

Opinions change needed in ASSESSMENT SETTING LAW / 5A

Dining yogurt as a SUBSTITUTE IN COOKING / 1B

Update center undergoes RENOVATIONS UNDER NEW OWNER / 4A



The owner a home on Pierre Street in the Chateau Estate Mobile Home park views the aftermath of the fire Friday afternoon. More photos are on page 6.

Family homeless after blaze

By SCOTT DANIEL

An accidental fire apparently started by a child playing with matches destroyed the home of a family in the Chateau Estates mobile home park in Novi Friday afternoon.

According to Novi Fire Department Assistant Chief William McEwan, none of the five family members was hurt in the blaze. Damage to the mobile home, located off Thirteen Mile near Meadowbrook Road, was estimated at \$18,000, he

"It's probably going to be totaled," McEwan said. "The fire started in the bedroom and extended throughout the entire structure."

The family was alerted to the fire by a smoke detector. McEwan said the detector allowed them to get out of the mobile home before any injuries occurred. He declined to give the name of

the family. "We believe it (the cause) to be a child playing with matches," McEwan said. But he said the fire

is still under investigation. The assistant chief said the child was "4 or 5"

The family had insurance on the mobile home, McEwan said. He added that the family didn't say where they would stay until the home is repaired or replaced.

The fire began at 1:07 p.m at 29715 Pierre St. Friday and was extinguished in just under two

hours. McEwan said firefighters arrived on the scene in about five minutes. He said flames and smoke were visible when firefighters arrived.

McEwan said it took 2,000 gallons of water to put out the fire. Six trucks and 16 firefighters from Novi were called to extinguish the blaze.

Firefighters had flames from the mobile home under control in about 20 minutes. McEwan said it wasn't unusual for such a fire to burn for

two hours before being totally extinguished. The assistant fire chief warned parents to keep items that can be used to start a fire out of

the reach of children. "There is a lesson to be learned here," McEwan

Planning starts on I-96/Beck ramp rerouting

By SCOTT DANIEL Staff Writer

Discussions between Novi, Wixom and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOI) are under way to restructure the interchange at I-96 and Beck Road.

According to City Manager Edward Kriewall, the interchange needs to be restructured to improve traffic flow and safety. He added that the changes would also allow drivers to get on to eastbound I-96 from Beck Road.

The whole interchange needs to be totally rebuilt," Kriewall said.

Plans for the restructuring are being drawn by JCK & Associates, Novi's engineering consultants. Garey Foyt, vice president of the company, said plans were presented to MDOT last month to construct a "multi-level" interchange.

"I think it's a great idea," he said. There are good reasons to do it that

By adding a ramp off of northbound Beck and constructing an elevated roadway from southbound Beck to eastbound I-96, access would be gained, Foyt said. He said that the entrance to westbound I-96 from Beck would have a similar

Entry to Beck Road from the highway would be gained by two separate routes. Westbound drivers would exit the highway onto Twelve Mile Road and head west to Beck. Eastbound drivers would gain access by the construction of ramps to the north and southbound portions

Currently, Beck loops into Twelve Mile Road just past I-96.

Continued on 6



A clear view

Seventh and eighth graders of Novi Middle School were asked to try their hands at inventing, part of the national invent American program. And a few truly remarkable devices came out of the exercise. Above, seventh grader Matt Wizinski demonstrates his Squirt-O Brush, a squeegee which applies both soap and rinse water to the window. The story and more photos of the inventions students came up with are on page 3.

City flood plan raises township ire

Novi City Manager Edward Kriewall has asked the city council to delay action tonight on a property condemnation lawsuit needed to build a floodwater control system in Novi Township.

The delay is expected to give city engineers more time to evaluate the timy community's alternative proposals.

Novi Township Supervisor Ray Schovers plans to provide a quiverful of suggestions - including seven ways to solve city flooding problems on city property. (See related story on page

If the council does hold off, the issue will probably be addressed in a March 25 meeting, Kriew-

As part of its award-winning 1983 Stormwater Management Plan, the city plans to build a retention basin for stormwater using easements on 13 parcels of property in the township along Chedworth Street, which backs up to Miller Creek and Dunbarton Pines subdivisions.

The homeowners in the township don't want to sell the land due to environmental and property value concerns. Forty-nine houses averaging \$150,000 to \$250,000 make up the entire

"What you have is a toilet you want to put in a our backyard. You change the direction, but it's still a toilet. . . Let it soak in our ground. Let us drink it. Let it kill our trees. They don't think there's anything wrong with that."

Ray Schovers Novi Township Supervisor

United as the Miller Creek Citizen Preservation Committee, they have put Michigan State University natural resources professor and at-

torney Leighton Leighty on their payroll. Leighty is becoming a familiar figure in Novi: as a volunteer, he represented Neighbors Against Poor Planning in their successful fight to stop the city's Grand Plan Industrial Park.

Schovers said the township contacted Leighty because of his expertise in environmental issues: "We don't just want a sharp attorney that can whip people in court. We don't want it to go

If the matter does go to court, this will not be the first time the two Novis have come to legal blows. Thirteen years ago, the township successfully parried a city annexation attempt, winning its case in the state Supreme Court.

New development upstream of Miller Creek, which winds through the back of the Novi Township's sole subdivision, Brookland Farms, has led to yard flooding downstream at about 10 properties along Nine Mile Road, according to city officials.

Fields which once absorbed rainwaters have been cemented over by the Novi Civic Center complex, portions of Yorkshire Place and Simmons Orchard subdivisions and the three Dunbarton Pines subdivisions.

That is apparently the only engineering solution for some of the problems occuring in that area," said Kriewall. "Our engineers have investigated it now fairly thoroughly."

The township homeowners would retain their land, but the city would have the right to construct and maintain the basin. There is no price tag on the project yet, but the basin would follow the natural, irregular contours of the land, said Bruce Jerome, Novi's superintendent of public

Continued on 2

Novi News price rises inside

The cost of an annual subscription to the Novi News will rise from \$18 to \$22 effective April 1. The \$4 annual increase is the

first since 1987. Philip Jerome, executive editor of the News and HomeTown Newspapers, said the price increase is tied directly to operating costs, inchiding an 11 percent hike in the cost of newsprint and a 19 percent increase in postal rates.

The newsstand price will remain

at 50 cents. Jerome emphasized that the current rate of \$18 per year will remain in effect until April 1. Anyone wishing to take out a new subscription to the News or renew a subscription can take advantage of the opportunity to beat the increase by placing their orders prior to April 1. More information about new subscriptions and subscription renewals is available by calling the

circulation office at 349-3627.

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Feature stories, columns, and complete program 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 MetroVision cable system.

Springs' project to begin

By SCOTT DANIEL

Construction of additions to one of Novi's largest apartment compiexes. The Springs, will likely be getting under way by this summer.

A total of nine buildings, housing 204 new apartments, will be added to the complex located on the south side of Pontiac Trail between West and Beck roads. The Springs currently has 1,500 units.

"We want to start building by this summer," said Michael Fellows, of Southfield-based Edward Rose Realty, owners and developers of the property. We don't want to let the good building season go by."

The planning commission voted Dec. 5 to grant a six-month extension of preliminary site plan approval to developers. Original approval had been granted by the planners in February of last year.

The extension was needed so that new federal guidelines from the department of housing and urban development could be taken into consideration before final site plans were drawn, Fellows said. The new guidelines, he said, address site amenities and building requirements for new developments.

Fellows said final site plans would be brought before the city's administration for approval within the next two weeks. He added that the company doesn't expect difficulty in getting the approval.

Developers will also have to receive Zoning Board of Appeals variances on the proposed buildings' height of three storeys. City Planning Consultant Brandon Rogers has recommended that the variances be granted by the ZBA.

The nine new appartment buildings will cover 26 acres in the city. The parcel is currently zoned for multiple family residential use.

Besides the addition of the apartments, developers may construct a cable televsion equipment building.

The planning commission gave unanimous approval for the building, a 35-foot antenna tower and three satellite dishes at its March 6 meeting. The development would be constructed in the existing portion of the complex.

Final site plans for the cable building will be brought back to the city "soon," Fellows said. He said the company would like to start construction in about a month.

Fellows declined to describe the buildings exact usage. He said it wouldn't be affiliated with any local cable company, however.

Community Calendar

Today, March 18

City Council: Novi City Council meets in the Novi Civic Center at 8

Historical society: The Wixom Historical Society will host Dr. Erich Von Fange, who will make a slide presentation on the topic of "The People of the Americas — 12,000 B.C. to the Present." All meetings of the historical society are held on the third Monday of each month. The meetings are free of charge and are held in Wboom City Hall, at 49045 Pontiac

Band Boosters: The Novi High School Band Boosters meet in the media center of the Novi High School at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 20

Planning Commission: The Novi planning commission meets in the Novi Čivic Center at 7:30 p.m.

with Novi Community Education, will present a career development seminar entitled Take Charge of Your Life." The seminar will run from 6 to 10 p.m. at Novi High School. Designed for men and women of all ages, the class will show people how to get a job and have job security. The seminar uses self-survey and motivational techniques to help people uncover their hidden abilities and survive and thrive in the job market Dennis De Leo, career transition consultant and a top executive recruiter, will lead the program. The cost is \$50. Those interested should call Clara Porter, Director of Community Education, at 348-1200 during school office hours.

Choir Concert: A district choir concert is scheduled for 7 p.m. in Fuerst Auditorium in the Novi High School.

Thursday, March 21

Newcomers: The Novi Newcomers Club meets in the Community Center of the Novi Civic Center for a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Historical Society: The Novi Historical Society meets at 7:30 p.m.

Craft Auction: The Novi Coop Nursery School will hold its Annual Spring Craft Auction at the Novi Methodist Church at 8 p.m. There is no charge for admission. Easter and Mother's Day crafts will be featured. The church is located at 41671 Ten Mile Road. For more information, call Merry Kvoll at 349-5842.

Parent/teacher conferences: Parents of kindergarten students may meet with teachers in the Novi school district on a prescheduled basis between 5:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Board of education: The Novi school board will hold its meeting in the Novi Wood Elementary school beginning at 7:30 p.m.

PTO meeting: The Parent Teachers Organization of the Novi Middle School is set to meet at 7:30 p.m. in the media center of the school.

