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MONDAY  
DECEMBER 14, 1992

Volume 37  
Number 66  
Two Sections  
12 Pages plus Supplements

# the NOVI NEWS

Opinions RECALL REJECTION  
GIVES A SECOND CHANCE / 5A

Dining PUDDINGS ADD MORE  
DICKENS TO CHRISTMAS / 1B

Sports A LOOK AHEAD TO  
THE NHS SWIM SEASON / 3B

## Panel to study uses for Fuerst home, land

By RANDY COBLE  
Staff Writer

Novi residents have the chance to follow the example of Iva and Ruby Fuerst. They can volunteer their time — in this case to help decide what should be done with the sisters' homestead.

The Novi Board of Education voted Dec. 3 to form a Fuerst family farm advisory committee. The body will investigate uses for the site, which lies at the intersection of Ten Mile and Taft roads next to Novi High School. The board is looking for community volunteers to serve on the committee.

"This way, we can get a good cross-section of views from the community," said Trustee Robert Schram, author of the resolution when he raised the matter at a November board meeting. "It's a community asset."

Iva and Ruby Fuerst, long noted for their philanthropic efforts, deeded some 160 acres to the district, which included their own home, in their wills. School ownership of the Fuerst homestead is not part of the current court battle being waged over other aspects of the Fuerst will.

The home, along with outlying buildings, has been the object of much speculation. Some groups have proposed preserving the existing structures as a historical site; others have said everything from senior housing to a community center could be built on the land.

Continued on 2



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

## The storm that wasn't

Though Michigan braced for a heavy winter snowstorm last Thursday, the snows came with more of a whimper than a bang. Still, it made for some pretty fine snowman-making,

as 5-year-old Billy Murray, and his mother Pam discovered. When asked what he thought about the snow, Billy said, "It's great."

## Will Main St. come to Novi next year?

By JAN JEFFRES  
Staff Writer

Novi's proposed Main Street-style town center, nurtured as a seedling of an idea since 1984, could be transplanted into the real world in 1993.

The city is preparing a series of cable broadcasts to keep residents posted on proposed rezonings in the town center, as the district's boundaries are soon headed for an expansion, Community Development Director Jim Wahl said Friday.

Especially targeted for the information campaign will be residents of the nearby Meadowbrook Glen subdivision.

Sometime in January, the Novi City Council is likely to confront the issue of exactly how a ring road in the crucial vacant land south of Grand River Avenue and east of Novi Road will be financed, Mayor Matthew Quinn said. This is the segment of the four-cornered town center where Main Street, USA, a la Novi, is to be built.

"If there's no road there, it's hard to get people to be serious," Wahl explained.

Quinn said the road itself and traffic lights at the Novi Road and Grand River access points will cost about \$1 million to build. Add on sidewalks, street lighting and the brick pavers and the cost soars up to \$2.3 million. Special amenities such as the brickwork are included

Sometime in January, the Council is likely to confront the issue of how a ring road will be financed, Mayor Matthew Quinn said. This is the segment of the four-cornered town center where Main Street, USA, is to be built.

In Novi's town center ordinance to give the area an easily identifiable, attractive appearance.

Wahl said the southeast ring road is not likely to qualify for a state economic development grant, which Novi is still hoping to win for the northwest sector. That ring road will serve businesses such as Progressive Tool and the Novi Expo Center.

Rezoning plans call for two categories of a town center district. Town Center One is the land south of Grand River on either side of Novi Road. Opposite it to the north, the area would remain as Town Center zoning.

Continued on 2

## Bond issue to face voters Tuesday

By RANDY COBLE  
Staff Writer

After months of discussion and debate, a proposed Novi schools bond issue moves into the hands of voters in less than 24 hours.

Novi Community School District voters will go to the polls tomorrow (Dec. 15) to approve or reject a request to issue \$31.9 million in bonds. The money will pay for a number of school additions and renovations, as well as several million dollars for a new technology system.

All that has a price, of course: an increased school millage. However, district officials say that the additional property tax would total only \$75 per year for the average homeowner.

The proposal earmarks more than half of the bond issue — some \$17.5 million — for work on Novi High School.

New additions to Novi High School would expand instructional space for physical education, science and performing arts. Additional space for student services and food service are also included. A series of school-wide renovations are also planned.

The second largest expense in the bond issue — at \$7.86 million — is for technology. The proposal includes wiring all district buildings with copper and fiber optic lines, linking each school

with the new Instructional Technology Center. The bond also pays for a variety of computers and related technical equipment to be installed in every school.

Parkview Elementary's student body has grown by leaps and bounds since the school opened in 1989. The school will receive a 10-classroom addition, costing \$2.2 million, if the bond passes.

Two other elementaries, Orchard Hills and Village Oaks, are slated for series of renovations costing more than \$2.3 million under the plan.

Orchard Hills will see new ceilings, lights, corridors, carpeting, roofing, windows and boilers. Air conditioning would be installed, and the school will hook up with the city's water system.

Village Oaks would also see air conditioning, as well as carpeting and a new roof, and repair of its improperly draining courtyard.

Some \$1.9 million in the plan is allocated for fees related to planning and issuance, as well as monies for land purchase.

To pay for the plan, officials propose to increase the amount of debt millage district property owners pay.

Property owners in the district pay taxes for general operations, a separate millage to pay off debt from past building/renovation projects and an Oakland County school levy. The general op-

erating levy and the Oakland County levy aren't affected by the bond proposal.

The district's debt millage would increase from its present level to 4.58 mills if the bond issue passes — a net raise of .757 of a mill. If your home is worth \$150,000, for example, that .757 translates into an additional \$75 per year in taxes.

That amount would decrease every year after the first two for the entire life of the bond, officials add.

These estimates rest on two major assumptions: the bonds will be sold at a low interest rate and state equalized valuation (SEV) rates will grow in the Novi area at about 3 percent per year every year of the bond issue.

If the issue passes, the bonds will be sold as early as next month. It's unlikely that interest rates, which are very low now, will increase much between now and then.

Area SEV growth rates have averaged 3 percent or better in recent years, the basis for the bond estimate. District officials, in fact, say their prediction is a conservative one.

Novi school district voters will have their say on the multi-million dollar plan tomorrow. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

More information on Tuesday's bond issue appears on page 3A in today's edition.

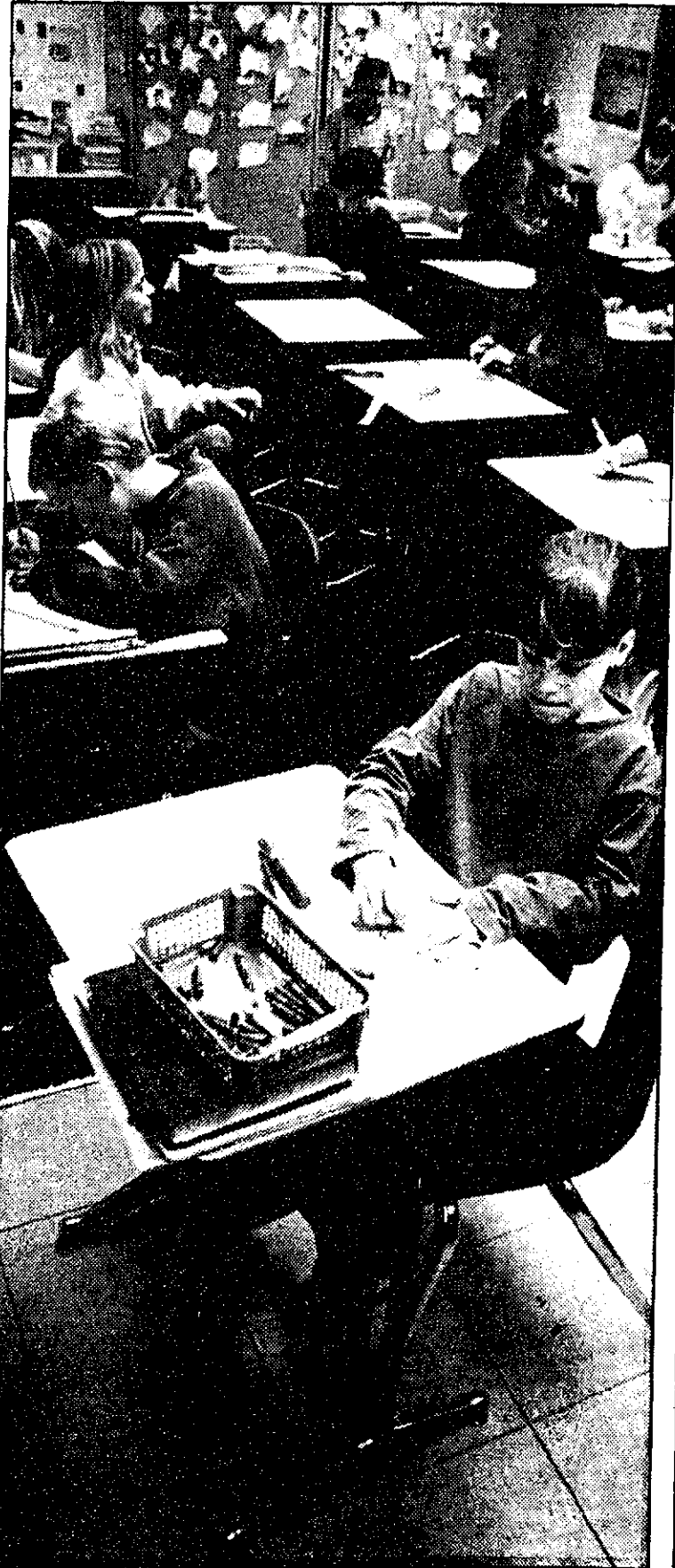


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Anne Chinn's fourth-graders adjust to portable classrooms

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NEWS/SPORTS ..... 349-1700

ADVERTISING ..... 349-1700

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## WHAT'S INSIDE?



## Voting precincts open at 7 a.m.

The Novi Community School District will hold a special election tomorrow — Tuesday, Dec. 15.

Voters will approve or reject a proposal for the district to issue \$31.9 million in bonds to pay for school additions, renovations and technology. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

There are three voting precincts in the district. If you are uncertain where you can vote, call 344-8330.

Voters in Precinct No. 1 will cast their ballots at Novi Middle School. The Middle School is located on Taft Road between Ten and Eleven Mile roads, next to the Educational Services Building.

