



Novi News



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

Thursday, September 23, 2004

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50¢

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Novi, Michigan

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INSIDE



It's just marvelous

The Food and Wine Bazaar in Novi is now offering Pizza Marvelous — and business is booming.

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SPORTS



Fit to be tied

Novi's soccer team battled top-ranked neighbor Northville to a 0-0 tie last week.

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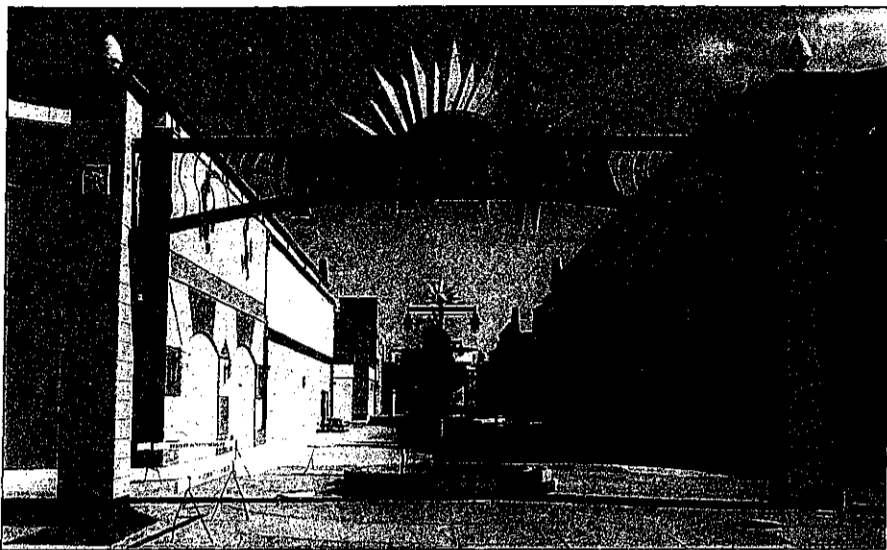
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Fountain Walk bankrupt, but don't expect changes



File photos by JOHN HEIDER

The Fountain Walk shopping center opened in July 2002 on 77 acres west of Novi Road and north of I-96. The 735,000-square-foot center has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

Mall owners file for Chapter 11

Bankruptcy forces Andiamo's, Second City to change plans

By Pam Fleming and Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITERS

Most tenants are unfazed by the news that the California firm that owns Novi's Fountain Walk shopping center filed Chapter 11 bankruptcy late last month.

But the news means that two prospective tenants — the Italian restaurant Andiamo's and the Second City comedy club — will scrap plans to locate at Fountain Walk and will instead relocate in another Novi hot spot, the former Local Color site on Main Street.

"On our end, it's very unfortunate," Andiamo's owner Joseph Vicari said of the bankruptcy filing. "We had a deal, and we've been spending money on the Fountain Walk design since January."

The bankruptcy was filed in California, home to PLC Commercial which owns PLC Novi West Development, a subsidiary that opened Fountain Walk only two years ago.

Calls to PLC were not returned, but local Fountain Walk marketing director Linda Busse said nothing has changed.

"Fountain Walk is still operating as it always has. Nothing has changed," she said.

"I really don't think it will have much impact on day-to-day business. Most of the businesses here are doing well, are very successful, and are showing strong sales."

Gjeto Vushaj
Owner, Gjeto's Salon & Spa at Fountain Walk

"It's still an important part of shopping and entertainment for Novi and the surrounding area."

The shopping center, the latest of the mega Novi retail areas, opened in July 2002 on 77 acres west of Novi Road and north of I-96. The 735,000-square-foot center planned to be home to 50 retailers, entertainment venues, restaurants and night spots.

It is anchored by the Great Indoors and Galyan's, and recently added a Hooter's restaurant after a highly publicized battle with the Novi City Council.

Continued on page 2

Tax 'shift' would mean taxes come due earlier

Cassis strongly opposes proposal

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

A controversial proposal that would advance a portion of county property tax collection to help the state through its budget crunch was scheduled to go to a vote late Wednesday in the House.

If some version of Senate Bills 1111 and 1112 pass, it would have taxpayers pay one-third of their winter county property tax in the summer over a three-year period.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed into law last Friday the fiscal year 2005 budget that includes a \$182.8 million reduction in state revenue sharing payments to local governments.

Even if some version of Senate Bills 1111 and 1112 passes, however, it would have to come back to the Senate for approval.

The proposal was headed toward failure last week in the House, but passed in the Senate, 23-12. Those voting no included 10 Republicans and two Democrats. A total of 56 votes are needed for the proposal to pass in the House.

State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi), who strongly opposes the proposal, said, "We need to reform and reduce spending instead of finding new ways to tax the citizens of our state."

"I think that the problem with taxpayers is not whether they consider it to be a tax increase or not but that it will make people take money out of their pockets. That's what's making people mad. They are asking taxpayers to pay the money sooner," said Rep. Craig DeRoche (R-Novi).

"One of the only redeeming values is that it would free people's money up in the winter. But there's a time value on money. You're asking people to lay out more money than they would have originally."

"Some people budget for an entire year to pay those tax bills. If this is what the Governor's idea of balancing the budget is, I think there's going to be a heavy price for her to pay in 2006," he said.

Cassis wonders if the legislation is even legal.

"Is this a violation of the Headlee Amendment that states that there will be no tax increase without a vote of the people? It's time we face the music and reduce spending, grow our economy and jobs," Cassis said.

If the bills don't pass, projected cuts are 16.4 percent across the

Continued on page 3

Novi gets another luxury dealership

Hummer is latest addition to lineup

By Kim Kovellev
STAFF WRITER

Before long, you'll be able to head to the northeast corner of Meadowbrook and Grand River roads and, without blinking:

1. Buckle yourself into a brand new H-1 Hummer; and,
2. Plow through telephone poles, rugged terrain and several feet of water.

This will be included in the L-shaped demonstration track of the new Hummer of Novi, which breaks ground today at 2 p.m.

"It'll demonstrate the use (and) capabilities of four wheel drive," Hummer co-owner Dan Frost said. "This is going to be an extreme track. When you first get on it, you're to be like, 'whoa.'"

When it opens in late March of next year — in tandem with the launch of its smaller, more affordable H-3 line — Hummer also will offer engine boring, custom

painting, turbo charging and more.

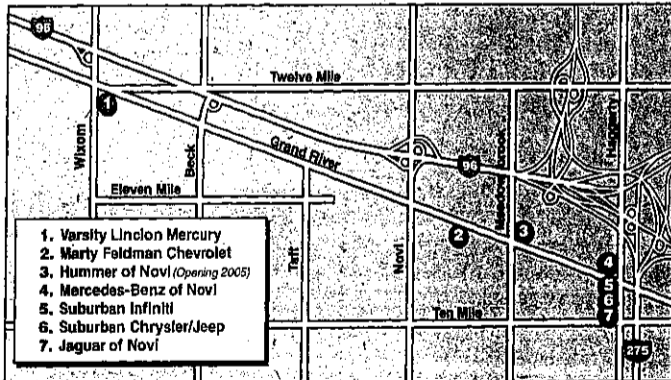
It joins a string of luxury dealerships that thrive in the city.

"Novi seems to be that type of the city where it's building fast, where the economics are in line with the housing," Frost said. "Demographics are just right for our product."

With some imagination, Novi's luxury dealership "district" resembles a lollipop.

The "stem" runs along Grand River, starting at Varsity Lincoln-Mercury near the Wixom border and heads east through Marty-Feldman Chevrolet and, soon, Hummer.

The "candy" explodes as the road hits Haggerty, where a Jaguar, Mercedes-Benz, Suburban Chrysler Jeep and Suburban Infiniti are situated. Across the street in Farmington Hills, Honda and Saturn dealers add to the image.



SOURCE: City of Novi

City of Novi Assistant Manager Clay Pearson said the Hummer will be the first built under the new "Gateway East" zoning ordinance, which requires a more town-like, sand-and-brick appearance in buildings along part of Grand River.

"It's a high-profile project not just for the offer but for where it is," Pearson said. "We've covered a lot of the waterfront right here. There seemed to be a running start in it the last three years."

Flanked by a serpentine side-

walk and stocked with a coffee and juice bar and X-Type sedans, Jaguar has enjoyed success since opening two years ago.

"It's a very unique building — the architecture and design of the building is like nothing in the Detroit market, period," General Manager Nick Berinti said. "It's been a very good location for the age group ... (and) obviously the financial prosperity of the community."

According to Suburban Infiniti Executive Manager Adam

Bidock, his dealership — located just across Grand River — attracts customers from as far away as Toledo and the Upper Peninsula.

"The product has been phenomenal that we've come out with, and I think we've put a great team together," Bidock said of the five-year old locale. "Quite the few of my sales consultants will even pick up vehicles for oil changes."

Mercedes-Benz sports site

Continued on page 3

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Bankruptcy news forces two prospective tenants to move

Continued from page 1

James Powell, new general manager at Hoover's, wasn't fazed by the news. Contacted Tuesday, he said he was unaware of the bankruptcy.

"That wasn't the case with Andiamo's. Owner Vicari said his plans to open a Novi restaurant will now be changed and delayed. "We've been messing around with these guys (P.L.C. Novi West Development). Knowing they were in some trouble, as early as May," said Vicari. "We found out just last week that they weren't going to be able to do some of the things that they promised."

"So now we are planning to open the restaurant with Second City (Comedy Theatre) at the former Local Color building."

"We don't have the square footage at the former Local Color building to do what we were going to do at Fountain Walk, so we're dropping the banquet facility and just opening a restaurant."

"This (the move to the Main Street project) should delay our

opening by about three or months. We hope to open in March, 2005."

Members of Second City Comedy Theatre management are actually pleased to be moving from Fountain Walk to the former Local Color, which was the original plan.

"It's better news for us than for Andiamo's. That location was always a better choice for us because it has a little more life to it, it's more accessible, and we already had drawings for the theater for that space," said Kelly Leonard, vice president of Second City Inc. in Chicago.

Eventually, the Second City Training Center, which is still located at Fountain Walk, will be moving to the former Local Color building also.

"The training center is doing great, and we only expect to increase our business at the new location," Leonard said.

Chris Heald, vice president of operations at Imagine Theater, was not concerned by the news.

"We're open for business," Heald said. "We don't expect

anything to change.

"There are other businesses at the shopping center that will be opening soon. So, we're confident that Imagine will continue to serve Novi."

Gjeto Vashaj, owner of Gjeto's Salon & Spa at Fountain Walk, was also upbeat.

"I really love the concept of this mall, and we're doing great," he said. "I really don't think it will have much impact on day-to-day business. Most of the businesses here are doing well, are very successful, and are showing strong sales," he said.

City officials said they weren't privy to bankruptcy details.

"We mostly know just what we're reading," said Richard Heilig, Novi city manager. "What we are hearing is, it is likely that the public will not see changes as far as businesses closing."

"It will be a financial restructuring with the creditors to perhaps better price the product or development. The public, for example, wouldn't see the



Public relations specialist Dawn Jedrusik, right, leads a tour of Imagine Theater's 500-seat movie theater prior to its opening. Chris Brandt, vice president of operations at the theater, was not concerned by the bankruptcy news. "We're open for business," Brandt said. "We don't expect anything to change."

Imagine Theater go dark." Heilig said following "some internal financial restructuring" the center could become even more successful. "The parking lot is still packed if you go by there on the weekends," he said.

Pam Fleming and Ramez Khuri are staff writers for the Novi News. They can be reached at (248) 349-1700.

Lawmakers say public is opposed to tax 'shift'

Continued from page 1

board in state revenue sharing. For that reason, Novi city officials are in favor of it.

"The potential cut of 16.4 percent of state revenue sharing would be \$624,000 to the City of Novi, and that's about 2.5 percent of the city's budget," said Kathy Smith-Roy, finance director, City of Novi.

"We are in support of the bills because of the alternative. If the bills are not passed, the city could potentially lose \$624,000 in state revenue sharing. The bills are not a tax increase. It's a mechanism to advance the collection period for winter county taxes to the summer tax bill."

Cassisi, though, says the public is very much opposed to it.

"The taxpayers of the state are in an uproar over this proposal, and I have received more than 130 calls and e-mails against it," she said.

Granholm and the Republican leadership agreed to this plan. However, the legislation has been held up because some say it's a thinly-disguised tax hike that will force a financial hardship on people by making them pay some of their property taxes earlier than expected.

The Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency says that the average county operating millages are 4.19. The shift in winter property

"We are in support of the bills because of the alternative. If the bills are not passed, the city could potentially lose \$624,000 in state revenue sharing."

Kathy Smith-Roy
Director of Finance, City of Novi

taxes with a home in Oakland County spread out over a three-year period would be:

- \$300,000 home — \$491
- \$225,000 home — \$368
- \$150,000 home — \$245

In Novi, which has a millage rate of 4.6477, the amount on a \$266,000 home — the median value of a home in the city — would be \$185 per year, leading to a total of \$618 over a three-year period.

Last week, Granholm said the tax-hike claim was a myth and scolded those who were holding

up the plan because it is needed to replace lost state revenue sharing, which many Michigan communities use for services, such as police and fire protection.

Staff at the Michigan Municipal League, State & Federal Affairs Division, faxed an alert to concerned parties last Friday, asking, "What will a 16.4 percent cut in revenue sharing mean to your community?"

"The Oakland County Board of Commissioners are not supporting the bills. County Executive L. Brooks Patterson and hundreds of taxpayers across the state are also opposed and have been very vocal," Cassisi said. "This is a kind of slippery slope that could remove revenue sharing from cities, villages and townships."

"This is also a huge accounting shift for businesses and will have an adverse impact on senior citizens, people on fixed incomes and the unemployed, who are struggling."

Cassisi believes that the House will be compelled to pass the county tax shift proposal, or the Legislature will be forced to determine how the \$182.3 million reduction in state revenue sharing is distributed.

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.comcon.net.



Jaguar of Novi President Nathan Conyers, right, and General Manager Nick Berinfi share a laugh in the store's showroom. They have good reason for mirth: Jaguar of Novi is rated near the top in sales and service in the nation. Jaguar is part of the luxury lineup in Novi, soon to be joined by Hummer.

Luxury car dealers are thriving in Novi location

Continued from page 1

floors, cherry wood walls and a 20-car showroom. "We opened up with tremendous reception and sales have remained steady pretty much ever since."

Owner Lee Ghesquire said, "We have a product line-up that is second to none. Our product lineup is so deep, so vast."

And a spot in the luxury lollipop hasn't hurt. "It's been very good for us," Ghesquire added. "You really have a far reach from many different areas. It's probably certainly a good 20-mile radius."

