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THURSDAY
December 16, 2010

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

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NOVI NEWS

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12/16/10



Hugh Crawford



Eileen Kowall

NOVI NOW

Swearing-in ceremony

Several local elected officials will be sworn into office during a ceremony at the Novi Civic Center on Monday.

Wendy Potts, Oakland County Circuit Court judge, will conduct the proceedings for 38th District Michigan State Representative Hugh Crawford; his wife, 9th District Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Crawford; Mike Kowall, 15th District State Senator Mike Kowall; and his wife, 44th District State Representative Eileen Kowall.

"Hugh and I feel that our swearing-in should be in the heart of the city we represent rather than Lansing or Pontiac," said Kathy Crawford, "and we gladly welcome everyone to attend.

A reception will be held at 6 p.m. in the Civic Center atrium followed by the swearing-in at 6:30 in the council chamber.

Exercise at The Manor

The Manor of Novi, one of Ciena Healthcare's 33 nursing and rehabilitation communities in Michigan, is the new host of Ernie Clark's POWERSIT, a free exercise program specifically designed for seniors. The program is open to its residents and seniors in the community.

With the help of Ernie Clark, a former Detroit Lions football player and founder of Life Long Fitness, participants can "sit and get fit" and learn about improving their health and fitness.

The exercise program will take place on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month starting on Dec. 8 at 11 a.m. Reservations are required and can be made by contacting the Activities Department at (248) 477-2000, or novi_admissions@cienafacilities.com.

The Manor of Novi is located at 24500 Meadowbrook Road.

Novi man charged in sister's homicide

BY SANDRA ARMBRUSTER
AND PHILIP ALLMEN
STAFF WRITERS

A Novi man remains in Oakland County Jail on charges he killed his sister last week and dumped her body at Kensington Metropark.

Marc Rosenthal, 59, was arraigned Dec. 11 on a charge of first degree premeditated murder before Magistrate Cynthia Arvant in Southfield's 46th District Court. Southfield Police Lt. Nick Loussia alleged Rosenthal murdered 63-year-old Ilene Moore of Southfield after an argument involving a financial matter between the two.

According to the Oakland County Medical Examiner's office, cause of death was due to "blunt and sharp trauma." No further details were being released by the medical examiner's office.

According to Loussia, Moore had last been heard from on Dec. 3, and she was reported missing by friends and family on Dec. 7. Moore's body was found near

Possum Hollow in the northern section of Kensington Metropark.

Metroparks Police Chief George Phifer said police from Southfield and the Oakland County Sheriff's office contacted his department about 4 p.m. Dec. 9, following a lead on a missing person.

"We began to assist them with searching for the missing person," Phifer said. Moore's body was found within an hour, he added. U.S. Marshals assisted in the search, which was aided by tracking her cell phone.

Rosenthal faces a preliminary examination at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 16 before Judge Susan M. Moiseev in 46th District Court.

While the case is beginning to make its way through the court system, Moore is already being missed, having served as a volunteer for the Michigan Humane Society and for the Detroit Zoo since 2002.

"Ilene had genuine love for animals and the Michigan Humane Society," said Marta Diffen, vice president of development and volunteer services for the MHS. "Those of us who were privileged to know her were touched by her gracious and generous demeanor, her wit and her dedication to animals in need."



Marc Rosenthal



PHILIP ALLMEN

Police found the body of a Southfield woman somewhere in Kensington Metropark Thursday around 5 p.m. Police are still investigating and wouldn't say where in the park it was found. A Novi man, who police said is the woman's brother, is in police custody in what investigators believe is a homicide.

Spreading Christmas cheer



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The kids of Detroit's Neinas Elementary are excited to unwrap presents of shampoo, soap, toothbrushes and small toys during a holiday party organized by the non-profit Bridgepointe on Dec. 9.

Students party, bring gifts to Detroit school

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

One by one the students at Neinas Elementary hopped onto Santa's lap last Thursday to tell him their Christmas wish.

Some asked for specific toys and others for gaming systems, but the gifts they received last Thursday from a group of volunteers and students from Novi and Northville might have been even better than what they wished for.

The 400 students at the Detroit school were treated to a holiday party complete with a holiday sing-along by the Novi Middle School choir, carnival games and prizes run by students at Thornton Creek Elementary in Northville, pizza, ice cream and a bag of presents — ranging from soap, shampoo and toothpaste to toys, blankets and coloring books — that was so heavy many kids had to drag it to their classroom.

"It's like every kid's dream come true, and it makes them believe and makes their families believe," said Dalia Churches, parent coordinator with Neinas. "There is a Santa and he came through all these people."

"There is a Santa and he came through all these people."

DALIA CHURCHES, parent coordinator with Neinas

Please see **NEINAS, A10**

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Walmart Supercenter makes its way through Planning Commission

Traffic issues were not enough to turn project down

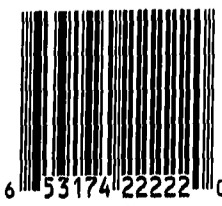
BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Concerns about the negative impact a Walmart Supercenter could have on an already bad traffic situation near the Novi Town Center were not enough to deter the Novi Planning Commission from approving the plans last Wednesday.

The nine-member board approved three motions — for a special land use permit, a preliminary site plan and a stormwater management plan — by 6-to-3 votes with certain stipulations that Walmart must meet and variances they must get from the zoning board of appeals.

Walmart's proposal calls for demolishing the Mervyn's building and adjacent spaces to construct a 149,854-square-foot store on roughly 12.8 acres. The Walmart Supercenter is larger than a regular Walmart because it

Please see **WALMART, A16**



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Bullard appointed to county clerk

BY PHILIP ALLEN
STAFF WRITER

Bill Bullard, a 67-year-old Republican county commissioner from Highland, won re-election on the Nov. 2 election, the same day current county clerk Ruth Johnson won the Secretary of State job.

Bullard will fill the remaining two years on Johnson's term, and voters will select this August who will replace Bullard. Next month, the county Board of Commissioners is expected to name an interim replacement for Bullard. District 2 includes Highland, Springfield, Rose and Holly townships.

Since Johnson won the statewide election, Bullard had been considered a front-runner for the job. "Bill Bullard is well-known and has a good reputation for working with all areas of government," Judge Grant said when announcing the appointment.

Bullard mused the idea of becoming county clerk four years ago when Johnson ran unsuccessfully as Dick DeVos' running mate in the

HIGHLAND PAYS

Highland Township is expected to pay for several elections in 2011 following last week's appointment of Bill Bullard to the Oakland County clerk position. Oakland County's circuit court judges selected Bullard Dec. 7 in private from a pool of 12 applicants. Highland Township Clerk Mary McDonnell said she was not happy

with the judges' decision. "I'm upset about it, because I see it as a waste of taxpayer money," she said. "I'm disappointed someone elected to a position isn't going to fill it." An election will cost about \$15,000 to run. Two elections - primary and general - likely are needed to fill the County Commission seat, costing an estimated \$30,000 total.

Bullard said he will coordinate with Johnson, but he expects she will vacate the clerk's office Jan. 1 around noon, and he will resign as commissioner and get sworn in as clerk shortly after. His first business day on the job will be Jan. 3.

Bullard said he doesn't plan major changes but will continue along Johnson's path. "Ruth is leaving a well-run operation. They're very professional people," she said. Improvements in the office have come with technological advances, he said, so residents can now get more information online instead of visiting the office in Pontiac.

"There will be more, what I call 'innovations,' in service to the people," he said. "I want to give better service at less cost to the citizens." He also plans to spend the first few months in office meeting with each of the county's 61 clerks to discuss elections and other issues. Bullard said he plans to run for the county-wide seat when it's up for grabs in 2012. "I knew I would have to run county-wide to get elected clerk in 2012. That's an awesome challenge," he said. "It's not easy. I've committed myself to doing that."

state House of Representatives in 1982 and served there until 1996, when he won a special election to the state Senate. He was elected to the Board of Commissioners in 2002. He also served as a Highland Township trustee and supervisor.

The promotion means that Bullard will go from making \$33,093 annually as a commissioner to \$138,999 as clerk.

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Chair of the board of commissioners, which is part of why he was selected, he said. "They were confident I would do a good job," said Bullard. Bullard said he is "excited at the opportunity" to be county clerk, and he's already started his transition. He met with department heads Monday, he said, who run the day-to-day operations of the various departments under the clerk, including elections, deeds, legal and microfilming.

He also has three appointments to make. He's already selected his two deputy clerks, and he expects to appoint an administrative assistant in January. One deputy clerk is Chris Ward, a Clarkston resident who previously represented Milford as a state representative. He also worked as Brighton Township's elected clerk. Bullard said Ward was one of Johnson's deputy clerks until about three months ago when he left to work on another political assignment. The other clerk is Larry Doyle, a former manager of Royal Oak and current administrative director for the Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

Bullard will oversee about 112 employees. Bullard was elected to the

state House of Representatives in 1982 and served there until 1996, when he won a special election to the state Senate. He was elected to the Board of Commissioners in 2002. He also served as a Highland Township trustee and supervisor.

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Snow day leap

Josh Watkins of Walled Lake leaps off a snow ramp at Novi's Lakeshore Park on Dec. 13. About six inches of snow fell on the Novi area; that, and the near-zero wind chill temperatures, kept all local schools closed.



Inspirational

Lynette Toma, co-author of "I Can Dance, Too!", held a book signing at the Border's in Novi Dec. 4. Toma, originally from West Bloomfield and currently a speech pathologist in San Diego, wrote the book to inspire children to accomplish anything their hearts and minds desire even if they have physical challenges. "I Can Dance, Too!" is about a little girl, Mia, who wears hearing aids and wants to take a dance class. The other kids in the class do not think she can dance because her ears look funny and she won't be able to hear the music. Mia helps the others to see that with the help of her hearing aids, she can dance just like they do.

SUBMITTED BY LANA HAYNER



Santa's here!

During the annual Novi Rotary senior luncheon Dec. 2, Santa stops by to sing with Novi Middle School students (from left) Sruti Ganesh, Dana Kilponen, Jakiyah Bradley and Kristin Gunkelman. All of the young ladies are seventh-graders.



The Dec. 2 Novi Rotary lunch held at Novi Middle School.

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JEWELERS

Hospital to host pair of anti-bullying programs

Idea is to teach kids how to stand up for themselves

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Kimber Bishop-Yanke calls bullying the "biggest problem kids are facing today." It's bigger than smoking, drinking and drugs, she said, and her goal is to make sure everyone, not just the kids, are prepared to defend against it. As the founder of Girls Empowered, Boys Empowered and Kids Empowered, Bishop-Yanke works with students, par-

ents and school staff to teach them similar skills, give the students ways to handle bullying and provide parents and staff with ways to handle issues that cannot be managed by the kids. "This is information that kids can use their whole lives," she said. "Dealing with meanness is something all kids will face so let's give our kids the tools to do it." Bishop-Yanke has been working with Novi schools in different ways for the last two

years, and in January she will be running a pair of programs for parents and students in the area. The first program called Stop, Think, Go! is for kindergarten and their parents, and using games and crafts, teaches kids how to treat others as well as giving them decision-making skills. "It's a way for them to look at what are friendly behaviors and what are mean behaviors and what do I do when I get in

a sticky situation," she said. The other program is Assertiveness Boot Camp, and that is open to all students in first through sixth grades and their parents. One of the reasons Bishop-Yanke got into running anti-bullying programs was because she heard the main message being taught to kids was to walk away and ignore it, and that is not the solution. "I can't believe we are telling kids it's OK to be mistreated," she said. "Teaching kids how to be assertive is a skill you need to be able to stand up to somebody. The message is you

don't have the right to treat me like that and kids need to know how to send that message in a way that is not mean, not passive and does not engage the person being mean." Deerfield Elementary parent Shelley Traitor was heavily involved in bringing the programs to Novi after taking part in some of the training at her kid's school. She said she talks to a lot of parents who are facing different issues and wants to make a bigger impact. "It's definitely starting younger and growing in intensity," she said.

Another concern she said is the role technology is playing. "You used to be able to go home and get away from the bullying and now you can't," she said. The two programs will take place twice in January at Providence Park Hospital. The first date is Jan. 5 and the second date is Jan. 20. Cost is \$10 to attend, and people can register in advance or get more information by visiting www.girlsempowered.com or www.boysempowered.com. nmuelle@gannett.com (248) 437-2011, Ext. 255

Sen.-elect Kowall excited about bringing business to Michigan


BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Sen.-elect Mike Kowall knows convincing businesses to locate in Michigan is going to be a challenge. He has watched as other Midwest states have whisked businesses away with lavish offers and better business practices while Michigan continues to see its unemployment rate rise and people leave for greener pastures. But as the newly appointed chair of the Economic Development Committee, Kowall is focused on changing that. "We are going to go trolling for businesses," he said. "I'm going to put together a team that is going to do what basi-

cally all the other states have done to us over the last 20 years, and we are going to go out and bring people back to Michigan." Kowall said his accomplishments in White Lake Township, where he is finishing up as supervisor before he takes his seat representing the 15th District in the Senate, speak volumes about his ability. He was able to increase the taxable value in excess of \$85 million and created thousands of jobs in the height of a recession during his tenure. "Look at what we have to offer," he said. "Stop and look at Novi, Wixom, Walled Lake and this entire district." One of the main things that Kowall said he is going to have to attack to have suc-

cess is changing some of the state regulations to make locating in Michigan more enticing. He said having Gov.-elect Rick Snyder at the helm is "going to help matters out" as well. Kowall's district includes Commerce Township, Highland Township, Holly Township, Lyon Township, Milford Township, Northville city (part), Novi Township, Orchard Lake, Rose Township, South Lyon, Walled Lake, West Bloomfield Township, White Lake Township and Wixom. He plans on moving into his office in Lansing the first week in January. nmuelle@gannett.com (248) 437-2011, Ext. 255

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Dion shares plan for filling leadership vacancies

Three principals, two asst. superintendents retiring at end of year

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

There will be a plethora of new faces in leadership positions in the Novi Community School District next year as a result of retirements. The top vacancy is the superintendent spot, which the board of education is in the process of filling. But there also are openings for assistant superintendent for human resources, assistant superintendent for business and operations, two elementary principal positions and the middle school principal. Current Superintendent Pete Dion presented his succession plan to the board of education in mid-November and a revised plan again in early December after some board members were concerned about the hiring process. The main concern was that the new superintendent would not have a big role in hiring their own people. "We get to hire one person in this district truly (the superintendent)," said trustee George Kortlandt at the Nov. 18 board meeting. "Our job is to hold that person accountable for their decisions and the performance of the people under them. How can you hold the incoming superintendent accountable if they didn't hire the person themselves?" Dion said he has internal candidates interested in the

positions being vacated by Deerfield Principal Richard Njus, Orchard Hills Principal Paul LePae and Novi Middle School Principal Milan Obrenovitch. The current plans call for interviewing the internal candidates and confirming assignments if appropriate in February. If not, the positions will be posted externally in March. The board of education would like to have its new superintendent in place by March 7. "After the new superintendent is identified I'm going to have them sit down with me and go over that process," Dion said. "When they are hired they will have input into the new hires." The plans also call for an external posting for the director of maintenance, if needed; internal and external posting for the assistant superintendent for human resources in January, with mid-March appointment; and an external posting for the assistant superintendent for business and operations in February, with an

interview in March and start date of July 1. Dion's argument for acting on the internal candidates is he is concerned that the longer the district waits, the higher the risk of losing them. The consulting firm hired by the district to provide superintendent candidates to the district was expected to interview candidates Wednesday and Thursday, and those candidates will be presented to the board of education at a closed meeting on Jan. 13. nmuelle@gannett.com (248) 437-2011 ext. 255



Tech showcase
Michigan State Representative Hugh Crawford (rear) greets students from Deerfield Elementary School who participated in the 10th annual Michigan Student Technology Showcase held Nov. 10 at the State Capitol Building in Lansing. Students are (l to r) Mackenzie Kwasniewicz, Scott Greenhalgh, Kylie Maxton, Zac Peurach and Ireland Whalen. Sponsored by the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning, the event attracted 35 elementary, middle and high schools to show elected members of the Michigan State Senate and House of Representatives how technology is being used in the classroom to enhance student achievement.

