



Novi News



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Thursday, September 22, 2005

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Volume 50 Number 16

Novi, Michigan

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INSIDE

HURRICANE KATRINA

Local efforts

See how the Novi community has come together with fundraisers and donations.

— Pages 6, 7 and 11A

Welcome to Novi!

There's a whole new crop of teachers in the Novi School District.

— Pages 14 and 15A

SPORTS

Wildcats win again

The last time Lakeland beat Novi was 1984. The streak continued Friday.

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Leading by example

Courtney Ratkowiak and Sona Kotecha are workaholics. That's why, despite being a part of several organizations each, they still manage to find time to be team captains for the Novi Wildcats swimming and diving team.

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Contract ratified

■ 93 percent of Novi teachers vote to ratify agreement

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Teachers in the Novi Community School District are sitting pretty today after 93 percent of them voted to ratify their new collective bargaining agreement.

The Novi Education Association and district bargain-

ing teams met on 12 occasions since mid-April to negotiate a three-year contract. Bob Schram, executive director of human resources for the district, said the first year gives teachers a 2-percent wage increase and the second is a 1.5 percent wage increase. The third year is a wage "reopener."

"That means the contract is in place, but we haven't agreed for a wage on the third year yet," Schram said. "We'll wait until that time because we don't know what the enrollment is going to be, and we don't know what state funding will be. It's just too far out for the board to make any commitment for a wage adjustment." The last two teacher contracts

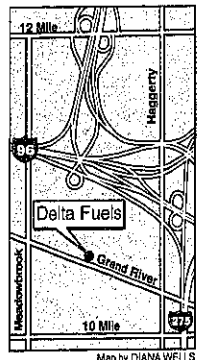
"They were very productive negotiations and we reached a contract settlement with the district that we feel was very fair and that our members were very pleased with."

Donald Crockett
President, NEA

were for one and two years respectively. The current one ended on June 30, and the previous one ended in June of 2003. "The negotiations went well,"

Schram said. "They were very collaborative, and a lot of problem solving went on. The difficulties

continued on page 2



20,000 gallons of gas stolen

■ Two suspects charged, and service station owners could face charges

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Novi police arrested two Oakland County residents Sept. 14 for allegedly stealing and selling gas to southeastern Michigan gas stations for personal profit.

William Shannon Cox, 39, of Waterford, was arrested at his home. Michael Omar Malone, 34, of Clarkston, turned himself in to police.

The men supposedly stole more than 20,000 gallons of gasoline from Delta Fuels, 40600 Grand River Ave., a Novi-fuel distribution company. The facility is located on Grand River Avenue just east of Meadowbrook Road.

The arrests are expected to be the first in an ongoing joint investigation with the Novi Police Department and FBI that may involve hundreds of thousands of dollars in stolen gasoline from metropolitan Detroit fuel companies.

Both were arraigned Wednesday afternoon by Judge Dennis Powers in Novi's 52-1 District Court on one count each of false pretenses, \$20,000 or more, and conspiracy to commit false pretenses, \$20,000 or more.

Both counts carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. In addition, both men could be fined \$15,000 or three times the value of the property involved, whichever is greater.

Powers set both defendants' bond at \$250,000 cash/surety. The two were scheduled to be back at the 52-1 District Court before Judge Robert Bondy at

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Kids for Katrina

As they grab washcloths, Franklin Road Christian School students Chris Gosek, left, Madison Propen, and Daniel Marinetti, all help to stuff bags with personal care hygiene products which will be sent down to Hurricane Katrina victims. Please see the full story on page 11.

Pupil attendance mandatory Wednesday

■ Count will determine amount of state funding to Novi

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Community School District knows it's nearly impossible to have 100-percent attendance by its students on a consistent basis.

But for one day — next Wednesday — the district hopes all students will put aside any events and overcome any illnesses to make it to school.

"That's the day all students will be counted to determine how much funding the district will receive this school year."

"It's extremely important that the children show up for school on that day because the finances of the district are weighed so heavily on their attendance," Jim Koster said, assistant superintendent of business and finance. "We will count all the students and

Student counts from the last five years:

2000-01	5,837
2001-02	5,896
2002-03	5,967
2003-04	6,091
2004-05	6,167

legislative leaders came to an agreement that gives school districts throughout Michigan \$175 more per pupil this school year.

Koster originally budgeted \$150 per student. With the increase, it means additional money to the district this school year totaling \$152,000. The final step is to determine how many students are enrolled in the district.

send that number in to the state of Michigan."

Individual intermediate school districts will then audit those numbers until December. Gov. Jennifer Granholm and

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@gannett.com.

Chubb has seen many changes in school district over the years

■ Receptionist's background in nursing gave her needed patience

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Cathy Chubb hasn't met anyone she didn't like while working for the Novi Community School District.

In fact, in the seven years of service, Chubb has been through

two major transitions, ones she feels were made a lot easier by her colleagues.

The most obvious and recent, was the change in superintendents. When Dr. Emmett Lippe decided to retire last year and the district did a search, and finally found its man in Peter Dion, Chubb sat back and watched.

"Being involved in the transition from Dr. Lippe, who I had known all those years, to Peter Dion now, who is marvelous, was very educational," Chubb said.

"That is a great experience to watch happen, and it made an effect on the whole district."

Chubb's other transition was when she moved from working in the community education office for five years to the Educational Services Building as the district's main receptionist for the past two. In community ed., she enjoyed all the families she dealt with on a daily basis and the contacts she made with all the children.

