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THURSDAY
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Periodical

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NOVI NEWS

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Public urged to lobby for I-96 design

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Start burning up the phone lines and fax machines between here and Lansing, State Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, is asking area residents.

Cassis recently sponsored an amendment to the Michigan Department of Transportation's budget calling for a \$9-\$10 million design study for the Wixom Road and Beck Road interchanges on Interstate 96. No improvements can be done to the interchanges until the design study is completed.

A state house/senate conference committee is now cutting and pasting the state's \$2 billion 1997-98 transportation budget bill and Cassis said she is concerned the study will be pulled out. After the conference committee

completes its revisions, the budget returns to the state house and senate for final approval.

She's urging people directly affected by the road conditions to have their say.

"I think the best thing will be to get on the phone ... We've got to get this from the back burner to the front of the radar screen," she said.

"The time is now. The window is open. We want to ensure this will pass."

Rebuilding both interchanges, as well as upgrading adjacent surface roads, is expected to be a \$90-\$100 million project.

To Cassis, the work should have been done "yesterday."

She's already contacted government leaders and chambers of commerce in Novi, Walled Lake

Continued on 16

Novi High alumnus heads to White House

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

It doesn't take a brain surgeon to figure out Sanjay Gupta is going places.

To Washington, D.C., in fact. Gupta, a 1986 graduate of Novi High School and a neurosurgeon, was recently selected to be a White House fellow. He'll be the youngest of a bi-partisan group of 15 that will be advising President Clinton on policy issues.

So how does a 28-year-old guy from small-town Michigan make it all the way from Llorac Lane to Pennsylvania Avenue?

Hard work and self-confidence, according to Gupta.

"One of the primary things for me would be believing there's not anything you cannot do," he said.

At 16, he was accepted into medical school at the University

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Sanjay Gupta

Suburban changes its name to HomeTown Communications

Suburban Communications Corp., publishers of community newspapers, shoppers, telephone directories, specialty publications and Web and Internet products has changed its corporate name to HomeTown Communications Network Inc., effective immediately.

Phillip H. Power, chairman and owner of the company whose publications are distributed in Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio, said the corporate name was changed in order to reflect

the company's evolution into a provider of multi-media local information networks.

"Our core business is community newspapers," Power said, "but to serve the needs of our reader customers and our advertisers, we need to link them with our local telephone directories, niche publications and Internet services in order to put them in touch with their world, whether it's their own hometown or the entire global village."

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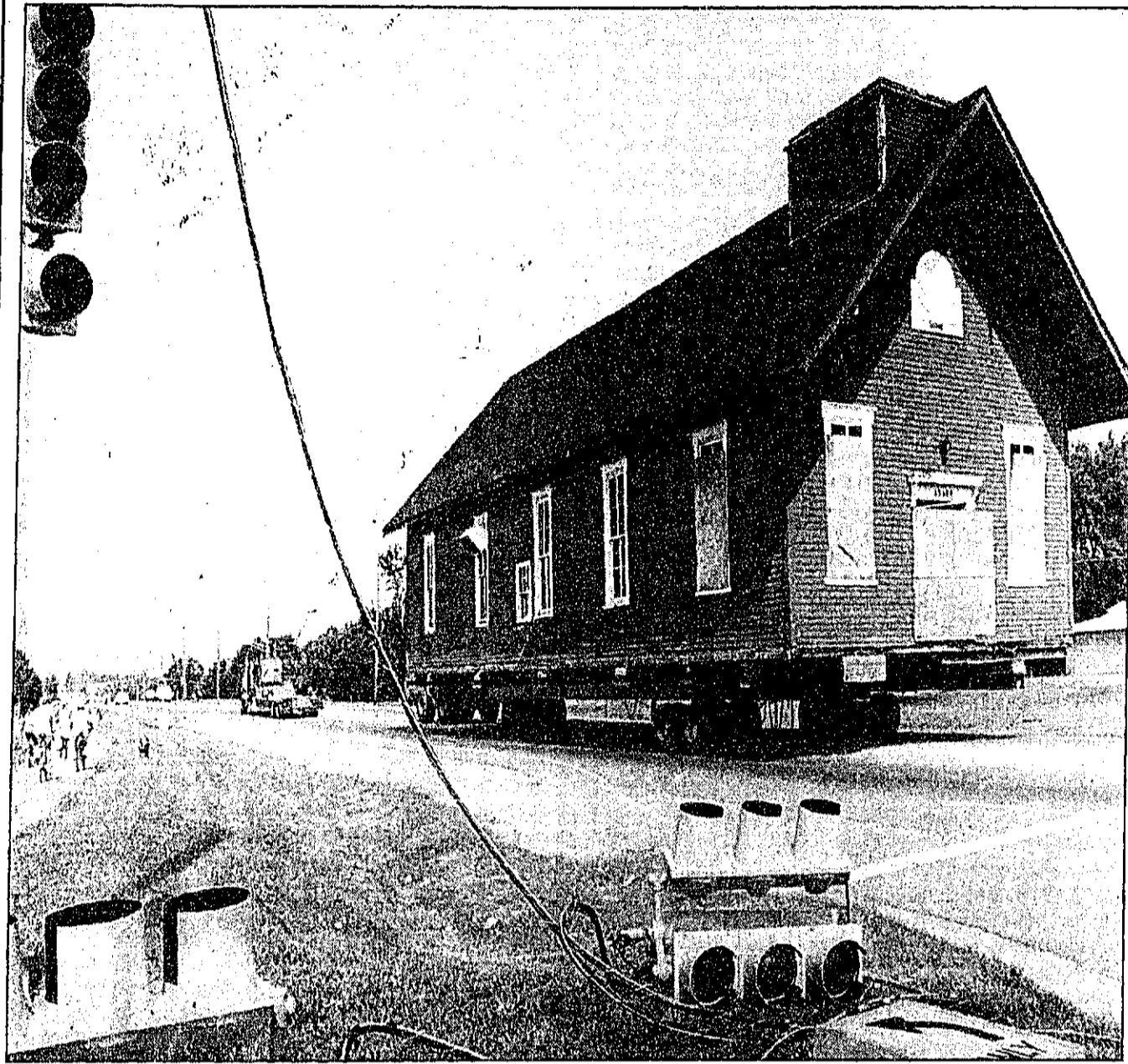


Photo by THOMAS R. HIBBELN

The Old Novi Methodist Church makes its way west down Ten Mile toward its new home on Beck Road.

