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Novi News



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Thursday, September 2, 2004

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Novi, Michigan

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Grand River Ave. to close east of Novi Rd.

Area motorists should take note that due to construction Grand River Avenue will close east of Novi Road to Town Center Drive starting Tuesday, Sept. 7, until about December 2004.

Drivers driving south on Novi Road trying to go east on Grand River will be detoured to Crescent Boulevard north of Grand River. Those driving north on Novi Road wanting to go east on Grand River can use Main Street south of Grand River to get past the construction.

Westbound traffic on Grand River Avenue will also need to use these detours.

The improved intersection is on schedule to be completed in November 2004.

Paragon case may finally end

■ **Lawsuit between city, developer spans almost 20 years**

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

A dispute spanning almost 20

years between a local developer and the City of Novi on property in the northwest corner of Novi may come to an end this month.

The property, which involves 80 acres at Napier and Twelve Mile roads, is immediately north of two mobile home parks — Old Dutch Farms and Novi Meadows.

The proposed development on the land is currently called Knights Bridge Gate and is being developed by Grand/Sakwa/Jacobson Novi LLC.

About 20 years ago, the property

owner came to the city seeking a mobile home park.

The property was then zoned partial residential and partial agricultural. The city denied the mobile home park because city leaders did not want another mobile home park in the area.

Paragon, the developer at the time, sued the city around 1985. Then the city objected to the case because the owner had not gone to the Zoning Board of Appeals before initiating the lawsuit.

"At that point, that wasn't the

law," said Gerald Fisher, city attorney.

The case went to trial, and the judge ruled that the zoning was invalid, awarded the property owner \$300,000 and granted authorization for a mobile home park.

The case then went then the appeal process, and the Michigan Supreme Court established a new law that now requires all parties challenging zoning to go through the Zoning Board of Appeals first.

Fisher was assigned by the Michigan State Bar Association to

write a brief on the case for the Michigan Supreme Court. The decision in the case followed his brief. "We weren't representing the city at this point," Fisher said.

After the Michigan Supreme Court decision, Paragon went back to the ZBA, and the ZBA denied their original request for the mobile home park. In addition, they asked again for the property to be rezoned, and the city agreed to rezone it. But, the city rezoned it not for a mobile

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INSIDE



The Mighty Melon

Meadowbrook Commons resident Blanche Richardson, 85, with a watermelon slice in hand, goes cross-eyed in her effort to spit a seed as far as possible during last week's melon-themed event at the Novi Senior Center. — Page 16A

OBITUARIES

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RUSHIN' THE STAGE

■ **Classical ballet offerings springing up**

By Kim Kovelie
STAFF WRITER

One is a revamped program and the other a new offshoot, but both of the Russian ballet academies in Novi offer training in the classic dance style by husband-wife teams with extensive experience.

Korean classical goes 'Metropolitan'

Not long before Victoria Stock-Kim and her husband, Jay Kim, danced in their retirement professional ballet performance of Romeo & Juliet, they received a long-distance e-mail in Korea.

The sender was Michelle Streicher, co-director of The Sports Club of Novi's Metropolitan DanCenter, looking for directors to restructure its Russian classical ballet program from the Novi Civic Ballet Academy to the Metropolitan Ballet Theatre & Academy.

"We found it on the Internet, 6,000 miles away," said Stock-Kim, 33, originally from West Bloomfield. "It has always been my dream actually to return to Michigan and share my wisdom and experience."

Now the two international soloists, who were joined via the Universal Ballet Company of Seoul, Korea and have 26 combined years of professional experience, are directing the program.

Focusing on the Russian Vaganova technique, the program offers open and training segments, and five progressive courses for students age 8 to pre-professional levels.

As students advance, the number of classes they attend at 42500 Arena Dr. increases and includes the study of pointe, repertoire, pas de deux, character and body conditioning. In all four studios, where jazz, tap and other classes



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

continued on page 8 Students work on a Saturday afternoon in Novi's Academy of Russian Ballet.

Novi Police Department celebrates 50 years

■ **More than 1,000 come out to honor past, present heroes**

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Residents of Novi and law enforcement personnel from across the area came out in force last Saturday to help Novi Police Department staff past and present celebrate the department's 50th anniversary.

Keynote speaker for the event was Bernard Kerik, former 40th Commissioner, New York City Police Department. Kerik is a leader who faced one of the worst tragedies in U.S. history as he was at the helm of the New York City Police Department when terrorists struck the twin towers of the World

Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001.

He worked with Mayor Rudolph Giuliani to coordinate rescue efforts at Ground Zero and ensured the city's safety.

Most recently, Kerik spent several months in Iraq as the interim Minister of the Interior and senior policy advisor to the U.S. Presidential Envoy in Iraq. He faced the immense task of rebuilding police and emergency services as well as customs, immigration and border forces.

U.S. Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, State Sen. Nancy Cassis, State Rep. Craig DeRoche and Oakland County Commissioner Hugh Crawford presented special tributes to the department.

The ceremony was followed by a lunch courtesy of the event's platinum sponsor, Carrabba's Italian Grill. The Jump Cats, an area blues band, provided entertainment.

Festivities also included tours of the police department, a vintage police car and specialty vehicle

show, demonstrations.

The ceremony included remarks from Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard and Detroit Field Division Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent in Charge John Gilbride.

Gilbride has been working closely with the Novi Police Department lately following the investigation of \$4.8 million in drug money seized in Novi and Northville this year.

A highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the department's Purple Heart and its first-ever Medal of Honor to retired Novi Police Captain Bob Stames.

Mayor Lou Cserdas, Novi Chief of Police Doug Shaeffer and former Chief of Police Lee Begole also spoke during the ceremony.

The event, which attracted about 1,000 people, was to honor and recognize the men and women who have served the Novi Police Department for 50 years of out-

continued on page 3

Parents become students

■ **Curriculum night Wednesday**

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

The evening of Wednesday, Sept. 8, will mark a night that parents in Novi can turn back the hands of time and become high school students once again, thanks to a program called Curriculum Night at Novi High School.

John Lawrence, Novi High principal, described the evening as an opportunity for parents to meet their child's teachers and to experience a shortened version of each class that their children attend every day of the week. Another Curriculum Night will be scheduled in January, when students change teachers at the halfway point of the school year.

Lawrence stressed, however, that Curriculum Night is not the same as parent/teacher conferences, which will take place in October, after the first academic reporting period due to the fact that there won't be enough time to get specific about

Be sure to see First Day of School photos on page 4A.

individual concerns. If parents feel that they need to speak to teachers about such concerns, they are welcome to call or e-mail them to set up separate conference times.

"Teachers will be explaining the programs, the curriculum and the grading procedures," Lawrence said. "It's all information that parents need to know to help their children be successful in their classes, which includes contact information. The parents will move from classroom to classroom following their child's schedule and they will learn about the particular content of each course."

In addition to meeting with teachers, parents are going to be able to tour the newly-renovated Novi High School.

"What a bonus that is," Lawrence said. "I can see next year at around this time, when construction is completely done, we'll have a grand opening and a ribbon cutting."

Ramez Khuri can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110.

DETAILS

Curriculum Night is on Wednesday, Sept. 8, at Novi High School. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. in the school auditorium where Principal John Lawrence will welcome parents and present a beginning of the year report.

Parents are encouraged to park in the north parking lot, off Ten Mile Road, the west lot off Taft Road and there will be some parking in the south lot, off Taft as well. That lot is now called Stadium Drive, but the sign might not be up by that time indicating it. The high school staff will be parked in the staff parking lot off Taft, where the busses come in.

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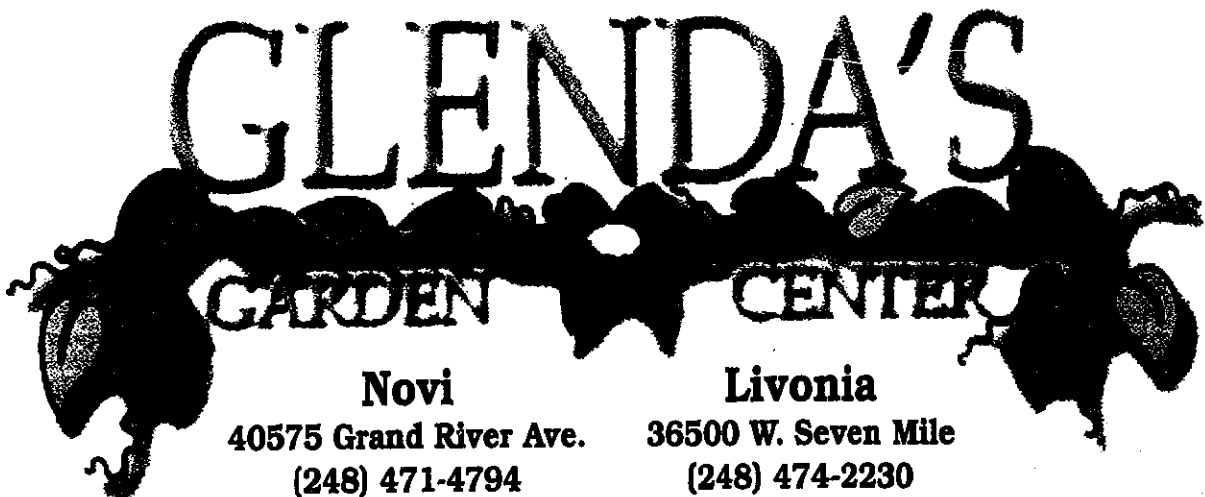
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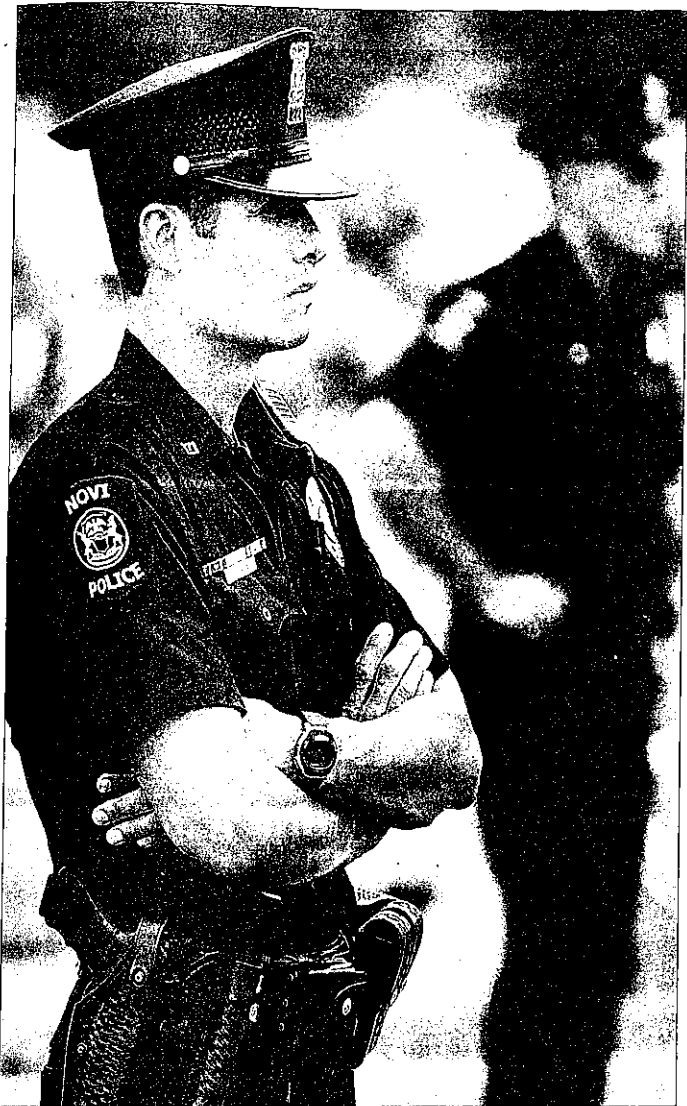
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Novi Police Department officer Eric Tapia listens to a speaker during last Saturday's 50th anniversary celebration.

Former NYPD Commissioner recalls events surrounding 9/11

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Bernard Kerik, former 40th Commissioner, New York City Police Department, wears a memorial band on his wrist to commemorate the day. It's a constant reminder of the 22 men and one woman lost under his command on Sept. 11, 2001.

"But we also lost 343 fire fighters, 37 Port Authority police officers and over 2,400 civilians. The Pentagon lost 189 and more than 40 went down in the plane in Shanksville (Pa.) because of the hatred that 19 sick men had for this country," he said.

Kerik was one of the special guests at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Novi Police Department Saturday.

