

CLUB

FROM PAGE A1

istrative assistant who was laid off in January from Ford Motor Co., said the group has provided her with a good opportunity to network with others, and is already paying off since she recently had an interview at a company in Ann Arbor.

"Networking is key," she said. "You have to get out there and sell yourself and show you have something the next person doesn't have."

Jeff Kairies, a senior marketing and sales director at Ford who also was laid off in January, says staying active in his job search has helped him keep his spirits up, and agrees with Elwood that networking, not job boards, is the best way to find work.

"It's through those connections you find those opportunities," he said. "It's the unadvertised job market."

When the group meets for its two-hour sessions, they



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Personal coach counselor Joyce Fortier, lower center, leads a Monday morning Job Club gathering inside Nov's Meadowbrook Congregational Church. The club is designed for those out of work to network and learn from how others are structuring their resumes and honing their interview skills.

spend time venting, listening to a guest speaker, learning about a tactics specific to a job search and more.

It also is a support group, Fortier said.

"I had one guy tell me he was so glad I asked him to join because he had been out of work for months and was so depressed he didn't want to get out of bed," she said. "It helps people keep going and gives them motivation."

Fred Sims, who worked at EDS for 23 years before being laid off in January, said he never thought he would be out of work this long, and the job club is helping him stay positive.

"Just talking to people in the same situation is good for morale," he said.

One of the members, Lisa Dranginis, hasn't worked in 10 years while she stayed at home to take care of her daughter. Now that her daughter is in school full-time, she is looking to provide a second income for the family and learning a



Personal coach counselor Joyce Fortier started a job club in Novi after being inspired by Tom Johnson of Good Morning America who challenged people to begin Job Clubs all over the United States.



A stack of resume writing books lie on the table at the Novi Job Club on a Monday morning.

what to do to give me a focus and direction.

"I feel good that I am going to find a job, it's just a matter of when."

Fortier said one of the main reasons why she got the club started was because the business hiring season is the middle of January into March.

"I wanted these people to have a running start before the new year," she said. When this 10-week course ends, she plans on starting another session beginning on Jan. 4 at the church. For more information and to sign up, contact Fortier at (248) 478-5592 or by e-mail at careerst@acol.com.

lot about the changes the job searching world has undergone.

"My focus was all over the spectrum so the club was a positive move for me," she said. (Joyce) allowed me to go from the perspective of not knowing

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Council looks at future of Landings Property

Creating park at forefront of ideas

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The general consensus coming out of Monday's Novi City Council regarding a land-use study on the Landings Property was to develop the property as a park.

As always, funding is a key factor in anything happening, but the council wants to at least start moving the project forward so the land can be better used by residents.

"I've always thought the city is sitting on a diamond in the rough," said council member Andrew Mutch. "Here we have this large piece of public property on a lake in the city of Novi that in terms of frontage and accessibility is far better than what we have at Lakeshore, as nice as that is an amenity to the city."

"Any plan we proceed with we have to maintain public access to the lake and public view of the lake and opening that up so every Novi resident has the opportunity to take advantage of that."

The city-owned property at the northeast corner of South Lake Drive and Old Novi Road is currently zoned B-3 general business and a small portion is R-4 single-family residential. The purpose of the study was to complete a comprehensive land-use study to evaluate the city's options at the site, along with a conceptual plan for a public-use option and a cost/feasibility study. The consulting firm Birchler Arroyo Associates also solicited the input of residents through an Internet survey and two public workshops.

They presented seven options to the council ranging from doing nothing to commercial use to creating a park. The concept plan they provided looked at creating a park complete with a boardwalk, picnic pavilion, turf paver parking lot, waterfront promenade with fishing pier, rest rooms and an historical market. A second phase would add a splash pad area, amphitheater and two volleyball courts.

There also was a suggestion to sell the two-acres located east of East Lake Drive, which is currently shown as single-family residential to help raise funds.

Council members liked some but not all of the concept plan ideas presented.

Novi Mayor David Landry reiterated Mutch's thought that the property is a diamond

in the rough, but said "I think it's time we polish the diamond."

He and the other members of council understand it is a multi-year process, but want to get started now.

"To get a grant or to go out and solicit dollars you have to have a plan, and this is going to allow us to do that," Landry said.

Council member Dave Staudt said people might question the timing of the study but it needed to be done.

"I really want the temptation to go away," he said. "I don't want anybody in the future to look at that and say, 'Oh boy, we can balance the budget if we sell off that 13 acres.'"

Novi resident Carl Crawford said initially she was afraid the study would come back suggesting the city use the property for a more intense use and was relieved when she heard it was being preserved.

"You are saving it for us and that is the best thing I have heard in this town for a very long time," she said.

The next steps are moving forward with a planning plan so the city can apply for grants and sending it out to the planning commission for review.

landry@novi.net | (248) 437-2011, ext. 255



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A blast from the past

On Monday, Dec. 7, fashion historian and Novi resident LaReta Roder, left, presented a trip through turn-of-the-century fashions at an afternoon tea at the Novi Senior Center. The presentation was called "Reflections of the Past" and Roder was aided in presenting the costumes by her niece Lisa Hess, right. Here they hold up a Gibson Girl - pigeon front dress from around 1900.

Coincidence?

"As my family and I were leaving our home early Sunday morning, we opened the garage door to an unusual sight - a wild turkey walking through our subdivision! Still in disbelief, we slowly followed the bird (at a distance) wondering all the while if someone was playing a Thanksgiving trick on us. We laughed and smiled as we watched the wild turkey roam into the wooded area at the back of the sub. We also wondered if this bird knew the unique timing of its appearance in our residential area. Later that afternoon our kids created drawings of the adventure and giggled with glee. We hope that you enjoy our 'Novi wildlife adventure.' - Lou Martin, Whispering Meadows Subdivision, Novi



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The Sports Club of Novi

CUSTODIAL FROM PAGE A1

Unfortunately that means paying, paying for employees. GCA Services Group will begin their transition this month and start in January. All the current employees can apply to work for GCA, but Jim Pabst, senior sales director, said they are not guaranteed a job. However, many employees indicated they would not be applying at GCA because of the low wages and health care issues. In the meantime, Light said the current group of custodians will continue working with the student's best interests in mind.

"I told them you come in tomorrow and the day after that with your head held high knowing you put your best foot forward and do what we do best and that is continue to clean these buildings for our children because that is why we are here," he said. Superintendent Peter Dion said it is the beginning of what the district is going to



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi Community Schools District bus drivers were relieved last Thursday when the board of education decided to not privatize their services. Photographed here, with their years of service noted in parentheses, are: Sue Crepeau (10 years), Sara Perdue (10), Alice Morgan (6), Kim Wall (5), Sue Coolman (11), Paige Baggett (25), Shirley Snyder (9), Kris Altor (10), Bill Pye (10) and Pat Moran (10).

have to do to get leaner, and expects the new employees to seamlessly transition into the schools. "Whoever was employed

would be considered our employees, I don't care if we go with a private company or on our own," he said. "We would develop a relationship."

BUS DRIVERS STAYING ON Less than two hours after the decision to privatize custodial services, the bus drivers converged in the same area with drastically different results. A loud cheer erupted from the audience when the board denied a motion by a 4-3 vote to privatize with Durham School Services, and the excitement carried into the lobby where this time the hugs were of joy and not sadness. "We had to make some major concessions but this is what we wanted," said union representative Paige Baggett. "It would have broken my heart for a private company to come in here, but it was also bittersweet because it could have just as easily been us."

The transportation union made concessions amounting to an annual savings of \$425,485, about \$40,000 shy of the bid from Durham. The concessions included \$4 per hour pay cuts, switching health care providers, reduction of sick days and more. The members even had to have an impromptu union meeting during the board meeting to approve another concession that said drivers who currently are not taking health care cannot now sign up. "I have never had that happen in 25 years," said Dan

"Our colleagues do more than just clean this building, they take care of the people in it... I don't know how we can put a price tag on people who are a vital part of our community."

LYDIA CUBERA, Novi High School teacher

"(The GCA) proposal offers more people an opportunity to be employed and saves us additional money. In addition to that I look at what impact student achievement in reality. I'm not saying they aren't valuable employees and part of the team because they are, but when I look at someone in the classroom with students for six and a half hours a day vs. an individual who might keep the building maintained but not directly impacts the students, I have to say who is cleaning the building isn't necessarily providing the biggest impact on student achievement. And the mission of our district is for all our children to receive the best education possible."

ANN GLUBZINSKI, board president

"I thought my life was being dangled above my head. I'm glad they made a good decision."

PAIGE BAGGETT, union representative for the bus drivers

O'Rourke, union representative for the custodians and bus drivers. "It was pretty hectic for us tonight, the 4-3 vote was quite the nail biter."

Terry Roberts, a bus driver in the district, exchanged a hug with Marcus, saying "I'm sorry you guys lost it." He was relieved, however, to keep his own job and is glad the stress of the decision, which put him in the hospital twice, are behind him for now. "The kids sure will be happy to hear I'm staying," he said. The fact that the Durham proposed to pay drivers the same wages the district is paying, and the union's ability to come close on the target savings number made it difficult for the board members to look at privatizing.

President Ann Glubzinski said she was torn because transportation is not the district's core business, but she heard a lot from the community about keeping the current drivers on board. "I heard far more community members have concern about who is transporting their children than I did about the cleaning service, not that they both aren't very important services that need to occur," she said. "Ultimately, the issue came to a vote with Kortlandt, Jeff

Nielson and Katie Racon voting to go with Durham and Glubzinski, Bagdady, Bobbie Murphy and Dennis O'Connor voting to stay with the union employee.

JUST THE BEGINNING

The privatization of custodial services appears to be one of the first steps of many the district will have to take to endure funding cuts that amount to \$3.5 million. Racon said during the transportation portion of the meeting that the district is a business and in order to run the business successfully then cuts are going to have to be made. "This is the beginning of the reductions and changes and consolidations and things we will have to do," she said. Because we don't have control over revenues we have to try to have areas of fixed expenses as much as we can."

Bob Schram, assistant superintendent of human resources, said administration has met with the presidents of the Novi Education Association units and they are in the process of opening their contracts. He also met with the representative of the administrators and they also will be looking at making wage concessions.

Several students in the district, including the middle school choir and student council will be making the trip to Detroit tomorrow to deliver the items at a party. Anush Vajalla, a sixth-grader at Novi Meadows, was one of several students chosen to make the trip based on an essay he wrote about why he wanted to go. The 11-year-old, who also is in the leadership club at the school, said he is looking forward to seeing how

the children react when they get their bags and he hopes to bring back a message to share with his classmates. "I hope everyone learns to not take things for granted and to help others who are in need," he said. Select schools in Novi have helped other Detroit schools in the past, but this is the first time the district has worked with Neinas.

EDUCATION

Novi students band together to help others

Group will deliver donations tomorrow to Neinas Elementary

BY MATRAN WUELLER STAFF WRITER

The popularity of recess took a back seat to the idea of helping others last Friday at the Novi Meadows sixth-grade house.

More than 50 students gave up their free time to work on gift bags, make scarves and create cards that will be part of a large donation to students tomorrow at Neinas Elementary in Detroit. The fund-raiser, organized by Bridgepointe, a nonprofit which serves the children of the southwest Detroit schools, was taken on by the entire Novi Community Schools district to give the students at Neinas a special holiday season.

"It's a good opportunity for our kids to get a reality check," said Lynn Berg, one of the organizers. "It shows them how lucky they are to have the things they do and they have the obligation to give back."

For the past couple months, every school in Novi has been collecting items to provide the approximately 380 kindergarten through fifth-grade students with a gift bag containing soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, hats, mittens, a blanket, a small toy and a coloring book with crayons. Additional toys and food also were collected to make additional baskets for the families.

Several students in the district, including the middle school choir and student council will be making the trip to Detroit tomorrow to deliver the items at a party. Anush Vajalla, a sixth-grader at Novi Meadows, was one of several students chosen to make the trip based on an essay he wrote about why he wanted to go. The 11-year-old, who also is in the leadership club at the school, said he is looking forward to seeing how



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi Meadows student Cindy Huang works on creating a scarf for Neinas Elementary School students in Detroit. Meadows' kids will be donating bags of personal care items to the needy students on Dec. 11.



Novi Meadows student Anna Mikkeisen decorates a gift bag for Neinas Elementary School students in Detroit last Friday.



Novi Meadows students work on decorating gift bags for needy students in Detroit.

"It sends a message to kids about making community service a part of their lives," she said. "With a focused effort we have seen how much we can do. The party on Friday also

will include a visit from Santa, lunch, crafts, music and games. "When those children see all the stuff their faces just glow," Berg said.



Walking Club winners

Third grader Marc Duckworth (shown with medal) walked 50 miles to win a first place medal and set the all-time record in the Orchard Hills Elementary School's Walking Club. The club's walking path is one-quarter mile. Each time a student walked the path once, he or she received a punch on their punch cards. After five miles, the student received a small shoe to wear on their shoe laces. After 10 miles walked, students received a large foot and key chain to place on their backpacks. All students walking received a foot or a shoe; some had several small feet and one large one plus a small medal. Medals were given to the first, second and third place winners in each grade level.

