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THURSDAY
February 17, 2011

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
Volume 55
Number 39

NOVI NEWS

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NOVI NOW Addicted to games ... not drugs

The Novi Youth Council is partnering with the Novi Fire and Police Departments and Lucky Strike to present the annual Addicted to Games ... Not Drugs event from 9 a.m.-noon Thursday, Feb. 24. Hosted by Lucky Strike, located in Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk, this event offers students in Kindergarten through sixth grade access to all the games, bowling, interactive entertainment, food, and soft drinks they can handle. Members of the Novi Youth Council, Novi Fire and Police Departments, and Lucky Strike staff will be on hand to supervise the event; however, parents are encouraged to join the fun. Proceeds will go towards local anti-drug initiatives in Novi schools.

The permission slip is available online at cityofnovi.org and payment may be made at the City of Novi Treasurer's Department, located at the Novi Civic Center (45175 W. 10 Mile Road). Tickets are \$10 per student.

For more information, please visit cityofnovi.org.

MSU Extension offers program

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. Saturday sessions will be held at the MSU Toigo Education Center, Indian Springs Metropark, and Independence Oaks County Park. Registration fee is \$275.

Obtain an application packet online at <http://www.aakgov.com/msu/> or call (248) 659-0887 to request an application by mail. The deadline to submit applications is Feb. 4. Please call (248) 659-0887 for more information.

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Novi firefighters battle a blaze on Ridge Road East on Feb. 10. The home was severely damaged by the fire that began around 2 p.m.

Community comes to aid of family displaced by fire Cause of afternoon blaze still unknown

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

A Novi family lost nearly everything they owned last Thursday when an afternoon fire destroyed their home on East Ridge Road.

But just hours after word spread about the disaster, people in the community were organizing ways to help.

Lisa Fenchel, principal at Novi Meadows, said the school's lobby is full of clothes and other necessities, and the same can be said at Orchard Hills Elementary.

"It has been a phenomenal response," she said. "The turnout and generosity has been amazing. It has been very heartwarming."

Other schools throughout the district also have heard about the family in need and formed their own fundraising efforts.

Krista Cherniawski, a parent of a student at Parkview, is heading up a drive at the school that is asking all students to bring in at least \$1 for the family. If all students brought \$1, it

would raise \$436. "So far we have gotten a great response for the cash drive," she said, noting that after the first day they already collected \$180. "There just cannot be enough help for someone in this situation."

Two of the four children who lived in the home attend Novi Meadows and Orchard Hills. The other two children are not old enough to be in school.

There also were three adults living there, but no one was home at the time of the fire.

The fire started around 1:54 p.m. and Novi firefighters were on the scene within five minutes to battle the blaze.

Deputy Police Chief Tom Lindberg said firefighters from all four Novi fire stations responded to the two-story home, and the stations were covered via the department's mutual aid agreements with surrounding cities.

"At one point we had 75 percent of the house engulfed in flames or smoke," Lindberg said.

The firefighters had the fire

under control by 3:15 p.m. and extinguished by 3:46 p.m.

Jeff Johnson, director of emergency medical services and fire operations, said the fire marshal is still "digging into the scene to find the cause." They also have brought in the fire investigation unit from Oakland County to help.

"There was quite a bit of damage to the structure and the second floor partially collapsed which means there is more building materials and debris for them to sift through," he said.

Johnson said they hope to have a cause identified by the end of the week.

"The family was renting the home at the time of the fire and are in need of a new place to stay. Anyone who has any leads on homes or would like to help the family can contact Fenchel at (248) 449-1270.

The family could not be reached as of press time, but Fenchel said they are "extremely grateful" for all the support.

Please see COUNTY, A3

Novi schools enrollment remains steady District still has 30 days to complete final count

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

There was no need for extra credit or ice cream socials to get the students in Novi to show up for the all-important count day on Feb. 9.

Instead it was business as usual — despite frigid temperatures — for the students and teachers as the district numbers changed very little from the first count of the school year in September.

The unofficial February count was 6,211, while in September it was 6,216.

Bob Schram, assistant superintendent of human resources, said the results are fairly typical, with elementary numbers increasing and secondary numbers decreasing slightly.

Both count days are higher this school year than they were last year.

"Of course we have had some drops over the years but overall we have increased," Schram said. "Maybe it's the stability of the workforce of the people who live in Novi ... or maybe there are less areas where there are transient people."

The figures reported

COUNT DAY

Novi Woods - 467 (Sept.), 468 (Feb.)
Orchard Hills - 425 (Sept.), 431 (Feb.)
Parkview - 382 (Sept.), 379 (Feb.)
Village Oaks - 462 (Sept.), 462 (Feb.)
Deerfield - 469 (Sept.), 468 (Feb.)
Novi Meadows - 954 (Sept.), 944 (Feb.)
Middle School - 1,030 (Sept.), 1,025 (Feb.)
High School - 2,010 (Sept.), 1,992 (Feb.)
Early Childhood - 16 (Sept.), 21 (Feb.)
Total - 6,216 (Sept.), 6,211 (Feb.)

Wednesday only count the K-12 students, with numbers still expected from the primary special education and alternative education population.

Enrolled students who have an unexcused absence on count day may be counted as long as they show up within 10 school days following count day, or 30 days if the absences are excused.

This count, combined with the September 2011 count, determines how much state funding the district will receive. The fall numbers count for 75 percent of the enrollment figure and a February count determines the other 25 percent.

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A group of Novi Woods students watch a production of the Wild Swan Theatre on Feb. 9. On that day, school districts across the state look their final student count, which is important to the schools because it's the way the state determines funding.

County gives good news to businesses

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Business owners in Oakland County can rest assured that they are not alone in their fight to survive and thrive despite struggling economic times.

That is the message Maureen Krauss, director

of economic development and community relations for Oakland County, had for the crowd gathered Feb. 10 at the Crowne Plaza in Novi for the monthly networking luncheon of the Novi Chamber of Commerce. The event was sponsored by the Detroit Media Partnership.

Krauss spoke about the

many economic development programs the county has in place to assist businesses and encouraged owners to do their part as well.

"I am passionate about the fact we are ambassadors for our county, region and state," she said. "It's

Please see COUNTY, A3

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(From left) Tyler Ross, Linda Daly and Cindy Tschirhart stand together following the 12th annual Threads of Power event Tuesday. The program was put on by the Novi Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with Telcom Credit Union. Ross and Tschirhart work for Telcom, while Daly is the executive director of the chamber.

Chamber helps give people a new look

Annual event continues to be a success

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Some less fortunate people in southeastern Michigan will be dressing a little bit nicer thanks to the Novi Chamber of Commerce.

For the 12th consecutive year, the chamber hosted its Threads of Power clothing drive and fundraiser to benefit three metro Detroit charities.

Those who attended the event, which took place Tuesday at Nordstrom inside Twelve Oaks Mall, sifted through their closets and brought enough items to fill the entire truck brought to the store by Two Men and a Truck.

"As usual, I am overwhelmed by the amount of donations today," said Linda Daly, executive director of the chamber.

The clothing and other donations brought Tuesday will be distributed to Church of the Holy Family in Novi, the Transition Center

at Schoolcraft College and the Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan.

All three organizations help people get back to work and provide families with essential supplies.

Stacey Stover, director of the Transition Center, told those gathered about a homeless woman who was living out of her car, but now she has a job and an apartment after going through their programs.

Carol Ann Donnelly, director of Christian service and social ministries at the church, said "It's because of you that we are able to help so many others."

The chamber partnered with Telcom Credit Union to put on the event, and the breakfast and fashion shows were sponsored by Town and Country Eye Care and Varsity Lincoln Mercury.

"This event means a lot to us because our credit union policy is people helping people," said Tyler Ross, vice president of marketing for Telcom.



A Nordstrom employee models business attire for the fashion show that was part of the Threads of Power event on Tuesday.

City of Novi is focused on being fiscally fit

In a new compilation of 2010 savings on a wide range of operating efficiencies, the City of Novi realized over a quarter of a million dollars in cost savings. The City of Novi takes pride in keeping a healthy bottom line through a variety of cost-saving measures and/or service enhancements and partnerships which contribute to Novi's financial health. The City of Novi produces the Fiscal Fitness publication regularly to share savings and efficiencies throughout the year. To view the publication, visit cityofnovi.org.

Novi's fiscal fitness shape-up included the reduction of overtime pay for library and police employees as well as the reorganization and consolidation of the Novi Police and Fire Administration functions which enhanced communications and produced further operational efficiencies in the community. Most cost reductions were done without major service reductions. The City offices remain open 40+ hours a week, the City of Novi Public Library is open a full 62 hours a week, and police/fire average response times are down.

Additional savings come from items such as adjustments to cellular communication plans and negotiating vendor concessions resulting in reductions of nearly \$25,000. Implementing a 20% reduction for those limited employees eligible for a car allowance reduced Novi's bottom line by almost \$15,000. Reducing the octane levels for fuel used in City vehicles, realigning building maintenance tasks, and utilizing OakVideo

arrangements on weekends also produced savings of over fifty-thousand dollars.

Using the services of City Engineering staff to perform one-third of the city street Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER) studies yielded almost \$20,000 in current cost savings, and will continue to yield similar savings over the next two years. Likewise, using the City Landscape Architect to design and City Water and Sewer staff to install landscaping around the rehabilitated Baglio Sanitary Lift Station, the City of Novi saved another \$4,000. Utilizing the expert services of a local tree company for City Forestry Services will save another \$50,000 annually.

To remain fiscally fit, the City of Novi is participating in cost saving partnerships with neighboring communities. The City of South Lyon will compensate Novi with 75% of all review, permit and inspection fees for construction projects, and a partnership with the City of Farmington Hills will save Novi over \$6,000 in engineering consultant fees for inspection services and staking for pathway construction.

"We are recognized as fiscally sound, administratively responsible, publicly safe, environmentally responsible, culturally diverse, entrepreneurial in spirit, and just plain a fun place," said Mayor David B. Landry's State of the City address delivered in late January.

To learn more about Novi and watch Mayor Landry's State of the City address in its entirety, visit cityofnovi.org.

Massage therapist helps athletes get upper hand

Owner chooses Novi because of 'great' location

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Bryce Jenney's journey back from elbow surgery in May 2009 is nearing its end.

The former Northville High School standout, who spent 2010 rehabbing from the injury, headed to Florida this week eyeing a spot in the Michigan State bullpen.

And thanks to his work with personal trainer and massage therapist Jeff Kong, he will throw off the mound for the first time in game action pain free.

"Through my recovery process for the elbow I ended up straining and developing tendonitis in my rotator cuff," he said. "Whenever I tried to crank it up I felt a lot of tightness in my shoulder, but after the first two to three sessions with Jeff there was a quick change in how my arm felt and how it performed."



Jeff Kong, owner of Novi's Tri-Coverly Massage and Fitness, works on the shoulder of Alan Mukhtar in his Atrium of Novi office.

COUNTY

important for all of us to be ambassadors for our area, and because you are business people you have good credibility."

One of the main focuses at the county level is on economic development, including retaining current businesses and attracting new ones.

She also emphasized that the county does not go to other counties in the state to recruit businesses; rather, they "go around the world to

find the best technology companies we can find."

"When I travel selling our area, many countries don't know what a county even is," she said. "I sell Detroit and then talk to them about my piece of Detroit."

Jonathan Brateman, owner of the real estate company Jonathan Brateman Properties in Novi, said he sees things starting to turn around "step by step" and sees a lot of businesses doing well and growing.

He also said on top of his brokerage work he is spending more time as a consultant helping business owners.

ambassadors for the community, that is exactly what I do," he said.

While Krauss admitted it has "been a real tough couple years," she is optimistic Oakland County and the businesses in it will persevere.

"The good news is we think we are coming back," she said.

One of the websites Krauss recommended to business owners is www.globaloakland.com. The site features several services for businesses and also talks about county-wide initiatives.

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Send in the clowns

Clown Angels bring joy to nursing homes, hospital

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Arlene Pollard may be confined to a wheelchair, but that doesn't stop her from dancing. And when the Clown Angels make their regular visit to the Manor of Farmington Hills, Pollard and the many residents who

come to the cafeteria to see their show cannot help but bounce to the music. "They make it cheerful, and we all dance," she said. "I always look forward to them coming; they are just happy people."

A group of Caring Clowns, led by Novi resident Deb Foy, make up the Clown Angels,

and they visit nursing homes and hospitals in the area with the hope of brightening someone's day.

Foy, a clown 20 years ago, dusted off the outfit about five years ago and decided she would use her talents to help others. Her clown attire includes tags that read "Giggle Therapist" and "Clowns are

angels with red noses," and an iPod attached to her coat blares music that gets the room grooving.

"When we walk in, just the visual brings a smile to their faces," she said. "In the nursing homes I try to keep them moving and make some sort of connection."

"The sillier the better,"



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Clown Angels Deb Foy, left, and Angie Wilson entertain Manor of Farmington Hills resident Arlene Pollard during a their Feb. 3 visit.



Clown Angel Deb Foy gets Manor of Farmington Hills resident Debbie Honeyette up and dancing to Little Richard's "Tutti Frutti" during a Feb. 3 visit.

Foy was joined in Farmington Hills by fellow clown and friend Angie Wilson.

Wilson, who has been a Caring Clown the last three years, said it doesn't take much to make a person happy. "You have to have a passion and love for people," she said. "And a big smile helps, too."

Leslie Towler, activity director at the Manor of Farmington Hills, said it has "been a joy to have them."

"It's nice to see the adults not acting like adults," she said. "It brings a lot of smiles to their faces."

Something as simple as a smile goes a long way, Foy said, especially when she visits the Children's Hospital of Michigan.

During her three hour trips

she meets with children who have various degrees of ailments, and her goal is to take their mind off their problems, at least for a little while.

"The family, staff and child need that escape," she said. "And for all the joy the Clown Angels hope to bring others, they take a lot from every experience as well."

"It really keeps you grounded and appreciative for what you have," Foy said.

Foy hopes to add more facilities in the near future and is looking for more Caring Clowns and a sponsor to help with some of the costs.

For more information, visit www.clownangels.com or e-mail Foy at debfoy@sbcglobal.net.

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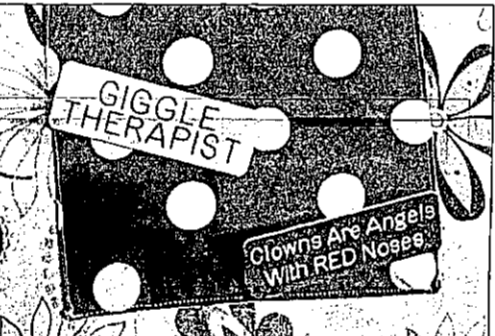
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A couple of buttons on Deb Foy's clown costume.

Seasoned Gatt will make bid for mayor

Landry gives support for current mayor pro tem

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Bob Gatt has served the residents of Novi in some capacity for the last 40 years. But now he is ready to do so as their leader.

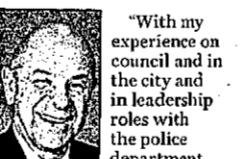
Gatt, who currently is the mayor pro tem on the City Council, announced his candidacy for mayor last week, joining council member Justin Fischer in the race for Mayor David Landry's seat.

He said his passion has fueled his career thus far and it also led him to make the decision to run for mayor.

"I just don't make a wishy-washy decision on anything," he said. "I'm a passionate guy and always have been. I'm ready for this."