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

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REUNIONS

Madonna University Alum Reunion 2004
Madonna University invites alumni to join in sharing fun, food and friendship at the Alumni Reunion 2004, scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 9, on campus. The classes of 1954 and 1979, which are celebrating their 50th and 25th anniversaries, respectively, will receive special recognition. All alumni who have earned a certificate, associate's, bachelor's or master's degree are welcome to attend, as well as bring their family and friends.

Featuring a "50's theme," the reunion celebration is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. in the University Center, just off of Levan Road, and Jean and John Cori Drive. Activities include dinner buffet reception, live entertainment; door prizes/giveaways; alumni reflections; and more.

The cost for the reception is \$15 per person before Oct. 1. At the door, the cost per person is \$20. For more information or to RSVP, contact the Alumni Office at (734) 432-5603 or by e-mail at alumni@madonna.edu. Madonna University is located at 1-96 and Levan Road in Livonia.

Northville Class of 1954
Northville Class of '54 will be holding its 50-year class reunion on Friday, Sept. 24, 6 p.m. at the Stratton Novi Hotel.

If you know of anyone that hasn't sent in their reservations e-mail Jean Angell ASAP: JCANorthville@aol.com.

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ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The City of Novi is in the fourth and most difficult year of a five-year road program approved by Novi voters in November 2000.

At that time, left turns will be allowed at Grand River Avenue for northbound Novi Road traffic. The project is scheduled to be completed in November 2004.

Members approved funding which enabled the leveraging of \$19.4 million in county, state and federal road improvement dollars for the Novi community.

Taft Road open
The repaving of Taft Road is complete from Grand River Avenue to Ten Mile Road.

Meadowbrook Road
Roadway improvements are under way. Construction crews are currently working north of I-96 on the widening portion of the project and will continue work toward the south.

Novi Road/Grand River Avenue Intersection
Grand River Avenue is closed east of Novi Road. Eastbound Grand River Avenue traffic is required to turn at Novi Road and use the Main Street or Crescent Boulevard detour. Westbound Grand River Avenue traffic also needs to use these detours.

The week of Sept. 27, construction on the west side of Novi Road and Grand River Avenue will be complete, and traffic will be opened to the new concrete lanes while work continues on the east side of the intersection. At that time, left turns will be allowed at Grand River Avenue for northbound Novi Road traffic. The project is scheduled to be completed in November 2004.

Novi Road/Ten Mile Road Intersection
Improvements to this intersection by the Road Commission for Oakland County are under way. The intersection remains open throughout construction, but motorists can anticipate delays and are asked to follow posted detours.

I-96/Beck Road interchange
Beck Road from the old bridge over I-96 to about a half-mile north of Twelve Mile Road is closed. Beck Road, north of I-96, is scheduled to re-open on or before Dec. 1.

Novi Road/Grand River Avenue Intersection
Grand River Avenue is closed east of Novi Road. Eastbound Grand River Avenue traffic is required to turn at Novi Road and use the Main Street or Crescent Boulevard detour. Westbound Grand River Avenue traffic also needs to use these detours.

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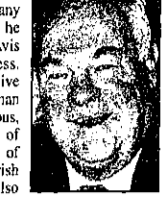
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Novi Road/Ten Mile Road Intersection
Improvements to this intersection by the Road Commission for Oakland County are under way. The intersection remains open throughout construction, but motorists can anticipate delays and are asked to follow posted detours.

OBITUARIES

Lawrence M. (Larry) Kelly, 69
Lawrence (Larry) Kelly died Sept. 17. He was 69. Mr. Kelly was born on Dec. 25, 1934, in Salina, Kan.



Larry worked for Marathon Oil for many years. In 2000, he retired from his Avis Rental Car Business. Larry was an active member of Menaghans Knights of Columbus, Ancient Order of Hibernians, Knights of Equity & United Irish Societies. He was also an avid golfer, very active in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and Most Holy Trinity Church, Detroit.

Survivors include his wife, Joann; two sons, Michael (Maureen) and Patrick (Nikki); three grandchildren, Matthew, Colleen, and Bridget; and two sisters, Mary Chambers and Ruth (Larry) Bridgewater.

A funeral service was held Sept. 15, 2004 at Holy Family Catholic Church, Novi.

Memorials may be made in Larry's memory to St. Benedict Church, 60 Church St., Highland Park, MI 48203 or Most Holy Trinity Schools, 1050 Porter St., Detroit, MI 48226.

Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Online condolences: www.obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com and online obituary at www.detroittribune.com.

Lee VanAtta, 81
Lee VanAtta of Florida died Sept. 16. He was 81. Mr. VanAtta was born on Dec. 19, 1922, to the late LeRoy Worden and Florence (Blanchette) VanAtta in Detroit.

He was a member of the Cross of Christ Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church of Ft. Myers, Fla.

Survivors include his wife, Alice VanAtta; one sister, and nine nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by one sister.

A funeral service was held Sept. 20 at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church. Interment will be at Glen Eden Cemetery. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, Sept. 26, 2004 at Zion Lutheran Church, 7401 Winkler Road, Fort Myers, Fla.

Arrangements were made by Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon.

October 3-10 is Pastor Appreciation Week

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October 7th

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Read Then Recycle

Meeting kicks off long-range planning process

School district session draws a large crowd

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Anticipation and excitement were in the air last Thursday night as over 80 people packed the district's Instructional Technology Center Forum, each with new and fresh ideas that they believe will impact their schools in a positive way.

It's been five years since the Novi Community School District held a long-range planning meeting, and as in the past, Glen Gerard, of the Gerard Consulting Group was on hand to facilitate the night.

"I think it was a very successful meeting," Gerard said the next morning. "It was an excellent beginning, and boy, oh boy, was I ever impressed with the group of people that they brought together there. We did exactly what we needed to do and I think the people here will be great about it. It was really high energy."

The evening started with a meet-and-greet session, where everyone present was asked to stand, say who they were and why they came.

After that, Superintendent Emmet Lippe and Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Nancy Davis shared some words. Before Gerard took over, he explained what the purpose of the meeting was and how everyone was coming to go about achieving it. He said that there were seven goals from the last

What they had to say...

Comments from some of the people who attended the school district's long-range planning meeting:

■ "I think it's imperative that the school district make plans like this. The enthusiasm in the room was really fun to feel. I think that looking out for our students' future is really important."
- Kris Bruderrick, Village Oaks Elementary School Art Teacher

■ "I think it was very important to get across a functional group of educators, parents, administrators and community members together. The different points of view, I think, are going to ensure that we have built the best long-range plan for all aspects and all people of Novi. The enthusiasm was very

apparent and the diversity of the group was wonderful and I think that we are going to accomplish a lot."
- Julie Wilk, Novi resident

■ "I feel this will help the school district because we have done these committees before and we have been on target. We discussed what we want to see in the future and we'll work to get there."
- Susan Duda, Novi resident

■ "I've been doing these team meetings for a long time and I have found them all to be productive. I like especially the fact that we have a good mix of parents, we have students from the high school as well as a really important mix of administration and teachers as well as board members, so we're covering all the bases. There are local business people here and I think it's important

that as a community, we form these committees and come back with all these different perspectives so that each one of our students, be they adults or kids in K through 12, benefit from all the combined knowledge in all those different groups. It's a very positive process and Glen Gerard is an excellent facilitator."
- Katy Angelski, Novi resident

■ "This meeting was excellent. We had many people here and I think for the future we need to go forward, especially because of what's happening with the school systems today. Novi has done a wonderful job up till now and we want to make sure in the future that we keep our reputation going. I think this is an excellent start. Each group did a good job and now we should keep this going because we're on a positive note."
- Tom Marcus, Novi resident

all you find out about the profiles of the people. I think all these people will do some good work between now and the end and come up with some good information for the board."

Gerard started his career as a public school teacher at the junior high and high school level. He taught in Traverse City and in Warren and then was an administrator. He was a middle school principal in Okemos and then was an assistant superintendent at Forest Hills in the Grand Rapids School District. In 1986, he started the Gerard Consulting Group. He works with school districts across the country, primarily in the Midwest, doing planning, team-building and organizational culture.

"I just think it's a real compliment that the Novi School District continues to focus on planning ahead and positioning to manage the quality it has and to add to it," Gerard said.

For more information on the Gerard Consulting Group, call (616) 940-1960, or visit www.gerardconsulting.com.

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 1100 or by e-mail at rkhuri@bt.comcom.net.

long-range plan, which were all achieved by the district.

This time around, however, the group was asked to study eight different categories and identify the trends, predictions and forces at work outside of the district that may require attention to insure the future success of Novi Community Schools. The group was broken up into eight sub-groups, with each one taking a different category:

- Economic Profile
- Demographic Profile
- Technology Profile
- Social Profile
- Government/Political Profile
- Community/Cultural Profile
- Education Profile
- Competition Profile

Gerard explained that the process between this time around and the last long-range plan is similar, but times are different. The economic conditions, for

example, are different, as are many other factors.

"Things have changed in education and things have changed in our economy and in our society," Gerard said. "Part of what we want to be sure we do is find out what those differences are and that's part of the reason that we began this process. We want to know for sure just exactly what the school board of education on conditions are today and what the predictions are."

The Long Range Planning Advisory Committee will be studying strategic goals to guide the school district in the next five to 10 years. Each sub-group will meet on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 19 and 20; Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 9 and 10; and Thursday Dec. 9. When they're all done, they would like to have recommendations for Lippe and the school board of education on all eight categories.

"This is very good planning," Gerard said. "It's a long-range

plan that's very strategic in nature and positions the school district to continue the quality they have and to add to it."

Lippe had nothing but positive feedback about the meeting. "I think the meeting went extremely well and everyone seemed to be engaged in different types of activities and going about the path that Dr. Gerard wanted them to fulfill," Lippe said.

"The process is somewhat similar to the last time because first

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WARREN 14750 Oakwood (East of 14 Mile Rd.) 248-383-6800	WARREN 2447 Ford Rd. (East of 14 Mile Rd.) 248-383-6800	WESTLAND 1913 E. Big Beaver Rd. (Troy Sports Center) 248-383-6800	WESTLAND Kathy Cellular 313-582-1130	WESTLAND Authorized Cellular 1-800-919-1100	WESTLAND Global Wireless 248-681-7200
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NOTICE - CITY OF NOVI
REQUEST FOR BIDS
HOLOGRAPHIC WEAPON SIGHTS

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for HOLOGRAPHIC WEAPON SIGHTS according to the specifications of the City of Novi. Bid packages are available at the Office of the Purchasing Director.

Sealed bids will be received until 3:00 P.M. prevailing Eastern Time, Wednesday, October 6, 2004 at which time proposals will be opened and read. Bids shall be addressed as follows:

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

All bids must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED "HOLOGRAPHIC WEAPON SIGHTS BID" AND MUST BEAR THE NAME OF THE BIDDER.

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

NOTICE DATED: September 17, 2004

CAROL J. KALINOVIK
PURCHASING DIRECTOR
(248) 347-0446

(9-23-04 NN 166432)

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BUSINESS

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

Griffin named to board

On Sept. 14, the Marketing & Sales Executives of Detroit announced its officers, board of directors and committee chairs for its 2004-2005 program year that begins this month.

Among the 11 elected to the board of directors was Gregory Griffin, vice president of sales and marketing for Novi-based Porter Group LLC.

Founded in 1988, the Marketing & Sales Executives of Detroit is a non-profit organization that conducts approximately 15 meetings, seminars and educational events each year for networking, professional development and scholarship fund-raising.

Cooper-Standard acquired Novi-based Cooper-Standard signed a definitive agreement that will allow it to be acquired by the Cypress Group and Goldman Sachs Capital Partners. The \$1.165 billion transaction is expected to close by year-end and is subject to customary closing conditions, including regulatory approvals.

Cooper-Standard is a leading manufacturer of engineered components serving the automotive original equipment manufacturing market. Its 2003 net sales were approximately \$1.6 billion.

"We are extremely excited to partner with Cypress and Goldman Sachs in the next stage of our company's development," Cooper-Standard CEO Jim McElya said.

Tower levels back
Novi-based Tower Automotive Inc. announced earlier this month plans to reduce production at its Greenville plant as part of a company-wide effort to improve oper-

ational performance and control costs.

The company, which designs and produces vehicle structural components, will move annual stamping operations and related weld assemblies from Greenville to other existing Tower Automotive locations in Elkton, Mich., and Kendallville, Ind., where automation capabilities already exist.

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CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE OF ADOPTION
ORDINANCE NO. 04-94.06

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 04-94.06, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 7, "BUILDINGS AND BUILDING REGULATION," IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POSTING OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES AND TO PROVIDE AUTHORITY FOR THE BUILDING OFFICIAL TO INSPECT THE SITE AND CONFIRM SITE RESTORATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED PRIOR TO RELEASE OF THE SITE TO THE PUBLIC.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, September 13, 2004. 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.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
CITY CLERK

(9-23-04 NN 165938)

CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE OF ADOPTION
ORDINANCE NO. 04-157.01

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 04-157.01, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 31, "STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES," IN ORDER TO REQUIRE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES TO BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 38, "PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES" OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, September 13, 2004. 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.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
CITY CLERK

(9-23-04 NN 165939)

CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2004 GENERAL ELECTION

To the Qualified Electors of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan:

Notice is hereby given that Monday, October 4, 2004 is the last day to register to vote or change your address for the above election.

If you are not currently registered to vote in the City of Novi at your present address, you may do so in any of the following ways:

- At the Novi City Clerk's Office, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road or at the office of any county clerk during normal business hours.
- At any of the Secretary of State Branch Offices located throughout the State during normal business hours.

Online

Mail-in voter registration applications may be obtained by visiting the city's website at www.novivoter.com and click on forms; then click on Voter Registration Form.

By Mail:

- By obtaining and completing a Mail-In Voter Registration Application and forwarding to the election official listed below by the close of registration deadline, October 4, 2004 or contacting: Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 (248) 347-0456

Note: Persons who register to vote by mail are required to vote the first time in person unless they have previously voted in person in the State of Michigan or are at least 60 years of age or are physically unable to attend the polls.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
CITY CLERK

(9-23-04 NN 165938)

CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE OF ADOPTION
ORDINANCE NO. 04-45.28

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 04-45.28, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 77.45, AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, TO REQUIRE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES TO BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 38, "PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES" OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES.

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MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
CITY CLERK

(9-23-04 NN 165944)

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, October 13, 2004 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi City Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI, ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.641 BY NOVI ITEM ASSOCIATES FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING OF PROPERTY LOCATED SOUTH OF TEN MILE ROAD, EAST OF NOVI ROAD FROM A COMBINATION OF G-1, OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT AND L-1, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT TO B-2, COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT. The subject property is approximately 25.364 acres.

