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50 CENTS

Cable firm to hike fee for service

Metrovision of Oakland County, which provides cable television service for the Novi area, will once again raise its rates effective Feb. 1. The last increase came in Febru-

ary of 1990. Basic service will be priced at \$16.95 per month, an increase of \$1.45. All other rates, including those for premium services, remote control converters and additional outlets, will remain at current

"We understand that nobody likes a rate increase, but the cost of doing business has gone up," said Tom Bjorklund, regional manager. What we are being charged has increased by 35 percent."

Bjorklund said that the company has had an increase of 35 percent in the rates charged by basic prog-ramming networks over the last

The percentage of the increase varies depending on the customer's level of service. The average increase, based on an average bill of about \$30.55, will be 4.7 percent.

Bjorklund said that Metrovision's premium service rates continue to be the lowest in the area. He gave examples of other local basic cable rates: \$19.90 in Plymouth; \$20.45 in Walled Lake; \$19.95 in Warren: \$18.45 in Birmingham: and \$17 in Detroit.

Lark Samoulian, executive director of the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission, could not be reached for comment about the rate

Bjorklund said that during the past year, Metrovision has expanded its office hours and adopted a new set of customer service standards developed by the national Cable Television Association

Among other things, the standards provide for maximum service problems and for efficiency in receiving phone calls. The company is

Continued on 4



Photo by HAL GOULD

Fishing hot spot?

Rick Reiter found the ice fishing "hot spot" on Walled Lake last Wednesday. He started fishing about 8 a.m. and had managed to pull in a pile of 25 by about 2:30 p.m. In the meantime,

other fishermen on the lake were taking a great many fewer fish. The ice on the lake is estimated to be 4% Inches thick.

Police cars have a high turnover rate

By CRISTINA FERRIER Staff Writer

The Novi Police Department replaces a squad car at an average of one every six weeks. A new police car serves the department for approximately 11/2 years.

But the life of a police car doesn't end there, Novi Police Lieutenant Thomas Hesse explained after recent Novi City Council approval for the purchase of 12 new vehicles for the Patrol Division.

Total cost of the new Chevrolet vehicles was

\$180,226, with each individual police car costing \$15,018. Police cars have heavy-duty suspension and tires, as well as the largest engine

The individual vehicle cost is lower than the average person would be able to get, Hesse said. because the city buys them through the Oakland County Cooperative purchasing program. This program serves police departments of many cities by obtaining very large quantities of vehicles at one time.

"These (new) cars have to last us until April of

Hesse said retired police cars, which are taken off the road at 60,000 miles for contractual reasons, go on to be used for court transportation purposes, school programs, police seminars, and to other uses by City of Novi employees.

The retired vehicles, he said, are spray painted black and "used by all different departments in the city until it's decided the car can no longer be used."

That decision, he said, is usually reached when repair costs exceed the value of the car. Ultimately the cars are put out for bid and sold to anybody that wants them.

Gas blaze costs yet to be totaled

By JAN JEFFRES Staff Writer

"We had a big blow torch," is how Fire Chief Arthur Lenaghan described the gas main fire that reddened the evening skies over Grand

River Avenue last Wednesday. It was a 30- to 40-foot tall blow torch that led to a night without telephone service for 300 Novi customers, as well as a shut-off of the fuel needed to warm 650 homes and businesses when the temperature plunged to 13 degrees.

The utility companies are cur-rently assessing their financial losses. Consumers Power does not expect to have a final report on the accident finished until late this week.

"We'll talk to the contractor involved and we have to determine what led up to the incident. If the contractor was responsible, we have to negotiate with the contractor about the cost of the interuption," said Garth Behrendt, public information director for the

company.

"If the contractor is responsible, standard procedure is that they pay damages.

Customers will not see an increase in their gas bills caused by the fire, he added: "That's why we try to recover costs from the party responsible. Some of them pay up; it's negotiated. Some of them we have to take to court."

Six Consumers Power employees, who suffered first- and seconddegree burns, were treated and released by nearby hospitals that

The explosion was triggered by a rupture of a gas main during the installation of sewer and water lines west along Grand River.

The contractor, State-Wide Excavating Company of Wixom, was drilling under the road with an auger when a five-inch hole was ripped in the six-inch steel pipe. The gas line, which is 30 inches

Guardian eying purchase of OIS

By SUZANNE HOLLYER Staff Writer

Guardian Industries Corp. in Novi has shown some interest in purchasing enough of Optical Imaging Systems Inc. to gain nearly one-third of the company's stock.

OIS develops flat panel displays or viewing acreens valued by acrospace and defense industries for their high-resolution pictures. Except for prototypes, the company has not produced any of the screens.

The company lost \$591,000 on \$1.8 million in revenues for the fiscal quarter ending in September.

Guardian treasurer Wallace Rueckel said the purchase, which is still under negotiation, will be for investment purposes. It will not affect Guardian's Novi offices, he said. If the purchase is completed, Guardian would have controlling interest in OIS.

The corporation has signed a letter of intent to pay \$10.5 million for 29 percent of OIS with an option to buy another 22 percent for an additional \$10.5 million within the next three years.

Owned by Detroit Pistons' owner William Davidson, Guardian pro-

duces glass products used in the construction and automotive industry, fiberglass insulation products, molded plastic products and oil drilling equipment. The company has no manufacturing needs for the OIS viewing screens, Wallace

"It's for investment purposes only," he said. "We would only be acquiring interest in OIS."

Guardian's world headquarters are located on Nine Mile Road in Novi. The corporation has production facilities in the United States, Europe and South America.

The purchase will not influence Guardian's local business. Wallace

OIS, a company in Stanford Ovshinsky's Troy-based Energy Conversion Devices Inc., formerly was named Ovonic Imaging Systems combining Ovshinsky's name with the word electronics.

Ovshinsky's ECD has consistently lost money. The company, which does not have voting rights in OIS due to a stipulation made by an outside investor (not Guardian), has gained notoriety because it has irrested heavily in research, rather than in the production of products. thereby losing investors' money.

Inside

Feature stories, columns, and complete television listings all that inside today's paper in "Suburban Cable Weekly," your guide to television. The TV listings are keyed to the actual channel numbers on the local Omnicom cable system.



Index	
At Home	5A
Business	7A
Civic Calendar	2A
Classifieds	8A
Education	3A
Entertainment	6A
Food	10A
Police News	
Update	2A
For results on your w	ant ads

6 1991 HomeTown Newspapers

News Briefs

COTTECTION: In a review of Novi High School sports in the Jan. 3 issue, the Novi News erred when giving a record for the Novi girls soccer team. The Wildcats had a 1-12-1 record against all teams except KVC newcomers Howell and Hartland — not 1-21-1 as reported.

Chef exchange: On Sunday, Jan. 20, the chefs of the Sheraton Oaks-Novi will step aside to let six of Japan's finest master chefs move in. These culinary artisans will transform the Sheraton kitchen into a Japanese art gallery as tghey prepare an eleven course meal in honor of their hosts the Michigan Winter Ice Festival. The event is being held for 10 days at the Michigan State Fair Grounds Jan. 25 through Feb. 3. The visiting chefs are from the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido. Tickets for this event will run \$35 per person. For information, contact Jaimie Kleinstiver at 868-8800.

Friends or relatives in Saudi Arabia? The Novi News would love to hear about anyone with local ties who has been deployed as a part of "Operation Desert Shield," the U.S. military force in Saudi Arabia.

We hope to collect basic biographical information and pictures of our local service people, and run them on a special page in the near future. The page will include information on how to send mail to the service people. If you know of anyone serving in Saudi Arabia, please call the office at 349-1700. Ask for Cristina Ferrier or Mike Malott.

Share your skills: Novi Community Education is always looking for instructors for its adult and child enrichment classes.

If you have a skill, craft or hobby you'd like to share with others, call Novi Community Education at 348-1200.

Senior transit available: The Novi Parks and Recreation Department's senior transit system provides a lift-equipped van to Novi residents who are age 55 or over, or are physically handicapped. Transportation is available from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Appointments should be made at least 48 hours in advance by calling 347-0400 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. weekdays. Let the dispatcher know if you have a handicap or other special

Donations are appreciated.

SUPPORT GROUP: Don't suffer in silence. The HAVEN is offering an ongoing rape support group on Thursday evenings in Southfield. For more informatten and to sign up to attend, call 334-1274. The HAVEN is an organization based in Pontiac designed to provide women will shelter from domestic violence and other violent encounters.

Historical notepaper: The Novi Historical Society has notepaper for sale at the Novi Public Library and the Novi City Manager's Office. Each package contains 12 note cards, three each of four subjects. Price is \$3, including envelopes.

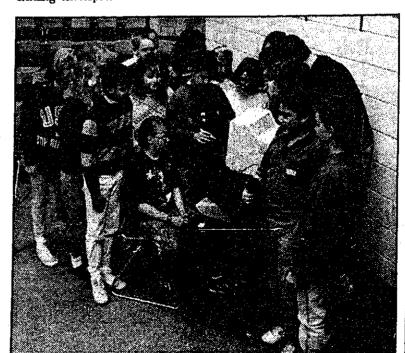


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Masters of knowledge

Students of the Meads Mill school have participated by computer in a world-wide competition known as the Knowledge Masters Open. This year, they placed 15th. The program is part of an effort to expand computer education in the Northville school district. For details, see page 3.

Sports Briefs

Wildcat Update - The Novi swimming team got dunked 100-86 by Plymouth Salem last

The Wildcats were without two of their top two performers - Jon Mutch and Jamie May -- but the Speerschneider brothers spearheaded the tankers, each earning two event victories. Mike Speerschneider won the 200 and 500 freestyle events, while Derek won the 200 individual medley and the 100 backstroke.

The loss leaves the 'Cats at 1-3.

