

Look inside for your
GREEN SHEET
 Classifieds

Greensheetclassifieds.com

INSIDE



Lake Placid or bust

Melissa Bedell, 12, does a spin on the ice of the Novi Ice Arena. Bedell will be skating in the Junior Nationals in Lake Placid.

— Page 6A



Paws with a Cause

Donna Hebel demonstrates to Deerfield Elementary how her PAWS dog Canon helps her around the house, allowing Hebel to use him to steady herself to her feet.

— Page 15A

SPORTS

Now that's an opener!

Talk about drama. The Novi Wildcats opened their home hockey schedule with a very dramatic victory in front of a very pepped up crowd.

They did so against U of D Jesuit, the fourth-ranked team in the state.

— Page 1B

INDEX

- Anniversary9A
- Business Briefs 20A
- Calendar of Events ... 8A
- Classifieds3D
- Library Lines5A
- Novi City Briefs7A
- Obituary10A
- Opinion16A
- Police Report 2A
- Regional Marketplace .19A

000000 02723

 X NOV PUBLIC LIBRARY
 4500 N 10 MILE RD
 MI 48375-3014



6 53174 22222 0

**Interviews
 Tues. for
 DeRoche's
 open seat**

■ Members of Novi City Council hold an inquisition to find replacement

By Victoria Sadlocha
 STAFF WRITER

Twenty-four hours after State Rep.-elect Craig DeRoche spends his last night as an official member of the Novi City Council, interviews will begin to find his replacement.

Members of the Novi City Council will hold the inquisition for DeRoche's replacement during a special city council meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 19.

During the meeting, those interested in representing the city's residents will have the chance to speak before current members and answer any questions they may have.

Looking forward to being a part of the interviews is DeRoche himself.

"I think this is the first time it (the departing member sitting in) has been done in Novi history, and I'm very much looking forward to it," DeRoche said.

The state representative-elect said make no mistake, he will be asking some pretty tough questions to the group of potential replacements.

"I would like to have somebody that shares my philosophical base," he said.



C. DeRoche

continued on 2

**Program
 will help
 incoming
 freshmen**

■ Juniors and seniors mentor incoming ninth-graders starting 2003 school year

By Ramez Khuri
 STAFF WRITER

A new program, which will be implemented in fall 2003, will give more guidance to incoming freshmen at Novi High School. The program will help students transfer from the middle school to the high school and adjust more efficiently in the process.

"We think that that is a real asset to our program here and that it helps kids become acclimated and grounded at the high school," NHS Principal Jennifer Cheal said. "We really believe that we need to be doing more for the incoming freshmen in transitioning them. There is discussion that you could just do something in the summer or something in the spring of the eighth grade year, but I think it's really more valuable to have ongoing support for them as they are going through the transition as they come over here as freshmen early in their freshman career."

The goal, according to Cheal is to transition students again. They are transitioned from the middle school to the high school, but then the school is going to want to transition them from the academic seminar into the permanent seminar when they are in grades 10, 11 and 12.

continued on 3



Photo by John Heider

Kyle Bielenda makes a green and red paper chain at the Kris Kringle Workshop inside Novi's MainStreet before last Thursday's holiday parade.

Ringling in the Holidays

■ More than 2,000 area residents rang in Christmas with a smile during city's annual holiday fest

By Victoria Sadlocha
 STAFF WRITER

Despite the below-freezing temperature, more than 2,000 area residents gathered in Novi's downtown to ring in the holidays with a shiver and a smile.

The enhanced annual holiday event held Dec. 5 titled "Ringling in the Holidays" featured new additions such as an artisans market, horse and carriage rides and an electric-light parade.

The newly-added parade wowed spectators both young and old with illuminated floats and Christmas music by Novi's high and middle school marching bands.

Two of the crowd's favorite brilliantly shining floats were from the City of Novi

Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department and Schoolcraft College.

Schoolcraft College's Student Activities Department provided its brightly lit, whimsical entry featuring a snowman encased in a holiday globe along with many Christmas treats including blaring carols and familiar faces such as the Grinch, Barney, Winnie the Pooh and Scooby Doo.

The city's float featured an impressively decorated Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department aerial lift truck with a sign stating "Happy Holidays from Novi Parks."

Matt Wiktorowski, Novi's superintendent of parks, said more than 5,600 lights covered the large vehicle.

The department's decorating team consisting of Steve Tillman, John Neff, Chuck Fritz, Tim Zylka and Jeff Schefski spent many hours of hard work preparing the float.

Wiktorowski said the team used 12 strings of icicle lights, eight strings of multi-color lights, five cans of spray snow, 100 feet of ribbon, three power strips, seven extension cords, 12 18-foot sections of light roping, four hubcap

lights, two lighted snowmen, nine feet of garland, one lighted wreath, parking lights and strobes to pull the visual sensation off.

The Novi Police Department, Real Estate One, D.A.R.E., P.O.W. and M.I.A. of Michigan, the Novi Lions Club and The Novi Fire Department were some of the other parade participants lighting up Market and Main streets.

Representatives from area restaurants also lined the downtown streets passing out samples of their specialties to long lines of hungry attendees.

Everything from Buffalo Wild Wings chicken to Red Lobster shrimp to Cottage Inn pizza to Guemsey Farms Dairy hot-fudge sauce sundaes were served with pleasure at no charge.

Keeping warm inside the Main Street atrium were revelers enjoying the arts and crafts fair, Girl Scouts bake sale and the Kris Kringle Workshop.

The workshop offered children the opportunity to make a special gift for their loved ones and have it wrapped and tagged before they left.

continued on 4

DeRoche chooses legislative aide

■ State Rep.-Elect Craig DeRoche announces Republican and state advocate Andy Anuzis will take reins as legislative aide

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

Earlier this month, 38th District State Rep.-Elect Craig DeRoche announced long-time state advocate and fellow republican Andy Anuzis will take the reins as his legislative aide when the current Novi City Councilman is sworn into office at the beginning of the new year.

"I'm happy he decided to come with me," DeRoche said. "He is already working on the district on his own time as a volunteer. We are off and running." Anuzis, 42, is excited too. "I think highly of Craig DeRoche," he said. "I think everyone views him as a rising star in Michigan politics, and I

think we will have a team in place that will get things going from day one." What makes the future administrator so confident? He says it is the combination of DeRoche's local political experience plus already established reputation in Lansing and his own experience. "I bring to the table 10 years of advocating," Anuzis said. "Really, the last 10 years I've been doing governmental affairs work in Lansing."

Along with the chance of being part of a winning team, Anuzis said he is looking forward to his new role because of the current climate of Michigan politics. "It's really going to be a fascinating time," he said. Among many influencing factors, Anuzis included in his list of reasons the exploding state deficit and the extreme turnover of the House and Senate.

"I think it is going to be a very transitional time in state government," Anuzis said. "Out of the 110 state reps, 90 will be brand new faces." He explained the majority of those leaving were either terminated or ran for open senate seats. What The University of Michigan-Dearborn graduate says will make the difference in the new government is the ability to accomplish tasks and goals. "What I think is important, is you really need experienced people to be at the ground running from day one," Anuzis said. "I

Interviews Tues. for Deroche's open seat

continued from front

What that translates into is someone with a conservative view of property owner rights, low taxes and efficient government. The clerk's office will accept completed applications until the day of the interviews.

"That's part of that structure piece," Cheal said. "We are not sure how that's going to look yet. We will transition them into the new seminar and how do you transition them? You just don't have them show up one day. There has to be some kind of way that they connect with this new seminar, so we will probably move them in groups." Cheal said there are a lot of spinal pieces to put together, but they have the basic structure and outline; they know what they value, and they know their card. Now it's just a matter of putting the pieces together between now and the end of this school year.

The structure of this academic seminar will be the key to its success. It will group the students as all freshmen in a seminar. For example, a teacher would have 20 students assigned to him or her, and also assigned to this same seminar would be two or three junior and senior students who will be trained in leadership training and leadership academies during the seminar. The juniors and senior mentors will help design the curriculum and implement it for the freshman.

Program will help incoming freshmen

continued from front

"The way it is now, our counselors, give a tour of the building to the freshmen," Cheal said. "It makes a lot more sense for the juniors and seniors to do it because they can give them the tour and do a nice job of that." They go through the student handbook with all the school rules and policies and procedures and how to sign an and do a seminar. "It kind of makes sense to have a junior or senior do it kind of like a big brother or sister do it," Cheal said. "It's really a caring person who has been trained and is interested in working with younger students. We get frustrated sometimes at their behavior in the lunchroom, but we never have taken the opportunity to show them exactly how to

walk through the lunch line, how to slide the card, how to recycle your tray. We assume that they are going to pick that up from watching other kids. Sometimes that's positive role modeling and sometimes it's not, so this way we are guaranteeing positive role modeling by upperclassmen they are going to see every day in the school." According to Cheal, one of the sweetest areas that the high school wants to cover with the students is explaining what they have been doing at the middle school, which is a lot of self-assessment and goal-setting.

Kids will be working on answering questions like, where is it you need extra help academically? How are you going to use seminar time effectively? How are you going to ask a teacher for extra help? How do you determine in your own mind what is the extra help that you need? When you communicate that to the teacher, do you do it effectively and efficiently so the teacher knows exactly how to help you? "We can do some self-assessment, some goal-setting and some role-playing and get them ready to use that academic seminar time to support their academics effectively," Cheal said. "Upperclassmen are doing that, but it takes a longer time to learn how to do it on their own. We are going to teach all 500 of them



Photo by John Helder
Charity contest

that we see, that kids need to be involved in their school. "That could take a lot of different forms," Cheal added. "We are going to catch kids before they really start straggling to the point they fall behind both academically and behaviorally, getting them involved in clubs and activities, having a network, a teacher and having two or three juniors or seniors they know they can go to immediately for help."

Romeo Khan is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhur@h.homecomm.net

Police Report

Drunk Driver

A 39-year-old Ferndale man was arrested for drinking and driving last week, after a passerby alerted a Novi officer of his existence on the road. The officer was patrolling westbound on Interstate 96, west of Novi Road, at about 2 a.m. on Dec. 4 when a motorist pulled up next to him and waved to get his attention. When the officer looked over, the driver pointed to a mini van a couple of cars ahead of the officer. As the officer looked toward the car, he noticed it weaving within its lane of travel. As the officer approached the vehicle, the van crossed into the right lane, nearly hitting another car. The officer made the stop and

Flying pumpkins

A Novi police officer was dispatched to the area of Nine Mile Road and Gateway Drive regarding a malicious destruction of property complaint. The officer arrived at a home in the 46000 block of Gateway at about 10:25 p.m. on Nov. 30 where a female resident told him mailboxes in the area had been hit by pumpkins. After

Not the smartest

A man driving with expired plates was spotted by police and later arrested for an outstanding warrant for his arrest. A Novi officer was driving on Novi Road at about 10:30 a.m. on Nov. 30 when he noticed the 2001 Chevy Blazer

Same time, same drunk

At the same time the above arrest was being made, a second Novi police officer arrested another drunk driver in the city. And not only did the arrest hap-



Family Fun Day

Saturday, December 14, 2002

12 noon - 4 p.m.

Visit the shops at Fountain Walk for
free holiday fun including . . .

Fountain Walk

I-96 at Novi Road

Holiday crafts & gift making at Vans Skatepark
Puppet shows and magic at *Store Dreams*
Cookie decorating and crafts at The Great Indoors
Holiday activities at Emagine Theatre
Face painting at Cost Plus World Market
Tote bags at Gjeto's Salon
Photos and a gift from Santa
Free fun for the whole family!
For more information call
248-348-0198





Consigning Women

- Ladies clothing and accessories
- Children's clothing, toys & furniture
- Maternity wear
- Home decor & furniture pieces

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
WITH THIS AD RECEIVE
\$5.00 off any purchase over \$25
Expires 12-31-02

33463 W. Eight Mile Road • 248-442-8568
14 block W of Farmington Road.

Did You Know?

You can accelerate expenses in 2002 to maximize your deduction

In December, simply pay your January mortgage payment, water property tax bills, and have itemized taxes. You can pay those by credit card and still have them deductible for 2002.

Also make any childing contributions before December 31st by making sure you get a receipt and keep a list of what you donated!

For more information about this or any of our services, please call us at **248-735-9650** New Clients Welcome!

Chris, Wilmarth & Parr, P.C.
Northwood Corporate Park
41780 Six Mile Rd., Suite 102
Northville, MI 48167 Tel: 248-735-9650

THE NOVEMBER NEWS
Published Each Thursday
By The Novi News
104 W. Main Street
Northville, Michigan 48167
Periodical
At Northville, Michigan

Subscription Rates:
Inside Counties \$26 one year home delivery. \$25 one year mail delivery.
Outside Counties (in Michigan) are \$40 per year, prepaid. Out of state, \$50 per year.

A Subsidiary of HomeTown Communications Network. Postmaster, send address changes to: The Novi News, Post Office Box 470, Howell, MI 48844. POLICY STATEMENT: All advertising published in HomeTown News-Week is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department. The Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167. (248-349-1700). HomeTown News-Week reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. HomeTown News-Week's ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Postmaster, send address changes to: The Novi News, Post Office Box 470, Howell, MI 48844.
Publication Number USPS 398260

Shop all you want,
but you won't find
the perfect Christmas
gift in any store!

The best Christmas gift didn't come from a store. It came from God.
Join us Christmas Eve at 6 p.m. and 11 p.m.
Church of the Holy Cross, Novi
(Episcopal Church- Part of the worldwide Anglican Communion)
46200 W. Ten Mile Road (between Taft & Beck)
Novi, Michigan Tele: 248-349-1175
www.churchoftheholycross.com


On Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree
SKYHORSE STATION
A Destination Tree Farm
To Enjoy A Christmas Family Fun Experience!
or Find Your Fresh-Cut Tree

Family Fun Festivities Package - Including:
Sing Holiday Carols on Hay Ride down Saddleback Trail to Michigan's only Evergreen Forest Maze. Explore 20 Acre Maze for "Twelve Days of Christmas" clues - ending at a Roaring Bon Fire. Pony Rides • Children's Straw Elf Maze • Farm Animals • Gift from Santa Cider, Hot Chocolate & Donuts in Decorated Wood Stove Heated Barn
\$7 Admission (Family & Group Rate \$30)





GET CONDITIONED FOR SKIING



Thursday, December 19th
7:00 p.m.

Register by calling
(248) 380-3550

Oakland Physical Therapy
47601 Grand River Avenue
Suite B124
Novi, MI 48374
(use northeast entrance)

Oakland Physical Therapy, P.C., is presenting a class for all levels of skiers, from beginning to advanced. The class will provide an overview of musculoskeletal conditioning for skiing, with emphasis on stretching and strengthening exercises.

Objective

- Identify common musculoskeletal weaknesses in skiers.
- Demonstrate proper stretching techniques for muscles important in skiing.
- Demonstrate proper exercises to strengthen key muscles used for skiing.

The class will be taught by Frank Kava, P.T., Director of Oakland Physical Therapy, and Jeffrey Michaelson, M.D., Director of Orthopedics and Sports Medicine for Providence Hospital. Both instructors are avid skiers.

There is no charge for this class, however, space is limited and we do require a RSVP if you plan to attend.

A Christmas Invitation

Faith Community Presbyterian Church
44400 W. 1st Mile Road, Novi

Adult Chancel Choir Cantata Sunday, December 15
9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Hotel Bethlehem
Children's Musical, Sunday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
Tuesday, December 24
5:00 p.m. - Family Traditions Worship Service
8:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service
11:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service, Communion

248-349-2346

Ringling in the Holidays



Santa gets an ear-ful from Rebecca Konkus, 8, after Thursday evening's Novi Holiday Parade in the MainStreet area.

Photo by John Heider

continued from front

"The kids craft workshop was a big hit," said Sheryl Walsh, City of Novi community relations manager. "About 300 kids made crafts and the same amount saw Santa for free."

Attendee Lynn Berg stood nearby while her two daughters, 5-year-old Kaitlyn and 7-year-old Kara, crafted homemade gifts. "They came last year and had a lot of fun," Berg explained as to why the

family made it to the festival again this year. "It's a great opportunity for the kids to meet Santa." And make no mistake, despite all the goodies and opportunities for fun, the arrival of Santa Claus was the number one reason chil-

dren bundled in snowsuits waited wide-eyed with anticipation. "After the jolly ol' one made his arrival into the city, he made his way inside and heard all of the children's holiday wish lists. Organizers and attendees

said they were very happy with the enhancements to this year's holiday event and look forward to future years. "We were extremely happy," Walsh said. "It was a great community event. We have had nothing but

positive comments."

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



A float goes down Novi's MainStreet during last Thursday's holiday parade.

Photo by John Heider



Photo by John Heider

Novi Middle School students sing a few Christmas carols during last Thursday evening's Novi Holiday Parade. The group includes (second from left) Jayme Barton and Morgan Constat.

"We were extremely happy. It was a great community event. We have had nothing but positive comments."

Sheryl Walsh
City of Novi community relations manager

Novi Fire Department promotes Winter time safety

Members of the Novi Fire Department compiled a list of fire safety tips to make sure all Novi residents have a safe and happy holiday season and beyond

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

In response to numerous calls made by Novi residents asking questions about a number of cold weather and holiday related fire safety topics, the city's fire department has compiled a list of tips every homeowner should know.

Novi Fire Chief Art Lenaghan said the department has been getting many calls about everything from lights to pipes to disposing of holiday wrapping paper and trees.

"We want everybody to have a safe holiday, a merry Christmas

and a Happy New Year," Lenaghan said.

To accomplish this task, members of the department are offering the following tips for a safe holiday and winter season:

Christmas Trees

- When purchasing a tree, buy one that has been recently cut
- A family outing to cut down a tree or buying a live tree for future planting are two alternatives to pre-cut trees
- Before putting the tree in a stand, make a fresh angled cut 2 inches from the original cut
- Water the tree at least once

each day to ensure a high moisture level

- Keep the tree away from all heat sources
- Never leave lights on when you are not at home
- Extended use of lights dries out trees
- When taking down your tree, do not dispose of by burning it in a fireplace
- When needles begin to fall, use this as a guide the tree is drying out and should be discarded

Christmas Lighting

- Prior to putting up Christmas lights, take a few minutes to check the lines before hanging
- To avoid shock, replace or discard the cord if any plastic inserts are missing or broken
- Another way to avoid shock is to check all sockets for cracks and broken pieces
- The prongs on a plug should remain fixed and not wobble when in use
- To check prongs, push prongs

against a hard surface or plug into a connector five times

- Check the entire cord for cracked or bare wires
- Plug lights into a connector for at least 10 to 15 minutes and watch for smoke or melting
- Use lights on natural or plastic trees only
- For metal trees, use a color wheel or indirect lighting
- Follow the maker's instructions on the number of strings that may be hooked together
- Use UL-listed equipment
- When hanging, make sure holes are not punched in the light cord by staples or nails
- To prevent a circuit box fire, use an appropriate extension cord

Gift Wrapping and Boxes

- Always dispose of wrapping paper immediately after opening a gift
- Do not burn wrapping paper in a fireplace or wood stove
- Place paper in a metal container until a time when it may be

taken to the trash

- Do not allow children to play with plastic bags and keep the bags strictly away from infants

Candle Safety

- Never use candles on a tree or place near an evergreen tree
- Make sure candles are mounted in a secure and nonflammable base that will not tip easily
- Never leave a candle unattended or burn candles where small children may reach them

Smoke Detectors

- Frequently check smoke detectors to ensure sufficient warning of impending danger
- Plan and practice a fire escape plan
- Remember, guests may be unfamiliar with safety routes of a strange house in an emergency

Space Heaters

- The use of space heaters can

be extremely dangerous

- Make sure all space heaters used are UL-listed
- Do not place a space heater by combustible materials such as couches and Christmas trees

Frozen Pipes

- Holidays bring cold weather which may cause frozen pipes to drip slightly from faucets
- To avoid freezing, allow water to drip slightly from faucets
- If frozen, UL-listed electrical heating units designed for thawing should be used if possible
- If a thawing unit is not available, try heating pipes with a handheld hair dryer
- Live flame devices for thawing can be very dangerous

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.

Library Lines

Novi Public Library

Winter Story Times start January 13.

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 Telf. For more information, call (248) 349-0720.

Internet training

Brochures describing our Winter 2003 Internet classes are now available at the library. Please register for all Internet classes in advance by calling the library.

Christmas holiday hours

The library will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 25, for the Christmas holiday.

Story Time notes

Registration for Winter Story Times runs through December 28.

Obituaries

Dorothea Sara Snow

Dorothea Snow of Brighton died December 3, 2002 at home. She was 84.
Mrs. Snow was born July 15, 1918 to Archie D. Kent and Edna Woodruff of Novi.
She moved to Brighton in 1969 from Novi. She was a member of Rebecca's of Novi, Novi Mothers Club for 25 years and enjoyed golfing and bowling.

Survivors include one daughter, Shirley Jan Fior of Florida; three sons, Dennis Snow of Brighton, Larry D. Snow of Plainwell, Michigan and Lee Snow of Wixom; one sister, Thelma Cheseman of Howell; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; a dear friend, Shirley Struble; and friends at the Glens.
She was preceded in death by her husband, Royal C. Snow and a brother.

Funeral services were held December 7 at Herrmann Funeral Home with the Rev. James Vander Schuur officiating. Cremation will follow.
Memorial may be made to Livingston Community Hospice. Arrangements were made by Herrmann Funeral Home.

GOTTA have 'em!

knit tops \$7.99 sizes 14W-24W

ALL blazers 50% off THANKED PRICES

ALL corduroy pants \$19.99 sizes 14W-24W

fleece tops \$16.99


ALL sweaters on sale!

dressbarn TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 30% off any single regular price item

misses & woman sizes 4-24

Not valid on internet and phone orders, previous purchases, layaways or gift certificates. One coupon per customer. Cannot be combined with any other offer or coupon. Offer expires 12/24/02. STORE ASSOCIATES: CODE 389

For info call 1-800-833-1800-dressbarn or visit us at www.dressbarn.com



Enter the Store of Dreams Coloring Contest!

Fountain Walk in Novi is hosting Store of Dreams, a shop selling merchandise to benefit five local charities. Return this form to Store of Dreams (located near Gjeeto's Salon) and enter to win:

- 4 passes to Emagine Theatre
- 4 passes to Vans Skatepark
- Basket of holiday treats from Cost Plus World Market
- \$25.00 gift certificate to Buffalo Wild Wings

There will be one winner in both age categories: Ages 3-7, Ages 8-12.

Name _____ Age _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____
Email _____

FOUNTAIN WALK
I-96 and Novi Road

Contest closes on Saturday, December 14, 2002. Don't forget to visit Fountain Walk that day for a free Family Fun Day! Free photos with Santa, carriage rides, puppet shows, magic, crafts and more!

ALEX'S Pizzeria

Let us cater all your Celebrations!

