

Alternative fuels plant opens in Novi - A9

THURSDAY
October 15,
2009

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NOVI NEWS

online at hometownlife.com



Novi's
playoff
hopes
drowned
in OT
defeat
Sports, B1

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10/15/09

NOVI NUTSHELL

School budget

Novi Community Schools will face continual, significant budget challenges in 2010-11 and beyond due to the struggling Michigan economy. The district is reaching out to the community with opportunities for the public to learn more about school funding and financial issues at scheduled community presentations. Meeting dates, times and locations are as follows:

- Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 9:30 a.m. at Novi Woods Elementary
- Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. at Novi Middle School
- Thursday, Nov. 12 at 7 p.m. at Orchard Hills Elementary

In addition, there are opportunities for the school community to give input to the budgeting process. Posted on the district web site is a Budget Timeline, showing dates of Board of Education meetings and significant budgeting events. A Web site link provides space for community members, parents, students and staff to submit suggestions for increasing revenue and/or decreasing expenses.

Signs allowed

The Novi City Council will once again give businesses relief from the sign ordinance and allow owners to place an additional 4 foot by 6 foot sign at their business for free.

The one-time permit will be valid only between Nov. 27 and Dec. 26. Businesses must complete a registration form and return it to the Community Development Department to participate.

CC sale

The Mother's Club of Catholic Central High School will be holding its annual Rummage & Bake Sale from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17. There will be a \$1 bag sale at noon. The school is located on the west side of Wixom Road, just south of Grand River Avenue.

Call to crafters

The Michigan 50's Festival is hosting a craft show to raise funds for next year's Michigan 50's Festival. They are looking for crafters interested in participating. The event is at Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving.

If you are interested in participating please fill out the form at www.michigan50sfestival.org or call Jeanette (517) 376-0813.

Candidates set to face public

Forum to discuss pressing issues

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The end is in sight as candidates running for mayor and three Novi City Council seats fine-tune their campaigns for the stretch run.

Mayor David Landry will face opposition from Laura Lorenzo, while three council incumbents, Brian Burke, Terry Margolis and Andrew Mutch, look to retain their council seats. They will be challenged by Cheryl Csordas, Justin Fischer and Wayne Wrobel.

A candidate forum being moderated by *Novi News* Editor Cal Stone will be held at 7 p.m. Monday in the council chambers at the Novi Civic Center for residents who want to hear the candi-

dates speak. Questions to be asked are currently being gathered from *Novi News* readers; e-mail cstone@gannett.com.

RACE FOR MAYOR

A former council member will take aim at the mayor's seat currently held by Landry since 2005. Landry, who has served on council since 2001, will go up against a familiar face in Lorenzo, who served on council from 1997-2005.

Landry said he wants to retain the seat because he wants to continue to be part of the success the city is having despite an economic downturn that has several other local cities reeling. He credits the administration and current council for keeping the city in

CANDIDATE FORUM

The candidate forum, open to the public, will start at 7 p.m. Monday in the council chambers at the Novi Civic Center.

- Council candidates: 7-8:30 p.m.
- Mayoral candidates: 8:45-10 p.m.

sound financial shape, and sees "great opportunities" in the future to attract businesses and continue to provide essential city services.

Increasing city revenue, not raising taxes, is key for the future, he said. "That is why the city is doing so well financially," he said. "We are able to develop economically."

Lorenzo, who said she thought she was done with political office when she left four years ago, is running because she is worried about the

amount of spending the city has been doing.

"I've been concerned about the way the mayor and council haven't seemed to adjust to the present and foreseeable financial future," she said. "To me, it has been business as usual. And, in my opinion, it's anything but business as usual right now."

Lorenzo said she wants to set a tone of fiscal discipline and provide stability to attract more businesses and residents.

COUNCIL RACE

First-term incumbents Margolis and Mutch are vying for three open seats on council, along with Burke, who was appointed in January to finish out former council member Kim Capello's term. (Capello was elected

Please see FORUM, A3

Learning in America

Chinese exchange students spending year at Novi High School

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

When Ziliang Cao, ChengCheng Niu and the four other students from the NextGen Entrepreneurship Program walk the hallways of Novi High School, they don't stand out in the crowd.

It's all part of the "global village" the Novi Community Schools district and principal John Lawrence have created, as students from all across the world intermingle with each other on a regular basis.

Lawrence said he wants the students to embrace the diversity because it will prepare them for the future.

"It speaks highly of our high school community that students who come from everywhere seamlessly transition in," he said.

Cao, who goes by the American name Austin, and Niu, who goes by Susanna, are in America for the first time thanks to the NextGen program provided through a partnership with Oakland Schools and the Oakland County business community. It is designed to help educate students about the growing global society and foster relationships.

The 23 students, who also are going to schools in Bloomfield Hills and Troy, are staying with host families and given a buddy at the school to help them with any issues that may arise.

Recently, Austin and Susanna participated in the annual Homecoming festivities, a celebration that does not happen in China.



Chinese students Austin Cao and Susanna Niu walk the hallways of Novi High School as lunch hour ends. Cao, from Guangzhou province, greets a friend at left. Niu is from Dandong in China, which is in the northeast. Both are seniors at Novi High and are amongst a handful of students from China taking part in the NextGen Entrepreneurship Program.

Austin said the night was "fantastic" and was excited when he asked a girl to dance and she said yes.

"It was a totally new experience," he said, even though the style of dancing was a bit different. Susanna has been active in her

first few months at the school, joining clubs, playing tennis with friends and singing in the choir.

Being able to do activities outside of a school is a major change, she said. "In China we just study," she said.

"We don't have a lot of time to do other things."

Both students are still working on their English speaking skills, often getting advice from their host families.

Please see STUDENTS, A3

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Senior Health & Living Expo is Friday

Meet, greet star of Gem Theater's 'Ethel Merman's Broadway'

Health screenings, demonstrations, expert speakers and a meet and greet with Rita McKenzie, star of *Ethel Merman's Broadway* at the Gem Theater, are all part of the *Observer & Eccentric* and *Hometown Newspapers* Senior Health & Living Expo on Friday, Oct. 16.

The free event will feature more than 40 exhibitors offering resources, demonstrations and information on health, finance, housing and more from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Building H, Farmington Hills. (Parking will be shuttled



Rita McKenzie, star of "Ethel Merman's Broadway," now playing at the Gem Theatre will host a meet and greet at the Oct. 16 Senior Expo.

by a classic trolley from the parking lot to Building H and parking is free.)

Please see EXPO, A6

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Thank You again
Paula
Northville

"The party Friday night was wonderful! Thank you very much for your own fine efforts in the coordination. The waitstaff is to be commended for their outstanding service and patience. But the food, Gayle, was from HEAVEN!!! We assembled a group of very discriminating palates (Seattle, San Francisco, Chicago, Manhattan and Atlanta). I am still getting rave reviews. KUDOS to the chef for his culinary expertise."
Betsy Ross
Cleveland, OH

"It was a pleasure to have our shower for Liz and Justin at Fiamma Grille. Everyone involved was very Professional and Friendly. We also had many compliments concerning the wonderful food and beautiful banquet room."
Thank You,
Margaret, Dennis, Linda and Will
Livonia & Plymouth

"We wanted to tell you what a wonderful job you did for our rehearsal dinner on May 26. The Banquet room in Fiamma Grille was just perfect for the occasion. The food was wonderful and the service was exceptional."
Joe And Jenny

"Last evening my husband and I hosted our Corporate Christmas party at Fiamma Grille. From Start to finish it was a wonderful evening. The food was excellent, the service smooth and knowledgeable, the wine selection perfect. I know that during this busy time of year things don't always run smoothly. Not last night, it was truly a delightful experience. "At Fiamma Grille eating and drinking is always a pleasure" says it best."
Thank You very much
Karen and Ed

"Thank You so much for all your help with our wedding reception at Fiamma Grille! You did an exceptional job-we couldn't have asked for a better coordinator! Thank you to everyone who helped out as well - everything from food/drinks to the weeks afterwards."
Sincerely
Kevin and Amy

"I wanted to drop you a quick note to tell you what a wonderful job both John & Gayle did for my party. The food was beautifully executed and our server made sure everyone always had a full glass or cup. Everyone had a great time. Especially me since I did not have to worry about the meal or service."
Thank You
Betsy Jean

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Hard at work
Nicole Leland, 8, works on her design-plate pattern during a recent crafts program at the Novi Public Library. Kids got to mark up circle patterns with colored markers which will be turned into dishwasher safe plates within a month.

STUDENTS
FROM PAGE A1
And while they are happy being in America and going to Novi High School, they still miss some aspects of home. "I miss my parents, I talk to them every day," Susanna said. Said Austin: "I really miss the food and the nightlife." The two plan on graduating from the high school at the end of the year and pursuing future educational opportunities at an American college next year.

FORUM
FROM PAGE A1
Oakland County commissioner last year, Cordas, Fischer and Wrobel hope to unseat them. Margolis chose to run for reelection because she sees Novi in a position where it can really progress despite a bleak financial forecast. "We have had four straight years of budget surpluses and that is wonderful testament to the fiscal responsibility of council and staff," she said. A focus for Margolis is to maximize what the city currently has and continue to provide core services at the cheapest cost. Mutch, who has 15 years working for local government,

sees his experience as vital considering the fiscal challenges the city is going to face. He wants to look into cost-saving measures that will not impact the level of service and open everything to re-examination to see how much is being spent and if it can be done cheaper. "We are going to have to look at doing some new things in terms of how we provide services," he said. "And that is where I am going to be focusing my attention." Burke wants to be part of the council that continues to move the city forward and into "recovery mode." He sees opportunities to promote and increase the city's residential base and offset that with commercial developments to continue to make Novi

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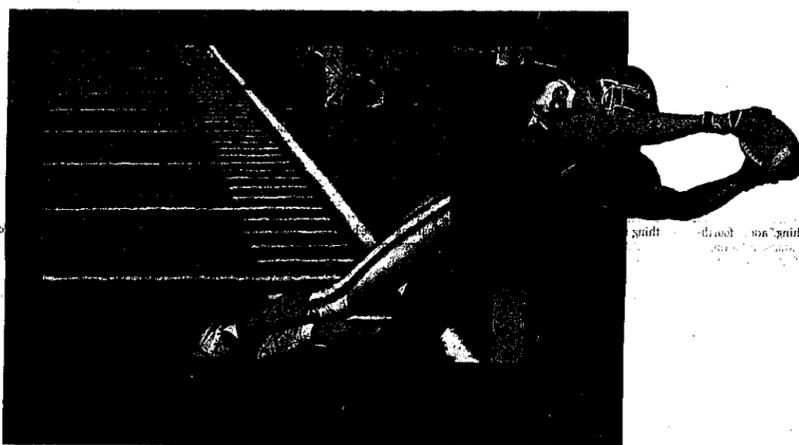
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EDUCATION

Franklin Road students give back

Annual day set aside to serve community

The students, faculty and parents of Franklin Road Christian School participated in their annual Serve-A-Thon, "FRCS Gives Back", on Oct. 7. FRCS Gives Back is a day that is set aside for every student to serve our community. This year the students participated in 15 different projects.

The kindergarten students made cards for shut-ins and picked up litter around the outside of the school.

The first grade students made get well cards for children at Beaumont Hospital as well as collecting small toys and crafts for them.

The second grade students made birthday bags for needy children. Each bag contained a cake mix, frosting, a coupon for a half gallon of ice cream, balloons, birthday plates, a book, and lots of homemade birthday cards.

"We need to color our best so the kids that get our bags will know they are very important to us and that we care about them," said Bethany Bause, second grade, as her class was coloring birthday cards for the children at food banks.

The third grade made cards for the residents of Oakmont Nursing Home in Livonia and then went to deliver them and play games with the residents.

The fourth grade made gift baskets for some of the shut-ins of Brightmoor Christian Church and then delivered them with a few songs and fellowship.

"I went to the homes of the shut-ins," said Morgan Grillier, fourth grade. "It was very fun, but the best part about it was making the people happy."

"I felt like I was doing the right thing," added fourth-grader Madison Austin.

The fifth grade went to Renaissance Gardens at Fox Run and visited with the residents. They interviewed them about their life. They will be taking the information from their interviews and presenting a book of their life to them later this semester.

The middle school and high school students were divided among nine projects. When the students finished their various projects, they returned to the school to spread 120 yards of new mulch on the playgrounds for the elementary students. Some of the organizations with which their children served are:

- Make A Wish Foundation - Twenty-three students visited businesses in Ferndale, Royal Oak, Plymouth, Northville and Novi asking them to put up a flyer for Make-A-Wish's Christmas campaign.



FRCS's middle school and high school students were divided among nine projects. When the students finished their various projects, they returned to the school to spread 120 yards of new mulch on the playgrounds for the elementary students.

- Grace Center of Hope - Twelve kids ranging in ages from sixth grade to 11th grade volunteered for the Grace Center of Hope project. They started the morning weeding the front of the school and then went with three parents to Grace Center. This FRCS group was given a tour of the center and then went to work. FRCS helped to prepare lunch for almost 100 homeless people. They did everything from chopping fruit and veggies to assembling sandwiches to serving them personally to each person that came. The kids and adults then cleaned up, and exhaustedly headed back to the school. Some of the comments that were made by the FRCS students included, "It was an awesome feeling to help others in need." "It made me really appreciate everything that I have."

- Doctors Hospital of Michigan - Ten sixth, ninth and 10th graders spent the day cleaning out the back of the parking lot. They cleaned out a very overgrown area filled with weeds, small trees and lots of trash. Once they were done, the entire area was cleaned out.

- Ronald McDonald House - Ten sixth through 12th graders took food down to the Ronald McDonald House by Children's Hospital of Michigan and made breakfast for the families staying there. Not only did they have the opportunity to serve them, but to listen as the families shared with their children were going through.

- Church of the King - Seventeen eighth, 10th, and 12th graders spent the day taking flyers for an upcoming Family Film Festival to area businesses, and worked around the church painting and cleaning.

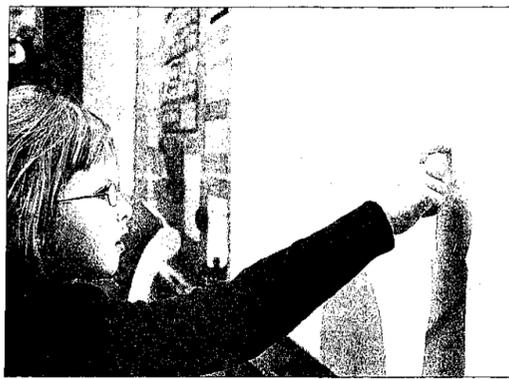
- Bethel Community Church - The church is made up of all older people, so they do not have help to get things done around the building. Twenty-five sixth through eighth graders spent the day cleaning out the gym and painting a room. The student boys worked hard moving around heavier things, and the girls painted.

- Union Lake Baptist - Sixteen seventh through ninth graders spent the day cleaning up the grounds of the church and parsonage.

- Oakmont Nursing Home - The high school jazz band and middle school drama class performed for the residents and then stayed around to visit and play games with them. The residents really enjoyed the music and dramas and look forward to their returning sometime.

- Life Challenge - The high school ensemble and middle school drama team went to Life Challenge to minister to the students there for the morning. They performed beautifully with songs, a solo, a quartet and a few dramas. The Life Challenge students were very enthusiastic. They clapped along with the songs and laughed during the dramas. At the end, the students had a chance to pray with them. FRCS students were really blessed when the Life Challenge residents turned around and began praying for them as well. Overall the kids had a lot of fun and enjoyed the experience.

- Church of the King - Seventeen eighth, 10th, and 12th graders spent the day taking flyers for an upcoming Family Film Festival to area businesses, and worked around the church painting and cleaning.



Parkview Elementary School student Hannah Jenkinson uses SMART Board technology in first grade teacher Kerry Kowalczyk's classroom. The board of education will vote today on a bid to put the boards in every elementary classroom and in various classrooms at the middle school and high school levels.

School district gets SMART

Board to vote on putting interactive whiteboards in classrooms

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The dusty blackboard looks like it will soon be joined by the marker-needed whiteboard of the obsolete list in the Novi Community Schools district.

Tonight the board of education will vote on a bid to put SMART Boards, interactive whiteboards that students and teachers can touch and manipulate, in every elementary classroom, every other middle school classroom and select classrooms in the high school. The new equipment is part of a bond issuance from 2007 that had three parts, including a technology portion.

While all the elementary classrooms will get the SMART boards if the estimated \$1.4 million bid is approved, the remaining classrooms in the district will have the projector systems, sound systems and software that runs the programs.

Jennifer Michos, principal at Parkview Elementary, said it is going to make significant contributions in terms of improving student outcomes. Students nowadays are part of the Internet generation and the hands-on interactive process is how they learn.

