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Novi, Michigan

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Look inside for your
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SPECIAL SECTION



Happy Birthday!

Rotary International celebrates 100 years next week, and area clubs are looking back on their own history as well as the future.

Special Section

INSIDE



Tiny township

It's surprising in this age of urban sprawl, but since the 1830s, when the township was first established, a portion of Novi Township has remained independent from the city of Novi.

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OBITUARIES

Robert J. Cahill, 85
Mary C. Marcus, 91

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Novi News
104 W. Main
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Plan may end health care taxes

■ House GOP goal to help struggling businesses

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

House Speaker Craig DeRoche (R-Novi) came back home Monday to announce legislation that would end Michigan's tax on health insurance paid by employers.

Republican legislators staged the press conference at Michigan CAT on Novi Road. Jerry Jung, president of Michigan CAT, introduced lawmakers at the event.

Jeff Stanislow, of Motor City Interactive in Novi, was on hand to give a businessman's view.

"Recently, I've been going through some challenges growing my company. One of those challenges is the health care benefits I want to provide to my employees. Health care costs are

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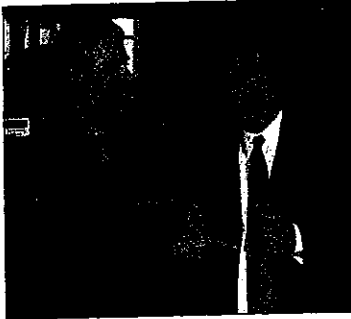


Photo by PAM FLEMING
Jerry Jung, left, of Michigan CAT, chats with House Speaker Craig DeRoche (R-Novi) following a press conference at the Novi business Monday.

■ Tax-cut plan faces some opposition from governor

By Dan Melsler
DAILY PRESS & ARGUS

State House Republicans are proposing a reduction in health-care-related taxes paid by small businesses, but the plan might not make it past the governor's desk.

"It doesn't make sense that

Michigan businesses are asked to pay taxes for doing the right thing — providing health insurance to their workers," said Majority Floor Leader Chris Ward, R-Brighton Township.

Ward said Monday that legislation is in the works to help small-business owners save on those costs of doing business.

Payments for health care are factored in when figuring companies' liability under the Single Business Tax, although current law would reduce the tax amount

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Clean out the closet!

■ Annual Threads of Power set for next Friday

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

When looking for or starting a new job, having the right look is important.

With this in mind, members of the Novi Chamber of Commerce invite local business- and civic-minded people to bring gently-used articles of clothing and accessories to the sixth "Threads of Power"

Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 25 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel.

Adopting the slogan, "Clean your closet for a cause," Chamber members are asking area residents to the event at 42100 Crescent Blvd. in Novi. Cost to attend is \$15, with reservations needed by tomorrow. The clothing will go to sever-

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A DRIVING DESIRE

■ Seniors head back to drivers' school

By Kim Kovelie
STAFF WRITER

Pencils in hand, a dozen seniors scanned a list of traffic sign shapes and colors.

The red octagon was easy to identify. But what about the diamond? Or brown hue?

"You always read the road signs as you go down the road," said Laree Bell. "The others just sort of left me. I'm going to have to start paying attention."

She was a participant in the eight-hour AARP course last month at the Novi Senior Center, which reviewed road rules from parking to passing.

"It's a classroom refresher course for older drivers," said Robert Smith, volunteer instructor. "Basically, the older drivers have never taken drivers' training."

With AARP and Michigan Secretary of State booklets, videos and humor, Smith led a class he said is useful for drivers of any age.

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■ State cuts school drivers ed funding; future of Novi program still in question

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Are you willing to pay \$335 for your teen to take drivers education? Parents in Novi may soon have to if their teens go through Novi High School's program.

The State of Michigan has officially cut driver's education funding to all school districts, leaving the Novi Community School District with only a few options.

- Continue to offer driver's education at the price of \$335 per student, which would be an increase of \$56 from the past two years.
- Supplement the program.
- Cut the program all together.

A decision is expected by the board possibly as soon as March 3.

According to Jim Koster,

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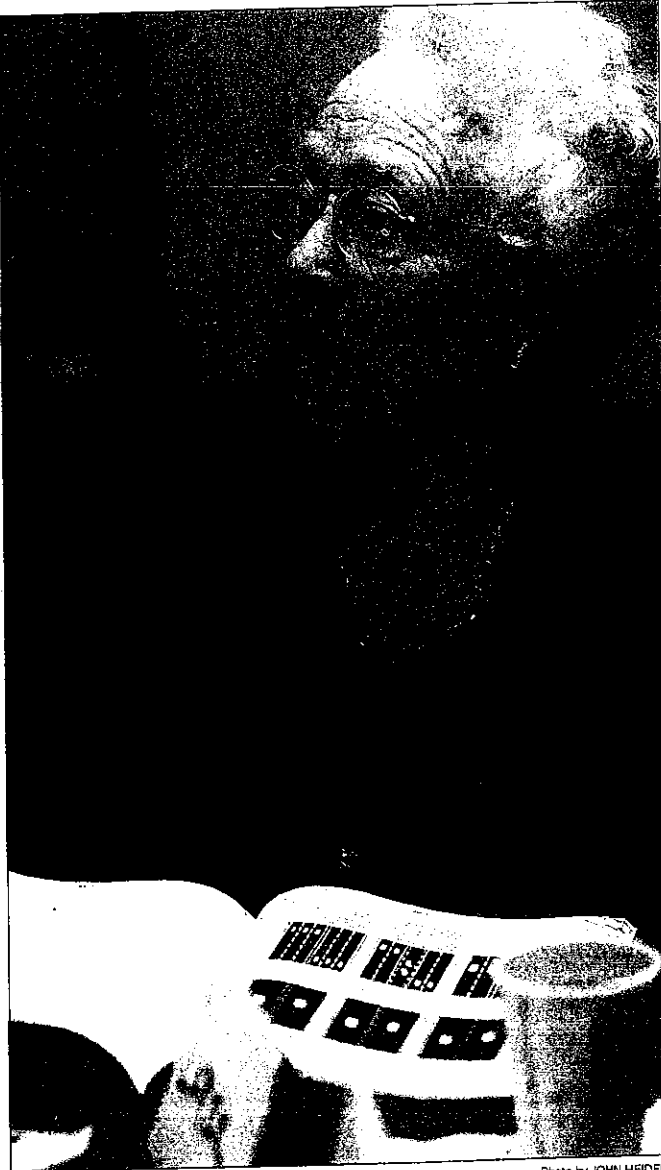


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Laree Bell learns about pavement markings during an automotive refresher course sponsored by AARP held at the Novi Senior Center last month.

WHAT ARE YOUR OPTIONS?

The following is a sample of local driving schools and their course fees:

- Sears Authorized Driving School in Novi: \$299 for segment one and \$30 for segment two
- A & A Driving School in Livonia: \$305 for segment one and \$40 for segment two
- Advanced Driving School in Canton: \$315 for segment one and \$50 for segment two

Two out of Senate race

■ Oakland's prosecutor, sheriff both withdraw

By Cal Stone
EDITOR

After a flurry of several candidacy announcements and the Republican state convention, two party members have dropped out of the race for U.S. Senate.

A week after announcing that he would run for the seat currently

held by

Debbie Stabenow, Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard has decided to not proceed in the race and cited health issues as the reason.

Likewise, Oakland County Prosecutor David Gorceyca said Tuesday that he was withdrawing his name from the Senate race as well.

Last week, Bouchard was taken ill and hospitalized for several days of medical tests. The results revealed some health issues which, while not life-threatening, would indicate that the addition of a strenuous statewide senatorial campaign is not advisable at this time. An expert team of medical advisors

continued on page 4A

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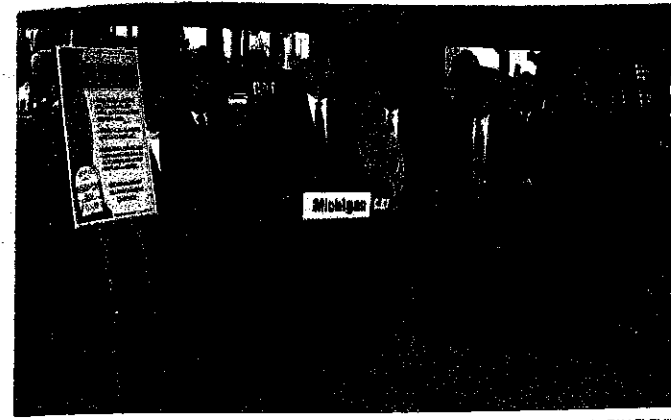


PHOTO BY PAM FLEMING

Speaker of the House Craig DeRoche (R-Novi), fellow Republican state senators and local business owners came to Novi Monday to drum up support for proposed legislation that would save Michigan businesses millions of dollars. The Republicans hope the bill will be passed this spring.

House GOP goal to help struggling businesses

continued from front

limiting my ability to grow my company," Stanislaw said. "The legislation's goal is to help businesses struggling with health care costs. DeRoche says elimination of the tax would save Michigan businesses between \$33 and \$50 million a year. "This tax is discouraging businesses in Michigan from providing health care to their employees. If we eliminate the discouragement, there will likely be more people covered, which will save all taxpayers money in the long run and help these businesses create more jobs," DeRoche said. "We are here this morning to introduce new legislation to help provide job providers in our state who are struggling to make payroll and provide benefits to hard-working employees. In recent years, job providers across Michigan have seen dramatic increases in the cost of providing health care to their employees," DeRoche said.

"As a result, businesses large and small have been faced with the choice of either cutting jobs or cutting benefits for people," Michigan includes employer health care payments in its Single Business Tax base. With this policy, Michigan is one of only two states that include this expense more for providing health care

continued from front

should look at to correct the problem in Michigan," Law said. "We have to rethink our policies on taxation and small business." Other House Republicans in Novi Monday included Phil Lajoy (R-Canton); Shelley Taub (R-Bloomfield Hills); John Slakoe (R-Highland); Fran Amos (R-Waterford); and Leon Drolet (R-Clinton Township).

Taxing employer health-care payments is particularly damaging to Michigan's manufacturing industry. Forty-two percent of companies indicated they are laying off workers or slowing down hiring to cope with yearly health-care premium costs, according to the Michigan Manufacturers Association.

"We have the state of Michigan pressuring business by taxing them for what I would say is a good deed. Last year, we got rid of 50 percent of this (Single Business) tax. This year, we need to get rid of the remainder of the taxes on health care," DeRoche said.

House Republicans visited Grand Rapids, Lansing, Saginaw and Novi Monday to introduce the legislation.

"Health care costs are limiting my ability to grow my company."

Jeff Stanislaw
Motor City Interactive, Novi

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

Tax-cut plan faces some opposition from governor

continued from front

by 50 percent by 2007. The GOP plan would remove health-care expenses from the calculation in 2006. "It is time for a change in our tax code to help our employers provide the kind of high-paying jobs we need in Michigan," Ward said.

Mary Detloff, a spokeswoman for Democratic Gov. Jennifer

Granholm, said the plan doesn't have much chance of being signed by the governor as stand-alone legislation. "That's because it would cost the state an estimated \$33 million, and it does not offset those costs to be 'revenue-neutral,'" she said.

"We are willing to look at alternatives, but only if they're revenue-neutral," said Detloff, "and we would rather see a more comprehensive approach."

She pointed out that Granholm has put forward a restructuring of the business tax that would provide relief for three out of four companies that pay the tax.

Detloff also chided GOP lawmakers for complaining about budget cuts proposed by

Granholm and then putting out a plan that would reduce the state's revenue.

"They can't have their cake and eat it too," she said. "In fact, they should cut cake out of their diets completely."

Ward said the best way to get the economy moving is to end the taxing of employers' expenses for health care.

Dennis Whitney, director of the Livingston County Small Business and Technology Development Center, said that any relief for small businesses would be hailed among the firms he deals with.

"They would love to give benefits," he said, but the owners often can't afford it.

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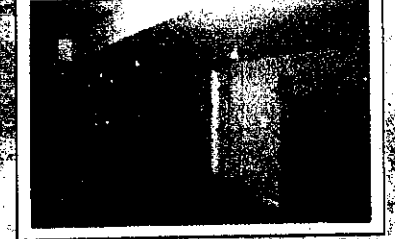
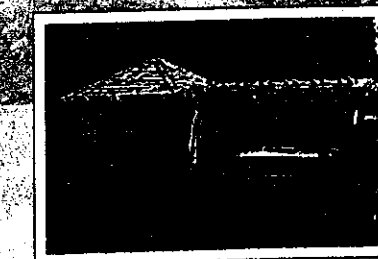
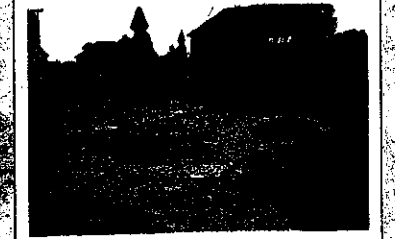
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Photo by Aileen Wright/Staff

Wixom gas main breaks

Workers accidentally pierced a natural gas main at around 9 a.m. last Friday near Wixom Road and Pontiac Trail, Consumers Energy officials said. Contractor Six S apparently hit a plastic, medium pressure main while working on the Wixom Road Connector project. "The repairs took most of the afternoon," Consumers Spokesman Terry DeDoos said. Traffic was diverted from a local road by police as repairs were made, DeDoos said. No customers lost any heat power during the break, DeDoos said, because the eight-inch main was "pinched" on both sides by 3 p.m., isolating the break. City Manager Mike Dorman said the rupture was fixed by the end of the day. "The city, along with Consumers, went from business to business and kept assuring the owners and occupants that things were all right," Dorman said. "Sounded like a jet engine, though. It was loud."

COURT REPORT

These cases were scheduled for sentencing in Oakland County Circuit Court originating in 52-1 District Court for Jan. 18.

- Brian Dorell Davis: Breaking and entering.
- Kisha Kiyante Hemphill: Conspicuous uttering and publishing, uttering and publishing, sentence enhancement (third offense).
- Robert James Klein: Assault with intent to do great bodily harm, assaulting, resisting and obstruction of a police officer, driving while license suspended (second or subsequent offense), operating under the influence of alcohol - per se (second offense), unauthorized telephone tap, sentence enhancement (second offense).
- John Elmer Oubor: Larceny from a motor vehicle.
- Kevin Joseph Ryder: Operating under the influence of alcohol - per se (third offense felony), driving while license suspended (second or subsequent offense), failure to stop after a collision, sentence enhancement (second offense).
- Rachel Lee Steffes: Second degree home invasion.
- Shawn Richard Cizmadiak: Operating under the influence of alcohol - per se (third offense felony), driving while license suspended.

Changes take place in court's family division

Oakland County Circuit Court-Family Division is updating its Domestic Relations Mediation Program in response to changes in the Michigan Court Rules. Michigan Courts have utilized domestic mediation to help divorcing parties come to mutually acceptable solutions for many years. Couples who use mediation, and reach their own decisions about property, custody and other matters pertaining to their divorce, tend to be less likely to return to court. This saves money, and time, and reduces the emotional harm to those divorcing as well as to ancillary parties, such as children. Courts will review the couple's individual records for Personal Protection Orders, as well as criminal domestic violence and child abuse and neglect cases. Oakland Circuit has further responded by incorporating a domestic violence screening procedure into the divorce review process, to assess divorcing parties for their vulnerability to domestic violence. An awareness of domestic violence history and/or potential will allow judges to be more selective in making mediation recommendations. Effective immediately, when a divorce with minor children (DM) is filed at the clerk's office, the filing party will be given two packets of information, one for the plaintiff to keep and one for them to serve on the defendant. Packets include:

- a brochure with general information about the mediation process.
- a form called a Domestic Violence Screening for Mediation form which is to be filed with the Clerk's Office by the parties.
- a questionnaire, which contains questions about the couple's domestic violence history. This form will be confidentially filed at the Office of the Court (FOC), following an Early Intervention Conference.
- a list of court-approved mediators.

 For more information on domestic mediation services at Oakland County Circuit Court, contact the Case Management Office at (248) 858-5830.

POLICE REPORT

Lost and confused

A 22-year-old Westland man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 2:02 a.m. Feb. 11 at Novi Road and Main Street. An officer was dispatched to the area and upon arriving at the scene found the driver and passengers outside of their vehicles. One vehicle had severe front-end damage, and the other had severe rear-end damage. The driver arrested said that he was behind a vehicle, and as they were approaching Main Street, he was told to stop. The driver of the vehicle in front of him stopped at a blinking yellow light, and he hit him. The driver who was hit said that he stopped at the flashing yellow light because he was lost. The officer could smell an odor of intoxicants while speaking with the two drivers. The driver who rear-ended the vehicle said he had had his last drink at about midnight. A breath test showed a blood alcohol level of .13 percent.

