Volume 49 Number 50

# HSIDE

It's prom time

Novi High School is gearing up for prom this Saturday with some fancy dresses, dapper tuxedos and impressive plans. --- Page 4A

#### **UBITUARIES**

M. Helen Hennick, 86 Shirley R. Salncome, 78

#### **SPORTS**



Hart to Hart

12-05

Mike Hart left some big shoes to fill when he graduated last year. Now his brother, junior Steve Hart, has to decide if be wants to fill them. - Page 1B

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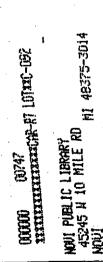
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Novi, Michigan

### City dodges lawsuit with re-vote

Novi council approves rezoning for Uptown Park

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

The city of Novi may have avoided another costly lawsuit Monday when city council voted 4-3 to rezone property, allowing Singh Development to build a 201-unit condominium

Toni Nagy and Laura Lorenzo voted to deny the request. David Landry, Mayor Lou Csordas, Bob Gatt and Kim Capello voted to approve.

In February 2004, council denied the Farmington Hillsbased developer's request for Uptown Park. In a rare move, city attorney Tom Schultz placed the request

agenda Monday to prevent a potential lawsuit involving the developer and the city. The property is about 39 acres south of 12 Mile Road and

west of Meadowbrook Road

from Singh back on the council

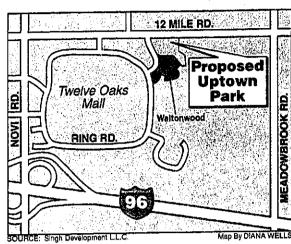
Council members Lynne Paul, near Twelve Oaks Mall.

Schultz said that Singh planned to address the zoning board of appeals in the near future since council denied the rezoning request last year. If the board denied the request, the next step would be for Singh to seek approval through the court

Singh won approval to rezone the property from office service technology and low-density, low-rise multiple family to high-density, mid-rise, multiple family use.

The developer said it has

continued on 7



The dog days of day care



A Gone to the Dogs day care participant greets a visitor to the Heslip Drive business, which will host a pet adoptioon day on Sunday, May 22. See more on page 3.

### School board denies library proposal

Land swap nixed: next option to expand current site

By Ramez Khuri

A proposal by the Novi Public Library's board to trade property with the Novi Community School District was denied 6-1 by the Board of Education last Thursday.

The proposal included a land trade of the current library property at Ten Mile and Taft roads, for a section of property which is owned by

the school district at Eleven Mile and Beck roads. Had it been granted, the library would have built a new facility there.

The library's plan B calls for expanding and renovating its current

'That's how we plan to proceed now and we've already started our architect on more detailed work for that site," said Rick Smith, library board of trustees president. "We're real happy that the school board clearly showed their support for our mission for an improved library in general, even though the land swap

is not going to work out." At the time of the proposal, the school board said it needed some questions answered before making a decision, which included how the

district could use the current library

"We thought there was a good chance we could use the land for alternative education, but the high school and administration said that was not a good use for it," said John Streit, school board president, "It's not a good idea that the two pro-

grams were so close together." Also, administration said it would have had to redo much of the building's mechanics, heating and cool-

"We felt that was not a good use

of funds at this time," Streit added. The proposal was originally made April 7 because the library board said its current facility, located right next to Novi High School, is too small for the growing community. Also it said that it is becoming increasingly dangerous to access the library parking lot in the morning when school starts and in the after-

noon when it lets out. Smith said that the library will continue to explore other community partnerships in order to provide a library facility appropriate to the

growing needs of Novi. "We're happy to be moving for-ward," Smith said. "I think it would have been nice if something worked out with the school board, but only if it was a win-win. And it wasn't

going to work out that way." 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.

### **Budget** approved **■** Council OKs

### \$27 million

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

With much praise for the ease of the process and little fanfare Monday, members of Novi City Council unanimously approved a \$27 million budget for fiscal year 2005-2006.

Following a brief public hearing on the proposed budget, City Manager Rick Helwig outlined the highlights. A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the Novi Civic Center, Office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road.

A fiscal pledge to the taxpayers was adopted amending the city's budget policies and procedures.

The pledge says that the administration and city council will strive to not go over approved budget expenditures for the fiscal year and will limit nonapproved budget expenses to the following:

• Emergencies, including tical capital pure

Cash flow

 Uncontrollable budget shortfalls

· Union contract obligations Judgment trust obligations

 Grant matches · Unfunded retiree health

care accrued liability

continued on page 3

### Resident supports a free Lebanon

#### ■ McCotter presents Assaf resolution to Congress

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

A Novi resident was one of more than 500 who traveled to Washington, D.C., to lend their support to a resolution presented by Congressman Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) supporting a free Lebanon. Michael Abi-Assaf of Novi

attended one of McCotter's constituent meetings on Feb. 9, 2004, and talked about the current situation in Lebanon.

More than a year later, McCotter is presenting a resolution to Congress urging the United States government' to

continued on page 8

### **Glorious Oliver!**

#### Musical opens tomorrow night

By Kim Kovelle

Similar to the hungry orphan boy. members of Novi Theatres wanted extra helpings of talent in their production of the musical Oliver.

But unlike the character Oliver Twist — who finds trouble when boldly asking a parish officer for more gruel - the troupe got

hearty portions. Opening tomorrow, the twoweekend show teems with roughians, orphans, pickpockets and undertakers played by a cast of 79.

There's healthy variety to whet appetites. Lionel Bart's 1962 script is updated with sound effects and a few scary "Lemmony

Snicket" style costumes, co-director Linda Wickert said.

Also, some kids' roles are double- or triple-cast, giving different youths a chance in the spotlight in six performances.

This is a huge children's show," said Wicken, who's working with Laura Utter. "It just helps spread the wealth. These kids really deserved the roles."

Based on Charles Dickens' novel, the darker-toned musical tells the tale of orphaned Oliver Twist (Doug Oliver).

After he infamously utters, 'Please, sir, I want some more," Twist is sold to undertakers before falling in with young bandits led by

master thief Fagin.
Unwittingly, he ends up with his grandfather, a man whose wallet Twist tries to steal.



Holding the face of orphan Matt Thimm and singing to a band of pickpocket orphans, Linda Demmer plays "Nancy" in the Novi Theatres' musical Oliver, which opens tomorcontinued on page 5 row. The play will have six total performances.



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### City council OKs \$27 million budget

Member Lynne Paul applauded Mayor Lou Csordas for conducting civilized, professionally run budget sessions, leading the approval. This was Csordas' last time to lead the council through the budget approval process, as west of Beck Road, has been

-he will not be secking reelection. The city's millage rate of 10.5416, which has been maintained for the last six years, will and the city will purchase \*remain the same. And, the rainy \$170,000 street sweeper as well day reserve funds, compared to as a Patchmobile to aid city the state's 0 percent will remain streets.

at 14 percent. No new personnel costs have been added to the budget. The "It's a very significant document Novi Fire Department and Parks. Recreation and Forestry proud of. Department will receive funding Also, the city's information

technology network will receive completed a week early. sfunding for an update. An enhanced neighborhood

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for road program will be funded, the Novi News. She can be reached which will include improve- at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or at ments to Nine Mile Road from pfleming@ht.homecomm.net

Road, which will begin after

Meadowbrook Bridge is replaced

the southern city limits, and

including off Eleven Mile Road

Water and sanitary sewer

In presenting the budget for

council approval, Helwig said,

and one city council is very

He thanked council members

for their cooperation in the April

budget sessions, which were

improvements are to be done,

work on Novi's sidewalks.

seen as a priority

#### Budget amendments help seniors, fire dept.

May 9, 2005: An eight-passenger van for Inrigation of Power Park seniors will be purchased at a cost of \$37,000.

■ Remove a \$50,000 equipment expenditure from the general fund, switching the funding source to the the drain fund and water and sewer fund

■ The fire department will receive black top seal at \$6,500. An Opticom sensing device that turns red signal lights to green when a fire truck approaches will be added to two locations at a cost of \$16,000. ■ Fire pagers will be

The following is a summary Confined space rescue training of changes to the proposed will receive \$4,000 from the 2005-2006 budget adopted on city. A Knox Box System will cost \$7,000.

> ballfields will be deferred at a savings of \$62,000. The Retirce Health Care

Fund will receive \$268,000. The contingency fund will total \$35,000 ■ Construction on Beck Road was added at a cost of

\$285,000. In the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Fund budget, the Youth Baseball Association donation will add \$10,000. A total of \$6,300 will be reduced in American Disabilities Act projects. The

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replaced at a cost of \$30,000. estimated amount for the 2004-Fire and emergency medical 2005 budget will be adjusted fro service training materials will the \$15,700 unused proceeds be provided at a cost of \$4,500. for fencing at Lakeshore Park.

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east of Novi Road. The privately owned business s actually three businesses in one - a day care center, grooming facility, and obedience trainng and agility training center. The three owners, Amber Koeller and Teri Brennan, both of Livonia, and Tracey Olceski. of Wixom, met in their former pet-related careers. Koeller and Brennan worked ogether at a local animal training facility, and Oleeski was formerly a veterinarian technician. The trio combined forces to create Novi's first and only canine recreational facility. The business will be open a year in December. The three said the crateless doggie day care area with indoor potty run and agility equipment

Photo by JOHN HEIDER has become extremely popular with owners and their dogs. There are 7-foot-by-4-foot runs

### Want to pick a pet?

Dogs brings people, pets together in Novi

By Pam Fleming

Owning a pet can be one of the most rewarding aspects of life, For those considering adopting a pet, a relatively new business in Novi, Gone to the Dogs, will have its Second Annual Pet Adoption Day from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday, May 22, at the facility at 22497 Heslip Drive. Gone to the Dogs occupies a portion of the third building on the left on Heslip, which is just north of Nine Mile Road and

WHO WILL BE THERE

lowing animal rescue organizations will attend the May 22 Pet Adoption Day at Gone to the Dogs, 22497 Heslip, in Novi: Animal Rescue

Backdoor Friends Purebred Cat Rescue ■ Mutts 'n' Mutts Rescue Home Fur Ever Guardian Angel Animal

Great Lakes Border Collie For more information, call

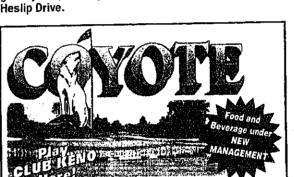
(248) 347-9081.

one spot of the enclosed area. Owners can even watch their dogs via a Web camera from 8

"One lady just brings her dog in when she cuts her and her neighbor's grass," Koeller said. Due to the unpredictable turnover of rescue animals, the facility cannot guarantee that any particular dog, cat or breed will be available on the May 22

Cost of the animals varies with the different rescue organizations, but the average cost is \$100 for a cat and \$150 for a dog. Some organizations will do same-day adoptions, where others make home visits before allowing a pet to be adopted.

"They just don't want people to act on impulse," Koeller said. The facility estimates there will be about 50-75 animals to choose from on adoption day. "We're also always looking where they can take a nap, and for foster homes for animals



Novi Gone to the Dogs workers greet some of their

Brennan, and Tracey Olceski. Gone to the Dogs, a dog-

gie daycare, training and grooming spa, is located off

canine charges. From left are Amber Koeller, Teri

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Above, Novi High School senior Julia Lyskawa smiles for the crowd at the Novi Prom Fashion Show. Below, classmate Sarah Schmitt gives Colin Cody a kiss on the



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that it won't be a really typical Although the ticket prices are higher this year than in years past, it has not stopped approximately 600 students from buying tickets. BuWalda confessed that she had an undefined budget for prom expenses, and spent

"It had to be the 'wow' dress." BuWalda said, "When I tried it nice.' I had to think, 'This is

On the other hand, senior Daniel Church says that he likes

### Prom promises to be paradise

Annual school dance scheduled for Saturday night

By Courtney Ratkowiak

Megan BuWalda thought it was strange when the tennis ball didn't bounce. Hidden inside the ball, she found an invitation to the prom. The invitation, coupled with a dozen, longstemmed red roses, turned BuWalda's seemingly normal tennis date into a wonderful start to Prom 2005.

The Novi High School junior/senior prom, themed "Prom Paradise," is this Saturday night at Livonia's Burton Manor, The junior class, traditionally in charge of prom preparation, learned that it takes months of planning to achieve true paradise. The 16 junior Student Council representatives began planning for this year's prom in lanuary. At weekly class meetings, students divided into committees to set goals, brainstorm ideas, and delegate activities. Representatives addressed issues such as the cost of tickets, centerpiece gifts, music,

"Choosing a theme is a lot harder than you might think," said Katie Colaccino, junior class president. "It can't be corny, cheesy, or cheap. There were some worries with 'Paradise' being our theme, but we worked hard to make sure

find her ideal dress.

friends have known since their Church said. "It's hard for a lot freshman year that they would of people because they don't rental, and plans for before and after parties.

With Novi High School's prom this Saturday night, parents and other adults should be forewarned that Novi police will

comes to serving alcohol to drink. Beth Belter, executive director of the Novi Community that Cares Coalition, appeared before city council May 9, urging Novi parents and other citizens to sign "Parents Who Host Lose the Most" proclamation. The proclamation is on an easel in the atrium of the Novi Civic Center

prom and graduation parties. Volunteers supporting teen health are reminding adults to hurt someone, themselves or abandon prom and graduation damage property. Police can also take any alcohol, money or drinking parties with the phrase, property used in committing the "Don't be a party to teenage drinking. It's against the law." "Even though the campaign runs through May and June due to proms and graduations, it is an important message to remember hroughout the year," Belter said.

supporting safe and healthy

"The big message is that some parents are providing alcohol to driving carelessly, such as teens at home because they feel they'll be safer. However, it is illegal, and parents can be prose-This campaign is sponsored y the Alliance of Coalitions for part of an innovative online lealthy Communities and the public education effort to reach

Abuse Services. The message is that underage drinking parties are a health and safety problem with serious

these celebratory times also combine some of deadliest fac-Adults need to keep in mind tors for motor vehicle crashes: drinking and driving, driving · It is illegal to host or allow late at night and driving with teen drinking parties in your multiple passengers," said Luis

Morais, senior manager, Safety be enforcing the law when it for anyone under age 21 to Planning, Chrysler Group. "Traffic crashes are the No. 1 killer of teens. As we move into the most deadly time of the year teens to drink and drive. for teen drivers, we want to Parents can be prosecuted

Adults urged to not serve teens alcohol

· Everything associated with no time to ignore safe driving a violation, such as personal property, can be confiscated. habits. The survey revealed that 46 Adults who break the law can percent of teens plan to drive to face a minimum sentence of prom and graduation night three months in jail and/or a activities; of those, 53 percent \$500 fine. Others can sue those plan to drive a group of teens. who give alcohol to anyone Also 86 percent of teens surunder age 21, and they, in turn, veved said they would be staying out past midnight; half said

of fatalities that occur with a teen behind the wheel happen This message comes on the heels of a new survey that finds after dark. many teens are pressured to Other study findings include: • 74 percent of teens surveyed engage in unsafe activities on report pressure to drink prom and graduation nights, 57 percent of teens report like drinking and driving and pressure to drive carelessly

The survey, released May 10

by Chrysler Group's Road

underage drinking prevention.

"Prom and graduation nights

Ready Teens program and part-

 49 percent of teens report pressure to use drugs · 48 percent of teens expect less than half of their peers will ner MADD, was conducted as buckle up on prom and gradua-

remind parents and teens that

prom and graduation season is

they plan to stay out past 2 a.m.

Research shows that 50 percent

Pam Fleming is a staff writer Division Office of Substance about teen driving safety and for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net. should be times teens remember

to live "day-to-day." He started nervous even thinking about thinking about prom a few asking someone, let alone actuweeks ago and decided to ask a friend to be his date for the event. Although he asked his ilmost three months trying to date to prom in an informal manner, he admits that he was

"I'll spend more time washstill nervous. "It's always hard to get the ing my car than I will getting on, I couldn't just think, 'This is courage to ask, because you myself ready," he said, "It's the don't want her to say no, but it's same for most guys...if you easier to ask her as a friend drive around on (prom day), BuWalda and her closest because there's less pressure," you'll see all these guys cleaning their cars, getting them ready. Girls have to worry about attend the prom together and want to get rejected. If the girl hair, nails, the dress... I'm glad I have already finalized salon says no, it'll go around the appointments. a limousine whole school. Some people get on a tux."

Oakland County Health teens with critical messages

Expedition.

Despite the planning, money and fear of rejection involved BuWalda and Church agree that prom is a necessary rite of pas-Forgoing the traditional limousine, Church and his date

plan to ride to prom in his that you have to go to prom as a senior, whether you have a date or not," Church said.

"When I think of prom, think of good-byes, last times." BuWalda added. "It's one of the last times that the senior class will be together. It's going to be

Courtney Ratkowiak is a junior at Novi High School. is stated at

What makes us Remarkable?



ydia Weeks

Lydia Weeks is no ordinary

grandmother. When this 83 year

old is not caring for her husband

or doing volunteer work, she

is zipping around town in her

Mustang GT. Not much can slow

Lydia down. So when she awoke

in a Saint Joseph Mercy Health

System hospital bed, her only

thought was for the husband

who was counting on her. Lydia's

ailment, a dissecting thoracic

aortic arch aneurysm, required

emergency heart surgery that

to perform because of her age

and prognosis. But the surgeons

System got Lydia airlifted to the hospital, and into the operating

room without hesitation and saved her life. Today this vibrant

lady is back in the driver's seat of her sporty Mustang, and living

For more information visit www.sjmercyhealth.org-

her life to the fullest.

at Saint Joseph Mercy Health

three other hospitals refused

and the state of t



the knowledge to help and the compassion to care.

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they saved my life."

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### Novi Theatres present Oliver tomorrow

Show times will be May 13-15, 20-22

continued from front

Peppered are classic songs like "Consider Yourself" and "Food, Glorious Food," There's also some violence and a death in the rough streets of 1800s "It's typical Dickens,"

Wickert said. "It's very heavy. There's happy moments. With players ranging from age 7-91, this version offers

another seasoning: in certain

shows, parents will act alongside their children. While Linda Demmer plays nurturing Nancy, daughter Melanie trails her - literally. "I follow her onstage most of the time," said Melanie, 14 who shares her role of Bet with two others, "Normally, we don't."

Practicing their tunes together in the car on the way to rehearsals is more common. "We actually perform a song together, which is just a total thrill." Linda said. "This is the very first opportunity. She is

tremendously creative. Melanie discovered mom's talents from the audience. when Linda appeared as leading lady Aldonza in Man of LaMancha. "She was good," Melanie

said. "I was just taken aback. I didn't know she could do that." ners in crime as Bruce putting on an old glove that just Markham plays Bill Sykes. Nancy's cruel thief of a boyfriend, alongside Tim, 13,

Dodger orphan. It's the fourth time the

who picks pockets as the Artful

THE NOVI NEWS

By The Novi News

Northville, Michigan 48167 Periodical

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"I just got up there, started singing my heart away." Even the directors will see family members onstage. And on a related note - this

sing, I thought it would be fine

for me to do that, too," Tim

WHAT: Novi Theatres

presents Lionel Bart's Oliver,

the troupe's second musical

Road, just east of Taft Road

COST: \$17; all seats

this year

shared a role.

ticular play.

Theatres. She's set to retire in Father and son become part- a director," she said.. "It's like

will be Wickert's last musical

as artistic director of Novi

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 Markhams have appeared kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net.

Open

House

Saturday, May 14

10a.m. - Noon

• WHEN: 7:30 p.m., May 13 and 20; 2 p.m., May 14, 15, 21 WHERE: 45175 W. 10 Mile • TICKETS: (248) 347-0400 together, and the second Tim's "I enjoy just being able to be with him and watch him," Bruce said. "He really does kind of have a natural talent for this. That's one of my bigger motivations for doing this par-A veteran performer himself. Tim said his dad's audition for The Music Man was inspira-"When I saw my dad go up on stage and just sell it and

As master thief "Fagin," Ron Dzwonkowski sings with his gang of pickpocket boys in the Novi Theatres' presentation of the musical Oliver, which opens tomorrow

"When I saw my dad go up on stage and just sell it and sing, I thought it would be

fine for me to do that, too. I just got up there, started singing my heart away." Tim Markham

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"Cut" is a primary factor when determining the value of a diamond. Cut is not be confused with shape, which includes round, marquise, oval, pear, and emerald. Whatever the shape, which represents the properties of more approximately approxi heart, and emerate. Whatever me suspective is a matter of good proportion, which repairs of all kings, the helps to ensure that the diamond will discheracy when a diameter of the suspection will be a support of the suspection. eries light to create sparkle. When a diameter to the create sparkle. When a diameter to the create sparkle when a diameter to the create sparkle. We are to the create sparkle with the create sparkle. When a diameter to the create sparkle with the create sparkle with the create sparkle. When a diameter to the create sparkle with the create sparkle. When a diameter the create sparkle with ing light is reliced from one facts of the mext, and finally dispersed out through the top of the stone. If the cut of the diamond is too deep, light will escape through the bottom (pavilion), Conversely, if the cut is too shallow, light will escape through the converse to the fact of the converse to the converse to the fact of the converse to the

LET'S TALK

and view a diamond with us and receive reflected at all.

