

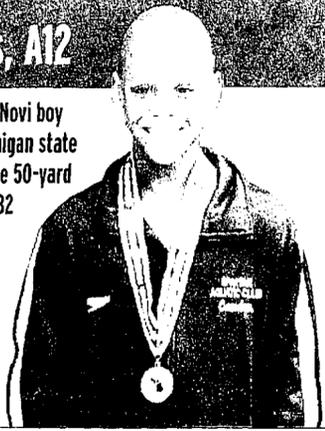
Local company keeps heating, cooling ducts clean - Strictly Business, A12

THURSDAY  
January 7,  
2010  
Hometown Weeklies  
Volume 54  
Number 33  
75 CENTS

# NOVI NEWS

online at hometownlife.com

10 year old Novi boy  
breaks Michigan state  
record in the 50-yard  
freestyle - B2



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## NOVI NUTSHELL

### Russian hockey

The Novi Ice Cats (1998 birth year) are hosting a hockey game against a St. Petersburg, Russia youth team at 7 p.m. on Friday at Novi Ice Arena. The Cats include players from a variety of areas, like Novi, Northville, Walled Lake, Livonia and South Lyon.



### 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 holding an informational meeting at 6 p.m. Jan. 7 in the high school band 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.

### Free haircuts

On Monday, Jan. 18, Gjeto's Salon and Spa is offering free haircuts to those who have been laid off from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. The team of professional stylists will be ready to service as many people as they can in 12 hours. Gjeto's does require current MARVIN paperwork to take advantage of this promotion.

"We are happy to give back to the community," said John (Gjeto) Vushaj, owner of Gjeto's. Along with his wife, Eteleva, they will team up to give the unemployed a new look (or just shape up the one they have) as they continue their quest for career stability.

Gjeto's is located in Twelve Mile Crossing near Emagine Theatre and Fusion Health Club. Visit their website at www.gjetosday-spa.com for more information or call (248) 349-9003 for an appointment.

## Novi Town Center looks to the future

Management hopeful upgrades will make area vibrant again

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

Joe Loose, co-owner of One Salon, saw a great deal of promise in the Novi Town Center when he moved his business into the area in September.

He saw a management group committed to making improvements and helping businesses flourish, and that vision was exactly what Loose and his partners were seeking.

"We want to associate ourselves with like businesses even if they are in a different industry," he said. "We are a destination business, and the model they are looking to attract is a more express, high-end accessible store and we offer that."

While the Novi Town Center has its fair share of vacancies, general manager Jim Clear doesn't expect that to last long. Simon Property Group is now handling the third-party leasing, and the area also is

undergoing several physical changes.

Updated facade has been installed on the majority of the buildings to enhance the look, and management is also redoing the layouts of specific buildings to make them more marketable to business owners. The center was built in 1986, and the previous facade was from the original construction. "The configuration of the center has always been a challenge and we are going to rectify that," Clear said.

The upgrades are already paying dividends as a new AT&T store and the restaurant Bagger Dave's are expected to open soon, and other business owners have been inquiring about space.

Steve Russo, president of Russo Communications, said ownership has put more money into the center and is optimistic about the future.

Please see TOWN CENTER, A4



Janine Exline, co-owner of One Salon at the Novi Town Center, works with a client on Monday. The salon opened in September, and the owners are excited about the vision of the area.

## 2009: Year in review

Highlights from January-June of 2009 appeared in last week's Novi News.

### JULY

#### Auto show staying in Detroit

The North American International Auto Show could have been making its way to Novi had the Detroit City Council decided to vote against a \$288-million expansion of the Cobo Center in July.

However, council refused to do so, thus keeping the popular show in Detroit.

The Rock Financial Showplace was rumored to be an option if the proposal fell through, and Blair Bowman, president of Rock Financial Showplace, said they would have been prepared to take it on.

### AUGUST

#### Fuerst Park opens to the public

Despite controversy from a historical group, the new and improved Fuerst Park opened with noticeable improvements.

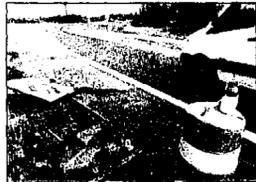
The old Township Hall remains, surrounded by a 150-seat amphitheater, lush landscaping, pathways for walkers and room for expansion. The park cost \$674,331.51 to complete and is located at the corner of 10 Mile and Taft roads.

City administration calls the park and investment in the community.

### SEPTEMBER

#### District chooses not to air Obama's speech live

The Novi Community Schools



The eastbound entrance ramp from northbound Novi Road to I/96 is finally open again after a multi-month reconstruction process. Novi Road's southbound ramp to I/96 has re-opened as well.

District, like many others throughout the state, decided not to show a speech to students from President Barack Obama because of late notice and a busy first day of school.

The speech touched on the ideas of working hard in school and staying focused on goals. The district said they planned on showing the speech after reviewing it, and teachers incorporated it into their classroom studies.

#### Motorsports Hall of Fame leaving Novi

After 16 years under the water tower at the Novi Expo Center, the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America and Museum was forced to find a new home.

Kevin Adell, owner of the Expo Center, said he had to shut off the utilities and cancel the insurance because of cost issues.

The Hall of Fame inducted its 21st class last year and recently was offered a display area inside the Detroit Science Center.

Please see 2009, A4

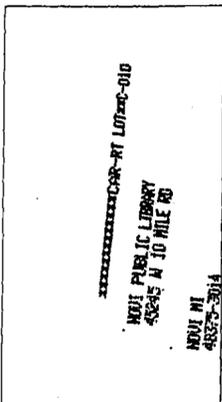


PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Matthew Whyte, 7, empties a bucket of water into the lagoon he's creating while at beach on Walled Lake at Novi's Lakeshore Park on Aug. 17. The beach, on the southern shore of Walled Lake, at Lakeshore is open seven days a week in summer from noon to 5 p.m. and is free for Novi residents.

### Contact Us

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## Chamber board pictures successful 2010

Focus remains on promoting businesses during tough times

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Chamber of Commerce yesterday installed a new executive board of directors, and chairman Satish Jasti is excited about the future of the organization.

Jasti, who was elected to his position by the board, is the president and CEO of Lotus Bank and a two-year chamber member. He said the executive board features a good mix of people that have run their own businesses and can provide advice that will be an asset to all the members.

"The chamber is here to promote Novi businesses," Jasti



said. "We are still one of the few growing communities in southeast Michigan, and we intend to make sure our members have opportunities to not only network with each other but learn about topics that will be helpful to them running their own companies."

Joining Jasti on the executive board are treasurer Greg Carn and officers Ara Topouzian, Jeff Wilk and Peter Dion.

Linda Daly, director of the chamber, said 2009 was

Please see CHAMBER, A3

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NOVI COMMUNITY BRIEFS

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 these house concerts.

On Saturday Jan. 16, Comfy 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.comfycouchconcerts.com for more information.

Botsford renovating

Botsford Hospital's (28050 Grand River Avenue, Farmington Hills) cafeteria will undergo a renovation of its dining and serving areas beginning Jan. 11. The renovation, which reflects Botsford and Sodexo's (the hospital's food service partner for more than 20 years) efforts to improve food service for Botsford employees, patients, visitors, physicians and volunteers, should be concluded in mid-March. To facilitate this

project, Botsford Hospital's cafeteria will temporarily be moved to the physician dining room near the cafeteria. Cafeteria services hours will remain the same and will have no impact on patients receiving their meals.

'Spelling Bee' performed

After performing Les Miserables-School Edition to sold out audiences this fall, Walled Lake Western High School announced another musical, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, to be performed Feb. 4-6 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for these performances will only be sold at the door. Ticket prices range from \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors.

The one-act musical centers around a fictional spelling bee set in the geographically ambiguous Putnam Valley Middle School. During the show, six quirky adolescents, in the throes of puberty, compete in the bee to win the championship of a lifetime. The contest is run by three equally-quirky grown-ups who barely managed to escape childhood themselves. Together they learn that winning isn't everything, and that losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. The show's Tony Award winning creative team has created the unlikelyst of hit musicals about the unlikelyst of heroes: a quirky yet charming cast of outsiders for whom a spelling bee is the one place where they can stand out and fit in at the same time.

Video gaming at Fox Run focuses on 'community' rather than 'competition'

In Novi, Fox Run residents and their families have taken on another video game - Super Mario Bros Wii - for the exercise, sense of community and fun it inspires.

Last month, thousands of residents, their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren on all Erickson campuses were introduced to the new video game at Super Mario Bros. Wii holiday celebrations and played cooperatively and competitively to collect coins, dodge enemies and rally to rescue the princess.

"More than 50 people attended the event at Fox Run, and it was great to see the residents begin to relax and gain confidence in their own ability to control the maneuvers on the video screens," said Alice Hixson, wellness coordinator for the full-service retirement community. "Six children of staff were on hand, too, and were instrumental and quite helpful in teaming up one-on-one with residents to help them get comfortable with operating the controllers of various games including the new Super Mario Bros. and Wii Sport Resort."

For several years now, more and more Erickson residents have been embracing video games as regular campus activities, and now there are intra-campus bowling leagues and inter-campus competitions. So it's no surprise that during the holiday celebrations, residents also checked out the other video game options.

Resident Shirley Handley tried her hand at Wii golf and Wii canoeing for the first time, noting she and her husband had a lot of fun playing golf and felt the controller replicated drives, chips and putts very well.

"I had a good swing and kept the ball straight on the fairway," said the long-time golfer. "The nice thing about this kind of golf is you don't have all the usual hazards on a golf course, such as getting caught in the rain, mosquitoes, sunburn and lost balls. You also don't have to change your shoes, pay green fees or pull a cart. I can see us playing this game a lot. The canoeing went pretty well, too, even though I missed winning the race by a hair. At least I didn't tip over."

Hixson recalled one of the most memorable experiences of the event was her son Brock Hixson and Handley helping another resident try out the canoeing video game.

"My son and Shirley demonstrated moving the controller like you would use a paddle and the resident, who is hearing-impaired, caught on right away," Hixson said with a grin. "She was able to main-



There's a whole new way of addressing the ball for Wii golfers like Brock Hixson and Shirley Handley at Fox Run in Novi. Hixson crossed her boat, while Handley's boat crossed the finished line, a huge smile crossed her face. "Wow, that made the whole day so special for me!"

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Publication Number USPS 398920

**Movies at the Marquis**

The Classics are Back on the Marquis Theatre's Big Screen.

The 2010 Movies of the Marquis Series Schedule Includes:

Date	Movie	On-sale Date:
Jan 14	North by Northwest (1959)	Jan 2
Jan 23	My Fair Lady (1964)	Jan 9
Jan 30	The Thomas Crown Affair (1968)	Jan 16
Feb 6	The Philadelphia Story (1940)	Jan 23
Feb 13	Roman Holiday (1953)	Jan 30
Feb 20	Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939)	Feb 6
Feb 27	That Touch of Mink (1962)	Feb 13
March 6	Charade (1963)	Feb 20
March 13	Paris When It Sizzles (1964)	Feb 27
March 20	Vertigo (1958)	March 6
March 27	Easter Parade (1948)	March 13

Tickets (\$15/16) are available for purchase exclusively at ticket-sponsor locations. The Movies of the Marquis series is open to all ages 12 years and older. The historic Marquis Theatre is located in downtown Northville at 135 E. Main Street. For more information and updates on the 2010 Movies of the Marquis series, visit www.downtownnorthville.com or call 248-349-0345.

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Employment: Metro Office Environments



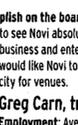
Anderson

**Erin Cicero**  
Employment: Servpro of Novi, marketing manager



Cicero

**Greg Carn, treasurer**  
Employment: Averill Accounting & Tax Service, part owner



Carn

**Tim Herrington**  
Employment: Kelford Collision & Towing, owner



Herrington

**Rachel Hindelang**  
Employment: Financial Advisor, registered representative



Hindelang

**Satish Jasti, chairman**  
Employment: Lotus Bank



Jasti

**Jim Mikula**  
Employment: The Baronette, general manager



Mikula

**Mary Jane Scott**  
Employment: Rock Financial



Scott

**Ara Topouzian, vice chairman**  
Employment: Novi Economic Development, director



Topouzian

**Jeff Wilk, chair elect**  
Employment: Carrabba's Italian Grill, proprietor



Wilk

**Boni Trush**  
Employment: Final Destinations



Trush

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Chamber experience: executive director, Novi Chamber of Commerce, 15 yrs  
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**What do you hope to accomplish on the board?** Participate actively to increase membership, provide effective learning opportunities and improve business climate in Novi.

**Mary Jane Scott**  
Employment: Rock Financial  
Showplace, director of sales  
Chamber experience: One year on Greater Novi Chamber Board; one year on Novi Chamber of Commerce Board.  
**What do you hope to accomplish on the board?** Work with Novi businesses to bring more business to the Novi area in the form of tourism, expositions and conventions.

**Ara Topouzian, vice chairman**  
Employment: Novi Economic Development, director  
Chamber experience: Ten years running the Farmington Hills Chamber.  
**What do you hope to accomplish on the board?** To continue to help increase membership. To help with great events which benefit the Novi community and generate revenue for the chamber.

**Jeff Wilk, chair elect**  
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**Boni Trush**  
Employment: Final Destinations  
Chamber experience: Ambassador chair, active member, Events Committee member.  
**What do you hope to accomplish on the board?** To bring my strategic planning experience and enthusiasm for Novi and the business community to the board and chamber.

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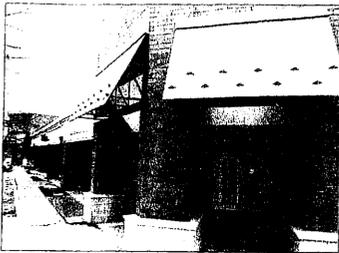
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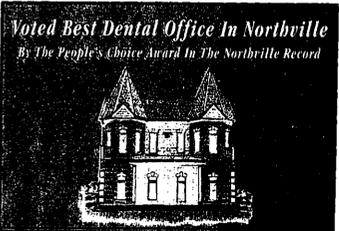
Facade upgrades are just a few of the changes being made at the Novus Town Center to make it more attractive to retailers and customers.

**TOWN CENTER**  
FROM PAGE A1

Discussions continue to take place about bringing more public events to the center such as a car show, farmer's market, outdoor movies and more.

reoson to come and rediscover the Novus Town Center," Russo said. "I think there is more support in place now for businesses than any time in the past, support not only by the management but with advertising and marketing dollars as well."

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



Dr. Jeffrey & Stephanie Jaghab & Family

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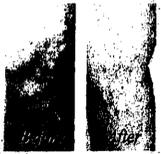
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**2009**  
FROM PAGE A1

President Ron Watson said without the new location they would have likely had to move out of state. However, after 2010 the future of the Hall of Fame is still uncertain.

**Providence Park celebrates first year**

In year number one, Providence Park Hospital exceeded all expectations.

The hospital had more than 7,000 admissions, did more than 8,500 surgeries, delivered 1,400 babies and had more than 37,000 people visit the emergency department. It also added 120 beds and hired 300 more staff members and 300 more physicians.

