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Thursday, December 30, 2004

hometownlife.com Novi, Michigan

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Year in Review

Take a look at our picks for the year's top 10 stories (plus a few others) as well as our Newsmaker of the Year.

- Page 8-10A The city has now whittled down

Council

proposals next

Choosing the right engineering

consultant firms in a boom city like Novi is an important task since the city spends a lot of money for roadway- and utility-

requests

By Pam Fleming

the list of prospective firms to seven for a two-year period end projects, 13 2006.

In an effort to streamline the

selection process, the engineering division used a process similar to the one used for special assess-ment districts in the city.

ment districts in the city.

The city requested qualifications from more than 30 area
engineering firms with responses due by Dec. 9. A review team
of staff from the engineering
division and Department of
Public Works reviewed the

responses.
Twelve firms responded for

Engineering firms down to

city council for both utility-relat city council for both utility-related and roadway-related projects in the city included Orehard Hiltz. & McCliment, Wade Trita, Fishbeck Thompson Carr & Huber, Anderson Eckstein & Westrick, JCK & Associates, URS Corporation and Professional Engineering

Associates. Firms eliminated from the lists included Ayres Lewis Norris & May, Giffels-Webster, May,

Midwestern Consulting, Tetra Tech MPS, Superior Engineering, Boss Engineering, Sigma and Northwestern Consultants,

Requests for proposals will be sent to each of the seven firms to solicit fee proposals for specific projects. A recommendation to award

the engineering consultant con-tract will appear on a future city council agenda. Firms were evaluated on the

following criteria;
• firm's history and current resource capability to perform required services;

· evaluation of assigned person-

related experience

familiarity with local area;
 ability to relate to project requirements; and
 analysis of subjective state.

 analysis of subjective statements applicable to the project as required on the request for qualifications.

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.

INSIDE

Get to the Pointe

Oak Pointe Church will be crossing Base Line Road soon,



as it moves its home from Northville High School to Novi High School. According to Senior Pastor Bob

Shirock, the church has grown from 60 people to about 1,800 in its eight years. He described it as a contemporary but casual kind of Christian Church.

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OBITUARIES

Frazer W. Staman, 100 Patti E. Markle, 77 Cornelia L. Flanigan, 95

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48375-301 윤

--- Page 6A

A 'Village' for two new businesses Boutique, over her brown eyes and long hair laying like black sifk, Freda Ansara talked cycbrows on Blush Boutique's phone last Beanery open

"Trim, wax and tweeze: we do all of the above," Ansara told a potential customer. "We're the eyebrow experts.'

With years of professional credit, the confident Novi native offers this skill, along with makeup and skin care expertise,

makeup and skin care expertise, at her new beauty studio.
"What I'm trying to do is bring something new to the area," Ansara said. "We're more towards the practical-funky."
Opening on Dec. 7, her 25th birthday, Ansara said her goal is twofold: matching the right corducts and colors and leach-

Two locals have infused fashion and caffeine into Novi's Gateway Village: Blush Boutique and the Coffee Run by connoisseurs, both the new shops are finding their niche in a quickly-filling plaza on Grand River Avenue. products and colors and teach-

ing clients how to use them.
"I can do it on anyone, and I will show you how," Ansara said. "I'm friendly. You're not Faces, and more, by Freda Golden sweeps of shadow intimidated. It's hard to find that

Freda Ansara puts a little lip liner on Janel Calke at their Novi Gateway Village Blush Boutique and Beauty Studio

in (the) industry."
Blush's specialty is Paint cosmetics, with Bare Escentuals/
Bare Minerals on the way.

Bare Minerals on the way.

She stocks Ojon products for hair care, Yu-Be medicated cream and natural Succulent Sundays body butters.

Blush also is stocked with

designer jewelry and purses, featuring Glenda Gies' vintage-material handbags.
"I'm just known in the industry," Ansara said. "This is exact-

ly what I wanted to do ever since I was a little girl. I played with my mom's makeup every day since I was a 3-year-old. It

A licensed aesthetician, her makeup experience ranges from Marshall Field's and Neiman Marcus customers to Venus Swimwear and Playboy models.

continued on page 3

Construction coming soon

By Kim Kovelle

Though it may be years down the road, Gateway Village is one business area poised for impact when construction comes to Grand River Avenue.

The eventual work will widen the corridor from two to five lanes between Novi and Haggerty roads. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-

Livonia) recently secured \$500,000 in federal funds, which

Approved Nov. 20, funds were included in the U.S. Congress' consolidated appropriation act for 2005.

continued on page 3

Camp alive

Extra cost doesn't faze students' parents

8y Ramez Khuri

Unless they have been watching Novi school board meetings on tel-evision and keeping up with cur-rent events, fifth graders at Novi Meadows who experienced the Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center Camp two weeks ago prob-ably didn't know that they almost

weren't able to go this year.

The camp, which has been around for almost 30 years for Meadows students, was placed on a list of items to be cut from the distinction. trict's budget two years ago because some in the district felt that it had no impact on curriculum. The

assessing its financial situation at the of a shortfall in cash. many other programs and services were put on that list as

G. Hurst

Camp Coordinator Gary Hurst-said he believed that there would be for the camp, which would essentially eliminate the whole program. However, according to Hurst, the board said that it never intended for

camp to be cut.
"I don't understand how the school board said there would not be funding because it was on the

list for it to be cut," said Hust, a fifth grade teacher at Meadows. "I'm not sure what their view-point was and where they felt the point was and where they felt the funding was going to be coming from if they weren't going to fund it. We didn't know at the begin-ning of the year if there would be camp or not. My understanding was that there would not be," Hurst added.

continued on page 7

Novi teacher travels globe to help children in need

■ Payne fights to adopt Russian youths

Gateway

By Kim Kovelle

Village

Beanery Cafe

By Ramez Khuri

As a teacher at Novi Meadows

for the past five years, Jody Payne has been well liked by his colleagues and the students he teaches. He has always had a passion to teach kids and to watch them grow - not just in Novi, but halfway around the

For six weeks during July and August, he left the comfortable confines of the Novi Community

School District and made his way to Svir Stroy Children's Home, in the Leningrad region of Russia, to spread his love and teachings to orphaned children. He said he fell much in love with the kids that try to adopt three of them to raise as his own.

continued on page 2



Nastya, Jody Payne and Sergel pictured during Payne's recent trip to Svir Stroy Children's Home in Russia when he volunteered in the orphanage for the summer. Payne brought five laptop computers for kids to use.



Green Sheet Classifieds



continued from front page

Life in the orphanage

Thus began a tedious, ngoing process that Payne is still striving to complete. Payne usually teaches summer school. While surfing the Internet one day, he happened upon an article written by some-one who went to this Russian orphanage. It explained what life to a small town, then took a city

with them and volunteered any-way.

During the winter before he was scheduled to go, however, the building's boiler went out. Psyne told a story of how he building's boiler went out. Permeasure disperses below zero, so the kids and to be evacuated from the roach crawling across the meat orphanage to five in a mearby that had been faid out for dinner

public school

"Of course, the kids alt courseled repatitis A." Payne said.
"They were quarantined, so I myself. What's wrong with me?" couldn't go. The following winter, bowever, they contacted me and tasked if I was still willing to do this. I thought about a and did it.

Payne explained that there were

"Teliah" khow if if was alt right because I don't speak Russian, but they said if was not a problem they said if was not a problem there's a translator there."

The person in charge of the summer program convinced Payne to show the kids at the summary and the kids went swimper program convinced the person in charge of the summer program convinced Payne to show the kids at the configuration of the person in charge in the configuration of the person in charge in the person in the person in charge in the person in the person in the person in the person in orphanage that people will come - who knows what else was in that

from all around the world because - river. If I was going to get it. I was

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they care so much about them. He told the children that caring people will be spending six weeks living in their orphanage, eating with them, teaching them and playing

and C shots, I took a tetanus shot, diphtheria and many other things. I figured, 'If they can live through Most of these kids have never had anyone care about them," it. I can live through it. Payne said. "I got cold feet before his mouth shut when he went through the water. The kids, howwe went, but I knew that if I didn't like it I could always come back. I did like it, though. There wasn't a ever were spitting water at each single minute I was there that I didn't want to come back."

other and laughing.
"I went for six weeks and never got sick at all," Payne said. Payne's journey

The process of Besides Payne, two college students and a retired nun volun teered. The group first flew into Moscow, took a 12-hour train ride

Payne said that he had to keen

By the time he returned home, Payne had bonded with three of is like at the opplianage and how most children there have no hope of lying a conitoriable life. Payine path that went through a forest to Misha, Lyosha and Sergei. He Payne also found a charity online with a summer program at the orphanage flaving never been the Russia and an even speaking the language, be got a contract when voice those and so the could get for them wouldn't the language, be got a contract when voice those and so the flaving never bears when voice those and so the flaving flaving never bears and so the flaving loved new toys and sports equip-ment, but in the end, they go back to their same dead-end lives.

Payne decided to do that him- without an adoption agency. There

Payne decided to do that himself, so he and the translator have
spent the last four months trying
to adopt the three kids.
"He's helping me as much as he
can," Payne said. "I've spent a lot
of time researching how the whole
process works. I've got all the
paperwork finished, had to get it
notarized and apostilled, translate
di into Russion, and praizied in ed into Russian, and notarized in children. He called every adoption Russia. I received approval from agency accredited by the Russian the U.S. government to adopt, government, but found that none of

With all the paperwork finished, an application submitted and U.S. government approval to adopt through the United States Citizenship and Immigration
Services, which used to be the
Immigration and Naturalization
Service, one would think it would the Rus he smooth sailing. Unfortunately for Payne, that is far from the truth.

"At this point we are ready to

The interpreter said that the only thing Payne could do to really help was to get them out of the orphanage. He explained that the only alternative was to find people who were willing to adopt the children.

Payne decided to do that him.

Payne decided to do that him.

Payne decided to do that him. couple weeks ago to finalize the paperwork and see if he could get a meeting with the Ministry, but to "Russian officials do not like to

work with people who are adopt-ing without an agency for many reasons, some legitimate and some not so legitimate," Payne said They see me as someone who is choosing not to work with an agency. Unfortunately, no one seems to realize that I actually agency accredited by the Russian government, but found that none of them would work with him. He want to help these kids, make them part of a loving family and give them a real opportunity in life "I know some people who have

children were in a rural orphanage where few agencies worked (strike two); and he is a single man (strike and I've contacted them to see if they can help. There are many roadblocks I'm running into, but I'll keep trying." at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by

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had already identified the children

he wanted to adopt (strike one);the

"I've had little success cracking the Russian end of the process,"

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COFFEE BEANERY CAFE

· What: Returning to Novi. the beanery features cappucci-no, mocha, espresso, latte and signature blends, plus a full cafe menu with wraps, soups

and sandwiches • Where: 41460 Grand River Ave., east corner shop in the

Gateway Village plaza, between Haggerty and Meadowbrook • Hours: 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday; 8 a.m.-8 p.m.,

• Contact: (248) 348-0294 adopted kids from other countries

BLUSH BOUTIQUE

· What: Make up artist and skincare specialist Freda Ansara opened her first beauty studio that features Paint cosmetics, exclusive skincare products, purses and lewelry. On-site facials and waxing also

. Where: 41460 Grand River Ave., Gateway Village plaza. between Haggety and Meadowbrook roads.

Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday

• Coming up: A grand opening Jan. 15 and an appearance at the Novi Expo Center's April 29-May 2 International

. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

• Contact: (248) 349-9000

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on 1/20/05 at 3:30 p.m. the following will be sold by competitive bidding at Estate Storage

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(Space No. 283) Curtis Smith C/C Truly Corp 1 Shelf. 6 Boxes. 4 Other/Misc

6 Shelf, 25 Boxes

(Space No. 434) Susan MC Parland Clothing, 8 Boxes, 2 Chair: Kitchen, 10 Other/Misc

■ Boutique, Beanery open in Novi's

continued from front page

and a gold-trimmed mirror that hung in her father's jewelry store when it opened 32 years ago. Friend Janel Calka, 25, met

counter. She's now working at Blush.
"Freda taught me pretty much what to wear and how to wear it,"

Facials and body waxing are performed by in-house aesthetician Nancy Pollock.

Beanery's back Home realtor Isa Mehrjoo decided that it was high time for a Coffee Beanery Cale to come

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back to Novi "One used to be in Twelve Oaks Mall until three years ago," Mehrjoo said, "Everybody was calling Coffee Beanery corporate

Gateway Village

Her previous traveling endeavor was called "Faces by Freda." While working at Todd's Room Birmingham, Amsara said many of her clients lived in Novi.

Opting for a spot at Gateway, her boutique features several make up tables, custom furniture

Ansara at a Nordstrom cosmetic complete with wraps, soups and sandwiches. Popular soup choices include tomato basil and signature Calka said, "Hove it."

Ansara expects her bookings to fill up fast, but invites anyone to stop by.

"I brought this here for the women on this side of town," she

The thing is caramed mixed with the women on this side of town," she

The thing is caramed mixed with the women on this side of town, "she

The thing is caramed mixed with the women on this side of town," she women on this side of town," she said. "Come on in. Play around, if you have any questions, if the more than happy to help."

The thing is caramel mixed with Half & Half, plus the Bearery you have any questions, if the more than happy to help."

The thing is caramel mixed with Half & Half, plus the Bearery of the coffee. Whipped cream is on the top," The food component has drawn the component has drawn and the afternoon, I am getting my regular customs."

The food component has drawn and the afternoon, I am getting my regular customs."

and asking."

After frequenting the cafe at Dearhorn's Fairlane Mall for years with his wife, Rounak, he made his move to Gateway

Village about a month ago.

"It's a good place to sit down and enjoy the time you have, with your friends and family. That's why I decided to open this one," said Mehrjoo, a Northville resident mocha, espresso, latte and signa-ture blends, Costs are about \$2.60

for a tall, \$2.90 for a grande and \$3.20 for an extra. In addition, a full cafe menu is

Gumbolaya.

An apple cobbler breakfast sandwich, three-cheese bagel and smoked premium ham and eggs also are available.

"We have everything over here "Mohrioo sqid word of the new

A current holiday promotion offers a bag of coffee or free function with a specialty coffee or drink.

The beanery has 15-17 employ-

Novi's Gateway Village The Coffee Beanery owner Isa Mehrajo pours a cup of Joe for a customer on a recent

ees from Novi and Northville.
Alicia Watts, 17, of Northville is one.

Jessica Harrell, a psychologist from Northville, was perched on a plush, tan corner chair recently. It was only her second stop there, but she seemed at home

opened by accident," Harrell said.
"They were really, really nice. I have a 3- and 1-year old. When I can get some quiet, it's nice to get

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.

Construction coming soon continued from front page

tial design and environment reviews, to be followed by

reviews, to be followed by acquiring rights-of-way and, eventually, construction.

"The big question is when," said Craig Bryson, public information officer, Road Commission for Oaksland County. "Once it's in the approved, typical funding process, it's usually a three-year process.

process.
"This is not yet in this stream."
Since the project will cost about \$13 million, the question is whether funding grants will be

to begin in the next two to three years at very best, Bryson said.
Rapid growth between Beck and Novi roads is the reason for widening Grand River, plus the bustling Interstate 96.

"It's part of the Grand River Corridor which we've been working on sort of piece by piece," Bryson said, "This becomes a more and more important route."

Isa Mehrjoo, owner of the newly opened Coffee Beanery Cafe, isn't too concerned.

"It's gonna be good if they want to expand," Mehrjoo said. "It's gonna be more traffic."

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Woman found dead Novi Police are investi-

the death of a 79-year-old No

woman found dead outside of her

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deceased was found on the ground

near her car around 11 a.m. Police

Don't forget: drinking and driving don't mix

■ Plan ahead. call MADD - or pay the price

By Kim Kovelle

Novi's Post Bar is ready to handle the New Year's crowds until 4 a.m. Saturday. Trained servers have eagle eyes for overdrinking clues, and several cabs will wait outside.

"We have a little cab stand in front of our place; there's always generally two-three ABC Cabs," General Manager Frank Gegovie said, "We often tell people, 'Hey, there's great hotels down the road,' I think people are a lot more cautious these days."

Many officials and bar proprietors agree, but accidents still hap-pea. If you'll ring in 2005 with bub-bly, plan ahead for a ride home.

MADD to the rescue

If you end up stranded, Mothers Against Drink Driving has Project LifeRide for its 20th year, offering cab rides by calling (877) 693-6233.

"Bars are participating and

they're posting our information," said Ne chole McClendon, executive director for the Wayne County chapter. "We'll dispatch a cab to that particular location... and give them a safe ride,

Homer Smith, MADD executive director, said drinking typically picks up from 10 p.m.-midnight,

THINKING ABOUT



"If someone is a party host, then they certainly should provide nonal-coholic drinks for those who are designated drivers," Smith said. If someone insists on driving drunk, he said, "You need to do anything you can to take their keys away from them."

For a last line of defense, he said, buckle up: "You can have done everything right... but just never know what happens in the other

Paying the price

Besides shattering lives, there are other prices to pay for driving drunk. Mark Mandell, Northville attorney, has seen both sides.

"The typical case is... disobeying minor traffic ordinances," Mandell said. "So many people think there's ways to get out of it. In my opinion, 97 percent of the time, you're going to be convicted of at least impaired." First time offenders face \$100-\$500 in fines and jail/community

service time.

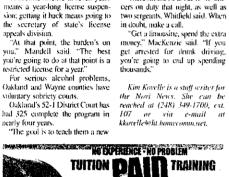
A second offense in seven years means a year-long ficeness uspen-sion; getting it back means going to the secretary of state's ficense appeals division.

"At that point, the burden's on you," Mandell said, "The best

you're going to do at that point is a restricted license for a year."

For serious alcohol problems, Oakland and Wayne counties have voluntary sobriety courts.

nearly four years



AND DRIVE

get re-arrested," Judge Brian MacKenzie said, "An officer can

stop them at any time to test them. Their opportunities to drink are virtually eliminated."

Started about a year ago, Wayne County's 35th District Court program currently has 15 enrolled in four phases.

Novi Sgt. Terry Whitfield said during New Year's 2003, three

"We had no traffic accidents whatsoever," Whitfield said, "Over

the years I've seen steady progress,

(but) it just takes one terrific crash to

kill an entire family."

There should be about 15-45 offi-

drunk driving arrests were made

Be safe out there



Helping Haven Marcia Stevens, property manager of the Novi Senior Housing on Meadowbrook, was part of an effort to stock a Christmas tree with socks and underwear which was donated to HAVEN (Help Against Violent Encounters Now) in Oakland County, a home for abused women and children.

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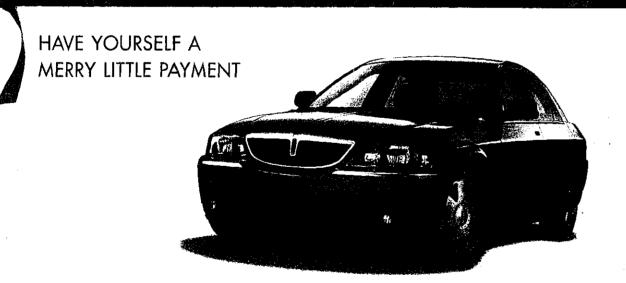
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PUBLIC SAFETY

Weather causes sprinkler leaks

By Ramez Khuri

The Novi Fire Department has been busy investigating nine dif-ferent sprinkler system problems all across the city. The brunt of them happened Dec. 19, as the department received five sepa-

One of the more severe incidents occurred at the Extended StayAmerica Hotel, located at 21555 Haggerty Rd. in Novi. According to Novi Fire Chief

time, we had water damage on all three floors. We evacuated the building, we got an electrical inspector over there and a contractor, and we shut the power

another inspection first the next morning to determine if it was safe to reopen the hotel.

Lenaghan explained that these broblens are occurring because of the weather. He also said they "We can isolate it usually with According to Novi Fire Chief seem to be happening a lot more Art Lenaghan, the hotel called than usual lately, with a lot more water damage to buildings.
"We had that extremely cold

weather, and when the pipes get water leak.

After an investigation, the fire department determined the problem was a broken sprinkler on the third floor. Water had run the word water had run the sprinkler on the third floor. Water had run the word water had sprinkler on the water leaks occur. In some through the structure and into the of these cases, with the sprinkler

electrical room, which caused a systems out, we've had fire potential electrical hazard.
"We shut the building down," Lenaghan said that it is very

Lenaghan said. "In the mean-difficult for b went this kind of problem.
Routine sprinkler inspections
and contractors are sent out to
commercial buildings, but that's "It's very difficult to do any

The fire department scheduled thing else because you can't really shut the sprinklers down, and you can't really drain them," Lenaghan said, "The purpose of

pipes, and these things happen.
"We can isolate it usually with sectional control valves, but if a leak happens, it's a matter of getting somebody out there right away and to know who to call. We'll come and shut it down and put up fire watches in the build-

for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext.

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POLICE REPORT

Shooter takes own life

At approximately 7:35 p.m. on Dec. 26, Wixom Police responded to a report of a shooting in the Bristol Square Apartment Complex. During the subsequent field investigation, the perpetrator was identified and barricaded him-self in his apartment when con-

fronted by police. While barricaded, this man fired numerous shots inside his apartment and refused to surrender to police. Wixom Police, assisted by per-

sonnel of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, negotiated

about 4 a.m. the next morning. At that time, negotiations broke down and the man took his life during police efforts to force him from where he was barricaded He has been identified as a res-

ident of the apartment in which he had barricaded himself. His name is being withheld pending notifica-tion of his family,

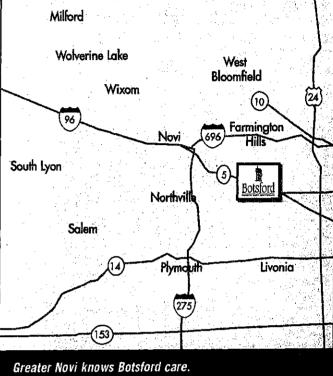
The victim of the initial shooting was taken to Huron Valley Hospital where he was treated for

non life-threatening injuries,

police said.

said it appears that she had been dead for several hours when neighbors noticed and called the At this time, there does not appear be any foul play involved, police said. Detectives are still

ivestigating.



