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THURSDAY
November 19,
2009

Hometown Weeklies
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NOVI NEWS

online at hometownlife.com



Talent show to benefit the high school programs - A5

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NOVI NUTSHELL Ring in holidays

The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, in partnership with ITC, is gearing up for the holiday season and the annual Ringing in the Holidays event. The event, which includes the Electric Light Parade, Santa visits, children's marshmallow maui area, live performances, great refreshments and more, will take place on Friday, Dec. 4 from 6-9 p.m. at Main Street, Novi.

The crowd-favorite Electric Light Parade, scheduled to begin at 6 p.m., continues to grow bigger and better every year with more Novi area businesses, clubs and civic organizations taking part. This year awards will be presented to outstanding entries in the following categories:

- Ringing Award - most distinctive use of bells
- Electric Light Award - most lights
- Holiday Vehicle Award - imagination & creativity
- Holiday Music Award - utilizes holiday music best
- Mayor's Award - Mayor's personal favorite
- Most Unique Award - sets itself apart from all others

Hundreds of holiday revelers line the parade route to enjoy the festivities and the parade is taped and aired throughout the holiday season on Novi Television cable channels (Brighthouse channel 13 and AT&T U-verse channel 99). To participate in the parade, please visit cityofnovi.org to download a registration form.

Back for the 2009 is the Ringing in the Holidays Craft Show. Space is still available for local crafters to showcase their handmade items at the event. The craft show will take place indoors and an 8 x 12 booth can be reserved for \$30. To request an application, contact Kathryn Knapp, Cultural Arts Coordinator at kknapp@cityofnovi.org or (248) 347-0509.

Additional opportunities for involvement include sponsorship and restaurant vendors. For information about Ringing in the Holidays, please contact Derek Smith, Recreation Supervisor, at dsmith@cityofnovi.org or (248) 347-0474.

Drummers wanted

Number Six Independent Percussion open class drumline from Novi is looking for members between the ages of 14 and 22 years old. Auditions will take place on Friday, Nov. 20 and Saturday, Nov. 21 at the group's rehearsal facility at 22635 Venture Drive, Novi. Visit their Web site for more information at www.number6percussion.com and to fill out the audition form.

Study shows Novi's roads in bad shape

City manager says recent improvements not included in report

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The city of Novi came in at number 60 out of 1,655 municipalities on a list of the state's worst roads released Nov. 9 by the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association.

According to the report, the city has 271 federal aid miles of roads, and of that number, 54 miles - 20 percent - are considered in poor condition. Federal aid roads are those eligible for at least some federal money in addition to state money.

City manager Clay Pearson said while that number stands out, it may not be completely accurate because the city has made major road

improvements to those roads since the information was taken from a 2008 Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating study.

"We have paid a lot of attention to roads," he said. "It is one of our biggest priorities as far as making a difference to get residents around."

Wayne and Oakland counties had the most miles of roads in poor condition, but their actual percentage of bad roads was in the middle of the pack at around 25 percent.

"Our legislative leaders need to stop 'watching' the funding problem evolve into a crisis and take appropriate action to correct it," said Mike Nystrom, vice president of government and



Re-surfacing of Meadowbrook Road slows traffic on Nov. 10 as the project nears completion.

Please see **ROADS, A2**

Novi joins in protest regarding school funding cuts

Focus is on making voices heard, protecting students

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Parents and leaders in the Novi Community Schools district headed to the state Capitol last week to express their frustration about funding cuts and put pressure on the lawmakers to make it right.

About 12 people from Novi joined nearly 1,000 other people from districts all over the state as part of a group dubbed SOS - Save our Students, Schools and State.

The rally in Lansing was held in response to recent funding cuts that are crippling districts and forcing them to cut staff, eliminate programs and look for other ways to balance their thinning budgets.

In Novi, the State School Aid bill passed by legislators initially cut \$165 per student. It was then followed by a line-item veto of the 20j categorical funds by Gov. Jennifer Granholm which amounted to \$280 per student and an additional proration eliminated another \$127. In total, the district will see a budget cut of \$572 per student - \$3.5 million - this school year.

"These parents are frustrated by the lack of cooperation between the legislators and governor to fix a problem that has been staring them in the face for a number of years," said Superintendent Peter Dion, who attended the rally. "Our backs are against the wall and they are putting our kids in jeopardy as a result."

