



Novi News



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

Thursday, March 11, 2004

hometownlife.com

50c

Volume 48 Number 41

Novi, Michigan

© 2004 HomeTown Communications Network™

INSIDE



March's Feature Teacher

Novi Woods' kindergarten teacher Jill Walro enunciates the "th" sound as she does a reading and sounding out exercise with Willow Guenther.

Page 13A

OBITUARIES

- Beverly M. Basins
Dolores J. Revitte-Maher
Diana L. Tanner
Louise R. Huntley
Kay L. Kehoe

Page 4A

REGIONAL MARKET



Little Italy Ristorante

People, who have enjoyed the authentic Italian cuisine and fine dining at Little Italy Ristorante and Bacchus Bar in downtown Northville, can now take that same food home from the Hutton Street Market.

Page 4B

INDEX

- Business .7A
Classifieds .1D
Opinion / Letters .14 / 15A
Police Report .9A
Schools .2A
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



Council OKs Preserve plans

Nine Mile and Napier sub will feature 70 units

By Phil Foley

A year from now Grosse Pointe developer Robert Halso plans on transforming a 111-acre parcel near the corner of Napier and Nine Mile roads into a 70-unit single-family neighborhood.

Novi City Council voted unanimously at its March 1 meeting to approve Halso's plans for The Preserve.

According to Halso's engineering consultant, Cliff Sieber, The Preserve will be a mix-used development with lots ranging from

15,523 square feet to one acre. Under the terms of the city's RUD ordinance, Halso could have put up to 84 home sites on the property.

The planning commission had voted unanimously at its Jan. 28 meeting to recommend city council approval of Halso's plans. Mayor Pro Tem David Landry told Halso, "I'm impressed that you did not seek maximum density, and you should be commended for that."

Plans for The Preserve include donating 45 acres to the city, which would expand an existing city park to 253 acres and extend the Singh Trail in the Quail Hollow development south to Nine Mile Road. According to Sieber, plans also call for the creation of nine homeowner parks within the development, which combined

with the city donation will preserve 61 percent of the property.

Council Member Laura Lorenzo was concerned about the proposed layout of the trail through The Preserve. "I'm a nature lover," she said, "but the practical reality is private homeowners don't have the resources to police trails." She said she was concerned about teens loitering near homes along the trail.

She suggested that Halso be sensitive to existing homeowners along Nine Mile Road and move the trail further back into the property.

Council Member Toni Nagy agreed with Lorenzo, noting there have been complaints from homeowners in Chase Farms about loitering teens.

Halso said he was "very aware of their concerns." Lorenzo said she was also con-

cerned about homes being built too close to wetlands and driveways running through wetlands.

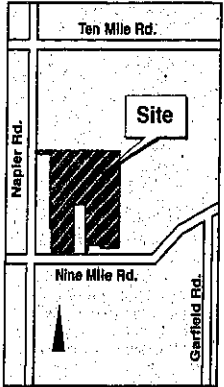
Halso assured council members that he will be building on areas that are "high and dry."

In approving plans for The Preserve the city agreed to abandon right-of-ways along quarter-section lines along the northern and eastern boundaries of the property. Sieber told council members that wetlands in these areas would make building roads in these areas impractical at best.

Halso said he expects it to take 18 to 24 months to complete The Preserve once construction begins next spring.

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

The Preserve



SOURCE: City of Novi

Good-bye to Kathy

Senior center leader Crawford retiring March 19

By Phil Foley

Next Friday Kathy Crawford, Novi's wildly popular senior activities coordinator, will end nearly a quarter-century on the city's payroll with a big party at Central Park Apartments on Beck Road.

However, Crawford says she isn't so much as retiring as she's "changing directions."

Crawford said that while there are still a lot of things she wants to do, "I only want to do the fun stuff. I'll leave the paperwork to someone else."

One of the first things Crawford plans on doing after leaving her office at the Novi Senior Center for the last time is go on a trip. She said she and a girlfriend are "leaving the husbands and exploring England, Ireland and Scotland in search of people who look like us."

When she gets back, she plans on turning her adventures into a book along the lines of Bill Bryson's "Walk in the Woods." Crawford noted that a lot of older people will pass on a chance to have an adven-



Photo by John Heider

Retiring Novi Senior Center Director Kathy Crawford, left, warmly greets long-time Novi resident Chuck Burke at the center on Meadowbrook last Wednesday afternoon.

ture themselves, but still want to read about their peers having an adventure.

"This is an exciting time of life for me," she said.

Life for Crawford began just about an apple's throw from her office at the Novi Senior Center on a 350-acre farm along Grand River Avenue. "I was the biggest baby ever born at Sessions Hospital," she laughed, noting the Northville hospital closed not long after. She added her childhood doctor's office in Northville is today a bed-and-breakfast.

Crawford and her husband, Hugh, an Oakland County commissioner, both grew up on farms in Novi and have watched the community transform from scattered farmsteads into a suburban city. Both have thoroughly embraced the transformation.

She said that while growing up on a farm was fun for a kid, she doesn't miss it a bit.

"It's a difficult life," she recalled, nothing that her parents and grandparents marveled that city people could take the weekend off to relax at cottages along Walled Lake.

Growing up, said Crawford, she could never remember a time when her mother and grandmother were not cooking.

Her father worked at a tool-and-die shop across the road from their rented farm. Her grandfather opened a gas station, where summers she sold corn and night-crawlers to Detroiters.

Crawford said she frequently jokes with the seniors she now plans activities for that she probably sold them corn when they were both much younger. She said helping older people was just a natural outgrowth of growing up on a farm with handicapped aunts and a grandfather who eventually suffered a stroke.

She pretty much invented her job in Novi. Crawford had been developing senior center program for the Oakland Livingstone Human Services Agency when she noticed her own community had virtually nothing.

"I'm a firm believer in, if you don't like what's going on, get up and do something. Don't just sit on the sidelines and constantly complain," said Crawford. So, she got up

and convinced then parks and recreation director Tom O'Branovic to let her work on creating a senior center for Novi.

For the first two years, she recalled, she was paid part-time for what was really a full-time job. Then in 1980, the city put her on the payroll full-time. Still, she said, it's not a job you do for the money.

"If it feels like work," she said, "you do not want to do this job."

Today working in a senior center requires credentials and certifications, but when Crawford got started, she sort of made things up as she went along. She also helped write the standards for the certifications for those who followed her.

Her list of past accomplishments runs three pages, but Crawford is looking to the future. Her plans include creating a Town Hall Series for Novi and writing a book about the community's past.

"Every day," she said, "is a new beginning."

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

Full-time programs restored

Kindergarten offerings will stay the same

By Ramez Khuri

The Novi Community School District Board of Education decided Thursday to approve the continuation of full-day kindergarten in the 2004-05 school year at the same level as it currently exists.

Specifications include:

- One full-day section at four buildings, Village Oaks, Novi Woods, Parkview and Orchard Hills.
All full-day sections at Deerfield Elementary.
A modification was made to hold three seats per school open for those students labeled as 'at risk' or would benefit from the full-day kindergarten program due to academic, social, or other circumstances at the discretion of the principal and staff.
The selection at random for the full-day kindergarten programs will be balanced by gender.

The board also passed a recommendation to approve the modification of the selection process at Deerfield so that families with children currently enrolled in grades kindergarten through fourth will not participate in the random selection process.

Proposal A - 10 years later, please turn to page 4A.

In other words, if an incoming kindergarten has an older sibling enrolled in first, second, third or fourth grade at Deerfield, then he or she will be able to enroll as well, without going through the random selection process. This is the way it has been done since Deerfield opened in 2000, but it was never a written policy before.

Since last October, the Early Childhood Study Group has met to review the state of early childhood education in the Novi Community Schools. The group is comprised of preschool staff, full-day kindergarten teachers, first grade teachers, two building principals and one school psychologist. The group then presented information to the board on Feb. 5 to plan for the 2004-05 school year and beyond.

The group believes that it is important to sustain the way that early childhood programs are run over a period of several years to gather data that will allow for better study and also to inform the board on the impact of full-day kindergarten compared to half-day experiences.

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

City greenlights grant application for trail funds

By Phil Foley

Novi City Council Member Laura Lorenzo was the lone hold-out on a March 1 council vote to seek a \$40,000 grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to build a trailhead at the city's Community Sports Park.

Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department staff want the funds as part of \$80,000 project to build a kiosk and a small shelter.

Additionally, the money would be used to pave a portion of an existing gravel parking lot at the

park as part of a trail project that will eventually wind its way north from the park at Eight Mile and Napier through The Preserve and Quail Hollow developments to Ten Mile Road.



L. Lorenzo

Lorenzo insisted the city has higher priorities, including meeting Americans with Disability Act requirements at other city parks,

ash tree removal and repairs to the ballfields at Powers Park.

Parks Chief Randy Anler said it was a question of leveraging existing city dollars to get the most for the money.

The council voted 5-1, with Lorenzo dissenting and Kim Capello absent, to approve parks and rec's plan.

While she voted against the grant application, Lorenzo joined the majority and voted in favor of a March 15 public hearing on the grant application.

If successful, the project would also construct pathway connec-

For more Novi City Council action, please turn to page 4A.

tions along Nine Mile and Napier roads to link the park with what will eventually be the Singh Trail on the city's west side.

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

Postal information: 02593 45245 M 10 MILE RD NOV MI 48375-3014

Blindards of Bargains Green Sheet Classifieds

POLICE REPORT

Rear ended

A 40-year-old Walled Lake man and his 32-year-old female passenger from Dearborn suffered possible injuries at 12:46 p.m. March 6 when his 2002 Lincoln was struck from behind by a 2002 Kenworth truck. According to a report filed by Officer Mark Kolis, the Walled Lake man was stopped on Novi Road, just south of Crescent Drive, for an emergency vehicle. The Kenworth, driven by a 50-year-old Fowlerville man, failed to stop in time.

Big dog

A 50-year-old Novi man escaped injury when he swerved to avoid a large dog running across southbound Sunrise Street near Nine Mile Road at 11:48 p.m. March 6, losing control of his 1999 Ford and slamming into a tree. Officer Brian Wolke did not issue a citation.

Napping driver

Officer Timothy Farrell found a 2003 Pontiac Sunfire stuck in the mud on the side of Beck Road, north of Nine Mile, at 11:07 p.m. March 3 following citizen complaints. He found the car running with its lights on, but the driver was asleep in a fully reclined seat. The driver, a 29-year-old Northville man, denied he had been drinking, but failed field sobriety tests and registered a blood alcohol content of 1.2. He was charged with operating under

Poor choice

Officer Jeffrey Brown stopped a passenger car on Novi Road near 12 Mile Road at 12:22 a.m. Feb. 27 after another officer reported seeing the car run into the curb twice. Asked if she'd been drinking, the driver, a 40-year-old Novi woman, first said "not that much," and then admitted to having two beers. After failing field sobriety tests and registering a blood alcohol content of .164, Brown charged the woman with operating under the influence of liquor. She was later released after posting a \$100 bond.

Hazardous driving

A 67-year-old Novi woman was cited for hazardous driving following a two-car collision at Grand River and Haggerty Road at 6:16 p.m. March 3. According to Officer Brian Tillman, a westbound 2001 Ford driven by a 47-year-old Waterford man was turning left onto northbound Haggerty when the Novi woman's 1998 Pontiac ran a yellow light. The Novi woman was examined for possible injuries.

Food search

Officer Eric Lindblade reported clocking a 1993 Nissan at 51 mph on a northbound stretch of Old Novi Road posted at 30 mph 10:26 p.m. March 3. He said by the time he caught up to the Nissan, it was making a wide turn on to Eastlake Drive. The driver, a 31-year-old Novi man, admitted to driving too fast and then said he'd had three beers and a Captain and Coke at The Post since 4 p.m. Officer Lindblade said the man told him he was on his way to "a sub place for food," at the time of the traffic stop. After failing field sobriety tests and registering a blood alcohol content of .145, Officer Lindblade charged the man with operating under the influence of liquor. On his way to police headquarters the man conceded he'd "had one to many." He was released after posting a \$100 bond.

Car burgled

A 32-year-old Northville woman told Officer Michael Prough Feb. 27 that someone burglarized her 1998 Ford Escort sometime between 6:45 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. while it was parked outside the CVS warehouse on Genstar Street. She said the thief reached under her front seat and took her purse.

Minor problem

Officers Adrienne Hinka and Keith Wuolinen stopped a 1994

Guess so

Officer Andrew Hudechek stopped a full-size van at the Pine Ridge Plaza on Novi Road near 10 Mile Road Feb. 28 at 2:58 a.m. after watching the van cross the center and fog lines of southbound Novi Road. Asked if he'd been drinking, the driver, a 31-year-old Texan answered, "I had a few of them." After failing field sobriety tests and registering a blood alcohol content of .18, Hudechek charged the man with operating under the influence of liquor.

Too fast

Officer Leonard Lowen stopped a 1999 Chrysler Sebring on northbound Novi Road near Arena Drive after clocking it at 55 mph in

Snickers snatched

A California woman told Officer Michael Prough Feb. 29 that a Snickers display, worth \$820, was stolen while she was at Outdoorama at the Novi Expo Center. She said she left the display at the Expo Center Feb. 28 at the Expo Center's request after she ran out of product, but when she returned the next day, the display was gone.

Snickers snatched

A 47-year-old Novi woman told Officer Steven Balog Feb. 29 that her son's car was burglarized sometime before 11:52 a.m. while it was parked in front of her home near Lachmoor and Eleanor streets. She said an amplifier and speakers worth \$550 were taken.

Minor problem

Officer Leonard Lowen stopped a 1999 Chrysler Sebring on northbound Novi Road near Arena Drive after clocking it at 55 mph in

Snickers snatched

A California woman told Officer Michael Prough Feb. 29 that a Snickers display, worth \$820, was stolen while she was at Outdoorama at the Novi Expo Center. She said she left the display at the Expo Center Feb. 28 at the Expo Center's request after she ran out of product, but when she returned the next day, the display was gone.

Compiled by Phil Foley



Fire consumed Carolyn Foster's Old Dutch Farms mobile home March 3. By the time firefighters were notified, there was little they could do except keep the blaze from spreading to surrounding homes.

One mobile home destroyed and another damaged in westside fires

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

One woman fell asleep and woke to find her mobile home on fire: another woman left her mobile home and came home to find it destroyed by fire. "Timing's everything." Firefighters from Novi's Station Four found themselves fighting blazes along Napier Road twice in less than a week. Lee Ann Horne told firefighters Feb. 29 that she fell asleep in the bedroom of her Vermont Street home with a candle burning in a glass container. According to Novi Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Johnson, the 41-year-old woman's three children woke her at 1:14 a.m. after a smoke alarm went off in their Novi Meadows mobile home. Apparently the candle had fallen, setting debris in the room on fire. The fire spread to the mobile home, which was destroyed. Estimated damage to the home, which "was gone," was \$10,000 and damage to contents at \$7,500.

Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Johnson noted the homes were uninsured. He said Horne was treated at Providence Hospital and Medical Center's Novi campus for smoke inhalation. The family dog was found under the bed, apparently the worse for the experience. The same could not be said for Carolyn Foster's three cats. They perished in a blaze that destroyed Foster's 14-by-60-foot mobile home. Foster told firefighters her Nardner Street home was fine when she left at 7:30 p.m. However, by the time neighbors noticed the flames and called the fire department at 9:02 p.m., it was too late. Johnson said 22 firefighters used eight pieces of equipment, including two from Lyon Township, to pour 15,000 gallons of water into the home, but to no avail. Johnson said the fire was "a real tragedy for Carolyn Foster. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 108 or at jfoley@h.homecomm.net."

Taorello's MARKETPLACE
GARDEN FRESH PRODUCE WINES
GARDEN FRESH TENDER BROCCOLI 89¢ EACH
FRESH CRISP CELERY 99¢ EACH
GREAT FOR GUACAMOLE FRESH AVOCADOES 69¢ EACH
FROM STAG'S LEAP WINE CELLARS HAWK CREST CABERNET, MERLOT or CHARDONNAY \$11.99 750 ml. BTL.
750 ml. BOTTLE CYPRESS MERLOT, CABERNET or CHARDONNAY \$5.99
LIPARI PROVOLONE \$2.99 lb.
INTRODUCING! TURKEY STORE THAI STYLE CHICKEN BREAST \$6.49 lb.
GOURMET GROCERY 1 oz. SINGLE PACKS ARBUCKLE'S COFFEE 4/\$3
FERRERO ROCHER HAZELNUT CHOCOLATES 2/\$5
ASSORTED COLORS BEAUTIFUL SPRAY ROSES \$6.99 BUNCH (SAVE \$1.00)
TAORELLO'S OWN EXPERTLY PREPARED GOURMET GAZPACHO \$3.99 lb. (LEAVE THE COOKING TO US)
ZINGERMAN'S PAESANO LOAF \$3.99 EACH

100th BANKING CENTER CELEBRATION OFFERS.
STOP BY ANY OF OUR LOCATIONS BY MARCH 31, 2004 TO RECEIVE THESE LIMITED SPECIAL OFFERS.
MONEY MARKET BONUS RATE
CURRENT RATE UP TO 1.75%
+ BONUS 1.00%
TOTAL FOR 100 DAYS UP TO 2.75% APY
CHECKING ACCOUNT BONUS RATE
CURRENT RATE UP TO 1.50%
+ BONUS 1.00%
TOTAL FOR 100 DAYS UP TO 2.50% APY
CHECKING ACCOUNT CASH BONUS
\$100 DEPOSIT IN YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT AFTER YOU SIGN UP FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT.
In-Store branches open 7 days a week. Open 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. For hours and locations, call (800) 642-0039
We'll meet you anywhere, anytime for a home loan. (888) LOAN-FSB
FLAGSTAR GIVES YOU THE FREEDOM.

HUGE MOVING SALE!
AFTER 27 YEARS WE'RE MOVING
10,000 SQ. FT. SHOWROOM CLEARANCE
ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING WILL BE SOLD TO THE BARE WALLS!
Don't Miss Out on This Event
SAVE \$\$\$

- Framed Art
- Oil & Canvas Pictures
- Decorator Mirrors
- Floor & Table Lamps
- Tapestries
- Tiffany Table & Floor Lamps
- Outdoor Patio & Casual Furniture
- Ceiling Fans
- Lighting For Every Room in The House
- Ducane & Lynx Gas Grills
- Lloyd Flanders All Weather Wicker (Sectional & Sets)
- Indoor/Outdoor Wicker Bar Sets
- Wrought Iron Tables
- From Traditional to Contemporary to Transitional
- Home Accessories and Much, Much more...

Now Open Every Sunday
12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM thru April 4th.
Look for the Opening of Our New 14,000 Sq. Ft. Showroom April 10th at 1405 S. Lapeer Rd. (Right Next Door to Our Existing Location)
PINE TREE LIGHTING
"We Turn On Interiors"
(248) 693-6248
1447 S. Lapeer Rd. • Lake Orion • www.pinetreelighting.com
Mon-Thurs 9:30 am - 8 pm; Tues., Wed., Fri. 9:30 am - 6 pm
Sat. 9 am - 5 pm; Sunday, 12 noon to 4 pm
I-75 N to exit 81 N - 4 Miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills

SEE ME FOR YOUR INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL REVIEW.
Together we'll prioritize your needs and help you plan your financial future. Schedule your free review today.
MIKE GABRIEL, Agent
41390 10 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375
248-477-8383
mike.gabriel.b6@statefarm.com
LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR STATE FARM IS THERE!
Providing Insurance and Financial Services
Consult your tax or legal advisor for specific advice.
State Farm • Home Offices: Bloomington, IL

100th BANKING CENTER CELEBRATION
100th BANKING CENTER CELEBRATION OFFERS.
STOP BY ANY OF OUR LOCATIONS BY MARCH 31, 2004 TO RECEIVE THESE LIMITED SPECIAL OFFERS.
MONEY MARKET BONUS RATE
CURRENT RATE UP TO 1.75%
+ BONUS 1.00%
TOTAL FOR 100 DAYS UP TO 2.75% APY
CHECKING ACCOUNT BONUS RATE
CURRENT RATE UP TO 1.50%
+ BONUS 1.00%
TOTAL FOR 100 DAYS UP TO 2.50% APY
CHECKING ACCOUNT CASH BONUS
\$100 DEPOSIT IN YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT AFTER YOU SIGN UP FOR DIRECT DEPOSIT.
In-Store branches open 7 days a week. Open 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. For hours and locations, call (800) 642-0039
We'll meet you anywhere, anytime for a home loan. (888) LOAN-FSB
FLAGSTAR GIVES YOU THE FREEDOM.

