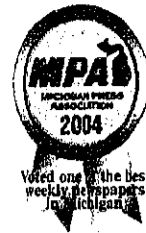


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Thursday, May 19, 2005

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Volume 49 Number 51

Novi, Michigan

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INSIDE

Women in the Know

Get the scoop on our local female entrepreneurs, business professionals and other women in the know.



— Special Section

A serving senior

Fox Run resident Clover Downs was recently recognized by the Detroit Salvation Army for her years of service to the philanthropic organization.

— Page 24A

OBITUARY

Michelle M. Galecka, 30
— Page 12A

SPORTS



High hopes

Novi High School varsity track team member Christina Lis, vaulting over the high jump, is eyeing the state finals.

— Page 1B

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Prom moment

Beth Malo snaps a photo of herself and Anthony Stebila at the start of last Saturday's Novi High School senior prom held at Burton Manor in Livonia. For more photos and the story, please see page 4.

Cracking the code

■ School code of conduct to be looked at tonight

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

The Novi High School athletic code of conduct will be discussed once again at the Novi Community School District's Board of Education meeting tonight at 7:30 at the Educational Services Building.

It's the first time the board has publicly discussed the matter since two public hearings earlier this year.

According to Dr. Emmett Lippe, district superintendent, the board will discuss two versions of the code tonight: one that district athletic director Curt Ellis' committee crafted and one that a group of 10 parents designed.

Lippe said parents questioned the process used by the athletic department committee, which they felt was "secret."

"They asked what they can do to make sure that their impressions and suggestions can be heard," Lippe said.

Lippe met with four members of the parents' committee on two different evenings and "they basically came up with a revamped athletic code," he said.

Tonight, the code of conduct committee's version is to be submitted for review by the board before Lippe presents the parent's version.

MORE TO COME

The Novi Community School District will hold two public hearings regarding the code of conduct at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 23 and Tuesday, May 24, in the Educational Services Building (25345 Taft Road).

The board will not comment at the hearings, which are designed to allow the public to voice opinions and concerns.

The two versions of the code can be viewed on the Web at: www.novi.k12.mi.us/athletics/default.aspx.

John Lawrence, Novi High School principal, is to give a presentation on how the school will handle discipline matters in the future.

Reinserting random drug testing into the athletic code is expected to be a topic during the hearings next Monday and Tuesday.

No decision is anticipated to approve the code tonight.

Bob Schram, executive director of administrative services, is expected to explain Public Act 102, which deals with involvement of police in school-related activities.

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

Woman of year: 'taught to work'

■ Schultz honored by business group chapter

By Kim Kovelte
STAFF WRITER

On nearly 100 acres of farmland in a small Ohio town, Betty Schultz spent her childhood gathering hickory nuts and tending to pigs and chickens.

"We didn't have real close neighbors, so we were taught to work," recalled Schultz, 61. "It was just, you do it — part of growing up. A little bit of everything."

The Northville Township resident said that work ethic has inspired her service as teacher, photographer, wife, mother and volunteer.

Now, for the second time in a decade, she wears another title: woman of the year.

The Novi Oaks Chapter of the American Business Women's Association chose Schultz from their 20-member ranks in March.

"She's very enthusiastic," said Marcia Applegate, the association's president. "That's just Betty's personality. She's just very welcoming and warm."

A founder of Novi's first "welcome wagon," Schultz said putting people at ease was an early lesson. As the youngest of four, she saw her

continued on page 3

Primary would cost city \$35,000

■ 10 for council, 4 for mayor would do it

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

The city of Novi would have to schedule a primary election at a cost of about \$35,000 to the city if 10 people run for city council or four file for the mayor's office, according to city clerk Maryanne Cornelius.

Filing for Novi mayoral and city council candidates started May 13, with deadlines for both landing at 4 p.m. on Friday, June 3.

If 10 people file for city council positions or four people file for mayor in this election, the city must hold a primary election, which would take place on Tuesday, Aug. 2.

The last time a primary election for city offices was required was 1999, according to Cornelius.

"The city charter outlines that if one more than three times the number of candidates files, a primary must be held," she said.

For the story on the latest city council candidate to announce, please turn to page 7.

The mayor's term is up for grabs this year as well as the council seats of Kim Capello, Laura Lorenzo and David Landry.

The mayoral seat is a two-year term; city council members have a four-year term.

Only Landry has declared he is running for mayor. Capello, Dave Staudt, Terry

Margolis and Justin Fisher have announced that they are running for city council.

The city council terms are staggered; in two years, three other seats will be vacant.

The charter states that candidates for any elective office shall be nominated at a primary election. When the number of candidates to any office does not exceed three times the number to be elected, no primary election shall be held.

So, if only nine people file for city council, no primary election

continued on page 3

Bounce out for a Novi night on the town

■ City's first pub crawl includes five venues

By Kim Kovelte
STAFF WRITER

A native of the Novi area, Angelia Cyr has seen a thriving after-hours scene brewing in her hometown during recent years.

Tonight, the marketing coordinator hopes to let at least 1,000 folks in on the secret in the city's first ever "pub crawl."

Kicking off at 9 p.m., Novi Bounce includes five venues in less than two square miles.

"It's a very family oriented community, but I also think there's a lot of 'young people,'" said Cyr, with Walled Lake's Bella Blue, Inc. "This is a really fun place to actually hang out."

For a \$10 cover, fun-seekers age 21 and up will be shuttled to Library Sports Pub & Grill, Fifth Avenue Ballroom, Post Bar, O'Toole's and recently-opened Tequila Rain at Lucky's of Novi.

Traveling disc jockeys, promotions and libations aplenty will be available until 2 a.m. closings.

Along with beefed security and the free bus rides, a Commerce transportation company and cabs

will be on hand to drive home those who party a bit too much.

"We're really hoping to bring in a lot of people that haven't been to Novi," Cyr added.

Bringing bars together

With roots in East Detroit, "Bounce" isn't new to the area.

A six-bar Birmingham event last October drew 3,000, Cyr said.

About three months in the making, the Novi event was set in to action when Tequila Rain opened May 5.

"We needed to bring someone that brought something new," Cyr said. "I thought that really brought together the entire group of bars."

The club's disc jockey will spin Top 40 and rock-n-roll classics, general manager Eddie Bourque said.

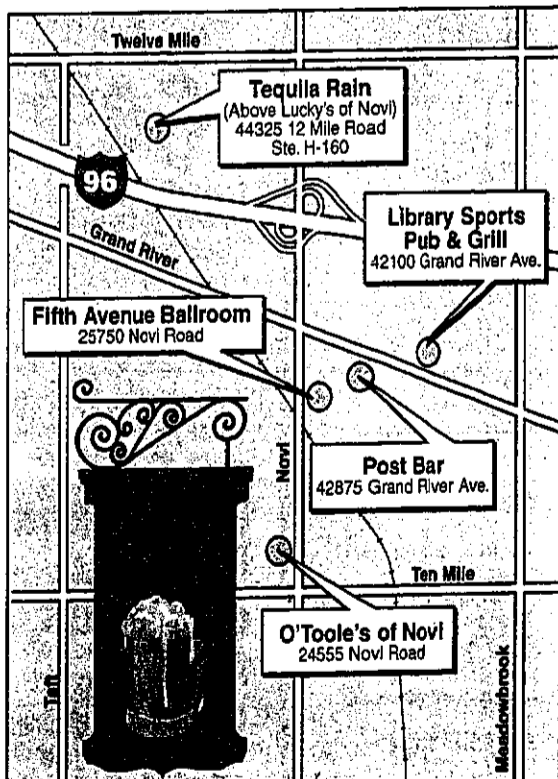
"It was basically free exposure for us on a night that we would be open anyway," Bourque said. "You get people who are out just to have a great time."

In Novi's Main Street area since 2003, The Post Bar jumped at the chance, general manager Frank Gegovic said.

"Novi was kind of a sleepy, nice community," Gegovic said. "We kind of came to the area, spiced things up."

"I think it's great exposure for the city."

While disc jockeys Tonic and Low Key spin at the Post, regular



SOURCE: City of Novi

Map by DIANA WELLS

Thursday band Killer Flamingos will cover tunes at nearby Fifth Avenue, a six-year-old outfit.

Bar manager Nicole Ebert said she sees Novi's potential to become

"the next Royal Oak." "There's so many bars all around the area it almost brings more peo-

continued on page 3

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A night in paradise

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER



Mike Starr and Lindsey Hall hit the dance floor of Burton Manor during last Saturday night's Nov 19 Senior Prom.

By Courtney Ratkowiak
SPECIAL WRITER

Novi High School's newest prom queen was crowned.

After senior Leisa McCarty realized that her name had just been announced, the congratulatory hugs, camera flashes and dance with the prom king happened so fast that she "didn't know what to think." For McCarty, being selected queen put the crowning touch on "Prom Paradise" 2005.

The Novi High School junior/senior prom was held Saturday night at Livonia's Burton Manor. Bright colors dominated the evening, from decorations to student attire. Pink was the popular choice for females, and although a few males chose to wear white tuxedos, the majority selected traditional black. The DJ, used by Novi High School in past years, played popular hip-hop and R&B



A young barefoot lady dances on the toes of her date during last Saturday's Novi High School prom.

tunes mixed with older songs. Prom souvenirs included a money clip adorned with the Wildcat logo for boys and a heart-shaped candy dish for girls.

Lauren Thomas, a five-time prom veteran, said that the number of times she has attended the dance did not detract from her senior prom experience.

"A lot of people say that they only want to go to their senior prom, that they want it to be special, but I had so much fun at every prom that I went to," she said. "I went with different people, had different experiences. They were all really special in their own way."

Thomas said that this year's prom was different because she went with a large group of people. Her group consisted of 26 friends, who rented a party bus for the occasion. Instead of opting for a limousine, renting the bus guaranteed that there would be enough space for the entire group.

With approximately 600 people in attendance, Novi High School principal John Lawrence said that the crowded dance floor illustrated an issue that will only become more glaring in future years.

"The challenge is dealing with the growing population of the high school and the growing number of students who want to go to prom," Lawrence said. "Even though we had fewer (students) attend from this year, it was still very crowded. To deal with the space issue, we may have to start looking at just a senior prom in two or three years."

Lawrence stated that although juniors may look forward to the prom, reducing prom to only seniors would eliminate the need to find a larger facility. In addition, Lawrence said, prom is very expensive, and changing to a seniors-only prom would reduce the obligation and pressure that some students feel to go to prom as both a junior and a senior.

Senior Rich Tata agreed that the cost of prom was too great to go more than once. Accompanied by his girlfriend, his favorite part of prom was the dancing.

"Even though I'm not a good dancer, it was just fun," Tata said. "It was a good time on the dance floor. It was very lively, and everyone had a smile on their face."



A couple of young ladies attending last Saturday's prom chat with a friend before sitting down to dinner at Livonia's Burton Manor.

Thomas added, "The best part was being around my friends on the dance floor when the DJ played songs that brought back memories, (songs) that we listened to on spring break and all of this year. He played our senior class song, and it entered my mind that (prom) was our last dance, that we're about to graduate."

Overall, "Prom Paradise" was viewed as a success by students and administrators alike.

"We had an outstanding prom," Lawrence said. "There were countless hours of preparation. Prom is a collaborative effort. It takes a lot of time and energy, but consequently, the better you plan, the better it is."

Tata simply said, "It was fantastic."

Courtney Ratkowiak is a junior at Novi High School.



Novi High School students Steve Slack and Brittany Davis enjoy a slow dance together.



Bethany Garland and Kyle Magnan head in to the Burton Manor for the start of the Nov 19 Senior Prom last Saturday night.

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Firefighters, city negotiating

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Novi's paid-on-call firefighters, the majority of the force with 54 members and six auxiliary members, hope to sign a contract with the city in the near future.

The paid-on-call staff voted to join a union in July 2004. Contract negotiations with the city started in January.

"We're starting to meet more frequently, and we'd like to see that momentum continue," said Jerry Holzman, president, Michigan Association of Firefighters, the paid-on-call union.

Full-time firefighters, which total 28 in Novi, belong to Local 3232 of the International Association of Firefighters.

The city's fire department staff is actually represented by three unions. A secretary in the department belongs to the Teamsters union. The only employees in the fire department who aren't unionized are the chief, the assistant chief and one part-time secretary, according to Novi Fire Chief Art Lenaghan.

The public voted down a millage to fund a full-time, 24-hour-a-day department in 2000. IAFF members have had a contract for about 14 years, according to Lenaghan.

"So, we've got three contracts to deal with," Lenaghan said.

In general, union contracts deal with such issues as wages, uniforms, medical leave, life insurance, hours and conditions of employment, according to Lenaghan.

"The paid-on-call people do a great job here," he said. "They've worked within the system for many years and will continue to stay. This was their decision to approach it this way (negotiate a contract), and I think it's a good idea. It spells out what they're going to get."

The chief said the paid-on-call staff members are seeking increases in wages and benefits. "That's what collective bargaining is all about."

Paid-on-call members want more input

Holzman said members of the paid-on-call force would also like to have a more active voice in the department.

"We are making attempts to change things," Holzman said. The original plan in last fiscal



Lenaghan

"This was their decision to approach it this way (negotiate a contract), and I think it's a good idea. It spells out what they're going to get."

Art Lenaghan
City of Novi Fire Chief

Tahoe replaced 1997 Lumina

Lenaghan said a Tahoe replaced a 1997 Chevy Lumina that were totally inadequate and never designed to be an emergency vehicle.

"It was a piece of junk. The thing sometimes wouldn't even keep running if you had the overhead warning lights on because the alternator was never designed to handle that. It was also leaking oil. It was time for a new vehicle," he said.

The Tahoe, used by two supervisors, has a defibrillator; the department is in the process of having it certified as a first-responder unit.

"They do have cell phones in all the trucks," Lenaghan said. "I wasn't aware that the ice rescue suits leaked. If they do, we'll get them replaced."

The city funded papers for the department during the recently approved budget, and Holzman said one new ice rescue suit has been purchased.

Holzman noted that concerning call volume, greater than 80 percent are service or emergency medical service calls. "If we have four runs a night, three are likely to be medicals," he said.

All but one paid-on-call firefighter is an emergency medical technician or a paramedic, Holzman said. Lenaghan said the department is licensed to provide only basic life support, which only requires emergency medical training.

Number of supervisors questioned

"We already have six or seven people responding to a medical call, and now they're going to put in two supervisors. It's sort of overkill," Holzman said.

"We have four captains, and eight lieutenants. We think residents should be aware of where their tax dollars are going."

The chief said it depends on the

Victim's parents may sue accused murderer

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Romy and Rhonda Sanders, parents of the late Cameron Wade Sanders of Novi, whose body was found in a wooded area behind Twelve Oaks Mall in April 2003, may file a wrongful death suit against Kevin Mykolaitis, the alleged murderer from Farmington Hills, according to a local attorney retained by the Sanders.

David Greco, of Sommers Schwartz Law firm in Southfield, said the Sanders are considering filing a lawsuit, and they have a couple of options.

They can file a wrongful death lawsuit against Mykolaitis, and they can intervene in the federal lawsuit currently pending filed by Mykolaitis through a company by the name of Extensive Enterprises against State Farm Insurance Company.

Greco said what is alleged to have taken place is that the two men, who formed a business called Extensive Enterprises, entered into an agreement and took out life insurance policies on each other totaling \$600,000.

Investigators believe the payout on this life insurance policy was one of the motives in the murder.

Once Sanders was found dead, Mykolaitis sought to collect on the insurance policy.

"My understanding is that State Farm Insurance refused to pay because it's their belief that Mykolaitis was the killer of Mr. Sanders," Greco said.

The attorney explained that once Mykolaitis was arrested, under the Michigan slayer statute, an individual cannot collect or benefit from killing another individual.

Greco said, however, that State Farm Insurance may be obligated to pay out the money from the life insurance policy between the two men. But Mykolaitis may not be able to collect.

"Under those circumstances, I believe that the money would or should go to the estate of Mr. Sanders, which would include his parents," Greco said.

"They're thrilled that the defendant was arrested. They've been patient. It's been a long investigation and some time since the killing," he said.

Greco specializes in cases involving medical malpractice, nursing home negligence and general personal injury.

Whoever they decide, Greco said the Sanders will most likely take some sort of action soon.