Diamonds, as well as other precious gem purchases, should always be handled by a qualified jeweler or gemologist. WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI provides our customers with skilled, programalized service, and of a color, rare, weighted claim, Together with early continues programalized service, and of a color, rare, weighted claim, Together with early continues programalized service, and of a color, rare, weighted claim, Together with early continues programalized service.

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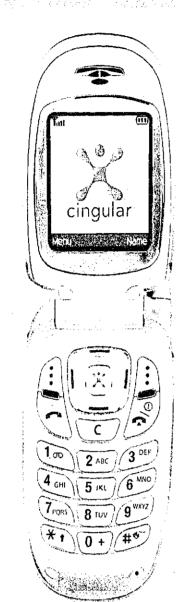


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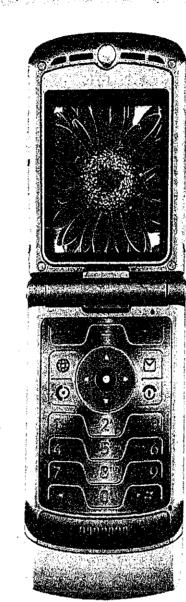
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### PUBLIC SAFETY

### Feds show Novi the money | POLICE BLOTTER

woman kept insisting that some-

tion in Northville at Eight Mile

house and return to the Studio

with bundles of U.S. currency.

The total from the hotel rooms

A search

Search warrants

First checks arrive from seizure of drug-related funds

By Pam Fleming

How would you like to have more than \$1.3 million in your checking account? Well, the Novi

Department does now. It's been a long time coming. one had been seriously injured but the first checks following in one of the rooms. one of the biggest drug money seizures in the state have now been deposited with the city's finance department and credited to the police department's for- that led investigators to a locafeiture account.

Rick Helwig, city manager, Road and Novi Street. issued a memo to city council Investigators then saw two submembers last Thursday, stating jects at this location leave the that two checks from the U.S. Treasury made out to the Novi Plus motel. Police Department were denosited in an account.

One check was for \$396,465, home at 861 Allen Street, with a with the second check for search of that residence produc-\$935,944 for a total of \$1,332,410. The funds came to the department following an incident on and home netted \$4,795,668.

March 18, 2004, when Novi The Novi Police Department is lobby at Studio Plus motel at funds, according to Doug ing@ht.homecomm.net.

39640 Orchard Hill Place at Shaeffer, chief of police. Eight Mile and Haggerty roads. Expenditures are authorized The officers who responded to and controlled the same way as the scene observed an hysterical all other city purchases and female who led them to two expenditures. Federally forfeited properties

motel rooms because she feared the occupants of the rooms may are authorized and expenditures are guided by federal statute have been harmed. Officers checked the rooms which states that: Expenditures are to be made and found no one inside. The female, who was one of those in a two-year period;

staying in the room, insisted that Approved uses are very broad but restricted to law police check the luggage in the enforcement uses only, includ-Upon inspection, the officers ing any interest accrued; saw a duffel bag filled with large · Forfeited funds cannot be amounts of U.S. currency. The used to replace resources:

for additional personnel but are restricted to only paying the first-year salaries of new law obtained for the rooms, and enforcement staff. Permitted uses are: police found even more cash. Information was also obtained · activities to enhance future

> investigations, · law enforcement training, law enforcement equipment and operations, detention facilities.

· law enforcement facilities and equipment. drug education and aware-

obtained for the Northville ness programs, · pro rata funding (meaning funds can be divided when dising three additional duffel bags tributed), and asset accounting and tracking.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be police responded to a call that expected to receive about \$3 reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. there was an upset female in the million from the forfeiture 105, or by e-mail at pflem-

#### **Ex-girlfriend admits** taking car

A-firefighter temporarily living at his current girlfriend's home on Independence Street near Waverly and Cantebury told police April 6 that he thinks his former girlfriend may have taken his car between 11:50 p.m. April 5 and midnight Anril 6.

The man told police that while he was dressing inside his girlfriend's house for a fire call he heard a car door slam outside the home.

Peering out the window, he said saw his former girlfriend driving Forfeited funds can be used off in his red 1997 Camaro. He believed that the former girlfriend was accompanied by a white male, possibly her brother-

> The car contained his school books, firefighting gear and other personal items. He indicated that the former girlfriend had a set of keys to the vehicle.

Police left a message on the former girlfriend's phone. She called back, telling police she had taken the car and moved it a few streets

over from the residence. The woman told police she would not turn her set of keys over to her exboyfriend until her name was removed from the loan papers on

#### Motorcycle stolen Police were alerted at 1:50 a.m.

lawsuit with the city, according to

April 12 that four male suspects

from a carport on Warley Court in

A resident of Warley Court said he was leaving for work at about 1:50 a.m. on April 12 when he heard multiple male subjects speaking in hushed tones, saying, 'Hurry up."

were seen stealing a 1995 Suzuki

He then saw four men tifting a white and blue motorcycle onto a red pickup truck. Police contacted the owner of the motorcycle, who told them it was indeed stolen. The bike was

valued at \$2,500.

#### Car stolen outside market

A Novi resident reported that his car had been stolen outside Lakeview Market on Old Novi Road at about 9:25 p.m. on April

The man told police that his white, 2000 Ford Explorer was stolen when he left the car unlocked with the keys in it while in went into the market to buy a

newspaper. Estimated value of the Explorer was \$9,000. There are no suspects at this time.

#### Cash, liquor stolen from Hoa Hoa Inn

The owner of the Hoa Hoa Inn at Novi and 14 Mile roads reported April 18 that the restaurant was robbed between 10:30 p.m. April 17 and 10:30 a.m. April 18. The owner told police that

someone broke in and stole money from the eash register. The suspect or suspects also pried a safe loose from a wall in the office, and the safe was lying on the floor. The owner called police back later to report that 26 bottles of liquor had also been stolen.

#### Wire fraud reported

A female resident on Villagewood Street may have been swindled out of thousands of dollars in a fraudulent scheme, police

An employee of Kmart Western Union in Farmington Hills notified police that a Novi resident had been sending large cash transactions to Costa Rica, Quebec, Canada and New Jersey and was concerned that the woman was a victim of fraud. The employee reported that the resident sent \$7,000 and that \$4,000 was sent to New Jersey but never accepted.

When contacted, the resident told police she was buying real estate in Costa Rica and did not want police to intervene. Police told her not to send any more money, and that she was a victim

of criminal fraud. Police called the Western Union employee who said she would ask Western Union to flag the woman's name to avoid her sending more money from other offices. She also said she would file a fraud report with the Western

Union office. Compiled by Pam Fleming

### City avoids lawsuit by approving rezoning for Uptown

mission denied approval of the that could again be brought to multiple family dwellings. plan, then called Uptown Place, in council. ing's height was a primary issue. from reappearing for a subsequent market to absorb office service this behind us, agree with the 201 a 4-3 vote. The proposed build-

corner. How do we go against our Lorenzo said the decision be used for office service technol-

even on the agenda.

"What stops any other applicant ney, Robert Carson, there is no I believe more and more den- action?," Lorenzo asked. "This sity is basically a sin," Nagy said. speaks to the process, and I'm very "I feel we're being forced into a disappointed in our attorneys."

Lorenzo said Singh has not shown that the property could not against the rezoning last February should stand and asked why it was tial property," she said.

She said reconsideration, tak- of anxiety over this project. She nology to increase its tax base. ing back the proposal or a new said the recent fiscal analysis In January, Novi's planning complan were the only three options shows Novi has a large amount of said they were going to initiate a

But according to Singh's attor- Capello.

"We think you need to address on," said Capello. this, or there's going to be a lawsuit," Schultz said, "We're of the the 1999 Sandstone lawsuit but a breach of contract case,

Capello said the city is trying to reduce the number of residential developers, the city was ordered

This is the first time Singh has reached. "The word lawsuit is men-

"I don't know why we can't put idation." owner-occupied units and move

legal opinion that you should do against the city as motivation to avoid legal action. In that case, in here," she said. City Manager Rick Helwig 105, or which Carson also represented the said, "Shame on Singh for putting

Paul noted that there was a lot properties in favor of office tech- by courts to pay \$72 million in council in this position. It's just damages before a settlement was wrong, and there's no win-win

> cave," Nagy said. "I just want to do the right thing, but I'm not council," said the mayor. "It's about to do something out of trep-Lorenzo said that the Sandstone lawsuit was not a land use case,

"There's no breach of contract

Csordas, likewise, was not

tioned, and we're supposed to pleased with the lawsuit threat. "This is not a shrinking violet unfortunate that Singh has tarhished its good reputation with

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

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### COMMUNITY

### Resident supports free Lebanon

support a democracy in Lebanon. At a news conference in the nation's capital May 10, McCotter and Lebanese residents from the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia, come to support free and fair elections in Lebanon scheduled at the end of the month. The resolution urges withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon, support for the upcoming democratic elections and development

of democratic rule in Lebanon. The document calls for the immediate release of all exiles and political prisoners and requests that all political groups he allowed to enjoy fair participation in a democratic system in

Abi-Assat was joined in Washington, D.C., by his friend, Karam Karam, of Southfield, formerly of Novi "After the horrible act of terror-

ism that lift us on Sept. 11, 2001, I felt as a Lebanese-American citizen that I had some type of responsibility to make sure that our families are safe," Abi-Assaf Bob Jackson, McCotter's press

secretary, also expressed his sup-"I cannot stress enough what Michael has done not only for the

Michigan but across the country. said Jackson. Alv-Assat was born in Lebanon, came to the United

States in the early 1980s and carned a degree in civil engineering from Wayne State University. He wants to transform Lebanon back into a democratic state. "He cares about his homeland, the people who are still living there, and the political prisoners

who are being held without trial some as long as 12 years." Jackson said. "He's very passionate. He believes the United States should play a major role. We need more people in the world like accomplish in Iraq," McCotter

Abi-Assaf owns C. J. Hawk Asphalt Paving Co. in Milford. His wife, Jeanette, works at

\$30

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"After the horrible act of terrorism that hit us on Sept. 11, 2001, I felt as a Lebanese-

American citizen that I had some responsibility to make sure that our

families are safe."

Michael Abi-Assaf Lebanese-American

They have two sons, Anthony, 13, and Christopher, 11, and have lived in Novi since 1991.

The resolution's goal presented in Congress this week is to increase public awareness of the plight of the Lebanese people. democratization of Lebanese community here in Lebanon and absence of the occupation and oppression of Syria is

> Middle East from the grip of With Iraq such a focus of the American public and policy mak ers. McCotter said it's important that U.S. citizens don't look past this peaceful opportunity to affect

McConter serves on Congress Mideast Subcommittee. "The purpose of the resolution is to make sure that Lebanon's peaceful resolution is not overlooked, given what we're trying to

Pain Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News, She can be Hometown Community Federal reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. Credit Union in Novi and is a 105, or by e-mail at member of the Novi Rotary Club. pfleming@hi.homecomm.net.

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Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) had a news conference in Washington, D.C., May 10 to present a resolution to Congress supporting free and fair elections and the start of a democracy in Lebanon at the end of this month. Novi resident Michael Abi-Assaf (pictured) was instrumental in helping McCotter and his staff draft the resolution.

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### M. HELEN HENNICK

Of Sebring, Died May 5, 2005 in Sebring, Florida Born May 14, 1918 in Detroit Michigan. Survived by her husband Robert P. of 30 years, brother John O. Comer of Canton Ohio. Also survived by three sons, Hugh (Kathy) Crawford, Jeff (Libby) Crawford of Novi, and Jack (Linda) Crawford o Northville. Survived by 10 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Also survived by two stepdaughters Susan Provost of Ft. Meyers FLA, and Marcia Strange of Connecticut and 2 step grandsons. Predeceased by first husband Jack Crawford in 1973 and sister Anna E. Cohoon in 1998 of Ft. Meyers FA. Helen was a bookkeeper and pay roll clerk for the Novi Cornmunity School District for several years until she retired in 1972 and moved to Fort Meyers Florida then moved to Sebring in 1985. The funeral was held and Interment was in Oakland Hills Memorial Garden. Donations in her memory can be made to the Novi Education Foundation 25345 Taft Novi

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Sympamy www.obriensul-

MI. 48374. On line

Age 78, of Novi, Mi. passed away Tuesday, May 3, 2005, Dearest moth er of Peggy (Ken) Tapp, and Mark (Diane) Saincome. She was married to Alfred W. for many years. He preceded her in death in 1996. Shirley greatly enjoyed all of her Great grandchildren and is survived by her brother Bill Clemens and her sister Carol Turner, Loving Grandmother of Kenny Tapp, Michelle Hill, Joie Vawter, Amy Saincome and Shane Saincome. Great grandmother of Shelby and Brooke Hill, Dakota Turner, Jason Miller and Marco and Liliana Vawter. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews. She will be missed by all. Funeral Services were held O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Family requests continuations to the American Diabetes Foundation, PO Box 2680, North Canton, OH 44720 or the Michigan Parkinson 9775. Online sympathy messages: www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

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#### Walled Lake landmark gets needed makeover

By Pam Fleming

A community's buildings are as much a part of its makeup as its residents and businesses.

recently been taken to refurbish a Handmark in this historic lakefront

owned Spencer Rooting in cedar shakes for the roof.

its original look, and shakes will do Sarah Banks Middle School stuthat," Spencer said. Crews got started on the morning of April 22 on the project.

members of the Commerce Township Area Historical Society, headed up by Charlene Long, who is also president of the Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority. Darlene Williams, secretary of

has done work on other historic buildings.

ested in history." Stonecrest was built by Jacob Moore who used native stones that were broken, faced and faid up in quick lime mortar. The building sits on the highest ground in the original village of Walled Lake.

Will Hutton, who lived there, gave it the name Stonecrest. The Walled Lake Civic Society purchased it and deeded it to the historical society in 1980. Stonecrest has been designated as an historic site In Walled Lake, steps have by the State of Michigan.

Today, the self-supporting building is rented for only \$75 as a hall eity when a new roof was placed on for public and private events three Stonecrest, a one-room school- or four times a month, including house on Liberty Street built in weddings, anniversary celebrations, bridal and baby showers, recep-Dave Spencer, a longtime area tions, birthdays, community festi-resident and owner of family-vals, church services and more.

"It's become a family tradition," Commerce Township for 26 years. Long said, "We have one family donated the labor and Wimsatt who rents it every Christmas Eve Building Supplies donated the and has their family Christmas "This old building needs to have Glengary Elementary School and

dents and staff raised \$1,400 to help restore Stonecrest, which went to Spencer's crew. The overall cost of The project was coordinated by the project would be more than \$8,000-\$9,000 were it not discount-Rogan & Son Rolloff Service

donated a dumpster to eatch the Stonecrest is a special building to the society, was also instrumental in area residents.

"It's part of their roots, their histhe project and noted that Spencer tory. It gives a sense of community to the Walled Lake residents. It "He's got a real heart," Williams gives them a sense of home because said. "It's hard to get people inter- it's the one landmark that you go by constantly," Williams said. "It touches so many people's

tribute to additional repairs to the historic site can contact the In later years, Stephen Gage ran a Commerce Township Area store and the post office in the Historical Society, P.O. Box 2164, building. And for many years, dif- Walled Lake, MI 48390 or contact ferent families used it as a private Williams at (248) 624-2025 or

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Spencer Roofing employees Jimmie Salaiz, left, and Mike Samson check out the progress they've made on replacthe roof of one of Walled Lake's oldest structures, Stonecrest. The public meeting house was built in 1860 and lies just north of the lake on Liberty Street.

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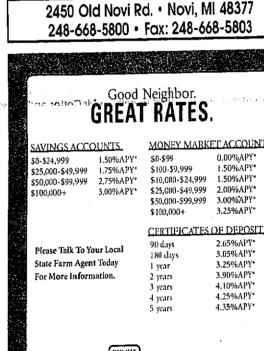
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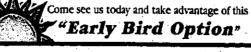
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### Slated for stardom

#### Novi native finds Hollywood niche in small ways

By Kim Kovelle

appearances, Jessica Slating-Megak's tayonte was "whitening" George Clooney's teeth. In the 2003 movie "Intolerable Cruelty," the Novi native played the actor's dental hygienist. "We got our makeup done together in the same trailer," she said. "It was really cool." Over the past four years, Slating-Meoak's had a serendipi-

tous ride in Hollywood. The young actress appears in the recent film "Beauty Shop," With blue eyes, blond hair and slender frame, it's her second time. standing in for Alicia Silverstone. "You start doing extra work husband and actor, Mike Meoak, in Studio City, Calif. "You just kind of have to be asked first, and then you snowball your way through it." The oldest of three girls, the

drama bug bit early. "My sisters and I would write plays and put them on for my family," she laughed, "I always Of all her quick silver screen had to be the princess or the good Becky and Erika, she admits,

> were east as boys and witches. At a young age, a penchant for creating clothing also blossomed. Mom Kathy Slating remembers when her daughter made her own Indian outfit for Halloween. 'She had it all figured out,' Slating said, "Jessica did not play with baby dolls. She went right to

the Barbie." As a Novi High School fresh-

man. Slating-Meoak auditioned for "Meet Me In St. Loius." Her cheerleading coach gave her an ultimatum; stage or cheer, "I picked musical," she said. "I

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"Mismatch." "I got really lucky," she said. Other snots have followed. including a Swedish bride role on Lives" -- her college favorite. But the self-described strong Christian said she's avoided LA's sleazy side.

"I don't really go out and party," she said, "I'd rather stay home with my husband than go to Designing haby clothes and

recording her first vocal CD also ill Slating-Meoak's plate. "I guess it's in the genes somehere," her mom said. "I admire her for having... standards."

the Novi News. She can be Novi native Jessica Slating-Meoak is acting, singing and reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. designing in Hollywood. She's stood in twice for actress 107 or via e-mail at kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net.

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right when you get here," said loved singing and I loved being Slating-Meoak, who lives with on stage. It just felt right." Heading to college with an eye on clothing design, she said acting opportunities cropped up

During a 2000 production of Evita at Eastern Michigan University, she met Meoak. . "He was talking about how he was moving to California," Slating-Meoak said, "I was thinking about moving to California. too, so we just started talking."

A year later, they were wed and on their way to Hollywood. Slating-Meoak said before long, she stood in for actress Reagan Dale Neis in a television "I got picked over this other

girl because my hair was straighter than hers," she recalled. From there, Slating-Meoak said, opportunity and luck matched up. Three vouchers are needed to

earn membership with the prestigious Screen Actors Guild. She had hers in a month. Before long, someone thought she looked a bit like Silverstone. Slating-Meoak first stood in for

the actress on the TV show the soap opera "Days of Our

Kim Kovelle is a staff writer for



Photo by JOHN HEIDER Two centuries old and only one broken limb

South Pointe Condominum resident Carl Laurie looks up at what's left of a 16-foot circumfrence silver maple which broke apart in a recent storm. Laurie and his wife, Margaret, who serves on the condo board, hope that the nearly 200-year-old tree can be cabled together and saved. An arborist who examined the tree said

that it was one of the largest examples of silver maples he'd seen in Michigan, the

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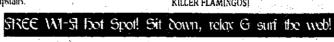
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### **EDUCATION**

### The sweet sound of music Novi school board approves tentative strings program

STAFF WRITER

to housing a strings orchestra program for students. The board of education tenta-

strings program last Thursday, which would actually begin in the fall of 2007. According to Nancy Davis, assistant superintendent of was approved. instructional services, that

the pieces in place.

ect a "work in progress."

said John Streit, Novi school determine levels of interest and

president, is happy the program

money it is receiving from the ty programs such as Novi Oake Point Church, an estimat- absolutely should have. We high school on Sundays, will be it now.

program. Davis called the proj- has been laid out along with a cess and develop plans for fifth in students for Novi Meadows meetings next month. Also to We have been talking about staff, parents and members of District is now one step closer—the strings program for such a administration will be selected long period of time and it to oversee the program design

board president. Bruce Bagdady, board vice includes:

"It's a program which in of leaves administrators with all of itself is extremely beneficial to advisor to the district. next school year to organize students as well as being educaplans, survey parents and put all tionally beneficial to students," Bagdady said. "It's a program

seemed like (the Oake Point and implementation, Parents of staff, Church) funds were ones that all third, fourth and fifth grade tively approved the initiation of we might be able to earmark, or students in Novi Community planning for an elementary set aside to utilize just for that," Schools will be surveyed to

commitment. The list of tasks

 Establishing a curriculum school year. for fifth and sixth grade levels. Securing a consultant as an

 Selecting materials, music, Also, the board decided that which a district with high quali- instruments and classroom teachers).

• Plan for a before/after for the second semester fourth ed \$270,000 between 2005 and should have had it years ago and 2006, for renting space in the 1'm glad we're finally able to do and fifth grade levels in the secsichool program. (To be done in

timeline for the project. Also, and sixth grade orientation dur- the following fall). ing scheduling. · Developing a survey design

> Gathering data to inform the committee on interest levels and numbers of students. · Recruiting fourth grade parents for a pilot program during second semester of the 2005-06

with a consultant and the music

· Determining staffing needs based on survey results and current staff certification areas. (None of the district's current books, equipment needs, space teachers have a strings major, requirements for storage of all have been hired as band

> · Posting a part-time position collaboration with Community

Education and to build interest

· Assessing need for staff at Novi Meadows for 2006-07 for students by June 15. Data will offerings based on current staff

teaching a strings program.