Novi Classical Ballet Academy & Sports Conditioning. Artistic Director: Jamie Marie Planko. Open House Sunday, Dec. 20, 2009 1:00pm-5:00pm. Pre-School Through Adult Private Instruction Available. Classes offered in Russian (Vaganova) Technique: Pointe, Variations, Character and Pilates. Adult Classes offered in Ballet & Pilates. Skaters class available: This class is specifically designed to enhance the ice skater through the discipline of ballet, conditioning and stretch. Walk-ins Welcome. Open during the holiday, please call for dates and times. 45285 Grand River Ave., Novi, Michigan 48375 (248) 305-7172. E-mail: pcba@noviicet.com

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CLARA ROSE BOBEK (VITTI)

Loving wife, mother, sister, grandmother and aunt, passed away peacefully at home, with her husband and daughter by her side, on November 24, 2009, in Sun Lakes, AZ. Clara was born January 17, 1938 in Dearborn MI, where she whiled away her youth, survived middle age in Northville MI, and then escaped to the sunshine of Arizona where she lived the rest of her life doing what she enjoyed most, golfing, attending Diamondback games, and spending time with friends. She is survived by her devoted family members, whom she placed above all else, including her husband of 47 years, Ken, her loving daughter, Linda (Dan), her brother Bill (Jan), her sister-in-law Kathleen, and the greatest treasures in her life, her three adoring grandchildren, Lauren, Scott and Jenna Whitaker. Clara also held a special place in her heart for all of her nephews and nieces. Clara was preceded in death by her parents, Yolandis and Dominic Vitti, and her two beautiful daughters, Lori and Lisa, who have been walking patiently with open arms to be reunited and comforted once again by their loving mother. Clara's generous heart touched many lives and will be greatly missed by all. A Memorial Service will be held on Monday, December 21, 12:00 Noon at Valley of the Sun Mortuary Chapel at 10940 E. Chandler Heights Rd., Chandler, AZ.

MARJA C. KILLEEN
Age 81, of New Hudson, passed away on December 2, 2009. She was united in marriage to Alvin B. Killeen on July 10, 1945; only a few months later she was diagnosed with Northville High School. Marja was a volunteer for Active Faith for many years. She cherished her family and loved spending time with her grandchildren. Marja enjoyed smiling, gardening, and bird watching; she also adored her cats. She is survived by her husband Alvin; her children, Jerry (Linda) Killeen, Laura Hewitt, and Kristie (Ted) Hansen; 6 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren. A funeral service was held last Saturday at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. Pastor Joe Muzzi with Crossroads Community Church officiated the service. Marja was laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Michigan, 400 Mack Ave., Detroit, MI 48221.

LOUIS JAMES "BUCK" MANVILLE
Louis "Buck" Manville of Newberry, Michigan passed away on November 23, 2009. He was born in Kingsley, Michigan on December 19, 1921 to Theron and Marie (Roberts) Manville. Buck was a decorated Veteran of WWII. Surviving Mr. Manville are his brother Paul, six children: James (Kathy) (Dennis) Huffman of Newberry, Michigan, Patty (Harv) Ames of South Ste. Marie, Michigan, Dan (Amy) of Ferris, Michigan, Jack (Cindy) of Ferris, Michigan, 1915 S. Main, Northville, Michigan, 1915 S. Main, Northville, Michigan, 28 great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandchildren. Preceding Buck in death are his parents, and his wife of 60 years, Lulu Mae (Morison). No public services will be held. Arrangements are in the care of Hovde Funeral Home.

MARY KATHLEEN (KATHY) DOYLE
Age 60, of South Lyon, MI, passed away on Tuesday, December 1st. She lived an extraordinary life and touched the hearts of many. She was the loving wife of James Patrick Doyle, Molar of Brian (Michelle) Doyle, Sheila Doyle (Jeff Harris) and very proud Grandmother of Jordan Harris. She was the Daughter of Kyran and Irene Gardner, Sister of Edward (Barbara) Gardner, Karen (Gerald) Westphal, Jon (Linda) Gardner, Jerry (Ron) Wilsey and many loving nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her Father Kyran and her brother Patrick Gardner. She was a devout Catholic, friend, confidant, partner, parent and grandmother and truly the light, rock and glue of an entire family. An intimate family service was held at Phillips Funeral Home, Inc. in Livonia, Michigan. She will forever be an inspiration to us all of how she should never complain about the small stuff and never give up hope even when things look their worst.

KIM MARIE (ZABELL) MELCHERT
Of Northville, MI, age 50, died Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. She was born June 13, 1959 in Muskegon, Michigan, the daughter of Warren O. & Dixie Lee (Caldwell) Zabell. Kim graduated from Northville High School. She attended Concordia College in Ann Arbor, and Eastern Michigan University. She was employed at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn for 28 years. Survivors include her parents, a brother, Mark Zabell of Aberdeen, MD; two nephews, Eric and Ryan Zabell of Columbus, OH; one aunt, Lueta (David) Young of Houghton Lake, two uncles, Rev. Philip (Kathly) Zabell of Wilkes, CA and Bernard (Arlene) Geyer of Bellevue. She was preceded in death by an aunt, Arlene Geyer. A memorial service will be held Saturday, December 12, 11:00 am at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Chelsea, with Rev. Dale Grum officiating. Burial will be at Glenn Eden Lutheran Memorial Park in Livonia, Michigan. Memorial contributions may be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1915 S. Main, Chelsea, MI 48118 or the Cancer Charity of your choice. Arrangements by: Cole Funeral Chapel, Chelsea

SHIRLEY A. SHELTON
Age 82, of South Lyon, passed away 12-5-09. Memorial Service Thurs., 12-10-09 5pm at Casterline Funeral Home, South Lyon. In lieu of flowers contributions to First United Methodist Church of Dearborn.

EDSEL VERNON WEITALA
Age 88, died Dec. 5, 2009. Visitation Dec. 11, Friday, 2-9pm at Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon. Funeral Dec. 12, Saturday, 11am at Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com



James E. Maher, president of Maher Restoration & Construction Company, received the Community Commitment Award at the annual Main Street Oakland County Main Event awards ceremony held on Oct. 23.

Maher honored for community commitment

Preserves landmark building in Walled Lake

James E. Maher, president of Maher Restoration & Construction Company, received the Community Commitment Award at the annual Main Street Oakland County Main Event awards ceremony held on Oct. 23. The Main Street Oakland County Main Event awards ceremony held on Oct. 23. The award by Grain's Detroit Business and his company was a 2009 recipient of Qualified Remodeler magazine's prestigious Top 500 award for excellence in the residential remodeling industry. The company is a member of a number of civic and trade organizations including the Restoration Industry Association; Institute of Inspection, Cleaning & Restoration Certification; Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan; Michigan Association of Home Builders; National Association of Home Builders; Construction Association of Michigan; Rotary International; the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce; and the Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce. Maher is a planning commissioner for the City of Walled Lake and serves on the Urban Design Committee for the City of Walled Lake. For more information, see the Maher Restoration & Construction Company website, GoMaher.com.

DETAILS
About Maher Restoration & Construction Company
Maher Restoration & Construction Company is an insurance restoration and remodeling and construction firm founded in 2003 by James E. Maher. The company does over \$2.2 million in annual volume. James E. Maher, a graduate of the Construction Management program at Ferris State University in Bay Rapids, Michigan, has numerous professional certifications including certified home inspector, certified mold professional, certified restorer, certified graduate remodeler, and certified green professional. Maher was honored in 2008 with a 40 under 40 award by Grain's Detroit Business and his company was a 2009 recipient of Qualified Remodeler magazine's prestigious Top 500 award for excellence in the residential remodeling industry. The company is a member of a number of civic and trade organizations including the Restoration Industry Association; Institute of Inspection, Cleaning & Restoration Certification; Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan; Michigan Association of Home Builders; National Association of Home Builders; Construction Association of Michigan; Rotary International; the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce; and the Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce. Maher is a planning commissioner for the City of Walled Lake and serves on the Urban Design Committee for the City of Walled Lake. For more information, see the Maher Restoration & Construction Company website, GoMaher.com.

About Main Street Oakland County
Main Street Oakland County (MSOC) is a trademarked program of the National Main Street Center in Washington, DC. Oakland County is the first county in the United States to operate a full service, county-wide Main Street Program for the 32 distinct, historic downtowns in Oakland County. Collectively, Main Street downtowns have generated more than \$500 million in private and public investment, over 3500 new jobs and 373 new businesses since the program was formed in 2000. MSOC is housed within the Planning Group of the Planning & Economic Development Services Division of Oakland County's Department of Community & Economic Development. For more information, see the MSOC website at MainStreetOaklandCounty.com.

available within the area. He chose, instead, to undertake a challenging facade and interior renovation with guidance from a number of experts within the city of Walled Lake and Oakland County. These included the city of Walled Lake Building Department and Department of Public Works, the Oakland County Records Department, and the Main Street Oakland County staff. The Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority and its Urban Design Committee were also instrumental in assisting Maher in this major renovation effort. Through its Facade Improvement Grant Program, Maher was awarded \$5,000 to offset his facade renovation costs.

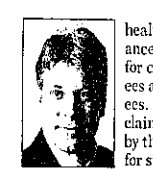
After months of collaborative planning with the City and the DDA Urban Design Committee, building restoration began on Sept. 27, 2008; the company moved into its new headquarters in January 2009. Maher, who has a history of using local subcontractors, chose to begin the project at a time when construction in Michigan generally slows for the winter months. While working on a prefabricated corrugated galvanized iron structure in the winter presented a unique set of weather challenges, so, too, did maintaining the building's integrity throughout the renovation process.

The front lobby preserves the spatial grandeur of the original Quonset building. Guests on the upper floor of the building are afforded a bird's-eye view of the vintage Michigan Star Clipper train which boards passengers across the street from the building. In addition to the impressive front lobby, the first floor of the building now contains a formal conference room for client meetings, an executive office with an adjacent full bath, four private offices and an open work area for production team members. Through his companies, Maher, president of The Maher Group, had the capability to not only demolish the Quonset hut and rebuild anew, but also renovate any number of existing properties which were

NOVI NEWSMAKERS

Greco wins big

On Dec. 2, Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Robert L. Ziolkowski, entered a judgment in excess of \$2.1 million in favor of the City of River Rouge and against the Defendants, The Manhattan Group, L.L.C., The Manhattan Group Services, L.L.C., Adam J. Korzejski and Lisa Rock-Korzejski. The City was represented by David F. Greco, Esq. of the law firm of Gasiorok, Morgan & Greco, P.C., located in Farmington Hills. The lawsuit alleged that during the years 2007-2008, the defendants, acting in concert with each other, misappropriated approximately \$700,000 of the city's money that was supposed to be used to pay



Greco

Goodardi & Anderson

Greg and Tina Goodardi of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Elisabeth Goodardi of Niles, to Christian Anderson of Holland, son of Dr. Kurt Anderson and Mrs. Deb Anderson. The bride-to-be is a 2001 Novi High School graduate and earned a bachelor's degree in music education from Central Michigan University in 2006. She is a band/jazz music director at Beatty High School in Cassopolis Public Schools. The groom-elect is a 2001 Shepherd High School graduate and earned a bachelor's degree in music education from Central Michigan University in 2006. He is a band director with Fenwick Public Schools. A July 2010 wedding is planned at Meadowbrook Congregational Church in Novi.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Westfall & Johane (left) Kevin and Johane Westfall of Novi are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jayme Lynn to Matthew Thomas Niehaus, son of Michael and Cyndi Niehaus of White Lake. Jayme is a 2008 graduate of Novi High School and a graduate of Miss Kati's School of Cosmetology. She works at Steven Papageorge Salon in Chicago. Matthew is a 2002 graduate of Novi High School and graduated from Michigan State University in 2006 with a communications degree. He is employed by ACE Insurance in Chicago. An Aug. 28, 2010 wedding is planned.