On the road to salvation

Novi's oldest church makes a three-mile journey

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

This was one holy roller. Perched on giant dollies, the historic Novi Methodist Church hit the road Sunday on a seven-hour, three-mile plus journey from the corner of Grand River Avenue and Novi Road, down to Ten Mile Road, then all the way to Beck Road.

The Sabbath Day was deliberately chosen for transporting the 95-ton building to reduce the impact on the area. Not only was the road

closed, but electrical, cable TV and telephone services lines were raised to make way for the oldest church remaining in Novi.

But who needed TV? Nearly 100 residents were a ready-made congregation for the parade of red-painted Victorian church, utility trucks and their crews.

"There were a lot of people who had their religious obligations met by being out there on Sunday," said Novi's Weighmaster Anthony Woape. "They were really enjoying it."

At its new location, the 121-year-old build-

ing will once again be a house of worship, now for Oakland Baptist members.

This was a production worthy of Cecil B. De Mille.

Novi staff planner Greg Capote coordinated the job for Oakland Baptist Church, which involved reaching accords with Detroit Edison, the Oakland County Road Commission and weighmaster, Ameritech, the cable TV company, a fiber optics company and the city police, fire public works and weighmaster depart-

Continued on 16

Cheal named as principal replacement

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

Assistant Principal Dr. Jennifer Cheal will take over as head of Novi High School when and if Principal Arthur Miller moves to Gross Pointe South High School on the east side.

Miller is expected to be hired as

principal by that district on Monday night. The drive from the east side combined with long hours in the post had Miller looking for a change, although he said he doesn't really want to leave Novi High.

According to Superintendent Dr. Emmett Lippe, Cheal will pro-

vide the continuity and stability the high school needs. She will receive a two-year contract with a salary of \$98,043 the first year. Her appointment was approved by the Board of Education Tuesday night.

Cheal has spent 7 years as assistant principal at Novi High

school, seeing through the massive architectural changes and change over to block scheduling.

"We think we have a highly competent individual, one who is very worth of the position," said Lippe.

"She is a good role model," he

Continued on 10



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Don Rodda travels the country on his Harley Road King.

Novi man travels country on a Harley

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

Don Rodda first got on a bike when he was 21. Coming out of the Navy, he and a some buddies spent a good amount of time tooling around New York State. The year was 1948. The bike was an old 1931 Indian.

"A great bike," Rodda says now. "A classic I wish I still had."

Then he met Barbara. He was friends with her older brother. Just days before her senior prom, her date was drafted for the Korean War and her brother told her to pick one of his buddies to take her to prom.

"Don was the only one tall enough so I could still wear heels," she said.

So they went to the prom and it has been love ever since, now 45 years of marriage and counting.

It was also goodbye to the motorcycle while he helped raise a family here in Novi.

But Rodda never gave up his love of bikes. And in 1991, he bought another. He has happily put 130,000 miles on the motorcycle since then.

Rodda, now 70, spends weeks each year crossing the country,

"It's not the destination. It's the journey."

Don Rodda

taking the back roads and exploring America on his 800 pound Harley Davidson Road King.

He's driven the pavement or dirt road of 46 of the 50 United States and colored the pages of his Atlas yellow by his travels.

He's driven Route 66 on a historic guided tour along with dozens of other HOGs (Harley Owners Group) and camped along side doctors, executives, welders and machinists who also love riding.

This fall he and many other HOGs will make the coast to coast ride from Portland, Oregon to Portland, Maine. They'll call themselves the La Posse Group.

"But I don't know how many outlaws we're gonna chase," Rodda chuckled.

There's no stopping the tanned man with a graying beard and deep laugh.

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Firm says Novi has what parents want

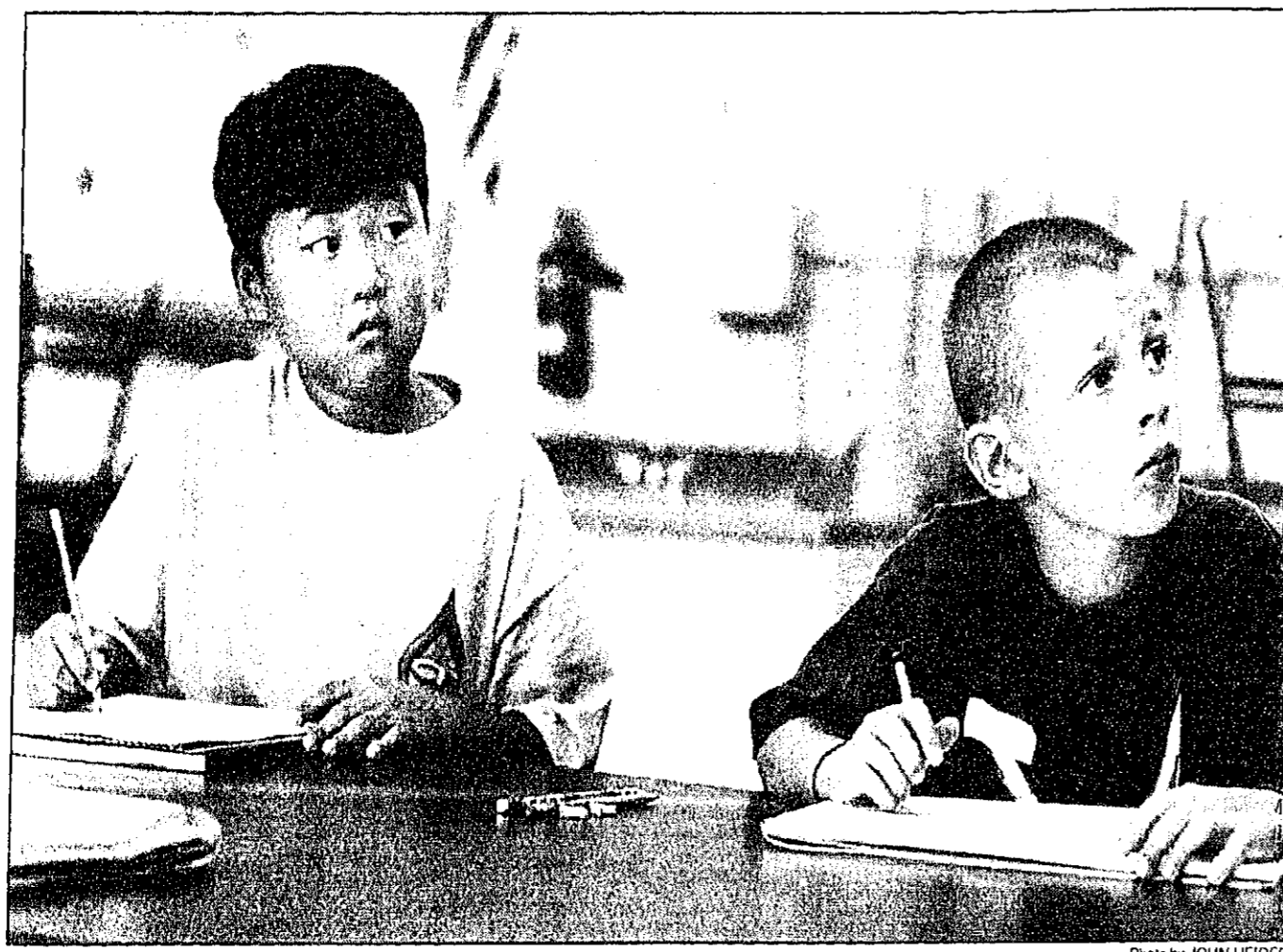
Choosing a school or school district is one of the most important decisions a parent has to make. There are many factors that play a part in this decision, such as, academic test scores, class size, expenditures per pupil, accreditation and technological resources.