· Earmarking revenue from Oake Point Church rental for initial costs of program start up (staffing, curriculum materials). Purchasing equipment/ nstruments will be purchased

using existing bond funds. Hiring a consultant. Tracking numbers of students and planning for growth beyond fifth and sixth grades. Determining plans for 'rapid' expansion to Novi

Middle School and Novi High

A timeline for all of this is as

School.

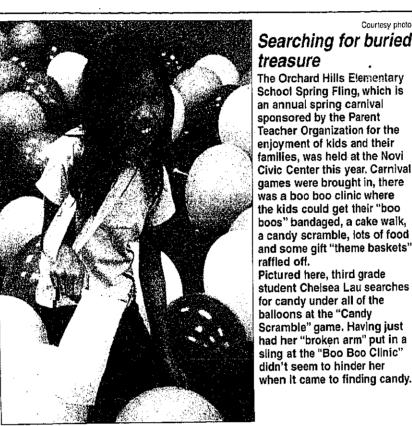
send out the survey to parents of all third, fourth and fifth grade be gathered and reviewed by certification and interest in June 30, along with a consultant secured for work in this fall. Holding of two planning

> meetings in August. · Holding of a planning meet ing in September and a presentation to the curriculum council for approval. · A presentation to the board

> of education for approval by · Pilot the fourth grade program for recruitment purposes

by January, 2006. 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



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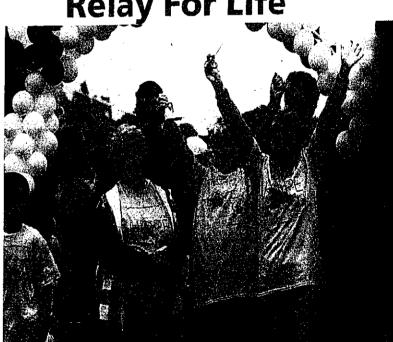


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10 a.m. - 10 a.m. RELAY FOR LIFE

**NOVI NEWS** 

-Whom 935 A

### The highest of educational honors

Parkview's Scott Hill wins Teacher of the Year award

By Kristyn Zinner

Scott Hill has been a bit out of his comfort zone lately.

The usually low-profile fourth grade teacher at Parkview Elementary School has been in the spotlight since last Wednesday afternoon, when members of the Novi Educational Foundation and - of cars and gave him the task of representatives from the Suburban - picking one to that would be his

Teacher of the Year Award. Principal Jennifer Michos stopped his class half way through the day and brought in several special people, including Hill's family, to surprise him. She even brought a substitute teacher, one of his former students, to take over his class while he spent the afternoon at Suburban Honda choosing

Hill is still a bit overwhelmed with the whole idea, "It's like being a kid in a candy store," he

a new car that he will drive free for

The Suburban Collection greeted him at the dealership with a list

one, they brought the cars of his choice over for him to look, sit in excel, while helping the struggling and test drive. He considered a student achieve and feel success-Jeep Grand Cherokee and an ful. Gould describes his classroom Acura sedan, but with a bit of as a "warm, pleasant place to be." input from his sons, he drove away in a gold Honda Pilot. Parkview Literacy Specialist

Wendy Gould nominated Hill for this honor. His fellow fourth grade teacher at Parkview, Claudia Balko, parent Laurie Hildreth and former student Kamal Yechoor each wrote letters supporting the

"I have always admired the way he relates to students," Gould said. In her nomination, she and getting to know who they are describes Hill's interaction with his students as "phenomenal." She traits that Hill prides himself on. explains that he is able to identify. It's important to him to know for the next year. Then, one by the strengths of all his students,

outside of his classroom are two which students play soccer, who is an ice skater and who is a ballerina. He forms bonds with each of

> He holds tight to the truth that every student has a set of gifts, and t is his job to amplify those tal-"We are all very proud of him,"

perform better in the classroom."

"I'm honored that the people

much as a friend. The two play

fantasy football together each sea-

Staying in touch with students

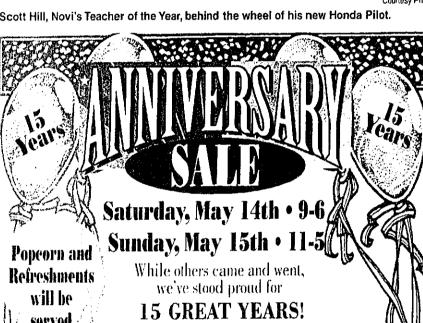
after they leave elementary school

Zinner Communications Publications Assistant for the Novi Community

who nominated me are the people who they are," said Hill, "They are people who I have the highest Hill still keeps in touch with Yechoor, but not as a teacher so

The Co-op Employer-Employee Recognition Breakfast was held on April 27 at the Novi Civic Center. More than 40 employers from throughout the community attended as the guests of their high school co-op employees. Natalie Kaltz, a 1999 Novi High School graduate, was the guest speaker. She shared her experiences in the professional world since high school and told the students how the co-op program prepared her for the responsibilities that she faces in her job. Dr. Herb Elfring was named as the 2005 Employer of the Year. The co-op program is coordinated by Barbara Clift and Debra Harris, Here, Novi High School co-op student Brendan Buff invited his supervisor at Mongolian Barbecue in Novi to attend the 11th Annual Co-op Employer-Employee Recognition Breakfast. The event is held each year to thank businesses who give students the opportunity to acquire valuable on-the-job skills while earning credit toward graduation.

Courtesy Photo



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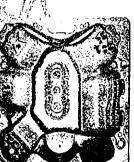
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# Novi High students making a difference

Purple Bear "We decided as a class to Sikaitis hopes "The Purple Project teaches many lessons

By Ramez Khuri

In the spirit of National Autism Awareness Month (April), autistic students at Village Oaks Elementary School received a bear-sized surprise when students from Jodie Sikaitis' special education class at Novi High School passed out teddy bears.

The older students, with their teacher, visited the Build-A-Bear Workshop at Twelve Oaks Mall on April 20

adopt this project and to ask the Bear Project" will be an annual Novi High staff to donate event. Not only has it brought a money starting on April 6," lot of traffic into her classroom Sikaitis said, "We wanted to by staff that her and her kids build 25 hears to take to the elementary school."

Sikaitis got the idea from a flier sent out by the autistic well society. It said that anyone who goes to Build-A Bear Workshop at Twelve Oaks Mall and purchases a purple bear in the month of April, would have proceeds go to the autistic society. She and her class decided to take it a step farther. Each bear costs \$18. In the

two weeks before the group built the bears, their goal was to raise at least \$500. By day four, to make the teddy bears, as part to it." Sikanis said, "It's been something called "The Purple" awesome and we're very excit-

Students in Jodie Sikaitis' special education class at

Novi High School built 500 purple bears to deliver to

high school students are pictured here along with

Sikaitis and the bears: (Back row left to right) Chris

(Front row left to right) Sikaitis, (back row) Danielle

Seedless Cut  $\prec$ 

2% Gallon

Heverly, Liz Parsell, Erica Benham and Adam Caskie.

autistic children at Village Oaks Elementary School. The

Konti, Michael Renkiewicz, Colby Maxfield, Jodi Kozma.

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the donations totaled \$354. "The staff was very receptive

many bins, which do not have any stuffing in them at the time. Next they take a heart, put it inside the bear and make a wish, and then stuff it. The company will sew the bear up when it's all stuffed and put a tag inside. Then patrons can wash their bear in a tub, pick out an outfit for it and create a birth certificate complete with gender, name, birth date and weight. The high school students were thrilled to make the bears. "I'm excited to get out of

and how to build the bears.

process works is: First, patrons

choose a stuffed animal from

Sikaitis said.

school and help the kids." Colby Maxfield said, a sophomore at the school, "I learned how to keep track of the checks and balance our money and I learned how to budget money." Michael Renkiewicz is a ninth grader at Novi High. He also learned a lot about how checks and money work, "It makes me feel good because I'm helping out little kids who are so happy to see us

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

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Vinery Riesling /

come," he said

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Family fun with Ronald!

Novi Woods Elementary School held its annual Family Picnic on May 6. Admission was a voluntary donation to the Ronald McDonald House in Ann Arbor, Pictured behind the students is Pam Quitiquit, principal, presenting Pat Holt and Ronald McDonaid a "thank you" for all that McDonald's owners Claude and Teresa Murphy do for Novi Woods throughout the year.

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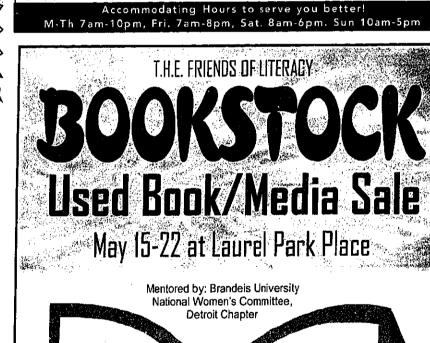
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### HEALTH

### Fibromyalgia patients often misdiagnosed

■ Resident of Novi to discuss condition tonight

By Pam Fleming

Fibromyalgia, a central nervous system disorder that causes chronic pain, is often misdiagnosed, according to Dr. Sharon Ostalecki, a Novi resident with a Ph.D. in nutrition who has had the condition for 15 years. Ostalecki specializes in treating patients with fibromyalgia patients to get diagnosed," she depressed but because low

in her Novi office and noted that May 12 is Fibromyalgia Awareness Day, Mayor Lou tive findings when you go see a in recognition of the day at the April 18 city council meeting.

"Fibromyalgia causes our body to react to pain differently than. Rheumatology established diagother people. Our pain is amplified tremendously," she said. Ostalecki, founder and president of H.O.P.E. (Helping Our have certain spots on their body Pain and Exhaustion), will answer questions on fibromyal- Ostalecki said. gia at Curves For Women from

Road between Eight Mile and Nine Mile roads. She will also be on hand from 6 to 9 p.m. May 19 at the Oakland Athletic Center, 400 E. Brown, in Birmingham to talk about the condition.

Ostalecki explained that those with fibromyalgia do not have the proper amount of neurotransmitters that regulate pain.

very painful."

Ninety percent of those with fibromyalgia are women. The condition affects 3-6 percent of the U.S. population or close to 10 million people.

Symptoms include widespread pain throughout the whole body and fatigue. Ostalecki said symptoms come

"I could feel great one day, and the next day I could hurt from head to toe. There's no rhyme or reason with difficult for doctors to diagnose. years for most fibromyalgia

"There are usually no objectorntrol pain. X-ray" she said. However, in the last 10 years,

the American Council of nostie criteria through a tender point exam. "People with fibromyalgia

when pressed have pain. Patients have to register eight out of 12 points and have pain 5 to 7 p.m. today at 24281 Novi for at least three months in the four quadrants of the body to be

considered fibromyalgic. Physicians may think those 1960s, the condition was quoted—visit www.hffef.org. in psychiatric literature as being a psychosomatic disorder.

"But more doctors today recognize it, diagnose it, under-"We have too much of one and stand it and are able to treat it," not enough of another. We get Ostalecki said.

Dr. Sharon Ostalecki. founder and president of H.O.P.E. (Helping Our Pain and Exhaustion), will answer questions on fibromyalgia at Curves For Women from 5 to 7 p.m. today at 24281 Novi Road between Eight Mile and Nine Mile roads.

There's no single recipe for fibromyalgia, That's why it's so treating the condition. Most people respond to sleep medica-It takes at least five to seven tion and to some sort of antidepressant, not because they're doses of anti-depressants help

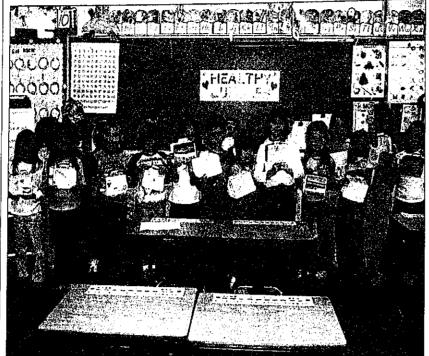
The selective serotonin reup-Csordas issued a proclamation physician. You can't see it on an take inhibitors, another type of anti-depressants, help to raise the level of the neurotransmitter serotonin, which alleviates pain. Self-management techniques. such as daily stretching, exercise and proper nutrition, are all important, according to

Ostałecki. "There's no cure, but you can learn to live pain free," she said. Ostalecki, who is working on a book, "Discovering Wisdom in Living with Fibromyalgia," was named the Michigan representative for the National Fibromyalgia Association in fibromyalgia are January. For more information, hypochandriaes, and in the call her at (248) 344-0896 or

> 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.

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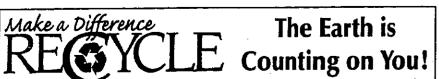
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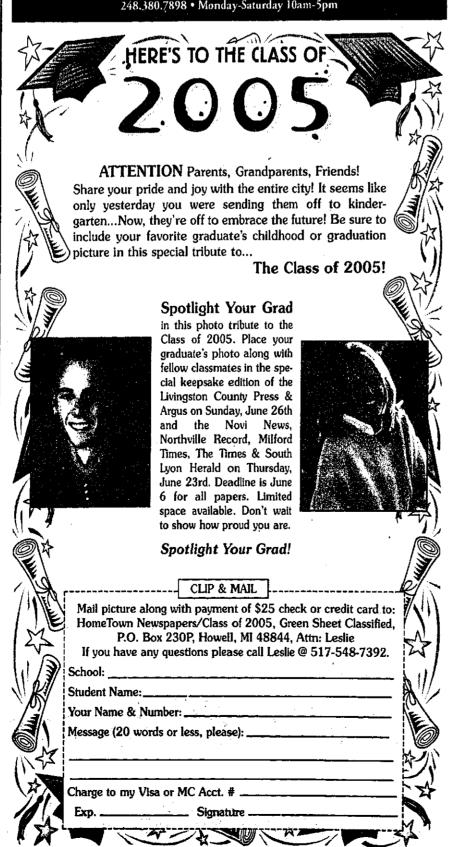


Photo by JOHN HEIDER Tom Shafer, southeast Michigan president of Citizens Bank, speaks at a ceremony last Wednesday morning marking the continu ing construction efforts by the bank on its new Novi location off of 12 Mile Road near Haggerty which will be known as the Haggerty Centre branch. The bank currently has a temporary bank nearby in Citizens' Novi Centre offices. Ctizens began business in 1871 in Flint



new Novi branch will include a past year," Hartman said. Citizens

the new branch will include a er branch in Novi at Grand River

southeast Michigan.

Royal Oak.

Shafer said additional locations

scheduled to open this year in the

Metro Detroit area include anoth-

Avenue and Wixom Road, which

should open in December, as well

as new banks in Wixom and

founded in 1871 in Flint, provides

commercial, consumer, mortgage

banking, trust investment and

financial planning services. It's

Citizens Banking Corporation.

#### Citizens Bank to open Novi branch

glass-enclosed atrium where the

company's updated logo can be

Visitors to the bank will see an

airy, sleek building. Features of

Business X-Press teller area, an e-

teller, a Web-based self-service

banking area and client informa-

Thomas Shafer, president of

tion presented via plasma screens.

Citizens Bank in southeast

Michigan, said the new Novi

branch is being constructed in a

high-visibility lucation for easy

"We looked at several factors in

access for customers.

Distinctive architecture to be featured

By Pam Fleming

Officials from Novi and Oakland County joined Citizens Bank executives May 4 to celebrate the construction of the bank's newest branch.

The new bank will be located at 12 Mile Road and the M5 Connector next to Citizens Bank's hub office - Novi Centre at Haggerty Centre II, 28001

The new Haggerty Centre dant skilled workforce throughout branch, as it will be known, will the region and the helpfulness of replace a temporary branch cur- the local community. All that rently housed in Citizens' Novi made this location an easy Centre offices. The new banking facility, expected to open in August, will be the second of Citizens Bank's new branches to be constructed in a distinctive new architectural style.

The first branch of this new design opened in January in The exterior of Citizens Bank's

ple in Oakland County over the

Michael S. Rowe, M.D., F.A.C.P, C.C.R.I. GARDENING WITH ALLERGIES

Millions of Americans love to garden, outdoors. effort; can handle climate extremes; and patients are welcome. do not need fertilizers, water or pesticides. "The Caring Allergist Who Gets Results. Avoid large areas of turf. Minimize the need for mowing grass, as this releases P.S. More than 35 million Americans suffe mold spores and grass pollen into the air. Plants that trigger allergies typically have small flowers, little color, and no nectar. Choose flowers with bright, big flowers, which have large pollen that attracts Wearing gloves, and respiratory masks n reduce pollen exposure. Also avoid

ching your face and eyes while working

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May 16, 2005 7:00pm

Brass Point Restauran

24234 Orchard Lake Rd., Farmington Hills, Mi

May 17, 2005 7:00pm

Novi City Hall 45175 W. 10 Mile Rd., Novi, Mi

May 18, 2005 7:00pm Northville District Library

212 Cady St., Northville, M

Why municipal bonds are a popular investment for

How to use municipal bonds as a way

nd millions of Americans suffer from sea- If you are seeking effective relief from onal allergies triggered by various types—seasonal allergies, consider seeing an aller of pollen. What happens when a love of gist. When you require the care of an aller rdening and allergies are combined? It gist, contact the ALLERGY AND ASTH loesn't have to be disastrous if you prac- MA CENTER OF MICHIGAN at (24) tice smart gardening. Choose indigenous 473-6400. The office is located at 24120 plants for your garden. They require little Meadowbrook Road, STE 201, Novi. New



#### Casino Night Saturday Chamber

Hold 'Em

event includes silent auction

By Pam Fleming

Don't forget that the biggest event this year for the Novi Chamber of Commerce, the Novi Hold 'Em Casino Night, is this Saturday, May 14, from 6-

10 p.m. at Lucky's in Fountain It's not too late to make reservations for the fun-filled fundraiser that will benefit the

Chamber's relocation fund. The Chamber has to find new home, since it's current home, the Novi Expo Center, will soon be abandoned, with owner Blair Bowman currently having a new exposition center

constructed on Grand River Avenue west of Novi Road. Novi Chamber supporters won't want to miss the opportunity to enjoy a night of fun, great food, games, friends, a however, the cost may be silent auction, poker and more. Tickets are \$75 per person and expense.

the second-largest bank holding company headquartered in Michigan, and the 63rd largest

making our decision to build in Novi," Shafer said. "Those factors bank holding company in the included client location, an abun-United States, with assets of \$7.8 billion as of March 31, 2005. For more information, visit www.citizensonline.com.

choice." William Hartman, chairman, president and CEO of Citizens Banking Corporation, said construction of the new branch is part

of the company's expansion in southeast Michigan. "This initiative has resulted in the biring of more than 100 peo-

Janice A. Summers, M.D. Announcing-New Location!



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ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN MISSOURI SYNOD High & Elm Streets, Northville T. Lubeck, Pastor Church 349-3140 School 349-3146

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE On Haggerty Rd, North of 8 Mile Rd. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

MEADOWBROOK Morning Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m. 248-348-7757

Minister: Rev. Dr. E. Neil Hunt Minister of Music: Patrick Kuh CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL (Anglican Mile between Maadowbrook & Hagger Phone 248-427-1175 Sun, 7:45 & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Sunday School & Nursery 10 am Rev. Karen Henry, Pastor FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 24505 Meadawbroak Rd., Novi, MI 48375 Masses, Sat. 5 pm; Sun 7 30 a m 8:45 am, 10:30 am, 12:15 pm Holy Days, 9 am, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm Fr. John G. Budde, Pastor Fr. Robert Shaler, Associate Pastor Parish Office: 349-8847

WARD EVANGELICAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN MISSOURI SYNOD

High & Elm Streets, Northville
,T. Lubeck, Postor

Church 349-3140 School 349-3144 Sunday Worship: 8:30 p.m. & 11:30 p.m Contemporary Service at 17:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.