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in treatments and technology, combined with genuine compassion and personal care. In an emergency, it's right around the corner ... but at the heart of Barsford care is a continuum of comprehensive health services committed to keeping you healthy so you won't need emergency care. That's why if you live in greater Novi,

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LIFESTYLES

OBITUARIES



Frazer Warner Staman, 100

Frazer Staman, of Novi, died Dec. 27, 2004. He was born in Farmington on July 5, 1904, to the late Frederick and Henrietta (Westfalf) Staman and was deliv ered by Dr. Frazer Holeumb (his namesake) of Redford. His mid-dle name, Warner, was given him because of his father's great admiration for Goy. Fred Warner

He graduated from Farmington High School in 1923, where he played football and baseball. Frazer still bolds the record for strike-outs. On April 22, 1923, he struck out 20 nen in a game against Dearborn

He began his career in 1924, managing A & P stores in Wayne, Inkster, Farmington and Northville, From 1932-1950s, he worked for his father. Frederick on the Staman Family Farm. The farm was located on the north side of Ten Mile Road, between Power and Orehard Lake roads in Farmington Hills. That prop-erty is now known as Staman Acres Subdivision.

Mr Staman was Novi Township supervisor from 1953-1963 and Oakland County Road Contmissioner from 1963-1975. Of all the Oakland County Road Commissioners, Frazer is the only one to have a garage named only one to have a gaings marked after him. This garage is located on Stevenson Highway. To sup-plement his income, he was also owner of Staman Insurance Co. in Nove, He sold that agency in 1975. He was a member of the -Farmington Masonic Lodge since April 26, 1926, makin the oldest and longest mem-

her of that Lodge. A funeral service will be held ing treatments and surgeries, she

at 14:30 a.m. today at Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., Farmington, Interment will follow at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens Navi

Memorial tributes are sugges ed to Salem United Church of Christ, 33424 Oakland Rd., Farmington, MI 48335. Arrangements were made by Heeney-Sundquist Funeral

her and for her family.

She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Norman Markle, and by their daughters, Nancy (Harry) by their daughters, Namey (Flar Jara of Millord and Linda (William) Dohse of Plymouth, Minn, Her grandchildren, Zachary, Ryan and Holly Jara, and Janessa nd Kimberlee Dobse also survive is does her brother, Jack (Elsie)

Branwell of Beaumont, Texas, two

nieces and one nephew and many

and family meals and outings. She was an avid reader and crossword

puzzler. She waged a courageous

battle against her cancer till the end and trusted in God to care for

continued to enjoy life with her husband and her daughters and their families. She loved spoiling dear friends who join her family in mourning her death and giving thanks to God for her life among her grandchildren, shopping for their birthdays and Christmase Funeral services were held at

Milford Presbytarian Church, Dec. 28, with Rev. John Harris officiating; burial is in Flushing Cemetery. Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society or Angela Hopsice. For further information, please call (248) 684-6645

www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com. Cornelia L. Flanigan, 95

or visit the Web at

Cometia Flanigan died Dec. 22, 2004. She was 95. Survivors include five children, Novi. Online sympathy message may be sent on the Web at Edward (Judy), Richard (Bea), Lois Flanigan, Bonnie (Herb) www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

Washburn and Michael (Susan); 13 grandchildren; several great-grand-children; and two siblings, Vernell Hitt and Iris Shoper.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Mervi; and one daughter, Phyllis (Roger) LeFever. A funeral service was held Dec. 27 at Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville.

Memorials may be made in Connie's memory to Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile Rd., Northville, Mich. 48167 or the Lighthouse Hospice, 24293 Telegraph Rd., Stc. 102, Southfield, MI 48034. Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home.

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as a secretary and administrative assistant for St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Davison i the 1960s and for Dr. Roman of Sioux City, lowa, where the family lived in the 1970s and 1980s. Lat in the 1990s, she and her husba moved back to Michigan to be near family, settling in Wixom and moving more recently to Novi. They traveled to England to research her family history in

Patti E. Markle, 77

Patti E. Markle, of Novi, for-

merly of Wixom, died on Christmas Eve. 2004, in the care of

her family and Angela Hospice.

She was 77 years old.

Born on January 25, 1927, in

Flat, she was the daughter of Jack

and Helen (Redmond) Branwell.

After graduating from Flint Tech High School in 1945, she did sec-retarial work for the Citizens Bank

in Flint where she met and felt in

love with Norman Markle, They

and mother, Mrs. Markle worked

ere married on June 4, 1949, In addition to her duties as wif

Cornwall, and to Hawaii and elsewhere, enjoying a well-earned retirement, Five and a half years ago Mrs. Markle was diagnosed with cancer, and despite the ensu-



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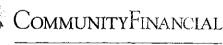
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EDUCATION

Extra cost doesn't faze students' parents

continued from front page

It wasn't until Marianne Malarkey, former camp Co-coordinator and current fifth grade teacher, approached the board that some answers surfaced, She addressed the board and pleaded that they not cut it from the budget, saying that she and Hurst would work with the board to see if there were other ways

The board obliged. Through a series of talks with Meadows Principal Dr. Tim Falls and Novi Community School District Superintendent Dr. Emmett Lippe, a plan was devised to keep the camp in place, with a few modifications.

Restructuring the camp

Falls researched where cuts could be made. He then came back to the board with a plan to reduce the cost to the school board by climinating and shifting some programs within the camp. They were to: · Eliminate one of the coordina-

ters' positions, · Bring in less experienced people to cover the night shift,

• Eliminate one evening presenter

saying that they wanted to help save
Increase the cost to parents for the program, which was very

were able to experience the camp.

"The camp impacts every student that goes through Novi schools," he said. "You always hate losing some of the things that you have. We know the program is not exactly as it

not have the supplies, but, I understand that the program is important and if that's what was needed to be done, I'm glad we did it so that the students can still experience what their older brothers and sisters have experienced."

The changes have made Hurst's

job more difficult, however. He explained that coordinating the camp is a two-person job and losing Malarkey as a Co-coordinator has put a lot more work on him.

"I'm a little disappointed in losing some of the experienced evening coverage, but at the same time, that was a big savings to the district," he said. "We've increased the cost to the parents and that increase will help us cover the cost of supplies, transportation and the remaining

evening presenter. "All those things were covered in the past by the school board. That cost has now been transferred over and that's what the increase in the

cost to the parents is for."

Parents this year were asked to pay \$95 per student for the program, which is up from \$70 in the past. The school board, on the other hand is paying \$67 per student this year, down from \$110 in the past. Hurst, however, said he has not heard any negative feedback from

parents about the increase, Many even told him that they would pay wice what they were paying right now, or pay for all of it so that their kids could experience the camp. "They felt that strongly about it," Hurst said. "Parents were calling us

their children to attend.

Though the plan posed some major changes, Hurst said he was still pleased his current students four more will go out after winter four more will go out after winter break in January. Hurst's and Malarkey's team will go Jan. 3.

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the things that you have. We for the Novi News. He can be know the program is not exactly as it reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. was because we don't have that 110 or by e-mail at was because we don't have that 110 or by e-mail extra speaker at, night, or we may rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net.

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Orchard Hills Toy Drive

Meghan Kwederis, Emily Tomkinson and Michael Hrit, all from Jennifer Smith's kindergarten class at Orchard Hills Elementary, show off the many box loads of toys collected at the school's were asked to bring in new, unwrapped toys to be donated to the Clothes Closet at Holy Family Church to be distributed to families in need. The program is one of several

community service projdoes each year. CITY OF NOVI **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be meeting to interview applicants for appointment to the Beautification Commission, Board of Review, Economic Development Corporation, Election Commission, Housing & Community Development Advisory Committee, Historical Commission, Library Board of Trustees, Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

If you are a qualified voter in the City of Novi and interested in voluntering to serve on the City board of commission, applications are avail-

TO SERVE ON

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Council will be interviewing applicants on Monday, January, 10, 2005, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers; interviews are scheduled for 10 minutes each and all City Council meetings are televised.

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NOVI in the NEWS

In no particular order, these are our picks for the top 10 news stories that appeared in the Novi News in 2004. Some, like "City Council," are compilations of many issues that were faced during the year. Others, like "Novi Expo Center," stand on their own. Be sure to check out Sam Eggleston's 2004 Sports Highlights on page 14. – Cal Stone, editor.

POLICE:

a Alientean history was followed bica 30th anniversary party for Novi's men and women in blue.

By Ramez Khuri

In a year when the Novi Police Department celebrated its 50th anniversary, officers also seized \$4.8 million in drug money in Novi and Northville, promoted two of their lines) to sergean rank, awarded a first medal of honor to retired captain Robert Stames and acknowledged a dispatcher and a detective.

The 50th anniversary celebra-on, which was open to the pubic, was lield on Aug. 28 at police. headquarters. More than 1,000 showed up to honor past and present heroes. A keynote speak-er for the event was Bernard former 40th Commissioner, New York City

sary Novi police badge, Chief Doug Shaeffer, who has Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs - scizure of funds in the history of - sory and management positions



Representatives of local, county and federal governments address the media following seizure of several million dollars at locations in Novi and Northville.

Committee. It serves as the liaicommune, it serves as the ma-son between federal, state and local agencies and is responsible. A packed house saw two for combating crime related to members of Novi's finest proillegal drug production, distribu-

tion and use.

The Novi Police Department received help from the FBL. Drug Enforcement Agency and Keith Wuotinen rose to the rank served as Novi's top law members of several area law of sergeant. The promotions enforcement officer for 13 years, was appointed to the national members of several area law of sergeant. The promotions under that the two detectives made the transition into supervi-

the state - at two locations in in the departmen moted during a special ceremony in December at the Novi Police Department 'fraining Center.

Det. Michael Warren and dis patcher Tracey McDonough shared the limelight as they experienced one of their 15 min-utes of fame. Warren earned the Novi Police Department's 2003 Officer of the Year Award and Det. Victor Lauria and Ofc. McDonough won the 2003 Civilian of the Year Award at the annual departmental awards ceremony.



Photo by PAM FLEMING

tall - but the results will be worth it

Sen. Nancy Cassis (left) and Mayor Lou Csordas (right) onated \$1 million to the Novi Public Library

A \$1 million donation by Charles & Myrtle Walker gives the library a jump start.

Charles and Myrtle Walker, longtime residents of Novi, signed the paperwork in March, making their \$1 million gift to the Novi Public Library official. The gift is to give the library a jump start on building a new

The Walkers have also agreed to match community funding of up to an additional \$1 million

based on the current population, the Novi Library Strategic Planning Task Force proposed

to meet community needs.

• Address short-term, midenn and long-term facility

Businesses, residents and visitors alike felt the impact as the construction season took its

· Ensure that the library

eventually asked to return to for now,

approved a resolution to make a administrators. All but one were

By Ramez Khuri

never dull.

Though the 2004-05 school

year is only about half over, much has happened the past calendar

Most of the changes were posi-

not. But one thing is sure: It was

What staved the same, however,

is the Novi School Board of Education, as incumbents Brace

Bagdady and Julie Abrams

replace longtime superintendent Ernmett Lippe, who plans to retire

at the end of the current school year. He officially announced his

plans in September, Lippe has

been with the district for 13 years

Highlighted by a June 14 vote.

lized in just a few months. An ing both inside and out, priofficial, accord 4,240, vojars, if fully occupied: they passed two millage renewals and expectly of 2,400

the school district's budget situa-tion went from dire straits to stabi-

final review of him in August,

year that has changed Novi

district combat a \$4.3 million deficit. Had they not passed, the district had prepared for many cuts to services and programs.

one new millage to help the school

With the transfer of \$99.5 mil-The board of education proved a resolution to make a commendation to layoff live December, school districts across the state heaved a sigh of relief -

SCHOOLS: Voters approved two millage requests while the district began searching for a new superintendent.

retained their seats on the board during the June [4 school election.] Michigan might not have to worry about taking the MEAP test after. The district began looking to

On Nov. 2. Novi resident flocked to precincts to vote on the

presidency and two proposals

Proposal I passed, which could mean a possible reduction of roughly \$600,000 from the dis-

In January, the board of educa tion passed a proposal that made it mandatory for all students to take the Michigan Educational

Assessment Program test in order

to graduate, starting this school year. But it looks as though high

school students throughout

about taking the MEAP test after all because Senate Bills 1153-1157 contain provisions that will

change the test to the Michigan

Merit Exam.

