



Novi News

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

Thursday, October 16, 2003

hometownlife.com

50¢

Volume 48 Number 20

Novi, Michigan

© 2003 HomeTown Communications Network™

Look inside for your GREEN SHEET Classifieds

INSIDE



Gettin' hitched?

If so, then you'll want to see inside this edition for the all the latest in weddings.

- SPECIAL SECTION



You'll see what we mean

Visions Spa Salon hairdresser Kristyn Kerr, left, performs her magic on the hair of customer Patty Less last Friday morning in Visions' brand-new location on Beck Rd. south of Grand River Ave.

- 10A

SPORTS

That's more like it

The Novi Wildcats girls basketball team got back on track with two big Kensington Valley Conference wins as they topped the Hartland Eagles 44-36 and the South Lyon Lions 52-39.

- 5B

INDEX

- Business9A
Classifieds1D
Library Lines8A
Obituary8A
Opinion / Letters14 / 15A
Police Report4A
Regional Marketplace10B
Schools11A
Screen Beat17A
Senior Calendar8A
Sports1B

CONTACT Us

Novi News
104 W. Main
Northville, MI 48167

- Classifieds: 888-999-1288
Newsroom: 248-349-1700
Fax: 248-349-9832
Home Delivery: 888-840-4809



6 53174 22222 0

Postal information:
050000 03163
XXXXXXXXXXXXAR-RT L0721C-022
NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY
45245 N 10 MILE RD
NOVI MI 48375-3014

Hospitals still at odds over bed transfers

Long court fight expected

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

It could be a couple of weeks, it could be a couple of months, but one thing is for certain - no matter how an Ingham County Circuit Court judge rules on the constitutionality of legislation passed last year that would allow St. Johns Health System to transform its Providence Hospital and Medical Centers Novi Campus into a full-service hospital, both sides will be headed back to court.

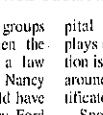
Lawyers for St. Johns and the Henry Ford Health System squared off against lawyers repre-

senting Troy's William Beaumont Hospital; the Novi-based Trinity Health System; Convent Medical Center in Saginaw; Farmington's Botsford General Hospital; and Mt. Clemens General Hospital in Trott of Judge James Giddings in Lansing last Thursday for about an hour and a half.

St. Johns and Henry Ford have been at odds with the other hospital groups since last December when the state legislature passed a law drawn up by State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) that would have allowed Providence, Henry Ford and the Detroit Medical Center to move beds from their financially-

ailing Detroit facilities to the suburbs. While Providence has moved forward with its plans to move beds to Novi, and Henry Ford has continued to plan and create a full-service hospital in West Bloomfield, DMC appears to have put on hold its plans to expand Huron Valley - Sinai Hospital.

Rob Casalou



Attorneys for the hospital groups opposed to these plans contend that Cassis' legislation is an unconstitutional end run around the state's 30-year-old certificate of need process.

Spokesmen for St. Johns and Henry Ford counter that their competitors are simply trying to use the process to block competition in the lucrative suburban market.

On Oct. 7 the state's Certificate of Need Commission voted 7-4 to not set standards for moving beds within the state's hospital districts, a move some say would have made moot last Thursday's hearing in front of Judge Giddings.

While unhappy with the commission's lack of action, Cassis said she still believes in the CON process. She noted that while total deregulation "works in theory, in reality there are a lot of problems." She pointed to the massive blackout this summer and this winter's expected rise in natural gas prices as examples of deregulation.

continued on page 3

Reframing for Continued Success 2003 - 2004



Novi Community School District Novi, Michigan

Deerfield works to improve

Keeping perspective on teaching kids is the key

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

This is the sixth story of an eight-part series on how each school in the Novi Community School District is dealing with the district's new "Reframing for the Future" theme. Deerfield Elementary was chosen this week.

Reframing for the future, according to Novi Schools Superintendent Emmett Lippe, involves:

- realigning curriculum to fit with what is assessed on the MEAP test;
making sure each and every child in every school understands the material being taught; and
making sure that the children are learning in a comfortable environment.

Deerfield Principal Richard Njus believes that's all fine and dandy, but he does have one major concern with it. He hopes that while his school is reframing, that he and his staff stay focused on the task at hand. He wants his teachers to keep perspective and not just to try to graduate a brain out of Deerfield, but to try to graduate a whole child.

Since day one, Deerfield has worked very hard on keeping in line with goals and objectives and benchmarks for the state and in correlation with Novi's curriculum. The school's curriculum is the same as the rest of Novi's, so it is very much in line with what it's doing as a district in addressing "No Child Left Behind, the standards and expectations that go along with that and "Education Yes" for the state.

"We're looking at how our
continued on page 12



Photo by John Heider

Fashionable fund-raising

Young models dance at the end of the first fashion show Sunday afternoon for the "American Girl Fashion Show" fund-raiser at the Novi Civic Center. The show, to raise funds for Type 1 Diabetes insulin pump programs at William Beaumont Hospital, featured local young girls wearing fashions from the American Girl line. In addition to funds collected at the door, and raffles throughout the day, American Girl pledged 5 percent of sales of their clothing line purchased by show-goers to the William Beaumont program.

MDOT set to award contract for Beck Road bridge replacement

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

Work on the long awaited Beck Road bridge replacement could begin before the snow flies, but just barely.

The Michigan Department of Transportation opened bids for the first phase of the project Oct. 3. Prince Bridge & Marine LTD of was the apparent low bidder at \$4.76 million.

That was 8.51 percent below the state engineering estimate of 5.2 million and \$1.22 million below the high bidder, Williamston-based Midwest Bridge Company, which came in at \$5.98 million.

Work on the deck portion of the Beck Road Bridge over I-96, said an MDOT spokesman, is supposed to be completed just shy of a year from now. That is expected to be followed by ramp construction.

"This is very good news for us," said Blair Bowman, president of the Novi Expo Center. Bowman's firm plans to be in front of the Novi Planning Commission early next year with plans for a new Novi Expo Center and plans to have it open by spring 2005.

