



# Novi News

Your hometown newspaper serving Novi and the Lakes area for 49 years

Thursday, August 1, 2002

novinews.com

50¢

Volume 47 Number 10

Novi, Michigan

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Look inside for your  
**GREEN SHEET**  
Classifieds

Greensheetclassifieds.com

**CORRECTION**

The call letters for Channel 7 in Detroit were misidentified in the article last week's articles, "Dirt & Drain Dilemma." The correct call letters are WXYZ-TV-7.

The Walled Lake City attorney was also misidentified in last week's paper. The city attorney's name is John Denohue.

**INSIDE**

**Arrestment**

Novi resident Denise Michelle Namyslowski was arraigned in 35th District Court July 23 on charges of "uttering and publishing," better known as forging checks. Namyslowski was caught on videotape allegedly committing the 14-year felony.

— Page 2A



**It's Pita time**

Mr. Pita restaurant, recognized for its rolled pita sandwich, recently opened its doors in the new Lifestyle Cafe at the Twelve Oaks Mall.

— Page 11A



**Motor & Music Fest pics**

Photographer John Heider strolled the Main Street festivities last week and came back with a fine two-page spread. Also, festival manager Jane Thomas gives us her wrap-up thoughts on this year's event.

— Page 8A

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Photo by John Heider

Novi resident Don Powell along with his wife Laura are concerned about the care that Village Oaks Lake is receiving. The small lake in their backyard in recent years has suffered from algae blooms, fish die-offs, and excessive weed growth.

## Water Woes

Algae and dead fish plague east end of Novi lake

By Angelo Parlove  
STAFF WRITER

Novi resident Laura Powell and her family moved to a house on Village Wood Lake nearly seven years ago. Since then, the Powells have been plagued by the stench of algae, garbage and dead fish.

"It smells like a sewer out here nine times out of 10," Powell said.

The east end of Village Wood Lake — the end the Powells call home — is experiencing an algae bloom in recent months due in part to the summer heat. This build-up of algae has killed off many of the area's fish which show up in their backyard.

"We have all kinds of dead fish washed up on shore," Powell said.

Powell said her family has been putting up with the problem, as well as the smell, each year since they moved onto the lake in 1995.

"It's a continuous problem," Powell said.

The Aqua Weed Company of Holly has treated the lake in the past with a liquid form of copper sulfate to counter the algae problem, as well as added blue dye to the water to improve its overall color.

Dick Pinagel, owner of the Aqua Weed Company, said the situation is typical of an unnatural body of water like Village Wood Lake, which is technically called a water retention basin.

"This is an issue that goes on in ponds like these all over the place," Pinagel said.

The Aqua Weed Company was contracted through the neighborhood association in charge — the Village Oaks Association. The city of Novi Department of Public Works leaves the treatment of Village Wood Lake to its neighborhood association. However, the DPW does clear weeds and clean inlet and outlet piping to the lake.

Pinagel said the combination of the summer heat, the mucky water and the run-offs from neighborhood yards, which ushers in lawn and other fertilizing chemicals, creates ideal conditions for algae and plants in these kinds of retention ponds.

To complicate matters, the prevailing winds on Village Wood Lake move towards the east end — the Powells end — bringing with it any loose debris on the lake.

"If people lose it, it will be sitting in our yard for weeks and weeks,"

Powell said.

The Novi family has often seen bicycles, tires, newspapers and other garbage float onto their yard, along with the natural waste such as tree branches, foliage and, of course, the dead fish.

On a weekly basis over the spring months, the lake residents have invested their own time and money to tackle the garbage and dead fish rolling up on shore. They raked and cleaned about 25 bags of trash each week.

The Powells are upset with the way Village Oaks Association has been handling the algae bloom and the clean-up on their part of the lake. They believe more can be done to resolve this on-going situation.

"We need a new approach to maintain this lake," Powell said.