YOUR NOVI Neighbors



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi School District receptionist Cathy Chubb, right, talks with co-worker Suzanne Everett.

continued on page 2



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Spa raises \$1,200 for storm victims

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Deborah Lutz now knows there really is "strength in numbers."

Lutz, of The Works Salon & Spa in Walkersville, helped organize a Hurricane Katrina Survivor Fund-raiser on Sept. 11.

The event was a huge success, thanks to the numerous people who contributed.

"The salon's 'Kits for Katrina' fundraiser raised about \$1,200 for victims of the disaster. Guests were also asked to bring nonperishable items to the salon that day."

The salon did haircuts, hand treatments and chair massages.

Lutz said the first woman who walked in the day of the fund-raiser said she had not had a haircut in some time because her husband had lost his job at the beginning of the summer.

But, the woman decided to attend the event anyway because she knew the money could go to help others.

"I was so moved by this story," Lutz said. She told the woman that her \$20 contribution would actually total \$40 because Lutz's husband's company, DeLaRue Cash Systems, matched funds.

One of the salon's staff members, Jessica McCullen, had been saving change in her drawer all year. When she counted it, it totaled \$21, which she donated to the cause as well as her time that day.

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

Johnny and Stanley raise funds

Former Red Wing tours area with Stanley Cup

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Johnny Wilson, who won the Stanley Cup four times with the Detroit Red Wings in the 1950s, has finally had his day with the Holy Grail of hockey.

But instead of keeping it to himself, Wilson decided to do a noble thing and use it to raise funds for Katrina victims.

"The National Hockey League called months ago and asked if I'd like to have the cup for the day," Wilson said at the Thomson Gale world headquarters in Farmington Hills Tuesday morning. "I certainly agreed, and I was going to spend it with my friends, but in the interim we had this hurricane disaster, and I said, why don't we expose it, so if people want to come and see it and pay a donation, all the money could go to the Salvation Army Katrina fund."

Wilson, who made the cup available to his employees that day, also raffled off a signed home Steve Yzerman sweater to help with the cause.

Wilson explained that with the NHL locked out last year, the cup was not competed for, so the league is trying to let those who won it years ago have an opportunity to spend a day with it now.

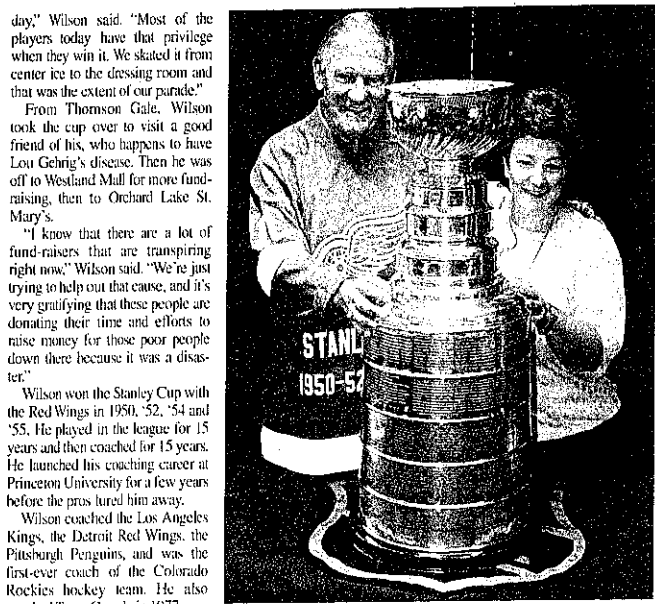
"In our era, we didn't have that privilege of having the cup for the day," Wilson said. "Most of the players today have that privilege when they win it. We skated it from center ice to the dressing room and that was the extent of our parade."

From Thomson Gale, Wilson took the cup over to visit a good friend of his, who happens to have Lou Gehrig's disease. Then he was off to Westland Mall for more fundraising, then to Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

"I know that there are a lot of fund-raisers that are transpiring right now," Wilson said. "We're just trying to help out that cause, and it's very gratifying that these people are donating their time and efforts to raise money for those poor people down there because it was a disaster."

Wilson won the Stanley Cup with the Red Wings in 1950, '52, '54 and '55. He played in the league for 15 years and then coached for 15 years. He launched his coaching career at Princeton University for a few years before the pros lured him away.

Wilson coached the Los Angeles Kings, the Detroit Red Wings, the Pittsburgh Penguins, and was the first-ever coach of the Colorado Rockies hockey team. He also coached Team Canada in 1977.



Former Detroit Red Wing star Johnny Wilson poses with Diane Reed and the Stanley Cup at the Thomson Gale Office Building in Farmington Hills.

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Orchard Hills family helps victims

More evacuees may be coming

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Michael Smith said words can't describe the outpouring of love and kindness his Novi neighbors showed victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Smith lives with his wife, Shawna, and children Michael Jr., 10, Malik, 7, and Alayna, 4, in Orchard Hills subdivision in Novi. The family brought eight evacuees from the Gulf Coast to Novi over the Labor Day Weekend.

But, after members of a local church donated bus tickets, the hurricane victims decided to go back to Louisiana after about a week in Novi.

Smith, a native of New Orleans who has lived in the Metro Detroit area for about 10 years, said the evacuees were relatives or friends of his. They contacted him to ask if he would come rescue them.

He and his family drove 20 hours to pick them up in Lafayette, La., northwest of New Orleans, where they were staying at an American Red Cross shelter.

He met his wife, who works for the State of Michigan, when they were both students at Grambling State University in Louisiana.