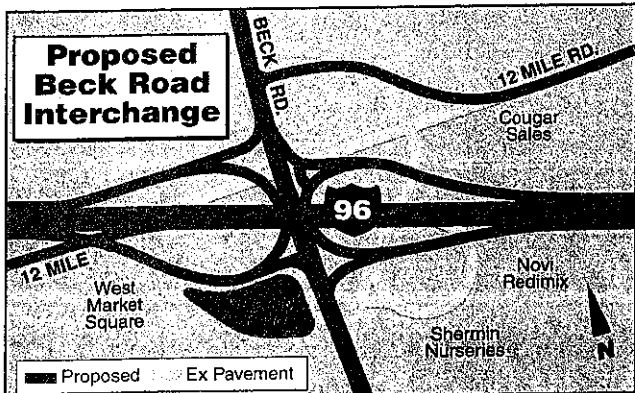
Plans to replace the aging bridge ground to a halt last spring

when Gov. Jennifer Granholm canceled 34 road projects across the state, including the replacement of the Beck and Wixom Road bridges over I-96, that had been originally approved as part of former Gov. John Engler's Build Michigan III program.

The move outraged Novi city officials, who had urged city voters in 2002 to approve \$18 million in road bonds, a third of which was earmarked to help fund the project. It also upset officials at the Road Commission for Oakland County, who complained they had been pressured by state road officials to move up their time table for improvements to Grand River Avenue between Beck and Wixom roads in order to facilitate the bridge project.

In July, after months of acrimony between the governor's office and Novi's legislative delegation, Gov. Granholm announced she was putting 16 of the 34 projects she had originally cancelled, including the Beck Road bridge, back in the pipeline.

MDOT spokesman Rob Morosi said that while some work could begin before the end of this year's construction season, "I don't foresee any monumental groundbreak-



SOURCE: MDOT

ing." MDOT isn't expected to officially award the contract until the end of the month, and with the onset of freezing temperatures, all road construction is expected to grind to a halt by Thanksgiving.

Still, State Sen. Nancy Cassis said she's pleased the project finally move forward. "People have been waiting more than 10

years for this. I can hardly wait for it to begin."

Sen. Cassis added she's pleased the project came in under budget. "I always applaud things that come in under estimates."

Construction of the bridge deck over I-96 is not expected to hamper traffic on Beck Road. However, once construction begins on the interchange, traffic

is expected to be diverted to Wixom Road. Work on the interchange is expected to take eight months to complete, once the bridge deck is finished.

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

Think Fall! Think COLOR! Think Green!
Think Green Sheet Classifieds Call 1-888-999-1288

DeRoche named to new high-tech subcommittee

Rep. says new technologies could reshape region

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

Novi's freshman state representative is expected to be named head of the state House Commerce Committee's new subcommittee on alternative fuels sometime this week.

Rep. Craig DeRoche (R-Nowi), who is already vice chairman of the Commerce Committee, was selected for the new subcommittee by Commerce Committee Chairman Clark Bisbee (R-Jackson) following meetings with members of the German state Parliament of Baden-Wuerttemberg Oct. 8 at DaimlerChrysler Services North America in Farmington Hills.

Baden-Wuerttemberg is the German state surrounding Stuttgart, home to the DaimlerChrysler headquarters, said DeRoche. "The development of alternative fuel sources for automobiles, said DeRoche, is extremely important to the Michigan legislature as well as their German counterparts. "The creation of fuel cell technology and other alternative energy programs are crucial to the future of the automotive industry," said DeRoche.

DeRoche noted, "They are already powering buses in Germany with alternative fuel sources." However, said DeRoche, German automotive companies "are not trying to lock into one fuel because they don't know which is going to be the breakthrough technology."

DeRoche said it became clear during discussions with German legislators that the state House needs a subcommittee to focus on alternative fuel issues. "This is extraordinarily important for the state of Michigan," he said. "We have a strong auto heritage, and we want to keep the high-tech jobs here."

One serious hurdle facing Michigan is that California has been a major center of alternative fuels research for years. Despite a looming state budget

House approves DeRoche resolution calling for congressional judicial vote

State Rep. Craig DeRoche announced the House approved his resolution supporting the confirmation of four Michigan judges that President George W. Bush nominated to the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. House Resolution 108, sponsored by DeRoche, requests full U.S. Senate action on the four Michigan judges.

"These qualified judges deserve to be voted on by the full U.S. Senate," said DeRoche, R-Nowi. "Senators Levin and Stabenow are playing political games with the judicial system and that needs to stop."

The four Michigan judges are: Richard Griffin, Michigan Court of Appeals; David McKeague, U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan; Susan Blake Nelson, Circuit Court, Wayne County; and Henry Saad, Michigan Court of Appeals.

DeRoche noted that alternative fuels technology holds one too many promises. "One is reduced pollution and the other is reduced dependency on foreign energy," he said. However, he said, for these technologies to succeed, government needs to avoid interference.

expected to have four Republicans and three Democrats drawn from the Commerce and Energy and Technology committees.

DaimlerChrysler Services spokesman James Ryan said the two groups wanted to explore ways the two legislative bodies can politically support alternative fuels research and development. Ryan said Daimler has been heavily involved in alternative fuels research for years in the Stuttgart area and even before its merger with Chrysler was deeply involved with Ballard, a leading Canadian fuel cell technology company.

Max Gates, a spokesman for the Chrysler Group in Auburn Hills, said the company has several projects in the works and will put its first plug-in hybrid-powered truck on the market next fall as an '05 model. The Dodge Ram Quadsak 2500, which will be able to generate enough electricity to power several homes, is expected to arrive for around \$5,600 more than a conventional diesel-powered truck.

Gates said the Chrysler Group has developed several flex-fuel vehicles that run on E-85. This could be good news for grain farmers across the state since ethanol used to produce E-85 is made from soybeans and corn. He added the company is also working on the Town and Country Natirum, which runs on a fuel cell powered by hours, which is aimed in California's Death Valley.

DeRoche noted that alternative fuels technology holds one too many promises. "One is reduced pollution and the other is reduced dependency on foreign energy," he said. However, he said, for these technologies to succeed, government needs to avoid interference.