HOURS:
MON-THURS: 11AM-11PM
FRI: 11AM-1AM
SAT: 3PM-1AM
SUN: 3PM-10PM

Round Pizza	12" SMALL	14" MEDIUM	16" LARGE	18" X-LARGE
CHEESE	8 Pcs. \$5.95	12 Pcs. 7.95	16 Pcs. 9.95	18 Pcs. 11.95
EXTRA ITEMS	.90	1.17	1.23	1.40
ALEX'S SPECIAL	9.95	12.95	15.45	18.45
ALEX'S SUPREME	10.95	13.95	16.45	19.45

Sandwiches:
CHARGRILLER DELUXE 4.25
CHEESEBURGER Deluxe Includes Fries & Cole Slaw 4.75
SUBURGER 3.25

Super Combos:
RIBS AND CHICKEN 10.50
RIBS AND SHRIMP 11.50
SHRIMP AND FROG LEGS 11.50
ALEX'S SMOKERSBORD Includes Chicken, Shrimp, Ribs, and Frog Legs 14.50

Sub Sandwiches:
ITALIAN SUB Ham, Cheese, Salami, Lettuce, Tomato, Onions, and Peppers 4.95
HAM & CHEESE 2.99 4.95
PIZZA SUB Pepperoni, Ham, Cheese and Sauce 3.95 5.95
VEGETARIAN SUB Mushroom, Olives, Green Peppers, Lettuce, Tomato, Onions, and Cheese 2.99 4.95
ALEX'S DELUXE SUB Ham, Cheese, Salami, Lettuce, Tomato, Onions, and Peppers 3.99 5.95
FISH SUB Lettuce, Tomato, Acid Cheese 2.99 4.95
MEATBALL SUB Meatballs, Parmesan Cheese and Meat Sauce 2.99 4.95
ROAST BEEF Lettuce, Tomato, and Cheese 2.99 4.95
STEAK SUB Steak, Mushrooms, Onions, Peppers, Sauce, Cheese 2.99 4.95
CORNED BEEF Lettuce and Tomato 2.99 4.95
TURKEY SUB Turkey, Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, & Peppers 2.99 4.95
EXTRA ITEMS .71 .90

Side Orders:
GREEK SALAD SMALL 3.99 LARGE 5.99
TOSSED SALAD SMALL 2.49 LARGE 4.99
ANTIPASTO SMALL 4.45 LARGE 6.49
COLE SLAW 1.49
ONION RINGS 2.25
FRENCH FRIES 1.75
FRESH GARLIC BREAD STICKS 1/2 DOZ 1.50 DOZ 2.95
PIZZA SQUARE 1.35
MINI PIZZA 4.48
HOT WINGS 10 PC. 4.99 20 PC. 8.99 30 PC. 13.99

BBQ Ribs:
WHOLE SLAB 14.95
SHORT ENDS 9.45
LONG ENDS 8.75
RIB SNACK 6.75

Italian Pizza:
AL QUATTRO FORMAGGI 8" 6.95 12" 11.95
BOSCAIOLA 8" 6.95 12" 11.95
AL ARRABIATA 8" 6.95 12" 11.95

Chicken:
CHICKEN DIMMER 6.49
CHICKEN SHACKS 4.99
CHICKEN CHUNKS 3.99
CHICKEN TENDERS 5.95
BUCKET OF CHICKEN 12Pc. 13.95 16Pc. 16.95 20Pc. 18.95 24Pc. 20.95

Seafood:
21 SHRIMP IN THE BASKET 5.95
FRENCH (8 Pcs.) 5.95
SHRIMP DIMMER (7 Pcs.) 6.95
FISH & CHIPS (4 Pcs.) 5.99
JUMBO FROG LEGS 9.99

Pasta:
SPAGHETTI with MEAT SAUCE 4.95
SPAGHETTI with MEATBALLS 5.75
SPAGHETTI with MUSHROOMS 5.50
SPAGHETTI with MEATBALLS & MUSHROOMS 6.25
BUCKET OF SPAGHETTI (Serves 4-6 People) 11.50
RAVIOLI with MEAT SAUCE 5.50
RAVIOLI with MEATBALLS 6.25
RAVIOLI with MUSHROOM SAUCE 5.95
RAVIOLI with MEAT SAUCE, MEATBALLS, & MUSHROOMS 6.95
LASAGNA 6.95
CAPPELLINI (Tomato, Fresh Basil & Garlic) 6.95

ALEX'S FAMILY MEAL:
ANY LARGE PIZZA \$2.50 OFF!
ANY LARGE PIZZA \$23.99

LUNCH MENU 11AM - 3PM:
Pasta: Spaghetti with Meatballs \$4.29, Spaghetti with Meatballs & Mushrooms \$4.29, Spaghetti with Meatballs & Mushrooms \$4.29
Chicken: Chicken Cacciatore \$4.29, Chicken Cacciatore \$4.29, Chicken Cacciatore \$4.29
Pizza: Deep Dish Round Pizza \$2.25, Deep Dish Round Pizza \$2.25, Deep Dish Round Pizza \$2.25
Salads: Caesar Salad \$2.49, Caesar Salad \$2.49, Caesar Salad \$2.49
Sandwiches: Sandwiches \$3.49

NOVI • WIXOM
30660 Beck Road Just South of Pontiac Trail In the Beck Village Shopping Center
(248) 926-1700

ALEX'S
248-926-1700
48 hour notice required
10-15 people 20-25 people

Mostaccioli	\$22.50	\$37.50
Alfredo Mostaccioli	\$26.25	\$43.75
Chicken Alfredo Mostaccioli	\$34.25	\$53.75
Lasagna / Vegetable Lasagna	\$30.00	\$50.00

Let us cater all your Holiday Parties & Events.

Roasted Red Skin Potatoes \$21.75 \$36.25
Green Beans \$15.95 \$31.90
Italian Mixed Vegetables \$17.95 \$35.90

Sheet Cakes 1/2 Sheet Full Sheet
35-40 people 80-85 people

Alpine or Autumn Leaves \$75.00 \$150.00
Cannoli \$1.50 each

**Other pastries, cookies & special occasion cakes are also available. Please ask!

EMERSON America's Fan Company

You want variety? Emerson offers a wide array of ceiling fans and accessories to match any decor. With new fans, exclusive finishes, and unique light fixtures, and nearly unlimited combinations and choices will have you going round and round trying to decide.

10 DAYS ONLY Starting at \$56.70

Holiday Sale

Lighting Fixtures, Lamps, Ceiling Fans, Mirrors, Art Works, Clocks for Every Decor

BROSE ELECTRICAL
Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat. 9:30-6:00
Thurs., Fri. 9:30-4:00
87400 W. Seven Mile Road • Livonia, MI 48152 • (734) 844-2211
WWW.BROSEELECTRICAL.COM

Free Holiday Coupon Book worth \$100 in savings with any 2 pair purchase while supplies last.

It's our gift of savings to you. Make that two gifts.

Happy Holidays

2nd pair Half Price Sale
Buy one pair get the second pair of equal or lesser value for half price.

Famous Footwear
Brand name shoes for less

For the store nearest you, call 1-800-40-FAMOUS (1-800-403-2668) or visit us online at FamousFootwear.com. Selection may vary by store. Select items as featured. Some exclusions may apply. Promotion valid through 12/28/02.

Novi collector's cars post record auction sales totals

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

"Quite pleased," was the reaction of noted car collector Richard Kughn to RM Auctions' annual auction at the Novi Expo Center last month.

No surprise there, the 70 cars from Kughn's collection on the block at the three-day event represented nearly half of the \$5.63 million in sales. Two of Kughn's cars were among the top five money earners at the auction. His 1931 Chrysler CG Imperial Dual Cowl Phaeton brought in \$1,900,000, while his 1941 Cadillac Series 61 Estate Wagon - the last known example - sold for \$1,400,000.

The other top five cars were a '49 Packard Darrin convertible at \$255,000, a '32 Auburn hearse at \$210,000 and a '39 Cadillac V16 formal limousine at \$135,000.

A spokesman for RM Auctions noted a record-setting 65.4 percent of the vehicles up for bid sold at this year's auction. Typically, between 50 and 55 percent of the vehicles brought to an auction sell. This year's auction saw 488

vehicles cross the auction block. "As the numbers show," observed Rod Egan, COO of RM Auctions' parent company, RM Classic Car Productions, "we saw really spirited bidding on some of the most sought-after collector cars of the pre-war era." This year's auction nearly doubled the sales of last year's event, which saw \$3 million worth of vehicles change hands.

Even post-war collector cars did well. A '57 Pontiac Bonneville convertible sold for \$39,000. A '67 Corvette brought in \$49,500. And Kughn's '69 Ford Ranger convertible, reputed to be the last of its type ever built, sold for \$73,000, more than double the amount experts predicted.

Kughn's collection of Tucker parts and production drawings sold for \$29,500 to the Historic Auto Museum in Roscoe, Ill., which plans to display them separately rather than reassemble the vehicle.

Phil Foley is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext.108 or at foley@ht.homecomm.net.

Catholic Central headed for next step in approval process

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

Officials for Detroit Catholic Central High School will be back in front of the Novi Planning Commission for the third time in just five weeks when the commission convenes at the Novi Civic Center Wednesday, Dec. 18.

This time the Basilian Fathers will be asking commissioners to change the zoning on their 60-acre site along Wixom Road south of Grand River Avenue from light industrial to office and retail.

At the commission's Dec. 4th meeting they were finally able to convince commission members to change the master plan designation for the site, but not before two proposals failed to get a two-thirds majority needed to sustain an amendment to the

city's master plan. During the commission's first meeting of the month, four small property owners who have homes along Wixom Road balked at the proposed changes, which they said would leave the school surrounded by the school and facing a shopping center, which would harm their property values.

"I really want to protect these property owners very, very much," declared commission member Gwen Markham. Her proposal to change the property's master plan designation to public use failed on a 5-3 vote, with Chairman Antonia Nagy, Larry Papp and Lynne Paul dissenting.

"The number one issue," said commission member Tim Strayer, "is what do we need to do get DCC in Novi?" He added he thought surrounding his property with residential would be preferable to industrial zoning.

City Planner Tim Schmitt noted that with the growth of office space along the Meadowbrook and Haggerty corridors and the difficulties created with woodlands and wetlands on the site, office zoning was not longer appropriate. He noted that several developers had proposed and then abandoned projects for the site.

Schmitt added that even in the worst case scenario, if Detroit Catholic Central didn't build a high school on the site, residential development would have the least impact on the site, since it could be worn around its natural features.

Phil Foley is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext.108 or at foley@ht.homecomm.net.

GIVE THE GIFT OF GOOD TASTE AND GET THE GIFT OF FREE LUNCH!

BONFIRE

For every \$50 in dining gift certificates you purchase, we'll give you complimentary *for a FREE LUNCH ENTRÉE! Up to \$18 value, \$500 maximum purchase. *10% discount only. And, book a party of 20 or more and receive TWO FREE DINNER ENTRÉES! Ask a manager for details.

39550 Seven Mile • Northville
248-935-4570
www.michiganmenu.com

THERE IS NO OFF SEASON

Thesier Equipment Co.

28342 • Pontiac Trail • South Lyon • Michigan • 48178
Phone: 248-437-2091 Fax: 248-437-2140
Toll Free: 1-800-979-9791 www.greentractors.com

Get what you pay for.

Choose from the largest selection of pool tables in Michigan.

- Pool Tables
- Foosball Tables
- Table Hockey
- Dome Hockey
- Barstools
- Poker Tables
- Billiard Lights
- Pool Cues
- Darts & Dart Box

Allstate
Billiards & Game Room Furniture

Quality Pool Tables from \$999

No Payments, No Interest Until June 2003

Redford Novi Ann Arbor
Telegraph Rd. Novi Town Center Washtenaw Ave.
313.531.1035 248.465.0155 734.677.3278
www.shopallstate.com

D. E. McNABB CO. Carpet

FREE UPGRADE
In Pad with all special order carpet

Roll Stock 10% off

Expires December 15th, 2002

**31250 S. Milford Rd.
Milford, MI 48381
248-437-8146 Fax: 248-437-3620**

THANK YOU FOR MAKING US THE #1 MASTER SPAS STORE IN THE USA... AGAIN!

SHOP NOW, and Relax

- Buy Where The Dealers Buy
- Factory Direct

Santa Buck Spa Sale

HURRY! Sale Good Thru Sunday, December 15th

BUY A 2002 SPA & RECEIVE A:

- FREE COVER
- FREE STEPS
- FREE DELIVERY
- FREE STARTER KIT

\$1500 VALUE

BUY MA a SPA **BUY PA a SPA**

\$500 SANTA BUCKS Bring this coupon to receive your **SANTA BUCKS**

coupon must be presented before purchase

Get an additional \$500 OFF any spa purchase!

Take it from the expert, Master Spas is the ONLY spa he recommends:

Joe Gagnon
"The Appliance Doctor"
• WXYT AM
• Talk Show Host
• Consumer Advocate
• Consumer Fraud Investigator
• Government Expert Witness
• Author/Columnist
• Member of Red Wing Alumni
• Master Spa Owner

Save \$3000

Save \$2500

Save \$3500

ALL SPAS ARE ON SALE!

- Probest Your Investment
- Status In comfort
- Maintenance Free

Prior sales excluded. Photos may not be representative of actual item.

MASTER SPAS We're #1 Since 1978

Utica 8771 Hall Rd. (1/2 MI West of M-53 on Hall Rd.) (586) 739-9111

Novi 25875 Novi Rd. Ste. 130 (Corner of Grand River & Rd.) (248) 735-7727

MASTER SPAS® FACTORY OUTLET

WL students compete in state robotics event

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

Take equal parts of math and science, add a measure of competition and stir in more than 700 elementary and middle school students and what do you get? One really loud exhibition hall.

Novi Expo Center's Exhibition Hall B rocked as more than 700 kids, ages 9 years to 14, from every corner of the state, including Walled Lake, squared off in the fourth annual FIRST LEGO League State Competition.

Walled Lake's team, the Eagles, started out in fifth place, slipped to 9th in the second round and finished the day in 13th out of 64 teams. "The robot performed almost flawlessly," said Mark Rosen.

Rosen, whose wife, Debbie, organized an independent team this fall, said the kids are looking forward to another year of competition and "I'm certainly supportive."

Mark noted, "They're playing with LEGOs (robot's not to like there). They get to build a robot. They get to put a motor on it. And they get to compete. It's very exciting."

While the team, made up from students from Oakley Park Elementary and Walnut Creek Middle School, didn't take home a trophy, making of bright yellow LEGOs, qualifying for the state tournament and placing 13th isn't a bad way to end the year for a team that didn't even exist until mid-September.

"We're rookies. We're just thrilled to be here," said Debbie. An optimist by trade, Debbie said she first became interested in robotics as an after school activity for her children three years ago through Dr. Chang-Jing Chung, who runs Robotfest for Kids at Southfield's Lawrence Technological University. Chung introduced Debbie to the FIRST LEGO League.

FIRST LEGO League is a spin-off of FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) which was created a decade ago by New Hampshire inventor and businessman Dean Kamen to promote interest in science and technology among students. In the first competition

teams of high school students build robots and compete in completing a complex task. Their season culminates with a national championship at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

General Motors Corporation has heavily supported the FIRST program from the beginning. It was joined by University of Detroit-Mercy as the primary sponsor for the state competition. They were joined by Ford Motor Company, Hewlett Packard, Novi Expo Center and Chrysler Automotive in putting on the event.

FIRST LEGO League was created as a way of generating the same excitement among younger students at a much lower cost. It uses LEGO's Mindstorm kits, which are available in my stores for around \$100.

Debbie said that between the kit, entry fees and hiring a student from Lawrence Tech to coach the team, this year's competition cost the live families involved about \$300. "That's less than the cost for dance lessons," she said. "It's very affordable."

More importantly, said Danny McCarthy, one of the team members, "It's really fun. You get to play with LEGOs and stuff."

Mark observed that while school science events tend to be on the nerdy side, "This didn't look nerdy at all. This was exciting."

Another parent, Kathleen Bieko, said she was excited that her kids were "doing this instead of video games." Pointing to the poster boards the kids put together for the CitySights 2002 challenge, she noted, "They'll walk away from this with a real understanding of problem solving."

"I'm very proud of these kids," declared the team's coach, Audrey Shvarzman, an engineering student from the Ukraine. "They never gave up."

For more information on the FIRST LEGO League in Michigan, visit its Web site at <http://lego-sci.udmercy.edu/pre-colFIRSTLEGOLeague/>.

Phil Foley is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or at pfoley@ht.comconn.net.

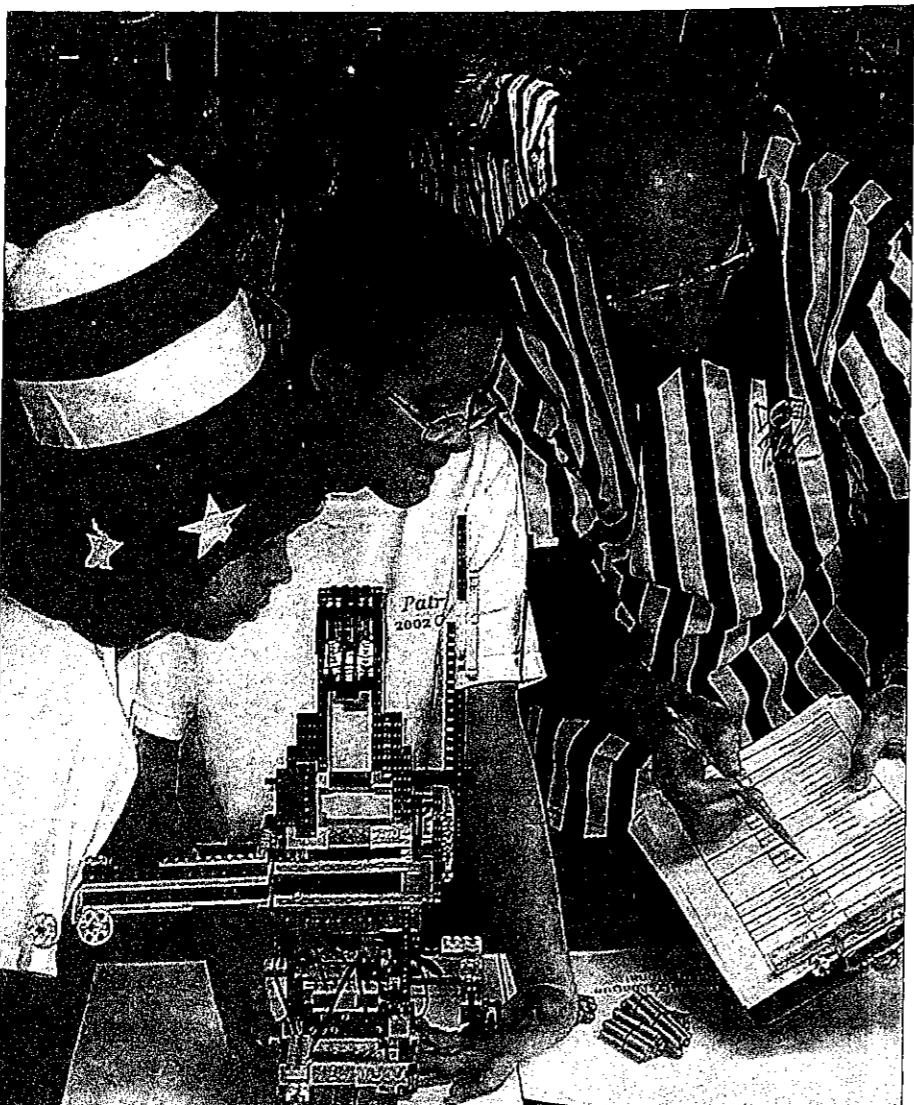


Photo by Phil Foley
Matt Mueller (left) and Alex Rosner check in for the second round of competition at the LEGO League State Competition in Novi Saturday. The Walled Lake middle schoolers didn't bring home a trophy, but they did learn a lot about computer science.

Community senior citizens enjoy middle school holiday show

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

In the spirit of the holiday season, the Rotary Club of Novi held its annual Senior Citizens Concert Band at Novi Middle School on Nov. 5. All senior citizens from the Novi community were invited to the event and those who came were treated to musical numbers by the middle school's eighth grade concert band, holiday songs sung by the seventh grade choir, including an audience participation portion and a hot turkey lunch. While they were eating, Santa Claus and his helper even walked around the tables slaking hands.

"This has been going on for 25 years now," said Barbara Hill, chairperson of the Senior Christmas Luncheon. "We usually have about 100 to 125 seniors every year depending on the weather. We invite the seniors through the community center and some of the nursing homes that are able to come out."

The middle school sends buses to pick up the seniors who wish to take bus transportation. However, there are others who are more mobile and come on their own. At the end of the day gift bags were given out to the seniors to take home.

"They certainly enjoy the program," Hill said. "The Rotarians of Novi enjoy putting this program on and the school is very

helpful with all the accommodations they provide to us as well. It's a very well received program. The seniors really enjoy coming out and seeing the kids. They seem to get a kick out of it. The kids are wonderful as well. They make sure that everybody gets their lunch and they have coffee or tea or milk, whatever they prefer."

Doug Cline, who's the school's advisor for the student council, has been working in the Novi Public School District for 30 years and has been in charge of the student council for over 20 years. "This is something that the seniors and students all look forward to every year," he said. "Remarkably, many of the seniors have written some kind notes of gratitude to my student council members and we shared them at our meeting. It's really a wonderful opportunity for two groups to come together."

President of the student council, Jenna McCarthy, agreed with Cline. "This is just a nice thing for us to do for the senior citizens," she said. "We love to talk to the seniors and greet them and it's just a nice thing for us to do to get in the spirit of Christmas."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.comconn.net.



Photo by John Holder
Donna Hebel demonstrates to Deerfield Elementary how her PAWs dog Canon helps her around the house, allowing Hebel to use him to steady herself to her feet.

Deerfield gets lesson in leader dog education

■ Paws with a Cause spokeswoman visits elementary kids

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

To top off a week in which Deerfield taught children about different disabilities, Donna Hebel, who uses a leader dog from Paws with a Cause, made a visit to the school with her dog, Canon.

She demonstrated how Canon helps her open doors, turn on light switches and retrieve mostly anything that she drops on the floor. She also explained how Canon pushes elevator buttons and picks up toys to be put away.

"Paws with a Cause is an organization which provides service dogs to help disabled people become independent," Hebel said. "I just hope the children have a better idea, like when they see someone out in public who has a hearing dog or a leader dog, that they have a better understanding of those people. Those are people too, and they can be really cool, and they're human and they have a brain and they can think like them."

Hebel said that leader dogs are doing a job when they are out in the public with their masters. As such, people should not pet them, because it might distract the dogs

from doing that job. The dogs are also on strict diets, so they should not be fed from anyone but their masters.

"Dogs are trained for different disabilities," Hebel said. "There are seizure dogs and leader dogs for the deaf and blind. They are all trained at the Paws with a Cause headquarters in Grand Rapids where they are matched up with the masters."

Canon is Hebel's second leader dog. Her first one, Derek, who is also a chocolate lab, was retired after 11 years of serving her. Canon is now about six years old. He was assigned to her after his first master passed away.

"With Canon it's so hard because he's so friendly and he makes people want to pet him," Hebel said. "It worked out with him though, because I still have Derek at home and I used him to try to help Canon learn what I needed. Derek kind of taught Canon. It really worked out that I got to keep Derek. I was very fortunate."

With the help of the two dogs, Hebel went back to college and is working on her bachelor's degree in marketing. "It was really neat because I had Derek first and then I had Canon, so people got kind of used to having a dog on campus," she said. "It kind of helped other people understand why I need a dog."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.comconn.net.

HARDWOOD FLOOR WAREHOUSE SALE

Many colors to choose from - Installed or carry-out
Installations • Refinishings • Repairs

- In Home Estimates
- Homeowner Install Program
- Equipment rental
- Delivery available

Jay Howe Hardwood Floors

Showroom & Warehouse located at:
29577 Costello Drive • New Hudson, MI

248-437-1813

www.jayhowehardwoodfloors.com

"Quality Work, Always On Time"

Are You Suffering From:

- Neck Pain • Back Pain • Hip/Leg Pain
- Shoulder/Upper Arm Pain • Hand/Wrist Pain
- Ankle Pain • Muscle Pain • Sciatica

Chiropractic Gets Results... It Could Help You!

Serving More Patients For 23 Years!

1st Visit \$39.00!

Includes: Consultation, Special Exam, X-rays & Chiropractic Adjustment.