He currently is business partners with former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who appointed him as commissioner, and with whom he worked for or with for 12 years.

The two own a new public relations firm, and Kerik was one of the speakers Monday night at the Republican National Convention.

He administered over 41,000 police officers and another 14,500 civilians and oversaw a budget of \$3.2 billion.

He faced one of the toughest challenges in a major city in the nation today. Crime fell 12 percent under his administration.

On Sept. 11, 2001, he was on

the site within minutes and was actually at Ground Zero when the second commercial jet hit the World Trade Center in downtown New York. He served as the on-site coordinator.

Since then, he has taken on even greater challenges after he was appointed as the interim Minister of the Interior and senior policy advisor to the U.S.

He went to Iraq about a week after the war started to rebuild police and emergency services, reestablish customs, immigration and border forces.

"It's a great honor to recognize the achievements of the Novi Police Department and its 50-year history," Kerik said.

"In New York City we were probably prepared for just about any crisis you could imagine. But that all changed on the morning of September 11th," he said.

He noted that after the first plane hit the World Trade Center, he was to meet then-Mayor Giuliani at the Emergency Command Center directly across the street. But because of the debris falling from the buildings, they couldn't even get to the center.

"People were jumping from the floors above, and they were landing between the two buildings," he said.

As he waited, he looked up and United Flight 175 was slamming through Tower II above him. "It was only at that time that I realized that the United States was

under attack," he said.

"Why? Because of the principles of freedom, our economic freedoms, our religious freedoms, our support for women and human rights," Kerik said.

But terrorism goes back as far as 1972, when Olympic athletes were attacked.

"We can't appease, we can't negotiate, we can't cower, and we can't be intimidated. The one thing we can't do any longer is not do anything about it. So, we're pushing forward," he said.

"This fight has to continue, or they'll be back." Kerik said the biggest step made in the war against terrorism is what the U.S. has done abroad in Afghanistan with the removal of the Taliban and the Al Qaeda leadership and the creation of a new sovereign government.

He points also to what's been done in Iraq with the removal of Saddam Hussein and the Baath party, his sons, and the creation of the new government today with the elections forthcoming.

"The thing we have to keep in mind is we need friends in that region. By helping stabilize these countries and giving them ownership of their own countries, I think that will bring us allies in the Middle East," Kerik said.

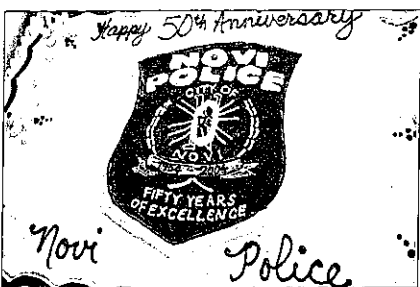
Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.



Novi Chief of Police Doug Shaeffer, left, introduces former New York City 40th Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik during the 50th anniversary celebration of the department. Kerik recently served in Iraq and believes that the U.S. is taking great steps in winning the war on terrorism.

Happy 50th Anniversary Novi Police!

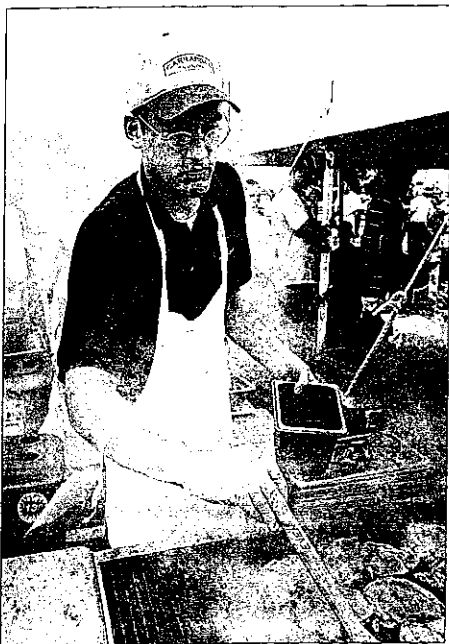
Photos by John Heider



The cake for the 50th anniversary of the Novi Police Department.



Youngsters enjoy bouncing around in a moonwalk amusement during last Saturday's family activities for the 50th anniversary celebration of the Novi Police Department.



Chris Spisak works on grilling up dozens of chicken breasts for Carrabba's Italian Grill, which was charged with feeding the many people who showed up to celebrate Novi Police Department's 50th anniversary.



Andrew, 3, and Timothy Lu, 8, take a look at one of the General Motors-donated souped-up police cruisers that was on display at the Novi Police Department's 50th celebration.

Paragon case may finally end

continued from front page

"They really didn't like that zoning because they felt that this wasn't a marketable use of the property," Fisher said.

Paragon appealed that decision by the ZBA to the Oakland County Circuit Court. Judge David I. Beck reversed the ZBA's decision, granting the property owner the right to construct a mobile home park.

The city then took that decision to the Circuit Court of Appeals, which reversed Judge Beck's decision.

Paragon tried another appeal through the Michigan Supreme Court, and the Supreme Court refused to take the case.

Then the case came back to the Circuit Court with Paragon challenging the limitation imposed by

the OST zoning.

"They still wanted a mobile home park. They've been consistent," Fisher said.

Fisher finally asked Paragon's attorney if they would be willing to consider alternative uses of the property as a compromise, like owner-occupied condominiums, which would be a higher density residential use.

"We ultimately worked out a proposed settlement for the city council's review in April that contemplated higher density, single family residential," Fisher said. "And the council approved the text of a consent judgment and a conceptual site plan subject to Paragon presenting a detailed final site plan for city council approval."

"They have now submitted a pro-

posed final site plan that is anticipated to be on the city council agenda Sept. 27," he added.

If the final site plan is approved, the property will house single-family residential.

"It will be much more attractive than a mobile home park, and it will receive full taxation. Mobile home taxation is only about \$35 a year per home plus the tax on the underlying real estate. Even putting those together, it comes no where near paying for city services," he said.

State legislation is pending to address the mobile home tax issue.

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@tt.town.com.

OBITUARIES

Lawrence Otis Smith, Jr.

Lawrence Otis Smith, Jr. died at Angela Hospice, Livonia Aug. 25, 2004. He was 79.

Mr. Smith was a veteran of the Army Air Corps, World War II. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame and was an early president of the newly-founded Notre Dame Club of Detroit. He later became president of the Larry Smith Co., a wholesaler of hardwood flooring. He helped organize what later became known as the National Wood Flooring Association.

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife, Mary Jane; children Lawrence (Kris), Midge (Elbert) Williams, Karen (Joseph) Valenti, Michael (Christine), Macia (Gerard) Weston, Charles (Janet), Joanne (Roy) Repecky, Virginia (Michael) Thomas and Patrick (Denim); a sister, Sally Ann Smith; and 19 grandchildren.

A funeral was held at St. Kenneth Parish in Plymouth on Aug. 28. Funeral arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi.

Memorial contributions may be

made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48154.

Marie Marguerite Connor

Marie Marguerite Connor (nee Rollins) died Aug. 25, 2004. She was 73.

Mrs. Connor was a graduate of Mercy School of Nursing in 1952.

She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Jerome; four children, Gary (Denise), Timothy (Diane), Christopher (Robin), and Colleen (Ronald) Demester; nine grandchildren, Christine, Kathryn, John, Christopher, Todd, Megan, Shanon, Justin, and Hannah; two sisters, Joann (the late Paul) Ryan and Nancy (Tom) McNamara; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral liturgy was held Aug. 28 at Holy Family Church in Novi. Interment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Funeral arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi.

Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choice.

Phillip M. Erickman

Phillip M. Erickman of Sheridan, Mich. (formerly of Novi), died at home Aug. 25, 2004. He was 61.

He was born in Detroit on Dec. 13, 1942, to the late John and Marie (Strack) Erickman. Mr. Erickman retired from Ford Motor Company. He loved to golf at Holland Lake Golf Course, where everyone knew him.

Mr. Erickman is survived by his wife, Maureen (Shuler) Erickman. They were married July 2, 1965, in Kokomo, Ind. He is also survived by his children, Angelette (Jeffrey) Larsen, and Annette and Abby Erickman; grandchildren Jeffrey, Justin, Vanessa, and Tristen; a sister, Barbara Pietrom of Novi; and a brother, Gordon Erickman of Jackson.

A funeral service was held Aug. 28 at the Simpson Family Funeral Home in Sheridan with the Pastor Jim Wilcox officiating. Interment was at Evergreen Cemetery, Sheridan.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

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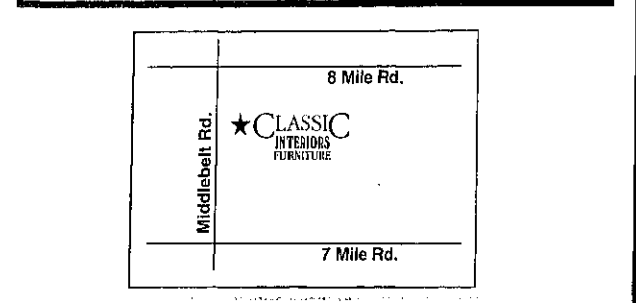
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BUSINESS

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

Classical ballet springing up

continued from front page

we also held dancers are supported by Marley-type sprung floors.

Overall, courses range from a program "We Dance" program to the theater level, which is a pre-professional ballet company composed of 12 select dancers. Younger graduates also have a chance to work with the company.

"That the focus, Stretcher said, is on teaching every child the way, not just the talented ones."

"Students are going to learn in a professional environment the way of Russian classic ballet," she said. "You participate as much as you want or as little as you want, and you teach every kid that way, not just the talented ones."

"Students are going to learn in a professional environment the way of Russian classic ballet," she said. "You participate as much as you want or as little as you want, and you teach every kid that way, not just the talented ones."

"We find their talent," Kim said. "We actually guide them. (This) is the training."

Added Stock-Kim, "We feel that each student has hidden talent. We find where they're coming from."

Auditions began last week, and classes started this past Monday. Future auditions will be held at the Sports Club of Novi on Sept. 11, and The Sports Club of West Bloomfield on Sept. 19. Times for both are 2-3 p.m. for ages 8-11, and 3:30-4:30 p.m. for ages 12 and up.

Auditions determine placement in academy levels, the company, apprentice positions and an opening production featuring excerpts from the Nutcracker, to be held tentatively at Novi High School, Dec. 17-18. Stretcher said the center intends to include charity donations as a part of that program.

The two directors will host a master class on Sept. 12 from 3-5 p.m. at The Sports Club of West Bloomfield. For more information about registration and auditions, call (248) 735-8850, ext. 3025.

Russian-trained duo starts new studio

Jessica Rayevskaya explained that her last move is slightly different from that of her husband, Sergey Rayevskiy, because of Russian tra-

dition.

The two professional dancers hope to start a local Russian tradition of their own with the opening of the Academy of Russian Ballet, which will feature training in the Vaganova technique.

"We opened our own place this summer," Rayevskaya said. "We wanted to bring strong classical ballet to Michigan. We have a really nice group of students."

Husband and wife, who both graduated from the Kinoy Academy of Ballet in Washington, D.C., started teaching at the Sports Club of Novi's former Novi Civic Ballet Academy a year and a half ago, Rayevskaya said, who grew up in Brighton, said opening a studio is something she's wanted to do since she was young.

Now, that's come to life. With summer classes coming to a close last week, the studio has various offerings.

Rayevskaya instructs in pointe and variations and Rayevskiy, who emigrated from Russia to the U.S. in 1994, focuses on technique. The professional guest instructors also teach technique, pointe and variations, as well as Polynesian and character folk dancing in the Russian, Ukrainian, Hungarian and Spanish styles.

"Character is sort of a new thing with a lot of many places offered at before," Rayevskaya said. "It's now to Metro Detroit and made from Russian ballet schools, there aren't many schools in the U.S. that actually teach this."

Offered in seven primary levels, training is available from beginner to advanced, children through adult, females and males. Training also is offered for professional and pre-professional figure skaters and athletic gymnasts. Advancement means attending more classes.

"We offer our professional division and our non-professional," Rayevskaya said. "Based on which level the child is in that will determine how many times a week they come in."

The focus is on "training in a disciplined but supportive setting," and students have opportunities including recitals, community outreach programs and local casting with national and international touring companies performing in the area.

Located at 24381 Cassman Industrial Dr., Suite 413, the 5,000-

square foot academy has three studios and Marley-type sprung floors.

"We thought that was very, very important to have that for the girls because it prevents injuries," Rayevskaya said.