Friday, March 22

Short school day: Students of kindergarten through fourth Career development: Career Transitions Group, in cooperation grades in Novi schools will have a half day of school. The clementary students are to be released at 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, March 23

Creative Center: The Creative Center for Young Children will sponsor a free children's concert from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Children's entertainer Maureen Schiffman will perform music and puppetry. The theme of the show will be "going on safari." Children under 2 years of age welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult. Snacks will be served. The Center is located at 47300 West Twelve Mile. For more information,

Friends of the homeless: The monthly meeting of Active Friends of the Homeless will be held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Holy Family Church in Novi on Meadowbrook Road, north of Ten Mile. The group is a non-profit organization which started three years ago which provides interim financial and other support to individuals and families threatened with homelessness. New members are welcome. Please call 427-9063 or 474-6386 for more information.

Professor offers a list of options

By JAN JEFFRES

Novi Township residents say the

ers said he's suggested a series of al- Miller Creek. ternatives to Novi's consulting engineers in the past. Last week, he sub-Resources.

City Manager Edward Kriewall: and Royal Crown Estates They told us they've looked at these subdivisions. proposals before, but this has more Or the city might purchase three details in it."

These are the seven alternatives to the Miller Creek detention basin suggested by Leighty: Construct an additional dam at

the headwaters of Miller Creek above and repair the Miller Creek dam. Creek watershed. which Leighty says is on record as overflowing on a regular basis. This

■ As another approach, Leighty writes that each detention-basin district should be self-sufficient and not accept excess waters from other dis-City of Novi should drown its plans to tricts. As a third alternative, he sugbuild a stormwater retention basin on their territory and control its Dunbarton Pines should be handled flooding within its own boundaries. within that subdivision and it should Township Supervisor Ray Schov-not be allowed to drain its water into

mitted to the city a four-page outline ing unbuildable land, near the condrafted by Leighton Leighty, a lawyer vergence of Thornton Creek and and professor at Michigan State Uni- Miller Creek, on the 28-acre Van Buversity's Department of Natural ren family estate on Nine Mile Road for a series of small dams which Now, the engineers are poring over would protect this land and carry the options again, according to Novi run-off water from Dunbarton Pines

or four lots in the Bradford of Novi subdivision, where Thornton Creek meets Taft Road. By raising the Taft Road dam, this area could be inundated for water control. the existing dam located on the Novi | In tandem with the above prop-

Civic Center property, where there osal, run-off waters from Royal are open fields and few people. This Crown Estates might be collected in a would reduce flows in Miller Creek. basin there and piped to the Taft Leighty said, and could also create a Road dam. According to Leighty, this recreational lake near city hall. new subdivision has caused major ■ In addition to the above, improve damage to Novi Township's Miller

could create a second lake, which the above plans, Dunbarton Pines with proper pumping would stop wa- could increase the capacity of all its ter detention problems in Dunbarton retention areas, reducing the stress

City says flood plan may be only solution

They will still be legal owners of the 13 parcels targeted by the city, he the property," he said. "It can be dry added." 360 days of the year but during a ma- Six years ago when the developfor storm there would be water on the ment of Dunbarton Pines began, property. That water would stay any- Schovers said he noticed that no rewhere from a few hours to a few tention basins were included in the

What worries township residents, city engineers that the basins weren't Schovers said, is the muck, soot and needed. toxics such as lawn chemicals which would enter the stream and possibly out the reason they didn't have retentheir well water. The subdivision is tion ponds is they planned to use our heavily wooded and residents fear backyards," he said.

subdivision's plans and was told by

"What upsets me is that I now find

the direction, but it's still a tollet . . . Among the township's alternatives people we've tried to acquire property to sue the city over property damage His land is impacted the least of Let it soak in our ground. Let us drink for flood control is an enlargement of from are not the people who would to their 28-acre estate caused by it. Let it kill our trees. They don't this dam. hink there's anything wrong with

in the township, Schovers contends,

trolled by this system, he said. It also has seven artesian spring-fed ponds. ter has caused flooding downstream yard flooding.

that their tall trees, including white What you have is a toilet you want overflowing at least four times and plained. The pond will help town into Miller Creek. pines, will die if their roots sit sub- to put in a our backyard. You change endangering the area's habitat. ship residents as well as the city. The The Van Burens have threatened palatable.

flowed)," Jerome said. "I personally benefit. Within Brookland Farms, Miller haven't seen it. The water does rise Creek is controlled by a series of substantially in that basin . . . It's dams. Rainwater is metered and con-While Dunbarton Pines does not

"I can't say that it hasn't lover- downstream will get the greatest Kriewall said.

sides on Nine Mile Road in the city, times. We've looked at modifications And it is all part of a fish hatchery op- have a flooding problem, at least has protested since 1978 when plans and tried to design it so it would have erated on the site many years ago. eight homes downstream from for Dunbarton Pines One called for a the least impact on properties in the But the dam at the Novi Civic Cen- Brookland Farms do - especially water culvert to drain across their township." 28-acre estate, as well as the dis-

"There is a benefit." Jerome ex- charge of water from that subdivision

get the benefit from it. The people flooding, but have not done so yet,

*Even the area where we want to City engineers have modified put the pond has seen some minor plans for the Miller Creek project several times. Jerome explained: "We The Van Buren family, which remet with the residents a couple of

But township residents have found none of these changes.

Mutch said.

with their adult responsibilities.

does not have to wait for adulthood to

put his invention to work. discussed inventor-related issues Mitchell was bothered by his sun- like patenting. glasses. He had sunglasses that The school now will send the ideas clipped to regular glasses, flipping up of Blumer and Mutch to a state-level Invent America competition. The only problem was the sunglas-State winners will move to a reg-

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life easier with

By SUZANNE HOLLYER

annoyances from their lives.

thing you need.

Students at Novi Middle School

dents in the gifted and talented prog-ram devised inventions that would

lunch for students and again that

vented a computer program to vote event.

evening for parents.

They only wanted to remove the daily blurry vision.

Seventh- and eighth-grade stu- solution.

ideas, an invention convention to be window.

were displayed Thursday during Wickman invented a door alarm.

Blumer, a seventh grader, in- the noisiest invention at Thursday's

by telephone. Her dad hates to wait in The invention convention was an

line to vote, and he suggested the opportunity to teach creativity and

The program, called Vote Tech, school's gifted and talented students,

would use the driver's license num-teacher Denise Karakashian said.

bers of voters to verify their identity. Novi Middle School students who

Mutch, the eighth-grade winner, have been identified as gifted or ta-

designed a lane divider to help people lented can take an elective class with see the side of the road. The orange other students with similar abilities. dividers are shaped like a large brick. This year, students in the class

When a driver begins to veer off the were assigned the task of inventing road, either because of drunkeness something they could use in their or weather conditions, he or she hits daily life. Karakashian said.

"If you don't know where the bottle that did not force her to waste middle of the road is, and you hit the time in the shower trying to get the

divider, then you know where to go," last bit of shampoo out of the bottle.

Mutch and Blumer are not old shampoo bottle. If the bottle is nearly

enough to vote or drive. When they empty, its user can open the bottle

come of age, they will be ready with from the bottom, easily getting the re-

But eighth-grader Joel Mitchell program were inspired by a local in-

Soon to be the bane of brothers

problem solving to some of the

Army Saari's life needed a shampoo

Saari invented a double-ended

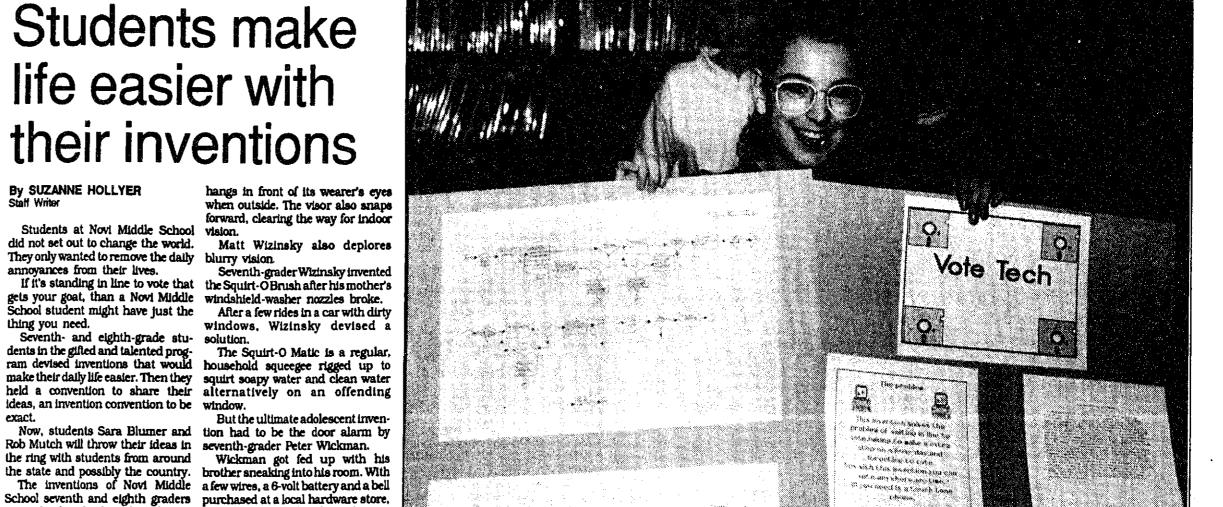
Students involved in the gifted

ventor who came to their class and

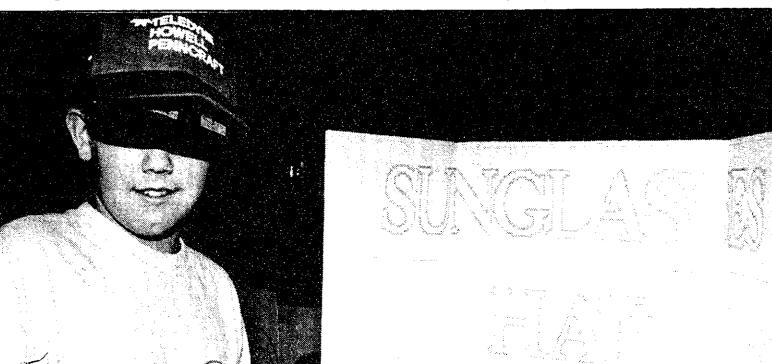
ses never worked. When he flipped ional competition and eventually to a them up so he could see indoors national competition. Prizes are awarded at every level But the biggest prize will be a trip

to Washington, D.C. to compete against other regional winners, Kara-





everywhere, Wickman's alarm was Seventh grader Sara Blumer won with her invention of a "Vote Tech" vote by telephone program



