



# Novi News

Your hometown newspaper serving Novi and the Lakes area for 47 years

Thursday, April 17, 2003

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Novi, Michigan

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Look inside for your  
**GREEN SHEET**  
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**INSIDE**



**Stretching out**

Schman Chrysler-Jeep dealership's owner Bob Shuman, center, Joe Zeigler, left, and General Sales Manager Chris Brough take a look at expansion plans for their Commerce Township auto dealership.

— Page 5A

**REGIONAL MARKETPLACE**

**Volunteers lead to success**

When visiting a hospital, most of us think mainly of doctors and nurses. But, just like a busy hive of bees, there's a huge group of volunteers behind the scenes that help Huron Valley Sinai Hospital run smoothly and efficiently. On any given week there's a core of approximately 100 active volunteers that contribute hundreds of hours a week. In fact, 24,000 hours last year.

— Page 8B

**SPORTS**

**A major force**

The Novi girls' soccer team brushed by the Hartland Eagles 4-2 in Kensington Valley Conference play Monday night after shelling South Lyon 7-0 three days prior.

— Page 1B

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## Police suspect murder

Novi police continue to learn more about the shooting of a Novi man found dead earlier this week near Twelve Oaks Mall

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

After discovering the corpse of a Novi man in the wooded area between Twelve Oaks Mall and Interstate 96, police announced they are investigating a murder.

Cameron Wade Sanders, 26, was found on Monday among the trees, fully clothed and laying on his back with a gunshot wound to the head.

The Novi man's body was found about 2 p.m. by a shaken citizen looking for scrap metal near a Detroit Edison transformer site south of the rear parking area near JC Penney.

Novi Police Chief Douglas Shaeffer said on Sunday the department received a call from a female friend asking they check on Sanders at his home.

"Officers went to the home and

talked to a man who shares the house," Shaeffer said. "The victim had not been home for a couple of days."

Police said a search of the trailer located in the city's west end was conducted, but no signs of foul play or a struggle were found.

Police additionally said no obvious evidence was obtained from the search.

"No suspect has been identified," Shaeffer said. "It is a mystery."

The chief said officers have conducted several interviews and are compiling evidence, although no motive has surfaced yet.

The victim's vehicle was located in the parking lot of Denny's Restaurant near where the remains were found.

"The vehicle was towed and is being processed for possible evidence," Shaeffer said.

The chief said a gate is normally closed on the dirt road leading to the woods where the body was, but does not know if it was closed at the time the body was found.

Novi Police combed the area for clues in the hot sun after the call was received and accepted assistance from the Michigan State Crime Lab at about 5:30 p.m. the same day.

Shaeffer said preliminary investigations revealed there was no attempt to cover the body, but said the investigation is still in the preliminary phase.

He did not know exactly how long the body was at the site, but estimated no longer than three days.

Shaeffer declined comment on whether a weapon was found at the scene.

Sanders has two prior convictions for breaking and entering out-

side of Oakland County. Shaeffer said he does not believe the victim grew up in Novi and a search of Novi Public School records did not show enrollment.

Sanders is survived by his father, a Florida resident.

This is the second Novi homicide investigation in the past six months.

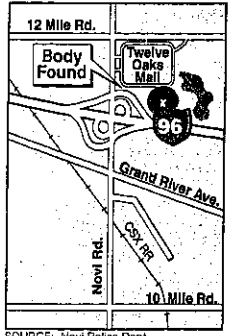
On Nov. 21, ValleyCrest Landscape Management employee Michael Henley walked into a Novi office and shot 24-year-old Bryan Bowden of Madison Heights before killing himself with a single gunshot to the head.

The murder-suicide took place on Trans X Drive, east of Novi Road near Fifth Avenue Ballroom.

Months prior, three unrelated bodies were found dead in Novi public places.

All were ruled suicides by Novi police.

**Novi Homicide**



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

## Online sex scandal bust at Novi Mall

55-year-old man set up a meeting for sex with who he believed was a 14-year-old girl

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

A Novi mall was the scene of every parents' nightmares last week as a 55-year-old Flint man was arrested for allegedly setting up a date for sex at Twelve Oaks Mall with who he believed was a 14-year-old girl.

Flint resident Michael Perkins, 55, was arraigned on Friday in 52-1 District Court by Judge Robert Bondy and was charged with one felony count each of child sexually abusive activity and using a computer to communicate with another over the Internet to commit child sexually abusive activity.

According to documents released by the Michigan Department of Attorney General's

continued on page 3



Photo by John Heider

**Something's fishy**

Village Oaks Elementary students Meghan Wheat, Cameron Misko, Niamh Tattersall and Zoe Psiakig, far right, all take a look at the school's fish tank located in the media center. Kids can also check out the tank from their homes via the Web by checking it out on a Web cam.

## Luna Entertainment leases to entertaining tenants

By Phil Foley  
STAFF WRITER

It's been more than a year since Novi's Main Street development has generated much more than hot air from lawyers, but in recent days the shrill sound of dry-wall guns has been echoing off the walls of what was once Vic's World Class Market.

Detroit area entrepreneur Tom Celani, who bought the building in 2000 and renamed it the Luna Building, announced April 10 that his company has leased 8,400 square feet of the space, once occupied by Fatoosh Mediterranean Cuisine, to Gus O'Connors and another 10,000 of what was Vic's to the owners of a group of Metro Detroit nightspots known as The Post Bar.

A year ago February Vic Ventimiglia closed the doors on Vic's World Class Market eight years after opening as the anchor of Phase One of Main Street. Four months later, Nabil and Rana Matar gave up on Fatoosh, citing loss of business as a result of

Vic's closing.

That left Tom Stratten's Lifestyles Hot Springs Spas, which had been a tenant since 1995 and the building's owner, Luna Entertainment, the only occupants. Next door at Main Street's 200 and 300

Buildings, nine tenants have been embroiled in a lawsuit against the original developer, Evergreen III, which filed for bankruptcy protection earlier this year.

"The bad press has got to stop," Celani exhorted a group of more than 100 local business people and public officials gathered for his leasing announcement. "Failure is not an option."

Failure appears not to have

been part of the 1972 Novi High School graduate's lexicon or that of his company, Luna Entertainment. Celani gave up the Miller Brewing distributorship his family had held in Wayne County since the early '60s in 1998 in order to become a part-owner in Motor City Casino.

Since then Luna has taken over

Auburn Hills and Colorado, and new business development, including Farmington Hills' Motor City Harley-Davidson.

Conceding that Main Street has been a "struggling development," Celani predicted that The Post and Gus O'Connors will "jump start" the entire project.

Peter Paisley, whose nearby Local Color Brewing Company will essentially be a competitor to the two new businesses, said "This is great. I think they should cut the place up into four, five, six more bars."

Pointing to places like downtown Royal Oak and Birmingham, he explained there is a certain synergy to creating an entertainment district.

That creation is already underway with Steve Wheeler shooting for a June opening for The Post Bar. While Wheeler's father, a one-time stock broker, made a

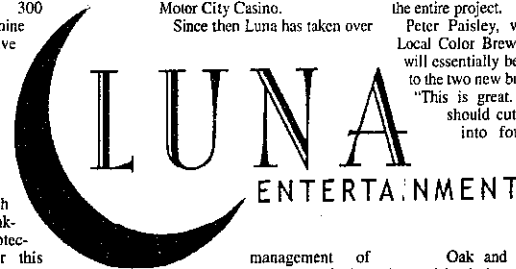
name for himself with a little hole-in-the-wall on Congress near Cobo Hall in Detroit, Wheeler and his sister expanded the company to include six upscale sports bars across Metro Detroit, including one across the street from The Palace in Auburn Hills.

He said the Novi edition of The Post Bar will be more similar to the Auburn Hills location than the original. It will also include something Auburn Hills' doesn't — an abundance of light. Wheeler is retaining about two-thirds of the old Vic's greenhouse. The center of that space will feature an oval back and huge doors will open in the warm months onto a patio that was once the balance of the greenhouse.

Waterford resident Ed Smith said he has joined forces with the venerable Irish brewer Guinness to do something never done in Michigan before — open an authentic Irish pub, designed, built and staffed by Irishmen.

Earlier this year Smith met with

continued on page 6



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**POLICE REPORT**

**FORE!**  
A Novi resident called police after a golf ball soared into his back porch. The 29-year-old male living in the 41000 block of Cherryhill called police on Thursday, April 10. The man told police at about 3 p.m., an unknown person hit a golf ball through the screen of his back yard porch. According to the report, the golf ball had "CK" written in black twice on the ball. The resident's back yard backs up to the Fountain Park Apartments and is separated by several large trees. Damage was estimated at \$15.

**Picky robber**  
Some time between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on April 8, a Novi man said someone broke into his house in the 1400 block of Nardner and took nothing. The 45-year-old male told police the same thing had happened about one month before. While at the man's home, an officer noticed a window in the back of the trailer had been broken and the storm window had been removed. A metal shod was on the ground below the window. The Novi officer found several footprints in the snow near the window, with about a nine-and-a-half-inch shoe impression.

**New plate**  
A Novi woman came into the Novi Police Department last week and reported someone had stolen her license plate. The 21-year-old woman told officers the plate was taken off of her 1999 Hyundai on April 8 between midnight and noon. The car was parked on Mahatt near Meadowsbrook Road. The woman said she has no idea who would have done such a thing.

**Mad hatter**  
Novi Police received a call from Merry's Department Store on April 9 at about 4 p.m. to assist with an absent-minded shoplifter. When police arrived, they were met by one of the store's team leaders and a 20-year-old Farmington male accused of stealing a \$14 Nike hat. The leader told police she was doing routine surveillance when she noticed the suspect pick up the blue hat, place it on his head and continue shopping. She told police the suspect then selected a pair of shorts and a shirt which he paid for. As the man walked out of the store into the parking lot, he was detained by security for stealing the hat. The Farmington resident told police he forgot to pay for the cap.



**HASMAT**  
Members of the Novi Fire Department and the Western Wayne County HASMAT team responded to a call received at 8:50 a.m. on April 1 regarding a chemical spill at Michigan Milk Producers of America located at 41310 Bridge Street, east of Meadowbrook and north of 11 Mile Road. Novi Fire Chief Arthur Lenaghan said the lab spill was of an ammonia variety. Lenaghan praised the quick reaction time of the lab employees. Workers were evacuated during clean up for about four hours.

**Million dollar fire remains under investigation**

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER  
The reason for a fire causing more than \$2 million worth of damage to a Novi senior citizen complex last week remains under investigation, officials said.