Light hesitation

A 36-year-old Dearborn Heights man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 2:26 a.m. Feb. 12 at the M5 Connector and Twelve Mile Road. An officer was parked on the southbound shoulder of the M5 Connector at Thirteen Mile Road when he saw a gold 2001 Nissan Sentra traveling at a high rate of speed. The stoplight was red at Thirteen Mile, but the vehicle stopped about 25 feet north of the stop line. When the signal turned green, the driver paused for five to seven seconds before proceeding. As the vehicle continued southbound, the officer paced the car at over 70 mph. The driver was also weaving in his lane. After making a traffic stop, the officer noticed the strong odor of intoxicants on the driver's breath. His eyes were also red and glassy, and his speech was slightly slurred. The driver admitted that he had been drinking; a breath test produced a blood alcohol level of .25 percent.

Manhattan Clubbin'

A 46-year-old Novi woman was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 1:46 a.m. Feb. 13 at Novi Road and I-96. An officer was working stationary traffic enforcement in the area of Grand River Avenue and Novi Road parked at the entrance to Wonderland Plaza when he saw a driver turn on a "No Turn On Red" signal. When stopped, the woman said she did not see the sign and was going to Dean's for breakfast. The officer noted the strong smell of intoxicants coming from the car. A breath test revealed a blood alcohol level of .19 percent.

I've been "there"

A Canton man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 10:15 p.m. Feb. 11 at Novi and Grand River.

An officer assisted another officer on an accident, which he found while on patrol on southbound Novi Road north of Ten Mile Road. During the assist, the officer told his colleague that he believed the driver of the at-fault vehicle was under the influence of alcohol.

Intersection pass

A 22-year-old Livonia man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 11:51 p.m. Feb. 4 at Basham and Grand River Avenue. An officer was approaching a red light at Meadowbrook while driving eastbound on Grand River when he saw a 2001 blue Volkswagen Jetta swerve to the left and pass a vehicle while both vehicles were still in the intersection. After making a traffic stop, the officer could smell the odor of intoxicants coming from the driver. The driver said that he was impatient and that the other driver was driving too slowly. The driver's eyes were glassy and bloodshot, and his speech was slurred. He said that he had had a few beers but had not had anything to drink for about an hour and a half and felt fine to drive. A breath test revealed a blood alcohol level of .13 percent.

Wallet lifted

A 17-year-old Brighton woman was arrested for retail

fraud at 10:33 p.m. Feb. 5 at Lord & Taylor at Twelve Oaks Mall. An officer was dispatched to the store to investigate an incident involving one adult female in custody and a \$125 wallet that was stolen and recovered. A loss prevention officer told police that at about 9:10 p.m. she saw a female subject select wallets near the women's department. Later she placed one of the wallets in a Forever 21 bag she had brought into the store with her. She then met up with a friend and walked past several cash registers without paying.

Gutter bouncin'

A 26-year-old Garden City man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 11:46 p.m. Feb. 5 at Twelve Mile Road and Cabaret. An officer was driving north on West Park Drive just south of West Road when he saw a black 1998 Chevrolet cross the center line in front of him. At one point, the man drove into the gutter portion of the road on the right side. After stopping the vehicle, the officer could smell intoxicants coming from the inside of the vehicle and that the man's eyes were red and watery. The man said that he was coming from Wixom and going to Garden City. When asked why he was having trouble staying in his lane, he responded that he was

just following his friend. He said that he had had two beers two hours ago. A breath test showed a blood alcohol level of .15 percent.

Where's Livonia?

A 24-year-old Livonia woman was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 12:04 a.m. Feb. 3 at Nine Mile and Haggerty roads. An officer was southbound on Haggerty Road when he saw a blue 2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee traveling at a high rate of speed. He activated his radar unit and obtained a reading of 55 mph in a 45 mph zone. He also noticed that the vehicle was drifting within its lane and that it crossed both the fog line and the center line several times. The driver also stopped at least one car length past the stop line at the intersection. The officer finally initiated a traffic stop at the entrance to the Pavillion Court Apartments. The woman produced her driver's license but could not locate her registration and proof of insurance. The officer could smell intoxicants and noticed that the woman's eyes were glassy and bloodshot. She said she was coming from Mitchell's Fish House, a new restaurant in Novi, and was going back home to Livonia. The new restaurant is on Haggerty between Six Mile Road and Seven Mile Road in Livonia. The officer noted that she was travel-

Red lights runned

A 28-year-old Canton man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 12:39 a.m. Feb. 4 at Nine Mile and Haggerty roads. Two officers were sitting in the parking lot of Burger King near the intersection of Grand River and Haggerty Road when they saw a vehicle driving at a high rate of speed run a red light at the intersection. After following the driver, he ran another red light at Grand River and Ten Mile Road. A traffic stop was finally initiated on Haggerty just north of Nine Mile Road. When the officer approached the red Toyota, he could smell the strong odor of intoxicants coming from the driver. The man said that he had been drinking and that he did not stop for the light because he did not want to screech his tires when he stopped. A breath test showed a blood alcohol level of .12 percent.

Compiled by Pam Fleming

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By Botsford General Hospital

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3. Sudden trouble seeing out of one or both eyes.
4. Dizziness, trouble walking, loss of balance or coordination.
5. Trouble speaking or understanding or sudden, overwhelming confusion for no reason.

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Couple enjoys fantasy wedding at Twelve Oaks

Bride's students attend ceremony at Center Court

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Kristen Seed and Tim Reardon's fantasy wedding at Twelve Oaks Mall's Center Court last Sunday night came off with a bang, with the happy couple still reeling from the experience.

The couple won the Novi mall's recent "Marry Me at Twelve" wedding contest — the second year for the event.

Peggy Hayes, marketing director, Twelve Oaks Mall, said 100 people attended the wedding, including students from Kristen's fourth grade class at Woodlake Elementary School in Farmington Hills.

The new Mrs. Reardon tossed her bouquet to the single females below from the balcony overlooking Center Court. Then, they were off to a high, with the happy couple still reeling from the experience.

"Everybody was raving about the food, which was done by Fiere Ballinger Catering of Troy," Hayes said. "It was wonderful."

Take 1 Productions of Waterford, who filmed the couple's adventure, also showed a 10-minute video during the dinner of the contest sponsors pulling up in front of Reardon's house the morning of Feb. 4 in a Hummer limousine.

The video also featured the couple making their selections at various stores at Twelve Oaks Mall. To see more of Kristen and Tim's exciting contest win, visit www.bridesofnovi.com.

"It was absolutely beautiful. Emerald City Designs did a wonderful job, and it was a wonderful experience," the groom said.

"The food was spectacular, and we couldn't be more pleased with the entire event. Everyone had a wonderful time. I can't say enough nice things about everything we experienced."

Reardon said although they dated for more than a year, once they became engaged and won the

contest, things moved very quickly.

"It was kind of a surreal night for us. The whole thing went by so fast. We were engaged Dec. 17, and now we're married two months later," he said.

And although it's only been less than a week, the groom is already enjoying married life.

"We're looking forward to the rest of our lives. It's such a leg up to us financially to have all of this provided. We really appreciated it. We've got a lot of thank you's to send to all the sponsors," he said.

"The bride said Feb. 13, 2005, was also a night she'll always remember."

"It was wonderful — just gorgeous. It was everything I'd thought it would be. I was surprised by how meaningful the ceremony was. I was so happy to say my vows with Tim. Having my students there, too, made it very special," she said. "My whole family and his family were very happy."

The bride said she's currently concentrating on moving in with her new husband and getting their house in order.

"It was the ultimate bachelor, so it needs a girl's touch," she said.

The two plan to take the contest's honeymoon trip to the Bahamas during Woodlake Elementary's spring break in March.

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.



"It was kind of a surreal night for us. The whole thing went by so fast. We were engaged Dec. 17, and now we're married two months later."

Tim Reardon
"Marry Me at Twelve" groom

Photo courtesy of Harry Valenz Photography of Farmington Hills
Kristen Seed and Tim Reardon were the lucky winners of the "Marry Me at Twelve" contest and were joined in holy matrimony at the mall Sunday.

Ice damming be gone

Local experts offer tips to protect homes

By Kim Kovelie
STAFF WRITER

Even a plumber can fall victim to ice damming — frozen water that piles up under roof eaves.

It happened recently at the Northville home of Long Plumbing Company owner Jim Long.

"There was some minor water damage," Long said. "I had some electrical tracer tape installed with a manual switch. It melts the ice and helps it to be removed from the roof."

To remedy a common cold-weather problem, learn about the causes and get local experts' advice into action.

Winter blockages

David Gordon, owner of Novi's Leaf Guard Midwest, explained how damming occurs.

"Most homes and most gutters, you get condensation on the roof," Gordon said. "You'll get heat loss in the attic."

"Water" goes down to the gutter or the eaves, which is the coldest part, and it will freeze."

As water melts under the dam, it can go somewhere.

"It'll find a way in," Gordon said. "It could be your siding is put on poor, your window framing is down poorly."

That's when the inside of the house is at risk, Novi Building Inspector Chris Weber explained.

"It actually seeps inside the house and runs down the interior wall," Weber said.

Stop the damming

Weber said the key to preventing ice damming is proper insulation and ventilation.

Start with a fiberglass or foam insulation in the attic, he suggested.

"They don't have adequate insulation," said Weber. "It's more prevalent in the older subs. The minimum is R-30."

That rating refers to insulation having that could range from nine-12 inches thick. Gordon said R-19 is even better; some old homes only have R-13.

"You want to keep that attic just as cold as the outside so the snow doesn't melt," added Weber.

Proper ventilation will in turn get rid of condensation. Continual-flow ridge vents allow air to move into the eaves.

Another aid is having an adequately-pitched roof steeper from 6-12 to 10-12, Weber said.

RAKING ROOFS

For those with low roofs and healthy bodies, there's another option to clear snow from roofs: rakes.

Specially tailored to scoop snow off housetops before it freezes or gets too heavy, these contraptions can be effective if used cautiously.

"They're an aluminum pole with an aluminum blade on them," said Tom Vann, owner, Brookside Hardware, just outside Novi. "Two poles fit into each other. You've got 17 feet plus your arm length." Extensions can give another eight-foot boost.

At about \$40, rakes remove snow from the leading edge of the roof, where damming occurs.

Vann said the rakes sell quickly, weather pending. "I have used one on my house," he added.

Just be cautious and aware of electrical wires and antenna systems atop roofs. Those with heart conditions or other health problems also might reconsider.

Novi Building Inspector Chris Weber recommends being aware. "If you're a homeowner that has a really low-pitched roof and it's not too dangerous to get it," it might be an option, he said.

ice shield, a tar paper-like adhesive substance is required two feet above bearing walls, Weber said.

Leaf Guard Midwest offers gutters that form icicles.

"It's a benefit," Gordon said. "Would you rather have it over the gutter where it's going onto the ground, or would you rather have it build up in the gutter?"

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

Wanted: local heroes to honor

"Wisdom is knowing what to do next; virtue is doing it."
David Star Jordan
(1851-1931)

The United Way of Oakland County and the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, in partnership with several community organizations, are looking for local heroes who have given selflessly of themselves to make Oakland County a better place to live, work and play.

The Home Town Heroes awards will honor volunteers in seven categories:

- Direct Service Volunteer, ages 31-64, who has provided outstanding services on behalf of an Oakland County non-profit organization.
- Young Adult, ages 19-30, who has provided outstanding services on behalf of an Oakland County non-profit organization.
- Senior, ages 65 and up, who has provided outstanding contributions in either service or leadership in Oakland County.
- Youth, ages 18 and younger, who has provided outstanding service or leadership in Oakland County.
- Non-profit Governance, representing a volunteer who

has significantly impacted an Oakland County non-profit organization as a member of the board of directors.

- Faith-Based Volunteer Activity, recognizing a person who has made a significant difference in community outreach or faith-based activities in Oakland County, who together with its employees have engaged in community volunteer activities in Oakland County.
- To nominate a volunteer, complete an application and submit a typewritten essay up to one page long. An entry form can be found on page B-6 of today's newspaper. State the qualities that make him or her stand out and list any major accomplishments, give specific examples and include a 5"x7" photo.
- The program is also in collaboration with Lighthouse of Oakland County, Junior League of Birmingham, Inc., Oakland University, Assistance League of Southeastern Michigan, Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency and St. Joseph Mercy Oakland.

For more information, contact the United Way at (248) 874-1601.

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GEMOLOGIST

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SENIORS

Kim Kovelle, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net

Helping the homebound

Getting extra care to seniors in need

By Kim Kovelle
STAFF WRITER

When the Meals on Wheels volunteer brought a hot Salisbury steak dinner to a Novi woman who didn't answer her door, emergency calls went out. Luckily, the homebound woman had just switched an appointment time and was home.

"She called back and she apologized," said Helen Siudara, director for western Oakland County's program. "She really appreciated the fact we called. We do that as quickly as we can."

Meals on Wheels is one of several programs in the area tailored to help homebound during winter and beyond.

Help on wheels

Those who can't leave their homes sometimes can have services brought to them.

Meals on Wheels drive hot meals to 280 seniors Monday-Friday, many of whom live in Novi.

"It does your heart good to get out and see how old and frail people are, and that your real really means something," Siudara said. "Founder Sr. Camille Kelley has vowed we'll never have a waiting list."

For a cost of \$2.50 per meal, seniors get a meat entree, vegeta-

bles, milk and more, delivered. Christmas Day, 22 meals were taken to those without family, Siudara said.

The Novi Public Library offers a year-round book drop-off pickup service for residents.

"We usually do it once a month," said Tsui-Mei Shih, reference librarian. "We talk to them, find what they are interested in reading, and then we will deliver books to them."

"If they don't have anything in mind, then we'll give them some suggestions."

Currently, only three patrons use the program, Shih said, but they enjoy the books and brief companionship of the librarians.

The Wayne County's Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped also supplies free rentals via mail.

Another traveling service, Trinity Home Health Services, assists patients in Novi.

Grace McCauley, CEO, said nurses connect through medical services and friendly companionship.

"It can be depressing, especially during the holiday season," said Grace McCauley, CEO, Trinity Home Health Services. "People tend to have more physical problems during the winter when they're isolated. They have a hard time getting around."

Those interested in helping the homebound, whether by making a card or "adopting" someone, need only contact the center.

"It's just to brighten their day, and it does," McCauley said, adding that she's not aware of any "adoption" currently in the city.

On the move

For those who are able, transportation comes to seniors via the Novi Senior Center.

With a 48-hour advance call, residents ages 55 and older can

REACH OUT

For more information on local programs to help the homebound or infirmed, contact:

- Novi Senior Center: (248) 347-0414
- Novi Senior Transportation: (248) 735-5617
- Mercy Amicare Home Healthcare (home services, Meals on Wheels): (248) 858-7735
- Northville Senior Center: (248) 349-4140

travel within a five-mile radius for a suggested \$2 fare each way from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on weekdays.

For medical trips, the radius is 10 miles. Three buses have wheelchair capabilities.

"They become their friends, their family," Senior Services Manager Rachel Zagaroli said of eight part-time drivers.

Various outings and activities also are offered through the center.

Another service that helps those who cannot leave their homes is a phone reassurance program.

"We can arrange for a telephone call once a week or once a day, however it suits the person," Senior Center Manager Jan McAlpine said. "They try to pick up the mood of the person that they're calling. If they sense that they're lonely and need to talk, they could talk for 40 minutes."

Those interested in helping the homebound, whether by making a card or "adopting" someone, need only contact the center.

"It's just to brighten their day, and it does," McCauley said, adding that she's not aware of any "adoption" currently in the city.

Kim Kovelle can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or via e-mail at kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net.

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Friday 2/18 8:45 a.m. Panera Bread 9 a.m. Stretch & Strength 10 a.m. Body Recall 10 a.m. Lunch 11 a.m. Clogging 12:30 p.m. Bingo held in activities room 12:30 p.m. Lunch 1:30 p.m. Bridge	Wednesday 2/23 9 a.m. Massage 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Body Recall 10 a.m. Computer - Excel 10 a.m. Quilting 10:30 a.m. Lunch 11 a.m. Blood Pressure and TOPS Class 12:30 p.m. Lunch 12:30 p.m. Clogging*
Monday 2/21 Senior Center Lunch Service; Transportation closed for President's Day	Thursday 2/24 9 a.m. Line Dance* 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Income taxes by appointment only noon Lunch 12:15 Line Dance 1-2 p.m. Bridge* 1:30 p.m. Spelling Bee Rehearsal
Tuesday 2/22 9 a.m. Panera Bread 9 a.m. Line Dance 10 a.m. Asian Pacific Lunch 12:30 p.m. Lunch 1-3 p.m. Dance	Activities designated with an "*" will be held at the Novi Civic Center. The Senior Center is located at 25075 Meadowbrook.

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Program seeks senior workers

Training service must fill 50 slots or risk losing funds

By Kim Kovelle
STAFF WRITER

Seven years ago, 62-year-old Sandy Terry could no longer physically help her senior friends as a caregiver.