According to a survey of parents, the Novi Community School District meets their expectations and needs.

SchoolMatch, a national school selection consulting firm, recently awarded the Novi Community School District with the "What Parents Want" award. This recognition puts the district in the top ten percent of the nation's 15,933 public school systems.

"This award is significant because it represents what parents look for in a school district," said Dr. Emmett Lippe, superintendent for the Novi Community School District. "Each and every year we strive to meet the needs of the students and parents in the community. I am very pleased that we have been recognized for our efforts."

SchoolMatch, of Columbus, Ohio, maintains a database of information on every public school system throughout the nation and



Young artists
Young, aspiring artists Miles Young and Steve Gillam, both 9, glance up at the chalkboard for inspiration during last Tuesday's Novi Community Education-sponsored drawing class at Novi Meadows School. The class is taught by Linda McMillan.

accredited private schools throughout the world. This service helps corporate employee families find schools that meet the needs of their children.

In order to select award-winning school districts, the organization surveyed more than 48,000 clients. The results revealed what parents look for in a school system:

- Competitive in academic test scores.
- Accreditation.
- Recognized for excellence by a national foundation or by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Competitive teacher salaries.
- Above average instructional expenditures on a national percentile basis.
- Above average expenditures for library/media services on a national percentile basis.
- Small class sizes.
- Availability of programs at the secondary level.

According to SchoolMatch, the Novi Community School District is a model of "What Parents Want."

"It is great to know that people throughout the world are inquiring about the City of Novi and the Novi Community School District," Lippe said.

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INDEPENDENCE DAY EVENTS - JULY 4, 1997

Celebrate Independence

Fourth of July activities: Saluting America's Best



Whoever believes the Statue of Liberty doesn't sport an ear-to-ear grin has never been to the Northville Fourth of July parade. Here, everyone follows Danielle Wysocki's lead in having a grand red, white and blue time.



Fife and drum marchers always add a nice patriotic touch.



Everyone does their best promenade during the popular pet parade, back again for another turn this year.

Daylong series of events to mark nation's birthday

By RANDY COBLE Staff Writer

If you don't have fun tomorrow, it won't be because there's nothing to do in Northville. The community will be celebrating Independence Day in style. You're facing a full slate of fun and interesting things to do all over town. Organizers are calling on everyone to bring the family and plan on staying the day in order to enjoy it all.

There will be must-see like the parade and the fireworks, of course, and old favorites like the fun of Mill Race Village and an evening orchestral concert of patriotic music at Beck Road Park. Food and drink will be available all over town on July Fourth as well.

Here's a rundown of what's coming for Northville's Fourth of July celebration:

- Kicking things off on Friday will be a new face to our Independence Day celebrations: the Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Society. It's a club composed of local "ham" radio operators who will operate a special short-wave radio station at the bandshell on Main Street from 8 a.m. to noon and from Mill Race Village from 1 to 5 p.m. on July 4. You can watch the action and even get in on it yourself, getting the chance to talk to "hams" from all over America.
- At the bandshell at 9:30 a.m. will be a special pre-parade celebration. Participants will sing the national anthem and enjoy a performance from the Flying Aces professional frisbee team.
- At 10 a.m. it's time for the downtown parade. Floats, bands, fire trucks and more will wow the crowds as they wind their way through the streets of Northville. This year they will be led by a very special grand marshal, retiring Meads Mill Middle School Principal Dave Longridge.
- Also taking part in the procession will be personalities such as UPN-50 TV weather forecaster Jim Madaus and two special favorites, the pet parade and children's bike parade.
- At 10:30 a.m. a special model airplane air show will take place at a local club's airfield on Five Mile Road between Ridge and Naper roads. The public is invited.
- The parade is expected to take about 45 minutes. Once it's done mosey on over to the grounds of the old Ford plant on S. Main Street, now the home of R&D Enterprises. That's the site for an 11 a.m. classic car show which is free and open to the public.
- When you get your fill of sweet steel, a short walk up Griswold Avenue will bring you to the Mill Race Historical Village. All kinds of excitement awaits you there.
- Rug hookers, fiber weavers, blacksmiths



David Longridge Jim Madaus

and basket weavers will conduct demonstrations of their crafts and Civil War reenactors will perform. Magician Ming the Magnificent will thrill and delight everyone and a clown troupe will tickle the funny bones of all who attend.

Kids can take part in games such as the goldfish pond, three-legged race, blowing bubbles, bobbing for apples and the fishing derby. Take a moment to enjoy the lilting sounds of the Silver String Dulcimer Society.

