



Happy Thanksgiving

INSIDE

Post Bar taking action

Even before a Westland man was found outside The Post Bar with a blood alcohol content of .362 last month, the popular nightspot's management was taking steps to cut the number of police calls the establishment has been generating.

— Page 4A

For your health

Most of us have become more health-conscious these days. But nutrition can be confusing. That's where the owners of Healthy Jones, a new health food store at Novi Town Center, can help.

— Page 5A

What to buy

This year's Gift Guide is packed with gift ideas, decorating tips, holiday fashions and more.

— SPECIAL SECTION

11-27-03



INDEX

- Business 5A
- Calendar of Events 18A
- Classifieds 1D
- Engagement 15A
- Obituaries 15A
- Opinion / Letters 16 / 17A
- Police Report 4A
- Regional Marketplace 6B
- Schools 9A
- Screen Beat 19A
- Sports 1B

CONTACT US

Novi News
104 W. Main
Northville, MI 48167

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



03049
NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY
45245 H 10 MILE RD
NOVI, MI 48375-3014
48375-3014

A MATTER OF INCHES

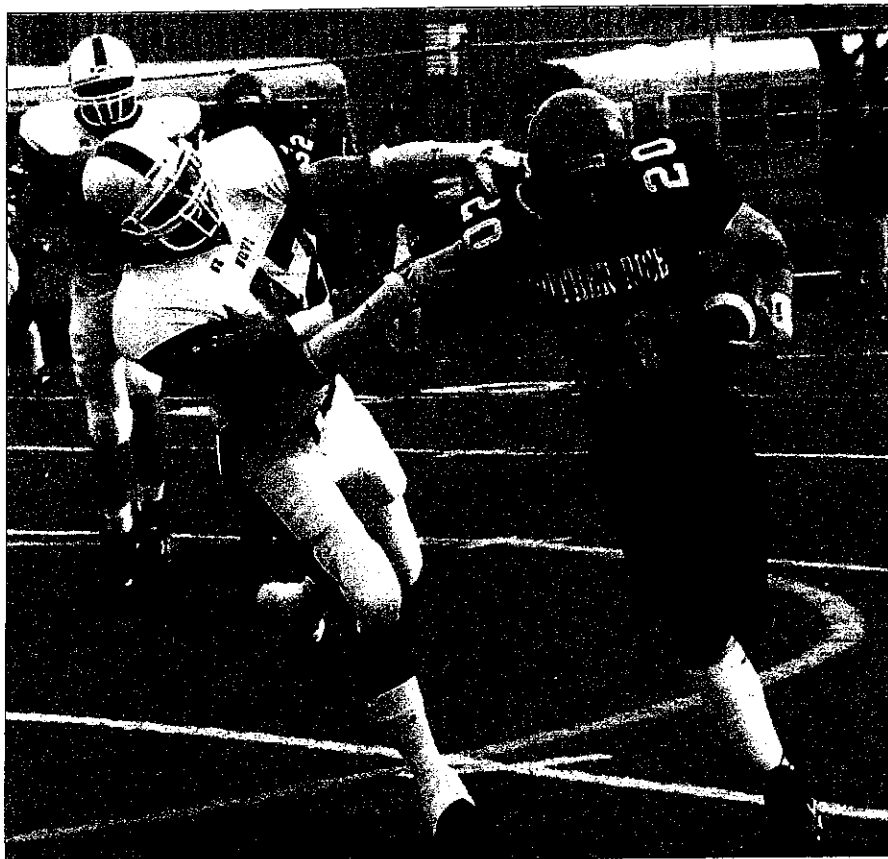


Photo by Sam Eggleston

Novi's Robbie Carter (47) tries to hold on to a Brother Rice running back in the semi-final game held Saturday at Berkley High School as Trent Sisson (68, background) watches the defensive play unfold. Novi, which was undefeated entering the contest, fell to the Warriors 31-28 in overtime after a fourth-and-one situation found the Wildcats being stopped in their goal to reach the MHSAA state football finals.

Novi's season ends in overtime to Brother Rice

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Six inches is such a small span of space that you would never really expect it to make much of a difference — yet it does, and it did.

The Novi Wildcats football team fell six inches short of their goal to go to the Silverdome. One half of a foot and they would have made it to the state finals.

But, really, who cares? Does six inches take away from everything that was accomplished this year? No, it doesn't. These boys were undefeated in the regular season, kept the Baseline Jug in Novi, won the Kensington Valley Conference outright, were District champions, Regional title winners and semi-finalists in Division II. They were the first team in school history to ever have a 12-win year.

Out of the 32 teams that started the playoff journey earlier this post-season, Novi is one of the top four. Of the teams that never started the journey, Novi is the elite of 621 high schools. That's an

accomplishment in itself.

Novi gave every fan who attended their games a football match-up to be remembered. They avenged a loss from last year against Chelsea, topped Lakeland for the 20th-straight year, beat Milford yet again, and escaped South Lyon, Adrian, Brighton and Mackenzie in hard-fought contests. Five bucks is all it cost you to get in and they were better than any professional game most of us have seen all year.

Novi gave us the right to cheer, the right to be proud of the green-and-white and the right to say we're fans of one of the greatest teams in Michigan and happy to be Wildcat supporters. We gave them throngs of fans, deafening cheers at times and applause that would make the biggest superstars blush.

The Novi Wildcats were more than a football team this year — they were symbols of determina-

tion, dedication, desire and, most of all, heart. They never quit on us. Their chins never dropped. They became everything that all of us wish we could be — they were great.

With a single loss, we saw their world crumble around them. Yet, we knew better. It wasn't the end

Be sure to see our tribute to the Wildcats football team in next week's edition of the Novi News.

of a journey for the Wildcats, but a beginning of the trek for younger football players who watched in awe from the stands. Novi football has arrived, and there shouldn't be a doubt about that.

This year, the Wildcats showed us that it's great to be champions, but it's just fine to be what each and every one of us already are — human. All of us stumble now and again, but we pick ourselves up and brush the dirt off and continue down the path of life. I have no doubt Novi football is going to do the same thing, and they'll be back in the running again in the coming years.

Losses come and losses go, but so do wins. Soon, they're just faded memories in the back of your mind or fading in the newspaper archives — but there'll always be Novi football. Every fall, we'll come back and cheer these 'Cats on, knowing full well that it's just great to be undefeated and champs, but that there's no shame in losing in style.

The team of 2003 taught us a lot. They taught us the joy of winning, the excitement of last-second victories and the agony of last-second losses. Most importantly, they taught us that six inches is indeed insignificant — it would take more inches than this universe has to offer to overshadow what these Wildcats have been able to accomplish.

To every player and coach with the Wildcat football program — thanks for everything.

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

A bridge too low

■ City must provide more headroom in culvert
By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

How much difference can 12 inches make? For Novi's engineering office, one foot could mean thousands of dollars in change orders to a road project on South Lake Boulevard.

Novi City Engineer Nancy McClain obtained a permit in June from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to replace the Shawwood Canal culvert as part of the South Lake Boulevard repaving project.

The canal provides seasonal

See Phil Foley's column on 'the meeting' on page 16A.

access for canoes, kayaks and small rowboats between Walled Lake and Shawwood Lake, according to Asa Smith, president Lake Area Homeowners Association. "All we want is what we had," said Smith.

The problem, said Smith, is that the new concrete box culvert connecting the two lakes has a foot less headroom than the corrugated steel culvert it replaced.

Freshman City Council Member

continued on page 3

Ready to ring in the holidays?

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

Santa Claus is coming to town and Novi's Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry is promising this year's Ringing in the Holidays will be bigger and better than ever.

The city's annual holiday celebration will run from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4 on Main and Market streets. Last year's event drew more than 2,000 people, despite temperatures that hovered in the 20s.

Tracie Ringle, the department's event and marketing coordinator, said this year organizers are expecting better weather and bigger crowds. "This event has become a tradition for many community members, family and friends," she said.

This year's event kicks off with 11 local restaurants, including Mesquite Creek, Lazy Lizard Cantina, Jimmy John's, Red

continued on page 3

Markham elected to take Nagy's top spot on Planning Commission

■ Kocan earns vice chair nod; Avdoulos gets secretary seat

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

New officers were elected to the Novi Planning Commission at the Nov. 19 meeting.

Gwen Markham is the new chair; Lynn Kocan will serve as the new vice chair; and John Avdoulos was selected at the new secretary.

Markham actually took office at the Nov. 5 meeting following former chair Toni Nagy's election to the Novi City Council Nov. 4.

A native of Pontiac, Markham moved to Novi from Elm Grove, Wis., and has been a resident of

the city for nine years.

She graduated with a degree in chemistry from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo and worked as a manufacturing engineer manager in the automotive and aerospace industries most of her life.

Markham is currently working as a full-time mother, caring for her and husband Bruce's sons, Matt, 15, and Tim, 11. She works as a volunteer with the music department at Hillside Middle School in Northville and is also active with Boy Scout Troop 54 in Novi.

"My goal on the Planning Commission is to continue to promote excellent growth in Novi.



G. Markham

We want high quality developments that benefit all," she said.

Markham previously served on the Planning Commission from 1996 through 1997 and had an unsuccessful bid for a city council seat in 1997.

She was reappointed to the Planning Commission in 2001. Her term ends in June 2004, at which time she could be reappointed by the mayor.

Markham said in the last year most of her time on the commission has been devoted to updating the city's master plan, which must be revised every five years by state statute. The plan is scheduled to be completed by June



L. Kocan

2004.

A native of Detroit,

Kocan has lived in Novi for 16 years. She received a degree in management from Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti and works as a financial administrator for a substance abuse prevention firm in Plymouth.

Kocan has been a member of the Planning Commission for two and a half years and was a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for six months before being appointed to the commission.

Kocan and husband, Richard, have two children — Kimberly, who graduated from Michigan State University last summer, and



J. Avdoulos

Neil, a junior at Novi High School. In her spare time, she's involved with school sports organizations.

As the new vice chair, Kocan said, "My goal as a member of the Planning Commission has always been ordinance enforcement and equal enforcement across the board. I am also concerned about developments which impact the quality of life of the residents of Novi."

Avdoulos is a native of Windsor, Ontario, and has lived in Novi about 11 years. He graduated from Lawrence Technological University with a degree in architecture and is a registered architect in Michigan. Married with two children, Avdoulos has been a member of the Planning Commission since summer 2002.

He is a member of the

continued on page 3

La Fontaine Pontiac Cadillac GMC
M-59 • Highland • 1-866-922-1111
OPEN SATURDAY Nov. 28th 10am-3pm

Waldecker
PUBLIC NOTICE
 This Holiday Weekend Fri & Sat.
 We will be open to EXTEND
 these prices - thru Monday!
 Hurry! This Offer Ends Dec. 1st!

Waldecker & GMAC Financing
LOWEST LEASE PRICES
 IN MORE THAN 20 YEARS

Brand New '03
PONTIAC MONTANA
 stock # 30778
SAVE \$9,750
BLOWOUT GMS PRICE \$15,998*

'04 PONTIAC VIBE
 24 mo. GMAC Lease
\$179⁵⁰** mo.
 GMAC Price...\$14,505*

'04 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX
 24 mo. GMAC Lease
\$149⁷¹** mo.
 GMAC Price...\$16,327*

'04 BUICK RENDEZVOUS
 24 Month Lease
\$153⁷** mo.
 GMS Price...\$19,436**



'04 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE
 24 MONTHS GMAC LEASE
 12,000 MILES/YR.
\$85³⁴** mo.
LOWEST LEASE PRICES IN 20 YEARS!!
 Based on GMS Price... \$11,891⁴⁵

Includes GM Down Payment Assistance Program
 Stop In and Pick Up the BIG SCREEN TV
 GM Lease Pull Ahead Program
 GM EMPLOYEES
 GM MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM
 OFF GMS PRICES

'04 BUICK RANIER
 24 mo. GMAC Lease
\$231⁸¹** mo.
 GMS Price...\$29,473**

'04 BUICK LeSABRE
 36 mo. GMAC Lease
\$248⁶⁰** mo.
 GMS Price...\$19,034**

*Includes \$1000 GM Matching Funds Program with \$2000 cash or trade equity down.

PONTIAC
 FUEL FOR THE SOUL
 7885 Grand River - Brighton
 West of I-96 Exit 145

Waldecker
 PONTIAC BUICK
 IN BRIGHTON

BUICK
 THE SPIRIT OF AMERICAN STYLE
 OPEN MON. & THURS.
 8:30 AM TO 9 PM
 TUES., WED., FRI.
 8:30 TO 6
 SAT. 10 TO 4
 (810) 227-1761
 (Toll Free) 1-800-293-1744

Visit us www.waldeckerautomotive.com SEE OUR CERTIFIED USED-CAR INVENTORY!

Waldecker
 CHEVROLET • OLDSMOBILE
NEVER BEFORE OFFERED...!
NEW 2004 CHEVY MALIBU
\$199^{mo.}** 36 MONTH/12,000 MILES YEAR GMAC LEASE**
 INCLUDING TAX
\$2000 Due At Signing
No Additional Start Up Costs
No Additional Taxes

'04 OLDS ALERO \$42 ⁰⁰ wk. GMS Price...\$17,534	'04 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER \$233 ⁰⁰ mo. GMS Price...\$26,167	'04 OLDS SILHOUETTE \$269 ⁰⁰ mo. GMS Price...\$25,920
'04 CHEVY CAVALIER \$199 ^{mo.} ** 36 MO./12,000 MILES YEAR GMAC LEASE *2000 DOWN NO ADDITIONAL COSTS Based on GMS Price...\$14,975	'04 CHEVY IMPALA \$199 ^{mo.} ** 36 MO./12,000 MILES YEAR GMAC LEASE *2000 DOWN NO ADDITIONAL COSTS Based on GMS Price...\$20,364	'04 CHEVY BLAZER \$199 ^{mo.} ** 36 MO./12,000 MILES YEAR GMAC LEASE *2000 DOWN NO ADDITIONAL COSTS Based on GMS Price...\$21,715

'03 CHEVY BLAZER
 GMS Price...\$18,742
 Cash Down \$2,000
 GM Matching Payment Price -\$1,000
 Rebate -\$4,000
Only \$11,742

Waldecker
 CHEVROLET • OLDSMOBILE
 Oldsmobile
 GET IT ALL OLDSMOBILE

NEW CAR LOT
 800 S. GRAND FOWLERVILLE
 AT 963201 125
 (517) 223-9142
 OPEN MON. & THURS.
 8:30 AM TO 9 PM
 TUES., WED., FRI. 8:30 TO 6
 SAT. 10 TO 4

*Plus taxes, title, plates. All rebates and discounts included. Includes GM Matching Funds Program. GMS employee purchase program pricing out of stock. Based on approved credit. **GMAC lease payments are based on GMS pricing for 24 months and 12,000 miles per year except where indicated. All other rebates assigned to dealer. These costs may vary based on your lease loyalty eligibility. License plate fees, applicable title fee, state tax and amount of first lease payment may also affect start-up costs. All prices expire 12/1/03, except where indicated. ***Lease is responsible for excess mileage or wear and tear costs.

A bridge too low

continued from front page
 Freshman City Council Member Lynne Paul raised concerns about the new culvert at the Nov. 10 city council meeting, suggesting that not only is there too little headroom in the culvert, but that the roadway over the culvert is too narrow as well.
 On Nov. 15, Smith invited Mayor Lou Cosard, along with Novi City Council Members Kim Capello, Bob Gatt and David Landry, to take a look at the culvert and other LAHA concerns in the area, sparking Mark Robbins to complain the city council members had held an illegal meeting.
 Smith also complained to Todd Lose, the district representative for MDEQ's Geological and Land Division, who issued the original permit.
 After inspecting the culvert Friday, Lose said, "they need to lift it a foot."
 On page one of the permit Lose signed June 18, he noted, "The modification of the Shawmut Canal culvert is not being authorized by this permit."
 Ten days later he wrote on drawings for the project a change in this culvert is allowed by this permit.
 The concrete box culvert connecting Walled Lake with Shawmut Lake is 4-by-11 feet. The original elliptical corrugated metal culvert was 5-by-10 feet. In a Nov. 12 memo to Novi Assistant City Manager Clay Pearson, McClain noted that one of the concerns in redesigning South Lake Boulevard was eliminating the bump on the east end of the culvert which was creating impacts to adjacent properties. According to McClain, adding an additional foot of height inside the culvert would create steeper driveways and faster storm water run-off into those driveways.
 Lose said he would be sending a letter to the city reminding it that the permit for the culvert replacement required the city to maintain the same navigation access between the two lakes that residents had before the road reconstruction.
 According to McClain, if MDEQ tries to force her office to replace the culvert, "there's gonna be a fight." She said the 50-foot-long box culvert cost the city \$40,000 to install and would cost at least as much to replace.
 "I have his plans approving the culvert," said McClain, adding the changes to the project to accommodate MDEQ have already added \$10,000 to the final price tag.
 In setting the specifications for the culvert, McClain said she had three competing interests: traffic through the culvert, public safety and impacts on adjoining properties. In the end, she said, small boat traffic lost out.
 She noted that the original steel culvert had a five-ton weight limit and current city ordinances require her office to design any water crossings to support at least a 16-ton load.
 McClain added the western approach to the original culvert created a ramp that teenagers found irresistible.
 McClain said the city installed a box culvert because a gas line runs under the canal at that point and Consumers Energy was concerned that water flow through the canal might uncover it.
 Earlier this week, said McClain, the contractor was slated to lift six of the culverts eight sections to correct surveying errors, but she added she didn't think that would improve canoe access.
 Phil Foley is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 108 or by e-mail at foley@ht.homecomm.net.