Offer subject to individual chiropractor's discretion. All rights reserved. © 2002 Dr. James L. Smith, D.C.

TOP TEN - Reasons to try Chiropractic care

1. It works with your body's inherent ability to heal itself.
2. It focuses on the spine and nerve system which control communication inside your body.
3. It aids the body in managing and eliminating various sources of pain and stress.
4. It greatly corrects spinal subluxations (misalignments) of your vertebrae (back bones) so that your body can receive proper nerve function and control.
5. It allows the body to function as nature intended in a healthy manner, at an optimum level.
6. It has been producing positive results for 100 years, even when other treatments failed.
7. It has, in recent government study, been affirmed as a method of choice for the treatment of back pain.
8. Chiropractic care enhances your most precious asset - your health.
9. You receive quality care, concern and commitment.
10. CHIROPRACTIC WORKS. IT GETS RESULTS, AND THAT'S WHAT COUNTS.

BEFORE CHRISTMAS SALE

Premium Quality!
FRESH CUT TREES, WREATHS, BUNCHES AND ROPING 25% OFF

All Life-like Trees **33-75% OFF**

We feature Superior Quality NATIONAL TREES

- 5 year warranty
- superior construction

Plymouth Nursery
Christmas in the Country

734-453-5500

www.plymouthnursery.net
HOURS: Thurs & Fri 9-8 Sat 9-6 Sun 10-6 OFFERS EXPIRE 12/18/02

9900 Ann Arbor Rd./Plymouth Rd.
73400 West of I-75
1.2 Miles South of I-75
Corner of Golfcourse Rd.

HOLIDAY FUR SALE

NOW THRU MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

AT THE FUR GALLERY AT LAUREL PARK PLACE



SAVE 40%-50% ON A LARGE SELECTION OF FUR, FUR-TRIMMED LEATHERS, SHEARLINGS, AND FUR-TRIMMED CAPES.

ALL FURS ARE LABELED TO SHOW COUNTRY OF ORIGIN. SAVINGS ARE OFF OUR REGULAR PRICES. NO ADJUSTMENTS ON PRIOR PURCHASES. MAY NOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER COUPON OR OFFER.

YOU'RE SOMEBODY SPECIAL.

PARISIAN

PARISIAN \$1,000-A-DAY SWEEPSTAKES!
GET \$1,000 PAID OFF ON YOUR PARISIAN CREDIT CARD.

ONE WINNER WILL BE PICKED EVERY DAY FROM NOW UNTIL TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24. SEE AN ASSOCIATE FOR DETAILS.

CALL 1-800-424-8165 TO ORDER ANYTIME. STORE HOURS: The Village of Rochester Hills and Laurel Park Place open Sun. 12-6, Mon.-Sat. 10-9. FOR INFORMATION call The Village of Rochester Hills (248) 276-0705 or Laurel Park Place (734) 953-7500. CHARGE IT! Parisian Credit Card, MasterCard, Visa, the American Express Card or Discover® LOCATED AT THE VILLAGE OF ROCHESTER HILLS, CORNER OF NORTH ADAMS ROAD AND WALTON STREET, AND LAUREL PARK PLACE IN LIVONIA, CORNER OF NEWBURGH ROAD AND SIX MILE ROAD.

O'BRIEN SULLIVAN FUNERAL HOME

Annual Holiday Memorial Program

December 17, 2002 at 7:30 pm
Novi Civic Center
41575 W. Ten Mile, Novi

Refreshments Provided

Please RSVP to the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home
248-348-1600
by December 14, 2002

Doctors That Care...
Are closer than you think.

40015 Grand River Ave., Suite 100
Novi, Michigan 48375
(248) 473-8580

FLU SHOTS NOW AVAILABLE! Call for an appointment!

Dr. Donald S. Martin, M.D.
Robert K. Brimacombe, M.D.

PHYSICIAN CONSULTATIONS include the assistance of a nurse practitioner for a free initial telephone consultation.

www.drbrimacombe.com
www.drmartin.com

YOUR Christmas STORE

- Over 50 different styles of natural-looking artificial Christmas trees from 2-12 ft.
- Hundreds of tree trimmings in a variety of themes
- Fantastic selection of indoor and outdoor lights
- A variety of beautiful wreaths and garlands
- Large selection of collectible Santas
- Nativity sets and Dept. 56 Villages
- Pre-lighted Christmas trees

Come check for our in store specials and see what else is new this Christmas at...

CORNWELL Christmas World

874 W. Ann Arbor Road
PLYMOUTH

734-459-7410

Hours: Mon., Thurs, Fri. 10-8; Tues, Sat. 10-6; Sun. 12-5; Closed Wed.

A portion of the proceeds from this page will be donated to Novi Goodfellows:

Happy Holidays From

These Area Businesses

LaFontaine Automotive Group
2530 E. Highland Rd (M59)
Highland, MI
248-887-4747

Averil Accounting
43440 W. 10 Mile Rd
Novi
248-348-3348

Glenda's Garden
40575 Grand River Ave.
Novi
248-471-4794

Ready, Set, Paint
26064 Ingresol Dr.
Novi
248-347-1225

Fountain Walk

Dr. Nick Doinidis
24037 Meadowbrook Rd.
Novi
248-348-7530

Hershey Shoes Too
47750 Grand River
Novi
248-347-7838

Diamond Castle
39955 Grand River
Novi
248-442-2440

Dinser's Flowers & Greenhouse
24501 Disner Drive
Novi
248-349-1320

Larson Jewelry
43155 Main St.
Ste. 304
Novi
248-442-2440

From All the Agents at
Keller-Williams Realty
22260 Haggerty Rd.
Suite 250 • Northville
248-380-8800

Novi Town Center
248-347-3830

American Home Fitness
43111 Crescent Blvd.
Novi
248-347-4944

Local Color of Novi
42705 Grand River Ave
248-349-2600

Maria Csar
43536 W. Oaks Dr.
Novi
248-348-3544

Jake's Fish House
47690 Grand river Ave.
Novi
248-347-7020

Susan Kumpula Century 21
Novi
248-408-3783

Tommy's Tire
4311 Grand River Ave
Novi
248-348-2080

Mesquite Creek
43155 Main St.
Novi
248-380-5400

Bob Sellers Pontiac GMC
103 W. Grand River
Farmington Hills
248-478-800

Weinstein Jewelers
41990 Grand River Ave.
Novi
248-347-0303

Postal Annex
47760 Grand River
Novi
248-349-6061

Alex's Pizza
Novi
248-926-1700

Papa Romano's
39711 Grand River
Novi
248-974-9777

O'Brien Sullivan Funeral Home, Inc.
41555 Grand River
Novi
248-348-1800

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 19A

Thursday, December 12, 2002

Only the fixtures are new at First Choice Chiropractic

THE FIRST CHOICE

First Choice Chiropractic is open 9 a.m. to noon and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; 9 a.m. to noon Saturday or visit First Choice on the Web at www.firstchoicechiropractic.com.

By Elysa A. Smith
SPECIAL WRITER

Don't let the new carpet and fresh fixtures fool you. Although First Choice Chiropractic's Northville office, located at 41620 Six Mile Road, may be new the staff isn't. "We've been in business for over 20 years now in Ann Arbor," Dr. Tom Klapp said. "We noticed that a lot of our clients drove from all over, especially from the Northville area, so we decided to come to them with a new office."

Dr. Tucker Ford, who is the primary chiropractor at the Northville location, said the office is not only "rehabilitated" in appearance but also downs some of the newest equipment advances in the chiropractic field.

"Dr. Klapp is very keen on new technologies," he said. "We take great pride in doing everything we can for our clients to the best of our abilities."

New technologies such as the thermal scan that measures the temperature around each vertebrae and the high-frequency digital X-ray machine make chiropractic services that First Choice Chiropractic provide much more effective and safer than ever before. "X-rays done on older machines could take at least two or three seconds which exposes people to quite a bit of radiation," Dr. Ford said. "The machine we use does the same exposure for a millisecond resulting in much less X-ray exposure."

The first visit, which is very affordable, is used to educate both the client and the doctor. "We want them to know what to expect from us," Dr. Ford



The staff of Northville-based First Choice Chiropractic.

said. "In turn we also want to find out every possible detail about their health problem so that we can help them."

The first visit usually lasts about an hour and evaluates the client's current condition doing a physical exam, gathers medical history, answers any questions and provides the doctor the opportunity to take X-rays if needed.

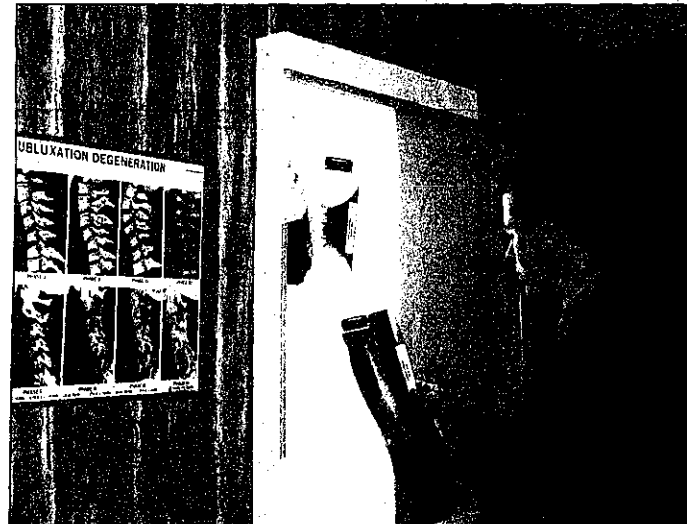
The second visit, which also lasts around four, answers four very important questions Dr. Klapp said.

"Most importantly we answer, 'What is causing the problem?' Can a chiropractor help in fixing this problem? How long will it take to fix?, and how much will it cost," he said. "We want people to make their own decision on what they want to do."

"We want them to make that decision because they know what is best for them." A decision which Dr. Ford and Dr. Klapp invite people to make after they come in and get a feel for the office. "I was definitely surprised when I visited the chiropractor for the first time," Dr. Klapp said. "I had horrible headaches and allergies and in one visit I no longer did, I guess that's where I got interested in chiropractic."

For Dr. Ford, chiropractic has been in his bones since birth. "I've been getting adjustments ever since I was born," he said. "My father and brother are both chiropractors and my wife is too."

"Our whole family reaps the healing benefits."



An X-ray is critical to knowing the correct chiropractic procedure for each patient at First Choice Chiropractic in Northville.

such as Dr. Ford's family, enjoy with absolutely zero need for medication, needles, surgery or painful recovery. "Our mission is to provide a first-class service that is natural," Dr. Klapp said. "Everything we do from supplying the most up-to-date technologies, to our great customer service and right down to our great location helps us do everything first-class."

Business in brief

Northville Gourmet announces to additions; one new, one old

The Northville Gourmet announced the naming of chef David Kryszto as executive chef and vice-president of operations, and Sue Foster of Crawford's Bakery has returned to the business. Northville Gourmet is located at 680 W. Eight Mile in Northville, and can be reached at (248) 349-5611.

HVS applicants accepted

Huron Valley Schools announces that five applicants from the district have

been accepted into the Oakland Leadership Academy for Aspiring Principals program through Oakland Schools (OLAAP). OLAAP is a program to help identify and prepare classroom teachers for future principal and assistant principal positions.

Huron Valley School District is guaranteed one applicant per year; however, five teachers were accepted for next year's program. Less than 30 people in all have been selected county wide. OLAAP is a cooperative effort between Oakland Schools, the Oakland Association of School Personnel

Administrators, and Michigan State University. Congratulations to Dairde Brady, teacher at Country Oaks Elementary; Deborah Devers, teacher leader at Country Oaks Elementary; Denise Forest, fine arts teacher from Kurze Elementary; Chad Grandson, teacher from Milford High School and teacher Teresa Marelli-Sobczak, from Highland Elementary.

Patzer named to BCBS of Michigan board of directors

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan has named Robert A. Patzer to its board of directors.

Patzer is executive director of aec (Associated Underground Contractors) Michigan's Heavy Construction Association. He was selected from medium groups - management subscribers and replaces James W. Woodruff Ed.D. Patzer serves on the Michigan Damage Prevention board, Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration advisory committees and the Coalition for Health Insurance Market Reform.

Lyon Communications
South Lyon
509 S. Lafayette
Next to Reynolds
Sweet Bypass
248-437-5300
NEXTEL
How business gets done.
Lyon Communications

Lose your pain. Guaranteed.

If you suffer from headaches, neck pain, low back pain, and even if you suffer from sinus problems, asthma, allergies, carpal tunnel syndrome, shoulder pain, sciatica (leg pains) and many other problems, please give us a call. Chiropractic might be your answer. You have nothing to lose but your pain and symptoms because if you don't get great results, you won't have to pay.

At First Choice Chiropractic of Northville, you will see our highly skilled and experienced doctor of chiropractic who knows how to get results. You will love our friendly, caring, family-like atmosphere and well-trained team members. We have all new, state-of-the-art chiropractic equipment and facilities for your health, safety and convenience.

When you visit our office, you will receive a thorough spinal and chiropractic examination to determine the exact cause of your problem and you will get the results of your exams in a clear and understandable way. If your exam leads us to believe you would not benefit from chiropractic care, or if you need to see another kind of doctor, we will tell you that, too.

If you would like to rid of your pain, or if you just want to see if chiropractic might be right for you, bring this ad to our new office and become one of our first new patients (friends) and receive your initial consultation, spinal examination, x-rays for only \$37 (a nearly \$300 value and NO hidden costs). Call First Choice Chiropractic of Northville, 41620 Six Mile Road, Northville (next to the Northville Twp. Finance Building), (248) 465-0000.

CHIROPRACTIC CHOICE
41620 Six Mile Road
(one mile west of Haggerty)
(248) 465-0000

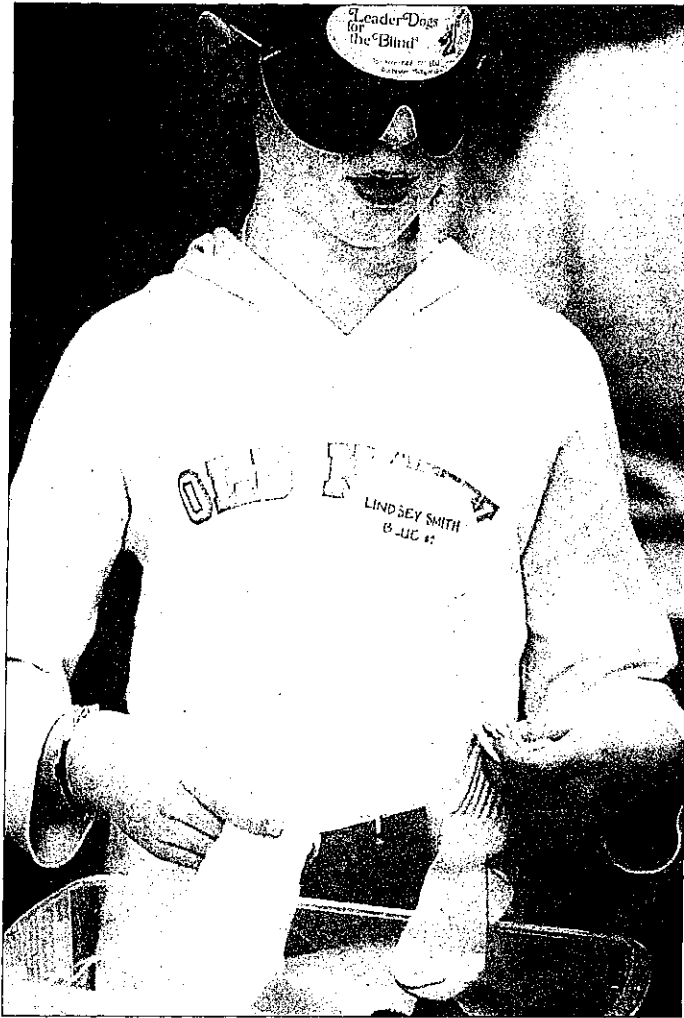


Photo by John Heider

Lindsey Smith tries her hand at finding the same socks by texture - while blindfolded.

Workshop teaches students of living with disabilities

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

If someone told a bunch of elementary school children that the purpose of a disability workshop program in their school was to make them a bit frustrated, that someone probably wouldn't get a favorable response. That wasn't the case, however, as Deerfield hosted the two-day workshop last week to teach children of the hardships and struggles of being disabled.

According to Julia Schmaidt, who co-chaired the workshop, the idea of the students being frustrated is so they realize that someone with a disability has a hard time and maybe they shouldn't try to rush them or laugh at how they're reading because maybe they may have a reading disability or some kind of other learning disability.

"The whole idea is to have the students get the sense of empathy towards someone who lives life this way," Schmaidt said. "This is Deerfield's second time to have the workshop come in. It's a kit that is made available through Oakland Schools and it's free of charge. It's a program for the kids to do hands-on activities that parallel situations that people with disabilities have. They are actually put in a position of what it would be like to have a number of different disabilities."

The workshop included two main center stations. One dealt with physical disabilities, where there was a wheelchair obstacle course. Students tried to use crutches, walkers and there was also some adaptive equipment that they got to touch, hold and try.

There was also a learning, vision and hearing disability station, where students used some equipment as well. "They actually had to do worksheets in a way that a person with dyslexia would have to do

them," Schmaidt said. "Numbers were flipped and they tried to read a story like that, like how a dyslexic person would see the words on a page. The text is jumbled a little bit and they had to try to figure out what the story really is. They had to unjuggle the numbers and read the words."

Guest speaker Monique Tyl, who uses a wheelchair herself was happy to speak with the students. "I think that the students will gain the knowledge of what the difficulties are of getting in and out of places, especially those who are in wheelchairs who don't have elevators or ramps," she said. "I hope that they are more aware of those types of things and I enjoy educating people. Many children come up to me in shopping areas and are real inquisitive about the wheelchair. The parents tend to shush them along, but I would rather they ask so I can tell them what happened. I think it's a great idea because people really don't understand all the complications when they see someone in a wheelchair. Most kids think it's cool or fun, but there's a lot more to it than that."

The message seemed to be loud and clear with the students. Third graders Michael Jocz, Katie Song and Nicole Gaudino and fourth graders Zach Mohr and Paige Trester all seemed to learn a great deal from the workshop.

"We were learning about disabilities," Jocz said. "In the Braille section, we were taught all about the Braille system and we had a Braille typewriter and we got to type our names in Braille and we were showed how to erase and we

had all these activities to do with all these different disabilities."

"We learned how people with muscle disorders would walk with their crutches and then we learned how they would move," Mohr said. "They tied our knees and elbows with red ribbons and that's how it would feel to have a muscle disorder. We also learned that people who can't talk sometimes use a special device to talk. If you exaggerate your lip movements enough, then the vibrations will actually make you speak."

"We learned about deaf people," Trester said. "When the phone rings or when someone is at the door, on the door, there is a light and when you knock on the door, it will come on and if they are not looking up at the door, they can even have a beeper that buzzes. You can program the buzzer to do different sounds for different things too."

"People with disabilities sometimes have leader dogs to guide them along," Song said. "A leader dog can guide them where they want to go. We also learned that deaf people use sign language."

"I feel that it would be hard if I was disabled," Gaudino said. "I would ask if I saw someone with a disability if they needed help. If I had to be that way in my every day life, that would make me not be able to do things that are fun, like run around in the park."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net.

Business Briefs

Planning consultant earns state, national awards

Novi's planning consultant has garnered state and national awards for its planning work with a southwest Washtenaw County Community.

Rodney Arroyo, a familiar face at Novi Planning Commission meetings, headed up the team at Southfield's Birchier Arroyo Associates, Inc., that developed the master plan for Bridgewater Township, a farming community of 1,700 people near Manchester.

The firm's work on the township's master plan earned it the Michigan Society of Planning's Outstanding Planning Project Award and the American Planning Association's Small Town and Rural Planning Division's Award for Excellence. Arroyo said the state award was particularly satisfying because the state contest is judged on a blind basis by other state planning organizations.

This marks the fifth time in the past six years that the firm has been honored by Michigan Society of Planning, including its work on the 1998 Novi Development Review Guidebook. Arroyo the firm's vice president, was also recog-

nized in 1998 with an award for excellence from the American Planning Association's Small Town and Rural Planning Division.

Novi equipment company merges and leaves town

After more than a half century of manufacturing heat treating equipment for the auto parts manufacturing industry, the Welduction Corporation name is leaving Novi and slipping into history.

Ellen Kominars, the company's marketing manager, recently announced the company will merge its operations with a larger sister company in Madison Heights as of Jan. 1. "It's all part of a consolidation move going on in the industry," she said, noting that most of Welduction's 18 employees will be moving to Inductoheat in Madison Heights.

Formed in 1947, Welduction operated in a number of locations on the west side of Metro Detroit before moving to Novi from Farmington Hills 3.5 years ago. Kominars said she believes Welduction's parent company will put its 36,000-square-foot production facility up for sale.

The plant is located on a seven-acre site at 22750 Heslip Drive. Kominars said inquiries about service, spare parts and machine sales for Welduction equipment should be e-mailed to weldn@welduction.com or mailed to Welduction, 32251 N. Avis Drive, Madison Heights. The company can also be reached by telephone at (800) 798-3042.

Doinidis attends scoliosis seminar

Dr. Nicholas S. Doinidis of Novi recently attended a program on "The Biomechanical Progression of Scoliosis and Suggested Treatment" in Ann Arbor. The program was led by Dr. Robert Mawhiney, former chairman of the International Scoliosis Research Center. The program included information on the history of the disease, x-ray procedures, basic techniques and treatments, exercises and the importance of nutrition.

For information on curvature and scoliosis of the spine and other spinal conditions, call Dr. Doinidis' office at (248) 348-7530. He is located at 24037 Meadowbrook Road, Novi.

Don't Drink and Drive

Celebrate New Year's Eve safely with The Quality Inn of Howell

Platinum Package:

- Gourmet Buffet Dinner
- Assorted Sweet Table
- Music provided by Mr. Music DJ Service
- Top 40, Oldies, Disco, Country & More
- Deluxe Party Favors
- Complimentary Champagne Toast

* OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS *

3pm checkout on New Year's Day

* Deluxe Continental Breakfast *

Package Price: ONLY \$189 per couple

Gold Package: All of the Above Except Room/Breakfast

Package Price \$60 per person or \$110 per couple

CALL NOW for Reservations: 517-546-6800

Celebrate!

New Year's Dining & Entertainment GUIDE

Lake Pointe Manor

\$60.00 Per Person • \$120.00 Per Couple

8 Drink Coupons Per Couple (4 Per Person)

Party Favors • Balloon Drop

Cash Prizes at Midnight!

Champagne Toast!

Carved to Order Grand Scale Buffet

Plated Desserts • Late Night Pizza

BOOK NOW!!

Please Call for Reservations (517)545-1000

5768 E. Grand River Howell

The Lazy J. Ranch is having a **New Year Celebration**

AT 625 S. HICKORY RIDGE ROAD, MILFORD

8:30 P.M. - 1:00 A.M.

NEW YEAR'S EVE 2002

\$40/PERSON INCLUDES DINNER

Promenade your way into the year 2003!!!

Enjoy plenty of country music, square dancing & country line dancing.

To reserve your table of 6 or 8 people (individuals welcome too!), please call 248-887-1551.

ANN ARBOR'S TOP NEW YEAR'S EVE PACKAGE MARDI GRAS

- Deluxe hotel room for December 31, 2002
- Spectacular buffet and ballroom seating
- Live entertainment and dancing featuring popular DJs Dez Dance Productions and live high-energy Soul/R&B from Soulstice
- Champagne toast and more!

