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THURSDAY
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the NOVI NEWS

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Council splits over mayor's decision

By JEREMY MCBAIN
Staff Writer

While it is one of her last official duties as mayor, Novi Mayor Kathleen McLallen's newest appointment to the Novi Planning Commission has caused a heated controversy.

In a move that one commissioner called a "lame duck," and another said was an example of poor communication skills, McLallen pushed through her final nomination for the Novi Planning Commission, Lodia Richards, on Monday night.

A motion to approve Richards for the planning commission passed in a 4-3 vote. Council Members Laura Lorenzo, Robert Schmid and Craig DeRoche voted against it.

While Richards was known to many council members, the mayor appointed him to the planning commission without Richards' submittal of the usual written application or undergoing the city council interview typically given to all commission and board appointees.

"The mayor is just trying to get her last shot in at loading the planning commission," said Schmid.

"It's a lame duck appointment she made with absolutely no reason. It's a lame duck move by an out-going mayor."

McLallen was voted out of office after she lost the August primary to mayoral candidates Richard Clark and Michael Meyer.

McLallen said it was not a lame duck move on her part. She said the process of board and commission appointments was flawed and she really needed to fill the open planning commission seat.

"We have to have a process. If it works it's great. If the opportunity presents itself, then you have to be flexible," she said.

Schmid shot back, saying in his 20-plus years on the city council, members have never appointed anyone to the planning commission without first giving council members a chance to interview them.

"If it is flawed, why didn't they figure it out before?" he said.

Richards is known to many city officials because he previously held a seat on the planning commission until 1994. Several

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Reigning monarchs

Novi High School King Dan Kittle and Queen Chloe Clark pose for a picture before their coronation at the Oct. 2

rainy Homecoming game. NHS won the day. More coverage with photos of the big event is on pages 4 and 5.

Judge ups award to \$53 million

By JEREMY MCBAIN
Staff Writer

Tack another \$20 million onto the existing \$33 million judgment against Novi.

Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Barry Howard awarded Sandstone Associates Limited Partnership another \$20 million in attorney fees, costs and interest in its lawsuit against Novi. That brings the total amount the city may have to pay the development company to \$53 million.

"It sounds totally unreasonable. Of course, this whole lawsuit has been totally unreasonable," said Novi City Manager Ed Kriewall.

He added that the city was still confident the whole matter would be overturned on appeal.

"The city disagrees with the interest award because it amounts to a double recovery for the developer," said Mary Masaron Ross, the city's attorney for the lawsuit's appeal.

The judgment came a surprise to Novi resident Asa Smith. He said the matter was starting to really concern residents because they were wondering how much more money could be tacked on to their taxes and what this will mean to their quality of life.

Smith said he believed both the developer and the city were at

fault for the failed development that led to this lawsuit.

"Both of them are guilty of not understanding the issues," he said.

The situation was even effecting the upcoming city election, Smith said.

"There should be drastic changes in this city," he added.

Last January, Howard found the city responsible for a failed development along Novi Road, north of Twelve Mile Road, called The Vistas, which is owned by Sandstone. Sandstone contended that the city failed to meet its side of an agreement to build a road through the development, thus dooming the development to failure.

Howard sided with the developers and awarded them a total \$40 million. However, that sum was later lowered to about \$33 million when it was discovered the developers sold some of the land for a profit.

The city maintains it held up to its side of the deal and the Sandstone development was a poor concept from the start. That was the reason the development failed, not because of any wrongdoing by Novi, stated city officials.

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Chance of a Lifetime

Lifetime Fitness climbing instructor Ryan Kovacs tries out the Novi health club's artificial rock face. The new facility opened this week. The story's on page 3.

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Better than your average MEAP

By B.J. HAMMERSTEIN
Staff Writer

The most recent Michigan Educational Assessment High School Program Test scores are in and Novi High School ranks above the state average in all the categories.

Administered to juniors during the spring of 1999, the MEAP tests students in the categories of

math, reading, writing, science and social studies.

The results for the math, reading, writing and science sections have already been sent back to the district, but the social studies results, a new section this year, will be distributed later this month.

Out of 374 students in the

junior class, 263 students took the test.

Last year Novi High School had 283 students take the MEAP test, but the 70.3 percent of the class that took the MEAP is still a significant figure, according to state averages.

Dr. Rita Traynor, Novi School District Assistant Superintendent,

said the MEAP test isn't about ranking results against other schools or districts, but a way to measure a pupils knowledge on specific subjects and which areas may need improvement.

Novi High School principal Dr. Jennifer Cheal added the data

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Novi News scoops six state awards

The Novi News won six awards in the Michigan Press Association's annual Better Newspaper Contest. It was announced last week.

Judging the contest were members of the Wisconsin Press Association, who scrutinized more than 3,000 entries submitted by 118 Michigan newspapers.

In the Sports Writing category, Novi News reporter Jason Schmitt won first place for "Pulling Off The Upset." The judges noted: "Excellent use of setting scene and making use of quotes to tell story of Novi's first cross country state championship."

In the Human Interest Feature category, Novi News Editor Jan

Jeffres won third place for an interview with Novi resident Bob Stewart, a cast member of the original "Wizard of Oz." Judges said: "Subject questioned whether his story was worth telling. Bet readers licked up every word about readily identifiable member of the Lollipop Guild."

Novi News photographer John

Heider shot the accompanying photographs for this story.

Jeffres and Heider won third place in the Enterprise Feature category for "Cruising With Cassis," day on the job with State Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi. The MPA judges noted: "Very nice fea-

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

From left, a toast to fest by Mongolian Barbeque's Steve Howcraft, Steve & Rocky's David Ridings, Local Color's Peter Paisley, Steve & Rocky's Jeff Evans and Vic's Market Steve Padley.

Oktoberfest comes to Main Strasse

By B.J. HAMMERSTEIN
Staff Writer

The celebration began in Germany during the autumn of 1810, with the wedding of Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria.

Now the tradition will continue much closer to home.

The first annual Novi Main Street Oktoberfest will be held Friday Oct. 8 and Saturday Oct. 9 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

"It is going to have a street party feel with lots of great food and tasty beer," said Peter Paisley, president of Local Color Brewing Company.

"The atmosphere is going to be fun and it is going to stay true to the origin of the festival."

The Novi Oktoberfest will be

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In today's issue



A special section ...



Community Calendar

Novi Rotary
Thursday, Oct. 7
The Novi Rotary Club meets at noon at the Novi United Methodist Church at 41671 Ten Mile Road. For information, contact Bob Limbri at (248) 380-6560.

TOPS
Take Off Pounds Sensibly for all ages meets at 7 p.m. at the Novi Meadows Clubhouse on Napier Road. For more information, call after 6 p.m. (248) 344-2167.

Novi School Board
The Novi School Board meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Educational Services Building, 25345 Taft Road. For information, call (248) 449-1200.

Walled Lake School Board
The Walled Lake School Board will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Educational Services Center, Building D, 850 Ladd Road, Walled Lake.

Expo Center Show
Continuing through Sunday, the tenth Annual Detroit Camper and RV Show at the Novi Expo Center. For information, call (248) 449-1200.

Novi Camera Club
Sunday, Oct. 10
The Novi Camera Club will meet at Mill Race Village in Northville from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. for a fall color shoot, rain or shine. Visitors are welcome. For information, call Beverly Dornal at 380-6980.

Columbus Day
Monday, Oct. 11
The Novi Library Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi library building.

Civil Air Patrol
Tuesday, Oct. 12
The Sixgate Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, meets at Novi Middle School, 25299 Taft Rd., from 7-9:30 p.m. Adults and youths who have finished the sixth grade are welcome. For additional information call 349-2669.

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LET'S TALK
WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN
GEMOLOGIST

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NORTHVILLE HEARING AID CENTER

Beautification Commission
The Novi Beautification Commission meets at 7:15 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center.

Chess Club
The Novi Chess Club will meet from 7-10 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. There is no charge to attend and all players are welcome. For more information, call Tim Sawmill, 344-4269 evenings after 6 p.m.

Optimist Club
The Novi Optimist Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at the Big Boy Restaurant on Novi Road, across from the Novi Town Center.

Northville schools
The Northville Board of Education meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room, Old Village School, 405 W. Main Street, Northville. For information, call (248) 349-3400.

Novi Camera Club
The Novi Camera Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, for a program by member Dick Peffer on "The Alaska Territory" - Alaska before statehood. Guests welcome. For information, contact Beverly Dornal at 380-6980.

Seniors potluck
Wednesday, Oct. 13
The Novi Senior Social Club will gather at noon in the Novi Civic Center for their monthly potluck luncheon.

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

SPARK
The Society for the Preservation of American Racing Knowledge, the all-volunteer support organization for the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America, meets at 7 p.m. at the Novi Expo Center. The meeting is open to anyone interested in supporting the Hall of Fame and Museum.

Parks meeting
Thursday, Oct. 14
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The Novi Parks and Recreation Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road.

Historical Commission
The Novi Historical Commission meets tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road.

Novi Rotary
The Novi Rotary Club meets at noon at the Novi United Methodist Church at 41671 Ten Mile Road. For information, contact Bob Limbri at 380-6560.

TOPS
Take Off Pounds Sensibly for all ages meets at 7 p.m. at the Novi Meadows Clubhouse on Napier Road. For more information, call after 6 p.m. (248) 344-2167.

Expo Show
The Fall Home Remodeling Show will be held at the Novi Expo Center today through Saturday. Admission, \$6. For more information and show hours, call 348-5600.

Monday, Oct. 18
The Novi City Council meets tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road.

ABWA
The Novi Oaks Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association meets at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, at 42100 Crescent Blvd. Social hour is set at 6 p.m. and dinner is served at 7 p.m. Meetings are open to all working women. For reservations, call Audrey Gulley at (248) 624-1718. For membership information, call Bettie Johnson at (248) 960-9559.

Cholesterol Screening
Total cholesterol screening by fingerstick method, will be offered 1-4 p.m., at the Boisford Center for Health Improvement-Health Development Network, 39750 Grand River Ave. Cost is \$5 fee. For more information call 477-6100.

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Fitness club offers 24-hour chance to get in shape

By B.J. HAMMERSTEIN Staff Writer

As the vibrant fall colors disintegrate into the cold whiteness of snow and just before the hibernation of winter finally settles in, a paradise of good healthy living and active lifestyles lies in the distance. Something big.

Lifetime Fitness, a sports, health and fitness club based out of Minnesota, has opened its doors to Novi and the surrounding community.

"The fitness center is for families, teens, senior citizens — really it is for all age groups," said Glen Gunderson, Lifetime's vice-president of marketing.

"Our emphasis is towards education, teaching lifestyle choices and how to use a fitness club."

It is the second of the firm's three facilities slated to open in metro Detroit this year.

The \$16.5 million fitness extravaganza is the pavement on the road to a healthy body and mind, company officials say.

Practically everything in the health encyclopedia from A to Z can be found within this 100,000 square-foot fitness center located at 40000 High Pointe Boulevard in the rear of the Summit Pointe Corporate Center.

For access to all this, enrollment fees are starting at \$185, in addition to a \$39 per month fee. Some classes and services will have an additional charge.

Lifetime Fitness stresses family-friendly services such as free child care, kids' fitness programs and family locker rooms.

The massive health arena houses more than 400 pieces of cardiovascular and resistance training equipment.

An entertainment system is on-line, allowing television viewing while the audio pumps through a set of personal headphones.

Aerobics, studio cycling and cardio-kickboxing classes are included in the basic fee.

Indoor and outdoor swimming pools, complete with slides and zero level entry areas, cater towards the swimmer and rehabilitators.

Raquetball courts, basketball courts and two aerobic rooms are also available.

For the extreme sport enthusiast, a 35-foot high cavern style climbing wall will challenge the body.

And, Novi's Lifetime Fitness can claim the Michigan heavyweight championship with 16 tons of free weights, making it the largest free weight room in the state.

Founded in 1992 by Bahram Akradi, Lifetime Fitness has flourished in Minnesota by providing an educational and entertaining environment for the needs of an entire family.

"Akradi focused on changing the industry," Gunderson said.

"He had a vision of incorporating public health, healthy lifestyles and a facility for all of these needs."

With 4,000 members already registered, and an anticipated 1,000 more memberships to be sold during the grand opening period, the 24-hour facility is ready to train and educate the public.

"Michigan is one of the least active states in the U.S.," said Group Fitness Coordinator Yvonne Denslow.

"Hopefully we will help bring health awareness to the members. That is what we do."

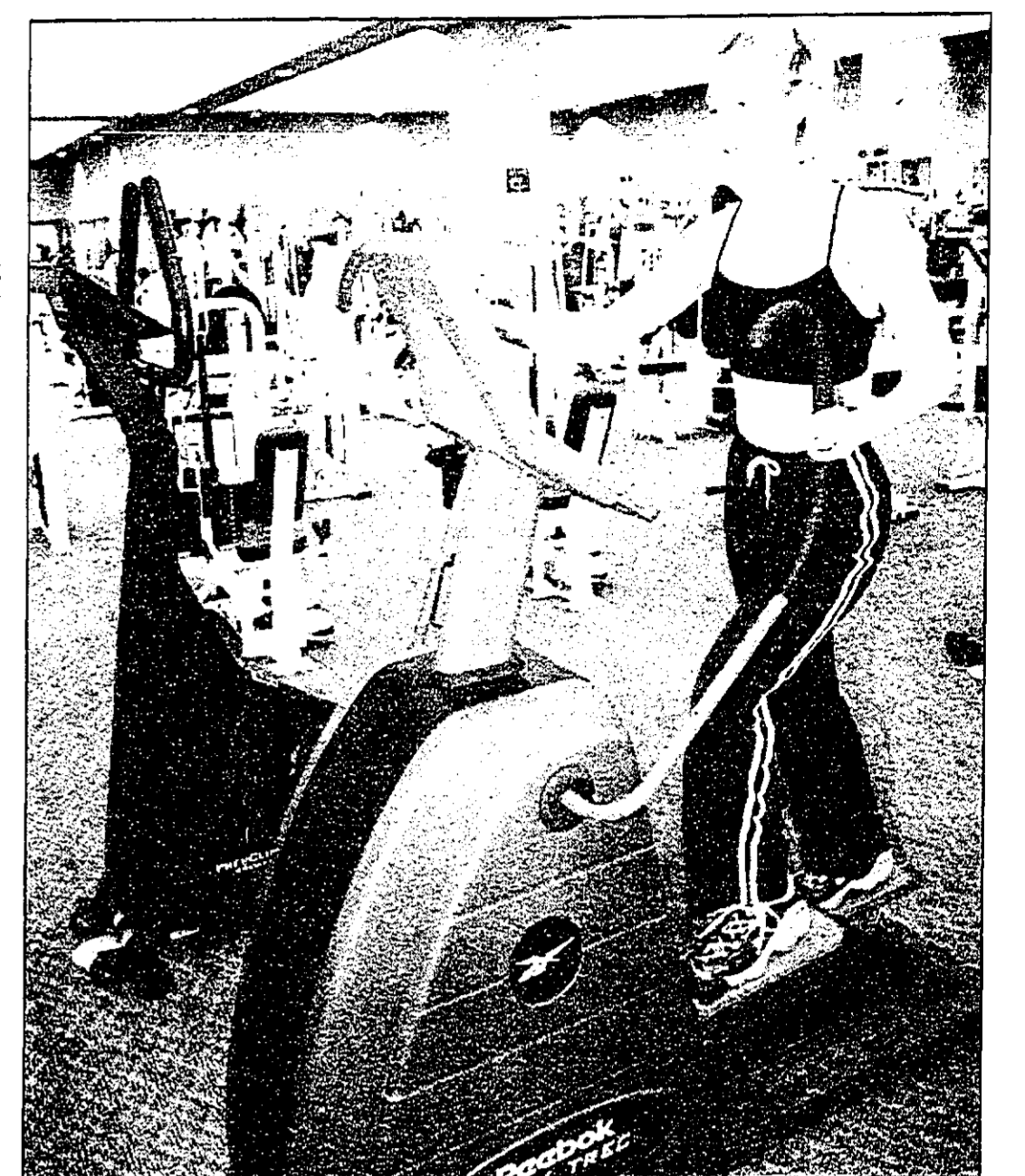
Gunderson added the Novi location will employ close to 220 people, 60 percent part-time employees and the rest full-time workers.

With a cafe, plans for a salon and an on-site physical therapy and cardiovascular rehabilitation center managed and operated by Saint Joseph Mercy Health System of Ann Arbor, Lifetime Fitness is the place for health.

And if all this exercise wears you out, you can head for the on-site spa and massage therapy.

"This is a great facility that offers members and the community knowledge about how to get healthy," Gunderson said.

B.J. Hammerstein's e-mail is bhammerstein@tlc.homecom.net.



Lifetime Fitness aerobics coordinator Yvonne Denslow tries out the elliptical trainer.

