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THURSDAY
February 24, 2011

NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
Volume 55
Number 40
\$1.00

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY 2/24/11

NOVI NOW Grand River to be resurfaced

The pot-hole ridden surface known as Grand River Avenue is going to be resurfaced this year.

The city of Novi received approval of \$1.7 million in federal money from the Federal Highway Aid Committee on Tuesday to start the project in the fall.

The project, which spans from Novi to Haggerty roads, calls for extensive rehabilitation and repaving, improving shoulders, select curb and gutter improvements, select construction of right turn lanes and tapes at driveways and intersections and the construction of ADA compliant pedestrian improvements.

Resurfacing the road has been a top priority for the city the last several years, but funding issues at the county level caused delays.

Novi's financial contribution to the project is estimated at \$374,000, which will come from the municipal street fund.

Friends' Ball benefits Providence

The Providence Health Foundation 2011 Friends' Ball will be held at 6 p.m. on April 2 at the Garden Atrium, Southfield Town Center.

Sister, Xavier Ballance, D.C. will receive the prestigious Order of Charity award, and Chandrika M. Joshi, MD, and Robert K. Brateman, MD, will be the recipients of the Caduceus Society Physician of the Year award.

Proceeds from the event will support a new Women's Health Initiative, a coordinated, creative strategy to better meet the health needs of women throughout St. John Providence Health System's West Region. The area to be served includes the surrounding communities of Providence Hospital and Medical Center in Southfield and Providence Park Hospital in Novi.

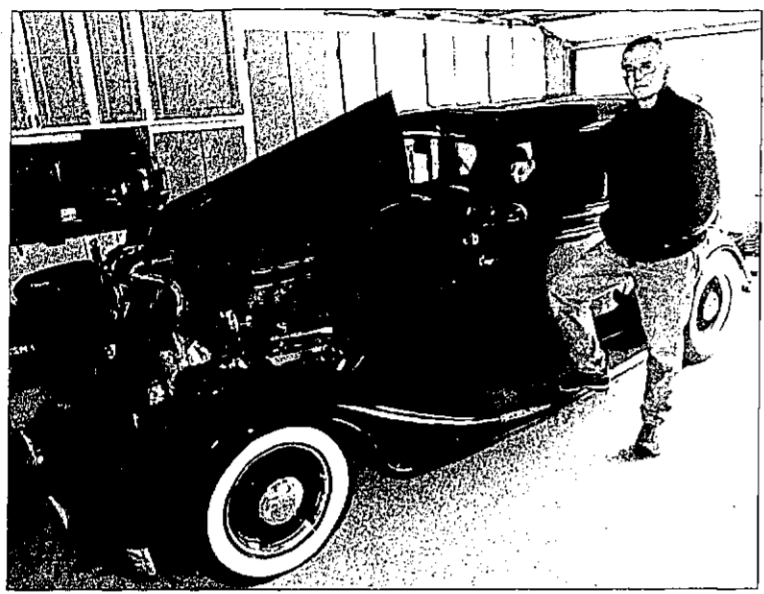
The evening will feature an art gallery, a chance to have photos taken in a photo booth and dancing to the sounds of The Paul Koller Orchestra.

Tickets are \$250 per person; tables of 10 are available for \$2,000.

To be a corporate sponsor, place an ad in the program book or purchase a ticket, contact Lorraine Owczarek at (313) 343-7582.

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PHOTOS BY JOHN HEDGER (STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

Novi resident Larry Lyke poses with his 1934 Ford Tudor sedan, a vehicle he restored and will display at the upcoming Autorama show at Detroit's Cobo Center.

A one-shot success

Novi resident raves about restored 1934 Ford

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Novi resident Larry Lyke said to himself he only would restore a classic car once.

Choosing the car was easy — a 1934 Ford Tudor Sedan — but restoring it to look like it did in its hey day was quite the lengthy process.

Lyke bought the car in 2001 from a man in Iowa but didn't start working on it until after he retired from his job at Ford Motor Co. in 2005. He tinkered with it for a few years before really stepping up the efforts to restore it in 2009.

Now the car sparkles when the light hits it and Lyke is ready to show it off when he takes it to the annual Autorama event this weekend at the Cobo Center in Detroit.

"I love the look of it," Lyke said last week as he polished the chrome. "It turned out a lot better than I expected."

The reason for Lyke's skepticism



For most viewers of his 1934 Ford Tudor sedan, Larry Lyke says it's the grille that catches their eye.

Please see 1934 FORD, A3

Autorama rolls into Cobo this weekend

The 59th annual Meguiar's Autorama, presented by O'Reilly Auto Parts, is revved up and ready to roar into Cobo Center in Detroit next week. Billed as America's Greatest Hot Rod Show, this turbocharged tradition features the hottest hot rods, custom cars and classics in the country and attracts visitors from across the U.S.

The annual winter ritual brings the most devout gearheads and just plain curious folks, up close and personal, with more than 1,000 exhibits of chopped, channeled, dumped and decked hot rods, custom cars, trucks, vans and motorcycles of the past and present.

This year's show features award-winning customs from across the country including the radical custom car, Seythe, presented by Galpin Auto Sports; Dennis Li'l Daddy Roth's Streetnik

DETAILS

Autorama at Detroit's Cobo Center runs Friday, Feb. 25, noon to 10 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 26, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$18 adults and \$5 for children ages 6-12. Discounted tickets available at O'Reilly's Auto Parts.

For more information, visit www.aautorama.com.

Bandit, the Goodguys Hot Rod of the Year; The Downtown Brown '30 Ford, and The G Pack, wild custom from the cover of Mini Truckin' Magazine.

New this year, The Hollywood Legends car display will feature an array of some of the most famous TV and movie cars in history including the KITT car from TV's Knight Rider, Starchy & Hutch Torino, General Lee from Dukes of Hazzard, Andy Griffith's Mayberry Sheriff's Car from the Andy Griffith Show, the Ghostbusters movie

car, the Monkeemobile and the Green Hornet car.

The entire lower level of Cobo Center features Detroit Autorama Extreme 1953 with 225 traditional rods, customs and bobber bikes.

The Motor City Mavens 2011 Auto Art Panel Jam and Charity Auction benefiting Leader Dogs for the Blind runs all weekend. More than 200 of the most outrageous pinstripers from across the country will apply their artistry to items of every variety. They will demonstrate for the crowds, and auction the items.

Locals seek answers to revenue cuts

Novi getting zero statutory dollars from state this year

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Proposed budget raises concern, A2

Novi officials were prepared for the news that for the first time the city would be receiving zero dollars from statutory revenue sharing in 2011.

But still it didn't sit well with Mayor David Landry. "We have foreseen that the state legislature every year is raiding the statutory shared revenue to pay for other things," he said. "The state legislature is robbing Peter to pay Paul and Peter is the citizens of every city."

"It's a shame because they are looking upon this as discretionary money and it's not."

Of all the cities in Oakland County, Novi is one of just four that is not projected

to get any money from the state. The others are Lake Angelus, Bloomfield Hills and Rochester Hills.

There are two portions to state revenue sharing — constitutional and statutory.

The constitutional portion is guaranteed and allocates a portion of the state sales tax to local municipalities. The statutory follows a formula that was established nearly a decade ago but lenders say hasn't been followed.

Gov. Rick Snyder proposed last Thursday to eliminate the \$300 million in statutory revenue sharing paid to municipalities, but put \$200 million into a competitive fund that would force communities to

Please see 999 CUTS, A2

City, schools merge publication guide

Partnership will enhance opportunities for residents

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Recreation and educational opportunities in Novi will be even more streamlined this fall after the city and school district agreed to create a combined publication that is expected to better meet the needs of the residents.

The partnership between the city's parks, recreation and cultural services department and Novi Community Education has been in place for several years through

facility rentals and more. Through the process of creating a single publication, the two sides also were able to address areas of overlap and provide more programs.

"We cannot be everything to all people but this is a way for each of us to focus on specific areas so we can provide better services," said Nancy Cowan, interim director of parks, recreation and cultural services. "We thought this would make sense from both

Please see MERGE, A2

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Governor's proposed budget raises concerns

Novi leaders brace for looming cuts

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

State Rep. Hugh Crawford may have not been a big fan of everything proposed in Gov. Rick Snyder's budget last Thursday.

But the Republican representative knows that if the state is going to turn around, major cuts are part of the solution.

"It's certainly a bold proposal but we need to do some bold things in this state," he said. "I'm not happy to take money away from schools or tax pensions but until we get our house in order and restructure, we are doing to have to do some of those things."

Crawford said what has been proposed is "conceptually the right way to go," but expects a lot of changes before it passes through the House and Senate.

"I don't think it's going to be as

drastic as it appears," he said.

Many of the calls Crawford has received from constituents thus far harped on the elimination of film credits and taxing pensions.

He wouldn't get into the specifics of what he liked or didn't like in the proposed budget, but agrees with general concept.

The cut to public education announced the proposed budget Thursday was not surprising to Novi Community Schools district Supt. Peter Diem.

But just because he wasn't surprised doesn't mean he isn't concerned.

The budget calls for a \$300 per student cut in addition to the \$170 per pupil cut that is already in place. For Novi, which has more than 6,000 students, that cut amounts to roughly \$3 million.

"I think (the governor) was right that it has been a long time coming and we cannot operate on a credit card mentality anymore," Diem said. "But it's going to be difficult for all of us."

Diem noted that the district has cut \$10 million out of its budget the last four years, and questions why education keeps taking a hit.

"When will they realize education needs to be the highest priority in Michigan," he said. "I know jobs are important but you are not going to bring jobs here unless you have quality schools."

The district is in the process of contract negotiations with several of its bargaining units and also will have to deal with an increase in retirement and health care costs.

"Our goal is to figure out how we will continue to have an excellent school district here," he said.

The Board of Education also saw a budget amendment at its meeting last Thursday that showed the district will have to make millions of dollars

CUTS

FROM PAGE A1

show they have consolidated services or made efforts to reduce employee costs.

Novi was getting over \$1 million in statutory money 10 years ago, and now is getting \$86,892 last year.

City Manager Clay Pearson said how the money is doled out does not make sense as there is no relationship between the statutory dollars and tax rate, taxable value or

MERGE

FROM PAGE A1

sides so residents don't have to search around."

The city has been marketing its recreational opportunities in the Engaget publication, while the school district sent out separate brochures four times a year. Estimated savings for the school district through this new method is \$10,000, and it will provide the district with more exposure.

Bob Steh, director of community education, said people should notice a difference in the amount of programs available to them through this partnership.

"We are trying not to duplicate services," he said. "We want to enhance them."

Some programs and contracts that were previously held by the school district will be picked up by the city because they better comply with the department's main focus. The city focuses on athletic leagues, fitness, seniors, theater and community events

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County, city jobless rates fall

Commissioner still wonders if decrease is here to stay



Novi resident Larry Lyke is reflected in the chrome headlight of his 1934 Ford Tudor that he will display at Autorama.

1934 FORD

FROM PAGE A1

cism about how it would look revolved around the fact he had to send it off to get worked on because he did not have the tools at his own home.

But little did he know that when he took it Motor City Steel in Commerce, they would let him work alongside their employees throughout the process.

"I found guys who were as picky as me with the craftsmanship I wanted," he said. "I really liked being able to work on it and I turned every nut, bolt and screw on this thing."

When Lyke bought the car it needed major body work. A host of businesses helped him achieve the look he was seeking, and everything is original except the inside and some of the chrome.

The chrome grill and front end were especially important pieces to save.

"I always thought this car had the most sexy and sensual lines," he said.

Of course, the car has a 302 Ford engine under the hood packing 345 horsepower.

"It sounds like a hot rod but I wanted it to look like an old one," he said.

This will be Lyke's first time heading to Autorama with a car, and he is excited for people's reaction.

When asked what he thinks that reception will be, he said simply, "Wow."

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Unemployment rates in the county and city of Novi have dropped, but Oakland County Commissioner Kathy Crawford doesn't want people to get too excited.

The Novi resident and District 9 representative said Monday that while it looks like "we may have bottomed out" it doesn't mean the county is out of the woods just yet.

"Everyone is cautiously optimistic, that is the way we are looking at it," she said. "It feels a little different and there are some places starting to hire, but it's hard to say this early."

The Bureau of Labor Statistics released its unemployment statistics for December 2010 in early February, and the numbers show the jobless rate in Oakland County fell from 10.6 percent in December 2009 to 9.6 percent last year.

The city of Novi saw a 2.5 percent drop from 8.6 percent to 6.1 percent.

Novi's unemployment rate is the third lowest in the county for communities with a minimum population of 25,000 residents. The only communities with lower rates are Rochester Hills (5.6 percent) and Royal Oak (6 percent).

An Topouzian, economic development director for the city of Novi, said the uptick in the automotive industry could be part of the reason behind job creation.

In Novi, there is a need for employees in the engineering and technology fields.

"If anything the issue is they are looking for some very specialized talent," he said.

The jobless rate across the nation also fell last year from 9.7 percent to 9.1 percent.

The state unemployment rate dropped to 10.6 percent, but some cities are still seeing high numbers. Detroit's unemployment rate is 19.1 percent and Pontiac's is 23.9 percent.

Novi's unemployment rate hovered around 4 percent from 2006-07 before hitting its highest point in 2009. Still at its highest, Novi was doing better than most communities its size.

Crawford said the city's location and diverse economy "has saved us."

"A lot of these well-established communities really depended on their retail businesses to take care of their economy," she said. "We concentrated on a lot of other things, and we still have room to grow."

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New nonprofit organization nears official opening

Board of directors to undergo training first

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Help is on the way for Novi residents in need as the city's first community-wide benevolence organization is juching closer to opening its doors after appointing its board of directors last week.

The nonprofit organization is made up of the memberships of 13 local churches who have joined together to become an affiliate of Love In the Name of Christ. Novi's Love INC will help people with basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing, transportation, job searching and more.

The 11-member board features business owners, school and city leaders, professors and various other residents



Novi firefighter Mark Pehrson was one of 11 people selected to the Novi Love INC board of directors last week. The nonprofit organization, which stands for "Love In the Name of Christ," is expected to be operational within the next few months.