"A great classroom is an interactive classroom where work is hands on and engaging," she said. "The SMART Board is the tool inspiring students to learn and engage in content in a new way."

because teachers can draw from a lot more resources," Deerfield Elementary Principal Richard Njus said. "The sky is the limit with this, and the kids will have a much higher level of instruction."

"The SMART Boards use a projector to display a computer's video output onto the whiteboard, which then is used as a touch screen. The technology was piloted by 22 teachers in two classrooms in every elementary school, Cal Credit, assistant superintendent for business and operations, said they told her it was the best thing they have used since they started teaching.

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Jennifer Michos, principal at Parkview Elementary, said it is going to make significant contributions in terms of improving student outcomes. Students nowadays are part of the Internet generation and the hands-on interactive process is how they learn.

"A great classroom is an interactive classroom where work is hands on and engaging," she said. "The SMART Board is the tool inspiring students to learn and engage in content in a new way."

Success begins with the homework environment

Parents want their children to get good grades in school. Unfortunately, not every parent knows how best to help their children meet academic challenges, including completion of homework assignments. So, how do parents maximize their child's chances for success in school? Start by creating a home environment that is conducive to homework and learning.

"Sometimes, parents think helping their child complete their homework, or even doing their child's homework for him, will help him achieve better grades in school," states Kathy Michel, Director of the Sylvan Learning Center of Novi. "Often, it has the opposite effect, creating a situation where children have not learned the concepts they are later tested on in the classroom."

A simple way to help your child with homework is by creating an atmosphere that works with your child to efficiently tackle school tasks. Really get to know your child's homework style and develop a personalized plan for school

SCHOOL ADVICE

success.

1. Set Goals. Help your child set personal and attainable goals for each class and help her identify what will need to be done to reach each goal. For example, to get an A in American History she will need to turn in all of her homework, participate in class, etc.
2. Know Your Child. Because each child is unique, with different learning styles and academic needs, it is important to personalize the learning process. People learn in at least eight different ways according to the Multiple Intelligences Theory: visually, verbally, physically, mathematically, musically, naturalistically, through group activity or through quiet thinking time. If you help your child work within his personal style, he will work more effectively.
3. Create a Homework Zone. Set up an area in your home for studying, complete with a dictionary, paper and pens. Make sure the area is free

from potential distractions, like text messaging, and that study tools are at your child's fingertips to keep him focused on homework.

4. Develop Class Files. Develop a color-coded file for each of your child's classes. Make separate tabs for homework assignments, exams and projects, so your child can refer back to class materials when studying for comprehensive tests.
5. Set Weekly Milestones. For big projects or exams, get a large calendar for your child's homework area and help him set short timelines to ensure projects and studying aren't left until the night before. Celebrate your child's success when each milestone is met. By working with your child to develop a personalized plan to efficiently complete homework tasks, you will find higher grades, fewer homework headaches, and a more confident child as a result.

Kathy Michel is the director at Sylvan Learning of Novi. She can be reached at the center at 248-344-1474.

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Reforms key to Senate approving K-12 budget and phasing out MBT surcharge

While the House Democrats are trying to pass tax increases, Senate Republicans recently approved a plan that would finalize the 2010 School Aid budget providing stability for our schools and includes significant savings and budget reforms.



Nancy Cassis

Many of the reforms I have long worked for and promoted were instrumental to crafting the compromise that broke the logjam on the K-12 school funding budget while providing much-needed tax relief for businesses.

While most state departments will likely face reductions between 8 and 10 percent, finding the means to reduce the K-12 cut to only 2.3 percent, was critical to finalizing the School Aid budget and sending it to the governor. I was the first to advocate for utilizing \$100 million in savings from Michigan Business Tax (MBT) reforms to reduce the cut to schools from \$218 to \$165 per pupil.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

This comprehensive plan is win-win-win. It provides for our schools, doesn't raise taxes on Michigan families and reforms our business climate to invigorate our economy and create jobs.

Expanding the Alternative Business Tax to allow thousands of small businesses to qualify for the lower rate was included in the plan. The proposal also made changes to the Michigan Entrepreneurial Credit to permit additional fast-growing businesses to qualify for the credit. I originally introduced both of these reforms in Senate Bill 69, which the Senate passed in March.

Our plan also includes reforms I proposed by scaling back the film incentives to help save \$60 million in 2010 and limit the "above the line" credit for producers and actors. My reforms will help Michigan workers by making commercial ads eligible for the credit and putting our Michigan residents first in hiring.

My proposal to increase the film infrastructure credit for permanent facilities to 30 percent was also incorporated in the plan.

That is why I sponsored legislation to increase transparency and reporting requirements within the state's film production office. My bills were recently approved by the Senate Finance Committee and sent to the full Senate for consideration.

State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) can be reached at 1-888-36-NANCY. Visit www.senator.nancy.cassis.com for the latest information and updates on issues in Lansing.



Fox Run Expo

Between 300 and 400 residents attended the fourth annual Fox Run Expo on Sept. 25, which showcased the resident-driven and staff-retailed groups, clubs and interest groups on campus. This year, 60 of the 100 clubs and interest groups on campus were represented with eye-catching displays of information about the groups. Items they create, activities they undertake and ways to get involved. Michelle Cassabaon, community resources coordinator, said five to eight new groups form each year. Pictured are Phyllis Praski and Nancy Forsberg, with the Drop In And Draw display, say resident members do their work on a casual basis on Saturday afternoons in the Crafts Studio, as well as gathering to talk.

State approves tax breaks for Wixom plant

The rebirth of the former Ford Motor Co. Wixom plant cleared its final government hurdle Tuesday, as the state approved tax breaks for the two companies that plan to create a renewable energy center at the sprawling facility. Clairvoyant Energy Solar Panel Manufacturing received a maximum \$25-million refundable tax credit over two years for its plan to spend \$875 million to convert part of a solar panel plant. The company plans to create 750 jobs over five years. It must create at least 250 jobs to get the tax credit granted Tuesday by the Michigan Economic Growth Authority, or MEGA. The MEGA also granted a \$15-million, 5-year tax credit to Georgia-based Suniva Inc. credit of up to \$100 million over four years for its plan to manufacture large power storage batteries in Wixom. The company plans to use 1 million of the 4.7 million square feet of the plant, according to the Michigan Economic Development Corp. Texas-based Xtreme Power plans to spend \$475 million in four phases to create up to 2,500 jobs over five years. This is about creating the world's largest renewable energy campus," said David Hazlett, CEO of Clairvoyant. Refundable tax credits provide cash refunds to companies if the credit exceeds their tax bill. The MEGA also granted a \$15-million, 5-year tax credit to Georgia-based Suniva Inc. to build a \$250-million solar panel manufacturing facility in Saginaw County. Gov. Jennifer Granholm announced the credits, which were granted under a new state tax law aimed at promoting advanced battery and photovoltaic manufacturing in Michigan. Granholm said the remake of the Wixom plant is symbolic of Michigan's efforts to move from an auto-based economy to a high-tech economy. "The state tax breaks make both companies eligible to receive federal loan guarantees, which will be granted on a competitive basis. Both companies are eligible for more state tax breaks.

EXPO FROM PAGE A1

Experts in their field will provide presentations and/or demonstrations on topics such as income and tax strategies, when is the right time to make a move (for older adults), stress management, massage therapy, yoga, dental care and nutrition. The OCC Nursing School will provide free health screenings for expo patrons. Expo patrons are invited to meet and greet McKenzie, star of *Ethel Merman Broadway* at the Gem Theater beginning at noon. Stop at the Gem Theater booth for a chance to win free tickets to the show, now playing through Nov. 22. *Ethel Merman's Broadway*

SENIOR HEALTH & LIVING EXPO

Map and details for the Senior Health & Living Expo at OCC - Orchard Ridge Campus. Includes information about shuttle service, entertainment, and various health services.

Passages Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances. 1-800-579-7355 • fax 313-496-4968. email: oebobits@hometownlife.com

JOSEPH J. BELLANTE October 6, 2009. Funeral service was Sunday, October 11, at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. For online condolences visit www.obrienfuneralhome.com

MEDWIG "MATTIE" ROTTER (LECHOWICZ) Age 90, Oct. 6, 2009. Funeral service was Saturday, Oct. 10, at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Interment at St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn. His online condolences www.obrienfuneralhome.com

MOLLIE DORIS SMITH October 6, 2009. Wife of Arnold Smith. Mother of Arnold Jr. and Nancy. Service was Friday, October 9, at Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi. For online condolences visit www.obrienfuneralhome.com

LUCREZIA "LUCY" LAWRENCE Passed away October 10, 2009. A funeral service was held on October 14, at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME. Visit online guestbook at www.phillipsfuneral.com

DENISE ANN OLSON Passed away October 7, 2009. She was born on November 26, 1945. Loving wife of Lawrence Olson Sr. Wonderful mother of Michael Summers, Lawrence (Stephanie) Olson Jr. and Nadine (Timothy) Tale. Dear sister of Janice (Bruce) Summers and David (Linda) Rochelle. Adored grandma of Nathaniel and Olivia. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. We love you and will always keep you in our hearts. Celebration of her life will be held October 25th from 12:00 - 4:30 p.m. at the South Lyon Hotel. Donations in her memory may be made to Angela Hospice. Arrangements entrusted to PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

SAMUEL T. WEBER Oct. 6, 2009, Age 67. Memorial Service was at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi on Oct. 10. Donations can be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, 2141 Rosecrans Ave., Ste. 7000, El Segundo, CA 90245. Condolences: www.obrienfuneralhome.com

BENNETT J. LUCE Age 88. Passed away Oct. 12, 2009. Survived by his loving wife Ruth (Cullum) of 63 years and four daughters: Lynette (Michael) Taylor, Ben has 2 grandsons, Bradley & Matthew and 2 great grandsons Nicholas and Evan. Also survived by two brothers Gordon and Richard. Ben served in WW II in the Navy. He worked 46 years for Dean L. Cullum Builders. Ben was a gentle man and will be missed forever. The family will receive friends Saturday, October 17, 2009 at 11AM (Nov) Holy Trinity-Sassarun Funeral Home, 14021 Northville Rd., at Corner Hill. Memorial Services will be 12:00 PM in front of Powers Contributions to Angela Hospice would be appreciated.

OBITUARY POLICY e-mail your obit to BTWObits@hometownlife.com Or fax to 313-496-4968 Attn: BTWObits

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One. The first service "filled" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$1 per line. You may place a photo of your loved one in an additional line of the obituary. Additional services may be included at no cost. (Optional American Flag, religious symbols, etc.)

Excellent customer service the soul of business success

Strategies for creating and sustaining a competitive edge are, often, focused on large-scale efforts around product design, financial positioning, structural realignment and capital investment. While these elements do sit at the heart of grandiose plans for taking on and beating the competition, I have been reminded, of late, that excellent customer service is the soul of most business success. Perhaps it is the 12-week marathon through the blended holiday season that has my antennas tuned into the, often, overlooked little things that keep customers coming back or turns them away. I had the good fortune, and time, to spend at one of my favorite malls. Motivated by the ornamental light display at the front entrance of a prominent retailer, I entered that coliseum of specialized merchants armed with a credit card, a thirst for the sale and driven by my own sense of carpe diem. Once I had secured the item that I knew my wife would want me to have, I stood at the counter, credit card vividly on display and waited while the customer service representative engaged in a cell phone discussion with someone who, apparently, was having a dramatically extended bad life moment. The customer service representative's tone suggested that the bad life moment was going to extend far into the evening. While I did not envy the person on the other end of that conversation, I was perplexed as to why I was being privy to a conversation that had nothing to do with my purchase. I flashed my smiling smile, pointed to the item I intended to purchase and held my credit card in that "don't-leave-without-it" pose that is common to the shopping experience. Now, part of knowing how to be a good student of human moves is to know when to step back from irritation and become a patient observer of the human process. I decided to wait and see how long it would take for this person to realize that I was there to give the organization my money (on credit), in exchange for an item they want me to purchase. Fortunately, there was no one behind me, so I took that to mean that I was being granted the opportunity to time the event. I used the waiting time to reflect on the little things about customer service that are often taken for granted and have such an impact on the bottom line. Customers have choices. Beyond specific brands that can only be purchased in certain outlets, customers can find most of what they need in a number of different places. If price, location and products are equal, then the only difference is customer service. How many, potential, dollars are lost because someone had a bad customer service encounter? I wondered if my customer second, me first, rep had gotten that message. Customers have networks. A bad customer service encounter can be broadcast by way of group text messages, e-mail blasts, LinkedIn networks, Facebook groups and YouTube

Living Water. 7420 Whitman, Lake Hill • Whitman, IL 60189. Dan Flynn, Minister. 784-426-4006 • www.livingwater.org

White Lake Presbyterian Church. 4805 Highland Rd. Pastor: Rev. Dr. James N. McGuire • Nursery Provided. 248-348-9030

Energy programs that can help senior citizens save money

Dear Savvy Senior, I've heard that there are some government programs that help seniors make home improvements to reduce their energy bills this year. What can you tell me about this? Conservative Senior

Dear Conservative, Thanks to a big financial boost from Uncle Sam, there's never been a better time to upgrade your home to make it more energy efficient. Here are several programs that can help you save energy and money.

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, also known as the stimulus package, the Department of Energy's

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) received a whopping \$5 billion - more than 20 times the normal yearly budget - to help income-eligible people reduce their energy costs by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes.

Around 30 million U.S. households are currently eligible for the WAP, which provides a variety of completely free weatherization incentives to home owners and renters who qualify. These services are done by local agencies and typically include things like installing insulation, weather-stripping and caulking around doors and windows, tuning and repairing heating and cooling systems, and installing ventilation fans.

To be eligible, your income needs to be at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. In 2009, that corresponds to an annual income of \$21,660 for an individual or \$29,140 for a family of two (it's higher in Alaska and Hawaii). The federal guidelines allow states to give priority to seniors over 60, people with disabilities and families with children. Final eligibility is determined at the local level.

If you qualify, an energy audit is scheduled to see how much energy your home uses, and to determine the weatherization improvements it needs to make it more energy-efficient. To learn more or apply, visit www.weatherization.gov or call the EERE information center (877-337-3463) who will put you in touch with your state weatherization office.

ENERGY TAX CREDITS

If you don't qualify for the WAP, you can still save some money through Uncle Sam's expanded tax credits - also made possible by the Recovery and Reinvestment Act. As an incentive to make your home more energy efficient, in 2009 and 2010 you can now cut your tax bill by 30 percent up to \$1,500, on a variety of home improvement projects like installing energy-efficient windows, doors, insulation, water heaters, cooling systems and more. See www.energystar.gov/taxcredits for details. And, by the end of the year, there will also be rebates to those who buy ENERGY STAR certified high efficiency appliances.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Another program that can help seniors cut their home heating and cooling costs is the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). This is a federal program that also has a funding boost this fiscal year. Income qualifications will vary by state.

You should also know that in addition to LIHEAP, some utility companies offer discounts to people in need, and there are various charitable organizations that provide utility assistance, too. To learn more or find out what's available in your area, visit www.energynear.org, a Web portal that provides a breakdown of LIHEAP utility and charitable energy programs in each state, as well as qualification details, how to apply and who to contact for more information. If

you don't have Internet access, call the National Energy Assistance Referral project at 866-674-6327. Savvy Tips: For energy savings tips the Department of Energy offers a handy booklet called "Energy Savers: Tips on Saving Energy & Money at Home." To get a free copy, call 877-337-3463 or visit www.energysave.gov. Also see www.energysave.org, a comprehensive source of information on state, local, utility, and federal incentives that promote energy efficiency.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

Your Invitation to Worship

Grid of church listings including Brighton, Milford, Farmington Hills, Highland, New Hudson, South Lyon, Northville, Livonia, White Lake, and Living Water. Each listing includes church name, address, phone, and service times.

Police nab drunk driver

A Novi Police officer arrested a man for drunken driving after observing the man driving erratically on Eight Mile Road near Meadowbrook. According to the report, the officer watched as the vehicle swerved in its lane, nearly hitting the curb on the right side of the road and crossing the dividing line between the two lanes. When the officer initiated the traffic stop, the man said the passenger had dropped a cigarette causing him to swerve.

However, the officer smelled a strong odor of intoxicants coming off the driver and he failed field sobriety tests.

A preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .20 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

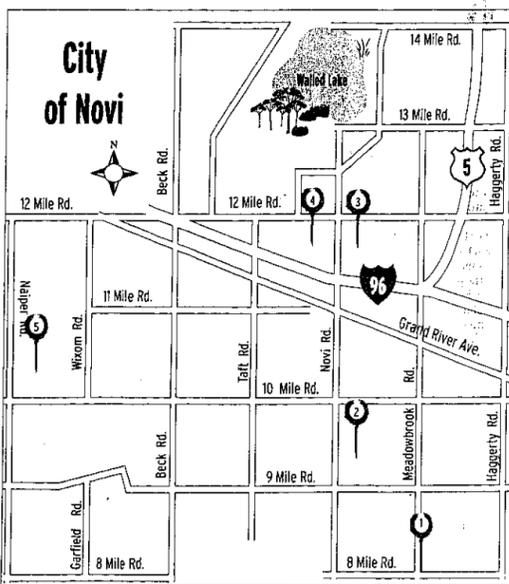
The man was arrested for operating while intoxicated and transported to the Novi Police Department and the passenger was taken to her home.

