CONTACT: (248) 349-2652 or visit: umnovi.com

Sunday Worship
 TIME: 9:45 a.m.
Healing Service and Holy Communion
 TIME/DATE: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month
Peace Vigil
 TIME/DATE: Noon, first Sunday of every month

LOCATION: In front of the church
DETAILS: Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace.

Advent Service
 TIME/DATE: 9:45 a.m. Sunday

WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 LOCATION: 40000 Six Mile Road
 CONTACT: (248) 374-7400 or (248) 374-5978

Sunday Worship
 TIME: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
 Traditional, 9:30 a.m. Contemporary, Nursery and Sunday School during the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.

Service Broadcast
 DETAILS: 11 a.m. every Sunday on WRDQ-AM 550, The WNUZ Word Station.

Single Point Ministries - 45 and older
 TIME/DATE: 11 a.m. Sunday for fellowship and Bible study.

Single Focus Ministries - 35-50 years
 TIME/DATE: 9:30 a.m. Sunday to deepen your personal relationship with Christ.

Single Purpose Connections - 20-30 years
 TIME/DATE: 11 a.m. Sunday in the Chapel for singing, Bible study, and fellowship.

DETAILS: For single adults. Active ministry offering various Bible study classes, volleyball, bicycling group, tennis group, support groups, support group for widowed over age 50, fellowship, friendships and more. Contact the number below for more information.

CONTACT: (248) 374-5920

Grief Workshop
 TIME/DATE: eight week beginning

on February 9 from 7 to 8:45 p.m.
DETAILS: Grief workshop, from Grief to New Hope. This free workshop is open to the community and will be presented by Cathy Clough, Director of New Hope Center for Grief Support. Each session will begin with a presentation about one aspect of grief followed by small group participation led by trained facilitators. Attendees will be placed in groups with others who have had similar losses. The workshop will meet for eight consecutive Monday nights. For registration information call Barb at Ward Presbyterian Church at (248) 374-5943. For information about other age and loss specific grief support groups offered by New Hope Center for Grief Support call (248) 348-0115.

Bible Studies and Prayer Nights
 Learner's Bible Study
 TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Mondays Room A101

Men's Bible Study
 TIME/DATE: 6:30 a.m. Wednesday

Single Adult Ministries office
 Single's Bible Study
 TIME/DATE: 12 p.m. second and fourth Mondays, Room C309

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
 LOCATION: 24505 Meadowbrook Road
 CONTACT: (248) 349-8847 or visit: holyfamilynovi.org

Mass Schedule
 TIME/DATE: 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday; 7 p.m. Tuesday; 5 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday

Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Reconciliation beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment

Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting
 TIME/DATE: 10-11 a.m. last Wednesday of each month

DETAILS: Free, informational meeting open to all adoptive families in Oakland County. Child care is available. Registration is required.

DETROIT FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
 LOCATION: 21650 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road
 CONTACT: (248) 348-7600 or visit: dcnazarene.org

Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and

refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service

Tuesday Schedule: Tuesday 9:30 - 11:15 a.m. Women of the Word Bible Study with childcare available for through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies Evening Bible Study; 7 p.m. Men's Evening Bible Study

Wednesday Schedule: 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$4 per person, \$12 per family; 7 p.m. Children's Caravan, Club 56, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Black

Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tee Kwon Do

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC
 LOCATION: 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi
 CONTACT: (248) 347-7778

Mass Schedule
 TIME/DATE: 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. Wednesday; 5 p.m. Saturday

Mothers Group
 TIME/DATE: 9:30-11 a.m. first and third Wednesday every month, through May 20

DETAILS: Providing fellowship, support and opportunities to grow faith. Childcare available. Suggested donation \$20. Don't have to be a parishioner to join.

CONTACT: Becky at (248) 305-5924 or Jeanne at (248) 380-6361

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
 LOCATION: 217 N. Wing
 CONTACT: (248) 348-1020

Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays

Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN
 LOCATION: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road
 CONTACT: (248) 349-2345 or visit: faithcommunity-novi.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

LOGOS
 TIME/DATE: 4:30 p.m. every Wednesday

DETAILS: For children in kindergarten to 6th grade. Enjoy recreation, Bible study, music and dinner.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
 LOCATION: 201 Elm St., Northville

CONTACT: (248) 349-3140
Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. Blended; 11 a.m. Contemporary; 11:30 a.m. Traditional

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL
 LOCATION: 21255 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight and Nine Mile roads
 CONTACT: Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7757, visit: mbccc.org or e-mail to office@mbccc.org

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

YogaFit Classes
 TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m. every Monday

DETAILS: Eight weeks, \$55 continuous or \$8 per drop in session.

Merry Widows Luncheon
 TIME/DATE: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month

Spiritual Journey's
 TIME/DATE: 11:30 a.m. every Sunday

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH
 LOCATION: 770 Thayer, Northville
 CONTACT: (248) 349-2621 or olvnorthville.org

Saturday Worship
 TIME: 5 p.m.

Sunday Worship
 TIME: 7:30, 9, 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

GRACEPOINT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 LOCATION: The Novi Civic Center, Council Chambers
 CONTACT: Rev. Brian C. Sleeth, Pastor (248) 497-3178 or gracepoint@mac.com, and gracepoint-tepa.org

Sunday Worship
 TIME: 10 a.m.

OUR SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 LOCATION: 140 N. Center, above Tutto's in Old Church Square, Northville
 CONTACT: Pastor Bill Burke at (734) 927-0891

Sunday Worship: 11:30 a.m. with fellowship and food after service

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY INTERGENERATIONAL CHURCH
 LOCATION: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road
 CONTACT: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org

Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m.

Family Worship: 11 a.m.

Bible Study: 6 p.m.

Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
 LOCATION: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills
 CONTACT: (248) 474-0584 or visit: stjohn-luthern.com

Saturday Worship
 TIME: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Worship
 TIME: 9, 11:15 a.m.

Sunday School
 TIME: 10:15 a.m.

Send calendar submissions via e-mail to news@northvillerecord.com by fax to (248) 349-9632 or by mail to Church Events/ Northville-Nov, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

SEND CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS VIA E-MAIL TO
news@northvillerecord.com BY FAX TO (248) 349-9632 OR BY MAIL TO CHURCH EVENTS/ NORTHVILLE-NOVI, 101 N. LAFAYETTE, SOUTH LYON, MI 48178. ITEMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOON ON MONDAY TO BE INCLUDED IN THURSDAY'S NEWSPAPER.

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 • Sunrise at North Farmington Hills 248-538-9200
 • Sunrise of Ann Arbor 734-327-1350
 • Sunrise of Bloomfield 248-972-0800

• Sunrise of Grosse Pointe Woods 313-343-0600
 • Sunrise of Rochester 248-501-9000
 • Sunrise of Northville 734-420-4000
 • Sunrise at North Ann Arbor 734-741-9500
 • Sunrise of West Bloomfield 248-738-8101
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Please call for care options.

OPINION

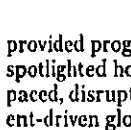
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Thursday, January 29, 2009 Community Weeklies

www.hometownlife.com

For Your Economic Health - Watch RX For Michigan

There is a saying - you don't move boldly into the future with your eyes fixed on the rearview mirror.

WWJ-TV (Channel 62), the CBS-owned TV station in Detroit, is not looking backward, but helping drive our region and state boldly into the 21st century. WWJ-TV has an "Eye On Michigan's Future" focus under the leadership of Trey Fabacher, its vice president and general manager.



Fabacher, who is from New Orleans and arrived in Michigan by way of Seattle, Washington and other places, tapped the talent of Carol Cain, long-time host of "Michigan Matters" (the weekly public affairs show that airs on WWJ-TV on Sunday at 11 a.m.) and Detroit Free Press columnist, to become the station's editorial director.

This dynamic duo, along with WWJ-TV producer and videographer Paul Pylowany, has been creating local programming that rivals the Discovery Channel, CNN and the Network News rolled into one.

Over the past 18 months, the station has provided programming and community campaigns that have spotlighted how Michigan can move forward in this fast-paced, disruptive, transformational, technologically and talent-driven global, knowledge economy.

"Our 'Eye on the Future' specials are designed to look at the people and the projects that position Michigan for the 21st century," Fabacher said.

Fabacher, Cain and Pylowany have captured the ingredients that are needed to help Michigan not simply survive, but thrive in this new and ever-changing environment and economy and are putting it on film for all to see.

BUILDING BRIDGES
WWJ-TV has a solid history of preparing documentaries about Michigan's economic future. "Building Bridges: From the Great Lakes to the Great Wall" was the first installment of the station's "Eye On The Future" initiative and aired in late 2007.

This two-hour special should be required viewing for all who are serious about thriving in this global economy. The station's successful production of this series was recognized by its peers as they were awarded four Emmy's and three awards from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters as well as Michigan State University and The Detroit Chinese Business Association for their efforts in building bridges and helping educate Michigan's citizens about how to ride the China wave.

Koralu Chen, President of Motown Travel, author of the Michigan picture book "Pure Michigan" served as the Chinese consultant for this effort. He said, "This documentary has made a major splash on both sides of the ocean, showing how China's rise does not have to come at Michigan's and America's demise."