Markham elected to take Nagy's top spot on Novi Planning Commission

continued from front page
 American Institute of Architects, serves as a volunteer at his church and community soccer team and enjoys golf, biking and home building projects.
 "I want to help Novi realize the potential that it has and help the master plan come to some kind of fruition," he said.
 Mayor Lou Cosard must appoint three new members to the Planning Commission since Nagy and Lynne Paul were recently elected to the city council and commissioner Larry Papp recently resigned. Papp's last meeting as a member of the commission will be Dec. 10.
 Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.

Light 'em up Dec. 6-7

By Phil Foley
 STAFF WRITER
 This year's Novi Homeowners Council Holiday Decorating Contest promises to be bigger than ever before, and all you have to do to enter is decorate your home and make sure the lights are on Dec. 6 and 7.
 According to council president Ron Boron, it's all about timing. In past years, the presidents of the homeowners associations that make up the council would nominate a home from their neighborhoods and then a group of council members would select the two best decorated homes in the city.
 This year, with Thanksgiving falling so late in the month and the sole city council meeting for December being shifted to the 16th to accommodate the mayor's work schedule, council members have decided to take the first weekend in December to honor the city looking for the best holiday decorations.
 Boron said he expects his group will look at somewhere around 500 homes during the two evenings. He said another format change this year is that the winners will be presented their gift certificates at the Dec. 16 city council meeting.
 While in past years the council has only judged the decorating efforts of residents of subdivisions that belong to the Novi Homeowners Council, this year the contest will be open to anyone living in Novi.
 Boron said the Holiday Decorating Contest is one of the biggest things his group does each year. The other is negotiating trash hauling bids for participating homeowners associations.
 Boron noted that the Willowbrook Subdivision and the area bounded by Novi, 11 Mile, Tift and Grand River have been among the most heavily decorated residential areas in the city in recent years.

Ring in the Holidays next Thursday

continued from front page
 Lobster, Starbuck's O'Toole's, Sunny's Café, Coffee Trader, Panera Bread Company, Gus O'Connor and McDonald's, offering samples or their specialties.
 While Main and Market may not be the longest of parade routes, Ringle said it will be one of the brightest. She said the Electric Light Parade, which starts at 6:45 p.m., has 20 entries and "it's never too late for more." She said anyone interested in adding an entry to the parade should call her at (248) 347-0400.
 The parade will include floats, marching bands and choirs. Santa will stop at the corner of Main and Market to light the city's 18-foot Christmas tree.
 After the parade children will be able to get their photo taken with Santa in the atrium of the Main Street Building. Parents will be able to do a little holiday shopping at the Novi Lions Club's arts and crafts boutique, which will feature everything from jewelry and clothing to holiday decorations and gourmet foods.
 Outside the building, complimentary horse-drawn carriage rides will be available.
 Along with getting their photo taken with Santa at the North Pole, children will be able to see a live reindeer and climb aboard Santa's Train Ride Express.
 Phil Foley is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 108 or at foley@ht.homecomm.net.

- Upcoming Novi city government meetings for December:**
- Dec. 2 City Council 7:30 p.m. Council Chambers
 - Dec. 2 Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 p.m. Council Chambers
 - Dec. 2 City Council Interviews 7:30 p.m. Council Chambers
 - Dec. 8 Planning Commission 7:30 p.m. Council Chambers
 - Dec. 10 Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission 7:30 p.m. Civic Center
 - Dec. 16 City Council 7:30 p.m. Council Chambers (Tuesday meeting)

DO YOU HAVE UNKNOWN CONTAMINANTS IN YOUR HOME?
 Don't subject you friends and family to a harmful environment!
Call 1-800-347-3231 now!
 Office hours: 365 days a year! 8am-6pm
 Radon Testing: \$75
 Carbon Monoxide Testing: \$65
 Termite Inspections: \$65
 Mold Testing: \$100
 Special Savings Offer: Any 3 - Package Deal \$150

Carlson Design Products
 Fresh Lighting Picked Del
 Brighton: (810) 227-9006 • (734) 913-0960
 www.carlsondesignproducts.com • carlsonprod@home.com
 Dan Osborn, Owner, Artist & Designer. Artificial Flowers, Holiday & Event Decor, Party Supplies, Wedding & Event Decor, Home & Office Decor, Lighting, Towel Warmers & Bath Accessories and so much more!

THE NOV 27 NEWS
 Published Each Thursday
 By The Novi News
 104 W. Main Street
 Northville, Michigan 48167
 Periodicals
 At Northville, Michigan

Subscription Rates:
 Inside Counties \$26 one year home delivery, \$35 one year mail delivery.
 Outside Counties (in Michigan) are \$40 per year, prepaid. Out of state, \$50 per year.

A Subsidiary of HomeTown Communications Network. Postmaster: send address changes for The Novi News, Post Office Box 470, Howell, MI 48844. POLICY STATEMENT: All advertising published in HomeTown Newspapers™ is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department, The Novi HomeTown Newspapers™ reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. HomeTown Newspapers™ advertisers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Postmaster: send address changes to: The Novi News, Post Office Box 470, Howell, MI 48844.
 Publication Number USPS 396290

PARTIAL DENTURE
FREE EXAM
 Acrylic for only **\$225***
 New Patient Only
 • Senior Citizens Discount Available
 • Emergencies Seen Same Day
 • 1 Hour Denture Repair Service
 • Same Day Denture Reline Service
 Call for an Appointment
248-478-1495
 Lakewood Dental • Dr. Ramsey Atoui, D.D.S.

Don't think of it as a change of lifestyle.
Just a change of address.

Your dignity and independence are never compromised at the Boisford Commons Community. Whatever living option is best for you, a condominium or rental apartment, when your address changes, your dignity follows. We encourage residents to continue with their lifelong goals and dreams. And if unexpected changes arise, the Boisford Commons campus is equipped with both an Assisted Living Center and a Skilled Nursing Facility to meet those needs. Come in for a visit and see how you can celebrate your same familiar lifestyle in a brand new location.

Boisford
 HEALTH CARE CONTINUUM

Boisford Commons Community
 21450 Archwood Circle • Farmington Hills, MI 48336 • 248-426-6903

BUSINESS BRIEFS

continued from page 5

Zack, has appeared at such establishments as the Blue Martin in Birmingham and plays Top 40 hits, dance music and leads karaoke on Thursday nights.

The restaurant has been at its new location for almost two years, Cvetkovic said.

"This area has been starving for entertainment for the over-30 crowd," he said.

Olé Olé is open seven days a week with views of Walled Lake available from every window. The kitchen, offering authentic Tex-Mex dishes, is open until 10 p.m. during the week and until 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Alcan wins technology award

Alcan, an aluminum company whose North American headquarters were recently moved to Novi, received an industry award this year for one of its technologies.

The restaurant is located on the southwest corner of Fourteen Mile Road and East Lake Drive in Novi. For more information, call (248) 668-9005.

formance and handling agility with excellent fuel economy ratings.

Alcan appoints new GM

Alcan's new North American headquarters are located at 46556 Magellan Drive in Novi in the Beck West Corporate Park.

Ewing will lead in the establishment of a new group to engineer and market lightweight structural subsystems and crash-management systems in North America. This will include construction and start-up of new manufacturing facilities in Saguenay, Quebec, and Novi to initially produce aluminum bumper beams.

Before joining Alcan, Ewing was director of sales for Lower Automotive, which also recently moved its headquarters from Grand Rapids to Novi.

Alcan wins technology award

The Novi Chamber of Commerce will have its Holiday Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 16 at the Hotel Baronette, 2790 Novi Road.

Susan Fitzmaurice of Novi was recently elected to the board of the Oakland-Macomb Center for Independent Living for a three-year term. The center is committed to assisting people with disabilities to achieve independence through participation, choice and self-determination.

Fitzmaurice elected to board

With more than 80,000 square feet, the store will be larger than a typical Gander Mountain and will be the first big-box Gander Mountain store in Michigan.

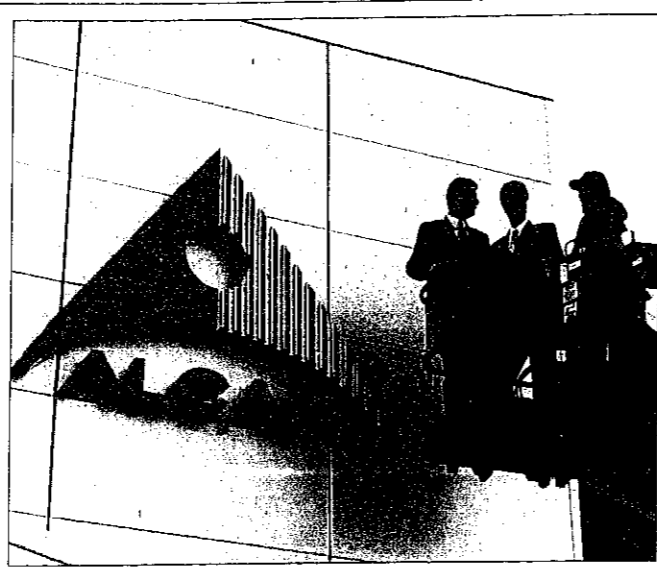


Photo by Pam Fleming

Rising to the occasion

Lou Csordas, center, mayor of Novi, and Dale Ewing, left, new general manager, Automotive Structures, North America, Alcan Automotive, unveiled the corporate logo Nov. 21 on the aluminum company's new building located at 46556 Magellan Drive in Novi. Alcan Automotive recently moved its North American headquarters to Novi. Sales and engineering staff have already moved into the building.

Bring in The Whole Family!
Come visit Plymouth Nursery's Christmas in the Country. Every Saturday and Sunday we offer FREE Pictures with Santa from 11am-5pm. Enjoy our petting farm while sipping hot cider and munching donuts. Don't miss a hayride, and warm up around our campfire. Santa arrives Thanksgiving weekend and visits Saturdays and Sundays thru December 14.

LIFE-LIKE TREES 25-60% OFF

9' PARADISE BLUE SPRUCE REG. \$349 6000-198 \$269	10' FRASER FIR PRE-LIT REG. \$649 6000-196 \$499
--	---

MICHIGAN CEDAR ROPING \$29.99 (50' Heavy REG. \$39.99)
FRESH CUT CHRISTMAS TREES

PLYMOUTH NURSERY
Christmas in the Country

9900 Ann Arbor Rd./Plymouth Rd.
7 Miles West of I-75
1 1/2 Miles South of M-14
Corner of Godfredson Rd.



Courtesy photo

The former Kmart building at West Oaks Shopping Center in Novi will be the site of a new large-format Gander Mountain store scheduled to open in March 2004. The retailer specializes in hunting, fishing and camping gear and will also sell all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) at the new store.

Gander Mountain brings big-box concept to state

By Pam Fleming

Outdoor recreation retailer Gander Mountain announced plans Nov. 12 to open a new, large-format store at West Oaks Shopping Center in Novi in March 2004.

The new Gander Mountain store will be located at 43825 West Oaks Drive in the building formerly occupied by Kmart, and will employ a sales staff of about 100.

With more than 80,000 square feet, the store will be larger than a typical Gander Mountain and will be the first big-box Gander Mountain store in Michigan.

"There was a need in Oakland County for another store and Novi's the perfect place with its great accessibility to the expressways and the fact that it's a growing area," said John Schilt, district manager for Michigan stores.

"We're also happy to take an existing building at the old Kmart. It's nice to not have to put a shovel in the ground. We're going to turn it into a very exciting place," he said.

Customers will be able to try out bows in the interactive store and archery leagues are planned.

The new store continues Gander Mountain's aggressive expansion in 2003-2004. The first big-box store opened in Geneva, Ill., just outside Chicago March 21. Since then, Gander Mountain has opened eight big-box retail establishments and entered the New York market with big-box stores in Buffalo and Rochester. The most recent big-box store opened in Wausau, Wis., Oct. 24.

Other Gander Mountain stores in Michigan are located in Swartz Creek, near Flint; Lansing; Saginaw; Kentwood, near Grand Rapids; Grandville; Marquette; Taylor; Waterford Township; Traverse City; Portage, near Kalamazoo; Fort Gratiot, near Port Huron; and Utica.

Schilt said that although Galyan's Sports and Outdoor Adventure store opened fairly recently at the nearby Fountain Walk shopping center, the company does-

n't see the store as a direct competitor.

"While Galyan's tries to market all sports, we specialize in hunting, fishing and camping," Schilt said.

"We don't market products for team sports, rollerblading or golf, for example," he said. "There's really room for both of us in the market because we're truly two different stores."

Bob Sturgis, a former field and steam buyer for Marshall Fields & Company in Chicago, founded the company in Wilmet, Wis., in 1960. He named the firm after Wisconsin's Gander Mountain, which was one of his favorite outdoor spots.

Gander Mountain plans to build more locations in Michigan in the future.

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

Gearing up for holiday mailing

Mail Boxes Etc. becomes subsidiary of mega-mailer

By Pam Fleming

"It's the season to think about mailing packages. And employees at The UPS Store at Twelve Mile and Novi Road in the West Oaks II shopping center in Novi are preparing for the holiday rush.

Shawn and Judi Cavanaugh, owners of the Novi store, which used to be Mail Boxes Etc., told members of the Novi Chamber of Commerce at a Nov. 18 luncheon that the store has a lot more to offer than just shipping.

Shawn Cavanaugh explained that the Mail Boxes Etc. was founded in 1980 in California. In April 2001, however, Mail Boxes Etc. was the world's largest franchisor of retail shipping, postal and business service, because a subsidiary of United Parcel Service, UPS is the world's largest express carrier and package delivery company.

The name change from Mail Boxes Etc. took place in April 2003. Now, The UPS Store franchise opportunity offers franchisees

and customers the best of both businesses.

With more than 4,500 locations in more than 40 countries, the network is now the global leader in the market.

The Cavaughns, who purchased the Novi store in July 1999, are pleased that the store is now associated with UPS. Shawn Cavanaugh's sister, Karen Drenjinski, and her husband, Dave, are also involved in the business.

"We're very excited about the change," Shawn Cavanaugh said. "UPS is the largest shipping and franchise company in the country. The company ranks 30th in the Fortune 500 and had \$39 billion in sales last year. Plus, the name recognition is second to none," he said.

There are now more than 100 UPS Stores in Michigan. Shawn Cavanaugh said that some confusion still exists with the name change, but that the public is beginning to understand.

"It's been a real challenge to get people to realize that we do the same things," he said.

The best aspect about the switch for consumers is the fact that the lower UPS shipping rate is now available at the former Mail Boxes Etc. stores. "Our shipping rates are down from 25 to 50 percent from what we charged before," Shawn Cavanaugh said.

He noted that business has already started picking up with the holiday season approaching. "We used to have about 18 customers a day. Now we're up to about 45 a day, and Christmas is right around the corner," he said.

The store provides UPS shipping for ground, overnight and international; and boxing and packaging of items, including fragile items, computers, big or bulky items and even furniture.

It also offers moving supplies, such as boxes, bubble wrap and tape; a mailbox rental service with a real street address; copy service in black and white, color and wide format; and a fax service for both incoming and outgoing documents.

Other services include laminating and binding; business cards, rubber stamps, letterhead and envelopes; a notary service, passport photos; office supplies; and U.S. Mail services.

