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NOVI NEWS

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Camp Winter Blast will keep kids busy over holiday break

Have kids to keep active during holiday break? The City of Novi Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department is offering the first-ever Camp Winter Blast for kids ages 6-12 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27 and Friday, Dec. 28 at Township Hall in Fuerst Park.

Designed with fun in mind, activities include outdoor adventures, arts and crafts, holiday Olympics, a mystery field trip on Friday, group activities, and much more! The camp will allow participants to let off a little steam before starting the second half of the school year. Additionally, it will serve as a preview to the type of activities Camp Lakeshore will provide this summer.

To register for the program, visit cityofnovi.org by Thursday, Dec. 13. The cost of the program is \$64 for residents and \$74 for non-residents. For questions, contact Greg Morris at the City of Novi Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services office at (248) 735-5646 or gmorris@cityofnovi.org.

Super coffee

Novi Community School District Superintendent Dr. Steve Matthews is continuing his Coffee with the Superintendent series for the 2012-13 school year. They will be held at the Novi Public Library on a variety of dates.

The first two are 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17 in the East Meeting Room and 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19 in the Board Room. The topics of discussion will be legislative action and school improvement report. Please refer to the Novi News and the Novi Community School District website www.novi.k12.mi.us for additional dates, times and topics of discussion.

Discovered remains those of missing Novi worker

Found in creek bed in Farmington Hills

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

After months of searching and wondering, missing person Patrick Keough was found in a creek bed in Farmington Hills on

Dec. 4. He has been missing since June after leaving his Novi Farmer's Insurance office on Cabot Drive at lunch time.

According to Novi Police, last Tuesday the Farmington Hills Police Department received a



Keough
Upon further investigation, a severely decom-

posed body was found in a creek bed. Farmington Hills evidence technicians worked the scene where the body was found. The remains were taken to the Oakland County Medical Examiner's Office for a post-mortem examination and were positively identified as Keough.

Upon further investigation, a severely decom-

Please see **WORKER, A10**

I say hello



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hikaru Kudo chats with Jack Markovich at the annual Novi Rotary club's Senior Holiday Party at Novi Middle School on Dec. 6. Area seniors were invited to the school for a choir and band concert, lunch, sing-alongs and visit with Santa. See more on A13.

Man of 'integrity' leaves school board

By **Cal Stone**
Staff Writer

Bruce Bagdady was emotional and deeply touched during last Thursday's Novi school board meeting — his last after 15 years of serving.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as a school board member in Novi," Bagdady said. "I am very proud of this district, its students and its staff and administrators. ... Together we have helped Novi become one of the very best places for students to learn and grow."

Bagdady announced last August that he would not seek re-election for a fourth term on the board, and his term ends Dec. 31.

The current board president, Bagdady says the highlight of his 15 years has been "three very special moments ... I will always remember and cherish" — when he was able to hand his own children their high school diplomas.

He said the district has found ways to offer more for its students, even in tight financial times.

"I am proud that Novi continues to care, first and foremost, about what is best for students — a philosophy that has driven every decision we made."

Please see **BOARD, A6**

Water storage facility will improve Novi's system

City moving forward on plan

By **Lonnie Huhman**
Staff Writer

The City of Novi has awarded a \$172,300 contract to a Livonia firm in an effort to improve its water system.

A new 1-million gallon, elevated storage facility is a highlight and needed improvement, said Clay Pearson, Novi's city manager.

"The construction of a water storage facility would allow

Novi to become a maximum day customer (rather than a peak hour customer, as is the case in our current contract) resulting in a cost saving in Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) rates of approximately \$1.7 million per year," stated Pearson in the report to city council.

City Council approved an agreement with Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment for design engineering services related to the

Water System Master Plan, Water Distribution Storage Facility, and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) for the city's water distribution system.

According to City Manager Clay Pearson, this project also includes:

- the completion of an update to the water distribution system master plan;

- development of the scope and bidding documents for the second phase of the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition

Please see **WATER, A4**

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INDEX

Business.....	A14	Jobs.....	B8	Services.....	B8
Crossword Puzzle.....	B8	Obituaries.....	A6	Sports.....	B1
Education.....	A4	Opinion.....	A12	Wheels.....	B10
Homes.....	B8				

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Emergency Relief fund raises nearly \$4,000 for local family of slain father

The Chaldean American Ladies of Charity (CALC) in collaboration with the Walled Lake School District and the Chaldean Community Foundation have raised nearly \$4,000 to help a local family facing financial hardship after Samir Hannawa was gunned down outside a Detroit repair shop in broad daylight.



Pictured (l to r) are Kyle Pipkin, assistant principal; Jane Shalla, executive director of CALC; Victoria Hannawa, 12; Carol-Lyn McKelvey, principal.

Hannawa worked as a manager of a Detroit party store and had taken his car in for maintenance. Just after noon, it was reported that two men

arrived, shooting and killing Hannawa outside the

repair shop. Hannawa leaves behind a wife and seven children, ages 2 to 18 — five of whom are in the Walled Lake School District.

Victoria Hannawa, 12, is a seventh grader at Walnut Creek Middle School where students have been raising money to ease the family's financial troubles. The school hosted an iPod Day fundraising event where students paid a minimum of \$2 to listen to their iPods during designated times throughout the day. A pancake breakfast was held to raise funds.

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Mike Harris (left), of the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans Association, with Mary Ann and Pat Skaja of Novi.

Donated van gives couple freedom

Mary Ann and Pat Skaja of Novi are grateful for a handicapped-accessible minivan donated to them anonymously.

"It will allow him to ride in the passenger side," said Jaclyn Kochis, deputy executive director of the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America, based in Novi. Pat Skaja earlier this year at age 70 fell and injured himself, becoming paralyzed and unable to drive. The city of Novi van has supplemented efforts to get him around, said Kochis, who was thrilled when contacted by the anonymous couple who wished to donate the minivan to a charity.

"The funders are very important and appreciated by the Hannawa family, as Samir was the sole supporter of his family," said Jane Shalla, executive director of CALC.

"The funds will help with their financial burdens and needs for housing, food and basic necessities. Every donation is a blessing to this family."

The Skajas declined to be interviewed.

Toys for Tots is for the children

By Joanne Maliszewski
Observer Staff Writer

When Rebecca Yarbrough's father asked why she works so hard for Toys for Tots, she reminded him of the bright smile on her son's face when he opened the Christmas gift he wanted.

"That's why I do it," said the Regional Area Coordinator for Toys for Tots.

Yarbrough's organization is sharing space with the Farmington Area Goodfellows, which is using a building on the north west corner of Interchange and Halsted roads in Farmington Hills.

The Novi resident has been involved with Toys for Tots for more than 25 years and this year alone will likely help some 15,000 families with children in western Oakland County and northwest Wayne County.

Toys for Tots began in 1947 by a Marine major and a group of Marine Corps reservists, who collected and distributed 5,000 toys to needy families in Los Angeles.

The effort has grown and changed over the decades, as has Yarbrough's involvement. Her start came when she attended polka parties and worked with the VFW and American Legion to collect money to buy gifts for Toys for Tots.

"I called the Marines to come and get the toys we had. They sent a 24-foot step truck. But we had this entire upstairs ballroom filled with toys in Northville," Yarbrough said.

So impressed were the Marines, they asked to her to serve on the Toys for Tots Foundation. She also became one of 13 area coordinators in southeast Michigan.

Today, she is a regional coordinator and every year tries to add communities - 48 altogether now.

"I love Toys for Tots because when I buy a \$20

toy, a kid will get a \$20 toy," she said.

The economic recession is clearly evident for Toys for Tots volunteers. "More people are donating and more people are receiving," Yarbrough said. "There definitely has been an increase with the loss of jobs."

Yarbrough is a volunteer, as is her assistant Rose Hance of Canton and the 10 volunteers who help collect, sort and package bags of toys for children in time for Christmas. "No one in Toys for Tots gets paid."

"Toys for Tots is income based for recipients, who are required to fill out a form, which asks each child's Christmas wish list. Families had until Dec. 5 to apply. "It's the only fair way to do it."

The last day Yarbrough's group will pick up donated toys from businesses, groups and individuals is Dec. 17. Then her crew really gets into high gear matching wish lists with the toys that are fast growing mountainous in the Goodfellows building.

Over the years, Yarbrough has formed partnerships with organizations, such as the Farmington Area Goodfellows, which benefits from the donated toys, as well as with businesses and organizations. "By Dec. 20, we're done," she added.

Knowing the help she and her volunteers are providing families is enough to keep Yarbrough going strong. She is determined - as are the volunteers - that kids get toys on their wish lists.

Personal experience has taught her that Yarbrough recalls as a child she so badly wanted a Barbie doll for Christmas. She remembers being thankful for her gift. But it wasn't a Barbie. "It just wasn't the gift I wanted."

Children in the communities for which Yarbrough oversees will get an average four toys - that are on their list - plus small stocking stuffer-type toys or coloring books and crayons.

"I want the parents to pick out the stocking stuffers. It gives them a chance to be involved in the process for their children," Yarbrough said.

While toys may tickle a child's heart, Yarbrough said the real gift for parent - with the help of Toys for Tots - is love.

"I have had grown men crying here," she said. She recalled a man who called asking for help to give his five children toys for Christmas. All of the kids asked for bikes. Through her partnerships and contacts, Yarbrough got the bikes. The best surprise was when the father came to pick up the gifts.

He was shocked when he saw bicycles ready for his children. But Yarbrough had seven bikes, which confused him. She eagerly informed him that the donors wanted the mom and dad to have a bike, too. "It's something your family should do together," Yarbrough told him.

"I then saw a 250-pound man fall to his knees crying."

While Toys for Tots' major objective is to provide gifts of toys for Christmas, Yarbrough's group works when needed throughout the year. For example, long before Christmas, seven area children donated their birthday presents to Toys for Tots.

"That's kids thinking outside the box," Yarbrough said.

But those gifts, as are many throughout the year, stored in the area at National Self Storage on Haggerty Road. The holiday push begins when Toys 'R Us kicks off its holiday advertising campaign in ear-



Rebecca Yarbrough, regional area coordinator for Toys for Tots, is preparing for wish lists for Christmas gifts.

WHERE TO MAKE DONATIONS TO TOYS FOR TOTS

Toys for Tots in western Oakland County and northwest Wayne County includes: Canton, Plymouth, Northville, Salem Township, Novi, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Wixom, White Lake, Wolverine Lake, Highland, Milford, Commerce Township, Keego Harbor, Union Lake, South Lyon, New Hudson, Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield, Davisburg, Clarkston, Oxford, Springfield, Andersonville, Ortonville, Brandon and Holly.

Donation sites in each of these communities are listed online at www.novi0mi.toysfortots.org.

After Dec. 17, toys may still be dropped off at National Self Storage, 24885 Haggerty Road, Novi or All Pro Restoration, 169 W. Clarkston Road, Lake Orion.

Contact Rebecca Yarbrough at (248) 767-9940.

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Cooking, eating for life

Healthy grains focus of Dec. 16 demo

By Julie Brown
 Registered dietitian Mitali Kapila wants you to enjoy holiday meals — but in moderation. “Enjoy one meal and really watch what you eat,” said Kapila, who earlier this year opened her practice, Vitality Nutrition LLC at the Atrium of Novi, 43155 Main St., Suite 305B-1. “Get back on track the next day.”

“The model of fasting by day and feasting by night for a special occasion is recommended. Kapila said extra exercise can help you avoid holiday weight gain. “It’s not worth gaining 10 or 15 pounds,” said Kapila, who earned two master’s degrees, in nutrition and food science and in dietetics and food service management. She’ll present a culinary demonstration on ancient grains at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at her Atrium of Novi office. Kapila, who also sees patients at a couple of physicians’ offices, will focus on such grains as quinoa, millet, amaranth and kamut. “They’re from all

over the world,” she said. “Their nutritional properties are so awesome. They easily can be assimilated into modern meals.” The grains are found in supermarkets, she said, and take on the flavor of foods they’re cooked with. The grains are high in iron and protein, making them ideal for vegans and vegetarians. Her Dec. 16 demo, which requires advance registration and has limited space, is for the general public, diabetics, heart patients and those interested in weight loss.

“I will be displaying some really great holiday sides,” she said. Her son, 8, likes the food. “He calls all of them ancient rice,” said Kapila, who has appeared on Fox 2 locally for cooking demonstrations. “He loves quinoa.” As winter nears, some people do just fine bundling up and exercising outdoors, she noted. Others do short workouts several times a day on a home treadmill or elliptical. Gaming systems such as a Wii can also be used to get or stay in shape, Kapila said. “Walk around the



Kapila
 parking farther out. Her Dec. 16 demo will be interactive, with attendees participating in cooking and sampling the food. Cost is \$12 per person or family. Dishes will include nutty cinnamon quinoa breakfast, amaranth stir fry, kamut salad with cranberries and feta, and gluten-free millet tabouleh.