POWERING MICHIGAN'S FUTURE
The second special in the "Eye On The Future" series focused on alternative energy entitled "Powering Michigan's Future." While Michigan can claim greatness by helping put the "world on wheels," the domestic auto industry has been under siege of late and there is a global rush to see who can tap other sources of energy to power the world's engines.

Again, Carol Cain and Paul Pylowany traveled the state to show viewers what is taking place on the alternative energy front and who is leading the way.

RX FOR MICHIGAN
"RX For Michigan" is the newest installment. It will detail how the state's economic health is and will be tied to our personal health as many new jobs are being created. It airs 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7. It is must-viewing for anyone looking for a job now or in the future.

It features dozens of important leaders and people who are charting a course for our state around life sciences, biotech, medical devices, medical care and medical tourism. People such as Governor Granholm; Peter Karmanos of Compumare; University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman; Jim Dehem, CEO of Community Living Services; Grand Rapids businessman Rich DeVos; former U.S. Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez; and Henry Ford Health System's Nancy Schlichting appear on the program to discuss and provide information about how Michigan's economic emphasis is shifting to health-related jobs.

Health care is already the largest jobs creator in our state; it will only grow with these new efforts and initiatives.

"RX continues this important mission of putting a spotlight on what is taking place to better prepare us for the 21st century knowledge economy," Fabacher said.

If you or anyone you know is looking for a job and want to know where the hot jobs of the future will be in Michigan, don't miss "RX for Michigan."

Tom Watkins is an education and business consultant in the United States and China who was Michigan's superintendent of schools from 2001-05 and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Fla., from 1996-2001. He can be reached at: tdwatkins@aol.com



OUR VIEWS

Let the election races begin

So the race begins. It seems the new year has prompted Novi residents to catch the election bug. In the past couple of weeks, two Novi residents have announced their intention to run for political office.

First up, Justin Fischer let residents know he will be running for city council this November.

Fischer, a long-time resident, said he was running for council to give back to a city that has given him so much. He said, "I want to ensure that Novi remains the best city to raise a family, run a business and enjoy retirement."

In addition to Zoning Board of Appeals, the financial analyst serves as treasurer of the Novi Parks Foundation and volunteers as treasurer of his homeowner's association.

Council members Terry Margolis, Andrew Mutch, Brian Burke and Mayor Landry are up for re-election this year. Fischer recently applied as a candidate to fill former Mayor Pro Tem Kim Capello's vacant seat, however Brian Burke was selected for the partial-term position.

Mayor Pro Tem Bob Gatt announced Monday his candidacy for the Michigan Senate, representing the 15th District of Commerce, Highland, Holly, Lyon, Milford, Rose, West Bloomfield and White Lake townships, and the cities of Northville, Novi, South Lyon, Walled Lake and Wixom.

Sen. Nancy Cassis, who currently holds the position, is term-limited and will vacate the seat December 2010.

"We need strong leadership in Lansing, and I have prepared my whole life for this opportunity," Gatt said.

Gatt was recently elected mayor pro tem of the City of Novi, is a former employee of the Novi Police Department and currently serves as chief of operations for Oakland County Community Corrections.

So who's next? Former Speaker of the House and Novi resident Craig DeRoche looked pretty casual at the State of The City address, maybe he is gearing up for a big announcement?

We may not have the answers yet, but we do know this will be an interesting year in Novi politics.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
I look forward to meeting many of you to hear your thoughts on the successes and challenges that we face in our great city - and to work tirelessly on your behalf to continue to maintain the positive reputation and quality of life that we value in Novi.

Justin P. Fischer
Novi

Changes for the worse
Novi Schools is proposing two major changes that will impact all of our children, and they are directly linked. These two expensive programs are the International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma program, and a new high school schedule. You need to learn more about these programs and how they will negatively impact our children and our district.

The district is proposing an alternating block schedule that will double the number of classes high school students take at one time, from four to eight. This schedule doubles the number of textbooks needed and requires all finals to be given at the end of the year. AP classes will now be taught in less than half the time. Struggling, at-risk students will now have to deal with twice as many courses at one time. Those who currently choose electives like band or choir will not be able to devote as much time to it.

Because of prerequisites, this schedule may deny our students as many opportunities as they currently have.

The administration is reluctant to admit the schedule change is primarily being pushed to better fit the requirements of the IB program. Most public schools see only 10-20 students earning the diploma yearly. This is the main "value" of the program. A former IB Regional Director stated, "The meaning of a program is only really understood once you get the diploma."

The administration continues to propagate the notion this program is for everyone. Yet, around the globe, IB diploma candidates are the most highly motivated students. It is a rigorous program specifically for the top students.

Some schools around the country have dumped the program because the lack of IB diploma graduates made it impossible to sustain the expense. At Tyler, Texas High School, the former IB coordinator stated, "If you're not earning diplomas, what's the point of the program?" I can't agree more.

As a district, we continue to spend needlessly in areas that benefit no one and ignore programs that could benefit the majority.

Our school board will vote next week on whether to implement the IB diploma program. I ask them respectfully to reject it. I also hope they're listening to us regarding this proposed schedule. We don't like it. The last thing parents want to see are children having to struggle (or make major adjustments) to juggle eight classes simply for the 10-20 students these changes are primarily designed for.

Willy Mensa
Novi

Don't dwell, but do remember the past
At a time when most are looking to our new president and the future, a lot of the media are looking back at the last president. Now is not a time to dwell on the past, but all should not be forgotten either. We should look on the bright side and remember that as bad as Bush was, things could actually now be worse. Think how much more money could have been lost had any of social security contributions been privatized and used for gambling on Wall Street. Had the voters not changed party control of Congress in the 2006 election we would have had to pay for an expensive bridge to nowhere along with other wasteful pork. So now we should look ahead for this time, we have a president that can really be a "uniter not a divider." Again we can have a government of, by and for the people. However, there are those who do not truly believe in democracy and will work against this union. Again we can look back to Bush and remember that the fight with these obstructionists could be worse now had he not turned many voters from their party. For that I say thank you Mr. former president.

Chuck Tindall
Novi

Resumes

Employers reviewing resumes typically only spend 10 to 30 seconds - yes, seconds - reviewing each resume. They tend to focus on the overall appearance, then the Summary or Job Objective, then a quick scan of the Work History and Education. Most of the time, they are looking for a reason to reject the resume, because that moves them along on their search for the right candidate.

Discouraging as this may be, it should emphasize to you the importance of every piece of information you include on the resume, as well as the care you should take to make it the best piece of marketing possible for your purposes.

The first thing you must do is define your strengths - these are knowledge areas, skills, abilities, personal qualities and accomplishments. This information will help you build an introductory summary or job objective, and will help you define what sets you apart from someone else with a similar background. So, make a list of the skills you both enjoy using and are good at. Also, make a list of the areas of knowledge which you want to emphasize in your work.

Finally, make a list of your abilities and personal qualities that you want to emphasize. For example, you may have the ability to write clearly and concisely and one of your personal qualities is your attention to detail.

Now, review your Job Target. How do your knowledge, skills, abilities and personal qualities relate to it? You want to create a Job Objective or Professional Summary which gives the reader a sense of what kind of position you are seeking and what your particular strengths are. For an electrical engineer, a Professional Summary might look like this:

"Electrical engineer with over 10 years experience designing and testing circuits



Martha Adamson
in the automotive and aerospace industries. Precise with attention to detail and quality, knowledge of the theory, design and function of electrical circuits, with the ability to design complex circuits for a variety of functions and capabilities."

After drafting your Summary or Objective, you will want to create a list of your key accomplishments. For each job you've held, recall those times when you were actively involved in doing something that made a difference for the organization. You might have cut costs, improved productivity or quality, solved a difficult problem or made some positive difference to the organization. Make a list of these, then go back to each one and recall the story behind it. What was the Situation or Problem you faced? What did you do - what Actions did you take? Break this down step by step. Finally, what was the Result? Can you quantify the result by dollars or percent improvement? On your resume, you will list the Result of the accomplishments you want to highlight under each job.

Finally, choose your resume format. Chronological resumes, which simply list your work history beginning with the most recent, are best for jobseekers whose Job Targets are similar to the jobs they've been doing most recently, who do not have major changes in job fields over the years and who don't have any gaps in their employment. Functional/Combination resumes, which group your accomplishments by functional areas like "Management & Administration" or "Engineering" are best for those who have a more varied work background but now want to focus on a Job Target.

Martha D. Adamson is a consulting professional with a diverse background in Human Resource Management and Career Development. She is a Certified Career Development Facilitator, a Certified Career & Job Search Coach, and a Certified Professional Resume Writer. She is the co-author of Job Search Navigator, a workbooks-style guide to assessing yourself and managing your job search (www.jobsearchnavigator.com) which was first published in 1999 by Prentice-Hall and revised and republished by Success Press in 2005. From 1993 to 1996, she authored a monthly column "Your Job Search" in the Saratoga Springs, NY newspaper - The Saratogian.

which might not be the most recently worked. It also works well for someone who has had some employment gaps. Your work history is still included, but in a much more abbreviated form.

