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# Novi News



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

Thursday, September 4, 2003

hometownlife.com

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Novi, Michigan

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Look inside for your  
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## INSIDE



### New York in Novi

The Manhattan Club, a new nightclub that brings a taste of New York to Novi, just opened Aug. 22 on Grand River between Meadowbrook and Haggerty. From left, owners Karl Early and Linda Dettore with Chef Joey DelVecchio. Dishes, from left: Coconut Shrimp, Cathedral Parkway Chicken and Thai Mix. — Page 5A

### Welcome!

John Lawrence is the new principal at Novi High School. See the rest of the district's new teachers, administrators and administrators who have changed positions. — Page 10/11A

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Welcome!

It's been almost 10 years since "nightmare" fans have seen Freddy Krueger's ugly face on the silver screen, but that drought ended with his return. — Page 1B

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# Wixom plans to recreate downtown

## Creation of a DDA first step in \$30M tab

By Phil Foley  
STAFF WRITER

More than 70 years after a spark from a passing train reduced three-quarters of Wixom to ashes, the city is taking steps to rekindle its downtown.

Wixom City Council voted Aug. 26 to sign a contract with Oakland County, allowing the city to create a Downtown

Development Authority and keep \$9.1 million in county taxes over the next 25 years.

The money will be used to help pay for some \$30 million in infrastructure improvements the city plans to make in a 265-acre area centered on Pontiac Trail and Wixom Road.

City Manager Michael Dornan looks out from his office on Pontiac Trail and sees a village center where children watch responsible adults interacting daily in a pedestrian-friendly environment that combines commercial and residential uses. "This has never been done anywhere nationwide," Dornan

declared.

"They're building someplace to come home to," said Oakland County Commissioner Jeff Potter, who championed the program before the county commission.

Under the contract Wixom has signed with the county, the city can levy a two-mill tax on properties within the DDA and keep any increased county tax revenues generated by improvements to properties within the authority for up to 25 years.

Under the terms of the tax increment financing authority, however, the city is limited to keeping no more than \$9.1 million in county taxes. Once that or

"We know we have a great plan we can deliver."

Tony Nowicki  
Wixom assistant city manager

the 25-year mark is reached, the city's taxing authority for the DDA sunsets.

The city could begin collecting the new revenues as early as July 1, according to City Treasurer Kevin Brady.

Larry Cohen, whose West

Bloomfield company Cohen & Associates has partnered with Bloomfield Hills' Robertson Brothers to develop 41 acres of city-owned property north of Wixom City Hall, said he expects

continued on page 6

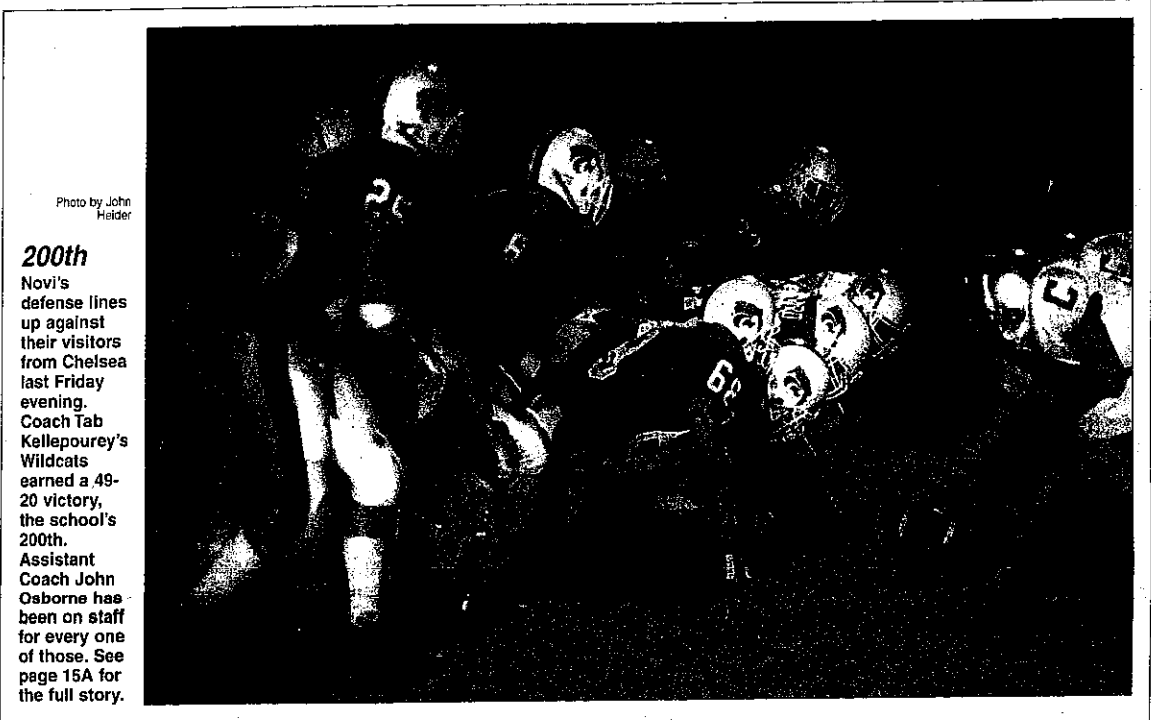


Photo by John Heider

**200th**  
Novi's defense lines up against their visitors from Chelsea last Friday evening. Coach Tab Kellepourey's Wildcats earned a 49-20 victory, the school's 200th. Assistant Coach John Osborne has been on staff for every one of those. See page 15A for the full story.

# 'Labor' of Love

## Artist helps build largest monument in North America honoring workers

By PAM FLEMING  
STAFF WRITER

Novi artist David Barr has once again helped create a piece of art that will grace the landscape for generations to come.

Barr collaborated with Redford Township artist Sergio De Giusti to create "Transcending," a new monument in downtown Detroit's Hart Plaza honoring labor.

The work, dedicated at a special day-long ceremony Aug. 20, celebrates almost three years of work by labor activists and the two local artists.

The \$1.5 million project was funded by the Michigan Labor Legacy Project. Gerald Bantom, director of the United Auto Workers Ford Department, served as president of the non-profit organization. Barr described members of the project as a group of people from a variety of organizations involved in labor history.

"These are idealists and dreamers who want to get the message of their lives and labor's accomplishments to the public," Barr said.

More than 120 artists submitted proposals for the monument. The jury that selected Barr and De Giusti's idea included Graham Beal, director of the Detroit Institute of Arts.

It was fitting that the artists completed "Transcending" — the name of the new sculpture in downtown Detroit's Hart Plaza

— prior to the Labor Day Weekend.

The monument honors both workers and labor activists — those engaged in the struggle for worker's rights that has been as much a part of the Detroit landscape as the sculpture itself.

"Transcending" is the largest work of art honoring labor in North America. The two stainless steel arcs reach 63 feet into the air and were designed by Barr. The arcs sweep up to a point where they almost touch. The gap represents the unfinished work of workers. Many union workers helped construct the landmark. For example, the stainless steel pieces were welded together by Capital Welding in Southfield.

Barr had 14 granite boulders placed around the base of the monument. He cut and polished the boulders in Vermont and had them shipped to Detroit on trucks. The boulders range from three- to seven-foot high and feature bronze reliefs designed by De Giusti. Each relief tells a story about ordinary workers.

Pavers with more than 40 quotations from people who were important to the labor movement, such as Martin Luther King Jr., Eugene Debs, Frederick Douglass, Eleanor Roosevelt and former Walter Reuther.

