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THURSDAY  
January 13, 2011

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES  
Volume 55  
Number 34

# NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

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NOVI NOW  
MLK celebration

Novi High School will host the 11th annual celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at 7 p.m. This free celebration including drama, song, dance and the spoken word is open to the public.

Stop bullying

Kids Empowered, Boys Empowered and Girls Empowered present two anti-bullying programs to Novi parents, children and the surrounding community on Thursday, Jan. 20 at Providence Park Hospital - Medical Office Building 26850 Providence Parkway, second floor training room.

STOP, THINK, GO! - For Kindergarten and their parents, this workshop uses games and a simple craft to teach our littlest ones the do's and don'ts of how to treat other kids - their friends, classmates, and siblings. This is a great way to teach decision-making skills. Parents will love using this tool.

ASSERTIVENESS BOOT CAMP

Age-appropriate breakout for 1st-6th graders and their parents. What to say to the meanness and more. Being assertive is a life skill every kid needs to have in dealing with meanness, in negotiating, handling conflict and setting boundaries. Kids and parents will learn and practice being assertive in their words, voice, and body language through role-playing and a craft. This workshop will help all kids no matter what their confidence levels - from kids who may be too aggressive in how they communicate to those who don't use their voice at all.

For more information, including cost, times and registration, go to www.girls-empowered.com or www.boys-empowered.com and click on program schedule.

Kowal's office open

State Sen. Mike Kowal (R-White Lake) announced that his Lansing office is open and ready to meet the needs of 15th Senate District constituents.

The e-mail address is: senmkowal@senate.michigan.gov. The office phone number is (517) 373-1758 and the mailing address is P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909. Kowal's office is located in Room 305 of the Farnum Building at 125 W. Allegan St. in Lansing, across from the Michigan Capitol.

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## Council gives Walmart preliminary stamp Zoning Board of Appeals to weigh in on variance requests

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

Novi City Council Member Dave Staudt summed it up as the council's discussion regarding plans for Walmart came to an end Monday night - "Welcome to Novi, shortly." It appears a date with the Novi Zoning Board of Appeals is now all that remains before Walmart is given final approval by the city council to construct a 149,854-square-foot, 24-hour Supercenter in the Novi Town Center. The city council approved the preliminary site plan and special land

use permit at Monday night's council meeting, with stipulations surrounding specific variance requests including the garden center.

It also gave preliminary site plan approval to construct a 17,500-square-foot building that would connect the existing Novi Town Center to the proposed Walmart structure.

Traffic concerns were at the forefront of the discussion between the council members, much like when the plans went before the Novi Planning Commission, but it was not enough for the seven-member board to nix the project.

Novi Mayor David Landry also clarified to the public that the town center is zoned for this type of retail use, and if a business complies with the city's ordinances they can locate there without city approval.

The only reason the plans came before the city council was because the applicant was requesting a special land use permit for the garden center.

"Realistically, if they did not need any variances from us they have the right to come and do this," he said. "So this is not a question of whether; it's a question of what does it look like, how big is it going to be and some of the

bells and whistles." Traffic consultant Rod Arroyo said Walmart will generate a little more traffic than the previous occupant Mervyn's, but "in terms of the amount of improvements needed I don't think it would be significantly different."

A pair of Novi residents also spoke at the meeting regarding traffic issues. "I felt the traffic consultant was very vague," said resident Carol Crawford. "I really think Grand River is going to pose a traffic problem for that establishment."

Please see WALMART, A3

## First in state



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza opened their first Michigan location last week in the Novi Town Center. The management team, from left (above): manager Nicole Fields, co-founder George Kurajian and Adam Bunkelman. A sausage and basil pizza fresh from the oven (top).

## Tony Sacco's opens in Novi Town Center

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER



Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza kitchen manager Mike Ansama tosses some dough up in the air as he begins the pizza making process.

George Kurajian, co-founder of Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza, knew he was bringing a unique product to Novi.

But even he was surprised by how the business has been welcomed as repeat customers have already been filing during the business' first week.

"No one has a product like ours," Kurajian said while sitting in the restaurant as the lunch rush left last Friday. "Everything we do is from scratch, and we wanted to bring that old-style, old-world cooking back."

The uniqueness that Kurajian talks about revolves mainly around how they cook their pizzas.

Everything is prepared fresh and in front of the customers, but the key is the custom-built anthracite coal-burning oven that heats up to 1,000 degrees and "flash cooks" the pizza in about four minutes.

Kurajian said it keeps the crust crispier and does not cook the flavor out of their homemade pizza sauce and toppings.

"Coal has been used for making pizzas in Italy

Please see PIZZA, A2

## Council increases fund balance range

Goals are put in place for 2011

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

A pair of policy discussions kicked off the annual Novi City Council goal setting session last Saturday, with one policy change that will increase the fund balance range from 14 to 18 percent to 18 to 22 percent.

The policy change was approved by a 4-3 vote and will give the city administration direction when preparing upcoming budgets. "It's not just good enough to have enough there to keep bond agencies happy and to keep banks happy," said council member Dave Staudt. "It's more important to me to have more than we need."

Council member Terry Margolis was not in favor of the increase, noting the city ended last year with 34 percent fund balance and are projecting a 28 percent fund balance in 2010-2011. However, in 2013-14, the fund balance is projected at 14 percent.

She said she cannot support having over 34 percent fund balance while residents are complaining about the state of their roads.

The council members also talked about what they would do with the excess

"We are unique because we are not stopping, and I don't want to stop."

DAVID LANDRY, Novi Mayor

fund balance, offering up some ideas such as putting it toward capital improvement programs, legacy costs and budget stabilization.

The other policy discussion was to see if there was any interest in instituting an administrative fee and simultaneously lowering the overall property tax millage rates by an equal amount to offset the costs for assessing and treasury services. A portion of the proceeds would then go towards a long-term reduction of the city's pension and retirement obligations.

Only Mayor David Landry seemed to be in favor of the idea.

"This doesn't feel right to be," Margolis said. "The administrative fee, while I think it's an interesting idea, would be difficult to explain to people. They wouldn't understand and it would appear to be an inappropriate way to move forward."

In terms of the goals, seven different themes were

Please see GOALS, A2

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**PIZZA**  
FROM PAGE A1

for over 500 years so we kind of are going back to the beginning," he said.

Tony Sacco's is starting to expand across the nation, but this is their first location in Michigan. They hired 38 employees, 29 full time, and took over a Novi Town Center building that faces Grand River Avenue that had been vacant for the last four years.

Novi resident Lindsay Kennedy was one of the restaurant's repeat customers, dining with a friend Friday afternoon after trying the pizza for the first time on Monday.

"There was a lot of flavor," she said. "You could taste the difference."

Said Dominik Gunkel: "The crust is so thin and so rich."

Novi's Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza is located at 42970 Grand River Ave. It is open from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and from 11 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday.

For more information, call (248) 349-1400.



Novi resident Lindsay Kennedy says Tony Sacco's dining room can seat up to 125 people, and there is an outdoor patio that will be open in the summer.

**GOALS**  
FROM PAGE A1

discussed and the top three or four will be the city's focus for 2011.

The goals for public safety were: continue to coordinate the scheduling of paid on call and full-time firefighters, implementing ICMA study recommendations, investigate billing for life/assist calls to nursing homes.

In infrastructure it is to increase funding for neighborhood road programs, fund and complete a portion of phase 1 of non-motorized master plan, fund key intersection improvements from 1-96 study and review policy for road preventive maintenance to ensure adequate repairs are also aesthetically pleasing.

Economic Development focused on providing ability for all forms, licenses, etc. to be completed online, implementing Master Plan update recommendations, continuing strategic action plan for Main Street including soliciting stakeholder feedback to improve area and investigate city cause impediments to investment in area.

Develop government structure goals were: continue efforts to share services with the school system, investigate re-opening front of civic center (over) and provide handicapped/senior/expectant mother parking close to entrance, create more online tools for payment, service request, code enforcement, etc.

Natural area goals were: update ordinances and design and construction standards to be consistent with adopted Complete Streets resolution, continue focus on code enforcement to ensure

high-quality community and neighborhoods, continue to seek grants for acquisition and development of park land, review recycling in the city including city buildings, recycling center and possible use of Recycle Bank Program and partner with private businesses to fund landscaping improvements to M-5/12 Mile interchange area.

Fiscally responsible government goals were: review health care policies (beyond premiums and co-pays) as compared to other cities and private companies and implement way to further bring down costs, include in 2011-2012 budget a plan to lower expenditures to match revenues by 2012-2013 and comprehensive impact study of recent and potential future MERS policy changes, including ability of the city to "opt out," implications of doing so and possible alternatives.

Parks, recreation and cultural services goals were: identify citizen level of desire for a dog park and if appropriate, pursue low cost proposal including city-owned land and development of in-house/volunteer labor and materials, complete Fluert Park improvements, complete a comprehensive analysis of Senior Transportation with goal to drive down per trip cost to users, including partnerships, naming rights, electrification of fleet, etc to make more accessible to all senior residents.

Landry said while the city is expecting to do more with less, it doesn't mean they are going to do less.

"We are unique because we are not stopping, and I don't want to stop," he said. "As we look at these goals we cannot stand still."

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**State of the City**

The City of Novi in partnership with the Novi Chamber of Commerce invites you to join Mayor David Landry and Novi City Council members for the State of the City address and luncheon from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20 at Barometre Renaissance hotel (27790 Novi Road).

The cost is \$27 per person. Reservations be made by sending a check made payable to: City of Novi, attention Robin Working, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

Seating is limited to the first 230 attendees.

OC Clerk Bullard calls for commissioner vacancy reform

The Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds Bill Bullard, Jr. on Jan. 5 wrote Oakland County state legislators asking for their help in reforming the state law regarding elections for vacancies in the office of County Commissioner.

Bullard is asking legislators to consider amending the state law to make the appointment and vacancy procedure for a County Commissioner consistent with the current law governing other local officials such as county-wide, township, city and school board officers. The law regarding those vacancies provides for an appointee to serve until the next regularly scheduled general election. Only in the case of a County Commissioner, does the law require a special election if the vacancy is created in an odd-numbered year.

"This is a common sense step that will save taxpayers dollars and lessen the burden on local governments. Vacancies on the County Commission are not uncommon and we should make the process for filling them consistent with other local officials," said Bullard.

Under the current law, special primary and general elections will have to be held in several Oakland County communities to fill a vacancy in Commission District 2. This vacancy was caused when the Oakland County Circuit Court voted to elevate Bullard from his seat as County Commissioner to the role of County Clerk/Register of Deeds following the election of Ruth Johnson to the office of Michigan Secretary of State. Bullard will serve as County Clerk/Register until the next regularly scheduled election in November 2012.

The communities in Commission District 2



This artist rendering shows what the Walmart Supercenter in the Novi Town Center would look like. Noticeably missing is the blue background on the Walmart sign, a change made to comply with the look of the town center.

**COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

**MSU Extension offers Michigan Conservation Stewards Program beginning Feb. 26**

Are you looking for a great opportunity to learn about conservation and natural science and assume leadership roles through volunteering your time, knowledge, and skills in conservation management in your community? Individuals who take part in the Michigan Conservation Stewards Program (CSP) can learn how to effectively take part in informed, scientifically based conservation and resource management and work to sustain healthy ecosystems across Michigan.

This 10-week program consists of nine Monday evening classes (6-9 p.m.) and three Saturday field sessions (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) from Feb. 26 through April 25. Monday evening sessions are held at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford. Saturday sessions will be held at the MSU Tollgate Education Center, Indian Springs Metropark, and Independence Oaks County Park. Registration fee is \$275.

Obtain an application packet online at <http://www.oakgov.com/msu/> or call (248) 858-0887 to request an application by mail. The deadline to submit applications is Feb. 4. Please call (248) 858-0887 for more information.

**WALMART**  
FROM PAGE A1

Another one of the issues at the planning commission was with the facade on the front of the store. Walmart representatives were hesitant to comply with the look of the existing town center because it hurt their brand image, but in the end decided to change.

"I've never seen a Walmart that looks like this," Landry said. "As far as fitting in with the town center or Novi, I think they have done a pretty good job with it."

Matt Quinn, who represents the owners of the Novi Town Center, said he received notices from 27 businesses in and around the town center that are in favor of Walmart coming. He also gave council a list of 100 more businesses that are said to "follow Walmart," and spoke of others that want to come to the town center if Walmart is approved.

"This isn't being done in a vacuum," Quinn said. "Other businesses do not want Walmart not to come in. They are looking at this as an economic kick in the pants for the Novi Town Center and the surrounding areas."

Council member Andrew Mutch voted against the plans, saying he felt that the city has to "practically drag (the plans) across the finish line" to get Walmart to comply.

He also was disappointed that they did not have more options to address traffic concerns.

Lindsay Huddleston, public affairs and government relations spokesman for Walmart, said if the store receives final approval from the city council they plan on being open by 2012.

He also said the business could generate an estimated 350 full-time and part-time jobs.

Council member Andrew Mutch voted against the plans, [nmutter@gannett.com](mailto:nmutter@gannett.com) (248) 437-2011, ext. 255

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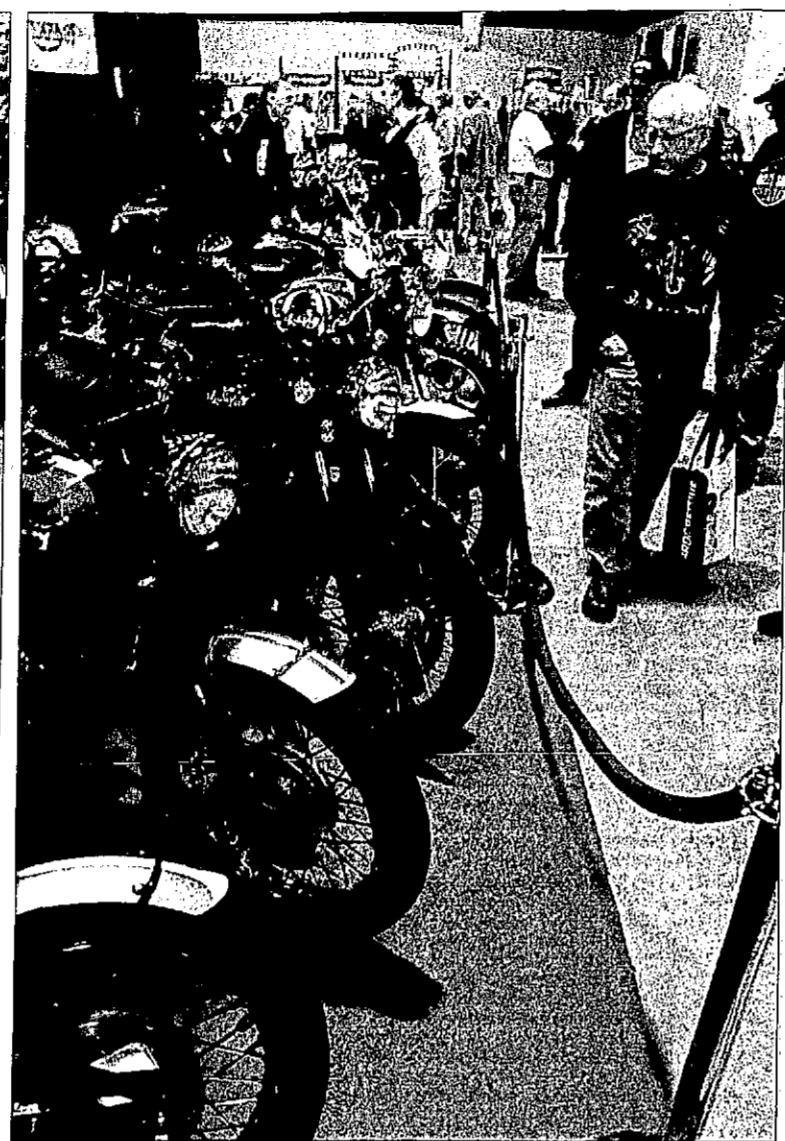
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PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Thinkin' summer**

Bob Miske of Detroit (top left) checks out a touring version of a large CC Yamaha cycle during the Jan. 7 Novi Motorcycle Show at the Suburban Collection Showcase. All the major manufacturers had their wares on display along with lots of clothing, gear and helmets for riders. Attendees take a look at a display of Triumph motorcycles (above).

