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the NOVI NEWS

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A \$40 million 'shocker'

Judge Barry Howard calls city 'malicious,' 'vindictive'; orders payment for failed Vistas development

By JAN JEFFRES
 Staff Writer

Novi officials are still reeling from Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Barry Howard's verdict last week that the city pay the developers of The Vistas \$40 million as compensation for financially crippling their business.

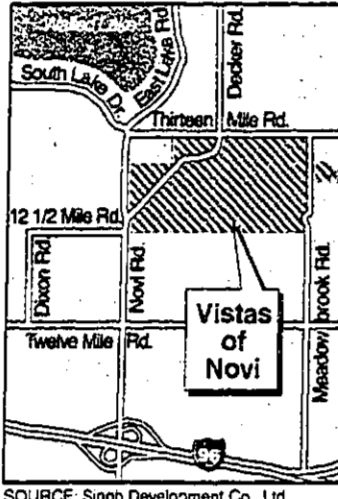
Monday, Mayor Kathleen McLallen said the city will fight Howard's decision at the Michigan Court of Appeals, a process that could take up to 18 months.

"The city strongly disagrees with the opinion that was rendered. We will vigorously defend the city during that time. We think we have a very strong position," McLallen said.

If the appeal doesn't succeed, residents could face a 1.16 mill increase in city taxes for ten to 15 years to pay off Sandstone Associates Limited Partnership.

What started as Novi's first foray into neo-traditionalism soon

Vistas of Novi site



SOURCE: Singh Development Co., Ltd

broke down into an old-fashioned legal brawl, with the judge characterizing the city's action in dealing with Sandstone as 'malicious.' The developers contend that

Novi destroyed their dream project, which would have recreated a traditional urban neighborhood, complete with parks and a quaint downtown. The judge strongly agrees. Novi leaders respond that they viewed The Vistas as a potential city showplace and proudly strutted visiting officials through the site.

Filed in 1995, the lawsuit charged that when the city barricaded the Decker Road extension - built as a \$3 million special assessment district on land donated by the developers - house hunters were not able to find their way into the new subdivision. The extension links Novi Road to Thirteen Mile Road.

"Perhaps Novi's course of conduct began as a way of delaying plaintiff's development so that the Novi Road project could be undertaken without pressure to open Decker Road. The situation ultimately became what this court can only describe as a vindictive

struggle by defendant Novi to 'beat' plaintiff," Howard wrote in his 33-page opinion.

"The ammunition used was the arbitrary and capricious application of the city's laws and ordinances. This is the very situation for which the Constitutional right to substantive due process was designed."

Howard concluded that in the process, the city "willfully destroyed" Sandstone Associates.

"The City of Novi recognized the benefits to be gained under the agreement and used SAD 132C for the benefit of its citizens. After exploiting the opportunities created by SAD 132C, defendant Novi set about denying any corresponding contractual obligations it had under the rubric of the best interests of its citizens," he wrote in the opinion.

The city's stand is that for safety's sake, the extension was barricaded while work continued on

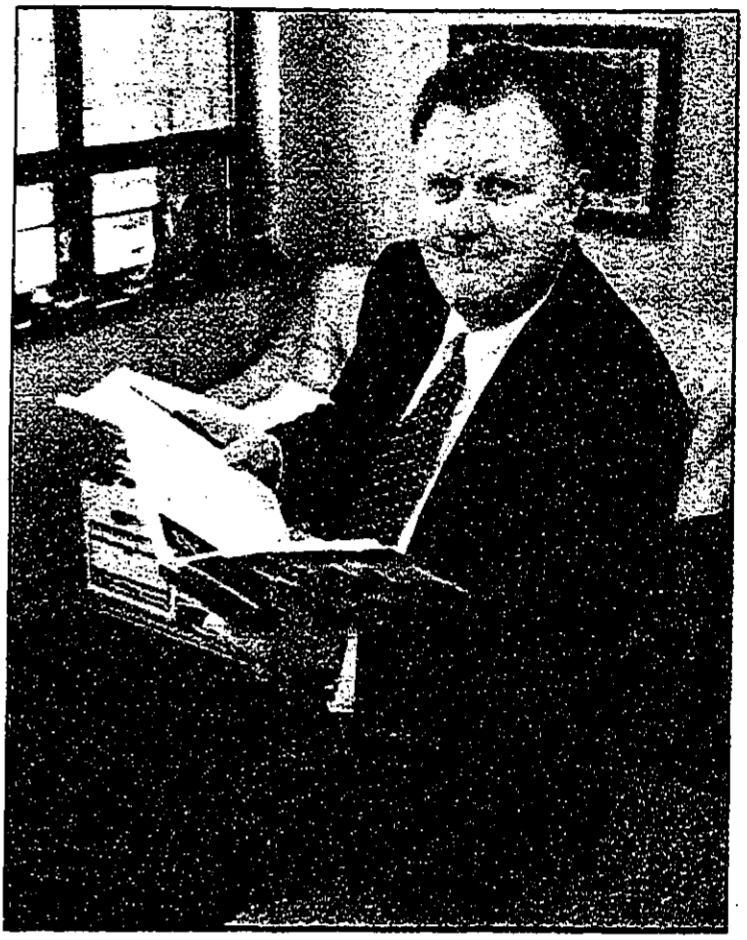


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

City Manager Ed Kriewall: "We think they might have known early on that they were going down as a project. They might have been targeting us before we knew it."

Continued on 5

Judge has harsh words for city officials in ruling

The City of Novi landlocked the Vistas development, financially crippling the Sandstone Associates Limited Partnership, Oakland County Circuit Judge Barry Howard concluded last week.

In the Jan. 21 opinion, Howard outlined why Novi must pay the developers \$40 million, plus attorney fees. The city and the developers first entered into the planned unit development contract in 1991.

Howard's reasons for upholding Sandstone's lawsuit against Novi include that:

- Novi was in breach of contract because the city did not complete the Decker Road extension within a reasonable time span of two years.
- The road work was let in 1993, but the road wasn't open to the public until 1996.
- By barricading the public access to

■ Developers, realtors all had a reaction to last week's court ruling. The stories appear on page 5A.

Decker Road once it was completed, Novi deprived the owners of the use of their land without just compensation. Home buyers couldn't find their way to the site, Howard found.

- Novi did not build the intersections with the Decker Road intersection at Novi Road and Thirteen Mile Road in a timely fashion, but instead folded the SAD work into a Novi Road widening project with the developers' knowledge.
- Novi's contention that opening the

Decker extension was delayed because unstable soil slowed down the Novi Road widening was untrue, because the city had the ability to stabilize the soils.

• The court ordered the city to post signs at the barricaded Novi Road intersection with Decker Road, directing traffic to Thirteen Mile.

Instead, the city sent a packet to the developers with information on how to apply for a sign variance at the Zoning Board of Appeals.