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 October 13, 2004.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY

(9-23-04 NN 166641)

CITY OF NOVI
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ORDINANCE NO. 04-157.01

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MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
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NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY

(9-23-04 NN 166642)

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COMMUNITY

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

Novi Post Office gets new Automated Postal Service

Customers can use credit/debit card at kiosk

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Automated Teller Machines revolutionized banking for customers worldwide. Now, the Novi Post Office has a new service, the Automated Postal Center (APC), that allows customers to purchase stamps and other postal products before and after regular office hours using a similar device. The new APC opened Aug. 26.

The Novi Post Office is located at 21875 Novi Road between Ten Mile Road and Grand River Avenue.

Regular access at the Novi Post Office is now open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

"Customers really like this new service because they can use their credit/debit card, and it's very user-friendly," said Laurie Cogar, supervisor at the Novi Post Office.

As part of an ongoing effort to provide quick, easy and convenient access, the Postal Service introduced this self-service kiosk that provides easy access to products and services.

But, unlike most ATMs, Automated Postal Centers don't charge a service fee.

"APCs provide a simple way for customers to weigh, calculate and apply exact postage for mailing, Express Mail, Priority Mail, packages, and First Class letters. The APC accepts debit and credit cards in addition to providing mailing information, ZIP code lookup, and Delivery Confirmation service," Cogar said.

The APCs are expected to be available in post offices across the country by the end of the year.

"They've been testing the machines for a couple of years and are just starting to make them available at post offices nation-



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi Post Office employee Paul L. Smith explains the Novi Post Office's new Automated Postal Center to customer Gunvor Wrathell. The postal center allows customers to buy stamps and mail packages up to 75 pounds and is open in the evenings, after the post office has closed.

Novi Post Office retail access hours

• 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday
• 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday
• Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday

"We have always had a vending machine for stamps. But this takes cash only. With the new APC, customers can use their credit/debit cards, which is convenient," Cogar said.

For more information about the new service, call the Novi Post Office at (248) 473-9422.

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.

LIBRARY LINES

Library hours

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

Teens read

Students in grades 7-9 are invited to join us Saturday, Sept. 25, from 11-11:55 a.m. for pizza, pop, and a discussion of "Surviving the Applewhites" by Stephanie S. Tolan.

Story time notes

Fall 1 Story Times begin Sept. 27. In addition to story times for preschoolers, we now offer weekly story times for tots ages 12-24 months and "big kids" ages 5-8. Brochures listing the days and times of all the drop-in Story Times are available in the library.

Starlight Story Time

Bring your children to the library at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept.

NPL reading buddies

Our Reading Buddy Program pairs older children (grades 5-12) with younger children (K-4) to improve the younger child's reading skills and encourage a love of reading. There will be a mandatory orientation for Big Buddies on Wednesday, Oct. 6, from 7-7:30 p.m. Reading Buddies will then meet at the library on three Saturdays this fall. Please call the library if you are interested in becoming a Big or Little Reading Buddy.

Book club for grades 3-4

Our brand-new reading group for children in grades 3-4 meets Wednesday, Sept. 29, from 4:15-5 p.m. Hear about three of our favorite mystery series, enjoy a snack, and help us think of a creative name for our group. No registration is necessary.

Homework and the library

Learn how to use the library's materials and Web site to find the best resources for your homework assignments on Thursday, Sept. 30, from 7-8 p.m. The session is for students in elementary or middle school and their parents. Advance registration is required; please call the library to register.

Cartooning classes

High school students are invited to enjoy an hour of drawing, with an emphasis on cartoon characters, on Tuesday, Oct. 5, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. No advance registration is required.

Internet for seniors

Join us for an opportunity to practice any of the skills you've learned in our Internet classes on Thursday, Sept. 30, from 1-3 p.m. During this session, you may work on any Internet skills, with librarians to assist you and answer any computer-related questions.

Introduction to the Internet for all ages

Adults of all ages are invited to join us for a basic introduction to the Internet on Tuesday, Oct. 5, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Discover what the World Wide Web is; learn about various search tools and search engines, and how to use a Web browser.

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Novi News

COMMUNITY

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

Novi resident vies for title of Miss Michigan USA

Grand Valley State student anticipates first pageant

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER



Betsy Lewis

Betsy Lewis of Novi will be living the dream of many young girls this weekend when she competes for the title of Miss Michigan USA in Port Huron.

The competition will be at the McMoran Place Theater in Port Huron. Lewis is a 2002 graduate of Novi High School and the daughter of Paul and Susan Lewis of Novi.

"I've never been to Port Huron, and I'm very nervous about it all. It finally kicked in how soon it is. I'm trying not to think about it, I'm excited," she said in a telephone interview last week.

"I'm not going in with the intention of becoming Miss Michigan.

"There's no way I could have done this without my parents. My mom found my evening gown for \$12, and it fits like a glove."

Betsy Lewis
Miss Michigan USA Contestant

sent me information anyway and gave me the title Miss Novi USA after a long process," she said.

At the state level, pageant contestants don't have a talent competition, which surprised Lewis.

"The main parts of the pageant are the interview with a panel of judges, an evening gown competition and a swimsuit competition," Lewis said.

"We also have an opening number where we dance," she said. "We learn it the day before. We have an eight-hour rehearsal on Friday."

Lewis is involved in the Student Council of Exceptional Children at GVSU, just became a member of the Spanish Club and is a member of a choir at the university.

She attends a GVSU educational program in which teachers share their experiences in the classroom and lesson plans with aspiring teachers. She also works as a student manager within food services at GVSU.

Her sponsors include Renaissance Precast Industries, Guideline Mechanical Inc., Akhilmur N. Bhat, the Honey Tree Restaurant, and Roy and Welma Lewis.

Lewis said she's ready for the competition.

"I have been loving it, and I did find a great self-tanning lotion," she said. "That's really important because without a tan, you look very washed out under the lights."

"I also park so far away that I have to walk just so I can burn off those extra calories. I use a facial mask twice a week. I snack on rice cakes, try not to have junk food in the house, and I drink a lot of water — at least a gallon a day. I try not to drink pop, but if I do, I follow it up with a glass of water," she said.

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with friends, going to the beach and reading.

Lewis will find out Saturday night after preliminaries if she's in the final 15 contestants.

There will be a final show Sunday afternoon with 15 finalists. "They repeat the evening gown and swimsuit competition on Sunday and then announce the Miss Michigan winner," she said.

Lewis is studying elementary education and Spanish in case she becomes a teacher in an inner-city environment. The Miss Michigan

winner receives a four-year scholarship to Baker College in Michigan, as well as prizes from various sponsors.

"There's no way I could have done this without my parents. My mom found my evening gown for \$12, and it fits like a glove. It was amazing. I'm so lucky. I wouldn't have been able to do it without their support and encouragement," she said.

Mary Beth Miles of Novi will also be competing in Port Huron this weekend in the Miss Teen Michigan USA competition. The young woman chosen as Miss Michigan USA Pageant goes on to represent the state in the Miss USA Pageant and compete for more than \$100,000 in cash and prizes.

To learn more about the Miss Michigan USA Pageant, visit www.missmichiganusa.com or www.missusa.com.

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

Novi's ABWA chapter celebrates 15 years

By Kim Kovelle
STAFF WRITER

Bette Johnson became a member of Waterford's American Association of Business Women chapter back in 1965 while working at Michigan Bell.

"I joined because our company at the time wanted employees to get involved in the community," Johnson said. "I had no idea that I could get on my feet and make speeches. I was very timid."

By 1984, she was chairing a Detroit-based national convention. Six years later, she founded the Novi Oaks Charter Chapter. Now, at age 81, she saw that group celebrate its 15th anniversary this past Monday.

"I have grown so much through ABWA," said Johnson, who has 37 years' perfect attendance. "Women need a women's organization they need to be involved

chapter put out the word that she would like to start working full-time. One of the other women needed someone to work, and she hired her," Applegate said.

Like her aunt, Applegate also has plunged into activities. For instance, she was a Dale Carnegie instructor for five years. As a working mother she's busy, but Applegate finds strength in her extended family.

"It's almost like we empower each other or almost inspire each other to get things done," Applegate said. "And, it's given me an opportunity to really get to know my aunt better."

At the celebration, 36 members past and present perused scrapbooks and heard speakers commemorate the chapter's history. They also looked to the future with a "Discover Teamwork" theme. Upping membership can

be challenging with retirements, job transfers and the demands of business.

"It all depends. There are so many different organizations that are out there," Vice President Chris Sinow said. "We do have a mission statement — it's to bring us together women of diverse occupations. You gain a little bit of knowledge from what they do and share experiences."

Speakers are a part of this at the chapter's meetings on the third Monday of every month at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Novi.

Last Monday, Former District President Shirley Myrick spoke; on Oct. 18, it'll be Master Quiter Lorna Tippin.

Meeting costs are \$16, which includes dinner. Yearly national dues are \$50, and chapter dues \$2. This year's national convention will be held Oct. 12-17 in

Richmond, Va.

The women also help to organize fundraisers and scholarships.

Judy Schornak received the Bufon Skills Tuition Reimbursement scholarship for massage therapy training, and Evelyn Longmire was awarded funds by the Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Center CHIPS Program.

Longmire, who lives in Northville, hopes to construct a career in music, and plans to join the association.

"I'm just very grateful for people who have faith in individuals that they don't really know," Longmire said. "It's a blessing."

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

Bette Johnson, founder of the Novi Oaks Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association, spoke at Monday evening's 15th anniversary celebration.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

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

Northville man arrested

A 25-year-old Northville man was arrested for Operating While Intoxicated at 1:50 a.m. Sept. 16 at Novi Road and I-96.

An officer requested assistance with a traffic stop on a 2002 black Chrysler Sebring when he saw the car weaving on northbound Novi Road.

The officer could smell a strong odor of intoxicants coming from the driver when he pulled her over for running the red light.

The woman stated that she had had three drinks when she asked how much she had to drink that night.

Grand River Avenue at Novi Road when he saw a 2001 silver Mazda mini-van heading north on Novi Road at Grand River. The van drove slowly through the red light, stopped in the middle of the intersection and continued north on Novi Road.

The officer could smell a strong odor of intoxicants coming from the driver when he pulled her over for running the red light.

The woman stated that she had had three drinks when she asked how much she had to drink that night.

A breath test showed a blood alcohol level of .10 percent, police said.

A 23-year-old South Lyon woman was arrested for Operating While Intoxicated at 1:10 a.m. Sept. 15 at Ten Mile and Washtenaw roads.

An officer was driving east on Ten Mile east of Beck Road when she saw a black passenger vehicle traveling west on Ten Mile with a driver's side headlight out.

The woman produced a driver's license, registration and expired proof of insurance. While speaking with her, the officer noticed

the smell of intoxicants coming from the vehicle.

The woman said that she had come from the Library Pub and that she had had a couple of drinks.

A breath test produced a blood alcohol level of .15 percent, police said.

Unpatriotic thief

An American flag valued at \$25 was stolen at a residence on south Heatherbrae between 6:30 p.m. Sept. 13 and 6:30 p.m. Sept. 14 near Nine Mile and Meridian roads. The resident told police that someone took the flag hanging on the front of his house.

Briefcase stolen

The owner of a white Dodge Neon was the victim of both on the evening of Sept. 15 in the parking lot of Dick's Sporting Goods at High Pointe Plaza.

The man told police that his car was locked, and the window on the driver's side was open. There was

no sign of forced entry or any witnesses to the theft.

The man said that his laptop computer and about 30 CDs were in the briefcase, and that he has no idea who may have committed the crime.

A breath test produced a blood alcohol level of .15 percent, police said.

Plate light malfunction

A 44-year-old Waterford man was arrested for having Open Intoxicants in a Motor Vehicle at 11:44 p.m. Sept. 13 at Thirteen Mile Road and the M-5 Connector.

Two officers were sitting in their patrol car on Thirteen Mile Road west of the M-5 Connector when they saw a 1991 yellow Geo Tracker pass them with the license plate light not working.

The driver produced his driver's license but had to look for the registration and proof of insurance.

An officer was working extra patrol in the area of West Oaks

bottle of vodka in the man's glove box and a number of open beer cans in the back seat of the vehicle.

When the officer asked the man what was in the glove box, he handed the officer the sealed bottle of vodka.

From the passenger side of the vehicle, the officer then saw a partially empty bottle of Midtown rum at the driver's feet. The man said that the rum was his and that the driver did not know anything about it.

A breath test showed a blood alcohol level in the passenger of .17 percent, police said.

Speeding and weaving

A 22-year-old Novi man was arrested for Operating While Intoxicated at 11:57 p.m. Sept. 13 on West Park Drive and Twelve Mile Road.

An officer was working extra patrol in the area of West Oaks

Drive when he saw a 2004 red Chevrolet Cavalier speeding on West Oaks Drive.

The vehicle was moving so fast that it was almost completely out of his lane when rounding the corner.

When activating his radar, the officer checked the vehicle at 45 mph in a 30 mph zone on Dunwoody Road.

The vehicle was then clocked moving at 55 mph in a 45 mph zone on Twelve Mile Road. The vehicle was also weaving.

After initiating a traffic stop, the officer noticed the strong smell of intoxicants coming from the car and that the driver had severely bloodshot eyes.

The driver said that he was coming from a friend's house. When asked, he said that he had one beer and had stopped drinking about an hour ago.

A breath test recorded a blood alcohol level of 20 percent, police said.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Caterpillar to butterfly

The Novi Meadows Sixth Grade Team studied the life cycle of a monarch butterfly by actually watching five caterpillars turn into chrysalises and then hatch into orange monarch butterflies. They also learned about how the monarchs migrate to Mexico every year for the winter season and then fly north in the spring over a period of four generations to make their way back up to Michigan.

Shown here, sixth grade teacher Kim Graham and some of her team releasing the butterflies for the beginning of their long flight down to Mexico. The students looking on (from left) are Ashley Aljadah, Laura Donyer, Allison Snider, Erin Kwederis, Laura Subject, Chase Conrad, Austin Feight, Vyobhannah Jagannath and Scott Stanforn.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 04-62.03

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 04-62.03 - AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES TO AMEND CHAPTER 34, UTILITIES; TO REPEAL FINANCIAL GUARANTEES TO BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 38 OF CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES.