Mustang Update — For a wrestling squad trying to get untracked, a quad meet featuring national-power Temperance-Bedford and WLAA-power Plymouth Salem probably isn't the ideal place to do it.

Nevertheless, that's what the Northville grappler's faced on Jan. 3 at the Garden City Quadrangular Meet. And to add to the challenge, the Mustangs were without three regulars: Matt Allison, Dave Kovacovich and Mike Moore.

As expected, Northville fell to Salem (48-25) and Bedford (43-25), but did salvage the outing with a lopsided win over the host Cougars (48-27).

For the meet, triple winners were Kevin Khashan at 125 pounds and Jeff Lower at 171. Brandon Mardossian, at 135, had three wins, with one coming by default, and Jason Vertrees (189) had two voids to go with his pin of Salem's Wade Langdon.

UPDATE

Civic Calendar Jan. 7-13

MONDAY/7 NOVI CITY COUNCIL will hold a

special meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the activities room at the Community Center.

NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPE-ALS meets at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room at the township hail.

NORTHVILLE CITY COUNCIL meets at 8 p.m. in the council chamber at city hall.

THURSDAY/E

LAKES OF NORTHVILLE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIA-TION meets at 7:30 p.m. in the clerk's office at Northville Township Hall.

NORTHVILLE BEAUTIFICA-TION COMMISSION meets at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room at city hall.

NOVI ZONING BOARD OF AP-PEALS meets at 7:30 p.m. in the council chamber at Civic

NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION meets at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room at township

CITY OF NORTHVILLE PLAN-NING COMMISSION meets at 7:30 p.m. in the council chamber at city hall.

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ibbon flowers, traditional and

WEDNESDAY/9 NOVI PLANNING COMMIS- \$10N meets at 7:30 in the council chamber at Civic

NORTHVILLE RECREATION **COMMISSION** meets at 8 p.m. In the meeting room at township hall.

NORTHVILLE COLONY III HOMEOWNERS ASSOCI-TION meets at 7:30 p.m. in the clerk's office at township

THE HURSDAY (I)

NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** meets at 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room at Northville Township Hall.

NOVI PARKS & RECREATION **COMMISSION** meets at 7:30 p.m. in the recreation department at Civic Center.

NOVI HISTORICAL COMMIS-SION meets at 8 p.m. in the activities room at the Community Center.

NORTHVILLE HISTORIC DIS-TRICT COMMISSION meets at 8 p.m. in the council chamber at city hall.

SATURDAY/12

NOVI CITY COUNCIL will meet in a goal-setting session at 9 a.m. in the activities room at the Community Center.

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for a wheelchair lift for Joey Davis, a 2 1/2 year-old Northville boy with severe physical and mental

Several times every hour, Joey flinches his arms, rolls his eyes and loses consciousness. When that happarated, knows immediately that he is having a seizure. Everytime he has

Joey needs total care because he son. can't move anything on his own. He's blind and weighs 25 pounds.

zation with Providence Hospital In baby-sitting.

Hills will be jumping for Joey in "I want him to be taken care of properly. I don't want it's a fund-raiser to raise \$2,500 him to go to a nursing home. I haven't gotten to the night at the health spa located at point where I can leave him with strangers."

Aerobics group leaps to rescue

With the help of Peter Nielsen, a

former Mr. International Universe,

his partner Russell Pauling, and her

20-member staff, Urbais is confident

pens, his mother Carla, 30 and se- severe mental and physical difficul- ston High school, Carla suspected ties are the result of a birth injury. long before her doctors' diagnosis She's hoping the outcome of the that Joey had serious problems. a seizure, he loses time lawsuit will assist her in purchasing. They regarded her as a neurotic a home that is barrier-free for her mother who happens to be a nurse.

"I want him to be taken care of Mary Urbats of Livonia, a manager properly," Carla said. "I don't want with Aerobic Connection, is the con-"Joey just sees shadows," said him to go to a nursing home. I haven't duit for the fund-raiser which she Carla, 30, a surgical registered nurse gotten to the point where I can leave hopes will make Carla's life a little bit who works part-time at Garden City him with strangers. If I quit my job. I easier. The two women met last April Ostheopathic Hospital. We don't would get lots of help. I have applied know if he can interpret anything he for SSI (Social Security), but was

Carla is currently embroiled in liti- Carla's mother does the bulk of the Southfield, tring to prove that Joey's A 1979 graduate of Redford Thur- area residents will open their hearts

turday, Jan. 12, from 9 a.m. to mid-23317 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Sponsor pledge sheets are available by calling 478-8677. You need not participate in the aerobic session to contribute money. Carla's day never ends. Every two

An Aerobic-A-Thonwill be held Sa-

hours she turns Joey to prevent bed sores. During this same time interval she feeds Joey strained baby food and gives him something to drink in order to maintain his body weight. "Joev had to be resuscitated at birth," Carla said. "I knew he was in

Joey didn't cry at birth, and he doesn't cry now. So Carla has to guess what's wrong when he be-"I don't know when he's having

pain or not," Carla said. Urbais has the highest praise for her friend, Carla. "She has a way of influencing people to have a good

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EDUCATION

Impressionable: computer kids

By SUZANNE HOLLYER

ing their hand at a few new activities. district's new bond-financed \$3 mil- schools.

lion telecommunications system. competition since the fall of 1987. Recently, they have expanded their

The 1989 voter-approved bond issue permitted the district to install impressionist art exhibit from the with computer systems.

better," according to librarian Robert

Stover displayed the copies of the nite dinosaurs in a few years, "Stover Shovcair work of impressionist artists like said. Pierre Auguste Renoir and Vincent A computer wand checks out about former president John Ken- are printed on microfiche, and pro- large information on a computer best copies of impressionist work. Six and the library.

a competition on computers between with a few key strokes. schools around the world for three For example, the World Book Enin a group to answer questions from a ticles. If a student is writing a paper Good Housekeeping. The magazines clude purchasing equipment to en-competition," he said.

by education make for 1991?

job" only 30 times in 1991.

or those impacted by education make ram that makes the scene because of

As a superintendent of schools, i probably has been around for years

As a board of education member, I dent who is getting Cs and Ds, I

will daily remind myself that I am to promise I will check with his teachers

be an advocate for children, not some when he/she says my teacher

singular special interest group.

• As a building principal, I will remind myself that I am to be a facilita
consider my professional obligation

tor for learning, not just a building tochildren, parents and education as

manager who is more concerned ab- much as I recognize my commitment

out the daily lunch money count to improving the working condition of than the education of children. my members.

◆ As a parent, I will attend all ◆ All educators—agree to count the

teacher/parent conferences and vol- number of positive newspaper col-

unteer to be an educational partner umn inches given to the programs

even if it means I might miss a sym- and experiences that occur in their

phony, a Pistons game, a golf match school district over a given year. That

or a night on the bowling lanes. we note those positive column inches

• As a teacher, I will remind myself far exceed, in most if not all cases, the

that the most difficult child in my number of column inches given to

class still is some parent's most pre-critical "letters to the editor" or in ad-

clous possession. That I'll work to dressing a controversial issue of

As a central office curriculum Doc Doyle, vow not to assume I have

leader, I will remind myself that every all the answers but hope to continue

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reach the child tomorrow and tomor- timely concern.

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rorrage 5 days of diving at ISLE

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promise to say, "I'm getting out of this but just given a new title.

Doc Dovle

competition organizers. Preliminary results are phoned to

computer disk sent to the school by

Northville students have been try- the school's adviser, Stover at Meads Mill, soon thereafter. Meads Mill's flfrom copying impressionist art to de-nal rank was 15th and Cooke third signing automobiles, thanks to the out of 51 competing Michigan

Meads Mill ranked 444th out of Meads Mill students are already 1,350 schools competing internaexperienced computer users having tionally from as far away as Korea competed in a computer knowledge and Uruguay. The official results were recently mailed to the advisers Mead Mill students have also had

their computer cardesigns evaluated by engineers from Ford Motor Comcomputers in every school. At Meads pany in another competition avail-Mill, that means students can see an able to students attending schools Toledo Museum of Art right in the The futuristic technology found in

The exhibit was shown on a laser special competitions and events. disk system in the Meads Mill library. Card catalogs and library cards are The system is "like a video but a lot becoming a thing of the past at Meads These things are going to be defi- Art contest winners were (I-r) Meghan Connery, Amanda Dekoker, Jenny McPhail, Nicole Meixner, Lindsy Petrie and Summer

the Meads Mill library is not only for

promote the new equipment. Stover computerized card catalog that the also took the opportunity to encourbook being checked out is no longer age students to try their hand at im- available. Students can search the pressionism. He held a contest for the card catalog from their classrooms World Book and Grolier's

Academic American encyclopedias

What are some new year's resoltime a new program is added some writing from a balanced view.

lapse under a "curriculum overload."

some supposedly new "theory" that

As a parent of a high school stu-

• As an educational columnist, I,

CLASSES

would like to see those in education the "band wagon" for every new prog-tered on what is best for the children. 48150.

