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Novi, Michigan

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INSIDE

What's cookin'?

The holidays are just around the corner. But, there is no need to stress about what to bake or how to use up all of that leftover turkey. Look inside today's paper for HomeTown Newspapers' second-annual collection of Holiday Recipes.

— SPECIAL SECTION



Beck work begins

Just as work on Grand River Avenue between Beck and Novi Roads began winding down in anticipation of the new bridge over the CSX railroad tracks, backhoes and a crane gathered on a muddy patch of ground next to West Market Square as work began on replacing the Beck Road Bridge over I-96.

— page 4A

Feature Teacher

Roberta Lazar is this month's feature teacher. She won because of her love of school, children and, above all, teaching. She loves working with students, watching them grow and seeing them reach their behavioral and academic potential. She also likes to get to know the students personally.

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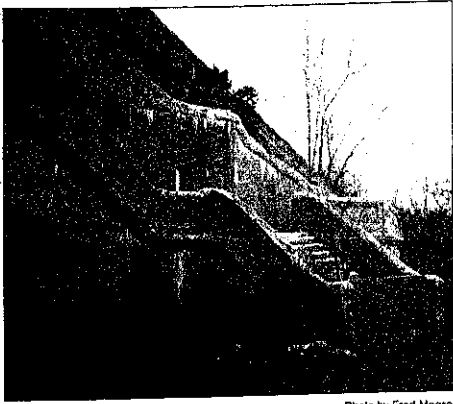


Photo by Fred Moore

This photo was taken of the Grand River Avenue bridge in 1998, and the condition of the structure has only gotten worse since then. The new bridge will be ready for traffic tomorrow morning.

FINALLY! Grand River bridge to open tomorrow

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

Orange barrels still line Grand River Avenue between Novi and Beck roads; construction crews are still smoothing out concrete for sidewalks along the avenue; and the new traffic signal at Taft Road isn't working yet, but the Road Commission for Oakland County plans on opening the new five-lane bridge over the CSX railroad tracks tomorrow.

The brief ceremony, slated for 10 a.m. at the west end of the \$7.6 million bridge, can't come a minute too soon for Mary Catherine Johnson and other business owners along Grand River between Novi and Beck. Johnson, who owns

Gatsby's Restaurant, and her neighbors have suffered through loss of business, power outages and gas leaks since February 11 when crews working for the commission began demolishing the old camel-back bridge that had spanned the railroad tracks for nearly 80 years.

"We have an awful lot of regulars and thank God for that," said Johnson, noting that her business has been suffering ever since the road commission began widening Grand River between Beck and Wixom Roads three years ago in anticipation of the replacement of the Beck Road bridge over I-96.

"Until the bridge opens we're not going to get the traffic back," said Johnson, Road Commission spokesman

Craig Bryson said his agency is planning a brief ceremony, including the first historical plaque ever erected by the commission.

The original bridge cost \$122,223.08, took 14 months to complete and claimed the lives of two workmen. It was built with the help of convict labor.

Bryson said after some brief speeches by local officials and road commission representatives and the unveiling of the plaque, the new bridge will be open for business, 10 months after work began.

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

Links of Novi rezoning approved

■ Singh agrees to donate 65 acres of trail system, parkland

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Planning Commission approved a zoning change for about 325 acres of southwest Novi Nov. 5, moving West Bloomfield-based Singh Development's proposed Quail Hollow subdivision a step closer to reality.

The Links of Novi golf course is part of the property located south of Ten Mile Road and east of Napier Road.

Planning Commission members and recently-elected city council members Toni Nagy and Lynne Paul were advised by the city attorney to not attend this particular meeting. Present Commission members voted to recommend to city council to rezone the area.

If city council grants the rezoning, it would change the residential area from RA (Residential Acreage) to R-1 (One Family Residential).

In exchange for the right to develop the property, Singh has agreed with the City of Novi to enter into a development agreement containing substantial benefits to the city. Singh is willing to donate about 65 acres to the city, which includes about 20 acres that could be developed into parkland.

Singh would also create a park with a state-of-the-art trail system as part of the development. There was also discussion about Singh agreeing to add connecting trails to nearby Community Park on the north side of Ten Mile Road.

Planning Commission members recommended that the developer be limited to a range of 368 to 428 homes on the property.

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Ladies of the Tower



Photo by Linda Wickert

In this scene from "Ladies of the Tower," the spirits of women who lost their lives in the Tower of London come back from the grave. Pictured, left to right, are Meagan Shavelly as Lady Jane Gray, Melissa Agosta as Catherine Howard, Jan Cartwright as Queen Mother Elizabeth and Elaine Harrington as Lady Arabella Stuart.

Four-in-one fest starts Friday

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Area theatergoers will have a treat this weekend as members of the Novi Theatres group presents "A One Act Festival," an evening of four one act plays combining comedy, history and mystery.

Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Novi Civic Center on 45175 W. Ten Mile Rd.

"The plays have a little bit of everything," said Melissa Agosta of Novi, one of the performers, who noted that the four one act plays offer a night of unusual entertainment.

"Instead of only one, audiences have the opportunity to experience four different shows for the price of one ticket," Agosta said. "Our fourth play is a mystery, and

audience members will have something to talk about after this performance."

Carnie and Linda Wickert are co-directing the plays. Alleigh Wickert serves as stage manager, and Stephen Landon is the set designer.

John Verlaque is the lighting designer, and Julie Landry, assisted by Peggy Schwarzkose, is costume designer.

"The unique thing about a one-act festival is that most of the actors are in more than one play, so you get to see them play different characters," said Linda Wickert, director.

"To see the same person playing a variety of roles is very unusual," she noted. "These four performances will feature some of the most talented actors in the Novi Theatres."

The Novi Theatres has been in existence since 1991 and celebrates its 13th season

this year. The theater group is supported by the City of Novi and by Friends of the Novi Theatres, a group of volunteers who help with the group's "wish list."

Contributions from the volunteer group in the past have included a new microphone system, risers for the audience, a complete renovation of the costume room at the Novi Civic Center and a new digital camera for publicity photos.

The first play, "Who Am I This Time?" by Kurt Vonnegut Jr., is a comedy about an insecure man who becomes every role he plays in his town's community theater productions.

The cast includes Rey Arveno as Newt, Lynus Parker as Harry Nash, Julie Landry as

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DeRoche named to committee to review Detroit water rates

■ Representative wants Novi to have same rate review as utilities

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

Novi's freshman state representative has been tapped as one of seven legislators to serve on a new House oversight committee that will be looking into the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department's policies and procedures.

Creation of the committee comes

on the heels of a hotly disputed audit of the department's rate structures, commissioned by Oakland County Drain Commissioner John McCullough. Testifying before State Senator Laura Toy's (R-Livonia) Local, Urban and State Affairs Committee in Lansing last month, McCullough told committee members that Oakland County communities served by the department had been overcharged at least \$13 million over the past two years.

Craig DeRoche, (R-Novi) one of four Republicans on the new House



DeRoche

committee, said he would like to see Detroit's water rates for its suburban customers regulated like other public utilities across the state.

"The state currently regulates other utilities because of health, safety and welfare concerns of Michigan residents," he said. "For example,

Consumers Energy has 2.1 million customers and their pricing and practices are heavily regulated, but residents do not have a voice in how water rates are set or the business process."

That, however, will likely take a

change in state statutes. Gary Kits, the state Public Service Commission's chief administrative officer, noted that while his agency oversees the rates charged by the state's nine investor-owned utilities and its dozen cooperatives, it has never regulated the state's 41 municipally-owned utilities.

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department is the state's largest municipally-owned utility providing water and sewer service to 4.3 million customers in 125 communities in eight counties. The Lansing Board of Water and Light comes in a distant second with 400,000 customers in Ingham County.

Currently the Public Service

Commission regulates gas and electric providers but not water companies. According to Kits, once regulated water rates for 20 small privately-owned water companies, the largest of which served 75,000 people. However, he noted, that state legislature deregulated the industry in the early 1990s.

Even as it expanded service across southeast Michigan over the last 30 years the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department has had a stormy relationship with its suburban customers. Two years ago U.S. District Court Judge John Felkens created the Southeast Michigan

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NOVI PUBLIC POLICE

POLICE REPORT

Missed the turn

Officer James Brandon took a Southfield woman into custody at 4:20 p.m. Nov. 3 following a traffic stop near Eight Mile Road and Center Street. Officer Brandon stopped the woman's 2003 Pontiac Grand Prix after it reportedly ran a red light at Eight Mile and Griswold Street. The woman said she was on her way home from a Detroit hospital to her home near Eight Mile and Telegraph Roads. An ambulance crew member told Officer Brandon the woman's pupils were pinpoint and non-reactive. After finding a syringe of what was believed to be sodium chloride, along with three tablets of Tylenol 3 and eight tablets of Carisoprodol, a muscle relaxant, in her bag, Officer Brandon obtained a search warrant for a blood sample from Judge Brian MacKenzie. The woman was later released pending issuance of warrants.

Guess again

Officer Eric Landblade stopped a 1999 Saturn on 12 Mile Road east of Novi Road at 2:20 a.m. Nov. 6 after the driver reportedly ignored the "No Turn on Red" sign at Novi Road. The driver, a 21-year-old Novi woman said she'd had four beers at the Post since 10 p.m., but that wasn't "enough to be considered drunk." After she failed field sobriety tests and registered a blood alcohol content of .14, Officer Landblade disagreed and charged her with operating under the influence of liquor. The woman was later released after posting a \$100 bond.

Warrant arrest

Officer Brian Woloski took a 43-year-old Detroit man into custody following a traffic stop on northbound Haggerty Road near Villagewood at 11:11 p.m. Nov. 6 after he discovered the man was being sought on an unspecified warrant issued by authorities in Lansing. Officer Woloski met Lansing police officers in Brighton and surrendered the man to them.

One to another

Officer Eric Landblade stopped a 1998 Mazda Protege in front of Red 1st and Blue Haggerty near Novi Road at 12:15 a.m. Nov. 7 after it reportedly made an improper left turn. The driver, a 30-year-old Macomb man said he was on his way from the 5th Avenue lounge in Royal Oak, where he said he'd had a Red Bull and a vodka drink, to meet friends at Novi's 5th Avenue. He didn't make it. Instead Officer Landblade charged him with operating under the influence of liquor after he failed field sobriety tests and registered a blood alcohol content of .13. Officer Landblade also discovered the man's license and registration were also expired. The man was later released after posting a \$100 bond.

Blocking traffic

Officer Paul VanPelt stopped a 2004 Hummer on westbound Market Street at 1:56 a.m. Nov. 7 after it blocked traffic for 21 sec-

Door damaged II

Officer David Martino discovered a 2001 Saturn with a six-inch piece of concrete while it was parked at his Coventry Street residence sometime before 11:30 p.m. Nov. 7.

Truck vandalized

A 28-year-old Caldwell man told Officer Scott Baetens Nov. 8 that someone smashed the drivers side mirror and window on his 2001 Chevrolet pickup while he was at the Novi Expo Center sometime before 9:50 p.m. Damage was estimated at \$400.

Home vandalized

A 42-year-old Novi woman told Officer Keith Wooten that her Febble Street house, garage and minivan were egged sometime before 11:18 p.m. Nov. 8.

Windshield smashed

A 39-year-old Novi woman told Officer Scott Baetens Nov. 8 that someone smashed the windshield of her 1990 Plymouth Beekenhams Boulevard and Nine Mile Road sometime before 11:55 p.m.

Logos lifted

A 29-year-old Novi woman told Officers Shawn Penzak and Kevin Gilmore Nov. 9 that someone tore the Mazda logos from the hood and trunk of her Mazda 626 while she was in Lifetime Fitness on Highpointe Avenue.

Car 1, deer 0

A 30-year-old Commerce Township woman escaped without any apparent injury when a deer darted in front of her car on Novi Road about a quarter-mile north of 12 Mile Road about 4 p.m. Nov. 5. The same could not be said of the deer. The windshield and driver's side window of the woman's car was shattered and the deer was not open following the accident.

Open container

Officer Andrew Hulsebeck charged a 42-year-old Redford man with having an open container in a motor vehicle following a traffic stop on 1-96 near M-5 at 12:40 a.m. Nov. 5. While the man showed no signs of intoxication, he did admit to have an open 22-ounce Budweiser bottle in his vehicle. He was later released after posting a \$100 bond.

Door damaged

A 31-year-old Novi man told Officer Michael Prugh that someone did roughly \$500 damage to the drivers side door of his

Phone taken

A 38-year-old Detroit man told Officer Jeremy Stempien that his cell phone was stolen in a rest room at 12 Oaks Mall sometime

before 12:04 p.m. Nov. 5.

The man said he put the phone down to wash his hands; forgot it; and when he came back five minutes

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CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY November 16th
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

All 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys and their families are cordially invited to the annual Catholic Central Open House.

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POLICE REPORT

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later, it was gone. The man said the phone was worth \$200.

Warrant arrest

Officer Erick Zaiser arrested a 28-year-old Novi man on an unspecified warrant at 1 a.m. Nov. 4 following a family dispute at Davis Amoco on 12 Mile Road. The man was transported to the Oakland County Jail.

No sale

A 43-year-old Redford Township man told Officer James Brandon that he discovered at 1:08 p.m. Nov. 4 that his truck was burglarized at Image Tech in Novi his credit card company informed him that someone tried to charge \$4,600 worth of merchandise at the Best Buy in Novi with his card.

Watch the light

Officer Louis Bigliardi charged a 21-year-old Northville man with violation of the controlled substance act following a traffic stop on 12 Mile Road near Lakeshore at 4:59 p.m. Nov. 4. Officer Bigliardi said the man initially ran a red light at 10 Mile and Meadowbrook roads. He said he confiscated three knives he found with the marijuana and paraphernalia in the man's vehicle, but gave him a verbal warning for running the light. The man was released after posting a \$100 bond.

Three strikes

Officer Brian Tillman charged a 23-year-old Livonia man with operating under the influence of liquor, possession of marijuana and driving without a license following a traffic stop at 7:08 p.m. Nov. 4 on 12 Mile Road near Novi Road. After failing field sobriety tests the man registered a blood alcohol content of .152. He was later released after posting a \$50 bond.

Rear-ender

Officer Louis Bigliardi charged an 86-year-old Novi man with driving while license suspended after the man reportedly drove his 2000 Oldsmobile into the back of a 2003 Ford driven by a 64-year-old Canton woman on westbound 10 Mile Road between Novi and Tift at 8:03 p.m. Nov. 4.

Compiled by Phil Foley

It's official



Novi's new first lady Cheryl Csordas (above left) watches as her husband, Lou, gets sworn in as the city's 10th mayor by 52-1 District Court Judges Dennis Powers, Robert Bondy and Brian MacKenzie at the Novi Civic Center Monday. Following the mayor, Novi's newest city council members - Lynne Paul, Toni Nagy and Bob Gatt - took their oath of office on what Novi Planning Commission member David Ruyle noted was also the U.S. Marine Corps' 228th birthday. Novi's political and business elite filled city council chambers for the swearing in ceremony.

Commission approves Links of Novi rezoning

continued from front page

Master Plan reviewed

A public hearing Oct. 1 on the proposed zoning change led Planning Commission members to have members of the Master Plan and Zoning Committee review the property.

Members met three times — on Oct. 14, Oct. 22 and Oct. 28 — before making the decision to recommend approval of the rezoning. "I think you for having us back so quickly," said Khanh Pham of Singh Development at the Nov. 5 meeting. "I think issues have been raised and issues have been answered. Ultimately, our Quail Hollow project will reach further than any single entity can do. We're prepared to stand behind our commitments."

Increased traffic a concern

Kocan noted that the biggest concern in approving more development in this area is the increasing traffic along Ten Mile Road. He also mentioned that Oak Pointe Church, with about 2,800 members, will be built soon on the north side of Ten Mile in the area even more. "What's the lowest amount of

Commission approves Links of Novi rezoning

substantial commitments as far as parkland donated. "And, the parklands have to be accessible to everyone. We don't want just a clubhouse for the residents like at Island Lake," Kocan said.

"What are you doing to benefit the residents of Novi?" she asked Pham.

"I can chime in as a member of the Master Plan and Zoning Commission that has looked at this property for a long time. We do know that developers have the right to develop their property. It's not going to be a golf course much longer," said Commission Member Tim Shroyer.

"Partnerships are good, but they can also fail," said Commission Member Lowell Sprague. "Traffic is an issue, but I think the addition of the parkland is great."

Paving of Napier mentioned

Commission Member David Ruyle said he would like to see the paving of Napier Road from the south side of the property to Ten Mile Road as part of the plan. Pham said that typically the developer paves roads only to the frontage of their property, but Singh would consider extending the paving on Napier Road.

DeRoche named to committee

continued from front page

Consortium for Water Quality, and since then there have been calls in some quarters to regionalize the giant water utility. However, DeRoche insists that he doesn't want to see a state or regional takeover of the department. All he wants is for the department to go through the same rate review as the state's energy providers, such as DTE, Consumers Energy and MichCon.

DeRoche said committee members will review the setting of rates throughout the system; the department's billing practices; processes and procedures; how the department will refund overcharges; and clarify the oversight relationship between the department and the Southeast Michigan Consortium for Water Quality.

Within a month, DeRoche said the committee will begin holding hearings throughout the Detroit water system. The committee is scheduled to have its final report to the legislature by June 30.

Novi, Walled Lake and Wixom all get their water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department. However, Wixom city officials retained the well fields they had before hooking into the Detroit system and still have the ability to sell themselves off from the rest of the system as they did during the massive power outage in August.

The committee will be chaired by Shelly Taub, R-Bloomfield Hills. Joining her and DeRoche on the GOP side of the aisle will be Clinton Township's Leon Drollet. Representing the Democrats on the committee will be Steve Tobocman and Arina Tinsley, Hutcheson of Detroit and the only committee member from outside Metro Detroit, Kalamazoo's Alexander Lipsky.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

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Antenna was the Live Programming and Political Awareness categories. The SWOCC Studios won in the Children's Programming Category for the show "Santa Call-In 2002." The three second-place winners included Collins, Antenna, and Harry Robertson and Frank Beresh, public access producers in the Magazine Category, for their program "Around the Corner."

ABWA members to meet

Members of the Charter Oaks Chapter American Business Women's Association will meet at 6:15 p.m. Monday at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Novi. Members will hear a talk on "Being a Change Agent: It Comes from Within," from Debra Marie of DebraMarie Consulting & Training in Northville.

Baja Fresh lightens up

Baja Fresh Mexican Grill, located at Novi Town Center on the east side of Novi Road north of Grand River Avenue, announces that its successful Lighten Up menu will continue to be offered this fall. The menu, introduced last June, offers six new dishes that are low in calories and fat but high in protein and fiber. The menu was developed to meet the needs of more health-conscious customers. The items have been such a hit with customers that the restaurant has decided to continue to offer the menu indefinitely. More customers in Michigan will soon be able to taste the new Lighten Up items since the chain plans to open three new restaurants in Novi, Northville and Farmington Hills. Other locations are in Troy, Rochester Hills, Farmington Hills and Southfield.

Novi tool company expands

Friedman Real Estate Group, Inc. recently negotiated the lease of 5,105 square feet of light industrial space at 24404 Catherine Industrial Drive in Novi to Paragon Machine Tool Sales. The tool company leased the space to accommodate company growth. Friedman's Jim Roberts represented Paragon, and Glenn DesRosiers represented the landlord, Novawest Limited Partnership, in the transaction. Friedman is one of Michigan's largest locally owned and operated commercial real estate companies.

DeMaria gains South Lyon project

The City of South Lyon recently hired DeMaria Building Company in Novi to upgrade and expand its existing wastewater treatment plant. The new \$14 million project will incorporate new technology supporting wastewater and sewage treatment. DeMaria is also involved in a joint venture with The Walsh Group of Chicago to construct the new \$27 million Blind & Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Center at the Edward Hines Jr. Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital in Hines, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. The new facility will provide additional bed space, new laboratories and advanced medical treatment for patients who

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Amazing Race auditions attract local talent

Teams vie for spot on CBS reality show

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Adventure hunts take note: You may see some local people competing on the next CBS "Amazing Race" reality television show which will air at 8 p.m. on May 28, 2004.

In this around-the-world competition that consists of 13 episodes, teams vie for a \$1 million prize.

Blake Maurice, 25, of Northville, and Dan Ytterock, 41, of Livonia, were one of several local teams who auditioned for the show at Galyan's Sports & Outdoor Adventure store at Fountain Walk in Novi last month.

Auditions took place from 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 6 at the store.

According to Linda Busse, marketing director for Fountain Walk, people started lining up at 2 p.m., and more than 500 people auditioned for the show.

Representatives from CBS taped all pairs who attended. The tapes went to the show's producers to make selections. Each pair was asked to speak for two minutes about why they thought they should be on the show.

"It was great to see so many people at Fountain Walk who were during enough to try out for the Amazing Race," Busse said. "And Galyan's is a store geared toward the adventurer in all of us, so it was the perfect spot for the auditions."

Teams will only be notified if they are selected to go through the next round of the selection process.

Maurice and Ytterock both work for Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville. Ytterock is Minister of Student Ministries, and Maurice works with junior high students at the church.

"I found out about the auditions through a friend of mine who heard about it on a local radio station and e-mailed me about it," Maurice said.