Search for fleeing patient ends without incident

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

A 26-year-old White Lake man described by Novi Police dispatchers as suicidal/homicidal was taken into custody without incident at Novi Middle School Monday night.

In other city business Monday night, Novi City Council members approved:

- spending \$20,315.68 with Novi's Global Office Solutions on 14 Keilhauer "Danforth" chairs for city council chambers;
- spending \$3,460 with Walled Lake's Overhead Doors West Commercial Inc. on a replacement overhead garage door for the Department of Public Works;
- spending \$7,590 with Waterford's Doors of Pontiac to replace six steel doors and frames for the Camp/Meeting Building at Lakeshore Park on South Lake Drive. The work is expected to be completed by April 1;
- spending \$5,289.75 with Ann Arbor's SCP Enterprises for office furniture and storage components at the Civic Center;
- shifting \$5,000 in Community Development Block grant funds from the city's Minor Home Repair program to the Senior Visa Program;
- awarding a \$115,540 contract to Shelby Township's Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick for engineering consulting services for the planned dredging of Meadowbrook Lake and Village Oaks Lake. The city plans on having 3.9 acres of Meadowbrook dredged this summer and 3.9 acres of Village Oaks dredged next summer;
- awarding a \$123,660 contract to Fishback, Thompson, Carr & Huber for engineering and construction services for the reconstruction of Meadowbrook Road

between Grand River Avenue and 12 Mile Road. Work on the 1/2 mile long project is expected to be completed by Sept. 25;
- authorizing staff to seek a \$5,000 grant from the Dick Allen Lansing to Mackinaw Fund to help build a trailhead kiosk and install trail route markers and distance signage at Lakeshore/North Novi Park. If approved, the city will provide \$5,000 in matching funds and the project will be completed in October;
- purchasing \$19,942.02 worth of larvae products from Illinois-based Clarke Mosquito Control. The materials will be used on 6,000 catch basins and 12 public ponds inside the city beginning in May as part of Oakland County's West Nile Action Plan.

Spring Fashions are Blooming
at **smart chicks** consignment
Misses, Petites, Plus Size and Junior fashions in the labels you love!
All at up to 70% off retail prices!
Check out our new line of spring accessories!
43039 Grand River, Novi - East of Novi Road
Hours: Monday - Friday 10-7, Saturday 10-5
(248) 347-1600

Open arms. Open Hearts.
We have the recipe for a better life.
You're invited for **Sunday Brunch & A Tour of the Village**
March 14th • 12:30-2 p.m.
Nothing compares to the delightfully warm and caring environment that awaits you at Independence Village. From charming, spacious apartments to a fun and adventurous activities program, you'll feel proud calling our friendly community, "home."
But what separates Independence Village from the rest is our people. As caring as they are capable, our entire staff—from our dining room servers to our resident assistant—truly enjoys aiding our residents.
Come tour our beautiful community and see for yourself just how wonderful life can be when you're surrounded by friends.
Independence Village
You Just Know You're at the Right Place.
14707 Northville Road • Plymouth, MI 48170
(800) 803-5811
www.seniortvillages.com
Professionally managed by Senior Village Management

It's Girl Scout Cookie time again

Local troops push last-minute sales this weekend

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Local Girl Scouts will be wearing their smiles this week, as March 13-14 are the final two days of the organization's annual cookie sale.

Vickie McLeod of Novi leads two troops and has two daughters who are involved in Girl Scouts. At age 9, is a member of Troop #3863, and Katie, age 8, belongs to Troop #3865.

"It has been a Scout since first grade and is now a fourth grader. Katie started in kindergarten and is in second grade. I wanted my girls to get involved in Scouting because it was so rewarding to me when I was a girl," she said.

McLeod decided to head up a troop because there were no first-grade leaders when All began attending Deerfield Elementary School in Novi several years ago.

"In fourth grade, we do the Pinewood Derby, which is a flat car race on a track. It's kind of like a dad-and-daughter project. Girls can participate if they're in the fourth grade or up. In the younger grades, we have a daddy-daughter event for them. This year we went to The Fridge, a toboggan run at Waterford Oaks Park in Waterford," she said.

Kindergarten Scouts, known as Daisies, cannot sell cookies. But Brownies, which are girls in grades first through third, can sell cookies, as can Junior Scouts — girls in grades fourth through sixth — Cadets and Senior Scouts.

"It's amazing how popular Scouting is in Novi. We have a lot of girls involved in the area about 500," McLeod said.

"People don't realize how popular Scouting still is," she said.

Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit is the seventh largest Council in the U.S., with more than 34,000



Members of Girl Scout Troop #1921 in Novi sell cookies to Shannon Herrington of Milford Sunday at the Kroger on Grand River Avenue at Beck Road. From left: Susan Beaton, Troop #1921 co-leader; Meghan Telder; Joanna Beaton; Harrington; and Meggie Fleege. This coming weekend is the last one for cookie sales.

■ Saturday, March 13	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Kroger, 4395 Orchard Lake Road
■ Saturday, March 13	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Michael's, 43635 West Oaks Drive
■ Saturday, March 13	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	JoAnn Etc., 43750 West Oaks Drive
■ Saturday, March 13	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Kroger, 47650 Grand River Avenue
■ Sunday, March 14	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Kroger, 4395 Orchard Lake Road
■ Sunday, March 14	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	JoAnn Etc., 43750 West Oaks Drive
■ Sunday, March 14	1 p.m. to 5 p.m.	Kroger, 47650 Grand River Avenue

"Our goal this year is to earn \$750 in cookie sale profits for each troop. We only make 60 cents per box of cookies sold, so that's a lot of cookies," McLeod said. "But both of my troops are close to reaching their goal."

Cookies cost \$3.50 per box, and Girl Scouts accept cash or checks.

McLeod noted that cookie sale profits go not only to local troops but also to the Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit Council. The proceeds fund the maintenance of the organization's "two camps, that include an equestrian center, as well as volunteer training, financial assistance for girls who cannot afford to be a Girl Scout and miscellaneous programs for all girls."

"It has been a more difficult year to sell cookies because a lot of the merchants in the community who allowed us to have booths in the past have decided not to this year. Plus, I think the state of the economy has not helped much either," she said.

"JoAnn Etc., Michael's and

Kroger, however, have been wonderful by allowing our girls to sell cookies at their locations throughout the five-week period," she said.

Alli, who said her favorite Girl Scout cookie is the Thin Mints, said she likes scouting because, "We get to do cool activities and we get to do a lot of new things in Scouts."

Katie said she likes scouts because "we get to help people who need help, and it's fun. We get to meet other kids, and we get to do crafts and really cool activities." Her favorite cookies are the S'mores, with coconut, chocolate and caramel.

Other kinds of Girl Scout cookies include Tagalongs, made with peanut butter and chocolate; Lemon Coolers; Trefoils, which are shortbread cookies; Do-Si-Dos, a peanut butter sandwich

cookie; Double Dutch, chocolate cookies with chocolate chips; and All Abouts — shortbread cookies with chocolate on the bottom.

Veteran "Cookie Mom" Lisa Riegel of Novi said the Thin Mints are the most popular, with this type accounting for about 27 percent of her troops' sales.

Tagalongs are next at about 23 percent of sales, then S'mores at about 21 percent, followed by Trefoils at around 17 percent.

Girl Scouts have been selling cookies since the 1930s. To find a cookie booth in your area, call the cookie hotline at (800) 326-0309, ext. 297, or visit www.gsofnd.org.

All money from this year's cookie sale must be collected by March 21.

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@nl.homecom.net.

OBITUARIES

Beverly M. Basins
Beverly Basins of Novi died March 3, 2004. She was 73. Survivors include her husband, Robert; her children, Brian (Vicki), Jack (Donna), Linda Basins, Mike (Terry), Jill (Luis) and Alan (Cecilio); and 11 grandchildren.

A memorial service was held March 5 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi, which handled funeral arrangements. Memorials may be made to University of Michigan Cancer Center, 1500 East Medical Center Drive, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48109-0755.

Dolores J. Revitte-Maher
Dolores J. Revitte-Maher of Novi died March 6, 2004 at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia. She was 87.

Mrs. Revitte-Maher was born on Sept. 4, 1916 in Detroit to the late Joseph Garbarino and Elizabeth Boni Garbarino. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Edward Revitte and a brother Paul Garbarino.

Mrs. Revitte-Maher was the former owner of Revitte Real Estate in Farmington Hills. She retired in 1993.

Mrs. Revitte-Maher is survived by her husband Lawrence, Maher of Novi. She is also survived by three children, Susan (Dale) Lorbeck, Thomas (Susan) Revitte and Laurie (Dale) Van Vorst, 12 grandchildren, Michelle (Bill) Coleman, Cheryl Chapman, Kristen (Patrick) Fillar, Thomas Revitte, Lisa Revitte, Stephanie (Dwight) Bodnar, Laurie (Brian) Englehart, Nick Van Vorst, Neil Van Vorst, Shelly Diaz, Kelly Lorbeck and Jenny Lorbeck; 11 great-grandchildren and two sisters, Marie (Jep) Gerych and Judy (Paul) Chido.

Funeral services were held March 10 at Our Lady of Victory Church with Father Tony Kemmer officiating. Interment was at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Southfield.

Arrangements were made by Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home in Northville.

Louise R. Huntley
Louise R. Huntley, homemaker and former resident of Northville, died March 6 at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia. She was 90.

Mrs. Huntley was born on Sept. 18, 1913 in Gaylord to the late Frank Borowiak and Rose Nowaczyk Borowiak. She was preceded in death by her husband Donald Huntley on Feb. 7, 1981.

Mrs. Huntley is survived by a daughter, Carol (Richard) Lanchner of Northville and a sister Amy Thomas of Maricopa, Ariz.

A mass was held on March 9 at Our Lady of Victory Church with Father Paul Czarnota officiating. Interment was at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Southfield.

Arrangements were made by Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home in Northville.

Kay L. Kehoe
Kay L. Kehoe died March 7 at Harper Hospital in Detroit.

Mrs. Kehoe was born in Highland Park and was preceded in death by a daughter Karla Kehoe and her mother Blanche Bishop.

Mrs. Kehoe was employed by the Northville School System at the time of her death. She is survived by her husband Robert F. Kehoe of Northville, three sons, David (Karen) Kehoe, Kenneth (Kimberly) Kehoe, and Damon Kehoe, all of Northville, two grandchildren, Allison and Ava Kehoe, her father Harry Bishop of Northville and a sister Claire Miller of Farmington Hills.

Services will be held today at the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home in Northville with the Rev. V. F. Halboth from Grace Lutheran Church in Redford officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Medical Research Education with checks payable to the Department of Surgery-SMRE Acct. 5300, C/O Donald Weaver, M.D., Harper Hospital Department of Surgery, 3990 John R., Detroit, MI.

Diana L. "Melody" Haener
Tanner
Diana "Melody" Tanner of Novi died March 4, 2004. She was 43.

Melody never gave up her positive attitude and touched the lives of many people. Her great sense of humor will be missed by all.

Survivors include her husband, Chris; five siblings, Bonnie

Haener, Courtney Malkowski, Bill Haener, Michael Haener and Bob Belous; and many loving family and friends.

A funeral mass was held March 6 at Holy Family Church, 24505 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi. Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, Mich. 48154.

Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Online sympathy message at: www.obrienfuneralhome.com.



Fox Run retirement community staff members Cyndi Meili and Mike McCormick are joined at the mic by other staff and residents during a karaoke demonstration at last Friday's Bob Seger tribute.

Fox Run hosts Bob Seger Day

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Detroit-born artist Bob Seger will be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on Monday. And in honor of this momentous occasion, Fox Run retirement community in Novi had its own Bob Seger Day March 5.

About 150 residents and staff participated in the event, which featured Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band posters, lip-synch renditions of his songs, prizes and karaoke.

"We got excited about Bob Seger being inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and wanted to do something for the community," said Mike McCormick, executive director of Fox Run. "We're always looking for fun things to do to celebrate life here at Fox Run."

McCormick noted that Seger is 58, which would make him eligible to live at Fox Run in just four years.

"He lives in Orchard Lake, which is only about 10 minutes from here," he noted.

Power bands set up on tables at the event traced the rock legend's life, and old album covers brought back memories for many at the Fox Run tribute.

"We shared some stories about Bob Seger. About half of our residents know who he is," McCormick said.

Some of the waitstaff at Fox Run, from high schools in Novi, Walled Lake and Farmington Hills, performed a rendition of Seger's "Old Time Rock and Roll" and residents wore "Seger Rocks" buttons during the event.

"We also played Bob Seger music on our in-network TV station all week," McCormick said. "He's a rock 'n' roller, but he's also poetic, which I think a lot of our residents can appreciate. He crosses all genres. I grew up listening to Bob Seger. I love his music," McCormick said.

Born in 1945, Seger will be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame during its 19th Annual Induction Ceremony March 15 at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York.

His latest release, *Greatest Hits 2*, which features 14 Seger classics, debuted No. 23 on the Billboard 200 for the week of Nov. 10, 2003.

His first Greatest Hits collection, released in 1994, has been a Top 200 SoundScan title for nine consecutive years and has sold more than six million copies alone.

In 1987, Seger and the Silver Bullet Band received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in front of the Capital Records Tower Building.

Taylor-native Kid Rock recently recorded "Hard Night for Sarah," a previously unrecorded Seger song, for his new self-titled release. The heavy-metal band Metallica also included the Seger classic "Turn the Page" on its 1998 release of *Garage, Inc.*

In 1983, Seger was one of 10 selected as Michiganian of the Year, along with such notables as former auto industry executive Lee Iacocca, author Elinore Koon and mail magnate A. Alfred Taubman.

HALL INDUCTEES

Detroit's Bob Seger is keeping some pretty good company these days, as evidenced by this year's list of Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Inductees for 2004: Prince, ZZ Top, Jackson Browne, George Harrison, Traffic and The Dells.

VH1 will broadcast the 2004 Inductees for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame at 8 p.m. March 21. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame & Museum is located in Cleveland, Ohio.

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

SENIOR CALENDAR

Thursday 3/11	9 a.m.-noon	Massage Therapy
	9:30 a.m.	Line Dance
	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Income Tax by Appt.
	11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	Sundry Shop Open
	noon	Lunch
	12:15 p.m.	Bridge
	1 p.m.	Line Dance
	2 p.m.	Advanced Line Dancing
	1 p.m.-2 p.m.	Income Tax by Appt.
	10:30 a.m.	Bookmobile
	noon	Lunch
	12:30	Bingo
	1 p.m.-3 p.m.	Computer Class-Internet
		Riverbunge Excursions Trip
Friday 3/12	9 a.m.	Stretch & Strength
	10 a.m.	Body Recall
	11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Sundry Shop Open
	noon	Lunch & 12:30 p.m. Bingo
	noon	Clogging
	12:30 p.m.	Dupl. Bridge
		PEN PAL LETTERS DUE
Monday 3/15	9 a.m.	Stretch & Strength
	10 a.m.	Body Recall
	11 a.m.	Goodie Lady
	11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.	Sundry Shop Open
	noon	Lunch
	12:30	Pirochle
	1 p.m.-2 p.m.	Music Rehearsal
	1 p.m.-2 p.m.	Computer-Beginner
	2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.	TEA (time change)
Tuesday 3/16	9 a.m.-12 p.m.	Massage Therapy
	9 a.m.	Panera bread
	9:30 a.m.	Line Dance
	10 a.m.	Asian Pacific
	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Income Tax by Appt.
	10:30 a.m.	Bookmobile
	noon	Lunch
	12:30	Bingo
	1 p.m.-3 p.m.	Computer Class-Internet
		Riverbunge Excursions Trip
Wednesday 3/17	9 a.m.	Stretch & Strength
	10 a.m.	Body Recall
	11 a.m.	Blood Pressure
	11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	Sundry Shop Open
	noon	TOPS Class
	11 a.m.	St. Patrick's Day Luncheon/Dublin Derby
	12:30 p.m.	advanced ticket required
	12:30 p.m.	Clogging
	2 p.m.-4 p.m.	Estate Planning by Appt.

NOVI WOODS MONTESSORI

Open 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. ALL YEAR

• Preschool • Day Care • Latchkey
• Half/Full Day Kindergarten • Toddler/Infant Program

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday March 13th • 1-3pm

"Enroll Now for Summer Camp & Fall"
Summer Camp age groups 3-5 & 6-10

42800 13 Mile • Novi
(248) 624-2211

Pre-Spring SAVINGS SALE

As you get ready to Spruce Up the Outside of Your Home, Let Classic Interiors Give a Whole New Look to the INSIDE of Your Home!

We Have New Dining Rooms, Bedrooms, & Living Rooms to Give your Home That Special Spark of Spring! And... To Make It Easier for you to Afford, Take Your Choice...

1 YEAR INTEREST FREE FINANCING*

or

PAY CASH AND RECEIVE AN EXTRA 8% OFF!**

• BOB TIMBERLAKE	• BUTLER	• LEGACY LEATHER	• SLIGH
• KING HICKORY	• DINAIRE	• DURHAM	• CANAL DOVER
• HEKMAN	• THOMASVILLE	• CUSTOM SHOPPE	• SUPERIOR
• HITCHCOCK	• NICHOLS & STONE	• HARDEN	• RESTONIC
• HOWARD MILLER	• LEXINGTON	• BRADINGTON-YOUNG	• CHARLESTON FORGE
• I.M. DAVID	• WESLEY ALLEN	• HOOKER	

CLASSIC INTERIORS FURNITURE

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

20922 MIDDLEBELT, LIVONIA • South of 8 Mile • (248) 474-6900

*All discounts are off Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Prices. **On approved credit. 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 for Thomasville case goods only.

LOSING A LOVED ONE TO DRUGS?

If addiction is killing a loved one, we have the answer. We deliver the most effective drug and alcohol rehab program in the world, with a success rate over 70%. It's a 45 month long-term residential program located on a private lake in Battle Creek, MI. Alumni detox gets toxins and drug residues out of the body eliminating physical cravings. Life skills training courses prepare our students for long-term success in life. We have a large job-referral network in place!

NARCONON® STONE HAWK
800-420-3147
www.narcononstonehawk.com

"Arrested People Do Not Have To Go To Jail!"

FREE REPORT Explains HOW!

If you have been arrested for any reason, you should be aware the current laws that may help you stay out of jail. Any criminal charge is a serious matter and arming yourself with the right information is vital. This new **FREE REPORT** reveals these secrets.

24 Hour Toll Free Pre-Recorded Message
Receive Your Report In Two Days!!

1-800-962-6068

Jim Seghi Renovations

Turning Dreams Into Reality

- ◆ Kitchens
- ◆ Baths
- ◆ Recreation Rooms
- ◆ Finished Basements
- ◆ Additions
- ◆ Ceramic Tiles
- ◆ Design Services & Professional Installation

248-437-2454

Visit jimseghirenovations.com for Money Saving Coupons!

Put Your Home To Work For You!

1.99%

Special Introductory 99-Day Fixed Rate*

For 99 Days

Then Only

4.00%

Current variable rate**

Low rate after introductory period*
No first-year annual fee*
Interest may be tax-deductible*

Metrobank's Home Equity Line of Credit is great for remodeling, home improvements or consolidating bills!

Metrobank

Serving Our Community Since 1963.

(248) 474-6400 • www.metrobanker.com

Member FDIC
*Special introductory rate of 1.99% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is available on new line of credit with balances of \$10,000 or more only and cannot be used to refinance existing Metrobank debt. The first rate change for this account will occur on the next billing cycle 99 days after the account is opened. After the introductory term expires, the account will be subject to a variable rate equal to the Year One Annual Percentage Rate (APR) plus 4.00% APR or 4.00% APR. The APR may increase or decrease, not to exceed an APR of 15%. Introductory rate is subject to Metrobank's credit review, under conditions and restrictions including an 80% to 90% loan-to-value ratio. A \$50 annual fee will be charged each year beginning the second year. An early termination fee of \$250 will be charged if the account closes within 90 months. Property, life and/or flood insurance, if applicable, are required. Consult your sales advisor about the deductibility of interest. Offer from Metrobank is a limited-time offer, which may be withdrawn at any time and may not be used in conjunction with any other offers or coupons.