• In building Decker Road, Novi caused flooding at Brownstone Road area in The Vistas, temporarily destroying the value of the land and impeding the construction of Brownstone Road.

• The city rejected mass grading of the land and required the developer to haul in \$250,000 worth of fill dirt to regrade the land, then required the dirt to be hauled

out again after building, for another \$250,000.

• The city violated the PUD agreement by requiring architectural plans to be submitted to the city and by asking for buffer zones between the commercial segment of the Vistas and the housing.

• The city also violated the PUD by requiring the developer to take setback issues to the Construction Board of Appeals, after BOCA International supported the developers' view of the setbacks.

Howard did not agree with additional claims by Sandstone Associates that their business was damaged because:

- Novi refused to allow the developers to farm the land.
- The city did permit temporary farming.

• The city's action damaged the developers' reputation with lenders.

• The developers donated to the city the Decker Road right-of-way and wanted to be repaid.

The judge said he could not find Novi was in breach of contract and then rescind the developers' share of the contract, which was the land gift.

• A provision of Novi's wetlands ordinance, which requires conservation easements next to wetlands, did not deprive the developers the use of their land.

• The city allowed the Main Street development to use the name Market Street, which was the proposed name for a major street in The Vistas.

Main Street's went through the street name approval press first for Market Street, which runs next to Vic's World Class Market.

West end grocery gets go-ahead

By JAN JEFFRES
 Staff Writer

What if they rezoned for a grocery store in Novi and nobody protested?

Believe it or not, that's exactly what happened Monday night, when the Novi City Council rezoned 8.9 acres at the northwest corner of Grand River Avenue and Beck Road from office-service-commercial to the community business district category. This will permit the construction of a grocery store and a Home Depot on land owned by Providence Park.

"I think the idea of a supermar-

ket is appropriate in this particular location," Council Member Laura Lorenzo said.

While in the past homeowners have turned out in droves anytime a developer wanted to put a Kroger at Eight Mile and Beck Road and Ten Mile and Beck Road, no householders showed up at the council meeting for this rezoning. That's because a city planning survey found that west Novi residents would prefer to pick up their milk and eggs at a Grand River center.

"Seventy percent of the residents surveyed indicated if we were going to have commercial, it

should be at the Grand River Corridor," Arroyo said.

"There's a shortage of local-type development there, like grocery stores. Over \$16 million in local-type spending is going outside of Novi because the facilities don't exist."

Commercial development to the west is a significant issue, but a committee updating Novi's master plan wants to avoid planting commercial along Ten, Nine and Eight Mile roads, Arroyo added.

Joseph Galvin, an attorney for Providence, said the grocery store wouldn't sign up for the center without a co-anchor. In part,

that's because the new Beck Road freeway interchange will go through some of the property.

"They view the intersection as a barrier to their market area. In effect, they only have what's south of it," Galvin said.

While the council unanimously approved the rezoning, Council Member Bob Schmid, a Home Depot fan, expressed some trepidation about the store locating at that site, across from Providence Park.

"I wish it were not a big box. If they could make a big box that looks like a little box, it would benefit the area," Schmid said.

DEQ lists Novi tanks in error

By JEREMY MCBAIN
 Staff Writer

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality recently released names of businesses and service stations that have not met underground fuel-storage tank requirements, including four Novi city departments.

Service stations, including city and state fueling stations, were required to make all underground fuel-storage tanks corrosion-proof and have anti spill devices or have them removed by Dec. 22.

If not, the MDEQ can issue a fine of \$11,000 per day on the offending station.

Novi Fire Chief Art Lenaghan said the tank listed by the DEQ as being "noncompliant" was removed last April.

Included on the list is the Novi DPW Facility, Novi Fire Department, Novi Police Department and Novi Transportation Department.

However, each Novi department named on the list said they have taken care of their underground tanks as far back as two years ago.

Arthur Lenaghan, Novi fire chief, said the tank listed on the list by the MDEQ at the fire department as being "noncompliant" was removed last April during developments on Main Street.

Continued on 20



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Cheer up

Novi High School cheerleaders hosted the Novi Invitational over the weekend, bringing cheer teams from Brighton, Allen Park, Troy Athens, Farmington Hills Harrison and Rochester

to compete for honors. Above, the Farmington Hills Hawks perform for the crowd. Novi High placed fifth in the competition. More coverage appears on page 16.

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In today's issue
 HomeTown
 Extra
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A special section ...

PRICE SLICER

Supreme Court rules against Legislature's court actions

By TIM RICHARD Staff Writer

The Legislature unconstitutionally stepped on the judiciary's toes when it shuttled members of two unions from Wayne Circuit Court control to county government control, the state Supreme Court ruled.

"The power of each branch of government within its separate sphere necessarily includes managerial administrative authority to carry out its operations," Chief Justice Conrad Mallett Jr. wrote in a 6-1 decision.

Winners were 27 members of the Judicial Attorneys Association, who work for the Wayne Friend of the Court and as research attorneys, and 150 members of the Government Administrators Association, who are psychologists, social workers and administrators for 64 Wayne Circuit judges.

Losers were Gov. John Engler and retiring Attorney General Frank Kelley. They were blocked from implementing part of the Legislature's 1996 Public Act 374 combining Wayne Circuit and Detroit Circuit courts. Sec. 265 of that act made county government rather than the court the employer. The Supreme Court declared that section unconstitutional but left the rest of PA 374 intact.

Court voters and users would have seen little difference, at first, if the change had taken place. "But over the long term, operation of the courts would have been adversely affected," said Mark Heinen, the Detroit attorney for one of the unions.

Mallett agreed, noting that "employment issues concerning all the state's 241 trial courts were in an increasingly unstable condition."

The section making county government the employer would have given it "authority to establish policies and procedures relating to compensation, fringe benefits, pensions, holidays and leave."

That section would have left the chief judge with authority over "work schedules, discipline, grievances, personnel records, probation, hiring and termination practices."

The high court's ruling affirmed a Court of Appeals panel which called the act "a usurpation of court authority that is a dangerous incursion into the judicial realm" by the Legislature.

Mallett, in what was one of his last opinions before resigning, cited a 1975 Livingston County case in which the Supreme Court "relied on the inherent powers of the judiciary in holding that the circuit court was the employer of court personnel for purposes of salary negotiations."

And Mallett quoted founding father Alexander Hamilton in Federalist No. 51 when he argued that security for the balance of powers "consists in giving to those who administer each department (branch) the necessary constitutional means and personal motives to resist encroachments of the others."

But Mallett warned judges against becoming too headstrong. He noted that many county officials

had complained to legislators that judges had "inwarded the counties" and "frustrated" relations with the funding units' own employees, to the detriment of the public.

Mallett counseled a course of "cooperation, communication and accommodation" between trial courts and their funding units.

