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# NEWS

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Thursday, March 7, 2002

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Novi, Michigan

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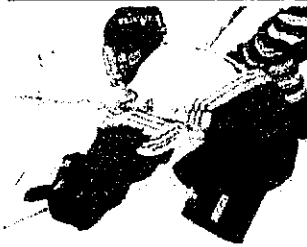
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## Council splits vote in contract dispute

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

The City of Novi's contract approval process came into question again after members of the city council disagreed if the lowest bidder for an engineering contract should receive the nod or not. In the end, with a three to two vote, the lowest bidder did not receive the engineering contract for the South Lake Drive Reconstruction Project.

In favor of awarding the contract to Giffels-Webster Engineers in the amount of \$92,200 was Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark, Novi Mayor Pro-Tem Michelle Bononi and Novi city council member David Landry.

In favor of awarding the contract to the lowest bidder JCK & Associates in the amount of \$86,351 was Novi city council members Craig DeRoche and Kim Capello. Novi city council members Laura

Lorenzo and Louis Csordas were absent/excused from the Feb. 25 meeting.

The debate began after Novi City Engineer Nancy M. McClain made a presentation to council members and city officials recommending the resurfacing contract be awarded to Giffels-Webster.

Although the Detroit firm was not the lowest bidder, McClain said the company should receive the contract because of its completion time table.

"The ability of the engineering firm to move the project into the construction phase by early fall becomes a primary focus for the award," McClain said. "As this project is a vital link in the City of Novi Transportation network, it is critical that the construction be completed within the next year. The difference in the proposal amounts between JCK & Associates and Giffels-Webster Engineers is \$5,849, a relatively

minor difference when compared to the delay in construction the following year."

JCK projected a 36-week schedule while Giffels-Webster a projected a 30-week schedule. A bid from Northwest Consultants called for a 28-week schedule.

The recommendation did not sit well with DeRoche. After reviewing all of the information, he questioned why JCK & Associates was chosen. **Continued on page 11**

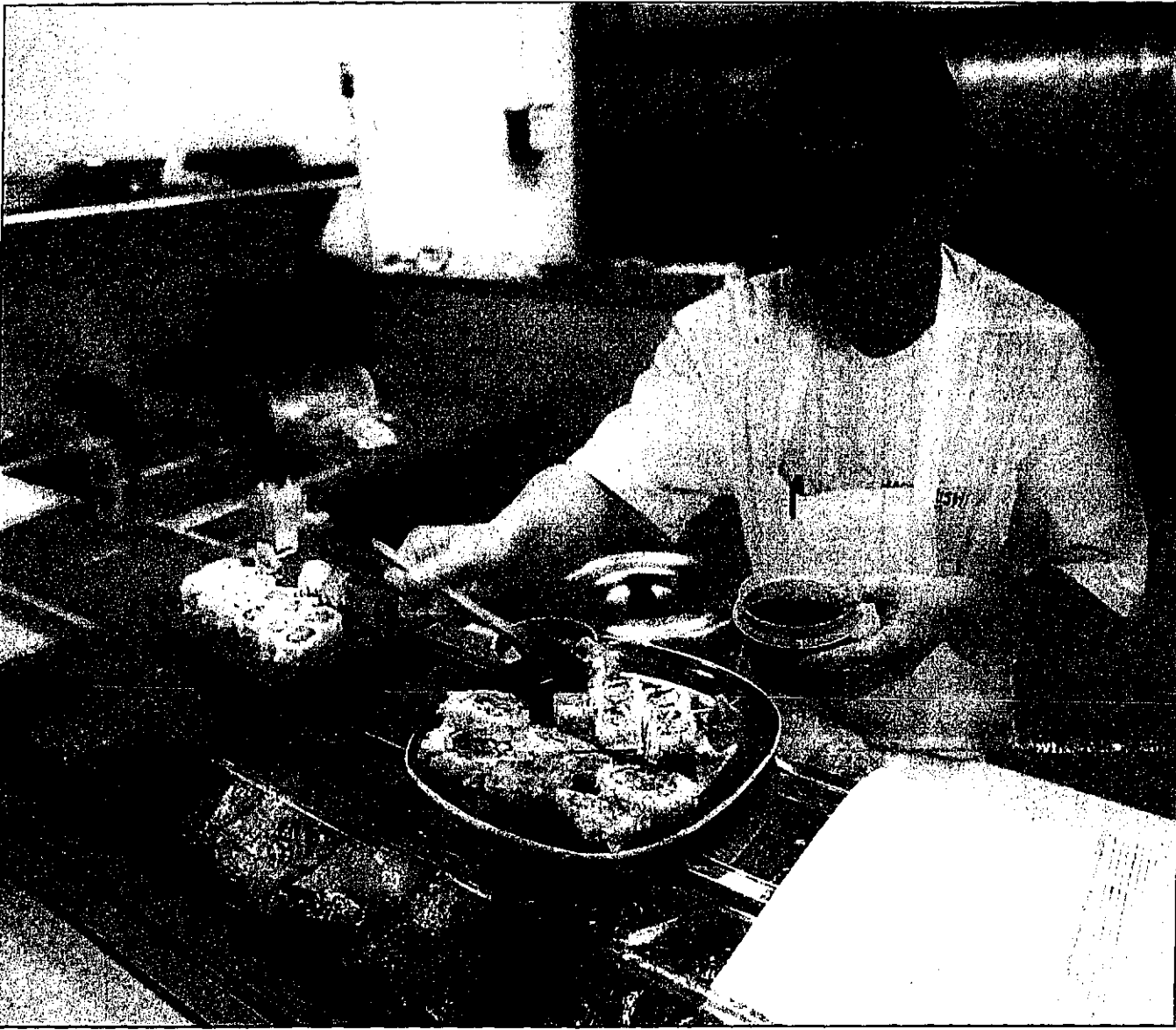


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Happy Sushi chef Kuo "Kevin" Chang dabs some spicy sauce on a dish of crispy tempura rolls of salmon and whitefish. Nearby are his creations of sushi najiri and California roll.

## Sushi served with a smile

### New Japanese restaurant opens doors in Novi

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

With restaurants popping up everywhere these days it takes a special something to separate one newly opened eatery from the rest.

Kuo "Kevin" Chang, owner of Happy Sushi Japanese restaurant in Novi has accomplished the daunting task in more ways than one.

For starters there is the food. Combining freshness, originality and presentation is what Chang enjoys most.

Serving as a Sushi chef in Novi for about 8-years, Chang knows how to work his way around the bar.

As a 5-year chef of Benihana Japanese Steakhouse and 3-year chef of Cherry Blossom Japanese Restaurant, Chang enjoys presenting his customers with delectable meals and is always pushing samples of his latest creations for customers to try.

Chang, 38, told a story about customers who

**"That is why I call it Happy Sushi. Some people tell me I have a happy face and I give many choices to my customers."**

Kuo Chang  
owner, Happy Sushi

came to his place for some of his cooked meals. They told him they had never tried Sushi and didn't think they would like eating raw fish. A couple minutes later he arrived at their table with samples of his famous rolls which both customers enjoyed.

"I told them, see now you like Sushi," Chang said.

This brings us to the second reason to visit the 10 Mile and Meadowbrook roads located restaurant.

With his great charm and personality, Chang creates a welcoming environment.

He can be found behind his bar, which patrons may dine at, laughing and joking with all who come in.

Chang is also willing to walk the unfamiliar through his menu and said he will make anything for anyone as long as he has the ingredients in his kitchen.

"Let me know and I'll do it for you," Chang said.

"That is why I call it Happy Sushi. Some people tell me I have a happy face and I give many choices to my customers. Customers come in and I am so excited about it."

Then there are the other secret weapons **Continued on page 2**

## Brighton resident killed in crash

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

A Brighton male was killed in a Novi automobile accident last week four days before he was supposed to celebrate his 30th birthday.

Trooper Mike Mosack of the Michigan State Police Metro-North Post in Oak Park said speed played a major role in the Feb. 26 morning accident coupled with winter weather downfall.

"He was going too fast for the conditions," Mosack said. "The lanes were slushy."

Troopers said Zhen Yuan Ruan was travelling westbound on Interstate 96 west of Novi Road in the left lane when he lost control of his 1991 Honda as he tried to change lanes.

It was reported his vehicle went all the way across I-96 into the right guard rail before bouncing back into traffic.

Mosack said the vehicle was blocking the right lane when a tractor trailer struck him causing another blow to the Honda.

The driver of the tractor trailer was not hurt and was not ticketed because he had no time to stop.

Mosack said the Brighton man was found at fault for the accident.

It was also pointed out that although Ruan's car had two brand new tires in the front with good pressure, his rear two tires were low weighing in at about 19 and 20 pounds per tire.

As an often overlooked cause of accidents, Mosack said the low pressure was more than likely another determining factor as about 32 pounds is ideal.

Mosack said Ruan was wearing his seatbelt.

The Tuesday accident occurred three days after a Novi man was hit and killed while driving on Interstate 275 north of Seven Mile Road.

Clarence W. Rottermond, 80, was struck by a 24-year-old Lincoln Park resident traveling the wrong way on the interstate who also died as a result of the crash.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@ht.homecomm.net.

## Getting children to school safely is priority for Novi crossing guard

By Angelo Parlove  
STAFF WRITER

Novi crossing guard Leslie Weirmeir dismissed the stereotypes that have been cast at her job.

"We are not as seen on television commercials — the elderly man sitting on a lawn chair, reading the newspaper," she said. "I've worked in sun, snow, rain, hail, fog, darkness, heat and cold."

And last Thursday, it was the cold, as the late February wind whipped down alongside the passing cars at usual afternoon corner

— 13 Mile Road and Meadowbrook in Novi.

Weirmeir adjusted her tan mittens and sunglasses as she waited for the street light on her beat to change colors. After a few moments, the green electric glow finally made its way to red. Duty called. Weirmeir headed to the middle of the busy intersection and raised the stop sign in her right hand, briefly halting the once rushing traffic. Now, it was safe for the elementary kids, who were awaiting their signal from the crossing guard, to get across the street.

"The safety of the children we cross is our most important job and we take it seriously," Weirmeir said.

There is no place for lawn chairs and newspapers on Weirmeir's corner.

Currently, the Novi Police Department has six crossing guards on staff who get the city's kids across busy intersections — just like the corner of 13 Mile Road and Meadowbrook — each day before and after school.

The six guards, who work a 30-minute shift in the morning and **Continued on page 2**



Photo by ANGELO PARLOVE

Leslie Weirmeir stops traffic for Novi children heading to school.

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# Crossing guards keep kids safe

Continued from page 1

The afternoon and are trained by the police department — as mandated by Michigan law for every crossing guard in the state — are all stay-at-home moms.

These ladies are phenomenal. They are very dedicated and our children are safer because of them," said Novi police officer Diane MacGregor.

The Novi crossing guards, such as Kathy Arms who has a son that attends Meadowbrook Elementary, find the part-time job perfect for earning extra money — \$25 a day — while still maintaining their valuable family time.

"I can see my son off in the morning and still volunteer at his school during the day," said Arms, who dons the red crossing guard vest in front of Meadowbrook Elementary each school day. "The job is ideal for stay-at-home moms."

Armed with a stop sign and whistle, these moms are taking it to the streets for three school districts in Novi — Novi, Northville and Walled Lake — and not putting up with any gruff behavior from impatient drivers.

"A lot of drivers just don't know the rules," said Novi crossing guard Lydia Reusch, who has stepped into busy intersections to stop traffic for the past five years.

So, these guards are ready and willing to order tickets to offensive drivers who flagrantly disobey their posted stop signs.

"If someone disregards the cross-

ing guard, they can give a ticket to the registered owner of the vehicle," officer MacGregor said.

Meaning, these moms are taking down license plate numbers and vehicle descriptions, if the need arises.

However, Weirmer, who has come so close to getting hit by a car that she had to put her foot on its bumper as a means of last defense, often has concerns over the matter.

"Some drivers don't realize that they must stop when I put up my sign and enter the roadway, regardless of what the traffic light says," she said. "I've seen some pretty wild drivers out there, especially in the morning. Many times I wonder if it was their children crossing the road if they would behave as they do."

Yet, despite the occasional troublesome driver, sound motherly instincts persevere down at the corner of 13 Mile Road and Meadowbrook this winter.

"No one gets across my street unless their coats are zipped and their hats are on," said Weirmer, who comes prepared each day for the unexpected, including bringing plastic bags in case of rain, extra hats and gloves for the forgetful and a first-aid kit.

"We get a lot of skinned knees out there," she said.

Angelo Parlow is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at aparlow@ht.homecom.net.

## Library Lines

**LIBRARY HOURS**

The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. We are located at 45245 W. 10 Mile Road, just east of Toll. For more information, call 349-0720.

**SENIOR BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP.**

Senior booklovers are reading non-fiction books about Canada for their March meeting. The group meets in the library meeting room on Thursday, March 14, at noon.

**INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM**

Imam Achmat Salle, Oakland Community College guest speaker, discusses the core beliefs of Islam on Monday, March 18, at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room. Imam Salle also will compare these beliefs with those of the Christian and Jewish religions. This free program is the third in the Family Matters 2002 series. To register, please call the library at 349-0720.

**NEED NOT FEAR**

Dorel Garth and Albert Rosen, of Oakland Community College, present "Need Not Fear" on Thursday, March 7, at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room. The speakers will explain the natural role of fear in life, while helping participants respond affirmatively to life's challenges. This free program is the second in the Family Matters 2002 series. To register, please call the library at 349-0720.

**STORY TIME NOTES**

Spring Story Times begin March 11. Please call the library for information on the day and time of your child's session.

**SERIES FUN NIGHT**

Join us Wednesday, March 13, from 7-8:30 p.m., as we celebrate three popular youth series: Boxcar Children, Cam Jansen, and Michigan Chillers. Try your hand at crafts, play a game of skill, or participate in other fun activities throughout the evening. For those of you who want some different titles in your own series collection.

# Happy Sushi: new restaurant opens in Novi

Continued from page 1

Chang said he has over all other area Japanese restaurants.

First comes selection.

"I offer more rolls," Chang said. And he is also proud of his selection of other fresh and cooked delicacies. "The menu lists many selections of fresh sushi, noodle dishes, tempura dishes, soups and salads. Then there is price.

"No one can beat my price," Chang said. The smiling chef explained a lot of the cost associated

with Japanese restaurants comes from expensive wages paid to Sushih chefs.

Shue is the owner and the Sushi chef he passes on the salary savings to his customers.

Chang cited his \$4.80 King Crab Avocado Roll and \$2 King Crab per piece price as an example of the lowest charges in town.

His final secret weapon is the restaurant's hours. Chang is open between the hours of 2 and 5 p.m., something rarely if ever seen at

Japanese restaurants.

The establishment is open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday; noon to 10 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 9 p.m. on Sunday.

"Opening a small restaurant is my dream," Chang said. "I have lots of good friends who help me. I want to do real good here and take care of my family."

Chang, who first came to Michigan in 1979 from China, is married with two children.

He grew up in the ocean town of Qingdao which triggered his love and appreciation of seafood and fresh vegetables.

Happy Sushi opened Feb. 9 and is located in the north west portion of the Farmer Jack anchored strip mall.

For more information or to order a carryout call (248) 380-8698.

Victoria Santolucia is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsantolucia@ht.homecom.net.

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# LAKES AREA TIMES

# Walled Lake to select consultants for downtown plan

By Diane Dempsey Deel  
STAFF WRITER

Consultants will soon be selected to perform a market analysis of Walled Lake's downtown district.

The analysis will give city officials a clear view of the typical customer of local businesses. They want to find out the major marketing area of those who shop in the city.

"It's important so that we have current and accurate data of our market area," said Tracy White Conlon, Downtown Development Authority Main Street manager. "We need to analyze our competition

and the condition in the trade area has changed. We need to find out if our trade area has changed by development in the surrounding communities."

Phil Vawter, city manager, said they are seeking bids from approximately six firms who are qualified to perform the market analysis. However, they need a firm that will give them the most useful data at a reasonable cost.

"We want to see what their approach is and how they analyze data," Vawter said.

The last market analysis was performed in 1995 and was based on the 1990 census. Therefore, a new analysis needs to be done since the population has grown

since the last market analysis was completed.

More census data will be available for officials to examine this fall, she said.

"In the meantime, there are things we need to be doing," White Conlon said. "We need a consultant to help us define the trade area."

The consultant will examine the geographic area local businesses draw from, she said.

Typically only local residents patronize businesses such as pharmacies, she said. However, some restaurants and other businesses draw their customers from all around.

"This information is valuable to individual business owners, non-chain, because they wouldn't be able to afford that kind of research," White Conlon said.