The 500,000-square-foot hospital, which cost \$229 million to construct, is just one part of Novus Providence Park campus.

The hospital also welcomed a new president, Jean Meyer.

**OCTOBER**

**Food program struggling, community comes to rescue**

The co-chairs of the Novi Community Food Program had never seen their shelves this bare in the 12 years they have been running the program.

The number of people and families using the program was up and the amount of food coming in wasn't keeping up with the demand. There was even some concern that the program might have to stop.

But when community members heard about the need they stepped to the plate, bringing in enough products to keep the program flourishing and



Peg Outley joins other Fox Run residents in the weekly quilting group. The quilters make blankets for those staying in Fox Run's Renaissance Gardens long-term care facility.

help it get through the holiday seasons.

**Philippine child comes to Novi for facial surgeries**

Athena Miguel acted like a normal 2-year-old.

Her face, however, did not make her look like one. Athena was born with several facial deformities including cleft lip and cleft palate, but thanks to Novi resident Van Ong and a group of doctors from Providence Park Hospital, Athena had successful facial surgery that changed her life.

The family was supposed to return to the Philippines following the surgery and Ong also was in the process of finding them a home to live in as well.

Gawel said leaving the district and the students he formed a strong bond with was hard, but felt he could bring a lot to Berkley High School.

Novi High School Principal John Lawrence and district Superintendent Peter Dion had high praise for the long-time administrator.

**DECEMBER**

**District privatizes custodial services**

Recent state funding cuts put the Novi Community Schools District Board of Education in a tough position - laying off employees or finding other ways to repair a hemorrhaging budget.

The district has said they want to keep the cuts from affecting the classroom, and are still looking at ways to survive despite the lack of funding.

**NOVEMBER**

**Landry retains mayor seat, Fischer joins council**

Novi Mayor David Landry was elected to a third term to Novi's top seat, besting candidate Laura Lorenzo by a sizeable margin.

Incumbents Terry Margolis and Andrew Match successfully retained their seats, and Justin Fischer came up with his first election win in his second try.

The four join Bob Gatt, David Staudt and Kathy Crawford on the Novi City Council.

**High school assistant principal leaves for Berkley**

After years as an assistant principal at Novi High School, Randy Gawel took a step to the top spot at Berkley High School.

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- Compiled by staff writer Nathan Mueller

**Legislative leaders embrace collaboration**

BY PAT MURPHY  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Shortly after each was elected to his respective leadership position in 2006, House Speaker Andy Dillon and Senate Majority Leader Michael Bishop met quietly in an out-of-the-way setting for what was the first in a series of meetings.

They were by no means private sessions. Other people knowledgeable about the legislative process occasionally attended.

But the Democrat from Redford Township and the Republican from Rochester wanted to establish rapport and discuss their new responsibilities in settings free of distractions and interruptions. Those informal meetings continued over the next three years in Lansing, metro Detroit or elsewhere in the state, helping the leaders develop a working relationship.

In many ways, that relationship was not unlike those forged by their predecessors. The leaders in the House and the Senate, regardless of party affiliation, are expected to get along.

What makes the relationship between Dillon and Bishop now noting are the times, arguably the worst in recent state history. Unemployment in Michigan is at near record levels, falling revenues have prompted layoffs and furloughs and K-12 education appears to need significant reform - as indicated by the legislature's debate last week on getting Michigan in position to qualify for \$400 million in federal Race to the Top funding.

With the state facing these challenges, the leaders of both houses must get along. Theirs is a relationship of necessity, particularly going into politically charged 2010, when every member of the legislature, the governor and other state officials are up for election.

Both leaders are term-limited. But each is pondering political life after the legislature. Bishop has announced his bid for attorney general,



House Speaker Andy Dillon, D-Redford, left, and Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop, R-Rochester - both lawyers in their 40s - have different political philosophies. But they've managed to work together for almost four years. It's mutually beneficial for them - and the state - that the relationship continue into the 2010 election cycle.

and as recently as last week Dillon said he will announce his decision on running for governor after the first of the year.

Thus, much depends on the relationship between Bishop and Dillon, even if some outside observers think the Lansing leadership - including Gov. Jennifer Granholm - hasn't done a good job.

State leadership has been less than exemplary, according to Doug Rothwell, president and CEO of Business Leaders for Michigan, a private, non-profit organization composed of senior executives from most of Michigan's largest companies and universities and dedicated to making Michigan a "Top Ten" state for job and economic growth.

"All three (Granholm, Bishop and Dillon) are bright people who care about Michigan," Rothwell said last week. "They are competent and capable individuals, he said, but they don't seem to have enough trust and confidence in each other to make the compromises needed to address the state's problems.

Painful decisions are needed, said the former executive director of Worldwide Real Estate for General Motors. But the governor and the two legislative leaders don't seem willing to make politically unpopular compromises - particularly in light of the upcoming election cycle.

That assessment is likely an oversimplification, said Bishop. "People think this job is easy," he said Friday as the legislature was about to wrap up its final session of 2009. "And if I were CEO it might (be). But government (by design) doesn't work like a business. There has to be consensus."

He and the Democratic House Speaker have developed a good working relationship, Bishop insisted.

Bill Ballenger, editor of Inside Michigan Politics, agrees. Bishop and Dillon were both new to the leadership roles in 2006. Ballenger said. Each was new to the job, and each had different philosophies on government, he said.

"They'd never be in lock step," Ballenger said. But they needed to understand each other, he said, "and today they seem to get along as well as any two leaders I've seen."

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said Dillon may be able to work with Bishop better than he can with Granholm, another Democrat. "From what I've seen," said Patterson, it's the governor who stands in the way of meaningful change.

That's not so, said Dillon, who once considered himself to be a Republican although he never ran for office on a GOP ticket. He and the governor must or converse at least three times a week, Dillon said. "We

have some areas of friction," he said. But they are nothing serious, "and we get along well."

There might be a perception we don't get along. But that's wrong.

Any disagreement between him and Bishop is rooted in their philosophies about the role government should play, Dillon said. "We get along socially," he said, "but that doesn't translate into meaningful compromise."

Dillon said government has a basic role in corrections (the prison system), education, Medicaid and revenue sharing (or money the state shares with local government). He thinks government must find a way to provide a core level of funding, the House Speaker said, hopefully without raising taxes - as the legislature did in 2007, when lawmakers increased the flat rate from 3.9 to 4.35 percent.

Bishop says government should be small and unintrusive to families and businesses. He opposed the recent smoking ban signed last week by the governor, for example, because he felt it infringed on individuals and businesses.

As for taxes, Bishop takes some degree of pride in staying no. "If the state can live without something," he said, "it should."

Naturally, perhaps, Bishop and Dillon consider the other to be the bottleneck.

"Bishop is very entrenched," said the speaker. "He never wants to raise revenues."

The Senate Majority Leader considers Dillon to be a pragmatist, a quality he says is vital in government. "But as long as he supports Granholm's plans - solving problems with increased taxes or more regulation - we'll have a problem."

**Novi won't join Race to the Top**

Several unknowns made school board wary

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Community Schools District Board of Education is always looking at ways to bring in more money to the district.

But signing a Memorandum of Understanding to be eligible for federal Race to the Top funding is not one of them.

School districts across the state were asked to get on board with the Race to the Top initiative, which is a \$4.3 billion competitive grant program available to every state, with the hope that Michigan would be selected and the federal monies, estimated at \$400 million, would be distributed to respective districts.

When the board members saw the money that Novi was due to receive - \$27,041 - and the number of unanswered questions that could hurt the district in the long run, they unanimously chose Monday to not get on board.

"We would have been making a commitment to something we didn't know what we were committing to," said board president Ann Glibzinski. "The board's consensus was that we need to look out for the best interest of our kids, and we didn't see this directly benefiting Novi."

The state has to have its Race to the Top proposal submitted by Jan. 19. A lack of signatures from school districts and teachers' unions could hinder the state's chances of being picked.

It's money to help the districts that are failing," said Superintendent Peter Dion. "However, districts that are high achieving, they get less."

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**SHIRLEY ALDRICH**  
October 13, 1925 to December 20, 2009. Funeral was December 23, 2009 at Holy Family Church, 24505 Novi. Memorials to Holy Family Church. Online condolences at www.obrienfuneralhome.com

**JAMES E. ANDERSON, DDS**  
Age 65, passed away December 20, 2009. He was born on Feb. 17, 1944 at Havertown Hospital in South Lyon, MI to Edward and Louise Anderson. He grew up in South Lyon and Northville, MI. He graduated from Northville High School Class of 1962. He attended GMI in Flint and graduated from University of Michigan Engineering School with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1966. For his pre-dental studies, he attended Wayne State University in Detroit and the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Jim graduated from the U. of M. Dental School with a D.D.S. degree in 1975. He moved to Cocoa, FL in 1975 where he had a busy dental practice for 33 years. Jim had a wide range of interests and continued learning and planning for new experiences his whole life. Jim loved all animals, but especially Borer dogs. He enjoyed traveling all over the world and being near water. Survived by his devoted mother, Louise Berdan of Tinsville, FL; sister Patricia Ann (Gary) Cooper of South Lyon, MI; Aunt Anne M. Cooper, Aunt Peg of Winter Haven, FL; step-sister Patricia Eszlette of Tillsonburg, Ontario, Canada; nephews: Steven Cooper of Howell, MI; Paul Cooper of Marietta, GA; several great nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his father Edward V. Anderson in Oct. 1945; his beloved step-father Ivan L. Berdan in Dec. 1989; loving grandparents: Frank and Emma Anderson and Frank and Lydia Harmon. He will be greatly missed by his loving family and friends. A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, December 29, at 10 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association, c/o your local Humane Society. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

**KAYE L. APRIL**  
Of South Lyon, MI. Age 66, passed away on December 28, 2009. Services were held at Chapel Jennings Funeral Home, Lamb Chapel.

**MARY E. BERTERA**  
Age 88, of Northville, passed away Dec. 28, 2009. A funeral service was held at West, Dec. 30, 2009 at Salem Bible Church. She was laid to rest at Thayer Cemetery in Northville. Casterline Funeral Home, Inc.

**DONALD R. COBB**  
Age 61, of South Lyon, passed away December 23, 1948 in 2009. He was born, May 30, 1948 in 1909. He was the son of Curtis and Georgia (Tucker) Cobb. He was a proud veteran, serving in the Air Force during the Vietnam War. Donald is survived by his cherished wife, Karen of 17 years, his loving Mother-in-law, Norma Mucker, his beloved children, Michelle (Jack) Matthews, Jeff Sexton, Tammy (Nathan) Harris, his grandchildren, Alexander, Shawn, Katelyn, Alyssa, Gabi and Jayne. He is also survived by his siblings, Doyle Cobb, Linda Sloat, Regina (Dennis) Guminski and three nieces and one nephew. A private family service will be held in the future. Arrangements entrusted to PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

**ROBERT J. HOLTON**  
December 26, 2009. Age 74. Funeral was Dec. 29, 2009 at Holy Family Church. Donations to Fox Run benevolent Fund, Capuchins or St. John Hospice. Online condolences www.obrienfuneralhome.com

**HAROLD HOTELLING**  
December 29, 2009. Age 64. Funeral was January 4, 2010 at St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Troy. Memorials to Forgotten Harvest, 21800 Greenwood Road, Oak Park, 48237. Condolences www.obrienfuneralhome.com

**ELISIE MAE "DOLLY" CUMMINGS (WILDER)**  
Past away on 12-29-09 at 88 years old due to a heart attack. Born to Grant and Rhoda Wilder in North Dakota on 12-25-21. She was married to Robert J. Cummings, Sr. for 67 years. Dolly was a life long resident of Northville. She graduated from Northville High School in 1940. Her children are: Frank Rodocier (Sue) (Milford), Marcia (Rodocier) Weaver (Wolverine Village), Robert Cummings, Jr. (Northville), and Scott Cummings (Westland). She is also survived by her sister, Jane Wilder of Northville. She had 6 Grandchildren and 19 Great-Grandchildren. She worked for E-Copco for many years as a Final Inspector. She was active and dedicated 12 Oaks Mall Walker for 25 years. At 88 she was still walking 10 miles a week. Until recently she was walking 6 times a week. Many of her walking friends and many are amazed at how youthful and vibrant she was. Her visitation will be at Northville, MI, born on August 1, 1940. A funeral home in Northville from 2 to 8pm. Services are on Monday January 11 at 11:00am followed by a procession to Rural Hill Cemetery, South Lyon. Donations can be made to the American Heart Association.

**NAOMI J. ATCHINSON**  
Our loving Mother, beloved grandmother and dearest friend quietly and peacefully passed away at home in the care of Roger and Shaleen on December 25, 2009. Naomi Atchinson (nee Huston-Mott) of Northville, MI, born on August 1, 1911 in Canton MI, was preceded in death by her "true love" Orson (2001), husband of 67 years & dearest son, Richard (1997). Survived by son Roger (Shaleen), grandchildren Adam (Darrell) Atchinson-Whitaker, Adam Atchinson, Angela Atchinson, Alizabeth Atchinson, Douglas (Pam) Atchinson, Susan (Matt) Lohman, 6 great grandchildren and daughter-in-law Pat Atchinson. Naomi was raised on a farm in Canton, MI and attended the one room school still standing as a historical marker for the city of Canton through the 8th grade. After graduating from Plymouth High School in 1932, she attended and graduated from Ypsilanti Normal College (Eastern Michigan University) in 1932. Orson and Naomi were married during the great depression on January 20, 1934 and in 1942 moved to their home on 63 years on Orchard Drive. During the following years, Orson and Naomi were active in many businesses and social organizations. Naomi enjoyed gardening, golfing, bridge, euchre, plays at the Fisher Theatre, dancing to the sounds of the big bands from the 40's and most of all her family. Naomi is survived by her loving family. Naomi is survived by her husband Orson, 63 years on Orchard Drive had an "open door" policy and was a frequent stopping place for their neighbors and lifelong friends in Northville for impromptu visits for a quick Euchre game or a beverage to discuss current events in Northville. Naomi was recognized for her kindness, loyalty as a friend and a person who never spoke an unkind word about anyone. She was a strong believer in doing unto others as they would do unto you and her life long approach of being kind rewarded her with countless friendships from people of all ages and walks in life. Naomi will be missed by all who knew her, especially her family and her dear friends. Visitation will be held Friday from 2-8 p.m. at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. A Memorial Service will be held Saturday 11am at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main Street, Northville. In lieu of flowers contributions to the First Presbyterian Church or Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154.