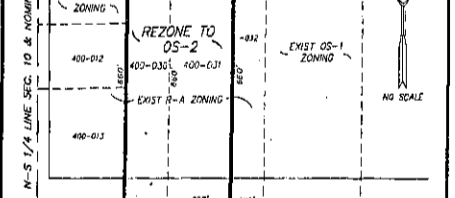
CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 04-103.10

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 04-103.10, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES TO AMEND CHAPTER 12, DRAINAGE AND FLOOD DAMAGE PROTECTION; TO REQUIRE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES TO BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 38, PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES; OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ENACTMENT - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18642

THE CITY OF NOVI ORDINANCES: Part I. This Ordinance No. 97-16, known as '1st Zoning Ordinance' of the City of Novi is hereby amended as indicated on ZONING MAP NO. 18642.

Part II. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any Ordinance or parts of any Ordinance in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.



To rezone a part of the S.E. 1/4 of Section 10, T.1N., R.8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, being parcels 22-100-000 and 22-100-001 more particularly described as follows:

PARCEL 22-100-000
Beginning at a point on the South line of Section 10 (nominal C/L of 12 Mile Road), said point being East, 396 feet from the South 1/4 corner of Section 10; thence N00°52'00"W, 660 feet; thence East, 132 feet; thence S00°52'00"E, 660 feet to the South line of Section 10 (nominal C/L of 12 Mile Road); thence West along said South line 300 feet to the point of beginning. Excepting therefrom the easterly 100 feet of said parcel.

PARCEL 22-100-001
Beginning at a point on the South line of Section 10 (nominal C/L of 12 Mile Road), said point being East, 396 feet from the South 1/4 corner of Section 10; thence N00°52'00"W, 660 feet; thence East, 300 feet; thence S00°52'00"E, 660 feet to the South line of Section 10 (nominal C/L of 12 Mile Road); thence West along said South line 300 feet to the point of beginning. Excepting therefrom the easterly 100 feet of said parcel.

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

LOU CSORDAS, MAYOR
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COMMUNITY

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

Artist shows patriotism in work

By Kim Kovelis
STAFF WRITER

Jonathan Durand considers himself a patriot and artist.

Recently, the Clawson artist spread his fervor for country and illustrating by presenting his latest work, a lithograph poster called "Home of the Brave," to a Waterford family that recently lost their son, U.S. Army Pfc. Damian S. Bushart.

Bushart died while serving with the A Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division in Baghdad, Iraq. He was 22.

"I found their name on a list of the Web," Durand said. "I'm going to be donating the five dollars to the widows and children of fighting U.S. troops ... the soldiers that have died in Iraq."

Bushart left a widow, Megan, and son, Joshua, 3, who lives in Illinois.

Held at the Bushart home, the small ceremony was attended by Bushart's father, John "Skip" Bushart; mother, Patricia McAtcher; and brother, Eric Bushart.

"I presented this poster to him, and he immediately got tears in his eyes," Durand said. "He was immediately touched. It does have powerful impact. It's got a lot of the patriotic symbols of America."

Included in the montage are flags, eagles, white crosses at Arlington National Cemetery, and President Bush "bowing his head in a moment of prayer," among



Jonathan Durand displays his "Home of the Brave" art.

other icons. John Bushart, a retired chief master sergeant who served for 33

years in the Air Force most recently with the 927th Aero-medical staging squadron, said his son

enlisted in 2002, was in Iraq about seven months, and was killed Nov. 22.

"It's just something he felt should do," said Bushart, veteran of both Vietnam and Desert Storm. The family has a long history of military service.

He said the framed poster will hang in his home, along with other portraits of his son.

"I've got a den (where) I have several paintings and things from Damian, his flag, and a shadow box with his medals," Bushart said. "It's a very, very beautiful painting."

Durand, a residential painter who said he has done illustrations for the Detroit Red Wings and Pistons, hopes to expand his efforts to help soldiers' widows and orphans in counties throughout the area.

"My two cousins are enlisted," Durand said. "What inspired me was just my patriotism, terrorism warnings that have been issued, all that our country has been through in the past two years."

The full-color lithograph, which measures 18 by 24 inches, is available to the public for \$5 plus \$3 for shipping, handling, packaging and printing costs. For more information, P.O. Box 12, Clawson, Mich. 48017-0012, or email durand86@hotmail.com.

Info available about Medicare cards

Michiganers eligible for, but often confused by, the Medicare drug discount cards that become effective June 1 can find answers to their questions about the program in two free brochures developed by AARP, the national nonprofit organization for people over fifty. The brochures are available by calling 800-458-6872, or by e-mail at the AARP Michigan office, miaarp@aarp.org. They are also available for ordering or downloading as PDF files on AARP's Web site, www.aarp.org.

"Medicare Drug Discount Card: What You Need to Know" provides an overview of the new Medicare drug discount card program, explaining the different card options and what consumers should look for in choosing the best card for their needs.

"Medicare Drug Discount Card: Helping Those With Limited Incomes" explains how the discount cards give extra help to people eligible for Medicare with limited incomes, including an immediate \$600 credit for 2004, and another \$600 credit for 2005.

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SPECIAL SCHOOL ELECTION NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION OF THE ELECTORS OF NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WAYNE, OAKLAND AND WASHTENAW COUNTIES, MICHIGAN TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 28, 2004

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Please Take Notice that a special election of the electors of Northville Public Schools, Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, will be held at the school district on Tuesday, September 28, 2004.

THE POLLS OF ELECTION WILL OPEN AT 7 O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING AND CLOSE AT 8 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING.

The following proposition will be submitted to the vote of the electors at the special election:

OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

EXEMPTING PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE AND QUALIFIED AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

This millage will enable the school district to levy the statutory rate of 18 mills on all property except principal residence and qualified agricultural property required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation guarantee.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, exempting therefrom principal residence and qualified agricultural property as defined by law, in Northville Public Schools, Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, be increased by .25 mill (\$0.25 on each \$1,000.00 of taxable valuation) for a period of 9 years, 2004 to 2012, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes, the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2004 is approximately \$20,488.00 (this millage will be levied only to the extent necessary to restore the "Headlee" reduction)?

THE VOTING PLACES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PRECINCT NO. 1
Voting Place: Northville City Offices, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan

PRECINCT NO. 2
Voting Place: Silver Springs School, 19871 Silver Springs Drive, Northville, Michigan

PRECINCT NO. 3
Voting Place: Winchester School, 16141 Winchester Drive, Northville, Michigan

PRECINCT NO. 4
Voting Place: American Elementary School, 847 North Center, Northville, Michigan

PRECINCT NO. 5
Voting Place: Northville City Offices, 215 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan

PRECINCT NO. 6
Voting Place: Middle School, 46811 West Eight Mile Road, Northville, Michigan

PRECINCT NO. 7
Voting Place: Thornion Creek Elementary School, 46180 Nine Mile Road, Novi, Michigan

PRECINCT NO. 8
Voting Place: Meads Mill Middle School, 16700 Franklin Road, Northville, Michigan

All school electors who are registered with the city or township clerk of the city or township in which they reside are eligible to vote at this election.

I, **RAYMOND J. WOJCIWICZ**, Treasurer of Wayne County, Michigan, do hereby certify that, as of August 19, 2004, the total of all voted increases in excess of the Constitutional fifteen mill tax rate limitation and the years such increases are effective are as follows affecting the taxable property of Local Unit:

Local Unit	Date of Election	Voted Increases	Years Increases Effective
County of Wayne	August 8, 2000	1 mill	2004 thru 2009
Wayne County Regional Educational Service	August 6, 1974	1 mill	2004 Indefinitely
Agency	November 8, 1988	1 mill	2004 Indefinitely
Wayne County Jail	August 6, 2002	1.5 mills	2004 thru 2010
Wayne County Parks	August 6, 2000	1 mill	2004 thru 2005
Wayne County Comm. College	November 5, 1998	1 mill	2004
Wayne County Transit Authority	November 6, 2001	1.5 mills	2004 thru 2010
Northville Public School District	August 6, 2002	0.8 mill	2004

18 mills (exempting principal residence and qualified agricultural property), 2004 to 2012, incl.

RAYMOND J. WOJCIWICZ
WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER

I, **PATRICK M. DOHARY**, County Treasurer of the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, do hereby certify that according to the records in my office, as of August 19, 2004, the total of all voted increases in the tax rate limitation above the 18 mills established by Section 6 of Article IX of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 affecting taxable property in the Northville Public Schools, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties, Michigan, is as follows:

LOCAL UNIT	VOTED INCREASE	YEARS INCREASE EFFECTIVE
Northville Public Schools	18.00	2003 to 2012 incl. (exempting principal residence and qualified agricultural property)
Township of Lyon	1.00	Unlimited
Township of Novi	2.50	Unlimited
County of Oakland	2.5257	Unlimited
Dated: August 19, 2004	.25	2002 to 2011 incl.

PATRICK M. DOHARY, TREASURER
OAKLAND COUNTY

I, **CATHERINE McCLARY**, Treasurer of Washtenaw County, Michigan, hereby certify that as of Thursday, August 26, 2004, the records of this office indicate that the total of all voted increases over and above the tax limitation established by the Constitution of Michigan, in any local units of government affecting the taxable property located in:

Northville Public Schools
Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, is as follows:

Purpose of Millage	Millage Amount	Expiration of Millage
Northville Public Schools	18 mills (exempting principal residence and qualified agricultural property), 2004 to 2012, incl.	
Salem South Lyon District Library	Operating	Indefinite
Schoolcraft College	All Purpose	Indefinite
Washtenaw County	All Purpose	Indefinite
Natural Areas	0.2458	2011
Parks	0.2415	2009
Parks	0.2401	2007
HMA	0.2154	Indefinite
Wayne Regional Educational Services Agency	Operating	Indefinite
Special Ed	1.5	Indefinite
Operating	0.0687	Indefinite
Special Ed	0.93	Indefinite
Special Ed	0.9378	Indefinite

Date: August 26, 2004

CATHERINE McCLARY
WASHTENAW COUNTY TREASURER
CATHERINE McCLARY

This Notice is given by order of the Board of Education of Northville Public Schools, Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan.

LIBBY A. SMITH
SECRETARY,
BOARD OF EDUCATION

(9-16/23-04 NN, NR 164276)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 04-103.10

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 04-125.19

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 04-103.10, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES TO AMEND CHAPTER 12, DRAINAGE AND FLOOD DAMAGE PROTECTION; TO REQUIRE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES TO BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 38, PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES; OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 04-125.19, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES TO AMEND CHAPTER 37, WOODLANDS PROTECTION; TO REQUIRE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES TO BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF CHAPTER 38, PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES; OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES.

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FAITH CALENDAR

CrossChords, in concert, a Christian rock concert of Faith and Inspiration
WHEN: Sunday, Oct. 10
TIME: 4 p.m. (doors open at 3:30 p.m.)
WHERE: St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Hill Road, Farmington Hills
FOR TICKETS: Call the church office at (248) 474-0584 or send check made payable to St. John Lutheran Church and mail by Sept. 30 to: CrossChords Concert Tickets, P.O. Box 531895, Livonia, MI 48153-1895. Be sure to include the number of tickets, a self-addressed stamped envelope for mailing, and a phone number in case there are any questions regarding your order.
TICKET PRICES: \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door, \$4 advance for groups of 15 or more (groups must be advance ticket sales only)
SPONSORED BY: St. John Lutheran Church, Farmington Hills, located on Gill Road, off of Grand River Road and between Drake and Farmington Roads. Visit St. John at www.stjohn-lutheran.com.

YOUTH SPONSORED "Coffee House" following the concert.
Faith Community Presbyterian Church: Any child interested in receiving communion is invited to attend the Sacrament Orientation class, led by Dr. Richard Henderson, on Sunday, Sept. 26, at noon.
 There is a small amount of reading required in this class. Also, the church invites you to worship at either the 9 or 10:30 a.m. service. Sunday School is offered at both services for children pre-K through 12th grade. The Novi-Northville CROP walk will start at the Novi Civic Center at 2 p.m. on Sept. 26. Anyone interested in walking with the CROP Walk team from Faith can call the church office.
Faith Community Presbyterian Church: 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. Also, the church will host an educational forum featuring two Catholic elected officials — Republican Thaddeus McCotter, U.S. Representative of the 11th District, and Democrat William J. O'Neil, Michigan State House Representative for District 14. The event will take place at the church on Saturday, Sept. 25, from 9:30-11 a.m. Michael Hevey, Associate Director of the Office of Catholic Social Teaching for the Archdiocese of Detroit, will also be present.
 The aim of this event, sponsored by the Holy Family Peace and Justice Committee, is to provide all voters with an opportunity to better understand how Catholic values and social teaching can guide them in forming their consciences as they prepare to vote in this year's election.
 Each of the lawmakers will make a brief presentation regarding how they as office-holders address the common good and how their Catholic moral framework has helped to guide their decisions in the legislative process. They will then answer questions.

The Michigan Catholic Conference, in the July 2004 edition of their publication FOCUS, states that, "Catholics in Michigan, as well as those across the country, have moral obligation to take an active part in the election by working to advance the moral fiber and common good of our society."
 On a national level, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in its document entitled, "Faithful Citizenship: A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility," declares that "these times and this election will test us as American Catholics. A renewed commitment to faithful citizenship can help heal the wounds of our nation, and our Church."
 All are welcome at this event. The church is located at 24505

Meadowbrook Road, between Ten Mile and Grand River Avenue. Call (248) 349-8847.
Worship Service
DATE: Every Wednesday
TIME: 12:10-12:50 p.m.
LOCATION: Church of the Holy Cross, 46200 W. Ten Mile Road (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. The church invites you to worship Sundays at 7:45 a.m. and 10 a.m. Nursery care is available at 10 a.m. worship service. (Our nursery is coordinated by a registered pediatric nurse.)
 Adult Bible Study on Sunday

mornings at 9 a.m. Worship Center for children ages 3-7, and Sunday School at 10 a.m. The Rev. Karen Henry, pastor and priest in charge. The Rev. John W. Henry II, assistant priest.
 Holy Cross Episcopal Church is part of the worldwide Anglican communion.
Worship Service of Compline at 8:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 26th, Holy Cross Church Rite 13 and Journey to Adulthood Program for all youth aged 11 and up. Rite 13 (ages 11-14), J2A (ages 14 and up). Both groups meet at 5 p.m. for their program and dinner followed by 7 p.m. Youth Worship Service. (Our Youth Worship Service is held the second and fourth Sunday of every month—all are welcome to attend).