With a wide array of talents, "One of the things I was looking to do was find a way to give back for all the wonderful things in my life," said April Valleraud, who teaches nursing at Wayne



Novi firefighter Mark Pehrson leads the introduction of a Love INC meeting held on Feb. 17 at Novi United Methodist Church. The group looks to coordinate churches outreach efforts to aid community.

State University. "The option to give back in my own backyard is very important to me."

Valleraud also noted that despite Novi's luxurious exterior, there are plenty of people who need help. "Novi has an invisible population of people in need," she said. "I think we need to do as much as we can to help here."

The organization, which helps both religious and non-religious people, has 130 affiliates nationwide with the closest one to Novi located in Livingston County.

Georgetown Workwork, who was on the committee to select the board, saw the positive impact the organization has had in Livingston County and felt it could do the same in Novi.

"Novi has a bunch of people

MEMBER CHURCHES

First Baptist of Novi: Pastor Gary Ellner, 45301 W. 11 Mile Road, 248-349-3477
The Relational Church: Pastor Michael Zerlich, 24139 Brentwood Court, 248-767-8626
Novi United Methodist Church: Rev. June Smith, 41671 10 Mile Road, 248-349-2652
Meadowbrook Congregational Church: Rev. Art Ritter, 21355 Meadowbrook Road, 248-348-7757

These are just some of the 13 churches involved

ready to go once we get organized," she said.

RJ Webber, assistant superintendent in the Novi Community School District, said Novi has a "quiet need," but it is a need nonetheless.

The board of directors are expected to undergo training within the next few weeks so the organization can officially open its doors to start helping people. The non-profit should have a phone number and office location determined in the next few weeks as well.

For more information, visit www.Loveinc.org. To volunteer or request help, contact one of the member churches.

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EDUCATION

Thursday, February 24, 2011 hometownlife.com

NHS Varsity Dance Company to perform 'Dancin' in the D'

Event scheduled for Feb. 27 in auditorium

BY PAM FLEMING
STAFF WRITER

For those who have never seen them before, you only have one more chance this year.

Northville High School's Varsity Dance Company will present its annual performance "Dancin' in the D," and its last performance for the year 3 p.m. on Feb. 27.

"We would like to encourage the community to attend," said Mari Anne Guidobono, president of the company. "The annual performance will take place in the school auditorium and will feature various dance routines centered around a Detroit theme, including ballet, lyrical, jazz, modern and hip hop. The show will also spotlight guest performances from local dance studios."

COMPANY'S FOURTH YEAR

This is the fourth year for the company. The program was created to offer NHS students an opportunity to expand their dance training and experience while participating in a noncompetitive activity. The program offers many types of dance classes, and dancers can choose their level of involvement.

For individual dancers, the program fosters self-development by encouraging them to assume duties in choreography, costume selection and design, and event planning. The Student Leadership Team



Members of the Northville High School Varsity Dance Company: Bottom Row (from left): Jasmine Black and Sarah DeBrabander. Second Row (from left): Lauren Agnello, Gianna Galli, Katelyn Waslesky, Emma Callahan, Emily Ganit, Sonali Reddy. Third Row (from left): Kayla Hardy, Elisabeth Moore, Madison Priest, Lauren Meyers, Paige Rafferty. Back Row (from left): Angela Galli, Megan Sebest, Olivia Scott, Molly O'Brien, Melissa Clarkson and Kelsey Reitzel.

is instrumental in coordinating team events.

REHEARSALS OFF CAMPUS
Northville High School

doesn't have a dance facility, so all rehearsals are held off campus at local dance studios that have partnered with the program. These include the

Center Stage Dance Company and Flex Point Performing Arts Center. The company also receives instruction from award-winning choreogra-

phers from several local dance studios. Because the company is performance-based, there are many opportunities for the

TICKET INFO

Tickets are \$8 for students and adults and \$5 for Girl Scouts and will be available at the door.

dancers to perform at school and at community events.

SEASON OCTOBER-FEBRUARY

The season begins with the creation of the company's signature piece, performed at the Homecoming Pep Rally. The season ends with the annual performance in February.

This year, the dancers also danced in the 2010 Holiday Lighted Parade, the Northville Community Senior Center's Winter Concert Series and during the half-time show for the NHS girls' basketball game.

In December, the company organized a Happy Holidays Dance Party to give parents an afternoon to complete holiday preparations while their children danced, did crafts and had snacks with the Dance Company dancers.

The company supports the Michigan Parkinson Foundation by kicking off its annual run, Northville Civic Concern by gathering mittens for needy children and the Bottomless Toy Chest by collecting craft kits for local cancer patients.

The dancers learn teamwork and lasting friendships. "I even imagine this year will be the Dance Company," said member Katelyn Waslesky, a senior. "I'm so happy to have become friends with the girls. Each one brings something special to the company."

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All-State

Six students from the Novi High School Band Program earned positions within the very prestigious MSBOA All-State Band. It's the most students from any one program - and NHS has done it four years in a row. They performed in Grand Rapids at the Michigan Music Conference on the weekend of Jan. 22. Shown are Richard Floyd (conductor), CJ Linton, Matt Laskowski, Alyssa Murray, Ena Haryoshi and Hannah Gregoire.

Math Club

Novi Middle School's Math Club, coached by Lynn Serenson, competed last weekend in the Oakland County Chapter Math Counts competition. The team came in second place and is going to the State Competition March 12 at the GM Tech Center. The students who competed have worked extremely hard to get on the team since October with meetings every week. Novi's Team consisted of four members: Rayhu Arghal, Anuraag Koduri, Namaratha Atturi and Tanaz Haterwala. Individuals who competed also include: Vineet Jammalamadaka, Anil Palepu, Rohith Kolluri, Pradyumna Uppala, Arthur Shi and Yamsi Nimmagadda. Alternates who also went were: Vignesh Bhardwaj and Vipul Reddy. For the past two years Novi Middle School has competed at The National Math Counts Competition at EPICOT in May. Also, the Novi Middle School Math Club (203 members this year) competed the weekend before at the Country Day Math Invitational (which it has for the past 35 years and with Coach Lynn Serenson) and finished third. The team includes: Gary Luo, Kaushik Ravi, Mahati Vavilala and Dhivya Sridar.

Meadow Brook Theatre
45th Anniversary Season
Michigan's Largest Producing Professional Theatre Presents

REUNION
A MUSICAL EPIC IN MINIATURE
By Jack Kyrieleison, Ron Holgate and Michael O'Flaherty

Feb 9 - Mar 6, 2011

NEWS & EVENTS
HOMETOWN
www.hometownlife.com

Coming Soon For The Kids...
DINOSAURS!
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Appropriate for grades Pre-K-4

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

NOVI NEWS Community Editor Susan Rowick, Executive Editor Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

In any case, it will take some time for everyone to sort out all the ramifications of what this budget will mean. And what we see now is not probably what we will get when all is said and done. Hearings must still be held in Lansing, lobbyists will weigh in and changes are likely to come.

Snyder's budget Surveying the shock waves

We watched it coming, like an asteroid on a collision course approaching the earth knowing it would be devastating but not being able to do anything about it. Only this time, the apocalypse was generated in Lansing and it came in the form of a new budget proposed by Gov. Rick Snyder.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What is the city of Novi's best asset?



"I was once asked what the heart of Novi is, and I said it's the school district. It's why people move here and stay here."

George Kortlandt Novi



"It's location, location, location. Novi has a wonderful demographic and a tremendous mix of retail and residential tenants."

Jonathan Brateman Southfield



"Novi is a great family and business environment within a great county. Oakland County is good; Novi is great within good."

Steve Myers Novi



"The best thing about Novi is its citizens. They're very engaged and involved with their kids' schools and the community."

Melissa Place Novi

LETTERS

The federal compared to state

Recently President Obama and Gov. Snyder, with their advisers, released budget facts. One wonders if and/or how much these facts were considered. The poverty level in the U.S. is the highest since the 1940s.

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.

Hillier's helps kids with cancer

Thank you to everyone who supported kids with cancer by purchasing Hillier's chicken pot pies in January. For the entire month of January Hillier's Markets donated all profits from their fresh-made chicken pot pies to Christoph's All Stars.

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

LOCAL EVENTS

Interactive history-themed exhibition Time/Date: 11 p.m. Feb. 24-26 Location: Art & Ideas Contemporary Art Gallery, 15095 Northville Road

Lecture - Cataracts, Glaucoma and Macular Degeneration Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 8 Location: Providence Park Hospital, Novi, Conference Rooms A and B

Outdoorama

The 39th Annual Outdoorama, February 24 to 27 at Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave. in Novi, is one of Michigan's most popular shows for hunters, anglers, campers, boaters, hikers, conservationists, canoeists and wildlife enthusiasts.

com or (248) 956-0029 TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Time/Date: 11 a.m.-noon every Wednesday

American Legion Post 19 Monthly Meeting Time/Date: 7 p.m. third Tuesdays Location: Rock Financial Showplace, Grand River Avenue between Taft and Beck roads

MICHAEL R. COHEN, D.O. Board Certified Dermatologist Specializing in Diseases of the Skin, Hair & Nails

Crystal Creek Assisted Living AN EXCEPTIONAL HOME-LIKE SETTING FOR ACTIVE/ALERT, FRAIL/RECOVERING, MEMORY IMPAIRED AND ALZHEIMER'S RESIDENTS.

each month Location: DoubleTree Hotel in Novi Details: ABWA is an active business group offering networking, professional development and leadership opportunities.

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.

Networking Luncheon and Seminar Time/Date: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 2 Location: Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, 17400 Haggerty, Livonia

Business to Business Breakfast Time/Date: 8-9 a.m. Tuesday, March 8 Location: Caribou Coffee, 47490 Grand River, Novi

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

Suburban Collections Showplace Location: 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi Contact: (248) 344-5603 or www.suburbancollectionsnowplace.com

BUSINESS

American Business Women's Association - Novi Oaks Charter Chapter Time/Date: 6:45 p.m. (networking), 6:45 (dinner); second Wednesday of

Road Commission accepts three-year financial plan

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) Board on Feb. 17 accepted the agency's 31st annual Three-Year Financial Plan which includes balanced budgets for the fiscal years 2012 through 2014.

Please see CALENDAR, A12

OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, FEB. 26TH 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Join by February 28th and pay \$0 JOINING FEE!!

GUEST COLUMN

One WAY that Michigan is transforming public education

With the election of Michigan Gov. Rick "the Nerd" Snyder, the new buzzword across the state is "reinvention."

one that encourages self-esteem, independence, and the development of 21st century skills which will facilitate workplace and college readiness.

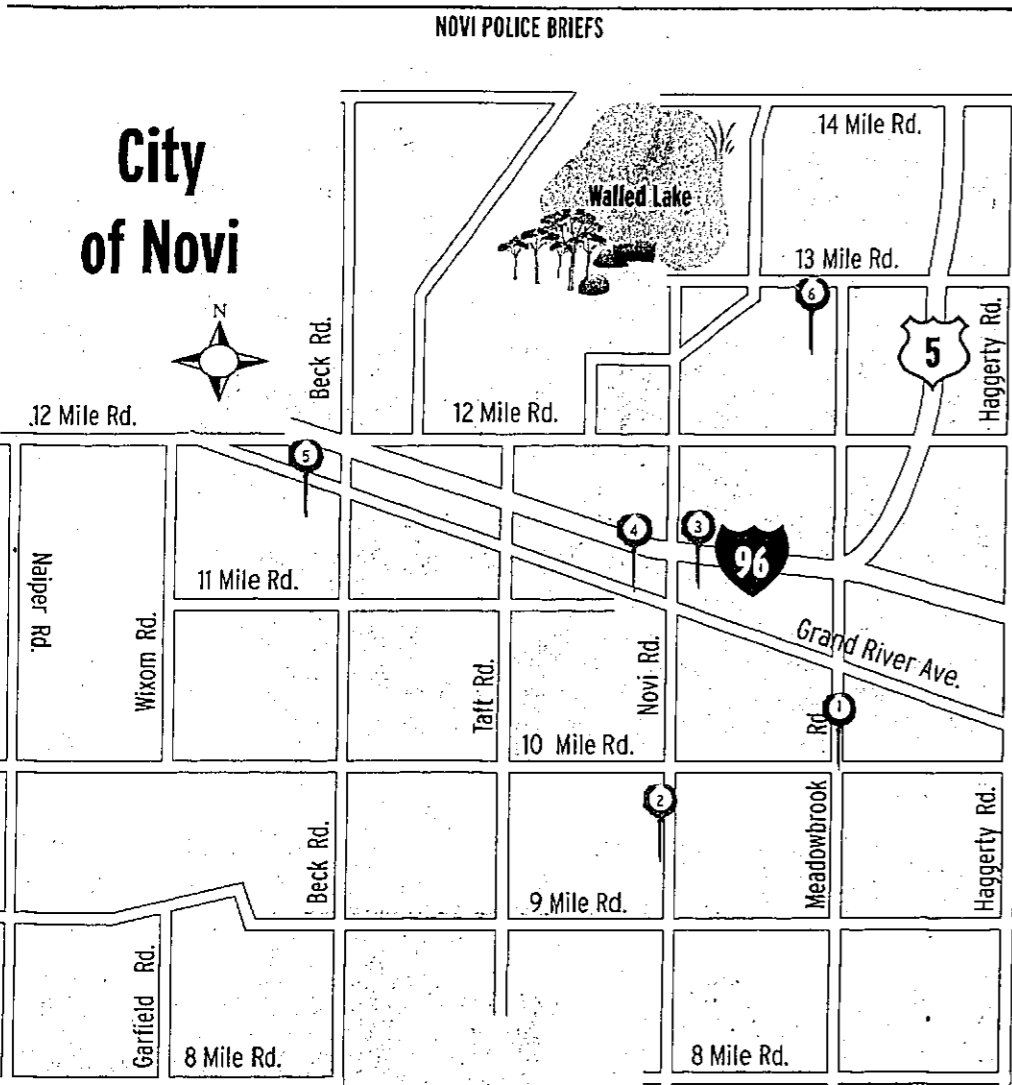
to their communities across Michigan and the country. Baker, the WAY Program co-director, said, "WAY allows students to find their own pathway to success while upholding high academic expectations."

comprehensive report to date on virtual learning. The report concludes that new virtual learning models, while not appropriate for every child, can produce quality learning and also "save taxpayer money."