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Perhaps it is the quiet gentleness of the heavenly maidens that reminds us of a better time and a better world. Perhaps it is the conviction of warriors dashing across the plains that tells us that good always defeats evil in the end. Or maybe it's just the timeless stories of courage and compassion, kindness and kinship.

Whatever it is, Shen Yun has touched the hearts of millions. "I cried a few times," one audience member confessed. "What I saw was power, honesty, and integrity—I am grateful for that." The show has graced some of the most prestigious stages in the world, from the Royal Festi-

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."

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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.

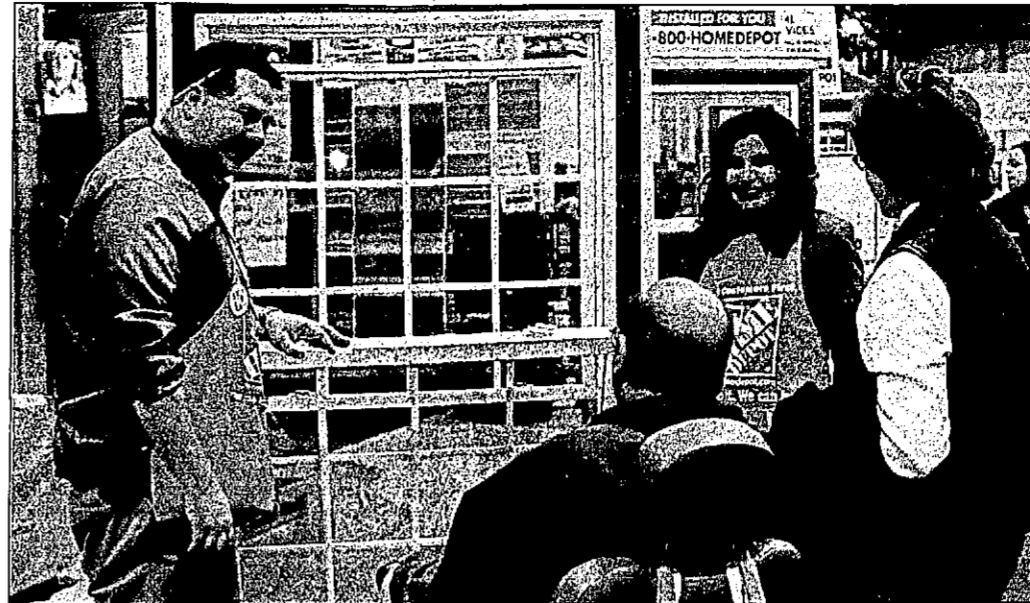
Today, the artists of Shen Yun follow in that noble tradition. Their training regimen requires focus and a mindful lifestyle. Many draw inspiration from traditional cultivation practices such as Falun Dafa, which teaches truthfulness, compassion, and forbearance.

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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Some of the latest aging-in-place trends can be found within "Home for all Ages" exhibit at the Novi Home Improvement Show, January 28-30, 2011, at the Suburban Collections (formerly Rock Financial) Showplace in Novi.

**Home Improvement Show spotlights senior needs**

The Novi Home Improvement Show, Jan. 28-30, will feature a special "Home for all Ages" exhibit—a special informational area dedicated to home modifications and services that allow people to occupy their residences safely, confidently and comfortably throughout their later years. The concept of "aging-in-place" is simply allowing people to continue to live in the home of their choice safely and independently as they get older. According to the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), modifications for aging-in-place is the fastest growing segment of the residential remodeling industry.

According to an AARP "Fixing to Stay" survey, 71 percent of respondents (Americans ages 45 and over) would like to live in their home as long as possible, and 63 percent of respondents believe they will always live in their home. But, in order to live in your home, modifications often need to be made to coincide with the physical and sensory changes experienced as we age. About 86 percent of survey respondents said they have made at least one simple modification to their home to make it more livable. Some popular home modifications include:

- Creation of a level entry and more open plans with clearer floor space for easier maneuvering.
- Pull-out shelves make contents more accessible.
- Recessed wall cabinets, and appliances placed at comfortable heights.
- Sinks with space beneath for wheel chairs.
- Use of ramps instead of steps and levers instead of door knobs.
- Enhanced high and low frequency tones for doorbells and telephones.
- Adding more grab bars and handrails, and items that are easier for arthritic hands to grasp.
- Use of color contrast, bright hues and larger text in on/off buttons and other household items.

Some of the latest aging-in-place trends can be found within "Home for all Ages" exhibit at the Novi Home Improvement Show, January 28-30, 2011, at the Suburban Collections (formerly Rock Financial) Showplace in Novi (just off I-96 on Grand River, one mile west of Novi Road). Browse through 210,000 square feet and 350 exhibits in kitchen, bath, doors, windows, remodeling, furniture and much more.

A coupon is available on [www.novihomeshow.com](http://www.novihomeshow.com), in area newspapers and at local gas stations. To find a gas station with discount coupons near you, visit [www.atlasoil.com/promotions](http://www.atlasoil.com/promotions). With this special coupon, all consumers can get a \$1 off any adult or senior admission. New this year, attendees of the 2011 North American International Auto Show can bring their used Auto Show ticket stub and receive \$1 off admission to the Novi Home Improvement Show. Attendees can purchase advance tickets online at [www.novihomeshow.com](http://www.novihomeshow.com) and receive a one-year subscription to Better Homes & Gardens, or buy advance tickets on sale at Metro Detroit Home Depot stores for \$6 (a \$2 discount).

This home improvement show is the first in a series of 2011 home improvement shows produced by Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) and part of the National Home & Garden Series presented by Dish Network.

**ON CAMPUS**  
**Hope College**  
 The following students were named to the Dean's List for the first semester of the 2010-11 school year. To be named to the Dean's List a student must have a minimum 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.  
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# Student-athletes mentor Novi Woods youth

Hoops stars of today befriend those of tomorrow

BY CHRIS JACKETT  
CORRESPONDENT

A youthful mind is open to any number of impressions. From family members to celebrities, a child could form both their values and future aspirations based on a handful of actions from a relative, favorite professional athlete or pop star. At Novi Woods Elementary School, a group of fourth graders have a new group to model themselves after via a partnership with Novi High School student-athletes.

Sally Chandler and Michelle Donberger's fourth-grade classes at Novi Woods have partnered with the varsity basketball teams to create Novi Community Schools' Student-Athlete Mentor program. The girls basketball team met with female fourth graders on Dec. 7 and the boys basketball team had their first meeting with the younger boys last Thursday.

"I think the true benefit for both groups of students is immeasurable," Novi boys basketball coach Cory Heitsch said. "For the young boys in fourth grade to have the opportunity to learn from and build a relationship with someone who has walked in their shoes is incredible. They can now have a role model who is attainable, not a (professional) basketball player or football player, or a singer, but a teenager in their own community."

"With that great of an impact being made on the younger students, I would say that the largest impact will be on the players themselves. They will get to see first hand how they can impact people by simply being a good listener and seeing value in others."

When Chandler and Novi girls basketball coach Bill Kelp began discussing what would become the new SAM program several months ago, each agreed

it would be a win-win situation for both groups of students. "Currently, at the elementary level, we typically have the fourth graders mentor younger students, but they don't have one for themselves. So we thought why not have high school students fill that void," Chandler said. "We are so pleased with how the program has started off. We have high hopes to continue the program and to add other classrooms to the program. To be honest, I'm not sure who enjoyed the SAM club meeting more, the fourth graders or the high schoolers."

Both Kelp and Heitsch said their student-athletes are looking forward to future SAM sessions after having a blast during the inaugural visits.

"They were pumped when they got back. Everyone was telling stories about the kids and how great they were," Heitsch said. "I am an elementary teacher, so they always ask me about kids that age; but even

with that I think they were very apprehensive and may have looked at it as an obligation. It is safe to say that even after only one session, that the feeling of obligation was replaced with pure enjoyment and a willingness to want to continue to work with their partners."

Kelp said he has tried to build a role model/family-type atmosphere throughout the three teams in his basketball program for years, but the SAM program further expands that role model atmosphere throughout the district.

"The thing we really have emphasized in the past with the varsity girls, especially the



Senior Brady Sheldon (center) hangs with fourth-graders Dylan King and Kyle Sabo at Novi Woods Elementary on Jan. 6 as part of the basketball program's new Student-Athlete Mentor program partnership.

### GET IN THE HABIT

"The Seven Habits" for both happy kids and highly effective people are:

- Be proactive
- Begin with the end in mind
- Put first things first
- Think win-win
- Seek first to listen/understand then to be understood
- Synergize
- Sharpen the saw

seniors, is that they realize is that the frosh and JV girls in our program look up to them and that they need to represent themselves and our program in a positive manner because they are watching them," Kelp said. "Playing sports is a privilege, not a right, and what comes along with that is a responsibility. Sometimes I don't think our student body, especially our student-athletes, realize how much the people — teachers, coaches, administrators, support staff, etc. — who work for Novi Schools try to give them so that they are better prepared to succeed. So I think it's important for them to recognize that and thus give back. They are doing that through the SAM program."

### FLASHBACK

Discussions topics between the different students ranged from hobbies to handling conflicts, to what life was like when the high school students were in fourth grade.

"As the boys were working together on a Getting to Know You sheet, the high schoolers were so patient and sweet to the boys," Donberger said. "They were talking about their interests and things they liked to do in elementary school. It was great and the boys were loving it."

Heitsch and Kelp both said their student-athletes came back from the experience with a new feeling of importance and stories of their own, but it was the younger students who ended the day with the most enthusiasm about their new high school friends.

"The fourth-grade girls couldn't stop talking about their first meeting," Chandler said. "I heard such comments as 'Can you believe my buddy is 5-foot-10 tall? That's amazing' or 'My buddy has the prettiest hair ever. I want my hair to be just like hers,' or 'My buddy plays basketball AND is a ballerina. How cool.'"

With initial introductions out of the way, the two groups plan to continue meeting throughout the school year, with the girls groups meeting again Monday.

The focal point the SAM program will be working with the book, "The Seven Habits for Happy Kids," by Sean Covey. Covey is the son of bestselling author Stephen Covey, who penned "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People," and the children's book is very much a youth-focused spin on his father's adult book. Chandler said the Novi Woods teachers have all been reading Stephen Covey's "The Leader in Me" this academic year.

"At Novi Woods this year we have been focusing on improving student behavior," Chandler said. "We have been doing a variety of things that foster student behavior."

Heitsch said he's glad Kelp and Chandler came to him with the idea for the SAM program.

"The main goal was to begin to build connections with in the school district between high school student athletes and fourth-grade students. To allow the younger students the opportunity to discuss real life situations that they will or have dealt with and to problem solve and communicate possible outcomes," Heitsch said. "I also believe it puts another positive influence into a young student's life, which they cannot have enough of."

"I am very pleased and proud of the student-athletes that I am able to coach. Every year, the young men continue to impress and amaze me, this is just adding to the already large footprint they are leaving with me."

"As a third-grade teacher, I can tell you first hand what an impact and positive impression the boys and varsity basketball team is making on the group of fourth grade students. Again, the ones that will be impacted the most will be the student-athletes themselves."

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

# EDUCATION

Thursday, January 13, 2011 hometownlife.com

### HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Cal Stone  
Voice Mail: (248) 437-2011, ext. 237  
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# Community invited to honor King's legacy

Annual event encourages people to 'stand up'

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

Novi High School teacher Corey Nuckolls has been yearning for more involvement in the Unity in the Community event to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. since starting it five years ago.

Each year more students, staff, administrators and community members participate in the events leading up to the celebration, and this year's theme for the event — Our Moment, Our Time — seems to coincide with Nuckolls' overall vision of what MLK Day should be about.

"We want to focus on the precious present," he said. "It's all about productive citizenship. And for the adults, our kids are looking to us for leadership and our hope is that our kids will be leaders."

The annual celebration of MLK Day will be at 7 p.m. on Jan. 17 at Novi High School in the Forest Auditorium. It will feature drama performances,

**ORATORICAL CONTEST**  
For video of some of the speeches, visit [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

a member of Students Promoting Unity and Diversity which organized the program, said they want to show people what they have learned.

"My hope is that everyone stands up and remembers all our heroes," she said. "And it makes me proud that more students are getting involved and standing up."

Also as part of the program, SPUD is sponsoring a canned food drive for Cleaners Community Food Bank. Boxes will be located in all schools throughout the district through Jan. 17, and the school that brings in the most canned goods will win a prize.

Nuckolls said while he is pleased more people are taking notice of the importance of MLK Day, he hopes to one day have a schoolwide assembly and possibly a march.

"Our goal is to reach out and represent," he said, citing the acronym ROAR he and his students use.

Senior Teena Antony, [nmuller@gannett.com](mailto:nmuller@gannett.com) (248) 437-2011, ext. 255



Novi High School senior Teena Antony gives her speech during the oratorical contest on Monday afternoon. The winner of the contest will give their speech on Jan. 17 at the Unity in the Community event open to the public.

### 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 a success. 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 prize 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](mailto:nussio@earthlink.net) or Anne Lewis at [alewis13@mmrr.com](mailto:alewis13@mmrr.com).



#### The Red Wing way

Phil Pierce (above), of the Detroit Red Wings' Fan Development Youth Hockey office, helps a group of Novi Woods students on Jan. 6 in their stick-handling skills. Pierce was at the Novi school all day to promote hockey and give kids an opportunity to learn some of its basics. Novi Woods first grade student Brooke Seal (left) tries her hand at learning some hockey skills.



PHOTOS BY JOHN WEDDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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†Paid Spokesperson, Doris Biscoe, is a member of a HAP non-Medicare Plan.