(248) 349-1700

#### SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

Following is a list of some of the items that will be available in the silent auction:

 A plasma TV donated by Town & Country Eyecare; Amazing Kids; Telcom Credit Union; Bonaventure Skating/Skatin' Station; Cooper, Shifman, Gabe, Quinn & Seymour law firm; Olde Orchard Pediatric Dentistry; Diamond Castle; AAA Novi-Esther DiLorenzo; and Michaeline Raczka/Huron Valley Hospital

· An ocean-front villa surrounded by gardens in St. Maarten donated by Charles Goldfarb

• A diamond and sapphire heart necklace (nine diamonds and 12 genuine fine blue sapphires) donated by Larson Jewelry

 A Boyne USA Resorts golf package and one week rental of a GMC Envoy donated by Bob Sellers Pontiac-GMC · A complete health, fitness and nutritional assessment and six private training sessions valued over \$500 donated by Boo Sadikot

of Fitness Together • A sign with your business' name displayed for a year off of 10 Mile Road near the Novi Civic Center donated by the city of Novi A \$500 gift certificate donated by Hagopian World of Rugs · A Brighton Collectibles donated by the Brighton Store at Twelve

· A Casey day bed with trundle unit donated by DirectBuy · A \$500 gift certificate donated by Petland of Novi · A Golf package donated by Hugh Crawford, Oakland County ommissioner

· A five-piece Durastone stone table with four swivel rockers donated by Jimmie's Rustics

include a strolling dinner, two cocktails, a \$20 arcade games pass, the silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. The poker tournament is an

additional \$75 per person. Ticket costs are not tax deductible since the Chamber is

Chamber office at (248) 349-Pam Fleming is a staff writer not a charitable organization; reached at (248) 349-1700, ext.

deductible as a business 105, or by e-mail at pflem-

For more information or to

make reservations for Saturday

night's fund-raiser, call the

### 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 Me. share your decision.\*\* Michigan Coalition on donation



**Family Practice** 

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"Let us go now to Bethlehorn and see thi thing that has token place..."-Luke 2.15 5300 W B Mile Farmington His M (248)478-65 520 Cm LE of Haggetly N. side of 8 Mile) Sunday Morning Worth: p. 830 & 10.45 AM Sunday School (Al Ages) 9.30 AM anday Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

Morning Celebration 10:50 a.m. (248) 348-1700 Dr. Ron Blake, Pastor i5 Meadowbrook R. Novi at 8 1/2 Mil

770 Thayer, Northwile
WEEKEND LITURGIES Solutiday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, 7:30, 9 AM, 11 AM, 12:30 PM
Church 349-2621, School 349-3619
Religious Education 349-2659
Rev. Terrence Kerner, Pasto: GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

9 Mile & Meddowbrook Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 8:45am Worship 10:00cm amas E. Schroeder, Pastor - 349-0565 FIRST UNITED METHODIST HURCH OF NORTHVILLI 8 Mile & Taft Roads

orship Services 8:00am, 9:15am & 11am Dr. Richard J. Henderson, Pastor Rev. John Hice Rev. Liso Cook ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 46325 10 Mile Rd. Novi. Mi 48374 Soturdoy 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8,930 & 11:30 om. Deverend Gerora Chamley Pastor OAK POINTE CHURCH At Novi High School Taff and 10 Mile Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Casual, contemporary live band (248) 912-0043 HARVEST FELLOWSHIP 49329 Pontiac Trail Wixorn 248-926-8332 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH TIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MAR Between Gland River & Freedom 248-474-0584 9:15 Traditional, 11:15 Contemp Sunday School 10:30

#### FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT **TUP 05-020**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Oak Pointe Church is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow for a groundbreaking ceremony at 50200. Ten Mile Road between Wixom and Napier Roads. This permit would be issued for the period May 22, 2005 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

A public hearing meeting to consider this request will be held at 12:00 am on Thursday, May 19, 2005. The meeting is at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. Written and signed approvals or objections will be accepted into the file if received prior to the scheduled meeting. Please address all communications to Gail Backus at the City of Nov Building Department 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

GAIL U. BACKUS TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETAR (5-12-05 NN 212165)

FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT **TUP 05-008** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Luna Properties and Motor City Golf of Novi is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow placement of eleven (11) tents for a Fund Raiser for the Michigan Humane Society to be held at 42875 Grand River Avenue. This request is for June 11, 2005 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A public hearing meeting to consider this request will be held at 9:30 am on Thursday, May 19, 2005. The meeting is at the Novi Civic Center.

45175 W. Ten Mile Road. Written and signed approvals or objections will be accepted into the file if received prior to the scheduled meeting lease address all communications to Gail U. Backus at the City of Nov Building Department 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY (5-12-05 NN 212337)

### FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT

TUP 05-019 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Pulte Homes is requesting Temporary Use Permit to allow a sales model parking lot at 44842 Stockton Drive for the Liberty Park Development on Twelve Mile Road between Beck and Novi Roads. This permit would be issued for the peri-

od from May 19, 2005 to May 19, 2006. A public hearing meeling to consider this request will be held at 11:30 am on Thursday, May 19, 2005. The meeting is at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road Written and signed approvals or objections will be accepted into the file if received prior to the scheduled meeting Please address all communications to Gail Backus at the City of Nov

CITY OF NOVI

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 21 article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, all noxiou

corporation having control or management of any subdivided land upon which any building or buildings have been erected shall fail, refuse, or neglect to comply with the above mentioned Code provisions, the city shall cause the weeds, grass, brush, deleterious, unhealthy growths, rub bish, to be cut down, destroyed or removed. Provided, further, that an lands which are situated within the floodplains or any natural streams of watercourses, or any area between the lower and upper banks of such streams or watercourses shall be exempted from the provisions of suc

(888) 311-0331

A.G. EDWARDS.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** 

For Information regarding rates call The Northville Record or Novi News

Building Department 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375. TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETAR (5-12-05 NN 212336) (248) 347-0415

NOTICE OF PROVISIONS OF THE **NOXIOUS WEED ORDINANCE** 

weeds, or other weeds, grass, brush, or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of eight (8) inches, growing, standing or lying upo any property in the City of Novi, shall be cut down, destroyed or removed as the case may be, at least twice in each year, once during the last hall of the month of May and again during the last half of July of each yea and more often as may be necessary.

If the owner or occupant, or any person or persons, agent, firm, o

Code provisions. The expense incurred by the City in the cutting, destruc-tion or removal of same together with a ten (10) percent administrative charge will be levied and collected against such property in the manner

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, may also result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penal-

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES COORDINATOR

(5-12-05 NN 210482)

#### Novi News

Cal Stone EDITOR Richard Periberg GENERAL MANAGER

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

#### WHERE WE STAND

#### A moment of reflection

It was 60 years ago when cheers were roaring through European streets and throughout the world.

Nazi Germany, in all its power and would-be domination, surrendered. May 7, 1945, was the day General Alfred Jodl signed an unconditional surrender in the French city of Reims.

The Affied Forces had already won the war for Europe. Adolf Hitler pulled the trigger in a lonely subterranean bunker and ended the reign of the Third Reich April 30, 1945. Even he could not have known Germany had already begun to surrender before he took his own life.

It was April 29 when German troops in Italy surrendered to the Allied soldier and by May 4 the Nazi soldiers in Holland, Denmark and northwest Germany surrendered to British Field Marshall Montgomery, Two days later, Admiral Karl Donitz, who was named successor by Hitler, authorized Jodl to surrender to the Allied Forces.

It took six years of war in Europe before the Germans were

Americans played no small part in the victory. The war was going badly for Europe and the United States helped turn the

It's estimated more than 1,200 World War II veterans die each day in this country. Now is the time to honor them. Most don't expect parades. Most don't even ask for recognition for what they did. They were kids, asked to go to war for the world. They went and did what their country asked them to do and then came home. For many veterans, that would be the last they'd talk about the war. They wanted to get on with their

put their lives on the line to protect. Veterans' Day won't be here until November, but Memorial Day is just two weeks away. It is then we'll honor the heroes of this country — the soldiers who never made it home and those who have since died.

lives and raise families. They wanted to enjoy the America they

Don't forget to participate in any Memorial Day events you can. It's not a holiday for people to put their feet up and relax during just because they have the day off from work. It's a day to remember.

There are so many ways to honor those soldiers who helped protect our freedoms in all of America's wars. You can visit a grave or a memorial marker, taking a moment to silently thank those who served their country. You can donate to a charity for veterans. You can stop a veteran you see the next time you're out shopping and shake their hand. Thank them for what they've done for this country and for your freedoms. You'll honor those

who have died by honoring those who served with them. Or you can do the simplest thing that would ring the truest in the heart of any veteran - You can turn to your family and embrace them. Love them unconditionally. Appreciate them for who they are and all that they do. By doing those things, you honor the very essence of why so many soldiers have fought and died for the United States. You honor the things that make

Do your part to honor those veterans who are in our community today by appreciating what they've given to you. Don't just wait for Memorial Day either. Take every chance you get to be thankful for the freedoms that have been given to you by men and women you quite possibly will never know.

#### City council rises to the occasion

Members of the Novi City Council should be commended for the professionalism and decorum they showed during the fiscal year 2005-2006 budget deliberations.

After much consternation during the 2004-2005 budget, with council unable to reach the required five-vote majority, this year they were able to hash things out in only two Saturday-morning meetings instead of the scheduled three. They were able to maintain the city's current millage rate and adopt a fiscal pledge to taxpayers that council will strive to not exceed approved expenditures unless critical.

They also pledge to devote any money above the 14 percent rainy day funds to be applied to the Headlee millage rollback, and/or neighborhood roads, and or unfunded retiree health care accrued liability for the next fiscal year.

These are innovative approaches to the budget that future councils may want to also adopt.

#### Corrections

In a front page article in last week's issue on the Novi Chamber of Commerce's May 14, 2005, Novi Hold 'Em Casino Night, it mentioned that ticket costs were tax deductible. The tickets costs are not tax deductible, as the Chamber is not a charitable organization. However, the costs may be deductible as a business expense.

In an article on page 5-A of last week's issue on the investigation of accused murderer Kevin Mykolaitis who allegedly killed former prison mate Cameron Sanders of Novi, it stated that their original plan was to take one of their deaths and split the insurance policy payoff. It should have read that their plan was to fake one of their deaths.

### **OPINION**

#### PICTURE OF THE WEEK



One of the latest proposals is the off ramp

With a high traffic accident rate cited, has

anyone looked at the timing of the traffic sig-

Folks turning left from that ramp face

extended delays. With traffic sensing tech-

gestion might be relieved by insisting that

the City and County optimize that technolo-

Road and at Grand River and Taft seem to

Road signals at subdivision entrances do not

account for right turns on red (which means

Concrete is cool, but "smart lights" are

Time for an outcry

Mike Nicholson

that the light does not have to change, but

they change none the less).

much, much less costly.

be on straight timers, many of the 10 Mile

The new signals at Main Street and Novi

nology advancing, how much of Novi's con-

from westbound 1-96 to Novi Road. This

ramp is already five lanes wide!

Novi Senior Center worker Rachel Zagaroli, right, hands a rose to Rita Evans as she enters the center's Mothers' Day Tea celebration last Monday. All attendees received a flower and each had a differenct poem about mothers printed out at their table setting.

### LETTE

My sister, her husband and her two daughters live in Parmington Hills in the Weinstein's neighborhod and both girls attended the children's same school.

cousin Timmy, at the young age of 14, was killed and struck dead on his bycycle by a drunk newspaper reporter on his way to my grandparents film, way out in the country no traffic --- not even a car. Also, my 35-year-old first cousin left

Let Wellinger know God kept him alive to try and save his soul, and he will never rest a minute knowing he killed three people. Let

We moved from California to South Carolina and it's appalling to me to see people here drinking and driving and smoking pot and thinking nothing of it... something has to be done to stop drunk drivers. My sorrow is for the husband left all alone. Please let him know that our Jedburg Baptist church is praying for him, if that is

Sad thing is, life is short and it could be any of us at anytime to go...

> Angela, Rick, Lauren and Aubrey Goldsmith

#### Applauding Meisner

own Democratic State Representative Andy Meisner, He and Governor Jennifer Granholm are smartly standing up for fiscal responsibility for our state's future. As recent newspaper coverage has demon-

posals to address structural faults in Michigan's Single Business Tax. The Democrats' plans will cultivate a stronger economic climate for the long haul.

### Something must be done

The point of me writing is that my first

behind three young boys when struck dead by a drunk driver running to the grocery

him rot in jail to think about that.

any consolation.

Another alternative?

A round of applause for Oakland County's strated, they have put forward positive pro-

lems without looking at less expensive alter-

that the governor advances. We the people of Michigan and our economic futures stand to lose the most if Speaker DeRoche and the Republican Caucus keep playing politics with desperately needed public policy changes.

It is unfortunate that Speaker of the House

Craig DeRoche, who represents our district, is playing up the role of obstructionist on

item after item of common sense legislation

Michael McGuinness South Lyon

#### Good additions

Congratulations to Dan Austin and Ann Glubzinski for being elected to the Novi Schools Board of Education, Dan and Ann will make good additions to our wonderful should be very proud that so many talented people are willing to give to the schools. Thank you to all of the dedicated people that ran for the school board seats. As we work through the challenges facing the school district I encourage everyone in

the community to be involved - I will. Lisa-Ann L. Smith

It's great to see so much press on the improvements to Novi's overburdened streets. With the Grand River widening. Novi Road intersection improvements and the CSX railroad bridge, we are certainly a city of seasoned construction dwellers . But in the frenzy of pouring concrete, are we are becoming numb to the millions of dollars and months of detours? And perhaps even to the domino effect of business failares, crumbling road courtesy and side street traffic issues? My concern is that we see

construction as the answer to traffic prob-

ing tax money, money from each of us, on various trips, wining and dining their friends and supporters, my inclination was to shrug my shoulders, as if to say, "Nothing I can do about it" and return to my artwork, thus blocking out my feelings of helplessness in the face of such avarice.

With all the news about politicians spend-

Then I decided to write this letter. If there is enough of an outery against this type of chicanery, enough letters to editors demanding accountability from our elected officials, enough calls to our State officeholders and to Washington, maybe our collective voices will be heard.

Let's keep holding the offenders feet to the fire. And let's encourage our local and national news organizations to keep reporting to us on this very important issue.

Doreen Lawton

Share your opinions: We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Generally, no more than one letter per month by the same author will be published. Letters must be received by noon-Tuesday to be printed in the Thursday edition. Mail: Letters to the Editor, Cal Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main St... Northville, MI 48167 **E-mail:** cstone@ht.homecomm.net **Fax to:** (248) 349-9832

### Friday the 13th: Unlucky or just a bunch of superstition?

Careful everyone! Tomorrow is the dreaded day, Friday the 13th. OOOOOHIH! Just the thought of it

strikes terror in the bearts of millions. Or does it? Why should one day on the calendar be forever marked as

unlucky? Is it because of the movie that came out back in the early 1980s of the same name, in which a

Ramez Khuri maniac's mother butchers a bunch of teenagers in the woods? Or is it because of the 15 billion sequels the movie spawned in which the machete-wielding maniae grows up and continues his mom's work, even after being killed himself numerous times?

Personally, I don't think so. There has to be another reason, otherwise they probably wouldn't have titled the movie that in the first place. After doing some research on the Web. I came across the word "Paraskevidekatriaphobia," which apparently means "the fear of Friday the 13th," though I couldn't find it in any

dictionary. According to the Web site http://myths.allinfoabout.com/feature95.h tml, the number 13 has long been considered by the superstitious to be unlucky. In fact, many towns and suburbs don't have 13 as a street number and most hotels don't have rooms with 13 on the door. Many tall buildings skip the 13th floor, as the elevators jump from floors

The Internet seems to have many explanations and myths as to why the day is considered unlucky, but they are mostly random people's thoughts. I'm not sure how much of it is based on actual research, so instead of listing them all, I decided to call some people who work for the Novi Community School District and get their thoughts on Friday the 13th.

Here's what they had to say: Mary Goedert, Village Oaks Elementary School principal: "Two of my three daughters were born on the 13th of the month. And each time their birthdays fall on a Friday, we still celebrate them and all that they have brought to our lives. I've never had anything had happen on Friday the 13th so it doesn't

Paul LePlae, Orchard Hilis Elementary School principal: "I'm aware that it's not lucky. Whenever anything happens out of the ordinary that day, I blame it on the date. I think I'm superstitious sometimes. Therefore, when it's Friday the 13th and something bad happens, that's why." Richard Njus, Deerfield Elementary

School principal: "I'm totally indifferent about the day. It's just like any other day in my life. It could be a great day, or a lucky day because everybody thinks it's unlucky. I really don't have any negative feelings about it because I'm not superstitious. I think it's some old wives tales. like stepping on a crack or walking under a ladder. If you buy into those things, it

might be a reason to buy into the 13th. Dr. Emmett Lippe, superintendent of the Novi Community School District: "I don't even think about that kind of stuff. Friday the 13th is just another day to me. I've never been concerned.

John Lawrence, Novi High School

principal: "I'm not superstitious in that

regard. In fact, Friday the 13th is just as

School. Kids are here doing well and things are going smoothly. We haven't had any unusual situations on Friday the 13th any more so than any other day. However, I have to admit, when I see Friday the 13th on the calendar, it just wafts through my mind, the whole superstitious thing that's tied to that. I don't dwell on it though. We take every day as it comes and look at each day optimisti-

There you have it. Perhaps we'll never know exactly why people consider Friday the 13th an unlucky day, but it sure is fun to speculate

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.

### OTHER OPINIONS

### College students need state support

Over my years in this business, I've read the 21st century. But on this fundamentally lot of sad stories. But one of the saddest ran last week in The Detroit News. It reported the results of an EPIC-MRA poll on the attitudes of Michigan parents toward their kids' education and jobs in today's economy. The findings are, frankly, terrify-

• Only 27 percent think a good education s essential for getting ahead. · Around a quarter say that a good career choice for their children is "whatever makes them happy." Only 8 percent chose "successful. · Nearly half of parents

don't think everyone needs a college education. • Fewer than 5 percent think careers in engineering or computers are worthwhile for their children.

The disconnect between these parents and hard cold reality is astonishing. Don't they know that the high-paying, muscle-based, lowskilled jobs of the past are evaporating? Don't they realize parents in China and India see that their kids need Phil Power to learn the math, science and thinking skills essential in the new globally competitive economy?

Those kids are going to blow ours away. No wonder Gov. Jennifer Granholm pounded the podium at the Detroit Economic Club last week: "Wake up!" she barked at Michigan parents. No wonder state economic czar David Hollister keeps warning that a high school education just isn't enough for Michigan kids to make it. And no wonder that economists, business leaders and journalists are all waving the red flag of alarm.

In the past, I've groused at the Governor for being reluctant about the kinds of radical restructurings Michigan needs in order to be dragged, kicking and screaming, into

Editor's note: Clay J. Pearson, assistant city

manager, city of Novi, recently traveled to

South Africa as a goodwill ambassador.

Following are his reflections on the trip.

Ten years after their first free elections,

years in prison to the national presidency, South Africans are building a vibrant democ-

Through a program promoting democratic

rule and good governance internationally,

South Africa for local government.

ideal and the current reality.

country and its resources.

Like the era after our own American

Continental Congress and great aspirations

more than 200 years ago, in South Africa

there is currently a gap between the desired

The last decade's priority has been to over-

haul the apartheid government that separated

people and provided advantages for the 10

percent of the population that controlled the

apartheid, education, economic opportunities

and basic civit rights were harshly denied to

decade has seen two terms for Mandela and

then a free election of President Thabo Mbeki

of Novi and made the 20-hour trip through

Anisterdam, then south over the equator to

Johannesburg in the last half of April. The

break from Novi roads, neighborhood, and

development issues provided a special oppor-

tunity to learn and help. It was also an oppor-

tunity to further appreciate what we have in

We went to build South African municipal-

ities' capabilities by identifying issues and

material. South Africans will teach the train-

South Africa is a large and diverse popula-

tion. Its 47 million people speak 11 different

guage for most and concentrating on listening

I found a common computer language of

PowerPoint and Windows XP helped make

U.S. lessons portable to our South African

colleagues.
The United States Agency for International

Development is our government's agency

charged with promoting democratic princi-

strategies over the last several years has been

protecting our own national security and eco-

In South Africa, Steve Snook, an experi-

enced, down-to-earth Ph.D. who started his

career building schools in Guiena, leads

USAID's democracy and governance pro-

gram. Snook furthers the development of

many African governments which helps keep

us at home in the U.S. safe and economically

The focus of this USAID program is anti-

corruption. USAID's South African govern-

ment partner coordinating the training is the

Governments (DPLG) anti-corruption divi-

Rangata went to graduate school outside

Boston, earning an economics degree and

brings a business-like approach to his work.

weeks and will be the ongoing local resource

The DPLG worked with us the entire two

Department of Local and Provincial

sion headed by Moses Rangata.

to build democracies abroad as a means of

ples around the world. One of the U.S.

nomic vitality

official languages. English is a second lan-

solutions to incorporate into new training

ing material over the next two years.

closely was an important skill.

I took two weeks from my job with the city

to create a new political tradition.

most citizens. The task is huge, but the last

Before the peaceful transition from

joined a U.S. team conducting workshops in

which brought Nelson Mandela from 26

By Clay J. Pearson

important issue, she's been absolutely right from the start. Last year, she had Lt. Gov. John Cherry

put together a heavyweight commission on higher education in Michigan. I served on it — and found it a disturbing but energizing experience. We found that only 22 percent of adults in Michigan hold a bachelor's degree, more than 10 points less than our competitor states. We discovered that a distressingly high percentage of kids plan to go to college when they start high school,

but somehow never get there. In our report, we recommended that Michigan take all the steps necessary to double the number of college graduates within a decade.

Much of the problem is cultural; Michigan families for generations have figured all you had to do was get a high school diploma to get a good paying job in manufacturing and you'd be all set. Plainly, that day is over. But changing deeply ingrained cultural habits is tough. That's why Granholm is

pushing bills to re-jigger the Michigan Merit Scholarship to provide at least \$4,000 in aid to any student who completes two years at any Michigan college or That's enough to pay for an associate

degree at most community colleges. Some

students will go directly into good technical jobs, while others will finish their four year degree \$4,000 less in debt than before. By combining state money for the Merit award and federal Pell grant funds, Michigan would be the first state to guarantee that all students who finish two years of college would receive enough scholarship

college's policy that if I didn't flunk out, they would find the money somewhere to keep me in school till I earned my degree.

their eyes on the ball. support to pay for at least a two-year associate degree from a community college. The old \$2,500 Merit program bribed

Clay Pearson, far left, assistant city manager, city of Novi, traveled to South

Africa last month on a goodwill mission. He is shown with, from left, Sepitle

Ntsoane, South African Department of Provincial and Local Governments;

Jane Stuurman Moleleki, DPLG; Kris Dobie, University of Pretoria Centre for

spite of any system, but the goal is to limit

To their credit, South Africa has progres-

sive Constitution and statutory provisions

Equality, fair housing, and fair opportunity

are enshrined. Lawmakers in this new gov-

appropriate laws from around the world and

It being such a new effort, there was a feel-

ing of walking the streets of Philadelphia and

having the potential to talk with Benjamin

Franklin or John Adams, It is striking how

of their democratic framework. Our work-

sages from their constitution and federal

statutes. The challenge is implementation.