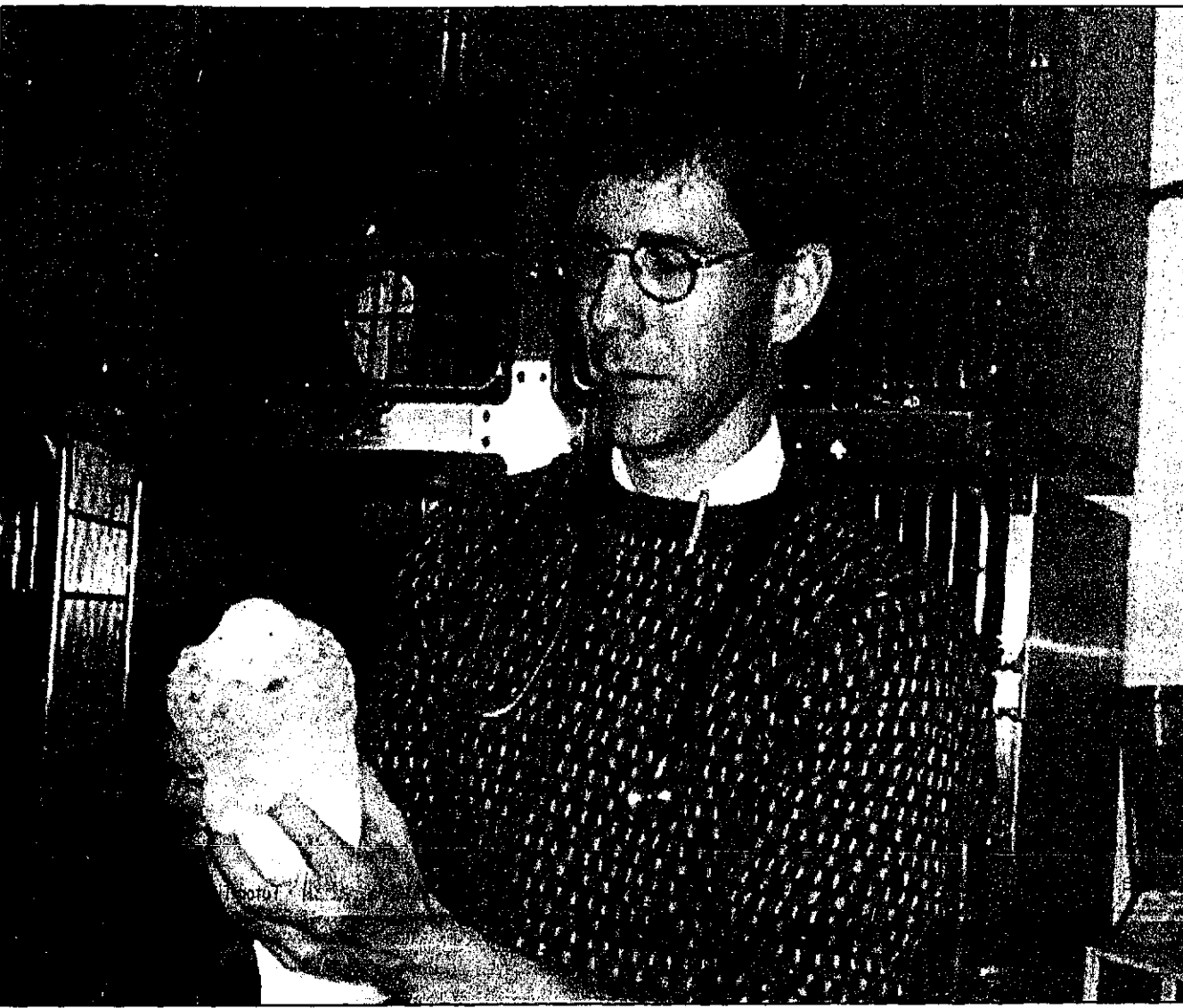
The data is also valuable to city leaders so they will have a solid understanding of who shops in the city. Therefore, they will be able to recruit new business to the city after they find out what type of business attracts customers.

"There are psychological barriers and there are physical barriers of why people shop where they shop," White Conlon said. "We need to know what we can bring here to make them shop here."

The consultants will explain what the city can do to cause people to shop locally. It will also examine the city's strengths and weaknesses and what problems people shopping in the city. Therefore, leaders will be able to come up with an appropriate plan of action.

It's common for cities to have an updated market analysis every three to five years, she said. Hyett Palma and McKenna Associates were responsible for previous market analysis of the city.

Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddeel@ht.homecom.net.



Dr. Steven Burns holds a homing pigeon, which was rescued by a Walled Lake couple. The pigeon's home is in Vancouver, Canada.

# Long lost bird finds a new home

By Diane Dempsey Deel  
STAFF WRITER

Homing pigeons can travel thousands of miles and have amazing navigational skills, which always lead them back to their favorite roosting spot.

"Except for the homing pigeon that traveled hundreds of miles from its home and became lost in Walled Lake."

"The pigeon is now resting comfortably at Walled Lake Veterinary Hospital."

A Walled Lake couple found the sick bird and brought it into their garage to get warm. However, after a couple of days the bird did not improve and they decided to take him to the veterinarian to be nursed back to health.

"He was very sick," said Dr. Steven Burns of Walled Lake Animal Hospital. "He was dehydrated and had a loose stool and diarrhea. He was exhausted. His eyes looked tired and he was puffed up."

Burns thought he would have to give the bird antibiotics to get it well. However, it perked up when it was exposed to warm air and plenty of water.

On warm days we've had the window open and he was flying around in his cage," Burns said.

The pigeon has a metal band around its leg, which signifies that it belongs to someone, he said.

"The owner went to the effort for identification purposes, so we assume he wants the bird back," Burns said.

The pigeon is probably a homing pigeon but it could also be a performing pigeon that performs in-air acrobatics. Homing pigeons have historically been used to carry messages in war time.

"We think he was exhausted and couldn't make his way back home," Burns said. "He was probably owned by a person who has a racing team of homing pigeons."

If that's the case the owner lost the race. And is the owner Burns wants to find, although finding the owner has been a mystery.

He looked up the bird's registered numbers on the Internet. However, the register didn't match any of the major pigeon groups. He was able to locate a woman from Vancouver, Canada, who had birds registered up to the

last pigeons numbers. She gave Burns a telephone number for a man who had the registered number of the lost pigeon.

Burns tried to contact the owner but the telephone number was disconnected. Now he is trying to find alternative ways to locate the pigeon's owner.

Kathi Jones, veterinary assistant, wasn't surprised when the couple brought in the pigeon in to be cared for. Many missing animals are brought in to be nursed back to health. When they are well, the staff always try to locate the pet's owner.

"We get a lot of wild animals," Jones said.

"We try to do what we can for them. We've had swans, ducks and other birds in here."

Burns noted it's probably not a valid option to release the pigeon to find its way back home.

"(The Vancouver woman) said not to release him because he might not go home," Burns said. "He's been here three and a half weeks. This just might be his new home."

Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddeel@ht.homecom.net.

# Program allows residents to pay city taxes online

City officials: Service user friendly

By Diane Dempsey Deel  
STAFF WRITER

Walled Lake residents who want to get a head start on summer taxes can now pay them with the convenience of on-line service.

Walled Lake began giving residents the opportunity to pay their taxes online at the end of January. However, only one resident has paid their taxes online so far, according to Joyce Golden, city treasurer.

"The service is ideal for residents who want to get their taxes paid at the last minute before deadline."

"If they do it online, it probably won't go delinquent in the county," Golden said. "It buys them some time."

However, some residents might like to use it to gain frequent flyer miles or points by using their credit card company, which offers them those perks, she said.

Some communities have been offering the online pay service for a couple of years, she said. Some of those communities have 25 to 30 residents pay their taxes online while others only have a few.

Residents who wish to pay their resident taxes or water bills online just need to go to the walledlake.com website. Once they access the website they can go to the payment link.

Residents need to be prepared to

type in their property identification number or their water bill account number.

"It walks them through it," Golden said.

However, she doesn't expect residents to rush to pay online.

"We're so homebound here," Golden said. "A lot of our people come in just because they like to."

Residents have been asking for the service for a couple of years, she said. Therefore, city officials checked into it and decided it was a service that they wanted to bring to the community.

Official Payments, the service that offers online payments, charges \$3 for payments zero to \$9. Therefore, if a tax payment was \$2,500 it would the resident an additional \$88 for the convenience of using the service.

"I am impressed with the professionalism of the company and all of their employees," Golden said. "This was probably the easiest thing I ever set up."

Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddeel@ht.homecom.net.

# 2 officers injured in bizarre chase

Man suffering from stab wound causes accident in attempt to flee

By Diane Dempsey Deel  
STAFF WRITER

Two Wixom police officers were injured when a 39-year-old man with a stab wound tried to outrun police and collided with another car on S. Wixom Road at the I-96 overpass.

The accident occurred about 11 a.m. March 4 when Wixom police attempted to pull the man over who drove the pigeon to find its way back home.

"(The Vancouver woman) said not to release him because he might not go home," Burns said. "He's been here three and a half weeks. This just might be his new home."

Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddeel@ht.homecom.net.

man tried to get away from police by speeding and driving erratically.

He went through three more red traffic lights as he sped southbound and collided with another car just before I-96. The driver, a 33-year-old Macomb man, who was struck by the stabby man received minor injuries. He sought medical care later that day.

The collision did not stop the man from fleeing.

"He jumped out of the car and ran," Goodline said.

However, he was soon arrested by police near the roadway of I-96 and S. Wixom Road. Police noticed the man was bleeding from his abdomen where he had been stabbed twice.

"He hit and kicked the officers," Goodline said. "He hit them in the face a number of times. One officer now has a bad knee and the other has bruises and contusions on his left leg."

The two police officers who were chasing the man crashed into each other during the chase. Both police cars were damaged in the accident.

One of the officers, who received minor injuries trying to apprehend the man, was treated at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. The other officer was treated at Providence Hospital in Novi. Both officers are now at home.

The man who caused the accident is in fair condition. However, Goodline said the man's family members told police he had become increasingly agitated in the last few days and they were concerned about him.

Police became alarmed when the man did not stop after the police officer followed him with his siren and overhead lights on. Instead,

# Lakes gun lock program geared towards kids

By Diane Dempsey Deel  
STAFF WRITER

Walled Lake, Wixom and Wolverine Lake police are giving out gun locks in hopes of preventing a gun from getting in the wrong hands.

State officials gave local municipalities a grant to offset the cost of the gun locks.

"We started this a week ago," said Captain John Woychowski of the Walled Lake Police Department. "We're doing it to increase citizens awareness about gun safety and to increase the quality of life of all Walled Lake residents."

The department has been lucky and has not had to respond to any accidental shootings in the city, he said. However, it's always possible for a child to get a hold of a gun and fire it.

Clarence Goodline, Wixom chief of police, agreed.

"Children can have the where-

with-all to load them," Goodline said. "They see people on television loading guns. They're naturally curious and they want to know how they work. They can't connect what maybe that a firearm can create, let alone death when it's fired."

Woychowski said children who were given access to guns during a television news magazine show he saw, were pointing the guns at each other and pulling the trigger. He said that just proves that children have a curiosity about weapons.

"You read about it and hear about it in the news more often than not," Woychowski said. "Gun safety is so important and children are so inquisitive."

**John Woychowski**  
Captain, Walled Lake Police Department

gun owners to keep the keys with them all of the time.

"We've given out quite a few," Woychowski said. "Our newsletter said bring in a smile and we'll give you a gun lock."

Goodline noted that only a few residents have asked for gun locks in his town. He hopes more residents will start taking advantage of the locks although most parents are responsible with their guns, he said.

"These are tools that can help parents be responsible and keep their children safe," Goodline said. "That's what it's all about."

Woychowski also encourages residents with guns to stop in.

"The bottom line is if it saves one accident from happening, it saves a lot of grief," Woychowski said.

Only a person with a key would have easy access to the gun. According to Master Lock officials, the key should be kept away from children or others who shouldn't have access to the gun. Therefore, it may be necessary for

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# Novi Winter Percussion places fifth in competition

By Angelo Parlove  
STAFF WRITER

With hands moving at mind-boggling speeds to strike each musical note on their drums and anchored by a sea of experimental sounds, the Novi Winter Percussion is in mid-season stride and looking ahead towards the world championships this spring. The drumline is on the heels of a little-place finish at WinterGuard International (WGI) Midwest Regional in Chesterton, Ind., on Feb. 22, as well as a first-place victory at Livonia Franklin High School on March 2, looking only to come up stronger at the WGI World Championships in Dayton, Ohio, on April 14.

"The kids work really hard," said Novi Band booster member Linda Biss. "It is a very rigorous program that takes a significant amount of dedication from the kids." The Novi Winter Percussion — with 32 members — is an extracurricular activity for Novi High School students, following the close of the marching band season. The program features only drums and percussion, blending together instruments such as marimbas, cymbals, xylophones, vibes and drums into a musical concoction.

Both orchestral percussion and marching percussion are used as percussive voices integrated with color and movement," said Novi Winter Percussion director Jim Rehbeck.

**"Our focus is a musical and visual presentation that is fun for the student performers, entertaining for our audience and technically challenging."**

Jim Rehbeck  
Director, Novi Winter Percussion

This year, the student musicians are presenting the music of jazz guitarist Pat Metheny, capturing his work with rudimentary drumming and experimental sounds. "Our focus is a musical and visual presentation that is fun for the student performers, entertaining for our audience and technically challenging," Rehbeck said. The show closes with a surprise finale that unveils 12 hidden drum sets.

The 2002 show of the music of Pat Metheny is proving to be a popular one," Rehbeck said. Furthermore, students learn entirely new music skills for the drumline. Most band members

play a different instrument in the Novi High School marching band and apply their musicianship to new areas in the drumming and percussion sections, including playing multiple instruments for the show.

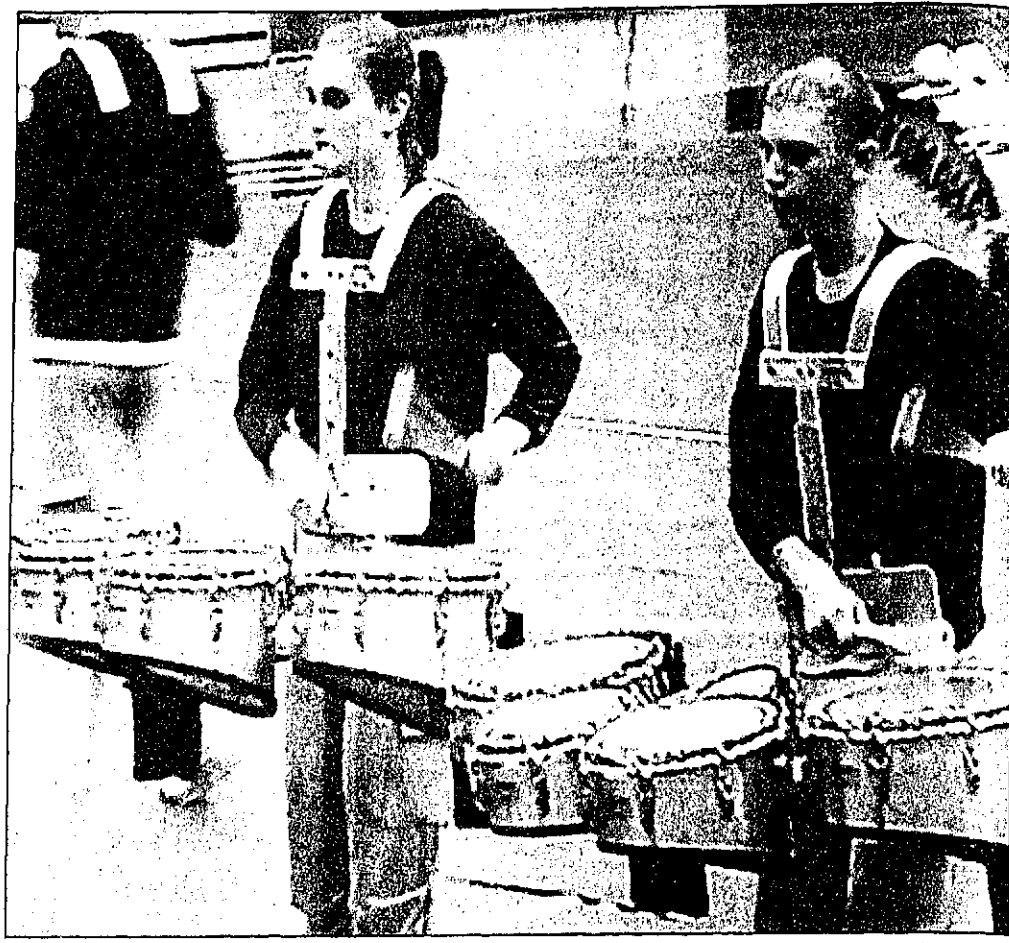
"Some of the kids might play a marmba in one segment of the performance and a drum in the other," Biss said.