Your local library has many good guides to resume writing with have multiple examples that you can draw from. An online source for examples is The Riley Guide (<http://www.rileyguide.com/>) which is also an awesome sight for finding online information for just about everything a jobseeker might have questions about.

The rest of your resume should include your Education and Training, Volunteer or Community Activities, and Certifications & Licenses. If you've had Military Experience, you should include that as well. Try to keep your resume to no more than two pages. If you have a long list of publications, patents or other notable accomplishments, you can prepare a separate attachment which lists all of them.

Always remember to focus on supporting your Job Target with the information you include. If you decide to pursue more than one Job Target, you may wish to develop a resume for each. You will find that you need to emphasize different information on each resume to support each unique Job Target.



'Dashing' through the snow ...

Danielle Strachan leads her daughter Gabriella, 18 months, down a snowy slippery hill at Northville's Cass Benton Park. The Strachans recently moved to the area from Florida.

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As seen in the Yellow Pages

HOOR DETROIT MAGAZINE'S TOP DOCS

Novi News

GANNETT

Published each Thursday

Victoria Mitchell
Community Editor

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.

LOCAL EVENTS

International Conference on Autism Spectrum Disorders

DATE: Feb. 20-23
LOCATION: Crow Plaza in Novi

DETAILS: First International Conference on Biomedical and Other Treatments that offer hope to individuals and families with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). This is an opportunity to learn new treatment options for those diagnosed with autism, PDD, NOS, ADHD, Asperger Syndrome, RAD, OCD and many other developmental disorders.

CONTACT: Registration for one, two or three days are available, with special pricing for all three days. Register online at www.asdconfer.com.

Candy Cooks Concerts

TIME/DATE: Doors open 7 p.m. for potluck, concert begins 8 p.m., one Saturday per month

LOCATION: Newport Furnishings, 2940 Lynn Oaks Dr., Wixom

DETAILS: Monthly concert series featuring live acoustic music. Casual, comfortable, smoke-free family friendly event. Bring a dish to share and join the potluck before the show. CONTACT: comfycooksconcerts.com

BUSINESS

Novi Rotary Club

TIME/DATE: Noon every Thursday
LOCATION: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road

DETAILS: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check Web site for speaker information, nonvoluntary.org.

American Business Women's Association Meetings

TIME/DATE: 6:15 p.m., second Wednesday of every month

LOCATION: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 27000 Sheraton Dr., West of Novi Road, north of I-76

DETAILS: Get into the spirit of the holidays. A casual dinner, including wreath-making

demostration. Local chapter provides many advantages to today's working women and offers a strong community service program which includes raising money for scholarships.

LIBRARY LINES

Novi Public Library

LOCATION: 45045 W. 10 Mile Road
HOURS: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday

CONTACT: (248) 349-0120 or novipubliclibrary.org unless noted below, all programs take place at the library.

Novi Writers' Group

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 31

DETAILS: Provide an inspirational environment for writers to explore, critique and create with other writers. The group is facilitated by local writer Kathy Mutch. Writers of all genres are encouraged to participate.

For 18 years and older. Please register. English Conversation Group

TIME/DATE: Noon-1 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 3

DETAILS: Make friends while practicing English pronunciation and conversation

TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m., third Wednesday of each month
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, City Council Chambers

DETAILS: General meeting of the entire Library Board. Broadcast live on cable channel 13.

Digital TV Conversion

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 28

DETAILS: The Geek Squad from Best Buy will be answering questions regarding the digital TV conversion as well as HD TV options. Stay late, full-power television stations nationwide must switch from the old method of transmitting TV signals to digital televisions (DTV) by Feb. 17. Discover how to prepare for the transition to DTV. Call to register.

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For 18 years and older. Please register. English Conversation Group

TIME/DATE: Noon-1 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 3

DETAILS: Make friends while practicing English pronunciation and conversation

skills. The group will be guided by a volunteer from the Oakland County Literacy Council. No need to register.

Friends of the Novi Public Library Special Used Book Sale

TIME/DATE: 1-4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 1

DETAILS: Join Novi neighbors in a lively book discussion during your lunch hour. Bring your lunch and the library will provide a beverage. No registration. Discussing *How and When to Retire* by Larry Green.

Booked for Lunch

TIME/DATE: Noon-1 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11

DETAILS: Join neighbors in a lively book discussion during your lunch hour. Bring your lunch and the library will provide a beverage. No registration. Discussing *How and When to Retire* by Larry Green.

Novi Public Library

LOCATION: 45045 W. 10 Mile Road, Walled Lake

HOURS: 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday and Saturday, 1-5 p.m., Sunday, closed Friday.

CONTACT: (248) 522-5712 or e-mail to admin@walledlakelibrary.org

Walled Lake City Library

LOCATION: 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake

HOURS: 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday and Saturday, 1-5 p.m., Sunday, closed Friday.

CONTACT: (248) 522-5712 or e-mail to admin@walledlakecitylibrary.org

Walled Lake City Library

LOCATION: 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake

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Northville woman loves a messy challenge

BY ALEEA HIBBELN
SPECIAL WRITER



Carol Seneka

Getting organized is one of the top five New Year's resolutions, making January "National Get Organized Month," sponsored by the National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO). But this New Year's resolution doesn't need to be met with the power of one's own will, as professional organizers are gaining in popularity and making the business of living easier.

Carol Seneka, owner of Simple Organizing Solutions (S.O.S.) in Northville, said that once organizing systems are in place, her clients see a remarkable savings in time because necessities like keys, calendars, homework, work projects, clothes, and makeup are stationed where they are easily accessed.

But time isn't the only savings. Seneka said she has seen an increase in business because of tough economic times, as people are realizing that being organized

is the best way to save money.

For example, there is no reason to buy another pair of scissors when three are hidden in a drawer

and four more are scattered throughout the home.

"Systems are developed to make filing and organizing second nature," said 38-year-old Seneka. "I don't give up on my clients. The goal is to transfer my organization techniques and solutions to my clients so they can maintain it themselves."

But that isn't always the case, as Seneka has three kinds of clients:

1) Those that need help getting organized one time and thereafter maintain their new organization.

2) Those that backslide and therefore need their systems tweaked periodically to make maintenance easier.

3) Those that are not interested in maintaining for

themselves and require return visits on a regular basis.

"I've worked with clients for a number of years until they've finally maintained it on their own," she said.

For Seneka, maintaining order is as natural as breathing. Prior to starting S.O.S., Seneka spent 15 years in the corporate world fine tuning her organization skills in various capacities, including working in Lean Manufacturing, an organizing technique used on automotive production floors. But she wasn't feeling fulfilled.

Seneka found a book that matches personalities to careers called, "Follow your True Colors to the Work You Love," by Carolyn Kalin.

According to Kalin, her dream job was a closet organizer.

"I thought, 'How am I going to make money as a closet organizer?'"

Always wanting to have her own business, Seneka quit her corporate job, joined NAPO, attended their conferences across the country for her training and got her LLC in

2004. Seneka is now living out her dream and said every day is an adventure.

"It's not work, it's serving others," Seneka said. "When I meet a client for the first time, I can see and hear the stress on their face and in their voice. But once things are in place, I can see and hear that they are at peace."

Seneka begins each assignment with a free in-home or in-office consultation to get a feel for the task ahead. When she comes back, she and her clients roll up their sleeves and place items in into three piles - keep, donate or toss.

When dealing with paper, the three piles are file, action (do something with it) or toss.

Recently, Seneka organized four executive offices a company in Ann Arbor. She set up different filing systems for each executive because as she said, "each brain works differently." Seneka checks back periodically to make sure the systems are working for them and everything is still in its place. According to Seneka, an organized office makes

for an organized brain, which makes for a more productive worker.

The same, she said, is also true for kids. "Kids need structure and they can't have structure if they don't know where their toys and homework and things live," said Seneka.

Seneka will go through a child's room with the child, making sure to keep favorite toys while developing a system for his or her specific needs.

"If the parents are unorganized because kids learn what they live," she said, which is why kids' rooms are often a priority for her clients.

But for some of Seneka's clients, it isn't as easy as keep, donate, or toss. Home clients often go through an emotional purging as they let go of sentimental items that serve no real purpose and take up precious space. At the end of the day, high-energy Seneka is ready to go to the gym, while her clients are emotionally and physically exhausted

from sorting and discarding belongings they have held onto for years.

"Sometimes people just need permission to toss things out, like their grandmother's ratty afghan," said Seneka. "The memory is in the heart, not in the afghan."

That said, she encourages each family member to keep a "memory box" under their bed for those select few items worth keeping.

A home owner from Canton called Seneka to help with a cluttered closet. Seneka produced a 3D computer image to show her client what the new closet system will look like and hired an outside company to install it. She will also draw a DIY design based on her client's needs for those who want to tackle a project themselves.

Like a doctor, Seneka has seen it all - the good, the bad and the ugly.

"People are afraid to let me see their home or office, but I never judge. The messier the better," she said. "I love a challenge."

ETC.