However, the Powells have been getting nowhere with the figures in charge. Powell said the Village Oaks Association failed to return many of her phone calls on the matter.

"There is a severe lack of communication," Powell said. "I want attention."

Mark Harder, the Village Oaks Association lakes committee chair-

**"It smells like a sewer out here nine times out of 10."**

Laura Powell  
Village Wood Lake resident

man refused to comment on the condition of the lake, its clean-up or the current treatment to combat the algae bloom.

Powell said she would like to see Village Wood Lake use an aeration system, which would put air and oxygen into the water to combat the summer algae blooms.

Pinagel said aeration would improve the environment of Novi's giant retention pond.

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

## Music & Motor Fest 2002 unites community

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

"Taking it to the Streets" was the theme and the secret of success for the City of Novi's Music & Motor Fest 2002.

"All the feedback that we have received has been great," said Jane Thomas, Music & Motor Fest festival manager. "People loved the fact it was in a downtown environment."

Thomas said one of her favorite comments came from a resident who enthusiastically said, "I am seeing my neighbors again."

This was the first year the annual event was held in the city's downtown on Market and Main streets.

In prior years, the festival has been held at the Novi Expo Center.

"The sense of community was definitely there," Thomas said.

Thousands of people packed Music & Motor Fest events ranging from a softball tournament to live music performances.

The hot weather and intermittent rain didn't stop groups of family and friends from enjoying other festival offerings such as helicopter rides, a classic car show, an antique appraisal fair and the "Taste Fest Chow on Main."

Thomas said new events in the children's area, including visits by Peewee Pottery and Krispy Kreme, seemed to be a stand-out hit.

"Peewee Pottery did great," she said. "And the ice cream social was great too. It was all free."

As part of the festival's commitment to keep the event growing bigger and better each year, organizers said they are planning on broadening the kids area for 2003.

What won't change is the free admission and parking.

Thomas said although charging would help compile annual attendance records, keeping the cost at a minimum for attendees will stay the focus for future years.

Music & Motor Fest 2002 was held from Thursday, July 25 until its Sunday, July 28 conclusion.

Please turn to pages 8 and 9 for pictures of the 2002 Music & Motor Fest and a wrap-up by Jane Thomas.

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.



Jane Thomas

## Acquisition of park land tops wish list

■ Amphitheater, disc golf course also wanted

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

Disc golf in Novi?

Well maybe not, but constructing a course for the popular sport was one suggestion offered at the City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department's focus group held last week.

The July 23 question-and-answer brainstorming session was conducted by the department's director, Randy Auler, in an effort to mold a five-year master plan to better meet the community's needs.

During the one-hour Novi Civic Center meeting, Auler discussed results of focus-group studies, asked for suggestions and held a mini exercise allowing the nearly 20 attendees to rank what they believed the department should focus its efforts on.

Topping the list was park land acquisition followed by the development of trails and green ways, a skill building/challenge area and amphitheater. Close runner-ups were the addition of an aquatic facility, disc golf course and nature center.

Auler also shared his goal which is to turn the department into a highly respected and resident-serving institution.

Although Auler is focusing his

continued on 6

## Question: In District Court races, who is wearing the blindfold?

By Tran Longmoore  
STAFF WRITER

It's said that justice is blind. But with restrictions on what judicial candidates can and cannot say, some wonder if its the voters who are blind.

Judges and judicial candidates are held to a strict code of conduct. The seventh Canon of the Michigan Code of Judicial Conduct states that a judge or a candidate for judicial office should refrain from political activity inappropriate to judicial office.

Those aspiring to the post are restricted from holding office in a political party or endorsing candidates in non-judicial elections. And judicial candidates are not allowed to receive a campaign donation of more than \$100 from any lawyer.

But in order to protect the integrity of the office, the code goes further.

It limits the candidates ability to exercise free speech.

Beyond promising faithful and impartial performance of duties, a candidate must not make pledges or promises of conduct in office.



