# MICROFILM COPY



### South Carly States and NOVI **NUTSHELL**

#### Vander Ark in Wixom

As lead-singer, songwriter, and guitarist for "The Verve Pipe", Brian Vander Ark has sold over 3 million albums. Their 1997 hit "The Freshmen" not only reached #1 on the Alternative Rock charts it helped to define the 90's sound. In 2005 he started his Lawn Chairs and Living Rooms tour as a way to connect with his fans in a more intimate setting. He has now performed close to 400 of on Saturday Jan. 16, Comfy thes

Couch Concerts will host Brian Vander Ark on his first Lawn Chair & Living Rooms concert of 2010. The show will be held at Newport Furnishings, 52504 Grand River Avenue, Wixom. Tickets are \$15 for adults; \$10 for students ages 8 to 18. Contact (248) 910-4941 or stevenjohnson@michiganfolklive.com for tickets, and visit http://www. comfycoucheoncerts.com for more information.

#### Flag Line

The Novi Flag Line, a group of fourth-seventh grade students who will learn how to spin flags and dance at an entry-level of the colorguard activity, will be hold-. ing an informational meeting at for an line 7 in the bits school p.m.l Jan. 7 in the high school and room. Practices will be on Thursdays, and there will be three performances.

E-mail Betsy Pilon (betsy\_richards@hotmail.com) for more information or questions.

#### Budget award

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) announced the City of Novi has received the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award represents a significant achievement for the City of Novi and our Finance Department," said Finance Director Kathy Smith-Roy. "The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award reflects the commitment of the City of Novi to meeting the highest principles of governmen-tal budgeting." To receive the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation must be met including, policy documentation, financial plan, operations guide, and commu-nications device.

anti di tari

# Be safe, not sorry this holiday season

## Take extra precautions to prevent problems from happening

Tom Lindberg, deputy police chief for the city of Novi, said the city doesn't see an increase crimes dur-ing the holiday season. Lloyd Collins, police chief in South Lyon, also said not much changes this time of year

BY NATHAN MUELLER

STAFF WRITER

this time of year.

But just because they aren't see-ing it, doesn't mean it's not prone to happen. And both encourage people to take extra precautions to ensure their sector. their safety. "It's a time for the possibility of

opportunistic crimes and that is what you have to be careful of," Collins said. "By that, I mean people comins said. By that, i mean people are going to be predisposed to have larceny in their beart -- and if the opportunity presents itself, they will take advantage of it. It's a good time of year to be careful and keep valu-

ables out of sight." In Novi, where people come from

#### SAFETY TIPS

 Always lock your car and secure your valuables in the trunk, store them out of sight or take them with you. Don't carry large amounts of cash or carry it in one place. Park in a weil-lit area. Be as alert as possible. · Shut and lock garage doors.

Let a neighbor or the police know

when you go out of town. Have working smoke detectors. Make sure tree is watered, lights work \*

properly. Taxl Services

Last Call Services - (586) 552-8989 • The Designate - (888) 929-8282 • ABC Cab - (800) 829-4222

Referral Service - (800) taxi-cab

all over the metro Detroit area to do their shopping. Lindberg said people

need to be cautious. He also suggests that women carry their cell phones in a pocket in case someone snatches their purse.

"People need to me more alert and more concerned about making sure doors are locked and valuables are not in plain sight," he said. Collins said he feels economic

struggles are not an excuse, and those who steal do so because they have it inside them. Still, he encour-ages people to not tempt fate.

The two also said they make sure their officers are more visible this time of year and they pay more attention to neighborhoods, looking for such things as open garage doors and other concerning sights.

Fire prevention also is key dur-ing the holidays, and people should make sure their tree is watered, they turn lights off when not in the room and check their smoke detectors

"It seems every year you hear of a fire tragedy," Collins said. "These are

times to be careful, not just from the crime perspective but fire safety as well."

well. Also the holidays can be a time where people have too much to drink and decide to get behind the wheel, a practice that is sure to ruin the season

Northville Township Firefighter Jason Raschke provided some advice, telling people to stay off the roads late at night, call 911 if they see a person driving that appears to be under the influence and take steps to been a coher deine when deciding to have a sober driver when deciding to go out and drink.

There are several services that will give people rides home, even ones that make sure their car gets home safely too, so there is no excuse for driving drunk. "Unfortunately every year we have

to take people to be our guests for the night," Collins said.

nmueller@gannett.com/(248) 437-2017, ext. 255

Novi on the Web Social media sites

# become newest marketing tools

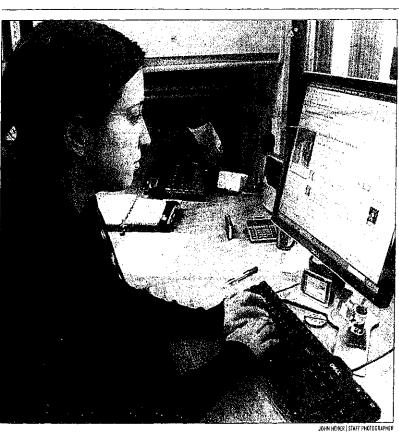
**BY NATHAN MUELLER** STAFF WRITE

The social media craze that feeds an audience yearning for up-to-date information all the time has reached the city of Novi. A few weeks ago, the city launched fan pages for the city of Novi and the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department on the popular social networking site Facebook, and the police department has begun using Nixle, a Web site alerting people

on public safety issues in the city. Pam Antil, assistant city manager, said the city noticed a growing trend in the usage of these sites and wanted to take advan-

tage of their reach. "One of the goals of the city bas been finding new ways to commu-nicate with residents and get feedhack," she said. "And Facebook is a perfect way for us to push infor-mation to the public and get feedback from them (immediately).

Please see WEB. A3



Novi Parks and Recreation employee Lauren Sorentino checks out the Facebook page she's created for "Novi Parks and Recreation and Cultural Services." The informational page already has more than 150 fans and will help to promote the departments services and upcoming events.



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THE NOVI NEWS blished Each Thursda By The Novi News

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Smile – you're on camera low fast tele

LOCAL NEWS

No. 3 arenas, and even wilder-14 ness areas. We need to Jeff Livermore be much more

conscious of being filmed. Perhaps the greatest increase d at every major shopping

mall and some entertainment in surveillance cameras has been the installation of traffic Recently a clip was put up cameras at intersections. I work just over two miles from home on YouTube about some fans behaving badly at a local but pass through four intersections that are under video surveillance. Each of these sporting event. The fans appeared to be intoxicated and argumentative. Someone intersections has at least four sitting near them at the even pulled out their camera and cameras mounted overhead. If I take the back way out of my began filming once a distur-bance broke out. Every bad subdivision I still get filmed at least times. I have been trying word and gesture was caught to find a route to get more three miles from home without being photographed and I cannot do on film and have now been viewed by thousands of people. The availability of cheap video t. The number of cameras is cameras and ubiquitous cell phone cameras combined with just incredible The level of video surveil-

the ubiquitous presence of lance in malls, banks, ressecurity cameras means that we are being filmed much taurants and entertainment venues is also increasing. In more than we think. Consider many cases, the businesses

catch your favorite show. Now put a monitor in view of their you can watch almost any show at any time over the Internet. customers to make them vision news shows are able aware that they are being to show video shot at malls, observed. Surveillance video The same rule applies to watchhave been used to document

ing videos that people submit to sites like YouTube. YouTube crimes and perceived injustice. How many people watched the Rodney King video that video clins can help keep fami lies together. My niece posted a clip of my grand-nephew singing the "Wheels on the Bus go round and round" which helped our geographically disframed a national dehate. How many of us were moved by the video of a Chinese dissident standing down a tank persed family to connect. It in Tiananmen Square? Vide was a great clip and a mo footage is changing our world whether we are ready or not captured forever by a cell phone Videos are changing how we camera and shared. Constantly being on camera is changing teach college students. I use videos in some of my classes our political landscape and ou. at Walsh. It is very simple to se of privacy. Cameras used to raise a sense of outrage but include a link to a clip in my PowerPoint slides and there is now very few of us even notice a quick transition from lectur the addition of new cameras into our world. We are being to viewing. A succinct and watched more and more and humorous video clip can bring a lesson to life in ways that I might as well smile for the cannot as a lecturer. camera. Videos clips have many posi-tive uses in our society. Many

online at hometownlife.com

Jeffrey A. Livermore, PhD is an associate professor at Walsh College. He teachartists use YouTube to promote their work. I have browsed clips es in the BIT. Information Assurance, and to determine if a song or CD is worth the money before I pur-Doctorate of Management in Executive Leadership programs and is currently chase it. When I was younger researching the ethics of teaching inforyou had to be in front of your television at the specified time mation security. He can be reached at jlivermore@walshcollege.edu.



#### online at hometownlife.com



#### Holiday spirit The center courtyard of Novi's Twelve Oaks Mail is decorated with the theme of the "Polar Express" this year.

New Year's Eve

Open 11-2 am

DJ & Dancing Champagne Toast & Favors

Prime Rib. Twice Baked Potato &

Specials:

soup or salad

Food & Spirits

\*16.95

Specials:

Fish & Chips



#### WEB FROM PAGE AL

and the Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services can be found on Antil has noticed over the years that more people are apt to participate when they don't Facebook by searching "city of Novi and "Novi Parks," respectively. have to do so live, and the social The Novi public safety page can be media sites provide a good venue for two-way communica-tion in a different manner. found at www.nixle.com after entering "Novi" into the search bar. The city started actively looking into the social med formation on upcoming events,

sites in July, forming a Web photos from previous events and 2.0 team and seeing how they could best use the new media. nore. The city's fan page can be found by searching "city of Novi" Nancy Cowan, superintendent and features information about of recreation and Web 2.0 teaus happenings throughout the city. As of Monday, the two pages had leader, said she thinks this form of communication is "crucial." 417 fans. "(In terms of the parks), we "The city is always trying have so many events and difto stay up with the times and this is another tool in the tool ferent programs, and I think it is a great way to engage the current audience in a differen box for us to communicate and reach people," Cowan said. way and attract a new audipeople being critical of the city on the sites, Antil says that is ence," she said. "Without the people who utilize the parks and recreation, we don't have a fine with her. purpose. They create a reason

eed to include them."

The parks fan page on

"Whether the individual is for us to exist, and we want to develop things they enjoy posting it on Facebook or just saying it to their neighbor, it is their opinion and I'd rather have them and want to be a part of, so we ure it with us," she said. "I thin) this gives us more of an opportu-Facebook can be found by search. nity to hear what is being said." ng "Novi Parks" and includes

"It's a very exciting time hee ause there are so many pos-

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FOLLOW THE CITY ONLINE

The fan pages for the city of Novi

From the police side of

"It is yet to be seen how it will be received by the community, but I think for those who are interested -- and for us to be transparent and get the messages out there quickly As far as any concerns about -- it will be a great tool and a benefit for us," Lindberg said. Antil said the city is continuing to look at how to best use the new technology and plans on adding polls, YouTube videos and more to the pages as they continue to grow in popularity.

sibilities," she said.

(NN) A3 4

things, use of the Internet is

Chief Tum Lindberg

always iffy, said Deputy Police

But Nixle is a program the

department has signed off on because "it's a tremendous

public safety alerts to people via text, e-mail or Twitter, and

people can sign up for the type of alerts they wish to receive,

Signing up is free by visiting vww.nixle.com, and can be can

celed at any time. Communities

such as Northville Township.

South Lyon and Farmington

currently use the site.

ranging from news, weather,

traffic and public safety.

Nixle is a free service offering

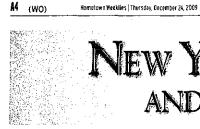
penefit to the community







enues.



### ADVERTISING FEATURE Holiday Happenings

Jan's Skin Spa Make it a goal to care care of your skin in 2010. Get a facial or glycolic peel once a month at Jan's Skin Spa in downtown South Lyon, or pick up St. Tropez self-tanner for a warm bronze glow, a safe alternative to harm-ful UV rays. Call 248-515-8987 or visit www.jansskinspa.com

Perfect Floors Perfect Floors of South Lyon offers guaranteed installation before the holidays, free carnet installation 30-40 percent off vinyls, and hardwoods starting at \$2.99 per square foot. Free financino avallable for one yea. same as cash. Call 248-437-2838 or visit www.perfectfloorsinc.com.



ADVERTORIAL

# **RESOLUTION IDEAS TO** CONSIDER THIS NEW YEAR'S

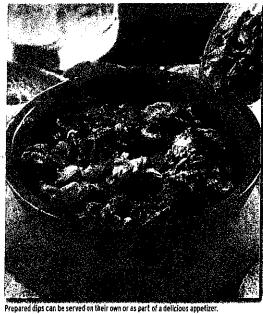
Each and every New Year's Day, mil-lions of people across the globe resolve to make positive changes in their life. Known as New Year's resolutions, these ideas or commitments can fall by the wayside or prove to be a positive life-changing experience. Some of the more popular resolution ideas include the following:

Losing weight Saving more and spending less Visit a foreign country
Volunteer to help the less fortunate Start (or finish) writing that novel Quit smoking tobacco Be more environmentally-friendly Reduce stress Spend more time with the family Read more, watch less television - Metro News Service



Many parents choose to spend more time with their family as their New Year's resolution each year

# ELEGANT HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING MADE EASY



Gathering with family and friends to celebrate the holiday season is a tradition that everyone enjoys. Finding the time illed evening of holiday merriment you planned for your guests becomes a stress-ful occasion for you. Well, stress no more

(www.OmahaSteaks.com), for example

#### 8 ounces cheddar cheese, prated 8 ounces Jack cheese, grated

Preheat oven to 400°F. Thaw dip over night in refrigerator or in the microwave on high for 5-6 minutes. Spray baking sheet with non-stick cooking spray.

Using 4-inch diameter biscuit cutter, cut 3 smaller tortillas out of each tortilla. This can be done quickly by stacking the tortillas

Lay out 15 of the 4-inch tortillas on baking sheet. Mix grated cheddar and jack cheese together. Place 1 tablespoon of mixed cheeses on each tortilla.