The monument also has a time capsule with mementos of labor families, such as labor caps, a

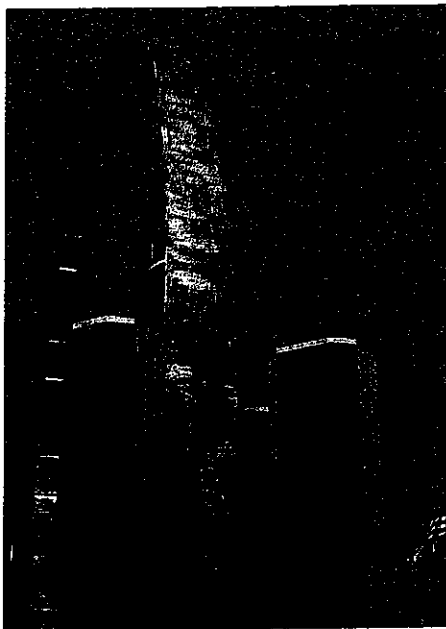


Photo by Cal Stone

"Transcending," a new monument in Hart Plaza in downtown Detroit honoring labor, was designed by Novi artist David Barr and Redford Township artist Sergio De Giusti. The work features two 63-foot stainless steel pieces that make up an arc that almost touches in the middle, symbolizing the fact that laborers' work is never done.

continued on page 3

## Novi Police investigate death of beaten girl

By Phil Foley  
STAFF WRITER

Two-year-old Ann Marie Shawley was supposed to be back with her mother in Emmet today following a Labor Day weekend visit with her father in Novi.

Instead, the toddler's mother is planning a funeral and the girl's 22-year-old stepfather is facing charges related to her death.

"It's one of the worse cases I've seen in 33 year of law enforcement — and I've seen a lot," said Novi Police Chief Doug Shaeffer.

He said emergency room officials at Novi's Providence Hospital called police after the girl's father brought her in about 10 a.m. Monday with multiple injuries, including brain damage.

Chief Shaeffer said the child was treated at Providence Park before being transferred to a special treatment unit at Royal Oak's William Beaumont Hospital. He said doctors at Beaumont declared the child dead at 7:05 p.m. Tuesday and took her off all life support.

Beaumont spokesman Ilene Wolff said that child's family has asked that the hospital release no information on the case.

Oakland County Medical Examiner Dr. Ljubisa J. Dragovic said the child was one of six autopsies scheduled for Wednesday.

As of press time Wednesday, Novi Police and the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office were still investigating and discussing possible charges against the stepmother.

continued on page 4

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# Wixom plans to recreate downtown for city

continued from front page

Although the DDA could hold onto county revenues for up to 25 years, Cohen said he expects build-out for his project within five years, and city officials are predicting the entire DDA plan will be complete in 10 years.

Cohen said he and his partners own or have under contract roughly 120 acres of the area covered by the DDA. According to Assistant City Manager Tony Nowicki, that is the "cornerstone" of the project.

The partnership, CRS Robertson Acquisitions, is planning a mixed use development that will eventually bring 600 to 700 new families to water city officials are calling the village center.

Overall, said Nowicki, the DDA will add some 87,000 square feet of commercial space to Wixom's village center and up to 1,000 new residences. "We know we have a great plan we can deliver," he said.

That, said Dennis Toftolo, Oakland County's Community and Economic Developer Director, is what finally sold the county on the project. "Dennis is a return on investment for shareholders," he said.

According to Dorman, while the DDA's 265 acres generates \$40,000 in county revenue now, it will pump \$500,000 annually into county coffers when it's completed.

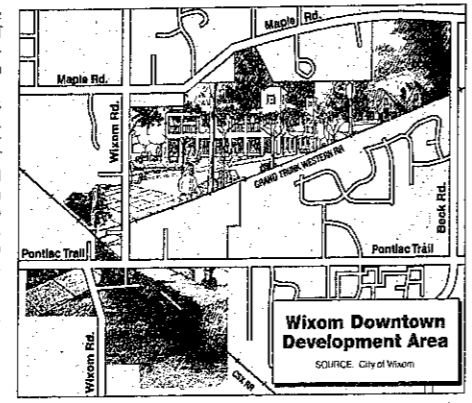
Competition with the mall and other county revenues for up to 25 years, Cohen said he expects build-out for his project within five years, and city officials are predicting the entire DDA plan will be complete in 10 years.

He also sees other opportunities within the DDA. For instance, Larry Cue's Walled Lake Diner Train currently stops at the end of an abandoned section of Grand Trunk Western Railroad track in Wixom and then backs up to Walled Lake on its nightly runs. Cohen said he would like to see a restaurant and some sort of inn at the Wixom end of the line.

According to Dorman, what puts Wixom ahead of other nearby examples of new urbanism that have been less than successful is that Wixom already has a downtown. "We've got a city hall, the civic center and post office all right here," he said. He added Wixom Road and Pontiac Trail are already heavily traveled arterials.

That, noted Cohen, is a critical element for success. He noted that Novi's Main Street Development project to divert traffic off Grand River Avenue rather than work with it.

With most of its commercial and industrial development south of Pontiac Trail and most of its residential development north of that, "Wixom really is a pretty good town," said Nowicki. "There's a tremendous sense of



This map shows the boundaries of the new Wixom DDA, which will add nearly 87,000 square feet of commercial space to the village center and up to 1,000 new residences. At the top of the page is a rendering of the proposed downtown look.

all the components to make it go." Toftolo noted the recent changes in the DDA program have created less risk for the county. "We used to grant DDAs without specific requirements," he said. Now the program insists on a business plan with paybacks. "It's got to be more than just buses with flowers on lightpoles," he said.

Cohen said that once the DDA is complete, "It's going to be closer to downtown Milford than a strip mall." However, unlike Milford, there will be a place to hold festivals and other outdoor events without closing off the main street.

While it's the biggest thing Wixom has done in a half-century, Dorman said, "I'm not excited yet. I'll be excited when I see people walking downtown and see people sitting on their balconies cantilevered out over the street."

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

community here. The only thing missing is that downtown." County Commission Hugh Crawford said that while he doesn't generally support tax diversion proposals, "this one has

# Senator Cassis offers plan for jobs, health care and economic growth

## Legislative package calls for phase-out of tax penalty on health benefits

By PAM FLEMING  
 STAFF WRITER

State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Nowi) introduced a bill package recently to phase out the tax on employer-funded health benefits under the Small Business Tax.

The goal of the package is to create jobs and stop layoffs, provide and expand health benefits, and sharpen Michigan's competitive edge.

"Michigan is one of only two states that impose a tax penalty on employers who supply health benefits to their workers," Cassis said. The state of Washington is the other state that has the tax. Michigan's small business tax went into effect in 1975.

"We ought to be encouraging businesses to fund health care packages for workers, not discouraging them with a capricious and arbitrary tax," Cassis said.

Charles Long, managing director of the Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority, supports the legislation.

Ed Deeb, president of the Michigan Business and Professional Association and the Michigan Food and Beverage Association, in Warren said, "The cost of health care insurance has gone up about 23 percent per year for the last three years. This impacts small business owners probably more than any other, because employees of small businesses rely on their insurance to take care of their families."

PROFILE OF NOVI	
2002-2003 Novi Community Profile - Industry Employment	
Industry Type	Number Employed
Ag., forestry, fishing, hunting and mining	27
Arts, entertainment, rec., hotels and food	1,740
Construction	1,114
Ed., health and social services	4,022
Finance, insurance and real estate	1,942
Information	627
Manufacturing	6,493
Other services (except public admin.)	755
Prof., scientific, mgmt., admin and waste mgmt.	3,888
Public administration	464
Retail trade	3,010
Transportation, warehousing, utilities	675
Wholesale trade	1,219

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

urge the legislature to adopt this package," Deeb said.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. Anything that can be done to alleviate their financial burden and help them create more jobs and/or provide more health benefits is a plus for everyone," Long said.