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



Courtesy photo

Pumpkin Palooza Preparations

Jason Youd, Ed Roney Sr., Ed Roney Jr. and Dr. John Parker take time out from construction of their interpretation of the trebuchet Sunday at St. James Catholic Church. The church's youth group will be one of five expected contestants in Novi Parks and Recreation Department's pumpkin chuckin' contest. The teams will face off on the city's softball field at 11 a.m. Saturday to see who can hurl a six-pound pumpkin the farthest. Pumpkin Palooza runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the city's Civic Center, with a Haunted Highway, costume contest, pumpkin decorating and more. There is a \$5 per child fee, which includes "pizza and potato." For more information, call Tracie Ringle at (248) 347-0400.

Filmmaker eyes upcoming Los Angeles festival

Northville resident creates shorts, visual resumes

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

A Northville resident and former model is hoping that his interest in film will lead to a new career featuring visual resumes and other innovative endeavors.

James Croteau recently had shooting of his short, "Father's Day," at the first Michigan Independent Film Festival. The event took place at the Emagine

Theater at Fountain Walk in Novi. "This festival really got me fired up," Croteau said.

His goal is to have a film in the Los Angeles Digital Film Festival in December. "There will be quite a few reps from ad agencies there looking for talent," he added. "And, the festival organizers are pretty selective in what they accept."

Croteau will submit "Father's Day," a 10-minute black-and-white film about a boy's first fishing trip with his father. It's a reflective piece that focuses on cinematography.

"I found out about the local film festival on the Internet, and the project started unfolding last winter," said Croteau, who wrote, directed and produced the piece. Shot on location at Kensington

Metropark in Milford and Greenmeade historical park in Livonia, the film features Croteau's real-life, 1-year-old son, Tristan James.

Croteau's nephew, Jarome Karriker of Canton, served as camera operator. Croteau's wife, Trisha, was also instrumental in the creation of the film, especially during the brainstorming stage and actual filming.

"She likes the conceptual part of the process, and is just as visual as I am. The main thing we had to attack was how do we do this on a shoestring budget?" Croteau said.

Featuring Mozart as the musical backdrop, the film reviews a day in the life of a young father taking his son fishing for the first time and looks back to the time when he used to fish with his own father.

"The less time you have in a film, the harder it is to tell the story. The challenge is to keep people enthralled."

The film is more visual without a lot of dialogue. "Obviously, you're not going to have a lot of dialogue with a 1-year-old in your film," he joked.

"The main goal was to entertain the audience with cinematogra-

phy — to present a lot of visuals instead of dialogue," he said. "I spent a good deal of the spring chasing sunsets."

A native of Canton, Croteau started out as a model in Chicago and then moved to Los Angeles. "I was told that I might have better luck as a model in L.A., but I struggled trying to break into the business," he recalled.

"Then, one day on a plane ride to Chicago from L.A. in 1990, a gentleman gave me his business card and said he was filming a movie in Chicago and was looking for actors," Croteau recalled.

He landed a role in a science fiction movie called "Them," and, ironically, some of it was filmed in the Detroit area. "Eventually, I thought it would be better to be on the other side of the camera creatively," he said.

Croteau studied journalism, multi-media presentations and film as part of a communications degree at Madonna University in Livonia. He took on some design jobs working as a graphics artist right out of college.

He has submitted scripts to publishing houses recently, but hasn't received any responses yet. "It's frustrating when you have so



Courtesy photo

The cast and crew of "Father's Day," a short film by Northville filmmaker James Croteau, shown recently at the Michigan Independent Film Festival in Novi: (left to right) James Croteau, Jarome Karriker of Canton, camera operator; Tristan Croteau; and Trisha Croteau.

much passion about something. You can't control it," he said. And, one of his latest adventures is creating a three- to five-minute visual resume on film for area job hunters.

"The idea is to create a visual tapestry of your career goal combined with who you are," he explained. "And, you want your message to come across quickly." "My overall goal is to obtain more commercial work in the area," Croteau said. "I'm kind of taking baby steps in that respect." Those interested in Croteau's visual resume service or other film services can contact him at (248) 561-2164 or croteausimpson@aol.com.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecon.net.

There is a difference

Making decisions following the death of a loved one is never easy. That's why the Harry J. Will Funeral Home's new Arrangement Center located in Novi was created to provide a comfortable place to make those difficult decisions while also offering reasonable pricing. Whether you need to make arrangements for a funeral today or wish to make plans in advance, the Harry J. Will Arrangement Center is ready to help you.

Call or stop in today to experience the difference. We are available by phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 248 344-0234. Our friendly, knowledgeable staff is ready to help you. Conveniently located in Novi at the corner of Beck and Grand River. ph. 248 344-0234

HARRY J. WILL ARRANGEMENT CENTER
We make it easy.
47570 GRAND RIVER, NOVI, MICHIGAN 48374

Joe's Produce
Michigan's Finest Since 1945

Leelanau Cellars Witches Brew Spiced Red Wine \$4.99 750 ml. Serve Warm with a Touch of Cinnamon, Clove & Nutmeg

Possman Frankfurter Apple Wine \$5.99 750 ml. A Soothing Drink. Enjoy Cold! Low in Sugar • Low in Alcohol • Low in Calories

Joe's Fall Specials!

Washington Red Delicious Apples 69¢ lb.	Sweetest Day Rose & Mixed Floral Bouquets \$69.99	Washington Blush Golden Delicious Apples 69¢ lb.
Hydroponic Beefsteak Tomatoes 99¢ lb.	California Jumbo Broccoli 99¢ lb.	California Jumbo Broccoli 99¢ lb.
Michigan Hy's Fresh Apple Cider \$1.99 gal.	G.M. Paris Bakery Spice Donuts \$1.99 1/2 doz.	Vintners Blend Ravenswood Cabernet Sauvignon \$10.99 750 ml.
Bonny Doon Vineyard Fremboise \$10.99 575 ml.	Edy's Family Favorite Ice Cream Buy One Get One Free Save \$5.99 on 56 oz.	Edy's Whole Fruit Sorbet 2 pint. \$4.00 \$2.00 per pint

Come In For A Fresh Cup of Coffee!
Joe's has a coffee roaster that roasts raw green coffee beans to fresh roasted coffee in 8 minutes! We have a variety of flavors. Our House Blend, Colombian, Hazelnut and fall favorites like Cinnamon Apple & Caramel!

