

Wixom offers reward in identifying armed robbery suspect - Public Safety, A10

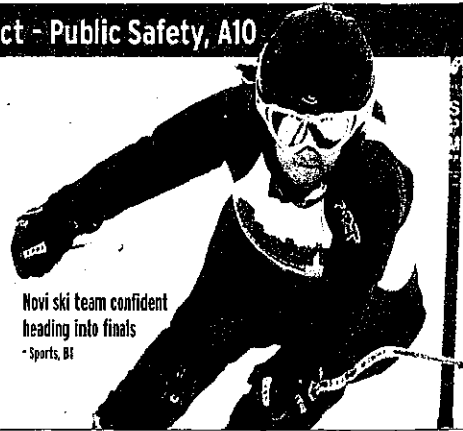
THURSDAY
February 5
2009

Community Weeklies
Volume 53
Number 37
50 CENTS

NOVI NEWS

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Novi ski team confident heading into finals - Sports, B1

A new look debuts today

Dear Readers:
Your *Novi News* has a new look. The changes are a result of your feedback in e-mail surveys and local interviews over the last four months. The design has been updated and beginning this week you'll find new features on "Education," "Public Safety" and "Neighbors," news about the special events in your life. It's all local and packaged in shorter stories, with more photos and more local names. In addition, you will see a new emphasis on local opinions - from us and from you.

I welcome your comments. You can reach me at (313) 222-5397 or at srosiek@hometownlife.com.

Susan Rosiek
executive editor

NOVI NUTSHELL

Daddy-Daughter dance this weekend

Daddy's little girls will be treated to a night of "Glitter and Glam" at the Novi Parks Department's annual daddy-daughter dance 7-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the Novi Civic Center. 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, visit www.cityofnovi.org.



more information, visit www.cityofnovi.org.

Spring into action with Novi Parks

Registration is currently underway for spring sports including youth soccer, lacrosse and adult softball leagues at cityofnovi.org or the Novi Parks office, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, between Taft and Novi roads. For more information, call (248) 347-0400 or visit www.cityofnovi.org.



School board meeting tonight

Don't miss tonight's school board meeting where board members are expected to vote on implementing the International Baccalaureate Programme (IB) at Novi High School. Parents and educators have spoken out for and against this hot topic. The meeting is 7 p.m. at the Educational Services Building, 25345 Taft Road.

Novi can expect decrease in 2009 tax base

Loss estimated at nearly quarter million dollars

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER



Lemmon

Novi City Assessor Glenn Lemmon anticipates more than a 1 percent reduction in Novi's taxable value for 2009, with further reductions projected next year.

Although Lemmon did not want to speculate how the city will make up for the anticipated loss, using the 2008 millage rates, he said it equates to a \$214,600 reduction in the city's general fund property tax revenue.

"Property taxes are the largest contributor to the annual budget,"

he said during a presentation to Novi's City Council. "The things that make Novi a desirable place to live and work, such as police and fire protection; parks and recreation; libraries and schools; are funded in large part by the property taxes."

Novi City Manager Clay Pearson said in anticipation of declining residential property values, the City Council and the administration have taken precautionary measures such as raising the general fund balance from 8-12 percent to 14-18 percent to help cushion changes in valuation.

If not for new construction among residential, commercial and industrial properties, the city

would be experiencing a much more significant decline, Lemmon said.

"We had a very good year (last year) for commercial and industrial," he said, noting project completions such as ITC, Providence Park and Ryder Systems.

"However, we all know Novi is not immune to the economic problems that face the Detroit area. We've been living off of new construction, and as that goes down, we're going to be impacted by it."

Lemmon is estimating a 3.91 percent decline overall in assessment values, with existing residential properties experiencing an average decrease of 9.18 percent, ranging from 2 percent in some neighborhoods to 20 percent in others.

"Oakland County is projecting a 12-14 percent decline in residential properties for next year. In

my projections I used a decline of 8 percent," Lemmon said, noting Oakland County has to factor in communities such as Pontiac and Hazel Park who have been suffering more than Novi. "I don't think we'll be nearly as impacted as the county."

If market conditions don't drastically improve, Lemmon said Novi should expect a 3 percent reduction in taxable value for 2010.

"The good news is Novi is in much better shape than most communities," he said. "Novi has a wide variety of relatively new residential, commercial and industrial properties and they are located in a very desirable area."

"When it comes time for the market to rebound, we're going to be the place to go."

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PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Novi's Holy Family Church ends its week of hosting the homeless from Detroit's Cass Corridor on Thursday, Jan. 29.

Novi church opens doors to homeless

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

On a snowy January night, Lauren Hamilton celebrated her birthday sheltered from the cold with a pillow, blanket and place to sleep at Novi's Church of the Holy Family.

"Being here is like being on vacation," she said. "I'm just here to get some rest."

The church opened its doors to more than 40 homeless people at night for the week of Jan. 24-31 as part of the Interfaith Rotating Shelter program.

"They treat you just like you're one of their own, like you're at home," said Hamilton, noting this is the first time she's been part of a rotating shelter. "It's just so pleasant. I feel so special."

At about 5 p.m. each day, a bus

CLOTHES CLOSET

Located inside Church of the Holy Family, 24505 Meadowbrook Road. Drop-off hours 9 a.m. to noon and 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mondays. Call Carol Ann Donnelly at (248) 349-8553 to schedule an appointment or make other arrangements.

load of homeless people from the Detroit area were greeted with bedding, hygiene kits, food, activities and hugs from longtime volunteer Deeky Loussaert.

"The reason I want hugs is because I want them to feel loved," she said. "They have negativity and rejection in their life. I want them to feel like they can be uplifted."

Please see **HOMELESS, A3**



Holy Family Church volunteer Dale Doleah, right, shakes hands with Sidney Lynch who was staying at the Novi church along with other homeless individuals last week.

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Broadway bound

BY VICTORIA MITCHELL
STAFF WRITER

Last week, Emma Howe spelled perseverance right at school.

An appropriate word to master considering the Novi Middle School student embodies the definition of the word. At 12, Howe has appeared in 20 stage productions, auditioned for commercials and voiceovers and can belt out a tune that would make Simon Cowell beam.

The petite actress, singer and dancer said she will settle for nothing less than starring on Broadway - her dream career destination.

Howe just wrapped up starring in the Northville Marquis

Please see **EMMA, A5**



PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Novi actress Emma Howe, 12, holds up a scrapbook of some of her many plays she's starred in at the Marquis Theatre in Northville.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM NOVI CITY COUNCIL

Council interviewed about 20 candidates for positions on Novi boards and commissions at Monday's meeting. Mayor David Landry was thrilled with the turnout and said it was the most applicants he's seen.

Members council had to immediately appoint the position, selecting Ronald Boron for the full term position and Dale Holdaway as an alternate.

Dressing up 'threads of power'

BY TRACY ESTES SPECIAL WRITER

The phrase dress for success is important in the business world and the Novi Chamber of Commerce is helping job seekers do just that.

The Novi Chamber of Commerce is hosting the 10th annual Threads of Power breakfast Wednesday, Feb. 11 at Twelve Oaks Mall's Nordstrom Bistro.

THREADS OF POWER

Date: Wednesday, Feb. 11 Time: Registration at 7:45 a.m., breakfast at 8 a.m. Location: Twelve Oaks Nordstrom Bistro, enter at the Nordstrom North entrance

Registration is underway for spring sports including youth soccer and lacrosse, and adult softball leagues at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road.

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NOVI BRIEFLY

Novi Chorales Valentine's concert

The Novi Chorales is performing a Valentine's concert 4 p.m. Sunday at St. John Lutheran Church, located at 23225 Gill Road in Farmington Hills.