ANCIENT GRAINS
 A culinary demonstration at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Vitality Nutrition LLC at the Atrium of Novi, 43155 Main St., Suite 305B-1. Advance registration required; call (248) 961-0229 or e-mail mitali@vitalitynutritionllc.com. mation, call (248) 961-0229 or e-mail mitali@vitalitynutritionllc.com. She also has a website, www.vitalitynutritionllc.com. (cbrown@hometownlife.com)

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WATER
 Continued from page A1

(SCADA) system for the water distribution system. The water system master plan update, implementation of SCADA for the water distribution system, and the design of the water storage facility were included in the Capital Improvement Program for FY2012-13, according to Pearson. It’s anticipated that funding for the water storage facility would be requested through the CIP process for FY2013-14 and be constructed in 2014. The report concludes that given the \$5.3 million estimated capital cost of the water storage facility and appurtenances,

The payback period is estimated to be 3.2 years. In the 2008, the water system master plan was created and it was recommended that Novi should construct an 8-million gallon ground storage tank with an 18.6-million gallon per day pump station on city-owned property near West Park Drive and West Road. To help cover costs for a storage facility, Novi had investigated shared storage scenarios with Commerce Township and the City of Farmington Hills. However, Novi officials said both communities were concerned either with the creation of a water authority, as would be required by DWSD, or with the amount of time that it would take to implement the authority and design the system improvements to make the use of a shared tank feasible.

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Area dealers ready, willing to make it a yule to remember

Does your holiday gift list include a car?

By Michelle Muñoz
 Correspondent

We’ve all seen the TV commercials around this time of year — someone looks out their window Christmas morning to find a shiny new car in the driveway with a big bow on top. Have you ever wondered if that really happens?

Area car dealers say it does indeed, and the big bow is part of the deal. Dealers all over southeast Michigan say giving cars as gifts doesn’t happen everyday, but when it does the buyer often enlists the help of the dealership to orchestrate the perfect surprise.

Gifting automobiles happens all year, and the holiday season is no exception. John Swanson, Buick and GMC sales consultant from Somerset Buick in Troy, said the deals customers can get during the holidays bring them in, not necessarily gift shopping.

“It definitely happens during the holidays,” said Mike Schrieber, new vehicle sales manager at Bill Brown Ford in Livonia. “Every year there is someone who wants to buy a car for a loved one and put a bow on it and have them show up here and surprise them.”

Chris Jeannotte of Bob Jeannotte Buick GMC in Plymouth said the dealership already has two cars prepared for Christmas delivery. “I’ve been in the busi-

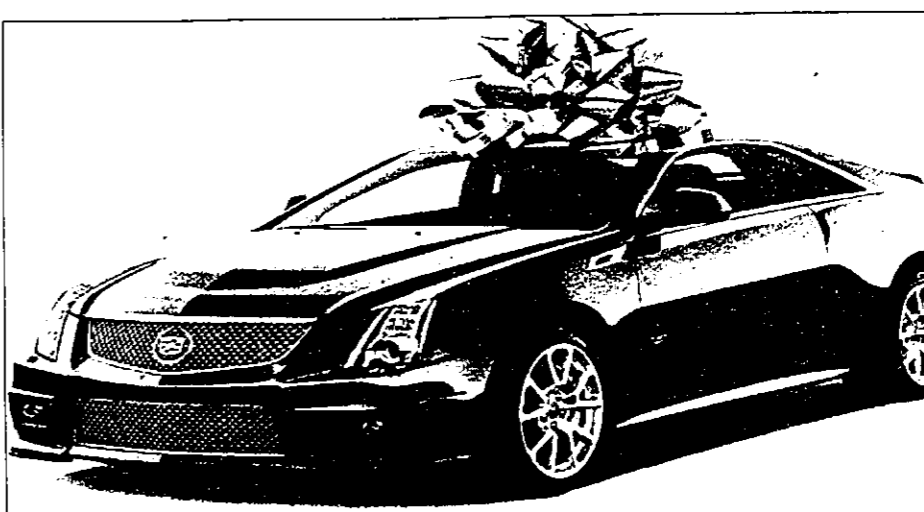
ness for 22 years and, of course, growing up in it, I have always seen about four or five during the holiday season,” Jeannotte said. “It’s a lot more common than people are aware.”

Ed Pobur, general manager of Cadillac of Novi, likes to remind his sales staff that not only is the customer trying to craft a surprise, but they are also buying a new car, something that people only do every few years.

Pobur and his sales staff do what they can to make the experience special. Rob Millar, a sales associate at Fred Lavery Porsche in Birmingham, said he has delivered vehicles to valet stands at restaurants or country clubs. Bob Faust, general sales manager at Jack Demmer Ford in Wayne, said the dealership has even delivered vehicles Christmas Day to a buyer’s home.

Dealers said the cars are going to children from parents for graduation or birthdays, from one spouse to another (usually from husband to wife) and sometimes from children to their parents.

Popular models
 A dealership’s most popular models are often their most popular gifts as well. Often the people giving the car go for practicality and affordability rather than luxury. Jason Scott, general manager of Dick Scott Dodge



in Plymouth, said the customer will go with whatever car fits their needs. Hunsinger enjoys getting involved and helping to create a magical gift-giving moment. “There hasn’t been a request that we haven’t been able to assist with the gifting of a vehicle

yet,” Hunsinger said. “It’s really a fun and engaging experience.” Ron Chaudoin, general manager at Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth, said gifting a car to loved ones is something everyone should take into consideration. “I don’t know why more people don’t buy

them as gifts,” Chaudoin said. “If you’re going to buy a car anyway, why not take credit for it and get it as a present for the family.” Before making the move, though, do your homework. Even though it is often a surprise and a gift, picking the right car requires some fore-

thought. Steve Hunsinger, new car sales manager at Jack Demmer Lincoln in Dearborn, said he has seen a few customers try to return a gifted car after the holidays.

Deciding between a lease and a purchase depends on the situation, dealers said. Chaudoin said parents of children heading off to college should consider whether they want the car to last throughout the four years of school when opting for a lease or purchase.

When spouses are picking a car for each other, doing some preliminary shopping can make a big difference, dealers said. Jeannotte said the successful surprises usually start with a couple browsing together before one decides to make the car a gift. He said some spouses also like to go with a pre-paid lease, so the car can be enjoyed worry-free until it’s time to pull out another big holiday bow.

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How should you treat people? Very well

By Steve Matthews
Guest Columnist

Throughout our lives we learn and relearn lessons about how we want to be treated and how we should treat others.

Some of the lessons that I have learned about how I want to be treated and how I should treat others came from my experience working at McDonald's while I was in high school.

Why did I work there? My parents were very clear that if I wanted money to do things I would have to find a job. They would provide me with the necessities in life, but the extras were my responsibility.

So, off I went to McDonald's. Once, while I was taking orders, a customer approached and said that her table was dirty. I handed her a rag to clean it off. It seemed like the logical thing to do.

My manager had a fit. He let me know, in very clear and powerful language, that cleaning tables was our job — not the customers.

During my two plus years at McDonald's I discovered that I had a gift for the fry area. So I was assigned to that area an inordinate amount of times.

It was not the most pleasant area to work. Heat, grease, pressure. But I quickly came to recognize that I was the area that could make or break a busy time. You can rush many things at McDonald's but you cannot rush the fries.

Managers reacted in different ways when things began to slow

down in the fry area. Some managers would jump in and help. Others would stand back and yell. As I reflect back on my time working at McDonald's I can see how those experiences have shaped me to this day.

I learned that people appreciate the simple things you can do for them. Smile. Say hello. Welcome them. Do a little extra.

But the most important thing I learned while working at McDonald's is that you have to meet the customer's needs. It really doesn't matter how nice you are if you cannot deliver on why they came to the store.

From the chair I sit in today, the lessons I learned while at worked at McDonald's still resonate.

Smiling. Saying hello. Welcoming people. Doing a little extra. All of those things are still important.

But the most important thing to do is to deliver on why people come. Our school district is quite clear on what people should expect when they come through our doors.

We should be able to deliver on three things. First, students should learn. Second, students should have plenty of opportunities to learn and grow through curricular and extracurricular activities. Third, the organization should help and not get in the way of meeting student, parent, community, and staff needs.

My commitment is that our school district will deliver. Additionally, we will deliver while treating people in a positive and respectful manner.

Steve Matthews is the superintendent of the Novi Community Schools district. He can be reached at smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us; (248) 449-1204; www.twitter.com/docsmatthews; or www.novisuperintendent.blogspot.com.



Novi Woods student Riley McDonald gets some help with her purchases from PTO volunteer Scarlett Zhong during the school's Nov. 27 Holiday Gift Shop. The shop, a PTO-run activity, gives kids the opportunity to buy Christmas gifts for their parents and friends with a set budget.



Detroit Catholic Central student Michael Lavolette was giving a pint of blood for the first time at the Red Cross-sponsored event.

BOARD

Continued from page A1

he said. "I know this philosophy will continue to be embraced by the new board. I am also proud of our new superintendent, who has embraced this ideal and is pursuing it to a whole new level."

Super's thoughts

Superintendent Dr. Steve Matthews says Bagdady was his first contact when he came to Novi, and from the beginning he's been respectful, focused and helpful. "As a new member of the organization, he has gone out of his way to help me be successful here in Novi," Matthews said. "I will always appreciate Bruce for the kind, thoughtful and generous support he provided me as I started my tenure in Novi."

Matthews says Bagdady was clearly focused on making sure that the Novi school district remained one of the very best in Michigan and the nation. He clearly communicated that his expectation and the expectation of the Board of Education was that the school district needed to continue moving forward so that its students would be provided with the best opportunities to be successful.

BOARD

"I will miss him on the board, but wish him the best as he moves on to new endeavors," Matthews said.

Bagdady says that while the district will be facing challenging times, it is better prepared now than it has ever been to take on those challenges. "Financially, we are sound," he said. "Academically, we lead the way in appropriately assessing students and acting upon the information generated by those assessments. From a program offering standpoint, I challenge anyone to find a school, public or private, that offers more opportunities for students than Novi. ... We continue to exceed everyone's expectations in student achievement. Novi Schools deserves its premier reputation as one of the best school districts in the state."

Colleagues' kudos

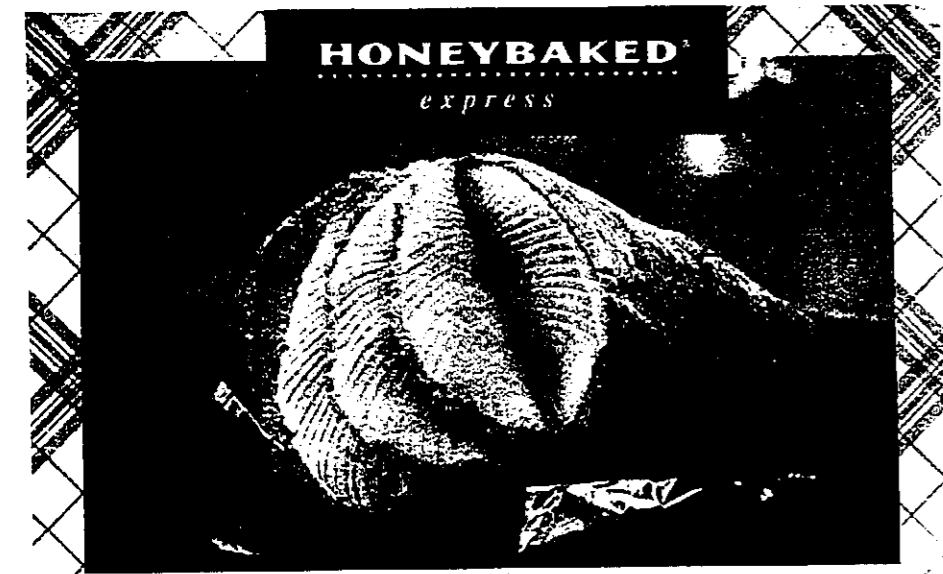
Bagdady received a special tribute from the state of Michigan at last Thursday's meeting (see sidebar). He said it was a "great honor," but that the words of his fellow board members were the most touching. "It has been a pleasure and honor to serve on the board with Bruce," said Ann Glubzinski, board treasurer. "He is a gracious, modest public servant who consistently seeks to make decisions which are in the best

interest of all of the students in Novi." She said that Bagdady is always willing to discuss both sides of an issue before making a decision and is concerned with the long-term impact a decision will have on the district. "I am very proud of my fellow board members, who have shown that healthy debate and discourse can be vigorous but respectful and result in great decisions," Bagdady said. "I have always tried to work following the words passed on to me by my father: 'Trust in truth and integrity.'" Glubzinski said she will miss Bagdady's knowledge of school law and negotiation. She said he has led by example and held each board member to the highest level of integrity and professionalism. Dennis O'Connor has served the past two years as vice president of the board. He said Bagdady has been a "valuable mentor" and echoed Glubzinski's thoughts. "The adjective that consistently comes to mind when you think about Bruce and his leadership is integrity," O'Connor said. "Talk to anyone about Bruce Bagdady, and that word integrity is part of the sentence."