Michael and Shawna Smith recently took in eight Hurricane Katrina evacuees for a week at their Novi home. The relatives and friends of Michael's have returned to either Louisiana or Texas, but appreciated the support they received from Orchard Hills subdivision residents, such as Lori Croad and Donna Sanders. Pictured with Michael and Shawna are their children, Michael Jr., 10, center, and from left, Malik, 7, and Alayna, 4.



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The trip to Louisiana

The Smiths brought back two adult men, three adult women and three little girls. He borrowed a friend's van for the trip.

"We left about 3 p.m. Friday afternoon and got down there Saturday morning," Smith said.

"They were all right — just tired and upset," he recalled. "It was difficult living with so many others, sharing hallrooms with hundreds of people."

Residents of Orchard Hills subdivision purchased school clothes for the children and were willing to rent a house in the subdivision for the evacuees.

But the evacuees wanted to go back to check out their damaged homes and continue their search for missing loved ones, Smith said. They also needed to file insurance claims.

Smith's a busy man who may have six more visitors to his Novi home in a week or so.

"I'm also in the process of opening a seafood restaurant with my wife," he said.

He said he was amazed by the contributions of Novi residents. "Orchard Hills residents have opened up their arms and their pockets," he said.

"I have never been in a place where people have come together so quickly to help someone else. It was just overwhelming. I'm lost for words. God works in mysterious ways."

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

Novi Woods sending help

Students at Novi Woods Elementary School joined forces with a local business and collected non-perishable food, clothing, bedding and much more in a hurricane relief donation drive. Students and their families generously contributed bag after bag of needed products in just one week. Pictured are first-graders Jack Lazarus, Andy Lee, Grace Traylor and Emily Robinson with their contributions.

Members of the Novi Rotary Club have collected a total of \$12,043.31 so far in their Katrina Victims Relief Drive. Those who would like to still make a donation can make checks payable to Novi Rotary Foundation, adding "Katrina Relief Fund" on the check's memo line.

All donations will be sent directly to Rotary Clubs in the effected areas via the Novi Rotary Foundation. Checks can be mailed to the Novi Rotary Club c/o The Now News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167.

Rotarians collect \$11,000

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- Guest Speaker: Dr. Brad Habermehl
Director of the Farmington Hills, Flint & Jackson, FL Sensory Learning Center

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Dogs take stage at Twelve Oaks

Just Dogs! Gourmet, a Pittsburgh-based franchise, opened a kiosk at Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi. The four-year-old business sells gourmet dog treats and gifts at 50 shops across the country.

Send us your business news!

Do you have a new hire at your business? Are you gearing up for your grand opening? Is your business heading in an exciting new direction, celebrating an anniversary, or moving? If so, we want to know. Send your business briefs to:

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If possible, include a photograph with your submission. Briefs can come in the form of press releases or announcements, and the Novi News reserves the right to edit for length and content. For more information, call (248) 349-1800, ext. 113.

Novi business gets makeover

Merie Norman in West Oaks II shopping center is having a grand opening Sept. 20-Oct. 1. The West Oaks business went under new ownership by Terry Kutensky in 2002, and now the store has been expanded.

Aside from being a cosmetics studio, the store also has a full salon and nail technician. Customers can also get a free makeover and skin consultation while browsing the numerous styles of wigs offered.

Fashionable brunch with business women

The Novi Oaks Chapter of American Business Women's Association is hosting the Autumn Brunch with Auction at 10 a.m., Saturday at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Novi.

Yamaha motors sold at Gander Mountain

Yamaha Outboards has added Gander Mountain in Novi to its dealer network, according to John Rigby, national sales manager for Yamaha Outboards.

Michigan's unemployment rate in August has decreased by three-tenths of a percent to 6.7 percent.

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Children's author signs newest read

Patrick Carman, author of the children's book 'Beyond the Valley of Thorns' will be appearing at the Novi Borders to discuss his Land of Elyon series, read from his new book and sign copies for fans at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29.

Carman will also be visiting third and fourth grade classes at Parkview and Deerfield Elementary schools in Novi earlier in the day.

Citizens Bank expands to Novi

Citizens Bank announced the grand opening of the bank's newest branch in Novi. Located at 12 Mile Road and M5 just west of Haggerty Road, the new branch replaces a temporary one that had been housed in Citizens' Novi Centre offices.

The Novi branch will be open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The branch offers a drive-up ATM, and as part of the grand opening celebration, customers have the chance of replacing a \$20 bill with a \$50 when they open a new account.

Citizens plans on opening several more offices in southeast Michigan, including Northville and downtown Royal Oak. The bank has scheduled to open another Novi location in December at Grand River Avenue and Wilson Road.

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Owner Peter Paisley sniffs hops used to brew his first production run of red lager at Liquid Manufacturing in Green Oak Township.

Paisley fires up first batch of suds

By Jim Toltan
STAFF WRITER

After spending two months tracking down a computer problem, the taps opened Monday at a Green Oak Township brewing and distilling company for its first official batch of beer for the market.

"This is for the money," said Peter Paisley as he clomped on a cigar at 11 a.m. He was sitting in the second-floor control room in front of a computer terminal that controls the entire operation at Liquid Manufacturing LLC, located in a former Thermofill site on Whitmore Lake Road.

Paisley, 38, said they've had several test brews, but Monday would be the first batch that would be sold. He's also hoping to start production this week for the popular blueberry vodka called Voda and expand into other natural flavors including lemon, strawberry and pomegranate.