Eighth grader Joel Mitchell demonstrates his invention, the "sunglasses hat"





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CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE: A boy was uninjured. 21-year-old Ypsilanti man was arrested by state police for possession crosswalk of the school when the of a controlled substance after being vehicle struck him at approximately stopped on I-96 in Novi March 9. 2:20 p.m. Reports noted that the

westbound I-96 near Meadowbrook buses. No ticket was issued to the Road because of a cracked winds- driver. hield. After making contact with the man, officers cited the man for failing to show proof of insurance. Upon br- dent reported that his left rear wininging the citation back to the dow was smashed on March 14. 21-year-old, troopers noticed what The incident occurred in the parkappeared to be the smell of mari- inglot of the Michigan National Bank juana coming from the vehicle, re- at Twelve Mile and Novi roads be-

believed to be filled with marijuana said there are no suspects in the a gold necklace, bracelet and watch. was discovered. The driver then pro- case. duced a second bag and gave it to

failing to show proof of insurance. He license plate from his vehicle on Foxanalysis of the alleged marijuana and plate was stolen between Tuesday

ring was found March 14 on Antier Police News

ACCIDENT: A 13-year-old youth was knocked down by a vehicle at the theft of a watch, valued at \$300, Novi Middle School March 13. The

The 13-year-old was crossing the Troopers stopped the man on driver's vision was blocked by school

MDOP: A 25-year-old city resttween 2:20 and 2:30 p.m. No items After a search of the vehicle, a bag were taken from the vehicle. Reports

STOLEN PLATE: A 32-year-old The Ypsilanti man was cited for resident reported the stealing of a land County prosecutor's office. cle. There are no suspects in the case. and 7:45 p.m.

STOLEN WATCH: Police reported from the locker room of the Novi Vic Tanny on Crescent March 13. The whatch belonged to a 32-yearold Farmington Hills man. Reports

said the whatch was taken from the

man's locker at about 6:45 p.m.

BREAKING AND ENTER-ING: Cash and jewlery estimated at \$670 were taken from a home on Pellston Street March 12.

Reports said an unknown person was most likely taken during busientered the house through the front door by forcing it open with a screwdriver. The incident occurred between 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. Tuesday. Among the jewlery items stolen were

STOLEN CASH: A 28-year-old There are currently no suspects or Rocky River man reported the theft of witnesses.

case may have been stolen from the

The man was staying at the Hilton with a group of other people on a business trip. He said that when they left, he placed his briefcase with his other luggage, expecting it to be loaded

However, when he arrived home. the briefcase was not on the bus. He said the briefcase was full of personal and business information as well as tax information.

STOLEN TOOL: A Canton man reported March 4 that someone had apparently walked into Suburban Rental and taken a concrete cutter from a display along the wall.

The man told Novi Police the cutter

STOLEN LICENSE PLATE: A resident on Pondview in the Crosswinds Condominiums complex reported March 5 that someone had stolen the There are no suspects in the case. license plate from her 1990 Pontiac Grand Prix, which was parked in front of her residence.

was was released pending lab moor March 14. The resident said the \$65 from his wallet from the locker Citizens with information about the room of the Novi Vic Tanny on March above incidents are urged to call the warrant authorization by the Oak- and Thursday from the parked vehi- 12. The cash was taken between 7 Novi Police Tip Line at 349-6887. You

Novi Briefs

man reported March 8 that his brief. Choir teacher honored: The Northville High School choir is directed by one of the three best choir teachers in the state, according to her colleagues. Northville Choir Teacher Mary Kay Pryce was recently chosen by a vote of her peers to direct a regional Michigan School Vocal Association

choir concert on Dec. 7. "This is quite a big honor," said Roger Dehn, executive secretary of the 630-member association. "It's one of the highest awards that you can get to your peers think enough of you to chose you for this honor." Michigan has three regions. Each region will have a Dec. 7 rehearsal and concert with 200 student singers performing.

Chefs ski race: Nine chefs from the local area took part in the Grand Marnier Chefs Ski Race at the Boyne Highlands Ski Resort in Boyne Highlands, Michigan. The event is known as one of the nation's most eccentric amateur races, in which the competitors ski the slalom wearing the traditional chef's coat, apron and toque blanche, or tall white hat of their profession. In addition, the event is a fund-raiser for anti-hunger campaigns. The proceeds benefited the Michigan Chef Against Hunger, which contributes to the Capuchin Community Center Soup Kitchen. Since 1988, the event has raised \$250,000 for hunger programs in five major cities. The Country Epicure restaurant in Novi sent a large contingent to the event, including owner Karen Angelosante, chefs Janet Thurber and Suzanne Jarasz, and cooks Marjie Olson, Todd Reilly, Kathlenn Narducci, Dan Stanton and Lori LaFontaine. Thomas MacKinnon of MacKinnon's Restaurant in Northville also

Held over: An appeal of a city council denial for permits and variances needed to drill an oil well west of Echo Valley Estates subdivision was tabled March 5 by the zoning board of appeals.

The applicant, the Southern Michigan Oil Company (SOMOCO) has a lawsuit against Novi currently pending in the Oakland County Circuit A special meeting on March 26 at 7 p.m. has been set aside for the local

Zoning board chair Gerald Bauer said the meeting will last at least four "That's what SOMOCO indicated and I think there's going to be a great

'Fear is gone,' care home's residents say

Charter Care Corp. took ownership of abuse.

anything they said.

Things have changed considerably," Adair, who is president of the herself as Eleanor, 74, said abuse That fear is pretty much gone now." the facility for nearly two years. Charter House of Novi began oper-Spiro said the facility has been trying aide staff a "hard time." Adair added to get rid of the "Care Center blues." According to wife Nora Spiro, the patient, who she said came away entire family has gotten involved in from the incident severely bruised, to running the facility. She said they are teach her a lesson. working to win the trust of the resi-

dents and the community. "The residents were apprehensive at first," Nora Spiro said. "They have never had a family-operated

"I think the residents are happier," she said. "We aren't the Care Centers. We never have been." The Novi Care Center, which was

whatever they wanted." The Novi Care Center did employ several good aides, Adair said. She added that since Charter Care took over the facility many more "good"

"Our girls work hard," Adair said.

owned by Care Centers of Michigan, was involved in three incidents last year in which nurse's aides were Since Farmington Hills-based charged with neglect or patient the troubled Novi Care Center late In September, a nurse's aide at the

last year, residents say they no longer center was charged with harmful nelive in fear of the facility's nursing glect in connection with the choking death of a patient. Later that month, "Residents were afraid," said Flor- another aide pled guilty to a charge of ence Adalr, a resident at the facility patient abuse after kneeing a patient for two years. They were afraid to in the buttocks. In November, a third complain for fear of being battered. aide was charged with physical ab-They knew they would be battered for use for allegedly striking a patient on Another resident, who identified

Charter House community council, came from the aide staff and not the continued. This management is try-management of the Novi Care Center. ing to get a handle on everything. She said she has been a resident of Adair agreed with Eleanor. She deations Dec. 14 last year. Since then, scribed hearing another patient new owner and administrator Sandy beaten because she had given the

> "It was so bad," she said. The help was totally undisciplined and did

aides have been hired.

"It's not an easy job."



Sandy Spiro of Charter House shows off the Improvements in the kitchen

roof, which has been estimated at \$150,000, will

"We aren't going to alap something down," Spiro

said. "We want something that will last. This is our

Evidence of that commitment is seen in the fa-

cility's kitchen, he said. New equipment, such as a

restaurant-style toaster, have been added to im-

prove resident meals. Spiro said the new toaster

allows bread to be freshly made, whereas in the past it was prepared long before it was served.

said. "It's a small thing, but it means a lot for the

Spiro said Charter House's menu is also being

"That is the kind of focus we are providing." he

A Charter House resident looks out the window to the courtyard which is to be improved so that residents can enjoy the outdoors

Owner refurbishes care center

A two-phased plan is being used by Charter House of Novi owner Sandy Spiro to provide resi-not an institution," Dahlseid said. dents with improved living conditions at the city's

only convalescent facility. Spiro, who bought the facility from Care Centers of Michigan, began making changes immediately after beginning operations Dec. 14 last year. Early changes focused on the facility's staffing, such as adding new nursing aides, a new house-

keeper, beautician and head nurse. In addition to making further staffing changes, Spiro is currently focusing on physical improvements to the facility. The convalescent center first opened in 1968, he said, and has had little work done on it since.

"This building hasn't been loved," said wife Nora Spiro, who helps operate the facility. Spiro hired the Minnesota-based Arthur Shuscompany, which specializes in interior design of nursing home facilities, to come up with remod-

eling plans. According to Judy Dahlseld, of the firm, it took a short time to develop the two-phased plan. She said the goal was to change the feel of the facility.

Besides changes to the inside, Spiro said the facility will undergo one other big change. A new We want residents to feel like it's their home

Phase one, currently under way, is focusing on the main corridor of the facility, the activities room and resident dirming rooms. Dahlseid said each of the rooms will have a traditional theme and will be designed to be "bright and cheerful."

Many of the rooms, including the dining areas, have had plaster and painting work done to them to "soften the atmosphere," Spiro said. The owner added that cinder blocks were visible in many of the rooms previously.

The first phase of the work will be completed in about six weeks, Dahlseid said. The last phase, which will be completed in about a year, will focus quality of life." mainly on patient rooms and the lobby of Charter

Carpeting will be added to every room as will new furnishings. Dahlseid said the facility's lobby will be redesigned to allow for additional office

expanded. Residents have been impressed with the improvment in the facility's food service. "The food has improved 100 percent," said Florence Adair, a resident for two years. "You use to go to the table wondering if you could stomach it. The "It's a top to bottom makeover," she said. food was very dull and shabby."





God does and so do we!



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MONDAY March 18,

As We See It

Assessment season points out problems

The whole process of property assessments and property taxes is kind of an unpleasant business. It gets more unpleasant when a homeowner believes a piece of property has been overassessed. But if that homeowner wins the appeal to the board of review, that should be the good part, right?

Right — until the next year. That's when the homeowner lands right back at the starting point - with an overassessed home.

