

50¢

THURSDAY
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Periodical

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Five Sections

60 Pages plus Supplements

the NOVI NEWS

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City reviews mandatory hookup rule

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Adopted in response to the 1990 water moratorium, a Novi ordinance requiring over 600 new homeowners to tap into the municipal water system will be reevaluated. City Manager Ed Kriewall said Monday.

About 46 homeowners who want to keep their wells - mainly from Walden Woods subdivision - have contacted the city, said Zora Singer, senior principal clerk at Novi's water department.

"We are going to take a serious look at not making you connect at all to the system, if you have a functioning well," Kriewall said. "Some of the wells are fine."

The city is extending from 120 days to six months an ordinance requiring the homeowners to hook into city water now that the moratorium has been lifted. By March 1, a determination will be made if the now mandatory connection will become optional.

Making that voluntary would come as a relief to Jeff Smith, who lives in Walden Woods, one of the 23 subdivisions built on wells during the moratorium. His neighborhood is so new it does not yet have a homeowners association.

"I would like to know what's going on, how do we get involved?" Smith told the Novi City Council on Monday. "I wasn't planning to hook up to city water. I like the well. I have water."

Impacted by the ordinance are 682 occupied homes and 818 housing lots still under construction.

During the over six-year restriction on new water Detroit water

"I think the new main is large enough that that's not a concern ... They should be in pretty good shape, pressurewise."

City Manager Ed Kriewall

lines in 14 metro communities, residential developers eager to build in Novi did so by sinking wells at the home sites. However, city water mains were also installed in the 23 subdivisions, including lines leading to individual homes.

In addition to having the cost of both their wells and the suburb's city water lines rolled into their home price, residents would also face bills of \$1,500 or more to connect with city water.

Singer said many of the inquiries at the Novi water department come from residents who have just invested in an expensive water softening system for their wells. The city sent out a letter last week informing the homeowners of the situation.

Most homes built since 1990 fall under the ordinance, which was adopted by the Novi City Council in response to the state-imposed ban on new developments joining the Detroit water system. In some cases, post-1990 homes are already hooked into city water, because the developers were able to win the remaining water taps offered by the city at that time.

Continued on 14

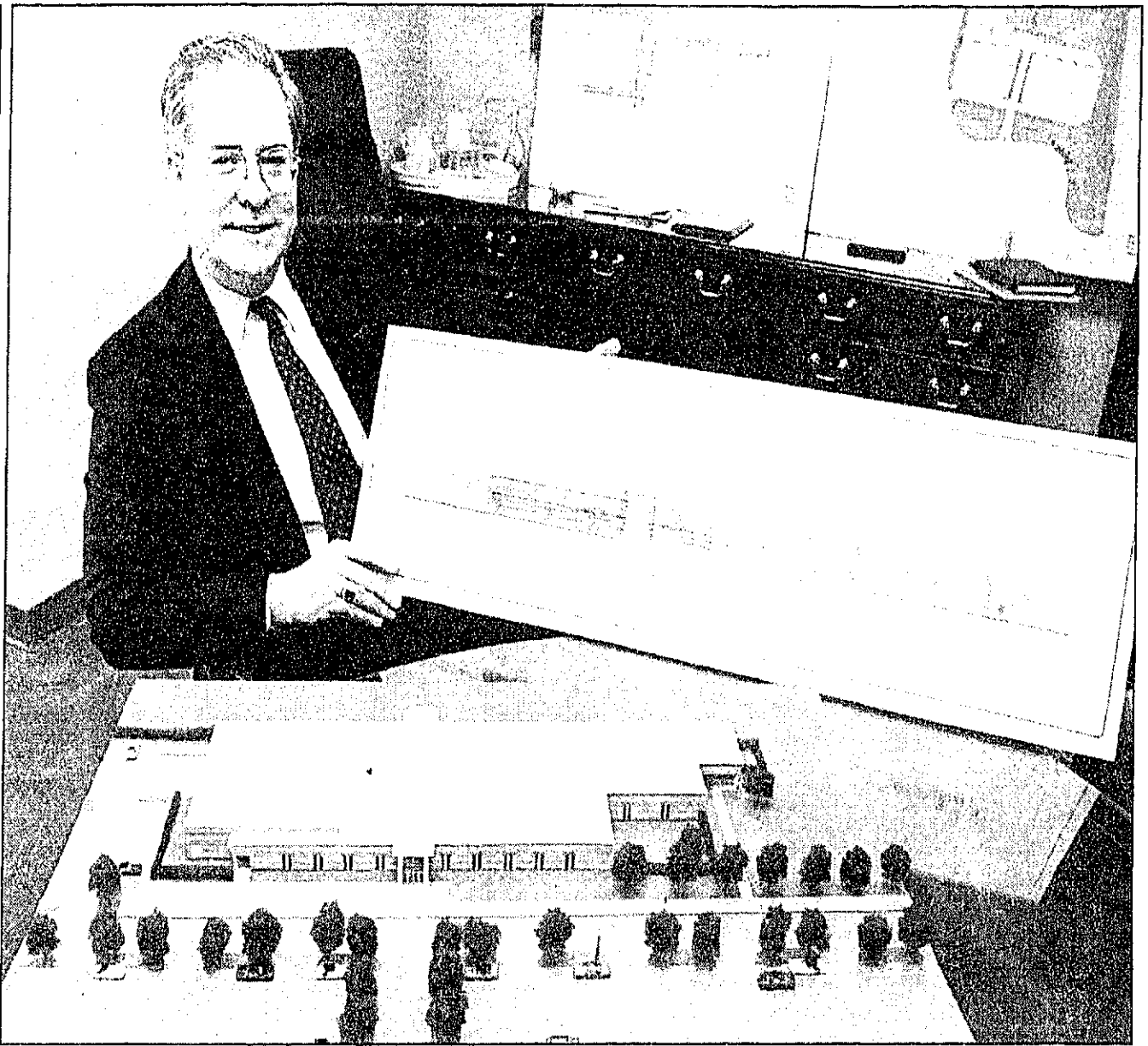


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Walsh College's Novi-campus Vice President Doug Smith displays a 3-D mock-up of the college's new building.

Walsh to build new facility in Novi

Novi, a college town?

There aren't any bars, or a stadium or dormitories but Novi has a college of it's very own, tucked away off Meadowbrook Road near I-96.

Walsh College, which offers undergraduate and graduate business degrees has leased space in an office park since 1993 but plans are in the works now to build a \$4.5 million facility in the same park, fronting on I-96.

"We're excited about being part of Novi,"

said Doug Smith, vice president of Walsh College. "We're the only college that actually has a campus in Novi ... It gives us an identity."

Smith said he hopes to open the 34,000-square-foot building with 14 classrooms, a library, technology lab, bookstore and administrative offices in the fall of 1998.

Since the Novi campus opened, student population and demand grew from 367 students to currently just under 700 students. Smith said since all the expectations were met

within the first couple of years, the college began thinking about building on adjacent property.

Smith recently received approval from the City of Novi to go ahead with plans.

In the entire scheme of things, the Walsh campus is set in a downtown setting. The property is planned to be part of the Town Center District encompassing the Novi Town

Continued on 14

Mom-and-Pop motel holds own against hotels

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Novi's become a hotel city, with the Hilton, the Baronette, the Double Tree, the Wyndham Garden, Extended Stay America and plans for a Ramada Inn.

But decades before all the big guys moved in with their fancy high-rise buildings, the tiny Fairlane Motel ruled Grand River Avenue. Built in the late 1940s, the eight-room inn - once the only name in town - is still doing just fine, catering to its own niche, said Kathy Cerda, who owns and runs the business with her husband, Monty.

Most of the clientele are construction workers who live outside the area but are drawn to Novi by the building boom. Full occupancy is typical, Cerda said.

"It's the home away from home for them. We're kind of like their parents. It's hard for these men to be living away from home for five days at a time," she



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Continued on 12 Kathy Cerda cleans up a guest room at the Fairlane, still sporting '50s decor.

Sinai Hospital pulls out due to merger

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

A "for sale" sign marks the spot at the corner of Meadowbrook and Twelve Mile roads where a \$20 million medical campus was expected to be built later this year.

A merger between Sinai Hospital and the Detroit Medical Center has made the plans null and void.

"As a planning department we anticipated having two premier medical centers in the City of Novi, Sinai and Providence," Steve Cohen, Novi staff planner, explained. "But the DMC is expanding and providing some additional services so all is not lost."