Bills are on the table to help rectify the problem, but none have been approved. There also has been talk



(From left) Janice Krupic, Kristin Casalou and Novi Community Schools Supt. Peter Dion were part of the 'Save our Students, Schools and State' rally in Lansing last week.



A pair of students sport shirts that read "My education is worth \$292" at the SOS rally in Lansing.

"These parents are frustrated by the lack of cooperation between the legislators and governor to fix a problem that has been staring them in the face for a number of years. Our backs are against the wall and they are putting our kids in jeopardy as a result."

PETER DION, Novi superintendent

Please see **PROTEST, A2**

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City honors businesses for efforts in community

Awards to be presented Monday

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

A year after receiving honorable mention accolades at the inaugural Business Recognition Awards ceremony, Advanced Vein Therapies did one better this year by earning the Green Technologies Award.

Linda Miller, director of operations, said they were proud of the accomplishment last year, but were focused on winning this time around. Some of the changes the business made was to switch to electronic medical records, recycle more and pur-

chase items that are eco-friendly.

"This was a team approach," she said. "It was very exciting to hear we received the award because everyone was in on trying to see what we could do as an office to go green."

Advanced Vein Therapies was one of five businesses and one person to be recognized by the city for their efforts. The three major criteria when selecting the winners were corporate citizenship; businesses which partner with others to enhance the community; business practices;

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ROADS

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public relations for the MTA, and co-chair of the Michigan Transportation Team in a press release. "This isn't a case of road agencies not doing their job. Michigan's local road systems are collapsing because funding continues to plummet."

Pearson acknowledged that Grand River Avenue remains at the top of the list for getting improvements, but a lack of funding has slowed advancements. The city must partner with the county and the Road Commission for Oakland County on the project, and a lack of money is the major issue.

Another project that has been halted is widening Novi Road and putting a bridge over the CSX Railroad crossing. The city has already spent \$1.2 million on engineering and right-of-way acquisition, but federal funding in the form of roughly \$13 million has been retracted.

"Right now there is no funding for that and we cannot do anything until that gets reestablished," Pearson said.

PROTEST

FROM PAGE A1

about using federal stimulus money to fill the gaps. "Even if stimulus money is used, it's still a Band-Aid on a ginoomous problem," said parent Kristin Cassin.

Carmela Langley was one of the Novi residents who headed to Lansing as part of SOS. She no longer has a child in the schools, but still is passionate about the issue.

"My daughter benefitted from Novi schools and we paid into the 201 funds and it's been cut," she said. "I appreciate the fact my daughter had a quality education, and our kids should not be the ones struggling."

Mary Mazer, a parent of a student in the district, said the practice of cutting money from school districts cannot go on any longer.

"Our kids are hurting now," she said. "We have been putting a Band-Aid on this for years and we need to do something long-term."

"I want the governor to answer our students and tell them why our money is missing."

OTHER PROJECTS

The paving of Nine Mile Road from Haggerty to Meadowbrook was expected to be completed this week. The road remains open, with lane closures as necessary to complete work. Crews will be working on the road on Sundays.

Also Meadowbrook Road from Eight Mile to Nine Mile roads continues. Repaving is expected to begin soon and lane closures will occur as necessary.



(From left) Novi Community Schools Supt. Peter Dicon, school board members Bobbie Murphy and Shari Lebo, Lynn Diltz, Terry Wahrman, Janice Krupic, and Kristin Casalou headed to Lansing last week to attempt to talk to legislators about the funding cuts to schools.

The group from Novi met with representatives from the offices of Sen. Nancy Cassis and Rep. Hugh Crawford while they were there. They said they applaud Cassis for being very responsive and encourage Crawford to do the same and make himself available to his constituents.

Maria Mazza, another parent, said she still has a student in the school district and wants the same quality education her daughter had.

"With these cuts it's not possible," she said.

School board members Shari Lebo and Bobbie Murphy also attended the rally. Lebo said these cuts are "one more way of telling people to not come to Michigan."

Said Murphy: "What is the

big picture we are looking at? We need a reason to believe in the turnaround and I did not walk away feeling optimistic."

In lieu of the cuts, the district is will be looking at privatizing custodial and transportation services at its Nov. 19 board meeting. A decision is not expected to be made until December.

Publication Number USPS 596820.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on Sat., December 5, 2009 at 10:00 am the following will be sold by competitive bidding at Estate Storage, 21650 Novi Rd, Novi, MI 48375. Units(s) may or may not include the following: Household Items, Recreational Items and/or Misc. Goods.