Mallett's opinion was signed by Justices Michael Cavanagh, Patricia Boyle, James Brodley, Elizabeth Weaver and Marilyn Kelly.

Dissenting was Justice Clifford Taylor, who said he wasn't convinced the 1996 act violated the separation of powers doctrine. Rather, the act created a "co-employment relationship" between local units and the courts.

Taylor, who frequently derides "judge-made law," said legislative enactments enjoy a presumption of constitutionality. He cited U.S. Chief Justice John Marshall, who said in 1803 that "legislators, having taken the same oath as we take, surely are as committed to fidelity to the constitution as we judges are."

Taylor said the act carefully delineated the duties of the chief judge and the county: "(The employer (county) retains authority with respect to listed financial related subject matters, and the chief judge retains authority over all other personal matters."

But Mallett and the majority found the grant of power to the county so broad that there is "no set of circumstances" under which the act "does not violate the separation of powers doctrine."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

So, are there any split ends or not?
As its owner looks on, a judge inspects a dog during Saturday's Livingston County Kennel Club Rare Breed Dog Show at the Novi Expo Center.

AISE in need of host families

The American Intercultural Student Exchange, a non-profit educational foundation, is seeking local host families for high school foreign exchange students for the upcoming school year. AISE's students come from over 40 countries worldwide with new countries being added every year. AISE places exchange students with loving host families throughout the United States. The students attend local high schools during their six- or ten-month cultural exchange experience. American host families provide these young ambassadors with a place to sleep, meals, and a family atmosphere in which to live. AISE students are eager to learn about our government, history, customs and language, while at the same time leaving a lasting impression of their cultures in the minds and hearts of their American host families and peers. Please call AISE at 1-800-SIBLING or visit the AISE website at www.aise.com for more information on hosting a foreign exchange student in your home.

Rotary supports variety of charities through raffle

Many Novi residents have seen members of the Rotary Club of Novi selling raffle tickets for the annual '50s Festival car raffle. In most of the last few years, the club has raffled off a '50s vintage Corvette that some lucky winner took home with them after the mayor drew their lucky number. Well, 1999 will be no exception to that way of raising funds in support of Rotary's charitable activities.

In the past, these have included donating \$100,000 to Rotary International's Polio Plus campaign. The goal of this project was to eliminate polio, worldwide, by the year 2000, a goal that has happened in many countries and will happen throughout the world. Another project was to raise \$70,000 for development of Rotary Park in conjunction with Novi's Parks and Recreation Department. In the next few years, the Rotary Club will expand that effort to provide a picnic shelter and perhaps other amenities as the need arises.

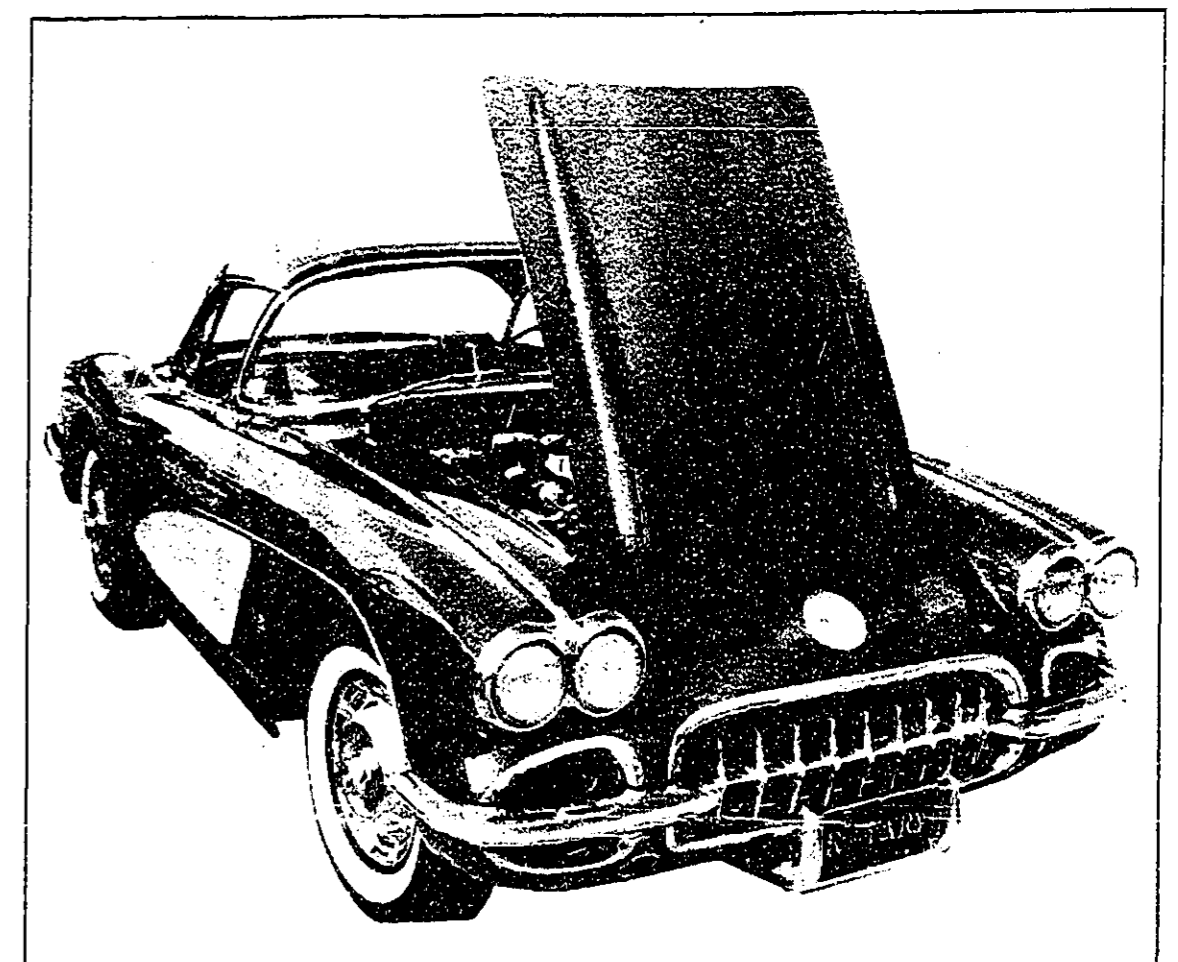
Recently, the club donated \$5,000 to the Crossroads inner city food program so that they might obtain a matching grant from the Feinstein Foundation in Rhode Island. That was a challenge put out to all Rotary Clubs by the Foundation to help alleviate hunger.

Shortly after that, the storm disaster hit five countries in Central America: Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Costa Rica. The Rotary Club of Novi stepped up to the challenge along with many other clubs through the efforts of Rotary International to send money to clubs in those districts to aid in the recovery process. The Rotary Club of Novi donated \$2,000 toward this charitable effort.