**JOHN ANGLE JESSEN**  
Age 60 of Highland, died suddenly January 3, 2010. Very Dear Husband of Deborah Bauer-Jessen, Loving father of Rebekah (John) Zenk & Thomas (Hedra) Bauer. Grandpa of Cole & Alden. Dear brother of Dr. Terry (Debbie) Jessen. Also survived by his closest and dearest friend Ed Lynch, along with an abundance of other friends. John is preceded in death by his parents Richard & Mary Jane Jessen, and his brother Tommy Jessen. John graduated from Wauwassoo East High School, he worked for many years and raised a family. He loved and enjoyed his life. He was preceded in death by his parents Richard & Mary Jane Jessen, and his brother Tommy Jessen. John graduated from Wauwassoo East High School, he worked for many years and raised a family. He loved and enjoyed his life. He was preceded in death by his parents Richard & Mary Jane Jessen, and his brother Tommy Jessen. John graduated from Wauwassoo East High School, he worked for many years and raised a family. He loved and enjoyed his life. He was preceded in death by his parents Richard & Mary Jane Jessen, and his brother Tommy Jessen.

**RUSSELL JOSEPH MILLER**  
December 19, 2009. Age 90. Funeral was Dec. 29, 2009 at Holy Family Church, Novi. Donations may be made to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Visitation on Monday, December 29, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. with final visitation at 10:15 a.m. at the New Hudson United Methodist Church, 12015 Main St., Milford at 248.684.6545 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

**GEORGIA (HELEN) MICHALAK**  
December 21, 2009. Funeral was Dec. 29, 2009 at St. Gerard Church, Farmington. Online condolences www.obrienfuneralhome.com

**JOSEPH MICHAEL RICHMAN**  
Age 21 of Milford, died in a tragic snowmobile accident on January 3, 2010. He is survived by his parents, Michael and Mary Richman, his sisters, Lisa Richman and Kelly (Jeremy) Richman, and his nephews, Caleb and Matthew Mihalak. Also leaves his grandparents, Betty and Lewis Richman, many aunts, uncles, cousins, including his cousin and dear friend, Ben Richman, dear friend Kris Bruce and many other dear friends and co-workers at Scott Dodge. He was preceded in death by grandparents, Ann & Joseph Harkins. A funeral Liturgy will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1555 E. Commerce Rd., Milford, on Thursday, January 7, at 11AM. Burial will follow at Oak Grove Cemetery, Milford. For further information contact Lynch & Sons, Milford at 248-684-6545 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

**ROLAND J. MUIRHEAD**  
Age 85, of Salem Township, passed away January 1, 2010 following an extended illness. Roland was born on December 4, 1924, in West Branch, West Virginia. He was preceded in death by his wife Emma (Goswald) Muirhead. Roland also leaves his grandparents, Betty and Lewis Richman, many aunts, uncles, cousins, including his cousin and dear friend, Ben Richman, dear friend Kris Bruce and many other dear friends and co-workers at Scott Dodge. He was preceded in death by grandparents, Ann & Joseph Harkins. A funeral Liturgy will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1555 E. Commerce Rd., Milford, on Thursday, January 7, at 11AM. Burial will follow at Oak Grove Cemetery, Milford. For further information contact Lynch & Sons, Milford at 248-684-6545 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

**FRANCES "FRAN" SYROKA**  
December 26, 2009. Age 90. Beloved wife of Frank for 70 years. Funeral was January 2, 2010 at St. Regis Catholic Church, Bloomfield Hills. Online sympathy messages at www.obrienfuneralhome.com

**JACQUELINE J. CUVK**  
Age 61, passed away Dec. 26, 2009. A private service will be held at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Arrangements by PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

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online at hometownlife.com

### OUR VIEWS

## In dash for funds, state overlooks real school needs

It's called Race to the Top. But perhaps there's a better name. Belated Stroll to the Top, perhaps. Or, how about Mad, Aimless Dash to the Top?

Whatever. Last month's show in the state Legislature is further proof that you might better watch sausage being made than laws being fashioned.

We are talking about a process that preceded a deal finally reached that will allow the state to grab \$400 million that is being dangled before it by the federal government in the hopes of improving public school education.

In a state that is as financially damaged as Michigan, it's hard to criticize an attempt to get a chunk of our income tax dollars returned to us. Still, it's worth noting that most of the talk of wasteful federal spending disappeared when there was a chance for Michigan to belly up to the trough. In Lansing, the debate was seldom about whether the federal spending made sense. That might have been a debate worth having, since those federal expenditures only add to the federal debt.

Instead, the debate centered more on how to put together a plan that met federal guidelines by the January deadline. In other words, all the talk about local control and keeping the federal government out of our lives went out the window as soon as the promised check was large enough.

The Race to the Top money is only available to states that agree to meet reform standards set by the federal government. Some, perhaps many, of the guidelines make sense. Some educators in Michigan contend the state already has several in place, although perhaps not in the exact format favored by the feds.

But here's the deal. If these guidelines, programs and reforms — ranging from increasing charter schools to merit pay for teachers and state takeovers of failing schools — are so important, then why weren't they already put in place?

Meaningful education reform likely won't come out of such brinkmanship and last-minute sessions. But at least there will be a shot at getting some big federal money earmarked to Michigan.

Meanwhile, where is that gusto and single-mindedness on educational matters that the state lawmakers continue to duck? The state government has moved at glacier-like speed when it comes to controlling public education benefit costs that will eat up most of all of any new funding that may someday appear.

As it is, these costs continue to escalate even while the state slashes away at school funding. The most glaring example is the teachers' retirement plan, the cost of which is 100 percent controlled by state lawmakers, although it is paid out of local school budgets. Lawmakers from both parties refuse to address this issue.

They have also sat by quietly while the length of a school year steadily declines. At a time when global competition requires an educated populace, we fall further behind other developed nations in the amount of time a student sits in a classroom.

The quality of that time is another matter, one that deserves serious study, which wasn't the case less than two weeks ago when lawmakers threw together their compromise package for the federal government.

When the feds play a fiddle, our lawmakers dance. If only they responded as quickly to the needs of Michigan residents.

### COMMUNITY VOICE

"What is your favorite part of winter?"



"Any and all outdoor activities." Joe Righter, Allen Park (strolling at Novi's Lakeshore Park)



"My favorite part is building a snowman." Hannah Righter, age 5, Allen Park



"Snowboarding." Nicholas Condin, 5, Novi



"Sledding, because you go fast." Kathryn Condin, 13, Novi

## Stop the whining and fix the hole now

Mitch Albom, Detroit Free Press columnist and best-selling author, knows how to go about fixing a hole in a roof. How come the governor and Legislature can't figure it out?

In a recent story (Free Press, Nov. 22, 2009), Albom writes passionately about the need to provide the warmth and support to feed people down on their luck and in much need. He writes about the generosity of people from around the country and world that helped patch a hole in the roof of the Trumbull Avenue Presbyterian Church. This building was a place that provided shelter for people who are homeless and far too often forgotten. The building provided the shelter, the people provided the care.



Tom Watkins

One could say Albom's story was symbolically about stopping the rot that has become synonymous with the decay of Detroit and Michigan. Clearly, it was much more than just a feel-good story of people coming together to accomplish something bigger than each of them alone — to stop the rot in a church roof. It was a reminder, particularly at this spiritual time of the year, of what is truly important in life — helping our fellow man.

What Albom did was identify a problem and set about mobilizing support to solve it, by making the plight known and identifying the people and resources needed to fix it.

The work that Albom undertook when he set out to solve the problem of neglect and despair was truly doing the "Lord's work" by helping the least among us. He did not blame others for the neglect that allowed the hole to develop, he did not point fingers at those who could have fixed the hole in the past. No, he saw a problem and took action to fix it.

You can call Mitch Albom many things. He is an award-winning columnist, a best-selling author, the sidekick to Kenny on

WJR radio, a sportswriter and a decent human being and good man. Perhaps a word not typically assigned to Mitch Albom is "leader." Yes, in my mind, he is a leader.

Leaders see a problem and believe it can and should be addressed. Yet they do more than identify a problem. They lead others to believe as they do that the problem should and can be solved. A leader is flexible and strong enough to accept that others, too, can have good ideas even if they do not share the same political brand, come from the same faith, share the same skin pigmentation or have great economic means. As a leader, Albom mobilized an army of believers who were able to solve a problem that was left to fester for years. Because of Albom's values, beliefs, faith, leadership and action, one small corner of the world has become a better place. People's lives are better because of him and his army. In my mind and heart, that is leadership.

Margaret Mead, the noted anthropologist, reminds us that "a small group of thoughtful people can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Albom, through the gift of his heart and words, helped rally people to change the world, one hole in the roof at a time. Yet, as I read Albom's new book, *Have a Little Faith*, and his recent column, I wondered why our elected leaders are unable to fix the state budget mess that is the "hole in the roof" of our great state. We have known for years that the hole in the state budget is there and is growing bigger. Yet, rather than fixing the hole, we have ignored, neglected and patched over — hoping the problem would miraculously disappear.

As the budget hole grew bigger, our leaders, rather than finding the right combination of cuts, reforms and taxes, simply gathered more buckets to catch the rain of despair while casting blame on others.

Now, through inaction and neglect, the budget hole has grown and our children and the "least among us" are feeling the pain. Rather than mobilizing the people to fix the hole, our leaders have returned to their partisan corners and are hurling

insults and blame at each other. All the while, the hole gets bigger and the human collateral damage becomes greater.

Our Lansing leaders, unlike Albom, have yet to set about developing a shared vision and common-agenda plan of action. Albom, the Rev. Henry Covington and his congregation at the 1 Am My Brother's Keeper Ministries (which took over the Presbyterian building and turned it into a place of service as well as worship) have offered a powerful lesson to the governor and legislature. It started with a belief that something was wrong and needed to be fixed. It was mixed with the values and beliefs of other people until an army was mobilized that was unstoppable. It not only fixed the original problems, resources were left over to correct other ills.

They have demonstrated the lesson taught by Mother Teresa: "Hands that serve are more sacred than lips that pray." Albom asks, "What if our beliefs were not what divided us, but what pulled us together?"

What indeed. As the year comes to an end and Michigan still suffers from a leaky roof draining our schools and communities from Marquette to Monroe, you have to wonder if Albom and Covington and his congregation are available to consult with the governor and legislature to help fix Michigan's never-ending leaky roof.

Albom and Covington have once again demonstrated that faith, belief, integrity, values and, yes, leadership matter — because a hole in the roof never fixes itself. To help them, you can donate to: Aholetheeroof.com and SAYDetroit.org or contact Mitch Albom malbom@freepress.com.

To fix Michigan's "hole in the roof," call your state representative, senator or Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

Tom Watkins is an education and business consultant in the U.S. and China and served as Michigan's state superintendent of schools from 2001-05 and state mental health director from 1986-90.

### LETTERS

#### Against trade agreements

If we are indeed in a time of change in our state and across our country, we must embrace it. One area of necessary change involves our foreign relations and trade agreements.

Our workers, here in Michigan and across the United States, cannot stand for new trade agreements that fail to enforce laws associated with worker's rights. Under the Bush Administration, bilateral trade agreements were put in place with little regard to our worker's rights and quality of life. It seems we are in danger of continuing down that path.

Recently, Doug McCarron, president of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, sent a letter to President Barack Obama that urged against the proposed Panama Free Trade Agreement. McCarron stated that such an agreement would represent a significant step back rather than an important move toward changing the "misguided trade policies of the last several decades."

As executive secretary-treasurer of the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights, I agree wholeheartedly with those sentiments and believe that this trade agreement, and others like it, do not

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Submit letters via the following formats.

Web: [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

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

Fax: (248) 437-3386.

E-mail: [cstone@gannett.com](mailto:cstone@gannett.com).

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com).

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

adequately support labor rights. Instead, these agreements serve to insulate and protect nations — like Panama — while they do little to stop multinational corporations from participating in tax fraud and money laundering schemes.

According to the AFL-CIO, between 1993 and 2004, the United States lost 1 million jobs because of the North American Free Trade Agreement. We are in a dire situation when it comes to job loss and unemployment. Here in Michigan our workers are suffering with an unemployment rate of 15.1 percent. It is time to do all we can to

turn the economy around. We cannot continue to support trade agreements that can do such damage to our economic stability.

Our union is doing its part to help bring jobs back to Michigan, to fight against forms of tax fraud and the companies who participate in it. We strongly believe that our workers, are among the most highly-skilled in the nation. With an ongoing emphasis on training and job safety, we support our workers and stand together to fight for a better quality of life for all in Michigan.

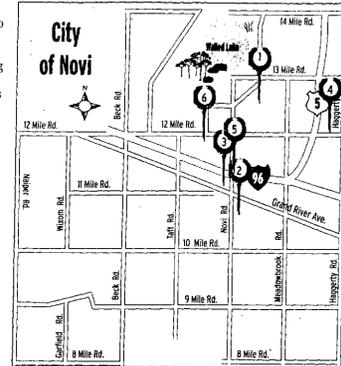
Trade agreements threaten our ability to protect the workforce. They make for an uneven playing field in the workforce. I am confident that when faced with level, fair competition, our workers can outperform anyone. Let us, as a nation, work toward creating jobs, not eliminating them.

Obama earned his place in the White House by running on a platform of change. This is one area we'd like to see that change begin to take shape, and quickly.

Mike Jackson executive secretary-treasurer Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights

# PUBLIC SAFETY

### NOVI POLICE BRIEFS



#### Cash stolen from SUV

1 Over \$1,200 cash was taken from a GMC Yukon between the hours of 9 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. on Dec. 22 while it was parked at a residence on Sandstone Drive.

According to the report, the owner had a stack of credit cards, store customer cards, business cards and cash rubber banded in an open storage area under the radio in the console area. He said he thought he locked his car the night before, but there was no damage to the vehicle indicating forced entry.

The suspect only took the cash. Footprints were located in the area, leading to and from the vehicle, but police have no suspects at this time.

#### Purse snatched from trunk of car

2 A woman had her purse containing her wallet, cell phone and camera stolen from the trunk of her car while it was parked between the hours of 11 p.m. and 2:30 a.m. on Dec. 24 while it was parked in the area of Main Street.

The woman said the car may have been unlocked as there was no forced entry. Also taken from the vehicle were a GPS and coat.

The total value of everything stolen was over \$500.

There are no suspects at this time and the case has been turned over to the detective's bureau.

#### Police stop drunk driver

3 A woman was arrested at 12:53 a.m. on Jan. 4 for drunk driving after being stopped for speeding on Novi Road near Fondra.

The Novi police officer observed the woman traveling southbound on Novi Road at 58 miles per hour in a 40 mph zone prior to the stop. When he approached the vehicle he could smell a strong odor of intoxicants and her eyes were bloodshot.

The woman said she was coming from Library Pub in West Bloomfield and admitted to having two or three drinks. She failed field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .195 percent. The legal limit for drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

She was arrested and taken to the Novi Police Department and the case has been turned over to the prosecutor's office pending blood results.

#### Purse goes missing from restaurant

4 A woman who left her purse at Ruby Tuesdays on Twelve Mile Road on Dec. 31 never received it after being

hook in the office and told the woman she would have to talk to another manager about the situation.

Inside the purse there was a Coach wallet containing several credit cards, driver's license, vehicle registration and cash. There has been no activity on the cards.

#### Drunk driver caught on fast food run

5 A 25-year-old Clinton Township woman was arrested for drunk driving at 1:24 a.m. on Jan. 1 after running a red light on southbound Novi Road near I-96.