Unit #67
Tim Kelley - Household items

Unit #298
Dante Bishop - Office furniture

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AWARDS

FROM PAGE A1

businesses which create an optimal working environment for employees and have made efforts to boost productivity, innovation and career advancement; and green technologies; businesses that contribute to an equitable and ecologically sustainable economy.

Lotus Bank and Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel earned corporate citizenship honors for small and large businesses, respectively, while the Novi Youth Hockey Association and Hotel Baronette earned business practices honors.

Sho Nakahama, executive director of Japanese Business Society of Detroit, also received the first ever Mayor's Economic Ambassador of the Year Award.

Satish Jasti, president and CEO of Lotus Bank, said he is proud of his business' involvement in the community, which includes partnerships with select schools for bank education and supporting several other organizations throughout the area.

AWARD WINNERS

- Hotel Baronette - Business Practices, large business
- Novi Youth Hockey Association - Business Practices, small business
- Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel - Corporate Citizenship, large
- Lotus Bank - Corporate Citizenship, small
- Advanced Vein Therapies - Green Technologies
- Sho Nakahama, executive director of Japanese Business Society of Detroit - Mayor's Economic Ambassador of the Year

"We are a community bank and need to show people we care about the community we are in," he said. "We appreciate the recognition and it tells us we are doing the right things in terms of being a corporate citizen."

The winners will be recognized at a 7 p.m. Monday at the Novi City Council meeting. A reception is being held prior to the meeting at 6 p.m.

mmuel@novi.net | (248) 432-2011 ext. 255



Turbo Kick

Eleven Novi High School faculty members took the Turbo Kick Challenge and lost big time. The ladies worked out everyday after school with Get Fit Coaches and in the end they lost a total of 20.5 pounds and 57 inches. In the meantime, they raised over \$200 for the Novi High School Art Department. Pictured are (l to r, back row) Coach Sue Piariski, Lydia Cadena, Alain Bryen, Lauren Rambo, Kristin Baaki, Heather McKaig; (middle) Kristina Stefanon, Deb Thomas, Katie Ammons, Kathleen Astar, and (front) Catherine Thomas, Kristen Supnick and Erin Harber. The biggest loser was Lauren, 5.5 pounds. The inchworm was Catherine, 9.5 inches. Get Fit Coaches runs challenges from ten days to six weeks to help people meet their fitness and nutritional goals. Check out the next challenge or schedule your own at www.GetFitCoaches.com.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

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Crosspointe Meadows Church Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road...

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene Location: 22660 Haegerty Road...

worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship...

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road...

Faith Community Presbyterian Church Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road...

First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 211 N. Wing...

First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 211 N. Wing...

First Baptist Church of Novi-Family Integrated Church Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road...

First Presbyterian Church of Northville Location: 200 E. Main St....

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road...

Faith Community Presbyterian Church Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road...

First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 211 N. Wing...

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Location: 41415 Nine Mile Road...

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Location: 41415 Nine Mile Road...

Livonia Church of Christ Location: 15431 Merriman Road, Livonia...

Meadowbrook Congregational Church Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road...

First United Methodist of Northville A Stephen Ministry church...

Northville Christian Assembly Location: 41355 Six Mile Road...

Renew Life Ministries Time/Date: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday...

Renew Life Ministries Time/Date: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday...

Orchard Hills Baptist Church Location: 23455 Novi Road...

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church Location: 47650 N. Territorial Road...

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church Location: 770 Thayer, Northville...

Our Shepherd Presbyterian Church Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road...

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Our Shepherd Presbyterian Church Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road...

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you need to double-check to ensure good coverage, including: • Total costs: Don't judge a plan strictly by its monthly premium cost...

• Pharmacy network: Make sure the pharmacies you regularly use are in the plan's network. • Drug restrictions: Some plans may require you to get permission or try a number of cheaper drugs before they will cover particular prescriptions...

• Coverage gap: Find out if your plan will cover any drugs in the coverage gap known as the "donut hole." Next year, Part D will cover most drug bills up to \$2,830, and then you're on your own until your out-of-pocket cost total \$4,550...