The recent mailing of assessment notices in Novi and around the area brought the bad news to those people who won board of review appeals last vear: Their homes this year seem to be just as overassessed as before. Those people aren't imagining things.

See, the assessment/appeal system works with a built-in flaw. When an assessor sticks a value on a house, that number stays in the assessing records even if a board of review adjusts it down. agreeing with the property owner that the figure is too high.

Under state law, the assessor next year must use as a starting point the original, old value - the one which an official body decided was wrong. Any increase will be applied to the old incorrect figure, guaranteeing a new incorrect figure. In other words, if a person starts out with a bad assessed value, that person must appeal every year in order to correct the situation.

Now, the point of this rule in state law is to stop hardship cases or temporarv reductions in value - say, the result of a fire — from forever effecting the value of a house. And we can certainly agree that those who plead hardship should indeed have to show that that hardship exists each and every year.



But, for those cases in which the value is adjusted downward simply because the homeowner has made a case that the house is worth less than the assessor first said it was, that price should stick. The lower price should be placed on the the owner's field card and that should be the price from which the assessor begins next year.

And in the final analysis, showing that the house is over assessed isn't enough, the homeowner has to prove his or her case over and over again.

This system either results in a lot of repeated appeals or a lot of unfair assessments going unchallenged (because people get tired of jumping through the hoops). Maybe it results in a lot of both.

The homeowner does have an out, however. It is possible to make a less formal appeal to the assessors and if the assessors are so inclined, they may make a permanent adjustment to the records.

This ought to be addressed, on whatever level is appropriate. Perhaps ways could be found locally to take board of review results into account and still follow the letter of the law for establishing new assessments.

But seems like a better response, however, would be for the state Legislature to take up these questions. If this situation plays itself out every year all across the state, the resulting waste of time and effort appears staggering.

As You See It

Being taxed out of Novi

My husband and I appeared before the Novi lot. A Spinal Column article (Feb. 13-19, 1991) stated that "Novi residential property was assessed 4 percent higher." We presented the same (1990) organized articles and photos of (1) unchecked flooding (documented by the Novi DPW and building dept.), (2) a similar neighboring structure being assessed for less, (3) close proximity of two depressed structures, and (4) the incorrect classification of East Lake Drive as a "residential" road as it bisects our front yard carry 12,161 cars per day (1990 Sandstone

We were told that if there was a flooding problem (as it was not notated on our field card) to ing taxed out because we invested everything we call the assessor's office for an inspection. The had in Novi. reason for the 34 percent increase was due to "market value." We were handed a Lansing ap-

peal application. When asked why last year's board was sympathetic to our plight and low-Board of Review to contest the 53 percent SEV ered our then exorbitant assessment, we increase on our East Lake Drive home and the learned that the 1990 reduction was only in ef-40 percent increase on the accompanying lake feet for one year and had absolutely no bearing on this year. That amount would be added on as

The Board of Review clearly had no say in the

matter. We were told point blank that unless there was a hardship they had no choice. It was a "34 percent across the board increase." Who made that decision? Who does have a choice? This property has been owned by my family since 1956. We are now raising the fourth generation, but, of course, a personal appeal would be lost on deaf ears. In other words, we are being penalized for rebuilding my grandfather's home or "shack" as some have referred to it. We are be-

Letters to the editor

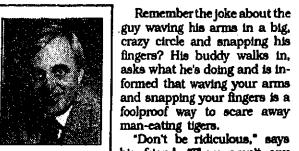
This newspaper welcomes letters to the editor. We ask, however, that they be issue-oriented, confined to 400 words and that they contain the signature, address, and telephone number of the writer. The writer's name may be withheld from publication if the writer fears bodily harm, severe persecution, or the loss of his or her job. The writer requesting anonymity must explain his or her circumstances. Submit letters for consideration by 4 pm Monday for that Thursday's paper. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity, clarity, libel, and taste.

The week prior to an election, this newspaper will not accept letters to the editor that open up new issues. Only responses to already published issues will be accepted, with this newspaper being the final arbiter. This policy is an attempt to be fair to all concerned.

final arbiter. This policy is an attempt to be fair to all concerned.

Submit letters to: Editor, The Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167.

No more man-eating tigers



his friend. There aren't any man-eating tigers around here." "See," says the first guy, brightly. "It works."

"Don't be ridiculous," says

Jerome Okay, so it's not a great joke. But I was thinking about it the other day because of a present I received from my wife last Christmas. You must remember that my wife is something of an

order. She donates regularly to the Nature Conservancy and the Michigan Humane Society, but more than that she has converted our palatial Westview Drive estate into a shelter for homeless animals.

animal lover. Actually, she's an animal-lover of the highest

Sort of a southwest Novi chapter of the Michigan Humane Society. Cats rate highest at the Jerome pound. They're allowed

animals are welcomed to climb through a former milk

chute into the garage where they'll find cozy "beds" made of

old rags, incubator lights to keep them warm during the

winter and, of course, plenty of food and water. At various times, the garage has been home to opossums, raccoons, rabbits and an occasional skunk. But back to man-eating tigers and Christmas presents.

Remember the joke about the What happened was that she bought me two of those little guy waving his arms in a big. things that look like miniature sirens, and, when you put crazy circle and snapping his them on the grill of your car, they allegedly emit a highfingers? His buddy walks in, pitched noise which warns animals that a car is coming asks what he's doing and is in- and they'd better get out of the road.

Well, I dutifully installed those little sirens on my car the day after Christmas and am happy to report that I have not

hit a single animal since they were installed. Unfortunately, there's a down side to this story as well. Like they say, there's a dark cloud inside every silver

There are many nights when I get home from work fairly late. And one of the little moments I used to treasure after a ong day at work was seeing an occasional wild animal while driving south toward Northville on Beck Road be-

tween Eleven and Eight Mile. I saw a red fox jogging along the west side of Beck, just north of Ten Mile, one night. And several times I have seen deer bounding gracefully

across Beck Road. The fox was a real thrill because you don't see them very often around here. And the deer, though somewhat more common, are truly beautiful. But that's where the problem comes in. I can't tell you that I used to see red fox and deer everytime I drove down Beck Road late at night, but I used to see them often

enough that I always looked forward to it. in the house; we have seven of them now. But they're not the only animals which get special treatment. All other I "used to" see all kinds of wildlife with some degree of

But not any more. Nope, the sad truth is that I haven't seen any animals at all along Beck Road - or any other road for that matter - for a good long time . . . not since

the day after Christmas when I installed those animalwarning sirens on the front of my car. Of course, I haven't seen any man-eating tigers either.

In passing

By Hal Gould



'Going to the dogs'

Walking to work, pro and con



Byrne

Arbor (22 miles) for nearly a year, but that never really bothered me. For three years before that, I had commuted to Howell six days a week (31 miles). Coming to Northville was a piece of cake by comparison.

There wasn't much fanfare

when I moved into Northville

last week. More likely, people

were probably muttering "What

It's going to be an adjustment

for me. I've commuted from Ann

took you so long."

But now, living on Eight Mile (actually in Novi if you want to get technical), I'm little more than a mile from the office. Not since the days when I walked to and from high school have I used my feet for commuting [not counting college, of course, where everyone walks).

I must say this idea of walking (and on some days bikingl to work appeals to me. It saves wear and tear on my venerable Dodge, not to mention the reduction in expenses. From an environmental standpoint, it gives me a good feeling to be doing my part to conserve fossil fuels and reduce emissions.

There's just one thing standing in my way. Perhaps more accurately there are a lot of things standing in my way - and none of them are traversed by a sidewalk. Perhaps I've been spoiled, but whenever I wanted to walk somewhere in Ann Arbor, I could. There was always a paved footpath to lead me where I wanted to go. As a youth growing up in New York City, I knew of only

three ways to get around. The bus, the subway and Even if I don't have anywhere to go, I still like to walk. Once around the neighborhood is enough to refresh my

spirit when I need it.

But from my new home in the Woodland Glen apartments, I don't set foot on a sidewalk until I'm halfway to Main Street. Pavement on Griswold doesn't even start until Pennell Avenue, west of the railroad bridge. And that's only on the southwest side of Griswold. The sidewalk on the other side of the street starts at Main Street, and goes about 100 feet before stopping in the middle of nowhere. It doesn't even reach Mill Race.

From what I've been told, I'd be barking up the wrong tree if I wanted the City of Northville to extend the sidewalks on Griswold to the city limits. Asking a city politician to address sidewalks is like asking the Pentagon about battle plans. You'll get a lot of waffling, but no walkways.

A large portion of my walk to work is in township territory, too. I guess if I really wanted to get nowhere fast, I could ask the township about putting in sidewalks on Eight Mile and Griswold (or anywhere else for that matter). Yeah, this living in Northville business is going to take some getting used to. If you happen to drive past some guy slogging through the mud alongside Griswold around

And if they ever hold a vote to improve sidewalks in the city or the township, vote with my feet instead of your own.

Rick Byrne is copy editor for the Northville Record and

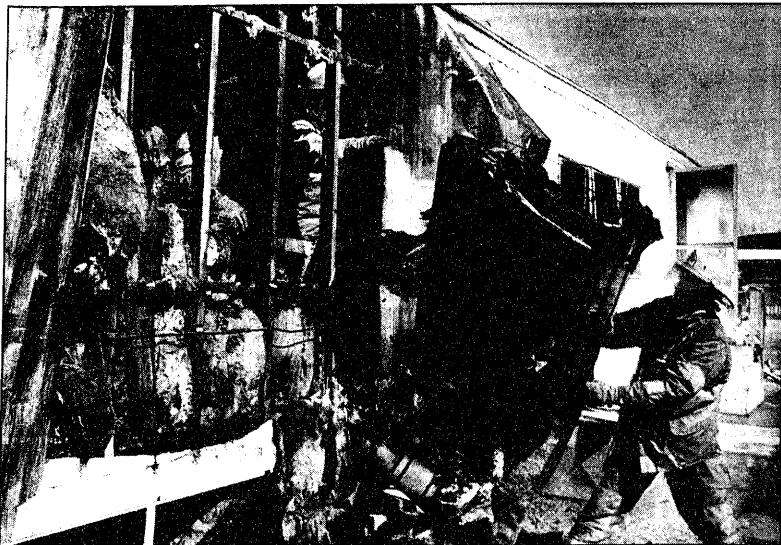
rush hour, give me a honk and a wave.



