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the NOVI NEWS

also serving Wixom and Walled Lake

Living A FASHION REPORT
FROM THE VICTORIAN ERA/1D

Sports STEVE COHEN WINS
STATE SWIMMING CROWNS/7D

Opinions 'EXCISE TAX' PLAN
MERITS FURTHER STUDY/14A

w tests find high radon levels in Novi homes

By BRUCE WEINTRAUB
staff writer

New radon test results indicate a relatively high percentage of homes in Novi contain levels of the gas in excess of federal standards.

Preliminary figures released recently by the American Lung Association of Southeast Michigan (ALASEM) show about one in four Novi homes tested have a radon gas level above four picocuries per liter

(pc/l). Some 548 homes in the 48050 ZIP code were tested.

The level of four picocuries has been set by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); levels above four are recommended for additional testing and possible corrective action.

Health officials believe prolonged exposure to high concentration of the gas cause lung cancer.

ALASEM Project Director Alex Johnson said the new results are not

alarming, but added that residents should check their homes for radon.

"These results are based on non-scientific and non-random testing," Johnson said. "But through these tests we see a radon pattern and everyone should check their homes for the gas."

Johnson said other communities in Oakland County — especially in the southwest portion — had high radon test results. He noted the regionally high levels of the gas in

the area primarily stem from geological and soil patterns.

In the City of Novi, 26 percent or one in four of the homes tested registered radon levels above four pc/l.

"In Novi, the high percentage of homes with radon levels above 20 pc/l has us concerned," Johnson said. "But communities surrounding Novi also have high levels."

Northville results show only 1.4 percent of the tested homes with

radon levels over 20 pc/l, while Novi had nearly seven percent of the tested homes over 20 pc/l.

In addition, one-fourth of the 215 homes tested in the 48167 (Northville) ZIP code had radon levels above four pc/l.

Johnson said radon is a much larger problem on the East Coast of the U.S., where 50 percent of the homes in some communities have levels above 20 pc/l.

He added, however, that 15 to 20

percent of the homes tested in Oakland County have radon levels above 4 pc/l. In Wayne County, the percentage drops to between 8 and 10.

Johnson said residents concerned about radon in their home should purchase a radon detector kit and administer the test.

He said the kits sell for about \$15

Continued on 11

Police report little change in crime rate

By PHILIP JEROME
managing editor

Crime statistics for the first six months of 1989 show little change from the first six months of 1988.

And that's good news, according to Captain Richard Faulkner of the Novi Police Department.

"When you consider the amount of development that has taken place during the past year, we're very happy that our crime statistics are virtually unchanged from last year to this year," he said.

"With the additional development — particularly in the commercial areas, you can realistically expect an increase in crime because there are that many more people and that many more opportunities," he added.

"Maintaining the same figures under those conditions is definitely something to be proud of."

In fact, the six-month crime figures showed a decrease in many areas — most notably in the more serious Part I crimes which showed a 14 percent decline from 1988 to the

comparable reporting period for 1988.

There was an 8 percent increase in Part II (vandalism, fraud, assault/battery, OUIL and disorderly conduct) crimes, while Part III (juvenile complaints, traffic complaints and warrants) crimes showed a 13 percent increase.

The best news, as far as city police officials are concerned, occurred in Part I crimes which include homicides, criminal sexual conduct, robbery, burglary, larceny, arson and motor vehicle thefts.

Faulkner pointed to decreases in burglaries, larcenies and motor vehicle thefts as being the most significant. Burglaries dropped approximately 2 percent (from 120 incidents last year to 118 this year), larcenies declined 18 percent (from 734 last year to 604 this year) and motor vehicle thefts dropped 13 percent (from 77 last year to 67 this year).

Continued on 7

Traffic complaints keep police busy

By PHILIP JEROME
managing editor

The incidence of prostitution in Novi has declined during the past year.

Vagrancy is down.

But murder is up.

That's just some of the information included in the crime statistics issued by the Novi Police Department for the first six months of 1989.

One of the most appealing elements of living in a suburban community such as Novi is the fact that criminal activity tends to be of a much less serious nature than crime in a major city, such as Detroit.

The single largest area of activity for Novi police during the first six months of the current year was traffic complaints — which rose 8 percent from 1,763 in 1988 to 1,899 in

1989.

The second largest area of criminal activity was larceny, which includes shop lifting and larceny from vehicle complaints — crimes which tend to go hand in hand with major commercial areas where there are lots of stores, people and vehicles. The six-month crime report shows an 18 percent increase in larcenies from 734 last year to 604 so far this year.

But what of those other areas of criminal activity?

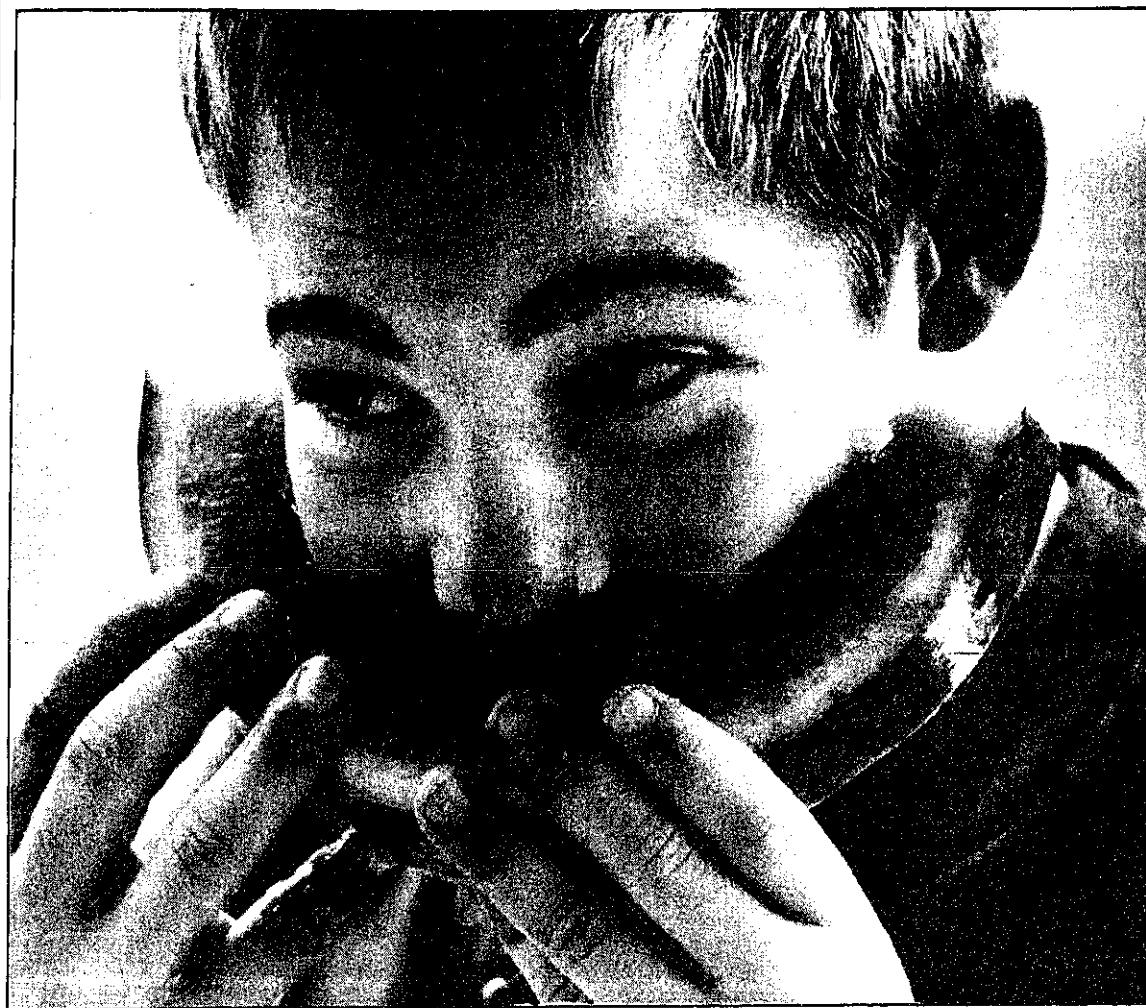
What about murders, robberies and aggravated assaults?

What about prostitution? Does it really exist in Novi?

The answer, of course, is "yes, but not very often."

Homicides for the first six months of 1989 are up. There were no

Continued on 7



Novi News/CHRIS BOYD

Isn't that Snidely Whiplash?

Nobody has claimed sighting Elvis Presley in Novi just yet. But you've got to admit the fellow pictured above bears a striking resemblance to Snidely Whiplash, the cartoon villain. Actually, it's

just Richie Kowalczyk, 8, biting into a slab of watermelon after having his eyebrows darkened and a mustache drawn on his face for a skit at Novi's Fun in the Sun program at Lakeshore Park.

Haggerty project requires unity

BY JAN JEFFRES
staff writer

As the Michigan Department of Transportation prepares to present a plan for the Haggerty Road Connector to several federal government reviewing agencies, local governments have been advised to express their support for the project "with no strings attached."

The Novi City Council did just that on June 20.

However, while all other governmental units impacted by the expansion project have approved one of six alternatives for the road, "Alternative 4A," several have passed resolutions which call for road improvements in addition to the Haggerty Road Connector.

At a meeting of the Haggerty Corridor Policy Committee on Aug. 9, Commerce Township, Wolverine Lake and the Oakland County Road Commission were asked to amend

these resolutions to enable the Michigan Department of Transportation to present a unified front to the federal government, according to Lenora Jadun, Novi's Director of Public Services.

Commerce Township on May 24 added recommendations to widen Fourteen Mile, Maple Road and Pontiac Trail to four lanes between Welch Road and Haggerty to its resolution on the Haggerty Road project. The village of Wolverine

Lake also adopted the above recommendations. Commerce Township on August 11 removed the above additions.

On June 1, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners ruled that it did not oppose Alternative 4A, but was opposed to a termination of the Haggerty Road Connector at Pontiac Trail without a commitment to fund an extension north to M-59.

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Novi to lease Livonia sewer capacity

By JAN JEFFRES
staff writer

While Novi will remain a boom town for years to come, the nine-month moratorium on new sewer lines has led to a slowdown of sorts in construction.

But the city may soon be tapping into Livonia's sewer capacity surplus, creating a new flow of building projects.

Until then, plans for new subdivisions are waiting in the wings, according to Don Saven, Novi Building Department official.

Building permits issued for the first six months in 1989 show a decrease over last year's first six months' tally of commercial, industrial and single-family residential permits issued. But apart-

ments, condominium and mobile home building far exceeded June 1988's count.

This year to date, 2 commercial permits were issued, a plunge from the 16 issued last year at this time. Industrial permits, with only three

issued, were down 50 percent.

In the case of commercial building, demand for space is only now catching up to supply, said Saven, noting that the city's commercial and industrial sector has grown 200 percent over the last

three to four years.

"A lot of the buildings were speculative and they're still getting filled out," he said.

Single family residential permits, totalling 164, were down 29 from last year, although building continued apace at Roma Ridge, Briarwood and Dunbarton Pines III subdivisions.

Condominium building permits jumped from two issued last year (amounting to 36 individual units) to 11 permits through June (220 units). Eight permits were also issued for single detached condominium units.

The biggest increase came in apartment building, where 11 per-

Continued on 11

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Saven: 'It would appear that Novi will be one of the last communities to see any reduction in growth. In respect to the expressways, we're the cog of everything right now.'

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Felons may face fines

By TIM RICHARD
staff writer

LANSING - Every convicted felon and drunk driver would pay a \$30 fee to compensate crime victims under a bill passed by the Michigan Senate.

The bill goes back to the House of Representatives for concurrence in Sen. Doug Cruse's amendment to bring drunk drivers into the program.

No area senators opposed House Bill 4869 as it passed 31-0. Sen. Richard Pessier, R-Commerce, had an excused absence.

"This bill will provide funding for the crime victim rights program," said Cruse. R-Troy, referring to the constitutional amendment approved by voters last year.

There was no immediate estimate of how much would be raised for the program because the bill was amended extensively in a Senate committee.

As written by Rep. William Van Reginmoter, R-Jenison, sponsor of the constitutional amendment, the plan was to charge \$1 for 24,600 felony convictions and 600,000 misdemeanor convictions.

Based on an estimated 30 percent collection rate, it would have raised \$1.5 million in revenue.

Senate amendments raised the fee to \$30, added drunk driving, set a fee of \$20 for lesser offenses than drunk driving, and eliminated "victimless" misdemeanors.

The bill establishes a six-member Criminal Assessments Commission under the Department of Management and Budget.

The panel would investigate and determine what is needed to pay for crime victims' services, estimated currently at \$5.5 million annually.

Whatever costs are not covered by the fees would be made up by the general fund budget. But sponsors hope the fees will cover all costs.

It's one thing for the state Legislature to pass a law and another to collect the money.



Spittin' contest

We don't know the final results, but we've got to assume that Bill Dean placed high in the final standings during a recent watermelon seed spitting contest. That's Bill getting ready to fire in the

picture above. The contest was one of the activities offered by the Novi Parks and Recreation Department at Camp Lakeshore.

School to begin in three weeks

Three weeks. That's all that's left of the summer of '89 as far as students of the Novi Community School District are concerned.

Teachers will report for the first day of school on Thursday, Aug. 31. And students will head back to the classroom for a half day of school on Tuesday, Sept. 5 - the day after Labor Day.

Although most returning students are already registered for classes, school officials note that registration of new students will take place next week (Aug. 21-25).

New students registering for the 1989-90 school year must visit the school in which they will be enrolled and should bring the following information with them - birth certificate, current immunization records, emergency phone numbers and verification of Novi residency.

Here is the schedule for registration of new students:

Elementary Schools: All students in grades K-4 should register during the week of Aug. 21-25 at the school they will be attending. Officials will be on hand in the schools to accept registrations from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For additional information contact the school directly: Novi Woods Elementary (344-8332), Orchard Hills Elementary (344-2600) and Village Oaks Elementary (344-8324).

Callers be patient

Last week we asked you readers to pass on if you experienced problems when calling the Green Sheet Classified Ad Department.

The system was not transferring telephone calls properly, resulting in a long wait for callers on hold. Sometimes the system also continued to ring as if no one were answering

your calls.

AT&T is performing major work on the system this week so we are hopeful our problems are being resolved.

Please bear with us. It is not our fault, and we do want to serve you to the best of our ability.

Thanks for being our customers!

"They'll look at the track, the safety of the railroad, (and) how their personnel work that railroad," FRA spokesperson Claire Austin said Tuesday. "They will go down every inch of that track."

The FRA started the inspection to respond to pressure from members of Congress and "to answer the public concerns of hazardous materials," she said. "This line has

had a lot of accidents."

The safety audit will take the inspectors along the local sections of track in Novi and Northville, Austin said.

In addition to the track inspection, FRA workers will ride trains to watch the company's handling of hazardous materials, staffing, and its "whole operating" and maintenance procedures," Austin said.

Federal inspectors will also examine equipment repair procedures and pre-departure inspections at some rail yards along the line.

The entire safety audit is geared to make sure that CSX complies with FRA regulations, Austin said.

The audit began Monday and will continue over the next two weeks, she said. A final report is scheduled for release after Sept. 1.



Shaping up

Novi News/CHRIS BOYD

Novi High School football coach John Osborne inspects the "troops" during the first official day of football practice "with pads" on the high school practice field Monday. Osborne and his

Wildcat gridlers will be looking for their unprecedented fourth consecutive Kensington Valley Conference title when the prep season gets underway next month.

Inspectors examine Novi track

Government inspectors Monday began a safety audit of the railroad line which runs through Novi and Northville.

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is inspecting CSX Transportation's rail line from Toledo to Midland in response to a recent derailment near Freeland, Mich. The same line suffered a derailment in Highland Township (near Milford) on April 25.

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Despite the fact that Americans are among those who enjoy the best dental care in the world, most of us have an oddly fatalistic attitude about our teeth. We seem to truly expect each member of our family - sooner or later - to lose several or even all of our permanent teeth.

Most of this fatalism is based upon the misconception that your natural teeth are somehow not

sturdy enough to last you a lifetime if that everyone must sooner or later join the 20 million toothless people in this nation. But that's definitely not a true assumption. With the proper eating habits (staying away from sugar), proper home care and regular visits to your dentist your teeth should last a lifetime plus a few thousand years.

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Man assaults woman's vehicle

Police Beat

A Wolverine Lake Village woman had a harrowing experience after stopping her 1985 Nissan at a stop sign on East Lake Drive near Thirteen Mile at approximately 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 9.

The woman told police her vehicle was assaulted by a lone white male who ran up to her car after she came to a stop at the stop sign. The man initially attempted to get into the vehicle, but was unable to gain access because all the doors were locked, the woman reported.

The man then picked up a rock and began banging it on the windshield, causing it to break. He then ran around to the driver's side of the car and began kicking it, placing several dents on the front quarter panel.

The woman said she was afraid to drive away while her vehicle was being assaulted because she did not want to hit the man. The assailant finally can off when another car pulled up to the intersection.

The man was described as being in his 20s and was said to be approximately 5'10" tall and 175 pounds. The woman said she had no idea as to his identity or why he was attempting to get into her car.

THE THEFT OF approximately \$50 worth of clothing was reported by the manager of the Fimi store at Twelve Oaks Mall on Friday, Aug. 4.

The manager reported finding three garments missing when she was conducting an inventory check. She said she believed the garments were stolen on Sunday, July 30, between 4:30 and 5 p.m.

Stolen were a long denim coat with fox tails valued at \$250, a three-piece black outfit valued at \$100 and a two-piece red-and-blue knit top and skirt valued at \$150.

A BLACK LEATHER jacket was reported stolen from the J.W. store at Twelve Oaks Mall on Wednesday, Aug. 2.

The theft was reported by an employee who told security personnel that a white male and a white female were in the store trying on the jacket at approximately 7:50 p.m.

The jacket was discovered missing shortly after the couple left the store without making any purchases.

Stolen was a Dual Control black leather jacket with black and purple stripes on the sleeves. It was valued at \$100 and \$48 in cash in addition to a 12-pack of Michelob beer.

A TRAMPOLINE was stolen from the deck of a swimming pool in the rear yard of a residence on Meridian in the Turtle Creek subdivision Meridian on Aug. 2.