Advanced purchase is required. Call for details

Weber's Inn

3056 Jackson Rd. • Ann Arbor, MI 48103

1-94 at Exit 172 • (800) 443-3050 • (734) 769-2500

DEC. 31, 2002 • WEBERSINN.COM

'Skate-In' this New Year at the Kensington Valley Ice House

12/31/02 from 7pm-1am

Celebration includes dinner buffet, draft beer, pop, champagne toast at midnight, open skating and sticks & pucks

Advance: \$100/family of five (\$15 additional) or \$30 per Adult \$15 per Child

At-the-door: \$40 per Adult \$25 per Child

Call NOW for reservations: 810-494-9474

Please remember, no matter how you celebrate, do so responsibly.

Your theatre or art event could be here!

Call Lori Draheim at 517-548-7398

THE ONLY FURNACE THAT'S MORE EFFICIENT IS THE SUN.

The WeatherMaker® Infinity™ gas furnace by Carrier with ComfortHeat™ Technology uses variable speed fan operation to distribute warmth evenly throughout your home. For about the same electricity as used in a 100-watt bulb. Combine that with the gas savings you'll experience and you'll see why the WeatherMaker Infinity gas furnace is the world's most totally efficient gas furnace.

* Call us for details today.

UNITED TEMPERATURE

HEATING & COOLING

734-525-1930

8919 Middlebelt • Livonia

Frosty Fun

ADVERTISE YOUR SKI AREA, EVENTS, OR ANY WINTER RELATED ITEMS HERE.

Publishes Sunday in Livingston County Press & Argus and Thursdays in Milford, Northville, Milford, & South Lyon.

Call Lori at 517-548-7398

loraheim@ht.homecomm.net

Bauery

WHAT'S COOKIN' AT MT. BRIGHTON THE ALL NEW BAUERY FOOD AND SPIRITS NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER THE BAUERY and chef MARK FEATURES:

CITRUS CHICKEN CHABLIS

Two 6 oz. chicken breasts lightly dusted and sauteed with white wine, lemon and capers.

SEAFOOD PASTA

Shrimp, mussels and salmon pan seared and tossed with white wine, olive oil, garlic, onions and tomatoes and herbs finished with butter and served over bow tie pasta.

CHOCOLATE CARAMEL CHEESE CAKE

NY Style cheese cake with chocolate and caramel sauce, whipped cream and hazelnut garfret.

Open 11 AM to 10 PM Daily (810) 229-9581 Ext 226

Buy Your Mt. Brighton Season Pass Now.

Now that's a home opener!

Wildcats take on and beat fourth-ranked U of D in overtime

By Ryan Edwards
 SPECIAL WRITER

Talk about drama. The Novi Wildcats opened their home schedule with a very dramatic victory in front of a very pepped up crowd.

They did so against U of D Jesuit, the fourth-ranked team in the state. It didn't come easy though as the two teams battled back and forth in a hard fought, penalty filled game. Which, included four ties and five lead changes throughout the game en route to a 5-4 overtime victory for Novi.

Fortunately for the Wildcats, it just so happens that the MHSAA passed a new rule this season, which allows the teams in a non-league game to play an overtime if both coach's are in agreement. However, the excitement in the game started long before overtime. Novi got things started right out of the gate. After U of D won the opening face-off and held the puck in Novi's zone, defenseman Jordan Collins was able to gain control of the puck and make a great outlet pass to Chaz Bulbuk. Bulbuk took the puck down the ice in a one-on-one situation, made a move to the right face-off circle and then put a pretty pass right onto the tape of teammate Mark Eberline's stick. Eberline then deked the goaltender and put the puck right through the five hole, for a 1-0 Novi lead forty seconds into the game.

Novi would spend the rest of the first period killing off penalties. After successfully killing off one 5-on-3 disadvantage, they were forced into another one, when Jared Perras obliterated a Jesuit player with a devastating check into the boards, it also earned him two minutes in the box for cross-checking. The Wildcat's penalty kill unit came up huge though, and killed off U of D's two-man advantage again, only to see their score though with 27 seconds left in their powerplay, to tie the game at 1-1. Just a little over a minute later, with 1:16 left in the first period, Jesuit struck again as a shot from the point got redirected past Trent Sisson, who started in goal for Novi. That goal gave U of D a 2-1 lead heading into the first intermission.

As exciting as the first period may have been, the second period may have been the most thrilling and dramatic period so far this season. The two teams accounted for five goals, plenty of penalty minutes, and a lot of excitement. Brett Jaussi was responsible for getting the chaotic period started as he tapped one in 2:34 into the period. The goal, which was assisted by Dan Hunter, came about as Hunter attempted to center the puck from behind the U of D net, the puck hit the skate of an opposing player and was bouncing around in the crease, all of the U of D players were kicking at the puck as a scrum formed in front of the net, when Brett Jaussi's stick

showed up to bat the wandering puck into the back of the net where it belongs, tying the game at 2-2. Less than two minutes later, the Wildcats would take the lead on a goal by Robert Vulaj, which was assisted by Mike Karas and John Murray, making the score 3-2. Things were just getting started though, and with all of the momentum in Novi's hands they must've felt like giving it away, because they did. U of D entered Novi's zone offside, so they had to let the puck go, taking away any chance of a scoring threat. Until a Novi skater took the puck and attempted to clear it right onto the stick of an opposing player who would make them pay for their mistake and tie the game at 3-3 with 9:50 remaining in the second period. There wasn't even time to blink afterwards, before U of D had already scored again nine seconds later, to take the lead 4-3. That wasn't it though, with 29:7 seconds left in the second period, Robert Vulaj broke away from the defenders, made a couple of beautiful deke moves and put the puck past the goalie. The goal came while Novi was shorthanded and was assisted by Bulbuk, once again tying the game.

Tied at 4-4 heading into the third period, neither team wanted to make any mistakes that could cost them the game. Not unlike any of the other periods, this one too was penalty filled. Both teams played hard though, and were able to kill off all of the powerplays. The game almost didn't make it to overtime though, with 51 seconds left in regulation Brian Jaussi ripped an unguarded shot from just inside the blue line, that just grazed off of the blade of the skate on the goalie's extended leg. That kick save by the U of D goalie kept his team in the game, just as the play of Bulbuk on the penalty kill late in the third period kept Novi in it. Bulbuk was flying around laying body checks, and clearing the puck, playing like a man possessed.

Still tied at 4-4 after the third period, both coaches decided that they didn't play the type of game they had displayed so far for a tie. Novi's first overtime of the year didn't last long though, as Bulbuk continued his frenetic play, netting a goal 35 seconds into the extra session for the 5-4 win.

Couch Phelps had a lot to say following the team's exciting overtime victory.

"This win was huge for us, we're really starting to get into a good groove now, and that's important for us in the long haul," he said.

Phelps also commented on his team's play.

"The boys' really dug their skates in and got in a groove, hanging in their and also fighting back, and our penalty kill really won the game for us."

Novi collected over twenty penalty minutes in the game.

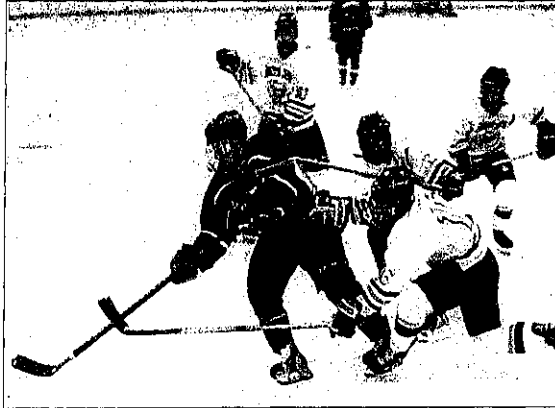
The win improves Novi's record to 3-4 (0-2 in the KVC).



Novi had dropped their second straight KVC game the night before in a 2-0 loss at South Lyon. The team is improving though, and it looks as if they're starting to hit stride. Phelps said this team has as much wide-open talent as he's ever had at Novi. That should bode well for the Wildcats for the rest of the season.

The Wildcats will return to action when they head to Brother Rice on Saturday for a 3 p.m. contest.

Ryan Edwards is an intern for the Northville Record and the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.



Photos by JOHN HEIDER

John Murray (above) prepares for a face-off against South Lyon, while Robert Vulaj (left) fights off a check as he enters the Lion zone December 5 at the Kensington Ice House.

There are plenty of sports to attend

If you've got a hankering for some top-notch athletics, Novi's the place for you

Wow. Talk about variety this week.

Fans of the Novi Wildcats are going to be falling all over themselves with opportunities to see their athletes play to the best of their abilities this week.

The boys basketball team, led by Pat Schluter, will be taking a trip to visit the Lakeland Eagles Monday, before hosting those tough Walked Lake Central Vikings just four days later in their home gym.

And volleyball? Julie Fisette and the gang will be going to the South Lyon Invite Saturday at 9 a.m. before hosting the

Northville Mustangs Monday — and in any sport, when these two teams meet it's usually a fight to the finish.

A big swimming and diving fan? Go to South Lyon today at 6 p.m. and you'll catch your 'Cats in action. They'll also be swimming the Eastern Michigan University Invite Saturday at 1 p.m.

One of the top games in the Kensington Valley Conference portion of Novi's hockey schedule will be against the

Milford Mavericks on their home ice Wednesday of next week at 7:20 p.m. You can bet these two teams will be pretty scrappy when they get going.

Novi's figure skating team will be competing at the Plymouth Cultural Center Wednesday at 4 p.m., while the gymnastics squad is hosting their intersquad scrimmage today at Northville at 7 p.m. before visiting Harland a week from today at 6:30 a.m.

The two biggest events for the Novi Wildcats has to be the wrestling meet against the Northville Mustangs today at 5:30 p.m. at Novi and the CCAM Cheer Invite that Novi will be hosting at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Now, if you love wrestling or just want to see some top-notch performance, Novi vs. Northville should give you the taste you are looking for.

And cheer. Some say I'm not much of a cheer fan, but that's not true. We have writers hard at work even now to bring you the

best cheer coverage you've seen in a while in these sports sections, and I can safely say that it should be more than just a little interesting for those attending the invite this weekend. Heck, these are some of the best teams in the state and they've been gearing up for this moment since last year. It's going to be high-velocity, intense and spirited competitive cheer rattling the halls of Novi High School.

Maybe you should make an appointment to get out to at least one of these events — I know I am.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

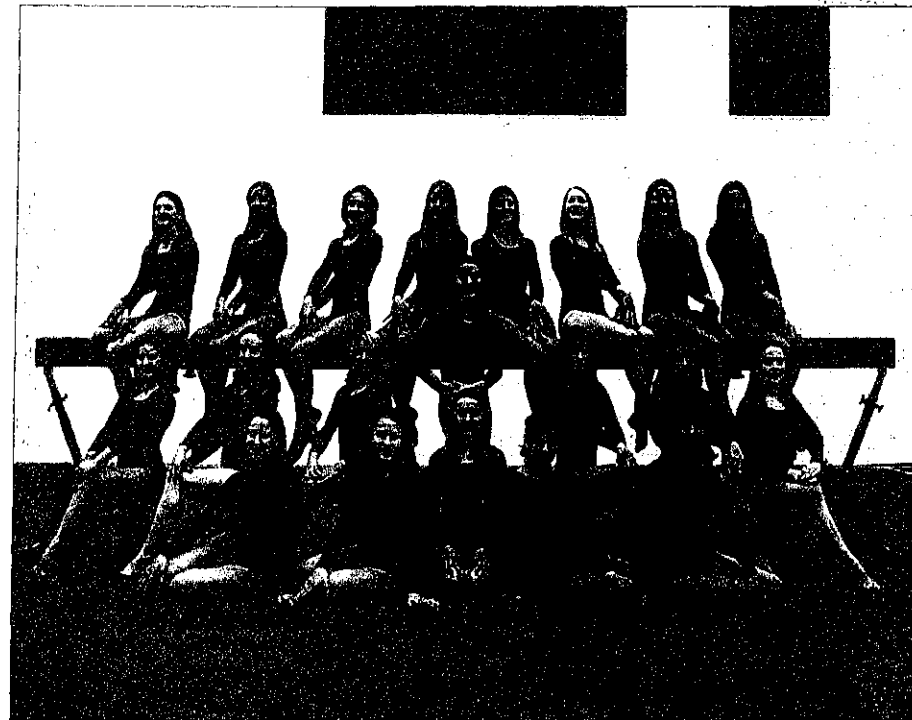
THIS WEEK'S BEST BETS

Sam Eggleston picks his two favorite events for the week, giving the Novi fans a good idea of what's the best thing to watch.

■ **WRESTLING:** Novi vs. Northville — this one should be a good one as the Wildcats are still as tough as nails under the coaching of Brad Huss and the Mustangs are starting to believe in themselves and what they are capable of doing with some fresh, new talent on the squad. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. today at Novi

■ **CHEERLEADING:** CCAM Invite — the Novi High School cheerleaders will be hosting the CCAM Invitational Saturday at 9 a.m. You can bet that this is going to be some of the best competitive cheerleading all year 'round, and anyone who wants to see some intense, spirited competition should make a point to be there.

■ **MORE EVENTS** — why pick just one. Be a Novi faithful and hit them all. See the full schedule on page 2.



Submitted Photo

The Northville/Novi Wild 'Stangs gymnastics team is looking to continue its high standard of competition as it brings back a squad of very talented performers for the 2002-03 season.

Gymnastics intersquad scrimmage set for tonight

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Northville/Novi Wild 'Stangs gymnastics team has plenty of talent on the floor this year — and tonight's your chance to see them.

The gymnastics team, coached by Lindsay Schultz, will be performing in their intersquad scrimmage tonight at 7 p.m. at Northville High School. Yeah, there's no opponents other than themselves, but that just means all of the gymnastics action fans get to see will be all Wild 'Stangs.

This season, the gymnastics team has a slew of talented members to bring them into the post season and beyond. Seniors Laura Metz, Caitlin Miller, Whitney Paul (captain) and Amy Wild will lead a tough squad of underclassmen in the competitions that this year is set to begin.

Other Wild 'Stang gymnasts who will be looking to score points for their squad include Adrienne McLentey, Megan Wallen, Lindsay Yanko, Rachael Dencau, Sarah Illikanti-Poir, Nika Frimacko, Erin Yankowich, Janna Ransvey, while Katie Braine and Mark

Trisha Brownfield, Courtney Paul, Laura Metz, captain Amanda Crawford, Marie Fink, Jessica Glancy, Jennifer Meh and Maggie Mills.

One gymnast everyone will remember is Sara Wilchowski. Returning from a season that found her quickly rising through the ranks to become one of the top gymnasts on the team, it's no doubt she'll be looking to claim the top spot on the team with her variety of skills and abilities.

The Wild 'Stangs are coached by a very experienced Schultz,

Krempski will be assisting her this season.

If you're in the mood for good gymnastics, head over to the Northville High School tonight and watch the Wild 'Stangs gear up for one of their most competitive years to date.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 348-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@tt.homecomm.net.

UPCOMING NOVI WILDCAT SPORTS

BOYS BASKETBALL				
Dec. 16	Lakeland	7		A
20	W.L. Central	5:30		H
VOLLEYBALL				
Dec. 14	South Lyon invite	9		A
	Northville invite			
16	Freshman	TBA		A
19	Northville	6		H
	Lakeland	6		A
SWIMMING & DIVING				
Dec. 12	South Lyon	6		A
14	E.M.L. Invite	1		A
17	Franklin	7		A
19	W.L. Central	7		A
HOCKEY				
14	Brother Rice	3		A
16	Millard	7:20		A
20	Showcase Tourney	TBA		A
21	Showcase Tourney	TBA		A
FIGURE SKATING				
Dec. 18	Plymouth C.C.	4		A
POM PON				
Jan. 25	MHSAA Regionals	TBA		A
COMPETITIVE CHEER				
Dec. 14	CCAM Cheer Invite	9		H
GYMNASTICS				
Dec. 12	Intersquad	7		H
19	Hartland	6:30		A
WRESTLING				
12	Northville	5:30		H
14	Salem Invite-V	9:30		A
	Batavia Invite-JV	10		A
20-21	Oakland County @ Clarkston	4		A

Sports Shorts

Michigan Motion Girls' AAU Hoops Tryouts

The Michigan Motion Girls' AAU Basketball club will be holding open tryouts at Novi Meadows School located at 25299 Tall Road in Novi. The dates are as follows:

Saturday, Dec. 14
10:30, 11:00 and 12:00 from 9-11 a.m.
13U and 14U from 11:30-1:30 p.m.
15U and 16U from 2-4 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 15
10:30, 11:00 and 12:00 from noon-1:45 p.m.
13U and 14U from 2-3:45 p.m.
15U and 16U from 4-5:45 p.m.

Age groups based on birthdays on or before December 31, 2002. The fee for tryouts is \$20 and players must be signed in by a parent or guardian.

For more information, please call Pat or Mike Tack at (248) 486-1515 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Holiday Baseball/Softball camp

Put One In The Upper Deck, Northville's indoor baseball/softball training facility, will be conducting its sixth annual holiday camp December 26-28.

Baseball camp will be held from 9 a.m.-noon with a noon-1 p.m. time for free batting cages to the campers.

Softball camp will be held from 1-4 p.m. with a 4-5 p.m. time for free batting cages for campers.

Instruction at both camps will include fundamentals, throwing mechanics, pitching, fielding, base-running and conditioning.

Upper Deck is located in downtown Northville at 235 E. Main Street, Suite 108. For more information or to register, please call (248) 349-0008.

Rec Basketball Registrations

The Northville Parks and Recreation Department is accepting local registrations for its Winter Youth Basketball Season. Several openings remain in the 6-8th grade girls, 8-9th grade boys and 10-12th grade boys leagues. A waiting list has been initiated for the 9-12th grade girls league. If enough girls register for the league waiting list, an additional team will be formed.

All leagues will play a 10 game schedule, primarily on Saturdays beginning January 18 and ending March 22, 2003. Teams will practice one or two times per week beginning Jan. 6 through March 17.

Next Level Athletes

The Northville Record sports department is looking for submissions for the new section, Next Level Athletes. Eligible athletes include collegiate, semi-pro, professional and minor league players (please email first if other levels).

Please email submissions to seggerson@tt.homecomm.net 1 or mail them to The Northville Record, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167. Please include name, year and college as well as

Softball/Baseball Private Lessons and Training

Total Baseball will help players, ages 6-18, improve their game. Instructors include Oakland University Coaching Staff, Big 10/MAC All-Conference softball/baseball players, the Toledo Mudhens Manager, former professional players and college/HS coaches. Pitching, hitting and fielding are the lessons available and are by appointment only. The fees for the lessons start at \$35 per 1/2 hour or five private lessons for \$160.

For more information, call (248) 668-0166 or email totalbaseball@totalbaseball.com, or check out the website at www.etbase.com/totalbaseball.

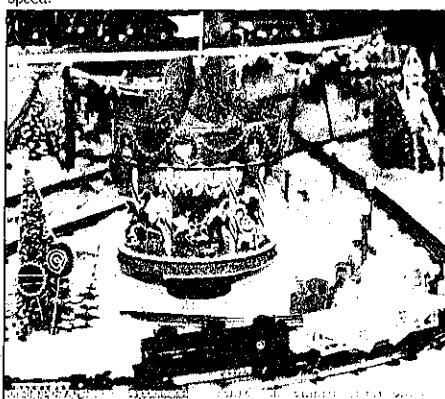
Baseball/Softball Hitting Leagues

Total Baseball's Indoor Hitting Leagues will have four players per team to hit off batting machines in a point-evaluated one-hour game. Awards will be given to the champions and to the best hitter.

The league will run from Jan. 4-Feb. 8, 2003.

For the boys' baseball and girls' softball, the leagues will run as follows: 13 and under, Saturdays from 9-11 a.m.; 14-16 year olds, Saturdays from 9-11 a.m.; 17-18 year olds, Sundays from 6-9 p.m.

The cost of the league is \$35 per individual/\$120 per team with four players on a team. Games will be held at Total Baseball, located at 30990 Wixom Road in Wixom. For more information or to register, call (248) 668-0166.



analyze that
"Absolute perfection. Here surely is the perfect holiday season movie."
"Analyze That" is even funnier than "Analyze This."
"Del Rio is hilarious."
"Billy Crystal is the fastest fun in the west."
"An inspired comic teaming."
"A laugh-out-loud riot - painfully funny!"
"Lisa Kudrow shines."

AMC FORUM 30 AMC LAUREL PARK AMC LIVONIA 20
BIRMINGHAM PALMDALE CANTON 6 EMAGINE NOVI
MIR SOUTHGATE 20 SHOWCASE DEARBORN SHOWCASE PORTLAND
SHOWCASE STERLING HTS. SHOWCASE WESTLAND STAR FAIRLANE 21
STAR GRATIOT STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING STAR JOHN R
STAR LINCOLN PARK STAR ROCHESTER STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR UA COMMERCE STADIUM UA WEST RIVER

Next Level Athletes

The Next Level Athletes portion of the sports section is dedicated to recognizing those men and women who have taken the next step in their athletic careers by going on to college and beyond to play the sports that they love. It is these athletes who are able to apply them for their careers and for their abilities.

Ryan Rzepka, Sophomore, Oakland University — Ryan Rzepka, 2000 Graduate of Novi High School, recently completed his second year of eligibility for Oakland University's Division I Men's Soccer Program. As Captain, Rzepka led Oakland University to a record of 10-wins, 8-losses, and 2-ties. The Oakland Grizzlies won the Mid-Con Conference for the third straight year and the Mid-Con Conference Tournament, giving them an automatic bid to the NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Championship.

Next Level Athletes includes former athletes from the reader's area of the Northville Record. Next News and the Lake Area Times. The Next Level Athletes are individuals who have taken the next step beyond high school athletics to the next level — including college, semi-professional, minor league and professional athletes. Anyone who would like to submit information about an athlete can do so via email at seggerson@tt.homecomm.net or mail information to The Northville Record, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

"ONE OF THE FUNNIEST MOVIES OF THE YEAR!"

analyze that
"Absolute perfection. Here surely is the perfect holiday season movie."
"Analyze That" is even funnier than "Analyze This."
"Del Rio is hilarious."
"Billy Crystal is the fastest fun in the west."
"An inspired comic teaming."
"A laugh-out-loud riot - painfully funny!"
"Lisa Kudrow shines."

AMC FORUM 30 AMC LAUREL PARK AMC LIVONIA 20
BIRMINGHAM PALMDALE CANTON 6 EMAGINE NOVI
MIR SOUTHGATE 20 SHOWCASE DEARBORN SHOWCASE PORTLAND
SHOWCASE STERLING HTS. SHOWCASE WESTLAND STAR FAIRLANE 21
STAR GRATIOT STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING STAR JOHN R
STAR LINCOLN PARK STAR ROCHESTER STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR UA COMMERCE STADIUM UA WEST RIVER

Pre-Christmas SALE!
I Week Only!
SAVE!
On Everything in the Store!
and
We Will Pay You 6% Sales Tax or Save An Extra 8%* When You Pay Cash!

• Pennsylvania House • Bob Timberlake • King Hickory
• Hekman • Hitchcock • I.M. David • Thomasville
• Nichols & Stone • Lexington • Conover • Hooker
• Butler • Dinaire • Harden
• Bradington-Young • Slight • Canal Dover • Superior
• Charleston Forge • Restonic • Howard Miller

Sale Ends Dec 21st, 2002

CLASSIC INTERIORS FURNITURE
20292 Middlebelt • Livonia • South of 8 Mile
248.474.6900
www.classicintl.com

OPEN 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
7-9 p.m.
Tu, W, Sa 9-30
Su 5-9
Open Sun 1-5

IT'S FREE
To Place Your Ad.