Super Talk

Steve Matthews



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'It's a Wonderful Life' movie starlet appears

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Yes, Virginia, there is a wonderful life after Hollywood.

Virginia Patton Moss, who had a bit role in *It's a Wonderful Life*, spoke about her film career — and giving it up — on Dec. 2 after signing autographs and posing for pictures at Plymouth's Penn Theatre ahead of an afternoon showing of the Christmas classic.

Moss said she couldn't find a role model, among the stars of the era, who appealed to her.

"I couldn't see me doing that for my life," said Moss, who acted as Virginia Patton in 15 movies between 1943 and 1949, according to imdb.com, the Internet Movie Database. "That isn't what I wanted."

Patton instead married Cruse Moss, an industrial engineer who went on to have a long career in vehicle manufacturing. He is credited with developing the Jeep Wagoneer, a pioneering sport-utility vehicle, while a vice president at the Willys Corp.

Virginia Moss recalled that Frank Capra, the director of *It's a Wonderful Life*, told her, "You made the right choice." She and Capra kept in touch for many years.

Fans flock to theater

Cruse Moss accompanied his wife during her appearance at the Penn, which saw dozens of people lining up to meet them before the movie started. The two have been married since 1949.

One fan, Robert Volpe of Livonia, had her autograph an original poster for the 1949 western *Black Eagle*, in which she played the female lead. "Not a good movie," she told him.

Volpe also had another poster, for *The Horn Blows at Midnight*, a vehi-

cle for the comedian Jack Benny in which Patton had a small role.

Virginia Moss said she was cast in 1946's *Wonderful Life* when she appeared in a play at the University of Southern California that was directed by William DeMille, the brother of legendary Hollywood director and producer Cecil B. DeMille.

She remembered the *Wonderful Life* set as being one of both good camaraderie and professionalism. "When you were on that set you knew your lines," she said.

The Mosses, who live in the Ann Arbor area, had three children and became active in the community, and remain so; Virginia Moss was on the Board of Trustees at Cleary University and is still a docent at the University of Michigan's art museum.

A Bailey foil

In *It's a Wonderful Life*, Virginia Patton played Ruth Dakin Bailey, who marries Harry Bailey, the brother of George Bailey, the film's central figure, played by Jimmy Stewart.

It is Ruth who pulls Harry (Todd Karns) from the family business, Bailey Building and Loan, further trapping the unhappy George there.

In a scene filmed at a train station in Pasadena — they only time, the actress said, the cast was filmed off the set — Ruth is introduced to George Bailey and Uncle Eli (Thomas Mitchell) for the first time as Harry returns from college with his new bride.

The Penn audience on Dec. 2 applauded warmly as Patton first appeared on the screen.

"Ruth Dakin Bailey, if you don't mind," she announces smartly when her film husband introduces her.

A moment later, she's

talking to George, who realizes he's gained a sister-in-law but lost a successor for the family business, which, at this point in the movie, doesn't suit his dreams.

Patton and Stewart share a bag of popcorn in the scene — something that stands out in the actress' memory.

"I'm eating buttered popcorn with white gloves on," she recalls worrying. "What if Capra pulls in for a closeup?"

After the screening, Virginia Moss said she was again touched by the movie.

"That really is a wonderful motion picture," she said as she exited the



Virginia Patton Moss, an actress in the 1940s, poses with husband Cruse Moss and an unidentified fan at the Penn Theatre on Sunday. Virginia Moss had a small part in *It's a Wonderful Life*.

auditorium. "I haven't seen it for a while."

Her visit was arranged by Andy Zazula of Plymouth, a movie buff who found the

Mosses lived nearby and looked them up.

"I think it worked out great," Zazula said of the event, which saw a near-capacity

crowd turn out to see the actress. "I knew it would happen, people would eat this up."

mattjachman@hometownlife.com



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NOVI COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Local Events

NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS COFFEE WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT
Times/Date: 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17; 10:15 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19
Location: Novi Public Library
Details: Topics of discussion will be legislative action and school improvement.

WEST OAKLAND DEMOCRATS' HOLIDAY PARTY
Date: Tuesday, Dec. 18
Location: Bayside Sports Bar & Grill, 142 East Walled Lake Drive, Walled Lake (on the shores of Walled Lake)
Details: Annual holiday candlelight dinner. Social hour at 6 p.m.; dinner served at 7. Price is \$20, paid in advance. Open to the public.
Contact: Visit <http://www.mydem.info> for menu and payment options.

FUN FIRST FRIDAYS
Time/Date: First Friday of the month
Location: 27300 Wixom Road at Grand River Avenue (large retail building next to Varsity Lincoln)
Details: Featuring many handmade items from people with disabilities. Anyone in Michigan that makes handcrafted items can get a space. Free admission, free parking. Everyone that bowls a strike in our portable bowling alley gets a free fountain drink. Bowl two strikes in a row and get a free hot dog or slice of pizza, too.
Contact: For more information or to reserve a space, email FunFirstFridays@gmail.com or call (248) 812-9751; www.FunFirstFridays.com

REBUREAUMENT MEETINGS
Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. third Tuesdays
Location: Novi Civic Center (10 Mile between Taft and Novi roads)

GET LISTED!

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to ctone@hometownlife.com; by fax to (248) 685-2892; or by mail to Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.
More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at www.hometownlife.com.

Details: Led by Michael M. Meyer, D. Min., goal is to give each participant an opportunity to share their story. Handouts describing the phases of grief and the tasks of grief are available.
NOVI SENIOR CENTER
Location: 25075 Meadowbrook Road
Contact: (248) 347-0414; theign@cityofnovi.org

Library Lines

WALLED LAKE LIBRARY
Location: 1499 East West Maple Road, Walled Lake
Contact: (248) 624-3772
HUD Counseling
Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. first Mondays
Details: HUD-certified counselors are available to assist homeowners at risk of foreclosure. Learn how to work with your lender to avoid foreclosure. There is no charge for this service. Please call if you wish to attend. One-on-one sessions will be scheduled.
Book Discussion Group
Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. first Thursdays
Details: Please drop in or call the library if you are interested in joining this recently-formed group.
NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY
Location: 45255 W. 10 Mile Road
Hours: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10-5 Friday-Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday
Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library. Register for programs at the library or on the library website.
Contact: (248) 349-0720
Web: www.novilibrary.org
Story Times: Please see the Library website or story time brochure for details.

Business

LOCAL BUSINESS NETWORK

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 19
Details: The Novi chapter of LBN is a well established, dynamic, professional networking group. We are looking for new members to pass referrals to. Please come check us out. We meet on the first and third Wednesday mornings of each month.
Contact: For details and to RSVP, call (248) 349-6225 or (248) 685-9226.

NORTHVILLE-NOVI BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST
Time/Date: 7:30-9 a.m. first and third Tuesdays (except Nov. and Dec., which are just the first Tuesdays)
Location: Kerby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty Road
Details: Business networking focused on building relationships. The Sunrise Networking Group, LLC (www.sunrisenetworkinggroup.com), or SNG for short, is a group of about 250 business leaders who help each other to build more business by referring people to each other. Breakfast is \$10.
Contact: Fonda Milana, (586) 232-3009 or fmilana@sunrisefinancialgroup.com

Mirchi's moves to new location

By Lonnie Huhman
 Staff Writer

If you were wondering where Mirchi went, don't worry. The Indian cuisine restaurant hasn't left Novi; it just moved a few blocks.

Owner Sunil Marri relocated his eatery to the former Amigos Mexican Restaurant space, which he says is an upgrade for them and customers.

"We love this new place because it's bigger and can accommodate more parking," he said of the new location next to the old Fifth Avenue Ballroom building (off Novi Road just south of Main Street).

For the past four years, Mirchi had been at 43317 Grand River Avenue, across from Novi Town Center. However, Marri said the location had some issues as far as accessibility and parking.

"The other place was nice, but many of our customers complained about the lack of parking as well as getting in and out because of the traffic," he said. "So, once this location became available, we made the move."

The former location, which Mirchi leased, is owned by Vic Cassis, who said an International House of Pancakes is planning on coming in. He said the move is still in the works, but he expects it to be a great addition to the area.

Marri said he likes the new spot because it has a banquet hall that can seat up to 70 people. And unlike the former spot, which was more open, the dining area is sectioned, giving patrons more privacy if it is desired. In addition, the kitchen and storage areas are bigger.

Marri said Mirchi's menu is as diverse as India's culture, languages, regions and climate. The menu selections represent every region and bring their own unique dishes and subtle variations to popular dishes. All dishes are served with rice or naan.

Mirchi's lunch buffet hours are 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday-Fri-



A Mirchi employee readies the Novi restaurant's buffet for a Monday afternoon lunch crowd.



Mirchi Indian restaurant employee Sagar Reddy displays one of the Novi eatery's signature dishes, tandoori chicken. Mirchi recently moved from Grand River Avenue (just east of Novi Road) to a building just south along Novi Road (between Main Street and Trans-X Drive).

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Design winners

The annual Larson Jewelry Design contest produced two seventh grade winners: Rodean (Matthew) Dialogo and Chloe Flatley of Novi Middle School. The designs are currently on display and open for silent auction until Dec. 24. Once again, the funds collected from the winning bids will be donated to the Novi Godfellow's. Dialogo's design (left) features an amethyst stone and Flatley's (below) has a blue topaz. Larson faithfully captures in precious metal and stone the student's ideas for this great project that benefits the community.



SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

Attorneys J.B. Bieske and Jennifer Alfonsi have 42 years combined experience representing only Social Security disability clients. And they personally meet with all clients and appear personally at all court hearings. Many large firms assign inexperienced attorneys to your case. And some of these firms are located thousands of miles away and only fly the attorney in the day of the court hearing. Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi have vast experience before local Michigan judges.



Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi can often make a winning difference at the application stage. And, if an appeal is necessary, they have won several hundred cases before a court date is even set.

Those denied can appeal on their own but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

subject and has been interviewed on various television programs. Both attorney Bieske and Alfonsi have also been interviewed on radio programs and given speeches to many groups.

Attorneys Bieske and Alfonsi offer free phone or office consultation. If they represent you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

Bieske and Alfonsi represent clients from all over the state of Michigan. Their Livonia office is on Six Mile Road just west of I-275. Their Novi office is located on Haggerty Road just north of 12 Mile Road. Call them at 1-800-331-3530 for a free consultation if you have been denied, or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits.

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OUR VIEWS

Annual audit shows Novi in great financial shape

The City of Novi's fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, and the audit presented Dec. 3 to City Council by the firm AHP CPAs & Advisors is worth noting especially as municipalities all across this state and union continue to deal with the Great Recession.

We don't have to sum it up in one sentence, but if we did it would be this: Novi's bond rating by Standard & Poor's is AA+.

That rating is extraordinary, to say the least. S&P's credit ratings express its opinion about the ability and willingness of an issuer, such as a corporation or a municipality, to meet its financial obligations in full and on time.

A rating of AA is defined as "Very strong capacity to meet financial commitments", and the "+" puts Novi just shy of the agency's top rating of AAA.

To elaborate on the city's solid financial foundation, note these points about Novi in AHP's audit (which the firm noted as having "excellent results"):

• Top performing community fostering entrepreneurial growth and economic development in iLabs study and a four-star community for eCities 2011.

• Decrease in bonds payable of \$7.9 million to \$48 million. (In the 12 years since Novi's road bond, the only new bond was the new library's \$16 million bond a few years ago.

Clay Pearson, city manager, said Novi was in the "pre-teen" stage as it grew out the utilities and road network; now it's "getting ready for college" with more maturity-but the same eagerness to succeed.)

• Increase in government-wide net assets of \$2.3 million up to \$333.7 million. (This shows the true value of your city. And this was happening even while the city's revenue decreased \$474,000 and its expenses increased \$2.8 million.)

Property taxes account for the largest chunk of Novi's revenue, but taking a look back at the last five years one can see that number has significantly dropped. It was just over \$37 million in 2008, and down to \$30.1 million this year. Of course, this reflects what homeowners in the city have seen as their property values decreased.

The good news is that those values, especially residential, are starting an upward climb, as anticipated in the city's multi-year projections.

And good news is reflected in revenue from building permits and plan reviews, as well. Back in 2008, Novi was going gangbusters with \$2.2 million coming in, mainly from residential builds. The following year, it almost came to a halt with only \$973,417 coming in and staff layoffs following. But, this year it climbed back up to \$2 million in Novi, which is still only about three-quarters built out.

More good news is that the city is projecting the total taxable value figure to be up 2 percent by the end of the year. On the other hand, the city could lose between \$200 million and \$400 million if personal property reforms are rushed through by our state Legislature in their aptly named "lame duck" session.

City Council adopted an 18-22 percent budget surplus policy, and right now it's at a strong (and five-year high) 28 percent. The key is remaining cautious while spending on key projects, and so far Novi is doing just that. And budgeting three years down the road, as opposed to one, is helping to keep that rainy day fund in a comfortable range, too, as the storm clouds start to lighten up a bit.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Do you plan on spending more this year on holiday gifts than last year?