Moms learn about vehicle safety

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Learning to keep baby safe is something that confronts every mother.

And motor vehicle crashes are the leading killer of children under age 15, according to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration.

In an effort to educate Novi moms about the importance of vehicle safety, members of the Mom's Club of Novi invited Novi Police Officer James Brandon to their March 4 meeting.

Brandon passed out airbag alert literature from the Office of Highway Safety Planning in Lansing, as well as information on seat belt use for children and booster seats.

THE PROPER METHOD

- If you have a child and a vehicle with a passenger side air bag, you must know that:
 - Rear-facing seats must never be placed in the front seat.
 - The safest place for a child under age 13 is properly belted in the back seat.
 - Child safety seats work when they are used correctly and in the back seat.
 - Move the seat back as far as possible and make sure safety belts are worn correctly if your child must ride in the front seat.

Source: Office of Highway Safety Planning, Lansing

Department will inspect individual vehicles for proper seat belt, car seat or booster seat use on an appointment basis.

Mom's Clubs

Mom's Clubs are a national organization with more than 1,500 chapters in 48 states and five countries. Once a month, the group has a business meeting which includes topics of discussion, and, at times, a guest speaker.

The mothers meet at 10 a.m. the first Thursday of each month at the Novi Civic Center on Ten Mile Road east of Ten Mile.

The club has about 30 members and also meets throughout the month for group events, a Mom's Night Out and in small play groups. The play groups are broken down by children's ages into groups of six to 10 moms that usually meet at a member's home on a rotating basis.

In the summer, members explore area parks, orchards and cider mills. During the colder months, they enjoy indoor play areas, activities in each other's homes and library visits. Moms can attend as many or as few events as they like, and children are always welcome, with the exception of Mom's Night Out.

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.



Novi Police Officer James Brandon instructs Dina Tallman of Novi on the proper use of an infant car seat for her 3-month-old son Mark at the Mom's Club of Novi's March 4 meeting. The moms meet at 10 a.m. on the first Thursday of every month at the Novi Civic Center.

belt — over the large bone mass of the hips — is also essential, because if placed too high, the seat belt can cut the body.

"It acts like a knife," he said.

Brandon noted that a lot of children aren't used to being snug in their car seat and will fight parents when they try to put on a seat belt.

"The belt should be snug and the top portion of the belt should be at or below the shoulders," he said.

Brandon suggested that parents have their vehicles' seat belts checked when they leave their car or truck serviced.

He noted that the Novi Police

Bill would limit out-of-state trash

Legislation tightening restrictions on out-of-state waste is headed to the governor's desk, according to Sen. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, sponsor of the bill.

In January's State of the State Address, the governor asked the Legislature to send her this legislation, keeping trash out of Michigan from states whose standards are not as restrictive.

Work on this legislation was well under way long before the governor called for it in her State of the State Address. Senate Bill 502, introduced in May, prohibits out-of-state waste from entering the state unless the place of origin has the same stringent waste standards as Michigan.

standard in trash disposal," Cassis said. "It just makes sense that Michigan landfills only accept trash from places with laws as protective as ours."

SB502 would prohibit materials from other states and countries such as tires, batteries, yard clippings, and used oil from Michigan landfills. Such materials are prohibited from Michigan waste.

The legislation is part of an 11-bill package that tightens restrictions on solid-waste disposal in Michigan.

Other key provisions in the package would:

- Require the state Department of Environmental Quality to provide a statewide inspection program, which would mandate at

least four inspections each year of each landfill to ensure compliance. Random inspections also could be conducted.

• Add two important new landfill bans — beverage containers and whole tires — to further reduce reliance on landfills and encourage recycling.

• Grant the DEQ director emergency power to prohibit any waste shipment that poses a threat to the public's health or safety or to the safety of the environment.

• Add new fines of up to \$25,000 per day for violating certain laws related to disposing of waste in landfills.

• Mandate a two-year moratorium on issuing certain new landfill permits.



DISCOVER COMPASSIONATE CANCER CARE CLOSE TO HOME.

These doctors practice at one of the only community hospitals in Wayne County accredited by the American College of Surgeons for cancer care. Where patients with cancer find the latest in diagnostics and treatments, such as stereotactic breast biopsy, chemotherapy, radiation oncology and brachytherapy. All with a personalized team approach to care.

Come to St. Mary Mercy Hospital and discover what compassionate cancer care is all about.



Physician Referral
Call 1.888.464.WELL

www.stmarymercy.org



GREAT DOGS, FURNITURE AND FURS IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD



Quality Kitchen & Bath

Please Join us In Celebrating Our
New Showroom Opening

GRAND OPENING

42815 Five Mile Road • Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 420-1515 • www.qkitchens.net

Friday, March 19th 3 pm - 5 pm
Saturday, March 20th 10 am - 3 pm

Your complete resource for kitchen and bath remodeling.
From Design to Completion
Cabinets • Countertops • Sinks, Faucets & Appliances

WINTER SALE EVENT

FIND UNBELIEVABLE PRICES!
On a great selection of cars & SUVs

SPECIAL BUY:
1998 Ford F350 4x4
\$9995!

Taurus • F150 • F250
Excursion • Denali • Lexus RX300



ONLY 20 DAYS LEFT!

*We also offer excellent programs on used Land Rovers!

ERHARD

Gallery of Used Cars

The finest pre-owned cars and SUVs from the finest name in Michigan Auto Sales.

38200 Grand River Avenue, Farmington Hills
248.474.9900
www.worldoferhard.com

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Rockwell Medical acquires patent

Rockwell Technologies, Inc., in Whitom, which manufactures hemodialysis concentrators for the health care industry, recently reported that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has issued the firm a patent.

The office served notice of issuance for the patent covering the use of ferric pyrophosphate (FePPi), a form of iron, for which the company has licensed the exclusive rights.

Rockwell has been developing an innovative, proprietary concentrate product that contains iron. The company is seeking FDA approval of the product, which it intends to market. Ferric pyrophosphate (FePPi), a water-soluble form of iron, is the cornerstone of Rockwell's proprietary technology for its iron-therapy product line. The firm plans to administer FePPi via dialysis for iron maintenance treatment in dialysis patients.

Compared to intravenous iron administration, Rockwell believes that administering the drug through its dialysis is safer and more effective in maintaining iron balance in dialysis patients, while at the same time eliminating the associated nursing and pharmaceutical IV iron administration costs.

Intier Automotive revenue increases

Intier Automotive, which has a large plant in Novi, recently reported financial results for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2003.

Sales were \$1,422 million for the fourth quarter, up 35 percent, compared to \$1,055 million for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2002.

Full-year fiscal 2003 sales increased 21 percent to \$4,655 million compared to \$3,862 million for fiscal 2002.

North American production sales grew to \$795.8 million in the fourth quarter of 2003 compared to \$551.5 million in the fourth quarter of 2002 as a result of the positive impact of higher North American average dollar content per vehicle and the strengthening of the Canadian dollar.

European production sales increased to \$416.2 million for the fourth quarter of 2003 compared to \$327.2 million for the fourth quarter of 2002 as a result of growth in the European average dollar content per vehicle and the positive impact related to the strengthening of the euro and British Pound.

Residence Inn has high-speed Internet

The new Residence Inn by Marriott, located at 27477 Cabernet Drive in Novi, announced recently that the hotel is offering free high-speed Internet access in its 107 guest rooms.

The installation is part of Residence Inn's rollout of free high-speed Internet access to more than 400 hotels in North America.

"High-speed Internet access is one of the amenities most requested by business travelers. It is increasingly available at work and

BUSINESS

Pam Fleming, business reporter (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 pfleming@ht.homecomm.net

Carino's offers big taste of Italian countryside

■ New restaurant to open on Novi's border with Commerce Twp.

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Picture yourself dining in a quaint country inn in Tuscan. The rustic eatery features a fireplace, walls with a multi-colored wash and a stove where you can watch the chefs in action.

Now, area diners can have "a big taste of the Italian countryside" at Johnny Carino's Country Italian, a new restaurant opening soon in Commerce Township on Novi's border.

The 6,500-square-foot restaurant, which can seat 250, is located at 5500 Loop Road in the Commerce Crossings development just west of Haggerty Road and north of Fourteen Mile Road.

The restaurant will be Tomato Grotto, LLC's fourth Michigan restaurant, joining other locations in Muskegon, Grand Rapids and Holland.

Johnny Carino's will feature a special V.I.P. Charity Night tonight with a portion of the proceeds going to the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Farmington Hills. This local charity will receive 50 percent of the evening's profits.

At this special event, chefs and waitstaff have an opportunity for a trial run before the restaurant's official opening March 15. Diners will receive 50 percent off the cost of their meals. (Alcoholic beverages, tax and tip are not included).

For more information about the benefit, call (248) 926-5300. Johnny Carino's is a casual, full-service Italian restaurant featuring Grandiose platters and

Wine Harvest dinners. It caters to families and dinner parties of all sizes. The menu features traditional Italian recipes.

Appetizers include the restaurant's signature pepperoni bread, stuffed mushroom and Italian nachos. Entrees focus on traditional family favorites, such as 12-layer lasagna and wood-fired pizzas. Specialty items also include such selections as spicy shrimp and chicken, chicken scaloppini and angel hair pasta with artichokes.

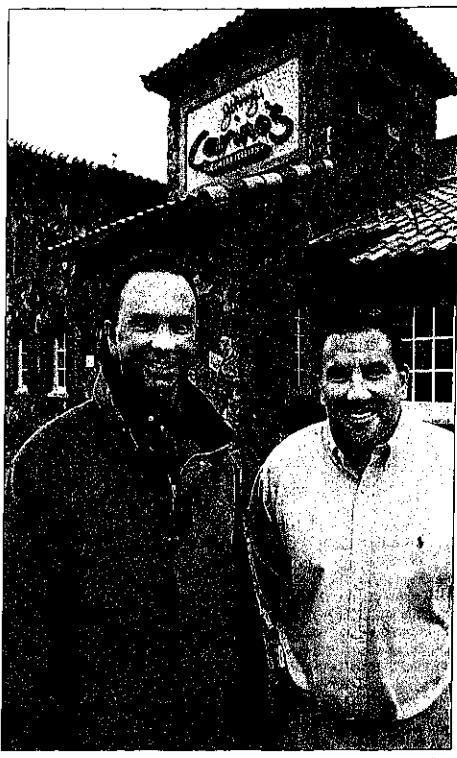
The decor features antique framed family photos, Italian ceramics, wood and stone walls, colorful mismatched wooden chairs and small dining rooms. The open kitchen environment also lends itself to exhibition-style cooking.

Carino's features a Curbside To-Go service. Just phone in your order, pull into one of the designated Curbside To-Go spots, and staff will bring your order right to you.

Rob Bruce, president of Tomato Grotto, LLC, received exclusive development rights for the chain in Michigan and Wisconsin in July 2002. Dan Chaon serves as operations manager, and Steve Tricarico is the restaurant manager.

Fired Up, Inc., in Austin, Texas, owns, operates and franchises Johnny Carino's restaurants. There are currently 101 restaurants in 18 states and four countries. Fired Up has development agreements in place with 20 franchise partners to develop 492 Johnny Carino's over the next decade.

Bruce, who noted that the



Dan Chaon (Director of Operations) and Rob Bruce, left, (President) will soon open their Johnny Carino's country Italian eatery in Commerce Township off M-5 and Fourteen Mile Road.

restaurant is a member of both the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce and the Novi Chamber of Commerce, plans to be involved in the Novi community.

"We're real excited about this area," he said. "I think we're positioned well. The growth in this area is tremendous, and I think this area is underserved." Bruce and Chaon plan to hire about 150 people at the restaurant.

Applications are now being accepted at the on-site trailer from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

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.

Chamber Auction update:

The Novi Chamber of Commerce's Annual Charity Auction will be held Saturday, April 24 at the Hotel Baronette. This year's charity is Sweet Dreams, Detroit. Sponsors include Varsity Linen Supply, Mercury, Hotel Baronette, Twelve Oaks Mall, Bob Sellers, Novi News, Community Financial, Novi Expo Center, Republic Bank, Bit Irrigation, Richard Gaul.

To become a sponsor, donate items for auction or purchase tickets to this event, please call the chamber at (248) 349-3743. A partial list of items to be auctioned can be found on the bottom of page 15.

YOU CAN'T SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO GET SICK.

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO SCHEDULE ONE TO GET BETTER.

After Hours URGENT Care—Novi
Now affiliated with Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital
(248) 347-8116

- No appointment necessary
- Conveniently located — 12 Mile Road between Meadowbrook and Novi Roads
- Staffed by highly-skilled physicians and medical professionals
- The same "Best-in-Class" delivery of patient services as provided by Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital
- Most insurance plans accepted
- Adult and pediatric care

Location: 41935 W. 12 Mile Road in Novi (south of 12 Mile Rd. between Meadowbrook and Novi Roads)
Open 7 days a week:
M-F: 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sat: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday & Holidays: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

GETTING DIVORCED?

"FREE REPORT Reveals Legal Secrets You Don't Want Your Spouse To Know!"

A divorce can get nasty. REAL nasty. That's why we put together this new FREE REPORT that explains the 7 dirty divorce tricks your spouse might play on you. Wouldn't you like to know them first?

24 Hour Toll Free Pre-Recorded Message
1-800-758-5208

GOOD RATES ARE EVEN BETTER WHEN THEY COME FROM A GOOD NEIGHBOR.

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS	MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS	CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT
1.00% APY	1.00% APY	1.00% APY
1.25% APY	1.25% APY	1.25% APY
1.50% APY	1.50% APY	1.50% APY
1.75% APY	1.75% APY	1.75% APY
2.00% APY	2.00% APY	2.00% APY
2.25% APY	2.25% APY	2.25% APY
2.50% APY	2.50% APY	2.50% APY

For more information, contact your local participating State Farm agent about State Farm Bank's excellent rates and services.

LET'S TALK

WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN GEMOLOGIST

AS STRONG AS ITS WEAKEST LINK

When looking to purchase chains, bear in mind that rope chain is quite sturdy (especially compared to hollow rope chain) and flat chains like herringbone are ideal for suspending pendants and charms. In general, flat chains do not last as long as solid link and rope chains. Some of the thicker ones, such as the onaga, do wear better than herringbone. As with any chain, thickness has much to do with durability. At the top of the jewelry chain are solid-link chains, which are available in a variety of styles. One particularly popular style is the anchor chain. Another popular link chain is the figaro, which usually has an alternating pattern of one large and three small links.

Only an established, well-inventured jewelry store such as WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI can provide you with the high quality merchandise, including outstanding jewelry such as rope chains. Please come on in and browse around through showcases. If you don't see exactly what you are looking for, we would be happy to special order a chain that would fit your needs. We are here at 41990 Grand River Ave. (248-347-9303). We are now licensed by the city of Novi to offer loans on jewelry. Most major credit cards accepted. With 3 generations of experience we are "The name you know, the name you trust." If you have any questions please contact "Jewelry Gary" at jw@novi@aol.com.

P.S. A link chain that has been twisted about 85 degrees and then flattened is often referred to as a curb link.

\$4.5 Billion to winners!

Ten years of action, ten years of winning, and ten years of being the area's best!

10 Years 1994-2004 Play today, there's more to come!



Fountain Walk's "My Photographer" employee Andrea Prezzato snaps a few shots of a smiling Donovan Pettit, 1, last Friday morning as his mom Andrea, middle, looks on.

Photo studio opens at Fountain Walk

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Just in time for those Easter family photos, My Photographer, a local chain of photography studios, recently opened a new store at Fountain Walk in Novi.

Located at 44325 Twelve Mile Road, the new studio sits on the south side of the street that cuts through the shopping center near the promenade.

The new Novi location is the seventh store in the chain to open in the area. The Troy-based firm also has stores at Oakland Mall, Macomb Mall, Lakeside Mall, Summer Place Mall, Westland and Genesee Valley Center in Flint.

Owner Pete Budabin of Troy, one of the founders of the company in 1983 who does hiring and training, said the 1,800-square-foot Novi store opened about three weeks ago. He is just starting to advertise in the area.

March 1 through April 8, customers can have their loved ones photographed with a live rabbit or rabbits in celebration of the Easter holiday.

"We serve about 35,000 clients a year and just sent out our Easter mailer," Budabin said.

Andrea Prezzato and Kimi Prater serve as co-managers of the new Novi studio.

So what's unique about My Photographer?

"People get to choose from more images than anywhere else"

Budabin said, "At most studios, you only have maybe five or six images to choose from. At My Photographer, you have 10 to 20 to choose from."

The photography is completely digital, with computer systems set up right in the store so clients can select the images immediately after they're taken.

Wedding photography is a new product for the firm, and the company also offers special on-location photo dates where three photographers take outdoor shots.

"We can serve 20 to 30 clients on a given day with three photographers on site," Budabin noted.

The vast majority of the chain's photos are of families and children. They have a variety of props in the studio and can produce photographs from wallet-size to wall-size.

"We have the lowest prices possible for the quality of work that we do, and our prices never change. Our customers never have to wait for a sale," Budabin said.

He is glad to finally have a store on the west side of the Metro Detroit area to serve clients on this side of town.

"We've wanted to be in the Novi area for quite some time," Budabin said. "We have clients in Brighton and Fowlerville who have been asking us to open a location in the northwest area."

Although he hopes business will improve as more tenants come into

NOVI AT WORK

Name of Business: My Photographer
Owner: Pete Budabin
Year Established: 1983
Principal Product(s): Photography
Number of Employees: 2

"We've wanted to be in the Novi area for quite some time. We have clients in Brighton and Fowlerville who have been asking us to open a location in the northwest area."
Pete Budabin, owner

Fountain Walk, Budabin said customers are finding the new location.

"The business is everything we've been anticipating," Budabin said.

My Photographer is open seven days a week. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday and Tuesday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call (248) 347-4450.

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

Local nursing home gets new owner and manager

■ Charter House of Novi becomes The Manor of Novi

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Charter House of Novi, a well-known nursing home located at 24500 Meadowbrook just north of Ten Mile Road, has a new name.

The long-term skilled care facility has been known as The Manor of Novi since Jan. 1. About 100 people, including Novi Mayor Lou Cordas, residents, staff and corporate executives, came to an open house last Friday to celebrate the center's new affiliation.

Formerly Charter House of Novi for at least 20 years, the facility was owned by Centennial Healthcare Corporation, headquartered in Atlanta.

The business is now managed by Rhema Corporation, whose main office is in Southfield, and is owned by Advantage Management Corporation, also of Southfield.

Centennial filed for bankruptcy protection last year, and the facility was sold to Rhema in April 1, 2003 under the firm's new business plan.

The facility also just passed its survey by the State of Michigan.

"We just got through our annual survey last week, and we did very well, as we have for two years in a row now," said Jeff Cohen, administrator.

The facility employs about 125 people and is in the process of remodeling, with the project expected to be completed by the end of the summer.



Photo by Pam Fleming

Executives from The Manor of Novi, formerly Charter House of Novi on Meadowbrook Road north of Ten Mile, had an open house Friday to celebrate the facility's new ownership. Centennial Healthcare sold the nursing home last year under a Chapter 11 reorganization. From left: Angie Szumlinski of Novi, vice president of operations; Jeff Cohen of Southfield, administrator; Kelsey Schwartz of West Bloomfield, chief executive officer; and Reggie Hartsfield of Detroit, chief operating officer.

Renovations will include the installation of central air conditioning, resurfacing of the parking lot, a new state-of-the-art rehabilitation room and refurbishing of residents' rooms.

The 140-bed facility offers skilled nursing care for Medicare, Medicaid and private-pay residents and accepts all private long-term care insurance providers.

"We have a home-like environment and a very friendly, loving and caring staff," said Cohen, who has worked at the facility for two years.

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.hometown.com.

"We just got through our annual survey last week, and we did very well, as we have for two years in a row now."

MDA
Muscular Dystrophy Association
Jerry Lewis, National Chairman
1-800-572-1717
www.mdausa.org

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 04-007

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Liberty Sports Pub is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow outdoor seating for a one-day St. Patrick's Promotion at 42100 Grand River Ave. to be held on Wednesday, March 17, 2004.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 16, 2004 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to March 16, 2004.

DENISE ANDERSON
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 04-004

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lifestyles HotSpring Spas is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow tent sale at 42875 Grand River Avenue (Main Street) from April 2, 2004 to April 4, 2004.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to March 17, 2004.