Though all school buildings in the Novi Community School

District were renovated, some

with major work and some not so major, one of the higgest con-

struction projects was at Novi

High School. A new wing was

added and numerous apprades were made to the existing build-

Fully occupied; the mass und

improved Novi Highscan hold capacity of 2,400 students

Parking around the school was

trict's budget.



Ground was broke as Blair Bowman moved ahead with plans to open a

By Pam Fleming

Owners broke ground on a new Road in June, with the facility to

The new center, whose name has yet to be determined, will replace the Novi Expo Center on Novi Road south of 1-96.

Developer Blair Rowman, managing partner of TBON L.L.C.. the company that will oversee the center, said the 320,000-squarefoot project will feature 26-foot-high ceilings in 214,000 square feet of exposition space. The cen-ter will include a full-service banquet kitchen and 40,000 square feet of meeting and conference

The first phase of construction will include parking for 2,550 vehicles. The project is being pri-

financed through Standard Federal Bank.

The new center will receive an eight-year tax abatement from the city. Tax abatements allow developers of special types of facilities a reduction in their business taxes in exchange for economic benefits

City council members approved an extension of the eight-year abatement in March, following delays in construction on the project. Bowman cited Michigan winters and road construction on Grand River Avenue as causes for the delay.

The developer said the new

building will be the second largest banquet and conference center in the state, with more than \$200 million in offshoot economy to

the area.

He said that expo centers have been seen as an industrial use for

LAWSUITS & DEVELOPMENT:

A variety of lawsuits were put to rest while new devel-

By Pam Fleming

Several long-term lawsuits involving the city wen resolved, and new developments abounded in Novi which ranked fifth in southeast Michigan communities in new housing units in 2004.

Main Street Novi celebrated its 10th anniversary, with

new venues Gus O'Connor's Public House, which opened in November 2003, and Motor City Golf Warehouse, opening in March 2004, doing well. Toll Brothers signed a lease on a design center at Main Street, and a group of four owners signed a lease and won approval to transfer a liquor license for a martinal bar. A health food store is scheduled to open soon in the space formerly occupied by Vic's World Class

Triangle Development closed on the purchase of 18,2 acres of vacant land along both sides of Main Street from lenders who foreclosed on the land,

Kitchen by Designs moved to Plymouth, and Bluegreen Vacation Club announced plans to move to a new location in Novi in early 2005. Local Color, which closed in December 2003,

remained vacant the entire year. But Joe Vicari, owner of Andiamo's Italian Restaurants in the area, and producers of The Second City, a Chicago-based comedy the aire, announced plans to move to the space in 2005.

A group of tenants at Main Street ended a three-year

legal battle by settling a lawsuit with the original devel oper and subsequent owner of the building in October.
New housing developments approved in 2004 includDecridge condos at Thirteen Mile and the M-5
Connector and Liberty Park at Twelve Mile and Dxon,



The Malvern at Island Lake of Novi is an example of the largest and most elite home designs Toll Brothers offers.

roads, and developer Singh won approval to build Quail Hollow, later renamed Legacy Pare, at Ten Mile and Napier roads. Singh donated parkland to the city and will build a trail system as part of the deal, with Links of

A rezoning attempt to build condominiums near the intrance to Oakland Hiils Memorial Cemetery at Twelve Mile and Novi roads, and Singh's rezoning bid to build homes on land at Twelve Mile and Meadowbrook roads failed.

Local developer Ken Nanda of Nanda Enterprises filed an appeal in July following a count decision that streets leading into Cheltenham Estates on Beck Road south of Ten Mile belong to the city.

in April for a new Sam's Club at Grand River Avenue and Wixom Road, and Novi's neighbor Wixom broke ground on Tribute, a 75-acre downtown revitalization

By Pam Fleming the first development on property the city gave Pulte

developers following settlement of a lawsuit with Sandstone developers in 2002. Developer Robert Halso won approval to build The Preserve, a 70-unit subdivision at Nine Mile and Napier

Novi Golf Course to remain open at the site until 2006. Known as the Puragon case, a dispute of almost 20 years between a local developer and the city over property at Twelve Mile and Napier was resolved in

Walmart's owners won preliminary site plan approval

New leadership grappled with budget decisions, Hooters, raises and allegations

Novi City Council members provided lots of drama in 2004, with a statemate in budget deliberations and controversy over approval of the new Hooters

Restaurant liquor license transfer. In December, the city's finance department and consult-ing firm Plante Moran completed the city's first-ever fiscal analysis. State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) and Speaker of the House-elect Craig DeRoche were removed from boards and (R-Novi) said zero-based budgeting was the only way to resolve the state's budget deficit, estimated between \$380 million and \$460 million.

Coursell said no to an increase for city retirees in November as well as a salary boost for City Manager Rick Helwig in August.
Former Mayor Richard Clark

denying Helwig's raise. Secrest Wardle was retained to provide allegations that they were not its costs.



Member Laura Lorenzo, how ever, claimed afterwards that the contract was actually awarded prematurely since the city needed to first appropriate funding through the end of the fiscal year. Several changes took place in city departments, with Director of Planning David Evancoc resigning in June and planner Barbara McBeth named director in September. City engineer Nancy McClain left in July, with Westpoint graduate Rob Hayes

commissions and replaced with men. New planning commission-ers David Lipski, Andy Gutman and Wayne Wrobel were appointed in July.

legal services to the city after agreeing to lower fees in

to the city manager's recommen-dations if council couldn't agree on a budget by the deadline. The amendment, however, failed to

ed in July.

City council voting seemed divided, with the men — Mayor Lou Csordas, Mayor Pro Tem David Landry, Bob Gatt and Min Consulto. Kim Capello -- often voting one way and the women - Lorenzo, Toni Nagy and Lynne Paul — voting the other.

The women responded to the

because they were men, but because they simply disagreed. After budget talks broke down in May, leaving the city in viola tion of its own charter. Mayor Csordas suggested a charter amendment. The amendment would have the city default back

Council finally approved a budget for the city May 26 in an emergency meeting. The city's general fund budget for 2004-2005 is about \$25 million.

Fearing a lawsuit, member Bob Gatt changed his vote to approve Hooters of America's request for a liquor license transfer to Fountain Walk in May Gatt, a retired police officer, said he decided to reverse his vote after talking to police, judges

elected and appointed officials.

Members nixed plans to convert the 52-1 District Court into a third class court in February. This would have given the city and other municipalities the lion's share of the court's revenues but also responsibility for



With its population now topping 50,000, Novi will finally have a full-fledged hospital as Providence wins the battle to transfer 200 bcds from its metro-Detroit area facilities.

health care use rates and other

important factors. The bottom line is that 500 new beds in Novi and West Bloomfield are

Soon after the Providence victory, five hospitals, health systems and individual voters

announced their plans to appea

the decision in the state of

Michigan Court of Appeals and Supreme Court. Members of the plaintiff group that filed the appeal were Botsford General Hospital, Covenant Medical

Center, Mt. Clemens General Hospital, Trinity Health and

The plaintiffs were continu

William Beaumont Hospitals.

the American

simply unnecessary."

By Remez Khuri

activities and programs happen-ing all over Novi, Providence

Hospital made waves in 2004 by winning a lawsuit. Providence Park Medical Center in Novi increased by about 200 beds in July, follow ing a ruling in Ingham County Circuit Court in Lansing. Judge James Giddings upheld the constitutionality of an amendment to Public Act 619, passed by the Michigan Legislature in December 2002, allowing the transfer of about one-third of

ing to seek remedy for what they believe is the unconstituthe beds within the St. John and Henry Ford health systems. The ruling followed a pubthey believe is the unconstitu-tional adoption of Public Act 619 of 2002 that would allow lished debate between Rob Saginaw Hospital and St. John's Health System's Providence Michael Slubowski, executive vice president, eastern division, Trinity Health. Cassalou stated, "Our com-Hospital in Novi. Novi-based Trinity Health-Michigan, Inc., and Trinity

petitors claim that Novi and the urrounding communities do Health Corporation, along will inpatient care or advanced emergency services Association, were charged as nearby. They prefer that the one defendants July 21 in class million people who live work and visit the western Oakiand County suburbs each day drive 25 to 60 minutes to get to the next closest hospital.

Slubowski countered, "Every that the hospital system and its community wants a new hospit that the hospital system and its tal, but the Certificate of Need hospitals have not provided process focuses on what is enough charity care to uninsured patients. Decision on the and access based on population,

After several years as the Music & Motor Festival, Novi's premier grent headed back to the 1950s

By Ramez Khurl

Although the name and the venue changed from last year, the Michigan 50's Festival at Fountain Walk, held July 28-31, was a buge success, according to organizers, with an estimated 15,000-20,000 people attending the four-day

refocusing on what made it so popular - a 1950's theme that was in effect for many years prior, it moved from "downtown" Novi to Fountain Walk and was sponsored by Bright letworks.

The festival featured Rock and Roll Hall of Farners The Drifters, Herman's Hermits featuring Peter Noone, and Rocky and the Rollers. The festival also featured pro

grams such as:

Rock-N-Roll K-9's: Back from a two-year hiatus, these dogs of all different breeds entertained the crowd with skill competitions like the "Fly Ball Tournament," "Musical Mats" (where a white German Shepherd was known to run off with the mats) and even a

 Car Show Cruise: The car show and cruise was open to all automobiles, including those built outside the 1950s decade. Cars at the show were judged in different categories with music going on in the background. · Family Area: The family area

was bigger than ever. Helicopter rides were back after being offered only once, at the 2002 festival. Many volunteers and sponsorships were also sought.
"I think the patrons are happier with the name Michigan 50's Festival," said Bob McCann, a

consultant and immediate past president of the festival. I think this name has more name recogniwere posed to fight the recent class action lawsuit filed stating tion because its been there longer We were the Music & Motor Festival for three years. The name Michigan 50's Festival goes back to our roots to when the festival began 17 years ago."



Baron, left, and Terri LeBlanc do the "Twist" to music provided by Rocky and the Rollers at July's 50's Fest entertainment. The LeBlancs first met five years ago at the 50's Fest when it was at the Novi Expo Center, then got married three years ago dur-



By Pam Fleming

Fountain Walk shopping center in Novi witnessed several changes Denver, Toronto and St. Louis.

Twelve Mile Road, is Lucky Strike months before the grand opening Lanes Lounge & Bowl, which, gala after several delays, finally opened PI

level with a restaurant, three bars, a 40-foot video wall, 200 video games stations and 14 billiands tables — known as Lucky's — is seemed to have little effect on cur-

Mexican Cantina lounge.

Lucky's already has locations in Hollywood, Boston and Louisville and will open spots soon in The new venue was able to open despite the shopping center's owners filing bankruptcy just a few

PLC Commercial of California who owns PLC Novi West A 35,000-square-foot lower Development, a subsidiary that

planned for Novi to the site of the former Local Color building at Vicari had planned to open a \$7 million restaurant and entertain-

decide to move his new restaurant

One of the city's crown retail jewels filed for

bankrupicy, gained and lost a few new tenants and served as site for the Michigan '50s Festival.

ment complex at Fountain Walk until the deal fell through with the The Second City, the famous

Chicago-based comedy theatre that moved its training center and theatre from downtown Detroit to Novi, also made the switch from Fountain Walk to the former Local

Color building.