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Where and when do you meet?
We meet every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in the Northville High School auditorium. For more information, call the church office at 248-615-7050, e-mail us at info@oakpointe.org, or visit our web site at www.oakpointe.org.

Map showing location of Oak Pointe Church at the intersection of 10 Mile Rd and Novi Rd.

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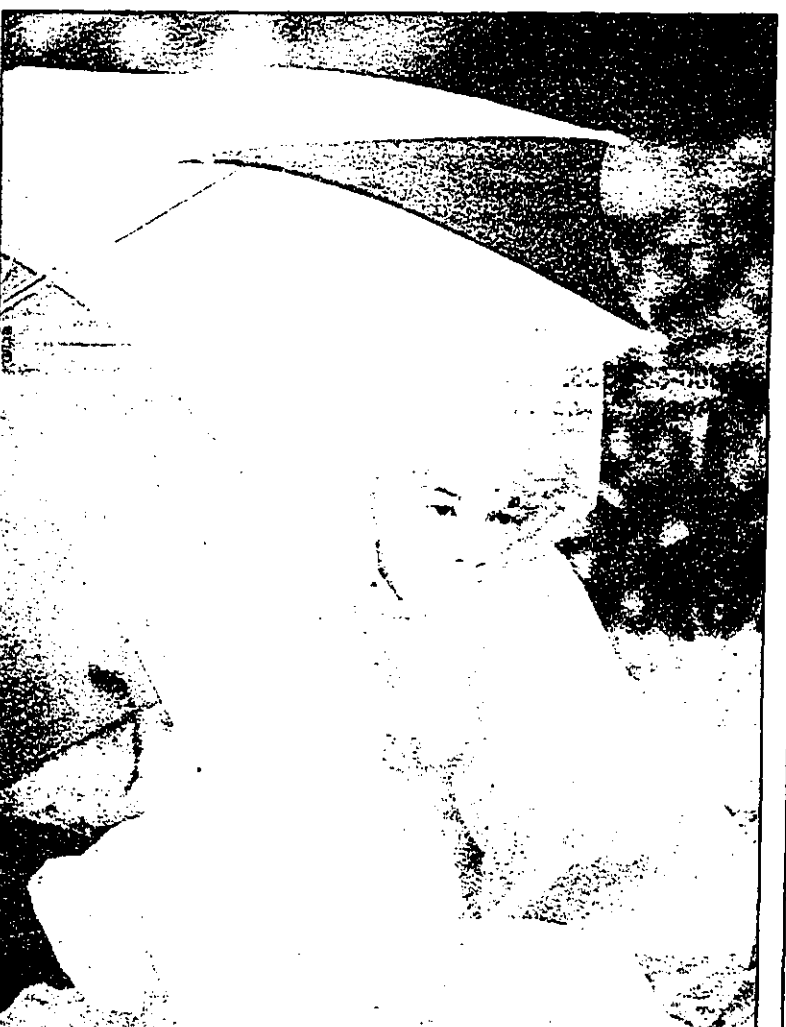
Novi High School's Homecoming Celebrations



The 1999 Novi High School Homecoming Court assembles at Saturday's dance. From left: Pat Muston, David Tardella, Ryan Rzepka, Daniel Kittle, Chloe Clark, Danielle Panetta, Autumn Coy and Erin Quinn.



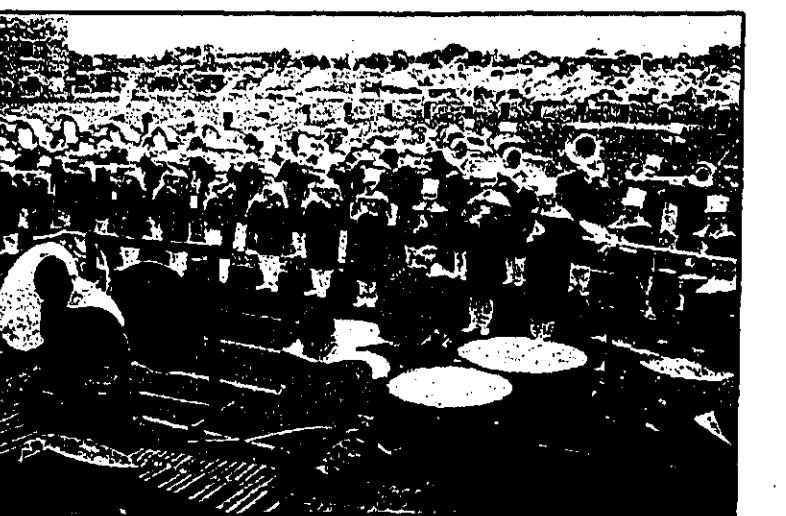
Novi High School Homecoming dance attendees hit the floor in the school's cafeteria Saturday evening and strut their stuff.



Steve Schleuter appears to be well-covered against the elements before Saturday morning's Homecoming parade along Ten Mile Road. It rained through most of the parade and game.



Though they couldn't take part in Homecoming festivities, Novi High School swimmers Andrea Yocum, Lindsey Vermillion, Amanda Smith, Kyle Clark, and (joke Senior) Amy Hartland pause for a quick photo Saturday morning before heading off to the Oakland County school's meet.



Novi running back Danny Jilg heads uptfield during Saturday's homecoming game.



Members of Novi's Senior Court Erin Quinn and David Tardella are covered by their umbrellas during the Homecoming parade Saturday morning.



Misling the "S" in "Sophomores", the tenth-grade class of Novi High School marches in Saturday's Homecoming parade.

At left: The Novi High School marching band, decked out in foul weather gear, entertains the Homecoming crowd Saturday in the rain.

All photos, except as noted, by John Heider.

The last Homecoming of the century

Soggy day didn't dampen mood as students wind up Spirit Week

By B.J. HAMMERSTEIN
Staff Writer

The competition for "most school spirit" may have ended with a tie between the sophomore and senior classes at Novi High School, but everyone walked away a winner after Spirit Week 1999.

The week of frenzied fun ended Saturday night at the Novi High School cafeteria during the 1999 Homecoming Dance.

"There were many different activities and the students showed a lot of spirit," said Novi High Principal Dr. Jennifer Cheal. "The students and the faculty participated and it was fun watching all the planning, organizing and implementing."

Seniors Chloe Clark and Daniel Kittle were named Homecoming queen and king.

The rest of the senior court members included Danielle Panetta,

Autumn Coy, Erin Quinn, Pat Muston, David Tardella and Ryan Rzepka.

The Junior Class prince and princess were Nick Sloan and Christina Cypher. The Sophomore Class prince and princess were Peter Kobylarek and Kendall Bear.

Darren Guiley and Kristen Kern were the Freshmen Class prince and princess.

Of the many festivities during

Spirit Week, the float contest certainly was the largest. This year's theme was toys and the Sophomore Class took first place for its block-themed float.

The Senior Class float was under a G.I. Joe theme, the juniors had a jack-in-the-box float and the freshmen's were Legos.

All the floats were on display during the Homecoming parade Saturday morning before the foot-

ball game. The parade began at Holy Family Church and ended at Novi High as students, parents and fans prepared to watch the Homecoming football game.

The Wildcats beat the Raiders 22-17 to keep the spirit week enthusiasm alive.

Before the Homecoming victory, Novi High experienced its first ever outdoor pep assembly. Seniors Sarah Bajorek and Katie Cameron

were the emcees for the event which included the cheerleaders and Pom Pom squads and the Novi Singers and choir.

Football captains Daniel Kittle and Jon Cervi presented the varsity cheerleaders with roses and Coach John Osborne addressed the riled-up crowd.

The pep assembly ended with a relay race and tug-o-war between the classes.

Bill would exempt Holocaust victim' reparations from income taxes

The House Tax Policy Committee recently considered legislation that allows Michigan Holocaust victims to exempt reparations from the state income tax, announced committee chair State Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi.

House Bill 4796 gives Holocaust victims or their beneficiaries an income tax exemption on such items as bank deposits, artwork, insurance proceeds and other assets, as settlement proceeds from class action lawsuits. The result is

\$1.25 billion to approximately 50,000 survivors in the United States.

"Holocaust survivors have waited decades for the return of their personal items and holdings," said Cassis, R-Novi.

"Exempting the income tax on

these items is the least the state can do for people who have suffered through the worst human tragedy of this millennium."

State Rep. Marc Shulman, R-West Bloomfield, introduced HB 4796 in June. Holocaust vic-

tims are defined as people, or their heirs or beneficiaries, persecuted by Nazi Germany or any Axis regime from 1933 to 1945.

"It is important the Tax Policy Committee considers this bill as one of its first duties of the fall ses-

sion," Cassis said.

The legislation allows victims to deduct reparations and the value of returned assets from their income tax return. It also exempts from taxation interest the reparations or assets have accrued. It is retroactive to Jan. 1, 1994.

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If you own a home... or you have assets worth at least \$100,000... you owe it to yourself—and your family—to get the facts on living trusts. If you think you're protected with a simple Will... think again... A Will guarantees that your estate will go through probate, which means that your family may not be able to take possession of your estate for many months, or even years!

Plus, if your estate is over \$650,000, your family may owe estate taxes which could amount to 37-55%.

This means that your family may have to sell some assets to pay the estate taxes! A living trust avoids all this by avoiding probate and minimizing estate taxes. Plus, a living trust will protect your estate if you become incapacitated during your lifetime by avoiding a conservatorship. This means your estate will be managed as you see fit, not as a court-appointed guardian sees fit.

To find out more about the benefits of living trusts, attend one of these free seminars...

FREE SEMINARS					
MILFORD Mon., Oct. 11 7:00 - 8:30 pm Coffee & Cookies Baker's of Milford 2025 S. Milford	HIGHLAND Tue., Oct. 12 10:00-11:30 am Coffee & Cookies Highland Township Office 205 N. John Street	BRIGHTON Tue., Oct. 12 7:00 - 8:30 pm Coffee & Cookies Brighton District Library 200 Charles H. Orndorf Drive	HOWELL Wed., Oct. 13 7:00-8:30 pm Coffee & Cookies Howell Carnegie District Library 314 W. Grand River	NOVI Wed., Oct. 13 7:00-8:30 pm Coffee & Cookies Novi Community Center 45175 W. Ten Mile	LIVONIA Thurs., Oct. 21 7:00 - 8:30 pm Coffee & Cookies Livonia Civic Center Library 32777 Five Mile Road

Refreshments Served - Plenty of free parking. Please arrive early. Seating may be limited.

When you attend one of these seminars, you'll receive a FREE 1-hour consultation with an attorney (worth \$165)... so you can find out how a living trust will benefit you.

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The attorneys at Einheuser & Associates speak to area residents about living trusts and proper estate planning. They are members of the American Academy of Estate Planning Attorneys—and their seminars are "informative & easy-to-understand."

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Lou CSORDAS

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Diners didn't expect an ethnic brawl on the menu

When business cause skirmish in Novi restaurant

A Novi man was slightly injured around 10:30 p.m. Sunday when he was allegedly attacked by two or three other men at Too Chez restaurant on Novi Road.

Police News

The officer dispatched to the scene said there were several people at the front door when he arrived. Several people at the door were getting into a limo near the door were involved in the fight.

The officer stopped the group from entering so he could question them. They were very agitated and yelled at the restaurant's manager as he tried to tell the officer what happened.

The manager said the group had been fighting with another man in the restaurant. Several tables were turned over and several patrons' meals were ruined because of this.

The group said they were having dinner with a man from another table threatened and insulted them.

FITTING ROOM SECURITY

A 13-year-old Farmington Hills girl was arrested around 5:30 p.m. Sunday at Lord & Taylor department store in Twelve Oaks Mall for shoplifting after an employee spied on her in the fitting room.

An employee of the store watched the girl select three bras from the lingerie department and enter the fitting room.

Police News

Group members said the man insulted their Serbian heritage. The victim suffered a cut on his left hand and was punched several times.

A witness said he heard the victim and the limo group exchange a few words and the victim was "jumped" by two or three men in the group.

ATTEMPTED TIRE THEFT

A Novi man caught a man in his driveway attempting to steal tires off a car around 3 a.m. Sunday.

The man pulled into his driveway after arriving at home and discovered a man lying on the ground near his garage.

POP-CORN AND MUSTARD LAWN CARE

Someone vandalized the front yard of a Novi woman's home Saturday night or Sunday morning on the 41000 block of Onaway Court.

The suspect threw a large amount of popcorn on her lawn and squirted mustard on her drive. DPW barricades were also put on her lawn.

STOLEN VEHICLE

Someone took a vehicle parked in a parking space sometime between 4 p.m. Sept. 29 and 6 p.m. Sept. 30 behind Twelve Oaks Townhouses on Haggerty Road.

The vehicle, a 1978 Chevy Camaro, was parked in the parking space with a tarp on it to protect it from the elements.

FITTING ROOM SECURITY II

A 16-year-old Detroit boy was arrested for shoplifting around 8 p.m. Sept. 28 after an employee watched him conceal items in the fitting room of Hudson's in Twelve Oaks Mall.

The employee observed the boy enter the department store with two other boys.

SMART SECURITY GUARD

An unknown man threatened a security guard and stole a computer system Sept. 28 at CompUSA in the Novi Town Center.

The man purchased some speakers at the electronics store with cash at a front register and then set the speakers aside while he

Correction

In the Sept. 30 edition of the Novi News, a photo caption indicated Novi Woods Elementary students in Cheryl Crist's class celebrated the harvest season last week. The students were actually part of Jane Benkarski's kindergarten class. Cheryl Crist is not a teacher at Novi Woods.

Toast this

The No. 1 Chophouse & Lobster Bar recently received an award of excellence for its wine list from "Wine Spectator" magazine.

The contest evaluates the vintage offerings of restaurants around the world, based on quality of selections, pricing, inventory and storage conditions. Also honored were Duet in Detroit and Morels, A Michigan Bistro in Bingham Farms.

Celebrity dinner

Phyllis Schialy, executive director of the Eagle Forum, will speak at the Right to Life-Livingston County Focus On Life dinner on Oct. 21 at the Novi Hilton.

Schialy led the campaign to successfully defeat the Equal Rights Amendment, which would have given women equality of rights under the U.S. Constitution. An attorney, she is a national leader in the anti-abortion movement.

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Jaycees, League of Women Voters set Candidate Night

With the November election on the horizon, another chance for Novi residents to meet the city council and mayoral candidates will occur Wednesday, Oct. 13.

Sponsored by the Novi Jaycees

and the League of Women Voters of Novi, the Meet the Candidates Night will be a question and answer forum with Jane Dolan, president of the League of Women Voters, acting as moderator.

The forum will take place at the Novi Civic Center and will be televised on cable access. The forum begins at 7:30 p.m. and will conclude at 9:30 p.m.

FREE TUITION

H & R Block Tax Course Begins Next Week

Thousands of people are learning the skill of income tax preparation from H & R Block and are earning money as income tax preparers.

H & R Block, the world's largest tax preparation service, is offering an income tax course with morning, afternoon and evening classes available. Classes will be offered at area locations.

And you'll have the opportunity to expand your job-related skills.

H & R Block designed this course to assist people who want to increase their tax knowledge and to save money on taxes or who are looking for a second career or seasonal employment. It is perfect for students or retirees seeking part-time earnings.

The low course fee includes all textbooks, supplies and tax forms necessary for completion of the course. Certificates and 6.0 continuing education units will be awarded upon successful completion of the course.

Registration forms and a brochure for the income tax course may be obtained by contacting H & R Block.

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Novi Briefs

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Stolen Vehicle
Someone took a vehicle parked in a parking space sometime between 4 p.m. Sept. 29 and 6 p.m. Sept. 30 behind Twelve Oaks Townhouses on Haggerty Road.

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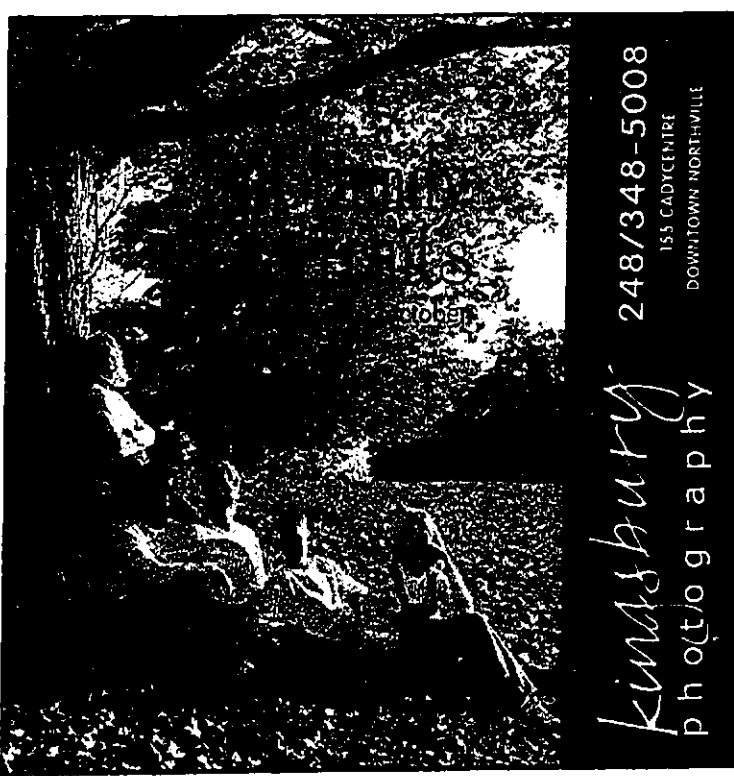
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Have you had enough? Are you ready for a real change? Ready to make a difference?