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

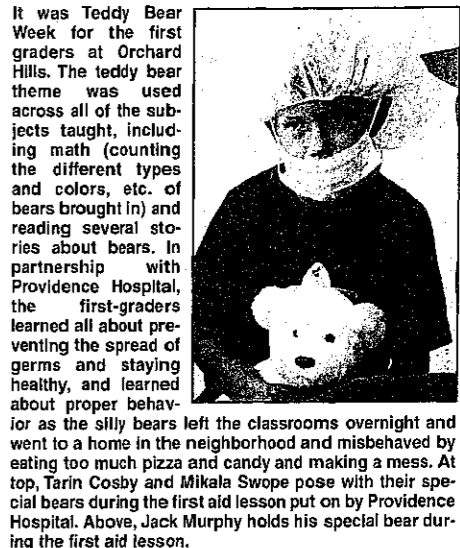
EVENTS
Kensington Metropark Events for September and October
Friday Evening Fitness Hikes: Join the Crossroads Group of the Sierra Club for a brisk four mile hike on Friday, Sept. 17 starting at 5:30 at the Kensington Metropark. For more information, contact Cheryl at CherylMcConnell@MichiganSierraClub.org or (517) 552-1464.
Saving The Kensington Metropark Program: Join the Crossroads Group of the Sierra Club for a program at the Milford Public Library on Monday, Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. Several speakers will discuss the methods they recently used to save 181 acres of Kensington Metropark from being developed. This program will demonstrate how important local involvement can be in successfully controlling development and preserving our precious parklands. Both members and non-members are welcome to attend.

Lakes Area Youth Assistance 4th Annual Taste of the Lakes
DATE: Thursday, Sept. 30
TIME: 5-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Bay Pointe Golf Club, 4001 Haggerty Road, West Bloomfield
DETAILS: \$20/person-cash bar available. All proceeds to benefit the Lakes Area Youth Assistance. Sample cuisines from the area's finest restaurants.
CONTACT: Tickets may be purchased at LAYA office, (248) 956-5070, Commerce Township office, (248) 624-0110, or City of Wixom Parks and Rec office, (248) 242-2850.
Drag Racing Night at The Motorsports Hall of Fame of America
DATE: Oct. 4
TIME: 6-8 p.m. (Doors open at 5:30)
LOCATION: The Motorsports Hall of Fame of America is located at The Novi Expo Center (1-96 & Novi Road).
DETAILS: Cost: \$5 museum admission (No coupons/discounts). Meet NHRA drivers: Warren Johnson & Kurt Johnson. No additional charge for autographs (number of autographs subject to limitation). Their Pro Stock race cars will be on display.
CONTACT: (248) 349-7223 or e-mail: sgnuber@msf.com.

Northville Youth Theater Production of Babes in Toyland
WHEN: Performances are Dec. 17, 18, and 19
LOCATION: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St., Northville.
DETAILS: Kids ages 7-18 are invited to join Northville's newest performing arts group Northville Youth Theater for its first production Babes in Toyland. Rehearsals will vary by assigned part.
CONTACT: Northville Parks and Recreation at (248) 349-0203, ext. 1411 for more information. This production is presented by Northville Parks and Recreation and Serendipity Productions.

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. Aug. 26 — Modern Japanese Calligraphy. Ceramics. Some activities may include a supplies fee (no more than \$10).
CONTACT: (248) 465-5483.

Novi Ice Arena Learn to Skate session
DETAILS: The Novi Ice Arena will be offering a special four-week mini session of Learn to Skate from Sept. 29 to Oct. 23. The classes are for kids ages 6-12 with little or no skating experience. The session costs \$40 and includes skate rental if needed. Classes are 30 minutes long, with an additional 15 minutes of practice ice. Classes are offered on Wednesday afternoons/evenings and Saturday mornings.
PHONE: (248) 427-2700; Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Crosspointe Meadows Church of Novi.
It was Teddy Bear Week for the first graders at Orchard Hills. The teddy bear theme was used across all of the subjects taught, including math (counting the different types and colors, etc. of bears brought in) and reading several stories about bears. In partnership with Providence Hospital, the first-graders learned all about preventing the spread of germs and staying healthy, and learned about proper behavior as the silly bears left the classrooms overnight and went to a home in the neighborhood and misbehaved by eating too much pizza and candy and making a mess. At top, Tarin Cosby and Mikala Swope pose with their special bears during the first aid lesson put on by Providence Hospital. Above, Jack Murphy holds his special bear during the first aid lesson.



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Space Reservation Deadline: Monday, October 11, 2004
Copy Deadline: Tuesday, October 12, 2004
Publication Date: Thursday, Nov. 4, 2004
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 Sir Paul McCartney said "Keep up the good work, lads!"
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 To order tickets call (248)-477-7711

Weddings
 We know that planning the biggest day in a person's life isn't easy. Our annual wedding publication will be filled with decorating and floral ideas, fashion tips, and more. Your business will fit right in. Whether it is for wedding dress alterations, invitations, the honeymoon, or the first mortgage, this HomeTown Newspapers special section will allow you to get your message out.
Space Reservation Deadline: Friday, October 1, 2004
Copy Deadline: Monday, October 4, 2004
Publication Date: Thursday, October 21, 2004
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Celebrate 10 Years!
Join Us & Win!
September 20th- 29th
 Please join us in celebrating our 10th Anniversary. The party begins with the cutting (and eating!) of a gigantic, anniversary cake on September 20th from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Promenade Ballroom. The festivities continue for ten days through September 29th with daily prize drawings, special offers and fun events.
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COMMUNITY

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

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Brad and Pamela Rouck and **Mike and Emily Weaver** of Northville, along with **John Murphy** of Novi, were among more than 40 volunteers from Detroit area offices of PreciseWatchCoopers (PwC) who helped build backyard sheds and clear land for Habitat for Humanity's Tri-Centennial Village project on Detroit's southwest side.

"We like to keep our client's books clean at work, but when it comes to helping the community, the partners and staff of PreciseWatchCoopers Detroit aren't afraid to get their hands dirty," said Greg Nowak, one of the PwC partners who led the volunteer effort.

Sandra Cobb, Habitat for Humanity director of volunteers, called the PreciseWatchCoopers group very well organized. "This is a great place for team building. It's a different environment, and people have come together for a common goal. There's a lot of bonding going on."

The PwC group worked on backyard sheds and cleared small trees and debris from land that will be used next June for the renowned 2005 Jimmy Carter Work Project. Habitat President Carter and thousands of volunteers and financial partners from around the world will be in Detroit to build thirty homes for families in need during one week

in June 2005. To get involved, call (313) 231-8130 or visit www.habitatdetroit.org.

Barry S. Murray is the new Michigan Sea Grant Extension agent in southeastern Michigan. Murray brings 25 years' experience in urban planning to the seven-county district, which reaches from Haron County through Monroe County along Lake Huron, the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River and Lake Erie. Mr. Murray will be located in the MSU southeast regional office at 28115 Meadowbrook Road in Novi, call (248) 380-9100, ext. 209. Michigan Sea Grant is a collaborative effort of Michigan State

University and the University of Michigan in Great Lakes research, education and outreach. At the national level, he was elected to the Board of Directors in 1994, served as vice president from 1996-97 and president from 1998-99. He represented the organization as a delegate to the 1999 UOA Canada conference and the 2000 International Ostomy Association Congress. He continues to play an active role on the Government Affairs Committee and the UOA Field Service Program.

Tyrell has received honors from the Governor of Michigan. He is a member of the board of Goldie Fund, an organization dedicated to furnishing ostomy supplies to those who cannot afford

them. Tyrell is married to Marilyn, is the father of three and grandfather of five, and resides in Novi.

The United Ostomy Association is a volunteer-based health organization dedicated to providing education, information, support and advocacy for people who have had or will have intestinal or urinary diversions. UOA services include a national conference, the Ostomy Quarterly magazine, patient care guides, state and national advocacy programs, annual youth rally and web site, www.uoa.org. Local services are provided by 425-plus chapters across the country that offer regular meetings, newsletters, and a patient visiting service.

WEDDINGS

Mr. and Mrs. Gavin Fleming

Melissa Ponder and Gavin Fleming were married July 9 at St. John's Chapel, Plymouth. Deacon Michael Smith officiated the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Jim and Evelyn Ponder of Novi. She is a graduate of Northville High School.

She also earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Michigan, Dearborn and her master's of social work at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

The groom is the son of John and Margaret Fleming of Liverpool, England. He is a grad-

uate of the University of Michigan Law School, and is employed with the firm of Jones Day in Chicago.

Lindsay Griffin served as the maid of honor and Kristi Toussak as the matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Jenny Boycz, Caitlin O'Connell, Meghan O'Connell and Ashley O'Connell. Alexis Ponder and Madison Ponder served as flower girls.

Best man was Kieran Fleming. Groomsmen were Kevin DeHring, Chuck Musallam, Chris Bellinger, Steve Adams and Mack Elder.

A reception was held in the Atrium at St. John's. The couple honeymooned in Bermuda and are residing in Chicago.



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For more details visit us online at: i-soldit.com

On Feb. 3, 2005, Novi News, South Lyon Herald, Northville Record and Milford Times will be launching a new special section entitled, "Oh Baby!" and your baby could be the main attraction.

This new section will feature photos of all babies born in 2004, along with editorial and advertising for new parents.

Each participant will receive a space similar to this:

Oh Baby!

Christina Louise Smith
March 22, 2004
Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston
Mike and Mary Smith

To publish your 2004 arrival in Oh Baby!, send a photo and \$20 to:

HomeTown Newspapers
P.O. Box 230P
Howell, MI 48844
Attn: Leslie.

All entries must be received by Jan. 12, 2005.

Published in: Milford Times • Novi News • Northville Record • South Lyon Herald

Include a SASE if you want your photo returned.

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COMMUNITY

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

WEDDINGS

Mr. and Mrs. William L. O'Brien

Aimee Edwards and William L. O'Brien were married Aug. 11 at Nassau, Bahamas.

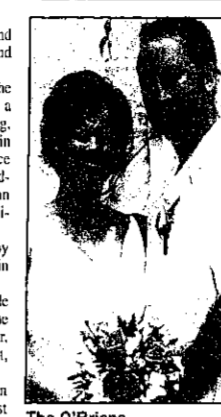
The bride is the daughter of John and Doris Edwards of Northville. The groom is the son of Marcie O'Brien and the late William R. O'Brien of Novi.

and Sally Marchak of Novi and Jason is the son of Michael and Suzanne Everett of Novi.

The bride is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a degree in chemical engineering. She is employed by BASF in Livonia in the technical service department. The groom is a graduate of Western Michigan University with a degree in sociology.

He is employed by Thomson/Gale Publishing in Farmington Hills as an editor. Maria Green, sister of the bride and Jerke Bakewell, friend of the bride served as matrons of honor. Best man was Michael Everett, brother of the groom.

The couple honeymooned on Anguilla in the British West Indies and reside in Royal Oak.



The O'Briens

The Everetts

ENGAGEMENTS



Weyer-Meyer

Kovceses-Krizanich

Herbert and Irene Weyer of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Nicole Weyer, to Brian Meyer, son of Bob and Jan Meyer of Kalamazoo.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Northville High School and a 2001 graduate of Western Michigan University. He is currently employed by Flow-Serve Quality Service as an engineer.

The future groom is a 1997 graduate of Kalamazoo High School and a 2001 graduate of Western Michigan University. He is the co-owner of CMH Building Company. A June 2005 wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kovceses of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Marie Kovceses, to Kyle Joseph Krizanich, son of Frank and Taryn Krizanich of Northville.

The bride-elect is a 1999 graduate of Novi High School and is employed by The Home Depot.

The groom-elect is a 1999 graduate of Northville High School and is employed by Ideal Electric.

An April 2005 wedding is planned.

Don't miss this British Invasion

Concert to be held Saturday, Nov. 6

By Dennis Haggerty
NOVI EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION CHAIR

The Novi Educational Foundation is pleased to announce that the Beatles are coming to perform at Novi High School!

Well, it's not the original band, but Revolution is coming to perform a 40th Anniversary Tribute to the Beatles at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 6.

We've brought performances to the community before, and we're especially excited about this show. Revolution has performed throughout this country and internationally, with great reviews. Even Paul McCartney said, "Keep up the good work, lads!" The group has performed

in Las Vegas, Hollywood, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Liverpool, England. They have appeared on television and in the movies.

The NEF is working with Concerts for a Cause to put the show together. The program will include one to two hours of Beatles music. Young and old alike will enjoy the show. Tim Piper performs as John Lennon and "has the exact vocal range and mannerisms of his mentor," according to Jennifer Moore of New York Entertainment Weekly.

Tickets are \$15 for students, \$20 and \$25 for adults and \$40 for front-row seats. Of course, every seat at the Novi High School auditorium is a good one. Tickets are available by phone at (248) 477-7711.

As a bonus event, the winning ticket for this year's Winner-Take-All Raffle will be drawn at the concert. Though it's not necessary to be present to win, somebody is going to win over \$4,000 in prizes, including cash, sporting tick-

ets and a variety of gift certificates. The Winner-Take-All Raffle is one of the NEF's main fund-raising activities.

Please join us for a fun evening to celebrate the Beatles. It promises to be an enjoyable event for the whole family.

The Novi Educational Foundation is a non-profit organization, founded in 1986 and devoted to expanding educational opportunities for the students of the Novi Community School District. The NEF supports student enrichment programs, staff development, classroom equipment and teacher mini-grants. Our main fund-raising activities include an annual golf outing, a winner-take-all raffle and the sale of engraved brick pavers installed at Novi High School. For more information, please call (248) 449-1200.

Dennis Haggerty is the Novi Educational Foundation Chair.

LET'S TALK **Jewelry** WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN GEMOLOGIST

TRENDS FOR MEN

Women are not the only ones shopping for necklaces, bracelets and rings these days. Men are now showing more interest in jewelry than at any time in recent history. They seem to be particularly attracted to stainless steel, which is most prominently used in men's watches. It has the same high-tech appearance as platinum, as well as the durability, but is much more affordable. Other metals, such as silver and titanium, are also gaining popularity for men's rings. Chain necklaces are showcasing the manly industrial look. Steel pendants can also be combined with a leather cord for non-vegan bracelet or necklace. Some men's jewelry features diamonds set into stainless steel pieces.

For anyone not total familiar with jewelry and precious metal, knowing and having confidence in his or her jeweler is of the utmost importance. We're WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI, and here at 4190 Grand River Ave. (248-347-0303) Hours: Tue., Wed., & Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thurs & Fri. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. We will be happy to assist you in the selection of fine gift pieces, jewelry, gemstones, and pearls. We are now licensed by the city of Novi to offer items on jewelry. Most major credit cards accepted.

We do repairs of all kinds, including watch repairs, watch cleaning, watch oiling, watch band replacement, watch face replacement, watch case replacement, watch movement repair, watch case refinishing, watch case polishing, watch case engraving, watch case repair, watch case replacement, watch case refinishing, watch case polishing, watch case engraving, watch case repair, watch case replacement.