In December, the club donated \$2,500 to be sent along with the same amount donated by the Rotary Club of Pontiac to Rotary International for matching grant funds for Bangladesh. These funds are designated for a school that one of the members visited on an exchange program. The school was without a roof and many other very basic necessities.

Locally, the club donates to other charitable programs that benefit the community, such as food programs and charities like Muscular Dystrophy.

Although named The Rotary Club of Novi, the group is a part of Rotary International and the charter defines four avenues of service for all clubs and these are: community service, vocational service, international service, and club service. Any income to the foundation can only be used for the first three avenues of service. Club members, through their dues, provide funds to support the club. In the club's current budget, funds are allocated to the three avenues of service in this way - community, 34.3 percent; vocational, 38.3 percent; and international, 23.9 percent. The balance, 3.5 percent, is at this time unallocated. If a major project comes up before the end of this Rotary year, June 1999, the club intends to reassess its priorities and step up to the challenge where needed.



The car the Novi Rotary will be raffling off this year.
Looking for bargains? Be sure to check out the finds in the classifieds.

Northville tackles Year 2000

BY ANDREW DIETDERICH Staff Writer

No one knows for sure what will and won't work after midnight Jan. 1, 2000 but the city of Northville wants to be ready for anything.

As a result, the Northville city council will spend \$59,720 on one study, \$3,600 on another and may ask some city workers to be on standby mode when the clock strikes midnight Jan. 1, 2000.

"We want to make sure we cover all of our bases," said Gary Word, Northville city manager.

The latest study will be conducted by Pioneer Technology on the city's equipment that uses embedded chips somewhere in their systems. Howell-based Pioneer Technology is the same company checking the city of Detroit's water lines and sewage system for potential problems.

Embedded chips contain coded instructions that aren't easily changed because "embedded" refers to the instructions permanently loaded in one of the chips. Embedded chips monitor, regulate or control the operations of devices, systems, networks or plants.

Embedded chips in Northville are used in fire department communications and vehicles, some department of public works controls and police vehicles among other things.

The embedded chips in this study, expected to take about 90 days, are not in the city's computers, which were updated to be year 2000 compliant with the municipal building renovation.

"It's estimated that between 7 percent and 10 percent of embedded chips will fail," Word said. "We don't want to be included in those numbers."

Antonio Robinson, president of Pioneer Technology, said embedded chips won't necessarily fail at the stroke of midnight and could falter years after.

For example, he said, tests were being conducted on the Milwaukee water system's embedded chips in a year 2000 simulation. After two weeks of the mock 2000, the system dumped all of its chlorine into the water system at once.

"You have to study the things that could be major glitches before it's too late," Robinson said. Such major glitches in Northville could include the failure of the heating and cooling system at Allen Terrace senior citizen center.

During a walk through of Northville properties that would be tested, Robinson said he saw several areas that were classified as warnings.

"Until we get in there and see exactly how the chip is programmed we don't know for sure if those warning areas are definite problems," he said.

Robinson said Pioneer Technologies can take systems apart and cross reference the chips with a large database they've assembled.

The cost of the study will be added into the second quarter fiscal 1999 budget.

In addition to that study, Word said other precautions are being taken. A study is being conducted by EPI on some of the city's computers. That study will cost the city \$3,600.

Additionally, Word said he is "strongly considering" having city workers on standby at midnight in case something does go wrong.

"You don't know if you're going to have a major glitch, a minor glitch or no glitch at all," Word said.

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Novi Community Ed. classes

The following classes are being offered by Novi Community Education:

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS
Young Inventors and Engineers Camp (Grades K-6)
 During mid-winter break - bring a sketch, idea and drawings.
 • Grades K-2: Students receive explanations of simple machines. In addition to computer activities, students construct working models of simple machines and toys.
 • Grades 3-4: Students put together a complete machine including gears, wheels, motors, trip switches and optical sensors. The machine will then be looked to the computer and controlled with a program they write.
 Class No. 2237.201
 Novi Meadows cafeteria, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18. Fee \$85.

Spanish (Grades 1-6)
 Students will learn Spanish through games, music and crafts in a highly interactive fun curriculum. The program will enhance awareness of other countries and cultures, teaching the aspects of daily life, foods and celebrations. Instruction is provided by Language Adventure, a highly regarded education company that has provided language instruction for children since 1979.
 • Session 1: Class No. 2223.201
 Orchard Hills Media Center, Thursday, 2:30-3:50 p.m., 15 weeks, Jan. 28-May 27. No class

Feb. 18, April 1 and 8. Fee \$130.
 • Session 2: Class No. 2223.203
 Village Oaks Teachers' Lounge, Tuesday, 3:10-4:20 p.m., 15 weeks, Jan. 26-May 18. No class Feb. 16, April 6. Fee \$130.
 • Session 3: Class No. 2223.207
 Parkway Commons, Friday, 2:50-3:50 p.m., 15 weeks, Jan. 22-June 4. No class Feb. 19, April 2 and 9, May 7 and 14. Fee \$130.
 • Grades 5-6: Class No. 2223.205
 Novi Meadows Media Center, Tuesday, 8:10-9:10 a.m., 15 weeks, Jan. 26-May 18. No class Feb. 16 and April 6. Fee \$130.

During Mid-Winter Break - Fitness Program
Coed Basketball Camp (Grades 2-6)
 Individual instruction in various skills such as dribbling, shooting, taking passing and rebounding as well as, offense and defensive tactics, rules and sportsmanship will be provided to those attending this camp. Participants will be grouped according to age and ability with one instructor for every ten students.
 Bring gym shoes and wear gym clothes. All participants will receive a T-shirt, water bottle and prizes.
 GAP Sports Network owner and instructor, Greg Porter, has coached and directed youth sports camps since 1989. He is currently the assistant baseball coach at Oakland University and basketball