Gatt is in his second term on the City Council and was a police officer in the city for 27 years. He now works for Oakland County.

He entertained the thought of running for the state Senate last November, but health issues — that have since cleared up — derailed that plan. He said during that time he reassessed his future and made the decision to not leave Novi.



Gatt

"With my experience on council and in the city and in leadership roles with the police department and Oakland County I believe I am ready to pick up the mantle when (Landry) leaves," he said.

Gatt has earned the endorsements of the current mayor — and council members Dave Staudt and Wayne Wrobel — saying "it will be very difficult to fill his shoes."

"No one will ever be able to fill Dave Landry's shoes," he said. "He was the best mayor that Novi has ever had, and I would know, since I worked for and with so many of them. However, Novi is going to have a new mayor next November and that person will have to create his own path, wearing his own shoes."

Landry, who has been mayor since 2005, announced in January that he would not be seeking re-election to a fourth two-year term.

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EDUCATION

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Photo by Novi student earns high praise

Senior has chance to be recognized nationally for her work

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

It was a huge surprise to PJ Anthony when she found out her photograph was chosen an American Vision nominee at the Southeastern Michigan Scholastic Art Awards.

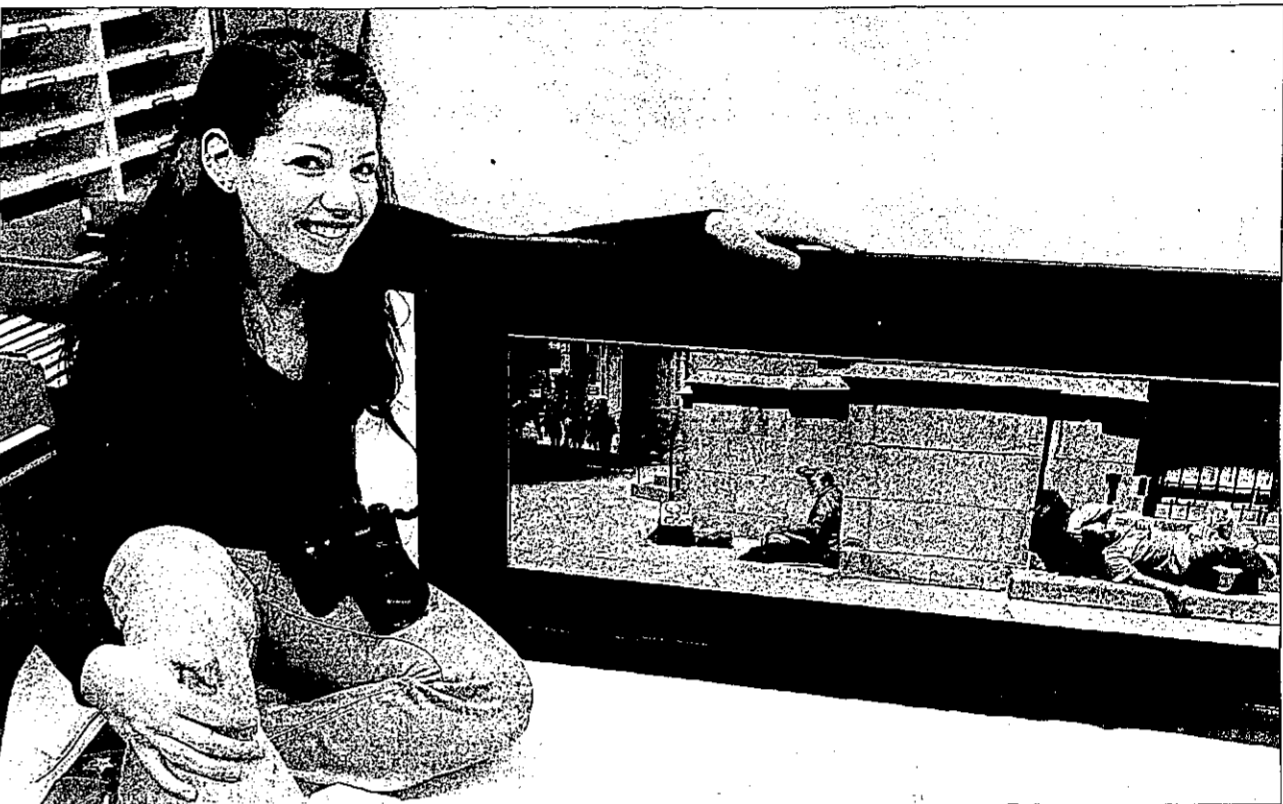
Her photo was one of five entries selected — out of more than 1,000 — by the judges for the chance to compete nationally to earn the American Vision Medal winner for the region. The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards is the largest art recognition and scholarship program for students in the nation.

And while this was Anthony's first time earning recognition for her work, her art teacher at Novi High School believes it will not be her last.

"You know when they say people have a light go on in their life and they are inspired, PJ was probably born with that light on," said Jennifer Harvey. "She is amazing, upbeat and open. She is open to learning and is like a brilliant sponge with creativity bubbling over."

"There isn't anything she will not be able to accomplish with that attitude."

Anthony's photo is titled "Passing By," and shows two homeless people sitting on the sidewalk in Chicago near a church as people walk by them. The piece is part of a series of photos Anthony has



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi High School senior PJ Anthony poses with her award-winning photo titled "Passing By" which she took during a visit to Chicago last summer. Anthony won a Scholastic Art and Writing Contest "American Vision" for southeast Michigan.

been taking in various cities throughout the last year. "I definitely want people to feel the emotion," she said. "There is a lot going on in the picture but you can feel the heartbreak from those people

who are passing these people throughout the last year. Anthony won \$100 for being an American Vision nominee, which she said is going to her college fund, and has the chance to win more money and

prizes if her piece is chosen at the national level in March. But more importantly, the recognition has given her confidence.

"I am really proud of myself," she said. "I have never

really been proud of myself for my art work before, and I feel like now it has paid off. It also has had an impact on her teacher. "I am very inspired by her," Harvey said. "If all students had her attitude in doing what they love then every single one of them would be successful. "I've seen a lot of kids come and go and she stands out."

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JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Science Alive
Lindsey Conner gets a hug from a ball python that's held by Science Alive's Terri Neil. Neil and a number of interesting animals visited the Novi Northville Montessori School on Feb. 8.

We'll tell you.
E.R. Wait Times at hvsh.org

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ON CAMPUS

Carthage College
Carthage College freshman Madeline Price, an oboe player and a Novi High School graduate, was among 41 members of the Carthage Wind Orchestra who traveled to Japan from Jan. 15-27 as part of a month-long study of Japanese music, language and culture by the band. The tour included a five-day residency at Sakuyo University (School of Music) in Kurashiki, Japan.

The residency concluded with a joint concert of the Carthage Wind Orchestra and Sakuyo Wind Philharmony, under the direction of Prof. James Ripley, director of the Wind Orchestra, and Ms. Keiko Kobayashi. The tour then continued to the city of Kocho (Shikoku island), where the Wind Orchestra played at a local school and also at the city's primary arts venue, the Cultural Plaza CUL-PORT.

This is the third trip to Japan for the Wind Orchestra, a select ensemble of 41 woodwind, brass and percussion performers. Band members visited several cities with rich cultural traditions, including Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Osaka, attending musical performances of a traditional and more contemporary nature. During January, Wind Orchestra members observed a daily routine involving three to four hours of rehearsal, one hour of conversational Japanese, and two hours of study in Japanese culture, history and religion.

Denison University
The following Novi students were named to the fall 2010 semester dean's list:

Emily Hopcin is a member of the class of 2012 and majors in English with a writing concentration.

Madison Owen is a member of the class of 2014 and majors in English literature.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Donations needed for Senior All Night Party
Organizers for the Novi High School Senior All Night Party are hard at work planning for the 2011 event and are requesting donations from parents, businesses and community members to make this year's event the best one yet. The annual Senior All Night Party, scheduled for June 4 at Novi High School, offers food, activities and prizes, allowing graduating seniors to celebrate in a safe, supervised environment. 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.

Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

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

Church of the Holy Cross Location: 4070 W 10 Mile Road, Novi Contact: (248) 427-1175

Church of the Holy Family Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road Contact: (248) 349-8847

Passages Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances 1-800-579-7355

PETER BILETI SR. Feb. 8, 2011, age 81. Funeral was Feb. 12th, First United Methodist Church of Brighton...



CHARLES JARVIS CAMILLERI Passed away peacefully in the care of his family on February 12, 2011. He was 82 years old...

MARY TERESA CHISMARX Age 88, February 8, 2011. Wife of the late Louis Chismarx...

GARY DENNIS CHRISTOPHER, M.D. Age 57 of Northville, MI passed away February 3, 2011...

LYNN ANN KOS Age 64 of Westland, died Saturday, February 12, 2011...

ERICA SARAH TEAGHER Age 19, Feb. 8, 2011. Daughter of Mayumi & James Salyer...

Crosspointe Meadows Church Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road

Destiny Worship Center Location: Ridge Wood Elementary School, 49775 Six Mile Road, Northville

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Location: 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia Contact: (248) 442-8822

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross Location: 4070 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 427-1175

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Location: 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia Contact: (248) 442-8822

THOMAS J. LYNCH Age 84, passed away February 12, 2011. He was born on February 25, 1924...

JIMMY LANE SHAWVER Age 75 of Milford died in the care of his family February 11, 2011...

LUCILLE HUMPHREYS Age 102, February 5, 2011. Beloved wife of the late Shady, funeral was Feb. 10 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home...

MAY YOU FIND COMFORT IN FAMILY & FRIENDS

of the Word Bible Study with childcare available for through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies Evening Bible Study

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Location: 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia Contact: (248) 442-8822

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross Location: 4070 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 427-1175

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MAY YOU FIND COMFORT IN FAMILY & FRIENDS

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. Details: This traditional-contemporary service is led by Reverend Ritter with musical accompaniment of guitar and piano.

Northville Christian Assembly Location: 41355 Six Mile Road Contact: (248) 346-9030

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Location: 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia Contact: (248) 442-8822

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross Location: 4070 W. 10 Mile Road Contact: (248) 427-1175

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MAY YOU FIND COMFORT IN FAMILY & FRIENDS

EVENTS FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Details: A concert featuring contemporary Christian recording artist David Britton in observation of Lutheran Schools' Week...

Unitarian Universalist Church of Farmington Location: 23301 Hasstead Road, Farmington Hills Contact: www.uufarmington.org

Lord of Life Lutheran Church Location: 528 Pleasant Valley Road, Brighton, MI 48114 Contact: (248) 349-2652

Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Church & School Location: at the corner of Wanda Lake & Musch Rd. Contact: (248) 349-3647

Highland Community Church Location: 2350 Harvey Lake Rd. Contact: (248) 987-4550

New Hope - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation Location: 5765 Gros River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165 Contact: (248) 474-9106

Fellowship Presbyterian Church Services held at Saint Andrew Episcopal Church Location: 16300 Hubbard Road, Livonia Contact: (248) 427-2119

Northville Christian Experience Life Each Week Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. Contact: (248) 346-9030

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church Location: 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi Contact: (248) 347-7778

Our Savior Apostolic Lutheran Church Location: 5489 S. Sheldan Road, Plymouth Contact: (248) 474-0584

Unitarian Universalist Church of Farmington Location: 23301 Hasstead Road, Farmington Hills Contact: www.uufarmington.org

Christ Lutheran Church Preschool, Pre-K & K, W. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

Christ Lutheran Church Preschool, Pre-K & K, W. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757,

Oakland County facing road funding shortfall

The Funding Committee of the Oakland County Federal Aid Task Force will meet Feb. 22 to award \$17.9 million in available federal road funds. Because of the limited funding available, the committee has restricted the quantity and type of projects it will consider this year.

The 14-member committee includes 10 representatives of Oakland's cities, villages and townships, as well as two members from the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), one representative from SMART (the suburban bus system) and one from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). It meets every February to identify the road projects that will receive the available federal road funds for four years in the future.

This year, the committee will identify projects to be funded in 2015.

The committee awards funding from two sources: The Surface Transportation Program (STP), which is federal dollars awarded to each region based on a formula, and Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF), which is a combination of state and federal dollars intended primarily to address congestion caused by economic development. However, the TEDF dollars that would have been available this year, have already been designated for projects, due to the significant backlog of projects submitted in past years.

Because of the limited funding available this year, the committee again will not consider any new road widening projects, though widening projects previously approved are eligible for "next phase" funding.

The committee reviews projects submitted by RCOC and all the cities and villages in the county. Projects

MEETING DETAILS

The meeting, which is open to the public, will begin at 9 a.m. Feb. 22, and will take place in the Shannon Hall room at the City of Farmington Hills' Costick Center, 28600 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

compete for the available funds. In order to receive federal road construction dollars, projects must be rated, ranked and approved by the committee.

"We are again facing the situation where the road needs substantially exceed the available funding," observed RCOC Managing Director Brent Bair. He noted \$67.2 million worth of projects -- 11 percent more than last year -- are vying for the available \$17.9 million in STP funds allocated to Oakland County.

"This is just the tip of the iceberg," Bair said. "This does not represent the full list of needed projects, but only those projects where the Road Commission or the communities thought they had a chance of successfully competing for the available funds."

"Exhibits feature something for every interest from log home building, cottage furnishings, boats and docks to outdoor recreational equipment and a great deal more," said Mike Wilbraham, show producer of ShowSpan, Inc. "Special features add another dimension to the show with demonstrations on wide-ranging topics of interest to the cottage and lakefront living set and fun activities for the kids, including a sandy beach."

Exhibits include log, timber frame and cedar homes, cottage rental, architects, cottage furnishings, lakefront home-builders and realtors, lake-shore maintenance, boats and docks, outdoor recreational



The Cottage & Lakefront Living Show features fun activities for the kids, including a sandy beach.

Showplace presents Cottage & Lakefront Living Show Feb. 24-27

The Cottage & Lakefront Living Show gathers together numerous exhibits Feb. 24-27 under the roof of the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

"Exhibits feature something for every interest from log home building, cottage furnishings, boats and docks to outdoor recreational equipment and a great deal more," said Mike Wilbraham, show producer of ShowSpan, Inc. "Special features add another dimension to the show with demonstrations on wide-ranging topics of interest to the cottage and lakefront living set and fun activities for the kids, including a sandy beach."

Exhibits include log, timber frame and cedar homes, cottage rental, architects, cottage furnishings, lakefront home-builders and realtors, lake-shore maintenance, boats and docks, outdoor recreational

equipment, non-profit environmental organizations, government agencies, financing and other products and services. Experts throughout the show will provide tips, advice and knowledge on purchasing, planning, maintenance, financing and landscaping cottages and lakefront properties.

Custom designs and standard home floor plans from builders and general contractors will showcase milled logs, Swedish cope, timber frame, handcrafted, log sided and hybrid log home systems. Log home packages starting with construction of an unfinished shell, up to a complete turn-key home option are available from a small cottage to a large lakefront home.

Inland lake marine contractors specializing in complete lake front restoration and construction will be exhibiting. Samples of vinyl seawall profiles as well as information on steel sheet piling, wood, natural boulders or limestone and bioengineering a natural shoreline will be available. Information will be on hand for lakefront restoration, seawall and beach sanding offering minimum site disturbance using a patented system that completes the beach sanding within one day and does not require trucks or equipment that can damage your lawn and property. Other companies will display their sand pumping systems, which are utilized in creating sandy lake bottoms.