SCHOOL BRIEFS
Donations needed for Senior All Night Party
Organizers for the Novi High School Senior All Night Party are hard at work planning for the 2011 event and are requesting donations from parents, businesses and community members to make this year's event the best one yet. The annual Senior All Night Party, scheduled for June 4 at Novi High School, offers food, activities and prizes, allowing graduating seniors to celebrate in a safe, supervised environment. The SANP Donations Committee is seeking raffle prizes and monetary donations to cover the cost of decorations, entertainment and additional raffle prizes. Organizers encourage those planning to make financial contributions to do so as soon as possible so the committee can plan a budget. Checks may be made payable to NHS Senior All Night Party and should be sent to NHS Senior All Night Party, C/O Dana Nussio, 22041 Shadybrook Drive, Novi, MI 48375. Information may be obtained by contacting Dana Nussio at nussio@earthlink.net or Anne Lewis at alewis13@mm.rtr.com.



Wildcats help ring in holidays
Nearly 150 students from Novi High School have signed up help the Salvation Army with its annual kettle drive. The students work two-hour shifts on the weekends from Thanksgiving to Christmas. They will be at the two entrances to Lord and Taylor as well as at Busch's in Novi. (Pictured from left) Chris Valade, Jon Robinson, Zach Reilly and Jon Hart.

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Rebecca Staudler, MD
Plastic, Cosmetic & Reconstructive Surgeon
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Novi and Troy 248-305-8400

A. Damadi, MD
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Southfield, Novi and Warren 248-557-9650



PHOTOS BY JUDY YAKER

The Siberian tiger is in his element and looks spectacular against the snow.

Wandering through a winter wonderland

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
CORRESPONDENT

It's the most magical time of the year. Winter, that is. The Detroit Zoo, especially after a snowfall, glistens with wonder as polar bears swim in the pool and lie on their bellies in the tundra enjoying the Michigan weather. As always the Arctic Ring of Life is an extraordinary experience as the big white bears and seals glide overhead and around visitors walking through the 70-foot tunnel.

"The animals that thrive here live in different climates and seasons," said the zoo director, Ron Kagan.

"The zoo is all about the natural experience as opposed to cages so we have so many species particularly active and quite entertaining to see in winter." The Siberian tiger is in his element and looks spectacular against the snow in his stripes. Wolverines gallop through their habitat waiting for lunch. These bear-like creatures can be found from North Europe to North

America all the way to Siberia so they're naturally active.

WOLVERINES AT THE ZOO
"Wolverines are not found in most zoos," said Kagan. "They're particularly playful, love playing in snow. You see them bounding around, very energetic. Watching animals like wolverines do snow angels is nothing less than amazing."

Japanese Macaques or snow monkeys climb up and down trees near their hot tub. A keeper arrives with treats and they flock into the steaming water in search of the Craisins providing plenty of antics as they fish for the treats.

For those looking for respite from the cold, the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery's free flight aviary offers the warmth of a tropical jungle as it bustles with sights and sounds. Scarlet ibis perch overhead, iridescent emerald starlings on a branch as keeper Leslie Keys tosses meaty worms on the ground for spurring plovers who snatch up the snacks inches from visitors' feet.

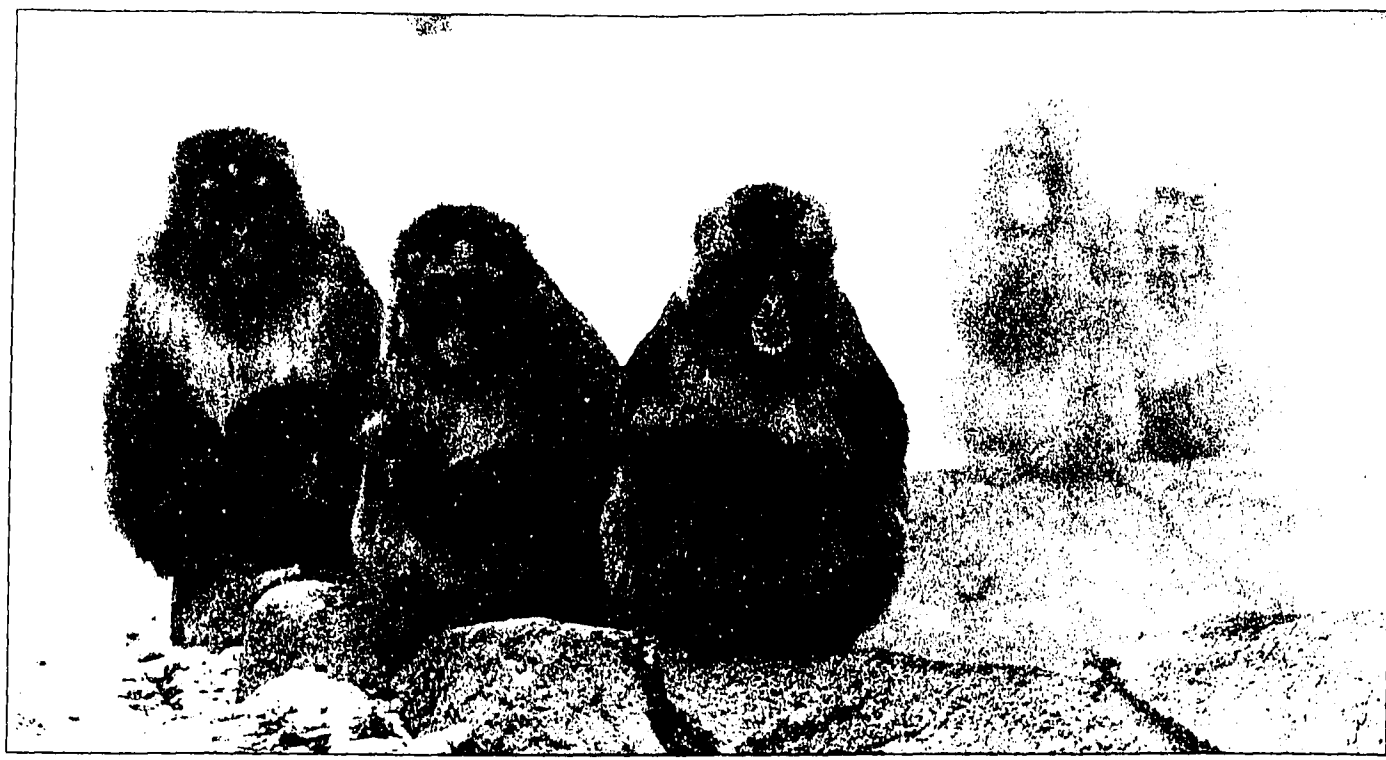


PHOTO BY MARK GASKILL

Whether playing in the snow or relaxing on the edge of their hot tub Japanese macaques or snow monkeys are always entertaining.



A polar bear dives for a ball in the Arctic Ring of Life at the Detroit Zoo.

Inside the giraffe habitat, Kivuli, 2, is curious about visitors. "She's looking to see what kind of treat you're going to give her," said Dennis Maue, a docent who volunteers his knowledge about animals once or twice a week since retiring from the Sterling Heights Police Department.

One of the benefits of visiting the zoo in winter is asking questions and listening to docents talk about the animals. Just look for their red coats.

Did you know snakes, like the

going on." Outside the indoor exhibits it is cold. Visitors could take a few tips from the volunteer docents who use hand warmers to stop their fingers from freezing and insulated boots to warm toes. Be sure to bundle up with scarves, hats and gloves.

Watching the prairie dogs scurry in and out of the holes is well worth it as is the North American elk lying majestically near the white-tipped deer.

Warm up by visiting the barn to see farm animals like pigs, goats, and owls perched high or try the soup, pizza and hot chocolate available at the Arctic Food Court.

Not far away it's feeding time at the penguinarium.

"Winter at the zoo is the best time," said docent Gini Sutherland of Birmingham as she stood alongside docent-in-training Roberta Russ of West Bloomfield. "We are open in winter."

Sutherland is in her 34th year as a docent. She knows a lot about penguins. She mentions the zoo's three species — Rock Hopper, Macaroni, and King made famous by the film, *Happy Feet*.

"The keeper keeps track of how many fish they eat so they know how much each eats. The first fish is filled with vitamins." Outside in the Arctic Ring of Life two white arctic foxes struggle in the cold and falling snow. Further into the exhibit keepers train seals to open their flippers

in case veterinarians and procedures are necessary.

Gina and Jay Chura of Wixom are enjoying all of the activities as they celebrate the first birthday of their son, Jax.

"It's nice," said Jay. "We wanted to come see the polar bears because it's winter," added Gina.

"Talini, 6, is having fun running on the ice pack after a quick dip.

"The Arctic Ring of Life is one of the most popular attractions at the zoo according to Betsie Meister, mammal department supervisor.

"Polar bears are built for cold weather," said Meister. "It could be the coldest day of the year and they're out there swimming and playing. It's enjoyable to take a nice walk here. The otters are very active and you can see the giraffes up close."

"The domestic horses are running around in the snowflakes. Rhinos can go outside on a nice day. All the animals like to get a little bit of fresh air in the winter time, the red pandas, flamingos, vultures," said Meister, adding, "Wear good boots, a warm coat and enjoy it. The zoo is unique in winter. You'll be sorry if you missed it."

The Detroit Zoo is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily except Christmas and New Year's Day and is located at the corner of Woodward and I-696. For information, visit www.detroitzoo.org.

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Holiday shop

Vicky Leland assists her son Jack, 7, at Parkview Elementary's holiday shop on Dec. 9. For two days that week, kids got to shop the PTO-staffed room filled with gifts for their parents and siblings and others.



Karin Snell helps Joseph Dougherty at Parkview Elementary's PTO holiday shop on Dec. 9.

BEST LOCAL SPORTS COVERAGE. PERIOD

University Physician Group
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY is pleased to announce that **Larry L. Pack, M.D.** has joined our practice at Wayne State Orthopaedics

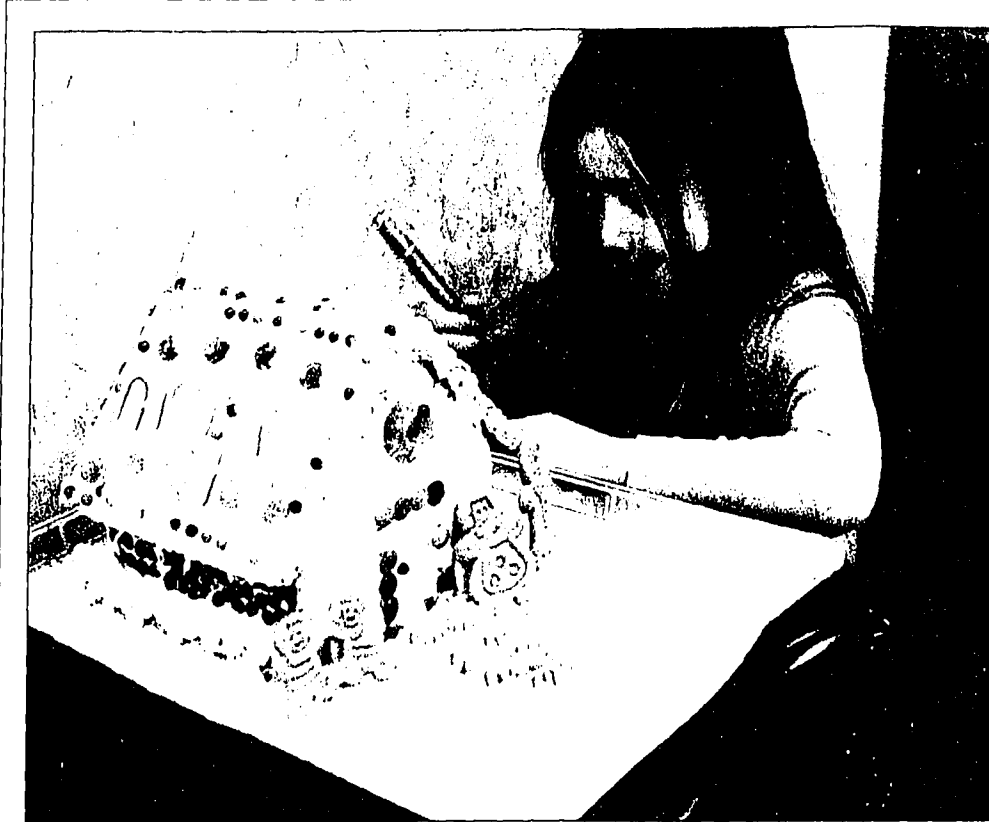
Dr. Pack specializes in adult and pediatric orthopaedics, with an emphasis on arthritis, arthroscopic surgery, deformity, joint replacement, sports medicine, and trauma.

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PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gingerbread home event

Madeline Goodman, 5, takes some notes as she votes at the annual Goodman Orthodontistry gingerbread home competition on Dec. 7. Goodman is the daughter of Robert and Sindy Goodman, whose practice hosts the competition. All of the gingerbread homes, created by referring dentists of their practice, will be donated to Providence Park Novi and Huron Valley Sinai hospitals where they'll be auctioned off to raise funds for the facilities.



Beth Clark, an employee of Mahagan Family Dentistry in Novi, checks out the gingerbread home decorating contest entries at Goodman Orthodontics in Novi on Dec. 7.

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Tuesday, December 14th - Saturday, December 18th - 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Monday, December 20th and Tuesday, December 21st - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Wednesday, December 22nd and Thursday, December 23rd - 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24th - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25th - CLOSED
Sunday, December 26th - CLOSED
Monday, December 27th - CLOSED
Tuesday, December 28th - Thursday, December 30th - 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
NEW YEAR'S EVE, December 31st - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
NEW YEAR'S DAY, January 1st - CLOSED

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NORTHVILLE/NOVI CHURCH EVENTS

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@gannett.com by fax to (248) 685-9292, or by mail to Church Events/Northville/Novi, 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 holyfamilynovi.org
Mass Schedule
Time/Day: 8:30am, 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday; 7 p.m. Tuesday; 4:30 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
Priests: Father Timothy Hogan, pastor and Father Michael Zuelch, associate pastor
Location: Meadows Church
Address: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road

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Grand opening/launch
Time/Date: 6 p.m. Jan. 8 All services will be held on Saturdays. First service is Jan. 8 at 6 p.m. Come be a part of a new, cutting edge, creative and innovative worship experience! This new ministry is preparing to have performing arts, dance, youth, women/men ministries, missions, community service, single/married ministry and much more. Come get in on the ground floor of a diverse ministry that is destined to do a great work.