Hours at The UPS Store at 43422 West Oaks Drive are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, call (248) 347-2850 or visit www.theups-store.com.

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

Dr. Mav Sanghvi

would like to Thank

all of the
Endorsers, Voters,
Contributors and
Committee Staff

For All of Their Support

Paid for by the Committee to elect Dr. Mav Sanghvi

WISH LIST YEAR-END EVENT

IF YOU'RE GOING TO WISH, WISH BIG.

2004 LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE SERIES
No car had ever achieved five stars in each of the government's five crash-testing categories, until this one.*

Which further proves that with Lincoln, luxury includes the comfort of knowing that you and your family's safety are always considered paramount. Travel Well.

RED CARPET LEASE FOR A/Z FORD EMPLOYEE, RETIREES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS.

0.9% OR UP TO \$6,500 APR FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS (INCLUDING \$500 AARP CASH)

\$429*** A MONTH/36 MONTHS (INCLUDING REFUNDABLE SECURITY DEPOSIT AND ACQUISITION FEE. EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES. APLAN *STARTING AT PRICE \$31,047 (AFTER \$6,500 CASH BACK, INCLUDING \$500 AARP CASH)†

\$1,499 CASH DUE AT SIGNING (AFTER \$6,500 CASH BACK, INCLUDING \$500 AARP CASH)**

NOW, SAVE EVEN MORE WITH AVAILABLE \$1,000 DOWN PAYMENT MATCH FOR FORD EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES.†

ANN ARBOR Seri 2100 W. Stadium Blvd. (734) 668-6100 seri.com	CLINTON TOWNSHIP Stu Evans Lakeside 17500 Hill Rd. at Rose Park (586) 840-2000 stuevans@clint.com	DEARBORN Jack Demmer 21531 Michigan Ave. between Southfield & Bingham (313) 274-9800 demmer.com	DETROIT Bob Maxey 16901 Mack Ave. (313) 885-4000 bobmaxey.com	DETROIT Park Motor 18100 Woodward Ave. Opposite Palmer Park (313) 869-5000 parkmotor.com	GARDEN CITY Stu Evans Garden City 32000 Ford Rd. Pan West of Macomb (734) 425-4300 stuevansgarden.com	NOVI Varsity 49251 Grand River at Westland Rd. (Exit 139) Two Lots West of 23rd Hill (248) 305-6300 varsity.com
PLYMOUTH Hines Park 40601 Ann Arbor Rd. at 395 (734) 453-2424 hinespark.com	ROCHESTER HILLS Crisman 1185 South Rochester Rd. between East and West (248) 652-4200 crisman.com	ROSELVILLE Bob Maxey 29020 Grand at 12 Mile Rd. (586) 552-6000 bobmaxey.com	SOUTHFIELD Star 24350 West 12 Mile Rd. (248) 354-4900 star.com	SOUTHGATE Southgate 16800 Fort Street at Southgate (734) 285-8800 southgateinlincoln.com	STERLING HEIGHTS Crest 36200 Van Dyke at 15 1/2 Mile Rd. (586) 939-6000 crest.com	TROY Bob Borst 1950 West Maple Troy Motor Mall (248) 543-6600 borst.com
						YPSILANTI Seri 950 East Michigan at 2 Mile West of I-25 (734) 482-7133 seri.com

*Based on 2003 NHTSA crash test results. <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/ncap> **Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit financing. Amount financed is \$17.05 per month, per \$1,000 financed regardless of down payment. \$500 AARP Bonus Cash offer for AARP members with proof of membership required. Limit one per member. This offer cannot be combined with any private offers. ***Call 1-888-56-LEASE for details. Not all buyers will qualify for Red Carpet Lease. Residency restrictions apply. †Starting at A-Plan price is less cash back and excludes tax, title and registration fees. †\$1,000 A/Z down payment match available for eligible A/Z-Plan customers who make a cash down payment of \$2,000. Lincoln Mercury will match any down payment at 50% for a maximum matching contribution of \$1,000. For all offers, take delivery from dealer stock by 12/1/03. Offers subject to change. See dealer for complete details.

BOUNTIFUL SAVINGS

LAST FIVE DAYS

We will be closed Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 27th...
Have a Happy Thanksgiving

40% All Harden, Thomasville, and Lexington

& Qualify for 6 Months Interest-Free Financing

CLASSIC INTERIORS FURNITURE

Visit Our In-Store Clearance Center

20292 Middlebelt, Livonia (South of 8 Mile)
Visit us at www.classicint.com
248-474-6900

Hours:
Mon., Thurs., Fri. 9:30-9
Tues., Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30
Sun. 1-5

- All discounts are off manufacturers suggested retail prices.
- All previous sales excluded.
- Offer not valid in conjunction with any other promotional discount.
- Because of Thomasville's minimum pricing we cannot offer 8% for cash on Thomasville case goods only.

The New Highland Lakes Plaza

Seven Mile Rd. Just East of Northville Rd.



Come See What Northville's So Excited About!

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Northville Family Foot Care | Generation Fitness | Canterbury Cleaners |
| Northville Family Dentistry | Cassel's Family Restaurant | Northstar Sales |
| Northville Family Medicine | Northville Vision Clinic | Trader Tom's Tobacco |
| Northville Pharmacy | Michelle's Country Hearth | World Custom Alterations |
| Subway Sandwich Shop | B&W Variety Store | Animal Glamour |
| AAA Insurance | Highland Lakes Laundromat | Libby's Hair Salon |
| Little Caesar's Pizza | Home to Home Consignments | Highland Lakes Auto Care |
| Consignment Clothier | "It Figures" Fitness Salon | and More |
| Northville Printing | Decorating by Dan | New Stores Coming! |
| Civic Concern | New Wing-Hing Restaurant | |



Home to Home Consignment Showroom
Save Up To 80% on Furniture & Home Accents
Gently Used - Premium Quality - Value Priced

Located in the Highland Lakes Plaza
West of I-275 on Seven Mile Rd. near Northville Rd.
Phone #248-348-3750

20% Off Any One Item*

*Off original price. With this coupon.

Valid thru 1-31-04. NN 11-26

20% Off Any One Item*

*Off original price. With this coupon.

Valid thru 1-31-04. NN 11-26

CLASS NOTES

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

Going back in time to learn about Anishnabe



Josh White Jr. and Rochelle Ballard bring "Story Living" to the school

By Ramez Khuri STAFF WRITER

Imagine traveling back to a time when the Anishnabe people inhabited the land now known as America, seeing how they lived, seeing their behavior and how they learned everything they needed to know from the animals around them.

That's exactly what students at Parkview Elementary School did when Josh White Jr. and Rochelle Ballard came visiting. The two artists came as part of an outreach program from the Detroit Historical Museum, and instead of teaching students about the Anishnabe the old fashioned way, they did it through a process

called "Story Living."
"This is not a show as much as it is a learning process that actually came from England, called Drama Process Teaching," White said. "It's a kinesthetic multiple intelligence way of learning so the whole body gets up and learns instead of sitting and talking about a time period and a person."

Besides White and Ballard, there are four other people from the outreach program who do story living and normally go in teams of one male and one female. All are either presenters of some kind or singers or actors, but none are teachers.

"This is something that we have learned to give back as artists," White said. "I have been doing this since story living started back in 1991."

White explained that the students went back in time and they "became" the people they're learning about through role playing.

"If you become the person you are learning about even for a little bit, even with a little bit of imagination, you get more of an idea of

what that person went through at that given time in history," White said. "When you get emotionally involved in something like this you're not going to forget it. You're more apt to remember because you got up and did it."

The purpose of this exercise was for the students to remember a certain time frame in history and for them to remember what those people went through.

"This exercise gives students a chance to look at the world through different eyes," White said. "It might help the kids understand what they would not normally understand without going back in time and try to walk a mile in someone else's shoes. This is a program that touches students on so many different levels."

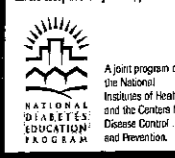
For more information, visit www.joshwhitejr.com.

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

Controlling diabetes makes a huge difference.



I'm controlling my diabetes so I'll be around for my family... for my friends... for life. Control your diabetes. For life. For more information, please call 1-800-438-5283. Or visit us at <http://nd.p.nih.gov>.



Join Us for 2 Celebrations...

Christmas Open House 2003 and Grand Re-Opening!

December 1st-5th 9 am-8 pm
December 6th 10 am-5 pm

SAVE 25%
(On In-stock Merchandise Only)
*Does not include denominational resources!
Extra 5% off on daily specials!

Monday, Dec. 1st-Bibles and Bible Reference Resources
John Serafin from Abbot Hall will be in the store to answer questions on robes, Paraments and Altarware.

Tuesday, Dec. 2nd-All Devotional and Inspirational Books

Wednesday, Dec. 3rd-Gifts and Jewelry
Philip Cox-Johnson, from Gospel Colors will be available with robes.

Thursday, Dec. 4th-Education Resources
Tim Cochran from Collegiate Cap & Gown will be able to answer your robe questions.

Saturday, Dec. 6th-Children's Books, Videos, Music
We will have a clown from 11 am-3 pm.

THINKING ABOUT A NEW FURNACE? **LENNOX** FREE ESTIMATES (734) 525-1930 Our 29th Year! UNITED TEMPERATURE 8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA

Cokesbury CHRISTIAN STORE

Resources for The Church and Community
Our New Location will be Sheldon Place Shopping Center
15175 Sheldon Road • Plymouth
Toll Free (877) 382-8794
E-mail detroit@cokesbury.com

COME IN & RECEIVE A Complimentary Gift! Refreshments Served

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Engineering project displays
Brian Fischer, who graduated from Novi High School in 1998, will present a project at the 33rd Conference on Senior Engineering Design Projects at Western Michigan University, Dec. 2.

Fischer is the son of Art and Linda Fischer of Novi and plans to receive a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering in December. His project is an Autonomous Navigating Robot, Team 3.

The conference, which runs from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., will be held at the Bernhard Center on the WMU campus. It is open to the public free of charge and is sponsored by WMU's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

The sale will take place before, during intermissions and after shows in the auditorium lobby.

Compiled by Ramez Khuri

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 Dec. 9 band concert and the Dec. 16 choir concert! Both events start at 6:30 p.m. and all work is student and teacher made.

NOVI TOWN CENTER 8

5 of 196 on Novi Rd. @ Grand Blvd. Dr.
(248) 463-5100
\$8.50 Kids all shoes | \$8.75 Sockers
\$7.00 Socks & Lace Shoes | \$8.50 Socks & Lace Shoes
24 Hour Hair Salon | 24 Hour Barber Shop
No tattoos | DIGITAL STEREO
Specialized Free Book Machine & 250 DVD Rental

MOVIE GUIDE

THE GIFT OF MOVIES
\$10 Book Plus \$1 Free GIFT CERTIFICATE
\$20 Book Plus \$2 Free

HAVING THE FAMILY IN AND ENJOY OUR HOLIDAYS!

SHOWTIMES 11:27 - 12:24
OASIS (R) 1:16, 1:45, 2:15, 2:45, 3:15
\$45 FRI SAT 10:45
O TIME LANE PG-13
11:27, 1:15, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 6:15
O ROMA PG
1:45, 3:15, 4:45, 6:15, 7:45, 9:15
LOVEY BEANS BACK IN ACTION PG-13
STATION AGENT R
11:27, 1:15, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 6:15, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15
PIZZES OF PEEL PG-13
11:27, 1:15, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 6:15, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15
FRISATLS 11:10
B7 PG-13
11:27, 1:15, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 6:15, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15
TOY FISH (G)
11:27, 1:15, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 6:15, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15
THE HUMAN STAR PG-13
11:27, 1:15, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15, 4:45, 5:15, 5:45, 6:15, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15
FRISATLS 11:10
FRISATLS 11:10
FRISATLS 11:10
FRISATLS 11:10

FREE 20oz DRINK
BEST DEAL in shopping
www.novitowncenter8.com

CONNECT INSTANTLY HERE.



NEXTEL AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

BIRMINGHAM
2519 W. Maple Rd.
(S. corner of
Cranbrook & Maple)
248-723-8600
734-981-7440

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
4036 Telegraph Rd.
(Next to Starbucks)
248-593-3665

BRIGHTON
315 E. Grand River
(East of Main St.)
810-227-7440

CANTON
44011 Front Rd.
(S. bkla. East
of Sheldon Rd.)
734-981-7440

FENTON
18010 Silver Parkway
(in Silver Lake Village)
610-629-7440

HARTLAND
10112 Highland Rd.
(M-59 & Old US-23)
810-632-9300

HOWELL
4207 E. Grand
River Ave.
(in Sears Plaza)
517-545-7220

LANSING
440 E. Edgewood
(in front of Sam's Club)
517-594-7441

MILFORD
101 E. Commerce
(at Main St.)
248-684-7440

NEW HUDSON
56754 Grand River
(East of Milford Rd.)
248-437-5553

NOVI
27793 - C West
Oaks Dr.
(in West Oaks II)
248-596-1900

OKEMOS
4738 Central Park Dr.
(Next to Panera Bread)
517-349-0300

SOUTH LYON
225 S. Lafayette
(Next to S. Lyon Bakery)
248-437-5300

TAYLOR
8237 S. Telegraph Rd.
313-291-2912

WILLIAMSTON
725 W. Grand River
(next to Famous Tacos)
517-655-9898

INSTANT NATIONWIDE CONNECT PLAN

500 anytime cellular minutes
Unlimited Push To Talk™ walkie-talkie
Unlimited nights and weekends
\$49.99 Other monthly charges apply. See below.

DATA APPLICATIONS

Available data services include:
Two-way Messaging, AOL® Instant Messenger™ and Wireless Web Access.



Stop in and ask how you can keep your same phone number and switch wireless carriers. Coming Soon!

*Nextel also imposes a Federal Programs Cost Recovery (FCR) fee of \$1.55 or \$2.93. The FCR is not a tax or government required charge. The fee is charged for one or more of the following: E911, number porting and wireless subscriber portability. Offers expire December 31, 2003. Nextel reserves the right to extend these offers without notice. In-state purchases require two forms of valid identification. Requires new activation and credit approval. \$200 early termination fee applies, after 15-day trial period (conditions apply). Setup fee of \$35 per phone, up to \$70 more per account applies. Additional charges may apply and may vary by market, including state and federal taxes, a Universal Service Assessment of either 1.20% or 7.5% a TRS charge of approx. 3%, and a state-imposed E911 fee. Other Terms: Nextel reserves the right to modify or terminate these offers at any time. Offers may not be available in all markets. Other conditions may apply. Read service agreement for details. Instant Nationwide Connect Plan: Requires one-year service agreement. Direct Connect minutes and Nationwide Direct Connect access are unlimited and do not reduce Group Connect calls, which are \$0.15/minute and are calculated by multiplying the minutes of use, number of participants, and the applicable rate. Group Connect can only work with members of the same network while in their home market. Nationwide service is not available for Group Connect calls. Cellular coverage is \$0.40/minute. Cellular calls made to the next full plan Two-Way Messaging is \$0.35/minute. Nextel's Nationwide Network services 293 of the top 300 markets. ©2003 Nextel Communications. NEXTEL, NEXTEL LOGO, NEXTEL ONLINE, PUSH TO TALK, PTT, DIRECT CONNECT, GROUP CONNECT, NATIONWIDE DIRECT CONNECT and the Inner Safety logo are service marks, trademarks, and/or registered trademarks of Nextel Communications, Inc. MOTOROLA and the Stylized M Logo are registered in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. All other product or service names are the property of their respective owners. All rights reserved.

Finally, the Bridge Is Open!

We're Welcoming All Our Customers back!

NOVI AUTO PARTS

Wants to let you know the bridge has been gapped!!

We Know the traffic had you down, So WELCOME BACK to the EAST SIDE of town!