The complainant said the trampoline was stolen sometime between 10:30 p.m. on Aug. 2 and 10 a.m. the next day.

The three-foot trampoline was valued at \$20.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT valued at more than \$500 were stolen from a storage shed being used by the Framell Crow Company in the Novi Town Center sometime between Aug. 1 and Aug. 3.

The complainant said unknown individuals broke into the shed by kicking in a wooden door. One door was also kicked, another door which led to an empty storage area.

Stolen were a Merry rototiller valued at \$400 and a \$110 hand pump used to pump fuel out of a storage tank.

A 1979 PONTIAC Firebird owned by an employee of River Oaks Furniture in the Novi Town Center was stolen on Wednesday, Aug. 9.

The man said he arrived at Vic Tanny's at 4 p.m. and placed the wallet along with the rest of his clothing in a locker. After completing his work, he returned to the locker room at 5:40 p.m. and discovered the money had been taken.

The wallet contained approximately \$68 in cash as well as credit cards and the man's driver's license.

AN 18-FOOT ALUMINUM outboard pleasure boat was sunk by vandals while it was anchored on the shores of Walled Lake on Monday, Aug. 7.

The theft was reported by a Southfield man, who said unknown individuals removed a plug from the boat while it was docked off South Lake Drive on Monday.

After the plug was removed, the entire group 15 minutes later, he was filled with water and sank to the bottom of the lake.

The woman said she then walked to the rear of the store where she discovered that somebody had entered a utility room where employees keep their purses and other personal belongings. She noted that her purse, which had been concealed under a pile of newspapers, was now sitting open atop the newspapers. When she looked inside, she discovered the money had been removed from her wallet.

Investigating officers noted that a similar incident had been reported by West Bloomfield Township Police, but that no suspects had been apprehended.

A MAN FROM Juliette, Georgia, reported the theft of his 1984 Chevrolet pickup truck from the Twelve Oaks Mall parking lot on Saturday, Aug. 5.

The man said the truck was stolen while he was shopping inside the mall between 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

The vehicle also contained over \$200 worth of various concrete finishing and mechanical tools.

TWO WHEELS were stolen from a 1986 Chevrolet Monte Carlo while it was parked near the owner's residence on Wedgewood near Fourteen Mile.

The man said unknown individuals removed both wheels from the passenger's side of the vehicle. A four-way lug wrench from a jack was found lying on the ground near the Monte Carlo.

Van pool service offered to drivers

Commuters who travel from Novi to downtown Detroit or the New Center area each weekday can save more than \$1,000 annually by participating in a RideShare van pool sponsored by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

Several van pools from Novi to Detroit, including the downtown and New Center areas, are now forming and need additional passengers.

Fares for the van pools vary slightly, however, approximate cost per passenger is \$5 per month.

Actual costs are based on a fixed rate plus variables which include round trip miles, gasoline expense and number of passengers.

Nine or more passengers are needed to form a van pool and receive a fully-insured van from MichiVan, a van pooling program sponsored by

the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Those interested in learning more about van pooling options may call RideShare at 983-8126.

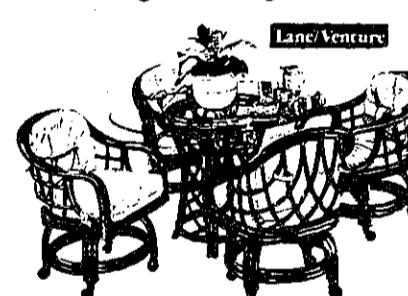
RideShare is a free, computerized car and van pool matching service of SEMCOG. It is available to businesses and individuals throughout the seven-county Southeast Michigan region.

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Novi Briefs

One million pennies: You can't accuse the Novi Jaycees of not thinking big.

The Jaycees' latest project is to collect one million pennies (\$10,000) for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

A cannister has been placed in the vestibule of the K mart store in the West Oaks shopping center, and the Jaycees are urging all Novi residents to save their pennies and take them to the K mart store.

Project Chairman Mike Mattingly said the goal is to collect the million pennies by Aug. 25.

Novi Players auditions: The Novi Players will hold auditions for their fall comedy, "Move Over Mrs. Markham," on Monday and Wednesday, Aug. 21 and 23. Auditions will be held in the Novi Civic Center at 7 p.m.

The cast calls for men and five women. "Move Over Mrs. Markham" will be performed on Oct. 13, 14 and 15 and Oct. 20 and 21.

The Novi Players, an amateur theater group, welcomes everyone interested in auditioning regardless of previous experience. For more information call Laurie Smalls at 476-2094.

Beautification awards: The City of Novi will conduct a beautification awards presentation in Novi City Council chambers on Monday, Sept. 11, at 7:30 p.m. to recognize residents who have improved their environment year-round.

A select committee will begin judging this month. Categories include apartments and condominium entrances, businesses, industrial buildings, offices, public and municipal buildings, churches and schools, shopping centers and subdivision entrances.

For more information call 347-0494.

Get a spare piano? Novi Arts and Culture Committee is searching for a spinet or console piano for rehearsals and performances of the Novi Youth Chorus in the Novi Civic Center atrium.

Anyone who has an instrument in good working order and is willing to donate it to the group is encouraged to call Julie Gahman at 348-3299.

Simmons Orchard registration: Crime Prevention Officer Red Gatt of the Novi Police Department reported that approximately 100 Simmons Orchard subdivision residents took advantage of a crime prevention program recently.

Gatt said residents participated in bicycle registration and vehicle identification programs. Both programs are designed to reduce thefts of bicycles and motor vehicles.

"Both programs have been a good deterrent against crime," said Gatt, noting the auto thefts are down since the auto identification program was initiated. He also said he does not believe any registered bicycles have been stolen in Novi.

Homeowners associations which want to organize similar programs in their subdivisions are urged to call Gatt at 349-7100 to schedule dates.

Art at the Oaks: Novi's annual arts and crafts fair will be held Saturday, Sept. 9, at the West Oaks Shopping Center. More than 90 exhibitors are expected to offer a assortment of wares, pottery, weaving, paintings and glass sculptures. Fair hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 10.

Giant sand sculpture: About 70 tons of sand will be created in to a 12 1/2-foot sculpture of the "Wizard of Oz's Field of Poppies" in various stages from the end of August until Sept. 9. The sculpture will be seen in its building stages at the center court at Twelve Oaks Mall.

The creation is being sculpted by Sand Sculptures International.

Novi photo contest: Local photographers only have five more months to enter the 1989-90 Novi Photo Contest.

The two divisions in the contest are "Adults" and "Children 13 and Under." Entries may be color or black-and-white. The winner will receive a \$500 cash award. Winners of 13 additional awards will receive plaque awards.

Rules are available at the Novi Parks and Recreation office and at Dunn's Camera at Twelve Oaks Mall. Call 347-0400 for more information.

Student enrollment up

By AMY ROSA
staff writer

Novi school officials are predicting only a slight increase in district enrollment this year, most of which is expected to occur at the elementary level.

Assistant Superintendent William Barr said the Novi Community School District is projecting an increase of only approximately 30 students for the 1989-90 school year.

However, final figures won't be known until the district does its official head count for the state, on the fourth Friday of September.

"It appears that we'll be pretty close to our estimation," Barr said. "We've always done a good job in the past of predicting enrollment."

Barr estimates the district will have around 3,724 students in the 1989-90 academic year — 29 more students than 1988-89. Last year's enrollment increased 131 students from the 1987-88 enrollment.

As in previous years, the increase is expected to occur at the elementary school level, said Barr. But because the district will start the year with its new Parkview Elementary School, officials say there is something new to consider.

"Parkview will be at about 50-60 percent capacity," Barr explained, saying that anticipated growth in the city's western portion will increase that building's population with time.

Similarly to Parkview, Novi Woods Elementary School will not be at full capacity in the coming year, he added.

The high school will actually lose a few students next year, said Barr.

which is another indicator of an increasingly younger school age population. "This is not just peculiar to Novi," he said, noting that the situation is a nation-wide trend.

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Lawmakers honor Novi store

By TIM RICHARD
staff writer

Hercik: 'We're not handling it as a women's issue. It's not a women's issue. It's a business issue. Companies are calling me on how to do child care — they're not in the kid business.'

Republicans and Democrats agree State government shouldn't mandate child-care benefits. Employers should be encouraged to do it because it's the smart thing to do.

That was why GOP lawmakers Monday honored Mervyn's, the Novi department store, for its \$23,000 grant to a child care agency. It was among nine Michigan firms receiving certificates from a pool of only 250 firms providing care for employees' kids.

"We're asking the companies for coming up with new ideas. We're not trying the legislation approach," said State Rep. Lyn Banks, R-Livonia, who chaired the House GOP Child Care Challenge task force.

The panel, one of whose members is Rep. Susan Grimes Munsell, R-Hollis, has produced a booklet called "Michigan Employers' Guide to Child Care" and another for working parents called "How to Choose a Child Care Center."

Rep. Willis Bullard Jr., R-Highland, joined the ceremonies in Livonia and Grand Rapids Monday and made the presentation to Mervyn's, whose grant went to a group called Four Cs — for Child Care Coordinating Council. Four Cs also receives \$763,000 in state-federal grants.

In an interview, Bullard said his party uses task forces "as an alter-

native to the committee structure in the House. We have been critical of the Democratic leadership. Deals are made. Committee hearings are sometimes a foregone conclusion."

The task force is a chance to address issues Democrats in the House are not willing to address. Sometimes you can translate it into legislation. They've sparked a lot of controversy."

"We're looking for employers that are stretching the boundaries," said Sue Fain, an administrator at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills. He was one of five members of the task force that for this fall to "create a public-private agenda for working parents," as Blanchard said in his state-of-the-state address.

"Companies are calling me on how to do child care — they're not in the kid business," said Hercik, herself a working mother of children aged three years. "I believe the task force could deal with, she said, are a state child care ombudsman, the training of day-care providers, and how-to seminars for companies.

Among other child-care activities in the administration:

As an employer, the state is setting up "family care accounts" for its workers. Under the federal tax law, an employee can deposit up to \$5,000 a year of gross income for child care without paying income tax on that amount.

As a service to small business, the Tax Service will set up "group accounts" for handling child care accounts at the same time it handles tax withholding. Ruth Beier, deputy treasurer, said the goal is to sign up 1,500 employees, about 3 percent of the state's staff.

Increasingly, politicians are looking at child care not as a benefit but as a necessity for companies if they want to hire and hold good workers. In some tight labor markets, such as Washtenaw County, they say child care is becoming a necessity.

Motorfield Affairs Corp., a southeastern Michigan think tank, has recommended that all American mothers with children under age 6 work outside the home. But in Detroit, female participation in the labor force is actually declining, possibly because of a lack of accessible child care.

The badges with two lines of imprint are priced at \$7. Call the Chamber of Commerce at 349-3743 to place an order.

Increase in state alcohol tax favored

An overwhelming majority — 82 percent — of Michigan residents favor increasing excise taxes on beer, wine and liquor if the funds are earmarked for programs to reduce drunk driving.

"Most residents — 91 percent — believe that alcohol is driving more people away from their communities, and they are willing to pay more taxes to deal with the issue," said Alexander C. Wagenaar, associate research scientist at the U-M Transportation Research Institute and the U-M School of Public Health.

"This is the second year in a row that more than three-quarters of the respondents in our survey have favored raising alcohol taxes," he added. "Public support for such a policy seems to be deep and long-lasting."

The second annual Omnibus State Safety Survey, sponsored by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety and Planning and directed by Wagenaar, also found that:

• More than two-thirds of the respondents believe drivers whose blood alcohol level exceeds the legal limit (0.10 percent in Michigan) should immediately have their license revoked for 90 days.

• Almost two-thirds think the government

should limit the number of stores or bars selling alcoholic beverages.

• Nearly three-quarters believe gas stations or stores that sell gasoline should not be allowed to sell beer and wine.

• Although 64 percent said drunk drivers are "unlikely" to have "almost no chance" of being caught by the police, 68 percent of the drivers who had been stopped by the police had a very strong chance of being arrested. Another 19 percent believed drunk drivers "always" had a strong chance of being arrested.

A majority of the sample favored lowering the legal limit for alcohol in the blood to 0.05 percent, but 24 percent thought they can have three or more drinks in an hour and still drive safely. (A 200-drink woman will reach 0.05 percent if she drinks three drinks within one hour. A 100-drink woman will reach 0.13 percent if she drinks three drinks within one hour. Driving performance is significantly impaired at blood alcohol levels over 0.04 percent.)

Unfortunately, Wagenaar said, "20 percent of the drinkers in the sample said that within the last two weeks, they had had four or more drinks in a two-hour period, and 22 percent of those admitted they had driven afterwards."

Wagenaar says his study offers strong support for recommendations made by the Pricing and Availability Panel convened last December by U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop during a national "Workshop on Drunk Driving." Wagenaar was a member of the panel.

The panel recommended that state and federal governments raise taxes on beer and wine so they are equal to taxes on distilled liquor, and then adjust those equalized rates for inflation since 1970. It also encouraged future annual adjustments for inflation.

"Research has shown that increasing the taxes on alcohol brings many benefits, including reduced alcohol consumption and fewer alcohol-related injuries and deaths as well as generating funds for drunk-driving prevention programs. Our survey suggests that there is widespread public support for raising alcohol taxes," Wagenaar said.

"To further limit the availability of alcohol, the panel also recommended adopting liability statutes that target servers or sellers of alcohol, prohibiting 'happy hours,' eliminating income-tax deductions for purchases for business purposes and restricting the sale of alcohol to public events."

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Members of the Novi Adventurers' Biking Club are ready to start pedaling their throughout southeastern Michigan

Two-wheeled travelers

Local kids, parents take part in new 4-H bicycling club

By LISA FELICELLI
staff writer

Some people believe there's nothing wrong with spinning your wheels. Ask any energetic member of the Novi Adventurers' 4-H Biking Club.

"It's a nice program because parents don't just drop off their kids — they stick around and participate too," said Susan Thomas, a Novi resident who helped initiate the club. "It's a very family-oriented, wholesome program."

The club is the newest activity offered by the sponsoring Novi Adventurers Club, which also offers programs in crafts, natural resources, clowning, cooking, folk patterns, wood carving and entomology (insect study).

Thomas suggested the idea of forming a bicycling club to fellow 4-H parents last September. The idea, a project the whole group adopted, took off.

"We wanted to coordinate the program so that it appealed to kids and their parents," Thomas explained. "Since we've begun, we've scheduled a variety of bike rides."

These have included a recent 88-mile trip — titled the 4-H Explorers Days Pre-Opt-in — from Novi to East Lansing. The expedition consisted of adult 4-H riders Thomas, Vicki Iannotti and Marie Kennedy; teen leaders John Crawford and Jon Henderson; club riders Michael Bendersen, Heather Dinsen, Weston Iannotti, Greg Morgan, Brian Morgan, Sean Opperman, Anna Kennedy, 6.

Thunderstorm safety tips offered to residents

"Storm Weather" may be the title of a classic love ballad, but the song talks on an entirely different meaning this time of year in Southeastern Michigan.

Stormy weather occurs frequently May through September, causing damage to electric utility lines, resulting in temporary power outages. Detroit Edison has several suggestions to assure your safety and to minimize property damage and inconvenience while it is restoring electric service.

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□ First, always be prepared for an emergency. Keep handy a battery-operated radio, fresh replacement batteries, flashlight or candles and a first aid kit.

□ If your electricity goes out, check circuit breakers and fuses to see if they need to be replaced or reset. Familiarize yourself with the procedures for replacing or resetting the devices.

If there are tripped circuits or blown fuses, see if your neighbors are without power and have reported the

outage to Detroit Edison. If they haven't, call the number on your bill to report the problem. Be patient and try again if the lines are busy.

□ Stay away from fallen poles and wires, hanging wires or anything the wires may be touching; report the problem to Detroit Edison.

□ To avoid electrical overload when the power returns, disconnect appliances and turn off lights. Leave one light on so you will know when the power returns.

□ Keep refrigerator and freezer

doors closed to avoid food spoilage. A well-filled freezer, if kept closed, will preserve food for two to three days.

□ Dry ice will keep food cold. Place the dry ice on cardboard on top of food packages in the freezer. Food can also be stored with ice, in a bath tub, metal bushel basket, pail or insulated picnic hamper. Cover with newspapers, rags or blankets. (Partially thawed food or food that still has ice crystals can usually be refrozen.)

□ Stay out of flooded or damp

basements. The water or moisture surrounding your furnace and/or electrical appliances may serve as a conductor of electricity.

□ If you must leave your home for an extended period of time during a power outage, empty the contents of the refrigerator and leave the doors open. Turn off the main electrical and gas supply valves on your meter. Once the power returns, wait a few minutes before turning on the lights and appliances and then turn them on one at a time.

□ There may be a low voltage con-

dition, resulting in dim lights, a small television picture and appliances that operate slower than usual. Low voltage will not damage ordinary light bulbs, television sets or heating appliances. Motor-driven appliances may hum and click instead of starting or once started, not operate normally. Shut them off to prevent overheating and possible burn-out.

Once repairs to Detroit

Edison lines and equipment are completed, full voltage will be restored and appliances will operate normally.

Approximately 150 guests helped Bill Connell and Patricia Batt eat their wedding cake following ceremonies at the American House in Novi

House, a 114-unit senior citizen apartment complex on West Road in Novi. Opened in Nov. 1987, it serves as a retirement complex for senior citizens.

Batt said Connell asked her out on a date later that day. They went out the following day, which was Mother's Day.

Three months have passed and Connell has gotten more than he bargained for.

He got married.

"When I first met Patricia (Batt) I thought she was a nice woman and I'd like to get to know her better," said Connell, 59, a widower for the past five years.

Batt, 63, who retired from Detroit Edison and had never been married, said she met Connell while was mooning on May 13.

"I liked him and he looked like a nice person. He wasn't love at first sight," she said.

Connell and Batt were married Saturday, July 29, at American

House flaming with each other.

"I knew they spent time together and I thought their relationship might develop, but I didn't think it would happen so fast," Gossell said.

She and Connell and Batt are the only two residents of the complex who have gotten married.

"Most of the people living here are single so there are a lot of friendships," Gossell said. "But this is the first romance."

Gossell said the wedding ceremony was held in the television room of the apartment complex, as 100 to 150 guests looked on.