Truck damaged

A Novi man had his GMC Sonoma truck damaged overnight on Oct. 6 while it was parked in the parking lot of his apartment complex on Sagebrush.

The damage included a broken rear window and the cover over the bed of the truck was pulled back and the metal rod that

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS



holds the cover up was broken. Nothing was taken from inside the truck and the doors were still locked. Police have

Car broken into

A woman had her Ford station wagon broken into and a cosmetic bag was stolen while her car was parked in the garage on Oct. 6 in the Twelve Oaks Mall parking lot.

The woman told police she left her doors unlocked, and nearly \$300 in cosmetic supplies was taken. Surveillance video was not helpful as the vehicle was blocked by trees, and there are no suspects at this time.

Windshield smashed

Novi police were dispatched to the Fountain Walk mall near Emagine Theater parking lot on a report of malicious destruction of property.

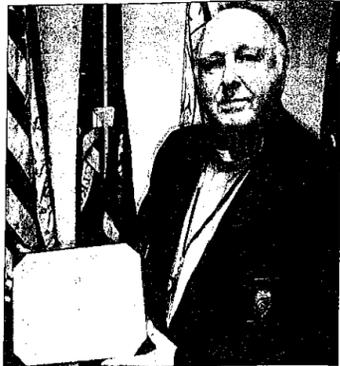
The officer met with the owner of the vehicle and observed the windshield of the car was smashed inward and there were approximately 25

Five cars damaged

Arizona Avenue suffered damage between the hours of 4 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Oct. 11. According to the report, the rear windows on the vehicles appeared to have been shot out by BBs. An officer spoke with the manager of the apartment complex who told him a pellet gun was recently stolen from a garage south on Oregon, but the officer found BBs and not pellets at the scene.

Car broken into

Police have no suspects at this time.



Gary Elfner, pastor at First Baptist Church of Novi and head chaplain for the Novi Police Department, recently received his Master Training Level certificate from the International Conference of Police Chaplains.

A face of comfort

Police chaplain assists officers, helps people through tough times

BY NATHAN MUELLER STAFF WRITER

Gary Elfner, pastor at First Baptist Church of Novi, understands people may not get why he volunteers to be head chaplain for the Novi Police Department. It's a job that requires great emotional strength as he is called upon to assist officers during times of tragedy and be there for strangers who are left to search for answers as to why their loved one is no longer alive.

But for Elfner, who has been a chaplain with the department since around 1997, it's about providing comfort.

"I get satisfaction out of helping people through difficult times," he said. "We also can help the police officers by dealing with the family so they can do their job."

Elfner also started the Lakes Area Chaplain Core, which is made up of five ministers serving

Alternative fuels plant opens in Novi

Company given \$12.9 million grant to create refueling network

BY NATHAN MUELLER STAFF WRITER

The city of Novi, which several high-technology businesses already call home, has recently added another alternative energy-type business to the mix.

CleanFUEL USA, the leading supplier of alternative fuel dispensing equipment for propane and B85, and liquid propane engine systems, opened its 5,000-square-foot facility about three months ago in an effort to aid with the design and development of its Liquid Propane Injection systems. The systems are used for original equipment manufacturer and after-market fleet vehicles.

"When we began expand-

ing our product development and engineering group from that perspective, some of the employees we started talking to were people in that Detroit marketplace," said Curtis Donaldson, CleanFUEL USA president and CEO. "A lot of the skill sets and talent for that area of our business is right there, and from a proximity standpoint it puts us closer to the partners and customers we work with."

CleanFUEL USA, which is headquartered in Georgetown, Texas, was founded in 1999 when alternative fuels were lagging behind in popularity. That is not the case today, however.

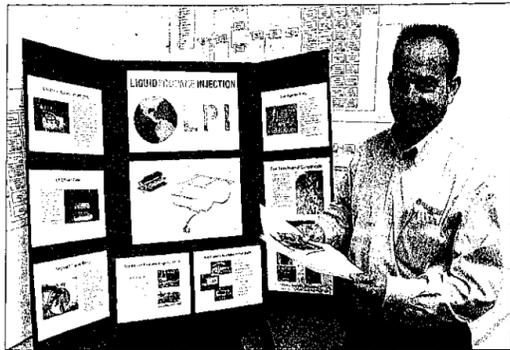
The company's focus now is on using propane (Autogas) as fuel for commer-

cial and private fleets. In an effort to make that happen, CleanFUEL USA recently received a \$12.9 million grant from the Department of Energy to create the nation's first Autogas refueling network.

"Parker Perkins, president and COO, said the technology has improved to the point where the performance of Autogas is better than gasoline or diesel fuel, cleaner to the environment and more economical.

At the Novi plant, the company will work with prototype vehicle construction and supporting other aspects of product development, among other areas.

novi@cleanfuelusa.com (248) 437-2011, ext. 255



Thomas Arnold, Vice President of Novi's Clean Fuel USA, stands next to a diagram showing some of the intended vehicular uses of the company's propane gas systems.

CALENDAR

For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at www.hometownlife.com. Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstoney@annett.com; by fax to (248) 349-9832; or by mail to Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

Local events

GARDENERS OF NORTHVILLE & NOVI CLUB MEETING

TIME/DATE: 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9 LOCATION: Northville Art House, 631 Lady Street DETAILS: Social Time & Garden Lecture on "Create a Holiday Spray." Our guest will be Chris George who will be demonstrating on how to make a spray. The public is welcome, so come join us for an informative and fun-filled evening. CONTACT: gardenersnorthville-novi.org or Renee (248) 231-2334

LIVE BLUES & JAZZ @ THE GRAPEVINE

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Thursdays, 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays LOCATION: The Grapevine of Novi, 43155 Market Street DETAILS: Live music on the patio on Thursdays, inside on weekends, no cover. Schedule includes Thursday, Trio Organic; and Friday, Ben Jansson Quartet. CONTACT: (248) 344-4044

AUTHOR MARIA DISMONDY BOOK SIGNINGS

TIME/DATE: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Nov. 10 LOCATION: Wallied Lake Public Library, 1499 E. West Maple Rd., Wallied Lake TIME/DATE: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Nov. 21 LOCATION: Wixom Public Library, 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom DETAILS: Maria Dismondy will be on tour at local facilities, reading, selling and signing her book, "Spaghetti in A Hot Dog Bun." In today's society, it's important to remind children that, although we are different on the outside, we are very much alike on the inside. Unfortunately, bullying has become a major problem in the United States. It's not only painful for children, but occurring at an increasingly young age. Her book empowers children to positively handle tough situations through its timeless message: have the courage to be exactly who you are, no matter what other people say.

ROCK FINANCIAL SHOWPLACE

It's Your Business...

So You Want to Be the Next Google

Everyone wants to come up with the next great idea, and become the next Microsoft, Google or Facebook. They don't realize, however, that good ideas are a dime a dozen. There are many more great ideas than successful businesses. The undiscovered talent is in taking a good idea and turning it into a successful business.

What does it take to create a successful business? Many things. One is a team of professional advisors, including an accountant, lawyer, banker, insurance agent and IT consultant. These are not expenses to be minimized, they represent value to be appreciated.

You also need a comprehensive business plan. A business plan describes in detail what is necessary to commence business, as well as to conduct the business once it is operational. You will need a business plan if you wish to borrow money or solicit investors. Even if you don't need a loan or investors, a business plan is critical to help you thoroughly plan how to start and run your business. It is a document that should be updated and referred to regularly.

Business planning software can be purchased, and samples can easily be found by Internet search. A business plan typically consists of an executive summary, background of the key personnel, a

description of the product or service offered, market analysis, marketing strategy, an operational plan and financial projections. The executive summary appears at the beginning but is prepared at the end. It summarizes what is contained in the rest of the plan. It is the "elevator" that gets potential investors or lenders interested in the "steak" that is described in the rest of the business plan.

The market analysis for your product or service should describe whether your market is retail or wholesale, and whether it is local, regional, national or international. How big is the market in terms of sales revenue, population or number of units consumed? Are there significant barriers to entry? Are there any competitors in the market? What will be the strategy for selling your product or service? What competitive products or services are currently being used? How is yours better, faster or cheaper? Will you use radio, television, newspapers, coupons or other sales strategies? Are you working?

Critical to your business plan will be thorough financial projections. The reason many businesses fail is due to insufficient funds. How much money will it take to start your business and to operate it until it becomes profitable? You need to develop estimates of revenue, the growth in revenue

over time, start-up costs and operational costs. A member should be estimated for every revenue and expense line item, and identify the underlying assumptions for each. Often, for a start-up business, costs can be estimated with more precision than revenue. What is your breakeven level of revenue, and how likely is it you will achieve breakeven or better? If things go wrong, what source do you have for additional funds?

Your business plan may or may not be presented to a lending edge business concept, product or service, but that is less important to your ultimate success than paying attention to detail. Even another (non-) restaurant, coffee shop or print shop can become a very successful business if a carefully developed business plan and carefully attended to the day-to-day details necessary to achieve success.

If you have a question about starting a business, feel free to contact Bruce W. Hatley at (248) 447-7672 or bwhatley@rockfinancial.com. Mr. Hatley is a business and tax lawyer, and has represented small businesses for nearly 30 years. Mr. Hatley is resident of Novi, and is a shareholder and member of the Board of Directors of Gannett, McKinnis & Horton, P.C. in Troy.

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LOCATION: 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi

CONTACT: (248) 348-5600

Great Lakes Art Fair

DATE: Oct. 16-18

DETAILS: Artists from across the region will offer works in the mediums of oil, watercolor, glass, photography, jewelry, fiber, sculpture and mixed media, along with select epicurean items. www.great-lakesartfair.com

GIANT MOTORCYCLE SWAP MEET

DATE: Nov. 1

DETAILS: The largest Swap Meet in the Midwest is the Detroit Area Giant Motorcycle Swap Meet! Thousands of bikers will be buying, selling, and swapping bikes, frames, motors, touring accessories, seats, wheels, tires, front ends, tanks, shocks, fenders, gauges, MX stuff, basket cases and take-offs. Every Known Brand! Every Hard to Find Part! Harley, Honda, Yamaha, Kawasaki, Suzuki, Triumph, BSA, Norton, BMW and Guzzi. www.motorcycleswap.com

Snowmobile Show and Sale

DATE: Nov. 6-8

DETAILS: This show offers all the latest in sleds, gear, clothing, accessories, performance products, trailers and equipment for the new season. www.snowmobileusa.com

Michigan Gun and Knife Show

DATE: Nov. 14-16

DETAILS: One of the best and largest Gun & Knife Shows in Michigan! Shotguns, Rifles, Handguns, Scopes, Knives, Shooting Supplies, Ammunition, Reloading Equipment, Gun Cases, Pistol & Rifle Magazines, Military Surplus, Collector Items, Archery, Fishing Supplies, Sales, Custom hand made gun cabinets, Wild Game Jerky, and much more. www.migan-shows.com

Michigan Family Pet Expo

DATE: Nov. 20-22

DETAILS: The Michigan Family Pet Expo will showcase more than 150 exhibits of pet-related products and services. www.petmichigan.com

Michigan Antique Arms Show

DATE: Nov. 28-29

DETAILS: Antique and modern arms and accoutrements, part and accessories, as well as other related merchandise. The show also features historical displays and presentations.

North American Horse Fest

DATE: Dec. 4-6

DETAILS: Everything Equestrian! Horses, tack, training, breed clubs, trailers, stables, riding exhibitions, nutrition and much more. www.northamericanhorsefest.com

CONTACT: Paulette Aikoa, V.P. of Public Relations at greenspace@mi.com or (248)

DATE: Dec. 12-13

DETAILS: America's favorite traveling train show serving more states than any other show. Show features operating model railroads, train dealers, collectors, hands-on exhibits, demonstrations, workshops, and much more. www.greattrainsexpo.com

Business

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

Grapes & Grooves Wine Tasting Cocktail Party

TIME/DATE: 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23

LOCATION: The Atrium of Novi, Main Street Shopping Center

DETAILS: Join us for a dazzling event featuring wine tasting, strolling appetizers, live jazz and a silent auction. This event is open to the public. \$30 early-bird registration by Oct. 16.

Business to Business Breakfast and Can Drive

TIME/DATE: 8-9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 30

LOCATION: Comfort Suites, 28049 Wixom Rd., Wixom

DETAILS: Join us for a Halloween breakfast and networking. Costumes encouraged, prize to the best costume. Bring a can of food or dry good that can be donated to a local food kitchen; \$5 payable at door.

NOVI TOASTMASTERS CLUB

TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m., every first and third Tuesday

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, Activities Room, 45175 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375

DETAILS: Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club which is part of Toastmasters International. Our diverse group provides a mutually supportive atmosphere in which all can develop and refine their public speaking and leadership skills. Our members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome - and bring a friend! Visit www.novi.toastmasters.org

CONTACT: Paulette Aikoa, V.P. of Public Relations at greenspace@mi.com or (248)

NOVI ROTARY CLUB

TIME/DATE: Noon every Thursday

LOCATION: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road

DETAILS: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check Web site for speaker information; novirota.org

Library Lines

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY LINES

LOCATION: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road

HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 a.m.-5 p.m. (September-May)

DETAILS: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the Library. CONTACT: (248) 349-0720

Spanish Story Time

DATE: Monday, Oct. 19

TIME: 3:30-5 p.m.

DETAILS: Adults, come learn the basics of the Internet and E-Mail to see how they can best work for you! Registration required.

Japanese Story Time

DATE: Tuesday, Oct. 20

TIME: 10:30-11 a.m.

DETAILS: Japanese-speaking volunteer storytellers read Japanese picture books to preschool aged children.

Spanish Story Time

DATE: Wednesday, Oct. 21

TIME: 10:30-11 a.m.

DETAILS: Spanish-speaking volunteer storytellers read Spanish picture books to preschool aged children.

English Conversation Group

DATE: Wednesday, Oct. 21

TIME: 7-8 p.m.

DETAILS: Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation and conversation skills.

All About E-Mail for Seniors

DATE: Wednesday, Oct. 21

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Learn the basics of sending and receiving e-mail, and sign up for a free e-mail account. This class includes interactive discussion and hands-on practice.

Register online, by phone, or stop by our welcome desk.

Turning "To-Do" to Done

DATE: Wednesday, Oct. 21

TIME: 7-8 p.m.

DETAILS: Do you feel like your "to do" list never gets done? If so, please join us as Alita Burford suggests tips and tricks on how to change your routine. Registration required.

Library Board Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, Oct. 21

TIME: 7-9 p.m.

DETAILS: General meetings of the entire Library Board are usually held the third Wednesday of each month in the Novi Civic Center. The public is welcome. These meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 13.

Advertisement for SECHI Kitchens & Bath, featuring kitchen and bathroom remodeling services.

Advertisement for COUPLES RETREAT featuring Vince Vaughn, with details on location and activities.

Advertisement for VARSITY LINCOLN MERCURY COLLISION CENTER, offering car repair and insurance services.

Advertisement for OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN WEEKLIES, featuring subscription information and contact details.

Advertisement for MOOSE GRILLE at Moose Ridge Golf Course, featuring Monday Night Football Game and \$3 Burgers & \$1.50 Draft Beer.

Advertisement for REMEMBER THE SACRIFICES OF AMERICA'S VETERANS, featuring a special Veterans Day page in the Observer & Eccentric.

Advertisement for GREAT LAKES DERMATOLOGY, featuring Michael R. Cohen, D.O., Board Certified Dermatologist.

Advertisement for THE 101 DALMATIANS MUSICAL, featuring Rachel York and B.T. McMicholl, with show dates and ticket information.

Advertisement for So You Want to Be the Next Google, featuring a business plan service by Bruce W. Hatley.

Advertisement for Northville Garden Club 34th Annual Christmas Wreath & Roping Sale, featuring wreath and roping items for sale.

NEIGHBORS

Deerfield principal authors book about educating students

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Throughout his 30-year tenure as a principal in various elementary schools, Richard Njus has learned it takes more than textbooks and teaching to reach students and fully educate them.

It takes a "rich culture," he said. So when Njus was hired as principal in 2000 to open Deerfield Elementary, creating that environment was his top priority.

"We talk so much about curriculum and the structure of learning, but the essence of what enhances learning is the culture you create," he said. "Culture is what makes the difference for kids in school."