Tom Watkins

Tom Watkins is an award-winning writer and international education business and educational consultant. He served as Michigan's 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.



NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Man hit while crossing road

Novi police are investigating a hit-and-run accident that occurred around 9:30 p.m. on Feb. 20 at Ten Mile and Meadowbrook roads where a man was hit while crossing Ten Mile Road with his snow blower.

According to the report, police were called by an anonymous person who notified them that a man was lying on the side of the road after he was hit by a car. When officers arrived, the man was on a stretcher headed to the hospital. They found a side mirror in the middle of the road across from where he fell. The man's car was heading west on Ten Mile Road when it hit the man.

When police spoke to the victim at Botsford Hospital he said he was pushing his snow blower across the street when he was hit. He said the roadway was clear of traffic when he crossed. He then was snow blowing the shoulder of the roadway when he was hit by the unknown vehicle and momentarily lost consciousness.

The man was in stable condition with an injury to his right leg.

Police catch driver with weed

A 55-year-old Canton man was arrested at 3:51 p.m. on Feb. 21 for possession of marijuana after the van he was driving was stopped at Mystic Boulevard and Novi Road for having a snow covered license plate and low hanging exhaust.

During the stop, the man got out of the car to examine the exhaust pipe. When the officer walked by where he was squatting, he found a vial lying in the snow. The vial was not snow covered and contained marijuana.

The driver initially denied it was his, but then later admitted to it. He was issued a citation for possession of marijuana and released.

Driver caught drinking, refuses PBT

A 24-year-old man was arrested at 2 a.m. on Feb. 19 for drunk driving after he was stopped at Crescent Boulevard and Town Center Drive for swerving and failure to come to a complete stop at a red light.

According to the report, the officer could smell a strong odor of intoxicants when he approached the car. The driver said he was picking up his two friends from the bar and admitted to drinking two beers at another friend's house while they watched television.

The man failed field sobriety tests and refused to take a preliminary breath test, saying "I'll take the civil infraction."

When the passengers exited the vehicle, the officers also found an open bottle of alcohol.

The driver was transported to the Novi Police Department where he submitted to a breath test. The reading was .09 percent.

The man was issued a citation for operating while intoxicated and, open in intoxication and refusing a PBT. He was released when sober and after posting bond.

Man arrested for third OWI

A 66-year-old man was arrested at 11:57 p.m. on Feb. 16 for his third drunk driving offense after a Novi police officer stopped him for turning left on a red light at Grand River Avenue just west of Novi Road.

According to the report, the officer observed the car sit through a full cycle of lights before turning on red. When he approached the car, he could smell a strong odor of intoxicants coming from inside.

The driver admitted to drinking and failed field sobriety tests. A pre-

liminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .16 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

He was arrested and transported to the Novi Police Department, pending release if the Oakland County prosecutor's office did not want to arraign him.

Two vehicles broken into at hotel

A pair of Chevrolet Impalas were broken into overnight on Feb. 15 while they were parked in the parking lot of the Staybridge Hotel on Providence Parkway. According to the report, both vehicles were in the rear parking lot and had windows smashed out by the suspects to gain access.

All that was taken from the cars were portable GPS devices.

Police have no suspects at this time.

Police stop drunk driver

Novi police arrested a man at 1:14 a.m. on Feb. 11 for drunk driving after an officer clocked the car speeding on Meadowbrook Road near Burroughs Avenue.

According to the report, the car was traveling 51 miles per hour in a 35 mph zone before the officer stopped it.

The officer could smell a strong odor of intoxicants coming from inside the vehicle and the man admitted to drinking. The suspect failed field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .12 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

He was arrested and taken to the Novi Police Department where he was issued a citation for operating while intoxicated and released after posting bond and when sober.

- Compiled by Nathan Mueller

Pick Oscar winners

Pick the Academy Award winners and you could win a year-long pass for two to Imagine Theaters (locations in Canton, Novi, Rochester Hills, Woodhaven and coming soon to Royal Oak). Movie tickets are about \$9-10 per person so if you used the pass once a week for 52 weeks that's a prize worth over \$1,000. Second place winners receive four movie passes.

To enter go to hometownlife.com and correctly pick the top seven categories: Best Picture, Best Act, Best Supporting Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress, Best Director, Best Animated Feature Film. Tiebreakers are Best Musical Score and Best Documentary.

Last year's winner was Kelly Kolehuk of South Lyon. Last day to enter is 11:59 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 26. The televised awards program is Sunday, Feb. 27.

The Art Road benefit

In recognition of March is Reading Month, 20 Michigan authors will be signing their books to share the joy of reading with children and with adults. Fifteen percent of the proceeds from book sales will benefit The Art Road, a non-profit that focuses on bringing art class back into schools (<http://www.artroadnonprofit.org/>).

The signings will be held from 1-7 p.m. Saturday, March 5 at the Art is in Market stores in the 12 Oaks and Laurel Park Place malls. For more information, call (248) 380-4992 (Novi) or (734) 432-9177 (Livonia).

RTOC information meeting

Rebuilding Together Oakland County (RTOC), a non-profit affiliate of the national organization Rebuilding Together, is having an orientation/information session at 9 a.m. on March 19 for anyone interested in volunteering with RTOC in administrative, fund raising, skilled trades or operational areas. The meeting will be held at the RTOC office, 31700 West 12 Mile Road, Suite 201, Farmington Hills.

RTOC completes home rebuilding projects for low-income Oakland County residents who are elderly, disabled, military veterans, families with children and unable to do the work themselves. RTOC has rehabilitated over 450 homes and a number of non-profit facilities adding over \$4 million dollars in market value to the neighborhoods and communities in Oakland County since its founding in 1992. The plan for 2011 is to add an additional 45 homes, including a target block within the city of Pontiac.

If interested in being involved, please RSVP to (248) 889-5450 with name and personal contact information or contact us at JOBS.RTOC@yahoo.com.

29th Annual Bowl-A-Thon

Novi Youth Assistance, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, needs you. The 29th Annual Bowl-A-Thon is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, March 12 at Novi Bowl, and teams are needed to help raise money for the summer programs.

Consider forming a team, sponsoring a lane or donating a prize. All of the money raised is used to finance programs which benefit Novi children and families. A new teen center is scheduled to open June 20.

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

Bowling and jobs

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit and Blue Ribbon Bowling Centers invite Metro Detroiters to "Bow 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 donated items will be among those sold 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.

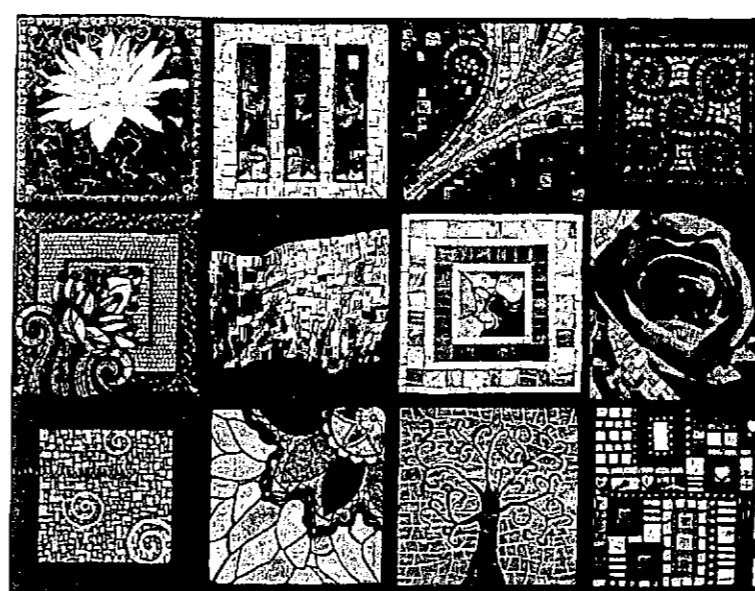
Andiamo Novi shows

Individual tickets may be purchased at the Andiamo Novi Theatre box office, by phone at (248) 348-4448 (theater box office) or 1-800-745-9000 (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.

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 enter up to three pieces of art work for free. The entry deadline is Saturday, March

Please see BRIEFS, A11



Mosaic art

The Nancy A. Fox Art Gallery at the Providence Center for the Healing Arts opened a new exhibit showcasing an international collection of mosaic art. Comprised of works by 124 artists, many from Michigan, this exhibit is the showroom for an online auction. The collection consists of contemporary mosaic works made in the tradition of this ancient art form. The artists created their works from stained glass, beads, pebbles, metals and many other pieces to form colorful and varied images of abstracts and nature. The approximately 10 x 10 works can be seen at the Nancy A. Fox Art Gallery 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday at Providence Park Hospital on the main floor the Assarian Cancer Center through March 30. All are welcome to attend and preview the pieces. To find out more about the auction please visit: <http://www.biddingforgood.com/DWB-MSF>.

BRIEFS

FROM PAGE A10

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, multi-rancher and the Novi girls state soccer match. His photo galleries feature the Farmers' Market, Buy 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 ctstone@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!

Your news, now!

Breaking stories and news updates are always posted online at hometownlife.com. Check out the latest happenings in Novi throughout the day.

Get into the online discussions by clicking on Story Chat on each story, editorial, or letter to the editor. It's a great way to sound off and to connect with other readers. Check out the awesome photo galleries posted by our staff photographers and our readers, as well as video clips that help tell the stories in our community. Stop by the Hometown Weeklies' Facebook page and become a "friend" to receive news updates right on your wall. It's your news, on your time, in the format of your choice.



Coupon

\$100 OFF

Any Purchase of \$599.00 or more

With this coupon. Expires Feb. 27, 2011. Prior orders excluded. One coupon per purchase per household. Cannot be combined with any other offers or discounts.

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www.SINGHSeniorLiving.com

*Limited time offer. See community for complete details.

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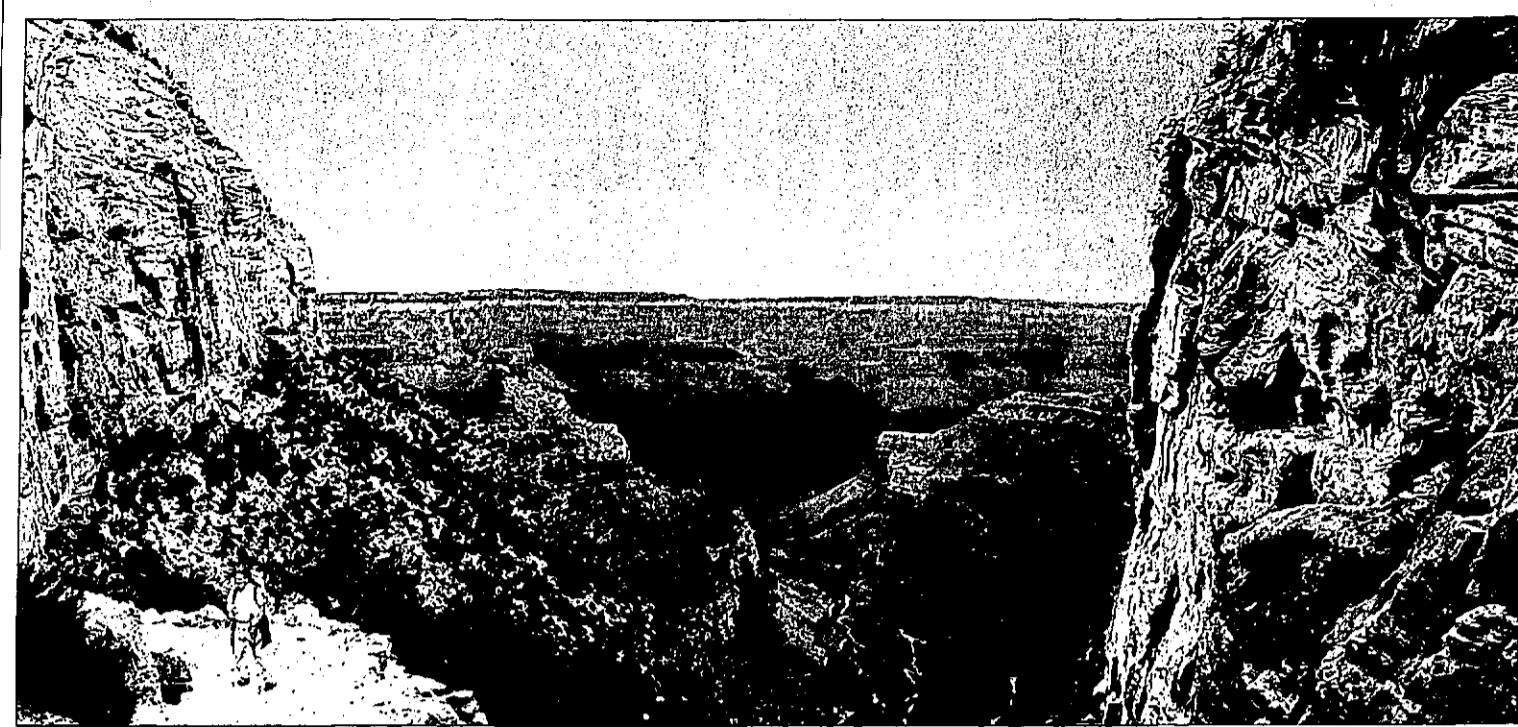
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Wish You Were Here

Novi's Will Sembor is shown (bottom left) completing a single-day, rim-to-rim crossing of the Grand Canyon on Oct. 6, 2010. "The 24-mile/12-hour adventure was one I'll never forget," he said. "As a matter of fact, I enjoyed it so much I'm doing it again on May 19."



CALENDAR
FROM PAGE A9

members are committed to providing bona fide referrals to each other. Members learn how to create and refine an "elevator speech," develop a broad network of other business professionals in the community and receive training/education on networking more efficiently. Guests are invited to attend free of charge. Continental breakfast provided.

Novi Toastmasters Club
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., every first and third Tuesday
Location: Novi Civic Center, Activities Room, 45125 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375
Details: Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club which is part of Toastmasters International. Our diverse group provides a mutually supportive atmosphere in which all can develop and refine their public speaking and leadership skills. Our members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome - and bringing a friend. Visit www.novi.freehost.us.
Contact: Linda Kreuter at PR@novi.freehost.us

Website: www.novilibrary.org
Story Times: Please see the Library website or story time brochure for details.
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 Lawler 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 storyteller reads 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 Writers' Group
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Feb. 26
Details: Writers' 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.