DENISE ANDERSON
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 04-003

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Midstates Alliance Group, LLC is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow placement of a second construction storage trailer to be located at Court D on Bashlian Drive. They are also requesting permission for the two construction storage trailers to be placed adjacent to each other. This permit would be issued for the period from the date of the meeting until March 18, 2005.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 11:45 a.m. on Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to March 17, 2004.

DENISE ANDERSON
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 04-006

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Tradewinds Spas is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow an outdoor sale at 41787 Grand River Avenue from March 18, 2004 to March 22, 2004.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to March 17, 2004.

DENISE ANDERSON
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 04-005

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Toll Brothers of Island Lake is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow placement of a construction storage trailer on property located north of 25045 Acorn Tr. and west of 25054 Acorn Tr. from the date of the meeting to March 18, 2005.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to March 17, 2004.

DENISE ANDERSON
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 04-002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Home Depot is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow a flower sidewalk sale in front of the garden area at 47950 Grand River Avenue May 27, 2004 until May 31, 2004.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to March 17, 2004.

DENISE ANDERSON
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

NOTICE - CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR BIDS STREET TREE PLANTING - SPRING 2004

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for STREET TREE PLANTING - SPRING 2004 according to the specifications of the City of Novi. Bid packages are available at the Office of the Purchasing Director. Sealed bids will be received until 3:00 P.M. prevailing Eastern Time, Tuesday, March 23, 2004 at which time proposals will be opened and read. Bids shall be addressed as follows:

CITY OF NOVI
CAROL J. KALINOVIC, PURCHASING DIRECTOR
45175 W. Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375-3024

All bids must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED "STREET TREE PLANTING - SPRING 2004" BID AND MUST BEAR THE NAME OF THE BIDDER.

The City reserves the right to accept any or all alternative proposals and award the contract to other than the lowest bidder, to waive any irregularities or informality to both; to reject any or all proposals; and in general to make the award of the contract in any manner deemed by the City, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the City of Novi.

CAROL J. KALINOVIC,
PURCHASING DIRECTOR
(248) 347-0446

(3-11-04 NN 118090)

FloridaTEACH-IN
Hands-on training in math, science, reading, ELA, ESOL, foreign languages and technology education. Programs are available in urban and rural districts. The Teach-In provides a statement, reflective lesson for teachers seeking employment opportunities in Florida to meet with school district personnel.

For more information call: 888-TEACH IN (800) 832-2435
e-mail: edteachin@florida.org
www: www.florida-teachin.com

YOU BUY I FLY!

SERIOUS DELIVERY

JIMMY JOHN'S
WORLD'S GREATEST GORGETZ SANDWICHES

WE DELIVER!

JIMMY JOHN'S .COM

CLASS NOTES

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

Animals of Africa invade Village Oaks

■ Living Science Foundation teaches with live animals

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

It was almost as if Village Oaks was transformed into a petting zoo two weeks ago, as many uncommon animals were brought over so the students can learn all about them. In fact, the animals are so uncommon, they're not even found in America. They're very common in Africa, however.

The animals were brought over by the Plymouth-based Living Science Foundation, a company that travels to elementary and middle schools all over Michigan and surrounding states to teach about science. It was the organization's African Animals presentation that the students witnessed, which is only one of five different programs it does.

The kids came face to face with an African Crested Porcupine named Spike, a Spar-Thigh Tortoise named Maki, a Bull Python named Wilson, a Giant African Millipede, an African Gray Parrot named Papi and an African Ridgeback Bull dog just to name some. According to Robbin Ward, Science Interpreter for the Living Science Foundation, the hope is that the kids get an understanding of their world and the animals that are in it.

"We want the kids to have a respect and awareness of the animals that are out there," Ward said.

Ward explained that the porcupine is about 55 pounds right now, but it could put on another five to 10 pounds. Students learned that porcupines can not shoot their quills and that they live in the Savannah of Africa. He also said that the African Gray Parrot is from the rain forest, it is 24 years old and can live to be 70.

"We have two snakes, one is a ball python from the Savannah and the other is a Dumeril Boa Constrictor, named after the scientist that discovered it," Ward said. "They are endangered in the rain forest because of habitat loss mainly."

In the presentation, Ward and fellow Science Interpreters Jeremy Malynski and Amber Frederick spoke about the continent of Africa, which is the second largest continent in the world.

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



Village Oaks' student Mark Mamon pets an African gray parrot during visits to the school by the Living Science Foundation.



As Living Science Foundation's Amber Frederick, right, gently holds the head of a Dumeril's boa constrictor Village Oaks Elementary School students Ryan Quinlan, Kaleena Sedghi and Shayla Smalls get some hands-on experience with a reptile from the African jungle.

Nature's Touch

Landscaping & Lawn Care

Services Include:

- Lawn Cutting
- Aerating
- Dethatching
- Fertilizing
- Hedge Trimming
- Clean-ups
- Sod Installation
- Landscape Design
- Pond Installation
- Brick Walls and Patios

CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE (248) 347-3118

MATTRESS & FUTON SHOPPE

Serta MAKE THE WORLD'S BEST MATTRESS

MATTRESS SALE Clearance

We are clearing out our stock to make room for new models.

Free Bonuses... FREE DELIVERY • FREE SET-UP • FREE REMOVAL OF OLD BEDDING

Serta SUPERIOR Plush or Firm \$399 Queen Set SALE	Serta ELANA Pillow Top \$499 Queen Set SALE	Serta CORONADO BAY Firm Pillow Top \$599 Queen Set SALE	Serta SAPPHIRE Firm Pillow Top \$649.95 Queen Set SALE	Serta VERICE Firm Pillow Top \$749.95 Queen Set SALE	OUR TOP OF THE LINE \$500.00 OFF Queens or Kings
----------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------

excludes all prior sales

FUTON SALE! SIMMONS FUTON MATTRESS Fut Size \$69.95 While Supplies Last

0% BETTER THAN A SOFA SLEEPER
Over 50 Futons and 100's of Covers in Stock
Michigan's Largest Futon Dealer!

FUTON COUPONS
\$50.00 OFF Futon Packages \$399.00 - \$599.00
\$100.00 OFF Futon Packages \$600.00 & Up

ALSO A GREAT SELECTION OF...

- **ALL-WEATHER PATIO** \$199
- **Futon Bunk Bed** \$129.95
- **Modern Silver Gray Fresh Futon** \$99.95
- **7 Year Warranty** \$99.95
- **WOOD FURNITURE** \$399

LIVONIA 3150 Grand River Ave. (at 12 Mile) 734-425-1500
NOVI 24500 Meadowbrook Rd. (at 10 Mile) 248-349-1931
ROYAL OAK 248-414-6309
SOUTHGATE 12000 Southgate Rd. (at 16 Mile) 734-281-7766
CANTON 248-844-0486
BIRMINGHAM 248-349-1931
ROSELAND 386-294-8360
YPSILANTI AREA 482-444-4444
TAYLOR 313-291-3603
LAKESIDE 386-502-8033

Novi Woods Buddy Bowl

On Fridays, the first and fourth graders at Novi Woods get together and do various activities, like reading, writing, science and projects. In addition, the Novi Woods Buddy Bowl event took place at Novi Bowl last Wednesday and the kids had a fabulous time. Pictured are: (top row) Jacob Zimmer, Matt London, Jack Sirkovich, TJ Hoesly, Alex Williams, Connor Williams; (bottom row) Emily D'Ascenzo, Katie Seelenblinder and Emily Sheeran.



Detroit Opera House pays a visit to Novi Meadows

By Ramez Khuri STAFF WRITER

Novi Meadows students received a healthy reinforcement of the anti-smoking message last week, that no doubt they have been hearing all their young lives. The message was in the form of a speaker or a television commercial, however, it came in the form of a musical play called "The Night Harry Stopped Smoking," performed by members of the Detroit Opera House, right at their school.



Photo by John Holder

With some help from Michigan Opera Theatre's Christopher Vaught, left, Novi Meadows students add some humor to the play "The Night Harry Stopped Smoking" last Wednesday afternoon. Students are Jennifer Engelman, Lauren Kinnaman, Sara Shaw, Phillip Landry, Zach Wilson, and Chris Gray.

The play's cast consisted of four members from the Opera House and about four or five students from the audience, who played the role of blood cleaning alcohol in Harry's lung.

This show was written by two gentlemen and it's over 20 years old. "Manager of Community Programs Mark Von Drak said, "We saw a performance of it in the 1980s and liked it, so we got the rights to do it in Michigan and we're being doing it since then. It's to reinforce the anti-smoking message that kids get at home and at school and it's done in a light, fun way."

In the play Von Drak, who plays the role of Harry, falls asleep one night and has a dream that all the different parts of his lungs start talking to him and try to persuade him to stop smoking. Even Panter, his heart, gets into the act when he tells Harry that all the smoking he does is making him all tired out.

"Hopefully these kids will take this information and make use of it," Von Drak said. "Fifth and sixth grade seems to be the primary age that we need to focus on. Actually we should probably start in third, fourth, fifth and sixth. That is the key time to get that message to students about the dangers of tobacco products and smoking."

The Detroit Opera House primarily does this show and similar ones as well all over Michigan, but the group is known to go to surrounding Midwest states as well, like Illinois, Indiana, West Virginia and as far as Kansas once. Von Drak has been doing "The Night Harry Stopped Smoking" for years and his fellow cast members have been doing it for various times.

For more information on the Detroit Opera House or any of its programs, call Doloris Tubis at (313) 237-3429.

Education Fair next Saturday

The Twelfth Annual Walled Lake Schools Parenting Education Fair will be held on Saturday, March 20 from 8:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. at Walled Lake Northern High School. Parents and community members from throughout the Detroit area are invited to attend. This year's theme is "Discovering The Joy of Parenthood." Jim Fay, one of America's most sought-after prescribers in the area of parenting, positive discipline, and classroom management, will deliver the keynote address. His topic will be "Parenting With Love And Logic."

Admission is \$8 for the entire program. An optional lunch will be available for \$7. Child care for children ages two through 12 will also be available for a nominal fee of \$2 per family for the entire day. There will be performances for the children by Dance Dynamics, the Flying Aces Frisbee Team, and the Novi Art, Baton twirling and pom-pom group.

For the first time this year, a PTSA Council Health Information Fair will be included as a part of the Parenting Education Fair. Parents will have the opportunity to receive information on a variety of health issues facing today's families. There will be table demonstrations on sports safety, substance abuse prevention, dental care, and many more. Interactive tables will be available to get a diabetes test, blood pressure tests, and cholesterol checks. Additionally, a variety of parenting education vendors will have books, information, and children's games for purchase.

The primary sponsors of the Parenting Education Fair are Target of Commerce Township, Providence Hospital/St. John Health, Dance Dynamics, Ford Motor Company-Wixom Assembly Plant, and the Foundation for Excellence/Walled Lake Schools. This event is also sponsored by the Walled Lake PTSA Council, the PTA groups of each Walled Lake school, and many other local organizations and businesses.

For additional information and registration materials contact Alex Bender at (248) 956-4200, Henry McCurry at (248) 956-3500 or Christopher Peal at (248) 956-3300.

NOVI TOWN CENTER 8. 50-90 Kids all shows. 45-75 Seniors. 17-20 Student & Late Show. 50-90 Daily Movies. All features. No passes. Digital Stereo. MOVIE GUIDE. FREE FOR EVERYONE. SATURDAYS 10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM. RUGRATS GO WILD (PG). VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS. RIDALGO. SHOWTIMES 3/12-3/13.

Free Health Seminar. Sponsored by Mel, Sarah and Lucia of Nutritional Alternative. With guest speaker Dr. Joel Wallace M.D., D.V.M., B.S. Recommended Author of the book and book "Dead Doctors Don't Lie". Thursday, March 11, 2004 @ 7:00 PM. THE DEARBORN INN. 2001 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, MI. 48124. Friday, March 12, 2004 @ 7:00 PM. SHERATON DETROIT NOVI. 21111 Haggerty Rd., Novi, MI. 48240. 734-231-1433.

DIABETICS COLD WEATHER GOT YOU DOWN? WE CAN HELP! Stop risking bad weather getting your testing supplies. Let us deliver them right to your mailbox! 800-337-4144. Diabetic National Services Company.

BRANSON. Travel by Train May 2 to 7 Only \$895. The Oak Ridge Boys + Andy Williams + Ann-Margret + Mickey Gilley + Yakov Smirnov + Shoji Tabuchi. Fully Escorted from most Amtrak Stations! Call America by Rail at 1-888-777-6605. 5000 Northwind Dr., Suite 226, East Lansing, MI 48823.

THE NOVI NEWS. Published Each Thursday. By The Novi News. 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167. Call America by Rail at 1-888-777-6605. 5000 Northwind Dr., Suite 226, East Lansing, MI 48823.

verizonwireless. We never stop working for you! Talk all you want it's absolutely FREE. Introducing NETWORK CALLING. Call any of our 36 million Verizon Wireless customers anytime, anywhere from the National IN-Network Coverage Area without worrying about the minutes. And it's absolutely Free. With 1 or 2 year Customer Agreement on an America's Choice Calling Plan \$39.99 or higher. Are you in? Buy One Motorola V730 \$49.99. Get Up to 3 Motorola C343s FREE. AND THE NATION'S MOST RELIABLE WIRELESS NETWORK. Get everyone you know in. Get all the credit! Refer friends and EARN UP TO A \$100 bill credit. The more friends you refer, the more you talk for FREE.

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES. ANN ARBOR, DEARBORN (CENT), LAKE ORON, SOUTHFIELD, TROY, WALKER, WESTLAND, WYANDOMING, YPSILANTI. AUTHORIZED RETAILERS. RadioShack. Free Handset Software Upgrade. BUSINESS CUSTOMERS. PLEASE CALL 1.866.699.2862.



Pictured are (back, l to r) Student Activities class members David Murphy, Jenna Schiller, Jeff Clare, Allison Melvin, Karlee Clegg; (front) Justin Zoma, Amy Wright, Lauren Gavron, Joe Bechard, Tammy Maizi, Mr. Rimpley, student activities advisor.

23rd Annual Volleyball Marathon to Benefit Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan

Students at Walled Lake Western High School are putting up the acts, facing up their shoes, and requesting help from the community as they gear up for the school's 23rd annual Volleyball Marathon. The 20-hour event runs from 4 p.m. Friday, March 26 to noon Saturday, March 27 at the high school. Each student is required to raise a minimum of \$100 in pledges in order to participate in the marathon.

Planned and implemented by the school's Student Activities class, the Volleyball Marathon has a long history of providing support to nonprofit organizations in the community. Since 1981, nearly 5,000 students have participated, raising an incredible \$480,000 for local charities.

This year is no exception, as the student organizers have mobilized

to find support in the community through pledges and donations of food and prizes. "The Volleyball Marathon is a really special event," said Jim Blackledge, CLF's Marketing & Public Relations Director. "It's totally my by the students. They put together the games, recruit the bands, make all the signs, and promote the event to the community. It's great to see people at this young age getting involved in the community and helping families facing cancer."

Though the event is centered on playing volleyball for 20 straight hours, there will be plenty of other fun things for the students to do, including dancing and swimming, two live bands made up of Western High students, Twister, limbo contest, giant inflatable Bouncy Boxing and Bungee Run, mock elections, and even massages by

local massage therapy students to help the participants stay loose. There will also be lots of great food and beverages to enjoy. To support Walled Lake Western students by making a pledge or a donation of money or prizes to the Volleyball Marathon, contact the Student Activities office at (248) 956-4429. Last year's Volleyball Marathon raised \$25,400 for the families served by Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan. Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan is a statewide organization which provides information, financial assistance, and emotional support to adults and children affected by leukemia, lymphoma, and related blood disorders. Until there's a cure, CLF is here to help families overcome the challenges these conditions present.

WL contest winners

The Walled Lake City Library announced the winners of the Design-a-Bookmark Contest. Students in grades K-5 from the Walled Lake School District were invited to enter designs which included the phrase "Happy Birthday Walled Lake". The first and second place winners received a certificate and their bookmark printed. The colorful bookmarks are available at the Library. The library is located at 1499 E. West Maple, Walled Lake. The following winners for each category are:

- Kindergarten-first grade: 1st Place-Christopher Stefan, 1st grade, Hickory Woods Elementary; 2nd Place-Ayano Oka, Kindergarten, Pleasant Lake Elementary.
- Second and third grade: 1st Place-Jacob Patterson, 2nd grade, Mary Helen Guest Elementary; 2nd Place-Olivia Knudson, 2nd grade, Oakley Park Elementary.
- Fourth and fifth grade: 1st Place-Surina Schin, 4th grade, Hickory Woods Elementary; 2nd Place-Lindsay Schmandt, 4th grade, Walled Lake Elementary.

ON CAMPUS

Colleen M. Lewis, of Novi, made the Dean's List for the first semester of the 2003-04 academic year at Siena Heights University. Novi residents Cray, Heam, Joshua Hutchins, Michelle Redding, Crystal Radolph, Nicholas Sotlay, Jamie Vandommonen and Daniel Vecino were named to the Dean's List at Grand Valley State University for fall 2003 semester.

Novi residents Debra Anderson, Melissa Anderson, Sarah Bajnok, Ryan Bateman, James Benton, Brian Bilyk, Sarah Boyle, Beau Bramak, Kellyn Burkka, Susan Cain, Allan Chen, Ashli Chung, Nicholas Clark, Brent Coles, David Doherty, Brian Dadds, Claire Doshagen, Julia Eccleston, Erin Dewans, Katelyn Edwards, Monica Fink, Justin Fischer, Marcy Giotto, Melissa Gorman, Robert Grath, Paul Guernes, Jessica Hagun, Alyssa Humblin, Courtney Harbot, Matthew Hebert, Kendall Hobart, Young Hong, Lindsay Howell, Mikhila Humal, Nicholas Hurvitch, Jason Kara, Nicholas Krimos, Kyle Kavelin, Bethany Kittle, Daniel Kittle, Elizabeth Kossik, Rachel Kozma, Michele Kruse, Kristen Lenz, Adam Lidgely, Lisa Lubinsky, Stuart MacIsaac, Jennifer Maile, Emily Major, Shane Martin, Rachel Matlock, Anna McBoagad, Michael McKenna, Caitlin Miller, Jordan

Mobilo, Emily Modick, Alison Morris, Leslie Nimer, Amanda Noworin, Sara O'Connor, Kristin Overfield, Robert Overfield, Danielle Panetta, Megan Pierce, Sowkya Rangarajan, Leigh Richards, Anjali Rohatgi, Michelle Rzepka, David Savickas, Steven Savickas, Nina Schmitt, James Schram, Bailey Schroeder, Chad Scott, Laura Shappard, Jae Shin, Scott Skowronski, Erika Slatang, Kelly Smith, Matthew Smith, Nicole Sokoko, Adam Southworth, Kevin Southworth, Alyssa Tomask, Marie Truduen, Kristina Uiley, Christine Van Horn, William Vaughn, Laurel Weiss, Pei-Lin Wong, James Wolter, Julie Wuert, Scott Zanskas and Jacqueline Zalesky were named to the Dean's List at Michigan State University for fall 2003 semester.

Courtesy Bowdell, Brian Fink, Justin Fischer, Marcy Giotto, Melissa Gorman, Robert Grath, Paul Guernes, Jessica Hagun, Alyssa Humblin, Courtney Harbot, Matthew Hebert, Kendall Hobart, Young Hong, Lindsay Howell, Mikhila Humal, Nicholas Hurvitch, Jason Kara, Nicholas Krimos, Kyle Kavelin, Bethany Kittle, Daniel Kittle, Elizabeth Kossik, Rachel Kozma, Michele Kruse, Kristen Lenz, Adam Lidgely, Lisa Lubinsky, Stuart MacIsaac, Jennifer Maile, Emily Major, Shane Martin, Rachel Matlock, Anna McBoagad, Michael McKenna, Caitlin Miller, Jordan

Novi residents, Argean Argenteopoulos, Jeffrey Balagna, Lisa Bennett, Erika Beyer, Amelia Burkhardt, Catherine Chubb, Marie Davis, Christian Dellavechia, Jillian Fries, Laura Grider, Stephen Gurka, Angela Hart, Rebecca Keeney, Seung-Hun Kim, Jeffrey Langford, Carolyn Lowry, Mary Milington, Rebecca Nall, Lisa Palano, Eric Saluberg, Ann Marie Salo, Kara Sams, James Sebert, Ryan Seo, Sherry Shultz, Melanie Soy, Valerie Stefanson, Karina Vishaya, Martha Wasak, and Janice Wesley were named to the Dean's List at Madonna University for fall 2003 semester.