"Pat was beautiful in her peach dress," she said. "She was very emotional since this was her first wedding and everyone was crying a little."

Connell said he and his new bride spent their wedding night at the Guest Quarters in Troy, but returned home the next day to make moving plans.

Batt said the couple plans to move to a different apartment complex in Novi. "We're not going on a honeymoon, since we're both interested in getting settled."

Both Batt and Connell said they are excited to spend the rest of their lives together.

"This is the last wedding for me," Connell said. "I know I'm only 60, but I think it's time for me to settle down."

Batt said she knows some marriages don't last, but added, "I'm sure ours will stay together."

"We just like the same things," she said.



Bill Connell and Patricia Batt pose for their wedding picture

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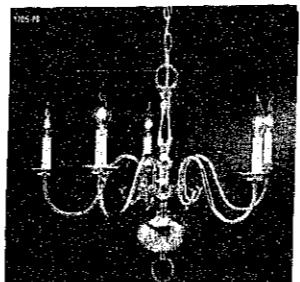
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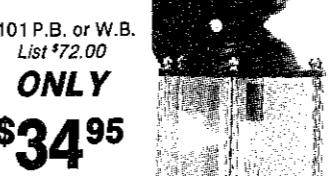
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Businesses anticipate a slump

The economy in southeastern Oakland County remains strong, according to some area business owners, corporate executives and others, but most have assumed a defensive posture anticipating a possible downturn.

Others suggest a downturn may already be close at hand.

"We have had the strongest month ever in 31 years of business," said Dennis Dickstein, former president of the Southfield-based Builders Association of Southeast Michigan and owner of real estate offices in West Bloomfield, Birmingham and Rochester.

In May, Dickstein's sales totaled \$31 million, \$8 million more than in any other previous month, with Birmingham the most active office.

Overall, new housing sales are down slightly, but residential sales remain strong, he said.

One new project, Meadowridge on Middlebelt just south of Twelve Mile, is "going like hotcakes. We're selling one a week," Dickstein added. Starting in price at \$139,000, it's homes in the 76-unit development have already sold.

But, "the economy can't remain roses forever. Builders, developers and banks have been burned in the past." In case of a downturn, Dickstein said, many businesses have reduced risk factors, avoiding "leveraging into limbo and being left hanging on a dead limb if the economy turns."

Jerry McKeon, a Birmingham businessman who is current president of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Board of Realtors, is emerging from two months in which sales were "slightly down" in his office.

McKeon: 'I'm not alarmed. I have every reason to be positive. Interest rates are down. But we've had an early summer market.'

"I'm not alarmed. I have every reason to be positive. Interest rates are down. But we've had an early summer market," McKeon said.

Normally sales in April and May are brisk, followed by a general slowdown in July and August when people vacation. This year, McKeon saw brisk sales in January and February and slower sales in the spring.

Michigan's economy, once nearly entirely dependent upon the auto industry, has diversified since the last major recession in 1982, with jobs in other sectors nearly doubling as the number of automotive-related jobs has remained constant the past seven years.

The situation is most dramatic in Oakland County, according to Joseph Joachim, director of the county's Community and Economic Development, who said new jobs here exemplify diversification and the strength of the county's economy.

Between 1979, the peak year of employment before the 1982 recession, and today, jobs in the private sector increased 32.5 percent to 170,000 positions, compared to 20 percent nationally and 5.2 percent elsewhere in Michigan.

Service positions in Oakland County, those not connected to the automotive industry, increased 11 percent and now comprise 33 percent of all jobs in the county, while manufacturing positions, those

related to the automotive industry, fell 10 percent.

In addition, the total value of new construction starts in the county last year totaled \$1.5 billion, up from a paltry \$250 million in 1982. However, in recent months the county's economy has "cooled slightly."

Since the final quarter of 1988, the county has "tracked the national economy" and sustained a 3 percent growth rate. Joachim believes the economic plateau is here to stay, at least for the immediate future.

"Today's economy is good, not a barn stormer, but healthy," he concluded.

Based on corporate accounts, West Bloomfield accountant Edward Rosenbaum said county diversification, especially into high technology, is strong. He also agrees the county's economy is good.

Still, "we are tied to the auto industry and if it takes a down turn, there's the ripple effect that we're bound to feel," Rosenbaum said.

Some economists and industry observers believe there are signs an automotive slump is at hand. New car sales are sagging 5 percent in spite of tempting incentives, and retooled plants are cutting back, trying to reduce swollen inventories.

Marshall Bell, manager of Shear, Lehman Hutton in Birmingham, said it is optimistic about the future economic outlook. "We remain very bullish. We're recommending equities for the long term. The typical investor, who can afford it, should be 85 percent in stocks."

Bell's final advice: "Take advantage of the good times."

AAA. She also was a member of St. Michael Church in Livonia.

She is survived by her husband, Stanley T. Kiesel, who she married on May 3, 1958. She is also survived by her four children, Ronald Slezakowski of Warren, and five grandchildren, Mrs. Donald (Denise) Williams of Livonia, Michael Kiesel of Novi, Mrs. James (Susan) Kostrewa of Livonia, Robert Kiesel of Livonia and Peter Kiesel, also of Livonia. Also surviving are a brother, Ronald Slezakowski of Roseville; a sister, Jean Krolewski of Fraser; and two grandchildren. Interment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

MARY ANN KISIEL

Aug. 8 at St. Mary Medical Center in Saginaw.

Rosary and prayers were recited at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Livonia and the funeral was held Aug. 12 at St. Michael Church in Livonia with the Rev. Edward Baldwin officiating.

The daughter of Edward and Berdice (Podulka) Slezakowski, she was born in Detroit on April 29, 1934, and was 55 at the time of her death.

Mrs. Kiesel was a homemaker. She had previously been employed by

the automotive industry.

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SEV up across the state

LANSING — The State Tax Commission reported State Equalized Value (SEV) rose 8.15 percent overall in 1988 to \$128.4 billion.

One-third of the increase was due to new construction; the rest to rising values, said State Treasurer Robert Bowman.

There was an 8.8 percent increase in real estate (land and buildings) to \$112.7 billion and a 4.86 percent increase in personal property (machinery, equipment and inventory) to \$16.1 billion.

"The increase in SEVs represents a strong and vibrant economy in Michigan," said Bowman. "Nearly one-third of the increase can be attributed to new construction, something I believe we haven't seen since the building boom of the early '70s."

A breakdown by class of property:

Commercial valuations increased 10.3 percent, down from 11.3 percent in 1987.

Residential valuations increased 9.6 percent due to increased new construction, up from 8.2 percent the previous year.

Agricultural valuations decreased by 0.4 percent, compared to a 4.5 percent decline in 1987.

Equalization is a process to ensure that similar properties in different areas are not over or under assessed in relation to each other.

Optimist to open

Efforts to form an Optimist Club in Novi are being made by the Michigan District of Optimist International.

Anyone who would like information on how to become a charter member of the Novi Optimist Club should contact Donald Ponto, manager of the Security Bank branch on Ten Mile, at 388-4445.

Optimist International is a worldwide voluntary service organization composed of 198,000 men and women who belong to one of 5,500 community based groups. Optimist clubs currently exist in Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield, and there are a total of 1,400 Optimist members in Oakland County.

An Optimist club often acts as a focal point for the coming together of persons from school, government and local business.



Novi News/JANET L. COX

Bible lessons

Dressed in typical garb of Biblical times, Elaine Wroe leads children in singing during the summer vacation Bible school at the Faith Community United Presbyterian Church recently. Wroe, who is a member of the Novi Chorale and director of the Faith Community children's choir, was one of several adults who assisted with the Bible school.

Enrollment opens for college fund

Parents will have another chance to enroll their children in the Michigan Education Trust (MET) this fall.

Applications will be accepted for new enrollees during a five-day period from Oct. 2-6. Applicants who submit a completed application form and required fee by Oct. 6 will have the opportunity to enroll their child.

"We're happy to open enrollment again for MET, the nation's first college tuition guarantee program," said State Treasurer Robert A. Bowman.

"The decision to establish another enrollment period was based on the academic soundness of the fund and public interest in the program," he added.

The MET held an enrollment period in August 1988 that resulted in 40,409 participants in the MET program and established a fund worth \$265 million.

The MET board of directors also received an opinion on the tax-exempt status of the fund from the Internal Revenue Service.

"The initial IRS opinion will have no impact on the individuals participating in the MET program."

Dr. Richard McDowell, president of Schoolcraft College and MET board trustee, said price for enrollment hasn't been established yet. Last year the cost was \$6,400 for a newborn and climbed on a sliding scale.

"We had an analysis to get an idea of the age groups (enrolled)," said McDowell. "The spread is encouraging. It would have been a problem if we had too many 14 or 15 year olds —

with not that much time to invest the money."

"Likewise, with all newborns we would have to project tuition increases for the next 18 years. The good news is that (applicants) are distributed in all age groups from newborns to six-year-olds to 12-year-olds to teens."

More definitive information on the fall period of enrollment will be available after June when the MET board meets again, said McDowell.

The MET board can't hazard to guess what response will be this time around.

"Last time we thought we might get 20,000," said McDowell, "and 8,000 applied and 42,000 contracts were executed."

Last summer Gov. James Blanchard and Bowman traveled across Michigan to present a synopsis of the plan to groups of parents interested in the tuition enrollment program.

"If people know what they're buying, they will respond," McDowell said.

McDowell does not feel the IRS ruling will impede the program.

"The IRS is trying to figure out what is taxable and what is not taxable," he said. "We have to know that before we know what to charge."

The trust is in the name of the child and will be paid in increments of one-quarter per year for the four years of college.

"The tax (students) will pay is minimal — inconsequential," said McDowell.

More information about the Michigan Education Trust program is available by calling the toll-free hotline 1-800-MET-4KID.

Road vote sought

Continued from Page 1

"In order to demonstrate to the reviewing agencies that we have a strong project here, we have to demonstrate that the locals support the project, as it stands alone," said Hank Lotoszinski, transportation planner with the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Federal agencies which will review the project include the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Department of Interior and the Federal Highway Administration.

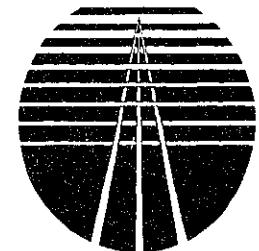
Alternative 4, which has not yet been approved by the Michigan Department of Transportation, calls for an interchange on Twelve Mile west of Haggerty Road, with ramps connecting to 1275, 136 and 1366.

The new roadway would curve east to align with Pontiac Trail. The entire project would cost \$72 million, with about 90 percent of the cost of the interchange picked up by the federal government, leaving 10 percent for the state. The federal government would also pick up 77 percent of the price tag for the new roadway, with the remainder to be paid by Michigan.

Novi City Council Member Martha Hoyer, who represents the city on the committee, said she does not foresee any difficulties.

"They seemed very cohesive on going ahead with this and on going back to their communities to get clear resolutions passed," Hoyer said.

Lotoszinski said that the road project will probably be under way before the 1990 census results are in.



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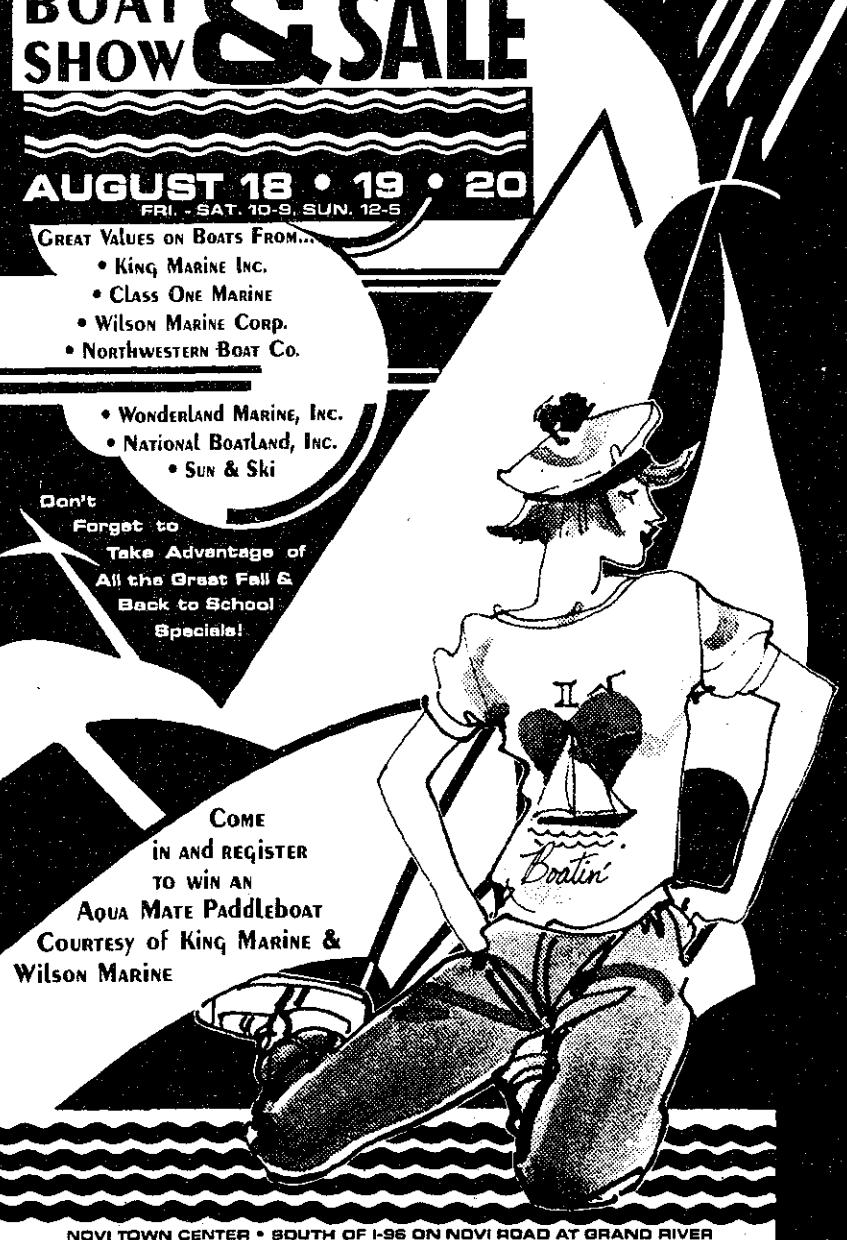
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Novi News/THOM DOUGHERTY

Summer concert

The Summer Concert Series is still attracting local residents to the Novi Civic Center every Friday night. But with August creeping steadily toward September, the concert series is nearly over.

fact, the final concert in the series is coming up this Friday when The Rhinelander's are scheduled to perform at 7 p.m.

MICROFILM COPY

Thursday, August 17, 1989/THE NOVI NEWS 13A

Train accidents recorded in past

Trains have a history of occasional problems in Novi and Northville over the past 25 years or so, including one death and one major evacuation and an electrical short.

Recollection of local police chiefs and back issues of newspapers show a few major train incidents in the area over the past few decades, along with other minor difficulties. The incidents included:

□ In August 1955, Novi suffered its first major derailment, although that did not require evacuations.

"I was at our station on Northville Road about 3 in the morning," BeCole recalled. "Somebody was pounding on the front door. I went down, and it was the railroad conductor off a freight train. He ran all the way up from the railroad tracks."

It turned out 18 cars had derailed approaching Nine Mile Road, and the fireman and engineer were injured. BeCole said. Cars were scattered all over, he added.

"It took days to get that back in shape," BeCole said.

□ In the mid-'70s, Northville Township Police Chief Kenneth Hardesty and City of Northville Police Chief Rod Cannon both remembered a boxcar derailing on the overpass across Northville Road at Five Mile.

The car actually hung out over the edge of the overpass for a while before being recovered.

Hardesty said the railroad kept the incident more or less out of the public eye. "That one was kept kind of quiet," he said. "We (the police) didn't even have a lot of information on it."

□ Novi suffered three derailments in a two-week period in August 1977, one of which required the evacuation of about 3,000 people, Novi Police Chief Lee BeCole said.

The federal census, celebrating its bicentennial, is taken by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census. The census will be taken next April 1, 1990.

"We're still expecting Oakland County to be a high-income county," Hay said. However, he expects the population center, now in Bloomfield Township, to continue to move north.

"It moved northwest during 1970-80 and we're expecting the center to continue moving north, but I don't know if that will be northwest or northeast," Hay said.

For that same period, Troy also had the highest housing gain (11,078), while Ferndale sustained

the highest loss (218 — Hay speculated they were torn down). Housing counts include single family homes and apartments, Hay said.

Hay said in the past the county has hired helicopters and photographers to confirm housing counts. "We've also had people come in to actually count the rooftops for marketing reports and press," he added.

"Probably the most important thing to know is that the census is confidential," Hay said, citing several cases where the IRS or other law enforcement agencies failed in bids to collect census information for criminal cases. He added that questionnaires, already approved by members of Congress, also are being printed in several languages to ease the information gathering process.

□ It was a good rehearsal because

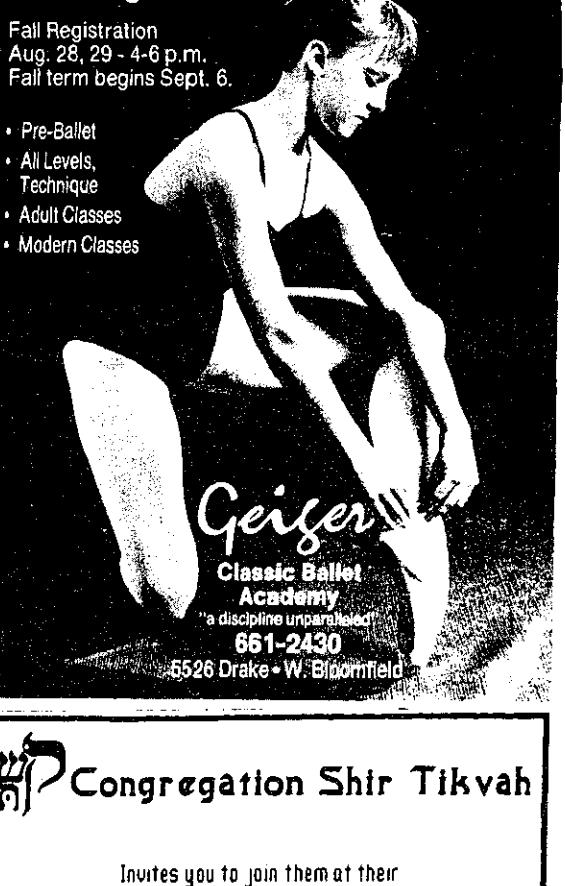
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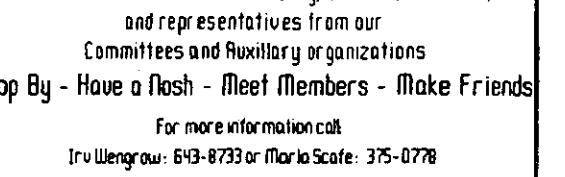
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Opinions

As We See It

Excise tax proposal merits further study



Government

Novi officials are investigating an innovative means of getting developers to share the expense of meeting the city's needs for roads, water lines, sewer lines and other improvements which fall under the general title of "infrastructure."