"Not this year, no. It's been a tough one."
Monica Galloza
Wixom



"No, I have less people to buy for this year."
Vicki Caddy
Novi



"I probably will."
Betty Prost
Novi



"No, I won't be."
John Farabaugh
Novi

LETTERS

What happened?

I was prompted to open the Cato Institute's Pocket Edition of the Declaration of Independence by a web reference attributing "When in the course of human events..." to the Constitution.

Beyond the cynical satisfaction of drubbing some blogger (it's the declaration that holds this historic clause), it also led to my long overdue rereading of our founding documents. The clarity with which the Declaration discerns the rights of the governed and the powers granted to the government makes Justice Louis Brandeis' reiteration of "the right to be let alone" the simplest interpretation of the rights of individuals and the Constitution's intentional limitation of government powers.

Rereading the Declaration raises the question "how have things gotten so far awry?"

Think about this: was there anything in this fall's election campaign about who (or which "party") will best work for the governed? Or allow each of us to be let alone? In fact, with the re-defining of corporations as "individuals", we human individuals have been relegated to simply marking the ballots for the biggest spending candidate.

Things have not become Orwellian in the sense that there is just one government machine manipulating and reimagining events so as to continue Big Brother's reign. Well, actually, it is one big machine, but there are changes in the seat of power — every two years in the House and Senate and every four years in the White House we throw some of the bums out and those people do lose their (pensioned) jobs. But what did the bums that we elect promise us? None of the campaign ads promised to better represent the voters. Campaign ads speak mostly about how bad the opponent is. Each side seeks only to take the reins of that office for themselves. Not to better represent the governed, not to contain government to the powers enumerated, not to change course in any substantial way except to alter whose campaign coffers get filled by PAC, lobbyist and special interest dollars.

Now that the mud, er, dust of the campaign has settled, it's time to ask our newly-elected representatives what they are going to do to get out of our pockets, out of the pork barrel and into passing meaningful legislation that supports the rights of the governed and is within the powers granted by us, the governed. President Barack Obama, U.S. Sens. Debbie Stabenow and Carl Levin, U.S. House Rep. David Curson, state Sen. Mike Kowall and state Rep. Hugh Crawford all have web presence through which you are encouraged to express your mandate for

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

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Fax: (248) 437-3386
E-mail: cstone@hometownlife.com

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

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

Online: Due to space limitations, not all letters submitted can be published in our print edition. However, all letters will be published online each week at www.hometownlife.com.

government for the governed, not those governing.

Nick Nicholson
Novi

Liquor license bad

I don't see this as a good mix -- liquor and race car driving, even if it is a small track. What was the City Council thinking? Great news for the Wainwright's and Paradise Park. I hope they spend the profits on liability insurance.

Eileen McKinnon
Novi

Snyder's about-face

Since Gov. Rick Snyder was elected in 2010, he has often stated that right-to-work legislation would not be part of his plans for Michigan. He expressed that a right-to-work agenda would be too divisive. However, in a sudden move late last week, Snyder urged the Republican-dominated state House and Senate to fast-track a union-busting right-to-work bill during a lame-duck session.

Gov. Snyder's dramatic shift on this most critical economic issue demonstrates his commitment to further dismantle workers' rights, as well as the middle class. While Governor Snyder and Republican legislators try to pass-off right-to-work as a benefit to Michigan's workers, it is anything but that.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, workers who live in right-to-work states, including Florida and Nevada, experience higher unemployment, earn wages that are lower by \$1,500 per year, and have more difficulty in obtaining pensions and health coverage. This means more pain for Michigan's middle class and greater rewards for CEO's.

"Michigan, my Michigan" while many of your citizens were being lulled into a false sense of security by a seemingly unassuming, corporate "nerd," he betrayed you. Michiganders need to take

constructive action to defeat Gov. Snyder and his Republican Legislature in 2014.

Jill Farber-Bramson
West Bloomfield

Win at any cost

When Gov. Snyder ran for office, he appealed to moderate Democrats with his feigned indifference regarding right-to-work laws. Being an entrepreneur, his position seemed incongruous but sincere. His indifference was short-lived and, obviously, a sham.

With the excuse that the unions caused his change of heart by pressing for a Constitutional right to collective bargaining, Snyder has shown his true mercenary colors. His excuse is a lie. The rumblings in Michigan and every Republican enclave across the nation have indicated a drive to destroy unionism as we know and cherish it. The bid for a constitutional guarantee of the right to bargain collectively for the welfare of workers was a reaction. It was not a provocation giving Snyder the opportunity to behave as a Republican instead of the statesman he pretended to be.

Win at any cost -- even when you lose.

Patrick Downey
Novi

Stopping obesity

In our society, obesity has become a huge problem. It's starting to affect our children now and the children in future generations. It starts with the parents. Kids look up to their parents and act the way they do. Parents need to step and take control. They need to help lead their children on the right path into life. If they don't live a healthy lifestyle, neither will their kids. Weight problems cause more than the feeling of being "bigger"; it can lead to life threatening diseases.

Some places like New York City have tried to ban unhealthy food. They tried to take action and ban that no sugary drinks be sold over 16 ounces. Their hope was to help bring obesity to an end. But is that really helping anything? When it comes down to it, it's not about taking away unhealthy food -- it's about being able to personally choose the right, healthy lifestyle. It's up to us to promote daily exercise and healthier food choices. We shouldn't let fast food commercials persuade citizen to go eat their unhealthy food. We need to make a change on the choices some people choose to make about their unhealthy lifestyle.

It will take more than one of us to make this change happen. It will take a majority to get things going. We need to help our kids and put an end to obesity.

Hannah Lonergan
Novi

THANKS!

Hyde fundraiser kudos

During this season of giving, classmates who organized the fundraiser in memory of 1979 Novi High graduate Andy Hyde wish to sincerely thank everyone who supported this event.

Whether it was through online or silent auction donations, or by attending the very successful event held on Dec. 1 at 10 North, you helped make a difference. Thanks to the generosity of all involved, almost \$5,000 was raised. Funds will be used to assist Andy's family with outstanding medical bills, as well as increase awareness for the Gift of Life Michigan Organ and Tissue Donation Program through a monetary contribution.

Special thanks go to 1984 World Series winning Detroit Tigers pitcher Dave Rozema, who attended the event, signed autographs, posed for photos and generally charmed the large crowd. He was a key element to the success of this event. Mr. Rozema's attendance



(L to r) Sheri Guyot, Sherri Money, Dwayne Ridenour, 1984 Detroit Tiger Dave Rozema, Laura Trombly-Etzy, WXYZ reporter Bill Spencer, Debra Dodd, Cathy Reilly and Jeff Laverty teamed up to make the Andy Hyde fundraiser a great success.

was made possible through the kindness of Novi High classmate Laura Trombly-Etzy, DDS. We also thank WXYZ-TV 7 reporter Bill Spencer (whose sister graduated with Andy) for volunteer-

ing to emcee the event along with his wife, Veronica. The talents and time of all were greatly appreciated.

A large part of the success of this event was due to generosity

of those businesses and people who donated to the silent auction. Items and services were donated from the following businesses (based in Novi unless otherwise noted):

10 North; Grizzly Peak Restaurant/Ann Arbor, Senate Coney Island/Northville; Birkram Yoga Studio/Northville; Border Cantina; Maria's Bakery; Wasabi Restaurant; Rusty Bucket Restaurant/Northville; Weinstein Jewelers;

Novi High School; Debbie Dupree/Texas, jewelry; Sheri Guyot/Northville, jewelry; Dinsers Greenhouse; Trisha Guyot/Livonia, 31 products; Goffland; Freestyle Salon/Plymouth; Classic Design Concepts A/V/om; Links of Novi; Diamond Cuts Hair Salon; 10 North Restaurant; Somerset Collection/Troy; Detroit Shoppe/Troy; Forever Green Lawn Sprinkler Services/Walled Lake; upholstery labor services by Cheryl's Upholstery/Walled Lake; Robbie Travino/Wixom, original artwork; Essential Elegance Salon/Howell; Hearts of Glass/South Carolina, jewelry; Gina Agosta Salon; Consumers Energy; One Salon; Detroit Tigers; baking basket, the Charboneau Family/Walled Lake; Bell Stone Toffee; Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro; and Cristini Salon/Royal Oak.

We also thank the Novi News and WWJ-AM 950 for helping to publicize this event. Again, thanks to all for your generosity.

Andy Hyde Memorial Event Committee

Debra Dodd, Sheri Guyot, Jeff Laverty, Eileen Lynch, Sherrie Money, Cathy Reilly, Dwayne Ridenour, Laura Trombly-Etzy

Rotary holiday party's fun for all ages



Santa says hello to Mari Linkartge at the Dec. 6 luncheon at Novi Middle School.



The Novi Rotary club and Novi Middle School welcomed about 175 guests to their annual holiday luncheon on Dec. 6.



The Novi Middle School symphony orchestra plays a tune during on Dec. 6 as they welcome area seniors to their school for a holiday concert and luncheon.



Novi Middle School student Mackenzie Kwasniewicz pours Joyce Gamm a glass of water at the Dec. 6 holiday luncheon.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NOVI NEWS

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

ProtectCell provides sponsorship for CW3 Extreme Soccer Club

It's all about the kids. That's how Novi-based ProtectCell feels about its Premier sponsorship of CW3 Extreme Soccer Club, a competitive soccer club made up of children from Commerce, Walled Lake, Wolverine Lake, Wixom and surrounding communities. CW3 Extreme Soccer Club is a small part of CW3 Soccer Association and is made up of over 375 players, both girls and boys, from 7 to 18 years of age.

"We are proud to be associated with CW3 and proud to see our logo on the front of CW3 team shirts," says Bryan Finnerty, co-founder and CEO of ProtectCell. "As a parent myself, and a former professional soccer player, I know how important sports can be in a child's life. This program provides all the elements necessary for kids to have fun, learn soccer skills and develop a love of the game. And this happens in an environment that promotes the value of teamwork and fair play."

"By providing the Premier Sponsorship, ProtectCell is helping us make playing soccer more affordable for the kids in our community," said George Janovich, director of Coaching for CW3. "As a volunteer-based organization with roughly 30 teams, we appreciate how much this will help in defraying the cost of securing fields, purchasing equipment and supplying uniforms."

In addition to the \$5,000 monetary donation, ProtectCell has established a special program providing members of CW3 Extreme Soccer Club the opportunity to purchase the company's wireless protection plans at special discounted rate with a percentage of sales going to support the Extreme Soccer teams.

"We describe our company as a move beyond cell phone insurance," explains Finnerty. "We offer a suite of integrated products and services designed to enhance, optimize and protect what we call the wireless lifestyle. Our company not only protects the customer's mobile device, by providing a device when needed, but also safeguards



Cecile Baeza (left), is in ninth grade at Novi High School and likes that fact that being part of a team means working together. She says she started playing soccer to keep up with her brothers. Annie Leuker, of Milford, attends Mercy High School and started playing soccer at 3 years old. She says she still has memories of the games from when she was very young and it had become more fun each year. Both girls are 14.

everything that is in the device, such as personal data, contacts and pictures. We look forward to providing these services to the families who are part of CW3."

ProtectCell's relationship with CW3 is a natural extension of the company's Mission 3.2.1 program, which provides local and national charitable donations as well as encourages each employee to use 20 hours of work time each year to help a local non-profit, charity or school. A team of employees decides which organizations will be targeted for donations and all employees are encouraged to provide suggestions.

Dave & Buster's looking to open Livonia location

By Ken Abramczyk
Staff Writer

Livonia may be home soon to a new entertainment restaurant chain.

The city's Planning Commission recommended approval on waiver use for Dave & Buster's, a sports bar and restaurant with arcade-style games, for a proposed full-service restaurant and a liquor license at 1937's Pembroke, located between Doc's Sports Retreat and the new Infineon headquarters currently under construction. The facility also will be located down Victor Parkway from Trinity Health, now in the process of relocating approximately 2,000 employees into one of the buildings that once housed Quicken Loans.

Dave & Buster's combines sports viewing on televisions and interactive entertainment attractions such as simulators, virtual reality and traditional carnival-style amusements and games of skill, according to the company's website.

The Planning Commission approved a site plan for waiver use Nov. 27 after new plans were submitted to move the proposed building slightly to the east. The Livonia City Council is expected to act on the waivers on the site plan and liquor license Dec. 10 and conduct a second reading on the rezoning of the 6.4-acre property from high-rise professional to commercial. Council gave the rezoning a first reading Nov. 7.

"It is the last remaining vacant parcel of land fronting I-275," said Mark Thormina, the city's planning and economic development director. The lot fronts 180 feet on Victor Parkway and 630 feet along I-275. The developable site is 365 feet wide.

The plan calls for a single, one-story building that spans 40,573 square feet. Seating capacity proposed for 601 persons. Seventy employees would work at peak hours. The facility will contain more than 200 mechanical amusement devices in a midway area.