The Novi Winter Percussion season begins in November with a rigorous practice schedule, while students start competing in regional and local competitions across Michigan and the Midwest in February. They close the competitive season at Dayton in April.

Between last week's victory in Livonia and the upcoming WGI World Championships, the Novi musicians will take their show to South Lyon, Ypsilanti and Westland, as well as the Michigan Color Guard Circuit State Championships in Sturgis. "Winter percussion teaches more than musical skills," Rehbeck said. "Students learn lessons they will use all their lives, such as teamwork, responsibility and the values of goal setting."

Last year, the Novi Winter Percussion finished 13th at the WGI World Championships in Wisconsin.

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at [aparlove@lajournal.com](mailto:aparlove@lajournal.com).



Members of the Novi Winter Percussion team perform at the WinterGuard International (WGI) Midwest Regional in Chesterton, Ind. The squad placed fifth overall.

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## Obituaries

### Richard B. Alexander

Richard Alexander of Northville, formerly of Novi, died at Oak Harbor Retirement Community in Oak Harbor, Wash., on Feb. 6. He was 78.

Mr. Alexander was born in Alliance, Ohio on Oct. 10, 1923 to Claude B. Alexander and Emma Maude (Anderson) Alexander. A graduate of Alliance High School, Mr. Alexander served in the Army Air Force in World War II. He later married Betty Cronin on Oct. 19, 1946.

Mr. Alexander worked as a machinist for Morgan Engineering and became supervisor of the erection of overhead cranes in steel mills in Turkey, Yugoslavia and throughout the United States. Mr. Alexander ultimately retired from Great Lakes Steel, based in Ecorse, in 1988.

Mr. Alexander enjoyed living small planes, building model airplanes and fishing. He was a member of the Conard Masonic Lodge in Alliance and was a member of the Plummers and was a charter member of Faith Community Presbyterian Church of Novi.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Alexander is survived by his daughters, Claudia Alexander of

Coupeville, Wash., Judi Alexander of Woodbury, Wash., and Sheri (David) Guyot of Northville; his grandchildren, Brian, Todd and Heather Hughes, Stacie and Casey Felkey, and Chad, Matt and Evan Guyot; and his three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service for Mr. Alexander will be held March 9 at 11 a.m. at Faith Community Presbyterian Church. Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Community.

### Helen Ann King

Helen King died Feb. 28 at University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. She was 80.

Ms. King was born March 5, 1921 and was a former bookkeeper for Mark's Small Engine Service of Northville Township. Ms. King was wife to Leonard, mother of Mark (Ellen), Cheryl (Ed) White and Kay (John) Deibaut.

A memorial service for Ms. King was held March 2 at St. Joseph Church in South Lyon. Funeral arrangements were made by O'Brien / Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Antiochian Association and St. John Catholic Church.

### Louis G. Scovill

Louis G. Scovill of Chelsea, formerly of Novi, died Feb. 28 at Chelsea Community Hospital. He was 91.

Mr. Scovill was born Nov. 2, 1910 in Hudson to E. Mitchell and

### Arrie M. (Guiss) Scovill

Arrie M. (Guiss) Scovill. He graduated from the University of Michigan and worked for Chrysler Corporation until 1975. Mr. Scovill married Louise Unquhart in 1937. She preceded him in death in 1954. Mr. Scovill then married Edythe (Watson) Guiss in 1960; she survives Mr. Scovill.

Mr. Scovill was a member of the American Federation of Musicians and was a former member of Novi United Methodist Church. After living in Novi for 19 years, Mr. Scovill moved to Chelsea in 1991.

In addition to his second wife, Mr. Scovill is survived by his son, Donald B. (Kathleen) Scovill of California; his stepson, John P. (Anita) Chism of Wixom; his stepdaughter, Kathryn L. Chism of Ann Arbor; four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Mr. Scovill was preceded in death by one son, Gary A. Scovill; one sister, Mary Scovill; and three brothers, Waldo, Harold and Elsworth.

A memorial service for Mr. Scovill was held March 5 at the Chelsea Retirement Community Chapel. Rev. Richard Dake officiated. Interment will be at Oak Grove Cemetery in Chelsea.

Memorial contributions may be made to Chelsea First United Methodist Church or Chelsea Retirement Community.

### Paulo DiRado

Paulo DiRado died March 1 at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia. He was 72.

Mr. DiRado was born March 13,

### 1929 in Santa Maria Imbaro, Italy.

He graduated from Northrop-Sassaman High School in Novi. Mr. DiRado worked for the Tony Rea Cement Company, and later worked for his son at Brickscape in Northville, a position he held since 1986.

Mr. DiRado is survived by his wife, Filomena DiRado of Novi; his children, Lisa (John Keenan) DiRado of Northville, Joseph (Diane) DiRado of Northville, Susan (Mark) Merritt of South Lyon; eight grandchildren, two brothers and four sisters.

A memorial service for Mr. DiRado was held March 4 at Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home. Interment was at Glen Eden Mausoleum in Livonia.

### Fred J. Bahbah

Fred Bahbah of Northville died March 3 at Huron Valley Hospital in Commerce Township. He was 77.

Mr. Bahbah was born in Jerusalem on Dec. 14, 1924 to the late Jacob Bahbah and Katrina Bahbah. Mr. Bahbah was a professor of chemistry at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Shaw College, Hillsdale College and William Tyndale College. He was a retiree at the time of his death.

Mr. Bahbah is survived by his son, Fred (Linda) Bahbah of Novi; his grandchildren, David and Julie Bahbah of Novi; his siblings, Elias Bahbah of Jerusalem, Hanna Bahbah of Orange, Calif., George Bahbah of Niles, Nuzha Hanna of Toronto, Zakieh Latif of Bethlehem and Antonette Abu-Judeh of Detroit.

### Clarence Wilbert Rottermond

Clarence Wilbert Rottermond, longtime resident of Novi died

Feb. 23. He was 80.

Mr. Rottermond was born Oct. 7, 1921 in Detroit. He retired from Kelsey-Hayes Corp., Romulus Plant in 1983. He held memberships at VFW, Woodhaven (Moose) Lodge and Plymouth Elks. Mr. Rottermond was a WWII Army Veteran.

In addition to his wife of 55 years, Dorothy, Mr. Rottermond is survived by 2 sons, David (Linda) of Macomb, MI and Mark (Ann Marie) of Farmington Hills, MI; one sister, Lois (Raymond) Heiman of Wayne, MI and 2 grandsons; Jon and Matthew.

Funeral services for Mr. Rottermond were held Feb. 28 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 2040 S. Commerce Rd., Walled Lake, MI 48390. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 2040 S. Commerce Rd., Walled Lake, MI 48390.

Funeral arrangements were made by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River Ave., Farmington, MI 48335.

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# Novi Middle School boasts quality student art collection

By Angelo Parlove  
STAFF WRITER

Novi Middle School is boasting a collection of this year's top pieces of student art, as it hosts an exhibit of the creative talents of its seventh and eighth graders at the Novi Civic Center.

"The kids are competing at the bit to get their pieces in," said Novi Middle School art teacher Nancy Jardine. "This is an opportunity for them to put their work out in the public."

The show — which includes a wide variety of paintings, drawings and ceramics — began on Feb. 15 and will run through March 14.

"If you're going to make beautiful art, it needs to be shown," Jardine said. "I encourage new ideas, for them to push it and try things they haven't tried before."

The exhibit contains more than 50 original artworks from 18 different art classes. Novi Middle School seventh-grade student Nicholas Sinigaglia is proud of his class-

ory and clay carving.

"I like learning the technique and knowledge of art and the experience of knowing how to do it well," said Novi Middle School seventh grader Nick Carroll.

With each new project the students tackle, Jardine stresses the importance of presentation, neatness and craftsmanship.

"The difference between a good piece of art and an average piece is detail," Jardine said.

Moreover, emphasis is put on learning a sound creative process in order to make a quality product from the images and ideas in your mind.

"(The exhibit) makes me feel proud," said Novi Middle School seventh-grade student Tim Nally. "It makes you feel happy because you tried, and you know that you can do better next time."

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at [angelparlove@novi.com](mailto:angelparlove@novi.com).



Students at Novi Middle School work on an art project during class. The school is showcasing student art through March 15.

# NYA to host 20th annual Bowl-A-Thon

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

It's time to wax your ball and stir your shoes in preparation for the 20th annual Novi Youth Assistance Bowl-A-Thon.

It doesn't matter if your three friends strike or gutters because the number one goal of the March 9 event is helping a worthwhile cause and the number two goal is fun — although some do throw a little healthy competition into the mix.

Jane Cooney, vice president of the Novi Lions Club, has been known to have a small side challenge against the Novi Lions Club team.

"It is always a good time," Cooney said.

The Lions Club has been participating since about 1983.

"The Bowl-A-Thon has become the main source to raise funds for our programs," said John Patrick O'Brien, Novi Youth Assistance volunteer. "Any program we do we have to raise the money for."

O'Brien said in the past the group held a garage sale and a bake sale before the Bowl-A-Thon became the main funding source.

All money raised at the event will be used to fund the group's family-oriented volunteer-driven programs.

Some examples of what donations will provide include scholarships for children to attend recreational activities and camps, tutoring programs, teen programs in the summer, alcohol awareness programs, mentoring programs and free counseling for children and their families.

"We're pretty active in supporting families," said Claudia Walter, Novi Youth Assistance professional case worker. "If they have needs, they are met."

Walter said the 45-year nonprofit Novi assistance program focuses mainly on prevention, also provides families with Christmas and Easter holidays and before school shopping in the fall.

"One hundred percent of the money from the Bowl-A-Thon goes to all the programming," she said.

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

For information regarding rates call The Northville Record or Novi News (248)349-1700

<b>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH</b> 220 E. Main St., Northville, MI 48161 Worship: 9:30 & 11:00 AM Children's: 10:00 AM Sunday School: 9:30 AM Rev. James P. Suter, Pastor	<b>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE</b> 220 E. Main St., Northville, MI 48161 Worship: 9:30 & 11:00 AM Children's: 10:00 AM Sunday School: 9:30 AM Rev. James P. Suter, Pastor
<b>CHURCH OF TODAY WEST (Unity)</b> Meadowbrook Elementary School - Walled Lake (South of 13 Mile on Meadowbrook Road) (248) 449-6900 Services: 10 AM Children's Church: 10 AM Minister: Barbara Cleveland	<b>OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 1701 Royal Northville, MI 48161 WEEKEND LITURGIES Sunday: 7:30 & 10:30 AM Church: 248-2421, School: 348-3619 Parish: 348-2659
<b>NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 4101 W. Linnell, Northville, MI 48161 Sunday Worship: 9:45 AM Nursery Care Available Louise R. Ott, Pastor	<b>ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN MISSOURI SYNOD</b> 11000 E. Main St., Northville, MI 48161 Church: 348-3148, School: 348-3146 Sunday Worship: 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM Contemporary Service at 10:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class: 9:45 AM
<b>MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH</b> 21355 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48161 Worship: 10:30 AM Church School: 10 AM 248-348-7757 Minister: Rev. Dr. E. Neil Hunt Minister of Music: Patrick Kuntz	<b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE</b> 349-1144 9 Mile & Toft Roads Worship: 10:30 AM Sunday School: 10:30 AM Summer Worship: 9:15 & 11:00 AM (July-August) Rev. John Hays Minister: Rev. Dr. E. Neil Hunt Minister of Music: Patrick Kuntz
<b>COMMUNITY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH</b> Sunday 10:30 AM, at BECC (Old Scranton) 125 S. Church St., Brighton Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister (810) 225-2822 sauls@uuhc.org	<b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NOVI</b> 4330 11 Mile of Toft Rd. Discipline: 10:30 AM Dorothy: 11:15 AM Sunday School: 10:30 AM Dr. Gary Linnell, Pastor 349-9441 www.novifirstbaptistchurch.org
<b>ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI</b> 4101 W. Linnell Novi, MI 48161 Sunday: 9:30 & 11:30 AM Rev. James J. Cullen, Pastor Phone: Church: 347-7778	<b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE</b> 217 N. Wing Sunday Worship: 10:45 AM & 6:30 PM West Youth Meetings: 7:00 PM Boys Brigade: 7 PM, Pioneer Girls: 7 PM Sunday School: 9:30 AM
<b>CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY</b> 2652 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48161 Worship: 9:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist: 9:30 AM, 10:30 AM Father: Joseph H. Assoc. Pastor Parish Office: 348-8847	<b>FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b> 21300 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48161 (between 8 & 9 Mile Rd. near Novi Hill) Worship: 10:30 AM Morning: 9:30 AM Discipline: 6:00 PM www.firstchurchofthenazarene.org Dr. Carl M. Lett, Pastor
<b>WORLDWIDE HARVEST CHURCH</b> A Christian Community Church Pastor: Keith J. Mackin Sunday Worship: 11:00 AM The Board of Christian Ministries: 410-410 Mon. Info: (248) 728-4105, E-mail: <a href="mailto:harvest@worldwidechurch.com">harvest@worldwidechurch.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.wwc2000.com">www.wwc2000.com</a>	<b>SPIRIT OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH E.L.C.A.</b> 10000 E. Main St., Northville, MI 48161 Worship: 9:30 AM Pastor: Matthew M. McGinnis, 248-473-2250
<b>FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> 4400 W. Linnell, Novi, MI 48161 1/2 mi. west of Novi Rd. Dr. Nancy J. Henderson, Pastor Rev. Arina Senabek, Associate Pastor Worship & Church School: 10:30 AM Pastor: TIMOTHY WHITE (248) 348-2746 We're One Big Happy Family!	<b>OAK POINTE CHURCH</b> Northville High School on 6 Mile Sunday 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM Casual, contemporary live band (248) 615-7050
<b>CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL</b> 10 Mile between Toft & Beck, Novi Phone: 347-1175 Sunday: 7:45 AM, Holy Eucharist Sunday: 11:00 AM, Holy Eucharist 11 AM Sunday School & Nursery	<b>ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH</b> (248) 624-3817 430 Nicolet St., Walled Lake 9 AM Morning Service & Church School The Rev. Leslie Harding, Vicar
<b>IMMANUEL CHURCH</b> Sundays at Hickory Woods Elementary 30655 Novi Rd. (Between 12 and 14 Mile Rd.) Sunday School: 9:30 AM Worship: 11:00 AM	<b>WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</b> Dr. James M. McGuire, Senior Pastor 4000 S. Main St., Northville, MI 48161 Services: 8:30, 10:00, 11:30 AM Sunday School & Nursery Provided Contemporary Service: 6:45 AM Sunday School: 9:30 AM Live Service & Discipleship: 5:00 AM, 11:00 AM

**NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 02-004**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Corlon Construction Co. is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow a temporary office trailer at 27100 Wixom Road (Target) from the date of the meeting until March 13, 2002.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 3:00 p.m. on March 13, 2002 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to March 13, 2002.

SARAH MARCHIONI, TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY (248) 347-0415

**NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 02-005**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Multi Building Co., Inc. is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow a temporary construction trailer at 24493 Cavendish Ave. West (Churchill Crossing) from the date of the meeting until March 13, 2002.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 3:15 p.m. on March 13, 2002 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to March 13, 2002.

SARAH MARCHIONI, TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY (248) 347-0415

**CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review shall convene in its first session at 9:00 a.m., EST, Tuesday, March 5th, 2002, in the Novi Assessing Department at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the assessment roll.

Notice is further given that the second session of the Board of Review will meet for the purpose of hearing and considering assessment protests in the Novi City Council Chambers at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road on March 11, 12 & 13, 2002. All appearances before the Board will be by appointment only. If you or your representative want to appear in person, the appointment must be made on or before 5:00 p.m., EST, Friday, March 8, 2002. Appearances before the Board of Review are limited to five (5) minutes or less. Petitions are available at the Assessor's Office or at [www.ci.novi.mi.us](http://www.ci.novi.mi.us). NO APPOINTMENTS WILL BE GIVEN UNTIL A PETITION IS RECEIVED BY THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT.

Letters of protest will be accepted on or before 5:00 p.m., EST, Wednesday, March 13, 2002. Postmarks will not be considered. When submitting a letter of protest for the Board of Review consideration, you must attach a completed petition (available at the Assessing Department), along with any supporting information.