The city council currently is considering the possibility of levying an "excise tax" on developers to help defray the cost of off-site improvements.

City Attorney David Fried recently submitted a legal opinion which maintained that it is legal for the city to levy an excise tax against developers.

Fried's opinion said both the city charter and the state home rule allow such an excise tax to be put in place. An excise tax is defined as "a tax imposed upon the performance of an act, the engaging of an occupation or the enjoyment of a privilege."

It's too early to tell just exactly how the excise tax proposal will fare. If enacted, the proposal is just about assured of being challenged in the courts.

The proposal is the latest effort by city officials to secure the financial cooperation from developers whose developments create the need for improvements to the infrastructure.

Some other states permit units of government to levy "impact fees" against developers whose projects require off-site improvements to the infrastructure. For example, a developer who builds a subdivision on a dirt road can be assessed fees to help allay the cost of paving the road as well as the cost of extending sewer and water lines to his property, if none exist.

The philosophy is simple — if the subdivision were not built, there would be no need to pave the road or extend the sewer and water lines.

Impact fees are not permitted in Michigan, however. State law limits the financial responsibility of developers to their own specific piece of property. They cannot be held responsible for off-site improvements.

State Sen. Richard Fessler

City should foot bill

City officials are planning to ask the Lakes Area Residents Association (LARA) to share the cost of a successful — but expensive — two-day clean-up that was centered in Lakeshore Park last April.

Mayor Matthew Quinn said at a recent council meeting that the city will ask LARA to contribute approximately \$700 toward the cost of the clean-up to the city. LARA members reportedly have collected the \$700 in donations and salvage fees, according to Quinn.

Although we appreciate the concern about the unbudgeted expenditures that have been incurred as a result of the clean-up effort, we would suggest that the city foot the entire bill for the clean-up and allow the group to save its \$700.

The clean-up was held April 29-30 at Lakeshore Park, and to say it was a huge success is something of an understatement. An estimated 200-300 residents dropped of their debris at the park, completely filling the dumpsters on the very first day of the event.

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14A
THURSDAY
August 17, 1989

Senior citizen love story

Sometimes, it happens.

After wading through 12 to 15 stories per week as a reporter at The Novi News, every once in a while I come across a story that touches me.

This week, I reported on the wedding of an older couple who met about two weeks before their engagement. After speaking to both the bride and groom for a while, it hit me.

This is a great story.

I think the story reads pretty well. But above and beyond how the finished product came out, I felt really good writing this story. Phil Jerome probably knows this better than anyone. I've been nagging him for a couple of weeks to get the story in the paper.

To me this story is special. It has warmth, sensitivity and even a little bit of humor. It is the kind of a story that I, as a reporter, dream about.

Being a bachelor, I think it's very special to see two people so much in love. Especially when they least expected to find a mate.

So often, reporters have to deal with unpleasant circumstances. From car wrecks to boring meetings to reading through countless police records, reporting can be a grind.

And don't forget tedious and aggravating.



Bruce
Weintraub

For instance, last week I wrote a column in the Noviville Record. Its subject was controversial. And with controversy comes a number of varying opinions.

Many people told me they liked my position in the column. But those who disagreed with me let me know it too, sometimes in very loud tones.

While sitting and writing the column last week, I had two thoughts run through my mind: first, I could stop writing and never finish it. That way nobody would ever get mad at me.

My second choice was to write it and take my lumps. I chose the second alternative, feeling it was my duty to serve the readers and not fold under pressure.

Sure enough the controversy rankled some people and the opinions have been rolling in ever since.

That's what makes a story about the marriage of Pat Ball and Bill Connell so special to write about. No controversy, no influx of opinion, just a pleasant story about two people who are in love.

Certainly, reporting cannot be limited to sweet stories about married couples. But when one comes around, it's certainly a welcomed relief from the everyday grind.

Good luck, Bill and Pat. And thanks for brightening what may otherwise be a dreary day.

P.S. While I'm at it, congratulations to my mother and father on their 25th wedding anniversary yesterday. Without them, I certainly could not be where I am today — enjoying writing about special couples.



Easterers first to settle Novi

Michigan has been called a lot of things — from a water wonderland to a pleasant peninsula — but in the early 1800s, it was also known as the land of milk and honey.

Cousins William Yerkes and Thomas Pinkerton staked out their claims in Novi, then returned to New York to make arrangements for the Yerkes family to follow.

The extended Yerkes family was a large one, and they made up a good deal of the population of both Novi and Northville for many years.

The years 1825 and 1826 saw a number of pioneers visiting the Novi area, laying claims, and returning later to work and live on the land.

Originally from England, Thomas Watts was one of the men who, in the fall of 1825, came to Novi, chose his lot, left and returned some months later to settle.

Watts and other early settlers generally chose land near what today is Ten Mile. The earliest settlers tended to stick together, intermarrying and choosing farms in close proximity of their neighbors.

Richmond C. Simmons arrived early in 1825, claiming land on Ten Mile, east of Beck Road. Surrounded by fruit orchards, his estate boasted one of the first brick houses in Novi, which is still used today as a private home.

These families were soon joined by Joseph Eddy and Pitts Taft, both of New York State, who arrived in the fall of 1825. Determined to make the bleak surroundings more hospitable, Taft was responsible for starting the first wheat field in Novi.

Others in the section south of Ten Mile were Samuel Hungerford and James Wilkins, who married William Yerkes' sister.

The early center of town, known as Novi Corners — near Novi Road and Grand River — was first settled around 1830 by John

Elmore. He was later joined by Apollos Cudworth and Benjamin Brown, who helped develop the area as the first business section in Novi Township.

Samuel White was another early pioneer who came to Michigan from New York in 1828. Active in local government, White served as Novi Township's supervisor between 1830-1835.

One of the few women who risked the difficult journey from New York, Sally Thornton was a strong-willed, persuasive widow who came to Novi with her five young children. Through her drive and perseverance, her property remained in the family well into the 20th century. The house built in 1840 still stands near its original site at Nine Mile and Novi Road.

Among the throng of people arriving after 1830 was Samuel Rodgers. The Rodgers and Thornton families teamed up when one of Sally Thornton's great-granddaughters married Charles Rodgers.

These were but a few of the courageous and determined people who slowly tamed the swampy marshland of southern Michigan, turning it into some of the most fertile, highly productive agricultural centers in the state.

Barbara Louie is the local history librarian at the Novi Public Library. She is currently working on two books of history — one on Novi, the other on Northville. Her columns about the history of Novi will appear regularly on the pages of The Novi News.

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Tuesday, August 17, 1989/THE NOVI NEWS 15A

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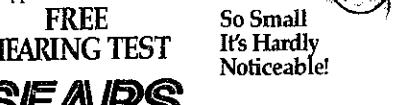
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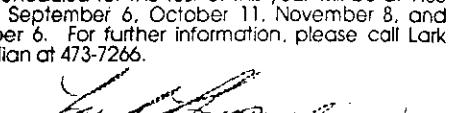
Pd. Adv. CITY HALL COMMENTARY


Lark Samouelian
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CITY OF NOVI

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Tests scheduled for the rest of this year will be at 9:00 a.m. on September 6, October 11, November 8, and December 6. For further information, please call Lark Samouelian at 473-7266.



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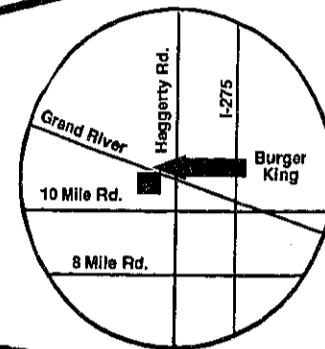
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GREEN SHEET

Classifieds

Personal service key ingredient at Novi restaurant

By RICK KEATING

"You're not a number here." Frank Maisano says that personal service is the philosophy behind his small, family-owned Italian restaurant.

Located in the Roman Plaza near the Grand River/Novi Road intersection in Novi, Maisano's is open Monday through Saturday for lunch and dinner.

While Maisano's offers the traditional Italian fare, it does not have an extensive menu. The philosophy is simple — they'd rather be the best at a few things than mediocre at a lot.

Everything is made from scratch and comes from family recipes. "We cook exactly like we would at home," Maisano says.

"When you come here to eat, we are inviting you to eat in our dining room ... I call my customers by their first names." Maisano stresses that he wants customers to feel as if they have been invited to his home and jokes that the only difference between eating at his restaurant and eating at his home is that you have to pay at the restaurant.

The restaurant itself reflects the personal, homey atmosphere Maisano wants to convey. Maisano's is by no means the traditional Italian restaurant. The decor reflects the personal touch of an individual, not

the cold hand of a corporation. The wallpaper is black with mauve roses on the bottom and is baise on top. There are several plants, including a flower on each table.

Family pictures dating as far back as 1912 adorn the walls, while a vase and clock add dimension to an ordinary shelf. Two crayon drawings by a young customer are displayed on the wall just before the kitchen. The whole idea is to make the customer feel at home.

On the decor, Jackie Maisano, Frank's wife, explains: "We decided that we'd like to have something ... homey ... we want people to come here and feel at home."

One feature of Maisano's is a wall of baseball caps representing various companies and organizations.

Maisano explains that the hat display started out as a lark with contractors and other businesses leaving their company logos behind. The display remains because he wants people to know he hasn't forgotten who helped contribute to the restaurant's success.

Originally a Towne Club pop store featuring a deli section, Maisano's gradually expanded and evolved into its present form almost by accident.

"We started out in 1981 ... with the intention of having an Italian specialty store," Maisano explains.

Continued on 2



Photo by THOM DOUGHERTY

Frank Maisano demonstrates some of the personalized service at his expanded restaurant in Novi

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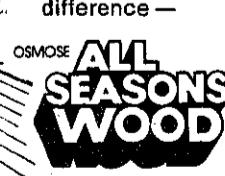
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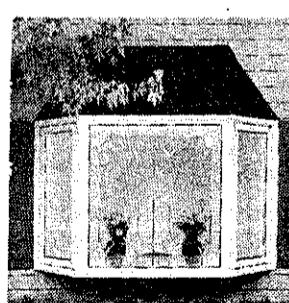
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• ALL

Business Briefs



IRENE ARPASI



ROBERT W. MUNS

IRENE ARPASI of Novi has graduated from Southeastern Academy in Kissimmee, Fla., and joined United Airlines in Dearborn as a reservations agent.

Arpasi achieved this goal by training extensively in all areas of the travel industry. In addition to comprehensive travel studies, she met requirements in business professionalism and career development.

Southeastern Academy offers specialized career training in travel and tourism.

ROBERT W. MUNS of Wixom has been promoted to associate by Plante & Moran, an accounting and management consulting firm. Muns, 27, is a member of the firm's management consulting services staff. He serves the manufacturing community and is based in the Southfield office.

Muns earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Kalamazoo College in 1984. He is involved in community and professional organizations, including the American Production and Inventory Control Society.

Plante & Moran is a Michigan-based accounting and management consulting firm. It serves its clients through offices in Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Cleveland, Grand Haven, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Mount Clemens, Rochester Hills, St. Joseph/Benton Harbor, Southfield and Traverse City.

Maisano's stresses personal service

Continued from 1

The Maisanos had come from just such a store in Livonia two years earlier. The deli idea didn't work out as well in Novi, so the Maisanos tried something different. "We expanded on our sandwiches, we put in three tables, and we kept on going."

Recently, Maisano's expanded to a dinner menu. So far, the owners have found the response encouraging.

For dinner, the overhead lights are extinguished and the softer, candle-like wall lights are used — further enhancing the restaurant's home atmosphere.

The Maisanos have been offering the personal touch since their deli days. Even when there was a large number of customers at the counter, Maisano's refused to get a "pick a number" dinner menu.

"We'll never get numbers in here," he said. "Those people are not numbers, they're people."

Despite the fact that the personal touch Maisano's offers is old-fashioned and all but extinct in today's impersonal computer age, Maisano's says that people like it.

"People want that personal service," he says.

Maisano stresses the importance of personal service to his crew, for whom he has the highest regard.

"...they're personal," he says of them. "They're hard workers, and they care. I want people to care... I want them to treat you the way they would want to be treated in a restaurant."

Maisano has no plans to franchise his restaurant, feeling he would lose the personal touch he feels is so important by expanding.

"How can I be in two places at once?" he asks, pointing out that he wouldn't be able to personally greet customers if he had more than one establishment.

Maisano's offers a selection of pasta, beef, chicken and fish, as well as salads and appetizers. Prices range from \$1.75 for bread sticks to \$10 for New York strip.

Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and dinner from 5-9 p.m.

Seating capacity is 50.

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PICTURE WINDOW UNITS (STATIONARY)

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PERMA-SHIELD® CASEMENT WINDOW BASIC UNIT SIZES
AND AWNING PICTURE WINDOW BASIC SIZES

CRANK OUT TYPE TERRATONE(BROWN) PRICED WITH
NEW HIGH PERFORMANCE DOUBLE PANEL GLASS

UNIT DIM.	1'-0"	1'-4"	1'-8"	1'-12"	2'-0"	2'-4"	2'-8"	2'-12"	3'-0"	3'-4"	3'-8"
Glass	1'-0"	1'-4"	1'-8"	1'-12"	2'-0"	2'-4"	2'-8"	2'-12"	3'-0"	3'-4"	3'-8"
High OPG	1'-0"	1'-4"	1'-8"	1'-12"	2'-0"	2'-4"	2'-8"	2'-12"	3'-0"	3'-4"	3'-8"
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CPAs offer sound suggestions for prospective home buyers

In "The Money Pit," a film released just a few years ago, a young professional couple sinks their last dollar into a dream house in the country.

Within a few days, the nightmare begins. The house starts to collapse, the faucet emit a loud, unidentified liquid. Each repair drives the couple further into debt.

The comedy mirrors fears that plague nearly all prospective home buyers. Can I afford the purchase? Is the house a good investment? To help you answer these questions, the Michigan Association of CPAs has provided the following guidelines.

HOW MUCH CAN YOU AFFORD?

First, calculate how much you can afford to spend. In most cases, your yearly income, less taxes, property taxes and homeowners' insurance premium should equal no more than 28 percent of your annual gross income. So, if you have a gross income of \$30,000, your home-related expenses should not exceed \$1,040 a month, or 11.66 a month.

If you have long-term installment debt including credit cards and student or automobile loans — add these expenses to your annual house payments. The combined total should not exceed 36 percent of your gross income.

Before you panic at how much it costs to buy a home, remember that these expenses are partially offset by several valuable tax deductions. For instance, the points on a first mortgage on your home are generally tax-deductible in the year in which they are paid — providing that you pay them with your own funds. So,

Money Management

How much you can afford to spend also depends on previous mortgage interest rates. Even a single percentage point can make a significant difference. To illustrate, the monthly payment on a 30-year, fixed mortgage of \$100,000 at 9.5 percent is \$841. The same loan at 10.5 percent results in a monthly payment of \$915. On an \$80,000 loan, the payments drop \$183 to \$732 a month.

Keep in mind that your costs may be higher during the first year. In addition to the expense of moving, furnishings, some home improvements and modifications, you will also have to pay points to the bank issuing your mortgage. Each point equals one percent of the entire loan, so three points on a \$10,000 loan is \$300.

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you buy a house in 1989 and pay the points with a separate check drawn on your personal account, you should be able to deduct the entire amount on this year's taxes. Other tax advantages include deductions for mortgage interest and property taxes.

WHAT MAKES A HOME A GOOD INVESTMENT? Once you have a good idea of how much you can afford, start scanning the classifieds. By reviewing the real estate ads, you can get a sense of the market price for homes in various areas. The classifies also show how many bedrooms you do want? How important are the "luxury" options, such as a fireplace?

Sit down and write a description of your dream home. You probably won't find a house that fits the description exactly, but the written list can make your search more manageable. Just make sure the description is reasonable. If you search for a home simply to fulfill some romantic fantasy, you may end up making a poor investment.

Once you settle on a neighborhood,

find out about future plans for the area. To do so, carefully review the local newspapers. In addition, make an appointment with the neighborhood association or building inspector who can update you on the town's master plan. Ask about plans for surrounding land use. Pity the homeowner who buys a house bordering undeveloped land only to find out that a large condominium development is on the drawing board.

The style of home you choose — it is colonial, split level, ranch or contemporary — is basically a matter of personal preference. But stay within the confines of general acceptance. Outlandish houses with trendy amenities are often difficult to resell.

It is important to do some research to understand the differences between the asking prices and the selling prices of homes in the area. If the difference is small — say under five percent — you're probably looking at a desirable area. You can generally obtain this information from the local Board of Realtors.

It's wise to look for an area that has an excellent school system. Because of its appeal to parents with school-age children, the resale value of your home is likely to be higher in an area with good schools.

Buying a home can be the most important decision to make. If you need additional help, don't hesitate to seek professional advice.

Study rates federal employment programs

The federal government spends \$800 million per year on services to match unemployed workers with job openings, but it is not doing a very effective job, a University of Michigan study concludes.

Many regions of the nation are experiencing labor shortages, with unemployment rates below 4 percent. Meanwhile, some unemployed workers have trouble finding jobs.

An effective strategy to match workers with employers' needs would reduce the nation's public assistance costs and "might increase productivity in the U.S. economy by as much as \$20 billion per year," according to the study by Malcolm S. Cohen, director of the U.M.'s Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, and David W. Stevens, a professor of economics at the University of Missouri-Columbia. The study was conducted by the ILIR for the U.S. Department of Labor.