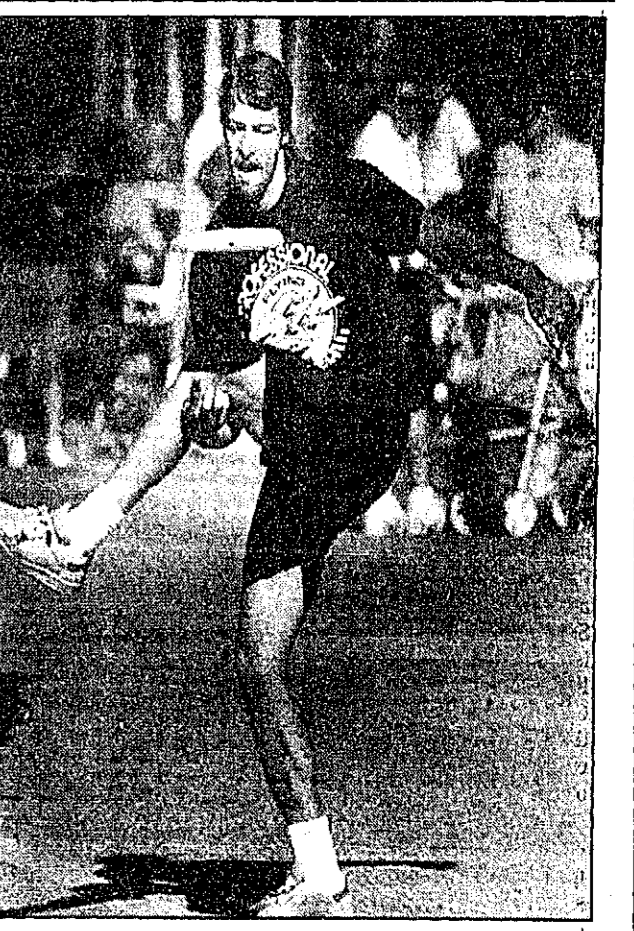
There will be a bake sale, tours of the many historical sites in Mill Race and Northville Historical Society domains on hand to answer questions. A special event will be a live auction of antiques and memorabilia with resident Fran Gaday at the helm. Proceeds will benefit the Historical Society.

- The fun doesn't stop there, however. Next on the agenda will be a special concert at Northville Community Park on Beck Road between Five and Six Mile. The concert will precede the evening's fireworks show.
- Performing will be the Scholcraft College Wind Ensemble. The 70-piece orchestra will perform patriotic pieces such as the music of John Philip Sousa and "The 1812 Overture." Directed by Dr. Jim Nissen, the concert begins around 7 p.m.
- It just wouldn't be July 4 without fireworks. Wrapping up the Independence Day party will be an evening fireworks show starting around 10 p.m. The pyrotechnics will be shot off from the grounds of the Browning-Feris Industries (BFI) property near Six Mile and Naper roads.
- Several free public viewing sites will be available in the area.

★★★★★★

A Stars and Stripes salute to America's Best Friday, July 4, 1997

★★★★★★



The Flying Aces will warm up the crowd with displays of aerial wizardry just prior to the parade.

Radio operators to spread word far and wide

By RANDY COBLE Staff Writer

Have you ever wanted to learn a little something about ham radio?

If the answer's yes, then tune in to this: some local people who've made a hobby of radio will be in Northville on the Fourth of July. As a matter of fact, the members of the Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Club just might let you get on the horn and talk with people all over the nation.

The group meets monthly at Plymouth Township Hall but includes enthusiasts from several metro area communities. Northville resident Dave Langston is one of them and he and his clubmates will be broadcasting live from the bandshell on Main Street from 8 a.m. to noon and from Mill Race Village from 1-5 p.m. tomorrow.

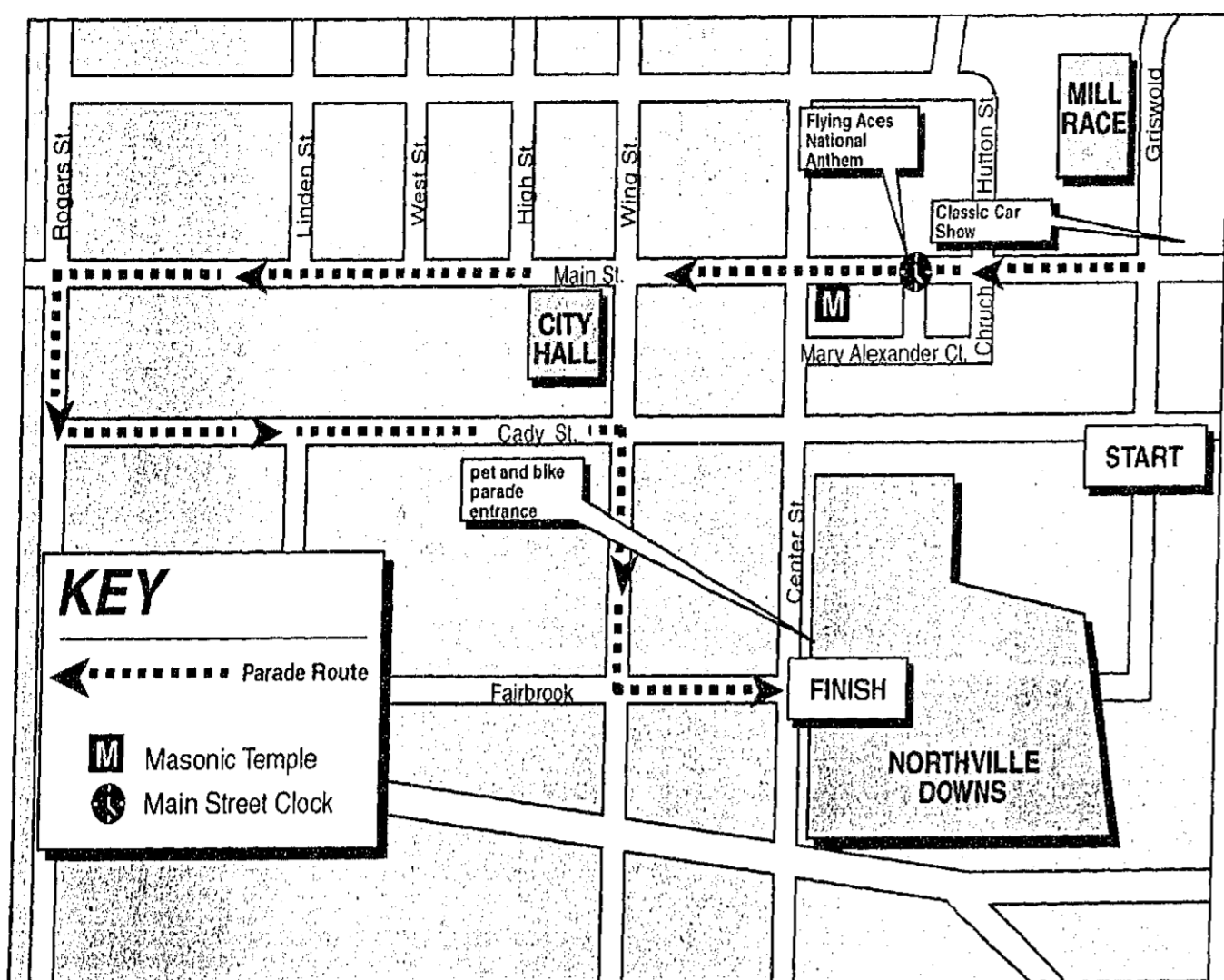
The Stu Rockafellow group will be taking part in a ham radio salute to small towns in America on the Fourth of July. Amateur radio enthusiasts from all over the country will be connecting with each other to swap stories about their small towns, including Northville. Club members will be on hand to show and

talk about their favorite pastime; for example, "hams" help to maintain a national network of broadcasters whose assistance is invaluable in emergency situations and natural disasters.