"That is the biggest loss we have had in years," said Novi Fire Chief Arthur Lenaghan. Lenaghan said the department, the Oakland County Sheriff's Office and the retirement village's insurance company are wrapping up investigations leading to what caused the fire at Fox Run Villages.

The chief said although the cause is still officially undetermined, preliminary findings have led the investigation toward a possible electrical fire. No injuries resulted from the early morning Wednesday, April 9 blaze. The fire department received the call at about 1:45 a.m. and said it took fire fighters about 7 hours to secure the scene. "The fire was under control in about an hour, however all companies remained on the scene for overhaul and to assist the county investigator with determining the cause and origin," Lenaghan said.

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**SIGNS YOUR CHILD MAY BE AT RISK ONLINE**

- Your child spends large amounts of time on-line, especially at night. Most children that fall victim to computer-sex offenders spend large amounts of time on-line, particularly in chat rooms. Children on-line are at the greatest risk during the evening hours. While offenders are on-line around the clock, most work during the day and spend their evenings on-line trying to locate and lure children or seeking pornography.
- You find pornography on your child's computer. Pornography is often used in the sexual victimization of children. Sex offenders often supply their potential victims with pornography as a means of opening sexual discussions and for seduction. Child pornography may be used to show the child victim that sex between children and adults is "normal."
- Your child receives phone calls from men you don't know or is making calls, sometimes long distance, to numbers you don't recognize. While talking to a child victim on-line is a thrill for a computer-sex offender, it can be very cumbersome. Most want to talk to the children on the telephone. They often engage in "phone sex" with the children and often seek to set up an actual meeting for real sex.
- Your child receives mail, gifts or packages from someone you don't know. As part of the seduction process, it is common for offenders to send letters, photographs and all manner of gifts to their potential victims. Computer-sex offenders have even sent plane tickets for the child to travel across the country to meet them.
- Your child turns the computer monitor off or quickly changes the screen on the monitor when you come into the room.
- Your child becomes withdrawn from the family. Computer-sex offenders will work very hard at driving a wedge between a child and their family or at exploiting their relationship. They will accentuate any minor problems at home that the child might have. Children may also become withdrawn after sexual victimization.
- Your child is using an on-line account belonging to someone else. Even if you don't subscribe to an on-line service or Internet service, your child may meet an offender while on-line at a friend's house or the library. Most computers come pre-loaded with on-line and/or Internet software. Computer-sex offenders will sometimes provide potential victims with a computer account for communications with them.

Source: FBI

**SEX BUST: 55-year-old man arrested**

continued from front

activity is punishable by 20 years in prison and/or a \$100,000 fine.

Using a computer to communicate with another over the Internet to commit child sexual abuse activity is also punishable by 20 years in prison and/or a \$20,000 fine.

"These are despicable crimes that will not go unpunished," said Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox. "The Internet should be a place where children can learn and play free from harm, not a place parents have to fear. By working together with the Michigan State Police and local law enforcement agencies, our Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force will continue to track these criminals down and put them behind bars where they belong."

Novi Police Chief Douglas Shaefter said Perkins was held in a Novi jail cell after arrest, but the department played no other role in the investigation nor the arrest.

A representative from the Attorney General's Office said the case was investigated and filed through the Michigan Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

The force is a joint effort by the Michigan State Police and the Department of Attorney General.

Other agencies participating in building the felony case against Perkins included the Detroit Police Department, Ingham County Sheriff's Department, Ann Arbor Police Department, Jackson Police Department, the U.S. Postal Service and the U.S. Postal Service.

The complaint issued by the Department of Attorney General alleges beginning in Sept. 2002, Perkins began corresponding with an undercover Detroit Police officer via the Internet he believed was a 14-year-old girl from Novi.

According to a press release issued by the Attorney General's office, "in their on-line conversations, Perkins indicated that he was a school administrator and was a band teacher in middle school and high school."

The complaint stated Perkins wanted to meet with the girl to engage in sexual activity and arranged to meet the girl at the Novi shopping center.

Law enforcement officials said when the Flint man arrived at Twelve Oaks Mall on April 9, he was taken into custody.

Perkins was in charge of the district's Fine Arts Program at the time of arrest and kept an office in the Bryant Elementary School of Fine Arts, a school spokesman said.

The spokesman said Perkins was suspended without pay.

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.

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# Hot off the press

Charismatic chef Tyler Florence will sign copies of his latest book and discuss topics from his hit show "Food 911" in Novi this week

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

You've seen him cook up novel, palatable concoctions on the Food Network and now you may meet chef Tyler Florence at Borders Books & Music in Novi.

The popular, charismatic host of "Food 911" will visit Novi on Friday, April 18 at 7 p.m. for a lively discussion and signing of his debut book "Tyler Florence's Real Kitchen."

"Borders is very excited to be hosting the event with Chef Tyler Florence," said Laurie Smith, Borders Books & Music area marketing manager. "It's not everyday that one of the stars of the Food Network is in the Detroit area, and we are happy Tyler has chosen Novi for a signing of his first cookbook."

Anyone planning an Easter or holiday menu may ask Tyler for some last minute advice and those looking for a great Mother's Day gift may ask Tyler to personalize a copy of "Tyler Florence's Real Kitchen."

As with his "Food 911" cooking show, the likable chef will discuss some of his down-home practicality

and easy, fresh solutions to meal-time obligations.

With his usual witty banter, Florence will also skim through his eye-catching and tres chic book of tips and more than 150 recipes while providing a sense of what his first literary journey is all about.

A journey he hopes will inspire a mix of culinary sensibility refined in some of New York's highest-profile restaurants with down-home practicality.

"Cooking is truly the one thing that makes the world go round," Florence writes in his book. "Behind every culture, there is a real kitchen."

The fun-loving chef is also a frequent guest on "Today" show, has appeared on "The View," "E!" and "Access Hollywood" and is the host of a new show on the Food Network titled "Tyler's Ultimate."

The new show debuting last month, takes viewers on a trek across the globe in search of ultimate meals.

Borders Books & Music is located in the Novi Town Center at 43075 Crescent Boulevard.

Florence honed his culinary skills in some of New York City's top restaurants, including Aureole, Mad 61, River Cafe and Cafejena—where he served as the founding chef.

He has been recognized as a leading chef by "Food & Wine," "GQ," "Wall Street Journal," "USA Weekend," and "People."

Florence graduated with honors in 1991 from the College of Culinary Arts at Johnson & Wales University in South Carolina and honed his skills under some of New York's premier chefs.

The fan-loving chef is also a frequent guest on "Today" show, has appeared on "The View," "E!" and "Access Hollywood" and is the host of a new show on the Food Network titled "Tyler's Ultimate."

The new show debuting last month, takes viewers on a trek across the globe in search of ultimate meals.

Borders Books & Music is located in the Novi Town Center at 43075 Crescent Boulevard.

**The man:** Food Network's "Food 911" chef Tyler Florence  
**The reason:** Discussion and signing of "Tyler Florence's Real Kitchen"  
**The date:** Friday, April 18  
**The time:** 7 p.m.  
**The place:** Borders Books & Music in Novi  
**The location:** Novi Town Center, 43075 Crescent Boulevard  
**The number:** (248) 347-0780



"Cooking is truly the one thing that makes the world go round. Behind every culture, there is a real kitchen."

Tyler Florence  
chef

# BUSINESS

Phil Foley, business reporter (248) 348-1700, ext. 108 pfoley@ht.homecomm.net

## Shuman Chrysler-Jeep begins major expansion

By Phil Foley  
STAFF WRITER

While Chrysler Group sales nationally have been soft for the first two months of the year and March sales figures were slated to be released on April 15, Bob Shuman said the biggest problem facing his family's 48-year-old Chrysler-Jeep dealership is physically getting people to its location.

"Yeah, people know where Walled Lake is, but then they drive here and get twisted around," he laughed. Still, enough people have found their way to Shuman Chrysler-Jeep since his grandfather and father opened the doors for the first time in 1955 that the dealership had to move from its original location on the shores of Walled Lake in 1967 to its current home near the corner of Pontiac Trail and South Commerce Road and go through three significant expansions.

Shuman recently added four acres across the street from the six he already has to create room for his used car operation. "We need more space. We've put cars on every square inch we can," he said.

He attributed his family's suc-

cess to maintaining a small town atmosphere while offering big city services. Shuman noted his family's dealership was one of the first in the country to qualify for Chrysler Group's new "Five Star" rating.

The new used car area will have a 2,800 square foot showroom. The sales area facing Pontiac Trail and the entire project is expected to cost about \$2.2 million.

Moving the used car location across Pontiac Trail from the dealership, he said, will also allow him to expand his add current payroll of 40 full and part-time employees by seven or eight people. "We'll definitely be looking to hire used car people and dealers," he said.

Shuman said that although he's a medium-sized dealer by Metro Detroit standards, on the national stage he's a big dealer. While declining to discuss specifics, Shuman said his sales figures consistently put him among the top 200 of Chrysler Group's 4,000 dealerships.

"We're finding the economy is not that bad," he said optimistically. "We've been in this community so long everything is paid for." Shuman said he expects the recent

completion of the M-5 connector will be a boon for his business. "The M-5 ends at Pontiac Trail. It's made traffic a lot better. It's a lot easier to get to the new post office across the street," he said. "We see an opportunity to increase sales," he said.

Along with a showroom and an area for dealers to do prep work on used cars, Shuman said the new space will feature a garage area to house his family's collection of classic cars, including his father's 1909 Maxwell, which is currently on display at the Walter P. Chrysler Museum in Auburn Hills. That building, he said, will be open to the public.

Another unusual feature of the used car portion of the dealership, said Shuman, will be that the showroom facing Pontiac Trail will be used to display hot rods, classic cars and the like instead of the special of the week. He added he also plans on reviving the classic car show he was forced to abandon three years ago when they ran out of space at the current location.

The new spaces have been designed and will be built by Wisnom's Schonbeck Inc. "They've been in this community so long everything is paid for," Shuman said he expects the recent



Shuman Chrysler-Jeep dealership's owner Bob Shuman, center, Joe Ziegler, left, and General Sales Manager Chris Brough take a look at expansion plans for their Commerce Township auto dealership.

great guys. They do a great job and you can trust them." He added Walled Lake city officials "have been really good and fair."

Shuman will be demolishing three old rental homes to make way for his dealership expansion. He said he hopes to be open for business by August 23.

Phil Foley is a reporter for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext 108 or by e-mail at pfoley@ht.homecomm.net.

## LIBRARY LINES

### Novi Public Library

#### Hours

The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 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 Tati Road. For more information, call (248) 349-0720.

The library will be closed April 18 for Good Friday and April 20 for Easter Sunday.