All agents protesting values on property, other than their own, MUST HAVE written authorization from each property owner they are representing. Persons on listed or limited income may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes due to poverty. Applications are available at the Assessing Department, or at [www.ci.novi.mi.us](http://www.ci.novi.mi.us).

**BOARD OF REVIEW SCHEDULE**  
Monday, March 11, 2002 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 12, 2002 - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 13, 2002 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Any questions should be directed to the Assessing Department at (248) 347-0485.

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# Police News

## Stolen property reported

On March 4, a 24-year-old former Novi resident filed a stolen property report with the police department.

The female said when she returned to her apartment in the 3000 block of Springlake after work on Feb. 25, she found the contents of her residence in the parking lot near building 22. The woman resident told police she knew she was going to be evicted, but because all of her belongings were left outside, they were riddled through and many things were stolen.

Police department personnel informed her that is a civil issue and the woman said that was fine she just wanted to make a report for insurance purposes.

With the approval from a drunk driver, a Novi police officer administered field sobriety tasks to see if a Livonia resident was able to operate his car safely.

The officer was patrolling Novi Road March 3 at 1:45 a.m. when he noticed a gray 1989 Cadillac traveling 55 mph in a 40 mph zone. The officer activated his lights and sirens, pulling the car over at the Mobile Gas Station on Novi Road and Grand River Avenue.

It was noted in the report that as the 22-year-old driver pulled into a parking space he did not stop in time and struck the curb. It was also noted that as the driver searched for his information, he was swaying in his seat. The officer

asked if he had been drinking and the man said he had four beers. The officer then asked him to step out of the car so he could make sure he was capable of operating the vehicle and the Livonia man said "that was probably a good idea."

After stumbling and falling through his sobriety tasks, the man blew a .20. He was arrested and taken to the Novi Police Station.

The West Oaks employee said at about 4:30 p.m. a white female in her thirties came in and ordered three cookies totaling \$1.33. The 17-year-old said the unknown woman gave her \$20.35. It was reported that as the employee was handing her \$19.02 in change, the woman handed her \$1. The employee then gave her \$20.02 back.

The complainant said the woman stood there holding a dollar bill saying that was the only change she received.

According to the report, the employee's manager told her to return the \$20 to the woman. The female left the store in a U-Haul and was described as a 5-foot-6-

inch 150-pound woman with short black hair and bad teeth. The case remains open.

**Deceased found in apartment**

A 44-year-old Walled Lake woman who lived in an apartment in the 1400 block of W. West Maple, was found dead in her bed by a neighbor Feb. 27.

The neighbor noticed the woman's car was still snow covered and had not moved in days. She also noticed a smell permeating from the apartment.

The neighbor called the apartment manager, who called the deceased woman's 23-year-old daughter.

The daughter asked the neighbor to go in the apartment to check on her mother.

The deceased woman had been treated for bronchial problems in recent days. No foul play is suspected.

## A little tipsy?

# Novi student returns from semester in Canada

Sarah McKinney, an Alma College senior from Novi recently returned from a Fall Term spent in British Columbia. She is the daughter of Mickey and Carol McKinney of Novi.

McKinney studied at the School of Field Studies in British Columbia as one of Alma College's many off-campus educational opportunities. Alma students can study in several international and national settings for an academic term, the College's Spring Term or a summer program.

Alma College, a four-year, coed liberal arts college in the middle of Michigan's lower peninsula, is known for its strong academic programs emphasizing a global perspective. Students engage in active learning through original research, frequently alongside faculty. Founded in 1886 by Presbyterians, Alma has positioned itself as one of the top liberal arts colleges in the country.

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DROBNEY (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45  
RETURN TO REVEREND (G) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45  
COLLATERAL DAMAGE (R) 9:50  
BIG FAT LIES (PG) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45  
A BEAUTIFUL MIND (PG-13)  
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# Novi School officials testify in support of HB-4072

By Angelo Parlove  
Staff Writer

Novi Schools' executive director and personnel director testified before the Michigan House of Representatives today in support of new legislation that would allow direct charitable contributions to schools across Michigan.

Following is an important part of the legislative process, he said. And it's going to help Novi Schools, it's going to help other schools, it's going to help our state.

On Feb. 20, Schram, along with Novi Education Foundation chair Michael Pesendorfer, testified before the Michigan House of Representatives Tax Policy Committee to voice their approval of House Bill 4072, which would provide a tax credit for charitable contributions to an education facility or organization.

"We got some pretty good reactions from the representatives," Schram said. "We gave them the long of an educational foundation."

If passed, HB-4072 would allow Michigan residents a tax credit equal to 50 percent of their charitable contribution to their local

school district, not to exceed \$100 per filer or \$200 on a joint return. State Rep. Nancy Cassis (R-Nowi) said the tax code can and should stimulate charitable giving.

"We are encouraging taxpayers to make charitable contributions to education foundations," Cassis said. "This bill will help create a new financial pipeline to our schools."

Schram believes this tax credit could prove to be an important source of revenue for Novi Schools in the upcoming years.

"As funding gets tighter from the state, foundations will become more and more important," said Schram, whose district currently relies on state aid for over 60 percent of its general operating budget.

"It is important for Novi because we're getting less and less because of state funding," Schram said. "Novi will have to rely more on foundations."

HB-4072 would put education organizations, such as the Novi Education Foundation, on the same level as community foundations, institutions for higher learning and the Michigan Colleges

Foundations, which already allow for credit for charitable contributions in the Michigan tax code.

"We try to raise money for worthwhile causes," Pesendorfer said. "We want to be on an even playing field with other foundations."

The Novi Education Foundation provides money for school programs that the district's general operating budget is unable to fund, such as music therapy for special education children, educational partnerships with the Michigan Opera Theater and The Wall Street Journal, wildlife habitats and reading and critical thinking programs.

"Dynamic school groups can do so much for students and the school system as a whole," said Cassis, a former school psychologist for Novi Schools.

HB-4072 was unanimously approved by the House Tax Policy Committee and will now go before the full Michigan House of Representatives for consideration.

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at [aparlove@nlh.com](mailto:aparlove@nlh.com).



State Rep. Nancy Cassis, R-Nowi, Novi Education Foundation chair Michael Pesendorfer and Novi Schools' personnel director Bob Schram testify before the state House of Representatives Tax Policy committee to voice their approval for House Bill 4072, which would provide a tax credit for charitable contributions to an education facility or organization.

# District explains fund equity

By Angelo Parlove  
Staff Writer

So, what exactly is a fund equity? Novi Community School District maintains a cash reserve, which fluctuates from between 9.5 percent to 10.5 percent of its general operating budget — the budget that includes the rest of teacher payroll, school books and supplies, and a variety of educational programs. The district calls this cash reserve a fund equity.

In more tangible terms, if Novi Schools was to suddenly find itself without money except for this fund equity, it would be able to successfully operate and meet its costs for an estimated three to four weeks, said Novi Schools' superintendent Edmund Lippe. This is its current operational "safety net."

"If we have an emergency of some kind, then we need adequate money to cover that," Lippe said.

In February, the district received about \$1.2 million in funds that was promised to them from the state. Facing an adjusted budget deficit of about \$1.7 million for the 2002-2003 fiscal year, Novi Schools used the state aid to pay down next year's deficit by \$950,000, while applying the remaining \$250,000 to its fund equity, still leaving themselves about a \$800,000 deficit that will be met by educational cutbacks.

Thus, a question could be raised, why not use these "emergency funds" to eliminate this remaining deficit instead of cutting programs and building the fund equity?

Well, the answer to this lies in the interpretation of "emergency." Novi Schools uses the fund equity to meet immediate cash flow emergencies, such as payroll and bill shortages due to irregularities of state aid payments. Also, the

immediate need to replace a suddenly fully air-conditioning unit at an elementary school might qualify for use of this money.

However, determining the district's educational programs from year to year requires more long-term planning than immediate unforeseen cash requirements. It would not be financially sound for the district to spend on education programs above its means in current years and disregard the future, Lippe said.

Thus, if the school was to dwindle its fund equity down to meet current program costs and a cash flow shortage such as payroll needs did occur, the school would be forced to seek out private lenders in order to pay teacher salaries.

"We would have to borrow money then and have the interest costs of borrowing," Lippe said. "The fund equity is more than an emergency fund, it is for unusual instances."

# Council splits vote on South Lake Dr. contract

Continued from page 1

Associates, which was the lowest bidder and ranked more qualified by the city's review team, would not receive the contract.

After evaluating the three bidding firms with a scale where the most qualified company receives a high number and the least qualified receives a low number, JCK received 1,008 points, Northwest received 1,004 points and Giffels-Webster received 994 points.

The review team ranked the firms using criteria recommended by the Michigan Society of Architects and the Consulting Engineers Council of Michigan.

"When someone (Giffels-Webster) is rated lower, it is hard to justify a 6.7 percent increase in pay," DeRosier said.

Clark and the other two members voting in favor of Giffels-Webster said the city's commitment to generating employment on the city's bidding process was the main reason in awarding the contract to the Detroit firm.

He pointed out the budgeted amount for the contract was \$82,000.

"I'm actually surprised you accepted a bid from Giffels-Webster when it has been administration's policy to not award contracts to companies that work on surrounding communities," Capello said.

Clark said it is time the city starts walking the walk instead of talking the talk of opening the bidding process to all interested applicants.

McClain said JCK & Associates is currently working on about five to eight projects for Novi.

The South Lake Drive engineering contract approval comes one week after city officials decided their process of awarding city contracts after questions arose when it was announced a construction company led by Main Street developer James Chey defaulted on the Novi Fire Station No. 4 and training center contract.

As a result of the South Lake Drive debate, DeRosier said he will continue to dedicate his time to developing a committee to set standards for how contracts are awarded in the city of Novi.

Victoria Salkicha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at [vsalkicha@nlh.com](mailto:vsalkicha@nlh.com).

## Military Briefs

Army Pvt. Joel R. Geary has graduated from the light-wheel vehicle mechanic advanced individual training (AIT) course at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

The student was deployed to perform maintenance, troubleshoot, and repair wheeled vehicles and related mechanical components, including suspension systems, internal combustion engines, and power trains, wheel-into assemblies, hydraulic brake and steering systems, and operate a wheeled vehicle crane, hoist, and winch assemblies. Geary is the son of Rep. R. Sova of 237 Lisa Circle, and Marvin W. Geary of 1324 Bayview, both of White Lake.

He is a 2001 graduate of Waller Lake Central High School.

Operation Noble Eagle is the official name given to the U.S. military operations associated with the homeland defense and support of federal, state, and local civil agencies in the United States. U.S. military reserve component members have been activated to help guard, protect and defend America from within, her borders, shores and skies.

As authorized by President Bush's Executive Order declaring a national emergency, reservists are being called-up in response to the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on the United States.

Burger, a military police, is the son of Sandra K. Adams of 380 W. Second St., Inly City and Lloyd L. Burger of Wixom. The private is a 2000 graduate of Lakeland High School, White Lake Township.

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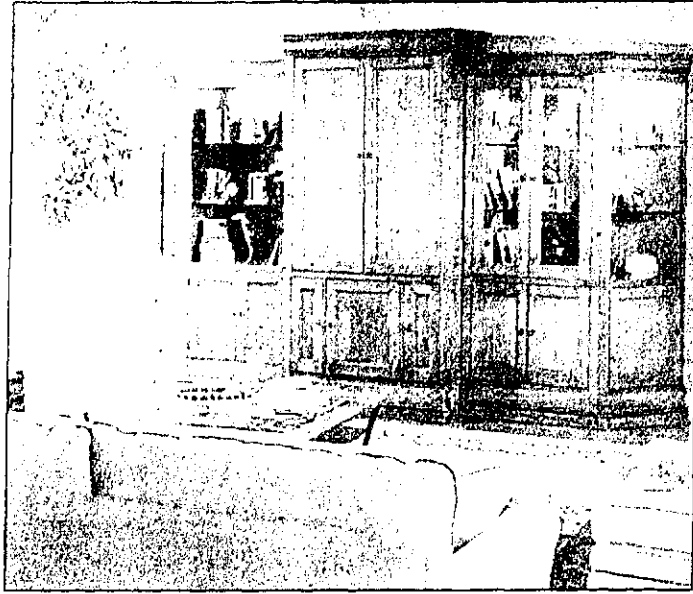
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## Area markets fill void for gourmet shoppers

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

Looking for a gourmet shopping alternative now that Vic's World Class Market has closed its doors? Taorello's Gourmet Market could be a good alternative place to purchase fresh produce and specialty items.

John Taormina, co-owner of the Brighton market, said shoppers will be pleased at what they will find — the very best foods in the world," he said.

The market located at 1007 E. Grand River Avenue, in Brighton, not only offers a wide selection of world-wide fine foods and wines, but also offers the expertise of many former Vic's Market officials. "I spent eleven years as the director of operations at Vic's before I decided to open my own store," Taormina said. "I have seen a lot of the Vic's customers in my new store ever since."

Former employees of the Novi market, now making Brighton their home, include meal director Ted LaCoe, a former 6-year Vic's employee, the wine expert Donna Dietrich, a former 5-year Vic's employee, produce manager Guy Wolf, a former 8-year Vic's employee, meat associate David Daily, a former 3-year Vic's employee, a catering coordinator Julie Jordan

a former 2-year Vic's employee and pastry-bakery director Randy German, a former 5-year Vic's employee.

Taormina said he decided to leave Vic's because the direction of the market was slowly getting away from what it was originally built to provide. "It seemed that more and more regular shelf items were being introduced, and I felt it was time to open my own store and give the customers what they wanted to find — the very best foods in the world," he said.

Jim Tanksi, co-owner of Plymouth Marketplace, is also urging former customers of Vic's Market to visit his Plymouth store as well. "Although the market is known for being a 'destination meal store' because of the market's offering of Angus beef, Amish chickens and other top quality choices, Tanksi said his specialty market offers so much more.

"We have everything someone would need to make that special evening perfect," Tanksi said. "In addition to offering the best fish, seafood and deli department, The W. Ann Arbor and Lilley roads market offers farm-fresh vegetables brought to the store daily, a nice bakery section, a cheese

department, full dairy department, floral department, wine section and an enormous selection of beer.

"We do everything he [Vic] did, but we're only 20,000-square-feet so it is easier to get around and a little more convenient," Tanksi said. "That is what we have found people really want. We put the convenience into gourmet."

The market, which Tanksi co-owns with his brother Mark, has been open since 1994 and is one mile west of Interstate 275 off the Ann Arbor Road exit.

Other area markets offering an alternative to the traditional grocery store include Joe's Produce on Seven Mile Road east of Farmington Road in Livonia and Holiday Market on Lilley Road south of Cherry Hill Road in Canton.

After the closing of Vic's Market, John Partington, the owner of Holiday Market revealed he has been in negotiations with Vic's Market owner Victor Ventimiglia since August about acquiring the Novi Main Street food market.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@home.com.net.

## Community Events

### • THIS WEEK •

WHAT: Free home-buying seminar

DATE: March 9  
LOCATION: Pioneer Mortgage (42400 Nine Mile)

TIME: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
DETAILS: The registration-required event will teach participants about financing, tax benefits and the home purchase process.  
PHONE: (248) 347-3050, ext. 239

WHAT: Novi Cooperative Preschool open house

DATE: March 9  
TIME: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
LOCATION: Novi United Methodist Church

DETAILS: School is open to children ages three and four. Non-members of the co-op will be eligible to join.  
PHONE: (248) 960-8986

WHAT: Northville Co-Op Preschool open house / registration

DATE: March 9  
TIME: Call for info  
LOCATION: Call for info

DETAILS: Visitors can meet school teachers and see typical school activities available to children at the school.  
PHONE: (248) 348-1791

WHAT: "Amazing Woman" day

DATE: March 9  
LOCATION: Borders Books (43075 Crest Blvd.)

TIME: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
DETAILS: Inspiring female authors, coaches and experts will be making personal appearances at Borders, including Marian

Nelson, Monique Rider, Robin Harris and Debi Weinstein.  
PHONE: (248) 347-4643

WHAT: Novi Youth Assistance Bowl-A-Thon

DATE: March 9  
LOCATION: Novi Bowl (21700 Novi Road)

TIME: 1 p.m.  
DETAILS: Charity event assists Novi Youth Assistance. Free shoe rental and refreshments will be offered.  
PHONE: (248) 347-0410

WHAT: Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency free food distribution

DATE: March 12  
LOCATION: Novi Senior Center at Meadowbrook Commons (25075 Meadowbrook)

TIME: 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
DETAILS: All persons who are income-eligible and not registered for food distribution may do so by bringing Social Security cards for all household members, verification of household income and photo ID.  
PHONE: (248) 209-2658

WHAT: American Business Women's Association "Network While Golfing" seminar

DATE: March 18  
LOCATION: Wyndham Garden Hotel (42100 Crescent Blvd.)