"Whether we are in good or bad economic times, we should always be looking for ways to help our business owners to expand and become more competitive, thus contributing to grow our state's economy," she added.

"Eliminating the punitive tax on health benefits will provide the economic incentive for employers to offer increased benefit packages, hire more workers and expand their business base."

"Employees want top pay and top benefits, but they come at a cost to business owners of less money for advertising, updating equipment, or adding new employees," said Isaly Szeletal, president of Vettesstrations in Southfield. "Senator Cassis' proposed bill will be very beneficial."

Cassis said she will soon announce hearings on the legislation.

Tom Davis, a representative from Cassis' office in Lansing, said Tuesday that hearings should begin the first week in October.

Opponents of the bill package say that recent cutbacks in state shared revenues that Michigan needs as much tax income as possible going into the general fund.

"Our response to that argument would be that we can't afford not to eliminate this tax penalty," Davis said.

Davis said it is estimated that businesses will save about \$15 million dollars in the first year if the tax is eliminated on employer-funded health insurance.

"Some people might view that as a reduction in state revenue of \$15 million. But, if you allow employers and businesses to keep that much of their own money, they're going to invest it in their business, have less layoffs, and be able to purchase more health insurance," Davis said.

The tax applies to all businesses in the state with \$250,000 in gross receipts, according to Davis.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Firm offers phone service

@Wireless Enterprises, a Novi retailer of wireless products and services, recently introduced a new phone service to its customers.

@Wireless and Z-Tel Technologies have teamed to offer @Wireless customers Z-LineBUSINESS and Z-LineHOME phone services.

The new services provide local and long distance services with optional calling features all on one bill.

@Wireless carries wireless products from satellite television and radio to global positioning systems. The new phone service will be available in most of @Wireless' 60-plus franchise retail stores nationwide.

The Novi @Wireless Enterprises is located in the West Oaks shopping center on the west side of Novi Road off I-96. For more information, call (248) 596-1900.

### Translating firm adds to staff

Hironi Fuji has joined Suzuki Myers & Associates, Ltd., in Novi as the English/Japanese interpreting and translating firm's second full-time simultaneous interpreter.

Fuji received a master's degree in interpretation and translation from the Monterey Institute of International Studies in Monterey, Calif. She feels fortunate to work with the firm's president, Izumi Suzuki.

"I am being supervised by one of the best and best-known interpreters in the world," Fuji said.

Suzuki Myers, which is located in a farmhouse at 4630 W. Ten Mile Road, in Novi, will celebrate its 20th anniversary next year. Suzuki has completed terms of service as a member of the Board and a division administrator of the American Translators Association. With almost 9,000 members, the association is the largest of its kind in the world. Suzuki is also the organization's language chair and is president of the Michigan Translators/Interpreters Network.

### DaimlerChrysler honors local plants

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company's operating group, Cooper-Standard Automotive, headquartered in Novi, announced last week that the company received several DaimlerChrysler Gold Awards for quality and delivery.

The Gold Award honors the performance of nine Cooper-Standard Automotive manufacturing plants for achievements during 2002. DaimlerChrysler presents the Gold Award to supplier manufacturing facilities in recognition of outstanding performance and the attainment of a high ranking among other suppliers.

Cooper-Standard Automotive has enjoyed a long relationship with DaimlerChrysler in North America and also produces components for Mercedes-Benz plants in Germany and the Czech Republic.

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company is headquartered in Findlay, Ohio, and specializes in the manufacture and marketing of products for the global automotive market.

### Childtime Learning Centers' revenue up

Childtime Learning Centers, Inc., headquartered in Novi, announced operating results Tuesday for the 16 weeks ending July 18. The results show a substantial increase from revenues for the same period last year, stemming largely from the firm's acquisition of Tutor Time Learning Systems, Inc., in July 2002.

The company's revenues increased by 41.6 percent for the first quarter of fiscal 2004 — from \$44.4 million to \$62.9 million.

Company gross profit for the first quarter of fiscal 2004 increased by 75.9 percent to \$8.1 million, compared to \$4.6 million for the same period last year.

Childtime Learning Centers, Inc., is one of the nation's largest publicly-traded child care providers with operations in 30 states, the District of Columbia and overseas. The centers employ more than 7,500 people and are licensed

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LIBRARY LINES

Tot time

Children ages 12-24 months are invited to join us for a half hour of stories, songs, and games on Saturday, September 6, at 11 a.m. Registration is not required, but space is limited, so toddlers and caregivers only, please.

Ronald McDonald visit

We're celebrating Library Card Sign-Up Month with a visit from Ronald McDonald on Wednesday, September 17, from 7-7:45 p.m. No registration is necessary for the event, which is sponsored by the McDonald's at 10 Mile and Grand River. Kids of all ages are welcome.

Board meeting

The Novi Library Board of Directors meets Monday, September 8, at 7 p.m. in the east side of the library meeting room. Community members are welcome to attend.

Senior book discussion group

Senior booklovers are reading "Girl in Hyacinth Blue" by Susan Vreeland for their September meeting. The group meets in the library meeting room on Thursday, September 11, at noon.

Introduction to the Internet for seniors

Learn the basics of the Internet in a relaxed, supportive environment on Wednesday, September 10, from 1-3 p.m. You will discover how the Internet works, practice using a web browser, and learn about using search engines to find information. The class includes interactive discussion and hands-on practice. Please register in advance for all Internet classes in person or by calling the library.

Introduction to the Internet for all ages

Adults of all ages are invited to join us for a basic introduction to the Internet on Thursday, September 18, from 7-9 p.m. Discover what the worldwide web is, learn about various search tools and search engines, and how to use a web browser. The session will include interactive discussion, as well as hands-on practice.

Adult book discussion group

Our September selection is "Bea Sawan" by Myla Goldberg. The group meets Monday, Sept. 8, at 7 p.m. in the meeting room west side.



OBITUARIES

Margaret Bowman

Margaret Bowman of Northville died August 31, 2003. She was 73. Mrs. Bowman was born August 15, 1930 in Detroit to the late Victor G. Rumsdall and Johanna Feby Rumsdall.

Survivors include her husband, John Bowman of Northville; two children, John (Lorraine) Bowman, Jr. of Brownstown Township and Sandra (James) Bowman-Chas of Highland; three grandchildren, James and Jonathan Chas and Jan Bowman; and two siblings, Victor (Kathy) Rumsdall of Brighton and Betty (George) Gates of Milford.

On display

The Monte Nagler Photography Exhibition will be held from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 8 through Saturday, Oct. 11 at Meadowbrook Art Center. Black and white photographs of various subjects will be displayed in the new gallery of Meadowbrook Art Center, which is located at 41200 Ten Mile Road in Novi. Call (248) 477-6620 for more information.

Photo by Monte Nagler

Stanley Spencer Rader

Stanley Rader of Charlottesville, Va., formerly of Novi, died August 23, 2003. He was 68. Mr. Rader was born in Ashland, Ohio, to the late Harold Glen Melvin Rader and Beatrice Ekey Rader.

Laura May Rockefeller

Laura Rockefeller of Farmington, formerly of Northville, died August 29, 2003. She was 91. Mrs. Rockefeller was born December 24, 1911 in White Plains, N.Y.

Survivors include her husband, John Bowman of Northville; two children, John (Lorraine) Bowman, Jr. of Brownstown Township and Sandra (James) Bowman-Chas of Highland; three grandchildren, James and Jonathan Chas and Jan Bowman; and two siblings, Victor (Kathy) Rumsdall of Brighton and Betty (George) Gates of Milford.

Robert Treat

Robert Treat of West Branch, formerly of Northville, died August 16, 2003. He was 73.