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>Brighton</p> <p>LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH 501 Pleasant Valley Road • Brighton, MI 48114 910-227-3113 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Rev. Dale Hebbard, Pastor www.lordoflifechurch.com</p> <p>HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL at the corner of Warren Lake & Match Rd. 910-231-9199 Fr. John Rezac, Pastor Weekend Liturgy: Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 & 11:00 a.m. New altar and stained glass windows installed</p>	<p>Milford</p> <p>CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL & K-8 • Mt. Spauld 620 Concord Street • Mt. Spauld Church office: (248) 684-5895 Regular Sunday Service: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Jun-Aug • Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m. Monday Evening: 7:00 a.m. The Rev. Richard E. Papp, Pastor</p> <p>FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD VIA CHRIST VINEYARD 1133 Burton St. • Milford 48061-5695 Pastor: Steve Swartz Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Wednesday 8:30 & 9:30 a.m. Awake for 3:30 - 5:00 pm (begin Sept. 1st) Middle School Group</p> <p>SOUTH HILL CHURCH, S.B.C. 2400 W. 11th St. • Milford 48061-5650 Sunday School 9:15 a.m. 10:00 Worship 9:30 a.m. Children and Youth Groups Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. Call about our current email group list</p>	<p>Novi</p> <p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 9 Mile & Meadowbrook Wisconsin St. Lutheran Synod Sunday School & Adult Bible Class will resume September 13 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Monday 1:00 p.m. Thomas E. Schroeder, Pastor • 313-6555</p> <p>NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 11674 N. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48275 Sunday Worship 8 a.m. Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor 248-949-3652 www.umcnovi.com</p> <p>CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 2455 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48275 Weekend Hours Sundays: 5 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m. Sundays: 1:30 p.m., 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. Fr. Timothy Rogan, Pastor Rev. Henry Scurie, Associate Pastor Parish Office: 948-8447 • www.holyfamily.org</p> <p>HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL 110 Mile between Meadowbrook & W. 11th Huggerty, Novi • Phone 421-1175 Sundays 7:45 a.m. • 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist • Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m. Rev. Dr. Ray Babitt, Interim Pastor www.churchoftheholycross.com</p> <p>OAK POINTE CHURCH 50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi Saturday Worship 5:15 p.m. Sunday 9:15 a.m. and 10 a.m. Catholic, contemporary service Phone (248) 312-9043 www.oakpointe.org</p>
<p>Farmington Hills</p> <p>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA Farmington Hills • 2325 Gil Rd. • 248-474-6564 Pastor: Greg Reid & Fredson Saturday Worship 8:00 a.m. Sunday Worship & Sunday School 9:00 a.m., Traditional Choral 11 a.m., Contemporary Sunday School - all ages 10:15 a.m.</p>	<p>West Highland</p> <p>BAPTIST CHURCH 11166 S. Hickory Ridge Rd., Milford, MI 48360 248-861-1215 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Ministries 11:00 a.m. Wednesday All Ages 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 238 N. Main Street, Milford (248) 684-2625 Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Nursery care available @ 10:30 a.m. Fr. John Harris, Pastor A heritage of one worship since 1858</p>	<p>South Lyon</p> <p>CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN 14500 Grand • River Ten Mile 437-8870 • 486-4228 • Grandville Rd. 10 Mile Worship 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church 22700 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon, MI 48176 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Rel. Ed. Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. Youth at 6:30 p.m. Rev. David Brown, Pastor 248-437-2222 • www.fellowship.org</p> <p>The Church of Christ 21800 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48176 248-431-3265 • www.churchofchrist.org 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m. Rob Callicott, Pastor</p> <p>FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH 18714 Nine Mile Road Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 499-2562 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.</p>
<p>Highland</p> <p>HIGHLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH 2300 W. 11th St. • Highland 48033-4552 Contemporary Service 9:00 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sundays Saturday Night Service 8:00 p.m. Mary's Bible Study & Breakfast 1st & 4th Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 8th Grade Youth Tuesdays 7-8 p.m. Pastor Rick Puffer</p> <p>NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 120 Bishop St., Highland off Mt. Road Pl. 2-7/8 miles N of Mt-59 • Sunday School 8:30 a.m. • Morning Worship 10:30 a.m. • Bible Study Wed. 7:00 p.m. Pastor: Larry Akins 682-7253 or 687-2566</p>	<p>New Hudson</p> <p>NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation 5763 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165 Phone 248-774-9118 Sunday Celebration of the Word 10:30 a.m. Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister Website: www.newhope.org</p>	<p>Northville</p> <p>NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE LIFE EACH WEEK Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School and Children's Programs www.northville.org 41365 Six Mile Road 248-243-9030</p> <p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 8 Mile & Tenth Roads Worship: 8:30, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Rev. Dr. Steve Buck www.funorthville.org</p> <p>WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4000 W. 11th St., Northville 248-274-7200 Sundays: 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. Trinitarian Worship: 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. www.wardpres.org</p>
<p>Livonia</p> <p>FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16389 Hubbard Road • Livonia South of Six Mile Road 48150-1324 • Phone: 424-1034 Children's Sunday School 10:30 a.m. 21366 Open Road Dr. James N. McCullough • Nursery Provided</p>	<p>White Lake</p> <p>WHITE LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 48150 Grand River • White Lake & Grandville Rd. (248) 857-4554 • Deborah H. Kern, Pastor 248-887-1111 • www.white-lake.org Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Children's Church 10:30 a.m. 21366 Open Road The "Friendly Church" Established 1823</p>	<p>Living Water West Church of Living Water Church Ann Arbor Worship Celebration Sunday 10:15 a.m. 17400 Whitman Lake Rd. • Whitman Lake, MI 48119 Gary Flynn, Minister 734-626-4036 • www.livingwater.org</p> <p>The Service Evangelical Lutheran Church 18714 Nine Mile Road Our Savior Lutheran School - Ten Mile Road 3365 S. Halladay St. • Novi, MI 48275 (248) 687-4040 Sunday Services: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:30 a.m. Children's Time: 7:30-9:00 a.m. (beginning Sept. 1st) www.seelutheran.org</p> <p>BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH Gathering in Jesus' Name 6115 Lehigh St. • South Lyon, MI 48176 Sunday 10:30 and 1:30 Thursday 7:00 p.m. Mike Roggen, Pastor 734-347-1983 pastor cell Old fashioned preaching KJV</p>

The Loving Memory
...at the Holidays

Remember the loved ones you've lost by placing a special holiday remembrance tribute.

The Observer & Eccentric/Hometown Weekly newspapers are publishing a special "In Remembrance" page for the holidays to celebrate the life of loved ones who hold a special place in our hearts.

Prices start at \$15.00 for a photo "In Remembrance" ad

Publication: Sunday, Dec. 20th
...in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
Thursday, Dec. 24th
...in the Hometown Weekly Newspapers

Deadline for both issues: Monday, Dec. 14th

Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS
HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

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Email: oeads@hometownlife.com

Story submitted by Nancy Rozum of Moon River Writing. She can be reached at (248) 360-7113 or nrozum@scglobal.net.



Deerfield donation

Students at Deerfield Elementary recently participated in the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's Math-A-Thon program and raised \$14,698.23 to help kids battling cancer and other deadly diseases at St. Jude...

City tweaks snowplowing policy

Change will save city money

BY NATHAN WUELLER STAFF WRITER

The city of Novi's unwritten snowplowing policy that assured residents work crews would attempt to achieve bare pavement in all residential areas within 24 hours is going to change.

In an effort to save money, protect the environment and keep workers safe, the City Council approved a policy to not use overtime to clear neighborhood roads when a snowfall is less than four inches and there is no accumulation of ice.

During a snowfall of four inches or more and any accumulation of ice, it will be business as usual with crews working as much as necessary on both major and neighborhood roads to keep them clear.

For a major snowstorm there is no change in policy, none. Mayor David Landry said once it hits the four inch threshold they will move into overtime, and that includes an accumulation of four inches or more if it happens on consecutive days.

He expects the city to see a significant savings in salt use and an estimated savings of \$118,000 by making the change.

Mayor David Landry said the city has a very aggressive snow removal policy that none of its neighbors have, and wants to make it clear that when needed it will be "all hands on deck."

"For a major snowstorm there is no change in policy, none," he said Monday night. Council member Andrew Mutch was the lone dissenting vote on the policy, saying he didn't believe the change would be appealing to residents.

"Whether four inches is a nuisance or a safety hazard is dependent on whether you are stuck in a snow drift in a subdivision or not," he said at the

"For a major snowstorm there is no change in policy, none."

DAVID LANDRY, Novi mayor

Nov. 23 board meeting when the policy was first brought before the council. "What I've learned is that after police and fire, plowing the roads, whether that's the main roads or neighborhood roads, is considered in Novi a core service and a critical service."

Council member Justin Fischer said he didn't see the officer as a reduction in service.

"In my opinion we were plowing when we didn't need to so we were wasting taxpayer dollars," he said. Beginning in January, a monthly report will be provided to council with citizen feedback, quantities of materials and labor per storm event and weather-related accident data compared with data for past years.

"If we find it's not working then we won't do it," said council member Kathy Crawford. "I think unless we try some of these things we will never know if we can save money."

nathanw@hometownlife.com | 248-437-2011 ext. 255

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Police bust woman with pot

Novi police arrested a woman at 3:36 p.m. on Dec. 3 for possession of marijuana after she was pulled over on Beek Road near I-96 for having a defective passenger side brake light.

According to the report, when the officer asked for her license and registration she was visibly shaking when handing them to him. He then asked if she had any weapons or drugs in the car and she said she did not.

When the officer asked if he could search her car she "became indignant" and told him he needed a search warrant to search the car. At that time, the officer returned to his vehicle and called for the K-9 unit.

Another officer arrived on the scene and the woman was told if there were any drugs in the car they would be found by the dog. She then admitted she had some marijuana in her purse "for personal reasons."

Police recovered two baggies of marijuana containing a total of 3.9 grams of the drug and a glass marijuana pipe. She was taken to the Novi Police Department where she was released after posting bond and issued a citation.

Man caught drunk driving

A 25-year-old man was arrested for drunk driving at 2:05 a.m. on Dec. 6 on Grand River Avenue west of Haggerty Road after an officer observed the man drifting in his lane and driving close to a vehicle in front of him.

The officer noted that the car was weaving slightly back and forth in its lane while heading eastbound on Grand River and almost drifted completely into the left turn lane for several yards until returning to its lane.

When the officer approached the vehicle he could smell a strong odor of intoxicants and the driver's speech was slurred. The man failed field sobriety tests, and at first refused to submit to a preliminary breath test before finally giving a reading. His PBT registered a blood alcohol content of .24 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers is .08 percent.

Three other people were with him in the car and one passenger who was not intoxicated drove the vehicle home. The driver was taken to the station where he refused to take a breath test despite several tries by the officers. Police then obtained a search warrant for a blood draw.

He was released when sober and was not issued any citations pending his blood test results.

Pair found with bags of marijuana

An officer on patrol after clearing an alarm at Blockbuster Video in West

Market Square arrested a pair of teens for possession of marijuana after stopping their vehicle for suspicion.

The incident occurred around 1:47 a.m. on Dec. 7 in the complex, and all businesses were closed at the time. There were four people in the car and the driver said they were going to the bank.

When the officer looked at the passenger he noticed his eyes were red and glassy and asked him if he had done any drugs and he said "no."

The officer then asked the driver if he could search the car and after hesitating she gave permission. When the passenger exited the vehicle the officer conducted a pat down and found a small baggie of marijuana. The rear seat passenger side passenger also was patted down and small baggie of the drug was found in his coat pocket.

The two were arrested and transported to the station where they were processed and released after posting bond with a citation.

Car destroyed in theft

An Infiniti G37 was vandalized around Nov. 28-30 while it was parked in a locked parking lot at Suburban Infiniti on Haggerty Road.

According to the report, the locked lot can only be accessed by foot. The suspect had taken a broken piece of concrete and smashed the driver's side window, and then opened the trunk and looted to steal the passenger side fender, trunk lid and rear bumper.

Puppy stolen from Petland

A two-month-old female Shih Tzu/Maltse puppy was stolen around 7:40 p.m. on Dec. 7 from the Novi Petland inside Twelve Oaks Mall.

According to Deputy Police Chief Tom Lindberg, the three suspects asked to visit with the dog, and when the clerk walked away they walked out of the store with it.

The suspects are around 18 years old, two males and one female. One male suspect was wearing a black hat, pants and had silver-plated teeth and the other was wearing a white T-shirt and had braided hair. The female was wearing a brown track suit.

The suspects were recorded by the store's video surveillance system and police are currently reviewing the tapes. The puppy, which is valued at \$1,200, also is micro-chipped and registered with HelpfindmYPET, a national pet recovery service.

Anyone with information can contact HelpfindmYPET at (866) 699-3463 or the Novi Police at (248) 348-7100.

For more information on the Novi Police and Fire Departments, visit cityofnovi.org.