Maurice, who has worked at Ward for about two years, leads the church's youth group.

events, activities and trips that the church organizes for junior high students. He's also in charge of teaching the junior high group at the church Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings and Wednesday evenings.

"I also meet with students in counseling situations. The students are great. I work with seventh- and eighth-graders," he said. Maurice said the adventure show lives up to its name.

"It's quite an amazing show," he said. "There are teams with two people each. You apply as a team, and there are checkpoints throughout the race. The goal is to get to the next checkpoint as fast as possible, and they have different challenges at some of the checkpoints."

The show will be the fifth race. The show was recently nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Reality/Competition Program. In the fourth race, married couple Reichen and Chip won the race after traveling four continents, 24 cities and 44,000 miles.

"Some of the challenges at various checkpoints in the past have included bungee jumping, sky diving, and eating weird things. It's not quite to the extent of the show 'Fear Factor,' but that gives you an idea," Maurice said.

Teams can also mail in a videotape to producers if they are unable to attend an audition. Maurice said he and Ytterock had planned to send in a videotape before they learned about the live audition. He noted that neither have done anything like this before.

"Our premise was that we're opposites and that opposites attract viewers. He's my boss, and I'm his subordinate. He's old and I'm young. He's married and has a family, and I'm single. He's from the city; I'm from the country. He's HBO, I'm ESPN. I'm lactose-intolerant, he's not," Maurice said.

"We enjoyed the audition. They don't give you an exact date as to when they will make a decision as to which teams progress. I think there's only 10 or 12 teams that get selected," Maurice said.



Photo by Linda Busse
Dan Ytterock, left, of Livonia, and Blake Maurice of Northville, were two of about 500 people who auditioned for the CBS reality show "Amazing Race" Oct. 6 at Galyan's Sports & Outdoor Adventure store at Fountain Walk in Novi. The show's fifth season will begin airing at 8 p.m. May 28, 2004.

"Those that are more physical are the ones I enjoy. I like the combination of relationship and physical activity," Ytterock said. "I like 'Amazing Race' because you work with another person, so you're also working on that relationship," he added.

Ytterock said the next round of auditions will be in Chicago sometime this fall, and the show will be filmed in January.

"If you make the regional cut in Chicago, they fly you to L.A. for the final pick," Ytterock said.

He believes the show has a lot of appeal to viewers, and, hopefully, it will have a long run.

"I think it's a nice break from scripted television because it allows people to imagine themselves doing exciting things. These are real people doing amazing things," Ytterock said.

"We kind of poked fun at the show and ourselves."

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SCREEN BEAT

By Brian Renner

Opening in theaters this week

Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Yosemite Sam and the rest of the Looney Tunes gang return in "Looney Tunes: Back in Action."

The story unfolds on the studio backlot and careers all over the map in time-honored Looney Tunes style. Our celluloid heroes embark on a hilarious adventure that takes them from Hollywood to Las Vegas, Paris and the jungles of Africa in search of Fraser's character's missing father and the mythical Blue Monkey Diamond.

"I also meet with students in counseling situations. The students are great. I work with seventh- and eighth-graders," he said. Maurice said the adventure show lives up to its name.

"It's quite an amazing show," he said. "There are teams with two people each. You apply as a team, and there are checkpoints throughout the race. The goal is to get to the next checkpoint as fast as possible, and they have different challenges at some of the checkpoints."

The show will be the fifth race. The show was recently nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Reality/Competition Program. In the fourth race, married couple Reichen and Chip won the race after traveling four continents, 24 cities and 44,000 miles.

"Some of the challenges at various checkpoints in the past have included bungee jumping, sky diving, and eating weird things. It's not quite to the extent of the show 'Fear Factor,' but that gives you an idea," Maurice said.

Teams can also mail in a videotape to producers if they are unable to attend an audition. Maurice said he and Ytterock had planned to send in a videotape before they learned about the live audition. He noted that neither have done anything like this before.

"Our premise was that we're opposites and that opposites attract viewers. He's my boss, and I'm his subordinate. He's old and I'm young. He's married and has a family, and I'm single. He's from the city; I'm from the country. He's HBO, I'm ESPN. I'm lactose-intolerant, he's not," Maurice said.

"We enjoyed the audition. They don't give you an exact date as to when they will make a decision as to which teams progress. I think there's only 10 or 12 teams that get selected," Maurice said.

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the film serves as a "self-portrait" of a cultural icon whose career and persona continue to grow from beyond the grave. "Tupac Resurrection" is a Paramount Pictures release and rated R by the MPA for strong language and images of drugs, violence and sex.

Scafering adventure "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World" is a 20th Century Fox release and rated PG-13 by the MPA for intense battle sequences, related images and brief language.

Live-action adaptation of the beloved book by children's author "Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat" (PG), psychological horror film "Gothika" (R), and psychological thriller "The Missing" (R).

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CLASS NOTES

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

Lazar improves students lives, one at a time

Third grade teacher from Novi Woods earns feature teacher honors

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

"I would like to nominate Mrs. Lazar as the Novi News Feature Teacher," read the nomination form for the 24-year veteran. "She is my third grade teacher at Novi Woods. I like her because she says good things about me. She helps me with my work and explains things I do wrong. She gives us rewards when we get 10 correct papers. She really cares about me. I can feel it in my heart. She gives us shortcuts to make it easier to learn. She asks us questions that make us think. Mrs. Lazar has a lot of good ideas of things to teach us. I hope Mrs. Lazar wins feature teacher...she deserves it!"

Well, Roberta Lazar did win feature teacher. She won because of her love of school, children and, above all, teaching. She loves working with students, watching them grow and seeing them reach their behavioral and academic potential. She also likes to get to know the students personally. "They're kind of like my kids," Lazar explained. "I look at my class as a family. I feel that in many ways, I'm not just a teacher, but I'm a mom. I'm an ear for them. Basically, I feel like this is an extension of my own personal life and I love it. I always have. I love kids."

Lazar's love for school started at an early age. She loved kindergarten, she loved to play school at home and she also enjoyed helping her younger brothers with their school work. She even helped her older sister learn how to spell.

"My sister taught me appreciation for intelligence," Lazar said. "Just because she couldn't spell well, I learned as a young child that she was still smart. I always transferred that into my teaching



Photo by John Heider

Novi Woods teacher Roberta Lazar works with her students on a recent Thursday morning with some geometry problems.

too, that just because somebody has a skill that's tough for them, it doesn't mean that they're not smart, they just have a hard time with certain stuff."

From then on, Lazar's goal in life was to help people, and what better way to do so than to be somewhere that she loved so much? "I love school," she said. "I love the smell, I love everything about school and that all transferred into adulthood. This is my second year teaching these kids, so I really know them well. I'm excited about it. Those are some great, memorable moments. I feel like every day there is something that Lazar enjoys, but one of the biggest things is when

a child shows that he or she understood something, when she sees a light turn on in a kid's head, or when they have written something that shows that they have reached a new level.

"That to me is what teaching is all about," Lazar said. "When you see a child enjoying something that maybe he or she was nervous about at first, that's great. Like in math when they don't think they're good at math, at first, and they're doing it and they're smiling. I'm excited about it. Those are some great, memorable moments. I feel like every day there is something that Lazar enjoys, but one of the biggest things is when

there are many things about teaching that Lazar enjoys, but one of the biggest things is when

ROBERTA LAZAR

- School: Novi Woods Elementary School
- Grade: third
- Subject: every academic subject
- Years Teaching: 24
- Years in Novi Community School District: 17
- College: Wayne State University
- Spouse: John
- Children: two boys - Lee (26) and Jay (24)
- Interests: traveling, reading, spending time with her sons, visiting art galleries, museums, aquariums



about being a teacher."

Lazar loves it when kids come back to visit her after they move on to the next grade, but she admits it doesn't happen very often in elementary school. Mostly she receives letters from parents, and sometimes other teachers will say a child wrote about her in class. When kids move on to the fourth grade and beyond, she would like them to remember her as somebody who really cares about them, who has high expectations and who helped them make it to the next level.

Growing up, Lazar had a couple teachers who made tremendous impacts on her life in terms of who she is as an educator today. One of them was her gym teacher in elementary school, Mr. Spafford.

"He had high expectations and he also would read to us little statements before gym class," Lazar said. "He would make us think. He wasn't just a gym teacher. He really cared about the

kids, and I remember him saying to me so many times that I should become a gym teacher. I was a pretty good athlete for that time period. He always made me feel very important and that I had a lot of potential. So when I look back to my elementary school, he always stands out.

The other educator who had a big impact on her was Mrs. Kozak, Lazar's kindergarten teacher. "I loved her," she said. "I guess if you were to start school off with a teacher who made you love school, it was Mrs. Kozak, and she was just sweet. I remember I would go talk to her right after school."

Though she loves her job so much, there are still some difficult parts of it. The hardest part, according to Lazar, is juggling all of the curriculum. She said that juggling all the lessons and getting the kids to be enthused can be a challenge sometimes.

"In every classroom you have kids that you have to arrange," Lazar said. "In every subject you have to arrange the kids in all different abilities and interests, backgrounds and some kids have more prior knowledge than others. It's just getting them to be enthusiastic about what they're doing and not to give up is sometimes challenging."

When students have a hard time with subjects in school it is her job to keep encouraging them, but she would love to add more time to plan. That's one thing that she would change about her job if she could. "More time to meet with teachers would be so great," Lazar said. "We would love time to do more research for all our programs."

"In spite of that," she added, "teaching is probably the most rewarding profession. It impacts the lives of people, and it's great because we are setting the foundation. I just feel that it is one of the most important professions in the world. I feel blessed that I have the opportunity to teach."

Ramez Khuri was 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.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

NHS students honored in America's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Elizabeth Kelsey, Chao Meng, Neil Rao and Lindsay Zeigler-Netter, all Novi High School seniors, will march in members of the Blues Parade Honor Corps in America's Thanksgiving Day Parade on Woodward Ave. in Detroit.

The Corps is a salute to well-rounded high school students who have maintained a good attendance record, have earned a grade point average above 3.00 and participate in many school activities.

The Blues Honor Corps is a "human float" in the parade which will travel 2.2 miles.

Novi High ceramics sale

The Novi High School is having a ceramics holiday pottery sale, which is sponsored by the Art Department and Art Club, during the Nov. 21 talent show, the Dec. 9 band concert and the Dec. 16 choir concert. All three events start at 6:30 p.m. and all work is student and teacher made. The sale will take place before, during intermission and after shows in the Auditorium Lobby.

Compiled by Ramez Khuri

ON CAMPUS

Novi resident Jennifer McGuire was among the graduates at Ferris State University during summer 2003 commencement exercises.

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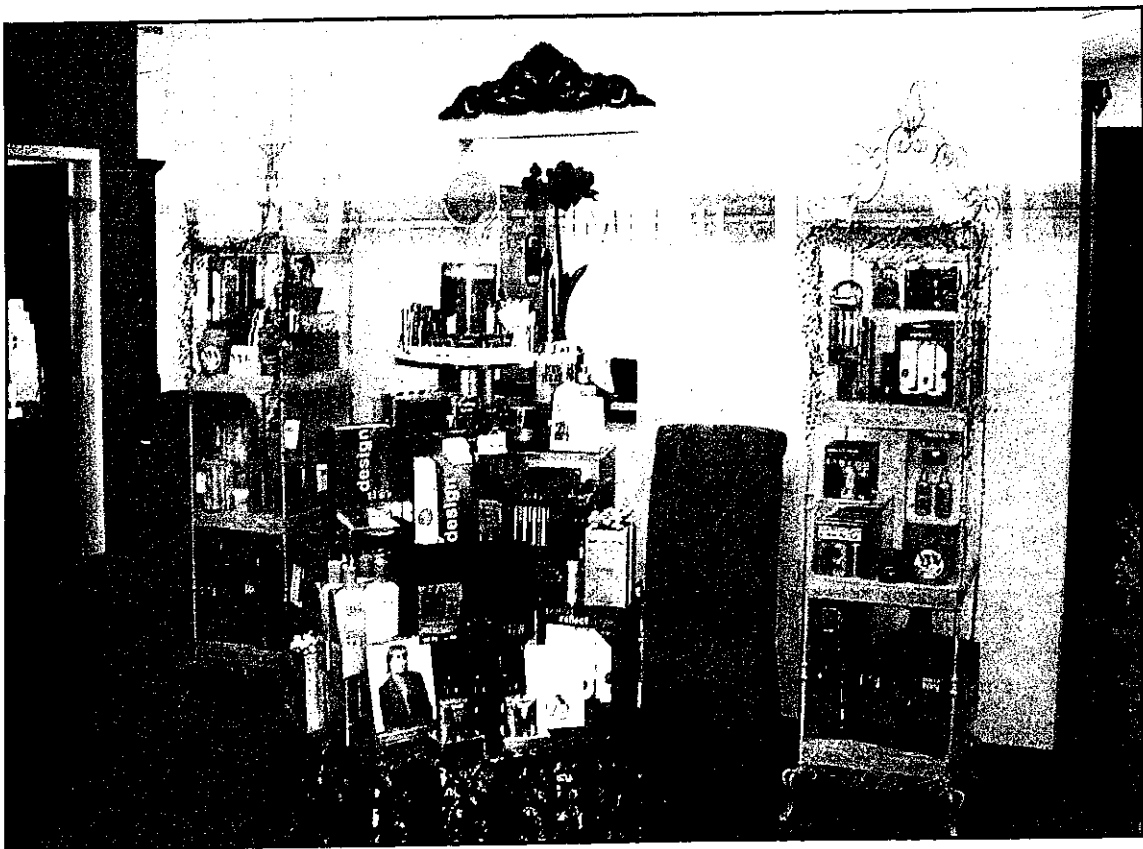
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Village Oaks students become young authors

■ Toma the Mime pays a visit to the school

By Bette Born

The students at Village Oaks enjoyed a day filled with learning how to write their own stories through the motivational presentation of a mime named Toma. Complete with a white face, red lips, black eyebrows, black pants, and black-and-white striped shirt, Toma entered the stage. When he did, the entire assembly of Village Oaks students and staff were silent.

Thomas Johnson from Mobile Ed. Productions, who played Toma, studied under the famous mime Marcel Marceau in Paris. He explained that mime is the art of silence. As a mime, he tells a story without using any words. His stories are filled with action, emotion and very expressive body language - with not

one spoken word. Toma performed many skits such as "The Wall," "The Tug-o-War," "The Sticky Situation" and "The Astronaut." Just like many stories, his could have more than one character. In mime, he introduced another character into the story by simply turning around. He demonstrated having more than one character with the skit called "The Football Game."

Toma was able to perform the characters of the quarterback, the wide receiver, and the big defensive guy who is always out to squash the quarterback. The students were totally mesmerized with Toma's ability to change characters and laughter filled the gymnasium.

At the end of the skits, Toma taught the children how to write a short skit for a mime. With their challenges in hand, the students returned to their classrooms to write a simple, action-filled short story that he might perform later in the day.

Johnson visited every classroom to work with the students and read their stories. He offered suggestions, ideas and lots of



Courtesy photo

Toma the Mime seeks help from first grade student Sandra Bajc-Dimitrov in the skit, "The Silky Situation," where Toma seems to have some freshly chewed bubble gum stuck to his hand.

praise. In the afternoon, Toma the mime returned for two separate performances. On each occasion, he selected several of the Village Oaks students' stories and performed them for all to enjoy. It was an educational experience for the students to watch their

own stories come alive "in mime". Village Oaks was filled with young authors that day, and perhaps some future mimes.

Bette Born is a Village Oaks Elementary School PTO member.

Trick-or-Treat

First graders from Orchard Hills Elementary School went trick-or-treating at the Charter House Assisted Living of Novi on Halloween day. The event is part of a partnership between Orchard Hills first graders and the Charter House. The kids will go back to sing holiday songs in December.



Courtesy Photo

Indoor pumpkin patch!

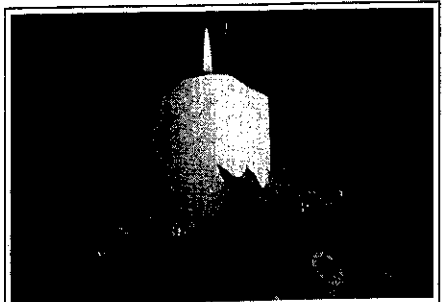
For Dawn Capling's second grade pumpkin patch, students wrote poems and decorated little pumpkins to display and share with the Orchard Hills Elementary. The kids from left to right are Kristen Coury, Nicholas Morgan, Patrick Greenberg and Adam Horsburgh.



Courtesy Photo

Halloween at Deerfield!

Jennie Macy helps Dana Smith begin making a skeleton out of macaroni during a morning Halloween celebration at Deerfield Elementary School. Smith is a kindergartner in Karen Smith's class.



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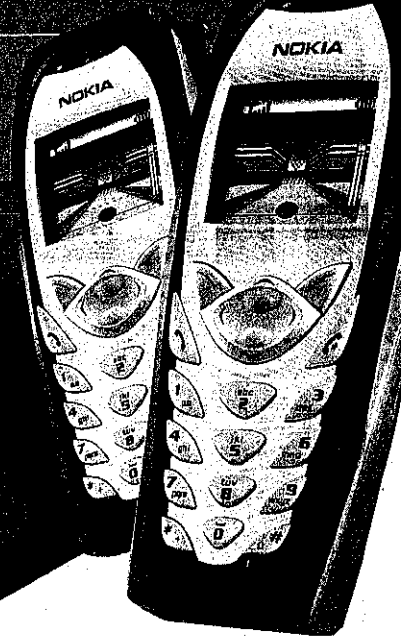
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Community preschool welcomes two new teachers

Faith Community Preschool announces two new lead teachers, Kelly Dodds and Marilee Dechart.



Kelly Dodds instructing her 4-year-olds preschool class.

Faith Community Preschool announces two new lead teachers, Kelly Dodds and Marilee Dechart. Dodds is a 4-year-old preschool teacher. She is a graduate of Michigan State University with her bachelor's degree in elementary education and a double minor in science and language arts. Dodds completed her student teaching at the Novi Community School District at the kindergarten grade level. She has four years of elementary teaching experience. Dodds plans to complete her master's degree in early childhood education.

Dechart teaches a 3-year-olds class. She graduated from Westminster College in Salt Lake City, Utah and has a degree in elementary education and a minor in music. Dechart has taught elementary grades in Nevada and Utah. She has four additional years of preschool teaching experience. "I guess you could say that I always wanted to be a teacher," said Dechart. "My moon is a retired teacher and my dad served as a teacher, principal and superintendent of schools. I love being with children of all ages. I strive to make each day wonderful learning experience for the children. Preschool is often a child's first formal learning experience and it is important that it is a positive one. We encourage independence and socialization. The children do art, music, play, and small group teaching activities. I strongly believe in a developmental approach to learning and provide activities to meet the needs of each student."

Dechart is assisted by Kim Wilde, who has been a teaching assistant at Faith Community Preschool for three years. "Kim has a wonderful way with children and I am proud to have such an enthusiastic and creative assistant," said Dechart.

Rouge Education Project gives WL students an opportunity to learn about industrialized river

By Phil Foley STAFF WRITER

A busload of fifth graders splashed through the Middle Branch of Rouge River in the shadow of Village Oaks Elementary School looking for dragonfly larva, minnows and other signs of the river's health on a recent afternoon as part of the Rouge Education Project.

However, the young scientists weren't from Novi Community Schools; they came down from Walled Lake Schools' Mary Helen Guest Elementary.

Their teacher, Karrie Martin, explained that while Walled Lake does form the headwaters for the main branch of the Rouge, their school is actually in the Huron River Watershed, which hasn't got an educational program like the one sponsored by the Friends of the Rouge.

She said Brookfarm Park was the closest place to her school that offered safe access to the river. However, when the Rouge crosses Willowbrook Drive, it can hardly be called a river. It's not knee deep to a fifth grader and an adult can almost jump across it.

Still, the Walled Lake students were excited to go exploring. Lyssa Hongrears, who hopes to become a veterinarian, like her two aunts, bragged about finding a water penny. "They're really rare," she said smiling.

Martin agreed, noting that finding a water penny is an indication of very good water quality.

Michael Nattel, who thinks he'd like to be a ballplayer when he grows up, said he thought testing water samples for pollutants was fun.

That, said Courtney Shosh, who heads up the Rouge Education Project for the Friends of the Rouge, is the whole point. "We're trying to get more people involved with all these little creeks and tributaries that are part of the river."

She said getting people personally involved with the river is key to making it healthier. She said people need to make the connection between putting fertilizer and pesticides down when putting fertilizer and pesticides on their lawn and pollution in the river.

While the 466-square-mile Rouge River Watershed is one of the most heavily industrialized in the Great Lakes, it's also one of the most heavily populated. Nearly 2.5 million people call the 48 communities drained by the watershed home.

Shosh said that as industrial users of the river have eliminated pollution sources over years, the water quality in the Rouge's lower reaches hasn't improved that much. She said that's because most of the pollution in the river is coming from what is known as "non-point sources." In

other words, road salt, lawn fertilizer, old paint and used oil dumped down storm drains and the like.

The Friends of the Rouge began its education program 16 years ago and it's now expanded to include 6,000 students in 90 schools in Wayne, Oakland and Washington counties.