Continued on 14

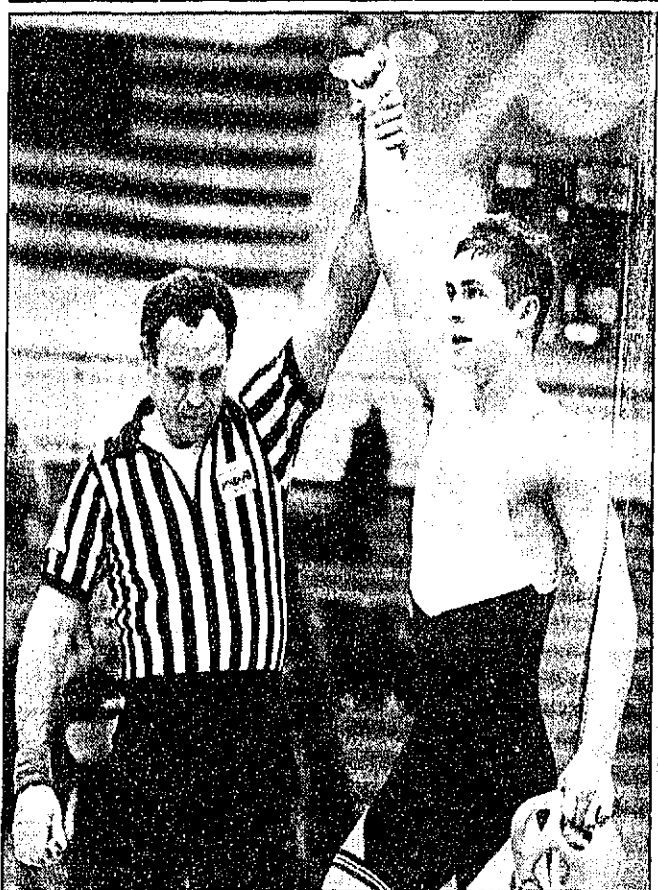


Photo by HAL GOULD

Victory!

Novi High's Lenny Christoff won the Kensington Valley Conference's 130-pound championship Saturday at the league final. Christoff, who has put together a remarkable 35-2 record this winter, was one of four Wildcat champions. Novi finished third at the meet while Hartland took the league crown. For additional coverage, see page 9B.

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Plaza nearly finished at Haggerty and Eight

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

Novi residents will soon have another choice when they go to purchase televisions, staplers or Mexican food.

Construction for the Highpoint Shopping Plaza at Eight Mile and Haggerty roads is well under way and plans for three tenants are confirmed, according to Gary Crull of American Realty.

Best Buy - the home, electronics and entertainment store - is set to open this summer along with an office supply store, Office Max. Additionally, the Mexican restaurant On The Border, recently received approval for location on the property. A fourth tenant is still in negotiations.

"The city has been pretty good to deal with," said Crull. He said people hear horror stories about developers trying to "pull the wool over (the city's) eyes," but that it

all goes smoothly "if you just (are) up front with the city and do what you're asked to do."

The center will feature a landscaped terrace along a large-scale wall fronting Haggerty. Crull said that the widening of the roads and improved traffic signals, traffic there will be less congested.

"We as developers worked very diligently with the city to get signalization changed and the road widened to alleviate some of the traffic situations," Crull explained. "We will actually help the situation."

Office Max will be 29,000 square feet, Best Buy 45,000, and the third tenant will take up approximately 42,000 square feet.

"That store does complete our presence in the Detroit market," said Heidi Geller, media relations for Best Buy. There are nine other stores in the metro area.

Repeat offender stopped for OUIL

A 42-year-old Novi man was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol, Feb. 7, when police pulled him over for speeding. Police said he was driving on a revoked license and has numerous prior arrests for drunk driving.

A Novi officer spotted the black Cadillac Eldorado pulling out of Turnberry Boulevard at 1:16 a.m. without stopping or yielding. The car continued to speed down Eight Mile Road, dislodging and reaching 60 mph in a 45 mph zone, police said.

The officer initiated a traffic stop at Meadowbrook Road and the car came to a rest in the middle of West Glenhaven.

The driver told police he left his wallet at home and could produce no information on the car. He appeared nervous and scared, according to the report. His eyes were bloodshot and glassy and he smelled of alcohol, said police.

The man said he had two beers that night but shared the alphabet when tested and finished with "k, l, z, z, w, y, z."

He begged the officer for a "break." "Oh come on, give me a break you know what you are doing to me," he said. "I'll go to prison this time for sure."

He was arrested for operating

Police News

under the influence of liquor (OUIL) and refused a breath test "under advice from my attorney." A judge approved a warrant to draw blood from the man that night at the Providence Park Medical Center.

15-foot high to reach the back garage door. The two generators were cut from the chains and taken from the home along with four propane heaters. The total stolen was nearly \$8,000.

NOT NICE MESSAGE
A Novi woman reported someone spray painted an obscenity on her home on the night of Feb. 3. Police said the home on Borrihart had been spray painted in brown.

UNCHAIN MY GENERATOR
Unknown suspects cut the chains keeping two generators in the basement of a home under construction Feb. 1.

Police said the home at Napier and Ten Mile roads was broken into sometime during the night. A ladder was used to scale the home

Police said they searched the area and found the 15-year-old Novi boy and 16-year-old Pontiac boy who said they were egging houses.

OUIL 2
A 61-year-old Novi man was arrested for operating under the influence and possession of police lights, Feb. 9, after police pulled him over for weaving on Novi Road south of Twelve Mile Road at 5 a.m.

CAUGHT ON CAMERA
Seats security officers witnessed a 25-year-old Novi man unzip his pants and fondle himself behind a female employee, Feb. 3.

CURFEW BOYS
Novi police stopped two teenagers for curfew violations and possessing alcohol after a Hickory Grove resident called police about prowlers in the area.

Novi police stopped two teenagers for curfew violations and possessing alcohol after a Hickory Grove resident called police about prowlers in the area.

Novi Briefs

Bus mechanics recognized
The Novi Board of Education is expected to honor district bus mechanics John Zolchak and Al Paggiot for their work. The district's bus fleet received an "excellent" rating after being inspected by the Michigan State Police earlier this school year.

Moving ahead
Final plat approval for the Selective Group's Greenwood Oaks Number Three subdivision was granted by the Novi City Council on Monday. The development is on the north side of Ten Mile Road, west of Beck Road. Fifteen new homes will be added to the existing subdivision.

Moving away
Wit-O-Matic, Inc. is leaving Novi for Springfield Township, primarily because the major officers of the corporation live in Clarkston and don't like the 45-mile commute, said the firm's president Anthony Palazzola.

Meyer Berry House
A split of a 1.5-acre home lot off of the 37-acre Meyer Berry Farm on Eight Mile Road was approved Monday by the Novi City Council.

Moving away
Wit-O-Matic, Inc. is leaving Novi for Springfield Township, primarily because the major officers of the corporation live in Clarkston and don't like the 45-mile commute, said the firm's president Anthony Palazzola.

The Log Book

The following is a complete list of the emergency runs of the Novi Fire Department for the week ending Feb. 9. Each incident is listed by type, location, time and the engine and squad number which responded to the call.

MONDAY, FEB. 9
Medical, 39554 Ardel, 7:06 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 24336 Kings Pointe, 7:16 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 40000 Eight Mile Road, 11:07 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 42875 Grand River, 11:17 a.m., Squad 1.
House fire, 196 and Novi Road, 5:13 p.m., Engine 1.
House fire, 41911 Aspen, 8:13 p.m., Engines 1 and 3.
Fire alarm, 47601 Grand River, 10:32 p.m., Engines 1 and 4.

TUESDAY, FEB. 10
Medical, 24031 Glen Ridge, 12:45 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 45125 Ten Mile Road, 6:45 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 45809 Willingham, 8:12 a.m., Squad 4.
Fire alarm, 42450 Twelve Mile Road, 8:31 a.m., Engines 1 and 2.
Medical, Twelve Oaks Center Court, 11:32 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 42416 Park Ridge, 3 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 41155 Marks Drive, 6:41 p.m., Squad 3.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11
Medical, 39603 Blakeston, 4:04 a.m., Squad 1.
Injury accident, Beck Road and Pontiac Trail, 4:18 a.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 47460 Eleven Mile Road, 8:16 a.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 1209 East Lake Drive, 8:38 a.m., Squad 2.
Service, 47515 Eleven Mile Road, 11:27 a.m., Squad 4.
Medical, 23995 Novi Road, 12:19 p.m., Squad 3.
Electrical fire, 42775 Nine Mile Road, 12:27 p.m., Engine 3.
Medical, 22324 North Hills, 3:58 p.m., Squad 3.
Injury accident, Novi Road and 196, 4:32 p.m., Squad 1.
Injury accident, Nine Mile and Beck Road, 6:29 p.m., Squad 4.
Medical, 31080 Westgate, 10:24 p.m., Squad 2.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12
Building fire, 30098 Warley Court, 6:38 p.m., Engines 1 and 2.
Building fire, 25945 Buckminster, 9:37 p.m., Engines 1 and 4.

FRIDAY, FEB. 13
Medical, 27700 Sheraton Drive, 6:33 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 22452 Meadowbrook, 7:43 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 40225 Harrison, 8:17 a.m., Squad 1.

SATURDAY, FEB. 14
Medical, TRACC and Grand River, 9:08 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, Hickory Woods school, 11:39 a.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 29986 Boileau, 2:07 p.m., Squad 2.
Fire alarm, Sears and Twelve Oaks, 4:48 p.m., Engines 1 and 2.