Bondy

And, a candidate must not communicate anything known to be false, fraudulent, misleading, or deceptive.

Few people have issues with the second restriction on speech.

"I wish all election candidates were restricted from misleading the public," said Milford Village resident Jim Warner.

But the first restriction leaves Warner scratching his head. Warner has spoken with two of the four candidates seeking election as judge in the 52-1 District Court in Novi.

"They really don't say much," said Warner. "Their campaign literature doesn't say much. When I asked them questions about their views on issues, they didn't answer."

After the a controversial California court appeal which declared that the Pledge of

Allegiance was unconstitutional, Warner wanted to know how one of the 52-1 judicial candidates would have voted.

"He told me that he wouldn't face such a case in the Novi court, and said he couldn't comment," Warner said. "Still, I wanted to know. How I am going choose the best candidate without knowing what the candidates stand for."

On Aug. 6, Novi and Lakes Area voters will vote for one of four candidates running for the 52-1 District Court judgeship. Robert Bondy of Milford, Jerome Cavanagh of Milford, Sara Pope Starnes of Commerce, and Matthew Quinn of Novi are seeking the office. The top two vote getters will make the November ballot.

At times, even the candidates have found it hard to campaign within the limits set in the code of conduct.

As Bondy has gone door to door, he's had people ask him questions about abortion and concealed weapons.

"There is a public desire to know

continued on 17

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# Takin' it to the streets!

## Music & Motor Fest 2002 rocked Novi!

By Jane Thomas

As the tents come down and the streets return to normal, so many people need to be thanked for all their support. "The community spirit has returned," one excited Novi resident said. Thanks to all of you and our many corporate sponsors for believing in this event and watching it grow and change with the times. We simply could not produce this event without your constant support.

The major sponsors included: City of Novi, Time Warner Cable, Novi News, Budweiser, 336 Main, Pepsi & Fanner Jack, Novi Expo Center, JCK & Associates, 947 WCSX, Jaguar of Novi, Bob Sellers, Varsity Lincoln Mercury, Shuman Motors, Marty Feldman Chevrolet, Tom Holzer Ford, Laird's Glass, Anglin Supply, Valvoline Instant Oil Change, and the Goodman Automotive Group.

Events like this don't just happen. The tents don't magically appear, the tables and chairs don't set themselves up, the musical acts don't just happen to be driving by and decide to set up and play on the stage that just happens to be there. All these things and the hundreds of other details are handled by a sincere and dedicated group of volunteers. Yes, volunteers, a group of unpaid citizens who donate their time an expertise to the community all year long so this event can happen.

This group spends an entire year working together to bring you this festival. They will begin planning next year's event immediately after this year's is over. By this time next year, they'll still be here making the same last-minute preparations that they are making right now. They never ask for recognition; they simply go about their business with smiles and perseverance. It is truly thankless job, but one that they truly love doing. It seems no one ever says thank you but they truly deserve some recognition.

Therefore, to Bob McCann, Lori Kapelczak, Gary Wyatt, Art Cervi, Dottie Warhol, Cindy Koczyński, Pat Webb, Tom Marcus, Ed Harrell, Blair Bowman and Vic Muscat, and our recording secretary, Gerry Stipp - thanks! There are plenty of other volunteers who work incredibly hard and we call them the "Craisers." Throughout the festival they are there to assist in all the many details. From parking cars, selling tickets, and working in the information booth we realize this can be very tiring and appreciate all your help and support. By the end of the weekend, you were all smiling, so you must have had some fun! Also, thank you to all the service groups that help out. This includes the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, The Novi Inline Skating Team, The Novi Chamber of Commerce, The Novi Newcomers, and the Lioness and Lions organizations.

So hope you mark your calendars for next year, July 24-27, to bring all your family and friends for more great fun for all!

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to the Novi News for partnering with us and donating this space for the promotion of the Music & Motorfest.