Lake and pond management and consulting companies

Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Michigan Lake & Stream Association and other agencies, organizations, contractors and landscape professionals on shoreline construction projects and natural shoreline landscaping that benefit lake ecosystems and protect Michigan's inland lakes.

Other features include The Beach, a giant sandbox complete with sand and carving tools for creative building by children and adults; Log and Timber Frame Showcases; sharing and keeping the cottage in the family, environmentally sensitive lake practices and ways to enjoy your cottage more at the Cottage Living Stage; Cottage Living Center; photography classes; Howell Nature Center Wildlife Encounters featuring native Michigan wildlife; Michigan Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society; and Water & Woods Photo Contest. Display which allow you to vote for the best cottage and lakefront living traditions photo.

DETAILS

Location: Suburban Collection Showplace (formerly Rock Financial Showplace) is located at 45000 Grand River Ave. between Novi and Beck Road in Novi.

Hours: 2-9:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. **Admission:** \$10; \$4 for children 6-14; and free for children 5 and under. Discount coupons for \$2 off Thursday or Friday adult admission are available at show's Web site and at participating Wendy's restaurants. Free crossover admission from the Cottage & Lakefront Living Show to Outdoorama.

Parking: Available for a fee. **More info:** www.NowCottageShow.com or call (800) 328-6550.



Marta Dmytrenko's French toast filled with apples and cream cheese and covered with apple liqueur sauce won first place in the first-time Favorite Michigan Apple Recipe Contest for the Novi resident.

Novi woman's French toast is a winner

Apple Lasagna and Sweet Apple Noodle Kugel were some of the more traditional recipes showcasing Michigan Apples. But in the end, it was Novi resident Marta Dmytrenko's French toast filled with apples and cream cheese and covered with apple liqueur sauce that captured the judges' attention in the first-time Favorite Michigan Apple Recipe Contest.

Other winners in the competition, held at Zehnder's restaurant in Frankenmuth on Jan. 26, are:

• **Second Place** - Kim Landhuis of DeWitt with "South Pacific Fresh Apple & Sirloin Salad"

• **Third Place** - Betty Timmreck of East Chairce with "Caramel Apple Pecan Cheesecake"

Complete recipes are available at MichiganApples.com/recipes. "South Pacific Fresh Apple & Sirloin Salad" is under the Main Dishes category; "Caramel Apple Pecan Cheesecake" is listed under Desserts.

Twenty amateur bakers were pre-selected to compete in the contest. Entries were judged on taste, texture, creativity and appearance.

The winners each received \$250, \$150 and \$100 respec-

BAKED APPLE-STUFFED FRENCH TOAST

CREATED BY MARTA DMYTRENKO OF NOVI

Filling ingredients:
1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
1 T apple juice concentrate
1/2 C Michigan Apples, peeled, cored, diced
1 T Pioneer Sugar
1 tsp. lemon juice

Filling directions:
Toss apples with lemon juice. In a medium bowl, stir cream cheese until smooth. Stir in apple juice. Fold in apples. Set aside.

*Apples suggested are: Golden Delicious, Rome or Jonagold

Bread/batter ingredients:
1 loaf (16 oz.) Italian bread (about 4 inches wide)
4 large eggs
1/2 C milk (regular, low fat or nonfat)
2 tsp. vanilla

Bread/batter directions:
Diagonally cut a small slice off both ends of bread and discard. Continue slicing bread diagonally into slices about 1 to 1 1/2 inches thick. Holding the knife horizontal to the counter, cut each slice almost in half, leaving one side attached and making a pocket. Divide filling among the pockets, pressing closed around edges. Place on rimmed baking sheet.

In a shallow bowl, whisk together the eggs, milk and vanilla. Slowly pour over bread, turning to coat completely. Set aside.

Calvaços sauce ingredients:

3 C medium-sliced apples
3 T apple juice concentrate
1/2 C Pioneer Sugar
1/2 C apple juice
1 T cornstarch
1/2 C 2 T Calvaços or other apple liqueur, divided
1 tsp. lemon juice

Sauce directions:
Toss apples slices with lemon juice. In a medium saucepan off the heat, stir together apples, sugar, cornstarch, apple juice concentrate, apple juice and Calvaços/apple liqueur until cornstarch is dissolved. Cook over moderately low heat, stirring often, until mixture comes to a boil, turns clear and thickens. Remove from heat and cool slightly. Add remaining 2 tablespoons of liqueur.

French toast directions - optional:
Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Generously grease baking sheet. Place bread on baking sheet about 2 inches apart. Bake for 6-9 minutes or until bottoms are gold. Turn and bake for another 6-9 minutes longer or until both sides are golden brown.

French toast directions - frying:
Melt margarine or butter in frying pan and brown both sides of each bread pocket. Transfer to plates when golden brown.

To serve: Top pockets with Calvaços Sauce. Pass remaining sauce around for more!

Yield: 5 servings (2 slices each)

tively, along with several other prizes. Sponsors of the contest are Michigan Apple Committee, Pioneer Sugar, Zehnder's, WSGW radio station and Bavarian Maytag. The contest helped to

kick-off Zehnder's Snowfest, a national ice-carving competition in downtown Frankenmuth. Michigan Apple Committee is a grover-funded non-profit organization devoted

to promotion, education and research activities to distinguish the Michigan Apple and encourage its consumption in Michigan and around the world. For more information, visit MichiganApples.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Cooking classes

Better Health Market (42875 Grand River Avenue, Novi) will present a free cooking class, Intro to Raw Foods, by Michael Dwyer at 11 a.m. Saturday Feb. 19.

Susan Parker Stewart will offer a free seminar, Begin Your Journey to Vibrant Health, at the store at 2 p.m. that day.

Everyone who attends the free seminar or free cooking class will receive a complimentary copy of Jordan Rubin's book, "Raw Truth," which deals with the raw food phenomenon.

Novi Bowl is located at 21700 Novi Road.

Andiamo Novi shows

Men Fake Foreplay. What is this all about? Well, it's not about sex but a simple look at how the word "foreplay" quickly shifts into a humorous and insightful tour of the male psyche and the cultural influences that shape a man's character. Emmy Award-winning "Tonight Show" comedian Mike Dugan brings "Men Fake Foreplay" - which takes a hilarious and uncompromising look at the trials and errors encountered on the road to becoming a man in a boys world - to the Andiamo Novi Theatre for a two-week run. Performances run Wednesdays-Sundays through Feb. 20.

For more information and to register your team, access <http://www.cityofnovi.org/Services/YouthServices/BowlAtNovi.asp> or call (248) 347-0410.

Individual tickets may be purchased at the Andiamo Novi Theatre box office, by phone at (248) 348-4448 (theater box office) or 1-800-745-3000 (Ticketmaster) or on-line at www.ticketmaster.com. Dinner & Show packages can only be purchased at the Andiamo Novi Theatre box office. The Andiamo Novi Theatre is located at 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi.

Bowling and jobs

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit and Blue Ribbon Bowling Centers invite Metro Detroiters to "Bowl for Jobs" and "Donate for Jobs" at locations in nine area cities, including Novi Bowl. Each location will accept monetary donations and gently used clothing or other items through Sunday, March 6. The best donated items will be auctioned off at Goodwill's new flagship upscale resale store in Canton.

Every donor will receive a coupon for one free game of bowling with the purchase of another game. Participating centers

also will raise funds for the campaign through 50/50 raffles during league bowling. Donation and raffle activities supporting Goodwill are in conjunction with Blue Ribbon Bowling Centers league "St. Patrick's Pot 'o' Gold Tournament."

All donations support the employment training and education programs of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit, the only organization in Southeast Michigan dedicated solely to helping local people overcome employment challenges and earn jobs.

Novi Bowl is located at 21700 Novi Road.

Andiamo Novi shows

Men Fake Foreplay. What is this all about? Well, it's not about sex but a simple look at how the word "foreplay" quickly shifts into a humorous and insightful tour of the male psyche and the cultural influences that shape a man's character. Emmy Award-winning "Tonight Show" comedian Mike Dugan brings "Men Fake Foreplay" - which takes a hilarious and uncompromising look at the trials and errors encountered on the road to becoming a man in a boys world - to the Andiamo Novi Theatre for a two-week run. Performances run Wednesdays-Sundays through Feb. 20.

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Business to host art show

The Menagerie Room @ Co Reutter the Salon, located at 116 N. Lafayette in South Lyon, will be hosting an upcoming student art show. Students of all ages and mediums can

Please see BRIEFS, A10

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Other features include The Beach, a giant sandbox complete with sand and carving tools for creative building by children and adults; Log and Timber Frame Showcases; sharing and keeping the cottage in the family, environmentally sensitive lake practices and ways to enjoy your cottage more at the Cottage Living Stage; Cottage Living Center; photography classes; Howell Nature Center Wildlife Encounters featuring native Michigan wildlife; Michigan Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society; and Water & Woods Photo Contest. Display which allow you to vote for the best cottage and lakefront living traditions photo.

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BRIEFS
FROM PAGE A9

enter up to three pieces of art work for free. The entry deadline is Saturday, March 12. There will be a reception Saturday, April 2 from 6-8 p.m. The student show will run until Saturday, May 28. For more information, call (248) 446-0411.

See our online images

You can see staff photographer John Heider's photos in print in the Novi News and Northville Record, but don't miss his videos of the Super Gardener, a young moth rancher and the Novi girls state soccer match. His photo galleries feature the Farmers Market, Bay Michigan Now Festival, the Michigan Art Institute's open house, Novi High's Band Camp and much, much more. Visit hometownlife.com every day and see what's new!

Wanted: vacation photos!

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

Identify everyone in the photo (first and last names) and tell us where they live. Tell us when the photo was taken and where. Tell us what was special about your trip, if you wish. Include a daytime phone number so we can contact you if necessary.

Then look for your photo in the newspaper and on our Facebook site under WISH YOU WERE HERE!

Cleaning for a reason

If you know any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides free housecleaning once per month for four months while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 547 partners to help these women. Find out more at <http://www.cleaningforareason.org/>.



Daddy-daughter dance

Robert Lee (above) and daughter Madison, 5, enjoy a dance together at the Feb. 11 daddy-daughter Disco Dance Night at the Novi Civic Center. The night, featuring food and beverages, dancing, a more than a few attendees who dressed the disco era, was organized by Novi Parks and Recreation. Mackenzie Foy, 9, leans in close to talk to her dad Bill (above, right) during the daddy-daughter Disco Dance Night.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STRICTLY BUSINESS
Thursday, February 17, 2011 hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Senate panel approves measure banning ergonomic mandates

Legislation to ban administrative rules mandating workplace ergonomics rules in Michigan was approved Feb. 9 by a Senate panel, said Sen. Mike Kowall, R-White Lake.

The Senate Economic Development Committee, chaired by Kowall, approved Senate Bill 20. The measure is expected to be taken up soon by the full Senate and sent to the House of Representatives.

"Job providers cannot afford to have these burdensome regulations in place," Kowall said. "Right now we have to focus on making Michigan an attractive place to do business, so job providers stay or locate here and offer our residents good-paying jobs."

California, which just passed Michigan in unemployment rates, is currently the only state with separate mandatory workplace ergonomics rules. Ergonomics standards are indicated in the federal Occupational Safety & Health Administration guidelines and companies must operate under these rules. The state of Washington previously mandated workplace ergonomics rules, but the law was overturned by voters there.

According to Charlie Owens, state director of the National Federation of Independent Business organization, Michigan having its own set of ergonomics standards does not "throw out the welcome mat to businesses."

Studies show that state ergonomic rules could cost Michigan employers an extra \$400 to \$500 million.

"I'm glad my colleagues on the panel approved this vital legislation," Kowall said. "I look forward to this proposal becoming law and I'm sure Michigan businesses are anxiously awaiting it too."

Road Runner Lightning strikes Bright House

Bright House Networks customers now have the opportunity to experience a next-generation cable modem technology known as wideband with the launch of Road Runner Lightning.

Road Runner Lightning expands Bright House Networks' current high speed Internet offerings by further optimizing the service for customers' homes with multiple users who access online content simultaneously. The service is offered at lightning-fast maximum download speeds up to 40 Mbps downstream and upload speeds of up to 4 Mbps.

This wideband technology requires a new cable modem designed to take advantage of greater bandwidth and is \$30 more per month than Road Runner Standard service. The service will also be available to current Road Runner Turbo High Speed Internet customers for as low as an additional \$15 more per month.

Customers may register for Road Runner Lightning service online at www.brighthouse.com/lightning.

SERVPRO earns high ranking in Entrepreneur's Franchise 500 List

SERVPRO earned the #8 spot in Entrepreneur magazine's 2011 Franchise 500 ranking, moving up one notch from their 2010 ranking. The disaster recovery and restoration franchise company also placed #1 in its category for the eighth consecutive year.

"This recognition from Entrepreneur magazine emphasizes the value of SERVPRO, not only to the franchisees, but to the clients in the Northville area," said Rick Isaacson, executive vice president of Servpro Industries, Inc. "We're proud of the service that SERVPRO offers to its clients, and the franchisees work hard to earn trust with every job they do."

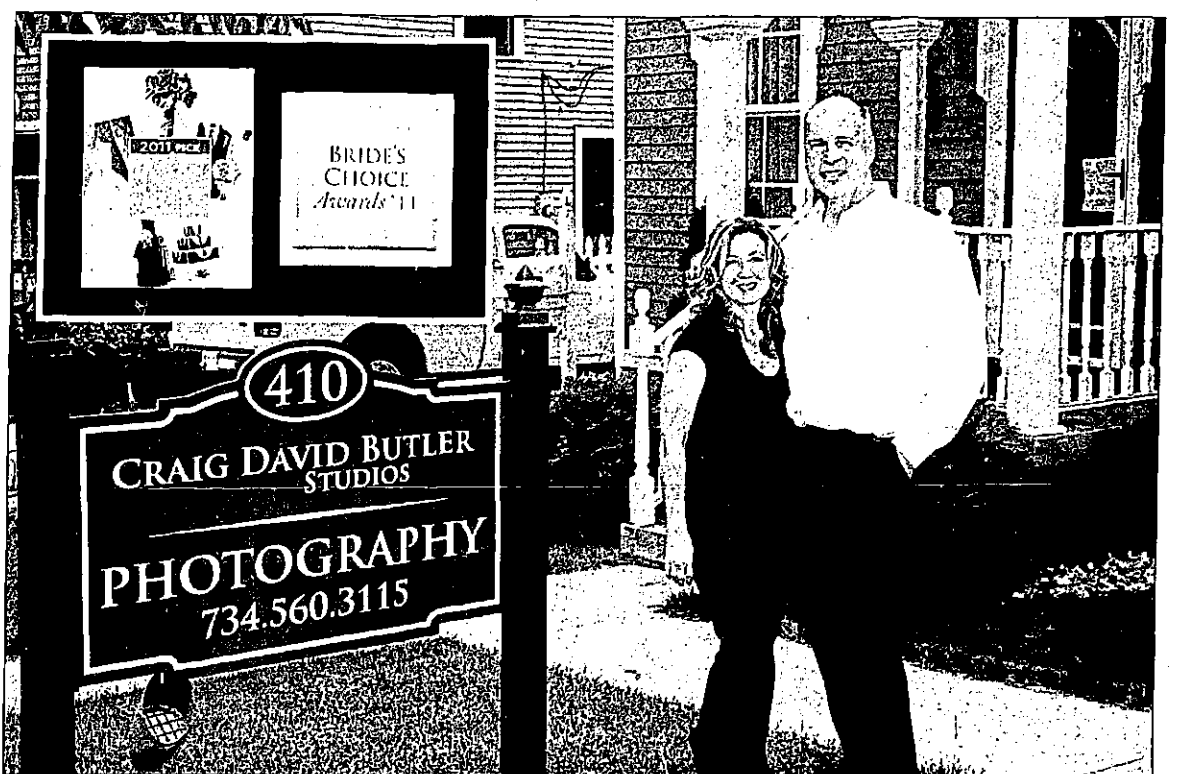
SERVPRO specializes in disaster restoration, cleanup and repair services, helping to remediate fire or water damage for both commercial and residential customers. SERVPRO also offers mold remediation, carpet and upholstery cleaning and other home-maintenance and restoration services.