SUNDAY, FEB. 15
Injury accident, Ten Mile and Mendonbrook, 2:11 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, Novi Hill and Hagerly, 3:12 p.m., Squad 1.
Apartment fire, 24553 Bashian, 6:51 p.m., Engines 1 and 3.
Medical, 29935 Pierre, 6:59 p.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 26150 Novi Road, 9:54 p.m., Squad 2.
Electrical fire, 26218 Indiana St., 11:39 p.m., Engines 1 and 4.

Gerald Atkins unable to assist in defense, psychiatrist says

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL Staff Writer

The man accused of going on a murderous shooting rampage through the Ford Wixom Plant in November is for now unfit to stand trial and will be committed for 90 days to a psychiatric center for treatment.

Gerald Atkins, 29, was declared incompetent "at this time" by Judge Harold Bulgarelli during a preliminary examination and forensic hearing yesterday in 52-1 District Court in Novi.

The Wixom man faces 26 felony counts, including first degree murder in the death of Brighton resident Darrell Izzard. He is also accused of wounding a Ford employee and two sheriff's deputies.

The judge based his decision on a report by Thomas Shazer of the Center for Forensic Psychiatry in Ypsilanti that states Atkins understands the charges against him but is unable to assist in his defense and needs treatment.

According to his attorney Herb Larson, Atkins had delusions about seeing "white Ford vehicles watching him" prior to the shooting and claims to have heard voices over radio communications.

Cheryl Matthews, assistant prosecuting attorney, agreed with the report for now, but declared

her right to reevaluate the exam and call for an independent consultation.

Outside the courtroom she expressed doubts about Atkins' competency and said the report even indicated he could be faking the delusions.

"It's a smart move on his part, she said.

"(Insanity) is the only defense he could bring. A person facing life without parole has a strong incentive to manufacture a defense," she explained, noting the report said Atkins is not manic depressive and not overly psychotic.

"It's one of the weakest reports I've ever seen," Matthews said.

Nancy Izzard was present during the hearing and said it's been difficult to deal with the tragic loss of her husband, Darrell, who died during the shooting spree. She had no comment about the credibility of Atkins being insane. She simply said, "Just leave it in the system. I have faith."

"We're just facing our loss and trying to deal with it the best we can," Nancy Izzard said.

Atkins' sister, Debbie Therpe, was also in the courtroom Wednesday. She said after the hearing that she felt for the Izzard family and believed her brother to be delusional.

"We've been trying to get him help for many years," she said.

Atkins reportedly drove a stolen pick-up truck to the Ford Wixom Assembly Plant just after 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 14, and walked toward the building in a group of employees. At 11:23 a.m., he was stopped at the security gates and questioned when he allegedly pulled out the assault rifle and began shooting.

Atkins reportedly was angry he had been denied access to the plant the previous week when he showed up to propose to a woman who worked there, police said. She was uninterested in his advances.

Atkins reportedly shot out the security windows, which sent plant planning manager Darrell Izzard running to the scene to try to calm the chaos. He was struck in the calf and ran into the building to escape. Atkins allegedly followed and fired three times at a pleading Darrell Izzard, killing him.

Atkins allegedly ran through the plant firing off hundreds of bullets and escaped out the south end of the building. He eluded police for hours by staying within an underground drainage system.

Police used a bullhorn to convince Atkins to surrender at 4:04 p.m. that day.

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Census enumerator trial delayed until March

Court proceedings in the jury trial case against former Novi resident Harry Avagian were postponed last week until March.

According to 52-1 District Court personnel, Avagian was unable to appear in court on the scheduled date of Feb. 6. Avagian is charged with two counts of attempting to obtain money, under \$100, under false pretenses.

Novi police contend that Avagian, while working as a mid-decade census enumerator for the City of Novi, turned in a count of several hundred extra people.

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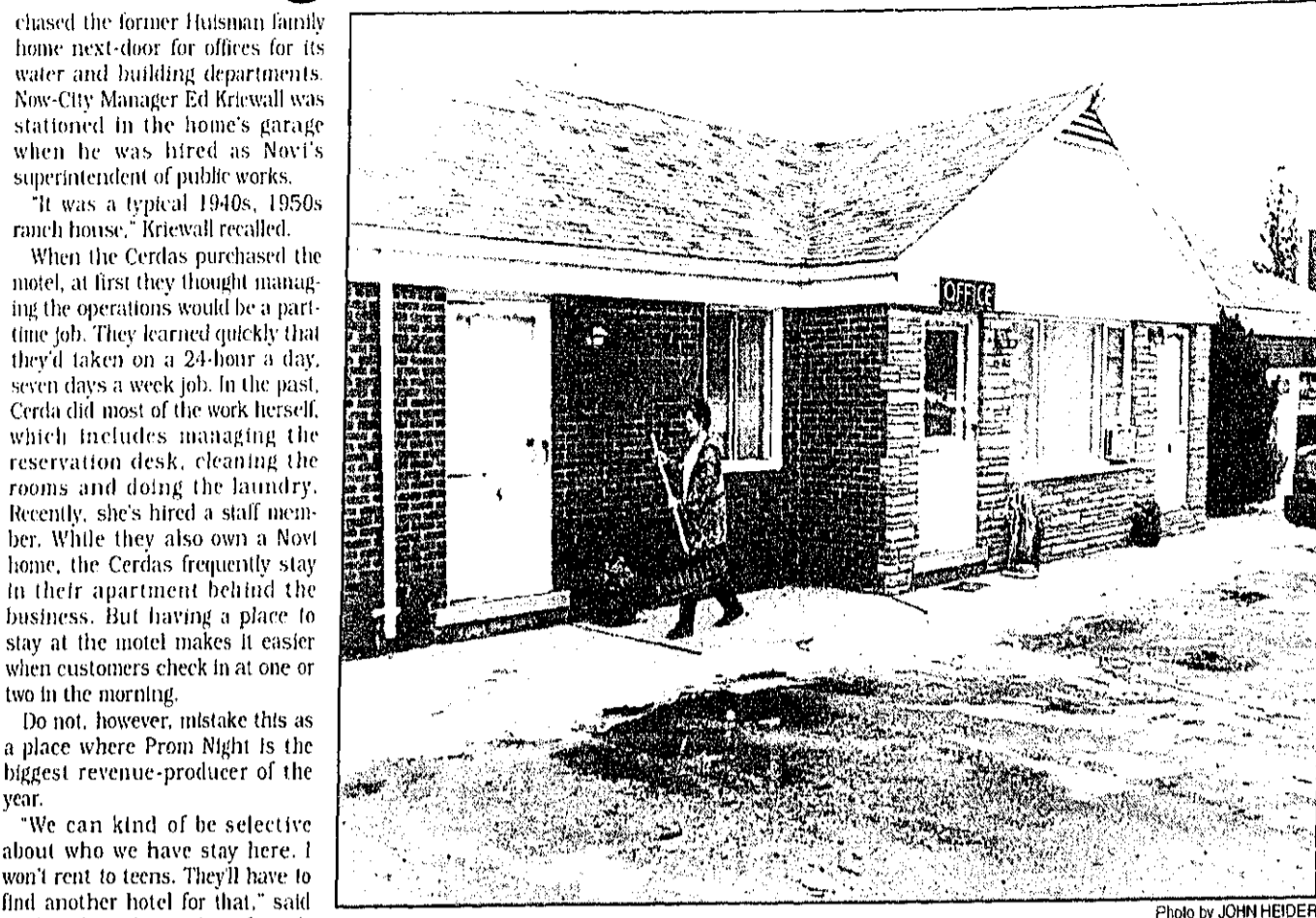
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Fairlane Motel fendes against hotel competition

Continued from 1
 added.
 "We're filled up just about every day of the year. Today, I already turned two people away and it's early. There are a lot of nice people who stay here."
 Lodgers include truck drivers, business people and especially in the summer, tourists traveling through Michigan.
 The non-and-pop motel specializes in offering comfortable, clean rooms with cable TV. Rates start at \$35 a night, as opposed to the \$79-\$105 range for a single room with breakfast at the other local hotels. What you won't get at the Fairlane are a swimming pool, jacuzzi, exercise rooms or restaurant food brought to your door. On the other hand, the Fairlane lobby has flyers for local pizza delivery services.
 And it's quiet.
 "For a Good Night's Rest, This Is The Best," that's the motto on the Cerdas business cards.
 Originally boasting only three rooms, the Fairlane was built by the Hulsman family, who owned a home where JCK & Associates, the city's consulting engineers, now have their headquarters. In 1989, the Cerdas purchased the business. Prior to that, only one owner other than the Hulsmans operated