TIME: 6:30 p.m.  
DETAILS: The seminar, hosted by PGA member Chuck Stevens, will teach golf skills and how to network with others while playing the game. Pre-registration is required by March 11.  
PHONE: (248) 876-0303

WHAT: Free Estate Planning For Young Families Seminar

DATE: March 11  
TIME: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center (45175 Ten Mile)

DETAILS: Attorney explains how to take care of your family through your will, trust, and other estate planning vehicles, plus information on the various college savings options.  
PHONE: (734) 358-2784

HomeTown Newspapers ran an incorrect ad on Feb. 28. This is the correct ad.

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

## Politics 2002: the year of the mastadon?

Before we go one step further, readers of this editorial will have to have faith that we're not lying when we say that the state legislature is considering a bill which would make the mastadon the state fossil of Michigan.

That's right — the mastadon, that ancestor of the modern-day elephant, which once lumbered along tracts of Michigan land now occupied by Blackbuster and Burger King.

You may be wondering: what's the local connection? Answer: the movement to make the tusked beast the latest in Great Lake State icons to go right along with the robin and the apple blossom is Thad McCotter, the senator whose constituency includes Novi, Northville and Northville Township.

A press release we received from McCotter's office last week said he was making the proposal on the request of a Washtenaw Community College geology professor.

At first, we thought that the announcement had to be someone's idea of silly election year games. Nostrorob...this was the real deal, and we validated the release by checking out McCotter's website, just to make sure.

There it was, in all its digital glory. There's a quote from the release. Again — we're not making this up: "Establishing the mastadon as the Michigan state fossil teaches students about the political process and gives teachers a tool to promote interest in the sciences," McCotter said.

And McCotter isn't the only one on the woolly mammal's bandwagon. We also received a press release from local state Rep. Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, who, according to his press release is "heeding the call of thousands of school children throughout the state" to further the mastadon effort.

When we first read this piece, it was easy to understand the part

about how having a state fossil might be helpful in the classroom, at least insofar as studying anthropology and archaeology. But let's be honest here, how Dumbo's great-great-grandfather could possibly relate to the world of politics...

...except, of course, in an election year.

Apparently things are a little bit slow at the state capitol these days. Our legislators appear to be spending more time on this mastadon issue than they did when, oh lets say, they were rushing through that concealed weapons law last year.

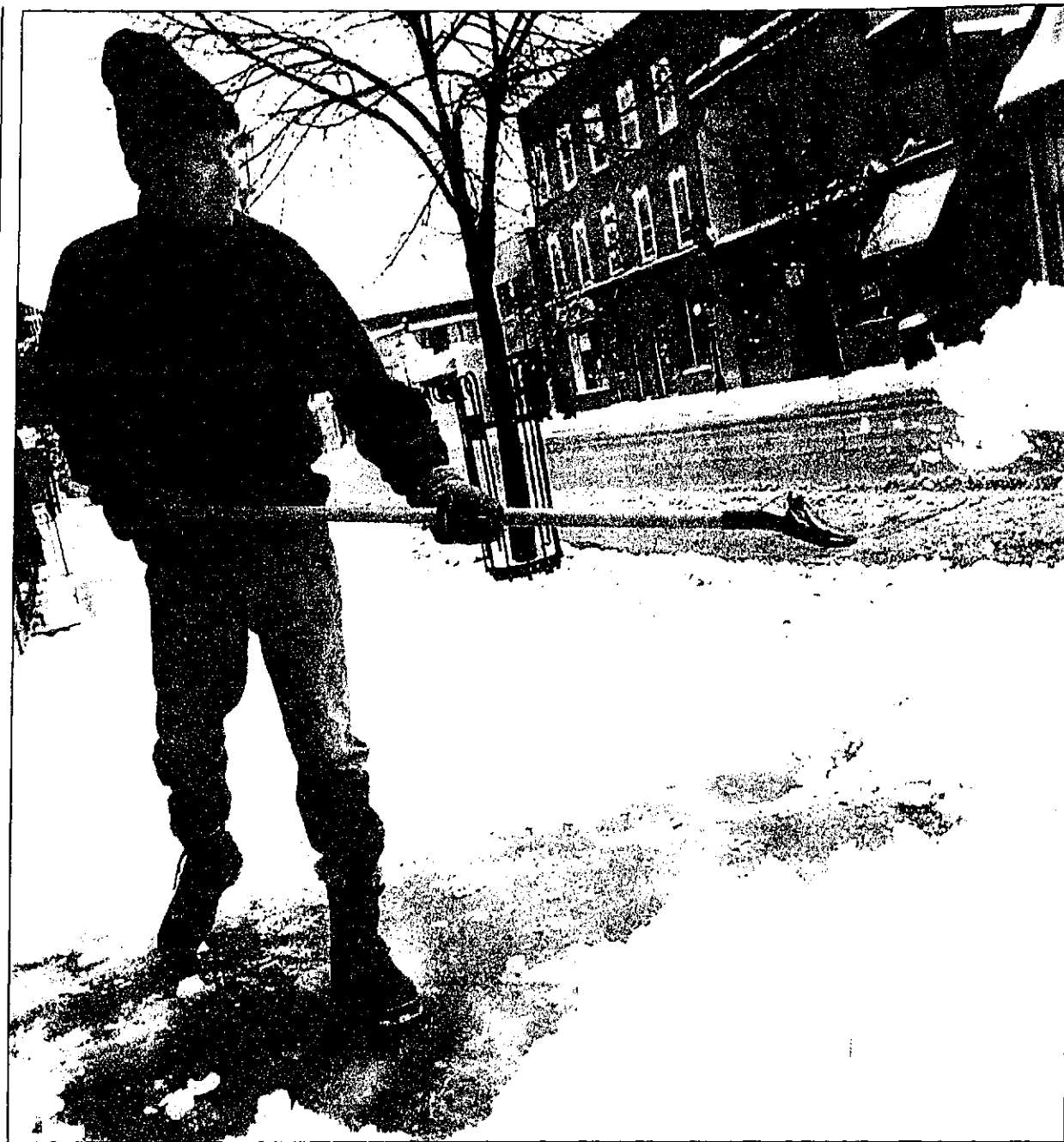
But we don't want to be spoil sports here, so in the spirit of coming up with these new symbols of the state that have long been extinct, the Novi News staff jotted down a few ideas of our own we'd like Lansing legislators to mull over this year.

STATE RETAILER: Hudson's  
STATE HIGH-TECH FIRM: Nanovation  
STATE CAR: Edsel  
STATE FOOTBALL TEAM: Michigan Panthers  
STATE COACH: Wayne Fontes  
STATE BREWERY: Stroh's  
STATE TOURISM DEPARTMENT QUESTION: "What time does the boat leave for Boblo?"  
STATE HEVERAGE: Towne Club soda

STATE PHYSICIAN: Jack Kowalski  
These are just a few of our ideas, but we figure if a creature that hasn't seen the light of day since the Great Lakes were being carved out by receding glaciers is getting attention, any one of ours must certainly have a case, and we'd like McCotter and Patterson to give our ideas some thought.

There are telltale signs you're in an election year. The proposal to make a prehistoric mammal a symbol of your state is one of them.

Speaking of prehistoric mammals...does anyone know if Sirom Thurmond is up for election in South Carolina this year?



**Snow-time**  
Dan Foster scoops away some of the seven inches of snow that fell on the Northville last Thursday morning. By the time the D&D Bike shop employee cleared the sidewalk it was a slushy, heavy mess.  
Photo by JOHN HEIDER

## LETTERS

### So how much will it cost us?

**To the editor:**  
I've recently read your article on a six-hundred and fifty word exposition about a "water rate increase" without revealing the most important facts—the bottom line.  
Has the Water and Sewer Dept. of Novi given Victoria S. a water job (an unfrozen snow job)?  
The numbers provided are meaningless. A "14.0% increase equals how many dollars?" (0.3% of what?)  
"Water storage costs \$1 to \$2 a gallon." I'll switch to Perrier!  
Either Bruce Jerome isn't being candid or your reporter isn't delving deeply enough. Give us facts, Bruce.  
How much does Detroit charge Nov? How much is Novi's surcharge?  
How do Novi's rates compare to with the rates of other suburbs buying Detroit water?  
How much does it cost to run the water department?  
How many employees?  
Does the W & S Dept. operate with a surplus or deficit?

Patrick Downey  
Novi

### Education Yes! focuses on accountability

**To the editor:**  
Congratulations to the Michigan Department of Education and the State Board of Education for initiating "Education Yes!" the new accountability framework that focuses on teaching for excellence, not just on teaching to the MEAP test.  
Arts education advocates throughout the state also applaud the inclusion of the arts as a core curriculum subject. This follows the dramatic revision of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Leave No Child Behind, signed by President Bush last month.  
Recent academically accepted research has validated what educators have long suspected: arts education contributes significantly to a student's development. This is not to suggest that education is a panacea; arts education is only successful when part of a strong curriculum that provides excellence in reading and language, mathematics and problem solving and social studies. Research has also shown a correlation between arts education and improvements in other academic areas, such as a higher SAT scores for high schools students who have had arts experiences and improved reading and math scores for students in high-poverty schools that have implemented arts programs.

**Grand Rapids?**  
During that same meeting, I was told in front of a witness that the surveys done by JCK would not stand up in a court of law. Mr. Kapelczak himself said that. So, Mr. DeRoche, if you take the \$86,000 and add \$75,000 to it, JCK was NOT "low bidder!" How many times are we going to re-invent the wheel with JCK and our City projects? Just in case you have forgotten, there is an enormous silent majority that want JCK gone. Had you been campaigning this past November with the residents, you would know their views, as four (4) Councilmembers are fully aware the expectations placed on them.  
Again, Mr. DeRoche, you took 20 minutes and wasted everyone's time! I strongly suggest you take some speaking classes before you run for State Representative this fall. There are enough buffoons spewing rhetoric in Lansing already! We certainly don't need another!  
And Mr. Capello: it was not surprising that you voted the way you did. (It JCK) are still, in essence, your landlord—we ALL know that! Whatever holding company, conglomerate, or other names are used, JCK still owns the building in which your office is located! But the more interesting comments you made had to do with not being assigned to HCD because you feel the Advisory Committee really doesn't need you. If that is the case and Board doesn't need you, then please remove yourself from Council. Many of us understand that you there is a moot point.

Barbara Krachman  
President  
ArtsServe Michigan

### Council meeting a three-ring circus?

**To the editor:**  
For anyone who missed Monday night's Council Meeting (2/25/02), you missed another 2-ring circus! Councilman DeRoche went on almost 20 minutes expounding on the South Lake Engineering issue, without once mentioning the name of the low bidder. He whispered "JCK" in his last sentence. It was quite a show, Mr. DeRoche! Do you realize how silly you look when we know you did your best to put Engineering services out to bid a couple of years ago? Capello seconded his motion to award the contract to JCK.  
If you recall, some 21/2 years ago, you were elected to the seat in which you now sit based on your campaign promises to me, personally, as well as the rest of the City, that you would get rid of the present consulting engineers! For whatever reason, you now have a love-affair with JCK and they seem to be, again, appropriate to use at the North end! During my short tenure as Chair of Walled Lake Sector Study Implementation (WLISSIC), JCK was awarded their low bid of approximately \$24,000 to do the engineering for the bike and safety paths on BOTH East Lake and South Lake. Repeatedly, I asked as chair, how much more money will we be spending other than the laying of asphalt. I was assured that no more money would be spent and, of course the timing on asphalt determined it's cost.  
To date, JCK has been paid some \$75,000 and out of HCD funds that for engineering of the bike and safety paths. Many years ago, I made an appointment with Joe Kapelczak to look at the original South Lake engineering. Someone in the 1100 block of South Lake was not happy with the potential of intrusion in their property. The engineering was nowhere to be found at JCK's offices on Grand River. We were told it must still be with Deb Gosselin. For some peculiar reason, she was moved to Grand Rapids and may still be there. I wonder if the original South Lake paperwork may still be with her in

James E. Korte  
Novi

### Share your opinions

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

Mail:

Letters to the Editor  
Robert Jackson  
Novi News  
104 W. Main St.  
Northville, MI 48167  
E-mail:  
rjackson@ht.homecomm.net  
Fax:  
(248) 349-9832



## Airport authority deal, stunning

The stunning deal between Gov. John Engler and Wayne County Chief Executive Ed McNamara to create an independent oversight authority for Wayne County's Metropolitan and Willow Run airports is hardly out of the woods. Under the proposal, oversight would be given to a seven-member body, with four appointments coming from the Wayne County executive, two by the governor and one by the Wayne County Commission.

Last week's 26-10 favorable vote in the state Senate moved the measure to the House, where business as usual politics could gum up the works. Lots of folks with very dubious motives are awfully interested in sidelining what could be one of the most significant innovations in Michigan in many years. Others, realizing that the airport is likely to be the biggest economic engine in the state, have a vested interest in getting some leverage over it.

One such group is the Wayne County Commission, historically a remarkably ineffective bunch of minor league politicians. (Quick now, win an all-expense tour of the Wayne County Building by naming three members of the Commission? One member? The Commission launched a PR effort in opposition last week featuring

poorly attended public forums and guest columns in the big city papers. The Commission is whining that the authority would "take control of the airport out of public hands." It's obvious that in the Commission's eyes, "public hands" really means the Commission's. Anybody who has followed the wheelings and dealings of the Commission over the years would be thrilled to pry its public hands off anything and everything possible. Examples of good things the Commission has opposed over the years include charter government, creation of a county executive and elimination of the notorious elected road commission and drain commissioner. Nuff said.

Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick also voted down the measure in the Senate on the grounds that the airport is owned by Wayne County, not Detroit. But it's likely to come up again in the House.

And House Minority Leader Samuel "Duzz" Thomas is talking about giving Engler and McNamara some of the appointments to the oversight board, but also letting their respective successors name some appointees as well. Up to now, both the governor and the chief executive have firmly said "no deal."

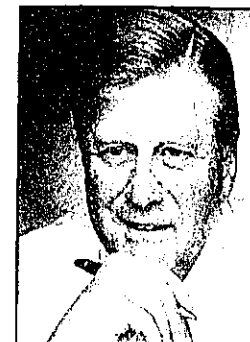
Therein lies the guts of the politics. Both Engler and McNamara are refusing to modify their proposal in any way because they're worried about the slippery slope problem, i.e. once you accept one change in your program, what's to prevent lots of changes that add up to gutting the idea? Holding the line will not be easy, especially in the House, where some Democratic votes will be necessary to get a two-thirds majority that will give the

measure immediate effect. "Immediate effect" means that Engler and McNamara would do the appointing, rather than their (presently unknown) successors. Since both men are known quantities and both have staked their prestige on creating an independent oversight board for the airports, I'd prefer to have them doing the appointing, especially when I consider who might wind up becoming the new Wayne County chief executive.

Having a measure take immediate effect is also important because the airport is on the verge of selling \$900 million worth of bonds for renovation of old terminals, and having a proper oversight authority in place will make a big difference in the cost of the financing.

But the House has a real chance to undo a long history of scandal-ridden and sometimes inept management at the airport by creating a first class oversight structure, complete with an audit committee and full public scrutiny. Putting both Wayne County Metro and Willow Run under the powerful, coherent, non-political oversight represents a vital first step in welding them together into what could be the most powerful economic development institution Michigan has ever seen.

I'd hate to be a House member who knowingly throws that opportunity away. Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc. He welcomes comments by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@homecomm.net.



Phil Power

## What are plans for fuel cell incentives?

You have to give credit to Gov. John Engler; he knows how to build a program. In his State of the State address, the governor went on at length about the potential of the fuel cell as an alternative means of powering automobiles, a replacement for the internal combustion engine.

He contended the state will have to act quickly if it wants to make sure a new fuel cell, electric auto industry is centered here in Michigan.

The new vehicles will require a new generation of engineers to design them, a new generation of plant to assemble them, and a new generation of workers to build them," Engler told state legislators. "In the next 60 days I will send you a message detailing steps we should take to ensure Michigan's presence in the global auto industry. My agenda will address a number of key issues — taxes, regulations, new infrastructure, intellectual property, research and development."

So far, little has been said in Lansing about what the governor has in mind. His agenda, according to spokesperson Sue Shafer, is due to be unveiled in early April. In the meantime, few have information about what the plan entails. "Stay tuned," was about all Doug

Rohtwell, head of Michigan's Economic Development Corporation, would say when asked about it. Engler's program "will knock their socks off," he promised.