Once our workshops began, we did not

leave the conference center property until

completed so there was limited time for

exploring the countryside - think open

plains as shown in the movie "Dances with

We had a weekend in Pretoria and a last

two days in the Kruger National Park, Kruger

is five million acres of beautiful fandscapes, a

Massachusetts, While driving 25 mph on the

left side of the road, we saw rhino, lion.

couple of bull elephants spotted us and

zebra, and giraffe up close and personal. A

charged down the road, causing our quick

It strikes me that South Africa is making

steps forward to defeating corruption by rec-

Beginning with their president, there is politi-

ognizing the gap between the current situa-

cal will to tackle the problem. While there,

Their willingness to invest the time in

workshops like ours demonstrates a com-

ing ethics a priority in hiring and promot-

ing, and providing training to employees

made it personally gratifying to be a part of

mitment to developing best practices, mak-

we read about corruption investigations

through a free press.

tion and where they really want to be.

dedicated natural area the size of

South Africans are knowledgeable and proud

shop sessions attendees proudly quoted pas-

ernment had the advantage of selecting

are still active in the government.

and identify those that occur.

Business and Professional Ethics; Moses Rangata, DPLG; and Bill

Monahan, International City/County Management Association.

to continue the anti-corruption programs for

municipalities by encouraging new policies

and the implementation of those strategies.

I was privileged to be selected to partici-

ures of various city practices in the United

The overall program focus was human

allocation strategies. There was also an

The International City/County

suspected corruption

States to recruit, retain, and build staff teams

resources, contract procurement and housing

emphasis on systems to create and maintain

Management Association (ICMA) is the pro-

fessional association to which I belong and is

the ideal group to assist USAID and DPLG in

which is emphasized and enforced; the orga-

heir efforts. ICMA has 8,000 members.

Members are subject to a Code of Ethics

nization's mission is the efficient and fair

ICMA has programs throughout the world working with USAID and other

agencies. The project manager for this

South African assignment is Martha

Perego, a former city manager who works

for ICMA full time on ethics issues. She

brought an engaging professionalism and

wealth of experience to the instruction.

Rounding out the team from the U.S. was

Bill Monahan, a recently-retired city man-

ager from Oregon who loves music and the

Monahan shared his highlight video of last

year's Red Sox championship with us one

evening -- quite possibly the first such event

On this project, ICMA collaborated with

the University of Pretoria Center for Business

and Professional Ethics. Our guide and con-

tact "on the ground" was Kris Dobie, a 30-

inauguration and now works to make the

year old who attended Mandela's momentous

Our American team could relate that deliv-

ering local government services in an equi-

table manner requires constant vigilance and

training. There will be official misdeeds in

Boston Red Sox.

n South Africa.

visions of 1994 a reality.

delivery of local government services.

methods for reporting and following up on

pate and share some of the successes and fail-

kids into taking the MEAP test and gave high scorers a payofl. But that did nothing to encourage kids to actually obtain a college degree. Of the 100,000 or so students who graduate from high school each year, about half qualify for a Merit award, but less than half of these ever actually finish a college program. What's worse is that most of the 50,000 who don't qualify (based on just one test) conclude they're just not col-

lege material — and never try. State House Speaker Craig DeRoche (R-Novi) is whining that the old Merit program works just fine and that taking away the \$2,500 awards penalizes high achievers. He's got it wrong. Our economy does not need kids who score well on standardized tests; it needs more people who obtain college degrees. The Speaker surely has enough business experience to know that you get what you pay for. If we want more

people entering the labor force with college legrees, that's what we ought to subsidize. And with the state in the financial bind it's in, it makes no sense at all to cough up millions for the Merit award without getting something useful for it. When I talked with the governor about all this last week, I mentioned something that happened to me a long time ago when I was applying to colleges. The acceptance letter that most impressed me was one that said it was the

That's that kind of solid, concrete commitment from the state that could make a big difference in changing today's deeprooted and deeply dangerous attitudes. I hope the governor takes the ball and runs with it - and that Michigan parents get

Phil Power, the former chairman of Hometown Communications Network and regent of the University of Michigan, is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan.

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### Easing away aches of aging

By Kim Kovelle

Fingers and thumbs pressed together. Ana Zradi swept her said. hands across Blanche called efflourage -- was just reflexology and energy-based

what the 86-year old Novi healing touch. patient needed. "That feels wonderful." in a massage face pillow, "Oh, I can go to sleep right now." She was one of five who made the Wednesday trek to the 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays and

Zradi had eased the tension cream and nimble hands. from Robinson's upper body

muscles for a \$16 fee. my shoulders," said Robinson, comfort, who recently underwent back. A beige-toned room dotted

A protégé of the center's previous massage therapist, Jill for those who choose it. working her magic on seniors' partially disrobing for back. "I'm surprised,

Friday 5/13

at the center for years, staff With 16 years of experience, Robinson's bare back last week. Zradi is no stranger to kneading. The light, circular motion - out sore spots - and the arts of

"I like the slow, meditative, deep tissue massage," Zradi Robinson said, her face nestled said. "You want something that's slow. It doesn't feel relaxing if you do things fast," Offering services from about

Novi Senior Center's massage - Fridays, Zradi soothes trigger points and golgi tendou organs In the span of 25 minutes, alike with Biotone massage The therapist, trained at the

setting set off by soft music.

Such therapy has been offered

What: Massage therapist Ana Zradi offers massages, healing touch energy work and reflexology for senior citizens Where: Novi Senior

Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road between 10 Mile Road and Grand River Avenue ■ When: 1-3 p.m.. Wednesdays and Fridays Cost: \$16 for a 25 minute

(248) 347-0414

"They're always covered." Kripula Center in Lenox, Mass., Zradi said. A long, light blue "It helps take the pain out of said her focus with seniors is towel was draped on Robinson during her session.

utes a day --- she said she's "I'm thinking I have to go real-

#### SENIIOR CENTER CALENDAR

| 8.45 mm.         Panera Breac           9 mm.         Stretch and Strength           10 mm.         Body Recal           noon         Lunch/clogging           12:30 p.m.         Binge           12:30 p.m.         Duplicate Bridge              |
|--|
| Monday 5/16  |
| 8:45 a.m. Men's Golf 9 a.m. Stretch and Strength 40 a.m. Body Recall 10:30 a.m. Goodie Lady noon Lunch and 12:30 p.m. Pinochles 2 p.m.: Tea: "Chivalry, Arnour and Courting" slide show by Detroit Institute of Arts; cost \$1 6:30 p.m. Cloggings |

|            | roll institute of Arts; cost 51 |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Tuesday 5/ | 17                              |
|            |                                 |
|            |                                 |
| noon       | Lunch                           |

Wednesday 5/18 9 a.m. . . . . . . . . . . Stretch and Strength ..Blood pressure noon .....Lunch 

Thursday 5/19 .....Mixed golf

\*Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Phone (248) 347-0414.



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As Zradi passes on exercise surgery. "It loosens up your with illustrations of dragonflies tips to seniors — even if it's muscles so that you can do more and birds provides an intimate simply stretching for 10 min-Aroma therapy is available learned a few lessons herself. Cummingham. Zradi has been. Conversation is optional, as is. Iy easy on some people," she said.

who started attending the sessions with his wife, is among them.

old prefers a tougher massage to smooth muscles. "Ana can really get in deep." McLean said, "It's wonderful, hands and feet that sometimes You just kind of zone out." Zradi, who also manages the follgate Farm's conference center - Zradi said.

at the Novi Senior Center last week.

Novi resident Jim McLean, aching back.

She also offers reflexology, wherein certain parts of the hands Fond of yard work, the 70-year- and feet are rubbed to stimulate That can helps circulation. relieving symptoms like cold "I can't wait to get in there."

Massage therapist Ana Zradi soothes out the neck muscles of Blanche Robinson, 86,

"I do whatever they want," in Novi, said her interest in mas- As she waited in the lobby area 107 or via e-mail at sage with sparked by her own for her appointment, Sue Gilbert. kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net.

affect older adults.

59, already knew her wish. "I have a lot of stress in my neck," said the Novi resident, who visits Zradi every two weeks, "It's a nagging pain. It comes and

> Kim Kovelle is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext.

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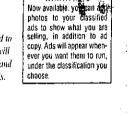


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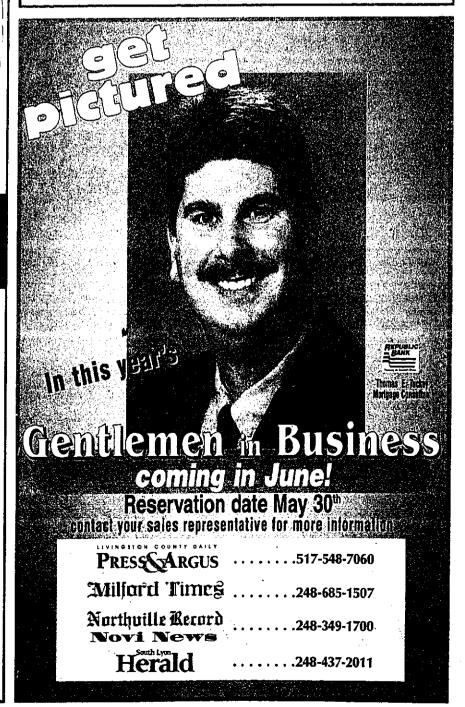
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### Moving homes made more manageable

"We're a moving family," said and other essentials. Deneen King, who settled in Northville Township last tration, driver's licenses and August, "Sometimes I don't club fees are vital, too. Secure

assigned general manager of orgarden plants. Dearborn's Hyatt Regency Hotel, they brought along two president of Novi's Two Men nearby, daughters, a tabby cat and more and a Truck moving company. than 100 boxes.

It took me at least a week to get sales." at least comfortable." Whether hiring professionals - like the Kings - or doing it yourself, heading for a new home can be a hassle-packed

In the midst of National Moving Month, local experts foot house, Saenz said it takes your father-in-law hurting his stress careful preparation from about 180 boxes of various back and being off work." packaging and paperwork to sizes, from dish packs to trucking and tipping.

#### Step by step

Taking the process in steps is key, said Bob Allwine, real estate agent with Northvillebased RE/MAX 100.

will do," Allwine said. "Three or ing your change of addresses to dishes or a computer, Saenz rec- pen, then we're both kind of places where you owe your ommends plenty of bubble wrap stuck," Saenz said.

COMP TO

(4E) (E)

CLEAN COAN

minute, which too often people could be critters in there." four weeks before, start notify- wares. Whether it's delicate

wardrobe containers.

move, start packing.

can be bought back. "They can purchase as many boxes as they think they need," Saenz said. If opting for free containers, he added, "Avoid

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Compile a list. After visiting "Put the room that it's from the post office, check details on and the room that it's going to," After relocating to seven dif- medical and dental records, he said. "Where it's from gives ferent houses, the Kings know a bills, utilities, waste pickup, them a reminder where the item telephone and Internet service was in their old house."

On the big day, Allwine said travelers' checks - and find out having an "open first" box with When husband Dan was how to transport the family pet hygiene, medical and maintenance items is wise - as is Travel light, said René Saenz, keeping important possessions

"Clean out any items you valuables not just in a whole "I've been married 20 years," don't think you'd ever want to bunch of different areas," "King said. "I have a lot of stuff. keep," he said. "Have garage Allwine said. "If you have a safe, put them in there."

When deciding whether to Saenz said, consider all angles. About two weeks before the "It is cheaper to do the move yourself," he said. "Professional movers are going to move a lot three-bedroom, 2,000-square- faster. You don't have the risk of

 Gas costs and possible property damages are factors, too. On average, he said, boxes run With three movers, the average \$2 each, and unused containers move costs \$500 - plus option-

move." Sacnz said. "It is not life, most recently from Connecticut to Northville in August of 2004. required; it's not suggested. Regardless, check the mover's "Don't wait until the last using produce boxes. There credentials - and avoid scheduling to move on the day the home sale closes.

"(If) the closing doesn't han-

"Average tip about \$20 per The King family, including Deneen and Kim, 11, right, have moved quite a bit in their

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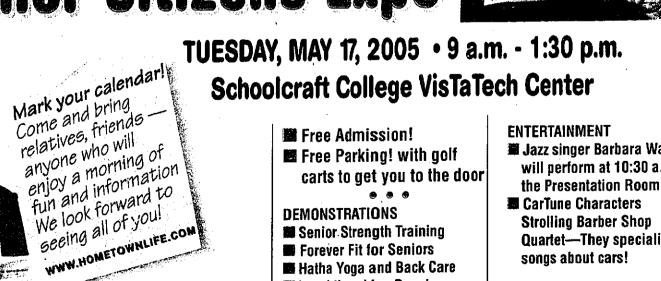
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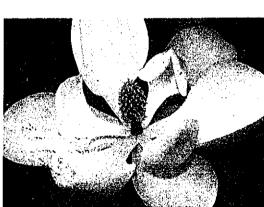
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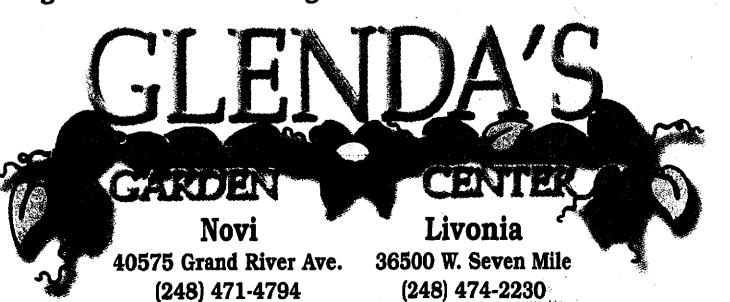
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### Driver who killed 3 had drinking history

Police say Thomas Wellinger, 48, he may have had a drinking problem appeared intoxicated at his Livonia before the accident, said Farmington workplace as early as the morning Hills Police Chief William Dwyer.

That afternoon, he crashed his Dwyer said. "He confirmed that sports utility vehicle into a sedan, (Wellinger) came to his job at 7:30 killing a mother and her two sons in a.m. Tuesday and then met with the

Wellinger, a Farmington Hills resident, was charged last week with three counts of second-degree mur- Solutions in Livonia, a producer of der in the deaths of Judy Weinstein, transportation industry design soft-49, and her sons, Alex, 12, and Sam,

Surviving husband and father,

SPECIAL WRITER

and acquaintances paid respects. Gary Weinstein has been telling Rabbi Tamara Kolton of family and friends not to offer him Birmingham Temple, where the condolences in the loss of his wife Weinsteins were members, shared and only two children in a tragic her own stories. She said the boys Farmington Hills accident. woke up every day and looked at Instead, the Novi jeweler told life like one big party, "and the

them that he wants to hear the stories, memories and about the photographs in their minds of the wonderful lives his family led while brightness and courage. "They More than 1.000 people filled Dorfman Chapel in Farmington

Hills last Friday to say good-bye to

Judy Weinstein and her sons, Alex, 12, and Sam, 9, The three were killed May 3 while in their car on 12 Mile Road just east of Orchard Lake Road. Driver Thomas Wellinger, 48, of Farmington Hills, allegedly caused

Many held flowers during the hourlong service. Hundreds were school-age children.

the accident while highly intoxi-

Students who knew the boys wrote well wishes and good-byes on large paper posters, which were taged to the chapel's walls. One read, "Why do bad things



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While no prior drinking and driv-Police are investigating what foling convictions are on Wellinger's lowed that meeting. The crash record, an investigation is showing occurred at 3:30 p.m. "We're getting other information

Honda Accord on 12 Mile Road in

The device also reportedly

"We interviewed his supervisor," Dwyer said Wellinger is a recent Police also discovered data from supervisor again at 11 a.m." Wellinger worked as a sales Wellinger's vehicle, which shows he director for Unified Graphics was driving at 70 mph when he plowed his GMC Denali into a

Facts from that "black box" were In a statement, the company said Wellinger left work to attend a key in bringing forth murder scheduled doctor's appointment. charges, Dwyer said. The supervisor told police Wellinger appeared to have been

Young and old, family, friends

David Weinstein, Gary's broth-

er, said he marveled at the boys'

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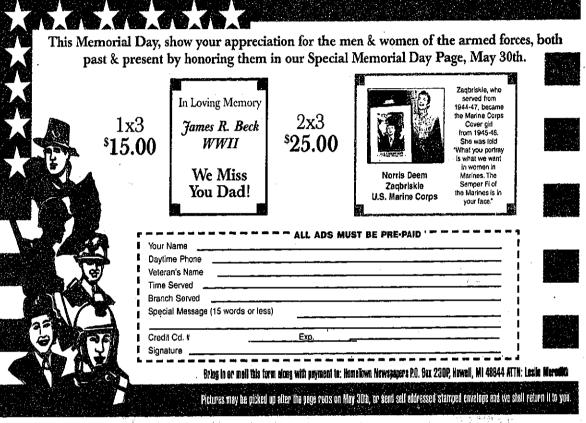
Mathews said of her friend. "It's so

adults," he said, "They looked at them like you're one of us."

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reached at (734) 953-2128 or

Wellinger's blood alcohol content was 0.43, nearly five times the legal definition of drunk driving. The limit in Michigan is 0.08. William Beaumont Hospital May 5 He is recovering from a broken neck He is also charged with three counts of driving while under the influence of alcohol causing death. If convicted of all charges, Wellinger faces up to life in prison. He has been denied bond, and his preliminary exam was set for 1:30 the Farmington Observer. He can be





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Last year TSI set another record in sales volume. This is incredibly amazing considering that the economy had not been the most robust. TSI does think, however, that in any economy, people appreciate the impeccable quality and customer service that TSI consistently offers.

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TSI offers tools that are unique to the industry, including various financing programs, one which allows customers to receive up to 12 months same as cash with no interest or 7.9% for 48 months. TSI also offers a "MEET or BEAT" and

We're putting our money where our mouth is! We promise not to be undersold...just obtain a bid from a competitor and we will meet or beat it 100% of the time for like type services guaranteed". - If we can't ... we'll give you 10% of our bid in eash for you to use with our competitor.

"BEST DEAL PROGRAM". TSI has a reputation of being the best landscaping company in the community, however they also are considered a little expensive. With the introduction of these programs, the consumer has been given an opprtunity to put aside that misconception. "It always amazes our customers when they actually compare the services from our competition and then from us. We beat our competitors 100% of the time; we guarantee that TSI will heat their quote. We find that we are your best deal by far, when comparing apples for apples, but what we find when a competitor beats our prices it is apples for oranges" says Todd. Lets face it, if TSI wasn't giving the public the best deal, they would not have set a record sales volume in 2004, which was probably the worst economy since TSI was established in 1979. If TSI can't beat their competitor's deal they will give you 10% of the TSI bid in cash. If that is not putting your money where your mouth is, I don't know what is.

TSI still offers all of the services as in the past, including full color landscape designs, lawn installation, sodding, hydro-seeding, sprinkler systems, retaining walls, trees and shrubs, ponds, decks, brick pavers, stamped concrete, seawalls, water features, and a whole host of other services too numerous to mention. "If you can dream it, we can design and install it" says Kurt.

#### Todd's employees truly do make the difference

"TSI is fortunate again this year. We have been able to retain all of the terrific employees that have been with us for many seasons" says Todd. "We've expanded our professional sales design staff to handle the volume we have come to expect in a growing community, especially in light of the fact that we have a 24 to 48 hour turn around policy to service our customer's needs."

TSI is consistently successful; they were selected by the community to receive the "PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD" for best landscaping company again this past year. In fact TSI has won every year the public has voted on it. "We really appreciate the level of confidence that the community puts

in us" says Kurt.

#### now into a second generation

Repeat business and referrals are always welcome. "It is amazing with our longevity in the business, we are finding customers that have used TSI for all of their landscape needs and are now telling their grown children who are buying a home for the first time that you must use Todd's!!!"

#### Todd's builder program is off to a fast start

The latest major trend is what TSI refers to as their "BUILDER PROGRAM". The inclusion of the lawn and sprinkler system in the base price of the home is becoming increasingly popular. TSI offers builders the opportunity to sell more homes and control the quality look of their developments by including the lawn and system in the base price of the home. TSI will even install the entire landscape package on builder's spec homes. The best part about this program is the builder does not have to pay for the services until the closing takes place. This is a great selling feature, the builder receives special pricing from TSI, not to be undersold by their competitors and not received by the general public. The builder's clients also receive a free "Turf. Establishment Program" (four fertilizing applications) and a free full color landscape design rendering from a TSI design professional. By meeting with TSI early it also allows the customer

#### TODD'S SERVICES, INC.

7975 M-36, in Hamburg. (810) 231-2778 or 1-800-HYDROSEED www.toddsservices.com

#### Community "Cash-Back **Reward Program**

TSI is known for giving back to the community, numerous times in the past they have donated landscaping etc... to various entities. TSI has now expanded on this concept to include subdivisions, churches, schools and any other type of organization that could benefit from a reward program. When homeowners or members of organizations hire TSI for any of their services, TSI will donate three (3%) percent of the total project back to the association or organization. They have a choice, they can receive it in services or in the form of a check to use as they see fit. "We feel strongly that the community has supported us and we want to return the favor" says Kurt. "This could add up very quickly" says Todd, "for example, if an organization does \$100,000 in total sales with TSI, that's \$3,000 in services or cash back to the organization. A frequently asked question" says Todd, is "doesn't TSI just add the 3% onto the total price of the job? The answer, absolutely not!!! The 3% comes out of our profit. In fact, one thing that will not change is TSI's competitive pricing, we guarantee to beat our competitors bid, even when we are giving a donation back". TSI will be the best deal for your subdivision association or organizations landscaping needs hands down, not only in services, but also in price. Call for details and to get your organization signed up to receive 3% back.