Precinct No. 2's polling place is Orchard Hills Elementary, located on Quince Road. Quince is off of Ten Mile Road between Novi and Meadowbrook Roads.

Village Oaks Elementary, on Willowbrook Road, is the voting site for Precinct No. 3. Willowbrook lies off of Ten Mile between Meadowbrook and Haggerty roads.

Absentee voters can obtain ballots at the Educational Services Building.



# Community Calendar

Today, December 14

**Library Board:** The Novi Library Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi library building.

**Health tests:** Community EMS will sponsor blood pressure testing and cholesterol testing in the Novi Civic Center from 7:30-9 p.m. in conjunction with the Novi City Council meeting.

Tuesday, December 15

**Chamber Luncheon:** The Novi Chamber of Commerce general membership luncheon will be held at the Sheraton Oaks Hotel on Sheraton Drive at noon. The program will be presented by the Novi Choralaires. The cost is \$13 for members and \$17 for non-members.

**Bond issue election:** Polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Garden Club:** The Novi Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

**Band rehearsal:** The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For more information on the group, call manager Warren Ledger at 348-2955.

**Chess Club:** The Novi Chess Club will meet from 7-10 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. There is no charge to attend and all players are welcome. For more information, call Tim Sawmiller at 344-9833 evenings after 6 p.m.

Wednesday, December 16

**Advocates for Quality Education:** The Advocates for Quality Education will hold their monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Northville High School Forum. All members and residents of the Northville Public

School district are urged to attend. For membership information, call 348-3429.

**Winter Concert:** Join the Novi High School bands as they perform at 7 p.m. in Fuerst Auditorium in the high school.

**Planning Commission:** The Novi Planning Commission will meet in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

**Players rehearsal:** The Novi Players, a community theater group, rehearse from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Thursday, December 17

**Novi schools:** The Novi schools Board of Education will meet in regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Educational Services Building.

**Historical Society:** The Novi Historical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Old Town Hall.

Friday, December 18

**Winter recess:** Winter recess will begin at the end of the day. Classes will resume on Monday, January 4, 1993.

Monday, December 21

**Arts Council:** The Novi Arts Council Executive Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

**City Council:** The Novi City Council is scheduled to meet in regular session at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

**Health tests:** Community EMS will sponsor blood pressure testing and cholesterol testing in the Novi Civic Center from 7:30-9 p.m. in con-

junction with the Novi City Council meeting.

**Bereavement support:** Dr. Michael M. Meyer, Bereavement Counselor, will hold the monthly bereavement support group meeting from 7:30-9 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. A special candle-ritual will be held at this meeting.

Tuesday, December 22

**Youth Assistance:** Novi Youth Assistance board will meet at 7 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

**Band rehearsal:** The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For more information on the group, call manager Warren Ledger at 348-2955.

**Camera Club:** The Novi Camera Club meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center. For more information, call Hugh Crawford at 349-5079.

Wednesday, December 23

**Lions Club:** The Novi Lions Club will meet at Kim's Gardens at 6:30 p.m. for dinner followed by a meeting.

Thursday, December 24

**Christmas Eve:** City offices and the public library will be closed.

Friday, December 25

**Christmas Day:** City offices and the public library will be closed.

December 31

**New Year's Eve:** City offices and the public library will be closed.

## Committee to propose uses for Fuerst estate

Continued from Page 1

The committee called for by the board will discuss and investigate the various plans for the Fuerst homestead, and submit a report to the board by May 31.

The committee will include one member from each of the following groups: the Novi City Council, Planning Commission, Youth Assistance, Historical Society, Educational Foundation, Parks and Recreation Department, Arts Council and Community Education.

Superintendent Dr. Emmett Lippe will designate one member on his behalf. Six more members of the committee will be selected from the community, based on residency. The board decided to ask for two volunteers to serve on the committee who have lived in Novi for more than 15 years, two who have lived in Novi for 10-15 years and two of five to 10 years' residency.

The committee's mandate is broad. The committee is to consider any and all options for the estate, and in its report will indicate its three most preferred alternatives to the board.

The report must take into account the presence of the old Novi City Hall which sits adjacent to the site, as well as the effect of each alternative on nearby Novi High School.

In short, the committee will consider and recommend "the property use which will best serve Novi residents in the future," said Schram in the resolution.

The use, he continued, must recognize "the contributions to the community of Iva and Ruby Fuerst, [and] the values of the community for education and history."

If you are interested in serving on the committee, contact the Novi School District at 344-8330 or stop by the Educational Services Building, located on Taft Road between Ten and Eleven Mile roads.

## Main Street plan makes progress

Continued from Page 1

The districts would allow residential development to be built with a "zero lot line," similar to urban townhouses in East Coast cities. The zoning aims to encourage pedestrian-access to the businesses and discourages uses such as car washes, drive-through restaurants and automotive dealerships.

It also calls for off-site parking serving a number of businesses, rather than individual parking lots. The city's Town Center Steering Committee continues to work closely with the Farmington Hills-based Bezak Building Company and the Birmingham-based Singh Development, which are considering constructing townhouse-styled residences and mixed use developments

on the 55 acres now held by a Texas bank.

Singh Development's Mike Kahm told the city council Dec. 7 that the firm remains interested in creating a building similar to its MainCentre in downtown Northville. MainCentre has businesses such as a Coney Island restaurant, an interior design center, a beauty salon, a jeweler and a children's clothing shop on the first floor, under two floors of luxury apartments surrounding a courtyard.

In Novi, Singh is considering a 108-apartment project with four stories on five acres, Kahm said.

Bezak has discussed building townhouses and apartments on the site.

While there has been talk of a national recruiting drive to find town

center developers, Wahl said the steering committee is hoping Singh and Bezak will be the major players. These developers are now negotiating with the bank.

"They know the city. They have a good track record. They build quality products," Wahl said.

The city continues to explore the possibilities of bringing in a farmer's market and a movie theater to the southeast quadrant. Quinn said a restaurant and the owner of an "upscale" billiards hall are hoping to bring these types of businesses to the town center.

Another possibility is a brew pub, if state legislation enables such a move, Wahl said.

"It's like a coffee shop for beer drinkers. They're kind of unique," he added.

The town center ordinance now under consideration will provide the framework for developers to move forward, Wahl explained.

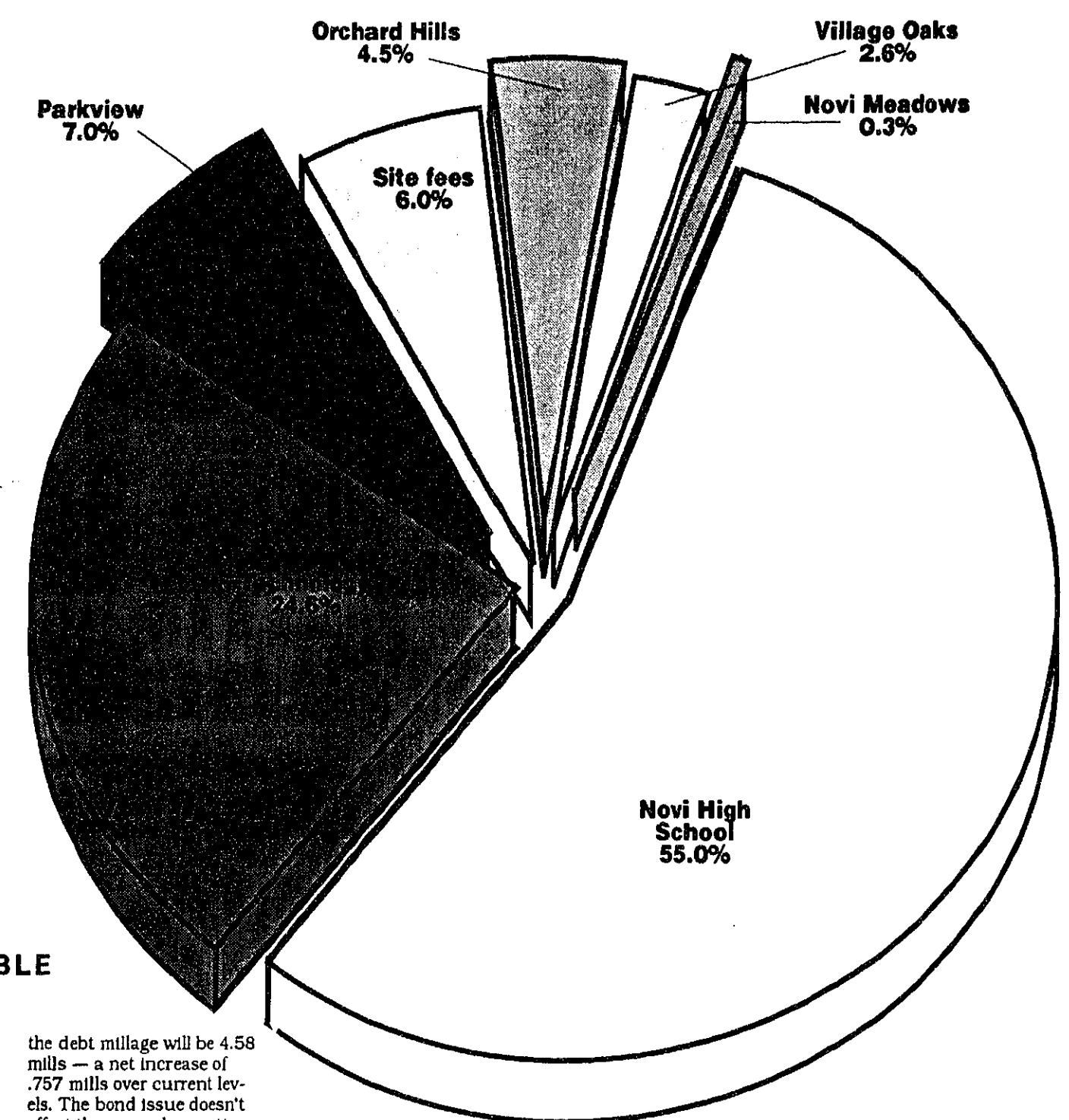
Wahl said he also has been talking with George Keros, a Detroit businessman, who owns much of the land in the southwest quadrant of the town center, including the site where the old Novi Methodist Church stands.

Keros has discussed building a mixed-use project, something similar to the proposed Main Street. In this concept, the church would have to be moved if it were to be saved, Wahl said.