Team, One Ford Pl. Ste 5A, Detroit, Mich. 48202-3067.

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

Stanley Spencer Rader

Stanley Rader of Charlottesville, Va., formerly of Novi, died August 23, 2003. He was 68. Mr. Rader was born in Ashland, Ohio, to the late Harold Glen Melvin Rader and Beatrice Ekey Rader.

He received his bachelor's degree in education from Whittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio. His professional career included teaching physical education in Fremont, Mich., Ohio and the Philippines. Survivors include his wife, Carolyn LaFon Rader; two daughters, Beth Rader and Jennifer (Jody) Giacalone; two grandchildren, all of Charlottesville, and a sister, Penny (Dennis) Sweetman of Strongsville, Ohio.

A memorial service was held August 30 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Ashland, Ohio. Memorials may be made to the Trustees of the Piedmont, 1490 Pantops Mountain Place, Charlottesville, Va. 22911 or the Trinity Lutheran Lincoln Scholarship Fund, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile Rd., Livonia, Mich. 48150.

Arrangements were made by Hill and Wood Funeral Home, Charlottesville, Va.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

continued from page 7

to provide education and care for more than 30,000 children daily in over 470 corporate and franchise centers.

Novi resident one of casino's outstanding employees

Liz Davis of Novi, security clerk for MGM Grand Detroit Casino, has been named one of the casino's outstanding employees. Davis was recognized as part of MGM Grand Detroit Casino's "Grand Celebrity Award" program, designed to reward employees for



Liz Davis is among six employees

work achievements above and beyond the call of duty. Davis has proven herself as a role model for other employees by performing exceptional acts of Grand Class Service, said casino officials. She demonstrates a commitment to excellence, passion for her work, and teamwork qualities, while going the extra mile in her daily role.

"Winners of the Grand Celebrity Award are the shining stars of MGM Grand Detroit Casino," said George Boyer, president and chief operating officer, MGM Grand Detroit Casino. "They exemplify and convey our mission statement, core values and Grand Class Service standards."

honor each month and four management staff members honored each quarter as part of the "Grand Celebrity Award" program.

- Winners of the award receive: • A cash reward • Letter of congratulations from the employee's division vice president and Boyer • Grand Celebrity plaque • Grand Celebrity name tag • Grand Celebrity parking space • Dinner for two at The Hollywood Brown Derby, MGM Grand Detroit Casino's premier restaurant, valued at \$150 • \$50 gift certificate good for MGM Grand Detroit Casino retail merchandise • A 2-foot stuffed plush lion

Workplace violence seminar

Verizon Wireless will host a free "Domestic Violence in the Workplace" breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Sept. 9 to educate participants on why domestic violence is a workplace issue and how businesses can take steps to address the problem.

The event, which is co-sponsored by The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, sister publications of the Novi News, will take place at the Skyline Club at 2000 Towne Center in Southfield. The event will feature a local female business executive who is a survivor of domestic violence and a special training session conducted by HAVEN, an Oakland County-based domestic violence organization.

Partners and boyfriends commit 13,000 acts of violence against women in the workplace each year, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

From increased medical costs to absenteeism, domestic violence affects employers as well as employees. In Michigan, it is estimated that businesses lose more than \$309 million annually in absenteeism alone due to domestic violence, according to Beverly Younger Urban, a nationally recognized expert on domestic violence in the workplace and a consultant to the Family Violence Prevention Fund. Space for the free event is limited. Call (248) 855-6777, ext. 120.

CLASS NOTES

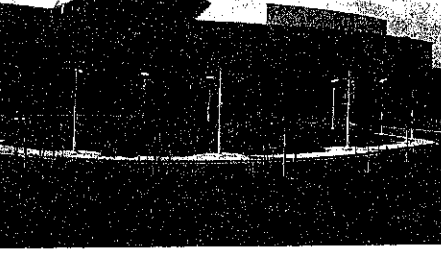
Oakland Schools battles allegations

By Ramez Khuri & Cal Stone STAFF WRITERS & EDITORS

Two members of the Oakland Intermediate School District Board of Education have resigned amid accusations of extravagant spending on travel and gifts, but it appears the three remaining members will not follow suit even though Gov. Jennifer Granholm and Mike Flanagan, executive director of the Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators, have called for their resignations.

The Detroit Free Press reported Aug. 22 that board officials had run up excessive expenses. Four days later, Tony Rothschild, secretary, and Helen Pritow, a trustee, both turned in their resignations at a board meeting. On Tuesday's board meeting, DiAnne Cagle Lettermann, vice president, and Janet Thomas, treasurer, defended their jobs while the board president, Carl Borich, was out of town. Arrangements were made by Hill and Wood Funeral Home, Charlottesville, Va.

ISD FACTS



The Oakland ISD opened this new \$30 million administration building in Waterford.

Intermediate school districts were created to provide resources for special needs children. The theory is that in a pool of local districts, one organization - the intermediate - could have better resources to provide for special needs children. ISDs also offer expertise in finance and curriculum development as well as run vocational programs. There are 57 intermediate school districts in Michigan. The Oakland Intermediate School District serves 26 local districts and operates a \$207 million annual budget financed by county taxpayers through an annual millage.

Advertisement for SIDING WORLD featuring various siding and window products with prices and contact information.

Whiston defends his spending

Lobbyist says its part of the job

By Ramez Khuri STAFF WRITER

The American Heritage College Dictionary defines a lobbyist as a person engaged in trying to influence legislators or other public officials in favor or against a specific cause. That is why Brian Whiston, director of government services and lobbyist for the Oakland Intermediate School District, feels that the recent reports of expenses he made to cover a golf outing for two while attending a legislative conference in Palm Springs, Calif., and a train ride for a group of legislators and lobbyists were legitimate expenditures - even if Oakland County taxpayers did finance them. Whiston already reimbursed the district \$166.50 for the golf outing and \$83 for the train ride after Oakland Schools Board of Education members Helen Pritow,

spending, Kesser said that he felt it was justified. "Brian, as a lobbyist, is tremendous," he said. "He has been able to persuade those powers that be, that government, to our benefit many times. That's the way it should be. That takes skill, that takes persuasion and it takes dinner, golf and train rides. That's exactly what it takes. That's the nature of the beast." Whiston lobbys on behalf of 28 local school districts and Oakland Schools to make sure funding comes back to the schools. He is partly responsible for changing the policy to come up with a funding for schools from counting 50 percent of the kids from the previous school year and 50 percent from the current school year to counting 20 percent for the previous year and 80 percent for the current year. According to Whiston, this change brings back about \$6 million a year in additional revenue to schools in Oakland County. He also said that when Gov. Jennifer