the hotel for about one year, prior to selling to the Cerdas.
 An architectural survey of pre-1950s Novi architecture praises the Fairlane Motel's 1940s-era ambience — including the neon sign — as a relic of Grand River Avenue's glory days as the only route from Detroit to Lansing. The report was commissioned by the city's Historic District Study Committee. If and when the city sets up historic districts, the Cerdas have been told their business is eligible.
 "This was really one of the few motels on Grand River. It was very busy. Grand River was the main road," Cerda said.
 While the furnishings have changed, the rooms are virtually the same as they were in the 1940s and 1950s. The vintage bathrooms are in two colors, either avocado or burgundy.
 "The bathrooms are all tile like the 1950s. All original. They look like new. People come in and ask if we remodeled the bathrooms. They're pretty," Cerda said.
 During the 1950s, the business advertised regularly in the classified ads of *The Novi News*, offering weekly rates — but no dollar figures were mentioned.
 Before the JCK building was built, in 1969 the City of Novi purchased the former Hulsman family home next-door for offices for its water and building departments. Novi City Manager Ed Kriewall was stationed in the home's garage when he was hired as Novi's superintendent of public works.
 "It was a typical 1940s, 1950s ranch house," Kriewall recalled.
 When the Cerdas purchased the motel, at first they thought managing the operations would be a part-time job. They learned quickly that they'd taken on a 24-hour a day, seven days a week job. In the past, Cerda did most of the work herself, which includes managing the reservation desk, cleaning the rooms and doing the laundry. Recently, she's hired a staff member. While they also own a Novi home, the Cerdas frequently stay in their apartment behind the business. But having a place to stay at the motel makes it easier when customers check in at one or two in the morning.
 Do not, however, mistake this as a place where Prom Night is the biggest revenue-producer of the year.
 "We can kind of be selective about who we have stay here. I won't rent to teens. They'll have to find another hotel for that," said Cerda, who's the mother of a college-student daughter.



Kathy Cerda works on the grounds of the Fairlane Motel along Grand River Avenue.

Photo by JOHN HEDDER

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REAL ESTATE WEEKLY
 By John DiMora
 Coldwell Banker's #1 Agent Company Wide

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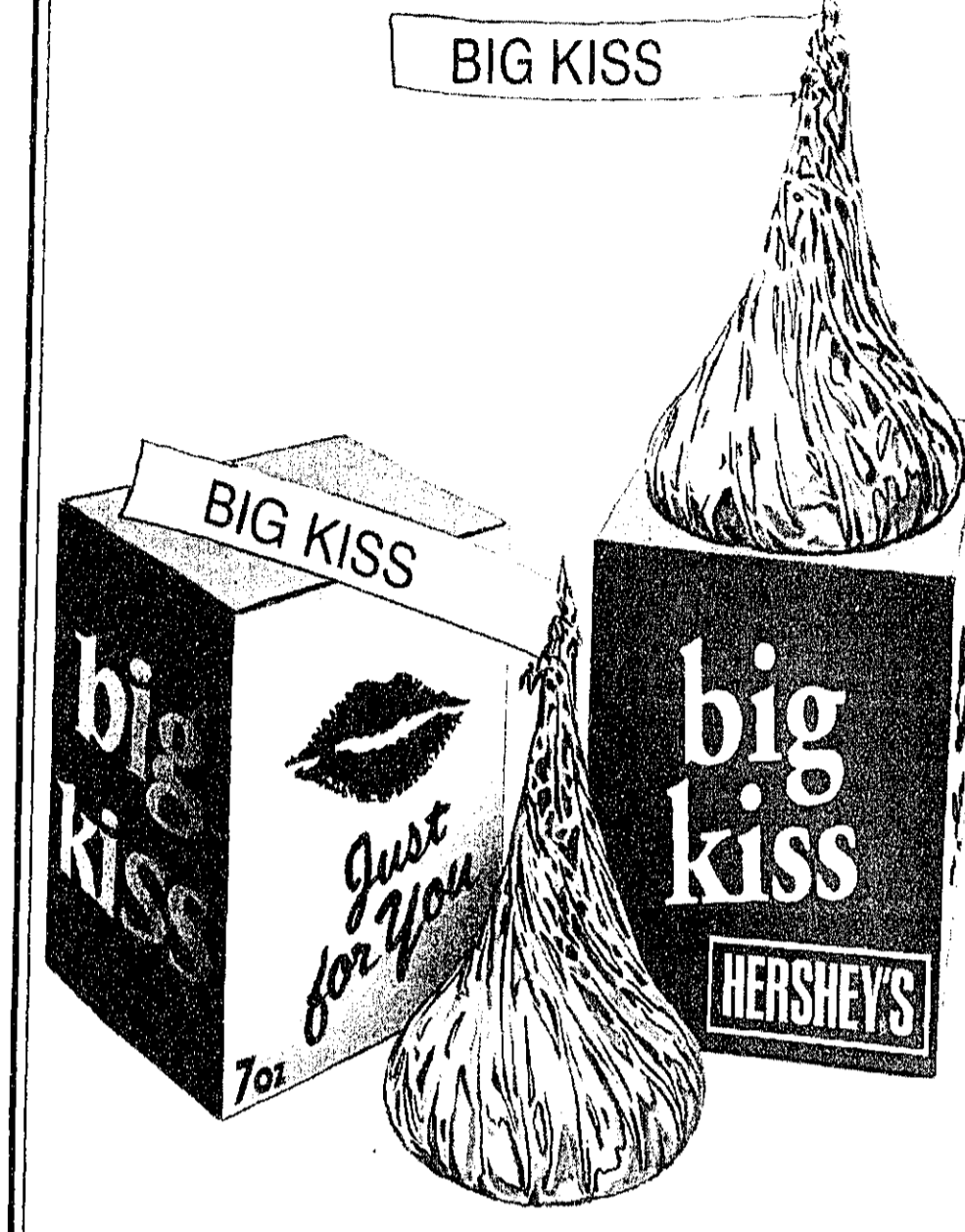
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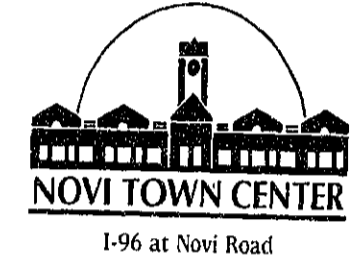
Seal it with a Kiss

This Valentine's Day at **Novi Town Center & Oakland Pointe Shopping Center.**



A giant Hershey's Kiss that is. Spend \$40.00 or more at Novi Town Center or Oakland Pointe Shopping Center between February 7-14, and we'll treat you to humongous Hershey's Kiss that tops the chart at 7 ounces. Many of our outstanding merchants are offering special sales and discounts this week, so now's the time to take advantage of the sweetest deal around. Supplies are limited so please don't delay.

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Growth spurt expected to follow end of ban

Novi is expected to be inundated soon by developers eager to build on city water lines, now that the state has ended its six-year moratorium on taps for new construction.

"We've had a mad rush, but I don't think it's because of the moratorium being lifted. We've been very busy over the past two months," staff planner Steve Cohen said. "I do think the ripple effect will kick in, sure the word gets out that the moratorium's been lifted."

Projects under review now at city hall include a subdivision at the former Levy Mining Company

Walsh builds on Novi campus

Continued from 1
Center and Main Street.

"We wanted to be a part of the Town Center because part of this is an investment in the community as well," said Smith.

Walsh has several campuses in southeast Michigan, however, Troy and Novi are the largest.

Walsh administrators began to target Novi for a site because of the demand for the business school on the west side of I-275. With residential and business growth skyrocketing, putting the classes where students could more easily reach them made sense.

"That's what people want," said Smith, "to be closer to home."

Walsh offers full courses for a Bachelor's of Accounting, a Master's of Science in Finance and a Master's of Science in Management at the Novi Campus.

"We started with three of the largest programs and will be adding two other full programs as the new building opens," said Mary Kay Sleeman, director of admissions and extension cam-

City may ease hook up rule

Continued from 1

"The reason for the moratorium was undue demand on the Detroit water system caused by suburban growth. Detroit was not able to keep up a constant supply to the western suburbs based on inadequacies in the distribution system," Krievall said.

Many residents appear to be eager to become customers of the Detroit water system.

"Prior to the moratorium lifting, we would get many people calling to ask when was it going to be lifted. They wanted to hook up," she said.

Before the water moratorium, residents in several areas in Novi, including portions of Simons Orchard subdivision, have had water pressure problems, including a difficulty in using showers in second-floor bathrooms.

But all that is expected to change, now that the Detroit system has been upgraded, Krievall said.

"I think the new main is large enough that that's not a concern. I don't think that's a problem."

Sinai pulls out of Novi after merger

Continued from 1

"We're disappointed Sinai is unable to come in but we understand the financial reasons why," he said.

According to the DMC which had the upper hand in the decision, the facility would have duplicated services offered by a DMC facility barely a mile down the road.

Detroit Medical Center and Sinai Hospital announced in December of 1996 that Sinai would join DMC to become one organization. On Feb. 3 the deal was signed. Financial pressures for Sinai prompted the merger. It will result in stronger, more cost-effective health care delivery, the DMC stated in a press release.

"Now we can proceed to fully integrate the two systems in a way

that will continue our high quality patient care, preserve Sinai's Jewish heritage and better serve the community through a coordinated system of care," stated David J. Campbell, the DMC president and CEO.