"I think the church will be somewhere else. Never say never, but I would say it was not a high priority site," he added.

## NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOND ELECTION

# The 31.9 Million Question



### How Novi Ranks

Among Oakland County's 28 school districts

**State Equalized Value (SEV) per pupil (1991-92)**

1. Bloomfield Hills	352,645
2. Birmingham	323,412
3. Lamphere (Madison Hts)	301,908
4. Southfield	253,625
5. Farmington	228,687
6. Troy	220,739
7. NOVI	213,351
8. West Bloomfield	195,703
9. Avondale (Auburn Hills)	175,118
10. Walled Lake	163,312
11. Rochester	157,842
12. Royal Oak	153,034
13. Clarenceville (Livonia)	129,010
14. Lake Orion	128,265
15. Clawson	120,653
16. Oak Park	120,514
17. Waterford	116,613
18. Clarkston	116,545
19. Oxford	115,084
20. South Lyon	115,018
21. Pontiac	99,045
22. Berkley	90,456
23. Huron Valley (Milford)	86,743
24. Holly	73,929
25. Brandon	64,440
26. Madison	43,263
27. Ferndale	39,697
28. Hazel Park	27,386

**Expenditures per pupil (1990-91)**

1. Southfield	7,641
2. Birmingham	7,506
3. Bloomfield Hills	7,487
4. Lamphere	7,058
5. Farmington	6,499
6. West Bloomfield	6,439
7. Oak Park	6,043
8. Troy	5,944
9. Royal Oak	5,511
10. Clarenceville	5,443
11. NOVI	5,401
12. Avondale	5,290
13. Walled Lake	5,172
14. Lake Orion	5,088
15. Rochester	5,043
16. Pontiac	4,995
17. Waterford	4,787
18. Clawson	4,694
19. Madison	4,337
20. Oxford	4,330
21. Ferndale	4,295
22. Huron Valley	4,167
23. Holly	3,984
24. Berkley	3,980
25. Hazel Park	3,910
26. Brandon	3,826
27. South Lyon	3,651
28. Clarkston	3,648

**Lowest operating millage rate (1990-91)**

1. Bloomfield Hills	24.84
2. Birmingham	25.82
3. NOVI	27.63
4. Lamphere	28.00
5. Troy	29.15
6. Farmington	31.52
7. Avondale	32.95
8. West Bloomfield	34.13
9. South Lyon	34.28
10. Rochester	34.56
11. Southfield	34.69
12. Oxford	35.72
13. Royal Oak	35.98
14. Walled Lake	36.00
15. Holly	36.65
16. Lake Orion	37.10
17. Waterford	37.69
18. Brandon	37.79
19. Huron Valley	38.50
20. Clarkston	38.83
21. Hazel Park	39.04
22. Madison	39.18
23. Pontiac	39.94
24. Clawson	40.01
25. Berkley	41.26
26. Clarenceville	41.40
27. Oak Park	43.33
28. Ferndale	44.49

By RANDY COBLE  
Staff Writer

Voters in the Novi Community School District will go to the polls this Tuesday, Dec. 15. They will approve or reject a proposal for the district to issue \$31.9 million in bonds. The bond sale would pay for school additions, renovations and a new technology program.

The district levied 29.2 mills for general operations in fiscal year 1992, and 3.823 mills for debt bond payments. A planned reduction in the debt millage will reduce the impact of the bond issue on your tax bill, district officials say.

If the bond issue passes, the debt millage will be 4.58 mills — a net increase of .757 mills over current levels. The bond issue doesn't affect the general operations millage.

For the owner of a \$150,000 home, the bond issue would mean an additional \$75 a year in school taxes for the first two years of the 20-year life of the bonds. District officials say that amount will decrease every year during the remaining 18.

The polls open at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, and will close at 8 p.m.

### Cost Breakdown

**NOVI HIGH SCHOOL:** \$17,534,405

Physical education addition  
Science classroom addition  
Performing arts addition  
Student service addition  
Food service addition

**RENOVATIONS:** \$7,867,684

Classrooms  
Enclose walkway  
New stage flooring, lighting  
New auditorium sound system  
New tennis courts (six total)  
Revision of site lighting

**PARKVIEW ELEMENTARY:** \$2,220,306

Classroom addition (10 total)

**ORCHARD HILLS ELEMENTARY:** \$1,431,407

Renovations:  
New ceilings, lights, corridors  
New stage flooring, lighting  
Air conditioning  
Re-roof portion of building  
Replacement/redesign of outside windows  
Replace boilers  
Connection to city water system  
Painting  
Remodeling of toilets

**VILLAGE OAKS ELEMENTARY:** \$824,269

Renovations:  
Re-roof building  
Air conditioning  
Carpeting  
Repair of courtyard

**NOVI MEADOWS:** \$106,053

Renovations:  
New freezers  
Upgrade of cafeteria

**ADDITIONAL COSTS:** \$1,915,876

Site acquisition  
Fees related to bond issuance

**TOTAL BOND ISSUE:** \$31,900,000

### Compute your tax

In fiscal year 1992, the Novi School District levied a total of 33.023 mills — 29.2 mills for general operations and 3.823 mills for debt bond payments. Oakland County levied a total of 3.2571 mills for school operations as well, for a grand total of 36.2801 mills levied for school taxes in Novi.

The portion of school taxes covering general operating expenses in Novi and the portion levied by Oakland County for community college operations aren't affected by the bond issue.

Due to a planned reduction in the current debt millage levy, if the bond issue passes the new debt millage will total 4.58 mills. This is a net increase of .757 mills over the current level, and will decrease every year after the first two years of the 20-year life of the bond.

To calculate your current school tax bill:\*

36.2801 x (Your SEV) + 1,000

To calculate your school tax bill if the bond issue passes:\*

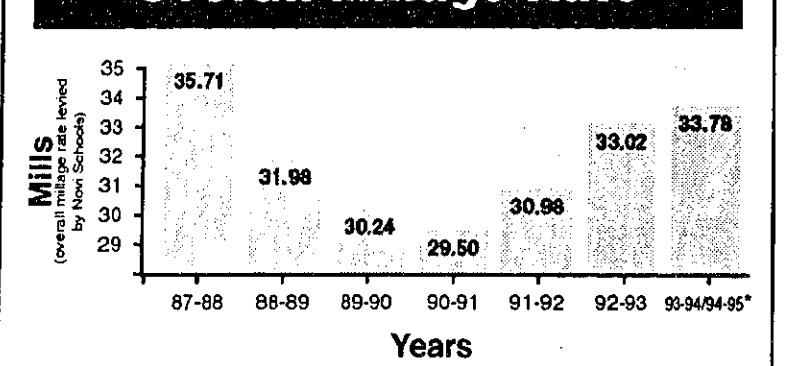
37.0371 x (Your SEV) + 1,000

\*Half of this amount would be collected in July, and half in December.

### The Cost to You:

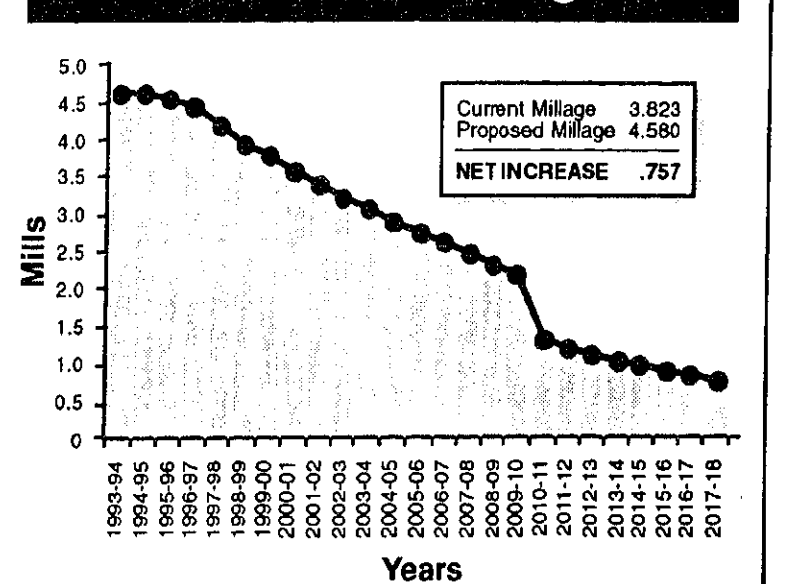
If your home sells for:	Your valuation is:	Your 1993-1994 cost is:	Your 1993-1994 monthly cost is:
\$75,000	\$37,500	\$28.39	\$2.36
\$100,000	\$50,000	\$37.85	\$3.15
\$125,000	\$62,500	\$47.31	\$3.94
\$150,000	\$75,000	\$56.78	\$4.73
\$175,000	\$87,500	\$66.24	\$5.52
\$200,000	\$100,000	\$75.70	\$6.31
\$225,000	\$112,500	\$85.16	\$7.09
\$250,000	\$125,000	\$94.63	\$7.88

### Overall Millage Rate



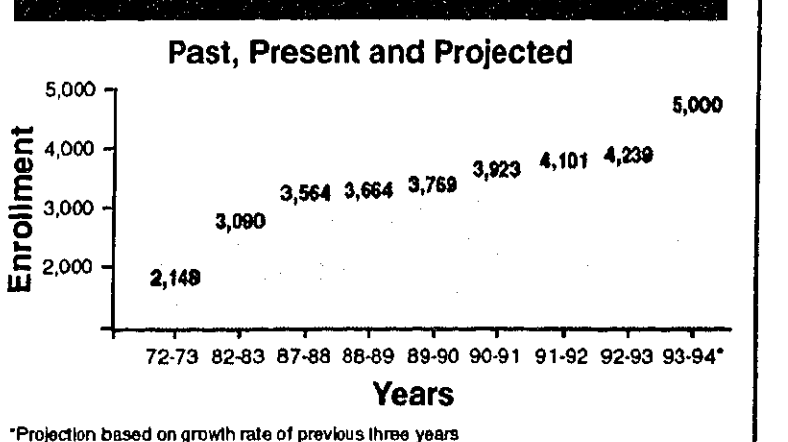
\*For 1993-1994 and 1994-1995, if bond issue passes

### Total Debt Millage



Current Millage: 3.823  
Proposed Millage: 4.580  
NET INCREASE: .757

### Enrollments



\*Projection based on growth rate of previous three years

### Random Reading

New from Random House: Everyman's Library Children's Classics. Ten beloved titles are available this season, including Aesop's Fables, Peter Pan, Just So Stories and The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. Made to be cherished by the young reader-collector, with classic illustrations and author-artist biographies.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland Through the Looking Glass By Lewis Carroll  
Everyman's Library, \$12.95 List At Borders \$11.65

Spot the Random Reader!  
Every day through Dec. 24, a live Random Reader can be seen at Borders Novi enjoying a book from Random House. And the first customer each day to report seeing the Random Reader wins a gift certificate good towards any title from Everyman's Library or Modern Library.