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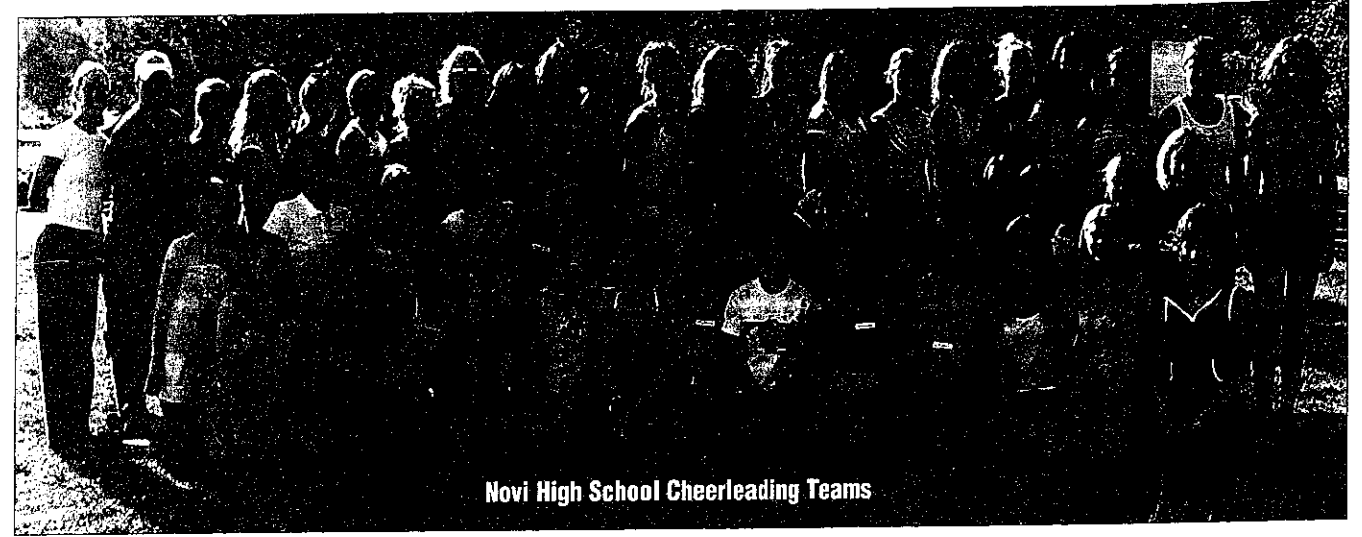
Advertisement for Sheraton Detroit Novi featuring Best Rooms, Best Beds, Best Rates and a \$109 Sweet Sleeper Rate.

CASINO WINDSOR advertisement for Bonus Bucks, featuring a Prestige Card and promotional offers.

Advertisement for Joe's Produce featuring various fruits and vegetables with prices and contact information.



# OPINION



Novi High School Cheerleading Teams

## LETTERS

Three cheers for family picnic (see pic above) Represent citizens, not developers

On behalf of the entire Novi High School cheerleading teams, coaches, and parents, we wish to gratefully acknowledge the numerous businesses that generously contributed to making this a wonderful event. We would like to publicly say THANK YOU you to the following companies that sponsored our Annual Family Cheer Picnic, which was held on August 17. With over 200 in attendance, there was plenty of food and fun for all.

Thank you to: 7-Eleven (Novi), Athenian Cony Island (Novi), Border Cantina (Novi), Bamboo Club (Novi), Buffalo Wild Wing (Novi), B&B Painting (Novi), Cold Stone Creamery (Novi), Costco Company (Livonia), Emagine Theater (Novi), Friday's (Novi), Grady's (Novi), Greek Isles Eatery (Novi), Great Harvest Bread (Northville), Hamlet Party Store (Novi), Heidi's Hair Salon (Novi), Honey Tree (Novi), Jaguar of Novi, Sales Department Jaguar of Novi, Koney Island Inn (Novi), K & D Group (Novi), Landover (Farmington Hills), Larson Jewelry (Novi), Mesquite Creek (Novi), McDonald's (Farmington Hills), Maria's Italian Bakery (Novi), No. VI Salon (Novi), Novi Town Center Cinemas (Novi), Novi Pizza Company (Novi), Panera Bread (Novi), Putting Edge Mini Golf (Novi), Red Hot & Blue (Novi), Red Robin (Novi), RedSound Audio (Novi), Salon Agape (Novi), Target (Livonia), Tally Ho (Novi), Twelve Oaks Mall (Novi), Varsity Lincoln Mercury (Novi), Vintage Wine Shoppe (Novi), Walden Books (Area District), Wilson Welding (Warren).

A heartfelt thank-you for your generous, dedication and support to the Novi High School Cheer Teams.

Join us for more information, or visit http://www.park54.us Frank Maynard Cobmaster, Park 54

The 'other' debate Thank you very much for your idea of "debate" among the various candidates who are running for public office. The essence of democracy is debate and dissent. I cannot believe why any candidate should have problem with that. It is the responsibility of local media to obtain as much information as possible about all the candidates who aspire to represent "people" of Novi. All candidates must be prepared to take a stand on different issues.

Angie Bruder Novi Sidharth Sanghvi, M.D. Sidharth Sanghvi, M.D. Do you want your son to grow up to be self-reliant, dependable and caring? Is it important to you that he learns values such as honesty, trustworthiness and respect for others and for the environment? Does your son want to have fun with his friends while learning these values?

Soar to new heights with Cub Scouts Scouts planning project We are from Novi Girl Scout Cadette Troop #3341 and we are trying to complete our Cadette Challenge Badge. For this badge we need to plan and complete a service project. For our service project we will be collecting gently used scouting uniforms of any kind to give to less fortunate scouts in the Metro Detroit area.

No deal: Taubman Centers rejects another offer in hostile takeover bid Mike Cox has become involved in discussions about the hostile takeover bid. A ruling from federal U.S. District Court Judge Victoria Roberts stripped Taubman of its ability to block the hostile takeover by Simon last month. A 15-page brief filed by Cox said that Roberts erroneously inferred a "deemed acquisition" concept not found in Michigan law.

Public input needed on park plan Over the next few weeks Novi's Parks and Recreation and Forestry Commission will be seeking public input on the city's plans for its park system over the next five years. Residents should soon be seeing copies of the commission's survey in the city's fall newsletter as well as at the Parks and Rec's counter in the Civic Center and at events like Fall for Novi slated for Sept. 20.

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

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

# OTHER OPINIONS

## Union, company both need to be accountable

I don't want to be apocalyptic about it, but the contracts the UAW will be negotiating with the Big Three this fall could go a long way to determine the fate of the domestic auto industry, the union and the entire economy of Michigan.

How come? To put it bluntly, the foreign-owned "transplant" manufacturing plants, mostly located in the South and aptly non-union, are eating the domestic automakers' lunch.

As direct per-hour wages are roughly the same between transplant and domestic plants, a big part of the cost gap has to do with health care costs. The labor force of the transplant plants is, by and large, younger and therefore somewhat healthier than that at the domestic plants.

Regardless of which side is right in the argument -- and I'm inclined to believe there is merit on both sides -- neither union nor companies looks as though they are gearing up for a full-blown effort to overcome the disadvantages domestic automakers face against the foreign-owned transplants.

Of course, declining market stocks that most pension funds use as investment vehicles has dropped so much in recent years, the rules governing pension accounting are requiring billions of dollars just to prop up their pension plans.

Phil Power is the Chairman of the Board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (248) 953-2047 or at ppower@homecomm.net.

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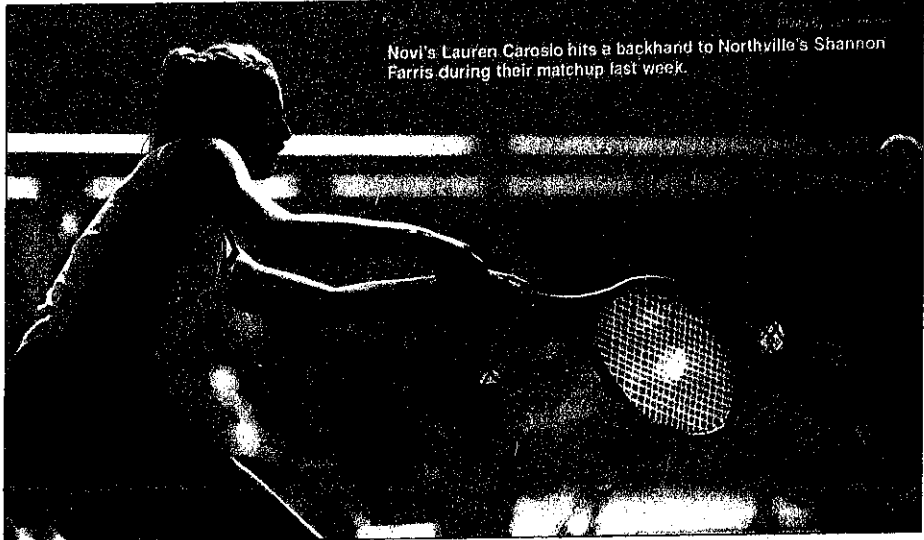
# No contest