High hopes for 1991 school year

utions you would like to see those other programs should be compacted And let all in or impacted by our resident and a former Troy Schools in education and those impacted or reduced so that teachers don't col- educational system vow that who- administrator. Questions for this col-

Following are some resolutions 1 for instruction, I vow to not jump on and our decisions will always on cen- 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia

print all of the World Book references Stover said. to Kennedy and Dallas. The compu- "Now that teachers know about

might provide relevant information. event type projects," he said. And the new microfiche system at Younger students often will look Meads Mill is Stover's pride and joy. up a story in a magazine on microfi- around a single computer. This is what they have at high che even if a copy of the same maga-Meads Mill students have particiare available on computer which can schools and, of course, they've had it zine is available in print at the library, pated in the Knowledge Master Open, search the volumes of information in the colleges. Now they have it at Stover said.

ever we are, whatever we do and umn should be sent to Doc Doyle, c/o

CITY OF NOVI

1991 MEETING SCHEDULE

Council Meetings are held at 8:00 p.m., Prevailing Eastern Time in the Novi Civ

PLANNING COMMISSION - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:3

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., i

Council Chambers
 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION — 2nd Thursday of month a

30 a.m. in Council Chambers (If Needed)
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION — 2nd Thursday of month at 7:30

HISTORICAL COMMISSION - 2nd Thursday of month at 7:30 p.m., in the

nmunity Center

LIBRARY BOARD — 2nd Monday of month at 7:30 p.m. in the Public Library

HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS APPEAL BOARD — 2nd Tuesday of month at 7:30

enter Council Chambers, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road.

this level, Stover said. The district subscribes to Text on they like it," he said. imes per school year. Students work nedy and "Dallas" 19 times in 12 ar- access to 120 magazines from Ms. to district school buildings might in- an answer it might detract from the

● As an assistant superintendent whatever we believe that our focus Observer & Eccentric Newspapers,

January 14th and 28th February 4th and 25th

, in the Council Chambers

.m. in Civic Center (If Needed)

15245 W Ten Mile Road

March 4th and 18th

May 6th and 13th June 3rd and 17th

van Gogh around the building to books, and immediately notifies the nedy's assination, then they can vide easy access to current events. acreen and put it on a wall acreen or

ter also suggests other searches that this they're assigning real current- the Knowledge Master Open. Cur-

"It's new amd exciting. That's why years. The competition is held four cyclopedia mentions the words "Ken- Microfiche which provides students The next step in computerizing

Dr. James "Doc" Doyle is Northville

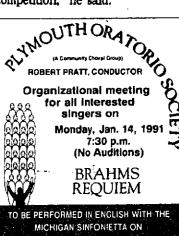
July 1st and 15th August 5th and 19th September 9th and 23rd

October 7th and 21st

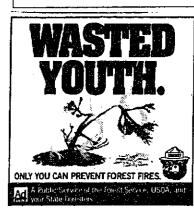
November 4th and 18th

monitor. This technology would enrently, they are limited to including

The technology would have other uses, and Stover is not sure that the Knowledge Master competition would actually benefit from it.



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Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

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Jan. 8th NOVI HIGH SCHOOL

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SNORKELING PACKAGE \$69.95

6:00 pm-10:00 pm NORTHVILLE

MON-FRI 10:00 a.m. - 6p.m SAT 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

JAN-25% OFF

FEB-20% OFF

MAR-15% OFF

APR-10% OFF

Chairs, headboards,

bookcases, mirrors.

Fire called 'big blow torch'

Contlaued from Page 1

underground, had been marked with dually re-lit all furnace and pilot stakes by Consumers Power, a stan- lights in the area along Grand River dard construction procedure, Beh. Avenue area between Beck and

*Once it's been staked, the contractor knows where the line is lo. order. cated." he added

about 4:30 p.m. They were sealing of public works, Bruce Jerome. the leak with a metal alceve over the pipe when the fuel erupted into the sewer line location, not the water flames at about 5:15 p.m. A neigh- line as originally reported. boring building was shaken by the concussion, witnesses said.

The massive column of fire was fi- State-Wide spokesperson said. nally extinguished at 6:45 p.m.

Because they were dressed in fire lines were shut, Novi's fire chief said. resistant suits, gloves, hoods, protec- The department received word at phone poles, two cables and some in- next morning by Consumers Power tive face gear and goggles, the injured 5:18 p.m. of an explosion with inju- dividual drop lines were scorched employees. The company sent a workers were burned primarily on ries. Because there are no hydrants and had to be replaced. A pick-up 15-member crew to Novi, bringing in

By 11 a.m. the following day, Confrom the Northville, Wixom and Lyon Michigan Bell also has no tally o Wixom roads. By 9 p.m. on Jan. 3, let it burn off, Lenaghan said. the telephones were back in working

*Consumers Power was there during the day when they were working. p.m. and Consumers Power workers The (gas) pipe started to deflect and it freed the auger from the gas line at came up, said Novi's superintendent Jerome said the puncture was at

"We're not at liberty to make any comments on that incident at all," a

It was two hours before the gas

"It was a high-pressure main. It took time to bleed off." The firefighters watched a nearby house and Jimmies Rustics furniture store to make sure sparks didn't reach the buildings. Lenaghan estimated the monetary damages of the

event will be significant. The loss at the scene is going to be fairly high because there was power thing that would effect customer serequipment involved," he said.

Along with the gas which either escaped into the air or was burned, two 3 a.m. Jan. 2, but as a safety precau-Consumers Power back hoes were tion, each pilot light in the 650 homes torched. Two Michigan Bell tele- and businesses had to be ignited the

sumer Power employees had indivi- Township fire departments. Walled its losses, said Southern Oakland Lake firefighters manned Novi's Fire Public Relations Director Mary Jo Fi-Station 2 to free up the local force, farek. By 5 p.m. on Jan. 3, 90 percent "It was easier just to shut if off and of the customers had their telephones back in working order and the remainder were on line by 9 p.m.

> Due to media coverage of the event, only 11 customers called the phone company to complain, she said: "We assume they knew what was going on in the area." A telephone company crew con-

> tinued to complete work on Grand River on Jan. 4. "We do have glitches but not any-

vice, Fliarck said. The gas line was turned back on at at the site, tankers were called in truck and a trailer were also charred. workers from Lansing and Saginaw.

the rear fender and trunk lid.

MDOP TO VEHICLE - A Novi man tiac Grand Prix. reported Jan. 1 that someone had The suspect was wanted by Dearpunctured his tire and scratched the born police on a misdemeanor warpended license.

Center lot for a short period of time. 29-year-old New Boston woman was He discovered the damage when he charged with larceny after she atreturned and started to drive away. tempted to steal 10 video tapes from There are currently no suspects or Meijer Dec. 24. Northville Township

CIGARETTE THIEF - An employee OUIL - Northville Township poice River in Novi reported Dec. 27 that a Dec. 27 and charged him with OUIL. man had entered the station and sto-Police stopped the man on westlen seven cartons of cigarettes. bound Six Mile west of Haggerty.

taken from a counter near the cash picked up the cartons, telling her he was "going to buy a lot of cigarettes."

Apparently someone drove brae resident told Novi Police that through most of the subdivisions in someone had stolen her Christmas south Novi, randomly spray painting decorations from her home. She told police that she had heard

a strange noise in front of her house. Most of the vehicles were painted When she went to investigate, she from front to rear with either orange. discovered a brown van with four passengers pulling away from her

OUIL - Northville Township police

Police said store detectives at-

tempted to detain the man for sho-

1984 Mercury Gran Marquis and pushed that vehicle into a 1988 Pon-

LARCENY FROM AUTO - A Novi decorative candles were missing man reported Dec. 29 that someone from her front porch. In the ditch had punched out the lock of his 1988 near the street, she discovered a Mazda pickup truck and stolen his Santa Claus head and an extension

in front of the man's apartment on down the street. Sagebrush in the Saddle Creek complex. The radar detector was attached to the driver's side sun visor. arrested a 25-year-old Canton man Police said there was no physical Dec. 28 and charged him with operevidence in the surrounding area, ating a vehicle under the influence of

MISSING RINGS - A Novi woman LIGHTS DAMAGED - A Bradner told police Dec. 28 that two diamond resident told Northville Township porings valued at over \$9,000 were lice someone damaged Christmas lights strung at the home sometime

scribed as a yellow gold wedding set 20401 Haggerty, after a vehicle the made up of a 1-carat diamond with man was driving collided with two six baguettes. The other ring was de- other vehicles while he was attemptscribed as a % -carat diamond with ing to flee store security workers.

28 that a maroon 1990 Buick parked the store and fled. While attempting along Novi Road was scratched on his escape, the man struck a parket

it the Mobil gas station on Grand arrested a 30-year-old Livonia man She told police the cigarettes were

above incidents are urged to call However, instead of paying for Northville City Police at 349-1234. them, he ran out of the station and Northville Township Police at left, heading east on Grand River. 349-9400, or the Novi Police Tip Line The man was described as slim. at 349-6887.

Fire from the cas main consumed nearby vehicles. The damages have not yet been totaled.

Night was chilly without gas

Virginia Schumann was cooking dinner for her husband, Mike, at about 5:30 p.m. Wednesday when the fire on her stove suddenly went out. The Schumann's, residents of Novi's Old Dutch Farm mobile home park off of Napier Road, were unaware that 15 minutes earlier there

leak, about a mile away, on Grand River Avenue. was cooking," said Mike Schumann.

had been an explosion from a gas

it really scared her." The Novi couple's home was one of Richard Faulkner, the Novi Civic 650 in the city that lost gas service Center was made available to resi-Wednesday night because of the explosion and resulting fire. Gas service was restored to residents and businesses by about 11 a.m.

Thursday at the Schumann home. Both Schumann and his wife renained at their home Wednesday night, despite the lack of heat. got a little cold," Schumann

aid. But I kept warm with an electric blanket and heavy afghan." Schumann, who is handicapped, aid the biggest inconvenience of the incident was that his wife stayed up nearly all night to take care of him. He said that she made sure he was warm and was able to sleep.

"She slept in a recliner," Schumann said. She told me to stay in bed and turn the electric blanket up." Ron Kourte, another resident of from lost working time and custom-Old Dutch Farm mobile home park. ers from downed phone lines. Valenimprovised to keep his family warm. tine's business is directly adjacent to

He said his family decided to stay at the fire scene. their home after the furnace went off at about 5:50 p.m. Wednesday night. The eight-year resident of the mo- line after it was pierced earlier in the have an estimate of how much money bile home park said he used a kerosene heater to warm his family.