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene
Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road
Contact: (248) 348-7600 or visit dfcnazarene.org
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 program, Youth Worship Service
Tuesday Schedule: Tuesday 9:25-11:15 a.m. Women of the Word Bible Study with childcare available through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies 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, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast
Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross
Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 427-1175 or churchoftheholycross.com
Sunday Worship: 7:45 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 month
Faith Community Presbyterian
Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit faithcommunity-novi.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
First Baptist Church of Northville
Location: 217 N. Wing
Contact: (248) 348-1020
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays
Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

Novi Family Integrated Church
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org
Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m.
Family Worship: 11 a.m.
Bible Study: 6 p.m.
Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month
First Presbyterian Church of Northville
Location: 200 E. Main St.
Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpresville.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 meet for lunch afterwards.
Contact: Sue (734) 459-0016
Single/Place Ministries
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. social time; 7:45 p.m. opening; 8-9 p.m. program, every Thursday.

Novi Northville Center for Jewish Life
Details: A Jewish center with events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year - children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.
Contact: Rabbi Avrohom & Leah Susskind at (248) 790-6075 or rabbi@novijewishcenter.com; www.novijewishcenter.com

Novi United Methodist
Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-2652 or visit uncnovni.org
Sunday Worship: Time: 9:45 a.m.
Healing Service & Holy Communion
Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month
Peace Vigil
Time/Date: Noon, first Sunday of every month
Location: In front of the church
Details: Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace.
Advent Service
Time/Date: 9:45 a.m. Sunday
Oak Pointe Church
Location: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 912-0043 or visit oakpointe.org
Worship Services: 5:15 p.m. Saturday; 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday
Renew Life Group Ministry
Time/Date: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday

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Passages

Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances

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WESLEY CHARLES BROWN
Age 21 of White Lake, Dec. 6, 2010. Funeral services were held at Lynch & Sons, Milford, Sat., Dec. 11, 2010. Memorials may be made to: Wes Brown Memorial Fund, which is payable to Lisa Olchost. For further info please phone 248-684-6645 or visit: www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

KATHLEEN E. GATHMANN
Age 84, formerly of Commerce, on December 12, 2010. Now in heaven with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and her beloved husband, Wayne. Dearest mother of Marcia (Joseph) Luczak, Patricia (David) Stuebe, William (Jean), Linda (Thomas) Sabini, Debra (Mark) Sikka and Kara (Frank) Clark. Also survived by 20 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Funeral Service: Thursday, December 16th, 10:30 AM (to state 9:30 AM). Grace Lutheran Church, 25630 Grand River, (at Beech Dale), Redford. Visitation Wednesday 2-8 PM at the Heeneys-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btw. 9-10 Mile Rds., just N of Grand River), downtown Farmington (248-474-5200). Interment Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia. Memorial tributes suggested to Farmington Hills Senior Division Meals on Wheels Program, Grace Lutheran Church, or National Parkinson Foundation. heeneys-sundquist.com www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

JAMES H. LINFIELD
A resident of Milford for more than thirty years, died on December 12, 2010. Jim was a beloved father, grandfather (Babe Cho-Choo), brother and friend. Jim was known by many for his passion for the railroad and for collecting model trains. He was the owner of Spiral Industries, Inc. formerly in Milford, now in Hartland, MI. He is survived by son James (Tammy Yost), son Kenneth, son Harry (wife Toni), son Bryan (wife Christine), 7 grandchildren, Jessica, Zachary, Haley, Chloe, Lexie, Molly and Casey. He is also survived by 3 brothers, Harold (wife Debbie), Harry (wife August), and Andrew. Memorial services will be held at Lynch & Sons, 404 E. Liberty, in Milford. Viewing will be Friday, December 17th from 12-9PM. The ceremony will be on Saturday, December 18th at 11AM. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

SHIRLEY ANN (CASH) DEAN
Age 72, passed away December 6. She was born on April 15, 1938 in New Hudson to the late Floyd and Leona (Kessner) Cash. On January 17, 1958, she married the late Alvin Dean. She enjoyed playing bingo and spending time with her grandchildren. She truly loved her family and will be missed. Shirley is survived by her seven children: Ricky Dean of Durand, Karen (Mike) Ashford of Bancroft, Cheryl (Kevin) Adkins of Green River, Wyoming, Dennis Dean of Millington, Todd Dean of Durand, Amy (Lloyd) McGee of Tooele, Utah, David (Katie) Dean of Perry, Her 4 brothers, and 2 sisters; 23 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. A funeral service was held on Dec. 10 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

JAMES A. GROENING
Age 75, passed away December 7, 2010. Funeral Services were held at Christ Lutheran Church, Milford, on Friday, December 10, 2010. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit: www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

JOHN A. PETRU
Age 67 and a long time resident of Highland Twp., died on December 10, 2010. He is survived by Kathy, his beloved wife of over forty-two years; his sons, Bradley J. (Christy), Gregory A. (Amy); grandchildren, Nolan, Maria, Ryan, & Tanner; his mother Anna Petru, and many extended family members and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his father, John, and a brother, Joseph. Mr. Petru worked for many years with Messing Ferguson and Sequant Towing in Plymouth, from which he retired in 2008. A Funeral Service was held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford, on Monday, December 13, 2010. Memorials may be made in his name to Community Sharing in Highland. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

MARCIA JANE DREFFS
Passed away at Arbor Hospice on December 6, 2010. Marcia was born in South Lyon, Michigan to the late Delbert and Marion Avery to February 24th, 1938. She graduated from South Lyon High School in 1958 where she was a member of the Future Homemakers of America, Student Council, and Drama. A year later, Marcia went on to marry Floyd "Doc" Dreffs. The couple shared 35 years of marriage and had six children: Floyd Dreffs Jr. (Janice), Sue Dreffs, Denise Stricks (Frederick), Mary Harrington (Tom), Diane Zide, and Deanna Dreffs. For years, Marcia served on numerous committees at Old St. Patrick's church and attended countless sporting events to cheer on her children. In addition to raising her children, Marcia worked at the University of Michigan (Physics Department, Michigan League, and Michigan Daily) for 20 years. She also helped her husband (who is known as Moose at the track and the tube mill), with his horseracing business. In her free time she enjoyed reading, watching game shows, playing cards, going to the casino, and traveling. Most of all she loved spending time with (and bragging about) her grandchildren: Martina, John, and Janellie Dreffs, Alex, Ashley and Jessica Harrington, Anthony Zide, and Natalie Stricks. Marcia was preceded in death by her parents, Delbert and Marion, her son-in-law, Tim Harrington, and her sisters, Rosemary Etkow and Kathy Imman. She is survived by her sisters, Noreen (Jake) Sheldon and Vera (Curie) Avery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Northville Township Library or Old St. Patrick's Church. Visitation was held on Dec. 9 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A funeral mass was held on Dec. 10 at Old St. Patrick Catholic Church, Ann Arbor. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

JOYCE HOINSINGER
Age 61, of Bancroft, passed away December 11, 2010. She lived in the South Lyon area for many years and was employed by South Lyon Schools. Joyce is survived by her loving husband Jeffrey and her children: Lee and Joseph (Cindy) Hoinsinger. She is also survived by her dear grandchildren: Kayla, Dustin and Brandon; her siblings: Lowell, Carolyn, Sherry, and James. She was preceded in death by her sister Barb and her parents Russell and Amanda Burgess. A funeral service was held on Dec. 13 at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS in loving memory of Joyce are requested to the American Kidney Foundation. Online guestbook at: www.phillipsfuneral.com

JOHN E. RASE
Age 55, passed away December 9, 2010. He was born on January 6, 1955, in Detroit, to the Kenneth and Alma (Cathy) Rase. He was a brick layer for over 20 years. He was well known for carving decoy ducks, since he was so very talented at it. John is survived by his wife Kathleen; his children: Johanna and Mac Rase; his mother: Alma; siblings: Phil (Amy) Rase and James (Cindy) Rase. He was preceded in death by his father Kenneth and his brother Paul. Arrangements entrusted to PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

THOMAS G. KROPIEWICKI
Age 40, died Dec. 9, 2010. A private family service was held. He is survived by his loving family. Arrangements by PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com.

FRANCES LIEDEL
Age 85 of Milford and formerly of Redford died in the care of her family on Wednesday, December 8, 2010. Preceded in death by her daughter Marie Touchette & siblings Stanley, Frank, Joseph, Walter, Rudy, Cass, Ted, Ed, Mary & Benny Survived by Louis her beloved husband of 63 years; children: Maria (Garette) Steele, Larry (Cheryl) Liedel, Monica (Tom) McGuire & Audrey (Dominic) Marsales; 11 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren; sister Virginia Kennedy. Also survived by extended family & dear friends. Funeral from St. Mary Our Lady of the Snows, 1955 E. Commerce Rd., Milford, Saturday, December 11, 2010 at 10 a.m. Fr. Ron Anderson to officiate. Rural Michigan Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford, Friday 3-9 P.M., with a Rosary Service 7 P.M. Memorials can be made to American Cancer Society & Seasons Hospice. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

BARBARA ANN RZEPCEKI
Age 59 of Northville, MI passed away on December 6, 2010. Beloved wife of Robert. Loving mother of Katie Lynn and the late Kelly Marie. Preceded in death by Buel and Kathryn Trappnell and her mother and father in law Scottie and Gene Rzepceki. Survived by her siblings: Buel "Lunny" Trappnell, Fred, Diane, Patrick and Carol. Will be missed by her dear friend Pat Fishback and the Lonnies, also by her many nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends. Contributions may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, 24359 Northwestern Hwy., Ste 225, Southfield, MI 48075

EVA FORTUNA
December 11, 2010 age 93. Sister of Mary and the late Cecilia, Julius and Erico. Preceded in death by her parents Loreto and Pasqua. Funeral services was Dec. 15th at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Memorial donations may be made to Residence Council at Grand Court Farmington Hills. Online condolences www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

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Your Invitation to Worship

<p>Brighton</p> <p>LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH 5051 Pleasant Valley Road • Brighton, MI 48114 810-227-3113 9:30 a.m. Communion Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Rev. Dale Heubrich, Pastor www.lordoflifechurch.com</p>	<p>Milford</p> <p>CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH Preschool, Pre-K & Kdg. - Mo. Synod 620 General Motors Rd., Milford Church Office: (248) 684-0925 Regular Sunday Service: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Jun-Aug - Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m. Midweek Evening 7:00 p.m. The Rev. Richard E. Pape, Pastor</p>	<p>Novi</p> <p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 9 Mile & Meadowbrook Wisconsin Ex. Lutheran Synod Sunday Service 9:45 a.m. Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor 248-349-2652 www.lumcnovni.org *Loving God, love each other and keep our core values!</p>	<p>Novi United Methodist Church 14871 W. Ten Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48375 Saturday 9:30 a.m. (English) 8:30 a.m. (Spanish) Sunday 9:45 a.m. Rev. June M. Smith, Pastor 248-349-2652 www.umcnovni.org</p>
<p>Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Church & School at the corner of Winona Lake & Muech Rd. 810-231-9199 Fr. John Riccio, Pastor Weekend Liturgias Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 & 11:00 a.m. Please call on Grand or Tall Ships and Book a Gift Shop</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD VISITORS WELCOME! 133 Oxford St., Milford • 484-0655 Pastor Steve Zwarg Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Worship: 11 a.m. Youth 4:30 p.m. • Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. Amen B n p.m. (in prep and Midweek Group began Wednesday, Feb. 15, 6:45-8:15 p.m. Website: firstbaptist.org</p>	<p>ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 46326 10 Mile Rd. • Novi, MI 48374 Saturday 4:30 p.m. (English) 8:30 a.m. (Spanish) Sunday 9:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Fr. Timothy Hogan, Pastor Fr. Michael Zuelch, Associate Parish Office: 347-7776</p>	<p>CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375 Weekend Hours Saturday 4:30 p.m. (English) & 8:30 a.m. (Spanish) Sunday 9:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Fr. Timothy Hogan, Pastor Fr. Michael Zuelch, Associate Parish Office: 348-8847 • www.holyfamilynovi.org</p>
<p>South Hill Church, S.B.C. 1350 South Hill Rd. just south of downtown Milford (248) 685-2590 www.ABoutSouthHill.com KODP Worship 10:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Middle and High School Groups Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Call about our current small group studies. www.southhillchurch.org</p>	<p>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA Farmington Hills • 23255 Gile Rd. • 248-474-0264 Between Grand River & Freedom Saturday Worship 9:30 am Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. Traditional Choral 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Sunday School - all ages 10:15 a.m.</p>	<p>Faith Community Presbyterian Church 44400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-345-2345 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd. Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m. Worship and Sunday School - 10 a.m. "Children, Youth and Adult Ministries"</p>	<p>HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL 40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. • 248-427-1175 Sunday Worship 7:45 a.m. & 10 a.m. Healing Service Wednesday 11:45 a.m. Rev. Ann Webber, Rector holycrossnovi@gmail.com</p>
<p>West Highland Baptist Church 11965 S. Hickory Ridge Rd., Milford, MI 48306 248-887-2218 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Bible Ministries 11:00 a.m. Wednesday All Ages: 7:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Highland Community Church 2350 Harvey Lake Rd. (248) 887-4526 Contemporary Service 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Sundays Men's Bible Study & Breakfast 2nd & 4th Saturdays 8:15 a.m. 3rd & 6th Grand Youth Tuesdays 7-9 p.m. Pastor Rick Ruffler</p>	<p>MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi at 8 1/2 Miles 248-348-7757 • www.mbccongo.org Sunday Worship 10 a.m. Rev. Arthur Ritter, Senior Minister</p>	<p>OAK POINTE CHURCH 50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi Saturday Worship 5:15 p.m. Sunday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Casual, contemporary service Phone (248) 912-0043 www.oakpointe.org</p>
<p>NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 120 Bishop St., Highland off Millford Rd., 2.7 miles N of M-59 • Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. • Bible Study Wed. 7:00 p.m. Pastor: Danny Brown 248-755-7757 or 887-4566</p>	<p>Highland United Methodist Church 689 W. Livingston Rd. • Highland, MI 48357 248-887-1311 • www.humcusa.org Sunday</p>		



Novi Middle School student Nathan Weeks talks to Detroit's Neinas Elementary student Jalen Butler moments after Butler received a new blanket during the Dec. 9 holiday party.



Novi Middle School student Emma Hammele, sixth grade, gets a quick hug from Neinas Elementary's Eselya Galvan during their holiday party in Detroit on Dec. 9.

NEINAS FROM PAGE A1

The holiday party was organized by the Northville-based nonprofit organization Bridgepointe...

back to what was his junior high school since he left in 1965. Gregory, who volunteered to help along with his wife and daughter...

"It's absolutely great to be back," he said. "To watch some of these kids and their faces when they get excited about things like soap and shampoo it makes you think we are all a little bit spoiled."

"I hope I get the chance to come back and help next year." Two other eighth-graders from Novi, Joshua Stotler and Hannah Latham, said the event made a big impact on their lives...

"We take a lot of things for granted," Stotler said. "Doing something like this makes you feel good about yourself and next time I am going to give even more."

"That type of reaction is exactly what Diane Powers and Sue Simcox envisioned when they founded Bridgepointe."

"The kids start to see themselves as active members of society and that Detroit and the suburbs can come together to make a stronger Michigan," Powers said.

PHOTOS BY STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER JOHN HEIDER



Novi Middle School student Matthew Yang, sixth grade, hands out paper bags as he helps with a crafts project at Neinas Elementary.



The Novi Middle School choir entertains students in the Neinas Elementary School cafeteria during their Dec. 9 visit.



Novi Middle School student Tommy McMaster helps out with the games in the gymnasium of Detroit's Neinas Elementary during the school's holiday party on Dec. 9.



Novi's Nathan Weeks puts his arm around Neinas Elementary's Jalen Butler as they walk down the hall at the Detroit school.

More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at www.hometownlife.com. Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@gannett.com...