Placements were determined Aug. 21, and classes begin Sept. 7. A master class was held with former prima ballerina Natalia Yakovleva on Aug. 28, and another upcoming class will feature Philip Gadar, former professional dancer, Sept. 12.

Classes are offered Monday through Saturday at various times. For more information, contact the academy at (248) 982-7882 or nss-studio@centralcitydance.com, or visit www.centralcitydance.com.

Kim Kinville is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or via e-mail at kinville@ht.comconline.net



Ballet instructors Jay Kim (far left, partially hidden) and wife Victoria Stock-Kim, right, teach a class last week at Novi Sports Club. Students include: Renee Hadley, Rachelle Hadley, Hannah Woods, Krisin Gutmann, Pauline Reizian, Alyssa Hammer, Jessie Linton, Dana Czekay, and Jill Hoernschmeyer.

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Novi News

Kids can lift your spirits

By Ernie Harwell

If you ever need to get a different perspective on life or boost your spirits, talk to your children or grandchildren. I think being around children is helpful for everybody.

Children bring an honesty and an outlook of life that we don't see in older people who might tend to get a little cynical. Kids aren't like that; they appreciate honesty and sincerity in people. And they have the same qualities themselves. It's a lot harder to fool a child than it is an adult.

I've always felt that when you deal with children you should treat them as adults. They won't lie to you, and they have an enthusiasm that hasn't been jaded; they still have a bright outlook about things. They think that things can be done. They'll go right into things, whereas older people have a tendency to fall back and not attempt something that might broaden their horizons.

So spend time with the youngsters; we can all learn from them. And maybe they can learn a little bit from the older people.

And remember, take care of your health before it's too long gone!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone.

Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with writing as a health and fitness advocate for *Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan* and *Blue Care Network*, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns entitled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling (800) 245-5082.

FAITH CALENDAR

• **Dr. Richard J. Henderson** and the congregation of Faith Community Presbyterian Church invites you to worship on Sunday, Sept. 12 at either 9 or 10:30 a.m., as we return to our normal two services with Rally Sunday and communion. All children are invited to attend Sunday School, preschool through Senior High. Nursery care is available. Our youth groups, both senior and mid high, will begin meeting on Rally Sunday. Bible Sunday will be Sept. 19. All children, third grade and up, will receive a Bible. Any child interested in receiving communion at Faith Community is invited to attend the Sacrament Orientation class, led by Dr. Henderson, on Sunday, Sept. 26 at noon. There is a small amount of reading required in this class. Faith Community Presbyterian

Church is located at 44400 W. Ten Mile Road in Novi, Call (248) 349-2345.

• **The Church of the Holy Family** offers a Spanish speaking mass once a month. All masses begin at 6:30 p.m. on Saturdays in the church: Sept. 25, Oct. 30, and Nov. 27. The church is located at 24505 Meadowbrook Rd., between Ten Mile and Grand River Avenue. Call (248) 349-8874.

• **The Meadowbrook Congregational Church** is holding its Annual Chickenfest Dinner, scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 12, from 1-4 p.m. This event is open to the public, and the cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. The church is located at 21355 Meadowbrook Rd. in Novi, Call (248) 348-7757.

• **Christian Rock Band Broken Yoke**
DATE: Friday, Sept. 17
TIME: 8 p.m. (doors open at 7:30)
LOCATION: Walled Lake Western High School (600 Beck Road, north of Pontiac Trail).
DETAILS: XPM Student Ministries of Crosspointe Meadows Church in Novi hosts Christian rock band Broken Yoke. Broken Yoke have played concerts with such bands as Newsboys, Third Day, Michael W. Smith and Relient K. Tickets are \$7.
CONTACT: Jessica Holder, director of XPM Student Ministries, (248) 427-2700, Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

• **Worship Service**
DATE: every Wednesday
TIME: 12:10-12:50 p.m.
LOCATION: Church of the Holy Cross, 46200 W. Ten Mile Rd. (between Beck and Taft roads), Novi.
DETAILS: Come and share your lunch hour with God at a worship service that includes scripture and holy communion.
CONTACT: (248) 349-1175 or www.churchoftheholycross.com

• **St. James Catholic Church Friendship Circle**
DATE: second Thursday of the month
TIME: 1 p.m.
DETAILS: Social group for widows and widowers. All are welcome to join us for fellowship and fun.
LOCATION: St. James Catholic Church, 46325 Ten Mile Rd. (between Taft and Beck roads).
CONTACT: (248) 348-9138 or joyvialdi@earthlink.net.

• **Women's Prayer Support**
DATE: every Saturday
TIME: 9-10:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Harvest Fellowship Church, 49329 Pontiac Trail, Wixom (parking is behind the church).
DETAILS: You are welcome to come for encouragement, help, hope and prayer as you face life's problems, issues and frustrations. Drop in for five minutes or longer.
CONTACT: Nancy and Susan at (248) 926-8332 or by e-mail at harvestfellowship@comcast.net.

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY LINES

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

Mastering the Mouse for Seniors
A hands-on class designed to introduce seniors to using the computer mouse will be held Thursday, Sept. 2, from 10-11 a.m. We will complete a self-guided online tutorial, learning and practicing all of the basic functions of the mouse. If you've never used a mouse, this class is definitely for you! (Brochures describing all of our fall Internet classes are now available in the library.)

Movie Day
Cool off at the library watching a free screening of "The Mouse and the Motorcycle" (from Beverly Cleary's book of the same name) on Wednesday, Aug. 25, at 1 p.m. If you want, you can bring a pillow or blanket to make yourself comfortable on the floor. There is no registration for this program, which is for kids in kindergarten through fourth grade.

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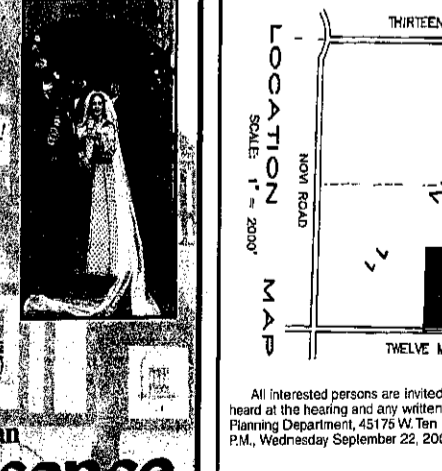
CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF NOVI ORDINANCE NO. 04-18-173

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 18-173, AN ORDINANCE TO ADD A DEFINITION OF "FENCES" TO SECTION 201, DEFINITIONS; D - F OF ORDINANCE NO. 97-18, AS AMENDED; THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, TO AMEND SECTION 215 FENCES (RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL) AND TO AMEND SECTION 207 PORCHES, DECKS, ALL PROPOSED IN ORDER TO MODIFY THE STANDARDS FOR FENCES WITHIN THE CITY OF NOVI.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, August 23, 2004, and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, September 22, 2004 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider WELLINGTON RIDGE, SITE PLAN 04-33, FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR A PLANNED REZONING OVERLAY (PRO) ON PROPERTY LOCATED EAST OF NOVI ROAD AND NORTH OF TWELVE MILE AND TWELVE OAKS HALL. THE APPLICANT IS PROPOSING A CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONSISTING OF 66 CONDOMINIUM UNITS IN CONJUNCTION WITH REZONING 18.633. The property is approximately 9.72 acres.



All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, September 22, 2004.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

New house of hospitality
Hospitality House opened at its new, permanent location at 1600 W. West Maple Rd., Suite C, in Commerce Township on Aug. 23. At 1,800 square feet, the new location has triple the space of the old partry.

Hours will continue to be Monday from 5-8 p.m., Thursday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and Saturday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

There will be an open house for the community on Thursday, Sept. 23 from 5-8 p.m. Everyone is welcome to stop in, tour the partry and enjoy light refreshments. Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate.

Making community- and eco-friendly corridors
The Oakland Trails Advisory Council and the International Transmission Company are partnering to take advantage of the company's transmission corridors to expand trails in Oakland County.

In response to Governor Jennifer Granholm's "Michigan On the Move" initiative, the Novi firm has been helping communities and the environment by granting municipalities the right to use its corridors (the land on which the company's electricity transmission equipment sits), facilitating the conversion of the land into bike paths and nature trails.

The council was formed by Oakland County Parks and Recreation in 2003. For information on Oakland County Parks or OTAC, call (248) 858-4611. For more information on how municipalities can be considered for trail projects, call ITC at (248) 374-7257 or (248) 374-7255.

SPOTLIGHT ON ALLERGY & ASTHMA

Presented by Michael S. Rowe, M.D., F.A.C.P., C.C.R.I.

THE ALLERGIC CHILD & A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Communicating about an allergic student is critical in the school year begins. Both parents and school officials have a responsibility to ensure that the student remains safe, as food allergies and other sensitivities can be life-threatening. For parents, it's important to notify the school about a child's specific allergies. A plan should be developed with school officials to accommodate the child throughout the school year—in the classroom, cafeteria, at after-school programs, and during activities. Written documentation, instructions and medications (properly labeled and with replacements upon expiration or after use) should be provided to the school, along with the child's photo on the written forms. Give the school emergency contact information, and educate the child about his or her condition.

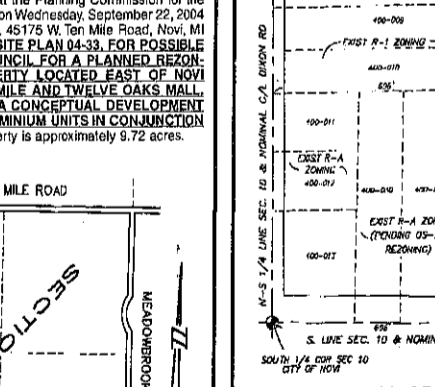
When your or your child are in need of allergy care or to obtain additional information about today's return, don't hesitate and call the ALLERGY AND ASTHMA CENTER OF MICHIGAN. We provide outstanding care for your allergy and asthma problems, utilizing the newest treatments and medications. For an appointment, call (483) 473-6400. Our office is located at 34230 Kamm Blvd., Suite 130, Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

PS: If you have summer hay fever or freckles, call and inquire for our ongoing research studies.

www.allergyinfo.org

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, September 22, 2004 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.643 FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING IN SECTION 10 LOCATED AT 44150 TWELVE MILE RD. THE APPLICANT WOULD LIKE TO REZONE THE 1.825 ACRE SITE FROM R-2A (RESIDENTIAL ACREAGE) TO OS-1 (OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT).



To rezone a part of the S.E. 1/4 of Section 10, T.1N., R.8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, being parcel 22-10-400-032 more particularly described as follows:

The East 100 feet of the West 565 feet of the South 660 feet at the Southeast 1/4, of Section 10, Excepting therefrom; beginning at a point on the South line of Section 10 (normal C/L of Twelve Mile Road) said point being East 598 feet from the South 1/4 corner of Section 10; thence N00°52'00"W, 75.01 feet; thence East, 100 feet; thence S00°52'00"E, 75.01 feet to the South line of Section 10 (normal C/L of Twelve Mile Road); thence West along said South line 100 feet to the point of beginning.

FROM: R-2A RESIDENTIAL ACREAGE TO: OS-1 OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT

ORDINANCE NO. 18.643
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 643

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, September 22, 2004.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY

Muscular Dystrophy Association Jerry Lewis National Chairman

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EDUCATION

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

Rotary's looking for a few good students to show the world

Program sends students across the globe

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

It's September! That means it's the perfect time for the Novi Rotary to look for students interested in broadening their horizons and who have a strong desire to learn about other countries and cultures.

Amongst between the ages of 15 and a half and 18 and a half are invited to apply to the Youth Exchange program, hosted by Novi Rotary. It's a program that sends students to a foreign country for one year to go to school and to be an ambassador for the United States.

"This is for high school students with good character and academic performance, having a desire to learn about other countries and cultures," Rotary member Keith Tappan said. "All teenagers at Novi High School between the specified ages are eligible."

APPLYING

If you are interested in becoming a Rotary Youth Exchange student, please contact your local Rotary club. To locate Rotary clubs in your area, use the city search program in the Club Locator section of the Web site www.rotary.org. As Rotary clubs are named after the cities in which they meet, chances are you will find a club very close to you. If, however, there is no Rotary club where you live, enter the name of the closest large city.

Once you have contacted a club, you will then be directed to the Rotary Youth Exchange chairperson in your area. The chairperson may not be located in your hometown because he or she coordinates the program for a larger district. The district chairperson will conduct an interview with you and have you fill out an application form. Once you have completed your application and interviewed with the district chairperson, the application process is complete.