For Paisley, production couldn't have come sooner. It's been almost two years since he closed the popular Local Color restaurant and brewery in Novi and embarked on the ambitious task of

renovating a former 67,000-square-foot industrial building into a state-of-art brewing and distilling company.

The first task was cleaning the place. Paisley said employees from his former restaurant spent months scrubbing the building from top to bottom to get rid of a talcum powder. Earlier this year, he received approval from the Liquor Control Commission to produce beer, wine, brandy and distilled spirits at the facility.

"We want to educate people in how beer is made," Paisley said. Thermofill left the township in 1998 after a huge fire, and the company relocated the plant to Ferndale. The lack of water service was a major reason the company decided to move after the fire. Township officials resolved that situation and have built a water system to serve the area.

Local restaurants and stores interested in carrying Liquid Manufacturing products should call the company at (810) 220-2802.

rebuilding those accounts that he wasn't able to supply during this period.

There are eight employees who work at the plant which also produces a popular energy drink. Paisley said the facility is fully-automated and environmentally-friendly. He captures steam product from the brewery and uses it for heating and he uses only real fruit for the vodka, including Michigan blueberries. He also uses pure cane sugar in his popular Rog Rat beer and Curtin Climber creme soda.

Paisley said he still plans on making a tasting room at the plant where the public could visit and test samples of beer, liquor and sodas and learn about the process.

"I literally goes from here right to the consumer," he said. Paisley had been making Tom Boy Red at a brewery outside Grand Rapids, but the contract for that facility ended two months ago. He said his first task will be

FAITH

Franklin Road Christian School chips in to help hurricane victims

At least 500 items have been donated

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Hand towels, wash cloths, soap, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste. These are the items being assembled into kits by students at Franklin Road Christian School, to be shipped down to New Orleans.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- Meadowbrook Congregational Church invites everyone to attend a Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. A full communion will take place Friday, Oct. 14 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 15 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- The Holy Family Church is located at 2455 Meadowbrook Road between Grand River and 10 Mile Road. Call (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamilynovi.org.
- 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 worship hour schedules are as follows: 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Sunday. The church is located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road (at Tall Road), Northville. Phone: (248) 349-1144, or visit www.fumcnorthville.org.
- Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road (between Meadowbrook and Haggerty roads). Visit www.churchoftheholycross.com for more information.

Powerful praying occurs at Fox Run

Seniors answer calls on prayer hotline

By Tracy Misher
STAFF WRITER

June Hammond is humble and grateful for all she has. Hammond has joined the ministry of the Lord in the comfort of her own home at Fox Run Senior Community. Through Guidepost Magazine, a Christian-based monthly publication, volunteers are trained to serve as prayer leaders and listeners for a national prayer hotline.

Hammond, 85, who said she found God later in life, really enjoys taking part in her one-hour weekly prayer session with callers. "People will call the hotline, and we help them come back to the Lord," she said. "It can be very emotional at times, but we try to say prayers that the Lord hears."

Guidepost caters to all Christian denominations, and the hotline serves as a place where people can call with their problems or life concerns and have someone to talk to.

Nine Fox Run residents took part in the two-day training seminar. Requests can come from phone, letter or e-mail. According to her Web site, over 45,000 prayer requests were answered in August.

"This is a great way for people to increase their quality of life and connect with God," Keesley said. "People of all ages call in. Whatever their problem may be, we pray for them and wish them."

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OPINION

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WHERE WE STAND

Chamber of Commerce members: Vote for your board

By now, all Novi Chamber of Commerce members should have received ballots for new officers (one-year terms) and directors (two-year terms). There are 11 candidates, including four incumbents, vying for nine open director seats; the officers are all incumbents. All terms will begin Jan. 1. All ballots must be received at the Chamber office by 5 p.m. this Monday, and the new board will be announced at the Chamber's annual membership luncheon Thursday, Sept. 29 at Gals O' Corners. This 17-member board directs the Chamber in fulfilling its mission: "To be a responsible, pro-active advocate of interests in the greater Novi area." We encourage all members of the Novi Chamber of Commerce to cast their votes and help set the organization's future course.

Correction:

The date of the live debate of Novi City Council and mayoral candidates was given incorrectly in last week's edition. The correct date is Tuesday, Oct. 11 at the SouthWest Oakland Cable Commission studios. Six council candidates will face each other from 6-7:30 p.m., and the two mayoral candidates will square off from 8-9 p.m.

Eating at Shiro is worth the hassle

Are you one of those people who would drive out of your way to go to a really fine restaurant? If so, I've got just the place for you - Shiro. "Out of the way? You're thinking." It's located on the north side of Nine Mile Road, just east of Novi Road. Yes, it's a bit of a drive, but the food is being torn apart and rebuilt for about four months while your business gets tanked because it's hard to get to. "The construction is killing us," said J.W. Shin, owner. "Our sales are down 70 percent."

Even though the construction, which limits Nine Mile Road traffic to a slow westbound-only crawl, is to be wrapped up by the end of November, many of Shiro's customers are canceling their Christmas parties because of the headaches they're experiencing now. A wine-tasting event scheduled for Tuesday was cancelled as well. It's so bad, in fact, that Shin had to wait 15 minutes to get into his parking lot because of the heavy equipment blocking the way. His chef has resided to parking at the Blockbuster Video store in the Oakpointe Plaza and walking to the restaurant. "Lunchtime is really bad," he said. "We usually have 50 to 60 people; now maybe 20."