"It wasn't too bad," Kourte said. "It

keep it at about 60 (degrees)." "It was an anxious time," Valen-

family slept in their living room. He added that he stayed up through the could be going up in flames."

The fire, which occurred between Beck and Wixom roads on Grand Police. Faulkner said three or four direct traffic away from the area.

from 3 p.m. Wednesday to about 2:30 a.m. Thursday, Faulkner said. Beinjured in the incident, he said there were no other reported injuries. Nearby businesses were also in-

Valentine said Wednesday night day shift Thursday.

night to keep an eye on the heater. The store owner said he has oper-No damage was done to the home ated his business for 8 years in Novi. from the cold, Kourte said. He said Valentine said there was no damage his water pipes were well raped didn't to his shop, despite flames being ab-

The gas just gave out when she hes by the time it was turned back that the fire was blazing about 50 feet

to 2 a.m. Thusday, but nobody

River Avenue, brought police from Novi, Wixom and the Michigan State Novi officers were involved, mainly to

The mile stretch of road was closed sides six Consumers Power workers

convenienced by the incident. Ken Valentine, owner of VIP Tire Store on Grand River, said his business lost between \$2,000 to \$3,000

"It was more of an inconvenience Dennis Weinand, manager of Jimthan anything." Kourte said, 'not be- mies Rustics across the street from ing able to take a shower or have hot the tire store, said there was no damwater. We had a big pile of dirty dis- age to his furniture store. He added

According to Deputy Police Chief dents for overnight shelter. He said the center was open from 7 p.m. until

Kourte said all four members of his tine said. "It's kind of scary to think

out 100 yards away.

from the corner of the store's lot. "As soon as we heard the boom," Weinand said, "we looked out the

window and some guys scampering There were no customers at the time of the explosion, he said. Weinand said he and other employees left the building and drove their cars

over a field behind the store to Twelve Weinand said the store lost less than an hour's business because of the incident. He said they opened Thursday morning and had no problems expect for downed phone lines. Ford Motor Company's Wixom fac-tory was also closed because of the

Jay Misenhelder, a Ford spokesperson, said the factory's 1,600 workers were sent home at 7 p.m. Wednesday. A portion of the factory operates a gas-powered oven that dries vehicles after being painted. He said the workers were sent home when gas was shut off.

The factory's afternoon shift lost four hours of labor-time, Misenhelder said. He added that production was back to normal for the start of the

Novi cable company hiking fees

July, Bjorklund said. minimize service interruptions. 29.500 of the areas's 48,000 night"-type format.

in Oakland County since 1983. things, some 200 NHL hockey games
The company also announced that this season. Detroit Red Wings pledged to meet the standards by a new channel has been added to its games are not among those currently Also, Metrovision will be increas- neup. The channel will combine ries a number of Notre Dame events. ing its use of fiber optics this year to SportsChannel America and the El SportsChannel signs on at 8 p.m. Metrovision serves more than feature an "Entertainment To- ing off the air in the early morning

Metrovision has served customers 52, and will carry, among other remaining hours,

SportsChannel will air on Channel El will air on 52 during most of the

Oakland County basic channel li- scheduled. SportsChannel also car-

Entertainment Channel, which will weekdays and 10 a.m. weekends, go-

New Year's Eve prank damaged at protruding teeth. least 23 vehicles in the south end of

vehicles that were parked in the

silver or green spray paint.

rings may have been lost or stolen around Nov. 3, when she was in the Township police arrested a 42-year-

Police News

Novi police reported Jan. 1 that a with a light skin tone, brown hair and

There are currently no suspects.

radar detector. The vehicle was reportedly parked Police found the candles laying

and no other property was taken. alcohol. The man was arrested while There are currently no suspects or traveling west on Eight Mile near the

She told police she believes the late Dec. 26 or early Dec. 27.

The first missing ring was de- old Westland man Dec. 24 at Meijer.

MDOP - Novi Police reported Dec. plifting. The man refused to return to

word "SATAN" on the left rear door of rant. He also was driving with a sus-Police said the owner parked his car in the movie area of the Novi Town SHOPLIFTING CHARGED — A

We'd Like To Thank-You

Consumers Power and its employees express sincere thanks to the residents of Novi and Wixom who were inconvenienced by the interruption of your natural gas service on January 2 and 3. We are grateful for your patience and cooperation in helping us restore service.

We want to extend special appreciation to our customers who expressed concern for the well-being of our employees who were treated for minor injuries and released from local hospitals. They are doing well. Thank you.



AT HOME

Robert Meisner/Condo Queries

What to do when a buyer backs out

What recourse does a seller have board member. The other board when a buyer at closing does not members don't seem to be too con-

tions, the answers to which depend Your comments? in part on the terms and conditions of the purchase agreement. Generally, in the event of a default by a buyer, ment company has disclosed to the under the purchase agreement. Gen-working for the price as initially reperally, the purchase agreement provides that the seller may maintain which resulted in the board providing the earnest money deposit as liqui-dated damages, which basically means that the parties have agreed that in the event of a default, the amount of earnest money is deemed is obviously an abuse of the manageto be the measure of damages sus- ment company's discretion and it

purchase the unit (which is not usudamages incurred by the seller be- without the association gaining the cause of the buyer's breach. Those benefits of it. damages may include expenses in-

Obviously, to the extent that the par- new management company. ties in drafting a purchase agreement

It depends on what the managepeople," he said. They wanted to students. know, What's zoning how do you There up there a half-hour giving them lesdidn't have a class that offered that."

curred by the seller regarding the pany has found a way to pocket addisale, potential loss of income from his tional money, perhaps while lowactivities, the difference in the mark- balling the management fee to the asetability of the property, depending sociation to get itself in the door. I upon market conditions, and per- think this is an extremely questionhans mortgage interest and the like, able practice and would suggest that depending upon whether the seller you have your association's attorney committed to buy another home and write an opinion letter regarding the propriety of same assuming, of It is questionable whether the cre- course, that the attorney does not dit rating of the buyer would be af- have a proprietary or financial arfected by this decision on his part un-rangement with the management less he ends up being sued and a company. In that case, you had bet-

contemplate these or other situa- Robert M. Meisner is a Birmingham tions arising, adequate provisions attorney specializing in condomishould be placed in the purchase niums, real estate and corporate law. agreement providing both the seller You are invited to submit topics about and the buyer with adequate and var- condominiums that you would like to ied remedies in the event of a docu- see discussed in this column by writmented default by the other party. ing Robert M. Meisner at 30200 Telegraph Road, Suite 467, Birmingham

1 would like your comments on 48010. This column provides general

Book is available for condominium officers

ner and Hodgdon has published
"Condominium Operation: Getting
Started and Staying on the Right
Track."

ognizing their legal and fiduciary duties and in taking steps to eliminate their potential liability. The book sells for \$5.50 plus \$1 for tax and sells for \$5.50 plus \$1 for tax Written by Robert Meisner, Home- handling from the firm at 30200 Tele- long as the test button is depressed. Town Newspapers' "Condo Queries" graph, Suite 467, Birmingham columnist, its aim is to assist officers 48010-3025.

want to go through with the sale? cerned. Our managing agent has The seller, after notification that been given the discretion to let the mortgage was approved, certain contracts, the price for started packing, took time off to which is being set by the board. move and lost income from his ac- What apparently is happening is tivities. What if the seller already the managing agent is going out had a commitment to buy another and obtaining a contract, which he place? Is the credit rating of the signs on his own behalf with a con-defaulting buyer affected? Must tractor, collects the amount which the defaulting purchaser compen- we have authorized for the consate the seller other than just de- tract, and then apparently renegotiates the contract with the contractor and keeps the difference. You have asked a number of ques- Somehow I think this is wrong.

the seller is entitled to foreseeable board. If the board believes that the damages that could be expected contractor involved is going to be you like to teach? I said, Why not? " very precise - a building must be set come aware of development and re-education at 471-7541 for details.

But in a carefully worded purchase agreement, the seller also retains the right to pursue specific perforcentive to get cheap contracts, it is mance, that is, to make the buyer not necessarily helped by the fact ally a viable remedy) or to seek actual able to negotiate a cheaper contract

It looks like the management comdown into charged atoms through which a small current can flow. udgment, is obtained against him: ter consider new legal counsel and a

the following set of circumstances information and should not be conthat has come to my attention as a strued as legal opinion.

torecast

brighter

fixtures now thru Jan. 12th.

The Birmingham law firm of Meis- and directors of associations in rec-

ELEMENTARY

Yet most people don't know about the

link between diet and cancer. If you

would like to know more, call us.

We can help you get the facts. Free

smoldering fire. It is also less prone to false alarms from innocuous kitchen Either type of smoke detector may

This test automatically checks the

ORCHARD LIGHTING

People don't have unrestricted rights to do whatever they want with their property. And there's no guartheir property. And there's no guarantee that a community will retain its flavor at one particular moment for set people striaght Those are the big lessons Ron Figian tries to impress upon students Figlan described the class as general rather than specific because proin his adult education class on zoning and land use at Oakland Com-

Zoning baffles homeowners

cedures are different in every com- "There's another aspect of planmunity. Initially set up for real estate ning, the psychological and sociologi-professionals, students have in- cal effect building has on planning in field planning commissioner, recencluded plan commissions, ar- a community.

chitects, landscapers, zoning inspectors and builders. Figlan's course outline addresses matters. "What I've heard often is. I bought kinds of land uses, zoning districts, variances, site plans, and municipal this house and property behind me gives insight into what's done and departments involved in the process. was nothing but trees and woods. why and how planning for the future

the city of Troy for 20 years, has of of the owner, the eyes of a real estaught a six-week course at OCC for tate agent and the eyes of the city," he

OCC. Wayne State. They said they Concrete and steel vs. trees.