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Volunteer of the Year

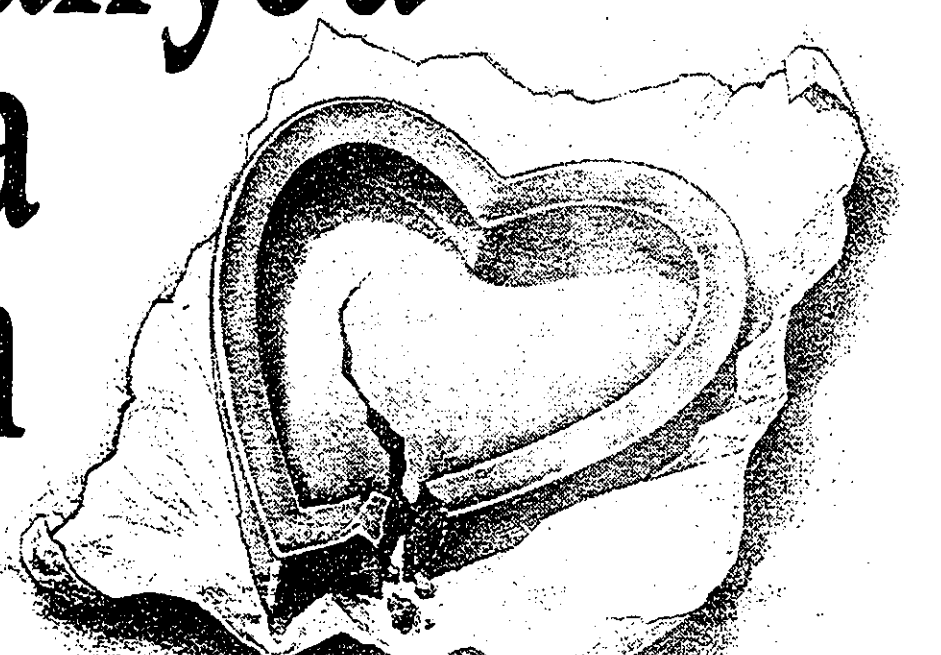
Diane Risko receives the Novi Chamber of Commerce 1998 Volunteer of the Year Award for her efforts with the American Red Cross at Tuesday's luncheon at Steve and Rocky's.

Obituaries

ADELE MARTINUZZI
 Adele (Bertha) Martinuzzi died Jan. 19 at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. She was 79. Mrs. Martinuzzi was born Nov. 13, 1919.
 She is survived by her husband, Guido, son, James (Barry) Martinetti, daughter, Diane (Anthony) Scimaroni, stepson, Ronald (Vincent) Martinuzzi, stepdaughter, Cheryl (Cliff) Drake, sister, Norma (Joseph) Gerbino, brother, Ray (Irene) Bertolino, ten grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.
 Mrs. Martinuzzi was preceded in death by her first husband, Frank Moretti and brother, Tullio (Mary) Moretti.
 Services were held on Saturday, Jan. 23 at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Farmington. Interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.
 Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi.

JAMES L. KIRWAN
 James L. Kirwan of Wixom died Jan. 19 at the age of 53. He was born Nov. 14, 1945.
 Mr. Kirwan was employed by Dura Automobile in Romulus. He enjoyed golf, music, and playing

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The Log Book

The following is a complete list of the emergency runs of the Novi Fire Department for the week ending Jan. 17. Each incident is listed by type, location, time and the Engine and Squad number that responded to the call.

MONDAY, JAN. 11
 Fire alarm, 39650 Orchard Hill, 8:18 a.m., Engines 1, 3.
 House fire, 48725 Eleven Mile Road, 9:08 a.m., Engines 1, 4.
 Investigation, 23613 Stonehenge, 11:41 a.m., Squad 3.
 Medical, 43053 Crescent, 8:17 p.m., Squad 1.
 Investigation, 21007 Wheaton, 10:05 p.m., Squad 3.
 Investigation, 205 Henning, 10:18 p.m., Squad 2.

TUESDAY, JAN. 12
 Fire alarm, 43180 Nine Mile Road, 3:54 a.m., Engines 1, 3.
 Electrical fire, 22034 Novi Road, 10:57 a.m., Engines 1, 3.
 Medical, 39555 Orchard Hill Place, 3 p.m., Squad 3.
 Fire alarm, 25875 Novi Road, 3:38 p.m., Engines 1, 3.
 Building collapse, 22851 Heslip, 3:44 p.m., Engines 1, 3.
 Investigation, 45761 Remington, 4:19 p.m., Squad 4.
 Service, 1436 Nardeer, 6:32 p.m., Squad 4.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13
 Medical, 29836 Carousel, 7 p.m., Squad 2.

THURSDAY, JAN. 14
 Medical, 45182 West Road, 7:52 a.m., Squad 2.
 Fire alarm, 47601 Grand River, 10:17 a.m., Engines 1, 4.
 Fire alarm, 39650 Orchard Hill, 10:46 a.m., Engines 1, 3.
 Medical, 49251 Grand River, 11:07 a.m., Squad 4.
 Wire down, 2117 West Lake, 12:49 p.m., Engine 2.
 Fire alarm, 43700 Expo Center Drive, 1:21 p.m., Engines 1, 2.
 Medical, 43326 Little Falls, 5:56 p.m., Squad 3.

FRIDAY, JAN. 15
 Medical, 526 Eckschay, 2:51 a.m., Squad 4.
 Medical, 45182 West Road, 2:10 p.m., Squad 2.
 Mutual Aid, Village Apartments-Wixom, 4:10 p.m., Engine 4.
 Medical, Twelve Mile and Novi Road, 4:35 p.m., Squad 1.
 Car fire, 46250 Ten Mile Road, 7:20 p.m., Engine 4.

SATURDAY, JAN. 16
 Medical, 31245 Wedgewood, 1:50 a.m., Squad 2.
 Service, 1207 South Lake, 1:28 p.m., Squad 2.
 Gas leak, 2014 Austin, 2:47 p.m., Engines 1, 2.
 Medical, 20856 Glen Haven, 5:42 p.m., Squad 3.
 Investigation, 26226 Wyoming, 7:08 p.m., Squad 4.
 Medical, 43299 Crescent, 7:32 p.m., Squad 1.
 Fire alarm, 43100 Twelve Oaks Crescent, 8:21 p.m., Engines 1, 2, 4.
 Medical, 21111 Haggerty, 8:40 p.m., Squad 3.
 Medical, 27550 Novi Road, 8:56 p.m., Squad 1.
 Investigation, 25454 Buckminster, 11:18 p.m., Squad 1.

SUNDAY, JAN. 17
 Medical, 45182 West Road, 2 a.m., Squad 2.
 Medical, 24710 Joseph Drive, 4:23 a.m., Squad 1.
 Injury accident, Ten Mile and Meadowbrook, 6:13 a.m., Squad 1.
 Medical, Meadowbrook and Ten Mile Road, 6:50 a.m., Squad 1.
 Medical, 41800 Lamler, 1:49 p.m., Squad 2.
 Medical, 23528 Rockledge, 2:05 p.m., Squad 3.
 Medical, 42479 Park Ridge, 2:27 p.m., Squad 1.
 Car fire, Twelve Oaks Parking, 3:09 p.m., Engine 1.
 Medical, 25037 Davenport, 5:47 p.m., Squad 4.
 Medical, Novi Police Department and Ten Mile, 7:18 p.m., Squad 3.
 Medical, 45182 West Road, 11:50 p.m., Squad 2.

RV/Camper show comes to area

You probably think that RVs and world-class speed just don't go together. After visiting the 16th annual Pontiac Silverdome Camper, Travel and RV show, now in progress through Jan. 31, you may change your mind.

NASCAR fans and other speed freaks who visit the show will not only see up close a "retired" Winston Cup stock car, they will have a rare opportunity to climb behind the wheel and test their racing skills.