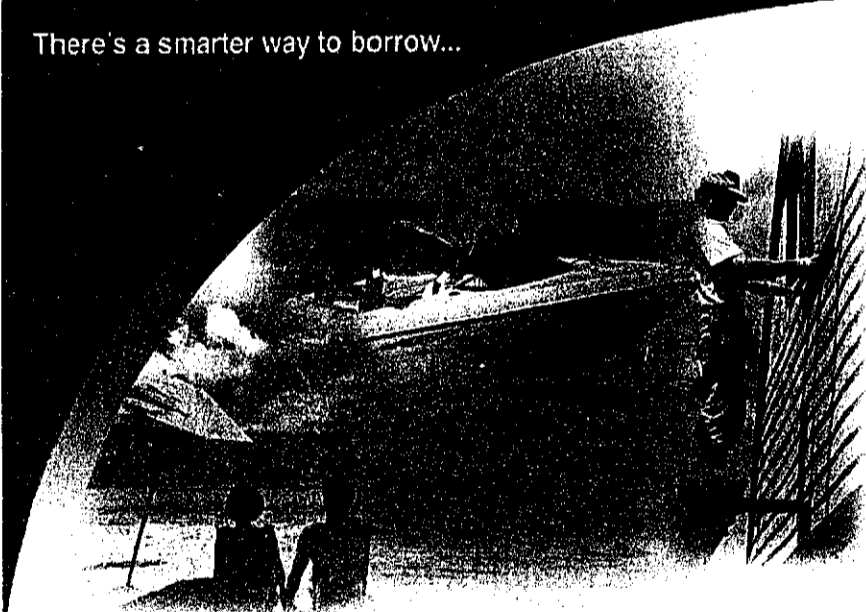
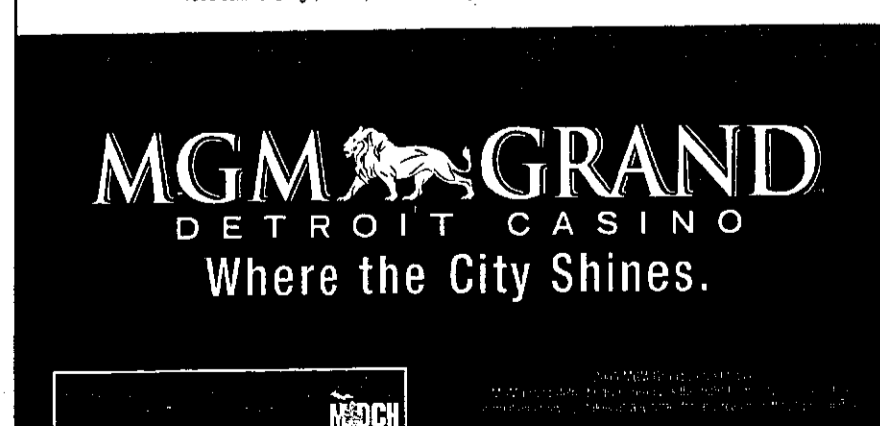
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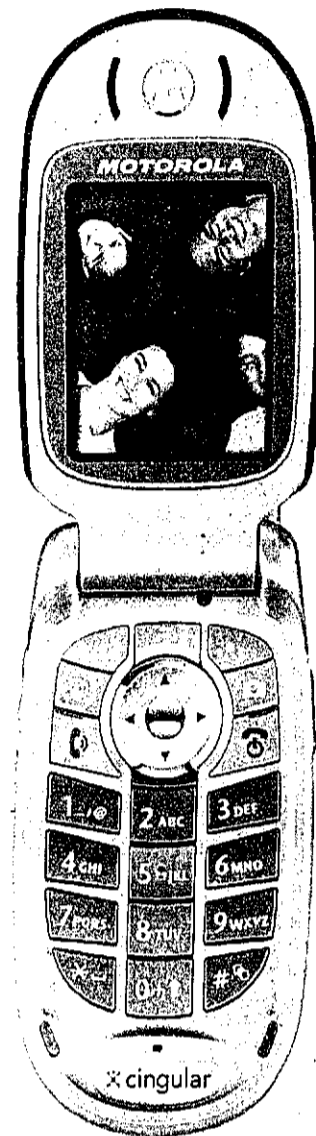
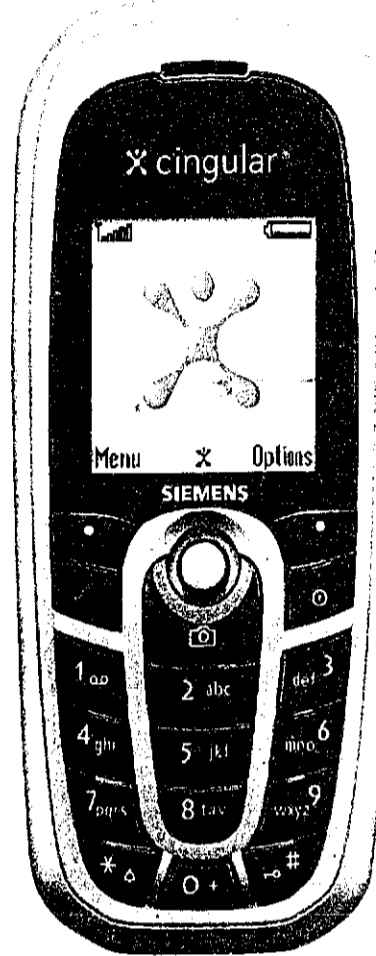
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BUSINESS

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

BUSINESS BRIEFS

'Fit for the Cure'

Aiming to fund breast cancer research, longtime bra manufacturer Wacoal will host "Fit for the Cure" from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. May 25 at Lord & Taylor in Novi's Twelve Oaks Mall.
For every free bra fitting, Wacoal will donate \$2 to the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the company announced.
The event will be held in the first-floor ladies' intimate apparel department. To make an appointment or for details call (248) 348-3400, ext. 265 or 517. Walk-ins welcome.

Mongolian b'd's open

Restaurant chain b'd's mongolian barbecue, owned by Novi resident Billy Downs, announced May 12 that its locale in the country of Mongolia is open.
Located in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, b'd's 29th eatery is non-profit and is the first United States-based restaurant to open a franchise in that country, b'd's reported.
Employing more than 70 Mongolians, profits from the new b'd's will support the Mongolian Youth Development Foundation while offering the chain's trademark "create-your-own stir-fry" concept.
Learn more at www.bdsmongo-lianbarbecue.com.

'Hogs,' pets team again

The Fifth Annual Hogs for Cats and Dogs fund-raising event for the Michigan Humane Society kicks off next month.
Hosted by Motor City Harley Davidson and Motor City Golf, the event runs 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, June 11. Participants can adopt animals, donate food and supply for pets and meet Humane Society cruelty inspectors Debby MacDonald and Shawn Hairston. Also on hand will be merchandise for pets and a "Puts for Paws" golf event, where participants are asked to donate \$50-\$500 or more.
The event happens at the Motor



Rededication of a 'LifeTime'
Surrounded by LifeTime Fitness managers, staff and family members, Novi Mayor Lou Csordas clips the ribbon during the club's May 6 rededication. LifeTime underwent \$2.1 million in renovations.

LifeTime rededicated

Novi's LifeTime Fitness center recently showcased its \$2.1 million renovations in a grand re-opening ceremony.
At 6:30 p.m. on May 6, Novi Mayor Lou Csordas and Kevin Stegen, LifeTime Fitness area director, officially cut the ribbon.
The resort-style health and fitness center now has upgraded shower and locker rooms, along with new tile, carpeting and lighting. Fresh flooring is in the free weight area. Other additions include a LifeSpa and LifeCafe, 140-plus pieces of equipment and 25 plasma screen televisions.
Opened in October 1999, the 94,000-square-foot facility is one of six in Michigan and is located at 4000 High Point Blvd. Call (248) 735-0100 for details.

ISPACE decks new plane

Novi's dSPACE, a company that makes engineering tools, announced that its TargetLink product is part of the new Airbus A380.
Able to hold 555 passengers, the large plane's cabin-air-pressure control uses codes generated by TargetLink. Tied to software onboard the Airbus, dSPACE's technology helps ensure correct air pressure in the plane at all altitudes.
dSPACE is located at 28700 Cabot Drive, Ste. 1100.

Veri-Tek notes earnings

Veri-Tek, an automotive equipment designer and builder, reported first quarter results May 11.
Revenue dropped to \$1.1 million in January-March from \$2.8 million that time last year. The company attributed the decline was large-

INCAT enters France

INCAT International, which makes Novi's headquarters, announced May 16 that it has bought and incorporated a new subsidiary in France.
Headquartered in Strasbourg, France, the company's newest European asset was purchased from Canadian company RAND Worldwide.
The global software and computer services provider said it also earned 29 additional employees through the transaction.

Treboldi joins DeMaria

DeMaria Building Company recently announced Lori Treboldi has joined the company as commercial group superintendent.

Cooper's numbers in

Cooper-Standard Holdings, Inc., parent company of Novi's Cooper Standard Automotive, reported on May 16 its first quarter financial results.
The company reportedly took in \$470.1 million from January-March, down from \$497 million this time last year. Net income during the three months was a reported loss of \$500,000, which Cooper attributed to accounting adjustments.

Rockwell reports results

Wiscom's Rockwell Medical Technologies, Inc. announced a 30.4 percent increase in January-March sales compared to last year. Record quarterly revenues were

'Alley' needs nominees

Automation Alley, the region's technology business network, announced it's now accepting nominations for its Fifth Annual Awards Gala.
Set for Sept. 23 at Dearborn's Ford Conference and Event Center, the event honors top technology companies and employees from southeast Michigan the past year.
This year, two new awards include the emerging leader and non-profit organization of the year.
Along with a lifetime achieving "Legend CEO," categories call for the year's best CEO, CIO, Automation Alley member, education program, technology company and emerging technology company. All regional businesses are invited to apply.
For nomination details or \$125-

Long gets certified

Charlene Long, managing director of Walpole Lake's Downtown Development Authority, recently graduated from the "Certification in Professional Main Street Management Institute."
Now a certified main street manager, Long was one of 21 professionals nationwide honored, according to program sponsor National Trust Main Street Center of Baltimore.
The institute aims to sharpen problem-solving skills for professionals revitalizing historic and older commercial districts. After passing entrance exams, Long attended four intense educational sessions over two years and passed exams focusing on a "four-point approach" including organization, design, promotion and economic restructuring.
Compiled by Kim Kovelie

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Cartidge & Brown 2003 Merlot-California \$11.49	Hoffmann's Super Sharp \$3.99 lb.	Cartidge & Brown 2003 Pinot Noir-California \$11.99
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PEOPLE

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

IN THE SERVICE

Amy Spec. Glen J. McKinney has been deployed to Iraq to support the mission of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Operation Iraqi Freedom is the military operations involving members of the U.S. armed forces and coalition forces participating in efforts to free and secure Iraq.

Mission objectives focus on force protection, peacekeeping, stabilization, security and counter-insurgency operations as the Iraqi transitional governing bodies assume full sovereign powers to govern the peoples of Iraq.

Members from all branches of the U.S. military and multinational forces are also assisting in rebuilding Iraq's economic and governmental infrastructure, and training and preparing Iraqi military and security forces to assume full authority and responsibility in defending and preserving Iraq's sovereignty and independence as a democracy.

McKinney, a platoon internal mechanic, is normally assigned to

the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Irwin, Barstow, Calif.

He is the son of Dawn A. McKinney, and brother of Heather A. McKinney, both of Walled Lake. The specialist is a 2002 graduate of Walled Lake High School.

Air Force Airman Alexander M. Matlock has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

He is the son of Matthew Matlock of Wixom and a 2004 graduate of Walled Lake Western High School.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

Governor Jennifer Granholm recently established the Advisory Council for Asian and Pacific American Affairs.

A Novi resident, Commissioner of Services to the Aging Ramesh Verma, has been appointed to the council which will consist of 29 members to serve four-year terms.

The council, created by the Executive Order 2005-110, is charged with serving in an advisory capacity to the governor and alerting her to pertinent issues within the Asian and Pacific American community. It will also make recommendations about programs and policies for the betterment of Asian and Pacific Islanders in Michigan and will help promote public awareness of Asian and Pacific American culture and accomplishments.

Wixom City Council member Lori Rich has been elected secretary to Region 1 of the Michigan Municipal League at the regional meeting held in Dearborn May 10. "It's a challenge for local govern-

ment to maintain services in tough budget times. Working together is essential," said MML Executive Director Dan Gilmanin. "The MML regions provide an opportunity for city and village officials to meet and share experiences and ideas."

The Michigan Municipal League is the nonpartisan Michigan association of cities and villages. The league's mission is to strengthen the quality of municipal government and administration through cooperative effort. It is one of the oldest associations of its kind in the nation, with membership of over 500 cities and villages.

Rich was elected to Wixom City Council in November 2003 and is serving her first term. She also volunteers her time to the Walled Lake Consolidated School District and has chaired the Reflections Program for their Parent-Teacher-Student Association Council.

OBITUARY

MICHELLE MARIE GALECKA

Age 30 of Novi, May 11, 2005. Loving wife of Mark. Dear mother of Mitchell. Beloved daughter of Doris (the late John J.) Knox. Sister of Karen (Steven) Ventura and David (Arlene) Knox. Daughter-in-law of Joseph and Marilyn Galecka. Sister-in-law of Craig (Heather) and Matthew. A Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, May 14, 2005 - 10:30 AM at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, 770 Tayer Blvd., Northville. Interment Ford Cemetery, Bannister, MI. Suggested memorials to Mark for his son's education, the AOS-Now/Northville Relay for Life, or Holy Family Regional School. Arrangements in the care of the Modetz Funeral Home, Orion. (248) 371-3777. Online guestbook www.modetzfuneralhomes.com

OBITUARY POLICY

The first seven lines of an obituary are published free of charge. After that, there is a fee of \$3 a line. Pictures may be published for \$25.

Deadline for obituaries is Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. for publication in Thursday's newspaper.

For more information, call 888-999-1288, or contact your funeral home.

*Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

EDUCATION

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

Streit, Balagna moving on after many years on school board

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER



Streit

help on the board," he said. "But one of the reasons I am leaving is because I strongly believe in people on the board having the best of interest in education, meaning that I like the fact that at least some of the board members should have kids still in school. To me that's important. You just get more of a pulse, and you stay more involved."

Having worked with four different superintendents, Streit feels the hiring of Dr. Emmett Lippe about 13 years ago was one of the highest points in the district's history. "He's one of the finest superintendents I've ever had the pleasure to work with or see at work," Streit said. "There's no doubt about that."

Other high points that stick out in Streit's mind include all of the athletic and academic accolades that have been awarded to all the schools in the district. He's also proud of the



Balagna

make. "You have to provide kids with the best education you possibly can," he said. "Sometimes it might mean spending a bit more money, but obviously you have to keep that within reason. You shouldn't be so concerned about finances that you're not willing to implement new ideas or maintain classes to keep up the education and the progress of students. Another trait is the willingness to study and learn about education yourself so you have a good basis to make your decisions."

Balagna's experience includes 10 years on the Novi School Board, which he had been elected to three times. Before that, he was the chairman of the Novi Educational Foundation and helped build it up to

where it is today. He also was one of the first people who suggested that the district purchase property at 11 Mile Road and Beck, which it did. There was never a time that Balagna felt he was under any pressure or decided he shouldn't run. "To be on the board of education you have to have a burning desire in your heart to want to do the job," Balagna said. "If you don't have that desire, and it does leave people at certain times, then it's time to move on. That's what has happened in my case now. I no longer have that desire that I once had."

Balagna explained that the things he wanted to see accomplished are done. He has offered his time to the district, and it's time for other people to move forward with new ideas. Having always had an interest in helping children, Balagna had a major role in creating the city's parks and recreation department and commission close to 30 years ago. He said he always wanted to repay the

school district for what it has done for his own children and being on the school board was a way to do it. The one thing that sticks out in Balagna's mind over his time spent on the board is all the construction the district went through. Other aspects that make Balagna proud and satisfied are the hiring of Dion and the creation of all-day kindergarten programs at all the elementary schools in the district.

"We're in the kid business," Balagna said. "There are so many great ideas out there that people have to offer the district in our community, and it's time for those people to step forward. We have two new people (Danford Austin and Ann Glibzinski) on board with fresh ideas, and that's good."

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.

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ON CAMPUS

Brandon J. Henkel, of Novi, was inducted into Delta Mu Delta National Honor Society at Northwestern University for spring 2005.

Novi resident, Angelo Meyers, was named to the dean's list for the March, 2005 session at the University of Northwestern Ohio.

Anzela King, of Novi, was named to the dean's list for the March, 2005 graduates at Jordon College, Elgin, Ill. during commencement exercises.

The following students received honors from Albion College:

- Anzela Dodin, of Novi, was inducted into the College's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Gamma Cum Laude, earning a degree in English with a

minor in journalism and French.