Prices Good Through Oct. 19, 2003
Joe's Produce
33152 W. Seven Mile • Livonia, MI 48152
www.joesproduce.com (248) 477-4335

Read then Recycle this Newspaper

CARNIVAL of OCT 5 - NOV 16

Cash & Cars

WIN 1 of 6 new cars! WIN up to \$5,000 cash! Your Players Club Card earns you additional entries playing all slots or table games. Joining the Players Club is FREE!

MGM GRAND
1300 John C. Lodge Detroit, MI 48226 • Call 1-877-885-2121 or visit mgmdetroit.com

NOMINATION THE ORIGINAL

Larson Jewelry Design
43155 Main St., Suite 304
Novi, Michigan 48375
(248) 347-4653

ONLY NOMINATION IS NOMINATION

Autumn Harvest
NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 15TH

Autumn is the time of year when Michigan's farmlands produce an abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables including sweet corn, tomatoes, mushrooms, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, berries and apples.

This autumn Chef Rocky and his band of culinary virtuosos combined their talents to compose a special autumn menu highlighting the many great tastes of the fall harvest.

Join us for a relaxing lunch or dinner next to the fireplace and enjoy such fall specials as...

- GRILLED GULF SHRIMP
- RICOTTA AND BASIL STUFFED RAINBOW TROUT
- SMOKED APPLE CIDER CHICKEN LINGUINE
- INDIAN SPICE RUBBED PORK LOIN
- BLACK WALNUT ENCRUSTED WHITEFISH
- SOUR CREAM APPLE PIE

Rocky's OF NORTHVILLE
41122 West Seven Mile Road
Northville, Michigan
248.349.4434

Experience The Difference
With **DAN TARRANT**

Hines Park Ford's Newest Addition to the Professional Sales Staff

Dan will make your car buying experience a comfortable and easy one! With over 18 years in the Automobile Business, he knows what it takes to provide friendly, professional service. Dan and his family have been Novi residents and active in the community for over 9 years.

Give Dan A Call Today To Experience The Difference!

Ford Hines Park
56558 Pontiac Trail, New Hudson
I-96 AT MILFORD RD. EXIT (248) 437-6700

Lou Csordas / Novi Mayor
Endorsed By

"Lou is a pleasure to work with and is a dedicated and professional representative of all the citizens of Novi."
Novi Mayor Richard Clark

"Lou Csordas has been an active member of the planning Commission and City Council. He brings common sense, logic and experience to decision making in the best interest of all Novi citizens."
State Senator Nancy Cassis

"Lou Csordas considers all sides of every issue, equally and fairly. He keeps an open mind and works well with his colleagues on City Council to arrive at the best for the City of Novi. As Mayor he would keep Novi moving in the right direction."
Novi City Council Member David Landry

"Lou Csordas is a long time Novi promoter with a keen sense of business logic and community involvement. His years of experience on Novi City Council and Planning Commission are critical at this point of the city's history. He is a consensus builder and a leader."
Oakland County Commissioner Hugh Crawford

"Lou has respect for Lou and his ability to bring reason to City Council. We served on the Planning Commission together and now on City Council. He is an independent thinker and always puts the citizens of Novi first."
Novi City Council Member Kim T. Capello

Novi Police Officers Association
Police Officers Association of Michigan

Lou's Top Priorities

- Continue to improve Novi Roads
- Manage the growth of Novi at reasonable pace
- Use Novi Taxes efficiently (No new taxes are necessary)

"FOR PEOPLE NOT POLITICS"
Paid for by the Committee to Elect Lou Csordas 40755 Laden Lane • Novi, MI 48375

Hospital speakers focus on the heart of the matter

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Jeffrey Zaks has one very good reason for middle-aged women to spend the evening with him at the Sheraton Detroit Novi hotel.

"It might save your life," he said. Dr. Zaks, Providence Hospital's chief of medical office and vice president of medical affairs, and others will be presenting a Women's Night Out event next Thursday, from 6 to 9 p.m., and heart disease will be the focus.

A cardiologist, Dr. Zaks noted that while more than 40,000 are diagnosed with breast cancer annually, more than 10 times that many women suffer from heart disease.

Dr. Zaks, who will present "Heart Disease - It's Not Just for Men Anymore," will be joined by Beverly Cameron, a registered dietitian at Providence, who will discuss "You're in Control - Making Lifestyle Changes to Prevent Heart Disease."

According to Dr. Zaks, "Half of all women 55 years old and older have high blood pressure. He added that the mortality rate for female heart attack victims is twice as high as it is for men.

He said one reason for that may be that many women dismiss the early signs of a heart attack because



Dr. Zaks, Providence Hospital's chief of medical office and vice president of medical affairs, will be one of two speakers at Women's Night Out from 6-9 p.m. Oct. 23 at the Sheraton Detroit Novi hotel. Hospital officials say it's a night out that just might save your life.

women's symptoms are different than men's.

"What's the classic image of a heart attack?" he asked. "A man clutching his fist over his chest." For women, however, said Dr. Zaks, the first sign of a heart attack may well be abdominal discomfort that they typically dismiss as gas or indigestion. He noted even caregivers often miss the early signs of heart attacks in women.

This may be due in part to the fact that a disproportionate amount of the research on heart attacks has focused on men.

Dr. Zaks noted that two factors in increased rates of high blood pressure among women have been an increase in hormone replacement therapy and increased smoking rates. "It brings a whole new connotation to 'You've come a long way, baby,'" he noted.

Along with increased rates of heart attack, increased blood pressure levels also increases the risk of stroke.

Experts agree the most muscle damage following a heart attack takes place within the first one to

two hours (golden moment). It is within these two hours that therapy in opening the heart vessel needs to take place. If time is lost and the vessel is opened after this, the benefit is much less.

According to Dr. Zaks, it's important for women to have the information they need to make informed decisions about their health care. He said at least once a year Providence's staff tries to combine important health information for women along with a fun activity.