Martin, who holds a bachelor of science in environmental science as well as a bachelor of arts and a master's in elementary education, said she's first became involved in the program while a student at Michigan State University.

She said she introduced the program to her school as part of a unit on ecosystems. Martin said her students will be back at the park next spring to collect more water samples and to do a community service project.

Several carloads of parents showed up at the park to help Martin with overseeing the students as they collected their water samples and looked for living things in the river.

One of the parents, Dave Moskauer, took a day off to be with his son and help with the water testing. "It's important, he said, to "teach kids to enjoy science."

Phil Foley is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-7700 ext. 108 or on e-mail at phil@home.com.net



Novi Woods opens its doors to the public

Pam Quittiquit, principal of Novi Woods, watches her students cut the ribbon during the Nov. 6 dedication ceremony of the newly-renovated Novi Woods Elementary School. A student from each class was chosen to participate in the ceremony and sing the school song. The ceremony acknowledged the efforts of the many groups involved in the project including the architects, project managers, school board and teachers. The open house following the ceremony offered the community a chance to see the dramatic renovations made to the school.

WEMU 99.1 welcomes Marcus Printup with the Professors of Jazz @ MSU Friday, Nov. 14 8:30 p.m. \$20 \$15 students

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OPINION

LETTERS

Know the groups that you support

In recent Novi News/Northville Record newspapers, I have read about CROP WALK (St. James Parish and Holy Family Parish participated the first weekend of October), UNICEF (Oakley Park Elementary of the Walled Lake District has collected money for the past 14 years), and the SIERRA CLUB (Marty Huhary was honored for environmental activism).

Rosemarie G. Denton
Novi

From Novi's new mayor

With all my heart, I thank you for your support and the confidence that you have placed in me to represent you. As your Mayor, I will be a very enthusiastic and positive ambassador for each and every one of you and I will continue to act in a professional and respectful manner.

I believe that we have an excellent new council and I have high expectations of each and every member. Our residents have given us a wonderful opportunity to do good things for the people. We will work together to represent you with dignity. UNICEF helps to provide clean water and administer immunizations. AND to kill the children of the poor via abortion. For this reason, Catholic Relief Services pulled out as a sponsor of Crop Walk.

UNICEF helps to provide clean water and administer immunizations. AND to kill the children of the poor via abortion. For this reason, Catholic Relief Services pulled out as a sponsor of Crop Walk.

participate in an historic event! It would be appreciated if you could bring a couple non-perishable food goods to this event for the Novi Community Goodfellow.

With the opening of Grand River and the completion of 12 Mile Road, we will see a dramatic improvement in our traffic flow. Our next project is the Beck Road and I-96 interchange. Great news for all of us!

Don't forget that our Novi Wildcats football team is continuing their march to the finals. This team is very exciting and I hope you will come out on Friday to see them. Last week's victory was a last second (21 seconds) win that had their fans delirious with joy. I look forward to seeing you at the game.

Thank you again for your trust. I appreciate you.

Lou Scordas
Novi

Non-participation will bring disaster

If you take the mayoral race tabulations from the local cable access channel, 5,219 of Novi's citizens exercised their civic duty and voted for mayor and the selected council candidates. This accounts for approximately 10.4 percent of the total voting population. Even a generous margin of error, let's say 5 points, would allow that percentage to increase to 15 percent.

These figures reflect an incredible level of apathy within our city. Why are the citizens of this wonderful community so reluctant to make the time to vote?

Why are the citizens of this wonderful community so reluctant to make the time to vote? From the multiple conversations I have had, there seems to be a broad mix of reasoning: non-fiscal issues on the docket, lack of effective communication by the city, home owners associations and even the candidates and finally the excuse that we're all just too busy.

My belief is simple — we have evolved into self-centered creatures only concerned with the micro-cosm with which we dwell. News flash: This election did involve all facets of our sheltered habitats including the future of the city and the direction and activities that will be established by the mayor and council.

Let me make it clear that the candidate's chosen are all highly qualified individuals and I am highly confident that our city is in good and competent hands. My concern is that this apathetic attitude will provide a limited accountability from both the mayor and council. Take this analogy: The probability of getting a speeding ticket is 10 to 12 percent. With the odds in favor of speeding, we would be more willing to take chances and in the long term would even become biased towards any future infractions. I am not stating that the mayor and council are going to take advantage of this current attitude, but their accountability is limited in relation to our actions as citizens.

Amendments XXIV and XXVI of the Constitution of the United States, state in bold print our right as citizens of this country to vote for whom we chose. It seems we have become complacent in our daily lives and as long as our little piece of the pie is not broken, all is OK. We all need to send a stronger message to the leaders of this community and that message can most effectively be communicated by participating in the voting process along with addressing concerns directly to the mayor and his council. Eventually, our piece of pie will be disrupted (if not eaten) and if we have not become active participants, our justification to challenge is lost.

R. Wolf
Novi

What a difference a year makes

This time last year our son was at the beginning of a grueling year of treatment for his osteosarcoma. We felt like our world had been turned upside down and had no idea what the future would hold.

Here we are a year later and some things are still unknown, but our lives are 100 percent better. Even though Brent was unable to resume his high school football career, this organization has made a tremendous impact on his recovery. We have seen what a talented football team this is and we hope for the State Championship. But these boys are champions regardless

because of their selfless concern for a teammate in turmoil.

The coaches and the team have stood behind Brent and made him feel so much a part of this group that no one can be prouder of their accomplishments than he is. He will remember forever his chance to be in a play against Northville and will savor the sweetness of each of the team's victories.

This team and these parents are there for us every step of the way. We appreciate their contribution to the American Cancer Society at the banquet and their constant care and concern.

Thanks to the staff and students at the high school for welcoming Brent back and allowing him a fair-by-normal senior year. Being back in school on a daily basis has helped Brent regain a sense of normalcy (although surely he doesn't enjoy getting up so early).

Thanks also to the Novi News and to Sam for their support and the wonderful articles. We hope that Brent's experiences may be helpful to others who find themselves in an equally difficult position.

For all the nameless others who have helped or prayed for us, know that we remember you in our thoughts and prayers as well. We are thankful to be part of this caring community and hope that you realize how important you all are to us.

Rick and Nancy Pantalao
Novi

OTHER OPINIONS

Cheers and jeers on state's budget crisis, other matters

Columns like this are supposed to provide informed commentary and even insight. But sometimes they should get right down to it, call 'em as they see 'em and hand out "cheers" and "jeers." So here goes:

JEERS to State Rep. Susan Tabor, R-Delta Township, for focusing our attention on the vital issue of whether to allow Michigan hunters to shoot mourning doves.

JEERS to the state's Home Rule Act that gives individual local government units, whether towns, cities or townships, the ultimate authority to determine land use, zoning and development patterns essentially in isolation.

JEERS to the state's Home Rule Act that gives individual local government units, whether towns, cities or townships, the ultimate authority to determine land use, zoning and development patterns essentially in isolation.

People's Republic of Ann Arbor who passed by a 2-1 margin a tax to pay for buying land outside the city limits to create a greenbelt against development. The millage, which replaces a previous tax to buy parkland inside the city, is supposed to raise something like \$85 million over its 30-year life. The majority of the money

is to go for buying and acquiring development rights on existing farms, not for buying and acquiring development rights on existing farms. The plan is to acquire land in the real estate community who spent a lot of money opposing the greenbelt measure, short-sightedly complaining that it denied developers the right to substitute profit motive for rational land planning. It's always been a puzzle to me why developers (as distinguished from the public) should be the primary movers in land use decisions.

In Novi and Troy, two sprawling communities whose fate was largely left in the hands of developers, local government folks are now trying (somewhat artificially) to create a sense of place and structure to what otherwise would be faceless and featureless cities.

JEERS to the state's Home Rule Act that gives individual local government units, whether towns, cities or townships, the ultimate authority to determine land use, zoning and development patterns essentially in isolation.

Equally, CHEERS to Gov. Granholm's Commission on Land Use, whose weighty but far-reaching report will form the basis for much-needed policy changes in the state. We've been complaining about sprawl for 20

years without anybody actually doing something about it. I hope that this time is coming to an end.

Modified CHEERS to Gov. Granholm for her tours around the state to explain to citizens the full measure of the budget crisis now facing Michigan and to ask for their suggestions about how best to get out of it. Certainly, asking people (even the carefully selected ones invited to the governor's sessions) what they think the state should do about big problems is a good thing. But at the end of the day, ours is a representative government, not a direct democracy. The governor and legislature are the ones who are going to have to come to agreement about how the state balances its books. Call-in programs on radio and TV can't do it.

JEERS to knee-jerk politicians whose reflexive solution for any budget crisis is to call for more budget cuts. Anybody who has run a business knows that you might be able to save a troubled company from disaster by cutting costs, but for the business to thrive you ultimately have to figure out how to drive the top line and increase revenue. In the case of Michigan, there is no doubt we can cut state expenditures enough to eliminate the budget gap. The real question is what kind of state we will have afterwards.

There you have it for this week. But ... what do you think? Readers are invited to send their own mix of CHEERS and JEERS, either for a subsequent column or as letters to the editor of this newspaper.

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 (734) 953-2047 or by e-mail at power@homecomm.net.



Phil Power

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LET'S TALK

Jewelry WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN GEMOLOGIST

THE GENUINE ARTICLE

Could you identify a real diamond if it were set beside a diamond substitute, such as zircon? It helps that diamonds become warm in a warm room and cool in a cool room. You can identify diamonds by touching the crystal. A will, most likely, not slip out of your grip, next place a drop of water on a table. A perfectly clear diamond placed in the water will "magnitize" the water, keeping it from spreading. Of course the best way to identify a genuine diamond is to have it analyzed by a reputable jeweler.

At WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI, we carry a wonderful array of fine gemstones, including sapphires, and jewelry, perfect for

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GOVERNMENT

Per reader request, we have compiled a list so you can get in touch with your local and regional senators and representatives. Their accessibility allows you as readers to voice your concerns directly and allows them to better represent their districts. If you feel we have missed anyone, contact us at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113.

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In deepest reverence



Northville Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 4012 Chaplain Al Dawe, left, a veteran of World War II and the Korean War, reads the invocation at the start of Tuesday morning's Veterans' Day memorial service. Approximately 30 people including members of the VFW's Women's Auxiliary attended the service that began around 11 a.m. — the time armistice for World War I was signed. A breakfast was served afterwards in the VFW's hall on Northville Road.

It's easy to get jazzed up about Novi

I dig this city. I've been here less than two years, and people treat me like I'm a native son. If you don't know by now, I like music. No, correction — I LOVE music, especially jazz. I know that some of it can be like beer in that it takes a few tries to acquire a taste for it. Some folks never get it; others, like me, become drunks for the music. Friends think I'm on a mission to convert everyone to jazz, and they may be right.

The latest method for doing just that will take place tomorrow night at Local Color when trumpeter Marcus Printup hits the stage with the Professors of Jazz at Michigan State University (see the full story on page 17).

Peter Paisley's staff, especially Randy and Laura, have been great working with me on the room, hanging posters, selling tickets, etc. If you haven't been to Local Color before, you owe it to yourself to go there. It is one of the most unique establishments you'll ever find, and I think it's going to make a great venue for presenting jazz.

The musicians playing Friday are considered "traditionalists." That means they don't believe in "plugging in" and insist on an all-acoustic presentation.

When it comes to drums, an upright bass and horns, that's no problem setting up. But an acoustic piano — on the second floor? That's a huffy.



Cal Stone

Enter Todd Brown and Piano Nation. This Novi retailer stepped to the plate and is donating free usage of a piano. That's the second time Mr. Brown has come to the rescue. Back in June, when the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra was in town, he donated use of a piano for Wynton Marsalis' hotel suite.

Although they're not based here, the radio signal from WEMU 89.1 FM directly reaches as a Novi audience. They've been helping out by promoting tomorrow's event, too. Likewise, if you haven't tuned in to that station, you are missing one of Michigan's jewels.

To properly present this music, a proper stage is required. Enter Norm Norgren, the man at Novi High School's auditorium, who is letting me borrow a half dozen stage risers for the evening.

Finally, local Rotarians are offering their support by buying tickets with proceeds going to their Foundation. There's not enough space in this column to explain all the fine work that organization accomplishes. I am very proud to be a member.

Long story short — this has turned into a wonderful community event. I couldn't pull this off by myself. It takes the cooperation and effort of many fine people to make it happen. Fortunately, the City of Novi is blessed with an abundance of these individuals.

The show starts 8:30 p.m. Hit it from the beginning, or swing by after the Wildcats tear apart Detroit Mackenzie.

Cal Stone is the editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 or calstone@ht.homecomm.net.

Love of baseball, religion provides a valuable lesson

Irwin Cohen is a man with two old-fashioned passions in his life: His Orthodox Jewish faith and the Detroit Tigers baseball team.

For years, his life was simple. Stadium and synagogue. Work, where he helped with group ticket sales, and at one point visited every seat in old Tiger Stadium, finding seven seats "the club didn't even know were there," and then home, where he serves as president of a small but ancient Southfield congregation, Mogen Abraham.

What he was never expected to be was an author. But in the last decade, he has produced six books, two of which have just been published.

Tiger Stadium, (Arcadia, \$19.99) perhaps the best picture book on the legendary ballyard at Michigan and Tremball, white Echoes of Detroit's Jewish Communities (City Vision, \$29.95) is the first definitive, chronological history of three centuries of Jewish settlement in Michigan.

"I was surprised to find that no one had done a book like this," said Cohen, a short and pleasantly warm man who usually wears a vintage baseball cap and who sports a Trumbull street sign on his suburban front porch.

No one had done a book like that, so he did, burrowing in his historical libraries for two years to hunt himself over the microfilm readers. Incidentally, nobody expected Irwin Cohen to become an author. His high school education consisted of one year at Highland Park Community College. He says, "He doesn't have a fax machine and doesn't do the Internet. He writes his books in longhand."

Never had a journalism or creative writing course. But if anyone ever told him he couldn't be a writer, he didn't listen. Ironically,

Though most of Detroit's Jews have long since moved from the crowded, close-knit Dexter-Davison community into which Cohen was born, nobody questions that the community is thriving. That's not the case with his other love, the Tigers.

Last year, they set the American League record for losses. Asked how he thinks they will do next year, Cohen, who used to send anonymous tips to Detroit sports writers under the nom de plume "Mr. Baseball," gamely predicts they will zoom up to 70 wins.

"In your dreams," says his good friend, Dr. David Ungar, a podiatrist.

These days, he says he doesn't really root that much for the Tigers anymore. But he was never one of the stick-in-the-muds who still refuse to accept Comerica Park.

"It was time for a new stadium," he said.

Cohen has other loves and other passions. He'd like to take old Tiger Stadium and turn it into a new Detroit historical museum, saving the infield perhaps. He runs a club which meets monthly and is devoted to the memory of Eddie Lake (1916-1995) — a 21y-biting shortstop who most baseball historians would rank as deservingly obscure.

Irwin is mused for the Lone Ranger, and can tell you that the original radio actor was not Bruce Beemer, but a poor drama student named Earle Gershwin, who met his end when he fell asleep driving home from the radio station one night in 1941.

Cohen inhaled down his grave and reverently read part of a Lone Ranger episode over it.

Perhaps Cohen will never write a best-seller. Perhaps someday he'll have to get another boring job. Perhaps he doesn't fit today's overworld. But he has done it his way in a big way, and never let anyone tell him what he could do. There's a lesson in there somewhere.

Jack Lessenberry is editorial vice president of HomeTown Communications. He can be reached by phone at (248) 349-1251 or by e-mail at jlessenberry@homecomm.net.

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Horse Spectacular celebrates 10th year

Nancy Harm's love of horses began long before her chance meeting with Roy Rogers at the age of five. They're now the career and passion of this devoted owner of Harmony Acres in Salem Township. She's also the Equine Chairperson for the Michigan Horse Society at the annual horse show for every parade. The public can enjoy her incredibly trained animals at the North American Horse Spectacular at the Novi Expo in Novi this weekend.

"Most owners take for granted the care and training that is involved in getting horses to perform flawlessly in public or in a parade. She explains that it's quite an elaborate process involved to get them comfortable with the gear or costumes and prepared for the excitement of the event, including waving flags, shouting people, cars or fireworks. For them to remain calm, the trainer performs what she calls "desensitization" or in the horse world is called despooping.

"It's a prepared environment for them not to react to confusion. I teach them to be prepared. A lot of these things can frighten any horse," she explains.

In essence, she exposes them to a certain stimulus in very small increments. She may put on part of a costume. The training may be as brief as a second. She also finds they are incredibly intelligent animals and the more she trains them the more quickly they learn and respond. In general, they need fewer repetitions with each trick they learn. Two of the sessions that she will be demonstrating at the North American Horse Spectacular will cover methods and philosophy of despooping.

The trainer's love and undaunting dedication to these beautiful animals is clearly evident, and they in turn are anxious to please her. Training them to perform takes patience, but she has a sense of humor and enjoys the lighthearted moments. In one demonstration, Tarifa, an exquisite Arabian, puts on some sparkly gear and oversized glasses to imitate Elton John. There's also an Elvis imitation, for whose taste in music differs. As a teacher of psychology, she finds many principles that apply to early childhood development are helpful in training her horses. Her success proves that they obviously work.

First in fashion

Although you'll find him dressed in only the finest of threads, Tarifa isn't a supermodel or an Italian designer. The Salem Township Arabian is one of the best-dressed horses in the country. Tarifa, which means Arabian for elegance, is a perfect description of this splendid animal. He's one of three horses that are the pride and joy of Harmony Acres. Tarifa will be joined by Sadeia,



Horse trainer Nancy Harm of Salem illustrates despooping techniques with photo from David Orlando, age 3 of Livonia, and his sister, Tiffany Raisanen, age 12, also from Livonia.

Fest starts this Friday

continued from front page

Helen, Lori Asmann as Miss Sawyer, Donna Minikus as Mary and Nick Farrant as George. Other members include Tina Marotta as Diana, Rachel Halloran as Susanne, Alyssa Pisek as Catherine and Lexy Stieber as Nancy.

The second feature, "Ladies of the Tower," is an historical presentation of a tale of two cleaning women who come to scrub down a forgotten room in the Tower of London. Spirits of ladies who met their death inside the tower's walls visit the women.

Cast members include Lindsay Ronald as Laurette, Del McPherson as Maudie, Jan Cartwright as Queen Mother Elizabeth and Elaine Harrington as Lady Arabella Stuart. Other performers are Sandra Gioia as Anne Boleyn, Megan Sweeney as Lady Jane Grey, Kelli Herrick as the Unknown Woman, Melissa Agosta as Catherine Howard and Melissa Bays as Lady Rochford.

The third presentation, "While Shakespeare Slept," is a story about the late, great English playwright. Just as young William decides to give up his career and become a stable hand, heroes from his unwritten plays visit him in his dreams, each demanding the right to exit the stage.

Performers include Donna Minikus as Mistress Ford, Megan Sweeney as Jane, Ben Landry as William Shakespeare, and Melissa Bays as Juliet. Other actors are Tina Marotta as Rosalind, Sandra Gioia as Portia, Julie Landry as Kate and Lori Asmann as Cleopatra.

The fourth act, "Who Calls?" is a dramatic and suspenseful play set in late 19th century England. This was a time when classes were still divided between servants and those they served. The play takes place in the kitchen of the recently deceased mistress of the house who was wealthy and demanding.

Actors and actresses include Alleigh Wickert as Twiley, Jan Cartwright as Miss Abernethy and Del McPherson as Cook. Others in the include Elaine Harrington as Lane, Kelli Herrick as Mrs. Boone and Melissa Agosta as the landlady.

DETAILS

North American Horse Spectacular

For those who love and admire horses, there's no better event to enjoy these magnificent creatures. Spectacular really isn't an overstatement, agrees Nancy Harm. The event is being held this weekend, November 14-15 on Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Novi Expo Center in Novi.

Look for live horses in the Main Barn area and the Avenue of the Breeds, and extensive trade show geared to the horse market, seminars held by top professionals in their field, such as Nancy Harm and Bill Campbell. A live horse breed and special interest demonstrations are also part of the program.

Admission is \$8.00 daily for ages 13 & up, 12 and under is free. Parking is \$5.00 per car.

For more information contact the Convention Management Services, Diane Seyka at (517) 495-2309

DETAILS

Tickets are available at the Novi Civic Center, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, located on the main level. Cost is \$10 per ticket or pre-sale and \$12 at the door. The ticket office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays. Pre-sale prices end at 5 p.m. Friday.

For more information about ticket sales, call the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department at (248) 347-0400. Tickets can also be purchased via fax by calling the department.

knowledge and humane training techniques. Also look for local talent such as R.J. Smith from Clio, who will use his easy-going manner and story telling skills while instructing visitors on the fundamentals of handling horses safely. Look for a fun demonstration by Tom Mix (Serge Darrigrand) of Onsted Michigan who is nationally recognized for his portrayal of Tom Mix throughout the United States.

It's all about pets

Don't miss Animal Care Fair

It's the only fair all about pets and it's coming to the Novi Expo Center with holiday flair and fun to spare. With the popular event's new venue and move to the holiday season, visitors to the Michigan Humane Society Animal Care Fair will find even more to enjoy — expanded gift shopping, pet supplies at incredible discounts, entertainment and adoptable pets — all under one roof. The 12th annual fundraiser and adoption event will take place Nov. 29-30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"While pet owners are saving money on pet supplies and starting their holiday shopping, they will also be helping the Michigan Humane Society save lives," said Michigan Humane Society Executive Director Cal Morgan.