Cohen and Stevens advocate three major policy initiatives they say would improve the nation's public employment service. First, the federal government should continue to "provide services that are better matched to the needs on a national scale, including testing and evaluating worker skills, and conducting research on the general labor market."

Second, the federal government should allow states more leeway to develop their own strategies linking unemployed workers with job opportunities. Cohen and Stevens argue that the most effective policy would allow the states to use both public and private providers of employment insurance claims.

"The federal government would be responsible for protecting national interests, but it's up to the states to provide incentives to meet local and state and local levels where market incentives can be used to achieve efficiencies," Cohen and Stevens say.

Third, the federal government

should allocate more money to those states that have demonstrated effective programs to link workers with jobs. Currently, the U.S. Employment Service, part of the U.S. Department of Labor, distributes an annual budget of approximately \$800 million to the states based on each state's share of the labor force and rate of unemployment.

Each state is expected to use the funds to match qualified workers with available jobs, and to perform a number of other federally mandated tasks including offering testing and counseling to workers, providing general information on the labor market, and evaluating unemployment insurance claims.

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Lost

FEMALE cat, mottled, 10 lb. Some
gray. Brady and Branson Roads
Howard. (313) 368-3742

LOST gold bracelet. Between
Country Elementary and Ben
Franklin. Proctor, August 1.
7:30 a.m. (313) 368-5687

LOST Safety or Wimber
satin ribbon. Please return. It
was never used. Black and bow
string. (313) 229-2253

REWARD: Large w/ male
Schnauzer. Lost Saturday August
12. 12:30 p.m. Grand River
Road N. 100 ft. from 100th Street
133-866-1098

SMALL blue schnauzer. Lure
pink peach. 9 years. Near
Estate. Howell. Howell. Howell
(313) 544-4323

Found

5 MONTH old female puppy. Liver
colored. Miller's area
(313) 655-7507

BENJY the puppy. Bryan Road
Lake/Concordia. (313) 221-1010

BIG block salt. mottled. Cook Lake
Road. (313) 368-3942

BLACK male miniature
poodle. 12-1/2. Mile and Mifflin
(313) 343-3951

COLLIE/SHEDFORD Male
puppy. Abingdon. 10 weeks old.
(313) 223-3262 after 3:00 p.m.

FEMALE Collie, reddish
brown with white toes
(313) 546-7147

FEMALE dog short-haired, long
hair. 11 miles. Rushon.
(313) 229-8633

SMALL female dog, mottled
white, beige ears. Rose
Road. (313) 665-3122

101 Antiques

AUCTION AT
PINEBROOK FARM

FINE ART AUCTION COMPANY
is pleased to invite you to the final
offering of the Anderson Estate.

Hundreds of lots will be sold,
and a full day opportunity to acquire
unique items from the Anderson
estate.

ARN ARBOR Antiques Market
The Brush Show. Thursday,
August 20, opening 21st season,
7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (313) 329-4201

Some highlights include: Royal
Copenhagen, crystal, silver
and glass, furniture, collectibles,
etc.

COLLECTOR'S ART. Design Art
Perry rd. Large garage
100' x 20' x 10'.

CAROUSEL. Chandeliers, Canons,
Clocks, Furniture, etc.

PREVIEW: 1:30 p.m. Bed, Bath
AUCTION: 3 p.m. Bed, Bath

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

Preliminaries will be available.

AUCTION: 10 a.m. (313) 200-7000

AUCTION: Estate Sale. Please
refer to Plymouth Estate Sale in
date 103 (313) 622-1735.

102 Auctions

AUCTION

<div data-bbox="49 2324 10

Restaurant
118-120 Grand River, Novi, MI 48146
8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

COOKS, PREPS
ALL SHIFTS

MIDNIGHT
WAITPERSONS

SILVERMAN'S
11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

ACCOUNTING
BOOKKEEPING PERSON

ARE YOU AMBIOUS, DISPENDABLE?
Want to work for a reliable
company? Want to work
with a computer? Our
person will understand your
needs. Call 437-5610 Monday
through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR AN
EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY
FOR YOU TO WORK FOR A
RELIABLE COMPANY. Call 437-5610

ASSISTANT
Managers
Tire Installers

We Are Willing
to Train

Call for an Appointment

Hi-Way Tire
Ask for Lou
313-229-7005

ARTISTIC person who can paint
and fit furniture. We are looking
for an experienced painter to
work for us. Call 437-5610

ASSTANT Manager
needed. Call 437-5610

ADMINISTRATIVE
AIDE

VOC Research Incorporated
is looking for a person to
work in our office. Call 437-5610

KENTUCKY Fresh Produce
is looking for a person to
work in our office. Call 437-5610

LOCAL Citizens need
part-time help. Call 437-5610

ATTENTION: We are looking
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Creative Living

REAL ESTATE SECTION

■ Thursday, August 17, 1989

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The Milford Times, The South Lyon Herald, The Northville Record and The Novi News

Nature from your backdoor...

By Glenn R. Dudderar

Thanks at least in part to frequent rains in June that prevented regular mowing, the display of hawkweed was more beautiful this year than I can remember. Some fields I pass going back and forth to work rivaled wildflower scenes out of National Geographic Magazine.

Finding one particularly attractive display being mowed one day—before I had a chance to photograph it—got me thinking about how a positive or negative attitude toward some aspect of our environment can drastically affect how we respond to it.

Take the hawkweed, for instance. The operative word is “weed.” Those fields of gorgeous yellow and orange blossoms were being mowed rather than maintained and enjoyed because the property owners considered the plants weeds rather than wildflowers. States such as Michigan and Ohio have gone to some expense and effort to plant roadsides to wildflower mixtures. But let these same plants spring up in someone’s lawn and they’re considered pests that must be eradicated.

You could say that one person’s weed is another’s wildflower. Or maybe the same person would appreciate the plant if it were growing in another place.

Take dandelions. If they just grew along roadsides or in meadows instead of lawns, people would probably value them as wildflowers—or at least not condemn them as noxious weeds. Likewise, the marsh marigold, which bloomed so prolifically this spring along stream banks and roadside ditches, would be seen in a totally different light if it invaded suburban lawns.

In my lawn, one corner has gone gradually over to hawkweed, with my encouragement—I don’t mow that area from the time the flower buds appear until the plants have gone to seed. I enjoy looking at the orange and yellow blossoms, and it’s one area I don’t have to mow—for part of the summer, anyway.

When I look at that area, I see wildflowers that I wish would spread faster and finish filling in that corner of the yard. When I showed a slide of the hawkweed to a College Week class at Michigan State University recently, one of the participants characterized it as spreading weed.

In this case, what you see depends on what you want. I want less grass to mow and interesting flowers to look at. Someone else, who wants only grass, would see my wildflowers as undesirable. I’m prejudiced in favor of the hawkweed in my yard, while someone else may be prejudiced against anything that isn’t grass.

The best example of this kind of prejudice in operation is the vastly different ways many people respond to two somewhat similar creatures: the robin and the ring-necked snake.

The robin, the state bird of Michigan, has a brownish back and a rusty orange breast and eats worms. The first robin seen in the spring is often greeted with joy as a harbinger of winter’s end.

As anyone who has ever raised strawberries or cherries can tell you, however, the robin also eats fruit. In late June and July, when the first batch of young robins is just getting out into the world, the destruction of fruit in a backyard garden or even a commercial planting can be significant.

A pair of robins in the backyard in spring is often welcomed, but few people are glad to see a huge flock of migrating robins settle into their neighborhood. Southern holly growers are particularly unhappy about the visitors from the north because they eat the red holly berries and then whitewash the glossy green leaves.

In addition to being noisy, destructive and messy, robins will also bite if handled. They can’t do much damage, but if they get a grip on your skin, they can give it a painful pinch, especially if they grab hold and then twist.

Now let’s compare the robin to the ring-necked snake.

Like the robin, it is brown on the back with a reddish belly. The color pattern is almost identical. The main difference is that the snake has an attractive white or yellow ring around its neck, like that of a pheasant or mallard.

Like a robin, the ring-necked snake eats worms. Unlike the robin, the ring-necked snake is one of the gentlest animals. It avoids human contact if it possibly can, but if it’s picked up, it makes no attempt to threaten, buff or bite. With handling, it seems to come to enjoy the warmth of the human hand.

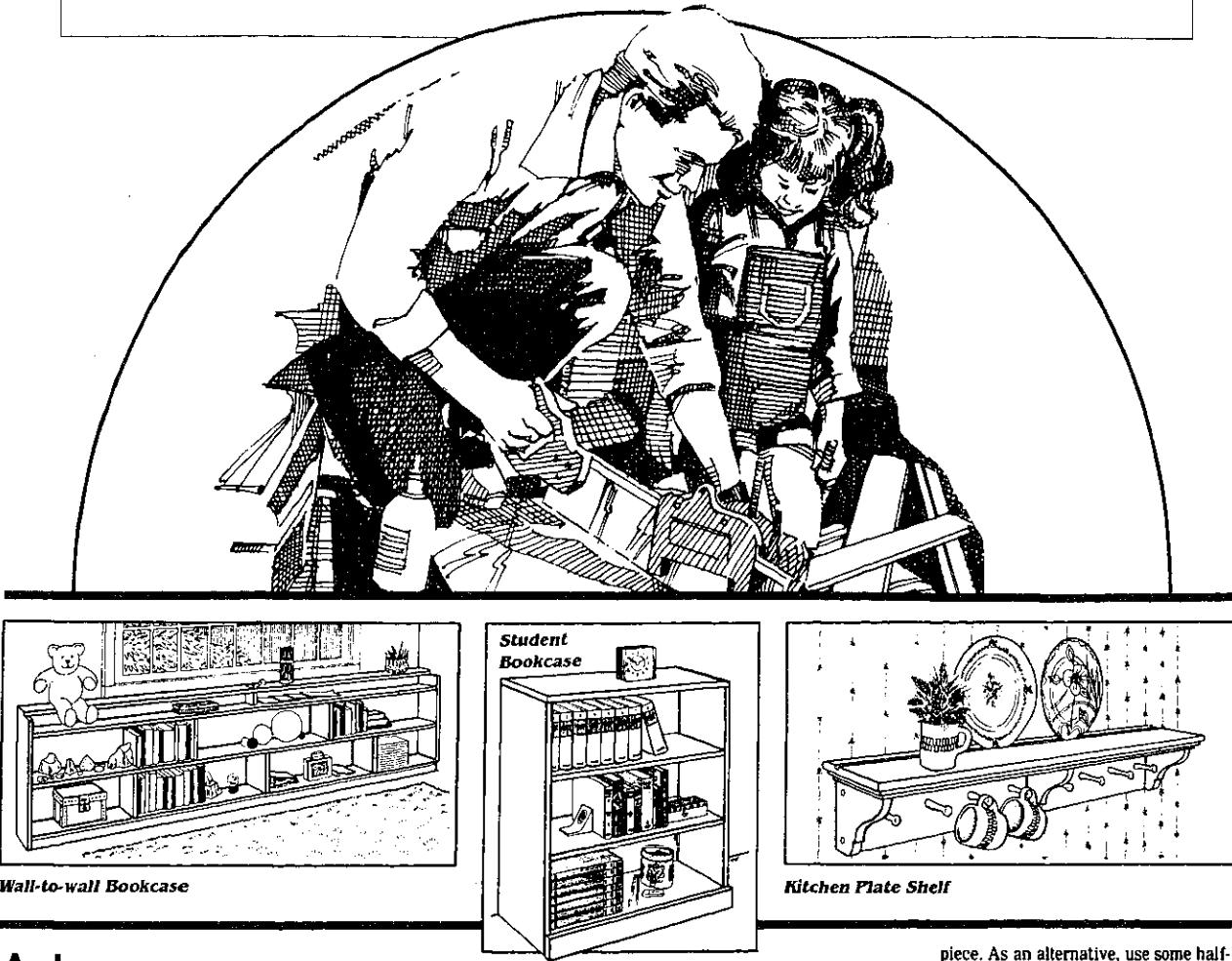
How ironic that, because of people’s prejudice against snakes, this gentle, beneficial, harmless animal is regarded with fear and loathing, while the robin—noisy, messy, destructive and pugnacious—is so highly regarded that it’s been selected as Michigan’s state bird.

Obviously, the preceding descriptions are extremely biased. Neither creature fully deserves the way I have described it. But I wanted to demonstrate how prejudice can be used to create an unfair or even false characterization of wildlife.

We need to put our prejudices aside when we look at the environment in which we live.

S I M P L E

WEEKEND PROJECTS



A hammer, some nails all you need

By Barrie Barber

Always wanted to try your hand at woodworking but didn’t think you had the skill?

Never fear. There are some projects so simple that even the person who knows little to nothing about carpentry can do them. All you need is a hammer, saw, nails and a few other basic tools.

From most accounts, the trend toward weekend woodworking is on the upswing in Livingston County.

“We definitely get a share of those people in here,” said Larry Vorze, an assistant at Holkins & Son Home Center in Howell. A four-year employee there, he says the do-it-yourselfer craze has gained popularity within the last two years.

The type of wood you need depends on the project. And so does the cost. A simple rule of thumb is: “If it’s furniture, spend the money and use a hardwood,” says Tom Zimmerman, owner of Fowlerville Lumber Co. Softwoods are generally painted. If you’re unsure what to use, ask an employee at your local lumberyard.

Here are some ideas from the Western Wood Products Association to get you

started. For more ideas, check out your local library.

Wall-to-wall bookcase—A 1-by-12 shelving board is recommended for this project, but other widths are available. Cut the boards to the desired length, subtracting the thickness of the end pieces. Make the height fit the use you plan for it; generally, leave 12 to 14 inches between shelves for books.

For a footing, parallel 1-by-4 foot boards may also be attached lengthwise underneath the bookcase.

Wood screws and metal angle brackets should be used to attach them. For increased stability and visual appeal, place vertical dividers between the shelves, making sure the dividers are no more than 32 inches apart.

The bookcase may also be nailed to wall studs for more stability.

To add to the bookcase’s appearance, leave four inches of space above the last shelf with a smaller-width board (a 1-by-6 is suggested) on top.

Nail holes should be filled with wood putty and followed by sanding. Your creation can now be painted or stained.

For a 10-foot long book case, a do-it-yourselfer would need three 1-by-12-inch by 10-foot boards; a 1-by-12-inch by 8-foot board; a 1-by-6-inch by 10-foot board; two 1-by-4-inch by 10-foot boards; and 1½-inch No. 10 wood screws.

Student bookshelf—For that son or daughter who’s about to head off to college, try this small bookshelf that will fit in even the most cramped dorm room.

A standard size is 36 inches long by 36 inches wide. Those longer than 32 inches should have shelf supports. Since the average book is 9 inches, leaving 10 inches of shelf space is a good rule of thumb.

Larger books should be on the bottom shelf, which you should make at least 13 inches high.

Once you’ve chosen your wood type, cut the material to size.

Use No. 10 1½-inch flathead wood screws and wood glue to fasten the shelves. More experienced woodworkers can make their own own groove or dado to fit the shelves together.

All screws should be countersunk, making sure the heads are flush with or below the surface. For a front skirting, a 1-by-4-inch board can be attached to the bottom shelf.

Then start sanding with fine sandpaper. Make sure to wipe the surface off before applying the finish.

Rubbing lightly with a fine steel wool between coats makes for a smoother finish.

To build it by these specifications, get four 1-by-10-inch by 34½-inch boards; two 1-by-10-inch by 3-foot pieces; one 1-by-4-inch by 3-foot board; and 10-penny finishing nails.

Kitchen plate shelf—For this wood-working adventure, you’ll need a 6-foot 1-by-10-inch board and an 8-foot 1-by-8. The 1-by-10 can be cut to the length you want (usually three or four feet).

For plate display, cut a quarter-inch deep groove with a power saw about 2½ inches from the rear edge of the top

piece. As an alternative, use some half-round molding in the same fashion.

Now the 1-by-8 must be cut 3½ inches shorter. This makes the back piece. This extra space allows for end supports and gives the top piece one inch of overlap from either end.

The end supports can be cut from the remainder of the 1-by-8. The middle support should measure 6½ by 5¾; the end pieces 6½ by 7 inches.

Now make a template for the supports using the pattern you like best. The template must be traced onto the support pieces. Use a jigsaw to cut them out, making sure the wood grain runs horizontal in the supports.

Wood glue and 2-inch-long No. 8 wood screws can be used to attach the supports to the backing. All screw holes must be countersunk.

Using the screws, mount the top piece. Make sure a one-inch overhang exists on the end supports.

Use half-round molding on the shelf’s front and side edges and cove molding underneath the lip of the shelf, attaching with a nail set and 1¼-inch finishing nails. Nail holes should be filled with wood putty. At this point, wood pegs or brass hooks may be attached to use as cup holders.

Be sure to use sandpaper to smooth any rough or sharp edges, and then applying a wood oil or transparent finish.

Use No. 10 2½-inch-long screws to attach the shelf to the wall through the backpiece, and anchored firmly into solid wood or wall studs.

You need the following materials: one 1-by-10-inch by 6-foot board; one 1-by-8-inch by 10-foot board; two pieces of ¾-by-44-inch molding; 2-inch No. 8 wood screws; 2½-inch No. 10 wood screws; and 1½-inch finishing nails.

Proper cutting prolongs life, beauty of flower blossoms

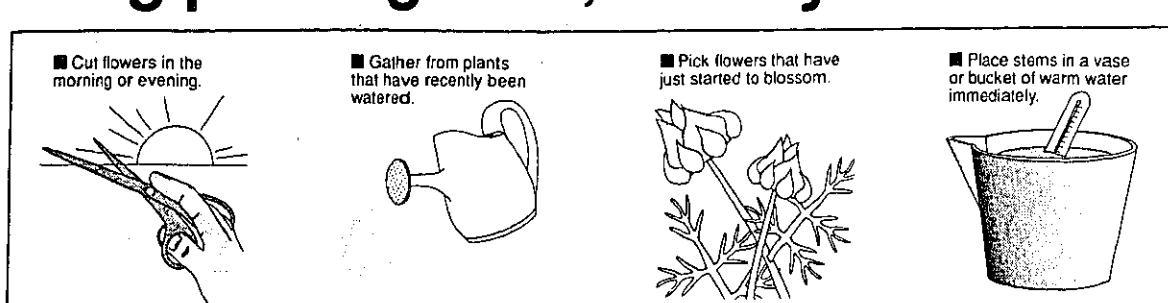
By Patrick Denton

I vividly recall strolling through a vast flower auction warehouse during a garden trip to Holland one May.