It had better. The changes coming are significant. Automakers will have to retool 10 engine plants located here in Michigan and invest in power distribution. Those plants keep 27,000 employed.

There's more. Switching over to fuel cells, which run on hydrogen, will mean all those filling stations out there are going to have to be refitted to deliver a difference type of fuel to vehicles.

Another place we can look for hints about what's coming is a report on fuel cells issued last August, largely overlooked at the time, by the MEDC. Among its recommendations were:

- Creation of an alliance, a group of automakers, component suppliers, fuel suppliers and the government to chart the state's course through the transition.
- Establishing a hydrogen infrastructure group to work out how fuel would get distributed.
- That the state be a leader in testing and demonstrating fuel cell vehicles.
- Studying what kinds of economic incentives will spur development and sales of fuel cell cars.

One of the most intriguing aspects of the report, however, was its explanation of how the fuel cell industry is expected to

mature from expensive, first generation fuel cells to cheap, plentiful third generation fuel cells capable of powering cars. The report. "Steadily power is the primary application of premium or specialty fuel cells for use in hospitals or other business sensitive to power disruptions. Due to the high value placed on uninterrupted power delivery, this market could justify costs in the \$1,000 per kilowatt price range," the report states.

We won't see third generation fuel cells for cars on the market 10 years or more, but there is a second generation in seven years out for what the report called "stationary applications." And the report really didn't explain what that means.

Rep. Mike Kowall (R-White Lake) has been researching fuel cells and offers a possible explanation. As he describes it, fuel cells could be used to power your house. With a hydrogen-powered electric generator in the basement, you could unplug from the utilities and have all the heat, lighting and hot water you want. No more power lines and businesses — a market much larger than just car sales.

Fuel cells have been talked about mainly as a power source for cars. But the part, I think, that has potential to "knock their socks off" is that they could also be used to power homes and businesses — a market much larger than just car sales.

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (517) 548-7125 or by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net.



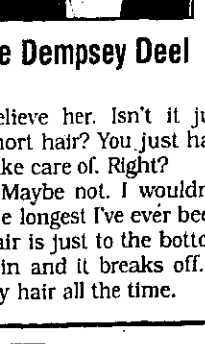
Mike Malott

## Giving up those locks for a good cause

I always wanted long hair. I look at people who have long hair in awe and dream about what it would be like to have those long tresses myself.

I bet it would be hard to get the tangles out when I washed it. But what would I care? After all, I'd be the envy of everyone because I'd have such beautiful hair.

A friend of mine assured me that long hair isn't all that it's cracked up to be. It can even become "straw like" if its not taken care of properly, she said. I don't believe her. Isn't it just like managing my hair all the time.



Diane Dempsey Deel

At least I used to until I realized how fortunate I am to even have hair. It was a lesson I recently learned in Walled Lake.

A couple of weeks ago, I witnessed women and young girls at The Works Salon in Walled Lake, who were getting their hair cut 10 inches or more for the Locks of Love organization. Some of them grew their hair out just for the cause. Others decided it was time to cut their hair and wanted it to go to good use.

The Florida based non-profit organization provides high quality hair prosthetics for financially disadvantaged children across the nation, who are suffering from long term hair loss.

I thought it was wonderful that the women and young girls donated their hair to such a worthy cause.

Monica Lesnau, Walled Lake council member, donated 20 inches to the cause. The organization only requires 10 inches of hair to be snipped off for children who need it.

Not only did I admire the women for giving up their hair, but I also thought a lot about the children who would be receiving the hair. I thought about what they must go through on a daily basis. They don't just

look at long hair longingly, like I do, they look at all hair longingly. After all, they are constantly ridiculed and belittled for being different.

I feel awful that some adults and children can be so cruel to these children who just want to live a normal, happy life. Ray Sweet, Walled Lake council member, was one of those young children who suffered from medical hair loss. He had to drop out of school during the worst of it because kids were so cruel to him. He graduated a couple years later than the rest of his classmates when his hair started growing back.

The Locks of Love organization and women who donate their hair understand what these children go through and find it important to donate their own tresses.

I encourage everyone who can grow their hair out easily and wants to get it cut, to donate their hair to Locks of Love. I would donate ten inches of my hair to prevent children's embarrassment if I was able to grow my hair out 10 inches. Even if it meant giving up long, luscious hair.

Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddeel@ht.homecomm.net.

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# Take 2 Twin sisters deliver baby daughters on very same day

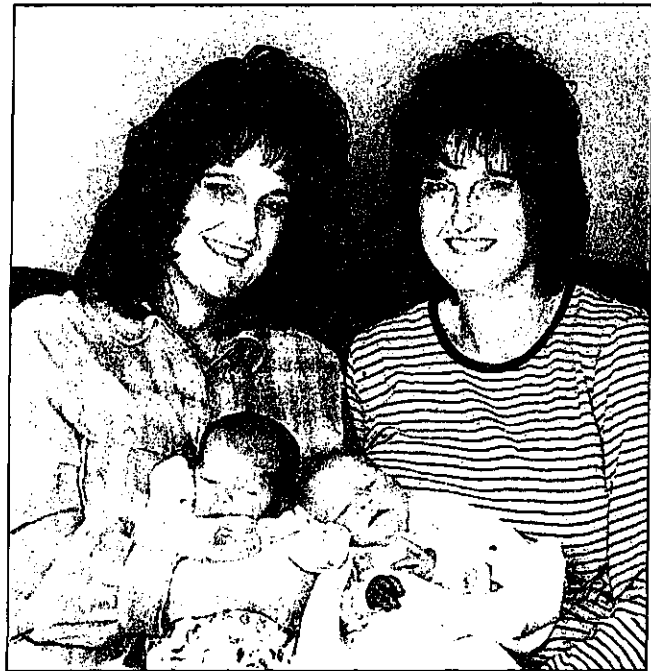
**A**t 12:30 a.m., Annette Brown began to feel again the unmistakable twinge best known to her as child birth contractions.

Half an hour later, Jeanette Russell's water broke in Highland. And so began the chaotic tale of twin sisters, led one by the nose and the other by the tail, who nearly 12 years after arriving into the world themselves, gave birth to healthy daughters at Huron Valley Sinai Hospital in Grosse Pointe.

On the same day, in the same hospital, less than five hours apart, two newborn twins, seven and a half-pound, 21-inch, Mikayla Jordan Russell and Alyssa Katherine Brown, were born.

**"They've always had a friendly competition. While at high school they had the same grade point averages..."**

*Richard Mooradian Annette and Jeanette's father*



Annette Brown and sister Jeanette Russell with their daughters Alyssa Katherine Brown and Mikayla Jordan Russell, born on the same day about five hours apart.

that her contractions had begun, but not to panic. She couldn't find time to rest.

So she called Jeanette, to deliver the news. She was her labor coach after all. It would be a good idea to let her know. There was no answer at Jeanette's home either.

"I thought, 'That's weird. Where are they at 5:30 in the morning?'" Annette said.

Eventually, Andrew Mooradian, their brother, located their father -- and doing grandfather -- via telephone. He was at the Milford Baking Company, where he starts every morning on his way to work in Detroit, with a hot tea and a muffin.

Annette's contractions have started, he was told. Get to the hospital when you can. No need to hurry. There is still time.

Richard Mooradian made a drive to Huron Valley Sinai. And then a family reunion broke out. Jeanette was already there, weathering growing contractions.

Annette was the one who was managing her own discomfort, arriving soon after to lend support.

"I probably would not have even gone to the hospital, but she convinced me from the birth of her first daughter, Kierra, two babies were born.

A half-hour later her (technically) younger sister, Jeanette, tipped the birthing onto significant. Her water broke. That's the moment when you head to the hospital, doctors had told her.

By 5:30 a.m., Jeanette was being admitted to Huron Valley Sinai. Waiting for the first time the expectant urge of a child reaching the daylight.

Meanwhile, Annette had reluctantly decided to call what she knew would be her anxious father, Richard Mooradian, in Highland. She wanted to tell him

contractions of her own. By 2 p.m. the push for her began in earnest.

"Push, Jeanette!" "Don't push, Annette!" "Don't push, Annette!" "Push, Jeanette!" "Don't push, Annette!"

Until finally, at 3:15 p.m., tiny Mikayla Russell squirmed her way into the world. One baby down, another lifetime still to go.

How did it feel to be a first-time mom?

"So excited was Annette about such a prospect that she nearly almost immediately into a sharply clear, but down hard on yet another growing contraction, and offered a loving schloppe. 'Go get the nurse!' was the first word."

Four hours later, her own labor began. An hour after that with the assistance of close family friend Laura Dzagogowski, Alyssa was born.

"They were always like this, from day one," said Richard Mooradian, of the twin daughters that he and his wife, Noreen, had raised into adulthood. Noreen Mooradian had died one month after Kierra's birth.

David Aguilar is a reporter for the *Milford Times*. He can be reached at (248) 685-1507 or by e-mail at dauguilar@newsnews.com.

Story by David Aguilar -- Photo by Hal Gould

## Council Briefs

### CITY PROPOSED GUN ORDINANCE

Novi Mayor Richard Clark said the city's proposed gun ordinance will come before council in the "reasonably foreseeable future."

Novi City Attorney Gerald Fisher said city officials want to examine the actions resulting from a lawsuit filed against the City of Ferndale for adopting a similar ordinance.

By reviewing the current lawsuit filed by the Michigan Coalition for Responsible Gun Owners, Fisher said city decision makers would have the opportunity to make any modifications to Novi's proposed ordinance if needed.

Members of the Novi City Council appointed five nominees to boards and committees during its Feb. 25 meeting.

Members of the Novi City Council appointed five nominees to boards and committees during its Feb. 25 meeting.

appointees who were not seeking a reappointment.

### SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS

During the Feb. 25 Novi City Council meeting, members voted unanimously to adopt the resolution supporting three special assessment districts.

The Novi Police Department received the approval it needed to go ahead and apply for, and accept if chosen, the Bullel Proof Partnership Grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for the 2002 grant period.

The Novi Police Department received the approval it needed to go ahead and apply for, and accept if chosen, the Bullel Proof Partnership Grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for the 2002 grant period.

### CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Members of the Novi City Council appointed five nominees to boards and committees during its Feb. 25 meeting.

### VOTE FOR THE BEST OF

## 2002

NOVI is filled with people and places that stand out from the crowd. We want to know what readers think is head-and-shoulders above the rest. Take a few moments to make your nominations for the Best of 2002.

- THE BEST RESTAURANT SERVICES
THE BEST FOOD TYPES
BEST SERVICE OUTLETS
BEST SERVICE PERSON
BEST SPECIALTY RESTAURANTS
BEST SHOPPING LOCATIONS
CONTEST RULES

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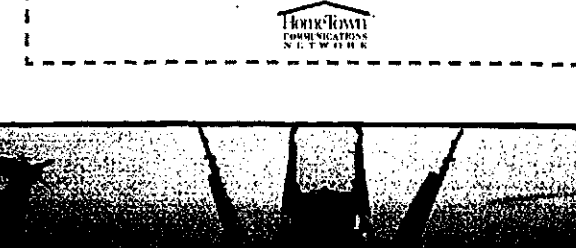
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Searching for a new pet? Try the Classifieds. Images of a cat, a dog, and a turtle.

CONTEST RULES
1. Original newspaper entry blanks must be used.

Name:
Address:
Daytime Phone Number:
Signature:



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# Freshman and Sophomore honor roll listings

- 9th Grade
Adams, Charles W
Adams, Jeremy E
Alana, Majed M
Albanello, Deanna G
Allers, Andrea M
Alpert, Molly R
Anderson, Lauren N
Arghal, Meera
Azzo-Alirens, Geoffrey K
Ayteh, Chelsea B
Baciu, Georgiana
Ballantyne, Jason M
Barbour, Shannon Victoria
Barrard, Nicole E
Barnes, Jordan P
Barth, Stephanie M
Beals, Matthew A
Bedianek, Adam D
Berger, Michael T
Bielecki, Sara E
Blaszczak, Nicole E
Bowdell, Gordon B
Boydston, Scott A
Brandemihl, Jenna M
Breedlove, Bullel R
Britten, Christopher M
Brodsky, Jeremy J
Bronson, Richard D
Brunner, Laura M
Buchow, Michelle
Bugbee, Danielle K
Bulluk, Drew A
Burt, Dennis I
Cash, Robert E
Cassidy, Amanda M
Chakos, William D
Cheng, Winky
Childsey, Camille M
Church, Daniel R
Cislo, Kevin P
Clark, Elizabeth A
Clark, Laura L
Collins, Kelsey E
Collins, Kristen L
Crawell, Chelsea N
Creneems, Bryan C
Crocker, Lauren P
Crocker, Stephanie M
Crofoot, Chelsea A
Czapski, Joseph M
Dase, Kathryn R
Davis, David J
DeCello, Michael A
Dechart, Bryan P
Deighton, Eric R
DeLicolli, Anthony C
DeMaros, Suzanne R
DePoter, Colan M
Dixon, Amanda E
Dwyer, Erin E
Eberline, Mark A
Ellis, Timothy A
Eslarook, Alexander J
Espinoza, Barbara L
Esser, Brian J
Fairbanks, Andrew L
Fellers, Richard J
Fink, Marce L
Fisher, Lawrence R
Fraser, Jamie A
Freese, Jeffrey B
Frontone, Elizabeth Marie
Garback, Cathleen M
Glancy, Jessica E
Glibutski, Andrew J
Grgurich, Hayley C
Groesch, Sandra
Haf, Jacob E
Haggerty, Jessica M
Hamilton, Jonathan R
Harrison, Brian Thomas

- Ornes, Spencer E
Pavro, Amanda R
Palombo, David E
Park, Hyun Jee
Pasquercelli, Stacey L
Pate, Hena
Pate, Meredith
Pelakals, Alexander S
Perelli, Matthew J
Powell, Ashley M
Preston, Lauren R
Priest, Elizabeth T
Pritchard, Ryan J
Proskurovsky, Stan G
Ganuzzaman, Maricem
Guilley, Jeanine L
Hubbard, Kennell E
Huprikar, Anol Anand
Islam, Namira
Jeng, Cassie
Jiang, Nan
Johnston, Julie A
Jones, Brian S
Jones, Brian S
Karamikas, Chris A
Kaya, Lauren P
Kawamoto, Tatsuro
Kazanis, Cynthia
Kim, Jessica J
Kim, Jessica S
Kim, Ji Hee
Kim, Ji-Yeon
Kim, Suzanna
King, Amy M
King, Ashley N
Kurek, Lauren R
Kwon, Nell J
Kohls, Kathryn E
Kora, Kie
Koss, Kathryn F
Kouchary, Carla A
Kramer, Robert C
Krystoff, Scott J
Laitinen, Natalie M
Lampinen, Caroline N
Larce, Daniel A
LeClerc, Kelley J
Lessen, Laura A
Lewis, Cameron R
Lilly, Megan E
Lin, Tiffany H
Lis, Christina C
Liu, Wei
Longo, Julie K
Loomer, Corey T
Lucas, Andrew S
Lynch, Laura M
Lynch, Tiffany M
Lyons, David K
Lyskawa, Julia A
Maek, Ashley Marie
Maganan, Kyle
Mandrila, Alexander M
Martinez, Michael P
Masson, Nicholas G
Matsuda, Yuki
McCracken, Amanda M
McGinn, Andrew D
McGinnis, Justin Andrew
McPhee, Scott H
Mikes, Marybeth
Miller, Eric W
Miller, Karen L
Miner, Teresa M
Moble, Rachel A
Montagne, Paul E
Moore, Mark D
Morrison, William R
Mu, Jingchu
Muhoney, Katherine A
Muthusamy, Subratra
Nannu, Justin K
Nussbaum, Ryan J
Oakes, Caitlin A
Oh, Audrey M

scattered. Image of a child's face. Volunteers of America logo.

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# REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 18A

Thursday, March 7, 2002



File Photo

Mary and Rich Poole have made Poole's Tavern in Northville a favorite all-year-around destination for both food and fun.

## Poole's: Putting on a little Irish

By Annette Jaworski  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The shamrocks are flying high at Poole's Tavern in Northville, a hint of the fun and good times planned for St. Patrick's Day weekend. Since March 17 falls on Sunday, a whole weekend of activities is being planned. To celebrate, they'll start by serving traditional Irish fare, like Irish stew, corned beef and cabbage and shepherd's pie. Plus enjoy all of your favorite brews, 12 beers on tap and over 30 bottled beers.

Starting off a week before the event, on March 10th, owner, Mary Poole, has chartered a fun bus trip downtown to the Gaelic League, and The Old Shillelagh. The cost is \$50 per person and they're working on filling a second bus.