The comedy club, which had the first phase.

In 2005, the 35,000-square-foot upper level will feature a bowling eight Andiamo's Italian Restaurants in the Detroit area, did time in 2005.

By Pam Fleming of the town in Novi in 2004, as

That bond leveraged \$44.6 million in matching federal funds for a total of almost \$63 million in road work over the next few

the city picked up the pace in its

years.
Politicians and local officials battled to get funding reinstated for a new Beck Road/I-96 new bridge and interchange. Work began in May, with Beck Road fosed north of Grand River to elve Mile Road until some time in 2006.

Those same folks are gearing up for another fight for state highway officials to approve a new bridge and interchange at 1-96 and Wixom Road.

Wile and Novi roads complained that construction was hurting between Taft and Novi Roads; and Wixom Road.

Road, an east-west connector that construction was hurting between Taft and Novi Roads; and Wixom Road. Put to rest in July were rumors

of the Wixom Assembly Plant ers. legislators, Novi Chamber of closing after Ford Motor Company closing its Thunderbird assembly line in January. But the move, which transferred 340 jobs

plant, heightened workers' con-cems over the state's decision to put off replacement of the Wixom Road bridge over 1-96.
Road Commission of a physical fluid projects in Novi in 2004, included widening projects on Novi Road, Ten Mile cossings closed Ten Mile and

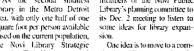
Road and Grand River Avenue. project at Grand River Avenue and Novi Road was celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony Nov. 3. The project was complet ed at a cost of about \$2 million, with 80 percent of the bill cov-

Commerce and road commission officials in fall 2004 to work out a

The commission agreed to from the 5-million-square-foot make the intersection more accessible before stopping con-struction from Nov. 15, 2004, through April 15, 2005. When finished in July 2005, all four

Repairs at CSX Railroad crossings closed Ten Mile and Nine Mile mads for a few days. The intersection and widening or operation of their projects completed in project at Grand River Avenue and Novi Road was celebrated Road between Grand River Avenue and Twelve Mile Road; Twelve Mile west and east of Novi Road; Taft Road from Ten Mile Road to Grand River ered by federal funds. Avenue; the intersection at Ten Local business owners at Ten Mile and Beck Road; Galway





through Dec. 31, 2005. As the second smallest library in the Metro Detroit area, with only one half of one square foot per person available

six broad goals for the library to achieve from 2004 through funding program for the library mittee that the school district would probably be the only entity interested in the library

· Develop and maintain varied collections, programs and services.
• Position the library as a necessary core city service,

attracts and retains a high-quali-ty, well-trained staff.
• Ensure that the library board continue its leadership and

advocacy.

Though no official proposal was made, the Novi Community School District's Board of Education welcomed numbers of the Novi Public

pletely different location in Novi. Knowing that the district owns land at Eleven Mile and trade. It was clear to the com-

> property because of its proxim ty to the high school.

new version of the facility on West Grand River Avenue in 2005.

open sometime in 2005.

OTHER TOP STORIES: NEWSMAKER OF THE YEAR: Novi resident Craig DeRoche made quite an impact in Lansing as a rookie legislator. As the new Speaker of the House, there's more to come.

Novi's struggling downtown district found new hope when The

summer of 2003. From the begin long formed front of the establish to get inside

watchful eye of the Novi Police gobbled up the story of a sophu Department, and led the city in drunk driving arrests. But due to the large volume of business, its ratio was not out of proportion

- 1

compared to other Novi establish-ments, according to Police Chief Doug Shaeffer. addressed the issue, worked with in the police, and got the problem under control while maintaining its reputation as a great place to

With a population of around Anne Marie 50,000, Novi's quota for liquor licenses stands at 32. Only one is

Several businesses applied for the lone Class C license but were denied: The Taste of Bangkok children.

Village for retirees and a new Mixx martini bar.

"This is a valuable commodity

Homecoming saga

of a major Detroit daily newspa per and was flown to New York to appear on the television show Good Morning America as media more making a stand against bul-

Murderer sentenced

was sen-tenced to life in prison with no parole in March for the first degree murder of her

ENTER THE WORLD OF ERHARD

FARMINGTON HILLS

Shawley of Novi, was stripped of his parental rights to his two other

Starting at

term in the House in November

Alexandra Burris wanted to see if she could make Novi High School's Homecoming Court. She got her wish, and a whole lot

nore.
She wound up on the front page

Harris was suspended following an October 2003 arrest for possession of cocaine and marijuana and Nikole Michelle Frederick, 24

for operating while intoxicated. He pleaded guilty to the charges in December 2003. The charges brought Harris' past to light. It became known that when he was hired by the school district he had two felony and three misdemeanor convictions on his record and was on probation. Harris was given a required

tenure hearing before his teaching certificate could be revoked and sought back pay from the district from the time of his conviction in December to his March 8, 2004,

DeRoche's felonious teacher bill assed in February 2004. "I feel good for the parents of that volunteers would go out and

State Rep. Craig DeRoche (R-Novi), who will assume Speaker of the House duties Jan. 10, receives Novi News' nod for maker of the Year" for 2004. for Oakland County and Novi. DeRoche was elected to a second

He originally opposed the three year plan to move up payment of winter county property taxes by six Speaker of the House later that months as part of a plan to bail out the ailing state budget.

Even though hundreds of resimonth.

In February, DeRoche sought

increased funding for DNA testing at the state's forensic laboratories. dents expressed opposition to the plan to state lawinakers, DeRoche In March, state lawmakers approved a bill introduced by DeRoche that prohibits felons from supported the plan after receiving assurances that another Senate bill would take away \$47 million in holding on to their teaching certifirevenue sharing funds from the city cates after conviction. DeRoche drafted the legislation after learnof Detroit, Of that amount, Oakland million, and Novi would receive State Representative Craig DeRoche ing about former South Lyon teacher and coach Scott Anthony about \$684,000.

losers with the deal that was struck," DeRoche said, In October, the lawmaker said term limits were being discussed in legislative circles again, which is

often the case in an election year. agree with them and present signa-Currently, term limits are six years for House members and eight years for Senate members. "There's been growing sentiment that people should be able to have the option of checking back in, so to speak, on this issue," DeRoche DeRoche said if

about citizens doing a petition drive 2005. on the term limits issue, meaning



on a ballot, or members of the publanguage is adopted or allowed, then one or more individuals can see if they can get enough people to

tures to the Board of Canvassers, DeRoche explained. Federal term limits were passed by U.S. voters in 1992 but were later thrown out as unconstitutional

tages of doing business with an

independent insurance agency.

DeRoche said that it has been 12 said. "Whether or not this is an issue that will advance is yet to be limits passed, and that a handful of legislators want to put the issue back on the ballot sometime in Being selected as Speaker of the

"The only people who voted no to all three bills were Detroit Democrats, because they were the The legislature can place an issue is tion for a legislator only in his section for a legislator only lic can submit a petition drive. Once was elected Senate Majority Leader

> ture, along with the Senate Majority Leader, and working with the governor on budget, staffing and policy issues, said. "I will look at things from more of a statewide perspective

But, I would hope that the relation-ships I'm building with the Senate Majority Leader and the governor will allow me more time to con House is a highly influential posi- Michigan.

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Oak Pointe Church headed for Novi High

Church will rent school until own facility built

By Ramez Khuri

Oak Pointe Church will be cross ing Base Line Road soon, as it moves its home from Northville High School to Novi High School.

The church, which is nondenom inational Christian, has held service at Northville High every Sunday for the past eight years. But since it is breaking ground on its own building in Nevi on March 1, it has received approval from the tron
School District to use Novi High for the next 14-16 months, while the new church is being built. The first service at Novi High is scheduled to be held on Sunday, Feb. 6. According to Senior Pastor Bob

Shirock, the church has grown from 60 people to about 1,800 in eight years. He described it as a contemporary but casual kind of Christian

"It's really appealing to the type of people who live in the Novi com-munity," Shirock said. "People who grew up with contemporary music. or people who are looking for a very relevant, maybe a little more informal kind of a church where they can interact with Christianity, It has realy hit the spot, and it's just growing

Church Calendar

available at 10 a.m. worship serv

ice. (The nursery is coordinated by a registered pediatric nurse.)

Worship Service of Compline is

held at 8:30 p.m. Rite 13 (ages 11-14) and J2A (ages 14 and up)

groups meet at 5 p.m. for their pro-

and fourth Sunday of every month;

Episcopal Church of the Holy

Cross has moved to 40700 W. Ten Mile Rd. (between Meadowbrook

gram and dinner. 7 p.m. Youth Worship Service is held the second

all are welcome

Courtesy photo Senior Pastor Bob Shirock delivers service on the propertv that Oak Pointe Church purchased for its new facility.

4 4 4

Church has always viewed itself as a Novi/Northville friendly place. Novi/Northville Triendly place, When he first moved the church to the area, he immediately began looking for land in Novi and came upon 27 acres of land at Ten Mile and Wixon mads through a Realtor who attended the church. A gift was given to him so that he could pur-chase the land outright and new his chase the land outright, and now his dream is about to come true with the

· Crosspointe Meadows

Church of Novi presents an Alpha Course, "Exploring the Christian Faith," on Sundays at 6 p.m. There

are over 28,690 Alpha courses rui

ning all over the world. Check out the Alpha Course Web site at

www.alpha.com. Program includes

workbook and light supper. There

CMC offices are located at

Faith Community

39830 Grand River Ave., Ste. B1-C (west of Hangerty), Call (248) 427-27(4): Monday-Thursday, 9 am; 2 p.m.

Presbyterian Church invites you

to worship at either the 9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service. Sunday school

is offered at both services for chil-

dren pre-kindergarten-12th grade. Faith Community Presbyterian Church houses the Novi

accepts all canned goods and nonperishable items as donations. The food bank is available to qualified persons in Novi, Walled Lake and

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Emergency Food Bank, which

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name of the field, which was named by the previous owner, is Gloria Deus, which is Latin for The Glory of God," Shirock said. "She had envisioned a church being built on it someday, and it's an incredible set

of circumstances that led us to this field about five years ago.

An architect has finished the plans, the City of Novi has already approved it, and the church is in the final stages of preparing to break

Sunday's service at both the 9 a.m.

ocated at 44400 W. Ten Mile Rd.

. The Church of the Holy

Family offers a Spanish-speaking Mass once a month beginning at

The church is also holding a

presentation called "Insight into Islam with Dr. Fatima Al-Hayani,

on Manday, Ign. 3, from 7-8:30, p.m. Hayani is on the faculty at the

University of Toledo. She has a

Law, A few of the courses she

teaches are: Muslim Philosophy Society, Culture and Family Structure in the Middle East:

Women of the Middle East; and

for Peace. Hayani will speak about the

ties of the Middle East and the position of women in Muslim soci ety. She will allow time for ques-

Arab-Israeli Conflict and Prospects

basics of the Muslim faith, the poli-

6:30 p.m. on Saturdays

and 10:30 a.m. services.

Pointe Church offers contemporary, casual and relevant music. But for families, what's really clicking with the public is its children and youth programs, which include:

"Adventure Land," which takes

place on Sundays, It's age sensitive to infants through fifth grade.
"We probably have about four to
five hundred children in Adventure Land every Sunday," Shirock said, "It's a real age specific Sunday school program that's not your old fashioned Sunday school. It's kind of a cross between going to school

and going to Disneyland."