The year's Women's Night Out will kick off at 5 p.m. with health screenings at the Sheraton (formerly the Novi Hilton), 21111 Haggerty Road; followed by registration at 6 p.m.; dinner and a fashion show by The Clothing Cove of Milford at 6:30 p.m.; presentations by Dr. Zaks and Cameron at 7:30 p.m.; and door prize drawings at 9 p.m.

The \$30 per person charge to cover costs. Call (800) 806-2229.

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

DINNER AND AUCTIONS

Categories for Silent and Live Auctions include:

- | | | |
|------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Vacations | Art and Home Items | Sports Events |
| Fine Wines | Cultural Events | Dinner Packages |
| Jewelry | Concerts | And Much More |



**DINNER
COCKTAILS
DANCING**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2003

AT
LADYWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Time: 5 p.m.-12 a.m.

Admission \$75 per person

For more information or to place a credit card order, call (734) 591-1544.

Fax your request to (734) 591-4214.

Visa and MasterCard accepted.



Ladywood High School 14680 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154
Tel: (734) 591-1544 Ext. 234 Fax: (734) 591-4214

O, Horrors

It's The Novi News / Northville Record
Home Decorating Contest

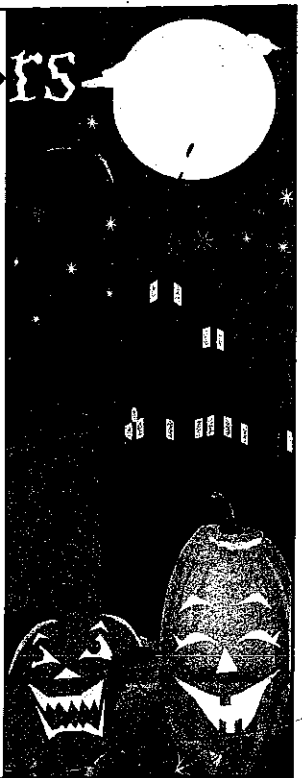
We're looking for the most well-decorated homes in the communities - maybe yours is one of them! Fill out the entry blank below - on Oct. 23 we'll judge the entrants and announce the winners in our Oct. 31 edition.

Help us find the Best Halloween Houses in both Novi and Northville.

Entry Form - Halloween Home Decorating Contest

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Major Cross-Streets _____

Please send entry form to:
104 West Main St. • Northville, MI 48167



OFFICIAL NOTICE TO ELECTORS AND TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF NOVI OF INTENT TO ISSUE BONDS SECURED BY THE TAXING POWER OF THE CITY AND RIGHT OF REFERENDUM THEREON

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Novi, County of Oakland, Michigan, intends to issue special assessment bonds of the City, in total principal amount of not to exceed \$2,500,000 for the purpose of defraying Special Assessment District No. 170's share of the cost of sanitary sewer improvements in said Special Assessment District. Said bonds shall mature serially in not to exceed fifteen (15) annual installments with interest payable on the unpaid balance at a rate of not to exceed 6% per annum or such higher rate as may be permitted by law.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF BONDS

THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT BONDS shall be payable primarily from collections of an equal amount of special assessments on the lands in the special assessment district and the bonds shall also pledge the limited tax full faith and credit of the City of Novi.

IN CASE OF THE INSUFFICIENCY OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS, THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS SHALL BE PAYABLE FROM ANY GENERAL FUNDS OF THE CITY LAWFULLY AVAILABLE FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

THE BONDS will be issued without vote of the electors unless a PETITION requesting an election on the question of issuing the bonds, signed by not less than 10% OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS in the City, is filed with the City by depositing the same with the City Clerk WITHIN FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS after publication of this notice. If such a petition is filed, the bonds affected cannot be issued without an approving vote by a majority of electors voting on the question.

THIS NOTICE is given pursuant to the requirements of Section 5(g) of Act 279, Public Acts of Michigan, 1909, as amended. Further information concerning the matters set out in this notice may be secured from the City Clerk's office.

(10-16-03 NN 90897)

MARYANNE CORNELIUS
CITY CLERK



As parents, we know it's important to have health care coverage that is comprehensive and affordable. HAP is all that, and more.

With over 5,000 doctors and 43 hospitals to choose from, HAP has the care we need, when we need it. And, at some of the lowest out-of-pocket costs available. HAP also offers preventative programs - like asthma and hypertension management - to improve our quality of life. Plus, if one of us needs to see a specialist - like a physical therapist - we're covered there too.

During open enrollment, ask your employer about HAP. Learn what we did. HAP's affordable, outstanding health coverage is good for our family. It will be good for your family too.

For more information, visit hap.org or call (313) 872-8100.

A plan ahead. **hap**

Why share when you can take all of the KVC?

I really couldn't relate to the way the Novi Wildcats football team is feeling right now. They are guaranteed a berth in the playoffs, as well as a share of the conference title for the first time since 1989.



Sam Eggleston

The last time the Wildcats won the Kensington Valley Conference title, I was a whopping nine years old, and I've never had to worry about the playoffs or a conference title in the years I played.

But, like any true champion, the Wildcats aren't satisfied. They still have a chance to win the Kensington Valley Conference title outright, and do so in style as they visit the Pinckney Pirates tomorrow at 7 p.m. in their final conference game of the year.

The Pirates are an unfortunate 0-7 at this point in the season, which puts them at the bottom in the conference standings and knowing full well they won't be taking any trips in the month of November for post-season play. But, that also lets them know they are a very dangerous team — one that can take chances and risks that other squads can't. This was the case two years ago when the Novi gridders took the long bus ride to visit the Pirates and came away with a loss in rain and sleet that slowed their offense to a crawl and found Pinckney earning a win.

Novi, however, will be looking to keep that from happening with a variety of offensive styles. Not only are they capable of running the option this year — and well, I might add — they are a team that can run up the middle, hit the guard-tackle gap and pass when they need to. With what can easily be described as the most talented backfield in the Kensington Valley Conference, the Wildcats coaches have a variety of tricks they can bring onto the field if the going gets muddy once again.

The difference this season compared to two years ago is the defense. The Novi Wildcats have a defensive corps that his like a truck on the expressway. They aren't afraid to wrap you up, twist you around and slam you into the turf if they get the chance — and they love to do it for a loss in yards especially. With one of the most impressive defensive teams I have seen from any high school ball club, the Novi Wildcats have the ability to shut down most teams. Add in the fact that Robbie Carter is back after an injury kept him sidelined for the majority of the year and you find yourself wondering if the defense should get the season MVP as a unit instead of picking an individual.