The officer could smell a strong odor of intoxicants when he approached the vehicle and the woman told him she was going to Taco Bell for food. She admitted to drinking vodka and cranberry and believed it did not affect her ability to drive.

She failed field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .12 percent. The legal limit for drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

She was taken to the Novi Police Department where she was issued a citation for operating while intoxicated and released when sober.

#### Man has phone stolen from coat

6 A Dearborn man had his phone stolen between the hours of 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. on Dec. 27 while he was at an establishment on Twelve Mile Road.

According to the report, the man said he was not sure of a specific place where the phone was stolen but said it could have been while he was in the bathroom or while his jacket was stored away in the coat check area. He realized his phone was missing when he got to his vehicle and was heading home.

The man and his friends tried calling the phone several times, one time getting someone to answer but they only heard loud music playing in the background, and the other times the calls were ignored.

The phone is valued at \$350. - Compiled by Staff writer Nathan Mueller

## Novi/Northville

### MEDICAL SERVICE directory



#### Optometry

**TOWN & COUNTRY EYECARE**  
Focusing on Your Family's Total Eye Health  
High-tech eye care • Intraocular surgery • Specialty contact lenses  
248-347-7800  
[www.townandcountryeyecare.com](http://www.townandcountryeyecare.com) • Novi Road at Nine Mile Road

#### Hand and Wrist

**MICHIGAN HAND & WRIST, P.C.**  
• Arthritis of the hand, wrist, elbow and shoulder  
• Carpal tunnel, nerve entrapment  
• Tendinitis • Dupuytren's Disease  
• Fractures and dislocations of the upper extremity  
• Ganglion cysts, hand tumors • Tennis Elbow  
• Frozen shoulder and rotator cuff tears  
• Total joint replacement  
Jean-Paul Guiboux, M.D. 26750 Providence Parkway Suite 220, Novi, MI 48375 Phone (248) 596-0412 Fax (248) 596-0418

#### Chiropractor

**BUCKLE FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC, PLLC**  
41620 SIX MILE  
Between Hogarty & Northville Rd.  
Call for New Patient Specials (248) 349-9933  
Dr. Kyle Buckle

#### Family Practice

**Doctors That Care... Are Closer Than You Think.**  
Robert M. Bryson, M.D.  
40070 Grand River Ave., Suite 100 Novi, Michigan 48375  
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#### Acupuncture

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#### Hearing Aids

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NOVI NEWS

GANNETT

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



The cast includes (l to r) Lesa Doa, Pete Podolski, Mike Shreeman, Jamaal Hines and Sharon Brooks.

## 'Act Your Wage' premiering at Andiamo Novi Theatre

The Andiamo Novi Theatre opened its first local production of the 2010 season, "Act Your Wage... The Pink Slip and Fall of an Automotive CEO," on Wednesday. It is scheduled to run through March 14.

The theatre will host a special complimentary performance exclusively for laid-off or currently employed autoworkers on Jan. 13. Call the theatre to reserve tickets; seating is limited and there is a two-ticket/person limit. Tickets can be picked up at will call the night of the performance and attendees must present auto company ID or credentials at time of pick-up.

The original production — written by directed by Raelene Graham along with co-directors Jamaal Hines and Mike Shreeman — follows a hypothetical auto executive named Philip Ritz — a man born with a silver spoon in his mouth — after he gets fired from an automotive company.

Not familiar with the trials of the hard economic times that his state faces, he is taken on an eye-opening adventure by his long-time friend that puts everything in perspective — that life is more than just money. It's about the experience. His journey also takes audiences along to some familiar places like Comerica Park and Costco, and references are also made about the new movie



**DETAILS**  
"Act Your Wage... The Pink Slip and Fall of an Automotive CEO" will run through March 14 with shows on Wednesdays (5:15 and Fridays (5:15) at 7 and 9 p.m.; Saturdays (5:15) at 5 and 9 p.m.; Sundays (5:15) at 5 p.m. Tickets are available at the theater's box office, by phone at (248) 348-4448 (box office) or 1-800-745-3000 (Ticketmaster), or on-line at www.ticketmaster.com. For more information call (248) 348-4448. The Andiamo Novi Theatre is located at 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi.

industry here in Michigan as well as Detroit's favorite sports team: The Lions.  
The production features an all-local cast, including Sharon Brooks — Detroit, Lesa Doa — Brighton, Jamaal Hines — Farmington Hills, Pete Podolski — Grosse Pointe and Mike Shreeman — Detroit. The musical director is the stage Edwartowski and the stage manager is Ed Cosgriff.

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

### LOCAL EVENTS

**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 garden lecture on "In Full Bloom: Flowers & Plants in Art." Guest will be Linda Weil of the Detroit Institute of Arts. The public is welcome.  
**Contact:** [gardenersnorthville-novi.org](mailto: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 veterans, please join these monthly meetings; attendance is needed to maintain and grow the Post.  
**Contact:** Commander Dennis Strikulis (248) 378-7841 or [dstrikulis@tmr.com](mailto:dstrikulis@tmr.com) or Service Officer Paul Erickson (248) 344-7193 or [preick@aol.com](mailto:preick@aol.com).

**Novi Toastmasters Club**  
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., every first and third Tuesday

**Location:** Novi Civic Center, Activities Room, 45175 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375  
**Details:** Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club which is part of Toastmasters International. Our diverse group provides a mutually supportive atmosphere in which all can develop and refine their public speaking and leadership skills. Our members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome — and bring a friend! Visit [www.novi.freehost.us](http://www.novi.freehost.us).  
**Contact:** Paulette Alico, V.P. of Public Relations at [greenpace@mlr.com](mailto:greenpace@mlr.com) or (248) 756-0907.

**Novi Rotary Club**  
Time/Date: Noon every Thursday

**Location:** Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road  
**Details:** Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check Web site for speaker information, novirota.org.

**NIGHTLIFE**  
**Andiamo Novi / Dirty Martini Lounge / Andiamo Theater**  
Location: 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi  
Contact: (248) 348-3838

**Andiamo Lounge:** local entertainers 8 p.m. Wednesdays; Old Vegas Night 6:30 p.m. and Dave Croon 8:30 p.m.

**Novi Chamber of Commerce**  
The Novi Chamber of Commerce

### ADULT KEYBOARD CLASS

Begin the New Year by making music part of your life.  
**It's Easy It's Fun!**  
**COMPLETE 8 WEEK GROUP COURSE WITH 2 PRIVATE LESSONS**  
**\$29.95** \$50 Value!  
**ENROLL TODAY AND YOUR MUSIC BOOK IS FREE!**

**EVOLA MUSIC**  
Bloomfield Hills: 2184 Telegraph Road, 248-334-0566  
Canton: 7170 Haggerty, 734-455-4677

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**Crystal Creek Assisted Living**  
24 Hour Professional Staffing  
-Private/Semi-Private/Barrier Free  
-3 Home Cooked Meals A Day  
-Daily Housekeeping & Laundry  
-Wander Secured/Enclosed Courtyard  
-Planned Activities  
-Beauty & Barber Shop  
-On Call Nurse Practitioner  
-Medication Management  
-Incontinence Management

**CANTON (734) 453-3203**  
Located at 8121 Lilley between Joy & Warren Roads

### CALENDAR

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12 and Jan. 19.  
**Details:** One-on-one tutoring with either a librarian or computer tech on a topic of your choice. Investigating your family tree? Microsoft Word have you stumped? We have the tools to help. Registration required.  
**Welcome Back 2010 Euchre Tournament**  
Time/Date: 3-5:15 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7.

**Details:** Welcome back to classes and the library. Sign up to enter our welcome back euchre tournament. Prizes will be awarded to the top winners. Grades 7-12 welcome. Registration required.

**Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross**  
Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 427-1175 or [churchoftheholycross.com](http://churchoftheholycross.com)

**Sunday Worship:** 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m., 10 a.m. Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. Worship Service

**ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP**  
Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of each month

**Faith Community Presbyterian**  
Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit [faithcommunity-novi.org](http://faithcommunity-novi.org)

**First Baptist Church of Northville**  
Location: 217 N. Wing  
Contact: (248) 349-1020

**Sunday School:** 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. **Sunday Worship:** 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays

**Men's Bible Study:** 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month  
**Christmas Eve Service:** 6 p.m.

**First Baptist Church of Novi-Family Integrated Church**  
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-3647 or [firstbaptist-churchofnovi.org](http://firstbaptist-churchofnovi.org)

**Family Bible Hour:** 9:45 a.m. **Family Worship:** 11 a.m. **Family Movie Night:** 5:30 p.m. fourth Sunday of every month.

**First Presbyterian Church of Northville**  
Location: 200 E. Main St.  
Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit [firstpres-novi.org](http://firstpres-novi.org)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
Time: 9:30, 11 a.m. **WALKING IN THE PARK**  
Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. every Saturday

**Location:** Meet at the Visitor's Center of Heritage Park (Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads)  
**Details:** Group meets for lunch afterwards. Contact: Sue (734) 459-0016

**Sunday Schedule:** 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's Church, Youth Worship Service

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

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

**English Conversation Group**  
Time/Date: 12 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, and Wednesday, Jan. 20.  
**Details:** Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation and conversation skills. No need to register.

**Friends Monthly Board Meeting**  
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13.  
**Details:** The Friends Board meets the second Wednesday of the month to discuss business, programming, etc.

**Mother Daughter Book Discussion**  
Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13.

**Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast Thursday Schedule:** 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do Women of the Word

**Time/Date:** 9:25-11:15 a.m. **Details:** The W.O.W. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study welcomes you to their study of the Book of Exodus. There is a \$15 registration fee, which includes interdenominational study materials. Childcare will be available in the morning for children through age 5.

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**First Baptist Church of Novi-Family Integrated Church**  
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-3647 or [firstbaptist-churchofnovi.org](http://firstbaptist-churchofnovi.org)

**Family Bible Hour:** 9:45 a.m. **Family Worship:** 11 a.m. **Family Movie Night:** 5:30 p.m. fourth Sunday of every month.

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**Submit:** Send calendar submissions via e-mail to [cstone@gannett.com](mailto:cstone@gannett.com); by fax to (248) 685-2892; or by mail to Church Events/ Northville-Nowi, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

**Church of the Holy Family**  
Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road  
Contact: (248) 349-8847 or visit [hollyfamily-novi.org](http://hollyfamily-novi.org)

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

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

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Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13.

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**Time/Date:** 9:25-11:15 a.m. **Details:** The W.O.W. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study welcomes you to their study of the Book of Exodus. There is a \$15 registration fee, which includes interdenominational study materials. Childcare will be available in the morning for children through age 5.

**Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross**  
Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 427-1175 or [churchoftheholycross.com](http://churchoftheholycross.com)

**Sunday Worship:** 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m., 10 a.m. Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. Worship Service

**ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP**  
Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of each month

**Faith Community Presbyterian**  
Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit [faithcommunity-novi.org](http://faithcommunity-novi.org)

**First Baptist Church of Northville**  
Location: 217 N. Wing  
Contact: (248) 349-1020

**Sunday School:** 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. **Sunday Worship:** 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays

**Men's Bible Study:** 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month  
**Christmas Eve Service:** 6 p.m.

**First Baptist Church of Novi-Family Integrated Church**  
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-3647 or [firstbaptist-churchofnovi.org](http://firstbaptist-churchofnovi.org)

**Family Bible Hour:** 9:45 a.m. **Family Worship:** 11 a.m. **Family Movie Night:** 5:30 p.m. fourth Sunday of every month.

**First Presbyterian Church of Northville**  
Location: 200 E. Main St.  
Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit [firstpres-novi.org](http://firstpres-novi.org)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
Time: 9:30, 11 a.m. **WALKING IN THE PARK**  
Time/Date: 10-11 a.m. every Saturday

**Location:** Meet at the Visitor's Center of Heritage Park (Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads)  
**Details:** Group meets for lunch afterwards. Contact: Sue (734) 459-0016

**Sunday Schedule:** 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's Church, Youth Worship Service

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

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

**English Conversation Group**  
Time/Date: 12 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, and Wednesday, Jan. 20.  
**Details:** Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation and conversation skills. No need to register.

**Friends Monthly Board Meeting**  
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13.  
**Details:** The Friends Board meets the second Wednesday of the month to discuss business, programming, etc.

**Mother Daughter Book Discussion**  
Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13.

**Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast Thursday Schedule:** 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do Women of the Word

**Time/Date:** 9:25-11:15 a.m. **Details:** The W.O.W. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study welcomes you to their study of the Book of Exodus. There is a \$15 registration fee, which includes interdenominational study materials. Childcare will be available in the morning for children through age 5.

**SINGLE PLACE MINISTRIES**  
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. social time; 7:45 p.m. opening; 8-9 p.m. program, every Thursday.  
**Details:** Informative and entertaining programs of interest to singles; \$5 per person. Check Web site for details [singleplace.org](http://singleplace.org)

**First United Methodist of Northville A Stephen Ministry Church**  
Location: 777 W. Eighth Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-1144 or [lumnorthville.org](http://lumnorthville.org)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
Time: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m.

**Coffee hour:** at 10:15 a.m.

**HEALING SERVICE**  
Time/Date: 4 p.m. first Monday of every month

**RADICAL JOY**  
Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. first and third Thursday of every month

**Details:** All women seeking to strengthen their faith and connect with other women are invited to attend, irrespective of church affiliation. Crafters and vendors are needed

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
Location: 4145 Nine Mile Road, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi  
Contact: (248) 349-0565

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**  
Time: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study; 10 a.m. Worship

**Livonia Church of Christ**  
Location: 15431 Merriman Road, Livonia  
Contact: For further information, please contact NSD Douglas K. Wells at (313) 964-6595.

**Meadowbrook Congregational**  
Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight and Nine Mile roads  
Contact: Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7157, visit [mbccc.org](http://mbccc.org) or e-mail to [office@mbccc.org](mailto:office@mbccc.org)

**Sunday Worship:** 10 a.m. **Sermon:** Having a Plan

**Church School:** 10-11 a.m. **Fellowship Hour:** 11 a.m.

**MERRY WIDOWS LUNCHEON**  
Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month

**PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP**  
Time/Date: 6 p.m. Sundays

# Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

## Amistee keeps heating, cooling ducts clean

Tell us about your business, including types of services and/or products you feature.

Amistee is an air duct cleaning company, which settles for nothing less than the absolute best customer service and guaranteed cleanings. We only use the biggest and best vacuum trucks in the industry and stand behind everything that we do. We look to consistently improve our customers' indoor air quality by cleaning roughly 20-30 pounds of dirt and dust out of area homes heating and cooling system.

How did you first decide to open your business?

Mike and I saw the affects of dirty air ducts to family members' health first hand. We saw a very high demand for high quality service and cleanings. We opened up Amistee in January 2005 with all of this in mind.

Why did you choose this area for your business?

With both Mike and I growing up in Livonia, we were very familiar with the I-275 corridor. This corridor can very quickly deliver you to any of the major freeways connecting any service company to all of Metro Detroit. Also, we felt Novi was a great place to find commercial jobs because of all the emerging businesses in the city.

What makes your business unique?