LOCAL EVENTS

Democrats to meet Time/Date: 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 21; 7 p.m. dinner

Location: Comfort Suites Inn at Wixom Road and the south side of I-96 in Wixom Description: Annual holiday turkey dinner. Musical entertainment by Dusty Rhodes...

State of the City Address Luncheon Time/Date: 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 20

Location: Baronette Renaissance (hotel just south of 12 Mile Road on the east side of Novi Road) Details: City of Novi Mayor David B. Landry will deliver the State of the City Address...

Rock Financial Showplace Time/Date: 4:00 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13; 9:30-8 Saturday, Jan. 8; 9:30-5 Sunday, Jan. 9; 9:30 am-5:00 pm

International Motorcycle Show Time/Date: 4-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 7; 9:30-8 Saturday, Jan. 8; 9:30-5 Sunday, Jan. 9

Novi Chamber of Commerce Time/Date: 7-8 a.m. every Wednesday Location: On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty Road (north of 8 Mile), Novi

Metro Novi BNI Time/Date: 7-8 a.m. every Wednesday Location: On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty Road (north of 8 Mile), Novi

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

Novi Home Improvement Show Time/Date: noon-9 a.m. Friday, Jan. 28; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29; 10-6 Sunday, Jan. 30

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Livonia Public Schools Opens Renowned Academically Talented Program to Out-of-District Students. Three seats are open to students entering 7th grade in winter 2011. Limited Registration window: Dec. 6, 2010 - Jan. 6, 2011.

A MOTOWN TRADITION SINCE 1997 Little Caesars PIZZA BOWL Sunday December 26 8:30 PM Kickoff Ford Field littlecaesarspizzabowl.com

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

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

OUR VIEWS

Generosity

It's a gift worth giving in holiday time, all year

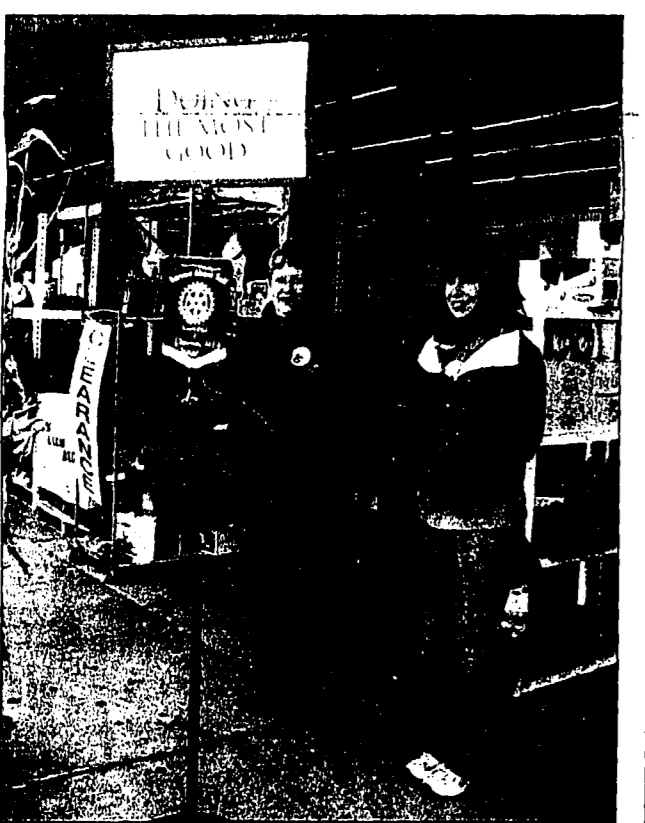
This is the season to be merry, but for many people being merry may mean a hot meal at the local soup kitchen or a warm place to sleep on a cold winter's night. For many, it's a fine line that separates them from being a have and a have not. They are struggling to make ends meet. There is no wiggle room in their household budget for a big holiday celebration. They must rely on the kindness of strangers.

We have more than once urged our readers to open their hearts and their wallets to help those less fortunate. It's a message worth repeating. Human service agencies and grassroots nonprofits cannot continue to help those in need without our support both financially and in donations of food and clothing.

If you can't find room under your Christmas tree for that present, think about giving it to the Goodfellows or the Salvation Army. Instead of dropping \$10-\$20 on a quick dinner out, drop it in a Red Kettle or send it to the Goodfellows. If you see a good deal at the grocery store, buy a few extra cans and donate them.

Consider volunteering — and while at it, have your children do their part. Instead of you dropping the deliveries to the Goodfellows. It's an important lesson that they will keep for life. The gift is the generosity of spirit, a life skill that needs to be learned as a child. It is taught through example and experience.

So when you head out to the stores for some last-minute shopping, make an extra purchase for those less fortunate. It isn't shiny and bright, but generosity is a gift worth giving.



Salvation Army bell ringers are a familiar sight.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you have a real or artificial Christmas tree in your home?



"We have an artificial one. We used to cut down a real tree when our kids were little, but it got to be too much."

Chris Szelap
Novi

"We have an artificial one, so we don't cut down a real tree every year now. It makes more sense for the environment."

Jeff Zelski
Whitmore Lake

"We have an artificial one. I just like them better, plus you don't have to deal with all those falling needles."

Terri Baker
Novi

"We have both. We cut down a real tree each year but also have an artificial tree that's decorated Victorian-era style in the living room."

Bob Juhusz
Northville

LETTERS

Six-period school days

Novi High School's daily schedule changed this year, eliminating a seminar period. This period allowed students to seek extra help, make up a quiz or finish homework.

I recently did a survey to see if any students prefer the six-period changes, and it came out that only one or two of my peers liked it all. The other students agreed that it was causing them to have more work to do. They also did not like that we no longer have a seminar or enrichment period. This in turn has removed one of our opportunities to get help from teachers.

Also, last year the late bus was taken away, thus removing one more chance of getting help from our teachers.

If we were to get the late bus schedule back or get our seminar back, many of the students said that their overall school performance would greatly improve. The Novi High School administration needs to rework the six-period days to accommodate all of the high school students' needs.

Ed Roney
Novi High School 10th-grade student

New super should not be

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

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

same old

I see that the search for the new superintendent is coming to a close, so I would like to say that I vote "no" when it comes to Mary Kay Gallagher. She represents everything that is wrong with the school system today. She is more concerned with how the teachers and administrators are doing than the kids. I think Northville needs a fresh face — hopefully, someone who is open to new ways of doing

things and is not just more of the same old same old.

I hate the fact that the high school is for all intensive purposes on lock-down. I hate that Northville has anti-bullying programs that are unproven. Unproven because there is no scientific or verifiable evidence that what they have in place actually works. We just have to take their word for it. Would they lie? You better believe it! I hate that as a parent I cannot just go into the school to see what is going on without being watched by the staff, or asking permission to enter.

All of these things make me, as a parent, feel that I am not in control of the system I pay for. I feel I have no "real" say unless I want to mount an all out campaign to make changes. As a matter of fact, it seems that making changes in the current system is like trying to turn the Titanic around. I guess I am saying that my experience with NPS has shown me that they do not listen to the needs of the kids and parents, unless you have an in somewhere or there is threat of a lawsuit. They will do things their way, and if you don't like it you can hit the highway.

Really, is that how our school system should be run?

Cecilia Bruck
Northville

GUEST COLUMN

Preparing for the Great China Export: higher ed students

China is exporting more than cheap "stuff" to America. The Chinese are sending us their most prized possession: their children.

According to a study by the Institute for International Education, China recently became the largest source of foreign students in U.S. universities.

This is the fourth wave of Chinese immigration, which began in the 19th century with Chinese laborers in search of the "Golden Mountain" during the California gold rush.

Through the years, Chinese labor and intellect have helped build our country.

In the words of Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader following Mao, China was to "bide its time and hide its capabilities." Clearly, the Chinese are no longer hiding their capabilities by sending some of their best and brightest to the West to be educated.

With creative and innovative thinking from our state leaders,

the continual wave of Chinese students (and other international students) on our shores can become another building block to revitalize Michigan's economy.

It is reported that a record high 690,923 international students came to the United States last year. More than 18 percent, or nearly 130,000, are from China.

Michigan can become an angel state for Chinese immigrants. And like millions of immigrants before them, they will add value and richness to our great state.

We should work hard to make sure we don't repeat unwelcoming policies like those that began in 1862 with the forbidding of American ships from transporting Chinese immigrants to this country. Later, Congress passed the blatantly discriminatory Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, which prohibited the immigration of laborers for 10 years.

The negative, anti-China rhetoric during the past two governors' elections, and exported this fall to other states' campaigns, needs to cease. We do not want to become Angel Island, the western U.S. entry point for 175,000 early Chinese immigrants. Due to blatant discrimination against the Chinese, many were

detained and mistreated for years on Angel Island and left to languish in limbo.

Michigan needs to be a welcoming peninsula, not an inhospitable island.

Chinese students coming to America are, to a great extent, from a pampered class of "little princes and princesses," products of the "one child" policy and raised to excel by the 1-2-4 formula: one child, two parents and four doting grandparents.

The Chinese view a quality Western education as the passage to economic security, English-speaking skills and a good life.

An entire family's energies and resources are usually dedicated to the single cause of obtaining a quality education for their Chinese offspring. These students, in turn, channel all their energies to being successful academically.

These students are not only bright, ambitious, and driven, they typically come from the connected — including politically connected — and wealthy families of China.

The Chinese economy has been on steroids, growing at an annual rate of 10 percent the past two decades. With its 267 million children under

the age of 14 (approaching the size of America's entire population), China has a near-endless supply of students to educate, as well as limited educational slots at home to accommodate them.

Michigan should ride the China wave by marketing our state as the "brain bank" of the world, aggressively recruiting the best students to our state and helping them stay to build a new life and new opportunities.

Chinese high school seniors spend two grueling days taking the Chinese university entrance exam. This exam is the ultimate sorter, rather like a national game of musical chairs. There are more students seeking that ticket to success — a coveted seat at a prestigious university — than there are seats available.

The top test-takers go to the top universities until seats are filled, and then students tumble down to the lesser institutions until all the slots are filled. This process leaves many qualified students without a seat.

Historically, immigrants and students put down roots where they first land. Michigan must develop a thoughtful, deliberate strategic plan that nurtures and encourages

Chinese students (and all international students), along with their families, to establish roots in the land of opportunity: Michigan.

Our state has a head start with our reputation for a quality higher education. We also benefit from leaders at our top universities who are committed to developing the "guanxi," or special relationships, with their Chinese counterparts, especially through the four Confucius Institutes established at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Wayne State University and Western Michigan University.

Forward-looking community colleges and K-12 school districts also are tapping this rich vein and developing student and teacher exchanges with China.

As the great Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu once said, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." The Chinese students and the opportunities they represent for Michigan are coming — we need to step it up and be ready.

Tom Watkins is a business and educational consultant in the U.S. and China. He served state school superintendent, 2001-05. He can be reached at: td Watkins@aol.com.



SUBMITTED BY CINDY ARMSTRONG

Wish you were here

Roger and Cindy Armstrong and Marcy and Bob Hardin on the maiden voyage of Royal Caribbean's Allure of the Seas Dec. 1-5. The couples both live in Meadowbrook Glen in Novi. They are shown on the sixth deck with their backs to the back of the ship overlooking boardwalk deck and the Aqua Theater.

Wanted: Vacation photos!

Take a copy of your Novi News along on your vacation and we'll publish a photo of you and your travel companions in the paper with the headline: Wish You Were Here. Just be sure to include the newspaper in your photo. Send your photo in a jpg format to cstone@gannett.com.

Identify everyone in the photo (first and last names) and tell us where they live. Tell us when the photo was taken and where. Tell us what was special about your trip, if you wish. Include a daytime phone number so we can contact you if necessary. Then look for your photo in the newspaper and on our Facebook site under WISH YOU WERE HERE!

NEWSMAKERS

Pack joins WSU

Wayne State University Physician Group Department of Orthopaedic Surgery announced the welcoming of Larry Pack, M.D.

Pack is an orthopaedic surgeon who has office locations in Novi and Dearborn. He has over 25 years of experience and specializes in adult and pediatric orthopaedics, with an emphasis on arthritis, arthroscopic surgery, deformity, joint



Pack

replacement, sports medicine and trauma.

Pack received his medical degree and completed his residency at Wayne State University. He is board-certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery, is a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and has previously served on the Academy's Board of Councilors.

Office locations for Wayne State University Physician Group - Department of Orthopaedic Surgery include 44000 W. 12 Mile Rd., Suite 205, Novi and 18100 Oakwood Blvd., Suite 300, Dearborn. To schedule an appointment

or for more information, please call the Dearborn office location at (313) 429-7977.

Cobb joins Coldwell Banker

Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel (CBWM) has recently welcomed a number of new agents to the rapidly growing company, including Mark Cobb, Northville/Novi.

"We are very pleased to welcome these agents to our team," said Kelly Sweeney, CBWM CEO. "They bring with them diverse business skills and experience, and will make great additions to our company."

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A visit with Santa

Dominic, 3, and Tess DuPel, 5, share a moment with Santa Claus during their Dec. 10 visit to Novi's Twelve Oaks Mall. The siblings, who live in Shanghai, China, were visiting the Detroit area where their mother hails from.



GARY KEISER

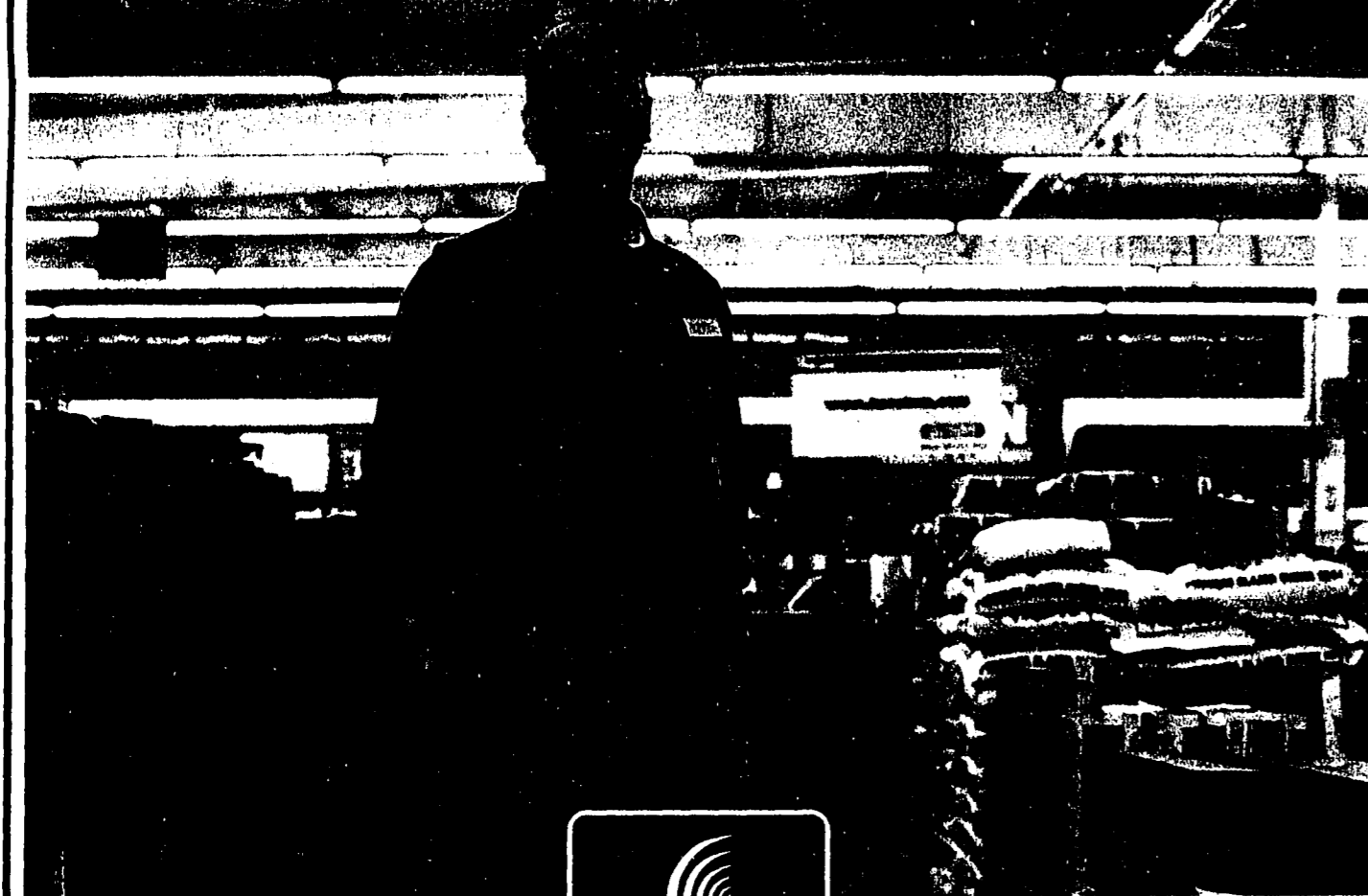
Cookie Bake Off

The Novi High School Interact Club held their annual holiday Cookie Bake Off on Wednesday, Dec. 8. Teams of students baked holiday cookies in the school kitchen. The fresh-baked cookies were rated by a panel of tasters from the Novi Rotary Club. Pictured (l to r, front) are winning Interact students Savag Najafian, Dan Lee, Anthony Nguyen and Ben Rathi. Judges from the Rotary club (back) are Kathy Tossian, Rotary club president Bryan Berent and Rotarian Peter Dion, school superintendent. Many of the students admitted having limited cooking experience. The cookie judged the best overall was created by four students who said they had never baked before. Additional cookies and cupcakes were prepared for and distributed to local Novi nursing homes.