- Michael Garabelli, of Novi, received a President Bernard T. Lomas Project 250 award.

- Scott Korlandt, of Novi, received a President Bernard T. Lomas Project 250 award.

- Lindsay Zeigun-Netter, of Novi, received a President Bernard T. Lomas Project 250 award.

- Lauren Chimenti, of Novi, earned a degree in speech communication.

- Karen Cowley, of Novi, earned a degree in English.
- Heather Kotylo, of Novi, earned a degree in economics and management.
- Matthew Octab, of Novi, earned a degree in economics and management.

The following student received honors from Ohio State University:

- Kimberly Hoang, of Novi, received a Medalist Scholarship awarded to incoming freshmen for the 2005-2006 academic year.

The following students were placed on the spring 2005 Dean's List at Michigan Technological University:

- Scott A. Bergeson, of Novi, earned a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. He is studying chemical engineering.

- Nuoman A. Nazaroff, of Novi, earning a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. He is studying computer engineering.

- Michael J. Aschinger, of Walled Lake, earning a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. He is studying mechanical engineering.
- Nicholas E. Nida, of Walled

Lake, earning a grade point average of 4.0. He is studying engineering technology.

- Matthew T. Nielson, of Walled Lake, earning a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. He is studying biomedical engineering.

- Angela T. Botero, of Wixom, earning a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. She earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration.

- Haruko Okamoto, of Wixom, earning a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. He is studying computer engineering.

- Kimberly C. Segal, of Wixom, earning a grade point average of 4.0. She earned a bachelor of arts in scientific and technical communication-Sigma Cum Laude and a certificate in media-Sigma Cum Laude.
- Kiel D. Vanderhovel, of

Wixom, earning a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. He is studying mechanical engineering.

The following students earned bachelor of science degrees from Michigan Technological University:

- Angela M. Moran, of Novi, earned a bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering.

- Matthew S. Klank, of Walled Lake, earned a bachelor of science degree in engineering technology.

- Brian M. O'Connor, of Wixom, earned a bachelor of science degree in computer science.

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Publication Number USPS 396290

CITY OF NOV NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 05-148.01

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOV CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 2005-148.01, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 7-20 OF THE CITY OF NOV CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO PROVIDE FOR DIGITAL REPRODUCTION AND STORAGE IN PLACE OF MICROFILME COPIES OF "AS BUILT" PLANS.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 9, 2005. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
CITY CLERK

(5-19-05 NN 213738)

CITY OF NOV NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 05-173.01

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOV CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 2005-173.01, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE II OF SECTION 26.5 OF THE CITY OF NOV CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTING OF CERTAIN GUARANTEES FOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDING GUARANTEES TO BE POSTED AT THE TIME OF ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN A PROJECT WHILE CONSTRUCTION IS INCOMPLETE.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 9, 2005. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
CITY CLERK

(5-19-05 NN 213733)

NOTICE CITY OF NOV REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 05-023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Home Depot is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow a display sale of plants and trees at 47500 Grand River. The said dates are May 27, 2005 through July 5, 2005. Home Depot is located west of the intersection of Grand River and Beck Road.

A public hearing meeting to consider this request will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 27, 2005. The meeting is at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Wixom and signed approvals or objections will be accepted into the file if received prior to the scheduled meeting. Please address all communications to Gail U. Backus at the City of Novi Building Department 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

GAIL U. BACKUS
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

(5-19-05 NN 213902)

CITY OF NOV VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be meeting to interview applicants for appointment to the Beautification Commission, Economic Development Corporation, Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission, Planning Commission, Public Access Promotion Committee, Youth Council and Student Representatives, high school level, to serve on the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission, Historical Commission, Beautification Commission, Library Board and Housing and Community Development Advisory Committee.

If you are a qualified voter in the City of Novi and interested in volunteering to serve on a City board or commission, applications are available in the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile, or by calling (248) 347-0456 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.cityofnovi.gov to print out an application.

The deadline for filing an application is Wednesday, June 8, 2005, at 4:00 p.m. to allow time for scheduling interview appointments.

Council will be interviewing applicants on Monday, June 13, 2005, beginning at 7:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers. Interviews are scheduled for 10 minutes each and all City Council meetings are televised.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
CITY CLERK

(5-19-05 NN 213738)

CITY OF NOV NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 05-100.35

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOV CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 2005-100.35, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 28, "SIGNS," OF THE CITY OF NOV CODE OF ORDINANCES IN ORDER TO INCORPORATE REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE NEW GATEWAY (GE) DISTRICT, TO CLARIFY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE T-C-1 DISTRICT, AND TO REVISE REGULATIONS RELATING TO WINDOW SIGNS, PORTABLE SIGNS, AND NONCONFORMING SIGNS.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 9, 2005. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
CITY CLERK

(5-19-05 NN 213738)

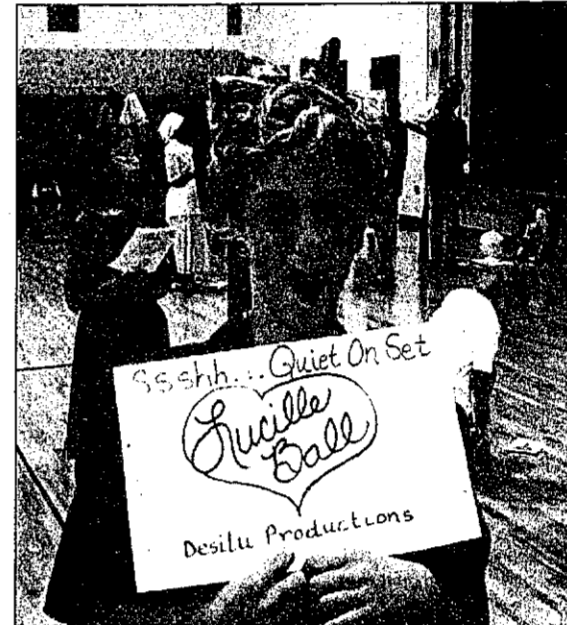


Fun with worms

Beth Shaeffer and Jean Walle's kindergarten classes at Orchard Hills Elementary School made a Worm Farm as part of their "Underground Animals" unit. They will be starting a "Garden Unit" next. The kids are currently reading and studying about worms and how they make compost. They are anxiously waiting and watching for the worms to make compost so they can plant some seeds. Here, Shaeffer and Reagan Mumford work on the compost with Walle white Lucas Pinheiro and Erika Matel check out the progress of the worms in the worm farm as the little creatures create compost.

Stand back! It's about to snap!

The Living Science Organization brought its "Touch Tank" to Parkview Elementary School on May 9. Pictured here are: Briana DeOrnelais, Anthony Aljoumy (Picking up a lobster), Anna Quenor, Nicole Radgens and Lauren Nelson.



Houston, no problems here

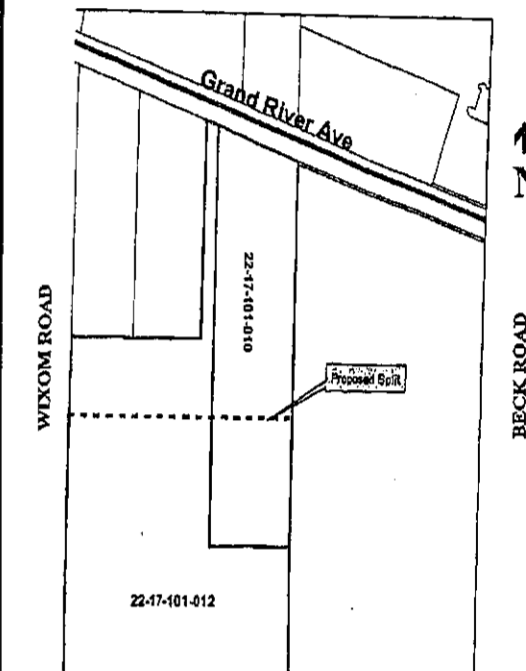
Mr. Gardner, a former flight suit engineer, who used to work for NASA Mission Control in Houston, visited Novi Woods Elementary School recently to talk to fourth graders about space. He talked to the kids about how astronauts prepare for space travel by using a 25 foot tread swimming pool (to practice moving around weightlessly) and the "Vomit Comet," an airplane that would free fall to simulate weightlessness. He also talked about how the space suits work and about all the gadgets attached.

I Love Lucy

Always one of the more popular events at Novi Woods, the elementary school's wax museum was held on May 12 and 13. Students read a biography, wrote a two minute speech telling why a famous historical person is considered a hero and dressed the part. Here, Morgan Egner portrays Lucille Ball.

CITY OF NOV COURTESY NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF NOV WILL CONSIDER A LAND DIVISION APPEAL TO DIVIDE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 46916 Grand River and 46290 Grand River, Parcel No. 50-22-17-101-010 and Parcel No. 50-22-17-101-012.



The Council meeting will be held on Monday, May 23, 2005, at 7:00 p.m., in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan. If you have any comments regarding this proposal, they may be presented in writing or during the Audience Participation section of the agenda.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS,
CITY CLERK
(248) 347-0456

(5-19-05 NN 213740)

We invite you to attend a free seminar to discuss office leasing vs. office ownership.

Date: Thursday, May 26th
Time: 4:00pm
Cost: FREE
Location: Courtyard by Marriott, Novi
42700 West Eleven Mile (In the Novi Town Center)

Topics: Ownership vs. Leasing • Tax Advantages Building Equity • Financial Benefits • Sub-Leasing

Panelists: George Hayden • Tim Adams
Larry Shew • Charles Percy IV • Denise Sanborn
Lori Wigler, CPA

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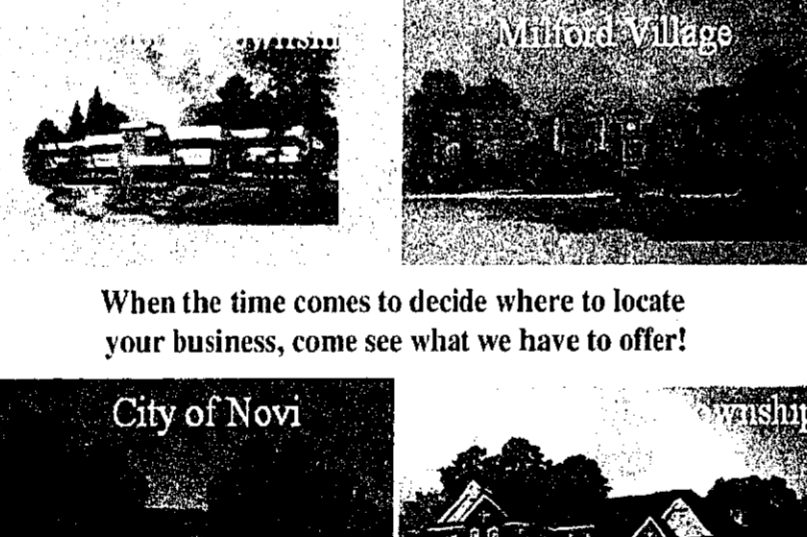
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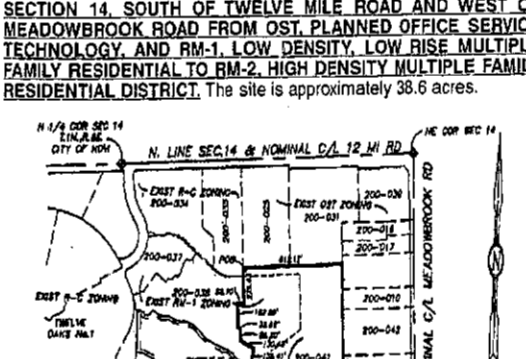


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City of Novi

CITY OF NOV PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF NOV WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2005 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE NOV CIVIC CENTER, 45175 W. TEN MILE ROAD, NOV, MI TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST OF SINGH, IV, LIMITED PARTNERSHIP FOR UPTOWN PARK FOR A PLANNED REZONING OVERLAY AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.805 FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN SECTION 14, SOUTH OF TWELVE MILE ROAD AND WEST OF MEADOWBROOK ROAD FROM OST PLANNED OFFICE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY AND RM-1, LOW DENSITY, LOW RISE MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO RM-2, HIGH DENSITY MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT. The site is approximately 38.8 acres.



To zone a part of the East 1/2 of Section 14, T.1N., R.8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point distant N89°24'35"E, 1066.73 feet along the North line of Section 14 (nominal Ct. of Twelve Mile Road) and S00°35'25"E, 860.00 feet from the North 1/4 corner of Section 14; thence N89°24'35"E, 912.12 feet; thence S00°01'05"E, 1772.58 feet, to a point on the East-West 1/4 line of said Section 14, (said point being S89°20'01"W, 660.00 feet, from the East 1/4 corner of said Section 14); thence S89°20'01"W, 652.86 feet along said East-West 1/4 line; thence S00°15'15"E, 664.29 feet; thence S89°20'01"W, 1064.93 feet; thence N41°58'04"E, 70.32 feet; thence N04°01'24"E, 130.44 feet; thence N88°56'39"E, 55.41 feet; thence S06°42'58"E, 55.24 feet; thence N45°00'25"E, 257.12 feet; thence S48°26'09"E, 32.37 feet, to Traverse Point "A"; thence S48°26'09"E, 225.60 feet and S31°58'09"E, 158.61 feet and N89°24'35"E, 341.76 feet and N01°15'59"E, 172.77 feet and N37°23'07"W, 127.31 feet and N31°25'47"E, 261.69 feet and N11°18'35"E, 131.38 feet and N87°31'55"E, 110.80 feet and N08°21'20"W, 494.05 feet and N33°52'43"W, 87.70 feet, from said Traverse Point "B"; thence N59°05'44"E, 34.15 feet; thence N11°58'06"E, 139.41 feet; thence N58°49'11"W, 130.49 feet; thence N00°34'12"W, 86.30 feet; thence N48°39'49"W, 28.69 feet; thence N00°34'12"W, 182.89 feet; thence N89°25'48"E, 55.70 feet; thence N00°35'25"W, 279.42 feet, to the point of beginning. All of the above containing 38.62 acres, more or less.

FROM: OST OFFICE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY
RM-1, LOW-DENSITY, MULTIPLE-FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

TO: RM-2, HIGH-DENSITY, MULTIPLE-FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

ORDINANCE NO. 18.805
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 605
CITY OF NOV, MICHIGAN

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday June 8, 2005.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY
(5-19-05 NN 214054)

NOTICE - CITY OF NOV REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ELECTRICAL SERVICES CONTRACT

The City of Novi will receive sealed proposals for ELECTRICAL SERVICES CONTRACT according to the specifications of the City of Novi. Bid packages are available at the Office of the Purchasing Director. A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held Tuesday, May 31, 2005 at 10:00 A.M. in the Council Chambers at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Rd., Novi, MI 48375-0204.

Sealed proposals will be received until 3:00 P.M., prevailing Eastern Time Tuesday, June 14, 2005, at which time proposals will be opened and read. Proposals shall be addressed as follows:

CITY OF NOV
CAROL J. KALINOVIK, PURCHASING DIRECTOR
45175 W. Ten Mile Rd.
Novi, MI 48375-0204

All proposals must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED "ELECTRICAL SERVICES CONTRACT PROPOSAL" AND MUST BEAR THE NAME OF THE PROPOSER.

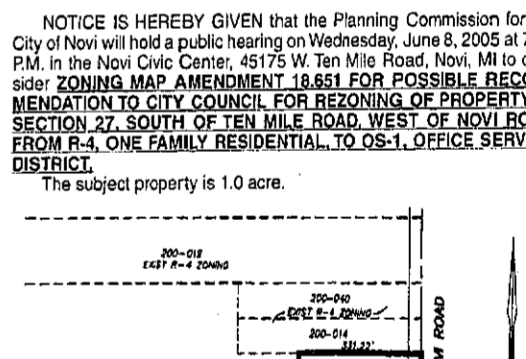
The City reserves the right to accept any or all alternative proposals and award the contract to other than the lowest bidder, to waive any irregularities or informality or both, to reject any or all proposals; and in general to make the award of the contract in any manner deemed by the City, in its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

CAROL J. KALINOVIK
PURCHASING DIRECTOR
(248) 347-0466

(5-19-05 NN 214055)

CITY OF NOV PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF NOV WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2005 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE NOV CIVIC CENTER, 45175 W. TEN MILE ROAD, NOV, MI TO CONSIDER BRADKOVIN, SITE PLAN NUMBER 05-24 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL OF A PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN, BEING CONSIDERED AS A SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT OPTION IN THE GE. GATEWAY EAST DISTRICT. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN SECTION 23 SOUTH OF GRAND RIVER AVENUE AND WEST OF MEADOWBROOK ROAD. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS 27.73 ACRES.