PS Gift sets remain very popular with men, especially basic designs with silver, or other items that include diamonds, black onyx, malachite, garnet, rubies or sapphires.

the **Frame Gallery**
Thomas Kinkadee
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at The Frame Gallery
Sept 24, 2004
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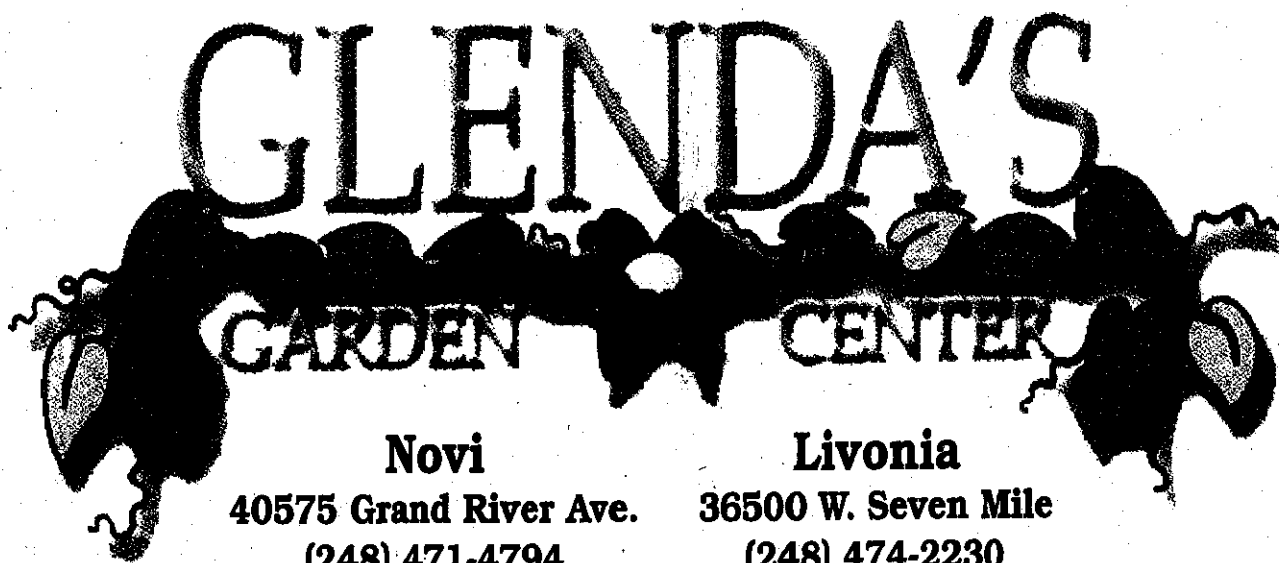
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Plucking the Eagles
The Novi Wildcats football team made short work of the Lakeland Eagles in a KVC contest. The 'Cats pounded out a ton of yards with their rushing game while allowing only one score.
— Page 3B



The leaders of the Spartans
Novi's boys cross country team proved they were the best in the 27-team field at the MSU Spartan Invitational. They are quickly looking like one of the top teams in the state.
— Page 4B



Regional Marketplace
It's approaching that time of year when people will be visiting Three Cedars Farm to experience traditional fall activities such as bonfires, hayrides or picking pumpkins.
— Page 6B

SPORTS & MORE

B-1

Novi golf on track despite close loss

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats golf team stumbled slightly last week in their hunt for a Kensington Valley Conference title, but it's nothing the team can't repair with some strong showings through the coming weeks.

The squad, coached by Brad Huss, did earn a solid 161-164 win over the Lakeland Eagles, but took a 142-143 loss against the Brighton Bulldogs for their first blemish on their record this year.

"That just shows how tight the league is this year," Huss said. "I think you can take the top six teams in the KVC and put them in the top 15 ranking in the state and not too many people would argue."

Speaking of rankings, the Wildcats, who broke into the top-10 a couple weeks ago, shouldn't feel too much of a pinch from the loss. Brighton was ranked ahead of them already and taking a one-stroke loss to any team is a tough break.

Brighton's victory, oddly enough, wasn't secured by their top players. Instead, it was their golfers who normally shoot fifth and sixth on the team that shot even par to help them to the victory.

Novi didn't have a horrific showing in any way. Leading them was Alex Lyall, who shot a 34, while Brett Jaussi recorded a 35 and R.J. Makoski and Mark Eberline shot 37s in the losing effort.

"We're playing well," said Huss. "There's not much you can do when the team you're playing against is shooting even with their fifth and sixth guys."

The Wildcats are still looking at the KVC title as a reasonable goal. Though they beat Howell, the Highlanders are still sitting in first place thanks to their top showing at the Pre-KVC.

"We're just hoping another team can beat Howell and drop them down a notch," said Huss. "That will make trying to catch them a little easier."

The Wildcats have been in this position before. Just a few years back, they had to finish the Post-KVC tourney four positions higher than Brighton, who was leading in the league, to win the title. They did that thanks to a horrific showing by the Bulldogs.

That's where the Novi links squad is heading right now, though Huss would prefer the easier route if possible.

"You hate to think about that situation," he said. "I'd much rather have it that we just have to finish one or two places ahead of Howell instead of four or five."

Novi is scheduled to be on the course again today at 3 p.m. when they host Hartland. Tomorrow, the team will play at the Hartland Invitational before participating in the Oakland County meet Monday.

Novi 161, Lakeland 164

The Wildcats had a more impressive showing against the Lakeland Eagles despite having a higher score.

The squad, this time out, was led by Makoski's 39 while both Jaussi and Mike Martinez carded 40s in the win. Nick Prokop shot a 42 to round out the scores.

"I've been happy with the way the guys have been playing," said Huss. "Any one of them can lead this team on any given day. They are all playing well."

And well is the way the team will have to continue in order to take home a Kensington Valley Conference title this season. A task that won't be easy considering the impressive numbers the whole league is putting up.

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

NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Oh knots

Novi ties up against top-rated Northville

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

A tie, for many teams, is as good as a win.

That's exactly how the Novi Wildcats felt after taking a 0-0 tie home after playing 80 minutes of a tough match against cross-town rival Northville. As the squad left the field it looked as though they had just won the state championship.

Northville, however, didn't seem so thrilled with escaping a loss.

"To us, it definitely feels like a loss," said Henry Klimes, the Northville soccer coach. "You don't go into a game looking to lose or to tie. You go in looking to win."

There were plenty of close calls with both sides sighing in relief.

In the second half, Novi's strong offensive surges finally paid off, for a brief moment. With 10:40 left in the game, the Wildcats put a ball past Northville goalie Steve Besk for what appeared to be a winning score. The officials, however, waived the goal off due to a Novi player interfering with Besk.

"I didn't see it very clearly," said Novi coach Brian O'Leary. "My player said he was pushed into their goalie, but the official didn't see it that way. I couldn't see it very well and with all those players in front of the net I don't think anyone could."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Continued on B4 Novi's Matt Crawford chases down the ball and a Howell player during a home game in September.

Haggerty tames Mustangs from line

Senior guard hits last-second free throw to put Wildcats over cross-town rival

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Novi sure doesn't seem to mind going to the line — even with just three-tenths of a second left on the clock and the stands erupting in screams and cheers.

Wildcat senior guard Jessica Haggerty found herself at the free-throw line with no time left on the clock, the fans alive and on their feet and a tied game on the scoreboard. She didn't hesitate though, sinking her free throw to win Novi's game against cross-town rival Northville, 37-36.

"I can't take too many games like that," Novi coach Bill Kelp said, smiling. "It was a great game, but I'd rather not have to go through too many more of them."

Defense, it seemed, was the name of this game. After three and a half minutes of scoring drought, Novi put the first points on the board with a lay-up by Haggerty. It was a lead the Wildcats would add to by the end of the first quarter, leading 8-4.

By the end of the half, however, Northville made a comeback in front of their home stands, tying the game up 16-16 on a long run of eight points in the final two minutes. Senior post player Evonna Karchon sunk the final four of the half to knot the game.

"We just couldn't put it away," said Kelp. "Every time it seemed like we would get ahead, Northville would come right back. They're a good team and a great test for us."

The third quarter was much like the first, with Novi taking advantage

of their opportunities and jumping out to a 27-21 advantage at the end of the stanza. But, Northville wouldn't be left behind. They put their best foot forward and soon took the lead with 3:45 left in the game. The lead build until Novi managed to tie it at 36-36 with just 1:02 left in the contest.

The final flurry of action found Northville's Chrissy Castelli taking a shot with 30 seconds left but watching it roll off the rim. Novi got the ball back, marched down the court and took a foul in a frenzy as the buzzer sounded.

The head official called a foul, added three-tenths of a second to the clock and put Haggerty at the free-throw line. Even with the screams from the stands, Haggerty sank the first shot and purposely missed the second to put Novi up for good at 37-36.

"I'm extremely confident when Jessica Haggerty has the ball," said Kelp. "I was confident and she was confident. She did a great job for us."

Leading all scorers was Novi's Rachele Folino, who put up 16 points and grabbed 11 rebounds. Haggerty and Kelly Hebert had seven each for the winners while Nicole Stephen added four.

For Northville, Simone Toney put up 12 points with sister Danielle adding 11. Karchon had six points in the loss while Castelli had four, Emily Weaver added two and Lindsey Blair chipped in one.

Novi is slated to be back in action today when they host Howell in conference action at 7 p.m. Then, they are scheduled to play Lakeland on the road Sept. 28 at 7 p.m.



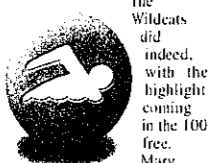
Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Northville High's Lindsey Blair battles fellow guard and Novi High's Stephanie Crawford for a loose ball during the teams' mid-September meeting.

Wildcats sink Pirates' ship in swim dual meet

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats swimming and diving team is sure hungry this year and it seems the only way to feed that feeling is to eat up every team they face. Novi, once again, came away with an impressive victory last week, topping KVC Free Park, 101-85. "We had a great second half in the meet," said Novi coach Larry Teban.



The Wildcats did indeed, with the highlight coming in the 100 free. Mary Rudinski took first in the event, notching a time of 58.79 seconds, while Dana Hapanowicz took second with a time of 59.35. The Cats also had an impressive showing in the 500 free, capturing first in 5:44.77 on a swim by senior Laura Lynch.

The sophomore collected 179.45 points for first while Chelsea Brodfecker took third with 124.60 points. The Wildcats found the team of Schramm, Rudinski, Erickson and Hapanowicz taking second in the 200 medley relay with a time of 2:09.88 in the first event of the meet. Not long after, Lynch captured a first-place finish in the 200 free followed by Megan BeWalla's third-place showing. In the 200 individual medley, Erickson captured a hard-

Bobcat freshmen get win in opener

The Novi Bobcat freshman football team won its inaugural game, 25-12, in a hard-hitting game against the Livonia Eagles. The Bobcats set the tone early when Lucas Buck recovered an early Eagle fumble. With Josh Schieler at quarterback, the squad set up excellent field position for the Bobcat's first score. With Blake Brown at quarterback, he led the Bobcats downfield with big ground gains by Preston Dowley, Grant Wheeler and a big pass reception by Jason Carless. In the next set of downs, Wheeler rumbled into the end zone for the Bobcats' first touchdown behind the explosive offensive line blocking by Scott Schramm, Collin Pew, Mario Ferrini, Kyle Matel and Zach Johnson.

SPORTS SHORTS

Fall Youth Basketball

The Northville Parks and Recreation department is currently accepting player registrations for fall youth basketball. Registration will continue through September 17 or until the leagues fill (there is a \$10 late fee for registration after Sept. 17). The girls league is for grades fourth-sixth while the boys leagues are based on fourth and fifth grades and sixth and seventh grades. All players must complete a personal data form, which is used by Parks and Rec in formatting teams. Practice will be held one or two times per week beginning Oct. 18. The eight game schedule is played primarily on Saturdays from Oct. 30-Dec. 11. Volunteers are also wanted. Help make the youth basketball programs a success by volunteering to be a coach. Please contact Parks and Rec at (248) 349-0203 ext. 1405 for more information.

Community Park on fields #5 and #7. Players must be born after Aug. 1, 1989. For more information contact Coach Craig Lee at 734-420-1987.

10U Girls Softball Tryouts

The Motor City Madonnas, a girls travel fastpitch softball team, will be holding open tryouts for the 2005 summer season on Sept. 19 at Power Park. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Tryouts will be held from 9-11 a.m. Power Park is located on 10 Mile Road behind the Novi Civic Center. There are no residency restrictions on team membership. Interested players should bring their equipment (glove, bat, etc.) and be prepared to practice. For additional information contact Bob at (248) 449-3186.

Travel baseball tryouts

The Dearborn Heights Knights (U12) travel baseball team will be scheduling tryouts for the 2005 baseball season. The Knights were the PeeWee Reese (11-year-old) champions for the NorthWest Suburban League last season. On the team's schedule for the upcoming season will be the Cooperstown Dreams Park tournament located near the Baseball Hall of Fame. For further information, contact Rich Grucz at (800) 949-9834.

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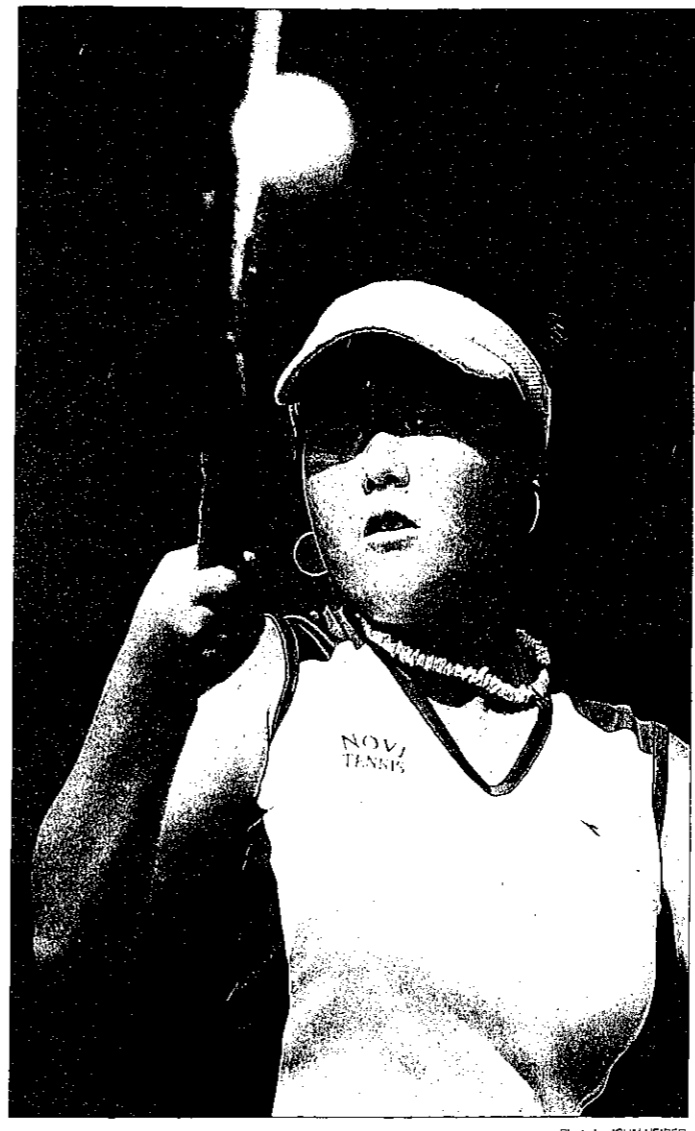
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Novi's #2 ranked singles player Ayano Nakamura takes on Northville's Chelsea Johnston in a late August matchup.