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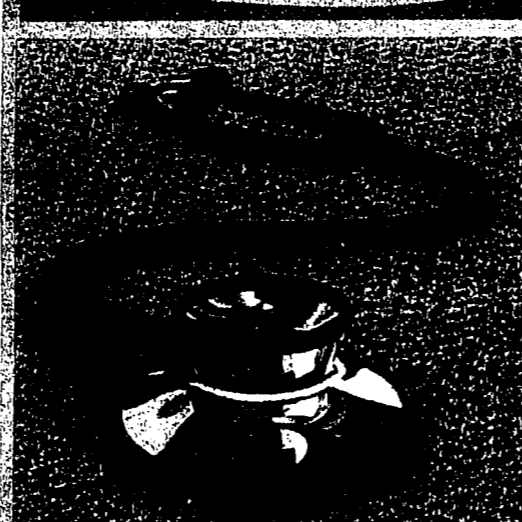
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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Money stolen from business

1 Novi police are looking for an unknown suspect who allegedly stole \$917 from the snack shop at Summit Pointe on High Pointe Boulevard around 6:42 p.m. Dec. 6. According to the report, video surveillance shows a black truck pull up to the rear door of the business and the suspect gets out of the back door of the truck and enters the building.

He then walks by the elevator, using his hand to shield his face from the camera and checks the hallway to make sure no one is there. The truck then moved to a parking lot south of the building and the manager of the business calls Novi police to report the suspicious vehicle.

One minute later, the suspect pried open the door to the snack shop and went to the register where he found the money.

He then went out the back door and ran to the waiting truck that pulled away toward High Pointe Boulevard.

The manager was unable to get the license plate, but after reviewing the video told police thought he looked similar to an employee of Lewis Brothers Lawn Care that was at the business Dec. 3 to salt the sidewalk.

He told police he had not seen the employee with the company before.

The suspect is a white male with brown hair and he walks with a limp.

The case has been forwarded to the detective's bureau for review.

Battery stripped from car

2 A Novi man had the battery stolen out of his Ford Taurus between Dec. 11-13 while it was parked in the carport near his residence on Tower Court.

The man said an unknown person smashed the driver's side window to open the hood and take the battery.

"Nothing else was taken and police have no suspects.

Drunken driving arrest

3 Novi police reportedly arrested a man for drunken driving at 12:46 a.m. Dec. 8 after he was caught speeding on Novi Road near 10 Mile Road.

According to police, the vehicle was going 57 mph in a 30 mph zone, and when the officer approached the car he could smell a strong odor of intoxicants.

The man struggled to find his license, even though it was in plain view in his money clip, and admitted to drinking at the Post Bar, police said.

He failed field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .19 percent, police said. The legal limit for adult drivers is .08 percent.

The driver was transported to the Novi Police Department where he was lodged until sober and released pending issuance for high BAC, police said.

Motorists assist officer

4 A Novi police officer stopped a drunken driver at 8:50 p.m. Dec. 8 thanks to help from a pair of motorists, police said.

Winter weather leads to accidents

The officer was conducting a traffic stop when he was approached by another driver about a possible drunken driver, police said. When he went to catch the vehicle, another driver stopped the officer to report the same problem, police said.

When the officer caught up to the car, he saw it swerving into the center lane and initiated a traffic stop, police said.

The woman appeared drunk and admitted to drinking earlier in the day, police said. She said she was coming from the store and headed back home to Wolverine Lake, police said.

She failed field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .09 percent, police said. The legal limit for adult drivers is .08 percent.

The woman was arrested and transported to the Novi Police Department where she was issued a citation for operating while intoxicated and released when sober, police said.

Compiled by staff writer Nathan Mueller

Winter weather leads to accidents

There were about 20 accidents in Novi on Sunday and Monday as a result of slick driving conditions.

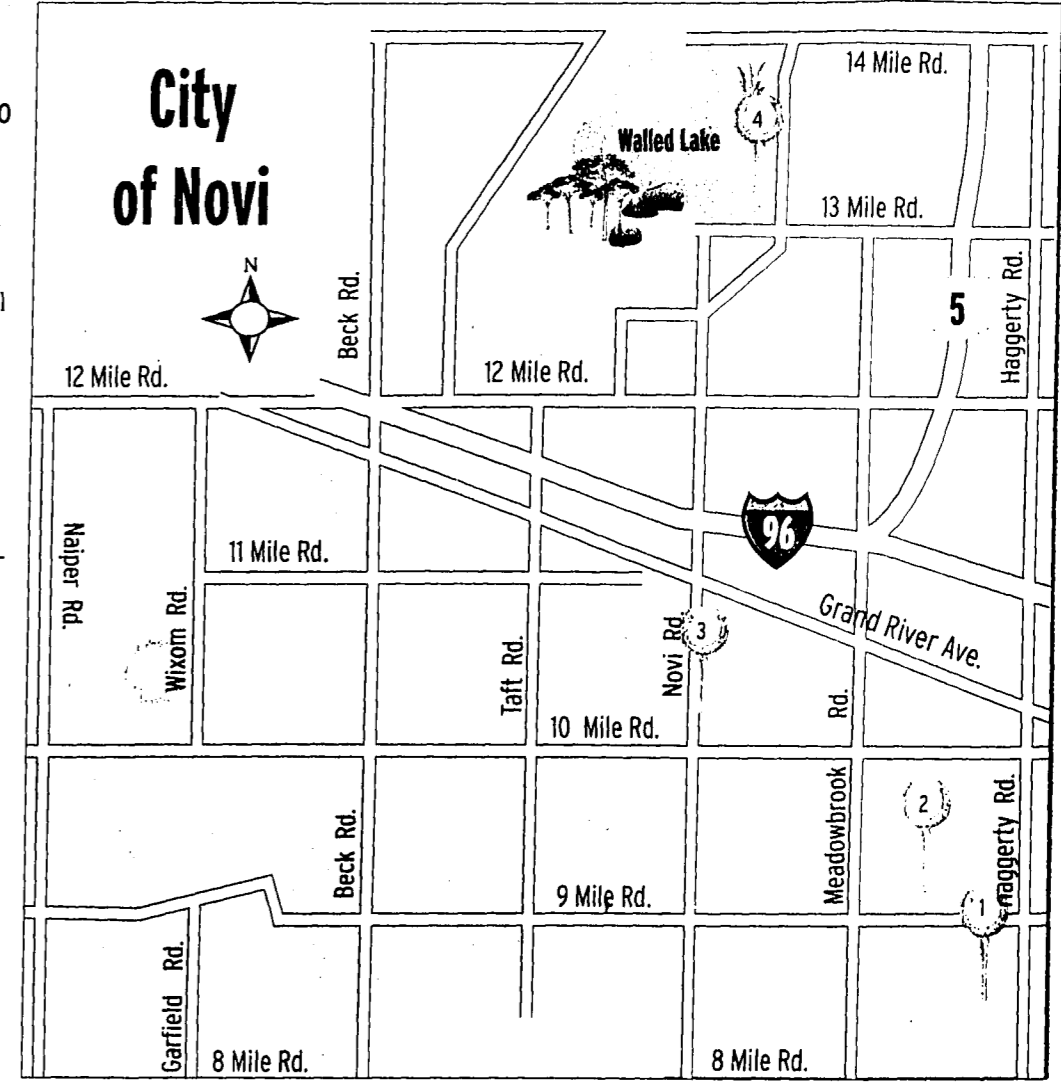
The Novi Community School District cancelled classes on Monday, but were open again Tuesday as roads in the city were cleared by department of public services crews.

The storm dumped six inches of snow on Novi, with crews starting to clear major roads at 4 a.m. Sunday morning. The goal was to have all roads, including subdivision streets, safe and passable within 48 hours.

The Road Commission for Oakland County had its crews out Sunday through Tuesday to clear the roads but were hindered by single-digit temperatures that made salting icy roads ineffective.

Warm temperatures helped Tuesday afternoon, but officials still had concerns about re-freezing.

Warm temperatures helped Tuesday afternoon, but officials still had concerns about re-freezing.



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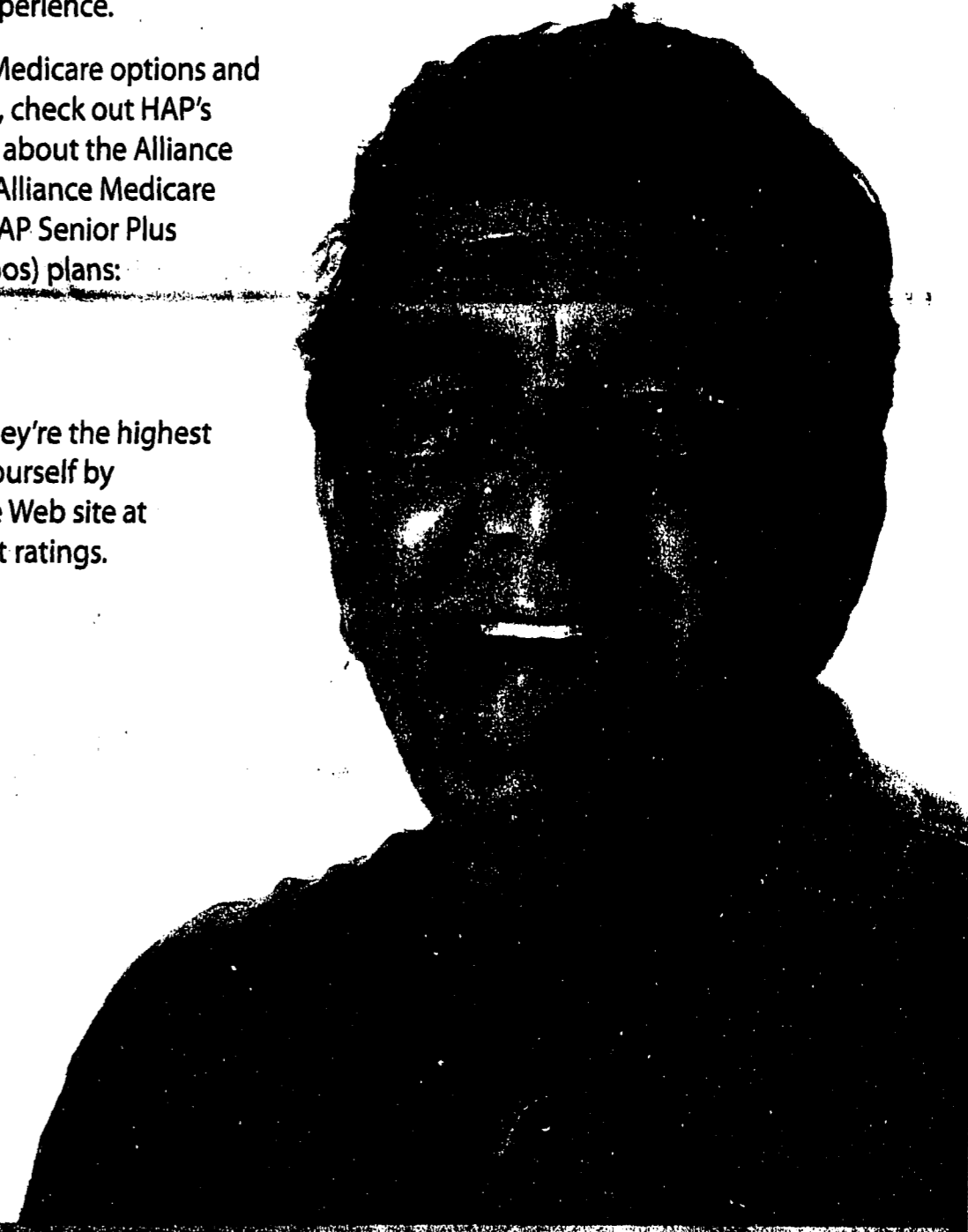
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WALMART FROM PAGE A1

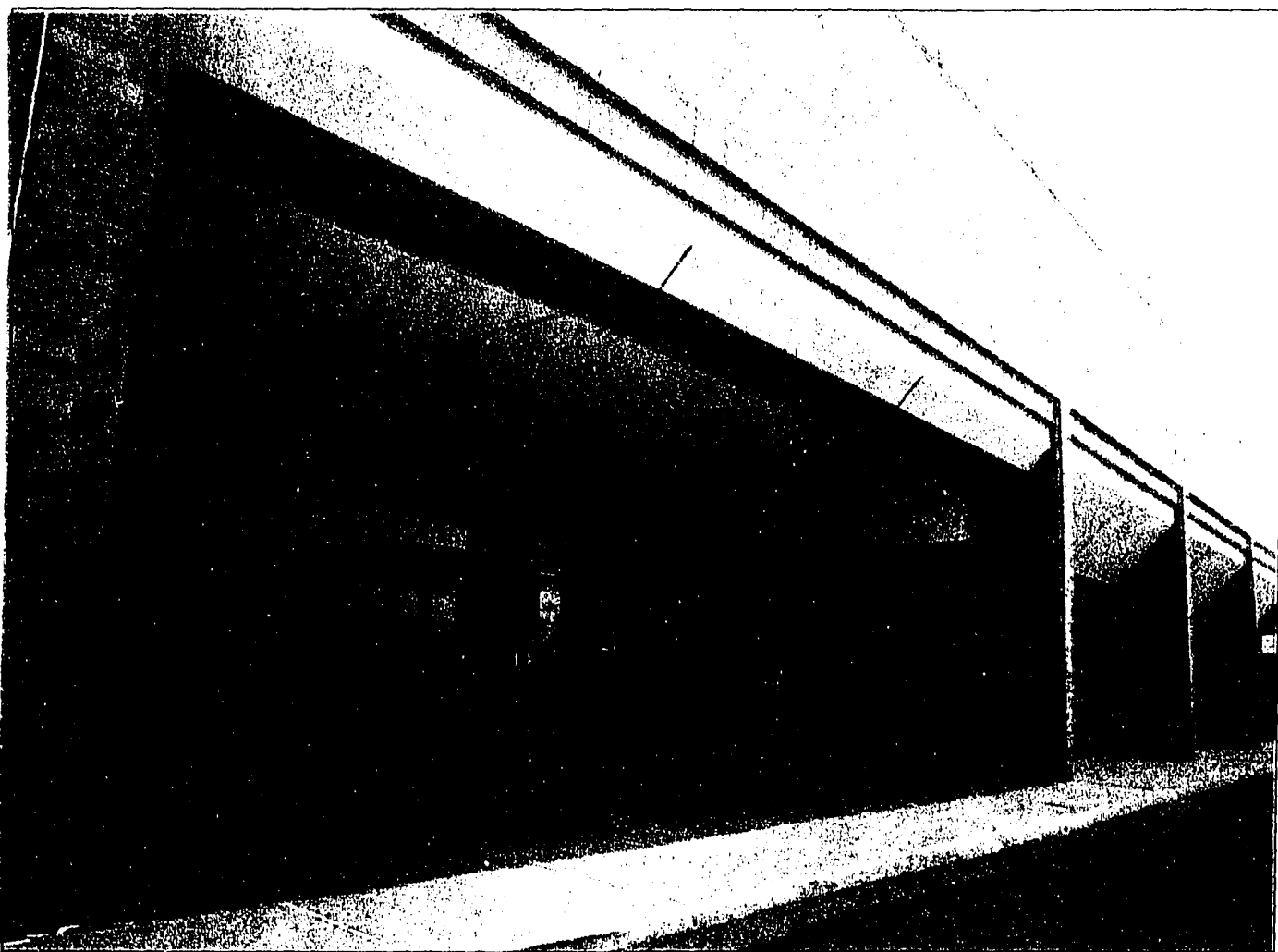
combines a full grocery line with general merchandise. The approval from the planning commission now sends the plans to the Novi City Council for preliminary approval.