As the Rotary Youth Exchange program is highly selective, you should apply early — up to a year in advance of when you wish to leave. For example, for long-term exchanges, selection takes place in the fall prior to the year you will make your exchange. If you wish to travel abroad during your junior year, you should apply in September of your sophomore year.

Once you are selected, your sponsoring Rotary club and district will work to prepare you for your year away. You will be guided through a series of orientation sessions so you'll be ready for your new life in a new country.

There, so it is an academic year and they're expected to be an ambassador from the United States. It's important that we have good kids who are intrigued by this idea and where parents are going to be supportive for their kids being able to do this. There's not another program that is as far-reaching as this.

be one last family for the whole year, or four separate host families for the year.

"This is Rotary to Rotary, the Rotary here in Novi, Michigan and it could be a Rotary club in Austria or Argentina or France or Germany," Tappan said. "That club will host a student for an entire year. That student is going to go to school

Interested students should be in the upper third of the class academically and looking for a new and broadening experience. Tappan pointed out that students who want to do this should realize the future potential of having this appear on a resume.

"When you're applying for a job and you have a perspective employer who knows that you were involved in Rotary and that you traveled to a foreign country for a year, it means a lot," Tappan said. "A lot of kids who have gone on this program in the past have picked up another language, so now they not only know two languages, but I personally know a couple kids who are now speaking four languages because of this program."

The extensive list of foreign countries that students could travel to includes Costa Rica, South Africa, Germany and Russia, just to name a few. The cost of the administrative fee and travel, according to Tappan, is less expensive than supporting your child at home for a year.

In fact, Maryanne Cornelius, president of the Novi Rotary, pointed out that sometimes students can get a club sponsor to help pay for the flight.

"Students learn how to be cultural ambassadors because that will eventually focus on Rotary as to foster world peace and understanding," Cornelius said. "Sometimes it's like a reward for students, too, because they have taken Spanish or French and now they can utilize that language when they go to a host family."

Any interested candidates should contact Cornelius at (248) 347-0576 or Tappan at (248) 202-3270. Interested students should have their applications done by the end of September. Applications turned in this month are for trips in August of 2005.

For additional information, visit www.rotary.org and click on programs.

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With a friendly pat on the head, Deerfield Elementary School Principal Richard Njus welcomes another student back to class on the Novi school's first day, Aug. 30.



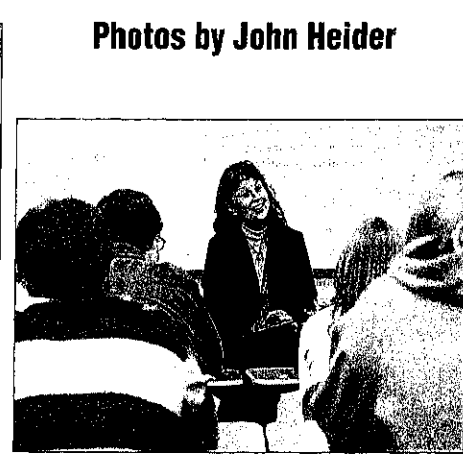
The renovated Novi High School cafeteria is in full swing on the first lunch hour of the 2004 school year.



Novi High School Principal John Lawrence talks with Spanish teacher Bridget Espinosa in the school's cafeteria on the first day of classes, Aug. 30.



Novi High School sociology and lifeguarding instructor Chris Hayward shields her eyes against the sunlight as she attempts to see her computer screen in her new building classroom. Hayward didn't used to have a problem with the sun's glare, as she taught out of a windowless room in the old building.



Claudia Volansky, a teacher of Modern American Advanced Placement Language for juniors and seniors at Novi High School, takes roll call during the first day of classes.



Novi High School students stream up a stairwell in the new building on the first day of classes.



Deerfield Elementary School teacher Julee Henry welcomes her students to their class with a group exercise.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Novi Community School District kicked off the 2004-2005 school year Monday. One down, 180 to go!

Novi News

Part of HomeTown Communications Network™

Cal Stone
EDITOR

Jack Lessenberry
VP, EDITORIAL

Grace Perry
PUBLISHER

Rickard Brady
VP/COO

Dick Aglin
PRESIDENT

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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.

I'm not weighting any longer!

The Novi Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meets once a month. As a member, I take pride in that position and like to wear a suit and tie for those gatherings. For this Tuesday's, I picked my navy blue, three-button suit—the one that I had taken in year because I was down to 195 pounds. Now, I'm up to 225 pounds. As I staked my gut in and in to secure the two buttons, clasp and zipper on the pants, I realized it was going to be a long day. Even the white dress shirt was tight!



Cal Stone

I grabbed a loose pair of jeans and a T-shirt, which I put on immediately after the board meeting. It's a lot easier to lay out a paper when you can breathe. That afternoon I vowed to do something about this 30-pound addition. Today I will be heading over to the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville

where the good folks there have made a new man out of my sports writer, Sam Eggleston. I've tried to lose the weight on my own, but that's sorta like editing yer own story. It don't work. Actually, I probably lost five pounds Saturday, sweating out stage with my hand at the Novi Police Department celebration. But I probably gained six more elowung on the great food that Carabba's served up. That was a great event—thank you to the City of Novi for inviting us to play. This Friday, I'm going to be gone for a couple of weeks. I'm hoping that by the time I come back, that blue suit fits me like it used to. See you soon!

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

GOVERNMENT

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

United States Senate

Carl Levin (D-Detroit)
269 Russell Senate Office
Building
Washington D.C. 20510
(202) 224-6221
senator@levin.senate.gov

124 W. Allegan
Suite 1510
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 377-1508
FAX: (517) 377-1506

Debbie Stabenow (D-Lansing)

702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510
(202) 224-4822
senator@stabenow.senate.gov
Local office:
280 East Saginaw
East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 203-1760

United States Congress

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

Governor

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

State Senate

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

State House of Prens

38th District
Craig DeRoche (R-Novi)
50887 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

Oakland County

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

7th Commission

Christine Long
1542 E. Commerce Road
Commerce Twp., MI 48392
(248) 365-2656
long@co.oakland.mi.us

8th Commission

Jeff Potter
1099 Stable Lane
South Lyon, MI 48178
(248) 437-7597
potter@co.oakland.mi.us

9th Commission

Hugh D. Crawford
46275 11 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48374
(248) 349-5039
hughcrawford@msn.co.

Townships

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

Commerce - Charter

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

Walled Lake

1499 E. West Maple Road
PO Box 99
Walled Lake, MI 48390-0099
(248) 624-4847
FAX: (248) 624-1616

Wilson

49045 Pontiac Trail
Wilson, MI 48393-2567
(248) 624-4557
FAX (248) 624-0863

OPINION

novinews.com

LETTERS

Cemetery decision was correct one to make

After being "involved" in the works of the City of Novi's government as a volunteer for almost my entire life, I felt overwhelmed to write my first letter to the editor.

I am delighted to remark on the actions of many people who thoroughly have shown their abilities through their research and actions regarding the zoning of the property, one-plus acre at the center of Novi Road and Twelve Mile Road, always known to residents of our city as the Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

For my entire family and for all of those who are buried there, we would like to thank: Ms. Barbara McBeth of the Novi City Planning Department for her diligent work and thorough explanation of why this corner should remain zoned R4.

Mr. Tom Schulz of the Novi city attorneys for his outstanding description of the legal aspects regarding the present zoning, the history of this cemetery zoning and why it must remain zoned R4.

And to all the members of the Novi Planning Commission present—Lynn Kwan, John Avokas, Victoria Cassis, Mark Peterson, Richard Gail, Lowell Sprague and Wayne Weibel.

This case was brought before the commission at a pivotal time with many new members. It would have been very easy for them to ignore the statements of residents, but instead they addressed all of the information given to them by citizens (i.e. Dan Conrad, Brent and Diana Camp, Mary Crawford, Hugh and Kathy Crawford and Debbie Bradford), and the city's representatives.

By responding to the original request and once again by their thorough research and understanding that there MUST be situations that take into consideration the public trust and well-being of the residents along with the zoning history to pass a unanimous vote for the zoning to remain the same.

It is terrific to see that the newer residents and Planning Commissioners respect the wishes of hundreds and hundreds of residents before them, many who could not speak for themselves, and those of us who are long-time residents. This is a truly great city.

Thank you for taking the time and effort for thoroughly reviewing this case and your final decision to keep this entire piece of property as a cemetery.

Diana Canup

Novi

Compromise needed

I was embarrassed and angered by the actions of our city council this past Monday (Aug. 23). Ms. Lorenze and her two tagalong sidekicks demonstrated by their staid behavior how bad local government can get. They have lost sight of why they were elected to office. In order for our democratic government to be successful, there must be a spirit of compromise.

Ms. Lorenze's statement that she would only support her motion, ruling out any compromise, actually shocked me. I thought she was kidding. Ms. Nagy at one moment says she would support postponement, but quickly reversed her position following Ms. Lorenze's "no" vote on the proposal to postpone. Ms. Paul doesn't add much. She regurgitates Lorenze's words and follows her vote.

The behavior of these three would not be tolerated in the private sector. In fact, it could be viewed as prejudicial and in anti-discriminatory action. Let's hope that Mr. Hebelig appreciates that the mayor, the majority of the council, and I believe the majority of this city fully appreciate his work. Hopefully, we can rectify this situation in future elections.

As Cub Scout Pack 54 prepares to embark on another exciting year of delivering a quality values-based Scouting program to the boys of Novi Woods Elementary School, we would like to recognize and thank these businesses and institutions without whose support our program would not be possible.

For their valuable assistance by way of donations or other consideration, we thank the following Novi businesses: Kroger; Farmer Jack; Sam's Club; Red Robin; On The Border; McDonald's; Haggerty and Eight Mile; Carriage Cleaners; and Pulling Edge.

We also thank the residents of Novi who support Scouting through your purchases of delicious Trail End Popcorn products during our annual sale in the fall.

Finally, thank you to Meadowbrook Congregational Church, our chartered organization, without whose support our Pack would not exist.

We look forward to another fun-filled year of Cub Scouts. Boys in Novi schools should watch for information on how to become a Cub Scout when school starts again.

Frank Maynard, Cubmaster

Cub Scout Pack 54



Family Cheer Picnic is big hit

On behalf of the entire Novi High School Cheerleading teams, coaches and parents we wish to gratefully acknowledge the numerous businesses and individuals that generously contributed to making this a wonderful event. We want to publicly thank the following companies and individuals that sponsored our Annual Family Cheer Picnic that was held on August 15. Thanks to these donations, we had plenty of food, fun and raffle prizes for all.

Thank you to: McDonald's (10 Mile); Fat Holt; Suburban AMC/Jeep; RociSound Audio Services (Novi); Varsity Lincoln Mercury (Novi); Wilson Welding; B&B Painting (Novi); Novi Town Center Cinema 8; Gma Agosta (Novi); Rod Robin (Novi); Hoopers Restaurant (Novi); Circuit City West Oaks; Buffalo Wild Wings (Novi); A Slice of Heaven Cheesecakes (Novi); Big Boy Restaurant (Novi); One Hour Martinizing (Novi); Creative Memories Scrapbook Julia Schmidt; The Corwin Family; Joanne Todd; Lyon's Book Den (South Lyon); Larsen Jewelry (Novi); The Shada Family; Joanne Tracy Restaurant (Novi); Olive Garden (Novi); CURVES (Novi); Border Cantina Restaurant (Novi); Malsano's Italian Restaurant (Novi); Westbrook Golf Course (Novi); Steve and Rocky's Restaurant (Novi); Friday's Restaurant (Novi); Susan's Styling Center (Blyndale); Pioneer Mortgage (Novi); Remorses United Realty (Novi); Great Harvest Bakery of Northville; Outback Steakhouse (Novi); Dominator Clothing Store (12 Oaks Mall); Max & Emma (12 Oaks Mall); L. George's Coney Island (Farmington Hills); Farmer Jacks (Novi); The Garzizian Family; Princess House Local Distributor; Vintage Wine Shop (Novi); and Land Rover/BMW (Farmington Hills).

Again, we give a heartfelt thank you to all these businesses that continue to support our Novi High School Cheer Teams.

Emily Parker

Novi High School Head Cheerleading Coach

Picnic Committee

Jill and Tom Blome; Barb and Bob Corwin; Anne and Dave Duventsky; Tracey Garzizian and the Garzizian Family; Corly Karinen; Sheryl Lawson; Denise Lazon; Sarah Mandorin; Linda Mastangolo; Judy Passencia; Cheryl and Pete Pistolesi; Mary Anne Honey; Christie Santure; Michelle and Rob Sarkovic; Tracy and Chris Vaughn

Help the MDA cause

Every year, our family watches the broadcast of the Jerry Lewis MDA Labor Day Telethon. And every year, we hope the people of Metro Detroit are also tuning in to the broadcast, which raises money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and its programs to benefit people with more than 40 neuromuscular diseases.