Spring into action with Novi Parks

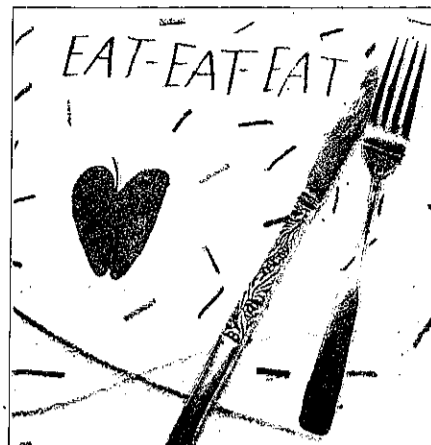
Registration is underway for spring sports including youth soccer and lacrosse, and adult softball leagues at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road.

HOMELESS FROM PAGE A1

Along with Loonsart, parish and community members volunteer resources, time and money to make it a memorable week for those less fortunate.

Parks Foundation seeking volunteers

The Novi Parks Foundation is seeking motivated volunteers for the public and at community events. For information on auditions, contact Becky Staab at (248) 348-2919 or visit www.noviparks.org.



When the homeless stayed at Novi's Holy Family Church last week, they found hand-drawn place mats by congregation kids with messages like "EAT-EAT-EAT."

When the homeless stayed at Novi's Holy Family Church last week, they found hand-drawn place mats by congregation kids with messages like "EAT-EAT-EAT."

10 a.m., each day of the hospitality week. "They're not here because they truly want to be."

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WE'RE MOVING DOWN THE ROAD FEBRUARY 11 - MARCH 22

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.

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Happy New Year

(At left) In celebration of the Chinese New Year, Ming Louie, right, hosts a cooking demonstration at the Novi Public Library on Jan. 30. (Above) Ming Louie turns an egg roll around in some hot oil at the Novi library during a cooking demonstration.

PHOTO BY JOHN HEDER/NOVI NEWS

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NOVI ENGAGEMENTS

Bagdady-Spector

Bruce and Carol Bagdady of Novi are pleased to announce the engagement of their son Justin Paul Bagdady of Philadelphia to Kayte Kelleher Spector of Philadelphia daughter of Bert Spector and Maureen Kelleher of Melrose, Mass.

Justin is a 2002 graduate of Novi High School, a 2006 graduate of the University of Michigan and is currently attending the University of Pennsylvania Law School and will graduate in May 2009.

Kayte graduated in 2004 with a Bachelor of Arts from Middlebury College in Vermont in History and Theatre and currently attends the University of Pennsylvania Law School, graduating in May 2009.



Bagdady-Spector

Justin and Kayte plan to practice law in Washington D.C. after graduation. They plan an August 2009 wedding in Boston.

Shubert-McKenney

Gary and Joan Shubert of Novi are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Steven Shubert to Shannon McKenney, daughter of Wayne and Susan McKenney.

The couple are both alumni of Michigan State University where they met, as members of Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity. Steven is currently a Sales Engineer with AKG in North Carolina and Shannon is pursuing her Masters Degree in Public Health at the University of Michigan.

A New Year's Eve wedding is planned at the Colony Club in downtown Detroit.



Shubert-McKenney

EMMA

FROM PAGE 41

Theater production of "Stuart Little." "It has been great. I love it," she said. "It is a great experience."

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Howe started her career at 6 in Cincinnati, Ohio, at a local performance camp. "It was something new, and I got hooked," she said.

At 7, her family moved to Novi with sights on the Marquis Theater.

Her mother, Kathy, researched theaters in Michigan before the family transferred, and knew Emma would make the Marquis her second home.

"I've been doing it every year since," Emma said. "It's been awesome. I've made all my best friends there."

Emma's snagged the lead in "Pinky the Flying Ghost," "Jungle Book" and "Stuart Little."

She's even already signed an autograph or two.

Kathy said the first time she and her husband went to watch Emma perform at drama camp they were taken aback.

"My husband and I were blown away," she said. "We knew she was so special."

HIGH HOPES

Settling for nothing less than Broadway, Emma continues to hone her craft.

"I want to go to New York and see my dream come true," she said.

Emma just saw "Wicked," cementing the fact she wants to call the stage home.

"It was amazing," she said. She recently auditioned for the "Little Mermaid" and is absolutely caught by the acting bug.

"It's hard to describe, it's amazing," she said. "It feels like I don't have to think of the words, and I just know them."

At 15, Emma's Marquis Theatre young adult career will come to a close. She will rejoice when she turns 18.

In the meantime, Emma hopes to be active in the Novi High School drama program.

Along with her acting and singing aspirations, Emma maintains top grades. "The middle school has been amazing," Kathy said, mentioning the support the school has showed concerning her daughter's performance schedule.

One of Emma's fondest memories is when her classroom led by teacher Jane Deroc took a field trip to watch her perform at the Marquis.

She also loves playing guitar, cooking and skiing.



Smith-Hopcin

Steve and Debbie Smith of Novi are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Brett Smith, to Lisa Hopcin, daughter of Tom and Patty Hopcin of Clarkston.

Lisa is a 2002 graduate of Clarkston High School and a 2006 graduate of Michigan State University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting, and a Master's degree in Accounting in 2007. She is currently employed as a Certified Public Accountant in the Chicago office of Deloitte & Touche.

Brett graduated from Detroit Catholic Central in 2002 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Michigan State University in 2006. He is currently attending Chicago-Kent College of Law and will graduate in May 2009 to begin his Intellectual Properties law practice at Fitch, Even, Tabin, and Flannery in Chicago.

An August 2009 wedding is planned at the National Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak.

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Page AB (NN)
Victoria Mitchell, Editor
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OUR VIEWS Helping the homeless - a no-brainer?

Helping the tired, hungry, cold and those without a home is no noble deed. It's a no-brainer. We agree.

Novi's Church of the Holy Family for the Interfaith Rotating Shelter program.

As part of the program, last week, more than 40 homeless people were bused to the church from the Detroit area in the evening for seven consecutive night stays.

The men and women would be bused back downtown in the morning and then brought back again that night.

Along with food, blankets and a comfortable place to rest, the program participants were offered games, entertainment and manicures, and most importantly, they were treated with respect.

Volunteers stayed the entire night making sure their guests were comfortable.

It's a good deed - no a great deed. A no-brainer.

Think, but what do area residents want to know?

Novi's Oakland County community residents picked their city council meeting, outraged a warming shelter would be placed in one of their neighborhoods.

Now this shelter was not for a week, but for continuous operation.

The residents who spoke did not want people brought into their neighborhood - from the Detroit Metro area - for warmth, rest and food.

For the most part, they cited safety issues. And property tax issues.

It made us think, do Novi residents mind that people with a transient lifestyle are brought into one of their neighborhoods for a week during the night? Or are you worried about what they are doing to help others?

Not a big deal, right?

Well, unfortunately, it is a very big deal for a growing number of people, many of whom live right in our hometowns. The list of people needing such basic things grows with each announcement of yet another company planning layoffs.

The list of items amounts to what is most needed for the shelter by Hospitality House, a local organization that is dedicated to helping those in need.

The holiday hoopla is over, and so are the pleas for donations of money, food and clothing to help our neighbors. But the need is as great - no, greater - than ever before.

There are plenty of ways in which you can help. The Rochester Arca Neighborhood House operates a food pantry that is housed in First Congregational Church in Rochester.

Troy People Concerned acts as a referral agency, while St. Anastasia Catholic Church, also in Troy, has a food pantry.

One of two major agencies which battle homelessness is being Forgotten Harvest. Forgotten Harvest's Oak Park, picks up food from restaurants for distribution to shelters and food banks.

As your own budget is, there are a lot of folks out there who are really hurting.

Join the discussion

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NOVI TV NEWS

GANNETT

Victoria Mitchell, Community Editor
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Susan Russek, Executive Editor

TALK OF THE TOWN

What was your favorite part of the Super Bowl experience on Sunday?



"I knew the Steelers were going to win, so watching Arizona try to come back was nice. The 100-yard runback was my favorite part."

- Justin Matthews, Novi Hudson



"I loved the last seconds' excitement of 'Was he in, or was he out?'"

- Elaine Wampler, Cohoctah



"The commercials were the best part. The one-second High Life lived up to the hype. I liked the back and forth of the game. I don't watch football a ton, but the last third of the game I was glued to it."