1-888-251-6922
24 Hours • Day-Every Day • No Operating Fees!
24 hours every day call 1-900-776-9406
Only \$2.49 per minute
Use with a credit card or a debit card and a valid billing plan.
Monthly 15 days of free ads and then a variable price.

The Personals
Now The Best Way To Meet Local Singles

Do Singles Using This Column Find Someone? You bet they do!

Females Seeking Males
AFFECTIONATE SFW 56, 5'4", with light brown hair and brown eyes. Interested in a lady who works out in search of a fit, fun, and sexy partner. A.S. 4026.
ATTRACTIVE SFW 34, 5'7", blonde hair, blue eyes. Enjoys outdoor sports and a healthy and active lifestyle. Looking for a fun, fit, and sexy partner. A.S. 4026.
TOTALY HONEST SFW 45, 5'7", with blonde hair and blue eyes. Enjoys outdoor sports and a healthy and active lifestyle. Looking for a fun, fit, and sexy partner. A.S. 4026.

MALES SEEKING FEMALES
ROMANTIC SFW 34, 5'7", with blonde hair and blue eyes. Enjoys outdoor sports and a healthy and active lifestyle. Looking for a fun, fit, and sexy partner. A.S. 4026.
ATTRACTIVE SFW 34, 5'7", blonde hair, blue eyes. Enjoys outdoor sports and a healthy and active lifestyle. Looking for a fun, fit, and sexy partner. A.S. 4026.
TOTALY HONEST SFW 45, 5'7", with blonde hair and blue eyes. Enjoys outdoor sports and a healthy and active lifestyle. Looking for a fun, fit, and sexy partner. A.S. 4026.

Customer Service 1-800-348-6384
Hours: Mon - Fri, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
or e-mail us at help@800.com. Service provided by 800.com.

Did you know? Did you know? Did you know?

• If you're a FREE personal shopper and you're looking for a...
• If you're a FREE personal shopper and you're looking for a...
• If you're a FREE personal shopper and you're looking for a...

"THE BEST ROMANTIC COMEDY SINCE 'PRETTY WOMAN'"

maid in manhattan
jennifer lopez ralph fiennes

Revolution Studios Presents a Revolution Pictures Production
Jennifer Lopez, Ralph Fiennes, Mandy Patinkin, Anthony Quinn, James Van Der Beek, and Peter Onorati. A Revolution Pictures Production. MAID IN MANHATTAN. REVOLUTION PICTURES PRESENTS A REVOLUTION PICTURES PRODUCTION. JENNIFER LOPEZ, RALPH FIENNES, MANDY PATINKIN, ANTHONY QUINN, JAMES VAN DER BEEK, AND PETER ONORATI. MAID IN MANHATTAN. REVOLUTION PICTURES PRESENTS A REVOLUTION PICTURES PRODUCTION. JENNIFER LOPEZ, RALPH FIENNES, MANDY PATINKIN, ANTHONY QUINN, JAMES VAN DER BEEK, AND PETER ONORATI. MAID IN MANHATTAN.

"ACTION, INTENSITY AND LOADS OF FUN!"

STAR TREK NEMESIS
Full of dark surprises with a brilliant ending!

Starts Friday, December 13 at theaters everywhere

FIRST, HE BECAME A GIGOLO. ON FRIDAY HE'S BECOMING A WOMAN.

ROB SCHNEIDER IS THE HOT CHICK

Starts Friday, December 13 at theaters everywhere

Go ahead, break my day!

With 989 Sports' Gamebreaker 2003, seasons never end

By Sam Eggleston
ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

News Flash: The Chippewas of Central Michigan University have just won the national football championships!

Sound a little fishy? Not if you're at the controls of 989 Sports' NCAA Gamebreaker 2003. You take control of your favorite team and bring it to the best squads across the country as you battle it out to see who's the best of the best in the nation.

The best part? For those of you who love the college football season, with this game sitting in your Playstation 2 the cheers of the crowds at the Big House and in every Division I stadium across this great country never have to die down.

One of the big advantages that Gamebreaker has over the competition is the speed. A lot of football games just don't have the break-neck speeds that make life with the pigskin such a blast. This one does though. And another thing this seems to really bring is the hits. There's nothing better than a big hit by the middle linebacker that sends a runningback stumbling to his left — unless, of course, it's a hit immediately afterward by the outside linebacker that sends the ball carrier flat on his back or flipping through the air. Sometimes if you get a good enough hit or a nice gang tackle, a flash of lightning and the sound of thunder in the distance reminds your opponents that there's no passing to the middle when your big dogs are on the prowl.

The cheers and boing from the hometown fans work well with the nicely crafted stadiums. The refs are even more of a part of this game and not, thankfully, in the way of penalties. Breaking up the middle on a strong-1 Iso play, the runningback is actually capable of being saved from a tackle if the ref gets in the way. The same works if the back accidentally runs into the ref and takes a digger.

All the way across the board, Gamebreaker is the perfect gift for the college football fan in your life. And if you're not buying it for someone else and just love to take control of the University of Michigan Wolverines in hopes of topping Ohio State this time around, pick this one up. Not only does it rival everything that other college football games have to offer, it comes out of the store right around \$10 cheaper on average.

To be honest, the game isn't perfect though. The commentary starts to drag just slightly by the end of the season with the same things being said ending up being repeated over and over again. One thing that the folks in the booth do that is more appealing at times than other games is give credit where credit is due — the front line. A game is won and lost at the line of scrimmage and they don't hesitate to let that be known.

There are plenty of replay values to this game as it can either be played at a fairly easy level where even some of the worst teams in the country can get victories with a human calling the shots, and goes right up to as hard of a football game that I have ever played, where the computer brings it all at you and Miami can lose to Eastern Michigan if things are done to perfection.

And for those who like to bring a program from the ashes of despair to the glory of a bowl game, there is always the career mode. This helps with the rebuilding process of bad teams and the continued greatness of the perennial favorites. Either way, it's up to the player to keep the recruits coming in and the game plan at the highest level.

Gamebreaker 2003 also has another feature that grows on those wielding the controller. Instead of throwing the perfect pass on the run every single time like other games have you doing, Gamebreaker brings on the reality of physics as you may overthrow your intended target if you are running forward or perhaps you lead them too much or throw too far behind them if you are dancing around too much in the pocket.

Overall, Gamebreaker 2003 is one of the best college football games on the market, taking advantage of all of the processing power the Playstation 2 has to

offer without slowing the game down any. A dedicated fan can find themselves playing long into the night, trying to finish up a season or bring their team to the national championship. And for those who may be wondering about the title of the game — most teams have one or two players that can change the momentum of a contest just by being there or touching the ball. Those types of players are often known as "game breakers."

In this game, the college football season never has to end and even the Chippewa fans can live vicariously and bring their team to the glory of a national title.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Noul News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecom.net.



Courtesy Photo
With Gamebreak 2003, you can just shove your way through opponents as you try and fight your way to a national championship. And tackling? These are the hits that make you twitch when you dream about them at night. Not only does this keep the video-game players busy, but also the college football fan in your life. Make this one a stocking stuffer, especially since it comes onto the market about \$10 cheaper than its competition and still packs everything that you look for in a football game.

COLORFUL, COOL AND CUTTING EDGE GIFTS.

MOTOROLA T720

- Full-color display
- Built-in browser for surfing the web
- Download games, ringtones, pictures & more

\$199.99 Original Price (Taxes Apply)
\$100.00 Mail-in Trade-In Rebate

\$99.99 After Rebate



With a new 2 year customer agreement on each phone on calling plans \$35 or higher. While supplies last. Restrictions may apply.

BUY ONE
NOKIA 3285
at \$29.99
GET ONE FREE

- Web Enabled
- Two-way Text Messaging
- 40 Distinctive Ring Tones



verizonwireless
We never stop working for you.™

HOT
NEW HOLIDAY OFFER!

with Local DigitalChoice® get

1000
ANYTIME MINUTES

and **NATIONWIDE LONG DISTANCE** Included
when calling from your home airtime rate area

for just **\$39.99**
MONTHLY ACCESS

All included every month as long as you remain on the plan. For a limited time only. With a 2 Year Customer Agreement.

TEST
the **BEST**

VERIZON WIRELESS HAS THE BEST NATIONAL WIRELESS NETWORK IN AMERICA.
But don't just take our word for it. If you're not 100% satisfied during your first 15 days, simply return your phone and pay for only the service you've used. It's all a part of our Worry Free Guarantee™ to you.

FOR FREE DELIVERY CALL 1.800.2 JOIN IN **CLICK** **verizonwireless.com** **VISIT** **any of our stores**

EXTENDED HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES

- ANN ARBOR**
2570 Jackson Ave.
(Next to Bookbuster)
734-769-1722
- BRIARWOOD MALL**
(in Sear's Wing,
Near Center Ct.)
- BRIGHTON**
8159 Chalis, Suite C
(Off Grand River,
in front of Target)
810-225-4789
- CANTON**
42447 Ford Rd.
(Corner of Ford
& Lilley Rds.,
Canton Corners)
734-844-0481
- DEARBORN**
24417 Ford Rd.
(Just West of Telegraph)
313-278-4491
- Fairlane Mall**
(3rd Floor Next to Sear's)
313-441-0168
- DETROIT**
14126 Woodward
(Model T Plaza)
313-869-7392
- FARMINGTON HILLS**
31011 Orchard Lake Rd.
(S.W. Corner of Orchard
Lake Rd. & 14 Mile Rd.)
248-538-9900
- FENTON**
17245 Silver Pkwy
(in the Sear's plaza)
810-529-2735
- GRAND BLANC**
12821 S. Saginaw St.
(in Grand Blanc Mall)
810-606-1700
- LAKE ORION**
2531 S. Lapeer Rd.
(Orion Mall 2 Miles N.
of the Palace)
248-393-6800
- NOVY**
43025 12 Mile Rd.
(Twelve Oaks Service Dr.,
North of Sear's)
248-305-6800
- PONTIAC/WATERFORD**
454 Telegraph Rd.
(Across from
Summit Place Mall)
248-335-9900
- RICHMOND HILLS**
3025 S. Rochester Rd.
(At Auburn Rd.)
248-853-0550
- ST. CLAIR SHORES**
26401 Harper Ave.
(At 10 1/2 Mile)
586-777-4010
- SOUTHFIELD**
28117 Telegraph Rd.
(South of 12 Mile Rd.)
248-358-3700
- SOUTHFIELD (OAKTOWN BLVD)**
20128 W. 8 Mile Rd.
(Baseline Plaza, just
west of Evergreen)
248-357-1558
- STERLING HEIGHTS**
45111 Park Ave.
(M-59 & M-53,
Ulrick Park Plaza)
586-997-6500
- Lakeside Mall**
(Lower Ct. play area)
- TAYLOR**
23495 Eureka Rd.
(Across from
Southland Mall)
734-287-1770
- TROY**
1913 E. Big Beaver Rd.
(Troy Sports Center)
248-526-0040
- WESTLAND**
35105 Warren Rd.
(S.W. Corner of Warren
& Wayne Rds.)
734-722-7330
- WAL-MART LOCATIONS**
Howell
3599 Grand River E.
517-546-5611
- Pett Haven**
4475 24th Ave.
810-365-1231
- Warren**
28240 Van Dyke
586-751-0747
- White Lake**
9180 Hightland Rd.
248-688-0043

AUTHORIZED RETAILERS

- Equipment offer and Worry Free Guarantee may vary.
- @ Wireless
Multiple Locations
800-235-5667
 - Authorized Cellular
Multiple Locations
800-VIP-PLUS
 - HomeTown Wireless
Multiple Locations
810-227-2808
 - ANN ARBOR
Non-Kiosk Wireless
734-327-5400
 - BLOOMFIELD
Global Wireless
248-335-3345
 - CHESTERFIELD TWP.
Venture Communications
566-421-9900
 - CLAWSON
Communications USA
248-280-6390
 - COMMERCIAL
Cellular Source
248-360-9400
 - FARMINGTON HILLS
Cellular City
248-848-8900
 - HOWELL
Cellular
517-548-7705
 - HOWELL
Hickman Radio
734-242-0806
 - ROCHESTER
Cellular Technologies
248-299-0008
- RadioShack**
You've got questions. We've got answers.™
- Free Handset Software Upgrade!
- 4 2 2 8** CDMA

Night & Weekend hours: Mon-Fri. 9:01pm-5:59am, Sat. 12am-Sun. 11:59pm.

IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Customer Agreement and Calling Plan. Early termination fee of \$175 applies after 15 days. Requires credit approval. Cannot be combined with other offers. Usage rounded to next full minute. Unused allowances lost. Subject to taxes and other charges. Geographic and other restrictions apply. CDMA tri-mode phone with updated software required. For each mail-in, trade-in, rebate, original or copy of receipt, original UPC barcode and trade-in of functional wireless phone and its battery required. Allow 10-12 weeks for rebate check. This offer is not valid if you are still under contractual obligation to another wireless carrier. Rebate forms must be postmarked by 1/20/03 for the T720. See brochure or sales representative for details. Best Network claim based on results of our reliability studies and network advantages. See www.verizonwireless.com/bestnetwork for details. Limited time only. See Worry Free Guarantee brochure and our Return/Exchange policy for full details. JAMDAT Mobile and JAMDAT are trademarks of JAMDAT Mobile Inc. Motorola is a registered trademark of Motorola Corporation. © Verizon Wireless 2002.

VM3348

Hobby-turned-profession pays off

Milford woman creates, paints exquisite antique Santas, Belsnickles

By Annette Jaworski
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Everyone knows that Santa lives at the North Pole, but you might find more than a few of Santa's helpers right here in Milford — like the ones hand made by artist Nyla Murphy.

"I think everybody loves Santa, everybody loves Christmas," Murphy said. "It brings back good memories."

It all began when she noticed collectible Santas or Belsnickles while antiquing. Originally exported from Germany in the late 1800s, they are rare and expensive. The little figures with their cone-shaped hat and hands inside their sleeves caught her eye.

"I wanted them so bad, and the old ones I couldn't afford," she said. "There are so many things I wanted, and we were on a limited budget, so I decided to make it myself, and do it so they looked antique."

Not that many of the original Belsnickles survived through that time, and the molds were destroyed in the war, Murphy said. That didn't stop the determined artist, who decided to make her own molds for the figurines. She eventually created a whole array of Santas or Belsnickles in all shapes and sizes, with a wide range of realistic expressions.

There's a Santa riding a pig, made in jest for a policeman's wife. For a realistic touch, she added a basket of twigs hanging on Santa's back. Another interesting figure has two sides — a good Santa and a mean Santa — for naughty boys and girls.



These hand-made, antique-looking Santas are but a few of Nyla Murphy's creations.



Photos by HAL GOULD

Another is sitting on a snow-covered log. Some of her Santas even have moving parts.

What started as a pastime and hobby has turned into a profession. A loft area in her home serves as a perfect studio and Santa's workshop. It's filled with shelves of jolly old Saint Nick.

The entire process of creating the figure is a lengthy labor of love. Murphy first makes a mold out of clay, which she uses to create a plaster cast. Plaster works well for the outside of the surface, because it's a smooth surface to paint. The inside is filled with paper mache, making the figure amazingly light as well as strong. After they dry, she

paints and decorates them.

Probably the most remarkable thing about the Belsnickles and Santas is the detail put into each figure. Formerly a portrait artist, Murphy's skills are evident in the life like expressions of these Santas, which range from serious to comical.

"A lot of them are stern, but some of them have really sweet faces, and some have what I call cartoony faces," she observed. A perfectionist, each Santa has to look just so, and she confesses to repainting several times over if necessary to get it just right. She carefully re-creates each detail from pictures of originals. "I look at pictures. I used to do

portraits, so I'm pretty good at duplicating facial features," Murphy said.

Another detail she carefully reproduces includes the "antique-looking" clothing. For this she takes fabric and dyes it to look "old" or faded. Some have gold robes, or green. There's even some dressed in green and purple. For an antique-looking fur trim, she buys old linings of coats. She uses soft, silky rabbit fur for the beard. She even searches for antique tinsel for trim. Each one of them also holds a small tree made out of turkey or goose feathers, just like the original Belsnickles. She makes each of these by hand,

dying the feather green and wrapping it around a wire.

"And after I get them done, I name them," she added. And each looks real enough to come to life. In fact, her favorite is called "Human" for that very reason.

They're so popular, they've been shipped around the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, as well as Canada, Germany and Guam, Murphy said. What first started by word of mouth increased even more once she was featured in Country Living and Better Homes and

Gardens. Christmas has become a very hectic time of year for the Milford resident.

"It's been like a snowball thing," Murphy said. Creating the figurines now keeps her busy year round. And just like the original collectibles, she notes that her pieces are going up in value.

"I guess that's because they're one of a kind, and you don't find them in any store," she noted.

Nyla Murphy also creates other seasonal collectibles, such as witches for Halloween and bunnies for Easter. You can contact her at (248) 684-1040.

COLDWELL BANKER SCHWEITZER REAL ESTATE

For more properties visit our website at: www.cbschweitzer.com

Phone In, Move In...
 CA same-day mortgage decision or we'll pay you \$250*
 To meet your requested closing date or we'll reduce your interest rate by 1/8th of one percent for the life of the loan
 To beat any lender's price, GUARANTEED, or pay you \$250**
1-888-317-2530

South Lyon Office 248-437-4500 • Northville Office 248-347-3050
 Ann Arbor • Birmingham • Clarkston • Bloomfield Hills • Farm. Hills/W. Blmfd. • Grosse Pointe Hill • Grosse Pointe Woods
 Lakes • Livonia • The Macomb Center • Northville • Plymouth • South Lyon • Troy

Michigan's #1 CENTURY 21 Firm!



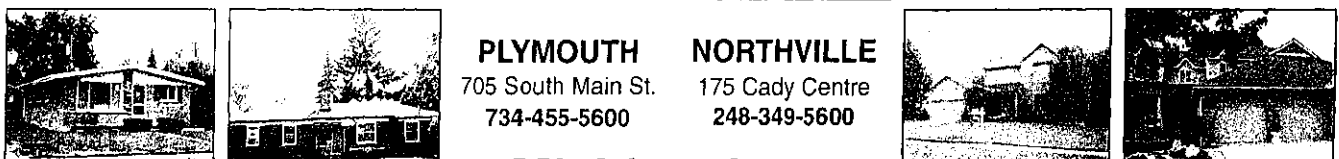
PLYMOUTH - Cape Cod in Plymouth! Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Enjoy your almost one acre of level property! Home has beautiful newer kitchen, walkout basement, some work to be done, but well worth the investment \$285,000 (35ANW) 734-455-5600



GARDEN CITY - Just laid new 2 bedroom, 2 car garage. Newer roof, furnace, copper plumbing, windows, central air, hot water tank, cement, central air conditioning. Newer vinyl siding, new carpet and paint. Near Lower Huron Metro Park. \$189,000 (21RIG) 734-455-5600



LIVONIA - Country living in city! Three bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath with two-level, tree-lined 1.378 acre lot. Ranch on over 1.6 acres in Livonia! Two fireplaces, family room, formal dining room & eat-in kitchen, 2 car garage & Florida room. \$233,900 (130CJH) 734-455-5600



WESTLAND - Waiting for you! Three bedroom, 2 1/2 bath brick ranch. Less than 5 years old. Vinyl windows, hardwood floors. Updated kitchen with appliances & skylight. Great corner lot. Close to elementary school. Basement and 2 car garage. \$135,900 (24CEN) 734-455-5600



Michigan's #1 Century 21 Firm!

PLYMOUTH 705 South Main St. 734-455-5600
NORTHVILLE 175 Cady Centre 248-349-5600



DEARBORN - Beautiful! Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath. Four bedrooms in living room & bedrooms, 1 bath. Full basement. Large kitchen with island, fireplace. Master suite. \$399,800 (04DEC) 734-455-5600



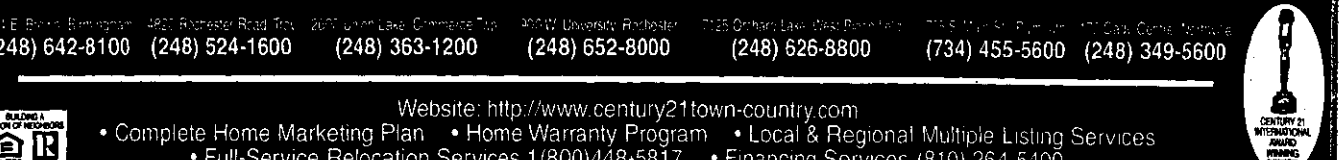
CANTON - Excellent! Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath. Full Colonial on private wooded lot. Circle drive, 2 story foyer, hardwood floors & spiral staircase. Living room with colonial drop ceiling, large kitchen with island, fireplace. Master suite. \$399,800 (04DEC) 734-455-5600



DEARBORN HEIGHTS - Fabulous! Ranch on nearly 1/2 acre! Wooded estate floor kitchen with appliances & ceramic floor. Family dining room, fireplace in living room & wood stove in family room. Jacuzzi hot tub in bath & six lights. Eight car garage. \$339,900 (17EVA) 734-455-5600



DEARBORN - Bright & beautiful! Two bedrooms, 2 bath. Condo on private wooded lot. Circle drive, 2 story foyer, hardwood floors & spiral staircase. Living room with colonial drop ceiling, large kitchen with island, fireplace. Master suite. \$399,800 (04DEC) 734-455-5600



DEARBORN - Charm & value! Three bedroom Bungalow with all the major updates! Newer roofs on garage & home! Newer furnace, central air & landscaping. Central breakers, Pella windows. Finished basement. Family room of kitchen. \$149,900 (35RJR) 734-455-5600

248) 642-8100 (248) 524-1600 (248) 363-1200 (248) 652-8000 (248) 626-8800 (734) 455-5600 (248) 349-5600

Website: <http://www.century21town-country.com>

• Complete Home Marketing Plan • Home Warranty Program • Local & Regional Multiple Listing Services • Full-Service Relocation Services 1(800)448-5817 • Financing Services (810) 264-5400

CREATIVE LIVING

All ads placed FREE on the internet! (up to \$87.00 value)

HOME TOWN www.hometownlife.com

CLASSIFIEDS

To place an ad call one of our local offices
(734)913-6032 (810)227-4436
(517)438-2570 (248)348-3022
(248)437-4133 (248)685-8705
24 Hour Fax (248)437-9460
1-866-886-7653 Toll Free
Visit our Web Site at www.hometownlife.com

- ### FOR SALE
- 3000 Homes
 - 3030 Open Houses
 - 3040 Acre Acres
 - 3050 Birmingham
 - 3060 Brighton
 - 3070 Byron
 - 3080 Canton
 - 3090 Dearborn
 - 3100 Livonia
 - 3110 Dearborn
 - 3120 Dearborn
 - 3130 Dearborn
 - 3140 Farmington Hills
 - 3150 Farmington Hills
 - 3160 Farmington Hills
 - 3170 Farmington Hills
 - 3180 Farmington Hills
 - 3190 Farmington Hills
 - 3200 Farmington Hills
 - 3210 Farmington Hills
 - 3220 Farmington Hills
 - 3230 Farmington Hills
 - 3240 Farmington Hills
 - 3250 Farmington Hills
 - 3260 Farmington Hills
 - 3270 Farmington Hills
 - 3280 Farmington Hills
 - 3290 Farmington Hills
 - 3300 Farmington Hills
 - 3310 Farmington Hills
 - 3320 Farmington Hills
 - 3330 Farmington Hills
 - 3340 Farmington Hills
 - 3350 Farmington Hills
 - 3360 Farmington Hills
 - 3370 Farmington Hills
 - 3380 Farmington Hills
 - 3390 Farmington Hills
 - 3400 Farmington Hills
 - 3410 Farmington Hills
 - 3420 Farmington Hills
 - 3430 Farmington Hills
 - 3440 Farmington Hills
 - 3450 Farmington Hills
 - 3460 Farmington Hills
 - 3470 Farmington Hills
 - 3480 Farmington Hills
 - 3490 Farmington Hills
 - 3500 Farmington Hills