"They'll be glad to answer your questions and some people who visit the Stu Rockafellow area may even be invited to step up to the microphone and talk to other 'hams' across the U.S.A."

"We want to have some fun and to provide a learning experience for people as well," Langston explained.

INDEPENDENCE DAY EVENTS - JULY 4, 1997



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

7-10 a.m. - All-You-Can-Eat Independence Day Farm Breakfast
Annual Fourth of July breakfast sponsored by No. 55, Royal Arch Masons of Northville, featuring an all-you-can-eat menu of pancakes, scrambled eggs, hash brown potatoes, ham, orange juice and coffee, tea or milk.
The breakfast will be held at the Masonic Temple, 106 E. Main Street, above Genelli's Hole-in-the-Wall restaurant in Northville. The cost is \$3.50 per adult and \$2 for children 12 and under.

9:50 a.m. - Pre-parade warm-up
Saucers will fill the air near the Main Street Clock as the fabulous Flying Aces Pro Frisbee Team works its aerial wizardry. The singing of the National Anthem will immediately precede the frisbee performance.
The frisbee demonstration is sponsored by Simkins & Simkins PC.

10 a.m.-11 a.m. - Parade "Saluting America's Best"
Floats, bands and other specialty acts will parade through the streets of Northville. The theme commemorates the centennial anniversary of the automobile. Celebrity guests include UPN 50 weatherman, Jim Madaus. The grand marshal is former Meads Mill Middle School Principal David Longridge, who retired in June after a 37 year career with the local school district.
Participants should gather at Northville Downs at 9 a.m.
The parade is sponsored by Ameritech AMERICAST.

11 a.m.-4 p.m. - Mill Race Historical Village
Traditional events include Civil War reenactors, a magic show by Ming the Magnificent, rug hooking and basket weaving demonstrations, a live auction (small items), a bake sale, food service (sloppy joes, ice cream, pop and chips), live ham radio broadcasts (1 p.m.) and a Beanie Baby raffle (4 p.m.).
All buildings in the historical village will be open for touring.

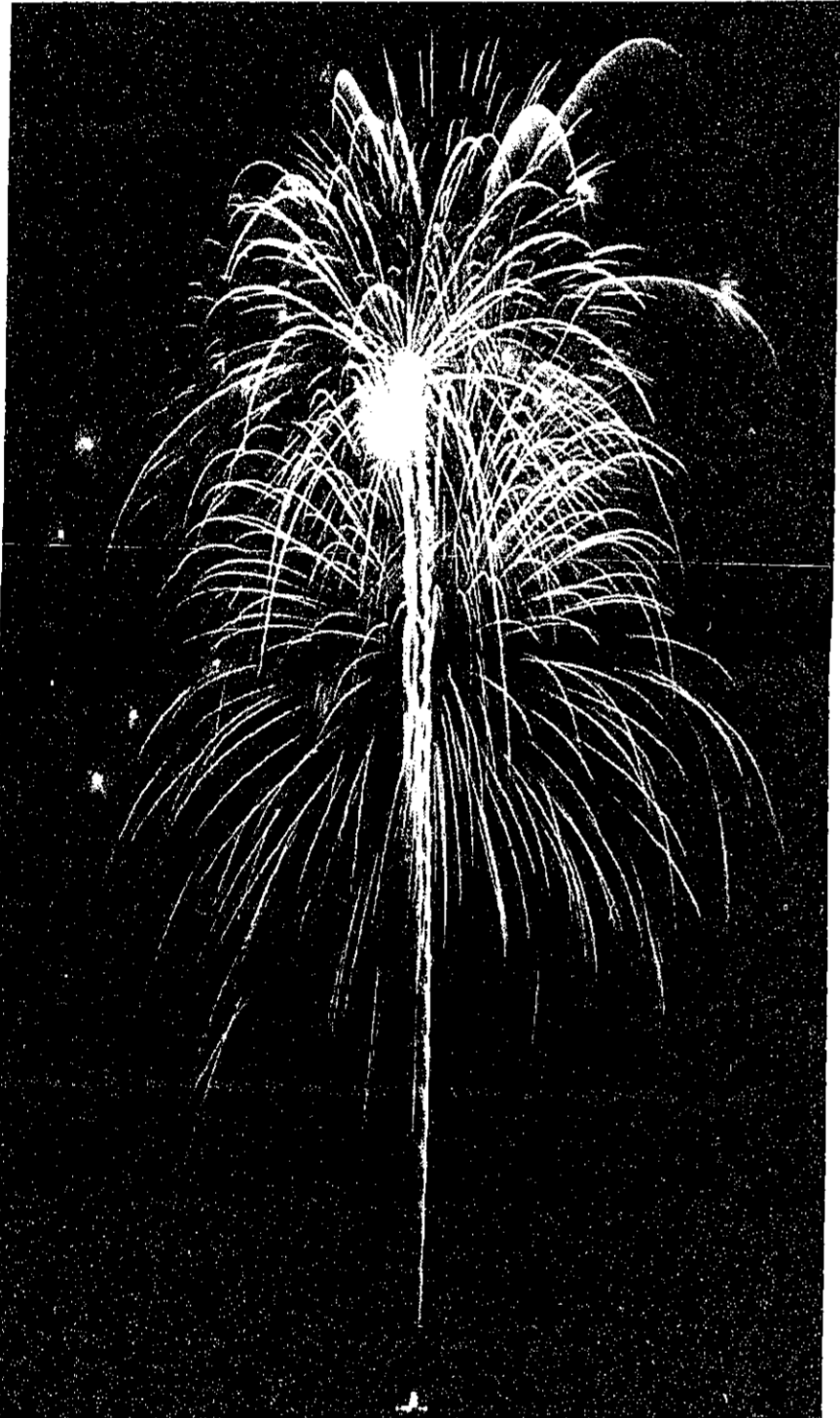
11 a.m.-4 p.m. - Third Annual Classic Car Show
A nostalgic look at the storied history of the automobile will include Model T's and vintage cars from several categories.
The car show this year is sponsored by Woolly Bullies.