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**RICHARD C. BARNES**  
Age 85, passed away January 9, 2011. A private family service was held. Arrangements by PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online Guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

**JAMES FARLEY BESHEARS**  
Age 73 of Wixom, MI, passed away Thursday morning, December 30, 2010 in Ft. Myers, FL in the loving presence of his four sons, James Jr., Michael, Marc and Brent, and his oldest nephew, Brad. James was preceded in death by his father and mother, Edward H. and Madory Clyde (Miller) Beshears and his half-brother, Allen Beshears, of Parker, NC. He was the youngest son of six children and is survived by his five siblings, Charles Beshears and Raymond Beshears of North Wilkesboro, Sherry Miller of Lenoir, NC, Geraldine Callicut of Thomasville, NC and Christine Evans of Bainbridge, NC. He is survived by his four sons, James Beshears Jr. of Atlanta, GA, Michael Beshears of Ft. Myers, FL, Marc Beshears and his wife, Lori, of Naples, FL and Brent Beshears and his wife, Alpha, of Novi, MI, and five grandchildren: Hunter, Jay, Kelly, Brian and Bowen. James served four years in the United States Air Force as a communications specialist and actively served in the Korean War. Upon completion of his service to our country, he became a licensed beautician, where he met his wife, Linda Martin. His professional life was built as a beautician and business owner for over 20 years in the suburban Detroit area. During this time, he was an active member of the Masonic Lodge. He later transitioned to commercial real estate ownership and development. Upon retiring, he maintained his natural roots in North Wilkesboro, and resided between Wixom, MI and Ft. Myers, FL. Family services will be held at 3:30 Saturday, January 8, at Yellow Hill Baptist Church in Parker, NC. Burial will be in the church cemetery. The family will receive at Yellow Hill Baptist Church from 2:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.

**ALBERTO RODRIGUEZ FERNANDEZ**  
Age 82, of Milford & formerly Westland, Jan. 3, 2011. Services were held at Church of the Holy Spirit, Highland, MI, Jan. 9, 2011. Memorials to the Am. Heart Assoc. www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com 248-684-6645

**JERRY M. HADER**  
Age 69, passed away, December 29, 2010. He was born on December 8, 1941 in Detroit, son of the late Joseph and Bernice Hader. Jerry was an avid sportsman and in his spare time loved bowling, softball and golf. He was loved by all who knew him. He is survived by his fiancée, Shirley Kelly, his daughters, Cathy (Gary) Campbell and Crissy (Jeff) Bar. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Halley Wixom, MI and P. Myers, FL. Family services will be held at 3:30 Saturday, January 8, at Yellow Hill Baptist Church in Parker, NC. Burial will be in the church cemetery. The family will receive at Yellow Hill Baptist Church from 2:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.

**KAREN L. BLACK**  
Age 70, passed away peacefully after a brief illness on January 8th, 2011. She was born on August 23, 1940, in Kalamazoo, daughter of the late Max and Helen Johnson. Karen received her BS in education from Western Michigan University and was an educator with Wyoming and Kalamazoo school districts. She was a longtime member of the Order of the Eastern Star and was honored to be the Grand Worthy Matron in 2002. She is survived by her beloved husband Roger, her brothers: Steven and Michael Roger, and many loving friends. She was preceded in death by her son Steven in 2006. Visitation will be held on Thursday, January 13th from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. with a Grand Officer Eastern Star service at 7:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. A funeral service will be held on Friday, January 14th at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home with Reverend Mark Spaw officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Order of the Eastern Star Villa Board, 13494 Preston Dr., Marshall, MI 49069. Online Guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

**NORMA L. HAZLETT**  
Age 83, a longtime resident of Northville, passed away on January 6, 2011. She was born on May 11, 1927 to Percy and Beatrice (Davis) Hazlett. Norma graduated from HHS in 1945. She was a real estate agent in Northville and Plymouth; Norma was very devoted to her work. She is survived by her loving children, Jacques (Carol) Phillip Stoddard, Daniel (Pamela) Stoddard, Fran (Jean) Loy, and April (Mae) Esmaicher; her sister Ruth Marshall; her brother David (Cler) Hazlett; her grandchildren: Trent (Lynke) Stoddard, Jacob Fritz, Autumn (R.J.) Thoun, Jessica (Luke) Murphy, Scott (Amy) Loy, Dean William Loy, Eric (Amanda) Loy, Melissa Esmaicher, Emily (Ron) Chadwick, and Olivia Esmaicher; and her great grandchildren: Mallo, Britany, Bethany, Moran, Robin, Derek, Hayley, Skylar, Logan, Alexandria, Eric James, Aaron, and Zachary. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Vivian Dingelstein, and three brothers: Robert Lynn, and Jerome. Private services have been held. Arrangements by Castaline Funeral Home, Inc., (248) 349-0511.

**JACK B. JOSEPH**  
January 4, 2011 age 93. Funeral was Jan. 7th at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home. Nov. Memorial contributions to Beyond Basics literacy program, P.O. Box 7, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303. Online condolences: www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

**KAREN R. BROOKS**  
Age 83 of Holly, formerly of Highland, passed away peacefully at her home, in the care of her loving family on Thursday, January 6, 2011. She is survived by her beloved husband, Jack Brooks; loving daughters, Renee Swatz, Dana (Andrew) Knapp; grandchildren, Nicholas, Zachary and Gavin; mother, Aileen Hubbard; numerous extended family members and many dear friends. Karen rejoins her late father, Robert Hubbell (d.2001) in the House of the Lord. A Funeral Service will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 East Liberty, Milford on Saturday, January 15 at 11:00 AM with Pastor Gary Evans officiating. Burial Highland Cemetery. Friends may visit on Saturday from 11AM until time of service. Memorials may be made to Geneva Hospice or American Diabetes Association. For further information please phone 248-684-6645 or visit: www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

**ERNEST D. "BOB" ELLSWORTH**  
Age 66, passed away, January 6, 2011. He was born on April 9, 1944 in Farmington, son of the late Ernest and Wilma Ellsworth. Bob was an energetic prankster who was always good for a laugh. He had a great sense of humor and a genuine heart. He loved to travel and spent 40 years on the road as a truck driver. He is survived by his beloved wife Charlotte, his children: Theresa May, Ernie, Jerry (Kelly) and Duane. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Ashton, Rex, Shawn, Shyenne, Christopher, Kali, B.J., James and Albert, nine great grandchildren and his siblings Edith Ellsworth and Edward Ellsworth. He was preceded in death by three brothers and one sister. Funeral services were held on Monday, January 10th at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to Wounded Warriors. Online Guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

**ISOBEL LOUISE ROSS**  
Jan. 4, 2011. Age 87. Visitation: O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Nov. 248-348-1800 Fri. 4-8pm & Sat. 12pm until service. Donations: The Great Lakes Council Boy Scouts of America Camp Fund.

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**THESERA M. WELLS**  
Age 86, of Farmington Hills and Port Austin, Michigan passed away at her Farmington Hills home over the Christmas holidays. Ms. Wells, until the time of her death commuted, every two weeks depending on the weather, between her Farmington Hills and Port Austin home so as to stay in touch with her lifelong friends, neighbors and loved ones. Theresa was born on August 26, 1924 in Grindstone City to the late Anthony and Agnes (Wojchowski) Barski, the last of eight children of her parents. Theresa graduated Grindstone High School in 1941 and shortly thereafter moved to Detroit to work at various companies, primarily Packard Car Company until its closure and then Ford Motor Company until retiring in 1969 from Ford's at Ford's. She worked in the early stages of computerization by working in its data processing center, as a clerk, initially in its keypunch operation, and advanced with Ford and the world to the computer age. Theresa recently lost her last two sisters, Margaret F. Bulley, age 95, this past April and Dorothy Levasque, age 90, in 2007, both of East Ave. Michigan a short drive from her Port Austin home. Theresa was also preceded in death by two other sisters and three brothers, Michael, Peter and Joseph Barski, and Gertrude Wilkos and Goldie Millard, respectively. Visitation and services will be held on Friday, January 14, 2011 at 11:30 a.m. at St. Michael Catholic Church in Port Austin. Officiating will be Father Andrew Boom, pastor. Theresa will be interred next to her husband, Clifford, in the church cemetery.

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**EUGENIA ELIZABETH "GENIA" WEXEL**  
Age 76, of Athens, Tennessee died Wednesday, January 4, 2011 in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. A native and resident of Athens, Tennessee and former resident of Milford, Michigan. She was the daughter of the late Virgil and Mary Sue Price Dixon and was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Steven M. Wexel on October 13, 2005; and a son, Kerry Roberts on January 18, 2008. She was of the Baptist faith and an avid gardener. She worked with her husband, Dr. Steven M. Wexel, in his private practice in Athens, Tennessee. Survivors: three sons and daughters-in-law: Robbie and Cayle Roberts of Athens, Tenn. Robert Michael Kaplan, Dr. Phillip and Diane Kaplan all of Dearborn, Michigan. Three sisters and brothers-in-law: Rosella Thomson, Emma Jane and Buddy Browder, Sheila and Clody Jaynes all of Athens, Tenn. Eight grandchildren: Case, Conar and Cooper Roberts, Kamen, Cassie and Asia Roberts, Lexie and Maddie Kaplan. Graveside Services will be 2:00 PM Saturday, January 8, 2011 at Cedar Grove Cemetery with the Rev. Greg Bostic officiating. Active Pallbearers will be Anthony Jack, Greg Shepherd, Roy Baker, Case Roberts, Conar Roberts and Brian Ford. The family will receive friends from 12:00 Noon to 1:45 PM prior to the service at Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to Odyssey Hospice, 25925 Telegraph Rd., Suite 102, Southfield, MI 48033 Telephone: (888) 637-9272. Those unable to attend may send condolences to: www.laycock-hobbs.com. Laycock-Hobbs Funeral Home in Athens, Tenn. is in charge of the arrangements.

**FRANCES G. WARING**  
Age 79, Dec. 15, 2010. Service 11am, Jan. 14 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Ave., Novi, MI (248) 349-1800. Donations to: Lymphoma Research. Online condolences: www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

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# STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, January 13, 2011

hometownlife.com

## Challenge Day: Network while raising anti-bullying awareness

Bullying is big. Here are some facts:

- Bullying happens to a student every seven minutes on the playground.
- Adults such as teachers or parents rarely see bullying.
- Bullying is the assertion of power through aggression.
- By age 24, 60 percent of identified bullies have a criminal conviction.
- Bullying is a learned behavior and behavior change through awareness and education.
- Bullying stops in less than 10 seconds, most of the time when peers intervene on behalf of the victim.

With the rash of suicides and bullying so prominent in culture right now, Metro-Detroit will gather to collaborate, network and raise awareness at Lawrence Tech University at a free networking workshop - Networking is for Neanderthals - led by Novi's Shawnee Duperon of ShawneeTV.

"On January 19, we'll bring together approximately 250-300 people in the business community to network and grow their businesses, careers or find a job in a tough Michigan economy," Duperon said. "The event is also a charitable endeavor to raise awareness around anti-bullying. Participants will be asked to give a suggested \$10 donation to Challenge Day, a local group committed to anti-bullying and behavior in teens, among other initiatives."

Duperon's mantra is "New perceptions can alter your destiny." For example, when you think Neanderthals, you usually

### TIPS

- Networking doesn't suck. Desperation does.
- Desperation is obvious. When you're feeling desperate others can sense it. As humans, we avoid desperate people like the plague.
- It's not about you. It never is. It's about the people you choose to network with.
- When you start focusing on others, your desperation disappears.
- Relationship is everything. Your network is an accumulation of key relationships.
- Networking is a process not an event. It's a cultivation of relationships, not a hunting of customers, clients or employees.
- You are cultivating and nurturing your network. There's a huge difference between networking and direct sales.
- Your network is your net worth. You can't get anywhere alone.
- Authenticity takes courage and encourages friendships.
- Authenticity is attractive and attracts the masses.
- The more you notice your party mask, or your inauthentic way of being, the faster your mask disappears, the more authentic you become.
- Networking is an experience in managing your fear. If you feel no fear, consider that your game is too small.
- Forgot someone's name? So what. It's not that deep.
- What do you do if you forgot someone's name? Do the obvious. Say, "Hey, I forgot your name!"
- Telling someone you forgot their name is good. They are NOT that fragile.
- When feeling desperate, focus on who you can help at the event right NOW. Just help them.
- The practice of helping and referring others is miraculous. It will come back to you tenfold. It's the universal law of attraction.
- There's no reason to fear competition. Knowing there is enough for everyone is your breakthrough.
- When networking, ask yourself, "Do I like this person? Would I want to spend long periods of time with him or her?"
- You get to choose the people you hang with, network with, do business with. Choose wisely. You only have one life.

visualize a ham-fisted caveman dragging a woman by her hair, right? "That's simply not the case," said Duperon. "Neanderthals were strong team builders and collaborators. What's yours" at a networking event, posting on Facebook or Twitter, Shawnee's workshop is about building networks, relationships and collaborations in business, at home and at

schools, and finding joint ways to give back to the community." The event will run from 9 a.m.-noon (registration at 8:30 a.m.) and is sponsored by Mochoco Mochos PREEasy and Lawrence Tech University (21000 W. 10 Mile Rd., Southfield). Preregistration is required at [www.shawnetv.com/freenetworking](http://www.shawnetv.com/freenetworking).

## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Cal Stone  
Voice Mail: (248) 437-2011, ext. 237  
E-mail: [cstone@gannett.com](mailto:cstone@gannett.com)  
Comment online at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

## Walsh offering fast-track business program

Walsh College is offering a new educational program aimed at business people without formal business training. Beginning Monday, Feb. 7 at the Walsh College Novi Campus, Business 360 will bring the basic principles, the fundamental concepts and the commonly used tools of business to busy people.

Registration is required: [www.TheWalshInstitute.com/expresstraining](http://www.TheWalshInstitute.com/expresstraining). "This program is designed for those who are formally educated in other fields such as liberal arts or engineering, and find themselves working in smaller companies and need basic business

skills," said Jan Hubbard, Walsh Institute Leadership Center director. "Past participants have included a displaced skilled tradesman, an artist who wants to move into management, and a small business owner, among others."

Workshops will be offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6-9:30 p.m. over seven weeks at the Walsh College Novi campus. One and two-session workshops can also be taken individually.

No pre-requisites, exceptional computer skills, homework or tests are required. Class sizes are small and participants may

benefit from built-in networking opportunities with peers and business education experts.

Cost for the entire non-credit series is \$1,750. Two-session workshops are \$275, and one session workshops are \$175. The textbook is included with the first registration. The same textbook is used for every Business 360 workshop.

Please contact Jan Hubbard at (248) 823-1392 / [jhubbard@walshcollege.edu](mailto:jhubbard@walshcollege.edu) for more information or visit [www.walshcollege.edu/business360](http://www.walshcollege.edu/business360). The program is eligible for No Worker Left Behind and Michigan Workforce Reimbursement.

### SCHEDULE

The workshops can be taken individually or as the full seven-week course. The schedule includes:

**Accounting for Non-Accountants**  
Feb. 7 and 9  
Two sessions  
Instructor: Ken Gleason \$275

**Problem-Solving Skills**  
Feb. 14  
Instructor: Ann Saurbier \$175

**Strategic Business Planning Workshop**  
Feb. 16  
Instructor: Ann Saurbier \$175

**Business Law Basics**  
Feb. 21 and 23  
Two sessions  
Instructor: Norman Richards \$275

**Marketing Management**  
Feb. 28 and March 2  
Two sessions  
Instructor: Michelle Lange \$275

**Economics**  
March 7  
Instructor: Linda Wiechowski, Ph.D. \$175

**Finance for the Non-Financial Manager**  
March 9  
Instructor: Linda Wiechowski, Ph.D. \$175

**Operations Management**  
March 14 and 16  
Two sessions  
Instructor: Michael Pirce \$275

**Organizational Behavior**  
March 21 and 23  
Two sessions  
Instructor: Joseph Corace \$275

online at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

LOCAL NEWS

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, January 13, 2011

(NN) A11

# Rotary fund-raiser is to die for

BY LINDA ANN CHOHIN  
CORRESPONDENT

Todd Lockhart expects this year's Novi Rotary fund-raiser to be an event to die for. Murder at Mardi Gras combines an evening of mystery with good food and a party-like atmosphere beginning 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Livonia.