#### Internet practice lab for seniors

Practice makes perfect! Join us for an opportunity to practice any of the skills you've learned in our Internet classes on Thursday, April 24, from 1-3 p.m.

During this two-hour session, you may choose to work on any Internet skills you wish, with librarians to assist you and answer any computer-related questions. Note: There is no set agenda for this class; you may come and go as you please during the two-hour session. Please call the library to register in advance for the class.

#### Winslow Homer's America

University of Windsor Professor Michael Farrell discusses how the events of the Civil War transformed Winslow Homer from a magazine illustrator to a renowned painter on Tuesday, April 29, at 7 p.m. Please call the library to register for this free program, which is sponsored by the Friends of Novi Public Library.



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Easter Sunday, 9:30 & 11 a.m.

Oak Pointe Church meets at Northville High School (6 Mile, between Sheldon & Beck). For more information call us at 248.615.7050. Check us out on the Web at [www.oakpointe.org](http://www.oakpointe.org).

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## Bainbridge broker opens third office

By Phil Foley  
STAFF WRITER

They've been selling homes for nearly three weeks, but the folks at Bainbridge Inc. are planning the grand opening of their newest location for May 3.

Bainbridge opened its newest office April 1 at 825 North Pontiac Trail in Suite Four of the Farmer's Insurance Building in Walled Lake.

It is something of a family affair. Owner Charlene Otley's son, Christopher Bergman, is an associate broker, as is her daughter-in-law, Catherine. Otley's daughter, Julie Bergman, is her assistant in the company's first storefront location, and Kimberly Morgan as office manager.

Otley's late husband opened as a sole proprietorship in their Sterling Heights home in 1981 as Bainbridge Associates, since then the company has expanded to 18 associates selling homes in Macomb, Oakland, Livingston and Western Wayne counties.

Otley took over the business after her husband died in 1996. She said the first year, "I was scared to death." However, she added, "I literally grew up in real estate." Her father, Bill Gates, was a real estate broker in the Union Lake Area, where she grew up.

A year after her husband died, Otley moved to Commerce Township with her children and opened a second Bainbridge Inc.

office. "I've really enjoyed watching this area grow," she said, noting her children went to Walled Lake public schools.

She said she chose Walled Lake for her first storefront because of its easy access. Otley said what sets Bainbridge Inc. apart from other real estate company's is its commissions. "Our commissions are as low as 1 1/2 percent," she said.

More information on the company can be found at its Web site, [www.bainbridgeincorporated.com](http://www.bainbridgeincorporated.com).

Phil Foley is a reporter for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext 108 or by e-mail at [pfoley@ht.homecomm.net](mailto:pfoley@ht.homecomm.net)

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**Lenten and Easter Services**

**Faith Community Presbyterian Church of Novi**

**Maundy Thursday**  
April 17  
Seder Meal, 7:30 PM  
Please RSVP

**Good Friday**  
April 18  
Community Service held at Holy Family Catholic Church on Meadowbrook near 10 Mile, 12:00 noon

**Easter**  
April 20  
Sunrise Service, 7:00 AM  
9:00 AM & 10:30 AM Services

**Faith Community Presbyterian Church**  
44400 West Ten Mile Rd  
Novi, MI 48375  
Ph. 248-349-2345  
[www.faithcommunity-novi.org](http://www.faithcommunity-novi.org)

# LUNA: Entertaining clients lease space

continued from front

said it will take an Irish crew between four and six weeks to install the interiors being fabricated in Ireland and she hopes to be open for business in September.

However, his application for the project only reached Novi Building and Zoning officials April 8.

Smith said he first got the idea for an Irish during a trip to Dooly in 1998. He said after first stepping foot in a bar there called Gus O'Connors, he knew what he wanted to do.

In addition to Irish beer, Smith said his place will feature traditional Irish music and food.

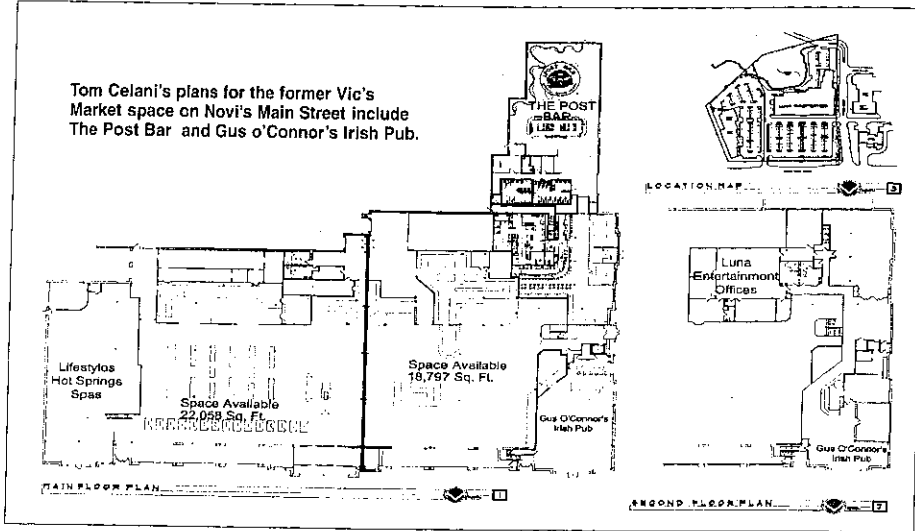
Also on hand for the leasing announcement was Tom Stratton, whose Lifeylives has stuck with the project since 1995. He said last year was the

best his 35-year-old company has had in more than a decade. "Novi has been wonderful to us," he said. He added he believes the two new businesses in the Luna Building will help increase name recognition and foot traffic for his business.

Two staffers with West Bloomfield's Singh Development, which built the housing component of Main Street, said they believe the two new projects will actually make it easier to market their nearby apartments to young singles.

Celani said he believes the immediate area needs more housing to help Main Street's commercial section thrive. The entertainment projects leave Celani with 42,000 square feet of space yet to lease in the Luna Building.

And while Paisley would like to see more entertainment venues,



the city's parking regulations may block that. Celani said he is talking to a number of possible retail tenants, including a smaller version of Vie's. However, he added, he's hoping for a certain amount of flexibility from the city to help turn the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext 108 or by e-mail at jfoley@h.home.com.net

# Area businesses wary of governor's loophole attack

By Phil Foley  
STAFF WRITER

Governor Jennifer Granholm calls it closing tax loopholes. Walled Lake City Commissioner Monica Lesnau calls it an attack on relief designed into tax code for small business.

The state senate took testimony April 2 on proposed changes to the state's tax code that would eliminate 15 exemptions to the Single Business Tax (SBT).

Granholm maintains the exemptions need to be eliminated in order to prevent the curtailment

of state services needed to wipe away the state's \$1.7 billion deficit.

While Granholm calls the exemptions "loopholes," Lesnau and other contented at least 11 of them were intentionally written to give small businesses tax relief and eliminating them will make it more difficult for businesses to qualify for SBT credits.

According to Lesnau, this amounts to an increase in the SBT for single businesses. "Eighty-seven percent of the cities in America have populations under 10,000. The driving force behind

the economy is small cities and small business. Any time you do something that has a negative effect on small business, you have a negative effect on the economy," she said.

That, she said, is why small business owners from Walled Lake and surrounding communities are being invited to the Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority's Business Owner's Meeting at 7 a.m. Wednesday, April 23. The meeting will be held in the DDA Office at 500 North Pontiac Trail, Suite C.

State Rep. Craig DeRoche (R- Novi) and State Senator Nancy Cassis (R- Novi) are scheduled to be at the meeting. Cassis, who is chairman of the State Senate Finance Committee, is holding a hearing on the proposed tax changes April 30 in Lansing.

"The governor is a self-proclaimed bull in the china shop, and lot of people in Walled Lake own china shops," said Cassis' spokesperson Lisa Posthumus. "A lot of jobs and economic vitality are at stake."

"We trying to get feedback on how this will effect every day people," said a DeRoche spokesman.

Lesnau said it's hard to determine how eliminating the exemptions will affect the small business community overall since no one can claim all of the exemptions. "It's going to hit everybody differently," she said, adding, "Walled Lake is made up predominantly of small businesses and they're already tightening their belts, cutting services and laying off employees. They've done their share."

One of those small business owners, Don Rudy, owner of

Husky Envelope, is Walled Lake's largest employer, said Lesnau. He's expected to be at the meeting to discuss how the proposed tax changes will affect his company. "This should be a very good meeting," Lesnau promised.

Phil Foley is a reporter for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext 108 or by e-mail at jfoley@h.home.com.net

# Safety event planned

By Phil Foley  
STAFF WRITER

It's been more than 45 years since little Tommy Wheeler took a turn on his bicycle that led to a life of single have-beens for his parents, and Larry Brandon never forget that day in Flint.

May 17, Brandon, who owns the Brandon Agency in Walled Lake, will join forces again with Mike Gabriel, another State Farm Insurance agent from Novi, to hold a bike safety rodeo at Novi's Meadowbrook Elementary.

The rodeo will be held at the school on Meadowbrook Road between 12 and 13 Mile Road from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Brandon said while the event usually draws about 50 kids, "last year was a disaster," with only 25 kids showing up. This year he and Gabriel are contacting area elementary schools early. Brandon added he's also trying other things like contacting the youth group at his church in Northville.

# BUSINESS SHORTS

continued from page 6  
Crank up the volume

The Novi office of Clarion Corporation of America, the U.S. subsidiary of Tokyo-based Clarion Company Ltd., announced April 8 that Clarion will supply its next generation in-dash CD changer mechanism to Visteon Corporation (NYSE:VCI), for use in more than 20 vehicle applications in the coming years. Clarion has initiated offices in Novi for more than a decade, most recently on Grand River Avenue near Haggerty Road. The Novi office employs 25 people in sales, marketing and engineering in support of Clarion's Metro Detroit customers.

Moving up  
Bloomfield Hills-based TriMas Corporation announced April 11 that it has promoted two area residents to group presidents at the specialty niche businesses manufacturer. Edward L. Schwartz of Wolverine Lake will head up the Industrial Specialties Group, while Novi's Terry J. Campbell has been tapped to lead the newly created Fastening Systems Group. As president of the Industrial Specialties Group, Schwartz is responsible for the growth and development of the business segment. The group is comprised of six

companies - Arrow Engine, Compac Corporation, Lamons Metal Gasket, Norris Cylinder, NI Industries and Precision Tool Company - with leadership roles in the automotive, commercial, construction, defense, electronics and medical markets. Campbell is responsible for the business development and growth of the fastener

businesses, which manufacture a wide range of ferrous, nonferrous and special alloy fasteners and provide specialized metallurgical and finishing services to a variety of customers. The group consists of Lake Erie Products and Monogram Aerospace Fasteners. Both men will be based at the company's corporate headquarters in Bloomfield Hills.