GREEN SHEET Classified

1-866-886-SOLD

REINBART
Selling homes for over 30 years. Member of the National Real Estate Board. 248-348-6430

WOODFIELD LANDING
Grand Blanc Condominiums Located in the Prestigious Woodfield Golf Course Community from the \$160s

- Secluded, heavily wooded setting
- Only 15 minutes north of Clarkston
- Ranch and 1-1/2 story condominiums with 1st floor master bedrooms
- 2-car attached garages
- Convenient 1st floor laundry

810-953-1388
Information Center Open Daily 12-6pm

WESTMINSTER HOMES

ABBEY A BURTON KATZMAN AFFILIATE

810-953-1388
Information Center Open Daily 12-6pm

www.WestminsterAbbeyHomes.com

MILFORD 248-684-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065

COLDWELL BANKER
CALLAN REALTORS
 248-348-6430

DEVELOPMENT OF THE YEAR 2002
NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430

MILFORD 248-648-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065

MILFORD 248-648-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065

NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430
NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430

MILFORD 248-648-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065

MILFORD 248-648-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065
MILFORD 248-648-1065

NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430
NORTHVILLE 248-348-6430

Cassady Place Plymouth
 30 luxury Condominiums conveniently located in the city of Plymouth. Call 734-416-9118

Northville - Pheasant Hills Perfection
 Motivated seller says bring all offers for this lovely custom luxury home with timeless architecture in prestigious Pheasant Hills on gorgeous private lot with woods, overlooking a pond. You will love the windows around the back, 3-seasons Sun Room, & fantastic walkout lower level. New carpet. \$569,900. ML22078907

Northville - Excellent Buy
 Very solid does a home like this come on the market. This Ed Funke built masterpiece is ideally situated on a spectacular .69 acre park-like lot that backs to a pond. Many special features include fabulous finished walkout, huge kitchen with cherry cabinets, master suite with terrace. Originally \$849,900, now \$759,900. ML22085294

Orchards of Lyon
 A Premier Development in Lyon Township
NEW MODELS NOW OPEN!!
 From The \$220's

FREE ADVERTISING?
FREE ITEMS!
 Check out the Absolutely Free column in the Green Sheet

Northville - Lovely 1.5 Wood Acres
 A traditional federalist home for the non-traditionalist. Easily entertain up to 100. Copy up one of the 5 fireplaces. Have a manly's quarters, have an in-law's suite, use 1/4 of the house as an IRS office write-off. Enjoy the outside trees from every window. Luxurious in your 8 person spa in the brick walled, brick floored garden room. Luxury throughout with granite counter tops, antique beveled glass throughout, marble baths, a separate toilet and locker room, 10 ft. ceilings. Two master bedroom suites with living area, fireplaces & laundry for each. 7 bedrooms, 5 1/2 baths, formal living room, formal dining room, informal living room, den, library, office, guest room with brick walls and wood burning stove, dining, hobby room, breakfast room, play room, 18 ft. ceiling in the 1000 sq. ft. great room. \$890 sq. ft. For the unique family that enjoys good living. Asking \$1,475,000...248-349-1380 (8% commission for selling agent/broker)

Paragon 1 of 3 Models
Regent 1 of 3 Models

COLDWELL BANKER SCHWEITZER
 Proudly Presents...
Our Outstanding Achievements Announcement
 Sales Volume for the Month of November Over Four Million

YOUR PIANO WILL MAKE MORE NOISE IN THE GREEN SHEET CLASSIFIEDS.

Baldwin 1 of 3 Models
Tolman 1 of 3 Models
Stonebrooke
 We Co-Op With Realtors
 (248) 446-2061

Sales Volume of One Million or more in the Month of November
Sales Volume of \$500,000 or more in the Month of November
Everything we touch...turns to Sold!

GREEN SHEET Classifieds
 To place an ad, call 1-866-886-SOLD or email us at: www.greensheetclassifieds.com

NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430

NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430

WIXOM 248-348-6430
WALLED LAKE 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430

NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430

NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430

WALLED LAKE 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430

NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430

NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430
NOVI 248-348-6430

WALLED LAKE 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430

First Financial Mortgage Corporation
 • New Construction Homes
 • 24 Hour Approvals
 • Purchases and Refinances
 • Specialized Lender
 • Area Resident

SOUTH LYON 248-437-3800
SOUTH LYON 248-437-3800
SOUTH LYON 248-437-3800

WALLED LAKE 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430

Keller Williams Realty
 Leta & Brandon Kekich
 The Kekich Team Has Moved!!
 To better serve their clients and customers, Leta and Brandon Kekich, the area's most successful 'mom and son' real estate team, have joined Keller Williams Realty, the nation's fastest growing real estate firm. For continued excellence with all of your real estate needs, call Leta or Brandon at their new office today!

SOUTH LYON 248-437-3800
SOUTH LYON 248-437-3800
SOUTH LYON 248-437-3800

WALLED LAKE 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430

John Goodman
 "The Proven Choice"
 Coldwell Banker Schweitzer
 Top 9 Affiliate Sales Agents in USA!
 (248) 347-3050 x254
 (248) 908-2799 Pager

SOUTH LYON 248-437-3800
SOUTH LYON 248-437-3800
SOUTH LYON 248-437-3800

WALLED LAKE 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430

John Goodman
 "The Proven Choice"
 Coldwell Banker Schweitzer
 Top 9 Affiliate Sales Agents in USA!
 (248) 347-3050 x254
 (248) 908-2799 Pager

Quality Homes
IN NOVI
 Own this HOME FOR ONLY \$32,800
 New model, 1170 sq. ft. 2 BR, 2 BA, separate shower and deluxe GE appliances, washer/dryer, separate utility room, CA. \$34,500

WALLED LAKE 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430

Stonebrooke
 We Co-Op With Realtors
 (248) 446-2061
 Email us at: www.stonebrookeonline.com
 10 Orchards Lane • Lyon Township
 Hours: 12 - 5

Thinking of changing careers or offices?
 Why not join the Number One Coldwell Banker Schweitzer team in Michigan and the Midwest Region. Call Trisha Knudsen or Victor Salerno for an outstanding career opportunity. (248) 347-3050

GREEN SHEET Classifieds
 To place an ad, call 1-866-886-SOLD or email us at: www.greensheetclassifieds.com

Quality Homes
IN NOVI
 Own this HOME FOR ONLY \$32,800
 New model, 1170 sq. ft. 2 BR, 2 BA, separate shower and deluxe GE appliances, washer/dryer, separate utility room, CA. \$34,500

Quality Homes
IN NOVI
 Own this HOME FOR ONLY \$32,800
 New model, 1170 sq. ft. 2 BR, 2 BA, separate shower and deluxe GE appliances, washer/dryer, separate utility room, CA. \$34,500

WALLED LAKE 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430
GREEN OAK TWP. 248-348-6430

Gentry Real Estate, Inc.
 (248) 875-7500
 BRIAN A. PICKL (248) 875-7500

JUST REDUCED \$399,900
 Cathedral ceiling and picture windows in great room offer fantastic view of water. Anderson windows and oak trim throughout. This custom built contemporary home. Finished walkout provides easy access to sparkling yard leading down to sandy beach and includes a workout room. Best lot & dock included. Late morning is 50%. House open Sunday December 15th 10-4pm. Agents and buyers welcome

AWNRIDGE CONDOMINIUMS
 IN BEAUTIFUL HARTLAND MICHIGAN
 One Unit Left - Close Out Sale
 Lowest interest rates in 40 years in a buyers market, adds up to significant savings together with a builder who is anxious to close out his inventory. Condominiums overlook dense wooded areas complete turn key packages, and a maintenance free lifestyle is imperative. Affordable maintenance fees that will stay that way! Immediate occupancy. We accept contingent offers. Open Daily from 10am to 5pm.
 Call Robert Hall
 810-577-3132

HOLIDAY SAVINGS!
NEW MODEL BLOWOUT!
 Compare! Lowest Prices on New Skyline Homes!
FREE Site Rent for 2 Years \$399/mo. 3rd Year \$1.00/mo. (See restrictions for details and include all applicable taxes, fees, and charges.)
Novi Meadows
 South Lyon Schools, quiet country setting, has all modern amenities, finished walkout, basketball court, pool, clubhouse, all ready for immediate occupancy.
 Call John at (248) 344-1988

QUALITY HOMES
at ARBOR MEADOWS
 Corner of Michigan Ave. & Carpenter Rd.
 Call Annette (734) 572-1445

HOLIDAY SAVINGS IN WIXOM!
NEW MODEL BLOWOUT! Compare! Lowest Prices on New Skyline Homes!
FREE Site Rent for 2 Years \$249/mo. 3rd Year \$1.00/mo. (See restrictions for details and include all applicable taxes, fees, and charges.)
Commerce Meadows
 On Wixom Rd. 4 miles north of I-96
 Huron Valley Schools, sparkling pool, luxurious clubhouse, basketball & volleyball courts, picnic area.
 Call Kathy at (248) 684-6796
OPEN 7 DAYS!
Stratford Villa
 On Wixom Rd. 3.75 miles north of I-96
 Huron Valley Schools, heated pool, fun playgrounds, basketball court, fishing lake, minutes from Proud Lake.
 Call Krista at (248) 685-9068

Quality Homes
IN NOVI
 Own this HOME FOR ONLY \$32,800
 New model, 1170 sq. ft. 2 BR, 2 BA, separate shower and deluxe GE appliances, washer/dryer, separate utility room, CA. \$34,500

CALL ABOUT OUR FREE RENT Grand Plaza Apartments

1 & 2 Bedroom Apartment Homes starting at \$535 per month

- Pool • Clubhouse
- Heat, water & hot water included
- Convenient to I-95 & M-59

Its Plus

325 S. Highlander Way
Howell
(517) 546-7773

HOURS: MON-FRI 9-5

Cordoba Apartments

UP TO \$480 FREE RENT FOR NEW MOVE-INS

Attractive 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments Conveniently Located in Farmington Hills

- Swimming Pool
- Central Air
- Dishwashers
- Attractive Wooded Setting
- Carpets Available
- Pets Welcome

OPEN MON-FRI 9-5 SAT 10-5 SUN 12-5
(248) 476-1240 \$585

Let Us Fax or Email You Our Brochure

Golden Gate Apartments

FROM \$480 1 MONTH FREE RENT FOR NEW MOVE-INS ON 12-MONTH LEASE

REDUCED SECURITY DEPOSIT WITH GOOD CREDIT

Mon-Fri 9-6 Sat 10-5 Sun 11-5
248-624-1388

Rental Office at Bristol Square Apartments on Beck Road just North of Police Trail

BRIGHTON - 1850 sq. ft. modern townhome. Great location. Call for details. (313) 227-4592

BRIGHTON - Nice 3 bedroom townhome. Great location. Call for details. (810) 644-2220

BRIGHTON - 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Great location. Call for details. (810) 227-4592

BRIGHTON - 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Great location. Call for details. (810) 227-4592

BRIGHTON - 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Great location. Call for details. (810) 227-4592

BRIGHTON - 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Great location. Call for details. (810) 227-4592

Windermere Apartments

1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments Featuring:

- Central Air Conditioning
- Convenient To Shopping And Expressways
- Windows Treatments
- Dishwashers
- 1 1/2 Baths Available
- Pets Welcome

Reduced Security Deposit With Good Credit

UP TO 2 MONTHS FREE RENT for new move-ins on select apartments

OPEN MON-FRI 9-5 SAT 10-5 SUN 12-5
(248) 471-3625

Let Us Fax or Email You Our Brochure

Let us pay your heating bills this winter...

Prentiss Estates Apartments

- Washer & dryer connections
- 1 1/2 baths in every unit
- Private balconies with patio
- Small pets welcome
- Free heat and hot water
- December Rent Free

(517) 546-8200

Affordable Condos Closeout Sale

Singles, Rentals, Investors - Relieved Welcome!

HARTLAND MANOR

- 1 Bedroom Condos with Extras Area (Computer Room, Den, etc.)
- 0 Down Payment Options
- You Choose Color of Carpet, Curtains, Central AC, Freestanding Landscaping

Call for details. (810) 644-2220

HARTLAND

- 1 Bedroom
- Very clean
- Central Air
- All Appliances

Excellent, Quiet Location

Easy Terms

\$665/mo. plus security deposit
(810) 632-5335

HILLSIDE APARTMENTS

ATTRACTIVE ONE & TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS

FROM \$615

UP TO \$400 FREE RENT FOR NEW MOVE-INS

- LANDING - PAID HEAT
- Washer & Dryer in Every Apartment
- Windows Treatments
- Cathedral Ceilings Available
- Swimming Pool and Clubhouse
- Pets Welcome

Mon-Fri 9-6 Sat 10-5
(248) 624-6480

Let Us Fax or Email You Our Brochure

Don't Pay Rent Until January!

ABANDONED APARTMENTS

- Washer & Dryer Connections
- Huge Walk-in Closets
- Private Balconies, Patios
- Small Pets Welcome
- \$399 Security Deposit

Call Today!
517-546-5900

Stone Ridge Apartments

"On the Water"

1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments from \$490

1 MONTH FREE RENT FOR NEW MOVE-INS ON 12-MONTH LEASE!

REDUCED SECURITY DEPOSIT WITH GOOD CREDIT

(248) 624-9445

Open Mon-Fri 9-6 Saturday 10-5 Sunday 11-4

DO IT ALL \$25,900!

Hunt, fish and snowmobile from this wooded acreage near State and beautiful lakes. Call for details. (810) 227-4592

WATERFRONT FARM!

100+ acres, 100+ ft. of water frontage. Call for details. (810) 227-4592

BRIGHTON - 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Call for details. (810) 227-4592

Glen's New Luxurious Apartment Homes

Experience the Good Life!

- Whirlpool
- Washer & Gas Dryer
- 2 Full Baths
- Full Service Club House
- Vanished Ceilings
- Ceiling Fans
- Carpets Available
- Lighted Walks
- Pool
- Fitness Center
- Tennis Court
- Private Entrances

Immediate Occupancy!
1 & 2 bedrooms
(517) 552-7868

Fall Back To Affordable Rent

Pine Hill APARTMENTS

307 Holly Drive • Howell
pinehill@fourmidable.com

517-546-7660

TTY: 800-989-1833

Reduce Your Rent! Improve Your Lifestyle!

One Month FREE RENT On One Bedroom Apartments

Two Months FREE RENT On Two Bedroom Apartments

See our website for details. www.fourmidable.com

GREEN SHEET CLASSIFIEDS

1-866-886-SOLD

Apartment - Unfurnished

Apartment - Unfurnished

Apartment - Unfurnished

WINTER SAVINGS!

BURKHART RIDGE

Livingston County's Newest & Most Prestigious Land Lease Community

Lot Rent of \$99 for the 1st Year* & Only \$199 the 2nd Year* PLUS "Free" Shed & Central Air. CALL TODAY!

Phase III - Ready for occupancy! 35 Platinum sites for home plus garage.

Comfort Living Homes, LLC

(517) 552-2300 Howell Twp.

PORTSMOUTH APARTMENTS

1 MONTH FREE RENT for new move-ins on 12-month lease

REDUCED SECURITY DEPOSIT WITH GOOD CREDIT

HEAT INCLUDED

1 & 2 BEDROOM LAKEFRONT APARTMENTS

FROM \$615

CENTRAL AIR

WASHER AND DRYER

CATHEDRAL CEILINGS

PETS WELCOME

MON-FRI 9-6 SAT 10-5 SUN 12-5
(248) 669-5490

Springs APARTMENTS

1 & 2 BEDROOMS

Thru-unit design

Window treatments

Central air

Gas range

Full-size washer & dryer

Private patio or balcony

Convenient to shopping & recreation

Open bar kitchens

Pets welcome

REDUCED SECURITY DEPOSIT WITH GOOD CREDIT

from \$540 Heat Included

Mon-Fri 9-6 Sat 10-5 Sun 12-5
248-669-5566

The Village APARTMENTS

ENJOYABLE LIVING YOU CAN AFFORD!

1 & 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS

FROM \$440 HEAT INCLUDED

UP TO \$600 FREE RENT FOR NEW MOVE-INS ON 12-MONTH LEASE

REDUCED SECURITY DEPOSIT WITH GOOD CREDIT

Swimming Pool

Air Conditioning

Easy Access to I-96, I-275, I-696, and US-23

Pets Welcome

(248) 624-6464

NO RENT UNTIL JANUARY 2003!

NOVI Brand New Condo For Rent

3 bedroom with 1st floor master, 2-car garage attached garage. Full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

WESTLAND AFFORDABLE LUXURY \$199 Sec. Dep. Limited Time Special FREE RENT

For information call 248-343-2034

NOVI Brand New Condo For Rent

3 bedroom with 1st floor master, 2-car garage attached garage. Full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

NOVI Brand New Condo For Rent

3 bedroom with 1st floor master, 2-car garage attached garage. Full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

WESTLAND AFFORDABLE LUXURY \$199 Sec. Dep. Limited Time Special FREE RENT

For information call 248-343-2034

NOVI Brand New Condo For Rent

3 bedroom with 1st floor master, 2-car garage attached garage. Full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

WEST BLOOMFIELD

Condo-Style Apartment

2 1/2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car garage, full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

NOVI Brand New Condo For Rent

3 bedroom with 1st floor master, 2-car garage attached garage. Full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

WEST BLOOMFIELD

Condo-Style Apartment

2 1/2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car garage, full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

NOVI Brand New Condo For Rent

3 bedroom with 1st floor master, 2-car garage attached garage. Full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

WEST BLOOMFIELD

Condo-Style Apartment

2 1/2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car garage, full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

NOVI Brand New Condo For Rent

3 bedroom with 1st floor master, 2-car garage attached garage. Full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

WEST BLOOMFIELD

Condo-Style Apartment

2 1/2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car garage, full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

NOVI Brand New Condo For Rent

3 bedroom with 1st floor master, 2-car garage attached garage. Full unfinished basement. \$1895 per month. For information call 248-343-2034

ROSE TOWNSHIP

2 bedroom \$695 mo. with option to buy

Gentry Real Estate

(248) 887-7500

WESTLAND

3 bedroom \$895/mo. Rent or rent to own. Lease day time number: 734-713-9020

WHITE LAKE

2 bedroom \$895 mo. with option to buy

Gentry Real Estate

(248) 887-7500

WESTLAND

3 bedroom \$895/mo. Rent or rent to own. Lease day time number: 734-713-9020

WHITE LAKE

2 bedroom \$895 mo. with option to buy

Gentry Real Estate

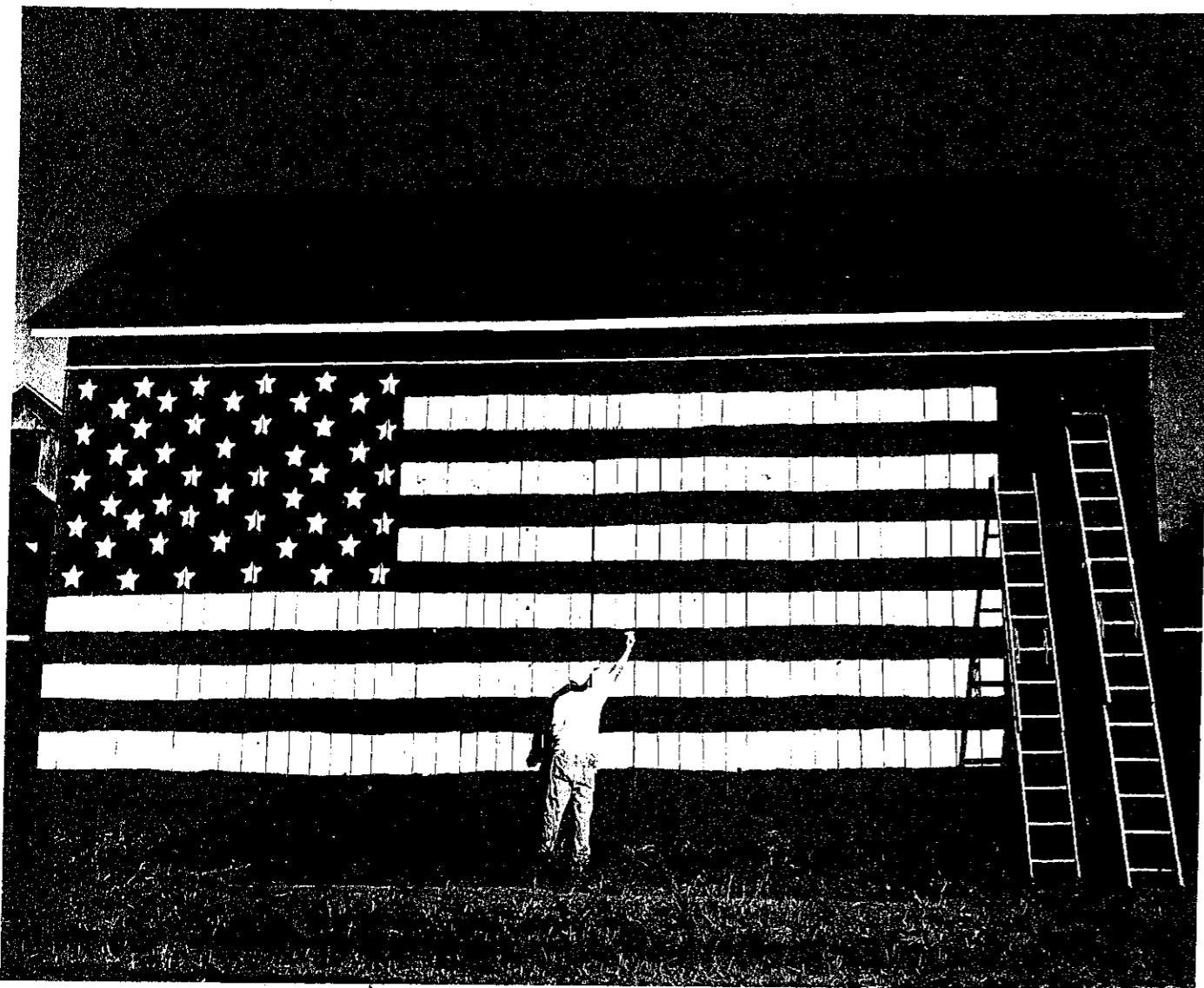
(248) 887-7500

Move Out Of The House

The Grandfather clock is too big for the room. What do you do? You place an ad in the Green Sheet Classifieds and find Grandfather a new home. For money of course. Call 1-866-886-SOLD and place your ad, because the time is right.

GREEN SHEET Classified

1-866-886-SOLD
www.greensheetclassifieds.com



"FOR TOO LONG OUR CULTURE HAS SAID, 'IF IT FEELS GOOD, DO IT.' NOW, WE WANT TO BE A NATION THAT SERVES GOALS LARGER THAN SELF. WE HAVE BEEN OFFERED A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY. WE MUST NOT LET THIS MOMENT PASS. MY CALL IS FOR EVERY AMERICAN TO COMMIT TO THE SERVICE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS AND YOUR NATION. BY DOING THIS, WE SUSTAIN AND EXTEND THE BEST THAT HAS EMERGED IN AMERICA."