Support Groups

ANGELA HOSPICE GROUPS

LOCATION: Angela Hospice Care Center, 1400 Newburgh Road, Livonia

CONTACT: Joan Lee (734) 953-6012

General Grief Support Groups

TIME/DATE: 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of month

DETAILS: Open to all losses.

Loss of Spouse/Significant Other Support Group

TIME/DATE: 13 p.m. or 6:30-8 p.m. first Tuesday of month

Subsidiary Loss Support Services

DETAILS: Individual and family services offered free for those who have lost a loved one through suicide. Call Sherri Katz at (734) 464-7810 for more information.

Heartstrings: Parents Who Have Lost a Child

TIME/DATE: 7-8:30 p.m. first Thursday of month

DETAILS: Call Ann Patricia Foley to register: (734) 464-7810.

Grief Support Quilter's Group

TIME/DATE: 13 p.m. first and third Wednesday of month

DETAILS: Make a quilt in memory of a loved one. No experience necessary. Register by calling (734) 953-6012.

Women's Grief Support Group

DETAILS: Session in spring and fall. Call Joan Lee at (734) 953-6012 for dates.

ANXIETY DISORDER SUPPORT GROUP

TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m., every Thursday

LOCATION: Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia

DETAILS: Aim for Recovery offers support and recovery for those suffering with anxiety disorders and their families. Meetings consist of planned behavioral lessons and discussions. Educational material will be available. Donations for the program and materials are accepted. CONTACT: Robert Dietrich at robbd@aimson.com

ANNE

TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 12

LOCATION: auditorium at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475

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California Romaine Hearts
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Jumbo Flames Seedless Red Grapes
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Asiago Artichoke Dip
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Great for your bowl party

Hoffman's Super Sharp Cheese
\$4.99 lb.

California Broccoli
2/\$4.00

Roma Tomatoes
99¢ lb.

California Cauliflower
2/\$4.00

Oldtime American Yellow Cheese
\$3.99 lb.

Boarshead Yellow Vermont Cheddar Cheese
\$5.99 lb.

Boarshead Honey Maple Ham & Honey Maple Turkey
\$6.99 lb.

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SPORTS

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Novi runs away from Mustangs in 2nd half

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

Novi had its hands full with rival Northville in the first half. But the second half was all Wildcats during their 64-46 victory Friday.

Chris Bellamy fought through a box-and-one defense throughout the first half to score 13 of his game-high 19 points. The defense was one in several that Bellamy has seen this year.

"We didn't notice it until a few minutes in - 'Oh, it's a box-and-one,'" Bellamy said. "We didn't even change anything. We just kept playing."

The Mustangs (1-6, 0-2) kept it close with their defense, trailing 15-13 at the end of the first and 26-23 at the half.

The Wildcats (7-1, 2-0) started the second half on a 10-2 run to open up a 36-25 lead.

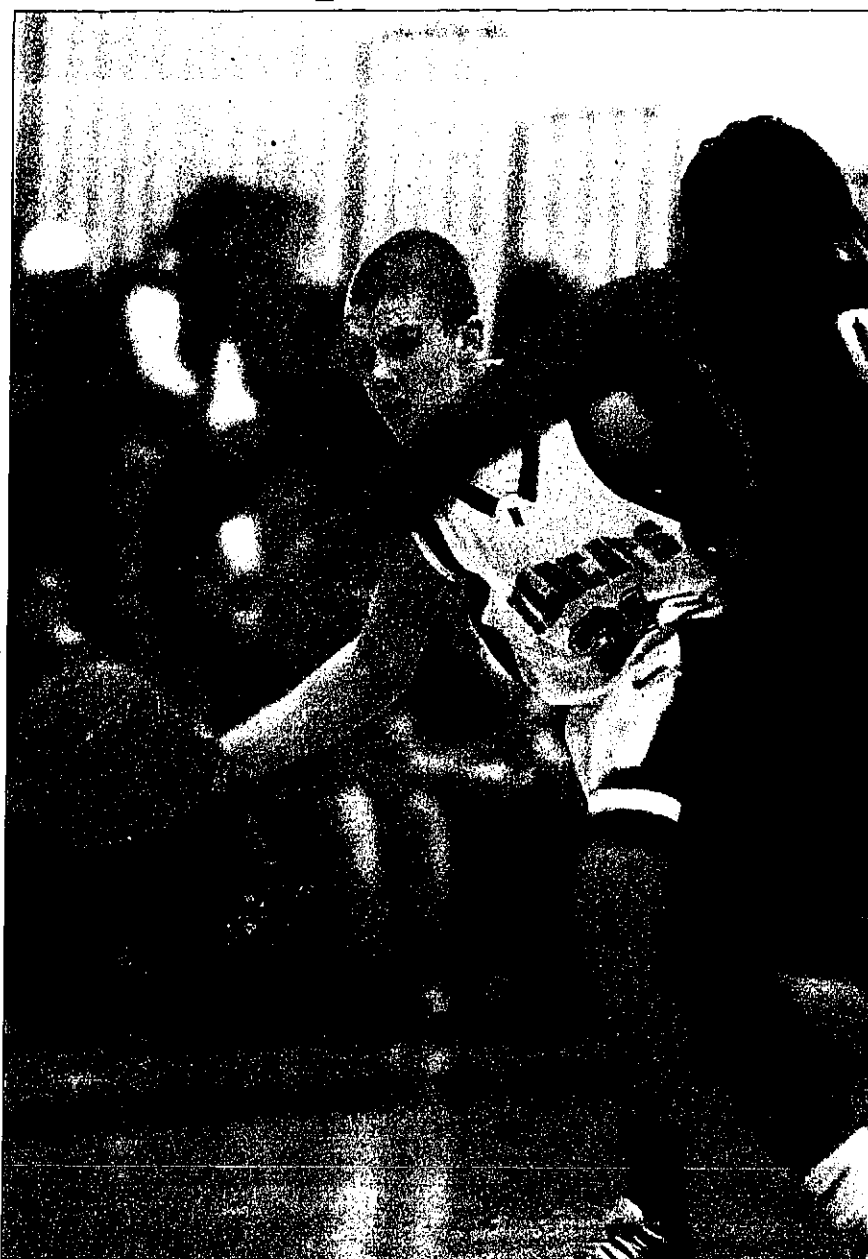
Andrew Baldwin responded with consecutive three-pointers to get within five, but it was as close as the Mustangs would get the rest of the way.

Novi led 44-31 after three quarters and started the fourth quarter on an 11-2 to turn it into a rout.

"I was proud of our guys for adjusting at halftime," Novi head coach Cory Heitsch said. "We seem to be clicking. We've got a lot of guys back, but we've got a log of guys in new roles. They're starting to feel comfortable with that added pressure."

The Mustangs played the game without a senior on the floor. First-year head coach Todd Sander sees progress in his young team.

"I thought we did a real good job of stymieing them in the first half," Sander said. "You've got to give Novi credit, they did a nice job of wearing us down and figuring it out



Novi's Brad Kotylo brings the ball up court against Walled Lake Northern.

early in the second half.

"We're playing with a lot of sophomores and juniors that want to get better, that are getting better and that will get

better."

Baldwin led the Mustangs with 14 points. Bryce Groshek and Spencer Devine each contributed eight points.

Novi's Samer Ozeir hit double digits with 10 points. Brandon Bryant scored seven of his nine points in the third quarter.



Novi's Brandon Rydzewski puts up a shot against Walled Lake Northern.

The win was the third straight for Novi against Northville. Before that, Northville had a long string of wins against the Cats.

"I think Alvin Storrs graduated two years ago which helped quite a bit," Heitsch said with a chuckle. "It's been a nice three-game stretch against them."

NOVI 75, SOUTH LYON EAST 33

The Cats had little trouble with first-year varsity competitor South Lyon East on

Jan. 20.

Bellamy led all scorers with 20 points, including four three-pointers. Justin Hopton was next with 15 points.

In all, Novi landed 10 players in the scoring books.

Blake Jones and Ben Kil led the Cougars with nine points each.

Novi held leads of 15-7 after the first, 31-18 at the half and 56-25 by the end of the third.

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Donohue leaves stamp on South Lyon record books

ALL-AREA VOLLEYBALL

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

Kathleen Donohue is graduating after this school year. What she leaves behind at South Lyon are plenty of new volleyball standards in the record books.

The tall, big-hitting Donohue recorded 1,370 kills in her career. The old standard set in 1999 was 928. She was not just a hitting specialist, as she also had 719 digs out of the back row, another school record.

"She's an exceptional volleyball player," South Lyon head coach Susan Anderson said. "She's a lot of fun to be around."

Donohue's talents have earned her a spot on the exclusive Second Team All-American. It's made up of just 48 girls nationally - 24 on the First Team and 24 on the Second Team. She was also in the top 10 for Michigan's Miss Volleyball.

This year, Donohue accounted for 455 kills on 950 attacks for an extraordinary 49.4 kill percentage.

Part of what helped Donohue succeed was having another top threat with teammate Danielle Gotham that other teams had to concentrate on. Teams could not gear up to stop just one or

Please see **ALL-AREA, B4**



South Lyon High School's Kathleen Donohue sets the ball against Novi.