Novi residents, Argean Argenteopoulos, Jeffrey Balagna, Lisa Bennett, Erika Beyer, Amelia Burkhardt, Catherine Chubb, Marie Davis, Christian Dellavechia, Jillian Fries, Laura Grider, Stephen Gurka, Angela Hart, Rebecca Keeney, Seung-Hun Kim, Jeffrey Langford, Carolyn Lowry, Mary Milington, Rebecca Nall, Lisa Palano, Eric Saluberg, Ann Marie Salo, Kara Sams, James Sebert, Ryan Seo, Sherry Shultz, Melanie Soy, Valerie Stefanson, Karina Vishaya, Martha Wasak, and Janice Wesley were named to the Dean's List at Miami University for fall 2003 semester.

Treasured Earth LLC. Landscape design & construction. Michigan Certified Nurseryman. Computer Imaging: see how your new landscape will look. 43000 Nine Mile Rd., Suite 312 • Novi, MI 48375. (248) 380-8000 or (866) 56-EARTH • WWW.TREASURED-EARTH.COM.



the Novi News. Don't be the last to find out what's going on. Call 1-888-840-4809 to become a subscriber. Novi News.

Novi News

Part of HomeTown Communications Network™

Cai Stone
EDITOR
Grace Perry
PUBLISHER
Richard Brady
VP/COO

Jack Lessenberry
VP EDITORIAL
Dick Aglinin
PRESIDENT
Phillip Power
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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.

Man, that's a serious expo!

Beautiful women, motorcycle, electronic gadgets, a sports lounge, martial arts - it's an all-encompassing celebration of testosterone.

It's the Third Annual Motor City Men's Expo this Saturday at the Novi Expo Center. It's also something I won't be at.

I'm trying to figure out why I have no desire to go this event. It wasn't that long ago that I probably would've been jumping up and down at the concept of an event that billed as "everything a guy could want all under one roof."

My handiwork would probably kill me if they found this out, but I think the problem is that it's nothing that I want any more.

Sure, the organizers of the expo have put together an incredible package and have reeled in some great celebrities to entice guys, including super-

model Cindy Margolis (one of the most beautiful women on the planet) and former Red Wing Ted Lindsay (one of the least beautiful men on the planet - sorry, Ted, but hockey pucks, sticks and fists took their toll).

But I think I'd rather stay home and play with my three kids and get the laundry and grocery shopping done. Not too exciting, but that's the version of manly I've grown in to.

I would rather sit down with my upright bass and learn some new music and hit the PlayStation with my boys than see a bikini contest.

I know some readers, mainly men, are thinking that's so sad. Truth is, that's reality.

I think the Men's Expo will be a huge success. In fact, I know it will. Any guy out there will tell you it's a no-brainer (no pun intended).



Cai Stone

OPINION

novinews.com

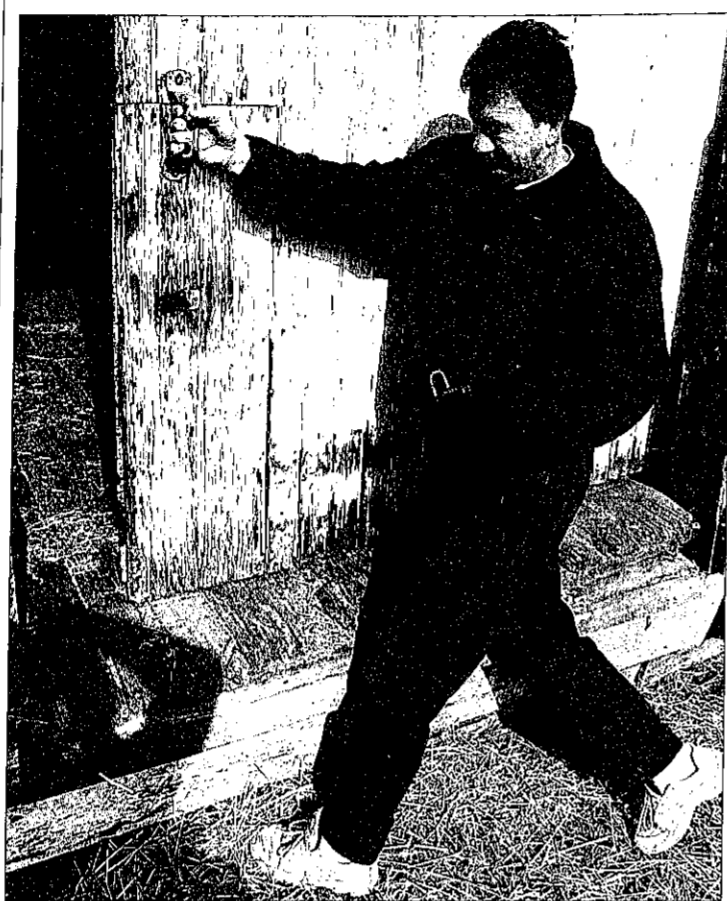


Photo by John Heider
Struggling Dennis Mouser, owner of Novi Feed and Supply, struggles to open the door of Novi's original train depot that he uses for storage at his Grand River Ave. business. Mouser claims that since MDOT rebuilt Novi's Grand River bridge and drainage was altered, that water collects near the depot and is causing its wooden frame to warp.

GOVERNMENT

Per reader request, we have compiled a list so you can get in touch with your local and regional senators and representatives. Their accessibility allows you as readers to voice your opinions directly and allows them to better represent their districts. If you feel we have missed anyone, contact us at (248) 348-1700, ext. 113.

Townships
long@co.oakland.mi.us

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

Commerce - Charter
Thomas K. Zener, 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
1439 E. West Maple Road
PO Box 99
Walled Lake, MI 48390-0099
(248) 624-4847
FAX: (248) 624-1616

Wixom
49045 Pontiac Trail
Wixom, MI 48393-2567
(248) 524-4537
FAX: (248) 524-0863

State House of Representatives

38th District
Craig DeRoche (R-Now)
56887 House Office Building
PO Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514
(517) 373-0827
FAX: (517) 373-5873
craigderoche@house.mi.gov

39th District
Marc Shulman (R-West Bloomfield)
351 Capitol Building
PO Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514
(517) 373-1799
FAX: (517) 373-5777
mshulman@house.mi.gov

Oakland County

Executive
L. Brooks Patterson
County Service Center
Building #34 East
1200 N. Telegraph Road
Pontiac, MI 48341
(248) 858-0434

7th Commission
Christine Long
1342 E. Commerce Road
Commerce Twp., MI 48382
(248) 366-2666

State Senate

16th District
Nancy Cassis (R-Now)
PO Box 30035
Lansing, MI 48909-7536
(517) 373-1758
sennacassis@senate.michigan.gov

LETTERS

Death penalty's not the answer

Michigan has a proud history, since 1846, of being the first English speaking government to abolish the death penalty. While I am saddened by the recent murders of two fine police officers and understand the pain experienced by their families, lifting the ban on the death penalty is not the answer. Rather than deterring similar crimes, the death penalty perpetuates the cycle of violence, promotes a sense of vengeance and has a long history of racial and class bias.

We cannot teach our children that killing is wrong by condoning killing.

The death penalty will not help to decrease crime in our streets and neighborhoods. We

"Handsome" wages?

City of Novi Councilman Bob Gatt's letter (2-12-04 Novi News) referencing the City of Novi employees' pay levels as "handsome" needs to be corrected. Contrary to what he says about their "handsome wages," the facts are that the City of Novi clerical, technical

and public work employees are paid considerably less than employees in similar classifications in comparable cities in Oakland County. Further, these same cities pay the full cost of their employees' health care coverage.

It's too bad that Mr. Gatt didn't do his homework before he tried to advance his political career on the backs of Novi's hard-working employees. Unfortunately, the citizens of Novi who would like to see their taxes lowered are only too anxious to believe Mr. Gatt's unfounded claims.

The most important thing we can do as parents is to teach our children about "stranger situations to avoid, not simply about "stranger danger."

Teach your children to avoid any situation where an adult is asking for help. Tell them that "adults ask adults" for help, and adults should not be asking children for assistance. If an adult asks a child for directions, or for help finding their puppy, the child should be taught to run in the other direction. Teach children not to take candy or gifts from anyone without your permission, and to stay away from individuals in cars or vans. Teach your child that just because adults may be familiar to them, it does not mean they should go anywhere with them, without your permission. It is much more effective to teach your child about these situations and actions, rather than trying to teach them the meaning of the word "stranger." Teach them they should never go in a home without your permission. Also, it is a parent's job to best determine which houses are safe and how long a child may visit.

Encourage open communication between you and your children. Many children are told not to tattle or that "children are to be seen, and not heard." We must let children know they can talk to their parents about anything.

Keys to protecting your child

National headlines have recently been filled with heartbreaking stories about children being abducted. The list of recent abductions we have heard about in the news have occurred where the children were taken from their front yards, within their homes, or in broad daylight in a public place. Parents have been shocked and terrified all over the country. We expect our children to be safe when they are at home, and we are sadly realizing that virtually anywhere can be the site of a crime.

First, you should know that in fact the majority of abductions in our country are actually committed by parents or other family members.

There are over a quarter of a million family abductions annually. Many involve non-custodial children who transport their children out of state with the intention of keeping them permanently.

Still, the recent cases in the headlines appear to be non-family abductions. It is estimated that 3,200 to 4,600 non-family abductions are reported to law enforcement each year. Most offenders are someone known to the family, such as a casual acquaintance.

Of these reported, approximately 200 to 300 are total stranger abductions, meaning that someone not known to the family kidnaps the child. It is estimated that more than 114,000 stranger abductions are attempted annually and most involve an attempt to lure a child to a car. The police are never contacted in the majority of these cases. Regardless of the statistics, however, it is apparent that we need to find better ways to protect our children, because even one missing child is too many. The biggest problem with our traditional method of prevention is that we focus on teaching kids about "stranger danger."

Remember, most kidnappings are committed by someone with whom the child is familiar. We must not limit our focus to strangers only.

We teach our children to respect and listen to adults. We must also teach children that it is okay to say "no" to an adult, and that not all adults are good. Always know where your children are. Never let them go anywhere alone. They should always have a friend with them when they are playing. Make sure they ask your permission before going anywhere. Make sure your children know their own name, address, phone number and how to reach you in case of an emergency. You should also have a trusted adult they can call in an emergency. If your children must be home alone, make sure they keep the doors locked and leave strict instructions as to who is allowed inside. Be alert to any teenager or adult that is paying an unusual amount of attention to your child or giving your child gifts.

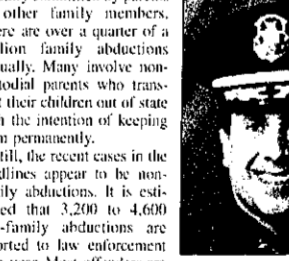
Obtain references for babysitters. Teach children to yell "you're not my parent" if someone grabs them or tries to take them somewhere.

Teach your child to run the other way if an adult asks them for assistance of any kind. Even if your child sees an adult they recognize, tell them they always need your permission to go anywhere with any adult. If your child has Internet access, discuss safety guidelines with them. Be certain they do not give out any personal information over the Internet. Monitor your child's Internet use.

Teach your children that no one should ever touch any part of their body that bathing suits cover.

If you help your child acquire knowledge, self-confidence and assertiveness skills, they will be more able to recognize and escape from danger. Don't teach your children fear, but teach them to be cautious and aware.

For more information on this topic, check the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's website at www.ncmec.org.



M. Bouchard

Jack Lessenberry is editorial vice president of HomeTown Communications. He can be reached by phone at (248) 901-2561 or by e-mail at jlessenberry@hometown.com.

OTHER OPINIONS

College tuition cap sounds good but won't be in the end

Readers with long memories may remember something called the University Investment Commission, a group led by Paul Hillegonds which met on and off during the fall of 2002. The idea was to invest a vehicle for a broad cross-section of citizens to reflect on how much a great university system benefits the state and to consider how best to deal with a terrible state economic climate. The panel deliberately did not include university folks, whose participation could have seemed self-serving.

I served on the commission, and I can report that our discussions were pretty much true to the original idea. We wound up writing a report that was duly disseminated to various and sundry, including the governor and the state legislature. We also urged the University Presidents' Council to follow up on some of our suggestions. This report, signed by Irvin Reid, president of Wayne State University, and Mike Boulos, executive director of the Council, arrived recently.

Plainly, universities in Michigan are responding to tough times. State appropriations dropped by \$240 million or 15 percent between December 2002 and December 2003. During the same time, public universities cut another \$160 million from their collective budgets and laid off more than 1,400 full-time employees. Course offerings are being reduced and class sizes increased.

One of our commission's recommendations had to do with finding collective ways to save money. The universities and their families are the direct result of reduced state support. 3) In higher education, as in everything else, you tend to get what you pay for; a cheap university degree isn't necessarily the best

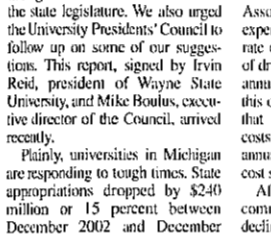
degree and may render the recipient uncompetitive with equally well-trained but much cheaper workers abroad.

The Granholm Administration has now produced a plan under which those universities that limit their fall 2004 tuition increases to the rate of inflation (currently 2.4 percent) will receive a rebate of 2 percent. Executive Order appropriations reduction and no further appropriations reductions for the fiscal year that begins October 1, 2004. Most universities are considering taking up the governor's offer.

But beware! Accepting a cap on tuition increases risks setting a dangerous precedent, especially for high-quality institutions. Once a universal expectation arises that tuition will not increase faster than inflation, any university that wishes to increase quality will find itself in a terrible bind.

Michigan State University confronted exactly that problem in the 1990s when President M. Peter McPherson unilaterally announced that MSU tuition would rise no faster than inflation. The chain of causation was inevitable: Inflation was low; costs steadily increased; faculty salaries and other academic expenses were in effect frozen; faculty became grumpy; and academic quality declined. Ultimately, McPherson was forced to reverse course.

Sorry to say it, but if Michigan is going to compete with the rest of the world for good jobs, that competition will in large part be won or lost on the basis of the quality of education, faculty and research in our universities and their families are cap on college tuition in exchange for reduced cuts in state support may sound good at first. But it likely turns out to be a terrible idea in the end.



Phil Power

Phil Power is the Chairman of the Board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (734) 953-2047 or by e-mail at ppower@hometown.com.

Michigan and Ohio crucial states in race for presidency

The conventional wisdom is that the race for president this year will be close and hard-fought, with Michigan and Ohio battlegrounds right up till the end.

But deep down, most pundits expect Michigan, with its larger minority and union populations, to probably wind up in the Democratic column. Ohio, however, long the most Republican of America's major industrial states, is seen as more likely to end up reaffirming its loyalty to the party of the Taffs.

But there are some reasons to think both guesses could be wrong.

The one thing that is certain is that each state can expect to see a lot of George W. Bush and John F. Kerry. With this year's primary contest over, earlier than ever before, Americans will have eight months to get to know both.

And it is a cinch that both of them will spend more time in our two states than in New York, California and Texas put together. That's because we live on the front lines of an America seen as closely divided between "the red and the blue."

Those are the colors TV uses on election night to show how states voted — Democratic blue and Republican red. Four years ago, that was divided up by state capital. Michigan had even the smallest red state switched to blue. Al Gore would have won.

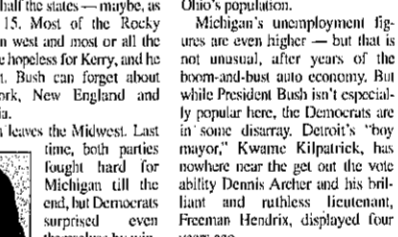
Yet most states are not really in play anymore. Back when John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon were fighting their cliffhanger campaign in 1960, both campaigned in nearly

every state of the union. This year, the candidates will make a real effort in half the states — maybe as few as 15. Most of the Rocky Mountain west and most of all the South are hopeless for Kerry, and he knows it. Bush can forget about New York, New England and California.

Which leaves the Midwest. Last time, both parties fought hard for Michigan till the end, but Democrats surprised even themselves by winning by a comfortable 217,000. United Auto Workers union members had election day off; a well-organized and efficient machine got black workers in Detroit to the polls, and Gov. John Engler failed to deliver for George W. one reason he wasn't even considered for a cabinet post. Ohio was another story. With a week to go, Al Gore essentially conceded defeat and pulled all his TV advertising, sending the money to other states. During the campaign, the never visited Toledo. Not surprisingly, Bush won.

But he didn't win by very much — just a 4 percent, 2,351,309 to 2,186,190. Democrats later grumbled that a real effort might have turned the tide.

That's doubtful — but there is reason to think that George Bush's stock has fallen in the Buckeye State. Manufacturing has been hard hit by the recession, recovery has been slower than expected, and Ohio unions and Democrats are energized. Take note: Twelve as many Democrats voted in last Tuesday's primary than voted the



Jack Lessenberry

What score would you give your health?



By Ernie Harwell

One of the first things I learned in broadcasting baseball games was that I had to give out the score every three minutes or the listeners would lose interest. I used an egg timer to develop this "table."

In the game of baseball, knowing the score in every inning is an absolute must. The same is true in the game of life — especially in the later innings.

Having said that, I imagine you're wondering what "score" I'm referring to. Well, I recently read an article about a World Health Organization report recommending that older adults regularly assess how well they can carry out daily activities.

What score would you give yourself today? Do you consider yourself "winning" or "losing" as you prepare meals, clean your house, do housework and care for pets? Do you walk regularly, even when it's not necessary?

Paying attention to the quantity and quality of your daily physical activity helps shift our perspective. Rather than dealing to be healthier so that we can be more active, we should become more active so that we can be healthier.

All please remember to take care of your health before it's long gone!

"New Hope For Carpel Tunnel Symptoms!"
NOVI, MI. If you suffer from carpal tunnel syndrome and are tired of taking pills and wearing splints then call the carpal tunnel syndrome hotline and discover the shocking truth about carpal tunnel syndrome your doctor may not be aware of!
Call 1-800-516-4565 (Toll-Free, 24 hr. recorded message)

"A SEXY AND SMART THRILLER"
TWISTED
TwistedMovie.com

AMC FORUM 30	NOV SHOWING!	AMC LAUREL PARK
AMC LIVONIA 20	BIRMINGHAM 30	AMC TROY 6
MIR SOUTHWATE 20	NOVI TOWN CTR. 8	PHOENIX 10
PHOENIX WEST RIVER	SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE STRONG HTS.
SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR GRIFFIT
STAR GREAT LAKES	STAR JOHN R	STAR ROCHESTER
STAR WYANDOTA 20	STAR WYANDOTA 20	STAR WYANDOTA 20
STAR WYANDOTA 20	STAR WYANDOTA 20	STAR WYANDOTA 20

Hello, Citizens?

When an accident turns your life upside down, your Citizens agent takes over. We understand how unsettling disruptions to your daily life can be - even if they're minor. Our pledge is to get you, your family, and your life back to normal as soon as possible.

Citizens Insurance Company of America has been providing auto, home and business insurance to the people of Michigan since 1915. To find your local independent Citizens agent, look in the yellow pages or visit www.citizensinsurance.biz

Discover the benefits of Citizenship.

Maynes Insurance Services, LTD.
2450 Old Novi Rd. • Novi, MI 48377
248-668-5800 • Fax: 248-668-5803

NOVI NORTHVILLE MONTESSORI

Enrolling For 2004 OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, March 14th, 2-4pm

Montessori Curriculum
Music • Art • French
Excellence in Education since 1977

248-348-3033
23835 Novi Rd. • Novi, MI 48375
Just South of 10 Mile

Please call to schedule appt. If you wish to see the school at any other time.

Enjoy a weekend getaway for two with Courtyard by Marriott Novi.

At Courtyard Marriott, we've opened the door to more relaxing trips. Our large comfortable rooms, convenient fitness center, pool and whirlpool offer a refreshing escape from home.

The offer includes: **\$89.00 a Night**

- Movie Passes to Novi Cinema for two.
- Breakfast at Courtyard Cafe for two.