To rezone a part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 27, T.1N., R.8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, being parcel 22-27-200-041 more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the East line of Section 27 (nominal Ct. of Novi Road) said point being N00°06'48"W, 831.40 feet from the East 1/4 corner of Section 27; thence S88°59'26"W, 331.22 feet; thence N00°06'48"W, 131.52 feet; thence N88°59'26"E, 331.22 feet to the East line of Section 27 (nominal Ct. of Novi Road); thence along said East line S00°05'48"E, 131.52 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 1.00 acres.

FROM: R-4 ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
TO: OS-1 OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT
ORDINANCE NO. 18.851
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 651
CITY OF NOV, MICHIGAN

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday June 8, 2005.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY
(5-19-05 NN 214052)

Clear Choice Commercial Condominium, LLC

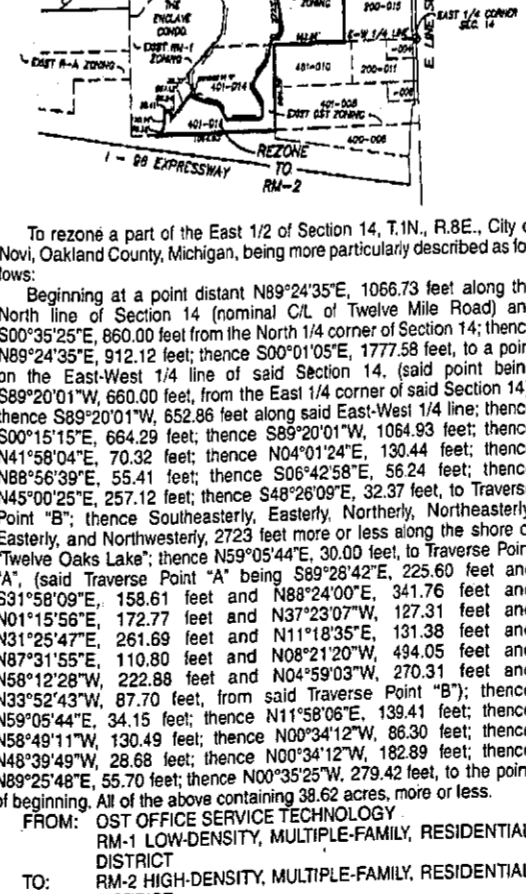
The Choice is Clear!

For an Information Packet Please Call Tim Adams 248-889-2960

We also have additional office projects underway for 2005 in the following communities:
Clawson, Novi, Commerce Township, Brighton and Howell.

CITY OF NOV PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF NOV WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2005 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE NOV CIVIC CENTER, 45175 W. TEN MILE ROAD, NOV, MI TO CONSIDER BRADKOVIN, SITE PLAN NUMBER 05-24 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL OF A PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN, BEING CONSIDERED AS A SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT OPTION IN THE GE. GATEWAY EAST DISTRICT. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN SECTION 23 SOUTH OF GRAND RIVER AVENUE AND WEST OF MEADOWBROOK ROAD. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS 27.73 ACRES.



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FROM: OST OFFICE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY
RM-1, LOW-DENSITY, MULTIPLE-FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

TO: RM-2, HIGH-DENSITY, MULTIPLE-FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

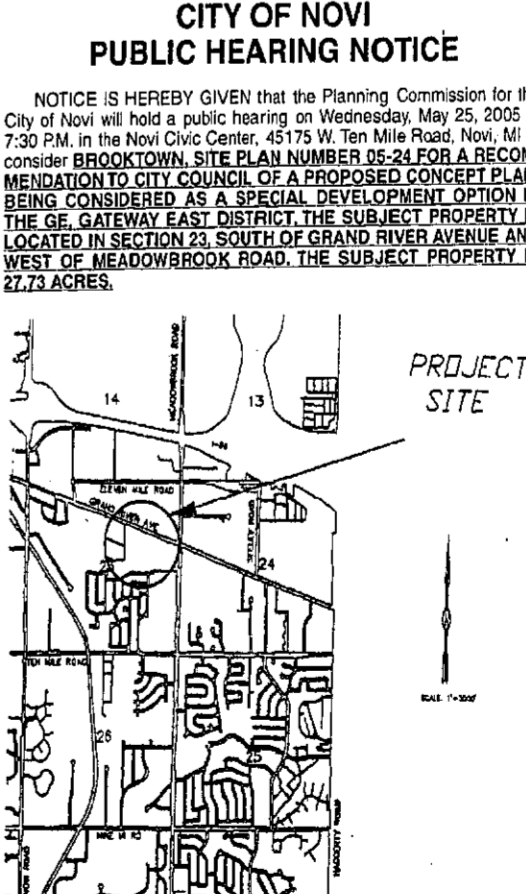
ORDINANCE NO. 18.805
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 605
CITY OF NOV, MICHIGAN

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NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY
(5-19-05 NN 214054)

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TO: RM-2, HIGH-DENSITY, MULTIPLE-FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

ORDINANCE NO. 18.805
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 605
CITY OF NOV, MICHIGAN

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday May 25, 2005.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY
(5-19-05 NN 214047)

Muscular Dystrophy Association Jerry Lewis, National Chairman

1-800-572-1717
www.mdausa.org

MDA

OPINION

novinews.com

Novi News

Grace Perez Perry
PUBLISHER
Cal Stone
EDITOR
Richard Perilberg
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

One year later: Does anybody still give a hoot?

It was starting to sound like a broken record around this time last year. No. No. No. Four members of city council were dead set against a Hooters restaurant in Novi, and gave a variety of reasons: • adult-oriented theme • liquor violations at other Michigan locations • the men's lack of uniqueness • a negative impact on surrounding neighborhoods and children • its closeness to schools • and Fountain Walk shopping center's family theme.

Council even requested background checks of the franchise's president and its owner. Once it was apparent the city had no legal grounds for denying a liquor license, councilman Bob Gatt switched his vote, and the "delightfully tacky yet unrefined" restaurant opened its doors for business last July.

Since then, Chief of Police Dong Stauffer reports that there have been no liquor violations. His department conducted two decoy operations, and Hooters did not furnish alcohol to the underage decoy either time. Likewise, quarterly liquor inspections revealed no violations. There have been no major criminal incidents reported either. In fact, only eight police calls for services have been logged, and, frankly, they are not even worth noting here.

"After all the hubba hubba about Hooters coming into Novi, we find that they are one of the best alcohol managed restaurants in the city," said city councilman Kim Capello. Additionally, the restaurant's theme has not had a negative impact on the shopping center, nearby neighborhoods, schools or children. The Atlanta-based chain has over 360 restaurants, it might be a challenge to find a tighter ship in its fleet — and their hot wings are to die for!

Congratulations to Hooters of Novi for keeping it safe, clean and entertaining.

Carences:

■ An article titled "Novi High School making a difference," which appeared in the May 12 edition of the Novi News, stated that 500 purple teddy bears were delivered to students with autism at Village Oaks Elementary School. It was actually 50 bears delivered to special education students. ■ On page 10A of the May 12, 2005 Novi News, the name of Jessica Slatko-Meek's husband was printed as Mike Meek. His first name is Kevin.

Casino night helps chamber relocate

Every year, the Novi Chamber of Commerce's fund-raising auction helps a worthy organization. This year, it was the chamber's turn. Housed in the Novi Expo Center, the chamber has to find new digs soon as the center nears completion of its spectacular facility on Grand River Avenue. Blair Bowman, president of the expo center, has given the business organization an unbelievable deal (free rent!) for years, but now it's time part company. Funds raised at a chamber's Hold 'Em Casino Night, held Saturday at Lucky's, will help cover the cost of relocating.

Well over 100 people showed up for event, which included three tables of poker action. The overall winner was Mario Savino, of TDS Metromart, who netted \$500 and a fine trophy. Second place went to Dan Stowell and Joe Suitschek (who, along with myself, serves on the chamber board of directors) took third place. Congratulations to those three gentlemen, and now I know who to keep an eye on when a deck of cards is opened! Kudos to Eddie Bourque, as well. He's the general manager of Lucky's, which has quickly become one of the coolest places to go in Novi. Great pool tables, an unbelievable game room, lots of TVs and friendly service. What more could you want?

In fact, Lucky's impressed me enough that we are holding a small reception there next Thursday evening in recognition of the Novi News' 50th anniversary. I've been working with Erin O'Neill, events coordinator, picking out hors d'oeuvres and setting up places in the Fall Room for folks to flip through old issues of our newspaper. We've sent out invites, and it'll be a great opportunity for people who haven't seen each other in awhile to catch up and tell stories. Our staff is also in the process of putting together a special section in next week's edition that will take a look back at the last 50 years in Novi. We'll have plenty of extra copies on hand at the reception. There are many, many people who have played a key role in this city's development. If I overlooked you on the invitation list, my apologies — get hold of me by Monday afternoon. Cal Stone is the editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 or by e-mail at cstone@ht.homecomm.net.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK
Up on the roof top
Dave Cox relaxes on the roof of "Maria," his 1994 Saturn station wagon, during last Friday's Novi High School car show. As students check out other rides in the background, Cox said he was on the car's roof because "I like to feel like I'm part of the car."

LETTERS

Heed the doctor's advice

On March 17, Dr. Emmet Lippe addressed the Novi Board of Education regarding actions he was taking as a result of a meeting conducted with 10 parents who discussed the proposed athletic code and investigation procedures. Dr. Lippe advised the board he intended to work with a small group of parents on the athletic policy and problems in the conduct of investigations. He indicated to the board he would serve as the intermediary to the board on this issue going ahead. Dr. Lippe elected to work with the parents on a draft for presentation to the board that included parents' input. At the March 17 meeting, the board did not provide alternative direction concerning Dr. Lippe's publicly announced plan. Since district athletic director Curt Ellis' "secret" committee excluded Novi parents, and the parents' input from the public forums, letters and the postcard campaign was disregarded, we have very much appreciated Dr. Lippe's efforts to include parents of athletes. We have worked with him satisfactorily in generating both a revised version of Mr. Ellis' draft and proposed policy revisions for investigations and disciplinary proceedings. To my absolute dismay, Dr. Lippe advised me yesterday that the board intends to proceed with public hearings on Mr. Ellis' draft without consideration of the plan prepared by Dr. Lippe and the parents. This is appalling to me!

As elected officials, you sanctioned Dr. Lippe's approach on March 17. While I can only speculate that you are now experiencing "selective recall," I would encourage you to review the tape. If you were not in agreement with Dr. Lippe (over superintendent and Mr. Ellis' oversight, why did not a single member say so at the time, for the record?) I applaud Dr. Lippe's efforts. I do not applaud yours. Under pressure, I understand you may have reversed your decision and may allow the public hearings to consider both drafts of the athletic code. As I stated in my remarks to you in January, I have not seen any data regarding a problem with athletes in Novi that begins to rationalize the draconian process for investigations and discipline proposed by Mr. Ellis. You might note that his policy allows him to make the accusation, perform the investigation, invoke the punishment and hear the appeal. We expected the board to listen to and respect the man who has led the district for the past 13 years, to whom we pay in excess of \$20,000 annually — and with whom we have worked for the last six weeks. Since you, in essence, authorized the process by which the parents worked with Dr. Lippe, I encourage you to publicly consider only the Dr. Lippe/parents' draft, since it is a refined, enforceable, and defensible version of Mr. Ellis' proposal and includes the input of parents who are willing to be identified.

Additionally, if you are sincerely interested in improving Novi schools and gaming public support, I would encourage you to focus on correcting the process that got us to this point. **JoAnne Pritchard**
Novi

Round two of the code

It's great to see the Novi School Board has scheduled public hearings to discuss the proposed athletic code of conduct. Parents and the community finally have a chance to express concerns with a body that appears anxious to listen. The plan being brought forward by the athletic director is sorely lacking. This plan, composed by a secret committee that did not include a single athletic parent, has several problems: • It vests too much power in a single individual (the athletic director) who essentially serves as prosecutor, judge and jury. With no checks and balances, this power is easy to be abused. We already have seen children punished by the athletic director with improperly-acquired

police information and punished with consequences proposed and not approved by the school board or senior administration. • It lacks parental involvement. The code calls for parents to be involved "at the discretion of the coach or AD." What happened to the mission of the school district which states, "In partnership with the parents..." • It has consequences (penalties) that make no sense. First-offense penalties are way too severe and do not differentiate between a child experimenting with tobacco over the summer and a child caught with a 12-pack of beer at school. • There is no alignment of the athletic code with the student code of conduct. It only makes sense to have alignment in all areas of discipline and conduct expectations. The district has also posted on its Web site the student discipline process. While I applaud the district for publicly presenting the documents, a couple of concerns are raised: • Incidents are not defined as only those events happening at school or school functions. What happens at school or school events is very much the school's business. What happens outside of school is the business of parents. • There are no time limits on the assessment of the incident before parents are contacted. We already have seen in the Novi News the principal admitting he knew of "one incident where a student was detained for up to four hours" on these critical issues. As parents and citizens we need to let our thoughts and feelings be known.

What's not fair about that? If you removed the limit, then the government would just end up having to pay out a larger monthly benefit to those who end up paying more. Since our government has already proved they cannot manage the money we give them now, why give them more? I'm offended by his assertion that benefits should only be paid out to those who need it and any thought to the contrary is greed. Mr. Tindall, could you please define need? Security is not a welfare program. Just because my family and I don't have a cottage, boat or take lavish yearly vacations, does that mean that the money I save now should be counted against me in the future? That's just plain ridiculous. I, for one, if given the choice, would opt out of Social Security today and let the government keep what I've already put in. I could then invest that money into the financial vehicle of my choice and, even at 41, would end up with a better return in the long run. I don't know if private accounts will ultimately be the answer, but at least it's an idea worth pursuing, especially since we're only talking about a small percentage being invested, and no one would be forced into being. It's a choice, and who can be against that? What a great deal that would be for younger folks, especially those just entering the workforce. Do I sound greedy? Maybe. But that's only because I have to continue to remind folk like you that it's our money, not the government's! **Willy Mena**
Novi

Soccer touney successful because...

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge everyone who helped make the Fourth Annual Novi Jaguar Invitational Soccer Tournament a great success. This year's tournament was held May 6-8 at Novi's Community Sports Park, Schoolcraft College and Bicentennial Park, in Livonia. Two hundred and eighty-eight teams participated, bringing over 4,000 players and their families to Novi. Mother Nature did her best and gave us the best weather we have ever had. Many individuals and organizations cooperated; over 600 games went off without a hitch. I would like to thank the following for their part and support: City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department for providing the Community Sports Park, Schoolcraft College and Bicentennial Park. The park was in great shape and was a first-class venue. Randy Auler — keep up the good work!

Our sponsors — Jaguar of Novi, Fidelity Investments, Enginge Theater, Tall Brothers, Soccer Plus and Flexible Products — whose help will keep the club growing in size and quality. All the parents who volunteered their time and talent, especially the following: Mary Caruso, tournament director — what a wonderful job you did! Chris Swize — the trophies were a big hit. Bob and Mary Parkin — great shirt, the best sales ever! Sheryl Harrison — concessions, we couldn't do without them. Sherry Lumley — the program was excellent! Erich Strowsky — the referee's work was good. Filling in for Paul was really appreciated. All the members of the board — Bob Laux, vice-president; Brian Maturi, treasurer; Beth Meadows, secretary — whose planning and organizational talent were essential. And last, but not least, the spouses of everyone who helped, especially my wife, Beth, which without their support the tournament would not be possible. Thanks again to everyone and anyone that I might have missed. I look forward to a successful Fifth Annual Jaguar Invitational in 2006. **Doug Reid, President**
Novi Jaguar Soccer Association

Don't be fooled by "ownership society"

"To be uncertain is to be uncomfortable, but to be certain is to be ridiculous." Anonymous
President Bush uses the term "ownership society" to disguise his plan to make a radical overhaul of America's entire system of social insurance — in health care, savings, and retirement. Lately he has been concentrating on Social Security. He fails to mention a huge shift in risk away from government and society and on to individual citizens. Social Security, Medicare, insurance — these are basically risk-sharing mechanisms. The programs in place pool the risk. Individuals have little control over risk of illness, economic change, industrial obsolescence. The ownership society's greatest flaw is that it won't solve the problems it pretends to address. A real solution would require facing up to some thorny issues — raising the retirement age, slowing growth of benefits, means-testing. The Bush plan is asking you to swap an insurance policy for a lottery ticket. **Hannah Provence Donigan**
Commerce

More on Social Security

I'm sometimes amused when I read negative comments regarding ideas our leaders have for improving Social Security. For many years, no one has wanted to address the problems because, as the "third rail," it was political suicide. In a previous letter by Democrat Chuck Tindall, he suggests removing the current cap of \$90,000 because it is not "fair." Unfortunately, he forgets to mention that the benefits are not based on what you make, but what you've paid

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

OTHER OPINIONS

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

Airline pension proposal offers possible solution

When it comes to the autumn of our lives, few things are as important as a decent and comfortable retirement. Yet increasingly, a forest of dense and often bewildering terms are standing in the way. Defined benefit pension plan. Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation (PBGC). Distressed termination. Frozen plan. Underfunded. Deficit reduction contribution requirements. Legacy costs. Unlabeled words — but important ones, because for thousands and thousands of Michigan workers and pensioners, each term represents a potential threat to their retirement funds. Here's the key to understanding all this: Some companies have promised their employees a "defined benefit" pension upon retirement (i.e. plans that provide workers with a set amount each month, depending on their wages and number of years worked) but yet have not contributed enough to their pension funds to pay for the benefits they promised. Such plans are "underfunded," and by law, the companies are obliged to make up the difference — a "deficit reduction contribution requirement" — within three years. A huge problem for some financially weak companies is that making these catch-up payments could push them into bankruptcy. If that happens, their pension obligations can be turned over to the Federal Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation. But the PBGC is already saddled with a \$23 billion deficit, the result of various companies having gone into bankruptcy over the past few rocky years.