Wildcats Kim Hildreth and Sarah Robb, right, go up for a block.

PHOTO BY
JOHN WEIDER
NOVI NEWS

Novi's Blaszczyk runs to front of pack

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

When the frontrunners at any meet came to the finish line that Novi was competing at, Wildcat junior Mike Blaszczyk would be involved.

His season was littered with top finishes, including first overall at the South Lyon Invite, won the Anchor Bay invite, finished first at the KLAA Central meet, second at the KLAA Conference meet and third at the Brighton regional. He finished 19th at the state meet, earning All-State honors.

"Mike displayed tremendous growth this past season," Novi head coach Robert Smith said. "He quickly assumed the leadership role, and he relished being the front-runner on the team."

"Mike knows how important it is for a team to have someone up front in every race representing our team. He took that role seriously, but just as important, he worked with the coaching staff to encourage the entire

team to step up and be the best that they can be."

Mike ranks third in the Novi Cass Benton top times for juniors, behind eventual state champion Tim Moore (2000) and State Runner-up Chris Toloff (1999).

ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

Ricardo Galindo, CC junior
Galindo finished the year strong. He placed second overall at the tough Brighton regional before finishing All-State in 26th at the state meet.

Galindo didn't go out for the team until his sophomore season when he did not make the soccer team. A couple of years of dedication and he became

ALL-AREA CROSS COUNTRY

Runner of the Year

Mike Blaszczyk, Novi junior

First Team

TJ Butler, Novi senior
Ricardo Galindo, CC junior
Alex Toloff, CC senior
Frank Griffiths, Northville junior
Nate Huff, Milford junior
Stefan Morell, Lakeland junior

Second Team

Northville senior Jack Dalton, Novi junior
Dan Egner, CC sophomore
Austin Zebrowski, CC sophomore
Andrew Garcia-Garrison, CC junior
Victor Puskorius, Milford junior
Nick Burth, Milford sophomore
Shawn Shove, Lakeland junior
Brent Rolfe and South Lyon sophomore Blake Yard.

Honorable Mention

Lakeland senior Parker Snavely, Lakeland junior Brent Rolfe, Novi junior Alex Minghine, Novi sophomore Joe Schubring, Novi junior Geoff Giese, Novi senior Jacob Carless, Northville sophomore Trent Johnson, senior Jeff Girbach, CC sophomore John-Paul Zebrowski and senior Scott Hoffman, South Lyon senior Robert Swain, South Lyon senior Cameron Meyer, South Lyon junior Robbie Kulie, South Lyon East junior, Spencer Layson and South Lyon East junior David Hansen.

All-Catholic, All-City and All-State.

"I knew he had the potential to do it," CC head coach Tony Magni said.

Alex Toloff, CC senior
Toloff didn't have his best run at state, but his steady runs throughout the year land him on the All-Area First Team. He finished fifth at the Brighton regional before ending the year in 58th at the state meet.

"He's one of the better runners in the county," Magni

said. "Unfortunately, he just didn't have a good run at the state finals again."

"He was our No. 1 runner all year. We are where we are because of Alex Toloff."

Toloff made All-City honors for the third-straight year.

Frank Griffiths, Northville junior

Griffiths finished the season on fire. After finishing fourth at the KLAA Conference meet, he ran his best race of the year to finish fourth at the Brighton regional. He placed 53rd at the state meet.

"Frank emerged as one of the areas top runners in 2008 with his efforts down the stretch," coach Chris Cronin said. "Frank was selected to be a captain for 2009."

Nate Huff, Milford junior

Huff turned in the top placing at state for all the runners on the All-Area First Team, finishing in 14th. He also placed fourth at the Holly regional.

Stefan Morell, Lakeland junior
Morrell finished next after Huff at regionals, claiming fifth place. He went on to finish 74th at state.

TJ Butler, Novi senior

Butler could usually be found running with teammate Blaszczyk somewhere near the front. He was injured early in the year, but fought back to the No. 2 man.

He ran his best time (16:29) at the state meet to finish in 88th. He finished 17th at the regionals to help secure a state birth for the Wildcats.

"TJ was a major reason for the success of the 2008 Wildcats," Smith said. "He was recognized at our team banquet as our Athlete of the Year."

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Shamrocks topple Brother Rice again, 68-63

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

BOYS BASKETBALL

Catholic Central made it a clean sweep of rival Brother Rice with a 68-63 victory Friday.

Tim Dezeliski and Steve Harding pitched in 14 points

each to lead the Shamrock offense. Matt Doneth and Chris Barnes weren't far behind with 11 and 10 points respectively.

The Shamrocks rolled out

to an 18-9 lead by the end of the first and pushed the lead to 32-21 by halftime.

A 19-11 advantage in the third quarter left the Shamrocks with a massive 51-32 lead heading into the fourth.

Brother Rice made a come-

back, but the hole was too deep to dig out of.

The Shamrocks improve to 9-1, 3-1.

U-D JESUIT 58, CC 47

The Shamrocks (8-1, 2-1) are unbeaten on more.

U-D (8-1, 3-0) pulled ahead

in the divisional showdown with a 58-47 win Jan. 20.

The second and third quarters were the difference, CC led 11-7 after one, but trailed 25-21 at the half.

U-D won the third quarter 20-8 for a commanding 45-29 lead heading into the

fourth.

Tim Dezeliski led the Shamrock offense with 13 points. Brett Smith scored 12, and Steve Harding chipped in 10.

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	Gator Anderson 97.1 Radio	16-0	169-103	Pittsburgh	16 Points
	Jeff Lesson CBS Radio	16-0	169-103	Pittsburgh	16 Points
	Keith Lang Tennyson Chevrolet	8-8	166-106	Pittsburgh	16 Points
	Bob Faust Jack Demmer Ford	16-0	183-89	Pittsburgh	16 Points
	Ronnie Williams Perfect Floors	16-0	185-87	Pittsburgh	16 Points
	Tom Flory Shelton Pontiac Buick GMC	16-0	172-100	Pittsburgh	16 Points
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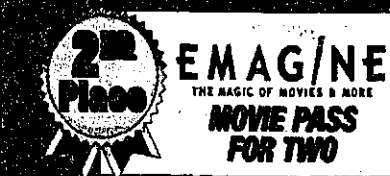
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WEEK #21 THE BIG GAME!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2009

ARIZONA CARDINALS VS. PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Novi girls race past rival Northville

BY ED WRIGHT
RECORD STAFF WRITER

GIRLS BASKETBALL

If the "Big Three" auto companies' first quarter of 2009 goes nearly as well as the Novi girls basketball team's first quarter Friday night against Northville, their stock is certain to skyrocket.

With senior point guard Chantel Hill serving as the catalyst, the Wildcats surged to a dominating 17-1 lead after eight minutes before notching a 45-35 victory over the host Mustangs.

The win improved Novi's record to 7-3 overall and 2-0 in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's Central Division.

Northville slipped to 4-5 and 0-2, respectively.

Hill repeatedly penetrated into the heart of the Mustangs' defense before either discharging off to a teammate or taking a close-range shot of her own.

"The favorite part of the game for me is driving and kicking the ball to my teammates, trying to get them good shots," said Hill, who

finished with eight points, four rebounds, five assists and two steals.

"Getting out to a big lead was so important because Northville is our biggest rival and we knew if we came out strong, we'd have a better chance to beat them. I think the biggest thing for us was that we were moving our feet on defense."

Hill's coach, Bill Kelp, agreed with her assessment. "I was pleased with the way we came out and played aggressively and the way the girls moved their feet on defense in the first quarter," said Kelp. "It's a good win for us at Northville, but we still have a lot to work on."

"When Chantel is playing well, the team plays well. When Chantel struggles, the team struggles."

The Wildcats were bolstered by a stellar effort from junior post player Kelsey Masserant, who netted a team-high 14 points while pulling down four

boards. Masserant nailed 7 of 9 field-goal attempts.

Junior swing-player Caroline Johnson contributed 11 points and three steals to the winners' cause.

Senior forward Chelsea Atkinson paced the Mustangs with 11 points and seven rebounds. Sophomore guard Samantha Sergi added eight points, six of which came on a pair of deep, late-game triples.

The Mustangs played without senior starting point guard Kelsey Baskins, who was ill.

The steady floor leader's absence was magnified by Novi's early in-your-face pressure defense.

"Part of our first-quarter problems were the result of not having Kelsey, but most of them were caused by Novi's great defense," said Northville coach Todd Gudith. "We got scattered a little bit by their pressure in the first quarter."

Northville settled down in the second quarter and outscored the Wildcats, 12-10, to cut its halftime deficit to 27-13.

"At halftime, we told the girls to try to chip away at the

lead and try to get it down to single digits by the end of the third quarter," said Gudith.

"We were down 11 last week against Plymouth after three and ended up winning in regulation."

"We got it down to 12 once, but then they scored on a layup and regained the momentum."

The Mustangs failed to convert a single field goal in the first and third quarters.

Novi led by as many as 21 in the fourth quarter before the Mustangs put together a late-game push.