Coupon Good For
10% OFF

Any Item with original coupon

Novi Auto Parts, Inc.
-Serving the community since 1925-

43131 Grand River, Novi
248-349-2800

Gatsby's

FOOD & SPIRITS

45701 Grand River, Novi
248-348-6999

• Two Big Screen TV's • Darts
• Golden Tee Golf • Mega Touch

• Homemade Soups • Daily Specials • Steaks
• Gatsby Cheeseburger (Voted #1 in Novi)
• Nachos • Burritos • Friday Fish Fry

14 oz. T-Bone for \$8.95
Monday thru Thursday Only

Some restrictions apply • Expires 12-04-03

Parties Welcome • Carry Outs Anytime

Novi Road

Beck Road

Carol's Upholstery

Holiday Special

20% OFF Fabric

Expires: December 15, 2003

(248) 347-0940

44480 Grand River • Novi, MI 48375
(1 1/2 Miles East of Beck Rd.)

Harolds Frame Shop



Wheel Alignments
Brakes
Spring Repair
Ball joints
Tie Rods

Construction Special

\$5.00 Off Front

Wheel Alignment

Harolds Frame Shop
44170 Grand River Ave.
248-349-7550

JPS JOHNSON'S PRINTING SERVICES

WE DO ALL KINDS OF PRINTING

DIGITAL, OFFSET, LITHO, LASER & CANON

LOW-LOW PRICES

• Full Color Printing • Business Presentations • Full Color Brochures
• Business Cards • Color Proofing • Inkjet/Screen Printing
• Mailing Services • 24 HR. Copying • Fax Color Copy/Print
• Sales Collateral • In House Graphic Design • Mail List Management

Free Pickup & Delivery

We serve all of Southeast Michigan.

For Your Free & Quality Service Call Us Today!

248.735.7600

8824 GRAND RIVER AVENUE, SUITE 100, NOVI, MI 48375

FAX: (248) 735-7811 • WWW.JPS-COLOR.COM

© 2003 JOHNSON'S PRINTING SERVICES

McNish's

Sporting Goods & Trophies

44480 Grand River
248.348.1820

Discounts available for most items in stock!



Rosewood Restaurant

Homemade Cooking

Voted #1 for Best Breakfast

10% Off Your Total Bill

Expires Nov. 30, 2003 • Specials good with coupon only

Buy One Dinner Get 2nd 1/2 Off

Expires Nov. 30, 2003 • Specials good with coupon only

We would like to thank our supporters over our construction months!

46077 Grand River
248-349-1337

Hours: 5:30am - 8:00pm M-F, 5:30am - 3:00pm Sat., 7:00am - 3:00pm Sun.



Courtesy photo

Novi Woods Pioneer Day

Third graders at Novi Woods spent a day as pioneer children at Wing Lake School in Bloomfield Hills. The students spent part of their time in a one room schoolhouse learning lessons similar to those a child in 1891 would have learned. They practiced penmanship on a slate and were required to stand each time they addressed their teacher. They all agreed that their modern teacher and school are much more enjoyable! The students also got a glimpse of what life in a log cabin would have been like, including helping with chores such as candle making. The kids were encouraged to dress in period appropriate attire and pack a lunch without our modern conveniences.

Pictured in the schoolhouse are Kelly Cauchi, Kara Berg, Bruna Babler, Jenna Giragosian and Taylor Ann Callahan listening to their pioneer teacher.



Courtesy photo

Novi Meadows Student Council

The Novi Meadows 2003-04 Student Council has been named. Teacher representatives are Sylvia Sobran and Georgia Bingham. The student president is Dylan Capello; fifth grade vice president is Joon Kim; sixth grade vice president is Kevin Zak and the secretary is Sasha Topalian.



Courtesy photo

Meadows students perform "Annie" Students from Novi Meadows invaded Novi High School on the night of Nov. 12 to perform the musical "Annie." Pictured is Lauren Ballard as Annie.

Up close and personal with live bats

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

It got a little batty at Parkview Elementary a few weeks ago as the Organization for Bat Conservation brought its new Bats Incredible program to the school. Oh yeah, two live bats were brought to the school as well.

According to Dale Smart, an Education Specialist for the organization, Bats Incredible is a digital program run with a laptop computer so there can be sound and flipping text. It replaces an old-fashioned slide show program.

"We're very proud to have digital equipment to do this and we're able to do it thanks to a grant from the Toyota Corporation," said Smart, or Mr. Dale, as the kids know him. "We are doing over a thousand programs per year now throughout the nation. We're unique in the country that way."

Once that program was finished, however, the real fun began as Smart brought out a live vampire bat and a larger live fruit bat. He explained that though vampire bats have a bad reputation in the movies, they are actually very small and quite harmless to human beings. He also said that though the fruit bat is quite a bit larger and looks pretty menacing, it too is harmless.

Smart said that bats eat a lot of other insects like mosquitoes that humans don't want around and fruit bats spread nearly all the seeds in the rain forest and they help keep the center rain forest healthy. He said they can even re-plant plants. Pollinating bats pollinate special fruits that humans like, like avocados and bananas and they spread papaya seeds and mangos, just to name some.

"It just goes on and on," Smart said. "If you take a key species out of a habitat, the whole habitat starts to unravel and come apart."

Smart explained that vampire bats are less than five inches tall and they're afraid of humans. They want to be left alone, but scientists are actually studying them to make medicines for humans. They mostly like cow blood and they obtain it by making a tiny scratch on a cow's leg and drink a few drops, then they fly away.

The Organization for Bat Conservation's Bat Zone is located at the Cranbrook Institute of Science Museum, which is the National Headquarters for the organization. Members of the organization travel all over from there and at this time, during the school year, there are even programs, so anyone who goes can buy a ticket for a bat show right in the museum. In the summer Bat Zone is open seven days a week and members do five shows per day all summer long. Those interested can visit the building and not pay for a show ticket and see where the animals live, or if they buy a three dollar ticket for a show, the animals are brought out right up close to them in a separate room. Visit www.batroost.com for more information.

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 119 or by e-mail at rkhuri@hi.loomiscomm.net.



Courtesy photo

Conservationist Dale Smart from Cranbrook Institute of Science brought three live bats to Parkview and introduced the children to the fascinating world of bats.



Verizon Wireless

We never stop working for you!

...the nation's largest Most Reliable Wireless Network.

Get a season that is twice as good!

UNLIMITED Family Calling
between your America's Choice Family SharePlanSM lines on the national mobile network. Not available in all areas. International rates apply.

UNLIMITED Night & Weekend Minutes
based on the America's Choice network.

\$20 MONTHLY ACCESS per additional line
With new 2 year Agreement per line.

With an America's Choice Calling Plan of \$39.99 monthly access and higher.

Nokia 3589i Full Color Screen Phone
BUY ONE FOR \$49.99 GET ONE FREE

With new 2 year Agreement per phone. Primary line must be on Plus \$39.99 or higher. While supplies last.

CALL 1.866.235.1341 CLICK verizonwireless.com VISIT any of our stores

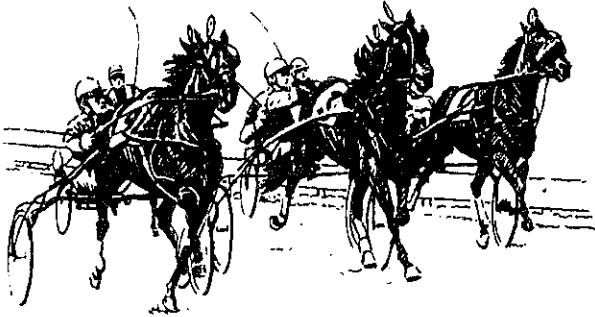
DON'T FORGET BONFIRE GIFT CERTIFICATES AND HOLIDAY PARTY BOOKINGS

39550 Seven Mile Rd. • Northville • 248-735-6500 • www.bonfire.com

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES			
ANN ARBOR	2570 Jackson Ave. (West to Diox/Bowling)	734-760-1722	
BRAKWOOD MALL	On Spar's Wing, Near Center Ct.	BRIGHTON	
8150 Chellis, Suite C (Off Grand River, in front of Target)	910-225-4739	CANTON	
42447 Ford Rd. (Corner of Ford & Lilley Rds., Canton Corners)	734-944-0461	GRAND RIVER	
24417 Ford Rd. (Just West of Telegraph)	313-235-4491	FAYLETON MALL	
(3rd Floor Next to Sears)	313-441-0168	HEWLETT	
14126 Woodward (MacQ's Plaza)	313-868-7252	FARMINGTON HILLS	
31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (SW Corner of Orchard Lake Rd. & 14 Mile Rd.)	248-336-9900	FENTON	
17245 Silver Pkwy (On the Spar's plaza)	910-269-3733	GRAND BLANC	
20128 W. 6 Mile Rd. (Roseline Plaza, just west of Evergreen)	248-357-1555	LANE CROWN	
25311 Park Ave. (W. 59 & M-53, Utica Park Plaza)	580-967-6500	NEW	
43025 12 Mile Rd. (I-76/60 Oaks Service Dr., North of Spar's)	248-305-6900	ROCHESTER HILLS	
12417 Ford Rd. (Lower level play area)	313-235-4491	ROCHESTER HILLS	
454 Telegraph Rd. (Across from Summit Trace Mall)	248-335-9900	ROCHESTER HILLS	
14126 Woodward (MacQ's Plaza)	313-868-7252	FARMINGTON HILLS	
31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (SW Corner of Orchard Lake Rd. & 14 Mile Rd.)	248-336-9900	SOUTHFIELD	
28117 Telegraph Rd. (South of 12 Mile Rd.)	248-259-3700	20128 W. 6 Mile Rd. (Roseline Plaza, just west of Evergreen)	248-357-1555
22493 Emilia Rd. (Across from Southland Mall)	248-267-1770	TROY	
1913 E. Big Beaver Rd. (Troy Sports Center)	248-328-5049	WESTLAND	
35105 Warren Rd. (SW Corner of Warren & Warren Rds.)	734-722-7330	WAL-MART LOCATIONS	
2485-5511	248-849-3000	248-849-3000	
248-849-3000	248-849-3000	248-849-3000	

Hours & Weekend hours: Hours 101 pm - 5:57 am M-F, Week 12:00 am Sat - 11:59 pm Sun. Taxes & surcharges apply to many services. Service Charge of 1.9% (not included in FCC cap) & a Regulatory Charge per line/month are not included in taxes. IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Customer Agreement, Calling Plan & restrictions. Service not available in all areas. Some restrictions apply to services. Usage limited to local calls. Service not available in all areas. Restrictions & fees apply. See www.verizonwireless.com for service & plan details. © Verizon Wireless 2003.

The Biggest in Harness Racing... The Breeders Crown

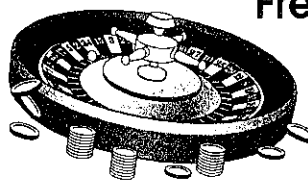


Championship
Races Live from the
Meadowlands

Over 4 Million Dollars in Purses
Saturday, Nov. 29th
at Northville Downs

Northville's Luckiest Racing Fans
are going to Vegas this Winter!

LAS VEGAS VACATION GIVEAWAY



Free-To-Enter Drawing Friday & Saturday
No Purchase Necessary

Win a Trip-For-Two and Join Us in Vegas!
Names Drawn Friday and Saturday Night after 10th Race

Prizes Includes 2 Round-Trip Airfares and Double-Occupancy Hotel
Room for 3 Nights. You Must Be Available to Travel Feb. 16-19, 2004.

You Must Be Present To Win!

Entry forms available night of drawing at admission gates or general office.
No Purchase Necessary -Free admission after 10pm.

Free-to-enter drawing held after 10th Friday & Saturday nights. No purchase necessary. One entry per person each night. Prize cannot be exchanged, transferred, or refunded-No cash value. You Must Be Available to travel Feb. 16-19, 2004. Track employees, horsemen, drivers/trainers, food concessionaire staff, and racing commission license-holders not eligible.

Live Racing 5 Nights Per Week
Special Performance Tonight
Weds. Nov. 26th Post Time 7:40 PM
(Closed Thanksgiving Day)
For Reservation & Information Call (248) 349-1000

Guernsey co-founder McGuire dies

By Jennifer Zinke
STAFF WRITER

Longtime Northville resident and co-founder of Northville's Guernsey Farm Dairy Elise "Pat" McGuire died Nov. 15 in her home. She was 89.

McGuire was born March 29, 1914, in Detroit to Otto Wacker and Alice Ray. She married John Thomas McGuire on Nov. 19, 1938. The couple moved to the Northville community in 1940.

With the help of her husband, McGuire started Guernsey Farm Dairy and raised 14 children.

McGuire attended Marygrove College and graduated from the University of Detroit where she earned a Bachelor of Art degree in education. She was in the first class that had women in the U of D graduating class. In addition, she received a teaching certificate from Wayne State University.

Funeral services were held Tuesday at noon at Our Lady of Victory Church in Northville. Father Bob McGrath and Father Terrence Kerner served as officiants. Interment was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Fowlerville, Northville resident and longtime neighbor of the McGuire family Bruce Turnbull, was among the many who attended the funeral services.

"What a beautiful mass it was," said Turnbull. "I think they had four or five Greyhound buses to take people to the cemetery in Fowlerville. That's



Elise "Pat" McGuire

where the McGuire cemetery is. There were eight priests there saying the mass. One priest even played the guitar in memorial for Pat. The church was just packed."

"She was a great neighbor a great person. Each one of the children turned out so well."

According to family members, McGuire was a homemaker, loving wife and wonderful mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt and friend. "For 89 years, she taught her family how to live and how to die," said family members in a prepared statement. "Life is so precious. God gives it to us a moment at a time. She loved her family to the fullest and treasured each one as unique and individual. Mom's love was unconditional."

McGuire is survived by her husband and her children Tom (Florence) McGuire of Detroit, Pat (James) Lawson of Chevy Chase, Md., Jim (Helan) McGuire of Northville, Mary (Tom) Wicke of Northville, Peg Lutz of Lakeside, Fla., Hugh McGuire of Brighton, Joe (Ardie) McGuire of Northville, Mike (Donna) McGuire of South Lyon, Fran (John) Hardy of Prescott, Ariz., Lucy (Dave) McGuire-Ganci of Prescott, Ariz., Rita (Tom) Rice of South Lyon, Marty (Linda) McGuire of Novi, Paul Gregory McGuire of Northville and Karen (Paul) Kinville of Northville.

She is also survived by 49 grandchildren and 42 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Ruth.

In addition to her work with Guernsey Farm Dairy, McGuire was involved in the Daughters of Isabel, Our Lady of Victory Mothers' Club, Ladywood Mothers' Club, St. Theresa Sorority, League of Catholic Women, Bishop Fulton Sheen's Spiritual Adoption Program, Focus Hope and Youth for Understanding.

Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice of Livonia or Maryknoll Brothers and Sisters in New York.

Jennifer Zinke is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 107 or by e-mail at jzink@ht.homecomm.net.

ENGAGEMENT



Quinn-Larson

Joyce and Matt Quinn of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Allison, to Greg Larson, son of Sharon Larson of Novi and Harvey Larson of Bloomfield Twp. The bride-elect is a 1994 graduate of Novi High School. She graduated in 1999 from Western Michigan University and in 2002 from Northern Arizona University with a master's in speech pathology. She is employed by Grays Lake School District.

The groom-elect is a 1991 graduate of Novi High School and a 1996 graduate of Western Michigan University. He is employed by Robert Bosch Corp. as a national product trainer. A March 2004 wedding is planned.

OBITUARIES

Anibal Nieves

Anibal Nieves of Novi died November 20, 2003 at Providence Hospital. He was 58. Mr. Nieves was born May 22, 1945 in Puerto Rico.

He had been employed by a metal painting co. as a spray painter.

Survivors include his wife, Ruby Kathryn Nieves; five children, Luis Nieves, Carmen (Eddie) Hernandez, Providencia Nieves, Anibal Nieves, Jr., and Juan "Berty" Lopez; five siblings, Ramona Aviles, Olga Nieves, Herminia Buell, Ferridia Nieves and Juan Nieves; and fourteen grandchildren.

A funeral service was held November 25 at Heeneys-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington. Interment will be at Milwaukee, Wis.

Memorials may be made to the donor's choice. Arrangements were made by Heeneys-Sundquist Funeral Home.

Francis J. "Joe" Schmeitzer

Francis "Joe" Schmeitzer died November 20, 2003. He was 72. Mr. Schmeitzer proudly served his country as a Marine in the Korean War. He enjoyed golf, spending time with his family and cooking. His family nicknamed him "Chef Joe."

Survivors include his wife, Mary Ann; five children, Robert, John, Mary Jo, Peter and Lynn; 10 grandchildren; and one brother, William.

His brother, John, preceded him in death. A funeral service was held November 24, 2003 at Holy Family Church, Novi.

Memorials may be made to the Charity of your choice. Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Obituary for condolences on-line at www.obriensullivanfuneral-home.com.



Say hello to the new chicks in town.



Smart Chicks Consignment brings affordable fashion to the Novi Area's most stylish women...
Women like YOU!