The Murder Mystery Company, based in Chicago, is known throughout the Great Lakes states for presenting comedic thrillers.

"For \$60 a ticket it's a pretty good value - dinner, the murder mystery throughout the evening and a Mardi Gras ball for people to dress up in masks and elegant dress," said Lockhart, event chairman and a Novi Rotary board member and Foundation Trustee. "We're probably getting down to just a few tickets left. People are buying whole tables. I think it's going to be a whole lot of fun, an all-out Mardi Gras party."

A Mardi Gras Parade, contest for king and queen, and specialty drinks add to the fun. "Forgo your mask? A goodie bag for each guest is filled not only with a way to disguise your identity, but plenty of surprises."

Annamarie Mieth is "getting more nervous" as the event draws closer even though she co-chairs the event and is privy to details. "The Novi woman will be among those searching for clues."

"Nobody knows what to expect," said Mieth, Novi Rotary president-elect. "We don't know who's going to be murdered. It's still a big secret. I don't even know yet. The suspense is rising."

Lockhart is known for "throwing a pretty good party" but this year's annual fund-raiser could top last year's dinner, Christmas in Iqigay. Each year, he looks for an unusual theme.

"Last year we had a Cuban band and everything was Latin," said Lockhart. "We decided on something completely different this year, a theme and time."

Rotarian members hold two major fund-raisers a year - the dinner and a golf outing in summer. All proceeds go to the Novi Rotary Foundation for charitable projects in the community. Along with the sale of tickets for the Mardi Gras event, a 30/50 raffle during the evening raises money to fund



The Novi Rotarians invite you to their Murder at Mardi Gras fund-raiser Jan. 21 at Embassy Suites Hotel. Shown are organizers Diane and Todd Lockhart; Allison and Bryan Berent; Annamarie Mieth; and Ron Ward.

youth scholarships, the Novi emergency food program, a youth award for struggling Novi High School students, S.A.Y. Detroit Medical Clinic for homeless women and children, and annual luncheons for senior citizens and veterans.

"The Novi Rotary is business people in our community," said Lockhart, director

of International Taxes for Cooper-Standard Automotive, a Novi Rotary supporter. "It's our community foundation to do humanitarian service work. It would be sad if we didn't have the Rotary Club. A lot of people get help. The ministers in the community call us for help. We can't do it if we don't have the support."

One minister called during the holidays about a family who had lost their home and had nowhere to stay. The Novi Rotary paid for lodging.

### TICKETS

Murder at Mardi Gras tickets are \$60, and available by calling Mark Whitfield at (248) 767-5153 or online at [www.novirotary.org](http://www.novirotary.org). The event takes place 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21, at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 19525 Victor Parkway, Livonia.

For more information about The Murder Mystery Company, visit [www.grimpro.com](http://www.grimpro.com).

"Everybody is welcome, anyone who wants to attend," added Lockhart. "We'll have a good time."

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### ITC supports 'Go Green Youth Challenge'

Michigan Arbor Day Alliance announced today that ITC Holdings is stepping up to contribute \$10,000 to support its "Go Green Youth Challenge" initiative.

The "Go Green Youth Challenge" will engage Michigan youth in environmental stewardship, community development and service-learning through a statewide effort to plant trees in Michigan. Children, pre-K through 12th grade, are challenged to collect coins, as an individual, classroom or club, from Jan. 15-April 1. The coins collected will directly fund community tree plantings.

"ITC is pleased to lend our support to worthwhile causes, including this one to support Michigan Arbor Day Alliance," said Linda Blair, executive vice president and chief business officer for ITC Holdings Corp. "We are proud to contribute to positive change throughout the region through public and private partnerships, especially those that engage youth."

The team that raises the most for the "Go Green Youth Challenge," will be awarded a tree planting in their community and an invitation to the State Arbor Day Celebration on April 29 at Peter Park Zoo in Lansing.

Tree planting sites include school yards and conservation areas such as stream bank stabilization and habitat restoration. Through a survey, participants can provide input on where trees should be planted throughout Michigan.

For more information or to sign up for the "Go Green Youth Challenge," contact Michigan Arbor Day Alliance at [gogreenyouthchallenge@gmail.com](mailto:gogreenyouthchallenge@gmail.com).

### Business Avenue: TV program

If you are a small business located in Novi, you qualify to be part of the cable television lineup 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, e-mail [smarchioni@cityofnovi.org](mailto:smarchioni@cityofnovi.org).

once was. If you have a need for alternative financing consider the MicroLoan Program. Discover the requirements and process necessary to apply and obtain a microloan. Program Presented by Center for Empowerment & Economic Development (C.E.E.D.). This workshop is free, but pre-registration is required. Wednesday, Jan. 12, from 9-11 a.m.

**Fundamentals of Starting a Business** is a seminar for anyone thinking about going into business. Participants examine their entrepreneurial skills, learn how to implement their ideas and receive a list of pitfalls to avoid when starting a business. The fee is \$30. No refunds. Thursday, Jan. 13, from 9 a.m.-noon

**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 com-

monly 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, Jan. 20, from 9 a.m.-noon

**Legal & Financial Basics for Small Business** - This workshop covers many of the key legal and financial issues faced by both new and existing small businesses in Michigan. The program initially focuses on the many management and liability concerns faced by entrepreneurs, as well as today's tax consequences. The program also provides solutions and techniques for business succession and individual investment and retirement planning. Presented by Carter & Affiliates, P.C. This workshop is free, but pre-registration is required. Tuesday, Jan. 25, from 9 a.m.-noon.

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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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online at hometownlife.com

CALENDAR

Hometown Weeklies | Thursday, January 13, 2011

(NN) A15

OUR VIEWS

Leading Strong  
 Hats off to our  
 local school boards

All this month, Michigan's 592 local and 57 intermediate school districts will be recognizing those dedicated people who volunteer their time with one goal in mind: educating children.

School Boards Lead Strong is the theme of this year's School Board Recognition Month, and we encourage you to take time to thank these local leaders.

In Northville, it's Marilyn Price, president; Joan Wadsworth, vice president; Libby Smith, secretary; Dottie Garrity, treasurer; and Trustees Joseph Hige, Kenneth Roth and James Mazurek (effective Jan. 11, replacing Karen Paciorek, who retired after eight and a half years of service).

In Novi, it's Ann Glubzinski, president; Bruce Bagdady, vice president; Bobbie Murphy, secretary; Dennis O'Connor, treasurer; and Trustees George Kortlandt, Shari Lebo and Jason Manar.

If you visit the Novi district's website, you'll see this description of the Board of Education:

"The Novi Board of Education as an elected body represents the views of the community on issues affecting education. During their four-year term, board members work together to establish policy, approve educational goals and curriculum changes, and work with the superintendent, administration, and staff to set direction for the district. Community members are encouraged to attend board meetings and to participate."

That's a tidy paragraph that works well for web surfing. But Kathy Hayes, the executive director of the Michigan Association of School Boards, sums up the role of the state's 4,200 elected school board members more succinctly, stating they are "responsible for making fundamental policy decisions that affect the present and future lives of children."

A pretty heavy role for someone who is better recognized as your neighbor or friend, eh?

Yet these individuals receive little recognition for the countless hours committed to serving students, staff, administrators and the community. More often, they're called to the carpet on this very same page by others who are suspect of the decisions made on a mind-boggling array of complex issues.

And they're in charge of budgets of over \$60 million; thousands of students (7,011 in Northville and 6,164 in Novi); and numerous facilities (eight schools in Novi and nine in Northville — plus two special needs facilities).

Again, these are your friends and neighbors.

"They carry out the trust form of representative government in our democracy — volunteer public service and preserve the core of our democratic land — public education," said Leonard Reznierski, superintendent, Northville.

Most people think that attending the official board meetings is the only thing these folks do, but in reality that's just a small part. There are hours of preparation and studying; numerous other meetings; a variety of school functions; and educational leadership training.

And let's not forget — they get to make no-win financial decisions because of a lack of leadership in Lansing that has left each and every district in this state fighting for survival.

All this and no pay. Who wouldn't want to be a school board member?

Although official recognitions were observed at recent board meetings in Novi (Jan. 6) and Northville (Jan. 11), you can show your appreciation by taking it a step further. Write a note of thanks. Bring a snack to their meetings. Say "thank you" when you pass them on the street or in the mall. Ask these friends and neighbors how you can support them in making our local school districts even better.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Novi retailers were asked: "How did your business do in 2010?"



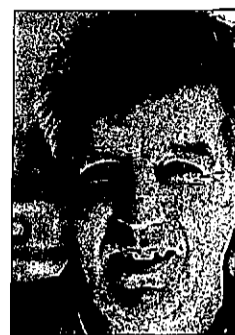
"It was a good year - especially during the summer - and a good first year in general. Shoppers were looking to save money on children's clothing."

Morgan Preston  
 Once Upon A Child  
 Pine Ridge Center



"It ended pretty well, and we're always optimistic for the future. Some weeks it's slow. And the next? Very busy."

Bob Baessler  
 Frame Peddler  
 Pine Ridge Center



"The year was awesome - and at times challenging. Being a small retailer, I'm able to adjust as necessary and make business moves others can't."

Brian Larson  
 Jewelry and Design  
 Novi Main Street



"Things are going pretty well for us because we're hard working and talented and have a solid business plan."

Billy Dakhliah  
 Belleez Salon  
 Novi Main Street

LETTERS

Problems with Walmart

There are several points I'd like to make regarding Walmart in the Town Center:

1 - Jobs: The oft-quoted figure of 350 jobs isn't a hallmark of economic development and prosperity. Commercial running on local broadcast media position Walmart as an enabler to the American dream. But few store-level workers find that sort of career path available to them. The majority of those 350 jobs will be low-skill, low-wage, low-benefit, low-growth jobs that don't offset the loss of higher-paying, better-benefits, skilled-trade and professional jobs lost to the current downturn. It's not the harbinger of long-term economic prosperity for the citizens of Novi Walmart would like us to believe.

2 - Contradictions in development policies: Earlier in 2010 the planning commission turned down a request for a grocery and retail development at 10 and Beck. Last October the request of a similar development at 10 and Novi was also turned down. The latter development was turned down, in part, because of similarities with the earlier proposal (Novi News, Oct. 16). Also noted was the apparent glut of "vacant retail buildings"

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.

E-mail: cstone@gannett.com

Read or comment online: www.hometownlife.com

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.

way for the proposed building.

3 - Traffic: The Novi Road corridor between 10 and 12 is virtual gridlock. The east/west roads aren't much better. The declined developments addressed the infrastructure issues; the Walmart plan does not. In an area oversaturated with retail and underserved by infrastructure, the Walmart response was essentially too bad... traffic is a common issue... it's one of the unpleasant side effects." (Novi News, Jan. 6). Novi's own traffic consultant, Rod Arroyo, expressed concerns, offered solutions but acknowledged they were inadequate. Yet the plan moves forward.

Finally, I've read of the commission's and the council's "main concerns" regarding the building facade: Council's priorities are focused on superficial matters rather than the true impact: Walmart may be the world's largest retailer, but they shouldn't be the crown jewel in Novi's economic development plan. The building may end up being "consistent with the look and feel of Novi's brand image," but there may be little else.

Julie Argonis  
 Novi

GUEST COLUMN

Innovate to Educate: Former governors leading the way

This is part two of a two-part column; part one appeared in last week's edition.

In their new report, "Digital Learning Now!" former governors Jeb Bush (Florida, 1998 to 2007) and Bob Wise (West Virginia, 2001-05) have provided a road map for a portion of the road that needs reform.

The report details how digital learning can radically transform education by demonstrating how "Technology has the power and scalability to customize education so each and every student learns in his or her style at his or her own pace, which maximizes the chances for success in school."

Every educator, parent and politico, community and business leader should read this report and ask: "Why isn't Michigan leading the charge?" We can reinvent our state by using technology to personalize learning from the cradle to the grave, leapfrogging our global competition.

All that is now commonplace began with a vision. Yet this is not a pipe dream. Digital learning tools exist today. Capstone Digital has literally a library full of digital products, from pre-K to high school that support the learning needs of students through experiences that capture and engage young minds.

This is not your father's educational material said Todd Brekhus, president of Capstone Digital. "We built our company vision and products on the premise that digital content for classrooms is not bound by time and space, by business and educational models of checking in and checking out resources; we have thousands of digital books and resources that allow students to discover their interests, passions, and drive taking learning to a new level," says Brekhus.

There are benefits and profits in bringing education, our largest knowledge industry, into the information age. Why shouldn't Michigan lead the way?

The difference between a pioneer and a settler is vision and action.

WHAT IF THE IMPOSSIBLE ISN'T? As Gov. Rick Snyder discussed on the campaign trail, Michigan 1.0 was agricultural, rural and forestry; Michigan 2.0 was the Industrial Age with auto driving our futures. Today, our future lies in knowledge, creativity, innovation, globalization and technology — it is past time we reinvent Michigan, Michigan 3.0. We must substitute brain power for brown power.

America's and Michigan's greatness has grown from organizing its human and natural resources through advances in science, technology, finance and commerce. These same strategies can be applied to education, which is one of our largest local and global needs and global industries.

What if Michigan reinvents education in a new, personalized, technologically-driven way that helps us create a new knowledge/educational economy?

Michigan can lead an education revolution. We could export our reinvented educational processes to other states and countries. The old system of textbooks, and paper and pencil tests is about to dissolve just as trains, cars and airplanes displaced the old bicycle and horse and buggy days of the 17th and 18th centuries. The day is fast approaching where textbooks are replaced by digital tools and knowledge stores.

There are benefits and profits in bringing education, our largest knowledge industry, into the information age. Why shouldn't Michigan lead the way?

OUR KIDS, OUR FUTURE Be clear, this is not simply another plea for more money for our schools and certainly not for the existing system. Until we can demonstrate how additional investments in education will help teachers teach and chil-

dren learn and gain 21st century skills and knowledge, there should be no additional money for the educational system.

We don't need more money. We need to spend the money we have based on different priorities. What gives the greatest return to our students, state and nation? We must break away from an educational system that has morphed into protecting adults at the expense of kids and our collective futures. A new system of educating our youth must not be about education associations or unions. Not school vendors or any other special-interest group. "Our Kids, Our Future," must be our collective refrain.

Snyder plans to use his inauguration to launch a year-long effort to change people's perception about Michigan and "usher in a new era of innovation." The effort will be branded "The Power of MI," a tagline meant to represent the "can-do" entrepreneurial spirit that made Michigan the arsenal of democracy, put the world on wheels, and allowed us to get a higher standard of living for America.

Clearly changing the cherished, historical, status quo, local school notion is riddled with peril. Not acting will be worse.