Magical Thinking by Joan Didion. Friends Monthly Board Meeting Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, March 9
Details: Board meetings are typically held on the second Wednesday of each month. Everyone is welcome at the meetings.
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 e-Bay; 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.

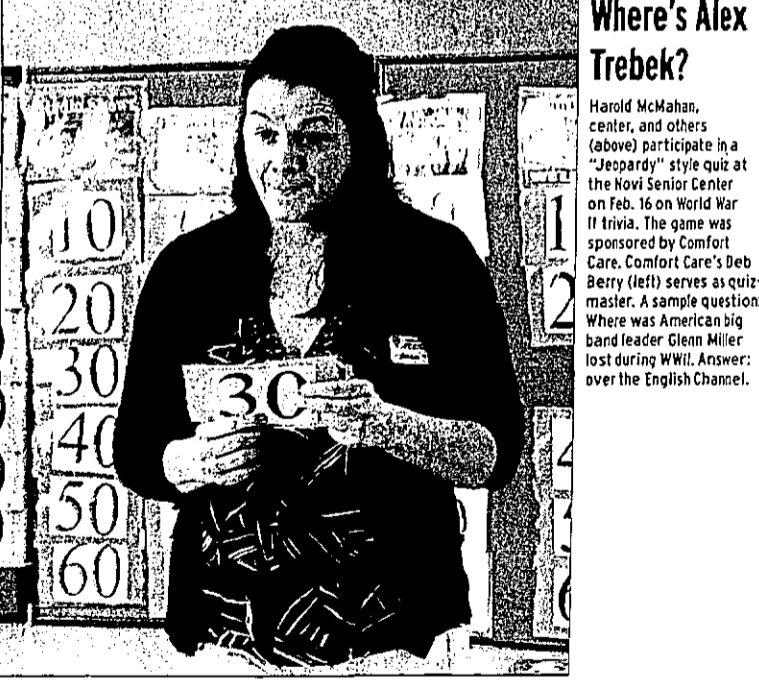
EDUCATION
Novi Community Education
Contact: (248) 449-1206
Web: www.novicommunityed.org

SENIORS
Novi Senior Center
Location: 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 347-0414
Blood Pressure Checks
Time/Date: 11:45-4 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.
Panera Bread
Time/Date: 8:15-9 a.m., Tuesdays
Details: With thanks to Panera for a great partnership, every Tuesday is Panera Bread Day. Enjoy bagels, rolls, bread, sweets, coffee and conversation. No charge.
Bingo
Time/Date: 1-3 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays
Details: Try your luck and get those cards filled up. A great way to socialize and meet new people. Price: \$.50 per card at the door.

Where's Alex Trebek?
Harold McMahan, center, and others (above) participate in a "Jeopardy" style quiz at the Novi Senior Center on Feb. 16 on World War II trivia. The game was sponsored by Comfort Care. Comfort Care's Deb Berry (left) serves as quizmaster. A sample question: Where was American big band leader Glenn Miller lost during WWII. Answer: over the English Channel.

NIGHTLIFE
Andiamo Novi / Dirty Martini Lounge / Andiamo Theater
Location: 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi
Contact: (248) 348-3838
Off-Broadway Series
Details: Space is limited to approximately 200 guests per show.
Feb. 24-26: "One Man Star Wars"
March 2-20: "The Godfather Workout"
March 23-April 10: "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change"
April 13-24: Robert Dubac's "Male Intellect - An Oxymoron?"
April 29-May 1: "Celebrity Autobiography"
May 4-22: "Bad Dates"
May 25-June Indefinitely: "The Last Five Years"
Contact: www.ticketmaster.com or call (248) 348-4448

LIBRARY LINES
Novi Public Library
Location: 45255 W. Ten Mile Road
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the Library.
Contact: (248) 349-0720



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Dental Bring in for Cash
Broken Chains Bring in for Cash

1/4 carat.....up to \$150
1/2 carat.....up to \$1,000
1 carat.....up to \$4,000

2 carat.....up to \$12,000
3 carat.....up to \$20,000
5 carat.....up to \$100,000

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IMPORTANT ECONOMIC INFORMATION

During the past few years, low interest rates, war and uncertain stock market performance combined to push prices of gold and silver to their highest levels in 25 years. We have studied the investment and retail markets for decades, and in the past during times of economic uncertainty (which is deepening now), there have been dramatic price declines in many areas of the jewelry, gold and retail markets. Which is why this may be the best time in decades for you to sell for some of the highest prices ever.

SILVER COINS **GOLD COINS** **SILVER COINS**

GOLD COINS
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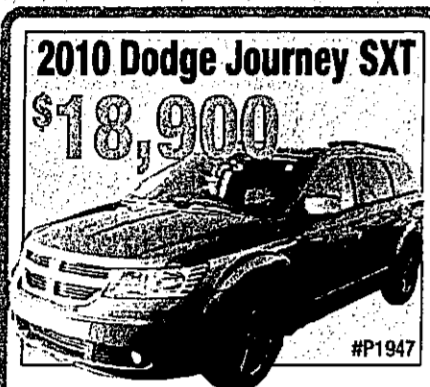
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One Owner

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CONSUMER CAR REVIEWS
Overall: 4.2 out of 5



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#P1675

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AMENITIES

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CONSUMER CAR REVIEWS
Overall: 4.3 out of 5

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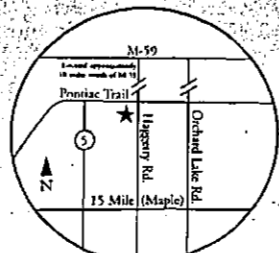
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WILDCAT BOWLERS MISS OUT ON CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS, B2

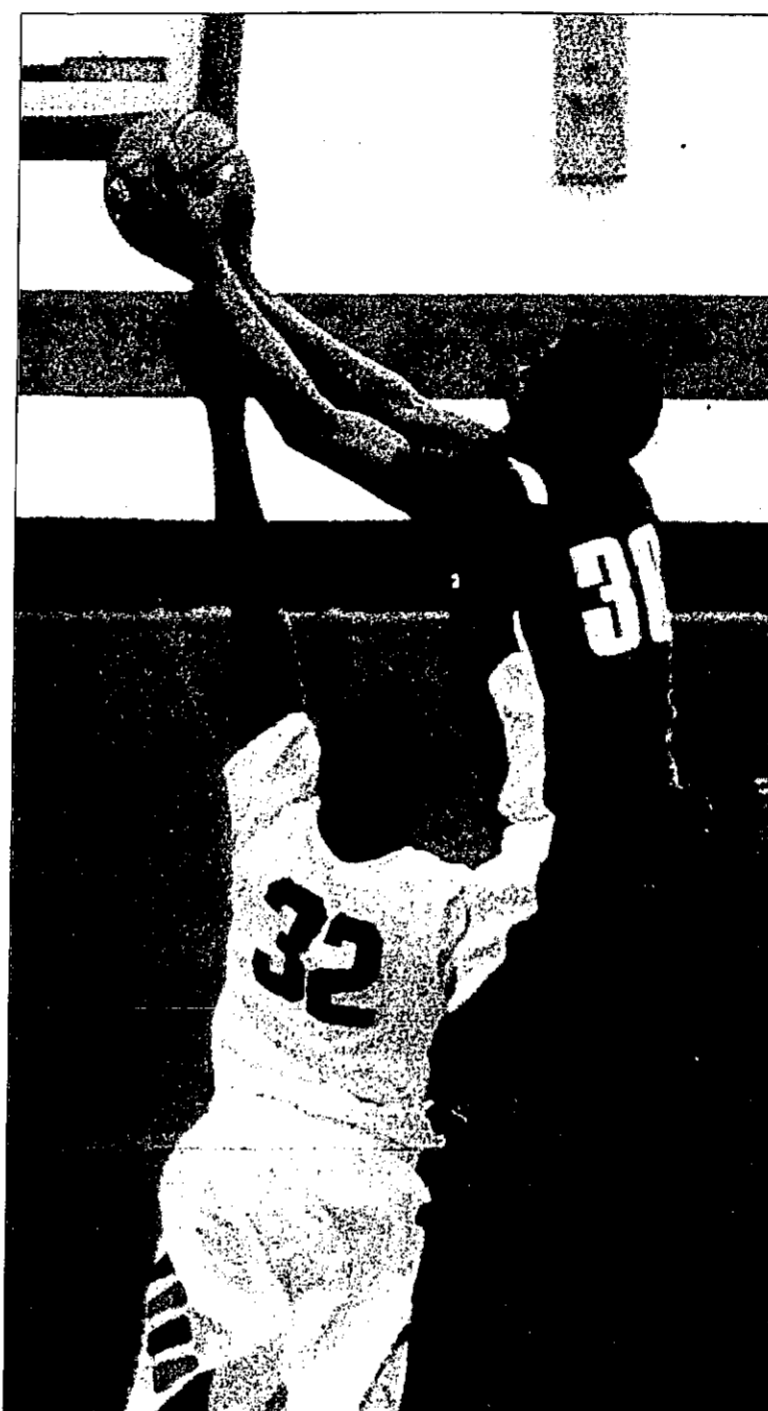
SECTION B

SPORTS

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS, BUSINESS B4

THURSDAY, February 24, 2011

hometownlife.com



Novi's Chris Milon skis for a rebound against John Glenn.

JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi cagers avenge loss, earn trip to conference championship

Wildcats drop 14-point halftime lead, but defeat Plymouth in overtime

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

The Wildcats wanted a third shot at Livonia Stevenson this season and they may have it.

After two big wins within the last week, Novi's boys cagers (15-3, 8-2 Central) find themselves in the KLAAs Kensington Conference championship game 7 p.m. tomorrow. If Central Division champion Stevenson (17-1, 10-0 Central) defeated Plymouth Salem (12-5, 5-5 Central) Tuesday night, the Cats and Spartans will face off for the conference title, a repeat affair after Stevenson defeated Novi twice in the regular season - by six and 12 points - to win the Central Division.

If the Rocks upset the Spartans, Novi will battle Salem for the conference title. Novi defeated Salem in double overtime on Feb. 14.

The Wildcats' road to the conference championship went through Westland John Glenn (10-7, 6-4 South No. 2) and Plymouth (13-5, 9-1 South No. 1), who was the only non-Stevenson team to hand Novi a loss in the regular season.

With one loss averted, Novi hopes to hit two birds with one stone by redeeming another

ON TAP

The Wildcats' boys basketball team (15-3, 8-2 Central) plays tomorrow's 7 p.m. Kensington Conference championship game either at Central No. 1 Livonia Stevenson (17-1, 10-0 Central) or at home against Central No. 3 Plymouth Salem (12-5, 5-5 Central). The winner plays at the Lakes Conference championship Thursday.

TITLE ROAD

Hosting John Glenn last Thursday, Novi's guards came alive to help the Wildcats to a 63-51 victory.

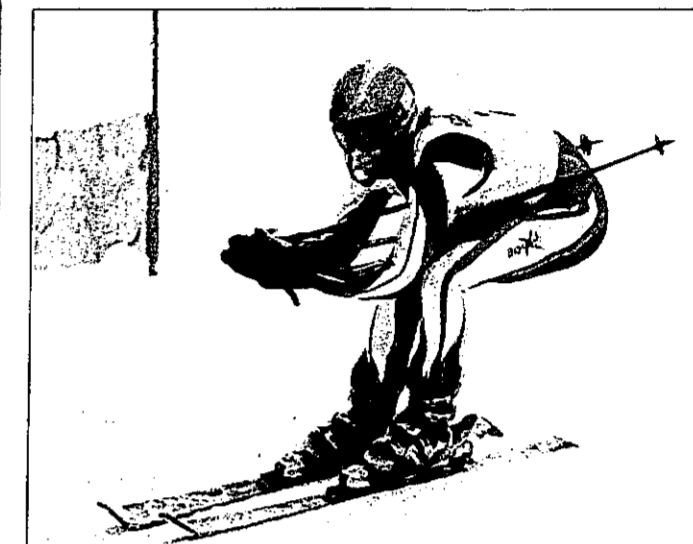
"We played our best collective 32 minutes on Thursday," Novi coach Cory Heitsch said. "It was fun to watch our kids play with passion and purpose."

The Cats shot out to an 11-6 first-quarter lead and 29-18 halftime lead as four players finished in double figures.

Senior Samer Ozair led the way with 17 points and 16 rebounds.

Please see HOOPS, B2

Feight first Wildcat to qualify for state meet



Wildcat Austin Feight skis on Jan. 20.

JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Young program finishes in top half at Regionals

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Novi Senior Austin Feight is the lone Wildcat headed to the state ski meet. Competing in last Thursday's regional meet at Mt. Brighton, the Wildcat finished eighth in the giant slalom with a two-run combined time of 33.95 seconds. Walled Lake Western's Jeff Aiken won the event in 32.54 seconds.

Feight is the first Novi skier to qualify for States on behalf of the five-year-old program.

His teammates didn't finish as well in the giant slalom, as the team took seventh with 98 points and Detroit Catholic Central won the event with 59 points. Following Feight's performance were senior Steven Speers (16th in 34.99), sophomore Harrison Halley (32nd in 35.83), sophomore Zach Johnson (40th in 37.46), sophomore Bjorn-Ivar Haug (58th in 42.79) and senior Kuni Hotta (64th in 44.36). Hotta's second run was 17th among skiers in 17.54 seconds, but a rough first run of 26.82 seconds was 75th

ON TAP

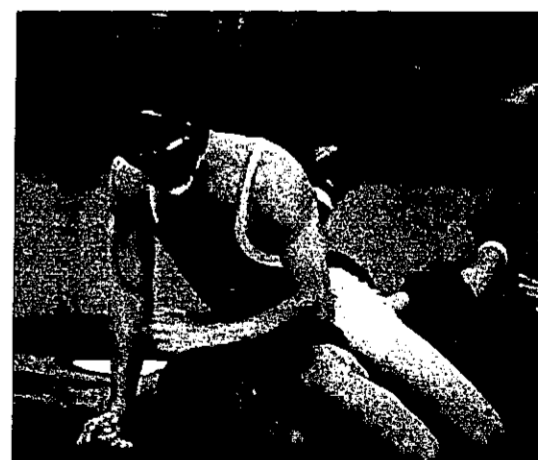
Although the teams are done, two individuals from the boys ski team are alive in the postseason. Senior Kuni Hotta was scheduled to compete in last Tuesday's SEMSL Championships at Pine Knob in Clarkston, while senior Austin Feight will travel to Marquette Mountain as the first-ever Novi skier to compete at the State finals Monday.

among first attempts.