Shin, a Korean, knows the restaurant business is a tough gig - he's owned Shiro for five years and had another place in Rochester Hills prior - but this is something totally unexpected. He tried to get relief from his insurance company, but was told to take it up with the city. Unfortunately, the work was ordered by the state, not Novi. Shin is billed as "Contemporary American & Japanese cuisine" on the Shiro's business cards. He said he's in the process of revamping the menu, which includes steak, lamb, fish and a sushi bar. The 90-year-old white house, which requires a fair amount of upkeep, is a "destination restaurant," according to Shin. "We're not on Main Street, and I wouldn't relocate. I love this place."

Unlike many non-franchise restaurants, Shin said he has shown a steady increase in sales year after year. June through August are typically slow months, but from September on, that's when he pays the bills. When Molly Abrams gave Shiro a glowing review in the Detroit Free Press a couple of months ago, Shin thought it would bring in a host of new customers. But the construction killed any chance of that, and now his 18 employees sit idle waiting for things to pick up. "Four more weeks like this," said Shin, "and I have to shut down." Take Meadowbrook Road to Nine Mile Road and head west. Sure, it's a little out of the way, but your taste buds will thank you. Shiro is open from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. for lunch Monday-Friday; 5-10 p.m. for dinner Monday-Thursday; and 5-10:30 p.m. for dinner Friday and Saturday. Phone (248) 348-1212.

Cal Stone is the editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 or by e-mail at stone@gannett.com.

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 daily 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:** stone@gannett.com. **Fax to:** (248) 349-9832.

Election letters: In order to be fair to everyone, this newspaper will not run letters to the editor the week prior (the Nov. 3 edition) to an election that opens new issues. Expressions of thanks to political supporters are best made by an advertisement.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Photo by MEGHAN MITCH
Fuerst Farm Family Day fun
Patricia Brauer of Farm Takes in Oxford, Mich., cradles a piglet, one of the several animals she brought to the Fuerst Farm Family Day in Novi on Sept. 11. About 1,500 people attended the event that featured farm animals, tractor-pulled wagon rides, traditional games, a professional storyteller and puppet show. Children were able to try their hand at farm chores, pressing apples for cider and crafts. Denise Marie Stein and Maggie Ferguson of Meadowlark played the hammered dulcimer and guitar and sang traditional folk songs, while children and their parents enjoyed an afternoon celebrating Novi's rural past. The event was free, but contributions were collected for the Novi Library's Building Fund.

LETTERS

Drug funds could pay for Big Brother option

After reading last Thursday's issue of the Novi News and the "City council earmarks more for drug money" article on the drug money coming to the City of Novi, I was uncertain whether I should laugh or cry. On one hand the decision to pay off \$1.2 million of the police department's building fund is commendable and a good sound fiscal move. Although I do have some serious problems about the police department or city administration being "entitled" to the \$300,000 per year (or \$3.3 million) savings of taxpayers' money!

On the other hand, the dumb-and-dumber decision to spend \$1 million on a proposed \$10-million "Big Brother" surveillance system is a waste of money. What subdivision are they going to put it next to - Dunbar-Fines? What subdivision wants a proposed \$10-million Big Brother next door?

Did anyone stop to think and consider the negative ramifications: additional operational and yearly expenses, staff increases and the inherent problems of another municipal building that will be used part-time at best? What about the noise factors, the possible lead contamination, the on-site storage of explosive ammunition, the security problems of storing firearms on-site, 24-hour building security, etc., etc.?

Then I started to think about how that money could be used successfully for both our police department and our community. One promising cost-effective and professional tool that many law enforcement groups are using more and more around the world is the strategic deployment and installation of high-resolution video camera systems in critical high traffic areas and potential trouble spots.

Using the drug money in our city to establish a high-resolution video camera system to provide 24-hour surveillance in key traffic areas - both vehicle and pedestrian - seems to be a win-win situation for our police department and our community. The police department and the fire department would have extra sets of camera eyes on 24/7 coverage of apparent trouble spots (i.e., traffic, weather, etc.). Our police department and our community would also receive extra benefits because they could - if the system is so set up - have instant video available of the traffic conditions at Twelve Oaks Mall, live road construction situations, real-time conditions at principal Novi intersections, etc.

With the high-resolution video camera systems in place, video monitors and recorders could be placed in the police dispatch room, the fire department stations, and city hall. Other possible benefits our community uses that came to my small mind are listed below.

1. Almost-Free (if not Maintenance). The live video feeds from the high-resolution video camera systems could be leased out to such groups as the local television stations, the weather channel, county road commissions, trucking companies, etc. These fees - typically yearly amounts - could be used for the high-resolution video camera systems' general maintenance and for future upgrades.

2. Matching Funds. There may be matching funds from the Federal Homeland Security grants (or perhaps state and county sources) to further expand or enhance the high-resolution video camera systems.

3. Significant Theft Deterrent Impact for those areas under the high-resolution video camera systems' cameras. Thieves would be less likely to target areas under 24-hour 7-day-per-week surveillance.

4. Cost-Effective. A 24/7 remote-controlled high-resolution video camera system displaying real-time traffic and weather conditions at strategic city of Novi positions would produce no requests for yearly salary increases, no personnel benefits to worry about, and no bonus requests.

5. Litigation Deterrent. With DVD and/or videotape records for in-depth analysis of situations and events, plus backup for city prosecution/legal rebuttal efforts, etc.