SERVPRO's eighth place ranking in the 2011 Franchise 500 list represents the second consecutive year they have earned a top-10 ranking, moving up from the #9 spot on 2010's list. The Entrepreneur magazine rankings process begins when franchisors complete a survey and submit a Franchise Disclosure Document (FDD). Once that document has been verified by Entrepreneur and certain other qualifications are met, the franchisor is eligible to be considered for the rankings. Qualifying franchisors are then ranked based on "objective, quantifiable measures of a franchise operation," according to Entrepreneur. These quantifiable measures include financial strength and stability, rate of growth and system size, litigation, length of time in business, and others.

indicated. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit our website at oakgov.com/peds/calendar, or call (248) 858-0783.

Oakland County offers business workshops

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars in January, offered by the Oakland County Business Center. Business Basics workshops are now offered in the evenings on alternating months. Workshops are held at Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west of Telegraph, Waterford unless otherwise indicated.



Wedding winners

The Knot wedding website named Craig David Butler Studios with its highest honor in their "Best of Weddings" publication for an unprecedented fifth year in a row. WeddingWire, a wedding technology company, announced Craig David Butler Studios has been selected to receive the prestigious annual WeddingWire Bride's Choice Awards 2011 for Wedding Photography. Craig David Butler Studios is a full-service photographic studio located in downtown Northville. Craig and Bonnie Butler relocated their studio in 2010 from the Water Wheel to 410 E. Main Street in the blue Victorian house at the corner of Griswold and Main Street.

"We know that Northville-area residents turn to SERVPRO to help them return to normal after an unexpected, or even devastating, event," said Isaacson. "It's both a huge responsibility and a privilege to be the brand that they call when they need to get their life or their business back on track. SERVPRO's continued presence in Entrepreneur's Franchise 500 list is proof that SERVPRO's customers' confidence in the brand is well-founded."

For more information about SERVPRO, please contact William Hannon, SERVPRO of Novi, at (248) 344-0044, or bhannon@servpronovi.com.

Credit unions jump start savings with \$100,000 grand prize

The changing economy has put great emphasis on personal financial education and the benefits of saving. With branches in Novi and Northville, Community Financial Credit Union is one of 36 Michigan credit unions that are offering the innovative Save to Win program that gives members an exciting reason to save — a grand prize of \$100,000 — and teaches them how regular deposits can put them on the path toward building wealth.

Members open a one-year share certificate with an initial deposit of at least \$25. Then, every time they deposit \$25 they earn another entry into monthly drawings and a grand prize drawing. At the end of every month, prizes totaling \$4,000 will be awarded to Save to Win account holders who continue to save. The prize entries will also be entered into the grand prize drawing of \$100,000, to be awarded in January 2012.

Community Financial CEO Bill Lawton said, "Our credit union is excited to offer this innovative program to our members. At Community Financial, we are committed to helping our members save money and work their way out of debt." Lawton added, "Save to Win gives a good incentive to learn the value of saving and how just a little each month can add up."

Research from the pilot year of Save to Win shows that the product is helping people save. About 27 percent of Save to Win account holders reported having \$2,000 or less in financial assets prior to opening the Save to Win account, and 60 percent said they regularly spent money on the lottery or gambling.

To see the official rules of the Save to Win product, go to www.cfcu.org/savetowin.

ITC supports 'Go Green Youth Challenge' Michigan Arbor Day Alliance announced 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, through April 1. The coins collected will directly fund community tree plantings.

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 Potter Park Zoo in Lansing.

For more information or to sign up for the "Go Green Youth Challenge," contact Michigan Arbor Day Alliance at gogreengroutchallenge@gmail.com.

Novi/Northville MEDICAL SERVICE directory



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9 CEED Microloan Orientation (Southfield Library)

(AM) Morning Class 9 a.m. to noon or 12:30 p.m.
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February
18 FastTrac Listening to Your Business (AM)

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Chaplain knows his Bible and Fox Run's floor plans

Matt Humphrey knows his Bible. He also knows floor plans of two-bedroom retirement community apartments. It's all part of his unique dual job as chaplain and sales move-in coordinator at Fox Run, a continuing care retirement community in Novi that has nearly 1,000 residents. He may have what many consider one of the most unusual jobs anywhere. He certainly has an eclectic mix of professional skills not normally found in the business world.

Humphrey, who has a bachelor's degree from Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Mo., once managed customer service for a luxury automobile dealership and once owned a small business. His faith drew him to volunteer at churches he attended. It is this combination of spirituality and pragmatic business acumen that makes his work at Fox Run intriguing.

"I believe that I have the gift of encouragement," said Humphrey, who assists with marketing luncheon events, provides tours of Fox Run for visitors, answers phone calls and schedules appointments when he is not sharing the Word of God with existing residents and staff. "Sometimes it is just a matter of spending time and talking with a resident, or prospective resident,



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
 Fox Run Village employee and chaplain Matt Humphrey chats with resident Selma Goldstone in the community's Belmont Manor house. Goldstone has known Matt since she moved in two years ago and thinks so much of his personal outreach abilities that she said "I have a special place in my heart for Matt."

about his or her life. A lot of people find comfort in knowing that I will pray with them and when I leave I add them to my prayer list. I always ask for updates on what we've been praying about."

When he is not selling apartments Humphrey speaks quarterly at Fox Run's Wednesday evening worship service, and if a minister cancels for any reason he is always willing to stand in. Humphrey is involved with the Novi Minister's Association on behalf of Fox Run, a forum where he and other members of the clergy discuss issues affecting the greater community.

He hosts Bible discussions at Fox Run and has just started a Chat with the Chaplain series where he focuses on a person from the Bible (this month is Moses, next month will be Ruth). "We will talk about their life and times and draw application to our lives in 2011," he said. "This is receiving attention from residents with various faith backgrounds."



Matt Humphrey.

another family whose wife has since had several opportunities to speak at Fox Run's worship service and join the Interdenominational Council. Humphrey said they moved in and immediately asked, "Where are there needs and how can I serve?"

"I just met with a resident yesterday with a chaplain background who told me she prefers to serve one-on-one as opposed to being in front of a crowd," he said. "We'll be integrating her into volunteer roles for new residents, and a listening ear for our assisted living residents. The dual role allows me to see more than just one side of our residents, and I have learned so much by sharing my time this way."

"The bottom line for me is people," said Humphrey, who is a self-described information freak who reads non-fiction, business publications, leadership development, apologetics,

philosophy, and biographies. "All of my career choices revolve around my heart in caring for people, far beyond the sale."

But sales work has shown him the value in asking the right questions, staying focused, following through, delivering a quality product, and continual education.

"People are dynamic, their needs constantly change," said Humphrey. "The sales force needs to be aware of the changes and adjust to them. In ministry I have found that God is not only timeless but timely — He can meet the needs that we have each day."

In so many of my conversations with residents they have affirmed His provision, as evidenced by the host of spiritual opportunities that our residents take part in weekly. I try to implement programs based on feedback given by our resident led Catholic Council, Interdenominational Council, and our Shalom group.

Humphrey lives in Novi with his wife, Erin, and their 6 1/2-month-old daughter, Selah. He has both his grandmother's and his father's Bibles on display in their home as a reminder of God's impact on his and his family's lives.

"God has been so faithful in my life and family," he said. "It's what prompted my wife and I to name our daughter Selah, which means — in Hebrew — 'Stop and consider all that God has done'."

— Submitted by Mel Tansill

OUR VIEWS

Donate blood Supplies low, need great

After Chrysler's Super Bowl ad featuring Emmet, the world has been reminded of what we do best in metro Detroit: manufacture.

However, there is one thing nobody can manufacture. Blood. And supplies took a major hit with the recent winter storms, which led to the cancellation of over 300 blood drives and a shortfall of more than 14,000 pints of blood since the year began.

Worse yet, the American Red Cross' supply of type O-negative (the universal type of which only 7 percent of the population has) is at critical levels.

At the end of this editorial we'll list a few opportunities for one to donate. But first, just in case you're sitting on the fence, take note of these facts:

- Adults have about 10 pints of blood in their body; one pint is given during donation.
- One pint of blood can save up to three lives.
- Five million patients in the U.S. need blood every year.
- Donors can give blood every 56 days.
- One out of 10 people admitted to the hospital needs blood.

Every two seconds someone in our country needs blood. "Fifteen years ago, when I started for the American Red Cross, 70 percent of the population was eligible to donate," said Diane Risko, who works out of the Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region on Mack Avenue in Detroit. "Today only 38 percent are eligible to donate due to donor criteria. Of that 38 percent, less than 5 percent donate blood."

"Ten percent of our population is over 69 years old, yet this group uses about 50 percent of all whole blood and red blood cells transfused."

Don't think that you need a special reason to give blood — you just need your own reason. Some people give because they're asked to by a friend. Others just believe it's the right thing to do.

It doesn't matter why. What does matter is that the need is constant, and contributions are necessary for a healthy, reliable supply of blood.

As a donor, you'll get a mini-physical to check your pulse, blood pressure, body temperature and hemoglobin.

So now that we've convinced why you should donate, here's some things to do prior:

- Drink plenty of fluids the day of your donation.
- Wear sleeves that can be rolled up above the elbow.
- Include iron-rich foods in your diet a few weeks before donating.
- Bring a list of any medications you take.
- Bring your driver's card (if you have one), driver's license or two other forms of identification.

Donating is simple. The entire process takes about an hour, although the actual donation averages just 10 minutes. After registering, your health history will be reviewed and you'll get a mini-physical. Then you're ready to donate. After a pint of blood has been taken, you can relax with a snack and drink and be on your way in about 15 minutes. You should continue to hydrate yourself and avoid heavy lifting or exercise for the rest of the day. Pretty simple, don't you think?

Now that you're ready to help others, here are two great local opportunities (donate and you'll automatically be entered to win free groceries for a year — a \$5,000 value):

- Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2-7:45 p.m.; Hillside Middle School, 775 W. Eight Mile, Northville
 - Monday, Feb. 28, 2:15-8 p.m.; Novi Middle School, 49000 11 Mile, Novi
- If you're not sure you're eligible to donate, call (866) 236-3276. And now 16-year-olds can donate blood with a signed parental consent form. Call Risko to obtain a form and to schedule an appointment at (313) 549-7052. Walk-ins will be taken when possible.

COMMUNITY VOICE

We asked Novi High School students: How do you best prepare for your tests?



"We go to a coffee shop in a group and talk about and review our lessons, and we feed off each other's conversations and questions."

Alyssa Miller
Senior



"I think flash cards are the best way to study. And the night before a test is when I really study intently."

Breanna Thomas
Freshman



"The best way to prepare is to look at your notes and make flash cards. If you constantly study, it's not good. You need breaks."

Tim McNamara
Sophomore



"My favorite way to prepare is when teachers will allow you to ask questions of them before the test so you get an idea of how to prepare."

Shannon Rouston
Freshman

LETTERS

Vision of Progress

Pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cancer killer in the United States. Last year alone, more than 43,000 people were diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and of those nearly 37,000 died from the disease. Pancreatic cancer remains the only major cancer with a single-digit five-year survival rate at just 6 percent. This five-year survival rate has not improved substantially over nearly forty years.

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, a national organization fighting pancreatic cancer in a comprehensive way, is leading the way to increase the survival rates of people with this devastating disease by announcing the Vision of Progress: Double the Pancreatic Cancer Survival Rate by 2020. The organization is doubling its efforts to raise awareness, support patients and intensify advocacy for a national research strategy dedicated to finding a cure by undertaking this bold new initiative.

Working to double the survival rate by 2020 through a comprehensive approach to know, fight and end pancreatic cancer is creating hope for all those who have been touched by this insidious disease. This initiative is very important to my children and me. We lost the best Mom and Wife in the world when Chris Pyden lost her courageous battle with pancreatic cancer in October 2006. We have missed her each and every day since, and have dedicated ourselves to helping raise awareness and research funding in her honor.

In order to achieve this goal we must support those who have been afflicted by pancreatic cancer and advocate for greater awareness and more resources to fight this disease. To learn more about this initiative and how you can become involved in the fight against pancreatic cancer, please visit www.pancan.org.

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@ojanet.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.

I have strived to encourage an open, transparent government for and by all of the people of our City.

If elected to another term, I pledge to continue to bring improvements to our quality of life in the areas of roads, senior services, public safety, trails and pathways, parks, recreational and cultural services and sustainable economic development, which will mean jobs and an expanded and diverse tax base for our city. I will continue to promote fiscally responsible principles and policies for an efficient, cost-effective city government, and safeguard every single hard-earned tax dollar.

I am honored to receive the endorsements of Novi Mayor David Landry, Mayor Pro Tem Bob Galt, County Commissioner Kathy Crawford, state Rep. Hugh Crawford and state Sen. Mike Kowall for my re-election effort. During the next decade, opportunities that will benefit and challenge Novi will be numerous and complex. I am extremely confident we can work together to achieve great, positive results for our city. I am excited about serving you as part of an excellent team of elected officials and city employees!

I ask that you consider allowing me to continue to work diligently to represent each of you and your families to the best of my ability as a council member for the City of Novi. In short, I pledge to continue to work with you to build a Novi that is fiscally responsible, accountable, accessible, transparent and is respected throughout the state and country.

Tom Pyden
Novi

Staudt seeks re-election

I am pleased to announce that I am running for re-election to Novi City Council. I was elected to serve you 3+ years ago. During that time, I believe that I've helped Novi become a better place to live and raise a family, as well as a place to invest and grow a business.

David W. Staudt
Novi

GUEST COLUMN

Quality education is nation's pathway to global competitiveness

When I became Michigan's state superintendent of public schools in 2001, I was given a license plate frame by a local educator that read: "Our Public Schools — Our Future" (both traditional and charter schools). I proudly display this true proclamation on my Ford today.

But like my fading license plate frame, our system of education in Michigan has been fading. Not that it was great during my tenure — in fact, far from it. We

continue to have much work to do to be competitive on the world stage.

Given the global competition we face we must continue to innovate and change or our children and country will be left behind. The Education Trust-Midwest recently released a report saying Michigan "trails most other states both economically and educationally." They go on to say, "We have to stop lying to parents about how well their children are prepared for the challenges of living and working in the 21st century."

President Obama in his State of the State address made it clear we must innovate and change to be able to compete on the hyper-competitive, global stage. We must become the brain bank of the world — where everyone comes for deposits and withdrawals. Gov. Snyder promised during his State of the State to deliver "a special message on education to the Legislature in April."

We are past the point where incremental changes are sufficient. Major change is required to get many schools, not only out of financial distress, but out of educational bankruptcy as well.