Jane Thomas is the Music & Motor Fest manager. She can be reached at (248) 349-1950.



This year's visitors to the Music and Motorfest got the chance to take helicopter rides and take a look around the Novi area from high above.



All sorts of sizes, shapes, years and colors of cars showed up to the Novi Music and Motorfest to be part of its classic car show.



The band Splittin' Boogie performs Friday evening at the Music and Motorfest on the Time Warner stage.



Crystal Haley (second from left) and her staff from the Remax 100 office, representing Novi, Northville, and Commerce, line up children for their hot air balloon rides at the Novi Motor and Music Festival. The rides raised over \$500 for the Children's Miracle Network.



Friday afternoon visitors to the Music and Motorfest enjoy some food and listening to a band on the Time Warner stage.



Karlee, 3, Kyle, 10 months, and Kelly Tychentfin play a little game of tag during their Friday evening visit to the Music and Motorfest. The Tychentfin's were visiting from Northville.



Novi MainStreet's north-south section is crowded with hungry visitors seeking treats from the many restaurants offering their goods during the 2002 Music and Motorfest.



Mark Tucker of Brighton polishes his Buick Regal Friday night at the Novi Music and Motorfest car show.



Guitarist Dave Parker of Rocky and the Rollers entertains the crowd under the big tent during Friday night's Music and Motorfest.

Photos by John Heider  
Aerial photo by Jane Thomas



## Engagements



Bolin-Cameron

Mike and Casey Monti of Novi announce the engagement of their son, Andrew Brent Bolin, to Rachel Carolyn Cameron of Sparta, Ill.

The groom-elect is a 1998 graduate of Novi High School and a 2002 graduate of Concordia University in Ann Arbor with a double degree in family life and business administration. He has accepted a call to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Monroe, N.Y.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Bruce and Nedra Cameron of Sparta, Ill. She is currently attending Concordia University, planning on graduating Dec. 2002 with a degree in church music.

A February, 2003 wedding is planned at the Chapel of the Holy Trinity at Concordia's campus, where the bride-elect's parents were married.



Bjerke-Davis

Lee and Marie Berke of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather, to Michael Davis, son of Dennis and Jackie Davis.

The bride-elect is a 1992 graduate of Novi High School. She earned her bachelor in science degree in Nursing at University of Michigan in 1996 and a master of science degree in Health Service Administration at University of Detroit, Mercy in 2002. She is currently employed at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan as an auditor.

The groom-elect graduated from Romeo High School in 1990 and earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering at University of Michigan in 1994 and a master of science degree in mechanical engineering at Wayne State University in 1998.

A September wedding is planned.

## Birth



Avery Kathleen Fenchel

Ken and Lisa Fenchel of Novi, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Avery Kathleen Fenchel, at Providence Hospital, Southfield, Mich. on June 5, 2002. At birth, Avery weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 1/4 inches in length. She joins her older sister, Laine Elizabeth, 2 years old.

Her proud grandparents are Mike and Kathy Fenchel of Novi and the late Bill and Betsy Lutz of Northville. Great-Grandmothers are Sarah Burns of Livonia and Ruth Fenchel of West Bloomfield.

## Wedding



The McAndrews

Heidi Zimmerman and Jason McAndrew were married in Toronto on Dec. 29. Rev. Kerwin Davies officiated the ceremony.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents, Philip and Gayle Zimmerman of Novi. She is a 1995 graduate of Novi High School and a 1999 graduate of the University of Michigan. She is employed by Williams-Sonoma. The groom is the son of Dale and Linda Fenton of North Bay, Ontario. He attended Waterloo Collegiate Institute and is employed by Gap International.

The maid of honor was Katie Zimmerman. Bridesmaids were Katie Vizas and Colleen Beagan. The best man was Ryan Mair. Groomsmen were James McAndrew, James Price and Joel Melouil.

The couple honeymooned in Hawaii and are presently living in Toronto, but will relocate to San Francisco in September.

**REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES.**

A public service of the Michigan Forest Service and the State Fire Marshal.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: August 1, 2002

Permit No. M0024287

Oakland Co-Walton L&N/Novi WWTP

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality proposes to modify a discharge permit issued to the Oakland County Drain Commission for the Walnut Lake/Novi WWTP located at 48581 West Road, Novi, Michigan 48377. The applicant treats municipal wastewater collected from the City of Walnut Lake and the City of Novi (North). The applicant discharges treated municipal wastewater to Fenley Drain in the NE 1/4, NE 1/4, Section 9, T14, R0E, Oakland County.

The draft permit includes the following modifications to the previously issued permit: an Industrial Pretreatment Program is no longer required because the Walnut L&N/Novi WWTP does not receive process wastewater from any industries subject to Federal Categorical Pretreatment standards or other significant industrial users.

Comments or objections to the draft permit received by August 31, 2002 will be considered in the final decision to issue the permit. Persons desiring information regarding the draft permit, procedures for commenting, or requesting a hearing, should contact: Christie Lorence, Permits Section, Surface Water Quality Division, Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 30273, Lansing, Michigan 48909, telephone: 517-241-7414, e-mail: lorencec@mi.gov.

Copies of the public notice, fact sheet and draft permit may be obtained via the Internet (<http://www.michigan.gov/deq>) and on the left side of the screen click on Water, Surface Water and NPDES Permits; then click on "Permits on Public Notice" which is under the Permits banner, or at the Surface Water Quality Division Southeast Michigan District Office located at 38980 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, Michigan 48152-1090, telephone: 734-953-8905.

(8-1-02 MT 1120894)

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[www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org)



Arthritis Foundation

Your Source for Help and Hope

Photo courtesy Kerry Newman, Bowman Photography

**CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN  
NOTICE OF OFFICIAL COMPUTER  
TEST PRIMARY ELECTION TO  
BE HELD ON AUGUST 6, 2002**

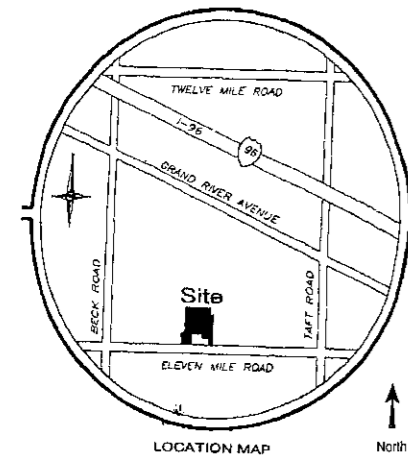
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there will be an official test of the computer and computer program to be used by the City of Novi, Michigan, for the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, August 6, 2002. The test will be conducted at 10:00 AM on Friday, August 2, 2002 at the Novi Civic Center, City Clerk's Office, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI.

(8-1-02 NN 1120649)

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK

**CITY OF NOVI  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 07, 2002 at 7:30 PM in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider Site Plan # 01-52 ASBURY PARK ESTATES FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN APPROVAL OF SITE CONDOS WITH AN OPEN SPACE OPTION, WETLAND AND WOODLAND PERMITS, LOCATED ON ELEVEN MILE BETWEEN TURTLE AND BECK ROADS. The applicant is requesting a 45-lot Detached condominium Residential Site.



LOCATION MAP  
N.T.S.

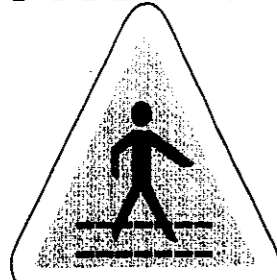
North

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 P.M., Wednesday, August 7, 2002.