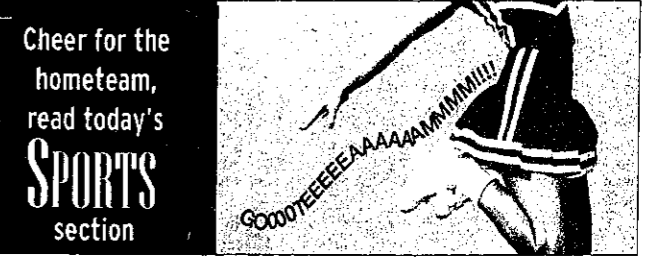
• Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder tool (www.medicare.gov/mpdof) and click on "Find and Compare Plans." From there you simply plug in your personal information, zip code, along with the prescription drugs and dosages you currently take...

which staffs a toll-free number with counselors ready to help at 800-333-4114, and your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) who provides one-on-one free Medicare counseling...

EXTRA HELP If your annual income is less than \$16,245 for an individual (\$21,855 for a married couple living together), you may be eligible for some extra help in paying for your Medicare drug coverage...

ALL-IN-ONE OPTION Instead of paying separately for Medicare Part B, plus a Medigap supplemental policy and a stand-alone Part D drug plan you could sign up for a Medicare Advantage plan that provides all-in-one coverage...

Savvy Tip: Be wary of Medicare sales seminars. Unsolicited door-to-door sales and telemarketing of Medicare drug plans is illegal. And all legitimate sales agents must be licensed by your state...



Cheer for the hometeam, read today's SPORTS section

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Advertisement for Karen Newman, 'The Voice of the Red Wings', performing at Oak Pointe Church on Friday, December 4, 8:00 p.m. Tickets available at \$20/person.

Advertisement for PHONAK hearing aids. 'Don't miss a thing this Holiday!' Enjoy your holiday season to the fullest with better hearing. Specializing in comprehensive hearing tests & hearing aids for over 18 years.

Advertisement for DMC 29 Minute E.R. Guarantee. For heart attacks - the only hospital in the area with emergency angioplasty. When it's serious, go to DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital.

School board to consider privatizing services

Privatizing custodial and transportation services will be the main topic of discussion for the Novi Community Schools Board of Education at its regular board meeting at 7 p.m. tonight. The administration is expected to make a recommendation to the board tonight to approve contracts with both private companies, but the board is not expected to make a final decision until its Dec. 3 regular meeting. A public forum will be held Nov. 23 and the board will meet for a work session Nov. 30 prior to approving a contract.

Meetings also are ongoing with union representatives of the current employees to bargain with them on any concessions. A total of 68 current employees (39 custodians, 29 bus drivers) would be impacted if the private companies are selected. They would have opportunities to interview for jobs if the board goes with the private companies.

Novi Superintendent Peter Dion said the district would save between 15-20 percent on transportation services and 35-40 percent on custodial services by going with a private company.

Opponents to privatization say the changes would be devastating to the current employees and are concerned about the level of service the new companies would provide. Union representatives also said they would be willing to make concessions to keep their jobs.

The board offices are located at 25345 Taft Road.

The community forum will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday at the Instructional Technology Center (the blue and white building).

Homeopathic practitioner to speak in Novi

Homeopathic practitioner Robert Scott Bell will host a free lecture and training session on the benefits of silver therapeutics at the Better Health Market in at 42875 Grand River in Novi at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5. Call (248) 735-9100 for reservations. Bell will discuss alternatives to vaccinations; key minerals necessary for immune function; homeopathic flu remedies; and silver hydrosol and immunity.

Robert Scott Bell is a homeopathic practitioner and an expert in silver therapeutics with a passion for health and healing unmatched by anyone on earth. His show is heard on 79 radio stations throughout the U.S., including WKMI 1360 in Kalamazoo from 1 to 3 p.m. Podcasts are available at robertscottbell.blogspot.com. Bell overcame 24 years of chronic illness by learning and applying previously hidden natural healing methods and has since dedicated his life to revealing the healing powers within us all.

Novi Chamber holiday shopping bazaar

The Novi Chamber of Commerce invites all in the community to join them for a festive Holiday Shopping Bazaar, Wednesday, Dec. 9 from 4-9 p.m. in the Diamond Center at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave. in Novi.

Presented in conjunction with Engage Theater of Novi and the Rock Financial Showplace, this fun seasonal event will offer more than sixty participating vendors offering special gifts and values, as well as tempting complimentary appetizers from many popular local restaurants, holiday music and great door prizes for pre-registered guests. Advance reservations are \$2 (payable at entry on the day of the event) and can be made through the Novi Chamber of (248) 349-3473, or online at www.novichamber.com.