Michael Meyer

The only way to make a difference is to vote. The only way to cast an informed vote is to study the issues and the candidates.

On Oct. 13th at 7:30 PM the candidates for mayor and council will meet in the city council space of the city complex to answer your questions. Why not attend? Or, watch on TV at home and phone in your questions? Hope to see you there!

Michael Meyer
Paid for by CTE Michael Meyer P.O. Box 1244 Novi, MI 48375

Numbers game

Funding increased as more kids in schools

By B.J. HAMMERSTEIN
Staff Writer

The Novi School District has welcomed many new faces to Novi schools for the 1999-2000 school year.

One hundred and fifty-five new students, according to the unaudited Fourth Friday counts reported by the district.

According to last year's unaudited Sept. 23 count by the Oakland Schools Intermediate District, Novi ranked 16th largest in population out of 36 Oakland County school districts, which also includes seven public school academies. The Walled Lake School District was the largest district with 13,603 students.

The 1999-2000 unaudited count won't officially be done until Oct. 27.

Here's how the unaudited count of 5,746 students are broken down, according to the schools they are attending:

- Novi High School — 1,572
- Novi Middle School — 912
- Novi Meadows — 945
- Parkview Elementary — 712
- Village Oaks Elementary — 476
- Orchard Hills Elementary — 559
- Novi Woods Elementary — 540

"This is an unaudited and intermediate count," said Jim Koster, Novi School District Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations.

"There is a whole series of forms we still need to fill out, and while we do that we will continue to count the students. It is rare, but the numbers could go up by one or two students still."

According to Koster, the formula for state funding has changed again this year, with 75 percent coming from the Fourth Friday count and 25 percent coming from the count last February. The blended count is then multiplied by the state foundation allowance.

Koster said the state is predicting a \$234 increase per pupil from last year's allowance of \$7,553, making this year's allowance \$7,787.

According to Koster, this year's \$234 increase looks good, compared to last year's increase of \$0 before the state foundation opted for a \$51 increase.

But the reality is the funding has been going down the last two years.

The average increase over a three year period from the 1995-96 school year to the 1997-98 school years has been \$154.

Over the last two years, the 1998-99 school year and the 1999-2000 school year the funding is averaged at \$142, a \$12 decline.

Koster said for the 1999-2000 school year, \$28.5 million comes from state aid and special education funding and \$15.9 million in taxes resulting in roughly \$45 million.

This year's district budget is \$48.5 million.

"We have about \$44.5 million against the budget," Koster said.

"About 92 percent of our revenue comes from sources we have no control over."

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Announcing the opening of Botsford Commons Assisted Living Center. This innovative facility, located in an historic building in Farmington Hills, offers a caring environment for those who need support to maintain daily living routines. Residents receive assistance only with the services needed and requested, encouraging each individual to remain as independent as possible in a safe and secure environment. Center residents retain privacy and comfort in individual apartments while their psychological and social needs are met through a variety of programs and group activities. Easily accessible community living, dining and social areas complement comfortable accommodations with private baths and generous space for treasured personal furnishings. The center features a chapel, clinical offices and a full range of health care services including geriatric assessment programs. As an older adult, you've lived a life that has been one characterized by dignity, independence and choice. It should continue to be. When you choose Botsford Commons Assisted Living Center, you insure that the next chapter of your life is filled with the same richness of choice and independence to which you are accustomed and that you deserve.

For more information, call 248-426-6903.

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READ & RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

All ale the Oktoberfest

Local eateries plan first Main Street bash

Continued from 1

entertainment partners down on Main Street.

Centered around food and drink, the traditional festival will be highlighted by the full-fledged beer "Oktoberfest."

Featuring Main Street businesses, local Color Brewing Company, B.J.'s Mongolian Barbeque, Las Vegas Gold and Dennis, Steve and Rocky's and the World Class Market, the first annual Novis Main Street Oktoberfest will be a beer drinking good time.

The two events will have separate names by Postbank and the German Oompah Band and D.J. Friday night. On Saturday, the Johnnie Rodriguez Errey Latin Band and the German Oompah Band will

"The atmosphere should be a lot of fun."

Andrew Durst in a 1998 vintage Mercedes Benz fire engine.

Today's Oktoberfest, held at the Theresienwiese, a Munich meadow named for Ludwig's bride, attracts more than six million visitors who drink more than 10 million pints of beer.

Novi Oktoberfest organizers don't expect quite that many people or beer sales, but feel the event will be

an experience.

"We don't really know what to expect," said Mongolian Barbeque manager Steve Howcroft.

"The atmosphere should be a lot of fun."

B.J. Hammerstein's email is bhammerstein@t.h.homecomm.net.



Local Color owner Peter Paisley samples a bit of his own brew.

Search on for a new manager to guide Novi

By JEREMY MCBAIN Staff Writer

Whoever is chosen as Novi's new City Manager will have quite a job to undertake.

City officials recently started advertising for candidates to replace current Novi City Manager Ed Kriewall when he retires in February.

Kriewall said because of Novi's stature, he expects many applicants for the position.

"Novi is the premier city in the state of Michigan. It just has so much going for it in growth potential," he said.

"People want to live here for the same reason city managers should be attracted to Novi in the hun-

dreeds."

Kriewall said he would advise applicants that if they get the position, they would have to be ready to face a lot of issues. "There are a number of issues continually on the horizon and they are going to have to be prepared to make some well-thought recommendations to city council on almost a rapid-fire basis," he said.

Because of this, the new city manager must be dedicated to the position and willing to deal with the public on all fronts.

"They have to be flexible and be on top of the issues. They have to be good on the follow through and be willing and able to meet with the public," he added.

The new city manager must also be a visionary to help lead the city in the next 10 to 15 years.

"It's not going to be that easy," Kriewall said.

He added that the next 15 years will probably be easier than the last 30 years, because much of the city's ground work has been laid.

City Council Member Laura Lorenz said she is looking for a city manager who is new to the city, with new ideas and who understands they must report to the city council.

"They must understand this position is primarily an administrative position. It is supervisory, not a real estate broker," she said.

"Part of the concern I've had with

Kriewall is I think sometimes more of his interest is in real estate."

Lorenz said she is also interested in hiring a city manager who is a good communicator. Too many times the city council has been the last to know about significant events in the city, she said.

Additionally, the new city manager must be sensitive and accessible to the public, Lorenz said.

"I don't want someone who has an attitude with the public," she said.

The advertisement the city is running for the position states:

"Novi, Mi, pop. 50,000, 31 sq. miles. Council/Manager form of government, 70M budget, 238 full-

time employees. Fastest growing city in the state for the past 10 years. Located 40 miles north-west of Detroit.

Novi is a beltway community that provides attractive residential developments, excellent school systems, strong commercial base and a new down-town area with dining, entertainment and shopping.

Require Bachelor's degree (MPA or MBA preferred), and five years city manager/assistant city manager experience or equivalent thereof. Individual must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills.

Responsible for the administration of day-to-day operations; coordinating and motivating a profes-

sional, well-experienced management team and hard working staff.

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Jeremy Mc Bain's email is jmcbaib@t.h.homecomm.net.

MEAP SCORES

Spring 1999 Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) results for Novi High School 11th grade. Approximately 70 percent of the 11th grade students participated in the testing. Scores in this table are compared against statewide results.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	No. of Students
Math					
Novi High	40.4	45.4	8.5	5.8	260
State	22.6	41.0	17.4	18.9	82,755
NHS 1998	36.0	50.5	6.9	6.5	278
Reading					
Novi High	34.5	51.8	7.5	6.3	255
State	17.1	50.2	14.9	17.9	83,134
NHS 1998	30.4	51.6	10.3	7.7	273
Science					
Novi High	15.2	58.2	19.5	7.0	256
State	7.2	43.8	29.3	19.7	82,178
NHS 1998	18.4	54.5	19.9	7.2	277
Writing					
Novi High	9.1	44.5	36.9	9.5	263
State	6.8	45.7	32.9	14.7	79,748
NHS 1998	17.7	57.2	17.3	7.8	283

Key
Level 1 Endorsed — Exceeded Michigan Standards
Level 2 Endorsed — Met Michigan Standards
Level 3 Endorsed — At Basic Level
Level 4 Not Endorsed

Schools use MEAP scores to evaluate students' skills

Continued from 1

from the results of the MEAP are important to both students and the faculty.

"We work with the data and on an individual basis will provide workshops for the kids so they can prepare and retake the test," Cheal said.

"Also, we will look at the results as a group and determine where the curriculum is weak. Then we will ask ourselves how we can reinforce the concepts on the test."

A retest is scheduled for the end of January, in the hope that more students will participate in the test and improve on their past scores.

An incentive which may entice students to take the test is a \$2,500 scholarship for students to

"The MEAP is now more important as the test prepares students for life out in the real world."

Jennifer Cheal,
Novi High School principal

use at in-state colleges and \$1,000 to students who choose to attend out-of-state universities.

The scholarships are available for students for seven years. Also, a student who does well in two out of five categories on the MEAP and

receives a score in the top 25 percentile on the ACT or SAT in the country will also be eligible for the \$2,500 scholarship.

Cheal added the MEAP test has changed from earlier versions, applying more analytical thinking to the exams rather than asking about things that were memorized in the past.

"We are going to look at the scores closely because now the students are being tested on their ability to apply creative solutions to a problem," Cheal said.

The MEAP is now more important as the test prepares students for life out in the real world."

B.J. Hammerstein's email is bhammerstein@t.h.homecomm.net.

Armed robber sought after Haggert Road incident

By JEREMY MCBAIN Staff Writer

Police are searching for a man suspected in the armed robbery of a 32-year-old Howell woman around noon Sunday.

According to Novi Police Det. Kevin Hebert, the woman was approached by a man after she exited her vehicle in the parking lot of Dick's Sporting Goods, located at 21061 Haggerty Road.

The suspect implied he had a gun in his pocket and demanded her gold necklace and purse. After telling the woman he would shoot her if she did not comply, he grabbed the purse and the necklace from the woman's neck and fled the area in a black Jeep Cherokee at a high rate of speed.

"This woman did the correct thing. She didn't resist. He got what he wanted, didn't harm her and took off," said Hebert. "You can always replace your valuables and purse, you can't replace your life."

The suspect is described as a black male with dark skin. His height was estimated at five foot eight inches to five foot ten inches and his weight was estimated at 225 to 250 pounds, with a large stomach.

The man had short black hair — shaved — with a thin black mous-



A composite sketch of the suspect.

Hebert said the woman was unable to get a license plate number off of the man's vehicle. A witness who saw the vehicle speeding from the parking lot also did not get a license plate number.

"My guess is even if they obtained a license plate, it would have been stolen or the vehicle would have been stolen," Hebert said.

Most of the time, someone that commits a crime like this takes steps to conceal the license plate on their vehicle, he added.

Hebert said armed robberies are very rare in Novi, with less than five reported each year.

Anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact Hebert at the Novi Police Department by calling (248) 348-7100.

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Novi News wins six state journalism awards

Continued from 1

category for a supplement on the City of Novi's 20th Anniversary. The piece was also written by Novi News reporter Jeremy McEwan and edited by former managing editor Mike Malina.

The editor was a parody of the Beatles' "Abbey Road" album, as re-created on Main Street by Novi city council members.

Former Novi News Living Section editor Carol Dipple, working with Heider, won two MPA awards in the Lifestyle Section category. A first place was scooped up by Dipple for a feature on the City of Novi's road maintenance crews. Photos were edited by Heider. Judges said: "Front page featuring photos and story about road crews was just great. Layout drew reader in and photos do a great job telling the story."

This summer, the same article won a second place for Best Feature Story in the National Newspaper Association's Better Newspaper Contest.

Dipple also won second place in the MPA's Lifestyle Section category, with these comments made by Heider: Judges said: "Story and feature on mom makers anchors page. Nice use of color. Story on hip-hop dancing was also very interesting."

Heider took the accompanying photos, as well. The Novi Record, a sister publication of The Novi News published out of the same office, brought two awards in the contest. Both were netted by Schmitt. He won a second place for sports writing for a football rivalry story.

Obituaries

PHILIP D. GUYOT
Philip D. Guyot, 73, of Novi died Sept. 30 in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia.

He was born Feb. 14, 1926, in River Rouge to Felix and Rosa (Bosendorfer) Guyot.

Mr. Guyot moved to Novi from Lincoln Park in 1971. He retired from Ford Motor Co. in 1978.

He is survived by his wife, Twylla (McLeod); sons, Douglas (Frances) of Tennessee, and Gordon of Northville; daughter, Cynthia (Michael) Eaves of Allen Park; sister, Velma Dexter; and five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Guyot was preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters. The Rev. Cynthia Loomis-Abell of the First United Methodist Church, Northville conducted the services held Oct. 3 at Casterline Funeral Home Inc. of Northville.

Memorials to the Karmanos Cancer Institute, 41935 W. Twelve Mile Road, Novi, MI 48377 would be appreciated by the family.

MICHAEL E. MULLETT JR.
Michael E. Mullett Jr. of Novi died Oct. 5, 1999.

He was born June 20, 1923. Mr. Mullett started working in the elevator industry in 1941 and retired in 1992. He held offices with Elevator Constructors Local No. 36, the Elevator Safety Board, the State of Michigan Building Trades and the International Union of Elevator Constructors.

Mr. Mullett received his education at St. Leo's and the University of Detroit and served with the U.S. Army during World War II in the European theater. He was a founding member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Novi.

Mr. Mullett is survived by his wife, Mary; daughters, Rita-Ann Smith and Deanne (Bill) Adaschick; sons, Michael III (Jackie), James A., and Jerome (Jay); sisters, Josephine Vandervent and Barbara Richards; brothers, Jerome, Donald and Noel; and six grandchildren, Anthony, Alexis, Allison and Brian Adaschick, and Rebecca and Michael E. Mullett IV.

There will be a 10 a.m. prayer service Oct. 8 at O'Brien Chapel/Ted C. Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, (248) 348-1900, with a procession to Holy Family Catholic Church for the funeral liturgy at 10:30. Interment will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Donations to the American Cancer Society, 29330 Southfield Road, Suite 110, Southfield, Mich. 48076 would be appreciated.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 99-81.17
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 99-81.17 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 33-275, 33-282 AND 33-341 OF THE NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AND TO ADD SECTIONS 33-341.3 AND 33-341.4 TO SAID ORDINANCE, TO UPDATE LOCAL ORDINANCES DEALING WITH ALCOHOL RELATED DRIVING OFFENSES AND DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED OFFENSES WITH STATE LAW PROVISIONS.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency ordinance which is immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and shall become effective October 1, 1999. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, September 27, 1999. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing time (10-7-99 NRNN 927516)

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING CITY OF NOVI COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN
TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, has determined it to be necessary to make the following described public improvement in the City of Novi:

The construction of approximately 618 feet of 8" Sanitary Sewer Main in Section which will provide a direct haul to that portion of Shallowford Walled Lake Heights Subdivision containing the streets known as Pleasant Cove and Crown Drive.