"I like to hear other peoples views, spend \$250,000 for a house, look at session of his course in January at their side of the story," he said. "I what's going on or what could go on." OCC Orchard Ridge, Farmington OCC called back and said. Would guess you could look at planning as Some property owners don't be- Hills. Contact the office of continuing

zonings that may impact their lifes-tyles until it's too late to have effective input, Figlan said.

"You get in right at the beginning when it goes to the planning commis sion for public hearing," he said When you get in earlier, it's possible the planning commission may make a recommendation subject to Joe Blow's recommendation or

tly took Figlan's class to see how Figian said he's surprised by how other municipalities approach the naive many people are about zoning planning process.

"It's a fun class for anyone interested in the community," she said. "It "We look at a site through the eyes Now you're proposing a sub behind is done as far as zoning, roads and

"What can you do to a developer Dennis Randt, who accepted a job who meets all the requirements for last summer as a zoning inspector for Figian spends a lot of time answer- whatever zoning you're looking at? the city of Farmington Hills, took the day (at work) and talk to real estate ing real-life questions posed by his How can you deny him? Figian said. course to get a perspective on subur-Another situation that often sur- ban zoning issues. "There might be a problem with faces—not enough attention is given "He didn't stick to zoning issues,"

Away from air currents ivents or

change it? I found myself standing dogs or a teenage boy working on cars to potential growth or change before Randt said. "He went into other do? Figlan said. They ask questions "A majority of people look at that etc. Land management, in general, "I said, I wish I could talk to them getting into concepts and philoso-house and property and take a was the most enjoyable part. He gave all at once. I called Lawrence Tech. phies, social aspects of planning. that's it. Especially if you're going to Figian expects to start the next

Get smart; get a smoke detector

fire fatalities that might have been the battery. If it still does not sound, M At the heads of stairs leading to turn it on again. prevented if smoke detectors had have the detector repaired or living areas.

There are a lot of people who don't

realize zoning is a binding and legal

document," he said. "It controls the

use of land. A lot of older people feel,

'It's my land, I pay taxes. Why can't I

the community so uses will be com-

"There needs to some control by

Figian, a planning technician for

do what I want with it?"

Smoke detectors make a shrill When the smoke detector battery near the furnace. smoke. Since they are relatively inex- warning signal (usually intermittent your family. no reason any home should be with- immediately following the manufac-

turer's directions. Here's some basic information on 🛮 🗷 Cleanyour smoke detectors yearly to remove dust, grease and other soil. buying and using these life saving "Ionization" detectors contain a tirry amount of shielded radioactive

Smoke interrupts the flow of current which sets off the alarm. An ionization detector responds more quickly to the fumes of a fast-burning fire. "Photoelectric" detectors use a small light beam which impinges on a light-sensitive photocell. The alarm sounds whenever smoke interrupts the light beam. The light bulb producing the beam lasts about three years; then it must be replaced. A photoelectric type of detector gives a faster response to smoke from a

be powered by a battery (usually 9-volt) or house current. For effective Test your smoke detector about

once a month to make sure it's oper-

electronic circuit, horn and battery.

In your basement. radiators, for example), dead air corners and ends of halls. warning sound when exposed to begins to weaken, it will sound a **B** in the bedroom of any smoker in **B** On the ceiling at least 20 inches from all corners or walls. pensive and easy to install, there is beeps or chirps). Replace the battery

On the same house level as your

On walls, at least 12 inches from kitchen, but not too near your ap- the ceiling and the nearest corner. pliances since everyday cooking can Note: Don't paint the detector. easily set it off. Caution: Never turn off a smoke detector because you are Painting clogs the holes and reduces cooking something that will cause it its effectiveness. Save Money

> Every Month! With WALLSIDE'S Energy-Efficient VINYL REPLACEMENT WINDOWS



ADVANTAGES

Cancer Information Service 1-800-4-CANCER come available. Certainly, they're already compe-

thing's Possible," wherein Jordan makes his mus-

here's a promotional tie-in with Wheatles.

Finally, for those who indulge excessively dur-

ing the holidays and need to lose weight but don't

have the time, there's something new in exercise

tapes. Wood Knapp Video armounces the Jan. 4

release of "The Five-Minute Workout," an hour-

hour tape to explain a five-minute workout?

Happy New Year and best wishes for a peaceful

reographer Kevin Carlise.

1990 was banner year in video making them laugh Looking back, or looking forward, there's no-

thing but good news for the video cassette bustness. Although figures aren't yet available, 1990 was a banner year with every indication of record sales and rentals for video cassette producers and

favorites but exercise tapes and other selfprograms as well as old broadcast television favorites continue to attract home entertainment

in the last category, CBS Fox Video decorated the holiday season with a long thought lost rendition of the principle cast members of "I Love Lucy" singing "Jingle Bells." The clip first aired on Christmas Eve 1951 and again the following year. Entitled "I Love Lucy's Jingle Belle," it is available on a home cassette, "I Love Lucy and The Honeymooners: A TV Christmas Present." This 52-minute tape also includes holiday episodes from "I

Love Lucy" and "The Honeymooners."

A slightly different type of holiday tie-in is almost 6½ hours of "Godfather I and II," boxed in a special collector's edition with a 12-page commemorative booklet and additional footage from both

This may be the ticket (just under \$100) for "Godfather" devotees although it seems a bit much for a couple of gangster movies that are not considered as great as they say, at least not in this corner. Despite the lukewarm critical response to "Look

Who's Talking when it debuted theatrically in late '89, the film cracked the \$100 million box office barrier and sold more than one million units on video cassette. Tri-Star rushed production of "Look Who's Talking Too" to take advantage of that success. Their haste was apparent in the latter film's weakness. That translates into "look for it on cassette early in the year."

Dan Greenberg/Grading the Movies

Don't look for any new films until Jan. 11. and exorbitant production costs may be his-

Even Hollywood needs a breather after its tory. Already resistance to rising ticket

double pump action with a multitude of prices is climbing as more and more people

Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday wait for motion pictures to appear in video

Other new trends in home video programming slated for the new year include a lot more motion pictures available on laserdics and wider distribution of the newer format, 8mm video.

Both LIVE Home Video and Buena Vista Home

studios and Warner's leads the list. "Bonfire

of the Vanities," with a \$40 million price tag.

opened poorly, taking in just over \$3 million

its first week. That's not promising. Neither

None of the other recent releases are per-

the only new film with significant enthu-

slasm. It opened Christmas Day and the fi-

so did box office receipts and the Hollywood

ger and better" - always the Hollywood

motto - was their major business philoso-

phy in the '80s.

was the critical response.

mere \$14 million in three weeks.

. . . competition is building in the home video marketplace and at least one company is willing to take Recent theatrical motion pictures lead the list of its chance with market pressures improvement materials, cable TV pics and comedy and, of course, the wholesale price they set for their dealers.

> nouncements that they would release a number of titles in the 8mm format. Buena Vista is the Disney-Touchstone releasing company and they

> already available on video cassette and three Walt Disney films, "The Little Mermald" and a twovolume musical feature about Elvis Presley, "The Great Performances — Center Stage" and "The Man and the Music."

have an agreement with Sony to enter this new

"Three Men and a Baby," "Good Morning Vietnam," "Beaches," "Cocktail," "Big Business, "Stakeout," "Splash" and "Adventures in Babysitting" are the eight Touchstone titles available since Dec. 10 in the 8mm format.

LIVE Home Video's six-title 8mm offerings, first available Nov. 1, were led by "Total Recall." The company and its children label, "Family Home Entertainment," have plans to release "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turties: The Movie," an animated episode of the Mutant Ninja Turtles, "The Fabulous Baker Boys," "Air Americs," "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and "Babar: The Movie" on 8mm during the first quarter of 91.

LIVE, along with Buena Vista, is associated with Sony in this 8mm venture and they report more than 1,700 titles now available. That's not many compared to the 125,000 listed in the 1991

Vic Dunlop keeps

As competition grows and popularity of the Video Walkman TV/VCR grows, no doubt large numbers of 8mm video formatted films will be-

titively priced with Buena Vista and LIVE titles antime and others were shows that per- priately titled VDTV. nounced in the \$20-30 range. formers in the clubs aspired to Another change to watch for, open pricing, was announced by Orion Home Video. Beginning in April 1991, all of their releases priced above \$30 Laugh" - a show that was truly will no longer carry a manufacturer's suggested ahead of its time.

This suggests that competition is building in A game show where contestants could win fabulous cash and prizes if the home video marketplace and at least one company is willing to take its chance with market presthey could only keep from cracking a lop explained. For a few more bucks, smile and laughing aloud. That pre-mise brought out the best in a strong

These "cards" are three sures and, of course, the wholesale price they set cast of comedians, whose job it was to Another new trend, sports videos combining

keep the booty out of the contestants' music videos, a story line and original footage, will appear in early February with "Michael Jordan's Playground." It includes a music video, "Anyshow, which ran in first-run syndication for three seasons - 1979-1981 ical debut. This could open up a whole new field for - were standouts like Gallagher, athletes, particularly if they're talented. Naturally, Howie Mandel, Bruce Baum, Bill Kirchenbauer and Vic Dunlop.

Dunlop has kept busy in the years since "Make Me Laugh." He still would like to cut a distribution deal spends about 30 weeks of the year on with Hallmark or another major the national club circuit, which was greeting card company, while mainonly in its infancy at the time of the "We (the stable of comics on "Make

long exercise tape with Sandy Duncan and cho-Me Laugh') actually helped create grown up as a person (he has been that circuit," Dunlop said in a recent This one is sponsored by Nabisco Biscuit Cominterview from his home in Los pany (there's a \$3 rebate if you purchase the right crackers) and is advertised and effective, exercises

that can be done while shopping or waiting for a also made appearances in five feabus. Sounds intriguing but why does it take an ture films, including "Meatballs 2." re films, including "Meatballs 2." zaniness for his holiday appearance
"The film stunk, but I was great in In Detroit, which includes special it." Dunlop said with a chuckle. His current television credits in-clude a "Showtime Comedy All- bring in the new."