Brookdale communities collecting food for hungry

Local Brookdale Senior Living communities invite those in the greater Detroit area to help them collect food to help feed the hungry.

From now until Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, all non-perishable food items dropped off at any of the nine Brookdale communities in the Detroit Metropolitan area will be given to Gleaners Food Bank. More than 400 soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, disaster relief agencies, and other nonprofit organizations in Southeast Michigan rely on food from Gleaners to meet their clients' needs.

Local participating communities include Grand Court Novi, 45182 West Park Drive in Novi and Wynwood Northville, 40405 6 Mile Road in Northville.

Please direct any questions to (248) 535-4481. "Not only does this good deed benefit the greater community, but it embraces several dimensions of living an Optimum Life," said Lisa Olson, Business Development Coordinator. "Our residents and associates enjoy the sense of purpose and emotional response they have when they help those in need."

Thanksgiving Day at Rock

The Diamond Banquet Center at Rock Financial Showplace and Epoch Catering will present a lavish Thanksgiving Day Buffet from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 26. Prices are adults \$24.95, seniors \$19.95, children under 12 \$12.95, and toddlers 4 and under free. Prices are inclusive of tax and gratuity. Walk-ins welcome, reservations suggested, cash bar and free parking available.

The Diamond Banquet Center is arranged as an expansive combination of living and dining rooms for the annual event, with both dining tables and couches available for fans interested in watching the Lion's game on a huge 6 x 6 screen.

Award winning Chef and Northville native Terry Foster will be the creative force behind the Epoch Thanksgiving Day Buffet, featuring turkey and ham carving stations, all the favorite traditional tasty side dishes and Epoch's famous decadent desserts.

Rock is located at 46100 Grand River Ave in Novi; phone (248) 348-5600.

Call out to crafters

The Michigan 50's Festival will hold a holiday craft show Nov. 27-28 at 12 Mile Crossing at Fountainwalk (in the former World Market space next to The Great Indoors). Booths are \$75. Crafters who are interested in participating should visit www.michigan50sfestival.org or call Jeanette (517) 376-0813.

Diabetes: It's good to know your enemy

It was a busy Monday morning at my medical practice, and David was the next patient on my schedule. David was a regular patient of mine, but had skipped his annual appointment and I had not seen him in over a year.



Dr. Nisha Chellam

As I entered the exam room I was shocked to see that David had lost about 65 pounds. He believed it was because of his dental issues, and the subsequent changes he had made in his diet to compensate for these issues. My evaluation of him and immediate lab work showed that he had Type 2 Diabetes. As we talked, I learned that he was unaware of his condition.

Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes whereby the body does not produce enough insulin or the cells ignore the insulin that is produced. Nearly 8 percent of the population of the United States has diabetes and 30 percent of those affected do not know they have it, just like David.

The symptoms are usually subtle; only rarely manifesting as increased thirst, increased urination, increased hunger and irrationally weight loss.

GETTING SCREENED FOR DIABETES

If you who are over 45, or have a strong family history of diabetes, you should discuss a regular screening schedule with your primary care physician. If you are overweight or have an increased abdominal girth (40 inches in men and 35 inches in women) you

should be tested. If you are Hispanic, African American, Asian American or Indian; or if you have had any heart disease or vascular disease it is important to get checked.

Diabetes when left uncontrolled can damage organs from head to toe due to the damage of blood vessels and nerves. Damage to large blood vessels means risk of stroke, heart attack and peripheral artery disease; and small blood vessel damage affects the eyes and kidneys. Working with your primary care doctor to get regular blood work, and screenings of your eyes and feet is important.

GOOD NEWS ABOUT PREVENTION

The good news is that people with pre-diabetes can prevent the development of type 2 diabetes by making changes in their diet and increasing their level of physical activity. They may even be able to return their blood glucose levels to the normal range.

A diabetes "meal plan" is a guide that tells you how much and what kinds of food you can choose to eat at meals and snack times. A good meal plan should fit in with your schedule and eating habits. The right meal plan will help you improve your blood glucose,

blood pressure, and cholesterol numbers and also help keep your weight on track.

People with diabetes have to take extra care to make sure that their food is balanced with insulin, oral medications and exercise to help manage their blood glucose levels. Your family doctor can provide you with information to help you create a meal plan that is best for you. When you make healthy food choices, you will improve your overall health and you can even prevent complications such as heart disease and some cancers.