This year's show features a full-size replica of Mark Martin's Valvoline Ford Taurus, completely outfitted with all the NASCAR required gear, including padded roll bars, reinforced Lexan windows, removable steering wheel, and steel-

wrapped rubber gas tank.

Best of all, the car has been converted to a state-of-the-art simulator that will make your favorite video racing game seem like a drive to the grocery store.

For S3, showgoers can strap themselves in, choose from a variety of track layouts, and test their racing skills against a field of 40 other cars. The simulator responds to the driver just like an actual NASCAR racer. Grab the steering wheel, punch the accelerator at the green light, and slam through the gearbox. You'll fly down the straight-aways at speeds well in excess of 100 mph, downshift as you bank into high curves, and "rub" with the drivers between you and your checkered flag.

A Cotter Promotions Show car representative will be on-hand to answer any questions about the car, or NASCAR racing in general.

Need more speed? Check out the vehicle that recently set the official land speed record for a motorhome. Holland Motors brings to the show the specially outfitted Chinook Concourse that clocked 99.776 mph on the Bonneville Salt Flats last August, a new record that was sanctioned by the Southern California Racing Association.

Be sure to check out the over 400 trailers, campers, and RVs at this year's show. NASCAR fans will find it is tough to beat an RV for comfort when it comes time to drive to this year's first race. Although not as fast as the cars you will see

on the track, new technologies have made today's RVs much more powerful than you may think, with high-performance drivetrains and lightweight diesel engines. And, when you get there, an RV can host a tailgate party that puts a station wagon to shame.

The show schedule now in progress:

Thursday, Jan. 28, 3-9:30 p.m.;
Friday, Jan. 29, 3-9:30 p.m.; Sat-
urday, Jan. 30, 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.;
Sunday, Jan. 31, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Admission: Adults, \$6; children,
\$3; children 5 and under, Free.

Discount admission coupons are
available at all participating Elias
Bros. Restaurants and Marathon
Stations.

Local tanks appear to comply with DEQ rules, despite list

Continued from 1

Lenaghan said paperwork proving this was done was sent to the MDEQ.

Novi Police Chief Doug Shaeffer also said his department met the underground tank requirements several months ago. Instead of removing the tank, he said, it was updated to code.

Arthur Nash, chief of the Storage Tank Division of the MDEQ, acknowledged the list of "non-compliant" underground fuel-storage tanks issued by the department may not be fully accurate.

He said in many cases errors have been made on paperwork submitted by operators of the tanks regarding changes and in other cases the paperwork proving the changes were made has simply not been submitted.

Nash said this is the case with the Novi Police Department. While the police department may have made modifications to its tanks, he said he has not received any paperwork proving it was done.

Because of this, the Novi Police

Department is still listed as having an underground fuel tank on its property that does not meet state codes.

Chief Shaeffer said as far as he knows the paperwork was submitted.

This did not surprise the MDEQ's Nash, who said this is just an example some of the problems his department is trying to work out with enforcing the new tank requirements.

"We don't have any idea how much is in error," Nash said.

To correct some of the errors, the MDEQ is doing on site inspections of all underground fuel-tanks.

Tanks that do not pass inspection will be "red tagged" giving operators another chance to meet the requirements. If they do not after this inspection, operators of the tanks can be fined.

However, Nash added, due to the heavy snowstorms this month, the inspections are moving slower than expected. He said the department hopes to have all the inspections done by July 1, "depending on the weather."

OCC gets set for series of activities

The Virginia Squires, one of North America's legendary bluegrass bands, will reunite for a performance at Oakland Community College's Royal Oak campus on Friday, Jan. 29.

Star musicians in the four-piece group include Sammy Shelor, banjo; Mark Newton, guitar; Rickie Simpkins, fiddle; and Ronnie Simpkins, bass.

Part of OCC's "Just for You" entertainment series, the Virginia

Squires concert begins at 8 p.m. in the campus; Lila Jones Johnson auditorium. General admission is \$15.

For further information call (248) 544-4903.

The campus is located in downtown Royal Oak. Free parking is available in nearby college parking structures.

The Highland Lakes campus of Oakland Community College is

now organizing a 15-day art trip to Italy, set for June 10-24.

The focus of the trip is an exploration of Italy's art, architecture and landscape. Stops include:

- Rome: Vatican City (including the Sistine chapel), the Colosseum and the Roman Forum;
- Sicily: Palermo's cathedral and archaeological museum, the ruins at Segesta; and
- Capri: Trip to the renowned Blue Grotto.

Cost of the trip is \$2,300 with a \$90 deposit, due immediately. Final payment is required on March 1. Price includes airfare, hotels, transportation, fees and some meals.

Participants must also enroll for six OCC credits to join the tour. Tuition and registration fees total \$317 for district residents.

For a registration form and further information call (248) 674-9317.

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Down Payment\$2,500
Refundable Security Deposit\$450
First Month's Payment\$449
Cash Due At Signing (Net of Incentives)\$3,449
\$.15/mile over 24,000 miles	



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the NOVI NEWS

Living

HIGHLIGHTS:
Novi Jaycees accepting applications for DSA-2B

PERSONAL OASIS:
Interior decorator uses senses to create havens at home-3B

AAUW MEETING:
Rep. Cassis to discuss "Women in Politics-3B

INTERACTIVE SHOW:
Genitti's new play "Swingtime" runs through March-5B

B
THURSDAY
January 28,
1999

Volunteer program provides pet therapy to those with special needs

creature comforts

CAROL DIPPLE
Feature Editor

Some dogs go nuts at the sight of their leash. For Amber, it's a red scarf.

When the two-year-old Golden Retriever hears the words "go visit" and sees the red Pet-A-Pet scarf, she knows what's in store.

Amber, and her owner, Susan Nuss of Farmington Hills, joined the animal visitation program a year ago.

Brighton Gardens by Marriott in Northville was added to the list of area schools, nursing homes, hospitals, and hospices that receive visits by Pet-A-Pet volunteers.

"It was wonderful," said Char Denison, move-in coordinator at Brighton Gardens, which opened three months ago. "I think every one got a lot of joy from that."

Nuss, who is coordinating the Pet-A-Pet program at Brighton Gardens, and Amber were joined on the first visit by two other golden retrievers, Abby, owned by Judy Briggs, and Samantha, owned by Dolores Gaydos, both Livonia residents, and a West Highland white terrier, Teddy, and his owner Carmen Zahra of Northville.

"I've always had an interest in working with the elderly," said Nuss. "Having a dog like Amber, it was a natural for me to bring both of these interests together."

Once a month, on the fourth Wednesday, the four-legged volunteers, and their owners, will visit with the residents of the assisted living facility for about an hour in the activity room. If there are residents who are not feeling well or for some reason can't make it to the activity room, owners and dogs will go to their rooms after the general visit.