I have to say that I am confident the 'Cats are going to get this win and the outright conference crown tomorrow night. All of that and a 207th win for coach John Osborne and the high school's program — nothing to scoff at. The Novi players just can't get too relaxed or overconfident. Remember, a wounded animal is the most dangerous — and Pinckney is feeling rather wounded at this point and might likely bite.

But, I remain confident nonetheless, and hope Trevor Hoover has a good return to Pinckney and walks away with a win after it is all said and done.

Novi 47, Pinckney 17

Going to the state finals

Wildcats tennis squad wins regional, headed to Midland

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

For the Novi Wildcats girls tennis team, going to the state finals may be a repeat of last year — but they are planning on an even better showing this time around.

The Novi tennis team, coached by Jim Hanson, won their regional with an impressive showing by earning 28 points while Farmington Mercy escaped into the state finals as well with a second-place finish of 24 points.

"It's always a great season when you make it to the state finals," Hanson said. "Last year, we went and we had a great time. This year we want to do the same thing. It's not every year that you get to go, so you have to make the best of it."

Last season, the Wildcats took eighth place in the Lower Peninsula finals, and this year they plan on having a similar

showing and maybe a better placement. "We have some very talented players and a lot of depth," Hanson said. "We have two flights seeded in one doubles and four singles. But, there are a lot of players and a lot of teams that aren't seeded that have the ability to win the states."

Hanson said it wouldn't be a surprise if players or duos besides the top four seeds took the championship.

"I wouldn't be surprised if there weren't quite a few non-seeded players that win their flights," he said.

In the regional meet, the Wildcats didn't seem to have too much trouble as they won five out of the eight flights.

In third singles, senior Anna Switzer found herself seeded in first and kept it that way — as did the other first-seeded teams.

"We definitely kept our seedings," Hanson noted. "All of the number one seeds won their flights, and all of them

Cigna helps lead 'Cats for chance to defend state title

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It's nothing new for the Novi Wildcats — but it's exciting nonetheless.

The Wildcats boys golf team will once again represent their school and their community as they play against the best of the best in the state finals. That's after a particularly good showing that found them finishing second in the regional tournament behind a very impressive Detroit Catholic Central squad.

"I am extremely proud of the boys," Novi golf coach Brad Huss said.

The Novi Wildcats aren't overconfident either — in fact, they are more modest than anything else.

"We have the talent. But golf is a fickle sport and a lot of teams have enough talent but don't make it," Huss said. "The regional tournament is a one-day, 18-hole qualifier, and only three teams make it out. I have had some very good teams that didn't

make it. So every time we do, it makes it that much sweeter."

The Wildcats were led by Brandon Cigna — or, more precisely, everyone was led by Cigna. The Novi senior shot a two-under 69 to earn the medalist position at the regional tournament.

"He was medalist and can now list regional champ among his many accomplishments," Huss said of his top shooter.

Mark Eberline came out strong as well, shooting a 76.

"Mark recovered well after a couple of bad starts and shot 76," Huss noted. "I am extremely proud of him and his efforts."

Eric Aytes was third on the team, shooting a 76 on the day.

"This kid is a gamer," Huss said. "His is one of the best pressure players I have ever coached. The bigger the tournament, the better he plays."

Brett Jaussi, who has been playing well

Continued on B3

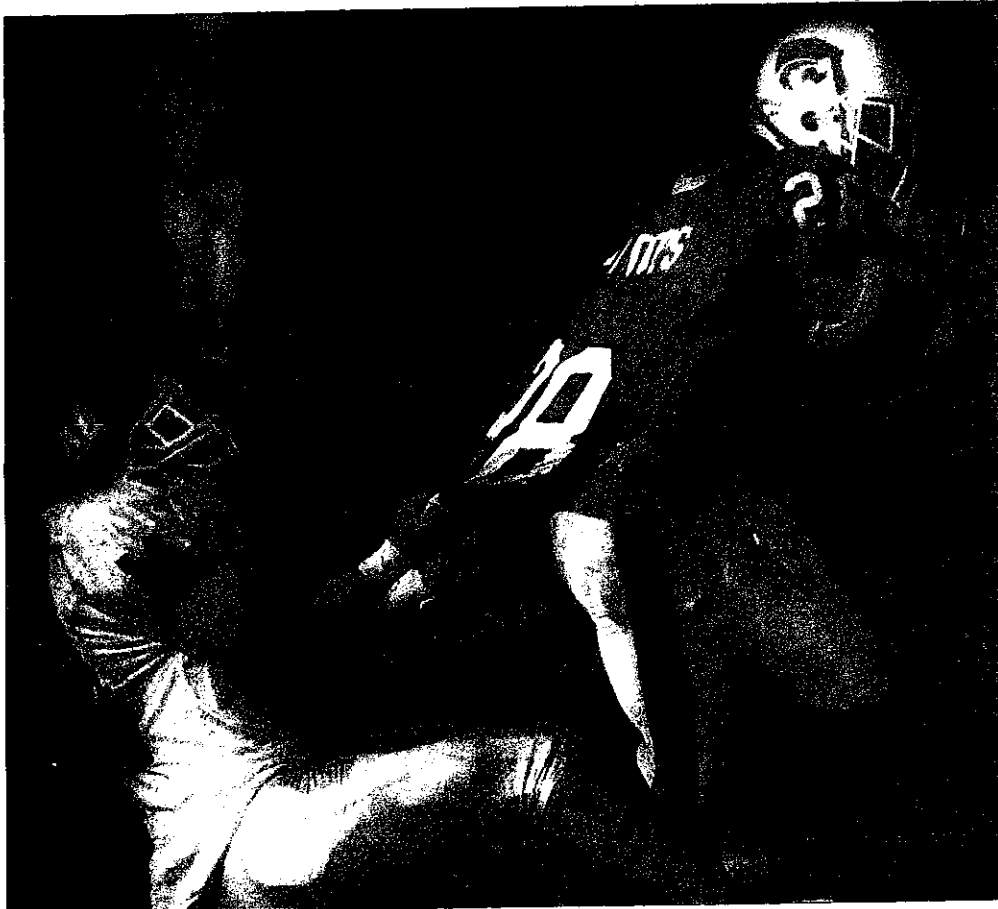


Photo by John Heider

Novi running-back J.W. Woods thinks this game is beginning to be a bit of a drag as he tries to escape from the clutches of Milford line-backer Nick Hegle. Novi won the contest 28-21 to secure a homecoming victory and a piece of the conference title — the first taste of the KVC crown the Wildcats have had since 1989. Novi now has a chance to win the conference outright if they can get a victory over winless Pinckney tomorrow.