Above, Sandy Spiro and maintenance man Jeff Anderson inspect the roof that will be replaced. At right, Jack Farley of Clark Painting prepares for a painting project at the center.



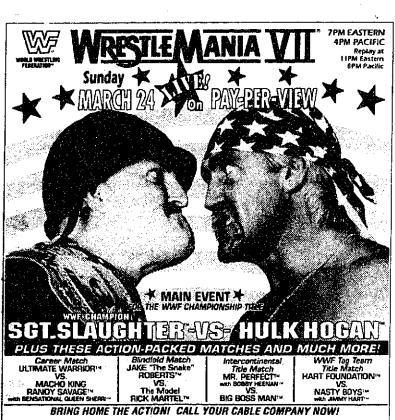






Playing with matches?

Fire officials are still investigating the cause of a fire that destroyed a residence on Pierre Street in the Chateau Mobile Home park Friday afternoon, but preliminary findings indicate the blaze was likely the result of a child playing with matches, according to the assistant fire chief. At top, Novi firefighters pull a smoldering bed from the room in which the fire seems to have started. At bottom, firefighters work to put the blaze out. It took only 20 minutes to bring the fire under control but it was two hours before the fire could be complete extinguished. Fire officials believe the home will have to be replaced. They estimate the damage at \$18,000.



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Cities, state plan interchange work

Continued from Page 1

Plans call for extending Beck Road farther past the highway, straighten-ing the road, and connecting it to Twelve Mile at a conventional

The city is hoping to get a response on the plans from MDOT sometime this summer. Fort said The comment of the function of the this summer, Foyt said. The agency, he said, may not approve the plans because of designs of their own.
"I'm not sure they will replace their

(own) scheme," Foyt said. MDOT's plans call for a cloverleafstyle interchange, he said. Instead of having long ramps to and from the highway, loops would be used to

make the connections.

less land than the cloverleaf design. In any case, he said, the city wants a plan for the interchange in place as soon as possible so that development for the valuable land around it can take place.

Kriewall said the JCK plan would cost between \$4 million to \$5 million to implement. He said the project likely wouldn't begin for three to four years because MDOT will have to work it into its budget.

Thus far, the City of Wixom has been fully cooperative with Novi on the project, Kriewall said. He added Foyt said the city prefers a multi-that Wixom has also covered 50 perlevel configuration because it uses cent of fees for the JCK design.

McMahon to stay, but Petrie's out

By SUZANNE HOLLYER Staff Writer

Northville School Board Secretary Robert McMahon may vie with two mystery candidates for one of two places on the Board of Education in

rie's name won't be appearing on the ballot this year.

McMahon, a four-year board veteran, announced at Monday's board the time it gets to the board there's meeting that he will seek re-election not much of a controversy." to the school board on June 10. Two Petrie's term also expiring in June. asked to remain anonymous, said After eight years on the board, how- Northville's director of business and

ever, Petrie is calling it quits.

Petrie is running for the Wayne Northville school board.

Northville school board in order to model said one or more advocates of dedicate his time in future months to her position may seek a post on the the county election. Petrie also cited work and family commitments as

candidates requested petitions to have their names placed on the election ballot from the district's central office at 501 W. Main St.

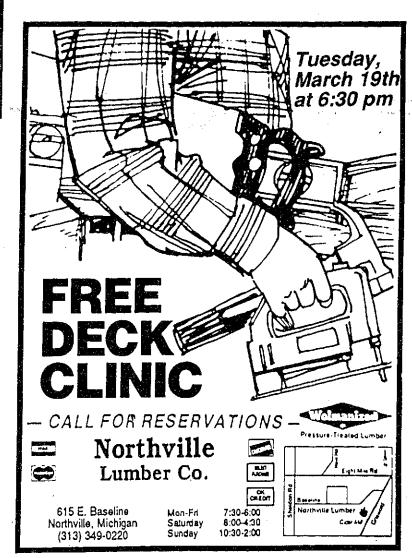
McMahon said in his one term on the board "much has been accomplished."

He attributed the district's suc-But board President James Pet- cess to staff, parental and community involvement. "In this district we involve the citi-

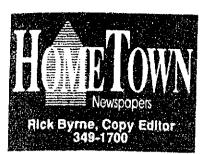
zens at the start," McMahon said, "By In addition to McMahon, the two positions will be up for grabs, with others who have pulled petitions

finance, John Street. But a clue as to the identity of the County Regional Educational Service two other possible candidates might Agency Board of Trustees, a position be found in looking at one conhe could hold concurrently with the troversy that has made it to the board level in recent months. A critic of the But Petrie said he will leave the district's board-adopted health

school board. Candidates must return petitions reasons for leaving the school board. of 20 signatures to the district's cen-McMahon and two other potential tral office by April 8 at 4 p.m.







FOOD CREATIVE DINING



Eleanor & Ray Heald/

Books provide a guided tour

One of the major differences between American and European wines is the label. Most American wine labels are dominated by a grape name, such as cabernet sauvignon or chardonnay. European wine labels emphasize the place where the wine was made, such as Bordeaux or Burgundy.

As you become more interested in wine and its origins, place names become important to identifying a wine's quality. With the long history of winemaking in Europe, a classification of wine quality evolved principally on a wine's geographic origin.

Without being predisposed to geography, an interest in wine tends to generate a curiosity about place. It is now possible to learn everything you've ever wanted to know about Italian wines in Burton Anderson's "The Wine Atlas of Italy: And Traveller's Guide to the Vineyards" (Simon & Schuster, \$40).

The book is well written by one of the best authorities on Italian wines.

"Oz Clarke's New Encyclopedia of French Wines" (Simon & Schuster, \$24.95) is an accurate, refreshingly humorous text covering all the wine regions of France. The book's features offer a comfortable introduction to French wines.

Clarke, a British wine authority and broadcaster, has traveled the length of France. He understands the wines and gives superb descriptions of aromas and flavors. Clarke is opinionated and doesn't mind letting you know.

He calls Muscadet "the perfect easy-going light, soft, fresh dry white." For good value he predicts, "We're going to see more and more Corbieres, Minervois, Fitou and Cotes du Roussillon." He contends that Beaujolais' Gamay grape "can perform brilliantly but frequently doesn't."

Of the famous red Bordeaux wines of Chateau Lafite Rothschild, Clarke said, "I wish I could draw near in humble mood to worship at this shrine of perfection, but I can't, and the reason is simply that the wine is so wretchedly inconsistent." On the other hand he admits, "La Lagune has given me more pleasure than any other single wine."

Despairing about the quality of the white wines of Macon. Clarke suggests that although we should see a steady stream of enjoyable, fruity, fresh, creamy Macon-Villages Chardonnay, the wines of Australia and New Zealand have twice

the flavor at half the price.

"The Simon & Schuster Beginner's Guide to Understanding Wine" (Michael Schuster, Fireside Books, \$12.95) is a guide for the novice and experienced alike. Schuster expertly focuses on tasting techniques, grape varieties and winemaking methods, accompanied by illustrative color photographs.

A proponent of language as a part of wine enjoyment, Schuster emphasizes correct vocabulary as he describes tasting techniques. He uses all the senses (sight, smell, taste and touch) to encourage a complete experience.

Grapes, and the wines they make, are discussed from aligote to viognier, for whites, and cabernet to zinfandel red wines. Sparkling and fortified wines are explained and a brief discussion of spirits also is included.

Books are the best way to expand your wine education. They will heighten your wine enjoyment.

WINE SELECTION OF THE WEEK
Shenandosh Vineyards Vintage Port. At \$10, this wine is a bargain for those seeking a full, rich, creamy-textured dessert pour with balanced sweetness. Produced from authentic Portugese grape varietals, this California-style port makes an exceptional complement to warm apple pic.

1990 Martin Brothers Dry Chenin Blane (\$8) is a delicious alternative to many pricy chardonnays. Floral, melon, pear and pineapple aromas are followed by fresh fruit flavors in a user-friendly style.

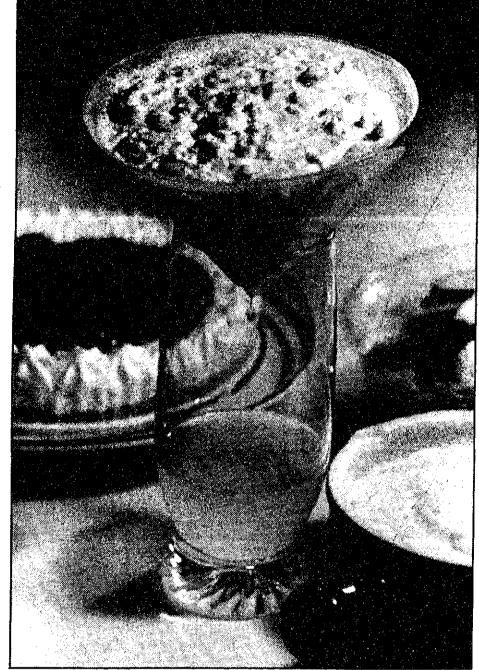
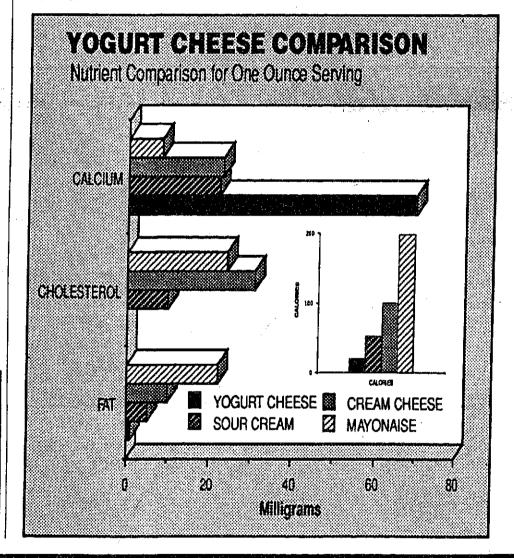


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Store-bought funnel creates versatile yogurt cheese, by draining the liquid (whey)



YOGURT CHESE

Forgotten dairy product creamy, without the guilt

By RICK BYRNE Copy Editor

The Health Police are on the prowl, and they're coming to get you, all you lovers of sour cream, cream cheese and mayonaisse.