BORDERS BOOK SHOP  
Novi Town Center  
(313) 347-0780

### Monthly Allergy Tip

**COLDS ... COUGHS ... SORE THROAT ... BRONCHITIS ... SINUSITIS ...**

These respiratory illnesses can happen to you at any time during the year. Time may be missed from work or school. These difficulties may be associated with allergies or asthma.

Call us. Let us help you that same day to feel better soon. We'll suggest the best treatment to get you back to your usual activities.

Don't suffer! See us and get the relief you need.  
We participate with Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Medicare, Commercial Insurance, Selectcare, PPO, and most PPO's.  
(313) 473-8440

ALLERGY AND ASTHMA CENTER OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN, P.C.  
24230 Karim Blvd. (10 Mile Rd. West of Haggerty)<



# Police seek missing AIDS victim

Police are currently looking for a missing Novit man who is believed to have forged a check at a local party store.

The man, who is allegedly infected with the AIDS virus, reportedly became angry at his wife because she wouldn't give him any money, and told her before he left that he planned to "die" as many people as I can before I die.

His wife told police that, on Nov. 23, he took her child support check and forged her signature, then cashed it at the Depot V party store, where his sister saw him purchase beer and various other items.

On Nov. 25, she said, he asked her for some money and she refused so he became angry and left. She said he has been battling AIDS for eight years and made the statement that he plans to infect others as he was leaving.

Police reported that the man is currently on parole after serving a jail term for a separate larceny-related incident and was arrested last month in Monroe County for drunk driving.

The woman told police she intends to press charges against him for forging her signature. She also contacted the man's parole officer and informed him her husband was missing.

**HARASSMENT:** Police are currently investigating reports of alleged harassment by a Novit woman believed to

## Police News

be upset over the break-up of her relationship.

The woman who filed the complaint is the current girlfriend of the suspect's former boyfriend. She told police that the suspect has been following her from her home on Joseph Street to the Vic Tanny health club in Novi Town Center.

She told police that on Friday, Nov. 20, the suspect flagged her down as she was driving near Epixure Center on Grand River and gave her a four page letter and later the same day left a note on her door.

She told police she believes the suspect is obsessed with her ex-boyfriend and that she sometimes sits in a nearby parking lot and watches their house. In addition, she is charged that the suspect follows her at Vic Tanny and asks her questions about her sex life, then stares at her as she undresses in the locker room.

**VANDALISM:** A Walled Lake woman reported Dec. 2 that someone smashed the windshield of her 1989 Ford while it was parked at Twelve Oaks Mall.

She told police she was parked her vehicle there at 9 a.m. and returned at 11

the bathroom, but his brother kicked the door in, then picked up a broken piece of door and hit him with it.

Police described the board as 2 feet long and 1 inch wide. Other family members, who were also deaf and mute, made written statements and the suspect, who police said was highly intoxicated, was arrested.

The victim told police he plans to press charges against his brother. Police are currently waiting for a warrant.

Citizens with information about the above incident are urged to call the Novi Police Tip Line at 349-6887.

## Novi Briefs

**Fiction Contest:** The Novi News would like to thank Wanda Freeman of Borders Book Shop and Susan Petersmark of the Northville Public Library for helping to judge the 1992 Fall Fiction Contest. Freeman and Petersmark, in addition to Novi News staff members Bob Needham and Cristina Ferrer, read a total of 47 contest entries to choose this year's winning stories. The stories were published in the Dec. 10 issue of The Novi News.

**Honor Roll:** Brian Mitchell, a ninth grader at Novi High School and Tommy Perkins, an eighth grader at Novi Middle School, were both named to their school's honor rolls for the first period. Mitchell and Perkins were inadvertently left off the lists provided by the schools.

**CITY OF NOVI NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has established two committees:

1. Lake Property Study Committee
2. Walled Lake Sector Study Implementation Committee

The Lake Property Study Committee calls for three members from the City at large. The Walled Lake Sector Study Implementation Committee calls for two residents from neighborhoods on the West, South and East side of Walled Lake.

Purposes interested in serving on either of these Committees should submit their request in writing indicating their desire to serve. Additional information regarding either Committee is available from the Clerk's Office. The deadline for receiving applications is January 5th.

GERALDINE STIPP, CITY CLERK  
(12-14-92 NR, NN)

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# Opinions

## As We See It

### Recall rejection gives city a second chance

The Oakland County Board of Election Commissioners said Dec. 2 that indeed the wording on the petitions to recall Novi City Council members Nancy Cassis, Joe Toth and Carol Mason was not clear. On that basis, the recall sponsors were sent back to the drawing board to draft new wording if they are still serious about the ouster attempt.

They say they are. Recall sponsor Art Cervi said he and his group will try again.

And you can view all this from a number of possible perspectives. You can see it as a victory of sorts for the council member/recall targets. You can see it as a setback for the recallers. Or you could even view this as a chance for the recall sponsors to fine-tune the wording of the issue, and give voters a better test of public sentiment about these three members.

We see it as a chance for the city to avoid the entire recall mess, and all the negativity and divisiveness that will come with it.

There is a way. It's a pretty simple solution, although we admit it can sometimes be difficult to accomplish. It is just this — listen. Those on either side of the issue need to listen to those on the opposite side.

Webster's New World Dictionary: *lis-ten* (tis'en) *v.* 1. to make a conscious effort to hear.

The members of Novi City Council who have been targeted for recall need to make a conscious effort to hear the criticisms the recall sponsors are making. They have some very valid points. Object



**Phil Jerome**

Government

all you want to the proposals and policies on the table, but there are some courtesies that should be extended when the debate is going on. The objections should never turn into personal attacks. Leave the innuendo out of it. And even if council members sometimes didn't intend their comments to be personal attacks, the important thing is that the comments are often taken to be just that.

Furthermore, object though you may, the city must still have an efficient government. State your case, and if you are in the minority on the issue, let's move along anyway to the next subject.

Those who support the recall also need to make a conscious effort to hear the points claimed made by council members Toth, Cassis and Mason. Council needs good information from its administration and appointees, and asking a question does not equate to an attack. A little less defensiveness to simple questions would help a great deal.

In fact, asking tough questions of the administration, city consultants and appointees truly is a part of the council's job. It's supposed to be a watchdog, and one who fulfills that role does not count as an obstructionist.

## Some still fail the test

There's no good reason for the Novi Police to be handing out tickets to local store clerks, waiters and bartenders for serving alcohol to minors.

That's because it shouldn't be happening in the first place.

Friday, Dec. 4, was the third time the Novi police department's decoy program has gone into action. Police Sgt. Bob Gatt and Officer Tom Lindberg operate the program by sending one or more teenage volunteers into establishments holding liquor licenses, to attempt to purchase alcohol.

If a sale occurs, the person who made the sale receives a misdemeanor citation requiring a court appearance and possible fine up to \$500. The violation is reported to the state Liquor Control Commission (LCC) which may result in a fine for the owner of the establishment. If such violations accrue, the LCC will revoke the liquor license.

And it's a very straightforward program. Why five local party stores and restaurants have "failed the test" and sold alcohol to the decoys is beyond us.

There is no effort to trick people into making the sale. One of the criteria for choosing a volunteer is that he or she look obviously under 21.

There is no attempt to make the volunteer look older than he or she really is. Precautions are taken to ensure the volunteers carry no fake IDs and they are only allowed to carry a \$20 bill provided by the police department to pay for the alcohol.

Volunteers are instructed to say they have no ID if they are asked, and are told to tell the truth if asked their age.

On top of all that, Novi Police Chief Doug Shaeffer sent a letter to every liquor license holder in the city to warn them of the program before it began. It has also been the subject of several newspaper articles.

So why do the sales occur? It looks like flat-out carelessness on the part of the liquor license holders.

During the last decoy operation, one of the people ticketed for selling to the decoys claimed she thought just asking for ID was enough, and sold the alcohol because a co-worker told her he'd seen the decoy in there before. She said she didn't realize she actually had to see the ID for herself. She didn't know about the decoy program because she'd only been working there for three weeks.

If that's the case, the store owner should have spent more time training his employee. As the holder of the license, he surely must know the laws surrounding the sale of alcohol.

Restaurant, bar and party store owners have a lot riding on their liquor licenses. Without them, they would lose a major part of their business.

In addition, statistics show a major portion of alcohol-related accidents involve teenagers. Selling alcohol to teens increases the license holder's risk of losing a lawsuit connected to one of these accidents.

So without even discussing the fact that selling alcohol to minors poses a danger to their lives and health — and without even discussing the fact that it's illegal — license holders are simply foolhardy to allow any such sales to occur.

## The 'secret' about Santa



**Phil Jerome**

One of the world's better Santa Clauses came out of retirement last week to make an appearance at a Cub Scout meeting.

Okay, that's somewhat immodest, and I'm willing to admit I may not be one of the world's better Santa Clauses. But I'm not bad either.

What happened is that former Novi News photographer and current graphics guru Chris Boyd waited for the right moment to ask a favor.

I was in one of those high-energy moods when I attack any and every project put in front of me... one of those moods when I can hardly wait to finish one project so I can tackle the next.

"I need a favor," said Boyd, walking into my office. "No problem, Chris," I replied. "You name it, it's done."

"This is a big favor," he said. "Name it, mi amigo," said I.

And that's when he told me he needed somebody to play Santa at his son's Cub Scout meeting.

He didn't need to add anything else. But he clinched the deal by saying, "Of course, you're going to need a pillow; you're too thin to be Santa without a pillow."

The plan was that I was to show up at six-fifty — 10 minutes before the pack meeting started. Chris would supply the pillow and the Santa costume; all I had to do was get dressed, wait for my cue (when the Cubbies sang "Here Comes Santa Claus"), walk in and hand out the presents.

"That'll be about seven-fifteen. By seven-thirty you'll be

done," said Chris.