And of course, you don't have to be Irish to enjoy St. Patrick's Day or to visit the tavern. It makes a great stop for a business lunch, a family fish fry or to celebrate after the game. Not only is

Poole's Tavern an important part of the Northville landscape, it's a family owned and run establishment, with owner, Mary, her sister, daughter, husband and mom all pitching in. Mom, Elaine, is known to bring in baked goodies, and the staff calls her "Gran."

"We want to let people know we're the local 'Cheers' kind of hang out," said Mary Poole.

Food is one of the main reasons that the clients visit the pub. It's thanks to Chef Matt Jagusch. Poole knows she can always count on him to create interesting specials every day for lunch and dinner. Jagusch's background includes experience at the Muer restaurants. Right now, he's working on a new menu to coming out in May. Look for new salads and sandwiches.

Poole says they're staples, however, are the burgers and ribs. Clients have been known to travel great distance to satisfy their cravings, she says. Friday night fish specials are popular during Lent. And there are a variety of appetiz-

ers, homemade soups and salads for a light lunch.

Look for them to participate again in this year's Northville Business Showcase. Last year they won best restaurant at the event, with Matt's Jagusch's ribs and Cayman Island Salad; original celery seed dressing with lettuce, diced apples, diced fresh turkey, walnut pieces and topped with shredded cheese. They also received three out of four stars in the Detroit Free Press Restaurant Review.

Throughout the month of February, traditional Irish Music has been featured on Saturday nights from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The live entertainment has worked out well and Poole plans to continue with a variety of artists.

And on Thursday nights, she's found they have quite of following of English clientele who enjoy the Boddington's, Telly's English Ale, Bass or Guinness beer and the entertainment.

"On Thursday night we get anywhere from around 16 to 20 English regulars,"

she said.

They're planning a bit of remodeling at the neighborhood stop, and freshening up with new carpet, upholstery and tile this spring. After St. Patrick's Day, they roll right into their patio season, when the dynamics change by adding 50 more seats, she pointed out. Patrons can enjoy the food cafe style along with the ambience of downtown Northville.

Another unique and distinctive touch is the artwork displayed and for sale throughout the establishment by Mary Poole. In addition to being the proprietor, she has just finished her Bachelor of Fine Arts for Eastern Michigan and will begin graduate school in the fall. "Art is where my heart is," she admits.

The gang at Poole's is active in the community, and especially supportive of the American Diabetes Association, in memory of Thomas, Mary and John McCallion, relatives of Marie Rumbly, an employee at Poole's Tavern. Mary Poole is involved with and will donate artwork to the Art Dash in May.

## Your Money Matters

### The IRS RAL-lying cry: Low-interest loans

Patience is a virtue, and can be a very profitable one when it comes to personal finance.

Consider tax refund anticipation loans, or RALs. Some 11 million taxpayers are expected to surrender a collective \$810 million for an advance on their 2001 tax refunds. The working poor, those who can least afford the interest, are paying the lion's share. This according to a recent study by the Consumer Federation of America (CFA) and the National Consumer Law center (NCLC).

"Cash-strapped consumers will pay about \$800 million in RAL charges alone to borrow their own money," said Jean Ann Fox, director of consumer protection for CFA. "Refund anticipation loans are extremely expensive, similar to payday loans, rent to own, and other forms of fringe credit."

RALs are short-term loans secured by the taxpayer's projected refund. Consumers pay three fees to get an RAL: a fee to a commercial tax preparer for preparing state and federal returns, (from \$60 - \$300), a fee for electronic filing (with the average fee being \$40), and a loan fee to lender, typically set on a sliding scale based on the amount of the anticipated refund.

What the consumer receives in hand is the refund minus the loan fee, tax preparation fee and electronic filing fee. The total amount of three fees, according to the study, can range from \$129 to \$429. This in some cases may be a third to half or more of the refund.

So what's the appeal? Speed and convenience.

In the fast food, electronic enabled world of "now," and "right now," consumers eagerly settle for less today than wait tomorrow for more.

"You get money instantly...not just fast," touts one leading commercial tax preparation service of its loan program. "You pay nothing out-of-pocket. All fees for tax preparation, electronic filing, the loan, etc. are deducted from

your...refund loan check."

RALs do expedite receipt of cash from tax refunds, but not nearly enough to justify the amount paid. The RAL puts a check in the consumer's hand within a day or two. File electronically and you'll get your refund in about 10 days. Fine by mail, and it will take six to eight weeks.

Consumers who are willing to pay what amounts to triple-digit interest rates are generally either unaware of the true cost or have serious financial problems which call for counseling.

Before assuming an RAL, consider your options before surrendering more than the cost of a postage stamp to secure your refund. Also, consider whether you would be able to repay the RAL (which you are obligated to do) if the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) determines that you are not entitled to the refund amount claimed.

For low-income taxpayers, the IRS offers free tax preparation services under the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. VITA sites can be found in community centers, libraries, churches and retirement homes. For information VITA and Community Outreach locations and times, contact the IRS Taxpayer Education Coordinator at your local IRS office or call (800) 829-1040.

The IRS also lists several free online tax preparation services for eligible taxpayers, based on household income and need. Visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for a list of participating companies.

And finally, seek financial counseling. Your credit union or bank is a good place to begin. Often financial institutions have staff dedicated to assisting members on the road to financial health.

Green Path Debt Solutions, formerly known as Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Michigan, is a nonprofit organization offering free counseling. Contact Green Path toll free at (800) 550-1961 or on the Web at [www.debthelpnow.org](http://www.debthelpnow.org).



File Photo

Come summertime, Poole's outdoor venues provide a place for friends and family to relax.

### A WEE BIT OF HISTORY

The story behind Poole's Tavern is an interesting bit of history. Although the Poole's have been owners since 1997, the establishment has a long tradition in the community, beginning in the early 1900's. In 1914, it was the Thomas Tavern, and by 1949, McDonald's Tavern, and the Little Joe's Bucket of Blood in the 1960's. It was followed by Getzie's Pub in the 1970's, until it's current owners, the Poole's.

Poole's Tavern is located at 157 E. Main in Northville, MI, or call (248) 349-1715, fax at (248) 349-3740. Party trays to go are also available. Check out their website at [www.poolestavern.com](http://www.poolestavern.com).

### Business in brief

#### Mothers: Health care strategies

at [www.mothersandmore235.org](http://www.mothersandmore235.org).

Mothers & More, a group of professional women in Livingston County who have altered their career path to raise their children, will have a special speaker at the next meeting at 6:30pm Wednesday, March 13th, at First National Bank on Challis Road in Brighton.

The March guest speaker will be Dr. Shirin Mikhailov, Doctor of Chiropractic, from Wellness Chiropractic in Howell. He will be discussing three important strategies in health care: treating, preventing disease and promoting health.

Following the brief talk, Dr. Shirin and his assistant will provide FREE basic spinal evaluations and offer a FREE (\$40 value) chiropractic pillow to each participant.

There is no donation required and guests are welcomed!

For additional information, contact Amy Sanderson at (248)446-0601 or visit our NEW local website

#### Promoted

George M. Kacan of Fanning / Howey Associates has been promoted to executive director at the firm's Novi location on Grand River Avenue.

#### Novi Oaks Woman of the Year

The Novi Oaks Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association elected Kathleen Pabst as "Woman of the Year."

Pabst is an employee of MIDCOM Data Technologies, Inc. in Farmington Hills.

Each year the chapter recognizes a member who has made notable contributions and outstanding achievements within the chapter and her community, personally and professionally.

The Chapter congratulated Pabst for her many contributions to the Novi ABWA chapter.

### UPCOMING REGIONAL MARKETPLACE STORIES

March 14	Keller Williams, Novi	April 18	DDA, Milford	May 23	Novimotive
March 21	Honeytree of Novi	April 25	Wind River Gallery, Milford	May 30	Two Men & A Truck, Novi
March 28	Progressive Dental, Northville	May 2	Thesier Equipment, South Lyon	June 6	Rebecca's On Center, Northville
April 4	Mother's Pizzeria, Northville	May 9	Colasanti's Market, Highland		
April 11	Healthstyles, South Lyon	May 16	DDA, Milford		

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# No mercy from the Wildcat hockey team

## Phelps and the boys blast Franklin to win Regional Tournament

By Sam Eggleston  
 SPORTS WRITER

As though winning the Kensington Valley Conference title and beating the number one team in Division II Michigan high school hockey, the Novi Wildcats hockey team had to go and win their own regional.

The Wildcats, who are coached by Dan Phelps, notched an impressive win over the Livonia Franklin Patriots 4-0 March 1 to seal their region and move to the state quarterfinals, which were to be held Tuesday (after the Novi News went to print) in Lansing. On their way to the match against Franklin, the Wildcats swept aside Northville for the second time this season, 7-3, Feb. 27 and pounded Ypsilanti Lincoln 10-0 Feb. 25.

"The biggest key was Dan Morrison," Phelps said of the Franklin win. "They had some good opportunities, but he was a stalwart back there."

Morrison had the job of holding off the Franklin offensive while the Wildcats held on to a one-goal lead in the second period as they were out shot by the Patriots 15-4. The first goal of the night, which belonged to the Wildcats, came with only three minutes, 51 seconds off the clock in the first period on a shot from Chaz Bulbuk with the assist being credited to Jordan Collins.

The KVC champ Wildcats took eight shots in the final period, with three finding their way into the back of the net and past senior Franklin goaltender Kyle Susewitz. Novi Junior Brian Jaussi gave Novi a 2-0 advantage with 3:04 off the third-period clock with an assist from Adam Haberman before he put the Patriots away on assists from Haberman and Bulbuk with 8:42 left in the game to put the

Cats up 3-0. Robbie Overfield made in a four-goal victory with an unassisted goal with just over three minutes remaining in the game.

"We know how to play in the third period, we've been a third-period team all year," Phelps said. "Our motors were running, but maybe not the right way those first two periods. We knew Franklin would be tough. Terry Jobbitt does a great job of running a defensive system. We knew they would come out ready to play. It was a championship game and you don't get here just by walking through the door."

### Novi 7, Northville 3

The Wildcats made short work of their cross-town rivals in their third meeting of the season after the Mustangs scored first -- just 11 seconds into the contest, -- before the Novi icers could come back and score two in a row off of Overfield's goal with an assist from Garet Malott and off of Robert Vulaj's score with assists being credited to Jordan Collins and Robbie Harrell.

The second period was all Wildcats as John Murray, Harrell, Overfield and Jaussi all notched goals against the Mustang defense. Northville, behind 6-2, scored late in the third period to narrow the Novi lead, but could not hold on as Haberman notched the final goal of the game with just 1:05 remaining in the contest.

Overfield led the Wildcat skaters with four points while brick-wall goalie Morrison handled the net and all but stonewalled the Mustangs.

### Novi 10, Ypsilanti Lincoln 0

There was little contest for the Wildcats in their opening game of

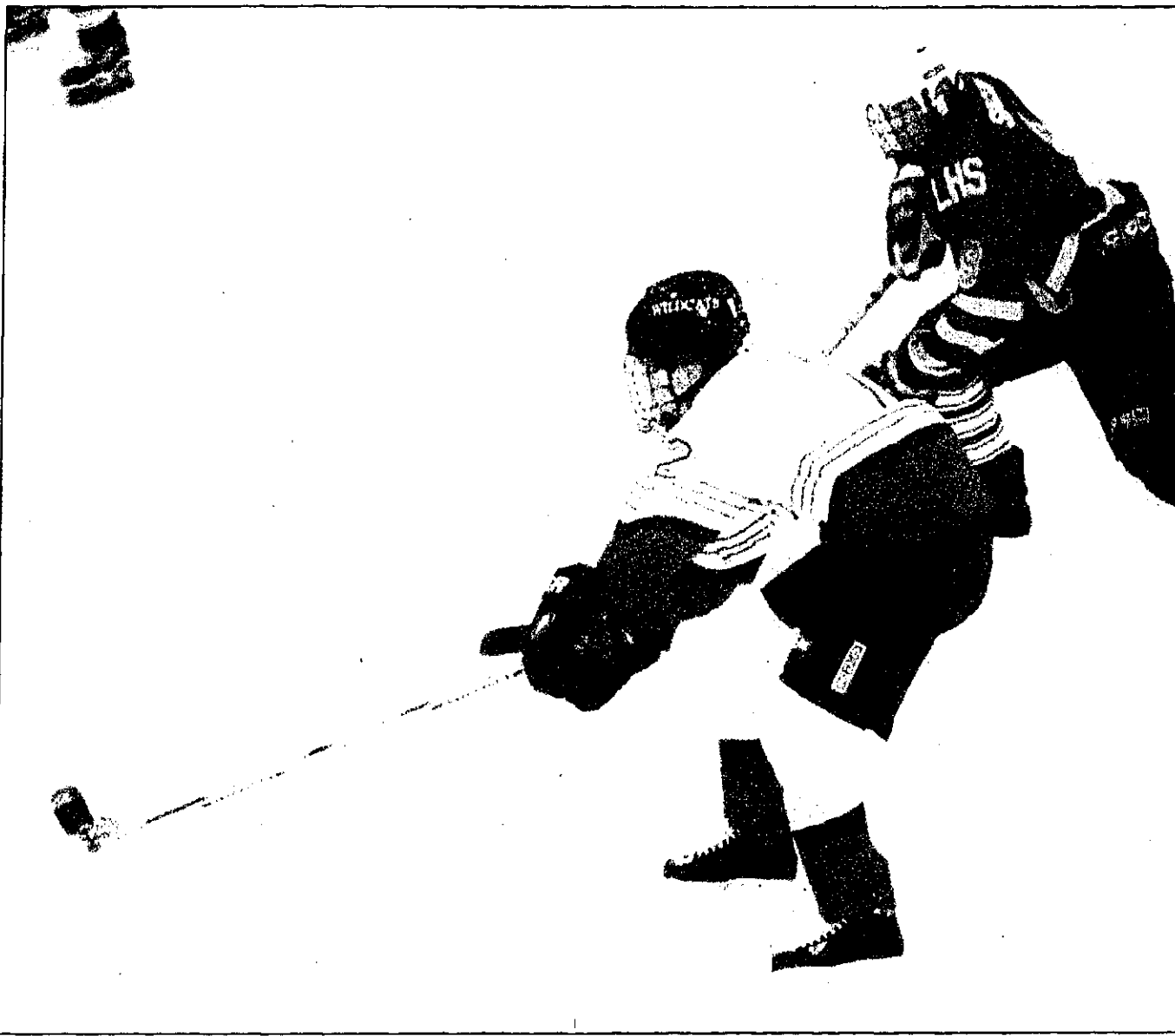


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Continued on 2 Novi's Robbie Oberfield moves the puck into Lakeland's end during last Friday's tilt at the Novi Ice Arena.

# Gymnasts win regional tourney, advance to states

By Brian Doyle  
 SPECIAL WRITER

This past weekend, the Novi-Northville Wild 'Stangs gymnastics team took first at their regional competition at Plymouth Canton to qualify for the state competition next Friday. The team is now looking to take first out of 12 teams and win the state championship for the second year in a row.

With strong performances by Lindsey Carlson, Maggie Mills, Andrea Ledbetter, Jennifer Sturgis, and Sara Wilchowski, the team was able to take the top spot over some very competitive teams. The Wild 'Stangs 147.3 score was enough to grab the top spot from co-state qualifiers, Plymouth Salem (144.475), and Livonia Churchill/Franklin/Stevenson (140.375).

"Everything is coming together,"

coach Lindsay Schultz said.

Novi took first in all the events except for floor, thanks to strong performances by Sturgis. Sturgis placed first on the vault, bars, beam, and in the all-around category. Even after falling during her floor routine, she ended up taking fifth.

"She has a combination of everything that she needs," Schultz said.

Sturgis also qualified for all four

events at the state meet at the Division I level.

Also placing first from the Division I level were Carlson and Wilchowski. Carlson took second in vault, fifth on the bars, third on the beam and floor, and fourth overall to also qualify for all four events. Wilchowski also qualified for all four events because of her fifth place all around finish. Besides that she took fourth on the vault, second on the bars, and

fifth on the beam.

"Our bars have really improved," Schultz said.

In Division 2 competition, Ledbetter and Mills placed. Ledbetter took third on vault and eighth on bars. Mills took second on bars and sixth on beam.

"Maggie has had her ups and downs and has been working really hard on the bars and beams," Schultz said.

Along with those who placed, Andrea Crawford has been a big help to the team.

"She has done a great job at getting the team to have fun," Schultz said.