- Nick Umble, Milford



"I go to the party, but I don't watch the game. For me, it's getting together with friends, eating and talking."

- Lisa Justin, Highland

IB is a positive district program

In response to Mr. Mena's letter regarding the International Baccalaureate Program (IB) that is up for a vote this Thursday night at the Novi Public Schools BOE meeting. Although some people are reluctant toward change, let us consider the many ways our children and community will be at an advantage by adopting the IB program in our schools. In these tough economic and political times, IB will better prepare our children for their future. Some of the key elements to the program teach critical thinking, independent learning and exploration through study. Potential Novi homebuyers will look favorably at a district that is forward thinking in adopting the IB program, which is known in so many states and communities. This will be an advantage to all in our community.

As for some comments regarding the choice between the AP and IB program, there is no choice. Both programs will exist in our district and in many ways complement each other. Students who choose not to take the full IB program may choose to take only a few classes along with their AP courses. There is no downside to higher learning. The IB program is open - there is no admission test or qualifications. All are able to be a part of this wonderful, innovative program. Certified IB teachers will be a great benefit to all in sharing their teaching tools and knowledge. Lastly, the cost of the program is small compared to having our students at a disadvantage considering that neighboring school districts have already adopted the IB program. We need critical thinkers, not good test takers.

Shari Lebo, Novi

Here is what you had to say online after reading the Novi News letters to the editor about the proposed Novi High School IB program:

WillyMena wrote: I'm not convinced that AP won't take a hit. If you add more classes, and you don't add more teachers, and you still keep a 4-block day, something has to give. If you have more classes, you're going to have less kids enrolling in some class. At some point, we're going to be telling AP students... "sorry, but only x number of kids signed up, and that's below our minimum allowable class size."

This things has already caused a disruption. We've modified our long-range plans to justify this program. Now they're trying to shove an intolerable schedule down our throats in order to better fit in this program. I'd be happy to sit down with you and give you a history lesson on this one day... that is, if someone doesn't come up to you first in order to point me as some sort of malcontent. I'm simply passionate about our city, and passionate about our schools. Trust me, you made the right choice to move here.

WillyMena wrote: This "global" stuff seems to be the latest craze in education, but kids today are more globally aware than ever before. We didn't have things like 24 hour news cycles when we were kids, nor did we have the Internet. Today, kids can't avoid it.

I do also have some concerns about cost. Our administration seems not to have a handle on budgetary priorities. Heck, they

LETTERS



Novi Family Church volunteers and their homeless guests pose for a photo at the church last week.

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Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

FROM THE WEB

STILL haven't fixed the broken desks at Novi Meadows and I KNOW that this has been brought to their attention.

It's not just IB that I'm a skeptical on, it's also the slimy process that our School Administration goes through in order to push ANY of their agenda items. Facts NEVER seem to stand in their way.

WillyMena wrote: Shari, Thanks again for taking the time to chime in. Maybe the next time a "controversial issue" comes up, we can be on the same side. Unfortunately, we will have to respectfully see this one differently.

Again (at the risk of sounding like a broken record), I still don't understand the actual content that will be used to make our children more "Globally Aware". As a parent, this should be made clear to me. It's important that what my children are taught in school is not in direct conflict with the philosophies and values that I try to instill here at home. Can you respect that?

Even more, when did we decided that this was such a critical issue and our children? And if someone can make that case, who determined that our kids are lacking in this area? And please, don't write me off as some sort of nut because I dare ask these questions. This is EXACTLY the type of critical questioning that the IB claims their Theory of Knowledge class tried to address.

sharilebo wrote: Our children were entering 5th grade and Novi was so appealing because our children could enter Meadows with all of the other "new kids" and not stand out. All of the other districts we considered would put them in an elementary school where

they were the "new kids" with others who had been together for up to six years. With the emotional aspect of uprooting the children, this was an important consideration. Of course, other factors also made Novi a good fit for our family and we are extremely happy with our choice.

Is the IB program the only way our children can become critical thinkers? No, but it is an option available here and now for Novi students to excel at becoming thoughtful, independent thinkers, not good test takers!

sharilebo wrote: If neighboring districts, as you state, send their students outside the district for IB, that is even more reason why we will benefit by having IB within Novi schools. I would bet that parents do NOT want to ship their children outside our school district when we have the opportunity to bring the program to the children instead. As I have stated before, potential home buyers will look favorably at our school district having the IB program here.

Our family did want to move into a district that already had the IB program in place, but as you know, many aspects go into moving a family. While education was our highest priority, the fact that the IB program was in its final phase to begin in Novi seemed to quell our concern. Having such a positive experience in our last IB community, it never dawned on me that there would be this much controversy over such an amazing program opportunity. In moving here from one of the highest rated districts in SC, there was much to consider...

CHURCHES

FROM PAGE A7

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) 348-0015.

Bible Studies and Prayer Nights
Learner's Bible Study
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Mondays Room A01
Men's Bible Study
TIME/DATE: 6:30 a.m. Wednesday Single Adult Ministries Office
Single's Bible Study
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. second and fourth Mondays, Room C309

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
LOCATION: 2505 Meadowbrook Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-8847 or visit holymfamily.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 dfoznazarene.org
Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC
LOCATION: 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 347-7178
Mass Schedule
TIME/DATE: 8, 9, 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) 380-6261

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
LOCATION: 217 N. King
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 5th grade. Enjoy recreation, Bible study, music and dinner.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
LOCATION: 201 Elm St., Northville
CONTACT: (248) 349-3140

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
Sunday 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 5-6, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast
Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 8:30 a.m. Blended; 11 a.m. Contemporary; 11:30 a.m. Traditional

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL
LOCATION: 2055 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
Scrap book event
TIME/DATE: 6-11 p.m., Feb. 27; 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Feb. 28
DETAILS: \$25 on Friday, \$35 on Saturday, \$50 both days

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@pepa.org
Sunday Worship
TIME: 10 a.m.
DETAILS: Nursery staffed by Nanny Poppins.

OUR SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LOCATION: 140 N. Center, above Tullio'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 HART-FAMILY IMPARTED 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

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

GRAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
LOCATION: 23455 Novi Road
CONTACT: Pastor Jon Six (248) 349-5665
Preschool/Kids Choir
TIME/DATE: 7-8:15 p.m. every Wednesday
DETAILS: For ages three to six; ongoing event, no need to pre-register; all are welcome.

CROSSPOINT MEADOWS CHURCH
LOCATION: 29030 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointmeadows.org
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.
Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for all ages
DETAILS: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship experience.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
LOCATION: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 427-1175 or church@theloholycross.com
Sunday Worship: 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m.
Sunday School and Nursery Care
TIME: 10 a.m. Worship Service
Alzheimer's Support Group
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
LOCATION: 41415 Nine Mile Road, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 349-0565
Sunday Schedule
TIME: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study; 10 a.m. Worship

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
LOCATION: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills
CONTACT: (248) 474-0594 or visit sluh-lutheran.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 or by mail to Church Events/Record/Novi, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.



PHOTO BY JOHN REIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Exercising

Joy Ziger shovels the snow off her Rogers St. home after a recent wet, heavy snowfall. Ziger calls shoveling show her "winter workout."

SAVVY SENIOR

Acupuncture: An effective way to treat arthritis pain and more

Dear Savvy Senior
What can you tell me about acupuncture? I have osteoarthritis and am looking for an alternative solution to ease my joint pain. Aching Annie

Dear Annie,
According to the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, acupuncture is a viable way to fight arthritis pain, and can help with a variety of other health conditions too. Here's what you should know.

First used in China more than 2,000 years ago, acupuncture was introduced in the United States in the early 1970s and has grown increasingly popular as more and more patients, dissatisfied with tradi-

tional medicine, are opting for it.

Who It Helps
While acupuncture isn't a cure-all treatment, it is a safe, drug-free option for relieving many different types of pain including osteoarthritis, low back pain, neck pain, migraine headaches, fibromyalgia, postoperative pain, tennis elbow, carpal tunnel syndrome, dental pain, menstrual cramps and more.