The church also has a junior high program called "The Rock," for sixth, seventh and eighth graders. It meets Thursday nights and a couple hundred kids are the needs of junior high students.

. There is a senior high staff team and full time paster on Wednesda nights for a program called "707. It's specifically for high schoolers and tailors the Christian message specifically to what issues and con cerns they are facing.

"We've got a couple hundred high schoolers there," Shirock said. "It's just really cool. They have their Shirock described the church as a combination of programs for adults and kids that is rapidly gaining in popularity,
"We're having a lot of fun trying

the Justice and Peace Committee

Meadowbrook Rd., between Ten Mile Road and Grand River

. St. James Catholic Church

St. James Catholic is located at

46325 Ten Mile Rd., Novi, Call

1, 10 a.m. mass

The church is located at 24505

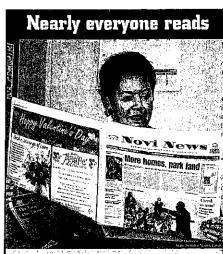
Aside from being contemporary and casual. Shirock said that the church is mainly for people who might have given up on religion. He

be a committed Christian to check out Oak Pointe Church "It's a kind of church for those who are searching," Shirock said. "We really love those kind of people

explained that one doesn't have to

ing for some spiritual roots."

for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail dr



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Put in perspective

or as the day after Christmas while vacationing in India, and was probably trying to figure out how to cover the hill for gifts this case. A The biggest concern for many Priya, who survived the disaste

for gifts this year. A bunin in the road for most, but by no means a traumatic problem.

Myself, I was scanning a year's worth of Novi News editions Sunday night, trying to decide what our top 10 stories for 2004 would

Road construction was a major headache. The Hooters' fiasco caused quite an uproar. And one Novi resident donated

\$1 miffion to the public library There were other stories that jumped off our pages, but they ALL pale in comparison to what Hearned that night had happened in Asia.

I didn't even know what a

old daughter gave me her sci-ence class definition. All I knew was over 11,000 people were dead.
Within a day, that number had doubled.

tsumami was until my 10-year-

By yesterday morning, reports had the death toll topping 58,000 and expected to rise even more. I read a report of a Novi cou-de, Raja Jaikumar and his wife,

stateside. But for now, just trying to comprehend the event and figure out what can be done locally is the most any of us I called fellow

Rotarian May Sanghyi to get his thoughts, and Cal Stone we both agreed that a fund-raising effort was appropri-ate. Turns out our club president, Maryanne Cornelius, was already on top of it.

The club is in the process of obtaining a permit to collect funds on Novi streets. In the meantime, anyone wishing to contribute can contact Cornelius city hall at (248) 347-0456 made out to the Novi Rotary Foundation, and funds will be forwarded to the necessary relief agency.

If you can't afford to help

financially, prayers are a power-ful tool available to anyone.

Novi News, He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 or at

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mshulman@house.mi.gov

COVERNMENT

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

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Carl Levin (D-Detroit) 269 Russell Senate Office Washington D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6221 senator2@levin.senate.gov Local office: Suite 1810 Lansing, M1 48933 (517) 377-1508 FAX: (517) 377-1506

Rebbie Stabenow (D-Lansing) 702 Hart Senate Office Building Washington D.C. 20510 senator@stabenow.senate.gov 280 East Saginaw East Lansing, Mt 48823 (517) 203-1760

United States Congress

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

Governor

Jennifer Granholm (D-Northville PO Box 924 Northville, MI 48167 PO box 30013 (248) 348-0365 Lagsing, M1 48909

(517) 335-7858 State Senate

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

State House of Reps

38th District Craig DeRoche (R-Novi) S0887 House Office Building Lansing, MI 48909-7514 FAX: (517) 373-5873

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

PINION

LETTERS

Wrong person, right Time

Time magazine lists as the main reason for choosing the person/persons of the year ometimes an object such as the computer in 1982) in this way: "the individual or group of individuals who have had the higgest effect on the world's news." times the person has not shown praise worthy, chical characteristics: Joseph Stalin (1939), Ayatellah Khomeini (1975), Newt Gingrich (1995). The effect has been negative. Most choices have made positive contributions to the world: The Whistleblowers three women who had the courage to speak against failures of policy in the organizations or which they worked (2002).

The American Soldier was the Person of the Year for 2003. I would have preferred that he (with the addition of a female soldier) be named for a second time like the other brave, honest, moral, intelligent, sincere, truly compassionate others in the past begin-ning with Charles Lindbergh in 1927.

> Hannah Provence Donigan Commerce Township

New Year's hopes

The following are my hopes for the New Thope that social security isn't privatized or

I hope that the Artic National Wildlife Refuge will be protected from oil drilling. I hope that our government will enact voting machine safeguards and election reform at

ooth the state and national level.

I hope that our government will eliminate he most egregious provisions of the USA PATRIOT act

I hope the Endangered Species Act is not weakened.

I hope Congress will allow prescription

drugs to be imported from Canada. I hope that our government will continue to work on all of the issues related to the occu-pation of Iraq in an effort to bring peace to that region.

Is this too much to hope for?

Doreen Lawton

Don't water down Christmas

My family and I were appalled at the lack of Christmas decorations at the Novi High School this year. We went there for the annu al Christmas concert performed by the high school band only to find absolutely no deco-rations of any kind. No mangers, trees. wreathes. Santa Clauses, reindeer, nothing.

An absolute disappointment.

We believe this business about being sensitive to other's religions and cultural beliefs has gone too far and must be stopped. The



Novi High junior Rose Xie looks back as Charles Marzejon lopps off ten inches of Xie's dark hair last Monday afternoon at a Northville salon. Xie and six other Novi High students were donating a good chunk of their hair's length to the "Locks of Love" program.

people who make the decisions to do away with our traditional values are ignorant because they are slighting the very group of people who began the concept of freedom from religious persecution in the first place

We demand the schools be decorated accordingly next year.

The Schuyler M. Hoving Family

LANSING CONNECTION

Over the next two weeks I want to share with you the accomplishments of the 2003/2004 legislative session. This week includes issues on the economy, education

Improving Michigan's Economy

· Tax Relief for New Jobs (SBT Hires) Legislation was passed to provide tax relief for new jobs by offering a tax credit to small businesses that add jobs was signed into law in August. The goal of Senate Bill 1274 is to provide a credit that would offset the SBT cost associated with hiring a new employee. (Public Act 319 of 2004) - Eliminating Taxation of Federal and

State Research Funds The legislation created a Single Business research grants was

1

signed into law in July. The legislation will help lure high-tech businesses to Michigan. (Public Act 258 of 2001) 258 of 2004) Eliminating Red Tape
A series of Public Acts

will help spur job cre-N. Cassis ation and economic

making the permitting process more effic was signed into law in July. (Public Acts 259-265, 277-281, 315 of 2004) · Pause Taxes for Start-Un Businesse

This legislation will exempt qualified start-up businesses, with local approval, from certain taxes during their first five years of

I sponsored legislation to revitalize the state's floundering tool & die industry, which has been especially hard hit with job losses and overseas competition, by providing tax relief through Tool & Die Recovery Zones.

(Public Act 273 2003)

growth in Michigan by

business was signed into law in August. (Public Acts 321-324 of 2004)

nent an involvement plan designed to

 Merit Award Scholarship Program Protected
The Michigan Senate worked to protect

Tax Relief for Economic Expansion (TREE)

A business qualified as a "start-up" would be exempt from property taxes, state and city income tax for the first five years and exempt from the Single Business Tax (SBT) in any of their first five years that they do not make a profit, (Vetoed by governor, Senate Bills 862-873 and 875)

 MEGA Reauthorization Reauthorizing the Michigan Economic Growth Authority, which would have expired on Dec. 31, to continue the state's main taxincentive granting authority used to spur eco-

nomic development, (Public Acts 248-251 of Venture Capital Creating a venture capital investment incentive by offering income and Single

Business Tax breaks to spur new investmen in Michigan businesses, particularly in the high-tech and life-sciences industries. (Public Acts 296 & 297 of 2003) • Public Works Program

Expediting the 2002 voter-approved Sewer Bond Initiative to allow communities to start much-needed sewer projects sooner. (Presented to Governor, Senate Bill 833)

Enriching Education

 MEAP Alternative Legislation was passed that would replace the Michigan Educational Assessment Program test for high-school juniors with a standardized exam and supplemental reading, writing and skills tests. (Presented to governor, Senate Bills 1153-1157)

Senate Bill 307, which I authored, requires a school board, or the board of directors of a encourage parental participation. (Public Act

and preserve the Michigan Merit Award funding throughout the difficult budget process. (Public Act 186 of 2003)

Healthcare Initiatives

· Kevin's Law The "Kevin's Law" package, Senate Bills 683-686, creates an outpatient treatment pathway as an alternative to hospitalization for individuals with severe mental illness sented to the Governor, Senate Bills 683-

· Care and Competitiveness Legislation that I sponsored made it easier and less expensive for employers to provide healthcare insurance coverage to their employees by reducing the tax penalty on lover-funded health benefits. Senate Bill 673 increases the exemption amount to 50 percent for tax years that begin after 2006. (Public Acts 240 of 2003)

· Small Market Reform age for employees by allowing Blue Cross Blue Shield (the state's largest insurer)

If you would like further details on any of the legislation, please do not hesitate to a lact me. You can also visit the following web site for information as well: www.michiganlegislature.org.

State Senator Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) represents the 15th Senate District which includes West Bloomfield, Oakland portion of Northville, Novi Township, Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, Lyon Township, South Lyon, Milford, Highland, Holly, Rose, Commerce, White Lake, Orchard Lake, and Wolverin ite.michigan.gov or toll free at

Share your opinions: We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Generally, no more than one letter per month by the same author will be published. Letters must be received by noon Tuesday to be printed in the Thursday edition.

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Cal Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167 E-mail: cstone@ht.homecomm.net Fax to: (248) 349-9832

HomeTown

OTHER OPINIONS

Turning away immigrants goes against nation's heritage

David Koelsch, Freedom

specify that if

are turned down, they may be

detained and swiftly deported

Gloria Rivera, a Mexican-born

years, is dismayed by the ruling,

especially because so many of the refugees who she has helped go to Canada.

For many years, Canada has

ave been toiling selflessly to

help them win political asylun

GUEST

Mansour fought the forces of

about the Vatican of Pope John

Paul II and its take-no-prisoners

preferment to John Paul and knew that his life would be made

difficult if he did not do the pon

tiff's bidding. Eventually, a

Mansour down at the mother house in the Detroit suburb of Farmington Hills and, in effect

stripped her of her veil. Not that

years, Mansour, who held a Ph.D. in

biochemistry, had been president

of Detroit's Mercy College and,

served on the board of directors

in the 1970s and 80s, much in demand as a public speaker. Sh

of many a civic organization.

When then U.S. Congressman

running for another term in 1982,

Mansour ran in the Democratic

primary in a losing battle with Sander Levin, who still serves in

It was the visibility Mansour

gained as a publicly committed Democrat that caused James Blanchard to turn to her to head

the huge social services department. The Mansour appoint

was considered brilliant and cele-

editors and almost the entire civic

to pursue other interests. She remained in the embrace of her

members had never forsaken her,

In the Dec. 16 column by Cal Stone, editor, entitled "Good times and gaining weight," the incorrect date or Novi Mayor Lou Csordas State of the City luncheon was given. It will be held Tuesday, Jan. 18 at the

In the Dec. 16 story "75 years in the marking," the name of Wixom's assistant city manager, Tony Nowicki,

tel Baronette, 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$20. Contact the Novi Chamber of Commerce at (248) 349-3743.

religious community whose

Mansour left state government

establishment.