When Deerfield opened, it was a magnet school open to every student living within the school district's boundary. Then prior to the 2007-2008 school year it became a neighborhood school, meaning the students now come from a



TOUCHING HEARTS, EDUCATING MINDS

Story of a School with Soul and Determination hit stores. Throughout the book there are letters from teachers, parents and students talking about how the culture at the school impacted their lives. The book is intended for anyone looking to gain insight into what Njus perceives as the best approach to help kids have success in a global society.

"A lot of credit goes to the school district and their foresight to see the need and take a chance on a school," he said. "And the success is because of our staff and parents working together to create this environment."

"Touching Hearts, Educating Minds" is available at any bookstore nationwide and Njus said he is looking at setting up a book signing in the near future.

"If (this book) can touch one life and make a difference in one person's life then I am happy," he said.

On Sept. 8, "Touching Hearts, Educating Minds: The

NOVI NEWSMAKERS

Hand surgeon joins Botsford

Samuel Samuel, M.D., has joined the medical staff at Botsford Hospital.

Samuel is board certified in general surgery, plastic and reconstructive surgery and surgery of the hand. He is a member of the American Society for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, the American Association for Hand Surgery and the American Society for Reconstructive Microsurgery.

Samuel practices at Hand Surgery Associates of Michigan located at 25500 Meadowbrook, Suite 275 in Novi. (248) 381-7777.



Samuel

Samuel received his medical education from Karnatak University in India. He completed a general surgery internship and residency at Mount Sinai Hospital and University of Health Sciences in Chicago and a plastic surgery residency at Wayne State University. He also completed a research associate fellowship at the University of Illinois, a hand surgery fellowship at the University of Kansas Medical Center and a hand and microvascular surgery fellowship at Wayne State University.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Mutches
Andrew Ian Mutch, of Novi, and Wendy Sue Wolter, of Kalamazoo, were married Aug. 29, 2009, at Stone Church at Little Point Sable, Mich.

The bride is the daughter of Ted and Mary Wolter, of Hudsonville. She is a librarian at Kalamazoo Public Library.

The groom is the son of Charles and Kathleen Mutch, of Novi. He is a library systems technician with the Charter Township of Waterford and is a Novi City Councilman.

Rev. Alice Fleming Townley officiated the ceremony. Flower girl was Cameron Elle Wolter, and piper was David Martin.

The ring-bearer was Bryson Harris.

A reception was held at The Barn at Town Corners in New Era, Mich.

The couple honeymooned in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Canada before making their home in Novi.

Clark & Fischer

Mr. and Ms. Michael Clark, of Novi, announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Clark, to Justin Fischer, son of Pat Fischer, of Novi, and John and Cathy Fischer, of Flushing.

The bride-elect graduated cum laude from Syracuse University in 2005 and is a senior account executive for Stratatcomm.

The groom-elect graduated with honors from Michigan State University in 2005, and is a financial analyst for Ford Motor Company.



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School district, library encouraging people to write

National Day on Writing Web site will have gallery to share work

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Christy Casher, literacy specialist in the Novi Community Schools district, wants students and staff to recognize they are all writers even if they don't realize it.

Writing is not just penning novels. It happens while sending a text message, passing a note in class or updating their status on a social networking site.

And to encourage students to write, the school district will join people from all over the nation in observing National Day on Writing on Oct. 20.

"The district values writing and it has been a focus for a number of years," she said. "We felt this was a good way to continue to support our mission."

The National Day on Writing was started by the

National Council of Teachers of English to celebrate the role writing has in people's lives. At every school in the district, teachers and students will take 30 minutes out of the day to write. There is no set topic, limit or restrictions, just encouragement to write about something meaningful.

The organization created a Web site, galleryofwriting.org, so that everyone across the nation can post their work for all to see. Novi schools will have its own gallery as will the Novi Public Library.

"This may give kids who love writing the chance to write about something they are interested in because sometimes they are not given a choice," Casher said.

Hateful pieces or ones using profanity will not be accepted, however, and will pass through a group of curators before

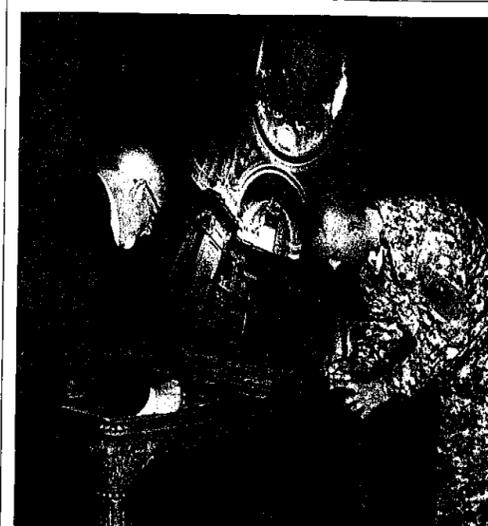
being put in the gallery. No grade will be assigned for the work as it is voluntary.

The Novi Public Library is also encouraging the public to take advantage of the day and post their work in a gallery. Mary Robinson, adult services librarian, said in the age of blogging this is another way for people to get their voice out there and say what is on their mind.

"Hopefully because of the gallery it will be more appealing rather than just posting it on a blog where only their followers find out about it," she said.

While Oct. 20 is the national day, the gallery will remain open until June for people to submit pieces. There is no limit on size or on how many pieces a person wants to submit.

nmueller@gannett.com | (248) 437-2011, ext. 255



Military covenant

Novi City Council recently voted to adopt a resolution authorizing the participation in the signing of a Military Community Covenant with Oakland County and several local government officials on Sunday, Oct. 11 in support of community members and their families who serve in the United States Armed Forces. Novi City Councilman Brian Burke, a U.S. Navy veteran, attended the ceremony and signed the covenant for Novi along with L. Brooks Patterson and leaders from several Oakland County communities including Southfield, Berkeley, Royal Oak and Troy. The Military Community Covenant is designed to develop and foster effective state and community partnerships with the Army in improving the quality of life for soldiers and their families, both at their current duty stations and as they transfer from state to state. It is tailored at the local level, with leaders at both local and state levels participating in covenant signings. While the Community Covenant is an Army program, it extends to the other military services as well, recognizing that many community efforts support all service members and their families regardless of the uniform they wear. "I'm honored to represent the City of Novi in signing the Covenant," said Burke. "As a veteran, I understand how important it is to know that there is support at home while you're away. I can't think of a better way to show this support and quite frankly, I'm surprised there weren't more communities participating."

Library story times reach out to different cultures

Kids from every background encouraged to attend

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

In a continued effort to recognize diversity in the community, the Novi Public Library will once again host the popular International Story Times program.

The program, which only had a couple languages when it debuted in the spring, will feature children's stories in Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, Hindi and Tamil.

"For people who want to continue their traditional language at home it gives their children an opportunity to come to story time in that language," said Mary Storch, head of the specialized services department. "We even

- INTERNATIONAL STORY TIMES**
- Chinese: Oct. 19
 - Japanese: Oct. 20
 - Spanish: Oct. 21
 - Hindi: Oct. 25
 - Tamil: Oct. 27
 - All international story time programs run from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

have people who (speak different languages) come to the others because they want to hear story time in another language."

Volunteers run the program, choosing picture books written in their native languages to read to the children. The story time, catered toward

preschool-age children, also is complemented by music or finger plays.

Storch said the library enjoys the program because it reaches out to the community and gets volunteers involved.

"On a number of levels it is a win-win situation," Storch said.

On top of the story times, the library also has an international book collection and English as a Second Language materials.

The first International Story Time in Chinese on Oct. 19. All of the story times run from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. For more information or to volunteer, call the library at (248) 349-0720.

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Les Miserables

After doing the Midwest premier of Les Miserables-School Edition seven years ago to sold out audiences, Walled Lake Western High School announced that they will be performing the show again this fall. The show will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 13, 14, 20, 21 and at 2 p.m. on Nov. 22. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.wlwmusical.com> or by phone at (248) 956-4625. Ticket prices range from \$16-\$18 for adults and \$12-\$14 for students and seniors. Discount tickets are also available for groups of 20 or more. "Les Miserables is the world's most favorite musical," said Gregory Cleveland, Walled Lake Western's Choir director and producer of the musical. "The show has been translated into 33 different languages and 40-60 productions are performed every night around the world." The cast and crew at Western strive to make each musical they perform as authentic to the Broadway production as possible. This year, Western's show will again feature a 32-foot revolving motorized stage with one-ton, 12-foot-high moving barricade.

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

Presenting a Roadmap to Prosperity our leaders can implement

Let's assume the legislature and the governor finally agree on a "balanced" budget some time this month.

Odds are that will happen. Now let's assume further that they understand that merely passing a budget is not the same as putting together a solid, long-term plan to put Michigan's financial house in order and lay the foundation for our future prosperity.

And let's even assume they know how important that is — and that they are actually interested in developing that kind of plan.

If they do, the window of opportunity is now wide open in a way it seldom has before.

Our three main political leaders — Governor Jennifer Granholm, House Speaker Andy Dillon and Senate Majority Leader Mike Bishop — are all term-limited out of office at the end of next year.

So they don't have to worry about political backbiting threatening their present jobs if they show real leadership.

But once we're into 2010, we're in an election year and the political system will lose any appetite for serious change.

It is essential that our leaders realize just how important this moment is when it comes to a chance for real reform in Michigan.

And so, here's a Roadmap to Prosperity which has arisen from the 7,500 people who have participated in 450 community conversations in the Michigan's Defining Moment campaign.

Milestone No. 1: Develop a shared vision for Michigan. Setting out a common ground vision for our future is essential.

First of all, if you don't know where you are going, you're certainly aren't going to know how to get there.

And if we don't have a shared vision, how can we possibly distinguish between what is important and what is merely trivial?

In practical terms, without such a vision we have no way to establish rational taxing and spending priorities.

Understanding that makes it clear that at the core of our two recent budget crises is a lack of common vision about where the state should be going and how best to get there.

The budget battles two years ago and again this year were signal opportunities to reform a broken system.

But instead of responding to this clear objective, the legislature and governor settled for piecemeal juggling to meet the "letter of the law," i.e., the constitutional requirement for a balanced budget.

The citizens are ahead of them. The thousands of people who have participated in the community conversations sponsored by the Center for Michigan are in remarkable agreement about their common ground vision for our state.

Those discussions indicated most people want a state with:

- A talented, globally competitive workforce.
- A vibrant, diversified, growing economy.
- A great quality of life.
- Efficient, effective and accountable state government.

Milestone No. 2: Get our financial house in order. Every year for the past decade, Michigan has faced a billion-dollar plus chronic structural deficit in the General Fund.

This year, of course, it is much worse, thanks to the recession.

A "structural deficit" merely means that the money coming in is virtually certain to come up short, compared with our existing pat-

terns of spending. If this annual deficit is left uncured, it will continue to balloon beyond our power to tame it.

So how do we fix that? Apart from a big increase in taxes — something that is highly unlikely — there is only one way to bring expenditures into line with revenues. That is to enact a series of far-reaching structural reforms in the organization and cost of our state and local governments and school systems.

If we do that properly, we could realize billions in annual savings. For example:

- If our prison system jailed people at the same rate of our neighboring states, we'd save \$400 million each year.
- Pooling health care benefits for all government workers, as Speaker Dillon has proposed, could save up to \$700 million a year.
- Consolidating functions and sharing services among units of local government and schools would save yearly at least \$300 million.

Milestone No. 3: Lay a firm foundation for a growing, diversified, entrepreneurial economy.

We need wholesale reform in our tax structure. The 22 percent surcharge slapped onto the

Michigan Business Tax in 2007 is widely regarded as a disaster. Rethinking our tax structure should concentrate on simplicity, fairness, competitiveness with other states, and durability (we can't keep changing taxes every couple of years).

And our tax structure should be aligned with our evolving economy. That suggests we repeal the surcharge, cut the rate of the sales tax and broaden the base to include services.

Michigan also needs a clear "plan to compete" that defines and exploits our durable, distinctive competitive assets. Participants in community conversations identified these as including our great universities, our schools, the skills and talents of our workforce and the quality of life available in Michigan, whether from our wonderful natural resources or our vibrant communities.

Milestone No. 4: Reform the structure of dysfunctional Michigan politics.

Michigan's ultra-strict term limits are widely regarded as the root cause for legislative funding and lack of leadership. They should be either repealed or changed and extended.

Intelligent citizens also need to realize how our system of leg-

islative district reapportionment works against electing leaders who can work together. The large majority of districts are gerrymandered to protect one party or the other. This means that the only election that counts in most places is the primary. But primary elections bring out the most extreme voters on either side, right-wingers in Republican contests and ultra-liberals in Democratic ones. In effect, our system is designed to assure election of the most ideologically extreme candidates from either side, and yet we expect them to collaborate once elected.

This Roadmap to Prosperity is clear. It's simple. And make no mistake about it: It will be very tough to accomplish, and among our 10 million citizens and growing number of special interests, each of which cares only about protecting its own.

But it's a plan, which is more than our leaders seem to have in mind, as they huddle over budget-balancing deals that satisfy no one. Where there is no vision, after all, the people perish.

Phil Power is the founder and president of the Center for Michigan, a bipartisan think-tank-and-do tank. Contact him at ppower@thecenterforchicagoland.com.

OUR VIEWS

This election, follow city sign ordinance ... and leave them be

It's that time of year. Some dread it; others thrive on it. No, we're not talking about Halloween.

There's an election on Nov. 3, and it's campaign season. And with that comes political yard signs.

Love them or hate them, but let them be.

In past elections, there have been incidents of sign-swiping and allegations about who did it that end up making the actual political rhetoric sound downright polite.

This year, as Novi braces for an election of three City Council seats and that of the mayor, let's play nice and follow the rules regarding signs.

Of course, we expect the candidates to set the example first and abide by the city's sign ordinance.

With six council candidates (Brian Burke, Cheryl Csordas, Justin Fischer, Terry Margolis, Andrew Mutch and Wayne Wrobel) and two mayoral (David Landry and Laura Lorenzo), this campaign could be a boon for sign-makers. It could also leave our fair city looking a bit tacky as candidates try to grab the attention of voters using one of politics' oldest methods of promotion.

Do yard signs really work? Who knows. That probably depends on the individual looking at them. It certainly gets candidates' names out there, if you will.

We hope voters don't base their decision solely on yard signs, but rather take the time to learn more about candidates via the Novi News upcoming questionnaire (Oct. 29 issue) and candidate forum (7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 19 in council chambers at city hall) or visit www.swocestudios.com and view the candidates five-minute spotlights.

Of course, we don't oppose political yard signs. On the contrary, as long as candidates follow the ordinance on size, placement and removal, and as long as the signs are left in their legal placement until after the election, the signs are another way of, hopefully, getting residents out to the polls to take advantage of the privilege of voting.

CITY OF NOVI

SEC. 28-7(A)(12)

Noncommercial message signs. As defined in section 28-1, noncommercial message signs shall be permitted in all districts as follows:

a. Pursuant to and as provided in section 28-9, noncommercial message signs shall be allowed on any other premises permitted under this chapter as an off-premises advertising sign or an off-premises advertising sign.

b. In addition, noncommercial message signs shall be permitted in connection with any lot or parcel subject to the following limitations:

1. Noncommercial message signs may be placed on private property (properly not owned or controlled by the City of Novi and not right-of-way under the city's jurisdiction, except as set forth below), without a permit, provided that such signs:

(a) shall not exceed six (6) square feet in area, unless adjacent to a major thoroughfare, in which case the sign may not exceed sixteen (16) square feet in area;

(b) shall not exceed a height of five (5) feet;

(c) shall not be placed within a side yard setback area as required under the zoning ordinance in the district in which the property is situated; and

(d) shall not be placed in the public right-of-way unless there is an area available on the private property to place the sign. In such event, the sign shall be placed no less than ten (10) feet from the traveled portion of any public street or road. For purposes of this regulation, the traveled portion of the road includes any road shoulder. The building official shall permit a sign closer than ten (10) feet to the traveled portion of the road where all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(i) There is less than ten (10) feet of space between the traveled portion of the street or road and any principal or accessory building on the property so that it is not possible to place a sign in conformance with the ten (10) foot limit;

(ii) The sign shall be located as far away as possible from the traveled portion of the street or road while remaining visible;

(iii) The sign does not obstruct the vision of drivers; and

(iv) The sign does not obstruct or detract from the visibility of any traffic sign or traffic control device. After affording the proponent of the sign an opportunity to be heard, the building official may revoke the permission for a sign closer than ten (10) feet if, based upon accepted traffic safety principles, it is concluded that the closer sign placement causes a traffic hazard.

2. Except as permitted under section 28-10, there shall be only one noncommercial message sign not pertaining to a specific event allowed per lot or parcel.

Noncommercial message signs that pertain to a specific event shall be removed no later than ten (10) days after the date of the pertinent event.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What do you think of political yard signs?