So, she turned to the Area Agency on Aging 1-B's Senior Community Service Employment Program, which covers Oakland County.

Now, Terry serves Meals on Wheels at her Walled Lake Villas Apartment home.

"We serve lunches here for the people," Terry said. "I just enjoy being with them and making them happy. I've met all the people here."

But agency coordinators say funds for the area's program could be cut if 50 workers aren't quickly found.

How it works

Born from Title V of the 1965 federal Older Americans Act, the program accepts seniors 55 years and older living at 125 percent of poverty level.

"They get the opportunity to get back into the workforce by... community service close to their home," area coordinator Tanya Kurtz said. "It's a real confidence booster to be able to at least get going."

Set up with a nearby non-profit agency, seniors work 18-and-a-half-hour weeks at \$5.15 an hour, also learning skills like resume-writing.

"The host agency has to provide supervision and training,"

Kurtz said. "The idea is either you're getting that person ready to be hired by your own agency or you're giving them some transferable skills."

Once complete, the goal is for seniors to successfully find full-time employment.

Twelve of the state's 16 agencies currently use federal grants to fund the program. This year's 1-B allotment is \$500,000.

"Seventy-five percent of our grants must... be spent on wages and fringes for participants," Kurtz said.

Changing times

But recent changes have hampered filling 50 of the program's 80 positions.

Effective last May, the U.S. Department of Labor upped local income requirements.

"We have to count unemployment now, more of their Social Security income now than we used to," Kurtz said. "For the most part, those regulations have made it more difficult for people to enroll."

Julia Thomas, program manager with the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging, said that hurts areas like Novi with higher income levels.

"That area of the state tends to be more affluent," she said. "I think it's just more difficult to find people that are at or below 125 of the national level of poverty."

"That area of historically they have met their placement goals. There's a constant turnover and recruitment takes time."

Another possible hindrance is slimmer hours allowed in training. Now, 24-36 months is the federal ideal. Previously, some stayed for many years, Kurtz said.

"There's definitely a thrust towards people recognizing that this is not an entitlement,"

CALL TODAY

Novi seniors interested in the Area Agency on Aging 1-B's Senior Community Service Employment Program should contact Tanya Kurtz at (248) 282-9215.

Program requirements

- Candidates for the Area Agency on Aging 1-B's Senior Community Service Employment Program must be:
 - 55 years of age or older
 - A resident of the State of Michigan
 - At or below 125 percent of poverty level
 - Currently unemployed

Thomas said.

Appeal for workers

Still, Kurtz hopes eligible Novi seniors step forward to take part.

"I don't have anyone right now who is in Novi who is enrolled," she said. "I am desperately needing people in the Novi area. We can sign them up, and we can sign up a non-profit agency that is close to their home."

If the slots aren't filled by 50 seniors living in Oakland County, Macomb, Monroe, St. Clair or Washtenaw counties soon, Kurtz said the rest of this year's grant funds will be taken back.

"We're looking for people who really are sitting at home and trying to figure out what to do because their bills are going up and their Social Security is not keeping pace," Kurtz said. "I always say this is the best kept secret in the area."

"I can get them started that very next week working."

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.

SAVVY SENIOR - "CONSUMER INFORMATION"

Dear Savvy Senior
I'm an 80-year-old current events buff that still enjoys learning new things. I also love to get free stuff. I recently read that the U.S. government offers many free publications on different consumer topics and practical information for older Americans, but I lost the article. Do you know about this free material and how I can get it?
Looking for Help

Dear Looking.
The government service you're asking about is the Federal Citizen Information Center (FCIC). It's a great resource for answers to questions about consumer problems and government services. Each year FCIC helps keep Americans informed by distributing nearly 6 million user-friendly publications. The FCIC is also set up to provide help and information either by phone, e-mail and through their Web site. Here's how they can assist you.

Phone or E-mail

If you have questions about federal programs, benefits and services, FCIC manages a toll-free National Contact Center to answer questions in English and Spanish. Call 1-800-333-4636 between 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. eastern time Monday through Friday. You can also e-mail your questions through their Web site at (www.info.gov).

Web Site

(www.FirstGov.gov) is the U.S. Government's best all-around Web site for government information and services. This site provides access to over 42 million pages of Web-based federal, state and local government resources. Here, you can find information on things like government benefits and grants, Social Security, Medicare, taxes, housing, education, jobs, insurance, travel, health, consumer protection, how to interact with your elected officials and much more.

Publications

FCIC offers hundreds of publication including

the new "Savvy Senior Kit," which is a specially designed packet for older Americans and those nearing retirement age. The kit is free and provides more than 15 easy-to-read publications that offer practical information and tips. The publications are provided by government agencies, health organizations, AARP and MetLife, and cover a wide variety of topics including:

- Understanding your Social Security benefits.
- Health information including publications on diabetes, heart disease and stroke.
- Home energy and money savings tips.
- Estate planning, annuities and establishing a trust.
- Saving and investing facts, including publications on the top 10 ways to prepare for retirement, women and retirement savings, 401(k) plans and annuities.
- A borrower's guide to home loans.
- Also included in the kit will be the Consumer Information Catalog, listing all available FCIC free and low-cost information.

Consumer Action Handbook

The FCIC also offers a free "Consumer Action Handbook" that can help you find the best and most direct source for assistance with your consumer problems and questions. The handbook offers tips on topics such as buying and leasing cars, protecting your privacy and yourself from fraud, and shopping from home. It also provides thousands of names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses for better business bureaus, corporate consumer contacts and state, county and city government consumer protection offices. You can access the Web edition of the handbook at (www.consumeraction.gov).

How to Order

To order the Savvy Senior Kit or the Consumer Action Handbook call 1-888-878-3256 or visit www.pueblito.gov. You can also sign up for their E-newsletter which will send you updates on the newest publications and information available from the FCIC.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.org. Jim Miller is a regular contributor to the NBC Today Show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

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BUSINESS

Pam Fleming, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 pfleming@ht.homecomm.net Kim Kovelle, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net

Dentist caters to the cowards

■ He takes 'fear factor' out of visits

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Going to the dentist is not usually something anyone looks forward to.

But Novi resident Michael McClinchey, D.D.S., who owns and operates the Coward Care Center in neighboring Farmington Hills, says patients no longer should dread dental visits.

"We live in a technological age. It's amazing how many devices we have now to help people," he said.

McClinchey, a member of the Novi Chamber of Commerce, in June will celebrate 27 years at his office on Ten Mile Road east of Haggerty Road next to Wendy's Restaurant.

"I tried to get into Novi, but at the time there was no building available," he said.

His high-tech equipment includes a laser that substitutes as

a drill. "This is recent technology. It was invented in the late 1990s, but it's only been on the market for a couple of years," he said.

The laser cuts both soft and hard tissue, so it can be used on both teeth and gums. "They're doing root canals with it, and on normal procedures, 97 percent of the time you don't need any anesthetic," he said.

He also has a device not many dentists use called the Wand that provides a computerized way of giving injections. "It takes the human error out of it. It gives the anesthetic at a constant rate and volume and, therefore, less discomfort," he added.

The device also doesn't look like a syringe, and people love that, according to McClinchey.

"It's the whole philosophy of trying to ease people's pain," he said.

McClinchey, D.D.S.
Coward Care Center

Dentistry has come so far from where it once was. "It's not even close to what it used to be," according to McClinchey.

"We have all this high-tech equipment. We even have a laser that hardens filling material, and we don't use silver anymore -- we use tooth-colored material," he said.

Another great innovation is a laser called the Diaproduct, which detects decay in teeth.



Novi resident and dentist Dr. Michael McClinchey demonstrates his laser-assisted cavity repairing system, at left, with the help of his assistant, Sue Dewar, seated.

"This is 90 percent accurate. The old pick or explorer we've been using for 100 years is less than 27 percent accurate," he said.

He has a separate teeth bleaching room where the process can be completed in only 90 minutes.

The office also has a system for weight loss. "It's an appliance that you wear in your mouth. The theory behind it is that if you eat slower and eat less portions, then you'll lose weight. It makes sense.

It forces you to take smaller bites," he said.

Patients who need braces can now use a removable, clear appliance called invisalign that fits on the teeth. "You wear it 24 hours a day, and it works," McClinchey said. "They're using it on some pretty advanced cases."

The intra-oral camera, which allows dentists to get a close-up view of the mouth, is another fairly recent dental innovation. The

camera magnifies the area 40 times greater than with the naked eye.

"This has probably been the greatest device in recent dentistry," he added. "This has really increased our diagnostic capability."

McClinchey said he does a lot of cosmetic work on patients like on the popular TV show "Extreme Makeover."

smile look really nice or when you can ease their fears," he noted.

For more information about dental services at the Coward Care Center, call McClinchey's staff at (248) 474-2280.

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.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Osgood elected to board

Real Estate One Novi's Dianne Osgood recently was elected to a three-year term with Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors' board of directors.

Previously involved in related committees, Osgood will help the board promote professional realtor education. She said her aim is to better serve her clients.

With more than 4,000 realtor and broker members, the board is the second-largest realtor board in the state. It's also involved with local charities including Make a Wish and Toys for Tots.

Griffith 'best' lawyer

Gerald Griffith, a Novi resident and Honigman attorney, recently was named to the 2005-06 edition of The Best Lawyers in America book.

A partner and chair of the health care law department of Detroit-based Honigman

Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP, Griffith also was recognized in the past three editions.

Griffith is a 1985 magna cum laude graduate of the University of Toledo College of Law. His firm, which represents more than 15,000 clients, had 48 total attorneys listed, according to Honigman. The book is in its 11th edition.

INCAT is emerging

INCAT, Novi's global professional services company, was recognized last week for its leadership in Oakland County's technology sector.

The company was acknowledged in Troy during the 2005 State of the County address, delivered by Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. Noted was INCAT's "V5 in '05," a new program to enhance and upgrade software skills of its employees.

opportunities. Ulrich Herter, the company's CEO, was Patterson's guest at the invitation-only event. INCAT is located at 41370 Bridge Street.

Zachary joins Neumann/Smith

Diane F. Zachary of Walled Lake recently joined Neumann/Smith & Associates as an interior designer. She brings the Southfield firm more than 23 years' professional design experience in corporate, financial, healthcare, educational and hospitality industries.

Zachary earned her interior design bachelor's of arts from Michigan State University. She lives with her son.

Auto production up

Automakers were expected to produce 254,244 vehicles last week, up 0.9 percent from the week prior, according to Ward's Automotive Reports. To date, yearly vehicle output is an estimated 1,434,822 units, down 1.3 percent from this time last year.

Tower picks software

Novi's Tower Automotive, which recently filed Chapter 11 Bankruptcy, announced Feb. 8 it has selected software from a Canadian supplier.

Activplant, based in London, Ontario, will supply enterprise manufacturing intelligence software, to be used as Tower's factory information system standard for assembly operations.

The software gathers and analyzes data on 60-120 operations per assembly line, including automated welding equipment and robots, and identifies and resolves bottlenecks or downtime issues as they occur.

'LaSalle' new name for 'Standard'

By later this year, Standard Federal Bank, which has several Novi branch offices, will take on the LaSalle Bank's name.

Troy-based Standard said the banks are unifying brands, not merging. Both are indirect subsidiaries of Netherlands-based ABN AMRO Bank N.V. and will share the same corporate logo.

During this transition, customers can continue to use the bank's products and services with no disruptions, such as using pre-printed checks and ATM/debit cards with the Standard logo.

Checks with the LaSalle Bank brand will be issued with new orders, and new cards will be provided when current ones expire.

Taubman's results strong

Taubman Centers, Inc., which operates Novi's Twelve Oaks Mall, recently announced strong financial results for 2004.

Among highlights was \$1.99 per share in funds from operations, up more than 19 percent from the year before. Sales also reached a company-record \$477 per square foot, officials said.

Shares for this year are expected to range \$2.10-\$2.15. For more investor information, visit www.taubman.com. Taubman Centers is headquartered in Bloomfield Hills.

Owens expands products' reach

Looking to make its proprietary long-fiber glass/polyolefin thermoplastic better available, Novi's Owens Corning recently announced a licensing agreement with RheTech, Inc.

RheTech will manufacture and sell the product in North America under the RHEMAX trade name. The thermoplastic offers semi-structural automotive purposes, such as better impact performance and creep resistance; long- and short-term heat resistance;

and lower weight and part consolidation.

Production will begin around July at a Michigan facility using Performax roving developed specifically by Owens for LFTP compounding. Owens is located at 46500 Humboldt Drive.

Life Time opening soon

Commerce Township's Life Time Fitness Center will open March 4, to be marked from 7-9 p.m. by a ribbon-cutting ceremony, facility tours and various activities.

Life Time's sixth health and fitness center in the Detroit area, the new locale is also one of the largest at 109,000 square feet. Topping the offerings is 24-hour access to more than 400 pieces of state-of-the-art cardio, resistance and free weights training equipment, along with classes, personal training and other amenities.

The grand opening will feature food and beverage sampling in the LifeCafe. Located at 2901 Commerce Blvd., Life Time Fitness officially opens for workouts at 6 a.m. March 5.

Volunteer 'angels' sought

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are now accepting nominations for the annual Caring for Children Angel Awards.

Five adult volunteers and one "Lil' Angel" volunteer, age 17, will be honored at a reception and awards presentation Nov. 4.

From the five adults, one Grand Angel will receive a trophy and \$5,000 donation for her or his affiliated nonprofit organization. All other winners will receive a trophy and \$1,000 donation for their charity.

For nomination information, fill out a form at www.bcbstm.com/angel or call (800) 733-2583. The submission deadline is April 15.



Anniversary Vatche and Erica Nadjarian are celebrating five years in the jewelry business at their Main Street Novi Jewelers shop.

Auto Show announces stats

The 2004 North American International Auto Show's public days last month attracted 773,422 visitors over nine days.

Numbers recently were released for the show, which completed its 18th year as an international event. Also, a sold-

out Charity Preview attracted 17,500 guests and raised \$7 million raised for 11 local Detroit children's charities.

Next year's show is set for Jan. 8-22, 2006 at COBO Center in Detroit.

Compiled by Kim Kovelle

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Novi Community School District invites qualified bidders, including MBE/WBE/SBE firms, to submit proposals/bids for the above-referenced project for the following Bid Category:

BIDS ARE DUE at 2:00 pm local time on Monday February 21, 2005.

On behalf of the Novi Community School District, Skanska USA Building Inc. will receive sealed proposals for the above project at the Skanska USA Building Inc. main office, 21500 American Drive, Suite 200, Southfield, MI 48034 - Attention: Chris Becker, until the stipulated bid opening date and time. Bids received after the stipulated date and time will not be considered and will be returned unopened. Bids will be opened at a public meeting to be convened at 3:00 pm on Monday February 21, 2005 at the Novi Community School District Educational Services Building. Bids must be clearly marked with the project name and bid category.

All interested bidders may obtain copies of the drawings and specifications from Skanska USA Building Inc. upon request and upon providing a bid deposit of \$50.00. Skanska USA Building Inc. will return all bid deposits to contractor(s) after bid date and when bid documents are returned to Skanska USA Building Inc. in good condition.

A minimum of 5% bid security, either in the form of a Bid Bond or Cashier's Check payable to Novi Community School District, must accompany each bid. In accordance with Michigan Compiled Laws Section 129.201, successful contractor(s) must obtain Performance and Payment Bonds for any Bid Category exceeding \$50,000. The Performance and Payment Bonds shall be in an amount equal to the contract amount. The Performance and Payment Bonds shall be solely for the protection of Novi Community School District and Skanska USA Building Inc. as dual obligors. A surety company authorized to do business in the State of Michigan and be listed in the Federal Register or have an AM Best Rating of B+ or better shall execute the Performance and Payment Bonds.

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• Best place for burgers	• Best real estate agent
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• Best Oriental restaurant	• Best collision shop
• Best Mexican restaurant	• Best tire store
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LIFESTYLES

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

Eagle Scout Court of Honor set Sunday

Three young men in area to be recognized

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Sixteen-year-old Novi resident William Robertson will be one of three young men from Troop 54 in Novi to be recognized Sunday as new Eagle Scouts.

Robertson, an honor roll student at Walled Lake Western, who became an Eagle Scout on Nov. 29, 2004, will be honored along with new Eagle Scouts Joe Lapan of Wolverine Lake and Matt Markham of Novi. The Court of Honor will take place at 2 p.m. at the United Methodist Church at Ten Mile and Meadowbrook roads, where the troop meets.

Robertson comes from a long line of scoutmasters. His grandfather, Robert Robertson Sr. of Novi is a former scoutmaster of Troop 54, and his other grandfather, Raymond Essell, was a scoutmaster in the Detroit Area Council. His uncle, Raymond Essell Jr., is also an Eagle Scout.