Compiled by Nathan Mueller

Police, fire hold bi-annual awards ceremony

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Novi Police Department

Merit Citation

Detective Todd Anger, Detective Mark Boody, Officer Ayren Edgar, Officer Alysa Gilbert, Training & Standards Sergeant Michael Warren

Records Clerk Carol Westfall

Staff & Command Award

Sergeant Kevin Rhea, Lieutenant Keith Woolfien, Unit Citation

Officer Michael Bender, Dispatch Brian Bierkamp, Officer Chris Frankowiak, Dispatch Shift Leader Karen Jackson, Officer Keith Jones, Officer Keith Sampson, Dispatcher Kim White, Officer Jon Zabick

Letter of Commendation

Detective Scott Beates, Detective/Sergeant Matthew Conquest, Detective Kevin Gilmore, Detective Randy Mince, Detective Thomas Orlovski, Officer Halley Paris, Officer Shawn Penzak, Detective Michael Wilson

Individual Achievement Award

Officer Eric Lindblade, Detective Brian Woloski, Community Policing Citation

Officer Adam Eisen, Officer Timothy Farrell, Records Clerk Geryllan Garris, Detective Kristie Gruenwald, Officer Amanda Lombard, City Manager, Clay Pearson, Officer Paul Stulgross, Officer Julie Warren

Novi Fire Department

Letter of Commendation-BEMT

Firefighter Wassim Farah, Firefighter Shawn Fletcher, Firefighter Kyle Holod, Firefighter Christopher Jodoin, Firefighter Eric Leung, Firefighter Andrew Morris, Firefighter Joseph Rhome, Firefighter Jeffrey Young

Letter of Commendation

Firefighter Christopher Beritz, Fire Marshal Mike Evans, Deputy Chief Jeffrey Johnson, Firefighter Mark Pehrson, FPO Todd Seog

Educational Achievement

Deputy Chief Jeffrey Johnson, Staff & Command Award

Fire Marshal Michael Evans, Deputy Chief Jeffrey Johnson, FPO II Thomas Johnson, Captain Brad McFaul, FPO II Joseph Shelton, Captain Robert Stonik, National Fire Academy Award, FPO II Ramon Alvarez, Fire Marshal Michael Evans, Training Officer: John Martin

For more information on the Novi Police and Fire Departments, visit cityofnovi.org.

The Novi Police and Fire Departments held a Bi-Annual Awards Ceremony Nov. 24 to celebrate accomplishments and recognize professional development achievements of those who serve to protect the community. This was the first time Police Chief David E. Molloy and Fire Chief Frank Smith presented awards in a joint ceremony to members of their staff, both sworn and civilian.

"It is always an honor to have the opportunity to recognize those who are committed to public service," commented Molloy. "Partnering with the Fire Department on this bi-annual recognition is a natural fit and provides a venue in which to celebrate those who

serve to ensure the highest level of public safety to the Novi community." "This has become a new tradition for the Novi Fire Department," noted Smith. "We look forward to continuing to recognize the efforts of all Fire Department staff and developing a comprehensive awards system."



From left: Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Johnson, Fire Chief Frank Smith, Chief of Police David Molloy, Deputy Police Chief Tom Lindberg and Assistant Police Chief Victor Lauria.



Chief of Police David Molloy presents Sergeant Michael Warren with an award.



Novi Fire Chief Frank Smith (left) presents an award to Captain Rob Stonik.



Members of the Novi Fire Department after the November awards ceremony.

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Novi/Northville MEDICAL SERVICE directory. Includes ads for Family Therapy, Northville Physical Rehabilitation, P.C., Optometry, Family Practice, Hand and Wrist, Family Dentistry, and Chiropractor.

Chiropractor BUCKLE FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC, PLLC. 41620 SIX MILE. Call for New Patient Specials (248) 349-9933.

Family Practice Doctors That Care... Are Closer Than You Think. 40016 Grand River Ave., Suite 100. Call for an appointment (248) 437-2011.

Chiropractor Health for Life. Dr. Ryan C. Cooper, Family Chiropractor. 43059 Seven Mile Rd., Northville. 248-449-1630.

Acupuncture Susan Jakary, M.S., L.Ac. "Nationally Certified" ACUPUNCTURE CHINESE HERBS. 26179 Novi Rd., Novi, MI 48375. Ph# (248) 380-7522.

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LOCAL OPINION

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

OUR VIEWS



Winter driving calls for more cautious driving.

Snow will be here, so drive carefully

With snow on its way, it's time to prepare for winter driving.

That means remembering to slow down and drive at speeds under the posted limits when streets are icy and/or snow-covered.

Besides slowing down and paying attention, motorists should allow more space between their vehicle and other cars, extending the "three-second gap" rule when road conditions warrant it, according to police.

They should also clean the snow and ice off their windshields, mirrors, and side and rear windows before starting out to allow for clear visibility all the way around.

AAA and the Michigan Department of Transportation offer additional winter driving tips:

- Drive with your low-beam headlights illuminated.
- Accelerate and brake slowly and avoid abrupt steering maneuvers.
- Watch for icy surfaces on bridges and intersections, even when the rest of the road seems to be in good condition.
- If you get stuck in snow, straighten the wheel and accelerate slowly. Add sand or salt under the drive wheels to help avoid spinning the tires.
- If your tires lose traction, continue to look and steer in the direction you want to go. If the drive wheels start to spin or slide while going up a hill, ease off the accelerator slightly and then gently resume speed.
- Look farther ahead in traffic. Actions by other drivers will alert you to problems and give you extra seconds to react.
- When changing lanes, avoid cutting in front of trucks, which need more time and distance than passenger vehicles to stop.
- Don't use cruise control in precipitation and freezing temperatures.
- Remember that four-wheel drive helps you to get going quicker, but it won't help you stop any faster.
- Apply constant, firm pressure to the pedal with anti-lock brakes. Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal.
- Always wear your safety belt and be sure children are properly buckled up.
- Don't text or talk on your cell phone while you are driving.
- Allow sufficient room for maintenance vehicles and plows. Stay at least 15 car lengths (200 feet) back and, if you need to pass, go to the other vehicle's left.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Has the economy affected your holiday spending?



"A little bit, yes. We exchange names instead of buying for everyone in our family."

Marilyn Kartje
Novi



"Personally, no. We're not frivolous spending. We set budgets and stick to that."

Doug Cline
Novi



"Yes, well it's just made us a lot more cautious on what we spend on our family and made us look for more sales."

Christyne Koomen
Novi



"Yes. Well, where I used to give 200 Christmas cards, I cut it down to 125. And I'm cutting down on gifts."

Jane Bishop
Novi

LETTERS

'Global warming' false

I applaud your editorial ("Do earth a favor, recycle waste") in the Nov. 19 issue of the *Novi News*. There is little question that recycling offers many benefits, not the least of which is savings in energy we need to generate. There is also a benefit in not having to dedicate large tracts of land to landfills.

I do not believe, however, that one of the benefits of recycling is, as you state, "reversing global warming." There is a large body of scientific data that tells us global temperatures have not been increasing during the last decade. The data tell us that temperatures are stable, if not cooling. In fact, many of the global warming advocates now use the term "climate change" to describe their concern.

It is widely accepted that the earth has, for millennia, gone through swings in temperatures that are generally cyclical in nature. The planet has experienced ice ages and warmer periods in the past, and will continue to do so in the future. It is also widely accepted that carbon dioxide, or CO₂, has been a naturally generated portion of our atmosphere through these cycles of temperature changes.

In the last 10 or so years, global temperature data indicate the absence of global warming. In spite of that, some critics argue that recent and continuing increases in CO₂ concentrations represent a danger of massive proportions. I submit it is unlikely there is an imminent global crisis looming because of man-made generation of carbon dioxide. The last 10 years demonstrate an absence of any causal relationship.

Notwithstanding our different views on global warming, I will continue to regularly recycle waste to the extent it is possible and encourage you to continue your active support of the community effort.

Alfred J. Dorelli
Novi

Big time-saver?

Regarding the speed limit on Meadowbrook Road between Eight Mile and 10 Mile, let me put it in a different perspective. For those that are upset that the speed limit has not been raised to 35 mph, let's look at the math.

Assuming a constant speed for the whole two miles, at 30 mph it takes four minutes to travel two miles. At 35 mph it takes three minutes 26 seconds to travel two miles.

You save a whole 34 seconds over that distance. What's the rush?

Chris Janik
Novi

Speed limit theory

As a Novi resident who resides off Meadowbrook, I have formulated the following opinion on why the speed limit on Meadowbrook between Eight Mile and 10 Mile roads has been reduced to 30 miles per hour by the Novi City Council. It's all about the money!

This summer when the speed was temporarily posted at 35 miles per hour, the Novi police took their speed traps elsewhere. The police weren't able to catch anybody speeding and hence revenue decreased.

Now with Meadowbrook just recently repaved and is a smooth ride, the City Council ignores the recommendation of a traffic study and orders the speed limit

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

Web: www.hometownlife.com

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178.

Fax: (248) 437-3386.

E-mail: cstone@gannett.com

Biographies may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

to be decreased and sends out the Novi police with their speed traps. Heck, five miles over will bring in \$100, and having the policemen do the Council's dirty work makes sense to the mayor.

Michael A. Steane
Northville

Smart or not

Wixom City Council has opted out of allowing residents of Wixom to vote as to whether or not they want the SMART bus system in our community. Although 56 percent of communities will give citizens the right to vote on the issue, Wixom Council decided due to broader issues not to give their citizens the option.

Would this mean that Wixom leaders do not believe that mobility inside a community is beneficial? Would this mean if mass transit came as an option they would oppose it?

Adding public transit is beneficial to the community as other town and cities have proved nationwide. Movement within communities brings people in and out creating revenue.

Whether it is a SMART bus, mini bus or train service, every community should give their residents the option to make the choice to save money, energy and time.

Michele Berry
Wixom

The names of letter writers Darlene Friedman and Chuck Tindall were switched on their letters to the editor last week. - Editor

Put speed limit back to 35 on Meadowbrook

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with the recent decision by the City Council to change the speed limit on Meadowbrook Road between Eight Mile and 10 Mile roads back to 30 mph. During the more than 30 years I have lived in Novi, I have been aggravated by the unreasonably low speed limit on this stretch of road. Therefore I was ecstatic when the speed limit was increased to 35 mph.

I was delighted to read in last week's *Novi News* that the City Council was expected to approve the increase to 35 mph. Imagine my astonishment when I checked the paper's Web site to verify this change only to discover that the council had reinstated the 30 mph limit!

Although I was not present at the coun-

cil meeting and do not know why this decision was reached, I am guessing from the recent articles in the *Novi News* that complaints from residents who live along this stretch were a factor. According to these articles, some residents had dubbed the road "Meadowbrook Speedway" after the increase to 35 mph; and others had complained that they had difficulty backing out of their driveways due to the increase. Yet the traffic study performed along this stretch showed that the average speed of vehicles was 35.2 mph when the speed limit was 30 mph and 38.1 mph when the limit was 35 mph.

I cannot believe that the entire population of Novi, as well as nonresidents passing through the city, have to be inconvenienced because 50 or so residents who live along this stretch think that an increase in speed of 35 mph creates a significant hardship for them.

I would like the City Council members to publicly explain why they disregarded the results of the traffic study that was performed along this road. And I ask those of you who agree with me to write to the City Council (in care of City Hall) to express your dissatisfaction with its decision and to ask it to reconsider.

Darlene Friedman
Novi

School officials teaching a bad lesson

I attended the recent meeting concerning privatization of Novi Schools' custodial and transportation services. This community meeting was an opportunity for citizens to view and give their position on this proposal. School Superintendent Peter Dion presented the administration's plan to throw the janitors and bus drivers under the bus to save money. The responses from all but one I heard while I was present were against outsourcing these jobs to private companies (one of which is from out of state).

I wonder with the talk of "We are in this [the recession] together," "Buy Michigan first," and "Support local businesses" why outsourcing jobs in our own community and why send tax dollars out of state?

The school board tried to rebut statements made by some, responding the jobs are being offered at a similar pay rate. Does anyone really believe these for-profit companies will keep any of the senior, higher-paid employees for long? If these companies are to provide the same services at a lower cost, making a profit is job one — no doubt at a cost to the workers. The recent funding cuts by the state just add fuel to what was already being planned. Just for once I would like to see someone lead by example, show we really are all in this together, starting at the top or with cuts for all across the board.

After hearing it occurred to me, since this meeting was taped it should be used for education purposes for our children, mandatory viewing by their senior year. It would provide a real life example of economics in the global economy — outsource any job but your own as you climb the ladder and don't hesitate to step on those below you. And what would be the lesson for our youth to take from this? Look to the lesser among us, take from them so we may have more.

Chuck Tindall
Novi

Communities partner on movie screen cost

BY ALLEN WINGLAD
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Dim the lights, pass the popcorn and let the entertainment begin.

Milford Township officials have approved an agreement to share the cost of an inflatable movie screen with South Lyon, Novi, Northville and Canton Townships.

Northville and Novi officials have OK'd the plan as well, while the two remaining communities are expected to vote on it by the end of the year.

The agreement calls for the five communities together purchasing the screen and trailer for no more than \$33,000 in total, or \$6,600 each. The screen would be used according to a pre-arranged schedule for special events such as the "movie in the park" program that Milford presents in the spring and fall.

Each community will be able to use the screen at least three times a year. It can't be

loaned or leased to any other people or groups.

The screen chosen for purchase is 24 feet wide and 13.5 feet tall, and can play DVDs or other video. Additional inputs are available for gaming or PC use. Audio can be transmitted through the speakers or FM radio.

Northville Parks and Recreation officials report that they spend about \$3,100 for each time a movie screen system is rented.

"I want the residents to know that we're trying to find creative ways to develop partnerships with other communities," said Tracy Sinecock, director of Northville Parks and Recreation. "I think this collaborative program will benefit all of the participating communities."