The warehouse was bustling with fast-paced, orderly movement and our small group of North American garden writers was constantly surrounded by the whirling colors of carts filled with potted plants and buckets of cut flowers on their way either to or from the auction room floor.

In one section of the huge complex was an immense automatic flower bucket washing machine, which intrigued me with its absolute thoroughness. The machine was a huge and fabulous maze of bucket-bearing wheels, turning in and out of immersion tanks for washing and rinsing 50,000 buckets every day.

The mechanism emphasized to all who watched it the absolute need that cut flowers have for sterile cleanliness in their containers. Without it, water-conducting vessels



in the stems become clogged with bacteria and the lifetime of the flowers is curtailed.

On our travels through the bustling activity we came to a glassed-in section that was a veritable oasis of inspiring beauty. It housed stunning displays of cut flowers. The thought of that room still brings on an urge to grab the sharp scissors and a bucket of water and head out to the garden for a flower-gathering session.

I was especially fascinated with

the elegant arrangements of different kinds of flowers, all in one color. One, all in white, was probably designed for a wedding. It held snapdragons and matricaria (Chrysanthemum parthenium), statice, baby’s-breath, carnations, shasta daisies and florists’ chrysanthemums.

Last month, as the garden became loaded with roses and peonies, I recalled the beauty of that place and filled the house with bouquets of

fresh flowers. One I liked very much consisted simply of Therese, a fully double, huge soft pink peony blending to blush white at the center. The blooms are fragrant and the plant remains long in bloom for several weeks of cut flowers.

A combination of red roses and crimson-flecked white peony Festiva Maxima formed another attractive arrangement in a tall vase set on the dark wood of our record cabinet in the family room.

Several stems of the hardy Gladiolus carneus in a bud vase made an elegantly unusual bouquet. This small gladiolus bears on each thin, wiry stem three or four waxy white flowers with attractive purple markings.

The ixias were prolific this year, too. I combined spikes of pink and white ixias with a few short-stemmed Japanese peony blooms in pink, the flower centers filled with a multitude of gold and pink staminoles.

Cutting flowers in the garden and arranging them is not something I have time to do every few days. So I make sure the flowers I do gather will last as long as possible.

First, I cut my flowers in the morning or during the evening, never in the heat of the day, from plants that have been recently watered. This ensures water-filled stems to begin with. And I place the stems right away in a clean vase or small bucket of warm water that I take with me into the garden.

The use of a floral preservative adds to the lifetime of a cut flower arrangement, too.

A formula that works well for me combines 1 tablespoon each sugar and lemon juice and ½ teaspoon bleach in 1 quart water. Use this solution to fill vases before adding flowers, and top the vases up with the same solution as needed.

Finally, displaying floral arrangements in as cool a spot as possible, out of direct sunlight, will prolong the freshness of the flowers.

Around the House: Decorating

Any ideas for a teeny storage room?

By Rose Bennett Gilbert

Q: Our fourth bedroom is so tiny that the previous owners just gave it over to storage. It does have a window in one side wall, however, and I'm thinking about trying to turn it into a little guest room.

Any space ideas would be welcome.—T.W.

A: Sometimes it's possible to turn a tiny space into a little jewel of a room, making up in charm and detailing what you lack in size.

The room we show here is a good case in point; it's not much wider than the window itself and yet it exudes a bundle of period charm because it has been treated as if it were important far beyond its floor space.

Fabrics and wall coverings are the room-makers here. All from Victoria Moreland's "Through the Looking Glass" collection (for Raintree Designs), their patterns and colors harmonize walls, window and the wonderful old chaise lounge that's perfect for this Victorian setting. You could substitute a narrow bed or even a sleep sofa and get the same sitting room effect.

The idea is to maximize space by minimizing contrast. Let patterns and colors flow smoothly across the entire room. Use a wall-to-wall floor covering to stretch things visually underfoot.

And don't be afraid to make a grand gesture that will give the room importance.

Here it's the lush cascade of cur-

tains ballooning down from a deep, gathered valance to spill out on the floor. Served over lace undercurtains, though, with tiered bows, the curtains make the small window grand, which in turn make this a room to love all out of proportion and size.

Q: Our living room is really quite small and nearly square (30 by 28 feet). We're gradually accumulating furniture to fill it, but meanwhile, do you have any suggestions on:

1. How to make it look more finished than it really is?

2. How to arrange what furniture we do have (sofa, two club chairs, four small tables, a baby grand piano and a 12-by-15-foot Oriental rug)?

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065

Duplexes
For Rent

BRIGHTON/ HOWELL
Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 car garage, large lot, \$650. 1 year lease, adults preferred. REFERENCES & CREDIT CHECK REQUIRED. CREST SERVICES (517)548-3302.

BRIGHTON. 2 bedroom, appliances, carpet, central location, \$495. Available September 1st. (517)887-3864.

FOWLERVILLE. Large 2 bedroom. Clean and quiet. Carpet, laundry hook-up, stove and refrigerator. \$465. with discount plus security. Available in September. (517)546-2759.

HIGHLAND. Laketown duplex. \$650. month. Senior citizen couple preferred. Senior discount. (517)887-9338.

HOWELL. 2 bedroom duplex, stove, refrigerator. (517)548-4197.

HOWELL. Deluxe new 2 bedroom, carpeted, laundry facility, energy efficient. \$575. (313)227-3434.

HOWELL city. Furnished, house privileges. \$76 weekly. Security, non-smoker. (517)546-6679.

067

Rooms
For Rent

FOWLERVILLE. \$45 per week. Call (517)468-3804 after 6:30 p.m.

HOWELL city. Furnished, house privileges. \$76 weekly. Security, non-smoker. (517)546-6679.

FOWLERVILLE area. Furnished sleeping room with tv, private bath and private entrance. 1 person only. Prefer long staying rental. \$55 weekly. 1st and final weeks in advance. (517)223-8319.

HURON River Inn Retirement Center. Opening for Lady, private bedroom, meals, laundry. Milford. (313)685-7472.

069 **Condominiums,
Townhouses
For Rent**

BRIGHTON Hidden Harbour. 1 bedroom, appliances, air. Available September 1st. \$425 month. (313)231-3528.

BRIGHTON NEW CONDOS
2 bedroom, 2 bath, All Appliances, air, enclosed garage, basement, balcony and mini-blinds. \$835/month. Call

ADLER HOMES
(313) 229-5722
(313) 229-6776

MILFORD White Lake area. Large farm house, private entrance into living area with bath, partially furnished and laundry facilities. \$325. utilities included. (313)887-4216.

NORTHVILLE room for rent. 111 W. Main. See manager. Room 4.

PINCKNEY Room in basement for rent, female preferred. (313)878-3733.

SOUTH LYON Room to rent on small farm. Rent negotiable. (313)437-5980.

WALLED LAKE - Available NOW - Room with full house privileges in beach house with large screened porch, back patio, dock, fireplace and lake frontage.

For a working person. \$500 per month. Call Mr. York at (313)644-1777. References a must.

WALLED LAKE. Private bath, walk-in closet, privileges. Non-smoking. 5 minutes from 12 Oaks Mall. \$75 weekly. (313)669-1633.

CONVALESCENT care your home or mine. References. (313)227-4510.

070 **Mobile Home
Sites
For Rent**

068 **Foster Care**

COACHMANS COVE
A beautiful mobile home community on Big Portage Lake. Concrete streets & natural gas. Regular & double wide. 3 miles N of 194. 15 minutes W. of Ann Arbor. \$155 per month.

517-596-2936

074 **Living Quarters
To Share**

FOWLERVILLE, Grand River frontage. 1,000 sq. ft. & 450 sq. ft. commercial space. Reasonable rent. Parking. Available for Dave. Evenings, able September 1st. (313)434-6116.

LYON Township. Very large house to share, run of house includes washer and dryer, cable TV and lake privileges. \$300 a month. (517)545-8143.

LYON Township. Day working mother wants to share home with single female, afternoon shift preferable. (313)437-8489.

PERSON needed to share home, downtown Howell. \$75 weekly.

Kitchen privileges, private parking. Available immediately.

(517)548-4195 between 4 p.m.-6 p.m.

WANTED female to share two bedroom mobile home. Own bedroom and bath. All utilities paid. \$350 per month plus security. (313)681-9810.

072 **Mobile Home
Sites
For Rent**

076 **Industrial,
Commercial
For Rent**

BRIGHTON. Woodland Plaza, Grand River frontage, 1200 ft. 2400 sq. ft. Retail or office. (313)227-4504, ask for Mark.

078 **Buildings
& Halls
For Rent**

BRIGHTON. Old US-23 BRIGHTON. Small office on Commerce Center, now leasing Grand River, includes use of 2400 to 1200 sq. ft. light/receptionist area, conference room, and utilities. \$375 per month. (313)223-5880.

BRIGHTON, downtown, Grand River, 600 sq. ft., first floor, 4 rooms plus reception area, US-23. 500 sq. ft. office in private location. (313)227-4443 professional building. Excellent between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., ask location, ample parking. Available for Dave. Evenings, able September 1st. (313)684-1280.

BRIGHTON. First Class Execu-MILFORD. By a waterfall. Enjoy office space with full time overlooking the dam and sluice shared secretary, answering way while you work. Approx. service. Fax, copy machine, and a total 1,000 sq. ft. conference room available. Call (313)685-2236.

RIVER BEND Executive Suites, MILFORD on Main Street. Second floor office space 1,200 space in professional office sq. ft., ideal location.

BRIGHTON. 750 sq. ft. of office sq. ft., first floor retail space 900 space in professional office sq. ft., ideal location.

BRIGHTON. Office space in Remodeled building available for prime location on E. Grand River. retail and office. Center of town. Single or multiple offices. Low as \$7.50 per ft., including

immediate occupancy. Call Red utilities. (313)684-5500. Carpet Klein (313)227-5000.

BRIGHTON. Grand River location, good parking and signage. Immediate occupancy. (313)484-2771.

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BRIGHTON. Medical office for office. Complete with telephone system. 1,100 sq. ft. answering, conference room and secretarial services. Preferred

STRAWBERRY. New office. 1,600 sq. ft. warehouse. Must see. Many opportunities. Low rent. (517)223-9090.

HIGHLAND. 8000 sq. ft. light industrial facility to lease. Not M-59. (313)887-4188.

BRIGHTON, DOWNTOWN. On Grand River at Main Street. 150

sq. ft. single office up to 900 sq. ft. four room suite. Very nice.

Plenty of parking, from 500 to 1800 sq. ft.

STRAWBERRY. New commercial stores, plenty of parking. 1100 sq. ft. to 3,000 sq. ft. R.R. 1. Available September 1st. (313)685-7005.

DOWNTOWN Brighton area. up to 900 sq. ft. (313)227-2201.

SOUTH LYON. New office. Plenty of parking, from 500 to 1800 sq. ft.

STRAWBERRY. New commercial stores, plenty of parking. 1100 sq. ft. to 3,000 sq. ft. R.R. 1. Available September 1st. (313)685-7005.

DOWNTOWN, Howell. 400 sq. ft. light industrial with office space, loading dock, and high ceilings. \$3 per sq. ft.

MILFORD, Village. 720 sq. ft. \$300 per month. (313)685-2813.

MAUI, Hawaii. oceanfront luxury

2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, pool, beach, garden roof, spectacular

penthouse view. Weekly or monthly owner. (313)482-8415.

STRAWBERRY. Lakefront

lovely 3 bedroom log cabin.

Available August 26 through October. Seasonal rates. (313)231-3200.

KISSIMMEE, Florida. This weekend August 19 through 26.

Cheaper than hotel. Condo 5 minutes from Disney. (313)344-4227.

MAUI, Hawaii. oceanfront luxury

2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, pool, beach, garden roof, spectacular

penthouse view. Weekly or monthly owner. (313)482-8415.

STRAWBERRY. Lakefront

lovely 3 bedroom log cabin.

Available August 26 through October. Seasonal rates. (313)231-3200.

WINTER boat storage space

needed. Barns, pole buildings,

garages. Top dollar. 1200 sq. ft. minimum. (313)449-5142.

084

Land
For Rent

BRIGHTON. 8 acres, zoned agricultural, approximately 3/4 acres peat. (313)685-8251.

088

Storage Space
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BRIGHTON. Large garage for rent. 600 sq. ft. Heat included. \$150 per month. (313)223-5966.

DOWNTOWN Brighton. Lighted and secure storage space. 24 hour access. From 200 - 600 sq. ft. bays. (313)476-2442 days. Evenings, and weekends (313)349-2391.

HOWELL. Garage, downtown, \$50 a month, available September 1. (313)227-1887.

089

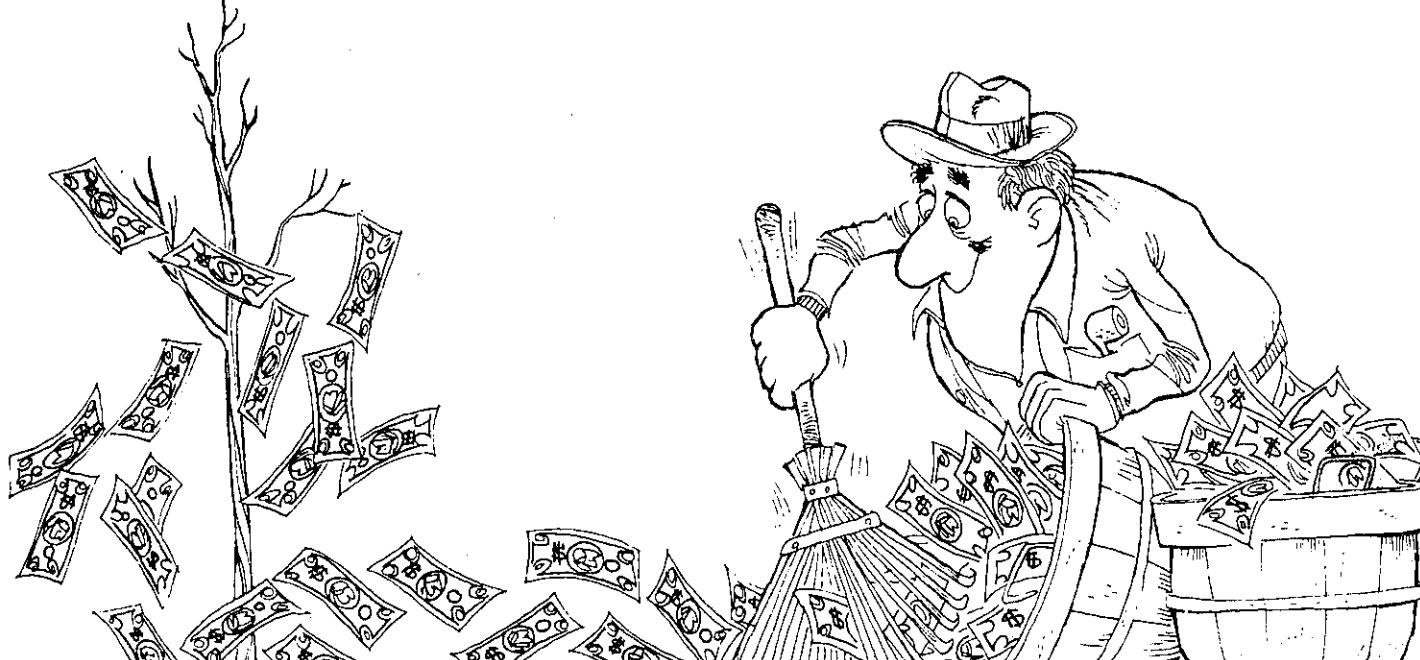
Wanted To Rent

FAMILY of 5 needs home in the Howell school district. September. Call collect (313)534-4325.

WINTER boat storage space needed. Barns, pole buildings, garages. Top dollar. 1200 sq. ft. minimum. (313)449-5142.

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227-4437
227-4436

FOWLERVILLE
HOWELL

548-2570
548-2570



Sliger/Livingston

Story by
Brenda Dooley

It was a time of refined elegance and poetic romance.

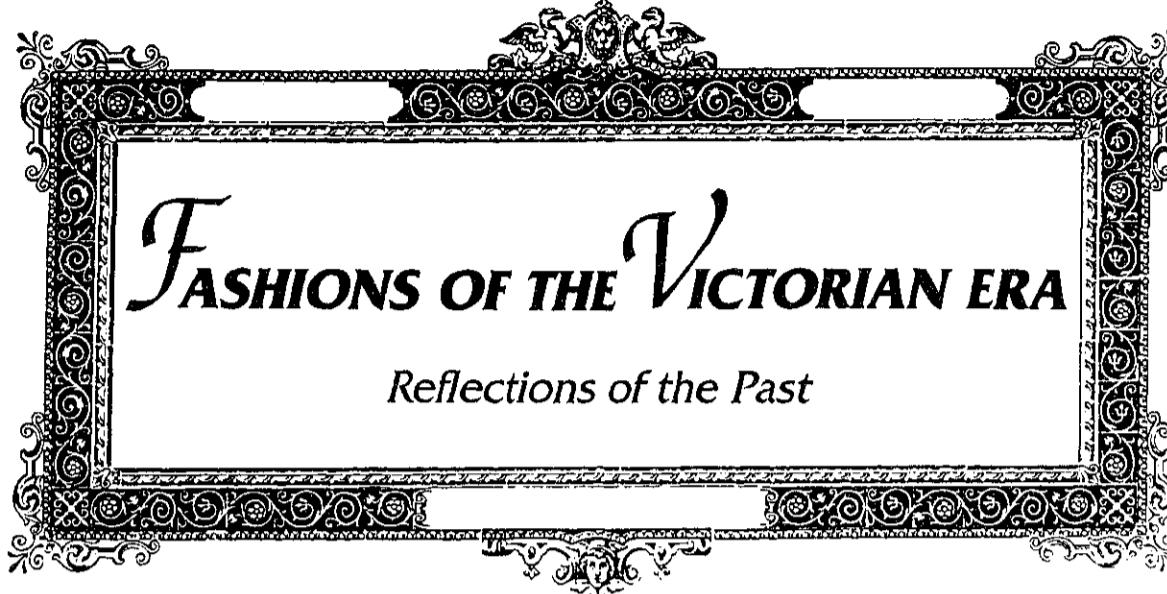
The era of Queen Victoria's reign in England, 1837-1901, was characterized by rapid changes of style and ornamental dress.