Place 1 tablespoon dip on top of chees-Top with another 4-inch tortilla, press-

ing down lightly to flatten. Place baking sheet on lower rack of the oven for 4 minutes. Carefully flip over each quesadilla with

spatula, returning to oven for 2-3 min-Remove from oven. Cool for 2-3 minutes before transferring to serving platter.

BACON WRAPPED TENDERLOIN TIPS

3 pounds Omaha Steaks Tenderloin Steak Tips 32 Omaha Steaks Precooked Bacon Slices Round wood tooth picks

Thaw steak tips and bacon slices overnight in the refrigerator. Preheat oven to 450°F. Sprinkle each steak tip with seasoning. Wran a slice of bacon around each tip and push a toothpick through it to secure

Place wrapped tins on a baking sheet

online at hometownlife.com

### 50 and counting

Kristin Osterkamp has her photo taken by her daughter Paige, 5, as she Hula-Hoops during Parkview Elementary's celebration of the first 50 days of school for its kindergartners



Lacey Galligan tries her hand at the limbo during Parkview's 50s celebration on Nov. 13. The event, a celebration of the first 50 days - cool shades on during the school's of school, was organized by Krista Cherniawsky.





# EDUCATION



BY AILEEN WINGBLAD STAFF WRITER "Got Talent?" is back.

The Huron Valley's competition for school-age performers that debuted last spring is returning — and this time students from surrounding communities are invited, to The grand prize is \$1,000. Students in kindergarten through 12th grade with any Kensington Lakes Activities Association connection either through attending a KLAA school, living in one of the districts, taking lessons at a studio in one of the districts or having someone in their performing group that does can participate. In the first Got Talent? competition, a Huron Valley Schools connec-

tion was required. The KLAA includes Huron Valley, Brighton, Fenton, Grand Blanc, Hartland, Holly, Howell, Livonia, Northville, Novi Pinckney Plymouth South Lyon, Walled Lake, Waterford and Wayne-Westland school districts. better, he said. "It's very exciting that we "Got Talent 2009 worked opened it up to so many more out really well, and we want to keep it going," Morris said. "Now that we have the frameschool districts. The first time we had interest from all work in place we can take as

minutes for the initial audition, three minutes for the emifinals and four minutes for the finals. Performers

will be marked down if they go beyond the allotted time, Morris said. School. Judges will choose Got Talent? is open to ama 30 to 35 top acts to advance, to the semifinals on Feb. 27 at Lakeland High School, teurs as well as professionals Past grand prize winners are prohibited from competing and from there 15 to 20 comnetitors will advance to the again, but will be invited back finals on April 17 at Milford to perform at each subsequent High School. The semifinals final showcase. are open to the public at no charge, but the final competi-Obmer encourages all budding performers to consider participating in Got Talent? tion will be a ticketed event. Greg Morris, marketing and



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(NN) **A5** 

The competition is now open to any student with a Kensington Lake Activities Association co

special events coordinator for for those interested in the Huron Valley recreation and community education, said the performing arts to go through the same kind of process they competition is a great way to will go through as they move into performing at college or professionally. It's important case the talent in the area as well as surrounding communities. The first Got Talent? to get experience in this type had more than 100 kids parcenario," she said. To register for Got Talent? or ticipating - and the bigger the for more information, visit the

Web link at www.milfordmu sic.com, or call Morris at (248) 676-8389. "Come out and be a part of this. Don't be scared -- we're many acts that sign up." Acts can consist of singall friendly people," Ohmer said. "It's an even playing field for everybody, and the judges ing, dancing, comedy, magic, juggling and more, group or solo. Performing arts profes understand where the kids are coming from. They've all been sionals will serve as judges. in their shoes." Acts should be limited to two Got Talent? registration fees

are \$20 for solo acts and \$40 for group acts, but register by Jan. 8 and the fees are reduced to \$10 for solo and \$20 for group. Ohmer said additional sponsors are also welcome to join those already on board, which include HVCA, Milford Music, Huron Valley recreation and community education, Kohl's Department Store and Aladdin Printing, More sponsors could result in additional prizes for contestants. Those interested can reach her at (248) 889-8660

"This gives the opportunity en tell com i (246) 685-1507, ext. 261





Rio de Janeiro's New Year's preparations begin early in the morning for a massive party on the beach come nightfail. Fireworks are eventually a part of the celebration, going off at midnight and lasting for roughly 30 minutes thereafter. Though originally more of a reli-gious celebration, New Year's in Rio de Janeiro is similar to Times Square in New York City, annually attracting millions of tourists for the festivities.

at the stroke of midnight. Those traditions are well known Counting down the last seconds of the year with some bubbly is a New to many Americans Year's tradition across the globe. who anxiously await the final day of the year. But the United States isn't the only country that looks forward to December 31. The following is how partygoers across the globe celebrate in select countries each New Year's Eve.

online at hometownlife.com

PARTIES POPULAR THE

WORLD OVER COME

NEW YEAR'S EVE

New Year's Eve is one of the most fes-

tive nights of the year

After 364 days, many Americans let loose on the final night of

the year, and the first

With those celebra-

watching the ball drop

to popping the cham-

pagne corks to kissing

your significant othe

morning of the New

tions comes many

traditions, from

Year.

Looking for ways to get healthy in 2010? Check back Dec. 31 for the

"Today's Health, the road to a new you" special pagel

Germany

Germans celebrate "The Holy Sylvester" in honor of Pope Sylvester I. Communities host a local party known as a "Sylvester Ball." Though Germany's celebrations are not as grandiose as those in the United States or Scotland, many German celebrators do light off fire-works of their own come the stroke of midnight.

#### Australia

New York City's Times Square is the pilgrimage of hoice for American revelers each New Year's Eve. For Australians, the pilgrimage has a decidedly more laid back feel, as many typically head to the beach to ring in the New Year. Since the month of December marks the beginning of summer in Australia, many Australians, who, thanks to time zones, are the first to ring in the New Year, party hard as the clock approaches mid on December 31 (enjoying a fireworks display set off from the Sydney Harbour Bridge) and continue doing so until dawn. Then on New Year's Day, a public holiday throughout the country, many Australians enjoy picnics

The place to be in Brazil is Rio de Janeiro, which recently won the right to host the 2016 Olympic Games.

# ١V



Parkview Elementary kindergartne Austin Roby hangs out with some celebration of the 50s on Nov. 13.

over - Livingston County, throughout Oakland Coun but those students couldn' be in it," said Leah Ohmer, executive director of the Huron Valley Council for the Arts. The HVCA is partnering with Huron Valley recreation and community education, as well as Milford Music, to host the event. Registered contestants start with an open audition on Jan, 23 at Highland Middle

C/2

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

### LOCAL EVENTS

included in Thursday's newspaper.

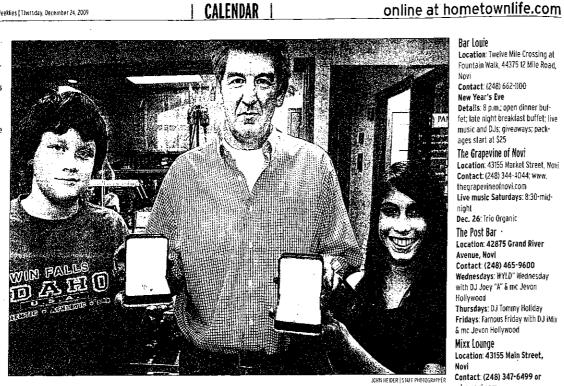
Rock Financial Showplace Location: 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi Contact: (248) 348-5600 29th Annual Cycle World International Motorcycle Show Time/Date: noon-9 p.m. Jan. 1; 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Jan. 2; and 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 3 Contact: 800-331-5706 Ultimate Fishing Show Time/Date: 2-9:30 p.m. Jan. 7; noon 9:30 a.m, Jan. 8; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Jan. 9; and 10 a.m. 5 p.m. Jan. 10 Gardeners Of Northville & Novi Club Meeting Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, Jan, 11 Location: Northville Art House , 215 W. Cady Street Details: Social time and garder lecture on "In Full Bloom:Flowers & Plants in Art." Guest will be Linda Well of the Detroit Institute of Arts The public is welcome. Contact: gardenersnorthville-novi. org or Renee (248) 231- 2334 American Legion Post 19 Monthly Meeting Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. on third Tuesdays Location: Rock Financial Showplace, Grand River Avenue between Taft and Beck roads Details: Comrades and fellow velerans, please join these monthly meetings; atlendance is needed to maintain and grow the Post. Contact: Commander Dennis Strikulis (248) 378-7841 or dstriku fis@twmi.rr.com or Service Officer Paul Erickson (248) 344-7193 or pnerick@aol.com.

Christmas, Cocoa, Cookies & Comedy Snack Theatre Time/Date: 2 p.m. Dec. 27-30

Age 79, December 16, 2009. Funeral was held Monday, Dec. 21 at St.

Patrick Church, Brighton, Memorials

may be made to St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center.



#### Winning pieces

23)

and snacks.

show)

Wednesday

Details: BNI is a structured net

Brian Larson of Novi's Larson's Jewelry Design created two winning entries from Novi Middle School students Brandan Gamble, 12, and Lexie Capello, 13. The jewelry will be auctioned off to the highest bidder with the proceeds going to the Novi Goodfellows Our diverse group provides a

Location: Historic Green Oak Township Hall, 10789 Silver Lake sionals. The Metro Novi BNJ team Road (about two miles east of U.S. members are committed to providing bona fide referrals to each Details: The Phoenix Players Phire other. Members learn how to create and refine an 'elevalor speech,' Philes' presentation is fun for the whole family; a great way to enter develop a broad network of other tain kids while they're on school business professionals in the community and receive training/educabreak. Tickets are \$8 for adults; \$5 for children; includes seat, show tion on networking more efficiently. Guests are invited to atlend free Contact: 810-588-3662 for reservaof charge. Continental breakfast tions (only 50 seats available per provided Contact: For more information. contact Julie Paquette at 248-797-BUSINESS 1665 or juliepaquette67@gmail.com; www.metronovibni.com Metro Novi BNI Novi Chamber of Commerce Time/Date: 7-8:30 a.m. every The Novi Chamber of Commerce is an active, progressive chamber Location: On the Borde offering a variety of events, educa-Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty Road tional programs, an enhanced Web (north of 8 Mile), Novi

working environment for profes-Location: 41875 11 Mile Road, #201. Nov (248) 349-3743 or www.novichamber.com. Monthly Networking Luncheon Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Jan 6 Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel Details: Donald Kitson and Paul J. Hindeland with discuss Health & Wealth Secrets for 2010; lunch served courtesy of Deli Unique Must pre-register by 4 p.m. Jan. 5 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 site, and involvement with local part of Toastmasters Internationa

in which all can develop and refine Contact: For more information, call 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 Novi Rotary Club org.

www.novi.freetoathost.us. Contact: Paulette Alioa, V.P. of Public Relations at greenspace@ miler.com.or (248) 756-0907 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.

mutually supportive almosphere

## NIGHTLIFE

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 Andiamo Novi / Dirty Martini a.m.-5 p.m.: Sunday, 1 p.m.-5; p.m. Lounge / Andiamo Theater (September-May). The Library will Location: 42705 Grand River be closed Thursday, Dec. 24-Sunday, Avenue, Novi Dec. 27 and Thursday, Dec. 31. Contact: (248) 348-3838 Details: Unless noted below, all New Year's Eve programs take place at the Library. Details: Catch "Kwame A River 2: Contact: (248) 349-0720 The Wrath of Convers" in 2009 with Website: www.novilibrary.org a special 7 p.m. showing on Dec. 31, Story Times: Please see the As part of the New Years Eve pack-Library website or story time broage offerings, quests can choose to chure for details. dine pre-show (5 p.m.) or post-show Lego Club (8:30 p.m.). The post-show package Time/Date: 6-6:45 p.m. Monday also includes the opportunity to Dec. 28. stay through the New Year with a Details: Join us once a month fo band, dancing and a champagne Lego show and tell and building toast. Tickets for the 5 p.m.dinner/7 activities. We supply the Legos, you p.m. show package are \$74.95 per supply the imagination. Grades K-4 person and tickets for the 7 p.m. welcome show: 8:30 p.m. dinner are \$99.95 **Ring in the New Year Craft** per person. Space is limited and Time/Date: 2-3:00 p.m. Wednesday reservations are required. Party-Dec. 30. goers who want to just relax with Details: Get ready for 2010 in style. friends can hang out the Dirty Come to the library to create your Martini starting at 9 p.m. on New own party hat and decorate other Years Eve and listen to a DJ over a stylish essentials for your New few cocktails. There will be a \$20 Year's party. Registration required cover charge (in advance at the box All ages welcome. office only or day-of) for the Dirty Martini.

Monday Evening Book Discussion Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Monday. Andiamo Lounge: local entertain Jan, 4 ers 8 p.m. Wednesdays; Old Vegas Details: The Adult Book Discussion Night 6:30 p.m. and Dave Croon Group meets in the library meetonline at hometownlife.com

# How to make home a safer place for seniors

SAVVY SENIOR

Dear Savvy Senior accidents, and millions are seriously injured. Falls are the leading cause My parents have lived in the same house for more than 40 years and plan of injuries, but the elderly are also at on living there the rest of their lives risk for being burned by the stove o The problem is, their house is two-stoscalded by hot water. To help make ries and isn't very practical for seniors. your parent's home a safer, more age-What resources can you recommend friendly place to live, here are so that can help my elderly parents stay safe and stay put, on a limited budget. tips and resources that can help. GET INFORMED Safety-Conscious Sue Dear Sue.

Your first step is to learn where the iour parents are like most seniors in this country. They want to stay living in

Brighton

9:30 a.m. Communion Worsan 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Thin Hedblad, Pastor

CHURCH & SCHOOL

www.hsrcc.net e corner of Winans Leke & Musch 810-231-9199 Fr. John Rocus, Pastor eskend Liturgles Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Highland

Contemporary Service 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sundays Saturday Night Service 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study & Breaklast: 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 8:15 p.m. d-8th Grade Youth Tuesdays 7-8 p

NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN

FELLOWSHIP

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study Wed. 7:00 p.m.