Milford Township trustee Dale Wilcox questioned the expenditure. He had voted against it earlier this year.

"It seems like a lot of money for this use," Wilcox said. However, fellow trustee Bill

Mazzara noted the joint purchase will "pay for itself" in less than two years, since the township spends about \$1,500 each time a portable movie screen is rented.

"This is an opportunity for residents to get something additional for their tax dollars," he said.

Township Supervisor Don Green said the agreement is based on the participation of five communities. Once the purchase is made, there will be no refund if one of the communities wants to drop out of the program. Any other communities interested in participating will have to wait for someone to drop out in order to come on board.

"And they will have to pay what we paid up front. (Those additional funds) can go to the municipalities or a maintenance pot," he said.

Northville Record staff writer Pam Fleming contributed to this report.

allenw@hometownlife.com (248) 605-1907, ext. 251

Mayors talk sharing to save

Increased cooperation and the consolidation or sharing of city services will become reality for much of metro Detroit, a panel of suburban mayors said during a forum Friday.

"There are so many opportunities for us to save money in this region," Novi Mayor David Landry said. "As leaders, the time is now; we have to work to take it from emotional to economic."

"The biggest obstacle is emotional," he said. "There's a lot of territorial stuff going on that we need to get over."

Mayors from Dearborn, Southfield, Warren and Sterling Heights — plus Detroit's deputy mayor — met to discuss regional issues such as budget shortages, state revenue sharing, job loss, a regional transit system, growing industries, home foreclosures and economic development. Among the comments on such issues:

School district consolidation

"We don't need six districts. It's time to consolidate ... and look out for the best interest of the taxpayers," Warren Mayor James Fouts said.

Increasing property taxes

"Raising taxes isn't even in my vision right now," said Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence. "The last thing we need to do is raise taxes and run businesses away," Fouts said.

Regional cooperation

"As leaders, we have to think: 'If we build the region, our city is going to do better,'" Lawrence said.

"It is exactly the kind of thing we have to do to survive and serve our cities," Green said.

Foreclosures

"Our strategy is to work on the regrowth of our property values by stabilizing our neighborhoods," Dearborn Mayor John O'Reilly Jr. said.

The mayors' business breakfast was held at the Marriott hotel in Pontiac and sponsored by WWJ-AM (950). It was moderated by WWJ reporter Vickie Thomas.

Suzette Hackney | Detroit Free Press

NOVI COMMUNITY BRIEFS

New breast center opens

Botsford Hospital opened the Dr. Louis and Lucille Spagnolo Breast Center on Nov. 27. From screening to diagnosis, the center will provide a convenient and comfortable setting for total breast care with the latest technologies.

The Breast Center will bring digital mammography to Botsford, which allows radiologists to review electronic images of the breast using high-resolution monitors. The digital images can be stored easily, copied without loss of any information, transmitted easily without relying on one set of original films, and high-light specific areas of interest by manipulating brightness, contrast and zoom.

In addition to digital mammography, the center will offer stereotactic biopsy and high-resolution breast ultrasound with 3D reformatted capability. The hospital campus also offers breast MRI as an additional modality for detection of breast cancer as well as to evaluate the integrity of breast implants.

The Botsford Breast Center will be located in the Botsford Center located on the Botsford Hospital campus at 27500 Grand River Ave. in Farmington Hills. Hours will be Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.; and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. - noon. This evening provided Greek organizations a little friendly

bowling competition along with bragging rights and the opportunity to show their support for the children in Metro Detroit by raising over \$8,000 and building awareness of BBBSMD mentoring programs.

BBBSMD's President & CEO, Dara Munson, expressed much gratitude, on behalf of over 1,200 children served. Munson, who is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Lambda Pi Omega Chapter), personally extended her appreciation to all of the sororities and fraternities for their participation in the Second Annual Greek Bowling Challenge.

"Being apart of a service organization with the goals of improving the living standards within the Black communities, assisting Black families, with an emphasis on the Black males and improving the mental and physical health of local communities falls in line with the mission of BBBSMD. It was a marvelous sight to see the eight largest African-American sororities and fraternities come together to support what each organization was built on," stated Munson.

The following sororities and fraternities made the Greek Bowling Challenge possible: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Santa's coming!

Don't miss out on Santa at Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk, located at 44175 W. 12 Mile Road, on Saturday Dec. 12 from noon-4 p.m. Enjoy a completely free afternoon of holiday fun for the whole family. Meet the big man himself as you can take a picture with Santa and give him your wish list for this

holiday season. Spend some time with his wife, Mrs. Claus, as she indulges the family with some special storytime. You can also say hello to the rest of the Claus gang as you head over to the petting farm and meet Rudolf and the rest of Santa's enchanted reindeer.

Santa has also enlisted an amazing magician to entertain your family with some Holiday magic. Get in the Holiday spirit by getting your face painted, or take a carriage ride around Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk to see all the fabulous stores they have to offer. Everyone who attends Saturday with Santa will also get the chance to make and take home a fun craft project.

All of the activities will take place at the former Coz Plus store which is located next to The Great Indoors. For more information or directions, visit www.shoptwelvemilecrossing.com or call (248) 348-8762.

Concert for Gleaners
Novi residents Steven Johnson and Lisa Leppik will present Angelina Presley at 8 p.m. Dec. 12 in a Harmony for Hunger fundraising concert and food drive to benefit Gleaners Community Food Bank at Newport Furnishing's showroom in Wixom.

Hailing from the small mining community of Beauty, Ky., Presley possesses a voice rich with Appalachian heritage, and the songs she crafts push creative boundaries even as they draw inspiration from Loretta Lynn, Dolly Parton, Johnny Cash, and other trailblazers of American music.

Confy Couch Concerts is a casual, non-smoking, family friendly, concert venue sponsored by MichiganFolkLive.com and Newport Furnishing's Wixom showroom.

For more information, contact Johnson at stevenjohnson@michiganfolklive.com or (248) 910-4941.

Fight PROSTATE CANCER

Maybe you're not where you think you should be. Maybe you're ready for something different. Maybe you're ready to do something about it.

There's no better place to begin than Oakland Community College this winter. With programs in 100 high-demand fields, including Health Care, Computer Science, and Robotics, or short-term programs geared toward immediate employment, such as Heating & Cooling or Dental Assisting, OCC is here for you.

If you're planning to go on for a four-year degree, you can do your first two years at OCC for 1/4 of the cost of a state university — just \$60.10 per credit hour for Oakland County residents. And there's a full range of financial aid opportunities available, including scholarships, grants, loans and work-study programs.

With campuses in Auburn Hills, Farmington Hills, Royal Oak, Southfield and Waterford, there's sure to be an OCC campus near you. We also offer many of our classes at night, for students who work during the day.

Enroll now for Winter classes. Touch Tone and Web registration now through January 8. Find walk-in registration at all campuses is January 6, 7 and 8. Classes begin Monday, January 11.

Everybody loves a good comeback story. Start creating yours. Call 248-341-2330.

www.oaklandcc.edu



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NOVI NEWS

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Community Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor / Publisher

Grace Perry
Director of Advertising

NORTHVILLE / NOVI CHURCH EVENTS

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@annett.com...

Church of the Holy Family Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road...

Crosspointe Meadows Church Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road...

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene Location: 21260 Haggerty Road...

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

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

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

First United Methodist of Northville A Stephen Ministry church

First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 217 W. Wing

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...

Novi United Methodist Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road

Oak Pointe Church Location: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road

Northville Christian Assembly Location: 41355 Six Mile Road

CHARMED INFLUENCE Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday

Orchard Hills Baptist Church Location: 23455 Novi Road

Novi Northville Center for Jewish Life Location: Novi

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

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

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

St. James Catholic Location: 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi

CHURCH

St. John Lutheran Location: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Location: 201 Elm St., Northville

Unitarian Universalist Church of Farmington Location: 25301 Halstead Road, Farmington Hills

St. John's Episcopal Church Location: 574 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth

St. John's Episcopal Church Location: 574 S. Sheldon Road, Plymouth

St. James Catholic Location: 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi

Hearing Aid Assistance for Seniors in Need

Dear Savvy Senior, Are there any organizations that you know of that offer low-cost hearing aids to seniors on a very tight budget?

Dear Heidi, Unfortunately, there are millions of U.S. seniors with hearing loss that go without needed hearing aids because they simply can't afford them.

But there's good news! Today, there are a number of organizations that offer hearing aid assistance programs to help those in need.

LIONS AFFORDABLE HEARING AID PROGRAM Provided by the Lions Clubs International Foundation and offered through many local Lions clubs throughout the U.S., this program provides the opportunity to purchase new, behind-the-ear, digital hearing aids manufactured by Rexton, for \$200 per aid. To be eligible, most clubs will require your income to be below 200

percent of the federal poverty level, which is less than \$21,660 (or \$29,140 for a family of two) in 2009.

HEAR NOW A national non-profit program and part of the Starkey Hearing Foundation, Hear Now provides new digital hearing aids to those in need, for practically free.

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Robert Zaid, D.O. Family Medicine PrimeCare of Novi 39555 W. 10 Mile Road

Rebecca Studinger, M.D., M.S. Plastic, Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgeon 26850 Providence Pkwy

Kelly Burke, M.D. Obstetrics & Gynecology 26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 315

A. Damadi, M.D. Colorectal Surgeon 26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 425

Todd Frush, M.D. Orthopaedic Surgeon 26750 Providence Pkwy Ste 200

Mubashir Sabir, M.D. General and Bariatric Surgeon 26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 400

Madhuri Gudipaty, M.D. Obstetrics and Gynecology 26850 Providence Pkwy Ste 500

Susan Lyons, M.D., Ph.D. Oncology and Hematology 47601 Grand River 2 South

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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 clstone@gannet.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

2nd Annual Girls' Night Out Book Signing
TIME/Date: 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10
Location: Biggy Coffee, 43346 Grand River Ave.

Details: Novi author Dana Corbit invites friends and fans to take time out from the holiday rush and share a few hours sipping lattes and discussing books with friends at her 2nd annual Girls' Night Out Book Signing. The award-winning author of inspirational fiction will be promoting the first two titles in her "Wedding Bell Blessings" trilogy: "An Unexpected Match" (Steeple Hill Love Inspired, Aug. 2009) and "His Christmas Bride" (Love Inspired, Dec. 2009).
Contact: Biggy Coffee, (248) 595-0101.
Democrats of West Oakland County Holiday Dinner

Time/Date: 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15
Location: Kim's Gardens restaurant, 26150 Novi Road (east side, just north of Grand River Avenue)
Contact: Cynthia Churches at (248) 489-0780 or visit www.mydens.info

Rock Financial Showplace
Location: 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi
Contact: (248) 348-5600
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 railroads, train dealers, collectors, hands-on exhibits, demonstrations, workshops, and much more. www.greattrainsexpo.com

Metropolitan Single Professionals Social Club
Time/Date: 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Dec. 18
Details: The Metropolitan Single Professionals invite you to meet new friends, dance and socialize. Cost is \$6 for members; \$12 for non-members.
Contact: Dave at (248) 544-6445 or dave@mspsc.com; www.mspsc.com

29th Annual Cycle World International Motorcycle Show
Time/Date: noon-9 p.m. Jan. 1, 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Jan. 2, and 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 3
Contact: 800-331-5706
Ultimate Fishing Show
Time/Date: 2-9:30 p.m. Jan. 7, noon-9:30 a.m. Jan. 8; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Jan. 9; and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 10

team members are committed to providing bona fide referrals to each other. Members learn how to create and refine an "elevator speech," develop a broad network of other business professionals in the community and receive training/education on networking more efficiently. Guests are invited to attend free of charge. Continental breakfast provided.
Contact: For more information, contact Julie Paquette at 248-797-1665 or juliepaquette67@gmail.com; www.metronovibni.com

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

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.novifreebootstus.com
Contact: Paulette Alton, V.P. of Public Relations at greenspace@mi.rr.com or (248) 756-0907.

Novi Rotary Club
Time/Date: Noon every Thursday
Location: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
Details: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check Web site for speaker information; novirotary.org.

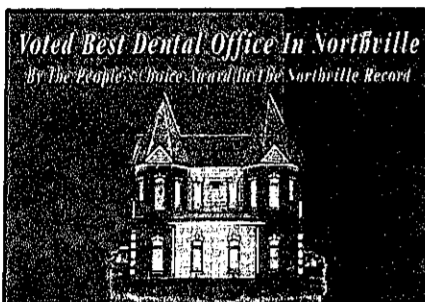
LIBRARY LINES
Novi Public Library Library Hours

Location: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 a.m.-5 p.m.
(September-May)
Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the Library.
Contact: (248) 349-0720
Website: www.novilibrary.org
Location: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m.-5 p.m.
(September-May)
The library will be closed Thursday, Dec. 24-Sunday, Dec. 27.
Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the Library.
Contact: (248) 349-0720
Website: www.novilibrary.org
Story Times: Please see the Library website or story time brochure for details.