Residents, taxpayers - take heed

Many have watched with great disdain the actions of our city council, and hopefully the upcoming election will remove members from our council that have denied the residents with campaign promises after they were elected. They are quite willing to spend our money and give everything to the developers at our expense. We must stand together for the greater good of our taxpayers.

David Landry is running for mayor and Kim Capello is running for council. We must remove Landry and Capello from council. Please vote accordingly. Others are running that have the residents' concerns as priorities such as Andrew Mutch and Lowell Sprague. Please let our council know how you feel with a letter or phone call. When are our elected officials going to start working for the taxpayers? They must be made aware that we have the ability to make changes. I am not against the police department or firefighters. I am profoundly appreciative of their past and present service. I am, however, concerned with fairness for all. It would behoove all citizens to research and be informed before elections for all involved.

How many times have our ordinances been ignored in favor of developers and big money? How many favors were handed over to Blair Bowman for the new and the old expo center and many other projects? Main Street and those developers continue to ignore ordinances (height) at the generosity of the city council. We must be aware and put a stop to this. Be prepared. Get involved. It's for your own survival!

Joseph G. Toth
City of Novi Resident, Taxpayer
Former Novi City Councilmember

Novi Theater - "Route 66"

Hats off to the cast and crew of the Novi Theater's Senior Show "Route 66". The time and effort to put on a show made for and performed by seniors was outstanding! The talent of our senior citizens in our community is unbelievable and is something for us to be proud of. The response of the audience with their clapping, whistling and ovations gives testament of the caliber of show they attended.

Each and every year our show gets better and better and under the direction of Sheri Sansom and Linda Wickert. We thank them for their time and effort and the vision to create such wonderful shows!

Great Job!

Rachel Zagaroli
Senior Services Manager, City of Novi

Shoot the range down

I need to ask a question of city council members Landry, Capello and Gatt: How do you justify spending \$2 million on a shooting range? Are you aware that it only costs the Novi taxpayers \$1,800 per year for our officers to use another range?

To me this is pork in an election year. Mr. Landry is running for mayor, Mr. Capello is seeking another term on city council and Mr. Gatt is a retired police officer. You all opposed giving the taxpayers a little relief by paying off the police building. That would have saved the city over \$3 million. The cost of running the range is between \$25,000 and \$40,000 per year. This is another burden you have placed on the backs of the Novi taxpayers. This makes no sense to me, and I hope that the other taxpayers of Novi are as outraged as I am. The police will get their shooting range but at what cost? Future pay raises and additional manpower will almost certainly be opposed by the Novi taxpayers.

Lorenzo Correas, council members Paul, Nagy and Lorenzo want the best for the financial interest of the city. The rest of the council is playing politics and looking out for themselves.

Bill Burton
Novi

We are now seen as an occupying army, and the longer we stay there, the longer the killing will go on. With our National Guard in Iraq, they aren't there when we need them in New Orleans.

We have seen several milestones that the Bush Administration heralded that meant nothing. The mission accomplished, where conquest was completed, but the killing accelerated. The election, where the violence was so extreme that reporters, much less candidates, are afraid to go out in public. The constitution that failed to get support of the Sunnis - the minority that faces the insurgency. The rank-and-file Iraqis are more worried about keeping the electricity on than getting a constitution.

This war is looking more and more like the quagmire that was Vietnam. And the administration is like deer caught in headlights, with the only strategy one of "staring the course." To date, 1,800 American servicemen (60 from Michigan) and almost 30,000 Iraqis have perished in this adventure.

The way we got out of Vietnam was when Congress finally stopped funding it. Please contact your Congressman and Senators and let them to support our troops - and bring them home.

Tim Vance
Walled Lake

Bring our troops home

My son enlisted in the Army for a two-year stint in a volunteer army. It was a free decision based on the benefits. Recently, however, he was stop-lossed, and his service is being extended almost a full year. This is equivalent to the draft, which provided the personnel for the Vietnam War. During his campaign, Mr. Bush said there would not be a draft. Just another lie by this administration.

The stop-loss policy had its roots in World War II as a way for the Army to maintain troop counts in the final drive of the war. If the troops in Iraq have to stay until the war on terror is over, they will never get out. Rather, the army needs troops now because of bungling by the Bush Administration.

The justification for this war was weapons of mass destruction. The facts are that Iraq was closer to weapons of mass destruction back in 1991. A connection to the 9/11 attacks has been given. The facts are that there is no connection. The Administration has even justified it as "bringing Democracy to the Middle East." As the facts have shown, Iraq is a highly divided country, and the only way to really hold it together is with a strong dictator.

Dolores Vedro
Novi

COMMENTARY

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com

State legislature reeks of 'beer and wine' influence

Fed up with politics as usual? Lots of people in Michigan are - and here is one reason why. For years, state law allowed wineries in this state to ship wine direct to Michigan customers. Meanwhile, wine shipments to Michigan residents from out-of-state wine makers were outlawed.

The law also required that all beer and wine sold at retail must be distributed by beer and wine wholesalers. If you think this sounds like a legalized monopoly, you're right. And it has been protected for decades by the most powerful lobby in Lansing, the Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association.

This group works to protect the interests (not of the consumers, of course) but of the 70-odd families who own wholesaling and distribution companies. Ray and Eleanor Heald, the wine columnists who worked for these newspapers for years, sued, and the case wound up before the U.S. Supreme Court. In May, the high court ruled that the Michigan law was discriminatory and therefore an unconstitutional restriction on interstate commerce.