GREAT SCOTT!

Chris Scott blocks punt, Joey Fratto recovers for touchdown to spark Novi to homecoming victory and a piece of the KVC crown

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It was gut-check time for the Novi Wildcats football team in their homecoming game against the Milford Mavericks, and Novi proved they had the guts.

For what? Their first Kensington Valley Conference title since 1989, that's what.

The Novi Wildcats wobbled in the first half but came back strong after a blocked punt by Chris Scott and a recovery for a touchdown by Joey Fratto sparked their squad to a 28-21 homecoming victory Friday.

"That was huge," Fratto said. "We practice it all the time, and when I saw him get the

block and the ball hit the ground, I knew it was mine."

Fratto put his shoulder into the effort as well, shielding out a diving Milford punter in Dan Plummer as he, too, tried to recover the loose ball. The maneuver deflected Plummer's dive, and left Fratto off balance as he scooped up the ball on the 3-yard line and dove forward for the touchdown.

"That play is set up by Eric Diegthon," Novi coach Tab Kellepourey said. "Chris Scott comes off his movement to get through the line for a chance to get that block."

The touchdown for Fratto was a fitting one. The senior wide receiver, who has been key for Novi throughout the season with

some impressive catches, had an earlier touchdown called back with 7:27 left in the first quarter on a holding penalty.

"I wanted it bad," he said of the score.

Fratto's touchdown tied the contest at 7-7 after kicker Mark Angellocci split the uprights with the extra point. Milford had scored the first touchdown of the game with 1:55 left in the first half. Senior runningback Nick Hegle pounded through the middle of the line and found the endzone from five yards out with Plummer hitting the point-after attempt for the 7-0 lead. That stood until Fratto's score two minutes into the second half. The Mavericks' first score was set up by an interception by Tyler Katchever, a junior defen-

sive back.

"Coach (John) Osborne explained to our kids that these guys were coming to play," Kellepourey said of the Mavericks. "They were the league champs last year, and we had to beat them to prove we deserved being league champs this year."

The Wildcats were determined to prove exactly that, and quickly made the score 14-7 after the defense shut down Milford and forced them to punt on the possession following the blocked punt. Eight plays and 50 yards later, Novi senior tailback J.W. Woods took the handoff through the gap created by

Continued on B5

Brandon Cigna Senior Golf



Once again, Cigna showed just how capable a golfer he really is. The Novi senior pounded his way to an impressive score as he earned the medalist position at the Regional Meet to help his team earn yet another berth into the state finals. Cigna, with his long drives and precise shooting ability, is no doubt looking forward to what his team will be able to accomplish come the state finals.



Athletes OF THE Week

If you or your business would like to sponsor our Athletes of the Week feature, please contact advertising executive

Jennifer Walker at (248) 349-1700 or by e-mail at jwalker@ht.homecomm.net



Anna Switzer Senior Tennis

Switzer is no stranger to winning, and she showed it as she won the third singles flight at the West Bloomfield regional meet to help her squad make it to the state finals for the second straight year.

Switzer, as well as the other seniors on the team, will be looking to lead her squad by example at the impressive facilities in Midland, where the state finals will be hosted.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 10B

Thursday, October 16, 2003

NFIB UPDATE

Swinging for the Fences

As the annual chase for baseball's World Series championship begins, American small-business owners have more in common with the players on the field than they might realize.

Entrepreneurs are no strangers to blistering curves, wild pitches and knuckleballs thrown at them with blinding speed. Instead of horsehide-covered spheres weighing five ounces, these "balls" aimed at small-business owners appear with frightening regularity in the form of government-mandated wages, regulations and taxes.

Somewhat though, morale in the dugout is high, according to the results of NFIB's recent economic trends report. Optimism on Main Street took a big leap recently and the buzz among the team is that now's the time to expand operations.

But the team of lawmakers from Capitol Hill reared back and fired a high, hard one when it refused to update the nearly 50-year-old employee overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act to give workers flexibility and allow employers to offer financial rewards for improved productivity and profitability.

That wasn't the first one to cross the small-business plate. Back before the economy started gaining momentum, a mandatory wage increase bill came out of the Senate's left field.

Deceptively labeled the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2003, this slider threatened to nail small business in the hip pocket with yet another government-imposed pay boost to \$5.90 an hour, then another hike to \$6.65 one year later.

Needless to say, small business cried "foul" and opposed the measure on the grounds that government manipulation of the starting wage has failed as a tool of social and economic improvement. Free-enterprise umpires agree that minimum wage hikes not only hurt small firms, but their employees as well.

But the challengers continue to ignore the cheers rising from the stands as reports of capital-spending improvement, inventory investment and hiring plans flash up on the scoreboard. The economists who conducted the recent survey assure us that the record optimism stats signal big wins for growth during the second half of this year.

Growing firms could put one in the upper deck, but procedural spitballs from the Senate have prevented the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 from becoming a permanent change to the tax code.

Good only through 2010, this statute provides small-business owners temporary relief from high individual tax rates, eliminates the death tax, eliminates the marriage penalty and makes a number of significant tax cuts and reforms to our nation's pension laws. But what happens then? Without a permanent, predictable policy environment in which to make sound business decisions, small-business owners will be scoring fewer economic home runs.

One fat pitch that entrepreneurs could slam into orbit would come in the form of affordable medical care through Association Health Plans, but while the House has done its part, the Senate isn't even in the ballpark yet.

Still, no matter how many wild pitches American small-business owners face, you can always count on them to hang in there and swing for the fences.