As parents of a child with a neuromuscular disease, we know the importance of the assistance MDA and its clinics at Children's Hospital in Detroit, Wayne State University/Harper University Hospital and at the Michigan Institute for Neuromuscular Disorders in Farmington Hills provide. MDA's programs give us top-flight medical care and treatment. MDA helps us pay for vital medical equipment and offers support groups and summer camps for kids like my daughter. These programs are made possible when people in the Metro Detroit community donate during MDA's Telethon.

This year, the Telethon will be broadcast on WB20 Detroit beginning at 10 p.m. on September 5 and going through September 6. It can also be seen on the Internet at www.mdau.org.

Our daughter, Natalie, has the honor of being on the National Telethon this year from Los Angeles, so we hope all our friends in Detroit will continue to be as generous as always to MDA.

Your support of the Telethon makes a real difference to families like ours. Thanks for watching and contributing what you can.

Steve, Cecile and Natalie Lomske
Northville

American standards have been lowered much over the past four years. To start with, having to accept a president who didn't receive the most votes and who was eventually chosen by a GOP leaning Supreme Court. Then, in early 2003, this president takes us to war against a country that doesn't attack us first and in all seriousness had no plans to attack us. We are told that this doesn't matter because the dictator of this country had tortured and killed his own people. How many more have been killed by us in this invasion? Not to mention our troops are still being killed long after the so-called mission accomplished.

After all of this, we come to find out our troops have been returning prisoners in the very same prison that the former dictator had tortured others just like them. All of this is OK, our leaders tell us. They say they take responsibility, yet nobody has paid the price for this wrongdoing. Lawyers then determined that this

president can order someone tortured and not break any laws doing so. None of this matters, because this president says he hasn't done so anyway. Maybe somebody should fill Mr. President in that we don't do that in America or anywhere else.

Now it comes out that when our commander-in-chief was told we were under attack on 9/11, he sat and waited for seven minutes. I would say that he had just been to the toilet, which he failed. America should not lower its standards any more by accepting this, or idly sitting by not doing anything. This president should be removed from office. This is not the Republican Party I voted for when Reagan was running for president.

Chuck Tindall
Novi

It is a place where everyone gets to see who is who," he said, when party members from around the nation get to see both famous figures and rising stars, and listen to speeches that may actually contain some ideas.

Though Rogers is a free-market conservative, he isn't happy that the nation get to see both famous figures and rising stars, and listen to speeches that may actually contain some ideas.

He was kidding, of course; he knows perfectly well that he was invited to address the convention to give him a little visibility as an underdog in a tough race. And although there is no suspense in this week's gathering in New York, he looks forward to it. He believes that even if candidates are no longer chosen in smoke-filled rooms, conventions are still vitally important.

"It is a place where everyone gets to see who is who," he said, when party members from around the nation get to see both famous figures and rising stars, and listen to speeches that may actually contain some ideas.

OTHER OPINIONS

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

Rogers a Republican to keep your eyes on

Mike Rogers not only was invited to the Republican National Convention four years ago, he was offered the chance to speak.

But he turned it down. "I figured that with my race so close, that would take a week away from the district, and I couldn't afford that." Some may have thought the former FBI agent crazy, but the numbers suggest he was right.

That year, he won the closest Congressional race in the country, by a razor-thin margin of 88 votes in a Lansing-area district Al Gore carried with ease.

Fortunately for him, the GOP-controlled legislature promptly redraw the lines to give him an easier time. (He now represents a district that stretches from the Oakland County suburbs to rural areas west of Lansing.)

Two years ago, he coasted to reelection with 68 percent, and this year is not expected to have problems defeating an unknown and underfunded former Dennis Kucinich supporter. "So, yes, I'm going to the convention this time," he laughed. "But I must have offended them because they didn't ask me to speak."

He was kidding, of course; he knows perfectly well that he was invited to address the convention to give him a little visibility as an underdog in a tough race. And although there is no suspense in this week's gathering in New York, he looks forward to it. He believes that even if candidates are no longer chosen in smoke-filled rooms, conventions are still vitally important.

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Photo by Doug Ashley

Thumbs up for "W"

Farmington Hills delegate Eunice Jeffries (right) shows off the "W" for President Bush while Nov alternates Melissa O'Rear gives a thumbs up at the opening session of the Republican National Convention in New York City.

by considered the Republicans' best (and perhaps only) hope of defeating freshman U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow when she runs for reelection two years from now, though he doesn't seem to be losing sleep over it.

"I'm not sure that would be a promotion," he says cautiously. "You know, the thing that has surprised me (about being in the House) is that you can actually get things done, if you do your homework" and are interested in honest debate.

Everybody told me you'll have to wait 10 years to do anything, and I haven't found that to be true."

In most cases, he has been a strong Bush supporter, preferring to argue with the administration behind the scenes.

One notable exception is on China. Rogers plays a much bigger role in future Republican conventions. He is at 41, perhaps the Michigan GOP's biggest rising star.

A lifelong resident of Brighton, a town halfway between Detroit and Lansing, he has dreamed candidate potential. After graduating from Adrian College and stints in the U.S. Army and FBI, he came home to run a construction business he founded, and ran for state senate.

He is handsome, trim, articulate, liked and respected—and is wide-

where he has publicly attacked the President for failing to go after that nation for its notorious "money laundering" of funds obtained from corruption and bribery.

Rogers has been given a seat on the important Energy and Commerce committee, and has been included on four fact-finding trips to Iraq. (It is conceded that despite obvious mistakes early in the occupation, "you can see the signs of real progress" everywhere.) He was also tapped as finance

chair of the National Republican Congressional Committee, a sign of respect from senior party members; the committee soon began raising record amounts of money.

"I'd be glad to help," he says, but he is genuinely concerned about the nature of politics in this country. "Too often, we aren't really talking to each other anymore, except to throw rocks as big as houses at each other."

"We have too many people in this country who don't want to talk about politics at all, except to say that all politicians are no good. Well, what kind of message does that send our kids? How does that help people get involved?"

Though he could probably win reelection without campaigning, he says he'll debate his opponent at least once. I met him after he spent the morning being "beaten up" at a senior men's club whose members aren't happy about prescription drug prices. And, he says, he makes a point of going to talk to students at Michigan State University.

"They vote against me—oh, by about four-to-one," he laughs. "That's a good reality check for me." One wonders if we get more sensible legislation if more politicians spent time with people who disagree with their views.

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@homecomm.net.

FROM THE MAYOR

Recognizing 50 years of honor

On Saturday, August 28, the City celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Novi Police Department. Many people within the department and City Hall worked many hours to organize this event that was open to all community and business members. It was a wonderful event for all.

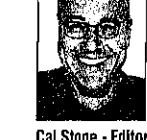
Many dignitaries presented proclamations to Chief Sheaffer and the Police Department, including U.S. Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, State Senator Nancy Ostey, State Representative Craig DeRoche, Oakland County Commissioner Hugh Crawford, DEA Special Agent in Charge John Gilbride, and the City of Novi.

The ceremony included remarks from Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard, DEA Special Agent in Charge John Gilbride, and New York Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik, who delivered a powerful and timely presentation.

In the 50 years since Loe BeGoLe became the first public safety officer (that is short for first police officer, first fire chief and first police chief), the Novi Police Department has grown to 65 sworn and 30 civilian personnel.

In the beginning when there was

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Plymouth Physical Therapy Specialists offer quality care

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Novi residents looking for orthopedic and sports physical therapy services should visit the Novi location of Plymouth Physical Therapy Specialists.

Ben Wallis, MPT, clinic director, said the practice was started by Jeff Sirabian, PT, OCS, MHS, CSCS, in 1994 in Plymouth and has expanded to include Wixom, White Lake, Novi and Livonia.

"We place great emphasis on patient education. Our staff is committed to providing patients with the most convenient and highest quality rehabilitative care available," Wallis said.

Wallis received his master's degree in Physical Therapy from Central Michigan University. He has been practicing outpatient physical therapy for more than four years and is undergoing Orthopedic Specialist Certification.

The Novi location, at 39885 Grand River Ave. on the south side of the street just west of Haggerty Road, has been in the Grand Oaks Centre for three years. Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturdays by appointment.

"Our staff is dedicated to clinical excellence and remains up to date on current trends in physical therapy by attending numerous medical conferences and through journal review," Wallis noted. "All patient care is performed by a licensed Physical Therapist, which allows us to provide the highest quality of care to our patients."

Each patient receives a thorough evaluation at their first visit to allow customized treatment which addresses prevention, management, rehabilitation and education of the patient's injury. Benefits of physical therapy to the patients are relief of pain, promotion of healing, improved range of motion and increased function, Wallis said. Patients also report improved circulation, strengthening of muscles and prevention of injury and re-injury.

For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Plymouth Physical Therapy Specialists at (248) 615-0282.

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CALENDAR

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 calstone@nlhomecomm.net

EVENTS

Up, Up and Away Watercolors Exhibit

DATE: Tuesday, Sept. 7
TIME: 5-7 p.m.
LOCATION: Nancy A. Fox Art Gallery at the Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi.
DETAILS: A free artist's reception for an exhibit of experimental watercolors by Natalie Halpern. The show will be in the gallery until Oct. 31. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455.

Creative Fall Harvest Cooking - A Twist on the Traditional

DATE: Friday, Sept. 10
TIME: 1 p.m.
LOCATION: Twelve Oaks Mall, Marshall Field's
DETAILS: Join us for a cooking demonstration where you'll learn tips and tricks for turning your family's favorite meal into a new experience. There is no charge for this event, but reservations are required and seating is limited.
CONTACT: (800) 265-COOK.

Novi High School Band Fanfare

DATE: Saturday, Sept. 11
TIME: 4 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi High School Football Field
DETAILS: Marching Band Competition, \$6 per adult, \$4 per senior and child; free for Novi senior residents.
CONTACT: Patti and Charlie Hokett at (248) 478-6502.

Emergency Food Assistance Program

DATE: Tuesday, Sept. 14
TIME: 12:30-1:30 p.m.

SWOCC STUDIO'S Third Annual Open House

DATE: Wednesday, Sept. 22
TIME: 5-8 p.m.
LOCATION: The studio located at 33300 Nine Mile Rd. just east of Farmington Road.
DETAILS: Staff at the Southwest Oakland Cable Commission will be on hand to show you the facility, give you a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to produce a show and answer all your questions. Parking will be available at the Farmer Jack directly across the street.
CONTACT: If you can't make the Open House and your group would like a behind-the-scenes tour, call (248) 473-2840.

8 Minute Dating

DATE: Wednesday, Sept. 15
TIME: 6:30-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Shanghai's Irish Pub in Livonia
DETAILS: Meet Metro Detroit's most eligible singles. Guests will receive complimentary appetizers and an extended happy hour including \$1 of well drinks and selected drafts. Event is free, but sign up now because space is limited and pre-registration is required.
CONTACT: Erin Quinn at (248) 921-5905 or erinq@8minutedating.com; visit www.8minutedating.com.

Novi High School Band Bottle Drive

DATE: Saturday, Sept. 18
TIME: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
DETAILS: Students will be collecting bottles at homes throughout the community and sorting in parking lot of Farmer Jack Supermarket.
CONTACT: Sharon Hoving at (248) 349-4461.

Novi Chorales Auditions

DATE: Tuesday, Sept. 21, and, if needed, Tuesday, Sept. 28
TIME: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
CONTACT: Chorale Director Noel Brown at (248) 348-0439 before Sept. 20 to make an appointment for an audition.

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CONTACT: If you can't make the Open House and your group would like a behind-the-scenes tour, call (248) 473-2840.

Business Referrals

DATE: every Wednesday
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Rd.
TIME: 7-8:30 a.m.
DETAILS: Meeting of local professionals and business looking to increase word-of-mouth referral business. Various classifications open and eager to bring you qualified business leads.
CONTACT: (734) 462-6460.

BUSINESS

CLASSES

Providence Center for the Healing Arts' "Tuesdays at Assarian"

DATE: every Tuesday night
TIME: 5-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi.
DETAILS: Variety of activities for the adult community to come and enjoy a unique mix of classes brought to you by the Providence Center for the Healing Arts.
CONTACT: (248) 465-5483.