Studies also show that it can be helpful in treating asthma, depression, digestive disorders and allergies, and can even alleviate nausea caused by chemotherapy or anesthesia.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Novi police rule Dearborn man's death accidental

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Police Department completed the investigation of the accidental death of contractor Amer Hadbah, 45, of Dearborn, last Tuesday.

Hadbah died after he was crushed between two roofing trucks in the driveway of a residence in the 46000 block of Addington Lane. Hadbah and several of his co-workers were allegedly sub-contractors for Mr. Roof, an Ann Arbor company, and were roofing the home near 10 Mile and Taft roads.

According to reports, a large dump-style truck was backed into the driveway warming up as the workers prepared to leave. A second enclosed, box-style truck was parked about 10-15 feet away at the end of the driveway.

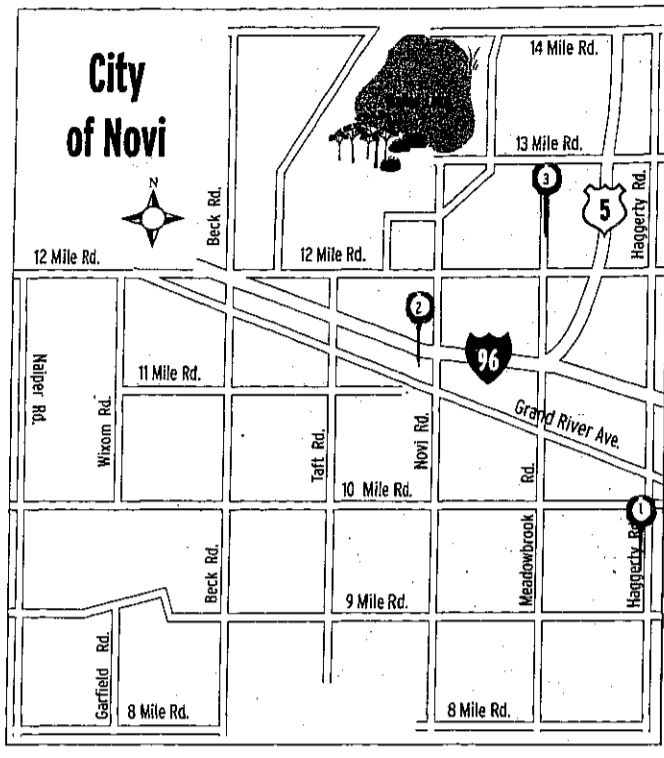
Witnesses said both vehicles were unoccupied with their parking brakes activated, but police believe the dump truck's brakes became disengaged, causing it to roll forward and crush Hadbah.

"We can theorize it was not properly engaged, however we'll never know for certain if (the parking brake) was fully engaged the night of the accident because the victim was the last one in the vehicle," said Novi Police Chief David Molloy, noting the driveway's incline, snow and ice were all factors in the incident.

Hadbah was immediately transported to Providence Park Hospital and pronounced dead just before 8 p.m.

An autopsy by the Oakland County Medical Examiner revealed the victim died from mass trauma as a result of the accident.

Gannett News Service contributed to this report.



WIXOM POLICE BRIEFS

Wixom City Manager Mike Dornan issued a community-wide alert regarding an armed robbery occurring Sunday, Jan. 25 at the CVS Pharmacy at Chalmers and Wixom roads.

The alert includes posting a \$2,000 reward split between CVS Pharmacy and the City of Wixom Narcotic Forfeiture Funds for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the robber and accomplice(s).

Dornan said if anyone knows of a person who matches the description of the armed robber, they should contact the Wixom Police Department at (249) 624-6114.

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.

At about 5:50 p.m. Jan. 25, Wixom police were dispatched

REWARD - \$2,000 Wanted for Armed Robbery



to the CVS store 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 20s, was able to get away with an undisclosed quantity of narcotics, reports said.

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.

Dornan said Wixom is one of the best places to live and city officials intend to keep it that way.

He also said this type of crime does not happen in Wixom, and the City is moving quickly and aggressively toward apprehending the individual(s).

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Tires missing

A set of tires is suspected stolen from a vehicle parked on Olde Orchard Road, near 10 Mile and Haggerty roads, between 6 p.m. Jan. 24 and 9 a.m. Jan. 25, reports said.

The owner of the 2008 Mercury Milan returned to find the vehicle sitting on a set of cinder blocks. An unknown suspect removed the tires, rims and lug nuts, reports said.

No similar incidents were reported in the area.

Catalytic converter snatched

The catalytic converter was cut from a Pontiac Montana in the parking lot of Ethan Allen at 12 Mile

and Novi roads, between 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Jan. 22, reports said.

An employee of the store returned to her vehicle after work and discovered it was making a loud noise, reports said. She drove it home and told her husband, who took it to the dealership and was notified that the catalytic converter was missing.

Police responded to a noise complaint just after midnight Jan. 23, reports said.

The resident, who is underage, answered the door and officers smelled an odor of intoxicants coming from her person, reports said.

The girl said she had one shot of liquor about an hour prior, but police observed an empty bottle of Smirnoff apple vodka in the kitchen of the apartment, reports said.

A preliminary breath test was administered, which registered the girl's blood alcohol concentration at .07 percent. She was arrested for a minor in possession.

Nothing else was reported missing.

Noise complaint leads to MIP

Police responded to a noise complaint just after midnight Jan. 23, reports said.

Job Targets

What's the first thing that comes to mind when a jobseeker begins a job search? "I've got to update my resume!" Unfortunately, updating or creating a resume without considering what your job target will be is a common mistake. The document you create will more than likely be a history of your work experience that has no focus and does nothing to help an employer visualize you helping to solve their problems.



Martha Adamson

Your resume is essentially a marketing tool. It should be a brochure that describes your features, benefits, and accomplishments in support of a well-focused job target. It is best used in conjunction with a well-planned strategy to identify and penetrate organizations which are likely to have an interest in your knowledge, skills and abilities.

Jobseekers usually fall into one of two categories when it comes to job targets. First, there are those whose careers have followed a pretty straight trajectory with little or no deviation. Jobs within the career have been closely related and build on clear skill and knowledge sets. For example, an automotive engineer who has developed

expertise in NVH - noise, vibration and harshness will have a vast knowledge of how to measure and diagnose sources of NVH, the causes and cures for NVH, and will be knowledgeable about new developments in the field. While over the course of time the jobs the engineer has held might be in manufacturing, R&D, Quality or Field Testing, all the jobs have added to the knowledge and skill base in NVH Engineering. As a jobseeker, this engineer is likely to stay focused on the field that they know best, but will look at expanding their job search into new employers or industries where NVH Engineering is used.

The second type of jobseeker will have had a series of jobs over the course of their career which might encompass a variety of fields and industries. For example, my own career began in Quality Assurance in Food & Drug Manufacturing, where I worked both in factory and corporate settings. I changed direction when I discovered that I loved training & organiza-

tion development. After earning a Master's degree in Industrial Relations, I expanded my interests to other areas of Human Resource management and Career Development. I've since worked in Academia as well, with a focus on Student Services especially Academic Advising and Career Services. I know that what I've most enjoyed learning about and working with have two primary areas - Employee Development and Career Development. I also know that I can find enjoyment in either Business or Academia as industry targets. My early QA background gives me insight into manufacturing and quality which is useful in the business world, but would not be my primary target.

To begin to develop your Job Target, review your work history. For each job, ask yourself, "What did I like and what did I not like about this job?" Try to develop a list for both. Include information about your peers, your subordinates and your boss and work team - who did you like and enjoy working with - why? Who were difficult to work with - why? Add in what you liked about the organization you worked for, and what you didn't

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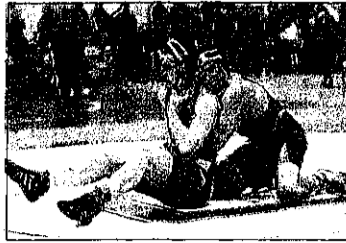
THURSDAY
February 5
2009

SECTION B
(NN)

Jeff Theisen, editor (248) 349-1700
Ext. 228 jtheisen@gannett.com

LOCAL SPORTS

online at hometownlife.com



CC wrestlers
capture title at
tournament
Story, Page B4

Novi suffers first loss in division

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

In the battle of the top cats, South Lyon entered hostile Novi Wildcats territory and emerged with a 58-48 victory Tuesday night.