The interior space of the building would be subdivided and used for all of the various activities, including

ing a main dining area containing 172 seats, a circular bar and dining area consisting of 167 seats, a billiards room with 14 seats, a separate sports lounge with 72 seats and private dining and meeting rooms with 176 total seats. A representative from Dave & Buster's told planning commissioners in September that the facility would employ about 200 workers.

Primary access to the parking lot would be located on a drive from Victor Parkway, but secondary access would be linked between Big Daddy's to the east and Doc's to the south.

The first Dave & Buster's opened in Dallas in 1982, the collaboration between a restaurateur and arcade owner from Little Rock, Ark., who once were located next-door to each other in that city and decided to combine their business concepts under one roof. The only other Dave & Buster's in Michigan is near M-59 (Hall Road) and M-53 in Utica, according to the company's website.

Dan West, president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, said the proposed development is "exciting" for that area of Livonia.

"Trinity Health is looking at 2,000 employees in their building, Doc's Sports Retreat has been a successful full gathering place in the evenings and Big Daddy's has renovated and opened that restaurant," he said. Infineon Technologies will have about 200 employees at its new headquarters, West said.

"Professionals will have a new place for lunch and after-work activities," he said.

With other businesses like 3M and the Recovery Project on Victor Parkway, Victor Parkway is home to a good mix and variety of businesses, West said.

"An additional entertainment and restaurant venue is good for Livonia residents and residents who live nearby in other communities," he said. "The development going on there is good for the community and it's great for the economy."

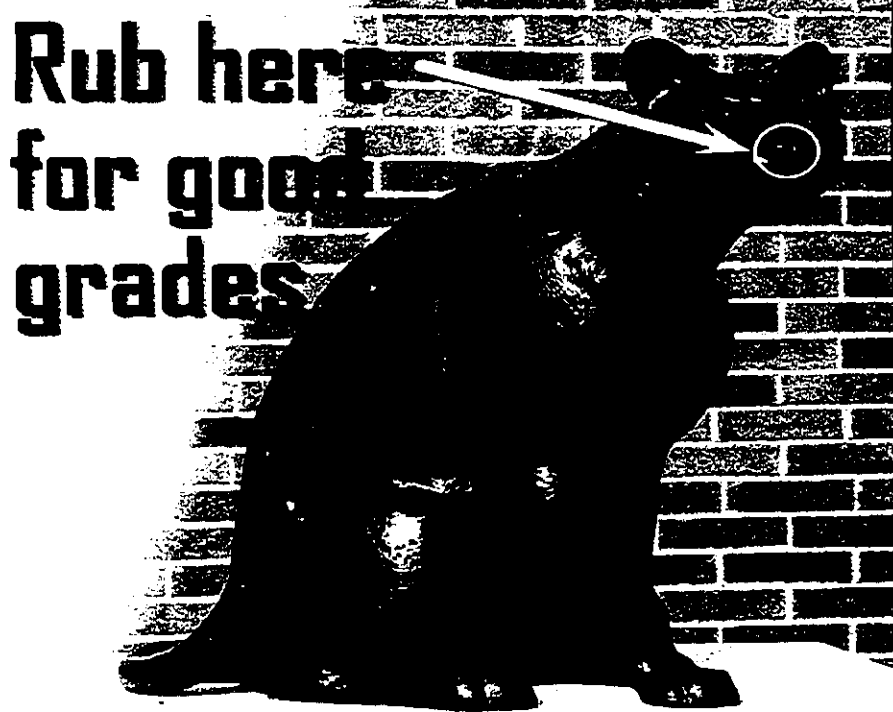
k.abramczyk@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2591 | Twitter: @KenAbramczyk

OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars offered by the Oakland County Business Center. Business assistance workshops are now offered in the

evenings on alternating months. Unless otherwise noted, all programs take place at the Oakland County Executive Office Building, Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, west

of Telegraph, Waterford. Dec. 13: Fundamentals of Starting a Business (p.m.) Dec. 19: LinkedIn for Business (Advanced) (p.m.) Dec. 20: Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (p.m.)



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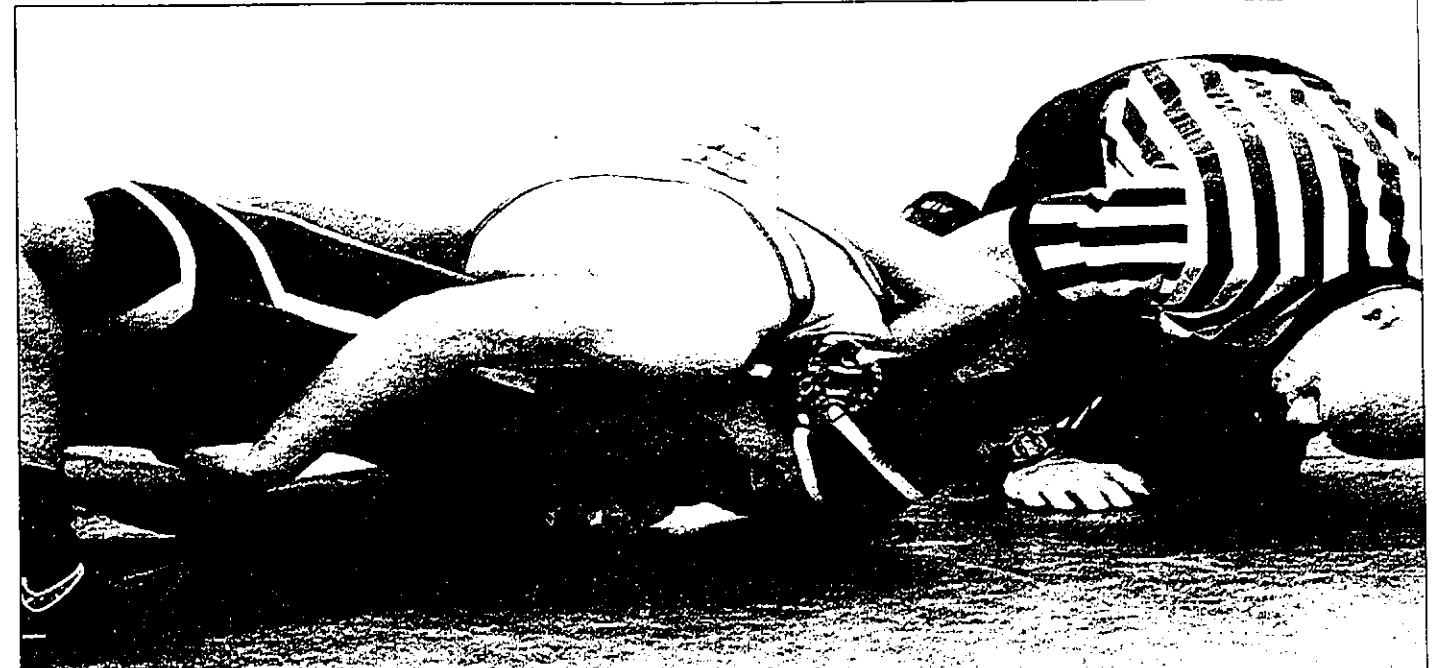
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SPORTS

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Wildcat Evan Davis has his opponent in a near-pin situation on Dec. 5.

Novi grapplers pound Royal Oak, Berkley

Roush third in weight class at Herm Wilkinson Classic

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

A new season brought two very different results for Novi's wrestling squad in their first week of action. The Wildcats hosted Brandon Royal Oak and Berkley Dec. 5 in a quad meet where Novi looked very impressive in outscoring two of the opponents by a combined 133-16, but then faced some much tougher competition Saturday at the Herm Wilkinson Classic in Howell, where they finished 14th of 18 schools.

The season opened up with Novi against Royal Oak. Despite falling behind 12-6



Wildcat Kyle Benkarski.

Please see WRESTLE, B4

CC starts season with busy schedule

Grapplers send three teams to compete in various events

By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

Ever hear the expression busy little beavers? Well, they may have to change that to busy Shamrock wrestlers pretty soon.

The wrestling team, under the guidance of coach Mitch Hancock, recently split into three groups to begin their season at a variety of events and found themselves succeeding at nearly every turn.

The defending Division I state champions took their Varsity blue team to the Rocket Duals at Westland John Glenn last week while the Varsity White team headed to Grandville to compete in a tournament. The C team, comprised of the team's youngest and most inexperienced members, took a trip to Port Huron Northern to compete in the Husky Team Duals.

The Blue Team's success was impressive as they captured a perfect 5-0 record at the Rocket Duals. In total, they lost just four matches on the day and picked up three shutouts during pool play. The most notable victories were: Evan Toth over Cameron Wilkie of Clarkston, Logan Marcicki beating Nick Vandermere of Clarkston, Nick Giese defeating sixth-ranked Larry

Please see CC, B4

Milford's Brackrog aces top spot

ALL-AREA GOLF

GOLFER OF THE YEAR
Gabby Brackrog, Milford

FIRST TEAM
Lauren Cojei, Novi
Camilla Zhao, Northville
Lindsey Matych, Northville
Lizzie Higgins, South Lyon
Caroline Harding, South Lyon

SECOND TEAM
Katelyn Henry, Novi
Chloe Page, Northville
Allison Ranusch, South Lyon
Alex Fischer, South Lyon
Olivia Kresic, Milford
Elena Moore, South Lyon

HONORABLE MENTION
Novi: Anna Greulich (sr)
East: Sydney Jones (jr)
South Lyon: Lauren Smith (sr), Priscilla Harding (fr)

MILFORD: Katie Carlson (jr)
Lakeland: Courtney Schester

By Jeff Theisen
Sports writer

Golf is a very unforgiving sport. One bad hole can ruin a round, much like a bad round can ruin a season's average on the course.

Milford junior Gabby Brackrog had a phenomenally steady season leading the Mavericks most of the year. She finished with averages of 41.1 for nine and 83.1 for 18 holes.

Brackrog capped her season with a seventh-place finish at the Division 2 State Finals (84.79) after placing fifth overall at regionals and sixth at the KLAA Conference tournament.

One of the top rounds of her season came at the Oakland County Invite where she won the title. She was top 10 in six of nine tournaments and earned All-KLAA Conference, All-County and earned All-State Division 2 honors. She holds a 4.1 GPA while serving as a captain

and being voted team MVP.

FIRST TEAM
Lauren Cojei, Novi

The Wildcat junior carried a nine-hole average of 43.4 and 86.56 for 18 while playing the No. 1 spot for Novi all year. Cojei was voted All-state Honorable mention by the MIGCA.

"Her score counting in every event she played," Deb Harris. "She was our team medalist 13 times, match medalist six times, and in the top ten in four tournaments. Her low score of the season was 76 and that tied a school record held by Natalie Krick from 2008."

Camilla Zhao, Northville

The senior and co-captain for the Mustangs led the team with an 84.89 average for 18 holes and 41.22 for nine. Zhao had four top-six finishes in tournament play.



Milford's Gabby Brackrog is the 2012 All-Area Golfer of the Year.

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Wildcats bowl way into win column

Lady bowlers start season 2-0, boys 1-1

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

The new season got rolling for Novi's bowling teams last season as the Wildcats picked up victories in three of four match-ups at two meets on the road. Behind a combined score of 49-11, the girls started 2-0, while the Novi boys start the season 1-1 with a split decision that equated to a 34-26 combined deficit.

The girls started their season with a 20-10 win at PINZ Bowling against Walled Lake Central Dec. 3 after splitting the baker games with a 159-143 win and 138-124 loss. However, they won both regular games, 757-679 and 743-626, to secure the meet victory. Megan Engles (158) and Evie Plantinck (133) scored single points for Novi. The Wildcat girls kept things rolling last Friday at Century Bowl with a 29-1 victory over Pinckney. Novi won both baker games, 158-84 and 136-92, and then both regular games, 675-511 and 765-488. Megan Engles (153, 152) and Sara Schulz (166, 182) bowled high scores. Things started off a little slower

for the boys team, who were soundly bowled over 25-5 by Walled Lake Central Dec. 3. Central won all 10 baker points with 210-168 and 213-136 decisions before taking both regular games, as well, 974-881 and 730-720. Mat Kotowicz scored two points for Novi with a high game of 214 and Keegan O'Donnell scored one point with a game of 201.

ON TAP

Novi's bowling squads (1-1 boys, 2-0 girls) have a full set of matches leading into the winter break. The Wildcats face Westland John Glenn yesterday at Super Bowl, Northville tomorrow at Town N Country Lanes and Wayne Memorial Monday at Novi Bowl. All three meets are at 3:30 p.m.

158. But Novi won both regular games, 815-758 and 909-769, behind two-point productions from each Cory Brown (157, 248) and Morgan Wiley (173, 198).