They know you've been sneaking around, dipping into cheesecake, chip dips, creamy salad dressings, cheese blintzes and potato salad, knowing full well that all that stuff is high in fat, cholesterol and sodium.

Perhaps you've been asked by your doctor to give up all those creamy goodies. Or perhaps you'd just like to for health's sake, but can't live without a dollop of sour cream on your baked potatoes.

Well, sneak no more because there's a new low-fat, low-calorie, low-cholesterol alternative to sour cream, cream cheese and mayonnaise. It's called yogurt cheese. Yogurt cheese is simply yogurt that has been drained of liquid.

Yogurt cheese is not just some substitute that looks and acts like cheese. From a dairy expert's point of view, it is a true cheese.

Remember the "curds and whey" line from the "Little Miss Muffet" nursery rhyme? When you got too old for nursery rhymes, you still wondered what whey was, right? Whey is, quite simply, the liquid that comes out of any dairy product when it's curdled to make cheese.

Yogurt cheese has a long tradition in Middle Eastern and Indian cookery. The arabs call it laban. In India, it is sweetened, spiced with saffron and cardamom, and mixed with pistachios to make a festive dessert called shrikhand. Greek farmers mix it with chopped cucumbers for lunch.

Graham Kerr, the "Galloping Gourmet," makes frequent use of it in his recently revived television show. It also appears frequently in recipes on Jeff Smith's "The Frugal Gourmet" show, and in his cookbook of the same name.

According to the University of California, Berkeley Wellness Letter, "yogurt cheese can be an excellent substitute for high-fat cheeses, sandwich spreads and dips. What makes yogurt cheese so special is that it picks up the flavor of anything it's mixed with."

Further kudos for yogurt cheese come from Cardiac Alert, a newsletter dedicated to the prevention of heart disease: "Because yogurt cheese is low in sodium and low in fat, it is a healthy addition to anyone's diet. It is especially useful, however, for people with high blood pressure and heart disease."

sease."
The accompanying chart gives

specific nutritional comparisons between cheese made from lowfat yogurt, and the creamy favorites, cream cheese, sour cream and mayonnaise. Yogurt cheese is clearly lower in sodium, calories and fat, and is higher in calcium.

For those who with lactose intolerance, yogurt cheese is also lower in lactose. And it is high in protein as well. If you want no fat at all, use non-fat yogurt to make your yogurt cheese.

The Surgeon General, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society have all told us to get the fat out of our diets. Most importantly, we've been told to be aware of the "calories from fat" in the foods we eat.

Yogurt cheese gets 30 percent or less of its calories from fat. By comparison, Gouda and Edam get around 65 percent of their calories from fat; cheddar, colby or jack cheeses get a whopping 72 percent,

Making yogurt cheese is quite simple. In the old days, yogurt was spooned into a cheesecloth (now you know where that word comes from, too) sack and suspended over the kitchen sink to drain.

Rather than dangling a drippy sack over your sink, try this method: line a small colander (or large strainer) with a couple layers of cheesecloth, and place in a bowl. Spoon in the yogurt and let it drain.

Spoon in the yogurt and let it drain.

Technology has also made available a number of yogurt funnels, which can be found in gournet stores. We tried one called the Really Creamy Yogurt Cheese Funnel, and found it convenient to use, and effective at making delightful creamy

You can't use fruit yogurts to make yogurt cheese. You're generally limited to plain, coffee, vanilla or lemon. The yogurt you use must be free of gelatin. Check the label if you're not sure. Certain highly-processed yogurts (such as Yoplait) won't work either.

Made with plain yogurt, the cheese is mildly tart, somewhere between sour cream and cream cheese. Sweeter yogurts, like vanilla and lemon, yield sweeter cheeses.

Its texture is like that of whipped cream cheese. It tastes creamy, like it's loaded with fat, but you can eat it guilt-free.

The uses for yogurt cheese are endiess. Triad Publishing has even devoted two whole cookbooks to it's use — "Not Just Cheesecake," and "Snack to Your Heart's Content." Included here are some possibilities.

See page 2B for recipes.

Chef Mary Brady

Irish cookery demonstrates more skill than luck

Luck. The Irish believe that luck has a tre-

mendous influence on their lives.

The phrase "luck of the Irish" applied to me early this year when I was awarded a trip to Ireland to do what I love the most — cook and eat.

The jokes started to fly among friends and colleagues. Ireland is not known for its cuisine or culinary expertise. Anyone I ever spoke with that had traveled to the Emerald Isle told me how bland and unimaginative the food was. Well, I was going to find out firsthand.

January is not the time of the year to go to Ireland unless you are happy sitting by a fire to keep warm. Of course, I had no choice in the matter and was just thrilled to be visiting the home of my ancestors.

I could hardly wait to see the brilliant and varied shades of green looming out of the ocean as we flew over. I had expected to have tears well in my eyes at the sight. It was the only disappointment I was to have for 10 days. Snow covered the entire tiny country. There was literally no green. I learned quickly that keeping warm was a priority.

The plane landed early in the morning at Shannon Airport. Since there was short lay-over before going on to Dublin, we were allowed to get off the plane. My feet had touched the irish soil, How exciting. It is hard to explain the feeling you have knowing that you are in the land from which your relatives emigrated.

land from which your relatives emigrated.

We decided to celebrate with an Irish coffee at the spot that made them famous, the home cere had. The closest comparate the spot that made them famous, the home cere had. The closest comparate the spot that made them famous, the home cere had. The closest comparate the spot that made them famous, the home cere had. The closest comparate the spot that made them famous, the home cere had. The closest comparate the spot that made them famous, the home cere had. The closest comparate the spot that made them famous, the home cere had.

of the Irish coffee, the Shannon Airport Bar. Thebarkeep smiled, knowing we were tourists, and put on his show. A bit of sugar, a dash of Irish whiskey, hot coffee and the richest, lovliest heavy cream I had ever tasted. Skip everything else, give me a bowl of that hand-whipped cream with a spoon.

The Irish coffee at Diamond Jim Brady's (our American Irish pub) has been made the exact same way for years. But that cream. What a difference an Irish cow makes.

Our culinary journey began in a small town.

Our culinary journey began in a small town about two hours from Dublin in a town called Limerick. We had been on the go for nearly 48 hours without sleep, a shower or a decent meal. To top that off we were driving on the wrong side of the road and sitting on the opposite side of the car. Talk about scary.

The tourist board recommended a B and B

The tourist board recommended a B and B nearby. I have never, even in this country, stayed at a B and B and didn't know what to expect. The room was clean and neat, the proprietor charming. But boy was it cold. The Irish are used to no or minimal heat. Obviously, we were not.

Thank heavens for the breakfasts. Fresh orange juice, hot, perfectly brewed tea, that wonderful cream, porridge (oatmeal), brown Irish bread with luscious jam and butter, two eggs, ham and bacon. The bacon is like nothing I've ever had. The closest comparison is the true Canadian peameal. Lean and juicy. Who needs hunch with a start like this?

Each morning began the same. I am not a lover of fried eggs so the next day asked for scrambled. Their texture was light and soft. Totally different than ours. Tiny, tiny curds. Very delicious. I found out later that the eggs are stirred over a hot water bath until curdled, not fried and stirred over direct heat, thus the contrast.

unch was generally skipped with a pint of Guinness stout used as a substitute. Stout in this country does not compare. Chemicals added for travel make it bitter. Not being a beer drinker, I amazed myself by asking time and time again for a "pint of Guinness, please."

Dinner was not the affair we make of it in the U.S. Little fanfare; just good, earthy, simple food. The tastes were incredible. Irish salmon is revered in culinary circles. It isn't hard to figure out why. The flesh is firm and a beautiful pink. And the flavor cannot be topped.

Accompaniments are unpretentious — lots of potatoes prepared all of the usual ways but better, and loads of fresh vegetables, broccoli and carrots being the most popular. And that wonderful Irish brown bread and rich butter.

Plaice is another popular fish. A variety of flatfish, it reminded me of an upscale orange roughy/sole combination. Fried and sauteed, its fresh, non-fishy taste is one I'd love to encounter here. Prawns (shrimp) as big as a finger are also abundant. Dublin Bay prawns are renowned around the world for their succulent qualities

The most popular meat is lamb and mutton. Sheep dot the hillside wherever you go. Young lamb is superior and the sausages and stews made from mutton are out of this world. Veal and steaks ere available and very good. I did not miss any "American" food while gone.

Our travels took us to Lahinch, Dublin, Caven, Virginia and all in between. Each meal was a delightful experience. The Irish people are thrilled to have an American visitor. We are their idols. Service was superb. When was the last time your french fries were served using French service? French service is the hardest and most time-consuming of all styles of service. It is rarely if ever used in the United States anymore. Truly classic but very unpretentious when done by the Irish.

when done by the Irish.

Sandwiches were a mainstay for locals for the evening meal. A chicken sandwich was just that — chicken and bread. Chicken salad consisted of chicken, bread and a piece of lettuce. Nothing glorious except that the chicken was real: no pressed luncheon meat here. Then the rich stock left from boiling the chicken was used in the marvelous soups.

Ireland is one of few countries that produces most of the food that it uses. Very little is imported. The variety of produce does not compare to what we are used to, but wonders are worked with what is available. The fish is extraordinary. Meat very acceptable. Dairy products excellent. Brown bread the best.

And, oh, what I'd give for a pint of stout.

IRISH DARK SODA BREAD

3 cups all-purpose flour 2 cups whole-wheat flour 2 tsp, baking soda 1 tablespoon baking powd

1 tablespoon baking powder 2 tablespoons brown sugar 2 ½ cups buttermilk

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Add all the dry ingredients in a large bowl and mix very well. Pour all the buttermilk into the bowl and stir until a soft dough is formed. Do not try to make it smooth. Pour the dough onto a floured board and knead for one minute. Divide the dough in two and form into round loaves. Put the loaves on an ungreased sheet and slash an "X" into the tops with a sharp knife. Allow to rest for 10 minutes and bake 40-45 minutes in the center of the preheated oven. Cool on racks or serve warm with butter, honey or jam.

The Refrigerator Door

WINE AND DINE: Wine will be the centerpiece at the Domaine Drouhin Oregon Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, March 24, at the Rattlesnake Club, Detroit, in collaboration with the Cloverleaf Market. Meet renowned Burgundy producer Robert Drouhin and his winemaker daughter, Veronique, on a 10-city whirlwind tour celebrating the official opening of their Dundee, Oregon, winery. An exceptional six-course meal with nine Drouhin Burgundies and a sampling of both the 1988 and 1989 Domaine Drouhin Oregon Pinot Noir is a bargain at \$95 per person. For reservations, phone Jim Lutfy, Cloverleaf Market, 357-0400.