Before the comedy explosion in Stars" special with Detroit's own Tim this country, there were few televi- Allen, Arts & Entertainment's "An sion shows featuring stand-up com- Evening at the Improv," and regular edy on a regular basis — the ulti-mate, of course, being The Tonight game show Win, Lose or Draw." A significant portion of Dunlop's That was the age before David Let-terman, Arsenio Hall, HBO, Show-video production company, appro-

> "I'm contadous," Dunlon said. Headquartered in Burbank, Dunlop and a staff of about eight writers and technical people work on various projects, including a new line of video comedy greeting cards.

*For a good gag greeting card to-

day, you're likely to pay \$3-\$4," Dunquality and claimed some successes in recent years. But many workers feel left out of the quest. These "cards" are three- to five-A credibility gap exists between minute videotapes and feature Dun-- company talk and company action, according to a Gallup survey this lop in various vignettes. He's dressed as a nurse for the "Get Well" card and

year of more than 1,000 American Cupid in the "Love" card. employees, which was funded by the American Society for Quality Control At this time, there are about a dozen video cards, and Dunlop handles his own distribution, making deals While half of the workers surveyed with outlets in the town he plays in said that their company proclaims quality as extremely important, only slightly more than a third believed and selling them after performances. Eventually, if the idea takes off, he

taining control over the creation and oduction of future video cards. While Dunlop claims to have married for seven years and has inherited two children from the mar-

cellent as her teenage daughter. "Misery" (C+, PG-13, 100 minutes.)

Story of writer and obsessed fan waffles

back and forth from psychotic thriller to

The hunt continues, this time in the ur-

Disney animation has Bernard and Miss

Bianca off to Australia to save rare eagle

"Rocky V" (C+, PG-13, 100 minutes).

Stallone takes another licking but keeps

"The Rockle" (D. R. 115 minutes). Travel beyond belief in this super-macho

cop film with rookie (Charlie Sheen) working

"The Russia House" (B+, R, 120 minutes)

Stylish rendition of le Carre novel stars

"Three Men and a Little Lady" (B+, PG.

Delightful sequel to Three Men and a

"The White Palace" [A, R, 100 minutes].

Two unlikely souls - James Spader and

Sean Connery and Michelle Pfeiffer. Marred

with veteran (Clint Eastwood).

by some confusing plot endings.

"Predator 2" (C+, R, 98 minutes).

ban jungle of 1997 Los Angeles.

from poacher.

105 minutes).

on ticking.

"Rescuers Down Under" (*. G).

riage), he still can be a crazy man on pletely empowered to make those And he promises originality and And ASQC president, John J. Knappenberger, with more than 20 years in the quality field, doesn't dis-New Year's Eve shows.

pute the findings. "I'm not surprised the quality message hasn't reached everyone," said Knappenberger, also vice president for quality for the automotive division

> The overall survey results, Knap-penberger said, reveal two key prob-lems: the need by both manufacturing and service industries to embrace management styles that don't waste

7 ounded American indus

aimed at the elusive target called

their company followed through well.

Almost as many workers are dissatis-

fled (25 percent) with quality im-

provement efforts at their companies

Perhaps most telling two out of

three employees said they have been

asked to be involved in decisions, but

only 14 percent believe they are com-

as are satisfied (29 percent).

try, anxious to win back

competitors globally, has

- mainly because there are relatively few thrifts in

the state, but also because state thrifts are by and

According to Gary Mielock, deputy director of the Michigan Financial Institutions Bureau, there

have been only three applications from federally chartered thrifts — including Franklin Savings

There will be more (thrifts applying for conver-

sion), but not marry," Mielock said. "The main rea-

son is there aren't a lot of thrifts in Michigan.

chigan, neither of which have applied for conver-

Procedurally, the conversion from federally

chartered thrift to state chartered bank is different

than federally chartered thrift to federally char-

Federal thrifts must first convert to state thrifts

before converting to a state chartered bank, while

the conversion to federally chartered bank is ap-

sion, and 40 federally chartered thrifts.

There are only two state chartered thrifts in Mi-

Bank - to convert to state chartered banks.

Not only does the customer define General Motors as having quality and quality in today's world, but its defin- customer satisfaction as business beyond manufacturing and has been ASQC.

BUSINESS

That elusive

Experts say a new

small percentage of the whole,"

vent our frustrations at the hotel

transformed into all areas of business," Knappenberger, said. "We all surveyed this year think that the Un-believe that we deal with customers ited States is gaining on foreign com-tional skills, they must have the educa-tional skills to learn and think for well, but how many employees have petitors. Incontrast, 51 percent of exactual contact with people? in manu-Even in service industries, it's still a gaining on loreign competition. Knappenberger gave the example of trying to check in at a hotel, only to

find that the computer is down. We *Employees want to be involved. clerk, Knappenberger said, but "the We talk a good game but we really the United States, Knappenerger actual decision to shut down the don't empower employees," he said. said that "everyone, it appears, computer was made by an employee His message to managers: Give up wants to pass the buck. It will take elsewhere, distant from actual cus- some power. Let individuals use their concerned people to get involved towcreative juices. Be a coach or facilita- ard a common goal."

Traditionally, quality has been ingofreal customer needs, Knappen We need to get all people involved defined by specifications and by the berger said. Too many people inside and empowered. We can no longer Throughout school we are treated manufacturer. Actually, the manu- organizations don't understand the mandate people to improve quality; and graded as individuals but the facturer doesn't define quality; the linkage to external customers." we have to excite them. Those in lead-workplace is a team effort. Yet we are customer does," Knappenberger Knappenberger does claim some ership roles have to be willing to give rewarded traditionally as individusaid. He added that "quality was recent American success stories, cit-traditionally seen as a product, but ing companies like Xerox, Milliken results." als. We need to start grading as

state charter in addition to a federal charter, but ferences are so minor that the general public

established to ensure a check and balance, Mie- for conversian from thrift to bank in Michigan. Mi-

authority becomes too harsh, it will offer a choice those in other parts of the country, he said.

to the financial institution. "If we become to le- If a thrift does wish to convert, it will probably be

nient, it can be measured against the other and we for the options being a bank can offer, rather than

expose ourselves to some of the things that hap- the stigma of being a "savings and loan," he said.

latory analyst Darwin Sanborn said there is little vative," he said. Because of Michigan's and the

difference between a state chartered and a feder- Midwest's more cyclical economy, financial insti-

ally chartered bank, so conversion from a thrift is tution managers approached investment oppor-

While Knappenberger said that this should lead to better quality and more fulfilled employees, he con-ceded that "this is a whole different flavor for management than in the past. It is like the first lieutenant asking. "How can I take that hill?"

Such an approach, Knappenberger said should enhance a new perception of quality as "things gone right," rather than just what meets expectations or specifications. We all want something more. We can all get more together if we all

work together, going for win-win situations rather than win-lose situations. The win-win mentality adds definition is needed value to employees, companies and society," Knappenberger said. Something else that employees

and Co., and the Cadillac Division of mentioned by 21 percent of surveyed employees as the most important way companies can make it easier for ition keeps evolving: Companies fundamentals, All have won the Malmust anticipate and keep ahead of customer expectations to succeed.

This concept of quality extends

Awards, established by Congress in 1987 and administered in part by adding that training is different from education. He said that while indus-But only 37 percent of the workers try can train workers in specific job

"In the past, we had a throwaway facturing, it's a very small number. ASQC said the United States was society. The work force is getting smaller and smaller at the same time Knappenberger believes the new as the jobs are getting more and more concepts of quality demand new demanding. The year 2000 work leadership styles and skills from force is in the field; the year 2010

Addressing education problems in

Such employees as the computer tor rather than an inspector or Knappenberger sees the problem

Sanborn said it's not clear if there will be a

wholesale conversion of thrifts to banks in the

next decade, mainly because there is less of a need

chigan's financial institutions are healthier than

Recently published reports in financial and

general readership publications show Michigan

and Ohio as having some of the most stable finan-

The percentage of loans that are repossessed

in Michigan is the second lowest in the nation." he

siad. *Our lenders have proven to be more conser-

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largely a matter or personal preference.

Michigan S & Ls stay healthy

Savings and loan conversion activity in Michigan parently a direct conversion, he said, "Do you want to be called a nationally chartered gan probably will be limited to a few isolated cases Mielock said Franklin Savings does not need a or federally chartered bank?" he asked. "The dif-

ederal charter - which has been conditionally

The state charter/federal charter system was

lock said, the argument being that if one charter

"Michigari has taken no position on savings and

loans converting to banks," he said. "Or for that

verting to thrifts — whatever the request, we'll pro-

Michigan Financial Institutions Bureau regu-

pened (in the savings and loan industry).

granted — is denied.

cess it as the rules allow."

may follow through with its application in case the wouldn't see them."

a bank should benefit everyone in- Because banks will be able to make of those competitors in an aggressive volved, from the smallest depositor to more diversified investments, and financial institution like Franklin the largest stockholder.

tered bank, Mielock said.

Franklin has branches in Southfield. Birmingham and Grosse

cations Rebecca Christian.

vantages such a move offers."

Franklin Savings Bank's decision Stockholders will benefit from an to convert from a savings and loan to appreciation of stock value, she said. offering loans — especially when one because of the public perception that Savings that has its eyes set on banks are more stable, a bank stock steady growth in the coming years. will be more attractive than a thrift

It therefore stands to reason that "I can't think of any reason not to Franklin Savings Bank stock will infconvert from a savings and loan to a crease in value if it converts to a bankl." said Franklin Savings Bank bank. Even if that does not occur, the regulations affecting savings and loans will not cause a bank's stock to

Since the passage of the Financial depreciate.