(8-1-02 NN 1121107)

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION  
LYNN KOCHAN, SECRETARY

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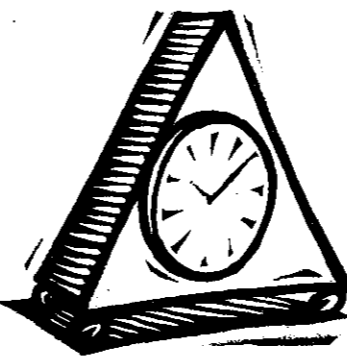
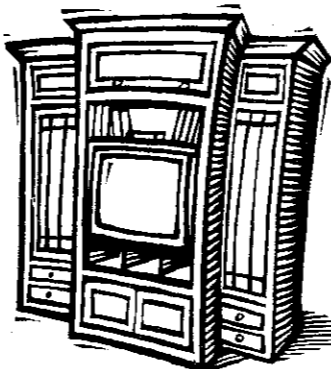
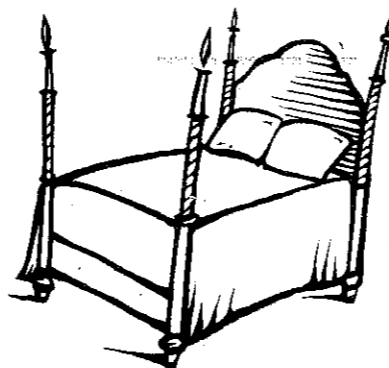
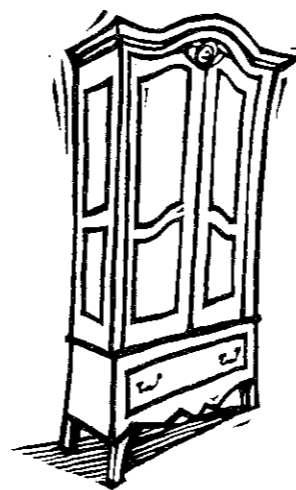
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Courtesy photo

**Linksters against leukemia**

Over 200 golfers hit the Links of Novi on July 20 for the Sixth Annual John F. Aho Memorial Golf Outing to benefit the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan (CLF). The Hawaiian themed event raised nearly \$40,000. Fox 2 anchor Huel Perkins was emcee for the evening's auction. One of the items auctioned off was a Red Wing jersey that was signed by all members of the 2002 Stanley Cup winning team. The jersey fetched a winning of \$6,500 from Plymouth's Roy Aho, father of John F. Aho. George Aho organized the event in memory of his brother who died of acute myelogenous leukemia (AML) in 1997. "When John became ill and was hospitalized, he was very concerned about the children who were on the ward with him," said Aho, a recently elected CLF board member. Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan is a statewide organization which provides information, financial assistance, and emotional support to adults and children affected by leukemia, lymphoma, and related blood disorders. Until there's a cure, CLF is here to help families overcome the challenges these conditions present.

What They Say About  
**MAYOR**  
**JEFF POTTER**  
for  
**OAKLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONER**  
District #8

- The Detroit Free Press... "energy, enterprise, and the ability to think outside the box"
- The South Lyon Herald "Mayor Jeff Potter is the easy pick"
- Endorsed by Novi Mayor Richard Clark

"Jeff is a proven tax-fighter who will be an asset on the Oakland County Commission."  
— Republican State Representative Nancy Cassis

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August 6

Al Green  
August 15

Hank Williams Jr.  
August 23

Aaron Carter  
September 6

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[www.freedomhill.net](http://www.freedomhill.net)

**Aug 1** The Rippingtons, David Benoit and Jean Luc-Ponty  
**2** Trinity Irish Dance Company  
**3** Tommy Lee, Geoff Tate & Grinder featuring Darren McCarty plus many more!  
**4** Festa Italiana 2002 (Connie Francis, Sal Richards & The Gaylords)  
**6** Michael Bolton wsg Marina  
**8** Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, Felix Cavaliere & The Rascals, Lou Christie and The Association  
**9** 1984 Tribute -Salute to the Beatles  
**14** Franklin the Turtle 11am & 7pm  
**15** Al Green & Ann Nesby  
**16** Paul Anka  
**17** The Scintas  
**23** Hank Williams Jr. & Trick Pony wsg Howling Diablos  
**25** George Benson & Natalie Cole  
**Sept 6** Aaron Carter

**Tickets On Sale Now!**  
All shows and dates are subject to change.

Freedom Hill Amphitheater is conveniently located on Metro Parkway (16 Mile Road) east of Schoenherr in Sterling Heights with easy access from I-75, I-94, I-696 or M-58.