Amistee is truly unique because we do exactly what we say we will do every time. So many times in the service industry homeowners will be



Mike McCowan and Steve Dickinson's business, Amistee Air Duct Cleaning, is located at 44485 Grand River Avenue in Novi.

told many things that do not come true. Our customers know that when they call upon Amistee to perform their air duct cleanings they will receive the very best cleanings, no questions asked. How has it changed since you opened?

Since Amistee's founding, customer service and quality has always been number

one. We first opened the doors with one large vacuum truck and a loan. Now, five years later, we have a fleet of four giant vacuum trucks to perform residential cleanings, a division for commercial air duct cleaning and a sales team.

Do you have a funny tidbit or story about your experience as a small business owner to share

with our readers?

Getting into the air duct cleaning business is not an everyday story. When we first got into the business we did not realize how many interesting things we would find inside of homeowners ductwork. We have found dead squirrels, birds, bats, mice, ground hogs, moles, rats and even frogs. We also

found guns, bullets, money, family heirlooms and a lot of change. Don't forget about the builders' cigarettes and pop bottles.

How has the recent economy affected your business?

Business is truly all about strong relationships. Although Michigan has been going through some tough times, Amistee has been growing

### DETAILS

**Business Name:** Amistee Air Duct Cleaning  
**Address:** 44485 Grand River Ave., Novi  
**Your Names:** Steve Dickinson and Mike McCowan  
**Your Hometown:** Livonia  
**Business Opened When:** Jan. 1, 2005  
**Number of Employees:** 10  
**Hours of Operation:** 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday  
**Your Business Specialty:** We specialize in high quality air duct cleaning centered around the customer.  
**Phone:** (248) 349-8877  
**Web site:** www.Amistee.com

every year since its inception. With many more families growing concerns about indoor air quality, we can help solve some of their problems.

Any advice for business owners?

If you treat your employees and customers as family, that will get you very far in many different aspects. We never take any shortcuts on jobs because you would not take shortcuts in your family's homes.

We would not make any employee do anything that we ourselves would not do. This goes a long way and will gain a certain level of respect within a company.

What's in store for the future of your business?

If we continue to provide a quality air duct cleaning service at affordable pricing, we see a bright future ahead for Amistee.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Barnes & Krueger

Barbara (Grundy) Barnes and Bill Krueger are pleased to announce the joining of their lives in holy matrimony. Bill is pre-deceased by his parents and brother, David. Barbara's mother, Morene Morris, resides in Waurika, Okla., Barbara's hometown. Barbara is pre-deceased by her father, Arthur Grundy.

Barbara was graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in English and then attended Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., for a master's in English. Now a retired administrator with the Midland Public Schools, Barbara has lived in Midland, Mich. for the last 20 years. She came to Midland in 1989 as department chair of language arts at H. H. Dow High School. Since her retirement, Barbara has participated in hospice and 11th Hour activities; she is a member of Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Bill was graduated from Purdue University with a degree in mechanical engineering and then attained a master's in management from Central Michigan University. While working for Ford Motor Co. as a manager, Bill held numerous engineering and business development positions. Bill's last position at Ford was director - China Business Development for climate control systems, located in Shanghai, China. After retirement, Bill was an adjunct professor in Shanghai where he taught various engineering courses. Bill moved to Midland from Northville in Nov. 2009.

Bill's children, Dr. Alissa Bodker and Jon, reside in Michigan. Dr. Bodker, a 1997 Northville graduate is a Pearl Vision optometrist and lives in Superior Township with her husband, Erik. Dr. Bodker received her O.D. from Illinois College of Optometry in 2006. Jon, previously of Vernal, Utah, is preparing for an advanced degree and is a 2002 Northville graduate. He received his undergraduate degree in 2002 from University of Michigan.

Barbara and Bill will wed in a private ceremony at Barbara's home on Feb. 14 in Midland.



#### Kowalski & Fennelly

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Fennelly along with Mr. and Mrs. Mike Kowalski, all of Novi, are pleased to announce the marriage of their children, Tina Susanne Fennelly to Michael Aaron Kowalski.

The couple wed Nov. 7, 2009, at Our Lake of Victory in Northville. An evening reception was held at the Meeting House Grand Ballroom in Plymouth.

The happy couple resides in Farmington.



#### Bies & Wilson

Mark and Terri Bies of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Amanda Bies, to Chad Wilson, son of Bob (and Mary) Wilson and Carol Symons.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of John Glen High School and is employed at Outback Steakhouse in Canton. The groom-elect graduated from Canton High School and is employed at Outback Steakhouse in Novi.

They are planning an Oct. 2 wedding.

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### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Scholarship deadline March 5

Community Financial will be awarding 11 \$1,000 scholarships in April. Applications can only be made online by going to <http://scholarships.egant.org>, creating an account and logging in. Read the guidelines for "Community Financial Margaret Dunning and George Lawton Scholarships." If you qualify, complete just one application; you will be considered for both scholarships.

Deadline to submit four copies of your application is March 5.

Headquartered in Plymouth, membership in Community Financial is open to anyone who lives, works, worships, volunteers or attends school in the Michigan cities, townships or counties of Plymouth, Canton, Northville, Novi, Alpena, Otsego and Montmorency. With more than 43,000 members, Community Financial provides financial services to members at eight branch locations and through a variety of automated and online services. For more information, visit the credit union web site at [www.cfu.org](http://www.cfu.org) or call (734) 453-1200 or (877) 937-2328, toll free.

#### 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 Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford. For location specifics and pre-registration, visit [www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar](http://www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar), or call (248) 858-0783. Business Basics workshops are now offered in the evenings on alternating months.

**Pre-Business Research** - Are you thinking of starting your own business and want to research your business idea? Are you a business owner who wants to understand which research sources to use for your business plan and where to find the information you need? The class is held on Thursday, Jan. 7, from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Presented by The Entrepreneur's Source, Oakland County's Business Center, Market Research 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 a business. The class runs from 9 a.m.-noon on Thursday, Jan. 14. For location and pre-registration, visit our website at [oakgov.com/peds/calendar](http://oakgov.com/peds/calendar), or call (248) 858-0783. The fee is \$30. No refunds.

**Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan** is a workshop for small business owners who are developing a plan to serve as their road map to success. The class is held on Thursday, Jan. 21, from 9 a.m.-noon. For location specifics and pre-registration, visit our website at [oakgov.com/peds/calendar](http://oakgov.com/peds/calendar), or call (248) 858-0783.

The fee is \$40, which includes all materials. No refunds.

**Legal & Financial Basics for Small Business** - This workshop covers many of the key legal and financial issues faced by both new and existing small businesses in Michigan. The program initially focuses on the many management and liability concerns faced by entrepreneurs, as well as today's tax consequences. The program also provides solutions and techniques for business concession and individual investment and retirement planning. Presented by Carter & Affiliates, P.C. Tuesday, Jan. 26, from 9 a.m.-noon. For location specifics and pre-registration, visit our website at [oakgov.com/peds/calendar](http://oakgov.com/peds/calendar), or call (248) 858-0783. This workshop is free, but pre-registration is required.

**Fundamentals of Marketing Your Business** - Marketing is an essential of business success. All products/services must be sold to well-targeted audiences with a wide-ranging marketing mix. Our staff/SCORE counselors can guide you through successful techniques and marketing principles helping you to promote your products and services to the most promising customers - your target audience. Presented by The Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC), Thursday, Jan. 28 from 9 a.m.-noon. For location specifics and pre-registration, visit our website at [oakgov.com/peds/calendar](http://oakgov.com/peds/calendar), or call (248) 858-0783. The fee is \$40 (make check payable to E.M.U.), which includes all materials. No refunds.

#### FUTURE WORKSHOPS

(AM) Morning Class 9 a.m. to 12/12:30 p.m.  
 (PM) Evening Class 6 p.m. to 9/9:30 p.m.

February 2010  
 9 - Pre-Business Research (PM)  
 16 - Start A Business (PM)  
 17 - Team SBA Financing Roundtable  
 23 - Write A Business Plan (PM)  
 24 - WBE Certification Orientation  
 25 - Small Business Loan Workshop  
 The Web site address for Oakland County Planning & Economic Development Services Workshops is [www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar](http://www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar).

#### Planet Fitness expanding

A new Planet Fitness club, scheduled to open in Novi in February, is Chris and Ellen Klebba's third in the metro area. They have owned and operated the Northville location since 1995 and Planet Fitness Waterford since 2008, with a fourth location also scheduled to open in 2010. Chris has over 25 years experience in the health club industry and is a fitness expert, regular columnist and speaker.

"We searched a broad area for our third location and we are proud to bring this unique fitness option to Novi where people can relax and be themselves while achieving the results they desire. We even offer pizza night and coffee and bagel mornings monthly for a chance for members to interact."

For more information, call (248) 688-1100 or check [www.planetfitness.com](http://www.planetfitness.com).

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<b>ROYAL OAK</b> Royal Oak (888) 743-9174	<b>TWELVE OAKS</b> Novi (888) 870-1512	<b>UNIVERSITY</b> Rochester Hills (888) 630-1839	



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January 7,  
2010

SECTION **B**  
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**LOCAL SPORTS**

online at hometownlife.com

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**Team wrestles individual victories out of tough meet**

Oxford dominates opposition as dual meet host

BY CHRIS JACKETT  
CORRESPONDENT

Novi's grapplers had a tough task when facing a highly-ranked Oxford team as the other Wildcats hosted a six-team dual meet Dec. 30. The Wildcats of Novi would get a chance to warm up with tough matches against Durand, Inlay City and Marysville before facing the host team, last season's Division II state runners-up.

Going neck-in-neck with the Durand Railroaders, Novi got wins from junior Beau Bielski (135 pounds), freshman John Shanka Paul (112 pounds), junior Ben Farley (215/285 pounds) and senior captain Martin Bunney (152 pounds). Durand eventually came out ahead, as the final few matches went the Railroaders' way for a 45-27 win.

The Wildcats hung tough against a strong Durand squad throughout all of the matches, but lost several key matches down the stretch that sealed their fate," assistant coach Dan Jilg said.

Novi got off to a quick start in the second match when they faced off with Inlay City. Senior captain Alex Engbretson (160 pounds), senior Adam Paul (171 pounds), sophomore Jake Dobras (189 pounds), Farley (215) and sophomore Jimi Keller (285) got wins to give the Wildcats a 28-0 lead, but the Spartans came back to win 33-31.

The wrestlers responded well, winning nine of 14 matches against Marysville for a 46-18 win. Park (103), Shanka Paul (112), Bielski (135), junior Derek Becker (140 pounds), senior Adam Troher (152 pounds), Engbretson (160), Adam Paul (171), Dobras (189) and Farley (215/285) posted victories for the Wildcats

ON TAP

With the team finding some individual success, the Wildcats hope to make it a team-wide victory when they compete in Saturday's South Lyon Invitational and then take to the mats 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at South Lyon East for a quad meet against the Cougars, Livonia Stevenson and Plymouth Salem.

before they came up against the toughest competition of the day from Oxford.

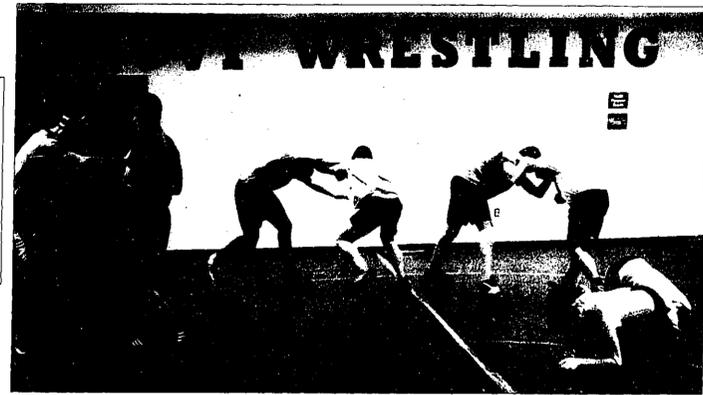
After a successful weekend at the Oakland County meet, Oxford continued their winning ways by winning the six-team dual meet they hosted. Novi was the weaker of the two Wildcats, falling 60-6 to Oxford.

The match started with Oxford winning the first 12 weight classes until Engbretson was able to outgun (A.J.) Logan at 160 pounds. With the match tied at the end of regulation, Engbretson was able to score a takedown to win the match in overtime," Jilg said. "Adam Paul then followed that with a win at 171."

Novi bounced back against Walled Lake Central in their final match of the day. Novi took 12 of the 16 matches with impressive wins coming from sophomore Matt Aoun (130 pounds) and senior Ashwin Reddy (145 pounds) as the Wildcats defeated the Vikings 59-24 to finish the day in fourth place with a 2-3 meet record.

Farley (215/285), Engbretson (160) and Adam Paul (171) each went 4-1 on the day as Farley and Engbretson scored two pinfalls apiece.

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



Novi varsity wrestlers practice on a Monday night.



Wildcat wrestlers Derick Becker works with teammate Ashwin Reddy during a Monday night training session.



Assistant coach and Novi High alumnus Dan Jilg demonstrates a wrestling move to the Wildcat varsity team during a Monday night practice.



Wildcat wrestling teammates Glenn Maclear, left, and Martin Bunney practice against each other on a Monday night in January.



**The Russians are coming!**

A team of 12-year-old Russian players will play the Novi Ice Cats 1998 birthdate team coached by Wade Stevenson at the Novi Ice Arena on Friday at 7 p.m. Based in St. Petersburg, Russia, the Lokomotiv squad is currently traveling the United States playing youth teams from across the country. Lokomotiv games on the tour have featured the Russian national anthem, gift exchanges and joint team dinner parties. "We're excited about welcoming the Russian team to Novi," said Kris Barnes, Novi Ice Arena general manager. "We look forward to a great night of hockey and international friendship."

**Year in Review: Fall 2009**  
Boys soccer, tennis, XC, girls swim teams all finish top 10 in state

BY CHRIS JACKETT  
CORRESPONDENT

The Novi News last week highlighted the 2009 winter and spring prep sports seasons. This week we review the fall season.

**Boys Soccer**

The Wildcats 12-6-5 record may not show it, but this team grinded out key wins late in the season and advanced to the state quarterfinals before losing to eventual state-champion Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice 1-0 Oct. 30.

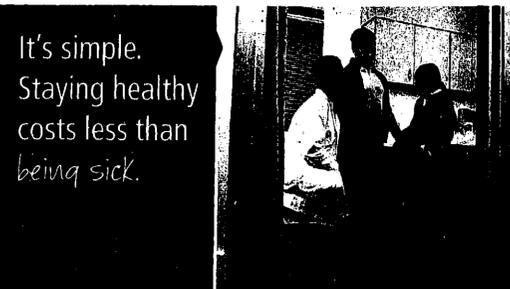
Riding the superb goalkeeping of All-State netminder Tommy Duquette (0.55 goals against average, 11 shutouts in 20 games), Novi finished third in the KLA Central Division behind a 3-2-5 record, but defeated a heavily favored Detroit Catholic Central team

1-0 in the Oct. 19 district opener before defeating West Bloomfield 3-1 Oct. 23 for the district title. The team edged out Troy Athens 0-0 (4-3 in a shootout) Oct. 27 before running into Brother Rice.