Every Eagle Scout must have an individual project called an Eagle Service Project in addition to many other requirements. Candidates have to earn at least 21 merit badges to become an Eagle Scout; Robertson has 25.

"In my mind, to get the Eagle award is a symbol of hard work and perseverance. We have a board in the room where the troop meets with names and dates of Eagle Scouts in Troop 54. I used to tell people, 'One of these days I'm going to be on there. Nobody believed me back then. They just laughed,'" he said.

Those who would like to join Troop 54 can call Scoutmaster Robertson at (248) 624-9016.

Potawatomi Trail medal: backpacked with Trek 727C, a Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico; and attended Dorchester International Camporee three times.

Robertson is interested in math, science, mechanical drawing, engineering and robotics and hopes to become an engineer.

This school year, he has a 4.0 grade point average and is taking some advanced classes.

His Eagle Project took place at Hiram Sims Park in Walled Lake. It consisted of building a covered sign that displays the various types of plants and wildlife that can be found in the park. Six birdhouses were also built and hung for the bluebirds.

The project also included staining and repair of benches, constructing 100 feet of fence and 10 large exercise stations.

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Courtesy photo

William R. Robertson of Novi is one of three new Eagle Scouts to be recognized at a Court of Honor at 2 p.m. Sunday at the United Methodist Church at Ten Mile and Meadowbrook roads. Matt Markham of Novi and Joe Lapan of Wolverine Lake are the other two scouts.

Robertson has 25 merit badges to become an Eagle Scout; Robertson has 25.

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OBITUARIES

Robert J. Cahill

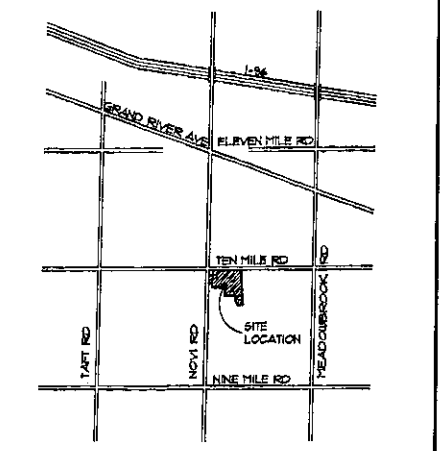
Robert J. Cahill, 85, died Feb. 7. O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River Ave., Novi, (248) 348-1800.

Mary C. Marcus

Mary C. Marcus died Feb. 8. O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River Ave., Novi, (248) 348-1800.

CITY OF NOVI COURTESY NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will review the following request on Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI. WEISS COMMERCIAL PLANNED REZONING OVERLAY, SITE PLAN NUMBER 04-41A, FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR A REVISED PLANNED REZONING OVERLAY (PRO) ON PROPERTY LOCATED SOUTH OF TEN MILE ROAD EAST OF NOVI ROAD. THE APPLICANT IS PROPOSING A P.R.O. CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN WITH DEVELOPMENT CONDITIONS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH REZONING 18.641. The subject property is approximately 25.364 acres. A public hearing was previously held on October 13, 2004.



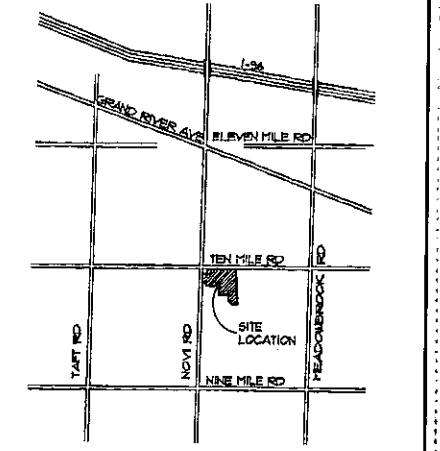
LOCATION MAP SCALE: N.T.S.

Documents related to this request are on file with the Novi Planning Department and the Novi Public Library from February 19 through February 23. Please note: City Offices will be closed on February 21 for President's Day, but the Novi Public Library will be open that day. All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, February 23, 2005.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY (2-17-05 NN 194510)

CITY OF NOVI COURTESY NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will review the following request on Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI. ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.641 BY NOVI TEN ASSOCIATES FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING OF PROPERTY LOCATED SOUTH OF TEN MILE ROAD EAST OF NOVI ROAD FROM A COMBINATION OF OS-1, OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT AND L-1 LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT TO R-2 COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT. The subject property is approximately 25.364 acres. The subject property is approximately 25.364 acres. A public hearing was previously held on October 13, 2004.



LOCATION MAP SCALE: N.T.S.

Documents related to this request are on file with the Novi Planning Department and the Novi Public Library from February 19 through February 23. Please note: City Offices will be closed on February 21 for President's Day, but the Novi Public Library will be open that day. All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, February 23, 2005.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY (2-17-05 NN 194512)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 05-147.01

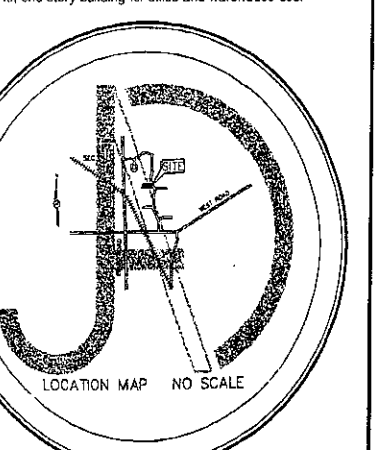
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 05-147.01, an Ordinance to amend the City of Novi Code of Ordinances as amended, Chapter 2, Administration, Article VI, Purchase and Sale of Property, Section 2-201, authorization for expenditures, with regard to the amounts requiring Council approval and sealed bids.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, February 7, 2005. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARWANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK (2-17-05 NN 194513)

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 9, 2005 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.645 FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING ON PROPERTY IN SECTION 16, NORTH OF ELEVEN MILE ROAD, WEST OF TAFT ROAD, FROM R-1 (RESIDENTIAL) TO R-1 ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (RESIDENTIAL). The subject property is 12.15 acres.



LOCATION MAP NO SCALE

Documents related to this request are on file with the Novi Planning Department and the Novi Public Library from February 19 through February 23. Please note: City Offices will be closed on February 21 for President's Day, but the Novi Public Library will be open that day. All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, February 23, 2005.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY (2-17-05 NN 194505)

Are you an organ & tissue donor?

Ask your family today, and let them know your decision, too. That way you'll know, they'll know, and there will be no question later. For a free brochure, call 1-800-355-SHARE. Share your life, share your decision! Michigan Coalition on donation

"In my mind, to get the Eagle award is a symbol of hard work and perseverance."

William Robertson
Eagle Scout, Troop 54

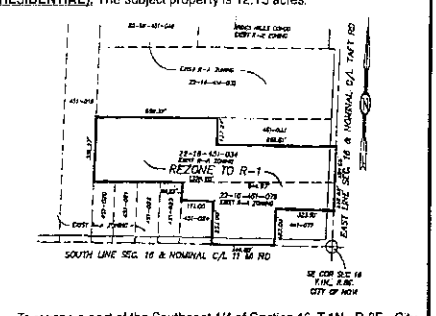
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Novi Community School District is requesting bids for Novi High School Auditorium Seating. Requirements and specifications are available for the district office located at 25345 Taft Road, Novi, MI 48374. Sealed bids will be received at the above location no later than 2:00 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) on March 7, 2005. Absolutely no bids will be accepted after this deadline.

(2-17 & 24-05 NN 194296)

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 9, 2005 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.645 FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING ON PROPERTY IN SECTION 16, NORTH OF ELEVEN MILE ROAD, WEST OF TAFT ROAD, FROM R-1 (RESIDENTIAL) TO R-1 ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (RESIDENTIAL). The subject property is 12.15 acres.



LOCATION MAP NO SCALE

Documents related to this request are on file with the Novi Planning Department and the Novi Public Library from February 19 through February 23. Please note: City Offices will be closed on February 21 for President's Day, but the Novi Public Library will be open that day. All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, February 23, 2005.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY (2-17-05 NN 194506)

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NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY (2-17-05 NN 194506)

HEALTH

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

Health system tries to block Novi hospital

By Christopher Nagy
HOMETOWN NEWS/PATERS

Approval of a 200-bed hospital in Novi won't do any favors for Livingston County medical facilities, according to Trinity Health.

Novi-based Trinity Health — the parent company of Saint Joseph Mercy Health System, which owns Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital in Howell — believes the new facility will hurt hospitals throughout southeast Michigan, and it is appealing the ruling allowing the Novi facility to move forward.

"It's our position that it will have a negative effect on all hospitals in Oakland and Wayne counties as well as surrounding facilities such as Livingston," said Kevin DiCola, spokesman for Trinity Health. "It's reasonable to expect to see a loss of volume as residents in places like Brighton, who would normally go to Howell, go to Novi instead."

Trinity Health filed a lawsuit to stop the certificate-of-need process for the Novi facility, but the court ruling fell in favor of the St. John Health System, the parent company of Providence Hospital and Medical Centers at Providence Park, which is bringing the new facility to western Oakland County.

DiCola said a ruling on the appeal is expected in March.

The new hospital facility on Grand River Avenue in Novi includes six private in-patient beds and will eventually expand to a total of 200 private in-patient rooms.

The area of contention between St. John Health and Trinity Health was a bed-relocation provision in Public Act 619. Among other things, the measure, passed by the state Legislature in December 2002, allowed St. John Health to move beds out of Detroit hospitals to locations where demand is greater, the increased revenue from the use of those beds can be returned back to urban hospitals for financial support.

Opponents of Public Act 619 — such as Trinity Health, which has hospitals in Howell, Ann Arbor, Saline, Livonia and Pontiac — say that the law allows St. John Health to skirt around the certificate-of-need requirements that a need be demonstrated for a bed-transfer. Demand, the opponents say, just doesn't exist in Oakland County for additional hospitals, and they worry construction costs will drive up medical costs.

"In a nutshell, the numbers we have run on the impact of the construction (of new hospitals) is that it will drain \$60 million from the bottom line of hospitals already in western Wayne and Oakland counties," Stephen Shrivinsky, vice president of corporate communications and public relations for Trinity Health, said in June 2003.

The net result could be the diminished access of care, the closing of services and the closing of programs," he added.

Elliott Joseph, president and CEO of St. John Health, said the need for the Novi facility is real. "The population in this area has been rapidly growing for many years, and there is a definite need for inpatient services," Joseph said. "These six inpatient beds allow us to care for surgical patients quicker and more effectively."

Major construction of the \$224 million hospital facility in Novi will begin in the summer. Plans include an expanded emergency department and state-of-the-art imaging technology, inpatient and outpatient pediatric services, a dedicated pediatric unit and pediatric short-stay unit, a neuroscience institute, a musculoskeletal center and a consolidated women's services area.

DiCola said a ruling on the appeal is expected in March.

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DiCola said a ruling on the appeal is expected in March.

YOUR HEALTH

What's normal? The question seems simple enough, unless you consider what it means to someone who grew up in a family with addiction.

Those of us who've had therapy or battled addictions will often identify ourselves as ACDA, adult children of alcoholics. The addiction — be it alcohol, drugs, sex, or gambling — isn't as important as the environment it creates in the family.

In healthy families, feelings are not only allowed, they are permitted. Members of the family feel safe enough to say what they're thinking and feeling. Healthy emotional expression of feelings is encouraged.

Healthy families also allow for the development of each person: what he or she likes and wants to do. They promote a sense of self-worth in each family member through praise and learning of skills.

In a family with addiction, it's just the opposite. Renowned author, lecturer and trainer Claudia Black describes this environment with three unspoken rules: don't talk, don't trust and don't feel.

Addiction is a disease, and one of its consequences is that the world revolves around the addict. As this disease progresses, family life becomes more unpredictable and chaotic.

The spouse of an addict cannot only know intimacy with his or her partner, because the addict's primary relationship is with a drug of choice, not a person. Emotional expression, especially for children, becomes stifled due to the effects of addiction.

Young children do not have the emotional maturity to separate cause-and-effect behavior. They believe that their addicted parent's behavior — caused by the disease of addiction — is their fault. An addict may verbally abuse her child while under the influence, but the child thinks that when Mommy is angry, it's because of her. As this cycle repeats, the child truly believes she is bad, and her identity is founded on guilt and shame.

In order to survive in an addicted family, a child will adjust to the environment. In an attempt to provide balance in the family system, the child may learn to be a hero. She or he may function as a caretaker to compensate for what an adult isn't doing. The child may act out the chaos that the family is experiencing through behavior problems or their own addiction. These roles often follow children into adulthood because they get reinforced over time.

Growing up in an addicted family is difficult at best, terrifying at worst. Adults often aren't aware of the legacy of their families until they become adults and find themselves in unhealthy relationships that seem so familiar.

Addiction truly is a family disease. No one is untouched by some form of loss and abandonment, but those wounds can be healed. Adult children are not doomed to repeat the pain of their past once they learn to talk, to trust and to feel.

To learn more about family healing in addiction, register for Claudia Black's presentation of "The Family Legacy" on March 1 at Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor. To register, contact Cynthia Casemore, (810) 225-2534, by Feb. 25.

Any Irwin, MSW, ACSW, can be reached at Brighton Hospital at (810) 225-2569.

HEALTH SCREENING & OPEN HOUSE

FEBRUARY IS WOMEN'S HEART AWARENESS MONTH
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Date: February 26, 2005 Time: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We will be providing the following health screening checks:

- Listening to your heart
- Blood pressure checks
- Blood sugar evaluations
- Reviewing the results with one of our physicians

Daniel M. Rosenberg, MD Derek A. Einhorn, MD

Both of the physicians are board-certified internists and pediatricians, they have earned their medical degrees from Wayne State University School of Medicine. The physicians completed their residencies and are on staff at William Beaumont Hospital.

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That's right... see your little, or not-so-little darling in the South Lyon Herald, Northville Record, Novi News and Milford Times.

Send your non-returnable photo with the pet's name, your name, address and phone number, a description of the pet and any general information you would like printed about your special pet for just \$20.

Call Lisa or Laurie today for more info 248-437-2011

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EDUCATION

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

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Preschool registration begins

Preschool registration for Novi residents is currently under way. Registration for non-residents begins Tuesday, March 1. After these start dates, parents may register their children between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Child Care Services Office, 25345 Tull Road on the ITC between Novi Meadows, 5 and 6 Grade Houses.

Novi Community Education Preschool offers traditional half-day preschool and an all-day preschool program. Children must be age 3, 4, or 5 by Dec. 1, 2005, and must be fully toilet

trained. A registration packet and more information is available on the school district's Web site, www.novik12.mil.us. Parents can also call (248) 449-1713.

Code of Conduct forum

A public forum to discuss the revision of the Athletic Code of Conduct, which includes random drug testing, has been scheduled for the following:

- Thursday, Feb. 24, 7-8:30 p.m. at Novi High School's Auditorium Lecture Hall B. The topic will be to answer submitted and new questions.

Compiled by Ramez Khuri

ON CAMPUS

Ann Marie Nelson, from Novi, has been granted the Northwood University California Moore Family Scholarship for the 2004-2005 academic year. She is the daughter of Arthur and Marianne Nelson.

Novi resident, Brandon Henkel was granted the Northwood University Jack Exumter Ford Endowment and AIAA/John F. Sullivan Memorial Annual Scholarship for the 2004-2005 academic year. He is the son of Dean and Stephanie Henkel.

Rachel Lilly, of Wixom, was granted the Northwood University Tri-City Student Scholarship for the 2004-2005 academic year. She is the daughter of Craig Lilly of Novi and Tina Lilly of Wixom.

Danielle Slavin of Novi recently earned Dean's List status from College Misericordia, Dallas, Penn. for fall 2004. Dean's List students must attain a grade point average of 3.55 on a 4.0 scale.

Novi resident John Fleming has been named to the Dean's List for fall 2004 semester at Wittenberg University.

Named to the Dean's list in recognition for superior academic achievement during the fall 2004 semester at Madonna University were the following Novi residents:

Nancy Adams; Egen Aljazeera; Jennifer Amara; Argenia Baird; Tracy Belland; Rove Bersis; Rebecca Breeding; Amelia Burkhardt; Brian Coombs-Provance; Gail Coy; Casey Cummings; Arleen Cunningham; Christopher Deuring; Christian Dellavecchia;

Jilliam Firoze; Kaelyn Garcia; Kenneth Gauthier; Jennifer Gibbs; Stephen Gurka; Elizabeth Haley; Sali Hama; Tami Howard; Amy Hudgens; Mami Ito; Erica Janiro; Brittany Johnson; Rebecca Keeney; Ronald Kettelhut; Gregory Kirkman; Joanna Kondraszek; Patricia Kraft; Heidi Kwak; Jessica Lodge; Candlyn Lawrey; Beverly Mitchell; Chad Nadjim; Rebecca Nall; Michelle Pace; Lisa Paludino; Christopher Pall; Jurgita Ramovskait; Ann Sato; Jeremy Sato; Anuradha Saran; Kara Sosa; Kristina Schneider; James Schertz; Ari Siferi; Patricia Smak; Melanie Sosa; Stephanie Spackman; Rebecca Stockbridge; Stephen Taylor; Jennifer Warner; Martha Wasick; Mark Welch; and Janice Wesley.