Misses, Petites, Plus Sizes, Juniors and Maternity fashions and accessories in labels you look for - all at up to 75% off retail prices!
Join us during our Grand Opening Celebration December 1st-6th for great selections and a chance to win a fabulous daily prize!

Free gift for the first 10 customers who spend \$50 or more on Saturday, December 6th.

Now accepting women's holiday and winter clothing for consignment.

43039 Grand River,
1 block east of Novi Road
Hours: Monday - Friday 10-7, Saturday 10-5
(248) 347-1600

SENIOR CALENDAR

Thursday 11/27 Senior Center Management Office, Lunch Service, Transportation Closed for Thanksgiving	9:30 a.m. Line Dance* 10 a.m. Body Recall 12:30 p.m. Lunch 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Bingo
Friday 11/28 Senior Center Management Office, Lunch Service, Transportation Closed for Thanksgiving	9 a.m. Stretch & Strength 10 a.m. Body Recall 11 a.m. Blood Pressure 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sundry Shop Open 11:30 am-2 p.m. TOPS Class 12:30 p.m. Lunch 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Pinochle 6:30 p.m. Clogging*
Monday 12/1	9 a.m. Stretch & Strength 10 a.m. Body Recall 11 a.m. Blood Pressure 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sundry Shop Open 11:30 am-2 p.m. TOPS Class 12:30 p.m. Lunch 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Pinochle 6:30 p.m. Clogging*
Tuesday 12/2	9 a.m.-12 p.m. Massage Therapy 9 a.m. Panera bread

TURKEY SALE!

Friday, November 28th thru Sunday, December 7th

FITZ AND FLOYD

Heslop's
China & Gifts

SAVE 10% on purchases of \$100
SAVE 15% on purchases of \$200
SAVE 20% on purchases of \$300 or more*

*Some restrictions apply. Please see advertisement for details.

Visit us at our Web site: www.heslops.com

- Michigan Stores:**
- Ann Arbor, The Coliseum (734) 761-1002 (on Bankers Plaza, west of Inland Mall)
 - Dearborn Heights, The Heights (313) 274-8200 (Grand Rd. between Inland and Beach Dubs)
 - Grand Rapids, Brown Village Mall (616) 957-1465 (Green Rd. and Brown Rd.)
 - Livonia, Grand Five Plaza (248) 522-1880 (on corner of Five Mile and Inland)
 - Novi, Novi Town Center (248) 349-8000
 - Okemos, Mountain Mall (517) 349-4008
 - Rochester Hills, The Village of Rochester Hills (248) 375-0823
 - St. Clair Shores, 21429 Mack Ave. (586) 778-6142 (north of English Mile Rd.)
 - Stirling Heights, Double Seasons (888) 247-8111 (on corner of Ford Rd. and Hayes Rd.)
 - Troy, Oakland Mall (248) 589-1433
 - West Bloomfield, Orchard Mall (248) 737-8060 (between Lake and 13 Mile)
 - Ohio Store, Columbus, Palms Fashion Plaza (614) 436-7300

Why Aren't You Buying Municipal Bonds?

Are you currently receiving up-to-date information on bonds and the municipal credit markets?
We believe that access to meaningful information is crucial to making intelligent investment decisions. That's why we offer the *Municipal Advisor*, a timely publication that outlines strategic portfolio opportunities, market analysis and credit research.

For more information and a free copy of *Municipal Advisor*, call
Troy
2301 West Big Beaver Road, Suite 800
800-446-0311

Farmington Hills
32300 Northwestern Highway, Suite 150
800-533-1407

Birmingham
210 South Old Woodward Avenue, Suite 250
800-331-5149

Bloomfield Hills
39533 Woodward Avenue, Suite 325
888-703-3312

Plymouth
340 South Main Street
800-704-4024

www.ubs.com/financialservicesinc

If sold prior to maturity, municipal securities are subject to gains/losses based on the level of interest rates, market conditions and the credit quality of the issuer. Income may be subject to the alternative minimum tax (AMT) and/or state and local taxes based on your state of residence.

UBS Financial Services Inc.
©2003 UBS Financial Services Inc. All Rights Reserved. Member SIPC.



OPINION

novinews.com



Photo by John Heider
This one's for Dino
Students of Parkview Elementary School perform their musical on dinosaurs last Thursday afternoon for an appreciative crowd of parents and siblings.

Novi News LETTERS

Part of HomeTown Communications Network™

Cal Stone, Editor; Jack Lessenberry, VP-Editorial; Dick Aglinan, President; Phillip Power, Publisher; Richard Brady, VP-CCO; Chairperson of the Board

GOVERNMENT

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Par 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 missed anyone, contact us at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113.

United States Senate (517) 373-1799
 Carl Levin (D-Detroit) FAX: (517) 373-5777
 269 Russell Senate Office
 Building
 Washington D.C. 20510
 (202) 224-6221
 senator@levin.senate.gov
 Local office:
 124 W. Allegan
 Suite 1810
 Lansing, MI 48933
 (517) 377-1508
 FAX: (517) 377-1505

Oakland County
 Executive
 L. Brooks Patterson
 County Service Center
 Building #34 East
 1200 N. Telegraph Road
 Pontiac, MI 48341
 (248) 858-0484

7th Commission
 Christine Long
 1342 E. Commerce Road
 Commerce Twp., MI 48382
 (248) 366-2666
 longc@co.oakland.mi.us

8th Commission
 Jeff Potter
 1039 Stable Lane
 South Lyon, MI 48178
 (248) 437-7597
 potterj@co.oakland.mi.us

United States Congress

11th District
 Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia)
 415 Cannon HOB
 Washington D.C. 20515-8171
 (202) 225-8171
 FAX: (202) 225-2667
 Local office:
 17197 N. Laurel Park Drive
 Suite 161
 Livonia, MI 48152

Novi
 Raymond Schovers,
 supervisor
 PO Box 924
 Northville, MI 48167
 (248) 348-0365

Commerce - Charter
 Thomas K. Zoner, supervisor
 2840 Fisher Avenue
 Commerce Twp., MI 48390
 (248) 624-0110
 FAX: (248) 624-5834

Cities

Novi
 45175 West Ten Mile Road
 Novi, MI 48375-3024
 (248) 347-0460
 FAX: (248) 347-0577

Walled Lake
 1499 E. West Maple Road
 PO Box 99
 Walled Lake, MI 48390-0399
 (248) 624-4847
 FAX: (248) 624-1616

State Senate

15th District
 Nancy Cassis (R-Novi)
 PO Box 30036
 Lansing, MI 48909-7536
 (517) 373-1758
 sencassis@senate.michigan.gov

State House of Representatives

38th District
 Craig DeRocha (R-Novi)
 S0887 House Office Building
 PO Box 30014
 Lansing, MI 48909-7514
 (517) 373-0827
 FAX: (517) 373-5873
 croiderocha@house.mi.gov

39th District
 Mars Shulman (R-West
 Bloomfield)
 351 Capitol Building
 PO Box 30014
 Lansing, MI 48909-7514

OTHER OPINIONS

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@ht.homecomm.net

Getting to 21st century using a '50s tax system

There's lots of news to report having to do with the state's dire financial situation. And, as is usually the case, there are a couple of larger, more fundamental issues that deserve more careful scrutiny lurking under the froth of current events.

Gov Jennifer Granholm last week said she favors suspending the scheduled 0.1 percent cut in the state income tax rate scheduled to take place Jan. 1, 2004, in order to use the \$1.15 billion in revenue so gained to offset budget cuts for schools. Although some Republicans scoffed at Granholm's job-killing tax hike, I think she's right. Delaying a tax cut of \$30 million for the average family is a perfectly reasonable way to share the pain in overcoming a \$920 million state deficit.

In other news, school officials are having some trouble explaining just why they should not be asked to use some of their "rainy day" funds — totaling nearly \$2 billion statewide — to help meet the budget crisis. It looks as though the poorly conceived laptop computer program for sixth graders (\$22 million) has been canceled off. And Lansing insiders say the \$250M Michigan Merit Scholarship awards program will find a way through fund-raisers or just hit your parents up like the spoiled children in Novi do now anyway.

5. And, finally, let the teachers have some sort of authority via discipline and make it stick. Right now they have nothing and don't really care to.

Phil Power

Anybody who has tried to work out a household budget has to feel these folks. They are tired. They are stressed. They are facing rapidly shifting state revenue estimates and fierce partisan political pressures. They deserve our mixed sympathy and admiration, just as their work will need careful scrutiny to catch any mistakes made in the rush to get budget product out the door.

The important thing going on under the surface, however, is some very tentative talk about the basic architecture of Michigan's entire tax system.

This year's budget crisis is hardly unique. It's just one more proof point that our state budget has been in chronic structural deficit for years.

According to Citizens Research Council staffer Tom Kelly, possibly the most knowledgeable person in the state about our tax structure, this structural deficit is the outcome of "Michigan trying to operate a set of programs that increase in cost faster than the revenue base." He cites Medicaid payments, now at \$2.3 billion per year and growing at double-digit rates, despite repeated efforts to cut payments to doctors and hospitals. Any attempt to fix our current deficits that ignores this chronic budget imbalance is nothing more than wheel-spinning.

Moreover, there are serious flaws in two of Michigan's main taxes. The 6 percent sales tax is levied on goods, not services.

A lot of dreams died that day in Dallas

Years ago, I was doing some research at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, and I asked to see David Powers, the president's friend, a working-class Irishman who had been sort of the court jester of the New Frontier.

"You're from Detroit?" he said, eyes twinkling merrily. "I love Detroit. A great thing happened to me there. We were campaigning in Cadillac Square on Labor Day and broke my watch." Puzzled, I asked him what Powers, then sort of a ceremonial curator of the magnificent library, was waiting for. "Because Jack Kennedy took his off and gave it to me!" he said triumphantly. That was a legendary day when state Democrats still talk about when John Kelly, for many years a state senator, perched on his father's shoulder that day, his 11th birthday, and briefly grasped the senator's hand. Thousands saw him at rallies across the state.

Mary Ann Watson, a professor of telecommunications at Eastern Michigan University, was a little girl of four when the candidate's car whizzed by and she saw him, as she imagined, looking straight at her. She grew up to become the nation's leading academic expert on television in the Kennedy era.

Last week, as television flooded the airwaves with specials, and younger Americans struggled to figure out what the fuss was all about, those who knew remembered Michigan played a small, but significant part in sealing Kennedy's victory.

On Election Day, it was those same Detroiters who gave John F. Kennedy the margin he needed to carry the state by a whisker in one of the nation's closest elections. Some say it was Millie Jeffrey

Jack Lessenberry

who did it, the tiny dynamo of a labor organizer who ran JFK's campaign in the state. "I met him at a dinner in Grand Rapids in 1958, and was instantly taken with his charm, his ideas, his freshness," Jeffrey, now 91, remembers.

But labor and civil rights groups were suspicious. Jeffrey, the highest-ranking woman in the United Auto Workers union, chaired his campaign, made him acceptable to the Democratic party's base, rallied and fired up the troops.

Michigan, after seceding all night, finally went to JFK at 5 a.m. the next morning, the Secret Service took that as their cue to move in and protect the president-elect. (In those long-ago and supposedly gentler times, mere candidates didn't get Secret Service protection. Nor would they, until after the public saw an ungilded Bobby Kennedy dying in a pool of blood on the floor of a hotel kitchen.)

Michigan's narrow, but solid margin for Kennedy in 1960 also was a large part of the real reason why Richard Nixon didn't contest the highly suspicious result in Illinois that year. Why is often forgotten is that even if the Republicans could have proven vote fraud there, Nixon still needed another large state to win. Michigan was his last hope.

"They loved him. We all did," said Frank Kelley, the state's longest-serving state attorney general. He was a recent appointee to the job when the president came to Michigan to campaign for Democratic candidates for a day in 1962.

"You know, that grace, those perfect moves, those tailored suits, that face made quite an impression on a middle-class Irish kid like me." Asked about his own race, Kelley made some comment about his opponent's ego.

"And I'll never forget — Kennedy looked at me and said 'we are all egoists, Frank. The one who hides it the best wins.'" Kelley would go on to serve 27 years as attorney general, leaving office at last the year JFK's son died.

When he retired, I asked him what his best day on the job was. He couldn't say. He knew what the worst one was, though. He was swimming laps in the YMCA pool in Lansing on Friday afternoon when he looked up to see a grim-faced aide come in.

"All I could think of was that something had happened to one of my kids," he said. It was Nov. 27, 1963, and when the aide told him what had happened, Kelley felt no sense of relief. "That was the hardest thing to take as a public person. A lot of hopes and dreams died that day in Dallas," he told me. "As he was leaving office, Dave Powers had this comment about his opponent's ego.

"I don't think I'd care to be a public person. A lot of hopes and dreams died that day in Dallas," he told me. "As he was leaving office, Dave Powers had this comment about his opponent's ego.

"I don't think I'd care to be a public person. A lot of hopes and dreams died that day in Dallas," he told me. "As he was leaving office, Dave Powers had this comment about his opponent's ego.



Cal Stone

Chamber poised for greatness in 2004

Next year is going to be a busy and, hopefully, productive one for yours truly as I begin my tenure on the Novi Chamber of Commerce's board of directors.

With over 500 members to our credit, this is a strong organization whose mission statement is simple: "To be a responsible, pro-active advocate of business interests in the Greater Novi Area."

Leading that charge for 2004 will be our chairman, Keith Wilson of Bob Sellers Pentac-GMC. Although Lou Martin, of Providence Hospital, is officially chairman for the remainder of the year, Keith began to unveil his plans for 2004 at the board's annual retreat in Frankenmuth last Friday.

I'm sworn to secrecy, but I will say he's got some great ideas for the chamber and I'm excited and proud to be a part of this group.

The other board members include:

- Joe Sutschek, chair elect, Ramco-Gersbenson;
- Peggy Hayes, vice chair, Twelve Oaks Mall;
- Jim Koster, treasurer, Novi Community Schools;
- Lou Martin, past chair, Providence Hospital;
- Gary Ankers, Howard & Howard, PC; Gina Eggers, All Star Gymnastics;
- John Bowen, Novi Expo Center;
- Richard Gual, DTE Energy;
- Art Johnson, Johnson's Printing Services;
- Todd Krygier, State Farm Insurance;
- David McClunton, Consolidated Safeguard Solutions; Bruce Mena, Novi Community Credit Union;
- Nikki Pearce, Forum Entertainment;
- Christy L. Seaberg, Republic Bank;
- Lenny Williams, Hotel Barenette.

Has off to Lou Martin for, I think, helping to create a new face for this chamber and showing its members the value of belonging. Yes, we always put together some wonderful events that benefit the whole Novi community, but there's so many other real perks that come with joining.

If your business is not a member, you should be. Period.

If you haven't met the hardest working woman in business — our executive director, Nura Champion — you should. Call her (248) 349-3743 or me and we'll gladly explain the benefits of joining the Novi Chamber of Commerce.

Be a part of the new Novi.

CITY OF NOVI
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be meeting to interview applicants for appointment to the Beautification Commission, Board of Review, Economic Development Corporation, Housing & Community Development Advisory Committee, Historical Commission, Planning Commission, Stormwater Management & Watershed Stewardship Committee, Woodlands Review Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals.

If you are a qualified voter in the City of Novi and interested in volunteering to serve on a City board or commission, applications are available in the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile, or by calling (248) 347-0456 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.ci.novi.mi.us to print out an application.

Council will be interviewing applicants on Monday, December 8, 2003 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers; interviews are scheduled for 20 minutes each and all City Council meetings are televised.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
 (11-13/20027 & 12-4/03 NN 07103)

Proud to be a part of this great community

O'BRIEN SULLIVAN FUNERAL HOME

41555 Grand River Avenue
 Novi, Michigan 48375-1822
 (248)348-1800

John J. O'Brien John F. O'Brien
 Michael D. O'Brien/Watt

State Licensed-Board Certified Funeral Directors
 Family owned

Offering Prearrangements & Pre-financing

Stephen J. Smith
 Attorney at Law

1-248-663-4097

Free Consults
 20700 Civic Center Dr.
 Southfield, MI 48076

Workers' Compensation & Social Security Disability

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church Presents

Thanksgiving Celebration For The Whole Family

Thursday November 27, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. in The Sanctuary

Participants in the service will be:

- The Ward Chancel Choir and Orchestra, Crossfire, Christian Community and Team Ensemble.
- Featuring the choir and brass in "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"
- Message by Dr. James McGuire

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church

40000 Six Mile Rd.
 (Just West of Haggerty)
 248-374-7400

LET'S TALK WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN GEMOLOGIST

Although sapphires may be synonymous with the color blue, they are actually available in a number of colors. The red variety is called rubies because the minerals did not realize that rubies and sapphires were actually the same mineral. It was decided that all gemstones of the mineral corundum would be called sapphires except for the red color, which would go by the name ruby. When the International Gemstone Association resolved that light shades of the red blue should be included in the ruby category since it was too late to legislate where red ended and pink began in practice, pink shades are now known as either pink rubies or pink sapphires.