The Lions take first place alone in the KLA Central Division at a perfect 5-0 and 7-3 overall. South Lyon has not lost in 2009, ripping off six-straight wins.

"I think this was a big confidence boost, and we've got to keep riding it now," South Lyon head coach Doug Host said. "Now we've got to not fall into that trap that we had at the beginning of the season where we thought we could play with anyone but we didn't necessarily have to do all the little things."

"Defensively, they're doing the little things right now."

Novi never led, and only managed a couple of ties. The Wildcats fall to 9-2, 4-1.

South Lyon scored the first four points of the game, but Novi's Braudon Bryant hit a late inside shot to tie the game at 13.

The teams traded buckets to start the second, and a 10-2 run by the Lions gave them a lead they would not relinquish.

"Kudos to South Lyon," Novi head coach Cory Heitsch said. "They realized they could be as aggressive as we were, and they were more aggressive. They were the better team tonight, and they deserved to win."

"If we don't grow from it, then it's a wasted opportunity. We did not bring a lot with



South Lyon's Ben Rhoad, center, is pressured by Novi's Brandon Bryant and Brad Kotlyo during Tuesday night's matchup in Novi.

us between the ears tonight."

South Lyon took a 28-22 lead into the half, led by Mike Fenner with seven of his eight points.

Novi's top-scorer was Chris Bellamy with nine, but he was being hounded the whole way with a defender light on him the entire time he was on

the court. Novi managed to cut two points off the lead, trailing 40-36 after three, but the Wildcats would not get any

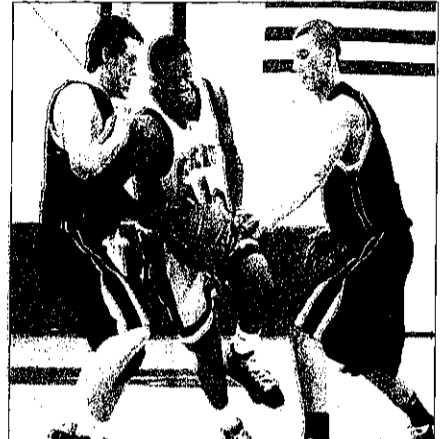


PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

While being double-teamed by a pair of South Lyon defenders, Novi's Jeremy Mims tries to get to the basket during Tuesday night's game.

closer.

Bellamy hit a three pointer with a little more than five minutes to go to get within five, but the Lions held the comeback attempt off the rest of the way.

Lyon guard Jordan Short hit for 10 of his team-high 16 points in the fourth quarter.

"We had a great game. It was just a bunch of teamwork," Short said. "We were pumped. Everyone was real focused. It gives us a lot of confidence to beat a really good team like Novi."

Other South Lyon players in double digits included AJ Thweatt with 11 and Adam Gentile with 10.

Bellamy finished with a game-high 19 points, but

the next highest scorer was Bryant with nine.

Free throws played a big part in the game, with South Lyon connecting on 23 of 30 overall and 11-for-12 in the first half.

"We knocked down our free throws all game," Host said. "We're right around 70 percent (for the year), except for the fourth quarter. We're shooting like 58 percent in the fourth quarter. It was nice that we carried it over to the fourth quarter tonight."

Novi hit just 17 of 51 shots and went 10-for-18 at the line.

The two meet again Feb. 20 at South Lyon.

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Lions fend off Novi, 34-30

BY TOM MORELLI
SPECIAL TO SOUTH LYON HERALD

Talk about cutting it close. Such was the case on Tuesday night, when South Lyon hosted Novi in a divisional match-up.

Then again, that's been the theme so far this season for the girls basketball team, but somehow they continue to find their way to victory.

South Lyon (11-1 overall, 3-1 KLA Central) appeared to have the upper hand from the get-go, as they rebounded from a 4-0 deficit to score 17-straight points before the end of the first quarter.

However, the Wildcats (9-4 overall, 4-1) stole the show in the following period at both ends of the court. Switching off between a 2-3 zone and a box set, Novi limited South Lyon to just three points, while adding 10 on offense. Though the Wildcats trailed 19-14 at the half, any chances of a blowout from either team fell toward the wayside.

Looking for a shift in

momentum, Lions head coach Erica Thomas decided to put Jenny Maslany into the lineup to begin the second half. The strategy paid-off in copious amounts as the junior forward scored six of her eight in the third quarter.

Maslany also saw significant minutes in the second half, serving as an undersized, yet suitable replacement at center when senior Danielle Gotham was in foul trouble.

A three-point play by Novi's Kelsey Masserant midway made it a 19-19 game about midway through the third, but Maslany scored on two straight possessions to help spur a 7-1 run to end the quarter.

Thomas commented on the sudden impact Maslany brought to her team in the second half.

"With our post-player in foul trouble, Jenny took control of the situation and played a very aggressive and fast game for us," said Thomas. "She's a player whose speed changes everything and she has the flexibility to play different

positions. One of the other things about her too is she's an excellent defender."

Though South Lyon was never able to build a comfortable lead, they were able to prevent the Wildcats from establishing any momentum on offense. The Lions used the clock to their advantage late in the fourth and padded their lead at the free-throw line following a series of fouls by Novi that put them in the bonus.

Another player that had a breakthrough performance for South Lyon was Kelsey Kaminsky, who had the difficult task of guarding the Wildcat main threat, Caroline Johnson. Kaminsky did not back down on her assignment, limiting Johnson to just six points.

Kaminsky's success was just one of many defensive matchups that forced Novi head coach Bill Kelp to rethink his strategy.

"We wanted Caroline to score more for us, but offensively we couldn't do what we wanted to do," said Kelp.



PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

The Lady Wildcats huddle as they prepare to take on Salem High.

"Their defense was what dictated how we were going to play our game."

Leading the Lions in points was sophomore guard Courtney Harrison with nine,

including a 3-for-4 performance at the line.

For the Wildcats, Masserant was the top scorer and rebounder with 14 and five, respectively.

South Lyon plays later tonight, when they travel to Livonia Stevenson for another divisional match-up. In their previous encounter, the Lions came out on top, 57-51.

Novi ski team confident heading into finals

STORY SUBMITTED

The Novi ski program ended a long week on the hill with five wins and one loss.

Last Tuesday night at Alpine Valley, the boys and girls team each defeated Walled Lake Western.

On Wednesday night, both teams were expecting wins, but several disqualifications and little mistakes hindered the boys from another victory.

The week concluded last Thursday with a meet against Hartland on the back hills at Alpine Valley. The girls had a strong win, and the boys won thanks to Jordan Feight breaking a tie.

The girls captured the top five spots in every meet last week, with Danielle Fahoome consistently fin-



Wildcat Austin Feight skis at Alpine Valley during a multi-school meet.

ishing in first place. Megan Burns finished second against Walled Lake Western and Central and

Lindsey Johnson captured second-place against Hartland. Other consistent top-five finishers were Megan Wenzl and Sara Arne.

Highlights for the boys included Garret Farley with a solid second-place finish against Western and was followed closely by teammate Steven Rajkovic in third. Harper Halley captured the top times for Novi against Walled Lake Central and Hartland by finishing third in both meets.

On Friday, the JV team raced at the Don Thomas Cup at Mt. Holly. The team took five racers and finished in 17th place.

"The JV meet was great. Steven Speers, Brandon DuBois, Josh Feight, Dylan Fahoome and Matt Pilat did a nice job representing the Novi ski team," said coach Wendy McBride.

With the regular season coming to an end, Novi skiers have a lot on their minds.

Today at Alpine, Novi varsity will race at divisionals, a qualifying meet for the SEMSL League Championships.

On Feb. 9, the Wildcats will face several teams that they have not yet skied against at the first KLA meet. The meet will take place at Mt. Brighton.