Victorian ladies wore elaborate dresses with long skirts, poufs of lace, high collars, and jeweled brooches during the day. At night, necklines plunged and sleeves were worn off the shoulder.

Men were most appropriately outfitted in sack-style suits, vests accessorized with classic gold watch chains, and colorful soft ties, ascots, or bow ties.

On Sept. 15-17, organizers of Northville's first Victorian Festival are hoping to recreate the magic of the era, complete with authentic costumes, music, a parade, a ball, and a Sunday picnic. They are asking that festival-goers observe the style and atmosphere of the Victorian era by dressing in appropriate attire.

"We're only trying to gain the effect of Victorian dress," explained Kathleen Otton, a member of the festival committee who has researched fashion from the era. "People don't have to be elaborate... Just rummage through the closet or borrow from family and



friends. Most of the clothes we wear every day can be adapted to Victorian style."

Otton has worked closely with Susan Lapine, Caroline Dunphy, and Laurie Marrs — all Northville residents working on the festival committee — in researching possible Victorian costume ideas.

"We selected the time period between 1870 and 1920 for researching costumes because in Jack Hoffman's book

(*Northville...the First Hundred Years*) 1870 was the first time a mayor was mentioned in Northville," Otton said. "It was also the first time high-school diplomas were handed out, so we thought it was historically a significant time for the city."

In celebration of the festival, all non-profit groups volunteering to work in the event plan to wear Victorian costumes, as do downtown merchants, Marrs said.

Recommended clothing patterns are available at the Northville Public Library, along with reproduction catalogs and Victorian paper-doll books filled with costume suggestions and ideas. The materials are available on loan for one-week periods.

"We're encouraging everyone to wear costumes," Marrs said. "We've been getting all kinds of calls from people who are worried about what

to wear. We want to emphasize that the costumes don't have to be elaborate or expensive."

An ordinary woman's blouse, for example, can take on a Victorian air merely by raising the collar and pinning it at the neck with a colorful brooch or pin, Otton suggested.

Daytime Victorian attire for women may consist of a white blouse, dark skirt, and an apron of striped, gingham, or printed material. Otton and Marrs

pointed out that Anne's Fabrics on Main Street in downtown Northville carries fabric remnants that have an old-fashioned look.

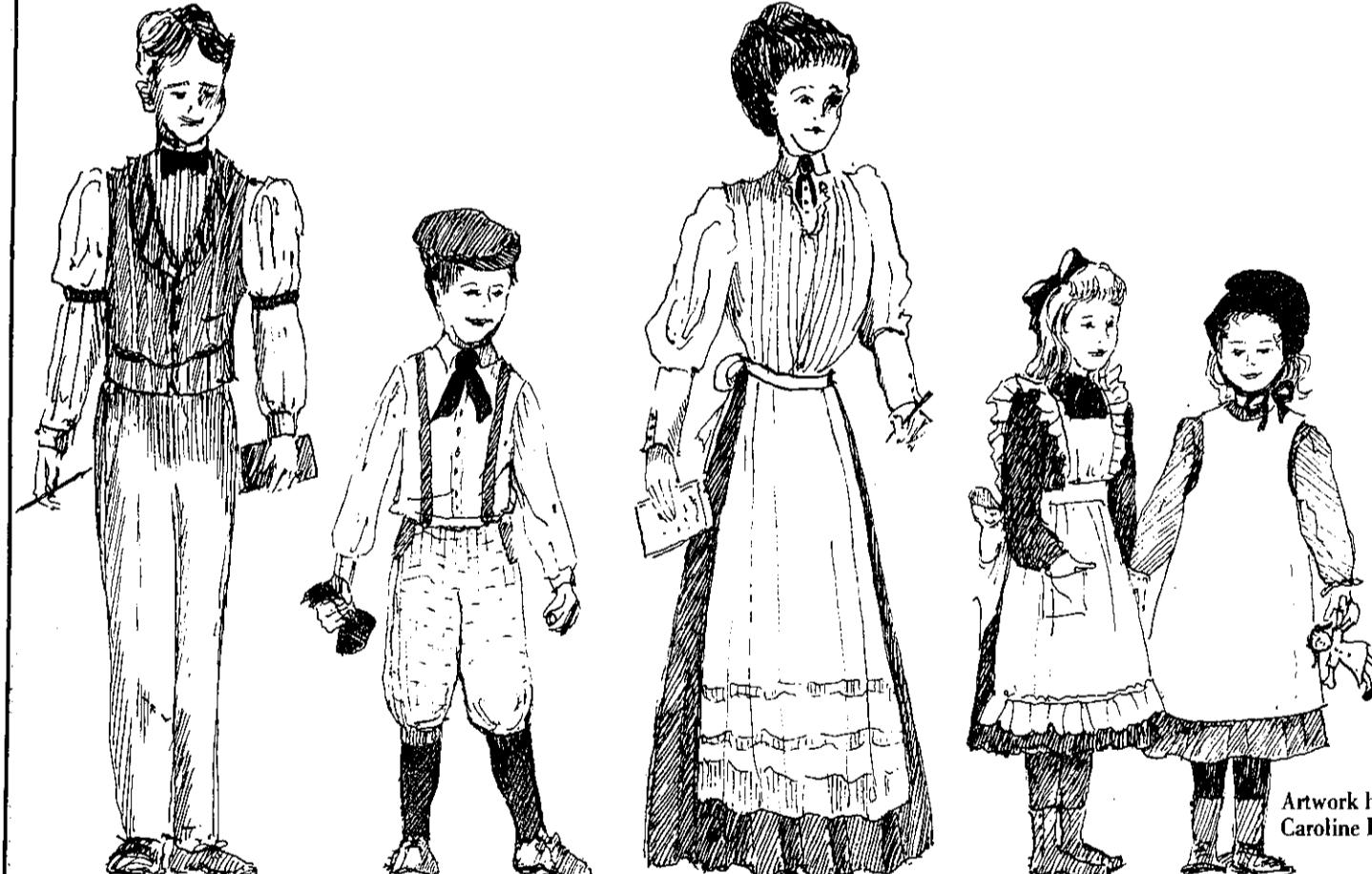
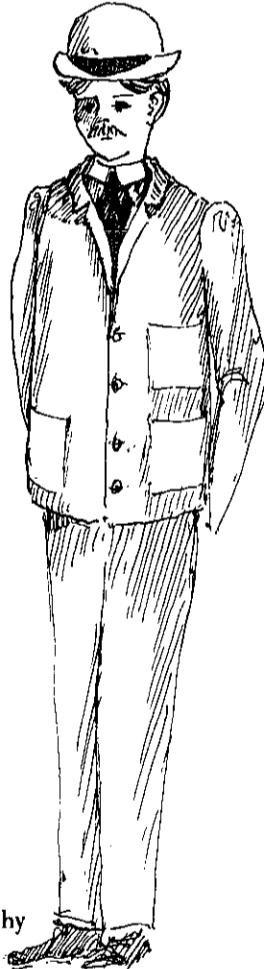
Men can transform their wardrobes into Victorian styles by wearing vests over white shirts tied with a bow tie, ascot, or scarf at the neck. For a fancy, stylish touch, men may choose to wear a vest designed from a remnant of upholstery fabric. Any pants or trousers in dark hues are representative of the era.

Suggested accessories include umbrellas or parasols, which are sold inexpensively at most antique shops, hand-held fans, and wide-brimmed hats for the ladies. Cameos, lockets on delicate chains or ribbons, jeweled combs for the hair, and any type of black jewelry also signify the Victorian era.

"Most women will find that they have the perfect type of jewelry tucked inside their jewelry boxes," Otton said.

Straw hats are appropriate for men during daytime activities, such as the Sunday afternoon picnic or afternoon games, while top hats or derby hats can be worn with evening attire.

Continued on 5



Artwork by
Caroline Dunphy

Random Sample

Volunteers

Woman
listens
to kids

By DOROTHY NASH
special writer

"Most kids can solve their own problems if they're given the opportunity," commented Lauren Chiasson, who is a volunteer counselor in Northville Youth Protective Assistance, the program which supplies one-on-one counseling for youths in ages 6 to 17.

In describing the program, she said that Mary Ellen King, the director, gets referrals from school, police, and parents concerning children who might benefit from counseling. Then if she concurs, she selects a volunteer who has interests and personality similar to those of the child, and she arranges a meeting of all concerned for discussion and setting of goals.

After that, "I'm alone with the kid," Chiasson said, "in sessions for eight consecutive weeks. Maybe

we'll take a walk or have a coke. Maybe we'll go to a basketball game or just drive around in the car. It can be for one or two hours or just ten minutes."

"The main thing is to put the whole focus on the kid. Let the feelings come out. Don't pressure. Don't judge."

After eight weeks another meeting is held to determine whether or not to continue.

In her two and a half years of this counseling, she said, "I've had four kids, mostly 14 and 15 years old."

And why does she do it? Lauren Chiasson answered, "I think it's important to contribute to the lives of other persons in the community and I believe my small contribution will make a difference."

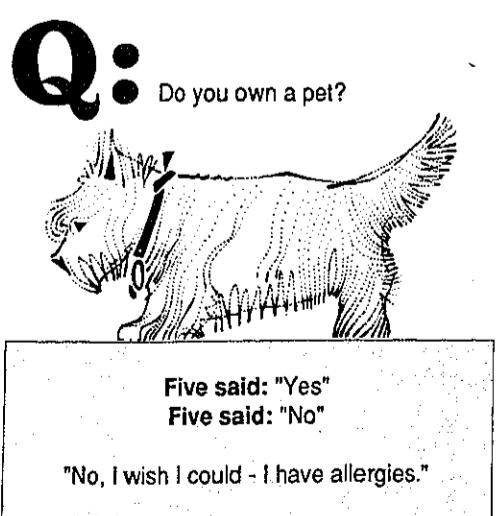
Training for this volunteering — 15 hours worth spelled out over five weeks in three-hour segments. It means watching films, listening to speakers on a variety of subjects and being instructed in how to communicate and how to listen. And there's role playing.

If you are interested in this volunteer counseling, call 344-1618 and talk to Mary Ellen King. The next training class starts in September.



Novi News/JANET L. COX

Lauren Chiasson volunteers as a counselor



Five said: "Yes"

Five said: "No"

"No, I wish I could - I have allergies."

Random Sample is an unscientific poll conducted by the staff of The Northville Record and The Novi News.

Novi bowling league members to hold meeting

By JEANNE CLARKE
special writer

Bowling season is almost here. The Novi Pin Pointers, a league of women bowlers from Novi and surrounding areas, will host an organizational meeting on Aug. 24 at Bel Air Lanes at 10 a.m.

During the meeting, bowlers will plan the season. The league will begin the season on Sept. 7 at 9:30 a.m. The league consists of 10 teams. Regular bowlers and substitute bowlers are needed to participate. Anyone interested in becoming involved in the Novi Pin Pointers may call Secretary Banshi at 477-9866.

Bowlers are available for bowling days for those who need child care services. The league runs from September through April, concluded by a bowling banquet and prizes at the end of the season.

League officers for the upcoming year are Debbie Lukasik, president; Linda Dettore, vice president; Rosemary Banish, secretary; and Barbara Waling, treasurer.

PERSONALS: Recent guests at the home of Tom and Gianna Amati were Kajia and her fiance, Yari, from Finland. Kajia was a guest at the Amati home two years ago as an exchange student. While in Novi, the Amatis and their guests went shopping at Birch Run, traveled to Traverse City, went to Cedar Point and visited the Rafferty family and others in the area that Kajia knew from attending Novi High School. Currently she is working with the handicapped and hopes to pursue a career as a physical therapist.

Ruth Ann Zimmer was pleasantly surprised at a birthday party held in her honor by her husband, John Zimmer, and family. The party celebrated her 50th birthday, attended by about 25 friends.

Stanley and Eva Croft, longtime area residents now living in Colorado Springs, Colo., are in town visiting friends. They also attended the recent 50th reunion of the Walled Lake Class of '39 at the Red Timbers Restaurant in Novi.

Ron and Judy Ward have returned from an Alaskan cruise. They spent seven days on the Westerdam ship with the Holland-American line, after departing from Vancouver. The Wards saw whales, eagles and sea lions resting on icebergs. They also took a helicopter excursion and hiked up a 100-foot wall straight to the ice. They reported temperatures of 57 to 60 degrees. The Wards also visited Vancouver and Victoria, where they saw the famous Butchart Gardens. They spend some time in Seattle before flying home.

Recent visitors at the home of Duane and LaRee Bell were their son, Tom, and his wife and their children, Adam and Shawn of Glenview. Also visiting the Bells for two weeks are their grandsons, Josh, 12, and Cody, 8, sons of Tim and Maxine Bell of Mulberry, Fla.

BOY SCOUTS: Novi Boy Scout Troop 407 has met throughout the summer at the Novi Civic Center.

The scouts meet Mondays from 7:30 to 9 p.m., under the leadership of Gary Skodack. Summer activities have included white water rafting and camping in southern Pennsylvania. About 20 scouts took part in the trip, accompanied by the following dads — Gary Skodack, Doug Mackenzie, Steve Mills, Paul Bennett, Wayne Vicklund, Jim Lambers, Don West, Tony Maroni and Paul

Resident at the center gave special thanks to Lou and Edward Scovill for providing music and entertainment. They were also entertained by clowns.

The center's Community Council

brushes, soaps, quarters, colognes, perfume and other small items are needed as prizes for bingo winners. Anyone willing to contribute is encouraged to drop the items off at the center.

SMOKERS GUILD: New officers for the Michigan Smokers include Darcie Cross, president; Leslie Capone, vice president of programs; Rosemary Opperhouse, vice president of membership; Jean Barry, secretary; and Susan Ackman, treasurer.

Installation of officers will take place in September. Mary Williams is the group's current president.

The Smokers met (Thursday, Aug. 17) for a regular meeting.

Members meet the third Thursday of each month at 9:45 a.m. at the Novi Public Library. Theme of the meeting is "Drugs & Techniques," complete with a video and show and tell session, when members offered

easy sewing tips.

The group's September meeting will include a program on "stacking," followed by a program about the scalloped hem and pin stitch in October. In November, members will host a "smock-in." And in December, the Smokers will celebrate the season with a Christmas party.

Presently there are 20 members, including life members and five new members. Officers are Tony Zolle, commander; and Ervin Harvat of Detroit, vice state commander — attended the first meeting to assist members with information about the charter. Dues are \$20 per year.

Members reported a successful truck show that was recently held at the Novi Library, where selections were presented from "Gingham Designs," "Alvin Goodin and Company," and the "Smoking Horse Selection."

Babysitting is now available at the Smokers meetings at \$4 per mother and an optional \$2 for guests. The annual smoking convention will be Sept. 27 through Oct. 1 at Sheraton Music City in Nashville, Tenn. For

the original post home was on Grand River Avenue near the Novi Fire Hall No. One.

more information call Mary Williams, group president.

NOVI AMVETS: Plans are underway to organize the Perry Kenner Post 76 of the Novi Amvets.

Many of the original group's life members are planning the reorganization. It was chartered in 1945 and was one of the largest Amvets posts in Michigan.

Members are encouraging eligible veterans in Novi and surrounding areas who fought in World War II, the Korean War or the Viet Nam War and have honorable discharges to contact Duane Bell, post adjutant, at 349-2835 or Leo Harrawood at 344-2666 for more information.

The first meeting to plan the reorganization was held at the Novi Post Department. Since then, members have met at the Shirley Library. Theme of the meeting is "Drugs & Techniques," complete with a video and show and tell session, when members offered

easy sewing tips.

Two special guests — Frank Kuzesowik of Detroit, past state commander, and Ervin Harvat of Detroit, vice state commander — attended the first meeting to assist members with information about the charter. Dues are \$20 per year.

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Residents at the center gave special thanks to Lou and Edward Scovill for providing music and entertainment. They were also entertained by clowns.

The center's Community Council

will celebrate Grandparents Day. At the same time, everyone will help Alma Peters celebrate her 100th birthday. Alma was born in Ireland and moved to Canada when she was 18. They moved to Northville where they owned a chicken and turkey farm until 1952, when the Peters moved to Florida. After her husband died, Alma moved back to the area and has been a resident since June 1985. The birthday party will begin at 7 p.m.

Bingo games will continue throughout the month. Donations, jewelry, lotions, powder, combs,

etc., are welcome.