I arrived early and by seven o'clock was fully dressed in full Santa regalia and ready to take the stage.

Anyone who has ever played Santa knows that the suits are hot and the bears are itchy. I was experiencing those feelings when Chris knocked on the door at seven-fifteen.

"Thank goodness: it's time," I thought. "The meeting hasn't started yet," said Chris.

I spent another 30 minutes in the green room, waiting for my cue and wondering how many people had worn the Santa beard before it got to me, but eventually the time arrived.

"Merry Christmas, boys and girls," I ho-ho-ed as I strode into the room. "I just flew in from the North Pole... and, boy, are my arms tired."

The whole thing came off pretty well. Sure, some of the larger Cubbs were a little skeptical about whether I was the real Santa. And a couple even told me that they could see the Scotch tape I had used to stick the beard to my face.

But the best part came after I had finished the gig and changed back into my civvies.

As I was walking toward the parking lot, I passed a Cub and his mother headed in the same direction.

"Excuse me, but was there a Cub Scout meeting here tonight?" I asked.

"Yes," they confirmed. "And by any chance was Santa Claus at your meeting?"

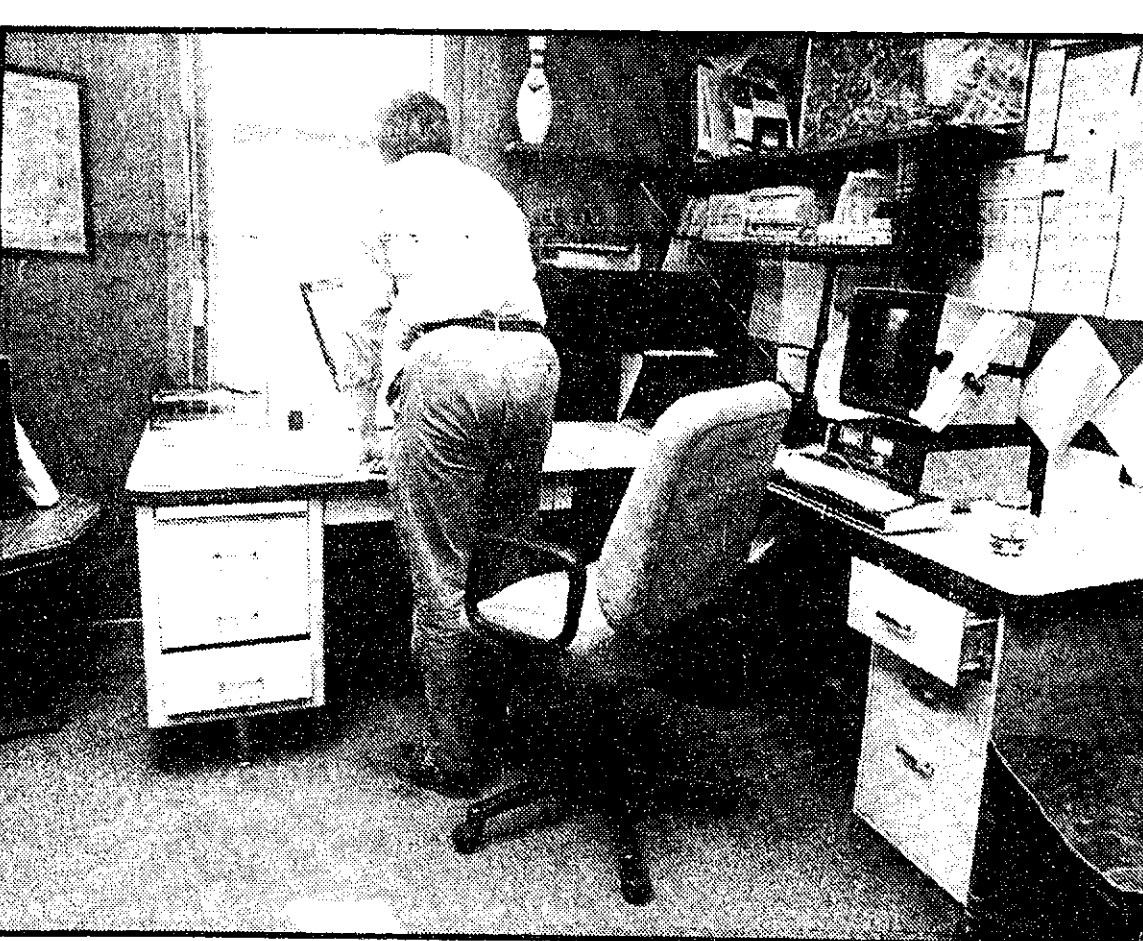
"Yes," again. "I thought so," I replied. "I thought I saw his sleigh up in the sky as I was driving in."

The mom kind of chuckled, but the Cubbie was rather skeptical.

"Hey, mister," he said quietly. "I know the secret about Santa Claus."

## In passing

By Hal Gould



Novi News Editor Bob Needham left last week for a new job

## Many hands make light work



**Rick Byrne**

My brow is furrowed, and I'm a little bit parched from breathing dust because I've just spent three hours cutting boards on a scroll-saw. But I've got an ear-to-ear grin, too.

That's because the Motorsports Museum and Hall of Fame is quickly taking shape. In the past two months new volunteers have been crawling out of the woodwork to join SPARK, the working group that supports the Museum. I'm the secretary

for the group, and it seems like I've been updating our phone list every two weeks.

As I wander around what was once an empty 20,000-square-foot cavity at the Novi Expo Center, and see what our group has accomplished with almost no money, the words keep ringing in my ears: "Many hands make light work."

Mike Reilly of Novi has been a God-send. He could show Bob Vila a thing or two about hanging drywall, and has been supervising work crews to get the various walls in place. Bob Chubb, whose wife Rosie is a mail carrier in the neighborhood of Grand River and Meadowbrook has had his hands in the drywall hanging, too.

Rosie herself has been pitching for door prize donations, along with Jean Petre and Elaine Kaiser, who come from Detroit and Westland respectively, to join us. Their family owns Jet-Way, a Wayne-based company that owned and sponsored various Winston Cup stock car teams in the 1960s and 70s.

On lead scroll-saw is Jim Klima, a Novi tool maker and ex-racer. He is joined by Arnie Ahrens, another Novi neighbor, and yours truly, Kevin Franger, who visits us occasionally from Sterling Heights, can't always be present because of job-related travel, but he's been nice enough to leave us his saw. When we're done, we'll have carved out the names of all 37 inductees to the Hall of Fame.

Dave Poulson, who works at McDonald Ford in Northville, Bob Sanzi, another long-distance traveler from Sterling Heights, and Tom Duncan of Novi pitch in anywhere they're needed. Tom's son Jim has been our mole among the Twelve Oaks merchants.

Not only that, but now that the bricks and mortar are starting to fall into place, big corporations are starting to take notice. This illustrates the more tangible meaning of the line from *Field of Dreams*. "If you build it, they will come." Ford Motor Co. has just handed us a check for \$25,000 and said, "Build it."

Local firms are putting a stake in the museum, too. In addition to the scores of merchants who have donated door prizes, Guardian Industries donated huge sheets of tempered glass that will make our striking lobby. Harmon Glass contributed the installation service.

JCK & Associates loaned us architect Al Hall, who has put together designs and specifications for the museum. Bob Bedyk of Bedyk Brothers Inc. general contractors in Livonia provided materials, labor and supervision.

Don Fee of Exhibit Works in Livonia is again donating his services to make the place look fancy for our Grand Opening party, car show and benefit auction on Jan. 9. He performed the same service for our January event last year, and when the museum officially opens to the public on Tuesday, Jan. 12. The displays and exhibits will be of his design as well.

So many companies have stepped up to help us — heating contractors, electrical contractors, retailers of building materials — that they'd probably fill this page if I listed them.

Suffice it to say that many hands make light work.

Rick Byrne is Copy Editor of The Novi News.

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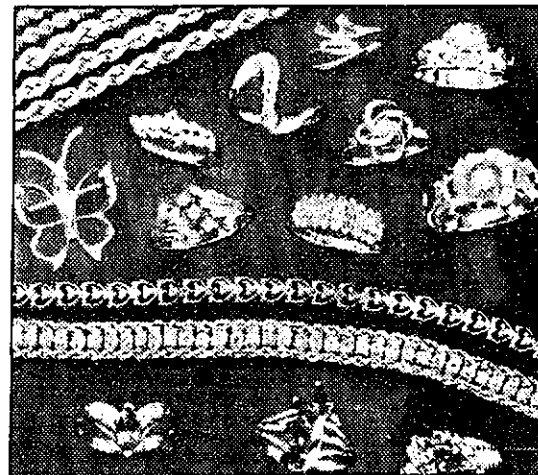
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## Shelves stock wines worthy of gift-giving

Tailoring wine gifts to a recipient's taste can be fun, even if you believe you don't know much about wine. Relax, all you need to know is how much you wish to spend. In general, wine enthusiasts are easily pleased.

Wine lovers enjoy reading about wine almost as much as they like drinking it. The latest vintage of wine books released for the holidays is above average.

Three books by the British writer Hugh Johnson, published by Simon & Schuster, top the list. *Vintage: The Story of Wine* (paperback \$25) is an outgrowth of the basic work Johnson did for the PBS masterpiece of the same name. Within the nearly 500 pages with 200 four-color photographs, Johnson traces the history of wine from biblical times to the present. The reader is left with a great appreciation of the importance of wine on civilization.

In *The Vintner's Art* (hardcover \$40), Johnson teams with Australian vintner/writer James Halliday to explain how technology has, in the last two decades, revolutionized the art of wine-making. In clear and understandable language, but with accurate detail, the authors explain how great wines are made.

Every wine enthusiast who has fantasized about making wine and owning a winery will enjoy reading about the technological advances available in the vineyard and winery enhancing the winemaker's skills.

Over the years, *Hugh Johnson's Pocket Encyclopedias of Wine* (\$11.99) have sold more than three million copies. The 1993 edition offers a brief but complete look at wine-producing countries, vintages, grape varieties, wine types and basic food complements. The book's size makes it a perfect stocking stuffer.

Cheese is one of wine's favorite matches and many area wine merchants stock a dazzling array. *The Simon and Schuster Pocket Guide to Cheese* by Sandy Carr (\$13) is, as the subtitle suggests, a complete guide to the cheeses of the world. It includes, in addition to interesting facts about the world's stock of cheeses, hints on buying, storing and serving them. The tips on harmonizing wines and cheese cover a brief half page and is the book's drawback for a wine connoisseur.