The City Council has determined that all of the cost of the above described public improvement shall be assessed against the following described property abutting the above described improvement:

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, has determined it to be necessary to make the following described public improvement in the City of Novi:

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
There will be a Public Information Meeting on Thursday, October 7, 1999 at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for the Westside Downs Subdivision and 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for the Timber Ridge Subdivision. Both of these meetings will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan, in Conference Room C. The public is invited to attend these meetings to discuss questions and/or concerns with these projects. (10-7-99 NRNN 927519)

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TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK
(10-7-99 NRNN 927513)

TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK
347-0456

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING CITY OF NOVI COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN
TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, has determined it to be necessary to make the following described public improvement in the City of Novi:

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, has determined it to be necessary to make the following described public improvement in the City of Novi:

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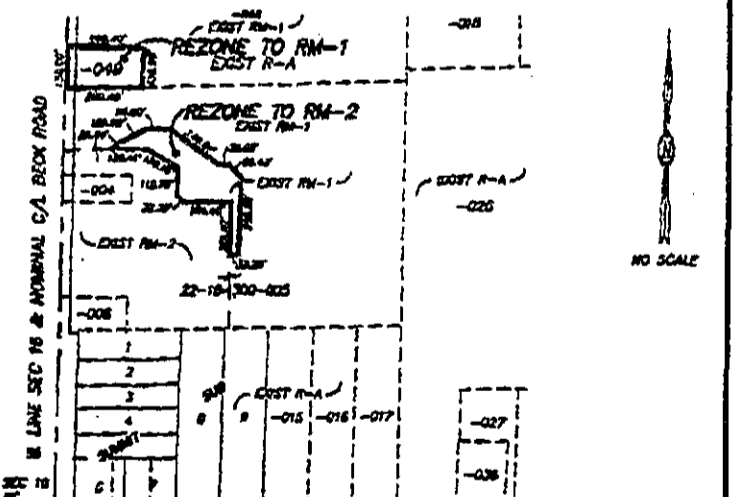
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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 18.585 - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 585
CITY OF NOVI ORDINANCES:
PART I: That Ordinance No. 97-18, known as the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Novi, is hereby amended by the amending of the Zoning Map as indicated on ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 585, attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance.



To rezone a part of the SW 1/4 of Section 16, T.1N., R.8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan being parcel 22-16-300-049 and part of parcel 22-16-300-005 more particularly described as follows:
Parcel 22-16-300-049
Beginning at a point on the West line of Section 16 (nominal C/L of Back Road) said point being Due North 1700.20 feet from the SW corner of Section 16; thence continuing Due North 150.00 feet along said West line; thence N89°50'11" E 290.40 feet; thence Due South 150.00 feet; thence S88°56'01" W 290.40 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 0.79 acres.

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Developers gain \$20 million more in judgement

Continued from 1

The City of Novi has filed an appeal on the matter. In the meantime, lawyers for both sides argued again in front of Howard over the amount of money that Sandstone should be paid for attorney fees, costs and interest.

Howard ruled Friday, Novi must pay \$1.27 million for fees and costs incurred by Sandstone during the trial and \$19.05 million in interest. According to Howard's written opinion, Sandstone was entitled to over \$1 million in attorney fees and costs because it was the prevailing party and the costs were reasonable.

Howard said the high amount in attorney fees was reasonable based on testimony of a former president of the State Bar of Michigan. In this testimony, the former State Bar president said attorneys of similar skill and experience to Sandstone's attorney Robert Carson charge hourly rates as high or higher than Carson's.

"Plaintiff's counsel (Carson) is an extremely skilled attorney with an excellent reputation in the community. It is apparent that counsel obtained very favorable results for his client and that in so doing, he and the members of his law firm spent an enormous amount of time and energy," Howard wrote.

Before being placed on the circuit court bench, Howard was a law partner of Carson's. It was a fact he fully disclosed at the beginning of the trial. Howard did disagree with

\$11,624.50 in costs Sandstone was asking to be paid. One of these costs was for a \$5,458.50 bill for time Carson spent dealing with the media.

Howard noted in his opinion. But Howard said there was precedent that stated Sandstone was entitled to a prejudgment interest award such as this.

Sandstone attorney Carson said this is an unfair judgment for Novi, but added it may have been less if Novi would not have dragged this case on for so long.

"I had wished this matter would have been resolved earlier," he said. Kriewall said if the city were to lose its appeals, this lawsuit may cost each Novi taxpayer around \$200 a year for 20 years.

However, that was based on the idea that the city's insurance will cover about \$20 million of the judgment. Currently, the city's insurer is claiming a "breach of contract."

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Mayor's planning appointment spurs protests from city council

Continued from 1

members of the current city council said they have known Richards for some time and said he is a good man. The planning commission has been short one person since the departure of Commissioner Eda Weddington early this summer.

McLellan said she needed someone for the position and ran into Richards at a city event and asked him if he would like to serve again.

He agreed to serve and McLellan brought his nomination to the Novi City Council. By city regulations, a person is appointed for the planning commission by the mayor. The city council must then approve the appointment.

According to usual procedure, a nominee to the planning commission fills out an application for the position and undergoes interviews by city council members before being placed on the commission.

McLellan said that since most of the city council members already knew Richards and she needed to fill the open position, she felt the usual procedure was unnecessary.

However, Council Member Craig DeRoche said he had no idea who Richards was and did not feel comfortable in voting for him for the planning commission.

Continued from 1

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Obituaries

CATHERINE M. SPANNOS
Catherine M. Spannos, 73, died Oct. 4 at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia.

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Northville and moved to the Novi community more than 40 years ago.

Magdalene (Richard) Pietila of South Lyon; two sisters; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services will be conducted Thursday, Oct. 7 at 11 a.m. at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. Interment will follow at the South Lyon Cemetery.

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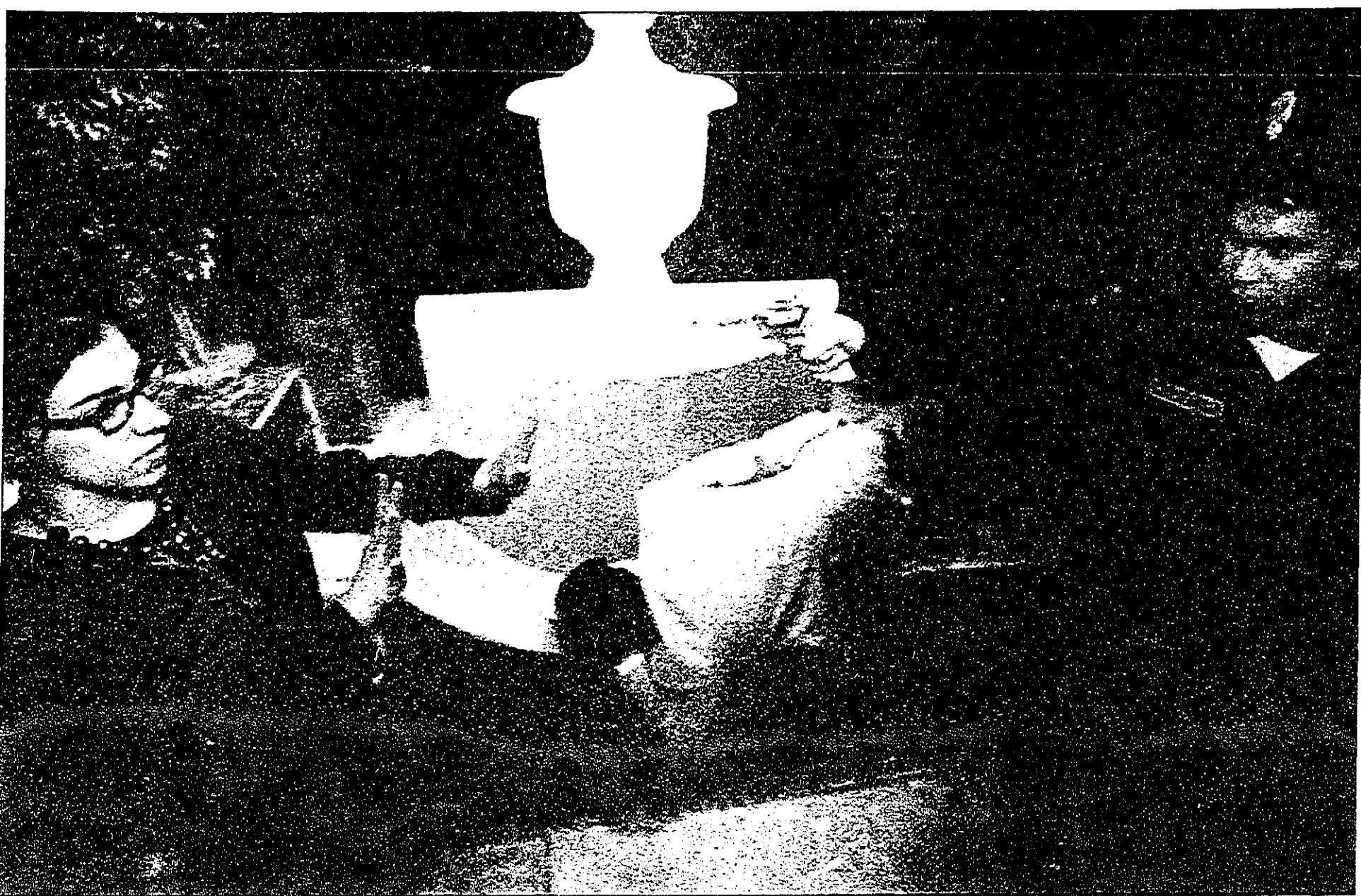
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At left, "Robin Roman" threatens to kill "Mrs. Sutton" in Scene 3 of "Lincoln Park Zoo." Below, "Tracy Weaver," played by Jennie Cotterill, angrily points her club at "George" during rehearsals for the play beginning Oct. 7.

Cast readies for the "Zoo"

Northville High play opens Oct. 7 with quick delivery

By MELANIE PLENDIA
Staff Writer

One stage light's not working, sending a shadow on the student cast. The cast, undaunted, runs lines dressed in business suits and knee socks, fresh from their after school activities.

Meanwhile, the director helps pull a potting plant on stage as he tells the assistant director to have the actors "run it again."

All in all, a typical rehearsal for Richard Strand's "Lincoln Park Zoo," which opens Oct. 7 at Northville High School, is to be expected given the whirlwind of four week rehearsal schedule.

Every cast member Bowen Shiah who plays the deceased "George" was a little nervous before one of the final dress rehearsals, until they ran through it.

"I loved it. It was like the whole cast had an epiphany and it all fell into place," he said.

Director Kurt Kinde said that sharing space with other after school activities has added to the time constraints for the troupe. Kinde has had the cast work with the "concept of action" from the first day.

"We were given only so many days to fun to play with characters before we had to get down to business," Kinde said.

The show was blocked and lines were memorized by the end of the first week. This was to ease that, Kinde said, because each actor is a lead and has a great deal of lines to memorize. Even the cast was feeling the pressure of sharing their time between the play and other after school activities.

"I'm really enjoying it even though I knew it was going to be crazy," said Jennie Washburn, who plays the role of Mrs. Sutton. "I wanted to show to myself that I could pull it off."

On the other hand, that was one of the reasons he chose the play. "I would give each kid an equal amount of time on stage so that no one character was more important than another," Kinde said.

Furthermore, Kinde liked the reverse structure of the show and that it had never been done at a high school before.

Kinde, cast and crew were also looking forward to meeting the playwright's sister and father who will be at one of the performances. The playwright was also invited and may attend, which would be a nice reward for the student's work, Kinde said.

The cast has been working nearly non-stop for the production's opening night.

"I run my lines everyday like they were homework," said Nick Nerio, a junior at NHS, who plays "Robin Roman." "It's definitely hard work."

Nerio, a veteran of the NHS stage, will be giving his final performance at the high school in this performance. In November, he and his family will be moving to San Antonio, Texas. However, light rehearsal schedules have given him little time to fret over his big move.

"The process has been so quick," he said. "It's kind of nerve-racking." Yet the actor takes this all with a grain of salt, given that he anticipates pursuing acting as a career. Nerio said he looks at the opportunity as a great learning experience and just another thing to add to his resume.

Kelsey Jenney ("Maria") did not see acting as a practical future for herself although it has taught her some things.

She said the play was a great way to get involved in school and also to start learning more about herself and what she is capable of.

Washburn agreed saying that the theater, though competitive, was different than other sports she has been a part of. It was the constant creative interest and the inherent openness of actors that made the difference Washburn said.

"In a sport, there might be competition among team members," she said. "But once you're in the play, the team comes together because they want to produce the best product."



THE PLAYERS:

Stan.....	Joe Tracz
Alice.....	Leah Sims
Robin Roman.....	Nick Nerio
Mrs. Sutton.....	Jacki Washburn
Maria.....	Kelsey Jenney
George.....	Powen Shiah
Tracy.....	Jennie Cotterill

THE CREW:

Director.....	Kurt Kinde
Assistant Director.....	Dan Ferrara
Stage Manager.....	Carol B. Brueger
Lighting.....	John Baden
Sound.....	Mike Modlin
Costume Mistress.....	Chris Frenitzo
Props Mistress.....	Jim Clarkson
Set Decoration.....	Jacqueline Surma
Set Construction.....	Kate Audley
.....	Kathleen Ochmanak
.....	Lisa Paladino

Krista Olsen
Dan Ferrara
Chris Petres
Julia Powell
Michelle Russell
Mike Modlin
Justin Wright
Mark Travers
Elizabeth Zahoff

Stories by Melanie Plendia Photos by Tom Hibbeln



Zany murder mystery runs in reverse

By MELANIE PLENDIA
Staff Writer

What can an audience expect from a play where the main character dies in the first act? Plenty, when he miraculously reappears very much alive in the last act.

Richard Strand's "Lincoln Park Zoo," is a murder mystery in reverse. It was first performed at Eastern Michigan University at their 150th anniversary season. The Northville High School show may be the first time the production has ever been done on a high school stage.

"I think it's very fresh and new," said director Kurt Kinde. "The play is broken into seven scenes which take place over a 24-hour period. Kinde said that

"I think it is very fresh and new."

Kurt Kinde,
Director of Lincoln Park Zoo

the show is unique in that it is written from finish to start with the characters propelling it.

The first scene takes place in the Lincoln Park Zoo where there has just been a murder. "Alice" (Leah Sims) is an undercover detective assigned to the case. She is looking around for clues when she meets "Stan" (Joe Tracz). When Stan pretends to be the undercover cop that she is and the hijinks begin.

In the next scene, Alice meets

with more trouble when she runs into "Robin" (Nick Nerio), who wants more than anything to be a cop. However, it is not to be for he bumbling fat foot wanna be. His fear of guns keeps him from his dream and from being helpful.

The show will run Oct. 7, 8 and 9, beginning at 7:30 p.m., with a possible 2 p.m. matinee Oct. 10. Tickets are on sale at all three of the Northville High School lunch periods and at the door. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for students and seniors.

Nearing the climax of the show, George is alive but has been shot and needs a quarter from Maria in order to call for help. Maria, however, is desperate to find a job, and can't take the chance of having the pay phone tied up should a prospective employer call. This scene dissolves into the events that led to George's untimely demise and a surprise twist at the end.

The show will run Oct. 7, 8 and 9, beginning at 7:30 p.m., with a possible 2 p.m. matinee Oct. 10. Tickets are on sale at all three of the Northville High School lunch periods and at the door. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for students and seniors.