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

Strong first half leads 'Cats to win

31 first-half points surpass Western's 30 full-game points

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

It was a tale of two halves for Novi's girls basketball, but, luckily, that was all they needed to get past host Walled Lake Western. The Wildcats (3-0) cruised to a 31-9 halftime lead before holding on for a 48-30 victory over the Warriors (2-1). Despite the team's strengths, Novi continued to struggle with ball control, turning it over 15 times, compared to Western's eight turnovers. But an 11-1 opening run that led to a 16-5 lead at the end of the first quarter set the tone for the game as the Wildcats made up for the turnovers. Behind a game-high 11 points from junior Kerri McMahon (six rebounds, six assists), the 'Cats kept up the offensive flow 15-4 in the second quarter to put things out

ON TAP

Novi's girls basketball team (3-0) was set to host Pinckney (0-1) two nights ago and Wayne Memorial (1-1) tomorrow before visiting Westland John Glenn (2-0) Tuesday to wrap up the calendar year. All games tip off at 7 p.m.

of reach early. "Great first half," Novi coach Bill Kelp said.

The second half was a different story, as Western outscored Novi 14-9 in the third quarter before an evenly matched final quarter as sophomore Jayla Nichols led the Warriors with 11 points while throwing up 12 of her team's 32 attempts. No other Warrior scored more

than six points, but McMahon's teammates provided her a lot of help on offense. Senior Jade Antolec had nine points and five rebounds, while junior Taylor Pavlika added eight points, six rebounds and three assists. Also chipping in were senior Kasey Lowney (six points), sophomore Alex Felice (five points, four rebounds), junior Amanda Geiger (four points, four rebounds, three assists), junior Dina Fawaz (three points) and junior Maddy Marzoni (two points). As a team, Novi won the battle of the boards 31-14 while also making eight steals. The Wildcats shot 17-for-49 (34.7 percent) from the field, compared to Western's 10-for-32 (31.3 percent).

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

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Saturday, December 15th from 9:00am-Auction Start

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2.06 CT GIA Certified Diamond Lot #108

A Philip & Kelvin Laverne Bronze Occasional Table Lot #103

Important Pair Of Paul Manship Bronze Statues Lot #106

Novi cagers come from behind to start 2-0

Wildcats defeat pair of Walled Lake opponents

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

It took a pair of second-half runs, but Novi's boys basketball team opened the season with two victories at home over two neighboring Walled Lake schools.

ON TAP

Novi's boys basketball team (2-0) was set to hit the road yesterday at Lincoln Park (0-1) and tomorrow at Wayne Memorial (0-2) before coming home Tuesday against Westland John Glenn (0-1) in their final contest of the calendar year. All games tip off at 7 p.m.

The Wildcats used a 31-20 second half to defeat Walled Lake Central 50-42 in the season opener Dec. 4, before using a 35-20 second half against Walled Lake Northern in a 60-48 victory last Friday.

"We got off to a good start this week by beating local KLAAs foes Walled Lake Central and Walled Lake Northern," Novi coach Brian Tass said. "Both games were hard-

fought wins. Our guys played hard and with a lot of intensity."

In the season opener against Central (1-1), the 'Cats took a 12-10 lead early, but trailed 22-19 at halftime. A 13-6 third-quarter surge put Novi

ahead 32-28 and they sealed it with late free throw shooting, going 14-for-18 (77.8 percent) for the game.

"We got off to an early lead in the WLC game, but they had the advantage at half," Tass said. "A late scoring surge got us a lead in that game and we were able to finish at the free throw line. Nelson Cagle and Jionni Ivy led the team with their performances on Tuesday."

Despite three Vikings scoring more individually, Cagle (3-for-6 for three) and Ivy (10 rebounds) led Novi's team effort with 11 points apiece. Charles McKinney and Tre Cadwell added nine points apiece,

with Blake Brown (six points, 11 rebounds), Max Yanke (three points) and Billy Ullie (one point) also chipping in offensively.

Outside of their top three, Central's entire remaining team scored a combined four points as the Wildcats won the battle on the boards 28-6. However, despite grabbing a 6-1 steals advantage, Novi had five more turnovers at 12-7.

"Turnovers proved to be an even bigger problem in the next game against Northern (0-2). However, a 16-0 steals advantage, 7-1 block advantage and 31-19 rebound advantage all helped to make Novi's 16-5 turnover deficit.

"Friday's game was a similar game as Tues-

days, yet WLN had a lead much of the first half," Tass said. "We had trouble scoring offensively due to turnovers."

Tied 2-9 after the first quarter, Novi trailed 28-25 at halftime, but took a 40-39 lead into the fourth quarter, where the 'Cats went on a 20-9 run to close out the 60-48 victory.

"Our defense got us back the lead after half and a huge fourth-quarter effort got us ahead by as much as 12 toward the end," Tass said. "Free throws sealed the deal there, too."

Novi went 11-for-20 (55 percent) from the charity stripe as Cagle led with a game-high 19 points. McKinney dropped in a

complimentary 15 points to go with his five steals and the remaining cast offered steady contributions. Chipping in were Yanke (nine points), five points apiece for each Cadwell (three steals), Ivy (eight rebounds) and Brown (eight rebounds, seven blocks), as well as two points for Brandon Macklin.

The victories avenged losses to both teams by a combined 37 points last December.

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

NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

Holiday Hoops Camp

Boys in grades third through eighth are invited to attend a Holiday Hoops Camp from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27 at Novi High School. This camp will feature a morning session of individual offensive and defensive skill improvement and contests along with an afternoon session of action-packed games. In addition to Coach Tass and the Novi High School staff, camp-

ers will learn from current Novi Varsity players.

Attendees should bring gym shorts; T-shirt; a bag lunch; basketball shoes; enthusiasm and an eagerness to learn.

Cost is \$25; register online prior to the event at <https://www.totalsgate.com/SelectEvent/Tickets.aspx?eventId=31474>

For further information, contact Brian Tass, Novi boys varsity coach, at (248) 408-2463 or btass@novi.k12.mi.us.

NOTICE

CITY OF NOVI

REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT

TSLUP 12-0002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the representative for Jack Anglin Company is requesting a Temporary Special Land Use Permit in accordance with 3004.2 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance for temporary exterior storage of equipment at 46700 Grand River, parcels # 50-22-16-176-020 & 021, north of Grand River Ave. east of Beck Road, a developed parcel, for a 12 month period. The property is zoned OST and the use is contrary to 2303(A).6 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner whose property is located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for a temporary special land use permit.

This request will be considered at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 3rd, 2013 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to Angie Pawlowski and must be received prior to January 2nd 2013.

Angie Pawlowski
Senior Customer Service Rep.
(248) 347-0459

Published: December 13, 2012

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AGES 3 - ADULT

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Prices start at \$22.50
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TREAT YOURSELF TO AN EARLY HOLIDAY GIFT

GOLF

Continued from page B1

Her low round for 18 was a 76. Zhao finished 13th at the conference...

being recruited by many colleges and universities to play college golf.

SECOND TEAM Katelyn Henry, Novi The sophomore averaged 90.4 for 18 and 47 for nine holes...

Allison Ranusch, South Lyon The junior averaged 44.9 for nine holes and has played at the State Finals...

Lizzie Higgins, South Lyon The senior averaged 44.1 for nine and was match medalist at regionals...

Catholic Central hockey splits week Squad defeats DeLaSalle, can't top Cranbrook

By Sam Eggleston Correspondent

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks hockey team would have no doubt liked to have skated away with two wins last week...

ON TAP

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks hockey team will be back on the ice when they host Gilmour Academy tomorrow at 7 p.m.

Carson Gatt, Andrew Kinney (2), Luke Turner, Wade Orlovski, Babcock, Matthew Sorisho, Middleton, Jimmy Considine and Alex Tachian.

WINTER VARSITY SPORTS SCHEDULES

Novi Wildcats

ICE HOCKEY 12/14 7 p.m. @ Davison (Clarkston Christmas Tourney @ Detroit Skating Club)

Catholic Central Shamrocks

12/17 Wayne Memorial (@ Novi Bowl) less noted 12/14 @Novi 12/17 Canton 12/18 Salem

BOYS BASKETBALL

All games 7 p.m. unless noted 12/14 @ Wayne Memorial 12/18 Glenn

GIRLS BASKETBALL

All games at 7 p.m. unless noted 12/14 Gilmour Academy 12/15 @Orchard Lake St. Mary's 8 p.m.

WRESTLING

12/19 5 p.m. @ Plymouth Salem Quad (Salem, Canton, Plymouth)

BOYS & GIRLS BOWLING

All meets at 3:30 p.m. unless noted 12/14 @ Northville (@ Town N Country Lanes)

WRESTLE

Continued from page B1 after three matches, the 'Cats clipped the Ravens' wings by steamrolling through the rest of their lineup.

Sophomore Evan Davis (130 pounds) got things going with a pinfall victory that was followed with wins by sophomore Demarre Mathis (135), sophomore Kyle Benkarski (140), junior Ben Wright (145), junior Carson Cook (152), senior Ben Landry (160), junior Joey Dominguez (171), sophomore Jared Engbertson (189) and senior Zach Roush (215).

ON TAP

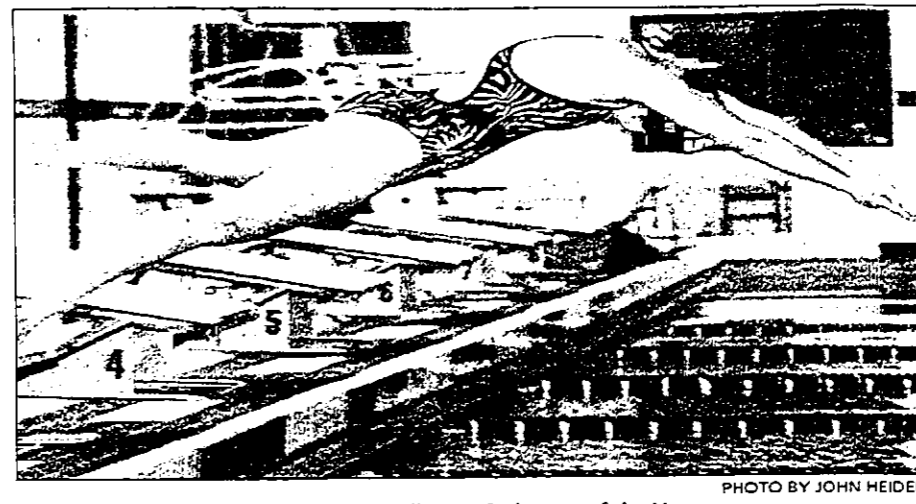
Novi's wrestlers (2-0) were set to return to action last night at North Farmington in a quad meet against two opponents out of Northville, Farmington and North Farmington.

Wildcats won both their matches that night. The tournament in Howell proved to be a bigger hurdle. Monroe won the event with stiff competition from the likes of Howell, Rochester Adams and Milford.

Northville's Cui touches out talented field

By Jeff Theisen Sports Writer

What an amazingly loaded field the 2012 All-Area Swimming Team is. Northville senior Catherine Cui takes home the Swimmer of the Year honors after an amazing season capped off with a breathtaking finish at the State Finals.



Northville's Catherine Cui is the 2012 All-Area Swimmer of the Year.

Individually, Cui earned the State Title in the 100 breaststroke and placed fifth in the 200 individual medley. She was also on the 400 free relay which placed ninth. She helped Northville finish 11th at the State Finals.

Cui also won the 100 breast and finished third in the 200 IM at the KLA A Conference meet as well as being a part of the runner-up 200 free relay and the third-place 400 free relay.

One of the best swimmers in Northville history, said coach Brian McNeff. "She came in her freshman year as a pretty talented swimmer and worked very hard to become a State Champion by her senior year."

It was amazed at some of the things that she would do with ease at practice and in meets. (She) became a very vocal leader also - always put the team first and was very good at motivating the other swimmers."

swimmer," said Burch. "She has a great ability to power herself through the water. Stormy took her swimming to the next level this year and that is why she was able to come back to the second day of the state meet in an individual event as well as in relays."

Andrea Meister, Northville The senior captain competed on the medley relay (6th) and the 200 free relay (6th) at the State Finals. She also qualified for the 100 breaststroke. Krueger was part of the KLA A Conference winning 200 medley relay.

Kallie really stepped up for us this year," said Burch. "She barely made the state cut last two years. This year she played a key role on two relays, going a full second faster in the 50 freestyle at the State Meet than she had all season long."

Autumn Smith, South Lyon The senior captain was one of five South Lyon swimmers to help propel the team to a fifth-place finish at state. Green finished third in the 100 free, seventh in the 200 free and was part of the 200 free relay to finish sixth and the third-place 400 free relay. Green is a four-time KLA A Kensington Conference champ in the 100 free and a member of the 400 free relay to also win the conference title this year.

"Rachel really turned the corner this season," said coach John Burch. "She worked harder than ever before and also was a very good leader of our team this year. I thought she had an outstanding senior season."

Chanel Bonin, South Lyon The South Lyon junior also had four All-State swims, placing third in the 100 fly, seventh in the 100 back and was part of the 200 medley relay to place sixth and the third-place 400 free relay. She was the conference champ in the 100 fly as well as part of the medley relay and 400 free relay.