The boys fared better in the slalom, finishing fifth with 93 points. Birmingham Brother Rice won the event with 37 points. Feight led the Wildcats again, finishing 13th in 43.26 seconds, followed by Halley (21st in 46.34), senior Eric Warman (27th in 48.96) and Hotta (32nd in 51.59) despite disqualifications for Speers and junior Josh Feight.

Through the two events combined,

Please see SKI, B2



Novi senior David Sparling (189 pounds) gets an advantage on Canton's Anthony Abro in a regional semifinal. Abro would go on to win the contest by a 15-6 majority decision before winning the regional weight class.

BY NOVI WRESTLING PARENTS

Sparling, Caverly state-meet bound

Novi advances two out of region

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Although just three Novi wrestlers competed in last Saturday's regional meet, the Wildcats had a pretty good success ratio as two qualified for States.

Seniors David Sparling (189 pounds), Chris Caverly (145) and Shabbaig Sidhu (135) all headed to Plymouth to compete against the best from the Beverly Hills-Groves and Garden City districts. Sparling and Caverly advanced to the state meet with top-four finishes in their weight classes, while Sidhu fell just shy of advancing his season further.

ON TAP

With their top-four finishes at Regionals, Novi seniors David Sparling (189 pounds) and Chris Caverly (145) are bound for the individual state finals March 3-5 at The Palace of Auburn Hills. Sparling is 45-11 on the season, while Caverly is 36-17.

"All three regional qualifiers wrestled well this past weekend," Novi coach Dan Jilg said.

Sparling had the strongest Novi finish on the day. He started off with a 4-0 decision over Warren De La Salle's Joe Wiles before losing a 15-6 majority decision to Canton's Anthony Abro, who would go on to win the weight class.

Please see WRESTLING, B2

Wildcat bowlers miss out on the conference championship rounds

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

The past week was a struggle for Novi's bowling program, but the one favoring moment was the boys' team's victory over rival Northville to cap the regular season.

The Wildcats faced off against the Mustangs last Thursday at Town N Country Lanes in Westland. The boys (5-10-2, 3-9 KLAAs Central) won 25-5 behind strong performances from junior Andrew Thorwall (225), junior Chad Smith (204) and senior Nick Kuzajda (201), who all struck out in the 10th frame to win their single points, taking the pressure off senior anchor Brandon Gillespie, who had to make a 10-pin to win his point.



NOVI WILDCATS STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Novi Wildcat Sara Schult bows at the Feb. 14 district meet held at Novi Bowl.

The Cats took an early 6-4 lead after the baker games, where Northville won the first 193-176 before Novi won the second 192-159. The Wildcats won both regular games 954-937 and 590-918 with the aforementioned late-frame heroics.

The girls (3-14-0, 1-11 Central) split the baker games with a 176-127 loss and 144-137 win, but lost the first game 910-725 as junior Callie Wright's 172 was the only single point for Novi. The Cats won the second game 756-748 behind single points from both Juniors Shelby Limpert (163) and Claire Rice (112).

The Northville match was a reschedule from a snow day. The final contest would've otherwise been Feb. 14 against Plymouth Salem at Novi Bowl.

The boys dropped a 20-10 decision to Salem after taking a 6-4 lead in baker games, splitting a 234-146 win and 251-209

loss. Salem won the first regular game 1,001-987 to take an 11-8 lead and pulled away by winning the second game 939-892. Gillespie (203, 203) and Thorwall (222, 186) led the way for Novi, scoring two points apiece.

The girls dropped a 27-3 decision after losing all 10 baker points (238-133 and 138-126). The Rocks won a close first game 758-733 to secure the win, but increased the gap by winning the second game 747-600. Freshman Sara Schult (294, 155) earned the Cats two points.

These final two dual meets led into last Saturday's Kensington Conference tournament, where both teams struggled at Century Bowl in Waterford.

The boys averaged 190 throughout six baker and two regular games, but barely missed out on the eight-team championship round. Top Wildcat scores came from senior Steve Cullen (202, 204), Thorwall (184, 231), senior Sean McNiff (199, 223) and Gillespie (230).

The girls also hung around the cut line, but fell behind the higher scoring teams late in the day.

Wright (211, 148), Schult (168, 188) and junior Bridgett Porras (148, 158) led Novi's scores.

The Wildcats did best in the slalom, led by senior Michelle Rich's 17th-place finish in 22:47 seconds. Hartland's Malloy Reader won the event in 4:48 seconds.

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

SKI FROM PAGE B1

Brother Rice won the 14-team region with 103 points, followed by CC (108), Brighton (136), Birmingham United (155) and Novi in fifth with 191 points.

The Novi girls finished sixth in their 13-team region with 241 points, as Bloomfield Hills' Brian ran away with the meet behind 32.5 points, followed by Brighton (74) and Hartland (146.5).

The Wildcats did best in the slalom, led by senior Michelle Rich's 17th-place finish in 22:47 seconds. Hartland's Malloy Reader won the event in 4:48 seconds.

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

NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

**BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT**

BOYS SWIM & DIVE
Finishing third of five teams at last Sunday's Central Division meet, the Wildcats hope to improve their standing in the Kensington Conference this weekend when they host the conference meet, with preliminaries tomorrow afternoon and the finals throughout the day Saturday.

CHEER
The Wildcats' competitive cheer squad finished fifth of 14 teams last Friday at the Novi Fields house, missing out on a

trip to Hartland for Regionals by one spot.

Novi recorded scores of 214, 400, 225, 154 and 292, 1000 for a 731,654 total at the meet, just 1,972 points behind fourth-place North Farmington.

Hartland (789, 4208), Brighton (776, 1668) and Northville (741, 5568) finished in the top three, joining North Farmington at the Hartland regional.

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

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

NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

**BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT**

The scores combined for 101 points for Novi, fourth behind Marian (15), Brighton (36) and Hartland (76).

Novi's girls didn't fare as well in the more technical giant slalom. Rich led the team in 25th with a finish in 38.55 seconds. Spillane followed her teammate in 29th in 38.86, trailed by Morris (4th in 40.45), Li (46th in 40.60), sophomore Katherine Hamilton (50th in 41.63).

The finishes put Novi in 10th place with 144 points, as Marian (17.5), Brighton (40) and Hartland (73.5) led the field.

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

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NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

**BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT**

The tricky part about keeping a talented junior varsity squad competitive is that the most experienced student-athletes make their way to the varsity squad the following season.

Consider adding a first-year coach, a foreign exchange student and participation numbers you can count on two limbs to the mix and you'd have Novi's JV pompadour, which just repeated as the JV state champions earlier this month. The varsity squad also repeated as state champions.

"We lose some every season and we gain girls every season," JV coach Ernie Bartos said. "We gained girls who had never done pom before."

The 22-year-old Livonia Churchill alum had her hands full in her first season as the coach of Novi's JV pompadour.

The team's roster was a roller-coaster of varying talents. Four girls and one alternate returned from the 2010 JV state championship, but the other five girls that made up the team early in the season had little or no pompadour experience.

One was an alternate during the High Kick competition season in the fall, while another missed the High Kick season to participate on the swim team, and a third made the jump from cheerleading to pom. The others all had at least one year of middle school pom experience.

Not necessarily a formula for a state title, even at the JV level, the Wildcats got it done under Bartos' tutelage with a little help from Novi's 2001 varsity state champions.

That decade-removed var-

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

WRESTLING FROM PAGE B1

In the consolation bracket, Sparring won a 4-1 decision over Birmingham Brother Rice's Dillon Ervin before defeating DeLeon Fordson's Muhammed Soukar by a 3-1 majority decision to take third in the region and up his season record to 4-5-1.

Caverly also went 2-2 on the day, but finished fourth because of his loss.

Stirling Heights' Alec Johnson defeated Caverly 11-7 in their opening match, sending Caverly to the consolation bracket early.

However, Caverly won a 6-1 decision over Brother Rice's Justin Hymn and 15-1 over Livonia Frankli's Avery Opperman, but lost 2-1 to De La Salle's Brandon Mattinen in

the third-place match. The finish was enough for Caverly to advance to States with a 36-17 record.

"We will be working hard to prepare properly for the state meet next weekend," Jill said.

Novi's final competitor was Sidhu, who finished 1-2 and four points away from advancing to the state meet. He opened his day with an 8-4 loss to eventual runner-up Nolan Solomon of Sterling Heights.

In his consolation bracket, Sidhu pinned Brother Rice's JD Plomin before losing 6-2 to Fraser's Matt Pfeffer, who finished fourth by losing in the following round. Sidhu finished the season with a 2-1 record.

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

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Wildcats Humitz-ilated by Stevenson comeback

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT



NOVI'S JV POM SQUAD PERFORMS THEIR STATE-CHAMPIONSHIP-WINNING ROUTINE AT EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY.

JV pommers overcome hurdles to repeat as state champions

Limited squad lays foundation for varsity to threeppeat next year

**BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT**

It was senior night for Livonia Stevenson's hockey team, but a sophomore ended up saving the Spartans from dropping their third game in four attempts.

Although Novi dominated much of the Feb. 16 contest at Eddie Edgar Ice Arena in Livonia, it was Stevenson sophomore Max Humitz who scored twice in the final 29 seconds of regulation to notch a 5-5 tie with the Wildcats.

"A sophomore, he's been one of our best forwards. He's patient with the puck; stuff you can't teach," said Stevenson coach Gerry Vento, noting that, during a time out with 52.4 seconds remaining, "I just told the guys we thought we could get one and see where we go from there."

From there we consisted of Humitz taking the puck in close to the left side of the net before flicking it over the right leg of Novi senior netminder Michael Penderdorfer (14 saves) with 29 seconds left. Seniors Justin Shureb and Ryan Urso were credited with assists.

Drew 5-4, Stevenson pulled senior goaliekeeper Scott Massa (26 saves) and the Wildcats nearly scored on the empty net, hitting the side of the right post. But the Spartans took the lead on the left side and Humitz ducked around a diving defender along the right boards and took the puck in before roofing it over Penderdorfer for the tie. Senior John Mandryk got the puck to Humitz for the goal with 7.2 seconds left.

"We thought we'd just kill the clock and get outworked and played," Novi coach Todd Krygier said. "It's games like that that make our league better. They have a lot of character and grit."

The come-from-behind tie was the first draw of the season for the No. 3 Wildcats (7-5-1, 9-2-0 Kensington), who are ranked second in Division I. The No. 11 Spartans (15-3-3, 8-2-1 Kensington), who are ranked fourth in Division I, have been involved in several close contests this season.

"Earlier this season, we were on the other end of a few of those," Vento said.

Kensington Conference champion Novi was attempting to avenge a 6-3 loss to the Spartans from Dec. 1.

Last Wednesday's contest was a back-and-forth affair much of the game. The Wildcats dominated the first half of the opening period, disallowing Stevenson their second shot until after nearly nine minutes of play. The Spartans took the game's momentum from there, but Novi senior Michael Kruse scored on a cross from senior Joey Ferris with 2:44 remaining in the period.

The Spartans scored late in the period to tie it before the intermission when senior Nick Barr got in close to Penderdorfer and flicked a puck over him with 41.5 seconds remaining.

"I thought we played good, but started out a little flat," Krygier said. "I thought, in general, we just need to continue

It was senior night for Livonia Stevenson's hockey team, but a sophomore ended up saving the Spartans from dropping their third game in four attempts.

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



NOVI SENIOR NETMINDER SCOTT MASSA (RIGHT) STRETCHES FOR A SHOT THAT GOES JUST WIDE OF THE GOAL EARLY IN THE SPARTANS' 5-5 TIE WITH NOVI ON FEB. 16 IN LIVONIA.

ON TAP
The No. 4 Novi Iceers (7-5-1) hoped to break an 0-21 streak during senior night last night against No. 33 Farmington United (9-9-3) - a North Farmington and Farmington Hills Spartans combination - before the state tournament begins next week.

After 13 years in Division II, the Wildcats will compete in Division I playoffs, beginning with a 5 p.m. regional quarterfinal Monday against No. 42 South Lyon (12-11) at Compuware Arena in Plymouth. The Lions are No. 15 in Div. I.

"South Lyon is a team that always competes, always plays hard," Novi coach Todd Krygier said.

The winner will face either No. 2 Detroit Catholic Central (15-7-1, No. 1 in Div. I) or No. 19 Brighton (10-9-3, No. 8 in Div. I) 7 p.m. Wednesday at Compuware.

In the last four years, Novi advanced to the Div. I semifinals twice and the quarterfinals once.

"When the penalty expired is when Humitz took over and led the Spartans to a tie despite being outshot 31-19. All three of Stevenson's third-period shots were goals.

Vento noted his fourth line was instrumental in the game, helping to keep the top three lines fresh for the comeback.

"They did that they had to do and kept the puck out of our end most of the time they were out there," Vento said.

The Wildcats competed in last Saturday's KLAAs title game against No. 3 Howell (20-3-0), who is third in Division I. The Highlanders defeated the Wildcats 5-1 Feb. 10 at the Public School Showcase in Chelsea despite being outshot 34-12, and had a repeat result last weekend as they defeated Novi 4-3.

"Their goaltender played fantastic," Krygier said of the first matchup. "We made a couple mistakes that cost us."

Howell continued a five-year winning streak against Novi by taking a 3-0 lead in the first period. An early third-period power play goal put Howell up 4-0 before Novi scored three goals in the third period, but it wasn't enough to catch up to the Highlanders.

The week's results dropped Novi one spot to No. 4 (No. 2 in Div. I) on Monday's new rankings, while Howell and Stevenson each moved up one place to No. 7 and No. 10, respectively, maintaining their hold on the No. 3 and No. 4 spots in the top division.