# BUSINESS SHORTS

It all adds up

Novi resident Jennifer Zhao, associate professor of mathematics at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, received the campus's Distinguished Research Award in a campus ceremony recently. Zhao joined the UM-Dearborn faculty in 1992. Her research interest has been in numerical methods for solving partial differential equations. One nominator said, "Her vita lists 16 papers published in highly regarded, peer-reviewed professional journals, three articles submitted for publication, seven external grants supporting and recognizing her research, including the prestigious and hard-to-get NSF grant, and 10 professional presentations in national and international meetings. It is an impressive achievement for any researcher during a period of 10 years or so." According to nominators, Zhao has been passionate about her research and made it a

high priority, yet she also has been an outstanding teacher and has made major service contributions to the department and to the university. For her efforts Zhao takes home a plaque and a check for \$3,000.

A little business trip  
The Michigan Business Activity Index, compiled by Comerica Bank, lost 6 points in February, to close at 111, compared with 117 in January. A year earlier the index also stood at 111. February was very predictable as a stable-month, considering weather and war-psychology obstacles to consumer purchase of vehicles," said David Littman, chief economist with Comerica Bank in Detroit. "Steel output rose, along with deposit volumes at financial institutions, again reflecting February's overwhelming caution among households and businesses." The Michigan Business Activity Index (MBAI) represents 10 different measures of Michigan economic activity compiled monthly by the Economics Department of Comerica Bank. The MBAI is seasonally adjusted, corrected for inflation, and expressed on an index

basis with base year 1996 equals 100. The MBAI series has been calculated monthly since 1957 and depicts state economic activity over seven full swings of the U.S. business cycle.

Westland resident Patricia Lanigan was one of 11 people honored by Congressman John D. Dingell (D-MI) along with other local leaders and legislators during the Celebration of Success hosted by the Southeast Michigan Community Alliance (SEMCA) April 14 at the Michigan Works! Wayne Service Center. Lanigan loved her career until she was downsized from her company. After a year of not being employed, Lanigan exhausted her 401K to pay household expenses and health insurance before going to the Family Independence Agency (FIA) for assistance. FIA referred her to Livonia's Work First program where she successfully attained a job at Asset Acceptance in Wixom.

continued on page 7

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## OBITUARIES

### Edward E. Henderson

Edward Henderson of Novi died April 11, 2003 at Bozford General Hospital, Farmington. He was 82. Mr. Henderson was born June 20, 1920 to William Henderson and Pearl Slate at Fairview, Michigan.

He was currently a resident of Novi, previously of South Lyon and a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Mio, Mich.

Survivors include his children: James E. Henderson of Novi; Gerald (Valerie) Henderson of Florida; and Karl (Margaret) Henderson of South Lyon; six grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his parents, brothers and sisters. A memorial service for Mr. Henderson will be held at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Mio, Mich. at a later date.

The family would appreciate memorial contributions to a charity of your choice. Arrangements were made by Casterline Funeral Home, Inc., Northville.

### Michael Pogarch

Michael Pogarch of South Lyon died April 8, 2003 at home. He was 86. Mr. Pogarch was born June 30, 1916 in Newark, New Jersey to Michael Pogarch and Mary Mikala.

He lived in South Lyon for 5 years, formerly of Wolverine Lake. He was employed in Technical Engineering where he worked in Acoustics and Vibration Lab for Ford Motor Company. He was a member of Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, Casterline Funeral Home, Inc., Northville, where he was very active.

Survivors include his wife, Mary E. (McNamee) Pogarch; his children, Kathleen (Bernard) Sulicz of Novi, Kenneth (Susan) Pogarch of Walled Lake, Dennis (Emma) Pogarch of Monroe, Patricia (James) Wadkins of South Lyon, Mary Ellen (Wayne) Stoops of Brighton, Keith (Valerie) Pogarch of Walled Lake, Barbara (Timothy) Sarskian of Walled Lake, and Michael D. (Kathleen) Pogarch of Commerce Township; his sister, Mildred (Walter) Poppe of Nebraska; sixteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death was his parents, six brothers and sisters. A funeral service was held April 11 at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church with Pastor Terry Nelson officiating. Interment will be at Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia, Mich. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, 24155 Griswold, South Lyon, 48178. Arrangements were made by Casterline Funeral Home, Inc., Northville.

He enjoyed playing golf and was a real family man, his family was his whole life. Mr. Pogarch was a Staff Sergeant with the Army's Reconnaissance Company 629 Tank Destroyer Battalion. He served 1941-1945, during WWII, where he was part of the following battles and campaigns: Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes, and Central Europe. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal, American Defense Service Medal, American Theatre Service Medal, European African Middle Eastern Service Medal with 5 Bronze Stars.

Survivors include his wife, Mary E. (McNamee) Pogarch; his children, Kathleen (Bernard) Sulicz of Novi, Kenneth (Susan) Pogarch of Walled Lake, Dennis (Emma) Pogarch of Monroe, Patricia (James) Wadkins of South Lyon, Mary Ellen (Wayne) Stoops of Brighton, Keith (Valerie) Pogarch of Walled Lake, Barbara (Timothy) Sarskian of Walled Lake, and Michael D. (Kathleen) Pogarch of Commerce Township; his sister, Mildred (Walter) Poppe of Nebraska; sixteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Preceding him in death was his parents, six brothers and sisters. A funeral service was held April 11 at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church with Pastor Terry Nelson officiating. Interment will be at Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia, Mich. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church, 24155 Griswold, South Lyon, 48178. Arrangements were made by Casterline Funeral Home, Inc., Northville.

## BIRTH



**Mizel**  
Malory Anne Mizel was born Sept. 13, 2002 at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak to Wendy and Steve Mizel of Livonia. Born at 9:50 a.m., she weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and joins brothers, Cooper, Maxwell and Brady. Grandparents are Ray and Linda Mizel of Novi and Jim and Mary Ann Pierman of Wixom.

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## Good Friday / Easter Church Services

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248-668-7000  
Good Friday-noon  
Easter Sunday-9 a.m., 10:45 a.m.

**Church of the Holy Cross Episcopal**  
46200 10 Mile Rd.  
248-349-1175  
Maundy Thursday-7 p.m.  
Good Friday-7 p.m.  
Easter Sunday-7:45 a.m., 11 a.m.

**Church of the Holy Family**  
24505 Meadowbrook Rd.  
248-349-8847  
Maundy Thursday-7:30 p.m.  
Good Friday-noon, 1:30 p.m.  
Saturday-8:30 p.m.  
Easter Sunday-7:30 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

**Faith Community United Presbyterian Church**  
44400 W. 10 Mile Rd.  
248-349-2345  
Good Friday-noon (at Holy Family Catholic Church)  
Easter Sunday-7 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

**First Baptist Church of Novi**  
45301 11 Mile Rd.  
248-349-9647  
Easter Sunday-11:00 a.m.  
Japanese Christian Fellowship Service-2 p.m.

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
41415 W. 9 Mile Rd.  
248-349-0565  
Maundy Thursday-7 p.m.  
Good Friday-7 p.m.  
Easter Sunday-7:30 a.m., 10 a.m.

**Meadowbrook Congregational Church**  
21355 Meadowbrook Rd.  
248-348-7757  
Maundy Thursday-7:30 p.m.  
Easter Sunday-9 a.m., 11 a.m.

**Novi United Methodist Church**  
41671 W. 10 Mile Rd.  
248-349-2652  
Maundy Thursday-7:30 p.m.  
Good Friday-6 p.m.-9 p.m. "Walk the Labyrinth"  
Easter Sunday-7:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m.

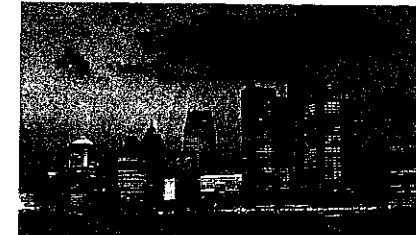
**Oakland Baptist Church**  
23893 Beck Rd.  
248-348-2748

**Orchard Hills Baptist Church**  
23455 Novi Rd.  
248-349-5655  
Easter Sunday-11 a.m., 6 p.m. Cantata

**St. James Catholic Church**  
46325 10 Mile Rd.  
248-347-7778  
Maundy Thursday-7 p.m.  
Good Friday-1 p.m.  
Saturday-8 p.m.  
Easter Sunday-8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.



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# CLASS NOTES

Ramez Khuri, school reporter - (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net

## Ben Franklin steps out of history books to set record straight

By Ramez Khuri  
STAFF WRITER

After learning about the many accomplishments of Ben Franklin in the classroom, students at Novi Meadows received a bit of a surprise when he actually came to visit them last week. Well, it was really an impersonator named Robert Bray, but he was pretty convincing.

Franklin spoke of "his" life and adventures during his presentation. He even brought along his daughter, Sarah Bache, played by Mary Bray, to talk to the kids.

"We appreciate the opportunity to visit schools about the country-side to correct some of the mistakes in history books," Franklin said. "The trouble with history is that the books were all written by people who weren't there, so we have to make some corrections and to remind them of some of the sacrifices of some of the people of our time and to make them aware of the beginnings of our nation."

Franklin said that a main point he wanted to get across was that he wants the kids to read. "I talk about reading to everybody," he said. "That's very important, minding your manners, listening to your elders, look before you leap, simple things like that as well. Oh, and don't fly kites in thunderstorms! That's a dangerous thing."

Another point he made was that he wanted the children to understand and know of all of the sacri-

fices he and others went through a long time ago to make this nation what it is today.

"I want them to understand that George, I mean the General, and Thomas and John Adams and I were real people, not just a picture were took," he said. "We had human troubles, but we had to all work together, which we did even though we didn't always agree with one another. We compromised to reach results. Unfortunately, there's not enough of that in the world today, I don't think."

Franklin and Bache visit Novi schools annually. In fact, this is their 15th year doing it. "We are from Philadelphia of course, but we do have another home in Wisconsin, but we're slowing down now," Franklin said. "I'm 297 years old and we used to do 150 schools a year, but now we do about 30 to 40. I think it's hard work but we enjoy the young people very much."

Bache is actually a retired English teacher. "We enjoy coming to the schools and to this area because we have been so well treated here," she said. "The children are always well prepared by their teachers, so that makes it more fun and enlightening for everybody."

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.homecomm.net.