Competition on the world stage is on steroids even as we struggle with incremental change. Based on recent tests given to students in 60 countries by the Organization for Economic Cooperation, Shanghai, China, students scored first overall in the world on assessment of their reading, math and science skills. The U.S. ranked 17th in reading, 23rd in science and 31st in math. The price to thrive in the global 21st century innovation/knowledge economy is education. By whatever measuring stick you use, our educa-

tion system is in a rut if not a deep hole. In the past, one could leave high school with or without a diploma and still walk onto the factory floor and into a middle class life, so this statistic was not as alarming back then. Today those jobs are gone, never to return. While we worry about educated students fleeing our state after graduation, we need to be equally concerned about the uneducated and under-educated ones that stay behind.

The uneducated are not the foundation required to reinvent or rebuild Michigan. We can either get smarter and wealthier economically and spiritually or we can become dumber and poorer as a state and nation. It is that simple.

When you add up the numbers, our state's future looks bleak without a dramatic change. Perhaps the hidden statistic is more frightening: Far too many of our students who DO graduate from high school are not prepared for the rigors of higher education or the 21st century global, knowledge economy. Our future is sitting in our classrooms today. The viability of our society, the strength of our economy, the quality of our lives, the vibrancy

of our democracy, and our place in the world all depend on our system of public education as Gov. Snyder said — from the cradle to the grave. The world is changing in dramatic ways and our system of education must embrace those changes or be totally engulfed by them. We have a choice: We can continue to delude ourselves into thinking to be a great state and nation, economically and spiritually secure, or harken back to our history and conclude it must be earned through imagination, ingenuity, innovation, hard work and risk. Democracy provides new beginnings. With the Republican sweep in Michigan, Gov.-elect Snyder and his party now control the levers of change.

Educational reform must be part of the reinvention of our state. We need a focus on the new 3 R's: Restructure, Reform and the Reinvention of our schools. This requires more than minor tweaks to an educational system in need of a major transformation to prepare our citizens to compete.

Education can lead the reinvention of our great state. It must begin with NOT simply funding the "system," but asking — Where should we

invest our limited resources (existing and new) to help our teachers teach and our children learn? Will our new refrain be "innovate to educate" or will we continue the "contain the change" mentality that permeates the debates surrounding education under the capitol dome? A reinvented system of educating our youth must not be about educational associations or unions, school vendors or any other special-interest group. We must break away from an educational system that has morphed into protecting adults at the expense of kids. I am betting Gov. Snyder will place teaching, learning and children ahead of power, control politics and adults as he lays out his educational plans to the Legislature this April.

We cannot continue to allow education in this state to fade. Our collective future lies in the balance.

Tom Watkins is a business and educational consultant in the U.S. and China. He served the citizens of Michigan as state superintendent of schools, 2001-05, and president and CEO of the economic council of Palm, Beach County, Fla., 1996 to 2001. He can be reached at: tdwatkins@aol.com.

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MON, WED, THURS 7 AM - 4 PM • TUESDAY 7:30 AM - 4 PM • FRIDAYS 7:30 AM - 12 PM

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@annett.com, by fax to (248) 349-9532; or by mail to Novi News, 101 M. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

LOCAL EVENTS

Borders Books
 Location: Novi Town Center
 Contact: (248) 347-0780
Elmo's Birthday
 Time/Date: 2 p.m. Feb. 26
 Details: Celebrate Sesame Street Elmo's birthday with music, stories, crafts and more. Best for kids ages 3 to 6. Please note that this is not a costume character event.
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: 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
 Location: Tollgate 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. The Club is seeking new members to join in the planning, planning and more.
 Contact: sunwaterseeds@gmail.com or (248) 956-0029
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)
 Time/Date: 11 a.m.-noon every Wednesday
 Location: 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 additional information.
American Legion Post 19
 Monthly Meeting
 Time/Date: 7 p.m. third Tuesdays
 Location: Rock Financial



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Generous donation

Peter Woods donates a pint of blood at a Feb. 11 Red Cross blood drive held at Orchard Hills Elementary.

Showplace, Grand River Avenue
 Location: Taff and Beck roads
 Details: Comrades and fellow veterans, please join these monthly meetings; attendance is needed to maintain and grow the Post.
 Contact: Commander Dennis Strikulis (248) 378-7841 or dstrikulis@twmri.com or Service Officer Paul Erickson (248) 344-7193 or pnerick@aol.com.
Suburban Collections Showplace
 Location: 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi
 Contact: (248) 348-5600 or www.suburbancollectionsplace.com.

Includes dinner and presentation. Guests are welcome!
 Contact: For more information or to RSVP for dinner, please contact president@ba-wa-novi.org.
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. Wednesday, Feb. 23
 Location: Catholic Central High School, 27225 Whom Rd., Novi
 Details: Join for networking and a light breakfast; \$5 payable at door; non-members \$10 at door. Please pre-register.
Metro Novi BNI
 Time/Date: 7-8 a.m. every Wednesday
 Location: On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerly Road (north of 8 Mile), Novi

March 2-20: "The Godfadda Workout"
March 23-April 10: "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"
April 13-24: Robert Dubac's "Male Intellect - An Oxymoron?"
April 29-May 1: "Celebrity Autobiography"
May 4-22: "Bad Dates"
May 25-June indefinitely: "The Last Five Years"
 Contact: www.lichelmaster.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.novipubliclibrary.org
 Story Times: Please see the library website or story time brochure for details.
Teen Iron Chef
 Time/Date: 3-4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 18
 Details: Come and try out your culinary skills in this challenge. You will have a list of ingredients and a time limit to make a delicious concoction. For grades 7-12. Registration required.
Clifford Story Time
 Time/Date: 11:15-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 19
 Details: Calling all preschoolers! Share stories about Clifford the Big Red Dog with others who love him like you do! Sing songs, do a Clifford dance, and take home a picture to color.
Empower Me 4 Life!
 Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19 and 26
 Details: A fun and practical 2-session healthy living course equipping kids ages 8-12 with new attitudes, skills, and knowledge about eating better and moving more - for life. Registration is required and we need a minimum of 15 kids for the program to proceed.
Intermediate Word for Adults
 Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19
 Details: Expand your understand-

ing of Microsoft's Word program beyond the basics. Registration required.
Japanese Story Time
 Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22
 Details: Japanese-speaking volunteer storytellers read Japanese picture books to preschool aged children.
ESL Book Discussion
 Time/Date: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22
 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.
Historical Commission Meeting
 Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23
 Details: Public is always welcome. Meetings discuss ongoing and future projects of the Novi Historical Commission.
Happy, Healthy Families
 Time/Date: 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 24
 Details: Kids, bring your parents or parents, bring your kids to the library to learn healthy habits and how to make exercise fun for the whole family. Please dress in comfortable clothes. Presented by Meghan Lewler of Seung-Ni Fit, Novi. For ages 8-18 years.
Marathi Story Time
 Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 25
 Details: Marathi-speaking volunteer storyteller reads Marathi picture books to preschool aged children.
German Story Time
 Time/Date: 11-11:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 25
 Details: German-speaking volunteer storytellers read German picture books to preschool aged children.
Fabulous Friday Fun Flick
 Time/Date: 1-3:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25
 Details: Time off school is precious, so spend your Friday afternoon watching "Beverly Hills Chihuahua 2". We'll provide some snacks; bring a pillow if you wish or just sprawl on the floor and relax. For grades K-4.
Novi Writer's Group
 Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Feb. 26
 Details: Writer's groups can be a great way to make connections in the writing and publishing world and to get critiques that will improve your skills as a writer. Come to the Library for an inspirational environment where you can create and share ideas. This group is facilitated by local writer, Kathy Mutch.
Tamil Story Time
 Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 26
 Details: Tamil-speaking volunteer storytellers read Tamil picture books to preschool aged children.
Lego Club
 Time/Date: 6-6:45 p.m. Monday, Feb. 28
 Details: Join us once a month for Lego show-and-tell and building.

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Please see CALENDAR, A16

I ♥ Chocolate



Shrivya Musku, 16, enjoys another spoonful of chocolate mousse at the Feb. 14 "I Love Chocolate" event at the Novi Public Library. Teens were invited to whip up a variety of chocolate confections and then sample their efforts.



Kirsten West, 15, mixes some chocolate mousse at the Feb. 14 "I Love Chocolate" event at the Novi Library.



Kirsten West, left, Shrivya Musku, center, and other teens partake in some chocolate at the Feb. 14 event at the Novi Library.



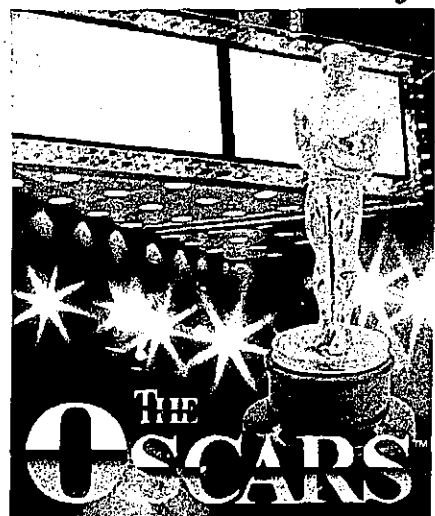
Mousse is spooned into a cup at the library's "I Love Chocolate" event.



A youngster dips a strawberry into some white chocolate mousse at the Novi Library.

JOHN HEIDER
 STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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- Actress in a Supporting Role
- Director
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 - Documentary Feature

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or go to www.emagine-entertainment.com

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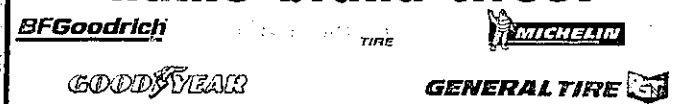
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Novi officials gush over public safety statistics

Crime rates, response times see decreases

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER



Molloy

The city of Novi took a calculated chance last February when it decided to combine the administrative functions of the police and fire departments to save the city money.

And it appears that chance paid off as the 2010 preliminary safety statistics released last week show the two departments are working as efficiently and effectively as ever.

"We are really pleased with how this worked out," said City Manager Clay Pearson. "We took some risks making the change, but we are all about not staying the status quo. We definitely believe if you are not getting better you are getting worse, and we are not content to stay as is."

The restructuring of the departments called for David Molloy, director of public safety/chief of police, to oversee both entities.

He said the credit for making a successful transition goes to the employees of both departments.

"It's a testament to the men and women we have in police and fire and the quality of service and dedication they display," he said. "It was a total team effort and I am very satisfied with the results."

From a financial standpoint, police management was able to reduce overtime costs by \$89,373, a 22 percent reduction from 2009, which now amounts to roughly a 40 percent reduction over the last two years.

The part "A" crimes, which includes serious/violent rape, murder, robbery and other serious crimes, went down 10 percent, while burglary complaints went down 31 percent and robberies down 70 percent. Traffic accidents at the top five intersections in the city also decreased by nearly 7 percent.

The number that stands out most to Molloy on the police

side is the department's case clearance rate which came in at 41 percent for all part "A" crimes. The state average is 20 percent, and the Midwest average is 19 percent. Molloy said, "You look at the work the folks in uniform are doing and we are double what the state is doing," he said.

On the fire side, the department was able to post a 29 second reduction overall in response time average, and saw an 17 percent increase in fire inspections.

"When you can reduce response times by 29 percent that speaks volumes," Molloy said. "We are not doing anything different, we are just measuring it now and showing the improvements we have made."

Pearson, like Molloy, praised the entire city, including the residents, for getting on board with the change and helping make it a success.

"It's not just police and fire, it's our whole city team," he said.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A14

activities. We supply the Legos, you supply the imagination.

English Conversation Group
Time/Date: 12 p.m. Tuesday, March 1
Details: Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation and conversation skills. No need to register.

Walled Lake Library
Location: 1499 East West Maple Road, Walled Lake
Contact: (248) 624-3772
introduction to ebay

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 28 and March 7
Details: The Walled Lake City Library will host a two-part introduction to eBay; both sessions will last about 90 minutes. This event is free but advanced registration is required. Participants must have a valid e-mail address.
Contact: Call the library to register at (248) 624-3772 or e-mail admin@walledlakelibrary.org.

SENIORS

Novi Senior Center
Location: 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 347-0414
Blood Pressure Checks
Time/Date: 11-11:45 a.m.
Wednesdays
Details: Every Wednesday blood pressure checks are offered. Check yourself regularly and stay healthy. Your blood pressure record will be on file at the Senior Center so you can track your health. No charge.

EDUCATION

Novi Community Education
Contact: (248) 449-1206

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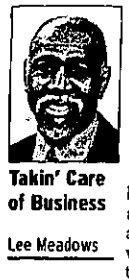
SUBURBAN COLLECTION SHOWPLACE
Formerly known as Rock Financial Showplace

Limited to one coupon per person, one discount per coupon. Coupons may not be combined with any other offers. Expires February 20, 2011.

\$1 off adult or senior admission any day

Note effect of the recession recovery on your employees

The economic dark cloud that hovered over an unsuspecting landscape will eventually be whisked away by a changing wind or dissipated by a new light. The indicators point to rays of sunshine in which hope becomes action and promises become contracts for forging a new beginning. Every new age brings with it new opportunities and a set of underlying issues heretofore thought to be non-existent. What is revealed in the light is that the issues were just flying underneath the radar by cautious pilots unwilling to subject themselves to any additional turbulence while trying to maintain a steady course. Waiting patiently for the winds to shift allowed resources to be preserved and a new flight plan to be designed. What is being witnessed is the emergence of those employees who have weathered the storm and, as they move toward the sunlight, and have taken on a renewed perspective about their career path.



Lee Meadows

Takin' Care of Business

survivors of the storm begin to update their resumes to reflect their broader skill base. As survivors, they have learned a great deal and now must wrestle with the fact that competitors will be shopping for the skills they have acquired. The winds blow the clouds away and the light shines on the new war for talent. Ironically, in an overcrowded market of unemployed professionals, the first step in the war for talent will take place business to business. Revitalized automotive companies, before looking in the unemployment market, will compete with each other for each other's engineering talent. Retail companies will compete for each other's sales and accounting talent. Opportunities abound for those who were shackled to their cube, but told to stretch in order to get the work done. At the end of that process is a broader skilled employee with a knowledge base and skill set that surpasses anything the organization had intended. The unintended consequence of an unexpected event has created a small market of highly marketable people, thus putting the employing organization at risk.

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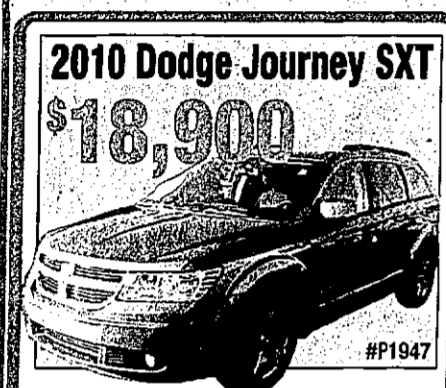
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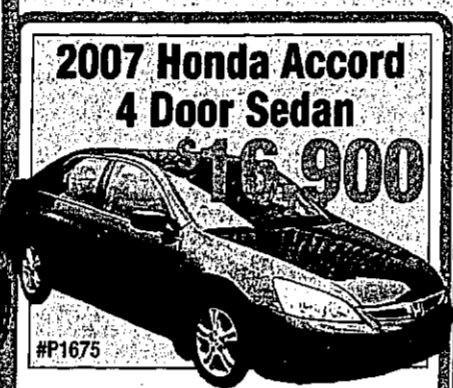
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CONSUMER CAR REVIEWS

Overall: 4.2 out of 5



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 City: 24 Highway: 34

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AMENITIES

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- Bucket Seats

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CATHOLIC CENTRAL BOWLERS CONTINUE TO WIN, B2

SECTION B (NN)

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THURSDAY, February 17, 2011

hometownlife.com

Streaky runs make, break Wildcats' title hopes

Novi falls to Stevenson, cruises through South Lyon East

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Novi's cagers played the best and the worst team in the KLA's Central Division last week. The results left the Wildcats at a lock for second place in the division for a third straight year.

out 8-2, although winning at Salem will be a heck of a challenge," Novi coach Cory Heitsch said Monday before his 'Cats defeated Plymouth Salem 63-57 in double overtime that night. "That would put us at 8-2 in the division for a third straight year, with defeats only at the hands of two programs. That says a lot about the consistency of our program."