Courtyard by Marriott Detroit-Nowi
42703 11 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 • www.marriott.com
(248) 348-1242 (p) (248) 348-5699 (f) (248) 321-2211 (t) (reservations)

FREE Special Report From Jeff Duneske Reveals

Home Buyer
How To Avoid Paying Too Much

Let's face it, buying a home is an emotional time filled with overwhelming decisions that have thousands of dollars riding on them. That's why Jeff Duneske has put together a special report entitled "Home Buyers: How to Avoid Paying Too Much." Home buyers, there is no learning curve when you venture out into the real estate market - there is no trial and error and the ramifications can be severe. Be sure to read this essential report before you sign on the dotted line and regret it for years to come.

To get your free copy of this report call (800) 234-2857 code no. 333 24 hours for a recorded message. There is no obligation.

Jeff Duneske is a member of RR/MAX 100 Office: (248) 948-3000 ext. 245 Each office is independently owned and operated.

Jeff Duneske
"The People's Agent"

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, Cai Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167

E-mail: cstone@hometown.com **Fax to:** (248) 349-9832



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Novi Theaters "South Pacific"
 DATES: March 12-14
 TIME: March 12 and 13 @ 7:30 p.m.; March 14 @ 2 p.m.
 LOCATION: Novi Civic Center
 Stage: 15175 W. Ten Mile Rd.
 DETAILS: Tickets are on sale now. \$17.
 PHONE: (248) 347-6400

Novi Co-Op Preschool Open House
 DATE: Saturday, March 13
 TIME: 10 a.m.-noon

LOCATION: Novi United Methodist Church, at 10-R Meadowbrook.
DETAILS: Come visit the preschool, meet the teachers, and be able to register for the 2004/2005 school year.
 PHONE: (248) 344-0296

St. Anne's Episcopal Church Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner
 DATE: Sunday, March 14
 TIME: 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m.
 LOCATION: 430 E. Nicolet St., Walked Lake.
DETAILS: \$7 adults, \$4 children. Come enjoy corned beef and cabbage family-style dinner.
 PHONE: (248) 624-3817

12th Annual Spring Boating Expo
 DATE: March 18-21
 TIME: Thurs., Fri.-2 p.m.-9 p.m.; Sat.-10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun.-10 a.m.-7 p.m.
 LOCATION: Novi Expo Center, Novi.
DETAILS: More than 150 exhibitors under one roof, showing boats for skiing, fishing, cruising, personal watercraft, electronics, accessories, docks, covers, docks, hoists and much, much more. Adults \$8, children under 12 free with adult.
 PHONE: (800) 224-3008, or visit www.springboatingexpo.net

Kathy Crawford Retirement Celebration
 DATE: Friday, March 19
 TIME: 5-10 p.m.
 LOCATION: Central Park Estates Clubhouse (east side of Beck Road, between 11 Mile and Grand River)
DETAILS: Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be served at this party honoring the many years of fine work Kathy Crawford has put in at the City of Novi's Senior Center.
 PHONE: Kathy Johnson (248) 349-5868 or kathy5868@aol.com

Running a Campaign
 DATE: Saturday, March 27
 TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
 LOCATION: Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile Rd., between Orchard Lake and Farmington Roads.
DETAILS: "Money, Organization & Media" will help candidates for local public office learn what it takes to organize a successful campaign. People who plan to work on such campaigns are also welcome.
 PHONE: Visit www.lwvva.org/calendar.html or call the League of Women Voters office at (248) 647-1350 to obtain a brochure and registration form.
 Send your calendar items to *Clare*, editor, Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-9832; or e-mail to estove@ln.homecom.net

Men's Expo headed for Novi

Men's Detroit men searching for mainly activities can check out the Third Annual Motor City Men's Expo from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. this Saturday at the Novi Expo Center, 1396 and Novi Road. Admission is \$7 per person, \$5 for parking, with children age 12 and under admitted free.

Local radio stations 101 WRIF, 94.7 WCSX and Motor City Casino have partnered to give area men their own event billed as "everything a guy could want all under one roof."

Attendees can see the latest bikes from Harley-Davidson and Buell and visit booths related to electronics, sports, finance, music and more. They can also find a "celebrity" who could want all under one roof.

Other activities will include martial arts and self-defense demonstrations, female kickboxing events with Kent Levy, and relax in the Miller Lite Sports Lounge while watching the Detroit Red Wings play.

Visitors to the event will also



Cindy Margolis

have opportunities to win cash and prizes inside the Men's Expo Money Machine sponsored by Motor City Casino.

Celebrity guests appearing at the event will include:

- Cindy Margolis - The most downloaded woman on the Internet, supermodel
- Mickey Redmond - Detroit

Red Wings alumni and sports-caster

- R. Lee Ermy - Golden Globe nominee and host of The History Channel's Mail Call
- Ted Lindsey - Detroit Red Wings alumni
- Jennifer Walcott - Playboy Playmate Miss August 2001
- Taylor James - Playboy Playmate Miss June 2003

For more information or to print out \$2 discount coupons for the event, visit www.WRIF.com or www.WCSX.com. Attendees can also receive a \$2 discount off the price of admission by showing their Motor City Casino Players Card at the door.

Additional sponsors of the event include Miller Lite, NAPA Auto Parts, Motor City Harley-Davidson, Tom Holzer Ford, Dr. Gregory Roche, Limousine Express and The Best Damn Sports Show Period on FOX Sports Net.

Stations 101 WRIF and 94.7 WCSX FM are owned and operated by Greater Media Broadcasting.

Michigan '50s Festival hosts Sock Hop Kick-Off Dance

Come one, come all, and join us for a great time this Saturday, March 13 in the Mackenzie room at the Novi Expo Center and help kick off this year's Michigan '50s Festival! That's right, we're going back to the '50s!

Tickets are \$10 and include a slice of pizza, donated by Pizza Marcelous, chips and a soda. Cash bar is also available. 50's music will be spun by "The Rock Line." There will be a prize for the

best male and female '50s costume.

So come join the fun at the Novi Expo Center from 7-11 p.m. this Saturday, March 13 and see what we have in store for this year's festival in July at our new location Fountain Walk!! (July 28-31)

Thanks to our sponsors, Pizza Marcelous, Varsity Lincoln Mercury, and the Novi Expo Center for their generosity and support.

For more information call the festival office at (248) 499-1950.

Home & Garden

Home & Garden is a special section that is filled with all kinds of gardening and improvement ideas.

Space Reservation Deadline:
 Monday, March 29, 2004
Copy Deadline:
 Tuesday, March 30, 2004
Publication Date:
 Thursday, April 22, 2004

HOME TOWN Contact your sales representative to reserve your space!

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| South Lyon |248-437-2011 |
| Northville Record |248-349-1700 |
| Novi News |248-349-1700 |
| Milford Times |248-685-1507 |
| Livingston County Daily Press & Argus |517-548-7060 |



In this year's Women in the Know coming in May!

Reserve your space by March 30th contact your sales representative for more information

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| South Lyon |248-437-2011 |
| Northville Record |248-349-1700 |
| Novi News |248-349-1700 |
| Milford Times |248-685-1507 |
| Livingston County Daily Press & Argus |517-548-7060 |

Come Celebrate Howell History Days May 1-2, 2004



Fun for the Entire Family!

- Tours of the courthouse, library, depot museum and opera house
- Scavenger hunt of questions with prizes for a winner
- Interesting facts, history and photos of area businesses posted in their windows
- Farmer's Market is Sunday, May 2 with entertainment and more.
- Special section in Livingston County Daily Press & Argus featuring historic trivia, games & more
- Entertainment and fun for the entire family
- Train rides call 810-638-7248 for tickets
- May Day Victorian Tea at Blue Willow Tea Room
- Call the Downtown Development Authority for more information at 517-545-4240

Advertise in our exclusive supplement and share your little piece of History Call Shannon Munce at 517-552-2831

Sponsored by: **Livingston County Daily Press & Argus**

MARCH IS READING MONTH - BORDERS BOOKSTORE RECOMMENDED READING

GENERAL / ALL AGES

Hello Sunshine, Good Night Moonlight
 Wallace, John / Wallace, John Abrams, Harry N., Incorporated
 February, 2004
 This superb introduction to poetry brings together works for children by the likes of Margaret Wise Brown, Robert Louis Stevenson, and Eleanor Farjeon. Each verse highlights a specific time of day, from first light to lights out. Wallace's illustrations are warm and subtle.

Griss Grimly's Wicked Nursery Rhymes
 Grimly, Gris / Grimly, Gris
 Baby Tattler Books
 October, 2003
 The illustrator of Carlo Collodi's popular version of Pinocchio now debuts as both author and illustrator in this dark spoof of traditional nursery rhymes. Author Olive Barker says this book "belongs at the bedside of every child who ever had a twisted thought (and every adult too)."

Superdog: The Heart of a Hero
 Bushner, Carolyn / Bushner, Mark
 HarperCollins Publishers
 February, 2004
 The husband-and-wife team who brought us the warm and amusing Fenny's Dream and Snowman at Night has created a superhero Dexter is a little dog but he's got big dreams, a big heart, and a healthy supply of determination. He transforms himself into Superdog!

Diary of a Worm
 Cronin, Doreen / Bliss, Harry
 HarperCollins Children's Book Group
 September, 2003
 A vacation to Compost Island and a near-death experience with the bottom of a shoe are just two of the worm's adventures. The author of the New York Times bestsellers Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type and Giggle, Giggle, Cluck teams up with the illustrator of A Fine, Fine School with uproarious results.

Golden Sleepy Book
 Brown, Margaret Wise
 Random House Children's Books
 January, 2004
 This wonderful collection of songs, poems, and stories by the author of Goodnight Moon has not been available for decades. Its colorful illustrations and simple, comforting text will engage young children and help them calm down as they get ready for bed.

Days with Frog and Toad, I Can Read Books
 Lobel, Arnold
 HarperCollins Children's Book Group
 September, 1979
 Lobel's Frog and Toad books are, quietly and humbly, some of the finest books ever written for kids. Lobel conveys wisdom about friendship and life through simple stories filled with humor. Adults will love reacquainting themselves with this book as they read it to their children.

Reader Rabbit Preschool Workbook
 Learning Company Books Staff
 Learning Company Books
 August, 2003

READ TO MYSELF / ELEMENTARY (Ages 6-10)

Fairly OddParents
 Hartman, Butch
 TOKYOPOP, Incorporated
 Now kids can read about Timmy and his fairy godparents, Wanda and Cosmo, characters on Nickelodeon's top-rated animated series The Fairly OddParents. In this action-packed volume, Timmy must protect Earth from a wicked space creature.

Walt Disney: Young Movie Maker, The Childhood of Famous Americans Series
 Hammon, Marie
 Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing
 April, 1997
 Readers can discover how a farm boy from Missouri grew up to be the "father" of Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Pluto, Goofy, and scores of other beloved characters.

Top Secret, Personal Beeswax: A Journal by Junie B. (And met)
 Park, Barbara / Brunkus, Denise
 Random House Children's Books
 February, 2003
 Hear from Junie B. Jones in her own voice in this fun, interactive companion to the series. Kids can see Junie's drawings, read entries written in her own handwriting, and then write down their own personal beeswax on the blank pages provided.

LIBRARY LINES

Novi Public Library

Hours
 The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. We are located at 45245 W. 10 Mile Road, just east of Taft Road. For more information, call (248) 349-0720.

Story Time Notes
 Drop-in preschool Story Times are now underway. Brochures listing the days and times of each drop-in Story Time session are available in the library.

Chapter Club
 The Chapter Club, our book discussion group for grades 4-6, meets Saturday, March 13, from 11-11:45 a.m. We'll be discussing "Missing May" by Cynthia Rylant, snacking on goodies, and playing games. Drop-ins are welcome.

Evening Story Time
 Bring your children to the library at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17, for a half hour of bedtime stories celebrating Dr. Seuss' 100th birthday. The stories are appropriate for preschool children, but parents and siblings are encouraged to attend. No registration is necessary; pajamas are optional.

Board Meeting
 The Novi Library Board of Directors meets Wednesday, March 17, at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at the Novi Civic Center. Community members are welcome to attend the meeting, which will be broadcast live on cable channel 13.

AARP Tax Workshop
 An AARP Tax Workshop will be held at the library on Thursday, March 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please register in advance in person or by calling the library. (Note: You cannot prepare small business or rental property taxes at this workshop.)

Genealogy Online for Seniors
 Senior citizens can learn to use Family Search, Cyndislist, and Rootweb on Wednesday, March 17, from 1-3 p.m. This class will be a hands-on experience in each of these genealogy websites. A comfortable knowledge of navigating the Internet and a basic knowledge of genealogy are required. Please register for all Internet classes in advance in person or by calling the library.

Evaluating Information on the Net
 Learn how to evaluate the content you find on the Internet on Wednesday, March 24, from 7-9 p.m. We will identify important characteristics in a high-quality Web page that distinguish it from other Web pages on similar topics. Includes hands-on practice.

Internet Practice Lab for Seniors
 Practice makes perfect! Join us for an opportunity to practice any of the skills you've learned in our Internet classes on Thursday, March 25, from 1-3 p.m. During this two-hour session, you may choose to work on any Internet skills, with librarians to assist you and answer any computer-related questions. Note: There is no set agenda for this class; you may come and go as you please during the two-hour session.

THE BOY ON FAIRFIELD STREET
 How Ted Geisel Grew up to Become Dr. Seuss
 Krull, Kathleen / Johnson, Steve / Fancher, Lou
 Random House, Incorporated
 January, 2004
 How fitting to have a biography of Dr. Seuss in picture-book form! Krull takes Ted Geisel's young fans through his first 22 years, exploring how he came to be one of the all-time greatest creators of children's books. Seuss's own illustrations complement those of Johnson and Fancher.

Green Eggs and Ham, I Can Read It All by Myself Series
 Dr. Seuss / Seuss, Dr. / Dr. Seuss / Seuss, Dr.
 Random House Children's Books
 January, 1970
 "I do not like Green Eggs and Ham. I do not like them, Sam-I-Am." Sam-I-Am mounts a determined campaign to convince another Seuss character to eat a plate of green eggs and ham.

100th

BANKING CENTER CELEBRATION

THE GRAND OPENING OF THE NEW HUDSON BRANCH MARKS FLAGSTAR'S 100th BANKING CENTER.

LIMITED SPECIAL OFFERS

- ▶ **1.00%** interest rate **BONUS** for 100 DAYS on any new interest-bearing checking or money market account.
- ▶ **0.25%** interest rate **DISCOUNT** on consumer loans.
- ▶ **1.00%** interest rate **BONUS** on new certificate of deposits 12 months or more.
- ▶ **FREE** 6 months online bill payment.
- ▶ **FREE** first order of Flagstar custom checks only.
- ▶ **FREE** gift.

STOP BY OUR NEW LOCATION TO RECEIVE THESE LIMITED SPECIAL OFFERS. FEBRUARY 17 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2004.

30515 MILFORD RD. • NEW HUDSON (248) 486-4314

Drive-up: Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Lobby: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m. - noon

FLAGSTAR GIVES YOU THE FREEDOM.

FLAGSTAR BANK
www.flagstar.com Member FDIC

HomeTown Heroes

OF OAKLAND COUNTY

Do You Want to Honor a HomeTown Hero?

Your Observer & Eccentric, Mirror and HomeTown Newspapers, in conjunction with the United Way Volunteer Center of Oakland, are calling for nominations for the HomeTown Heroes™ Awards, which recognizes, encourages and rewards outstanding volunteers who have given selflessly of themselves to support non-profit organizations in Oakland County. Nominees and awardees will be recognized at the Fifth Annual HomeTown Heroes™ Luncheon that will take place on June 3, 2004 at Marriott at Centerpoint in Pontiac, Michigan.

NOMINATOR: _____ IF GROUP, CONTACT PERSON: _____

ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____ FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

NOMINATING CATEGORY: DIRECT SERVICE YOUNG ADULT SENIOR YOUTH GOVERNANCE FAITH-BASED BUSINESS

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____ AGE: _____
(Must volunteer for an Oakland County non-profit organization)

ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____ FAX: _____ E-MAIL: _____

SCHOOL ATTENDING (if appropriate): _____

PLACE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE: _____

YEARS OF SERVICE: _____ AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS WORKS PER MONTH: _____

TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED: _____

On a separate sheet, in 300 words or less, tell why you have nominated this individual, group or business. Describe the nominee's major accomplishments, commitment, self-motivation, problem-solving skills, and measurable impact upon the community. Entries must be typewritten. Do not staple pages. Include a photo (no larger than 5" x 7") of the nominated person or group, or for Business nominees, include a photo of persons participating in the volunteer activity.

Entries must be received by Friday, April 16, 2004.
 Mail or fax forms to: HomeTown Heroes™ Awards • c/o United Way Volunteer Center
 50 Wayne Street • Pontiac, MI 48342 • Fax: 248-456-8809
 For questions, further information, or more applications go to www.unitedwayoakland.org/hero or call 248-874-1601.

HomeTown Heroes Planning Committee:
 Active Faith • Assistance League of Southeastern Michigan • Birmingham Rotary Club • Junior League of Birmingham • Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency • Oakland University • St. Joseph Mercy Oakland

United Way • JUNE • Observer & Eccentric • HomeTown

Area invited to help in fight cancer

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Michelle Galecka of Novi was a healthy student at Central Michigan University when she was first diagnosed with cancer on July 4th weekend 1993.

Now, almost 11 years later, thanks to radiation, chemotherapy and bone marrow transplants, she's married, has an adopted son, and is trying to live a normal life.

Galecka will be one of many cancer survivors and concerned citizens who plan to participate in the Fifth Annual Novi-Northville American Cancer Society Relay For Life. The event will take place from 10 a.m. May 15 to 10 a.m. May 16 at Ford Field in downtown Northville.

The overnight, community-based team event is a nationwide movement that offers an opportunity for everyday people to help in the fight against cancer.

Teams have 10 or more members who each raise funds and commit to having one member of the team walk the track for the duration of the event. Relay For Life honors cancer survivors during the first lap.

A kickoff for the upcoming fund-raiser at the Sheraton Detroit Novi last Wednesday

included an emotional video and personal experiences about the event. Kurt Westphal of Novi serves as chairman of this year's event.

Last year, the Novi-Northville Relay For Life event included 36 teams and collected \$82,000 for cancer research, which was more than triple the community's goal.

"The goal for this year's event is 40 teams and \$84,000, plus a renewed awareness of cancer in the Novi-Northville area," Iovan said.

Since its creation by a Tacoma, Wash., doctor in 1995 through last year, the event has raised \$1 billion toward the fight against cancer.

"Unfortunately, that's not enough to conquer this beast," Westphal.

Barb Iovan, community development director for the local American Cancer Society, noted at the kickoff that Relay For Life is the largest private funding source for cancer research.

"This is the national signature fund-raiser for the charity," Iovan said.

This year, there will be more than 4,000 Relays For Life nationwide and 32 in the Metro Detroit area. Two firms in the area — AT & T and Johnson Controls — have already agreed to be Silver Sponsors, donating

\$1,000 each to the cause, according to Iovan.

She noted that students from Amerman Elementary School in Northville collected \$1,000 worth of pennies to contribute to cancer research last October. The project was combined with a math lesson.

Iovan also thanked members of the Northville Eagles for providing a meeting site at the downtown club for Relay For Life team captains this year.

Information about how to form a team or become involved in Relay For Life is available from the American Cancer Society at (248) 483-4317 or 1-800-ACS-2345.

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

She lost close friend but survived disease herself

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Kristen Harper has two reasons to be a team captain in the 2004 Novi-Northville Relay For Life fund-raiser May 15-16. Even though she's only 23, she's already lost a close friend to cancer and survived a bout with the disease herself.

The former Northville resident, who graduated from Northville High School in 1998 and moved to Troy last November, is the daughter of Sherry Farhat of Northville. She recently left a position as an administrative assistant for Health Care Partners in Southfield and is working part-time at Logan's Road House restaurant in Troy.

"I'm looking for a 9-to-5 job. I have a degree in psychology and plan to go back to school and get my master's degree in counseling," she said. "Right now, I'm looking for a job related to the mental health field."

Harper's experience with cancer began when she was 19 and a sophomore at Michigan State University. "I went for a normal checkup, and later the doctor notified me by mail

that I needed to come back in so that they could review some of my test results with me. I finally made the doctor tell me what was going on over the phone," she recalled.