Which means that pensioners covered by the PBGC often discovered their benefits are much less than they assumed they'd get in retirement. All this can cause big trouble for many people. Just last week, in the largest corporate pension default in U.S. history, United Airlines obtained permission from a bankruptcy judge for a "distressed termination" of its pension plan, which was underfunded by \$9.8 billion.

That ruling clears the way for United's pension plan to be turned over to the PBGC, which scares the dickens out of the airline's retirees and employees already nervous about their pensions. A spokeswoman for the Association of Flight Attendants said that her pension, for example, could be cut from \$1,700 a month to \$800 — less than half what she had counted on. And there is a potential legal angle that could have far more importance for our area. Northwest Airlines, the dominant carrier at Detroit Metropolitan Airport, employs nearly 9,000 people in Michigan and something like 1,000 retirees. They have been nervous for some time, and what happened with United last week made them a whole lot more so.

The nation's airlines are in trouble, having collectively lost nearly \$33 billion since 2000. Northwest

Comics, kids and 'Playboy'

They come through the mail in black bags, wrapped up tightly so prying eyes can't see what is held on the pages. Or they're put on a high shelf where little kids can't reach, hidden behind other publications so they won't offend the unsuspecting passerby. They're adult magazines. Kids are curious; it's their nature. And eventually they end up getting their tiny little hands on one of the magazines, slowly flipping the pages in wide-eyed wonder. But what if they could just bypass the magazine all together? No, not the Internet, but right to the models in person? That was the scene at the Motor City Comic Convention last Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Nestled in with comic-book artists, has-been actors and actresses and comic-book, toy and movie dealers were adult models. They weren't asked to set up shop in a dark corner of the Novi Expo Center or to even be corralled into their own section of the convention. Instead, they were out in the open for all to see — even little kids. "I'm absolutely appalled," said Helen Reynolds of Royal Oak. "I didn't know they were going to have these kinds of displays." Why would she? Reynolds was just touting her 10-year-old son, Brendan, to a comic convention his favorite comic books series. He wanted to wander around, and she obliged, not knowing she was about to stumble onto a booth run by adult models who have appeared in such magazines as "Playboy" and in their own videos and on Web sites. "I really wasn't expecting this," said Mike Mackey of Flint. "This is the first convention I've been to, and I really didn't think they were going to have much more than comic-book dealers and a few old television star signing autographs." They had much, much more. The convention also featured amateur wrestling, has-been stars and plenty of scantily-clad women. The adult-oriented booths weren't just mixed in with the comic creators either. Two former "Playboy" models — Sandra Taylor and Chanel Ryan — were in the photograph signing section of the convention. Next to Taylor was Carolyn Lawrence, better known as the voices of cartoon characters Sandy Cheeks on "Spongebob Squarepants" and Cindy Vortex on "Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius." Next to Ryan? Ghostbusters International, Inc., a group that promotes Ghostbusters and is involved in a lot of charity work. Other notables on the convention guest list? Destiny Davis, Lori Lusk, Angelina Melini, Monique Parnin, Tiffany Taylor and Linda Tran. All of these models have associations with "Playboy." Davis, Melini and Tran were all contestants for the magazine. Jasmine Grey, who was also scheduled to appear at the convention, has posed for "Juggs," another adult magazine. Tea Tera, the Dr. Victoria Zdrok, who has appeared in "Penhouse" and was the 2004 Pet of the Year.

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

NOVI NEWS STAFF



Grace Perry - Publisher
gperry@ht.homecomm.net
(248) 349-1700, ext. 120



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



Lisa Tincu - Asst. Exec.
ltincu@ht.homecomm.net
(248) 349-1700, ext. 118



Pam Fleming - Staff Writer
pfleming@ht.homecomm.net
(248) 349-1700, ext. 105



Kim Kovel - Staff Writer
kkovelle@ht.homecomm.net
(248) 349-1700, ext. 107



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



Sam Eggleston - Sports Writer
seggleston@ht.homecomm.net
(248) 349-1700, ext. 104



John Heider - Staff Photographer
jheider@ht.homecomm.net
(248) 349-1700, ext. 106



Marcia Cromas - Receptionist
mcromas@ht.homecomm.net
(248) 349-1700



Karen Whitehart - Receptionist
kwhitehart@ht.homecomm.net
(248) 349-1700



Billy Fraser - Graphic Designer
bfraser@ht.homecomm.net
(248) 349-1700, ext. 116

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SPOTLIGHT ON: ORTHODONTIC NEWS
by Donald M. Wayne, D.D.S., M.S.
Orthodontic Specialist
To find out YOUR KIDS should know about braces, the American Association of Orthodontists commissioned a study on its behalf. Eighty-six percent of the mothers who responded said braces are cooler today than when they were children. While wearing braces used to be a less comfortable and lengthier process, in their day, mothers of today's young patients are finding that new technologies and orthodontic options are making their children's experiences more enjoyable. Most also described the experience of visiting the orthodontist's office as fun, and 35% rated their children's experience in doing so as positive/extremely positive. The "coolness factor" of braces among children is largely based on color options and celebrities sporting stylish braces. Seven out of ten children in the study were girls. The study also found that braces are becoming a more popular choice for your child is one of them. Although you can't underestimate the value of a perfect smile, there are more reasons to get braces than crooked teeth. Braces also prevent oral and general health problems, because straight teeth are easier to maintain and orthodontic options are making their children's experiences more enjoyable. Most also described the experience of visiting the orthodontist's office as fun, and 35% rated their children's experience in doing so as positive/extremely positive. The "coolness factor" of braces among children is largely based

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SENIORS

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

Donating is lifelong passion

Novi senior honored for her Salvation Army work

By Kim Kovelle
STAFF WRITER

As a grade school student, Clover Downs made one of her earliest contributions on a class trip to Belle Isle in Detroit.

"I gave a nickel to the elephant," Downs, 91, laughed. "That was our donation."

Since then, the Novi resident has made giving and volunteering her lifestyle, especially when it comes to children.

One of her means to that goal—the Salvation Army—recently honored the businesswoman for more than 45 years of service.

Dubbed a lifetime member, Downs has been a fund-raiser and advisor alike for the group's Denby Children Home in Detroit.

"I would like to help humanity," she said. "My goal in life is to help people—definitely to help people."

An enterprising spirit ran in Downs' family. As a teenager in Detroit, she saw her engineer father invent a kitchen fan.

"Of course I thought it was wonderful," Downs said. "I admired him very much."

Fancying herself a nurse, Downs said her parents convinced her to pursue business.

She was earning a degree at the University of Michigan at a time when women attending college still wasn't the norm.

Her first introduction to the Salvation Army came about 20 years later thanks to John Downs, a man she met in junior college biology class.

John, who later became her husband, was an insurance agent with a giving heart, she said.

"He was very philanthropic and very kind," Downs said. Active with charitable Masonry activities, John was a Salvation Army president.

At first, his bride tagged along to meetings, but before long, she was on the advisory board.

Unable to have children of her own due to health reasons, Downs



Photo by JOHN HEIGER

Fox Run resident Clover Downs was recently recognized by the Detroit Salvation Army for her years of service to the philanthropic organization.

focused on raising money for disadvantaged kids and pregnant teens.

Along the way, she "adopted" plenty of nieces and nephews of her own.

Family friend Catherine Joiner, 57, is one. "Auntie Downs" took the young Joiner to plays—and, later, did the same for Joiner's children.

"She's just always there when you need her," Joiner said. "Kind and gentle and caring and would do anything for anyone."

When Downs and Joiner bought a Southfield mobile home community, helping was precisely the goal.

"I thought it was a wonderful thing for young people," Downs said. "It was a way of people living inexpensive and yet being able to get started."

All along, she collected money for causes—from baby showers and toys to new Denby drapes.

Taking over the family business when John died in 1987, Downs still made fund-raising bulletins and donated plenty of her own income.

Salvation Army Major Ed Rowland said in 16 years, he's seen Downs miss meetings only for travel—most recently to Africa for a safari.

"Her mind is just as sharp as the time I met her," Rowland said. "She's extremely sincere about wanting to help people."

Downs submitted her Salvation Army resignation last month and also is in the process of selling the Southfield business.

But for a woman that began helping an elephant, she plans to make future donations just as large.

Downs said she is giving \$1 million to the Detroit College of Law—John's alma mater—once she passes on.

"I believe very much in education," she said. "I believe in giving money to the support of that."

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

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Friday 5/20	8:45 a.m. Panera Bread	1-3 p.m. dance
9 a.m. Stretch and Strength	9 a.m. Stretch and Strength	
10 a.m. Body Recall	9 a.m. women's golf	
noon lunch/cloging	10 a.m. Body Recall	
12:30 p.m. bingo	10:30 a.m. quilting	
12:30 p.m. duplicate bridge	11 a.m. blood pressure	
	noon Taking Off Pounds Sensibly class	
Monday 5/23	8:45 a.m. men's golf	12:30 p.m. cloging*
9 a.m. Stretch and Strength	1-2:30 p.m. massage/health touch	
10 a.m. Body Recall		
10:30 a.m. gothic lady		
noon lunch and 12:30 p.m. pinocle*		
6:30 p.m. cloging*		
Tuesday 5/24	9 a.m. Panera Bread	
9 a.m. line dance	9 a.m. line dance*	
10 a.m. Asian Pacific	10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. AARP Driving Safety program	
10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. AARP Driving Safety Program	noon bridge*	
noon bingo held in activities room	1-2 p.m. line dance	
12:30 p.m. bingo held in activities room	Detroit Princess Riverboat and For The Fun of It trip	

*Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. Phone (248) 347-6114.

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- NOVI TOWN CENTER (near Mervyn's South of I-96) 248.348.5494
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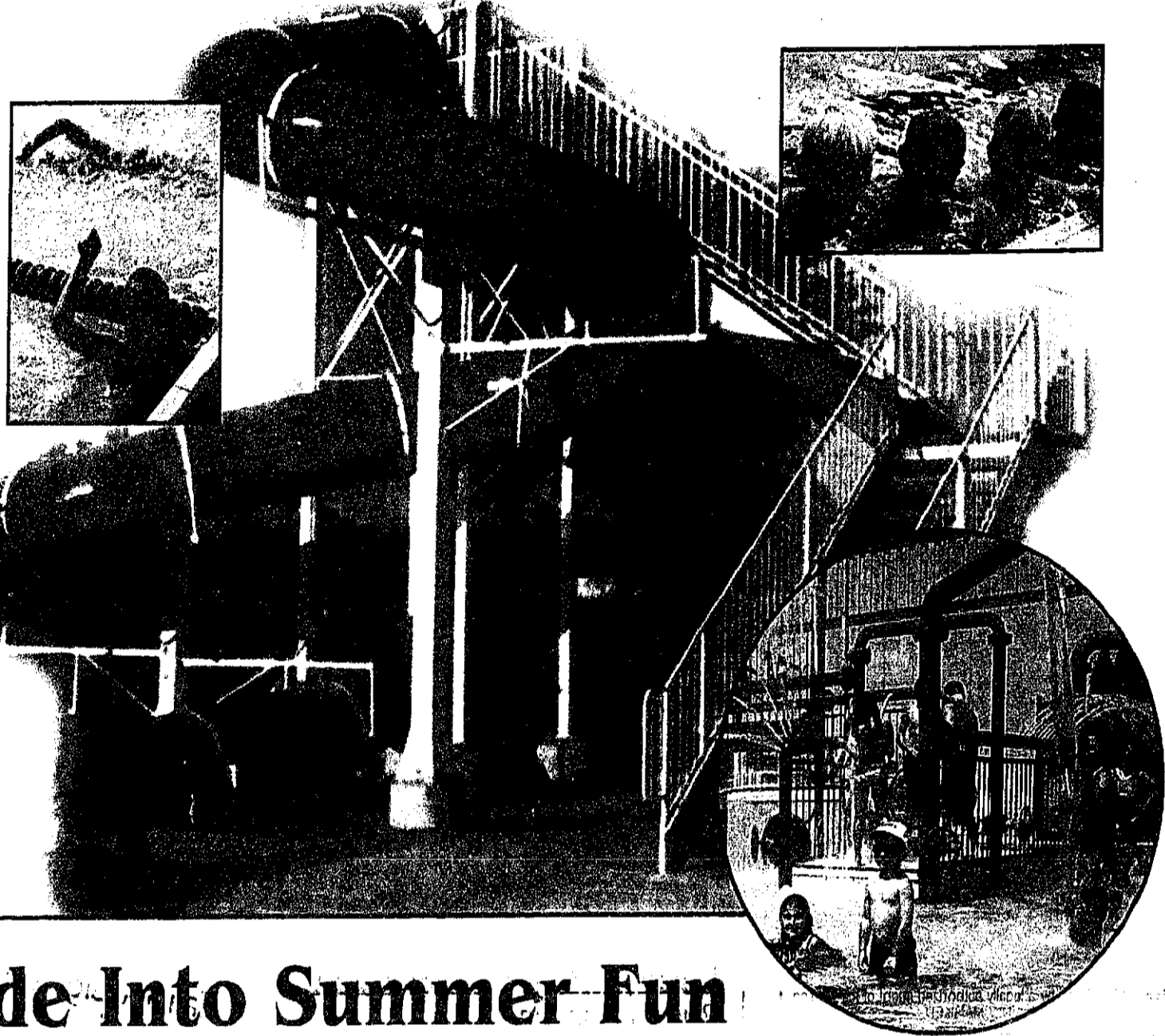
To get the facts about Senior Plus, call 1-800-971-7878, TTY/TTD 1-313-664-8000.

"All my children little white lies."
"I tell them we're skipping lunch today so we have more time to spend at the park. I tell them the refrigerator is broken so we can't keep any food in it. I don't tell them that because I bought medicine there's no money left for food. When I was little, I was told that telling little white lies isn't really a sin. I hope that wasn't a little white lie."

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FAITH

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

Meadowbrook Congregational Church invites everyone to attend a Sunday Worship Service at 10 a.m. Monday, May 23.

Meadowbrook Academy of Religious Studies at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Book series: "Meeting Jesus again for the first time." Wednesday, May 25 - Meadowbrook Academy of Religious Studies at 7:30 p.m. Book series: "The heart of Christianity."

The church is located at 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight and Nine Mile roads. Call (248) 348-7757.

The Holy Family Church What it means to be Catholic. Are you interested in the Catholic Church? An invitation to come in and get your questions answered will take place on June 6 at 7 p.m. at the church. Please RSVP or call the church (Maria) with any questions.

The Church of the Holy Family is located at 24505 Meadowbrook Road between Grand River and 10

Mile Road. Call (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamilynovi.org.

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross offers a worship service every Wednesday from 12:10-12:50 p.m. Come and share your lunch hour with God at a worship service that includes scripture and Holy Communion. The church invites all to worship Sundays at 7:45 and 10 a.m. Nursery care is available at 10 a.m. worship service. (The nursery is coordinated by a registered pediatric nurse.)

Adult Bible Study is Sundays at 9 a.m. Worship Church for children ages 3-7, and Sunday School is at 10 a.m.