"It is positive for the residents," said Nuss. "It is a win, win, win situation. That is why we enjoy it so much. Everybody has something to gain."

Nuss and Amber have been volunteers with Pet-A-Pet for about a year.

"At Old Village School, children who sometimes have no reaction will have a reaction just because they touch the fur of a dog."

— Carmen Zahra
Northville resident,
Pet-A-Pet volunteer



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Brighton Gardens by Marriott resident Lois Lane, right, and others spend some time with one of three golden retrievers visiting their residence as part of the Pet-A-Pet program.

"I think (Amber) really knows the term 'go visit,'" said Nuss. "She may not know which one she's going to go to."

The pair also visit Evergreen Health Center in Southfield; McCauley Center in Farmington Hills; Presbyterian Village in Redford; The Greenery, now IHS, in Farmington; and Bloomfield Orchard Villa, West Bloomfield.

"She has no preference," said Nuss. "She likes them all."

Nuss and Amber visit one or two facilities every week.

"I tell her that we're going to 'go visit' and I get her red scarf and put it around her neck and

her whole back end begins to wiggle," said Nuss. "She is such a sociable, loving creature. She is so people oriented, it is a perfect match."

Amber will sit and let people pet her. She knows how to "give paw" if asked. But mainly she just likes to be petted and given attention. She knows a variety of little tricks she can do on command.

"Amber generally goes right up to people full of enthusiasm, wagging her tail," said Nuss.

Northville resident Carmen Zahra and her six-and-a-half year old West Highland White Terrier

Continued on 4

This is your last chance!

By CAROL DIPPLE
Feature Editor

This is the last time this century that you will have a chance to vote for the top restaurants in Novi and Northville.

The Northville Record/Novi News' ninth Restaurant Poll begins now. Every year we invite readers to vote for the restaurant that has the best salads, coffee, desserts, steaks, pizzas, etc. But only one restaurant wins the coveted "Best Restaurant" vote.

Results of the poll will be published on Feb. 25. There is no cost to enter. One ballot will be selected at random and the winner will have dinner on us.

The first question on your mind might be, "so how do I vote?" Every week there will be an official ballot published in The Northville Record/Novi News. Complete the ballot by filling in the name of the restaurant located in Northville and Novi that is the best in each of the categories, cut the ballot out and mail it to the newspaper or drop it off when you're in town. There's also a section to add your thoughts about area eateries in general.

NINTH NORTHVILLE RECORD/NOVI NEWS

Restaurant Poll

Which restaurants in the Northville/Novi area are the most popular?
Help find out by filling out this ballot.

The rules:

- Only restaurants in Northville and Novi are eligible to be mentioned on your ballot. Each ballot must include your name, address and telephone number. Ballots without this information will not be included in the results.
- Only ballots clipped from the newspaper will be accepted. Photocopied ballots will not be counted. This restriction is designed to help avoid ballot-box stuffing. (HomeTown employees and their families are not eligible for the free dinner.)
- Restaurants found to be distributing ballots will be disqualified.

Mail the completed entry form by Feb. 1 to: Northville Record/Novi News Restaurant Poll, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167.

If you prefer, restaurant poll entry forms may be dropped off at the newspaper office.

When all the ballots are in, we will compile the results and publish them in the Feb. 25 issue of The Northville Record and The Novi News.

In case you misplace this edition of the newspaper, entry forms will also be published in subsequent issues.

One ballot will be selected at random and the winner will receive dinner for two at his or her favorite Northville or Novi restaurant.

The categories:

Best Overall Restaurant _____	Best Ethnic Food _____
Best Inexpensive Restaurant _____	Best Fast Food _____
Best Breakfast Restaurant _____	Best Soups _____
Best Waitperson _____	Best Steak _____
Best Chef _____	Best Gathering Place _____
Best Sandwiches _____	Comments _____
Best Desserts _____	_____
Best Coffee _____	_____
Best Salad _____	_____
Best Pizza _____	_____
Best Burgers _____	_____
Best Seafood _____	_____

Please note: The following name and address information must be filled out. Ballots without this information will be discarded.

Your name _____
Street _____
City _____
Phone _____

Health

the NOVI
NEWS
10B
THURSDAY
January 28,
1999

Health Column

Shingles can be debilitating illness

For most people, chicken pox is no more than an itchy childhood nuisance that leaves few traces - other than perhaps a bad memory and a scar or two. But for some, the disease resurges in later life in its most virulent and debilitating form: shingles.

The condition is caused by the varicella zoster virus, the type of herpes virus that causes chicken pox. The virus, which can lie dormant for years in sensory nerve roots near the spine, can be reactivated by the effects of aging on the immune system (most cases occur after age 50), a back injury or stress to the spinal nerves, or general life stress.

Immunosuppression from chemotherapy, radiation therapy or steroid use also can bring on an attack.

Often patients bounce from doctor to doctor in a futile search for relief from their symptoms, which include skin blisters, swelling and pain that travels along the path of a nerve on the chest, face or limbs. In some people, the infection can cause "post-herpetic neuralgia," chronic episodes of jabbing pain that appear about a

month after the other symptoms subside.

The lingering pain and numbness is caused by nerve damage from poor circulation to the affected area. For those with neuralgia, even the lightest touch to the skin or breeze on the face can be agonizing.

Standard pain management techniques - narcotics and nonprescription drugs such as Motrin - deal only with the acute, short-term discomfort. But anesthesiologists at the University of Michigan Medical Center's Multidisciplinary Pain Center are offering a little-known yet highly effective prescription for shingles pain that cannot only make patients feel better fast but can also speed healing and prevent any long-term misery.

The treatment consists of sympathetic nerve blocks - injections of local anesthetics such as Novocain - into the infected nerves every other day until the pain is gone, usually within three to four sessions. Nerve blocks prevent postherpetic neuralgia because they stimulate blood flow to the nerves involved and thus avoid long-term damage.

"We've found that with nerve blocks, we can treat the acute attack and prevent both the temporary and long-term pain. It's much easier to prevent the pain from coming on later than it is to treat it once a patient's got it," says A. Michael de Rosayro, M.D., associate professor of anesthesiology and director of the center. However, most shingles patients and their doctors don't routinely think of turning to a pain center for relief.

"The pain clinic is usually considered a court of last resort," says Jack M. Rosenberg, M.D., a pain fellow in the clinic. "But what is really ideal is for primary care practitioners to put their patients on the anti viral drug acyclovir to treat the infection, and then send them to us right away so that we can do sympathetic blocks and take care of their pain without the use of narcotics. If you treat an acute case of shingles within three weeks, the patient does really well."

University of Michigan Medical Center, Health News Service.

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Recently named one of "The Best Doctors in America," Kevin P. Shea, MD has joined the medical staff at Providence Hospital and Medical Centers. He earned his medical degree at the University of Michigan, and completed his internship and residency at Case Western Reserve University. After a fellowship in sports medicine at the University of Connecticut, he taught medicine there for 10 years. He was the team physician for the Hartford Whalers professional ice hockey team and all varsity athletes at UCONN.