We asked this question at Novi Town Center.



We put them in our yard.
Greta Currow
Centerline



I won't allow them in my yard. I don't mind if they at least take them down after the election.
Sam Zayed
Wixom



It's optional for the person to permit it. It's alright if they want it on their property. I pay attention to them.
Terrie Marks
Commerce



They aren't all that bad, but there's way too many.
Sandy Layne
West Bloomfield

LETTERS

Media manipulating

I was at a U of M game a couple of weekends ago; it surprised me that it took nearly 65 minutes to play the 15-minute first quarter. During the second quarter, someone pointed out to me the "Red Hat." If the Red Hat was on the field, it meant that the game was halted for a broadcast commercial message. I shook my head, first at the over \$5 million in live spectator ticket revenue and then at the selling out of college sports to the TV media.

Now we are being asked whether we might send our children to school at 5:30 in the morning so that their pep rally can be used as snippets on the morning news.

I am proud that our kids had the grumpiness to get "selected," but being asked to accommodate the news is absurd. The news is supposed to cover the event. I am disappointed that Novi schools is allowing the media to add another 90 minutes to the early side of the school day.

Mike Nicholson
Novi

The following message was distributed Thursday via iListServ by the Novi school district. - Editor

"The Novi-Northville football game scheduled for 7:00 p.m. tomorrow night, October 9, has been declared the WDIV Friday Football Friday Game of the Week due to the result of the voting by Novi-Northville fans. There will be a Spirit Rally Friday morning and if able to attend, students are asked to be in the Novi High School Football Stadium at 5:30 a.m., wearing their

Green and White. Live broadcasts will begin at 6:00 a.m. on Channel 4. Six live broadcasts will continue throughout the morning news broadcast and will end at 6:45 a.m. Again, students are not required to attend, only if they are able to start their day at this early hour."

treasurer of the Novi Parks Foundation. He has served for five years as a member of the Novi Zoning Board of Appeals. With his busy schedule, he still has time to serve as treasurer on our homeowner's association board.

I feel that Justin would be an excellent choice for Novi City Council. He will bring new ideas to add to his experience to the City of Novi. I will give all my support to Justin to become our next member of the Novi City Council.

Carol A. Klausz
President, Pointe Park Condominiums Association

Driver for band kudos

Novi High School Band Boosters would like to thank Tom Holzer Ford for holding our "Drive One 4 UR School" event on Sunday, Oct. 4, and to all the band parents, neighbors and the Novi community for coming out to support this event. We would also like to thank band parent Karen Zak for taking on the coordination for the Band Boosters. Those who came by Novi High School to take a test drive in one of the 2010 lineup of Ford vehicles that Tom Holzer brought to the event earned the band \$20 for each test drive.

Thanks to all for supporting the band!

Cheryl Crist
Publicity, NCBBS

Supports Fischer

I have known Justin Fischer for four years. He is a neighbor, a friend and co-board member at Pointe Park Condominiums Association. I have found Justin to be an honest, hard working person, with extremely good work and personal ethics. Justin is working full-time at Ford Motor Company, attending Michigan State University to attain his master's degree, and is currently

President, Pointe Park Condominiums Association

CROP Walk thanks

On Sunday, Oct. 4, nearly 100 walkers joined a scenic route to raise money and bring attention to the face of worldwide hunger and poverty. Assisted from the participant walkers, many behind the scene workers who made the walk possible. I would like to thank those people for their efforts, including Linda McGuire from Gummies, who provided ice cream and cones; Bill Carbo, from Absque Water, for water and cups; Sgt. Erik Zinser and his police officers from the Novi Police Department, who helped keep our walkers safe at the four major road crossings; and St. James Catholic Church, who offered their facility at the starting and ending points for the walk.

Thanks to everyone's participation, the Novi-Northville CROP Walk was a huge success and many people around the world and in our local communities will benefit greatly.

Betty Nick
Novi

GUEST COLUMN

Michigan is all wet with the earth's greatest natural resource

Michigan and other states in the Great Lakes Basin are all wet.

This is a good thing — as the 21st century evolves, water will become the most valued natural asset.

HOMES — or Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie and Superior, the group of five freshwater lakes in central North America — create a natural border between the United States and Canada and form the largest body of unfrozen freshwater in the world. Many who have come to our shores referred to these huge bodies of freshwater to as the "Third Coast." My Chinese friends standing on the beaches of Michigan, Huron and Superior regard these bodies of water as inland seas or as one giant freshwater ocean. They are amazed by their size and awed by their power and how clean and well maintained they appear. The Great Lakes region contains not only the five main lakes themselves, but also numerous minor lakes and rivers in multiple states and Canadian Provinces, all feeding a fragile ecosystem and creating life for millions. We need

to value and protect the Great Lakes as though our very lives and livelihoods depend on them — because they do.

The planet is covered in water. More than 98 percent of the world's water is salt water. The world's population depends on the other 2 percent of the freshwater for our basic needs and very survival. Most freshwater is locked in the polar ice caps. (With the threat of global warming, more of this water may be released soon — but that will create another set of serious issues.)

It is estimated that less than 1 percent of the earth's freshwater is accessible in lakes, rivers and groundwater aquifers. The Asian Development Bank points out that, "the vital 1 percent of available freshwater is constantly in motion, either flowing in rivers, evaporating and moving around the globe as water vapor, falling from the sky as rain or snow, or filtering slowly through the earth to emerge somewhere else. It is a renewable resource on which we all completely depend. It is the genesis and continuing source of all life on earth."

The limits of the world's freshwater resources however, become all too apparent and are reinforced each time I travel in China where I see their streams, lakes and rivers

being polluted daily, with many areas threatened by the lack of clean, freshwater and the water they do have being fouled by man. The droughts in Africa and the devastation and misery it brings to people are shown nearly nightly on our TV news. Knowing these facts about the scarcity of freshwater, our world governments, industries and people would be better stewards of such a vital natural resource — yet, this has not been true over the course of world history.

One group that is attempting to educate people about the value of our Great Lakes is the Great Lakes Information Network (GLIN). GLIN is a partnership that provides one place online for people to find information relating to the binational Great Lakes-St. Lawrence region of North America. GLIN offers a wealth of data and information about the region's environment, economy, tourism, education and more. Thanks to its strong network of state, provincial, federal and regional partner agencies and organizations, GLIN has become a necessary component of informed decision making, and a trusted and reliable source of information for those who live, work or have an interest in the Great Lakes region (www.great-lakes.net).

According to GLIN, "if you stood on the moon, you could see the lakes and recognize the familiar wolf head shape of Lake Superior, or the mitten bounded by lakes Michigan, Huron and Erie. Covering more than 94,000 square miles and draining more than twice as much land, these freshwater seas hold an estimated 6 quadrillion gallons of water, about one-fifth of the world's fresh surface water supply and nine-tenths of the U.S. supply. Spread evenly across the contiguous 48 states, the lakes' water would be about 9.5 feet deep."

The Great Lakes make our state and region a wonderful place to live, work, play and raise a family. All of us, not just "environmentalists," need to enjoy and protect these magnificent bodies of freshwater. The world is literally dying for a drink and we sit on the most precious commodity on the planet — freshwater. Enjoy, preserve and protect our Great Lakes!

Tom Watkins, is a consultant in the U.S. and China. He has held top state government positions in Michigan and the Department of Education and Mental Health. He is the past Chairman of Earth Force (www.earthforce.org). Earth Force engages youth to improve their environment and communities. Watkins can be reached at tdwatkins@aol.com.

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321 Pettibone, Ste. 105 South Lyon, MI 48178 (248) 437-5505

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
LOCATION: 4145 Nine Mile Road, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 349-0565
Sunday Schedule
TIME: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study, 10 a.m. Worship

per person. Check Web site for details: singleplace.org.

ONE POINT CHURCH
LOCATION: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 912-0043 or visit: oakpointe.org
Worship Services
TIME: 8:15 p.m. Saturday, 9:15 and 11:15 a.m. Sunday
ReNew Life Ministries
TIME/DATE: 7:15-9 p.m. every Monday
DETAILS: Ongoing Life Groups that support and facilitate personal growth, healing, learning and change from a Christian perspective.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
LOCATION: 200 E. Main St.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 or visit: firstpresville.org
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9:30, 11 a.m.
Walking In the Park
TIME/DATE: 10-11 a.m. every Saturday
LOCATION: Meet at the Visitor's Center of Heritage Park (Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads)
DETAILS: Group meets for lunch afterwards.
CONTACT: Sue (734) 459-0016
Single Place Ministries
TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m. social time, 7:45 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, every Thursday.
DETAILS: Informative and entertaining programs of interest to singles; \$5

FIRST UNITED METHODIST OF NORTHVILLE
A Stephen Ministry church

LOCATION: 777 W. Eight Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-1144 or funnorthville.org
Sunday Worship
TIME: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m.
DETAILS: Rev. Dr. Steve Buck
Coffee hour at 10:15 a.m.
Healing Service
TIME/DATE: 4 p.m. first Monday of every month
Refugeal Joy
TIME/DATE: 6-8 p.m. first and third Thursday of every month.
DETAILS: All women seeking to strengthen their faith and connect with other women are invited to attend, irrespective of church affiliation.
Crafters and vendors are needed
TIME/DATE: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 24
DETAILS: The annual Community Bazaar to benefit Village Banking at First United Methodist Church Northville. This is a great opportunity to showcase talent or business to hundreds of local customers. As cost is nominal, booth space is filling up fast.
CONTACT: For details and reserve a space e-mail Pat Breslin at: Bazaar@care2.com. For more

information regarding Village Banking: www.villagebanking.org.

NOVI UNITED METHODIST
LOCATION: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-2652 or visit: unc-novi.com
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9:45 a.m.
Healing Service and Holy Communion
TIME/DATE: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month
Peace Vigil
TIME/DATE: Noon, first Sunday of every month
LOCATION: In front of the church
DETAILS: Members of the congregation and the community will stand united in prayer for peace.
Annual Dinner & Auction
TIME/DATE: 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7

WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LOCATION: 40000 Six Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 374-7400 or (248)

374-5978
Sunday Worship
TIME: 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Traditional; 9:30 and 11 a.m. Contemporary; Nursery and Sunday School during the 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.
Service Broadcast
DETAILS: 11 a.m. every Sunday on WRDF-AM 560, The WMLZ Word Station.
Single Point Ministries - 45 and older
TIME/DATE: 11 a.m. Sunday for fellowship and Bible study.
Single Focus Ministries - 35-50 years
TIME/DATE: 9:30 a.m. Sunday to deepen your personal relationship with Christ.
Single Purpose Connections - 20-30 years
TIME/DATE: 11 a.m. Sunday in the Chapel for singing, Bible study, and fellowship.
DETAILS: For single adults. Active ministry offering various Bible study classes, volleyball, bicycling group, tennis group, support groups, support group for widowed over age 50, fellowship, friendships and more. Contact the number below for more information.

CONTACT: (248) 374-5920
Bible Studies and Prayer Nights
Learner's Bible Study
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Mondays Room A01
Men's Bible Study
TIME/DATE: 6:30 a.m. Wednesday
Single Adult Ministries office
Single's Bible Study
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. second and fourth Mondays, Room C309
From Grief to New Hope
TIME/DATE: 7-8:45 p.m. on eight consecutive Mondays, beginning Sept. 14
DETAILS: This free workshop is open to the community and will be presented by Cathy Clough, Director of New Hope Center for Grief Support. Each session will begin with a presentation about one aspect of grief followed by small group participation led by trained facilitators. Attendees will be placed in groups with others who have had similar losses.
CONTACT: For registration information, call Barb at Ward Presbyterian Church at (248) 374-5943. For information about other age and loss specific grief support groups offered by New Hope Center for Grief Support, call (248) 348-0115 or visit our website: www.newhope-center.net.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
LOCATION: 24505 Meadowbrook Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-8847 or visit: holyfamilynovi.org/Mass Schedule
TIME/DAY: 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday; 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday; 7 p.m. Tuesday; 5 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday
Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.
Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment
Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting
TIME/DATE: 10-11 a.m. last Wednesday of each month
DETAILS: Free, informational meeting open to all adoptive families in Oakland County. Child care is available. Registration is required.

Purpose Prayer Group, 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do
Women of the Word
TIME/DATE: 9:25-11:15 a.m.
DETAILS: The W.O.W. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study welcomes you to their study of the Book of Exodus. There is a \$15 registration fee, which includes interdenominational study materials. Childcare will be available in the morning for children through age 5.

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC
LOCATION: 46325 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-7778
Mass Schedule
TIME/DAY: 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday, 7 p.m. Wednesday; 5 p.m. Saturday
Mothers Group
TIME/DATE: 9:30-11 a.m. Monthly, first and third Wednesday through May 19, 2010
LOCATION: St. James Parish Hall A
DETAILS: We provide mothers with fellowship, support and opportunities to grow their faith in order to nurture their children with confidence and Christian values. Through activities such as article discussion, crafts, and speakers, moms are given the opportunity to connect with other moms in support and friendship. Free childcare is available but children are also welcome to join their mothers during meetings.
CONTACT: Becky McFee (248) 385-5924 or Kris Endreszi (248) 946-4080

DETROIT FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
LOCATION: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 348-7600 or visit: dcnazarene.org
Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service
Tuesday Schedule: Tuesday 9:30-11:15 a.m. Women of the Word Bible Study with childcare available for through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies Evening Bible Study; 7 p.m. Men's Evening Bible Study
Wednesday Schedule: 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$4 per person, \$12 per family; 7 p.m. Children's Caravan, Club 56, Bible Study, Outing, Adult Classes, Youth Blast
Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men of

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN
LOCATION: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-2345 or visit: faithcommunity-novi.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
LOCATION: 201 Elm St., Northville
CONTACT: (248) 349-3140
Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m.
Blended; 11 a.m. Contemporary; 11:30 a.m. Traditional

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL
LOCATION: 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight and Nine Mile roads
CONTACT: Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7757, visit: mbcc.org or e-mail to office@mbcc.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Sermon: Having a Plan
Church School: 10-11 a.m.
Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.
Yoga/Fit Classes
TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m. every Monday
DETAILS: Eight weeks, \$55 contribution or \$8 per drop in session. Merry Widows Luncheon
TIME/DATE: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH
LOCATION: 170 Thayer, Northville
CONTACT: (248) 349-2621 or dlvnorthville.org
Saturday Worship
TIME: 5 p.m.
Sunday Worship
TIME: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
LOCATION: 217 N. Wing
CONTACT: (248) 348-0920
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays
Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first

OUR SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LOCATION: 190 N. Center, above Tuttle's in Old Church Square.

Northville
CONTACT: Pastor Bill Burke at (734) 927-0891
Sunday Worship: 11:30 a.m. with fellowship and food after service

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NOVI-FAMILY INTEGRATED CHURCH
LOCATION: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchnovi.org
Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m.
Bible Study: 6 p.m.
Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m.; fourth Sunday of every month.

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY
LOCATION: 41355 Six Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 348-9030

ORCHARD HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
LOCATION: 23455 Novi Road
CONTACT: Pastor Jon Hix (248)

349-5665
Preschool/Kids Choir
TIME/DATE: 7-8:15 p.m. every Wednesday
DETAILS: For ages three to six; ongoing event; no need to pre-register; all are welcome.

CROSSPOINT MEADOWS CHURCH
LOCATION: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit: www.crosspointmeadows.org
Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m.
Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for all ages
DETAILS: Nursery and other children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship experience.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
LOCATION: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 427-1175 or

churchoftheholycross.com
Sunday Worship: 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m.
Sunday School and Nursery Care
TIME: 10 a.m.
Worship Service
Alzheimer's Support Group
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
LOCATION: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills
CONTACT: (248) 474-0584 or visit: stjohnlutheran.com
Saturday Worship
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday School
TIME: 10:15 a.m.

Send calendar submissions via e-mail to news@hometownlife.com or by fax to (248) 348-9632, or by mail to Church Events, Hometown Weeklies, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

Tanglewood Restaurant
'Your First Choice'
53503 W. Ten Mile Road, South Lyon
248-486-6217 Restaurant
248-486-3355 Proshop
Oktoberfest Celebration
Oktoberfest Beer, BBQ Ribs, Bratwurst, Kraut, Live Music & Fun ~ Tent on Patio
Friday, October 16th 6:00 pm
\$1.00 Rib & Beer Samples for the Benefit of Providence Park Health Foundation

PRICES SLASHED AGAIN...HURRY!!
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STARTS TODAY... True Value
415 E. Lake St. (1.0 MI) South Lyon
NEW HOURS: DAILY 10 AM-6 PM SATURDAY 9-4 SUNDAY 10-3
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40% OFF ENTIRE STOCK
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Ornaments
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Expires 10-31-09
FREE Cup of Cider & 1 Donut
Valid 11-1-09 thru 11-30-09
\$5.00 OFF Any custom blanket order
Valid 11-27-09 thru 11-30-09
\$5.00 OFF Fresh Cut Tree or wreath or roping \$29.00 or more
No other discounts apply.