Wine lovers and free market advocates rejoiced, expecting that ruling would end the wholesalers' monopoly power. The politicians had another idea. Led by state House of Representatives Majority Leader Chris Ward, R-Brighton, a bill passed overwhelmingly late last month by the House would severely limit direct ship-

ments by all wineries, no matter where they are located. That would then preserve the wholesalers' monopoly. Wine makers would be allowed to ship some wine under a tight annual limit, but they would be forbidden altogether to ship to restaurants and retailers.

Why? Well, you may think this is only a coincidence ... but the record shows the beer and wine lobby is among the 10 largest contributors to the political campaigns of two-thirds of the 84 representatives who voted for the bill. Imagine that. The bill now goes to the state senate, where, again, many of the senators have benefited from the contribution record of the wholesalers. Some, however, think Majority Leader Ken Sikken, R-Wyoming, may be less inclined to preserve the monopoly of this tiny but extremely powerful sliver of our state.

Now consider just how many people are directly affected either way by this legislation that has so preoccupied the legislators we send to Lansing. Supposedly, remember, our lawmakers are there to look after our best interests. To begin with there are the 70 or so families that own beer and wine wholesaling companies. And there are wine enthusiasts who make up far less than 1 percent of Michigan's 10 million residents. This is, um, pretty small beer. And it's even smaller beer when compared

with stuff that affects almost everybody. Take high gas prices. It's no secret that the domestic automakers, the mainstay of our economy, have been in financial trouble for years. Now, they could be dealt a mortal blow by gas that is becoming so expensive that it will limit market demand for gas guzzling new product now in the pipeline. (If you don't believe me, see what it costs to fill up that Hummer.)

Michigan's bad economic situation is being made worse by our archaic tax system. Worst of all is the Single Business Tax, which essentially penalizes business for hiring workers ... in a state that often has the highest unemployment rate in the country.

With all this to deal with, how come the tempest in a wine bottle gets the rapt attention of our political system? Simple. The wealthy beer and wine wholesalers lobby buys the attention of our legislators. That's all. It literally buys their attention. So the interests of a majority of our people are held hostage to a political system that divides its attention according to the amount of money a "constituency" can contribute to the politicians.

When you think about that, it isn't hard to conclude that the real reason so many people are fed up with our system is that it takes care of organized special interest groups that can afford to pay.

As for the big problems of our state, the ones that affect us all - well, too often the politicians see them as an unwanted intrusion on business as usual.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan. He would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@hcnnet.com.



Phil Power

So the interests of a majority of our people are held hostage to a political system that divides its attention according to the amount of money a "constituency" can contribute to the politicians.

High-speed convenience taking over

Sitting in a car in Novi, I leaned down to grab a new CD from my case. Just as I pulled out a disc, I heard a car behind me honk several times. Just as I suspected, the light was green. In the time it took to blink an eye and reach down to grab a new CD, I had gotten crucified because I wasn't going fast enough for the guy behind me.

Sound familiar? Well it should, because that is the world we all live in today - a world desperately seeking - instant gratification. As it seems, everyone is in a hurry to get everything now and not later.

A good example is the Internet. At first, we were happy with a dial-up modem, but now, it's considered ancient, just as I don't have a cable modem or something even faster, most people think. "What's the point in having the Internet?"

We are all at fault of being overly impatient and needful of instant gratification, but

when is there going to be a point when our needs outweigh the speed these new inventions are being pumped out? I'm not saying that having things quicker isn't more convenient, but some people aren't moving at the same speed as others.

Today's generation even bases appearance on a speed scale. Instead of a well-balanced diet and exercise that can provide lasting results, people are able to choose from a wide variety of metabolism pumping pills to help boost their weight loss. The problem with all the latest high-speed gadgets is people are becoming fatter and expect everyone to be on the same page as they are. "Take our president for example, who implemented the No Child Left Behind Act. It is a good thing to have everyone improve in school, but what about those that aren't ready to move on?"

Aren't our schools suppose to be teaching and not just filtering kids through the system

to meet the requirements of a certain set for funding? We live in a world that is based on speed. What did people do in the early 1900s when their cars only went 30 mph or in the 1800s when buggies were pulled by horses?

There needs to come a time when we all just relax and take into account what we're already got. People wonder why their cell phones lose service. The answer: There are more phones than there are towers, and the companies can't keep up. People wonder why the video game they bought yesterday at Best Buy won't work on their computer. The answer: Just yesterday, Microsoft came out with yet another computer. People wonder why gas prices are so high. The answer: It's all about supply and demand. This is the world we live in, and it's not going to get any better if the demand doesn't relax and let the supply catch up.

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SPOTLIGHT ON: ALLERGY & ASTHMA
Presented by Michael S. Rowe, M.D., E.A.C.C., C.C.R.I. MOLD

After a long summer of dealing with outdoor allergens and avoiding allergenic insect stings, allergy sufferers may look forward to some time indoors. But, indoor allergens can cause as many problems for sensitive individuals. Mold is the most common indoor trigger of both asthma and allergy symptoms: pet dander and dust are other common culprits. In people who are sensitive to it, mold causes nasal congestion, sneezing, runny nose, coughing and irritated eyes. In asthmatics, it can exacerbate existing symptoms. Over time, mold can even cause asthma or other respiratory problems. Mold is often found on window sills, air filter units, air vents, shower stalls and under kitchen sinks. Because some molds are invisible, the best indicator is a musty odor.

New patients are welcome. "The Center Allergy Who Gets Results."