'Cats continue to dominate their league

Netters hoping to earn their fifth-straight KVC title this season

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats tennis team is once again standing on solid ground when it comes to the Kensington Valley Conference. The squad, coached by Jim Hanson, earned another 8-0 victory over a conference rival, this time beating Lakeland.

"These are the kids that are so important because they're going to be returning next season. We're trying to everyone a little playing time, which is still tough at times. The kids really respond well when they are playing though."

Jim Hanson
Novi Tennis Coach

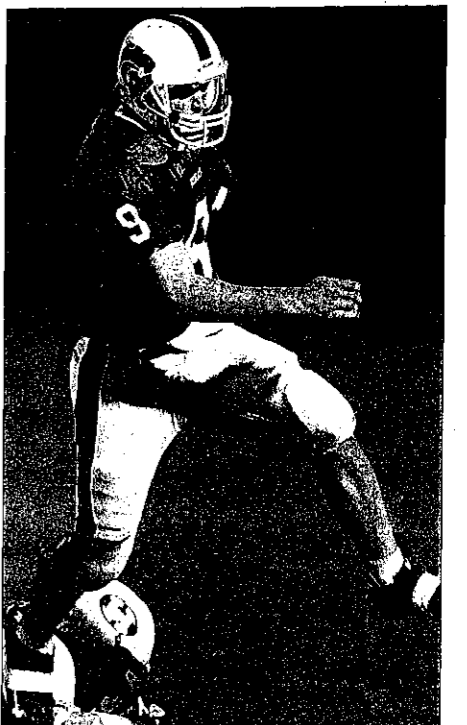
"They are going with their young kids in singles to help build their team up," said Hanson. "The scores might not indicate it, but the Lakeland kids played hard and they're definitely improving. This could be a team to watch out for in the next couple of years."

Lakeland is taking a gamble this year on a tactic Novi employed five years ago — starting freshmen in key positions. The Eagles currently have freshmen at second, third and fourth singles.

Novi crushes Lakeland Eagles

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

If ever there has been a showcasing of a football team's ability in the run the ball at will, this was it.



ABOVE: With the ball tucked under his left arm, Novi QB Kevin Cislak leaps away from a Howell Highlander during the Wildcats' home game against their Livingston County opponent. BELOW: Novi's Chris Dalton, left, is just a little late to prevent this reception by a Howell Highlander.

The Novi Wildcats football team pounded out an impressive 463 yards on the ground as they crushed their conference opponent Lakeland, 55-7. "We're going to run the football," said Tab Kelleppoury, Novi's coach. "That's what we do. We have four or five very good runningbacks with speed and ability and we're going to run the ball."

The Wildcats started things off with a touch-down. Novi's QB Kevin Cislak just ignited the fuel that fed the Novi squad for the remainder of the game. With just two minutes left on the clock in the first, Cislak hauled the ball three yards for a score and a 7-0 lead before Jarrell Woods added a score of his own seven minutes later from the same distance for the 14-0 advantage.

The second quarter was a match of the same. Cislak scored on a scampering 74-yard run with 10:26 left in the first half to add another notch to the scoreboard with a 21-0 lead. Lakeland, however, wasn't about to be deterred on their home turf. The Eagles put up their only touchdowns of the game exactly one minute later, scoring on a long run of 47 yards to cut the Novi lead to 21-7.

"All good defenses look for a shutout," said Kelleppoury. "We challenged our kids but came up a little short on that goal. Goals are set for the kids to take action toward them and our kids did that."

The goal of a shutout may not have been obtained by the Novi Wildcats, but the trip to the endzone would prove the last for the Lakeland Eagles. Novi turned up the heat and broke loose following their opponent's score. Woods was the next to bolt into the endzone, sprinting in from 23 yards away to end the half with a 27-7 lead over the Eagles.

The second half was even more brutal than the first. The Eagles could only chase Cislak after he broke loose on a 68-yard scoring run with 7:12 remaining in the third. Pat Sijan hit the extra point, his fourth on the night, to extend Novi's advantage to 34-7.

David Carnegie followed up the long run just four minutes later with a 63-yard run of his own to put his squad up 41-7. "The defense didn't want to be left out and indeed a score of their own. Kyle Safford picked off an errant Eagle pass and returned it 35 yards for the score and the 48-7 lead in the fourth quarter.



ABOVE: With the ball tucked under his left arm, Novi QB Kevin Cislak leaps away from a Howell Highlander during the Wildcats' home game against their Livingston County opponent. BELOW: Novi's Chris Dalton, left, is just a little late to prevent this reception by a Howell Highlander.

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Novi earns big win

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

How does one spell perfection? How about W-I-L-D-C-A-T-S? The Novi Wildcats girls' cross country team made short work of their foes when they took on and defeated the Howell Highlanders with a perfect score of 15-8.

Novi took the top five spots to earn the perfect finish.

"The meet was under very hot and humid conditions at the ever tough Cass Benton course," said Novi coach Norm Norgren.

The Wildcats were led by the senior speed of Patti Ramos, who took first in the meet with a time of 20:47. Taking second was Laura Brunner with a 21:16 while Meghan Bannatz took third in 21:25 and Katie Shannon took fourth with a 21:34. Running out the top five was Erica Howard, running the course in 21:40.

Less than a minute separated the Wildcats top runner from the fifth. Even less separated the fifth runner and the 10th. Taking seventh for the Wildcats was Emmi Haynes with a time of 22:13 while Lainey Sekulski notched a time of 22:25 which was good for eighth place. In ninth was Lauren Perlin with a 22:31 and Lauren Kava finished 10th with a 22:32.

Novi had a strong showing despite not having some of their pack.

"We still are missing Melaine Buchard, Madalyn Kaitz, Rachael Barris and Shannon Wagner because of illness or injury," said Norgren.

Novi is currently 2-0 in the Kensington Valley Conference.

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



Submitted Photo
Novi's girls' cross country team takes out ahead of the pack at the Walled Lake Western Invitational recently. From left to right: Lauren Kava, Lauren Perlin, Patti Ramos, Laura Brunner and Meghan Bannatz.

Wishes do come true now and then

Sitting down with Ernie Harwell to lunch is like blowing out the birthday candles on your cake and finding out your wish will come true.

Growing up, every kid has someone or something that influences them. For many, it's their parents, or a close family friend. For others, it's something they've read in a book or television.

For others, it was a Southern drawl over the radio waves when the Detroit Tigers would take to the field.

Hearing Harwell's voice is a moment of instant recognition. It takes you back immediately and makes you want to spend countless hours with a summer breeze blowing through your window while you constantly adjust the antenna on your radio to keep the game coming in.

Shaking his hand is even more magical than that.

Recently myself and the Novi News education reporter, Ramez Khuri, had lunch with Harwell and enjoyed some time together. We met him at his home in Novi and sat down to a full lunch. The food was great, but it was bland compared to the enjoyment of actually being around a member of the Baseball Hall of Fame and one of my idols.

His memory, to this day, is as crisp as a cold morning in the Upper Peninsula. He recalls things at a moment's notice. He told a couple of stories, but most of the time he was genuinely interested in Ramez's and my life. Harwell asked about our families, where we live, what our career plans are and about our home towns.

I can honestly say that never did I expect a meeting with one of my idols to work in such a fashion. I expected to be speechless, but Harwell was extremely easy to speak with. I expected to be awestruck, but I felt more like I was around my grandfather than a celebrity. I expected to be overshadowed by his life and experiences, but he put me in the spotlight instead. He even wished me luck in my hopes of eventually leaving the world of journalism for other endeavors. He signed a baseball for me, for Ramez, my grandfather and for another coworker, Billy Fraser. I was impressed with Ernie Harwell. I always have been and I will most definitely always will be.

I don't believe I've ever had an experience quite like my lunch with Harwell. It was interesting, it was memorable and it was like a dream come true.

It was also a surprise, that's for certain. Ernie Harwell was nothing like I expected him to be. Instead, he was so much more. I will never be able to say enough about him, or his career, or how much he has influenced me to push myself to be the best representative in the world of sports that I can be.

I do hope to repeat my lunch with Ernie Harwell and I hope to bring my wife to my next encounter with him. It's not every day I get to shake the hands of someone I've always looked up to, so when it happens it takes a special place in my memory and in my heart.

I can only hope that if, and when, I get the chance to meet the other influences in my life the events are as pleasurable and memorable as my lunch with Harwell.

Thanks, Ernie, for the great time. I look forward to our next meeting.

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



Sam Eggleston

Wildcats earn top spot at MSU

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi boys' cross country team started the season off with a gut feeling — they knew they had a special team with some special ability.

Last week, they proved it.

The Wildcats, led by coach Robert Smith, took first place at the Michigan State University Spartan Invitational in East Lansing. The squad earned 87 points to take the top position while Kensington Valley Conference rival Pinckney took second with 105. Finishing in third was Traverses City Central, scoring 180 points.

The finish was impressive, especially considering the field consisted of 27 teams, some of which finished from as far away as Ohio.

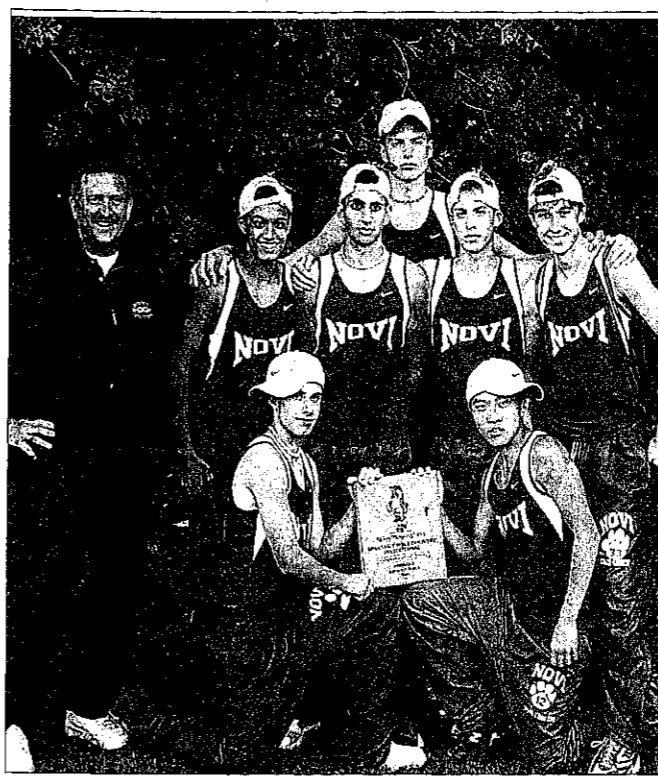
Mark Moore, a senior hurdler, finished as the top Wildcat in the race. He came across the line third overall in the race with Arrol Huprikar finishing 10th overall. Justin Namm came across the line in 17th place and Kip Miller took 20th overall. Spencer Ornes had a nice showing in the extremely competitive field, finishing in 37.

The course was extremely flat, giving the Wildcats a glimpse of the style of course they will run in the state finals this season. Due to it being so fast and flat, numerous 'Cats set personal-best times with their runs.

Earlier in the week, Novi topped Howell in dual meet action. The final tally was 21-37.

Taking first was Moore, while Huprikar finished just behind him in second place. Howell managed to take third and fourth, while Namm and Ornes took fifth and sixth and Miller was seventh.

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Submitted Photo

The Novi boys' cuntry team dons the hats of champions as they hoist the plaques given to them as the best team at the Michigan State University Spartan Invitational Cross Country Meet. The meet features some of the top teams in the state as well as some from Ohio.



Wildcats earn tie with top team in Michigan

Continued from B1

Klimes agreed, saying so much action was happening in front of the net that he couldn't see the play clearly.

"That, however, wasn't the only bullet dodged by the Mustangs, who are ranked first in the state by the coaches' association. The Wildcats had a penalty kick in the first half that sailed wide to the groan of many Novi faithful in the stands.

"The soccer gods were looking out for us on that kick," said Klimes.

Northville had their chances too, getting five solid shots on goal throughout the night. James Hannah, however, was held without an official shot on goal.

"I was very happy with how Trey (Lowe) played against him," said O'Leary. "To keep one of the best, if not the best, soccer players in the state from getting a shot on goal is huge."

Novi was ranked fifth in the state last week, but suffered a loss against South Lyon just two days before tying Northville.

Both the Wildcats and the Mustangs are in the same district tournament at the end of the year and the chance for these two teams to meet again is a strong one.

"Novi is a good, solid team," said Klimes. "We didn't play as well as we would have liked, but maybe we'll see each other again."

shots on goal and scored three times while Novi had 15 shots on goal but only tallied one.

The Lions were the first to get on the board, scoring on a nice crossing play before Novi was able to tie the game. Matt Simpson raced in and stole a pass from a South Lyon defender back to the goalie. Simpson intercepted the pass and fired it into an empty net for the 1-1 tie heading into the half.

In the second, South Lyon took control.

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"They scored halfway through a scramble in front of our goal," said O'Leary.

For the next 12 minutes, Novi pressured their KVC rivals but couldn't score. Then, late in the game, South Lyon was awarded a penalty kick when one of their forwards was tripped in the penalty box. The kick was good and sealed the game at 3-1.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Matt Simpson bumps into a Howell goal keeper during a close play at the net during a late August match at Novi.

South Lyon 3, Novi 1

The Novi Wildcats and the South Lyon Lions knew this game wasn't going to be easier for either side of the ball — they didn't disappoint each other.

But, for only the second time in four years, the Lions were the ones who ended up on top.

"It was a well-played, hard-fought game," said O'Leary. "The difference was that South Lyon capitalized on their chances and we didn't."