Let me assure you, having spent over two decades traveling in China, the Chinese and other nations are not slowing down while we hesitate and stagnate. We have a new governor with a technology, innovation background and charge mandate. There is no better place to start than with our system of education.

It is time to innovate to educate. The only question that remains — "will we?"

Tom Watkins is a business and educational consultant in the U.S. and China. He helped start the first charter school in Michigan and Florida, wrote a report on e-learning, The New Education (Revolution) and served as Michigan's state superintendent of schools, 2001-05. He can be reached at twatkins@aol.com.

More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at www.hometownlife.com.

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@gannett.com; by fax to (248) 349-9832; or by mail to Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

LOCAL EVENTS

Democrats to meet  
 Time/Date: 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18  
 Location: Comfort Suites Inn at Wixom Road and the south side of I-96 in Wixom

Borders Books  
 Location: Novi Town Center  
 Contact: (248) 347-0780  
 Family Game Nights  
 Time/Date: 6 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 13, 20 and 27  
 Details: Challenge your family and friends. Join in the Cafe as we play games such as Scrabble, Trivial Pursuit, Callisto and more.

Children's Storytime  
 Time: 2 p.m. Saturdays  
 Details: Gather round for a fun story suitable for children of 6 years old and under.

Sun, Water & Seeds 4-H Club  
 Time/Date: 6 p.m. Wednesdays  
 Location: Tolgate Education Center, 2815 Meadowbrook Road, Novi  
 Details: A 4-H youth garden and farm stand where kids learn about plant science, nutrition and entrepreneurship by raising produce for sale.

Weight Watchers Chef Jesse  
 Time/Date: 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 31  
 Location: Novi Weight Watchers Center, Novi 10 Shopping Center at 41720 W. 10 Mile Road at Meadowbrook

Details: Chef Jesse Gales will offer taste-testing at the Novi Weight Watchers' regular meetings: open and free to the public.  
 Contact: (248) 479-1362

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, providing Novi citizens and business partners an opportunity to reflect on 2010 accomplishments, as well as learning about the goals Novi will strive towards in 2011. The State of the City Address (a partnership between the City of Novi and the Novi Chamber of Commerce) will be viewable on Novi Television (Bright House Channel 13 and AT&T U-Verse 99) and cityofnovi.org. Cost is \$27 per person; seating is limited to the first 230 attendees. Send a check payable to City of Novi, attention Robin Working, (45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375)

Details: Challenge your family and friends. Join in the Cafe as we play games such as Scrabble, Trivial Pursuit, Callisto and more.

Details: The group has moved from the Senior Center to the Belmont Clubhouse at Fox Run on 13 Mile between M-5 and Meadowbrook.

Contact: Deloris Roman at (248) 668-8600 for complete information.

Rock Financial Showplace  
 Location: 46100 Grand River



The Muses

Works by the Muses are on exhibit at the Artist Avenue Gallery at Henry Ford Hospital, West Bloomfield. The group of local artists includes Pat Bombach, Candace Brancik, Jeff Cancelosi, Patty Dombek, Daria Fileta, Peggy Kerwan, Linda Logan and Barbara Eko Murphy who meet weekly to paint from a model. This exhibit is a collection of the artists' individual styles and subjects (figurative, floral, mixed and still life) in their mediums of choice (acrylic, ink, oil, pastel, stamp and watercolor). The gallery is located on 15 Mile between Halsted and Drake. Showing is Jan. 6-Feb. 28.

American Legion Post 19

Monthly Meeting  
 Time/Date: 7 p.m. third Tuesdays

Location: Rock Financial Showplace, Grand River Avenue between Tait and Beck roads

Details: Comrades and fellow veterans, please join these monthly meetings; attendance is needed to maintain and grow the Post.

Contact: Commander Dennis Strickus (248) 378-7841 or distributor@wlr.com or Service Officer Paul Erickson (248) 344-7193 or pnerick@aol.com.

Ultimate Fishing Show

Time/Date: 2-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 13; noon-9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15; 10-5 Sunday, Jan. 16

Details: Fishing tackle, fishing trips, fishing boats, charters, seminars and much more. Cost is \$10 for adults; \$4 for children ages 6-14; free for children under 5. Box office is cash only.

Contact: (800) 328-6550 www.UltimateFishingShow.com Michigan Winter Dog Classic Date: Jan. 20-23 (check website for hours)

Novi Chamber of Commerce

The Novi Chamber of Commerce is an active, progressive chamber offering a variety of events, educational programs, an enhanced Web site, and involvement with local charities.

Location: 41875 11 Mile Road, #201, Novi  
 Contact: For more information, call (248) 349-3743 or www.novichamber.com.  
 Business to Business Breakfast Time/Date: 8-9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18

Novi Toastmasters Club

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

Location: Novi Civic Center, Activities Room, 45175 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375  
 Details: Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club which is part of Toastmasters International. Our diverse group provides a mutually supportive atmosphere in which all can develop and refine their public speaking and leadership skills. Our members also have fun while building confidence in

Please see CALENDAR, A16

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues. In Your Voices. Find more comments or join the discussion on the Web at hometownlife.com.

Walmart rep addresses concerns

Wal Mart will say or do anything to appear conciliatory. Does not change their record. Somehow the city managed to get Fountain Walk to redo 12 Mile road, they can't ask Walmart to do the same? Fasten your seat belts, folks—Just avoid the place, you don't need them. You really don't. WelcomingChange

Glad they are coming. The Town Center has been going down hill for years and is an eyesore. It needs something. Before kids I shopped there, but now it's just a place to go eat. How can a vibrant community like ours have so many closed businesses? I also read that Borders is in trouble. I just hope the Walmart isn't that awful ugly blue and looks nice. The store in Commerce is nice and this one will be a lot closer.

soocermon34

Novi, Welcome to the non-elite. I no longer have to hear how exclusive or special your mall area is. You are now the same as every other shopping area that commenters here liked to criticize. Ha ha.

rodneymfidd

Are you overwhelmed caring for an aging parent or loved one?

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\*Limited time offer. See community for complete details.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Cash-Lopez**  
New Hudson residents Stephanie Cash and Ron Lopez married Aug. 20, 2010. Pastor Chris Fairbairn presided over the wedding, which took place in Northville.  
The bride is the daughter of Gary and Nancy Cash of South Lyon. She is a 2000 graduate of South Lyon High School and is currently employed at South Lyon Community Schools Early Childhood Center.  
The groom is the son of Ronald and Laszita Lopez of South Lyon. He is a 1995 graduate of South Lyon High School, and is currently employed with the Detroit Fire Department.  
Bridal attendants were Julie McGahey and April Beckstein. The groom's attendants were Greg Pavovic and Joe Garner.  
The reception was held at Crystal Gardens in Howell. The couple honeymooned on a 15-day cruise in the western Caribbean. They make their home in New Hudson.

**Manville-Spagnuolo**  
Shayna Manville and Joe Spagnuolo of Milford are engaged to be married.

Manville, who is the daughter of Terry and David Manville of South Lyon, graduated from South Lyon High School in 2000 and attends Eastern Michigan University, studying special education.

Spagnuolo, who is the son of Tim Spagnuolo and Janisse Lahe of South Lyon, graduated from South Lyon High School in 1998 and is a graduate of Lake Superior State University.  
An Oct. 29, 2011 wedding is being planned in Northville.



**Atkinson & Beeler**  
Cindy and Barry Atkinson, of Northville, announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Atkinson, to Brent Beeler, son of Becki and Ben Beeler, of Novi.  
The bride-to-be is a 2005 Northville High School graduate and earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Eastern Michigan University. She is substitute teaching in local school districts.  
The groom-elect is a 2003 Novi High School graduate working for Erie Investments in property management in Ypsilanti, where the couple resides.  
A June 2011 wedding in Farmington is planned.

We're looking for Super Bowl party recipes

Super Bowl Sunday is nearly a month away, but it's not too soon to begin planning party menus. What will you serve for the big game on Sunday, Feb. 6? Do you have a favorite recipe for appetizers, snacks or an entree that's perfect for hungry fans?  
We're compiling Super Bowl recipes for an upcoming issue and we don't want to miss out on yours. Send recipe, your name, city of residence and a telephone number or e-mail to  
Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.  
Got a photo from last year's Super Bowl party that you organized or attended? Send it along, too, in jpg format attached to the e-mail. Identify individuals in the image by first and last name, as well as city of residence.  
If mailing, send to Dargay at the Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette, Level 2, Detroit, MI 48226. But hurry, deadline for submissions is Jan. 23.

NEWSMAKERS

Nussbaum named director of nursing

Fox Run has named Deborah Nussbaum as director of nursing for its Renaissance Gardens assisted living/skilled nursing facility. She is responsible for ensuring high quality of care of the residents. She also makes sure systems are in place to promote Resident and Staff satisfaction.  
Nussbaum, who has been a RN for more

than 30 years, worked previously in the acute step down unit at William Beaumont Hospital. She has worked in all realms of long-term care — from being a nurse's aide to being a regional director and corporate regulatory director.  
Nussbaum is a licensed nursing home administrator in Michigan. She is a graduate of Schoolcraft College and continuing education at Madonna University. She resides in Farmington.

CALENDAR

day-to-day communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome — and bring a friend. Visit www.novifreetoasthost.us.  
Contact: Linda Kreuter at PR@novifreetoasthost.us  
Novi Rotary Club  
Time/Date: Noon every Thursday  
Location: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road  
Details: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check Web site for speaker information; novirotaary.org.

NIGHTLIFE

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Location: 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi  
Contact: (248) 348-3838  
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Jan. 26-30: Marc Salem's "Mindgames"

Feb. 3-5: "I Say Tomato, You Say Shut Up" A Love Story featuring Annabelle Gurwiltch & Jeff Kahn  
Feb. 9-20: Mike Ougan's "Men Fake Foreplay"  
Feb. 24-26: "One Man Star Wars"  
March 2-20: "The Godfather Workout"  
March 23-April 10: "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"  
April 13-24: Robert Dubac's - "Male Intellect - An Dymoron?"  
April 29-May 1: "Celebrity Autobiography"  
May 4-22: "Bad Dates"  
May 25-June indefinitely: "The Last Five Years"  
Contact: www.ticketmaster.com or call (248) 348-4448

LIBRARY LINES

**Novi Public Library**  
Location: 45255 W. Ten Mile Road  
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the Library.  
Contact: (248) 349-0720  
Website: www.novibrary.org  
Story Times: Please see the Library website or story time brochure for details.  
Library closed all day on Jan. 17

Story Times: Please see the library website or story time brochure for details.

**Teen Advisory Board (TAB)**  
Time/Date: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14  
Details: Join the TAB as we create and plan programs for teens at the library. Meeting attendance will count as volunteer time. For Grades 9-12.

**Kiddie Crafts**  
Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 15  
Details: Toddlers and preschoolers will have the opportunity to create a work of art using their imaginations and the supplies that we will provide. We may get messy so please dress accordingly. Each child must be accompanied by an adult helper. Registration is required.

**ESL Book Discussion**  
Time/Date: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 18 and Tuesday, Jan. 25  
Details: If English is your second language and you would like to be more proficient in reading and discussing books written in English, then join our ESL Book Discussion. For advanced-intermediate to advanced English speakers. We will discuss one book during the 6-week session. Title to be announced. Books will be provided. Registration required and limited to 15 participants.



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# Explorer named Truck of Year; Volt voted best car

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

The 2011 North American International Auto Show kicked off Monday on a hometown note, with the Ford Explorer named North American Truck of the Year and the Chevrolet Volt earning the North American Car of the Year award.

The Explorer's win marks the third consecutive time — and seventh time overall — that a Ford has earned North American Truck of the Year honors, edging out the Dodge Durango and Jeep Grand Cherokee in this year's competition. This year's awards were decided by 49 veteran automotive journalists from Canada and the United States.

The honor was not a surprise to Dennis Reku, general sales manager at Tom Holzer Ford in Farmington Hills, who said he believes the car is going to be a "home run" because the number of advanced sales is already double what is normal.

"I have north of 50 orders from customers who haven't been able to see, feel, touch or smell one of those things," he said. "And having only a little information they are still saying they want this vehicle. It tells me there is a lot of pent up demand and the brand name is still strong."

Domestic automakers have won the North American Truck of the Year award 11 times, most recently with the Ford Transit Connect in 2010. Mark Fields, executive vice president at Ford Motor Co., said the Explorer's honor "reinforces that we're a company that makes things and that manufacturing matters in the U.S."

## FORD'S FINEST

"For Ford it shows our finest work," he said. "It shows that America and Ford can com-

## Hometown dealers rave about honors



General Motors' Tom Stephens, (center) vice chairman of product development, answers questions from the media on Jan. 10, moments after the Chevy Volt was named the 2011 North American Car of the Year. The Volt is seen in the foreground.

pete — not only in the U.S., but around the world."

As for the Volt, it continues to draw positive reviews, adding North American Car of the Year honors to already having been named Motor Trend Car of the Year and Automobile Magazine's Car of

the Year.

It beat out the Hyundai Sonata and the Nissan Leaf.

James Schram, sales manager at Gordon Chevrolet in Garden City, said the four Volts his dealership was given for 2011 have already been pre-sold and they are working

with General Motors to get more.

"It has really sparked some great energy in the showroom and brings in some really neat, tech-savvy people," he said. "On top of that it has gorgeous styling, unbelievable safety and state-of-the-indus-

try technology."

The Volt, which has been on sale since December, is a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle that can travel between 25-50 miles on an electric charge before switching to a gas-powered generator to produce more electricity for the bat-

tery.

This was the fourth time General Motors won North American Car of the Year, most recently in 2008 with the Chevrolet Malibu.

The honor was "humbling" to Tom Stephens, General Motors' vice chairman of product development, who also emphasized the Volt is "not a science experiment."

"The Volt represents the soul or essence of the new General Motors," he said after the announcement Monday morning. "The electrification of vehicles is something that is not a fad, it's here to stay."

## TECHNOLOGY: MAIN THEME

In unveiling the iE:3 demonstrator vehicle, a fully electric car, Boda Bolzenius, president of Johnson Controls Automotive Experience, talked about the company's philosophy of using machines to create a compelling driving experience.

"With the iE:3, we wanted to provide interior and battery solutions for smaller, fuel efficient vehicles without compromising functionality, comfort or spaciousness," Bolzenius said. "The features and functions in the iE:3 are adaptable to markets around the world and are available for model-year 2015 and beyond."

The company, which has a headquarters in Plymouth Township, also touched on its global expansion plans. Johnson Controls has one plant in China and is ready to launch two more factories within the next three years, with the goal of creating 30 million batteries a year in China by 2015.

"In 2010 we restored the company to profitability and future growth," Bolzenius said. "We are ready to move ahead."

Staff Writer Jay M. Grossman contributed to this article.

# Lyon Township business 'flooded' to be at Auto Show

D.E. McNabb in its 60th year as flooring contractor

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

Watch your step. When the North American International Auto Show opens to the public Saturday, the obvious highlights are the cars, displays and interactive kiosks.

But for Nate Root, vice president of sales for the Donald E. McNabb Company in Lyon Township, he will be watching where people walk to make sure the carpet and floors throughout the Cobo Center are able to handle the thousands of people who will trample and spill on it throughout the week.