The verdict is in: Reading is fun!  
52.1 District Judge Brian MacKenzie shared a book and some words of wisdom with fourth graders at Orchard Hills as part of March is Reading Month.

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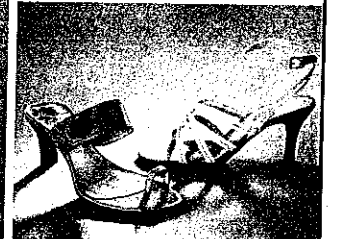
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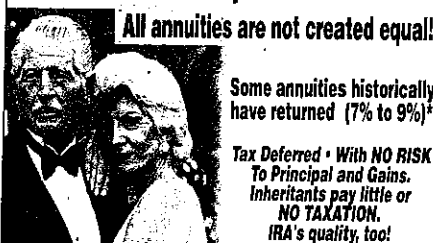
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# Internet camera allows students to monitor fish activity while at home

**Village Oaks goes high tech with live video feed of aquarium**

By Ramez Khuri  
STAFF WRITER



Food for thought

Village Oaks Elementary School students Nikolas Provost, bottom, Rena Hertrich, and Heiko Sijan take a look last Thursday afternoon at some of the food and toiletries their school has gathered for U.S. personnel in Iraq.

Using the wonders of modern technology, students at Village Oaks can now view the activity of the school's fish tank at home. By clicking on to [www.novik12.mil.us/volnov.html](http://www.novik12.mil.us/volnov.html), kids along with their families can watch the many fish and the small albino frog that swims around the tank as well with live video feed.

"Students and parents can share the excitement of the aquarium at home but this excitement will not just be limited to our local community," Village Oaks Media Specialist Sue Ruddy said. "Students will also be sharing the aquarium with grandmas, grandpas, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends throughout the country. We're even hoping to be contacted by children at schools throughout the US and abroad who have come upon our fish cam. Also,

since we have a couple of families who have moved back to Japan after being in our school for a few years, the fish cam can serve as an additional link between these students and their friends here in Novi."

When discussion first started about the renovation process at Village Oaks, it involved a lot of teachers because it was thought that they could provide much input on what could be the good educational tools for the children. That's when the idea of an aquarium came up.

"Of course we talked about the various rooms, the project rooms, the media center itself and also what goes into it," Ruddy said. "Several people said that we need to make it a learning environment for the kids that they are comfortable in and someone brought up the idea to have an aquarium because it's calming, it's educational, it's stimulating and we can do research projects that involve it."

Ruddy then went on the Internet and asked people

throughout the world about putting an aquarium in the media center. "I got responses from Australia, New Zealand, Germany and Mexico and a lot of people said, it's a wonderful component of the media center," she said. "It not only calms the children and adults, but it's also good because of the educational aspects it brings. Novi is very progressive in technology and we also looked at a way to bring the excitement from the media center to the home and to further strengthen that home school connection."

The fish aquarium was purchased from Nu-Wave Aquarium. The company also provides the monthly maintenance. Students will receive a password information soon to access the fish cam soon at school and the cam will be live most evenings from 7 to 9 p.m.

That way was found when someone suggested to put a web camera on the aquarium. "We're trying to develop the website so that the kids and the parents can go to it as a resource," Ruddy said. "They can find a list of activities as a family and they can find information not only about the district, but about their school. We want to make the website very user friendly for the families and to have it be something that the kids and the

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.homecomm.net](mailto:rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net).

## ON CAMPUS

Novi resident Megan Parker received the Merck/Tanaka Award in Veterinary Anatomical Sciences, March, 2003. She is a student in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University. Megan is the daughter of Craig and Linda Parker of Novi and a 1999 graduate of Novi High School.

Novi resident Bryan Bernys was named to the Dean's List for fall 2002 semester at American University, Washington, D.C.

Paul Demotte, graduate of Walled Lake Western High School, has been initiated into Beta Theta Pi by the Ipsilon Theta chapter at Middle Tennessee State University. He is the son of Teri and Berry Friedman, Novi.

The following Novi residents were named to the Dean's Honor List for fall 2002 term at University of Michigan College of Engineering: Karen Andrews, Michael Burns, Andrew Capanyota, Kristin Channell, James Dalton, Derek Granzow, Matthew Hetnowski, Jason Holden, Michael Hur, Chang Liu, Pangtun Liu, Lauren Parkins, David Preston, Nicholas Slovan, Brian Swift, Joseph Tlchich, and Alexander Wong.

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## SCHOOL BRIEFS

### Event "nets" \$25,000 for leukemia fight

Walled Lake Western High School students had a ball raising money for Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan (CLF) during the school's 22nd Annual Volleyball Marathon, which took place April 4-5.

Planned and implemented by the school's Student Activities class, the event was a huge success. 250 students raised an incredible \$25,000 for the families of CLF.

Although the night was centered on playing volleyball, the students also enjoyed dancing and swimming. Twister, giant inflatable, a limbo contest and a live band. There was also plenty of food and beverages to help keep energy levels up throughout the night.

Pictured (l to r) below are Lauren Tabot, Krissy Bates and Whitney Tabei, all of Novi, smile for a picture before returning to court.



Middle School Jazz Band love to perform and we have an excellent time together and it's just an absolute fun bunch of kids to be with," Seiler said. "It's a great program. There are quite a few kids here at Meadows who are in the band program and we just want to retain them when they come to the Middle School. This is just one way of performing for the kids so that they get a taste of what's available for them. We want as many kids in our band program as we can handle because we know that music has a great deal of satisfaction and it's a great learning experience for kids."

### He's inside out

Slim Goodbody visited Village Oaks on April 2 to guide students and staff on a musical tour of the human body. In a session of approximately one hour, Goodbody performed various songs and dances and children were taught the fundamentals of anatomy, nutrition, fitness and personal hygiene in the process. Designed to promote self-respect, the performance motivated children to be the best they can be.

### Clean up your act

Doug Scheer of Scheer Creative Productions brought the Pollution Solution Ecology Show to Novi Meadows last Wednesday to teach students of the importance of keeping the environment clean.

"This show is about the environment," Scheer said. "It's about the little things that kids and parents can do every day that make a big difference. We talk about shutting off the water when you brush your teeth and how that really makes a big difference over time."

- Topics of the show included:
- Causes of air, land and water pollution
  - Resource conservation
  - Endangered species
  - The three R's: Reduce, reuse, recycle
  - Environmental facts and issues

"What students can do to help is the tiny little things we do that make a difference and that's what the show is all about," Scheer said. "We talk about air pollution, land pollution, water pollution, the tiny factors that cause the destruction of the rain forest and our envi-

ronment and our natural resources. We also talk about what the kids can do to turn it all around. It's a motivational show to get the kids thinking about trash and what it is and where it comes from and the little things they do every day that have a big impact."

For more information, visit [www.assemblyshows.com](http://www.assemblyshows.com).

### Library visit

Ann Arbor District Library staffer Laura Pershin visited Novi Woods Elementary School last week to tell stories, entertain and teach students.

"Most educators and librarians see story listening as an incredibly important activity to build not only listening skills, but reading skills and communication skills and it's just plain fun," Pershin said. "The kids are learning and absorbing while they're being entertained, which is of course why it's probably the oldest art form that exists."

During her presentation, Pershin told stories called "Bear Head," "Lazy Jack," and "Who is Teeping?" She also got her audience involved by making them part of the stories. After that she showed off her Lumber Jacks, which are puppets made out of wood which dance when placed over a vibrating platform.

Pershin goes to different schools in Michigan, but she also travels to different states as well. "There has been a Renaissance of storytelling in the last 20 years," she said. "I don't travel often because I still have my kids at home, but I do go to places like to the festival in Utah and in the mountains and I go to Texas every year and share stories and give workshops to teachers. I get to see what other environments are like and cultures and learn from the listeners as they go along."

### On Guard!

All Novi Meadows fifth graders were invited to watch a fencing demonstration last week, given by Cliff Suttle, uncle of fifth grader Sylvia Suttle. Here Cliff and Sylvia who takes lessons, show off their skills.

Compiled by Ramez Khuri, a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or at [rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net](mailto:rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net).



Storyteller/Musician La'Ron Williams weaves his magic at Orchard Hills Elementary a few weeks ago. He used music and audience participation to enhance his storytelling performance.

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**SENIOR CALENDAR**

**Thursday 4/17**  
 9 a.m.-12 p.m. . . . . Massage Therapy  
 9 a.m.-11 a.m. . . . . Computer Class-Intro to Windows  
 9:30 a.m. . . . . Line Dance\*  
 9:30 a.m. . . . . Travel Meeting  
 12:00 EASTER Bonnet Parade/Lunch  
 Advance ticket required  
 12:15 Bridge\*  
 NO Computer-Fund of Internet  
 NO . . . . . Line Dance

**Friday 4/18**  
 Senior Center/Civic Center  
 Lunch Service  
 Transportation  
 Closed for Good Friday  
 Management Office Open

**Monday 4/21**  
 9 a.m. . . . . Stretch & Strength  
 NO Intro to . . . . . Computer Class  
 10 a.m. . . . . Body Recall  
 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. . . . . Sundry Shop Open  
 noon . . . . . Lunch  
 12:30 . . . . . Pinochle\*  
 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Afternoon Tea with Harpist, Kathryn  
 Operman  
 6:30 p.m. . . . . Clogging\*

**Tuesday 4/22**  
 9 a.m.-12 p.m. . . . . Massage Therapy  
 9 a.m. . . . . Panera bread  
 9:30 a.m. . . . . Line Dance\*  
 10 a.m. . . . . Crafts & Asian Pacific  
 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. . . . . AARP 55 Alive Driver Safety  
 Program  
 noon . . . . . Lunch  
 12:30 p.m. . . . . Bingo held in Activities Room  
 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Dance

**Wednesday 4/23**  
 9 a.m. . . . . Stretch & Strength  
 10 a.m. . . . . Body Recall  
 10:30 a.m. . . . . Quilting  
 11 a.m. . . . . Blood Pressure  
 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. . . . . Sundry Shop Open  
 11 a.m. . . . . TOPS Class  
 noon . . . . . Lunch  
 12:30 p.m. . . . . Clogging\*

\*Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All other activities will take place at the Meadowbrook Commons Community Center. Note: ALL TRIPS will depart from the Novi Civic Center on Ten Mile Rd. Phone (248) 347-0414.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Borders-NOVI Book Signing, Tyler Florence**  
 DATE: Friday, April 18  
 TIME: 7 p.m.  
 LOCATION: Borders Bookstore, Novi Town Center.  
 DETAILS: Book signing with The Food Network's hottest chef Tyler Florence. Tyler Florence's Real Kitchen.  
 PHONE: 248-347-0780.