Holiday shoppers can choose from a large assortment of unique items including the colorful Michigan Humane Society 2004 wall calendar, featuring 13 months of adorable pet pictures, 13 holiday greeting cards in a variety of styles, and the latest in Michigan Humane Society apparel. Walk coffee mugs, camp mugs, bedding, kitty litter and many other items will be heavily discounted with proceeds benefiting the Michigan Humane Society.

"The Michigan Humane Society is excited to present the Animal Care Fair at this new venue and time," said Tricia Bronshtan, Michigan Humane Society Director of Events. "Moving to the Novi Expo Center will allow us to expand the event substantially and offer a fun and unique holiday shopping option."

Dogs and cats will be available for adoption both days. Refreshments and entertaining animal team performances, including an exciting flyball tournament hosted by Rudy Dogs, Flyball and RFP Dog Sports, will round out the weekend of family fun.

Since 1992, the Animal Care Fair has raised over \$1,000,000 to benefit the animals cared for by the Michigan Humane Society and placed over 1,800 animals in new homes.

The Michigan Humane Society is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to serving animals since 1877.

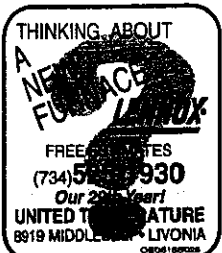
DETAILS

The Novi Expo Center is located at 43700 Expo Center Drive, south of I-96 and west of Novi Road.

Admission is free and with paid parking of \$5, visitors will receive a coupon for \$5 off a pet supply purchase of \$15 or more at the event, courtesy of Pet Supplies "Plus".

The Michigan Humane Society Animal Care Fair is sponsored by Pet Supplies "Plus" which has been an integral part of the event since its inception in 1992, and Lite Rock 93.9 FM.

For more information, call the Michigan Humane Society at 1-866-MHUMANE (648-6263) Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



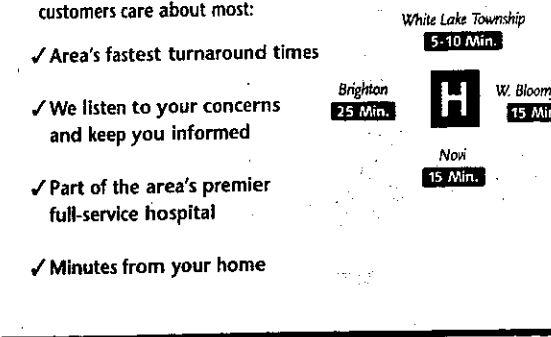
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We're expanding to serve you better.

To improve accessibility to Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, the North Commerce Rd. entrance will be closed from approximately November 13 to December 5 while we continue our expansion project.

While we are undergoing these exciting changes, you will be directed to enter the hospital from the Steeth Rd. entrance south of the hospital.

For detour information, visit www.hvsh.org and click on "Detour Information" for a map and alternate driving routes to the hospital.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause but know you will love the new improvements that are in store for Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital.

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 (*After Jan. 1, 2004 please call 866-937-HVSH)

WEMU 89.1 and Local Color welcome trumpeter

Jazz fans will get a rare treat when trumpeter Marcus Printup performs at Local Color Brewing Company in Novi this Friday.

Printup will be backed by the Professors of Jazz at Michigan State University, a stellar ensemble that includes:

- Rodney Whitaker - bass
- Randy Gillies - drums
- Rick Roe - piano
- Vincent Gardner - trombone
- Diego Rivera - saxophone

Those who attended the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra's show at Novi High School this past June may recognize Printup, who sits beside Wynton Marsalis in the trumpet section.

"Marcus Printup possesses the deepest level of soul and sophistication," said Marsalis, "and with the Professors of Jazz, you are guaranteed a profoundly good time."

Likewise, Printup is also familiar with Local Color. He is one of the musicians who jammed at the afterglow party following the LCJO's June 18 concert.

At just 25 years of age, Printup already embodies the experience of an extraordinary career. In addition to his nine-year tenure with the LCJO, he has recorded with Marsalis, Marcus Roberts, Dianne Reeves, Cyrus Chestnut and Eric Reck.

For the past eight years, Printup has also been building a solid solo career, having released five albums — "Song for a Beautiful Woman," "Unwieldy," "The Music of Freddie Hubbard" (with Tim Hagan), "Nocturnal Traces," and his latest, "The New Bagdad."

With his vast background in jazz, Printup is proud to present fresh music rich in the language of the great jazz heroes, but with his own signature of a soul-stirring gospel strength, mixed with the force of Parliament Funkadelic.

This very individual interpretation of jazz resonates with the fire-filled echoes of the Baptist church he attended with his family during his youth in Cowleys, Georgia.

While attending University of North Florida, Printup won several national competitions, including the 1991 Thelonious Monk International Trumpet

Competition and the National Collegiate Jazz Competition.

Printup's playing showcases his affinity for the hard bop school of trumpet, with notes to influential legends like Booker Little and Fats Navarro.

"His eloquence of style and his ability to express his own unique voice are characteristics that distinguish Printup from many young musicians of his generation," according to the Encyclopedia of Popular Music.

The Professors of Jazz at MSU is a jazz group established and maintained through the Jazz Studies area at Michigan State University. Nationally and internationally acclaimed bass player Rodney Whitaker, a Detroit, is the director of Jazz Studies at MSU and is the artistic director of the PJMSU. The ensemble has a new recording, "The Third Floor."

Printup and the Professors will be signing copies of their recordings at www.localcolor.com.

APPLE VACATIONS

Winter Super Sale! Prices Will Save \$500 or Better! Hurry, Two Weeks Only!

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Puerto Vallarta Riviera Hotel 4 N+1P 11, Jan 1-8 5 7 nrs. save \$599 ⁹⁹	Riviera Maya Campanita Reefside Palms Residences 4C includes all meals, drinks & water sports! WE, FR, Jan 2 - 9 7 nrs. save \$799 ⁹⁹
Punta Cana Melia Punta Vallarta 5N includes all meals, drinks & water sports! WE, Jan 1 Feb 5 7 nrs. save \$799 ⁹⁹	Puerto Plata Resort Punta Palms 4C includes all meals, drinks & water sports! SU, Jan 4-25 7 nrs. save \$999 ⁹⁹
Aruba Riviera Beach Resort Aruba 5N includes all meals, drinks & water sports! SA, Jan 1-7 7 nrs. save \$599 ⁹⁹	St. Lucia Club St. Lucia 2N includes all meals, drinks & water sports! W, Jan 5 - Feb 13 7 nrs. save \$999 ⁹⁹
Carriacou Punta Cana 5N includes all meals, drinks & water sports! SA, Jan 2-9 7 nrs. save \$999 ⁹⁹	St. Maarten Maha Beach Resort & Casino 5N includes all meals, drinks & water sports! W, Jan 5-10 7 nrs. save \$1199 ⁹⁹
Acapulco Oceania Club Acapulco 4 N includes all meals, drinks & water sports! FR, Jan 1-6 7 nrs. save \$799 ⁹⁹	St. Lucia Club St. Lucia 2N includes all meals, drinks & water sports! W, Jan 5 - Feb 13 7 nrs. save \$999 ⁹⁹

Passageways TRAVEL

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Novi Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours Mixer

DATE: Thursday, November 13, TIME: 5 p.m.
 LOCATION: Central Park Estates, 47305 Central Park Blvd., Novi.
 DETAILS: Bring your business cards. Come meet area business representatives and make connections. Cost is \$5 before Nov. 10, at the door \$10.
 PHONE: To RSVP: 248-349-3743

Novi Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours Mixer

DATE: Monday, November 17, TIME: 6:15 p.m.
 LOCATION: Wyndham Garden Hotel, Novi, Michigan
 DETAILS: Being A Change Agent: It Comes From Within. Please join us for a Fun, Educational and Interactive evening with Donna. From DonnaMarie Consulting and Training: "Organizations are longing for its spirit to be rekindled. Individuals are longing for their spirit to be acknowledged." \$16.00 (includes dinner) Reservations are required by November 12th.
 PHONE: Christine Szwarc @ 248-269-2035 or email @ christina.szwarc@earthlink.net
 248-349-3743.

Novi Chamber of Commerce November Luncheon

DATE: Tuesday, November 18, 7:30 p.m.; November 19, 7:30 p.m. and November 16, 3 p.m.
 LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, Ten Mile Rd., Novi.
 DETAILS: Tickets on sale at Novi Parks and Recreation office, November 4, \$10/advance, \$12/dollar.

Novi Holiday Bazaar

DATE: Saturday, November 15, TIME: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
 LOCATION: St. Anne's

Episcopal Church, 430 Nicolett St., Walled Lake.

DETAILS: Variety of local artists and vendors, hand-made crafts, ever-popular cookie walk.
 PHONE: 248-624-3817.

American Business Women's Association

DATE: Monday, November 17, TIME: 6:15 p.m.
 LOCATION: Wyndham Garden Hotel, Novi, Michigan
 DETAILS: Being A Change Agent: It Comes From Within. Please join us for a Fun, Educational and Interactive evening with Donna. From DonnaMarie Consulting and Training: "Organizations are longing for its spirit to be rekindled. Individuals are longing for their spirit to be acknowledged." \$16.00 (includes dinner) Reservations are required by November 12th.
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 DETAILS: Tickets on sale at Novi Parks and Recreation office, November 4, \$10/advance, \$12/dollar.

West Side Central High School Renaissance Fair

DATE/TIMES: Saturday, December 6, 6:30 p.m., and Sunday, December 7, 4:30 p.m.
 LOCATION: 1600 Oakley Park Road, Walled Lake.

DETAILS: Fair includes a five course meal with entertainment in the style of the 15th century, a small market place with crafts and specialties, and a boat's head procession. Cost is \$30 per person.
 PHONE: For more information, call Mary Rashid at 248-956-4762.

Walled Lake Western High School Holiday Arts and Crafts Show

DATE: Dec. 6-7
 TIME: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
 LOCATION: WLW High School, 600 Beck Rd., Walled Lake.

DETAILS: Admission/\$2, wide range of arts and crafts, food, free door prizes.
 PHONE: Deanna Nazarov, (248) 348-8514.

Novi Theaters Present "A Christmas Carol"

DATE/TIMES: December 12, 7:30 p.m.; December 13, 7:30 p.m.; December 14, 3 p.m.
 LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, Ten Mile Rd., Novi.
 DETAILS: Tickets on sale at Novi Parks and Recreation office, November 18. \$10/advance, \$12/dollar.

SWOCC 4th annual Santa Call-In Show

DATE: Tuesday, December 16th
 TIME: 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.
 DETAILS: Kids! Have those phones ready to talk to Santa as he returns to SWOCC Schools. Here's your chance to personally talk to Santa and tell him what's on your wish list. The City of Novi will join the city of Farmington for this live call-in on Farmington's Channel 13 and Novi's Channel 13. The program will then rerun daily on both channels until Christmas Eve. Last year Santa talked to more than 100 kids, so call early and tune into channels 13 & 15.
 PHONE: Santa's special call-in number is 248-473-2828.
 Send calendar items to Cal Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48168 or e-mail to castone@home.com.net.

Westside Obstetrics and Gynecology

welcomes Karin Dimon, MD

The doctors of Westside Ob/Gyn are pleased to announce that Karin Dimon, MD, has joined the practice.

At Westside Obstetrics and Gynecology you'll find a caring, supportive healthcare team to guide you through the stages of your life.

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The doctors of Westside Ob/GYN are on staff at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, one of the only hospitals in southeastern Michigan with all private birthing suites. You'll also enjoy the personal touch of the Martini Women's Center for your mammography, bone density and educational needs...just a short drive away with convenient access from I-96 and I-75.

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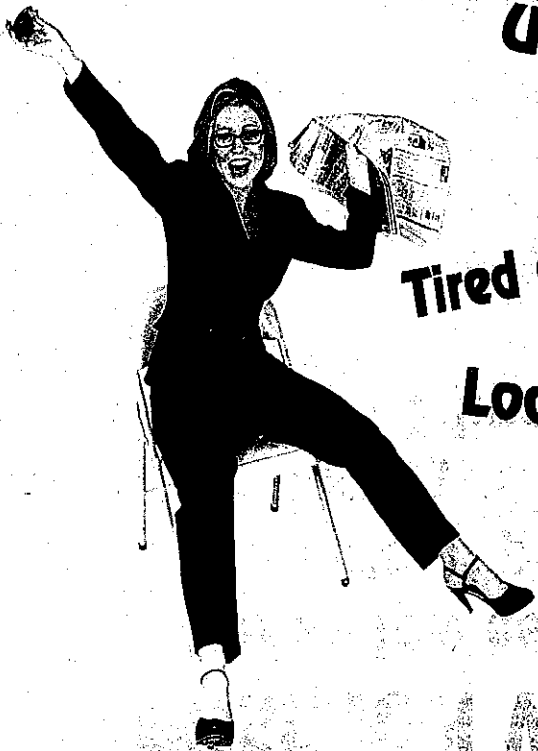
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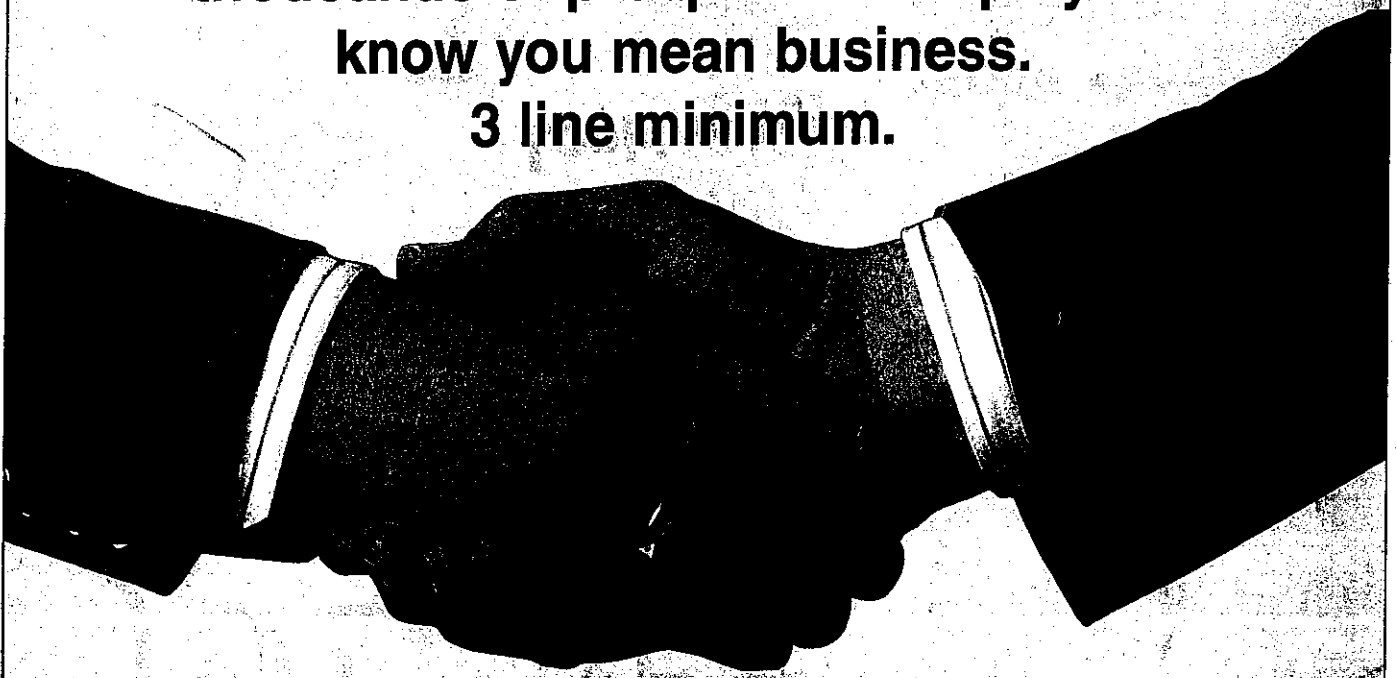
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SPORTS

B¹

NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

Thursday, November 13, 2003

MAPLE SYRUP

Mark Angelocci seals victory on last-minute kick to help Novi to victory over tough Adrian Maples

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It was everything a playoff game was meant to be.

There was tension, excitement, tears of joy and tears of agony. Most importantly, there was a win for the Novi Wildcats as they kept their undefeated season alive.

The 'Cats escaped with a 27-25 victory over previously undefeated Adrian following a 31-yard field goal by senior kicker Mark Angelocci with 21.6 seconds remaining.

"The second it left my foot, I knew it was good," said Angelocci as he wiped tears of joy from his cheeks. "I wouldn't want the game to be on anyone else's shoulders. I live for the pressure and these kinds of situations. I was just happy to get the chance and to come away with the win."

In what has proven to be the most intense match-up this year, the Adrian Maples, who fell to 0-1 with the season-ending loss, came in looking to pound out a District title win over Novi.

With just 4:06 left on the clock, the Maples scored a one-yard touchdown on a carry by senior runningback Grant Sarapo and looked as though they were poised to win the game. The score, which was followed by a failed two-point conversion, put Adrian up 25-24.

Novi received the kickoff and went to work. To the dismay of plenty of vocal Novi fans, the Wildcats went to their ground game and the churning desire of the line. After punching a hole for senior fullback Josh Buck to carry the ball through for 11 yards, the line opened up a three-yard gain for the senior before leading senior quarterback Mike Hart for a seven-yard gain on a keeper.

The 'Cats then found themselves in a sticky situation, facing a third-and-nine situation before Hart fired a rocket to Trevor Hoover in the middle of the field for a 19-yard gain and a first down. Novi went three more plays, gaining just eight yards before calling Angelocci onto the field with no timeouts and three yards to travel for the first down.

Over 30 yards separated the senior kicker from the uprights, and a slight wind that carried a strong chill blew across the open field. Center Ryan Pritchard fired the ball back to holder Kerry Kreutzberg, who tipped the ball up on the block and held it steady as Angelocci followed through on his kick.

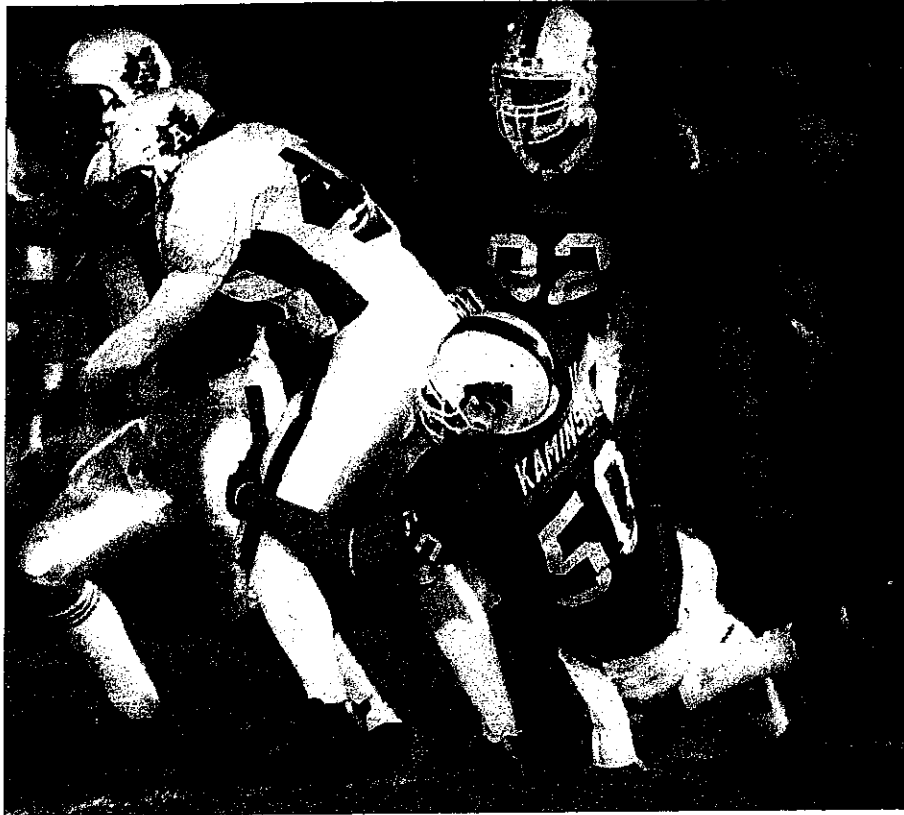
"It was a perfect snap and a perfect hold," Angelocci said. "It was the perfect field goal."

The senior threw his arms into the air nearly the moment his foot hit the ground, and the sidelines and Novi stands became a deafening roar of cheers as the Wildcats took the lead for the final time in the game, winning 27-25 following three plays by Adrian to end the contest.

"You don't say anything to a kicker before he goes out onto the field," senior receiver Joey Fratto said when asked if he gave any words of encouragement to his fellow receiver before the kick. "He's in his own frame of mind, and you have to let him stay that way. I never doubted he'd be able to do it, and he came through for us when we needed it."

Unfortunately for Adrian, their kicking game wasn't as sure as Novi's. Senior kicker Brandon Hubbard missed an extra point and a field goal, making all the difference for the Wildcats.