HEALTH

Boost Camp Day

DATE: Friday, Sept. 10
TIME: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
LOCATION: Providence Park Medical Building
DETAILS: The program is a retreat designed to provide valuable tools, information and a new perspective on healthier living through

SUPPORT GROUPS

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples (MOMS)

DATE: second Thursday of each month
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Witch's Hat Depot, South Lyon
DETAILS: Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples provides information, support and social activities for mothers of multiple-birth children and their families.
CONTACT: Emily Sack, president, at (248) 676-2913.

Adoption Playgroup

DATE: first and third Fridays of the month
TIME: 10 a.m.
LOCATION: Holy Family Catholic Church (on Meadowbrook Road between Ten Mile Road and Grand River Avenue).
DETAILS: We are a nonprofit, non-denominational group that brings adoptive families together.

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CONTACT: For more information contact Michelle Pergau (248) 887-4955 or Sandra Nauman (248) 960-3257.

Novi Toastmasters
DATE: first and third Tuesdays of the month.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center Activities Room.
TIME: 7-8:45 p.m.
DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
CONTACT: Call Colleen at (248) 685-9226.

New Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOFS) chapter
DATES: Wednesdays mornings
LOCATION: Meadowbrook Commons Activities Room, 25075 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi.
TIME: 11 a.m. weigh-in; 11:30 a.m. meeting
DETAILS: \$20 per annual membership includes handbook, \$1 per meeting. New members welcome.

Send your calendar items to Cal Stone, editor, Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-4832; or e-mail to calstone@nlhomecomm.net.

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

The Mighty Melon

Seniors have a mighty fine time with fruit

By Kim Kovelle
STAFF WRITER

Some puckered their lips to get good trajectory. Others bent at their knees as though ready to leap while making their pitch.

What on earth were these senior citizens doing last Thursday? Participating in an athletic event? Well, not quite.

Setting table manners aside, these folks were engaging in some old-fashioned watermelon seed-spitting.

As part of the City of Novi Senior Center's first ever "Celebrate the Mighty Melon" event, 20 seniors met and mingled at 2 p.m. to enjoy watermelon hors d'oeuvres, smoothies and desserts.

That was followed by the contest, which allowed three shots at spitting seeds onto a marker-drawn rendering of a watermelon to earn points.

Decked in a pink and yellow-flowered shirt, Blanche Robinson, an active "85-and-a-half" year-old who exercises at the center, racked up seven points.

"It's just because I'm long-winded," she laughed. "I'm always up to something. I love watermelon. I even buy it in the winter because watermelon's very good for your kidneys."

Robinson's score tied for the



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Meadowbrook Commons resident Blanche Richardson, 85, with a watermelon slice in hand, goes cross-eyed in her effort to spit a seed as far as possible during last week's melon-themed event at the Novi Senior Center.

highest with two others.

"I think we need a spit-off," Senior Center Manager Jan McAlpine declared.

The victor was Victor Zitny, a 72-year old Korean War veteran and American Legion member who made tools at General Motors for 52 years. He said he might give his prize, a silver-edged photo frame, to one of his grandchildren.

"It gives you a nice variety in these events," Zitny said. "Everybody's got a chance at something they're good at."

After a toast to the melon, the next challenge was to come up with 42 words using the letters in "watermelon."

Ruth Reinke, 83, was able to generate 15 in the short time limit.

"I was still going," said Reinke, a reader who always carries a spy, mystery or other novel with her. "I like to come and see all the people, and I meet different ones every time."

Eileen Cheek, 80, was one of the winners with 27 words.

"I like to read," said Cheek, who attends the center's events with her neighbor, Alberta Edson. "It wasn't very hard."

The afternoon ended with a raffle for watermelon-related items.

"They're having such a good time," said Judy Snowden, 76, one of the volunteers who helped with event. "I love it."

Kim Kovelle is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or via email at kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net.

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LET'S TALK



WITH
GARY S. WEINSTEIN
GEMOLOGIST

ENGAGING PERSONALITIES

We have all been bombarded with media images of soon-to-be-engaged couples consisting of the man on bended knee with an outstretched arm and his surprised and tearful beloved about to hear the words "Will you marry me? As romantic as this vision is, may we propose a more realistic and workable one, which involves sacrificing moments of romantic surprise for a lifetime of appreciation? After all, if a woman is going to wear her engagement ring for the rest of her life (and pass it along as an heirloom), she should absolutely love it. An engagement ring should reflect a woman's personal taste and style. With this in mind, couples should consider making this most significant purchase together. We would be happy & honored to schedule a private appointment with you and your special someone to design the ring of her dreams.

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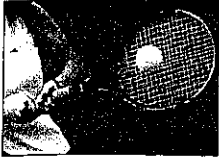
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Bouncing back
The Novi girls' tennis team fell to the Mustangs of Northville this past week but bounced back nicely to take third in a very tough tournament.
— Page 2B



Huprikar and Moore
Those two names just scream runners in this community. Anol Huprikar and Mark Moore are ready to lead their team this year. Expect them to reach their lofty goals.
— Page 3B



Regional Marketplace
Partners John Gallagher and Jeff Jepko stand at the entrance to their new Hutton Street Market at the Little Italy Village.
— Page 4B

'Cats should rebound

If I were Novi head coach Tab Kellepourey, I'd probably curse every time I was witness to a flash of lightning in the coming years. It seems every time one lights up the sky, he and his Novi Wildcats football team are destined for some very bad luck.

You see, for three of the past four years the Novi Wildcats have had a game postponed from Friday night until Saturday thanks to a flash of lightning. All three times the Wildcats were in good position to pull out a win and all three times they ended up falling short and taking a loss.

In 2001, the Wildcats visited Brighton in a classing Kensington Valley Conference contest between these two teams. The Bulldogs earned the first score of the game before the Wildcats were able to answer to tie it up. Low and behold, lightning strikes and the game is delayed until the following day. The ending? Novi loses, 21-7.

The next year was déjà vu for Kellepourey and his 'Cats. Brighton makes the trip to Novi this time around and find themselves in a rare position — winless. Novi takes the lead in the game and looks to be well on their way to a big victory when pesky lightning delays the game and eventually postpones it until the next day. The Bulldogs make a comeback the following day and end up stunning Novi with a 15-13 win.

And now it's 2004. The Wildcats make the long awaited road trip to Chelsea for the opener and end up with a tied game at 7-7 at the half. Lightning, once again, shows up and postpones the contest against the Bulldogs until the following day. And, oddly enough, Novi ended up suffering the wrong end of a loss after an overtime period, 28-21.

It seems that the mixture of a stormy night and Bulldogs just isn't a good one for the 'Cats.

Though this doesn't sound like good news — especially if the weather man decides to predict some stormy weather on any of the upcoming Friday nights — there is actually a bit of good news. In both previous seasons where lightning has found the Wildcats ultimately losing a game it delayed, the Novi gridders have gone on to have winning seasons and climb into the playoffs. If history does indeed repeat itself, Novi could be on a run for yet another playoff berth.

I'm sure though this game is one the Wildcats would much rather forget than dwell on, they have to be comforted in knowing their season is far from over. The playoffs await them, all they have to do it go and force their way into the post-season play. Two other groups of 'Cats have managed to do it and there's no reason to believe this team is any different.

Yeah, losses stink and they make the whole week go down the toilet. Just remember, when the going gets tough, the Wildcats buckle down and kick some tail.

It is my full expectation that this year's 'Cats are going to be just as stubborn as all of those I have covered in the past. Novi has built a football program. It's not a playoff berth here or one there, it's a consistent trip into the playoffs with goals set high and hopes even higher.

It takes that kind of attitude to be a Novi Wildcat. They're going to have to come out and show that they, indeed, have that kind of moxy and heart. They've got to prove their loss was nothing more than some bad luck and rebound from it.

Front row tickets to the Pinckney Pirates game tomorrow night, anyone? It should be one heck of a redemption game. Well, as long as there's no lightning.

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

SPORTS & MORE

B1

NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

Thursday, September 2, 2004

Novi tries to avoid another storm-delayed football loss but...

LIGHTNING STRIKES AGAIN

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Lightning struck three times last Friday night when the Novi Wildcats football team visited the Chelsea Bulldogs, delaying the game each time before eventually postponing it until Saturday.

The end result? Novi lost, 28-21 in overtime.

"We just couldn't get the ball in there," said assistant coach John Osborne. "We didn't get what we wanted on the first down, which was three or more yards, so we opted to throw the next three downs."

And, unfortunately, fell short of scoring in the overtime period — something Chelsea took full advantage of Saturday. Chelsea scored on a pass and put up an extra point in the final stanza to win the contest, dropping Novi to 0-1 on the year.

Next up will be the Pinckney Pirates (0-1) at Novi tomorrow with a 7 p.m. start time. Will the Wildcats be able to bounce back?

"No question," said Osborne. "The kids showed a lot of strength in the face of adversity in this game. They're strong. They know what it takes to come back from a loss like this."

The Wildcats did have plenty of adversity to overcome in the game. After a scoreless first quarter of play, the Novi gridders put up the first touchdown of the game on a 25-yard pass to Brandon Carnegie from senior Kevin Cislo. The extra point was put up by Pat Sijan for the 7-0 lead.

Unfortunately, that would be the last time the 'Cats would have the lead in the contest. Though the Novi defense held Chelsea on more than one occasion — including a big sack by John Favorite and Josh Woods to stymie a drive — the Bulldogs weren't about to be denied.

Novi fumbled a punt and turned it over to an eager Chelsea offense on the 23-yard line with just 2:10 remaining in the first half of play. The 'Dogs capitalized, scoring on a seven-yard run by the Chelsea runningback. The kick was good, tying the game at 7-7.

"They have a solid program over there," said Osborne. "They've done a lot of great things over there."

And it doesn't hurt that they have about 70 kids rostered either.

"They must have every able-bodied athlete suited up on their football team at that school," said Osborne. "They average about 35 kids per class playing on their football team."

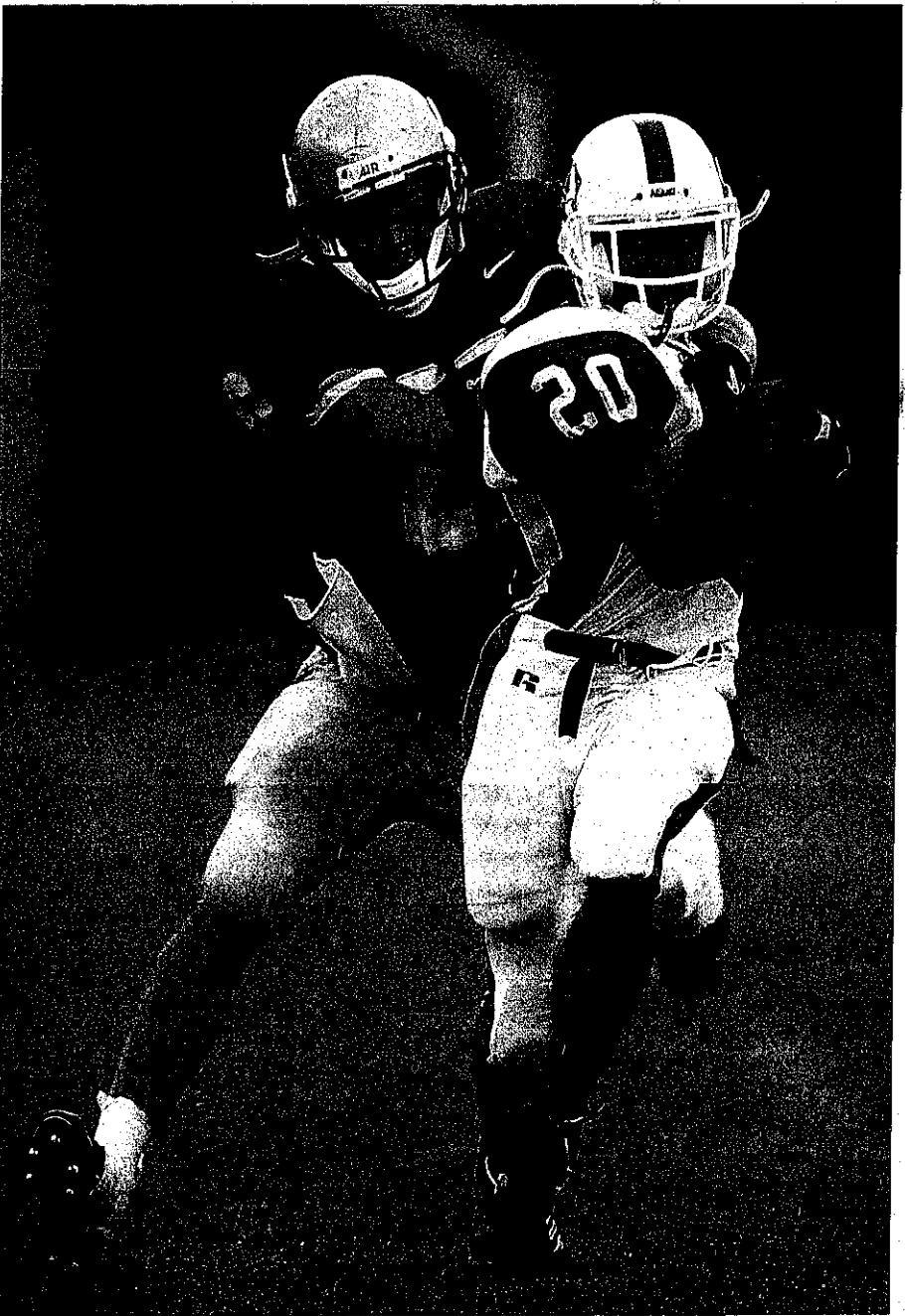
As halftime rolled around, the Wildcats found themselves getting an extended break from the game thanks to a 90-minute delay due to lightning.