**Volleyball**

With an impressive 43-9 record, Novi demolished the Central Division 10-0 before falling in the Kensington Conference final to Livonia Churchill. The team made a solid run while hosting the district tournament, defeating Canton 20-25, 25-17, 25-18, 25-21 Nov. 6 for their fourth-consecutive district title before losing a close 25-23, 20-25, 26-24, 25-23 regional semifinal to Lakeland Nov. 10.

Please see REVIEW, B2



It's simple. Staying healthy costs less than being sick.

- Follow these 3 simple rules:
- Get an annual check up. It's a smart thing to do for your future health.
  - Establish a "relationship" with your doctor. The most effective physicians are those who know you and your family history.
  - See your doctor any time you have a health concern or unexplained symptoms.

To find a Providence Park primary care doctor call 866-501-DOCS. We'll give you information to help you decide such as certification, education, location, hours, insurances accepted and more. Call before noon for a same day appointment.

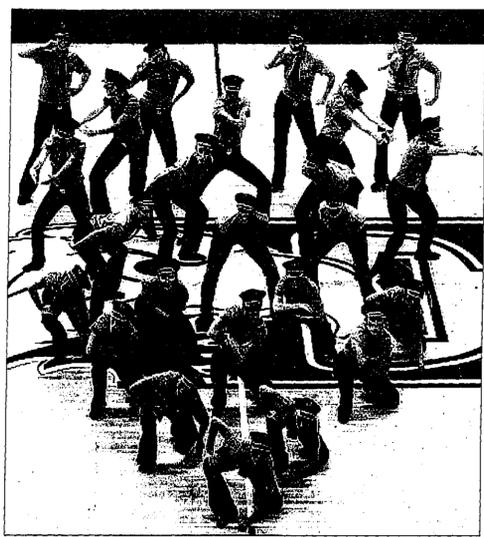


**PROVIDENCE PARK HOSPITAL**

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Pom pon police

The Novi varsity pom pon team placed fourth overall in their highly competitive division with a Novi Varsity Police Department routine at the annual Michigan High School competition at Eastern Michigan University Nov. 8. Novi varsity pom head coach is Kristy Higgs with assistant coach April Brousseau. Members of the Novi Varsity Pom Squad are captains Macaire Schaff and Nicole Lang, Gi Hong, Alexa Boron, Taylor Boron, Nicole Rigdon, Kimberly Powers, Kelsie Anterson, Brooke McKnight, Emily Scriba, Paige Juzsuk, Katie Grochel, Ashley Wojtylo, Julie Conilla, Mackenzie Kelley, Jessica Dipolza, Mikaela Falsetti, Juliana Parks, Marisa Giampa, Jillian Kaminski, Ashley Miller, Meghan Sticker, Alex DeLaCruz, Christy Lyon and Morgan Shepard.

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NOVI HIGH SCHOOL

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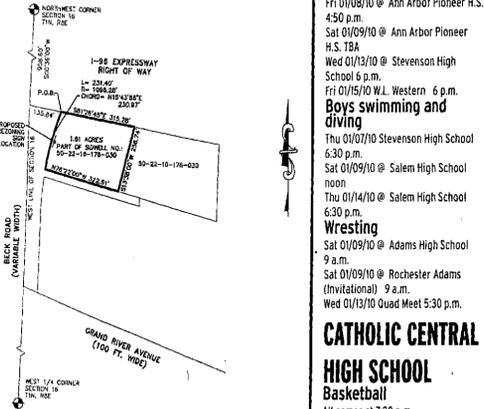
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NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

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LEGAL DESCRIPTION: 1.81 ACRES PARCEL COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 14, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST CITY OF NOVI, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THENCE S89°00'00" W 888.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTAINING 1.81 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, BEING A PART OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 14, AND BEING SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18-692. All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, January 27, 2010. Novi Planning Commission David Greco, Secretary. Publish: January 7, 2010

NOVI SPORTS WRAP UP

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Swimming

Ten-year-old Novi resident Camden Murphy broke the Michigan state record in the 50-yard freestyle Dec. 12 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center in the boys 10 and under category. His time of 26.16 seconds broke the record of 26.21 seconds set in 1991. Murphy already holds the state records for the 100-meter butterfly (1:10.53), 50-meter butterfly (30.66 seconds) and 50-meter freestyle (29.73 seconds). The records were set in 2009 in the boys 10 and under category.

Cheer

Congratulations to coach Kathleen Ader and her husband Mark on the birth of the newest member of Novi Nation, their son Austin, the morning of Jan. 4.

Ice Hockey

The Wildcats ice hockey team was too much for Livonia Franklin Dec. 30 at Eddie Edger Ice Arena as the visitors cruised to an 8-0 victory.

Junior Taylor Howell led all scorers with a hat trick, while junior Zach Mohr added two goals and Juniors Nolan Valleau, Matt Stemboski and senior Alex Cova added one goal apiece.

Senior Ryan McCullough set up half those goals, tallying four assists as Novi improved to 10-1 overall and 5-0-1 in the KLAAs Kensington Conference.

Novi outshot the Patriots 45-12 as sophomore Spencer Peterson earned the shutout in goal and improved to 2-0-0 on the season.

Anthony Crediolo was in net for Franklin (0-8-0) before a third-period injury took him out of the game.

The Wildcats now prepare for a trip to the Upper Peninsula, where they'll face out of Calumet and Hancock on Friday and Saturday evenings. Following the trip, the team will be off until they host Livonia Churchill 6:30 p.m. Jan. 20 at Novi Ice Arena.

Novi's boys and girls bowling teams haven't gotten off to a very strong start, but improvements have been evident as the team pushes through the first two weeks of the season last month.

The season started off Dec. 8



Camden Murphy

Novi resident Camden Murphy broke the Michigan state record in the 50-yard freestyle last month with a time of 26.16 seconds in the boys 10 and under category.

with both genders losing 28-2 decisions against Brighton at Century Bowl in Waterford. Senior Brittany Affholder had the team-high score of 155 for the girls squad, while senior Ben VanZest led the boys with scores of 213 and 202.

Team scoring improved slightly the next day against Grand Blanc at Westland Bowl, but the girls team lost 23.5-6.5 and the boys lost 24-6. Sophomore Callie Wright (145) and Affholder (158) led the girls, while juniors Stephen Cullen (190) and Sean McNiff (192) led the boys.

The team had its best performance at the Dec. 12 Farmington Early Bird Tournament, where scoring is done through baker scoring, which combines several team members' frames for a team score. With a 290 baker game from a spare and nine strikes, the Wildcats seemed poised to do well, but the boys finished ninth of 16 teams, led by VanZest's individual 248 score. The girls finished 13th of 16 teams.

With both teams facing similar obstacles through the first few weeks of the season last month, the Dec. 14 dual meet against Northville at Town N

Country Lanes in Westland was a little different. While the Mustangs punished the girls team with a 29-1 match, the boys fought to a 15-15 tie against Northville. McNiff (203), juniors Brandon Gillespie (186) and Andrew Valade (181) led the Wildcats boys, while Wright led the girls with 189.

"We were able to win the two games on total points," coach John Osborne said of the tie. The teams went into break on the heels of a pair of 25-5 losses against Westland John Glenn at Super Bowl in Canton. Wright led the girls with 154 and VanZest led the boys with 189.

The girls are now 0-5-0 and the boys are 0-4-1 as both teams hosted last season's state runners-up Wayne Memorial Jan. 5 and then Livonia Clarendonville Jan. 6, both at Novi Bowl. The teams continue Monday against Plymouth 4 p.m. at Super Bowl in Canton.

"Hopefully we can get competitive along the line here," Osborne said.

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

REVIEW

FROM PAGE B1

Football

Muddled by injuries to quarterbacks Brandon Rydzewski, Jimmy Gurney and Tim Hartland that kept all three out most of the season, Novi struggled to a 3-6 overall record while finishing third in the Central Division behind a 3-2 record.

Missing the playoffs for the first time since 2006, Novi's season ended Oct. 23 at Piquette in a muddy 22-3 loss to the 2-7 Pirates of the KLAAs West.

As the second head coach in the program's history, Tib Kellepourey resigned at the team's end-of-season banquet after 10 seasons, eight trips to the playoffs and a 72-34 total record. South Lyon East head coach Todd Penneyuff was named Kellepourey's successor Dec. 16.

Boys swimming and diving

Novi's boys and girls swimming and diving teams haven't gotten off to a very strong start, but improvements have been evident as the team pushes through the first two weeks of the season last month.

The season started off Dec. 8

Wrestling

Novi's boys and girls wrestling teams haven't gotten off to a very strong start, but improvements have been evident as the team pushes through the first two weeks of the season last month.

The season started off Dec. 8

Girls Cross Country

The girls harriers went 4-1 in dual meets to finish second in the Central Division, but took fourth in the Kensington Conference before the team was eliminated at Regionals Oct. 31.

The brightest spot for the team at Regionals was that of freshman Jackie Mullins, who finished in second place and qualified for the state meet at an individual with a school-record-setting time of 18:27.9. Mullins went on to earn All-State honors behind a 18:42.2 12th-place finish at States.

The team was led with two-day scores of 186 by Megan Henry, 206 by Stephanie Hrit and 209 by Brooke Collins.

Field Hockey

In just the second season of existence, Novi's field hockey team won the Division IV title behind a 6-0-2 division and 8-5-2 overall record.

The team's season came to an end Oct. 24 with an opening match loss in the state tournament to Division I University Liggett School. In a match between the top Division IV team and fifth Division I team, the Wildcats lost just 1-0 to finish the season and prepare for next fall in Division III, a division they defeated several times from this past season.

Although the team loses a large portion of its defense going into the program's third season, the junior varsity team has developed several players ready to step up to the challenge.

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

Division and Kensington Conference, the Wildcats were led by Mike Blaszczyk, who ran a season-best 15-5 at the regional meet Oct. 30, where the team came in third.

Novi took 10th in the state Nov. 7 with Joe Schubring running a 16:23 race and Dan Egner 16:54 on a windy morning. Geoffrey Giese, Alex Minghine, Brett Giampa and Chase Conrad were also members of the team who raced at States.

Although not affiliated with the school district, Blaszczyk, Egner, Minghine, Giese and Conrad teamed up to form the AAU National Cross Country Championship in the 17-18 year-old division Dec. 6 on Orlando under the squad name Team Ivon (Novi spelled backwards).

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Girls Tennis

Novi's tennis team dominated opponents with strong doubles play en route to earning fifth place at the Oct. 17 state meet behind 16 points, tying with Grand Blanc and Troy.

The team won the Central Division title, but was beaten by Northville for the Kensington Conference title and Detroit Catholic Central for the regional title. The team went 10-1 in dual meets.

Novi's top four doubles teams combined for a 100-19 record as all four won conference titles. The one doubles team of Nathan Farooq and Greg Richard led the way, advancing to the state semifinals, as did Kyle McGuire and Jason Caries at two doubles.

Boys Cross Country

Winning both the Central

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Novi's Nick Meadors (35) goes in for a layup against Emerson.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Seventh grade white team wins two

The Novi Middle School seventh grade white team won two games in the Novi Middle School Dec. 7, resulting in a 30-24 victory for Novi. Northville's had Novi at halftime with an eight-point lead, but Novi responded in the second half.

Rohit Magalayapelli led the team with 12 points, followed by Joey Haddad, Ian Hanley and Nick Meadors with four points each; Ryan Kobakof, Connor Howell and Ryan Moore with one rebound each. Both Ryan Kobakof and Rohit Magalayapelli kept Novi in the game with five steals each; Joey Haddad, four; Nick Meadors, two; and JuJuan Cooper, one. Nick Meadors led in blocks, followed by John Potter, Jared Engebretson and Rohit Magalayapelli.

On Dec. 14, the two undefeated teams in the league, Novi seventh grade white and Frost Middle School faced off. Nick Meadors grabbed a rebound, handed the ball off to Andy Wilchynski who made the basket, putting Novi up 24-22 in the last five seconds of the game. The game was tight until the end. Rohit Magalayapelli and Ryan Kobakof continue to lead the team in points, followed by Joey Haddad and Ian Hanley. Novi and Frost both kept the game interesting. Novi came on strong in the second half with steals by Rohit Magalayapelli, Ryan Kobakof, Ian Hanley, Ryan Moore, Ian Hanley and Nick Meadors. Defensively, Nick Meadors continues to lead in rebounds and blocks followed by Andy Wilchynski, Connor Howell, Ryan Moore, Joey Haddad, Tomoki Ota and Rohit Magalayapelli.

Novi hosted Emerson Middle School on Dec. 16

and won, 27-22. Novi and Emerson were tied 13-13 at halftime. Novi came alive during the second half. Rohit Magalayapelli led the team with eight points, followed by Ryan Moore, five; Ian Hanley and Nick Meadors, four each; and Connor Howell, Matt Kelly, and Joey Haddad, two points apiece. Rohit Magalayapelli led the team this week in rebounds with seven, followed by Nick Meadors, six; Tomoki Ota, four; Ian Hanley, three; Joey Haddad, Andy Wilchynski, and Ryan Kobakof, two; and Matt Kelly and Michael Thomas, one each. Novi's defensive strategy made a difference. Rohit Magalayapelli had eight steals, followed by Nick Meadors, five; Ian Hanley, four; Ryan Moore and Ryan Kobakof, two; and Matt Kelly and Tomoki Ota, one apiece. Nick Meadors led in blocks with six followed by Tomoki Ota, two; and Ian Hanley, JuJuan Cooper, Rohit Magalayapelli and Joey Haddad, one apiece.

Baseball training program

Franklin Road Christian High School will host a six-week spring training 2010 baseball program for players in grades first through 12th from Feb. 7 to March 21. Franklin Road Christian Head Coach Mike Harris will direct the program in conjunction with the U.S. Baseball Academy. Sessions are offered in advanced hitting, pitching and catching at a cost as low as \$99 for six weeks. Space is limited. Registration is now under way. For more information, visit www.USBaseballAcademy.com, or call toll-free 866-622-4487.

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WEST LINE SEC 14 & NOMINAL C/L NOVI ROAD

TO REZONE TO TC

CRESCENT BLVD

TO REZONE TO TC

NOVI ROAD

TO REZONE TO TC

GRAND RIVER AVE.