In every wine vintage, some bottlings just don't make it. Some wine books are the same. *Making Sense of California Wine* by Matt Kramer (Morrow, \$20) falls short of his 1990 work *Making Sense of Burgundy*. Kramer, a Portland, Ore. resident, must not have spent much time in California wine country. His book, although offering a fresh perspective from the appellation point of view, omits wineries of significance.

Kramer also needs to study California geography and learn the correct spelling of winery names. We don't agree with its advance billing as the must-read wine book of the year.

To add to the wine enthusiasts liquid assets, a fine bottle of champagne or sparkling wine will always be welcome. Champagne prices have come down over last year, but they still bear a pricey tag. If money's no object, the 1985 Champagne Taittinger Comtes de Champagne Blanc de Blancs (\$90-95) is an exceptional chardonnay pour produced exclusively from 100

Continued on 2

**WINE SELECTIONS OF THE WEEK**

Add sparkle to your holiday entertaining or gift giving with: Roederer Estate Anderson Valley Brut (\$17), Iron Horse 1989 Brut (\$25), Iron Horse 1989 Blanc de Noir Wedding Cuvee (\$27.50)

Superior recently released gift-worthy red wines: 1990 Kendall-Jackson Proprietor's Grand Reserve Zinfandel (\$17), 1988 Simi Winery Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon (\$34), 1988 Pomorosso, Coppo, Piedmont (\$42).

# A Dickens Christmas treat

## Plum pudding brings home holiday flavor

By CHARLES BRITTON  
Copley News Service

If you've been shopping in downtown Northville this season, you know all about the Dickens Christmas atmosphere the merchants have worked hard to portray.

Now you can bring a little more of that atmosphere into your home with authentic British plum puddings. Few practitioners of plum pudding creation exist in this country, but they are in demand wherever they are found.

About this time of year, the heady perfume of spices hangs heavy around the old Robinson School in Manhattan Beach, Calif.

"I drive them crazy with this aroma," Patti Garrity said about her neighbors around the former cafeteria kitchen.

She lifted a massive lid to reveal the source of the seductive smell: perhaps three dozen plum puddings, steaming away in what looked to be a stainless steel laundry sink. These were part of the 7,000 or so that she makes during pudding season from September to December.

A few of the puddings get no farther than the offices next door, for Garrity often gives a taste to those who share the building. But most of them will end up on holiday tables all over the country.

Plum puddings were hardly a part of the Garrity Christmas tradition — not at first.

"I read about them in Dickens as a child, and I always wondered what they were," she said. "One year I came across a recipe, and I made one. And it was the worst thing I ever tasted."

The truth, as Garrity discovered, is that plum pudding can be pretty awful. Some recipes call for the bitter addition of stout, and the flavor of the finished product can have a horrid resemblance to cough syrup. But, she felt, there must be some reason for eating them.

The next year she found another recipe and tried again. The result was the same. But Garrity was nothing if not persistent, a trait that stood her in good stead when she went into business.

"I kept trying for seven years," she said, "and on the eighth year — jackpot."

This recipe was a success. Garrity will only say that she found it in a well-known source and that she has since modified it into her commercial formula, which remains secret.

As dreadful as plum puddings can be, good examples can delight — similar in many ways to mince-pie filling or a fine fruitcake. Even to people who have never before tasted the dish, it says "Christmas" like little else.

Garrity's discovery of a tasty plum pudding came some 15 years ago, and at first she scarcely suspected that it would turn into a business that has her tending restaurant-size steamers more than three months out of every year. She started out making plum puddings for friends on her holiday gift list.

Garrity can start the plum pudding season in September because the dish not only keeps well, it positively needs time to age.

"My plum pudding will keep indefinitely," she said. "I think they're best after being stored at room temperature for several weeks."

"After Christmas, they should be kept in the fridge. Every year I hear about people finding one in the back of the refrigerator, where it has been for years. And it's still good."

Culinary lore tells of cooks who traditionally make plum puddings only every other year, even once in five years, carrying over a batch from one Christmas to the next.

Two factors contribute to the self-preserving qualities of the plum pudding: First of all, the dish is steamed far longer than the novice thinks probable, four hours or so for a typical size, all day long for a really big example. Then the recipe calls for suet, beef fat, preferably from around the kidney, perhaps the most characteristic ingredient of British cookery.

Suet is noted for keeping extremely well. The long steaming, Garrity says, causes the gluten in the flour to combine with the suet in a way that keeps longer still.

Puddings once were wrapped in clean dish towels and simply dropped into boiling water. Nowadays, the mixture goes into a mold of some kind — the traditional British "pudding basin" looks like a glazed version of a flower pot — and then either steamed above the boiling water or half immersed in the water, like a custard.

Once cool, the pudding can be wrapped in a brandy- or rum-soaked cheesecloth, the alcohol adding another measure of preservative effect. Then the dish can be doused with more brandy or rum while awaiting the big day. The pudding traditionally has brandy or rum



It's not too early to prepare plum pudding for a flaming finale to a holiday meal.

poured over it and is set alight.

The traditional accompaniment is hard sauce, butter beaten with powdered sugar and, again, more brandy or rum.

Where are the plums in plum pudding? They're in the form of dried and candied fruit. Originally, plums in this sense referred to dried plums, what we today call prunes.

By the 17th century, the word plum had been extended to cover dried and candied fruit in general, the latter being called "sugarplums."

Up until the introduction of canning in the 19th century, drying and candying were among the few methods by which fruit could be preserved so that it could be enjoyed later. Hence the prevalence of such ingredients in older recipes.

Although Garrity's plum pudding formula remains a trade secret, we have another recipe that makes a result we can vouch for. Make it soon, and it will be ready to provide the grand finale for your Christmas Dinner. This recipe is attributed to the cook for George V of England.

The recipe seems somewhat darker in taste than Garrity's, but it has been a success when served at the end of a holiday dinner. It appeared in a 1976 book by

Craig Claiborne, former food editor of *The New York Times*, credited to Mrs. Sam Emlison of Houston.

Perhaps the hardest aspect of this recipe is figuring out how to cook it. The formula makes about 18 cups of batter, enough for three 6-cup molds.

For steaming the pudding, a large turkey roaster works well. Place a rack on the bottom; the molds should not rest on the floor of the pan. You can steam the pudding in batches if you have to. The recipes call for the puddings to be steamed eight hours. Unless you use a very large mold — say, 10 cups or so — this seems unreasonable. I steamed 6-cup molds for six hours and called it a day.

The puddings need little attention during the steaming, but you have to monitor the progress to replenish the water as necessary. The pan should never come near boiling dry.

**GEORGE V  
PLUM PUDDING**

1½ teaspoons salt  
1 teaspoon baking powder

Continued on 2

**Chef Mary Brady**



We drove to Grand Haven and stayed at a wonderful B & B, The Harbour House Inn. Right on the water.

The room was delightful, which means for me, no TV and a fireplace. We both got a

good amount of reading done. For once Tom had more than one day to get through his *New York Times*. Even I finished the magazine section. Usually I just get to the food article.

And there was a wonderful holiday book guide that critiqued the best new books coming available. Several of the cook books looked great. Not really what I need but will probably end up with. Grand Haven is certainly a sleepy town this time of year. After two nights we were ready to head back to this side of the state. Too much relaxation is sometimes worse than too little.

I will have to say that we had a great meal at the Kirby Bar and Grill, the rough, old brick walls and a big cloppy, comfortable bar in the middle. The menu was very

adventurousome. Not trendy, just good solid food.

We chose the duck egg rolls and artichokes in phyllo as starters. Both were surprisingly good, especially the duck. Personally, duck is a favorite. Egg rolls aren't. They were very tasty. Served with a spicy dipping sauce and pineapple salsa as accompaniments an "oldy" became a "goody". Just a little bit different.

Fruit sauces, purees and coulis are becoming popular. We have started to use fresh fruit in our stir-fries. It really lightens up the dish and adds another dimension. Whenever I design plates, or food, I must consider much more than just taste. Texture, nutritional content, varying flavors and ingredients all play a major role. Take for instance the egg rolls. Duck is

definitely not something that you see prepared this way on a regular basis. That makes it interesting right off the bat. Then add crispy oriental style vegetables, ginger, garlic and a dash of red pepper flakes for a melding of spices and the crunchy won ton skin gives a snappy change of feel in the mouth from the softer vegetables.

Imagine now the pineapple salsa, with a touch of cilantro, drizzled over the steamy hot roll that you've just cut open. Ummmm . . . Sounds good doesn't it? Take my word, it was. I'll have to try a similar version sometime soon.

Let's get back to the use of fruit and vegetable purees. Citrus fruits, kiwis, mangos, apples, bananas, pineapples and root vegetables are at their peak right now. Citrus is one of my choices because of its re-

freshing tingle. Heated with a bit of kiwi puree and poured over a nice piece of fish the combo can't be matched. And look mom, there is no fat.

Sliced, sauteed apples are a real treat with meats, chops and poultry. Mangos and papayas are outstanding as a puree or diced and mixed with fresh herbs.

Try a dash of rice or raspberry vinegar to spark up the herbs. Serve tossed in a salad or as a side dish with just about anything. Don't let the prices of the fruit scare you away. A little bit goes far and will hold refrigerated for several days. Try something new. Experimenting adds spice to a cook's life.

Mary Brady is a Northville resident, a certified executive chef and co-owner of Diamond Jim Brady's in Novi.

# Experimenting can turn oldies into goodies



### The Refrigerator Door

**HONEY OF AN OFFER:** The Schoolcraft College culinary arts program is offering Christmas hams for sale, honey mustard glazed and light applewood smoked.

The hams can be ordered at the Professor's Pantry, located in the Waterman building, now through Dec. 13. Cost is \$3.75 a pound. Half hams weigh between five and seven pounds.

The ham will be prepared by the culinary arts students under the charcuterie direction of Chef Dan Hugelier, and smoked on the premises. To order, call Sylvia at 462-4491.

**BUFFET BOUNTY:** The Schoolcraft College culinary arts program will host its Culinary Arts Christmas Buffet on Friday, Dec. 18. Seatings will be at noon and 12:45 p.m. Tickets are \$10.50. To purchase tickets, call 462-4423.