Fall 2004 semester graduates at Madonna University included the following Novi residents: Egen Aljazeera; Valerie Stefanian; and Rebecca Stockbridge.

Novi residents Teresi Azevedo, Jenica Bary, Danielle Fenocely, Elizabeth Goodard, Phillip Hershaw; Mark Levin; Travis Mochler; Anna Rickard; Laura Slawski; Mason Shapiro; Kelly Wisniewski; Shari Welling; and Katrina Westbrook were named to the Honor's List for fall 2004 semester at Central Michigan University.

Eric Walle and Sarah Hill, of Novi, were named to the Dean's List for fall 2004 semester at Vanderbilt University.

Victoria Hong of Novi was named to the Dean's List for fall 2004 semester at Spring Arbor University.



Courtesy photos

Valentine activities

Above, Valentine parties took place in classrooms across the Novi School District. In Darlene Grabowski's first grade class at Orchard Hills, parent Kathy Howe was a big hit with her face painting artistry. Here, she decorates Katrina McCarthy's face with spring flowers.

Below, sixth graders Ashley Aljadah, Laura Subject and Brianna Koch, Kerri Yuchuck's class at Novi Meadows, check out all the Valentine cards and goodies they received from their classmates.



District pulling 3 buses

Fleet getting 4 new vehicles

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Community School District is gearing up to replace three school buses from its fleet with four new ones.

The district has a replacement schedule where anticipated bus routes are reviewed and a determination is made each year as to how many buses need replacement. Inspection revealed that due to condition and age, three buses should be replaced, with an extra one to boot. The cost of this acquisition is \$254,506.

"Every year that goes by, there are some buses that get so old, that we don't want to drive them anymore," Jim Koster said, assistant superintendent of business and finance. "This is just a replacement of those that are scheduled to be replaced."

Koster said that if the district doesn't adhere to the schedule, it could be hit with a huge lot of buses which need to be replaced at some point, which would cost the district a lot more money.

"Precontination doesn't let the problem go away," Koster said. "This just follows the schedule."

Koster explained that the district must buy new buses now in order to receive them in September. The district will sell the old buses to anyone who wants to purchase them.

This issue will be brought back up at the next school board meeting on March 3.

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

FUN-RAISERS

Women use dice game to raise money for a Novi family

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

On the surface, the city of Novi seems to be your average, middle-to-upper-class community with nothing to hide.

But when you dig a little deeper into the fabric of what makes up the society, you will find a very close knit group of people who are ready and willing to help others in need - especially their own.

Delve even further and you will run into something else: A game which is popular with many in the area, called bunco. Played with dice, many people, usually women, gather at least once a month at someone's home to play.

Some play for a cash prize and some just for fun, but the group of women that Bonnie Jones plays with, decided to take their love of the game and combine it with their love of helping others.

Jones, a PTO volunteer at Parkview Elementary School, is one of 16 women who meet on the

second Tuesday evening of every month, between September and May, to play bunco. They alternate who hosts the event and each contributes \$5 to play.

Rather than have that money go to the winner of the game, or to the person hosting the party, the group decided to do something noble and contribute it to someone who needs it more than they do - someone who happens to also live in Novi.

At first, the biggest problem they faced was trying to find someone to receive the money. They discussed making a monthly donation to a non-profit organization, but quickly changed their minds. They finally came up with the idea of giving the money to a family in the community who would need it, like a single mother, or a family with someone who lost a job.

"We thought that \$80 a month to a single mom or a family probably goes a lot further than sending it to a non-profit organization," Jones said.

Jones contacted Maria Falone, secretary to the principal, at Parkview Elementary School, for help in finding someone who would benefit from the funds.

"I know that all the schools have lists of families who get subsidies from the state for food," Jones said. "This is a Parkview neighborhood and by helping somebody who

goes to Parkview, we're really trying to keep it close to home. We contribute to the same family every month for now and they wanted to remain confidential."

The group is going to continue contributing as long as the family stays in the neighborhood. Instead of handing over cash, however, Jones purchases a Meijer gift certificate worth \$80 each month and gives it to Falone, who, in turn, gives it to the family.

"That's so they can go and buy groceries or birthday gifts or diapers or clothing or whatever they need," Jones said. "They could even buy gas for their car with a Meijer gift certificate. And by going to Meijer, we're supporting a store in our community too."

People in Jones' subdivision have been playing bunco long before she and her family moved in four years ago. Before that, they lived in Rochester Hills, and they had never heard of the game until they came to Novi. Jones says it's so big around here, that she even knows at least five other people in the area who are in bunco groups separate from her own.

"There are a lot of people playing in Novi and Northville," Jones said. "Originally when I moved here, there were only 12 women in our group, but there was such an interest, that we added four more



Courtesy photo

Each month this group of women plays bunco to raise money for someone needy. Pictured are (left to right, back) Bonnie Szilagay, Jan Cole, Bobbi DeLisle, Denise Doherty, Anna-Lisa Loiselle, Lynn Buha, Cathy Galida and Carole Brudzynski; (front) Joan Farrell, Debbie Nuttle, Laurie Yokie, Kelly Ragatzki, Mary Flaherty and Bonnie Jones. Not pictured are Ann Steele, Rebecca Nall, Carol Hosseni and Colleen McClorey.

people because you play in multiples of four."

In order to make the games a little more competitive, the group came up with a traveling trophy for the winner, and a little something for the loser as well.

"The one who gets the most points is called the Buncoet of the

month," Jones said. "She gets a glass trophy to display at the next game. For the loser, we have a pair of hot pink fuzzy dice that you're supposed to display in the rear view mirror for a month."

In addition to helping out a family, the group also held a clothing drive for women reentering the

work force, who are in need of work and/or interview-appropriate clothing.

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

District debates selling its cell tower lease to Unison

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Community School District Board of Education is facing a tough decision. Should it take the sure thing and add about \$80,000 to the district's budget now, or wait until the year 2022 and see if it can make the district about \$280,000?

That gamble was posed to Jim Koster, assistant superintendent of business and finance, recently when a representative of a site management company called Unison visited his office. The company asked to buy out a lease the district currently

has with AT&T concerning a cell phone tower located at Novi High School's stadium.

Koster explained that the district has a 25-year lease with AT&T, of which five have already passed. AT&T pays the district so many dollars per year to have a cell phone tower located on school property. The lease goes to the year 2022, and between now and then, the district stands to receive roughly \$280,000 in lease payment.

Unison, however, is currently buying out leases of towers all across the country, Koster said. In Novi's case, the company is offering the school district \$80,000 up-

front for the lease. If this happens, however, Unison will receive the rest of the \$280,000 from AT&T.

"Why would we want to do that?" asked Koster. "Well, Unison says the lease is such that we don't know if it's going to be around for the next 20 years. It's a gamble because they're saying we may not be getting that \$280,000, but they're willing to give us \$80,000 right now."

One reason that may happen is because of different telephone companies merging together. For instance, Cingular and AT&T have already merged for cellular telephone service, which brings about the possibility of the reduction of towers around the country. Another issue, is whether a cell tower will be the way in which communication will still take place.

"Maybe we'll be communicating

via satellite, or maybe we'll be communicating using some other technology," Koster said. "In that case, the tower as we know it today will just be a relic. At that point, AT&T could come back to us and say they don't need the lease anymore, and they can end it just like that. Let's say they do that in the year 2010. We will have received roughly \$70,000 between now and then."

Currently, the district is trying to determine whether Unison's offer is viable or not. Koster will bring it up again at the next school board meeting on Thursday, March 3.

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

Watch for our upcoming St. Patrick's word search contest on March 10, in our classified section of HomeTown Newspapers Green Sheet.

Complete the puzzle, mail entry and you could win a \$25 gift certificate to 1 of our advertisers.

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 As It Is In Heaven
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 Don Cheadle
 Leonardo DiCaprio
 Jamie Foxx
 Johnny Depp
 Clint Eastwood
 Matt Damon
- Best Actress:**
 Annette Bening
 Catalina Sandino Moreno
 Imelda Staunton
 Hilary Swank
 Kate Winslet
- Best Supporting Actor:**
 Alan Alda
 Thomas Haden Church
 Morgan Freeman
 Jamie Foxx
 Clive Owen
- Best Supporting Actress:**
 Coleen Clooney
 Laura Linney
 Sophie Okonedo
 Virginia Madsen
 Natalie Portman

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 Third Place: 26 single passes
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CALENDAR

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

EVENTS

Pursuing Learning Advancement for Novi Students (P.L.A.N.S.)

DATE: Wednesday, Feb. 23
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Meadows School Media Center
DETAILS: This is an informational evening for parents to learn about the various math enrichment programs being offered by Community Education called TEAM and a possible future math enrichment program called Math Penetration. The evening is free of charge.
CONTACT: Lee Linton at (248) 305-9843.

Wild Game Dinner

DATE: Sunday, Feb. 19
TIME: 4-11:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Laurel Manor, 8900 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia
DETAILS: The SCT Novi Chapter will host its 14th annual Wild Game Dinner. Tickets for the evening are \$95 per person and include a family-style wild game dinner and hors d'oeuvres. The event will include a live and silent auction featuring hunting and fishing tips from around the world, sport memorabilia, jewelry, furs, and related outdoor items for your home, cabin or cottage. Raffles will be available for the chance to win an assortment of hunting rifles and shotguns, motor sport equipment and cash prizes.

Attendees to the Wild Game Dinner can also attend an outdiggers party at 6 p.m. on Feb. 18 at Laurel Manor to meet the various donors for the event.
CONTACT: Tickets can be purchased by calling (248) 620-0161 or by visiting www.sctnovi.com.

Novi Lioness Club Euchre Tournament Fundraiser

DATE: Saturday, Feb. 19
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Rd.
DETAILS: All are welcome to spin prizes and enjoy euchre. All proceeds benefit Lioness breast clinics such as Michigan Eye Bank, Leader Dog and Patrick Center.
CONTACT: Maggie Mecker at (248) 344-4633.

Daughters of the American Revolution Meeting

DATE: Monday, Feb. 21
TIME: 10:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Plymouth District Library, 221 S. Main St., Plymouth
DETAILS: This meeting of the Sarah Ann Cushman Chapter of Plymouth-Northville will be a good citizen reception. There is a good citizen reception. There is a good citizen reception. There is a good citizen reception.
CONTACT: For more information, call (734) 429-2775.

Threads of Power

DATE: Friday, Feb. 25
TIME: 8-10:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Wynnton Garden

Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi
DETAILS: A group of business men and women affiliated with the Novi Chamber of Commerce have joined forces to support and assist others striving to enter the workforce. Donations of gently-used business attire will go to several organizations through this sixth annual event. Cost is \$15. RSVP by Friday, Feb. 18.
CONTACT: (248) 349-3743

Second Annual Sock Hop

DATE: Friday, March 4
TIME: 7-11 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Expo Center's McKenzie Room, 43700 Expo Center Drive (I-96 and Novi Road)
DETAILS: Break out the school colors, poolie skirts and bubble socks for this Michigan 50's Festival fundraiser, sponsored by Novi Expo Center and Levee Imports. Don't miss Sherman Ann's tribute to Elvis and contest for best costume, dancing and Hoop-Hoop. Full cash bar at 50's prices, sliders, hot dogs and pop. Cost is \$10 for adults; free for children 12 years and under.
CONTACT: (248) 339-1950 or www.michigan50sfestival.com

Lyon Oaks Bark Park Saturdays

DATES: March 12 and April 9
TIME: 9-11 a.m.
DETAILS: Caribou staff will treat park guests to free coffee while exercising your dog. The Nature Center will be also be open from 10 a.m.-5

patron Saturdays.
CONTACT: Sue Wells, chief of recreation, at (248) 858-4634.

SCHOOL/GOVERNMENT

Novi Planning Commission Meeting

DATE: Monday, Feb. 23
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

High School Athletic Code of Conduct Revision Public Forums

DATES: Thursday, Feb. 24
LOCATION: Novi High School auditorium lecture hall B.
TIMES: 7:30-9:30 p.m.
DETAILS: Forum to answer questions submitted at previous forum and new questions.

Novi City Council Meeting

DATE: Monday, Feb. 28
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

Novi School Board Meeting

DATE: Thursday, March 3
TIME: 7:30 p.m.

BUSINESS

Business Referrals

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

CLASSES

Infant/Child CPR Class

DATE: Saturday, Feb. 19
TIME: 8 a.m.-11 a.m.
LOCATION: Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 40700 W. Ten Mile Road (between Meadowbrook and Haggerty Roads), Novi
DETAILS: You must have a current Adult CPR card. Cost is \$20 per participant; includes materials and refreshments. Classes are limited to 16 participants per class. You must be at least 16 years old to participate.
CONTACT: To register for a class, please call (248) 427-1175 or

send an e-mail to bolycrossnovi@hotmail.com

Novi Community Education Seminars

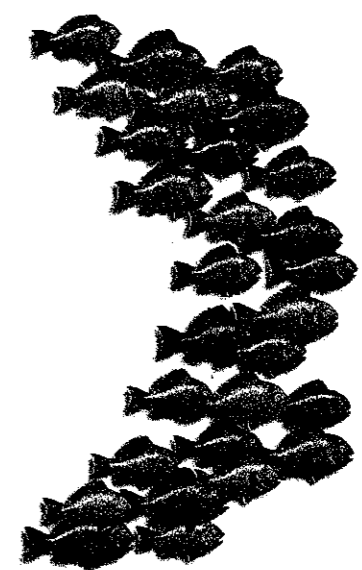
DATE: Monday, Feb. 21
TIME: 7-9 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Middle School, room 207, located at Eleven Mile and Wixom roads.
DETAILS: Novi Community Education Center will sponsor a seminar on Understanding the Stock Market featuring Scott Whyte, of Bloom Asset Management. There is a \$17 fee and reservations are required.
CONTACT: (248) 449-1206

Novi Community Education Seminars

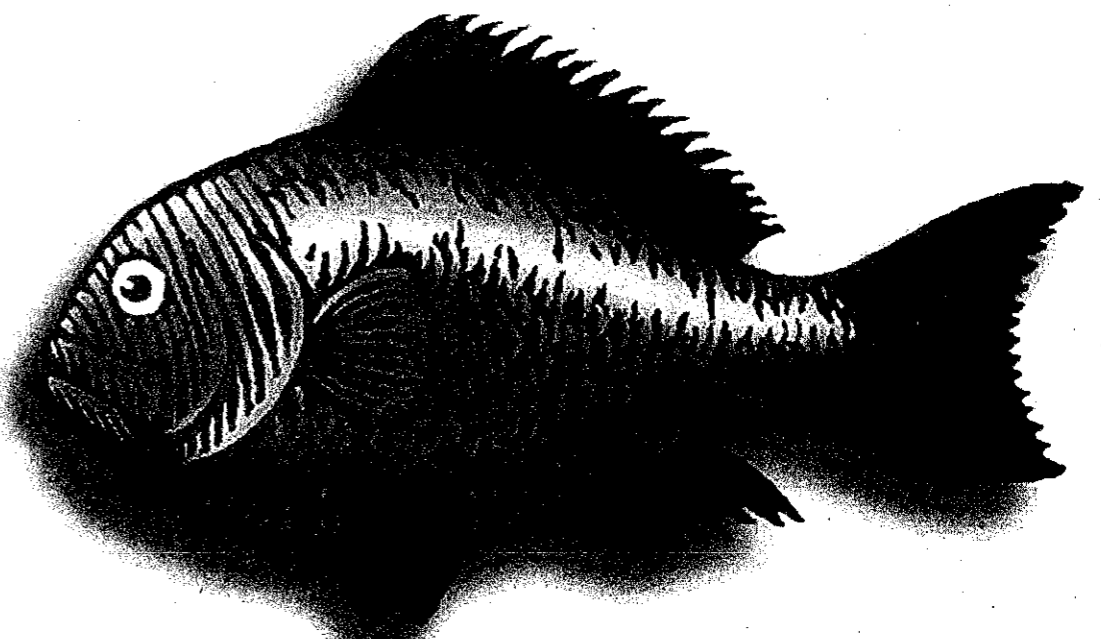
DATES: Monday, Feb. 28
TIME: 7:30-9:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Room 202, Novi Middle School, Eleven Mile Road and Wixom Road
DETAILS: Novi Community Education Center will sponsor two seminars on the Market Outlook of 2005 and Investing Strategies featuring Rick Bloom, of Bloom Asset Management. There is a \$17 fee and reservations are required.
CONTACT: Call Joyce Robb at (248) 449-1206.