HIGHLAND UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

90 W. Livingston Ko. \* nignan0, Mi 4423 248,887,1311 \* www.myhumc.com mday Worship 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.n. Kids Church 9:45 & 10:30 a.m. Youth Night - Wed, 6:45 - 8:00 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRI

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

v Lake Rd., Highland (248) 887-534 v. Leo T. Lufko, Pastor Scheduler Server

11 a.m. & 6:15 p.

s Schedule: Saturday 5 p.m. 8 a.m. & 11 a.m.; M-TW-F9 a 1 m. & 7 p.m.; Free C

Livonia

FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURC!

hand MI 44

Bishop St., Highlar Rd., 2-7/8 miles N nday School 9:30 a.

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### throw rugs to avoid tripping, installing brighter bulbs in existing light fixtures to improve vision and adding grab bars to the bathroom for support.

GET AN ASSESSMENT If your parents have medical issues like chronic arthritis or poor vision, ask their doctor to prescribe: home evaluation by an occupational therapist who specializes in home modifications. They can analyze the potential challenges and shortcom-ings of your parent's home to come up with a plan that you, a handymau or a contractor can easily follow. Many alth insurance providers, including Medicare, will pay for a home assessment. However, they will not cover

WAYS TO PAY If your parents need or want to make substantial changes to their home, but don't have the cash to pay for them, they

should consider taking out a home equity loan. Another possibility is a reverse mortgage. Available to people over 62, a reverse mortgage will let your parent's convert the equity in their home into cash that doesn't have to be paid back as long as either on of them are living there. But the fees can be substantial, so be sure to speak with a financial planner before taking out this type of mortgage. For information on ways you can tap into your home equity,

Agency on Aging (call 800-677-1116 or visit www.eldercare.gov to find your local office) near your parents, and inquire about home modification loans and services available to seniors. Many state and local communities have low or no-interest loans, tax credits or other programs

(NRNN) **A7** 

to those with low or moderate incomes. In addition, get in touch with Rebuilding Together (www.rebuildingtogether.org. 800-473-4229), a national nonprofit organization that repairs and modifies homes of older, low-income homeowners to help them age in place.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, www.longtermcare.gov, a site run by P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the Department of Health and Human the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 24, 2009

potential hazards lie in your parent's house and what you can do to reduce them. A good place to do this is at the their own home as long as they're physically capable. But for many seniors in Home Safety Council's Web site (www their 70's and beyond, staying put can present some real safety challenges. nysafchome.net) where you can take a house tour that points out the possible ere's what you should know. dangers room-by-room. Many of the changes the site suggests are simple and inexpensive, like removing clutter and Every year in the U.S. about 7.000 elderly people die in home-related the physical upgrades to the home

Service

If funds are scarce, contact the Area Your Invitation to Marshi Milford CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL & KDG. - Mo. Synod 620 General Mators Rd., Milford Church office: (249) 884-0895 Regular Sanday Service: 630 & 11:00 am. LORD of LIFE LUTHERAN Novi t Valley Road • Brighton, Mi 4811 810-227-3113 GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH NOVI UNITED METHODIST Jun-Aug - Sunday Service: 9:30 a.n. Monday Evening 7:00 p.m. The Rev. Richard E. Pape, Paste CHURCH 9 Mile & Meado Sungay Worship 9:45 a.m. Rev. June M. Smith, Pasto 248-349-2652 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC o 10:00 a.m., Monday 7:00 ( na E. Schroeder, Pastor - 349-056 133 Detroit St., Millord • 6 Pastor Sieve Swaya Sunday School (all ages) (0:00 a.m. Sunday Worship - 11 a.m. Wednesdays 6:45 - 8:15 p.m. na for 3 yrs. old - 5th grade (begins Sept. Middle School Group ST. JAMES ROMAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH 1505 Meadoworoux rou, room, millioworoux Weakend Hours atarday: 5 p.m. (English) & 6:30 p.m. (Spanis Inday: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 8 12:15 p.r 46325 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 4837 Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m., Revorend George Chamley, Paslo Pansh Office: 347-7778 SOUTH HILL CHURCH, S.B.C Fr. Timothy Hogan, Pastor ev, Henry Sands, Associate Pasto sh Office: 349-8847 • www.holylandynevi. Farmington Hills Sunday School 9:15 a.m. KIDS' Worship 10:15 a.m. mporary Worship Service 10:30 a.n ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL FAITH COMMUNITY 10 Mile between Meadowbrook & Haggerty, Novi • Phone 427-1175 Sundays 7:45 e.m. and 10 e.m. Joly Eucharist • Sunday School & mington Hills + 23225 Gill Rd. + 248-474-4584 Between Grand River & Freedom Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m. unday Worship & Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Traditional/Choral PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WEST HIGHLAN Nursery 10 a.m. Rev. Dr. Ray Babin, Interim Re BAPTIST CHURCH ORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL Children, Youth and Adult Minist 11:15 a.m. Contemporary day School - all ages 10:15 a.m. ory Ridge Rd., Mill 248-867-1218 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Ministries 11:00 a.m. jednesday All Ages: 7:00 p. OAK POINTE CHURCH MEADOWBROOX CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH Saturday Worship 5:15 pm., Indey 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN 355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 ½ n 248-348-7757 • <u>www.mbccc.or</u> HIGHLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH CHURCH Phone (248) 912-0043 www.pakpointe.org 38 N. Main Street, Millord MI (248) 684 Sunday W p 10 a.m. terra Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. day School ege 3 thru 5th grade @ 10:00 a.m. Rursery care available @ 10:00 a.m. R. John Harris, Pastor Rev. Arthur Ritter, So A heritage of area w South Lyon New Hudson FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN NEW HOPE - A linitarian SUUTH LTUN 60320 Marjorie Ann SL, South Lyon 4817/ Phone: 248-437-2983 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.r vening Service 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening 7:00 p. Universalist Congregatio 57855 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 481 Phone 248-474-9108 7-8810 • 485-4335 • Griswold Rd. at 10 M Worship 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Adull Bible Class 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. shour ( Assoc. Pastor: ) y Celebration of Life Service 10:30 Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister Website: http://www.newhopeuu.or **CROSSROADS COMMUNITY** Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church O Pontiac Trail, South Lyon (Source 2 Mark CHURCH Northville Pontiac Trall (Acoss from Erwin's Sunday Service 9:30 a.m Family Service 11:00 a.m temporary Worship - Rele Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Refuel Wodnesday at 6:00 p.m. Youth at 6:30 p.m. Rev. David Brown, Pastor 245,472-293 NORTHVALLE CHRISTIAN Bible Ba y Worship - 9:00 am & 10:15 a School and Child www.ncalife.org 41355 Six Mile Road 248+348+9030 FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 640 S. Lafayette (248) 437-0760 The Church of Christ 1860 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 4817 248-437-3585 • www.southlyoncoc.org day Worship: 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.r Sunday School 9:40 a.m. Nursery Provided Reverand Sondra Willabee FIRST NNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 9;30 a.m. Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Praise and Wor Inesday Midweek Ministric (248) 349-1144 8 Mile & Taft Roads Rob Callicott, Pastor Worship: 6:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. FAMILY LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH A/G Rev. Dr. Steve Buck 62345 W. 8 Hie Road 437-1472 • www Sr. Pastor Joseph R. Ta Sunday Christian Education FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURC Sr. Pastor Joseph R. Tabbi Iday Christian Education 9:00 a.n. Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. Idnesday Christian Education and Family Nite 7:00 p.m. WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 10774 Nine Mile Road Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582 Sunday School, 9:45 e.m. Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.



ing years together, Patricia received Fenton, her Masters in Early Childhood

CARMELENA "CARMIE" STAUP

Age 66, and a former resident Age 86, and a former resident of Livonia passed away on Dec. 21, 2009. She is survived by her daugh-ter, Linda (Mike) Mauck of Brighton; sons, Bob (Sarah) Staup of Royal Oak, Randy (Sandy) Staup of TN; secardobler, Sputtel (Chartebote). Online sympathy message; marriage to Richard E. Hauser on dren. Memorial service entrusted to wobriensullivantuneralhome.com May 18, 1956 and they spent 53 lov- Terrrowski Family Funeral Home in grandchildren, Crystal (Christopher) Blair, Scott (Kerri) Staup, Kelly Bar Louie

Location: Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk, 44375 12 Mile Road.

Details: 8 p.m.; open dinner buf-

music and DJs; giveaways; pack-

fet: late night breakfast buffet: live

Location: 43155 Market Street, Novi

Contact: (248) 344-4044; www.

Live music Saturdays: 8:30-mid-

Location: 42875 Grand River

Contact: (248) 465-9600

with DJ Joey "A" & mc Jevon

Thursdays: DJ Tommy Holiday

Location: 43155 Main Street.

Contact: (248) 347-6499 or

Details: Reserved seating; \$20

in advance; champagne toast at

midnight; party favors and fate

night pizza; DJ and dance

LIBRARY LINES

Location: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.

9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5

Details: Unless noted below, all

programs lake place at the Library.

p.m.: Sunday, 1 a.m.-5; p.m.

Contact: (248) 349-0720

Website: www.novilibrary.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10

a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10

a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m.-5; p.m.

The Library will be closed Dec.

Location: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road

24-27 and Dec. 31-Jan. 1.

Location: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road

(September-May)

(September-May)

Novi Public Library

Library Hours

& mc Jevon Hollywood

Fridays: Famous Friday with DJ iMix

Wednesdays: WYLD" Wednesday

Contact: (248) 662-1100

New Year's Eve

ages start at \$25

night

The Grapevine of Novi

theorapevineofnovi.com

Dec. 26: Trin Ornanic

The Post Bar

Avenue, Novi

Hollywood

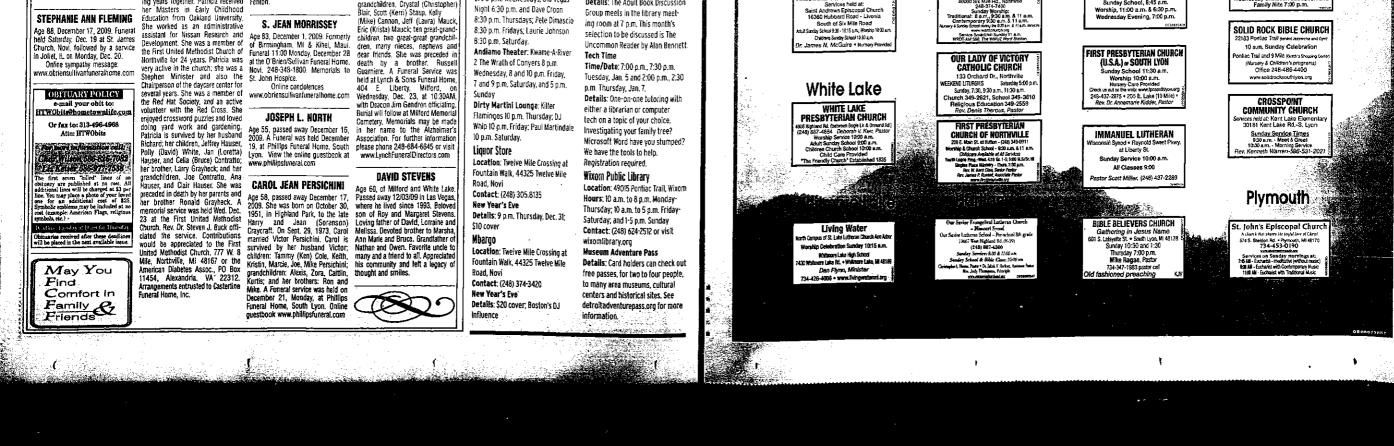
Mixx Lounge

mixxnovi.com

New Year's Eve

Thursday-Saturday: D.

Novi





# (F) GANNETT

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**

# Make holiday season one of peace and love

The presents are purchased (though perhaps not yet paid for), holiday cookies are in the oven and Christmas is almost here.

And our hope for the season is that everyone makes it special, according to what it means to Many people scaled back their spending for

this Christmas. Some were forced to because they were laid off or had their job eliminated; others chose to because of uncertainty about the future economy.

While economists might disagree, spending less on Christmas isn't such a bad thing. Consider the first Christmas. Jesus – God's only son - was born to poor parents, peasants, in a stable among animals, the Bible says. There

was no Christmas tree, r	to presents, no speci foods.
Maybe these religious	The wise men
aspects aren't your cup	bearing gifts of gol
of tea, or perhaps you	frankincense an
celebrate another holiday	myrrh, did not vis Jesus while he wa
tradition, such as Kwanza,	in the stable, but in
Hanukkah or the winter	house when he was toddler, according t
solstice. Then again, to	biblical scholars.
you, the holidays may be	The reason we ce ebrate Christma
more about family, about	is because of Jesu
spending time with your	birth, unpretentiou as it was.
loved ones. Certainly	Jesus was God
that's a wonderful aspect	gift to humanking
of the season, regardless	the Bible says. H took the punishmer
of whether you follow	for everyone's sins s
a religious or secular	that, through faith i
observance.	him, people can liv eternally in heaven.
	That sometime
	gets lost in our mod

ern-day celebration of Christmas, with its frenzy and excess

Perhaps a simpler, less commercialized observance will help us remember the reason for the season

Maybe these religious aspects aren't your cup of tea, or perhaps you celebrate another holiday tradition, such as Kwanza, Hanukkah or the winter solstice. Then again, to you, the holidays may be more about family, about spending time with your loved ones. Certainly that's a wonderful aspect of the season, regardless of whether you follow a religious or secular observance. People celebrate the holidays for a variety rea-

sons they need only understand themselves. But the great thing about the holidays is that it offers an opportunity to think of someone, or some thing, other than one's self.

Some ring bells for the Salvation Army, while others feed the homeless at shelters around the areas, and still others donate toys to the U.S. Marines' Toys for Tots campaign and the local organization Northville Civic Concern.

For those folks in civic organizations and church groups, the meaning behind the holiday season is found in helping others. We are all richer, we are all blessed by the work they do.

While there are those who simply want to go it alone, too many of them are forced into that position due to infirmities, both physically and They des we a h



How was the year 2009 for you?