South Lyon had just seven

Novi's A.J. Glubzinski minds net for the Wildcats.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

UNDERCLASSMAN SCORES

Freshmen basketball
The Wildcats beat Walled Lake Central Sept. 7, 50-24. The Wildcats were led by Lauren Farley with eight points and Paige Janor with seven points.

The team beat Walled Lake Western Sept. 9, 29-16. Top scorers were Christina Bagdon with five points and Hayley Miller, Katie Chalkos and Paula Cynar all with four points each.

led by Taylor Graybiel with nine points, Melissa Gasiorock with eight and James Fratto with seven.

Junior Varsity tennis
Novi topped Pinckney, 8-0 Sept. 8. Kellie Wallen and Anna Yamaguchi, both freshmen, had very good outings playing fourth and third singles, respectively.

Junior Varsity football
The Wildcats earned a victory over a tough Pinckney squad, edging the Pirates 28-27 Sept. 2.

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Mustangs now 4-0

By Sam Eggleston
RECORDS SPORTS WRITER

For the first time since 1990, the Northville Mustangs football team is standing proud with a 4-0 record.

The Mustangs pounded out a 27-13 victory over the Livonia Franklin Friaroes last Friday.

"Give Franklin credit," head coach Clint Alexander said. "They definitely played us hard. They brought out some formations we hadn't seen yet and it took us a little while to adjust to it."

The Patriots definitely did their homework. Frankie's defensive scheme included intentionally open gaps on their defensive front. When Northville added to run toward those holes, Frankie's defense automatically blitzed those spots.

The Mustangs were corralled for a good while — until Alexander's spread offense got untracked.

"They did a good job of stopping what they wanted to stop," he said. "We just changed what we were running. If they plugged up the inside, we went outside. If they stopped us outside, we went inside."

It worked. But it took some time.

The Mustangs led 6-0 at the half, earning their lead on dual 27-yard field goals by Evan Corbett.

But Franklin took the opening kickoff of the second half and marched down the field for a touchdown. But a failed extra point left the game tied at 6-6.

"They came out ready to play," Alexander said. "They were excited. We weren't. All week long all our kids heard about was Canton, Canton, Canton. They weren't ready for this game."

A tied score and a ticking game clock got their attention.

In the third quarter, Northville took the lead when junior quarterback Charlie Thomas handed the football into the endzone

from one yard out on a quarterback sneak. Senior Mae Silber, the conference's top rusher, traveled into the endzone on punts of 55 and seven yards in the fourth quarter.

Franklin added their final score in the late minutes of the game to put up the final of 27-13.

"Some people probably think we started substituting earlier than we should have," Alexander said. "We were leading 27-6 and at that point it's not too early to start substituting players."

Alexander said Frankie's unique defense is something the Mustangs should expect to see the rest of the season.

"I told them we're going to see a different kind of home-brewed defense designed to stop us every week," he said. "Everyone is going to try to find the right combination to stop this offense."

Next, it's Plymouth Canton's turn. Northville visits the undefeated (4-0) Chiefs tomorrow night. Game time is 7 p.m.

This season, Canton has allowed just 12 points while scoring a league-leading 158 points. Northville has scored 151 points and allowed 91. The winner of tomorrow night's game will be in the driver's seat for the Western Division title.

"The difference between our team and all those other teams is the other teams were beat before they even got on the field," Alexander said. "You could see that most of the kids wanted to just get on the bus and go back home. We're not going out to a touchdown. But a failed extra point left the game tied at 6-6."

"They came out ready to play," Alexander said. "They were excited. We weren't. All week long all our kids heard about was Canton, Canton, Canton. They weren't ready for this game."

It's going to be a big game," said Alexander. "I expect around 8,000 people."

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Mustang head football coach Clint Alexander draws up battle plans for his troops. The 4-0 Mustangs face undefeated Plymouth-Canton tomorrow night.

Belief is key in beating Canton

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

History is riddled with underdogs, improbable victors who found a way. David v. Goliath, Northwestern v. Michigan.

For the underdog Northville Mustangs, a similar fate looms. But first the big question: Can they step up and continue an undefeated season by defeating the Canton Chiefs tomorrow night?

"They are by far the toughest one we've played so far," said Northville head coach Clint Alexander. "I think we're going to be a tough match-up for them too. We can say they are our toughest opponent, but I like to think we're going to be able to beat them."

The Mustangs and Chiefs attack differently. Northville employs a "spread" offense, mostly runs the ball straight ahead. Alexander calls that style "find 'em and grind 'em."

Either way, the game promises to be an epic showdown between

the two top teams in the Western Lakes Athletics Association's Western Division. The teams might even be the best in the entire conference.

"We're going to have to have a great effort," said Alexander. "Hopefully we can get them frustrated with our offensive and defensive lines."

Alexander said the Chiefs have some of the conference's best athletes. They run and throw well, have great defensive ability and don't often make mistakes, he said.

"They have all the things you'd want from a team to be successful," he said.

Northville has plenty of weapons too. They'll bring the conference's second-highest scoring offense behind Canton and a gritty defense which has improved with each game.

"I'm not saying we have the best athletes in the state, but we have kids that care about each other as much, if not more, than any team in the state," said

Alexander. "If our kids step up like I expect them to it's going to be a great game."

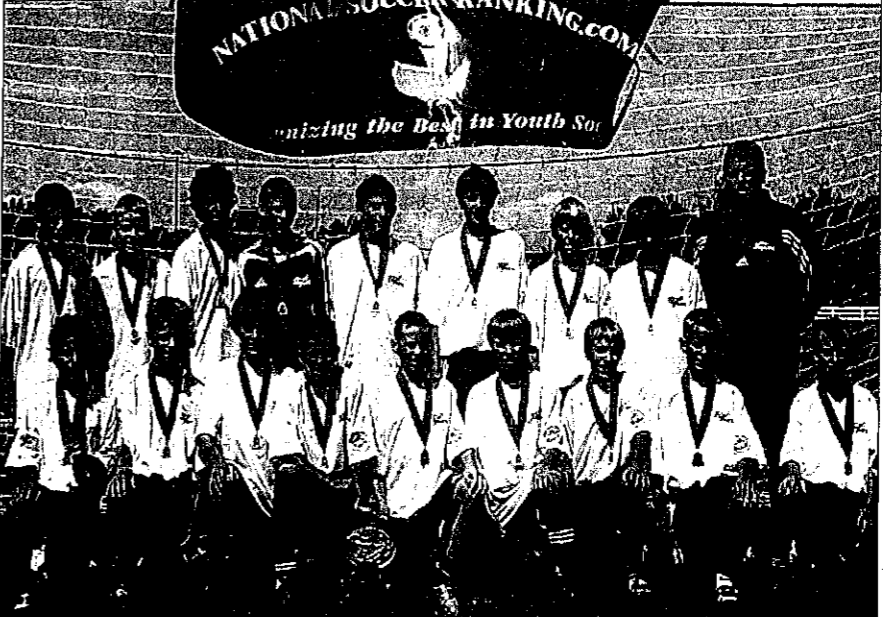
Last year Alexander thought his team had what it took to beat the three-peat conference champions. But he was disappointed when things got rolling.

"Last year I was 100 percent sure we had what it took to beat Canton," he said. "When we got on the field I realized the kids weren't so sure. They didn't believe they could do it. I ended up hurt, a little devastated and maybe a little sour. The kids just had to believe in themselves."

This year he thinks they do. He thinks the Mustangs have what it takes to defeat an undefeated Canton team.

"If we go out and play our game we can do it," he said. "I don't think Canton is unbeatable. They're good, but so are we. It should be a great game."

"I believe in this team and I believe we can win. It's not going to be easy, but I believe."



Submitted Photo

Finalists
The U13 Novi Jaguar Boys Green team were Finalists in the 2004 National Soccer Ranking Cup in Saginaw Aug. 15. They played teams from Maryland, Colorado, Illinois and Michigan. Back Row: Chris Slack, Nick Bowser, Jordan Jabbari, Ricky Enright, Anthony Capatina, Craig Demshuk, Max McHugh, David Hammond and Paul Tinnion (head coach). Front Row: Eric Weberman, Doug McGinn, Kevin Zak, Brandon Cameron, Nick Lewin, Kyle Bamback, Brett Kuhn, Andrew Lumley, and Geoffrey Glesse. Cole Borland and Brian Tinnion, Assistant Coach were not present.

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Thursday, September 23, 2004

New law will speed check processing

A new law that's expected to dramatically speed up the processing of checks has got a lot of people talking.

Effective Oct. 28, Check 21—the Check Clearing for the 21st Century Act—is hailed by some as a kind of super-legislation that will bring the nation's check payment system into the digital age. Others, consumer advocate groups mainly, believe that certain aspects of the law are not consumer friendly.



Mary Davis

Both camps agree that Check 21 paves the way for financial institutions to convert paper checks to electronic files, reducing the time it takes for checks to clear. Out-of-state checks that used to take three or four days to clear could clear in a matter of hours.

The new law doesn't mandate banks and credit unions process checks electronically; rather it eliminates the red tape involved in setting up an electronic check clearing system.

Under the new law a digital image of a check is taken, which can then be presented to the originating financial institution as a substitute for the original paper check. Once the digital image of the check is created, the financial institution can retain or destroy the original check. Those institutions that do not wish to receive checks in an electronic format can request a substitute check—a paper copy of the electronic image of the original check. The substitute check is the legal equivalent of the original paid check.

Proponents of the law, including Congressman Harold Ford (D-Tenn.) and Rep. Melissa Hart (R-Penn.) who co-sponsored the legislation, say the law will protect the financial sector against disruptions caused by terrorist attacks or natural disaster. They further contend that consumers will benefit from better and faster financial services as a result of more efficiency in the way financial institutions conduct their back-office operations.

Among the strongest opponents of the law are Consumer's Union (the nonprofit publisher of Consumer Reports) and the Consumer Federation of America (CFA). They say Check 21 takes away the ability of consumers to receive their original paper checks, and increases the potential for consumers to bounce checks.

Consumers Union and CFA are so fired up about these issues that they have launched an online petition to put pressure on banks to adopt a set of consumer friendly policies for the new law. Consumers can sign the online petition in support of the reforms at <http://eu.convio.net/site/PageServer?pagename=Petitionthebanks>.

They've also crafted a letter to bank CEOs urging them to adopt seven consumer friendly policies to mitigate the potentially negative effects of Check 21. You can read the letter in its entirety at http://www.consumersunion.org/pub/core_financial_services/001317.html.

How Check 21 law will affect consumers remains to be seen. It will be some time before electronic processing of checks is widely practiced by all financial institutions. In the mean time, there's no better time than the present to take a look at how we manage our finances. Whether it's relying too much on the float—the grace period between when a check is written and when it clears; or clinging to an antiquated way of doing our bookkeeping—with our cancelled checks. Here are some other financial management guidelines to consider.

- Don't write a check if there aren't enough funds in your account to pay the check. If you have to pay a bill, borrow the money from a family member or friend with the understanding you'll pay them back when your deposit gets posted.

- Have your paycheck direct deposited. Direct-deposited funds clear automatically. You can write checks right away without concern that your paycheck funds haven't been credited.

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



Photos by DUANE RAMSEY

Gary Whittaker stands at the new sign for Three Cedars Farm with two of his three grandchildren, his grandson Carson in his arm and granddaughter Abbie at his side.

Three Cedars Farm offers family fun Corn maze, goat yard new attractions this year

By Duane Ramsey
SPECIAL WRITER

It's approaching that time of year when people will be visiting Three Cedars Farm to experience traditional fall activities such as bonfires, hayrides or picking pumpkins. This year, there's a new attraction at the farm, a 7-acre corn maze to challenge visitors.

Folks will have the opportunity to take a hayride out to the corn maze and experience the latest craze in fall fun for the family. The maze will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday or on weekdays by appointment.

"It's so nice to see families come out, enjoy themselves and come back year after year," said Gary Whittaker, proprietor of the family business.

Three Cedars Farm is located on Six Mile Road in Salem Township, just west of Northville and south of South Lyon. Whittaker said they have people coming from all across southeast Michigan to have fun on the farm.

"It started out as a hobby and has become a full-time family business," said Gary. "It took a lot of work but it's also been a lot of fun."

People can take hayrides out to the corn maze and "you pick" pumpkin patch, or they can hold bonfires at night on the farm. The well-known hayride driver is none other than "Hillbilly" Joe Hoskins from nearby South Lyon.

"Another new feature this year will be the goat yard with live goats displayed," said Sherry, who was putting the finishing

touches on the pumpkin hut.

Three Cedars Farm will sell Christmas trees this year, beginning the Friday after Thanksgiving. The upper level of the barn will be transformed into Santa's Wonderland with a variety of holiday light displays.

The family will donate proceeds from the country store sales to charitable organization, Active Faith, in South Lyon, according to Gary. His family believes in giving back to the community.

Three Cedars Farm sells mums, pumpkins, corn stalks and straw. A locally-famous farmer, Ray Bulmon, does all the planting but Gary said he's learning about farming.

Gary and his wife Sherry purchased the 51-acre farm seven years ago from Fred Verran and Sons. Gary met and became close friends with Fred who became a father figure to him. The Verrans had operated a dairy farm there until 1965, Gary said.

After Fred passed away about 10 years ago, his two sons agreed to sell the farm to the Whittakers, who now live on the property and operate Three Cedars Farm. They kept the name "Fred Verran and Sons" on the barn in recognition of the original owners.

The Whittakers completely remodeled the original farmhouse and restored the 100-year-old barn to preserve a historical representation of times past.

The barn includes an old-time barber shop and general store with authentic displays and antique furnishings. It is open by appointment for tours by church or school groups to enjoy the farm environment.

The upper level of the barn was rebuilt for their daughter's wedding and later their son was married there. It has been used for parties, square dancing and for other people who wanted to have weddings there, according to Gary.

Three Cedars Farm has been a family project for the Whittakers. All three of their married children, daughters Jamie and Carrie with son Travis, are involved in the enterprise. Travis operates the Three Cedars Landscaping business.

Despite the amount of time it takes to run the farm, it is not Gary's primary occupation. He works for Industrial Packaging in Detroit, which provides packaging materials for the automotive industry.

DETAILS

Three Cedars Farm
7897 Six Mile Road
in Salem Township
(248) 437-8200
Open Monday through Sunday
10 a.m. to Dusk

Gary said he enjoys working on Three Cedars Farm more than he ever anticipated he would. He now looks forward to giving up his "day job" some day and retiring on the farm that his family shares with the community.



The pumpkin display and hut at Three Cedars Farm are pictured with the original barn in the background.

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