**Quick Date**  
 DATE: Tuesday, April 22  
 TIME: 7:30 p.m.  
 LOCATION: 5th Avenue Ballroom, 25750 Novi Road, Novi  
 DETAILS: Meet 10-15 new people for 5 minutes each. It's fast-paced, fun & exciting! Pre-registration is required; \$40 fee.  
 PHONE: (517) 552-0673 or visit www.quickdateinfo.com

**Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Fiesta**  
 DATE: Wednesday, April 23  
 TIME: 11:30 am.-1 p.m.  
 LOCATION: Ole' Ole' Southwestern Grille, 1103 East Like Drive, Novi  
 DETAILS: 11TH Annual

**Employee Appreciation Day Luncheon**. \$15/per person, \$20/ at door, reservations requested.  
 PHONE: For more information, call (248) 624-2826.

**Meadowbrook Commons Senior Center Activity**  
 DATE: Thursday, April 24  
 TIME: 1 p.m.-3 p.m.  
 LOCATION: Novi Senior Center, Meadowbrook Commons  
 DETAILS: Fantastic and easy to make Sun Catcher. \$6, register in advance, registration deadline April 17.  
 PHONE: 248-347-0414

**Oakland County Historical Commission Workshop**  
 DATE: Saturday, April 26  
 TIME: 9 a.m.-noon  
 LOCATION: Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm.  
 DETAILS: This workshop is designed for local historical societies and small museums that have the need to inventory and manage collections, but have few staff members and limited funds with which to do it. This workshop is free and open to any interested member of the public.

PHONE: (248) 656-4663.  
**Experimental Watercolor**  
 DATE: Tuesdays, April 29 through June 17  
 TIME: 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
 LOCATION: Walled Lake Community Education, 615 N. Pontiac Trail  
 DETAILS: Select and trace beautiful images provided, then incorporate techniques using clear wrap, salt, cheese cloth and rice paper. Create four small paintings.  
 PHONE: Register for class at (248) 956-5000 or on-line at walledlake.k12.mi.us/ccc/

Send calendar items to Cal Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48168 or e-mail to cstoney@ht.homecomm.net.

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**MOVIE GUIDE**

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 PHONE BOOTH (R)  
 12:10, 2:00, 3:50, 5:40, 7:30, 9:20  
 FRISAT LS 11:30  
 HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES (R)  
 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:25, 9:30  
 FRISAT LS 11:30  
 THE CORE (PG-13)  
 (SAT/SUN 11:30) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:46  
 BASS (R) 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 9:50  
 FRISAT LS 11:30  
 DREAMCATCHER (R) 7:05, 9:45  
 PIGLET'S BIG MOVIE (G)  
 (SAT/SUN 10:30) 12:20, 2:05, 3:45, 5:25  
 QUIET AMERICAN (R)  
 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10  
 FRISAT LS 11:30  
 AGENT Cody BARKS (PG)  
 (SAT/SUN 10:30) 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10,  
 9:15 FRISAT LS 11:30  
 ABOUT SCHMIDT (R)  
 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40

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# NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY <sup>B-1</sup> SPORTS

NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

Thursday, April 17, 2003

## A Major Force

Under the guidance of Brian O'Leary, the Novi team's looking to be a huge force in Kensington Valley and beyond

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi girls' soccer team is at it again — winning that is.

The squad, led by coach Brian O'Leary, brushed by the Hartland Eagles 4-2 in Kensington Valley Conference play Monday night after shelling South Lyon 7-0 three days earlier in another conference match-up.

"They put up a good fight and had an effective strategy," O'Leary said. "They played very defensively, at times having eight defenders back, and waited for their chances."

And why wouldn't they play defensively? With offensive threats like those the Wildcats bring to the pitch, who wouldn't want to hedge their bets by dropping some players into the box?

The Wildcats proved that strategy a good one, collecting 29 shots on goal compared to Hartland's two.

"Their goalie played a good game, and we hit the post four times," O'Leary noted.

The star of the game was no doubt Maureen Pawlak, as she continued to build her staggering numbers.

### Girls' Soccer

Coming into the contest, the junior had 10 goals and five assists in five games — now she has 14 goals.

"Maureen continued her amazing play and scored all four of our goals," O'Leary said. "Assists were credited to Colene Brockman, Kellie Walker, Julie Johnston and Lisa Chocobelli."

The Wildcats didn't press the Eagles into oblivion either, instead opting to play all of the players at least 15 minutes each.

The 'Cats are currently 5-1 overall and 2-0 in the Kensington Valley Conference while sporting a ranking of sixth in Michigan as of press time.

"The season has gone well thus far," O'Leary said. "We have been improving every game and we have learned from our mistakes."

Against the South Lyon Lions April 11, the Wildcats were able to see all of their players getting in for at least a half each as they dominated their Kensington Valley Conference foes 7-0.

Pawlak scored four goals and one assist on the night while Kristi Timar notched two goals and two assists to pad her totals.

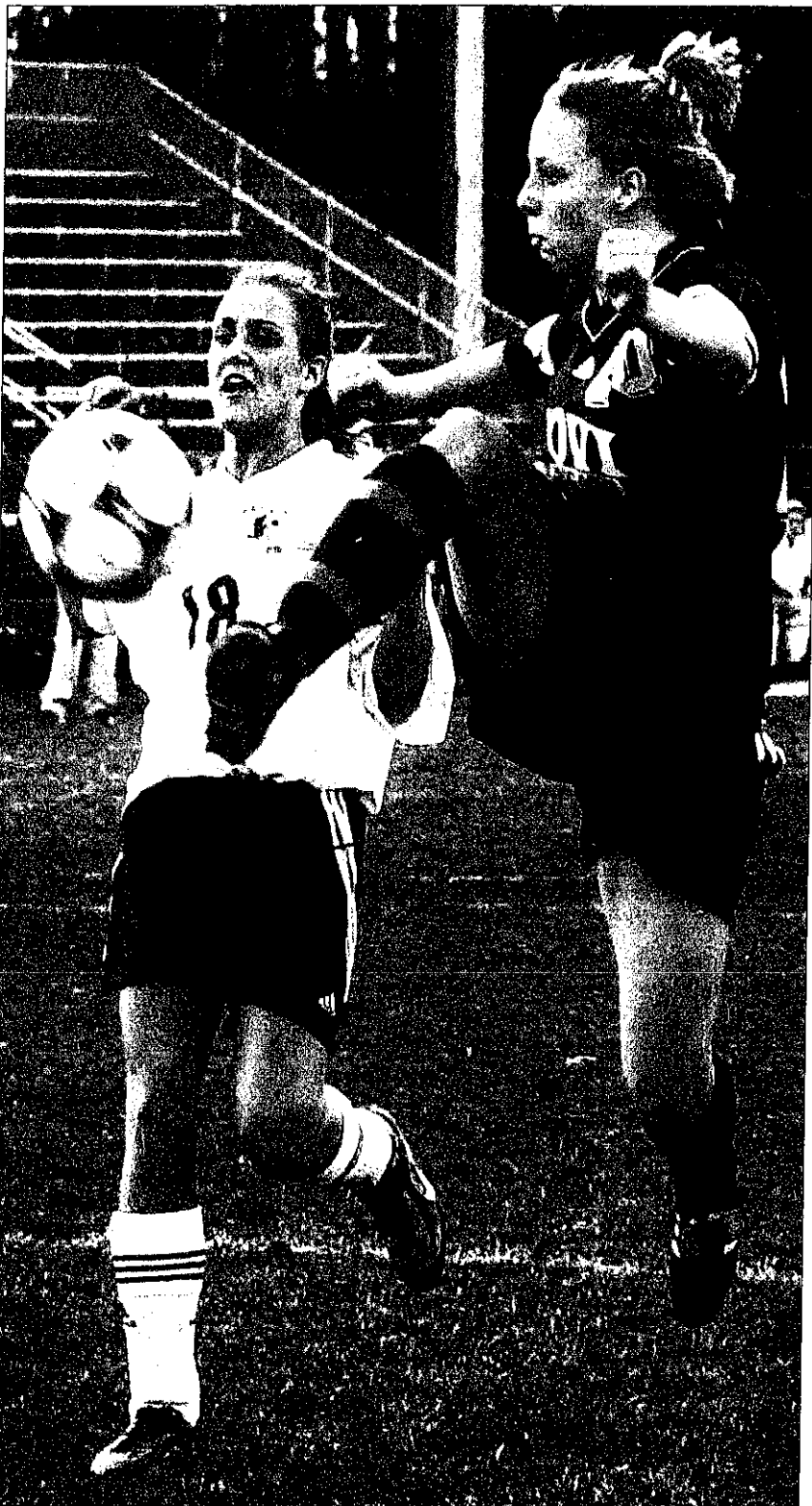
One of the highlights of the night was freshman Katie Walker's first goal of the season, and what a fitting time to do it — against a conference opponent.

Also picking up assists in the game were Katie Ales, Kellie Walker and Brockman, Kellie Pfeiffer and Amanda Church split time in the goal.

Though playing dominant soccer in both of their KVC games this season, O'Leary and the Wildcats aren't about to get overconfident. Instead, they are going to wait and see what goes on in the conference before trying to figure out where they fit in the bigger puzzle.

"As far as the KVC goes, it's too early to tell," O'Leary said after the South Lyon game. "With only one KVC game played, it's hard to look at the scores of the other games and know where we stand. The Brighton game on Wednesday should clear up the picture a little."

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.



Maureen Pawlak kicks a shot that would score Novi's first goal against Hartland. Hartland's Lauren Rutkowski (18) looks on.

Photo by TODD VANSICKLE

Why can't we just get along with nature?

Don't you just love sports in Michigan?

In the fall season, it might rain through the whole thing or end up snowing in August.

In the spring, it can be as nice and warm as it wants to be, or open up with freezing rain and snow.



Sam Eggleston

One thing I learned as I grew up playing sports in the Upper Peninsula was that the weather can never be a given. Heck, up there you might travel three or so hours for a single game. When we played Ewen-Trout Creek in football my junior year, it was sunny and warm, but two and a half hours later, we were playing in hail. Another time, during baseball, our field was so full of snow that you couldn't round the bases without cross-country skis, but three hours later when we arrived in Pickford, their field had just a little water on home plate.

I guess it's no different down here either. Sometimes, I feel like I moved to Florida because it gets so hot, other times I look out the window and I'm pretty wondering how it can thunder-storm in February.

With weird weather comes weird schedules. Though there are plenty of teams booked before the season begins, sometimes not all of those games get played on their original dates. Instead, they are rescheduled and sometimes they are canceled indefinitely.