Are you caring for an aging PARENT, RELATIVE, NEIGHBOR OR FRIEND?
Solutions & Family Caregivers Expo
Saturday, October 24, 2009
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Diamond Ballroom Rock Financial Showplace
46100 Grand River Avenue • Novi (Between Novi and Beck Roads)
FREE Parking! FREE Admission!
More than 100 exhibitors
Expert presentations on a variety of caregiving topics
'Ask The Expert' for answers to questions on Medicare, Medicaid, and referrals to local services
Free morning refreshments
Complimentary professional care for your loved one while you attend the expo (Reservation required for this service - Call 800-852-7795)
Cash and carry afternoon snacks available
Door prizes and giveaways!

INTERNATIONAL CREDIT UNION WEEK

'Invest in America' Spreads its Wings
The Michigan Credit Union League (MCUL) is proud to announce that it has received a grant from the U.S. Department of the Treasury to support the 'Invest in America' program. This program is designed to help small businesses and entrepreneurs access credit and financial services. The grant will be used to fund a variety of initiatives, including:
- Providing financial education and training for small business owners.
- Offering technical assistance and counseling to help businesses develop business plans and improve their creditworthiness.
- Supporting the development of new financial products and services tailored to the needs of small businesses.
- Promoting the benefits of credit unions and encouraging more people to join credit unions.

Michigan Credit Unions Lead the Country in Financial Education
Michigan credit unions are recognized as a national leader in financial education. This is due to the commitment of credit union members and staff to provide high-quality financial education to their members. Michigan credit unions have received numerous awards for their financial education efforts, including:
- The 2008 National Financial Education Award from the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).
- The 2008 National Financial Education Award from the American Bankers Association (ABA).
- The 2008 National Financial Education Award from the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE).

Michigan Credit Unions Lead the Country in Financial Education
American Michigan Credit Union League
Values Savings

Going the Extra Mile to Save You Money.
Exclusive Discounts for Credit Union Members!
Drive away with amazing discounts on GM and Chrysler vehicles and a low loan rate from your credit union.
Depending on which vehicle you choose, you could save up to thousands of dollars.
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Hollywood Nights Movie Marathon

The Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan presents Hollywood Nights Movie Marathon Oct. 16-17 at Emagine Theater in Novi 12 Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk, 44425 W. 12 Mile Road.

Join Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan, Bagger Dave's, Magic 105.1 and Valvoline Instant Oil Change for Hollywood Nights, a 24-hour movie watching marathon. Hollywood Nights kicks off at 10 a.m. on Friday (registration opens at 9 a.m.) and ends on Saturday at 10 a.m.

All Hollywood Nights participants are required to raise a minimum pledge of \$105.10. All proceeds from the event will benefit Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan and its families. Participation in Hollywood Nights includes all the movies you can watch in 24 hours, three meals, unlimited pop and popcorn, a goody bag of candy, and the chance to win great prizes.

After 10 p.m. on Friday, individuals age 13-17 must be accompanied by an adult over the age of 18 in order to participate in the movie watching marathon.

To participate in Hollywood Nights, register at www.kemichigan.org/Events by clicking on the Hollywood Nights page, or on-site the day of the event. The minimum pledge of \$105.10 can be donated in advance, but will be accepted the day of the event as well.

A time for giving back
This November, Town &

Country Eyecare, practice of Dr. Tim Kirk and Dr. Amy Crissman, has committed to donating \$2 from every eye exam. The donations will go towards two worthy charities in our community: The Clothes Closet at The Church of the Holy Family in Novi and Northville Civic Center. The Clothes Closet helps provide clothing and food to men, women and children of our area and Civic Concern has a food bank for those in need.

To schedule an eye exam, call (248) 347-7800 or if you would like to make an additional donation, please feel free to drop it off at the office, located at Novi Road and Nine Mile.

Tax seminar

Plante & Moran, PLLC announces a complimentary tax seminar for business owners, CFOs and other management team leaders to understand new and anticipated changes in the business tax arena.

The seminar will be held 1-4:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22 at the Hotel Baronne, 27750 Novi Road, Novi. Plante & Moran's tax advisors are continually monitoring legislative, regulatory, and precedent-setting developments and will discuss with seminar attendees how companies may benefit from certain changes. Attendees will also learn about new and pending laws and updates on compliance requirements, potential new tax saving opportunities, and insights on effective tax planning for the years ahead.

To register, contact Judy Rehn at (248) 223-3721. judy.rehn@plantemoran.com or visit <http://tax2009.plantemoran.com>.

Wine Down Wednesday

Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro's first "Wine down Wednesday dinner" sold out in September. Another has been planned for Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Dinner will be served from 6-9 p.m. with an Oktoberfest theme. Since Oktoberfest means beer, but wine goes better with food, certified executive chef Mary Brady has come to a compromise with the menu, and will blend a happy marriage of both.

Jim Greene from J. Lohr Winery will be on hand again to pour his fabulous wines which will also be available for purchase.

Wine down Wednesday dinner includes three courses and three wines for \$35 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Phone (248) 380-8460 for reservations. The restaurant is located at the Novi Town Center at 26053 Town Center (next to the Novi Town Center Movie).

A portion of J. Lohr Wineries case sales will benefit The Society De Ben Secours, who supports families that are in need of heat and light.

The Mobfather: A Murder Mystery

The Novi Theatres is thrilled to announce that it has partnered with Andiamo Restaurant and Theatre for a night of dinner, laughs and intrigue with *The Mobfather*—a murder mystery dinner theatre performance.

Performances are Friday, Nov. 20, 7 p.m., \$35; and Saturday, Nov. 21, 6 and 9 p.m., \$35. Ticket price includes dinner and show, with a cash bar available.

Tickets can be purchased



JOHN BUCK | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sprucing up

Janice Shall of Wayne's "Flir Decks" waits for customers at her display booth during last weekend's Home Remodelers Show at Novi's Rock Financial Showplace. The show featured lots of ways for homeowners to spruce up their residences inside and out and ran from Friday through Sunday.

"Kwame a River" extended

Kwame A River 2: The Wrath of Coyvers has been extended through Dec. 27 due to popular demand at the Andiamo Novi Theatre, located at 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi MI 48375. For more information about *The Mobfather*, visit www.novitheatre.org or contact Nancy Hayden, Cultural Arts Coordinator at (248) 347-0509.

City Council Kwame A River

2: The Wrath of Coyvers also hilariously chronicles Monica's tenure as head of Council and comically displays everything that happened—from raucous Council wars, Cobo contracts, and feuds with 8th graders—and everything that you didn't know happened, like Monica's secret therapy session with Dr. Phil, her unlikely and passionate affair with Ken Cockrel Jr., and her wacky plans to turn Metro Detroit into a tourism mecca.

Show times and prices for Kwame A River 2: The Wrath of Coyvers are:
• Wednesday at 8 p.m. - \$15
• Friday at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. - \$20
• Saturday at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. - \$20
• Sunday at 5 p.m. (beginning Sept. 20) - \$15

Tickets are available at the theater's box office located at 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi, Michigan, by phone at 1-800-745-3000 or on-line at www.ticketmaster.com. Dinner and show packages are also available. For more information on Kwame A River 2: The Wrath of Coyvers, call the Andiamo Novi Theatre at 248-348-4448. Visit www.KwameARiver.blogspot.com.

Dinner with a Doctor

On Thursday, Oct. 29 Providence Park Hospital is hosting a free dinner event entitled "Exercise as a Means to Reduce the Risk of Breast Cancer," presented by Laura Freedman, MD. The dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. and the presentation runs from 7-8 p.m. with questions and answers immediately following.

There is no charge to attend and the public is welcome to register for this casual dinner. Health presentation and question and answer session.

Dinners are held in conference rooms A, B & C on campus at Grand River and Beck Roads in Novi. Enter the campus off of Beck Road and continue straight to the building's Heart Institute entrance.

To register for the dinner please call 1-866-501-DOCS (3627).

KAMELEON™ TRUNK SHOW
Fri., Sat. & Sun.
Oct. 16, 17 & 18
Open Fri. - Sat. 10-9 pm & Sun. 11-6 pm

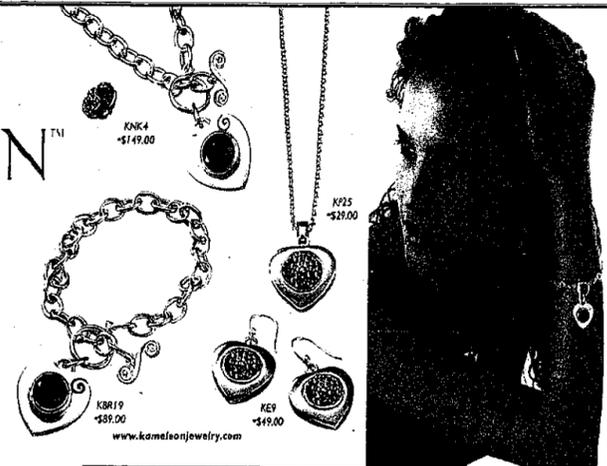
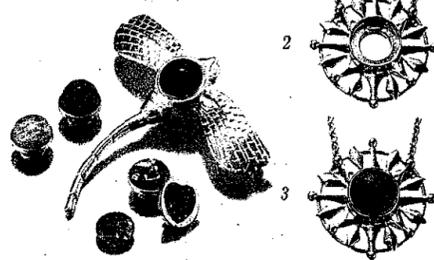
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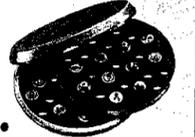
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ANNIVERSARY OPENHOUSE
Friday and Saturday, Oct. 16-17 from 10-6
Sunday, Oct. 18th from 10-2
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Plus Up to a **\$1,000** Utility company rebate
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SWAROVSKI Snow White Promotion
Now Thru October 18th

Spend \$200 on any jewelry products and receive a FREE LIT LIT GRAB!

\$ INSTANT \$ \$ CASH \$ \$

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CrossPoint Community Church
Proudly Presents **Bob Dutko**
This Sunday, October 18th at 10:30 Service

Rev. Kenneth & Rachel Warren
Lead Pastors

Host of "The Bob Dutko Show" Michigan's #1 Christian Radio Show and the Nationally Syndicated "Defending the Truth with Bob Dutko"

Bob Dutko from Christian Radio WMLZ - 103.5 FM

Join us this Sunday at **Kent Lake Elementary**
30181 Kent Lake Road
Southfield, MI 48075

Sunday Service Times
10:00 am
11:00 am
12:00 pm

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Novi's playoff hopes drowned

Northville defeats Novi 14-8 in overtime

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

It had been eight straight years since the Brown Jug went to Northville in the annual Eight Mile Road border battle with Novi. But the Mustangs tread water through a steady drizzle into overtime Friday night in order to break the Wildcats' streak with a 14-8 win at Novi.

"The result, there's no question the result was very rewarding. To win the way we did was just amazing. I don't think words can describe how big of a win it was for us," Northville coach Matt Ladach said. "It means a lot. I tried my best to keep it cool and I was just like the kids and completely overwhelmed."

The win secured Northville (5-2, 4-1 KLA Central) second place in the division - while Livonia Stevenson (5-2, 5-0 Central) took first with a 47-20 win at South Lyon East - and moved the Mustangs to within one win of securing a state playoff berth. The loss eliminated Novi (3-4, 3-2 Central) from playoff contention and put the Wildcats third place in the division.

"It really says a lot about the Northville football program. I thought they played with tremendous spirit," Novi coach Tab Kellepourey said. "We want to say congratulations on winning that jug."

With puddles forming on the field, both teams struggled to hold onto the ball early on, combining for eight pass attempts, six fumbles and a botched snap that resulted in a safety, all during just the first half.

Northville's first drive ended with Novi's first score. A high snap at Northville's 24-yard

line got over the Mustang punter and bounced out the back of the end zone for a safety, giving the Wildcats a 2-0 lead just 2:36 into regulation.

Junior RB Mike Brant recovered his own fumble on the following Novi drive, but the Wildcats couldn't get a first down, turning the ball over on downs at the Northville 40-yard line. Junior DL Dan Burris forced Mustang senior RB Brett Smith to fumble at Northville's 47-yard line 49 seconds later, recovered by Novi senior DB Jeremy Mims.

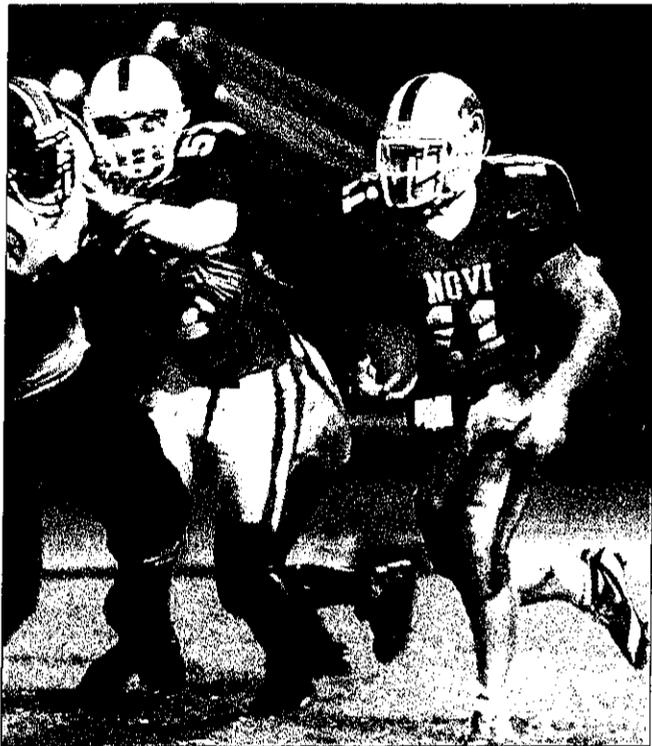
Mims' recovery set up a six-play Novi drive that featured a 10-yard pass from senior QB Jim Pitcher to senior FB Adam Paul and a 22-yard rush up the center by Pitcher. Pitcher capped the drive with a six-yard touchdown run to the left corner, but a wide extra-point kick by senior RB Brett Kuhn kept the score at 8-0.

"Jimmy Pitcher has done a great job for us learning to do quarterback," Kellepourey said, noting Pitcher's transition from defensive lineman to running back and now quarterback. "Pitcher did a great job on short notice."

"Adam Paul, I'm impressed with him. He's a senior and did not start the first two games. As a junior, he was not in the running back position. He's had a couple very, very good games and he's also a very intelligent player."

Both teams struggled to maintain possession and get yards on their next several drives, but Paul and Pitcher kept the chains moving for the Wildcats, racking up 65 and 61 yards on the ground, respectively, by halftime.

Big plays were canceled out by wet ones, however. Novi



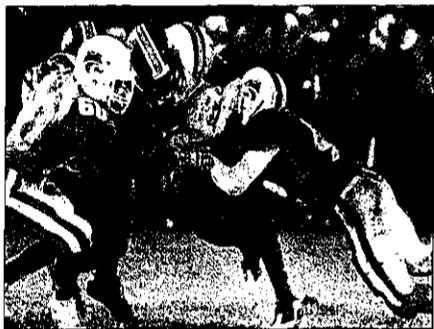
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Novi's Jim Pitcher gains some yardage against Northville.

junior CB Brian Bush nabbed his fourth interception of the season from Northville junior QB Mike Wegzyn at Novi's 45-yard line with 9:01 remaining in the half.

Novi was forced to punt away on the following drive and Northville did the same on their drive after. Novi's Paul fumbled on the next drive, and it was recovered by Mustang junior Devon Pearson at Northville's 20-yard line with 1:29 left in the half.

Sensing urgency before halftime, the Mustangs got three consecutive gains plays from junior RB Jonathon Alandt, who moved Northville



Northville quarterback Mike Wegzyn is met by Wildcats Joe Burris, left, and Tom Symanski.

ON TAP

Novi (3-4, 3-2 Central) will travel to Plymouth 7 p.m. tomorrow in the first-ever matchup between the two Wildcat schools.

"Plymouth has two exceptional running backs, quarterback and tailback. They're an exceptional squad as well," Novi coach Tab Kellepourey said. "We've got to go out there and win the game to make sure we get our season above .500."

Plymouth (5-2, 3-2 KLA South) is coming off a 31-8 win at home against Livonia Franklin (3-4, 2-3 South) and needs one win to secure a state playoff spot.

up 23 yards to their 43-yard line. After Wegzyn hit junior WR Brad Wagner with a 12-yard pass, he connected with Alandt for a 45-yard touchdown that Alandt took up the left sideline. Connecting with senior RB Kyle Galdes on the right side for a two-point conversion, Wegzyn tied the game for Northville at 8-8 with 22 seconds left in the half.