"I do believe we will end up with traffic concerns, but I don't think that is anything we can snap our fingers at and come up with a reasonable solution for," said chairman Mark Pehrson.

The three commissioners who voted against the plans — David Baratta, Vic Cassis and Brian Larson — appeared to have done so because of their concerns regarding traffic and safety.

Cassis, who has lived in the community for more than 35 years, said he travels the roads being affected — Grand River Avenue, Novi Road, Town Center Drive and Crescent Drive — frequently and could not justify making the conditions worse even though he said he came to the meeting expecting to vote in favor of the plans.

One of the main issues is the quality of Grand River, which is slated for resurfacing in 2012 but is not going to see widening in at least the next 10 years.



A Walmart store is being proposed for this vacant store location at Novi Town Center. It was formerly occupied by a Mervyn's.

"I do believe we will end up with traffic concerns, but I don't think that is anything we can snap our fingers at and come up with a reasonable solution for."

MARK PEHRSON, council chairman

Jacki Cook-Haxby, from The Benham Companies representing Walmart, said the look is a "integral part of the branding exercise Walmart has undergone."

"While we want to make every attempt to blend with the center, we do not want to look exactly like the center," she said. "We are who we are and it's very unusual for a larger tenant to exactly mimic a lifestyle center."

"I believe I've done everything I can to bring the building in line to what is being presented and still maintain our brand statement."

The recommendation from the city's consultant was to use brick instead of the panels. "I understand corporate brands, but I'm trying to figure out how we can get to a reasonable solution that still allows Walmart to maintain their brand image and also allows Novi to somewhat maintain our brand image," said Commissioner Michael Lynch.

Said Commissioner David Greco: "I'm more concerned with Novi's brand over Walmart's brand."

Lindsay Huddleston, public affairs and government relations spokesman for Walmart, said after the meeting the company was very excited about the opportunity to serve its customers in Novi.

He said the company expects to bring nearly 350 jobs and, if approved, would like to open in 2012. "We think we can bring some synergy to a community like Novi," he said.

One thing that also stood out to Greco at the meeting was the lack of public comment. No one spoke during the portion of the public and the commission only received one correspondence from someone who felt Walmart caused an increase in crime.

The plans will next go before the Novi City Council in early January for preliminary approval.

Doug Necci, facade consultant for the city, said the arched part of the building "lends itself to being the background for a sign."

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ing in 2012 but is not going to see widening in at least the next 10 years.

"In my opinion this changes the whole character of that development and

alters the whole identity of town center," he said. "I am very troubled with the traf-

fic situation."

Cassis also said he understands the city cannot force Walmart to make any road improvements, but believes it would be a good faith gesture.

"I believe that Walmart coming into this fine city and this community would want to help Novi and would want to help their customers and say 'We welcome you customers, you are going to be safe coming into our development,'" he said.

Rod Arroyo, traffic consultant for the city, said he offered some solutions to the problems in his recommendation letter but acknowledged that there still will be issues.

"There are certainly areas that are now experiencing congestion and some will experience it at a level more severe than today," he said.

Another issue with the project involved the facade, with Walmart wanting to use phenolic panels and EIFS, both not allowed in Novi, and how Walmart constructs its sign.

Doug Necci, facade consultant for the city, said the arched part of the building "lends itself to being the background for a sign."

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Holiday closures

The offices of the Northville Record and Novi News will be closed Fridays, Dec. 24 and 31; however, readers can look for their usual local newspapers as usual on Thursdays.

Also, Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land reminds customers that all branch offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of Christmas and New Year's holidays.

The closures are: • Thursday, Dec. 23 and Friday, Dec. 24 for Christmas. SUPERCenters will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 25.

• Thursday, Dec. 30 and Friday, Dec. 31 for New Year's. SUPERCenters will be closed on Saturday, Jan. 1.

The Department of State mails notices to motorists 45 days before their driver's license or license plates expire to give them ample time to renew. Licenses and plates that expire on a day when state offices are closed, such as a holiday or weekend, can be renewed the following day without penalty.

Motorists renewing license plates can "skip the trip" to the branch office and do business by mail, or if eligible, by Internet. Easy to follow instructions can be found with the renewal notice. License plate tabs will arrive by mail within seven business days.

License plate tabs can also be renewed at Self-Service Stations, many of which are available 24/7. Visit the Branch Office Locator at www.Michigan.gov/sos to find a Self-Service Station near you.

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Go to hometownlife.com (Get Published) and post your favorite holiday photo (or photos) with a short caption. Encourage friends and family to vote by clicking recommend under the photo. The top vote-getter will receive tickets for two to Imagine Theater (Canton or Novi). The second and third place winners will receive a coupon for a free four-square cheese and one-topping Buddy's pizza. Contest ends midnight Dec. 31. Share your holiday spirit with others! Go to hometownlife.com.

Road Commission using salt with brine

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) is spreading less salt on Oakland County roads this year. But, the reduced salt usage does not mean the roads are less safe.

In fact, because the salt is now mixed with liquid brine (salt water) as it comes through the salt spreader on the back of the trucks, the reduced amount of salt is actually more effective than the larger amount of dry salt used in the past.

"This is both a cost savings and an improvement in efficiency," stated RCOC Board Member Greg Jamian. We can use less salt than we used in past years, and yet that salt, when mixed with the liquid brine, is actually better at melting snow and ice than the dry salt was.

RCOC Vice Chairman Eric Wilson noted that the cost of salt increased 10 percent in the last year alone and

140 percent over the last 10 years. "Typically we'll spend about \$4 million per winter on salt alone, and there will be no road improvements to show for it," Wilson said. He added that cost would be much higher had the Road Commission not been able to reduce the amount of salt being used through the addition of the brine.

The liquid brine also works to melt ice and snow at lower temperatures than rock salt. Rock salt begins to melt ice and snow at about 20 degrees. At 0 degrees, it does nothing.

The active ingredient in the brine is calcium chloride, which works at lower temperatures than the sodium chloride which is the active ingredient in rock salt.

RCOC pumps the brine out of its own wells, mean-

ing it gets the material at very little cost. The brine is also used for "anti-icing" which is the process of spraying the material directly onto some roads before the snow begins to fall. Creating a brine coating on the roads delays the formation of ice once the snow starts to fall.

The brine is also used in the summer to control dust on gravel roads.

Intern for Kowall

State Senator-elect Mike Kowall (R-White Lake) is offering several internship positions effective Jan. 1. The positions are for his Senate office in Lansing.

Interns will provide assistance to Senator-Elect Kowall and the people of the 15th State Senate district. Responsibilities will

include but are not limited to: answering phones, drafting written correspondence to groups and individuals, monitoring legislation, attending meetings, and conducting research. Additional responsibilities may be assigned, as warranted.

Candidates for these positions should possess excellent communications skills, specifically writing and telephone skills. Legislative experience and a basic understanding of computer office programs, such as Microsoft Word and Excel, are helpful.

This is an unpaid position. Hours are negotiable and school credit can be arranged.

"This is an excellent opportunity for a young person to get an 'insiders' understanding of the

Legislature and the legislative process," Kowall said. Interested individuals are encouraged to send a resume and writing sample to: State Senator-elect Mike Kowall, Attn: Mike Murray, Chief of Staff, P.O. Box 30036; Lansing, MI 48909; or by e-mail to contact@murrocomm.net.

Michigan Film Gala

Global Pictures and Michigan Movie Magazine and Specs Howard present the first-ever Michigan Film Gala on Dec. 31 at Sheraton Novi Hotel. The Michigan Film Gala will include a showcase of Michigan films starting with "CornerStore", a Red Carpet, meet and greet, a dinner, special guest speakers and the ringing in of the New Year with a champagne toast at midnight Jan. 1.

For more information, visit http://www.mmdnews-wire.com/michigan-film-gala-10988.html. Brandon T. Jackson

(Tropic Thunder, Roll Bounce and Big Momma's House 2) will be hosting the event. Special guest speakers include Tanya Ryno (producer of SNL); Rod Harrell (CEO of RLH Talent); and Susan Frishman (entertainment attorney).

The event is open to actors, directors, producers aspiring film-makers and fans.

The showcase begins at 9 a.m.; there will be a Red Carpet event beginning at 7 p.m. followed by a meet-and-greet. The evening will conclude with a dinner, special guest speakers and the ringing in of the New Year with a champagne toast at midnight Jan. 1.

For more information, visit http://www.mmdnews-wire.com/michigan-film-gala-10988.html.

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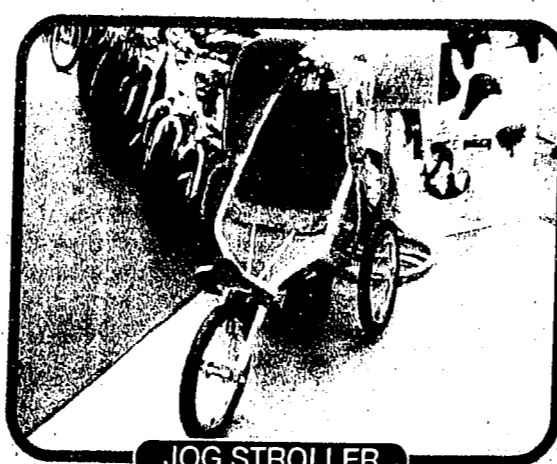
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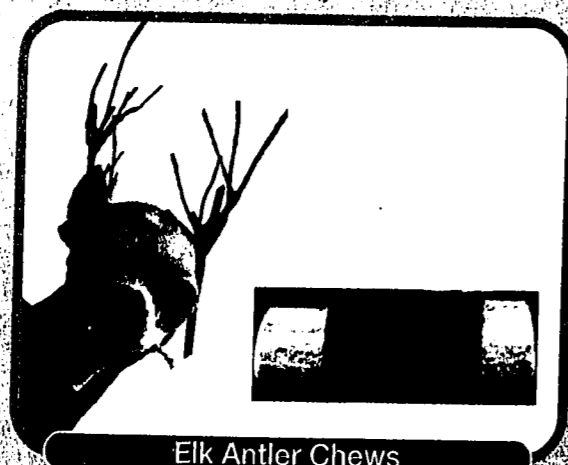
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NOVI ICERS DOMINATE CONFERENCE RIVALS, B3

SECTION B (NN)

SPORTS

THURSDAY, December 16, 2010 hometownlife.com

INSIDE BUSINESS, B4

Lady cagers start slow in Novi win

Novi cagers dominate Walled Lake

Outscore first two opponents by combined 59 points

Warriors' weak offensive benefits Wildcats

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

The Wildcats got off to a sluggish start Dec. 7 against visiting Walled Lake Western, but the Warriors couldn't get a flow going either and never led as Novi earned a 42-21 victory.

It took more than six minutes for four combined baskets to be scored in the opening quarter, but two were Wildcat three pointers, which built an 8-1 Novi lead. The Wildcats (3-0) led 11-5 after the first quarter.

"We looked disorganized. We didn't come to play. We have a lot of things to work on," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "We have to find a rhythm. Everybody's got to step up."

Freshman Kerri McMahan found herself



Wildcat Alyssa Armiak in action against Walled Lake Western on Dec. 7. JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

on the bench early with two fouls, but would return to lead the Wildcats in the second half as she made four of five baskets in an eight-point effort. As the starting point guard, she also kept turnovers at a minimum with two, while collecting three assists and two steals in her second game of varsity action.

With McMahan on the bench early in the game, senior Joanna Beaton stepped up with a team-high nine points, while sophomore Brittany Berehulka netted eight points in the shooting guard role.

The Cats used the second quarter to make an 8-4 run in a showing that combined strong defensive moments and weak offensive moments for both teams.

Leading 19-9 at the half, Novi's shots began to fall and senior Alyssa Armiak again provided strong defense - the lone highlight of the game, according to Kelp - while netting seven points. Junior Ally

Please see **HOOPS, B3**

Wildcat wrestlers medal at Hartland Invite

Four Wildcats finish fourth

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Novi's wrestlers had a successful showing at last Saturday's Hartland Invitational, where 10 Wildcats medaled in the individual-focused showcase tournament.

Seniors Derick Becker (145 pounds), Beau Belski (135) and sophomores Dan Denova (103) and Ben Landry (82) each finished fourth in their respective weight classes.

Additionally, seniors Shahbaig Sidhn (135), Chris Caverly (152), Matt Aoun (130), David Sparling (189) and Junior Giddian Albuern (119) all battled through the consolation rounds to earn fifth-place medals at the invite. Junior Jake Dobras (189) finished sixth in his weight class.

"It was nice seeing those 10 guys earn their medals," Novi coach Dan Jilg said.

The Wildcats will have to gear back up for an intense week of competition this week.

Following a quad meet against Farmington, North Farmington and host Northville last night, the Wildcats head into one of the state's premier showcases for Saturday and Saturday at the Pontiac Silverdome.

Novi will compete in the Oakland County Championships, which will run alongside the Macomb County Championships and conclude with the two cham-



A 130-pound senior, Matt Aoun pins an opponent during his fifth-place finish at last Saturday's Hartland Invitational. BY NOWI WRESTLING PARENTS

pions from each county facing off against one another Saturday night.

"This year's county tournament will be one of the largest high school wrestling tournaments in the country," Jilg said. "It is the first time both the Oakland County and Macomb County tournaments will be hosted at a single site."