"Chanel is a very talented swimmer who is one of the most competitive swimmers I have coached," said Burch. "That competitiveness is what has enabled her to become one of the best swimmers in the state."

Dee Gerke, South Lyon The relay champ for South Lyon finished as part of all three All-State relays. She was part of the medley relay (sixth), 200 free relay (sixth) and the 400 free relay (third) at state. She also competed in the 100 freestyle at state. Gerke was part of the KLA A champion medley relay and 400 free relay.

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ALL-AREA SWIM

SWIMMER OF THE YEAR Catherine Cui, Northville

FIRST TEAM Rachel Green, South Lyon Chanel Bonin, South Lyon Dee Gerke, South Lyon Kallie Krueger, South Lyon Autumn Smith, South Lyon Emily Butler, Northville Grace LaFreniere, Northville Sarah Lohman, Northville Andrea Meister, Northville Lia Nagata, Northville Mallory Buha, Novi Maranda Buha, Novi Rachel Appelbacher, Novi Andrea VanderMey, Novi Reagan Dehnbostel, Lakeland

SECOND TEAM Allissa Moore, Northville Briana Schoenek, Northville Riley Bruen, Northville Kayla Marquardt, South Lyon Madison Canadi, South Lyon Emma Bauer, South Lyon Kara Berg, Novi

HONORABLE MENTION Milford: Lane Andrews (sr), Kiyomi Irvine (sr), Jolene Little (sr), Annabel Spencer (jr), Allie Crouse (fr), Breanna Grass (fr) Lakeside: Jessica Porter, Sonia Borkowski, Jessica Cherch, Grace Collins, Valeria Mirovian, Hannah Porter, Sarah Porter, Angela Probstfeld, Mollie Vivian

SECOND TEAM Allissa Moore, Northville The freshman had a huge meet at the KLA A Conference finals. Moore finished second with the 200 free relay, third on the 400 free relay, third individually in the 200 free and fourth in the 500 free. At state, she competed in the 200 free (20th), the 500 free (21st) and the 200 free relay (17th).

Briana Schoenek, Northville The senior helped score points at the State Finals on the 200 medley relay (11th) and with the 400 free relay (ninth). She also competed in the 100 free (23rd). At the KLA A Conference meet, Schoenek was sixth in the 50 free, ninth in the 100 free, fourth with the medley relay and second with the 200 free relay.

Riley Bruen, Northville The senior was part of the second-place 200 free relay at the conference meet and placed ninth in the 100 fly and 15th in the 50 free at the same meet. Kayla Marquardt, South Lyon The senior captain qualified for state after finishing third at the KLA A Conference meet. Madison Canadi, South Lyon The sophomore was another huge piece of the potent South Lyon diving team. She qualified for state after placing fifth at the conference meet. Emma Bauer, South Lyon The sophomore finished 13th at the regional meet, just missing the top 12 to move on to the State Finals. Kara Berg, Novi The senior finished second at the KLA A Conference meet and went to place 18th at state.

CC

Continued from page B1

Rekar of Romeo, and Myles Amine scoring a major decision over Jordan Markey of Ypsilanti Lincoln.

The White squad picked up a third-place finish in the Grandville tournament, competing with teams such as Bronson, Thornapple Kellogg, Grandville and Battle Creek Lakeview. Eight Shamrocks finished in the top three, including second-place finishers Greg Johnson, John Stevelinck and Christian Miner.

The C team finished 1-4 on the day at the Husky Team Duals. In other Catholic Central wrestling news, senior captain and heavyweight grappler Bob Coe made it clear that he intends on taking his wrestling to the next level.

news, senior captain and heavyweight grappler Bob Coe made it clear that he intends on taking his wrestling to the next level. Coe, who finished seventh in the state tournament last year and is the current No. 1-ranked heavyweight in Division I, announced that he will wrestle at Boston University next year.

"We're awfully proud of Bob and how far he has come as a wrestler," said Hancock. "His future is bright and he has an amazing upside to him. His hard work in the classroom has paid off and landed him with a phenomenal opportunity to represent Boston U."

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

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ENACTMENT - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.703. THE CITY OF NOVI ORDAINS. Part I. That Ordinance No. 97-18, known as the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Novi is hereby amended as indicated on ZONING MAP NO. 18.703 attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance.

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Thanks to all of you who submitted a toy during Scoop's Toy Drive. All of the gifts were given to Methodist Children's Home Society in Redford and Orchards Children's Services in Southfield.

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Scoop's Hound Dog Highlights

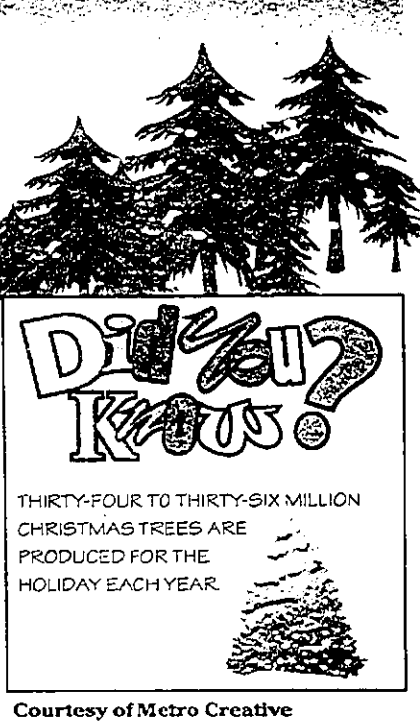


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Word search grid with words like SONG, TWELVE, PARTRIDGE, PEAR TREE, etc.

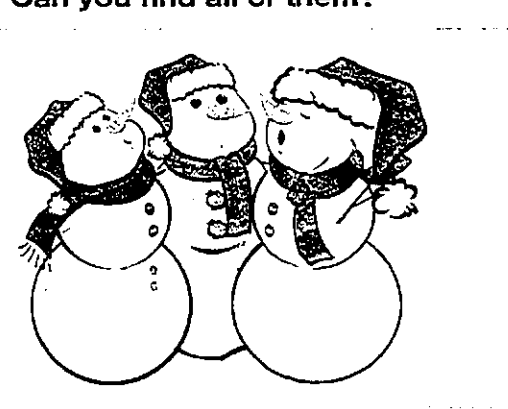


What's the Difference?



Courtesy of Metro Creative

There are five things different between picture A and picture B. Can you find all of them?



Courtesy of Metro Creative

Lucky November Winners!

What are you thankful for? I'm thankful for life, liberty, and to be all that I can be in this big world we live in...



Khalil Ali, Detroit, Age 13

What are you thankful for? I'm thankful for my family because my family takes very good care of me and they also give me a lot of love and care.



Damien Dailide, Canton, Age 9

REAL ESTATE

Yule party brings Realtors, their friends together in spirit of season

The Greater Metropolitan Association of Realtors held its holiday and anniversary party Wednesday, Dec. 5. GMAR celebrated its first full year as a merged Realtor association...

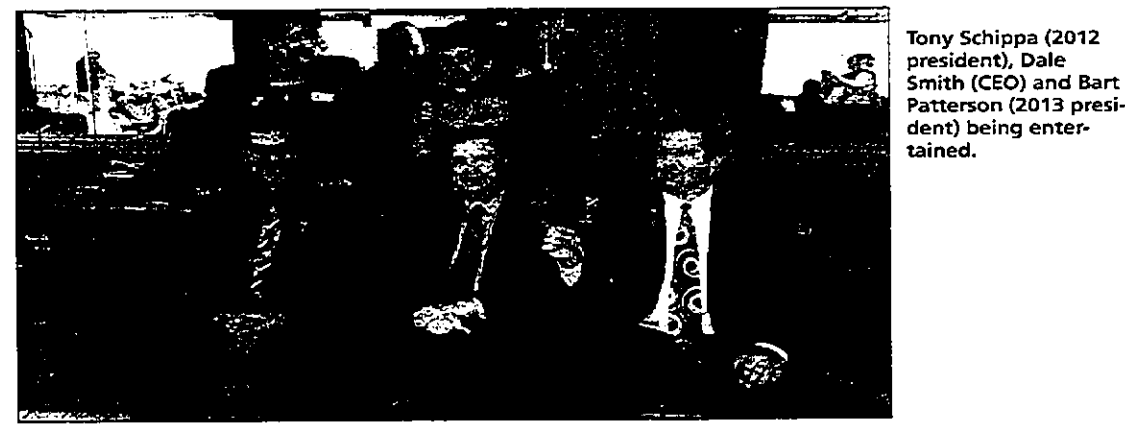


Realtors and their friends gathered Toys For Tots at the party. Over 200 toys were collected.

GMAR has raised several thousand dollars for charities during 2012, with an emphasis on area children.



Roxanne Fitzpatrick, Brenda Lee Szlachta and Maureen Francis (two chairs of the event and Francis as newly elected president-elect) have a good time.



Tony Schippa (2012 president), Dale Smith (CEO) and Bart Patterson (2013 president) being entertained.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

Table with columns for location, address, and price. Includes entries for Canton, Livonia, and Redford.

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

Table with columns for location, address, and price. Includes entries for Broomfield Township, Beverly Hills, and Farmington Hills.

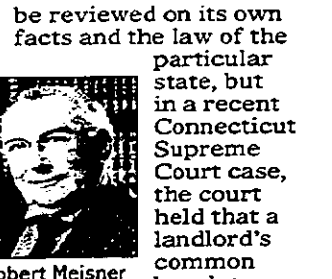
REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Career Seminar: Learn about a \$50,000 income guarantee. Seminar on Tuesdays: A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each first Tuesday... Free foreclosure tours: Free foreclosure tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday...

Dog bite case: Ask lawyer

By Robert Meisner, Guest Columnist

Q: I have been bitten by my neighbor's tenant's dog. I live in a municipal housing development. The housing authority had knowledge that the dog was dangerous, yet failed to enforce a lease restriction pertaining to pets that should have ensured the removal of the animal from the premises...



Robert Meisner

known dangers on the premises includes dangers posed by vicious dogs. Apparently, the housing authority's argument that it had no liability under state law because it was not the owner or keeper of the dog did not relieve it of liability...

Q: We are thinking about building some residential property around Comerica-Ford Field. I am curious how the residential area around Target Field in Minneapolis has prospered, if at all.

A: Target Field in Minneapolis was a boom to not only the residential area, but the residential area, as it is conveniently located to the major shopping areas in downtown Minneapolis. Moreover, rapid transit is being developed there not only with respect to Target Field, but the University of Minnesota's new football stadium which will have light rail going to the stadium from downtown and from the airport.

There are number of apartment buildings being constructed in the downtown vicinity and much of the city still has prosperous residential housing, particularly around the three major lakes which are located within the city limits of Minneapolis. There are also major shopping chains in the downtown area, including major department stores and, of course, Minneapolis is the home of Target. Again, if Minneapolis is any example, with the advent of rapid transit or light rail in the Detroit area, I would suggest that additional residential housing is sorely needed in the Detroit area and should do reasonably well.

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

HOMES
apartments.com HomeFinder
Homes
Howell, E. Farmington, 1,350 sq ft ranch, BR 2 bath, great kitchen, \$165,000-149,900-110K

RENTALS
apartments.com HomeFinder
Howell, E. Farmington, 1,350 sq ft ranch, BR 2 bath, great kitchen, \$165,000-149,900-110K

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PERSONALS
hometownlife.com
Announcements & Notices
HEAT SELF: I'm looking for a woman who is confident, intelligent, and has a sense of humor. Must be a native born and speak English fluently. Age 28-35. Reply to: [redacted]

BUY & SELL
hometownlife.com
ABSOLUTELY FREE
KITTENS TO GROW HOME!
3 mos old, litter trained, play friendly, love to run.

BUY & SELL
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ESTATE AUCTION SALE
Real Estate, Antiques, Art, and more. To be held at the home of the deceased.

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PETS
hometownlife.com
WANTED TO BUY: I am looking for a dog, preferably a retriever or golden retriever. Must be friendly and well-trained. Reply to: [redacted]

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JOBS
builder.com
Help Wanted - General
CHILD CARE - Montessori certified teacher for a private day care center. Must have a degree in early childhood education and 2 years of experience. Reply to: [redacted]

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Crossword Puzzle Long in the Past

ACROSS
1. Not quite correct, as a flog 8. Stations. 14. Trees of Lebanon 20. Mountain ridge east of Jerusalem 21. It's armed at night 22. Mountain range 23. Cook for something 34. Group of live people drunk on sherry? 38. Not connected to the Internet 41. Covered the feet of 42. Rebut 43. Stearway with a wood finish? 49. Former C. Dancy chief Michael 50. Klee's output

DOWNS
1. Spheres in space 4. Royalist land. Abbr. 17. Gray-headed 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123.

Jobs

No Degree? Seven ways to sell your experience

1. Be a problem solver
"Millions graduate with vague degrees that only attest to one's ability to read books and take tests, but not necessarily solve problems," Murphy says. "Industry experience conveys that an employer right away or with little learning curve. Examine your experience and spell out how you helped solve problems, any problems. Competitors with degrees won't be able to compare."