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 600,000 members in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. More information is available on-line at www.nfib.com.

Send us your business news:

Novi News
Cal Stone, editor
104 W. Main
Northville, MI 48167
fax: (248) 349-9832

cstone@ht.homecomm.net

ADVERTORIAL



Photo by Jim Farkas

Proprietor Pat Fielding (left) and Sherry Tucker, full-time designer, stand ready to create your special bouquet, arrangement or centerpiece.

Fresh flowers add cheerfulness to any occasion

By James C. Farkas
SPECIAL WRITER

Ask any man, what is the first gift that comes to mind for Mothers Day, anniversary or birthdays? Ask any woman, what is the most cheerful gift she could receive to brighten a

special occasion or any day? I'll bet the answer, without hesitation, would be a fresh bouquet of flowers. When you think about it, fresh flowers stimulate almost all of your senses - sight, smell, touch and feel.

When you think of fresh flowers in the South Lyon area, you

think of Pat's Field of Flowers. Proprietor Pat Fielding attended design classes at Schoolcraft College 16 years ago.

With the goal in mind of being in business for herself, she felt it was only natural to do something she loved. So, in 1989 she opened Pat's Field of Flowers in the Brookdale Strip Mall on the southwest corner of Pontiac Trail and Nine Mile Road. Fourteen years at the same location has made Pat's Field of Flowers a household name in the community when it comes to fresh flowers from around the world. Delivered daily from a local distribution center are the always popular roses, carnations and orchids to the more exotic species such as bird of paradise and protea. They come from all parts of the world, such as Florida, California, Hawaii and Ecuador.

But that's not all. Pat's business has been growing and expanding into other complimentary lines of gifts and home decor, such as scented candles by Colonial-at-Home and a wide selection of body lotions by Camille Beckman, that her discerning customers will select to compliment the bouquet of flowers.

"We also offer a beautiful line of greeting cards by Lang," said Pat.

Other services offered at Pat's Field of Flowers include in-home consultation for custom silk flower arrangements and centerpieces; wedding consultations, which include delivery and set-up; and gift baskets, fruit and gourmet baskets and, of course, live plants, at a wide range of prices.

"We will tailor-make a unique floral arrangement just for you," said Pat. "Whatever you can imagine, we can create. You

won't find this kind of service at the corner grocery store amongst the frozen foods."

Pat has been married for 42 years. She and her husband, Bob, have two married sons, Michael and Brett. She actively participates in the South Lyon Chamber of Commerce.

"There isn't a day that goes by that I don't meet several people in the community that I know," said Pat.

She gives back to the community in several ways, from donating fresh pumpkin centerpieces for South Lyon's Annual Pumpkin Fest costume ball to gift certificates for local school fund-raisers, charities and auctions.

"We show our appreciation for our customers in a very special way by having an annual Christmas open house the first Saturday in December," said Pat. "There are free gifts, drawings and plenty of food as a thank you for doing business with us all year."

Pat can't say enough about her professional and courteous staff. Besides assisting customers herself, she has three part-time delivery and counter people, Marge, Anne and Jackie; two part-time designers, Tabitha and Sue; and her full-time designer, Sherry, who has been with her for 12 of the 14 years. Pat's customers are very special to her and their satisfaction is of foremost importance.

"You can expect personal attention and a genuine interest from each and every one of my competent staff," said Pat.

Besides the FTD and TELE-FLORAL services one would expect, Pat says her Web site orders have been increasing substantially.

"People can order right from their office or even from out-of-

DETAILS

Pat's Field of Flowers
Brookdale Strip Mall
22331 Pontiac Trail, South
Lyon (southwest corner at
9 Mile Road)
(248) 437-7997
www.patsfieldofflowers.com
Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 7p.m.;
Sat. 9a.m. to 4 p.m.;
Sun. 11a.m. to 3 p.m.
Daily delivery service available

state by going directly to www.patsfieldofflowers.com and avoid the corporate national companies' service charge," said Pat. "This way, they will have direct contact with the professionals that will be making up their arrangement and can communicate any special requests."

According to Pat, business is constant throughout the year due to special occasions. However, Christmas, Valentine's Day and Mother's Day are always the busiest.

"We stock up with a large selection of fresh flowers and gifts prior to these occasions so our customers will always find a good selection to choose from," said Pat. "So, if you would like to brighten someone's day - whether it be a birthday, anniversary, upcoming Sweetest Day or a centerpiece for Halloween, Thanksgiving or Christmas - call or stop in at Pat's Field of Flowers. She and her staff will be happy to create a special bouquet or arrangement just for your special someone. There's nothing more pleasurable than the colors and scents to accentuate the seasons in your office or home decor."

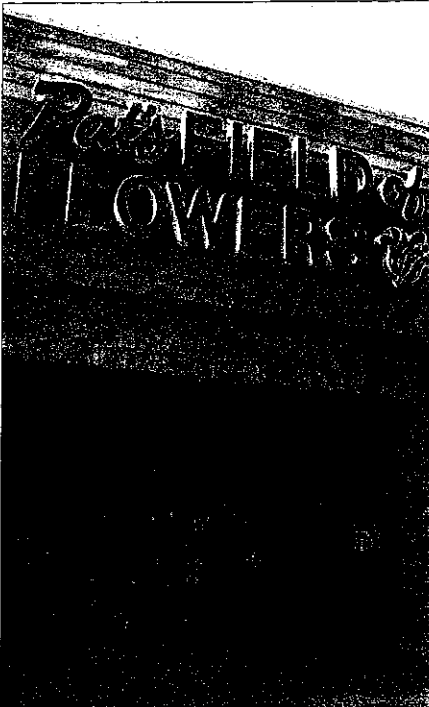


Photo by Jim Farkas

Pat's Field of Flowers is a familiar name in the South Lyon business community with 14 years at the same location.

Pat's Field of Flowers

Offering only the finest floral arrangements & gifts.
Backed by service that is friendly & prompt.

248-437-7997

Monday-Friday 8:30am-7pm
Saturday 9am-4pm
Sunday 11am-3pm

Winner of Peoples Choice Award 2002, 2003
www.patsfieldofflowers.com