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

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Despite losing the bulk of their backcourt to graduation, Novi's boys basketball team kicked off the season with two dominant victories.

The Wildcats (2-0) opened the season on the road with a 89-56 victory Dec. 7 over Walled Lake Western before defeating Walled Lake Northern 80-54 in last Friday's home opener.

Senior forward Samer Ozeir has led Novi to victory in both contests. Ozeir had 23 points and 10 rebounds against Western (1-1), and followed

it up with 25 points, nine rebounds and five assists against Northern (1-1).

The Cats wasted no time in piling up a big lead in either game. They led 42-25 at the half and 74-41 after three quarters during the season opener at Western, while amassing a 45-21 halftime lead at half-time against Northern.

Although Ozeir led the team in scoring both games, he had a lot of help from the new backcourt, primarily senior Rob Laney and junior Scott Kempa. Laney netted 15 points against Western before breaking through for 16 points, nine rebounds and seven assists against Northern. Meanwhile, Kempa came off the bench for nine points in each game.

Senior forward Chris Milon was also big in both games, providing a viable frontcourt option so opposing defenses couldn't double team Ozeir without giving Milon an easy basket. Milon had 11 points and 13 rebounds against Western, while adding seven points and nine rebounds against Northern.

The team was consistent from the charity stripe, shooting 66.7 percent against Western (26-for-39) and 60 percent against Northern (15-for-25). Laney's combined 12-for-12 shooting between the two games contributed to the team's overall 64.1 percent free throw percentage. As the big threats down low, Ozeir was 9-for-17 (52.9 percent) and Milon went 6-for-15 (40 percent) at the free throw line.

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

NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

BOWLING
Novi's bowling squads are off to a much better start than last season with a strong performance at the Farmington Early Bird tournament and two solid dual meets already under the belt.

Both teams "finished in the middle of the pack" at the Dec. 4 tournament, according to Novi coach John Osborne.

Senior Tina Johnson was high scorer for the girls' squad with a 193 game and junior Callie Wright had the high series with a 475. For the boys, junior Andrew Thorwall (243 game and 606 series) and senior Brandon Ross (217 and 624) led the Wildcats.

On Dec. 6, the boys tied Walled Lake Northern 15-15, sweeping the baker games as senior Brandon Gillespie scored two points with games of 220 and 170. The girls had a tougher contest, losing 26-4, as Johnson led the way with games of 155 and 141.

Both teams improved last Thursday in Hartland, as the boys won 20-10 and the girls lost a close 16-14 contest.

Senior Stephen Cullen led the guys with games of 220 and 221, while Ross had the high game with a 224. The girls were led by Wright's high game of 187 and freshman Sara Schultz's games of 177 and 162.

Monday's match against Northville was rescheduled because of the region-wide snow day but the Wildcats are scheduled to face Westland John Glenn 3:30 p.m. today.

BOYS SWIMMING
Novi's boys swim and dive team opened their season with a 98-87 victory over Farmington United Dec. 7.

The Cats are off until they host Plymouth Salem 6 p.m. Jan. 6.

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

NOVI HIGH SCHOOL WINTER SPORTS SCHEDULES

Boys Basketball

All games at 7 p.m.
 12/16 Livonia Churchill
 12/17 @ Saline
 1/7 @ South Lyon
 1/11 Plymouth Salem
 1/14 @ Northville
 1/18 @ Livonia Stevenson
 1/21 South Lyon East
 1/25 @ Plymouth
 1/28 South Lyon
 2/1 @ Plymouth Salem
 2/4 Northville
 2/8 Livonia Stevenson
 2/11 @ South Lyon East
 2/17 Round 1 Crossover
 2/21 Round 2 Crossover
 2/25 @ Round 3 Crossover
 3/2 TBA @ Round 4 Crossover 1
 3/3 @ Round Crossover 1
 3/7-11 TBA Districts (Novi)
 3/14-16 TBA @ Regionals (Ann Arbor Pioneer)
 3/22 TBA @ Quarterfinals (Davison)
 3/24-26 TBA @ Semifinals/Final (Breslin Center in East Lansing)

Girls Basketball

All games at 7 p.m.
 12/16 @ Livonia Churchill
 1/7 @ Plymouth Salem
 1/14 Northville
 1/18 Livonia Stevenson
 1/21 @ South Lyon East
 1/25 Plymouth
 1/28 @ South Lyon
 2/1 Plymouth Salem
 2/4 @ Northville
 2/8 @ Livonia Stevenson
 2/11 South Lyon East
 2/15 Round 1 Crossover
 2/18 @ Round 2 Crossover
 2/22 @ Round 3 Crossover
 2/23 Round 4 Crossover 2-12
 2/24 Round Crossover 1-1
 2/28, 3/2-4 TBA @ Districts (Northville)
 3/6-10 TBA @ Regionals (Canton)
 3/15 TBA @ Quarterfinals (Davison)
 3/17-19 TBA @ Semifinals/Final (Breslin Center in East Lansing)

Ice Hockey

All games at 6:30 p.m. unless noted
 12/17 TBA @ Davison
 12/18 TBA @ Clarkston Christmas Tourney
 1/7 7 p.m. @ Calumet
 1/8 1 p.m. @ Houghton

Boys/Girls Skiing

All meets at 4 p.m.
 1/9 Birmingham Brother Rice/
 Bloomfield Hills/Marian (Alpine Valley)
 1/9 @ Walled Lake Northern
 1/20 @ Millford
 1/31 @ Hartland/Walled Lake Center
 2/10 Walled Lake Western (Alpine Valley)
 2/10 Divisional Championships
 2/14 TBA @ KLA Association Crossover
 2/17 @ Regional Championships (Mt. Brighton)
 2/21 @ Millford Round-up
 2/22 @ SEML League Championship (Pine Knob)
 2/28 TBA @ Finals (Marquette Mountain)

Boys/Girls Bowling

All meets at 3:30 p.m. unless noted
 12/16 @ Westland John Glenn (Super Bowl)
 1/6 Wayne Memorial (Novi Bowl)
 1/7 @ Livonia Clarenceville (Novi Bowl)
 1/11 @ Plymouth (Super Bowl)
 1/12 @ Canton (Westland Bowl)
 1/18 @ Plymouth Salem (Super Bowl)
 1/20 3 p.m. @ Grand Blanc (Airway Lanes)
 1/22 TBA @ Girls Oakland County Championships (Fairlanes Bowl)
 1/23 TBA @ Boys Oakland County Championships (TBA)
 1/24 @ Northville (Novi Aux #1)
 1/27 @ Westland John Glenn (Super Bowl)
 1/31 @ Wayne Memorial (Town N Country)
 2/3 @ Livonia Clarenceville (Super Bowl)
 2/9 @ Plymouth (Westland Bowl)
 2/10 @ Canton (Super Bowl)
 2/14 Plymouth Salem (Novi Bowl)
 2/18 10 a.m. @ KLA Association Tourney (Century Bowl)

Wrestling

12/17-18 TBA @ Oakland County Championships
 5:30 p.m. Crossover Quad (with Plymouth Salem, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin)
 5:30 p.m. @ Plymouth Salem Quad (with South Lyon East, Livonia Stevenson)
 9:30 a.m. @ Manning View Invitational (Brighton)
 5:30 p.m. @ Livonia Stevenson Quad (with South Lyon, Northville)
 10 a.m. @ Holt Invitational
 12/26 5:30 p.m. Livonia Stevenson
 12/29 9 a.m. @ Observeland Invitational (Livonia Churchill)
 2/2 5:30 p.m. @ Team Championship Quad @ South
 2/5 9 a.m. @ Individual Association Championship @ Lakes
 2/10 TBA @ Team Districts (Northville)
 2/12 TBA @ Individual Districts (Detroit Catholic Central)
 2/16 TBA @ Team Regionals (Canton)
 2/19 TBA @ Individual Regionals (Plymouth)
 2/25-26 TBA @ Team Finals (Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek)
 3/3-5 TBA @ Individual Finals (The Palace of Auburn Hills)

Boys Swimming

All meets at 6 p.m. unless noted
 1/6 Plymouth Salem
 1/8 TBA @ Laker Invitational (West Bloomfield)
 1/13 @ Livonia Stevenson
 1/15 7:30 a.m. @ Lakeland Invitational
 1/20 6:30 p.m. @ South Lyon East
 2/3 Northville
 2/4-5 TBA @ Oakland County Championships (Lake Orion)
 2/8 6:30 p.m. @ North Farmington
 2/10 Walled Lake Northern
 2/18-19 TBA @ KLA Central Division Meet
 2/25-26 TBA/12 p.m. KLA Kensington Conference Meet
 3/8 TBA @ Regional Diving (TBA)
 3/11-12 TBA @ Finals (Oakland University)

Boys/Girls Skiing

All meets at 4 p.m.
 1/9 Birmingham Brother Rice/
 Bloomfield Hills/Marian (Alpine Valley)
 1/9 @ Walled Lake Northern
 1/20 @ Millford
 1/31 @ Hartland/Walled Lake Center
 2/10 Walled Lake Western (Alpine Valley)
 2/10 Divisional Championships
 2/14 TBA @ KLA Association Crossover
 2/17 @ Regional Championships (Mt. Brighton)
 2/21 @ Millford Round-up
 2/22 @ SEML League Championship (Pine Knob)
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Boys/Girls Bowling

All meets at 3:30 p.m. unless noted
 12/16 @ Westland John Glenn (Super Bowl)
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 1/23 TBA @ Boys Oakland County Championships (TBA)
 1/24 @ Northville (Novi Aux #1)
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 1/31 @ Wayne Memorial (Town N Country)
 2/3 @ Livonia Clarenceville (Super Bowl)
 2/9 @ Plymouth (Westland Bowl)
 2/10 @ Canton (Super Bowl)
 2/14 Plymouth Salem (Novi Bowl)
 2/18 10 a.m. @ KLA Association Tourney (Century Bowl)

Competitive Cheer

12/18 TBA @ Brandon Invitational (TBA)
 6:30 p.m. KLA Trif Meet (with South Lyon East, Livonia Stevenson)
 9 a.m. Novi Invitational
 1/15 9 a.m. @ Cougar Spirit Invitational (Stoney Creek)
 1/19 6:30 p.m. @ KLA Quad Meet (South Lyon with Northville, Livonia Stevenson)
 1/22 TBA @ Brighton's Best Invitational
 1/29 1 p.m. @ Northville Invitational
 2/2 6:30 p.m. @ Livonia Stevenson
 TBA @ Kensington Conference Championship (Westland John Glenn)
 2/12 8 a.m. @ KLA Association Championship (Lakeland)
 2/18 6 p.m. MHSAA Competitive Cheer District (Novi Fieldhouse)
 2/26 2 p.m. @ MHSAA Regional Tournament (Hartland)
 3/4 6 p.m. @ MHSAA State Final (Delta Plex in Grand Rapids)



Novi alum Danny Enright goes up for a catch during a 27-21 loss Oct. 2 against Wittenberg (Ohio) University.

Football alum earns collegiate recognition

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Novi High School alum Danny Enright recently completed a successful season with Oberlin College's football team. Enright, who graduated from Novi in 2008, is a junior tight end at Oberlin in Westlake, Ohio. The former Wildcat earned All-NCAC honorable mention Nov. 22 while helping his team to a 4-6 final record.

Starting all 10 games, Enright was third on the team in all-purpose yards with 490, all as a receiver. He made 40 receptions for a 12.2 yard average per catch, which led to five touchdowns on the season. Enright had a reception in every game except the season opener.

His best game came at Hiram College Sept. 25 during a 47-21 victory. He had 127 yards and one touchdown on seven catches.

Enright led all tight ends in the conference in both yards per game (49) and touchdowns.

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

Novi icers dominate conference rivals

Defeats
 Northville 8-1,
 Plymouth 10-2

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Three goals in the first seven minutes was a quick recipe for dissolving the intensity in a usually high-charged baseline rivalry contest.

Novi (5-2-0, 3-2-0 Kensington) defeated Northville 8-1 Dec. 8 at Novi Ice Arena after the Wildcats burst out with an early lead in the first period and never looked back as the Mustangs fell to 3-2-1 (0-0 Kensington).

"We had a strong start and played our style of game. The two losses against Salem and Stevenson gave us a wake up call," Novi coach Todd Krygier said. "My first three years coaching (against Northville), we were 0-4-2 and now we're 3-0-0 the last two years, so I'm still under .500."

It took 3:35 of action for senior Joey Ferriss to knock in a point blank rebound in front of the net. Seniors Taylor Howell and Michael Kruse assisted on the play, which began behind the Mustangs' net.

Seniors Nolan Valteau and Michael Kruse added to the scoreboard with power play scores from the blue line just five and 15 seconds into two separate man advantages to give Novi a 3-0 lead with 10:34 left in the first period. Ferriss assisted on both goals, and sophomore Jon Mencer got an assist on the Kruse goal.

"Novi played really well. We didn't," Northville coach Jeff Hatley said. "I think our



Novi senior Zach Mohr (center) jumps over an anticipated shot from sophomore Jon Mencer (left) during the Wildcats' 8-1 victory over Northville Dec. 8.

guys were a little nervous at the beginning." Ferriss paced the Wildcats, hitting the post with 1:42 remaining in the first, but couldn't capitalize again.

Novi held their three-goal lead until 4:15 into the second period when Northville senior Brady Marotta tipped a puck through Wildcat senior netminder Michael Pesendorfer's legs during a five-on-three power play. Senior Joey Close and junior Matt Giordano assisted on the goal, which cut Novi's lead to 3-1 while two of their top three defenders - Kruse and junior Brock Krygier - were in the penalty box.

"It was 3-1 and they had a chance to turn it around and had a turnover and Ferriss scored," Todd Krygier said. "We don't take anything for granted."

It took the Wildcats 1:41 to respond and regain a three-goal lead when Ferriss took the puck in alone for a shorthanded goal. Just 1:11 after that, Novi junior Kent Burnett put in a rebound, as Kruse and Howell assisted, to put Novi up 5-1.

Valteau and junior Dylan Shepard added two goals 39 seconds apart to put the 'Cats up 7-1 with 5:48 left in the second period. Valteau's came six seconds after killing a

penalty, while Shepard was 24 seconds into a power play. Senior Zach Mohr assisted on both goals, with Burnett tallying an assist on Valteau's and junior Curtis Herzog tallying one on Shepard's goal.

"If we're possessing the puck, we're going to be on offense more than we're on defense," Todd Krygier said. "We seem to play well against orange uniforms and not so good against black uniforms."

A one-timer in front of the net by Shepard off a pass from Herzog, who was behind the goal, put the Wildcats ahead 8-1 just 1:51 into the third period, at which point the third and

fourth lines took over and held the Mustangs scoreless for the final 15 minutes of play. It also got Pesendorfer (26 saves) some more work, as the Wildcats kept play primarily on the Mustangs' side of the ice throughout the first two periods.

"It gave me an opportunity to get my third and fourth line guys some more ice time in the third period. We weren't worried about the mercy," Todd Krygier said. "I think Michael did good in goal. He made a couple key saves. He's getting back on track. At this point, I've got to get Michael back on track because he's coming off his

ON TAP

Novi's icers (5-2-0, 3-2-0 Kensington) head to the Detroit Skating Club this weekend to face Davison (4-3-1) 7:15 p.m. Friday and either Clarkston (3-4-0) or Hartland (3-1-1, 3-0-1 Kensington) at 2:30 p.m. Saturday for the Clarkston Christmas Tournament title. The hockey team won't be back in action until a three-game trip to the Upper Peninsula Jan. 7-9 when they face Calumet, Houghton and Marquette before returning home for a Jan. 17 contest against Livonia Franklin (0-3-0, 0-2-0 Kensington).