Worship Service of Compliment is held at 8:30 p.m. Rise 13 (ages 11-14) and 12A (ages 14 and up) groups meet at 5 p.m. for their program and dinner. Youth Worship Service is held at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Sunday of every month; all are welcome.

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. Call (248) 472-1175 or visit www.churchofholycross.com.

holycross.com.

Faith Community Presbyterian Church invites you to worship at 9 and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. Sunday School is offered at both services for children of all ages, preschool through 12th grade. Dr. Henderson is leading a class on world religions at 7 p.m. on Tuesday nights. The cost is \$5 to cover materials.

The on-going women's Bible study is Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m.

The Christa Cox Harp group will be performing at Faith on Sunday, May 22, at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale in the church office during the week - adults, \$9; seniors, \$7; and children, \$5.

The church is sponsoring a 5K race and a one-mile walk/run on Saturday, June 4. Participants may walk or run either distance. The church Web site is www.faithcommunity-novi.org and has a downloadable application.

The church is located at 44400 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi. Call (248) 349-2345.

Oak Pointe Church service times will be at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. every Sunday. Visit www.oakpointe.org or call (248) 912-0043.

St. James Catholic Church is located at 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi. Call (248) 347-7778.

First United Methodist

Church of Northville is located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road (at Taft Road), Northville. Phone (248) 349-1144.

Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road (between Meadowbrook & Haggerty roads). Visit www.churchofholycross.com for more information.

Crosspointe Meadows Church meets Sundays at Meadowbrook Elementary School. Services are at 9 and 10:30 a.m. Fresh-brewed hot coffee is available from 11-10:30 a.m. The church also has children's programs for all ages and a nursery. The church is located at 29200 Meadowbrook Road, just south of

13 Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 427-2700 or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org.

St. John Lutheran Church is located at 23225 Gill Road in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 988-0604 or (248) 474-8521 for more information.

The Novi United Methodist Church is located at 41671 W. 10 Mile Road. Sunday worship is at 9:45 a.m. with Rev. Jacqueline E. Holdsworth. Call (248) 349-2652 for more information.

Compiled by Ramez Khuri

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CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
2005 NEIGHBORHOOD ROAD REHABILITATION/REPAVING PROGRAM (ASPHALT)

The City of Novi Engineering Division will be conducting a Public Information Meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. in the Police Training Center located at 45125 W. Ten Mile Road for the 2005 Neighborhood Road Rehabilitation/Repaving Program for asphalt streets.

The purpose of this meeting is to present details of the various neighborhood asphalt streets included in this year's rehabilitation/repaving program. City staff and consultants will present the project and will be available to answer questions from affected residents.

(5-19-05 NN 213967)

NOTICE - CITY OF NOVI
REQUEST FOR BIDS
38% CALCIUM CHLORIDE AND APPLICATION

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for 38% CALCIUM CHLORIDE AND APPLICATION according to the specifications of the City of Novi. Bid packages are available at the Office of the Purchasing Director.

Sealed bids will be received until 3:00 P.M. prevailing Eastern Time, Wednesday, June 8, 2005 at which time proposals will be opened and read. Bids shall be addressed as follows:

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

All bids must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED "38% CALCIUM CHLORIDE AND APPLICATION BID" AND MUST BEAR THE NAME OF THE BIDDER.

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

CAROL J. KALINOVIK
PURCHASING DIRECTOR
(248) 347-0448

(5-19-05 NN 214057)

CITY OF NOVI
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 8, 2005 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.65Z FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING OF PROPERTY IN SECTION 27, SOUTH OF TEN MILE ROAD, WEST OF NOVI ROAD FROM R-1, ONE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO OS-1, OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT.**

The subject property is approximately 1.890 acres.

To rezone a part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 27, T.1N., R.8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, being parcels 22-27-200-014 & -040 more particularly described as follows:

22-27-200-014
The East 500 feet of the South 1/2 of the South 5 acres of the North 50 acres of the East 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 27. Containing 0.95 acres.

22-27-200-040
Beginning at a point on the East line of Section 27 (nominal C.L. of Novi Road) said point being N00°06'48"W, 1065.19 feet from the East 1/4 corner of Section 27; thence S89°59'26"W, 500.00 feet; thence N00°06'48"W, 82.25 feet; thence N89°59'26"E, 500.00 feet to the East line of Section 27 (nominal C.L. of Novi Road); thence along said East line S00°06'48"E, 82.25 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 0.94 acres.

FROM: R-1 ONE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
TO: OS-1 OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT

ORDINANCE NO. 18.65Z
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 65Z
CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday June 8, 2005.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LOWELL SPRAGUE, SECRETARY

(5-19-05 NN 214053)

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HEALTH

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

Cancer claims Relay for Life organizer

Novi resident known for kindness, ability with children

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Family and friends of Michelle Galecka of Novi are mourning the loss of a courageous woman who was a founder of the Novi/Northville Relay for Life event benefiting the American Cancer Society.

Ironically, Galecka, 30, died May 11, just a few days before the annual event she helped organize six years ago and chaired in 2002.

Her husband, Mark, and other family members even attended the relay for a short time late Saturday night, the day of her funeral at Our

Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Northville.

Galecka survived cancer and a host of other illnesses during more than the last decade of her life. A combination of an initial bacterial infection, followed by a fungal infection in her lungs eventually led to her death. She had been hospitalized at the University of Michigan Hospital since January and died there last week.

The Novi Middle School teacher was diagnosed with cancer in 1995 but was in remission from before her lung problems occurred. After receiving her second bone marrow transplant, she developed a condition called myelodysplastic syndrome in 2002 caused by chemotherapy and radiation treatments that affects the marrow.

"The first couple of years since then, she was actually OK. She wasn't great, but she was OK," said her younger sister, Karen Ventura, who works at the Novi Public Library.

It was only in the last year that she started having problems with graft versus host disease in the lungs, stemming from the 2002 marrow transplants.

The Galeckas' have a 4-year-old son, Mitchell.

"Mitchell was her bright light when she had that second bone marrow transplant," said her mother, Dorie Knox. "He brought her much joy."

Her husband, Mark, said the family will make sure he remembers his mother.

Ventura said that in a way it was nice that Galecka's death occurred close to the time of the relay for Life fund-raiser.

"We remembered her in a special way when we were at Relay," Karen said. They arrived specifically for the luminary ceremony because that was always a special time for Galecka.

Knox said Michelle only wanted one thing before she died, and that was to have her funeral mass be a celebration of her life.

"I think she would be very pleased to see the number of people that were at that funeral mass. Everyone was celebrating the life of Michelle," Knox said. Galecka is buried in Bannister, Mich., in Ford Cemetery north of Lansing next to her husband's parents, Joe and Marilyn Galecka.

The family will gather for a more light-hearted occasion — the marriage of Galecka's brother, David Knox — Memorial Day

weekend.

Ventura and the late Galecka prepared a reading before Galecka died that Ventura will read at the wedding in Madison, Wis.

Knox said about her daughter: "Michelle has taught us how to live life to the fullest, how to love much more deeply and, obviously, she showed us how to die with great dignity."

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 pffleming@ht.homecomm.net.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Those who would like to make a donation in memory of and in celebration of Michelle Galecka's life can contribute to her son's education, Holy Family Regional School or the American Cancer Society Novi/Northville Relay for Life.

For more information, contact the Fred Wood Funeral Home in Livonia at (734) 464-8060.

Friends remember Galecka as genuine, loving person

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Barb Iovan and the late Michelle Galecka accomplished a great deal together in the few years they knew each other.

Iovan, a coordinator at the Metro Detroit chapter of the American Cancer Society, met Michelle Galecka when Iovan started the Novi/Northville Relay for Life in 2000.

Only three people organized that first event in which five teams raised almost \$25,000. Since then, participation has grown to about 35 teams, with volunteers netting more than \$120,000 for cancer research and treatment programs in 2004.

Galecka spoke at kickoffs not only for the Novi/Northville Relay for Life, but also for the Rochester and Redford events, which Iovan started two years ago.

"She's really been a wonderful advocate for the American Cancer Society by sharing her story, which is not an easy thing to do," Iovan said.

Iovan noted that the cancer

society has a program called Tell-A-Friend, where people are asked to call five women they know who are at least 40 and simply ask them if they've had their mammogram in the last year.

Galecka made such a call a couple years ago and found that one of her fellow teachers had not had her mammogram that year. The colleague responded to her call, scheduled the diagnostic test and learned that she had breast cancer.

Today, she may be alive because of Galecka's effort.

Fellow teacher Colleen Ponte of Novi, a speech pathologist at Novi Middle School, had known Galecka, who taught seventh grade math for seven years.

"She was probably one of the most genuine people I've ever met. She was kind, always pleasant, always positive and very loving as a teacher and a person," Ponte said.

Galecka's friends, co-workers and family remembered her at the event she helped organize just a few years ago last weekend at Ford Field in Northville.



M. Galecka

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

Jewelry

GOOD AS GOLD

Yellow, white or pink are what most people picture when they think of gold. Now this precious metal has begun to show even more of its real colors as designers show gold in colors ranging from pink and purple to deep blue and black. Manufacturers create colored gold by mixing pure gold with various alloys to generate a new color. For example, mixing gold with mostly silver alloy will produce green gold, and mixing gold with mostly copper alloy will yield pink gold. Many of the new colors remain at least 75 percent pure gold, which results in at least 18-karat gold. This means that colored gold is as valuable as it is interesting.

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Current Ford Employee lessees can Re-Lease a 2005 F-150 SC 4X4 XLT

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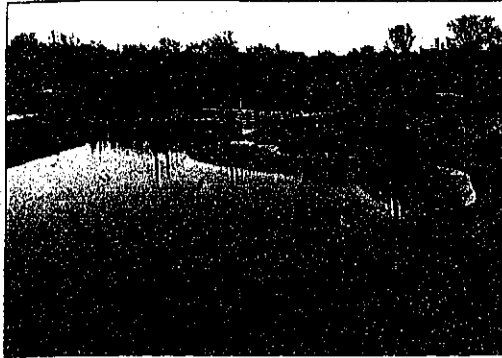
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SUBURBAN FORD DEALERS OPEN SATURDAYS

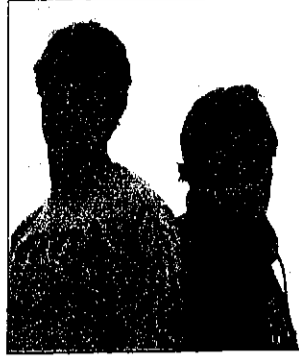
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OPEN SATURDAYS



Fore!
It's all about golf in this area when the weather gets nice. Check out what our reviewer had to say about the challenging Tangwood Golf Course.
— Page 2B



Future foes
Jeff Policchio and Sean Costello may be teammates now, but the two will be bitter rivals when they head to college next year and play lacrosse against one another.
— Page 3B



Regional Marketplace
A unique concept of a family practice that offers both dental and medical treatment at the same location opened last month in New Hudson. A husband and wife team opened the combined practices in the Lyon Towne Center on Milford Road.
— Page 6B

SPORTS

Quick Hits

Get the facts straight!
It's always refreshing to see other publications mess up, especially the BIG ones. Sports Illustrated's Web site, www.si.com, announced the top program out of every state for high school sports. Earning Michigan's? None other than Marquette Senior High School in the Upper Peninsula. According to the Web site, Marquette has over 160 state titles in their trophy case. Really? No. Marquette doesn't even compete in several tournaments that include Lower Peninsula schools, including swimming, wrestling, tennis and track and field among others. In cross country, where the Redmen won the Upper Peninsula title, times from the Lower Peninsula Division IV state finals runners were lower than that of Marquette's top runner, who was the top finisher in the Upper Peninsula. Sure, the number of titles sounds impressive, but line Novi up against the Redmen in just about any sport and they'll either win or make it darn close in every one of them.

Smarter than your average Wildcat

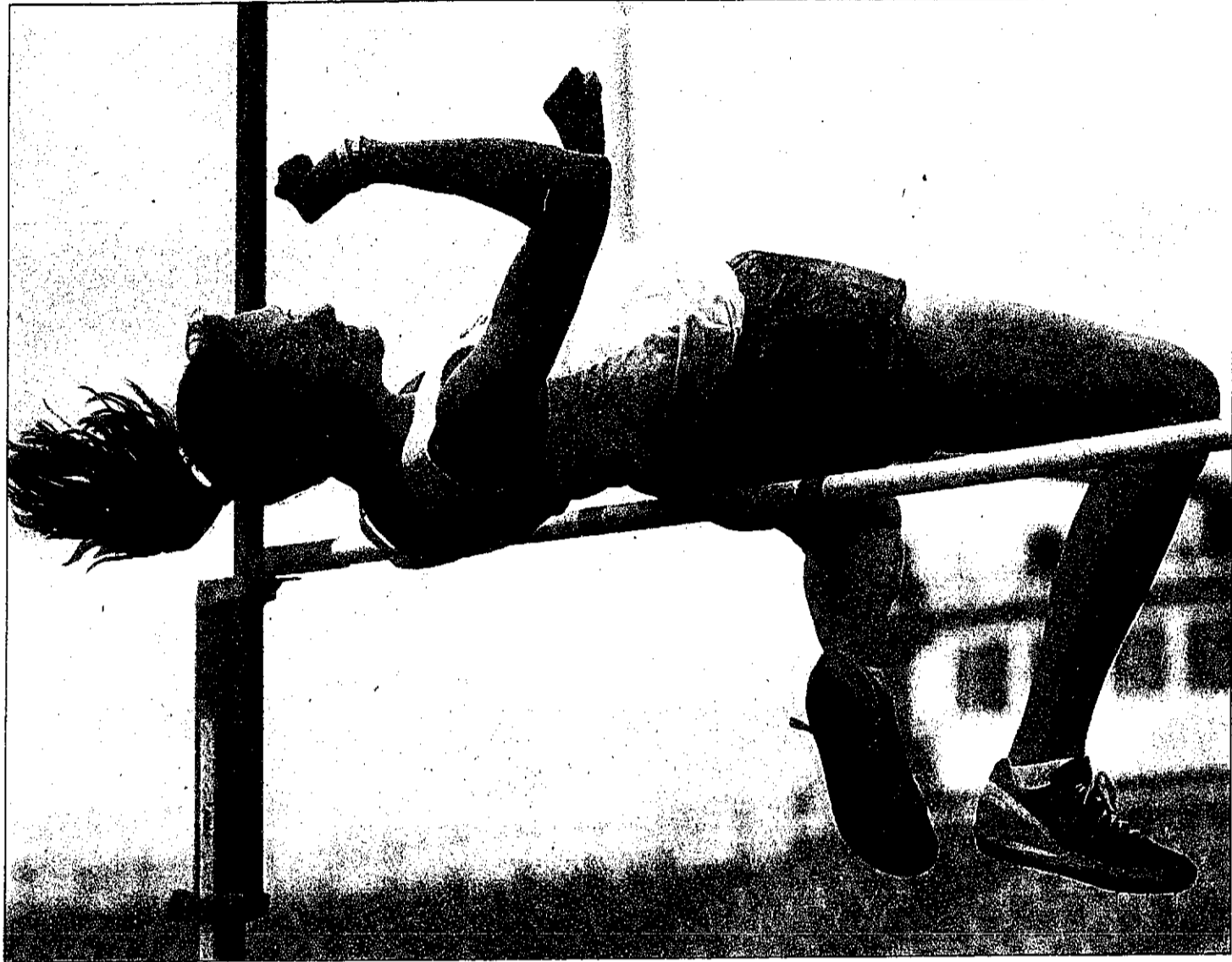
The Novi Wildcats girls basketball team earned state recognition once again this year, being named sixth in the state for Girls Academic All-State teams. "I'm really proud of these girls because they stress academics along with their academics," said Novi coach Bill Kelp. "It's a great team accomplishment." The team collected a combined grade-point average of 3.713. The teams were named by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan.

Going, going — gone!

Zach Flavin, one of the top home run hitters in the Kensington Valley Conference and a solid performer for the Novi Wildcats, signed his national letter of intent to play at Madonna University last week. The impressive swing of the senior is dull in comparison to his attitude, which is full of tremendous work ethic and even stronger determination. Madonna will be a good fit for Flavin, who hopes to lead Novi into the districts and beyond this season.

Inching up the list

The Novi Wildcats soccer team has moved up the national rankings, earning a spot at No. 16. With the talent this team has, we'd like to see the teams that are ranked ahead of them! Novi will be looking to secure a KVC title before focusing their attention on a very tough district that includes state-ranked Northville and Stevenson. Check back next week for details on the tooth-and-nail tournament.