Mine personally was OK. Not too much trouble. Money's tight, but overall it was OK. Scott Daubner

Key West.' Nov



"Eventful. I started the year in Anchorage, Alaska, moved back to Novi, and then after Christmas I'll be moving to

Erika Bowman

#### "I had a great year. I had a "It was really good. Very new baby. Life's oreat." Allison Dehiasi

Darrel Krause

### LETTERS

productive."

COMMUNITY VOICE

#### Community comes together for Detroit students On Friday, Dec. 11, students and fami-

School and Meadows attended the party.

The party included a winter carnival,

caroling, pizza lunch with ice cream sun-daes for dessert, crafts and a visit with

Santa. The hallways and classrooms at Neinas echoed with music, laughter and

Santa's jolly "Ho, ho, ho!" Thanks to the

filled with hats, scarves, soap, shampoo,

This effort would not have been pos-

sible without the support of several local business and organizations. We are grate-ful to the following for their generos-

ity: Bailey Drabicki Insurance Agency; Berean Baptist Church; Beztak Properties;

Busch's: Costco: Gordon Food Service:

Sam's Club: Spillane and Reynolds

Meijer (Wisom); Olde Orchard Pediatrie Dentistry: Polartee; Project 12 Baskets;

Orthodontics; Target (Livonia); William J.

Reilly Insurance Agency. The spirit of the holiday season is alive

and well in Novi! The kindness and gener-

Novi Schools Bridgepointe Committee

osity of so many is deeply appreciated.

generosity of local families and businesses, each of the 400 students received gift bags

toothbrush and toothpaste, socks, coloring books and crayons, and a fleece blanket.

estivities.

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and lies from Novi hosted a holiday party for the children at Neinas Elementary School phone number for verification. We ask you letters be 400 words or less. We may edit in Detroit as part of the Novi Community Schools' community service partnership with Bridgepointe, a nonprofit organiza-tion helping children in southwest Detroit. for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats Web: www.hometownlife.com The party was a community-wide event. Students from Novi High School, Middle Mail: Letters to the Editor, Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178. Fax: (248) 437-3386. All Novi schools were involved in collecting gift items, wrapping and preparing for the E-mail: cstone@gannett.com Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition

Schools takes the privatization of our cus todial staff lightly. We understand that this was not a decision that was made easily by the Board of Education, and one that understandably was made to help resolve the budget catastrophe that has been created by a lack of revenue at the state level. Our Board of Education has done every

thing in their power to remain fiscally responsible and live up to the mission of the district. However, this financial situation cannot be fixed locally. We continu to discuss making cuts to programs and services within the district, cuts that will undoubtedly change the perception that other communities around the state have of Novi, as well as the reality of what Novi really is. This is a perception of greatness, leadership, and tremendous student achievement that has been earned over time by all of the hard work of each employee of the Novi Community Schools

upon a Commitment to Excellence.

annual Best High Schools list by ILS. News

School budget problems cannot I am sure that each of the leaders within be fixed locally ur school district would like to maintai this reputation they have, one that is built

No one within the Novi Community

#### Cutting programs and staff will ultimately have a negative impact on our students and turn us into a district that is mediocre at best. No one would dare think that this should be our new mission, to develop a culture of mediocrity, with 35-40 students in a classroom, shared textbooks, limited or no extracurriculars and no unique assets that set us apart from other districts within

this State. Based on what has been reported from the state Legislature, as well as our district leadership, this budget crisis is not going to go away anytime soon. The problem does not lie within the amount of money our staff makes or the type of insurance they have. The problem lies within the current method used by the state to determine the amount of funding each district receives. The problem cannot be fixed locally

If all district employees were to take a 5-percent pay cut this would save less than \$2.5 million. By the end of the 2010-11 school year the Novi Community Schools would still be facing deficit close to \$1 million. Then what? Another pay cut of 5 per-cent or 10 percent? This problem will not be fixed locally.

The only way our school district will be able to stay financially solvent, if the financial structure remains the same, would be to basically cut all services and programs that are not essential to the core academic classes. Such a decision would take Novi beyond the realm of mediocrity and put us on a fast track to the bottom of the education community. This problem will not be solved locally

Our state legislators must bear from you to demand a revision to the school funding formula. Until they hear from each of us, they will continue to believe we can solve their problems, and we know the only way to do that is to eliminate the things that make Novi great. Does anyone really want that?

Seth Furley Novi Education Associat

Optometry

Educational excellence and educational genocide

#### online at hometownlife.com

LOCAL NEWS

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 24, 2005 (NN) **A9** 



Parkview Elementary students and their families (left) enjoy spacks after their Dec. 16 holiday concert. Parkview Elementary School kindergartner David Austin (above) enjoys a cookle break after he and other students performed their holiday concert on Dec. 16 for friends and family.



Family Therapy Northville Physical

248-349-1900

nstone & Helzer

Chiropractor

too

Whatever your beliefs, whatever your reasons, whatever your manner of celebrating the season, our hope is that you will take the next very few days to share your holiday good will with some-one who may find little cheer this year. And our wish is that you, your friends and families are filled with the peace and love of the

season, in all the ways you choose to observe it.



Cal Stope Susan Rosiek Grace Perry Community Executive Editor Director of Editor / Publisher Advertising

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e were exposed to the worst and the near best recently in metro Detroit. What a difference a few miles make Detroit schools sink to a new low while West Bloomfield's International Academy

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emphasizes a global baccalaureate cur

E World Report. The magazine looked at more than 21,000 public high schools in 48 states and Washington, D.C. Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandría, Va., a suburb of soars. Parents, teachers, poli

the nation's capital, was named No. 1. ticians and educational officials from Detroit to The International Academy's No. 2 designation was based on the College Lansing were ratiled to the bone as it was revealed Readiness Index, which included scores on Advanced 9 through 12 from several Oakland County districts. Eurollment in that fourth- and eighthgraders in Detroit Public Schools scored the worst the affluent district includes 60.4 percen white students, 36.4 percent Asian, 1.9 percent black and 1.3 percent Hispanic. Tom Watkins in the nation in math according to national test The DPS system is predominantly African

American and poor. Separate and unequal was supposed to end decades ago. scores. The Detroit scores on the National Assessment of Education Clearly, the overwhelming majority of the students at the International Academy Progress, a rigorous national assessment, were the lowest in the test's 40-year history. Among fourth-graders, 69 percent scored below basic levels, as did 77 percent have had a better start in life than the majority of the children that attend of eighth-graders. Results show 77 percent Detroit schools of eighth-graders. Results show 77 percent of eighth-graders and 69 percent of fourth-graders lack basic math skills.

The man in charge of DPS, Robert Bobb, understands that teaching and learning trumps and must drive the financial deci-sions in any high quality school. He also realizes that the academic deficit for the Yet, a few miles down the road in the upscale suburban Bloomfield Hills schoo district, the International Academy, which children in DPS is far greater than the fiscal deficit that he inherited and which um, was named the second best public high school in the nation, according to the soars into the hundreds of millions

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Bobb is unearthing the ugly truth that DPS has been about: power, control, politics, jobs and adults and NOT about eaching, learning, children and quality education

Let's be clear, everyone, regardless of where you live and work, should be very worried about adults failing the children of Detroit. A child without a solid education today will be an adult without a future tomorrow. Our state prisons are jammed with functionally illiterate, educational failures of the past. Uneducated children will reappear as illiterate adults in your neighborhood or place of business unless nothing short of a crusade is under taken to beat illiteracy and school failure in Detroit.

What is happening in Detroit is nothing short of educational genocide. Hopefully, the atrocity exposed will force bold action that puts our children's needs above adults. Iwo spotlights were on Michigan — one that we should aspire to for more of our students and one that should make everyone stand up and say, "No more!"

Tom Watkins is an educational and business consul-. • • tant in the US and China. He served as state superintendent of schools from 2001-05. Read other works 11.11 by Watkins at: www.domemagazine.com.



Family Practice

Doctors, Your Ad Could Be Here! Call 248-437-2011, Ext. 229 or 241

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#### A10 (NRNN) Romatown Weeklies | Thursday, December 24, 2009

Submit: Send calendar submissions Evening Bible Study; 7 p.m. Men's via e-mail to cstone@gannett.com; Evening Bible Study Wednesday Schedule: 5:30 p.m. by fax to (248) 685-2892; or by mail to Church Events/Northville-Novi, 10 Family Meal, \$4 per person, \$12 pe N. Lafayette, South Evon, MI 48178. family: 7 p.m. Children's Caravan Club 56, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Items must be received by noon on-Monday to be included in Thursday's Classes, Youth Blast пежарарег Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men ol Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Church of the Holy Family Kwan Do Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road Women of the Word Contact: (248) 349-8847 or visit Time/Date: 9:25-11:15 a.m. holyfamilynovi.orgMass Schedule Details: The W.O.W. Tuesday Ladies TIME/DAY: 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m. and Bible Study welcomes you to their 12:15 n m. Sunday: 9 a m. Monday. study of the Book of Exodus. There Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 6:30 is a \$15 registration fee, which a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday includes interdenominational study 7 p.m. Tuesday: 5 p.m. (English), 6:30 materials, Childcare will be available p.m. (Spanish) Saturday in the morning for children through Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. aoe 5. Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Episcopal Church Saturdays or by appointment ADOPTIVE PARENT of the Holy Cross NETWORKING MEETING Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. last Contact: (248) 427-1175 or Wednesday of each month churchoftheholycross.com Detaits: Free, informational meet-Sunday Worship: 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m. Sunday School and Nursery Care: ing open to all adoptive families in Oakland County. Child care is availto a.m. Worship Service able. Registration is required. ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP **Crosspointe Meadows Church** Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Salurday of month Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road Faith Community Presbyterian Contact: (246) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road p.m. Monday-Tibu sday or visit www Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit crossocintemeadows.org. faithcommunity-novi.org Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10 a.m Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for all First Baptist Church of Northville Location: 217 N. Wine Details: Nursery and older children Contact: (248) 348-1020 programs available, Worship blends Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. and traditional and contemporary ele-5:45 p.m. ments resulting in a multi-sensory Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. worship experience Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 **Detroit First Church** p.m. Tuesdays of the Nazarene Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Location: 21260 Hasserly Road. Saturday of every month north of Fight Mile Road Christmas Eve Service: 6 p.m. Contact: (248) 348-7600 or visit First Rantist Church dfcnazarene.org of Novi-Family Integrated Church Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road service with Praise 8and, children's Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstban Sunday School and Adult Bible tistchurchofnovi.org Fellowship: 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and Family Sible Hour: 9:45 a.m refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional Family Worship: II a.m. worship service, Children's Church, Bible Study: 6 p.m. Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; Fellowship: 6 p.m. Evening Service, fourth Sunday of every month. Children's program, Youth Worship First Presbyterian Service Tuesday Schedule: Tuesday Church of Northville 9:30-11:15 a.m. Women of the Word Location: 200 E. Main St. Bible Study with childcare available Contáct: (248) 349-0911 or visit for through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies firstoresnville.org



With programs in 160 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 County residents. And there's a full range of financial aid opportunities available, including scholarships, grants, loans and work-study programs.

CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Time: 9:30, il a.m.

Saturday

afterwards.

every Thursday.

details singleplace.org

First United Methodis

A Stephen Ministry church

Location: 777 W. Eight Mile Road

Contact: (248) 349-1144 or fume-

of Northville

northville.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP

HEATING SERVICE

every month

RADICAL JOY

needed

Time: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m.

Details: Rev. Dr. Steve Buck

Time/Date: 4 p.m. first Monday of

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. first and third

Coffee hour at 10:15 a.m.

Thursday of every month

Details: All women seeking to

strengthen their faith and con-

nect witholner women are invited

to attend, irrespective of church

affiliation. Crafters and Vendors are

Good Sheeherd Lutheran Church

Location: 41415 Nine Mile Road, cor-

Time: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and

ner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi

Contact: (248) 349-0565

Bible Study; 10 am. Worship

Livonia Church of Christ

Location: 15431 Merriman Road.

Contact: For further information

Meadowbrook Congregational

Location 21355 Meadowbrook Road.

between Eight and Nine Mile roads

Contact: Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, Senior

Minister (248) 348-7757, visit mbccc.

org or e-mail to office@mbccc.org.

Monday

Marriage

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

Sermon: Having a Plan -

Church School: 10-11 a.m

please contact NSO Douglas K. Wells

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

at (313) 964-6595.