Although Novi (13-3, 8-2 Central) lost the majority of their backcourt in the offseason, the team flourished against opponents other than defending division champion Livonia Stevenson (15-1, 9-0 Central). The Spartans and Wildcats traded runs in their Feb. 8 battle for the division title, but Stevenson broke a 40-40 tie wide open in the fourth

quarter, finishing the game on a 22-10 run. "It was a rollercoaster of a night because, from the end of the first quarter through most of the third, we played our best all-around ball. We guarded, we competed and won possession after possession," Heitsch said. "The frustration from our view as coaches is we didn't reward ourselves by taking full advantage of what we were doing on the floor. When you play with that much emotion, it can become a slippery slope

and when we had opportunities in the fourth to get the game tied and we didn't do it, we had a major shift in body language and couldn't climb uphill." Only six Wildcats scored in the contest, with seniors Brian Bush and Samer Ozeir scoring 15 apiece. Bush went 8-for-7 from distance. "Bush has been on absolute fire," Heitsch said. "I hope kids in the stands watch him carefully before

Please see BOYS HOOPS, B3

Novi bowlers hit stride same time as opponents

Wildcats rev up for conference tourney

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

It was a tough week for Novi's bowling teams. The boys' squad (4-9-2, 2-8 KLA Central) started with a strong performance Sept. 9 against Plymouth at Westland Bowl. However, Plymouth bowled their best game of the season with a 1,166-1,070 score advantage leading up to a 2-7 defeat of Novi.

"Both the first and second high games in league play have been shot against us," Novi coach John Osborne said. Senior Brandon Ross started out with nine straight strikes en route to scores of 267 and 206 to score two points for Novi, while senior Steve Cullen (216, 203) scored one point. Junior Andrew Thorwall (237, 214) and senior Sean McNiff (200) added to

ON TAP

The Wildcats' bowling team looks to wrap up the regular season by improving through a string of matches this week. With the Novi boys' record at 4-9-2 (2-8 Central) and the girls at 3-12-0 (1-9 Central), both teams were scheduled to take on Plymouth Salem last Monday at Novi Bowl before taking on Northville tonight at Town N Country Lanes in Westland, which was rescheduled twice from an original Dec. 13 date. Tonight's match begins at 3:30 p.m. before the 'Cats head to tomorrow's Kensington Conference tournament 10 a.m. at Century Bowl in Waterford.

Novi's Wildcats made things closer the next day against Canton at Super Bowl. The boys lost a close 17-13 contest, winning the first baker game 164-166, but lost the first game 1,011-833 with only one singles point. The 'Cats won the second game 904-942, but two single points and two for totals gave the Chiefs the win. Cullen (70, 221) had two points for Novi and senior Brandon Gillespie (216) scored one point. The girls (3-12-0, 1-9 Central), however, got a rare win on the season, ousting Canton 22-8 after jumping out to a 10-0 lead with 187-167 and 157-142 baker game victories. The Chiefs won the first game 797-719, but Novi won the second 902-794 to clinch the match. Freshman Sara Schultz had a 157 and personal-best 237 to earn two points for the Wildcats, while Wright (179, 198) also scored two points.

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



From left to right, seniors Chris Caverly (third at 145 pounds), David Sparling (third 189) and Shabbag Sidhu (fourth at 135) are the only Wildcat wrestlers who qualified Feb. 12 for this weekend's individual regional meet.

Three Wildcats advance to Regionals

Sparling, Caverly, Sidhu continue season with rest of team on sideline

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

It was a tough week on the mats for Novi's wrestlers that ended the season for the team, but three individuals advanced to Regionals with impressive performances in district competition.

Defending Division I state champion Detroit Catholic Central dominated the Northville-hosted team district meet last Thursday, advancing to Regionals as a team with a 78-6 decision over Novi and 70-9 win over the Mustangs. The Wildcats end the season with a 16-8-0 team record. However, the 'Cats were still together Saturday at Garden City to cheer each other on in the individual district tournament.

Senior David Sparling (189 pounds) went 4-1 and senior Chris Caverly (145) went 3-1 on the day, as both finished in third after losing to the eventual district champions in their respective weight classes. Sparling scored a pin 2:15 into a match against Livonia Franklin's Andrew Ingold and another pinfall 1:55 into a match

ON TAP

With three grapplers advancing at Individual Districts, Novi seniors David Sparling (189 pounds), Chris Caverly (145) and Shabbag Sidhu (135) will compete in the Plymouth-hosted Individual Regionals Saturday. The top four finishers in each weight class from both the Garden City and Beverly Hills-Wylie E. Groves districts will compete for a trip to The Palace of Auburn Hills for the individual state finals March 3-5.

Abro won a 11-7 decision over Sparling, pushing Sparling into the consolation bracket, where he pinned Dearborn Fordson's Ali Bazzi in 1:24 and defeated Fordson's Muthamad Soukar by a 6-2 decision, claiming third place and a trip to the regional meet. Sparling is now 42-10 on the season. Caverly had a near-identical path to his

third-place finish, except he had a first-round bye before earning a 17-2 technical fall over Dearborn Edsel Ford's Frank Plonka.

Caverly then ran into CC's Nick Mason, who earned a 19-4 technical fall 4:13 into the contest. In the consolation bracket, Caverly defeated Fordson's Victor Lindsey with a 11-5 decision and Franklin's Avery Opperman 15-11 for a chance to represent his school at the regional meet. Caverly is now 34-15 on the season.

Senior Shabbag Sidhu (135) put on five pounds to compete in a heavier weight class and the method paid off as he finished fourth with a 3-2 record and advanced to the regional tournament. Sidhu started off with a pinfall over Canton's Weston Price in 3:25 before Northville's Travis Compo pinned Sidhu in 3:10. Sidhu prospered in the consolation bracket, defeating Dearborn's Mohamed Makki by pinfall in 1:51 and Farmington's Zach Shultz with a 5-3 decision. But Sidhu ran into Compo, who lost his next match after defeating Sidhu, again in the third-

Please see WRESTLING, B4



The Novi Wildcats stand at attention during the playing of the National Anthem.

Kelp's cagers clinch Central championship

Three-win week ups record to 15-1

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

The past week was huge for Novi's girls' basketball team. The Wildcats racked up three victories, two over opponents vying for a share of the division title.

Outscoring Livonia Stevenson, Plymouth Salem and South Lyon East by a combined 161-98 mark last week, the Wildcats improved to 15-1 (9-1 KLA Central) and clinched the divi-

sion title. The biggest similarity between all three contests was Novi's dominance in the paint, where they outscored and out rebounded each of their opponents. "It's an area we have focused on in practice, thus nice to see the improvement," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "All the post players are playing with a lot of confidence."

The first contest of the week, Feb. 8 at Stevenson, would end up being both the toughest and most important

of the three. It wasn't because it was the only game Novi was on the road or because the 64-48 win was the narrowest margin of victory, but because the Spartans would roll forward to finish 6-4 and second place in the division (11-5 overall).

Freshman Kerri McMahan led Novi's charge with a game-high 17 points, six assists and three steals during a very solid 8-for-12 shooting performance.

"She doesn't play like a freshman," Kelp said. Seniors Alyssa Armiak (13 points), Please see GIRLS HOOPS, B4

CC bowling team continues to win

Squad beats Brother Rice, wins Divine Child Invitational

BY SAM EGLESTON
CORRESPONDENT

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks bowling team sure knows how to peak at the right time.

The squad, coached by AJ Bridges, earned a convincing 25-5 victory over Brother Rice last week to clinch first place in the Catholic League West Division before going on to win the Divine Child Invitational Tournament last Saturday.

The team is bowling well and hopefully peaking at the right time of the year in order to advance to the state finals tournament in two weeks," said Bridges.

If their showing in the Divine Child invite is any indication, they are indeed peaking. The squad's victory marks their fifth tournament win of the season out of seven tournaments and the third tournament win in a row.

The squad finished with a total score of 3,450, averaging 215 a game. High scorers for the Shamrocks were Eric Pavlov (222 and 234), Matt

ON TAP

The Shamrocks will be back in action when they compete in the Catholic League Championship this weekend at Drakeshire Lanes in Farmington.

Nugent (212 and 244), Scott Kujawa (204 and 246) and Ken O'Connor (246). The Shamrocks also had a 290 Baker game during the tourney, leaving only a six pin in the first frame to spoil a perfect game.

In their only dual meet of the week, the Shamrocks clinched the CHSL West Division title as they beat Brother Rice. Catholic Central and the Warriors split the Baker games before the Shamrocks went on to win the two regular games, 1:07-8:00 and 9:35-7:32. High scores were Pavlov's 206, Tom Zahari's 258, Jeff Conlitt's 206, O'Connor's 203 and Kujawa's 256.

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

NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

Booster Club plans February fundraisers

The Novi Athletic Boosters club is offering sports fans several opportunities during the month of February to enjoy a dinner out and support Novi sports teams at the same time through the Novi Athletic Boosters Dining-Donate fundraising program. Through the program, diners simply present printed flyers at specified eating establishments and enjoy dinner as they normally would. The restaurants pledge to donate a percentage of those sales to the Boosters.

Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar, 44375 Twelve Mile Road, is the newest addition to the lineup of restaurants supporting the Boosters. The first event will be on Monday, Feb. 21, from 5 to 9 p.m. Buffalo Wild Wings will donate 15 percent of all pre-tax food sales, less alcohol and promotional discounts, for all Novi guests who present flyers.

Proceeds from the events will benefit all Novi high school and middle school athletic teams. For additional information and to download flyers, please visit www.noviatheleticboosters.com.

Confusion caused by regulation changes in Little League baseball bats

The upcoming youth baseball

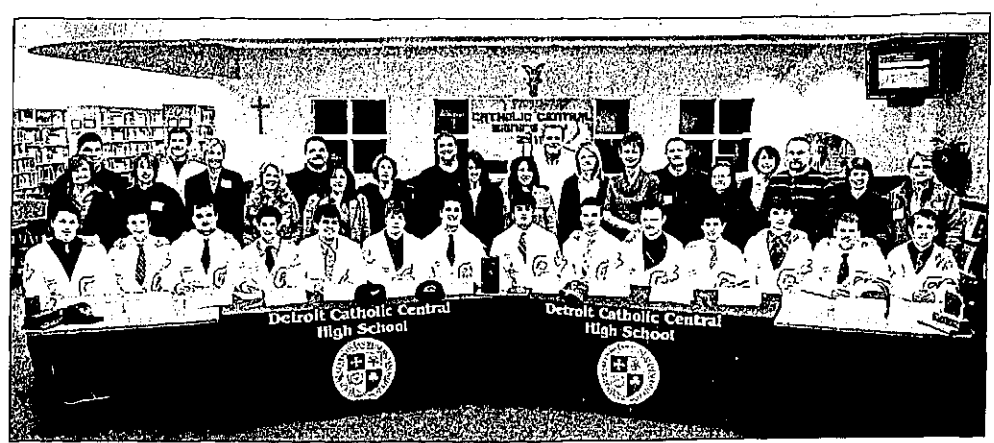
season holds the promise of both excitement and confusion. Parents headed out to buy their Little League bat and were told to buy a new bat but were told to follow when it comes to finding the right bat, but many still fuzzy as to what is acceptable and what might be deemed.

The Little League International Board of Directors - along with youth leagues, which include the Babe Ruth League and the American Legion Baseball League - decided to ban composite baseball bats due to potential safety concerns. To add to the confusion, not all youth leagues have made these changes.

Many leagues are banning composite bats because they are concerned about the safety of the kids," said Ian Somerville of Play It Again Sports Novi. "We are advising parents to check with their league to confirm bat materials, bat barrel diameter, and ounce drop - the difference between the length of the bat in inches, and the weight of the bat in ounces."

Composite bats have thinner walls and a larger sweet spot, which allows the ball to travel faster and farther, in turn allowing for higher scoring games, which is exciting for players and parents. However, since the bats make the baseballs travel faster, fielding players are given less reaction time and are at a higher risk of injury.

However, some composite bats are being waived and allowed for competition.



CC Signing Day

Detroit Catholic Central High School in Novi held its annual Signing Day on Feb. 4 in the school's Media Center. Following are the student athletes, the sport they signed for, and the university or college they will be attending (l to r): Brandon Tammaro (Buffalo-footbal), Brandon Sullivan (Northwood U.-football), John Lawless (Kalamazoo-footbal), Nico Colucci (Saginaw Valley State-golf), Stone Monarch (Toledo-footbal), Mitchell Gatt (Hillsdale-baseball), Justin D'Agostino (Hillsdale-footbal), Andrew Nelson (Cornell-footbal), Mike Birney (U of D Mercy-baseball), Mike Spiller (US Air Force Acad.-track), Andrew Garcia-Garrison (Bucknell-cross country), Michael Tibbitts (Holy Cross-baseball), Joe Brinkman (The U of The Cumberland-swimming), Alex Lang (Olivet-soccer). Missing from the photo is Justin Messner (Northwood-footbal).

Shamrocks defeat two big foes

Squad topples Marquette and Trenton, but falls to Hill Academy

BY SAM EGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

It was a good week to be a member of the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks hockey team.

The squad, coached by Todd Johnson, earned wins over two former state champions as they beat Marquette, 3-0, and Trenton, 5-2. Unfortunately, it wasn't a perfect week as the skaters fell to a very tough Hill Academy squad, 4-1.

"The team is playing well," said Johnson. "We need to continue to improve in all areas of the game in the next two weeks as we lead up to the state tournament."

Against Marquette, the Shamrocks scored two goals in the second period off the sticks of Sean Gaffney and Nolan Gluchowski before nailing the Redwings' coffin shut with an empty-net goal in the third by Charlie Green. Earning assists in the win were Ryan Keller (2), Gluchowski, Pete Halash, Mitchell Gatt and Michael Babcock.

Alex Nork earned the victory before the posts for the Shamrocks, stopping just 14 shots on goal. Marquette's goalie, on the other hand, was peppered with 41 shots on goal and stopped all but two.

Against Trenton, the game was a bit closer on paper, but wasn't so in actual game play. The Shamrocks skated out to a 4-0 lead by the early minutes of the third period before Trenton was able to add their first tally of the game. The final minutes of the contest found the two powerhouse teams trading goals before the final buzzer sounded.

The Shamrocks benefited from first-period goals by Tyler VanNorman, Babcock and Tyler VanAcker before Michael Downing added a goal in the third period for a 4-0 lead. Trenton scored at the 10:10 mark in the third off a shot by

ON TAP

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks will play again today when they visit the Port Huron Northern Huskies at 6:15 p.m. before taking on the Cranbrook Granes on the road at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow. The team will then visit DeLaSalle at 5 p.m. Feb. 20.