The Wild 'Stangs will see a familiar line-up of teams at the state meet, as six of the nine teams from their conference are part of the twelve teams that qualified for the

Continued on 2

# Grapplers advance to states

By Brian Doyle  
 SPECIAL WRITER

All four Novi Wildcat wrestlers who qualified for regionals went on to qualify for the state competition that will take place starting tomorrow at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Josh Churella took first at his 125-weight class while Craig Hearn, at 103, J.R. Muldoon, 130 and Vince Slovan, 171, all took second in their respective classes.

Hearn finished third at the district competition and was able to actually increase his ranking at the regional competition. He finished second and was able to improve his seeding at the state meet.

"I was able to step it up big time," Hearn said.

Hearn won his first match against Jon Adgate of Ann Arbor Pioneer and then was able to pull off a victory over Matt Steintrager of Detroit Catholic Central. Steintrager placed first in the district competition the week prior to the regional one. Hearn is now looking forward to the state competition with an improved position and a 43-5 record.

"I needed to get a good seed," Hearn said.

Hearn will open up Friday against Joey Lopez, who is a freshman at Waterford Mott and has a 39-6 record.

Churella also had an extremely successful day. He remained unbeaten an improved his record to 42-0. On February 23, he beat Josh Winekoff of Belleville and Brian Clement of Livonia Churchill, both by major decisions 15-4 and 24-9 respectively. He won his final match 9-2 over Mike Goethe of Plymouth Salem. Churella will start out Friday

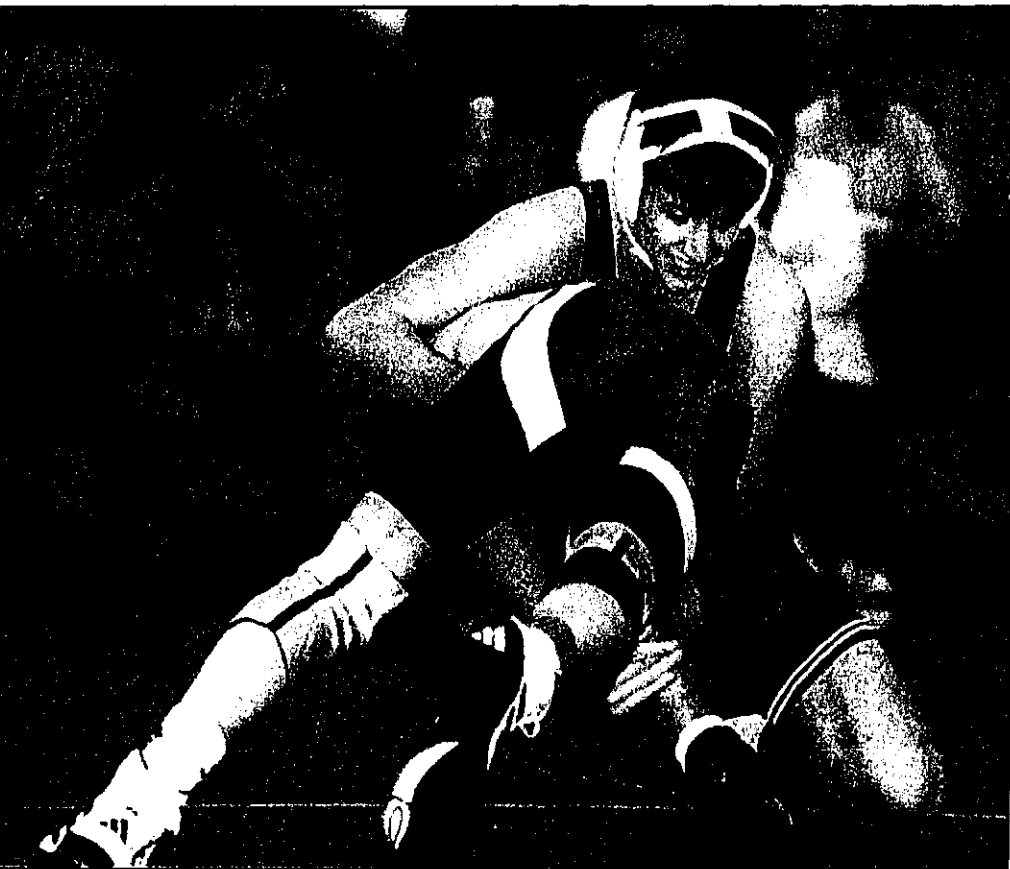


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

### Novi's J.R. Muldoon, top, wrestles Howell's Chaz Tillman.

against Port Huron Junior, Jordan Combs.

J.R. Muldoon is also hoping to have success at the state level. He took first at districtals and took second at regionals and has a 39-9 record going into this weekend's competition. He won his first two matches of the day before falling to Carson Poupard in his final match of the day. Muldoon will face Cody Crossman from Hudsonville in the first round of the state competition. Muldoon plans to continue to work hard to get better.

"It's going to take a lot of hard work and dedication," Muldoon said.

The final qualifier was Slovan at

the 171-weight class. Slovan opened up with a pin over Dickson Mann of Belleville in the first period of the match. Then, Slovan had to face Jay Abshire of Livonia Churchill. Slovan lost to Abshire at the district competition 7-4 the week before. This week he turned the tables and beat Abshire 8-3.

"I had to come back and beat the kid that beat me," Slovan said.

In his final match Slovan lost to Chris Craechiolo in a low-scoring 3-1 match. Slovan now has a 34-9 record and will go up against Ben Evans of Grand Haven, who is 33-16.

"Every match is a big match," Slovan said. "You've got to wrestle

your hardest."

All four of Novi's wrestlers are looking to make an impact at the state meet. They have already proved that they deserve to be there by placing high in their regions and joining the ranks of the sixteen best athletes from each weight class in the state. All the athletes will continue to make themselves better and attempt to take their wrestling careers to the next level. For Muldoon and Slovan, next weekend will be the last high school wrestling event they will ever participate in.

Slovan said, "We're training hard, like usual, just getting ready to finish strong."

# District hoops tourney should be a good one

By Sam Eggleston  
 SPORTS WRITER

This is the time of year when everyone starts getting basketball fever.

It isn't just the college season that is screaming to a halt, promising top-notch games all the way -- it's the Michigan high school tournament season as well.

Tomorrow, anyone interested in going to catch a top-rated basketball performance should head over to Livonia Stevenson High School, located at 33500 Six Mile Road in Livonia to watch the final game of the District tournament to see who will be representing this area in the Regional tourney.

Now, I can't promise you that our two local teams -- Northville and Novi -- are going to be in that game. In fact, one of the two will be eliminated by the time it reaches the final tomorrow -- or maybe even both. What I can promise you is that whatever teams end up in the final game (out of Northville, Novi, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Stevenson, Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem), they are going to deserve to be there.

This is the time of year that the trash gets swept out early. The teams that make up this particular district are all very quality programs with top-shelf coaching and athletes who are not only dedicated to their sports, but dedicated to winning as well.

As far as I can tell, these are some of the best teams around with Novi and Northville ranking right up there. Anyone of these teams has the ability to go to the Regional and beyond with their impressive hard-nose playing styles and their desire to be victorious in each and every game.

**GAME OF THE WEEK**

**Novi Wildcats Basketball**

**District Championships**

Friday, March 8 • 7:00 p.m.  
at Livonia Stevenson

I am looking for either Northville or Novi to at least make it to the final game and, I have my fingers crossed here, beyond. I have no doubts that both of these programs have the ability to be a contender in both the District tournament and the Regional tournament.

Since I don't know who will be in the final game -- if either of these squads -- I can't make a prediction to the final score of the contest. What I can do though is send my best wishes out with both of these quality and classy teams and hope for the best. Good luck Mustangs and Wildcats -- remember it's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game.



# Wildcat swim, dive team looking strong for states

By Brian Doyle  
SPECIAL WRITER

The Novi Wildcats boys' swim and dive team closed out their regular season competition with the team meet on Monday, March 4. "Because we don't have a league meet, this is our major meet for everyone but the people who already qualified for the state meet," Novi coach Bill McCord said. Novi finished fourth, but accomplished many goals that had they been sitting for all season. The team added three more qualifying events to their list of state competitors and also had most of their team set new personal records.

"I don't know of anybody that didn't set a new personal record that day," Novi coach Larry Taylor said. Novi started off the day on the 100-yard freestyle. The 200 freestyle (MR) team was disqualified because of mistaking of starts. "Our timing was just off. Once we got that fixed things began to pick up for us," Trahan said. Novi was allowed to re-swim the 200 freestyle and took fourth. Chris Pieprzak took seventh and Stuart Smith took 16th. Tyler qualified for his individual performance in the 100 butterfly

where he took third. Robertson, who had qualified for states earlier this year in that event, took fourth. Pieprzak took sixth, Tyler also has qualified for states in the 500 free style event. Friday, Matt Shafer took seventh and Ed Anglin took 11th in that event. The team of Pieprzak, Matt Swift, Shafer, and Tachwan Yoo took fifth in the 200 free relay while Zheng, Wang, Anglin, and Ryan Vassbaum took fifth in the 100 backstroke. Matt Robertson qualified for the 200 Individual Medley (IM) and took first in that event Friday. Moblo took fourth in that event and Tachwan Yoo took 11th. Tachwan Yoo led Nov's players in the 50 free and took fourth. Chris Pieprzak took seventh and Stuart Smith took 16th. Tyler qualified for his individual performance in the 100 butterfly

and qualified for the state competition to be held next weekend. Another 200 MR team consisting of Brian Hornarek, Brandon Garney, John Wang, and Solomon Zheng took third (seventh) in that event. Tyler also took second in the 200 freestyle. Robertson qualified for the 200 Individual Medley (IM) and took first in that event Friday. Moblo took fourth in that event and Tachwan Yoo took 11th. Tachwan Yoo led Nov's players in the 50 free and took fourth. Chris Pieprzak took seventh and Stuart Smith took 16th. Tyler qualified for his individual performance in the 100 butterfly

Retmann (diving) if either of them had qualified for states. Tuesday, Novi's biggest accomplishment was their personal records. "We went to set new personal goals," Moblo said. Those who qualified are now looking onto the state meet this weekend and are hoping to place very highly. "Any one of our kids, if they get hot, have a chance of scoring there," Teahan said. Even with all the personal best times, Novi still is looking to perform their best at the state meet. McCord said, "We are aiming for them to peak next weekend."

# Swift can easily add it all up

By Sara-Beth O'Connor  
SPECIAL WRITER

Senior year for Novi High School's Brian Swift will be one to remember. Playing three varsity sports, soccer, basketball, and football, and qualifying for college football Swift has definitely had a busy schedule. "My favorite memory was leading South Lyon at South Lyon," Swift said. They were ranked number one. "Defeating South Lyon in basketball has been a highlight for Swift this season. Currently Swift has just finished the scheduled basketball season. After that he has to start his baseball season. "It would be nice to win states this year," Swift said. The starting baseball team is made up of mostly seniors for the spring 2002 season.

Swift envisions himself being married and working a job. He is thankful for his parents being supportive of him in all of his sports and all that he does. He is thankful for his parents being supportive of him in all of his sports and all that he does. He is thankful for his parents being supportive of him in all of his sports and all that he does.

# Cagers end regular season in style

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats boys basketball team ended their season with a 40-12 record. The team's success was highlighted by a 40-12 record. The team's success was highlighted by a 40-12 record. The team's success was highlighted by a 40-12 record.

Enneneker poured in 11 points in the winning effort. The Wildcats took no prisoners when they shelled the Pinckney Pirates 62-48 just a few days prior. The Cats started the game out strong, outscoring the Highlanders 15-12 at the end of the first quarter before increasing their lead to 35-28 at the halftime buzzer. Senior center Jamie Schram led the Wildcats with 17 points while senior Brandon Davis notched 13. Shaun Dicken added 12 and Matt

# Icers win Regional tournament

Continued from 1

The regional tournament, The Cats took the first round by a 5-0 margin. The game was called with 5:04 remaining in the third period due to the 10-point rule stating that any team leading by 10 points during a hockey contest is awarded the victory. Trent Sisson earned the shutout for the Wildcats with his always solid play between the posts and even earned an assist in the contest. Harrel was the first Wildcat

to score in the contest on an assist from Murray before Haberman took the rebound off of a duress shot and buried it for the 2-0 lead. The second period found the Cats getting goals from Overfield, Haberman, Vutaj and Murray while Bulbuk (2), John Janness and Mario DeGrazia all scored in the third. Harrel put the game away with a third-period goal with 5:04 remaining in the contest.

Overfield wins KVC scoring title. Novi senior Overfield, in his first season on the Wildcat hockey team, won the Kestonington Valley Conference scoring title with 28 league game points. Brighton Ryan Hitch was second in the KVC with 34 points while Wildcat Harrel, who is also a senior, was third.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Novi News and the Lake Area Times. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or seggleston@ht.hometown.com.net.

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# Vikings collect three in a row Cassise and the gang keep on notching wins

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

It is starting to look like the Walled Lake Central Vikings basketball team is unstoppable - even without their head coach. It is obvious to anyone who has seen this do-or-die basketball since the start of the new year. The Vikings collected a 52-45 victory over the Livonia Franklin Patriots Feb. 22, climbing them to a 6-13 record - which is huge thanks to the three straight wins the team has managed to collect on their way to the playoffs. "We are starting to come together as a team," Sophomore Brandon Cassise said after the contest. "Practice is working and paying off for us and we are looking to end the season on a strong run."

The Walled Lake Central squad had to show their worth even without their head coach. Bob Shoemaker was not able to coach the Feb. 22 game after receiving dual technical fouls during the junior varsity basketball game Feb. 19. According to the Michigan High School Athletic Association rules, if someone is given two technical fouls by the officials, they are to leave the gymnasium - which meant Shoemaker was unable to coach not only that night (which was a Viking victory) but also the night of Feb. 22. The Vikings, who took the court under the guidance of JV head coach and varsity assistant coach Mark Wegle, started the game out with a slow pace before increasing the tempo each quarter through the end of the contest and the victory. The Vikings scored only two



Central's Steve Rabish gets around a Northville defender in a home game in February.

# Vikings hockey falls to Flyers

Continued from 4

team's third goal of the game at the 10:08 mark. "I wonder if there was so much emotion spent in watching the game prior," Central coach Jim Hogan said of the long, yet dramatic ending to the second and final Viking goal of the contest with four minutes remaining in the game. "The third period was an even-up contest as Flyer Nick Maki scored with 5:59 of the clock in the third and Kerbaway collected the second and final Viking goal of the contest with four minutes remaining in the game. Hogan noted that he was pleased with the play of his team, which was even with the Farmington squad in shots taken early in the third period, rebounded from the second with a better showing in the final period. "I like that we came out and played them even in the third," he said. "That's one of the small successes we measure, and some success we measure have to be that way. We are a young team, I think we'll do better next year."

# Warriors have it rough

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Walled Lake Western Warriors volleyball team had a bit of a rough week when they fell to the Westland John Glenn Rockets and the Northville Mustangs in Western Lakes Activities Association conference contests before winning a single game in the league tournament pool - which they didn't get out of after losing to Farmington 15-0, 15-4 and falling to North Farmington 15-10, 15-8, before losing to Northville in three, 15-7, 12-15, 15-12, Feb. 20 while going 1-5 overall in the tournament. The Warriors (9-23) followed the lead of Flyer White in their loss to John Glenn as she matched five kills, 10 service points and nine digs. Ashley Patterson collected seven kills and Lauren Sharp collected seven, six service points and five solo blocks - which is a team high this season - in the losing effort. Against the Northville Mustangs,

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Central's Jim Scarpace, a sophomore, takes a swipe at a puck in a January tilt against Livonia.

## Vikings ousted from tourney

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

Sometimes, the third time is not the charm.

The Walled Lake Central hockey team felt the sting of a semi-final regional loss as they fell to the Farmington Flyers 8-2 March 2. This game marked the third time these two teams have fought it out in the rink — all three times the Vikings fell to the powerful Farmington skaters.

The Flyers (17-8-1) earned their second post-season victory of the season with the win, while the Vikings will have plenty of time to look to the future as they were ousted from the playoffs with the loss.

The contest, which followed a 6-5 Redford Catholic Central victory over Livonia Stevenson in double overtime, started nearly 50 min-

utes later that the scheduled 8 p.m. start time — but it didn't seem to affect the Flyers or the Vikings.

The game started out in its normal fast-paced fashion for the Flyers as they outshot the Vikings 16-5 in the first period and led 3-0 at the first intermission. Farmington's Matt Lee scored the first goal with 6:23 off the clock

before Mike Hand made it a 2-0 Flyer advantage. Viking Eric Krajewski came in strong against Farmington goalie R. J. Ulrich, who stoned Krajewski's one-on-one attempt.

Just four minutes later, Farmington's Marc Rauth deflected a shot by Mike Colombo for the

Continued on 3

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