Novi came into the contest looking to show just who deserved to win this game. After Adrian received the kickoff, the Wildcats found themselves chasing after



Novi Wildcat Mark Kaminski, right, hauls down a Maple balcarrier during last Friday night's home game.

Photo by John Helder

right end Kellen Freeman-Davis before the ball popped loose from the receiver's hands and hit the ground. Novi junior Josh Woods recovered the fumble, which suddenly turned into a touchdown. Hart found Hoover on a 67-yard slant play up the middle of the field for a 7-0 lead following Angelocci's point-after. The touchdown came with 11:34 left on the clock — the second play of the game and the first time Novi touched the pignskin.

"It was sweet," Hoover said. "Mike threw the perfect ball. It hit me in stride and I just kept running. I wasn't going to stop until after I crossed that goal line."

Adrian tied the game up at 7-7 following an eight-yard catch by Freeman-Davis from quarterback Thomas Molter. The extra point by Hubbard tied the contest, which remained that way until early in the second quarter when Novi scored again.

This time, the Wildcats forced their way into the redzone before Hart hit Joey Fratto in full sprint in the back of the endzone as he sprinted across from right to left. Fratto snagged the ball with a defender practically sitting on his back.

"I'm going to do whatever I can to catch the ball when it's thrown to me," Fratto said. "Mike has a great arm, and he can squeeze it in there if he has to. When he does, I'm going to go and get it."

Novi increased their lead with 2:59 left on the clock in the first half. After moving the ball down the field, including a 26-yard jaunt by junior Kevin Cislo, the Wildcats opted to bring in Angelocci. The senior booted a 43-yard field goal to put his squad up 17-7.

Adrian didn't score again until the third quarter. Molter backed up in the pocket and fired a five-yard pass to Nick Gurica for a score following a blocked punt that landed the Maples on the five-yard line. The score came with 9:58 left in

the quarter and cut the Novi lead to 17-13 after the point-after sailed wide right.

The Wildcats were quick to answer. After a false-start put them at a first-and-15 situation, they handed the ball to senior J.W. Woods. Woods headed for the middle of the line, found a linebacker waiting for him, and then danced to his right before breaking two tackles on the sideline and outrunning his foes to the endzone for an 86-yard sprint and to give the 'Cats a 24-13 lead.

"I just saw green and I didn't

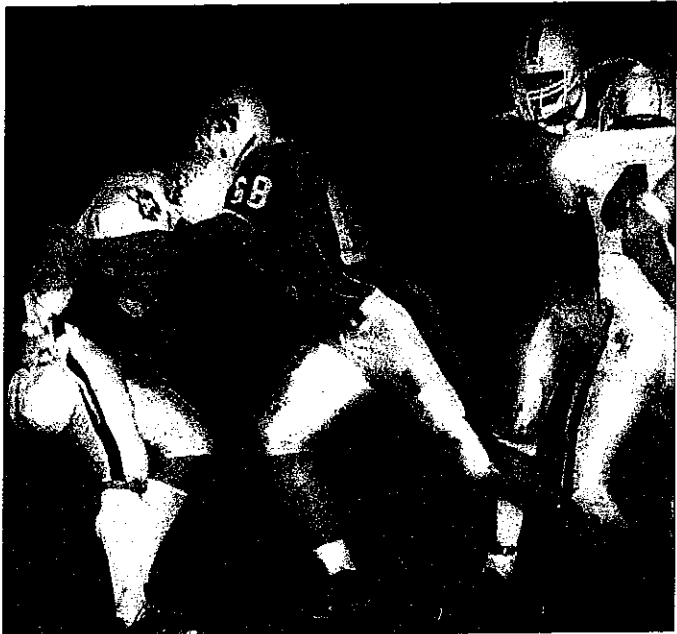
know what to do," Woods said of the open field. "I had one guy to beat, so I froze him with a move I stole from (younger brother) Jarrell and got by him. I have to give credit to my offensive line though, they saw me break right and they contained the linebackers. If it weren't for them, I would never have made it out of the backfield."

Adrian scored just three minutes later, adding a 19-yard scoring strike following three 15-yard penalties by Novi including a personal foul, a roughing-the-passer penalty and a pass interference.

The touchdown found Molter hooking up with Darryl Howard for the score and a 24-19 Novi lead after a failed two-point conversion.

"They had a great defense that managed to hold us on more than one occasion," senior tight end Chris Scott said of the Maples. "But even after they stopped us and scored to take the lead, we knew we could win the game."

Novi (11-0) is slated to play host to Detroit MacKenzie (9-2) tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in the Regional title game. The winner will move on to the semi-finals.



Wildcat Trent Sisson, right, blasts through the line and nails Maple QB Thomas Molter during last Friday playoff win for Novi.

Photo by John Helder

Wildcats could be too much for Stags

Ah, yes, another win, another week and another step on the road to the Silverdome.

The Novi Wildcats football team has shown each and every week that they aren't afraid of adversity, and if they have to, they will come from behind to beat you.

That, however, probably won't be the case when it comes to Detroit MacKenzie. In my opinion, the Wildcats have the upper hand across the board in this contest.



Sam Eggleston

Though no team makes it to the Regional finals without having done so in style, the Stags don't seem to have the guns that will be needed to hunt down the Wildcats. Yes, they come in with a ton of speed and a slew of runningbacks, but I just don't see them opening us up like Adrian was attempting to do with their passing game.

Novi boasts what I consider to be one of the best rush defenses in the state. They can shut down your running game no matter who you are or who your stud is in the backfield. The Wildcats come into this game with an untarnished 11-0 record and have done so with their defensive pressure.

With some recent changes in the defensive secondary — namely Trevor Hoover's added presence — the Wildcats have hopefully found a way to close off their major weakness in the defense against the pass.

The Wildcats will be looking to force the Stags into a position they aren't used to by making them pass in this game. The run should be shut down fairly quick by the incredibly fast and athletic defensive line and linebacker corps. And once the MacKenzie squad is off balance, it all comes down to defensive execution.

Novi's offense is well off as well. Mike Hart has been playing some good football and is looking rather poised as of late, and he isn't forcing the ball into tight situations. It seems that the targets he throws to are just growing in number. Not only has he found Mark Angelocci, Hoover and Kerry Kreutzberg for completions, but also Chris Scott and Joey Fratto as well.

Fratto is an interesting player in my book. This receiver is marked at standing at 5-feet-8-inches on the roster, but you'd swear he was 6-4 with some of the catches he has been making. He runs crisp routes and just latches onto any ball that comes his way. Fratto is the kind of

Continued on B2

GAME OF THE WEEK

Novi Wildcats Football vs Detroit MacKenzie REGIONAL FINALS

Friday, November 14
7:30 p.m. at Novi

Mark Angelocci
Senior
Football



They say that offense gets the glory but defense wins the games. And what about special teams? Well, special teams wins championships. Angelocci proved that point as he helped the Wildcats earn a District Championship on a last-minute fieldgoal that split the uprights from 31-yards out to seal a victory over Adrian. Quite possibly, Angelocci may be called on again this week — but we're certain he doesn't mind.

Athletes OF THE Week

If you would like to sponsor our Athletes of the Week feature, please contact Jennifer Walker, advertising executive, at (248) 349-1700 or by e-mail at jwalker@ht.homecomm.net.

Rachele Folino
Sophomore
Basketball



Folino, quite simply, has been on fire this year. If she's not leading in buckets for the Wildcats girls' basketball team, she's leading in rebounds, or assists. For this stellar cager, basketball is just a way of life, and she's not afraid to bring her A-game to the court each and every time her squad plays. Expect to see her numbers once again when the Wildcats play in the District tournament starting next week. Their first opponent? The Northville Mustangs.

'Cats end season in style, with wins

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Novi may have come into the world of Kentsington Valley Conference basketball this season a little wide-eyed and bushy-tailed, but they're leaving it as one of the top predators in town.

The Wildcats girls' basketball team, coached by Bill Kelp, finished out their regular season with wins over both Milford and Hartland.

Against the Mavericks November 6, the 'Cats didn't bother to look over their shoulder as they left Milford in the dust, earning a blow-out 51-34 victory.

The win, which boosted Novi to 14-5 on the year and dropped the Mavericks to 7-12, marked the ninth victory out of the last 10 games for the green and white cagers.

And they couldn't have done it without the team putting together some nice numbers. Novi Wildcats found themselves getting on the board as sophomore Kacie

Folino led the way with 10 points, Nicole Stephen and Alison Gendlich scored eight points each to help their squad to the win.

Whitney Fuchling led the Milford attack, scoring 10 points and putting down five rebounds in the losing effort.

The Wildcats were able to jump on Milford with a fast and furious attack, gaining an incredible 28-9 halftime lead over their conference foes.

Novi isn't done yet though. They've managed to save their best basketball for the end of the season and may find themselves needing it come November 17. The 'Cats are slated to play Northville at the District Tournament at 5:30 p.m. that particular day.

Northville is much improved from the beginning of the year, as are the remainder of the District foes in Plymouth Salem and Canton, Livonia Churchill and a surprising South Lyon squad.

Novi found Gendlich and Folino putting up over half of Novi's total scoring with their combined points of 26 as each girl netted 13 in the winning effort.

Novi will move on the play the Plymouth schools come November 19.

Novi 47, Hartland 34

Kelp has always said that in order for Novi to win a game, either Gendlich or Folino have to be on and scoring — but what happens when they are both on and putting points on the board?

Only very good things.

The Novi Wildcats used the talents of their two offensive producers in an early-week game against conference opponent Hartland and watched as the defense held the Eagles to below 40 points to secure the win.

Novi found Gendlich and Folino putting up over half of Novi's total scoring with their combined points of 26 as each girl netted 13 in the winning effort.

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.

District full of strong squads

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

So you want to see some good basketball, do you? Well, you've come to the right place.

The District Tournament at which Northville and Novi find themselves in boasts some incredible talent — especially in 2003. Any one of these teams has the capabilities to beat another, and any one of them can escape with a District title and a chance to keep going in the post-season playoffs.

DISTRICT SCHEDULE

All games will be played at South Lyon High School.

- Monday, Nov. 17**
- Novi (14-5) vs. Northville (9-10), 5:30 p.m.
 - South Lyon (8-13) vs. Livonia Churchill (7-12), 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 19**
- Salem (13-6) vs. Novi/Northville, 5:30 p.m.
 - Canton (17-2) vs. South Lyon/Livonia Churchill, 7 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 21**
- Winners of Wednesday's games, 7 p.m.

Northville Mustangs (9-10): The Mustangs are coached by Pete Wright, a veteran on the bench with a knack for getting the best out of his girls as the season ruts its course. Northville comes into the Districts with a ton of weapons and a variety of scoring threats on the hardwood. Don't miss the Tony sisters in Danielle and Simone or they'll be putting in shots before you know it. But, it doesn't really matter — a stiff defense on any particular player is going to leave another threat open somewhere on the floor.

Livonia Churchill Chargers (7-12): Don't let their record fool you. The Livonia Churchill Chargers have one of the best ancient players in the Western Lakes Activities Association in Karen Anker. If you try to muscle her out of her element beneath the basket, she'll probably just step outside the three-point line and bury a jumper on you — making her a serious threat to any offense. Churchill may not be the biggest threat in the tournament this year, but don't think they won't go down without a fight — the Chargers are known for keeping the game within striking distance no matter who they play.

South Lyon Lions (8-13): This is one of those teams that surprised everyone this year. Picked by most to be finished at the bottom of the barrel in the Kentsington Valley

Conference, the Lions have shown that the only team that can beat you is one that can prove they are better. That hasn't happened much for the Lions since they reached their KVC portion in their schedule, and they have made a lot of noise with the help of Shannon Waddell. The Lions have strength and speed, and it's utilized by some good coaching by Jim Freeman.

Plymouth Salem Rocks (13-6): What can you say about the Rocks? Everyone knows they play a painfully slow-paced game that makes the fans want to red off as well as the players on the court — but that's how they win. They force you to slow your game to a snail's crawl and they keep the point totals to 60 points a game between the two teams. That's an amazing accomplishment, considering the talent the Rocks have faced this year. They are beatable though, as Northville proved in the second-to-last week of regular season play — but are the beatable in the Districts? Only time will tell.

Plymouth Canton Chiefs (17-2): When you boast a two-loss record during basketball season, there's a pretty good chance you're going to be the favorite to win the District Tournament when it's all broken down on paper. Well, that just happens to be the case this time around as well. The Chiefs don't kid around when they are on the floor, and quite seriously have five players on the floor who can score on you, steal from you, block you, jab you and burn you before they beat you. What does that mean for the other teams in the District? They are going to have to play at the top of their games — and the best they have been all year — if they hope to bring down this giant.

UNDERCLASSMAN SCORES

JV GIRLS BASKETBALL

Overall: 10-9


The Novi Junior Varsity girls basketball team split two games last week in Kentsington Valley Conference (KVC) action. The Wildcats lost, 42-34, to Milford last Thursday, after defeating Hartland, 31-23, on Tuesday.

Against Milford, the Wildcats were down, 21-13, midway in the third quarter, but they battled back. Coach Bill O'Donnell used his quickest lineup (Stephanie Crawford, Katie and Kellie Walker, Brittany Safford, Lisa Harden), to pressure Milford into numerous turnovers and take a 27-26 lead. But Milford regrouped, solved Novi's press, and then used its size advantage on the offensive boards to regain the lead and win the game. Novi JV was led in scoring by Crawford (eight points), Harden (six points) and Kellie Walker (six points).

Against Hartland, the Wildcats converted seven-of-14 free throws in the final quarter to notch their fourth win in their last five games. "Awesome team defense continues to be the secret of this team's success," O'Donnell said.


Novi JV was led in scoring by Stephanie Crawford (seven points), Katelyn Tuck, Brittany Safford, Lisa Harden, and Ashley Gazdecki each scored five points.

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FOOTBALL REGIONAL FINALS

NOVI WILDCATS (11-0) VERSUS MACKENZIE STAGS (9-2)

When: November 14 at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Novi High School
What: MHSAA Regional Finals

How much: Cost of admission is \$5 per person. Because the event is MHSAA governed, the cost is equal for everyone and no passes will be accepted at the gate.

MACKENZIE STAGS' SEASON RESULTS

Opponent (record)	Result	Score
Detroit Chadsey (3-6)	W	38-6
Detroit Cody (7-3)	W	33-0
Detroit Redford (3-6)	W	50-12
Detroit Northwestern (3-6)	W	38-8
Detroit Cooley (3-6)	W	24-6
Detroit Ford (4-5)	W	16-8
Detroit King (8-3)	L	15-14
Detroit Murray-Wright (8-2)	L	26-7
Detroit Cass Tech (6-4)	W	7-0
Southgate Anderson (7-3)	W	26-24
Grosse Pointe South (7-4)	W	27-0

Too much for MacKenzie

Continued from B1

There are some people out there who think they know football, but sound ignorant and undisciplined with some of the things they spout. Coach Tab Kelleppourey and his assistants in Jeff Burnside, Dave Hartman and John Osborne know what they are doing or the green and white would never have made it this far in the first place.

As a fan, your job is to cheer — not jeer. If you want to make the decisions on the sidelines, go get your own coaching gig and run that team into the ground. Your less-than-constructive comments are just silly, and are rightfully ignored by those with the headsets on. Unfortunately, it's the kids who hear you yelling and screaming, and I always hope that you aren't their dad or mom up there — I'd hate to be as embarrassed as they would be after hearing your drive.

Moving on and away from those who would rather mean and

mean and mean to learn the finesse of the game, I am picking our Wildcats to walk away with this win. I have faith in our boys, and the coaches, as well as their ability to face any team and give it a fighting chance.

In the end, and I borrow this thought from our friend Bernie Frato, it doesn't matter what the final score is but rather if our kids gave it all they had and did it with style.

I expect that will always be the case with Novi, as they breed some of the classiest kids around.

Novi 39, MacKenzie 22

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

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All-Area Tennis Dream Team 2003

Switzer earns top honors

- Player of the Year -



Anna Switzer, Novi senior

- Novi's third singles player
- Collected a 24-7 overall record in 2003
- 82-23 career record
- Won the Grosse Pointe North tournament

Four-year Kentsington Valley Conference champion

- Regional tournament champion
- Advanced to state tournament semi-finals

"Anna would have played one for most of the teams in the league," Novi coach Jim Hanson said quickly to point out. "I guess you could say that when it comes to tennis, Anna's MO (method of operation) is that she always, always comes back and battles for a win. She has played every match she has ever been in right to the end. If she lost, it was a better player that beat her, not because she didn't give it her all. She has come back many times in her career, and that's one of the reasons she's a four-time KVC champion. This year, she was even the Regional champion. Over the past two years, she has been a state semi-finalist twice and has beat three seeded players in those years. She's a tough player to play against, and she can change her game from power to finesse to beat an opponent. She can play any style of tennis, and she'll change as needed until she gets the win."



Colene Brockman, Novi senior

- 29-3 regular-season record
- Brockman has a 101-13 career record at first doubles
- Grosse Pointe North champions
- Holly/Powers champions
- Grosse Pointe South champions
- Saline Invitational champions
- KVC Champions
- Regional Champions
- Advanced to state semi-finals

"Brockman and Holt have played together the last two years and have been Regional champions for the last two years," Jim Hanson said. "That should tell you how well they play together. Brockman has been at one doubles all four years on varsity, with different partners of course, and has been a four-time KVC champion. She and Emily Holt complement each other well and have been an amazing team for the past two years. If I had to choose my best doubles player of all time, I would pick Colene Brockman. She'll be missed."



Ashley Glover, Novi senior

- Grosse Pointe North Tournament Runner-up
- Kentsington Valley Conference tournament Runner-up
- Four-year first-singles player
- 16-13 record in 2003, 50-53 career record

"She was given the Hardest-Working Player award at the banquet," coach Jim Hanson said of Glover. "This is her fourth year at one singles and she has played better and better every year, raising the level of her game. It's not easy playing the best of the best, but she does it and she does it well. She's a very good player, a very athletic tennis player, and has been a great contributor to the success of Novi's girls tennis program."



Laura Vaughn, Novi senior

- 19-3 regular season record as a doubles team
- Vaughn was 5-0 at singles in 2003, and has a 97-13 career record
- Grosse Pointe North tournament champion (Vaughn at fourth singles)
- Okeemos Invitational Champions
- Kentsington Valley Conference Champions
- Regional Tourney Champions

"This is another doubles team with two good players," coach Jim Hanson said. "Laura and Ayano made a great team for us, and were Kentsington Valley Conference Champions. Laura was KVC champ at two and three doubles as well in her career, and she and Ayano were a team. But this year we really needed her in doubles this year and she did another great job for us. Vaughn is the best serving player I have ever coached, and a great net player. If all adds up to a great doubles player, and she and Ayano had a great season together and complimented each other well."



Lauren Carosio, Novi senior

- Grosse Pointe North Tournament Runner-up
- Regional Tournament Runner-up
- 16-13 regular season record, 79-30 career record
- Two-time Kentsington Valley Conference Champion

"Having Lauren Carosio is like having a second number one singles player on the team," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "She is definitely a strong player and she's the type of player that will run every ball down. She never quits and if you played her you had to win every point. She put pressure on you that way, and was always tough no matter who she played. She has had an excellent career."



Laura Krstevich, Northville senior

- Western Lakes Activities Association Champions
- Regional Tourney Champions
- Advanced to state tournament semi-finals

"They obviously had a great run at the end of the year," Northville coach Sandy Woolfall said. "They weren't needed and came back to beat two seeded teams before losing to the eventual state champions. Their win over Farmington Mercy was a major upset. They never gave up in any matched when they were in, and that carried them through to where they finished. They made a great team."



Kate Thomas, Northville senior

- Western Lakes Activities Association Champions
- Regional Tourney Champions
- Advanced to state tournament semi-finals

"They were an extremely strong team," Jim Hanson said of the duo. "They were state semi-finalists and were seeded first at the state tournament. They played a good match in the semi-finals and came up just a little short, but that was a great way to end a very strong year. They played well together."



Becky Thomson, Novi junior

- 29-3 regular season record
- Grosse Pointe North tournament champions
- Grosse Pointe South tournament champions
- Saline Invitational champions
- Kentsington Valley Conference champions
- Regional tournament champions
- Seeded first in the state tournament
- Advanced to the state tournament semi-finals

"They were an extremely strong team," Jim Hanson said of the duo. "They were state semi-finalists and were seeded first at the state tournament. They played a good match in the semi-finals and came up just a little short, but that was a great way to end a very strong year. They played well together."



Ayano Nakamura, sophomore

- 19-3 regular season record as a doubles team
- Vaughn was 5-0 at singles in 2003, and has a 97-13 career record
- Grosse Pointe North tournament champion (Vaughn at fourth singles)
- Okeemos Invitational Champions
- Kentsington Valley Conference Champions
- Regional Tourney Champions

"This is another doubles team with two good players," coach Jim Hanson said. "Laura and Ayano made a great team for us, and were Kentsington Valley Conference Champions. Laura was KVC champ at two and three doubles as well in her career, and she and Ayano were a team. But this year we really needed her in doubles this year and she did another great job for us. Vaughn is the best serving player I have ever coached, and a great net player. If all adds up to a great doubles player, and she and Ayano had a great season together and complimented each other well."