Mansour had worn the habit for

Vatican emissary tracked

evil in more ways than one

They have come from El Salvador and Russia, Uganda and Colombia, Iraq and Cameroon. Most of them have been tortured. Most of the women have been raped along the way. Some die or are arrested on their way to the rundown streets

side of Detroit Yet several thousand do arrive every year finding their way across the glob to an ancient red brick former cor vent in the shad Bridge called Freedom House, a non-profit

organization dedi- Jack Lessenberry ented to helping Those who come here, and who huddle for a few weeks or poeths in its dom rooms, risk their lives for promise of new ones in this

nation or in Canada, But now, thanks to a new and Ottawa, Freedom House's ability to belp these people may Country Agreement" will take effect and severely curtail the ability of most of the world's where asylum has been easier to

win in recent years. What it means is that refugee who land in a nation regarded by both Canada and the United States as "safe" (i.e., free and democratic) will be obliged to apply for asylum there, rather

han crossing the border to do so "This is perfectly reasonable and meant to reduce the abuse of the asylum systems by stopping asylum shopping in both Canada and the United States," said George Costaris, who manages political and economic relation for the Canadian government's

Largely unnoticed by the

national press was the recent death of Agnes Mary Mansour

the Michigan nun who was dis-

missed by the Vatican from her

the demand of a Detroit archbish-

op to step down as the director of

the state Department of Social

appointed in 1983 by the state's

At issue was a complaint by a

mall but vocat cell of Michigan

dollars went in some indirect way

to pay for therapeutic abortions for poor women. That factoid was

chy to order the then Detroit

archbishop, Edmund Szoka, to

demand that Mansour seek dis-

Religious Sister of Mercy or quit

I had a front-row seat for that

erving as religion editor of the

weeks I jockeyed back and forth

between the archepiscopal offices and the state capital following the

evelopments. The archbishop

was uncomfortable in his in

n role. I was con

hat he really wanted to support

our — a far better kn

Catholic figure in the state than it. But he also understood only

world in the last quarter of a cen

yone is welcome to attend.

well what the rest of t

ury has come to understand

CORRECTION:

Detroit Free Press, For several

Catholics who ferreted out the

then-new governor, James J.

House's staff attorney, doesn't think it is reasonable. He thinks Not entirely; it will still be possible for people from some counthis is an outrage, "This is an tries - Mexico, Cyprus, and Iraq among them - to bypass the attempt by both governments to cut down on the number of refugees in the from the United States, Those name of national with close blood relations already security." What it in Canada will also be able to will do, he fears, is doom some apply. But otherwise, starting

persecuted peo-Wednesday, if a refugee lands in America first — and there are very few international flights direct to Canada — they will "It will also force people to go have no choice but to apply for asylum in the United States. If it underground, both in the United med, since the

past, of trying again in Canada. They'll be sent back to whernew regulations ever they escaped from. "This isn't about national security, it is economics," said Koelsch. In other words, the rich nations of the world no longer want the orld's poor.
There is something sad about Roman Catholic nun who has run

that, I think, especially given that this ruling comes at Christmas time, when people gather togeth-er to remember a homeless and stateless couple whose baby was born in a manger. What is ironic too is that virtually all those making it harder for

been much more willing to grant refugees asylum than the United States has. Members of her staff new immigrants are the direct descendants of persecuted immi grants themselves and get a new chance since 1983, when Freedom House was found-Detroit, where the refugees have huddled in Freedom House ed, spurred in large part by local is largely depopulated, with less outrage over United States policy than half as many people as it

Hills. In the late 1980s, Mansour

founded and for years ran a non-profit called the Poverty and Social Reform Institute, which

continues to do much good for

both the people it serves and the

Mansour's funeral mass was

Michigan's great gifts to the bat-

returned from a fact-finding mis-

sion in Haiti just in time to give

If the political right wing in

this country had wanted to climi

nate some of its most int

tudinal kind.

leaning competition, it could have bribed the acolyte at the

funeral mass to put evanide crys

- both of the liturgical and atti-

Margaret Farley, gave the homily at Mansour's funeral. Sister

Farley spoke powerfully of Mansour's encounter with the

"forces of evil," by which Farley did not mean the Republicans in

Michigan's legislature. She meant the church, And Farley was clear-

Harry T. Cook is an author.

journalist and Episcopal priest who has served as rector of St.

Andrew's Episcopal Church in

the Detroit suburb of Clawson

since 1987.

to stand and applaud her.

A fellow Mercy sister

certs. Just as Mansour would

celebrated by Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, another of

tle for justice and peace. He

in El Salvador and Nicaragua Many of the founders were Catholic, though Freedom sparsely populated nations in the House's charter is scrupulously world. Taking in a few more non-denominational. Last year the house housed more refugees from Albania than any other country, followed by the persewould give back more than they receive. They usually do, you cuted of half a dozen nations of

ub-Saharan Africa. Jack Lessenberry is editorial lum in Canada than in the United vice president of Hometown States, Last year, Freedom House helped 2,481 adult men and unications. He can be reached by phone at (248) 901-2561 or by e-mail at jlessenber apply for asylum in Canada, and



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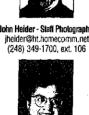
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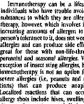


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SPOTLIGHT ON: ORTHODONTIC **NEWS** by Donald M. Wayne, D.D.S., M.S. Orthodontic Specialist

LIMITED MEANS

LIMITED MEANS

When extracted or missing teeth orthodonic treatment may be carried cause other teeth to drift out of align and the control of the control of

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2004: The year of the Wildcats

Novi makes it's mark throughout sports during the past year



TOP LEFT: Jenn Mehl broke the school's pole vault record this year for girls and took third place in the state of Michigan; TOP RIGHT: Mark Moore, right, and Amol Huprikar led their team to a fourth-place cross country finish in the state. Both were top-10 and All-State runners; RIGHT: Jenna Kuhn goes up for a spike in January. She helped her team earn their first-ever District tile; BELOW: Robbie Carter makes a crushing hit on a Pinckney Pirate ball carrier. Novi won the KVC and their District again; BOTTOM: Mike Hart grits his teeth as he prepares to unleash one of the quickest fastballs in the state. He was signed to play at Eastern Michigan University

right foot as Brent Pantaleo carned his wish of attending the Rose Bowl. The Novi graduate hard to imagine too many other schools pulling out such fine performhables! and 'feest' white the sign of too 'there's white the sign of too 'the best authors are also be the best



Novi started 2004 off on the signed to play soccer at Michigan State and Cincinnati, respectively.

The early months of the year found the hockey program sweeping the U.P. Classic hock-ey tournament. They had a line year before howing out the coffege in 2004. Kevin Cisto signed his national fetter of Northville in the playoffs. Northville went on to the Frozen Four state semifinals. The team also found Jordan Collins going to Iowa to play

> The hoys basketball team, coached by Pat Schlater, carned another District title by eating the Northville Mustangs in a nail-biting double overtime thriller. They also won KVC title along with Prackney as her 100th and 101st career goals well as the Court Wanderer tro- in the opening soccer games. It phy, which is a traveling trophy made her just the eighth girl in that is given to whatever team beats the squad currently hold-past the century mark.

The boys swimming and diving team notched a few hard-earned victories throughout the year despite not having a home oool. One of their most con-

> for the girls squad. The boys track team sent two sprint relays and discus thrower Ryan Pritchard to the state finals.
>
> The combined Novi-Northville rugby team made a trip to the Division II state finals where they took second place in the entire state. The

playing for the Burnington Bees at the playoffs along with the soft ball program.

Lacrosse earned a 10-6 mark

Lacrosse earned a 10-6 mark the playoffs along with the softball program. hefore finally stepping down in the post-season under first-year coach Brad Muston and assistitute to help usher many of the team won the national title to tant coach Kelly Kroll. The team's players into the college media seruiny follows

In wrestling, the Wildcats

competitive state tournament.

before howing out in an impres

sive Regional tournament show-

ing.
The Wildcat cheerleading squad earned their first trip to the state finals since 1997. They

took 10th in the state. The gymnastics team also did well as they notched a sixth-place

The hoys tennis team earned

a trip to the state finals where

they took 12th in the state. Also having a convincing showing

in the state in the pole vault for girls track. She set the school record in the event. Christina Lis also competed in the finals

showing in the state finals.

tant coach Kelly Kroll. The girls golf team took second in the KVC bat couldn't get out of their competitive regional.

The girls soccer program won the KVC title yet again but couldn't get out of their district as they fell to eventual state champion Northville in the closing minutes of the game.

Summer was long and bot this.

The girls basketball team boys followed Mark Moore mother with the closing minutes of the game.

The girls basketball team boys followed Mark Moore mother with the closing minutes of the game.

The girls basketball team boys followed Mark Moore and Amol Hunrikar to a mother with the closing minutes of the game.

MacKenzle earned a trip to the Olympics in the women's two-person rowing event with parner Sarah Jones. While there she and her teammate took ninth out of

Graduate Kate Hebert. The team carned the

impressive tankers year, including Amy Glubzinski and Laura Lynch. They did well in the KVC and

league all star game. He was The girls swim team had quite a

Summer was long and hot this year, but the Wildcats were well represented throughout the Rachele Folino and Kelly Novi's soccer team lasted the longest out of area teams before

> contention in the Regional after winning their at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at fifth-straight KVC title under seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER

CALENDAR

EVENTS

14th Annual New Years Eve Party, Dinner and Dance

TIME: doors open 8 p.m. LOCATION: Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel, 27000 Sheraton Dr. (Novi Rd. at I-96, use Exit 162) DETAILS: Everyone welcome. Hosted by Metropolitan Single Professionals. Top 40 DJ, cash bar, Attire: holiday dressy-men must wear a coat and tie. CONTACT: NYE information at (248) 851-9919 or (248) 544-6445,

Boost Camp Day

DATE: Friday, Jan. 7 LOCATION: Providence Medical Building, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi DETAILS: A day of enrichment

and personal exploration designed to provide valuable tools, information and a new perspective on healthier living through wholene Open to the public. The cost is \$50 per person; includes lunch and materials. Registration is required. CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

DATES: Jan. 21 and Feb. 4

TIME: 8 p.m.-1 a.m. DETAILS: Hosted by Metropolitan Single Professionals. Admission is \$5 for members, \$9 for non-members. Top 40 DJ, cash bar, hors d'oeuvres and door prizes CONTACT; (248) 544-6445 or (248) 851-9909 or

BUSINESS

www.mspsc.com

Business Referrals DATE: every Wednesday LOCATION: Novi Civic Center,

45175 Ten Mile Rd. TIME: 7-8:30 a.m. DETAILS: Meeting of local professionals and business looking to increase word-of-mouth referral business. Various classifications open and eager to bring you quali-fied business leads. CONTACT: (734) 462-6460.