WALKING IN THE PARK

Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. every

Location: Meet at the Visitor's

Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads)

Details: Group meets for lunch

Contact: Sue (734) 459-0016

SINGLE PLACE MINISTRIES

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. social time

Details: informative and entertain

ing programs of interest to singles;

\$5 per person. Check Web site for

Fellowshin Rour: II a.m. Contact: Pastor Jon Hix (248) 349-MERRY WIDOWS LUNCHEON 5665 Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP Fime/Date: 6 p.m, Sunday Center of Heritage Park (Farmington Christmas Eve Services Time/Date: 6 p.m. family; 9 p.m traditional candle lighting Northville Christian Assembly Location: 41355 Six Mile Road Contact: (248) 348-9030 SUNDAY SCHEDULE 7:45 p.m. opening: 8-9 p.m. program, 9-10 a.m.: Sunday School for Adults Youth / Children 9 a.m.: Contemporary service in multi-purpose gymnasium 10:15 a.m. Contemporary service in worship center: children's super church on the second level (208/210) TUESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY 8:45-10:30 a.m. (calé) WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT 7 p.m.: Adult elective classes: in and sr. high student ministries; children's programs (M-Pact Girls Club & Royal Rangers Boys Club) Nursery and Preschool Program on Sundays and Wednesdays Hor of Northville Christian School (day care; preschool through eighth orade) - contact (248) 348-9031 Novi-Northville Center for Jewish Life Location: Novi Contact: www.novijewishcenter.com e-mail: rabbi@novijewishcenter.com or call (248) 790-6075 Novi United Methodist Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 349-2652 or visit umenovi.com SUNDAY WORSHIP Time: 9:45 a.m. **Realing Service and Holy** Communia Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month PEACE VIGIL Fime/Date: Noon, first Sunday of every month Location: In front of the church Details: Members of the congrega tion and the community will stand united in prayer for peace, ADVENT SERVICE

#### May 19, 2010 Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. Sunday ings Oak Pointe Church Location: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road 4080 Contact: (248) 912-0043 or visit inte oro **MORSHIP SERVICES** Time: 5:15 p.m. Saturday: 9:15 and Plymouth St. John Lutheran 11:15 a.m. Sunday RENEW LIFE MINISTRIFS Time/Date: 7:15-9 p.m. every Farmington Hills Details: Ongoing Life Groups stiohn-lutheran.com that support and facilitate per-SATURDAY WORSHI sonal growth, healing, learning and Time: 5:30 p.m. change from a Christian perspec SUNDAY WORSHIP Time: 9, ii:15 a.m Contact: For more information or lo SUNDAY SCHOOL register call (248) 912-0043 or visit Time: 10:15 a.m. oaknointe ora CHARMED INFLUENCE Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. every Wednesday Details: Studying the book Surviving a Spiritual Mismatch in Traditional Contact: Joy Ruby at joy@oak pointe.org or call the church. **Orchard Hills Baptist Church** Farmington Hills Location: 23455 Novi Road

#### PRESCHOOL/KIDS CHOIR Details: This religious education program is open to the public and Time/Date: 7-8:15 p.m. every currently enrolling new students. Wednesday Details: For ages three to six; ongo-The UUCF Interfaith Journey curriculum encompasses the Unitarian ing event: no need to pre-register; Universalism philosophy of indiall are welcome. vidual worth and the power of com Our Lady of Good Coursel munity with a study of the World Catholic Church Location: 47650 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth Contact: (734) 453-0326, ext. 221 **Our Lady of Victory** Catholic Church Location: 770 Thaver. Northville Contact: (248) 349-2621 or olynorthville.org SATURDAY WORSHIP for all. Time: 5 o.m. SUNDAY WORSHIP Time: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m. Our Shepherd Church Presbyterian Church Location: 1200 S. Sheldon Road Plymouth 374-5978 Contact: Pastor Bill Burke at (734) SUNDAY WORSHIP 927-0891 Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m. Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m. with fel Jowship and food after service. a.m. services. St. James Catholic Location: 4632510 Mile Road, Novi Contact: (248) 347-7778 MASS SCHEDULE Station TIME/DAY: 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday: 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday: 7 older) p.m. Wednesday: 5 p.m. Saturday MOTHERS GROUP Time/Date: 9:30-11 a.m. monthly, first and third Wednesday through years of age) Location: St. James Parish Hall A Details: We provide mothers with with Christ fellowship, support and opportunities to prow their faith in order to (20-30 years of age) nurture their children with confi dence and Christian values. Through activities such as article discussion. fellowship. crafts, and speakers, moms are given the opportunity to connect with other moms in support and Triendship. Free childcare is avail able but children are also welcom to join their mothers during meet-Contact: Becky McKee (248) 305information 5924 or Kris Endreszl (248) 946-St. John's Episcopal Church Location: 574 S. Sheldon Road. A101 MEN'S BIBLE STUDY Location: 23225 Gill Road Contact: (248) 474-0584 or visit IN NEED St. Paul's Lutheran Church Location: 201 Elm St., Northville Contact: (248) 349-3140 Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. Blended; II a.m. Contemporary; 11:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Farminoton Location: 25301 Halstead Road participaté. Contact: (248) 374-7400 Contact: www.uufarmington.org A MOTOWN TRADITION SINCE 1997

online at hometownlife.com

YOUTH INTERFAITH JOURNEY

Time/Date: 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sundays

Religions that are practiced around the globe. This program compliments the mission of UUCF Religious Education of teaching youth inclusion, compassion and peace and provides the environment to live and learn in a culturally diverse community Classes are provided into grades K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 with age specific education materials Contact: Jennifer Teed at 248/478 7272 or dre@uufarmington.org Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Location: 40000 Six Mile Road Contact: (248) 374-7400 or (248) Time: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Traditional; 9:30 and 11 a.m. Contemporary, Nersery and Sunday School during the 9:30 a.m. and 11 SERVICE BROADCAST Details: 11 a.m. every Sunday on WRDT AM 560. The WMUZ Word SINGLE POINT MINISTRIES (45 and Time/Date: 11 a.m. Sunday for fellowship and Rible study SINGLE FOCUS MINISTRIES (35-50 Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. Sunday to deepen your personal relationship SINGLE PURPOSE CONNEXSIONS Time/Date: II a.m. Sunday in the Chapel for singing, Bible study, and Details: For single adults, Active ministry offering various Bible study classes, volleyball, bicycling group, tennis group, support groups, support group for widowed over age 50 fellowship, friendships and more. Contact the number below for more Contact: (248) 374-5920 LEARNER'S BIBLE STUDY Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays Room Time/Date: 6:30 a.m. Wednesday Single Adult Ministries office SINGLE'S BIBLE STUDY Time/Date: 7 p.m. second and fourth Mondays, Room C309 SPECIAL OFFERING FOR FAMILIES Time/Date: 10 a.m. Thanksgiving Details: Offering will benefit the 2009-2010 Motor City Makeover on May 15. Dr. Jerry Smith, past music director at Ward, to serve as guest conductor, Motor City Makeover involves transformation of two homes in the metro Detroit area, culminating with a move-in party for the families and a block party at the end of the day, All welcome to attend; volunteers do not need to be a member of Ward Church to

# **PUBLIC SAFETY**

online at hometownlife.com

Vehicles vandalized in theft Windows were shattered on a pair of vehicles and items were stolen from them while they were parked in the driveway of a residence on Sterling Drive between 9:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Dec. 16. According to the report, the owner of one of the vehicles, a Hyundai, noticed the broken window when she went to leave and said something to the owner of the Cadillac Escalade who also noticed a window had been

hattered on her vehicle The owner of the Hyundai had her Gucci purse stolen that contained sunglasses and a wallet containing several credit cards, her Social Security card and registration for the vehicle. The total value of the stolen items is over \$1,000. The owner of the Escalade also had her

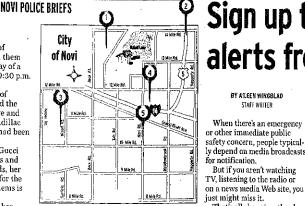
purse stolen, which included credit cards and insurance cards as well as about \$200 cash. When police arrived there were no pry marks around the windows to indicate a tool was used to smash the windows and there were no fingerprints to process. Footprints also were found in the area but could not be

Police have no suspects at this time Police stop drunk driver

2 Novi police arrested a drunk driver after catching him speeding at 9:55 p.m. on Dec. 16 on M-5 northbound, south of Fourteen Mile Road. According to the report, the driver was traveling 69 miles per hour in a 55 mph zone and when the officer approached the car after it was stopped, he could smell the odor of intoxicants coming from the vehicle.

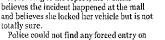
The man failed field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of 16 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is. 08 percent, He was taken to the Novi Police Department where he was held until sober nd issued a citation for operating while intoxicated.

Purse stolen after window is broken 3 A Coach purse containing \$1,000 in cash, a rosary and a black Coach wallet was tolen from a vehicle between midnight and 8 a.m. on Dec. 15 while it was parked in the driveway of a home on Degwood Lane woman told police she put a purple



cle the next morning, the window was broken and the purse was missing. There was no evidence to process and police have no suspects at this time.

Laptop snatched from car **4** An HP Laptop was taken from a Chevrolet Impala between the hours of 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Dec. 14 while the car was parked at either the post office on Novi Road or at Twelve Oaks Mall. According to the report, the woman



the vehicle and have no suspects The lap top and bag were issued to the woman by her employer.

Bad brake light leads to arrest 5 A burned out brake light helped police rrest a drunk driver at 1:11 a.m. on Dec. 17 on Novi Road, north of Ten Mile Road. According to the report, the officer noticed the burned out light and initiated for defec-tive equipment. When the officer approached the car, he smelled a strong odor of intoxi-Township. cants and had the 45-year-old Livonia man perform field sobriety tests which he was unable to complete. A PBT registered a blood alcohol content of .11 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers is

.08 percent. The man was arrested for operating while itoxicated and transported to the Novi Police

Sign up to get emergency alerts from Oakland County The only cost to consumers would be the text message BY AILEEN WINGBLAD Staff Writer "Public safety alerts are hugely popular," Jurek said, fee if their cell phone carrier There's general information When there's an emergency charges it," said Lt. David as well as emergency notifica-tion where people can hear or other immediate public Pement, commander of the

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 24, 2009

OCSO Highland substation Available to anyone who signs up, the Community Alerts program is part of the county's E-mail subscriber service which was launched in June 2008 and features That's all changing, thanks to a new service from Oakland zens of county departments and municipalities offering County and its sheriff's office.

Recently, a Community

which sends E-mail and cell

phone text messages to regis-

tered users, prompting them to

check the county's Web site for

reet closures, crime sprees,

hazardous situations or other

"It's available and it's free.

emergencies posted by the

ocsň

Alerts program was begun

information and alerts. The alert categories with the mor "I think it's a great idea," he said. "The main thing is getpressing information are wireless enabled as well so they can ting the word out to as many be sent as text messages to cell ple as we can.' To sign up for Community The sheriff's office got on Alerts, visit the county Web site board with the program a few weeks ago and already is attractww.oakgov.com and elick on the sheriff's department page.

about road closures, missing

persons, chemical hazards

and that kind of thing. It's

community

Pement agreed that

improved communication with

Community Alerts is a conve

nient and effective way to ge

information to residents righ

(NN) All

ing a steady number of subscribers, said Sandy Jurek, program awinoblad@pannet1.com manager for the project.

# Police catch serial bank robber

BY NATHAN MUELLER and Farmington Hills. STAFF WRITER A Livonia resident was arraigned this week on three but never got to the wir counts of bank robbery for incidents in Farmington nervous and left Hills, Novi and Commerce Nathan Ford is believed o have been responsible fo other bank robberies that have occurred in the area in the past few months. was caught last Thursday by Farmington Hills police after

phones.

Shortly thereafter the man According to police, the man was standing in line at a bank vas tracked down while trying to rob a bank in Farmington at 14 Mile Road and Haggerty Hills Novi Deputy Police Chief Tom Lindberg said he and the because he appeared to get whicle he was driving match While Novi police were en the description from previroute to that location, they ous bank robberies and more charges are looming. Ford is currently being held on a \$2.5 million bond at the received a call for a robbery in progress at the Comeric Bank on Ten Mile Road and Haggerty. The man produced Oakland County Jail and has a note, but the teller did not a court date set for Dec. 29 at give him any money and he fled the scene before police 52-1 District Court in Novi.



With compuses 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.

Enrolt now for Winter classes, Touch®Tone and Web registration now through January 8. Final walk-in registration at all compuses is January 6, 7 and 8. Closses begin Monday, January 11.

www.oakfandec.edu

OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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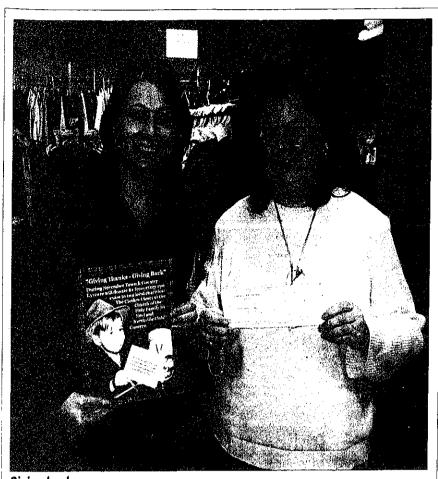
AI2 (NN) Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 24, 2009 LOCAL NEWS

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing an Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at 700 PM, in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile koad, Navi, MI to consider <u>A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY</u> COUNCIL FOR ZONING ORDNANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18,239, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 97-18,239, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND ORDINANCE AND DEFINITION OF GASOLINE SERVICE STATIONS TO SPECIFY PERMITTED ACCESSORY USES WITH A PROHIBITION ON THE SALE OF ALCOHOL WHICH HAS BEEN FOUND TO BE CONTRARY TO THE PUBLIC HEADTH, PROVISIONS," SECTION 2505, "OFF.STREET" PARKING REQUIREMENTS" TO REVISE THE PARKING REQUIREMENTS FOR SELF-SERVICE CAS STATIONS.

\*\*\*IN ACCORDANCE WITH MCL 125.3103, THE MANAGER OR OWNER OF A SINGLE STRUCTURE CONTAINING MORE THAN 4 DWELLING UNITS OR OTHER DISTINCT SPATIAL AREAS OWNED OR LEASED BY DIFFERENT PERSONS, IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO POST THE NOTICE AT A PRIMARY ENTRANCE TO THE STRUCTURE (S). \*\*\*.



#### Giving back

Town & Country Eyecare's Dr. Amy Crissman, left, presented a check for over \$250 Carol Ann Donnelly of Church of the Holy Family Clothes Closet from the business' Giving Thanks-Giving Back fund-raiser held during November.

#### NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ADVERTISEMENT - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals for LEGAL SERVICES will be received by the Novi Community School District, located at 25345 Taft Road, Novi, Minhagan, 48374, by mail or hand delivered by 2:00 p.m. local time on Thursday, January 14, 2010, when the proposals will be oppined and dated. See Request for Proposal documents for details. Proposals received after the specified date and time will not be considered or accepted. Fixed or e-mailed responses will be in the considered on accepted. Fixed or e-mailed responses will not be accepted. All submissions should include <u>One (1) prigrind</u> guid four (14) printed configs and sholl be delivered in a sealed pockage, addressed as follows:

Novi Community School District PROPOSAL: LEGAL SERVICES Attn: Gail Credit, Asst. Superintendent Business and Operations 25345 Taft Road Novi, MI 48374

Request for Proposal documents will be available for examination and distribution beginning December 18, 2009. Specifications and proposal documents may be obtained and/or examined at Novi Community School District, 25345 Taft Road, Novi, Michigan 48374, and are also available online at http:// www.novi.k12.mi.us.