Kaitlyn Pfeffer, South Lyon freshman

- Began and finished freshman season as the Lions' No. 1 singles player.
- Vaughn was 6-5 as a rookie.
- Advanced to second round of KVC tournament.
- Ranked 29th in Southeastern Michigan Tennis Association's 14-year old division.

"Kaitlyn is very committed to the learning process of tennis," Lions head coach Don Valentine said. "She's going to be our rock for years. She hits a very heavy ball and played up to my expectations by winning the matches she should have won. Her strengths are her groundstrokes. Her forehand is extremely good."



Diana Ticu, Novi sophomore

- 31-1 regular-season record
- Holly/Powers Champion
- Grosse Pointe South Champion
- Saline Champion
- KVC Champion
- Regional Champion
- Seeded first in the state tourney
- Advanced to state semi-finals

"She had an outstanding year," Novi coach Jim Hanson said of the sophomore. "When you're only loss in the semi-finals of the state tournament, you know you're a very good player. She has worked extremely hard to get to this point, and she was awarded the Most Improved Player award at the banquet. If she continues to work this hard, she has the potential to be the best player I've ever coached for girls' tennis. She has a ways to go though, but she's a fierce competitor and a tireless worker. She'll be getting new challenges come next year too, because she's going to be playing up in the line-up."

Compiled by Sam Eggleston and Stan Frank of HomeTown Newspapers



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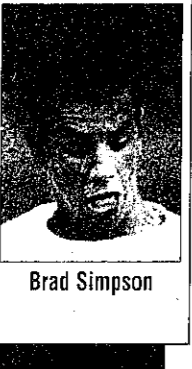
All-Area Soccer Dream Team 2003

Brad Simpson gets Player of the Year nod

Brad Simpson, Novi senior Defender/Midfielder

- Scored 15 goals, had 8 assists
- Named All-KVC
- Named All-District
- Named All-Region
- Named First-team All-State
- Named Dream Team All-State

"Brad is a player that can do everything," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "He does a great job of getting open and putting one on one pressure on the other team's defenders. He is very elusive with the ball and is our best dribbler."



Brad Simpson

Matt Nickels, Novi senior Forward

- Scored 10 goals and had 15 assists
- Named All-KVC
- Named All-District
- Named All-Region
- Named Honorable Mention All-State

"Matt has exceptional speed, a huge desire to win and competes harder than any player I have ever coached," Brian O'Leary said. "He played the whole season with a broken bone in his foot, that he has now finally had surgery on."



Matt Nickels

Trey Love, Novi sophomore Defense

- Named All-KVC

"He had an incredible year in that coming into the season we were not sure what his role on the team would be," Brian O'Leary said. "He exceeded everybody's expectation by becoming our number one defender that always covered the other team's best player and he always shut that player down. He has incredible speed, great anticipation and knows when to be aggressive and when to hang back."



Trey Love

AJ Glubzinski, Novi junior Goalie

- Named All-KVC
- Named All-District
- Had a 741 goals against average in 14 games.

"He made some incredible saves in games that allowed us to stay in the game and eventually win or tie," Brian O'Leary said. "He is a first-class person, has a 4.0 GPA and his work ethic is second to none."



A.J. Glubzinski

Marc Checcobelli, Novi sophomore Forward

- Scored 10 goals and had 4 assists

"Marc had an excellent second half of the season," Brian O'Leary said. "He does a great job of getting open and putting one on one pressure on the other team's defenders. He is very elusive with the ball and is our best dribbler."

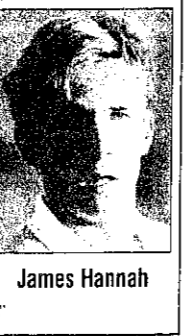


Marc Checcobelli

James Hannah, Northville junior Forward

- 22 goals and eight assists
- Northville's MVP
- All-WLAA
- All-District, All-Regional
- Second-team All-State Honors

"James was definitely a key guy for us this year," Henry Klimes said. "He is great at containing on defense and stripping the ball. Jackson is a class act and a great leader, not to mention a great player."



James Hannah

Phil Yutzay, Northville junior Defensive Midfielder

- Team captain
- Four goals, seven assists

"He had the job of playing an unrewarding position of outside halfback, which is a demanding position on our team," Henry Klimes said. "He is a very consistent player and another great leader for us. He has a world of talent and a tremendous future ahead of him."



Phil Yutzay

Steve Besk, Northville junior Goalie

- All-District
- All-Region
- Honorable Mention All-State
- 13 shutouts

"He's a great goalie to have behind you," Henry Klimes said. "Steve never lets in that soft goal. He had an unbelievable year and I know I couldn't ask for much more in a goalie. He'll be back next year and we're happy to have him. He's a solid character and a great kid."



Steve Besk

Scott Hammerle, Northville junior Defender

- All-District

"Scott pretty much single-handedly warded off Dearborn in the pre-Regional," Henry Klimes said. "He kept everything together for us in the back as our sweeper, which is a position he learned to play well. I know he gave the other team's forwards a look of fear in their eyes when they saw the Hammer coming. He's as hard as nails."



Scott Hammerle

Jackson Knoll, Northville senior Defensive Midfielder

- Team captain
- Four goals, six assists

"Without Jackson there, we would have had some defensive difficulty," Henry Klimes said. "He is great at containing on defense and stripping the ball. Jackson is a class act and a great leader, not to mention a great player."



Jackson Knoll

Mike Kelleher, Northville junior Midfielder

- Had nine goals and six assists
- All-WLAA
- All-District
- All-Regional
- All-State Honorable Mention

"When Mikey was getting his job done, we were getting our job done," Henry Klimes said. "Without Mikey in the middle, we would have definitely struggled. He was a key component to our run."



Mike Kelleher

Ryan Lionas, Northville senior Defender

- All-Western Division honors
- Northville's Best Defender Award and Coach's Award
- Three goals and five assists

"He's just a great senior defender," Henry Klimes said. "He received my coaches award, which is a special award because it means he has complete leadership on and off the field. He was always reliable and very consistent. He deserved all of the awards he received this year and more."



Ryan Lionas

More All-Area Soccer

Zac Bennett, Lakeland junior Forward

- Named first team All-KVC.
- Named to All-District team.
- Seven shutouts on season.
- 1.3 goals against average.

"Zac is a big boy," Eagles coach Mark Janssen said. "So he's a big presence in goal. Plus, he's very mobile, so it's hard to beat someone whose got both of those attributes. He was probably one of the top two or three goalies in the KVC this year and should be the top keeper next year."



Zac Bennett

Mike Rhoad, South Lyon junior Forward

- Named first team All-KVC.
- Named to All-District team.
- 14 goals and 10 assists.

"Mike can score," Lions coach Tracee Senter said. "And when opponents tried to mark him out he was able to get the assist as well. We don't traditionally do very well at Pinckney, but he scored two minutes into the game. He's got a lot of moves. A defender can try to mark him out, but he's got four or five moves, so they can't concentrate on just stopping one or two moves to beat him."



Mike Rhoad

Lloyd Brennan, South Lyon junior Sweeper

- Named first team All-KVC.
- Compiled two assists as sweeper.

"No one can beat Lloyd," Lions coach Tracee Senter said. "One on one, no one can beat him. He is basically about three percent body fat and can run through guys. He controls everything. Opponents just can't get around him, because he's too fast, too big and too strong. He's a physical specimen and his work ethic toward his conditioning and his game is unmatched."



Lloyd Brennan

Shaun Riney, Lakeland senior Midfielder

- Named first team All-KVC.
- Named to All-District and All-Region teams.
- Honorable mention All-State.
- Seven goals and seven assists.

"Our success revolved around Sean's play-making in the middle," Eagles head coach Mark Janssen said. "He's got good field awareness and great passing skills. And he was a great leader. He was a four-year starter on varsity and really had matured into a very strong leader that all the other guys looked up to."



Shaun Riney

Kenny Coppola, South Lyon junior Midfielder

- Named first team All-KVC.
- 10 goals and 9 assists.
- Was named Lions MVP.

"Kenny is like the Energizer bunny," Lions coach Tracee Senter said. "You never have to worry about him being out of gas. He runs and gets open constantly. He creates his own space and he has three or four great moves. And he can pick a ball out of the air. He's a very special player. He's definitely going to be a state-ranked player next year."



Kenny Coppola

James Snider, Milford senior Defense

- One goal and two assists

"James gives you 110 percent," Mavericks head coach Marty Neighbors said. "He pretty much leaves everything he can out on the field. As a defender, he tirelessly tracks the man with the ball. He's just a hard-nosed player — he knows where the ball is. And he doesn't just dive in — he knows when to defend and when to delay. He's a complete player and he's a real intelligent player."



James Snider

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SHOWCASE BEACON EAST	STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR JOHN R	STAR ROCKESTER
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STARTS FRIDAY AT THESE THEATRES

AMC FORUM 30	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	CANTON 6
MIR SOUTHGATE 20	NOVI TOWN CENTER	PHOENIX WEST RIVER	PHOENIX WEST RIVER
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"Enormously Funny, With Side-Splitting Laughs!"

Jeffrey Lyons, NBC

"Two Thumbs Up!"

ERT & ROEPER

"Witty Family Entertainment!"

David Ansen, NEWSWEEK

WILL FERRELL

"A Charmer With A Heart And A Sense Of Humor."

Roger Ebert, ERT & ROEPER

"★★★★! The Best Holiday Film In Years!"

Neil Rosen, NY 1

STARTS FRIDAY AT THESE THEATRES

AMC FORUM 30	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	CANTON 6
MIR SOUTHGATE 20	NOVI TOWN CENTER	PHOENIX WEST RIVER	PHOENIX WEST RIVER
STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR JOHN R	STAR ROCKESTER	
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE	

"THIS IS MY STORY"

TUPAC RESURRECTION

IN HIS OWN WORDS

STARTS FRIDAY AT THESE THEATRES

AMC FORUM 30	AMC LIVONIA 20	BEACON EAST
BIRMINGHAM CALLAHAN	EMAGINE NOVI	PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CTR.
SHOWCASE BEACON EAST	STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR GRATIOT
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE

SPORTS SHORTS

AAU Girls Basketball Tryouts

The Region AAU girls' basketball team will be holding tryouts December 7 and Dec. 13 at Andover High School. The time and details are available at www.legionbb.com or through email at legionbb@hotmail.com. There is a \$20 fee to participate in the highly-competitive tryouts, and there will be teams in age groups from 10 years of age through 18-year-old players. For more information, email legionbb@hotmail.com.

Want to play some basketball?

Northville Parks and Rec will be hosting a Women's Winter Basketball League starting January 28, 2004. The cost to join is \$395 per team and the season will run through 11 weeks. Registration starts December 16th. If interested, please visit Parks and Rec or contact them at (248) 449-9947.

Learn to Skate

The arena's Learn to Skate Program runs through December 20 with a wide variety of classes being offered at different times. Tuesdays through Saturday. Classes include: Beginning Tots, Snowplow Sam, Freestyle, Adult, Hockey Skills and Home School. There will be no classes the week of November 24-29. 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 Novi Ice Arena throughout the 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.

Ski and snowboard club

Northville Parks and Rec is currently taking registrations for the popular ski and snowboard club. All students in middle school and high school are encouraged to participate and membership includes luxury motor coach transportation to local ski areas on Friday evenings and some Saturday evenings as well as group lift tickets, rental equipment, discounts and lessons at Mt. Brighton Ski Area. The club membership is limited to 300 participants. The fee is \$135 for city and township residents, \$138 for school district residents and \$145 for non-residents. Please bring a current school photo and last year's club ID card. Also, adult chaperones are needed for trips and will receive complimentary skiing. For more information, please contact Northville Parks and Rec at (248) 349-0203.

"AN EPIC ROMANTIC COMEDY. You will leave the theater with your heart humming happily."

"TWO THUMBS UP!"

ERT & ROEPER

loveactually

STARTS FRIDAY AT THESE THEATRES

AMC FORUM 30	AMC LIVONIA 20	BIRMINGHAM CALLAHAN
MIR SOUTHGATE 20	SHOWCASE BEACON EAST	STAR GRATIOT
STAR GREAT LAKES	STAR JOHN R	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

High & Elm Streets, Northville
Lutheran Pastor
Church 349-3100 School 349-3146
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
Confirmation Service at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

1000 E. Main Street, Northville
Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Service: 11:00 a.m.
Pastor: James R. Brown, Associate Pastor: Rev. James R. Brown, Associate Pastor: Rev. James R. Brown

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1015 N. Main Street, Northville
Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Service: 11:00 a.m.
Pastor: John F. Hickey

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH

770 Taylor, Northville
Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Service: 11:00 a.m.
Pastor: Rev. James R. Brown

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

9 Mile & Maplewood
Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Service: 11:00 a.m.
Pastor: Rev. James R. Brown

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL (Anglican)

10 Mile between 1st & Beck, Novi
Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Service: 11:00 a.m.
Pastor: Rev. James R. Brown

FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-249-2545
1/2 mile west of Novi Rd.
Dr. Richard J. Handman, Pastor
Rev. Anne Schaefer, Associate Pastor
Worship & Church School 9:00 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Pastor Office: 488-8847

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

4635 10 Mile Rd.
Novi, MI 48242
Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.
Confirmation Service: 11:00 a.m.
Pastor Office: 347-7978

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

2800 Meadowdale Rd., Novi, MI 48215
Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Service: 11:00 a.m.
Pastor Office: 488-8847

WORLDWIDE HARVEST CHURCH

"A Place To Grow"
Pastor: Bill M. Moore
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 AM
The Boardroom: 11:00 AM (with potluck 12:00)
More Info: 248-819-8209
Pastor: Bill M. Moore
Pastor Office: 488-8847

WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. James N. McGhee, Senior Pastor
4400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-249-2545
Traditional Services: 7:30, 10:15, 11:30 a.m.
Sunday School & Nursery Provided
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
The Service: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sunday
Pastor Office: 488-8847

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

1414 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-249-2545
Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Confirmation Service: 11:00 a.m.
Pastor Office: 488-8847

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Traditional Service - 8:00 A.M.
Contemporary Service - 10:30 A.M.
Meeting at Novi Civic Center
248-444-7755
crosspointmeadows.org

CROSSPOINT MEADOWS CHURCH

Pastor: Darryl L. Langley
Traditional Service - 8:00 A.M.
Contemporary Service - 10:30 A.M.
Meeting at Novi Civic Center
248-444-7755
crosspointmeadows.org

REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES

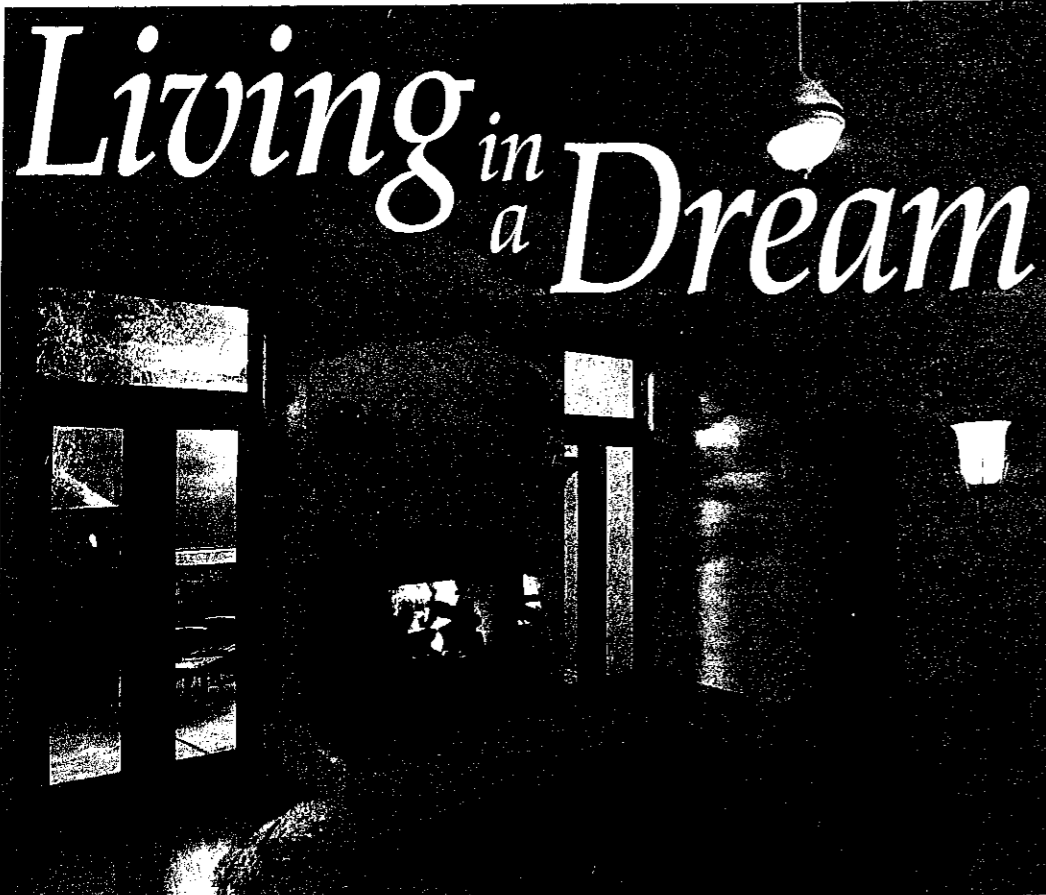
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For information regarding rates call The Northville Record or Novi News (248) 349-1700

HOME & GARDEN

HomeTown Newspapers

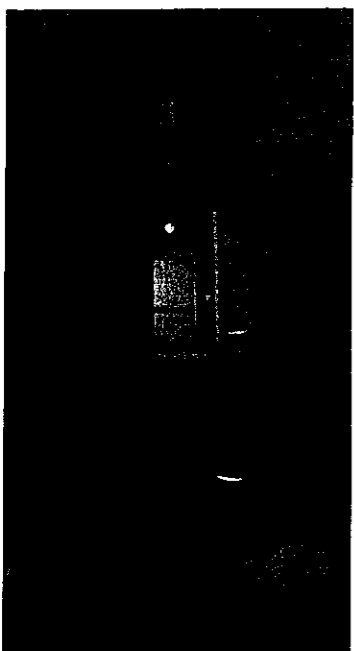
www.hometownlife.com



A cast-stone fireplace is surrounded by painted clouds that cover the walls and ceiling of the master bedroom.

Couple proves creating a dream home is tangible without sacrificing the practical

Story by Betsy Lehndorf ■ Photos by Hal Stoelzle ■ Scripps Howard News Service



The main entrance at dusk with a stone path that climbs the hillside from a dirt parking lot leading to the Loo residence.

From afar, the adobe-style home nestled on a mountain south of Colorado Springs, Colo., looks more like a fortress, with its thick walls and imposing stone tower.

But for Skip and Destiny Loo, it's home, and one that fits their vision beautifully. It should; the two spent months painstakingly pulling together every detail of the house, from the curving walls in the rooms to a cloud motif in their bedroom.

Welcome to "programming," a process where homeowners and their architect spend hours together talking, imagining and dreaming about every detail of the house before they break ground. Construction began in the spring of 1998 and the couple moved in by December 1999.

The Loos imagined a house that never sacrificed the practical for the spectacular.

"We just wanted the rooms that people live in. I used to clean houses," Destiny says with a laugh. "Believe me, I know what rooms they live in."

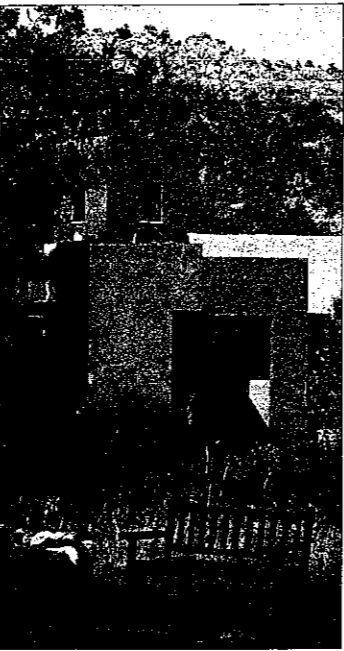
Architect Clifford Taylor, a longtime friend of the couple, discovered the two wanted privacy and a bright home, with wide-open spaces. It was also important that the spaces appeal to their unique interests.

"After a list of the rooms is made, then several sessions are spent where we walk around the house in our minds dreaming," says Taylor, who adds that programming is offered by few architects because it is time-consuming. "The idea is to get rid of all preconceptions. Instead, the house is designed as a progression of dreams and becomes a progression of built elements."

In 1996, after sailing the Caribbean for seven years, they moved back to Colorado Springs and decided to build their dream house.

A stone walk climbs the hillside from a dirt parking lot, leading past wild roses to the front door made of wooden planks. Overhead, a tower of stucco and concrete is no outlook; it acts as a chimney, providing natural ventilation throughout the house.

"There are maybe seven to 10 days when you need air conditioning," Destiny says. "We didn't want it."



A stone fire pit and bench set far on the side of the house are examples of the Loos' design for privacy with wide-open spaces.

Cross-breezes from open windows and doors cool the house.

Beyond the front door of the 3,000-square-foot home, the west wall of glass in the living room reveals the soft shoulders of a mountain. A grand piano and a high-tech home theater share space in the room, the largest in the home.