**CHRISTMAS EVE, NEW YEARS EVE DINNERS:** Marco's Italian Restaurant, 32758 Grand River Ave. in Farmington Hills is hosting a special Christmas Eve Dinner. The six-course, fixed price meal will feature everything from spiced rum eggnog to oven-roasted chestnuts. Seating is by reservation only, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Price per person is \$26.95. Children under 12, \$12.95.

Marco's New Year's Eve celebration on December 31 will feature the standard dinner menu at the 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. seatings.

The late seating at 9:30 p.m. will be a six-course dinner, dancing and champagne at midnight. Cost for the late seating is \$38, which does not include beverages, tax and gratuity.

For information or reservations, call 477-7777.

## Go plum crazy for plum pudding

Continued from 1

- 1 tablespoon ground allspice
- 4 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon grated nutmeg
- 1/2 pound (2 cups) flour
- 1 pound seedless raisins
- 4 ounces mixed candied fruit, cut up (see note)
- 1 pound currants
- 1 pound golden raisins (sultanas)
- 6 ounces sliced, blanched almonds
- 1 pound dry bread crumbs, preferably fresh made
- 1 pound ground suet (see note)
- 1 pound brown sugar
- 1 pound tart apples, cored and finely cubed (about 1 1/2 pounds whole)
- grated zest of 1 lemon
- 1/2 cup dark rum (or bourbon, though it's not traditional)
- 6 to 8 eggs (1 1/2 cups), well beaten
- Rum, brandy or bourbon for flaming
- Hard sauce (recipe follows)

Yields 10 to 12 servings.

In mixing bowl, combine salt, baking powder, allspice, ginger, nutmeg and flour. Sift 7 times, or until spices are evenly distributed. Drop raisins into flour mixture. Mix and toss until all raisins are coated. Add candied fruit, again mix and toss until all fruit is coated.

In large bowl or soup kettle of about 4-gallon capacity, place currants, sultanas, almonds bread crumbs, suet, brown sugar, cubed apples, lemon zest and flour mixture. Using your hands, mix thoroughly, reaching all the way to the bottom. Add rum and again mix thoroughly; let stand for several hours or overnight.

When ready to cook puddings, mix in eggs, stirring to bottom to assure an even distribution. Butter molds you are going to use and fill with batter. It doesn't really matter that one isn't full all the way, but most molds should be rounded a bit over top because mixture will shrink as it cooks.

Cover each mold tightly with a double layer of foil. The foil into place with a length of string around rim of mold. Place each mold on a rack or trivet in the implement you have chosen for steaming. Add an inch or two of water. Start cooking with high heat, lowering it to a gentle simmer as the steam begins to escape. Steam, covered, 6 to 8 hours, depending on the size of the molds, replenishing water as needed. After steaming, set aside at room temperature for several hours. Remove from molds.

If you like, you can wrap puddings in rinsed cheesecloth that has been thoroughly moistened with brandy. Wrap well in foil. Although puddings should keep at room temperature, you can refrigerate them. For longer storage, freeze.

To serve, steam each pudding again for about

two hours. Turn onto serving plate, decorate with holly, if available. Pour over about 4 tablespoons of rum, brandy or bourbon. (High-proof liquor works best for this.) Standing well back, set alight and present to guests.

Note on candied fruit: Many people who profess to dislike fruitcake actually can't stand citron, a citrus peel included in prepared fruit mixtures. You can make your own mixture by combining chopped candied cherries, pineapple and orange peels in roughly equal quantities.

Note on suet: Suet may be available on meat counters at this time of year. Otherwise, you can ask the butcher for it.

#### HARD SAUCE

- 1/2 pound (2 sticks, 1 cup) butter, softened
- 1 pound (4 cups sifted) powdered sugar
- 1 1/2 tablespoons dark rum
- 2 1/2 tablespoons brandy
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Yields 4 cups, or 16 servings

Beat butter while gradually adding sugar. Beat until fluffy. Gradually beat in rum, brandy and vanilla.

Store, well sealed, in refrigerator. Hard Sauce keeps indefinitely and can be used on other desserts.

To serve, bring to room temperature. Pass in bowl for each guest to add to taste.

## These wines are fine for gift-giving

Continued from 1

percent grand cru vineyards. This cuvee rested on the yeast for a full seven years before being recently disgorged.

Some champagnes come gift packaged with one or two invariably overpriced wine glasses. This may be an attractive gift, but an unwise purchase.

Tasting very similar to the real bubbly from Champagne is Domaine Chandon's California bottling Etolie (\$22.50). Essentially, it comes with its own gift bagged 750-ml. bottle inspired by the antique Saran Nature bottle from the French parent company Moet et Chandon and decorated by hand in 22kt gold, silk screened letters.

California's ultra-premium sparkling wine producer Schramsberg has released a stellar bubbly named J. Schram (\$50). It is a limited production wine with the first release from the 1987 vintage about 2,000 six-bottle cases. This reasonably rare bottling also comes handsomely packaged with an exquisite fabric gift bag. The bubbly contents represent the 25-year sum of acquired knowledge at Schramsberg and are described in one word, excellent.

A wine enthusiast loves wine gadgets. The most popular is a table-model corkscrew. These are available through specialty catalogs at significantly inflated prices. To save the markup, you can order directly from the manufacturer, Rogar International Corp., P.O. Box 6585, Richmond, VA 23230-0585. Toll Free 800-351-1420 or FAX 804-358-8407. Several models are available.

To leave a message for the Herald, and hear their Voice Mail Wine Selection of the Week, dial 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then mailbox number 1864.

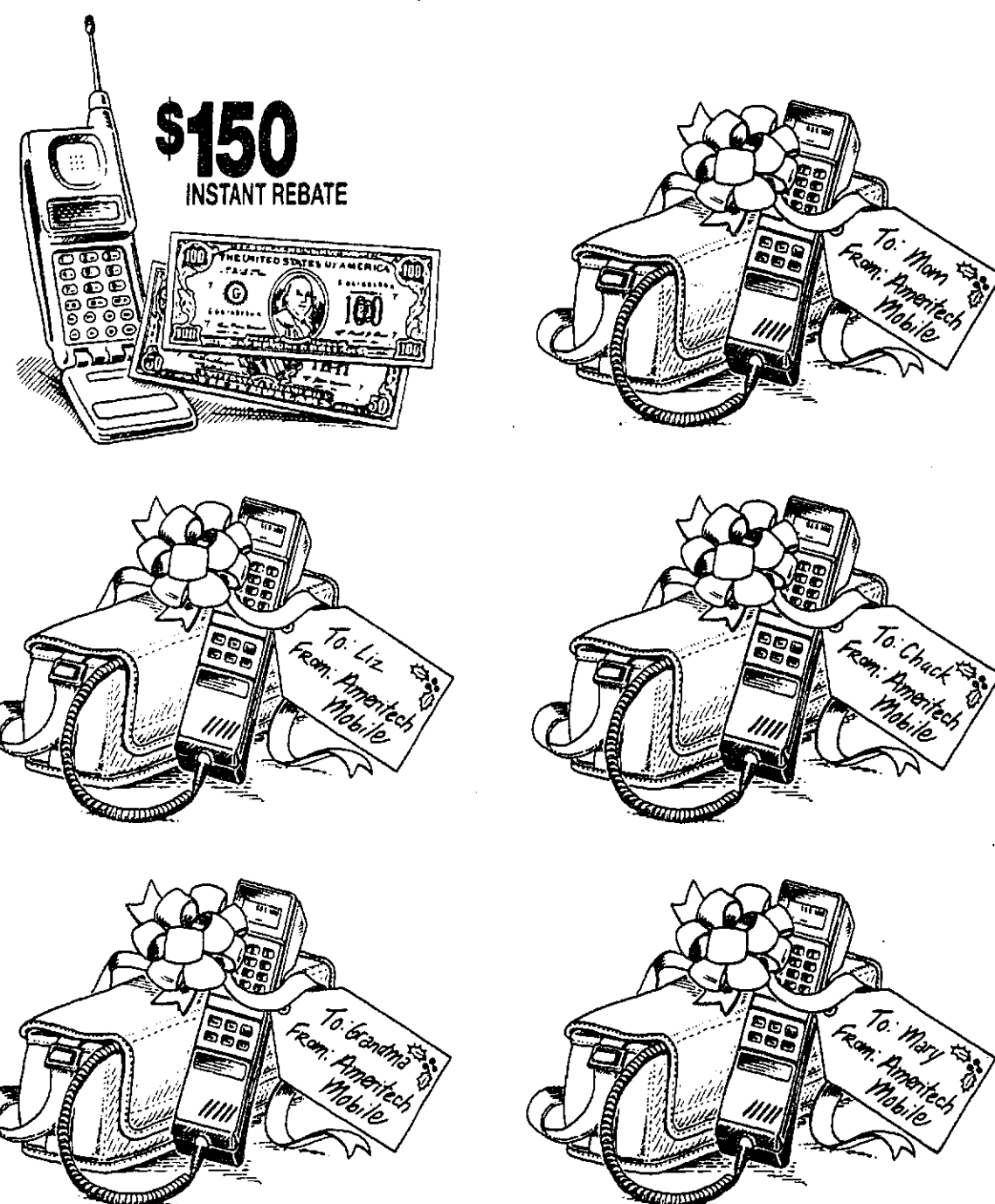
## Bar offers free sliders

Who says you can't get anything for free these days? Not Matt Brady's Tavern at the Holiday Inn in Farmington Hills. Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Matt Brady's is offering a basket of sliders (mini-hamburgers) and fries for free.

Visit the bar after 11 p.m. and just ask for your free basket of sliders and fries. Matt Brady's is also open Sunday through Wednesday, 6:30 a.m. to midnight, and Thursday through Saturday, 6:30 a.m. to 2 a.m., serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.

For more information call Matt Brady's Tavern at 478-7780.

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# the NOVI NEWS Sports

## Wildcats field small tanker squad in 1992

By SCOTT DANIEL  
Sports Editor

Anything short of a Herculean effort this winter by the Wildcat swim team could mean a long dual meet season.

Novi High School heads into 1992-93 with just 13 swimmers and a pair of divers. Points and dual meet victories will be hard to come by, according to second-year coach Mark Mason.

"We will have a problem with team scores," he said. "Bigger teams will outscore us."

The Cats faced similar problems a year ago, but managed to win anyway. The season was highlighted with wins over Livonia Franklin and Penton.