Novi connected on 19 of 44 field goals (43.1 percent) and 7 of 12 free throws (58.3).

Northville hit on 8 of 34 shots from the field (23.5) and 15 of 24 free throws (62.5).

"It was a nice win, but I saw some things we need to improve on," said Kelp. "The fact that Northville took that many free throws tells me we didn't move our feet well enough on defense in the second half."

Both teams committed 20 turnovers.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

NOVI 61, SL EAST 15

The Wildcats blasted past the first-year varsity Cougars 61-15 Jan. 20.

Johnson led the Cats with 15 points and a team-high six steals. Jessica Cingel was next with 12 points. Morgan Haffey chipped in seven points. Hill provided six points, five assists and four steals.

The Wildcats raced out to a 27-0 lead by the end of the first and a 47-13 halftime lead.

JV

The Novi JV girls basketball team split a pair of games.

In a Novi 58-18 win against South Lyon East, Ally D'Annibale led with 19 points and seven rebounds. Katie Seelenbinder provided 13 points and five steals.

On Friday, the Cats (7-3) lost 31-28 to Northville. D'Annibale and Rachel Staudt led Novi with eight points each.

FRESHMEN

The Novi freshmen pounded South Lyon East 56-15 behind 14 points from Anna Lausch.

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The value of insulation is expressed in terms of R values. In general, the thicker the insulation the more air pockets it contains. The higher the R value is gained by increasing the thickness of the insulation, the more energy is saved by reducing heat transfer.

Generally, older homes are under-insulated by today's standards. This should be evaluated to determine if it is a cost-effective way to upgrade the attic insulation and help reduce your utility bills.

Have a home attic inspection performed. A professional will assess the attic condition, and improve the home's energy efficiency. This will generally lower the home's utility cost and improve the overall heating and cooling efficiency of the home.

ATTIC VENTILATION

The general heat difference between the attic air temperature and outside air should be approximately 20 to 25 degrees. This will help in avoiding the reduced lifespan of roof shingles. Never block soffit vents by placing insulation over them. This will create condensation in the attic space and cause problems. In a properly insulated attic space, the ventilation is important and will not lower the temperature of the home's living areas. In the Mid-West section of the country, the general rule of thumb for attic ventilation is one to three square feet of vent area for each or 100-150 square feet of attic floor.

Soffit Vents - are provided on the underside of the soffit area (eave) either as gable or the continuous style. Soffit vents work in conjunction with gable, roof, or ridge vents.

Ridge Vents - are cut in the ridge along the top of the roof line.

Gable Vents - are lowered openings at the gable ends of the roof. Gables are on the side walls at the top of the roof height.

Power & Gable Ventilators - are equipped with a thermostat that will either fan on when the attic temperature reaches a certain point and turns off when the attic temperature should have either cooled or warmed.

Ridge Vents - are cut into the ridge along the top of the roof line.

Types of Attic & Roof Construction

Gable & Hip Roofs - Common roofs that can easily be insulated by placing insulation between the ceiling joists or bottom chords of trusses. A vapor barrier must be placed under the insulation (towards the warm side of insulation) to reduce any moisture from entering the attic space from the house. It is recommended that soffit vents have baffles installed to help prevent the insulation from covering the vents thus allowing adequate airflow from the soffit vents to the roof, gable, or ridge vents installed in the attic for intended ventilation.

Cathedral Ceiling - Due to the inherent lack of access above cathedral ceilings, it is very important that adequate ventilation be provided in these roof structures. The best ventilation system is one that uses continuous ridge and soffit vents by venting each rafter bay. It is recommended that 1" air space is provided above the insulation and below the underside of the exterior roof sheathing for proper air flow. This air flow is required to remove any condensation and avoid build up of heat, which can shorten roof shingles life span.

One & One Half Story Homes - These types of attics have several small sections that must be properly insulated and the knee walls, floors, sloped ceilings, and any flat roof areas. The outer attic is treated as a conditioned area and should be insulated and properly ventilated. This allows air to enter through the soffit vents and exit through the ridge vent, gable, or ridge vents installed in the attic for intended ventilation.

ONE LAST BIT OF ADVICE: Ensure the bathroom vents are not venting into the attic space which could cause excessive moisture build up and possible mold/mildew development. Vent these to the exterior.

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Member AARST



A Novi Wildcat zips up ice with the puck during a game against South Lyon.

Novi hockey team ties state-ranked Northville

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi hockey team got out to a 3-1 lead against rival and Division 1 No. 2 ranked Northville, but the Mustangs were able to come back and earn the tie.

When the teams met earlier in the year, Northville scored five-straight goals and walked away with a 6-2 victory.

Two days earlier, Novi lost a 2-1 nailbiter with Stevenson. Evan Dixon scored the lone goal for the Wildcats (9-4-4).

The Wildcats finished second at an invite held at Grosjean Ice Jan. 23.

Franklin captured the title with 696.146 points. Novi was next with 686.3064. Both were well ahead of third-place Plymouth with 618.7160.

Originally, Novi was awarded first place. But a scoring error was detected and the



Novi goalie Michael Pesendorfer protects the net against South Lyon.

Cats were awarded second.

By round, Novi scored 199.5, 213.3064 and 273.5. Novi scored the highest second round of all six teams competing.

SWIM

The Wildcats started off the year with a 100-86 loss to South Lyon East.

Novi had a strong second-place showing at the Laker Invite before falling 134-56 to rival Northville.

Novi performs its routine and placed second this weekend.



Novi's Joon Chung swims the breaststroke.

The Cats got their first dual win, 93-92, Jan. 22 against Salem.

Head coach Eric Lynn

pointed out top swimmers so far this year by Joon Chung, Travis Vincent, Gabe Glenn, David Groedel and Wes Smith.

SKIING

The Novi boys lost 10-42 to Brother Rice, and the girls lost 11-31 to Marian on Jan. 22.

Derek Turowski finished first overall, and teammate Spencer Hicks was next in second place. Damon Rottermund was sixth.

On Jan. 20, CC (45.5) finished second behind Birmingham United (24).

Turowski and Hicks again led the team, finishing third and fourth overall respectively.

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's SPORTS section



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ALL-AREA

FROM PAGE B1

the other would do the damage.

"Their height, agility and natural athletic ability is their godsend," Anderson said. "The most memorable moment will be when her and Danielle belly bump after a great hit or block. Their enthusiasm was contagious."

Donofue will continue her volleyball career at Indiana University.

FIRST TEAM

Danielle Gotham, South Lyon senior

Gotham could easily be considered a candidate for the Player of the Year. She proved to be just as dominant at the net, slamming down 366 kills on 875 attacks for a .44 kill percentage. She served at a 92 percent rate, recorded 80 solo blocks and 58 more by assist.

Gotham holds the school record for blocks in a season with 138 (breaking her

own previous record) and in career blocks with 465. "We went to whoever was hot," Anderson said of Gotham and Donofue. "I think both of them played off each other."

Gotham has committed to Central Michigan for volleyball.

Kim Hildreth - Novi senior

Hildreth was the jack of all trades for Novi. She was one of the leading hitters, setters and servers for the Wildcats.

Hildreth set new school records with 809 assists and 94 aces. She also found time to record 290 kills.

She was voted All-KLAA, All-Region and was Academic All-State this year.

Kim was one of the hardest working athletes I have ever had the pleasure of coaching," Novi head coach Julie Fisetite said. "She is always 110 percent and cares passionately about her teammates and the game."

"She is and will continue to be a legend at Novi High School."

Hildreth will attend and play at Eastern Michigan.

Sarah Robb - Novi senior

Robb was a force at the net

for the Wildcats. She set a new school record with 132 blocks while ranking second in the record books with 355 kills. She also recorded 66 aces.

Robb was voted to All-Conference the last three years and qualified for Academic All-State in 2008.

"Sarah has always been a great leader," Fisetite said. "She is an outstanding athlete who gives unselfishly of herself to others."

Eva Prieditis, Milford Senior

Prieditis leaves Milford holding the school record in aces, sets, assists and assists per game. Eva was All-Conference three times, All-Region twice and All-State Honorable mention once.

"She is a very gifted athlete and can play any position on the floor and play it very well," Milford head coach Jim Marszalek said. "She has the ability to make every player on the floor better."

She can turn a bad situation into a good situation with just one set."

Ashley Fields, Milford junior

Fields was a First Team All-Conference and 1st team All-Region. She was second on our team in kills and first in blocks.

"She was our most dominant hitter and has the ability to take over a game when she is on," Marszalek said.

Lauren Maxwell, Lakeland junior

Maxwell was the set-up master for the Lakes Conference champion Eagles. She dished out 815 assists, knocked home 90 kills, served up 42 Aces and provided 29 blocks.

SECOND TEAM

Erica Robb, Novi sophomore

Robb stepped up her game as just a sophomore. She was voted All-KLAA after recording 239 kills, 228 digs, 34 aces and 23 blocks. She also earned All-Academic status.

Laura Subject, Novi sophomore

Subject was used as a libero and a setter. She received All-Region and All-Academic honors. For the year, she recorded 448 digs, 198 assists and 73 aces.