After the hour-and-a-half delay, the officials postponed the contest until the next day.

"In this case I think it really helped us," said Osborne. "The kids were exhausted and it wasn't because they weren't in shape. They've done an outstanding job getting into shape. It was just that we didn't have the chance to practice in those kinds of conditions. Was this the worst day this summer? I think so."

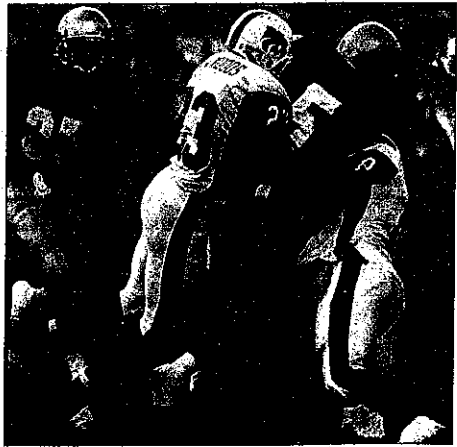
The heat, humidity, full football pads and uniform and eventual rain bogged the Wildcats down, but they weren't the only ones.

"Chelsea looked plenty tired too," said Osborne. "Of course, we don't know what it was like in their locker room."



Photos by JOHN HEIDER

ABOVE: A Chelsea Bulldog attempts to bring down Novi Wildcat Justin Davis during the teams' Friday night portion of their weekend game. RIGHT: Novi Wildcats and brothers Jarrell, left, and Josh Woods team up for a sandwich sack of Chelsea quarterback Brian Dunn during last Friday's game at Chelsea.



The following day, the Wildcats found themselves falling behind 14-7 in the third quarter as a Bulldog scooped up a fumble and scored on a 10-yard return to take the lead. The 'Cat tied it late in the fourth on a one-yard score by Josh Woods before falling behind yet again on an 80-yard kick return by the Bulldogs.

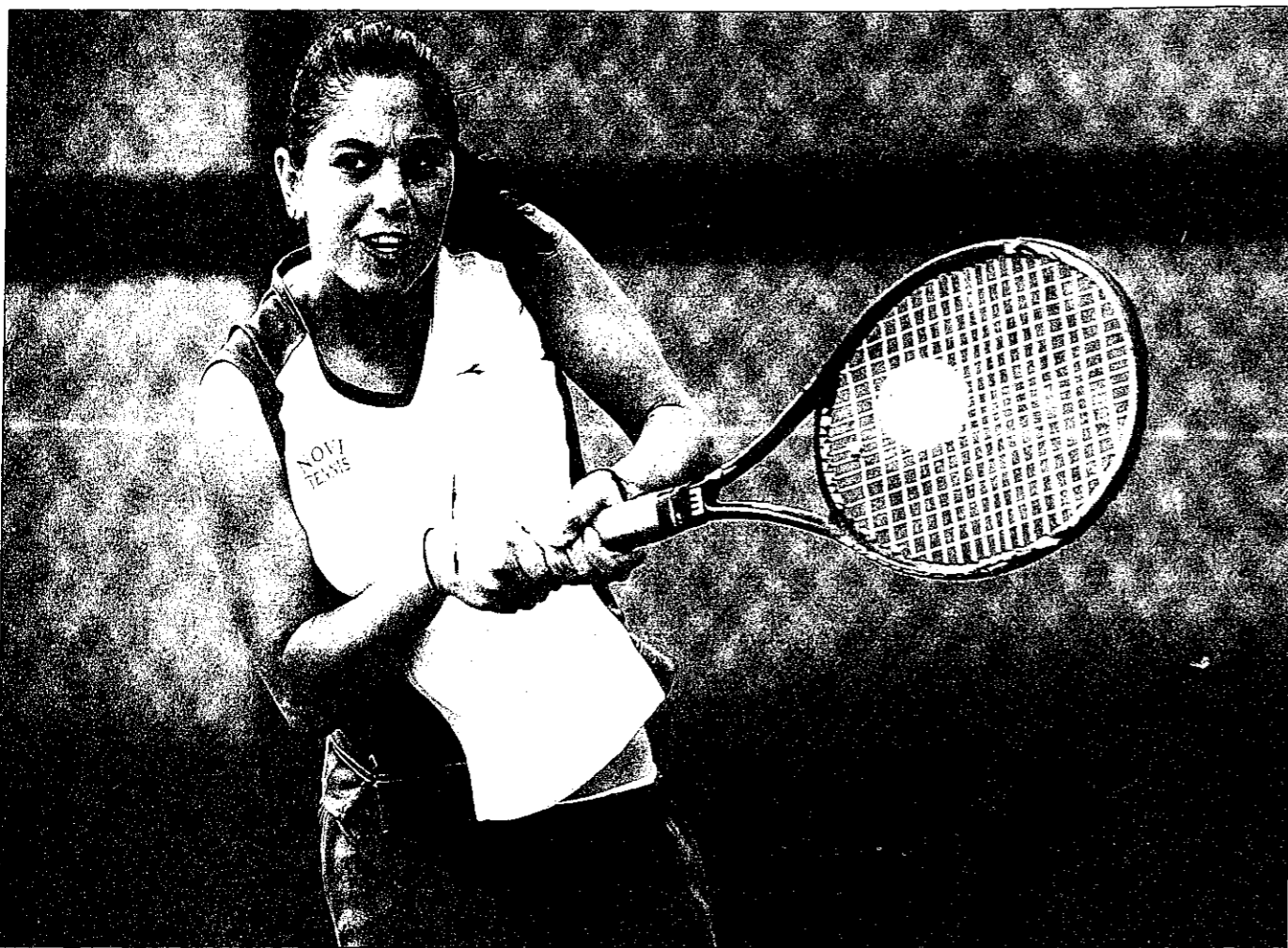
Too many mistakes, especially in the kicking game, is what eventually cost the 'Cats the victory.

"When you do the math with kicks and punts, we had 300 yards and they had 278," said Osborne.

"We had three turnovers and they had two. That's a pretty even game."

The Wildcats were led in rushing by Josh Woods, who carried the ball 14 times for 89 yards. Cislo hauled it 22 times for 70. In the passing attack, Novi found Cislo going 4-for-14 for 66 yards with Carnegie pulling down three for 46 and Chris Dalton snagging one for 20 yards. Dalton also had an interception.

Josh Woods led in tackles, collecting nine solo while Jarrell Woods had four solo and three assisted.



Novi's number one singles player Diana Ticu hits a forehand return to her Northville opponent, Erica Dbson, in a late August match.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Wildcats fall to Northville, but get back on track

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It was quite possibly one of the best matches these two teams have had against each other for quite a few years.

The Novi Wildcats and the Northville Mustangs girls' tennis teams squared off last Thursday in a game that found the Mustangs earning a 6-2 victory.

The score, however, wasn't indicative of the intense play that took place on the courts.

"One thing is for sure, the fans who came to watch got to see a very good high school tennis match," said Novi coach Jim Hanson. "It was very close and both teams played very well."

Hanson attributed Northville's victory to being prepared and for coming through in the pressure situations.

"They played the big points, I think, a little bit better than we did," Hanson said. "They're an excellent team and they're rated in the top 10 in the state. In my opinion, they're very deserving of that rating."

Four of the flights between the two teams ended up going three sets, though two of them were fifth and sixth doubles — which don't count toward the final score.

In the first flight of singles play, Northville's Erica Dbson proved the better last Thursday as she opened up her dual-meet season with a 3-6, 6-4, 7-5 win over Novi junior Diana Ticu.

The second flight found Northville's Chelsea Johnston doing the same, earning a big 7-6 (2), 6-1 win over Novi's Ayano Nakamura.

In the third singles, Novi earned one of their two wins as impressive sophomore Carly Lyall topped Jamie Powers, 6-3, 6-2.

Fourth singles found Amy Knuth, a Northville returner, pointing out a 6-0, 6-3 win over Novi's Becky Thompson.

"It was a very, very competitive day of tennis," said Hanson. "It was also very, very hot."

Even though the heat and humidity that had formed, both teams continued to showcase their talents. In one doubles, Novi fell to Amanda Harris and Jen Hartness in three sets. The Wildcats' top team of Emily Holt and Lauren Thompson went down 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (5).

The two doubles team of Amanda Caswell and Kaylan Powers from Novi earned the 'Cats second win of the day, beating Shannon Farris and Jackie Taylor 6-4, 6-4.

At three doubles, Northville's

Christine Curran and Lindsay Hagan topped Novi's Jackie Wang and Swei Wang 6-4, 6-3.

The fourth doubles team of the Mustangs was just as successful, earning a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Novi's Samantha Caldwell and Allison Yee.

"All of the flights really battled," Hanson said. "It was a great day of tennis. I'm happy with how well we did."

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At three doubles, Northville's

Lynch looking forward to helping Novi swim and dive to victory

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

Laura Lynch has forever been the younger sibling of a talented swimmer on Novi's swim and dive teams.

This year, Lynch is taking center

stage as one of the top swimmers on the team. Lynch is a co-captain of this year's swim and dive team and is looking forward to her senior year on the team.

"There's a lot more responsibility," Lynch said about being a captain.

Lynch comes from a long line of Novi High School swimmers. Her brothers, Darren, 24, and Joe, 19, both swam in high school as well as her sister, Krysta who is 21. Lynch herself began swimming when she was five years old.

"My whole family swims," she said. "I was put into it when I was five."

Lynch has learned a lot from having older siblings in the sport and also said that her parents, Tim and Cinda, have been very supportive of her. Lynch especially said her older sister has been a great help to her through the years.

"She was a really good swimmer and I looked up to her," Lynch said.

To improve herself, Lynch will not only compete with her opponents, but with herself, and her older siblings times.

"When there is someone a little faster than me I try to beat them, otherwise I try and beat my own times," she said. "I try to compete

with some of [my siblings] times to make myself better."

Lynch also swims at the Novi Sport's Club where she is a member of the Sturgeon swim team. She swims year round for that team. Lynch describes herself as a pretty laid back person, but when she does get stressed, she said swimming helps her.

"I'm kind of stressed I like to go and swim," she said.

When not in the water, Lynch's favorite thing to do is hang out with friends. Some of her closest friends are Marybeth Miles, Shannon Barber, and fellow co-captain Rachel Mobilia.

"They're nice people and we have a lot of fun," she said.

Lynch's favorite activities with friends are to go out to dinner and see movies, especially comedies and chick flicks. She said that she also enjoys an occasional game of ultimate Frisbee. Her favorite type of music to listen to is country.

Besides spending time with friends, Lynch spent this summer

as a hostess at Red Robin Restaurant.

After her senior year, Lynch sees herself going to Central Michigan University and attending the business school.

"When I went up there for a campus visit I just felt at home," Lynch said.

Lynch's favorite subject in high school is math and her favorite teacher is Ms. Laine who has been very helpful to her. As she looks on to her future, Lynch believes that

her time in Novi has been a good experience and she will miss most her family and friends when the time comes for her to leave home. She may continue swimming at the club level but has no plans to do anything beyond that.

Brian Doyle is a special writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.



Swimmer Laura Lynch

Novi remains undefeated on the pitch

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

After starting off the season with a tied game, the Novi Wildcats have jumped out to an impressive back-to-back showing.

The squad, coached by Brian O'Leary, earned a 2-1 win over a tough Plymouth Canton squad before turning in a dazzling 7-1 victory over their Kensington Valley Conference opponents in the Pinciney game.