"The doctor was very vague, saying that they had found some cancerous cells, and that I needed to come back in for more tests. We immediately found a specialist, and I went in for a second opinion. I was given a clean bill of health and told I was fine," she said.

Three months later, however, she noticed that things were not right with her body. She later learned that she had cervical cancer and that she needed immediate surgery. She's had two more surgeries since then and is now being closely monitored.

"The doctors were able to catch the cancer early enough that it didn't do a lot of damage. Now, they're just

watching to make sure that any pre-cancer cells don't progress," she said.

Harper's friend, the late Lee-Ann Murphy of Northville, attended middle school, high school and college together. Her senior year at Michigan State University, Murphy was diagnosed with sarcoma, a form of cancer. She passed away Sept. 29, 2003.

"I got permission from her mother at her funeral to have a fund-raising event in her memory," Harper said. "She was very supportive, and thought that would be very nice. Lee-Ann's death gave me the inspiration to try to raise funds to fight this disease. I just consider myself so lucky after my ordeal. I'm so thankful," she said.

Anyone who would like to be part of Harper's Relay For Life team in May can contact her via e-mail at harperk@msu.edu.

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



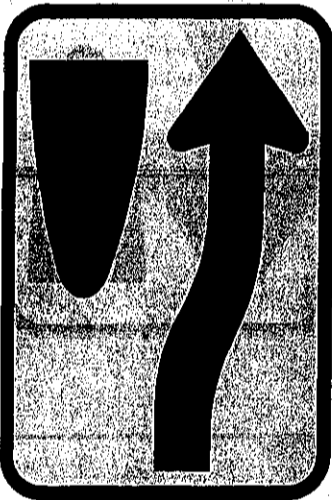
K. Harper

PRESCRIPTIONS AT CANADIAN PRICES

Courier Meds, Ltd.
344 Keewatin St., Winnipeg,
Manitoba, Canada

Manitoba Pharmacy license #32656

Toll-free phone 1-877-992-6337



If You Have Poor Credit, No Credit History, Or Been Turned Down For A Mortgage... We Have A Way Around These Obstacles!

- Reduced or no down payment required.
 - Closing costs can be financed.
- Cash (matress money) can be used to qualify.
- Up to 100% loan to value cash-out on refinances.
- Non-occupant co-borrower accepted.
 - Resident aliens qualify.
- A chance to re-establish your credit.

Call our Mortgage Specialists at (888) 437-8243 today!

MICHIGAN HERITAGE Bank
Let us lend a hand

Novi: 21211 Hagerly Rd., North of 8 Mile, 1888-437-8243
Livy: 1917 East Big Beaver At John R. Rd., (248) 619-0264
Farmington Hills: 28300 Orchard Lake Rd., Suite 101, (800) 914-3523

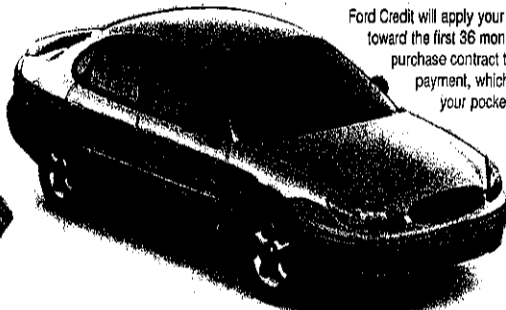
FLEXBUY

THE NEXT GENERATION OF NEW CAR FINANCING

Low up-front costs. More time to pay. With Flexbuy, you can get more than you might expect. See dealer for details.

NO MILEAGE RESTRICTIONS

Ford Credit will apply your Flexbuy \$1,800 rebate toward the first 36 months of your 66 month purchase contract to reduce your monthly payment, which leaves extra money in your pocket.



ELIGIBLE A/Z/D PLAN EMPLOYEES AND FAMILY MEMBERS

FLEXBUY (1)		STANDARD FINANCING	
1st - 36th Payments	Next 30 Payments	1st - 36th Payments	Next 30 Payments
\$195	\$245	\$207	\$263

(1) 2004 Taurus SE MSRP \$20,890. 66 months with \$1000 down excluding taxes, title and license fees at 0.9% APR. \$195 payment calculated when Flexbuy of \$1,800 is applied to first 36 months. Renewal cash of \$1,000 included. For Flexbuy, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 03/31/04. Residency restrictions apply. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. (2) 36 months with \$1,000 down excluding taxes, title and license fees. Includes security deposit and acquisition fee. Some payments higher, some lower. (3) 60 months with \$1,000 down excluding taxes, title and license fees at 0% APR. Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit Financing. All payments include \$1,000 Ford Credit bonus cash.

SUBURBAN FORD DEALERS OPEN SATURDAYS



HINES PARK FORD

1-96 at Milford Rd.
248-437-6700

OPEN SATURDAYS

Quick Hits

Novi fails to Mustangs in Regional final
The Novi Wildcats, unfortunately, got a taste of what they have been handing out to foes in the Regional finals for the past four years — a loss. The Northville Mustangs took it to the Wildcats in an exciting **NORTHVILLE 5 NOVI 3** final contest that found the Northville skaters escaping with a big win over their cross-town rivals.

The Wildcats didn't go down without a fight though. They skated as well as they have skated all year and made it a game all the way until the final few moments as the Mustangs scored an open-net goal to seal the contest and earn their first-ever Regional crown.

— See Page B2 for details

Wild 'Stangs take first in Regional, qualify for states

The Novi-Northville Wild 'Stangs gymnastics team pulled together last week and earned themselves a Regional title with a whopping 146,775 points. The outcome gave the squad a berth into the state finals, which are slated for tomorrow at Plymouth High School on Beck Road at 4 p.m.

The squad, which is coached by Lindsay Schultz, had impressive performances across the board as they proved that determination and dedication definitely pay off in the long run.

— Go to Page B2 for story

Did you know?

This was a year of firsts for the Novi Wildcats. It marks the first time the volleyball team won the District title and it also marks the first time under coach Amy Denys that the Wildcats cheer team made it to the state finals.

Swimming and Diving team nearing the end of season

The Wildcats swimming and diving team took a close loss against Kensington Valley Conference rival South Lyon, 98-78.

The 'Cats, who just have 17 swimmers on their roster, may have fallen in the meet but they definitely gave it their all.

Unfortunately, the depth of the South Lyon squad proved to be too much and the Wildcats found themselves suffering another dual meet loss to a larger foe.

— Full Story, Page B3

Thought of the Week

Talk about an exciting post-season, eh? The Wildcats have shown that they are definitely not a group of athletes that are going to go down without a fight — no matter what sport it is.

The hockey team gave their fans one of the most exciting games in the entire history of the program, while the basketball team earned a share of the Kensington Valley Conference title. The volleyball team notched a second-place finish in their conference and came away with their first-ever District Tournament title.

The gymnastics team, which has both Northville and Novi members participating, is headed to the state finals, as is the Novi cheerleading team.

Talk about competitive spirit! The Wildcats have proven yet again that the athletes that come out of Novi are some of the best in the state. That's something all of us can be proud of!

NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

Thursday, March 11, 2004

DISTRICT CHAMPIONS!

Wildcats clinch first-ever District Tournament crown

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

"We've had a pretty extraordinary last two weeks. It has been incredible."

Julie Fisette
Novi Volleyball Coach

After clinching a second-place tie in the Kensington Valley Conference standings with wins over Milford and Pinckney last week, the Novi Wildcats volleyball team had to be wondering just how they could top it.

The question, quite surprisingly, was one that the Wildcats were quick to answer: Why not just win a first-ever District Tournament title?

Though the task sounded as though it would be a tough one to accomplish, the Wildcats managed to do just that as they won three straight to capture the crown.

"We've had a pretty extraordinary last two weeks," Novi coach Julie Fisette said. "It's been incredible."

The tournament, which was moved from Novi to Walled Lake Central this year, found the Wildcats starting off with shaky knees.

After notching a big win over Farmington Hills Harrison in the first game, 17-15, the Wildcats found themselves on the wrong end of a 15-7 decision in game two.

"Out of the shoot, we came out strong but the girls were a bit nervous," Fisette said. "They knew this was their day. They knew they were in the running for the District title before they walked in. They have the talent, the speed and the desire and everything it takes to win one."

After notching such an impressive first game win, the Wildcats faltered slightly in the second. In the third, it was do or die — and the Wildcats did it as they pounded out a 15-11 victory to win the first round.

"We had a strong showing from our seniors," the coach said, refer-

ring to Anna Rickard, Laura Rybicki, Bella Feldbaum, Sam Stricker and Kim Zarczynski.

Feldbaum stood out in Fisette's mind after all was said and done.

"I distinctly remember Bella in the third not only capping off two kills in a row for a side out and a point, but going back and serving an ace to finish them off completely," she said.

But, it was a total team effort to win it — and a team effort was exactly what Fisette credited it to. "We played some great volleyball," she said.

In the second round, the Wildcats not only had plenty of determination left, but a lot of confidence as well. Taking on Walled Lake Western resulted in a two-game victory as they topped the Warriors, 15-12 and 15-2.

"Again, we had just a great showing," Fisette said. "It was a great team effort. The kids all got in to play. They got into the game, participated a little and got a win."

Besides the seniors, the Wildcats were aided by juniors — Saru Schmitt, Nicole Barndt and Amanda Toffoli.

Against Walled Lake Central in the final game, the Wildcats knew they had the chance to earn vengeance for multiple classes of

Novi spikers that had come before them.

"Walled Lake Central has beat us for the last five or six years for the District title," Fisette said. "Those games were all played at Novi too. This year, we had them at Walled Lake Central."

And vengeance was — excuse the pun — served.

The Wildcats came out with two amazing games, pounding the Vikings with dominating performances, 15-10, 15-9.

"The girls played great," Fisette said. "They played with confidence and never got down on themselves."

Feldbaum recorded 10 kills and four solo blocks in the final round, while Zarczynski notched four kills and two solo blocks. Barndt had four kills, a solo block and two aces in that game.

"It was one of the best games in her life," Fisette noted.

The Wildcats knew that they had to perform as a team this year if they hoped to move further than any squad had before them — and the statistics showed that was definitely the case.

"The girls really pulled together," Fisette said. "There wasn't one or two girls that played better than anyone else. They pulled together and they got the job done."

And now they are hoping to get the job done once again — this time in their home community.

The Regional Tournament will be played at the Novi Middle School Saturday starting at 10 a.m.

"We're going to be practicing hard all next week," Fisette said.

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



Wildcat Kim Zarczynski goes up for a spike.

Photo by John Heider

Novi shares crown

Loss to Pirates makes 'Cats co-kings

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

For the Novi Wildcats boys basketball team, a piece of the pie is better than none of it.

The squad, which is coached by Pat Schluter, took a piece of the Kensington Valley Conference pie March 2 when they beat the Milford Mavericks, 40-26.

Unfortunately, they couldn't claim the entire thing as they fell to the Pinckney Pirates in their final regular-season game two days later, 47-42.

Against the Pirates, the Wildcats knew that they would have their hands full. After coming out of the opening tip on fire, the Wildcats found themselves up just 10-9

Continued on B3



Photo by John Heider

Senior post player Mark Angelocci meets some resistance as he heads to the basket during a late-February home game against Hartland.

First trip to states since '97

Cheerleading team beats out rival Allen Park by one point

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

For the Novi Wildcats cheerleading squad, this year has been an absolute dream come true.

Not only were they extremely competitive in the running for the conference title, they also made a ton of noise and earned an honorable-mention in the final coaches' poll of the year in the state rankings. To top it all off, the squad went to Southgate Anderson High School to compete in the Regional and came away with a second place finish — which gave them a berth into the state finals.

The squad, which is coached by Emily Parker and Amy Denys, earned 691 total points, which was not far off of Southgate Anderson's winning score of 714. Though there wasn't much difference between the top spot and second place, there was much, much less between second and third.

Novi, which has fallen to Allen Park for a chance to go to state for the past few years, topped their foes by just one point. Allen Park took third with 690 points. The Wildcats definitely benefi-

ed from early rounds, which is a bit different than they have performed through much of the year. Instead of earning the win with a dominating third round, the Wildcat squeaked by with a 188.5 in round one and a 202 in round two. In round three, the Novi cheer team collected a 300.5.

Allen Park, on the other hand, earned a 185.5 in the first round, a 200 in the second and a 303.5 in round three. Southgate didn't look back in any of their rounds, collecting a 191, a 208.5 and a 314.5, respectively.

The Wildcats will go up against the best teams in the state when they compete in the state finals Saturday. The event, which will be held in the Delta Plex in Grand Rapids, is scheduled to start at 4 p.m.

Novi will see some complete strangers as well as some familiar faces in the finals. Besides Southgate Anderson, Novi will also compete against Hartland, which won the Kensington Valley Conference this year. Also joining Novi will be Holland West Ottawa, Jenison, Rochester Hills, Troy Athens, Mt. Pleasant, Grandville and East Kentwood.

Chaz Bulbuk Senior Hockey

There are the kind of players that will always stand out, and Bulbuk is one of them. Though his and his fellow Wildcat hockey players' season came to an end against Northville, Bulbuk was determined not to go down without a fight. He put in two goals against one of the top goalies in the state and made sure that every Mustang who came against them will remember the power of Bulbuk for some time to come.



Athletes OF THE Week

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

Bella Feldbaum Senior Volleyball

In the hunt for a District title, the Wildcats knew they would need a total team effort — and that's what they got. When all was said and done, no one truly stood out above the rest except Feldbaum. She recorded 10 kills and four solo blocks in the third match alone when the squad topped Walled Lake Central. If the 'Cats hope to continue on, it will take more play like that which Feldbaum produces.



Photo by John Heider

Novicians Charles Bulbuk, right, tries to maintain control of the puck while Waterford Kettering's Craig Ramsey gets in the way during last week's home playoff game.

The Gates of Northville

Wildcats were knocking, but Mustangs wouldn't let them in

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

In the end, it was all about the Novicians and all about the Novicians.

For the first time since the squad first took to the ice five years ago, the Novicians found themselves looking at the wrong end of a 5-1 loss in the Regional finals. Northville, on the other hand, took their first Regional title in school history and the second post-season tournament title under Brad O'Neill's tutelage.

"The first year, we won the District," O'Neill said. "That was a great feeling then, and this is a great feeling now."

The Wildcats and the Mustangs skated on to the ice knowing full well that both teams were going to have to play their best games, if either hoped to escape with a victory. In front of a standing-room-only crowd at Novi Ice Arena, the action started quick and physical.

The Mustangs put their first points up on the board as Matt Long took the puck in unassisted and placed it just past goalie Dan Morrison's glove for the 1-0 lead at the 10-minute mark.

With less than a minute to go in the first period, the Wildcats tied the game at 1-1 following a Northville penalty. Senior John Janusse scooped up a rebound and fired it past Northville goaltender Jimmy Gates with just 51 seconds left in the first. The assists went to Char Bulbuk and Mark Hjerfving.

"I was really proud of the way the guys played tonight," Novi coach Dan Phelps said. "They showed a lot of heart out there. We had a season full of obstacles to overcome, and they overcame them without question. They're a great group of kids."

Wild 'Stangs head to states

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi-Northville Wild 'Stangs gymnastics team knew it was capable of performing above their conference rivals.

A third place showing in the conference didn't bode well for the squad, but they rectified that situation late last week as they won their Regional for a berth into the state finals.

The squad, which is coached by Lindsay Schultz, collected 146.775 points to finish ahead of both Canton and Livonia, who were second and third respectively.

"The girls really pulled together as a team and worked hard all week to come into the Regionals and give it their best effort," Schultz said. "They had positive attitudes the entire meet, even if they weren't satisfied with their personal events."

The Wild 'Stangs set out this season to accomplish some big things in the Regionals - and they pulled through to do just that.

"They had fun and accomplished goals they set at the beginning of the year," Schultz noted.

The team is scheduled to appear in the state finals for teams tomorrow at 4 p.m. The event will be held at Plymouth High School, which is located on Beck Road.

Through the states are never easy, the Wild 'Stangs are going in with a positive attitude.

"As a team, we will be happy with wherever we place as long as we know we did our best," Schultz said. "It should be a great meet and we are looking forward to competing."

The Wild 'Stangs were led by Maggie Mills in the bars as she collected 9.4 points from the judges. Sarah Ikhani-Pour wasn't far behind, notching a 9.25 for her efforts, while Julie Fischer collected a 9.05. Trish Brownfield collected an 8.95 in the event, while Emma Platt earned an 8.8.

Taking an 8.75 was Janna Ramsey, while Jenn Mehl notched an 8.7 along with Ann McQueen. Earning an 8.5 was Conney Paul, while Jacqueline Gavette earned an 8.25 and came into the Regionals and give it their best effort."

The team is scheduled to appear in the state finals for teams tomorrow at 4 p.m. The event will be held at Plymouth High School, which is located on Beck Road.

Through the states are never easy, the Wild 'Stangs are going in with a positive attitude.

SECRET WINDOW

SOME WINDOWS SHOULD NEVER BE OPENED.

STARS FRIDAY, MARCH 12

12:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM	8:00 PM	9:00 PM
THE SECRET WINDOW	THE SECRET WINDOW	THE SECRET WINDOW	THE SECRET WINDOW	THE SECRET WINDOW	THE SECRET WINDOW	THE SECRET WINDOW	THE SECRET WINDOW	THE SECRET WINDOW	THE SECRET WINDOW

Novi shares crown

Continued from B1

heading into the second quarter of play. The next stanza proved to be in favor of the Pinckney cagers. Though Brad Chandler was playing one of his best games of the season, the Wildcats found themselves down 20-19 when they headed into the locker room.

The third period found the Wildcats putting up 14 points as their defense tightened against an impressive showing from the Pirates. With the clock expiring in the third, Chandler drove before fishing to Moore, who hit a jump shot to tie the game at 33-33.

Unfortunately, that proved to be the final burst of energy the squad would get. Pinckney pulled their defensive corps out to the perimeter to stop the long-range shooting that Novi was hitting on throughout the night and the Wildcats were forced to shoot from the line for the rest of the night. Unfortunately, the line was what made a whole lot of difference. The 'Cats hit just 13-of-23 from the free-throw line.

In the fourth, Pinckney lit the sky with the shots that were falling, while the 'Cats found themselves barely able to put up any points at all. After missing five straight from the charity stripe and three misses from the arch, the Wildcats got their first points in the fourth as he hit a free throw nearly five minutes into the quarter.



Photo by John Heider

Wildcat Ryan Cortez loses control of the ball in front of Churchill Charger Cortez Diaz during Monday night's playoff game at Plymouth Salem High. Novi escaped with a close victory over the team from Livonia.

As time expired, Chandler sank two free throws to put his squad to 47-42, but they could only watch as Pinckney began to celebrate their victory. As the horn sounded, the fans rushed the court.

Chandler hit six three-pointers and led his squad with 22 points, while Brad Simpson added six.

Novi's loss put their record at 17-3 overall and 12-3 in the KVC.

Wildcats fall in KVC meet against S. Lyon

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

For the Novi Wildcats swimming and diving team, the long road that has been this season is almost at an end.

The Wildcats, who are coached by Larry Tchan, found themselves on the wrong end of a 98-78 loss to the South Lyon Lions in Kensington Valley Conference action.

The Wildcats may not have escaped with the win, but they still had plenty of impressive showings nonetheless.

In the 200 yard medley relay, the Wildcats took first place with the team of Derek O'Branovic, Will Deighton, Chris Pieprzak and Lewis Park. They completed their swim in a time of 1:56.04.

Chris Alberty took first in the diving portion of the meet, finishing with an impressive 201.5 points.

In the 100 yard backstroke, the Wildcats took first and second. Park took first in 1:04.00, while O'Branovic took second in 1:08.14. The 100 breaststroke found Deighton taking first in 1:16.46, while Lev Rubel took third for the 'Cats in 1:21.35.

Novi took second in the 400 free relay. The team of John Wang, Park, Matt Swift and Sean Bugbee finished in 3:52.02. In the 50 free, Pieprzak took second in 24.11 seconds. He also had a second-place showing in the 100 yard butterfly with a time of 58.65 seconds, while Wang took third in 1:06.87.

In the 500 free, Bugbee took second in 5:29.79, while O'Branovic took third in 5:39.21. The 200 free relay team of Artun Kiercaki, Rubel, Scott Ulley and Alberty had a good showing as well, finishing in second in 1:38.28.