Jillian Garshott, Milford Senior

Garshott was First Team All-Conference while playing as the libero.

"Jillian did a great job of putting herself in position to make a play," Marszalek said.

"All year we talked about how we needed to have great defense and good passing to be successful, she helped us accomplish that."

Kelsey Kaminsky, South Lyon senior

Kaminsky was another weapon aside the big-two at South Lyon. She had 115 kills and was involved in 58 blocks. She is off to the University of Delaware on a lacrosse scholarship.

Brittany Falon, Lakeland senior

Falon played big at the net, knocking home 176 kills and denying 109 blocks. The Eagles won the KLAA North

Division and represented the Lakes Conference in the final showdown for the KLAA title.

Stephanie Lock, Lakeland sophomore

Lock led the eagles with 242 kills as just a sophomore. She was also in on 62 blocks and served up 26 aces.

Lock and Maxwell will both be returning to form quite a tandem next year.

HONORABLE MENTION

Receiving All-Area Honorable Mention honors are Novi junior Julia Thomas and senior Dawn Buelow; South Lyon East junior Courtney Emery and junior Amanda Bertera; South Lyon sophomore Alicia Kalik; senior Katie Biel; senior Lauey Hoatlin and senior Amanda Thomas; Lakeland senior Katie O'Leary;

senior Ashley Kantz; senior Rachel Hammer; Milford senior Melissa Bageris; and Northville senior Shelby Temple; senior Elizabeth Foulcher and junior Madison Owen.

Jill Eisen@panneti.com (248) 349-1700 ext. 104

Strictly Business

BUSINESS MILESTONES

SPECIAL HAPPENINGS

5-hour Energy goes social

Novi-based 5-hour Energy launched a new Web site and joined the social media platform with blogging, MySpace, YouTube and contests. 5-hour Energy is a two-ounce energy shot that provides hours of energy, alertness and focus without crash and jitteriness. It contains a blend of B-vitamins and amino acids, zero sugar and only four calories. It is available at retail outlets throughout the United States and Canada. Join the fun with contests, a blog, health and safety facts and industry updates. Visit www.5hourenergy.com.

BUILD-A-BEAR WORKSHOP
Build-A-Bear Workshop announces its search for the 2009 Huggable Heroes. Each year thousands of people have helped identify the best young leaders in the United States and Canada by nominating them to be a Build-A-Bear

Workshop Huggable Hero. Participants may nominate a candidate online by visiting www.buildabear.com/huggableheroes or they may pick up an application at the nearest Build-A-Bear Workshop store, including Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi. This year, 10 noteworthy young people from the United States and Puerto Rico and two from Canada will be selected and named Huggable Heroes. Each will receive a prize worth \$10,000 (\$7,500 in the form of an educational scholarship from Build-A-Bear Workshop and \$2,500 from the Build-A-Bear Workshop Foundation to be donated to the child's charity of their choice). For more information, call 888.560.BEAR (2327) or visit www.buildabear.com.

OFFERS
Sports Club of Novi
The Sports Club of Novi is offering a free 30-day no obligation membership until Jan. 31. Located at 42500 Arena Drive, the fitness center includes cardio equipment

with personal entertainment systems; resistance and free weight equipment; state-of-the-art yoga studio and classes; Stott Pilates mat classes; 12 tennis courts; an eight-lane, 25-meter lap pool; individual steam, sauna and whirlpool rooms for men and women; luxurious, safe and secure locker rooms with towels; cool down cafe and a kids center is available. Call (248) 735-8850.

Snap Fitness
Located at 41774 10 Mile Road, the Novi Snap Fitness is offering new members a free \$100 fitness assessment with a personal trainer. The trainer will test their strength, endurance and flexibility and get expert advice on the type of exercise and nutrition that will benefit them the most.

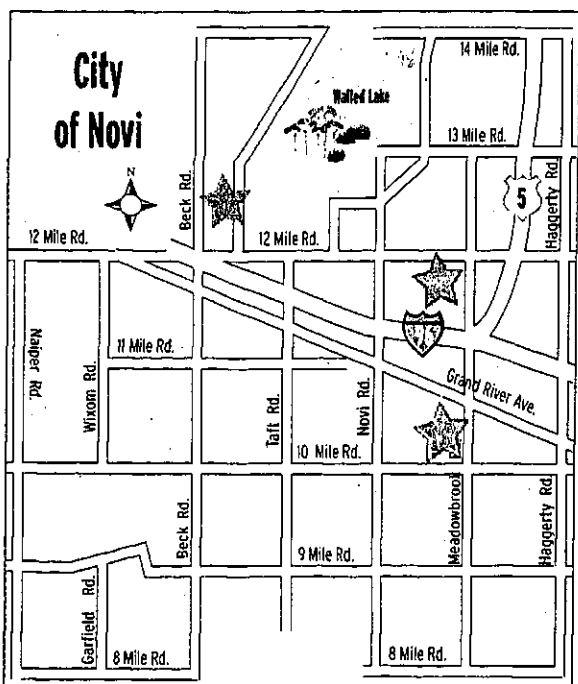
The club starts every new member with an equipment tutorial and an introduction to a "Basic 30" total-body workout that takes only 30 minutes each visit. Members can also activate their own free,

personal Web page where they can create and track workouts and plan their meals and calories wherever they want.

CLASSES

Walsh College
The region's workers in transition present "Take Charge" a series of free, educational workshops offered by Walsh College in January, February and March. The workshops range from one day to six-week sessions. Workshops will cover topics including accounting fundamentals, job search strategies, household budgeting and options in foreclosure, leadership assessment, project management fundamentals, business certifications and information technology security basics.

Spaces are limited and registration is required. Visit the Walsh College Web site: www.walshcollege.edu/takecharge to register. For more information, e-mail takecharge@walshcollege.edu.



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800.579.7355 eads@hometownlife.com

BIRMINGHAM - DOWNTOWN
2 bdrm townhouse, 1.5 bath, hardwood floors, a/c, central, swimming pool, no pets, non-smoking, \$1100/mo.
Call: 248-901-8025

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1st floor, patio, carpet, new kitchen, hardwood floors, no smoking, \$850/mo. incl heat. Call: (248) 396-5700

CANTON
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, starting at \$499 per month. Free rent in February. Expires 01/31/2009. Call: 888-266-7434

FARMINGTON HILLS
Beautifully landscaped, all 4 bdrm ranch, 2 car attached, great schools. \$244,000. Mutual Realty. 248-474-8484 or 248-417-3309

REDFORD
EASY FINANCING! 11302 Grayfield, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1.5 bath, 3 car garage, \$384/mo, or \$500,000. 225-951-2191 for info.

WESTLAND
New carpeting throughout, freshly painted, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1.5 bath, washer/dryer, dishwasher, disposal, pet friendly, storage shed, large deck, partially covered, 2 car parking, all Westland Meadows, Novi, \$112,000. (734) 555-7535

REDFORD
1 bdrm, 1.5 bath, close to schools, \$600/month. 248-892-0262

ROCHESTER
1 bdrm, \$565 incl heat, 2 bdrm, \$665 incl heat, 3 bdrm, \$865 incl heat, 4 bdrm, \$1065 incl heat, 5 bdrm, \$1265 incl heat. 248-892-0262

WESTLAND
2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, close to schools, \$600/month. 248-892-0262

ACADEMY WESTPOINT
Academy Westpoint Homes for rent. Starting at \$499 per month. Michigan Ave & Haggerty in Canton. Call: 888-266-7434

BIRMINGHAM
2 bdrm, 1 bath, garage, A/C, hardwood floors, updated, pet friendly, \$550/mo. Call: 248-417-3544

BLOOMFIELD TWP
2-3 bdrms \$750. 248-540-5398

CANTON
2 bdrm ranch, 2 bdrms, 2 bathrooms, 1100 sq ft, 2 car garage, A/C, Section 8 welcome. \$1200/mo. 313-585-5016

LIVONIA
2 bdrms, 2 bath, 1.5 bath, 1100 sq ft, 2 car garage, A/C, Section 8 welcome. \$1200/mo. 313-585-5016

WESTLAND
Livonia schools, 3 bdrms, 2 bath, 1.5 bath, 1100 sq ft, 2 car garage, A/C, Section 8 welcome. \$1200/mo. 313-585-5016

LIVING QUARTERS IN SHARPS
2 bdrms, 2 bath, 1.5 bath, 1100 sq ft, 2 car garage, A/C, Section 8 welcome. \$1200/mo. 313-585-5016

CANTON
Executive home on S. Woodward, 5 bdrms, 3.5 bath, 1100 sq ft, 2 car garage, A/C, Section 8 welcome. \$1200/mo. 313-585-5016

REDFORD
Plymouth & Oakley, 3 bdrms, 2 bath, 1.5 bath, 1100 sq ft, 2 car garage, A/C, Section 8 welcome. \$1200/mo. 313-585-5016

PLYMOUTH
3 bdrms, 2 bath, 1.5 bath, 1100 sq ft, 2 car garage, A/C, Section 8 welcome. \$1200/mo. 313-585-5016