Sapphires are a wonderful gift for the special person in your life for just about any occasion... anniversary, birthday, or to say, "I Love You!"

Jewelry

Novi News Staff

Grace Perry - Publisher
 gerry@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700, ext. 120

Cal Stone - Editor
 cstone@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700, ext. 113

Jennifer Dinning - Acct. Exec.
 jdinning@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700, ext. 102

Pam Fleming - Staff Writer
 pfleming@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700, ext. 105

Phil Foley - Staff Writer
 pfoley@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700, ext. 108

Ramez Khuri - Staff Writer
 rkhuri@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700, ext. 110

Sam Eggleston - Sports Writer
 seggleston@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700, ext. 104

John Heider - Staff Photographer
 jheider@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700, ext. 106

Karen Whitehart - Receptionist
 kwhitehart@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700

Marcia Cromas - Receptionist
 mcromas@novihomecomm.net
 (248) 349-1700

If it walks like a Dukakis...

It's not a new concept. Nearly 2,000 years ago the Greek historian and philosopher Plutarch noted, "Caesar's wife must be above suspicion."

In other words, yes, there is another set of rules for people in public life and they are not more relaxed.

Walled Lake area resident Mark Robbin's has his truckers in a twist over what he sees as a violation of the state's open meetings act.

What is questioned is that Nov. 15 newly-elected Mayor Lou Scordas and City Council Member Bob Gatt, along with veteran City Council Members David Landry and Kim Capelle, met with Asa Smith, president of the Lake Area Home Owners Association, to discuss Smith's concerns over road and bridge work completed by the city in the South Lake Drive area.

What is questioned, however, is was it a meeting?

The mayor says no, that it was no different than when he and five of the city council members gathered on the CSX Bridge the day before to mark the bridge's opening.

Robbins, on the other hand, is spluttering that the mayor broke his oath of office not a week after putting his hand on the Bible in front of three judges.

In the end, it probably comes down to what people believe more than what anyone can prove. Politics, after all, is as much about perception as it is reality.

You can be a Rhodes Scholar and have a 4.0 grade point average all the way back to the womb, but if you're in politics and people think you're an idiot, you are.

Just ask Michael Dukakis. In 1988 he put on a helmet and climbed into a tank to look macho, but people decided he looked like a goof, so he was, at least in the eyes of the voters.

It could be absolutely true, that as the mayor contends, that Smith called each of the commissioners individually and that they didn't know the others had been invited until they got to Smith's house.

However, at the end of that day, what really matters is what people believe.

Robbins wants people to believe that the mayor and boys' club, building a tree house and pulling up the rope. If they are, they're dumb as a box of rocks.

The thing is, this, like most political statues the criminal penalties are, well, minor. If an elected official is found guilty of violating the open meetings act, the maximum misdemeanor penalty is only \$1,000.

Any politician worth his salt should be able to raise that much with a dozen supporters during a morning coffee.

The real teeth in the act is that if a private person pursues and wins a conviction under the act, they can collect \$500 in damages as well as court cost and actual attorney fees.

Hmmmm, now if the boys were bad, how many high-priced lawyers, with political ambitions of their own, would be willing to step up to the plate if they were certain their fees would be covered and they'd be able to portray themselves as defending the public good?

I think if I were sitting on council, I do believe the next time I got an invite like this, I just might suggest that the person making the invitation come to a council meeting and formally invite everyone.

I don't think I'd care to be looking over my shoulder for a cranky neighbor with a really good lawyer.

In short, council members should be like Caesar's wife.

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

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

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Cal Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167

E-mail: cstone@ht.homecomm.net **Fax to:** (248) 349-9632

HomeTown COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Are you an organ & tissue donor?

Ask your family today, and let them know your decision, too. That way you'll know, they'll know, and there will be no question later.

For a free Brochure, call 1-800-368-SHARE, or visit our website at www.donor.gov

Share your life, share your decision. Michigan Coalition on donation

Toys for Tois slated for Dec. 7

All Star Gymnastics, located at 22515 Heisl Drive in Novi, will host a Toys for Tois event from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 7.

Guest appearances will include Novi Mayor Lisa Cordas, Barb Harris of the Detroit Shock women's professional basketball team and members of the Novi Middle School Choir, who will perform from 2 to 3 p.m.

Novi will also be on hand to sign autographs during this time.

Representatives from the U.S. Marine Corps will attend the charity event, and students from Farmington High School will assist other volunteers.

Activities are scheduled for ages 3 to 18 and will include a snowball, trampolines, soccer games, ice-free ball, volleyball and tumbling.

"We do have a preschool floor for the younger children, too," said Pauline Gaffney, Toys for Tois coordinator for the Novi/Northville area.

Mid Ladies serves as manager of All Star Gymnastics.

"This is an annual event, but this is the first year that All Star Gymnastics has hired talent and invited special guests," Gaffney said.

Cost to attend the event is the donation of one new, unwrapped toy. These will be a nominal charge for food and beverages. Garage fun pizza of Novi will provide pizzas costing \$5 for a large pizza with one topping. Pizza will also be available by the slice.

Playnouth Silkscreening Co., located near All Star Gymnastics on Heisl Road, will also donate T-shirts for volunteers at the event.

"In hopes to attract 500 children to the event," Gaffney said.

For more information about the Toys for Tois event, call All Star Gymnastics at (248) 380-5330.

Detroit Schools Technical Center-SW Campus Holiday Plants Sale

DATE/TIME: Phone or fax orders now until Dec. 1, Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Poematis, wreaths, roping, grave blankets.

PHONE/FAX: 248-668-5673 (same number)

MITch Albom book signing

DATE: Friday, Nov. 28

TIME: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Waldenbooks, 12 Oaks Mall, Novi

DETAILS: Detroit Free Press columnist Mitch Albom will be signing copies of his new book, "5 People You Meet in Heaven."

PHONE: (248) 735-8301

Michigan Humana Society 12th Annual Animal Care Fair

DATE: Saturday, Nov. 29 and Sunday, Nov. 30

TIME: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

LOCATION: Novi Expo Center, Novi

DETAILS: Milt Wilcox, pitcher for Detroit Tigers World Series victory in 1984 signing autographs and perform with his dock diving dog "Sparky." Two flyball tournament, pet adoptions, Meet Debby MacDonald, featured on the award-winning Animal Planet series "Animal Cops-Detroit."

Walled Lake Casino Rockin' Reunion

DATE: Saturday, November 29

TIME: 7 p.m.-11 p.m.

LOCATION: Walled Lake Northern High School, 6000 Biggie Lake Rd., Commerce

DETAILS: Starting CHUCK BERRY, American Legend. Tickets \$100 each. Two hour show, free food and beverage. Proceeds to fund the production of the Walled Lake Music Festival, July 1-4, 2004 in Walled Lake.

PHONE: To order tickets, 248-318-0692 or email: tcrcmail@aol.com

This is Christmas

DATE: Dec. 5-7

TIME: Friday & Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 4 p.m.

LOCATION: Farmington First United Methodist church, 33112 Grand River, Farmington; Saturday - Meadowbrook Congregational Church, 21355 Meadowbrook

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Holiday Mixer and Open House

DATE: Tuesday, December 2

TIME: 5 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Maples Country Club, 31260 Wakefield Drive, Novi

DETAILS: \$75/advance, \$100/door. Food, prizes and raffles.

Ladies Christmas Tea

DATE: Tuesday, Dec. 2

TIME: 7 p.m.

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, between Taft and Novi roads

DETAILS: Ladies in the holiday season with this festive event including refreshments, music, entertainment; \$4. Our Mission Project this year please bring a pair of new socks (for children through adult) or laundry detergent, for the Interfaith Food Bank and Clothing Parity.

PHONE: Lori Quick, (248) 427-2700

Library Friends Winter Gala

DATE: Friday, Dec. 5

LOCATION: Island Lake subdivision, on Wixom between Ten and Eleven Mile roads

DETAILS: Members of the Friends of the Novi Library will enjoy a reception featuring music and refreshments at one of Novi's finest and most luxurious homes, the fully furnished model in the beautiful new Island Lake sub. This exclusive event, part of a membership drive, is free to all current and new members of the Friends. Those not currently members may join at the library or at the reception. Individual memberships are \$10.

PHONE: (248) 349-0720

Walled Lake Central High School Renaissance Fair

DATES/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 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.

Meadowbrook Congregational Church "Treats and Treasures" sale

DATE: Saturday, December 6

TIME: 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

LOCATION: 21355 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi (between 8 and 9 mile rds.)

DETAILS: Artistic decorations, baked goods, Christmas decorations, jewel-

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Evening Connection

DATE: Thursday, December 11

TIME: 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Wixom Community Center, 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom

DETAILS: Klebba Agency, Inc. is hosting this business connection. Robert Harmelin from American Medical Security presents a discussion on Health Reimbursement Accounts and saving money on your company's health benefits. Bring your business cards. Free event.

Novi Theatres 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, \$10/advance, \$12/door.

Walled Lake United Methodist Church "A Christmas Walk"

DATE: Sunday, December 14

TIME: 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: 313 Northport, Walled Lake

DETAILS: Join us for a venture back in time to witness the journey leading to the birth of Jesus Christ.

Winter Concert

DATE: Sunday, Dec. 14

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, between Taft and Novi roads

DETAILS: The Novi Concert Band will play its annual winter concert, an enjoyable reading of traditional Christmas and Hanukkah music plus other new and seasonal music. Sponsored by Novi Parks and Recreation Department. Free.

PHONE: (248) 349-4232

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Walled Lake Western High School PTA Holiday Arts and Crafts Show

DATE: Dec. 6-7

TIME: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

LOCATION: WLW High School, 500 Beck Rd., Walled Lake

DETAILS: Admission \$2, wide range of arts and crafts, food, free door prizes.

PHONE: Deanna Nazarov (248) 348-8514.

Walled Lake Tree Lighting Ceremony

DATE: Monday, December 8

TIME: 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

LOCATION: City complex, 1499 E. West Maple Rd.

DETAILS: Visits with Santa, Dance Dynamics performing, caroling from Harmony.

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Evening Connection

DATE: Thursday, December 11

TIME: 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Wixom Community Center, 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom

DETAILS: Klebba Agency, Inc. is hosting this business connection. Robert Harmelin from American Medical Security presents a discussion on Health Reimbursement Accounts and saving money on your company's health benefits. Bring your business cards. Free event.

Meadowbrook Congregational Church "Treats and Treasures" sale

DATE: Saturday, December 6

TIME: 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

LOCATION: 21355 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi (between 8 and 9 mile rds.)

DETAILS: Artistic decorations, baked goods, Christmas decorations, jewel-

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Evening Connection

DATE: Thursday, December 11

TIME: 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Wixom Community Center, 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom

DETAILS: Klebba Agency, Inc. is hosting this business connection. Robert Harmelin from American Medical Security presents a discussion on Health Reimbursement Accounts and saving money on your company's health benefits. Bring your business cards. Free event.

Novi Theatres 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, \$10/advance, \$12/door.

Walled Lake United Methodist Church "A Christmas Walk"

DATE: Sunday, December 14

TIME: 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: 313 Northport, Walled Lake

DETAILS: Join us for a venture back in time to witness the journey leading to the birth of Jesus Christ.

Winter Concert

DATE: Sunday, Dec. 14

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, between Taft and Novi roads

DETAILS: The Novi Concert Band will play its annual winter concert, an enjoyable reading of traditional Christmas and Hanukkah music plus other new and seasonal music. Sponsored by Novi Parks and Recreation Department. Free.

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

Novi Theatres 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, \$10/advance, \$12/door.

Walled Lake United Methodist Church "A Christmas Walk"

DATE: Sunday, December 14

TIME: 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: 313 Northport, Walled Lake

DETAILS: Join us for a venture back in time to witness the journey leading to the birth of Jesus Christ.

Winter Concert

DATE: Sunday, Dec. 14

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, between Taft and Novi roads

DETAILS: The Novi Concert Band will play its annual winter concert, an enjoyable reading of traditional Christmas and Hanukkah music plus other new and seasonal music. Sponsored by Novi Parks and Recreation Department. Free.

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

Too many cooks can't spoil this stew

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Attending a cooking class taught by Novi Executive Chef Mary Brady, owner of Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro at Novi Town Center, is definitely a hands-on experience. She basically hands students an apron and recipes and says "Go for it!"

"This may be a little intimidating to the novice cook, but being responsible for the final product makes students realize how easy most of the dishes are to prepare."

I audited one of Brady's classes, "Little Plates Two." Nov. 12 at Novi Middle School. Her classes, offered through the Novi school district's in-Community Education program, are followed by a feast of all the dishes prepared.

Karen Kowalski, who works at the bistro, assisted Brady during the class. Students receive a handout with all recipes made during the class as well as a sample of Brady's special seasonal salad.

"It's the first cooking class I've taken through Novi Community Education, and I really enjoyed it," said Joanne Bernard of Northville.

"This was the first time I have needed a hands-on class, and I thought the recipes were very doable. It's probably the best cooking class I've ever taken," Bernard said.

"I was a little apprehensive at first. But it ended up being a very enjoyable class. Mary is also very



Photo by Pam Fleming

Certified Executive Chef Mary Brady of Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro in Novi answers a question from Michelle Thompson, of Novi, in her "Little Plates II" cooking class Nov. 12 at Novi Middle School. Brady, who also owns Mary Brady's Custom Catering, uses a hands-on approach in her instruction.

approachable. She's very gracious." Bernard. "I certainly plan to take another one."

"Jim Brady's is one of our favorite places. I have a lot of respect for Mary. I enjoy her creativity. I attended one of the international dinners at Schoolcraft College when she worked there, so I've seen her in action," said Karen Olsen of Northville.

"I was also looking for something that I could do with my daughter-in-law, Jennifer Clarkson. She likes to cook, too," Olsen said.

"I thought it was great fun. It kind of gives you the feeling of the hustle and bustle of a restaurant."

Karen Ritchie of Novi said she attended the class for two reasons. "I like going to Diamond Jim Brady's, and I've recently retired and wanted to expand my horizons in the kitchen."

"I thought it was fun. It's amazing how a group of people who don't know each other can come together and gel. The other thing I found amazing was how so many people could successfully work together in a kitchen," Ritchie.


"The fact that she lets you do the cooking gives you confidence to prepare the dish once you get home," she added.

Recipes featured Mussels with Amalgio Sauce, Shrimp and Lobster Cakes with Avocado and Corn Salsa and Chili Lime Ahi, and a Mediterranean Plate with Humus, Tabouleh, Roasted Garlic, Marinated Olives, Caponata, and


TRUCK SEASON



2004 FORD F-150



ONLY ONE TRUCK EARNED THE RIGHT TO BE THE NEXT F-150.



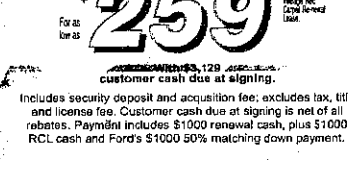
Current Ford Employee Lessees can Re-Lease a 2004 Explorer XLT

\$259 per month

Includes security deposit and acquisition fee; excludes tax, title and license fee. Customer cash due at signing is net of all rebates. Payment includes \$1000 renewal cash, plus \$1000 RCL cash and Ford's \$1000 50% matching down payment.



BRUCE ALMIGHTY



Current Ford Employee Lessees can Re-Lease a 2004 Ranger SC XLT 4x4

\$162 per month


Includes security deposit and acquisition fee; excludes tax, title and license fee. Customer cash due at signing is net of all rebates. Payment includes \$500 renewal cash, plus \$1000 RCL cash and Ford's \$1000 50% matching down payment.

THE SUV EARLY BIRD PROGRAM IS BACK!

NOW ELIGIBLE FORD RCL SUV LESSEES CAN TERMINATE THEIR LEASE UP TO 7 MONTHS EARLY!