The planning department staff had been very excited about the plans and declared it a major coup to have the park locate here.

Although most of the facility would not have generated taxes, it would have brought jobs and status to Novi, a city intent on bringing a variety of development to the area.

"I was very surprised," said Laura Lorenzo, chair of the Novi Planning Commission. "It's very unfortunate after what all the par-

ties went through."

It was rough going for the developers at first. Planning Commissioners were unsure of the need for the facility and questioned the layout and expanse of development of the land. After several meetings, the commission approved a plan.

For now, there is no indication of what may happen with the property.

It could be rezoned to a new zoning classification accommodating high-tech business, according to the planning department.

"It's pretty valuable property so it will be interesting to see what user or group come in," said Cohen.

Sinai Hospital representatives spent many nights at Novi Planning Commission meetings last year, encouraging the commission to approve plans to open a \$20 million health care complex on 40 acres at the southeast corner of Meadowbrook and Twelve Mile roads in 1997.

The first phase of Sinai Park was proposed to serve ambulatory, outpatients with a 60,000-square-foot diagnostic and treatment center housing an urgent care center and a women's health center, as well as a treatment facility for inflammatory bowel disease. In addition, this phase includes 40,000 square feet of doctors offices. Phase three was to be a short-stay 200-bed hospital facility for 24- to 72-hour stays.

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HIGHLIGHTS:
Whitehall has new programs
for residents-2B

HIGHEST AWARD:
Boy Scout completes
Eagle Scout project-4B

BEANIE BABIES:
Teacher turns craze
into school project-3B

DIVERSIONS:
Feast fit for a king
at the Castle on the Hill-6B

An evening on

Local couples renew their wedding vows in a very special celebration

Valentine's Day came a little early for 108 couples at Our Lady of Victory Church Saturday night as they renewed their wedding vows before attending the "On Cloud Nine" dinner dance.

For one Northville couple, it was a night to remember.

Agnes and Charles Rossiter met in 1943 during World War II. She was a member of the Variety Club Junior Hostesses. Chuck's squadron invited the hostesses to a dance at Lockbourne Air Base in Columbus.

No liquor was served at the dances, only soft drinks. People had to have five personal recommendations before they were allowed to join.

"You could say we saw each other across a crowded room," Agnes said.

He came over and asked her to dance. They spent the rest of the evening together with their group. Before the night was over, he asked her for her phone number.

They dated on weekends during the year-and-a-half he was stationed at Lockbourne.

While Chuck was overseas, they wrote daily.

"We liked each other right from the beginning and it just stayed that way," she said.

When Chuck returned to the States, he came back to his hometown, Detroit.

Agnes and Chuck continued their long-distance romance for another year-and-a-half. Chuck was busy attending the University of Detroit and working, Agnes continued in a supervisory position with the federal government in her hometown of Columbus.

"His patient personality compliments mine, which helps," she said.

One weekend a month he would drive to Columbus and stay with her family and she would take a train to Detroit and stay with her aunt. Chuck always had romantic dinners planned.

"The weekends went by so quickly that he would always drive me to Toledo," said Agnes of the extra hour they could spend with each other rather than boarding the train in Detroit. "I still have those unused train tickets."

On Valentine's Day in 1947 Chuck and Agnes went to a formal dance. Chuck asked Agnes for her hand in marriage. They were married four months later on June 14, 1947 at St. John's Church in Columbus.

"In those days you weren't supposed to have long engagements," Agnes said.

After their honeymoon at Mt. Summit in Pennsylvania they moved to Detroit. The couple revisited the mountain top resort for their 25th wedding anniversary.

The Rossiters raised six children, four girls and two boys, in Redford Township where they lived for 25 years.

"I think having a large family is a large part of our commitment to each other also," Agnes

said. When Chuck retired as director of personnel and industrial relations at the Jervis B. Webb Co. about seven years ago, they moved to Northville.

"We do give each other space," she said. "I think that's important. We each have things we like to do together and things apart."

Agnes plays tennis every week and is active in the Tennis and Crumpets Inc. and with Junior Group of Goodwill, both fund-raising organizations. She has been volunteering since the eighth grade.

Chuck likes to play golf, read mysteries, watch John Wayne movies and keep track of the stock market daily via the computer.

They both work out at a health club three days a week for about an hour to an hour-and-a-half.

"Resiliency is important," she said. "If we have an argument and get upset with each other we bounce back quickly," she said. "Don't hold grudges."

"Love and trust is the most important thing and being able to count on each other."

They still enjoy dining out and going to the theater. Now they are busy visiting with the family and friends and attending the grandchildren's hockey and soccer events and piano recitals.

— Agnes Rossiter

The Rossiter's oldest daughter, Marycarol, is a research biologist and professor at University of Georgia in Athens. She is married to Mark Hunter.

Daughter Susan Logue of Northville is a gourmet chef for FTD and has one daughter Kelly.

Charles (Chip) lives in Oxnard, Calif., and does electronic and computer engineering work at the Naval Missile Center in Port Hueneme, Calif.

Mark, also of Northville, is a territorial manager for ALCON and sells surgical products. He and his wife, Denise, have three children Hilary, Michael, and Colleen.

Daughter Julie is a court reporter and lives in Brighton with her husband, David Nanna, and their two girls, Cory and Brooke. Alison and her husband, David Domzalski, live in Farmington Hills. Alison is a kindergarten teacher in the Livonia School District.

Father Ernest Porcari presided at the Mass where all the couples renewed their wedding vows as a reminder of their continuing commitment to each other. Father Todd Lajiness played guitar and sang. Each couple with a special anniversary received a pink-tipped, long-stem, ivory rose.

The ceiling in the church's social hall was decorated with sheer fabric to look like clouds.

The dinner, catered by Gourmet Express in South Lyon, was followed by dancing.

"They made us feel so special for our fiftieth anniversary," she said. "We're still on cloud nine."



Married for nearly 50 years, Charles and Agnes Rossiter joined other couples at Saturday's celebration.

Story by CAROL WORKENS • Photo by ALAN WARD

Volunteer



Mary Perna favors the Early American Landscape artists.

Perna finds pleasure in volunteering at DIA

By CAROL WORKENS
Staff Writer

When Mary Perna heard that the Detroit Institute of Arts might have to close a few years ago because of cutbacks, she got involved.

Perna is a volunteer with Gallery Service, one of the newer committees at the DIA.

"What greater pleasure than to be with the Rembrandts and the Van Goghs," she said. "To spend three hours with them, I find that very rewarding."

The DIA started Gallery Service to supplement the security patrol of the galleries about five years ago, according to Perna.

"It is a new committee in the history of museums, too," she said.

Perna greets visitors, answer questions and patrols the galleries to make sure people aren't touching the objects.

"I have yet to call security for anything in that way," she said.

A Northville resident for 37 years, Perna grew up in a small town in eastern Pennsylvania and has been interested in the arts since college.

"Whenever I traveled I would go to art museums," she said. "We have a fine museum for the size city of Detroit."

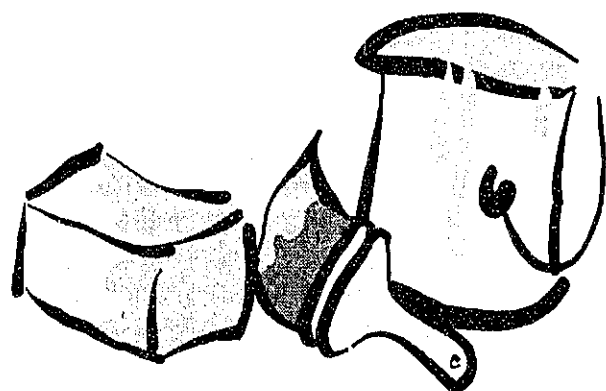
One of her first assignments was in the L-shaped graphics gallery which has a little secluded alcove with a covered bench. Perna saw a young couple come into the room and go down one side of the L, but never saw them turn the corner. She walked by and there they were spread out on the couch.

"I think I said 'this is not acceptable,'" she said. "I didn't know what to do. I think it was the first time I had to say anything to anybody. Now that I've

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Diversions

the NOVI NEWS
6B
THURSDAY
February 13, 1997

Serving dinner fit for a king

By CAROL WORKENS Staff Writer

The Castle on the Hill will come alive with laughter and merriment on Feb. 28 and March 1 when the Northville High School Concert Choir presents its Fourth Madrigal Dinner.

The biennial event includes jugglers, court jesters, strolling musicians, beggars and royal dancers, dramas, and sword lighting as well as a feast fit for a king. To go back to Renaissance England for an evening of feasting and revelry, reservations must be made by Feb. 21. Tickets are \$25 each and only 125 people will be seated at each of the two dinners. To prepare for their transformation into lords and ladies, choir members were recently visited by Raymond, Matthew and Margret Sypniewski who gave them a brief lesson on the fine art of pickpocketing, on how to use a dagger for anything from blood letting to eating. The Sypniewskis also mentioned



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Northville High School sophomore Jeff Nelson (kneeling) learns the proper way to greet a lady in medieval times from Raymond, Matthew, and Margret Sypniewski during an overview they gave to choir members for the upcoming Madrigal dinner at the school.

that while the lords and ladies may have had graceful manners the lords would flirt with every lady who came their way. The ladies, who were forbidden to flirt, would make their intentions known to a prospective suitor by

slipping him one of their rings. The Sypniewskis also described each of their medieval costumes and gave the students instructions on how to make their own. Guests are invited to attend in character. Seating begins at 6:30

p.m. and the processional begins promptly at 7 p.m. To make a reservation, send a check for \$25 payable to Northville High School Choir to Sharon Bondy, 45837 Greendrige Drive, Northville, MI 48167.