Pankow, the team's goalie, earned the victory with 17 stops while Trenton's Blake Wojtala stopped 36 of 41 shots on goal.

Against Hill Academy, the Shamrocks just couldn't get the best of their foes, who took a 2-0 lead by the early minutes of the final stanza. Catholic Central answered at 7:57 in the third period on a goal by Gluchowski, who was assisted by Downing and Gaffney, but Hill tallied two more goals, one at 16:36 and an empty net at 16:58, to secure the victory.

Pankow suffered the loss, stopping 20 of 23 on the night while Hill's George Argiropoulos stopped 28 shots on goal.

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

Shamrocks advance 13 grapplers

Team also earns District Tournament, CHSL titles

BY SAM EGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks wrestling team had quite a few highlights last week as they earned two championships and graduated 13 wrestlers to the individual regional tournament.

The squad, coached by Mitch Hancock, had a great showing in the individual district tournament and advanced 13 wrestlers to the MHSAA regional, including five grapplers who took home district championships.

In addition, the squad earned the team district championship by defeating Northville and Novi after earning the crown in the Catholic High School League tournament just days before.

"We call this title time," said Catholic Central assistant coach Kevin Griffin. "This past week we began to prepare for the ultimate title, and this is the first step."

In the individual district tournament, Catholic Central had five grapplers win titles with Ken Bade, Alex Mooradian, Nick Mason, Drew Garcia and Kevin Beazley taking home first-place finishes. Earning runner-up in their respective weight classes were Evan Toth, Logan Marcicki, Riley Hanson, Andy Erickson and Miles Trealout while TJ Fagan finished third and Malik Amine finished fourth to advance to the regional.

As a team, the Shamrocks also earned a berth to the regional tournament thanks to a district win over Northville and Novi. The

Shamrocks defeated the Novi Wildcats, 78-6, and toppled Northville, 70-9. As if that weren't enough, the team also won the 2011 Catholic League Tournament with 282.5 points.

Finishing in a distant second was Divine Child with 144.5.

Out of the 14 weight classes, the Shamrocks had 12 wrestlers in the finals and seven earning championships. Taking home CHSL crowns were Fagan, Casey Hagan, Tim Nabubert, Alex Goings, Erickson, Beazley and Rob Coe.

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NOVI ROUNDUP

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Pompon

Give it another year and the Wildcats' pompon program could be considered a dynasty. For the second-straight year, BOTH the varsity and junior varsity squads were crowned state champions in their respective Class A/Division 1 levels last Sunday at Eastern Michigan University.

The varsity squad competed against 14 other schools and nailed a title repeat with a 40-for-40 performance during a 3:30-long performance to a tune by Rev Theory.

"The routine included double toe-touches, walkovers, splits, stunts, drops and a great kickline, which were all perfectly timed," parent Lynda Favorite said.

Kristy Renaud, Erin Bartos and April Brousseau coached the squad to the championship, which was the second for seniors Alexa Boron, Taylor Boron, Kelsie Auttersen, Jessica Dipolna and Kimberly Powers.

Other state champion Wildcats are Mackenzie Betts, Lauren Collins, Alex DeLaCruz, Mary Favorite, Marisa Giampa, Katie Groeschel, Paige Gurizian, Gi Hong, Sara Hudgens, Megan Jamrog, Mackenzie Kelley, Kaley Kennedy, Christy Lyon, Ashley Miller, Kaley Oppat, Nicole Rigdon, Morgan Shepherd, Delaney Uile, and Ashley Wojtala.

The JV squad defeated seven other schools with a performance to Whitesnake's "Sweet Lady Luck."

JV coach Elyse Bartos had a small squad, but Aditi Chadha, Emma Weil, Jeanne Beau, Amy Cox, Amy Liang, Annie Segal, Jessie Snyder, Caitlin Sultana, Drew Thomasson, Gillian Auttersen, Jenny Chang, Laura Baumgarten, Patricia Dixon, Renee Weil and Atsuko Yuda worked together to secure the JV state title.

The pair of championships comes on the heels of the varsity's squad's High Kick Championship last November, which the JV team also won in 2009.

Novi's competitive cheer squad hosted the KLAAs Association crossover, where they'll likely face Howell for the association title. The Cats wrap up the regular season 6 p.m. Wednesday against No. 31 Farmington United (8-9-3) before the state tournament Feb. 28.

Novi's boys swim and dive team topped their dual meet record to 4-3 with victories over both North Farmington and Walled Lake Northern. The Feb. 8 contest in Farmington ended up with a 102-83 win for the Cats before they hosted Northern last Thursday in a 129-57 victory over senior.

The 10 seniors will try to go out on top with strong performances this weekend at the KLAAs Central Division meet and next weekend's Kensington Conference meet.

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

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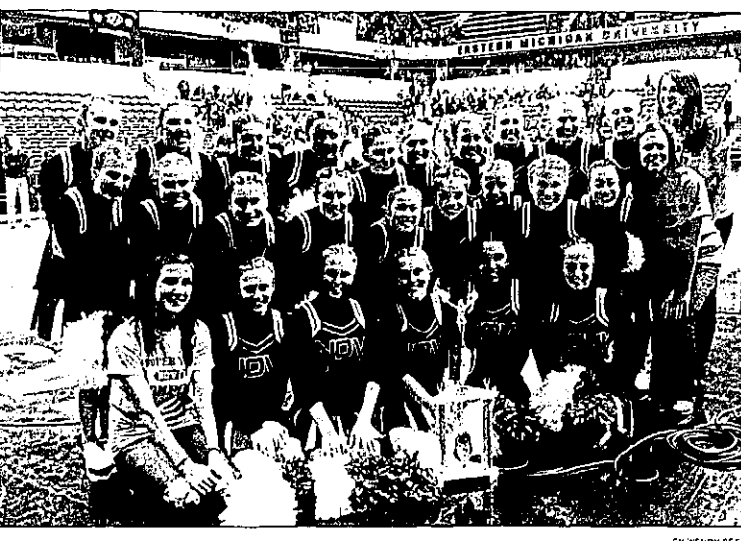
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The varsity Novi poms won a second-straight state title Feb. 13.

Softball Camp

Fourth through eighth graders are invited to join the Novi softball coaching staff and Wildcat student-athletes for a softball hitting camp from 1-5 p.m. Feb. 19 at the Novi High School gym, 24062 Taft Road. Sign-in runs from 12:30-12:50 p.m.

The camp, which costs \$40 in advance or \$50 at the door, will cover hitting and bunting techniques with an opportunity to practice skills through drills and station work. If players have their own bat, they should make sure it has their name on it and bring it with them to the camp.

For more information, contact Novi High School softball coach Bob Lulek at (248) 363-5679, (561) 686-5867 or MightyHartley27@aol.com. Players can also register in advance by mailing their name, home phone number, age and grade to the high school with attention to Athletics and Physical Education. Checks should be made out to Bob Lulek.

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

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Novi skiers slip

Hotta qualifies for SEMSL Championships

ON TAP

The KLAAs Championships were scheduled to take place Monday at Alpine Valley in White Lake before the Regional Championships today at Mt. Brighton. From there is Monday's Milford Round-up and then the SEMSL Championships at Pine Knob, where only senior Kuni Hotta has qualified to compete. All meets begin at 4 p.m.

After a strong finish in the regular season, Novi's ski program struggled at last Thursday's divisional meet at Alpine Valley in White Lake. The girls team (1-6) finished ninth in the regular season and matched that performance at the divisional meet. However, the boys team also finished ninth at the meet after finishing the regular season fourth 5-1.

The boys earned 14 points from their regular season finish, but just four at Divisionals after scoring 295 points in the meet. The score landed them at fifth on the season, two points behind South Lyon (4-5) and one ahead of both Walled Lake Central (2-7) and Milford (5-4).

Led by senior Kuni Hotta's two-run slalom finish of 41.6 seconds, the Wildcats had a representative in the top 10 via a ninth-place finish. With his performance, Hotta qualified for Tuesday's SEMSL Championships at Pine Knob.

Trailing Hotta were senior Steven Speers (7th in 42.25), Matt Pilat (9th in 45.85) and senior Brandon DuBois (33rd in 47.40). Senior Austin Feight struggled in his second run and fell to 48th in 53.95 seconds. Further hampering the Wildcats' efforts, usual top-four finisher sophomore Harrison Halley did not compete.

Novi's performance in the giant slalom didn't go as smoothly. Hotta finished 11th in 53.61 seconds, followed by Feight (23rd in 54.4), Speers (35.5th in 55.68) and sophomore Bjorn-Har Haug (43rd in 56.19).

The overall slalom was seen as more of a struggle for the girls team. Junior Calla Spillane led Novi in 31st place after a two-run time of 54.89 seconds. Senior Michelle Rich (36th in 55.57) was next, followed by juniors Lucia Li (51st in 57.75) and Addison Notarantonio (52nd in 57.84).

Like their male counterparts, the girls team fared better in the slalom, led by Spillane's 26th-place finish of 49.83 seconds. Rich (30th in 50.6), Notarantonio (41.5th in 58.72) and sophomore Katherine Hamilton (44th in 59.58) also made the top 50.

The two races scored 311.5 points for Novi, who finished 1.5 points behind eighth-place Milford at the meet. The two points earned from the meet gave Novi 12 total, which kept them at ninth on the season; two points behind Milford (12) and three ahead of South Lyon (9-8), Birmingham Brother Rice (9-0) and Bloomfield Hills Marian's (9-0) combo team won both the boys and girls divisions. Divisional meet and, hence, the overall league titles.

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By Mary Chase

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Feb. 25, 26, 27

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Canton, MI 48187

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online: www.spotlightplayersmi.org

Novi Planning Commission
David Greco, Secretary
Published: February 17, 2011

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48240. The agenda for the public hearing is as follows: ORDINANCE NO. 97-18 AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE 16, TC AND T-C-TOWN CENTER DISTRICTS, SECTION 1603, REQUIRED CONDITIONS AND ARTICLE 17, REGIONS OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS, SECTION 1703, PRINCIPAL USES, PERMITTED SUBJECT TO SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND SECTION 1703, REQUIRED CONDITIONS, IN ORDER TO ALLOW FACADE MATERIALS IN THE TC AND T-C-T DISTRICTS TO BE APPROVED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION WITHOUT REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL AND TO ALLOW PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVAL WITHOUT REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY CITY COUNCIL OF SPECIAL LAND USE PERMITS AND SITE PLANS ON LOTS TOTALING FIVE ACRES OR LESS IN THE RC DISTRICT.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be received by the Community Development Department, W Ten Mile Road, Novi MI 48275 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, March 9, 2011.

Novi Planning Commission
David Greco, Secretary
Published: February 17, 2011

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 18-246

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 18-246 TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 97-18 AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, ARTICLE 16, T-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT, IN ORDER TO PERMIT ACCESSORY BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES AS PRINCIPAL PERMITTED USES IN LIMITED INSTANCES, TO REQUIRE A NOISE IMPACT STATEMENT INSTEAD OF A NOISE ANALYSIS FOR SOME USES, TO ALLOW MORE THAN ONE OUTDOOR STORAGE TANK WHERE NECESSARY AND TO ADDRESS MINOR INCONSISTENCIES IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, February 7, 2011 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective seven (7) days after its publication. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk
Published: February 17, 2011

City of Novi Public Hearing Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 W. Ten Mile Road to consider:

Case No. 11-001-41460 Grand River Ave. Ste. F & G
The petitioner is requesting a variance to install an additional 15 SF wall sign on Suite F & G of Gateway Village Retail located at 41460 Grand River Ave. and the property is zoned NCC and is located north of Grand River Ave. and west of Meadowbrook Rd. Section 38-5 (3) f.

Case No. 11-002-41370 Bridge St
The petitioner is requesting an extension of the variance to install a real estate leasing sign of 48 SF adjacent to 196 ft of 41370 Bridge St. The property is zoned I-1 and is located east of Meadowbrook Rd and south of 196. Section 28-6 (4)

Case No. 11-003-20895 Springlake Blvd
Squires Apartments
The petitioner is requesting a variance from Section 2503.2.A to allow accessory structures in the interior side yard. The property is zoned RM-1 and is located south of Pontiac Trail and east of Beck.

Case No. 11-004-31170 Wellington Dr
Pottsmouth Apartments
The petitioner is requesting a variance from Section 2503.2.A to allow accessory structures in the front and interior side yard. The property is zoned RM-1 and is located south of Pontiac Trail and east of Beck.

Published: February 17, 2011

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF SEWS-DTC, INC.

Creditors of SEWS-DTC, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Corporation"), are hereby notified of the following: (a) The Corporation was dissolved pursuant to the Delaware General Corporation Law, effective December 31, 2009; (b) all creditors of the Corporation shall file any claims they may have against the Corporation in writing to SEWS-DTC, Inc., 22000 Hagerty Road, Northville, Michigan 48167 (Attention: Mark Epstein); (c) each claim must include sufficient information to inform the Corporation of the identity of the claimant and the substance of the claim; (d) any claim against the Corporation shall be barred unless it is received by the Corporation within sixty (60) days after the date of this notice; (e) The Corporation or a successor entity may make distributions to other claimants and the Corporation's stockholders or persons interested as having been such without further notice to the claimant; and (f) The Corporation did not make any distributions to its stockholders in the three years prior to the date the Corporation was dissolved.

This notice is given pursuant to Section 280 of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

Published: February 17, 2011

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 11-100-40

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 11-100-40 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 28, "SIGNS," OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE, AT SECTION 28-1, "DEFINITIONS," AND SECTION 28-5, "PERMITTED USES," OF THE CITY OF NOVI DISTRICTS IN ORDER TO INCLUDE DEFINITIONS AND STANDARDS FOR A PROMOTIONAL WALL SIGN.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, February 7, 2011 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 4517

GIRLS HOOPS

FROM PAGE B1

seven assists, four steals), Joanna Beaton (nine points, six rebounds) and Maddy Sinkovich (eight points, six rebounds) had strong showings. As a team, the Wildcats had 46 points in the paint.

"She is having a great senior year," Kelp said of Beaton. "When Maddy plays well, the team plays better."

Although Novi led 31-25 at halftime, it was sophomore Jade Antolec who was the difference maker, pulling down 14 rebounds (five on offense) to go along with her six points and four steals.

"Very impressive for a sophomore," Kelp said. "Jade is one of the most coachable kids we have ever had. She wants to learn and get better; the results are showing. I'm very happy for her."

A loss to Stevenson would have put Novi at two losses and Stevenson at three in the division as the Wildcats headed into a rematch last Thursday against Salem, who had defeated Novi earlier in the season.

However, Salem was knocked out of the title hunt with three losses last week. A Feb. 8 setback to South Lyon and Friday loss to Northville pushed Salem back to 5-5 (6-10 overall) after Novi got their retribution with a 52-31 victory thanks to 16-5 first-quarter and 14-5 third-quarter runs.

"It was a very good week for Novi basketball. The girls were pumped up for the rematch," Kelp said. Antolec was held off the boards for just three rebounds, but was repeatedly fouled by the Rocks in the process. She hit 7-of-8 free throws to end up with a game-high 13 points.