Novi also outpointed Kensington Valley Conference rival Brighton in the Brighton relays. Derek Speerscheider, Adam Cox and Jim Luther qualified for state finals.

All three of those athletes left the program via graduation. But, the Wildcats will have a number of talented swimmers to take their places.

Mike Lafferty, a senior, heads the list. Despite shoulder problems, Lafferty should be Novi's top swimmer, Mason said. The senior will compete

"We will have a problem with team scores . . . Bigger teams will outscore us."

Mark Mason  
Novi Swim Coach

in the 200-yard and 500-yard freestyle.

Another top returner, Mike Speerscheider, could miss much of the season with a neck injury. Mason said it will be late in the campaign, if at all, before the senior can compete.

"He probably would have qualified for the state (finals)," he added. A pair of seniors will handle the diving chores.

Craig Gubert will score points for the Cats as will Mark Yost. Mason said Yost is slightly ahead of Gubert. "He's improved quite a bit," the coach commented. "He has great athletic skills."

Dennis Suchyta has also improved. Mason said the senior is stronger than a year ago and will compete in the 200 and 500 freestyle.



Dennis Suchyta will compete in the 200-yard and 500-yard freestyle.

First-year swimmer Eric Watkins rounds out the senior class. He will be a freestyler.

Jason Black has shown "substantial improvement," Mason said. The junior will compete in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Erich Kelly is the Wildcats' top swimmer. The freshman may qualify for state competition in the 200 IM, Mason said.

"He's so talented," he said. "He's a

very strong athlete with a perfect physique for swimming."

James Galford, Brian Leroy, Tim Gibbons, Matt Christopherson and Henry Newton are Novi's other freshmen. The group will compete in a variety of events.

Mason said his team has been working very hard. The swimmers have practiced up to five hours per day, three days a week, for the last

month.

The Cats needed the work, he said. "A lot of people hadn't been swimming over the summer," Mason commented.

The Wildcats were set to open their season Saturday (past Novi News deadline) at Eastern Michigan University. The first home meet is tonight at 7 p.m. against Livonia Stevenson.

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**March Tire Co.**

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# Winning awards is the easy part

Life would be a breeze, if all we had to do was impress the judges of excellence in journalism contests. The Novi News has won 12 state and national awards for outstanding community journalism this year. In addition to earning the General Excellence Award from the Michigan Press Association, your hometown newspaper has also won two national awards from the National Newspaper Association and two more from Suburban Newspapers of America. The toughest judges of all, however, are you — our readers. Our secret to success? Give the people of Novi the type of paper they have come to expect, and impressing the judges will be easy.

**Read ... then RECYCLE**

**HomeTown Newspapers encourages readers to recycle their newspapers**

Rotary International, a group of more than 25,000 international service clubs with over 1,000,000 men and women members, celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Rotary Foundation in 1992. The Rotary Foundation supports many charitable causes around the world, including the granting of more educational scholarships than the Rhodes and Fulbright scholarships combined. Local Rotary Clubs are independent in the programs they choose to support. For more information contact your hometown Rotary Club.







**168** Office/Clerical

**SECRETARY**, full time. Brighton area builder. Experienced, some computer skills. Must have references. (313)227-6060 evens.

**169** Help Wanted Part-Time

**CASHIERS** and Clerks. Apply at Seta's Markets, Brighton & Howell, ideal for retirees.

**DAYTIME housecleaning** positions available in Brighton area. Must be mature & reliable. (313)229-5499

**HOWELL/FOWLERVILLE** area drivers needed for snowplowing. Experienced. Work only when it snows. Good pay. 1 800 328-7551.

**MATURE**, reliable people in the Hartland/Highland/Milford area, needed for residential cleaning. Mon.-Fri., 9am-3pm. Call, Mad in Michigan, (313)227-1440.

**MEAT Counter Person**, part-time evens. Apply at Seta's Market, Howell, ideal for retirees.

**PERSON** to clear snow from driveway & deck. Nine Mile US 23 area. (313)449-0700.

**SALESPERSON** for showroom in Northville. gift mart. (313)681-8974 or (313)788-1798.

**STOCK & Delivery work**, evens, weekends. 12 Oaks Mall. Ideal for college student or second job. Excellent pay. For info call: Baby and Kids Bedrooms, ask for Mr. E., (313)299-5010.

**170** Help Wanted General

**ACCOUNTS** receivable, computer experience preferred, some knowledge of mobile home set-up business helpful. Call after 1pm. (313)227-5053.

**ARE YOU UNEMPLOYED?**

You may qualify for free occupational training through Washtenaw Community College Job Training School. Computerized bookkeeping begins in January. Other program: Word Processing, Optical Assisting & Major Appliance Repair. Call (313)677-5006 now for more information. E.O.E./TRAINER

**AUSTINS** The Uniform & Embroidery People. Looking for computerized embroidery operators. Full time, Mon-Fri, 8-5. Start immediately. Apply in person: 1288 Holden Ave. Milford, (313)684-2404 Ask for Patrick Tierney

**AUTO** parts counter sales, experienced only need apply. Good wages, full fringe benefits. Call (313)229-9529 ask for Tom or Dennis.

**BANK PROOF SUPERVISOR**

Full time position with attractive benefit package, requires 2 yrs. experience in proof and 1 yr. supervisory experience. Apply at: Old Kent Bank of Brighton, 300 W. North St., Brighton, MI. Equal Opportunity Employer

**BRAND NEW FACILITY** seeks 14 employees immediately. Pleasant telephone work, \$5hr. guaranteed against high commission. 2 shifts available. Light delivery drivers needed also. Call (517)84-7443.

**CARETAKER** needed for small senior community. Apt., plus small salary. Please send resume to: POB 379, Williamston MI 48895. Equal Opportunity Employer.

**CARPENTER**, 5yrs. experience minimum. Must have transportation, tools & references. Brighton area builder. (313)227-6060.

**CASHIERS**, day shift, weekdays, hourly wage + commission. Apply in person, ask for Jeff. Bay Pointe Shell, Richardson Rd., Union Lake.

**CHRISTMAS/NEW YEARS EARLY DEADLINES**

Monday Buyers Directory; Wednesday Buyers Directory; Pinckney, Hartland, Fowlerville Buyers Directory; Pinckney, Hartland, Fowlerville Shopping Guides deadlines will be Thursday, December 17th at 3:30pm for the issue of Dec. 23rd. For the issue of Dec. 30th the deadline will be Tuesday, December 22nd at 3:30pm. For the issue of January 6, the deadline will be Tuesday, December 29th at 3:30pm.

Monday Green Sheet and Wednesday Green Sheet deadline will be Friday, December 18th at 3:30pm for the issue of December 21 & 23. Deadline for the issue of December 28th & 30th will be Wednesday, December 23 at 3:30pm. For the issue of January 4th & 6th, the deadline is Wednesday, December 30th at 3:30pm.

**CLEANING** Company looking for reliable day help for residential cleaning. (517)548-6544.

**CNC** Machining Center Operator. Some programming, some setup. Send resume to: POB 297, Brighton, MI 48116.

**DETAILER/Cad** operator - person needed that is proficient with Autocad 11. work involves detailing design and prototype work for metal rack fabricating business, should also be capable of producing manufacturing process sheets. Growth position. Wage commensurate with experience. Apply in person at: Dunning Engineering, 721 Advance St., Brighton.

**EDITOR NEEDED** Northville

Editor needed to supervise reporters and photographer in multi-newspaper office. This position will be responsible for editing stories and photographs weekly for publication. Bachelor's degree or equivalent with 1-3 years experience in reporting and layout with knowledge of photography. Salary and benefit package. Smoke-free environment.

Apply: HomeTown Newspapers P.O. Box 230 Howell, MI 48843

No phone calls, we are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**EXPERIENCED** auto detailer/washer. (313)227-0990

**EXPERIENCE** w/ basic hand & power tools. Understanding of electrical wiring, diagrams & blueprints. Very helpful. \$5.00 hourly. Exc. benefits. Send resume or fill out an application at: Medar, Inc., 3870 Grand River, Ave., Farmington Hills, Between Haggerty & Halsted. EEO/AA employer.

**EXPERIENCED** tool and die maker for second shift. Apply in person: 1153 Grand Oaks, Howell. (517)648-4372.

**EXPERIENCED** persons in complete auto cleaning, buffing and interior. (313)229-0600.

**EXPERIENCED** tool and die maker for second shift. Apply in person: 1153 Grand Oaks, Howell. (517)648-4372.

**EXPERIENCED** persons in complete auto cleaning, buffing and interior. (313)229-0600.

**EXPERIENCED** tool and die maker for second shift. Apply in person: 1153 Grand Oaks, Howell. (517)648-4372.

**COSMETOLOGIST** needed. Full or part-time. Clientele waiting. Come join Hair Choice, 147 N. Howell, Pinckney.

**DELI** & meat counter help needed. Experience preferred. Apply Midtown Market, 5580 E. Grand River, Howell.

**DIRECT** Care Staff, men & women over 18, flexible hours, good benefits. Call (313)624-0548, (313)669-4516, (313)360-2592, between 10am-2pm.

**DIRECT** Care staff needed for small group home. Full and part-time positions available. Diploma or GED required. Starting pay \$5.75 per hour. Highland Area. Call Roy (313)887-3021.

**DIRECT** Care Staff, full time midnights, part-time afternoons, benefits. Call for interview, (517)548-4006.

**DIRECT** Care workers needed for a group home in the Howell area. Must have reliable transportation, diploma or GED & home telephone. Part-time hours available. Call us at (313)750-6312 weekdays.

**DIRECT** care staff needed for group homes located in Farmington Hills & Northville. Experience not necessary, will train. For more info, call Barb in Farmington Hills, (313)477-6851; or Pat in Northville, (313)348-3843.

**DIRECT** care staff needed to work with developmentally disabled. Nov. Walled Lake area. Health, life, dental & vacation benefits. no experience necessary. \$5.25 to start. Call (313)624-6654 between 10am & 5pm. Mon. thru Fri.

**DISHWASHER** for mornings 9-1:30pm. Also, waitperson from 1:30-7:30pm. Call or apply in person. (313)348-4220, 18900 North Hill Rd., Northville.

**MEAT** cutters, experienced, full or part-time. Apply at: Seta's Market, Brighton/Howell.

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**JANITORIAL** help wanted, part-time days. Apply in person: Brighton Bowl, 9871 E. Grand River, Novi. No phone calls please.

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