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Movies

the NOVI NEWS
7B
THURSDAY
February 13, 1997

Lyrical 'Evita' turns history into 'amazing' entertainment

EVITA
BY JENNY LUZET MILFORD

Rare is the cast who can turn a mere biography into a delightful, entertaining, and powerful musical. However, the cast of "Evita" does it with flourish.

"Evita" is the true story of Eva Peron, an Argentine girl who rises from meager beginnings to become the beloved first lady of the nation. As a teenager, Eva (Madonna) runs off to Buenos Aires, Argentina's capital, determined to become an actress.

When Eva dies of cancer at the age of 33, the masses flood to her funeral, proving just how renowned she really was.

Madonna is tailor made for the role of Eva, and she believably transforms herself into the former first lady of Argentina. Antonio Banderas, as the narrator Che, combines his voice and expressions to create a charming and hearty character.

The magnitude of the crowds, the array of costumes and scenery, and the compelling score join forces to produce a truly amazing film.

READER MOVIE REVIEWS

SPACE JAM
BY ERIKA NICE, AGE 10 SOUTH LYON

"Space Jam" was out of this world. With Michael Jordan and all the Looney Tune gang this movie was a blast. It was about these aliens that wanted to take the Looney Tunes to their planet where the Looney Tunes would entertain the other aliens and the master alien would get lots of money.

Bugs Bunny challenges the little aliens to a basketball game and that's where Michael Jordan comes in. I don't want to ruin in the rest. I would give this movie two thumbs up.

When Eva dies of cancer at the age of 33, the masses flood to her funeral, proving just how renowned she really was.

Madonna is tailor made for the role of Eva, and she believably transforms herself into the former first lady of Argentina. Antonio Banderas, as the narrator Che, combines his voice and expressions to create a charming and hearty character.

The magnitude of the crowds, the array of costumes and scenery, and the compelling score join forces to produce a truly amazing film.

ROMEO + JULIET
BY HEATHER WADOWSKI NORTHVILLE

William Shakespeare's classic love story "Romeo + Juliet" finally makes it to the big screen in Paramount Production's "William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet."

Overall, "William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet" is a must see!

Become a movie critic in your local newspaper

Siskel & Ebert do it. Now you can too. This is your opportunity to play movie critic in your HomeTown newspaper. From the onset, we've wanted to make the Movie Page an area where friends and neighbors can share their ideas about movies. Whether you rated the movie thumbs up or thumbs down, we'd like to hear your thoughts on what you've seen on film. Have you seen "Evita"? "Star Wars"? or "Portrait of a Lady"? What did you think? How about "The Remains of the Day"? or "Beautician and the Beast"? If you haven't been able to

catch the latest releases in the theater, maybe you've seen a movie on video that you would like to review. Please keep your mini reviews to 300 words or less. Send them to HomeTown Newspapers, C/O Katie Bach, 323 E. Grand River Avenue, Howell MI 48843. Or e-mail us a review at pgreview@shantline.com. Please include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Reviews without this information may not be published. For more information, contact Katie Bach at 517-518-2000.

Entertainment listing

- Submit items for the entertainment listings to The Northville Record/Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167; or fax to 349-1050.
- SPECIAL EVENTS**
- COOKING CLASSES:** Kitchen Glamour continues its series of cooking classes with quick, fun-to-prepare recipes with Weight Watcher's consultant Ruth Johnson. February classes include Chef Larry James with homemade meatloaves with winter veggies on Feb. 18 and Dolly Maloian with Armenian traditional Middle-Eastern flavors on Feb. 25. The series of 13 classes is \$35 or \$3 per class per person. For details, call (810) 380-8600.
 - COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS:** Vic's World Class Market will host wine-maker Tim Mondavi from the Robert Mondavi Winery Tuesday, Feb. 18, from 9:30 a.m. until noon. Mondavi will be accompanied by his personal chef and will be conducting a cooking demonstration and signing tables. Vic's World Class Market is located at 42875 Grand River in Novi. For details, call (810) 305-7333.
- THEATER**
- TIMBERS SEAFOOD GRILLE:** Timbers, the home of Bananas Comedy Club, is located at 40380 Grand River west of Haggerty Road in Novi. For ticket information, call (313) 724-1300.
 - GENITTI'S HOLE-IN-THE-WALL:** Performances of Genitti's new show, *Sophia. Let's Talk*, continue through March 18 on Friday and Saturday evenings. Audience members become the guests of talk show host "Sophia Bonahue" in this interactive comedy. Soupy Sales returns for a run through 16. Genitti's Hole-in-the-Wall is located at 108 E. Main Street in Northville. For more information or to make a reservation, call (810) 349-0522.
- MUSIC**
- THE RAVEN GALLERY & ACOUSTIC CAFE:** The Raven will present open mike night on Wednesdays, all acoustic music, string instruments, horns and some jazz on Thursday through Saturday evenings. Upcoming performances include Stewart Franke on Feb. 14; Drivetrain on Feb. 15; Michael King and Tim Diaz on Feb. 20 and Michael Katon on Feb. 21. The Raven is located at 145 N. Center Street in downtown Northville. For ticket information or reservations, call 349-9420.
 - FRIGATES INN:** Frigates offers live music every Tuesday at 8 p.m. featuring 2XL Band. The Sunset Blues Band will host the Wednesday blues jam from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. All musicians are welcome. Dance with the Globe at 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Frigates Inn is located at the corner of Fourteen Mile and East Lake Drive in Novi. For details, call (810) 624-9607.
 - SPORTS EDITION:** Every weekend guests can enjoy live entertainment at the Sports Edition Bar. Located inside the Novi Hilton Hotel, 21111 Haggerty Road. The Sports Edition is home to intrigue and other high-powered hits groups every weekend. A cover charge begins at 8 p.m.
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5:30 P.M. Evening	Sunday, March 9, 1997 Sunday, March 16, 1997 Sunday, March 23, 1997	Ringside B	\$14	\$8.50
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CONFIDENCE IN ME Protestant SWF, 33, fun, outgoing, quiet-natured...

ATHLETIC Catholic SWF, 36, fun-loving, enjoys racquetball, tennis...

ON THE SHY SIDE Family-oriented SWF, 38, Protestant, easygoing, humorous...

BE THERE FOR ME Non-denominational SWF, 56, outgoing, friendly, caring...

SINCERE Loyal SWF, 41, 5'10", full-figured, enjoys walking, crocheting...

FUTURE PLANS? Baptist SWF, 50, outgoing, well-educated, secure...

MAKE EYE CONTACT Lutheran SWF, 50, enjoys dancing, music, bowling...

HAS MY CARE CENTER? Protestant SWF, 33, fun, outgoing, quiet-natured...

RELIGIOUS IN FORTY TILES? Catholic SWF, 36, fun-loving, enjoys racquetball, tennis...

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SHARE FUN TIMES Green-eyed SWF, 40, 5'5", trim, fit, attractive...

THING NEW THINGS? SWF, 38, 5'6", hardworking, warm-hearted, MS...

INTEREST YOU? SWF, 21, brown hair, blue eyes, enjoys movies...

LET'S GET TOGETHER Professional SWF, 24, 5'5", 120lbs., brown hair...

SENSE OF HUMOR SWF, 46, 5'8", reddish-blond hair, blue eyes, enjoys...

LOOKING FOR YOU? SWF, 22, 5'5", 115lbs., brown hair, green eyes...

DOWN-TO-EARTH Honest SWF, 32, Catholic, outgoing, likes baking...

SMART CHOICE SWF, 34, honest, very caring, hobbies are the outdoors...

DON'T HESITATE, CALL! Protestant SWF, 53, easygoing, outgoing, enjoys...

LIKES METAL DETECTING? SWF, 30, Lutheran, outgoing, friendly, likes the outdoors...

QUIET TIMES AT HOME? SWF, 45, upbeat, lively, friendly, intelligent, enjoys...

I AM HUMOROUS! SWF, 24, enjoys hunting, working quiet times at home...

LET'S MEET SWF, 23, outgoing, fun to be with, likes to laugh...

BEHAVIOR-ORIENTED? SWF, 33, outgoing, spontaneous, enjoys skiing, bowling, barbecues, family activities...

ROMANTIC OR MIRTHOUS? Spontaneous, warm, loving, active, old-fashioned...

NO GAME, PLEASE! Catholic SWF, 25, quiet, sweet, kind, caring, honest...