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

Rockets shoot down Wildcats' conference hopes

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

The early KLAAs tournament exit put the Central Division No. 1 Wildcats' girls basketball team (6-2, 0-1 Central) into the consolation rounds, where the conference semifinal losers square off this week.

Novi was scheduled to host Northville 2 White Lake Lakeside (14-14, 8-2 North) Tuesday before hosting North 1 Waterford Kettering (17-1, 10-0 North) tonight. The Captains are coming off their first loss of the season, 44-40 to West No. 2 Grand Blanc (16-2, 9-1). Both games tip off at 7 p.m.

After the KLAAs crossover, Novi will head to Northville for Districts. The Wildcats will play either Plymouth Salem (7-11, 5-5 Central) or Plymouth (7-11, 5-5 South) 5 p.m. Wednesday and a win would put them in the 7 p.m. March 4 district final.

1 seed was on opposite ends of each contest.

The Wildcats (16-2, 9-1 Central) started the week Feb. 15 with a 62-37 home-court victory over South No. 4 Livonia Franklin (9-8, 5-5 South) before falling 53-38 to South No. 2 Westland John Glenn (16-2, 8-2 South) last Friday.

Novi shot out to a 16-6 first-quarter lead against Franklin, but allowed the Patriots to narrow the score to 24-21 by halftime.

Despite shooting just 29.4 percent (15-for-51), the Novi girls would run away with the game in the second half, outscoring Franklin 28-16 to secure the win. The Wildcats scored three more field goals, but had to take 16 more shots than the Patriots to do so.

"We missed too many easy shots," Novi coach Bill Kelp said. "Having some early foul trouble hurt."

The trio of freshman Kerri McMahon (14 points, four steals), junior Ally D'Annibale (14 points, six rebounds) and senior Joanna Beaton (13 points) accounted for 79 percent of Novi's offense.

"I'll take that any night of

the week," Kelp said.

Senior Alyssa Armiak chipped in with five points, four steals and three assists and, despite an 0-for-0 shooting night, sophomore Jade Antolec pulled in four of her five rebounds off the offensive boards.

"The Cats also held the Patriots without an assist while making 13 steals."

"We rely on our defense to create steals, just starting our offense," Kelp said.

Several aspects of Novi's matchup with John Glenn was a mirror image of the Tuesday victory over Franklin. However, instead of taking an eight-point lead after one quarter, the Wildcats were down 18-8 to the Rockets.

"We did not execute the defensive game plan late in the first quarter, this turning an 8-4 lead into an 18-8 deficit," Kelp said.

That deficit grew to 30-16 by halftime and a neck-and-neck second half didn't give the Wildcats any ground, as Glenn advanced to the Kensington Conference championship game with a 15-point victory.

Glenn sophomore Shakyra Graves (17 points), junior

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

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MENTOR CLUB
A group of fourth grade girls sits on Novi's bench during a break in the action Jan. 25 as they watched their mentors defeat Plymouth 38-30. The Student-Athlete Mentor Club connects high school basketball players with Novi Woods Elementary students.

HOOPS FROM PAGE B1

be OK and we got them again in two weeks to open Districts."

The district opener will be the rubber match, as Novi avenged their 68-54 loss on Jan. 25 with a 76-71 overtime victory Monday.

Up 49-35 at halftime, Plymouth narrowed their deficit to 62-57 in the fourth quarter before tying the game with a 7-2 run in the waning minutes of regulation.

Novi roared loudest in overtime, scoring the first six points and riding it out for a 12-7 advantage and the victory.

Ozer led Novi with 22 points, with Sheldon (19 points) and Bush (11 points) chipping in. The return of senior Rob Laney from a month-long injury was also welcomed, as he added 13 points.

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

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Mentor Club
A group of fourth grade girls sits on Novi's bench during a break in the action Jan. 25 as they watched their mentors defeat Plymouth 38-30. The Student-Athlete Mentor Club connects high school basketball players with Novi Woods Elementary students.

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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., 22300 Haggerty 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 dissolved. This notice is given pursuant to Section 280 of the Delaware General Corporation Law.

Published: February 17 & 24, 2011

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Notice to Bright House Networks Cable Customers

From time to time our agreements with cable channels and television stations come up for renewal. While we do not anticipate any loss or disruption of service, regulations require us to notify you of the possibility of losing programming. Please be advised, therefore, that our agreements with IndiePlex, RetroPlex, MoviePlex, Encore, Encore Action, Encore Drama, Style, Starz, Starz Cinema, Starz Comedy, Starz Edge, Starz in Black, Starz Kids & Family, Zee TV, TruTV, Weather Channel, BBC America, PlayBy, EWTV, American Life, Current TV, FUSE, GOLF Channel, Sprout and TV Japan remain in effect on a month to month basis, but we may have to cease carriage in all formats if our authority to continue is withheld.

We are working diligently at this time to come to acceptable and fair terms with all of these channels.

For more information on Bright House Networks programming, please call 1-877-885-8318 or visit our website at www.brlighthouse.com.

**CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE OF MEETING
OF BOARD OF REVIEW**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review shall convene in its first session at 9:00 a.m. EST, Tuesday, March 8th, 2011 in the Novi City Council Chambers at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the assessment roll.

Notice is further given that the second session of the Board of Review will meet for the purpose of hearing and considering assessment appeals in the Novi City Council Chambers at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road on March 14, 15, and 16, 2011. All appearances before the Board will be by appointment only. If you or your representative want to appear in person, the appointment must be made on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, Friday, March 11, 2011. Appearances before the Board of Review are limited to five (5) minutes or less. Petitions are available at the Assessor's Office at www.cityofnovi.org. NO APPOINTMENTS WILL BE GIVEN UNTIL A PETITION IS RECEIVED BY THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT.

Letters of protest will be accepted on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, Tuesday, March 15, 2011. Postmarks will not be considered. When submitting a protest to the Board of Review for consideration, you must attach a completed petition along with any supporting information.

All agents protesting values on property, other than their own, MUST HAVE written authorization from each property owner they are representing.

Persons on fixed or limited income may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes due to poverty. Applications are available at the Assessing Department, or at www.cityofnovi.org

BOARD OF REVIEW SCHEDULE
Monday, March 14, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 15, 2011 - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 16, 2011 - 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Any questions should be directed to the Assessing Department at (248) 347-0485.

MARYVANNE CORNELIUS
CITY CLERK

Published: February 24, March 2 & 16, 2011

DETROIT PISTONS

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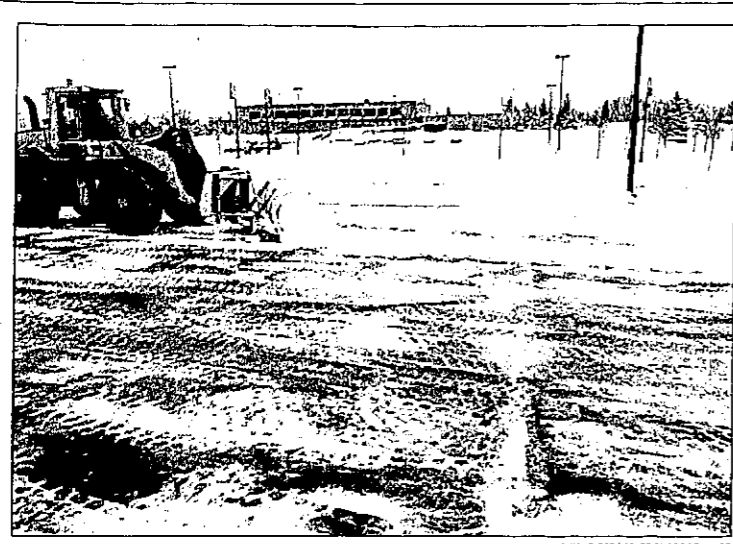
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STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, February 24, 2011

hometownlife.com



Back in the saddle again

A city of Novi bulldozer plows the parking lot of the Novi Civic Center on Feb. 21. The city saw about 10 inches of snow from a storm the day before. Things could have been worse — city offices were already closed that day for Presidents Day.

County applying spring weight restrictions to area roads

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) was scheduled to apply seasonal spring weight restrictions to its non-all-weather roads on Feb. 23. The restrictions limit the amount of weight trucks can carry on the roads and are intended to minimize damage to the roads while the ground under the roads is thawing.

Anyone wanting an update on the status of the weight restrictions can call RCOC's weight restrictions hotline at (248) 858-4765.

Each spring, in accordance with state law, RCOC reduces the weight limits on its non-all-weather roads as temperatures begin to rise and the ground begins to thaw. As the road subsurface thaws, the road's ability to carry weight is reduced, said RCOC Managing Director Brent Bair. "That means that a weight that wouldn't affect the road under normal conditions, might now damage the road. These restrictions help to ensure that our roads last as long as possible, with as few potholes as possible."

The restrictions do not affect passenger vehicles, but apply to commercial trucks.

Weight restrictions are enforced by weighmasters employed by the Road Commission, the state, local communities or the Sheriff's Department. Violation of the weight restrictions can result in a citation and fine.

Dave Czerniakowski, director of RCOC's Customer Services Department, said the timing of this year's weight restrictions is typical. "It is usually in February or March that the frost is coming out of the ground and we must apply the restrictions," he noted.

Czerniakowski will recommend that the restrictions be removed when he determines that the soil is no longer saturated and the frost has thawed. He noted that the weight restrictions have an impact on several industries including building construction, because it restricts companies' ability to move heavy equipment.

"Weight restrictions do not prevent trucks

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Cal Stone
Voice Mail: (248) 437-2011, ext. 237
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Comment online at hometownlife.com

MAP AVAILABLE

A truck operators map is available from the Road Commission that shows which roads have weight restrictions. The map is available by calling RCOC's Customer Services Dept. at (248) 858-4835 or by visiting the department's offices at the RCOC facility at 2420 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford Township (office hours are 7:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m.).

The map is also available on RCOC's Web page at www.rcocweb.org, and listings of the affected roads are posted on the Web site as well.

For a statewide listing of which counties have imposed spring weight restrictions, visit the County Road Association of Michigan (CRAM) Web site, www.micountyyroads.org.

Below are some of the roads affected in this area.

NORMAL ROADS — BLACK (35% REDUCTION IN LOAD REQUIRED)

Lyon Area
9 Mile Rd. (E of Pontiac Trail to Napier Rd.)
11 Mile Rd.
12 Mile Rd. (W of Johns to Martindale Rd.)
Napier Rd. (12 Mile Rd. S to 8 Mile Rd.)
Milford Area
Wixom Rd.
Novi Area
14 Mile Rd. (E of Decker to Haggerty Rd.)
Napier Rd. (S of 12 Mile Rd. to 8 Mile Rd.)

DESIGNATED ROADS — BLUE (25% WEIGHT RESTRICTION)

Novi Area
8 Mile Rd. (Napier Rd. E to Taft Rd.)
10 Mile Rd. (Napier Rd. E to Haggerty Rd.)
Haggerty Rd. (8 Mile Rd. N to 14 Mile Rd.)

from operating," Czerniakowski said. "They may still operate on affected roads, they simply have to operate with a reduced load on those roads."

The difference between employees, contractors

A common question that comes up in employment law is the status of the workers: employees or independent contractors? What is the difference between the two and why does it matter? Well, it is because the law imposes different levels of responsibility on employers depending upon the status of their workers.



Takin' Care of Business

Daniel Hoops

Under state law, an employer can be held liable for any negligent or intentional acts of their employees if the employee is acting within the scope of their employment at the time their wrongful act occurred. The scope of employment can be something as simple as operating a photocopy at work or driving a company car, to eating lunch during company time or wearing a uniform off premises. For any wrongful act or injury that occurs during this "scope of employment," the employer can be held responsible under the theory of vicarious liability.

The actions of an "independent contractor," however, are not imputed to the employer. The theory being that there is limited control over both the contractor and the work the contractor has been hired to complete. This does not mean that the employer is never responsible, however, for the independent contractor's wrongful act to the employer is much more difficult to prove in a lawsuit.

As you can imagine, a lot of money could be at stake for an employer if an employee's mistake or wrongful conduct is imputed to the employer. For example, if an employee stocking shelves in a grocery store intentionally punches someone she believes is shoplifting from the store, the victim may sue the grocery store for battery; even though the store neither threw the punch nor authorized the employee to do so.

So how do you determine whether someone is an employee or an independent contractor? In some instances, it is as easy as looking at the particular job. A person hired to paint a house is most likely an independent contractor. Why? Well how much control do you have over the task?

You and the painter agree on the price and color of the paint, maybe a completion date. Does the employer determine the painter's hours? The brand of paint or brushes for the job? Do you pay for the painter to take a break, vacation or for lunch? No. For the most part, the house painter is an independent contractor and any work that occurs during that job should not be the responsibility of the employer.

Compare the house painter to an administrative assistant in an office. Does the employer provide a desk, telephone and computer for this person? Are particular assignments given to the worker? Lunch break and hours established for the assistant? In this scenario, it would seem that the employer would have a lot of control over the job and the assistant would be considered an employee.

Now, if the administrative assistant stole the identification of a customer of the employer, should the employer be liable to that customer for any damages that resulted? Sure. Should the homeowner be responsible if the house painter broke into a neighbor's house and stole a lawnmower? No.

Clearly, most employers want to limit any liability for the wrongful actions of their workers; this is basic dollars and cents. The law gets a little grayer when employers try to limit the amount of control over their worker's jobs to make the workers appear to be independent contractors rather than employees. Many business owners think that if they have a contract with their workers that specifically provides "you are an independent contractor" that the individual is an independent contractor; this is an absolute fallacy. The common law will determine the individual's status for purposes of state law.

Now, the trickier part: taxes. Employers are responsible for withholding and paying

a portion of social security and Medicaid taxes for their employees. If the worker is not classified as an "employee," but an independent contractor, the employer is responsible for this additional tax. As a result, many employers would rather categorize their workers as independent contractors than have to pay an additional amount of tax. And this leads to employers finding themselves in hot water with the Internal Revenue Service for incorrectly categorizing their employees as independent contractors.

The standard for someone being an independent contractor or employee under state law is not as strict as the standard under federal law, which is what the Internal Revenue Code is and what the IRS enforces. Penalties for incorrectly categorizing an employee can be severe, including unpaid withholding taxes for all subject years, interest and penalties based on the taxes not properly withheld. If you have any questions as to whether a worker should be considered an employee or an independent contractor, you should search www.irs.gov and review Publications 15 and 15-A.