7-8:45 p.m. - Pre-fireworks Concert
Come to Community Park, Beck Road between Five and Six Mile to while away the hours before the fireworks display. The Schoolcraft Community Wind Ensemble, a 70-piece orchestra under the direction of Jim Nissen, will perform marches and patriotic songs by John Phillip Sousa and other patriotic favorites, like *The 1812 Overture*. Sponsored by Ameritech AMERICAST.

Dark, approximately 10 p.m. - Fireworks Display
The Zambelli Fireworks Co. will stage a stunning display of starburst explosives on the grounds of the BFI Arbor Hills Center for Resource Management, Six Mile at Napier.
The fireworks will be set off on the top of the large hill at the resource recovery facility and will be visible for miles around. People viewing the fireworks can park in designated areas. Police will direct cars to those parking spots.

Sponsored by Northville Township, the City of Northville, Jim's Oil Depot & Davis Auto Care, BFI, Ayers, Lewis, Norris & May, Hiller's Markets and Meijer's.

Note: With the exception of the Mason's breakfast, admission to all events is free.



The spectacular fireworks display will be similar to the one set off during the International Freedom Festival celebration last week on the Detroit River.

PARADE PARTICIPANTS

- 17th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Co.
- 1911 Model "T" Ford Touring Car
- 1918 Ford Model "T" Roadster
- 1926 Ford Model "T"
- 1931 Model "A" Ford
- 1937 Ford Pickup
- 1941 Pontiac
- 1950 Pontiac
- 1951 Ford Pickup
- 1956 "T" Bird
- 21st Michigan Volunteer Infantry Co.
- 35th District Court Judge John McDonald
- 96.3 The Planet
- All Star Gymnastics
- American Legion Post 147
- American Power Wash Inc.
- Ameritech presents Americast
- Bicycle Parade
- Brickscape Gardens
- Browning Ferris Industries Truck
- Bueter's Outdoors
- Calliope by Hiller's Market
- Celebrity - Jim Madaus - UPN Channel 50
- Weatherperson
- Center Stage Dance Co.
- Charter Township of Northville Board of trustees
- Charter Township of Northville Fire Department
- Charter Township of Northville Police Car
- City of Northville Council
- City of Northville Fire Department
- Clowns Around Redford
- Clowns of America International Alley 76
- Country Garden Club of Northville
- Cub Scout Pack No. 755, Amerman School
- Detroit Edison Truck
- Dynamo Twirletes
- Flying Aces Frisbee Team-Simkins & Simkins
- Four Seasons 4-H Horse Club
- Grand Marshal, David Longridge
- Horse and Rider (Audrey Banks)
- In Four Dreams
- Junior Dragster
- Little Farmers Antique Tractor Club
- Masonic Lodge No. 186
- Maybury State Park
- Miss Liberty
- Moslem Shrine Brass Band
- Moslem Temple Highlanders
- Northville Carriage Co.-Miss Liberty
- Northville Chamber of Commerce
- Northville Co-op Preschool
- Northville District School Board
- Northville High School Cheer and Stunt Teams
- Northville High School Summer Marching Band
- Northville High School Twirlers
- Northville Historical Society
- Northville Pom-Pom Team
- Northville Public Schools-Summer Kids Club
- Northville Swim Club
- Northville T-Ball
- Northville/Plymouth Fire Safety House
- Oakland County Sheriff D.A.R.E. Car
- Okinawan Karate Clubs Inc.
- Order of Alhambra
- Order of Alhambra-Manresa Caravan
- Papa Romano's
- Pet Parade
- Petsmart
- PNA Centennial Dancers
- Sawmill Entry 1
- Sawmill Entry 2
- Simkins and Simkins PC
- Skatlin Station II
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church
- State Representative Deborah Whyman
- State Representative Gerry Law
- State Representative Nancy Cassis
- State Sen. Bob Geake
- Task Karate Academy
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PARADE GRAND MARSHAL

David Longridge, former Principal of Meads Mill Middle School

Capitol Capsules

TRASH BILL SNAGGED
A Senate-passed bill to limit the importation of Toronto's trash to Washtenaw County hit a constitutional snag in a House committee.
"We will work on this through the summer and come back in fall," said Rep. Tom Alley, D-West Branch, chair of the House Conservation Committee. "Sen. Bennett will work with this committee."
Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, is sponsor of Senate Bills 4 and 5. SB 4 would amend the Solid Waste Management Act to limit the importation of out-of-state waste, if permitted by federal law. It would apply to both waste haulers and landfill owners. Target is Browning Ferris Industries, owner of the Arbor Hills landfill in Washtenaw County. Metro Toronto recently awarded a multi-million contract.
In fiscal 1995-96 Michigan landfills accepted 12.4 million cubic yards of solid waste, including 5.7 million cubic yards from out-of-state.
SB 5 would amend the Hazardous Waste Management Act to require an offender to pay all costs of corrective action in addition to a fine of up to \$250,000 and two years in prison. A company could be fined up to \$1 million.
"The constitutional problem is that only the U.S. Congress may regulate interstate commerce. Wisconsin had a clause that was found unconstitutional in both the state and federal courts," Alley said. "It is imperative that a bill coming out of here be correct."

CHILD SAFETY BILLS
Three bills to protect children have been passed by the state Senate and sent to the House. They are:
SB 532 - to require State Police to check criminal records before license are issued to child care organizations and their employees. Parents will appreciate the peace of mind that comes with having additional control over child care options," said the sponsor, Sen. Mike Bouchard, R-Birmingham.
SB 113 - to make it a crime to knowingly allow another person to harm a child either physically, mentally or sexually. Maximum penalty is 15 years in prison. Sponsor is Bouchard.
SB 351 - punishing a parent who conceals income from the court in a child custody case. Penalties: up to four years in prison and a fine of up to \$2,000. The current penalty is limited to contempt of court, said the sponsor, Sen. Bob Geake, R-Northville, adding that enactment will "make deadbeat parents more accountable."

Refer to bills by number when writing to your state representative, State Capitol, Lansing 48909.