Public Access

MONDAY, OCT. 11

10:00 a.m. — Potpourri: Dentist
10:30 a.m. — The Cutting Room Floor
11:00 a.m. — Harvest Ministries
11:30 a.m. — Cosby and Company: Y2K - What You Should Know
12:00 p.m. — Intercessions Word Ministry
12:30 p.m. — (con't)
1:00 p.m. — Adventures With Pirate Pete
1:30 p.m. — Fall Harvest
2:00 p.m. — Financial Strategies: Estate Planning
2:30 p.m. — Wise Guys: War of the Generations
3:00 p.m. — Community Living Centers
3:30 p.m. — Novi Street Beat: Juvenile Investigation
4:00 p.m. — Community Comments: Dr. Pollak
4:30 p.m. — Children of the Snow
5:00 p.m. — Who, What, Where, Y
5:30 p.m. — Up Close Today
6:00 p.m. — Christian Singles Today
6:30 p.m. — Bagels and Talk With Tracy

7:00 p.m. — Lansing Connection
7:30 p.m. — Aviation Journal
8:00 p.m. — Farmington Families in Action: Managing Middle School Madness
8:30 p.m. — (con't)
9:00 p.m. — Candidates Forum: Farmington Hills
9:30 p.m. — (con't)

TUESDAY, OCT. 12

10:00 a.m. — Legislative Forum
10:30 a.m. — Home For Life: Installing a Storm Door
11:00 a.m. — Law Talk: Peter M. Weipert
11:30 a.m. — (con't)
12:00 p.m. — Summit University
12:30 p.m. — (con't)
1:00 p.m. — Scary Tales From Novi
1:30 p.m. — Building Scene
2:00 p.m. — Lansing Connection
2:30 p.m. — 4:00 p.m. — Center for New Thinking
4:30 p.m. — A Culinary Adventure: The Whiney
5:00 p.m. — The Way, The Truth, and The Life
5:30 p.m. — People Who Make Things Happen: Novi Road

Bond
6:00 p.m. — Harvest Ministries
6:30 p.m. — Community Connection
7:00 p.m. — Potpourri: Dentist
7:30 p.m. — Financial Strategies: Estate Planning
8:00 p.m. — Salon Glamour and Etiquette With Gloria: The Nubiance Experience
8:30 p.m. — (con't)
9:00 p.m. — Let's Talk With Ben Marks: Jim Stark
9:30 p.m. — (con't)

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 13

10:00 a.m. — Candidates Forum: Farmington
10:30 a.m. — Candidates Forum: Novi
11:00 a.m. — (con't)
11:30 a.m. — Consumer Corner: Fire Safety
12:00 p.m. — Legally Speaking: Legal Issues Facing the Military
12:30 p.m. — MDOT Today
1:00 p.m. — Study in Scripture
1:30 p.m. — AMVETS
2:00 p.m. — Restoration Now
2:30 p.m. — The Show Me Show: Papa John's Pizza

3:00 p.m. — Senseless Death
3:30 p.m. — (con't)
4:00 p.m. — Critter Connection
4:30 p.m. — Community Connection
5:00 p.m. — Potpourri: Dentist
5:30 p.m. — Financial Strategies: The Promised Land
6:00 p.m. — Alcohol: Middle School Years
6:30 p.m. — (con't)
7:00 p.m. — Adventures With Pirate Pete
7:30 p.m. — Cosby and Company: Y2K - What You Should Know
8:00 p.m. — Novi Street Beat Live
8:30 p.m. — Who, What, Where, Y
9:00 p.m. — Candidates Forum: Novi
9:30 p.m. — (con't)

THURSDAY, OCT. 14

10:00 a.m. — Fitness Motivators: Aerobics
10:30 a.m. — Halloween Arrangement
11:00 a.m. — Abundant Life Arabic Ministries
11:30 a.m. — People Who Make Things Happen: Novi Road
12:00 p.m. — Bagels and Talk With Tracy
12:30 p.m. — Candidates Forum: Farmington Hills
1:00 p.m. — (con't)
1:30 p.m. — That's Italian
2:00 p.m. — Nothing To It: Tabbouleh Made Easy
2:30 p.m. — Who, What, Where, Y
3:00 p.m. — Fall Harvest
3:30 p.m. — Adventures With Pirate Pete
4:00 p.m. — Law Talk: Peter M. Weipert
4:30 p.m. — (con't)
5:00 p.m. — Shaarey Zedek
5:30 p.m. — (con't)
6:00 p.m. — Movie Lovers Guide to Horror Movies
6:30 p.m. — (con't)
7:00 p.m. — Good News for Living Health
7:30 p.m. — Step 'n' Move to the Groove: Free and the Real Players
8:00 p.m. — People Who Make Things Happen: Novi Road
8:30 p.m. — Choose to Have a Drink/Think Before You Drink
9:00 p.m. — Candidates Forum

Farmington
9:30 p.m. — Scary Tales From Novi
FRIDAY, OCT. 15
10:00 a.m. — Let's Talk With Ben Marks
10:30 a.m. — (con't)
11:00 a.m. — Harvest Ministries
11:30 a.m. — Lumen Christi
12:00 p.m. — 3:30 p.m. — To Be Announced
4:00 p.m. — Choose to Have a Drink/Think Before You Drink
4:30 p.m. — Farmington Families in Action: Managing Middle School Madness
5:00 p.m. — (con't)
5:30 p.m. — 6:30 p.m. — Alcohol: Middle School Years
6:00 p.m. — Cosby and Company: Y2K - What You Should Know
6:30 p.m. — Good News for Living Health
7:00 p.m. — Step 'n' Move to the Groove: Free and the Real Players
8:00 p.m. — People Who Make Things Happen: Novi Road
8:30 p.m. — Choose to Have a Drink/Think Before You Drink
9:00 p.m. — Candidates Forum

State looks at land use issues

By Mike Mallett
HomeTown News Service

Land use issues — a term encompassing the topics of suburban sprawl, farmland preservation and the redevelopment of central cities — will get priority attention from Michigan lawmakers this fall.

A special work group, consisting of nine state representatives, has been assigned to the task of examining sprawl and land use issues and reporting back with recommendations for legislative action. He said he also anticipates encouraging local units of government — townships and cities — to participate in regional planning efforts.

Rep. Gene DeRossett, R-Manchester, will serve as chair with Rep. Susan Tabor, R-Delta Township, serving as vice chair.

Also on the panel are Reps. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, Patricia Birkholz, R-Saugatuck, Larry DeVuyst, R-Alma, Mike Green, R-Mayville, Jon Jellema, R-Grand Haven, and Rick Johnson, R-Lexington.

"Unfortunately there is not one simple answer to such complex issues as urban sprawl, farmland preservation and private property rights," House Speaker Chuck Perryonce said, announcing the formation of the work panel. He explained he is asking the group to produce "consensus" proposals that balance preservation with responsible growth.

"If you're a different people about urban sprawl, you'll get 20 different answers," DeRossett said. "Some will say it is an issue of sprawl. Others say it's about economic development. For

being a conservative Republican — I can't ignore, and they are property rights. People should have the right to do what they want with the land that they own. And they should also be able to live where they want to live. But I think we can still come up with an attractive plan, where people will still be able to do that, but we can put an end to this wasteful habit that we've gotten into ... That doesn't make sense to me. Why do we keep building new when we've got all this land and commercial space that we could reuse?"

Finding the funds to use for incentives to curb urban sprawl is a difficult issue, Tabor explained.

"Whatever we do, it has to be voluntary," Tabor said recently. "Because there are two very important words that

can't ignore, and they are property rights. People should have the right to do what they want with the land that they own. And they should also be able to live where they want to live. But I think we can still come up with an attractive plan, where people will still be able to do that, but we can put an end to this wasteful habit that we've gotten into ... That doesn't make sense to me. Why do we keep building new when we've got all this land and commercial space that we could reuse?"

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Mike Mallett can be reached via email at mallett1@homecomm.net.

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Paul T. Cook, CFA Senior Portfolio Manager, Munder Capital Management, for the Munder NetNet Fund appears as an Internet technology analyst regularly on CNBC's Market Watch, CNN and CNNFN.

Cook holds a BA in Materials Logistics and an MBA in finance from Michigan State University, and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.

Cook will be speaking about:

- Internet trends and the shaping of the emerging digital economy.
- E-commerce and its effect on the value chain.
- The implication of the Internet for old economy industry sectors.

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As We See It

Planning commission pick just a little too strange for us

It's all just looks a little too much like back room wheeling and dealing to us. Mayor Kathleen McLallen recently showed she has trouble with the word "compromise" in her recent appointment to the Novi Planning Commission on Monday night.



Government

McLallen and her supporters circumvented the usual process used in planning commission appointments in what seems to be a blatant move to stack the commission with her appointees. McLallen may have a few more meetings under her belt as mayor until she passes the post onto another, but that does not mean the rules should be bent at the last hour.

Northville's MEAP tests good, but number who took it wasn't

Well, it's that time of year again. Tims for local real estate agents and the press to bother the local school district for the results of the Michigan Education Assessment Program test.

Oh, deer...problems abound



John Heider

There are no new northern white cedars in Michigan. Although plenty of older trees exist, as soon as their sapling begins to bud from the most, dark soil, a whitetail deer, attracted to its sweet, tender buds, eats it down to the ground.

In Focus

By John Heider



Northville High School athletes... Barbara Louie is the author of the book 'No. 1 on the Trail'...

Schools' roots were humble

The Novi and Northville school districts are among the best in the state, with up-to-the-minute classrooms and equipment for every subject. But both of these communities had modest beginnings as far as schoolhouses are concerned.

Actions speak louder than anything



Phil Power

Theorists may pontificate. Politicians may blather. But the stately and uncontrollable passage of concrete events has wonderful way of cutting through all the fog.

Yes vote urged for city charter amendment

To the Editor: Glad to see someone writing to bring out the history and some facts about the proposed golf course issue. It is true that the parks bonding issue in January 1993 did not state what land would be purchased or how it would be used.

Congrats to Novi marching band

To the Editor: On Saturday, Sept. 18 the Novi High School marching band and the Novi Boosters officially inaugurated the new high school stadium by hosting its annual marching band competition.

Police chief grateful to many

To the Editor: On Wednesday evening and all day Thursday, Sept. 22 and 23, a great group of people came together for the Doug Shaeffer Charity Golf Classic.

couple of weeks ago, the issue of reforming education has been inappropriately framed for years. Instead of looking for some ideologically correct silver bullet (former schools several years ago, vouchers this year), folks actually interested in improving schools would do well to realize that the education picture in Michigan is actually quite complex.

Letters

Community EMS, Our Band Boosters alumni, and the custodial and audio-visual departments of the high school, we would not have been able to put together and run a chapter of the size with such ease.

Police chief grateful to many

To the Editor: On Wednesday evening and all day Thursday, Sept. 22 and 23, a great group of people came together for the Doug Shaeffer Charity Golf Classic.

Weisberger, trash both got hit hard

To the Editor: I read with interest the article entitled "Ban on Plastic Bags Trashed by Council" (Sept. 30 edition). Plastic bags weren't the only thing trashed in this column: Novi city attorney Paul Weisberger took it on the chin as well. Too bad. I have a very high opinion of him.

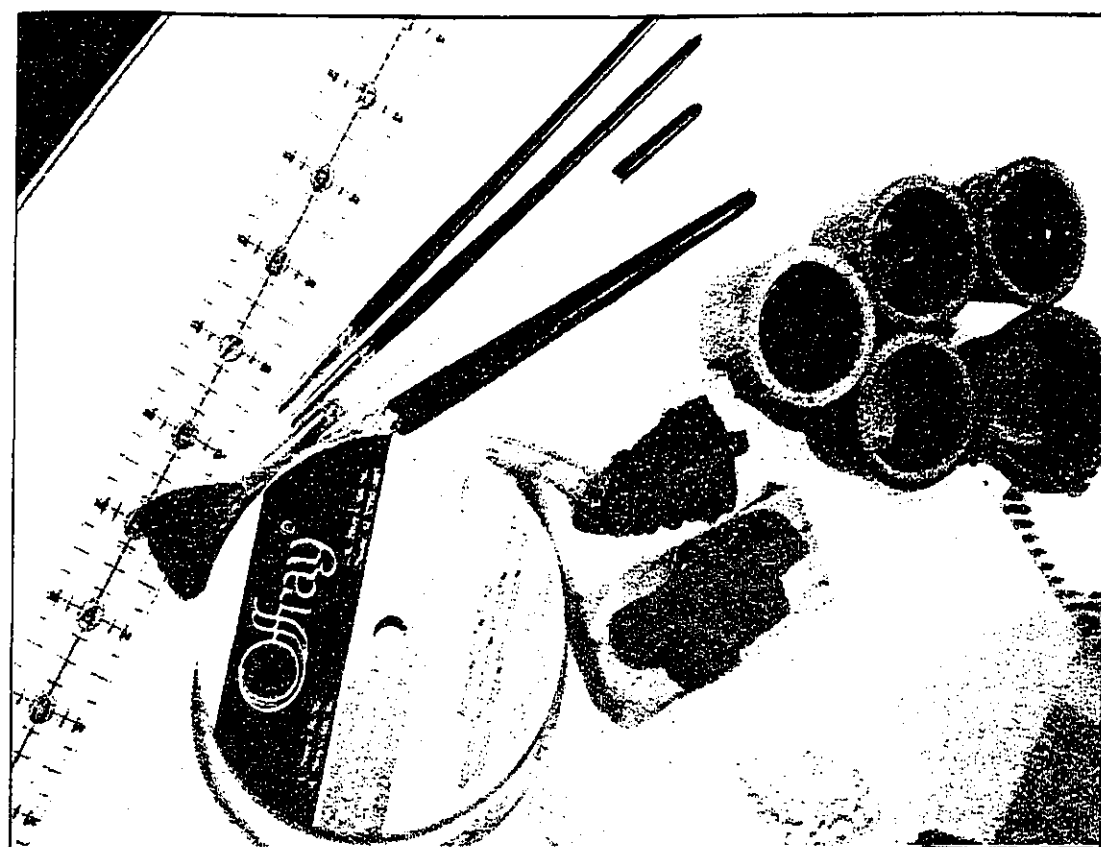
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Brushes, stamps and other tools of the trade for Sheri West's custom card and stationary making class are available at Northville's Stampeddler Plus.



Sheri West, class instructor at Northville's Stampeddler, discusses different embossing techniques for personalized stationary.

Getting Crafty

Looking for a creative outlet? Check out the many options available throughout the area

By JAN JEFFRES
Editor

As the weather gets colder, the birds fly south. The squirrels bury more nuts.

And customers flock to local craft shops in search of a project to tide them over until the temperature beckons us outdoors again.

"Winter is our busiest time," said Jim Cowie, who owns Anne's Crafts with his wife, Shirley.

"January's booked, February's solid. The best thing that can happen to us is a Saturday with rain."

The urge to create, however, is a sign of a changing era. Cowie said. He believes what he calls "the plastic age" is on decline.

"I think we're finding a much higher degree of freedom of expression than we have 50 years ago, even 20 years ago," he explained.

Dawn Bodi, an Anne's Crafts customer, comes from Highland to take classes at the Northville business and is enthusiastic about the skills she's picked up.

"I just like the gratification of doing something by myself," she explained.

Some people, in fact, are so dedicated to sharing their own message with the world that they shun Hallmark, cutting and decorating all their own greeting cards.

These clever types began working on their hand-made Christmas cards in July, said Margie Buckhave, owner of the Stampeddler in Northville.

Today, Northville is more of a destination for crafters than Novi, although the city has been the home of D'Maes Ceramics for 18 years. But all that will change on Nov. 5, when the Joanne Fabric's at West Oaks Shopping Center reopens as one of the chain's new concept stores. Joanne ETC (Everything That's Creative.)

Crafting has become big business, in fact it accounts for 80 percent of the hobby industry, said Joanne Stores Inc. spokesperson Michele Watkins.

The Novi site will feature 49,000 square feet of everything from sumptuous couture silks and the Martha Stewart home fabrics line for sewers to

pony beads for kids. Scrapbooking is the hottest trend today, Watkins added.

The Hudson, Ohio-based firm launched its first superstore in 1995 and now has 24, with a total of 42 anticipated by year's end.

"It's been so well received by customers. It's a neat experience when you see somebody walk in for the first time and say 'wow,'" Watkins said.

If you're ready to start exercising those creative juices but would like a bit of training, craft classes are offered by these businesses.

Anne's Crafts: Anne's Crafts is named after the Cowies' then-baby daughter, who is now 18 years old. Her big sister Addrienne Smith manages the store for her parents.

Classes cost \$35 and typically run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in stenciling, faux finishes, tole and decorative wood painting and painting wildflowers. Supplies are provided and the student doesn't have to buy anything, Cowie said.

Faux finishes include marbling, sponging and rag rolling.

Cowie's goal is to teach his students the skills so they can go on to define their own vision.

While most head to Anne's because they're interested in customizing a room, the shop offers everything from small furniture items

to mouse pads, all unpainted and awaiting embellishment.

"We have the largest collection of stencils in the State of Michigan. Nobody disputes that any more," Cowie said.

The shop is at 110 North Center Street in downtown Northville. To find out the availability of classes and to register, call 348-6810.

The Bee's Knees: Stroll by the window and you'll see a sampling of customers' wildest, most fun and sometimes even staid spins on decorating ceramics.

Mostly, the store doesn't hold classes, said owner Linda Langston, because the staff gives people instructions when they come in to wield a paint

brush.

"We don't find classes are really necessary," Langston said.

But they do offer a session about once a month or so.

Painters pay \$8 an hour for the glazes and other supplies, including stencils, as well as firing. The greenware items, which can range from a candlestick holder to a full dinner service, are an additional price.

"You could start at \$20 and under," Langston said.

"We have a good selection for kids like figurines and banks."

The Bee's Knees is at 141 E. Main Street, Northville. For information, call 347-6718.

D'Maes Ceramics: Classes are offered continuously at this long-time local business both in the evenings and days, with sessions from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 7 p.m. The tuition for this is not exactly a bank-breaker - it's \$2.50.

An average expenditure, once the greenware is purchased, is \$85, said owner Valerie Sprader.

"We teach people how to clean and prepare them so they look like something they would purchase at Hudson's, if not better," Sprader said.

"They do everything they can possibly think of: We have everything from drinking cups and saucers to casserole dishes."

While adults of all ages enjoy the non-smoking classes, this is not a place to bring the kids, she cautioned.

"Most of the women come here to get away from their children," Sprader said.

D'Maes is at 43141 Grand River Avenue, Novi, near Novi Auto. For information, call 348-8510.

Genitti's Hole in the Wall: And you thought Genitti's was all about family-style chicken and pasta dinners. Back by popular demand after a three-year hiatus, Genitti's is once again offering crafts at the family's location in downtown Northville.

The projects are based around Christmas, said owner Toni Genitti. For a \$10 fee, participants arrive at 9:30 a.m. and start their day with coffee and doughnuts. Then, they can choose among a variety of crafts - including birdhouses, holiday ornaments and reindeer - with help offered by two

instructors. Included in the price, lunch is served at 11:30 a.m.