## THE REPUTATION CONTINUES!

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Thursday, August 1, 2002

## The Screen Beat

By Brian Renner  
SPECIAL WRITER

# Powers Struggle

To laugh or not to laugh, that seems to be the question

Coming to your favorite theaters this weekend is the M. Night Shyamalan ("The Sixth Sense") thriller "Signs." In Bucks County, Pennsylvania, a mysterious appearance of a five-hundred-foot crop circle is found on the farm of Graham Hess (Mel Gibson), the town's reverend. Producer Frank Marshall explains, "Ours is a science fiction film, but it's also a serious drama about faith and spirituality. It's really about human emotions that are set in motion by a supernatural event." Frank Marshall adds, "You can look at the title of 'Signs' as a sign to open your eyes. The character of Graham is shut down in the beginning of the film and he is not really able to deal with reality. His family is not doing so well. And so, part of the message of the film, I think, is to open your eyes to what is around you and you will see the answers." Featured among the cast are Academy Award-winner Joaquin Phoenix of "Gladiator" fame, Rory Culkin, Cherry Jones, Patricia Kalember and newcomer Abigail Breslin. "Signs" is a Touchstone Pictures release and rated PG-13 for some frightening moments.

"Tadpole" is the witty, coming-of-age story about a 16-year-old boy, Oscar (Aaron Stanford), who falls in love with his stepmother, Eve (Sigourney Weaver). "Tadpole" emerged as an audience favorite after its world debut at the Sundance Film Festival, thus landing a distribution deal with Miramax Films. Director Gary Winick won Best Director award from the Sundance jury. The film was shot in just 14 days in New York City, with a Sony digital video camera on a small budget. "Tadpole" is a Miramax Films release and rated PG-13 for sexual content, mature thematic elements and language.

In theaters next week, "Spy Kids 2: Island of Lost Treasures" (PG), "Blood Work" (R) and "XXX" (R-13).

For more information, please log on to The Movie Insider at [www.themovieinsider.com](http://www.themovieinsider.com). Please direct any questions, comments, and/or feedback to [brian@the-movieinsider.com](mailto:brian@the-movieinsider.com).

By Angelo Parlove  
STAFF WRITER

French film director Jean Luc Goddard said that all you need to make a movie is a gun and a girl.

Well, those words that once liberated young filmmakers decades ago should be modernized for the 21st century: all you need to make a movie is a gun, a surgically-enhanced girl and a couple of fart jokes. Or, at least, that's all you need to make a recycled slapstick comedy about a hairy British spy that keeps people coming back year after year to throw their dollars at the box office window workers.

"Austin Powers in Goldmember," starring former Saturday Night Live stand-out, Mike Myers, successfully crosses the market, again, on reworked jokes about farts and private parts, shapely women busting out of their clothes and midget humor. That's right, it's the stuff of life and death.

In the third, but surely not the last, Austin Powers installment, moviegoers are stupefied, literally, with a cinematic dose of labored vulgarity, star power — with an array of celebrity drop-ins such as Tom Cruise, Britney Spears and Ozzy Osbourne — and Weird Al-style musical parodies. I almost forgot: there is also a nosebleed story about Austin Powers earning his father's long lost respect and, of course, saving the world in the meantime. Like I said, it's the stuff of life and death.