TO REZONE TO TC

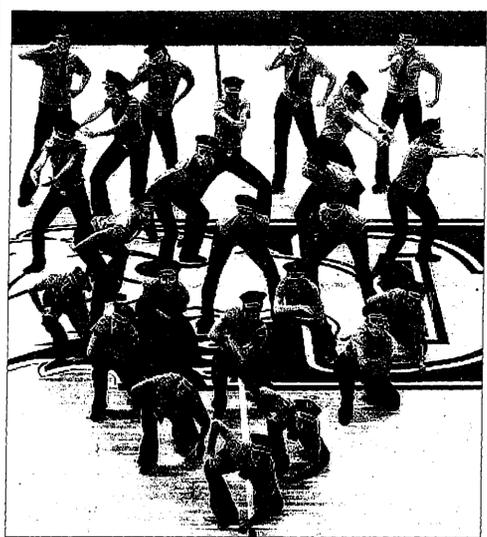
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ORDINANCE NO. 18-692 ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 692 CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN

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Novi Planning Commission David Greco, Secretary

Publish: January 7, 2010



LYNDIA FAVORITE

Pom pon police

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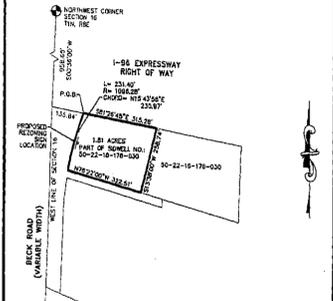
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LEGAL DESCRIPTION: 1.81 ACRE PARCEL COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 16, TOWN N, RANGE 8 EAST, CITY OF NOVI, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN; THENCE S89°00'00" W 868.00 FEET ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 16; THENCE S81°28'45" E 135.84 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING S81°28'45" E 315.28 FEET; THENCE S13°38'00" W 235.74 FEET; THENCE N76°22'00" W 322.51 FEET; THENCE 231.40 FEET ALONG THE ARC OF A 1066.28 FOOT RADIUS CURVE TO THE RIGHT, CHORD BEARING N15°43'58" E 230.97 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTAINING 1.81 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, BEING PART OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 16, AND BEING SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.694. All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, January 27, 2010. Novi Planning Commission, David Greco, Secretary. Publish: January 7, 2010.

CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Basketball: All games at 7:30 p.m. Fri 01/08/2010 @ University of Detroit, Fri 01/15/2010 @ Brother Rice. Hockey: Sat 01/09/2010 @ Trenton 7 p.m. Wrestling: Sat 01/09/2010 @ CC Invitational 9 a.m., Wed 01/13/2010 @ Lake Orion 5:30 p.m.

Logo for HometownLife.com with the text 'WE'RE ONLINE HOMETOWNLIFE.COM'.

NOVI SPORTS WRAP UP

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Swimming

Ten-year-old Novi resident Camden Murphy broke the Michigan state record in the 50-yard freestyle Dec. 12 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center in the boys 10 and under category. His time of 26.16 seconds broke the record of 26.21 seconds set in 1991. Murphy already holds the state records for the 100-meter butterfly (1:10.53), 50-meter butterfly (30.66 seconds) and 50-meter freestyle (29.73 seconds). All records were set in 2009 in the boys 10 and under category.

Cheer

Congratulations to coach Kathleen Ader and her husband Mark on the birth of the newest member of Novi Nation, their son Austin, the morning of Jan. 4.

Ice Hockey

The Wildcat iceers were too much for Livonia Franklin Dec. 30 at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena as the visitors cruised to an 8-0 victory. Junior Taylor Howell led all scorers with a hat trick, while junior Zach Mohr added two goals and juniors Nolan Valleau, Matt Stemboski and senior Alex Covs added one goal apiece. Senior Ryan McCullough set up half those goals, tallying four assists as Novi improved to 10-1-1 overall and 5-0-1 in the KLA A Kensington Conference. Novi outshot the Patriots 45-12 as sophomore Spencer Peterson earned the shutout in goal and improved to 2-0-0 on the season. Anthony Crechilo was in net for Franklin (0-8-0) before a third-period injury took him out of the game. The Wildcats now prepare for a trip to the Upper Peninsula, where they'll play at Calumet and Hancock on Friday and Saturday evenings. Following the trip, the team will be off until they host Livonia Churchill 6:30 p.m. Jan. 20 at Novi Ice Arena.



MURPHY

Novi resident Camden Murphy broke the Michigan state record in the 50-yard freestyle last month with a time of 26.16 seconds in the boys 10 and under category. The team had a decent performance at the Dec. 12 Farmington Early Bird Tournament, where scoring is done through baker scoring, which combines several team members' frames for a team score. With a 290 baker game from a spare and nine strikes, the Wildcats seemed poised to do well, but the boys finished ninth of 16 teams, led by VanZoest's individual 24th score. The girls finished 13th of 16 teams. "Hopefully we can get competitive along the line here," Osbourne said.

Novi's boys and girls bowling teams haven't gotten off to a very strong start, but improvements have been evident as the team pushed through the first two weeks of the season last month. The season started off Dec. 8 with both genders losing 28-2 decisions against Brighton at Century Bowl in Waterford. Senior Brittany Affholter had the team-high score of 155 for the girls squad, while senior Ben VanZoest led the boys with scores of 213 and 202. Teams scoring improved slightly the next day against Grand Blanc at Westland Bowl, but the girls team lost 23.5-6.5 and the boys lost 24-6. Sophomore Callie Wright (145) and Affholter (158) led the girls, while juniors Stephen Cullen (190) and Sean McNiff (182) led the boys. The team had a decent performance at the Dec. 12 Farmington Early Bird Tournament, where scoring is done through baker scoring, which combines several team members' frames for a team score. With a 290 baker game from a spare and nine strikes, the Wildcats seemed poised to do well, but the boys finished ninth of 16 teams, led by VanZoest's individual 24th score. The girls finished 13th of 16 teams. "Hopefully we can get competitive along the line here," Osbourne said.

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REVIEW

Division and Kensington Conference, the Wildcats were led by Mike Blaszczyk, who led the way by setting a school record and winning the 100-yard backstroke state title in 56.12 seconds. Novi took 10th in the state Nov. 7 with Joe Schrubring running a 16:23 race and Dan Egner 16:54 on a windy out with a nail-biting win in the last three seconds, 31-30. Holmes came out strong and held the lead through the first half. The second half Novi and Holmes kept everyone on their feet keeping the points close, no more than a two-point lead at any time. Novi ended up on top in the last three seconds with Andy Wilchynski putting Novi on top with the assist by Nick Meadors.

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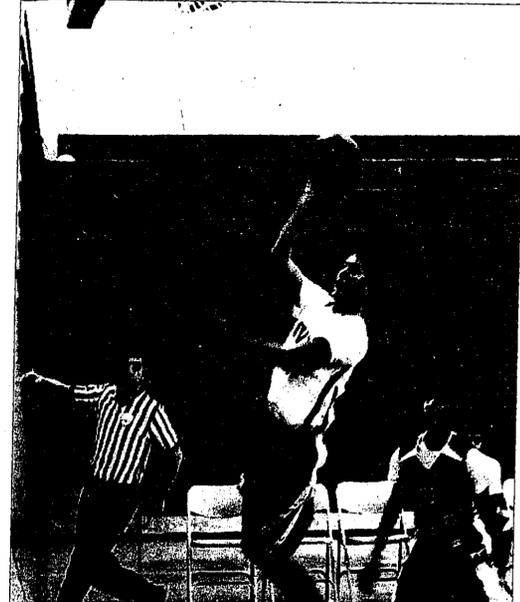
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PHOTOS BY LARRY WILCOFFSKI

Novi's Nick Meadors (35) goes in for a layup against Emerson.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Seventh grade white team wins two

The Novi Middle School seventh grade white team hosted Northville's Meads Mill Middle School Dec. 7, resulting in a 30-24 victory for Novi. Northville's had Novi at halftime with an eight-point lead, but Novi responded in the second half. Rohit Magalayapelli led the team with 12 points, followed by Joey Haddad, Ian Hanley and Nick Meadors with four points each; Ryan Kobakof, John Potter and JuJuan Cooper with two points each. Nick Meadors led the team in rebounds with four, followed by Rohit Magalayapelli, Joey Haddad and Tomoki Ota with two rebounds each; Ryan Kobakof, Connor Howell, Ryan Moore, Ian Hanley, JuJuan Cooper, Jared Engebretson and Andy Wilchynski each had one rebound. Keeping the game exciting was Rohit Magalayapelli with three steals; Ryan Kobakof, Ryan Moore, Ian Hanley and Joey Haddad with two each and Nick Meadors with one steal. Nick Meadors led in blocks, followed by Jared Engebretson and Ryan Kobakof. Novi traveled to Livonia Dec. 9, facing Holmes Middle School with a nail-biting win in the last three seconds, 31-30. Holmes came out strong and held the lead through the first half. The second half Novi and Holmes kept everyone on their feet keeping the points close, no more than a two-point lead at any time. Novi ended up on top in the last three seconds with Andy Wilchynski putting Novi on top with the assist by Nick Meadors.

Baseball training program

Franklin Road Christian High School will host a six-week spring training 2010 baseball program for players in grades 7-12 through 12th from Feb. 7 to March 21. Franklin Road Christian Head Coach Mike Harris will direct the program in conjunction with the U.S. Baseball Academy. Sessions are offered in advanced hitting, pitching and catching at a cost as low as \$99 for six weeks. Space is limited. Registration is now under way. For more information, visit www.USBaseballAcademy.com, or call toll-free 866-622-4487.

REVIEW

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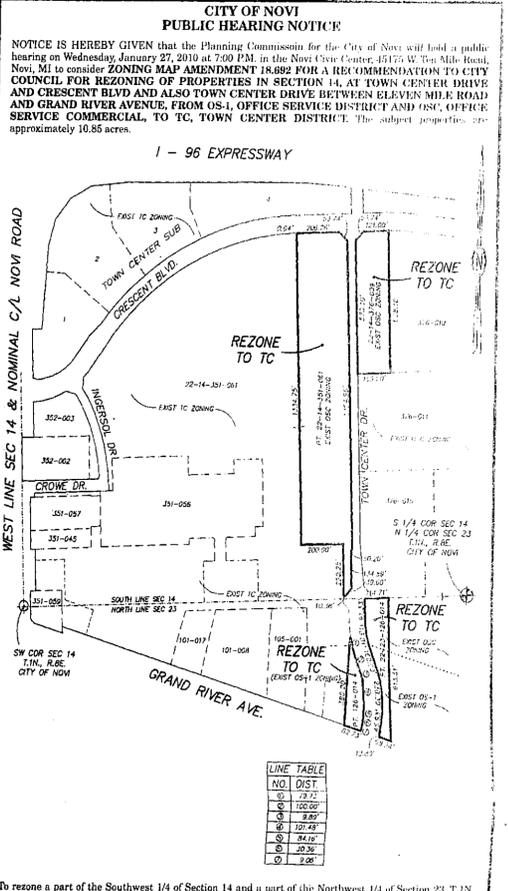
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Part of Parcel 22-14-376-009 Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of Section 14, then S87°28'51" W, 1050.77 feet along the North line of Section 23 to a point on the East line of Town Center Drive, thence N02°40'33" W, 961.09 feet to the point of beginning, thence continuing said East line N02°40'33" W, 570.10 feet; thence N12°12'27" E, 53.74 feet to a point on the Southerly line of Crescent Blvd; thence N87°19'11" E, 121.00 feet; thence S02°40'33" E, 608.10 feet; thence S87°19'27" W, 159.00 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 2.20 acres.

Part of Parcel 22-14-376-001 Commencing at the Southwest corner of Section 14, thence N02°40'33" W, 1320.77 feet along the West line of Section 14 (nominal C/L of Novi Rd.) to a point being the NE corner of "Supervisors Plat No. 4" as recorded in Liber 544 of Plats, Page 83, Oakland County Records; thence N86°49'27" E, 119.55 feet to a point on the Michigan State Highway Department Right-Of-Way (Interstate 396) thence the following seven courses being along said Right-Of-Way line: (1) N03°19'27" E, 227.97 feet and (2) N14°52'02" E, 113.62 feet and (3) N38°03'11" E, 113.62 feet and (4) N61°12'20" E, 113.62 feet and (5) N83°45'51" E, 178.46 feet and (6) N88°46'54" E, 719.62 feet and (7) S89°43'08" E, 86.35 feet to the East line of the West 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 14; thence along said line S02°45'01" E, 214.66 feet to the point of beginning; thence N87°18'30" E, 0.54 feet; thence N87°19'27" E, 206.26 feet, to a point on the West line of Town Center Drive; thence the following six courses being along said West line (1) S47°49'27" E, 63.74 feet and (2) S02°40'33" E, 1304.98 feet and (3) S02°29'01" W, 50.20 feet and (4) S02°14'32" E, 131.59 feet and (5) S42°19'27" W, 39.60 feet and (6) S87°19'27" W, 10.38 feet; thence N02°45'01" W, 220.25 feet; thence S87°28'51" W, 200.00 feet; thence N02°45'01" W, 1334.75 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 7.05 acres.

Part of Parcel 22-23-126-014 Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of Section 23, thence S87°28'51" W, 916.81 feet along the North line of Section 23 to the point of beginning; thence S02°05'09" E, 613.51 feet to a point on the Northerly Right-Of-Way line of Grand River Ave; thence N74°16'34" W, 58.24 feet along said Northerly line to a point on the Easterly Right-Of-Way line of Town Center Drive; thence the following six courses being along said Easterly line (1) N01°10'45" W, 12.80 feet and (2) N10°00'00" E, 45.93 feet and (3) along a curve to the left 238.30 feet, said curve having a radius of 435.50 feet, a central angle of 31°21'06", and a long chord bearing of N05°40'33" W, 235.34 feet and (4) N21°21'06" W, 100.00 feet and (5) along a curve to the right 118.81 feet, said curve having a radius of 364.50 feet, a central angle of 18°49'23", and a long chord bearing of N12°00'50" W, 118.28 feet and (6) N02°40'33" W, 91.33 feet to a point on the north line of Section 23; thence N87°28'51" E, 114.71 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 1.0 acre.

Part of Parcel 22-23-126-014 (Continued) Commencing at the Southwest corner of Section 14, thence N02°40'33" W, 1320.77 feet along the West line of Section 14 (nominal C/L of Novi Rd.) to a point being the NE corner of "Supervisors Plat No. 4" as recorded in Liber 544 of Plats, Page 83, Oakland County Records; thence N86°49'27" E, 119.55 feet to a point on the Michigan State Highway Department Right-Of-Way (Interstate 396) thence the following seven courses being along said Right-Of-Way line: (1) N03°19'27" E, 227.97 feet and (2) N14°52'02" E, 113.62 feet and (3) N38°03'11" E, 113.62 feet and (4) N61°12'20" E, 113.62 feet and (5) N83°45'51" E, 178.46 feet and (6) N88°46'54" E, 719.62 feet and (7) S89°43'08" E, 86.35 feet to the East line of the West 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 14; thence along said line S02°45'01" E, 214.66 feet to the point of beginning; thence N87°18'30" E, 0.54 feet; thence N87°19'27" E, 206.26 feet, to a point on the West line of Town Center Drive; thence the following six courses being along said West line (1) S47°49'27" E, 63.74 feet and (2) S02°40'33" E, 1304.98 feet and (3) S02°29'01" W, 50.20 feet and (4) S02°14'32" E, 131.59 feet and (5) S42°19'27" W, 39.60 feet and (6) S87°19'27" W, 10.38 feet; thence N02°45'01" W, 220.25 feet; thence S87°28'51" W, 200.00 feet; thence N02°45'01" W, 1334.75 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 7.05 acres.