#### **Landscaping Renovation** is the latest trend

There is a growing trend in our area, many homeowners are choosing to stay in their homes and make major updates



to include their landscape into their mortgage if they choose. Why would a homeowner want to shell out cash after the closing for something that is absolutely required? You wouldn't pay for your electrical or plumbing after the closing, it would be in the base price of the home. It's part of the process, just like the lawn and sprinkler system should be. When these services are built into the mortgage, the typical lawn and sprinkler system increases the payment by about \$19.00 per month. Builders and Realtors, call TSI to find out more information about this program.

Potential homeowners looking to purchase a home can call TSI for a list of builders that include the lawn and sprinkler system installed by Todd's Services in the base price

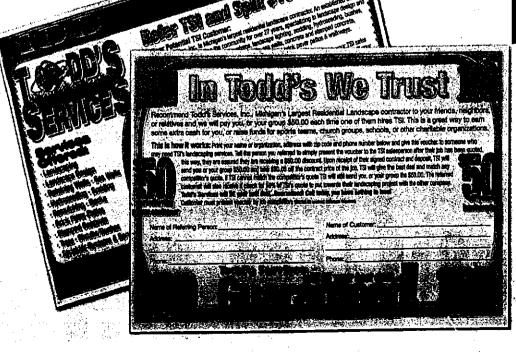
of the home.

and renovations instead of relocating. "Considering the fact that TSI has been in business 27 years, we are finding that a lot of our previous customers are ready to redesign and redo their original landscape project" says Todd. "We are . just the company for that. We will redesign your existing landscape at no cost to you, even if you did not hire us on its original installation. Our promise not to be undersold still applies. Obtain a bid from a competitor and TSI will meet or beat it 100% of the time. If we can't beat our competition, yes you guessed it? we will give 10% of our bid to you in cash. It's that simple".



(888) 7-APPEAL (888) 727-7325 www.curbappealsells.com

Curb Appeal Sells LLC, the innovative way that homeowners prepare their homes prior to being listed for sale without any cash outlay, continues to evolve, not only throughout Michigan where entrepreneurs Todd and Kurt introduced the concept and started the company, but also in other geographical areas of the USA, "Homeowners and realtors are grasping on to this concept and using it continuously since it was introduced in 2002" says Todd, "no longer are homeowners taking a low ball offer on their home sale, instead they 'spiff' it up prior to the sale to receive top dollar and pay for those improvements at the closing". For the person with desire to own his or her own business, franchising is coming soon.





#### A familiar face

Novi soccer standout Stephanic Crawford has been around the sport for a long time - and it hasn't always been while she was on the pitch

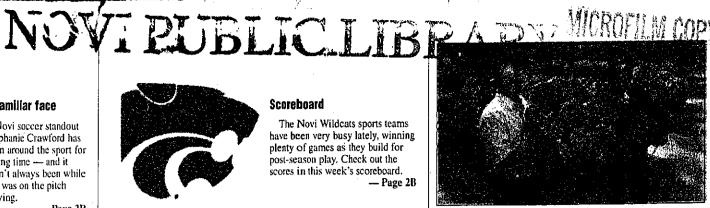
- Page 3B



#### Scoreboard

The Novi Wildcats sports teams have been very busy lately, winning plenty of games as they build for post-season play. Check out the scores in this week's scoreboard.

SPORTS



Regional Marketplace

Warm spring days and flowers just naturally seem to go hand in hand. Gardeners need not look further than Colasanti's Plants and Produce in Highland for colorful blooms to beautify their yards. Visit their garden center for literally thousands of hanging baskets and patio pots to brighten your landscape.

- Page 6B

Thursday, May 12, 2005

www.hometownlife.com

# HART TU HAR

### Steve Hart building a career in brother's shadow

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

For Steve Hart, trying to outshine the shadow his brother, Mike, east before graduating last year isn't something he's willing to try.

Instead, he just wants to be the best athlete he can be.

Steve, who is a junior this year, watched from the sidelines in 2004 when his older brother led the Novi Wildcats football team to the state semi-finals and an eventual loss to Brother Rice. He watched as Mike earned a scholarship to Eastern Michigan University as a baseball pitcher after carving a name for himself on the diamond. Steve could only watch as his brother inked autographs for fans, signed a letter of intent and walked out of Novi High School and straight to nearlymythical status in the halls.

"He's like my idol," Steve said of Mike. "I just want to work hard and maybe I might be as good as he was."

#### I want to be like Mike

But being Mike is out of the question. Steve said there is no comparison when it comes to him and his older sibling.

"Mike's a great athlete," he said. "I just want to be a good athlete.'

Mike's not so sure that there is that much difference between himself and his younger brother - who he affectionately calls "Beave" after the star of the old sitcom "Leave It To Beaver." The nickname came from their mother when Steve was young. · Mike said he sees a lot of similarities from where he was in his junior year and where

Steve is right now. "I haven't seen him during practices, but watching him on the field I'd say he's going to do just fine," Mike said. "I think he's right where I was, if not



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi Wildcat Steve Hart isn't about to try and live up to the career of brother Mike, right, a Novi graduate and current EMU Eagle.

Mike's junior year wasn't something a writer would pen for a history book. He couldn't seem to find receivers in the football season and he and his team fell short of their expected goals on the baseball diamond. He did, however, excel in bas-

ketball that year. Steve, on the other hand, helped lead Novi's football team to a very surprising leap deep into the playoffs last year before being bounced by South Lyon and he's currently earning his stripes on the baseball diamond as and infielder.

"He's got a lot of potential," said Mike. "I think if he commits himself to it, he'll be able to play ball in college too."

#### Going to the next level

That's something Steve said he'd enjoy. Though playing baseball at the collegiate level is a big dream of his, he said he isn't planning on building his future around it. Instead, he's

focusing on his academics. "That's going to be the future," he said. "Baseball is my second choice. I want a college that I'll be able to do well at and where I can get a marketing or business degree."

Mike, on the other hand, wasn't as concerned with academics in high school as his younger brother. School, he once said, wasn't for him. He wanted to play sports in college and he earned his place with the Eastern Michigan Eagles. It just happens he's doing well in school too, while collecting a 1-I record from the mound so far

this year. "Beave's a lot smarter than I was," said Mike. "He's really focused on school and that's going to help him when he decides where he wants to go to college.'

But a Division I school? A scholarship? Those are things Steve isn't worrying himself with - no matter how often people compare him to his brother.

"The fans do it now and then," said Steve. "They say I'm not as good as he was. I just ignore it though. I don't want to be Mike. I want to help my team as best I can and I want to work hard and try to be a good athlete. No matter what people say, I'm not going to be as good as

But he'll get his chance most likely. The Wildcats are expected to adjust their offense, once again, to a passing format much like they did when Mike took over the quarterback position. Steve isn't fretting though. He's planning plenty of training sessions, weight lifting and meetings with head coach Tab Kellepourcy between now and opening day.

"It's going to be a lot of fun,"

#### No comparison?

There are three people who never put Mike and Steve side by side for comparison's sake their parents, Kathy and Mike, and their sister, Kelsey.

'They're great parents," said Mike. "They're equally supportive of both of us. They aren't like that with just Beave and me either. They're like that with Kelsey too.

Both Mike and Steve are big supporters of each other's athletics. Steve said he's only made it to one of Mike's college games so far, but was able to watch him pitch. Mike, on the other hand, was spotted at several of Steve's contests this

"Having your older brother: come out and watch you is - at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at

support from him has meant a lot to me."

And it will continue to mean a lot. Mike said he plans on attending games next year and will be a steady guide during the summer if Steve needs a few words of advice, which Steve said he's more than happy to take from his older sibling.

"I try and listen to everything he says," Steve said. "He's telling me to lift weights this summer and I plan on doing that. I really appreciate all of the help he's given me."

And the shoes Mike left for Steve to fill?

"I don't mind," he said. "Mike was a great athlete. He was just amazing to watch when he was in high school. I just loved his style. I can only hope to be as good as he was.'

Sam Eggleston can be reached great," said Steve. "That kind of seggleston@hi.homecomm.net.

### Yes! Tied for first in KVC is sweet for 'Cats

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

Four years ago when the Novi Wildcats golf team was struggling against most of the teams they played, Novi coach Deb Harris found ways to put a positive spin on every meet.

This year, she doesn't have to. The Wildcats golf team is currently tied for first place in the Kensington Valley Conference after beating South Lyon and tying Hartland last week. The team also set a new school record for a team-low score with 172 against South

"The girls golf team raised the bar and lowered their scores," said Harris. "They set a new school record for a low team score in a dual match. The old record was 185 and this year's team broke that record by 13 strokes."

Leading the way was Jessica Westfall - who currently holds the school record for nine and 18 hole matches for low score. She shot a 40 in the victory over South Lyon while Audrey Oh shot a 42 and Abby Greulich shot a 44. Ashley Simms rounded the scoring out with 46 for the team's 172. Also playing but not having their scores counted were Jackie Chudy, who shot a 47, and Brenna Quinley shot a 48.

Novi wasn't finished just because they set a record though. A few days later they took on Hartland in a battle for first place.

"Hartland came in undefeated and we had one loss," said Harris.

Novi beat Hartland despite a tied score of 198-198. The tie breaker went back to the fifth score of 51 for Novi and 57 for Hartland.

Scoring for the Wildcats were Asako Akamatsu and Simms, who shot a 46. while Chudy recorded a 50 and Westfall, Greulich and Oh shot a 51. "It was amazing," said Westfall. "We

were so excited. This has just been a great season." Novi knows if they want to make a

run for the league title they'll have to continue playing strong. This win puts us in a tie for first place with two dual matches and two

tournaments left in KVC competition,"

The junior varsity teams also played well. Against South Lyon they won 200-276 with Akamatsu scoring a 46, Dana Czekaj shooting a 51, Lindsey Haslett carding a 51, Erica Takeda shooting a 52, Yoo-Jin Kim recording a 54 and Missy Broadwell shooting a 55.

Against Hartland the JV also won, taking the match 216-242. Scoring for Novi were Brenna Quinley with a 48, Haslett's 55, Broadwell's' 55, Czekaj's 58, Kelsey Brendenihl's 61 and Kim's

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

#### Record-setting Wildcats

The Novi Wildcats were at the top of their game when they pounded? out a win over South Lyon last week.

The team score happens to be a school record. The old record of 185 was shattered by the squad by 13 strokes.

**PLAYER** Jessica Westfall Audrey Oh Abby Greulich Ashley Simms Team total

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THE RESERVE

the bers

Novi tennisi score

genior hurler Alyssa Wagner against

combined score over

three games.

South Lyon last week.

signs of slowing their progress on their KVC rivals.

the soccer pitch. The team, coached by O'Leary, cruised past a tough to see the girls race with a similar Grosse Pointe South team, 3-0, last Friday and crushed Howell, 10-0 and Lakeland, 11-0.

Against Howell, the Wildcats Michigan State University standgoals while Emily Esbrook, Pia lanssens, Stephanie Crawford, Sarah Schmitt, Katie Chaklos and Jessica Barndt each added one in the victory.

Earning assists in the game were Karie Walker with three while Kellie Walker added two. Notehing one each was Esbrook, Lauren Marchioni and Shannon

saves to earn her 11th shutout of the season.

The victory pushed Novi to a 12-0-1 record overall and a 7-0 record in the Kensington Valley Novi's toughest game in quite a

Conference. earning a shutout thanks to the defense of Barndt, Kelly Hebert, Kristine Chaklos, Marchioni, Katie Chaklos and Shannon Cody as well as the solid play of Herbst

in goal. "Our defense is playing exceptionally well, holding Grosse Pointe South to one shot on goal,"

said O'Leary. The Wildcats had 19 shots of their own on goal with the first one going in late in the first balf off the foot of Lauren Troher as she took a Timar pass in the box and beat the South goalie.

Timar added a goal of her own 10 minutes into the second half off a Kristine Chaklos through pass for a 2-0 lead before Hebert added another tally just five minutes later from 25 yards out.

The team cranked out an 11-0 victory over the Lakeland Eagles last week as Kristi Timar and Crawford tallied two goals each, followed by Jamie Fratto and Janssens, who had two apiece. Adding a goal in the victory was Lauren Troher.

Novi's top assist players were Crawford and Janssens, who had two each, while Megan Stec Eshrook, Schmitt, Kellie Walker, Kip Miller and Richard Manza Marchioni, Fratto and Timar had an assist each. Herbst had three saves in the

'Cats skin Lions

game to earn the shutout.

The Novi girls track and field. team sure isn't kidding around this

Reid, has shown signs of vigor, dedication and determination this year as they've given every team they've faced a run for the victory. The South Lyon Lions ended up on Novi's had side and the final score showed it as the 'Cats

The Novi Wildcats show no escaped with an 80-57 win over

"We are definitely getting more drive as the boys team."

Novi had an outstanding performance from Allie Sisson in the 300 hurdles and from Lainey followed the lead of future Sekulowski, who had top-notch showings in both the 800 and the out Kristi Timar, who scored four two mile. Her performances, which were personal-best times for her, cleared the way for her varsity

Veteran Christina Lis continued with her amazing career, earning points in the victory with her leap in the high jump. "It was great to see our team

responding as a team for this meet," said Reid, "Several of our distance runners worked together Kim Herbst, a senior, made two as a team to help others on the team get PRs."

The South Lyon victory also marked the return of sprinter Hope Morris following knee surgery earlier this year, Morris' impact was obvious as she helped the 400meter relay and the 800-meter while still ended with the team relay team improve their times

> Painful moments for South Lyon

The Novi Wildeats boys track and field team is bent on corning a Kensington Valley Conference title this year. The teams that stand in their way? Well, they don't stay standing for long.

Novi went on a rampage, earning first-place linishes in 15-of-17 events last week when they pounded the South Lyon Lions, 101-36. The victory keeps Novi undefeated in dual meet action. The Wildcats followed the lead

of Ryan Pritchard, who has contin- but it wasn't enough to hold on ued to strive for excellence with first-place finishes in the shotput and discus while Matthew Evans, Mike Yiu and Dan Lian swept the Brandon Coles and Brad Spisich

were first and second in the high jump while Chris Machisak, Chris Alberty and Daniel Coleman were the top three performers in the pole vault. Machisak, who took first. went 12-feet-8.5 inches. Coleman was also first in the 110 hurdles. The 4-hy-800 relay team of Scott Wagner, Alexander Prasad.

took the top spot. In the 100-meter dash, Robert Gordon took first while Brad Sisson took the top spot in the 400. Derrick Leonard was first in the 200-meter dash and Robert loss to Ann Arbor Huron.

Duquette was second in the event. Novi's always consistent distance runners did well. Mark The team, coached by Marsha Mike Wheat taking first, Manza another tally.

taking second and Josh Lumley taking third. Novi is now 6-0 in dual meets.

#### 'Cats play in Canton Classic

The Novi Varsity Girls softball team played in the Canton competitive," said Reid, "It's nice - Invitational tournament this weekend. They won the first game, 5-3, against Summerfield behind the solid pitching of sophomore Brittany Luka, who had seven strikeouts in the contest.

> Novi's offense was alive behind the hitting of sophomores Amanda Diacano and Jenny Heathfield. Diacano and Heathfield. Both underclassmen reached base all four trips to the plate. Diacano's performance included a RBI triple and a stolen base along with three singles, while Heathfield slapped two doubles and two infield hits. Janior Cassie Gordon also doubled

The game was tight, 1-1, until Novi scored one run in both the fourth and fifth innings and then added two in the sixth to break the

"The girls were aggressive and hit well, and that earned them the victory," said coach Kevin Sutherland.

The second game of the tournament was against a state ranked Canton team, and the team lost 6despite 13 strike outs from senior Allysa Wagner. The team was only able to

moster two bits off a tough Canton nitcher, Innior Cassie Gordon was 1-for-3, and Heathfield was 1-for-3 with a stolen base. "We just couldn't hit the ball,"

Sutherland said. In the third game, Novi faced a hard hitting Belleville team and

Larka and Wagner shared the pitching effort. The contest ended on a two-run homer by Belleville. Novi fied the score with a fourrun rally in the bottom of the sixth for the victory.

Kelly Hogan went 2-for-4 with lead. a run scored and a stolen base while future Madonna University player Wagner helped her own cause with a two-RBI double. Stephanie Jirasek reached base three out of four trips, with two

The team missed the experienced bats of both seniors Sarah and forth with the lead exchang-Bielski and Beth Malfo, who were ing hands several times before unable to play in the tournament.

#### No breaks for Novi

The Novi Wildcats lacrosse team can't buy a break right now and it showed in their recent 9-8

The squad, coached by Brad Muston, took the lead when Jeff Policiechio secred on a Scott care of business Moore finished first in the two- Moran pass for a 1-0 lead. Just a crushed the Pinckney Pirates, 14-Huprikar notched a first in the mile it when Jacob Haf flung the ball

at 2-2 with two quick shots before

game one, Scott allowed only

two hits and struck out 10, lead-

ing Novi to a 9-0 win. Too hit-

ters were Kaminski, Scott and

Novi scored four runs in the

## Champions! The Farmington Hills Fire Girls 10 U won the State Championship in Chelsea on

THE WON

March 13, 2005. In the championship game the Fire defeated the Canton Crush 5-1,

while in round robin play the Fire defeated the Michigan Devils 17-0, Canton Crush 5-1 and Birmingham Rangers 14-2. Kelli Timar was awarded the championship game most valuable player. This concluded an undefeated season for the Fire in the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey Association season and playoffs. The team includes the following players: Alexandra Conner, Caitlin Conner, Leah Elkins, Isabelle Glancy, Sydney Glanz, Christie Karcher, Michelle Manning, Grace Martin, Jamie Mason, Brianna Tuuri-Cesarz and Alexis Tzafaragiou. The coach is Mark Miller and the assistant coaches include Jerry Conner, Terry Manning, Richard Pattison and Margot Miller, student coach. The team manager is Beth Conner.

Novi came back following a win in the face off by John the defense and tied the contest,

Bobby Watts gave Novi the singles and a Belleville error. advantage with a score of his own Ashleigh Mack contributed two before Policiechio added another tally for the 5-3 lead. The game continued to go back

> Novi took an eventual 8-6 advantage over Huron. The River Rats kicked the game rattling off three quick goals to also crushed Lakeland and South steal the gaine from Novi, 9-8:

#### Have mercy!

mile run with a 9:42 while Amol - few moments later, they added to - 1, in five innings. run. Novi swept the half mile with past the River Rats' goalie for the plate to help the Wildcats to "Stoney Creek is in the top 10 of Huron wasn't about to be went 3-for-4 with two grand team also. It was just a great day denied and they tied the game up slams, nine RBIs and a double. of tennis with some fantastic games against South Lyon and Senior Richard Vanderveer was weather."

innings and scattering four hits and whiffing five batters. Novi climbed to 9-2 overall Favorite, who carried the ball past with the victory and stayed perfeet in the KVC title race with a 7-

#### Good week for tennis

0 mark.

The Novi Wildcats put themselves in the driver's seat for this weekend's Kensington Valley Conference tournament. The team tied Brighton, 4-4, in

dual meet action to keep the two teams head-to-head heading into into high gear in the final minutes, the championship tourney. They Lyon; 8-0 and 8-0; The Wildcars were also played

Rice and Rochester Stoney Creek. doubles. The Novi baseball team took. Novi took fourth in the tourna-"Huron and Brother Rice are four three and four in the state right. Heffernan and Felix Liu lost at

Matt Simpson went 4-for-4 at now," said coach Jim Hanson, one doubles and Mike Mehl and the victory while Kevin Cislo Division II. They're an excellent doubles, tacking on a third goal for the solid on the mound, going all five Huron won the Novi Quad tour-

nament with 19 points while Brother Rice was second with 16. Stoney Creek finished third with seven points and Novi finished

Against Brighton, the Wildcats and the Bulldogs once again proved how close the two teams

"We match up well in every flight," said Hanson, "All of the winners could end up losing in the KVC tournament and all of the losers could end up winning. That's how close our teams are.

Kyle Goodman won at one singles while Roshan Ramachandran won at two singles. Taking a win at two doubles was Richie Fetters and Eric McQueen while Jason host to Ann Arbor Huron, Brother Hsu and Chris Shah was at four

losses were Justin

Taking

n't let it get in the way of her fall athletics. done. That just speaks a ton about

her dedication."

### A familiar face at Novi

#### Stephanie Crawford was around Novi soccer long before playing it

By Sam Eggleston

At nine years old, Stephanie Crawford was watching as her oldest brother, Mike, was donning a Novi Wildcats soccer jersey and taking to the pitch. It was right about then she knew what she was going to do in high school.