Costs for craft supplies are additional, but if you're unhappy with what you've created, you can abandon the results on the table, at no charge.

"You don't leave with it, unless you're happy with what you've done," Genitti's said.

Classes are scheduled for Oct. 23, Nov. 6, 13 and 20 and Dec. 4.

Genitti's is at 108 E. Main Street, Northville. For information, call 349-0522.

Joanne ETC: Soon opening at a location near you, according to Joanne's news releases, you dream it, you can make it with supplies found here. Once the doors open, a class schedule for adults and children will be set up, Watkins said.

Expect instruction on skills such as faux finishing, quilt-making, covering lamp shades with fabric, cushion designing and rubber stamping. Joanne ETC will be in the West Oaks Shopping Center on the west side of Novi Road in Novi.

Stampeddler, Plus Memories by Stampeddler: In a magnificently converted old church Stampeddler holds a wide range of classes, including paper making, handmade journals, paper embossing, vellum creations, tying bows, Christmas cards and the very hot art of scrap booking. The \$15 sessions include materials.

If you want an easy fix when it comes to handi-crafts, Buckhave recommends stamping. She admired the paper art at a show 11 years ago and launched a business that took off faster than you can smack a stamp onto an ink pad.

"This is something that really everybody can learn to do," she said.

"A rubber stamp is so incredibly detailed. Anyone can stamp a picture and make it look great."

Practitioners love to personalize cards, invitations and stationary with embossing and fancy cut-work, as well as stamps. Often, they'll color in the stamp's design.

Highly popular these days is making your own scrapbook, Buckhave agrees. Parents and grandparents are flocking to create a family heirloom with photos and other memorabilia as a gift to the younger generation.

The Stampeddler is at 145 N. Center Street in Northville. For information, call 348-4446.



Jim Cowie of Anne's in Northville shows off some of the many stenciling patterns available in his Northville store.

Eastern Influence: Artist's work explores the beauty of simplicity

"As long as I'm in this world, I will live each day to its fullest."

- Gao Siyong, Chinese artist

By CHRIS C. DAVIS
Copy Editor

If the visual qualities of Gao Siyong's artwork doesn't set a mind at ease, the titles of the pieces will.

Try "Dream," Or maybe "Autumn," What about "Beauty?"

Siyong's work is currently on display in the lobby of the Novi Civic Center. Siyong herself is on the other side of the world, in her native China. But her friend and former colleague, Wench Wang, is hoping that the display of the artwork will expose area residents to culture from the Far East.

Wang said that for Siyong, the pieces created early on in her art career held a deeply personal meaning; they were used to help her deal with the death of her

husband. "Nothing else really seemed to help her through those times," Wang said. "When she started her art, it was almost as if the work was drawing something out from within her. It was a very spiritual thing she experienced."

The majority of Siyong's work is done on rice paper, which allows the ink to mildly bleed through the fibers of the material, giving it a gentle appearance. Even the casual art buff can easily distinguish traditional Chinese artwork from modern creations, Wang said.

"Traditional Chinese art is simple and straightforward," Wang said. "You can tell what it is just by looking at it. The modern pieces are more abstract." Wang said she got to know Siyong

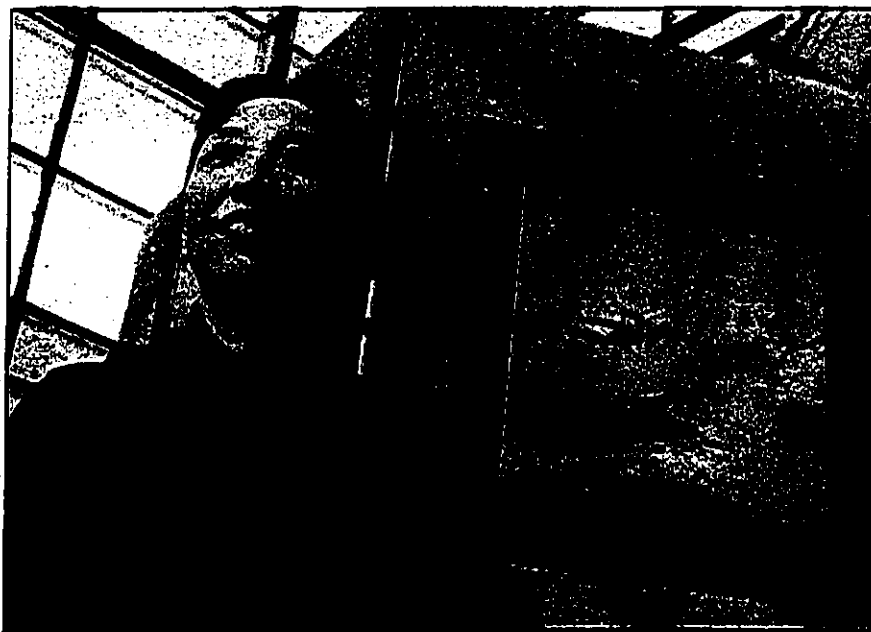
when the two taught English together at the Chinese People's University in the Zhejiang province of China, one of the most affluent in the country. At the time, Wang said Siyong didn't let on that she was an artist.

"The discovery wasn't made until years later, when Siyong's work went on display at a gallery in Beijing."

"I had no idea that she had the talent," Wang said. "I was impressed with what I saw." Wang said her relationship with Siyong had remained strong through the years because of Siyong's ability to communicate with almost anyone, regardless of age or background.

"Traditional Chinese art is simple and straightforward. You can tell what it is just by looking at it. The modern pieces are more abstract."

- Wench Wang, friend of artist Gao Siyong



Siyong's former colleague Wench Wang is hoping that the display of her friend's artwork will expose area residents to Eastern culture.

Continued on page 4

Diversions

the NOVI NEWS
6AA
THURSDAY
October 7, 1999

Camper show arrives at Expo Center

From the peak of the mountain to the depths of the sea, the Expo Center is the place to go for all things outdoors. The Expo Center is the place to go for all things outdoors. The Expo Center is the place to go for all things outdoors.

More than 2,000 recreational vehicles will be on hand for the show, including folding campers, motor homes, travel trailers, truck campers, park models and fifth wheels, with a range in price from \$1,000 to \$200,000.

The 1999 models will be available at closeout prices, and parts and accessories will also be on display. RV and campground information will be available.

Rad Calbert's "Dream Camper" will be on display, as will Lariat artists Barbara and Joslyn Arty. The bluegrass quartet Lonesome & Blue will play on Oct. 9. The Salvation Army, Jr. Bed and Bread Club will be accepting donations, while fire-eating magicians and fire-painting clowns will also be on hand for entertainment.

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Movies



When a tug-of-war with friend Zoe sends Elmo's beloved, fuzzy blue blanket into a faraway world known as Grouchland, Elmo summons all of his courage for a rescue mission.

Elmo plots rescue mission

Elmo loves his fuzzy, well-worn blue blanket better than anything in the world. In fact, they are inseparable... a perfect team. Elmo would never let anything happen to it — until a tug-of-war with his friend Zoe sends his beloved blanket into a faraway land and Elmo is hot pursuit.

"The Adventures of Elmo in Grouchland," starring Elmo, Mandy Patinkin and Venessa Williams, follows Elmo who is facing life without his cherished blanket.

Elmo summons all of his courage and determination and sets off on an action-packed rescue mission that plunges him into Grouchland — a place full of grouchy creatures, stinky garbage and the villainous Grouchy (Mandy Patinkin). There, Elmo learns an important lesson about sharing.

"The Adventures of Elmo in Grouchland" is directed by Gary Halvorson. Screenplay by Mitchell Kriegman and Joseph Mazzarino. Story by Mitchell Kriegman, Brian Henson, Stephanie Allain and Martin G. Baker are executive producers with Alex Rockwell and Marjorie Kalins, producers.

"The Adventures of Elmo in Grouchland" runs for 77 minutes and is rated "G."

"A TAUT ROMANTIC THRILLER"
"THIS SEASON'S MOST POWERFUL PERFORMANCES!"

HARRISON FORD
KRISTIN SCOTT THOMAS

In a perfect world, they never would have met.

RANDOM HEARTS

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MJR SOUTHGATE 20	QUO VADIS	SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS
SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE WILKING	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE
STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
STAR WINCHESTER 8	UNITED COMMERCIAL TWP. 14	UNITED OAKLAND
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'Beauty' nothing short of excellence

By Jon M. Gibson
GUEST REVIEW

"Both my wife and my daughter think I'm a gigantic loser," says a desperate Lester (played with excellence by Kevin Spacey). And as this phrase is indelibly imprinted on the inside of your eyelids, "American Beauty" has only been playing for less than five minutes.

It may seem quite mundane, but it is this attitude that propels Spacey's character throughout the entirety of "Beauty."

He gradually loses his infesting conformity, but only after he loses his job, his wife begins cheating on him, and his obsession with a teenage girl takes full flight.

Humor, drama and suspense are all artfully established within these five minutes as well, along with a more defined version of what a film should be.

"American Beauty" is the definition for more than just "Oscar-caliber." It lends its name to greatness as only a few films have done in past years. It is "The Graduate" for a new generation — a twisted "Casablanca" for the 90's.

Surprisingly enough, most films similar to "Beauty" are subjected to a limited release capsule or suffer from mass criticism from audiences.

Stanley Kubrick's "Eyes Wide Shut" was possibly the most recent example of this cinema theory — it was a highly publicized masterpiece that was plagued by its thick, analytical plot — audiences just didn't get it.

With "Beauty," it may be different. The film delves into the profile-mid-life crisis of an average man, turning his life upside down with the realization that his life is ordinary.

He is content with an ordinary existence, but can't stand those around him.

From here, a child-like Lester matures throughout "Beauty," narrating over the film's breathtaking cinematography as he veers into a new lane in life.

The formula for the film is why "Beauty" works so well. The brilliant mixture of realistic family tension, physical and vocalized humor, and even eroticism blend into one of the most enduring films of 1999.

"People began asking me to do

films about three or four years ago," says Director Sam Mendes, whose play, "The Blue Room," shocked theatergoers because of a primarily nude Nicole Kidman parading on stage.

Though out-of-the-ordinary, his production made headlines and received critical acclaim.

Coincidentally, Mendes' theater experience offers an interesting aspect to "American Beauty."

He establishes drama with an edge, and it is because of his stage background that the film blends so well dramatically.

Though, it is not static film to any end, "Beauty" is moreover a potent cocktail of sex, love and fast food, fueled by powerful visual fireworks and gritty dialogue.

And even though the focus of the film may seem to be projected on Spacey, all the characters in "Beauty" have pivotal roles.

Annette Bening ("The American President") portrays his compulsive, job-obsessed wife that loses touch with reality; a grown-up Thora Birch ("Alaska," "Now and Then") is Spacey's depressed, clothing-layered daughter; and newcomer Wes Bentley is the next-door-neighbor/drug dealer that obsesses over video-taping ordinary objects.

Bentley could be considered the Timothy Hutton for the 90's, conveying a powerful performance in "Beauty" as Hutton did in "Ordinary People" nearly 15 years ago.

With such an extraordinary cast, an excellent screenplay by sitcom writer Alan Ball, and a plot that takes a dangerous look into the mentality of suburban America, "American Beauty" is truly a theatrical marvel.

"American Beauty" opened nationwide on Oct. 1.

"A MASTERPIECE."
ROGER EBERT

"A REMARKABLE MOVIE. STRIKINGLY ORIGINAL. BLISTERINGLY FUNNY. ITS CASUAL IRREVERENCE SUGGESTS 'MASH'."
DAVID ANSEN, NEWSWEEK

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IS IT FATE?
 She's a fun, intelligent SWF, 19, 5'2", who enjoys the little things in life. She is looking forward to meeting a caring, honest SWM, 19-23, to go out and have a good time with. Ad#: 7180

HOOKED ON LOVE
 This sly, attractive DWF, 48, 5'4", with blonde hair and blue eyes, who enjoys dancing, playing cards and bowling, is looking for a caring DWM, 45-55, who shares similar interests. Ad#: 6982

MAKE THE MOVE
 Outgoing, never-married SWF, 33, 5'6", with dark hair/eyes, who enjoys sports, long walks and picnics. She's looking for a SWCM, 32-42, with similar interests. Ad#: 1308

THE PRIME OF LIFE
 Charming Catholic WWWW, 68, a brunette, is seeking a youthful, sweet SWCM, 65-, with whom to share common interests such as Bingo, dining out, dancing, sports, bowling and long walks. Ad#: 5720

LIVE IT UP
 This outgoing SW mom, 33, 5'4", full-figured, who enjoys camping, long walks and spending time with family, is looking for a family-oriented SWM, 35-45, to spend quality time with. Ad#: 9028

SET UP A TIME & DAY
 This outgoing SWF, 19, 5'7", who enjoys sports, spending time with family and going to movies, is in search of a SWM, 18-22, to spend quality time with. Ad#: 1111

OUT OF THE SOUTH
 Here's a DWC mom of one, 37, 5'4", who would be a perfect match for a SWM, 37-45, who enjoys the outdoors, bowling, family times and more. Want to prove me right? Ad#: 6456

SONG BIRD
 Outgoing, Catholic SWF, 48, is looking for a SWM, 40-52, to share music, cooking, the outdoors and the arts. Ad#: 9500

PLEASANT
 You can share your world with this versatile and outgoing DWCF, 57, as long as you're a SWCM, who shares her passions for travel, animals, socializing with friends and more. Ad#: 1942

IN THE HANDS OF GOD
 She's a down-to-earth SWCF, 47, blue-eyed blonde, ISO a loyal, truthful SWCM, N/S, to share a meaningful friendship. Her hobbies are boxing, motorcycles and outdoor activities. Ad#: 1234

LOVES ATTENTION
 Friendly, honest DWCF, 60, 5'3", 120lbs., with blonde hair, and green eyes, who enjoys the outdoors, travel, the theater, and spending time with family, is looking for an honest SWCM, 55-67, who shares similar interests. Ad#: 2417

GIVE ME A CALL
 Petite and sweet, this active SWF, 45, 5'2", with blonde hair and green eyes, who enjoys bowling, the outdoors and much more, is looking for a friendly SWM, 40-55, who is family-oriented and down-to-earth, for friendship first. Ad#: 3335

YOUR SERVE
 Ambitious, athletic Catholic SWF, 29, 5'3", a blue-eyed blonde, who enjoys tennis and working out, is seeking a confident, humorous Catholic SWPM, 28-36, for friendship leading to more. Ad#: 2570

BEST THERE IS
 Friendly DWPF, 48, 5'6", who enjoys a variety of interests, is looking for an intelligent, attractive SWM, 44-60, who enjoys life, to spend time with. Ad#: 2289

GIVE ME A CALL
 Kind-hearted, active SWF, 35, is looking for an interesting SWM, 29-33, N/S, to share animals, travel and more. Ad#: 3333

MELODY OF LOVE
 This outgoing DWCF, 51, 5'7", is a member of the choir who's ISO a romantic, considerate SWCM, 50-61, N/S, for friendship, maybe more. Ad#: 6127

WILL GET BACK TO YOU
 Friendly, petite SW mom, 34, who likes country music, sports, and spending time with her children, is looking for an outgoing SWM, for a long-term relationship. Ad#: 8567

WANT TO SPEND TIME...
 With this cute Catholic DW mom, 41, 5'4"? She seeks an attractive Catholic SWM, 50-55, 6'+, who loves kids, country living, football games, golfing and vacationing at the ocean. Ad#: 8545

FAMILY VALUES AND LOVE
 This well-educated DWP mom of two, 49, 5'7", is hoping that the sensitive, kind SM, 35-55, that she hopes to meet will come forward soon. She enjoys sports, quiet evenings of conversation, movies, music, cooking, the outdoors and more. Ad#: 4949

HEAVEN SENT
 Pleasant, Catholic DWF, 51, 5'9", is seeking a companionable Catholic SWM who shares her enjoyment of country living, cooking, gardening, reading and the arts. Ad#: 7837

NOTEWORTHY
 Family-oriented DW mom, 38, 5'6", is hoping to share a meaningful friendship with a man of character, heart and substance, a SWM, 35-42, with patience and understanding. Ad#: 4073

DESTINY
 Outgoing SW mom, 43, 5'3", with brown hair and green eyes, who enjoys spending time with her children, walks on the beach and more, is interested in meeting a caring SWM, 37-50, who likes children. Ad#: 4383

ATTENTION
 Friendly, affectionate, never-married SWCF, 33, 5'10", who enjoys movies, the theater and new adventures, is looking for a SWM, 35-45, without children at home. Ad#: 2758

AMBITIOUS
 Fun-loving SWCF, 23, 5'8", with long brown hair and blue eyes, who enjoys sports, music and spending time with friends, is seeking a sincere, outgoing SWCM, 22-35, Ad#: 5036