THE EARLY BIRD PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE TO SELECTED RCL/RCL/APP LESSEES WITH SCHEDULED TERMINATIONS BETWEEN FEB. 1, 2004 & JUNE 30, 2004. TAKE NEW RETAIL DELIVERY FROM DEALER STOCK BY 1/13/04. RESTRICTIONS APPLY. SEE DEALER FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.

IF YOU HAVEN'T LOOKED AT FORD LATELY, LOOK AGAIN



(1) Some payments higher, some lower. Not all Lessees will qualify for lowest payment. For special lease terms and RCL Cash, \$1000 RCL cash on 2004 Explorer 4x4, \$2000 RCL cash on 2004 Ranger, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/13/04. RCL Cash may be taken in cash, but is used towards down payment in examples shown. Lessee renewal cash of \$1000 on Explorer, \$500 on Ranger, only available to customers terminating their Ford Division Retail Lease and re-lease for 36 months by 1/13/2004. Leases terminated early qualify if terminated within program dates. The Ford Employee 50% down payment matching program to \$1000 total (excl. 12/1/03). Supplies are limited, not all dealers will have all featured models. Residency restrictions apply. See dealer for complete details. All payment examples are for Current Ford Employees and eligible family member Lessees.

HINES PARK FORD I-96 at Milford Rd. Lyon Twp. 248-437-6700



OPEN SATURDAYS

SCREEN BEAT

By Brian Renner

Opening in theaters this week

"The Haunted Mansion" follows workaholic real-estate agent Jim Eveland (Edie Murphy) who, drags his family up to the big, creepy mansion in hopes of rebuilding it into a lavish new condo development. When they get there, however, the family quickly finds that the place is big show, otherwise known as high school. "Dumb and Dumber: When Harry Met Lloyd" is a New Line Cinema release and rated PG-13 by the MPAA for crude and sex-related humor and language.

Laugh-out loud comedy "Bruce Almighty" starring Jim Carrey as Bruce Nolan, a "human interest" television reporter in Buffalo, New York who is disgraced with almost everything in life, despite his popularity and the love of his girlfriend Grace (Jennifer Aniston). At the end of the worst day in his life, Bruce angrily ridicules and rages against God and God responds. He appears in human form (Morgan Freeman), and endowing Bruce with all of His divine powers, challenges Bruce to take on the big job and see if he can do it any better. "Bruce Almighty" is a Universal Pictures release and rated PG-13 by the MPAA for language, sexual content and some crude humor.

Mutants continue their struggle against a society that fears and distrusts them in sci-fi sequel "X2: X-Men United". Their cause becomes even more desperate following an incredible attack by an underground assault team possessing extraordinary abilities. The shocking attack renews the political and public outcry for a Mutant Registration Act and an anti-mutant movement now led by William Stryker, a former Army commander who is rumored to have experimented on mutants. The all-star cast includes Hugh Jackman, Halle Berry, Ian McKellen, Rebecca Romijn-Stamos, Patrick Stewart, Anna Paquin, Bruce Davidson, Alan Cumming, Brian Cox, Kelly Hu and James Marsden. X2: X-Men United is a 20th Century Fox and rated PG for sci-fi action/violence, some sexuality and brief language.

Premiering just on DVD shelves this week

"Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" (Special Edition) (G), "The Dark Crystal" (Collector's Edition) (PG), "Ellen DeGeneres: Here and Now" (NR), "Legend of Suriyothai" (R), "Mail Call: The Best of Season One" (NR), "Man on the Train" (NR), "Profiler: Season 2" (6-DVD Set) (NR), and "War Photographer" (NR).

For more information, please log on to TheMovieInsider.com. Please direct any questions, comments, and/or feedback to brian@themovieinsider.com.

In theaters next week

Ten drama "Honey" (PG-13) and historical epic "The Last Samurai" (R).

TANGER

AFTER THANKSGIVING SALE

November 28-30, 2003

(eat a lot, fuel up for the hunt)

Shop Early for Extra Savings

Open at 8am-10pm · Fri., Nov. 28

Open at 9am-9pm · Sat., Nov. 29

Open at 10am-7pm · Sun., Nov. 30

LOG ON TO tangeroutlet.com

for Special Holiday Offers & All Early Openings

BUY DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURER

- GAP OUTLET
- POLO RALPH LAUREN FACTORY STORE
- CARTER'S · OSHKOSH
- OLD NAVY OUTLET
- LE GOURMET CHEF
- HARRY & DAVID
- TOMMY HILFINGER · GUESS?
- NIKE · AND MORE!

TANGER OUTLET CENTER

Bargain hunting at its best.

Howell, MI

DECEMBER 1-24: MON-SAT 10AM-9PM, SUN 11AM-7PM

Surf the web all you want

...for only **\$13.99** per month*

includes:

A deal this good won't last long, so sign-up and start surfing today before this offer expires.

1.866.761.8742
or www.htdconnect.com

HOME TOWN newspapers

Brought to you by your trusted, hometown newspaper.

2-DAY SALE EVENT

FIND UNBELIEVABLE PRICES!

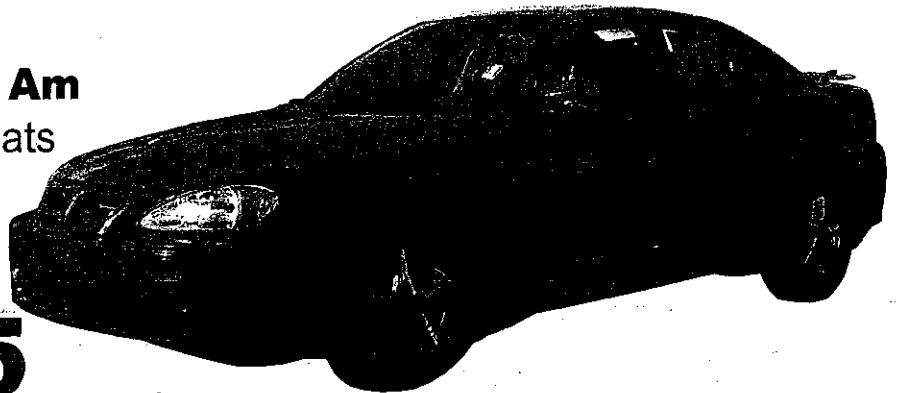
On a great selection of cars & SUVs

**November 28th, 9am-9pm and
November 29th 10am-6pm Only!**

2001 Pontiac Grand Am

- Ram Air • Leather Seats
- Power Roof
- 29,000 Miles

\$11,995



2001 Nissan Xterra

- 4x4 • Power Roof
- Loaded

\$13,995

ERHARD

Gallery of Used Cars

The finest pre-owned cars and SUV's from
the finest name in Michigan Auto Sales.

*No payments until February 2004, upon approved credit. *Financing available. *See Erhard for details

38200 Grand River Avenue, Farmington Hills

248.474.9900

NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

Thursday, November 27, 2003

HART BREAKER

Novi's Silverdome dream fall six inches short

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

For those who were near the line, or standing with a good vantage point, it seemed as though that ball crossed the threshold.

Of course, no one wearing black and orange would say so, but the faithful in green and white quickly exploded as the final attempt to cross into the endzone by senior quarterback Mike Hart was waved off by the line judge in Novi's 31-28 loss in overtime to Brother Rice in the state semi-final game.

The call, which was an option-style play that gave Hart the choice to hand the ball to fullback Josh Buck or take it himself, came after Rice nailed a field goal to take the lead in their overtime possession.

"It was game 13 for us and we knew we had to go for it if we wanted to beat our opponent," Novi coach Tab Kellepourey said. "We have a lot of respect for Brother Rice, but we have a lot of respect for ourselves too. Our kids were fired up. We talked about what we should do on the sidelines, and they were all in favor of going for it."

After the hand-off had gone to Buck on the previous three plays that had went three, four and two yards respectively, it seemed as though all of the Brother Rice defenders would be keying on the big bruiser of a fullback. All, except, one. A Warrior came blitzing off the end, scooted around his blocker and put a hit into Hart's thigh pads just as the senior cut upfield with the ball. As he was falling forward, Hart stretched the ball and touched the goal line as he hit the ground — but the play was waved off as the official said his knee hit the ground prior to the ball breaking the plane.

"I thought it crossed," Hart said following the game and then shrugged. "I can think it, everyone can think it, but the official didn't and that's all that matters."

Novi knew right away that this wasn't going to be an easy game. Playing at Berkley High School, on the new, rubber turf that has become so popular over the last couple of years, the Wildcats kicked off and proceeded to be picked apart by a patient Brother Rice running game that took five minutes off the clock on their way to a score and a 7-0 lead.

In turn, the Warrior defense held strong, forcing the Wildcats to punt. After a broken coverage allowed the Wildcats to give the Rice returner pressure and caused a fumble, senior utility player Trent Sisson dove on it and came up with the football to revive the Wildcats.

Novi took advantage as Hart steadied his team with some impressive throws from the backfield and eventually finding Trevor Hoover on a nine-yard touchdown strike. Senior Mark Angelocci's kick tied the game at 7-7.

"That was a beautiful pass," Kellepourey said of Hart's throw to Hoover. "He's a great quarterback. He has the ability to lead his team and to take control of a game and does he have one heck of an arm."

The Wildcats took the lead early in the second quarter following a third and nine scenario. Hart backed up in the pocket, guarded by protection from Ryan Fritchard, Kyle Margrave, Chad Thurman, Steve Jabbori and Mark Kaminski, and found Hoover streaking down the sideline for a 27-yard scoring pass to take a 14-7 lead.

Rice wasn't deterred though, and answered quickly after returning the ball to the Novi 26-yard line on the kickoff. The defense held, for the most part, and forced

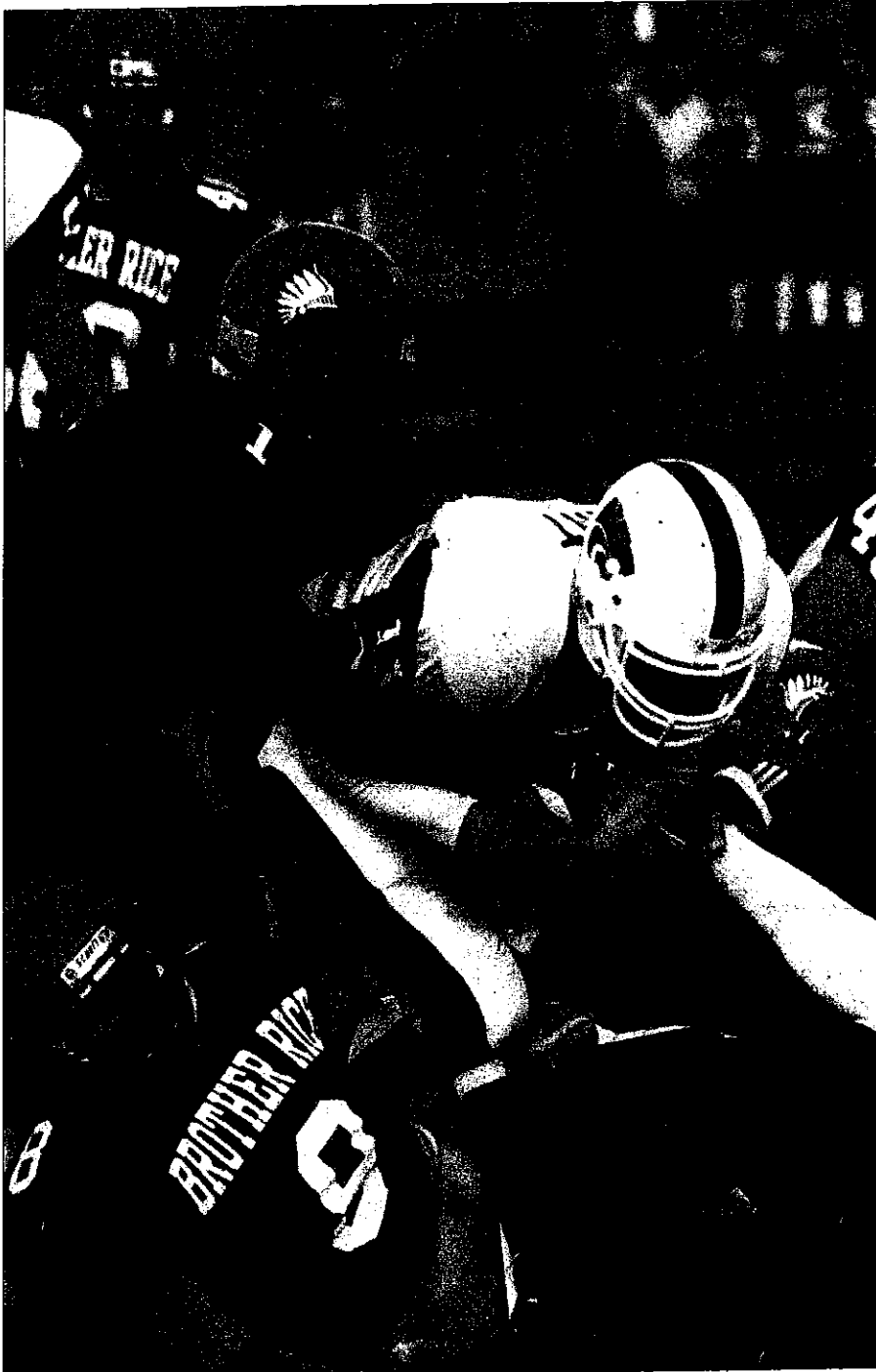


Photo by SAM EGGLESTON

Novi's Mike Hart can't get through the horde of Brother Rice defenders that came up to greet him late in the third quarter. The Wildcats, who finished the season at 12-1, fell to Brother Rice 31-28 in the state semi-finals game.

a fourth and goal. The stand was for naught though, as Rice scored a touchdown to a wide-open receiver in the corner of the endzone.

With the game tied 14-14 and time expiring in the half, the Wildcats went to work trying to gain enough yardage to get within Angelocci's range. After multiple passing plays, the Wildcats opted for a halfback draw that sprung for 39 yards and the touchdown as Josh Woods bounced outside, juke a linebacker and outran the defense to the endzone for the surprising score with just under 11 seconds left in the half.

"It was strategic in the fact that we needed to move the ball closer to hit a field goal on the next play," Kellepourey said. "We called a running play, and Josh used his running ability to make it happen. He broke a tackle, made a move to get open and executed the play

nicely." The 21-14 lead was one that the Wildcats enjoyed for the majority of the second half. After multiple turnovers, punts and a tenacious defense kept both sides from getting in the redzone throughout the scoreless third quarter, an unfortunate fumble to start the fourth quarter gave Rice the momentum they needed. The Warriors marched 63 yards in a minute and a half before scoring to tie the game 21-21.

Minutes later, Novi committed another turnover with an interception, which Rice took advantage of once again. After taking the ball down to the Novi 31-yard line, Rice set up for the field goal but was called for a delay of game that forced them to go for the first down instead on fourth and eight. The play was a pass, which was caught, and then an extra 15 yards was awarded by the officials due to a personal foul. With 1:33 left in the game, Rice crossed into the endzone for the score and a 28-21 lead.

The Wildcats, who have been in similar situations throughout the year, started down the field from their own 27 yard line. Hart put together 60 yards in passing and 10 on the ground before finding Hoover in the endzone for a touchdown and a tied game with 21.4 seconds left in the game and both teams prepping for overtime.

After Rice's field goal gave them the lead, the "Cats came in looking to score but were stopped, according to officials, six inches from the goal. "We thought we had the right play," Kellepourey said. "It went for us before. We knew we had good blocking, a good quarterback and a good fullback. It was the right decision at the time.

"The kids were emotionally charged up and ready to make that play happen. Unfortunately, we were stopped."

Novi will lose a slew of talented seniors, including four of their starting five linemen.

"It's not about seniors, juniors or anyone else," Kellepourey said. "It's about Wildcat football. The coaches are so proud of these kids. We know this program is getting stronger and stronger. We know it factors into the school, the parent groups and the community. We're proud of all of those things, but we're most proud of our kids."

Following the Mackenzie victory in the Regional final, Kerry Kreutzberg said he wanted to be part of a team that would be remembered 10 years down the road.

"That goal, there's no doubt, has been reached."



Sam Eggleston

What can be said about this football season other than one word: Wow.

The Novi Wildcats took me, and their fans, as far as any team in school history has ever gone — and this year they were only six inches from the Silverdome and the state finals instead of the six feet in 1988.

The Novi Wildcats should be proud of what they have accomplished. They are great

kids with huge hearts that never once gave up. They pushed and pushed and pushed in order to come up with victories all year long. They played through injury, played through pain and played through the doubt that so-called professionals cast upon their ability to win.