As if employers do not have enough to worry about when it comes to running their business. Any time the decision is made to hire someone, this baby step carries with it enormous responsibility on the person requesting the assistance. These decisions should be carefully considered; screening potential candidates of their character and background is just as important as knowing their past work experience.

Daniel S. Hoops is an associate professor at Walsh Business College teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in the Business Law and Taxation Department. Professor Hoops holds a master of laws in estate planning from the University of Miami School of Law, a juris doctor from the Michigan State University Detroit College of Law and a bachelor of musical arts from the University of Michigan. Professor Hoops is also a 1987 graduate of Novi High School. He can be reached at Walsh College at (248) 823-1334 or dhoops@walshcollege.edu.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Moving firm partners with chamber

As part of its ongoing Moved TWO Care initiative, Two Men and a Truck of Southwestern Oakland County recently collected more than 300 pairs of mittens to benefit youngsters at Wilkens Elementary in Detroit. The local moving company partnered with the Novi Chamber of Commerce on this effort seeking to keep children in need warm during the harsh Michigan

winter.

"For the past four years, the Novi Chamber of Commerce has made sure Wilkens Elementary students have essential winter items and we're happy we could support the collection this year," said Rene Saenz, Two Men and a Truck Wixom franchisee. "We're fortunate to be a part of a community whose residents give so selflessly this time of year."

REAL ESTATE

Thursday, February 24, 2011 hometownlife.com

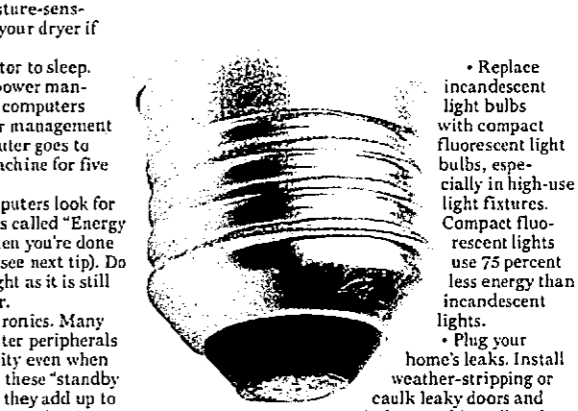
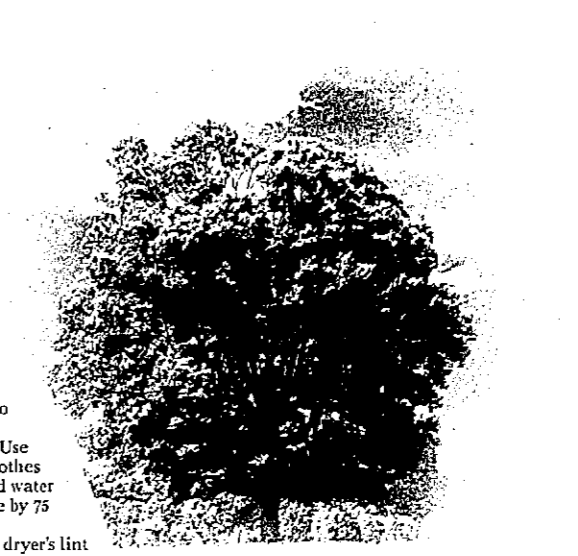
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As winter continues, saving energy costs remains essential

Cutting back unnecessary energy use is an easy way to keep your hard-earned money in your pocket. Here are some suggestions you can do at home, at absolutely no cost to you. These tips are from a recent *Newsline* publication of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors.

- Let the sunshine in. Open drapes and let the sun heat your home for free (get them closed again at sundown so they help insulate).
- Rearrange your rooms. Move your furniture around so you are sitting near interior walls — exterior walls and older windows are likely to be drafty. Don't sit in the draft.
- Keep it shut. Traditional fireplaces are an energy loser — it's best not to use them because they pull heated air out of the house and up the chimney. When not in use, make absolutely sure the damper is closed. Before closing the damper, make sure that you don't have any smoldering embers.
- If you decide not to use a fireplace, then block off the chimney with a piece of rigid insulation from the hardware store that fits snugly into the space (dampers don't shut fully without some leaking).
- Eliminate wasted energy. Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms. Unplug that spare refrigerator in the garage if you don't truly need it — this seemingly convenient way to keep extra drinks cold adds 10-25 percent to your electric bill. Turn off kitchen and bath-ventilating fans after they've done their job — these fans can blow out a house-full of heated air if inadvertently left on.
- Keeping your fireplace damper closed unless a fire is burning to prevent up to 8 percent of your furnace-heated air from going up the chimney.
- Shorten showers. Simply reducing that lingering time by a few minutes can save hundreds of gallons of hot water per month for a family of four. Showers account for two-thirds of your water heating costs. Cutting your showers in half will reduce your water heating costs by 33 percent.
- Use appliances efficiently. Do only full loads when using your dishwasher and clothes washer. Use the cold water setting on your clothes washer when you can. Using cold water reduces your washer's energy use by 75 percent.
- Be sure to clean your clothes dryer's lint trap after each use. Use the moisture-sensing automatic drying setting on your dryer if you have one.
- Put your computer and monitor to sleep. Most computers come with the power management features turned off. On computers using Windows, open your power management software and set it so your computer goes to sleep if you're away from your machine for five to 15 minutes.
- Those who use Macintosh computers look for the setting in your Control Panels called "Energy Saver" and set it accordingly. When you're done using your computer, turn it off (see next tip). Do not leave it in sleep mode overnight as it is still drawing a small amount of power.
- Plug "leaking energy" in electronics. Many new TVs, VCRs, chargers, computer peripherals and other electronics use electricity even when they are switched "off." Although these "standby losses" are only a few watts each, they add up to more than 50 watts in a typical home that is consumed all the time. If possible, unplug electronic devices and chargers that have a block-shaped transformer on the plug when they are not in use. For computer scanners, printers and other devices that are plugged into a power strip, simply switch off the power strip after shutting down your computer. The best way to minimize these losses of electricity is to purchase ENERGY STAR products.
- Every home is different. With a quick trip to your local hardware store, you have even more choices at hand.



- Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs, especially in high-use light fixtures. Compact fluorescent lights use 75 percent less energy than incandescent lights.
- Plug your home's leaks. Install weather-stripping or caulk leaky doors and windows and install gaskets behind outlet covers. Savings up to 10 percent on energy costs can result.
- Install low flow showerheads. If you do not already have them, low-flow showerheads and faucets can drastically cut your hot water expenses. Savings of 10-16 percent of water heating costs.
- Wrap the hot water tank with jacket insulation. This is especially valuable for older water heaters with little external insulation. Be sure to leave the air intake vent unobstructed when insulating a gas water heater. Savings up to 10 percent on water heating costs can result.

Treat all children well

Q: I am concerned about our condominium association treating families with children differently regarding to violations of the rules than persons without families, particularly, the use of the common areas. How can I convince my board that they have got to get their act together?

A: They might be interested in a case that has been well publicized out of Massachusetts where the Justice Department settled a lawsuit against an association over allegations that it regularly discriminated against residents with children.

"The Justice Department claimed that the complex fined families \$500 when their children violated Condominium Rules by playing tag or whiffle ball games in outdoor common areas while residents without kids were fined only \$10 for similar rule infractions. Additionally, the association retaliated against one resident who lodged a complaint with the Department of Housing and Urban Development over the excessive fines by charging her \$1,000 to pay for the association's costs to defend against her complaint. In effect, the association was sanctioned to the tune of \$150,000. If that doesn't shock the system, I don't know what can other than a lawsuit.

Q: I have heard that the housing and attendant pricing has eased up in the Boston area, in particular, in the suburbs because of foreclosures. I am particularly interested in the Needham community. Do you have any information?

A: Because of the excellent schools, attractive downtown area and train commuter service to Boston, Needham continues to be a very affluent community that is holding its real estate prices well. At best, prices have gone down 10 percent and in many instances, vacant lots are being gobbled up as there are few, if any, that are buildable. There are restrictions in terms of the type of house that can be constructed on relatively narrow lots in the community and homeowner associations are very diligent in enforcing the aesthetic guidelines. There are spec homes that are available but you are not going to find a bargain as you would in other parts of the Northeast.

Check state's down payment assistance program

How would you like to get a below market interest rate? And how would you also like to get \$7,500 down payment assistance from the state?

This is a real possibility for many Michigan home buyers who qualify for the down payment assistance program from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA).

The MSHDA down payment assistance program works with FHA and Rural Development loans. The maximum assistance of \$7,500 can be used for down payment,

homebuyers wishing to use the MSHDA program will have to meet certain requirements pertaining to household income, assets and home-ownership. The maximum home sales price is \$224,500 and applicants must have less than \$5,000 in the bank, excluding retirement funds.

In all of Oakland County (except Royal Oak and Pontiac), the program is only available to applicants who have not owned a home within the past 36 months. The maximum household income is \$69,800 for a household of one-two people and \$80,270 for a household of three or more. In Detroit, Ecorse, Hamtramck, Highland Park and River Rouge there is no restriction on prior home-ownership and the income limits are more generous, at \$83,760 for a one-two-person household and \$97,720 for a household of three or more.

In all of Washtenaw County, there is no restriction on prior home-ownership and the maximum household income is \$101,040 for a household of one-two people and \$108,000 for a household of three or more.

To see if you qualify, contact a MSHDA approved mortgage lender today. You can view the list of approved lenders at www.michigan.gov/mskda.

Wes McCaig is the owner and broker of Visible Home (<http://www.visiblehomes.com>), a real estate brokerage which combines traditional real estate with innovative technologies. Visible Homes provides full service real estate in Michigan, and is a member of the National Association of Realtors, Michigan Association of Realtors and the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors.

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 8-12, 2010, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Beverly Hills	16004 Burtcham Ave 4204 Kinkaid Ave 4236 Van Meter Rd	\$180,000 \$160,000 \$270,000	Commerce Township	4411 S Commerce Dr 31609 Lamar Dr	\$42,000 \$83,000	Farmington Hills	1617 Harrier Cr 4674 Hollydale Dr 2296 Tallard St	\$168,000 \$90,000 \$35,000	Milford	22944 Brookfield Dr 256 Brookwood Dr 6215 South Hoosier Ln 1008 Gallop Ln	\$250,000 \$128,000 \$143,000 \$188,000	Novi	664,000 \$36,000 \$270,000 \$43,000 \$435,000 \$150,000	Southfield	38514 Haines Dr	\$65,000	White Lake	9353 Gale Rd 30399 Lakeside Dr	\$163,000 \$173,000
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HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of Nov. 8-12, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Canton	4902 Castleside Dr 4629 Cumberland Rd 41862 Fontaine View Dr 56473 Monroe St 18379 Yvette Creek Dr 6234 Fort Meigs Dr	\$380,000 \$340,000 \$330,000 \$200,000 \$245,000 \$140,000	Dearborn	16457 Chelsea 52025 Etowah St 19125 Gonyard Dr 23280 Grandview Ave 16919 Mercedes 15861 Waterford	\$240,000 \$180,000 \$38,000 \$72,000 \$75,000 \$52,000	Garden City	6248 Carthage St 32713 Cranford St	\$17,000 \$27,000	Livonia	14216 Altona Dr 9886 Farmington Rd 15828 Falgout Rd 20716 Genesee St 90174 Newport Way 15009 Northpark Way	\$10,000 \$99,000 \$49,000 \$46,000 \$72,000 \$20,000	Northeast	31882 Robinson St 10075 Wilson St	\$105,000 \$25,000	Westland	34130 Adam Dr 11855 Doherty Ln 1950 Ryan Ct 24636 Fairland St 30756 Glenview St 36220 Grandview Ave 71198 Walker St 31882 Robinson St 10075 Wilson St	\$155,000 \$101,000 \$99,000 \$49,000 \$46,000 \$72,000 \$20,000 \$105,000 \$25,000
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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Investors

The Real Estate Investor Association of Wayne County holds monthly meetings of the first Tuesday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 17201 Northline Road, Southgate. At 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, Sherlock Holmes will speak on "What's going on in your properties that you don't know about?" A lot of homes have "ticking time bombs" in their structures, heating systems, electrical systems, etc. The occupants are unaware of these until something major occurs. He will also have an update on mold, and a hand-out on lead. 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. on 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., 33019 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation. Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-2494, Ext. 33.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$3 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisnerassociates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

Crossword Puzzle

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a small 'Romance' section.

Answers to the crossword puzzle from the previous week.

REAL ESTATE

Real estate listings for Garden City, Wayne, and Manufactured Homes. Includes contact information for agents.

HOME & SERVICE

Home & Service advertisements including Carpentry, Electrical, Painting, and Handyman services.

APARTMENTS

Apartment listings for various locations including Brighton, Howell, and South Lyon.

APARTMENTS

Apartment listings for Brookwood Farms, including 1, 2, and 3 bedroom options.

Advertisement for 'Sniff Out a Great Deal in Your Classifieds!' featuring a dog illustration.

MARKETPLACE

Marketplace advertisements including antique auctions, garage sales, and various services.

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

Large advertisement for apartment availability with details for Northville, Westland, and Wayne areas.

career builder

Advertisement for career builder featuring various job openings and training programs.

Advertisement for dfcu FINANCIAL, highlighting services and training opportunities.