So, David was placed on insulin and we created a smart diet plan. He has gained some of his healthy weight back and his glucose levels are improving continuously as he follows through. The key to success is coordinated teamwork between you and your doctor for a better understanding of the disease. You can defeat diabetes.

Dr. Nisha Chellam is a board certified internal medicine physician on staff at Providence Park Hospital in Novi and Providence Hospital in Southfield. Dr. Chellam completed her training in Internal Medicine at Wayne State University. She has great interest in collaborative medicine, whereby the patient takes an active and integral part in their own care.

Blue Care Network of Michigan announces open enrollment for its nongroup products:

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More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at www.hometownlife.com.
 Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@gannett.com; by fax to (248) 349-9832; or by mail to Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

LOCAL EVENTS

Ladies Night Out 3rd Annual Holiday Shopping Expo/Vendor Show

Time/Date: 5-9 p.m. Dec. 4
Location: Hilton Garden of Novi
Details: Come spend an evening of fun, food, drinks and shopping. All proceeds will benefit the Gleaners Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan. Free admission.
Contact: Diana Whaley at (734) 462.2030 or dwhaley@yahoo.com

Silver therapeutics lecture

Time/Date: 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5
Location: Better Health Market, 42875 Grand River in Novi
Details: Homeopathic practitioner, Robert Scott Bell, will host a free lecture and training session on the benefits of silver therapeutics.

Contact: For more information about the seminar, please call Tedd Handelsman at Better Health markets (248) 735-8100 or visit www.thebetterhealthstore.com.

Author Maria Dismondy Book signings

Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Nov. 21
Location: Wixom Public Library, 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
Details: Maria Dismondy will be on tour at local facilities, reading, selling and signing her book, "Spaghetti In A Hot Dog Bun." In today's society, it's important to remind children that, although we are different on the outside, we are very much alike on the inside. Unfortunately, bullying has become a major problem in the United States. It's not only painful for children, but occurring at an increasingly young age. Her book empowers children to positively handle tough situations through its timeless message: have the courage to be exactly who you are, no matter what other people say.

Rock Financial Showplace

Location: 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi
Contact: (248) 348-5600

Michigan Family Pet Expo

Date: Nov. 20-22
Details: The Michigan Family Pet Expo will showcase more than 150 exhibits of pet-related products and services; www.petmichigan.com.

Michigan Gun and Knife Show

Date: Nov. 21-22
Details: One of the best and largest Gun & Knife Shows in Michigan! Shotguns, Rifles, Handguns, Scopes, Knives, Shooting Supplies, Ammunition, Reloading Equipment, Gun Cases, Pistol & Rifle Magazines, Military Surplus, Collector Items, Archery, Fishing Supplies, Safes, Custom hand made gun cabinets, Wild Game Jerky, and much more; www.migun-shows.com.

Michigan Antique Arms Show

Date: Nov. 28-29
Details: Antique and modern arms and accoutrements, part and accessories, as well as other related merchandise. The show also feature historical displays and presentations.

North American Horse Fest

Date: Dec. 11-13
Details: Everything Equestrian! Horses, tack, training, breed clubs, trailers, stables, riding exhibitions, nutrition and much more; www.northernamericanhorsefest.com.

Great American Train Show

Date: Dec. 12-13
Details: America's favorite traveling train show serving more states than any other show. Show features operating model rail-

roads, train dealers, collectors, hands-on exhibits, demonstrations, workshops, and much more; www.greattrainexpo.com.

BUSINESS

Novi Chamber of Commerce

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.
Location: 41875 11 Mile Road, #201, Novi
Contact: For more information, call (248) 349-3743 or www.novichamber.com

Holiday Shopping Bazaar

Time/Date: 4-9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2
Location: Rock Financial Showplace - Diamond Center, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi
Details: Presented in conjunction with Imagine Theatre of Novi and the Rock Financial Showplace, this fun seasonal event will offer more than 60 participating vendors offering special gifts and values, free chair massages, and an opportunity to sell your gold. Enjoy complimentary appetizers, holiday music, a cash bar and great door prizes for pre-registered guests; \$2 at door.