For the last 60 years, D.E. McNabb has handled all the flooring for the NAIAS, seeing it grow to an event that is expected to welcome more than 750,000 visitors from countries all over the world.

"We enjoy it, we really do," Root said. "It's always changing each year so it gives us different viewpoints and doesn't get old."

"The most amazing thing to me is where it comes from at the beginning of the show to the finished product and what goes into preparing for it."

## BIG EVENT

The company does roughly 300 shows throughout the year, but

the NAIAS is its biggest show. Employees began setting up in November and worked until last Sunday to prepare the hall for media preview day on Monday.

Root said they will cover nearly one million square feet with carpet, tile, wood and more.

Employees also will be on hand throughout the public show days to make repairs when needed.

"If it goes unsaid that is a good thing," he said.

Root has gotten sneak peeks leading up to the show, and says the public will be impressed by the cars and displays.

"We are really starting to see some of the turnaround from where we were two years ago," he said. "This year our home manufacturers are really taking a step forward and put a lot more into the show."

When the show comes to an end Jan. 23, the company will tear all the flooring out in about five days and bring most of it back to its store where it will be cleaned and available for purchase.

The sale runs from Jan. 27-30, with prices starting at 15 cents per square foot.

D.E. McNabb Company is located at 31250 S. Millford Road, just off I-96. For store hours, visit [www.demcnabb.com](http://www.demcnabb.com).

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Milford's D.E. McNabb Carpeting company once again supplied the vast majority of the North American International Auto Show's flooring and carpeting for its displays and walkways.

# Governor gives thumbs-up to auto show

BY JAY M. GROSSMAN  
ECCENTRIC STAFF WRITER

Newly elected Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder toured the North American International Auto Show on Tuesday, promising that cars and manufacturing are key ingredients toward fueling the state's economic recovery.

"We have a bright future in the auto industry," Snyder said. "We have a bright future in manufacturing in our state — we just need to keep adding things to broaden our base. But we certainly not going to walk away from the core of what made us great over the last hundred years."

Speaking in the "Smarter Living in Michigan" exhibit, Snyder said the role of his administration will be to create an infrastructure and tax base that's inviting to business and startup entrepreneurs.

More importantly, Snyder said it's his job as governor to transform the state's culture and mindset.

"We need to redo the culture in our state in three key ways," he said. "To move from negative to positive; to move from looking in the rear-view mirror to looking in the future; to be inclusive rather than divisive. And if you look at what's going on right here, there's no better illustration in our state of people being positive."

As for the state budget and the inevitability of service cuts to ease the deficit, Snyder said those issues will be spelled out in greater detail when he delivers his State of the State Address next Wednesday.

Mike Finney, CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corp., said the auto show provides a great example of how the car companies are swiftly moving their products forward into the 21st century.

"This is a demonstration of where the world is moving," Finney said. "And where Michigan is moving."

[jgrossman@hometownlife.com](mailto:jgrossman@hometownlife.com) | (586) 826-7030



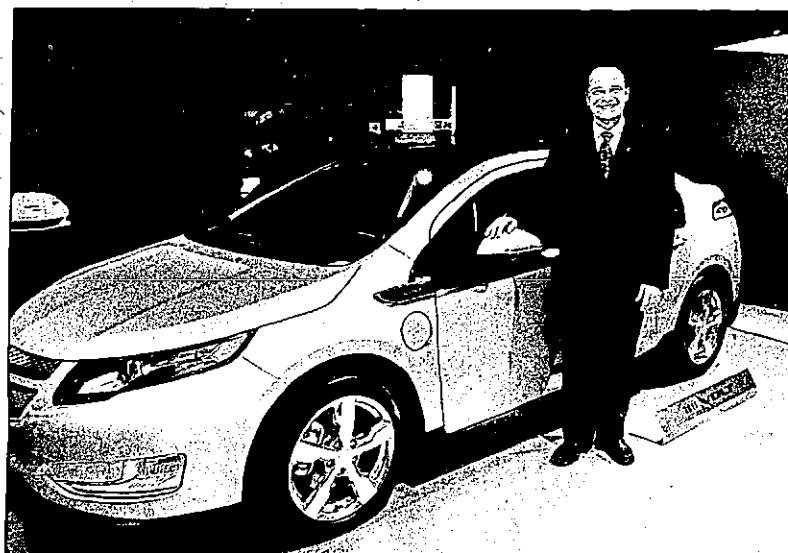
Governor Rick Snyder greets high-tech Michigan companies at the "Smarter Living in Michigan" at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit.



The Audi exhibit at the NAIAS show on Jan. 10.



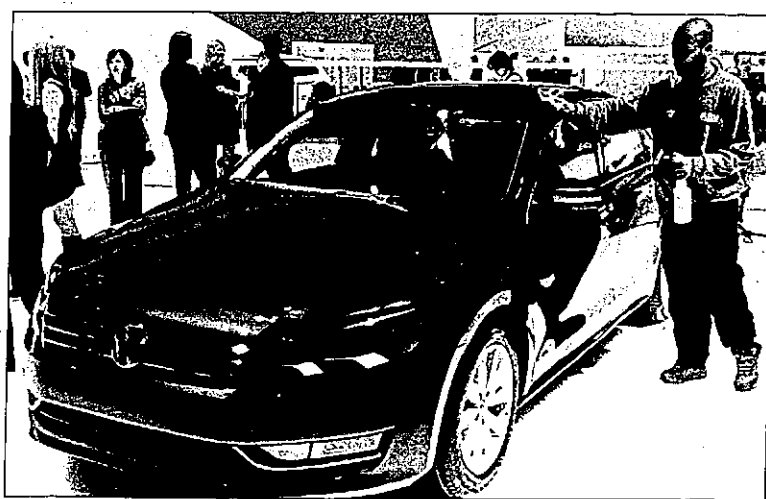
The Ford Motor Company display at the 2011 North American International Auto Show in Detroit featured lots of bright LED lighting and cool blue tones.



North American International Auto Show committee member Scott LaRiche poses by the 2011 Car of the Year - the GM Chevrolet Volt - at Monday's press preview at Cobo Center. LaRiche, of Lou LaRiche in Plymouth Township, is busy assisting exhibitors at the auto show.



Johnson Controls' Alex Molinaroli introduces a 7 a.m. press conference at the NAIAS to his company's all-electrical iE:3 vehicle. Johnson Controls, which has a considerable presence in Plymouth Township, was at the auto show in Detroit to display its wares.



D'Angelo Crenshaw of Detroit, cleans a Volkswagen model at the North American International Auto Show on Jan. 10. Dozens of car-detailers were busy around Cobo Hall that day, making sure that the autos on display looked their best.



Chief Operating Officer of Tata Technology Global Warren Harris chats with Hometown Newspaper reporter Nathan Mueller at the 2011 North American International Auto Show on Jan. 10 in Detroit. Harris stands near a Dodge vehicle which Tata does considerable work for in its automotive engineering areas. Tata also has an office in Novi, Michigan.







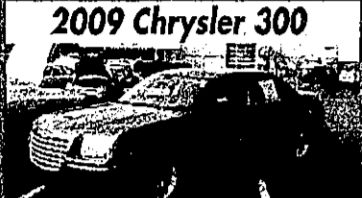

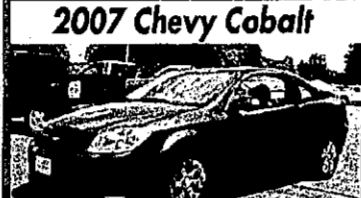









Outside the North American International Auto Show at Detroit's Cobo Hall.



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SECTION B (NN)

# SPORTS

THURSDAY, January 13, 2011

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

NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP, PAGE B2



## Novi tankers repeat at Invite

Chung, Ao combine for three individual titles, contribute to 400 free relay championship

BY CHRIS JACKETT  
CORRESPONDENT

Behind a well-rounded team performance, Novi's boys swim and dive team won their second-straight Laker Invitational title last Saturday in West Bloomfield.

The Wildcats' top heats finished first or second in 10 of 12 events - third in the other two - as Novi accumulated 250 points. Monroe and North Farmington tied for second with 196 points apiece, as Troy Athens (42) and Livonia Churchill (37) rounded out the competition.

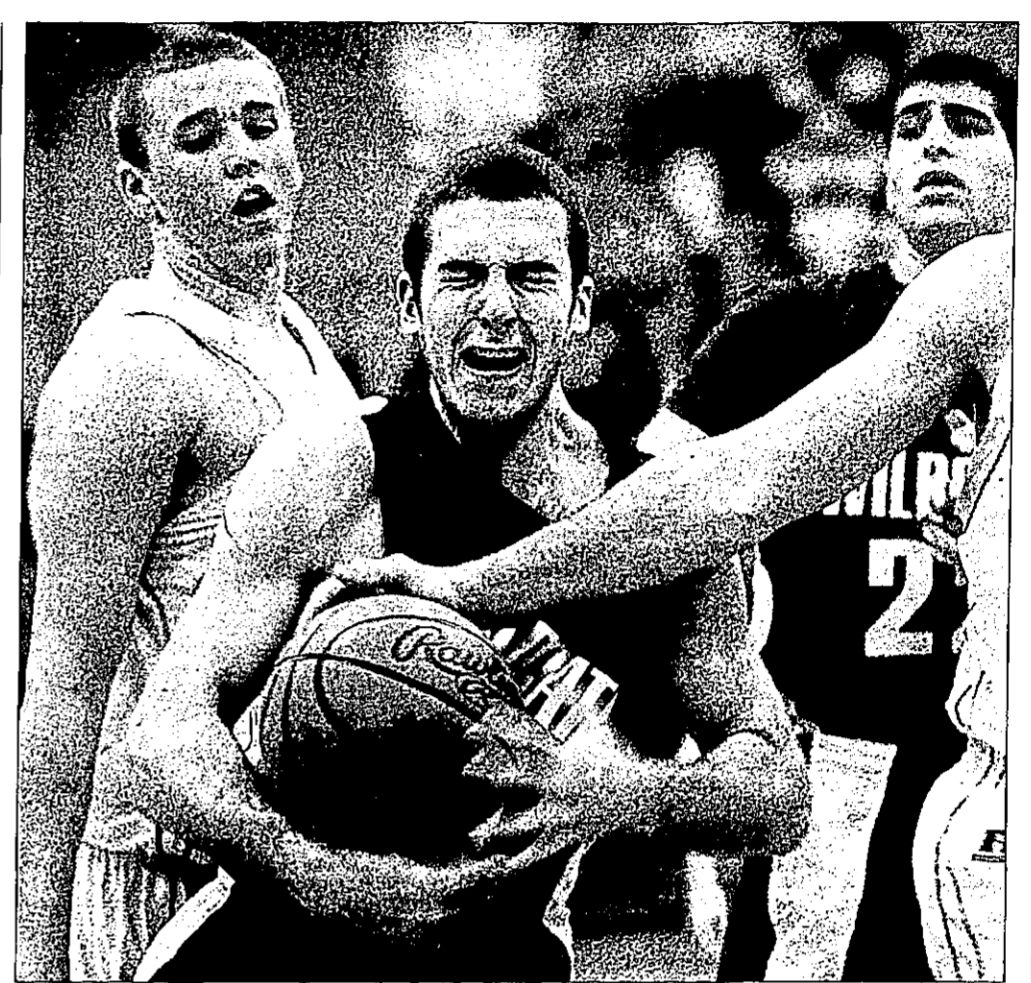
The three relay squads showcased the Wildcats' team strength, winning the 400-yard freestyle relay after finishing second in both the 200 medley relay and 200 free relay. Seniors Jon Chung, Tiger Bourque, Matt Wright and junior Jong Min Kim teamed in the 200 medley relay for a run-around finish in 1:44.12, but Novi's second-, third- and fourth-string relay teams each won their 200 medley heats.

Sophomore Andrew Ao, senior Matt Wright, junior Eugene Song and Bourque combined to finish the 200 free relay second in 1:36.35, while Ao, Kim, Chung and senior Travis Vincent combined for the victory in the 400 free relay in 3:23.58.

Several of the relay stars also saw success in individual action. In addition to his two relay finishes, Chung paced the Wildcats with first-place finishes in both the 200 individual medley (1:59.49) and 100 breaststroke (59.52 seconds).

Ao also got his second championship of the day.

Please see SWIM, B3



Novi at South Lyon High School boys hoops - Novi HS's #33, Rob Laney.

## Seniors lead Novi to division-opening win over South Lyon

BY JEFF THEISEN  
SPORTS WRITER

Novi rolled into South Lyon undefeated and led the same way with a 49-37 victory Friday night.

The Wildcats (6-0, 0-1) used a strong first quarter to get a lead they would not relinquish.

It wasn't the prettiest game for either team offensively. Novi shot 16 for 51 from the floor, while the Lions made 14 of 53 shots.

Though Novi head coach Cory Heitsch knew his team played far from its best game, he's aware getting a road win is always welcome.

"You like to leave 1-0 versus 0-1," he said. "We did some nice things."

But he was more than displeased with long droughts on both ends of the floor.

"When you know you can jump over people for the ball and you don't do it, it's a choice," he said. "It's something we've got to figure out quick."

The Lions couldn't find the bottom of the basket in the first quarter. South Lyon scored on its third shot, and then went on to miss the next 13 shots with two turnovers.

Novi got six points from senior Brian Bush (nine points) on a pair of three-pointers for a 14-4 lead after the first quarter.

Brian hit two big threes early and stopped to the line and hit his free throws late, said



Novi at South Lyon HS boys hoops - Novi HS's #12, Brian Bush.

Heitsch. Both offenses settled in during the second quarter and the Wildcats held a 28-17 lead at the half.

Jeff Schmitz poured in nine of his game-high 15 points for the Lions in the second.

South Lyon had its best quarter of the game in the third as Novi went ice-cold to start the

second half. The Lions scored the first five points of the quarter as the Wildcats opened the quarter 1 for 11 from the floor.

South Lyon trimmed the lead to three on a Jon Gould three-pointer, but Novi closed the quarter with the final four points for a 35-29 lead heading into the fourth.

Both teams again struggled to put up points in the fourth, as Novi scored just two points midway through the quarter, but South Lyon had only trimmed the lead to 38-33.

The Lions got as close as 41-37 with three minutes remaining, but it would be the last points they would score.

Novi closed the game out with an 8-0 run to open the K-LA Central Division schedule with a win. Senior Samer Ozeir led the Wildcats with 14 points and 10 rebounds, while seniors Rob Laney (nine points, six rebounds) and Chris Milon (six points, eight rebounds, three blocks) added solid contributions.

South Lyon head coach Doug Host knows his team is learning on the fly at the varsity level.

"We have a number of guys who have played a ton at the varsity level," he said. "Jeff (Schmitz) saw a lot of varsity team. They're still getting their feet wet."

"I'm really proud of how hard we're playing."

Please see SOCCER, B3

## ALL-AREA BOYS SOCCER

### DeLeon defends area's best

BY CHRIS JACKETT  
CORRESPONDENT

A two-year captain, Novi senior John DeLeon led the Wildcats to a 20-5-0 record this fall, primarily by stopping opponents' best players with consistent dominance from his defensive center-midfielder position. Although his offensive statistics suffered for his defensive assignments, DeLeon's endurance allowed him to be a key part of the Wildcats' game all over the field during a prep season that featured stellar goalkeeping from several teams.