Novi High School varsity track team member Christina Lis vaults over the highjump.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

HIGH HOPES

Novi high jumper Christina Lis eyeing state finals

By Courtney Ratkowiak
SPECIAL WRITER

Unseasonably cold weather in Michigan can be a blessing in disguise. On a chilly spring day during her middle school track season, Christina Lis decided that running outside in the cold did not seem particularly appealing. Taking advantage of the practice mats in the gymnasium, Lis decided to stay inside and try the high jump for the first time. Four years later, the Novi High School senior and track captain is one of the best high jumpers in the state. Lis finished second at state championships as a sophomore and tenth as a junior, placing second at the Kensington Valley

Conference championships and regionals both years. She has placed first in all but three dual meets since her sophomore year. Her personal record is 5-foot-5.25-inches shy of the school record. The 6-0 Lis is quick to attribute her success to height and flexibility, the latter credited to an extensive background in dance. Varsity track coach Marsha Reid agreed that Lis has natural talent, but feels that Lis's character and desire are what make her truly successful. "When I think of (Lis), the first word that comes to my mind is 'genuine,'" Reid said. "She's a genuine individual, always helping others... her unselfishness and

her great work ethic help her and the team improve." As a consistently high performer, Lis is under great pressure to be the best at every meet. To combat the pressure, Lis focuses on repetition, practicing her jumping until it seems like second nature. "I just think (about) what I have to do so I don't go into the bar, what I have to do to make it over, until it becomes 'mind over matter,'" Lis said. "She handles pressure well. She keeps it in perspective, doesn't overthink it, and just has fun." Reid added. Lis said she is a quiet, focused competitor, and her meet rituals include eating Skittles between

jumps and listening to an inspirational orchestral piece on the morning of a meet. When Lis is not high jumping, she enjoys playing the clarinet in the high school band and dancing in the school musical. Relating high jumping to her interest in fine arts, she said, "There's no way that you can tell someone how to (high jump). Everyone does it differently. It's an art, it's how you interpret it. Just like everyone can interpret music differently, no two jumpers jump the same way." Lis has been offered a partial scholarship to participate in track at Hope College, where she will be attending in the fall. Looking toward the end of this season,

however, her goals are clear: to finish first in the league, return to the state championship meet, and break the school record. Although seemingly daunting goals to many, they are all within Lis's reach. Describing the sensation of jumping, Lis said "being in the air... is actually like you're flying." As her high school career draws to a close, Lis is flying straight for the Novi High School record books. Courtney Ratkowiak is an intern for the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

New rival: Northville hires Hockman

By Sam Eggleston
RECORD SPORTS WRITER

With 35 candidates vying for the open head football coach position at Northville High School, tough decisions had to be made. When all was said and done, Ryan Hockman was left standing. The 35-year-old coach, who resigned his position at Livonia Clarenceville Monday, said he expects Northville will be a good fit. "I'm excited about taking over this program," he said. "Clint (Alexander) did a great job there and he has left a great program to work with. Hockman, whose single season at Clarenceville resulted in a

7-3 record and a state playoff berth — said he plans on bringing the West Coast Offense with him. Passing will be a primary weapon for the Mustangs, which will use returning All-Division quarterback Charlie Thomas as the main threat. The team, however, will still line-up with many traditional run formations, he said. "We still have to have that punch when we get near the goal line and in the redzone," said Hockman. "We have a lot of the same elements as the spread offense. There will be plenty of motions and shifts and I think we'll be able to run the ball more effectively because of that. It will give us a little more power element to the offense."

The right choice

The Northville athletics department knew they had to fill a vacancy left by Alexander's departure as soon as possible, but it was a decision they didn't want to rush into. Bryan Masi, the school's athletics director, said he believes the right choice has been made. "We had some tremendous candidates," he said. "Ryan stood out the most. He came off as a great teacher, a great coach and he does things the right way. He's extremely knowledgeable of the game of football and he's extremely organized and dedicated." Hockman, who will teach English at Northville High School, was interviewed by a

panel committee, a subcommittee, a player panel and two smaller interviews with Masi and principal Dennis Colligan. "He went through five interviews," said Masi. "We just felt he was the right candidate for the position." The student athletes agreed. Thomas, who sat in on the player panel along with David Bandy, Joe Perpich, Chris McGuire, Mike Deluca and Brian Smith, said Hockman struck the right cord with his future players. "He knew exactly what he wanted to say when he answered our questions," Thomas said. "He has great credentials, he knows what he's talking about and he has his ethics in line as well." Hockman had a vote of confi-

dence from Alexander as well, who mentioned the Clarenceville coach as a possible replacement the day he announced his departure. Alexander said the school made the right choice. "He's an outstanding selection," he said. "I think he's going to do an outstanding job and I think they're going to love him. When it comes to the Xs and Os of the game, I honestly think he's a better coach than I am. I couldn't be more pleased." **First impressions** Hockman boasted a strong football resume. Growing up in Ohio, Hockman

continued on B3

By the numbers

15-8
Novi baseball's current record after winning all of their KVC games last week.

16-0
Novi tennis score last week against two KVC foes.

29
Goals scored by Novi lacrosse in just two games last week.

1st
Baseball's current place in the Kensington Valley Conference.

11
Shutouts earned by Kim Herbst for Novi soccer this year. She wants 14.

1st
Place Novi soccer currently is in the KVC and their ranking in the state.

23-1
Novi soccer's goals compared to South Lyon's in Monday's game.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Sean Costello, left, and Novi Lacrosse teammate Jeff Pollicchio will be going to New York City to play at competing colleges in the fall.

From teammates to rivals

Costello and Pollicchio will play each other in college years

By Sam Eggleston

SPORTS WRITER

I liked them all, but with Wagner I really liked the campus and I really liked the coaches. I knew the weekend after I visited that was where I wanted to go." Costello had similar thoughts. He said he enjoyed the smaller college atmosphere of Manhattan and was looking forward to trying to fight for a spot with the team. He said he's also looking forward to playing his current teammate next year.

"It should be a lot of fun," he said. "We get to play each other, which will be pretty interesting." Pollicchio and Costello are good friends. They hang out together, play lacrosse together and now will be just a few miles apart when they play in college.

Though a rivalry already exists between the two schools, with Manhattan winning this season's game, Pollicchio said he thinks their addition to the mix will heat things up even more.

"I'm really looking forward to it," said Pollicchio. "I visited a bunch of schools and I

"I started liking lacrosse a lot more after I joined Team Michigan," said Costello. "I started thinking about playing in college and I started to get serious with the game. I ended up being one of the lucky kids that had the possibility to play in college."

"For Pollicchio, the thought of playing at the next level was a mind-boggling one. Sure, he could score goals and he could find a way through almost any defense, but he wasn't sure he was what college coaches were looking for."

"Then the letters started coming and I started to talk to coaches," he said. "It was really exciting. I'm just glad I get to keep playing. I really love lacrosse."

The two Wildcats said they'll have to continue refining their skills if they hope to step into playing roles in their freshman year.

Making an appearance in New York will be the parents of both athletes.

"They're going to pack up the trailer and bring it down," said Pollicchio. "My dad really liked the school and he's looking forward to watching me play."

Costello said, "I'm looking forward to getting a chance to play against him in college."

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

SPORTS SHORTS

Volleyball camp

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 run five weeks.

For more information, please contact Kate Woodrich by email at katewoodrich@hmail.com.

The camp, hosted by varsity coach Bill Kelp and members of the girls varsity basketball team, will teach girls, grades 2-9, the fundamentals of the game of basketball.

Cost is \$126 and includes a T-shirt and a basketball in addition to the experienced coaching of skills and basketball basics. Registration begins May 2.

For more information, please call Novi Community Education at (248) 449-1206.

Novi Community Education Basketball Camps
Call (248) 449-1206 for registration, beginning Monday, May 2.

Boys Basketball Camp (grades 3-9)
DATE: Monday-Friday, June 23-27
TIME: 8:30 a.m.-noon, grades 3-6 and 1-4:30 p.m., grades 7-9
LOCATION: Novi Middle School Gym

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 \$126.

Girls netball players wanted
Want to be a part of a new and exciting game in the area? Then netball 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 Weybright at (248) 344-2828.

Take your summer to the ice with Suburban
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 Shores Civic Arena, Suburban Ice-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 15 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 offer age-specific specialized programs for forwards, defensemen and goal-tenders as well as a power skating class.

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 have limited enrollment, with a six student-to-one instructor ratio (four student-to-one instructor ratio in the goalending program).

Classes will fill fast. Call (248) 478-1600, or visit www.suburbanhockey.com for more information or to register.

Multiple class, family and team discounts as well as mite and goalie combos are available.

Walled Lake Coaching position available
The School District is looking for qualified candidates for a current opening in their athletics department.

Walled Lake Western High School, a member of the Western Lakes Activities Association, is looking for a head varsity boys hockey coach.

Interested candidates should contact David Yarbrough at (248) 956-2073.

Compiled by Sam Eggleston

Dan St. Clair aiming high with Air Force Academy track

When Dan St. Clair left Novi following his graduation three years ago, he wasn't sure where he'd fit in when it came to the Air Force Academy in Colorado and the track team there.

"Six, St. Clair did what he always does. He worked hard. He pushed himself to be the best athlete and cadet he could possibly be. The result? He's currently the best discus thrower on the team and is chasing after the Air Force Academy's record."

"The plan is to take the record out here," said St. Clair via cell phone. "I've got another year and I plan on doing a lot of work in the off season because I'm still a little short."

But not too short. St. Clair is being the record of 183-feet-9 inches, which was set in 1993 by Shawn Lacher. That leaves him just 137.5 to go before he owns the record himself.

St. Clair earned his season-best mark of 170-1.5 earlier this year and is rightfully proud of it. His throw put him at seventh-best in Academy history and he ranked himself 65th in the nation, 20th in the Midwest Region and sixth in the Mountain West Conference.

"They're really competitive out here," St. Clair said. "There are some really good throwers in this conference."

St. Clair also won the relay meet he participated in April 15 with his season-best throw and earned a first-place finish at the Cal-Berkeley Brutus Hamilton Invitational just a week prior with a throw of 168.7.

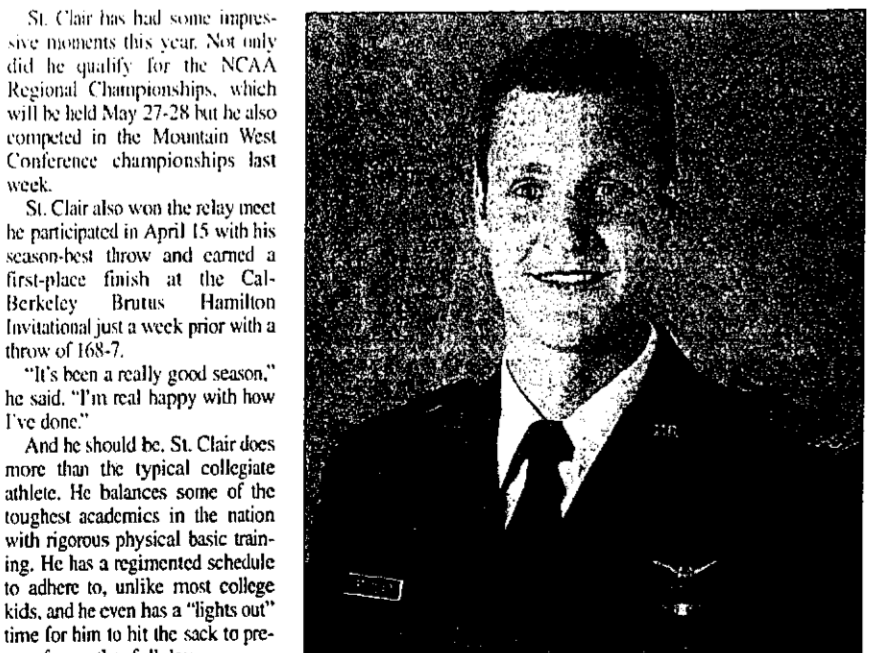
"It's been a really good season," he said. "I'm real happy with how I've done."

And he should be. St. Clair does more than the typical collegiate athlete. He balances some of the toughest academics in the nation with rigorous physical basic training. He has a regimented schedule to adhere to, unlike most college kids, and he even has a "lights out" time for him to hit the sack to prepare for another full day.

"It's pretty tough," he admitted. "It keeps me busy, that's for sure."

St. Clair, however, doesn't mind. He said he knew what he was getting into when he signed onboard with the Air Force. He wouldn't change any of it.

"The Academy gives you a ton of experience," he said. "I'd never be able to get the same kind of experience at another college."



Courtesy Photo

Dan St. Clair is shooting for the discus record at the Air Force Academy.

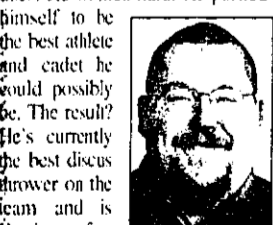
"I still have to go through that decision," he said. "I wanted to fly and I still want to be up in the air. I'm majoring in aeronautical engineering, which means I'll be able to still help the Air Force out even if I don't fly. Either way, I'll be happy."

But every time the F-16 Fighting Falcons fly over the Academy, the drive to strap himself into a cockpit is renewed.

"They fly over here once a week," he said. "When they rip over it's just sweet to see. It reminds me of why I wanted to fly in the first place."

From the academics to the athletics to the desire to be the best, the Air Force has managed to teach Dan "Air" St. Clair just what it means to aim high.

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



Sam Eggleston

EVENTS

Cub Scout Ice Cream Social Night

DATE: Thursday, May 19
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Rotary Park, off Nine Mile Road between Novi and Meadowbrook roads
DETAILS: Boys, kindergarten-fourth grade, and their parents or guardians are invited to find out more about Cub Scouts. Cub Scout Pack 54 is hosting this event.
CONTACT: Frank Maynard at (248) 207-5528

Congressional Arts Competition

DATE: through Thursday, May 19
TIME: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
LOCATION: Northville Art House, 215 W. Cady St., Northville
DETAILS: The 11th Congressional District will be part of the nation-wide Artistic Discovery Congressional Arts Competition. The first place winner will have his/her artwork hung at the Capitol Building and will also be entered in the national competition. The second place winner will have his/her artwork hung at Congressman McCotter's DC office while third and runner's up will be hung at the District Office.

"State Fair"

DATE: May 19-21
TIME: 8 p.m. (Sunday shows are 2 p.m.)
LOCATION: The Farmington Players Barn Theater is located on Twelve Mile Road between Farmington and Orchard Lake Road.
DETAILS: Rodgers and Hammerstein's "State Fair" is a terrific show for the whole family, from small children to grandparents. Join the Franks family as they leave the routine of the farm for three days of adventure at the annual Iowa State Fair. There is free parking and the theater is handicap accessible. Mothers get special pricing on Mother's Day. The regular ticket price is \$15; discount Thursday tickets are \$12; mothers are \$10 on Mother's Day.
CONTACT: (248) 553-2955

Novi Theatres Auditions "Kids on Broadway"

DATE: Thursday, May 19 and Friday, May 20
TIME: 4-6 p.m.
LOCATION: Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
DETAILS: Performances will be August 12, 13, and 14. Auditions are for 7-18 years old. The fee is \$270. Rehearsals will begin noon-4 p.m., July 12.
CONTACT: (248) 347-0400

American Red Cross Blood Drive

DATE: Thursday, May 19
TIME: noon-6 p.m.
LOCATION: Walsh College, 41500 Gardenbrook Road, Novi
CONTACT: For more information or to make an appointment, call the American Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

Spring Perennial Exchange

DATE: Saturday, May 21
TIME: 9 a.m.-noon
LOCATION: Old Township Hall, 10 Mile Road, E. of Tall Road.
DETAILS: Bring your perennials to exchange and trade, free of charge.
CONTACT: (248) 347-0400

Lyon Oaks County Park

DATE: Saturday, May 21
TIME: 10 a.m.-noon
LOCATION: Lyon Oaks County Park, 52221 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon
DETAILS: Watch experts fly model airplanes and kites, then build your own (kits available for sale) and fly it with the help of experts. Park entry permits required.
CONTACT: (248) 437-7345 for more information.

Novi High School Band Bottle Drive

DATE: Saturday, May 21
TIME: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
LOCATION: Farmer Jack Supermarket, 10 Mile and Meadowbrook roads
DETAILS: Students will be collecting bottles and cans at college residences in the Novi School District to help support their band program.
CONTACT: Sharon Hoving (248)349-4461

City of Wixom Photo Show

DATE: through May 31
LOCATION: Wixom Library.