The future of the season will then be decided on Feb. 12 at the qualifying meet at Mt. Brighton.

"We definitely have a chance to take some skiers to states this year, which would be a really exciting for both the skiers and our program as a whole because this is only our third season as a varsity team," said senior captain Danielle Fahoome.



PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Wildcat Danielle Fahoome skis down the hill at Alpine Valley during a recent meet.

SPORTS SHORTS

CC SWIMMING HOSTS THE MEET

Detroit Catholic Central is hosting Brother Rice High School 7 p.m. tonight at the Livonia Community Recreation Center (5 Mile Road, just east of Farmington Road). The event is being called "The Meet" - which will be a celebration of the sport of swimming. WDIV-TV's Guy Gordon will be the Master of Ceremonies as we give away nine iPods for free to the spectators at the

meet at the "halfway point." One of the goals of the meet is to be the top crowd for a dual meet in Michigan.

NOVI POLICE-RED WINGS ALUMNI HOCKEY GAME

The Novi Police Department will square off with the Detroit Red Wings Alumni 8 p.m. March 12 at the Novi Ice Arena. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance.

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CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider a RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE 11, OS-1, OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT, SECTION 1101 AND SECTION 1102, ARTICLE 12, OSC, OFFICE SERVICE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT, SECTION 1201 AND SECTION 1202, ARTICLE 15, B-3, GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, SECTION 1501 AND SECTION 1502, ARTICLE 19, E-1, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT, SECTION 1901 AND SECTION 1902 AND ARTICLE 23, OS-2, PLANNED OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT, SECTION 2301 AND SECTION 2302, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR HEALTH AND FITNESS FACILITIES OCCUPYING BUILDING SPACE OF 2,000 SQUARE FEET OR LESS AS PRINCIPAL PERMITTED USES.

DAVID GRECO, Secretary Novi Planning Commission

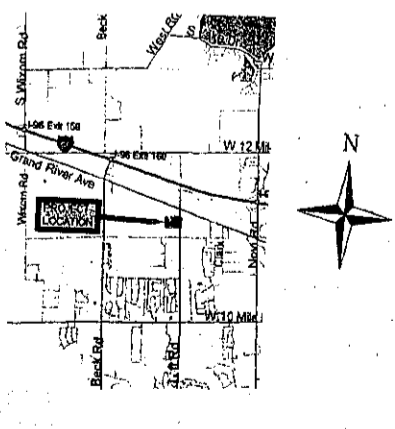
Published: February 5, 2009

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider SRI VENKATESWARA TEMPLE & CULTURAL CENTER, SITE PLAN NUMBER 08-088, FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, SPECIAL LAND USE, WETLAND PERMIT, FLOOD PERMIT AND STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN SECTION 16, ON THE WEST SIDE OF TART ROAD, BETWEEN GRAND RIVER AVENUE AND ELEVEN MILE ROAD, IN THE RA RESIDENTIAL ACBEARGE DISTRICT. The subject property is approximately 10.11 acres and the applicant is proposing a two phase project consisting of a Temple and Cultural Center. The plans have been modified since the Planning Commission's previous review of the project in September and October of 2008 to eliminate the Temporary Temple/Priest Residence from the plans.

DAVID GRECO, Secretary Novi Planning Commission

Published: February 5, 2009



All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, February 25, 2009.



Wildcat Chantel Hill tries to get around a Salem defender.

PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDEN/NOVI NEWS

Novi girls knock off Salem and Stevenson

BY JEFF THEISEN SPORTS WRITER

The Wildcats continue their winning ways with victories against Salem and Stevenson. The game against Salem was a low-scoring battle throughout, with Novi winning 33-27. The Wildcats (9-3, 4-0) led after each quarter, but only won the first three quarters by one point each -- 8-7, 15-13 and 24-21. Caroline Johnson and Chantel Hill provided most of the scoring. Johnson struck for a game-high 11 points, grabbed five rebounds and led with three blocks. Hill was next with 10 points. Salem didn't do itself any favors, converting just five of 12 free throws and hitting 11 of 47 shots on the night (0-for-6 from three-point). Novi hit eight of 12 free throws but made just 12 of 28 shots.

NOVI 49, STEVENSON 21 The Wildcats poured it on early and blew out the Spartans on Friday night. Novi raced out to a 19-2 lead by the end of the first quarter and pushed the lead to 31-7 by halftime.

Johnson again led all scorers with 15 points on 6-for-8 shooting. She also led in assists with five and co-lead in rebounds with six. Hill rang in 10 points, hitting four of six shots. Kelsey Masserant scored six points and snagged six boards. In all, the Wildcats had 10 girls reach the scoring books.

JUNIOR VARSITY The Novi JV improved to 9-3 with wins against Salem and Stevenson. The Wildcats beat Salem 54-44 behind 13 points from Colleen Kolis and 10 from Katie Seelenbinder. In the 53-33 win against Stevenson, Ally D'Annibale led with 15 points. Megan Henry and Seelenbinder each scored 10. Rachel Staudt pitched in six points and snagged 13 rebounds.

FRESHMEN The Novi freshmen (12-0) stayed undefeated with a couple of blowout wins. The first was a 49-9 win against Salem. Shannon Sherwood and Taylor Scott led with eight points each. Kelli Timar was next with seven. In the 37-15 win against Stevenson, Anna Lauch led with 10 points, with Natalie Paul next with seven. Natalie Kozma led the defense with five steals.

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CC just misses knocking off DeLaSalle again, beats OLSM

BY JEFF THEISEN SPORTS WRITER

Anyone waiting for the Shamrock basketball team to show the amazing start has been a fluke can stop.

Yes, the Shamrocks did finally lose their second game, but it came in the final seconds at

DeLaSalle's home court. And before that, CC knocked off Orchard Lake St. Mary's and kept top-player Dion Sims heavily in check.

CC 49, ST. MARY'S 40

On Jan. 29, the Shamrocks traveled to St. Mary's and walked away with a big win.

Both offenses struggled to get anything going in the first, as the two were tied at six. But CC got things going in the second and led 20-11 at the half. St. Mary's cut into the lead to trail 32-29 heading into the fourth. But CC pulled away in the fourth. Brett Smith torched the nets

for 19 points. Tim Dezelski was next with 13. Eagles leading scorer Sims was held to just 11. Jeff Jones also scored 11.

DELASALLE 58, CC 53

The Shamrocks won all but the final minute of the second half, and it resulted in a five-point loss

at DeLaSalle on Friday night. The Pilots ruled the first half and led 38-27 at the intermission. The Shamrocks came storming back and trailed just 48-46 heading into the fourth. DeLaSalle scored in the opening moments of the fourth but failed to again until the final minute.

Meanwhile, CC managed to go ahead 53-49 with less than two minutes to play.

The Shamrocks were unable to score the rest of the way and the Pilots put the game away with a 9-0 run.

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Big starts lead Novi basketball squad to victories

BY JEFF THEISEN SPORTS WRITER

Novi raced out to a 25-5 first quarter lead and held off Livonia Stevenson the rest of the way for a 68-44 victory Friday night. Wildcat Chris Bellamy exploded in the first quarter for 14 points on 6-for-7 shooting on his way to a game-high 23 points.

For head coach Cory Heitsch, it's a pleasure to sit back and watch Bellamy take over a game. "It is fun. That's actually a

good word for it," Heitsch said. "The most surprising part is everybody knows what he's going to do and everybody is trying to take away certain things. He's becoming very clever with his speeds and with the basketball."

The Spartans didn't throw in the towel after the first quarter and managed to battle back within 10 in the early moments of the fourth quarter, but Novi outscored Stevenson 19-5 the rest of the way. Stevenson trailed 6-5 before the Wildcats ripped off the

final 19 points of the first quarter. The Spartans switched to a pressure zone on defense, and though it slowed down the Novi offense, the Spartans only managed to cut the lead to 36-17 by the half.

Spartan Junior Robert Nambert scored nine of his team-high 18 points in the second quarter.

"We've seemed to make it a habit... where we come out kind of guns blazing," Heitsch said. "We think it's because we don't think teams are ready for our ball pressure."