Soccer cheers
Participants of the 1997 Detroit Rockers Soccer summer camp in Novi cheer about as their favorite camp counselors score goals during a recent warm-up practice. About 100 boys and girls, ages 7-12, attended the week-long camp held at Novi Woods Elementary School. Detroit Rockers Soccer summer camp counselor Randy Prescott takes a kick toward the net during the camp at Novi Woods Elementary School.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Obituaries

RALPH R. FLUHART
Ralph R. Fluhart died June 28 in Hamburg, Mich. He was 66. Mr. Fluhart was born July 8, 1930.
Mr. Fluhart was a retired detective sergeant of the Novi Police Department.
He is survived by his wife, Gloria; daughters, Barbara (Stone) Roberts and Kimberly Newton-Rice; sons, Michael Fluhart and Kevin Kalle; and seven grandchildren.
Services were held on Tuesday, July 1, at O'Brien Chapel/Silver Federal Home of Novi. Interment was in Cadillac Cemetery, Westland.
Memorials to the American Heart Association would be appreciated.

LEONARD C. BOGOTAITIS
Leonard Chauncey Bogotaitis, 79, died June 23 at his residence in Northville. He was born July 5, 1917, in Mark, Ill., to John and Anna (Mazzorano) Bogotaitis.
Mr. Bogotaitis moved to Northville in 1940. He retired from Kroger's, and Stores & Blacks Hardware. He was founder of the Northville Boy's Club and a member of Our Lady of Victory Church of Northville.
He is survived by his son, Donald; and three grandchildren: Donald, Mark, and Kimberly Joe.
He was preceded in death by sister, Beatrice Wilson.
Services were held on Thursday, June 26, at Casterline Funeral Home Inc. of Northville. Father Ernest Foran, Our Lady of Victory Church, officiated at the service. Interment was in Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville.

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HIGHLIGHTS:
Church groups stay active during summer—2B

BEST OF SHOW:
Couple wins top ribbon at rose society show—3B

ANNUAL AWARD:
Nominations are being sought by YWCA—3B

DIVERSIONS:
Summer concerts continue with big band sound—5B

B
THURSDAY
July 3,
1997

The GREEN CLUB

Watching the flowers grow is becoming the summer pastime at Whitehall Health Center of Novi.

thanks to phase one of the renovation of the Center's courtyard.

Gardening was an activity enjoyed by many residents of Whitehall before they moved to the Center on Ten Mile Road.

Some have rediscovered their love of gardening with the help of activities director Kathy Israel.

After attending a horticultural therapy class at Michigan State University, Israel came back to Whitehall and sat down with administrator Becky Dutzy. They brainstormed ideas for reconstructing the garden so it could be better utilized.

"We felt it would be more beneficial to all," Israel said.

The MSU horticultural therapy seminar she attended included information about the correct

tools to select, which are lighter and easier for residents to use and about the height of raised beds.

In one corner at the end of the yard, a fountain which had been abandoned because it was hard for staff to keep clean was removed and a raised vegetable garden installed.

The raised bed is framed in landscape timbers. Fill dirt was brought in and eight inches of top soil was mixed with humus and organic material.

"Gardening releases stress and anxiety," said Israel, who is also a master gardener.

This year's crop includes three types of tomatoes, green peppers, cabbage, broccoli, Italian and chocolate peppers, parsley, yellow beans and squash.

"It gives them the feeling of importance," Israel said. "They are contributing something here and to the other residents."

Gardening also provides opportunities for residents to meet each other.

"It is reminiscent of gardens they have had in the past," she said. "Especially when they see the flowers coming up and smell the flowers."

Residents who found they had gardening in common were Maggie Felcyn, 88, and Joe Kowaleski, 74, who have become the garden's senior caretakers.

"They say gardeners are eternal optimists because they are always looking forward to what's going to happen next," Israel said.

Israel noticed Kowaleski in the yard one morning digging up the dandelions. He told her by the end of the day they'd all be gone.

Sure enough, using no pesticides, Kowaleski removed all 40 dandelions individually by hand then planted grass seed.

"I'm going to do a good job or I'm not going to do it," Kowaleski said. "There's a right way and a wrong way."

Right on schedule, after breakfast and dinner, unless the weather calls for rain, Kowaleski will journey to the garden to water the vegetables and flowers.

Before coming to Whitehall, Felcyn had a small greenhouse at her home.

"I planted everything I fancied," she said.

The miniature roses she has received as gifts since moving to Whitehall are now thriving in the garden, along with other plants residents have been given such as Easter lilies, which also found a spot in the flower bed.

In the flower garden there are delphiniums, shasta daisies, snow on the mountain, poppies, irises and begonias.

"It's a very small scale operation but we like it," said Felcyn who feels busy when she's using her hands.

"Last year we had a few perennials but it has just blossomed and a lot of it is just TLC," Israel said of the flower bed.

Petunias now grow in three-foot tall cylindrical planters, which makes it easier for those in wheelchairs to tend. Both Mildred Kimball and Dorothy Wolf remember when they had gardens in their own backyards.

"The residents look forward to watching the plants bloom," Israel said. "Maggie has blossomed this year."

Under the gazebo in the center of the garden there are picnic tables and lawn chairs. Last week's watermelon party was held outside.

"Now we try to do as much as we can outside," Israel said.

"It is a good family place."

Community members also involved in the project include St. James Catholic Church in Novi; Alwynne Bales; Ed Napierkowski; North Farmington Garden Club members Charlotte Fortier, Mary Lou Kotziars, Linda Orman and Norma Henderson; Northville resident Brian Skiba; and Grayes Greenhouse in Plymouth.

Staff members who lent a hand include Natalie Frever, Fran Sima and Murrell McQueen.

"We hope to keep adding more to it with the reconstruction and we're going to work on more therapeutic things and lighter tools," Israel said.



Whitehall Health Center of Novi residents Joe Kowaleski and Maggie Felcyn have both put a lot of effort into the Center's horticultural therapy garden that has been built at waist-height to help residents plant and maintain vegetables and flowers.



Whitehall Health Center of Novi residents Mildred Kimball, left, and Dorothy Wolf will both be able to enjoy some of the Center's wheelchair level flowering pots that have been introduced as part of a horticulture therapy program.

• Waist-high beds are ideal for wheelchair gardeners or anyone who needs to sit while working.

• The ideal size of the bed should be two feet high and no more than four feet wide and 10 feet long. A bed four feet wide requires a two-foot reach to get to the middle of the bed if you have access from all sides. If the bed is backed up to a wall, it should only be two feet deep.

• Plant containers placed waist high, such as on a bench or table, will also work.

ADAPTING TOOLS

• Enlarge small handles by wrapping them with soft fabric if you have trouble making a fist. Bicycle handle grips, tennis racket grip tape and rubber hand grips made for crutches can also be used.