OCEAN BREEZES
 Summer is coming and I'd like to get out and have some fun. Shy at first, I'm DW mom, 42, 5'8", with various hobbies and interests, seeking a SWM, 40-48, to spend time with. Ad#: 9847

TOGETHER AT LAST
 Get to know this DWF, 50, with blonde hair and hazel eyes, who enjoys the sun, water, sports and traveling. She's ISO a S/DWM, over 50. Ad#: 6665

CHANGE OF PACE
 Friendly, outgoing SWF, 59, 5'1", whose interests include good conversation, dining out and more, is seeking companionship with a sincere SWM, 58-65, who enjoys life. Ad#: 5138

A KEEPER
 Kind-hearted SWF, 45, 5'2", who enjoys movies, traveling and more, is looking for a loving, funny WWWW, 40-65. Ad#: 1066

BRING YOUR SMILE
 Sweet DWCF, 59, 3'3", is seeking a SWCM, 55-65, with a sense of humor, who enjoys movies, family time, traveling and home cooking. Ad#: 1219

COMPANIONSHIP
 Attractive, sincere SWF, 57, 5'7", who enjoys cooking, camping and having fun, is looking for a sweet SWM, 50-62. Ad#: 1941

QUALITY TIME
 SWF, 44, 5'7", a green-eyed blonde, who enjoys sporting events, NASCAR, fishing, quiet evenings at home and dining out, is seeking a kind, caring SWM, for a possible relationship. Ad#: 1954

MOVE QUICKLY
 Sincere, SW mom, 36, who enjoys camping, movies and cooking, wants to share friendship and fun with a kind, caring SWM, 35-42, N/S. Ad#: 1110

LIFE IS AN ADVENTURE
 Outgoing SWF, 33, 5'8", who enjoys reading, sports, auto racing and volunteer work, is looking for a humorous, smart SWM. Ad#: 4117

A MIRROR IMAGE
 Humorous Catholic SWPF, 26, 5'4", with red hair and brown eyes, enjoys music, working out, sporting events, skiing, camping and more, would like to share good times with a humorous SWM, 25-35, who has similar interests. Ad#: 2603

GENUINE GEM
 Beautiful, brown-eyed SF, 46, who enjoys walking, traveling, movies and animals, seeks a SWCM, over 40, who loves life. Ad#: 3865

LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR...
 This DW mom, 34, 5'4", who likes cooking, animals, parks and the outdoors, she's looking for a DWM, 34-45, with a sense of humor and similar interests. Ad#: 2130

SHARE MY LIFE
 Comfortable in any situation, this DWCF, 47, 5'6", is seeking a versatile SWCM, 45-58. She enjoys animals, the outdoors and more. Ad#: 1951

WANTED...
 A partner for life. DWF, a young 50, 5', 102lbs., a N/S, degreed, has a positive attitude, is romantic and enjoys anything. She is seeking a commitment minded, educated, D/SWM, to spoil. Ad#: 1225

THE BEST
 Kind, easygoing SWF, 50, 5'3", who enjoys gardening, dancing and long walks, is seeking a SWM, 48-60. Ad#: 1747

WELCOME TO MY LIFE
 Friendly SWCF, 47, 5'4", N/S, who enjoys camping, fishing, playing cards, cooking, holding hands and church activities, seeks a kind, loving SWCM, 45-60. Ad#: 3755

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
 Dining out, outdoor sports and dancing are interests of this delightful, Catholic SWF, 23, 5'6", 105lbs., with brown hair and green eyes. She's looking for that special someone, an outgoing, Catholic SWM, 21-27. Ad#: 3178

WAITING ON YOU
 What a lady. She's a SWF, 36, who's interested in meeting a SWM, under 44, for a possible long-term relationship. She enjoys life, going to the movies, good conversation and meeting new people. Ad#: 1212

SHARE MY FAITH
 Loving, caring DACF, 44, 5'2", wishes to share life with a friendly, outgoing SWCM. She enjoys going to church, long walks, reading the Bible and playing the guitar. Ad#: 5140

TRULY BLESSED
 Educated DWCF, 49, 5'1", 102lbs., with blonde hair and blue eyes, who enjoys cooking, dining out, movies and traveling, is ISO a humorous SWCM, 48-57, without children, who enjoys life. Ad#: 4826

Hometown Newspapers
 brings you:
The Christian Meeting Place
 The easy way to meet area Christian singles

SINCERELY
 Call this petite DWC mom, 46, 5'3", because she's seeking a sincere SWPCM, 40-50, for friendship and great times. Her interests include dancing and living life to the fullest. Ad#: 2468

HEAR ME OUT ROMEO
 Never-married SWCF, 26, 5'3", who enjoys the outdoors, working out and living life to the fullest, seeks a compatible SWCM, 25-35. Ad#: 3811

ON YOUR MARK
 Busy SW mom, 35, 5'8", is looking for adult companionship and a sharing of mutual interests and activities. She seeks a friendly, outgoing SWM, 30-40, whose interests include movies, music, sports and dining out. Ad#: 1103

MUSIC LOVER
 Warm, educated, physically fit SWPM, 45, who enjoys ballroom dancing, concerts, reading, and good conversation. He is seeking a smart, affectionate SWPF, 26-38, for a lasting relationship. Ad#: 4412

COUNTRY LIFESTYLE
 DWCM, 37, 6'2", 185lbs., who enjoys camping, fishing, collecting antiques, dining out, and quiet times at home, is ISO an attractive, slender SWCF, 32-42, for friendship first, possible long-term relationship. Ad#: 9665

LISTEN CLOSELY
 This friendly, easygoing SWM, 26, 6', who enjoys sports, movies and painting, is interested in meeting a loving, intelligent SWF, 20-29, to go out and have a good time with. Ad#: 1437



Light Up Your Life With Romance

INDEPENDENT
 Healthy DW mom, 32, 5'5", with dark brown hair/eyes, enjoys exercising, family time, movies, dining out, camping and movies. She would like to share life with a family-oriented, secure SWM, 31-45. Ad#: 2730

STOP THE WAITING
 Vibrant DWF, 51, 5'7", who enjoys church activities, dining out and the arts, is ISO a kind, considerate SWM, 50-60, N/S. Ad#: 1947

PAGING MR. RIGHT
 Attractive SWCF, 25, 5'11", with blonde hair, is seeking a never-married, wholesome SWCM, 21-33, N/S, who shares her enjoyment of travel, movies, clubbing and more. Ad#: 4833

Males Seeking Females

GREAT EXPECTATIONS
 Personable, employed DWC dad, 43, 6'1", 200lbs., who enjoys conversation, animals, working out, home improvement, and travel, is seeking a fit, shapely SCF, 34-45, for friendship, maybe more. Ad#: 4410

KNOWS WHAT HE WANTS
 Friendly SWM, 43, 6'2", 225lbs., with blond hair and blue eyes, who enjoys travel, dancing, fishing, movies and more, is seeking an attractive SWF, 36-45, N/S. Ad#: 2424

INNER BEAUTY...
 Is what matters most to this outgoing WWWW, 42, 5'4", 135lbs., with blonde hair and blue eyes, who enjoys boating and fishing. He seeks a SWF, 35-48. All calls will be answered. Ad#: 6272

SOUND GOOD?
 Employed DWCM, 44, 5'10", 180lbs., with brown hair and green eyes, who loves camping, walking, country music and more, is seeking a SWF, under 45, for friendship first. Ad#: 4531

INSPIRED?
 Secure, outgoing, honest, romantic WWWW, 68, 6', 200lbs., who enjoys dancing, walks, long talks, dining, and more, is seeking a youthful, nice SWF, under 70, to share church, love and life together. Ad#: 5111

LOVE, LIFE & LAUGHTER
 Outgoing and friendly, this Catholic DWM, 63, 5'11", 170lbs., with gray hair, who enjoys evenings at home, dining out, and going to plays and shows, is ISO childless, Catholic DWF, 45-65, with the same interests. Ad#: 2552

IS IT YOU?
 This friendly SWM, 33, 5'8", who enjoys sports, music and country living, is looking for a SF, under 39, who shares similar interests. Ad#: 7055

BE THE ONE
 Friendly DWPM, 51, 5'10", who enjoys golf and meeting new people, is seeking a SF, over 45, who has a good sense of humor, for a possible long-term relationship. Ad#: 3308

GIVE A CALL
 This shy SWM, 30, 6'2", N/S, with brown hair/eyes, who enjoys good conversation and more, is interested in meeting a kind-hearted SF, to spend quality time with. Ad#: 3283

ANSWERED PRAYERS
 Outgoing, honest DWCM, 55, 6'2", is a member of the choir who enjoys taking walks, dining out, theater, golf and travel. He's seeking friendship, perhaps more, with a similar SWCF. Ad#: 9255

LEAVE A MESSAGE
 An employed, tall, physically fit SWM, 28, who enjoys volunteer work, rollerblading and more, is seeking a nice, caring SWF, for a possible relationship. Ad#: 8989

HOPE YOU TRY ME
 SWM, 48, 5'7", whose interests include bowling, biking, taking walks in the park, music and dancing, is hoping to hear from a gentle, understanding SWF, 38 and up, to share friendship and fun. Ad#: 6431

DON'T WAIT
 Never-married SWM, 38, 5'10", 165lbs., with blond hair and blue eyes, who enjoys animals, boating, and golf, seeks a SWF, 25-40. Ad#: 7714

GO PLACES...
 And do things with this friendly SWCF, 28, 6'2". He enjoys animals and kids, and is hoping to hear from a similar SWCF, 18-35. Ad#: 1379

HAVE A HEART
 Employed SWM, 38, 5'11", 150lbs., enjoys outdoor activities and spending time with his children. He is seeking an honest, hardworking SWF who is attractive and physically fit. Ad#: 5555

PARTNER IN LIFE
 Outgoing DWM, 28, 6'2", enjoys going out, karaoke, and outdoor activities, and seeks a fun, spontaneous, responsible SWF, 25-35, for an equal-partner relationship. Ad#: 2199

NOTEWORTHY
 Pleasant, employed, and educated SWCM, 45, 6'5", slim build, who enjoys the outdoors, fishing, camping, movies, concerts, and dining out, is seeking an easygoing SWCF, 38-48, who is height/weight proportionate. Ad#: 6907

FLEX YOUR MUSCLES
 Fun-loving, sincere and athletic, this Catholic SWM, 40, 6'1", enjoys family, friends and romantic times, and is seeking a trim, fit SAF, 21-38. Ad#: 6959

WORTH A TRY
 He's a sincere, honest, outgoing SW dad, 41, 5'10", who enjoys fishing, going for walks, and more. He's seeking a loving SWF, 34-44, for a possible relationship. Ad#: 8899

LIFE IS GOOD
 This friendly, active DWM, 5'9", is a young 54 who likes to exercise. He's seeking an honest SF, under 50, who can keep up. Horse lover a plus. Ad#: 4848

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A GREAT ATTITUDE...
 Is what this handsome DWPM, 62, 6'2", with a slim build and outgoing personality has. He enjoys classic cars, wooden speed boats and is seeking an attractive, enthusiastic D/SWF, 36-55. Ad#: 3541

PHONE ME NOW
 Friendly SNAM, 34, 5'11", who enjoys dancing, sports, camping and nature, is interested in meeting a patient, humorous SF, under 40, N/S, who likes children. Ad#: 5421

GOOD ATTITUDE
 SWM, 42, who enjoys going to the lake, the outdoors, weightlifting and kickboxing, is looking to meet a kind, outgoing SWF. Ad#: 6453

MANY OPTIONS
 Sincere SWPM, 40, 6', who enjoys Bible study and dining out, the outdoors and more, is looking to meet an honest, fun-loving SWPF. Ad#: 7272

ROMANCE
 Sincere, fun-loving, Catholic SWPM, 44, 6'1", with a wide range of interests, seeks one special slender, fit SW mom, for a romantic, monogamous LTR. Ad#: 1818

HE'S THE ONE
 Outgoing SWCM, 30, 6', who enjoys working out, movies, moonlit walks and more, is looking to meet a SWCF, under 29, without children. Ad#: 2324

ROMANTIC TEDDY BEAR
 Affectionate SWCM, 37, 5'10", with brown hair, hazel eyes and dimples, is looking for a full-figured SCF, who loves to laugh. He enjoys a variety of music, movies, the theater and travel. Ad#: 8884

COMMITMENT-MINDED
 Kind-hearted SWM, 39, 6'1", is looking for an outgoing, loving SWF, for a possible relationship. Ad#: 3111

CALL IF INTERESTED
 Friendly DWCM, 30, 5'8", 140lbs., with brown hair, blue eyes and a mustache, seeks a Catholic SF, without children, who enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and traveling. Ad#: 7731

MAGNIFICENT
 SWCM, 40, 5'11", who thinks passionately, loves intuitively and lives joyously, is searching for a vital SWCF, 29-46, who loves the arts, for a life enhancing relationship. Ad#: 7977

JUST THE TWO OF US
 Retired SWM, 55, 5'10", is looking for companionship with a SWF, age unimportant. His interests include the outdoors, gardening, dining out, dancing and traveling. Ad#: 7590

INTRODUCE YOURSELF
 Handsome SWM, 26, 5'10", with brown hair and green eyes, who enjoys bowling, movies, horseback riding and outdoor activities, would enjoy spending time with a sincere, caring, attractive SWF, under 35. Ad#: 2328

COMPANIONSHIP
 Outgoing, retired, Catholic SWM, 66, 6'1", 200lbs., who enjoys world travel, golf, dining out and more, is seeking an attractive, Catholic SWF, over 48, to spend time with. Ad#: 1579

SHARE MY WORLD
 Outgoing, friendly DW dad, 43, 6'1", who enjoys training horses, conversation, traveling, children and living a country lifestyle, is searching for a SCF, 32-50, to share life with. Ad#: 4911

WAITING FOR YOUR CALL
 Friendly DWCM, 42, 5'7", who enjoys wood crafts, music and the outdoors, hopes for a LTR with a SWF, under 48, without children at home. Ad#: 9372

WORTH A TRY
 Fun-loving, active SWM, 30, who enjoys the outdoors and traveling, is seeking a nice, honest SWF, for a possible relationship. Ad#: 2463

WARM AND LOVING
 Enjoy music, cooking, the outdoors, travel, family gatherings and more, if you're the SWCF, under 50, who calls this physically fit WWWW, a youthful 59, 5'10", 165lbs., with grayish-brown hair and brown eyes. Ad#: 4004

QUIET TIMES
 DWCM, 35, 5'10", enjoys outdoor activities, sports, quiet walks and movies, music and he's looking for an attractive SWCF, 35-35. Ad#: 6225

READ THIS AD
 SWCM, 23, 6', who enjoys live music, playing guitar, reading and movies, is looking for a SWCF, 18-25, without children. Ad#: 2231

ROMANTIC AND EXCITING
 SWM, 43, 5'9", 175lbs., who's handsome, educated, honest, caring and knows how to treat a lady, is looking for a slender, educated lady, a SF, 35-45, who knows what she wants. Take a chance, I am. Ad#: 1955

ONE ON ONE
 Kind-hearted SWM, 20, 5'10", who enjoys auto racing, the outdoors and movies, is looking for an outgoing, sincere, loving SF, 18-24. Ad#: 1722

SHARE REAL LOVE
 Romance and security await, if you're an attractive, slender, Catholic DWF. Call this sincere Catholic DWP dad, 47, 6'1", who has a verity of interests. Don't let this chance for love pass you by. Ad#: 8345

A SPECIAL PERSON
 Fun-loving, never-married SWM, 38, 6'1", is seeking a SWF, 22-40, to spend quality time with. Ad#: 1122

WORTH A TRY
 Kind, loving SWM, 47, 6', with blond hair and blue eyes, who enjoys sports, music and quiet evenings, is in search of a SWF, 35-47. Ad#: 5334

CALL NOW
 He's an outgoing, caring guy looking to share friendship and good times with a SWF, under 49. If you enjoy movies and music, amusement parks and dining out, call this handsome SWM, 39, Ad#: 3037

LEAVE A MESSAGE
 Romantic SWM, 44, 6', 190lbs., who enjoys camping, canoeing, traveling and outdoor activities, is looking to meet an easygoing, slender SWF, for a long-term relationship. Ad#: 1078

SEARCHING
 Catholic DWM, 45, 5'10", seeks a sociable and sincere SWF, 33-51, who enjoys an active lifestyle. Ad#: 2323

LISTEN TO THIS!
 Never-married SWCM, 29, 5'10", with brown hair and eyes, is looking for a petite to medium-built, never-married SWCF, 22-32, with similar hobbies. His interests include fishing, camping and dining out. Ad#: 1969

SWEET AWAY
 Honest, amiable DWCF, 56, 5'8", is looking for a special, attractive, energetic SWF, 36-55, with a great sense of humor, for a possible relationship. Ad#: 7930

STOP HERE
 Affectionate, old-fashioned SWM, 48, 5'11", 195lbs., who enjoys camping, socializing and more, is seeking a sincere, honest, fit SWF, under 53. Ad#: 1981

LEAVE A MESSAGE
 Never-married SWCF, 35, 6'2", enjoys outdoor activities, coaching sports and Bible study. He seeks a SCF, under 40. Ad#: 4325

WAITING FOR YOU
 Catholic SWM, 22, 6', who enjoys playing pool, spending time with friends and more, seeks a very honest SWF, under 30, without children at home. Ad#: 4450

BE DARING
 Check out this active SWM, 19, tall, slim, who enjoys working out, weightlifting and sports, and is hoping to get together with a personable, attractive SWF, 18-25. Ad#: 8951

STOP THE PRESS
 Meet this special SWM, 39, who enjoys skiing, mountain biking, music cars, music and dancing. An energetic, attractive SWF, 28-42, will win his heart. Ad#: 4187

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0929

R U READY:
Novi girls win Redford Union Invitational running away—2B

TIE BALLGAME:
Soccer team manages to pull out a tie with Brighton—2B

COLTS TRIUMPH:
All three Colts teams win in games at the Silverdome—3B

TESTERS:
Milford, Howell games will be testers for basketball team—3B

Homecoming feast

Wildcats treat Flushing to a 22-17 homecoming loss

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

They weren't the ideal conditions for a homecoming celebration, but the outcome of football game was real heartwarming.