"When we started the drive, we weren't doing anything offensively," Ladach said. "We ran a toss sweep three straight plays and got us in pretty good field position. Jon Alandt was huge."

Northville started with good field position in the second half after junior OLB Matt Celentino recovered a fumble by Pitcher at Novi's 30-yard line, but the Mustangs were penalized on third and one-yard to go when senior lineman Nicco Buffone got in the face of and shoved Novi junior LB Greg Kollis twice after the whistle. The 14-yard personal foul penalty set up a field goal attempt, but a bad snap resulted in a 10-yard loss and turnover on downs.

Neither team could muster much offense the rest of the third quarter, as a pair of 11-

Please see **FOOTBALL, B2**

Wildcats escape with a point against Rocks

Tie ties Novi for third in division

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Novi needed one point to stay in third place of the KLA Central Division for boys' soccer when they faced second-place Plymouth Salem last Thursday, and that's exactly what they got on a damp senior night in their final regular season home match at Meadows Stadium.

The Wildcats (7-3-5, 3-2-5 Central) came out slow, as the Rocks' senior Lachlan Savage slid in behind Novi's defense left of the penalty spot to receive a pass from junior Dan Martin, leaving Savage wide open to rocket a shot into the top right corner past Novi senior goalkeeper Tommy Duquette nine minutes into the game.

"We don't show up to play from the get-go," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "We've had issues all season with playing all 80 minutes. We just play lethargic and it just shows up every game."

Salem (10-4-4, 6-2-2 Central) didn't let up, as the Rocks had another good chance nine minutes later, but Savage slipped and his weak poke shot was nabbed by Duquette.

Seniors Shawn Quinn and Brendon Quinn continually worked the ball around Novi's defense, but Novi sophomore Sean Hazen was able to clear the zone in most cases.

With 6:50 remaining in the half, Salem's Evan Antich did a bicycle kick that lobbed over Duquette and hit the top of the crossbar, just inches from giving Salem the extra buffer

they had so many chances to get during the first half as they outshot Novi 3-2 with five others sailing just wide of the goal frame.

"First half, we gave up way too many chances. Tommy (Duquette) did great, he's been amazing all season. No one was stepping up and making things happen," O'Leary said of his team's first half. "I started the guys that played the best in the first half. Sean Hazen started the second half and really came in with a lot of energy and created things. Everyone just picked up on that."

Six minutes into the second half, Novi had a brief scare when a Salem cross got through the 18-yard box to Antich at the back left post. Although Antich's shot on an empty net sailed high from 10 yards out, Duquette ended up sliding into the post in an attempt to make a save.

Duquette was able to stay in the game, however, and his teammates

ON TAP

With the win, Novi moved on to conference and league crossovers this week, traveling to Canton (9-5-3, 6-3-1 South) on Monday - where Novi won 3-0 on Aug. 27 - and the winner was scheduled to visit the winner of Monday's Walled Lake Central and Pinckney Lakes Conference game on Wednesday.

The Wildcats wrap up their regular season with a non-league match 7 p.m. at Ann Arbor Huron (8-1) tomorrow before starting district play by hosting Detroit Catholic Central (10-1-3) 6 p.m. Monday at Meadows Stadium.

"They've got Josh Gatt. It's just ridiculous how good he is," O'Leary said. "We're just going to work on not having a lull in the game and playing a full 80 minutes."

Although CC and Novi are regarded as the top two teams in the eight-team district, the rest of the competition will pose a tough challenge. The winner of Monday's matchup will play at the Walled Lake Central/North Farmington match victor in district semi-final action before facing the winner of the West Bloomfield/Walled Lake Western/Farmington Hills Harrison/Farmington bracket winner 6:30 p.m. Oct. 23 at district host Farmington.

gave him a much-needed break by taking the ball deep into Salem's zone for many of their next few possessions.

Two minutes after Duquette's run in with the goal post, junior Brian

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Novi netters qualify for state tournament

Wildcats' doubles squads roar to five conference titles

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Novi's boys tennis team may have defeated Northville in their dual meet to capture the KLAAC Central Division crown, but the Wildcats couldn't get past the Mustangs at their Kensington Conference and regional tournaments last week.

Hanson. "At the regional level, the key for us was everyone had to win their first match and then we needed two more. We got six more wins."

Sports Club of Novi and Farmington Tennis Club due to rain. Earlier in the week, they had to get around the elements at the Kensington Conference meet.

ON TAP

Novi's third place regional finish qualified the netters (ranked seventh in Division I) for the state tournament tomorrow and Saturday at Midland Community Tennis Center and Northwood University in Midland.

Novi's five pairs of doubles players each won their conference championships, as all five defeated Northville's five teams. The doubles' conference champions include juniors Nathan Farooq and Greg Richard at one doubles, freshman Jason Carless and senior Kyle McGuire at two doubles, junior Chaitanya Kanitkar and senior Vishnu Venugopal at three doubles, sophomores Bill Bell and Andrew Cho at four doubles, and seniors Ani Ravi and Zhao Wang at five doubles.

Franklin kid played a tinge better. He hasn't won all his matches, but he's been right there. He's going to be a hard kid to replace," Hanson said of Crandell, adding that replacing Zhang would be a tall order as well.

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

and 18-yard runs by Novi's Pitcher and a 12-yard run by Northville's Alandt were the only double-digit gains and play remained in the midfield as the wet ball anchored each team's punts.

"The weather didn't play as much a factor as both teams did," Ladach said.

Northville got the chains moving to start the fourth quarter, as the rain had slowed and Wegzyn connected with senior WR Dan Mills for a 34-yard gain to Novi's 20-yard line.

Taking the snap from the 15-yard line, senior Jake Robilean's 33-yard field-goal attempt was blocked and recovered by Northville senior OLB Tyler Stevens at the Novi 26-yard line for a turnover on downs.

Both offenses continued to sputter through the wet field conditions, but Novi wrapped up regulation with a 67-yard, 10-play drive over the final 5:56. Pitcher had runs of 11 and 16 yards while Alandt had a 16-yard gain up the left side of the field.

On fourth and nine on Northville's 48-yard line, the Wildcats called a time out with one second remaining in the game and welcomed back into the season senior QB Brandon Rydzewski, who was injured in the first half of week two game against Walled Lake Central. Rydzewski connected with senior WR Justin Hopson along the right side-



A Novi Wildcat tackles Mustang quarterback Mike Wegzyn during last Friday night's game.

line for a 25-yard gain, but Northville junior LB Michael MacLean made the tackle to put the game into overtime.

There was no footing whatsoever for either team. The field's still a wreck right now," Kellepourey said Monday evening. "When you're in mud and everyone is covered in it and you've got one guy with clean clothes on (Rydzewski), get him out there and get him muddy."

Starting from 10 yards out, Paul, Rydzewski and Pitcher each took a shot at running the ball into the end zone, but only gained three yards total for Novi. Junior Scott Stanford boomed a solid kick wide left of the uprights to turn the ball over to Northville without a Wildcat score.



Wildcat running back Adam Paul tries to make some yards against Northville.

Alandt needed just two tries to punch the ball into the end zone for the Mustangs. After a three-yard rush right of the center, Alandt took it into the end zone with a seven-yard run to the right side, bringing the Brown Jug back to Northville for the first time in eight years.

The Wildcats outran the Mustangs 211-40 in rushing yards, but Northville's 117-35 passing yards advantage kept them in the game as Wegzyn went 8-for-11. Novi went

2-for-4 in the air between Rydzewski and Pitcher, who ran for 109 yards on 22 attempts to lead the team. Paul ran for 75 yards on 14 attempts.

Chris Jackett is a free-lance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

Defense holds off DeLaSalle

Catholic Central's bread and butter earns team another win

BY SAM EGGLESTON
CORRESPONDENT

Detroit Catholic Central football coach Tom Mach said at the beginning of the season that the one thing his team can always count on is a tough game when his team plays against fellow Catholic League teams.

He also said that his defense was the focal point of his team and that he'd rely on it to win games. Mach was proven right—once again—last week when his Shamrocks edged the DeLaSalle Pilots, 14-10, in a Catholic League Central Division showdown.

The game looked as though the Pilots were going to control the tempo from the opening kickoff. DeLaSalle received the kick from the Shamrocks and returned it 40 yards. The following play, the Pilots scored on a 60-yard scamper by DeAngelo Paris to take a 7-0 lead.

"Every coach worries," Mach said when asked if he had concern about if his team could counter DeLaSalle. "I guess we just got to see how fast they really are. It's one thing to see it on tape, and it's another to see it in person."

The Shamrocks adjusted, however, and made some big plays. One of them was a crucial fourth down play with time expiring in the fourth quarter and the Shamrocks holding on to the 14-10 edge. The cold weather and damp conditions didn't mix well on a long snap to the punter, Corey Smith, who mishandled the ball and watched it tumble to the turf behind him.

Smith thought fast, however, and scooped up the ball near the goal line and looked down field and threw the ball to Anthony Selig at the 13. Selig turned up field and made it back to about the 24 yard line before being brought down to turn the ball over on downs.

"That was a big play," said Mach. "If we would have just jumped on the ball, DeLaSalle would have had it right at the end zone and it would have been hard to stop them."

Instead, pushed back to the 24, the Pilots found themselves unable to move the ball against the stingy Shamrocks defense that has given up just 23 points over seven games.

The Shamrocks defense played their usual stellar game, holding DeLaSalle to 195 yards and snagging two interceptions. Catholic Central did not commit a turnover and had just two penalties in the contest.

Though the Pilots jumped to an early lead, the Shamrocks weren't shabby on the offensive side of the ball, either. Against a very tough DeLaSalle defense, the Catholic Central grid-ers tied the game with their first three plays from scrimmage. The touchdown was set up by a 64-yard scamper by quarterback Sam Landry off an option play that was punched out by a five-yard run by bruiser Buzz Herzog. Justin



Catholic Central's defense smothered DeLaSalle Pilots and went on to win, 14-10.



Northville's Michael Kinville (33) knocked DeLaSalle's DeAngelo Paris out of the game with this hit in the fourth quarter.

ON TAP

Up next for the Shamrocks will be a young, but talented, University of Detroit Jesuit High School, Detroit Catholic Central, which is 7-0 on the season, will face off against the Cubs, 3-4, in a Catholic League Central Division contest at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Chris Jackett is a free-lance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

Herron took the ball up the right side and passed it to junior John DeLeon, who tipped it through to sophomore Chris Park, who flicked it over Salem senior goalkeeper Sasha Miskovic and into the goal box from the left side. Miskovic had already come off his line to make a block on Park and had to dive backward to save the ball three yards from crossing the goal line.

"They're two of probably the five best in Michigan," O'Leary said of both teams' set minders.

Some stellar, hard-nosed defensive plays by Novi senior Nick Bowser and junior Jon Hart, as well as Salem senior Sal Savage, kept either team from getting many clean breakaways. Sophomore Chase Jabarti had a few good chances for the Wildcats, but Miskovic was able to save each ball that was on the mark.

Novi finally got on the board with 10:32 remaining, as Jabarti's free kick from the right side was punched out by Miskovic and hit back toward goal by Park. Freshman Matt Wilson redirected Park's shot into the lower left corner to tie the game 1-1 on senior night.

With the clock winding down, both teams had a few really good scoring attempts left in them.

Salem had a central 40-yard dipping rocket of a free kick redirected, forcing Duquette to make a diving save toward his left post to save ball, knocking it out for a corner kick with six minutes left.

Less than two minutes later, senior Jon Bauer hit a through ball through the center circle to Jabarti, who ran in on the goal nearly untouched from the mid-line, but missed the net wide right from 16 yards out as Miskovic challenged him with a diving block attempt.

Both teams looked gassed from the competitive game and damp field conditions, but Salem's Martin got off one last shot with 15 seconds left when

Duquette had an obstructed view from the goal line. Fortunately for the Wildcats, the shot missed wide right and the 1-1 tie kept Novi ahead of Livonia Stevenson for third in the Central Division, based on head-to-head and overall records as both teams finished with 14 points.

"It was pretty much the tale of two halves. We needed a point to finish in third," O'Leary said. "Bauer and DeLeon both play so hard and leave so much out on the field. I haven't been disappointed in them all season."

Senior Night

Last Thursday served as senior night for Novi's eight overclassmen. The team relived memories of team dinners, an own goal and a pre-game "stomach cramp" over laughs during a halftime ceremony.

Co-captain Jon Bauer led the group, having joined varsity as a freshman. Tom Duquette and Doug Gimm graduate their three years of experience. Andrew Lumley, Kevin Fritzes, Nick Bowser and Kaiio I earned their varsity letters the past two years and Chris Slack is completing his first varsity season, having played football the past three falls and club soccer in the off-season.

"They're a great group of guys," O'Leary said of his seniors. "They really understand the big picture of things, working hard and leadership."

Northville

Novi dropped a 3-2 decision to division-champion Northville on the road Oct. 6.

The Mustangs (10-1-4, 7-1-2 Central) struck twice in the first 20 minutes before junior Wes Smith got the Wildcats on the board just before the half. A Chase Jabarti deflection off a Northville player tied the game 2-2 in the second half before Northville put themselves ahead with 10 minutes remaining.

Chris Jackett is a free-lance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

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Shamrocks win tennis regional

Catholic Central heads to state finals in Midland this weekend

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

The Catholic Central Shamrocks have been named the top team in Division I tennis throughout the majority of the season. Last week, they showed why.

The team, coached by Joe Stafford, earned 28 points to win their tennis regional and earn a berth to the state finals in Midland this weekend. The teams they had to beat to win included Brighton, Novi and Northville, among others. Novi and Northville earned 22 points each, tying for second and earning their own trip to the state finals.

The Shamrocks went right to work last week, earning five flight championships during the regional tournament. "I was pleased with our team's focus, intensity, and energy throughout this tournament," said Stafford. "One of the things we focus on is getting better each match and peaking for the big matches."

Going into the tournament, Stafford preached to his team the importance of being at the top of their game. The reason was simple: Their regional was one of the toughest in Michigan to escape.

"Our regional with Novi, Northville, Brighton and Livonia Stevenson is considered to be one of the best in the state," Stafford said. "All of the teams are well coached and Novi and Northville have been in the state's top 10 Division I teams all season. We needed to be at our best if we were to compete with them."

Earning flight championships for the Shamrocks were Joe Dube' at first singles, Willy Wilam at third singles, Eric Guindi at fourth singles, Nick Petrucci and Robbie Guindi at third doubles and Patrick Bowers and Ryan DeLacy at fourth doubles.

This year marks Dube's third regional tournament championship in as many years. He is 25-0 this year and 55-1 over the past two years as a first singles player.

"It has been a real pleasure to coach Joe the past three years," Stafford said.

Catholic Central splits two games

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

It wasn't the type of week the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks soccer team wanted to end their regular season with.

The squad, coached by Joe Nora, collected a loss to Catholic League Central Division rival DeLaSalle last Tuesday before splitting non-conference for Livonia Franklin, 8-0, three days later.

Against DeLaSalle, the Shamrocks couldn't get the game rolling in their direction and fell, 3-0. The loss stopped the Shamrocks from claiming sole possession of the Central Division, forcing them instead to share the crown with DeLaSalle.

ON TAP

The Catholic Central soccer team will compete in the Michigan High School Athletic Association District Tournament next week. The district will be played in Farmington and features a field of talented teams such as Novi, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Harrison, North Farmington, Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Western and West Bloomfield.

"We played a pretty good first 15 minutes," said Nora. "Then DeLaSalle was awarded a penalty kick and went up 1-0. From there, I thought we sat back and played very flat."

That type of play found the Pilots notched another goal in the second half to take a 2-0 advantage over the Shamrocks. Nora tried a different strategy, pushing the players forward to increase their offensive pressure.

"We had a few good chances and even hit the post," said

chally awarded the victory. Notching multiple goals in the game were Mike Tolkecz, who had three on the night, and Josh Gatt, who had two. Cole Borland, Wes Harding and Christian Arthur each had one. Jake Hodge and Giovanni Strula had two assists each for the Shamrocks while Gatt, Andrew Brock, Christian Burke and Brandon Hess each added one in the win.

Alex Land and Kenny Hintze split time in the goal for the shutout. Catholic Central is 11-2-3 on the year and 5-1-2 in the Catholic League Central Division.

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

Shamrocks harries win Oakland County Invite

Catholic Central defends county championship

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

If there was any doubt which school had the best cross country team in Oakland County, that doubt is now erased.

The Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks defended their Oakland County Invitational crown last weekend, earning a convincing victory over the field of 37 teams. Catholic Central earned 65 points for the victory while Novi took second place with 122. Lake Orion was third with 126 points, followed by Milford in fourth, Troy in fifth

and Lakeland in sixth. Leading the way for the Shamrocks was Ricardo Galindo, who ran to third place overall in a time of 16:13. Andrew Garcia-Garrison wasn't far behind, taking 10th in 16:35 while Viktor Puskorius took 14th in 16:48. Austin Zebrowski took 16th, coming in under the 17 minute mark with a 16:52, while his brother, John-Paul Zebrowski, took 25th in 17:08.