Holiday Luncheon

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9

Location: Rock Financial Showplace - Diamond Center, 46100 Grand River Ave., Novi
Details: Sponsored by Everclean Restoration & Cleaning Services; speaker will be Daniel Dubay, M.D., former clinical assistant professor at U of M Medical Center. Dubay will share the latest research on happiness and how you can use it to enrich your business and personal life; \$20 pre-registration; \$30 at the door.

Novi Toastmasters Club

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., every first and third Tuesday
Location: Novi Civic Center, Activities Room, 45175 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375
Details: Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club which is part of Toastmasters International. Our diverse group provides a mutually supportive atmosphere in which all can develop and refine their public speaking and leadership skills. Our members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome - and bring a friend! Visit www.novi.tfretoasthost.us.
Contact: Paulette Aloia, V.P. of Public Relations at greenspace@ml.rr.com or (248) 756-0907.

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THURSDAY
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Residents
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Strictly Business, B3

Shamrocks win 31-24 in overtime

Canton falls to CC; Holt next in line

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With blue-clad fans sitting on one side of the field and red-clad fans on the other, the buzz in the air for Saturday's Division 1 regional football game between Canton and host Novi-Detroit Catholic Central couldn't have been any better.

It's too bad only one team could win. For those spectators, the afternoon tilt turned out to be a real treat with the Shamrocks dodging a major Canton bullet late in regulation and going on to win 31-24 in overtime.

Catholic Central will next face Holt 1 p.m. Saturday at Lansing Everett in a D1 semifinal.

"I'm so proud of our guys," said Chiefs' head coach Tim Baechler. "Both teams just played great, both teams deserved to win. There's no loser today."

Echoing those sentiments was Catholic Central's Tom Mach, who watched his team score three touchdowns only to have the Chiefs immediately answer with six-pointers each time.

"I wasn't surprised that they (the Chiefs) kept coming back because they've got great athletes and they did a great job of constantly rebounding," Mach said. "Every time we scored, they scored. It kind of ended up being a classic battle for 48 minutes."

The back-and-forth contest was tied 24-24 after Catholic Central's Justin D'Agostino missed a field goal, giving the Chiefs a first down from their own 20 with 4:12 remaining.



SID SMITH

Please see SHAMROCKS, B4

CC hoists the Regional Championship trophy after knocking off Canton. The Shamrocks will face Holt next.

Injuries, illness catch up to 'Cats in loss to Lakeland

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Novi's volleyball team battled White Lake Lakeland point for point Nov. 10 in a regional semifinal match the Eagles eventually nabbed with scores of 25-23, 20-25, 26-24, 25-23.

With the two teams separated by just a single point after four games in Dexter, Lakes Conference champion Lakeland (40-11-3) got the points where they counted, winning three games first and ending the Wildcats' season at 43-9.

"I think it was a great match. Both teams played really well. The overall point differential was just one," Novi coach Julie Fisette said. "The second game was our typical game. We came out on fire and were winning 11-3 at one point. Julia Thomas came back and gave us a quick start in that game."

Since the Wildcats had dropped the first game and won the second in both their district semifinal and final wins over Plymouth Salem and Canton a week prior, they were hoping for a similar result against Lakeland. That wouldn't be the case, however, as the Eagles took the third game 26-24 after Novi tied it 24-24.

"There was a really long rally and they won on a mis-dig. I just don't think (we) were up to par," Fisette said. "We made an unfortunate series of errors and could only string together two or three points at a time."

Junior Erica Robb and senior Allison

Hoomaian paced Novi with 10 kills apiece, as Thomas, a senior, added five kills and seven blocks. Hoomaian's performance came despite recovering from a high fever just a day prior.

"I had two that were not in school the day before because they were ill and I think they came to school so they could play," Fisette said. "I think they played well. I'm proud of them."

Sophomore Anna Lu sat out most of the Nov. 6 district final because she was ill, but tried to pull through for the regional semifinal the following Tuesday. Adding to the Wildcats' woes, junior Laura Subject re-injured her ankle at practice the day before the Lakeland match, an injury that had sidelined her for several weeks earlier in the season.

Subject came through with four aces and 21 assists against Lakeland however, and junior Erin Hoomaian chipped in with 18 digs and 30 receptions.

The individual efforts weren't enough to continue the Wildcats' season, but Novi sucked the energy out of Lakeland enough where the Eagles fell flat against Detroit Mercy in a regional final loss last Thursday.

Graduating Allison Hoomaian, Thomas, Christine Mech and Anne Irvine, the Wildcats are optimistic about next season, as an undefeated junior varsity team looks to compete for the open varsity roster spots.