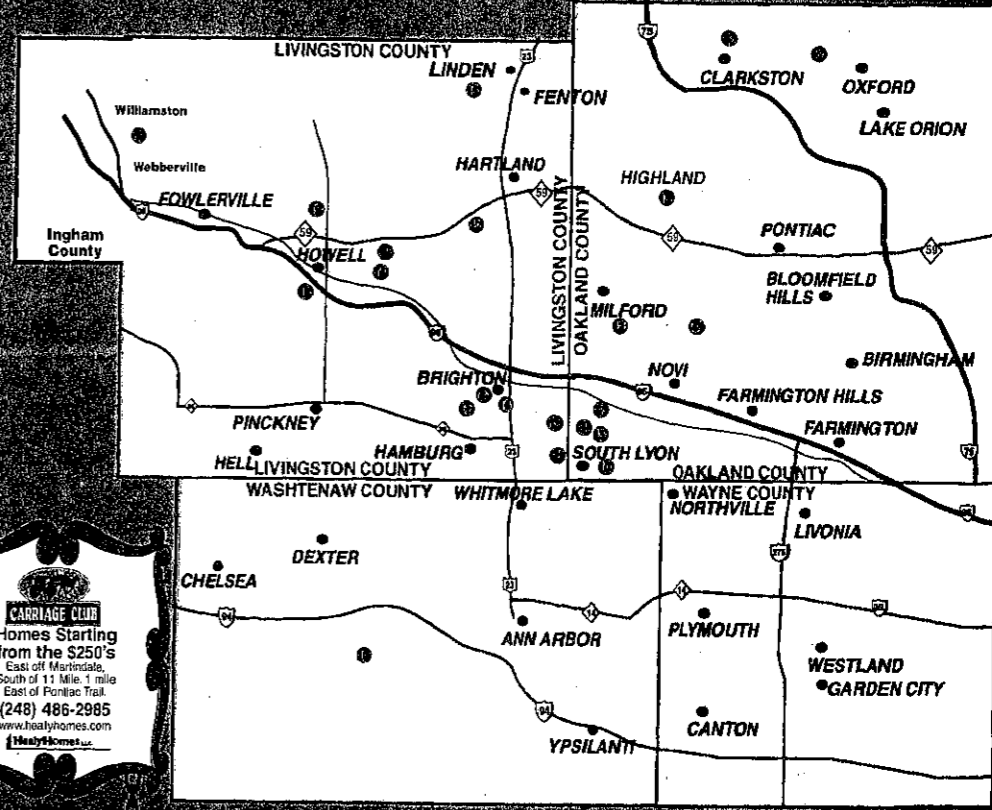
★ ★ ★ EVERYONE CAN DO SOMETHING. ★ ★ ★

Answer the President's Call to Service. When you volunteer to help your neighbors, you help your nation. Everyone can do something. To learn more, visit USAFREEDOMCORPS.GOV or call 1-877-USACORPS.



Where's Your New Home for the Holidays?

HOMETOWN



<p>1</p> <p>Custom Homes Priced from \$260,000 South of 10 Mile between Roslindale & Dithora (248) 486-2930 Tony Van Oyen Development, LLC</p>	<p>2</p> <p>SOUTH LYON Trotters Pointe Village Estate Homes from the \$260's • Side entry garage, available on select homesites. • Extra utility hook-up basement included for a limited time. • Private, serene views now available On the Northwest corner of Pontiac Trail & 11 Mile Rd. (248) 486-4979 www.healthyhomes.com</p>	<p>3</p> <p>CARRIAGE CLUB Homes Starting from the \$250's East of Mainstone, South of 11 Mile, 1 mile East of Pontiac Trail (248) 486-2985 www.healthyhomes.com</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Autumn Creek White Lk. Top, Welled Lake Schools Near lakes & rec. areas. Large lots w/icky utilities, many wooded. William Lk. Rd. south of Elizabeth Lk. Rd. www.diamonddevelopment.com Accepting Reservations Phase II (248) 698-8280</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Stonebrooke Orchards of Lyon (248) 446-2061 7 Different Models Starting at \$250,000</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Exclusive Custom Estates 1+ acre wooded homesites Home Pkgs. from \$750,000 Homesites from \$150,000 Located North of Clarkston off Hofmann Rd. BRIDGE VALLEY (248) 620-6603</p>	<p>7</p> <p>GRAND MEADOWS of Williamston charming new build neighborhood. From the mid \$160's West Grand River Ave. 2 miles west of town. Design-Decorated Model Now Open Information Center (313) 685-9757 Presented By: Sharp Homes, Inc. 610 606-1220</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Brighton Lake Village Single Family Homes from 240's on Brighton Lake Road 1 Mile West of Grand River ADVANCE CRAFT HOME BUILDERS (810) 229-2752</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Stonebrooke Pineridge 248-336-2915 Duplexes and Single Family Homes Starting in the low \$200,000 on a spectacular site!</p>	<p>10</p> <p>FROM Mid \$200's On 8 Mile 1/8 mile east of Pontiac Trail in Lyon Twp. (248) 486-4663</p>	<p>11</p> <p>RESORT LIVING at Villas of Oak Pointe from the low \$500's Brighton Rd. 2 miles west of Downtown Brighton Delaunay (810) 220-4800</p>	<p>12</p> <p>WILDWOOD OF WIXOM Single Family Homes from the low \$200's FROM \$249,900 (248) 624-4141</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Cobblestone LUXURY COUNTRY ESTATE HOMES Starting at \$378,990 N. of M-56, between Hickory Ridge & Milford Road 248-888-7768 MasterCraft Lakeland Home, Inc.</p>			
<p>14</p> <p>Woodland Springs Hughes Rd., N. of Grand River Access from Lake Channing & Public Access Homes from the Mid \$200's Model Grand Opening (517) 545-1300 & (517) 545-7580 ivanhoehomes.com bingham-homes.com</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Home Ridge Still optimized single family homesites from \$195's Open Sunday 12-5 and by appointment. 02/21/03 to 02/27/03. Not an Silver Lake home. See past magazine ad. Harold Development, Inc. 810-735-1121 www.harolddevelopment.com</p>	<p>16</p> <p>ARBOR MEADOWS Open Sat. 1-4 & Sun. 1-4 1/2 Mile W. of US-23 exit 55 to Winans Lk Rd Homes from \$300's Adjacent from Metro Park Call Lillian Montallo Preview Properties.com (810) 220-1400</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Hometown Village of Waterstone from the low \$200's Seymour Lake Rd., west of Lapeer Rd., west of Oxford. Delaunay (248) 969-3200</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Hometown Village of Marion Neighborhood pool, fitness center, sidewalks & park. Howell Schools 1.5 miles S. of 196 W. of D-19 from the low 200's to \$300's Delaunay (517) 540-1300</p>			
<p>19</p> <p>Cherry Hill Development Starting from \$120,000 Located on Byron Rd. 1/4 mile N. of M-59 Adjacent to Town Commons Call for more details 517-540-9772</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Hometown Village of Ann Arbor from the low \$200's Liberty/Scio Ridge Rd. Delaunay (734) 302-1000</p>	<p>21</p> <p>For More Information Call Lori at: 517-548-7398</p>	<p>22</p> <p>CENTEX HOMES Hardwood Autumn Woods Single Family Homes from the \$220's • Hardwood Schools • Wooded and cul-de-sac homesites (810) 633-3055 On Highland Rd. (M59) West of US 23 www.centexhomes.com</p>	<p>23</p> <p>HITECH BUILDING 1 acre lots, homes starting from \$240's. Showings By Appointment Please call 248-417-8594 or 248-770-2298 57400 Spaulding Court South of 12 mile, West of Milford Rd.</p>			

Why waste time?
hometownlife.com

Log onto
our Web site
hometownlife.com
to find the perfect home.

Inventory of New Homes
Also Seen with
Virtual Tour

HOMETOWN

10 Plus HomeTown

Thursday, December 12, 2002

A supplement to
Milford Times • Northville Record • Novi News • South Lyon Herald

Here's the rub

Chairs, cushions and gadgets are designed for use at home, where relaxation comes naturally

By Olivia Clarke
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

All Michael Martinez needed to make his life a little less stressful was the comfort of a chair. But we're not talking about just any old chair. The one Martinez got is an electric-powered massage recliner.

After a tough day at work, he spends about a half-hour sitting in it while the chair goes to work on his lower back and neck, calves and feet. Martinez's \$1,500 black vinyl recliner silently massages any of those parts of the body — depending on what he wants.

In an age when all most people want to do is relax and unwind from the stresses of everyday life, electric-powered back, foot and body massagers are becoming must-haves.

Martinez, of Tucson, Ariz., used to get a massage once a month, but now he plans to see a massage therapist only every three to six months. In cash terms, that means he's saving \$80 per month on the massages — an expense that also includes tips.

And in relaxation terms, it means he's still getting much of the care he needs but in the comfort of his own home.

"It's awesome," says the 24-year-old assistant manager at The Sharper Image about his new chair. "It's easier to unwind after a day's work."

Massage gadgets can be bought for the entire body or specifically for feet, back, shoulders or calves. Some of the products use heat; others work muscles and tissues with circular motions.

The Sharper Image (www.sharperimage.com) offers robotic and vibrating chairs ranging from \$1,499 to \$2,995. Other offerings include hand-held power massage gadgets from \$19.95 to \$250. Brookstone (www.brookstone.com) sells powered massage gadgets ranging from \$39 to \$200 and chairs and beds ranging from \$1,300 to \$3,195.

"They're very popular," says Mollie Madrigal, spokeswoman for The Sharper Image. "Everyone is looking for ways to make themselves comfortable at home."

Dana Dixon, 36, owner of a personal training company in Tucson, tests out massage chairs and massage cushions regularly when he visits stores and plans to purchase a massage chair in the near future. He uses the massagers on his lower back. He suggests that people research different types of massage gadgets for the one that best suits them. Pay the extra bucks for a quality massager, he says.

"They are very useful devices," Dixon says. "Some work well in eliminating stress. I think they're becoming very popular, with the amount of stress people are going through."

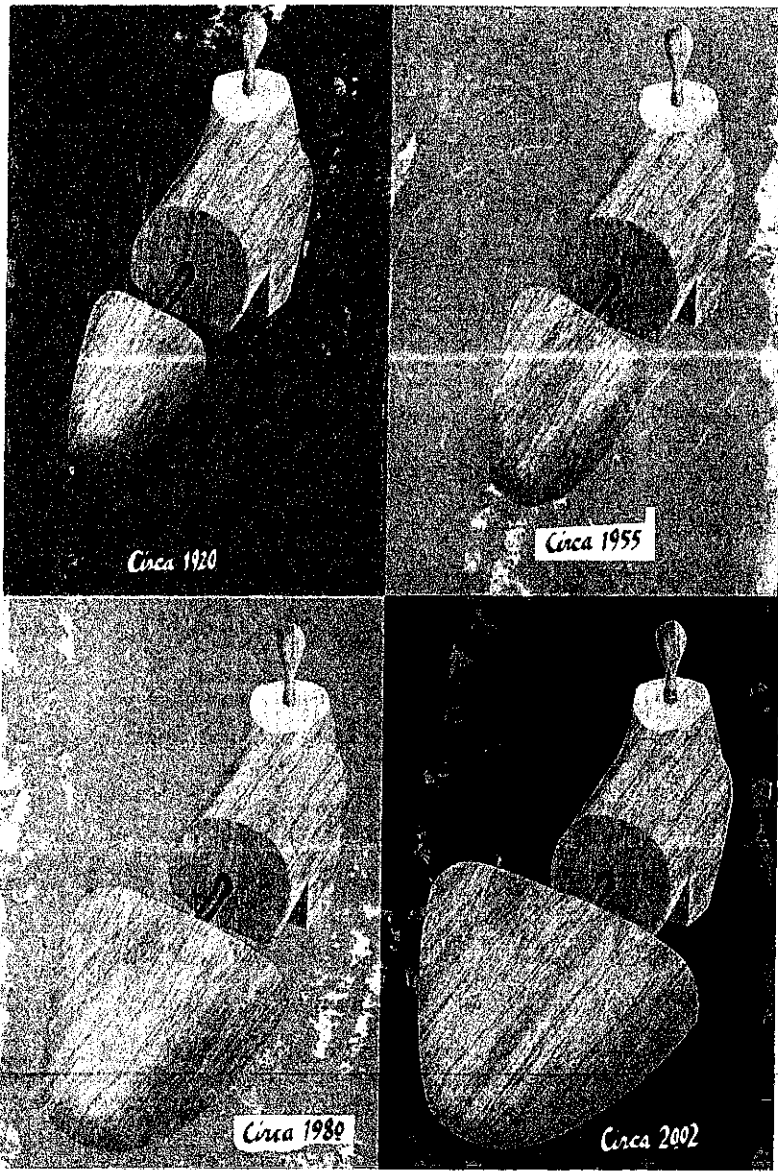
Some people buy these at-home products because they don't feel comfortable having a stranger massage them, says Kathy Rinn, owner of The Right Touch Massage Therapy in Tucson. She plans to give her father a massager for that very reason, she says.

For first-timers, Target or Kmart Super Stores may be the answer. They offer less expensive, hand-held, chair cushions and mobile massagers ranging from \$14.99 to \$79.99.

But Merle Margelofsky, co-owner of Relax The Back Stores in Tucson, warns that you get what you pay for. The cheaper the massager, the less impressive the results, he says.

His stores don't sell some of the more expensive massagers because, Margelofsky says, they don't exercise the tissues enough.

Shelene Taylor, owner of Changes Massage Centre in Tucson, says the products are only a temporary fix between massage appointments. "Nothing reaches the problem areas like a pair of hands," Taylor says.



Stacy Innerst/Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The shoe that fits

Improved nutrition has made feet larger, and shoes that fit harder to find

By Mackenzie Carpenter
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Peggy Burkett felt like Cinderella's stepsister every time she walked into a department store looking for shoes.

"I'd see these pumps that were so cute, so perfect, and then I could barely squeeze myself into them," recalled the 54-year-old Monroeville, Pa., resident who wears a size 8-1/2, double wide shoe. "It happened all the time and it was so frustrating. But I guess you couldn't expect a store like that to have a double wide shoe size, could you?"

Probably not. Walk into any department store today, or any one of the mainstream shoe outlets found in shopping malls, and unless you wear 6 to 10 medium, you can pretty much forget finding a new, fashionable, up-to-date shoe in your size.

Even though the average American shoe size has increased dramatically in the past 100 years, larger, wider sizes in the trendiest styles are still extremely difficult to find.

And that means women are probably cramming themselves into shoes that don't fit them — and paying the price in the long run with poor foot health: bunions, hammer toes, joint inflammation, even nerve damage.

Who's to blame? Dr. William Rossi, a Massachusetts podiatrist and historian who worked as a consultant to the shoe industry for many years, points to his old employer as the culprit.

"The shoe industry gets away with murder — foot murder — and it has been for generations," he said. "People are getting taller and heavier, as they have for generation after generation, and their feet are getting larger in proportion to their bodies."

But the shoe industry hasn't caught up with that fact, Rossi said. "They will tell you that about 75 percent of their sales are in the medium group, between size 6 and 9-1/2, when in fact, they have no real data to show that the majority of people actually wear those

sizes. If you don't stock the larger or wider sizes to begin with, you don't sell more of them. And people will buy what's available."

"Big companies are interested in mass producing," said Barbara Thornton, a Harvard MBA who started her own online shoe company, www.designershoe.com, for women with larger feet. "They want to hit the median market, where shoe turnover is going to be fastest, and they say the size 8 mediums are the ones that will turn over very quickly."

MEASURING YOUR FEET

Width designations for men's and women's shoes sold in the United States generally fall into these categories:

Size	Men	Women
AA		Narrow
A		
B	Narrow	Medium
C		
D	Medium	Wide
E		
EE	Wide	Extra
Wide		
EEEE		
EEEE	Extra Wide	

The familiar Brannock device is the standard for measuring a foot's width and length. However, you need more than a simple width measurement to properly fit shoes:

- Trace the outline of your feet while standing and wearing socks you normally wear with shoes.
- Measure the distance from the tip of your longest toe to your heel.
- Measure the distance at the widest part (the ball) of your foot. Many shoe manufacturers also recommend, for best fit, buying shoes at the end of the day, when your foot is slightly larger from the day's activity. It's worth remembering, too, that feet will get bigger with age and weight gain.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In 1900, the average male shoe size was between 6 1/2 and 7, according to Dr. William Rossi, author of "The Professional Shoe Fitting Manual." Today it's about 9 1/2. The average woman's size has risen from 4 1/2 in 1900 to nearly 9 today.
- Immigrants were small in stature and had correspondingly small feet. As soon as their children were born and benefited from better nutrition and health care, their feet started getting larger.

Sources: [Boottalk.com](http://boottalk.com), Brannock.com, Dr. William Rossi

A brittle topic

Osteoporosis has long been a focal point for women, but research shows that the bone disease is often overlooked in men.

By Susan Aschoff
ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

The blueprint for building strong bones may be one construction project in which the women have it all over the men.

A recent study found that men and their physicians too often overlook the potential for men, like women, to suffer from a loss of bone density as they age. The risk? Debilitating fractures and even death.

"We know so much less about male osteoporosis than about (the condition) in women," says Dr. Joanne Valeriano-Marcel, an associate professor at the University of South Florida School of Medicine who has examined the effectiveness of treatments and education for dealing with loss of bone density.

Research published recently in the Archives of Internal Medicine found that even men who had suffered fractures were rarely referred for a bone density test. Yet by age 65, men lose bone mass as fast as women. By 75, one-third of men have osteoporosis.

Of the estimated 10 million Americans afflicted with osteoporosis, 2 million are men, said the study's lead author, Gary Kiebzak of the Center for Orthopaedic Research and Education at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in Houston.

Men's lack of awareness puts some of them at risk for the same debilitating bone breaks suffered by women, who for years have been warned about osteoporosis and advised to take preventive measures, Kiebzak says.

Men fare better than women in maintaining bone density as they age because of differences in lifestyle and physiology, scientists believe. Men typically have larger frames, with more muscle and bone mass. And men do not go through the drastic hormonal changes women experience, particularly menopause's plunge in estrogen, which accelerates bone loss.

But neither gender escapes the body's script for aging. An individual deposits more bone mass than he or she loses through the mid 30s. Then bones begin to gradually lose density. Excessive loss is called osteoporosis.

Osteoporosis typically doesn't announce its presence until a wrist breaks in a minor mishap or back pain leads to discovery of compression fractures in the spine. Many cases are diagnosed after a hip is fractured.

No one knows for certain why some people's bones become dangerously fragile. Thin white women are particularly susceptible. A 50-year-old white female has a 14 percent chance that she will suffer a hip fracture in her lifetime. A white male has a 5 to 6 percent chance. The odds for a black male are 3 percent.

"We really don't know what to tell men. We're still studying the correlation between (bone) density and breaks and at what level a man would be at risk," Valeriano-Marcel says.

The disease's consequences can be deadly. Although men are less likely to fracture a hip, they're at much higher risk than women of dying if it happens, Valeriano-Marcel says. She attributes the higher incidence to poorer health overall. Among all elderly nationally, nearly one-third of those who suffer a hip fracture are discharged to nursing homes within a year, the National Institutes of Health says. One in five dies as their health deteriorates.

The condition can be hereditary, a side effect of other diseases or their treatments, such as radiation for cancer, or the result of unhealthy lifestyles, from inactivity to lack of calcium. "What I see in men is alcohol (abuse) as a major factor," Valeriano-Marcel says.

Physicians recommend screening for osteoporosis if several risk factors are present. A test measures a patient's bone density and compares it with the normal range for his or her age.

Osteoporosis is treated with bone-building drugs such as Fosamax and Actonel, approved for men and women by the Food and Drug Administration.

Sources: American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons; New York Times; National Osteoporosis Society; Mayo Clinic

A WOMAN'S PLACE IS WITH A HAMMER

With the right tools, anyone can do simple home repairs

By Ann Weber
TOLEDO BLADE

IF handy-woman extraordinaire Nancy Lee is correct, one doesn't have to be mechanically inclined to be successful in the arena of home repair and maintenance.

"Probably 75 percent of it is common sense. I really believe that," said Lee, 54, of West Toledo, Ohio, whose accomplishments include installing windows, hanging drywall and replacing faucets.

Add an assortment of basic tools to that common sense and you're ready to conquer the day-to-day challenges of keeping a home running: tightening screws and hinges, replacing door pulls or knobs, hanging pictures, maybe even putting up a chair rail in the dining room or installing a new fill valve in the toilet. Home centers and hardware stores are loaded with affordable choices, many of them especially user-friendly for women.

Finally, it also helps to have the confidence to give it a go by yourself — and a directory of professionals to call in just in case something goes horribly wrong.

"I'm just an average person who tries stuff," Lee said modestly. "If I attempt it and the project doesn't turn out right, I'm no farther ahead or behind than I was before."

And, she added smugly, "No matter how much you think you might have botched the job, there's always a way it can be fixed."

Ed Rodriguez, manager of the hardware department at Home Depot in Toledo, said, "Most people don't know what they can do until they try. Our job is to give them confidence to do it themselves. The nicest thing is when they come back and say, 'That was so easy.'"

Rodriguez recommended that a good starter toolbox should include:

- A tape measure, 12 feet to 16 feet in length. Cost: around \$6.

- A hammer, probably a 10-ounce or 16-ounce model if you don't have a lot of muscle to throw behind it. "Whatever feels good to you," Rodriguez suggested. "They basically all do the same thing. Some of them just last longer." Cost: starting around \$5 or \$6 for a lighter-weight option with wood handle and steel head.

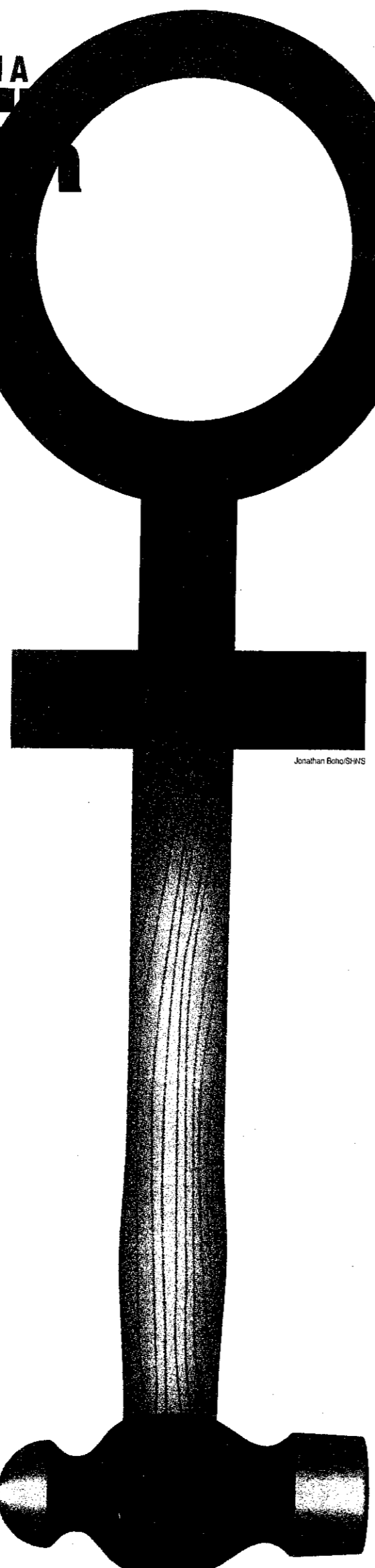
- A level. "Most people wouldn't even think of this," Rodriguez said. It comes in handy when you're hanging pictures or shelves — anything that needs to be level or straight. Just set it on top or alongside the item you're hanging and adjust until the bubble in the little tube rests between the two lines. Levels run up to 72 inches in length; the one Rodriguez recommends is a 9-inch "torpedo" level. Cost: About \$3.