Rounding out the scoring the Shamrocks was Sean Carney, who finished 88th in the event with a time of 18:12.

The 68 points is the exact score the Shamrocks earned in 2008 when they won the Oakland County Championship for the first time. Galindo finished fifth in that race.

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

ON TAP

The Catholic Central Shamrocks boys cross country team will split the team and compete in two invitational this weekend. One part of the team will race in the Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard Invitational at 1 p.m. Both races are Saturday.

won the Oakland County Championship for the first time. Galindo finished fifth in that race.

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

Knee injuries are most common in sports

SPORTS MEDICINE

The knee is the most commonly injured joint in the body. Over one-third of all sports injuries involve the knee ranging from mild sprains to complete rupture of all four main knee ligaments.

The position of the knee in the leg contributes to its vulnerability to injury. While the hip joint obtains protection from the torso and powerful core muscles, the knee is alone in the middle of the leg sitting between the long lever arms of the thigh and lower leg and is at just the right level to be damaged in collisions which occur in contact sports as well as rapid cutting motions during noncontact activities.

The knee is a hinge joint spanned by two powerful groups of muscles. The hamstring muscles along the back of the thigh are responsible for bending the knee and acceleration while running. The quadriceps muscles are in front and allow the knee to extend or straighten. Quads also allow for powerful jumping and are heavily involved in deceleration and cutting while running. Both muscle groups are prone to tearing with either direct blows or during sudden, powerful contractions without properly stretching and warming up. Hamstring

tendons are infrequently torn but the quadriceps tendon and patellar tendon (on the upper and lower ends of the kneecap, respectively) are prone to rupture particularly in 40- to 50 year-old "weekend warriors."

In younger athletes, the patellar tendon in particular can be the victim of intense inflammation or tendonitis which can take months to heal. As opposed to the hip joint, the knee has very little bony constraint. In other words, the two bones making up the knee joint simply sit on top of each other but do not lock in as the ball and socket hip joint does. The vast majority of the knee's stability is derived from its four major ligaments.

The collateral ligaments run on either side of the joint and serve as struts in the inner and outer borders of the knee joint. The lateral collateral ligament (LCL) runs on the external side of the knee and resists outward forces which would push the knee into a "bow-legged" position. The medial collateral ligament (MCL) is on the inner aspect of the knee and resists those forces trying to push the knee into a more "knock-knee" position. This is

the most commonly injured ligament but fortunately is usually able to heal on its own, typically with a four- to eight-week period of bracing. There are also two short, thick ligaments located directly in the center of the resist forward, backward and twisting forces on the knee. The anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) is positioned just in front of the posterior cruciate ligament (PCL).

The ACL is the second most common injured knee ligament and typically requires surgical reconstruction when torn as it lacks the ability to heal. The most common knee injury is a torn meniscus. There are two menisci in each knee. These structures are round, rubbery discs of cartilage that serve as the shock absorbers and cushion the impact between the upper bone (femur) and lower bone (tibia) during running and twisting. When torn, a portion of these discs can become unstable and flip around in the knee causing pain and locking symptoms. These injuries usually require a minor surgery called an arthroscopy to remove rather than repair the torn segment. In a few, select tears, an actual repair can be performed which typi-

cally requires a three to five month recovery period rather than the four weeks required for the removal procedure. The repair or removal is performed based on the blood supply to the torn segment, which is the vast majority of tears, is insufficient to allow a repair to be successful.

For minor soreness, rest and anti-inflammatory medication usually takes care of the problem. If swelling is present or your knee injury prevents you from walking, a medical evaluation is recommended within the first 24-48 hours post-injury. One silver lining to the knee's dark cloud status is that it is also the most frequently treated joint in sports medicine. This has allowed treatments and surgeries to evolve into a well refined arsenal of techniques which often allows for return to sports at the athlete's pre-injury level of performance.

Dr. Sean Bak is a Novi resident and an orthopaedic surgeon who specializes in sports medicine and shoulder reconstruction. His practice, Porretta Center for Orthopedic Surgery, is located at the Novi Orthopaedic Center on the campus of Providence Park Hospital.

WALLED LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO THE OWNERS OF ALL PROPERTIES ABUTTING AND/OR WITH DEEDED ACCESS TO WALLED LAKE, LOCATED WITHIN THE CITIES OF NOVI AND WALLED LAKE, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

Notice is hereby given that the Walled Lake Improvement Board, located within the cities of Novi and Walled Lake, County of Oakland, will meet at the Novi City Hall located at 46170 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48275-3024 at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 5, 2009 to conduct a Public Hearing to review the Lake Improvement Study for Walled Lake, an engineer's report required under section 30909 of Public Act No. 451 of 1994, as amended, currently on file at the City of Novi Clerk's Office and the City of Walled Lake Clerk's Office for public examination. The report may also be viewed online at www.cityofnovi.org/lakeboard.

Any person may appear and be heard at said Public Hearing, which is called pursuant to the provisions of Section 30910 of Part 309 of Public Act No. 451 of 1994, as amended, which provides that the lake board chairperson shall hold a meeting of the lake board to review the reports required under section 30909 and to determine the practicability of the weed control project. The lake board shall review the report and determine the practicability of the weed control project after the public hearing.

If the lake board passes a resolution in which it determines the weed control project to be practicable, the lake board shall determine to proceed with the weed control project, shall approve the plans and estimate of costs as originally presented or as revised, corrected, amended, or changed, and shall determine the sufficiency of the petition and/or resolutions for the improvement. The resolution shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the cities of Novi and Walled Lake. After the resolution has been published, the sufficiency of the petition and/or resolutions for the improvement shall not be subject to attack except in an action brought in a court of competent jurisdiction within 30 days after publication.

Maryanne Cornelius, CMC, City Clerk

CITY OF NOVI

NOTICE OF PROVISION OF THE SNOW EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 33, Article III, Division 5 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, a snow emergency shall be deemed to exist whenever: (1) freezing rain, sleet or four (4) or more inches of snow has been forecasted for the area by a newspaper circulated in the city, or by a radio or television station with a normal operating range covering the city; or (2) freezing rain or sleet has fallen or four (4) or more inches of snow have accumulated in the city.

Whenever any vehicle without an operator is found parked or left in violation of any provision of this Division, the Director of the Department of Public Services, or his designee, or the Police Department may immediately remove the vehicle or cause the vehicle to be removed to a place of safekeeping at the expense of the registered owner of the vehicle.

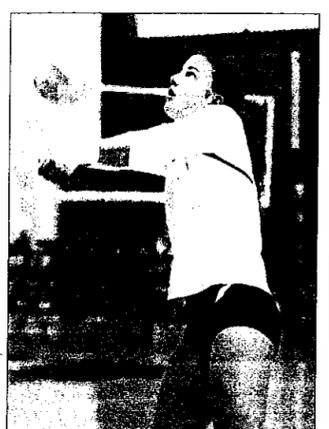
Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 33, Article III, Division 5 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan may also result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penalty therein provided.

Bob Hayes, Director
Department of Public Services

Published: October 15, 2009

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



Wildcat varsity volleyball player Erin Hooiman makes a dig as Novi warms up for their game against Livonia Stevenson.

Gettin' ready

Wildcat varsity volleyball player Erin Hooiman makes a dig as Novi warms up for their game against Livonia Stevenson.

Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Telcom Credit Union offers a complete package

Tell us about your business, including types of services and/or products you feature.

Telcom Credit Union is a \$460 million, full-service financial institution serving the accounts of over 26,500 members. We offer a complete package of financial products and services with competitive rates on deposits and loans. These products include checking, money management, auto loans, Visa credit cards and mortgages. All deposits are federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA). We also have a full range of other services including a vehicle buying service, investment services, and financial counseling services provided free to our members.

We are known for our professionalism, trustworthiness and friendly service. We are also known in Novi as the "Best Mortgage Provider" for the past four years by the readers of the Novi News. How did you first decide to open your business?

Telcom Credit Union was originally organized in 1936 by the employees of the Detroit division of Michigan Bell Telephone Company. Ten charter members purchased a \$5 share to allow the credit union to accumulate capital and so we began. We currently have \$50 million to lend and have seven branches throughout the Detroit area.

Our branches are located in Berkley, Canton, Livonia, South Lyon and Southfield. If you can't make it to one of our seven branches, there are 17 Michigan Family Service Center locations that can be used to access your accounts and over 28,000 co-op network surcharge free ATMs nationwide.

Why did you choose Novi? The city of Novi was a good match to locate our headquarters here because of the growing and thriving community along with excellent school district. Also, the city's openness to business to participate in community events allows Telcom to follow the original credit union philosophy of "people helping people."

Community events are a familiar tradition at Telcom. In Novi, we have been major supporters of the Novi Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department. Telcom had the distinction of being the first Novi Parks Foundation Naming Rights Program donor. We also support the community through various youth



Telcom Credit Union employees Cindy Tschirhart, Kelly Goodwin, and Tracey Matter inside their 12 Mile Road bank.

team sponsorships, Novi Athletics, Fall for Novi and the Michigan '50s Festival. We are also involved and support many activities of the Novi Chamber of Commerce. You will also see us in both Novi High School and Catholic Central High School teaching a financial literacy program to juniors and seniors.

What makes your business unique? Telcom Credit Union, like all credit unions, is a not-for-profit cooperative. It is owned, managed and operated by members. The board of directors sets the operating policies of the credit union and is elected by the membership during annual elections. The credit union exists for the financial benefit of its members and serves no other interests. Our mission statement is to "Enhance the financial well-being of all members."

How has it changed since you opened? A credit union exists to serve a specific group of people, such as a group of employees or the members of a professional or religious group. This is called a "field of membership." Today our field of membership has expanded to include if you live, work, attend school or worship in the cities where we have branches. Our field of membership is also open to all Michigan residents by virtue of a \$2 donation to the Salvation Army Red and Bread Program. We will match that \$2 donation when you successfully join; so really, "Anyone Can Join" Telcom Credit Union. Do you have a funny tidbit or story about your experience as a small business owner to share with our readers?

A funny little tidbit about us is we have seven branches but only list six cities. We actually have

Service Center locations that can be used to access your accounts and over 28,000 co-op network surcharge free ATMs nationwide.

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DETAILS

Business Name: Telcom Credit Union
Address: 44575 W. 12 Mile Road
Your Name/Title: Cindy Tschirhart / community and business development
Your Hometown: Novi
Business Opened When: Telcom Credit Union was organized in 1936 and moved their main office from Southfield to Novi in April 2003.

Number of Employees: 136
Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 9-6 Friday; drive-thru open 9 to noon Saturday

Your Business Specialty: full-service financial institution
Phone: (248) 596-4484
Web site: telcomcu.com

two branches in Novi. Our second location, which we call our Hometown branch, is located on Haggerty Road south of Nine Mile Road. So, we are easily accessible to all Novi residents. For all the Novi residents that live south of Grand River visit our Hometown branch and for all that live north visit us at our main office.

How has the recent economy affected your business? In these tough economic times we are sensitive to the financial challenges that our members face. We offer educational seminars to our members' along with our free money management and financial educational service called Accel Members Financial Counseling. Our financial services representatives also take time to help our member understand their

credit score and how to make changes to improve it. Any advice for business owners? At Telcom, we know about the decisions business owners face when making the right choices for their financial products and services to effectively manage their companies. We offer business loans, Visa credit cards, checking and merchant services to help your business succeed. Also, as business owners in the community we offer a free employee benefit that you can pass on to your employees. We understand the value of good employees and want to help you offer more benefits to them. The partnerships we establish with businesses allow us to offer special product incentives to your employees.

What's in store for the future of your business? At Telcom, we are continually enhancing the financial well-being of our members. These enhancements come from the many products and services we provide. During this past year we created and launched an entire program for young members between the ages 16 to 23. This program, called Telcom PLUS, includes a special reward savings account, checking account, and a Visa credit card. The program also awards five \$1,000 college scholarships each year to high school seniors. Not only do we provide the right products and services for all young members we also teach money management classes in the high schools where our branches are located.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Aria Centers leases

NAI Farban, Southfield, announced the lease of 4,927 square feet to Aria Centers, at 30475 Lewis Drive, Novi. NAI Farban's Laney Casavos represented the landlord, Lewis MOC, LLC.

Wixom plant quickly becoming reality

State Rep. Hugh Crawford last week joined Gov. Jennifer Granholm as she announced legislation that has the potential to bring thousands of jobs back to southwest Oakland County was signed into law.

Senate Bill 777 allows the Michigan Economic Growth Authority to approve an MBT credit of 25 percent of capital expenses (\$25 million for up to four years) for construction improvements to the Ford Wixom plant to produce large-scale batteries. The legislation was signed into law by the governor today.

"This is absolutely great news for the southwest Oakland County area," said Crawford, R-Nowi. "This legislation opens the door for thousands of good-paying jobs for our families, and it is a good example of what it will take to get our state back on track - bipartisanship and lower taxes."

Several private businesses are working to convert the Wixom plant into a renewable energy park that will create thousands of jobs.

Michigan Tax Conference

The Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants presents the Michigan Tax Conference from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, and Wednesday, Nov. 4, at Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue in Novi.

MACPA's Michigan Tax Conference is back for the third year as the second largest tax conference in the nation. This year will include special tax ethics, some A&A and speeches by state Treasurer Robert J. Kleine and Speaker of the House Andy Dillon. National tax experts - including Harley Duncan, Jim Eads, Paul Frankel, Joe Huddleston, Doug Lindholm and Tim McCormally - will speak on tax issues ranging from the Michigan Business Tax application and lessons learned from the first filing season to ethical/professional challenges confronting state tax professionals.

This event provides the flexibility to attend both days or each day separately.

• The two-day event fees are \$499 for MACPA/State Bar members and \$699 for non-members.

• Pricing for each one-day only option for MACPA/State Bar members is \$279 and

Halloween USA opens in Novi Town Center

Costume retailer Halloween USA has once again opened its seasonal store at Novi Town Center.

Advertised as "Where America shops for Halloween," the store features Halloween costumes for all ages, including popular action figures, children's outfits and scary monsters of all types.

"We're glad to welcome back Halloween USA to our center," Novi Town Center manager Jim Cleas said. "Their store has been a popular seasonal addition to our center in past years for customers looking for the latest in Halloween costumes and accessories."

The Halloween USA store is located at 26100 Ingersoll Drive in Novi Town Center. For more information, call (248) 449-2608 or visit www.halloweenusa.com.

Oakland County offers business workshops

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

Future Workshops (AM) Morning Class 9 a.m. to 12/12:30 p.m. (PM) Evening Class 6 p.m. to 9/9:30 p.m. October

15 - How to Start a Business Workshop (PM) 20 - Legal & Financial Basics for Small Business 21 - Eighth annual Bid & Brunch Matchmaking Event 22 - How to Write a Business Plan Workshop (PM) 28 - Listening to Your Business 29 - How to Write a Marketing Plan November

4 - Women's Business Certification (WBE) Orientation 5 - Pre-Business Research Workshop (AM) 12 - How to Start a Business Workshop (AM) 12 - Small Business Loan Workshop 19 - How to Write a Business Plan Workshop (AM)

The Web site address for Oakland County Planning & Economic Development Services Workshops is <http://www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar/index.html>.

Karson L. Carpenter D.D.S.
Alma R. Nava D.D.S.
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• Entry in a prize drawing to win FREE esthetician services!
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When was the last time you went to a Broadway show—

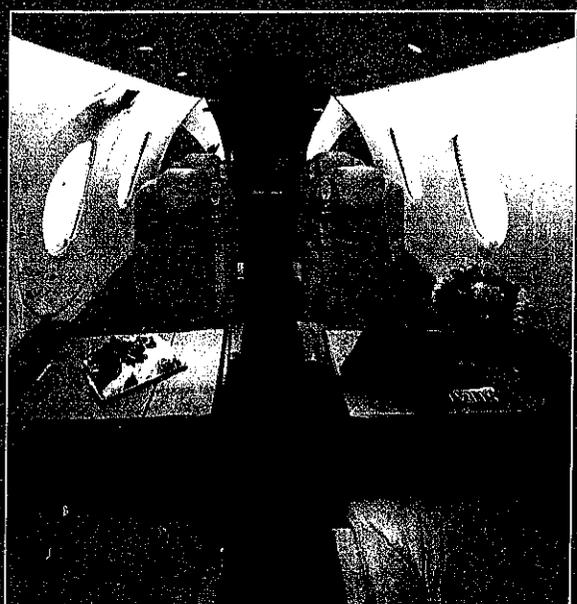


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