Send your calendar items to Cal Stone, editor, Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-9832; or e-mail to cstone@ht.homecomm.net.

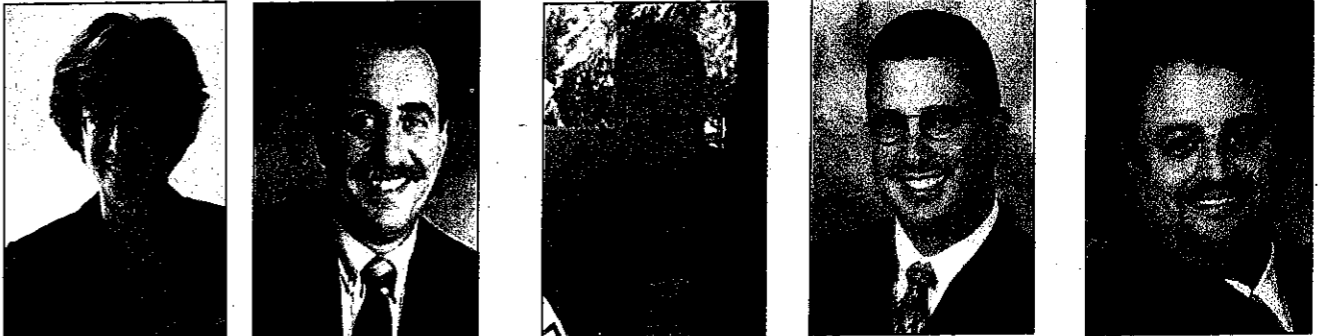
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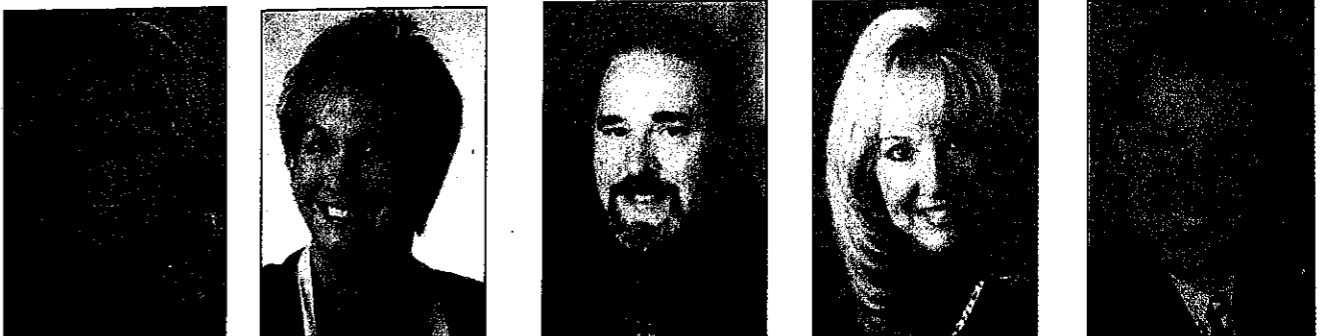
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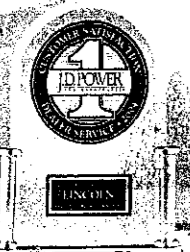
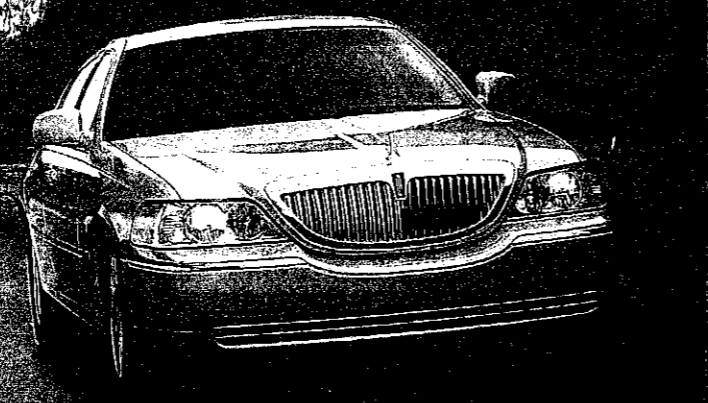


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FAITH

Ramez Khuri, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net

Author pens fiction for the faithful

By Kate Phillips
HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

"I like it that my daughter can read the books that I write," said Dana Corbit-Nussio, a Novi mother of three. "I enjoy sharing my faith. I believe that Christians have the right to good fiction that doesn't offend their sensibilities."

Corbit-Nussio has just released

her third and fourth novels in a Love Inspired line published by Steeple Hill. She's already sold the sequel to Yuletide charmer "A Family for Christmas" and is still negotiating the sequel to "A New Life."

"A New Life" is the third in a series of books that take place in Millford. After Corbit-Nussio lived in Millford for four years, she decided it would be the perfect setting for a series of books that revolved around the people at a fictional church called Hickory Ridge Community Church, located on Hickory Ridge Road in Millford.

"In a church there are many stories going on around you," Corbit-Nussio said. "In each book I focus on one person. The heroine of 'A

New Life' was actually not a well-liked character in the previous book. Hopefully when people get to know her a little better, they see another side. The characters have become very real to me — like old friends."

Corbit-Nussio has switched from writing romance novels to a less spicy counterpart, which the publisher describes as heartwarming inspirational romance. Corbit-Nussio made the switch as she wrote a novel, in part, based on interviews with a friend in the end stages of a terminal illness. About the same time, Corbit-Nussio's daughter became ill with juvenile diabetes. She began writing the first in the Millford series — "A Blessed Life" — as a way to work through

the emotions of dealing with the illness.

"In the book, there's a scene where they are waiting to find out whether their child has leukemia," she explained. "That was me. We went through that same thing. I kind of wrote it as a mom to heal my soul. I wrote a lot of myself into the heroine. She was having a struggle for control with God. Later I realized how close it was to me."

Once started, Corbit-Nussio said

she won't stop writing inspirational romances because she sees positive changes in herself.

"It brings me joy to tell these stories," she said. "I think it has affected my faith. I've come to accept more in my life. I've stopped telling God what I want and now let him lead me."

She's also received letters saying that her books have provided encouragement and support when badly needed. One 16-year-old told

Corbit-Nussio that the books actually helped her cope with the death of her mother, the author said.

"Everyone needs hope," said Nussio. "What (I) do is very important — allowing people to see that hope is real in the world, that God is good and God sustains us."

Kate Phillips is a reporter for the *Millford Times*. She can be reached by phone at (248) 685-1507, ext. 21.

Church's vision closer to reality

Commission OKs four early plan changes

By Kim Kovelie
STAFF WRITER

Troubled legal waters settled, Oak Pointe Church moved one step closer to Novi's Island Lake area on Feb. 9.

Four changes to the church's preliminary site plan were approved 7-0 by city planning commissioners.

Waived were factors related to a connector road, walking paths, a water main and traffic signal.

"We realized some of the conditions were no longer applicable," planner Tim Schmitt said.

Delayed by nearly three years of litigation, the original plan, approved in 2001, pre-dated new neighborhoods off Ten Mile Road between Napier and Wixom roads.

For one, a redesigned section of Toll Brothers' surrounding Island Lake subdivision no longer requires a connector "stub" road.

And, across the street, Singh's upcoming Legacy Parc will install a traffic light nearby, so the church no longer needs to.

Commissioner Lowell Sprague was late to the meeting and did not vote; Richard Gaul resigned last

month. An injunction on the 27 acres was lifted last spring after several Toll Brothers lawsuits against city and church were cleared.

Since then, a final site plan has been underway. The commission is expected to recommend it once engineering and fire hydrants details are resolved.

Pastor Bob Shirock said funds for the up-to \$16 million first phase are nearly in order and ground is still slated to break around mid-March.

The leader of the quickly-growing non-denominational church said he wants nearby residents to feel welcome.

"Our desire was to have walking paths so the community could have easy access to us," Shirock said. "It sure would be nice if there were some bike paths that led in."

A challenge may be in connecting, though, as formal footpaths also were waived last week.

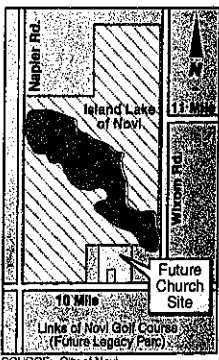
He said despite a tall required "tree screen," church and future playing fields will be open to the community.

"All along we've felt 150 percent support from the community of Novi," Shirock added.

Up to five other phases may follow. Of a timeline, Schmitt said, "It's really based on congregation growth and fund-raising ability."

Founded in 1997, the church first held services at Northville

Oak Pointe Church



SOURCE: City of Novi

High School. Two weeks ago, they switched to Novi High School.

Bruce and Bernadette Pertunen, who've lived close to the site in Island Lakes for four months, attended last week's meeting.

They came concerned about the church's size and contemporary style.

After church representatives stayed to explain plans, the couple said they left more informed.

"That says a lot about them that they spent the time to review the plans," Bernadette said. "We're pretty close to it. It's a big change."

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Kristi Timar signs to MSU — Page 2B



Aggressive nature

Novi's Nicole Bamdt knows what it takes to win games — she's been playing them her whole life and she hates to lose. The senior spiker is helping lead her squad this year in hopes of a KVC title and more.

— Page 3B



SPORTS



Regional Marketplace

Northville Physical Rehabilitation is expanding its current practice due to continued growth with the opening of a second location in downtown Northville. The Cady Street Annex, located at 300 East Cady, is expected to open during the first week of March.

— Page 6B

1-B NOVI NEWS

www.hometownlife.com

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Quick Hits

Novi's All-Stars

No surprise here, but Novi football and baseball star Kevin Cislo has been asked to play in the East Vs. West All-Star football game this summer. He will play punter/specialist for the East squad.

Also representing Novi will be Tab Kellepourey and his coaching squad. They have been signed on to coach the defensive unit. The East All-Stars will no doubt hear the coaches bark at them about tackling correctly (and hard) as well as the importance of stopping the trap. In fact, just to apply a little pressure, it would be nice to see a shutout performed by the East's defense, wouldn't it?

If the success both the coaching staff and Cislo have had in football rubs off on the rest of the East squad, we feel sorry for the West and the whipping they could end up receiving.

Making the switch

Chris Scott, a 2004 graduate of Novi, will transfer to Valparaiso University to play baseball for the Crusaders from Michigan State University. At Novi, Scott was a 2004 All-League and All-Area player for the Wildcats. In his senior year, Scott batted .365 and had a slugging percentage of .647 with 6 home runs and 31 RBIs. He was also a member of the two-time conference champion football team for Novi. Scott's accomplishments on the baseball field carry into the classroom where he was a two-time Academic All-State selection. He was also a member of Novi's honor roll.

Once a Wildcat, always a Wildcat

The Northern Michigan University Wildcats are looking to senior Lindsey Vermillion, of Novi, for some leadership leading into the GLIAC Swimming Championships, Feb. 16-19. Vermillion started the season with a second-place finish in the 200 freestyle relay, first-place finish in the 1650 freestyle, and third place in the 200 backstroke against St. Cloud.

Against South Dakota she finished second in the 500 freestyle relay. Against Wayne State/Hillsdale Vermillion finished first in the 1650 freestyle and fourth in the 500 freestyle. In the Notre dame Invitational she finished 13th in the 800 freestyle relay, and 21st in the 1650 freestyle. Against Lewis University she came up with two first-place finishes (500 freestyle, and 200 freestyle relay) and second place in the 1000 freestyle. Most recently the Cats swam against Grand Valley and Vermillion finished second in the 400 freestyle relay.

One smart cookie

No one has every denied that Ryan Pritchard, a senior football and track star at Novi, is one smart individual.

Pritchard will be able to be with his own when he makes the journey to Princeton to play football next year. He'll be at home on the football field, playing Division I sports and showcasing his abilities.

Check back next week to read more about Pritchard and what makes him tick. Novi will, no doubt, miss him next year when they're searching for a replacement to anchor the offensive line as well as his intelligent play and ability to practically act as a coach on the field. We know we'll miss him too.

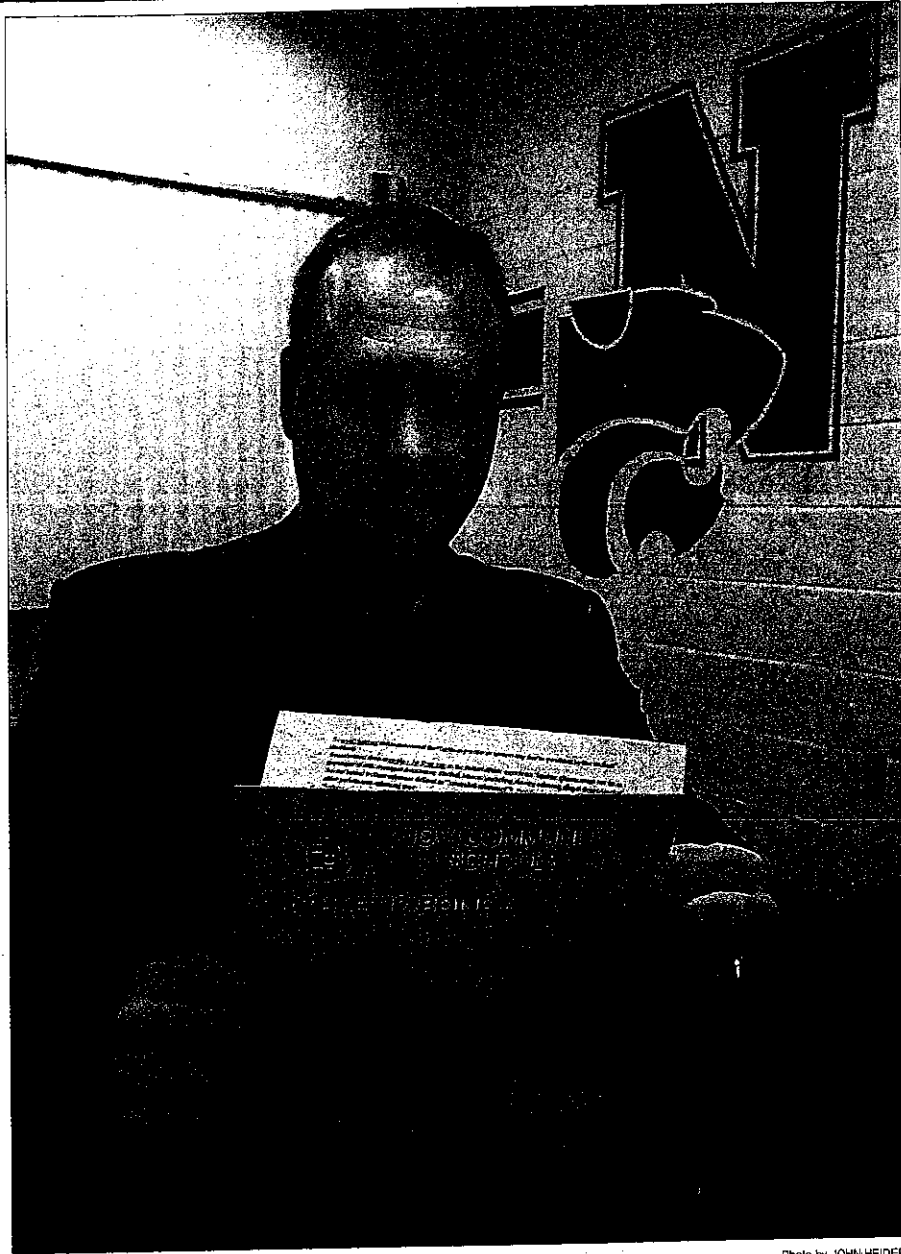


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi High School Athletic Director Curt Ellis goes over the school's Athletic Policy in his office. Novi's weighing whether or not to make drug screening part of their code of conduct for their athletes.

Novi weighs drug testing issue

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Is random drug testing of student-athletes worthwhile?

It's a debate that will continue until the Novi School District's board of education approves or declines the suggested changes to the athletic code of conduct — and most likely beyond.

Parents and school administration have voiced their opinion, but it's the athletes and the coaches who will be most directly involved if the changes go through.

"Obviously, the triangle of parent, child and staff needs to work closely on these type issues," said Novi football coach Tab Kellepourey. "Without hesitation, we will be able to support any type of code of conduct that our board of education approves."

Some coaches are quick to throw their support to the program while others are more cautious. Assistant football coach John Osborne, who was head coach for over 30 years, considered expense during a time of tight budgets across the state.

"Is it worth the expense?" he asked. "I just don't see (drug abuse) as a problem with us. The question is how we do it? What's the expense? This is money we just don't have these days to put into it."

"I just don't think this should be a priority right now, particularly with the financial situation we have now." Other coaches aren't concerned about expense when it comes to their athletes — or their own kids for that matter. Novi volleyball coach Julie Fisette said she doesn't understand why the program is coming up against resistance.