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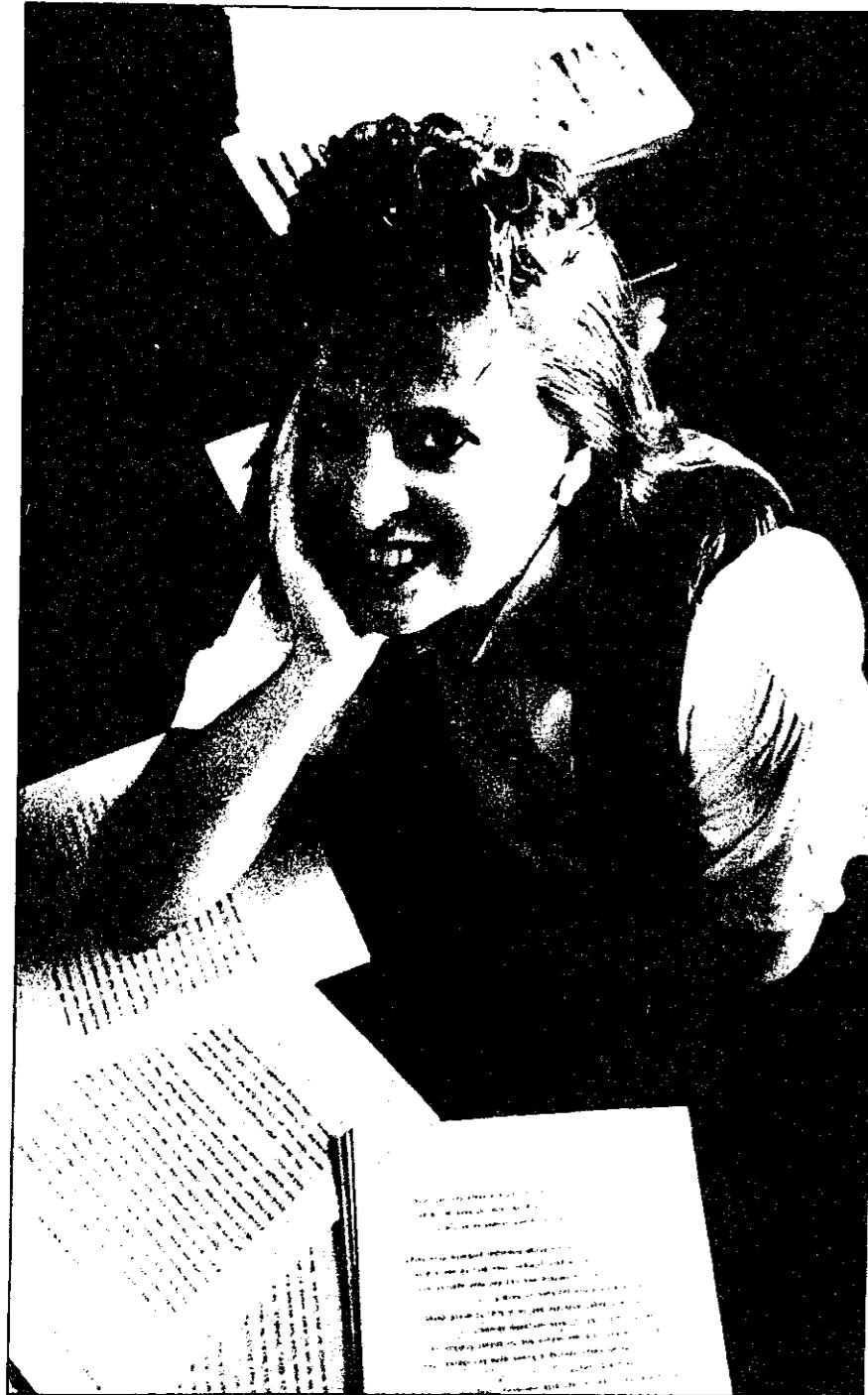
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Local writer Shelly Thacker Meinhardt displays her latest manuscript

Novi News/CHRIS BOYD

Pie contest open to bakers

Calling all bakers. As part of its 50th anniversary, the Michigan Apple Committee is mounting a search for the perfect apple pie. The All-American Apple Pie Contest will take place Monday, Sept. 4 — Labor Day — at the Michigan State Fair in Detroit.

A panel of experts will judge the double-crust apple creations on taste and appearance to determine the

state's best apple pie recipe. Prizes will be awarded for the top three finishers — first place, \$100; second place, \$75; and third place, \$50.

Each of the three award-winning bakers will also receive a limited edition apple print.

Contestants may enter by providing a complete recipe on a 3-inch by 5-inch card with their name, address and phone number on the reverse side and mailing it to: All-

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Proof Ad Deadline: Wed., Sept. 13
Final Ad Deadline: Fri., Sept. 15
Publication Date: Wed./Thurs., Sept. 27/28

Romance writer

Local author completes novel

By BRENDA DOOLEY
staff writer

She's a romance writer. And Shelly Thacker Meinhardt is first to admit she doesn't fit the typical stereotype.

She doesn't lounge around the house in a pink negligee, eating bonbons while writing passion-filled passages of a steamy novel. Meinhardt says that's what most people erroneously think romance writers are like.

"The vast majority of romance writers are intelligent, highly educated professional women," Meinhardt says. "We don't get any respect — we're kind of the Rodney Dangerfield of publishing."

A Novi resident and a 1981 Northville High School graduate, Meinhardt admits that overcoming the preconceived notions tends to become rather frustrating. Yet, in the next breath, she delightedly points out that romance novels have surpassed mysteries in popularity this year.

"We're just a different genre," she explains. "I think we'll surpass the stereotypes."

They also have to be dedicated. "It's extremely hard to break into," Meinhardt explains about gaining recognition in the publishing field. "There's no way to get rich quick. This writing is just as hard as any other type of writing — you need a fresh voice."

That's a fact. Meinhardt is quite familiar with it. She recently finished writing "Falcon on a Silver Wind," a manuscript that won praise from the Romance Writers of America (RWA). Meinhardt was named a finalist in the RITA Golden Heart Award competition, sponsored by the RWA.

Her novel was judged one of the top six of 137 manuscripts in the historical romance category. She received her Golden Heart award at the RWA annual conference in Boston on July 22.

Currently Meinhardt lives in the Beachwalk Apartments in Novi with her husband, Mark, a technical writer for Boeing. Currently she is discussing the possibility of publishing her novel with two agents.

"It's been a long, hard road," she says about writing the novel, a process that took nearly two years. "I never realized how much hard work

it would be. I really feel driven to do this — it's my dream of a lifetime. I never realized how much hard work it would be. I really feel driven to do this — it's my dream of a lifetime. It's not so much that writing makes me happy . . . sometimes it can make me miserable if something doesn't come out the way I want it to. But not writing makes me very unhappy."

Meinhardt quit her job as a public relations writer for Crittenden Hospital in Rochester to give her time to finish the novel. Meanwhile she wrote freelance articles for magazines, including "American Book Review," "Entrepreneur," "Flowers," and "Looking Fit" for come. She and her husband bought a computer and printer and set up an office in the second bedroom of their apartment to give her a place to work.

"I have never been a corporate kind of person," she says. "I liked my job and I liked my boss, but I wanted to do something more. Ever since I was a kid I knew I would be a novelist."

As a student at Northville High School, Meinhardt was enrolled in honors English classes. She pursued her education at Albion College, where she majored in French and English. At college, she received the encouragement she needed from English professors, fueling her desire to write.

Soon she learned about the RWA and met other writers with common

interests. After six months of research — mainly of history in the Middle Ages — she sat down to write "Falcon on a Silver Wind." The novel is set in 1295 and follows the romantic lives of ex-mercenary Sir Conner of Greshiel and Lady Laurien d'Amboise, who fall in love against all odds.

While writing the novel, Meinhardt says she received a lot of support from her family, especially from her husband.

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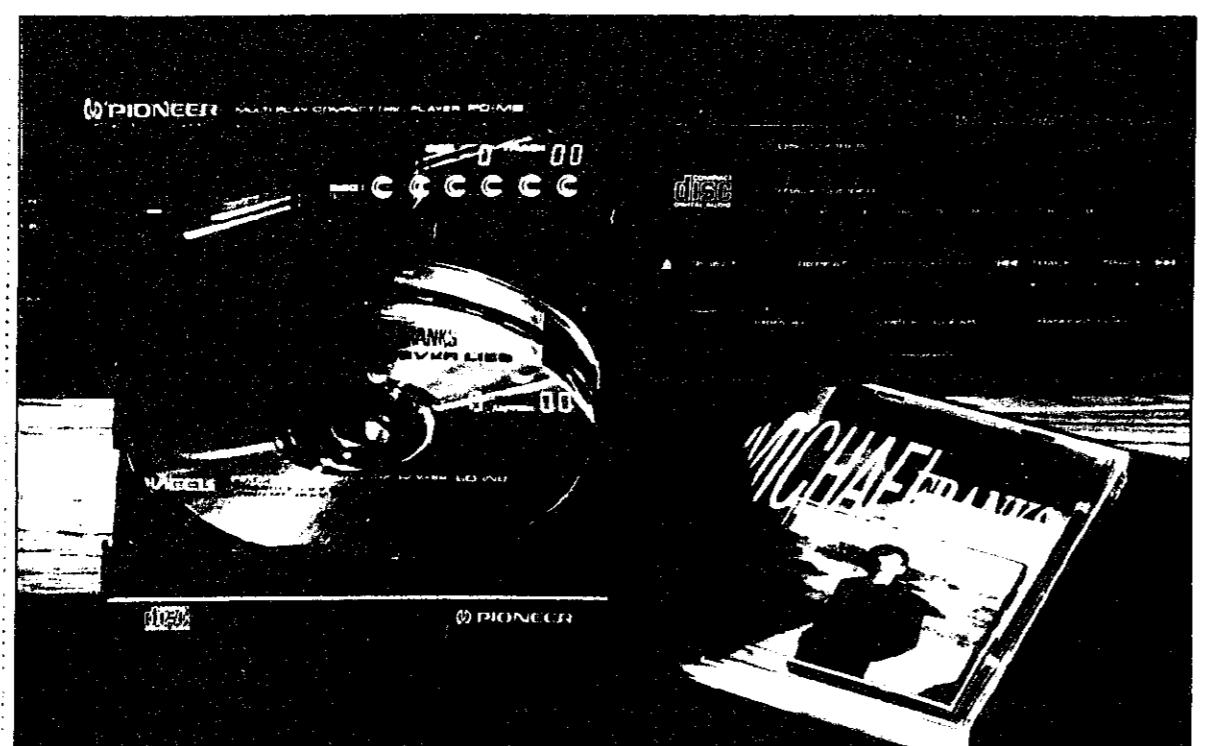
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Diversions

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Music store owners predict compact discs will replace albums

CDs continue to gain attention

By MIKE McGLINNEN
staff writer

Local performers do not believe the hype associated with the music industry's recent emphasis on compact discs (CDs) and gradual phasing-out of albums.

A brief trip to any popular music store will find vast changes in the industry during the last year and a half to two years.

Spaces formerly occupied by vast rows of albums and pre-recorded tapes are now filled with CDs and tapes. If the store continues to carry albums, they are usually in a less prominent spot, if at all.

Some stores — particularly malls — have stopped carrying albums altogether.

"I don't think CDs will have that great an effect on small bands immediately, although I think it will hamper the ability to go from a popular local band to a national band," said Doug Coombe, a record clerk at Wazoo Records in Ann Arbor.

Coombe believes local artists will still have the option of making

albums and cassettes; it will just be more difficult to become an overnight success.

Local artists have pointed out that cassettes are now the most popular format for small artists, but he thinks an artist needs to have material on more than one format to "make it."

"To become successful, a band has to be in the mall stores. LPs are still going to be around. The best way for a small band to become a success is to get an independent label which may then be picked by a major label," Coombe said.

He went on to explain that a major label can then provide the money for a band to put out a CD, thus possibly leading to national recognition through "mall stores" such as Record Town, Musicland, and Harmony House.

Examples of independent labels are SST, Beggar's Banquet, and Twisted Nerve, Inc., Sire, Island, Warner Brothers, Epic, Virgin, and Atlantic are among the more prominent major labels.

Tracey Lynn Arledge, a local coun-

try / western performer, uses not believe CDs are forcing small, local artists like her out of the music industry.

"I think CDs are a lot better sounding, of course, but I think people still buy cassettes," said Arledge, who records on audio tapes.

Arledge noted the high cost of making a CD as the main deterrent in them," Arledge said.

"I still make tapes. The process is very simple, and the cassettes are real cheap to make. It helps people like me," Arledge said.

Tom Reess of Short Notice, an area band, said, "I think the tape is the best. Some stores — particularly malls — have stopped carrying albums altogether.

"I don't think CDs will have that great an effect on small bands immediately, although I think it will hamper the ability to go from a popular local band to a national band," said Doug Coombe, a record clerk at Wazoo Records in Ann Arbor.

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Novi concert series concludes

Get ready to enjoy some German music... The Rhinelanders, a German band, will perform behind the Novi Civic Center this Friday, Aug. 18, as the 1989 Summer Concert Series sponsored by the Novi Arts and Culture Committee winds down.

It will be the final performance in the series.

The concert will be outside the Novi Civic Center at 7 p.m. In case of rain, the concert will be moved inside the building. The performance is free. Popcorn, lemonade and frozen candy will be available for purchase.

The concerts are sponsored by the Ford Motor Company Foundation and Providence Hospital Novi Center.

Kids' programs: The Agape Smiles Foundation is presenting "A Blast From the Past" — a concert by The Four Lads, a popular singing group from the 1950s.

Every year the Agape Smiles Foundation hosts a fund-raising event. This year's benefit concert will feature The Four Lads. The event will be held at Novi High School on Saturday, Aug. 19, at 7:30 p.m. Emcee for the concert is Mike Wharf.

Tickets are \$25. Call 473-1172 to order tickets or mail a request to The Agape Smiles Foundation, 4130 West Ten Mile, Novi, MI 48050.

Marquis play: Historic Marquis Theater in downtown Northville presents "Winnie-the-Pooh" for 11 performances through Aug. 26.

The productions feature the timeless tale of Christopher Robin, Piglet, Tigger and the lovable Winnie-the-Pooh. Performances are Tuesdays through Thursdays, with two shows on Saturdays.

Renaissance Festival progresses

The Michigan Renaissance Festival runs through Sept. 24 on Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The festival opened on Saturday, Aug. 12, in Holly and continues over seven weekends. Festivals are held on grounds one mile north of Mt. Holly on Dixie Highway. Parking is free.

Events include "Days of Knights," a games tournament with knights on steeds Aug. 19-20; "Renaissance Romance," when King Edward and

Queen Kathryn renew their wedding vows Aug. 20; "Pocahontas, the peasant" Olympics Sept. 24; "Harvest of Fantasy," including an apple hunt, grape stomping and exotic edibles Sept. 9-10; "World of Leonardo Da Vinci" Sept. 16-17, search for a Mona Lisa look-alike; and music and dance Sept. 23-24; and a site-specific entertainment, a craft marketplace and daily equestrian events.

For ticket information call 645-9640.

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KVC coaches debate scheduling



At the All-League meetings for Kensington Valley Conference (KVC) baseball and softball, league coaches hashed out the issue of scheduling.

For baseball and softball, it has already been decided that the league

It becomes pretty clear that in baseball and softball, capricious games that they are, the truly best team won't emerge in the short span of 12 games played on six dates.

Hartland Coach Dan Michler lamented that fact earlier this year when team dropped its first two doubleheaders in consecutive Fridays. "We've only played two doubleheaders," he said at the time, "and already we're probably out of contention for the KVC."

Opponents of the 24-game proposal said it would eat up too many dates on their schedules — dates where coaches would like to schedule non-league opponents to add variety to their schedules.

The make a good point. Under the current Michigan High School Athletic Association rules, teams are limited to 18 dates. With 12 of them being devoted to league games, that leaves just six dates to play around with.

And after all, who wants to play the same teams over and over again?

At the state baseball championships in Lansing in June, the announcer sputtered when he announced that the state runner-up team in Class A, the Milford Redskins, had finished fifth of seven teams in its league.

For the last two years, Hartland has finished in last place in the KVC. The Eagles' overall record has been well over .500 in both seasons. This year, the team was 22-15 and a district finalist.

Potentially, league coaches could schedule up to nine non-conference doubleheaders under such limits.

Youth League reports All-Star teams

The 1989 season came to a fitting end for the Novi Youth Baseball League with its annual All-Star extravaganza at Bosco Field.

All-Star games were held for all four division: Minor, Pony, Major and Senior.

MINOR DIVISION: The Minor League selections included: Jeffrey Balagna, Bryan Hill, Aaron McDaniel, Daniel Stachowski, Ashley Earl, Nick Kummer, Jon Shaw, Rusty Herbst, Ryan Balagna, Mark Chellala, Matt Cipolla, Cito, Brian Ward, Tim Hilliker, Joey Hart, Dan Lusk, Matthew Mauer, Patrick Powers, Joseph, Danny

Dolph, A.J. Rowe, Nick Simon, Jeremy Laichalk, Michael McShane, Ricky Anderson, Dan Colligan, Michael Deglau, Chris Jette, Matthew Kelminger, Erik West, Justin Thompson, Brian Bassett, Rory Pheiffer and Ryan Sahlberg.

PONY DIVISION: The National League All-Stars topped the American League 23-2 in a Pony Division slugfest. Jerry Ayres (4-for-4) and Mark Lyster (2-for-4) led the winning team. Rick Kowal (2-for-4) and Jason Shaffer (2-for-2) led the American League. The rest of the all-stars included Matt Carcone, Danny Hanson,

Sean Kramer, Kraig Walega, Brad Balagna, Angelo Fallon, Greg Hein, Mike Lyster, Mike Barthlow, Ken Rutherford, Matt Topper, Jason Bledorn, Tom Sime, Terry Parker, Mark Price, Mike Mueller, Greg Fisher, Dan Gourlay, Jimmy Rose, Eric Brandon, Paul D'Agostino, Greg Pernard, Derek Gavigan, Jon Weller, Paul Kinnane, Ben Wendt, Brian Codd, Jason Calender, Chris Ostrander, Chris Johnson, Brian Klem, Martin Silverman, Matt Buck, Mark Schaefer, Jason Stevens, David Hart, Nick Blagin, Chris Chirgwin, Jeff Fannon, Doug Minke, Rob Kowal, Casey Bear, Cory Darling.

MAJOR DIVISION: The Major Division All-Star selections included Joe Harmon, Steve Page, John

Crawford, Chris Modelski, Jason Sams, Matt Bendersen, Jason Bledorn, Tom Sime, Terry Parker, Mark Price, Mike Mueller, Greg Fisher, Dan Gourlay, Jimmy Rose, Eric Brandon, Paul D'Agostino, Greg Pernard, Derek Gavigan, Jon Weller, Paul Kinnane, Ben Wendt, Brian Codd, Jason Calender, Chris Ostrander, Chris Johnson, Brian Klem, Martin Silverman, Matt Buck, Mark Schaefer, Jason Stevens, David Hart, Nick Blagin, Chris Chirgwin, Jeff Fannon, Doug Minke, Rob Kowal, Casey Bear, Cory Darling.

All candidates must have a physical before practicing.

Junior varsity tennis try-outs: Try-outs for the Novi High School girls junior varsity tennis squad will be held at the high school courts on Monday, Aug. 21, from 8-11 a.m.

All candidates must have a physical before practicing.

Youth fitness meet: A total of 141 boys and girls — age 9-14 — claimed plaques for first, second and third places at the 32nd annual Detroit Metroplex Youth Fitness Meet at Lower Huron Metropark near Newville.

Over 1,000 youngsters competed and finalists from 42 communities were honored.

The individual standouts from Novi included: Jon Mutch, who placed second in the standing long jump (8-feet, 1 1/4-inches); Brandon Spence, who placed third in the running broad jump (13-feet); and Michelle Sveiller, who placed third in the standing long jump (6-feet).

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