Crawford has gone on to don a jersey of her own and has worn in proudly as one of the best players at

"Stephanie is the type of player that can change any game," said her coach, Brian O'Leary. "She has the ability to create her own offense with aggressive play, hustle, speed and intimidation. She also has a very hard shot and is tircless in her

Crawford knows the value of hard work. She's been able to rise to the top by pushing herself to be her best, no matter what situation she finds herself in.

Soccer was just a natural fit for her. She's speedy, she's smart and she's been watching the game for a very long time.

"My oldest brother, Michael, played for three years on varsity and Matthew has played for four years," she said. "I've been around it for so long. I even watched the girls play before I was in high school because my dad was always announcing for the games. I've just been around it for a while."

Crawford's work ethic shows in her statistics. Last year as a fresh man, over 21 games, she scored 23 goals and had 11 assists as a freshman. This season she already has 19 goals and seven assists with only 1 games under her belt.

And the sophomore can't be counted out either. Knock her down and she applies the old adage of getting back up and trying again. "I have seen many a game where

she gets knocked down three or four times in a row and the other team think they have her under control," said O'Leary, "But the very next time, she out hustles the defense for a ball and gets behind the defense to score." Crawford isn't all about just soc-

cer. She played softball up until last summer and is a member of the varsity basketball team. Though she also plays club soccer in the summer, Crawford does-

"A lot of club soccer players miss some basketball practices and meetings and drills," said Novi basketball coach Bill Kelp. "Stephanie

Crawford said she loves playing basketball, though soccer ranks as

herself to the hardwood when the out a conference title and, just

#### the dribble, and spot shooting

contest winners. Gym clothes and Boys and Girls Basketball

Awards will be given to shooting

Field House

Camp (grades K-2) DATE: Monday-Friday, July 25-

TIME: 8:30-10 a.m. and 10:30

LOCATION: Novi Meadows 5 DETAILS: Learn basketball skills and build your confidence. Emphasis will be placed on dribbling, pivoting, passing, lay-ups

#### and shooting. Gym clothes and shoes are required. The fee is \$63.

A ride of silence In honor of cyclists killed or injured on the roads, a group of cyclists invites interested partici-

pants to a silent ride May 18 at 7 The ride will be a 10-mile loop, in silence, and traveling no faster than 12 miles per hour. There is no fee, no registration and no T-shirt. The ride will start at Nankin Mills Pavilion on Hines Drive just Shores Civic Arena, Suburban Icecast of Ann Arbor Trail. Please

arrive early to line up. For more information, please contact Jeffrey Osowski via email t jeffrey.osowski@sbcglobal.net.

mer Detroit Lion, Eddie Murray

Featured this year will be a spe-

awarded to the most successful

There will be two shotgun starts. The 8 a.m. shotgun start includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Costs are \$195 per person for a four-person scramble, with morning players having the option of adding the dinner pack-

age for \$50. The afternoon package for \$250 includes the 1 p.m. shotgun start, lunch and dinner. Evening activities begin at 6:30 p.m. A live auction and a silent auction will be held, with items including a ride for two in the WJR Traffic Copter and four (4) suite tickets for a Tigers game at Comerica Park. Dinner packages for \$50 also will basketball camp June 27-July 1 at be available for non-golfers wishing to participate in the Classic,

30, 2005. Individuals who do not coach Bill Kelp and members of register a full foursome will be the girls varsity basketball team, matched up with others on the will teach girls, grades 2-9, the fundamentals of the game of bas-For information on the Golf Cost is \$126 and includes a T-Classic, or a registration form,

announced openings with athletics

The Mustangs are looking for

an assistant gymnastics coach

who has spotting experience in all

of the events. Northville still has

open assistant coaching positions

with the Northville football teams.

apply, please contact Bryan Masi

at (248) 344-8414.

Spring leagues

League

For more information or to

Northville Parks and Recreation

is offering several leagues this

spring. Call the Parks and Rec.

department at (248) 449-9947 if

Starts Tuesday, May 3 -- Entry

fee \$460/team with 11 games

Adult Women's Softball

Registration deadline is May

the experienced coaching of skills call 313-964-3900, ext. 302. and basketball basics. Registratio begins May 2. Northville coaching For more information, please

positions open call Novi Community Education at The Northville High School (248) 449-1206. athletics department recently

shirt and a basketball in addition to visit www.goodwillelassic.com, or

**Novi Community Education Basketball Camps** 

**SPORTS SHORTS** 

The Northville High School

coaching staff will be offering sand

and indoor volleyball camps this

summer. Indoor clinics will run

Monday and Tuesday nights and

sand clinics will run Wednesday

and Thursday mornings beginning

the week of June 20. Clinics will

For more information, please

contact Kate Woodrich by email at

The Novi Wildcats girls basket-

ball team will be hosting a girls

the Novi High School Field House.

The camp, hosted by varsity

katewoodrich@hotmail.com.

Girls basketball camp

Voileyball camp

run five weeks.

kethall.

Call (248) 449-1206 for registration, beginning Monday, May. 2. Boys Basketball Camp (grades DATE: Monday-Friday, June

TIME: 8:30 a.m-noon, grades 3-6 and 1-4:30 p.m., grades 7-9 LOCATION: Novi Middle

DETAILS: Participants in this camp will receive knowledge of the game of basketball, as well as instruction to aid in the development of their playing abilities. Emphasis will be placed on all phases of the game including dribbling, shooting, pivoting, faking, rebounding, team play, sportsmanship, and defensive concepts. Students will be grouped according to age, size, and ability. Gym clothes and shoes are required. All participants will receive a T-shirt and outdoor basketball. The fee is

#### Adult Coed Softball League Starts Sunday, May 1 - Entry **Boys and Girls Shooting**

Camp (grades 3-9) DATE: Monday-Friday, July 18-Adult Coed Kickball League TIME: 8:30-10 a.m., grades 3-6 and 10:30 a.m.-noon, grades 7-9 LOCATION: Novi High School

Starts Friday, May 20 - Entry fee \$210/team.

Adult Coed Golf League DETAILS: This shooting camp Starts Monday, April 25 will be packed with instruction, Entry fee \$468 for 18 weeks. techniques, and the drills a player League will be played at Brae needs to shoot the basketball well. Emphasis will be placed on 3-poir

#### shooting, free throws, shooting off 5:22 p.m.

Girls netball players wanted Want to be a part of a new and exciting game hitting the area? Then nethall is the sport for you. Imported from the United Kingdom, netball is a very popular sport that is starting to creep into

the United States. Girls ages 15 and over are welcome to participate in the league. For more information, contact Sarah Weyburne at (248) 344-

#### Take your summer to the ice

Suburban Hockey Schools, Michigan's leader in providing a progressive approach to ice hockey instruction for all ages and ability levels, kicks off its summer class schedule on July 11 with programs at the Onyx-Rochester Ice Arena and Suburban Training

Center in Farmington Hills. Summer programs continue throughout July and August at Kensington Valley Ice House in Brighton, Suburban Ice-East Lansing, Novi Ice Arena, St. Clair Macomb, Birmingham Ice Arena and the Dearborn Ice Skating

Center. In addition to age-specific programs for mini mites (ages 5-6), mites (ages 6-8, squirts (ages 9-10) and pee wee/bantams (ages 11-14), men (ages 18 and up). girls 12U/14U (ages 8-12), girls 14U/16U/High School (ages 13-18) and women (ages 18 and up), Suburban Hockey Schools will and goaltenders as well as a power

Suburban-trained instructors including those with professional and college coaching and playing experience, will lead these programs. Classes are open to players of all ability levels. All classes student-to-one instructor ratio (four student-to-one instructor Classes will fill fast. Call (248)

will be one of the players taking to the greens as an honorary cochairperson of the Goodwill once again hold specialized pro-Industries of Greater Detroit's grams for forwards, defensemen 22nd Annual Goodwill Classic on Monday, June 6, 2005. The skating class. Classic is moving this year to the Meadowbrook Country Club at 40941 Eight Mile Road in Northville.

In addition to the Corporate Cup, the Goodwill Cup will be ratio in the goaltending program.) women's, men's and mixed teams. Also new at this year's Classic hockey.com for more information will be the presence of golf pros or to register. Multiple class, famiwho will provide mini-lessons on ly and team discounts as well as the driving range throughout the mite and goalie combos are avail-

478-1600, or visit www.suburban-

**Underclassman Scores** 

The Novi junior varsity softball team split a doubleheader team won 2-of-3 of their games May 4 with Pinckney. The at a tournament in Hartland last Wildcats won the first game thanks to the timely hitting of Kristen Lowney and Camille Press. In the second game, Catholic Central, 8-7, and Lauren Shelar and Lowney dis- Dexter, 11-6. Leading the way played their offensive skills as was Shelar, pitching for both Shelar collected four hits, wins and striking out 10. Shelar scored three runs and had three also led the hitting with a grand RBIs and Lowney collected four slam, a triple, a double, and hits, including a triple that three singles. Rachel DuFresne

drove in two. The JV won twice against Ann Arbor Huron May 3. In the first game, Rachel Burris threw a no-hitter while racking up nine strike-outs in five innings. Julie Schramm and Lowney had two hits apiece. Amy Bielski was the winning pitcher in the Christine Skouberdis and Shelar collected key hits as Novi came from behind to win.

Alley Berenguer was solid on the struck out 10 batters to lead Novi mound and had a single and two to a 9-0 win. Dan Kaminski had RBIs while Brittany Daniels two hits, Tyler Scott had three carned three singles and one RBI. and Phil Celeski had a double and Sara Sheeren added two singles a single in the game. Other playand a RBI while Alina Bruder and ers with hits were Brandon Shannon Sparrow each had two The freshmen played Hartland two days prior and came up empty

handed. The top hitter was Nar twice while Daniels had a two-

Shirvanian with three singles, two 6. In the exciting last inning, Novi runs scored and a RBI. Jessie scored two runs with one out and Sally hit a double and scored two runs with two outs. Hitters in RBI single and scored twice. Paige Henley and Ali Thomas

to score four runs in the bottom of the last inning to win the game. 7the last inning were Schwanz, Casey Arrington, Matt Hohenshil, Taichi Hibi, Ryan Figurski, who

REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES A Public Service of the A Public Service of the USDA Forest Service and Your State Forester.

The girl's freshmen softball off the bat of Steve Carn. The junior varsity won two inning were Schwanz, games from Pinckney May 5. Arrington, Hohenshil, Hibi and improving its record to 14-4. In Figurski.

Saturday. After losing to undefeated Lake Orion, the Wildcats bounced back defeating Lansing was solid behind the plate, catching two runners stealing and adding a single when at bat. Lindsey Bartlett added three

singles while Kristyn Cordes

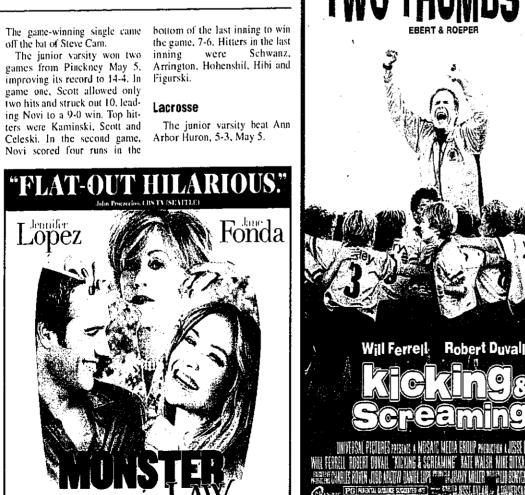
had three hits and drove in four

The junior varsity team won two games from Pinckney May 4 to improve its record to 14-4 on The freshman softball team lost the season. In game one, Tyler to Howell May 5, 18-13 and 19-4. Scott allowed only two hits and Schwanz, Ryan Figurski and Jeff

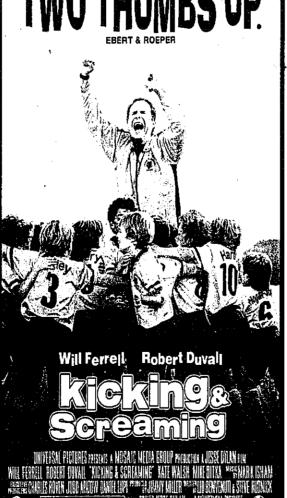
In the second game, Novi had each had a single and scored drove in two runs with a double.

STARTS FRIDAY AFC LIVONIA MALE BEACON EAST MUR SOUTHGATE PHOENIX WEST RIVE STAR FAIRLANE STAR GRATIOT STAR ROCHESTER STAR SOUTHFIELD

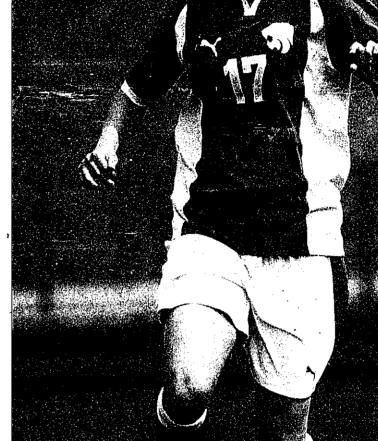
UA COMMERCE STADIUM UPTOWN PALLADIUM NO PASSES ACCEPTED



PHOENIX WEST RIVER SHOWCASE DEADSORN MAIO SOUTHGATE 20 STAR FARLAGE 21



EMAGINE NOVI SHOWCASE WISTLAND STAR JOHN R Star 2017 STAR ROCHESTER LIN SOULHER NY CONFESCE CHECK MOVE GIDE OF CALL THEATESTOR SHOWING

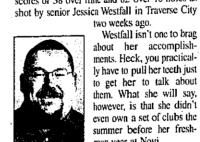


Novi soccer player Stephanie Crawford moves upfield with the ball.

girls season rolls around.

### Novi golf fans should say 'Thanks, Uncle Robert'

#### High School golf better take a moment out of their day and thank Uncle Robert. If it weren't for Bob, we'd be without a great addition to the record books - the all-time low scores of 38 over nine and 82 over 18 holes as shot by senior Jessica Westfall in Traverse City



even own a set of clubs the summer before her freshnan year at Novi. "I'm so glad that I did golf," she said. "My uncle Eggleston old me that if I went out for the team he'd get me some golf clubs, so I tried

And, low and behold, Westfall made the cut.

Her freshman year, however, wasn't the stuff leg-

ends are made of. She wasn't the worst player ever to grip a driver, but she was far from the best weakness, especially then, was consistency. Westfall didn't let it stop her though. The forleyball, track and basketball prior to golf - knew team is tied for first with the Hardand Eagles. she had to keep at it if she wanted to get good. That's one of the reasons she joined the Top 50 Junior Tour two years ago and has played in sev-things have changed.

The Wildcat said she's looking forward to continuing her playing days well after high wasn't jumping up and down with joy. Instead, school lets out. She won't be trying out for a college team, however, Instead, Westfall said she's more interested in playing the game when she

eral tournaments throughout her summers since.

Ifeels like it. "The nice thing about golf is you don't have to be on the team to play it," she said. "I want to and high-five from coach Debra Harris. focus more on my academics in college than golf. I'll be able to play any time I want." Westfall said she's been enjoying this season. it was also the first time her parents, Kevin and Four years ago when she joined the golf team, Jolene, were in attendance. It wasn't as though 1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.



in school history too. Westfall said her biggest Novi golfer Jessica Westfall recently set the school record for low scores,

"I'm happy to have been a part of it," she said. "It's been a lot of fun," she said of the sport. "It's been so much fun. We're much closer as a frequently. "I still don't like it though." "I'm just so happy I decided to try it. I love golf team than we've ever been and we're all very supportive of each other." When Westfall broke the school record, she

> Westfall also received a congratulatory The tournament in Traverse City wasn't just a first for Westfall in the way of breaking records,

she's still not ready to have them as regulars, cheering her along the course. "That's what everyone says," Westfall said about having her parents come to matches more

school career with a bang. "I really want to win the KVC and I'd love to make it to states," she said. "That would be If the Wildcats keep playing the way they have

The senior said she has goals for this season -

ones that will help her end her season and high

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-



#### her top sport. She said she doesn't on the soccer pitch, Crawford said going to end up on the right end of (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at segglemind taking the time to dedicate she hopes her team is able to pull the victory.

### It looks as though everyone interested in Novi



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi was far from a competitor in the they've never wanted to come; it's just beer mer multi-sport athlete - she played softball, vol-Despite them being good luck for her, she said Beyond being exciting for Westfall and her teammates, being at the top of the KVC means

> said it was like the whole team set the record. "They were more excited than I was," she been and if Westfall keeps setting records, then making the state tournament and earning a league title could suddenly become par for the



A 19-year NFL veteran and for-

cial Corporate Cup, with companies challenging each other to win have limited enrollment, with a six this inaugural traveling award.



### RELAY FOR LIFE

### Re-stacking the deck

As a cancer survivor, Simancek will walk with family, help others

By Kim Kovelie

When she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer nearly four years ago, Marianne Simancek was certain it was a mistake.

"My mother died of breast cancer about two years prior to that," the Novi muse said. "I went, No. you have to be mistaken. I'm going to get breast cancer."

"It was in the eards." But when an egg-sized tumor was found, Simancek, now 57, quickly arranged for surgery. Today, the cards are rearranged.

This weekend, Simancek, hushand Jay and their two children will walk in their fourth American Cancer Society Relay for Life. Netting more than \$2,500 for the research and programs, their team of 20-plus will walk 24 miles in Northville's Ford Field.

She's a survivor.

Survivors, caregivers, families and friends will flock - even those in wheelchairs and strollers. "It's just great." Simancek said. "You connect. From one survivor to the next, there's a sharing."

Learning

A nurse for more than 22 years, Simancek knew the abdominal pain and irregular menstrual periods she was experiencing weren't But nearly four summers ago,

the death of Jay's parents tore her attention away. There were too many other things happening in my life," she said. "Being in the health care profession, I knew better, but I chose

Cancer was a recent development in the Simancek family. Her mother's breast cancer diag-

"My mon was a nurse," she said, "She just loved her work." One childhood summer vacation, Simancek's brother slipped

and fell, gashing his head. "She took my dad's fishing line and stitched him up," Simancek said, "We used orange juice canson his head for ice to help control the bleeding.

"It was fantastic." Her mother survived the first bout, but not the second that arrived more than 10 years later. By that time, Simancek's own

children, Jeffrey, 30, and Rachel

"I thought I was a pretty healthy person. This was a shock.'

Marianne Simancek

Everett, 33, were grown. Everett said her mom trekked to the Upper Peninsula to be with grandma through chemotherapy. "Every chance that she could, she was up there," Everett said.

The approach was no different when she was diagnosed. But there was frustration. As a community outreach direc-

"She's really a strong and brave

tor at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, she had gained a reputation as a health-conscious teacher. "I thought I was a pretty healthy person." Simancek said. "This was

Despite waiting a few months. the detection was early enough. She underwent surgery in November 2001.

Family support was critical. Jay, her husband of 35 years, listened, drove her to the hospital and even gave advice on getting a colonoscopy, which he'd also had. "We've always been close," he said, "We know each other,"

Since surgery, Simancek said, tests have come back negative. But the entire family remains positive, especially in Relay for

They call their team "Do a Good Turn" -- a slogan borrowed from the Boy Scouts, which Jay and Jeffrey both have been involved. Simancek continues to spread the word about healthy living and

early detection. "It made me count my blessings and appreciate everything," she said. "If I had chosen to cancel that appointment, then who knows what would have happened?"

Kim Kovelle can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or via e-



Jay and Marianne Simancek will attend the Relay for Life event scheduled this weekend at Ford Field in downtown

### Northville will host sixth annual 'Relay' event Participants, visitors will call Ford Field home this weekend

The American Cancer Society's Relay for raised \$27,000. Life event is held annually to raise money for to fight cancer and raise awareness. Founded in 1985, it began when Dr. Gordy goal of funding programs and research. ar Klatta, a Tacoma colorectal surgeon, circled a track for 83 miles. Joined by friends, he

Since then, thousands of teams worldwide Keeping at least one person going at all

friends, families, schools, churches and more. The sixth annual Northville Relay for Life walk around a track for 12-24 hours with the event will be held this Saturday and Sunday, rain or shine.

For more information about events, visit times, the overnight event includes survivors, www.cancer.org and www.acsrelay.org.

### Relay for Life: Fast Facts

 The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life for an hour or as long as you like! is a 24-hour team-based fund-raiser. This year the • Cancer Survivors and their caregivers will be event will be held in over 4,000 communities across the United States, 40 in metro Detroit. event by leading the first lap around the track at 10 • Relays are held overnight because cancer a.m. A complimentary brunch follows the victory never sleeps and those fighting it live with it for lap for survivors and their loved ones.

 Team members walk the track, sell food and beverages and provide interactive games to raise—our legislators in Lansing. funds: It's like a block party with a purpose. Relay for Life raise over \$124,000 in the fight

those who need them.

• Relay expenses are kept below 10 percent of poems. the total raised. Sponsors help offset the cost of putting on the event.

honored during the event. These heroes begin the

· "Picture A Cure" at Relay by sharing your story and having a photo taken to be shared with

. The Luminaria Ceremony will be held at 10 · Last year, 38 teams helped the Novi-Northville p.m. Saturday. This touching ceremony allows everyone time to pay tribute to loved ones surviving or lost to cancer. During the ceremony, lumi-• Proceeds provide research grants and the free maria will line the entire inside track of Ford Field. programs and services the society provides to Each candle represents a person touched by cancer and many are decorated with photographs or

· Luminaria may be purchased on site during the Relay until 9:30 p.m. from any team and provide a • Relay is free and open to the public - come tangible way to continue the fight against cancer.