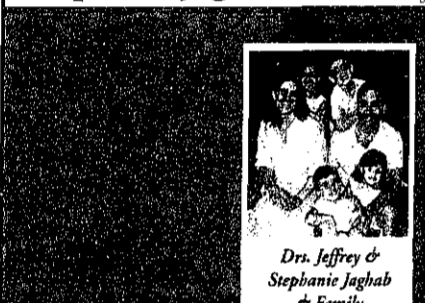
High School Craftiness
Date: Friday, Dec. 11
Time: 3-4 p.m.
Details: Come and create a cool keychain to give as a gift or keep for yourself. All the supplies will be provided. Registration is required. Grades 9-12 welcome.
Animal Dance Party
Date: Saturday, Dec. 12
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Details: Bring your favorite animal, dress like an animal, dance like an animal. We will groove to our favorite animal tunes including Old McDonald, the Bunny Hop, and the Chicken Dance. Preschoolers welcome.

Snack Tales
Date: Monday, Dec. 14
Time: 7:45 p.m.
Details: Each time we meet you will get a chance to listen to some great stories and cook up a tasty snack. Registration required.
Tuesday Evening Book Discussion
Date: Tuesday, Dec. 15
Time: 7-8 p.m.
Details: Join your Novi neighbors in a great discussion of Loving Frank by Nancy Horan. Please register.
Battle of the Books Coaches' Kick-Off Meeting
Date: Tuesday, Dec. 15
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Details: Team registration forms for Battle of the Books will be available at the library's reception desk beginning Monday, Dec. 1, 2009. All teams must register by the Coaches-Only Kick-Off meeting. At this meeting titles for this year's Battle will be announced, a set of books for each team will be distributed, and a discussion of coaches' responsibilities will be conducted.

Tech Time
Date: Tuesday, Dec. 15 and Thursday, Dec. 17
Time: 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Dec. 15) and 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m. (Dec. 17)
Details: One-on-one tutoring with either a librarian or computer tech on a topic of your choice. Investigating your family tree? Microsoft? Word? Have you stumped? We have the tools to help. Registration required.
English Conversation Group
Date: Wednesday, Dec. 16
Time: 1-2 p.m.
Details: Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation and conversation skills. No need to register.
Library Board Meeting
Date: Wednesday, Dec. 16
Time: 7-9 p.m.
Details: General meetings of the entire Library Board are usually held the third Wednesday of each month in the City Council Chambers at the Novi Civic Center. The public is welcome.
Wixom Public Library
Location: 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
Hours: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday-Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday
Contact: (248) 624-2512 or visit wixomlibrary.org
Museum Adventure Pass
Details: Card holders can check out free passes, for two to four people, to many area museums, cultural centers and historical sites. See detroitadventurepass.org for more information.
ESL Cafe
Time/Date: 3:30 p.m. every Thursday
Details: Coffee and conversation. Improve your English speaking skills by speaking with people from other countries trying to improve their English. No tests; instructor help; free.
Contact: Karin at the Information Desk.



Jeffrey Jaghab, D.D.S.
Stephanie Jaghab, D.D.S.



Office Hours:
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7th Annual Senior Expo

Tuesday, May 18, 2010 • 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus in the VistaTech Center
 Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

If your business or organization serves seniors, you'll want to be a part of this exciting event!

Your Exhibitor Package Includes:

- Print Advertising**
 One-quarter page black and white ad or one full page ad (color option available) for your business will appear in the accompanying special section publishing Sunday, May 9, 2010, in the South Oakland and Birmingham Eccentric and Thursday, May 13, 2010, in the Observer & Hometown Newspapers.
- Web Presence**
 The Senior Expo special section will be featured on HometownLife.com, which receives upwards of 1 million page views per month!
- Exhibitor Listing**
 You'll be featured on the center spread of our special section plus newspaper promotion during April and May.
- Expo table plus two chairs**
 Use your space for giveaways, food demonstrations and promotional materials. Electricity available on a first come, first served basis for an additional charge.
- Food**
 Two complimentary boxed lunches for exhibitors.

Special Section Promotion
 The Senior Expo will be promoted in all of our trusted, local newspapers:

- Birmingham Eccentric
- Clinton Observer
- Farmington Observer
- Garden City Observer
- Livonia Observer
- Millard Times
- Northville Record
- Royal News
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Ringing in
the Holidays
Parade - B4



Wrestling team starts season strong

Novi finishes third at Adrian Maple Invite

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Novi's wrestling team kicked off the season with a third-place finish at the Adrian Maple Invitational last Saturday.

The Wildcats competed against five other schools, but couldn't hold off host Adrian, who swept through the competition, defeating Novi 43-22 along the way. Linden, who defeated Novi 42-24, took second place.

However, Novi had dominant performances against the other three schools, defeating Monroe Jefferson 51-16, Flat Rock 54-12 and Jackson Northwest 65-18.

"We are pleased with this start. The boys wrestled well and Adrian and Linden are both ranked in the state," coach Bradley Huss said. "We have improved a lot since last year and we plan on improving more and more each day this season so we can wrestle our best when it really counts in February. This is a great group of kids who work hard and are dedicated to doing their very best."

Junior Derek Becker and senior captain Martin Bunney led the way for Novi last weekend as Becker went 5-0 in the 140-pound weight class and Bunney went 5-0 in the 152-pound weight class.

"Both Derek and Martin have improved a great deal over the past two

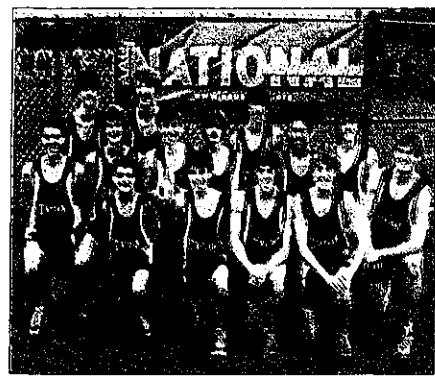
ON TAP

Novi will compete next against 18 other schools at the Herm Wilkinson Classic 9 a.m. Saturday in Howell before facing the best in the county at the Oakland County Wrestling meet in Milford Dec. 18-19.

"We have the Howell Invitational on Saturday. This is an individual format. This is a very tough tournament, but will be a good warmup for the Oakland County tournament in two weeks," Huss said.

years and they both went after their opponents and did a great job," Huss said. "Shanka (Paul) and Jimi (Keller) did a nice job in their first varsity com-

Please see **WRESTLING, B3**



All 14 members of Team Ivon, which spanned three age divisions, traveled to Orlando last weekend for the AAU National Cross Country Championships.

Novi runners win AAU national title

Runners run through competition in Orlando

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Although the boys cross country season ended for Novi's high school team last month, several team members have been conditioning on their own to compete in an unaffiliated event through Amateur Athletic Union competition.

The effort really paid off, as the five team members that made up the Young Men's Division team came away with an AAU Cross Country National Championship in Orlando, Fla. last Saturday, edging out the Westside Track Club (Louisville, Ky.) by a score of 27-28.

Racing under the name Team Ivon (Novi spelled backwards), all five team members in the 17-18 age group earned All-American honors by finishing in the top 25 overall individuals. For team scoring, all five finished in the top nine.

Senior Mike Blaszczyk led Ivon with a second-place overall finish in 16 minutes and 14 seconds. Senior Dan Egner followed with a 12th-

place finish in 17:09 and senior Geoff Giese was close behind, finishing 16th in 17:16. Senior Alex Mighline finished 21st in 17:51 and junior Chase Conrad was 25th in 18:29.

Team Ivon also had seven runners in the Intermediate Division (ages 15-16). Junior Joe Schubring led the way with an 11th-place finish in 17:08 as the Intermediate team came in fifth place with a team score of 95 points, unable to catch the Central Florida Gliders, who won the division with 44 points.

Junior Brett Giampa was right behind Schubring, finishing 12th in 17:12. Steve Pravato finished 41st in 18:25. Ryan Tigras was 42nd in 18:26. Eric Gardner 48th in 18:42. Chris Vera-Burgos 52nd in 18:56 and Michael Benkarski 63rd in 19:34.

"Having our Young Men win the national team title was an exceptional way to cap off the season," Ivon coach Dave Egner said. "The fact that we were able to have seven out of our 14 athletes earn All-American

Please see **RUNNERS, B3**



Icebreakers win Hocktoberfest

The 14-and-under Michigan Icebreakers (playing out of Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills) won the girls Bantam BB Division of the Hocktoberfest Tournament Oct. 22-3 in Windsor. The Icebreakers defeated the Hamilton Hawks in the final, 1-0. They compiled a 5-1 record playing all Canadian teams. The Icebreakers are (front) Madison Murray, Berkley; (kneeling, left to right) Kendall Clary, Royal Oak; Logan Rheume, Novi; Kourtney Diaz, Commerce; Lizzy Malear, Novi; Leah Elkins, Farmington; Katie George, Farmington; Bree Tasker, South Lyon; (standing, left to right) assistant coach Kevin Diaz, Rachel Stein, Beverly Hills; Katie Karpinski, Royal Oak; Leslie Merrill, Farmington; Allison Lowe, Walled Lake; Lauren Stachecki, Commerce; Marisha Hackett, Northville; Riley Collins, Berkley; head coach Rick Murray and Sarah Coultts, South Lyon.

Wildcats' offense too much for Mustangs

Novi icers undefeated after defeating '08 conference champs 7-1

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Northville was the home team last Friday, but it sure felt like the Wildcats had home ice advantage behind a large crowd presence at Novi Ice Arena, which both schools use for home games.

Although the game didn't count toward the division standings (the teams will have to wait until the Feb. 8 season finale for that), the highly anticipated match between the 2008 state semifinalist Wildcats and 2008 KLAA Kensington Conference-champion Mustangs filled every seat in the house, as well as standing room surrounding the rink and entryways.

Novi didn't disappoint their large fan

base. Just 2:18 into the game, the Wildcats displayed some of their signature passing and stick work as senior Tyler Perpich found junior Joey Ferriss with open ice on the left wing, where Ferriss slid a pass across the middle to junior Nolan Valleau, who received the puck to the right of Northville netminder David Ketelhut and deked around the front of Ketelhut to put the puck into the left side of the net.

Senior Brandon Juodikas crashed the right side of the net 2:08 later to tap in a goal off a long pass from along the left boards. Senior Ryan McCullough and junior Taylor Howell assisted on what would be the game-winning goal that gave Novi a 2-0 lead.

Please see **UNDEFEATED, B3**

ON TAP

After hosting undefeated Livonia Stevenson last night, Novi will prepare for a 6 p.m. game at Central Division foe Walled Lake Western and 6:30 p.m. Monday conference crossover versus Plymouth at Novi Ice Arena.

"Stevenson will be the toughest team we play this year. It will really come down to the league championship," Krygier said. "Walled Lake Western, their program is improving, but isn't where they want it to be. Plymouth is supposed to be the best team of the three Plymouth schools and should win their division."

Novi tops South Lyon in KLAA hockey opener

BY TOM MORELLI
CONTRIBUTOR TO SOUTH LYON HERALD

For two out of three periods, the South Lyon hockey team successfully matched Novi's every move in Monday's contest.

Holding steady with a 2-2 tie entering the third, South Lyon appeared to be on the brink of overtime, but those ambitions dissipated toward the end, following a string of goals by the Wildcats with four minutes remaining.

The late-game lapse was a complete turnaround for South Lyon (4-2-0 overall, 0-1-0 KLAA), who tenaciously climbed back from a rough first period that saw Novi rack up two power-play goals by the midway point.

"Despite some early penalties, our team was focused and scratched back to stay in the game," said South Lyon head coach Bill McCreary. "Unfortunately, we ran out of gas in the third and

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Novi Alum wins World Cup gold in bobsled

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Novi has a new gold medalist among their alumni. Mickie Rzepka teamed with Shauna Rohbock last Saturday to compete in a World Cup victory for the U.S. women's team. Rzepka handled breaks and Rohbock drove as the tandem won a race on the Italian track in Cesana, site of the 2006 Olympic, in a two-run combined time of 4:56.09.

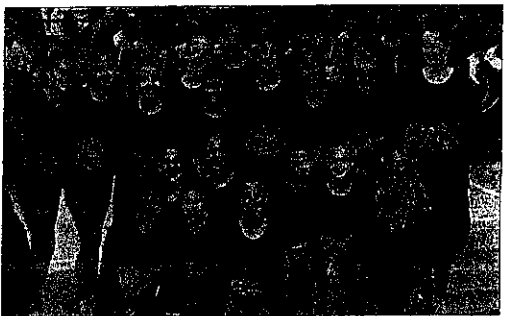
"We had fast consistent pushes at the start, 5.22 and 5.21, which was the third fastest for both heats. The fastest push in the competition was a 5.16. So we were able to have two very competitive starts," Rzepka said in an e-mail to family members. "It was such an amazing moment in my athletic career to be in such a spotlight at the European track. Standing on the medal podium and being on the top was... words cannot convey. My hands were shaking as I heard the U.S. national anthem play and as I watched the American flag blow in the wind, I have big things in store for my future and I feel this may be just the beginning."