Help Wanted-General (500)

Earn \$50.00-\$100.00 per week
 Deliver newspapers twice a week on Thursday and Saturday evening/Sunday morning. Must have reliable transportation, car insurance and drivers license. Experience delivering newspapers helpful.
Call 734-582-8690

Help Wanted-General (500)

Face-to-Face Marketing Rep
 Must have a strong desire to excel, be punctual, professional, dependable & energetic. We provide training, transportation, car insurance and drivers license. Experience delivering newspapers helpful.
Call 734-582-8690

Help Wanted-General (500)

Get Your Real Estate License in 1 Week FOR \$99
 Call Mary Nicole REAL ESTATE ONE 1-800-579-5515
GREAT PAY! Exhibitors
 Work from Home Shows Earn more or Apply as Line Assistant/MP/Representative
 Hair Stylist, Massage & Nail Technicians needed for salon in Brighton. FT \$40,000, FT \$70,000, 517-364-7497
Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-5511 (7355)

Help Wanted-General (500)

International Logistics Specialist
 We require a highly motivated and reliable individual who is capable of working in all areas of international logistics. It is essential the individual has 5-8 yrs. exp. in both import/export and export operations. Must be willing to travel. Must have a strong desire to excel, be punctual, professional, dependable & energetic. We provide training, transportation, car insurance and drivers license. Experience delivering newspapers helpful.
Call 734-582-8690

Help Wanted-General (500)

DAKLAND COUNTY Precision Machine Shop
 Precision machine shop looking for experienced CNC Turning Mill Machinist. Must have 3-5 years experience in both wet and dry operating. Must be willing to travel. Must have a strong desire to excel, be punctual, professional, dependable & energetic. We provide training, transportation, car insurance and drivers license. Experience delivering newspapers helpful.
Call 734-582-8690

Help Wanted-General (500)

RECEPTIONIST & FILE CLERK
 For Birmingham Law Firm. Law firm open, preferred, but not required. Salary \$30K - \$40K. Benefits. Reply in confidence by email only to brooklyn@att.com

Help Wanted-General (500)

Summer Seasonal Positions Available
 The City of Birmingham, MI is seeking applications for various seasonal positions. Duties include: greeting, golf clubhouse operation, maintenance of golf courses, park maintenance, etc. Other seasonal positions include: maintenance of city parks, assistance with street maintenance duties, etc. Other seasonal positions include: maintenance of city parks, assistance with street maintenance duties, etc.
Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-5511 (7355)

Help Wanted-Office (600)

RECEPTIONIST
 For small office in South Lyon, MI. Exc. customer service. Must be capable of handling all incoming calls. Must have a strong desire to excel, be punctual, professional, dependable & energetic. We provide training, transportation, car insurance and drivers license. Experience delivering newspapers helpful.
Call 734-582-8690

Help Wanted-Office (600)

MECHANICAL ENGINEER
 Needed for leading Machine Tool Manufacturer located in Ann Arbor, MI. Must be capable of handling all incoming calls. Must have a strong desire to excel, be punctual, professional, dependable & energetic. We provide training, transportation, car insurance and drivers license. Experience delivering newspapers helpful.
Call 734-582-8690

Help Wanted-Office (600)

PT Treatment Coordinator, Ortho
 Assistant for Ortho. Seeking individuals that are energetic, enthusiastic & detail oriented. Apply for full-time position with excellent benefits and a great work environment. Apply to: livingston.ortho@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-Medical (500)

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
 Exp. 1 yr. in medical office preferred. Salary \$24,500-\$26,500. Fax resume to: 248-324-3444

Help Wanted-Medical (500)

RESIDENTIAL ASSISTANTS
 Will work for all ages of individuals who are recovering from Traumatic Brain Injuries. We are currently seeking qualified individuals to work at one of our beautiful residential facilities in providing assistance to our clients in the development and promotion of life skills. Duties include: meal preparation, personal care, laundry, etc. Must have a strong desire to excel, be punctual, professional, dependable & energetic. We provide training, transportation, car insurance and drivers license. Experience delivering newspapers helpful.
Call 734-582-8690

Help Wanted-Medical (500)

ULTRASOUND TECH FULL-TIME
 Needed for Southfield Imaging facility. Experience required. Cross-training in general, vascular and echo preferred. Competitive pay and benefits. Email resume to: career@diagnosticmanagementservices.com

Help Wanted-Sales (510)

SALES - PART TIME
 Free time on your hands? Local company seeking part time lead conductors for evenings and weekend hours. Must have a strong desire to excel, be punctual, professional, dependable & energetic. We provide training, transportation, car insurance and drivers license. Experience delivering newspapers helpful.
Call 734-582-8690

Opportunities in Florida

DRS Training & Control Systems, LLC is located in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, on the Gulf Coast of the Florida Panhandle. We provide engineering, manufacturing, and support of defense and aerospace systems for sea, land, air, and space use. Our product and service areas include electronic control and monitoring systems, aerospace material handling systems, simulation and training systems, unmanned aircraft systems, aerospace support equipment, contract manufacturing, engineering, and product support.
 Our division employs more than 850 engineers, craftsmen, and specialists in seven modern plants that occupy more than 346,500 square feet. These facilities include manufacturing, engineering, laboratory, and test departments. In addition, DRS has contract logistics support operations domestically as well as in Europe and the Middle East.
 DRS employees are part of a value-driven culture in which they are rewarded for excellence and encouraged to develop new skills.
 We are currently recruiting for the following positions:
 Senior Program Manager
 Senior Hardware Design Engineer
 Lead Mechanical Engineer
 Lead Structures Engineer
 Structural Engineer
 Senior Stress Analyst
 Lead Software Development Engineer
 Software Development Engineer
 Mechanical Design Engineer
 Senior Structures Design Engineer
 Composite Structural Engineer
 Senior Systems Engineer

DRS Training & Control Systems, LLC
 645 Anchors Street
 Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
 www.drs-ds.com
 Affirmative Action Employer
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 Drug Test Required

DRS TECHNOLOGIES



COLD HEADER SET UP OPERATOR
 Manufacturing company in Plymouth Michigan, hiring experienced (5-10 yr) cold header set-up operator of 6 die part former. Second shift immediate opening. Great wage and benefit package. Interested candidates please submit applications/resume to jobopenings@vico.com

PROJECT ENGINEER
 10 years experience in the cold Heading industry & progressive part forming Engineering degree (Mechanical) skilled in CAD drawings Spanish speaking a benefit - willing to travel to Queretaro Mexico one week a month for the next 18 months. Interested candidates please submit applications/resume to jobopenings@vico.com

online at hometownlife.com

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Call 734-582-8690

OFFICE CLEANING
 Evening hours
 6:30 PM - 11:30 PM.
 Also School facilities
 Farmington Hills
 Corporate
 248-513-9880

WAREHOUSE/DELIVERY PERSONNEL
 Competitive wage and comprehensive benefits package offered.
 To apply for the above, please send resume to:

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 Competitive wage and comprehensive benefits package offered.
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TEACHER'S AIDE
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 Farmington Hills
 248-419-3110

VETERINARY RECEPTIONIST
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Call 734-582-8690

DRIVERS/OWNER Operators
 Required: 100% no touch freight. Requirements: 2000 or older, CDL Class B or C, 18 months exp. 800-325-7884 Ext. 4

LEGAL SECRETARY
 Approx. 30 hr/week for Livonia, MI. Must be capable of handling all incoming calls. Must have a strong desire to excel, be punctual, professional, dependable & energetic. We provide training, transportation, car insurance and drivers license. Experience delivering newspapers helpful.
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AUTOMOTIVE

NEWSPAPER POLICY
 All advertising published in this newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department.) Observer and Evening Newspapers, 41166 Conner Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170-3915. We reserve the right not to accept an advertisement. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper to any agreement. The advertiser's responsibility is to provide full and complete information to the advertiser's agent, who must be given an original signed copy of the advertisement. The advertiser's agent must be given an original signed copy of the advertisement. The advertiser's agent must be given an original signed copy of the advertisement. The advertiser's agent must be given an original signed copy of the advertisement.

<p>'09 HONDA CRUISER One owner, priced to move. \$21,999 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'07 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING Full pwr., only 34k miles. \$19,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'09 FORD FLEX SE Certified, one owner, only 21,995 miles. Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>
<p>'08 DODGE CHARGER R/T Leather, moonroof, only 44k miles. \$18,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'07 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4x4 Certified, one owner, 5 to choose, as low as \$22,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'09 JEEP COMMANDER SPORT 4X4 Full pwr., one owner, only 37k miles. \$19,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>
<p>'10 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT 5 to choose, one owner, as low as \$16,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'11 FORD TAURUS LIMITED 3 to choose, certified, as low as \$22,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'10 LINCOLN MKZ Full pwr., one owner, priced to move. \$22,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>
<p>'08 CHEVY EQUINOX SPORT Navigation, moonroof, only 16k miles. \$19,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'07 FORD FREESTAR SEL Leather, certified, only 62k miles. \$22,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'02 GMC YUKON DENALI XL AWD Like new, priced to move. \$12,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>
<p>'08 FORD F-250 KING RANCH LT 4x4 3 to choose, as low as \$22,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'09 CHEVY SUBURBAN LT 4x4 3 to choose, as low as \$22,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'09 CHEVY TAHOE LT 4x4 One owner, priced to move. \$28,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>
<p>'08 DODGE RAM 2500 LARAMIE QUAD CAB 4x4 Diesel, one owner, only 42k miles. \$24,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'10 CHEVY SUBURBAN LT 4x4 Leather, one owner, 3 to choose as low as \$22,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'10 CHEVY MALIBU LT Leather, one owner. \$18,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>
<p>'08 FORD F-350 XLT CREW CAB 4x4 Diesel, one owner, only 17k miles. \$24,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'10 CHEVY CAMARO SS One owner, only 4000 miles. \$33,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'10 CHEVY TAHOE LT 4x4 Leather, one owner, only 26k miles. \$33,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>
<p>'10 FORD F-350 KING RANCH CREW CAB 4x4 Navigation, one owner, only 28k miles. \$34,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'09 CHEVY TAHOE LT 4x4 One owner, priced to move. \$28,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>	<p>'10 CHEVY MALIBU LT Leather, one owner. \$18,995 Brighton Ford 800-836-7697</p>

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WITH LEASES DUE BETWEEN NOW AND DECEMBER 31ST, 2011
BUY OR LEASE A NEW FORD BETWEEN JAN. 20TH & APRIL 4TH AND FORD WILL WAIVE UP TO 6 PAYMENTS!

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#1 Ford Car Dealer In The Country!
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NEW 2011 FORD F150 SUPERCAD XLT 4X4

LEASE FOR
\$1000 DOWN SIGN & DRIVE
\$303²⁴ \$344²⁴
\$1,457 due at signing* \$0 DUE AT SIGNING
Buy For \$27,838*
MSRP \$40,470

Features: Sync, 20" Chrome Grille, Aluminum Wheels, XLT Chrome Pkg, 2.3L EcoBoost, 4.6L Power Stroke, 170 HP, 1700 Miles, Cruise Control, Silver Metallic, 3.48 This Price - 32 Available.

NEW 2011 FORD ESCAPE XLT

LEASE FOR
0% APR for 60 months
\$1000 DOWN SIGN & DRIVE
\$219²⁴ \$276²⁴
\$1,397 due at signing* \$0 DUE AT SIGNING
Buy For \$19,134*
MSRP \$19,634

Features: Power Windows/Locks, Keyless Entry, Silver Metallic, 3.0L This Price - 21 Available.

NEW 2011 FORD FOCUS SE

LEASE FOR
0% APR for 60 months
\$1000 DOWN SIGN & DRIVE
\$182²⁴
\$0 DUE AT SIGNING
Buy For \$11,821*
MSRP \$19,060

Features: Automatic Transmission, Power Windows, Cruise Control, 170 Miles, 1700 Miles, Cruise Control, 3.48 This Price - 132 Available.

NEW 2011 FORD FUSION SEL

LEASE FOR
0% APR for 60 months
\$1000 DOWN SIGN & DRIVE
\$182²⁴ \$239²⁴
\$1,398 due at signing* \$0 DUE AT SIGNING
Buy For \$21,592*
MSRP \$22,875

Features: Automatic Transmission, Power Windows, Cruise Control, 170 Miles, 1700 Miles, Cruise Control, 3.48 This Price - 228 Available.

NEW 2011 FORD EDGE SE

LEASE FOR
\$1000 DOWN SIGN & DRIVE
\$255²⁴ \$313²⁴
\$1,405 due at signing* \$0 DUE AT SIGNING
Buy For \$21,333*
MSRP \$28,070

Features: My Ford, Power Windows/Locks, 170 Miles, 1700 Miles, Cruise Control, One Touch Start, AM/FM CD/MP3, 3.48 This Price - 57 Available.

NEW 2011 FORD TAURUS SEL

LEASE FOR
\$1000 DOWN SIGN & DRIVE
\$294²⁴ \$344²⁴
\$1,687 due at signing* \$0 DUE AT SIGNING
Buy For \$22,373*
MSRP \$29,395

Features: Power Windows/Locks, Sync, AM/FM CD/MP3, Cruise Control, 170 Miles, 1700 Miles, Cruise Control, 3.48 This Price - 38 Available.

NEW 2011 FORD FLEX SE

LEASE FOR
\$1000 DOWN SIGN & DRIVE
\$322²⁴ \$361²⁴
\$1,751 due at signing* \$0 DUE AT SIGNING
Buy For \$26,115*
MSRP \$30,690

Features: Power Windows/Locks, 170 Miles, 1700 Miles, Cruise Control, Third Row Seat, 3.48 This Price - 102 Available.

NEW 2011 FORD FIESTA SE

LEASE FOR
\$1000 DOWN SIGN & DRIVE
\$139²⁴ \$192²⁴
\$1,283 due at signing* \$0 DUE AT SIGNING
Buy For \$14,268*
MSRP \$16,925

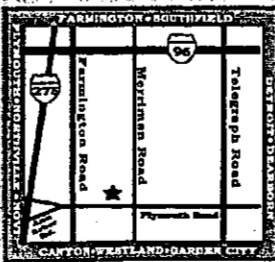
Features: Sync, Automatic Transmission, Heated Seats, 170 Miles, 1700 Miles, Cruise Control, 3.48 This Price - 132 Available.

BILL BROWN



800-611-2990

Monday and Thursday
 9 AM to 9 PM
 Tuesday, Wednesday
 & Friday
 9 AM to 6 PM



32222 PLYMOUTH RD.
 LIVONIA, MI 48150

*All payments and buy prices are for qualifying A/Z planners. For qualifying, non-A/Z planners an additional \$800 to \$1500 would be required to keep the payments or price the same. 12,000 miles per year. *Buy For" price add tax, title, doc and destination fee. Subject to availability. All factory rebates assigned to dealer including owner loyalty or previous lease where applicable and may require Ford Credit financing. Not all buyers will qualify for lowest payments. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Payments and prices per program in effect at publication and are subject to change. All offers expire February 29, 2011.