Home Buyer Seminar

DATE: Thursday, May 19
TIME: 6:30-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: Learn how much you can afford; what your monthly payment will be; what your available price range is; and what to do if you're in a lease. Seating is limited to 40 reservations.
CONTACT: (800) 705-9420, ext. 3051

Borders Booksignings

DATE: Saturday, May 21
TIME: 11 a.m.
DATE: Sunday, May 22
TIME: 2 p.m.
DETAILS: Author, Amy Wynn Peacor
LOCATION: Novi Borders Books and Music, 43075 Crescent Blvd.

Oakland Schools Flower Sale

DATES: Saturday, May 21 and Sunday, May 22
TIME: 9 a.m.-noon
LOCATION: Oakland School Technical Campus Southwest, 100 Beck Road, Wixom
DETAILS: Annual flower sale, pre-orders taken through April 29. Open house, 3-7 p.m., Thursday, May 19, including new swan fountain and waterfall display.
CONTACT: (248) 668-5673

SCHOOL/GOVERNMENT

PLANS Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, May 31
TIME: 7-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Meadows 6th grade media center
DETAILS: Nancy Davis, Assistant Superintendent for Academics in Novi Schools, will be speaking. You do not need to be a current member of PLANS (Pending Learning Advancement in Novi Schools) to attend.
CONTACT: Lee Linton at (248) 305-9043

Wixom City Council

DATE: Tuesdays, May 24-June 14, 28; July 12, 26; Aug. 9, 23; Sept. 13, 27; Oct. 11, 25; Nov. 9, 22; Dec. 13 and 20
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Wixom City Hall, 49045 Pontiac Trail
CONTACT: (248) 624-4557

Novi City Council Meeting

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

Novi School Board Meeting

DATE: Thursday, May 19
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Educational Services Building, 25345 Tall Road, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 449-1200

BUSINESS

Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Workshop

DATE: Thursday, May 26
DETAILS: Bookkeeping Basics for Small Business - Learn the reasons to keep good records, the differences between bookkeeping and accounting, a variety of ways to keep the books, how to track a month's worth of detailed records and determine a monthly profit of loss. The fee is \$45 and includes the Big EZ Bookkeeping book.
All workshops will be 9 a.m.-noon at the Oakland County complex, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Pontiac. For more information or to register, call (248) 858-0783.

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Morning Connection

DATE: Wednesday, June 8
TIME: 8:30-9:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Big Apple Bagel, 2510 Union Lake Road, Commerce Township
DETAILS: Opportunity to meet one of the newest members and network with others.
CONTACT: (248) 624-2826

Business Referrals

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

CLASSES

CALENDAR

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

Novi Buyer Seminar

DATE: Thursday, May 19
TIME: 6:30-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: Learn how much you can afford; what your monthly payment will be; what your available price range is; and what to do if you're in a lease. Seating is limited to 40 reservations.
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CONTACT: (248) 668-5673

Boost Camp Day

DATE: Friday, June 3
TIME: 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Providence Center for the Healing Arts, 47601 Grand River Ave.
DETAILS: A day of enrichment and personal exploration designed to provide valuable tools, information and a new perspective on healthier living through wholeness that can be beneficial to the participants. Open to the public.
The cost is \$50 per person, including lunch and materials. Registration is required.
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

Walled Lake Builder's Pre-Licenses Class

DATES: Tuesday-Thursday, May 24 and 26 or May 31 and June 2
TIME: 6-10 p.m.
LOCATION: Walled Lake Middle School, 46720 W. Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake
DETAILS: This course is for those who want to subcontract the construction of their own homes, real estate investors and developers and building trades people who want to work legally in Michigan. The cost is \$199 plus \$20 for the course textbook and sample questions from the license examination.
CONTACT: (248) 956-5000 to register

Providence Center for the Healing Arts "Tuesdays at Assarian"

DATE: Every Tuesday night
TIME: 5-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi
DETAILS: Variety of activities for the adult community to come and enjoy a unique mix of classes sponsored by the Providence Center for the Healing Arts. Some activities may include a supplies fee (no more than \$10).
CONTACT: (248) 465-5483

Providence Center for the Healing Arts - Artist in Residence

ONGOING: Tuesdays
TIME: 1:00-2:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Creative Arts Studio, Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave.
DETAILS: Artist May Tevans instructs. Class will include drawing, pastels, watercolor, and mixed media. There is a \$5 materials fee.
Drop-in or register.
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

LIBRARY LINES

Novi Public Library Hours

LOCATION: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road
HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1-5 p.m.
The library will be open for regular hours on Saturday, May 28. The library will be closed on Sunday, May 29, and Monday, May 30.
DETAILS: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0720

Help Match the Walker Million

DETAILS: With "A Million Books" going up on the walls, there are more books than usual these days at the library. By purchasing one of the paper signs in the shape of a book for \$1, you can

Women's Prayer Support

DATE: every Saturday
TIME: 9:10-10 a.m.
LOCATION: Harvest Fellowship Church, 49329 Pontiac Trail, Wixom (parking behind the church).
DETAILS: Come for encouragement, help, hope and prayer as you face life's problems, issues and frustrations. Drop in for five minutes or longer.
CONTACT: Nancy and Susan, (248) 926-8332 or harvestfellowship@comcast.net

Breast Cancer Support Group

DATES: second and fourth Tuesdays of the month
LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Commerce, Classroom C on the ground floor of the hospital.
TIME: 10-11:30 a.m.
DETAILS: No registration
CONTACT: (248) 937-5017

Spring Story Times

DATES: Tuesday, May 24; Thursday, May 26
TIME: 10-11 a.m.
DETAILS: Drop in for stories, song, and movement. For all ages; no registration.

Spring Story Times

DATE: Saturday, May 21
TIME: 11-11:45 a.m.
LOCATION: Holy Family Catholic Church (on Meadowbrook Road between Ten Mile Road and Grand River Avenue)
DETAILS: A nonprofit, non-denominational group that brings adoptive families together. Twice-monthly meetings provide opportunity to play and talk
CONTACT: Michelle Pergau (248) 887-4955 or Sandra Noonan (248) 960-3257

Novi Toastmasters

DATE: first and third Tuesdays of the month
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center Activities Room
TIME: 7:30-8 p.m.
DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
CONTACT: Colleen, (248) 685-9226

New Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) chapter

DATES: Wednesday mornings
LOCATION: Meadowbrook Commons Activities Room, 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi
TIME: 11 a.m. weigh-in 11:30 a.m. meeting
DETAILS: \$20 per annual membership includes handbook, \$1 per meeting. New members welcome.

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples

DATES: second Thursday of each month
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Witch's Hat Depot, 300 Dorothy St., South Lyon
DETAILS: This group provides information, support and social activities for mothers of multiple birth children and their families. Mothers of multiples living in and around the Kensington Valley school conference are all welcome.
CONTACT: For more information, call Jackie, (248) 437-5496.

World Class Event

Victorian Charm

Solstice Run

Saturday, June 25, 2005 at 7:30 am

Presented by Comcast.

Ford Field in Northville, Michigan

Fifth Third Bank

10K Run

New! Kids Fun Run

Presented by Foresters

Investing - Sharing - Inspiring

SK Run/Walk Presented by

Call Northville Running Fit at (248) 380-3338

See event details and register online at www.solsticerun.org

DETAILS: With "A Million Books" going up on the walls, there are more books than usual these days at the library. By purchasing one of the paper signs in the shape of a book for \$1, you can

BETTER HEALTH

Better Health Market Seminar

DATE: Saturday, May 21
TIME: 1-2 p.m.
LOCATION: Better Health Market, 42875 Grand River Ave., Novi
DETAILS: This free seminar will be led by Elizabeth Lawson from Enzymatic Therapy. Ms. Lawson will discuss women's health from puberty to fertility and on into menopause.
CONTACT: (248) 344-0040 or www.thebetterhealthstores.com

MAPI - Free Annual Health Fair

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Thursday, May 19, 2005

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MONEY MATTERS

New credit scoring system

My grandfather immigrated to America from Ireland in the late 1800s, forgoing the quiet life of a chemist and choosing instead to live as a frontiersman in the tumultuous American West. For a time he earned his living mining gold and silver in the Colorado Rockies, and though he didn't strike it rich, his experiences proved life altering. Appalled at the abominable working conditions in the mines, he helped unionize the miners, setting the stage for a successful career in politics and public service. He would later serve in the second and third Arizona Legislatures, where he was best known for authoring legislation that established the minimum wage for women.

In my grandfather's day, credit as we know it today didn't exist. People paid cash for what they wanted, and if they couldn't ante up, they might have found themselves staring down the barrel of a shot gun. It was the "Wild West," after all.

Today credit is an integral part of society. Without it, consumers can't buy a house, obtain a credit card, or gain approval for other financial opportunities. And for some—recent immigrants and young adults for example—establishing a credit history is a difficult challenge. (Typically immigrants have to start over because their credit histories don't transfer to U.S. credit bureaus.)

It's for these "credit underserved" individuals that Fair Isaac—the company that developed the Fair Isaac & Company (FICO) credit scoring system widely used by lenders to gauge credit worthiness—created the FICO Expansion Score. It's a new scoring system that predicts credit risk for individuals who have minimal or no credit history. According to Fair Isaac, approximately 50 million Americans could benefit from this new system. The score is designed to provide these individuals with the opportunity to access favorable interest rates and affordable financial products—things they otherwise

may not be able to qualify for with a standard FICO score. That's because without an established credit history, individuals can be turned down for loans or pay higher interest rates for financial products.

The standard FICO score was developed in the 1950s as a method of predicting how likely a borrower is to pay back debts. Data used to calculate the three-digit score, which ranges from 300 to 800, is derived from information that mortgage companies, credit card issuers and auto financing companies keep on consumers with whom they've done business. Payment history, level of indebtedness and credit history length are also figured into the score. In contrast, the FICO Expansion Score, which ranges from 150 to 950, draws from alternative sources of consumer data like payday lenders and rent-to-own stores—companies that typically don't report customer information to the credit bureaus. The score also takes into account information about rent and utility payments as well as deposit accounts.

The FICO Expansion Score is not without its critics. The criticisms largely surround the non-conventional sources of data which figure into the score. Consumer groups worry payday lenders and rent to own companies may be looked upon negatively by lenders, despite the consumer's payment history. As a result, these individuals may end up qualifying for sub-prime loans, which traditionally carry high interest rates and abusive fee structures.

People who find their credit score is lacking can take steps to improve it the old-fashioned way. The first step is to establish a relationship with a financial institution by opening a checking or savings account and using it responsibly. While information surrounding deposit accounts aren't typically reported to credit bureaus, lenders see them as a sign of financial stability.

Many credit unions help members establish a credit history by offering small loans, usually in the amount of \$300 or \$500. Repaying the loan on time helps the borrower begin building a credit history that eventually provides the basis for a good credit score.

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

ADVERTORIAL



Photos by Duane Ramsey

Pictured from left: Dr. Mitchell Billes with his dental staff of Chris Miller, Kim Ewald, Chris Evans, and Terri O'Brien, Kathy Frayne, and the medical staff of Debbie Essenberg, Debbi White (office manager), Jackie Maxwell, Tara Capezutto, Debbie Crowley and Dr. Marsha Billes. Mara Daien of the dental staff is not pictured.

Family Doctor & Dentist

Family practice offers dental, medical services at two locations

By Duane Ramsey
SPECIAL WRITER

A unique concept of a family practice that offers both dental and medical treatment at the same location opened last month in New Hudson. A husband and wife team opened the combined practices in the Lyon Towne Center on Milford Road.

Mitchell Billes, D.D.S., operates the dental practice and his wife, Marsha Billes, D.O., operates In Sync Family Health. As a family physician and dentist, we feel like we are "in sync" with caring for our patients, according to the couple.

They expanded their existing practices in Livonia by opening the additional location in New Hudson. Both practices are open five days a week as the doctor and dentist work a revolving schedule and alternate days at the two locations.

"Patients find it convenient to have their dentist and doctor at the same location and they are comfortable with our staff," Mitchell said.

However, convenience is not the only advantage of seeing Dr. Mitchell Billes for dental treatment and Dr. Marsha Billes for medical treatment at the same location.

"The whole philosophy of how we treat patients is what sets us

apart," said Marsha. "The most rewarding thing about the practice is meeting new families and partnering with them as a team to meet the dental and medical needs of the entire family."

"It is convenient to have your doctor and dentist at the same location, but it's more about the doctors," said Colleen Polidori of Taylor who has been a patient of Marsha's for several years and recently started seeing Mitchell for her dental care.

"They are both very caring doctors. Dr. Billes is a great doctor and has taken very good care of me. I have recommended her to my family and friends," Polidori said.

Mitchell treats both adults and children, providing his patients with high quality dental treatment with an emphasis on prevention and aesthetics. He and his staff put patients at ease while treating them with the latest equipment in a warm, friendly environment.

"We take a team approach to make sure our patients receive proper treatment. Our goal is for all patients to walk out with an award-winning smile," Mitchell said.

He stays current with the latest dental techniques and new materials used in dentistry by constantly attending continuing education programs. He has experience using porcelain crowns and veneer to create an "extreme smile makeover" for his patients.

Mitchell has operated his dental practice since 1986 when he graduated from the University of Michigan Dental School. He is a native of Southfield and earned his undergraduate degree at Michigan State University.

After practicing medicine in a



The husband and wife team of Marsha Billes, D.O., and Mitchell Billes, D.D.S., operate the combined dental and medical practices in Livonia and New Hudson.

group practice since 1992, Marsha wanted to open her own family practice. She established In Sync Family Health last November and relocated to Livonia.

While looking for a second location to expand Mitchell's dental practice, they realized that South Lyon was a growing community in need of health care providers. They found the perfect space in New Hudson and open the combined practices there.

Marsha's philosophy is to treat the patient as a whole and offer the highest quality health care available. She spends a lot of time with her patients in support of that philosophy. She even has patients come to see her from out of state.

"Dr. (Marsha) Billes is a very attentive and caring doctor who listens to her patients. She has a real gift to heal people with her approach," said Justine Allmond of Livonia, who has been a patient of Dr. Billes for about 14

years. Allmond said that Dr. Billes doesn't just treat patients like a traditional doctor but emphasizes preventive factors such as eating right, taking vitamins and feeling good about your health.

As a business owner and mother of four boys, Allmond understands what it takes to run a successful business and raise a family today. She was impressed when Dr. Billes combined her medical practice with her husband's dental practice.

"It says a lot about them as people and doctors," Allmond said. "Their staff is always accommodating and cheerful to make you feel comfortable."

As an osteopathic physician, Marsha also uses a hands-on approach especially for the treatment of the back. She performs many medical procedures in the offices as well.

"The scope of our practices is evolving toward preventive medicine and helping people feel

DETAILS
Family Doctor & Dentist
30426 Milford Road
at Lyon Towne Center
in New Hudson
Mitchell Billes, D.D.S., P.L.C.
(248) 446-0288
In Sync Family Health, P.L.C.
Marsha Billes, D.O.
(248) 446-5299
14700 Farmington Road
in Livonia
Dental: (734) 421-5220
Medical: (734) 425-0207

well, not just seeing them when they are sick," said Marsha.

Marsha served as Chief of Staff at Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills in 2003. She also has given many lectures on women's health issues in the community.

Marsha grew up in Livonia, earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and graduated from the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Michigan State University. Marsha and Mitchell have two children, ages 11 and 13.

"We are welcoming new patients for both practices at the New Hudson and Livonia locations," said Mitchell.

The dental and medical practices offer convenient hours while accepting most insurance plans. The offices are close enough that they can see patients at either location when necessary.

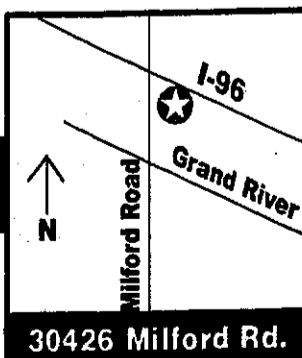
Call the Livonia or New Hudson offices for more information about this unique combination of dental and medical practices operated by this husband and wife team.

Now Open ... in New Hudson

Medical & Dental Practices

Marsha Billes, D.O.
Complete Family Practice

- WEIGHT LOSS
- SPORTS MEDICINE
- WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUES
- OSTEOPATHIC MANIPULATIVE THERAPY



Mitchell Billes D.D.S., P.L.C.
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

COUPON

RESTORATIVE SPECIAL
\$100 OFF Crowns
\$200 OFF Bridges
\$100 OFF Veneers
Exp. 6-30-05

COUPON

NP CLEANING SPECIAL
\$59 Adult
\$49 Kids
Includes exam & 4 xrays.
Does not include periodontal disease.
Exp. 6-30-05