- Pliers. Cost: \$4 for a pair of 6-inch slip joint pliers.
- Screwdrivers. Get at least one Phillips head and one flathead. Cost for a decent two-piece set: less than \$2. An eight-piece set with the two styles in assorted sizes is about \$5. A rechargeable cordless screwdriver can be had for about \$25; a combination cordless screwdriver and drill, starting at about \$25, offers the added capability of making holes for jobs like putting up mini-blinds.

- A simple cross-cut saw, for minor trims indoors and out. "You don't know you need it until you need it," Rodriguez observed. "It's just nice to have." Cost: about \$8 for a 15-inch model.

- Safety glasses. Cost: about \$5.
- An adjustable wrench, used to tighten or loosen nuts and bolts. Cost: about \$11 for a 6-inch size.

- A toolbox. Cost: about \$8 for a 19-inch, orange plastic box with metal latches and a lift-out tray; about \$5 for a 16-inch, yellow plastic model with lift-out tray and small organizer compartments molded into the lid.



Jonathan Bono/SHWIS

Husband and wife team up in workshop

By Kathy Barberich
FRESNO BEE

Leo and Jeanie Bradshaw are the ultimate do-it-yourself duo. They can take a piece of cherry wood and turn it into a library table. They can turn a roadside discard into a beautiful easy chair, breathe life into a hand-me-down kitchen cupboard, make their own sofa and love seat, bed and chests of drawers, mirrors and lamps, plus kitchen cabinets, dining-room sets and an entertainment center.

The Bradshaws can make and create, restore and refinish, design and decorate anything in any room.

The couple, who live in Fresno, Calif., have enough ideas and material and sense of fun to star in their own home and garden show. Heck, they could write a book on being able to share a house and a workshop.

As crazy as it may seem, this husband and wife work well together, only they don't call it

"Most of my working life I've held jobs usually held by men. It's fun now to work alongside Leo. I love to finish the furniture after he makes it."

Jeanie Bradshaw

work. They're retirees having fun letting their creative juices flow. If they have any problem, it's deciding what project to do next.

This is the second marriage for Leo and Jeanie, who have been together for nine years. Between them, they have nine children and 21 grandchildren.

"I was thrilled that he had a pickup truck with a toolbox and liked to work with his hands," she says of her husband. "I already had a table saw, a chip saw and a toolbox. For the first two years we were together, I sat on a stool in the shop and watched in amazement as he worked. He can do anything."

The Bradshaws' 1,200-square-foot workshop also houses surface planers, lathes, sanders, sharpeners, various saws and a cabinetmaker's bench. The bench was given to him by a master cabinetmaker from Germany who taught Leo cabinetmaking years ago.

A stereo provides music to work by. On occasion, the Bradshaws have been known to pump up the volume, put down their saws and dance in the saw-dust.

Leo has always built furniture and toys, mostly for family and friends, in his spare time. Only occasionally and some time ago did he sell his work. "I had to feed my addiction," he laughs.

"People ask me all the time why I don't sell stuff," he says. "If I did, then it wouldn't be fun anymore. It would be work. I would be trying to please others."

His wife is a self-taught artist. "Most of my working life, I held jobs usually held by men," says Jeanie. "It's fun now to work alongside of Leo. I love to finish the furniture after he makes it."

She does the staining and finishing coats and particularly enjoys restoring old furniture and painting yard-sale finds.

Besides furniture, she likes to paint florals and various landscapes on canvas. She learned to paint using books and paints purchased at an art store and, she adds, "lots of practice."

Several of her paintings hang in her husband's studio, a garage that was converted to a self-contained guest cottage. She also painted faux bricks and a bird's nest on the exterior of a garden shed her husband built.

He built her a garden bench, too, complete with a stainless-steel sink. She attached an old window with multiple panes to the back.

"Everything here is a work in progress," she says.

The Handy Women

Duo learned to repair out of necessity

By Hilary Groutage Smith
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

Tool-belted men they are not, but Julie Sussman and Stephanie Glakas-Tenet can probably handle any home repair. Their tips, from removing a broken light bulb with a raw potato to step-by-step instructions for installing a new faucet, are compiled in the new book

"Dare to Repair" (HarperResource, \$14.95).

Repair despair sparked the book, they say. Glakas-Tenet has a son and is married to CIA Director George Tenet. Sussman is the mother of two and wife of a CIA employee. Their husbands were simply never, ever around. The list of household chores grew and grew. Nothing ever got crossed off the list.

"My husband could do everything," Sussman said. "But the poor guy would come home for the weekends, and there would be this list of things to do."

Then Sussman met a woman whose husband died at age 36, leaving a home in disrepair. "Everything was falling apart and I realized that could be me," she said. So she learned to fix things herself.

Eleven years ago, she met Glakas-Tenet at a party. They hit it off immediately when they discovered their common interest in home repairs.

"I come from a family of very handy men. My father, grandfather, they all knew how to do everything. I gravitated

ed toward manuals and maps more than Barbie dolls," Glakas-Tenet said.

Today she has three toolboxes and a special drawer for tools in the kitchen. She has only been nervous about a repair once — when she dismantled the home's plumbing and feared it wouldn't be back together and functional by the time her husband had to shower and leave for a briefing at the White House.

"I did it. He made it," she said.

Sussman received her home repair introduction years ago when she and her husband were defrauded by a roofer. Her husband was scared to climb on the roof to finish the job.

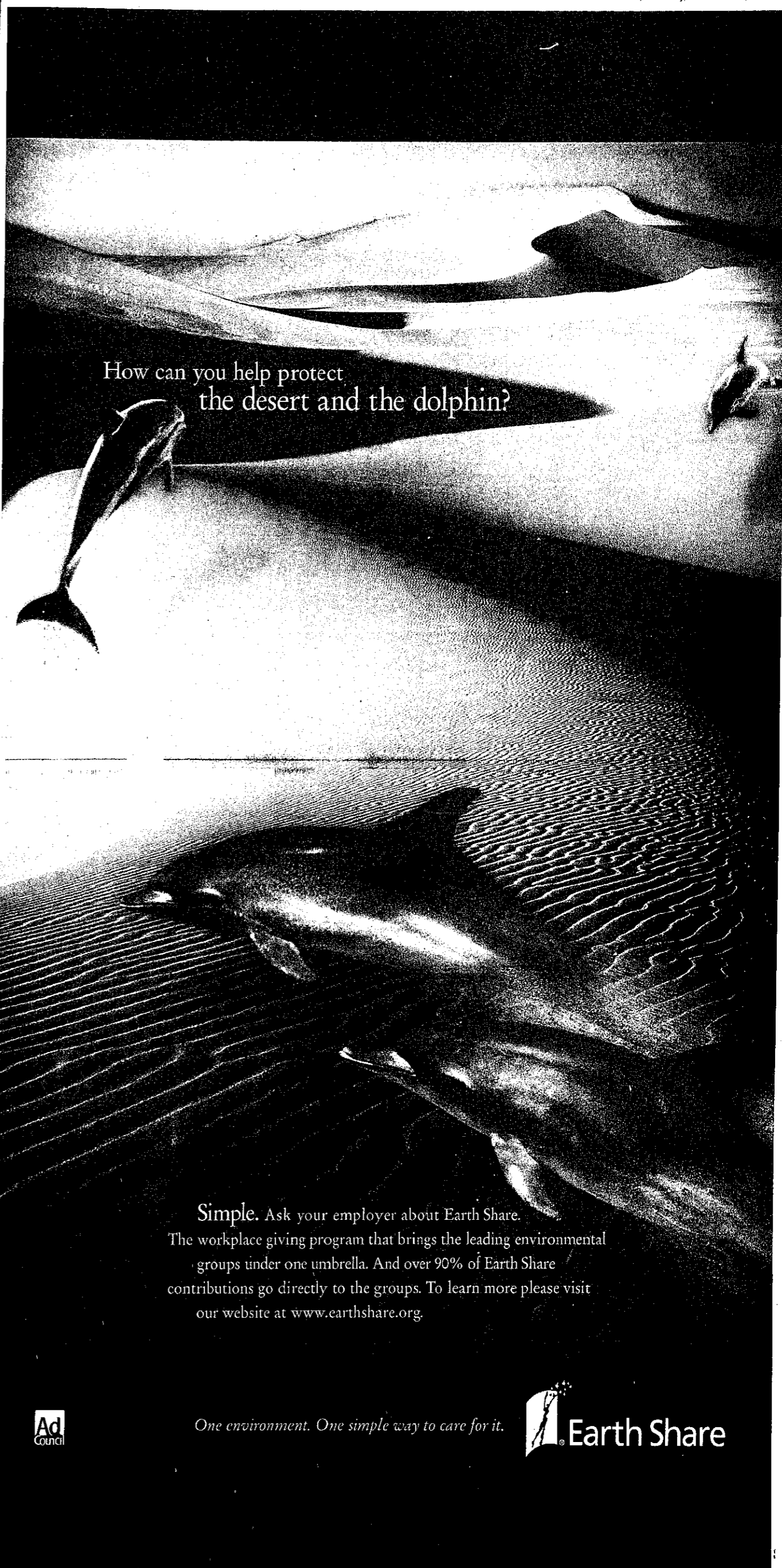
"I told him to come down because my medical deductible was already met for the year. I finished caulking the whole thing," she said. "Every time I got up on the roof, all these men from the neighborhood would gather and watch. I wouldn't do it again, but I got it done."

A large portion of the book is devoted to safety. Women are more conscious of safety and security at home than men, the pair contends, and because they are in the business of national security, offering reminders to keep home safe and secure was natural.

The book goes carefully, step-by-step through many repairs. Each repair task includes a list of tools needed and begins with an anecdote to dispel fear, Sussman said. "If you can read, you can repair," she said.

"I come from a family of very handy men. My father, grandfather, they all knew how to do everything. I gravitated toward manuals and maps more than Barbie dolls."

Stephanie Glakas-Tenet



How can you help protect the desert and the dolphin?

Simple. Ask your employer about Earth Share.

The workplace giving program that brings the leading environmental groups under one umbrella. And over 90% of Earth Share contributions go directly to the groups. To learn more please visit our website at www.earthshare.org.

One environment. One simple way to care for it.

Ad Council

Earth Share

Plus

HomeTown

FOOD

Shopped-down bowls taking bread back to the bare basics

By Susan Houston
RALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER

What began 14 years ago as a simple request from his biscuit-making daughter-in-law has turned into a hardwood habit for Leon Neal, a Raleigh, N.C., consulting engineer and dough bowl maker.

"I have great ambitions to be a character," says the white-haired grandfather who insists he's only 28 years old.

All Paula S. Neal wanted was a wooden bowl so she could make biscuits for her new husband, Stuart. But her father-in-law might have had better luck seeking the Holy Grail. No matter where he

BISCUITS 101

Leon Neal gives you the following basics to making a delicious batch of homemade biscuits.

■ Use the right flour.

While unbleached all-purpose flour will work for biscuits, low-gluten or "soft" wheat flour makes a better biscuit. Many flours milled in the South are soft wheat, but look for the words "soft wheat" on the label. You may also substitute unbleached pastry (but not cake) flour.

■ Use a gentle hand.

Mix fat with flour just enough to create a coarse meal texture; combine with liquid just until dough forms a ball.

Work lightly to smooth it out, but don't knead more than a dozen times or the biscuits will be too tough.

■ Don't twist the biscuit cutter or you will make the biscuit rise unevenly. Cut biscuits close together; don't rework the dough scraps.

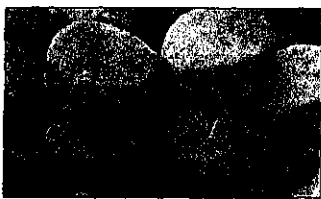
has handles and is hand-carved with slightly uneven thicknesses on the sides to give it a more antique, heirloom look.

To make a bowl, Neal starts with a log slab about 6 inches deep. Then with a marker, he draws the outline of the bowl on the wood. He chips away at the soft, green wood in the center with the curved blade of an adze to get a rounded shape, anywhere from 45 to 90 minutes. The roughly shaped bowl then sits in his basement for six months to dry until it's ready to be sanded. Sanding can take 10 to 12 hours for a perfectly smooth finish. Then he rubs in mineral oil to keep the wood from cracking.

And if an owner uses a dough bowl as it's intended, that's all the finish it will ever need, he says. "The oil from the lard gets into the wood" when you make biscuits in the bowl, Neal says.

But all too often, "someone will buy it and set it in the window and the sun shines on it and it cracks." Even his wife, Betty, uses her favorite round bowl to hold fruit on the kitchen table, not to make biscuits.

"Look at the wood variation," she says of the undulations of cream and deep brown of the black walnut bowl. "And it's just a perfect shape."



SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

Buttermilk Biscuits

2 cups flour
Heaping 1/2 teaspoon salt
3-1/4 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon sugar, if desired
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
5 tablespoons chilled shortening, lard, butter, or a combination
7/8 cup buttermilk

Preheat oven to 500 degrees.

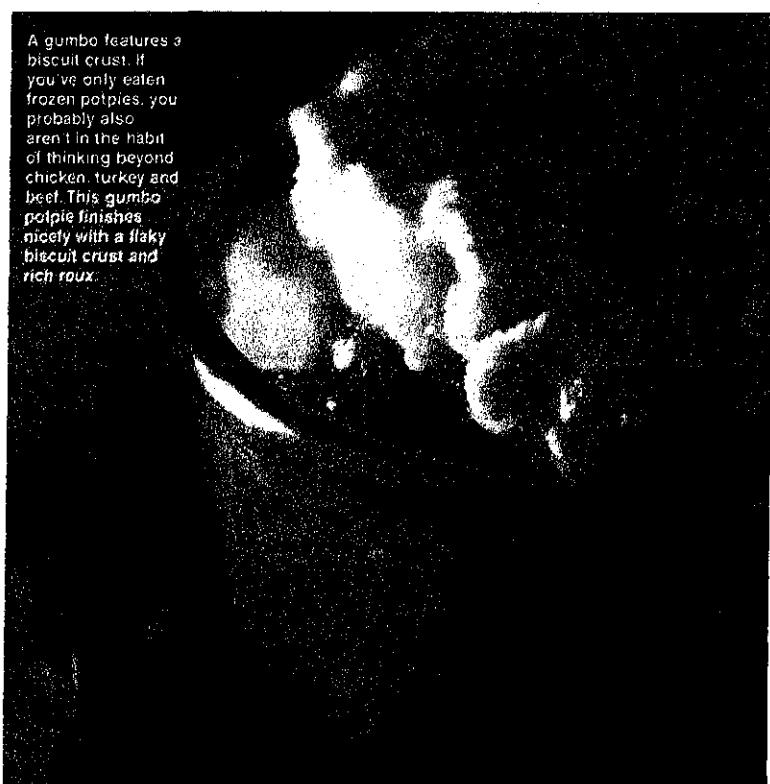
Sift the dry ingredients together into a large bowl. Add the cold shortening and work all through the flour with the fingertips. Every bit of flour should be combined with a bit of the fat. Add the buttermilk and stir vigorously until the dough forms a ball.

Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface. Knead lightly for 10 strokes. Stop just as soon as the dough begins to look smooth.

Pat the dough out to approximately an 8-by-7-by-3/4-inch rectangle. Cut into 2-inch rounds. Place biscuits on an ungreased sheet and bake for 8 minutes, until lightly browned. Serve hot with lots of butter. Makes 12 servings.

— Source: "Biscuits, Spoonbread and Sweet Potato Pie" by Bill Neal

A gumbo features a biscuit crust. If you've only eaten frozen potpies, you probably also aren't in the habit of thinking beyond chicken, turkey and beef. This gumbo potpie finishes nicely with a flaky biscuit crust and rich roux.



COMFORT CROWNED WITH CRUST

Story By Cindy Wolff ■ Photos By Nikki Boertman ■ Scripps Howard News Service

While most people eat potpies, far fewer can actually make them. Removing a box from your freezer and heating up the little crusty pie on a cookie sheet doesn't count.

Making potpies at home can be as simple as stirring a bag of mixed vegetables with cooked, chopped chicken and a little homemade roux and topping it with a ready-to-bake crust.

Or you can take a little more time and chop vegetables, mix flour into dough and make one of the world's oldest comfort foods.

The term "potpie" first appeared in print in 1792, according to "The Dictionary of American Food and Drink" by John F. Mariani. Meat pies were common in colonial times and in Europe before that.

"Potpies were originally baked in a pot over an open fire," says Diane Phillips in her cookbook, "Pot Pies." "The large pot was lined with pastry crust, filled with meat and vegetables, topped with crust and then covered with a lid. A hole was made in the center of the crust so broth could be added from time to time.

"The pies cooked over the fire most of the day, perfuming the house with mouth-watering smells."

That was long before Swanson's introduced its frozen beef, turkey and chicken potpies in 1951, making them the plump cousin to TV dinners in what would become a burgeoning family of ready-to-eat, no-frills meals.

The early commercial potpies were nothing more than several chunks of meat mixed with English peas and a few chopped carrots.

Recently, about a dozen people decided to venture beyond the frozen food section to a day when potpies weren't heated, but created from basic ingredients.

At her Viking Culinary Institute in Memphis, Mary Jo Douglas had all the trappings for teaching people how to make an entrée that has long represented comfort.

She and other instructors demonstrated how to make a chicken gumbo pie with a buttermilk biscuit crust, shepherd's pie, phyllo chicken potpie and a roasted vegetable potpie.

Douglas started by mixing the biscuit crust in a food processor. She pulsed the flour, chilled shortening and buttermilk until they were crumbly, then wrapped the dough in cellophane and chilled it in the refrigerator for 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, instructor Wendy Burson made a cheese dough that she also chilled in the refrigerator.

Then she mixed carrots, red onion, butternut squash, mushrooms and other vegetables with olive oil, salt and pepper. She spread the vegetable

mix on baking sheets to roast for 30 minutes.

The easiest to prepare was the phyllo chicken potpie. Cooked, chopped chicken breast was combined with celery, carrots, onion and frozen English peas.

The mix was sautéed in a skillet. Milk and chicken broth were added with spices and cooked until thick and



Viking Culinary Institute's Mary Jo Douglas, left, and Wendy Burson place a rolled biscuit crust on a gumbo pot pie.

bubbly. Then, the whole works went into a 2-quart casserole dish.

The trick to this recipe is the phyllo dough. The fussy dough must be frozen until ready for use, which means placing it last in the grocery cart and rushing it home to the freezer.

Burson usually takes a small ice chest with her to the grocery store to keep the dough frozen.

On the day you are using it, thaw the phyllo sheets in the refrigerator. Dampen a towel and gently peel one sheet of phyllo away and place it on the towel.

Spray the sheet with cooking spray, and continue to layer the remaining seven sheets, using cooking spray on each.

Gently place the stacked phyllo dough over the casserole dish and shape it.

The phyllo tore in several spots, and Burson pinched it back together.

Don't worry about minor glitches. Douglas said tears and other imperfections add a "rustic," homemade feel.

Returning to the chicken gumbo, Douglas dredged strips of raw chicken breast in flour seasoned with salt and cayenne. She pan-fried the chicken in a cup of oil until done and set the pieces out to drain.

She reserved about a cup of oil and added flour to make a dark brown roux. She added vegetables, spices and chicken stock and simmered the gumbo. The chicken was added last.

The gumbo can be ladled into individual oven-proof bowls or into a casserole dish. The biscuit dough was rolled out and placed atop the gumbo. The potpie baked in the oven until the biscuit topping was golden.

Once the vegetables in the oven were roasted, they were tossed with a garlic puree and placed in a casserole dish. The crust was rolled out and shaped onto the dish.

The shepherd's pie was the final dish. The vegetables and spices were cooked together in a skillet. Ground lamb and dry red wine were added. Douglas advises using table wines and not bottled "cooking wine."

A shepherd's pie crust is made of mashed potatoes mixed with spices and Parmesan cheese.

Transfer the vegetable, lamb mix to a casserole dish, and spread the potatoes across the top.

The dish bakes about 20 minutes until the potatoes are browned.

For all the dishes, cut slits in the dough to let the steam rise. All of the pies can be baked ahead of time and frozen.

Roasted Vegetable Potpie

CRUST

2 cups flour
6 tablespoons butter, chilled and cut into cubes
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoon herbes de Provence
1/2 cup grated fontina cheese
2 tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese

1/3 cup ice water
1 egg, beaten, for brushing crust
ROASTED VEGETABLES
4 tablespoons olive oil
1 cup cubed red onion
1 cup celery pieces, cut in 1-inch pieces

1 cup peeled and sliced carrots
1 cup peeled and cubed parsnips
1 cup sliced zucchini
2 cups butternut squash, peeled and cubed
1 cup whole button mushrooms
Salt and pepper

PEPPER GARLIC PURÉE

4 tablespoons olive oil
2 large red bell peppers, cut into 1-inch dice
6 cloves garlic, peeled
1 teaspoon herbes de Provence
1 cup vegetable broth
Salt and pepper

Crust: Combine flour, butter and salt. Cut butter into flour with pastry blender or paddle attachment on electric mixer. Blend until it resembles a coarse meal. Blend in cheese and herbs. Add water slowly until mixture holds its shape. Shape dough into a disk, wrap and chill for at least 30 minutes.

Vegetables: Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Mix vegetables together with oil, salt and pepper. Divide onto 2 baking sheets. Roast for 20 minutes. Turn vegetables and roast for an additional 10 minutes. Set aside and allow to cool.

Pepper garlic puree: Toss peppers, garlic, herbs, salt and pepper with oil. Transfer to a foil-lined baking pan. Roast for 10 minutes; turn, roast for another 10 minutes. Transfer to a food processor or blender and puree with vegetable broth.

Assemble: Lightly oil a 13-by-9-by-2-inch baking pan. Combine roasted vegetables with pepper puree. Pour into baking pan. Roll out crust on lightly floured surface to the size of the pan. Place the crust over the vegetable mixture. Cut slits in the crust for venting. Brush with beaten egg. Bake the pie for 30-35 minutes. When crust is light golden brown, remove from oven. Allow to rest for 10 to 15 minutes before serving.

Chicken Gumbo Pie With Buttermilk Biscuit Crust

2 pounds chicken breasts, cut in pieces

1 cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
1 cup vegetable oil
1/2 cup flour
3/4 cup chopped onion
1/2 cup chopped celery
1 small green bell pepper, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 cup sliced and blanched okra
1 quart chicken stock
1/2 jalapeno, minced
1 teaspoon dried thyme
1 teaspoon oregano
2 tablespoons tomato paste

BUTTERMILK BISCUIT DOUGH

1-1/2 cups self-rising flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon sugar
3 to 4 tablespoons chilled shortening
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
7/8 cup cold buttermilk
3 tablespoons melted butter

Biscuits: Combine flour, salt, sugar and soda in a large bowl. Cut shortening with a pastry blender or 2 knives, until mixture is the size of small peas. Add buttermilk and stir until just mixed. Dough should be wet. Wrap in cellophane and place in refrigerator while you make the gumbo.

Dredge the chicken pieces in 1 cup flour seasoned with salt and cayenne. Pan fry in 1 cup oil until done, drain. Empty pan of all but about 1/2 cup of the oil. Add 1/2 cup flour to the pan and cook to make a dark brown roux.

Add onions, celery, green pepper and garlic and sauté until vegetables are almost soft. Add the okra. Add the chicken stock. Stir in the jalapeno, thyme, oregano and tomato paste. Simmer uncovered for 30 minutes.

While the gumbo is simmering, remove chicken from the bones and cut into bite-size pieces. Add the chicken pieces to the gumbo and simmer until heated through. Adjust seasonings to taste. Ladle gumbo into ovenproof bowls or a casserole dish.

Roll biscuit dough to 1/2-inch thick. Cut the dough to fit the top of the gumbo bowls. Cover bowls or dish with layer of biscuit dough. Brush with melted butter. Bake in a 400-degree oven until the biscuit topping is done and golden brown on top.