"I am a mother of three and have been coaching volleyball for, well, too long," she said. "I can tell you that if random drug testing is an issue, then too many kids are abusing. I would welcome any school, whether it be where my kids are going, or where I went, to institute such an honest policy."

Novi girls and boys soccer coach Brian O'Leary said he, too, would accept a drug-testing policy if her kids were going through the Novi schools.

"If my kids were playing sports here, I would be in support of it," he said. "It would give me, as a parent, one more measure to make sure my child is making good decisions."

"If my kids were playing sports here, I would be in support of it. It would give me, as a parent, one more measure to make sure my child is making good decisions."

Brian O'Leary
Novi girls and boys soccer coach

Both Fisette and cheerleading coach Emily Parker agreed the benefit of a drug-testing program leaned more toward proactive instead of reactive policies.

"I'm in favor of using drug testing as a way to deter drug and alcohol use in our school," said Parker. "Many students do not recognize the negative impact that drug and alcohol use can have on their lives. However, a large population of our students place a high value on the extracurricular activities that we offer at the school. Students will be less likely to participate in these illegal activities if it could impact whether or not they participate in an extracurricular activity that is important to them."

Parents aren't so sure every student should be tested. Art Hirshfield, father of senior pom pom team member Laura, said he thought student-athletes should exhibit signs before being tested.

"As far as 'random' drug testing, I think that if the school is going to administer a drug test, they should have a reason for doing it," he said. "I don't think they should just have the right to test anybody at any time. If a student is not showing any indication of a 'problem,' then he or she shouldn't be tested."

Parents voiced their opinions at a Jan. 27 meeting and their questions will be answered in an upcoming forum Feb. 24. In a group of about 30 people, more

Why ask why?

The question on my mind lately hasn't been why the Novi School District should implement random drug testing in student athletes, but rather "why not?"

There's not just a single answer to that question and I'm well aware of that. Some parents may have concerns over how students will be selected and what extracurricular activities will be involved in the process. Some wonder if the punishments are too harsh. Some even ask if the cost is worth it.

I say rubbish to all of it. What does it matter which students are selected and what sports or activities are involved? If they want to participate in a voluntary activity, then they should be subject to the rules of participation.

Is the punishment too harsh? Then don't do the crime. Like my dad always said, if you can't take the heat then stay out of the fire.

Is the cost worth it? Since when does society put a price on the cost of keeping our kids safe? How much is too much for helping kids out?

But what about parents? Shouldn't it be their responsibility to keep their kids away from drugs and on the straight and narrow? Yes, it is. But, the kids aren't always with their parents, are they? They spend seven hours in school on an average day. That's practically a full-time job. That's a full day of being under someone else's supervision.



Sam Eggleston

continued on 2B

continued on 2B

Kristi Timar signs to play soccer at MSU

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

There was a never of question of "if" Novi senior soccer player Kristi Timar would get an offer from a college to play, but rather which school.

The answer was Michigan State University, and the Spartans were asking for her signature on the first day of signing for soccer players, Feb. 2.

"I'm really excited about it," said Timar of playing for the Spartans. "The biggest reason I chose them was because of their coaches. I also really liked the location and the facilities and the location was a partial factor to it's close by and my parents can come and see me play."

Timar could prove to be a good fit at the collegiate ranks. Her Vardar club soccer coach, Mike Lupence, said he expects her to compete for a position right away.

"I feel she'll be successful at that level," he said. "She's going to go into Michigan State as a freshman and try to win herself a spot. I think she'll be able to play there and have an impact."

A leader in every sense
And why not? The senior midfielder has been an impact on every team she's been a part of — and there are quite a few teams. Timar is a captain of her club squad,

which won the state title this past season, and was a captain of the Olympic Development Program team she's been a part of for the past five years. Timar will also be a captain for the Novi varsity squad this year.

"She's an excellent all-around player," said Brian O'Leary, Novi's head coach. "She can play every position and does play all of the forward and midfield positions on our team. She has excellent ball skills and is an intelligent player that makes excellent decisions with and without the ball."

Timar's abilities have been recognized several times over the past two seasons. She is a HomeTown All-Area selection, as well as an All-District, All-Region and All-Academic player. Last year she was selected to Second-Team All-State with her 20 goals and 11 assists.

Timar hopes to have as much of a successful season this spring as she did last year, but she noted the individual honors mean nothing if the squad doesn't have a good year.

"I'd trade it all to go further this year," said Timar, who will look to lead the already-second-ranked Wildcats deeper into the playoffs. Last year, her squad bowed out against eventual state champion Northville in the district finals. "I want to go all the way this year. That is definitely the goal."

All about soccer

There comes a point when athletic and sport are almost indistinguishable. One wouldn't be the same without the other.

Timar and soccer are at that point. She's not often found without a soccer ball and the sport, well, just wouldn't be quite the game without her on the pitch.

Even her work schedule is penciled in around the game. "They said they'd be able to work around soccer," said Timar of Grady's American Grill in Novi where she works as a waitress. "It was actually a hard decision, especially with soccer. But because they said they'd work with me, I thought I'd give it a try."

When she isn't working at Grady's or baby-sitting on the weekends, Timar can usually be found studying, working out or practicing. The hard-working athlete, who carried a 3.85 grade-point average, has a daily routine she goes through at Lifetime Fitness.

"I'm in what I consider my off-season right now," Timar said. "I still practice every Sunday for my club team and have a game every weekend. I condition myself Monday, Wednesday and Friday and lift and workout at Lifetime every day."

Her work ethic outside of her sports season drew attention from her classmates at Novi High School. Timar was voted "Miss Fitness" by her classmates this year.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Wildcat soccer standout Kristi Timar will be reporting to MSU in the Fall to hopefully get on the field for the Spartans.

School. Timar was voted "Miss Fitness" by her classmates this year.

For the senior, it's all worth it in the end. "I love soccer," she said. "It doesn't matter to me if I have a lot of time to myself or not. I'd rather be playing soccer than doing anything else."

Soccer is Timar, Timar is soccer. Her coaches and teammates have noticed, as did Michigan State.

Timar's success in soccer comes from her talent, dedication and refusal to believe there's a limit to how much can be accomplished.

"Her attitude on and off the field is exactly what you want as a coach," Lupence said. "She never gives anyone a hard time about anything. If other players worked as hard as she does, they'd have a chance and being successful like her too."

Timar's success in soccer comes from her talent, dedication and refusal to believe there's a limit to how much can be accomplished.

Helping kids is the right choice

continued from 1B

But it's not the seven hours a day that are in question here. It's the three hours a day they voluntarily stick around school to play sports. It's their extracurricular activities that may end up offering a urine specimen cup and asking for a sample for testing.

Kids will be kids. Curiosity is natural in them and it should be. Parents want to do what they can to keep them in line, but parenting can't solve it all.

Drug abuse doesn't have an age limit. People get stoned all the time, be it at age 20 or age 60. Drugs are available to anyone who wants them and those who don't think they are should look up the word naïve.

Look at things outside the drug spectrum. Alcohol and tobacco are great examples. Both are legal — past a certain age — and both are also readily available. People check for identification when these items are purchased. There are laws governing who can have them and who can't and still, sadly, abuse occurs. There most likely isn't a high school in Michigan that can claim there has never been a student in their ranks that has been in trouble for abusing alcohol or tobacco and very few that might be able to make the same claim regarding drugs.

When I was in high school and playing football we had two incidents regarding athletic policy and a code of conduct. One involved a player's spittle fashione during an away game. Another involved a player that was pulled

them outside of their studies, then they, too, should be subject to the testing. Sports shouldn't be the only extracurricular being focused on.

The new policies haven't yet been approved, but I hope they are. The costs of the tests may drive up taxes by a few bucks, but the cost is minimal compared to the potential help for student-athletes.

And that's what everyone wants, right? To help kids help themselves is the best thing money can buy.

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

Now if kids are pressured or caught in an awkward situation, they might buckle and take the chance of abusing a substance. If the policy goes through, the answer is a simple one: They can't do it because it might be their name getting drawn next to the name and their urine being tested. End of story.

When all is said and done, the kids that want to do drugs and other substances are going to go out and do them without a care about the penalties if caught. If that is fortunate, these kids will be caught and eliminated from Wildcats athletics.

There is a flaw in the drug-testing policy though — it doesn't include all extracurricular activities. If kids want to be a part of something the school provides for

Novi considers drug testing

continued from 1B

avenue for them to sit and talk about it too.

"I feel that random drug testing institutes a measure of continuity between parents, teachers, coaches and administrators," said Fisetone. "It gives kids and parents a chance to talk about the topic and it gives kids the idea that all adults are on the same page when it comes to the abuse of substances. No mixed messages could ever be portrayed. Strength in numbers."

For the student who finds themselves in the tight position and pressured by "friends" and peers, it can work as an escape route.

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

Some coaches think parents have a chance to benefit from the drug testing. Not only does it help give their children a reason to say "no," but it opens an

avenue for them to sit and talk about it too.

Though opposition has surfaced regarding the potential policy change, support in the community is strong.

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avenue for them to sit and talk about it too.

Because of Winn-Dixie

POI (Parental Guidance Suggested) Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 10

STARTS FRIDAY

AMC FORUM 20	AMC LAUREL PARK
AMC LYONIA 20	EMAGINE NOVA
AMC SOUTHGATE 20	EMAGINE WESTLAND
STAR FAIRLANE	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	STAR UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12

"THIS COMEDY GETS WILDER AND MORE HILARIOUS BY THE MINUTE."

JAMIE KENNEDY ALAN CUMMING

THE MASH

STARTS FRIDAY

AMC FORUM 20	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LYONIA 20
EMAGINE CANTON	EMAGINE NOW	AMC SOUTHGATE 20
PHENIX CAR AIR CENTRE	PHENIX WEST RIVER	STAR FAIRLANE
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE
STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
STAR UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12		

"HITCH is the Comedy of the Year."

Will Smith gives another outstanding performance.

HITCH

STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

STARTS FRIDAY

AMC FORUM 20	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LYONIA 20
EMAGINE CANTON	EMAGINE NOW	AMC SOUTHGATE 20
PHENIX CAR AIR CENTRE	PHENIX WEST RIVER	STAR FAIRLANE
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE
STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR
STAR UPTOWN PALLADIUM 12		

Natural born winner

Novi's Nicole Barndt hates to lose

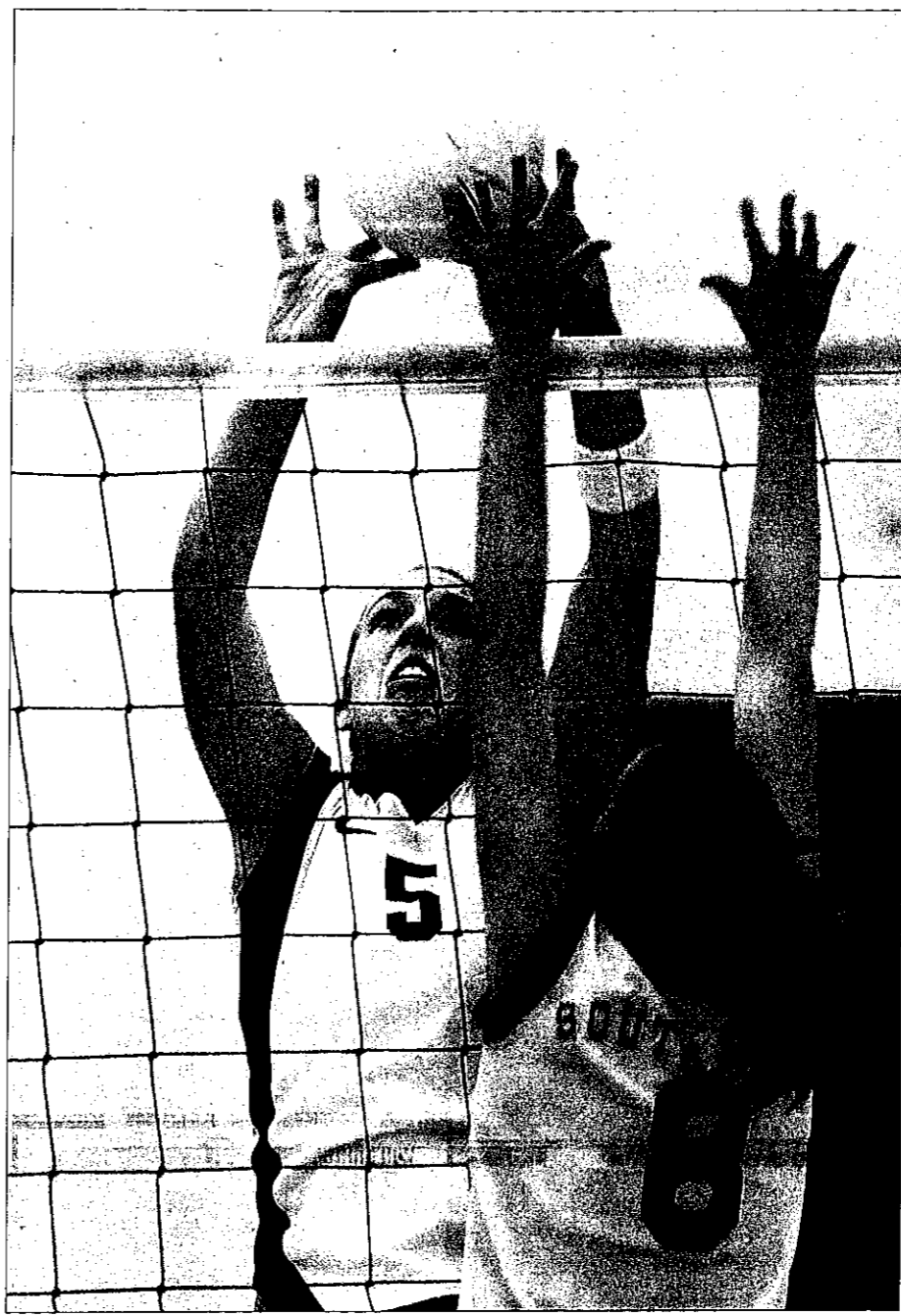


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Nicole Barndt (#5) tips the ball at the net during a Monday night home game against South Lyon.



By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats volleyball team knows how to quiet their critics — by winning.

The Novi Wildcats volleyball team knows how to quiet their critics — by winning.

Barndt has led her team well this season. Not only have the critics been hushed, but the senior captain has helped keep her team on the right path and currently tied for first in the Kensington Valley Conference race.

"I think we've come together really well," said Barndt of her squad. "We have a really young team, especially with a freshman on it, but I think the team has been pretty quick to come together."

Barndt said her squad isn't going to be satisfied with any accomplishments during the regular season. A KVC title? It would be nice, but the team plans on having their eyes on a much bigger prize said Barndt plans on leading the way.

Last season, she was a key member in Novi's run through the district tournament. They lost in the first round of the regional. This year, she hopes the Wildcats can take the next step.

When Barndt isn't busy on the field or court, she's working at Guemsey Farms Dairy or baby-sitting.

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats volleyball team knows how to quiet their critics — by winning.

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well as club soccer and club volleyball too.

"I guess it's because I'm a competitive person," she said of playing multiple sports. "I enjoy playing them."

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SPORTS SHORTS

New volleyball club in Novi
Club Extreme is looking for 6th, 7th and 8th Grade girls interested in participating in a new club team. Club Extreme's mission is to provide an opportunity for the girls to participate in a challenging yet rewarding environment. Tryouts will be held in March. All interested Parents may contact Peter Lau at (734) 632-5694 or (248) 219-8639.

Indoor Baseball Leagues
This is a new style of baseball: 7 versus 7 players, 6 games, live pitching, colored balls, announcers, music and umpires fees are included. Age divisions are: u10, u12 teams limited. The games are 8:30 a.m. or 10 a.m., starting Feb. 12-March 19. The cost is \$850 per team or \$95 per individual. This includes a championship game with trophies. The games are held at Total Baseball, 30990 Wixom Road, Wixom. Call Total Baseball to register at (248) 668-0166 or check their Web site, www.total-baseball.com.

Knights looking for players
The Dearborn Heights Knights (12 & under) travel baseball team will be scheduling tryouts for the 2005 baseball season. The Knights are the PeeWee Reese (11 year old) champions for the NorthWest Suburban League. On their schedule will be the Cooperstown Dreams Park tournament located near the Baseball Hall of Fame. For further information, contact Rich Grucz at 1-(800) 949-9834.

Mid-Winter Baseball/Softball Camp
(Softball and baseball camps are separate). Total Baseball's baseball/softball camp will feature professional instruction from Aaron Kitepar, Montreal Expos, Lee Bjerk, Michigan High School Coaches Hall of Fame member, and Jessie Milosek, Bowling Green University softball. Hitting, pitching, fielding, baserunning and more will be covered in this fundamental camp. Session 1: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Feb. 14, 15 and 16; Session 2: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Feb. 21, 22 and 23. The cost is \$140 per player/\$10 discount for second child. This camp is for total baseball/softball players 7-17 years old. Space is limited. The camp is held at Total Baseball, 30990 Wixom Road, Wixom. To register, call (248) 668-0166 or email, totalball-wixom@aol.com or check their Web site, www.total-baseball.com.