• A cup with a large handle can be used as a digging tool if you have weak fingers. The same type of cup can also be used to dip water from a bucket. A water-soaked sponge is ideal for dribbling water over plants.

• Backpacks and bicycle baskets can be attached to walkers or wheelchairs for carrying tools. A lapboard or tray can also be used for transporting supplies. To keep it from slipping off your lap, glue on rubber appliques to its underside.

READY-MADE TOOLS

• Long handled tools are available, including bulb planters, weed pullers, seed sowers, water nozzles and grass shears, which eliminate bending over in the garden.

• To move tools and supplies around in the garden, there are lightweight carts. Four wheels offer more stability than two and some carts come with detachable sides for easier unloading.

• Small watering cans are lighter than larger containers because water is heavy.

• Spades and shovels with "D" handles are easier to use than straight-shafted tools. Garden forks are easier on the back than shovels.

• Magnifying glasses, some of which hang around the neck, make sowing seeds or inspecting plants easier for those with limited sight.

• Tools with bright colored handles are easy to find.

• Household helpers like long-reach grabbers can come in handy in the garden, also.

the NOVI NEWS Sports

8B

THURSDAY July 3, 1997

The Heat is on

Novi Koufax squad wins league championship, waits for playoff bid

By SCOTT DANIEL Sports Editor

You just can't beat the Heat. At least that's what Washington Amateur Baseball Association 13-year-old teams learned over the past few weeks. The Novi Heat recently won the league championship by posting an amazing 19-2 record.

STATS: Get up to date on Novi Park and Rec standings /9B. HEALTH: Breastmilk is best source of infant nutrition /10B. SUPPORT: Local programs offers support for those with diabetes /10B.

"All the credit goes to the kids. They're disciplined, have great attitudes and good work habits. They're always ready to play."



The Novi Heat posted a 19-2 mark to win a league championship.

The Novi Heat posted a 19-2 mark to win a league championship. The team is sponsored by Quality Metal Limited, Blackbuster Video, Dave Smith and John Goodman.

Cadillac beats Sheehans 20-14

The summer softball season is in full swing in Novi. Leagues run every day of the week at Powers Park behind the Civic Center.



Franklin Village's Suzy Green won the MedHealth Futures Golf Classic Sunday.

Green wins first Futures classic

Demanding greens gave Suzy Green a run for her money and made for an exciting finish to the MedHealth Wellness Centers Futures Classic.

SCOREBOARD table with columns for PARKS AND REC, HOME RUN LEADERS, RESIDENT LEAGUE, DIVISION I, II, and III, and HOME RUN LEADERS for various divisions.

Local course adds new nine

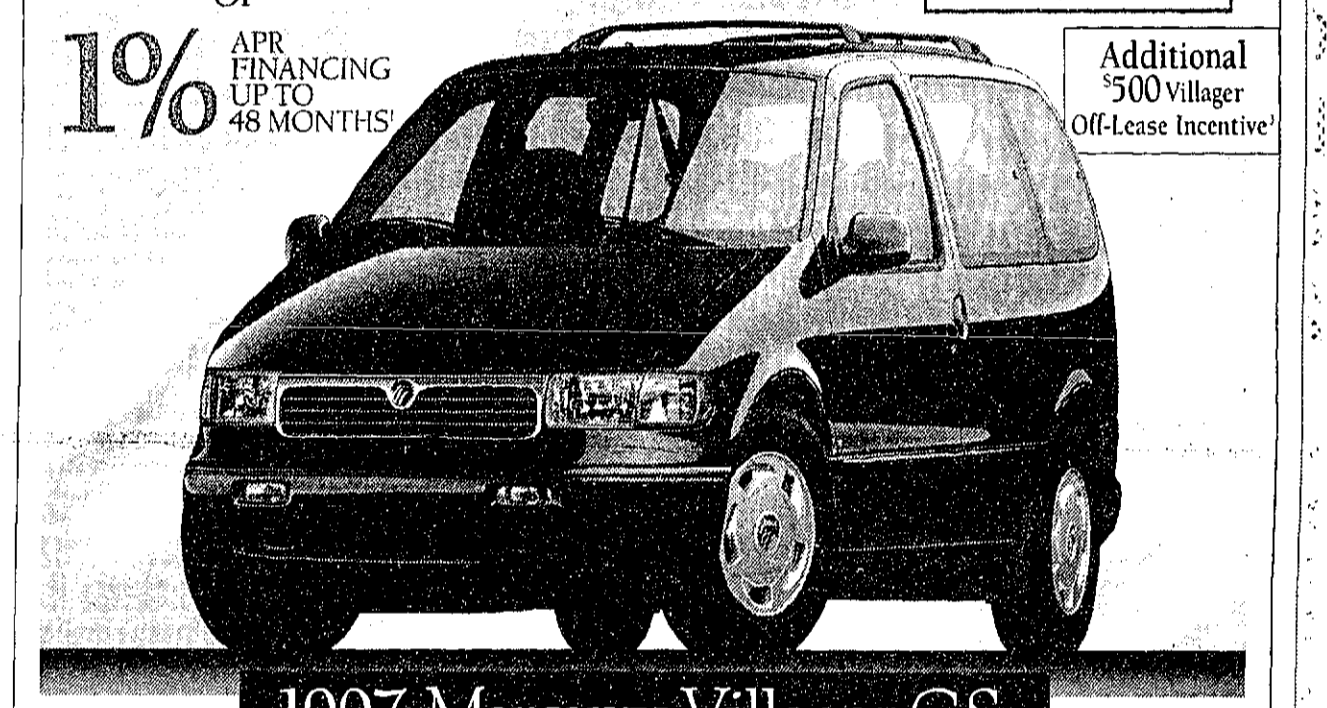
The first hole becomes No. 10 under the new configuration. Old No. 9 is now the 18th and No. 2 now plays as the ninth.

Downing said Bowlers, who also designed The Rock on Drummond Island, came up with a solid layout.

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Softball season in high gear

Division I winners were CMC Telecom and South Lyon Hotel. In Division II, Starling Gate beat Choo Choo 19-3.

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Downing Farms' new nine gives course 'up north' feel

This week The Novi News begins a series of weekly golf reviews. Our focus is to provide you, the reader, with useful information and tips on playing favorite courses in the area.

green and No. 15 is sure to see its share of bogeys. The 16th and 17th are both under 300 yards. That's short for a par 4 no matter how you cut it.

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