## 'Cats dominate Northville

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

It's not easy being unchallenged. The Novi Wildcats girls' tennis team found themselves in that exact situation as they dominated the Northville Mustangs 8-0 in non-conference play. The Wildcats went right to work August 28, sweeping the entire dual meet as first singles found Ashley Glover topping Erica Dobson 7-6 (6), 6-2 while Lauren Carosio blasted Shannon Farris 6-3, 6-2 in two singles. The third singles flight found Anna Switzer earning a 6-0, 6-1 victory over Chelsea Johnston, while sophomore Diana Tieu managed to slide into singles competition and earn a win over Laura Krstevish, 6-1, 6-1. In doubles, Colene Brockman and Emily Holt struggled against a very tough team of Anandi Darish and Jen Harkness, but managed to

pull out a three set, 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 victory. The most convincing doubles win came in the form of Laura Vaughn and her new partner Ayano Nakamura, who was moved down from the singles flights for Tieu's place. The duo took a convincing 6-1, 6-4 victory over Jackie Taylor and Jonnie Powers. In fourth doubles, Lauren Thomas and Becky Thomson earned a tough 6-1, 7-6 (6) victory over Catalina Oaida and Laura Randall, while the third doubles flight of Amanda Cassidy and Kaylan Pustover beat Amy Knoth and Kate Thomas 6-4, 6-4. In exhibition play, Megan Hsu and Tiffany Lin fell to Northville's Maria Rocco and Lauren Deneszczuk, 2-6, 1-6, while Pratyusha Devarakonda and Stephanie Park fell in three sets to Christine Curran and Alicia Rausingham, 5-7, 6-4, 4-6. The Wildcats will return to action



Novi's Lauren Carosio hits a backhand to Northville's Shannon Farris during their matchup last week.

when they participate in the Holly/Powers Invitational Saturday before hosting Howell in a KVC contest September 10 at 4 p.m.

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Novi Football Golf Outing

The Novi Football team will have a fund-raising golf outing Sunday, Sept. 14 at the Links of Novi in order to help cover the costs of maintaining the football program. The cost for the event is \$100 and includes golf, a cart, lunch, a dinner buffet and prizes. Participants will have plenty of chances for winning, including an exciting hole-in-one contest. For more information or to register for the event, please contact Jan Buck at (248) 344-4921.

is located at Eight Mile Road and Napier Road. Additional try-out sessions are to be decided.

Novi Ice Arena throughout the seven-week session with their registration receipt. Open registration for Learn to Skate is underway. For more information, call the Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010.

### Ice Arena holds open house

Is there a budding Tara Lipinski toddling around your house? Find out Saturday when the Novi Ice Arena's Learn to Skate Program holds its free Learn to Skate Open House from 9:30 to 11:45 a.m.

The arena's Learn to Skate Program runs Sept. 9 through Oct. 25 with a wide variety of classes being offered at different times Tuesdays through Saturday. Classes include, Beginning Toes, Snowplow Sam, Freestyle, Adult, Hockey Skills and Home School.

Arena spokesman Jennifer Sutherland said admission and skate rental at the open house is free to all skaters, and will give prospective students a chance to skate with Learn to Skate instructors so they can be placed in the proper class. She added Learn to Skate students get free admission to open skating at

### Motor City Madness Tryouts

The 2004 Motor City Madness girls' travel fast pitch softball team will be holding tryouts September 7 and 14 at Powers Park 1 and 2, which is located between Novi Road and Taft on 10 Mile Road.

- The times for the tryouts are as follows:
- 10 and under: 9-11 a.m.
  - 12 and under: 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
  - 14 and under: 1-3 p.m.
  - 16 and under: 3-5 p.m.
  - 18 and under: 5 p.m.
- Tryouts are open to anyone interested in playing high-level travel softball. Pitchers and catchers may be asked to stay beyond mentioned times to showcase their abilities. For more information, please contact Coach Phyllis Wagner at (248) 982-2955.

## 200th WIN: Wildcats crush Chelsea

Continued from A15

fortunate we scored when we did and that our defense was able to hold them on some of their key drives."

And, not to mention, that the offense started to score at will. The Wildcats took the following kickoff and drove down the field before adding another score for a 42-20 lead as Buck rumbled 12 yards for the touchdown with 3:34 left in the game.

One minute later and with B-squads on the field, Novi junior Chris Dalton picked off a pass from Bryan Dunn and raced 73 yards for

the touchdown to ice the scoring at 49-20.

"It was a good win for us," Kellepoury said. "It was just a great way to start off the season."

Hart went 10-of-14 passing in the contest, gathering 138 yards with one touchdown and an interception. His speedy maneuvering brought him 44 yards on five carries and two touchdowns.

J.W. Woods collected 72 yards on 14 carries, while brother Jarrell carried the ball 13 times for 104 yards and a score.

On the receiving end of the ball, Hoover hauled in five passes for 70 yards, while Kreutzberg had two for

22. Buck led the defensive corps, gathering nine solo tackles and three assists, while Jarrell Woods had six solos and four assists. Senior Adam Brandau collected five tackles and one assist in the contest.

The Wildcats (1-0) are slated to return to action tomorrow when they visit KVC rival Howell (1-0) tomorrow at 7 p.m.

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.

HOME	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Away	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Howell 7:00					
	NOVI INVITE 5:30 and 7:00		NOVI INVITE 5:30 and 7:00			WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 7:00	
						LAKELAND 4:30	
						LAKELAND 4:30	
						Howell 3:30	
	LAKELAND 7:00					Brighton 7:00	
	Walled Lake Central 7:00		Griffin Relays 9:00 a.m.			Churchill 7:00	
			Holly Invitational 8:00 a.m.				HOWELL 4:00

Editor's Note: All games are PM unless noted

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# Making a killing at the box office



Courtesy photo

Freddy and Jason finally square off in the much anticipated New Line Cinema release of "Freddy versus Jason." In the battle of the baddies, who's going to win?

## Epic battle a must-see for fans

By Ramez Khuri  
 STAFF WRITER

It's been almost 10 years since "nightmare" fans have seen Freddy Krueger's ugly face on the silver screen, but last weekend that drought ended with his return. He also brought a close friend along for the fun ride. Well, maybe not a close friend. Jason Voorhees is more like a mindless killing machine who Krueger tries to use, then dispose of just as easily as he brought him back. He soon learns that he got more than he bargained for, however.

Freddy vs. Jason pits the two monsters from the "A Nightmare on Elm Street" and "Friday the 13th" franchises against each other for the first time in movie history. It's a union that fans have been waiting to see for quite some time... and they won't be disappointed.

In the movie, the adults of Elm Street have found a way to keep those who have had encounters with

Krueger in the past locked up in an institution and have dragged them with something that does not allow them to dream and erases any memory they may have of him. This, in turn, has left Krueger powerless. He is no longer able to invade people's dreams until he comes up with a plot for a return.

"I searched the depths of Hell until I found someone who can help me," Krueger says in the very beginning of the flick. That someone turns out to be Voorhees, who Krueger tricks into obeying him by impersonating his mother. Krueger uses Voorhees to get the citizens of Springwood afraid again. He knows that he can use that fear to return and once again claim his dominance as the number one feared killer in the area.