(offseason) injury." Northville senior goalkeeper David Kethelut withstood the Wildcats' onslaught, making 29 saves despite allowing eight goals.

"I want to be done with this game and put it in the rear-view mirror. I take responsibility. It's on me," Hatley said. "David's a tough kid. He'll come back from this one. All good goalkeepers do that."

PLYMOUTH Novi mercied Plymouth (2-0-2, 2-0-2 Kensington) 7-4-0 into the third period with a 10-2 showing last Saturday at Compuware Arena.

Pesendorfer made 11 saves as Novi ripped off 32 shots and Ferriss (one goal, four assists), Brock Krygier (two goals, two assists), Howell (two goals, two assists), Herzog (one goal, three assists), Kruse (two goals), Valteau (one goal, one assist) and Shepard (one goal, one assist) contributed to the offensive flurry.

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

Catholic Central nets two wins
 Hockey team beats St. Mary's, U-of-D

BY SAM EGGLESTON
CORRESPONDENT

The Shamrocks will be back on the ice Saturday when they take on Livonia Stevenson on the road at 7 p.m.

Catholic Central looked like the team that is defending the state title last week as they shed the two early-season losses hanging over their heads and notched two big wins.

The squad, coached by Todd Johnson, beat Catholic High School League rivals Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 3-2, and the University of Detroit Jesuit High School, 9-2.

"We were happy with the effort in both games," said Johnson. "I think we made small improvements in all phases. The key will be to build on small gains as opposed to patting ourselves on the back."

Against Orchard Lake, the Shamrocks found themselves falling behind 1-0, at the 8:42 mark in the first period on a score by Connor Lyons, but they bounced right back, tying the game, 1-1, early in the second period as Charlie Green took an assist from Sean

Gaffney and found the back of the net.

Orchard Lake St. Mary's scored again two minutes later on a shot by Mathew Sweet, before Catholic Central put the game away with scored at the 11-minute mark and at 12:26 in the second period off the sticks of Nick Daigneau and Green.

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Nick Bowen in the second period for a 4-0 lead. The Cubs added a score of their own at the 14:17 mark in the second, but Catholic Central scored again off the stick of Green two minutes later, followed by another goal in the third off a shot by Nick Montoni for a 6-1 difference.

The Cubs, once again, found the back of the net at 3:44 in the third, but that was the last noise they would make at the Shamrocks added three more unanswered goals by Orr, Ryan Keller and Gaffney to secure the victory.

Assists for Catholic Central went to Pete Halash, Mitchell Gatt (2), Daigneau, Nolan Gluchowski, Gree, Carson Gatt, Gaffney, Robert Ault, Michael Downing (2) and VanAcker.

Alex Nok earned the win between the posts, stopping 15 shots.

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

HOOPS
 FROM PAGE B1

D'Annibale came off the bench for six points and McMahan's presence back on the court provided a spark for the Wildcats, who outscored the Warriors 16-4 in the quarter to take a 35-13 lead heading into the fourth quarter.

Western sophomores Erickah Woods (10 points) and Maddie Schram (five points) were the only two Warrior players who consistently got opportunities on offense. Seniors Kaitlyn Smith, Amanda Rudley and junior Julia Venegas each added two points apiece.

Novi had the Warriors (0-2) tripled up at 39-13 early in the fourth quarter, but an 8-3 Western Warriors close out the game cut the final score to 42-21.

Novi. Senior Maddy Sinkovitch chipped in with three points and junior Abby Robinson had one point for Novi.

"We've just got to handle pressure. That's two games in a row we didn't handle pressure well," Kelp said, noting his team needed to improve on defense and be more willing to shoot on offense.

The 'Cats shot just 40 percent from the floor (16-for-40), which was good enough to beat the Warriors, who had an off night with 23.1 percent shooting (6-for-26). Both teams had 17 rebounds, as Western had five on offense and Novi had three.

Novi had a 11-5 steal advantage (15-24 turnovers), but also had a 19-16 lead in fouls made.

Lake Northern (0-3) last Friday. Shooting 51.4 percent (19-for-37), Novi had a tougher time holding off Northern, who shot 48 percent (12-for-25). The 'Cats again had more steals (13-4) and fewer turnovers (15-20), but also committed more fouls (22-12) despite the victory.

For all the stat crunching, Novi was able to build a 25-17 halftime lead en route to a 46-34 victory. McMahan had a game-high 17 points on 8-for-12 shooting. She had a strong supporting cast, as sophomore Jade Antolec had nine points and Armiak and Berehulka each added five apiece.

Beaton added five points to go with her team-high five rebounds, and juniors Katie Seelenbinder and Abby Chandler chipped in with two points and one point, respectively.

NORTHERN The Wildcats had to improve their shooting to beat Walled
 Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

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NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

Mr. Sponge announces new product

Mr. Sponge Waterproofing, a polyurethane injection waterproofing company in Novi, announced that it is now offering its newly developed tie-rod hole leak device called "TRX Compressed Swell Plug."

The new TRX Compressed Swell Plug, developed from 40 years of in-field service, is unique in its two stage sealing capabilities. Its compressed action allows the end user to tighten the TRX to shut water off instantly. The second stage of the TRX has a water-activated sleeve that swells with the presence of water causing a long-term permanent seal.

The TRX patent pending device is designed to seal holes created from the forming of poured concrete foundation walls. During construction, conventional wall forming systems called "shuttering" uses 5/8" steel rods approximately every 18 inches to hold the forms in place. Once the concrete is cured, the rods are removed, leaving holes that leak over time.

For further information, visit www.trxplug.com or www.mrsponge.com.

Two deals in Novi for Signature Associates

Signature Associates has negotiated the lease of 11,000 square feet of industrial space located at 41365-41367 Vincenti, Novi. Jim Montgomery and David Giltner of Signature Associates represented the landlord, Brad Hawthorne. The tenant is The Library Network. The facility was selected for its location and office to warehouse ratio.

Signature also negotiated the sale of 14,021 square feet of industrial space located at 46755 Magellan, Novi. Jim Montgomery and David Giltner of Signature Associates represented the seller, Fit Turf. The purchaser is Magellan Dr. LLC.

Novi businesses authorized to place additional signage

In an effort to assist the Novi business community and promote holiday season sales, the City of Novi is providing a one-time, additional business sign allowance through Dec. 26. The Novi City Council passed a resolution giving businesses the opportunity to take advantage of "temporary promotional event" signage.

To provide fairness and to maintain safe and attractive business areas, the following

rules apply:

- No City permit or fees are required for the additional sign, but interested businesses must complete the registration form inside this newsletter and return it to the Community Development Department prior to sign placement to participate in the one-time offering.

- Each sign meeting the criteria below will be permitted from Friday, Nov. 26-Sunday, Dec. 26. Each sign shall be removed immediately upon the expiration of this approval.

- One additional sign per business registered with the City of Novi is permitted.
- The sign must be a portable sign meaning a free-standing sign not permanently anchored or secured to either a building or the ground, such as A-frame poles temporarily driven into the ground and T-shaped signs in the nature of a traditional "for sale" sign.

- The sign can be up to 24 square feet in area and not in excess of six feet in height.

- The sign must not be placed on public property or in the public road right-of-way or any road easement.

- To determine public property, behind the sidewalk is generally a good indicator of right-of-way lines. Tenants will need to coordinate and receive permission from property owners.

- The City will not become involved in any lease-lease discussions. The signs must be placed on the same private property as the business being promoted. Be aware to not block sight lines for drivers entering and exiting the business area. The City reserves the right to direct changes to sign placement as required to maintain safety.

- Before any sign is placed, a registration form must be completed and returned to the City of Novi, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

- For more information or to download the registration form, visit InvestNovi.org.

- The registration may also be faxed to (248) 735-5600 to the attention of Jeannie Niland, jniland@cityofnovi.org, in Community Development.

Business Avenue: Small Business TV program

If you are a small business located in Novi, you qualify to be part of the cable television line-up on Business Avenue. This 15-minute program airs on Novi Television and highlights your business. There is no charge to be included in this program. If you are interested in being featured on this show, please e-mail smarchioni@cityofnovi.org.



Busch's helps out

Carol Ann Donnelly and Betty Shultz (right) bring Christmas greetings and thanks to Neil Johnson, Busch's produce manager, for supplementing parishioners' assistance to the Clothes Closet and Christian Service in providing food for those in need. Needs are great with the down economy and Busch's is dedicated to local community support. Donnelly is director of Christian Service and founder of the Clothes Closet.

BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars in December 2010 offered by the Oakland County Business Center. Business Basics workshops are now offered in the evenings on alternating months.

Unless otherwise noted, seminars are held at Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit oakgov.com/peds/calendar, or call (248) 858-0783.

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. Workshop participants will learn what elements are commonly found in effective plans and will work on developing each of these for their own business. Assistance in the process as well as information on resources will be provided. The fee is \$40, which includes all materials. No refunds. Thursday, Dec. 16, 6-9 p.m.

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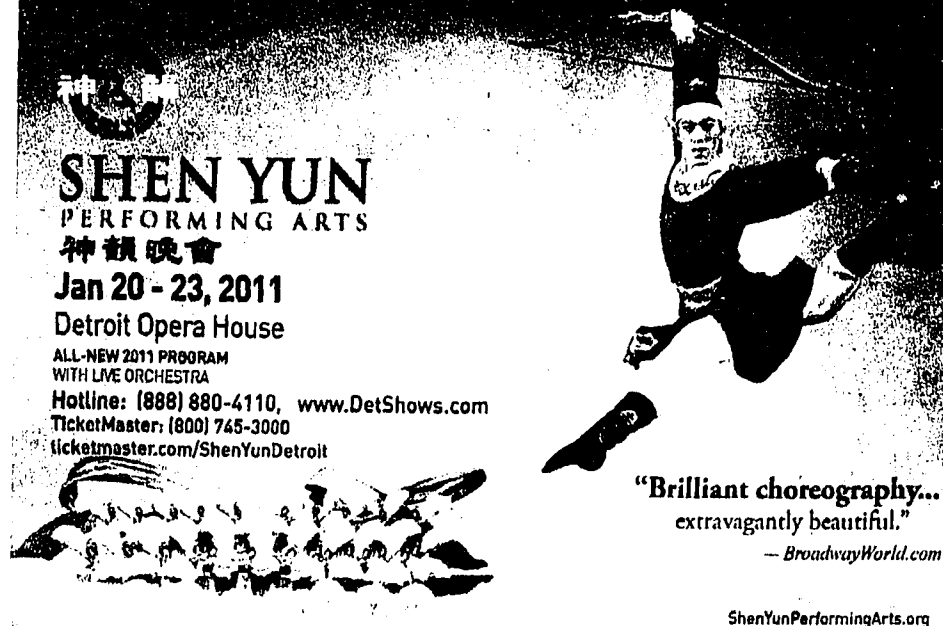
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A PERFORMANCE 5,000 YEARS IN THE MAKING

A performance by Shen Yun is traditional Chinese culture as it was meant to be: a study in grace, wisdom, and all the virtues distilled from millennia of Chinese civilization. The classically trained dancers, musicians, and singers of Shen Yun Performing Arts share a vision: to revive and restore Chinese culture to its former, glorious state.

TWO GREAT CLASSICAL MUSIC TRADITIONS ONE FRESH, UNEXPECTED SOUND

Some remarkable instruments such as the *pipa* or *erhu* date back more than 3,500 years, but the reality is very few Chinese instruments have made it to the world stage. To remedy this, the composers of Shen Yun bathe the distinctly Chinese sounds in a rich sea

of Western strings, percussion, woodwinds, and brass. The result: A new and mesmerizing sound.

Each season, the composers create over 20 original scores. They work closely with the choreographers to ensure a seamless blending of the music with each and every dance.

EXTRAORDINARY ARTISTS

"There's just something about them," audience members often remark.

At a time when the influence of Taoism, Buddhism, and Confucianism was strong in the Middle Kingdom, art was a means to explore the connection between mankind and the higher universe. Poets and artists cultivated virtue and engaged in study and meditation because they believed that to create true art worthy of the heavens, there must first be inner beauty and purity.

Today, the artists of Shen Yun follow in that noble tradition. Their training regimen requires focus and a mindful lifestyle. Many draw inspiration from traditional cultivation practices such as Falun Dafa, which teaches truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance.

Among the company's artists are many winners of international competitions in dance, music, and singing, as well as accomplished choreographers and composers. No other Chinese performing arts group in the world can boast such a remarkable body of talent.

A BRAND NEW PRODUCTION FOR 2011

Months of training and preparation culminate each winter when Shen Yun debuts a spectacular original production with all new dances, costumes, and music.

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For those who find all things Chinese a little foreign, never fear. The show is based on Chinese culture, but the values it portrays belong to all of humanity.

ONE OF THE MOST DEMANDING ART FORMS IN THE WORLD

No other art form in the world boasts such strong expressive qualities and diversity of technique as classical Chinese dance. It takes years of rigorous training to master the many leaps, flips, and delicate gestures. Dancers must also be versed in Chinese culture to achieve the bearing needed to bring ancient legends and heroic figures to life.

In addition to the classical forms, Shen Yun features the distinctive colors and styles of ethnic and folk dance. Choreographers draw upon over 20 dynasties and 50 ethnic groups to create pieces that range from the northern steppes of Mongolia to the lush forests of Yunnan. Among the most impressive elements of any Shen Yun show are the large-scale ensemble pieces in which dozens of dancers appear to move as one body across the stage.

Shen Yun has also created its very own brand of story-based dance, which often deals with universal, thought-provoking themes. As one distinguished ballet dancer noted, "There's a lot of depth and meaning. It's a new realm of dance."

Based in New York, Shen Yun Performing Arts is distinguished by its conscious effort to remain independent of China's communist regime, which has abused and impoverished the arts for decades. In fact, a show like Shen Yun's can no longer be found in China today. As one well-traveled New Yorker noted: "I've seen China before with my eyes, but this show had me experience China with my soul."

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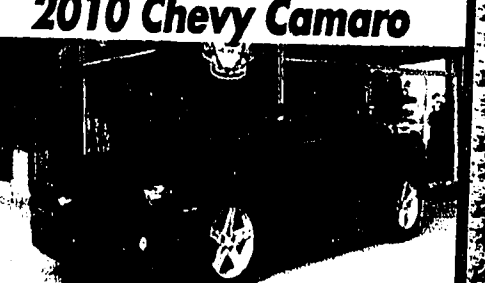
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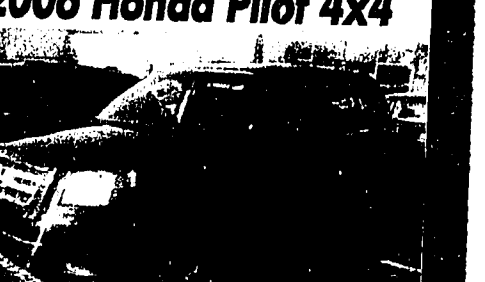
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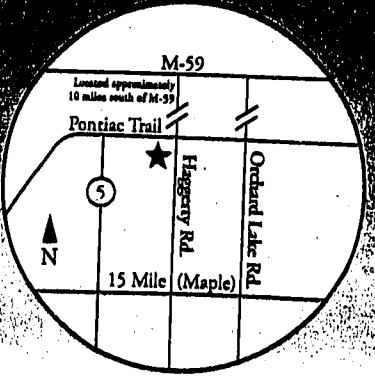
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