The Wildcats played the first half of the game as the host of the game. By halftime, the 'Cats only led 2-1 with goals from Matt Checchobelli and Todd Janer. They knew they had to do something else to earn a victory.

"In the second half we came out with fire and scored 18 seconds in," said O'Leary.

Checchobelli passed the ball to A.W. Stank, who was cutting across the top of the box. Stank took the pass and fired it on goal to beat the keeper just 10 minutes later. Steve Kim scored on a

breakaway pass from Matt Simpson.

The Wildcats continued to pile the goals on the final half. Four minutes after Kim scored, Simpson took a pass from Matt Crawford and fired in a goal of his own. Minutes later, Adam Ballantyne scored the final goal of the game as he took a pass from Jeremy Brodsky into the box and beat the goalie for the 7-1 victory.

Jason Ballantyne made six saves in goal to earn the win.

The Wildcats, admittedly,

played poorly when they took on and defeated a tough Canton Chiefs team.

"We scored a goal in each half," said O'Leary. "Even though we played poorly in the first half, we played pretty well in the second."

But, it wasn't either half that truly made the difference in the final score of the game. Instead, it was the solid play of the player between the posts.

"My goalie, A.J. Glubinski,

played a brilliant first half and baited us out of playing so poorly," said O'Leary. "He made four outstanding saves."

The 'Cats scored their first goal on a throw-in play that was headed off the crossbar by Kim before Janer headed in the rebound for the 1-0 lead, which the Novi kickers kept through the remainder of the first half. In the second half, Novi depended more on their defense than their offensive dazzle.

"In the second half, my defense

led by Neil Kocan, Trey Love and Matt Crawford did an outstanding job, holding Canton to only three shots on goal," O'Leary said.

The Wildcats scored their second goal on a crossing pass by Brodsky to Checchobelli, who fired the ball past the goalie for the 2-0 lead.

Canton scored their only tally of the contest with 1:30 left in the game on a free kick, but it proved to be their last shot on goal.

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@h.homecomm.net.

'Cats look strong already

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats boys' cross country team should be excited. They started their season off with a goal to be strong right out of the gates and they've done exactly that.

In a scrimmage that tests the squad every year, the Wildcats took on the Northville Mustangs and came away with an impressive 15-8 victory, a perfect score for the 'Cats.

The team took the first six spots and seven out of the top 10, allowing just Northville's Jason Turnbull to truly test the top runners.

Leading the team were Mark Moore, Spencer Ornes, Amol Huprikar, Kip Miller, Justin Namm and Mark Duffrese with a pack time the Wildcats were well aware they were capable of achieving.

The run, which took place on the road, was coached by Cass Benton in Northville, found a young Wildcat already setting a personal record. Alex Prasad set his PR and finished in the top 10.

The Wildcats are scheduled to be back in action when the girls and guys play host to KVC rival Pinciney Sept. 8 at 4:30 p.m. before participating in the Walled Lake Western Invitational Sept. 11 at 9 a.m.

The difference was the direct play the Wildcats managed to produce in the second half of the game. By halftime, the 'Cats only led 2-1 with goals from Matt Checchobelli and Todd Janer. They knew they had to do something else to earn a victory.

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"In the second half, my defense

Novi belongs with the top teams

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats golf team has taken on some of the best teams in the state of Michigan already this season and have proven one thing — they belong ranked with the top squads around.

Novi recently beat a tough Northville squad, 150-151, after taking fifth place in both the state Invitational and the Pre-KVC tournament.

"The KVC is stacked again this year," said Novi coach Brad Huss. "We shot 309 and placed fifth at Lyon Oaks, which is no easy course. Unbelievable."

The Wildcats, however, made a bit more noise at the Thoreson City Invitational, taking third overall against some top teams during the shoot out.

R.J. Makoski shot a 71 to lead his team while Mike Martinez shot a 74 and Brett Jaussi and Scott Czekaj shot 77s.

"R.J. Makoski is playing great golf," said Huss. "He has played some of the best players in the state and he, too, has proven that he belongs with the elite."

Makoski also shot a 76 in the Pre-KVCs and a 72 in the Gross Isle invite. Against Northville, he shot a 36 at Tanglewood.

Other players currently shooting solid rounds include Martinez, Jaussi and Mark Eberline.

The Wildcats will step into the KVC dual meet portion of their schedule this week as they strive to earn a top spot in a very tough conference.

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"My goalie, A.J. Glubinski,

played a brilliant first half and baited us out of playing so poorly," said O'Leary. "He made four outstanding saves."

The 'Cats scored their first goal on a throw-in play that was headed off the crossbar by Kim before Janer headed in the rebound for the 1-0 lead, which the Novi kickers kept through the remainder of the first half. In the second half, Novi depended more on their defense than their offensive dazzle.

"In the second half, my defense

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Four of five members of the leading pack are Novi High School Cross Country runners at this point in last week's meet at Cass Benton Park in Northville.

Huprikar and Moore have lofty goals set for themselves

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

When Novi boys cross country runners Mark Moore and Amol Huprikar were first being inducted into the fraternity of Kensington Valley Conference running there were legends at Novi.

One was Mark Moore's older brother, Tim. Others were so graceful and powerful that none of the underclassmen ever thought they could be that good.

Yes, there were legends at Novi when Moore and Huprikar first started running. Now, they're the legends.

Neither will admit it, but they're the runners that the other runners look up to. The underclassmen look at the times Huprikar and Moore produce and they think to themselves that they'll never be able to cross the terrain at the clip.

"Our goal is to just go out and do our best," said Moore. "We think we can really run well this year. We've put in a lot of time this summer."

Huprikar practically repeated the exact words during a later interview.

"I would like to finish in the top five. My ideal finish would be top two."

Huprikar practically repeated the exact words during a later interview.

"I would like to finish in the top five," he said. "That would be a great way to end my career here in Novi."

Moore was always a Novi resident. He and his brother, Tim, ran because their dad told them it was a great way to stay in

shape for soccer. Neither continued to play soccer in high school, instead focusing on their running. Tim is currently a hurdler at the University of Notre Dame.

Huprikar, on the other hand, grew up in Allen Park and was one of the top runners by the time he finished middle school. His family moved to Novi before the start of his freshman year and he found himself getting a glimpse of what KVC running is all about.

"I went from winning 100 to finishing in the back of the pack," he said. "I had no idea how much different high school running was compared to middle school."

He learned fast though, coming along nicely before finally challenging for the top spot on the team — a position Moore holds tight now.

Do either one think Huprikar will take the lead?

"I don't think so," Huprikar said. "We'll just keep pushing each other."

Moore wasn't so sure.

"If he does, I won't mind," he said. "It'll just push me to do even better. He's always pushing me."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@h.homecomm.net.

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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 4B

Novi News

Thursday, September 2, 2004

Many owners celebrate Labor Day by working

As much of the nation begins gearing down to enjoy that favorite of American paradoxes—Labor Day, a holiday from work—millions of small-business owners have no plans to hang out “Closed” signs.

To the contrary, they’re preparing to celebrate this annual event by remaining open to serve meals to vacationers, fuel their cars and ring up their retail shopping purchases.

Jack Faris

Certainly, small-business owners know the value of taking time off to rest and recharge.

But operating and managing that little firm they’ve created in their image of the American dream reinvigorates them as surely as taking a holiday refreshes those who choose career paths other than entrepreneurship.

According to an NFIB Small Business Poll, the personal pleasure that small employers realize from owning their businesses ranks near the top of the satisfaction barometer. Two-fifths of those surveyed rated the joys of owning a firm as a nine or 10 on a scale of one-to-10.

What makes them so happy? Those who felt that their businesses were highly successful pointed to the satisfaction gained by providing quality products and services, along with their relationships with their employees, customers and business associates.

One likely reason that so many small-business owners receive lots of personal satisfaction from their work is that a majority spends considerable time doing what they like to do best.

The most popular type of activity is making goods or services, followed closely by marketing and sales.

That’s probably a good indication of why there are nearly 24 million small businesses operating in the United States today. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) estimates that the number of sole proprietorships increased nearly 2.5 percent in 2002 and nearly 2 percent last year, and there are more new businesses on the way.

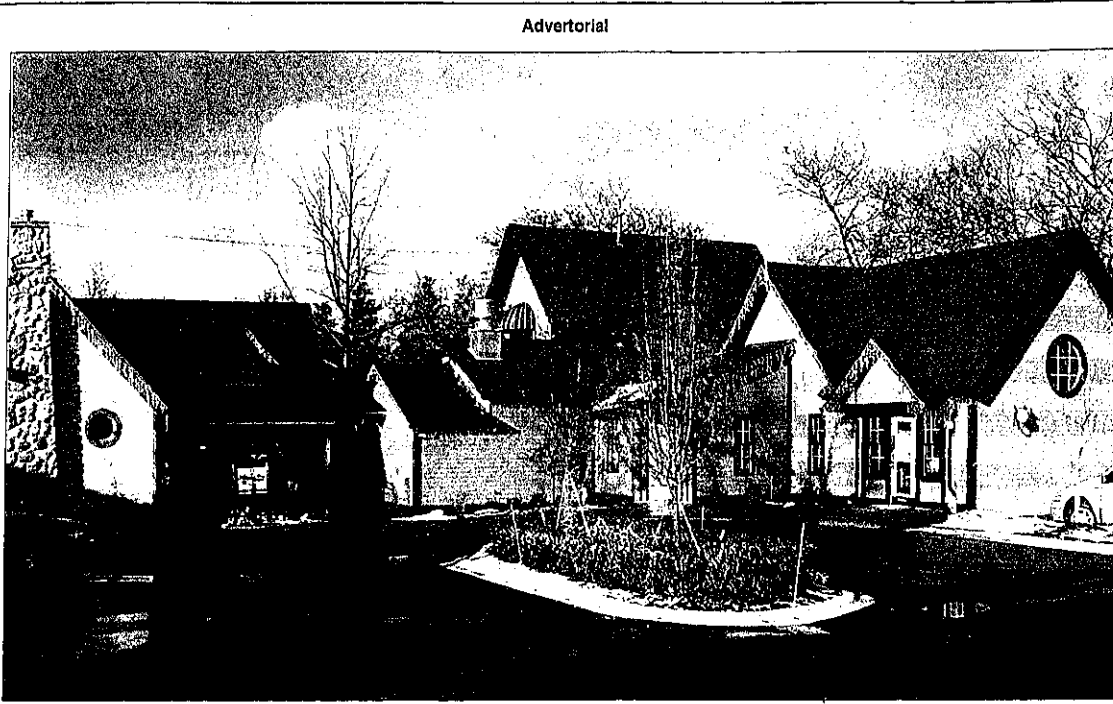
These entrepreneurs know that a happy workplace is a healthy workplace. And they know that the best way to attract and retain good workers is to treat them right.

Although the federal government and 20 states have legal requirements governing private-sector family and medical leave policy, small-business owners don’t need any prodding.

Recent research found that 93 percent of small employers granted the last request for time off they received and 95 percent allowed short-term leave for important personal matters — when most of them are not legally required to do so.

Labor Day is an important national holiday for all Americans. For some, it’s a welcome break from their day-to-day duties. For many who are living the American Dream of owning their own small business, it’s a time to celebrate their labor of love.

Jack Faris is president of NFIB (the National Federation of Independent Business), the nation’s largest small-business advocacy group. A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943, NFIB represents the consensus views of its 600,000 members in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. More information is available on-line at www.NFIB.com.



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 slenna building) and the 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 take that same food home from the Hutton Street Market. The Italian deli, pizzeria and catering kitchen is 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 in America 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.

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 regularly to keep current with their suppliers



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 cafe-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, pizza, 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 in downtown Northville. Phone: (248) 347-6200.

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.

Do you have a story idea?

Do you have a news brief or story idea about your company? Photos are also welcome.

Send it to:
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Little Italy Village

Authentic Italian Dining

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Enjoy an unforgettable meal with the finest Italian cuisine.

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Complimentary wine tastings with an award-winning wine list.

Exclusive Bar/Café

Casual Café-Style Dining • Outdoor Patio

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Little Italy's Award-Winning Wine List

Martinis & Italian Cocktails

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A unique Italian Deli, Pizzeria and Catering Kitchen featuring:

- Fine Imported Italian Specialties
- Deli Meats, Cheeses and Italian Sausage
- Knock-Your-Socks-Off Catering
- Handmade Fresh Pastas, Sauces and Salad Dressings
- Little Italy Ristorante Prepared Carry Out Foods
- Fresh Salads and Soups
- Italian Pizzas in the Neapolitan Tradition
- Exquisite Desserts and Tortes
- Homemade Bread and Breadssticks
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