As he gains strength, Krueger finds that his return is becoming more and more possible. There is just one problem though, Voorhees has taken it upon himself to do what he does best - kill everyone in sight,

including potential victims that Krueger was planning on offing himself. When Krueger is finally completely back, he figures that Voorhees' job is done and decides to send him back to Hell for good. He underestimates his strength, however, and therein lies the fun.

The climax of the movie, of course, is the epic battle between the two mad men. Each one displays his own power to try to defeat the other. There are times when the audience is thinking that Voorhees is winning and times when Krueger seems to be the victor and it all leads up to the final dramatic scene when the winner is finally revealed. Or his he?

Fans of the two movie franchises will walk away from this film feeling satisfied, but wanting more. It is a modern classic which should not be missed.

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.

## Ken Kirzinger makes scary leap from stuntman to actor

By Sam Eggleston  
 ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

For stuntman turned actor Ken Kirzinger, the number 13 has proven to be a bit lucky.

Not only was he the stunt coordinator on the eighth installment of the "Friday the 13th" movies as well as "The 13th Warrior," but he found himself applying for the coordinator job for "Freddy versus Jason" and failing to get it — he got something else instead.

"I actually applied to be the stunt coordinator and interviewed for that," Kirzinger said during a phone interview. "I was very lucky, because the producers noticed my build and within two weeks, they had me back in auditioning for the part of Jason. It just blew me away, but I jumped at the chance."

From blowing things up to latching folks up, Kirzinger found himself taking a step from one side of the film-making process to the other. No longer was he planning stunts and setting himself on fire, instead he was too busy putting on the hockey mask that has become known as the face of fear itself.

"I'm very fortunate to be able to play such an incredible role," Kirzinger said. "Jason is a highly recognizable character. In fact, so recognizable that you could easily call him the Frankenstein of this generation."

Prepping for such a role wasn't too hard for Kirzinger.

"I'm such a fan of the series," he said. "In that alone I had done a lot of preparation. Growing up, I watched all of the movies and I even worked on number eight. With all of that background, plus (director) Ronnie Yu's input, we were able to bring this version of Jason to life."

And bringing him to life was the easy part — as many folks know, the trouble with Jason is killing him.

"I think that's what makes him

such a scary character," Kirzinger said. "He's not going to run after you and he's not afraid of anything you can throw at him. Instead, he just walks along, waiting to get his chance because he knows either sooner or later he's going to get you."

Fans of the character will have noticed that Jason does something in this new film that he normally hasn't done in the past — react to a situation.

"He's not really the kind of character that reacts to anything," Kirzinger said. "The biggest reaction I had to do was in the dream world when the water starts coming down on Jason. Other than that, you can say that

Jason's reactions are subtle ones."

For Kirzinger, it wasn't so much landing the role that made him realize how big it was but rather a completely different situation altogether.

Having worked on the movie "X-Men 2" with director Brian Singer, Kirzinger said that he was surprised when his trailer received a call while they were on location outside of Vancouver.

"I was told the director from X-Men 2 wanted to come and say hi," he said. "It was the middle of the night, and he wanted to come meet Jason and Freddy. We posed for pictures and he and the eight other people he brought with him all acted like little kids. That was when the realization of how big this character really is hit me."

Putting on the mask wasn't all that hard for Kirzinger, and he noted that he was just glad he didn't have to play the role of Freddy.

"Robert Englund, as you know, has always been Freddy," Kirzinger said. "It literally took hours each day for him to get ready for the shoot. I don't know if I could have done it, but he's been doing it for so long that it didn't even bother him."

With one horror flick under his belt and the world of possibilities opening before him, would Kirzinger be willing to put the mask on if asked to do so once again?

"Without a doubt," Kirzinger said. "It was a great experience and I'd love to do it again. Who knows, maybe I'll even end up with an agent out of all of this. It that happens, then great. But, I'll always be ready if they need me to be Jason ever again."



Courtesy photo

Ken Kirzinger, who played Jason Voorhees in his first major acting role, was more than happy to put on the famous hockey mask and do a little hack and slash for the fans.

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 seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

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# REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 8B

Thursday, September 4, 2003

## NFIB UPDATE

### Labor Day Flexibility

Let's face it: Labor Day is a big deal in America. For many youngsters, it's the last day before they go back to school. For politicians, Labor Day is the start of the campaign season—an opportunity to stand on a bunting-wrapped platform to seek the favor of the voters.

But on September 5, 1882—the first Labor Day—it was a "workingman's holiday," the brainchild of the Central Labor Union in New York City. There was a demonstration followed by a picnic. Later, parades and speeches became part of the day. By 1894, more than 30 states had adopted the idea and Congress decided to make the first Monday in September a national holiday.

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Web site points out that "Labor Day is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers." Fair enough—if you include some of America's hardest workers: small-business owners.

In business, there are employers and employees, but workers are the men and women who toil side-by-side whether owner, manager or stock clerk.

Labor Day has evolved over time—fewer parades, for example, and more speeches.

It is unfortunate that the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) hasn't kept pace with the times. The FLSA became law in 1938. It provides minimum standards for wages and overtime. It established two classes of employees: blue collar and white collar—and requires those who are lower paid (blue collar) to receive overtime for work beyond 40 hours a week. White-collar employees are not eligible for overtime.

Few changes have been made to the FLSA in its 65 years. The regulations were last updated in 1949. Some of the job classifications listed then don't even exist today: keypunch operator, straw boss, gang leader and leg man.

More importantly, lifestyles have changed. Census data shows that in 1999 almost three quarters of households of married couples with children had both parents working. Women make up nearly half the work force. Commuting has added hours to the workday. Employees want more flexibility on the job, more time with their families.

Small-business owners want to accommodate those desires, but the FLSA won't allow it. U.S. Rep. Judy Biggert (13th Dist., Ill.) and U.S. Sen. Judd Gregg (N.H.) have introduced legislation to help. They want to give employers the option of paid time off or wages for overtime worked—an arrangement federal government employees have enjoyed since 1978.

The AFL-CIO has organized a campaign to derail the legislation, claiming that this is really an effort to end overtime for employees. They worry that employees would face unpredictable work schedules. But those issues have been addressed with safeguards to protect employee and employer.

So far the votes aren't there to pass the bill in the House and the Senate has not even held hearings on the proposal. It would be very ironic if lawmakers thumbed their noses at a plan for family flexibility, something their own employees have enjoyed for 25 years.

Jack Faris is president of NFIB (the National Federation of Independent Business), the nation's largest small-business advocacy group. A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943, NFIB represents the consensus views of its 660,000 members in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. More information is available on-line at [www.nfib.com](http://www.nfib.com).