Senior Mitch Maier hit sophomore Matt Gorman on a first-down play for 38 yards, setting up his own one-yard keeper for the score as Novi came from behind to defeat Flushing 22-17 last Saturday afternoon.

Those two plays came just moments after Maier connected with Pat Muston for a fourth-down conversion that gave Novi a first-and-10 on the Flushing 39 with just over two minutes remaining in the game.

The win was Novi's fourth of the year and third against a top-10 team. The team celebrated its homecoming win by rushing out onto the field, as did head coach John Osborne.

"Pressure wise, it was a big game," Osborne said. "In the big picture, it now allows us a little margin of error. We don't feel like we have to run the table to make the playoffs."

With the Michigan High School Athletic Association expanding the playoffs to 256 teams this season, teams with six or more wins automatically qualify for the post season. Novi (4-2) has the easiest third of their schedule remaining, with Howell coming to town tomorrow night and Lakeland and Northville making visits in to finish the season.

Under gray skies and steady rainfall, Novi moved the ball on the ground and through the air all day long. The Wildcats scored on the opening drive of the game as Jon Cervi broke free down the middle of the field for a 26-yard touchdown with 7:38 left to play in the first. The drive covered 79 yards in 10 plays, four of which were of the passing variety.

Unfortunately for the Wildcats, Flushing returned the ensuing kickoff back for a touchdown. A two-point conversion gave the Raiders an 8-7 lead.

Two possessions later, Cervi went off tackle from three yards out for his second touchdown of the game to give Novi a 13-8 lead. The score was set up by Maier's interception after Lee Ehlers and Matt Luschas put pressure on Flushing's quarterback.

After that, it looked like Novi would never get the ball back. After receiving the kickoff and setting up shop at their own 26, Flushing proceeded to control the ball for the next 11:32. They capped off the 20-play drive with a two-yard touchdown by tailback Marty Johnson with 2:25 left in the half.

But Novi came right back, moving the ball down the field and setting up Andy Christofferson's 24-yard field goal before the end of the half to give itself a 16-14 lead. The two-minute offense was perfected

by Maier, as the senior hit Muston for 25 yards. Bryce Banta for six. Dan Jilg for 12 on fourth down. Muston for another five and Jilg for another third-down conversion over the middle.

Continued on 2



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

John Cervi looks at the last defender before scoring a 26-yard touchdown last Saturday against the Flushing Raiders..

Harriers topple field at Benton

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

It's hard not to compare this year's boys' cross country team to last year's state champions.

So far, though, this year's squad has performed every bit as good as last year's team. And this team has had to do it with all eyes upon them.

The Wildcats won the Redford Union Invitational in easy fashion last Saturday despite missing one of their top five runners, Eric Walle. Novi finished with a meet-low 36 points, followed by Livonia Churchill (74) and North Farmington (82). Dearborn (90), Northville (146), Redford Union (148) and Livonia Franklin (151) rounded out the seven-team field.

Chris Toloff won the race in a Cass Benton career-best time of 15 minutes, 57 seconds. It was the first sub-16 minute time at Cass Benton for the junior.

Teammate Tim Moore was second in a time of 16:15 and Mark Avenius was third on the team and fourth overall in 16:39.

With Walle out of the lineup with a tender knee, Nick Bassitt led a four-man Novi pack by finishing 14th overall in 17:18. Following him were Mitch Erickson (15th) in 17:23, Steve Szawast (16th) in 17:23 and Todd Foren (19th) in 17:27. It was Foren who found out on the bus ride over to Cass Benton that he would be running in the varsity lineup.

"I didn't let him know until the last minute," Novi coach Bob Smith said. "He stepped right in and proved he's one of the guys we're counting on in the future."

The 36 points were a bit more than the coach thought his team would score, but he didn't knock his team one bit.

"When we got there, we realized there were some quality teams at the meet," he said.

Although scores were not kept for the junior varsity race, Novi would have won that too. Evan Foster and Eric Saurer ran 1-2 for the 'Cats, finishing in times of 17:52 and 17:59. Tim Kava was fifth in the race (18:22), and Matt Harshar Strong (18:30) and Derek BuWalda (18:33) were eighth and 10th in the race.

NOVI 15, MILFORD 41
In what was Novi's first "real" challenge thus far in the Kensington Valley Conference, the Redskins offered little challenge on the scoreboard when all was said and done.

"We were playing the numbers game," Smith said. "We knew that if four of their guys got ahead of our top three, we were sunk."

Fortunately for Smith, none of the Milford runners were able to get in front of Novi's top five. Tom Greenless, the Redskins' top runner, pulled out of the race at the 2 1/4 mile mark with a sore foot. That left the door open for Moore and Toloff to coast to the finish line.

Moore won the race in yet another school-record time of 15:45. It was the third time this season he's broke the record. Toloff coasted to a second-place finish in 16:21. Smith said his top two used teamwork to run against Greenless, who is ranked as high as number three in the state by cross country writers.

"They both kept up with him," Smith said. "In fact, he was never leading in the race."

Toloff took the early lead, fending off Greenless, before Moore took over midway through the race. Greenless dropped out when he started having pains in his foot due to a spike that had punctured the sole of his cleat.

"I think it really assisted in our confidence," Smith said of his kid's race against Greenless. "Now I'm feeling better that we can run with him."

"We were ready. This team has a mindset. They feel they are as good as last year's team."

Walle finished third for Novi in 16:52. Avenius (17:18) and Bassitt (17:23) rounded out the top five in the race. After a pack of four Milford runners came in, Erickson (17:57) came in and Szawast (18:02) finished 12th to round out the top seven.

The win leaves Novi a perfect 4-0 in KVC duals with only Howell and Lakeland remaining on the schedule. The team will compete in the Oakland County meet this Saturday. The team won the meet for the first time in school history last year.

Learning how to grow

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

It's not always easy being in front of the crowd. To be in front of a group of people, singing, dancing or competing in a precision sport can be a nervous situation for anyone.

And it's not easy to prepare for either. But one local program hopes to give kids the edge when it comes to performance anxiety.

"We love to give kids a head start in physical activity," David Mahoney, owner of the Farmington Gymnastics Center, said. "We feel it gives them a good start in participating in a playground atmosphere."

What Mahoney is talking about is FGC's preschool programs, which are designed to build self confidence in children while encouraging safety along the way. The programs are for children ages 1-5 and run year round.

"My philosophy is that I just want them to keep up with their peers on the playground and in our gym class," pre-school program director Sue Fink said. "It certainly is a great head start for other sports."

There are five age groups of participation: Tiny Tots, Toddler Gym, Mini Gym, Nursery Gym and Kinder Gym. Each of the one-hour classes are taught in a fun, progressive manner and are 12-weeks in duration.

Those in the Tiny-Tot division learn to

become very successful, participating in such activities as climbing up and down, in and through and tumbling with the help of a parent.

"I help them help their own children," Fink said.

The Toddler Gym still requires a parent, but is more structured. There are group games for the children, along with interactive

"My philosophy is that I just want them to keep up with their peers on the playground."

Sue Fink,
preschool program director

songs and games. By the time the child enters the Mini Gym division, he or she will begin to participate in each of the four gymnastic events. Fink develops a weekly lesson plan and keeps the group organized.

"We try to keep each of the coaches in line with each other, so everyone is doing the same thing," Fink said. There are currently 450 children in the

preschool program. They come from all around the metro-Detroit area.

"We've got kids from Milford, Beverly Hills, Detroit, all over the area," Mahoney said. "Our program has grown primarily through word of mouth. We have a lot of our parents tell other parents about the program."

Rob and Chris Aprilliano of Novi have three children, all of whom have or currently participate in the program. Six-year-old Nick is no longer in the program, but now competes in soccer and hockey and hopes to take on tennis soon. Bianca, 4 1/2, is still involved with the Kinder Gym program, and Jake, 2 1/2, is in the Mini Gym classes.

"I think it's an excellent program," Chris said. "It teaches them coordination and climbing skills so that when they go outside they know how to play on the playground equipment. It's a great program for their coordination and for following directions."

Chris said that her family is currently members of the Sports Club in Novi, but remains dedicated members of the Gymnastics Club because of its preschool programs.

"We've been very happy there," she said. Fink has been with the Farmington Gymnastic's Center for seven years now, and says she really enjoys working with the

Continued on 2



Photo by Louis Poulos

Farmington Gymnastics Center preschool program director Sue Fink teaches a group of toddlers how to count. Pictured are (clockwise from top) China Burke, Fink, Julia DiFiore, Neevi Kukreti, Lindsay Brucki and Yoshiki Yamamoto.

Who was Novi's best players ever?

Just a reminder to those interested in the all-time Northville and Novi football teams as selected by coaches and HomeTown newspapers with the help of the readers.

They are coming. After about a four-week selection process for the Northville team, and a two-week process for Novi, we have selected the teams.

And those teams will be unveiled in a special insert in both the Northville Record and Novi News' October 21st editions. For those of you reading a neighbor's newspaper right now, you can pick up a copy of the Northville Record and Novi News at our office in downtown Northville. I would suggest getting here that Thursday or Friday because this edition may sell out quickly.

There will also be 2,000 copies at the Northville/Novi game at Novi High School the following night. The Novi sports boosters will be handing them out at the gate.

Now I know there may be, no, I mean there will be many people who disagree with our teams. "I think Joe Schmo was the best linebacker ever," or "Jack Schmaack could run the ball like you wouldn't believe," are some of the comments I'll be receiving.

But I like that, and I want that. In selecting the Northville team, both Phil Jerome and I put together a list of former coaches and other Northville football gurus. From there, we contacted each of them and sent them out a blank list to fill out with the top players ever to play at Northville.

After receiving their lists back, we comprised a master list of over 100 names of players submitted for the all-time team. We sent that list back out to the coaches and gurus hoping to spark some memories of players current and past.

A week ago last Sunday we had a get-together with all of those experts and discussed the team, selecting the top 38 players ever to play at Northville High School.

For the Novi team, I received several letters and submissions from readers. I added them to a small list I had comprised and sat down with Novi coach John Osborne. We discussed his teams and players over the years and came away with 28 players who stood out above all the rest.

The disparity in the teams came from the difference in the football team's history. Novi High School has fielded a four-year varsity football team since 1968, whereas Northville's history dates back prior to 1950. We decided it was in our best interest to select the all-time Northville team from those years after 1950. Our resources and experts hold little knowledge of players predating that era.

So look for our "best of the best" special insert coming up in two weeks, and remember, I want to hear feedback about the team. I would certainly like to put together some reaction letters and post them in my section.

So help me out, please. Jason Schmitt is the sports editor for the Northville Record and Novi News. He can be reached at jschmitt@ht.homecomm.net

Health

the NOVI
NEWS

4B

THURSDAY
October 7,
1999

Health Column

Cancer patients have new allies

Facing cancer is hard enough. But facing the fact that part of your cancer has broken loose and invaded your bones — once seen as a guarantee of an imminent and painful death — is even harder.

Now, patients at the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center have a new team of allies when confronting bone cancer that has spread, or metastasized, from their original tumors. A group of physicians from many specialties has banded together to start an innovative Bone Metastases Clinic, allowing them to choose the best treatment for each individual from a range of new pain-alleviating and even life-saving options.

The cooperative approach — unique in the nation — gives patients a much better chance of surviving or living comfortably with their secondary cancer, says clinic head and director of orthopedic oncology Dr. J. Sybil Biermann. Bone cancer no longer automatically carries the weight of a death sentence.

"There used to be a very limited number of treatments available for bone metastases — patients could either have surgery or they could have radiation, and there wasn't really much else," Biermann said. "In the last few years, a number of medications and other therapies have been developed that can be used very effectively for bone metastasis. In fact, this has presented a fairly confusing array of alternatives for both patients and the physicians who manage their care."

Biermann and her colleagues decided to help

metastatic bone cancer patients sort through the confusion by reviewing each case together and recommending which treatments to pursue, from surgery and chemotherapy to radiation and radioactive drugs. Patients can even elect to try brand-new treatments by participating in clinical trials offered at the clinic — including tests of treatments being developed at U-M.

With an estimated 500,000 Americans living with bone metastases, and 190,000 more being diagnosed each year, the clinic's concept may become a model for hospitals nationwide.

Bone cancer arises when cancerous cells from the main tumor break off and travel through the bloodstream or lymphatic system. When they lodge in the bone, the cells can take root in the welcoming environment and begin to multiply.

As the new tumor or lesion grows, it can press on nearby nerves, causing pain and swelling. It also can weaken the bone, increasing the risk of fractures, and cause too much calcium to enter the bloodstream, a condition called hypercalcemia.

The American Cancer Society estimates that half of all cancer patients, except those with skin cancer, will develop metastatic bone cancer. Most common are metastases that spread to the bone from breast, prostate, lung and kidney cancers — with the spine, pelvis, hip and upper leg bones being the most likely sites.

"As cancer treatments become in general more effective, patients are living longer and

longer with cancer," Biermann comments. "It also means that a substantial part of the population actually has metastasis of the bone, and those patients are needing treatment as well."

The U-M clinic gives such patients easy access to a diverse range of specialists, all in one visit. For those who must rely on others to transport them to medical appointments, the "one-stop shopping" approach makes a world of difference.

Biermann also hopes the clinic will help clear up some of the popular ideas about metastatic bone cancer that have become untrue in recent years as medicine has advanced.

"A common misconception is that patients with bone metastasis are in the very terminal phases of their disease. While it's always a more serious situation when a cancer has spread from one place to another, with contemporary cancer treatments, patients can be alive with metastasis for years or even decades," she explains.

As for the idea that bone cancer means excruciating pain, crippling bone weakness or constant sedation, she said: "With new treatments, we can stabilize the bones, we can strengthen the bones, and we can allow patients to get out and do the things that they want to do with less pain and with more mobility."

For more information via phone, call TeleCare at (800) 742-2300, category 1010.

Health Notes

Stepping Stones

It's a divorce-recovery workshop for children and parents. It starts Nov. 4 and is offered by pre-registry only. It runs every Thursday for six weeks at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville.

The cost is \$10 and scholarships are available. For more information please call (248) 374-5920.

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.

Healthy Solutions Seminar

Healthy Solutions are offering a seminar series over the next few weeks. All seminars are free and begin at 7:30 p.m. Please call (248) 305-5785 or stop in healthy solutions to reserve a seat (space is limited). You may show up the night of the seminar, however a seat may not be available.

Hot Flash Study

Women who suffer from multiple daily hot flashes associated with menopause are being sought to participate in a nationwide study to assess

the safety and effectiveness of an investigational hormone replacement skin patch to treat hot flashes. Women may be eligible if they are between the ages of 45 and 65, have not had a menstrual period in six months, or a hysterectomy. For more information, call 493-6580.

Blood pressure checks

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

Area residents are invited to visit Providence Medical Center-Providence Park, 47601 Grand River Ave., to obtain the service. Screening will take place in Providence's Emergency Care Center located within the center. For more information call (248) 380-4225.

Food Allergy Counseling

Individuals with food allergies can receive counseling on food choices and substitutions from a Botsford Hospital professional. The fee is \$30. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (248) 477-6100.

Prostate Cancer Support Group

Offering knowledgeable speakers each month, this support group provides encouragement and education about prostate cancer, its treatment and the physical and emotional issues associated with it. It meets the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. and it's free.

Sessions take place in Botsford's 2 East A Conference Room, 28050 Grand River Ave., in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 477-6100.

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, Sinal, 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 Beek 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.

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