2. Tell your 'Rocky' story
"Not having an impressive academic pedigree - or any degree at all - can be a plus if you've found a way to succeed in this point without one," says Sean O'Neil, principal of One to One Leadership, a sales and management training and recruitment company. "The more you can demonstrate your success relative to more pedigreed peers the better. You can paint yourself as a self-made professional, as compared with the silver-spoon Ivy Leagues who had all the odds in their favor."

3. Be open to education
"Many companies have favorable back-to-school plans for their employees. If you're speaking with a prospective employer that places a large emphasis on academics, you might want to indicate a desire to take advantage of their plan," O'Neil says. "Demonstrating a desire to make up any gaps in your resume while on the job might just tip the scales in your favor."

4. Don't make it a big deal
"Don't make such a big deal and it just might not be," says Bill Gaffney of the Amara Group, a recruiting and coaching company. "If it is an impediment to you, then you are going to reflect that when you talk with the company. There are really very few companies where the degree will stop [someone] from hiring a person if they are the best out there."

5. Focus on achievements over education
"If you don't have a degree, it's very important for you to shine in every other aspect of your resume," says Cathy Severson, career counselor and owner of Retirement Life Matters. "Don't settle for a list of tasks, but really demonstrate how you can add value to the company."

6. Prepare your success stories
"For the interview, prepare several stories of success that show case how you have accomplished tasks similar to others who possess a degree," says Barbara Safani of Career Solvers. "If you are a sales professional, for example, focus on how you exceeded your sales targets and have done as well or as better than your colleagues. If you are an accountant, prove how you have uncovered errors and recouped money for the company - despite the fact that you didn't formally study accounting. If you are a high school graduate competing against a recent college graduate, talk about the experience you have garnered in part-time or summer jobs or full-time jobs you had while others your age were at college, she says."

7. Create a combination resume
"The most important task is to market your key skills and accomplishments to the employer by creating a resume that focuses on your contributions to your previous employers and your experience that is most relevant to the position for which you are applying," says Winifred Winston, certified professional resume writer. "By creating a combination resume that lists your relevant skills and experience first, you are sure to capture the hiring manager's attention. You initially want the employer to be able to fold your document in half and just by reading the top portion they know you are someone they should contact to schedule an interview. Does that top portion list education? Not necessarily."

Car Report

Advertising Feature

Ford, dealers step up the retailing of branded merchandise



By Dale Buss

over 2011.

The Cyber Monday success, on November 26, also reflects long-term moves Ford has been making to leverage its Ford Collection to the broader advantage of the company and its brands and vehicles. Ford's targets are major mass-merchandise U.S. retailers and their consumers, of course, and its own dealers.

Among the hottest items on Cyber Monday were a Mustang hoodie, a basic Blue Oval sweatshirt, a "Mustang Alley" street sign and a classic-Ford GT500 t-shirt. And at bricks-and-mortar outlets and online at retailers ranging from Walmart to Toys R Us, a radio-controlled toy F 150 Raptor was one sizzling item.

For dealers, Ford has just launched a dedicated web site where they can order Ford Collection merchandise at reduced general prices, as well as use quantity price discounts and "monthly specials" — all leading to higher margins for dealers when they retail the wares in their showrooms and service departments. An early-bird interest by some dealers helped contribute to Ford's jump in Cyber Monday sales over a year ago.

Ford also is arranging for dealers to be able to offer Ford Collection shopping to their customers on their own web sites, further tying dealers into a company strategy that already has built licensed

merchandise into a \$1.5-billion annual business from about \$1 billion in 2005. Dealers receive 20 percent of the proceeds of all Ford Collection sales that are accessed through their own web sites.

"We're trying to get dealers more involved in selling our officially branded merchandise," Amy Wilds, Ford's licensing marketing manager, told me. "We're also focused on educating dealers about the program."

To that end, Ford also now is sending out "street teams" of specialists to visit dealerships, help them set up stronger spaces for selling Ford Collection gear on their premises, and assist them with merchandising and marketing the stuff. "When we announced these programs at [recent] Ford Dealer Council meetings," Wilds said, "there was a lot of excitement around them."

In advance of Cyber Monday, Ford also stepped up its social-media activity promoting the Ford Collection to American consumers, who turned around and made more purchases of Ford wares through mass-merchandisers ranging from Walmart to Toys R Us, both online and in the stores.

A variety of radio-controlled Ford miniatures have been popular this holiday season already. So have prominent video games that feature Ford models, including Microsoft's just-launched Halo 4. Fisher Price promoted a Ford Raptor version of its venerable Power Wheels toy as a Black Friday special, and many retailers picked up on the promotion to make it a strong seller, said Mark Bentley, Ford licensing manager.

The company has about 400 licensees now, up from about 300 just a few years ago. The licensing crew granted about 18,000 product approvals last year, up from about 15,000 just two years ago. And retailers sold about 45 million individual pieces of Ford-branded merchandise last year, up from about 40 million pieces just five years ago.

Ford won't reveal how much that \$1.5



The Ford Collection web site is a portal for dealers and consumers.

billion contributed to its own top line, but it's certainly a hefty — and growing — chunk of change. And more important, rising interest by licensees of all sorts in leveraging the equity in the Ford brand and vehicles "is one of the best measures of brand health," Jim Farley, Ford's global CMO, said recently.

In fact, until recently, anything related to Mustang was Ford's most popular brand for licensing, and "Built Ford Tough" and other marks related to Ford pickup trucks were No. 2. Ford's Blue Oval was No. 3.

But over the last few years, the Blue Oval itself — which recently was taken out of hock from Ford creditors because of how the company's credit ratings have improved — has leapt to the No. 1 request of licensees.

Bentley said that, this season, Ford also has "been selling a lot of 'man cave' items through Hobby Lobby, from signs to coasters to pint beer glasses — anything a man would want."

And for the most rabid fans of Ford and its vehicles, also available is the licensed customized garage. "That's not cheap," Bentley said.



The Mustang remains by far the most popular model for Ford branded merchandise.

OE2302180

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Help Wanted - Medical

REGISTERED NURSES
All shifts FT and PT Needed
Apply in person at:
Med Lodge of Millford
555 Highland Ave
Millford 48381
Or email resumes to:
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medlodge.com

RESIDENT ASSISTANTS
Needed for Elderly Care in
Brighton. No experience necessary,
FT & PT midnight shifts, dependable and responsible a MUST!
Apply at: Ashley Court
7400 Chalfin Rd., Brighton

RNs & LPNs
For Private Duty Home Health Care patients in metro Detroit area. FT/PT, all shifts avail. Current, unencumbered State of Michigan license to practice as a RN or LPN. Minimum two (2) yrs. of nursing exp. required. Ventilator, Trach and G-Tube Care experience preferred. Excellent Pay!
Email resumes:
HC-NR@healthcall.com
or visit:
healthcallhomecare.com
(800) 991-9933 x505

Food - Beverage

COOK FULL TIME
Needed for a smoke and grill free Brighton Senior Retirement Community. Must be available weekends and holidays. We offer a competitive salary, paid health, dental and vision insurance, paid vacation, and 401K. Send resumes:
Attn: Executive Chef, IBBV,
7700 Nemco Way,
Brighton, MI 48116 or send resume to:
hr@retirebrighton.com

COOKS
Careful! We are looking for cooks for all shifts. This person must have a minimum of 1 year exp cooking in a commercial setting. Must enjoy working with elderly people and have great customer service skills. Previous exp in a Long Term Care Environment is strongly preferred. Apply in person at 1014 E Grand River, Brighton, MI 48116 or send resume to:
hr@retirebrighton.com

Help Wanted - Sales

40 HOUR REAL ESTATE PRE-LICENSE CLASS PROVIDED BY: REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION GROUP LLC
DATES: Jan: 7,9,14,16,21,23,28,30 Feb: 4, 11
CHARGE: \$225.00
LOCATION:
Keller Williams Realty
1000 E. Grand River
Brighton, MI 48116
CONTACT:
Nancy Rademacher
810-534-2110

EXPERIENCED Auto sales professional with knowledge of sub-prime lending. Must be motivated, internet and computer savvy, able to handle sales process from start to finish. Email resume to:
joelcass@ymail.com

WHEELS
SNOWMOBILE TRAILER
R&R 4 place aluminum snowmobile trailer with snow shield.
\$1,500. 248-851-3959

Snowmobiles

Autos Wanted

ALL AUTOS, TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT
Running or Not Wanted Highest \$\$\$ paid. Free friendly towing! Batters wanted too.
248-437-0094

Trucks for Sale

DODGE Ram 2003 2500
SLT, Blue/Gray, 65k miles, runs good, strong engine 5.9L, 6-cylinder, auto trans. (Adkins) \$4,000. (813) 421-0326

F250, 2003 XLT Superduty, Super crew, diesel, 100k, lots of options \$16,500/best offer. Must see 517-376-1762 or 17613

FORD F-150 2011 XLT
121616k - Ford Certified, 1X4, super crew, 4WD, auto a/c, full pwr, chrome pkg, 10,000 1 owner miles, rates as low as 1.9%, \$29,888
North Brothers Ford
800-586-7931

FORD F350 1979
w/snow plow, V-8diesel, strong 400, V-8, 56,000 miles, no rust. \$3500/best offer 313-353-9693

Mini-Vans

Dodge Grand Caravan Sport, '00, FWD, 4 dr, Cd & cassette, red \$3995. 819-599-6270

HANDICAP VANS - USED, BOUGHT & SOLD. Mini & full size. I come to you. Call Dale anyday, 517-682-7299.

Vans

DODGE CARAVAN 2005
Excl cond, 19K, \$2,500
Call: (734) 717-8257

FORD E-150 2008
White, 65,000 miles, good cond., \$11,594.
Call: 248-933-8554

Sports & Imported

'10 AUDI A-4 2.0T PREMIUM PLUS AWD
Moonroof, navigation, one owner. \$24,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

Buick

2006 LACROSSE CXL
LOADED, EXC. COND., 59,500. 810-423-2765

LACROSSE 2008 CX, leather chrome pkg, original owner, 34,000 miles, loaded. Like new! \$14,500/best offer 734-404-5707, 734-231-5431

Chevrolet
'12 CHEVY IMPALA LTZ
Moonroof, one owner, only 8,100 miles.
\$20,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

Chrysler-Plymouth
CHRYSLER 300 2011
Excel cond., 22,000 mi, custom grill, 20" wheels, leather, \$22,995. 248-231-7874

Dodge
'03 DODGE DURANGO SXT 4X4
One owner, full power, only 56k miles. \$10,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'08 DODGE SPRINTER HI CUBE VAN
Diesel, one owner, only 31k miles. \$27,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'10 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED 4X4
Moonroof, navigation, certified. \$35,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'10 FORD F-150 STX S-CAB 4X4
Certified, one owner. \$24,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'10 FORD FLEX SEL AWD
Certified, one owner, only 31,000 miles. \$24,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'11 FORD FIESTA S SEDANS
One owner, 5 to choose as low as \$11,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'11 FORD FLEX SEL
Leather, certified, one owner. \$22,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'11 FORD RANGER S-CAB SPORT 4X4
Certified, one owner, only 8,800 miles. \$23,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'12 FORD EDGE SEL AWD
Moonroof, leather, certified. \$28,995
Brighton Ford
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Ford
'12 FORD F-150 STX S-CAB 4x4
Certified, one owner.
\$27,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'12 FORD FLEX LIMITED
Certified, one owner, priced to move. \$26,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'12 FORD FUSION SEL V6
Certified, one owner, 5 to choose. As low as \$18,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'13 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED 4WD
Certified, one owner. \$35,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

2001 - Ford Escape, 6cyl, 4x4, clean, runs great. \$4,500
Please call: 810-691-5030

ACADIA SLT 2009 AWD
Silvergray metallic. Dual moonroof DVD navigation, 4 buckets leather, rear camera, back up assistance, auto tailgate and towing package. Original owner. Worst last long 65,000 miles. \$20,500.
(248) 670-7536

'12 HONDA CIVIC EX COUPE
Moonroof, one owner, only 13k miles. \$18,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'08 JEEP WRANGLER RUBICON 4x4
Auto., lift kit, only 49k miles. \$22,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'08 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR 4x4
Moonroof, full power, priced to move. \$27,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

TOWN CAR 01, Lady owned, no rust, new tires, non smoker \$4,995. 810-590-6270

MURANO 2004 SL, In good shape, clean Carfax. 130,000 mi. \$3600. Call me after 6pm or text any time at: 513-900-1069
Mtw042004@att.net

Observer & Eccentric
Hometown Weekly Classifieds
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Pontiac
'01 PONTIAC GRAND AM GT COUPE
Great Car Fax, like new, only 81k miles. \$6,995
Brighton Ford
800-836-7697

'04 PONTIAC GTO COUPE
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