ONE DAY AT A TIME? Humorous DW, 65, 6'5", 190lbs., Lutheran, enjoys...

CHRIST-CENTERED? Romantic SWF, 35, non-denominational, enjoys...

HIS A GOOD LISTENER? Outgoing SWF, 48, inter-denominational, enjoys...

HIS SPIRITUAL? SWF, 63, Protestant, humorous, easygoing, enjoys...

SPORTS & CAMPING? Easygoing, honest SWF, 29, Protestant, enjoys...

VERY ACTIVE? Lutheran SWF, 43, outgoing, confident, enjoys...

COUNTRY MUSIC FAN? Easygoing SWF, 37, Presbyterian, humorous, enjoys...

RAISED IN CHURCH? Non-denominational SWF, 23, outgoing, laid-back...

SOME TIMES SERIOUS? Catholic SWF, 34, hobbies include research, golfing...

LET UP AND GO! Catholic SWF, 38, easygoing, spontaneous, enjoys...

HOBBIESTS TO SHARE? Warm, kind-hearted SWF, 42, Protestant, enjoys...

DEPENDABLE GUY? SWF, 43, 5'9", honest, likes country music, movies...

DOWN-TO-EARTH? Catholic SWF, 33, tall, blond, brown eyes, enjoys...

LOOKING FOR YOU? SWF, 22, 5'5", 115lbs., brown hair, green eyes...

VERY ACTIVE? Lutheran SWF, 43, outgoing, confident, enjoys...

COUNTRY MUSIC FAN? Easygoing SWF, 37, Presbyterian, humorous, enjoys...

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the NOVI NEWS Sports

Four Kings, but no crown

Grapplers win titles, but league championship goes to Hartland

By SCOTT DANIEL Sports Editor The great thing about wrestling is that it's all decided on the mats. There's no mythical national champions or wondering if one athlete is better than another...



Skip Becker (above left) took the title at 160 pounds while Taka Watanabe (right) won the 145-pound crown.

Novi finishes the KVC season tied for second place. The Wildcats were second in the dual meet portion of the campaign and needed to win the league meet for a share of first. HUSS knew his team would need a few Hartland's wrestlers to be upset for the Wildcats to win...

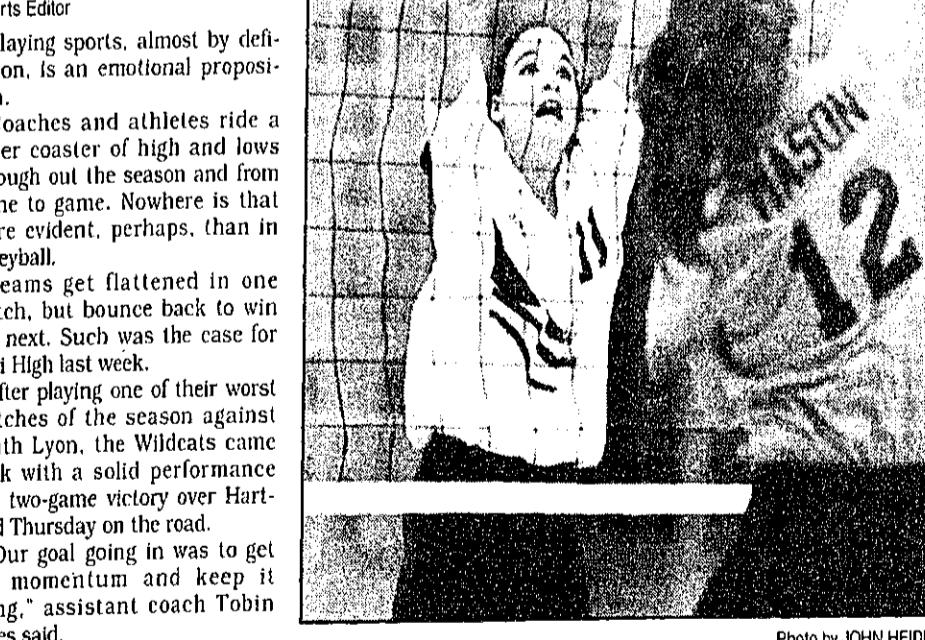
Novi finishes the KVC season tied for second place. The Wildcats were second in the dual meet portion of the campaign and needed to win the league meet for a share of first. HUSS knew his team would need a few Hartland's wrestlers to be upset for the Wildcats to win...

Spikers crush Eagles in two

By SCOTT DANIEL Sports Editor Playing sports, almost by definition, is an emotional proposition. For the Spikers, it was a particularly emotional one...

Tankers 9th at county meet

By SCOTT DANIEL Sports Editor Being realistic doesn't necessarily mean you're being negative. Taking just five swimmers and a pair of divers, Novi High didn't have a realistic shot at winning the Oakland County meet...



Kristen Kearney has been a bright spot for Novi lately.

Mission accomplished. Novi never let the Eagles in the match, winning 15-3, 15-2. Hartland's shortcomings added fuel to the Wildcats' momentum. "They've got decent athletes," Jones said...

Gymnasts stay hot, beat Falcons

By SCOTT DANIEL Sports Editor The combined team swept all but one event in last week's meet with Farmington. Williamson finished first in the vault with an average of 8.95...

Novi High assistant volleyball coach Jones switched the Wildcat lineup around for the match by inserting Kearney and Jones Corless. "They were serving hard and aggressive," Jones said. "When the Eagles were able to return Novi's serves, Sarah McGinnen and Lindsay Drury were either able to block or send solid hits back over the net."

Novi High assistant volleyball coach Jones switched the Wildcat lineup around for the match by inserting Kearney and Jones Corless. "They were serving hard and aggressive," Jones said. "When the Eagles were able to return Novi's serves, Sarah McGinnen and Lindsay Drury were either able to block or send solid hits back over the net."

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SCOREBOARD

Table with columns for BASKETBALL, AREA LEADERS, SCORING, REBOUNDS, ASSISTS, WRESTLING, and FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE. Lists scores for various teams and individual player statistics.

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Members of the Pizzazz Precision Skating Juvenile team include: (Back row, left to right) Kody Brown, Catherine Krystos, Andrea Ziesch, Jessica Bryant, Andrea Kaifesh, Kristin Doroshewitz, Jamie Segal, and coach Tammy Doroshewitz; (front row left to right) Amanda Bates, Dianna Krystos, Novi resident Sarah Curie, Katie Nichols, Jennifer White, Ashley Mascioli, Elizabeth White.

Local skater heads to finals

By SCOTT DANIEL Sports Editor
Sarah Curie can't remember a time when she wasn't ice skating. Since she was 3-years-old, she has been skating on the ice rink. After all the long hours of practice and years of dedication, Curie is about to be rewarded. As a member of the Pizzazz Precision Skating Team, she'll be heading off to New York next month for National Championships.

Cagers fall to Milford 56-43

By SCOTT DANIEL Sports Editor
Turn out the lights, the Wildcats Kensington Valley Conference party is over. Any beating thoughts Novi High had about getting back into the league basketball race were dashed Friday in a 56-43 home loss to Milford. Now 4-4 in the KVC, the Wildcats are relegated to the role of spoiler. Howell remains undefeated in league play while Milford has just one loss.

Wrestlers place third in KVC

Continued from 9
he had lost to earlier in the year. "He did a nice job for us," Huss said. At 119 pounds, J.J. Balagna put it all together and took second place. He pinned his first two opponents before falling to Milford's Jason Amel in the final.

WILDCATS OF THE WEEK
DAN JILG, LENNY CHRISTOFF, TAKA WATANABE, SKIP BECKER - Wrestling
The four, which range in age from freshman to senior, all won Kensington Valley Conference championships in their weight divisions.

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Health

the NOVI
NEWS
12B
THURSDAY
February 13,
1997

Inactivity a national health problem

Living without exercise is like smoking a pack of cigarettes a day.

That's the message the Surgeon General's office is attempting to send to the American people with its most recent report on physical activity and health.

The extensive report, released July 11, 1996, came with the following warning:

Warning: The Surgeon General has determined that lack of physical activity is detrimental to your health.

Physical inactivity is a serious nationwide health problem. In addition to the startling 60 percent of the adult population defined as inactive, half of our adolescents and young adults (age 12-21) are

not active on a regular basis.

What to do, where to start?

The report indicates that, for inactive people, 30 to 45 minutes of moderate, regular physical activity performed most days of the week will reduce the risk of developing or dying from many of the leading causes of illness or death in the United States today.

For those individuals currently active, the report recommends increasing the intensity or amounts of their activity.

There are many options available to begin your physical activity - certainly one is to join a local health club or community center or program. Home fitness equipment is also another option.

Remember any activity that increases your heart rate through movement counts as exercise and will be a benefit to you.

Shoveling snow, dancing, mall walking ... you can be as creative as you want in your efforts to increase your physical activity in your life.

One key factor is to find something you can do consistently and have fun doing it. As a precaution, remember to consult a physician before beginning a new program of physical activity.