The movie's bound to make its creators millions and millions of dollars, only because you can't help but laugh at all its stupidity. It's like Parlove's dogs; a sex-starved super spy plus fart jokes plus well-endowed women equals a packed theater full of giggling and drooling village idiots.

The movie is a complete waste of your time. You'll forget every bit of it the moment you leave the theater. It has no redeemable value. It's not thoughtful comedy like Woody Allen movie. There's no satire like Charlie Chaplin. It's not inventive slapstick like the Marx Brother. There's no heart like in a John Candy comedy. Mike Myers isn't even anyone's favorite Saturday Night Live star. But "Austin Powers in Goldmember" is, after all, what it tries to be: stupid. And I have the rest of my life to be serious and read Kafka.

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

### AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER

Starring: Mike Myers, Michael Gane, Beyonce Knowles, Heather Graham, Seth Green, Robert Wagner, Rob Lowe, Verne Troyer, Michael York, Will Ferrell, Mandy Patinkin, Josh Zuckerman, The Osbournes and cameo by Tom Cruise and Britney Spears

Released by: New Line Cinema

Director: Jay Roach

Screenwriters: Mike Myers, Michael McCullers

Genre: Comedy

MPAA Rating: PG-13 (for sexual innuendo, crude humor and language)

Final Rating: 5 out of 10

Now showing at Novi Town Center Theaters



Photo Courtesy of NEW LINE CINEMA

money — and brain cells — and check it out. Why not, I guess. I'm not too old and dried up yet to laugh at a man in a fat suit squeezing off a round of simulated farts. And it beats hanging out in the afternoon heat. Air-conditioned theaters were made with movies like this in mind.

Getting to the point: you're sure to laugh. I did. You're free to be a mild pervert and check out the women in sparse clothing on the big screen. I was. You know you will keep cool. I did. You know the buttered popcorn will hit the spot, as it always does. So, throw your eight bucks down on the ticket counter and indulge yourself in being a cool, perverted village idiot with butter on his fingers who is laughing at a midget getting hit in the head with an oversized trying pan. And afterwards, remember to be grateful for the gifts of comedy like Woody Allen, Charlie Chaplin and John Candy.

Who, me? Mini Me takes the stage again as one of the stars of the newest installment of the Austin Powers series. This one-quarter size version of Doctor Evil returns to plot the destruction of Powers through another time-traveling scheme.

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Visit Revvin' with Ford August 17th for cars, stars and family fun in Downtown Birmingham. For information on tickets for the August 16th Charity Preview Party, call (248) 644-5832 or visit

RULES	CONTEST
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contest is open to all adults.</li> <li>There will be only one winner.</li> <li>Entries must be postmarked no later than August 15, 2002.</li> <li>Winner will be announced in The Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers.</li> <li>Answers may be placed on a postcard and mailed to: Revvin' with Ford Contest THE OBSERVER &amp; ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 Attention: Cathy Young, Promotion Manager</li> </ol>	<p>Clip and put on a postcard—Answers to the three questions below are your entry to win a drawing for 2 VIP tickets to "Impact At Ford Field," courtesy of Revvin' with Ford.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In what model year was the Ford Thunderbird first available? <input type="checkbox"/> 1950 <input type="checkbox"/> 1955 <input type="checkbox"/> 1962</li> <li>How many years in a row did the GT40 win the LeMans 24-Hour Race? <input type="checkbox"/> Two <input type="checkbox"/> Four <input type="checkbox"/> Five</li> <li>What was the average cost of a car in 1957? <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,750 <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,250 <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000</li> </ol>

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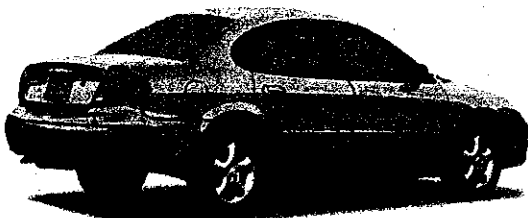
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