"One of the strongest players on the ball ever to play at Novi, almost impossible to dispossess of the ball once he has control of it," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "He has a very low center of gravity (and) plays the ball equally well with both feet."

DeLeon had four goals and two assists from his defensive position, and earned All-State second team, All-Conference and All-District honors throughout the season while posting a 3.32 Grade Point Average in the classroom.

#### FIRST TEAM

Chase Jabbari (Novi Jr. F) The area's leader in goals and Novi's top scorer for a third-straight year, Jabbari had 17 goals and eight assists this season (35 goals, 18 assists over three years) as he repeatedly used his speed and footwork to get past opposing defenders.

"He has great quickness with the ball, great speed in the open field and great speed with the ball," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said.

Poised for a strong senior year next fall, Jabbari earned All-Conference, All-District, All-Region and All-State third team honors this season while registering a 3.4 GPA.

Alex Lang (Catholic Central Sr. G) A force for the Shamrocks, Lang kept CC in many games, making six shutouts and allowing just nine goals in a 13-game span.

"Alex was a brick wall for us this season. He stood tall in net all year long," CC coach Joe Nora said. "As a captain and

Please see SOCCER, B3

## Lady cagers open division play, new year with victory

D'Annibale comes off bench to lead Wildcats to 42-34 win

BY CHRIS JACKETT  
CORRESPONDENT

One down, nine to go. Novi's girls basketball team's (6-0, 1-0 K-LA Central Division) bid to repeat as division champions kicked off with a solid 42-34 victory over visiting South Lyon (3-2, 0-1 Central) last Friday.

"You never know what you're going to get coming off a long break, but I thought we played well for most of the game," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "I think we ran out of a little gas in the fourth."

With three student-athletes out of the rotation, the Wildcats' depleted roster shot 43.8 percent (14-for-32) from the field as the team built a 35-20 lead after three quarters before the Lions made a comeback effort with a 14-7 fourth-quarter.

"We had a big lead and were trying to work

#### ON TAP

The Wildcats (6-0, 1-0 Central) were scheduled to visit Plymouth Salem (2-5, 1-0 Central) Tuesday before hosting Northville (0-1, 3-3 Central) tonight and Livonia Stevenson (1-0, 5-1 Central) Tuesday. Both games tip off at 7 p.m.

some clock," Kelp said. "We unfortunately missed two open shots and had some turnovers, coupled with poor communication on the defensive end, that let them back in the game. We have to do a better job of closing out on players. When we get beat, we can't reach like we have been doing."

The Cats polished off the game at the charity stripe, hitting 14-of-23 free throws (60.0 per-

Please see GIRLS HOOPS, B3



Novi High School girls' basketball team on Jan. 7 against South Lyon.



Abigail Swain, right and the Novi High School varsity cheerleading team in action on Jan. 4, during a tri-meet home invitational.



JOHN HEDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

JV COMPETITIVE CHEER

Despite a smaller team this season, the 10 members of the junior varsity competitive cheer squad have been making strides early in the year, and the effort showed at last Saturday's Novi Invite.

"The JV team had a great couple of practices before the Novi Invite," JV coach Ashley Karinen said. "They improved their scores in all three rounds by between 15-30 points."

The girls managed to finish fifth of seven squads, but were right in the mix among the larger squads.

"Competitive season is somewhat of a numbers game, but the girls are able to compete with the larger JV teams because of how clean and precise our routines are," Karinen said.

The performance followed a third-place finish at a Jan. 4 home tri-meet that featured South Lyon East and Livonia Stevenson.

The cheer squads are back in action 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the Stoney Creek-hosted Cougar Spirit Invitational before a 6:30 p.m. Wednesday quad meet at South Lyon with Northville and Stevenson.

HOCKEY

Novi's iceers made their annual three-day trip to the Upper Peninsula and came away with a

pair of victories. Ranked No. 10, the Wildcats (9-3-0, 3-2-0 Kensington) defeated No. 7 Calumet (8-3-0) by a 7-4 score last Friday and No. 34 Houghton (4-6-1) with a 4-3 mark Saturday before dropping a 3-2 decision to No. 4 Marquette (9-0-0) Sunday.

During the trip, the Wildcats dealt with more than a foot of snow, colder than usual rinks and had the chance to watch Northern Michigan University host Notre Dame in a CCHA game Saturday night.

The team hits the ice again 6:30 p.m. Monday when Livonia Franklin (2-6-1, 0-2-0 Kensington), ranked No. 118 overall, comes to Novi Ice Arena.

The teams were scheduled for a strong of contests this week. A match rescheduled from a December snow day set in motion road contests at Northville, Plymouth and Canton Monday through yesterday. The teams take up Plymouth Salem next 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at Super Bowl in Canton and 3 p.m. Thursday against Grand Blanc at Airway Lanes in Waterford.

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BOWLING

The Wildcat bowling squads had some tough competition last week. One match was against a powerhouse from Wayne Memorial, while the other was a close matchup against Livonia Clarenceville, which resulted in the girls' first win of the season.

The girls (1-4-0) took a 19-11 decision over the Trojans. Junior Shelby Limpert and senior Tina Johnson each scored two points, but junior anchor bowler Callie Wright struck out in both games. She won her first game 221-217 and the second game 615-604 to take the match.

The boys team (1-3-1) met the opposite fate, losing 19-11 to Clarenceville. Senior Brandon

Gillespie (194 and 213) and Junior Andrew Thorvall (199 and 294) each scored two points in the contest.

Things were uglier against a pair of Zebra teams last Thursday. The boys lost 22-8 and the girls fell 26-4.

Junior Chad Smith scored two points and Brandon Ross had one with a 226 high game for Novi, while Wright had two points with games of 179 and 181 and freshman Sara Schulz scored one point with a high game of 189.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Novi Motion girls AAU troops take place today at Orchard Hills Elementary School, 41900 Quince. From 6:30-8 p.m., the 9-10 year olds hit the court, followed by the 11-12 year olds from 8-9:30 p.m. There is a \$20 tryout fee and a parent/guardian will have to fill out some paperwork. Girls should be ready to play with shoes, shorts and shirts. For more information, call (248) 349-5464.

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

CATHOLIC CENTRAL ROUNDUP

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

SHAMROCKS COLLECT TWO BOWLING VICTORIES

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks bowling team started off the Catholic High School League schedule with two big victories over Divine Child and University of Detroit Jesuit.

The Divine Child match was a close one with Catholic Central pulling out a 19-11 victory at Thunderbird Lanes. The only player on either team to score over 200 points on very tough lane conditions was Catholic Central's Eric Pavlov, who put up a 233.

Catholic Central swept the Baker games but then lost the first regular game by four pins, 912-908 before putting the match away with a victory in the last game, 866-841.

Against U-of-D, Catholic Central earned a convincing 22-8 victory at Lodge Lanes in a high-scoring match. The Shamrocks had two players score over 500 pins in a two-game series with Pavlov notching games of 225 and 278 and Scott Kujawa taking games of 268 and 236. Also contributing to the scoring were Tom Zahari (236), Jeff Conflitti (246) and Ken O'Connor (213). CC shot regular games of 1,076 and 1,158 for a series of 2,234.

The Shamrocks also bowled in the Ladywood Holiday Tournament last week, finishing with a first place out of a field of 18 teams. The victory makes Catholic Central 2-0 this year in tournaments. The team was led by Pavlov with scores of 177, 289 and 226 for a series of 692. Also contributing to the win was Zahari with a game of 230.

Trenton scored at 14:57 in the second period to cut the lead to 3-2, but Gaffney added a final touch with 15:53 off the clock in the second stanza to nail the coffin shut on the Trojans, who scored their final tally with just a few minutes remaining in the game.

Earning the win in goal was Connor Pankov, who faced 26 shots, while Catholic Central peppered Trenton's goalie with 43.

Catholic Central also defeated University of Detroit Jesuit, 9-1, last week. The team took a 2-0 lead in the first before allowing U-of-D's lone goal in the opening minutes of the second. The Shamrocks didn't look back from that point on, scoring seven more to secure the lopsided victory.

Scoring goals for the Shamrocks were Michael Downing (6), Tyler VanAcker (2), Green, Mitchell Gatt and Joe Steele.

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

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SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

FIELD LEADER DUE TO HIS PLAY

Earning All-State third team honors, the Shamrock captain was voted MVP by his teammates after taking All-Catholic League first team, All-District and All-Region honors.

Wes Smith (Novi Sr. GK) With nine shutouts on the season, Smith was there for the Wildcats when he was needed. He had a 0.9 Goals Against Average through 20 games between the pipes.

A great athlete, tall, rangy and aggressive in goal, Novi coach Brian O'Leary said, "If not for Wes, there is no way we would have been 20-5. He made great late game saves in many of our games to prevent the other team from tying the game up."

Smith had three goals and an assist during his limited time on offense. His slate of accolades includes All-Conference, All-District, All-Region, All-State third team, Academic All-State with a 3.6 GPA and a chance to play goalkeeper at Oakland University next fall.

Fatal Almashe (Northville Sr. DM) Leading the Mustangs with 10 goals and 10 assists as a defensive center midfielder, Almashe earned a nod to play at Michigan State University next fall.

"He makes everyone around him better," Northville coach Henry Klimes said. "When he's on the pitch, he elevates everyone's game."

Almashe earned All-Division, All-Conference, All-District and third-team All-State honors this fall.

Will Schwarz (Lakeland Sr. M) After setting the Eagles' single-season scoring record at 15 goals as a junior forward last year, Schwarz returned from a five-game injury as a mid-fielder this fall and finished as the team's MVP behind six goals and 10 assists.

"Will exemplifies academics and athletics," Lakeland coach Mark Janssen said. "He is a hard worker on the field, leads by example, is one of our captains and also is a top student with a cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.98 and will be All-State All-Academic."

Schwartz's work contributed greatly toward Lakeland's 11-4-7 record as he earned All-Conference, All-District, All-Region and All-State honorable mention honors.

Ben Lang (Lakeland Sr. GK) Lang was also a huge part of the Eagles' successful season, using the school record of 11 shutouts and setting Lakeland's career shutout record at 18. Lang gave up just 11 goals while playing in all 22 games.

"He was the anchor to a defensive unit that only allowed 16 goals in 22 games," Lakeland coach Mark Janssen said. "Ben's ability to keep us in goal this year. He kept us in many games early while the offense struggled and came up big in key games against Plymouth, Grand Blanc and Walled Lake Northern."

The captain earned All-Conference, All-District, All-Conf Academic and All-State All-Academic honors behind a 3.5 GPA in the classroom.

Dan Morris (South Lyon Sr. D) Morris was a key player in the Shamrocks' success, scoring 11 goals and 10 assists in 22 games.

"Dan was a key player in the Shamrocks' success, scoring 11 goals and 10 assists in 22 games."

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

PLAYING DEFENSE DIDN'T STOP MORRIS

From getting a foot in on the Lions' offense. He had nine goals and six assists from the back row while earning All-KLAA honorable mention, All-District, All-Region and third-team All-State in Division II.

"Dan was always responsible for marking up the other team's best offensive player," South Lyon coach Tracee Senter said. "What makes him special is he does not let that hurt his own offensive game. He had some of his best offensive games when he marked up some of the top players in the state."

Jake Purdhomme (South Lyon Jr. M) An offensive dynamo for the Lions, Purdhomme racked up 12 goals and 14 assists this fall, putting him 10th on the school's all-time points list after two seasons, with one more season to play.

"Jake can score at any time and any place. His goalkeeping efforts helped enable his team to be competitive, and were admired by other opposing teams' coaches and players."

Throughout the year, he positively supported his team both on and off the field. Being a captain and a leader of the team, he earned the respect of his team by taking ownership of his responsibilities, providing needed support and appropriate direction to his fellow team members.

Although his team had an off season, Prey was a bright spot for the Milford program, earning All-Conference, All-District and also All-State honorable mention accolades.

Nathan Lightner (Northville Sr. D) Consistent play throughout the season earned Lightner All-Conference and All-District honors this fall, handing him a scholarship to play collegiate soccer at Schoolcraft College next season.

Jon Hart (Novi Sr. D) Hart led a Wildcat defense that started the fall inexperienced as a unit, allowing 14 goals in the first half of the season. However, the captain was a big reason Novi allowed just six goals during the second half of the regular season. He earned All-Conference, All-District and Academic All-State honors as well as a 3.9 GPA.

Mark Sadler (South Lyon Sr. D) Capping off a three-year career on varsity, Sadler racked up seven goals and 10 assists while earning All-KLAA honorable mention and All-District for the Lions.

Eric Krueger (South Lyon Sr. M) A second-year varsity player, Krueger had an impressive season in the books, earning nine goals and 10 assists to go along with All-KLAA honorable mention and All-District for the Lions.

Tom Kenenu (Lakeland Jr. D) Kenenu used his head in holding down the fort as the

second team

Gino Pulice (CC Sr. DM) A captain and All-State honorable mention, Pulice led his team from the defensive center mid-field position. Although he only had five assists in the book, he was a key asset in the Shamrocks' lineup, earning All-Catholic League second-team All-District and All-Region honors.

Connor Carrigan (Lakeland Jr. D) Moving up from sweeper as a sophomore, Carrigan played stopper and defensive center-midfield as a junior for the Eagles this fall, shutting down the opposition's top players. His constant flow of energy also earned him four assists, as well as All-Conference and All-District recognitions.

Andrew Buck (CC Jr. F) A consistent horn in the side for Shamrock opponents, Buck had six goals and six assists while earning All-District honors.

Sean Deters (Lakeland Sr. M) As a center midfielder for the Eagles, Deters set up seven teammates for goals while earning three goals of his own this fall. He's earned All-Conference and All-District honors for three straight years, as well as All-Conference Academic honors the past two seasons.

Troy Baertson (Lakeland Jr. F) As the Eagles' leading scorer, Baertson had seven goals and five assists this fall. He earned All-Conference, All-District and All-Conference Academic honors during his second year on varsity and first as a starter.

Tom Kenenu (Lakeland Jr. D) Kenenu used his head in holding down the fort as the



NOVI SENIOR JOHN DELEON (RIGHT) WAS A HUGE PART OF THE WILDCATS' 20-5-0 SEASON.

GOALKEEPING POSITION.

"Due to his outstanding athletic abilities and goalkeeping skills, he stopped countless excellent goal-scoring opportunities throughout the entire season."

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'Cat grapplers streak to bittersweet start Zip, Brawler win individual titles at South Lyon Invite

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Novi's grapplers kicked off the New Year with some streaky performances that led to a split result during last week's quad meet.

The host Wildcats (9-3) fell behind early against Livonia Churchill (1-1) Jan. 5. Down 15-3, sophomore Andrew Park (112 pounds) came away with a 6-4 decision, changing the match's momentum. Novi won eight of the next 10 matches for a 51-24 victory.

In addition to Park's win, seniors Matt Aoun (130), David Sparring (180), Alan Mencer (215), Chris Caverly (145), Juniors Giddiani Abernethy (119), Jake Dobras (171) and sophomores Ben Landry (152) and Zach Roush (160) all picked up victories for the Wildcats.