"Now, are there things to clean up, absolutely. When you get up 20, it's OK to play hard at all times. But I'm very pleased with how focused they come out."

The third quarter gave the Spartans hope, outscoring Novi 18-13, thanks to an 8-2 run to end the quarter. The opening four points of the fourth pulled the Spartans within 10, but they ran out of gas and the score turned into a rout late.

"My kids are relentless," Allie said. "I give them all the credit in the world for fight-

ing back, but anytime you dig yourself a 25-5 hole in the first quarter, it's tough to come back against a team like Novi."

Brian Rowe was next highest-scoring for the Spartans with nine points.

Brandon Bradford complimented Bellamy's big night with 13 points, and Tyler Wenon also hit double digits with 11. Novi stays unbeaten in league play with a 9-1, 4-0 record. The Spartans are 6-3, 2-2.

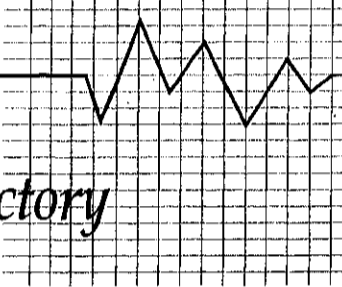
The Wildcats took care of business early, putting up 31 points in the first quarter for a 16-point lead.

Novi didn't let off and stretched the lead to 51-26 by halftime.

Bellamy led all scorers with 37 points, including five three-pointers and 8-for-9 free throw shooting. Bryant Chipped in 11 points and Samir Ozer had eight. Nine Wildcats made the scorebooks. Salem slipped to 3-6, 1-2.

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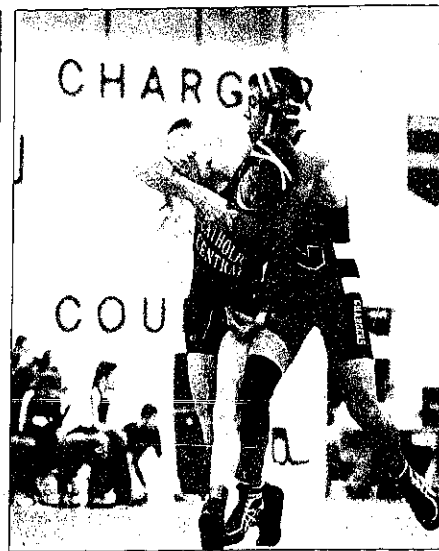
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CC's Kevin Sullivan tries to break the grasp of Livonia Stevenson's Raz Markosian at 140 pounds during the Observerland Tournament.



CC's Doug Eldridge wrestles Churchill's Jonny Banoura at 130 pounds during the Observerland Tournament.

Catholic Central wins Observerland Invitational

BY BRAD EMMS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Novi Detroit Catholic Central proved Saturday it's not the size of the dog in the fight, but it's the size of the fight in the dog. The Shamrocks held a 10.5-point advantage over Westland John Glenn heading into the final matches of Saturday's 18th annual Observerland Invitational Wrestling Tournament hosted by Livonia Churchill.

CC is ranked fourth in Division 1 only behind Rockford, Holt and Hartland and was just coming off an impressive win over Davison. "It's very unusual for a CC team to be stronger at the lower weights, but it's something we've prided ourselves on all season," CC second-year coach Mitch Hancock said. "Usually it's the football-type guys in the upper weights who have carried us, but we've had some young guys step up."

CC took a team-best six individual titles including wins from Todd Melick (103 pounds), Alec Mooradian (112), Justin Melick (119), Charlie Joseph (125), Trevor O'Connor (152) and Mike Kinville (189). The Shamrocks did it with only 11 available wrestlers after voiding three weight classes — 145, 160 and 285. Two grapplers were pulled out because of skin irritations,

while another was injured. "It hurts, but you have to do what's right for the sport and it's for the good for the greater number of people," Hancock said of the disqualifications. "Even with 11, I knew we could do it with these guys. I knew they could accomplish this. We had a good week of practice. We practice hard for five days and then the match is like day off to them."

Glenn put four in the finals, but lost three head-to-head bouts with the Shamrocks. "CC is an impressive team, solid top-to-bottom," Glenn coach Bill Polk said. "We're impressive in the lower weights, and they beat us in all three. Even with the two kids DQed out, they deserved it."

Salem, which captured third place, hasn't won an Observerland title since 1998, but is making a resurgence this season. "We finally have middle school wrestling."

Canton came away with three individual titles led by upper weights MVP Brent Winkoff (145), who pinned Garden City's Tyler Twig (130) and Donnie Filippelli (130) and Donnie Watkins (185) also garnered firsts. Franklin boasted a pair of individual winners — Don Stratz at 160 and Mike Modes at 285. Stratz beat Canton's Keith Zech, 10-3, while Modes averaged a 7-2 dual-meet loss three days earlier to Glenn's Dustin Gajowiak with a 2-1 overtime win.

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Out of the pool

Novi's Wes Smith swims the butterfly. The Wildcats are off until a 6 p.m. Feb. 12 crossover meet at home.



Hitting the road

The Wildcats face an extended road trip before playing their next home game, 5:30 p.m. Feb. 18 against Livonia Stevenson. The Wildcats will have played four on the road before heading back home.

LOCAL PERSONALITIES GO HEAD TO HEAD

A grid of 10 radio personalities with their names, radio stations, and phone numbers. Includes Mason WPRR Radio, Jon Bond WMMV Radio, Gator Anderson 97.1 Radio, Jeff Lessen CBS Radio, Keith Lang Tennyson Chevrolet, Bob Faust Jack Demmer Ford, Ronnie Williams Perfect Floors, Tom Flory Shelton Pontiac Buick GMC, and Ron Fruciano Friendly Chrysler Jeep.

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Jim Riehl's FRIENDLY CHRYSLER JEEP NEW 2009 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY Employee \$15,998

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THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR READERS WHO PLAYED THIS SEASON & CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL WEEKLY PRIZE WINNERS!

Novi Strictly Business

BUSINESS MILESTONES

TOP HONORS

Play It Again Sports
Play It Again Sports of Novi has gone gold. The local sporting goods provider of new and quality used sports and fitness equipment was recognized for achieving a Gold Standard measurement. The standard is reached when a store achieves a set of benchmarks set forth by the franchisor during the evaluation process. The Novi store achieved the customer satisfaction, store operations and product quality standards to earn Gold Standard recognition in 2009. For more about Play It Again Sports, visit www.playitagainsports.com.

SPECIAL HAPPENINGS

bd's Mongolian Grill

In partnership with the American Heart Association, bd's Mongolian Grill is asking guests during the month of February to register for the Go Red For Women movement and join the effort to wipe out heart disease and stroke. Guests at bd's who register will receive a red dress pin at the restaurant and receive upcoming e-newsletters from the American Heart Association. On Friday, Feb. 6, all bd's guests wearing red will have the opportunity receive \$2 off their meal and have the money donated to the American Heart Association.

Art Van
February is Keep Michigan Warm Month and Art Van Furniture is encouraging others to support the initiative. In celebration of its 50th anniversary, Art Van will be donating 50 electric fireplaces by Dimplex

to those in need of utility support throughout the state. Individuals are invited to stop by any Art Van location, including the West Oaks Mall Novi store, Feb. 6-16 to pick up a THAW donation envelope. The fire place donations are through THAW. For more information visit www.thawfund.org.