#### The Novi News & Northville Record support Relay For Life

Open to the public! Rain or Shine! When: Saturday & Sunday, May 14-15 Where: Ford Field, in Northville Cost: Free



Framed painting by St. Clair Shores Artist, Carolyn Distler 25.75" x50" 2 Hour Consultation with a Professional Organizer

Little Italy Gift Certificate Harley Davidson Remote Control Bike (2) Red Robin Gift Certificate - 6 Mile Gift Certificate to Best Western Laurel Park Suites - 6 Mile Gift Certificate to Sheraton-Haggerty Gift Certificate to Makinnon's on Main St. in Northville

Gift Certificate to Northville Barber on 7 Mile in Northville (2) Ducks Unlimited Prints with Frames Dinner Theater for two at Genettis (3) \$10 Gift Certificates to Rebecca's Family Restaurant One Dodge Tailgate Grill

One Picnic Backpack (2) Mary Kay Gift Baskets Gift Certificate to Makinnon's on Main St. in Northville Gift Certificate to L'Esprit Spa (Product and services included) Emagine Theatre - 4 Sets of 2 Tickets Gardening Gift Basket

Relaxation Gift basket

Playstation PSP

Portable DVD Player Other Electronics (to be determined) Romance Package at Sheraton Novi (Expires 8/17//05) Davis Auto - "The Ultimate" Interior/Exterior Vehicle Detail Gift Certificate to Border Cantina Gift Certificate to New Wing Hing Chinese Restaurant Gift Card to Leo's Coney Island

(4) Gift Certificates toward a purchase at D&D Bicycle Simpson's Monopoly Game from R.I.W. in Livonia (2) Cat Lover's Collection Gift Certificate to Ny's Thai Cafe in Novi

Great Harvest Bread Basket Pool Party at Walled Lake Northern, June 2 from 4-6 p.m. (life guard and snacks included)



Novi Middle School teacher and breast cancer survivor Claudia Wiseman is soliciting funds and encouraging participantion for Relay for Life event scheduled for this weekend in downtown Northville. Her middle school team has a patriotic theme; star decals represent donations from students and teachers.

### 'Relay' strides toward cancer prevention

relay, allows teams to register and generate e-mails to tell others about the event and

Relay for Life is different from other

"All of the people come together looking

events because it allows people to experi-

for a way to do something regardless of

whether they have family that has won or

lost the battle," Steiner said. "They are look-

ing to fight back against it or show gratitude

Most people who have been involved have

ence a sense of community, Steiner said.

generate support and donations.

Annual Northville event will be held at Ford Field; open to the public

By Angela Harriss Laura Steiner, auction chair for Relay for

Life, has seen her parents fight cancer three times each, including breast cancer for her She was the captain of the team the first

year for the team from her church. Holy Cross, and her daughter, Michelle, 14, has been the captain since. "It consumes our lives," she said. "Each year, my kids think about what they can do

to raise more money and decide what is missing for the little kids and the big kids." This year, Steiner will be participating in the Novi-Northville Relay for Life with her daughter's team.

as well as educate the public about cancer, "Some people call it a block party with a

purpose," she said. Relay also promotes advocacy at the local, state, and national level to promote cancer prevention related legislature, said Kurt Westphal, chairman of the planning

Fund-raising is also a part of the event. Two ways money is raised is through the sale of luminarias and a new Web site, said Barb Iovan, community development director for the American Cancer Society. The Web site, new for the Northville

BEACH BALLERS ......Northville H.S

CURE 'EM ALL . . . . . MPRO

DANCERS FOR THE CURE . . . . . . . . . . Center Stage Dance Studio

FIRST UNITED METHODIST...First United Methodist Church of Northville

HEAVYWEIGHTS . . . . . Northville H.S

LASSIES & LADS ..... Northville H.S.

LUCKY CHARMS ...... Hillside Middle School

NASA: MISSION POSSIBLE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Northville H.S. Alumni

NORTHVILLE EAGLES ........................Northville Eagles Aux. #2504

OLD NAVY . . . . . . . . . . . . Old Navy, Northville

PUDDLE JUMPERS . . . . . Northville H.S.

ROTARY CLUB OF NORTHVILLE . . . . . . . . . Northville Rotary Club

SHORE SHACK..... Northville H.S.

STARS AND STRIPES . . . . . . . . . . . . Novi Middle School

TEAM COWABUNGA......Northville H.S.

TEAM MARGARET ..... Steiner Family and Friends

TEAM MOO SHOO . . . . . . . . . . . . Northville H.S.

TMNT ...... Northville H.S.

U-KNIGHTED AGAINST CANCER . . . . . . . Walled Lake Northern H.S.

UNDER THE SEA . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Northville H.S.

VELOCI . . . . . Northville H.S.

YOUTH OF FAITH . . . . . Faith Community Presbyterian Church

MEET THIS YEAR'S

Amerman Elementary School

"All of the people come together looking for a way to do something regardless of whether they have family that has won or lost the battle. They are looking to fight back against it or show

gratitude with others."

Steiner encourages everyone to come out

and see or participate in the event. She

hopes that since "Northville is more of a

walking town," people will come and find

"People don't get it until they are there

and have seen it," she said. "There are so

many people there with a purpose, but are

Angela Harris is a Grand Valley State

University journalism student and a

Laura Steiner

Auction Chair, Relay for Life

in some way been touched by cancer in their own lives whether it is a family member, coworker, teacher or friend, Steiner said. Occasionally, there will be someone who has not been affected. "When a person loses someone, they feel there is nothing they can do," Iovan said.

"But when they participate, it gives grass roots to the reason they are there and they realize, they can do something." Iovan got involved with the American Cancer Society because of her "strong need er way for the community to honor or to work with non-profit and her great aunt

Her great-aunt had a "radical" mustectomy and now women have so many options, lovan said. "Today, there is a higher success rate and women have so many options as where they

survived breast cancer twenty years ago-

can go for treatment," Iovan said. "I have seen so much done with research and we are learning more every day. Relay for life can have different impacts really having fun."

on people depending on their affiliation with the event, Westphal said. "The opening ceremony recognizes survivors and their achievements in the battle

against cancer," he said. "I know it (the victory lan) has a big impact on them." The silent lap, which

is done later in the evening with all of the luminarias lit, is anoth-

Northville Record intern.

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> IN-KIND DONORS DJ's Jim & Lance Edward's Catering

THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY WOULD LIKE TO THANK THESE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT OF RELAY FOR LIFE: American Plastics

Bakman Florist

Center Stage Dance Studio City Animation The City of Northville Comerica Bank - Northville Office Nate's Wholesale Northville Eagles Northville Fire Dept. Northville Parks and Recreation Dept. Northville Police Dept. Northville Public Library Northville High School Santino's Place

our generous donors .our Team Captains and Co-Captains 2005 Relay For Life Planning Committee

#### RELAY FOR LIFE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS Saturday - Sunday, May 14-15, 2005 RAIN OR SHINE

Times and entertainment are subject to change

Tune in to Jim & Lance on local RELAY RADIO (signal TBA)

Please support other teams fundraising efforts too!

8:00 – 9:45 a.m. Team Set Up (or after 11 a.m.) Set up your campsites now or after the Victory Lap.

9:30 - 9:45 a.m. Team Captains Meeting - AT THE STAGE!

10:00–11:00 a.m. Opening Ceremony and Cancer Survivor Victory Lap Gailter at the stage. We welcome all Cancer Survivors & Caregivers to lead the first lap! Cancer Survivor's Reception and Celebration

Survivors & their Caregivers enjoy a brunch in the tent.
"Picture A Cure" with us by writing down a brief synopsis
of your personal story & have your photo takent

The Relay For Life Begins! Teams - get your 1st walkers on the track! Everyone is welcome to walk!

Deejays Jim & Lance! This is the 10th year Jim & Lance have donated their professional talents to ACS! Thanks guys!

Paracle of Teams Lapl
While walking the track - as you pass the stage c'mon up and
your team will be announced! Team Photost
Then go to your tent for a learn picture. You will be aferted just a lew minutes prior tol

Sun Safety! Sun Safety Police are on Patrol!

Wow! Your chance to bid on a myrlad of items! Auction end at 3:00 sharp - winning bids will be announced at 3:15 p.m. and monies must be turned in by winning bidders by 4 p.m..

Registration Comerica Bank on Hutton Street. Team Captains and Co-Captains here's your first chance to turn money raised since Bank Night.

Campsite Judging! Impress judges with your campsite decorations, costumes, etc. Bribing of judges is encouraged!

Tell A Friend Stop by the big tent to call women you care about who are 40 or older, fill out a Tell A Friend form & you may win a prize too. Use our donated Nextel phonest Tell A Friend people may be

Tobacco Jeopardy Game! Join in the fun in the big lentl Dodge Ball Tournament Come to the center field and see how your RELAY team matches up to the other teams. Don't forget the five D's of dodge ball.

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Lego Make and Take
Come out and make some Lego creations and take them w

Meet A New Friend Lap #1 During this lap talk only to those Relay friends you don't kno

Tony Flow Bandl Come to the stage and listen to the awesome college band

Luminaria Preparation (a child's wagon is helpful...) You'll get sand & candles. Fill each of your team's luminaria bags with a cup of sand, and place candle in center of bag. Place on inside of track beginning at 8:00 p.m. (no earlier

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Center Stage Dance Studio Enjoy the falents of the students from Center Stage on

Jim & Lance's Dance Party!
By popular demand – join your friends at the stage for the dance party! Team Captain's Registration
At Comerica Bank on Hutton St. Team Capt. and Co-Capt.

Luminaria Set Up Please place your team's luminaria on the inside of the track Please space apart so the luminarias will go all around the

Survivors and caregivers join us in the big tent to meet and

Luminaria Lighting Teams light your luminarias. A few lighters are available at the stage, please return them.

Luminaria Ceremoni Join us at the stage for our Luminaria Ceremony. If you prefer not to take part please reflect quietly at your campsite and be respectful of the importance of this ceremony to others

SHINE – with Center Stage Dance Studio
This is an original dance interpretation to a very uplifting song called "Shine." Campsite Ceremonies

Many teams choose to have their own caremonies at campsites to read names. Please be respectful of this and keep radios & generators off and noise to a minimum. 11:30 - 1:00 p.m. DJ Chris Jacobs! Enjoy the deejay stylings of Chris Jacobs!

Midnight-12:30 a.m. Glow Lap Stop by the "U-Knighted" Against Cancer campsite to pick up glow sticks and wear them for this lap. Donations welcome.

12:00 – 1:30 a.m. Kick Ball Tournament
Meet at the field with your team to play kick ball!! 1:30 - 2:00 a.m. Poker Lap #1!

A Relay tradition, the best poker hand winst Each time you walk a lap, you'll get a card. After 5 laps, the person with the best poker hand winst. Winner gets a prizet 2:00 - 2:30 a.m. Scavenger Huntl
Get a list at the stage - the 1st one back to the stage with the most correct items winst Okay, technically you're not doing laps - but that's okay! Winner gets a prize/sprit points!

Committee Music Pickst
The Relay For Life committee worked hard all year and deserve
to play one hour of their favorite music! 3:00 a.m.

3:00 a.m. RELAY Let's Make A DEAL Just listen for Monty Hall and get your wild and crazy articles ready to trade for great prizes and sprit points! Trading Up
Start with something small and work your way up to the biggest object to win. Winner gets a prize and sprit points!!!! l 3:30 - 4:00 a.m.

4:00 - 4:30 a.m. Poker Lap #2I Back by popular demand! Let's do it again! Winner gets a

4:00 – 5:00 a.m. Alligator Wrestling Come out to the center field and challenge your friends to see who can wrestle the alligator fastest. Coin Wrap Lap! Don't walk this lap, come top the big tent and wrap all those 6:00 a.m.

coins your team has gathered throughout the event (then maybe write a check for the amount & keep the coins...). Northville Eagles Pancake Breakfast Get ready for a hot hearty breakfast to start your day! Donation

7:00 a.m.

Team Captain's Registration Open - Comerica Bank on Hutton Street. Team Captains & Co-Captains: last chance to turn in any money you've raised! Monies mailed in later are appreciated, but not included in your team's taily for the trophy

9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Closing Ceremony and Award Presentation
Announcement of preliminary totals & Award presentations

Tell A Friend Life Saver Certificate
Team Member of the Year Certificate
Corporate Sponsor Certificates
Most Corporate Sponsor Funds Certificate
Besl Team Sprit • Best Decorated Campsite
Most Funds Raised (individual) • Most Funds Raised (Team)

Final Lap - all participants walk the last lap together The Relay For Life closes

10:00 a.m. Please be sure to clean up your area. Drive home safely. . We'lt see you next year - May 20-21, 2006!

#### Take time when planning web presence

Did you place as much emphasis on planning out the design and creation of your Web site as you did designing the TV or magazine advertisement for your company? Was your Web site an after-thought or something you created just because others have one and you think you may need

A Web site can be the best, most cost-effective and the most global reaching marketing brochure that your company could have. It should be meticulously planned out along with a clear understanding of your objectives for its existence. What are you trying to accomplish with the Web site? Is it for informational purposes only? Is it to sell products online? Or, are you trying to enhance your corporate image? What is the end goal of the Web site?

A properly planned Web site will enable you to meet your objectives. If you fail to thoroughly plan your Web site from the beginning you will spend a lot of time and money trying to make changes. A properly planned Web site should be a component of your marketing and your business plan.

#### You've grown apart

There are many Web sites out there that have made no changes to their content or to their "look and feel" for years. Although the business may have evolved, companies tend to keep their site static.' Also, due to the administrative cost associated with making small changes, there is a tendency to 'bundle' changes, thus resulting in poorly maintained sites or sites that look the same. year after year after year.

When looking for a Web solutions company, look for one that provides you with an easy administration tool that will allow you to make content changes readily.

Also, design your site using technology that refreshes the look of the site every time a new user comes to your site. That technology may cost more upfront but will reduce the overhead associated with making 'design' changes at regular intervals.

#### No one knows you exist

"Build it and they will come." No more! The Internet is a very competitive environment and requires a company to have a strategic plan to get an edge over the competition. Companies must ask themselves why a customer would visit their site versus the site of their competitor. Companies should also know how many Web sites exist in their industry and what is making customers come to their site and what is turning them off.

Search Engine Optimization. or SEO, is a very important marketing strategy that most company Web sites don't have. SEO is necessary to get people to come to your Web site. Once the people come, having a site that is aesthetically pleasing and that provides interactivity makes the difference between making a sale or losing a customer permanently. We will look at SEO next time.

Yes, you can get a Web site for free from your neighbor's son, or for \$500 to \$1,000 from your sister's boyfriend's brother. Saying money upfront may result in spending more at a later time. And sometimes, you do get what you pay for. My advise is 'no Web site' is better than a 'bad Web site'.

Nipa Shah is a local 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@nweb sites.com or via phone (248) 470-6299.



Kelly Colasanti and Robert Lawson stand in the colorful greenhouse at Colasanti's Plants and Produce, located at 468 S. Milford Road in Highland. The family business offers thousands of choices that will bring spring colors to your home and gardens.

### Bring color to your life and table

Beautiful blooms, fresh produce, gourmet foods, wine: Colasanti's Plants and Produce makes every visit special

By Annette Jaworski SPECIAL WRITER

Warm spring days and flowers just naturally seem to go hand in hand. Gardeners need not look further than Colasanti's Plants and Produce in Highland for colorful blooms to beautify their yards. Visit their garden center for literally thousands of hanging baskets and patio pots to brighten your landscape. The hardest part will be deciding

#### **Pots and pansies**

Inside the garden center you'll find geraniums in a rainbow of colors from salmon to fuchsia, bright New Guinea Impatiens, lush begonias in sunny yellow, pink and red. You're sure to find your favorites as well as something new among the hundreds of rows of hanging baskets and flats. Add instant punch to a patio by choosing from thousands of easy care patio pots in a variety of plants and combina-

"They're ready now - they're an instant garden," notes owner Kelly Colasanti.

Don't forget the popular pansy, which is hardy enough for cooler temperatures.

"We've got lots of pansies, in oval containers, patios pots, hanging baskets," manager Phil Hall pointed out.

Colasanti's also carries a huge selection of perennials. This year, they'll offer 50 new varieties for those who appreciate the exotic and unique. Don't forget the floral shop with fresh cut floral and other gifts.

ICE CREAM HUT

Hand Dipped Guerasey ice Cream

Hershey's Soft Serve Ice Cream

• Smoothles • Shakes · Maits • All Beef Hot Bogs

Go gourmet or everyday

Colasanti's is the perfect place to start your meal planning for the gourmet or everyday cook. There's no better source in the area for specialty foods and produce. For starters, shopping at Colasanti's for plants and produce is like visiting a European market. Not only does the ambiance make it an enjoyable experience with its colorful walls, music and outdoor mini zoo - the variety, selection and is second to none. A big reason for the high quality of their merchandise is that Colasanti's have

their roots in farming. 'We know our vegetables. We've been farming all our life and we're still farmers," Kelly Colasanti said.

Nowadays very high tech coolers keep the produce fresh and tasty.

"You always get a fresh apple at Colasanti's," he added. No surprise, they carry 15 varieties of apples, and seven varieties of

Even if you shop Colasanti's for quality and freshness, you'll discover it's the best local source for unique and unusual fruits and vegetables. How about trying a lychee nut, horned melon or maradol papaya? Experiment with something new like a chermoy, which is like a perfectly

ripened pear. 'There's no boring salads at Colasanti's," explains Hall.

Or, visit the deli counter and bring a delicious dinner home in hurry, like eggplant Monticello, chicken capital or garlic linguini. Too busy to make dinner? Let Mother Colasanti do the cooking with her homemade

recipes, including four to five

#### Wonderful world of wine

Why not top off dinner with that special bottle of wine. Pay a visit to their wine shoppe, featuring Lee Hershey. For those who enjoy wine, but would like to expand their palette, Hershey can guide you in the right direc-

"We get every soul in here someone else to those who are looking for something really special." he said.

"Someone may come in who likes a cabernet, we'll show them that, but we'll ask, why don't you consider this and give it a whirl. You might enjoy it. There's a world of wines out there from France, Germany and Italy," said Hershey as he flips through a ten-page inventory of just one area. "There are hundreds of incredible wines here."

Colasanti's wines are being featured at the 11th Annual Wine Tasting Evening sponsored by The Rotary Club of Milford in cooperation with Baker's of Milford on Thursday, May 12,

from 7 to 9 p.m. Along with wine goes gourmet cheeses from around the world, including Spain, Italy, France, Germany and Ireland to name a few. There's a full display case including rich creamy French double cream brie, gouda from Holland and cheddar from Canada. Snook's Meat Market inside the store makes it convenient to pick up main dish meats.

Colasanti's has reworked the beer section out of the wine area for easier access and increased



Kelly Colasanti pours a taste of wine for Lee Hershey at Colasanti's Plants and Produce. The shop offers a wide variety of wines and nearly 100 different beers from around the world.

the selection.

"We've added 97 varieties of beer," said Phil Hall, "We've got the largest selection of beer around at reasonable prices."

Colasanti's is currently running a special where they offer 20 percent off beer regardless of

#### Make lunch special

Those who think Colasanti's for mainly produce and plants are pleasantly surprised at the great selection of deli case items and gourmet ready to serve foods, as well as hot and cold sandwiches. The hot grilled sandwiches are a favorite of Phil and Kelly. Try a Highlander barbecue chicken sandwich with apple wood bacon and coleslaw served on a Ciabatta Roll. Other delicious choices include a pulled pork barbecue sandwich, a turkey Rucben, or an Italian meathall

sandwich.

Hershey's Soft Serve Ice Cream Cone

rhile walking the grounds

FREE Cones for the Kids!

Children 10 years & under

Pick up a howl of hot soup of the day like chicken and dumplings or Italian wedding

Don't forget Colasanti's delitrays for your graduation or summer parties.

Just in time for spring, they're now offering Hershey's soft serve ice cream.

"It's thicker and richer," says Hall. And to make it even sweeter, they are offering a free cone to children 10 and under during the month of May. Or try one of their great hot dogs in the ice cream hut.

Colasanti's is located at 468 South Milford Road in Highland. Stop in and relax in the park-like ambiance out front, with benches and beautiful birds and animals for children of all ages to enjoy. Call (248) 887-0012. Visit its Web site at www.colasantis.com Spring hours are Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

#### Send us your business news!

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(248) 685-2892

e-mail: pallmen@ht.homecomm.net

### Get growing With Colasanti's

Visit our store for fresh produce, annuals and regetable plants. Take a stroll

and see the miniature deer, peacocks, parrots and swans! • 1000's Of Perenials To



468 S. Milford Rd., Highland (1/4 mile south of M-59 on Milford Rd) (248) 887-0012

- Choose From Hand Dipped
- **Guernsey Ice Cream**
- Hershey's Soft Serve **Ice Cream**
- Fresh Produce
- Greenhouse Butcher Shop
- Florist
- Bakery
- Delicatesser