"We wrestled aggressive and because of that, we earned a victory over a tough Livonia Churchill program," Novi coach Dan Jilg said.

Novi's wrestlers kept things going early on the same day against Livonia Franklin (10-5), as sophomores Dan DeNova (103) and Park picked up pinfall victories and Abernethy earned a 7-3 decision to give the "Cats an early 15-0 lead.

Franklin took over from there, winning six of the next seven matches for a 34-32 come-from-behind victory over Novi.

Senior Derrick Becker (140) was Novi's lone win, a pin, during Franklin's run. Mencer and junior Chris Nash added points for Novi to cap the night.

"This was a heartbreaker, I'll give you that," Jilg said. "Any one of these guys could have taken home the gold this past weekend," Jilg said. "They wrestled tough all day. One or two more takedowns and the gold could have been theirs."

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Advertisement for Detroit Pistons featuring Tayshaun Prince and promotional text for Saturday nights and special matinee.

Advertisement for the 29th Annual Plymouth Ice Festival, including business sponsorship opportunities and contact information.

Advertisement for CC swim team season with tough competition, featuring a list of swimmers and their achievements.



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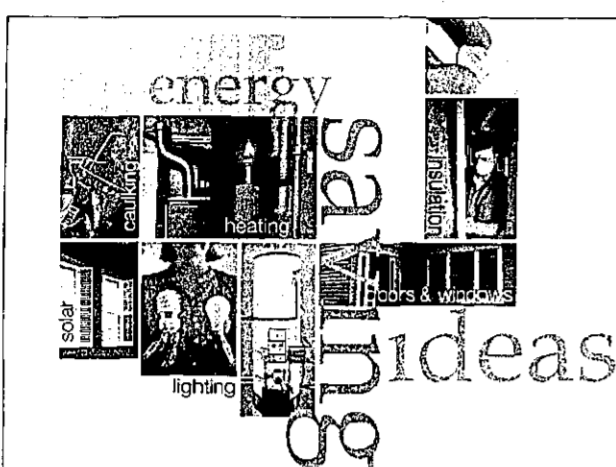
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## Energy-saving tips we can all use at home

We all want to save money around the house. Saving money at home can be done in many ways, however, sometimes some of the smaller things that can really make a difference are overlooked. Komo News gives five tips that are guaranteed to help you save money around the house, as found on the website of the Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan:

- 1) Twin draft guards: These are double sided insulation devices that slide under the door to eliminate cold or warm air drafts from the underside of the door.
- 2) Programmable thermostats: It's energy wasted when no one is home, so why not set the thermostat to turn off when you leave and turn on 15 min before you get home.
- 3) Turn down the water heater: If you're going on vacation you should turn your water heater to low. It's amazing how much energy goes into heating water and it's a definite waste if no one is going to use it for a while.



4) Law flow shower heads: Older shower head guzzle out unnecessary amounts of water, while a low flow shower head will give you the right amount of pressure without wasting all of that water.

5) Toilet products: Use only the amount of toilet products needed to do the job. Common examples of wastefulness are exaggerated amounts of toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, and toilet paper.

In a typical home, heating and cooling account for more than half of the home's energy use, making it the largest energy expense for most households. Today's high efficiency furnaces operate more efficiently while using less energy than older equipment.

These home heating tips come from the website of DTE Energy.

If your heating equipment is more than 12 years old, consider replacing it — before it breaks down — to save money on utility bills, allow time for price research, and ensure your family's comfort.

Save money on the purchase price of your new furnace by taking advantage of promotional rebates offered by component manufacturers. In addition, many high efficiency heating systems may also qualify for a Federal tax credit of up to 30 percent of the purchase price for the equipment, up

## Court upholds tenancy issue

I read about a case where a man and woman had property granted to them as husband and wife, as joint tenants. However, the marriage was deemed invalid and I am wondering whether or not the so-called surviving spouse has a right to the property.

A: In a recent case out of Nebraska based on similar facts, the appellate court held that the language of the deed clearly expressed the intent of the parties to own the real property together with a right of survivorship. The court reasoned that the fact that they were not legally married did not obscure their true intention to grant to themselves a joint tenancy for the surviving person to become the owner of the property. Of course, that is not a Michigan case and you are best advised to consult with an attorney concerning the likely result in your state.



Robert Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Playing on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit [meisner@meisner-associates.com](http://meisner@meisner-associates.com). This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

to a maximum credit of \$1,500. For more information, visit [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov).

When replacing your heating system, you'll save money and benefit when you: always select ENERGY STAR qualified equipment. Although upfront costs can be higher, the long-term savings difference is regained with lower energy usage. ENERGY STAR furnaces are the most efficient models on the market.

The EnergyGuide label with a high AFUE rating. The Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency, or AFUE, rating measures the overall energy performance of a furnace or boiler. An AFUE of 95 percent means that 95 percent of your energy dollar becomes heat for your home and the remaining 5 percent escapes up the chimney and elsewhere. The higher the AFUE, the more heat you get for your energy dollar.

Install a programmable thermostat. You can save energy heating your home by turning your thermostat back 10 to 15 percent for eight hours or more. A programmable thermostat automatically sets the temperature according to a pre-set schedule. When shopping for a programmable thermostat, look for the ENERGY STAR label and select a model that offers a manual override option that allows you to adjust the settings without affecting the

rest of the pre-set programming.

A high efficiency furnace with an Electronically Commutated Motor (ECM). Furnaces with an ECM motor use less electricity because it adjusts its speed to ensure optimal airflow at all times. Traditional furnaces motors run at only one speed — high.

Purchase high efficiency. Purchase the highest efficiency furnace that you can afford. For optimum savings, select a model with an AFUE rating of 95 percent or higher.

Size it right. Purchase the proper size furnace for your home. An undersized furnace will not heat your home efficiently, and an oversized furnace will cost more to purchase and to operate. Check with your contractor to find the right size furnace for your home. Don't assume the new unit should be exactly the same as your existing unit.

Proper installation is critical. Improper installation can lower efficiency by up to 30 percent, increase utility bills and possibly reduce the life of the equipment.

A well-maintained heating system will run more efficiently and help to reduce your energy use. To keep your heating system in proper working condition, consider having your furnace inspected annually,

ideally before the heating season begins. Call a local contractor to schedule an inspection in late summer or early fall.

If you have a forced air heating system, here are some tasks you may be able to perform yourself.

Follow manufacturers' guidelines. For peak energy performance, always operate and maintain your heating system according to manufacturers' guidelines.

Clean or replace the air filter regularly. Filters reduce the amount of dust and dirt that flow through your ductwork and into your home.

Check your furnace for dust and lint. Remove the dust and lint from the burner compartment at least once a year.

Check the chimney for obstructions. Make sure your chimney is not blocked by debris such as bird nests, leaves, loose mortar or dirt.

Inspect fuel pipes. Also inspect the fuel pipes from the heating system and water heater to make sure they are free of rust and are tightly sealed.

Check your ductwork. Check for air leaks, especially at joints. Seal off air leaks with foil faced tape rather than duct tape. Use less energy and save money heating your home by following these tips:

- Enroll in BudgetWise Billing and spread your heating payments equally over the entire year.
- Dial down your thermostat — for each degree you set your thermostat below 72°F reduces your heating costs by approximately 3 percent. Dress appropriately for the weather and on cold winter nights, put an extra blanket on the bed and lower your thermostat another degree or two to save even more.
- Check heat vents and registers to ensure the drapes and furniture do not block airflow.
- Use insulated drapes or other window coverings to help reduce drafts and keep the warm air inside.
- Minimize the number of times that doors to the outside are opened and closed. Every time an outside door opens, warm air rushes out and cold air moves in.
- Use ceiling fans set at a slow speed with the blades counter-clockwise (upward) to push warm air away from the ceiling and move it around the room without creating a chilly breeze.

to participate in certain activities with no accommodation and others with the assistance of an amplification system that the association has purchased for her benefit. Do you think we should do?

A: First, you should consult with your attorney regarding this potentially dangerous issue with respect to liability for the association. In a similar case out of Colorado, on similar facts, the court found that there was sufficient evidence to create genuine dispute as to whether the sign language interpreter or CART is necessary for the member to communicate effectively at meetings. In that case, the association had offered recorded minutes from a monthly board meeting where the member, without the benefit of a sign language interpreter or CART, was unable to convey her concerns relating to smoke detectors. As to her ability to understand the information, the association provided a doctor's report that stated that a portable sound system, used in conjunction with the member's hearing aids, would be sufficient to allow her to hear lectures and other speaking events approximately as well as the nonhearing disabled individual does in a one on one situation. We will see what the results are.

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5872 Meadowview Dr \$277,000	14832 Harrison Rd \$170,000	260 Burroughs St \$155,000	1009 S San Jose \$58,000
1738 Harrison Rd \$168,000	18253 Lakeland Rd \$177,000	4824 Wagon Wheel Dr \$89,000	952 Tecumseh \$45,000
384 Rensselaer Dr \$139,000	16579 Midwestern Rd \$182,000	12555 Hudson Creek Ct \$39,000	32726 Ann Arbor Trl \$155,000
423 Repton Dr \$180,000	18262 University Park Dr \$182,000	18273 Potomac Ave \$30,000	34021 Cambridge Ct \$9,000
4918 Woodchuck Dr \$180,000	18263 University Park Dr \$182,000	3853 Canyon Dr \$30,000	34232 Montclair Dr \$30,000
518 Iygon Ln \$190,000	34259 Wagon Wheel Dr \$190,000	1424 Park View Dr \$140,000	32887 Chapman Dr \$12,000
1100 Wildewood Ln \$155,000	32459 Wagon Wheel Dr \$190,000	1405 Ross St \$142,000	35322 Dove Trl \$45,000
2808 Cambridge St \$40,000	1662 Brooklane Blvd \$525,000	1415 Terrace Ct \$109,000	30323 Ringwood St \$12,000
2818 Elmwood St \$153,000	15308 Carleton Way \$220,000	8199 Belvoir Dr \$48,000	30323 Ringwood St \$12,000
3728 Ardmore St \$181,000	39373 Rosewood St \$220,000	8199 Belvoir Dr \$48,000	30323 Ringwood St \$12,000
46556 Buntin Dr \$175,000	41208 Kismetford Rd \$275,000	15599 Mulberry Way \$275,000	74318 Willow Rd \$158,000
3621 Barkley Park Cr \$185,000	41208 Kismetford Rd \$275,000	26271 Cover \$178,000	16358 N Richman St \$176,000
4111 Boulevard St \$132,000	16207 Fairway Dr \$180,000	26271 Cover \$178,000	2125 S Richmond Rd \$176,000
5894 Constance St \$215,000	19787 Garita \$215,000	16844 Cayaker \$165,000	1656 S Newburgh Dr \$50,000
2025 Fairway Cr \$175,000	4535 Gilmann St \$40,000	13201 Malachuk \$80,000	1403 Sprague St \$97,000
45459 Indian Creek Ln \$210,000	38612 Grandview St \$149,000	11200 Olympia \$44,000	
	35870 Grove Cir \$149,000	16455 Palmetto \$51,000	

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826 Aldmore Dr \$130,000	33467 State St \$170,000	507 Florence Ct \$160,000	39842 Village Road Cr \$18,000
6457 Berry Dr \$190,000	23667 Walter St \$164,000	899 Her Page Dr \$220,000	28358 Woodlark Dr \$86,000
1931 Cedar Dr \$130,000	3697 Ridgeview St \$250,000	3697 Ridgeview St \$250,000	25525 Coacht \$100,000
151 Bourcier \$625,000	29915 Barwell Rd \$180,000	1830 Pinewood \$203,000	34305 Valleywood Dr \$30,000
495 Fox Hills Dr N \$150,000	36560 Ego Ct \$259,000	40000 124th Greenwood Dr \$188,000	29720 Abernethy Ln \$99,000
579 Fox Hills Dr S \$165,000	32102 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	22019 Barclay Ct \$429,000	18452 Balmbridge Dr \$65,000
4165 Fox Hills Dr S \$150,000	32102 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	49009 Berrill Ln \$167,000	29009 Brookwood Dr \$40,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	25506 Fittore Pl \$40,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	29400 Hillside Dr \$112,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	16425 Marvosa Ave \$160,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	20003 N Greenway St \$94,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	34000 Park Dr \$271,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	3282 Palmer Rd \$10,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	43024 Fittore Rd \$10,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	27100 Palmetto St \$10,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	29202 Sandhill Ln \$10,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	21342 Wallace Dr \$10,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	9056 Grayson Dr \$83,000
36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	1715 Williams Lake Rd \$85,000

826 Aldmore Dr \$130,000	33467 State St \$170,000	507 Florence Ct \$160,000	39842 Village Road Cr \$18,000
6457 Berry Dr \$190,000	23667 Walter St \$164,000	899 Her Page Dr \$220,000	28358 Woodlark Dr \$86,000
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36405 Lakeside Dr \$265,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	28500 Hildenes Rd \$181,000	1715 Williams Lake Rd \$85,000

10654 Old Woodland Ave \$700,000	52133 Starwood Dr \$253,000	45300 Bayview Dr \$40,000	224 Columbia Dr \$81,000
4657 Woodland Dr \$283,000	21323 Birchwood St \$169,000	22402 Brookfield Dr \$292,000	4808 Hudson Creek Dr \$222,000
4717 Chestnut St \$121,000	36527 Heather Hills Dr \$145,000	41528 Burroughs Ave \$430,000	25840 McCarty Ln \$18,000
3988 Fair Hill Rd \$110,000	46401 Woodland Dr \$127,000	5865 Chestnut Hill Dr \$107,000	308 Princeton Dr \$18,000
2653 Hunters Way \$150,000	31174 Bycross St \$197,000	5865 Chestnut Hill Dr \$107,000	196 Winchester St \$10,000
1589 Hunters Way \$150,000	36184 Chesapeake Rd \$240,000	25010 Crowned Rd \$14,000	12782 Cornhill Dr \$109,000
4103 Hunters Pointe \$150,000	35631 Lynnwood Dr \$165,000	25010 Crowned Rd \$14,000	29351 Leeward Dr \$18,000
5875 Hunters Pointe \$235,000	32713 Oakleaf Way \$207,000	25010 Crowned Rd \$14,000	23568 Woodbridge Dr \$45,000
5186 Hunters Way \$150,000	35273 Shawsnee Dr \$207,000	25010 Crowned Rd \$14,000	29702 Marvosa Ave \$68,000
2649 Hunters Way \$150,000	29134 Shawsnee Dr \$207,000	25010 Crowned Rd \$14,000	23568 Woodbridge Dr \$45,000
2522 Wildwood Run \$175,000	29134 Shawsnee Dr \$207,000	25010 Crowned Rd \$14,000	23568 Woodbridge Dr \$45,000
3274 Apple Ln \$63,000	17310 Margate Ave \$187,000	25010 Crowned Rd \$14,000	23568 Woodbridge Dr \$45,000
2804 Apple Ln \$237,000	575 Hillside Dr \$257,000	25010 Crowned Rd \$14,000	23568 Woodbridge Dr \$45,000
4874 Piedmonta St \$17,000	826 S Wain St \$145,000	25010 Crowned Rd \$14,000	23568 Woodbridge Dr \$45,000

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