TURKEY LOVERS' CONTEST: The National Turkey Federation is conducting its second annual "Turkey Lovers' Recipe Contest" designed for young chefs ages 12-18. Copies of the contest rules may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: RULES, National Turkey Federation, 11319 Sunset Hills Road, Re-

Contest entries will be accepted through April 1. Each entry will be judged on three parts: the recipe, an essay describing nutritional content and an essay describing food handling techniques.

MEXICAN COOKING: Cooking authority Diane Kennedy will present two lessons on the original and traditional food of Mexico at 6:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, April 8-9, at Kitchen Glamor in West Bloomfield. Fee is \$65 a class, or \$125 for the two-part series. For more information call 537-1300.

KITCHEN WINDOW: Chef Elwin Greenwald, proprietor of Elwin's Tu-Go in Royal Oak, will conduct a short series of cooking demonstrations the last Tuesday of March and April. Each session begins at 6:30 p.m., runs approximately two-and-one-half hours and includes light supper. Sessions are priced at \$25 each, or the series

The demonstrations have been titled "From Our Kitchen Window" because the prominent store windows of Elwin's Tu-Go allow the chef to be constantly aware of the changing seasons from his open kitchen. Each demonstration will revolve around a somewhat seasonal theme. For more information call 547-TUGO.

All participants will receive a packet of recipes and other pertinent information as well as an Elwin's Tu-Go "From Our Kitchen

WINTER AND SPRING CLASSES: Kitchen Glamor Stores in Redford, West Bloomfield and Rochester are taking registration for their winter and spring classes. Eight well-known area chefs, including Tom MacKinnon from MacKinnon's in Northville and Marcus Haight from the Lark in West Bloomfield, will offer a series of classes. The fee is \$40 per class or \$375 for the series.

Other classes will cover such subjects as one-not meals. Passover dishes and turkey entrees. For details, call 537-1300.

SUPERMARKET TIPS: An informative sheet, "Charting Your Way Through the Supermarket, "offers tips for making educated decisions at the supermarket. It is available free from the Oakland County Cooperative Extension Service, 1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac, MI 48341. Questions about food, nutrition or food safety can be directed to the Food Holline, 858-0904.

"The Refrigerator Door" is a list of coming events and short notes about food and drink. If you have an event planned or a brief announcement you would like included here, send it care of this newspaper, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Mich., 48167. Pholos or other

MICHIGAN WILDLIFE

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clothing items and more.

wildlife artists

Plymouth, MN

of Kalkaska

Evergreen Road between 10 and 11 Mile Roads

Snack foods can still be healthy

Snacking is quite a popular activity in America. The wide availability ing television? When you're bored? vides: % Vegetable, 2 Optional of packaged products and convenience foods made the art of anacking the late evening before you go to bed. Source: Weight Watchers Quick easier than ever before. With all this lt is important to recognize when you and Easy Recipes munching going on, snacks can add snack so you can prepare healthy up and become a big part of your diet. snacks ahead of time and have them the kinds of snacks you choose.

Most people munch on not-sonutritious snacks because they grab tasty and good for you, too. With into health breaks as well. some advance planning and "nutritious alternatives," you can learn to become a healthy enacker.

Have a craving for something crunchy? Pass on the potato chips, salted nuts, buttered popcorn and french fries. They are all high in sounbuttered popcorn sprinkled with pepper garlic powder or Parmesan cheese, unsalted tortilla chips dipped in salsa, or Cinnamon Crisp Tortillas --

If you have a sweet tooth, beware. Cakes, pies, cookies and candy can be high in sugar and fat. Instead of a per (optional) jelly donut as a morning snack, sink your teeth into a warm Apple Cheddar Muffin. If chocolate is your weakness, enjoy Chocolate Cupcakes pre. dients, mixing well. Cover with plaspared from a low-calorie, low-fat tic wrap and refrigerate until flavors

Suppose you always get hungry in Calories.

Which isn't all bad. It just depends on on hand when temptation strikes. Keep fresh fruit, low-fat frozen yogurt, air-popped popcorn or low-fat each) crackers readily available. Another 2 teaspoons reduced-calorie marwhat is easily available when they are good rule to follow is to keep un-hungry. We all know that fruits and healthy snacks out of your house '4 teaspoon each ground of vegetables are the healthiest anacks completely. A little 'nibbling knowto enjoy, but other snacks can be how can turn your snack breaks

> Yiekis % Cup peeled, seeded and finely chopped cup tomato juice

2 tablespoons each finely chopped dium, fat and calories, instead, try scallion (green onion) and green bell over; brush each with half the re- cake, comes out clean, about 20 mismall garlic clove, minced 1 teaspoon minced fresh cilantro

> (Chinese paraley) teaspoon chili powder % teaspoon hot sauce % teaspoon mirroed jalapeno pep-

In small bowl combine all ingreare blended, at least 30 minutes.

2 tablespoons unsweetened co-

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line eight 2 1/4 -inch-diameter muffin pan cups with paper baking cups; set CINNAMON CRISP TORTILLAS Makes 2 servings

maining margarine and then nutes. Remove cupcakes to wire rack

2 flour tortillas (6-inch diameter

high speed, in medium mixing bowl beat eggs until light and fluffy and double in volume, 3 to 4 minutes. Gradually add sugar, 1 tablespoon at % teaspoon each ground cinnamon, divided, and granulated sugar a time, beating after each addition until blended. Stir in vanilla. Preheat broiler. Arrange tortillas Sprinkle cocoa over the batter and on non-stick baking sheet and brush fold in. Divide batter evenly into bakeach tortilla with % of the margarine and sprinkle with % of the cinnafull). Partially fill empty cups with 1 medium tomato, blanched, mon. Broil 6 inches from heat source water (this will prevent pan from until margarine is bubbly, 1 to 2 ml- burning and/or warping). Bake in nutes. Combine remaining cinna- middle of center oven rack until a mon with the sugar. Turn tortillas toothpick, inserted in center of cup-

Using electric mixer at medium-

sprinkle each with half the and let cool. cinnamon-sugar mixture. Broil until Each serving provides: % Protein Exchange and 70 Optional Calories. cinnamon-sugar mixture caramel-Source: Weight Watchers 1989 Engagement Calendar

> APPLE-CHEDDAR MUFFINS Makes 12 servings 1 % cups all purpose-flour

and finely chopped

pound apples, cored, pared,

Yogurt cheese mixes quick and easy

gurt cheese, or yogurt drained of its dip. whey. Draining should be done over-night, as it takes an average of 10-12 with: Mashed artichokes and parmedryer cheese.

heat it alone, or allow it to boil. To or oysters; Peanut butter and bacook without risk of separation or nana slices; Raisins; Chopped aprithinning, combine yogurt cheese cots, dates, nuts; Chopped mandarin with flour, cornstarch or eggs. oranges and figs; Crushed pineapple; To combine with hot foods, bring Lime or lemon juice and honey; Dried yogurt cheese to room temperature, soup or salad dressing mix. and/or allow hot foods to cool slightly. When possible, add yogurt cheese to hot foods at the end of cook-

• Yogurt cheese softens slightly Therefore, it is best to make a spread a few hours before you plan to use it and let it stand in the refrigerator to

DIPS & SPREADS The following, from "The Strong Bones Diet" (Lois Goulder, 1986) can be used as spreads for sandwiches or crackers, or as a stuffing for celery, cherry tomatoes, dates, etc. Thin the

FRIDAY, March 22

SATURDAY, March 23

SUNDAY, March 24

1 a.m. to 9 p.m.

10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Festival Admission (weekend pass)

Seniors (over 60)/Students-\$3.00

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All proceeds to benefit

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Habitat Foundation

6425 S. Pennsylvania, Suite 9

wijdlife through:

Lansing, MI 48911

Festival information call

(517) 882-3630

Adult--\$5.00

All of the following recipes use yo- mixture with a little liquid to make a poon dried

hours, and the whey should be dis- san cheese; Chopped jalapeno or carded. Timing is a matter of prefer- chili peppers; Chutney and curry; ence: longer draining yields a thicker. Curry, coconut and chopped almonds: Grated cheese; Grated ched-Here are some other pointers: dar and port wine; Chopped olives; Yogurt cheese is best blended into Minced clams and chopped olives; recipes with a fork. Vigorous blend- Chopped shrimp and dill weed; ing with a blender or food processor is Crumbled bacon and horseradish; Minced leftover ham, chicken or • Like all milk products, yogurt comed beef and pickle relish; Flaked cheese is sensitive to heat. Do not salmon or sardines; Chopped shrimp

> **SALMON MOUSSE** 1 can (1 pound) salmon 1 envelope unflavored gelatin l tablespoon lemon juice % cup boiling water

1 tablespoon dill weed (or 1 teas-

1 1/4 cups yogurt cheese

izes, about 1 minute.

Bread, 5 Optional Calories.

Life-stule Cookbook, 1991.

Each serving provides: 1/4 Fat, 1

Source: Weight Watchers Healthu

CHOCOLATE CUPCAKES

Makes 4 servings

(2 cupcakes each)

2 eggs (at room temperature)

mon juice and onion in food processor (metal blade) or blender and add boiling water with the machine running. Add salmon and pulse several times. Add paprika and dill and pulse again: Remove to bowl and blend in vogurt cheese. Pour into 1-quart

16 ounces vanilla yogurt cheese made from 32 ounce container of vanilla yogurt 2 pints strawberries, washed,

STRAWBERRY ICE CREAM

cheese and strawberries until pan. blended. Chill at least three hours. Bake in a preheated 325-degree Process in ice-cream maker per man- oven for 20-25 minutes (pie pan) or mixture into 9-inch-by-9-inch metal

chilled large bowl. With mixer at medium speed, beat until smooth but still frozen. Return to pan, cover and freeze). Also makes great frozen bars. but not the bones. Place gelatin, le- After final freezing or processing, pour into small paper cups or plastic

> PANTASY CHEESECARE Tastes rich, yet has just 88 calories a slice.