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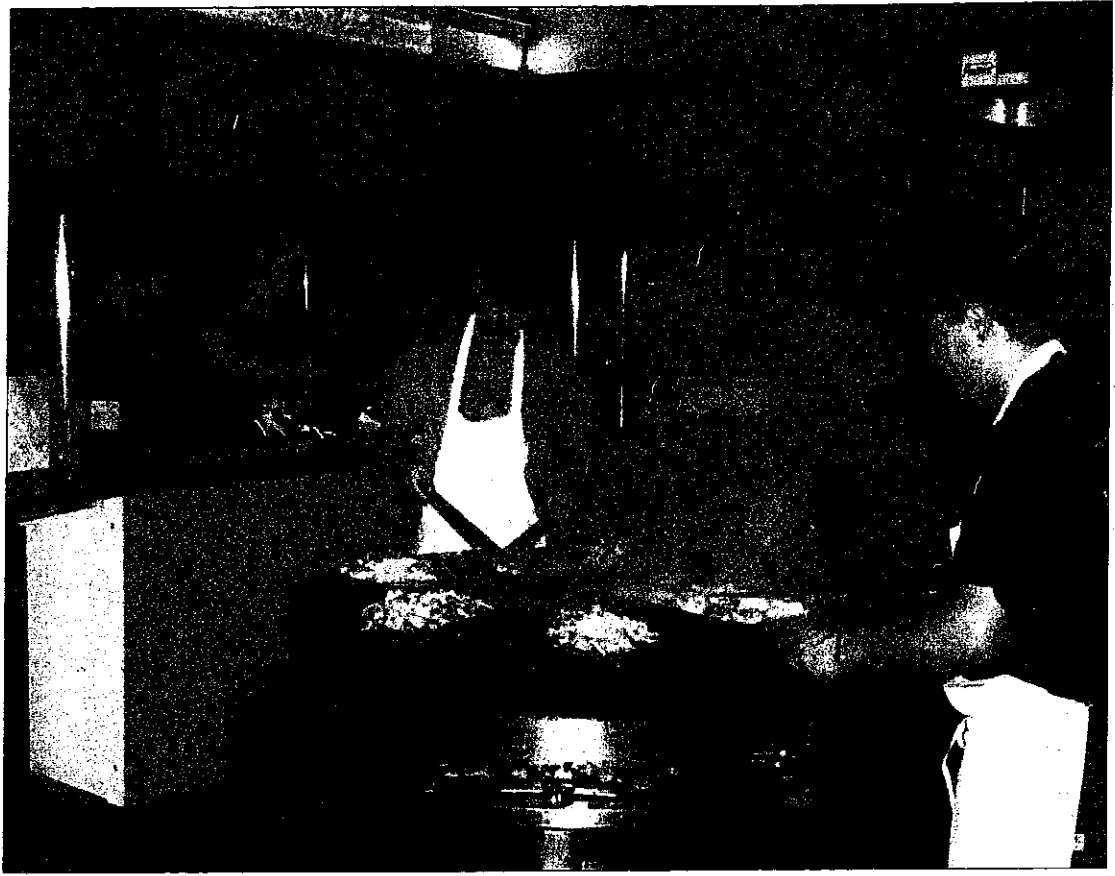


Photo by Jim Farkas

Whether it's lunch with a friend while afternoon shopping in town, a group of your office pals looking for something quick and different, or a place to take the family for a tasty, evening dinner, you're in for a treat when you dine at Sizzling Sticks Café.

## Make the effort to seek out Sizzling Sticks Cafe

By James C. Farkas  
SPECIAL WRITER

Ever wonder what Mongolians eat?

The very same things you and I eat except, according to Orlando Viato, owner of Northville's Sizzling Sticks Café, "In some areas of Mongolia, they have a different way of preparing their food."

Traditionally, their meats are cooked on chicken wire that sits above a flat grill. Vegetables are

placed directly below the meats so the natural juices drip on to the vegetables, spreading the delicious flavor throughout the entire entree.

Well, at Sizzling Sticks Café they aren't quite that traditional. However, upon entering, besides being greeted by a smiling face who will seat you, there is a distinct, pleasant aroma of fresh foods being prepared on an open, steaming grill. After selecting your choice of a large variety of meats, seafood, poultry

and vegetables from a buffet, you can watch while chefs prepare several orders at the same time, adding seasonings, spices and sauces to tantalize your taste buds. Be sure to include fried rice with your meal. You may also choose to order a stir-fry at your table if you don't care to stand in line while your food is being prepared. If you weren't hungry when you came in, it's guaranteed your mouth will be watering by the time you are ready to be served.

Orlando is an Italian, native New Yorker. (And what Italian isn't a good cook?) He grew up surrounded by a family of cooks in their own restaurant, learning the skills of the trade while attending school. He decided early on that he wanted to follow in his dad's footsteps which led him to the Culinary Institute of America in New York. Following graduation, he applied his art by working as chef at several well-known restaurants and worked as a consultant to the restaurant business. Other accomplishments to his credit include assistant teacher in the Culinary Arts Program at Washtenaw Community College and he is currently conducting informal classes on "Foods of Different Cultures" at "The Kitchen Witch" in Northville.

It was 17 years ago Mr. Viato moved to Ann Arbor where he began his own proprietorship with a pizza shop and a Mexican restaurant. Seven years ago he consulted with his friend and previous owner of Sizzling Sticks, providing his knowledge and expertise on how to run a successful restaurant.

Two years ago Orlando and his friend decided Orlando

would buy him out and take over the restaurant since the location was ideal and would allow him more time to spend with his family. In the past two years, Orlando has increased the public awareness and established a large base of regular customers due to the quality of food and excellent, friendly service. Evenings and weekends, and in between taking their two daughters to school, you will find Orlando's wife, Viola, meeting and greeting guests as well.

From the beginning, it was the popular place to go for a quick, reasonably-priced luncheon. It has become the gathering place for Northville and surrounding area businesses and offices that come in large groups from two to 12 at a time. And why not when you can select your fresh meats and veggies in a one-rip, buffet-style lunch for only \$7.95 per person? For those who like to "eat hearty", there is the all-you-can-eat luncheon for \$9.95.

Ask for the low carb specials and the low fat dressings if you're watching your diet. You'll notice the staff in T-shirts proclaiming "The Healthiest Spot in Town". You may even choose to eat outside European-style, at the umbrella-covered café tables. Previously, Sizzling Sticks Café has been the recipient of The Taste of Northville Award.

Dinners are a little slower-paced, relaxed atmosphere. Orlando likes to point out that, "Sizzling Sticks is a family-oriented restaurant and the kids will enjoy watching their food being prepared on the open grill." It's a great place to go after shopping, the theater or the Friday evening, summer concerts at the Gazebo on Main Street.

### DETAILS

Sizzling Sticks Café,  
Mongolian Style

144 Mary Alexander Court  
Northville, MI 48167  
(248) 380-9400

Mon-Thurs: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. & 5-9 p.m.  
Friday: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Saturday: noon-10 p.m.  
Sunday: noon-8 p.m.

One-rip dinner is \$11.95 per person and if you're really hungry, there's the all-you-can-eat dinner for \$13.95. On Mondays, kids eat for free. Save room for the scrumptious Oreo cheesecake or delicious apple pie. If it's your birthday, dessert is on the house. There's also a senior citizen discount and how about a Sizzling Sticks Café gift certificate?

You'll find the wait staff and chefs to be pleasant and courteous. Most of Orlando's staff has been with him for a number of years. Those who attend college continue to work on weekends and during holidays. Service is quick for those who may be on a tight schedule.

Sizzling Sticks Café offers catering services as well. "We do lots of wedding showers and special occasion dinners," said Orlando, "even box lunches to take to the park or sporting events".

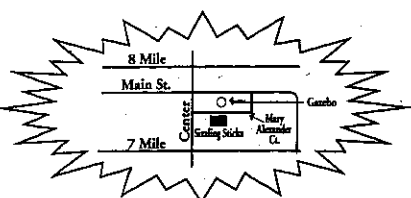
Located in Northville, one block south of Main Street, behind the gazebo (next to the free parking structure). It may be a little difficult to find, but it's worth the extra effort.



Photo by Jim Farkas

Orlando Viato, owner of Sizzling Sticks Café, with his wife, Viola, and their two daughters, Cecylla (standing) and Claudia.

## 7 Year Anniversary



**KIDS EAT FREE**  
(10 & Under)  
1 Kid meal with each adult entree purchased

**\$700 OFF**  
Total Dinner Bill

Minimum \$20\* purchase with 2 beverages.  
Expires September 30, 2003

**\$350 OFF**  
Total Lunch Bill

Minimum \$20\* purchase with 2 beverages.  
Expires September 30, 2003

144 Mary Alexander Court  
Downtown Northville • Behind the Gazebo  
248-380-9400