Your proposal form shall be accompanied by a swora and noistrized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner or any employee of the Proposer and any member of the Board or the Superintendent of the school district.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals in whole or in part, to waive any informality therein, and to never proposal alternates. The Owner reserves the right to withhold bids for a period of time (90 days) from proposal closing date. The Owner also reserves the right to award a contract in any manner deemed by the Owner, in the Owner's sole discretion, to be in the Owner's best interests.

Publish: Detember 17 and 24, 2009

Michigan Press 827 N. Washings

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, M148375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, January 13, 2010. Published December 24, 2009 Novi Planning Commission David Greco, Secretary OE00084330 2× Publish: December 24, 2009 Cost-Effective Statewide Coverage Learn Local Place your 2x2 display ad and www.ferris.edu/offcampus each over 3.5 million readers for just \$999! Place a 25-word Ferris State University ed ad and reach over 4 on readers for just \$299!

# Senate committee approves foreclosure redemption bill

2008, but did

not get taken

up in the House due to

being late in

the year and

session end-

ing. I hope that

online at hometownlife.com

ichigan is in the midst of a foreclosure crisis. We should be doing all we W. can to help struggling families hold on to their home. They deserve easier access to key information that often repre-sents their last chance to keep

their house. Nancy Cassis as lawmakers hear the real-I am pleased that my leg-islation to allow the register life stories, like the Wolfords of deeds of Oakland and we will be able to finally give Macomb counties to deter-mine and release the dollar Michigan families this vital amount needed for a hom-National Window eowner to redeem a home from Covering Safety foreclosure was unanimously approved recently by the resolution approved by nate Banking and Financial the Senate Institutions Committee, After a residence has been 'sold" at a foreclosure sale, The Michigan Senate approved my resolution to recog-nize National Window Covering iomeowners have a six-month redemption period to secure the money to redeem their home after the sale. County Safety Month in an effort to rais awareness of the hidden danger

2005.

registers were allowed to cal-culate the redemption amount of window blind cords. It is estimated that strangu lation by corded window treatuntil the law was changed in ments kills one child every two weeks. Window blinds are also the third-leading cause of However, current law does not allow the register of deeds to provide this information to the homeowner. My bill, Senate Bill 350, would restore death in children davcare settings. That is why it is impor tant to educate parents and the ability of Oakland and childcare workers of the haz-Macomb County registers to perform this valuable service. ards associated with window blind cords. Senate Resolution 92 stated Although I believe that all country registers should help that "since 1990, more than homeowners with this infor-200 infants and young chilmation, my bill is limited to dren have died from accidental strangling in window cords in the United States." the only two counties specifi cally asking for this ability to The resolution was in meme restored Bruce and Rebecca Wolford ory of Isabela Grace Nagara, of Waterford testified in supwho was unfortunately and so port of SB 350 and told the sadly strangled by a window blind cord in June 2009 while committee of their hardship in obtaining the critical redemptaking a nap. She had just turned two years old. With tion information. The Wolfords said, "We had great sympathy I share her to fight to get the information family's grief. While rememve needed to save our home bering Isabela, I brought attention to this overlooked We were persistent. We didn't give up. But there are so many people that could be cheated source of harm to help protect Michigan children from sufout of the very last opportunity fering a similar tragedy. Isabela's parents, Wes and they have to save their home. I have been working with Oakland County Clerk and Beth Nagara of Commerce Township, and her uncle, Ron Register of Deeds Ruth Johnson on this legislation for more than a year. She strongly Nagara, were in the Senate gallery when SR 92 was Earlier this month, Sen. supports the measure and told he panel that she believes a Gilda Jacobs introduced leg SB 990 to implement regulation of window blinds with looping neutral third party, such as the register of deeds offices in Macomb and Oakland councords at licensed day care cer ties, could assist Michigan ters. Also, my staff and I curfamilies and ensure they have rently are investigating other every opportunity to save their

legal means that Michigan legslation could address regard-SB 350 is similar to my ing this safety issue. previous legislation that was approved by the Senate in Please see CASSIS. A14

> City of Novi **Public Hearing Notice**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 W. Fen Mile Road to consider:

Civic Center 49.178 W. Ten Alle read to consider: Case No. 090651.1627.West Lake DF MJ Whelan Construction Company is requesting variances to allow construction of a 2 story addition to an existing non-conforming residence at 1627 West Lake Drive. In addition to the following dimensional variances, the project requires an exception to 2502.3A to allow expansion of a non-conforming structure. Property is zoned R-4 and is located south of Pontise Trail and east of West Park Drive. Property is zoned H of West Park Drive

REQUIRED MINIMUM SIDE YARD SETBACK PROPOSED MINIMUM SIDE YARD SETBACK VARIANCE REQUESTED 10 FEET 6.9 FEET 3.1 FEET

#### online at hometownlife.com

# Home for the holidays

Students from all over world share their traditions

BY NATHAN MUELLER STAFF WRITER The holidays are the time of year when traditions from all over the world take center stage. And in a diverse city like Novi, each family is likely celebrating in their own unique

do in their Novi home

ing time together," she said.

dition on Dec. 6 where children leave their boots out over night and he comes and fills them with

items such as walnuts, oranges, chocolate, toys and more. The boots also must be clean,

as a dirty boot could lead to a lack of gifts. Viehweber's family also cel-

ebrates Christmas, but they do so right at midnight. Santa

does not come to their home. rather a religious character called Christkind brings gifts

She said her family eats and

goes to church at midnight,

and when they come home they

must wait to hear a bell before

they can go get their presents. She said the only change in

her family's traditions is deco

rating their home with lights because that was not a com-

mon practice in Germany. In Mariana Madrigal's home,

the countdown to Christmas

began on Dec. 16, the begin-ning of the Mexican tradition

Las Posadas. Las Posadas is a

nine-day celebration based on

Traditionally, a party is held every night in a family's home, culminating on Christmas

day at midnight. At that time, Madrigal said they eat, cele-

brate and put Jesus in his man

She also said New Year's is

"We have really nice glasses

that have 12 grapes in them

the new year," she said. "At midnight we start eating the

grapes and making wishes for

very month of the year." Madrigal, who moved to the

United States 10 years ago, said

her family hasn't altered their

traditions much since moving.

al now because we want to keep

Teena Antony, a junior at Novi High School from Kerala, India, ended her fasting at

midnight after mass with fam-

ily. In India, fasting is a com-

mon tradition, and Antony added chocolate to the foods

she gave up during that time.

As far as gift giving, "pres-ents are really not a big deal," she said. They put their names

in a box and the name a person

intact with our roots," she said.

"I think we are more tradition

to signify the 12 months of

ger in their nativity scenes.

special in her culture.

the nine months that Maria

carried Jesus in her womb.

way. Some families are contin ing customs learned in their home land, while others are starting new ones from scratch but all revolve around similar values - family and faith. Vera Vichweber, a German student who just moved to America a little more than a yea ago, said everything her family did in Germany they continue to

looing memory of beloved husband

eorge, loving father Lori, David and Mari

Proud and adori

Poppy" to Alex, An Will, Stephanie,

Danietle, Grace, Hayden and Taylo

9-24-1947 to 1-30-2009

Bob, I miss you every minute of every day, you're now my Guardiar Angel watching and

protecting me from

above. Our love lives on in my heart and soul

forever and one

day will meet

gain. Your loving wife, Bonnie

Matt, You are leve

and missed so much. You left foctprints on the hearts of all

who knew you. Love never dies and

1. We carry you wil

us always

nories never lead

ł

"For my family, the holidays are a lot about family and spend-Members of Novi High's International Club line up on Dec. 9 to sample food fares that families will be enjoying over the holidays. Dishes served that day include melktert; a South African custard, bakfava, cutlet; an Indian potato Viehweber has already had a visit from Nikolaus, a holiday tradumpling, and puri; an Indian bread.

> ESTELLE S. HAFF Dec. 7, 2008 Mother we miss you so. Happy Memories 🐰 will be in our hearts 👫 A. Day forever, Love, Sis, 'e think of you an Patty, Allen and ss you every sing y. This Is especial 協 Sweetie Pie true during the boliday season. 'Til we meet again Constants With love, Your family Kenneth Hill. IN MEMORY We all miss you so much...Mom 14 OF and us remember DONNA



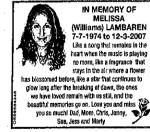


de a

In Lovie

Mennory of Hores Schu

Our first Christmas Holiday without you. Everyone misses you very much and thinks of you every day. You were the most



and in our memories.

With love, Mom

(Clara), Dad (Bob),

Kelly, Bobby, Jesse,

Jacob, and McKenzie

Arturo "POPS" Posa

Forever In Our

Hearts

We Miss You

Love Alwaus.

Jeff, Andi, Chris.

Meg, & Matt

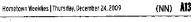
LOCAL NEWS

- Same

Mon Man of

with a Sange

Come join Crossroads Grille

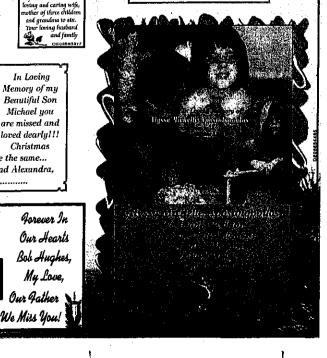


∑ Drop off



PROPOSED MINIMUM SIDE YARD SETBACK 6.9 FEE	
VARIANCE REQUESTED 3.1 FEE	T picks out is the person they buy
	a present for.
REQUIRED AGGREGATE SIDE YARD SETBACK 25 FEE	In the United States, Santa
PROPOSED AGGREGATE SIDE YARD SETBACK 17.26 FEE	T Claus is the fictional char-
VARIANCE REQUESTED 7.74 FEE	
	acter who brings gifts to the
MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE PORCH EAVE PROJECTION 13.5 INCHE	
PROPOSED PORCH EAVE PROJECTION 30 INCHE	S Patterson's house, cookies
VARIANCE REQUESTED 16.5 INCHE	S always will be put out for him,
	and the holidaye will be spent
MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE HOUSE SOUTHWEST EAVE PROJECTION	
14.75 INCHES	s with family and old friends.
PROPOSED SOUTHWEST HOUSE EAVE PROJECTION	"To us it means seeing fam-
18 INCHE	s ily you never get to see, and for
VARIANCE REQUESTED 3.25 INCHES	s me it's about giving," the junior
Case No. 09-052 27225 Wixom Rd	said. "I save all my money for
Catholic Central High School is requesting a variance to allow on	this time of year because I love
(1) additional 24 square foot, 54 inch high identification groun	d giving presents."
sign located at the south entrance to the property of 27225 Wixor	Bring preachta.
Road. The proposed sign would include changeable copy. Th	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
property is zoned R-1 and located south of Grand River and west of	may be, regardless of back-
Wixom Road.	grounds, the holidays are always
Case No. 09-053 24009 Wintergreen Cir	filled with memories, old and new.
Giggle Gang is requesting three variances to permit the licensin	er
of a Group Day Care Home accommodating six to twelve children	Б П
at her residence located at 24099 Wintergreen Circle. Th	
petitioner is requesting waiver of the required fenced play area	THINKING ABOUT
required lot size and waiver of the request for frontage on a majo	
thoroughfare or section line collector. The property is zoned R-	
and is located south of Ten Mile Road between Beck and Taf	
Roads.	
Case No. 09-054 26054 Novi Rd	LEARNY ALEARNY
The petitioner is requesting a revised variance to allow installation	
of one (1) additional 48 square foot wall sign on the west elevation	EDGERMAN
of the multi tenant building located at 26054 Novi Road for Bages	
Dave's. The property is zoned TC and located north of Grand River	(734) 525 1930
and east of Novi Road.	
	<ul> <li>Our,35th,Year!</li> </ul>
Publish: December 24, 2009	UNITED

ıt for. Matthew Edward Yac 1/20/88 - 4/11/03 Dad and Family United States, Santa e United States, Sama s the fictional char-ho brings gifts to the hildren. And at Emily vyack.memory-of.com www.matthe on's house, cookies will be put out for him. holidays will be spent mily and old friends. s it means seeing fam-never get to see, and for about giving," the junior ave all my money for ne of year because I love presents." whatever the traditions will never be the same... Love Mom, Dad Alexandra, regardless of back-, the holidays are always Yaka... h memories, old and new ING ABOUT. N NACE? LENNOX) TES **\$1930** Our 35th Yeari UNITED TEMPERATURE 8919 MIDDLEDG - LIVONIA and Papa. We Miss You!





(NN) #5

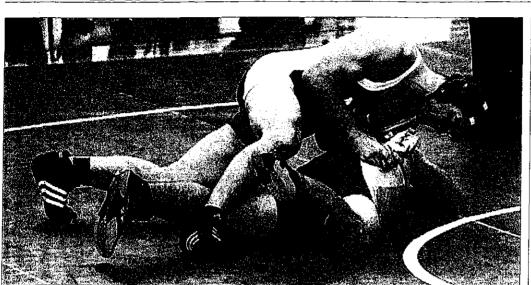








Team notches 100th win for coach Kelp - B2



antain Alex Engebretson earned third place in the 171-pound weight class at the Herm Wilkinson Classic Dec. 12 in Howell after going 3-1 in competition.

# Wildcat grapplers no match for best of county

# Caldwell and Engebretson medal among 22nd-place team finish

### BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Facing some of the toughest competition in the state, Novi's wrestlers competed at the 50th annual Oakland County Championships last weekend.

Hosted by Milford and Oxford high schools Friday and Saturday, the tournament featured 46 teams from throughout the county, so the Wildcats had their work cut out for them as they faced the top Division J grapplers in each weight class. Novi was led by senior captains Conner Caldwell (125 pounds) and

Alex Engebretson (171 pounds), who each placed eighth in their respective weight classes.

Their senior leadership really came into effect. We're really excited about what they can bring to the team," assistant coach Dan Jilg said,

ON TAP Following the Oxford meet, Novi and Plymouth Salem will compete in a pair of dual matches against KLAA South Division's Canton and Plymouth at a Plymouth-hosted guad meet 5:30 p.m

noting wrestlers who medal at the county meet generally do well at the state meet as well.

Jan. 6.