Institutions Reform, Recovery and Depositors stand to benefit be-Enforcement Act of 1978, the bene-cause — if they believe the perception fits of being a savings and loan no that banks are more secure than longer exist, Christian said. Finan- thrifts - they can be confident their cial institutions might as well be-come banks to benefit from the ad-Borrowers, Christian continued, will benefit because they will have a

will give you something to be thankful for

Priscilla and John started the Thanksgiving tradition for a nation.

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yourself, your family and your nation. Regular savings with bonds

matter, we haven't taken a position on banks con- cial institutions in the country.

with larger banks, but are small enough to offer small bank services," she said. Institutions with reserved growth strategies would be hard pressed to build assets of more than \$400 million in the seven years Franklin has been in existence,

And finally, employees benefit by having the burden of extensive reporting and regulations removed. "As we saw it, if we were going to have (basically) the same requirements as banks, we ought to operate as a

The move will also mean a tremendous boost in employee morale, Christian said. That's a big part of it,

For more than a year now, Franklin Savings has been waiting for the Office of the Comptroller of Currency and the Office of Thrift Supervision to approve the conversion. "Not knowing the fate of that decision," she said, "has affected employee morale." Christian said the question wasn't

whether Franklin Savings would survive or not — even as a thrift, the savings and loan could have been profitable — but once the company set the course to follow, simply not knowing whether the application for conversion would be approved was constantly on people's minds.

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Pretty good stuff, not perfect Good, but notable deficiencies Just a cut above average Mediocre

more money may force Hollywood studios to Poor

the potential to push 1990 into record-

it as a probationary angel.
"Bonfire of the Vanities" (C+, R, 120

vears and the threat of war, Hollywood may have to face the new year with a more austere approach. Mega-million dollar deals

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Another major motion picture from War-raise their prices to video cassette distribuner Bros., "The Rookie," co-written by area tors. That, in turn, will elevate tape rental resident Scott Spiegel, also fared poorly with charges although not enough to challenge \$6 at the box office. Whatever the '90s bring, clearly the '80s

The economics of renting a \$3 tape for the

whole family are clearly more attractive than

\$6 tickets. Week in and week out, the video

cassette rental charts are dominated by re-

cent theatrical motion pictures. Need for

the critics and the box office, garnering a were a golden decade for Hollywood. And forming all that well either. "Godfather III" is 1989 set the all-time box office record with \$5 billion plus and 1990 should come even closer or even equal that figure. Although nancial word isn't in yet.

It's indicative of the problems motion pic
the initial response to recent new movies has been light, a terrific Christmas week has ture producers face in the new year when

\$14 million at the box office is described as breaking territory. 'mere" or "paltry." Each year during the '80s Whatever the bottom line for '91, have a unprecedented box office boom, production safe and happy holiday with all our best wishes for health and peace in the new year. costs and ticket prices rose constantly. But express careened on down the tracks. Big-

STILL PLAYING: "Almost an Angel" (C-, PG, 95 minutes). A slow, cliched Paul Hogan doesn't make

Now, with economic problems rising, the first dellation reported in more than 40 Unbelievable caricatures and jumbled sub-plots detract from discussion of politics

Grading the movie

Holiday films disappoint at the box office

A+ Top marks — sure to please Close behind - excellent Still in running for top honors

Not so hot and slipping fast

It doesn't get much worse Truly awful Reserved for the colossally bad

No advance screening "Child's Play 2" (*, R).

Unusual young man with scissors instead of hands shakes up the suburbs after moving in with the Avon lady and herfamily. "Ghost" (A., PG-13, 116 minutes).

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factor in global warming.

The very best of the poor stuff

"Chucky" returns.

Kevin Costner's magnificent ode to brotherhood and brutality on America's western frontier during and after the Civil

minutes).

Banker's ghost (Patrick Swayze) hangs an unusual matriarch. Winona Ryder is exaround after life to protect loved one (Demi cellent as her teenage daughter. Moore). Spiritualist (Whoopi Goldberg helps him in this romantic comedy/

"Godfather ili" (C+, R, 161 minutes). Disappointing repeat of formula established in Parts I and II albeit slick production worth watching.
"Graffiti Bridge" (*. PG-13). Written and directed by Prince, who also

stars in another production for his fans and his pocketbook. "Hayana" (B, R, 135 minutes), Robert Redford is high-stakes poker player in Havana just before Cuba became

Castro's. "Home Alone" (B-, PG, 100 minutes). Engaging comedy about a young boy (Macaulay Culkin) left at home by accident.

"Jacob's Ladder" (A. R. 115 minutes). Sensational, riveting film experience redeems and rewards with its story of Jacob

Singer's (Tim Robbins) re-entry to civilian life after Vietnam trauma.

"Kindergarten Cop" (B-, PG-13, 105 Schwarzenegger is macho and the kids

are cute but the plot isn't. "The King of New York" (R, 103 minutes). Violent return of recently paroled drug

"Lock Who's Talking Too" (F, PG-13, 75 Stupid sequel has nothing to offer.

Susan Sarandon - rise above their social, cultural, religious age differences to find love in an engaging, well-done film. ,"Mermalds" (A-, PG-13, 110 minutes). Fine romantic comedy features Cher as

information on Global ReLeaf. need vou.

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Killiameny Park, Harland Hills, possess a Bachlor's degree or Avon, Maple, and Mill to deliver have 1-3 years experience in the Monday Green Sheet to newspaper reporting. This

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Experienced mortgage loan individual for commission sales of low miles. Excellent condition.

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NEEDED, mature woman to care

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ONE full time driver, one full time ence preferred in sales and/or 1 owner, excellent condition loader positions available. C.D.L. interior design. Salary plus 35,000 miles, fully powered, to

SALESPERSON wanted for 1989 DODGE Dakota power

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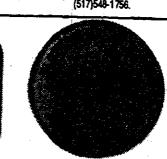
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DIRECT Care, new home in shifts available, Call YMCA OR VAN, 1980 to 1986, low evenings. Hourly wage, plus car allowance. White Lake, good caring people following and Saturday night Apply in person, at Hartend Pizza, in good pay. (313)889-2338.

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COA/COT needed for our Brighton facility. Selary commensurate with experience preferred. Statistic positions. But the position selar position selar position selar positions beginning to specific places of the position selary and benefits accident selary and perferred positions. Statistic position for fair condition or fair condition. Out state buyers waiting. Instant cash. Please call Dale, (517)676-0189, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (517)676-0189, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. (517)676-0189, 8 a

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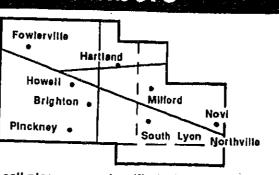


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Today, the National Guard and Reserve makes up over 44% of our armed forces. So when people who work for you need time off to serve, please be supportive. While there may be many good reasons to be out of the office, there can be none better than protecting our country's future.

MONDAY

Phone Numbers



One local call places your classified ad in over 63,000 homes every Monday throughout Livingston County and the South Lyon, Milford, Northville and Novi areas.

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(517) 548-2570 (313) 437-4133 (313) 685-8705 (313)348-3022

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082

089

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and Equipment

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Miscellaneous

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Personal

Car Pools

Found

Just \$6.49 for 10 words. That's our phone numbers). Contract rates are

paid: Garage Sale, Lost, Wanted to the first time it appears in the Monday Rent, Situations Wanted and Buyers Green Sheet and report any errors

POLICY STATEMENT: All the same advertisement is origin

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For classified display ads, call one papers will not issue credit for errors in

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Telephone (517) 548-2003. pledged to the letter and or discrimination.

Happy Ads

In Memoriam

Political Notices

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Please read your advertisement

3:30 p.m. the Friday before the de-

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Card of Thanks

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009

Antiques

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Real Estate Wanted

Open House

For Sale

Duplexes

Index Office Space

Animals **Animal Services** Horses & Equipment Household Pets Pet Supplies

Automotive Classic Cars Automobiles Autos Under \$1,000 Autos Parts & Service .Autos Wanted Boats & Equipment Campers, Trailers and Equipment Four-Wheel Drive Vehicles

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1% acre wooded lot in Hartland Woods Sub. 3 bedroom ranch with greatroom, utility building, full basement, and many extra's.
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Chef Larry Janes

Quick recipes let you enjoy your own party

Every now and then, we foodies need to be kneaded down a little. Must be all that yeast, flour, good food and wine that so often "goes to

At one of my favorite restaurants last weekend. I ran into a faithful reader who commented on the fact that all I ever write about are "elaborate" foods and ideas that few working people have the time or energy to create.

Well, you asked for it. Just when you needed it the most, here are some basic holiday tips the Janes Gang uses to make life in the kitchen just a little more comfortable and less hectic.

First, never underestimate the qualities of a good meatloaf. Most folks look at this recession staple as a Tuesday night dinner. At my house, we use a basic meat loaf recipe and use it to stuff mushroom caps, wrap in puff pastry or phyllo dough (precooked) or make meatballs, which are mixed with equal parts of grape jelly and chili sauce for a tasty hot

If there's ever any left, we crush it up and mix it with taco seasoning for a topping on nachos. Never has one food item served to be so versatile. It's freezable, microwavable, but most of all, inexpensively easy.

Everyone has their 15 minutes of fame and adulation, or so Andy Warhol says. But as for me, I'm just waiting for some fancy food magazine to ask me to name three ingredients in my cupboards.

Because so much of our entertaining is the non-planned kind, open up my cupboard and you'll find at least two cans of "exotic" vegetables along with an expanse of different oils.