CLASSES

Providence Center for the Healing Arts' "Tuesdays at

ie month. TIME: 10 a.m. LOCATION: Holy Family DATE: Every Tuesday night TIME: 5-8 p.m. LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Catholic Church (on Meadowbrook Center, 47601 Grand River Ave. Road between Ten Mile and Grand DETAILS: Variety of activities DETAILS: A nonprofit, nondefor the adult community to come nominational group that brings

sponsored by the Providence Center for the Healing Arts. Some activities may include a supplies fee (no more than \$10)

SUPPORT

Moms Club of Novi

GROUPS

DATE: Jun. 6, meetings first DATE/TIME: Mondays 7-8 Thursday of each month a.m., Jan. 24 - March 14 (Conference Room C); Mondays 4:15-5:15 p.m., Jan. 24 - March 14 (Conference Room B); TIME: 10 a.m. LOCATION: Novi Civic Cen

DETAILS: The MOMS Club® (MOMS Offering Moms Support®) is a non-profit support group, specifically uimed at meeting the needs of mothers who choose to stay at home with their children, including those who work out of their homes, as well as those nembership VP or e-mail:

Adoption Playgroup

stretch and streamline one's body The cost for the program is \$120. Due to limited class size, it's DATE: first and third Fridays of recommended to register early. CONTACT: (248) 465-4416.

month meetings provide families

with the opportunity to share play

CONTACT: For more informa-tion contact Michelle Pergeau (248) 887-4955 or Sandra Noonan (248) 960-3257,

HEALTH

Pilates at the Park

Wednesdays 4:15-5:15 p.m., Jan

26 - March 15 (Conference Room

LOCATION: Providence Park

(southwest corner of Beck Road and Grand River Avenue), Novi

DETAILS: Rehabilitation

Services will be offering Pilates

mat training classes, an effective

form of exercise to strengthen,

Stone, editor, Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-9832; or e-mail to

hat you'll carry out in the coming year. The number one resolution on evervone's list is to improve his or her health and start a fitness program. To start you or your family on your journey to great health, come to the 7th Annual Michigan Health, Fitness and Travel Expo. Jan. 7-9, at the Novi Expo Center.

The WCSX sponsored threeday event will include an appear ance by the acclaimed fitness expert, Monica Brant, whose Miss Olympia, body builder, fit-Monica will be available for question and answer sessions as well as autograph signings throughout the weekend.

People of all fitness backgrounds are welcome to attend als such as Dr. Jim Braoman. D.O., a Beaumont Hospital Physician and a nationally syndicated CNN radio health doctor who is board certified in Geriatrics and sports medicine. Beverly Price, a renowned local registered dietician will also be appearing at

the three-day expo. Families can be a part of the fun. Play baseball in January, indoors, with Milt Wilcox, former pitcher for the Detroit Tigers. Wilcox will be hosting a home run derby, speed pitch and clinics. Or take a Judo class and learn that Jude is not only a form of selfdefense but also great exercise.

Monica Brant

The Sport Court will feature a free throw competition where you can win prizes from DC Sports. And you can get your hockey fix at the Motor City Mechanics tent, when goals scored will win you game tickets, merchandise, and auto-

graphs by the players. New to the Michigan Health, Travel section that will feature over 35 booths where attendees will be offered various vacation packages at special savings. You'll also be able to register to win free airline tickets courtesy of MLT vacations

Hours for the Michigan Health, Fitness and Travel Expo are Friday, Jan. 7, 4-8 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 8, 10 a.m. -7 p.m., and Sunday, January 9, 10 a.m.-5 p.m children ages 12 and under. On 55 and over, will be admitted free.



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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

More than fame and money

Who is Henry Ford? Why do they call it Disneyland? What did Mary Kay do?

Virtually everyone knows that these dreamers turned their ideas into realities through good, old-fashioned



entrepreneur ship. We mar-vel at the rags-to-riches stories of those who started with only a dream and created enterprises

that eventually became household

As Americans, we take pride in honoring our fellow citizens whose innovations make our lives fuller and easier. Take Henry Ford, for example. His motivation was-n't fame and money. He liked repairing and creating mechanical things. He failed twice before his little car company started to roll. For every Henry Ford, Walt Disney or Mary Kay Ash, there

are millions of successful American entrepreneurs who have never been featured on "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous" or pro-filed in Fortune magazine. What's more, many of these busy busi-ness owners have neither the time nor the desire to be spotlighted for their achievements. They're content in their pursuit of the American dream. Simply being an entrepreneur, seeing an idea materialize into an enterprise that pro-vides a much-needed good or service that customers are willing to pay for is enough. The personal pride that comes with providing life-sustaining employment for others is all the satisfaction they

Right now, all across America. another generation is preparing to test its entrepreneurial wings, As a new year begins, millions of highschool seniors are hard at work researching how to finance their higher education. Many of them share common ground with those who have already taken the small-

business leap of faith: they have a dream to own their own business. The NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation, is determined to make this dream a reality by providing 350 students with \$1,000 nonrenewable Free Enterprise Scholars Awards they can use to attend the college, vocational or technical school of their choice. It's a way to raise awareness among young people of the criti-cal role of private enterprise and entrepreneurship in the American way of life. The scholarships will be presented next May. (Details and application at www.NF1B.com/page/EducationF

oundation.)

A recent conference report entitled "Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century," by the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Foundation, noted in its research that an overwhelming majority of college students desire to be entre-preneurs at some point during their academic careers. Additionally, people with higher levels of education are more likely to choose the path of entrepre-nearship and they are more likely to start a business with more employees, "Classrooms," the report stated, "are filled with inno-lyators. The key is to provide the pecessary skills that will allow them to foster these talents and

start new businesses."
For the majority of America's arepreneurs, the realization of their dreams is greater motivation than wealth or fame. By making this investment in the education of tomorrow's risk takers, the NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation is helping them build on their inter-est in business and possibly set-ting them on the track to be successful, life-long entrepreneurs.

Jack Faris is president of the National Federation of Independent Business, the nation's largest small-business advocacy group. A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943. lore information is available on-More information is a c line at www.NF1B.com.

Story idea?

Our readers have great ideas and we want to hear them. Send us your ideas.

Send It to: Novi News 104 W Main Northville, MI 48167 Fax: (248) 349-9832 cstone@ht.homecomm.net



Matthew W. Semeyn is a Certified Financial Planner and principal of MWS Financial Planning in Northville. As an independent financial planner, Semeyn does not have ties with brokerage firms or insurance companies and can give his customers an unbiased financial viewpoint.

Year's end ideal to review financial health

By Duane Ramsey SPECIAL WRITER

As the end of one year and beginning of another approach-es, the time is right for your annual checkup. Financial plan-ning is an effective way to coor-dinate all aspects of your finan-tial basis. cial health.

"It's a great time for an annual checkup of your financial condi-tion," said Matthew W. Semeyn, a Certified Financial Planner and principal of MWS Financial Planning in Northville. "Since you are gathering all of your financial information to file your 2004 tax return, why not have an unbiased return to make sure you situation to make sure you are on track to meet your goals,"
As an independent financial

planner, Semeyn does not have ties with any brokerage firms or insurance companies. Working as a "fee only" planner, he does not collect any additional com-pensation from commissions, so there is no conflict of interest.

'I will take time to make sure you understand how each part of your financial puzzle fits togeth-The sooner you start, the more you can accomplish, the better you will feel, and the more you can focus on other aspects of your life."

CONTACT INFORMATION

Matthew W. Semeyn, CFP® MWS Financial Planning 332 East Main Street in downtown Northville (248) 380-8702 E-mail: Matt@mwsFinancial

www.mwsFinancialPlanning.com

Semeyn schedules a complimentary, 30-minute meeting usu-ally in the potential client's home to get acquainted and see if his services are a good match for your needs. After the meeting, he provides a quote for his proposed services, and upon mutual agreement, begins working for the

client. client.

Anyone who wants to better understand their financial situation is a potential client for Semeyn's services. If you want to build a secure future or protect the wealth you already have accumulated, MWS Financial Planning can hale you services. Planning can help you achieve

your goals.
Each plan is customized to meet the individual client's needs. The quotes for such financial services will run from \$1,000 to \$2,500 for a college plan and a coordinated financial plan from \$2,500 to \$6,000, depending on the complexity of

carte basis for items that include eash flow, debt elimination. budgeting, goal planning, insur-ance review, portfolio risk assessment and tolerance review, investment selection, asset allocation, stock options, college planning, retirement plan review, tax planning and estate plan review. Such plans can be done all at once or over a period of time with fees applied accordingly.

A coordinated financial plan puts all aspects of the client's finances together in a way that is easy for them to understand.

Av personal completing a coordinated plan over a period of time so I get to know my clients on a personal level," Semeyn said, "By implementing one segment at a time, my clients get a complete under-standing of their personalized

People often don't know what questions to ask a financial plan-

ner.
"I believe there are several good questions to ask but I think the most important questions are not the ones you ask of a finan-cial planner, but the ones a finan-cial planner asks you," Semeyn said. "By getting to know my clients and what they want to accomplish now and in the future, I can help my clients avoid the potential pitfalls that exist in all areas of personal finance."

For example, if you are plan-

ning a way to pay for sending your children or grandchildren to college. Did you know that...? • 529 college plans can dis-qualify students for financial aid

Not all student loan interest

Well-intentioned grandpar ents paying for college or gifting money to grandchildren could jeopardize their ability to receive financial aid.

· Some scholarshins can disqualify students from tax credits.

• Tax scholarships are avail-Tax scholarships are able for college students.

College planning programs are designed for families whose income is greater than \$75,000 per year and who may or may not qualify for financial aid based on income. MWS based on income. MWS Financial Planning uses little known and highly successful demic, finan nd tax-ori ented programs that can be initiated at early ages through high school years and are designed to show clients how to save as

much as tens of thousands of dollars during the college years, Semeyn also holds seminars

for local businesses and organizations to help educate their employees or members. If you would like more information and a bi-weekly college e-newsletter, Semeyn will by happy to add you

to his mailing list.

"The majority of people neg-lect their own retirement to put their kids through college, but that's short-term thinking," said Semeyn, who is a Certified College Planning Specialist. "These people cannot take out loans or receive financial aid for retirement. I will examine what their retirement situation looks like presently and determine if there are any shortcomings,

Another key to good financial health is your investment plan, according to Semeyn.

If you don't have an investment policy statement in writing, are you sure that your best inter-ests are being represented? "MWS Financial Planning can

provide a personalized, well-developed, diversified invest-ment plan based on your goals. If you would like help with the implementation of any of the plans we provide, we can assist you. If you don't want to handle

your investments, we can manage them for you," Semeyn said. "It is vitally important that all of these pieces of the puzzle are connected with each other and tied to your financial goals," he

emphasized.

As a financial advisor, Semeyn works with professionals his with, such as accountants, attorneys, insurance agents, and stock brokers, to implement the financial plan. A good relationship

10. Resolve to write a will 9. Write a durable power of attorney for healthcare

8. Review beneficiary desionations on all life insurance and retirement documents

7. Contribute maximum or start contributing to 401(k) or 403(b) programs

6. Maximize contributions to Roth or traditional IRAs

5. Understand investment and retirement plans and their

risks, and review periodically 4. Review goals and make sure they are tied to your investmént plan

3. Develop a plan to pay for college education for children and grandchildren

 Get organized. Organize records and documents together in a filing system

1. Have an annual financial

checkup with an independent Certified Financial Planner to ensure good financial health

with a knowledgeable, independent financial planner could make a big difference in the stress levels and overall quality of your

Call Matt to arrange a complimentary, get-acquainted meeting to learn how MWS Financial Planning can help you secure your financial future

Semeyn holds a bachelor of science degree in finance from Miami University in Ohio. He is a member of the local community, residing in Novi with his wife Jennifer and two daughters, Mackenna and Alexa.

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