Although several Wildcats were eliminated during the first day of eliminated during the first day of competition, senior captain Martin Bunney (152 pounds), sophomore Shanka Paul (112 pounds) and soph-omore Kaveh Sohizad (135 pounds) all qualified for the second day at Oxford, but did not medal in their wainth cherce

weight classes. "It was a really tough tourna-

ment," Jilg said. "The younger guys

are (doing well and developing). They haven't peaked yet. Their best wrestling is yet to come."

Adam Troher (160 pounds), Senior Adam Trober (160 pounds), junior Matt Aoun (130 pounds) and sophomore Jimi Keller (285 pounds) had impressive performances on the first day, but each Wildcat's individ-

Instag, but each which is introdu-ual record on the day wasn't enough to qualify for day two. Novi's up-and-coming heavy-weight takent, Keller overcame some large odds in winning his first match of the day against a wrestler who was a theat 50 mounds heaving who was at least 50 pounds heavier. "I love watching Jimi wrestle cause he's fearless. He doesn't care if the guy's 50 pounds more than him. He has a lot of heart," Jilg said. Aoun used the tournament to

make his varsity debut at 130 pounds, finishing with a 2-2 record. Despite the strong performances of a few, the overall talent from

throughout the county was too much for the Wildcats, who finished 22nd at the fournament with 81.5 points, edging out Royal Oak by half a point and Stoney Creek by

one point. Detroit Catholic Central won the meet with 326 points, individual champions in the 112, 125 and 215 weight classes, and second-place finishes in the 130, 140 and 285 weight classes. Clarkston took second with 236 points

Novi now has a short break as they prepare for a team dual tournament 9 a.m. Wednesday at Oxford High. Oxford had 14 wrestlers advance to the sec-ond day at the Oakland County Championships and finished third overall with 229 points.

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

**'Cat**s swat Hornets Strong second half

aives Novi 66-49 win

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDEN

Novi's boys bas-ON TAP The Wildcats are off for the next two weeks before opening up league play by hosting South Lyon 7 p.m. Jan. 8,

ketball team goes into winter break on the heels of two wins in two nights, having defeated Livonia Churchill and Saline last Thursday and Friday. The Wildcats (4 -

1) got off to a slow start against the Hornets (1-3) on Friday, as Saline's Taylor Braham hit his first few shots

from distance as the two teams trad-ed baskets. Novi took a 14-12 lead late in

the first quarter and would not fall behind again. The Wildcats snuffed Braham (10 first-half points) in the second half as they turned the game around. A full-court pass from senior Brandon Rydzewski to junior Samer Ozeir for a basket and a huge defensive block by junior Chris Milon helped keep Novi in the game early

"I thought we were pretty poor in the first half. We were pretty self-ish on defense. I don't know if it was so much them as it was us. We just did not go in the first half. (It may here been) mental fatigue, not physi-

Please see BOYS HOOPS, B2

# Novi names Pennycuff new football coach

South Lyon East's first-ever coach ready to develop program as Novi's third-ever coach BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

It's been nearly two months and the wait is over. Last week, Todd Pennycuff was named Novi football's third head coach in the proam's 43-year history. Pennycuff takes the reigns from Tab Pennycuir takes the reigns from Tab Kellepourey, who resigned in October fol-lowing a successful To-year career at Novi. Kellepourey was preceded by John Osborne, who coached Novi for 33 years and also neurod expected from each this meat follow served as special teams coach this past fall. "I'm really excited and humbled to be ever considered for the head coaching job," said Pennycuff, who turns 41 in two weeks. "Its exciting, its humbling to be the third head coach. I'm aware of all the great things John Osborne has done in the past, as well as Tab. Pennycuff has worked with both Kellepourey (two years at Hartland) and Osborne (during his final season at Novi) in the past. He expects to bring the lesson learned from Novi's first two coaches and the other coaches he has served with all together to create a strong program. Our long-term goal is that every young man that comes through our program becomes better businessmen, fathers, family guys. Short term is to get a coaching staff in place and get in the weight room," Pennycuff said. "We want to develop a culture and environment where the kids know its OK to make mistakes, but establish a culture of doing business. Its all how you respond." Having spent the past three seasons as the first-ever head coach at South Lyon East,



#### TO BY CHRIS JACKET Last week, Todd Pennycuff was named Novi football's 43 vi

## Penalties plague Novi in loss to Division III champs Wildcats handed first ON TAP

loss of season

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

The most opportune time to score in any hockey game is during a power play. Both No. 4 Novi and No. 6 Cranbrook made the most of the man advantage Saturday, as all four goals in the Clarkston Christmas Invitational final came on the power play. Unfortunately for the Wildcats, three of the four

went to Cranbrook. Before Novi could face Cranbrook for the invite championship, the Wildcats had to get through Davison on Friday. In the first-ever matchup between the two programs, Novi took a 1-1 gam

The Wildcats are off until they visit Livonia Franklin 6 p.m. Dec. 30, followed by 7 p.m. matchups at Calumet Jan. 8 and Hancock Jan. 9 during an annual weekend road trip to the Upper Peninsula. "Franklin isn't a real strong team, but you never know what to expect," Krygier said, noting the trip to Houghton will be a "good team-building trip. You get to see a different part of the state.

Cranbrook managed to pull away behind three power play goals.

ey scored each of their goals on the power play "Th in the last three minutes of each period," Krygier said. "They had five more power play opportunities than us. We would have scored on our power play had we been given the opportunity.

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Pennycuff will look at a mixture of assistants and coordinators, from Novi, South Lyon East and elsewhere, before putting his ching staff in place.

"It was real exciting. Not too many head coaches get to start up a program from scratch, from the ground up. I had the opportunity to work with young kids and build the program up," Pennycuff said. "I'm just a low-key guy. It's all about the kids.

Just a low-key guy. It's all about the kids. Everything we do is kid centered. The people I've worked for have been great role models." Currently a special education instructor at Novi's Village Oaks Elementary, Pennycuff is a South Lyon High graduate who played offensive tackle and tight end for Southwest Baptist University until he blew out his ACL. After bic injury, he work on te coech.

After his injury, he went on to coach t SBU from 1989-95 before joining Kellepourey at Hartland for two years. From there, Pennycuff served as offensive or defensive coordinator at several different high schools, including South Lyon, Novi, Berkley, Livonia Clarenceville and a second Berkley, Livonia Clarenceville and a second stint at South Lyon during a regional-cham-pionship season, before landing his first head coaching job at Dearborn Heights Crestwood in 2006.

Piease see PENNYCHEE R2

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into the first intermission, but came out strong in the second period to take a 5-1 lead.

With the team taking just two penalties throughout the entire game, junior netminder Michael orfer to improved to 8-0-1 in the 7-2 Novi vic-Peserx tory at the Detroit Skating Club in Bloomfield Hills. Several Wildcats got their names on the stat sheet during the win, as senior Andrew Cmoluch started off the scoring with senior Ryan McCullough earning the assist

Juniors Nolan Valleau and Matt Sternkoski set up senior Tyler Perpich for Novi's second goal before niors Tyler Manning and Brandon Juodikis set seniors Lyter Manning and Brandon Juočikis set junior Taylor Howell up for what would be the game-winning goal, that put Novi ahead 3–1 at the time. Davison took just four penalties in the game as Novi outshot the Cardinals.

"Thought we played really well against Davison. They skated hard, played hard, but we outplayed them," Novi coach Todd Krygier said.

From there, Cnoluch, Perpich, sophomore Dylan Shepard and Valleau capped off the scoring as Shepard, Manning, Valleau, junior Joey Ferriss, senior Alec Latin, senior Nolan Anderson and Stemkoski each earned one assist apiece on one of Novi's final four goals.

The Friday victory earned Division II Novi a shot at defending Division III-champion Cranbrook Saturday afternoon.

t

In a tough game, neither team could score en-strength goal. Outshooting Novi 27-18, "Our penalty kill was good, but not as good as it needed to be. Their goals were earned goals." Novi's lone goal came in the second period, when

senior cantain Evan Dixon and junior Zach Mohr set up Valleau for a wrist shot from the point that rang off the post and into the net to tie the game 1-1.

"I thought it was a timely goal. It was what we needed," Krygier said. "We were ready mentally, but we weren't as ready as we need to be to play Cranbrook. That's the best team we played all year. In general, when you play a team like that, you've got to play with grit and determination. They're the cream of the crop in Division III and the state.

"I think we don't have that quality of competition in our season or early in the season and the first time we see it is late in the state tournament. Personally, as a coach, I want to play the best at all times. As a public school, its kind of different because you don't know what you're going to get year to year and the private schools are consistently good year to year." With their first loss of the season in the books,

Novi's icers go into winter break with an impressive 9-1-1 overall record (4-0-1 in the Kensing rton Conference), the best start in program history, according to Krygier.

"We're going to relax a little bit and have fun," Krygier said. "I'm excited about the season. A 9-1-1 start, we don't have anything to be ashamed of."

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

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 24, 2009 (NN)

he saved from going out of

that landed in the hands of

unguarded senior Ryan Jok

(three points) at mid-court.

# **BOYS HOOPS**

82

cal, cause we don't do this in high school basketball," Novi coach Cory Heitsch said of playing a second game in as many nights. "I did enjoy the

late in the half to break a 25-25 tie just before the break, Novi came out firing in the second half as the Wildcat cagers surged for a 15-2 run to take a 40-27 lead behind Ozeir (19 points, 10 rebounds) and senior Jeremy Mirus (12 points).

tastic second halves," Heitsch said. Perhaps inspired by the guy/

girl halftime pom pons per-formance, the Wildcats outscored Saline 21-9 in the third quarter as Novi shut down the Hornets' defense to end the

Saline senior Brandon Carmack (six points) and ophomore Derek Owings five points), who had both been held scoreless in the first half, tried to make a game out of it for the Hornets, but could do no better than trade baskets with the Wildcats, as Novi outscored Saline 16-15 in the final quarter en route to the 66-49 victory. Novi's reserves came in

during the final minutes and Brian Bush, who hit a free throw for his only point and capped off the final 10 sec-onds of the game with a steal

"I had a lot of great experi-ence working at Southwest Baptist, coaching with guys who had coached (NCAA) Division I and were wind ing their careers down." Pennycuff said. He also credits his former high school coach. South Lyon's Bub Scheloske, for teaching him valuable lessons line coach during Scheloske's

mentality as far as watching film and breaking film down, how to prepare for teams," Pennycuff said.

Greg Hudkins was another big influence on Pennycuff during his time as defensive coordinator at Clarenceville while Hudkins was head

"I learned a lot as far as playing hard and getting the kids to buy in. He's become a great friend," Fennycuff said. "What I learned is how to get the ment of kids." the most out of kids." A South Lyon resident, Pennycuff plans to make his stand in Novi. No longer dealing with the uncertain job stability of an assistant position under rotating head coaches at other schools, Pennycuff thinks the world of Novi's school district.

and having met his wife, Jill. through the school system,

who dribbled in for an easy response in the third quarter With two quick baskets layup as time expired. Nick Regnier each added eight points for Novi, while Rydzewski (three points) and senior Justin Honton (five in the team's effective operations.

Also chipping in for the Wildcats were juniors Avery "Samer and Jeremy had fan-McIntyre, Zae Dotinga, Chris Milon (two points each) and Brady Sheldon (one point).

Twelve of Novi's 15 rostered played scored against Salir compared with eight of the Hornets' 13, led by Braham and junior David Hendrickson (10 points).

"I'm excited for our guys. Its almost sad, but 25 percent of our regular season is down quarter ahead 50-34 the drain." Heitsch said about 59 last Thursday behind 20 points) and Jok (11 rebounds) each came up big in the contest, as well.

showed spirited energy behind the leadership of junior guard Wildcats 59-50. in the defensive corner that

PENNYCUFF

Pennycuff said. during Pennyonff's time as \_\_\_\_\_\_ district were important fac-the Lions' offensive coordinates, tors in the hiring decision for and then as the offensive \_\_\_\_\_ We are extremely fortunate

final year. "He brought the college

East Kentwood coach

coach there.

Working within the disopener. trict for more than a decade Chris Jackett is a freelance writer



The Novi High bench looks on during their Dec. 15 game against Walled Lake Centra Kelp's cagers roll over Churchill

Wildcats earn going into winter break. Novi defeated Churchill 71points from Hopton. Ozeir (12 points, 10 rebounds), Mims (11 coach 100th win points, five assists), Batwo (10 BY CHRIS JACKETT

CORRESPONDENT Host Walled Lake Central As his team moved to 5-0 handed Novi its first loss of the this season, Bill Kelp earned his 100th victory at the helm of Novi's girls basketball team season Dec. 15. Mims had 16 points and Ozeir 13 rebounds as the Vikings dropped the The Wildcats rolled to a 21-6 lead early in the second quarte and never let Livonia Churchill Chris Jackett is a freelance writer any closer than nine points as Novi cruised to a 46-31 victory and former Novi News staff writer. "Its not really about me. I've

great players," Kelp said of his 100th victory. In his seventh season as Pennycuff said his son, Grant, Novi's varsity coach. Keln has who turns 5 in February, will one day don the Wildcat things rolling. The varsity team is undefeated after five games. green. "Our address is South Lyon, s are both the junior varsity

but our son will attend Novi Schools. We feel it's the best seasons ahead. district in the state, both aca-The Wildcats took care of demically and athletically," business for their coach last Thursday as senior Kelsey Novi Athletic Director Curt Ellis said the combination of Pennycuff's coaching experience and place within the 10 rebounds. At 5-foot-11. Masserant and 6-foot senior

their way with Churchill's defense in turning a 6-5 lead 25-11 halftime lead. "I thought we came out and Kelsev came out to play teacher/coach from our school district. I was looking for

and ultimately enhance, the standards of excellence within the football program originally established by John Osborne ting threes (was huge)." A freshman, Berehulka came and most recently maintained by Tab Kellepourey," Ellis said. "As a teacher in Novi. Todd is

experiences coaching outside of Novi have provided him with fresh perspectives which will ultimately add to our proing margin before the teams ended up trading basket for gram." With two decades of experibasket. ence. Pennycuff will make his

Aug. 27, 2010, when Novi hosts Milford in next fall's season ketball," Kelp said. Although Churchill's defense to work the ball around the



Novi High Wildcat Meaghan Robinson.