SOUTHFIELD
3 bdrms, 2 bath, 1.5 bath, 1100 sq ft, 2 car garage, A/C, Section 8 welcome. \$1200/mo. 313-585-5016

ROCHESTER DOWNTOWN
1100 sq ft, 2 bdrms, 2 bath, 1.5 bath, 1100 sq ft, 2 car garage, A/C, Section 8 welcome. \$1200/mo. 313-585-5016

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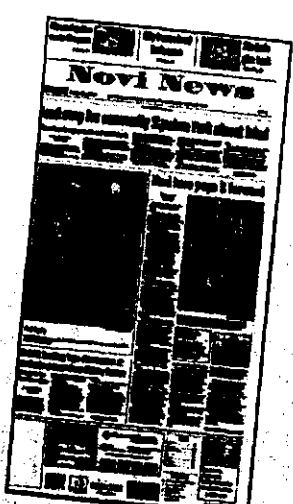
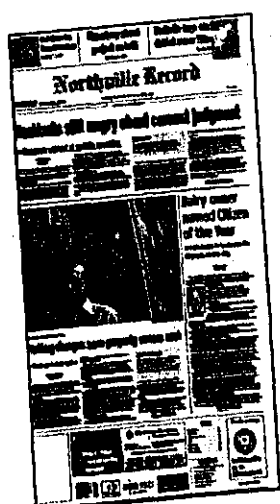
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Mandell helps ease emotional, financial stress of divorce

Family law attorney focused on preserving dignity

BY ALISON BERGSIKER
ADVERTORIAL COORDINATOR

Mark Mandell is a well-respected attorney whom many in the community trust to handle legal matters that are of the utmost importance.

The family-law attorney helps ease clients through divorces with as little financial and emotional stress as possible.

Mandell has spent the last 10 years working with clients who have substantial assets that they wish to preserve, even after a divorce.

A partner at Fausone Bohn, LLP, Mandell is committed to providing quality legal representation in divorce matters that need careful attention.

Mandell teams up with highly respected professionals who work together to minimize the negative effects associated with divorce. He seeks professional input from therapists, psychologists, CPAs and financial planners to assist his clients.

"When preparing for trials, I choose professionals that are credible and are respected by the judges," Mandell said. "That makes a big difference."

"I know that using credible professionals is going to stand up to the scrutiny of a judge and go farther than those who try to stretch the truth."

Firm extends offerings to include adoption law

In staying committed to the community, Mandell has hired long-term Northville resident Melissa Cox as his associate, who brings experience in family and juvenile matters — specializing in adoption law.

"I'm passionate about assisting clients with the adoption process," Cox said. "Adoption is a wonderful option for many families, as well as birth mothers, but the applicable laws are very complex. For the majority of adoptive parents and birth mothers, adoption will be the most important legal proceeding they will ever be involved in. It is important that they have an attorney who understands the legal process and can be an effective advocate for them with the court."

Like Mandell, Cox (maiden name Buckshaw) grew up in Northville, where she attended Northville

Christian School.

She earned a bachelor's in psychology from the University of Michigan in 2004 and received her juris doctorate from Ave Maria School of Law in 2008.

Good judgment, solid experience

Experience and good judgment make Mark Mandell an asset to all of his clients.

He makes realistic requests of the court that he believes have a good chance of being granted. He's not a show-boat lawyer who makes wild demands on the other party that are sure to be denied by the court.

"I don't argue, I advocate for my clients," Mandell said. "I use logic and common sense to advocate and to get a good resolution."

But when amicable discussions aren't fruitful, Mandell is not afraid to try a case in court.

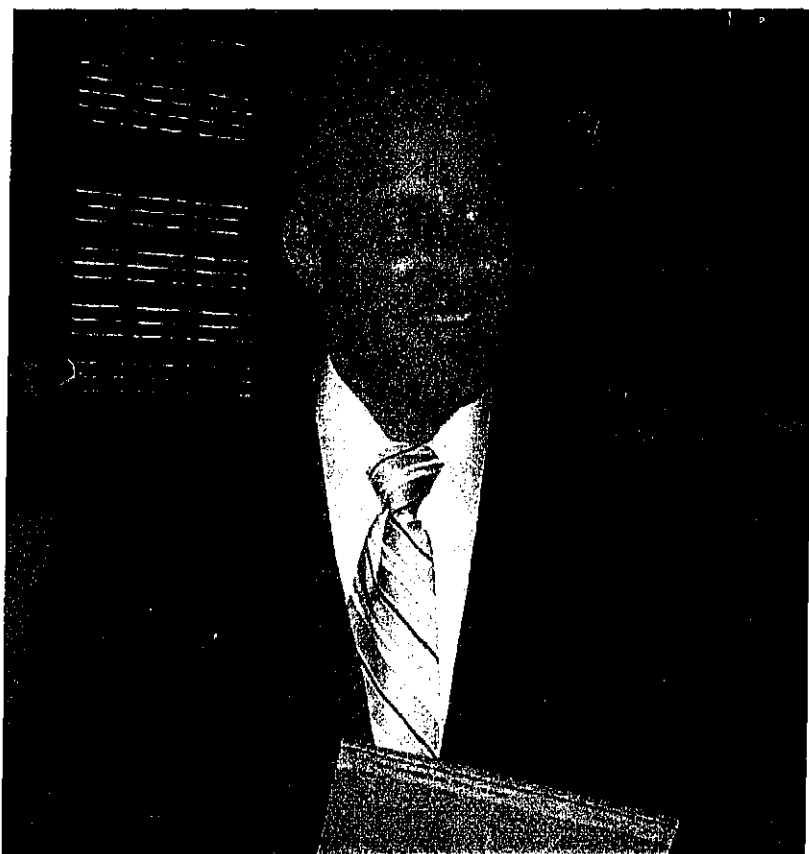
He's an experienced trial lawyer in both civil and criminal law. Mandell is a township prosecutor. He earned awards for trial advocacy during his time at the Thomas Cooley Law School of Law and later became an adjunct professor in trial workshop.

In addition, the firm of Fausone Bohn, LLP can help clients with their overall legal needs. Mandell also provides criminal representation for misdemeanors, felonies and traffic offenses. His partners and associates can take care of other types of legal matters including environmental, corporate and business law.

Respected community leader

Mark Mandell is respected in both the legal field and the community at large.

He grew up in a well-known Northville family who lived just around the corner from where his



FILE PHOTO

Mandell teams up with highly respected professionals who work together to minimize loss of assets during a divorce. He works with therapists, psychologists, CPAs and financial planners to assist his clients.

offices are today.

Mandell spent his childhood on the sidelines of the Northville High School football team with his dad, Dr. Robert Mandell, who was the team physician for 30 years and also served on the school board.

After playing football at Springfield College and graduating from James Madison College at Michigan State University, Mandell has turned around to help support the Northville football program. He is currently a JV football coach at Northville High School.

Last year Mandell was credited with starting the Steve Juday Coach's Clinic in honor of the legendary Northville High School and MSU player. As a result, Mandell brought MSU head football coach Mark Dantonio to speak at the coach's clinic.

In the past, Mandell served as chairman of the 13th Republican Congressional Committee and is a local political consultant, so he has experience working closely with elected officials at the local, state and national level.

Mandell still lives in his hometown of Northville with his wife, Vanessa, and his sons, Jack and Tom.

Making divorce less painful

Mandell is just as committed to the total welfare of his clients. He operates according to a holistic philosophy, taking care that his clients are served legally and financially, but also that he provides referrals for their physical and mental health.

"Going through a divorce is very stressful," he said. "I talk to my clients about seeking the help they need from counselors and doctors. It's all an important part of getting through the divorce and piecing your life back together."

The experienced attorney tries to make the unpredictable divorce process more predictable. He explains important concepts early on, so that clients can begin to accept the realities of the legal system and not feel disappointed with outcomes.

"I advocate dignity over anger and hatred that so often accompanies the divorce process," Mandell said.

Mandell has seen that there is nothing worse than couples bicker-

ing about every detail or fighting out unrealistic positions, sometimes for the sake of revenge at the children's expense. He helps clients to see the divorce from the perspective of resolving conflicts, not starting conflicts that can make things worse for a family.

Cox is also passionate about resolving divorce and custody matters with compassion.

"I consider myself an advocate for my clients' children," Cox said. "I remind clients that children are not possessions and ask them to think about how their actions affect their children's lives. I have a duty to think about what is best for the children, and I take that duty very seriously."

Reducing attorney fees

During a divorce, high attorney fees can only exacerbate financial stress. Mandell specifically works with clients on keeping his fees low.

He encourages clients to go through personal types of paperwork on their own, if possible, instead of charging to prepare it as other attorneys commonly do. He also gives couples an opportunity to decide what belongings each person will take from the home, instead of accumulating fees by disputing it.

"It's not worth it to spend \$500 in fees arguing about \$25 pots and pans," he explained. "It's best for everyone to resolve things amicably."

Many clients over the last decade have found that Mark Mandell charges reasonable fees as he helps resolve a divorce with the least amount of financial and emotional stress possible.

— Special writer Kate Phillips contributed to this report

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