Dr. Shea lectures nationally on sports medicine, and has special interest in problems of the shoulder and knee. He belongs to the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine.



Providence Athletic Medicine
Providence Medical Center-Providence Park
47601 Grand River Ave., Suite A105
Novi, MI 48374

Birmingham Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine
300 Park, Suite 100
Birmingham, MI 48009

For appointments: 248-647-0660

Health Notes

Foot and ankle consultations

Experiencing heel pain, bunions, hammertoes, fungus nails, warts, ankle pain, ingrown nails or other foot ailments? The Foot Health Centers offer an initial consultation free of charge, excluding x-rays, lab tests or treatment. The Foot Health Centers, operated by Dr. Ken Poss and Dr. Randy Bernstein, are affiliated with Botsford, Sinai, Oakwood and Kern hospitals. They have two area locations, at 41431 W. Ten Mile Road in the Novi Plaza at Meadowbrook, and 30931 W. Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Call (248) 349-5559 or (248) 478-1166 for more information or to schedule a consultation.

Menopause Support Group

Providence Medical Center-Providence Park in Novi offers a free monthly support group for women who have concerns about menopause.

The group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Providence Park Conference Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., at the corner of Grand River and Beck in Novi. The purpose of the support group is to provide women with educational information on topics relating to menopause.

For information, call (248) 424-3014.

Free Foot Screenings

Free foot screenings are offered every Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Botsford General Hospital, Suite 200, South Professional Building, 28080 Grand River Ave. in Farmington Hills.

For more information or to make an appointment, call (248) 473-1320, weekdays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Heart Disease Risk Reduction Programs

These risk assessment and reduction programs are designed to help modify risk factors associated with heart disease. The fee is dependent on the level of programming.

Call Botsford General Hospital at (248) 471-8870 for more information.

Health Risk Appraisal

Do you know what your health risks are? Botsford's health risk appraisal includes blood pressure, total cholesterol and hdl readings. There is a \$50 fee and an appointment is required.

For registration and information, call (248) 477-6100.

Intermediate Water Aerobics

This is a 50-minute water exercise class for postnatal and postphysical therapy patients. There is a \$35 fee for the six-week course and registration is required.

For registration and information, call the Botsford Center at (248) 473-5600.

Child Clinic

Oakland County Health Division's Child Health Clinics 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 as needed.

Appointments are required. For more information, call: north Oakland, Pontiac: (248) 858-1311 or 858-4001; south Oakland, Southfield: (248) 424-7066 or 424-7067; west Oakland, Walled Lake: (248) 926-3000.

ABCs of Weight Loss

A registered dietitian will work with you individually for three months to set up a realistic weight loss plan, organize your appetite and discuss the best strategies for weight loss. A \$95 fee and appointment is required.

The class is sponsored by Botsford's Health Development Network, 39750 Grand River Ave. in Novi. For more information and to register, call (248) 477-6100.

Asthma Education

Individual sessions with a registered nurse can provide the tools to better understand and manage asthma. Day and evening sessions are available. Families are welcome.

There is a \$30 fee and an appointment is required. For more information and to register, call (248) 477-6100.

Breastfeeding Basics

This workshop covers the "how to's" of breastfeeding and answers questions and concerns of women who are already breastfeeding.

The fee is \$20, and the classes are held at Botsford's Health Development Network in Novi.

For information and registration, call (248) 477-6100.

Circuit Training

This is a multi-stationed exercise and education program designed for the individual with limited experience using fitness equipment. Participants will be instructed on the proper use of weight and cardiovascular machines.

The class meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m.

The fee is \$70 and preregistration is required.

For registration and information, call the Botsford Center for Health Improvement at (248) 473-5600.

Martial Arts for Special Children

Conducted by a black-belt martial arts instructor, a physical therapist and an exercise therapist for children ages 5-16 with special needs such as cerebral palsy, add, or sensory integration dysfunction.

This is a continuously revolving eight-week course held on Friday evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Providence Medical Center-Providence Park in Novi. There is a charge of \$100.

To register, call 1-800-968-5595.

Cancer Support Group

"Focus On Living," a self-help group for cancer patients and their families, meets the first Wednesday of each month at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia.

Co-sponsored by the American Cancer Society, "Focus on Living" provides an opportunity to discuss concerns, obtain answers and gain support from others who share the same experiences.

Registration is not necessary, and there is no charge to attend. For more information, call (313) 655-2922, or toll free 1-800-494-1650.

Diabetes Education

This comprehensive program includes self-monitoring of blood glucose, diet and meal planning, disease management with exercise, potential complications of the disease, and presentations by a pharmacist and a podiatrist.

This is a continuously revolving six-week program held on Monday evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Providence Medical Office Center, Ten Mile and Haggerty roads. There is a \$20 fee.

Call (248) 424-3903 to register.

Surgical Preparation

Through the Sally the Surgery Star program, children scheduled for surgery are taken on a tour and familiarized with the surgical experience. A variety of educational materials and supportive teaching tools are used to help children deal positively with the idea of a hospital stay.

Admission to the program is by appointment only. There is no charge. Call the Providence Medical Center-Providence Park at (248) 380-4170 to register.

Weight on the Run

Conducted by an exercise physiologist and a nutritionist, this 12-week program starts with a fitness assessment and nutritional consultation, followed by three weekly monitored workouts and weekly nutritional support. Day and evening classes are available.

A \$300 fee includes enrollment in the class "ABC of Weight Loss." For more information and to register, call (248) 473-5600.

Child Health Clinics

Oakland County Health Division's Child Health Clinics 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 12 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, Pontiac, (248) 858-1311 or 858-4001; South Oakland, Southfield: (248) 424-7066 or 424-7067; West Oakland, Walled Lake: (248) 926-3300; and Holly residents: 1-888-350-0900, extension 8-1311 or 8-4001.

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JUST THROW IT!

For the kids!
Just for fun!



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BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS
"BOWL FOR KIDS"

ANNUAL FUND-RAISING EVENT

Your choice of dates: February 19th, 20th or 21st

We need 5-person teams
Each bowler should solicit (minimum \$40 pledges ea.)
Help Us Serve & Mentor
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Call (517) 546-1140 For registration forms

Who should you turn to with questions about your medicines?



Team Up & Talk
With Your Pharmacist

Your pharmacist is one good answer. You may not know that your pharmacist can help you understand how to take your medications properly. This is one of the best ways to decrease your overall health care costs-and your pharmacist is there to help you get the most from your medications.

By working together with your pharmacist, you can be sure that your medications will make you better when you are sick or help keep your healthy.

Your pharmacist can help you get the most from your medicines, so be sure to ask your pharmacist...we are always there for you...helping your medicines help you.



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