OFFERS

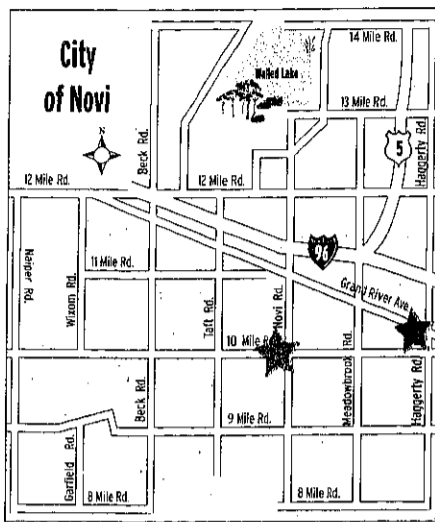
Botsford
The staff at the Botsford Center for Health Improvement (BCHI), part of the Botsford Wellness Complex in Novi, was inspired by Obama's message and is motivated to its part to help the community reduce their health care costs and to live healthier, more vital lives. Encouraged by the energy of Obama's message, BCHI is reducing

membership fees to \$48 per month with additional savings for family members. Membership includes a personalized health improvement plan, weekly sessions with a fitness coach, health history review, personalized fitness assessment, program orientation and a variety of group exercise classes. To learn more about the Botsford Center for Health Improvement, call (248) 473-3100 or visit www.botsford.org/bchi.

OPENINGS

Mirchi
Indian Restaurant
4337 Grand River Ave.

La Fuente
Authentic Mexican Restaurant
(248) 465-6520
27250 Novi Road



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Botsford Center for Health Improvement offers medical model

Q. Who is behind Botsford Center for Health Improvement?

A. Monica Pagels, exercise physiologist and fitness manager

Q. Your hometown?

A. South Lyon

Q. When did this location open?

A. Dec. 7, 2006

Q. How many employees do you have?

A. 16 (more than half with nationally recognized fitness certifications)

Q. Your business specialty?

A. Fitness, wellness and disease prevention. We specialize in creating personalized fitness programs.

Q. Tell us about your business, including the types of services and products you feature?

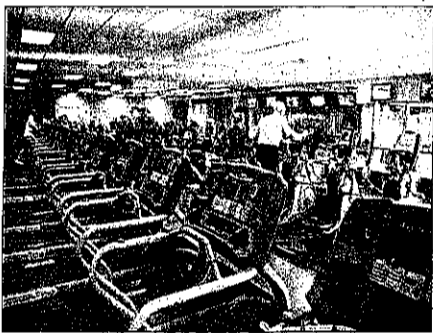
A. We are a comprehensive wellness center that offers fitness memberships, group exercise classes, personal training, post rehabilitation programs and mind/body programs such as massage therapy, Yoga, Reiki and Hypnotherapy.

Q. What makes your business unique?

A. Owned by Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills, we offer a "medical model" fitness approach. This means that we educate our members on the value of maintaining their health and preventing chronic disease, and when necessary work with physicians to determine the best program for their health condition. We are unique because we offer more than just fancy exercise equipment and full service locker rooms... we connect with each of our members through a very personalized and customized exercise plan. Members meet one-on-one with a fitness specialist to develop their personal exercise and wellness plan that is specific to their goals. We even call our members when we don't see them in the gym!

Q. How did you first decide to open the business?

A. Botsford Hospital is ahead of the curve when it comes to recognizing the value of keeping healthy people healthy. Also, our fitness center is an extension of



Members of the Botsford Center for Health Improvement in Novi exercise in the facility's cardio theater.

BOTSFORD CENTER FOR HEALTH IMPROVEMENT, AS PART OF THE BOTSFORD WELLNESS COMPLEX

Business address: 39750 Grand River Ave, Novi
Hours: Monday-Thursday: 5:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
Friday: 5:30 a.m.-9 p.m.
Saturday: 7 a.m.-4 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Business phone: (248) 473-3100
Web site: www.botsford.org/bchi

our outpatient therapy facility that has over 20 years of history in Novi.

Q. How did you first decide to locate to the Novi area?

A. The original component of our wellness complex is the Total Rehabilitation and Athletic Conditioning center (TRACC) with a very impressive reputation in the Novi community. It was a natural fit to add fitness and wellness to such a strong rehabilitation component.

Q. Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far?

A. This past April one of our members achieved his goal of hiking the Grand Canyon.

After months of having been trained for the journey by our fitness specialist, Mesha Terrell, he succeeded in climbing the Grand Canyon! Exhilarated by the experience and his new level of fitness, he set out on another goal... to run a 5K! He thanked Mesha for training him for his lifetime goal of hiking the Canyon, and told her of his new goal. Mesha was just five months postpartum (after her ninth child) and thought it would be a fun goal to run the race together. One month later, they entered the Witches Hat 5K road race in South Lyon. They were separated at the start, but found each other at the first water stop. They walked and jogged together for the duration of the race with Mesha by his side, encouraging him to drink and to breathe properly. Mesha crossed the line first, and ran back to cheer him on to the finish line. They both met their goal that day, but what was really important is the relationship that got them there. Our staff are behind our members 100 percent and do whatever it takes to help them achieve their goals. The memories of the Grand Canyon hike and the 5K will help this member strive to reach new fitness challenges... and we will be right there with him!

CHAMBER CHAT

■ The 10th Annual Threads of Power event will take place Wednesday, Feb. 11 at Nordstrom Bistro in Twelve Oaks Mall. Registration is 7:45 a.m. with an 8 a.m. breakfast. Enter at Nordstrom North Entrance. Join us for breakfast and bring a donation of clean, gently used business attire for men and women. The event is sponsored by Telcom Credit Union, Twelve Oaks Mall, Two Men and a Truck and Modern Floors. The fee is \$20 plus one item of clothing; \$30 at the door.

■ Network with business professionals from across Oakland County 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday Feb. 18 at the OCN Business Card Exchange/After 5 Networking event held

at Providence Park Hospital, 47601 Grand River Ave. Join us for networking, hors d'oeuvres and two complimentary drink tickets at Oakland County's largest business card exchange. The event is open to members of 29 Chambers in Oakland County. In celebration of the American Heart Association's Healthy Heart Month, Providence Hospital and members of the Healthy Lifestyles Round Table will sponsor this event. Advance paid reservations \$10; at door \$15. Register online at www.novichamber.com or call (248) 349-3743.

■ Committees and Round Tables:

• Feb. 12 - Sales Leads 1, 8:30 a.m. Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks

• Feb. 5 - Sales Leads 2, 8:30 a.m. Picasso Café

• Feb. 10 - Sales Leads 3, 8:30 a.m. Picasso Café

• Feb. 10 - ECHO, Noon Steve & Rocky's

• Feb. 25 - Financial Round Table 8:30 a.m. Picasso Café

• Feb. 5 - The Women's Round Table 5 p.m. Peoples State Bank

• Feb. 9 - The Men's Round Table 5 p.m. Hooters of Novi

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

Optimum Hearing Care opens Monday in Novi

NEWSMAKERS

Tony Mascolo

Tony Mascolo joined Vector CANtech, Inc. in Novi as vice president of business development and sales. In this role, he is responsible for creating, implementing and driving sales strategies for Vector's software and development tool portfolio.

Mascolo has more than 25 years of experience in the automotive industry, including management and engineering sales. He received a Masters of Science in Industrial and Management Engineering and a Masters of Business Administration from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York. Vector CANtech, Inc. was established in 1997 as a wholly owned North American subsidiary of Vector Informatik GmbH. Vector is the leading provider of software tools, embedded software components and services to automotive OEMs, their suppliers and to various other industries.



Convenient audiology and hearing care services will soon be available to residents of Novi and the surrounding communities with the opening of Optimum Hearing Care in Novi on Feb. 9.

The new office is located at 44150 12 Mile Road, inside the Anti-Aging and Wellness Center, operated by Dr. Mark Hertzberg, a board certified anti-aging physician.

Roz Leiser, in opening the new hearing care facility, wants her patients to know that she will continue serving her patients in Waterford, as she has for the past 15 years at Oakland Audiology, along with the additional location. "The opportunity to

expand will benefit all of our friends who have called upon Oakland Audiology over the years," she said. "I look forward to continue providing hearing services in Waterford and now in Novi, a community I will be proud to be a part of."

Services provided at Optimum Hearing Care include comprehensive hearing tests for all ages; hearing aid prescription and fitting; counseling of hearing loss and hearing aid use; full range of hearing aids including digital, programmable and completely-in-the-canal; in-house service and repair of hearing aids by most manufacturers; custom swim molds; noise and musician earplugs; and assistive listening devices (ALDs).