This was, quite frankly, one heck of a year to be a Novi Wildcat.

I came to find myself very ingrained with this football team. I felt as though I were a part of it in a way. Sure, I never called a play, or gave a pep talk or went onto the field to play — but I felt it nonetheless. These players became a part of my job, and then friends — as did the coaching staff.

Through the years, I've always made an effort to keep separated from a team. If anything bad were to happen, in a variety of definitions, I would be forced to write about it and never wanted my closeness to have a say in my reporting. With these Wildcats, I came to find myself not only close to them, but positive that such an occasion would not arise. Every single one of them are stand-up individuals and each deserves an applause greater than any amount a packed stadium could ever bring.

It's never easy to take a loss like the one these boys took against a quality Brother Rice team. So close, yet so far away.

But, they took the loss with their chins up. They knew there was only two ways their season could end — with a championship or with a loss. Only one team in Division II is going to end the season with elation, which means oh-so-many others feel the pain of a season-ending loss.

The Novi Wildcats should be proud of everything they have accomplished and everything they have reached for. Sure, the ultimate prize of a state title was just out of reach, but you got to taste it and know that it is the sweetest thing in the world for a high school athlete. I never knew what it felt like — never experienced the post-season as a player. But, I've been able to experience it through you, Wildcats.

In my opinion, the better team didn't get a ticket to the Silverdome Saturday. No, the better team packed their bags, took a deep breath and walked to the bus under a barrage of applause.

Beyond anything else, you're football players. You know the game, you love the game and you played the game to the best of your abilities. No one can ever take that away from you. For years to come, they'll talk about you. For years to come, they'll be in awe of you. For the rest of their lives, they'll remember you. Why? Because you're Wildcats.

GAME OF THE WEEK



**Novi
Wildcats**

One heck of a run!

Mike Hart
Senior
Football



Here's the kind of athlete that would rather take the ball into his own hands and let the game rest on his shoulders than to give the burden to someone else. In our book, that's the definition of All-Star. Hart was born into this world trying to out cry the other babies and seeing which of the other toddlers could learn how to walk first. Why? Because he's a competitor and a true athlete — one that will never give up.

Mark Kaminski
Senior
Football



There's a reason Kaminski seemed to be a name everyone became familiar with this year — he earned it. Off season workouts turned him from a mild-mannered second-string player to one of the best athletes on the Novi football team in 2003. His heart and desire are things that every athlete in every sport should learn from — players like Kaminski make championships and players like Kaminski are respected by everyone who ever meets them — because they earned it.

Athletes OF THE Week

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

Making an impact in our communities!

There are many rewarding things about publishing these newspapers. We feel fortunate to be recognized for our work by the Michigan Press Association, but more fortunate for the privilege of serving you, our readers.



SAM BLACK
South Lyon Herald / Milford Times
First Place - General Excellence
First Place - Design
Second Place - Feature Picture
H. Mention - Feature Picture



HAL GOULD
South Lyon Herald / Novi News
First Place - Sports Picture
First Place - Picture Story
Third Place - Sports Picture
Third Place - Feature Picture



SAM EGGLESTON
Novi News / Northville Record
First Place - Sports Coverage
Second Place - Sports Writing
Second Place - Sports Feature
H. Mention - Sports Feature



PHILIP ALLMEN
Milford Times
Third Place - General Excellence
Second Place - Design
First Place - Special Section



DAVID AGUILAR
Milford Times
First Place - Feature Story
H. Mention - Sports Columnist



STAN FRANK
Milford Times / South Lyon Herald
Third Place - Sports Writing
Second Place - Sports Coverage
H. Mention - Sports Writing



KRISTIN LUKOWSKI
First Place - LCDPA
Spot News Story



AILEEN WINGBLAD
Milford Times
Third Place - Enterprise Reporting



ERIN JOHNSON
Milford Times
Third Place - Sports Feature



JOHN HEIDER
Northville Record
H. Mention - Sports Picture



JIM TOTTON
Third Place - LCDPA
Enterprise Reporting



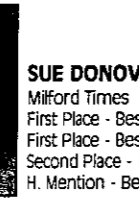
KATE SHUSTER
Second Place - LCDPA
Lifestyle Pages



ERIC CHERNENKOFF
South Lyon Herald
Second Place - Picture Story



LISA DRANGINIS
South Lyon Herald
Second Place - Best Multi Color Ad



SUE DONOVAN, BOB PERI, JENNIFER REWITZ
Milford Times
First Place - Best Automobile Ad
First Place - Best Multi Color Ad
Second Place - Best Ad Series
H. Mention - Best Use of Newspaper Art Service



Soccer just a way of life for this Dream Teamer

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

So many people say they wouldn't trade this honor or that honor for anything in the world - not Brad Simpson.

The Novi senior soccer star, who was recently named to the All-State First-Team soccer list as well as a member of the prestigious Dream Team, said he would have traded all of the accolades he has received this year in a heartbeat.

"I would have rather won the state title," Simpson said. "Getting honors is great, but I would trade it for a state championship. The team comes first, anything I get as an individual comes second."

Simpson earned a lot of individual nods this year. Though his team was eliminated in the second round of District Tournament play...

but he's not saying he doesn't appreciate the nods he received. "This is a team game, and I'd rather see the team go far first," he said.

Madison and Cincinnati. I keep talking to the coaches, and as the seasons are ending I'll be able to talk to them more. The more I interact with them, the more the decision will become easier to make.

Wildcats take two early season losses

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

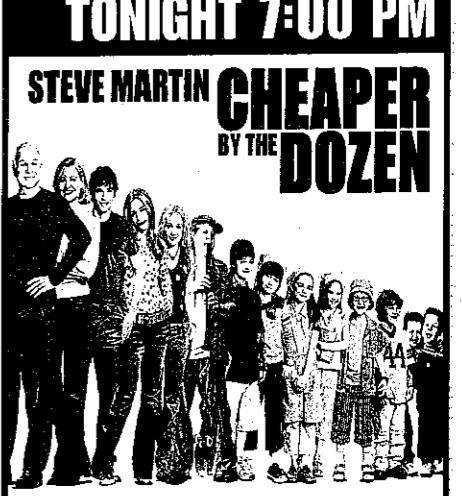
It definitely wasn't the beginning of the season Novi coach Dan Phelps was hoping for - but he's confident his team will learn from it.

Farmington Unified 4-1 in their first game of the tournament. More importantly, it was good for us to get that first win of the season.

win over them in four years. More importantly, it was good for us to get that first win of the season.

Special teams wins games," Phelps noted. "They scored two goals on the power play. Take those away, and the game was in reach for us."

SUPER-SIZED SNEAK PREVIEW TONIGHT 7:00 PM



AMC FORUM 30 AMC LUTHERIA 20 ENAGINE NOW 248-9499
STAR SOUTHWEST 20 STAR ORATOT 41 MI 15 STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING 248-454-2006
STAR SOUTHWEST US COMMERCE STADIUM 14 UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12

SPORTS SHORTS

Rec Basketball League forming

The Northville Parks and Rec department is currently accepting player registration for its Youth Winter Basketball Leagues and will continue to do so until the leagues are full.

AAU Girls Basketball Tryouts

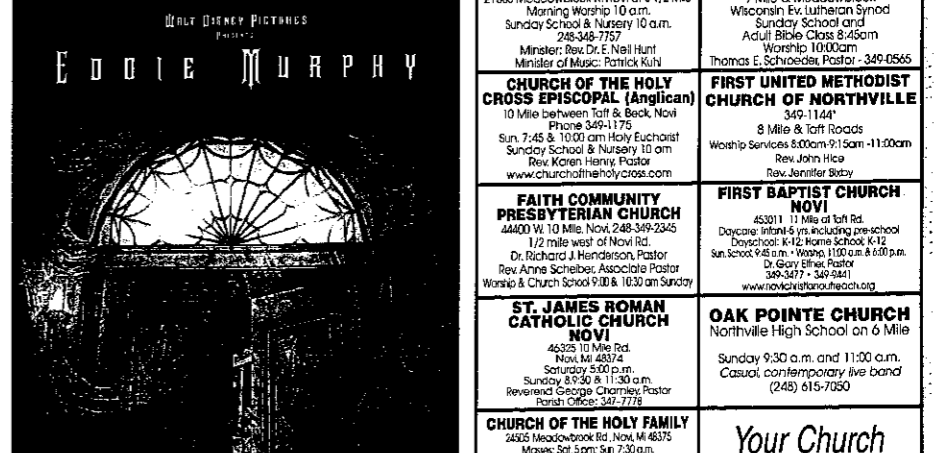
The Legion AAU girls basketball team will be holding tryouts December 7 and Dec. 13 at Andover High School.

Learn to Skate

The Novi Ice Arena's Learn to Skate Program runs through December 29 with a wide variety of classes being offered at different times Tuesdays through Saturday.



elf advertisement details including location and showtimes.



The Haunted Mansion advertisement details including location and showtimes.

For more information visit us online at www.through.com

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 6B

Thursday, November 27, 2003

MONEY MATTERS

Arm yourself with a holiday spending plan

If you've not yet crafted a holiday spending plan, consider these strategies to avoid letting your generosity get the better of you.

Decide whom you'll buy for. Sit down and think about whom you really want to buy for this year. Is it really necessary to give gifts to your housekeeper, stylist, pet sitter and office mates? Send them a fun e-card, or take the time to write a heartfelt sentiment in a carefully chosen holiday card — one that you think would appeal to their personality. Do you feel compelled to buy for your extended family members? Don't assume your aunts, uncles, grandmas and grandpas want gifts. They may be up to their ears in gadgets and trinkets. Instead, query them about what's near and dear to their hearts. Perhaps you can make a contribution to their favorite charity (which is tax deductible) or accompany them on a community service outing.

Decide how much you'll spend. Once you've determined whom you'll buy for, jot down how much you think you want to spend on gifts. Include incidental items like Christmas cards (be sure to include postage), decorations, crafts, holiday food and any outfits you want to purchase for you or your kids. Next to each item jot down the dollar amount you want to spend and then tally the costs. Is it more than you're comfortable spending? Look at your list and cut out names or reduce the gift dollar amounts.

Tap the right side of your brain — get creative. Consider some alternatives to store bought gifts. Dr. Sam Quick, human development & family relations specialist with the Kentucky State University Cooperative Extension Office, recommends crafting homemade gift certificates. What type of gifts might you give? For the friends in your life who are single moms, or for the couple who needs a much-needed break from their kids, donate four Friday evenings of free babysitting. A son might give his mother a certificate for an hour of his time doing any chore of her choice — with no protests.

To create a gift certificate in Word, open a new document. Click "Insert" on your tool bar, and then choose "Text Box" from the pull down menu (fifth option from the bottom). Draw your text box. Click inside the text box to add text. In the top left hand corner of the box type "To:" and fill in the name of the person to whom you're presenting the certificate. Next, type "What:" and describe what your gift is. Be specific (Dad will give mom a 25 minute back massage). Finally, in the bottom right hand corner of the certificate, draw a signature line (To draw a line, choose "Autoshapes" by clicking "Insert" and then "Pictures"). There you'll sign your name, in pen. Also, somewhere on the certificate, indicate how long the offer is good for. You can fit three or four certificates on a page. Print the page, cut out the certificates and put them in envelopes. Consider asking your kids to put their artistic touch on the envelopes. You'll be involving them in the gift giving process and you'll set an example of how you can share the Christmas spirit for just pennies.

If you pay with credit... If you're planning to use your credit cards this year to purchase gifts, use the one with the lowest interest rate. And treat it as if it's money you drew out of your checking account. Once you reach the dollar limit you decided on when you crafted your spending plan, charge not one cent more. And make a concerted effort to pay down your balance quickly. You don't want to be paying for Junior's toys next August.

Open a Christmas Club Account. In January, open a Christmas Club account. Most credit unions and many banks offer them. Put some money in each month based on how much you spent last year. Arrange to have the amount automatically deducted from your paycheck. This way, when it's time to shop for the holidays again, you'll have all the money you need. And you'll earn interest rather than making big interest payments to finance next year's holiday shopping.

Mary Davis manages public affairs for the Michigan Credit Union League (MCUL), a statewide trade association representing Michigan credit unions. Send your financial questions to "Your Money Matters" c/o the Michigan Credit Union League, P.O. Box 8054, Plymouth, MI 48170-8054, or stop by our Web site (www.mcul.org) to learn more about smart money management. Comments about this column may be e-mailed to mcd@mcul.org.

ADVERTORIAL



Dean and Cindi Rottermond, second and third from left in second row, are shown with staffers and collected gifts for the less fortunate.

Rottermond Jewelers gives back to community

It all began five years ago with a hope and dream of Cindi Rottermond, vice president of Rottermond Jewelers.

She clearly remembered how during her days at Ford Motor Company she had participated in a Christmas program called "Operation Good Cheer" in which employees "adopted" abused/neglected children, making the holidays brighter for those in need.

Cindi talked it over with her husband Dean and other staffers at their Milford jewelry store. "Did they want to be involved in a similar local project?" she asked.

When the replies returned in the affirmative, Cindi sprang into action. When she learned that 183 area residents that year had asked for aid through Community Resource Sharing (CRS), a local assistance program, she was shocked.

Thus, "Sharing Christmas with Others" was launched.

Cindi and Dean asked their customers also to become involved in adopting 12 families. She distributed flyers around town and Rottermond staffers handed them out to customers. Cindi even devised a method of keeping track of everyone who agreed to contribute and what the donation would be. Gift certificates for food and clothing were also collected and given to CRS for additional families.

From warm boots and pajamas to trucks and dolls, the gifts poured in. The Milford Post Office employees adopted three families and provided everything on those families' lists and more.

And she didn't stop there. Cindi enlisted the help of parents of the Prestwick Village Golf Club Children's Party and asked them to contribute gift certificates.

Instead of exchanging gifts among themselves, the youngsters brought the gift certificates to their annual party and learned about sharing with others.

Rottermond staffers also were involved. They, too, purchased gifts and wrapped, hauled and delivered them. All of that was in addition to the bookkeeping efforts of making sure every family's gifts were together.

That was five years ago, and the program has continued to grow. This year Rottermond Jewelers has adopted 20 families, and the program of Sharing Christmas with Others has been extended to the Rottermond's Brighton jewelry store.

"Our customers have come to expect this outreach," said Cindi. "In addition to the Milford Post Office employees, other businesses have called to pitch in. We try to allocate one gift per adult and three for each child. For the youngsters, it is often the basics — coats, snow boots and mittens and one toy. We also try to give a grocery gift card to each family for food," Cindi explained.

Clients and other donors are asked to wrap each gift and deliver it to the store by a specific day. Families are directed to come to Rottermonds to pick up their gifts on a designated day in keeping with the confidentiality guidelines set by CRS.

But the Rottermonds do not stop there with their service to the community. Dean established a relationship with Huron Valley Schools about 12 years ago, working with jewelry teachers Dorothy Kane at Lakeland and Andrea Bronson at Milford High. He has supplied gemstones and metals for the advanced jewelry classes at both high schools. He also sponsors scholarships for top jewelry students who further their studies.

Students vie for top honors during a



From left, Dorothy Kane, Andrea Bronson, (HV Schools Jewelry instructors), jeweler Eric Larvick and Dean Rottermond with some of the students' work.

special evening at the store to which parents are also invited. Dean and his staff of jewelers judge the submissions, awarding ribbons and scholarships to the students based on design, craftsmanship and uniqueness.

Dean has also served the community in a variety of roles. He has served on the Downtown Parking Authority and been a member and chair of the Milford Downtown Development Authority. He has served as vice chair of the Huron Valley YMCA and has chaired the "Swing for Kids" benefit for the Y's Partners with Youth Scholarship Program. Cindi has assisted in fund raising activities as St. Joseph's School in Howell and

served as a Cub Scout den mother for three years. At the pack level, she helped collect food for the homeless and prepare a meal for the less fortunate in Livingston County.

Rottermond Jewelers has also donated to countless organizations throughout the area.

Cindi and Dean, together with their staff, work hard at their commitment to the community, particularly with young people and the less fortunate.

"Many of us take for granted our blessings, forgetting that there are so many who have real needs. Christmas reminds us of core values, and the love we should share with others," Cindi concluded.

"Many of us take for granted our blessings, forgetting that there are so many who have real needs."

Cindi Rottermond
Rottermond Jewelers vice president

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

ROTTERMOND
MILFORD BRIGHTON
248.685.1150 810.220.0015