"It was a great season. We have a lot of

Please see 'CATS, B3



PHOTO BY SUE SUBJECT

Novi junior Savannah Green gets a back row kill during the Novi-Lakeland Regional match last Tuesday at Dexter High School.

CC's Galindo heads All-Area XC runners

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

No matter where CC senior Ricardo Galindo ran, he was always one of the biggest threats on the course. He's done so well that his third-place finish at the state meet was one of his worst placings of the season, although he did earn a 15:51 time and was racing against the best of Division I.

"Ricky Galindo put a lot of miles in this summer and wanted to improve from last year's state finals," coach Tony Magni said.

Last year, Galindo finished 26th in 15:52 at the state meet. Granted, the wind slowed the entire field down this year, but Galindo's determination to earn an All-State honor and lead his team to the Division I state title was undeniable, as he obtained both goals.

"Every runner from the bottom to the top pushed each other," Magni said. "He was the one over the summer who organized the guys. He never missed a day. He took charge."

In addition to his honors from the state meet, Galindo was also named to the All-Catholic team after winning the Catholic league meet in 16:07. His season-best was a 15:32 finish in a first-place regional win.

FIRST TEAM
Nate Huff, Milford

With a personal best of 15:50, Huff took eighth at the Oakland County Invitational and fourth at both the KLA Lakes Conference and regional meets before finishing fifth at the state finals in 16:01.

"A returning All-Stater, Nate saved his best for the state finals. Overcoming some early season injuries, Nate provided the up-front presence the team needed down the stretch," coach Brian Salyers said. "Nate's speed and strength separate him from his competition."

Mike Blaszczyk, Novi

Following up on his 15:45 All-

Please see RUNNERS, B3

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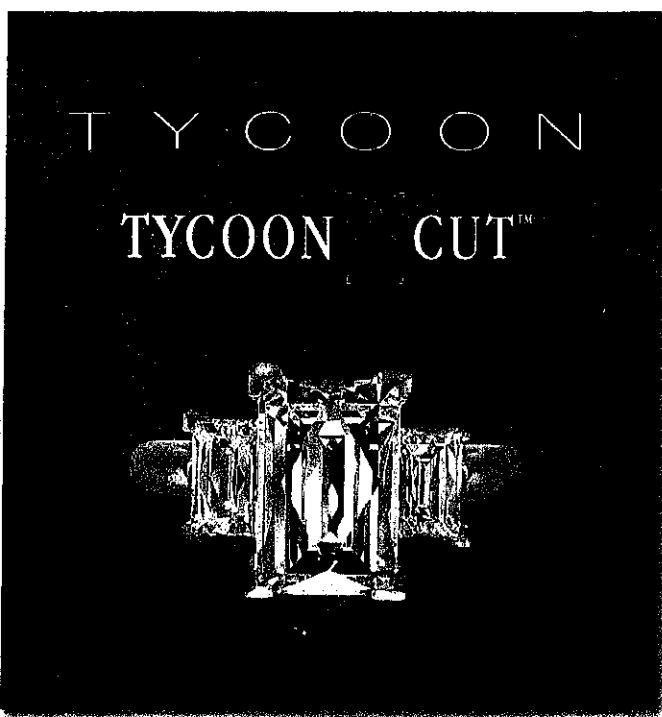
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A Tycoon cut diamond reflects light and sparkle unlike any other diamond and can be found at Rotterdam Jewelers in Brighton and Milford.

BY ALISON BERGSIENER
ADVERTORIAL WRITER

Slipped into a champagne glass, displayed in front of a crowd or surprised during a romantic dinner, an engagement ring is the ultimate sign of love, commitment and the beginning of a relationship that will last forever.

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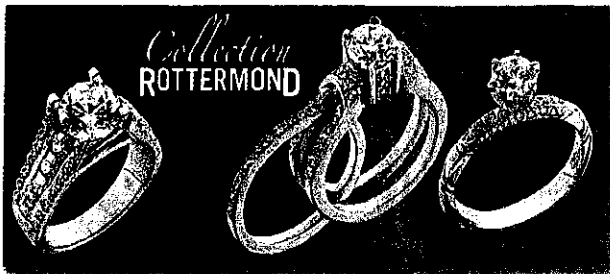
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of customers come to our store not for the brands we carry, but for our custom design. We put our Rotterdam guarantee behind every ring."

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