The pair beat out a field of 21 sleds and was followed closely by two German teams that took the silver and bronze medals. Cathleen Martini and Romy Logsch captured the silver medal with a combined time of 4:56.43 and reigning Olympic champion Sandra Kiriasis drove the bronze medal-winning German sled. As a former Michigan State pole vaulter, Rzepka is no stranger to competition in sports with Olympic equivalents.

CHEER
Novi's cheer teams both placed second at the KLA.A Crossover Quad meet behind host Hartland on Monday.

The varsity squad scored 644.6496 through three rounds to get past Plymouth (635.1828) and Waterford Kettering (490.45), but couldn't catch Hartland, who won with a score of 721.892.

The junior varsity squad scored 445.372 over three rounds, shy of Hartland's 518.972, but well ahead of Kettering's 158.74 two-round score.



The Novi Middle School pom team placed third with their routine of Welcome to the Jungle at the annual Mid-American High Kick competition at Eastern Michigan University Nov. 8. Coach Erin Basgall works with team members Mia Gurizian, Michelle Kearney, Bailey Borycki, Michele Brant, Katie Casselton, Jenny Chang, Lexie Gragosian, Olivia Ghannam, Megan Hrit, Jenna Janowski, Hannah Latham, Jessica Leone, Lauren DiPaola, Sami DeLisle, Karla de la Cruz, Rachel Mullins and Chetel Jain.

Plymouth's JV team did not compete. The team now gears up for the CCCAM Invite at Roosevelt High 9 a.m. Saturday.

POM PONS

Novi's pom program sent four teams to the annual Mid-American High Kick competition at Eastern Michigan University Nov. 8 and all four placed in the top four within their groups.

The varsity squad placed fourth, middle school team finished third and the first-ever hip-hop team debuted with a third-place finish. The junior varsity squad led all Wildcats with a first-place performance.

The JV squad's Wizard of Oz performance featured a team full of Dorothy-dressed Wildcats coached by Erin Bartos and captained by Mary Favorite and Angela Sherman. The varsity squad, led by captains Macaire Schlaff and Nicole Lang, performed a routine dressed as members of the Novi Police Department.

Captains Kelsie Aulterson and Jessica DiPaola led the hip-hop team's debut performance of Time, while the middle school team performed to their Welcome to the Jungle routine.



The first ever Novi varsity hip-hop team placed third in their debut competition performance of Time at the annual Mid-American High Kick competition at Eastern Michigan University Nov. 8. The team is coached by Erin Bartos and team members are captains Kelsie Aulterson and Jessica DiPaola, Kalle Groethe, Ashley Wojtylo, Mary Favorite, Marisa Glampa, Desi Sheppard, Angela Sherman, Brooke McKnight, Gi Hong, Alexa Boron, Taylor Boron, Nicole Rigdon, Mikaela Falsetti, Maddie Egner, Emma Weil, Renee Weil and Mackenzie Kelley.



Novi's cheer squad performs in a second-place performance at the KLA.A Crossover Quad meet Dec. 7. Hartland hosted and won the event.

al competition 10 a.m. at Livonia Churchill.

HOCKEY ALUM

Western Michigan senior Jordan Collins was named Central Collegiate Hockey Association Defenseman of the Week on Monday for his performance in WMU's weekend series against Alaska-Fairbanks.

Collins, known more for his defensive ability and willingness to block shots, picked up his offensive

game in WMU's 3-1 win and 4-4 tie with No. 12 Alaska. The Novi alum scored the game-tying goal and added a late goal in Friday's win for his first career two-goal game. He also had a goal and an assist in Saturday's tie, earning back-to-back multi-point games. Prior to the two games with Alaska, Collins had just two goals in his 79 games with Western Michigan.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

UNDEFEATED

FROM PAGE B1

"Against South Lyon and Northville, we made a couple adjustments so we could start off stronger," coach Todd Kryger said. "The previous games, we started off kind of lethargic."

Less than 50 seconds later, Perpich took a slashing penalty, the first of four straight penalties that the Wildcats would face in the final 12 minutes of the period.

Novi junior goalkeeper Michael Pesendorfer came up big, making saves on the penalty kills, including a close-range shot off the facemask from Northville's Eric Goebel.

"I think Michael's been playing well," Kryger said. "I don't think he made a mistake all game."

Despite playing most of the period short-handed, Novi's defense allowed very few power play shots and had a handful of offensive opportunities, including one break up the right side by sophomore Curtis Herzog that led to a hooking penalty on Northville's Mike Scorzio with 2:27 left in the period.

Ten seconds after Juodis hit out of the box for a high-sticking penalty, Ferris whiffed on a pass and deked around two Northville defenders to recover and pass the puck off to Perpich on the left side for a power play goal and 3-0 lead 1:36 before the first intermission.

"I thought our penalty killing unit did a great job killing off the penalties," Kryger said. "Every time we get a lead, the refs seem hesitant to call penalties made against our team. I think that hurt the game, in general."

Novi didn't let up the pressure in the second period, hitting the side of the net and the left post on separate occasions, and added another goal with 12:27 remaining when junior Matt Stenkoski picked up the puck after Ferris stole the puck from a Northville defender at the blue line and was tied up just inside the offensive third. Stenkoski went untouched on the left side for a few strides before slipping a shot into the lower left corner for a 4-0 Novi lead.

Northville wasn't about to be pushed over though, as the Mustang offense geared up from its first-period performance. Seniors Matt Rosiar and Max McHugh both had open ice opportunities, but Pesendorfer came up with two big saves for Novi.

"I think they made a couple adjustments that made them more effective against us in the second and third periods," Kryger said.

After Perpich hit the left post with 1:04 remaining and Kettelhut covered up the rebound for a big save on the other end, Perpich found himself at the right post with a bouncing puck at his feet and 477 seconds remaining in the period when he knocked in the Wildcats fifth unanswered goal of the night. Stenkoski and senior Evin Dixon assisted.

Northville continued to pressure in the third period, as Scorzio ripped another shot off Pesendorfer's mask. Shortly after, the Mustangs got on the board 3:47 into the period when junior Robbie Thornburg won a faceoff at the left circle in Novi's end, slicing the puck to his right where

junior Brady Marotta already had his stick pulled back to receive the puck and rip a wrist shot over Pesendorfer's shoulder and into the net to end the shutout campaign.

Valleau took a penalty 12 seconds later, but Juodis nearly got a shorthanded goal on the penalty kill when he intercepted a clearing pass by Kettelhut. However, Juodis' shot from the right side sailed wide right of the net from 15 feet away.

Novi got the last goal back with 6:51 remaining in the game when Stenkoski finished the puck over Kettelhut after Perpich and Ferris let loose with a wrist shot and backhand that left Kettelhut sprawled out across the goal mouth after two big saves.

Two minutes later, Dixon capped off the night with Novi's final goal to make the game 7-1 with 4:51 remaining. Junior Zach More and sophomore Brock Kryger assisted.

Senior Alex Latin took an interference penalty with three minutes remaining, but the Mustangs (2-1-0) couldn't capitalize as the Wildcats, who outshot Northville 40-15, moved to 6-0-0 on the season.

"The line of Ferris, Perpich and Stenkoski was pretty powerful, played really well and racked up a lot of points," Kryger said. "This is the first time in the four years I've been here that we beat them. Tonight, we got some positive results. It's a good, healthy rivalry. I have a lot of respect for the team and their program."

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

KLA.A OPENER

FROM PAGE B1

we need to continue to improve both our defensive play and conditioning."

"The Wildcats began their run with 3:06 elapsed off a blast by Tyler Perpich just outside of the crease. Novi would strike again exactly four minutes later, thanks to Zach Mohr's finding an open Alex Cova between the circles, where he smug the puck past South Lyon goalkeeper John Slavick.

However, South Lyon would catch a break late in the first with some crafty puck movement behind the net.

Forward Jared Vincek began the scoring opportunity by centering the puck toward the crease, where Trevor Eckler wound up for a one-timer just outside the crease. Though Eckler's shot ricocheted off of Wildcats netminder Michael Pesendorfer, teammate Danny Dieroff was there to

put away the rebound.

With much of the action intensifying in the ensuing period, tensions began to arise for both teams, whom were slapped with matching minors on three occasions. Cooler heads would prevail for South Lyon late in the second, when defenseman Cameron Dillon ripped a shot from the right faceoff dot that found its way onto the stick of junior Jack Schueneman for the finish.

Such a play only seemed natural for Schueneman, who had scored in similar fashion over the weekend at the Ann Arbor Unifrontal.

Although they weren't the highlight-reel goals that McCreary envisioned, he was pleased to see that his players grasped the importance of rebounds on both lamp-lighters.

"Rebounds are an important part of the game and so much scoring is generated from those types of plays," he said.

Stavick finished with 25 saves, compared to Pesendorfer's 15.

WRESTLING

FROM PAGE B1

petition. We are excited about their progress as well."

The sophomore duo of Paul and Keller are the youngest Wildcats who competed Saturday, as both came out of the invitational with winning records on opposite ends of the weight spectrum. Paul went 4-1 in the 112-pound weight class - the lightest - while Keller went 3-2 in the heavyweight class, the heaviest.

Four other wrestlers went 4-1 Saturday. Senior captain Conner Caldwell (130 pounds) led juniors Shabaq Sidhu (125), David Sparing (189) and Alan Mencer (215) as the grapplers helped the Wildcats toward their third-place team finish.

"We are very happy with the way our team wrestled this weekend. They worked hard,

stayed focused and had some fun," assistant coach Dan Jilg said.

Rounding out Novi's trip to Adrian were strong performances by four seniors. Glen McLeer (145) and Adam Paul (171) went 2-1 and Adam Troher (160) went 3-2. Senior captain Alex Engbretson split competition in the 171-pound weight class with Adam Paul, with Engbretson going 1-1 in his two matches.

"We have a room full of leaders. They understand that they are responsible for each other's success. Everyone pushes everyone to get it," Jilg said. "These guys are positive. They have what you call PMA (Positive Mental Attitude). They understand that attitudes are caught, not taught, and that a positive attitude is contagious."

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

RUNNERS

FROM PAGE B1

status demonstrates their full commitment to training and preparation. I could not be more proud of each and every member of Team Ivon."

The team also had two representatives in the Youth Division (ages 13-14). Five were required for team scoring, but Ben Jenkins and Brennan Giese performed well in individual efforts. Jenkins came in 38th in the shorter 4K race in 15:04 while Brennan Giese came in 70th in 16:23.

Following the successful race, which ended around 11 a.m. Saturday, the team celebrated with a trip at Disney World.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

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Ringing in the Holidays



With a stuffed Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, Angel Taylor Phillips, 6, takes a break after walking in last Friday night's parade in downtown Novi.



Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive inside the Novi Main Street development after Friday night's parade.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Crowds filled the sidewalks of Novi's Main Street during its annual Ringing in the Holidays parade.



One of the many floats in last Friday night's parade.



A group of rescue dog volunteers marched in last Friday night's parade.

Eva Webb, 5 gets some help on her unicycle from her dad Gordon during last Friday night's "Ringing in the Holidays" parade in downtown Novi. The Webbs were part of a group from Redford who unicycled along the route.

THE WEEK AHEAD

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Tue 12/15/09 @ Walled Lake Central
Thu 12/17/09 @ Livonia Churchill

Girls Basketball

All games are at 7 p.m.
Fri 12/11/09 Walled Lake Northern
Tue 12/15/09 Walled Lake Central
Thu 12/17/09 Livonia Churchill

Ice Hockey

Home games at Novi Ice Arena
Sat 12/12/09 6 p.m. @ Walled Lake Western (Kensington Valley Ice House)
Mon 12/14/09 6:30 p.m. Plymouth
Fri 12/18/09 6:30 p.m. @ Clarkson Inville-Dawson

Boys and Girls Bowling

All meets are at 3:30 p.m. unless noted
Mon 12/14/09 Northville (Town & Country)
Thu 12/17/09 @ John Glenn (Super Bowl)

Competitive Cheer

Sat 12/12/09 @ CCCAM Inville

Wrestling

Sat 12/12/09 9 a.m. @ Herm Wilkinson Classic (Howell)

Fri 12/18/09 @ Oakland County Wrestling

CATHOLIC CENTRAL Basketball

All games at 7:30 p.m.

Fri 12/18/2009 Old Redford Academy

Hockey

Fri 12/18/2009 @ Church Hill 6 p.m.

Sat 12/12/2009 Stevenson 7 p.m.

Wrestling

Fri 12/11/2009 @ Lowell 6 p.m.

Fri 12/18/2009 @ Oakland County 3 p.m.

NORTHVILLE HS Boys Basketball

All Games at 7 p.m.

Tue 12/15/09 @ W.L. Western

Thu 12/17/09 @ John Glenn High School

Boys and Girls Bowling

Sun 12/13/09 @ W.L. Northern Wonderland Lanes 1:30 p.m.