From the room, a slash of yellow and blue from a gallery kitchen is visible.

After years living on a sailboat, Destiny appreciates practical solutions that keep small spaces tidy. She had Taylor design pantries on either side of the long kitchen. One contains a sink behind a closed door where she can quickly stow dirty dishes. The other holds all the essential kitchen appliances, leaving the rest of the sunny galley clutter-free.

A deep blue kitchen sink matches the blue tiles covering the counter. Skip's yellow tiles and yellow walls seem to magnify and enrich the sunlight streaming in everywhere.

The south end of the house holds a sky-lit room full of gym equipment. Elsewhere, office is nearby—a comfortable stage set with leather-upholstered chairs and wood-paneled walls.

At the other end of the home, a curving yellow hall leads to an open master bedroom. A simple space, the walls are painted floor-to-ceiling with clouds, and a cast-stone fireplace offers warmth on colder days.

"You just feel ready to sleep in a room with clouds," Destiny says. "And it's nice waking up."



The living room is an entertainment area containing a high-tech home theater, a grand piano, a guitar on a stand and a cable table where Skip and Destiny Loo spend time with their friends.



The backside of the home includes a back patio which is illuminated at night by light coming from inside the house.

Cheek chic

Celebrities consider custom toilet seats a lavish and lucrative art

By Gina Vivinetto
ST. PETERSBURG TIMES

I don't think enough about my toilet seat. What about you?

Apparently, it's a big trend for celebrities to spend lots of dough on custom toilet seats. And it's the people who dig music who are most into their toilets. Like pop stars Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake. When the two were a couple, they spent \$21,000 on two custom toilet seats for their \$4.2-million Beverly Hills love nest. The seats featured pictures of the two as they were as performers on "The Mickey Mouse Club."

Is that cute, or totally weird?

Apparently, skipping the loo for pop stars is a lot more exciting than it is for the rest of us. Rock 'n' roll and its royalty have always been about opulence. If you think about it, spending a fortune on a toilet seat is an homage to the King of rock 'n' roll, Elvis Presley, who died on the throne, or at least near it. (By the way, Gene Autry has a nicely four bathrooms. So much for lavishly.)

Music folks don't only buy fancy toilet seats, they also create them.

Drummer Rikki Rockett has turned a bad boy habit into a lucrative side project. Rockett, who pounds the skins for Poison, the 1980s hair metal band that gave us the megahits "Talk Dirty To Me" and "Every Rose Has Its Thorn," began painting and airbrushing snakes, flames and other devilish images onto the toilet seats in the band's hotel rooms while Poison was touring.

"I remember this Picasso quote that said painting was like keeping a diary," he told an interviewer. Rockett began painting the seats, snapping pictures of them and posting them on his personal Web site, www.rikkirockett.com.

Eventually, Rockett began painting seats to sell at swanky galleries in Los Angeles. It wasn't long before he was making thousands of dollars and garnering a famous clientele.

Creating cool toilet seat covers isn't just a hobby for musician Marvin Maxwell. The former drummer for Elysian Field, Maxwell, 58, created Jammin' Johns, a company dedicated to making "tinely crafted" custom toilet seat covers fashioned to look like guitars and pianos. Its famous clientele includes singer Willie Nelson and film director Steven Spielberg. Want to add yourself to the list?

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To learn more
Visit this site for ordering information:
<http://www.jamminjohns.com>

Making old things new — to you

By Michele Stewart
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Dale Sheridan doesn't consider himself an antique buff. He buys whatever suits his fancy.

"I buy what I like. I like the history of things and how it relates to your life, or it could just be something you're interested in," he says. "Once you get this antiquing in your blood, it's hard to get it out."

Sheridan, 47, a facilities maintenance worker for the University of Arizona in Tucson, is typical of many antique-store shoppers. He's not really looking for anything in particular. When he finds something that piques his interest, he snags it.

It's one of the golden rules of antique shopping, says Dwight Schanep, co-owner of American Antique Mall in Tucson.

"With antiques, we tell you the time to buy is when you see it," Schanep says. "We can't call a distributor and order another one. Strike when the iron's hot."

While there are no rules on pricing antique and vintage items, if you plan to make a hobby of it, you're better off doing so prepared, says Lisa Sierra, co-owner of the Antique Presidio in Tucson. "If you like a certain type of memorabilia, get a book on it," she says. "There's a special book about anything. Do your homework."

Schanep says that because of varying opinions and competition among collectors, antique dealers aren't covetous.

"The best thing to do is to deal with reputable people who have been in the business for a while," Schanep says. "Talk to friends and find out what kind of experience they've had with dealers."

Sierra also recommends comparing prices on eBay or other auction sites to get a sense of the selling prices of the item in which you are interested.

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Antiquing tips

- Know what you're buying. "Antique" has become a generic term, used to describe things from as late as the 1950s. The general rule is: If something is 50 years old or more, it's a collectible; if it's at least 100 years old, it's an antique. "Vintage" can refer to both antiques and collectibles.
- Ask friends and neighbors who like to shop for antiques for reputable dealers.
- Read up on the types of antiques in which you are interested or antiques in general, such as "Schroeder's Antiques Price Guide," the Warman's series of books that includes topics like Depression glass, sterling silver and flatware and jewelry, or "Kovels' Know Your Antiques."
- Comparison shop on eBay or other auction sites to get an idea of how much a particular item sells for.
- Buy it when you see it. It's not like a car or a house. You can't return or exchange merchandise.

HEALTH & FITNESS

HomeTown Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

Eating on the ruin

More nutritionists, educators and scholars are asking what children lose when lunch is scheduled so early.

By Janet Simons
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

For most of us, a meal served at 9:38 in the morning is breakfast. For sixth-graders at Cole Middle School in Bethlehem, Pa., says she has never encountered a lunch as early as Cole's.

"It's too early," Stout says. "If school is over at 2:30, some kids are going 4-1/2 hours without food. They're going to be very hungry at the end of the school day."

What happens to a kid who goes home to an empty house? If dinner isn't until 7, there's lots of time to snack on empty calories and no adult to make sure they make good food choices.

What's likely to happen, says Marilyn Day, a dietitian at Children's Hospital in Denver and director of the weight-loss and fitness program, is that the children will develop eating habits that may lead to a lifetime of obesity.

Cole is in one of Denver's poorest neighborhoods, and has 100 or so sixth-graders. Ninety-seven percent of its children qualify for the USDA's free or reduced-price lunch program.

"How Long Does It Take Students to Eat Lunch?" — a study published last year in the Journal of Child Nutrition &

Management — concluded that students should have at least 20 minutes at the table to allow them time to eat and socialize.

Stout, who compares some school lunch programs to "feeding factories," says children need longer unstructured breaks.

"I look at what has the strongest benefit for the kids," Veltze says. "And the kids at Cole need to improve their academic focus more than anything else. But while we work on that, we also support their health and their emotional stability."

The early-lunch issue tends to slip under the radar for parents of sixth-graders because the schedule was set while their children were still in elementary school. By the time most parents realize their children are eating so early, the school year is well under way and the schedule is unchangeable.

HOW TO HELP

- Tips for parents whose kids are served an early lunch
- If your child refuses a full breakfast, make sure he eats something before leaving the house. Focus on protein, such as a cheese stick.
- Ask your child about school lunches. When is the lunch period? How long are the lines? Is it noisy or quiet? Is he able to eat with his friends? If possible, visit the school during lunch.
- Send protein snacks and fresh fruit.
- Discuss any concerns with the teacher, including when children can eat snacks.
- If your child comes home to an empty house, prepare a hearty, wholesome snack for him to eat when he returns.

SOURCE: MARILYN DAY, DIETITIAN

Americans are fighting the battle of the bulging foot

By Marilou Berry
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

Americans' feet are getting bigger. But unlike the bulging body trend, which spurred the fashion industry to answer with plus-size clothing, the footwear industry has been slow to respond.

Part of the problem is that neither the government nor podiatry groups keep track of shoe sizes. And most of us have heard stories about how women, no matter how much they suffer, will stuff oversized feet into smaller shoes.

Almost everyone who works with feet — doctors, salespeople and people who work for shoe companies — has noticed a trend to bigger feet on Americans. Such people are reluctant to say how much of a trend, but they will tell you that as recently as 15 years ago the most popular size in a woman's shoe was a 7. Now it's an 8 and sometimes even a 9.

Podiatrist Kent R. Burgess of Evansville, Ind., said it stands to reason that as people's bodies get bigger, the weight causes the foot to flatten out. Shoes must be bigger to hold that weight up. The bigger the shoe, the bigger the foundation should be.

"I have teenage patients wearing size 13s," said Burgess. "And I have some women who have to go to the men's department to get their athletic shoes."

"Feet do change," said Carl Riecken, owner of Riecken's Shoes and Orthotics Laboratory in Evansville. But the footwear industry, Riecken said, has been slow to respond. Sometimes if the customer's foot is bigger than a size 10, there will be few companies that will make his size.

"At one time, ladies' shoes were available as small as size 3," Riecken said. "Now the smallest is a size 5. If a woman wears a 3 today, it must be custom-made."

Comfort is the primary factor in the production of



Naturalizer shoes, according to Jocelyn Hebert, senior vice president of the Wholesale Division of the Brown Shoe Co. in Clayton, Mo., which manufactures them.

"Our goal is to put great-fitting shoes on every woman's foot in America," said Hebert. "Our goal is not just to give a woman a size 11, but a comfortable, good-looking size 11."

Hebert said company officials are convinced their customers' feet are getting larger. And for good reason, she believes.

"We are seeing more casual shoes today on heavier people. Many people today have good nutrition. Those things added together make for a bigger, wider foot."

Sales figures bear that out. "In 1987, only 11 percent of women wore size 9 shoes," Hebert said. "Today, 37 percent of women do."

Permanent weight loss involves change

By Jennifer Jones
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

To get an idea of how much the nation relies on "get fit quick" diets, simply check out the best-sellers at your local bookstore or merely type the words "weight loss" in a search on Amazon.com, and see the thousands of results that come up.

Obviously, there's no shortage of fad diets to choose from if you're looking for ways to drop extra pounds and fit into that dress for that special weekend.

There's the Atkins diet, the Zone diet, the South Beach diet, the Subway diet, the Slim-Fast diet, the grapefruit diet, the cabbage soup diet... the list stretches on longer than the shelf life of a pack of Holo's.

Just make sure to look at your chosen diet very carefully.

With the Atkins diet, carbohydrates are restricted while proteins get the green light; a warning sign that the diet plan isn't balanced, said Danielle Little, a registered dietitian at Anderson (S.C.) Area Medical Center.

"On the Atkins diet, you're allowed to eat anything protein so a lot of people go crazy and eat beef and big old steaks, chicken, butter and bacon," Little said. "Well, these are high in saturated fat. That increases your risk for heart disease."

FAD DIETS

- It promotes really quick weight loss.
 - It only allows limited food choices or eliminates a whole food group altogether (for example, you may only eat grapefruit or cabbage soup).
 - It is promoted by celebrities or well-known places (for example, the Beverly Hills Diet).
 - It encourages excessive supplements, meal replacements or pills.
 - The plan is only encouraged until weight loss is achieved and then you go back to eating what you want.
 - It suggests unfounded scientific information.
- SOURCE: CRYSTAL ROBINSON, REGISTERED DIETITIAN AT LIFECHOICE IN ANDERSON, S.C.

organs to work and our heart to work," she said.

This goes for totally fat-free diet plans as well. The idea is to cut down on one's fat intake, not exclude it altogether. Every food group serves a purpose.

The Sugar Busters diet involves basing choices on the glycemic index (foods are assigned numbers pertaining to how quickly they raise your blood sugar), which makes it appealing to those with diabetes.

"But it seems kind of shady. So many things affect the glycemic index: how ripe a piece of fruit is, how well food is cooked and what's going on in your body," said Karen Montanucci, a registered dietitian at the diabetes education clinic in Anderson. "It's not as predictable as it seems to be."

The problem with many fad diets is they fail to reach lifestyle changes.

"We need to get rid of that quick-fix mentality. I like to tell my patients the longer it takes to come off, the longer it is going to stay off," Little said. "When people see '4-6-4,' they want quick, instant, no-hassle and easy. "But it ain't easy. They haven't changed any habits. They're just put them on hold until they're finished with the diet but since they haven't learned anything new, they'll gain all that weight back and then some."

MONEY

HomeTown Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com

meeting **BIGGER** needs

As Americans increasingly gain weight, a growing number of everyday products are being recast to fit hetter bodies

By Catherine Ferraro
SACRAMENTO BEE

Ten years ago Mantea Collado had just two choices for clothing stores in the San Francisco area that catered to her size — 5 feet 5 inches tall and 375 pounds.

Now she has at least 10 superstore shops to browse, including a women's apparel store that sells garments up to size 70, and numerous Internet sites for products designed especially for big people.

From cars to beds to sleepers, a growing number of everyday products are being redesigned — as more specialty retailers pop up — to keep pace with America's growing girth.

"I'm heartened," said Collado, of Concord, Calif., whose weight peaked at 502 pounds and then dropped to 380 pounds after gastric bypass surgery last year. "Manufacturers are moving in the right direction and realizing that America is getting bigger, and they need to accommodate us with clothing and other things, too."

Not all shopping experiences are easy today for big people. Finding, for example, shoes that don't pinch or sturdy chairs can still be a problem. But America's retailers are changing, albeit slowly.

Statistics on the number of companies making or selling goods for the large and superstore markets are hard to come by. According to Marketdata Enterprises, the women's plus-size clothing industry alone is worth \$23 billion.

The U.S. Air Force, the Society of Automotive Engineers and 35 companies (including Levi Strauss and John Deere) completed a massive study in 2002 of body sizes and shapes of more than 3,000 people in Europe and America. The goal was to better design furniture, clothes, cars, magnetic resonance imaging machines and dozens of other products.

"For the first time we found real shapes and know that we have a lot more soft tissue because we're not as active," said Kathy Robinson, director of the body-size study called Project Caesar. "Now we can design things to fit real people instead of fashion models."

Project officials would not release specific measurements. But Robinson noted that researchers discovered that sizing charts for women's apparel have been fluctuating since the 1940s in ways that don't reflect real-world shifts in height and weight for women.

"So now some apparel companies have added sizes zero and negative 2," said Robinson. "And not because people are getting smaller, but because the sizes they once called 4 and 6 are really fitting larger people now."

Automakers have made numerous adjustments — building seats with denser foam and sturdier springs and installing pedals farther apart to fit bigger and wider shoes. Torrid, a Southern California plus-size (sizes 12 to 26) clothing store for teens and twentysomething females, burst forth in 2001 after dozens of customers shopping at parent company Hot Topic asked for bigger clothes. After starting with a single store, Torrid now operates 40 stores nationwide.

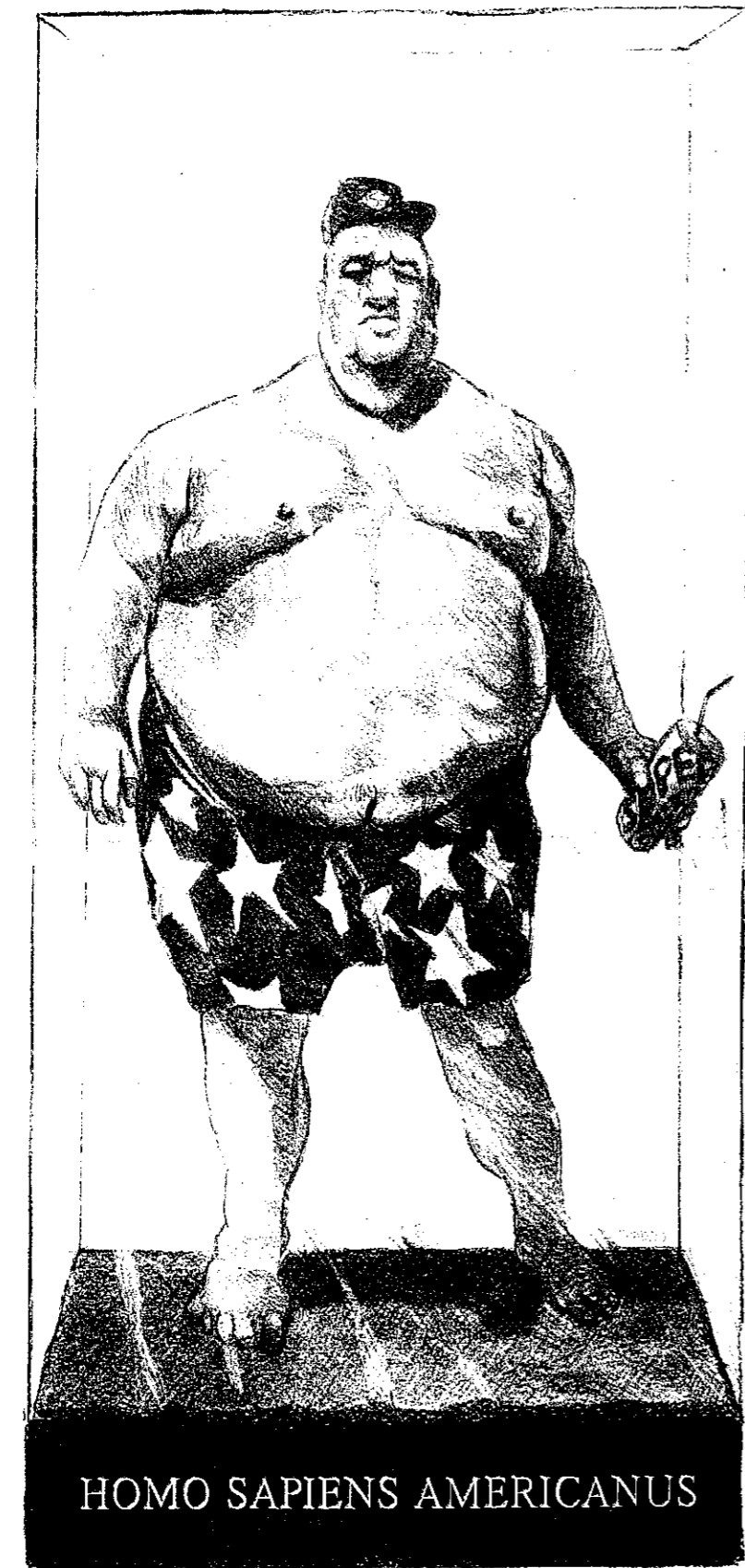
The trend isn't limited to women's apparel.

Justin Bilbau, co-owner of Sacramento, Calif.-based clothing chain Getta Cine, said his core customers, 14-to 21-year-old males, are "much bigger" today than when he and his partner started in business 12 years ago.

Clothes, consequently, are up-sizing. "Sure, there's a style issue involved to some degree, but there are definitely bigger kids out there now," Bilbau said. "What is a size 32 jeans is really a (traditional) size 34, because manufacturers are making America feel better about their size. Men don't want to know they went from a size 36 to 40."

Even beds are bigger now.

About two years ago mattress maker



HOMO SAPIENS AMERICANUS

Illustration by Mark Gialino / Scripps Howard News Service

Simmons Co. introduced the "Olympic Queen" to 3,000 stores nationwide. It's the same length — 80 inches — as a traditional queen but 6 inches wider. Company officials said it was not designed with overweight people in mind. Instead, it was created to fit on a traditional

queen-size frame and allow consumers more sleeping room without crowding other bedroom furniture.

Amplestuff, a company based in Bearville, N.Y., has been making and supplying ordinary products for the overweight since 1988. Demand has grown

and so has the diversity of its line. It now includes 23-inch enameled steel shoe-horns, leg lifting aids for getting in and out of cars, socks with 22-inch ankle widths, 500-pound digital scales and more.

"If you need a kitchen table, average-size people will have several choices, but I

FOR YOUR BOOKSHELF

Keeping your job is just a matter of proving your worth

By Kathy Gurchiek
SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

Millions of people are out of work, and for those who are employed, worries about potential layoffs remain real.

While some factors aiding in job retention, such as seniority, may be out of a worker's control, other strategies improve your chances of keeping your job.

"Playing it safe is the kiss of death in today's market," cautions Dave Marcum, a co-author with Steve Smith and Mahan Khalifa of "Business Think: Rules for Getting It Right — Now, and No Matter What!" (Dimensions, \$16.95). "The people who are being advanced are those who are willing to take a risk and recognize that failure is playing it safe."

Playing it safe affects how you interact with others and could mean you miss out on important information.

"What makes us unemployable is when we can't make a contribution," he says.

"Think like an entrepreneur, act like it's your business. It frees you up and allows you to use your unique talents."

Julie Swaner, a career counselor at the University of Utah, agrees on the importance of taking professional risks but adds that it's not a course of action for everybody.

"You can't tell someone who is likely to never take a risk to take a risk," she said.

Being a risk-taker "has more to do with the way you perceive the world. It has more to do with (your) internal locus of control," she said. "It's also wise to consider the company's culture and whether it rewards risk taking."

■ Show initiative: If you're looking to secure your job when layoffs loom, doing what is expected is not enough.

Employers value initiative.

"Every employer looks for employees with initiative because that's what grows their business, that's what grows their customer satisfaction," Swaner says.

"We ought to have people who have the title 'Chief Curiosity Officer.' The real breakthroughs ... are because someone got curious enough to say ... 'I'm going to get to the bottom of this.'"