This week, you might notice a few game reports that look a bit shorter than others. Some reports aren't reports at all, thanks to the snow that decided to come pay us a visit last week. In these cases, there's really nothing you can do. I end up hoping that I have enough sports stories to fill my section and (keeping my fingers crossed here) I don't, then I'll have to come up with some creative way to fill the section.

I have to say, on an overall basis, I'm usually pretty proud of what we are able to accomplish here at the Northville Record and the Novi News. Though the sports department consists of one full time writer and some stringers who work for peanuts (really, they do), we manage to fill four or five pages a week of just sports and usually do it with a minimum amount of mistakes.

Yeah, now and then we might dip to three, but other times we boost to seven, eight and even 10 at one time. If you sit back and compare that number to other local sports sections, I say, without naming names, we kick their tails right out of the scene.

It's not an easy job, but it's a fun one. I make my living writing about high school athletes and their accomplishments at the varsity level — not bad, eh? Now and then, the sports section might be lacking in the articles department, but be rest assured that even though one week might be a little thin the next week will make up for it.

Thanks to everyone who picks up this section for a reading. It means a lot to know that there are so many out there that are interested in the world of high school athletics, and don't mind reading this section to get that information.

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 by e-mail at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

**GAME OF THE WEEK**

Isn't it supposed to be Spring?

**Wacky Weather**

## Novi refuses to stay down for long

Under the leadership of captains Goodman, Chudy, Wildcats are in hunt for victories

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats girls' golf team knows what it takes to be winners — and they've been exhibiting the correct behaviors so far this season.

Though they hit a bump in the road with a 188-220 loss to Northville April 10, the Wildcats came right back to smack Kensington Valley Conference rival Lakeland with a 196-217 loss April 11. The following day, the Novi linksters competed in the Grosse Ile Invitational and took 11th with a score of 423.

Against the Northville squad, the Wildcats, under the guidance of coach Deb Harris, had to play through some adverse conditions that found the course wet and still playing host to snow on the banks and in the bunkers.

Northville's Layne Scherer and Andrea Fillipps shared medalist honors with an impressive 43 each, but the Wildcats weren't far behind. Sara

Goodman shot a 51 on the day to lead Novi, while Jennifer McKenna collected a 55, Laura Vaughn and Jessica Chudy shot 57, Jackie Chudy hit a 64 and Audrey Oh recorded a 67 in the loss.

Other scores for the Mustangs included Theresa Juthage's 45, Marie Snyder's 49, Kelly Harrison's 51 and Andrea Gorecki's 53.

Against Lakeland, the Wildcats had an improved showing and pulled out the conference victory as they pulled their record to 2-2 overall and 1-0 in the KVC.

Novi's Jackie Chudy and Lakeland's Emily Tucker shared the medalist honors with 47s, while the Wildcats turned up the heat through the rest of their ranks to get the victory.

Vaughn shot a nice 48 on the day, while Becca Hughes collected a 50 in the winning effort. Jessica Chudy's round tallied up to 51, while Goodman shot a 56 and McKenna recorded a 62.

For Lakeland, Lindsay Pipkin notched a 48, while Katie Noloff shot a 59, Candi Bonkonski earned a 63, Amanda Bate hit a 65 and Rachel Leonard tallied a 68 in the loss.

Shooting exhibition for the Wildcats were Jessica Westfall (49), Lindsay Haslett (59), Oh (65) and Jenna Kuhn (68).

April 12 found the Wildcats competing in the very tough Grosse Ile Invitational and walking away with 11th place. Grand Blanc won the event with 330, while Livonia Stevenson collected 333 and Grosse Ile shot 352. The medalist was Grand Blanc's Mandi McConnell with a 71 on the day.

For the Wildcats, the leading scorer was Jackie Chudy, shooting 99 over 18 holes. Westfall shot a 101 in the tournament, while Haslett hit a 110 and Jessica Chudy recorded a 113.

Also scoring for the Novi linksters was Brittany Neville with a 121 and Rene Schmitt with a 127. The tournament marked Westfall and

Haslett's first 18-hole stroke play in a tournament for Novi.

"They did very well," Harris said of the two, and then noted that the squad's leader on the day did a fine job as well. "Jackie Chudy came through with a great score of 99."

Harris said that one of the reasons the 'Cats have stepped up this season is due to their captains in Jessica Chudy and Goodman.

"They are doing a fine job setting a good example for their teammates," Harris said.

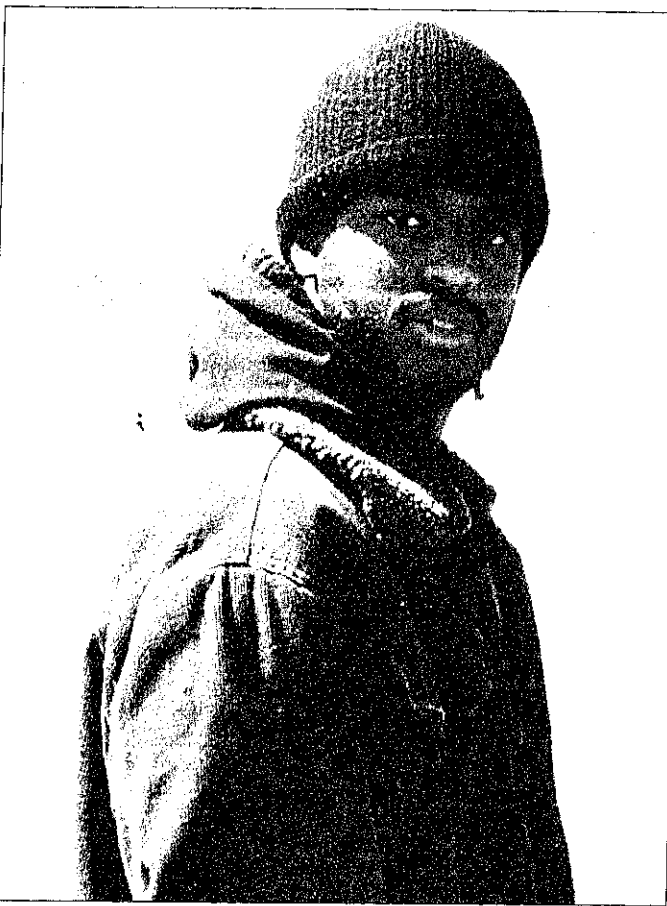
Chudy has collected scores of 53, 57 and 51 in dual meets as well as a 113 in tournament play, while Goodman shot a 53, 51 and a 56 in dual meets so far this season.

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.





Diesel trying hard not to be typical brute Action star tries too hard to convey feelings in much of 'A Man Apart'



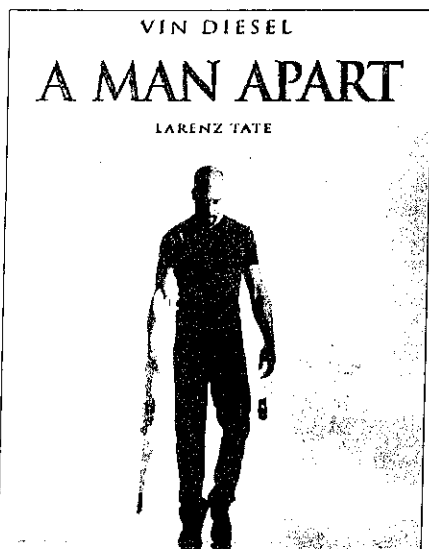
Larenz Tate plays Demetrius Hicks in 'A Man Apart.'

By Sam Eggleston ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

In 'XXX' Vin Diesel tried very hard not to be the next Roger Moore or Sean Connery. In 'A Man Apart,' I think he's trying even harder...

In a movie that really needs some good acting in the main character's role, Diesel is asked to play a Drug Enforcement Agency officer named Sean Vetter...

Backed up by DEA buddies that, as a team, have the highest trust rating in the country...



From that point on, you can pretty much guess that he isn't going to sit by idly. Instead, Sean goes after the killer without authorization...

'A Man Apart' was role Tate was looking for

By Sam Eggleston ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

"We didn't want to glorify it and we showed the gritty and dirty side of drugs."

Larenz Tate Actor

Though his name is never the main headline on the poster, you've probably noticed him nonetheless.

Some viewers may notice that the action in 'A Man Apart' flows fairly well...

One of the twists to the plot of 'A Man Apart' is the idea of the Drug Enforcement Agency officers...

The character relationship between Diesel's character and Tate's required some good on-screen chemistry...

"We're good friends," Tate said.

"I thought the material was ideal," Tate said. "I didn't want to play the conventional cop or the partner on the side."

NOTICE - CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR BIDS SNACK VENDING MACHINE SERVICES

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for Snack Vending Machine Services according to the specifications of the City of Novi...

(4-17-03 NN 50147)

with each other and we trust each other. He respects my work and he knows that I can bring out the best in him and vice versa...

"It's not a drinking issue or anything like that," he said. "It's a horrible turn of events that would drive any man or woman insane."

Tate said that the problems that the characters harbor in this movie aren't your everyday troubles...

"We're good friends," Tate said.

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The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for Pavement Striping according to the specifications of the City of Novi...

All bids must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED "Pavement Striping" BID...

(4-17-03 NN 50145)

roles as his career continues, and plans to work with Diesel again. "I'm going to do a comedy," he said...

Tate said that he hopes to find screen chemistry. Lucky for them, their off-screen friendship helped them gear towards that relationship on film.

San Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104...

seggleson@ht.homecom.net.

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(4-17-03 NN 50145)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 03-125.14

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 03-125.14. AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 37, SECTION 37-30...

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL #162 & 163 CITY OF NOVI COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN

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

NOTICE - CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR BIDS PAVEMENT STRIPING

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for Pavement Striping according to the specifications of the City of Novi...

(4-17-03 NN 50146)

Sony's 'Primal' taking next step in gaming

By Sam Eggleston ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

The first thing I would like to do is applaud Sony Computer Entertainment. Not only have they been producing some high-quality games...

Much like my opinion of their release "The Getaway," Sony's latest development in "Primal" manages to take you beyond the idea of a game and into something that is basically an interactive movie.

With nice cinematic sequences that don't bore you into cooking something to eat while you wait and a nice story to go along with it...

There are only two things I'd like to see added to this game if a sequel is to come out. First, sub-missions would be pretty cool.

With a solid story line and some great dialogue between Jen and Scree as well as the other characters throughout the game...

San Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104...

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I am dying to update my wardrobe for spring, but am really short on cash. I don't want to sell my engagement ring at a pawn shop, but really want to look good. Do you have any suggestions?