2 cups vanilla flavored yoguri

2-4 tablespoons sugar (optional) 1 tablespoon cornstarch 2 eggs lightly beaten (or 1 egg and 2

Combine yogurt cheese, sugar and cornstarch. Add eggs and mix gently with a fork or wire whisk. Pour into In medium-sized bowl, stir yogurt 8-inch pie pan or 7-inch springform

ufacturer's instructions. (Or, pour 55 minutes (springform pan). Cool pan. Cover and freeze, stirring occa- for 24 hours. Serves eight. sionally until partially frozen, about Note: for firmer cheesecake, drain three hours. Spoon mbeture into yogurt cheese up to 24 hours.



exercise with fitness factory

SPRING CLASS SCHEDULE

Farmington/Northville/Novi LOOK FOR NEW CLASSES AT MERCY CENTER. STARTING SEPTEMBER OF '81 STARTING DEFT START STAR Early Bird!

T/TH 6

T/TH 10

Sat. 9

Sat. 10

M/W 7

T/TH 6

T/TH 7 10:10 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 20 hrs/\$49 20 hrs/\$49 6:00 p.m. Hi-Low Combination M/TH 5:00 p.m. Mar. 25 "T/TH 9:30 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 20 hrs/\$49 Mar. 26 30 hrs/\$59 20 hrs/\$49 10 hrs/\$30 30 hrs/\$59 Faith Covenant Church (14 Mile and Drake)

*MW/F 9:20 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 *MW/F 10:30 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 30 hrs/\$59 Unlimited \$64 Babysitting \$1/child Low Impact T/TH 7:00 p.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Novi Civic Center (45175 W. 10 Mile Rd.)

Ing only; May 27)
(Register through Novi Parks & Recreation - you MUST specify if you will need babyatting by March 22 - 5:00 p.m. to assure getting in the child care program.)

"M/W 9:00 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Mar. 25 Karen B.

"T/TH 10:15 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Mar. 25 Linda B.

M/W/TH 7:00 p.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Mar. 25 Linda B.

Unlimited \$64 TEENS 10% Discount

7:05 p.m. 24 hrs/\$59 7:00 p.m. 24 hrs/\$59 Livonia Church of the Savior (38100 5 Mile Rd., W. of Newburgh) *T/TH 10:10 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Apr. 2 T/TH 7:10 p.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Apr. 2 9:00 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Apr. 2 6:00 p.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Apr. 2 Al Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church (14175 Farmington Low Impact
"M/W/F 9:15 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Mar. 25 Fat Burner *T/TH 9:15 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Mar. 28 Holy Cross Lutheran Church (30650 Six Mile Rd. (No class on 3-27, svening only; or 3-28 day or evening "MW/F 9:30 a m 20 hours 20 M/W/F 9:30 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 T/TH 9:30 a.m. 20 hrs/\$49 New Day! M/W/TH 7:30 p.m. 20 hrs/\$49 Low Impact Exercise
*M/W 10:40 a.m.
M/W 6:00 p.m.

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Winery's chef MONDAY sheet shares recipe

cup sugar

l bay leaf

l sprig thyme

minutes. Set aside.

Oven Polenta

4 cups water

2 teaspoons salt

peeled

% teaspoon salt

2 cups chicken stock

l pound fresh cranberries

3 tablespoons lime juice

3 tablespoons orange juice

I pint (I pound) pearl onions

4 tablespoons unsalted butter

In saucepan combine cranberries.

wine, sugar, lime, orange juices and

salt. Bring to a boil and simmer for 8

In saute pan melt butter, over

medium-high heat, saute pearl on-

ions until golden brown. Add stock

and simmer until pearl onions are

crisp tender. Add cranberry mixture

and simmer until liquids have con-

centrated. Salt and pepper to taste.

This may be made 3 days ahead and

gently warmed before serving.

I cup large cracked polenta

Brush 12-inch cake pan with 1 ta-

In ovenproof saucepan heat 4 ta-

blespoons olive oil, add onion and

saute over medium heat until trans-

lucent. Stir in polenta and coat with

olive oil, cooking long enough to heat

through. Whisk in boiling water

(measured after the boil) and return

5 tablespoons olive oil

% cup minced onion

blespoon olive oil. Reserve.

These recipes are from Chef Gary Cranberry Onion Compote Danko, chef/manager for The Restaurant at Chateau Souverain Winery in Sonoma County, Calif. He was the subject of a recent "Focus on Wine" column by Eleanor and Ray Heald. The column detailed Danko's participation in the Great Chefs program at the London Chop House in

GRILLED MARINATED QUAIL WITH POLENTA CROUTONS AND CRANBERRY ONION

24 ounces veal or duck stock 6 qualls, semi-boneless Wing tips and necks from quails

1/4 cup cabernet or red wine % cup olive oil, extra virgin I teaspoon salt 1 1/2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

1 1/4 teaspoons thyme 1 1/4 teaspoons ground cortander 6 small clusters of arugula or

Marinade: combine wine, olive oil, salt. Dilon mustard, thyme and ground coriander. Brush on quails and place in glass bowl or stainless steel and marinate 1-3 days.

Quail essence: brown tips and necks in olive oil until golden brown. Discard excess fat. Ladle in 6 ounces veal stock and reduce to a glaze. Repeat twice more until 6 ounces brown sauce remains. Strain well and discard bones. Reserve. This may be done a day ahead.

Grilling Quails: let quails come to to a boil. Add salt. Place in a 350-deroom temperature. Have grill heated. gree oven for 25-30 minutes (or until Grill quails for 2 minutes on each most of the water is absorbed). Reside. Remove legs from breast and move from oven and whisk until well continue grilling legs for 2 minutes blended. Pour into prepared cake longer, while you toss arugula with pan, smooth top. Cool. Cut into olive oil, vinegar, salt and pepper. Ar-range on plate with slices of smoked made 1-2 days ahead). pear and olives. Place breast on To serve: brush polenta with olive greens, arrange legs around and oil and grill or pan fry until golden drizzle with 1 ounce of hot quail brown. (In effect sear the outside and

Italian Minestrone is American favorite

favorite version of minestrone. This hearty Italian soup ranks among America's favorites, too, and contemporary ingredients make it easy to 3-inch pieces prepare for casual entertaining.

Italian-style Minestrone features convenient canned kidney and garbanzo beans. The canned beans are precooked, eliminating the long or Joan of Arc dark red kidney beans, soaking time and reducing the cook- drained ing time. In addition, they provide the 1 (15-ounce) can Green Giant or same important nutrients and great taste as packaged dry beans. Serve Italian-style Minestrone the

traditional way — with a green salad and crusty bread warm from the ITALIAN-STYLE MINESTRONE

5 cups water 2 1/2 cups beef broth 1 (14 % -ounce) can whole toma toes, undrained, cut up 1 cup chopped onions

cup sliced celery 1 teaspoon dried basil leaves 2 garlic cloves, minced 4 ounces spaghetti, broken into

cup sliced zucchini % cup frozen cut green beans from 16-ounce package) 1 (15 % ounce) can Green Glant

Joan of Arc garbanzo beans, drained

carrots, celery, basil and garlic, Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 20 minutes. Stir in remaining ingredients. Simmer covered an additional 20 minutes or until vegetables and spaghetti are tender. Stir in chopped parsley to garnish and serve with prepared pesto sauce if desired. Add salt and pepper to taste. Makes 8 (1 1/2 cup) servings.

ingredients and process until

smooth. Pour into dry ingredients

and stir until moistened (do not

Spray twelve 2 1/4 -inch nonstick

Healthy snack foods

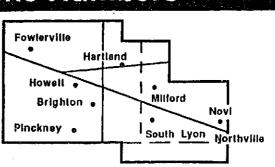
% cup rye flour 2 ounces reduced-fat chedda

cheese, shredded 1 1/2 ounces chopped walnuts ¼ cup granulated sugar 2 tablespoons dark raisins

together (tə-geth'-ər)

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muffin-pan cups with nonstick cooking spray; fill each cup with an equal 2 teaspoons double-acting baking mount of batter (each will be about % full). Bake in middle of center oven 1/4 teaspoon ground allspice rack for 20 minutes (until muffins are ground cinnamon golden and a toothpick inserted in 14 cup skim or non-fat milk center comes out dry). Invert muffins % cup plus 2 teaspoons reduced onto a wire rack and let cool. calorie margarine (tub) Each serving provides: 1 Fat, 1/2 Protein, 1 Bread, 1/4 fruit, 30 Op-14 cup thawed frozen egg Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In medium mixing bowl combine first 9 Source: Weight Watchers Healthy ingredients; stir to combine and set Life-Style Cookbook, 1991. 1. in or into one place, mass, collection, group. 2. in or into association or relationship. 3. as a union, by combined action, into agreement or harmony Any way you define it, "Together" is how our world should And the very best way to bring people together is to open ur hearts and homes to visiting high school students.
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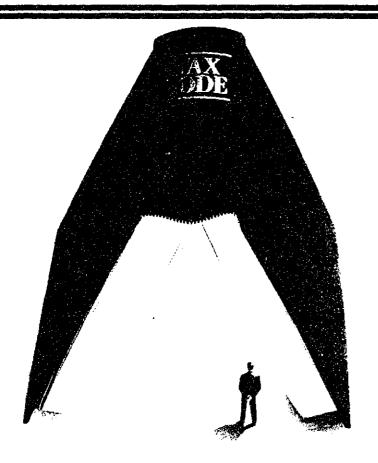
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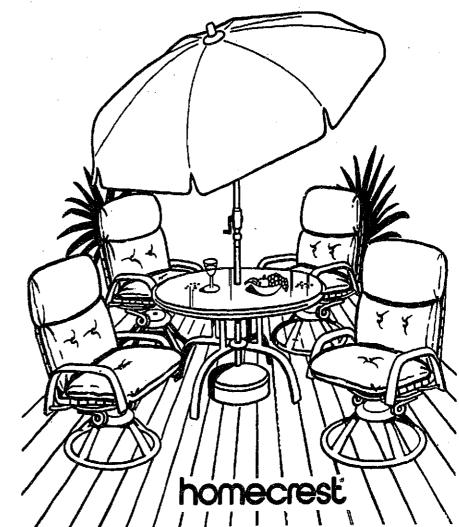


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Deeply contoured cushions, swivel rocker design ... this may be our most comfortable chair. This 5 pc. set features a 46" table with 4 high back cushioned chairs. 5 colors in stock.

Reg. \$1,360°

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