In 1964, 52 percent of all adult Americans smoked; now, some 33 years later, less than half as many still do. Moreover, all of our airlines and most of our public buildings

and workplaces are smoke free.

Earlier Surgeon General reports led to a profound shift in public attitudes. Most people now recognize smoking as the clear health hazard that it is.

Let's hope this report and ones that may follow will spark the same sort of response and lead to an enthusiastic and committed national campaign on behalf of regular exercise. The effects on your health and our nation's health could be equally profound.

This article was written by Chris Klebba, president of the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville. Call (810) 449-7634 for more information.

Heart disease is top killer of Americans

Cardiovascular disease is the No. 1 killer of Americans. In Michigan, cardiovascular disease

is responsible for nearly 50 percent of deaths. Currently, nearly 35,000 Michiganders die of cardiovascular disease each year. This number is more than cancer, accidents, infections, aids, suicide and homicide combined. Further, Michigan's population spends nearly \$5 billion per year on health care related to cardiovascular disease. Despite

these enormous effects of cardiovascular disease in Michigan, our society almost seems to have accepted this epidemic as a part of the usual routine and in some ways acceptable. The level of news headlines and broadcasts devoted to more recent or sensational problems such as aids and infection outbreaks might lead to the unsuspecting to conclude that heart disease has been solved and that we should devote our energy and resources to these "newer" problems. Unfortunately, as noted above, nothing could be farther from the truth. The importance of cardiovascular disease and particularly coronary heart disease has never been greater.

Why is it that coronary heart disease is in such epidemic proportion in this state? For the most part, the unusually high incidence relates to characteristics of the Michigan population that promote coronary disease with a high prevalence:

- Approximately 25 percent of Michiganders smoke tobacco.
- More than 20 percent are known to have an elevated cholesterol level with only a minority currently receiving effective cholesterol-lowering therapy.
- Michigan frequently ranks in the top five

states in the country in obesity with an incidence of nearly 29 percent.

• Also, Michiganders on average have a sedentary life style. More than half the population report below average activity levels during a usual week.

• Additionally, Michigan ranks above the national average in other coronary risk factor categories including diabetes and hypertension.

What is equally alarming is the future prospects for Michigan's children. It is estimated that nearly a third are overweight, as many as 40 percent have cholesterol levels that rank in the upper range of normal if not frankly abnormal, a fifth of our African American children have an elevation in blood pressure, and a tenth of our adolescents smoke - and the number is increasing each year. Furthermore, while a third of our children watch more than five hours of TV per day, 63 percent spend less than one hour per week in regular routine aerobic exercise. Thus, if Michigan continues on its current course, there appears to be no immediate relief for the devastating impact of cardiovascular disease on the population.

While the magnitude of the problem and the future potential at times seems almost insurmountable, there is reason for optimism in Michigan's fight to rid or reduce itself of its cardiovascular disease problem. First, medical science has now shown that a variety of modifications in coronary heart disease risk factors can pay significant health dividends. The attainment of a diet low in fat and high in micronutrients, regular aerobic exercise, smoking cessation, estrogen replacement in postmenopausal women, aspirin in selected individuals, and other preventive maneuvers can now improve both quality of life and longevity. Equally important is various drug therapies to improve the prognosis for patients at risk for or already harboring coronary heart disease. In particular, new drugs that drastically lower cholesterol have been shown to reduce the incidence of heart attack, death and the need for coronary artery angioplasty and bypass surgery. In addition, there are new ways of medically treating

patients with chronic angina, congestive heart failure and other associated problems. For patients with disabling symptoms or extremely high-risk situations, improved methods of coronary artery angioplasty with the selected use of coronary stents and more effective approaches to coronary artery bypass surgery can improve cardiovascular outlook for many patients with cardiovascular disease. In fact, scientific advancement surrounding prevention and the treatment of coronary heart disease has been so successful in recent years that as many as 45 percent to 50 percent of the current cardiovascular deaths could be prevented if patients were successful in their efforts to change lifestyle and were exposed to current state-of-the-art therapeutics surrounding coronary heart disease.

During February 1997 Heart Month, the Heart Care Program at the University of Michigan is joining in a broad-based coalition to raise consciousness regarding cardiovascular disease in Michigan.

Further, we are promoting efforts to adjust future risk of our population through grocery shopping programs to assist in the identification of low-fat foods, the creation of heart-healthy fast foods with such vendors as Domino's Pizza, and joining agencies such as the American Heart Association and the Greater Detroit Area Health Council in efforts to attack the forgotten epidemic face to face.

In addition, we are continuing to improve and provide the most scientifically valid methods of preventing and treating known coronary disease with the latest in medical, interventional, surgical and preventive management. We intend to join other providers and agencies in affording Michigan the maximal opportunity to world-class cardiovascular care.

Written by Kim A. Eagle M.D., an associate professor of Internal Medicine and a director of Clinical Cardiology at the University of Michigan. For questions call (313) 936-5275.

Health Notes

Expectant parents

The Oakland County Health Division will offer a series of six expectant parent classes beginning on Monday, Feb. 24, at Oakland County Health Division, 1010 E. West Maple, Walled Lake.

Classes will be held in the evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. and will be taught by public health nurses. There is a \$25 charge for attending the series of classes, and you are asked to preregister as enrollment is limited.

Topics will include maternal physical changes, good nutrition, growth and development of the fetus and the baby, labor and delivery, infant care and parenting.

The Health Division advises that you enroll as early in your pregnancy as possible.

To register by Feb. 18, please call 424-7042.

Parenting for Dads

The Detroit Medical Center Health Care Centers-Novl will offer "Fathers Who Care," an eight-week program on Tuesdays, beginning Feb. 18, from 6-7:30 p.m. in its second floor auditorium.

This parenting group specifically designed for fathers provides information, support and insight from other fathers and professionals.

Topics include how to be a dad, showing your child you care, talking and bonding with your child, seeing yourself as a family and more.

To register for this free program, call toll-free 1-888-362-2500.

The program will meet on Tuesdays, Feb. 18-April 18, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the DMC Health Care Centers on Twelve Mile Road between Novi and Meadowbrook roads.

Infant/Pediatric CPR

Providence is offering a course for those over 12 years old who are interested in learning basic knowledge of the heart and lungs, household safety tips, CPR and choking rescue skills for infants and children 1 to 8 years old.

This course includes: lecture, demonstration, mannequin practice and video review. Participants will be given an opportunity to ask highly-skilled medical professionals questions

throughout the course. The series will take place at the following locations on the following dates. There will be a charge for participants. For further information call 1-800-968-5595.

• Feb. 13 - Providence Medical Center-Farmington Hills, 3005 Northwestern Highway.

• Feb. 18 - Providence Hospital, 16001 W. Nine Mile Road, Southfield.

• Feb. 24 - Providence Women's and Children's Center, 33133 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

Baby Basics

Providence is offering a workshop entitled "Baby Care Basics." The lecture is designed to help parents understand the changes that occur when a new baby is brought home.

Participants will discuss concerns about how to adapt to life with a new baby and the class will provide practical information about bathing, feeding, safety and health care. Time will be made available for participants to get answers to specific questions.

The workshop is scheduled at the following locations on the following dates:

• March 1 - Providence Medical Center-Providence Park, 47601 Grand River, Novi

There is a charge of \$20 per couple to attend and advance registration is required. Call 1-800-968-5595.

Breastfeeding Prep Class

Providence Hospital and Medical Centers is offering a breastfeeding preparation class to expectant mothers who plan to or are considering breastfeeding their babies. This two-hour class provides information and encouragement to participants and will provide a forum to have specific questions answered by medical professionals.

Classes will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. at the following locations and on the following dates:

• Feb. 13 - Providence Medical Center-Providence Park, 47601 Grand River, Novi

• Feb. 25 - Providence Hospital, 16001 W. Nine Mile Road, Southfield

A small fee is charged for this class. Call 1-800-968-5595 for further information.

Prostate Screening Day

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer a free prostate screening day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 1, in the St. Mary Hospital pavilion. This free program includes a prostate exam by a physician, blood test to measure the prostate specific antigen level and educational material.

Advance registration for this important health screening for men is requested by calling (313) 655-2922 or call toll free at 1-800-494-1650.

Blood Pressure Checks

Providence Medical Center-Providence Park is offering free blood pressure checks Monday-Friday, 9-11 a.m.

Area residents are invited to visit Providence Medical Center-Providence Park, located at 47601 Grand River Ave., to obtain this free service. Screening will take place in Providence's Emergency Care Center located within the center.

For further information, contact (810) 380-4225.

Well Child Clinic

Oakland County Health Division's Child Health Conferences provide free ongoing well care for children from birth to school entry. Families who do not have an HMO or Medicaid may be eligible. Clinics are held at 14 locations throughout Oakland County.

Services include: Heights and weights; head to toe physical examination; immunizations; vision, hearing and lab testing; growth and developmental screening; and counseling with referrals to physicians and area resources as needed.

Appointment is required. For more information, call: North Oakland, 858-1311 or 858-4001; South Oakland, 424-7066 or 424-7067.

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