The vegetables are kept for foodie emergencies like the time when, out of desperation, I opened a can of artichoke hearts, drained them and mixed with equal parts of mayonnaise and Parmesan cheese

The mixture was then plopped into a small pie plate and baked at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. A hot, aromatic and thoroughly pleasing hot dip that was at home with french toast points or Ritz crackers.

Ditto for that can of can be blended or finely chopped and mixed with some finely chopped onion, a little oil, salt and pepper for a humus-type cold spread that when dipped with pitas from the freezer and heated in the oven can be a godsend for the busy homemaker.

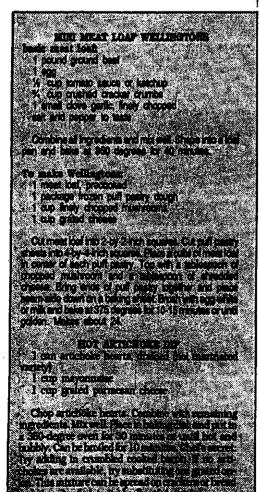
Speaking of freezers, mine has never made it through the holidays without a constant supply of unsliced French-type bread. This is the stuff that can be taken from the freezer still frozen, sliced lengthwise and brushed with either olive oil, vegetable oil or nut oil and aprinkled with dried basil (fresh chopped is even better but not mandatory).

Add some Parmesan and, if available, paper-thin slices of tomato for a homemade hot bruschetta that can be sliced into wafers. plated and passed as a hot appetizer that will warm anyone's heart.

Sitting next to the Campbell's Cream of Mushroom soup that, when heated and mixed with two cups shredded cheese, turns into a hearty cheese fondue is the ever-present can of refried beans. Old El Paso makes a regular refried bean with lard, and a vegetarian

Either one can be spread onto a large heatproof platter and then ringed with shredded cheese, chopped onion, chopped and drained canned tomatoes and a sprinkling of cumin and garlic powder for a nacho-type dip calling

So if you think that entertaining has to be planned out with ample dollar and time outlays, think again. Entertaining should be a time of fun and only you can make it that way.





Why not try dipping marshmallows, like this heart-shaped one, in fondue?

Photo by SCOTT PIPER

Fond of fondue?

Try dipping into a different dessert

Want good food, good fun and good company for entertaining? Why not try a dessert

fondue party?

It is fun, informal and can be done on the spur of the moment for those last-minute parties or when surprise guests drop by. A fondue party is a great way to entertain. It's a perfect opportunity to get together and renew old friendships as well as make new

Fondue is simple to prepare and can be done in advance, allowing you to get out of the kitchen and enjoy both your guests and their conversation. Your friends can also join in the preparation by dividing these

tasks among the group. The classic Swiss fondue, made from melted cheese, was the rage in the 1960s and early 1970s in many American

Fondue pots were also filled with melted chocolate in which pound cake and strawberries were dipped for dessert. As the novelty wore off, fondue sets took a back seat on kitchen shelves, only to come out once in a while for nostalgia's sake.

We are beginning to see the fondue set once again because of its convenience. More new and different recipes, ranging from appetizers to desserts, are being created.

Imagine new twists on the classic in the warmed sauces. fondues. For instance, instead of plunging a juicy ripe strawberry into a pot of melted chocolate, a moist cube of chocolate cake can be dipped into a warmed fruited sauce. The classic chocolate fondue will remain the granddaddy of dessert fondue with more and more accompaniments for dipping for example, peppermint sticks, festive for the holiday season.

Fresh fruits, such as apples, strawberries and bananas, are usually served along with pound cake for a dessert fondue. But to make it special, try such serving suggesdifferent texture and treat to your fondue. tions as whole dried fruit, or one of the "new" fruits: carabola stars, kiwi and mango. You are a few general hints you might want to can also use meringue, macaroons, browkeep in mind when preparing your dessert nies, mini cupcakes and sponge cake to dip fondue. Be sure that the temperature, or wine or cordials when the festivities begin.

SUTTERSCOTCE FORDUS % cup brown sugar egg yoks tesspoon venille extract tesspoon cornelerch 6 tablespoons butter, cut into pieces

In a fondue pot, whick together the brown sugar, cream and the egg yolks. Continue whicking this mixture on the atove top over medium high heat until the mixture is not. Continue whicking for five minutes. Remove from heat, Add vanille.

In a separate bost, mix the constants with two ta-

biespoons of milk. Add the correspont mixture to the brown sugar mixture. Return to heat and whick until iniciared. Remove the mixture from the stove and str in botter. Place butterscotch over low heat st the table.

WARM DETERM FORDUR

() pinthemes (areachery, resphery, bluebony, etc.)
Freed and picked over

X cup intelligenced liquor

2 tablespoors super

Purse the ingredients in the food processor or blen-der and gently warm over low heat at the table. Note: Frozen berries may be substituted for fresh

sprinkled with sugar to serve as an alterna-

tive. I also suggest cutting up that fruit cake

you received as a gift and those holiday

cookies, sugar or gingerbread men will do, to

make it a little more festive for the holiday

While fondues are simple to make, here

other accompaniments.

WHITE CHOCOLATE HAZELNUT FORDUE W cup hazelnium, coarsely chopped 12 ounces white chocolate t cup heavy cream V. cup hezelnut liquor, such as Frangelico

amaretto fordue

In the landue pot mix the helf and helf, augus, come

birch and egg yolks. Warm the modure gendy on the stove writing constantly until it costs the wire wrisk. Remove from the stove. Add the Amereto. Sitr and place fondue over low hast at the table.

Note: Almond extract may be added if you do not

1/2 trup half and half

with to use Amereto.

Toest hezelnuts on a sheet pan in a \$50 degree over for 8-10 minutes or until golden brown (wastch the nuts carefully, they may burn easily).

Break up chocolate and place in the londue pot. Add the heavy cream and heat slowly, stirring constantly, until the chocolate metre. Str in the loadsed hazelnuts

and liquor. Remove from stove and place on burner at

flame, is set low so that the sauce is warm Try strips of puffed pastry lightly enough without burning the fondue.

Also, when making the fondue that calls for egg yolk, be sure that you continue to whisk the mixture while on the stove so that the yolks do not scramble while heating. (The egg white may be used to make meringue for dipping.)

season. Place them next to the fondue pot Try limiting your party to a small number and watch them disappear, along with the so it remains intimate and more informal. Fondue is conductive to small numbers (4-6 Try some condiments such as chopped people per pot allowing enough room for the nuts and toasted coconut for rolling your dipped fruit or confections in. This adds a forks in each pot).

What my friends and I do is use more than one fondue pot so that we are able to have more than one type of fondue at our gatherings. Offer your guests coffee, a nice dessert **Chef Mary Brady**

The spice is right if it's from the East

In an earlier column I wrote about the virtues of herbs. Herbs are the aromatic leaves and sometimes flowers of plants, usually of temperate origin. Herbs are not plentiful in the colder months, making spices more popular due to their availability.

A spice is defined as a natural product which are the dried seeds, buds, fruit or flower parts, bark or roots of plants, usually of tropical origin. To put it more simply, herbs are fresh and spices are dried. The countries from which they originate differ in temperature. herbs from neutral climates and spices from hot, humid areas of the globe.

Today we take spices for granted. They are a reach away from the dish we are preparing or readily available at the local grocery store. Yet, throughout recorded history spices have played a role in man's fate. The phrase "Spice of Life" conjures images of romance and adventure — not cooking.

The first experiences man had with spices likely occurred 50,000 years ago when wrapping meat in leaves to protect it from the fire and ashes. Much to their delight people discovered different leaves imparted varied flavors. Early food was often spotled and unpalatable by the time it was caten, so this discovery was pleasing at the least. Spices made it possible to eat food that would otherwise be untasteful.

The doctors of ancient Rome and Greece discovered the medicinal value of spices. Wine mulled with spices and honey was thought to be effective in treating many illnesses. Spices also became important in religion and remain so today as evidenced by the use of incense.

Generally speaking, the most important spices come from the East, specifically from India, Ceylon and the Spice Islands. Spice trade can be traced back to the ancient Greece. Spices were brought from their sources to main ports in India and shipped by camel to

The bible has numerous references to this spice trade. The Queen of Sheba bore camels of spices as gifts when she visited King Solomon and Joseph was sold to spice traders when he betrayed his brothers.

As the Greek and Roman colonizers spread throughout Europe so did their knowledge of spices. Very quickly their value was recognized and spices were used in trade and war. For several centuries after the decline of the Roman Empire spice trade ceased.

The Arabs resumed the trading of spices and for several hundred years enjoyed a complete monopoly. Gradually, Europeans rediscovered the sources of spices. Famous travelers such as Marco Polo and Columbus disclosed practical routes to the spice centers and soon every major European port became a hub for spice trade.

For years the dockworkers of London had their pockets sewn shut to prevent the pilfering of the exotic cargos they unloaded. The first pure food law in history was an English ordinance passed in 1447 prohibiting the adulteration of spices. Yale University is the result of an endowment from Elihu Yale's fortune made from spice trade.

America's involvement with spice bartering began in the early 19th century as the clipper ships traveled to far away ports. So many journeys were made that the supply of pepper corns was greater than the demand for the first time in history. Prices fell, drastically affecting many businesses.

In 1835 American settlers in Texas developed chili powder by combining different dried peppers from Mexico. Immigrants from many lands brought their distinctively flavored dishes to America. Soldiers returning from World War II brought home a taste for Oriental. Mediterranean and Italian foods.

Today's modern methods for growing, drying, packaging and shipping have made a wide variety of spices available at reasonable prices.

When cooking, spices, like all seasonings should enhance, not overpower, the exceptions being chilies and curries. Start with a pinch and add more as needed. It is impossible to fix overspiced foods.

Spices make it possible for you to serve a variety of interesting foods. They need not be exotic or expensive. Well seasoned food is food that has been made to taste good without any predominating flavor. Let your imagination be your guide.