Beaton was consistent with 12 points, while McMahan (nine points, five assists), Junior Ally D'Amico (six points, six rebounds) and Armiak (five points, four assists) were also steady in their production during the pivotal rematch.

Going into their third game in four nights, the Cats were steady in defeating a less experienced South Lyon East (1-15, 0-10 Central) team last Friday. Novi ran up a 21-8 half-time score before closing out the #5-19 victory. The Cougars scored nine of their 19 points in the third quarter and just two in the fourth.

The Wildcats also kept both turnovers and fouls to a minimum, a rare feat.

"Definitely the key to such a successful week," Kelp said of that stat.

Novi outscored East 40-6 in the paint and had 16 offensive boards (27 total) as they took 30 more shots and hit 14 more than the Cougars.

McMahan led the way with a game-high 12 points and four steals, while Beaton (eight points, six rebounds), Antolec (eight points, three steals, two blocks) and Sinkovich (two points, four rebounds, four assists, two steals) all turned in steady performances as the reserves got more floor time, outscoring East 28-2 off the bench.

CELEBRATE

As if a Central Division title wasn't enough, the team had more reason to celebrate Saturday morning, as coach Kelp and his wife, Lisa, welcomed a daughter, Annie, into the world 2:54 a.m. Saturday.

"We're proud parents of the most beautiful baby," Kelp said. Annie came into the world at seven pounds, 19 inches.

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



Wildcat Alyssa Armiak tries to keep up with a Salem guard.



Novi's Jade Antolec goes up for a shot during the Feb. 10 game.



Wildcat Kerri McMahan.



Kerri McMahan turns the corner on a Salem defender.



Madeline Sinkovich gets some low-fives as she introduced before the Novi Wildcats' Feb. 10 game.

WRESTLING

FROM PAGE B1

place match, where Compo won a 9-2 decision, although both have the chance to meet again at the regional meet. Sidni heads to Regionals with a 21-13 record.

Juniors Alejandro Alvarado (125) and Jake Dobas (160) both fell short of their Regional bids, as each lost their consolation semifinal match and finished 2-2 on the day.

Seniors Matt Aoin (26-17 at 130), Beau Bielski (19-12 at 140), junior Justin Michaels (9-10 at 215) and sophomore Dan Denova (21-22 at 103) each earned a win to start off the day, but finished with losses in their next two matches to end their seasons.

Sophomores Anthony Levy (4-14 at 112), Ben Landry (15-23 at 152) and Zach Roush (13-16 at 160) each also competed for the Wildcats, but went 0-1 on the day.

Senior Detrek Becker (4-0) went 2-0 to finish his final season at Novi with a 18-14 record.

The Wildcats didn't have anyone competing in the 119-, 171- or 285-pound weight classes.

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



Winning ways continue

The high school volleyball season is over for this school year, but Novi varsity players have carried their strong play into the club season. Legacy Volleyball Club fielded championship teams at Central Zone Invitational Tournaments in Chicago and Indianapolis this past weekend with some familiar names leading the way. Former Wildcat JV coach Sarah Schmitt's 14th team, featuring sophomores Kacey Shelton and Corrie Subject, responded after losing a pool play match to Prime Time and swept through the gold medal round, finishing with a straight set victory over Circle City (Indianapolis). It was a great beginning to the 2011 club season for Schmitt's team - Kiana Brown and Rachel Livingston (Lake Orion), Alexa Caponaccio (Stoney Creek), Erin Neffelt (Seaholm), Emily Popp (Clarkston), Sheldon and Subject (Novi), Cassidy School (Manati), plus Lynsie Giroux (Hartland) and Leah Reeves (Westland Lutheran). Meanwhile, four of their teammates from Novi High School were taking home another championship for coach Ricky Contral in Indianapolis. Juniors Lesley Harrington, Molly Marzotte, Victoria Rose, and Ally Ryan carried the Sky High Volleyball (United) opponents in a thrilling three set match (28-26, 23-25, 16-14). Down 12-8 in the deciding game Legacy called a timeout, and, as coach Cottrell described it, "The girls just answered the call. It was a great weekend against some of the best clubs in the country." He was particularly impressed by how they responded in a "very intense match." His Legacy roster is loaded with KVC players including Brooke Maynard (WL Northam), Brittany Leonard (Lakeview), Kelly Veluzos (Livonia Stevens), plus Kristi Auran (Ladywyo) and Halle Thom (Orem).

REAL ESTATE
Thursday, February 17, 2011
hometownlife.com

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Real estate associations give merger thumbs up

Kathy Coon is excited about the merger of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors and the Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors. "That merger has been voted on and approved," said Coon, who will serve as president of the new association this year. Voting was completed Jan. 31 with over 95 percent of WWOCA members giving the merger the nod and over 92 percent of MCAR members already in place.

Farmington Hills-based WWOCA has long served western Wayne and parts of Oakland County, with Troy-based MCAR focused on Oakland and Macomb counties. Coon said the formal name of the new association will likely be unveiled in March and is already in place.

The site in Farmington Hills, owned by WWOCA, is at Drake and Grand River. "That will remain open for now," she said. "We're very excited. We're looking at very positive movement forward. We'll be able to offer them (members) so much more." The combined association has some 6,000 members, mostly Realtors but also those in affiliate fields like banking, inspectors, titles and moving companies. "We reach out to everyone who touches our industry," Coon said. Asked about staff cuts, she said the



new association leaders are looking at all areas "as to how we can run a stronger organization." "That includes education, training and services members need to succeed." There have been side discussions on a WWOCA-MCAR merger for about four years, Coon said. The housing

along the same lines," Coon said. "It was something that seemed to be the right thing to do." "I'm very excited. I think that this is wonderful. We've got both associations working hand in hand."

"The two boards will merge, she said: "It should be an exciting time, a very exciting time."

Tony Schippa will be president-elect of the new association. He's a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Preferred in Plymouth who will serve as president for one year beginning in January 2012.

"I'm excited for it," Schippa said. "I think it's going to bring us more value to our members." The new association will have a bigger voice on state, local and national issues affecting homeowners, he said. Working with charities is another area that will improve. "I am excited," he said. "We'll have our unique challenges, of course. It's all stuff that's been well thought out. We put the vote to our members and our members voted in favor of."

Dale E. Smith, executive vice president at WWOCA, will remain in that role for the new association. "This is really exciting stuff," Smith said. "Both of the associations are very, very strong."

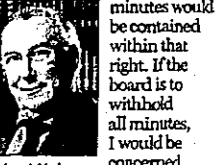
The new group will be able to do more for members and advocacy for homeowners, Smith said, including affordable housing programs. "This is going to give us a boost up on doing that," said Smith, with WWOCA since 2001.

"Anytime you get that kind of plurality the members obviously see it as a good thing for them," he added of the voting.

Check with lawyer on board actions

Our board will not turn over the board minutes to us to look at and I am concerned about what actions they are taking. They also want to let us sit in on board meetings. What can we do about it?

As a number of pending instructions are not willing to assume control of the association or complete the foreclosure because they would be deemed the successor developer. Yet they hire a



recruited, generally court-appointed, to collect monies in regard to the sale of the units and act as if they are a developer. You need aggressive legal counsel knowledgeable in community association law and these issues to force the lender to assume its responsibilities as it should; otherwise, the co-owners will be led down the primrose path to the detriment of the entire project.

As a Generaly speaking, there is a provision in the association bylaws that provides for the removal of a board generally upon the approval of 50 percent of the members of the association and after a petition calling for a special meeting has been signed by one-third of the co-owners. However, your documents may provide a different remedy and there is also a provision in the Non-Profit Corporation Act dealing with the removal of directors which would come into play if your documents do not provide for that type of remedy. You are best advised, however, to retain an attorney to assist you in drafting the petition for a special meeting, as well as appearing at the special meeting for the removal of the board, assuming you get the appropriate number of signatures to call the meeting.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operator Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$99.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also writes Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$2 shipping and handling. Call 248-644-4433 or visit robertmeisner.com. This column should be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 1-5, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds Office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

2050 Lathurs St Livonia \$45,000	38-458 Northfield Ave Farmington Hills \$147,000	5964 Derby Livonia \$43,000
2612 Aqueductale St Livonia \$85,000	16500 Cottonwood Ct Livonia \$269,000	2599 Cover Livonia \$82,000
29530 Bentley St Livonia \$84,000	4039 Delta Dr Livonia \$280,000	2009 Eastlakes Livonia \$55,000
26881 Brockway St Livonia \$67,000	19306 Calumet Fox Ln Livonia \$300,000	31805 Calumet Ct Livonia \$120,000
18245 Brentwood St Livonia \$60,000	16765 Commerce Ct E Livonia \$308,000	31606 Calumet Ct Livonia \$36,000
22342 Brentwood St Livonia \$60,000	39717 Marfield Ln Livonia \$275,000	816 Huntington St Livonia \$195,000
18278 Brookside Cir Livonia \$116,000	18715 Freedom Dr Livonia \$355,000	2584 Judd Dr Livonia \$124,000
311 Gardwells St Livonia \$195,000	249 Rayson St Livonia \$253,000	2160 Woodville St Livonia \$18,000
40044 Grand St Livonia \$171,000	2400 Burwood Dr Livonia \$66,000	19005 Richard St Livonia \$26,000
16435 Prairie Dr Livonia \$66,000	13331 Drury Ln Livonia \$262,000	1665 Showmaker Dr Livonia \$14,000
4895 Rockwell Dr Livonia \$340,000	14484 Spring St Livonia \$140,000	7625 Terry Dr Livonia \$28,000
4992 S Willow Dr Livonia \$178,000	21764 Lenox Dr Livonia \$462,000	9801 N Ridge Dr Livonia \$287,000
49131 Terra St Livonia \$40,000	30109 Marlin St Livonia \$184,000	3263 Village Manor Dr Livonia \$275,000
753 Lathurs St Livonia \$48,000	20919 Marlene Rd Livonia \$29,000	

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 1-5, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds Office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

2940 Acorn Rd Bloomfield Township \$162,000	2561 Springsbrook Dr Livonia \$175,000	2429 Pontiac Trl Livonia \$68,000
4052 Augusta Ct Bloomfield Township \$245,000	1089 Eagle West Ct Livonia \$265,000	8241 Peachfield St Livonia \$115,000
3701 Hickory Bark Ln Bloomfield Township \$274,000	541 Union St Livonia \$250,000	23518 Swanswick Ln Livonia \$325,000
7810 Windsor Ct Bloomfield Township \$225,000	41635 Borchard Dr Livonia \$10,000	23482 Sky Gables N Ln Livonia \$340,000
1560 Lindenwood Ct Bloomfield Township \$260,000	4060 Brenda Livonia \$153,000	25346 Stanley Ln Livonia \$10,000
100 N Berkshire Rd Bloomfield Township \$149,000	2912 Eastman Trl Livonia \$120,000	896 Village Way Livonia \$118,000
2395 Rubenstein Rd Bloomfield Township \$191,000	4055 Hamlet Ln Livonia \$100,000	54255 Whiteoak Dr Livonia \$120,000
5082 Sterling Ct Bloomfield Township \$378,000	4026 Hickory Grove Ln Livonia \$415,000	430 Maple St Livonia \$145,000
	2408 Hickory Grove Ln Livonia \$427,000	2184 A winding Creek Dr Livonia \$283,000
	25900 Laurel Dr Livonia \$154,000	
	2275 Windsor St Livonia \$177,000	
	1909 W. Walnut Dr Livonia \$165,000	
	329 Buccarand Cir Livonia \$154,000	
	717 Cape Cod Livonia \$70,000	
	28223 Delta Cir Livonia \$40,000	
	6021 Greenwood Dr Livonia \$41,000	
	5484-C Geneva Cir Livonia \$340,000	
	188 Purcell Dr Livonia \$185,000	
	27825 Harborside Dr Livonia \$170,000	

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Joining RE/MAX
The following associates have joined RE/MAX of Detroit since Dec. 31:
Roger Daubenmeyer, RE/MAX in the Hills, Bloomfield Hills; David Bair, RE/MAX Classic, Milford; Debra Collins, RE/MAX Classic, Milford; Thomas Gammon, RE/MAX Classic, Milford; Cathy Elias, RE/MAX Dream Properties, Northville; Delilah Milne, RE/MAX Classic, Milford; Susan Frazier, RE/MAX Gallery, Livonia; John Galin, RE/MAX Signature, Grosse Pointe Farms; Laurie Reimer, RE/MAX New Trend, Farmington Hills; and Kathleen Kaltz, RE/MAX Gallery, Livonia.

Career Seminar
There will be a Real Estate Career Seminar 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17, at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 An Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. Learn about a free prelicensing course. For more information, contact Letoy Aiello at (734) 459-4700 or laletoy@kw.com.

Informational time
There will be a "HUD, Foreclosures, and Short Sales" informational session 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23, at Bridgepointe Realty, 23290 Farmington Road, Limited seating - pre-registration required at (248) 345-1268.

Kudos
Todd Tallaferro, with RE/MAX Classic, has recently been presented with the RE/MAX Hall of Fame Award, which honors successful agents who have earned more than \$1 million in commissions during their careers with the company. As a seasoned professional in the real estate industry, his sales experience spans over 25 years including past positions as a regional vice president for a Fortune 500 company. He specializes in residential and condominium sales, luxury homes and lakefront and investment properties in Western Wayne, Washtenaw and Oakland counties. He has also gained accreditation as a Certified Distressed Property Expert and a Short Sale, Foreclosure and Bank-Owned Property Specialist.

"Tallaferro has been an integral member of our team and is more than deserving of this very prestigious award," said Carol Boji, of RE/MAX Classic. "Winning this award is a tremendous accomplishment. Todd continues to raise the bar in real estate, making us and his community proud."

Tallaferro, a Central Michigan University graduate, is a longtime Plymouth resident and actively supports local youth programs and sports.

Pros on the job
Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel (CBWM) has recently welcomed a number of new sales professionals to the growing company.

They are: Sophie Brun, Hannah Hoppough and Judy Komer - Birmingham/Bloomfield; office Chris Campbell - Commerce/West Bloomfield office; Tim Krzkowski - Northville/Novi office; Wendy Velthoven - Plymouth/Canton office; Chris Bolne - Rochester office; Dianne Gouin and Steven Deblauwe - Troy office.

"These talented people bring with them diverse business skills and experience and will make great additions to our company," said John North, CBWM COO. "We are very pleased that they've chosen Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel."

Founded in 1950, Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel is a Birmingham, Mich.-based real estate brokerage with 16 offices and more than 425 real estate sales associates in Michigan.

Investors
The Real Estate Investor Association of Wayne County holds monthly meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road, Southgate. Entrance fee is \$20 for non-members to be applied to annual membership. For information, call (313) 819-0919 or visit www.reiwaynecounty.org.

Real Estate Sales and Appraising
Learn about a career in residential real estate. Attend a free one-hour seminar, or shadow a top agent to get an inside feel of the business. Seminars are at noon or 6 p.m. Wednesdays. To reserve a spot, contact Keller Williams Realty International, at (248) 893-2500, 27555 Executive Drive, Suite 100, Farmington Hills 48331.

Seminar on Tuesdays
A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Free Foreclosure Tours
Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@add-evaluerally.com or add-evaluerally.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com for additional information.

ATTENTION!

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

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8th Annual **Spring Senior Expo**



Tuesday, May 17, 2011
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus
in the VisTaTech Center

- **Special Section Promotion**
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- **Expo table**

For more information about this event and to reserve your space, please contact:

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Fax: 313.496.5305

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