Initiate an ongoing conversation with your supervisor to receive regular, informal input on your performance and the company's expectations of you.

■ Know your environment: Whether you work in an office, fast food eatery or construction site, be savvy about your workplace culture. What was permissible at your last job may not be permissible in your current job even if the jobs are similar. That includes employer attitudes about punctuality and dress codes.

■ Attitude check: "Your attitude is going to lay the foundation for everything that happens," says Debbie Sheldon of the Arizona Department of Workforce Services. Sheldon. That begins with your resume and extends to on-the-job performance. Establish yourself as a dependable person by planning ahead for situations that otherwise could jeopardize your job.

■ Ethics extends to using company time for company business. If you want to keep your job, don't engage in activities such as reading non-work-related magazines at your desk, Swaner points out.

■ Fitting in: Appropriate dress and working harmoniously with co-workers is part of fitting into the workplace culture. Employers do not want an antagonistic, high-maintenance employee, no matter how talented, Swaner says.

"Every employer looks for employees with initiative because that's what grows their business, that's what grows their customer satisfaction."

Julie Swaner, career counselor



Photo courtesy Photo.com

FOOD

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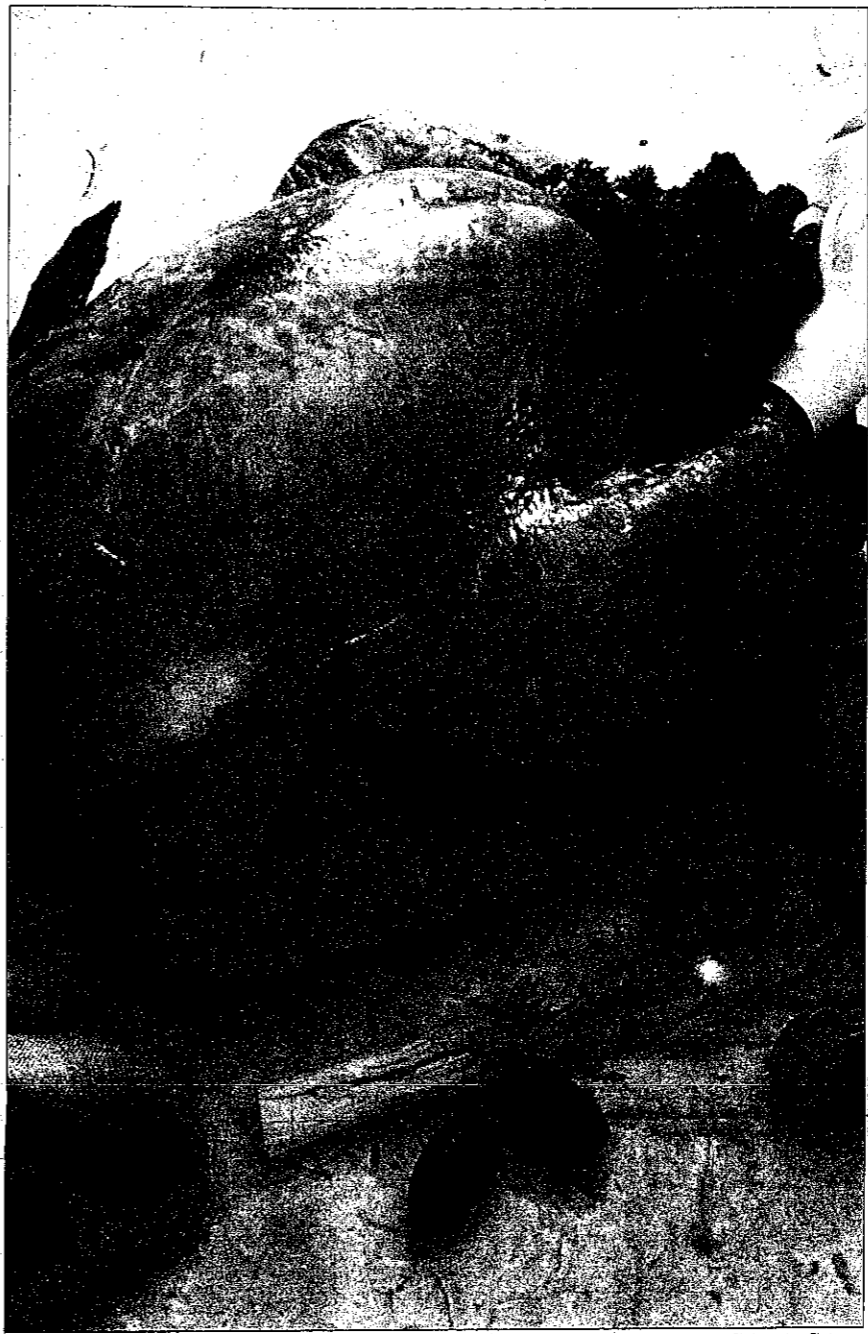


Photo courtesy Photo.com

Turkey time

A sure-fire recipe on how to prepare and roast your Thanksgiving turkey

ALTON BROWN'S ROAST TURKEY (Serves 10-12)

SOFTWARE:
For the brine:
1-1/2 cups kosher salt
1/2 cup dark brown sugar
1 gallon water
1 6-ounce container of frozen orange juice concentrate
1 16-18-pound turkey
Canola oil

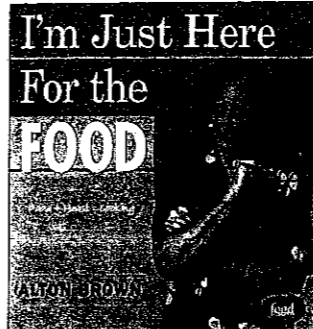
HARDWARE:
1 large pot
1 large cooler with lid
Paper towels
Roasting rack
2 disposable aluminum roasting pans
Heavy-duty aluminum foil
Probe thermometer

To brine the turkey: dissolve the salt, sugar and juice concentration in 1 quart of hot water. Cool the solution with 3 quarts of cold water. Remove the giblets (and any other foreign matter) from the turkey interior and place in the cooler. Pour in the brine mixture to cover. If the bird is not completely submerged, add more liquid. (Since I don't want to weaken the solution, I use canned broth.)

Cover with ice, close the lid and soak the turkey for 6-8 hours. (Exact soak times will vary per your taste. Start with 6 hours and make changes to subsequent birds.)

When the bird has one half-hour left to soak, move the oven rack to the lowest level and pre-heat the oven to 500 degrees.

Remove the turkey from the brine and pat dry with paper towels. Rub the turkey liberally with



canola oil. (Be sure to get all the nooks and crannies around the wings.) Discard the brine and thoroughly wash the cooler.

Place the turkey on a roasting rack inside two disposable aluminum roasting pans.

Roast at 500 degrees for a half-hour. Remove the bird from the oven and reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees.

Cover the turkey breast with a double layer of heavy-duty aluminum foil folded into a triangle. Insert a probe thermometer into the thickest part of the breast (push it right through the foil) and set the thermometer to 161 degrees. At 14- to 16-pound bird should arrive at the target temperature in 2 to 2-1/2 hours.

Remove the turkey from the oven, cover the bird and the pan loosely with aluminum foil and allow to rest for 15 minutes before carving.

(Recipe from "I'm Just Here for the Food," by Alton Brown, Stewart, Tabors & Chang, \$32.50)

"Why start with a higher temperature? Poultry skin turns brown because it sautes in the thin layer of fat beneath it. If you start the bird at a low temperature, a lot of this fat will simply melt and run away. Starting with high heat gives you a deep brown bird, while the lower finish delivers moist, evenly cooked meat."

Alton Brown
Author

FOOD NETWORK THANKSGIVING SIDE DISH RECIPES



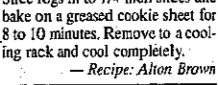
GINGER COOKIES

Makes approximately 3 dozen
2-inch cookies
2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup butter
1 cup brown sugar
1 egg, beaten
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1/4 cup crystallized ginger, small dice
1 tablespoon molasses
Stir together flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt and set aside. In a large bowl, cream butter with an electric mixer, add sugar and continue beating until combined. Add egg, both gingers and molasses and beat to combine. Gradually mix in flour, stopping to scrape down the sides of the bowl. Be careful not to overmix.

Roll into two 2-inch round logs, wrap in waxed paper, and refrigerate overnight.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Slice logs in to 1/4-inch slices and bake on a grassed cookie sheet for 8 to 10 minutes. Remove to a cooling rack and cool completely.

— Recipe: Alton Brown

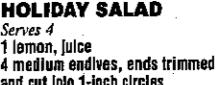


TARRAGON OIL

Makes about 1/2 cup
1/4 cup tarragon leaves
1/4 cup olive oil

Place a 1-gallon saucepan filled with water over a medium-high heat and bring to a boil. Blanch the tarragon leaves in the boiling water for 5 to 10 seconds. Remove from the water and place in a bowl of ice water to shock. Pat the tarragon leaves dry with paper towels and place in a blender. Pour the oil over the tarragon leaves and puree on low speed for 30 seconds. Place the tarragon oil in a non-reactive container. The oil will keep for weeks refrigerated in an airtight container.

— Recipe: Emeril Lagasse



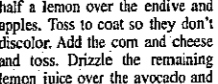
HOLIDAY SALAD

Serves 4
2 lemons, juiced
4 medium endives, ends trimmed and cut into 1-inch circles
1 medium green apple, cored and cut into 1-inch cubes
1/2 ear corn, cooked and kernels removed or 2/3 cup frozen corn kernels, defrosted
1/4 pound Gruyere cheese, diced into 1-inch cubes
1/2 avocado, diced into 1-inch cubes
1 small pomegranate, optional

Dressing:
2 lemons, juiced
1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 teaspoon sea salt
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

In a large bowl, squeeze juice of half a lemon over the endive and apples. Toss to coat so they don't discolor. Add the corn and cheese and toss. Drizzle the remaining lemon juice over the avocado and add to the salad. Cut the pomegranate in half and with a wooden spoon lightly beat the back of it so the seeds come out. Sprinkle the seeds over the salad.

— Recipe: Glada De Laurentis



PARTY CRUDITE PLATTER

Kosher salt
1/4 pound green or wax beans, trimmed
1 to 2 stalks broccoli, cut into florets
1/2 head cauliflower, cut into florets
1/4 pound fresh sugar snap or snow peas
1 small fennel bulb, trimmed, sliced into wedges
1 red bell pepper, trimmed, seeded, and cut into strips
1 yellow bell pepper, trimmed, seeded, and cut strips
1 bunch radishes with greens (about 10)
2 medium carrots, cut into sticks or about 8 baby carrots
1 medium cucumber, peeled if warded, cut into spears
1 cup cherry or grape tomatoes

Prepared dip
If using beans, broccoli and cauliflower, bring a large pot of water to a boil and salt it generously. Fill a large bowl with ice water and salt that, too. Drop the beans into the boiling water and cook, uncovered, until crisp-tender, about 2 minutes. Scoop them out of the water and immediately plunge the beans into the ice water to stop the cooking and set the color. Cool, remove them from the ice bath, and pat dry. Repeat with the broccoli and/or cauliflower.

Attractively arrange all the vegetables on a large serving platter and serve with a dip of your choice.

— Recipe: Food Network Kitchens



ROASTED PARSNIP SOUP WITH TARRAGON OIL

(Yields 4 servings, about 1-1/2 quarts)

1 pound parsnips, peeled and roughly chopped
3 tablespoons olive oil
3/4 teaspoons salt
1/4 teaspoon fresh cracked white pepper
1/4 cup diced ham
1 cup small diced onion
1/2 cup small diced carrots
1/2 cup small diced celery
1/2 cup small diced leeks
2 tablespoons minced shallots
1 tablespoon minced garlic
2 teaspoons white vinegar
1-1/2 quarts chicken stock
2 teaspoons honey
1 teaspoon fresh chopped thyme leaves
1/2 cup heavy cream

Divorce planners facilitate an easy split, aiding with tough financial aspects

By Jane Roberts
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

If divorce is the real storm in your life these days, take comfort that it at least allows you to plan.

People contemplating divorce should be aware of not only what they have but what it costs to live before they get further into the process, divorce planners say.

"What I've found is that nobody has a clue what it will take," said Patty Stringer, president of Stringer Services Co. in Memphis and a certified divorce planner since 1994.

If half of first-time marriages fail, the statistics are even worse for second marriages, said Steve Silver, a certified financial and divorce planner at Wealth

Strategies Group in Cordova, Tenn. Three years ago, he started helping clients through divorce. Today, they are 25 percent of his work.

"I feel like I can save them a lot of money by going through the process with them from beginning to end," Silver said.

"In a perfect world, I would sit down with both sides and help them equitably divide their assets," he said.

In the real world, Silver and Stringer help women who often have not been involved in the financial dealings in their homes and feel their futures are out of control.

Using tax returns, checkbooks and other household data, they draw a map of their clients' futures. Stringer looks at how each side will be doing in terms of cash flow and net worth

15 years down the road. While "83 percent of people don't have a clue what it costs them to live," Stringer said, they can understand a line on a graph going steadily down.

"Quite often, it's not anything like they thought it would be," she said. "It's tough, emotionally draining work."

For instance, if a client insists that she get the house, Stringer may have to show her that she can't afford to maintain it, which means she doesn't win in the end.

While most of her clients work, none of them earns the money their soon-to-be ex-husbands do, she said.

"If you are living comfortably with the income you have, you assume it will continue. The whole purpose of what I do is to show you that it is not going to continue," she said.

The process usually requires two meetings, Stringer said. The first consultation is \$250. She charges an hourly rate for the second visit.

Silver works on a retainer fee. Both suggest long-term proposals so their clients do not leave thinking they'll go back to court to get more money.

"It costs lots of money to go back to court," Stringer said, "and it's also traumatic."

Certified divorce planners must pass a written exam and maintain accreditation through continuing education courses. Silver often gets referrals from divorce lawyers, he said, because "they know it's in their best interest to have somebody who can go through the other side's proposal and make heads and tails of it."

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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Thursday, November 13, 2003

NFIB UPDATE

Mom and pop go global

Some legends will never fade away. Others just get better with age. The image of small-business owners as "Mom and Pop" operations, although outdated, continues to play an important role in American culture, for it serves to remind today's entrepreneurs just how far they've come as an integral segment of the nation's economy.

That doesn't mean Mom and Pop have vanished from the landscape. To the contrary, many enterprises depend on the brains, skill and willpower of key family members to succeed in a fast-paced marketplace. But those who own and operate the more than 24 million small U.S. firms that keep our economic engines spinning are today more technologically wired, more financially savvy business people than previous generations.

And no longer are they tethered to those quaint Main Street storefronts. They're going global in ever-increasing numbers.

According to the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Advocacy, small firms made up nearly 90 percent of all exporters and produced one-fifth of the known export value in 2001.

Such key facts haven't gone unnoticed by the White House. My recent appointment to the President's Export Council was an unmistakable sign that President Bush is serious in his efforts to get the small-business community more involved in international trade. And, SBA and the Commerce Department have launched major initiatives to aid small firms that want to explore doing business in other countries.

But before they start packing, the Moms and Pops with visions of international deals dancing in their heads should do some serious investigation. Foreign trade isn't for everyone. It can be very rewarding, but even the most savvy business person should approach with caution.

Many innovations, such as international credit cards make it easier to do business and ensure payment from customers overseas. But larger and more complex issues are looming in major foreign markets.

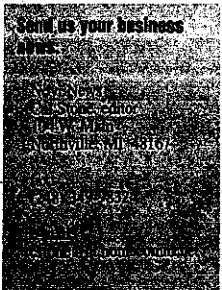
Take China, for example. Hardly a day goes by without news of another well-recognized U.S. brand entering the Chinese market. So when small-business owners envision a population of 1.3 billion people, they tend to see at least 1 billion of them as customers. But these ever-optimistic entrepreneurs should be aware of the obstacles that must be cleared before any business can open its doors.

Even though China was admitted to the World Trade Organization and agreed to implement many marketplace reforms, the country still artificially pegs its currency to the U.S. dollar, putting American producers at a considerable competitive disadvantage. What's more, the Asian nation maintains other barriers such as quarantines that slow U.S. agricultural exports, discriminatory tax policies that unfairly benefit Chinese producers and regulations that add costs and consume resources.

What export-eager small-business owners must realize is that while globalization is making the world smaller and easing the path for them to participate, challenges abound in countries that zealously protect their markets while seeking to exploit ours.

Mom and Pop can go global, but they must have fair and open markets to succeed.

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.



ADVERTORIAL



Photo by Hal Gould

Custom designers at Rotterdam Jewelers are (from left) George Teufel, Hilary Newton, Piero Pizzali and Randy Steele. The custom-designed and manufactured jewelry includes yellow sapphire rings, a tanzanite pendant, a green tourmaline and diamond bracelet and a tsavorite platinum and onyx pendant.

Rotterdam's the place for custom-designed jewelry

With the snow beginning to fly, one knows the holiday season must be coming soon. Of course, that means the giving of special gifts. And what could be more special than a custom-designed piece of jewelry?

Dean and Cindi Rotterdam of Rotterdam Custom Jewelers in downtown Milford and Brighton are proud of the fact that their staff includes designers who can produce just about anything a customer would like.

Dean has an affinity for custom work and encourages his staff to use their creative minds. "As a kid I always wanted to be an architect because I liked to create," Dean explained. "When college was not an option for me, I went into the jewelry business because of the creativity involved."

"Custom-designed jewelry is unique and special because the client receives so much out of it. It is not just a piece of jewelry. It is a piece of art because he or she is more attached to it. They have their heart and soul in it as well as yours because you, as a designer, helped them obtain what they wanted," he added.

Dean noted that it is about a three-week process from meeting with a client to presenting them with a completed piece of jewelry.

George Teufel, designer/manufacturer for 12 years with Rotterdam Jewelers, has been in the jewelry business for 26 years. George attributes his love of designing to his mother who was an artist and an art teacher. He enjoyed his jewelry classes in high school and went on to serve an apprenticeship. "I learned on the bench," George explained of his training.

Creating one-of-a-kind pieces from start to finish is George's favorite line of work. "I like bracelets, pendants, rings and earrings. I enjoy every jewelry art form."

When he meets with clients, George creates original hand drawn sketches of what he or she wants. "That brings out the artist in me," he laughs.

The most challenging part of the job is when he is asked to do the "almost impossible."

"Tearing apart three old rings and creating a new piece to make it look like they belong together is really difficult sometimes," he noted. "On the other hand, the most satisfying part of my job is that I love working from start to finish... creating from my mind onto paper and taking an idea and turning into a reality," George said.

Randy Steele, who has been in the jewelry business for 27

years, is a Graduate Gemologist, having earned the highest certification one can receive from the Gemological Institute of America.

He enjoys the challenge of doing custom work because they are different every time. "Nothing is the same and every piece is different and requires creativity. Sometimes I need to mix in everything I know," Randy said.

Randy enjoys hand engraving and pavé, an old fashioned process which has gained new popularity. "It means paved in diamonds," he explained.

When asked what stones are his favorites, Randy noted that they all have their special quality. "Diamonds are popular, but working with emeralds, for instance, is more of a challenge because they are not as hard."

He, too, enjoys working with clients and doing drawings. "If the client doesn't know what he or she wants, I do sketches. Then I do a wax carving. When the client is satisfied with the wax model, I order the stones, cast it and set the stones, all the while keeping the client's expectations in mind," Randy added.

Hilary Newton is the newest member of the Rotterdam designer staff. "I learned everything I know from my dad, Niles

Newton," she explained of her growing up in the jewelry business.

In addition to designing, Hilary is taking classes from the Gemological Institute of America where she is halfway through the Graduate Gemologist certification.

"I like creating unusual pieces that are one-of-a-kind. I enjoy working with customers and collaborating my ideas with theirs and coming up with something that they will like for a long, long time," Hilary said. "I do it all!"

Utilizing such computer programs as Digital Goldsmith and The Matrix, Hilary creates jewelry on Gem Vision, a computer design system owned by Rottermonds. It gives clients two and three-dimensional views of how their piece will appear when finished.

Piero Pizzali, a Master Jeweler from Peru, has been in the United States for six years. Piero has previously worked in California for five years before coming to Milford to work for Rottermonds this year. In Peru he had had own jewelry shop but chose to come to the U.S. seeking a better life for him and his family.

"I like to see the faces of customers when they see my finished pieces. Their happy

DETAILS

Rotterdam Jewelers is located at 369 N. Main St. in downtown Milford. The store is open Mondays through Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (248) 1150 or e-mail dean@rotterdam.com.

expressions tell me that I am doing a good job," Piero said.

With the holiday season fast approaching, visiting Rotterdam Jewelers is the right place to find that special something for that special person, according to Dean.

"We have been in Milford for 20 years, and we were voted the "Best Jeweler in Milford" for 2003, along with receiving awards from the Michigan Jewelers Association for "Best Designer in 2000 and 2003," Dean noted.

"It is a good feeling when we see our clients coming back and still proud of something we designed and made especially for them years ago," he concluded.

"Custom-designed jewelry is unique and special because the client receives so much out of it. It is not just a piece of jewelry. It is a piece of art because he or she is more attached to it. They have their heart and soul in it as well as yours because you, as a designer, helped them obtain what they wanted."

Dean Rotterdam
Owner

EXCEPTIONAL JEWELRY
by Award Winning Designers
is our **Distinction**

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