Mon 12/14/09 @ Novi Town & Country Lanes 3:30 p.m.

Tue 12/15/09 @ Plymouth Super Bowl 3:30 p.m.

Cheerleading

Sat 12/12/09 @ Stonley Creek High School TBA

Gymnastics

Wed 12/16/09 @ Plymouth High School 6:30 p.m.

Boys Hockey

Thu 12/10/09 @ Howell 6:50 p.m.

Fri 12/11/09 South Lyon High School 6 p.m.

Wed 12/16/09 Brighton High School 6 p.m.

Boys Swimming & Diving

Thu 12/10/09 Brother Rice High School 6:30 p.m.

Thu 12/17/09 @ Churchill High School 6:30 p.m.

Wrestling

Sat 12/12/09 Northville Invitational 9 a.m.

Wed 12/16/09 Quad Meet 5:30 p.m.

Strictly Business

BUSINESS BRIEFS

New plug-and-play wireless solution

Optimum Hearing Care in Novi is offering a new system of innovative wireless connectivity solutions that is enabling people with hearing loss to experience more natural personal communication and more freedom.

"When wireless connectivity was first introduced, people with hearing loss, for the first time, were able to stream sound directly from cell phones to their hearing devices — opening a world of easy communication that had previously been off limits for them," states (practitioner) of (practice) in (location). "But there were limitations when it came to streaming sound from TVs and existing landline phones."

"These limitations created a number of quality of life challenges for patients and their families. I had adult children who were concerned that a hearing impaired parent's difficulty speaking on the phone made it impossible to check in on their health and safety during the day," says (practitioner). "I also found that a patient's need to turn the volume of the television so loud that it drove others out of the room was a recurring source of frustration for many families."

Now, new Oticon ConnectLine enables a simple, high fidelity connection to any TV or landline phone. The new plug-and-play ConnectLine TV Adaptor and ConnectLine Phone Adaptor optimize the wireless connectivity potential of the popular Dual and Epq hearing solutions. With just the push of a button on the hearing instruments' Streamer companion device, the ConnectLine system connects wirelessly and seamlessly to TV and landline phones. Transitions between phone or TV functions are equally easy with just a touch of a button.

The small and attractive ConnectLine TV Adaptor connects to the audio output of any TV. It has a range of up to 30 feet and runs on its own power supply. Users enjoy high quality audio streaming through their hearing instruments — listening at their own preferred volume and without the delay experienced with off-the-shelf Bluetooth transmitters.

There is no need to recharge the ConnectLine TV Adaptor and there are no additional gadgets or lost installations required. After an initial pairing with the Streamer device, the ConnectLine connects automatically whenever the Streamer is activated.

ConnectLine Phone Adaptor turns any landline phone into a cordless Bluetooth phone. The ConnectLine Phone Adaptor can be especially beneficial for seniors who want to continue using their current landline phone. Users simply press the phone button on the Streamer to pick-up or end the call. The ConnectLine Phone Adaptor does not interfere with the ability of other household members to use the landline phone as usual.

ConnectLine Adaptors deliver excellent sound quality and are easy to use. There are no dropped connections and no need to pair again," notes (practitioner). "Because the adaptors work on their own power supply, there is no need to recharge."

For more information about hearing health and the new ConnectLine system, contact Optimum Hearing Care at (248) 305-3355 or visit www.optimumhearingcare.com.

Walsh winter registration under way
Registration for winter courses that begin Jan. 4 is under way at all Walsh College campuses, with no appointment necessary on Walk-In Wednesdays. Students can enroll now in a new Master of Management degree program and a new MBA master's in finance dual degree program.



Unique Deli

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for Deli Unique, in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, in Novi on Dec. 1. Shown (l to r) are Mike Prentice, general manager; Lynn Harrison, assistant manager; Novi Police Chief David Malloy; Satish Jasti, CEO Lotus Bank; Ara Topouzian, Novi Economic Development director; and Clay Pearson, Novi city manager.

Walsh continues "Walk-In Wednesdays," where prospective students can meet with an academic advisor, review transcripts, and register for classes on a walk-in basis at the Troy, Novi, or Clinton Township campuses from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, call (800) WALSH-01, or e-mail admissions@walshcollege.edu.

The 33-credit Master of Management (MM) degree offered at the Troy and Novi campuses focuses on managing resources in a broad spectrum of management within for-profit and not-for-profit organizations. Human resources, financial management, marketing, information security, project management and communications are among the courses. Students can also select a management concentration of study. For more information and a list of courses, please visit www.walshcollege.edu/MM.

A new dual master's degree program in Business Administration (MBA) and Finance (Master of Science in Finance) can be completed within a shorter timeframe than enrollment in each separate degree program. Students are required to take 22 classes for 66 semester credits required for both degrees. The distinctive MBA encompasses accounting, finance, management, and related disciplines. The MSF covers all aspects of finance, a blend of accounting, economics, and finance, and the study of economic theory. For more information and a list of courses, please visit www.walshcollege.edu/MBA-MSF.

Among the new courses are Real Estate Principles, an undergraduate course focusing residential real estate; and an Entrepreneurship Seminar for graduate students, exploring the entrepreneurial success process.

Oliver/Hatcher renovates Novi Town Center
Oliver/Hatcher Construction of Novi recently completed a major facade renovation of the Novi Town Center, a 444,198-square-foot shopping center at 26132 Ingersoll Drive.

The project involved extensive exterior work, including new rubber and sheet metal roofs, awnings and light fixtures for the outdoor center, located at the northeast corner of Novi Road and Grand River Avenue and anchored by Borders, Old Navy and TJ Maxx.

Oliver/Hatcher prepared extensive detailed schedules and sequenced construction activities to avoid hindering the daily operations of Novi Town Center tenants. The commercial construction company's careful planning of the construction process allowed the shopping center to function normally throughout the renovation, which began in June and was completed in mid-October.

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Oliver/Hatcher prepared extensive detailed schedules and sequenced construction activities to avoid hindering the daily operations of Novi Town Center tenants. The commercial construction company's careful planning of the construction process allowed the shopping center to function normally throughout the renovation, which began in June and was completed in mid-October.

To support its educational goals, native trees and shrubs were planted near the nature center to create a demonstration arboretum, and interpretive signs were designed to educate visitors about the ecosystem and its management.

Michael McNulty, environmental manager for ITC, said the updates are both esthetically pleasing and environmentally friendly.

"The project is a win-win situation for the community and the local habitat," McNulty said. "Our partnership with the Metropark and WWC resulted in a safer environment that is also beneficial to native wildlife. In fact, a professional botanist who examined the site determined that more than 40 species

of plants native to Michigan have naturally germinated as a result of this project, providing food and cover for various mammals, birds, turtles and pollinator species."

The ITC transmission corridor at Stony Creek Metropark was one of 238 sites recognized at the 2009 Symposium for creating a Wildlife at Work program. In addition, 47 Corporate Lands for LearningSM (CLL) programs were recognized, reaching thousands of learners from schools and scout groups to master gardeners and university researchers. Since 1990, WWC has certified 560 Wildlife at Work and 113 CLL programs worldwide. The certification program recognizes outstanding wildlife habitat management and environmental education efforts, and offers third-party validation of the benefits of such programs.

The Mega Office Party comes to Rock
The Rock Financial Showplace and Diamond Center are teaming up to create a seasonal event aimed at gathering the community together during this difficult economic period.

The Mega Office Holiday Party, Friday, Dec. 18 is a collective event designed to bring multiple small groups together for one large celebration of the holiday season. It's a giant banquet and networking event for all area offices, businesses, organizations and clubs. Live entertainment from popular singer-songwriter Jill Jack, lavish holiday buffet by Epoch Catering, door prizes and special gift bag are all included in one low price (starting at \$20 per person).

For party reservations; call (248) 348.5600.

ITC Holdings Corp. announced it received international recognition for the company's contributions to wildlife habitat conservation at the Wildlife Habitat Council's (WHC) 21st Annual Symposium, Evergreen: A Celebration of Conservation in a Changing World. ITC demonstrated its commitment to environmental stewardship and increasing native biodiversity by achieving Wildlife at WorkSM certification at the ITC transmission corridor at Stony Creek Metropark in Shelby Township, Mich.

"The Wildlife Habitat Council believes that collaboration among all stakeholder groups is critical to addressing the complex issues facing the sustainability of the planet," said Robert Johnson, WHC president. "WHC members take a leading role in connecting community stakeholders through wildlife habitat enhancement, community outreach and conservation education. Congratulations to ITC for its commitment to a healthy natural world and connected communities."

Lady cagers burn Saline in season opener

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Novi's girls basketball team kicked off the season on a high note, burning Saline 25-8 in the first quarter en route to a 68-35 win on the road.

"We're definitely a transition team," Kelp said. "We've got four seniors who had 20 points, eight rebounds and five steals against the Hornets (0-2). I think the tone set by Caroline with two threes (and 10 points) in the

first quarter was pretty impressive," coach Bill Kelp said. With effective ball pressure and a quick transition style of play, the Wildcats were too much for the Hornets, racing out to a 35-15 half-time lead.

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NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.
Default has occurred in the conditions of a mortgage made by KAYS ZAIR and PATRICE ZAIR, husband and wife, and EDDIE ZAIR and JANAN ZAIR, husband and wife collectively "Mortgagor," to FRANKLIN BANK, N.A., a national banking association, since merged into FIRST PLACE BANK, a federally chartered savings association, having an office at 24725 W. 12 Mile Road, Southfield, Michigan 48034 (the "Mortgage"), dated June 22, 1994, and recorded in the office of the Registrar of Deeds for Oakland County, Michigan on June 30, 1994, in Liber 14800, Page 507 (the "Mortgage"). By reason of such default, the Mortgagee elects to declare and hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of the Mortgage due and payable forthwith.
Notice is hereby given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in the Mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, and to pay the above amount, with interest, as provided in the Mortgage, and all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorney fee allowed by law, and all taxes and insurance premiums paid by the undersigned before sale, the Mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgaged premises at public vendue to the highest bidder County Courthouse located in Pontiac, Michigan on Tuesday the 29th day of December, 2009, at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon. The premises covered by the Mortgage are situated in the City of Novi, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:
Lots 151 and 156, inclusive, Howell's Walled Lake Subdivision, as recorded in Liber 42, Page 36 of Plats, Oakland County Records, together with all of Mortgagor's right, title and interest in and to the west 1/2 of the vacated alley as evidenced by a Resolution recorded at Liber 13518, Page 690, Oakland County Records.
Tax I.D. Numbers: 22-11-105-010 and 22-11-105-011
Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of sale, unless the premises are abandoned. If the premises are abandoned, the redemption period will be the later of thirty (30) days from the date of the sale or upon expiration of fifteen (15) days after the Mortgage is given notice pursuant to MCL 6600.3241(a) that the premises are considered abandoned and Mortgagee, Mortgagor's heirs, executor, or administrator, or a person lawfully claiming for or under one of them has not given the written notice required by MCL 6600.3241(a) stating that the premises are not abandoned.
Dated: November 28, 2009
FRANKLIN BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee
Dennis W. Loughlin
WARNER NORCROSS & JUDD LLP
2000 Town Center, Suite 2700
Southfield, MI 48078-1318
(248) 784-5156
Publish: December 3, 10 & 24, 2009

Catholic Central jumps out to strong start

■ Hockey squad currently 4-0 on season

BY SAM EGGLSTON CORRESPONDENT

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks hockey team can be described in two words: Perennial powerhouse.

This year's squad isn't starting their season off with any less gusto than they have in years past, jumping to a 4-0 record with wins over Orchard Lake St. Marys, Brother Rice, Monroe St. Mary's Catholic Central and, most recently, University of Detroit Jesuit High School.

Against Orchard Lake St. Mary's, the Shamrocks escaped with a 4-3 victory with goals from Anthony Rossi and a hat trick by Davey Middleton. Assists were picked up by Brad Wilhelm, Chris Waterstreet, Ryan Obuchowski, Sean Gaffney and Jake Downing.

The Brother Rice Game wasn't nearly as close as the Shamrocks pounded out a convincing 3-1 victory. Wilhelm notched two goals in the victory while Ryan Keller earned one in the win. Assists were earned by Obuchowski, who had two, Jimmy Peplinski,

ON TAP

The Shamrocks hockey team will be back in action when they visit Livonia Churchill at 6 p.m. tomorrow before hosting Livonia Stevenson at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Gaffney and Rossi. The Shamrocks continued their domination against Monroe St. Mary's Catholic Central as they pounded out a 3-1 victory. Waterstreet, Nolan Chuchowski and Gaffney shared in the goal-scoring honors, while Mitchell Gatt, Downing and Obuchowski notched one assist each in the winning effort.

The Shamrocks continued their sweep of their foes with a 3-2 victory over the University of Detroit Jesuit High School Cubs in front of a packed house at Compuware Arena last week. The Shamrocks had 30 shots on goal.

Sam Egglston is a freelance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.

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