Wildcat Abby Chandler 5-0. Sophomore Anna Lausch had 10 points and seven rebounds, as her play inside was one of the differences in the game. Sophomore Abby Robinson hit some big shots, including two three-pointers in the second quarter, to finish ith 10 points/ Novi set the tone early in a 60-17 victory over Walled Lake Central last week with heir full-court defense, which helped open up a big first half lead. Defensively, the Wildcats were led by sophomores Kelli Timar (five steals). Shanner

# Strictly Business

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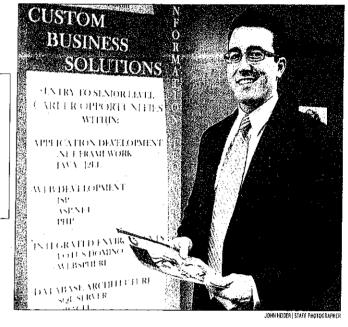
ITC provides updated outlook ITC Holdings Corp. (NYSE ITC) announced au undated outlook for both 2009 and Mall in Novi. 2010, largely driven by its con tinued success in implement ing its business plan and th favorable recent debt financ ings for ITC Holdings and ITC Midwest. For 2009, ITC now expects diluted earnings per share in the range of \$2.55 to \$2.60. The 2009 guidance includes \$0.11 associated with the recognition of regulatory assets at ITC Great Plains as

The increase from the prior guidance of \$2.47 to \$2.52 is primarily due to the expectation that capital expenditure will be at the high end of the existing guidance range of \$320 million to \$345 million and lower non-recoverable For 2010, management now expects diluted earnings per share in the range of \$2.60 to \$2.70. The incr guidance of \$2.52 to \$2.62 is primarily driven by the impact f lower than forecasted inter

academic advisor, review transcripts, and register for classes on a walk-in basis at the Troy, Novi, or Clinton Township campuses from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information call (800) WALSH-01, or e-

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Thursday, December 24, 2009

(NN) B3

Brad Burton of Novi's Custom Business Solutions, a company that helps businesses with their information technology and other assets.

about your experience as a small Michigan. static. Always create and deliver value. Never rest on business owner to share with our How has the recent economy your laurels. In December of 1995, I affected your business? wondered if I should have Our volume is down opened my business in Ohio instead of Michigan, because oximately 50 percent rom 2008. my first three clients were Any advice for business owners? Toledo and Ottawa, Ohio. markets. I had yet to do business in

Business is dynamic, not

What's in store for the future of your business? Further expansion into mid and western Michigan



and freshmen teams, hinting that Kelp has several talented

Wildcat Caroline Johnso

Masserant hit two jumpers from along the left baseline to kick start her team to a quick 4-0 lead en route to leading all scorers with 12 points and

been blessed with a lot of really

to have a coach of Todd's cali-Jessica Cingel (10 points) had ber teaching within our school district. Because I believe athletics is an extension of the into a 15-0 run on the way to a classroom, I felt it was very important for us to have a head football coach who is a really aggressive. Jessica Cinge

tonight. I just think it was someone who could maintain. our post players squaring up," Kelp said. "I think Brittany (Berehulka) coming in and hit-

> off the bench to provide a perimeter threat, hitting three tres for the Wildcats and fin-

ishing with nine points. The Chargers (3-1) switched very familiar with the values of our school district, yet his from zone to man-to-man cov erage for the second half and temporarily narrowed the scor-

"They went to man, so were debut as Novi's head coach little bit careless with the bas-

gave Novi a tougher time on offense, the Wildcats were able and former Novi News staff writer. perimeter and kill the clock



#### products you feature.

Business Name: Custom Business Solutions, Inc. Address: 40480 Grand River, Suite 107, Novi Your Name: Jeffrey P. Burton Your Hometown: Rochester, Mich Business Opened When: June 13, 1995 Number of Employees: 50 Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday Your Business Specialty: information technology consulting

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What makes your business unique?
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be lying to everyone, including my family, that I was going to be a business owner, since I was still an employee. I wasn't getting any younger and decided the time was now or

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that goes the distance in customer service and convenience for last-minute shoppers at 12 select nationwide store locations, including Twelve Oaks Beginning on Monday Macy's will stay open for a total of 83 straight hours until 6 p.m. Christmas Eve for the first time to give customers extra time to shop when it's convenient for them and to take the

stress out of holiday shopping Walsh winter registration under wav

previously disclosed. Registration for winter courses that begin Jan. 4 is under way at all Walsh College campuses, with no appoint-ment necessary on Walk-In Wednesdays. Students can enroll now in a new Master of Management degree program and a new M.B.A. master's in nance dual degree program Walsh continues "Walk-In

Wednesdays", where prospective students can meet with an

graduate students, exploring the entrepreneurial success Oakland offers business workshops Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance

are invited to attend seminars in January offered at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake oad, west of Telegraph, Waterford, For location specif ics and pre-registration, visit www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar, or call (248) 858-0783. Business Basics workshops are now offered in the evenings on alternating months. Pro-Rusiness Recearch

Are you thinking of starting

your own business and want to

esearch your business idea? Are you a business owner who

wants to understand which

research sources to use for your business plan and when

to find the information you

Tuesday, Jan. 7, from 9 a.m

to 12:30 p.m. Presented by

The Entrepreneur's Source,

Oakland County's Busine

Center, Market Research

need? The class is held on

experience, technology

expertise and capability.

opened?

automobile.

How has it changed since you

Technology advances

and business dynamics. Most systems developmen

was performed exclusively mainframe platforms.

Today, due to technology

advancement, develop

occurs from mainframe

environments to embedded

systems such as software used

to control functions in your

Also, our clients desire

related expertise (server/

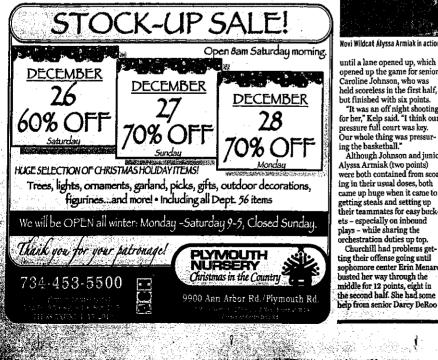
development expertise.

more and more Infrastructure

network/security engineering) as opposed to just software

Do you have a funny tidblt or story

readers?





(two points).

JUNIOR VARSITY

The JV Wildcats overcame

a slow start to defeat Livonia

Churchill 31-17 to improve to

until a lane opened up, which

opened up the game for senior Caroline Johnson, who was

eld scoreless in the first half,

"It was an off night shootin

for her," Kelp said. "I think our

Our whole thing was pressur-ing the basketball." Although Johnson and junior

but finished with six points.

pressure full court was key.

Alyssa Armiak (two points)

came up huge when it came to getting steals and setting up

their teammates for easy buck

rchestration duties up top. Churchill had problems get

ting their offense going until

busted her way through the middle for 12 points, eight in the second half. She had some

help from senior Darcy DeRoo

ore center Erin Menaro

ets – especially on inbound plays – while sharing the

Dominique Felice (eight rebounds). Lausch led all scor ers with 12 points and sophomore Natalie Paul netted 10

herwood (four steals) and

FRESHMEN

Novi's freshman squad improved to 5-0 with wins over (six points) and guards Meghan Catalano, Abbey Trefney (four Livonia Churchill Dec. 17 and points each). Taylor Kerr (three Walled Lake Central Dec. 15. ooints) and Rachel Zukowski The freshmen Wildcats defeated Churchill 44-19 as Novi had some extra help off Kasey Lowney (10 points), Kelly Lewis (seven points, the bench late in the game as juniors Maddy Sinkovich (three three rebounds, three assists). oints). Meaghan Robinson Serene Ozeir (six points, two (two points) and sophomore Ally D'Annibale (two points) rebounds) and Erin Dircks (six points, four steals) led the

chipped in. The Wildcats defeated a Lewis led the freshman stingy Walled Lake Central squad through the team's 56squad 50-39 on Dec. 15. Led by Armiak's defense and big 20 win over Central, netting 10 points and six steals. Ozeir was nights from Masserant (18 close behind with 10 points points) and Johnson (17 points) and five rebounds, as Dircks senior Katie Barry hit two big (eight points, four steals), shots in the fourth quarter Anna Greulich (five points, four steals), Rebecca Rush (six to help secure the victory for points) and Hannah Fan (two oints, four rebounds) chipped

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer

and former Novi News staff writer

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management (M.M.) degree offered at the Troy and Nov the successful execution of our debt financings for both ITC Holdings and ITC Midwest, campuses focuses on managing said Joseph L. Welch, chair-man, president and CEO of resources in a broad spectrum of management within for-profit and not-for-profit orga-ITC. "These offerings further support our confidence in our ability to effectively capitalize nizations. Human resources financial management, mar-keting, information security, the investments in our transproject management and com mission systems detailed in our five year plan. For ITC Holdings in parications are among the courses. ticular, not only does the recent financing eliminate the near Students can also select a management concentration of study. For more information term interest rate risk associ ated with necessary financings and a list of courses, visit www. walshcollege.edu/MM. A new dual master's degree in 2010 and 2011, it also essen pany financing needs through 2012." tially satisfies our holding comprogram in business admini-tration (M.B.A.) and finance

marathon shopping session

est expense resulting from the

favorable ITC Holdings financ

2010 capital expenditure

ruidance of \$405 million to

\$460 million is reaffirmed

We are very pleased with

expenses

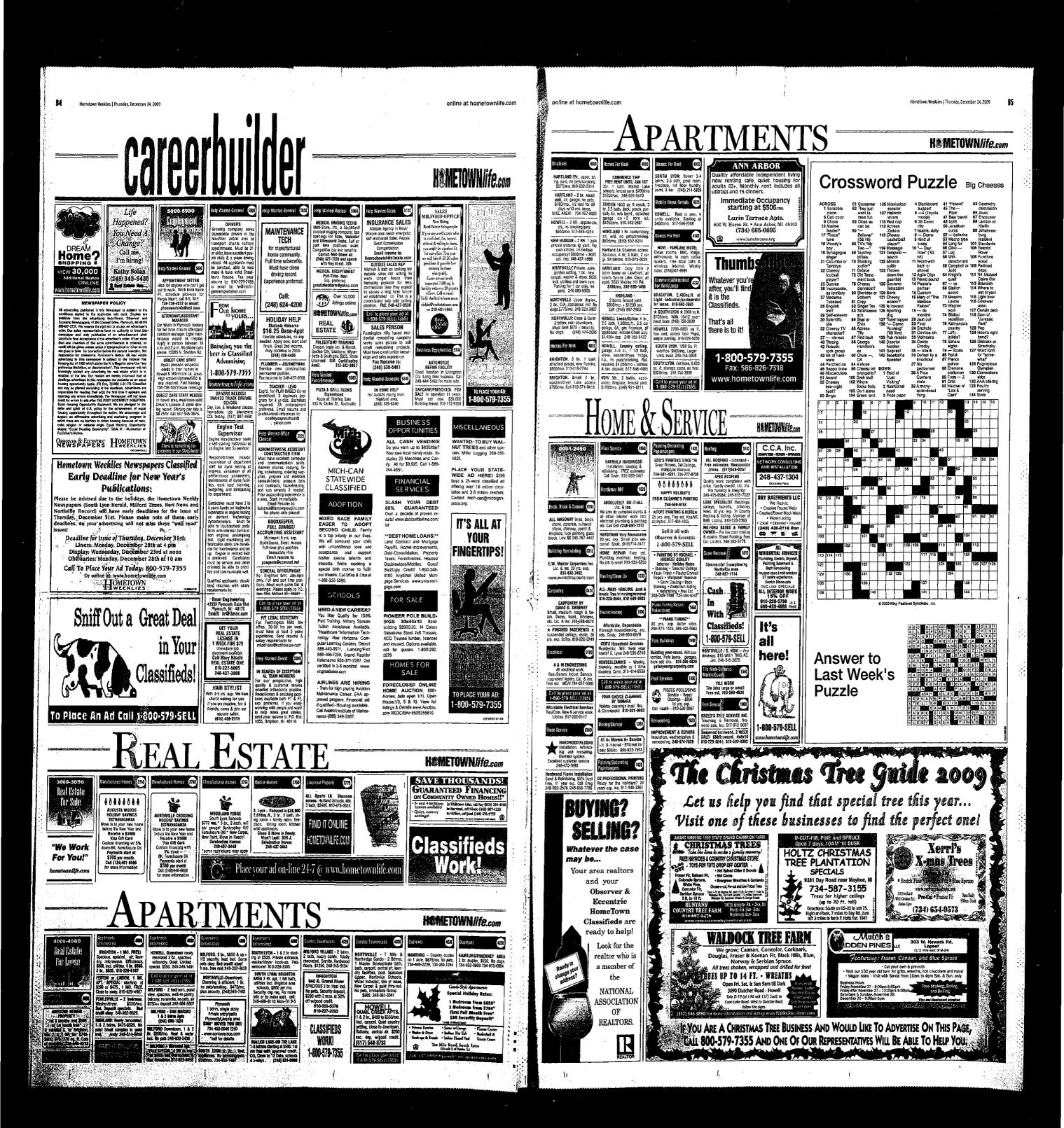
(master of science in finance) can be completed within Macy's open 83 hours for a shorter timeframe than last-minute shoppers enrollment in each separat degree program. Students are required to take 22 classes for For the final days of the holiday shopping season, Macy's will offer a round-the-clock

66 semester credits required for both degrees. The distinc tive M.B.A. encompasses \$30. No refunds.

Department, and Research Librarian. This workshop is free, but pre-registration is required. Fundamentals of Starting a Business is a seminar for anyone thinking about going into business. Participants examine their entrepreneurial skills, learn how to implement their ideas and receive a list of pitfalls to avoid when starting business. The class runs from 9 a.m.-noon on Thursday, Jan 14. For location and pre-registration, visit our Web site at oakgov.com/peds/calendar, or call (248) 858-0783. The fee is

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Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, December 24, 2009

**B**6

online at hometownlife.com