The Wildcats also took a third in the 100 free. Swift notched a time of 54.60 seconds.

Churella gets title

Novi graduate and current University of Michigan grappler Ryan Churella recently captured the 149-pound individual Big Ten title and helped his squad to a fourth-place conference finish. He topped Penn State's third-seeded Matt Stornio in the final match. He earned the first points of the match with a reversal before holding on to his foe for the rest of the period. Stornio started in the down position in the third period and Churella quickly proved his dominance as he earned 5-0 victory.

Keep checking back to the Novi News sports section for a complete story on Churella.

Triathlete hosts breakfast Saturday to help raise funds

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

For James Walker, who works in Northville, raising money for a good cause via a triathlon is something he's more than happy to do.

Walker will be holding a fundraiser at Child's on the corner of Haggerty Road and Eighth Mile with a pancake breakfast Sunday. The event, which costs \$6 per person, will run from 8-10:30 a.m.

According to Walker, the money he raises will go to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society after he runs in the St. Anthony's Triathlon in St. Petersburg, Florida April 25.

"One thing that really keeps me going when I'm tired or the weather is bad is the fact that the people who have cancer can't stop," he said. "They don't get a day's rest when they're fighting cancer. That pushes me. I can't have a day of rest without it. I have to run, bike and swim no matter how tired I am or how much it hurts."

Walker is running for a variety of reasons - including the fact that his aunt was diagnosed with lymphoma.

"I received a flyer about the same time she was diagnosed," he said. "I went to an informational meeting and talked to the coaches. I signed up right there."

Walker is training under Team In Training, which trains beginning triathletes in exchange for fund raising. Thanks to that organization, he also has another reason to work that much harder - her name is Jillian Lundblad of Plymouth.

"She's an eight-year-old girl that has acute lymphoblastic lymphoma," he said. "She has been in remission for two years."

Lundblad is Walker's "Honor Hero" and she and her family has been at practices and have spent time with Walker. They will also attend his triathlon.

"THIS YEAR'S BEST COMEDY! LAUGH-OUT-LOUD FUNNY."

"TWO THUMBS UP! A lot of fun from start to finish."

"Stillier and Wilson are PERFECTLY CAST."

"Proud with GREAT PERFORMANCES"

"Completely Funny. COMPLETELY HILARIOUS!"

"HOT! ONE OF THE BEST MOVIES I'VE SEEN THIS YEAR!"

HIDALGO

AMC FORUM 30 | AMC LAUREL PARK | AMC LIVONIA 20 | CANTON 6
MIR SOUTHGATE 20 | BEACON EAST | BIRMINGHAM PALMADIM | PHOENIX WEST RIVER | SHOWCASE DEARBORN | SHOWCASE STERLING HTS. | SHOWCASE WESTLAND
STAR GREAT LAKES | STAR JOHN R | STAR ROCHESTER
STAR SOUTHFIELD | STAR TAYLOR | UA COMMERCE STADIUM

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN High & Elm Streets, Northville 1 Tuback Pastor Church 349-3140, School 349-3146 Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Confirmation Service 10:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:45 a.m. 248-334-8882 • www.novilutheran.org	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 2001 E. Main St. of Northville (483) 389-0011 Worship & Church School - 9:30 & 11:00am Sunday School - 9:30am Newcomers Welcome - 10:00am Newcomers Welcome - 10:00am Rev. James P. Gaudet, Pastor 248-345-7157	NORTHWEST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH 23925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield Worship 10:00am (All are welcome) In-person donations, the sign on that puts faith in you 248-334-8882 • www.novilutheran.org	OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH 1100 Hayes, Northville WEEKEND LITURGY: 8:00am, 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:30pm Sunday 7:30 AM, 11 AM, 12:30 PM Church 349-2623, Fax 349-2610 Religious Education: 349-2559 Rev. Terrence Werner, Pastor	MEADOWBROOK CHURCH 21355 Meadowbrook R. Novi at 8172 Mile Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m. 248-345-7157 Minister: Rev. Dr. E. Neil Hunt Minister of Music: Patrick Kuhl	GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 9 Mile & Meadowbrook Worship by Lutheran Synod Sunday 9:00am, 10:30am, 11:30am Adult Bible Class 8:45am Worship 10:00am Thomas E. Schindler, Pastor, 349-4565	CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL (Anglican) 19 Mile between 10th & Beck, Novi Phone: 349-1175 Sun 7:45 & 10:00am Holy Eucharist Sunday School & Nursery 10am Rev. Karen Henry, Pastor www.ChurchoftheHolyCross.com	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 240-1144 8 Mile & Holt Roads Worship Services 8:00am & 10am-11:00am Rev. John Hise Rev. Janette Berry	FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 6463 W 10 Mile, Novi, 248-339-2145 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd. Dr. Richard J. Henderson, Pastor Worship & Church School 9:00 & 10:30am Sunday	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 45011 1/2 mile off 1st St Discipleship Ministry including pre-school Daycare 7:30-12:00pm Sun School 9:00am-11:00am & 12:00pm 248-347-3844 www.firstbaptistchurch.org	ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 46355 10 Mile Rd. Novi, MI 48214 Worship 8:30 & 11:30 a.m. Parish Office: 347-7779	OAK POINTE CHURCH Northville High School on 6 Mile NOVI Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Casual contemporary Ave band (248) 615-7050	CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 32525 Meadowbrook Rd, Novi MI 48275 Mass: Sat 5pm, Sun 7:30am 8:45am, 10:30am, 12:15pm Nov Days 7am, 8:30am, 9:30am Fr. John S. Budde, Pastor Fr. Paul Bohan, Associate Pastor Phone: 349-8642	MILL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH All Mill Creek, Marquette Village Practical Christianity Contemporary Worship Sun, 10 AM - Word Prayer 7 PM 248-388-1509	WORLDWIDE HARVEST CHURCH "A Place to Grow" 2925 North J. McJannet Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 AM The Boardman Rd., Wixom, MI 48396 (west of east) Worship: (248) 799-8029 www.worshipatworldwide.com www.whc.org	HARVEST FELLOWSHIP 49329 Jonick Trail Wixom 248-925-8332 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.	WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Dr. James H. McQuinn, Senior Pastor 4025 E. Main - Northville, MI 48211 Traditional Services: 8:30, 11:30am Contemporary Services 9:00am Sunday School & Nursery 9:30am Newcomers Welcome 10:00am 483-3333	ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH Between Grand River & Freedom 248-474-0584 9:15 traditional 11:15 contemporary Sunday School 10:30 Newcomers Welcome Stephen Bergquist, Intern	BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA Let us go now to Bethlehem and see the sign that the angels placed - 248-414-1145 33300 W 6 Mile Farmington Hills, MI (482) 414-1145 Dr. M. E. Thompson, Pastor, 8:30, 10:45 AM Sunday School (All Ages) 9:30 AM	CROSSPOINTS MEADOWS CHURCH Pastor Danny L. Langley Traditional Services - 9:00 A.M. Contemporary Services - 10:30 A.M. Meeting at Novi One Center 248-444-7755 crosspointmeadows.org
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Did the Movie leave you with questions?

Join members of the community in casual conversation about Mel Gibson's new Film, **The Passion of the Christ**.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings from 7:00-8:00 PM starting March 2nd through April 8th

Two locations:
At the Coffee Trader in Novi,
or the Grand Cafe in Farmington.

For more information & map call 248.755.0497 or visit www.c3ministries.org

"TWO THUMBS WAY UP! A GREAT EPIC FILM!"

"POWERFULLY MOVING!"

"AN IMPRESSIVE, PASSIONATE VISION!"

★★★★★

MEL GIBSON FILM

THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST

JIM CAVIEZEL

Now Showing at These Theatres:

AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	BEACON EAST	BIRMINGHAM PALMADIM
CANTON 6	EMMONGE NOVI	MIR SOUTHGATE 20	PHOENIX AT BEL AIR CTR.
PHOENIX WEST RIVER	SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE STERLING HTS.	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR GRATIOT	STAR GREAT LAKES	STAR JOHN R
STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STADIUM

CALL THEATRES FOR SHOWTIMES

Rally a team in the fight against cancer!

Join the Walled Lake community in the fight against cancer at the American Cancer Society Relay For Life this May.

Relay For Life of Walled Lake
Walled Lake Events Field
May 22 - 23, 2004
10 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Contact your American Cancer Society at 248.557.5353 or visit www.cancer.org for more information.

"It's about being a community that takes up the fight."

Relay For Life
American Cancer Society

Proudly supported by
NOVI NEWS

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

1B

Novi News

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Financial check list for spring

As you make plans to go on a family vacation, or tackle that home improvement project you've been putting off, consider giving yourself a financial checkup. Spring is a great time to make certain you're on track to meet your financial goals.

Cut the clutter - Your first item of business should be to evaluate how organized you are. Start by making a solid effort to sort through your mail three times per week. If you let your mail pile up you run the risk of misplacing a bill. Shred all pre-approved credit card applications and put your bills in a designated place in your office, in a "bill box," or file drawer. Consider sorting by due date.

Then create a filing system. Begin by making three folders (you can always create more if you need to). One folder should be for your investment account information. Another folder should hold all of your tax-related items including W-2 forms and 1099 forms from brokerage and mutual fund companies. Place receipts for your deductible expenses like paid medical bills, property tax bills and charitable contributions in this folder. Place your monthly checking and savings account statements, cancelled checks, debit card and deposit receipts in the third folder.

After you've set up your filing system, make a list of all your bank and credit card accounts. Include account numbers, expiration dates, credit limits and phone numbers. Also list the contact information for your phone, gas and electric companies. Then, for insurance purposes, make a list of all your possessions. (Some insurance experts recommend making a videotape of your possessions.) Place this information, along with your will, insurance policies, proof of residence (deed or lease), mortgage information, Social Security cards, birth and marriage certificates, family records and any other documents you deem appropriate, in a fireproof box in your house or in a safe deposit box. Tell a family member or trusted friend where these documents are kept.

It's never too late to budget - If you find each month that you're spending too much and saving too little, it's time to craft and adhere to a workable budget. Personal finance software like Microsoft Money and Quicken can help you manage your personal finances, but consider drawing up an initial budget the old-fashioned way with a pen and paper. You might find, as I have, that when you write down and cross out information, your brain makes more of a connection to what you're doing than if you accomplished the same task with a few keystrokes.

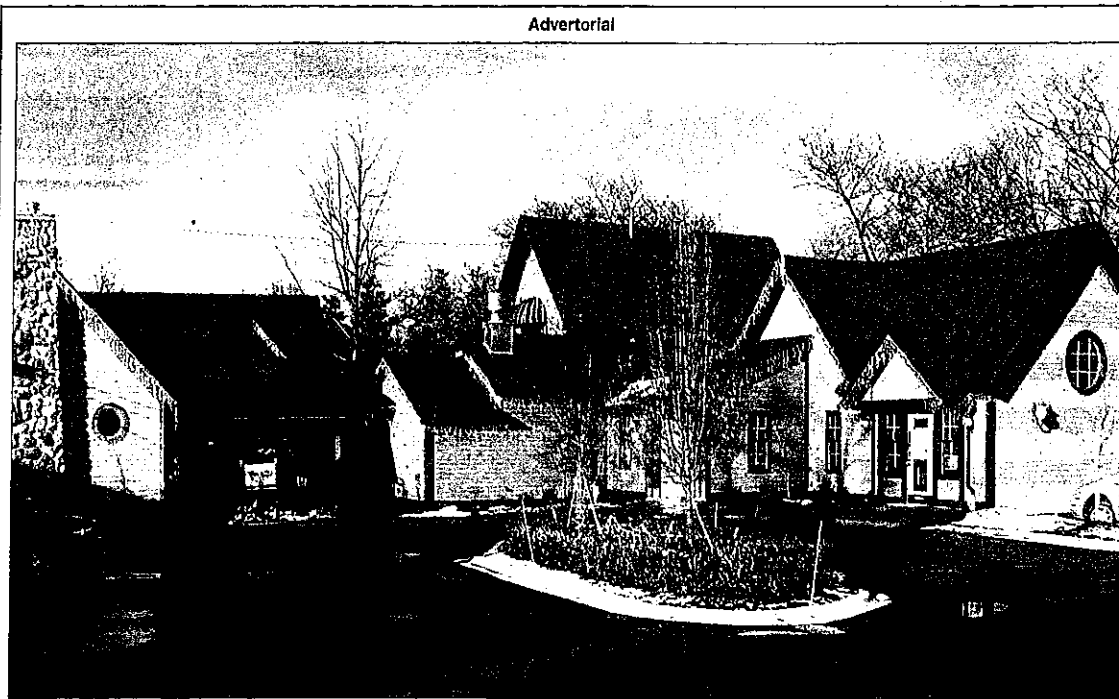
Take a piece of paper and divide it into two columns. Note your monthly income at the top. Write down your basic expenses in the left column. These should include rent or mortgage, student loan, utility and household bills, your car payment, gas, and any work related expenditures. You should also note in this column the money you put in savings each month. If you have a separate emergency fund, include the amount you deposit into that account as well. Total it up and subtract that amount from your income. What's left over is your disposable income.

Track your spending for at least a few months to get a good idea of how much you spend on things other than your basic expenses and what you deposit into savings. Write everything down, even if it's as insignificant as a pack of gum. Note those items in the right column of your page. Add them up. Are they more than your disposable income? If so you'll need to reduce your expenses.

Put the lid on bad spending habits - There are two advantages to tracking your spending. The first is you learn how much money you fritter away each month on things you really don't need. But, more importantly, by paying attention to what you spend each month, you're forced to come face to face with the spending habits that are draining your checking account.

Separate needs from wants - Separating needs from wants can be difficult, even for disciplined spenders. If you're really committed to reforming your spending habits, ask yourself this: Do I really need this (blank)? You'll be surprised how many items fall under the "want" category.

Mary Davis manages public affairs for the Michigan Credit Union League. Send your financial questions to "Your Money Matters" c/o the Michigan Credit Union League, P.O. Box 8054, Plymouth, MI 48170-8054, or visit www.mcul.org. Comments about this column may be e-mailed to mccl@mcul.org.



Photos by Duane Ramsey

Enjoy Italian favorites that you can feed your family at home. The Hutton Street Market is located in the new striped colored addition (at right) to the Little Italy Ristorante (center sienna building) and Bacchus Bar (yellow section at left) in downtown Northville.

Market offers a little taste of Italy

Hutton Street Market opens in Northville's Little Italy Village

By Duane Ramsey
SPECIAL WRITER

People, who have enjoyed the authentic Italian cuisine and fine dining at Little Italy Ristorante and Bacchus Bar in downtown Northville, can now take that same food home from the Hutton Street Market. The Italian deli, pizzeria and catering kitchen opened recently as the latest addition to the Little Italy Village.

Little Italy chefs and partners, John Gallagher and Jeff Jepko, wanted to share their home-cooked Italian cuisine with more people than they could fit in their restaurant and bar. So, they built a 1,200 square-foot addition on the back of the restaurant and bar, where the old carriage house was previously located, to house their new enterprise.

The Hutton Street Market offers a full array of deli cheeses, meats and imported Italian specialties, homemade desserts, fresh bread, pasta, pizza, sauces and salad dressings with the Little Italy private label. They also sell a variety of fine wines and specialty beverages.

"We built it to look like part of the residential buildings (bar and restaurant) and painted it in bright colors so people would be sure to see us," said Jeff. "You can also order carry-out items from Little Italy Ristorante for significantly less than the same entrees cost in the restaurant."

The partners expanded the current restaurant kitchen that adjoins the new catering kitchen and retail market. It was a big investment for the brothers-in-law but they are confident that the market will appeal to their current clientele and new customers who want the convenience of having Italian home cooking at home.

"We wanted to turn the corner into a Little Italy Village," said Jeff. They previously built an addition to the original historic home to house the Bacchus bar,

which opened in August 2001. The retail market completes the ethnic village concept.

Jeff grew up in Detroit with the family pizza business owned by his grandparents who were immigrants from Italy. He remembers his grandfather telling him that "there are two kinds of people in the world, Italians and those who want to be Italian."

His family continued its history in the restaurant business in the Detroit area. His father, Al Valente, was involved with Jeff and John when they opened the Little Italy Ristorante in Northville in 1988. His father passed away recently but they continue the family tradition.

"We like to keep it in the family so to speak," said Jeff, who is married to John's sister Mary. John and Mary's brother, Robert, is also a chef at the Little Italy Ristorante.

Chefs by trade, Jeff and John are "hands on" owners involved in the daily operation. One is usually working in the kitchen while the other is on the floor making sure their guests are satisfied.

"It's important for people to recognize that we want our guests to feel like family," Jeff said. "We want you to feel like you're eating in a home like families in Italy do."

When you're Italian, the best food is always mom's cooking, according to Jeff, who said he learned more about cooking from his mother than from anyone in the restaurant business. The next best thing is to go to an authentic Italian restaurant.

"An authentic Italian restaurant has style and a soul. We want our entire staff to project the passion and philosophy we have for food, wine and the business that we try to instill in them."

Jeff and John developed their culinary skills in the "Old World" system by working on the job as an apprentice to chefs rather than attending culinary school. People can learn the basics in school, but you never stop learning on the job, Jeff added.

"The people here in the Northville community are the best clientele I've ever had the pleasure to serve," said Jeff. He previously operated restaurants in Birmingham and West Bloomfield before settling on their current location.



Partners John Gallagher and Jeff Jepko stand at the entrance to their new Hutton Street Market at the Little Italy Village.

TASTE OF ITALY

■ Little Italy Ristorante offers fine regional Italian cuisine with intimate dining in a restored turn-of-the-century Victorian home featuring appetizers, salads, cold and hot anti-pasti; large selection of entrees with pasta, chicken, veal, fish and seafood, steaks and chops.

■ Bacchus Bar offers casual café-style dining for lunch, dinner or late night dining with 60 great wines by the glass and 450 different varieties of wine by the bottle from an award-winning wine list, cocktails, brandies and fine liquors, as well as an excellent selection of cigars.

■ Hutton Street Market offers deli meats, cheeses and imported Italian specialties, pizzas, grilled panini sandwiches; fresh pasta, salads, sauces and soups; homemade bread, desserts, pastries and tortes.

■ It is all part of the Little Italy Village located at 219 Hutton Street downtown Northville. Phone: 248-347-6200

Little Italy Ristorante offers regional Italian cuisine in a fine dining atmosphere of the historic Victorian home. The Bacchus Bar provides casual or late-night dining with great wines and specialty drinks indoors or on the outdoor patio if weather permits.

"Wine is an extension of the meal and dinner table for Italians," Jeff said. They offer 20 varieties of wines by the glass, but have more than 450 different wines and vintages on their list and in stock.

Both Jeff and John travel to Italy regu-

larly to keep current with their suppliers for food and wine. They know the family-owned wine and food producers in Italy from which they import. Jeff has planned another trip to Italy this spring for that purpose.

Little Italy is also the caterer of choice for corporate or community events, weddings or other important family occasions. It combines the talent of experienced culinary and wait-staff teams to provide high quality and innovative cuisine with a professional client-focused attitude.

Little Italy Village



HUTTON STREET MARKET

Experience a family meal and award-winning wine at our restaurant

Enjoy our catering kitchen and dine in the historic Italian home

Relax in our lounge, bar and grill with live music

Complete your meal with our award-winning wine

A Unique Italian Deli, Pizzeria and Catering Kitchen featuring:

- Fine Imported Italian Specialties
- Knock-Your-Socks-Off Catering
- Little Italy Ristorante Prepared Carry Out Foods
- Italian Pizzas in the Neapolitan Tradition
- Homemade Bread and Breadssticks
- Italian Sandwiches and Panini Grill
- Deli Meats, Cheeses and Italian Sausage
- Handmade Fresh Pastas, Sauces and Salad Dressings
- Fresh Salads and Soups
- Exquisite Desserts, Tortes and Pastries, Gelato Ice Cream and Sorbets
- Wine and Specialty Beverages

Exclusive Bar Cafe

Casual Cafe Style Dining • Outdoor Patio

Daily Lunch Specials • Late Night Dining

Little Italy's Award-Winning Wine List

Whiskey • Italian Cocktails

Imported Smith Field Scotch Whisky

Handmade Pastas and Italian Sausages

and Specialty Beverages

219 Hutton St. • 248-347-6200 • www.LittleItalyNorthville.com