-WHAT TO DO IN NOVI

Dear What to do in Novi:

Abhhhhhh. There is nothing more exciting than seeing the first robin of the year, jumping in mud puddles or purchasing a brand new pair of strappy sandals.

And although this week didn't seem much like Easter is rounding the corner, the holiday associated with pink sun dresses, country clubs and Jesus Christ is arriving soon.

In fact, purchasing something white is on my list of inexpensive ways to update your wardrobe for the long haul.

Notice that I say 'update' your wardrobe. That is a key lesson number for changing your wardrobe with each season when on a budget.

Many of us in Michigan cannot afford the luxury of pitching and repurchasing four times a year, so adding and changing some key pieces of your wardrobe is the best way to look updated and save lots of cash.

I have three changes for existing items possibly in your closet that will take you into spring/summer 2003.

\*Cargo pants - This spring cargo is either more tailored, cropped or tied. This means some minor changes to your last season, wide-legged cargo pants will do the trick.

\*Scarves - If you own a scarf, I would then go with a large, chunky pendant necklace.

Only you know best what you already own, so I'll go over some basic suggestions so you may decide what would work best for you.



Victoria Sadlocha

And either left long or kept short, adding a hem with a tie inside and keyhole cutout will make a great gathered cargo seen more commonly with stilettos than sneakers this spring.

\*Handbags - Changing any small to moderate size purses you already own is a great way to update. And since most women usually carry handbags with every outfit, one changed bag may go a long way.

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you. Basic trends right now are anything very 1950s, Chinoiserie, billowy tops, old-school country clubs, anything pink, black and white worn together, updated cargoes and metallics.

Shoes are strappy, heeled and feminine; purses are smaller and glittery, and accessories are large. Large earthy pendants are a big hit this spring.

So what to do is add some of these pieces. My first suggestion is shoes for the same reason I suggested updating your purse.

A new pair of 2003 warm-weather shoes will update everything you wear. Next, I would go with a twin set. Now this, and anything else reminding me of the 1950s, is something you may consult your mother or grandmother about.

If you still have money left in your pocket, purchase anything pink. This should also be a very inexpensive task.

Before I sign off, I have two more reminders as you go on your merry shopping way. Don't forget consignment shops. And despite what society says, wear what looks good on you and you will look great for spring.

Also, don't forget about your jeans. This spring, jeans with a polo-style top, kimono or camisole or your new spring shoes (with at least a two-inch heel) will look great.

If you need advice, a little help or a complete over-haul, please forward your questions to vsadlocha@ht.homecom.net or seggleson@ht.homecom.net.

A cotton white skirt should be easy to find and very inexpensive. Paired with a pair of black stilettos or ballet flats and a black top, you will look like a fashion goddess.

I would then go with a large, chunky pendant necklace. This is a wise choice for the same reason as the purse and the shoes.

Only you know best what you already own, so I'll go over some basic suggestions so you may decide what would work best for you.

And although this week didn't seem much like Easter is rounding the corner, the holiday associated with pink sun dresses, country clubs and Jesus Christ is arriving soon.

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# REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 6B

Thursday, April 17, 2003

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Gardner recognized

Rus Gardner, of South Lyon, has earned the 2002 Distinguished Sales Award, recognizing him as the top Farm Bureau Insurance agent in Michigan. This is the 12th time that Gardner has earned the annual award, the highest honor bestowed by Farm Bureau Insurance.

Gardner received the award during the company's recent annual convention in Traverse City, where he was honored as the number one agent in the state for 2002.

R. Gardner also received the top agent award in 11 other years: 1987, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 98 and 99.



Gardner, whose insurance offices are in Novi, has been a Farm Bureau Insurance agent since 1983. He has been a consistent sales leader since then, breaking several company records and earning the company's top award year after year.

One of the most honored agents in company history, Gardner is a 14-year member of the Million Dollar Round Table, an international association of the world's top life insurance agents. He is a charter and current member of the President's Council, an elite group of agents who excel in both life insurance and property-casualty sales.

A strong supporter of the Oakland County Farm Bureau, Gardner has been among the top Farm Bureau membership writers in the state for many years. He coached youth sport for much of his life, including wrestling, football, golf and girl's softball.

Formerly a teacher and coach in Novi School, Gardner was named the Michigan Wrestling Coach of the Year three times. He and his wife, Carol have four children.

### Hardy's back at it

Will Hardy of Green Oak Township celebrated his 85th birthday by announcing he would begin a new business venture.

At a luncheon party in Bistrot 127 in downtown South Lyon with friends from the "Writing from the Heart" group he has guided for 10 years, Hardy said he was switching from his role as a "retiring retiree" to active entrepreneur. His birthday was April 15.



W. Hardy

A former newspaper reporter and photo editor at *The Detroit Times*, and public relations counselor, Hardy is also the author of "Greater Greater Detroiters," a set of mini-biographies of inspiring Detroit area activists.

He said his new venture will be as an Independent Consumer Advocate for ConsumerFIRST, L.L.C., a national financial services consumer marketing company with corporate offices in Cincinnati and Houston. The firm offers businesses and consumers "a new way of sharing prosperity."

"The prospects for serving people in this area through this endeavor were too enticing to stay inactive," Hardy said.

### New chamber address

The folks at the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce are still hanging their hats at the same old place in beautiful downtown but their address in cyberspace has changed. You can still call them at (248) 624-2826 or stop by the office at 305 N. Pontiac Trail, Suite B, but if you want to E-mail them, the new address is info@lakesareachamber.com. Lakes Area Chamber administrative assistant Jo Alley said the address change is the result in a change of Internet service providers.

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ADVERTORIAL



Photo by Hal Gould

A meeting of some of Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital's volunteers.

## Volunteers instrumental in hospital's success

When visiting a hospital, most of us think mainly of doctors and nurses. But, just like a busy hive of bees, there's a huge group of volunteers behind the scenes that help Huron Valley Sinai Hospital run smoothly and efficiently. On any given week there's a core of approximately 100 active volunteers that contribute hundreds of hours a week. In fact, 24,000 hours last year.

Typical of the volunteer is Thelma Hopkins, vice president of fundraising. Her reason for helping was simple, "I needed something to do, and somewhere to go. Now I have something to look forward to," said Hopkins.

Marie Yeager agrees, saying, "15 years ago I came here to get back in the groove."

Those volunteers who "get in the groove" help to improve everyone's experience at the hospital including patients,

visitors, doctors, and nurses.

Jeanie Everhart began volunteering in 1994, when her husband retired. Now, she's a full time employee that still finds time to volunteer. She and Virgene Wright also find time to knit hats and booties for infants and pediatrics.

"I don't sleep a lot," she laughed.

Wright, vice president of community relations has been generously donating her time for 17 years. At 80 years young, she's been a part of the volunteer program since the hospital opened and has already logged 17,000 plus hours.

Deb Moraitis, volunteer services coordinator at Huron Valley Sinai, says it's not unusual for the retired to miss the day-to-day interaction of the working world. Volunteering is a way to reconnect.

"People retire and then real-

ize they miss the social interaction they counted on as part of their day," said Moraitis. As a volunteer, they not only interact with visitors and staff, they also form friendships with other volunteers as well.

### All ages are welcome

Age is no barrier. Volunteers range from teens, to a very active 91-year-old Margaret Christiansen who works in the gift shop.

The aftermath of the tragedy on 9-11 also prompted many volunteers to come forward. Many of these are young or middle aged adults who work full time. Some are former patients who've had a good experience and want to express their gratitude.

Deb Moraitis credits the former volunteer coordinator, Dee Bryant, for the current strength of volunteer program. Her retirement left big shoes to fill and has now turned into a full time job.

"She was a big part of the program. She was loving, empathetic, and everyone's best friend. She managed to accomplish so much in a few hours."

### Couples find togetherness

Not so typical is Bob Cordts, who is one of approximately 25 men that volunteer. They are making a statement and their numbers are growing. Cordts is the current President of the Huron Valley Sinai Hospital Auxiliary. He and his wife, Flo (also a volunteer), saw an advertisement in the paper requesting volunteers for another hospital, and decided to serve in their own back yard. A retired engineer, Cordts volunteers in the hospital's information system.

For all their hours of dedication, the volunteers don't ask for much, although they are greatly appreciated by the staff. A yearly dinner recognizes their accomplishments

with awards. Although there are some who will never be recognized because they choose to keep it that way. For example, one woman and her daughter dropped off two bags of hand made blankets with a patriotic theme. One couple donates coloring books and crayons to entertain children in the surgical waiting room.

"There are so many things that happen behind the scenes and so many people who do things anonymously," said Deb Moraitis.

Where do all these people volunteer?

Yes, they staff the information desk, and the gift shop. And there are lots of skilled knitters that send home each infant with a hat and the pediatric department with booties. They do so much more. Volunteers check people in for surgery. Some may deliver the mail. Volunteers are used to wrap surgical trays for surgery and the emergency room. Some process paperwork in the pharmacy department. They even collect and frame artwork by local students to brighten the halls.

Another important function of the group is fund raising. Their main fundraiser is the gift shop, however they also host other events, such as uniform sales, bake sales, books sales, gold sales. The funds are typically used to purchase medical equipment for the hospital. They've currently pledged a half a million dollars to the building fund. Other areas they contribute to include scholarships for area students.

Kim Burcar, public relations marketing director says that although she just got on board, she sees they play a vital role at the hospital.

"It seems they have a really strong and motivated group. They always have a smile on their face. You can tell they're happy to be here," said Burcar.

Huron Valley Sinai Hospital is located at 1 William Carls Drive in Commerce.

### THANK YOU!

The 200-plus volunteers at our hospital are a vital part of our hospital family. The thousands of hours that volunteers contribute, in return for the satisfaction of knowing that they make a difference, helps Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital provide a caring and compassionate environment that is second to none. When it comes to active volunteering, we have volunteers who work in areas such as the surgical waiting room, the gift shop, and the mail room; other volunteers donate their time knitting baby hats and blankets, and making puppets for kids. Our hospital would not be what it is today without the help of our volunteers.

Not only do the volunteers contribute with hands-on help, but they are also a leading force in our fundraising efforts. This year, the volunteers raised money for Huron Valley-Sinai's Capital Campaign, a program designed to raise money for the purchase of medical equipment, and recently, they pledged money to assist with our hospital expansion project.

We are very lucky to have such a generous group of volunteers who put forth a tremendous amount of time and effort. On behalf of Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, I would like to thank them for their countless support.

Bob Yellan,  
President,  
Huron Valley-Sinai  
Hospital



Photo by Hal Gould

Gay Currin (left) and Pat Cox, two of the volunteers working in the gift shop.

## Expecting Someone?

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