Coaching positions available
The Walled Lake Consolidated School District is currently looking for a head girls track and field coach at Walled Lake Western High School. The district is also looking for a head boys varsity soccer coach for Walled Lake Northern.

Baseball Hitting Leagues
Total Baseball's Indoor Hitting Leagues will have 4 baseball teams to hit off batting machines in a point awarded one-hour game. They will be awards to champions and best hitter. The league runs Feb. 19-March 20. Scorekeepers will be provided. Boys baseball 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays, 13 years and under; 4-9 p.m., Sundays, high school ages. The fees are \$45 per individual/\$155 per team. The

Registration underway
Registration for Northville Baseball-Softball Association (NBSA) is currently underway. Facilities can register on the NBSA Web site at www.NBSAonline.org. Players that sign up prior to March 1 will receive an early sign-up discount.

The key to winning is playing for fun

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

There's a certain point in the world of sports where winning becomes a side effect.

If a team tries so hard to win and focuses solely on that aspect of competition, it quite often works the opposite. However, kids that same team and focus on having fun, and winning just starts happening.

"We've been a lot more successful this year than last year," said senior bowling captain Katie Kohls. "Last year, we didn't win at all. This year we've been winning a lot more, at least half our matches."

The difference from last year to this? The team goals have changed. "I think the goals was pretty much to have a lot of fun and, if possible, make states," said Kohls, who has been bowling since she was about seven years old. "We'll have to see how well we do in the regional before we know if we make states."

The regional will be held Feb. 25 and must find the Wildcats finishing in the top four in order to make the trek to states.

"We'll have to have a really good day," Kohls noted.

Bowling, at the high school level, finds a team with five participants and two substitutes. If one of the starters isn't having a good day, then coach John Osborne can put one of the substitutes in to compete instead.

Novi High senior Katie Kohls rolls at Novi Bowl last Monday morning.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER



ABOVE: Gymnasts and an assistant coach watch as a teammate performs on the balance beam during last week's home meet against the Wildcats of Plymouth.

BELOW: Gymnast Sarah Ikhani-Pour performs on the un-even parallel bars last week during a home meet.

RIGHT: A Wild 'Stang gymnast performs on the balance beam.



ABOVE: Wild 'Stang gymnast Maggie Mills performs on the un-even parallel bars last Thursday night in a home meet against Plymouth High.

BALANCING ACT

Photos by JOHN HEIDER



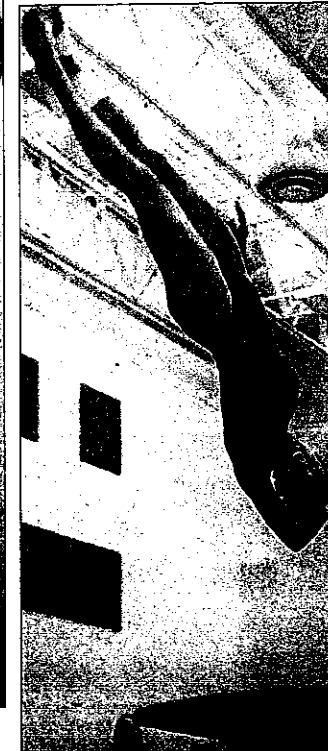
LEFT: Wild 'Stang gymnast Megan Wallen flies off the vault and begins a mid-air twist before making her landing.

MIDDLE: Wild 'Stang gymnast Rachel Deneau looks at the ground for a moment as she heads for her balance beam dismount.

RIGHT: A Wild 'Stang gymnast twists in the air after hitting the vault during a competition at Northville High.



Wild 'Stangs know how to showcase their talents



FOOD

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



Cheese Chatter

Look for these fresh and appealing cheeses to add flavor fast!

- Fresh cheeses:**
Cottage cheese, Ricotta, Feta, Queso Blanco and fresh Mozzarella taste great in savory, hot entrees such as lasagna, enchiladas, Greek-style pasta and pizza or cold in salads. These cheeses also pair well with fresh fruits such as pineapple and strawberries, or fresh vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers, black olives and onions.
- Semi-soft cheeses:**
Monterey Jack, Muenster, Brick, Havarti, Swiss, Brie, Fontina, Gouda, Edam, Provolone and Camembert are delicious in appetizers, sandwiches, pizzas, quesadillas or burritos.
- Blue-veined cheeses:**
Blue and Gorgonzola add a savory note to dressings, dips, salads, spreads, steaks, burgers and chicken.
- Hard cheeses:**
Gruyère, Parmesan, Asiago, Romano and aged Cheddar can be grated on top of simmering onion, potato or vegetable soups; shaved with a vegetable peeler or cheese parer on main dish salads; or melted into casseroles.

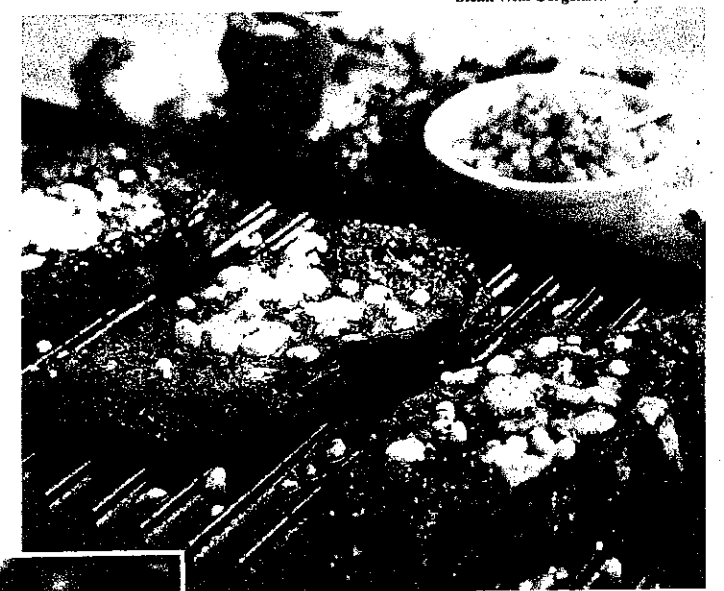
Southwestern Chicken Skillet

Nothing says quick and easy meals like cheese.

FOOD IN A FLASH

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNOPSIS

So many cheeses, so little time. That's the good news for busy families facing dinner time. More than 450 types, varieties and styles of cheese are available from Wisconsin to help you put a delicious meal on the table in minutes. On-the-go families everywhere can spend less time in the kitchen and more time doing the things they enjoy when they make recipes that feature cheese. Delicious, nutritious cheese can be enjoyed with fresh fruit, shredded or cubed in salads, melted into pasta or vegetable dishes or browned on top of broiled chicken, steak or fish. Made in the caring, time-tested tradition of the state's award-winning cheese makers, Wisconsin cheeses can bring mellow, tangy, sharp, peppery, nutty and aromatic flavors to any dish. When you want to make a big impact with just one ingredient, say "Cheese!" Visit www.WisDairy.com for more cheese serving ideas and recipes. And while you're there, enter the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board's "\$1,000,000 Win in a Flash" game.



Steak With Gorgonzola Thyme Crust

Spinach & Cheddar Salad



Southwestern Chicken Skillet

- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- 2 teaspoons vegetable or olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup prepared salsa
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Wisconsin Monterey Jack or Pepperjack cheese
- 2 tablespoons chopped cilantro or green onion

Sprinkle chili powder, cumin and salt over chicken. Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add chicken and garlic; cook 5 minutes. Turn chicken over. Combine salsa and mustard; spoon over and around chicken. Continue cooking, turning chicken and stirring sauce, 5 minutes or until chicken is cooked through. Sprinkle cheese and cilantro over chicken. Continue cooking 1 to 2 minutes or until cheese is melted. Makes 4 servings.

Spinach & Cheddar Salad

- 1 (10 ounce) bag washed baby spinach leaves or torn spinach leaves
- 1 cup (4 ounces) shredded or finely diced smoked or sharp Wisconsin Cheddar cheese
- 1/3 cup packaged real bacon bits or strips
- 1/4 cup thin red onion rings or strips
- 1/4 cup thinly sliced radishes (optional)
- 1/3 cup bottled red wine or raspberry vinaigrette salad dressing
- 1 hard cooked egg, chopped (optional)
- 1/2 cup herb or garlic croutons
- Freshly ground black pepper (optional)

In large bowl, combine spinach, cheese, bacon bits, red onion and, if desired, radishes. Add dressing; toss well and transfer to serving plates. Top with egg if desired and croutons. Serve with freshly ground black pepper if desired. Makes 4 side dish or 2 meatless main dish servings.

Steak With Gorgonzola Thyme Crust

- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 2 (6 ounce) beef tenderloin or small rib eye steaks, cut 3/4-inch thick
- 1 large or 2 small cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh thyme or 1/2 teaspoon dried
- 1/2 cup (2 ounces) crumbled Wisconsin Gorgonzola cheese

Preheat broiler. Spoon Worcestershire sauce over both sides of steaks; let stand 5 minutes. Sprinkle garlic and pepper over steaks. Place steaks on rack of broiler pan. Broil 3 to 4 inches from heat source, 3 to 4 minutes per side, for medium-rare steak. Remove pan from broiler. Sprinkle thyme, then cheese over steaks. Return to oven and broil 2 minutes or until cheese is golden brown. Makes 2 servings.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 6B

Thursday, February 17, 2005

Part III: Small business and technology

Internet Service Provider

An ISP provides dial-up access to a network of many customers. In the U.S., there are more than one thousand ISP's.

Being an ISP is an expensive proposition because the set-up costs and the ongoing operations cost a lot of money. The profit margins for these companies are low and therefore they have to come up with other areas to generate revenue. So, they begin providing Web site development services to their already existing clients.

Most ISP employees are highly technical in nature due to the requirements of the ISP business. These technical people usually have little or no knowledge of e-business. They cannot provide a true Internet business analysis because they don't really understand 'business' issues. They are also not up to date on new technologies and don't really understand Internet marketing or traffic generation strategies.

Of course, they offer low cost Web site development but their solutions rarely provide client satisfaction. Their fees may be reasonable but their solutions are typically created using basic HTML code. They also don't become too involved in back-end databases or more sophisticated solutions that truly impact your bottom-line.

They provide hosting services as part of their core business

and therefore they have an advantage over their competition. They can attract clients by providing free hosting with a monthly dial-up

account. But this free hosting is typically for non-business use, such as creating an online family album or sharing a collection, etc. For business application hosting, most ISP's will charge monthly fees that are based on the 'hits' or the amount of traffic your site receives. That could be a disadvantage to you as a business owner if you are lucky enough to have a 'popular' site that a lot of people frequent.

Most ISP created Web sites have the worst graphic designs you can find on the Web. That may fit in with the right brain, left-brain theory that creativity and technical skills are hard to find in the same personality type.

So, now you have a Web site that has a perceived low cost, has limited functionality and does not retain the interest of the arriving customer. That means that you are not driving traffic to your site, and if someone does come to your site, you don't really have a way to retain his or her interest. Your site doesn't have 'stickiness.' So did you really get a good deal?

Next time, we will look at the fourth category in the e-commerce industry, "IBM, et al"

Nipa Shah is a Novi-based e-commerce solutions provider who specializes in providing affordable solutions for small and medium-sized companies. She can be reached via e-mail at nshah@wsicoelwebresults.com or at (248) 470-6299.

Your site doesn't have 'stickiness.' So did you really get a good deal?

Send us your business news:

Novi News
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Northville, MI 48167
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ADVERTORIAL



Photo by Duane Ramsey

David Crowley explains a piece of equipment to a potential patient in the Cady Street Annex.

Northville Physical Rehabilitation

■ Second location opens to meet growth

By Duane Ramsey
SPECIAL WRITER

Northville Physical Rehabilitation is expanding its current practice due to continued growth with the opening of a second location in downtown Northville. The Cady Street Annex, located at 300 East Cady, is expected to open during the first week of March.

The positive growth of the practice at its Main Street location required more space. The business took advantage of an opportunity to reopen the former facility of NovaCare Rehabilitation on Cady, according to David Crowley, manager of clinical services and operations for Northville Physical Rehabilitation, P.C.

"We are excited about opening the new location very soon," Crowley said. They are currently completing the installation of new equipment before opening.

The second location will complement the existing practice and facilities on Main Street by treating a varied population of patients ranging from orthopedic problems of the legs, spine and arms to neurological conditions like stroke and MS.

"We will offer aquatic therapy at the new location with the installation of a Hydro Track Underwater Treadmill System," Crowley said.

The Hydro Track system provides a wide variety of aquatic applications with superior results

compared to land-based equipment. Water allows resistance in all ranges of movement to provide therapeutic exercise at more intense levels within a very protective environment, according to the manufacturer.

"Buoyancy in water is the key," Crowley said. "It opens up our ability to treat problems limited by active motion or weight-bearing limitations with the arms and legs, as well as hip, knee, ankle, and shoulder joints by doing the exercises while standing or sitting in water."

The underwater treadmill equipment, only 36 inches wide and 96 inches long, is designed for use in smaller clinics so it is ideal for the Cady Street facility. It features a variable speed treadmill including reversible capability, digital display unit, dual-speed resistance jets, filtration and heating system, and moveable control panel.

Crowley said the aquatic treatment will be developed as a specialization for the Cady Street Annex where it will be located. He has worked with this kind of equipment in the past and is looking forward to offering aquatic treatment to patients there.

Crowley has 27 years of diverse experience in the physical therapy field working at hospitals, corporate clinics and his own business. He operated a private practice in Warren for eight years before selling it in 1995.

He came to work at Northville Physical Rehabilitation in January after working for NovaCare. As a 14-year resident of Northville, Crowley said he always wanted to work in the community where he lived.

The practice will continue to offer full-service treatment at the Main Street location it has occu-

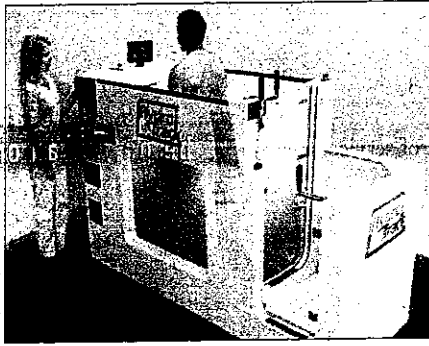


Photo provided by Hydro Track

The Hydro Track Underwater Treadmill System will allow the local practice to offer aquatic therapy for a number of physical problems.

pled for the past two years. Crowley also has a background in athletic training and said they want to get more involved in community recreational athletics.

Northville Physical Rehabilitation offers physical and occupational therapy services to help restore function for people of all ages with limitations from injury or illness under the direction of Dennis Engerer, a licensed physical therapist who has operated the local private practice since 1985.

"Being physically weak for any reason whether the result of injury, illness, lifestyle or occupation puts a person at risk for re-injury because they are less able to tolerate the physical stress of work or play," Engerer said.

The Northville facility has the latest technology for testing and treating many orthopedic, neurological and muscular-skeletal disorders. Some of the more common

diagnoses include neck and back injuries, shoulder tendonitis, balance disorders, joint replacements, simple strains or sprains and traumatic brain injuries.

Northville physical Rehab receives many patients through referrals from area physicians in family practice, rheumatologists for people with arthritis, orthopedic surgeons for hip, knee and shoulder patients, and even from dentists for patients with temporal mandibular joint problems, according to Engerer.

Many potential patients ask if they need a referral from their doctor. They don't need a referral for an initial consultation but most insurance companies require a referral or prescription for actual treatments.

"We help patients by contacting their physicians and making recommendations for treatments following that initial exam," Engerer said. "We try to make it as easy as

possible for initial referrals. For patients without a personal physician, we can refer them to an appropriate physician."

The qualified staff establishes a treatment plan to meet each patient's specific needs, physical capabilities and limitations. They keep the patients, their physicians and families informed of the patient's progress and potential for improvement.

In addition to treating patients in its Northville facility, the staff is available to treat patients in their home or an extended care facility if necessary. Most insurance plans cover physical therapy treatments and rehabilitation services, Engerer said.

Northville Physical Rehab also provides personal fitness training, nutritional counseling, and a health wellness program. Memberships are available for fitness training starting as low as \$35 per month, Engerer said.

DETAILS

Northville Physical Rehabilitation

locations in downtown Northville:
■ 215 East Main Street
(248) 349-9339

■ 300 East Cady Street
(248) 349-9336

www.northvillephysicalrehab.com

Monday-Friday
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturday
8 a.m. to noon



NORTHVILLE

Physical Rehabilitation, P.C.

A Tradition of Personal Care

248-349-9336

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