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# REAL ESTATE

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## Consumers Energy, DTE outline winter assistance plans for their customers

With the official start of winter just around the corner, it's important that we begin preparing ourselves and our homes for the colder weather. DTE Energy and Consumers Energy offer a number of programs to help customers with their energy bills. Payment assistance programs offered to customers include: a medical emergencies program to postpone shutoffs in the event of a medical issue; and a shut-off protection plan to spread future bills out over the year, and to include equal monthly payments on an unpaid balance in order to avoid a shut-off.

Some consumers and all senior citizens, regardless of their income, also qualify for DTE Energy's Winter Protection Plan. This program protects these customers from shutoff between Nov. 1 and March 31. During this period, customers must pay a portion of their estimated annual bill plus regular payments on any past-due bills. After March 31, the required bill payments will increase to cover winter bills. For more information on any of these programs, call Consumers Energy at (800) 477-0560, and DTE Energy at (800) 477-4747.

Many assistance programs are available by calling 2-1-1 at United Way. Weatherization help is available for low-income residents. These programs help with caulking, weather stripping, and insulation. Another program that is available is THAW, the Heat and Warmth Fund, which helps people facing a shut-off who have exhausted all federal and state funding programs.



The state offers assistance with energy bills through the State Emergency Relief Program in the Department of Human Services. This program is available to DHS clients and non-DHS clients. For more information, call the Energy Assistance Hotline at (800) 292-5650, or visit your local DHS office. State Department of Social Services for Wayne County is located at 2929 Russell St. in Detroit. You can reach

that office by calling (313) 396-0300. Visit these Web sites to learn more about the help that is available: DTE Energy: <http://www.dteenergy.com/residentialcustomers/billing-payment/paymentPrograms/payAssistance.html>.

United Way of Southeastern Michigan: [www.uwmse.org/](http://www.uwmse.org/). THAW, the Heat and Warmth Fund: <http://www.thawfund.org/> or <http://www.help/index.html>. State Emergency Relief Energy Assistance Programs: <http://www.michigan.gov/heatingassistance/0,16007,7-215-33211-105989--00.html>.

### HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

4990 Forest Edge Dr 1996 Nacoma 5421 Westwood Dr	\$195,000 \$230,000 \$260,000	26363 Madeline Cir 40252 Oakwood Dr 24451 Venice Dr	\$395,000 \$173,000 \$285,000	Troy	\$187,000 \$185,000 \$210,000
37825 Macomb Ave 22952 River Rd	\$243,000 \$83,000	3761 Indian Trl	\$550,000	Orchard Lake	\$148,000
30522 Agnewwood Ln 28212 Belcrest St 2338 Castleridge Dr 39202 Alexander Dr 21790 River Ridge Trl 38850 W 2 Mile Rd 38020 W 2 Mile Rd	\$242,000 \$190,000 \$103,000 \$152,000 \$164,000 \$100,000 \$250,000	510 Lakes Edge Dr 620 Market St 3106 Paradise Pl 19471 Coast Rd 943 Whitersweet Dr	\$300,000 \$190,000 \$125,000 \$274,000 \$29,000	Oxford	\$300,000 \$190,000 \$125,000 \$274,000 \$29,000
2382 Bragant St 177 Four Seasons Dr 2009 Hillcrest Dr 430 Madison Rd	\$118,000 \$125,000 \$162,000 \$132,000	801 Pike St 903 W Third St	\$29,000 \$290,000	West Bloomfield	\$175,000 \$245,000
2714 Edwards Pl 18503 Saratoga Blvd	\$175,000 \$102,000	1090 Canyon Creek Dr 1863 Amity Ln 18242 Marlboro Ave 223 South St	\$630,000 \$122,000 \$120,000 \$100,000	South Lyon	\$290,000 \$370,000 \$370,000 \$100,000
1751 Berfield 653 Sweetbriar	\$114,000 \$85,000	6560 Parkview Blvd 1131 Shalimar Dr 23422 Sky Dunes MN 417 Walnut Dr	\$105,000 \$100,000 \$132,000 \$170,000	Novi	\$303,000 \$213,000 \$402,000 \$128,000
730 Wallins Rd 1655 Bismarck 4731 Cobden Ln 4820 Eagle Springs Ct 8270 Foster Ave 5831 Knapfield Ln 910 Lakewood Dr 6600 Trilium Village Ln	\$370,000 \$158,000 \$173,000 \$490,000 \$590,000 \$186,000 \$195,000 \$81,000	45663 Admington Ln 50971 Alami Ct 47369 Ravine Dr 22555 Cranbrook Dr 40828 Kingsley Ln	\$303,000 \$402,000 \$218,000 \$90,000 \$300,000	Southfield	\$140,000 \$122,000 \$100,000 \$151,000

### HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

951 South Rd 4780 Hastings Rd 1821 Lone Wolf Ln 4874 S Stonewood Rd	\$145,000 \$213,000 \$183,000 \$157,000	14300 Hillcrest St 19515 Merriman Ct 19628 Stanford Dr 48604 Waterfall Rd	\$140,000 \$340,000 \$195,000 \$350,000	Northville	\$305,000 \$300,000 \$300,000 \$300,000
28532 Block St 1757 Caldwell St	\$35,000 \$25,000	736 Kellogg St 576 N Hurvey St	\$54,000 \$83,000	Plymouth	\$180,000 \$180,000
32033 Delaware St	\$102,000	18601 Glimore	\$51,000	Redford	\$51,000

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#### Investors

Learn the procedures for appealing your property tax assessment presented by Harold Hoyt, a principal with Professional Property Tax Appeals Inc. He will cover: the required documents, the Board of Review, local board results and petitioning the Michigan Tax Tribunal. Sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland 5:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14, at MSU Management Education Center, 931 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (607) 747-6742. ([www.REIAofOakland.com](http://www.REIAofOakland.com))

#### Career Seminar

Interested in a career in real estate? Candidates would benefit from previous experience or successes in: service industries, account management, retail sales, small business operations, marketing or event planning. Candidates should have: good people/communication skills, some computer knowledge, a strong work ethic, an optimistic "can do" attitude and a strong desire to

#### achieve results through helping others.

Seminar includes: cost vs. income potential, training, company profit share, commission structures. Questions will be answered. Please call (734) 459-4700 to reserve your free seat 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21, at Keller Williams, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth.

#### BIA

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents Boot Camp Sales Training on six Monday mornings, Jan. 11, 18, 25 and Feb. 1, 8, and 15, from 9-11 a.m. at Association Offices, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Dave Tear, Head Coach of Sales Coaches' Corner, will present suggestions on how to set expectations and stay in control of the sale; how to ask the tough questions and qualify your prospects; how to stop relying on price and start making money; how to top selling on prospects to return on their own and how to get prospects off the fence.

Registration is \$750 per person for all six sessions. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at [www.builders.org](http://www.builders.org).

Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents a Certified Graduate course on Building Codes, Standards and Guidelines on Thursday, Jan. 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Association Offices, 30375 Northwestern Highway, Suite 100, Farmington Hills. Don Pratt, CGR, CGB, of Wake-Pratt Construction,

#### will present how to successfully navigate building codes, standards and guidelines.

The course is based on the International Residential Code (IRC) and the National Association of Home Builders' (NAHB) Residential Construction Performance Guidelines. This course counts toward CGA and GMB designations. Registration is \$155 for members of BIA's NAHB Professional Remodeler, \$175 for BIA members and \$200 for guests. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or online at [www.builders.org](http://www.builders.org).

Michigan (BIA) will present its economic forecast luncheon and meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 3, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Best Western Sterling Inn, 34911 Van Dyke Avenue in Sterling Heights.

Featured guest speaker is David Crowe, chief economist of the National Association of Home Builders in Washington, D.C. He will address the economic issues facing the home building industry during 2010. In conjunction with this event, industry awards will be given to BIA's 2009 President, Darshan S. Grewal of Singh Development LLC and the other award honorees. Registration fees are \$40 for BIA or Apartment Association of Michigan members with advance reservations made by Jan. 22; \$60 for members after Jan. 22, and \$75 for guests. Registration fees include entry to BIA's Builders & Remodelers Trade Show at the same location from 10:00 a.m. to noon. For registration information, call (248) 862-1002 or register online at [www.builders.org](http://www.builders.org).

## Heed standards on board votes

At a recently held condominium board election, the current board president had all ballots affixed with a label identifying the owner. It is a violation of privacy. How a member votes should not be known to anyone other than the voter. An not correct?

As: Although your voting should be kept confidential, condominium association voting procedures are uniquely different from other nonprofit corporations. Sometimes each unit vote is weighted by the "percentage of value" assigned to the unit as set forth in the master deed so the unit number must be identified to properly calculate the votes. Also, the bylaws often require that the ballot must be signed by the designated

voting representative for the unit and the signature on the ballot must match the association's records for the person authorized to cast the vote and to keep track of who submitted each ballot to ensure there is no duplicate voting for a single unit. Also, since delinquent units often are ineligible to vote, the identity of the unit is needed for that purpose. To maintain confidentiality, the association should appoint and swear in two inspectors of the ballots to tabulate the votes and report the tally. You should consult an experienced community association attorney to analyze your specific condominium document requirements to ensure that your bylaws fully protect, however.

Q: I frequently review your column as it relates to property in southwest Florida with particular emphasis on residential sales. As based upon a recent visit to Naples in September-October of 2009, it appears that the bottom has not been reached. Property along the coastlines has depreciated approximately 25 percent with property more inland having depreciated between 40 and 50 percent. A number of developers are experiencing extreme financial duress and are walking away from the properties much like the case in other areas of Florida and around the country. Foreclosures are increasing, and while the rental market appears to be strong, the real estate market is weak. Many contractors who went to Florida to find work have been laid off and the economy, even in the Naples area, is suffering.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$195 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit [meisner@meisner-associates.com](http://meisner@meisner-associates.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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If you are eager to learn & can't wait to get started, we are looking for you. Part time or full time. Your initial interview will be conducted by phone. Call: 734-488-445-1846 or [mark.kow@macva.com](mailto:mark.kow@macva.com)

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Experience preferred but not necessary. 40-50-12hour. Apply in person at: Keys & Company, 1928 N. Dux Lake Road, Highland.

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# DETROIT AUTO SHOW, HOPING TO REBOUND, WILL EMPHASIZE GREEN

Advertising Feature

## CAReport



By Dale Buss

To date, an estimated 40 new car unveilings, and counting, have been committed to the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) at Cobo Center in January. The 2010 NAIAS continues to attract major automakers along with emerging brands from around the world and the highest level of international journalists from major markets.

"You can feel the excitement building for the 2010 NAIAS as we hear from automakers and journalists alike," said Doug Fox, chairman, 2010 NAIAS. "This show will deliver an incredible lineup of world debuts, evidence that individual automakers are headed to Detroit to showcase their product and their direction in the industry."

Among the unveilings planned for the show are:

**Chrysler "Lancia."** In a long-awaited unveiling, Chrysler reportedly was planning to unveil the first Chrysler-badged vehicle planned for the U.S. market by Fiat SpA, the brand's new owners. It was expected to be a version of the Lancia small car.

**Ford Focus for 2011.** A new 2011 Focus is expected to go on sale by late 2010 around the world, and Ford's launch at NAIAS may speak to the unprecedented global nature of the new model, which reportedly will include a

unified, worldwide ad campaign.

**Honda CR-Z Hybrid.** This two-door, sporty hybrid vehicle previously has been seen only in concept form at the Paris and Tokyo auto shows.

**Toyota hybrid concept.** The company will unveil "a new dedicated hybrid concept vehicle" at NAIAS. Details weren't available.

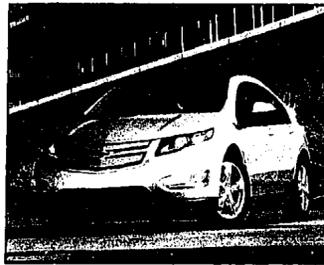
**Cadillac CTS-V Coupe.** This shapely two-door with a V-8 engine will finally be unveiled at NAIAS.

**GMC Acadia Denali.** GMC is extending the Denali line for the first time to its Acadia crossover for the 2011 model.

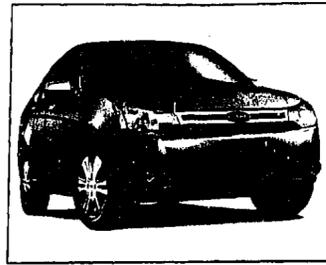
**Volvo all-electric C30.** The company plans to present "a complete battery electric" C30 with a range of 94 miles, the next step after its unveiling of a prototype last September and toward building a test fleet of 50 vehicles.

Of course, debuts of hybrid and all-electric production and concept models figure prominently in the plans. What's more, dozens of new electric and hybrid vehicles, concepts and components will be on display in OEMs' individual areas, in a new venue called Electric Avenue sponsored by Dow Chemical Co., and in the expanded EcoXperience test-drive track housed in Cobo's basement.

An electricity-powered "green" wave first washed through NAIAS a few years



Here's the 2011 Chevrolet Volt. At EcoXperience at NAIAS, show-goers will be able to ride in the plug-in hybrid.



This is the 2010 Ford Focus. To see the 2011 version for the first time, attend NAIAS.

ago and then intensified tremendously at last year's show, when hybrids and all-electric vehicles became thematic. This year, there's an even bigger focus on electric propulsion -- matching the greater stress now placed on green powertrains by the industry, policymakers and consumers.

A big part of getting the American public to buy into the idea of purchasing electric cars to park in their garages is to get them to test battery-powered vehicles so they can directly experience their appeal.

That's why the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and the Detroit Auto Dealers Association have expanded and enhanced their EcoXperience electric-vehicle test-drive track in the basement of Cobo Hall for NAIAS 2010. They expect to more than triple last year's 15,000 visitors at the inauguration of the display.

For MEDC, the state agency charged with accelerating Michigan's economic comeback, EcoXperience fulfills another purpose: exposing Michigan as a growing hub for manufacturing the batteries and associated systems that are going into these vehicles. So at this year's NAIAS, MEDC has added an Alternative Energy Showcase featuring some of these major component suppliers.

"Both of these things help us promote and articulate to all of the national and international media, and to the general population, that we as a state are investing heavily in the electrification of the vehicle," said Lisa Dancsok, senior vice president of marketing and communications for Lansing-based MEDC.

"It's really a unique way to showcase the auto show, electrification and the battery companies that are choosing Michigan."

Dancsok is counting on a few things to multiply interest in EcoXperience this year. For one thing, it'll be the first time that most international journalists and Detroit-area consumers will be able to ride in a Chevrolet Volt, the highly touted "plug-in" hybrid that General Motors soon will produce.

"That's huge," said Fox. "This car was the star of our show four years ago when it was unveiled in concept form, and now four years later it's driving around the track."

The rest of the EcoXperience fleet is a mix of existing, production hybrids and prototype or in-development "green" models such as Volt, the Ford Escape plug-in, the Chevrolet Equinox fuel-cell model, and the Mitsubishi iMiEV plug-in.

# AUTOMOTIVE

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