ALLEGY AND ASTHMA CENTER OF MICHIGAN at (248) 471-6400. Our office is located at 24120 Meadowbrook Road, STE 200, Novi.

If you have asthma or you could mold allergy symptoms, or you are a parent of a child with asthma, call our office for a free consultation. We'll help you understand your condition and provide the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of allergies and asthma. To schedule an appointment, call the ALLERGY AND ASTHMA CENTER OF MICHIGAN at (248) 471-6400. Our office is located at 24120 Meadowbrook Road, STE 200, Novi.

New patients are welcome. "The Center Allergy Who Gets Results."

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

WHAT'S YOUR BRACKET?

Much like Henry Ford's Model T, the orthodontic brackets that hold the horizontal archwire in place were once available in many materials, as long as they were stainless steel. Today, there is a wider choice. Stainless steel is still available, though at a greatly reduced size. It is no longer necessary to attach a bracketed band to each tooth. Instead, small brackets are attached with dental adhesives. In addition to stainless steel, there are ceramic brackets, which not only have great strength, but also are less obvious on front teeth. There are also clear plastic brackets that are nearly invisible. And for those who like to show off their braces, brackets can be gold-plated or made of titanium.

Crooked teeth are a common dental problem. Some experts have estimated that up to seven people out of ten would benefit from orthodontic treatment at some point in their lives. You are never too old for a beautiful smile. If you have been living with a bite problem or you are self-conscious about your smile, now is a good time to discover how orthodontics can transform your smile and improve your lifestyle.

Patent care has always been my number one focus. The office is conveniently located at 39595 W. Ten Mile Road, Suite 111. For more information about orthodontic treatment, please call our office at 248-471-1581.

Dr. Wayne's office is located on the back side of the tenth to render braces virtually invisible.

CALENDAR

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 csstone@gannett.com

EVENTS

City of Wixom Mother/Son Tiki-Beach Night

DATE: today
TIME: 6:30-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Wixom Community Center, 49015 Pontiac Trail
DETAILS: The cost is \$20 per couple; \$5 cash additional person. Come dressed in beach attire for dancing, pizza dinner and ice cream.
CONTACT: (248) 624-2850 to register

Plymouth Community Chorus Auditions

TIME/DATE: By appointment only beginning 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 27
LOCATION: Northville Hillside Middle School, 735 N. Center St., corner of Center and Eight Mile roads
CONTACT: (734) 416-9885

Author Event

DATE: Thursday, Sept. 29
LOCATION: Parkview and Deerfield Elementary
DETAILS: Children's author Patrick Carman is visiting third- and fourth-graders to talk about writing, reading and his new book in his LAND OF ELYON SERIES, "Beyond the Valley of Thorns." That evening he will be appearing at Borders in Novi to discuss his series, read from his new book and sign copies for fans.

Novi Theaters Productions

Novi Concert Band Rehearsals

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0400
TIME/DATE: 7:30-9:30 p.m., Tuesdays, ongoing
LOCATION: Novi High School, Tall Road
DETAILS: Open to all wind and percussion players.
CONTACT: Dusan Kocichyan, (248) 348-5135

Maybury Farm's Second Annual Corn Maze

TIME/DATE: 5-9 p.m., Fridays, 1-9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays
LOCATION: Maybury Farm, 50665 Eight Mile, east of Napier Road in Northville. Use the farm entrance on Eight Mile and follow around to the Maze parking lot—there is no fee if you use the Maybury Farm parking lot. Follow the signs to the Corn Maze entrance at the Maybury Farm Welcome Center.
DETAILS: The Corn Maze, sponsored by Metro Detroit Farmer Jack stores, will be open through October 30.

America's Walk for Diabetes

DATE: Saturday, Sept. 24, and Sunday, Sept. 25
TIME: Check-in time is 8 a.m., start time for the walk is 9 a.m.
LOCATION: Belle Isle, Stony Creek Metro-park on Sept. 24; Kensington and Lake Erie metro-parks on Sept. 25.
DETAILS: Help the ADA take an important step in beating diabetes as part of America's Walk for

Diabetes, America's Walk is the premier event of the American Diabetes Association. The Kensington Metro-park event will feature either a 4-mile or an 8.5-mile walk. Funds raised are used toward diabetes research, advocacy, programs and events. For information or to register, call (888) DIABETES or visit www.diabetes.org.

Lyon Oaks County Park Fun Run/Walk

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 8
TIME: 10 a.m.
LOCATION: 52251 Pontiac Trail, between Old Plank and Wixom roads, Lyon Township
DETAILS: Fees for the 5K Fun Run/Walk are \$15/person, which includes a t-shirt, lunch and free parking.
CONTACT: City of Wixom, (248) 624-2850

Oktoberfest

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 22
TIME: 2-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Detroit Public Television, Grand River at Napier Road, Wixom
DETAILS: This event includes children's activities, food, German Band, entertainment and dancing.
CONTACT: (248) 624-2850

Borders Bookstore Events

LOCATION: 43075 Crescent Boulevard, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 347-0780
Book Signing
DATE: Thursday, Sept. 29
TIME: 7 p.m.
DETAILS: Children's author Patrick Carman will be signing his book, Land of Elyon #2: Beyond

the Valley of Thorns

Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0400

Novi Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Lunch

DATE: Thursday, Sept. 29
TIME: registration at 11:30; lunch at noon
LOCATION: Gus O'Connors, 42875 Grand River Ave. (located on Main Street)
DETAILS: Heart-warming anecdotes presented by Robert Thorne, president, Petrol-Twelve Oaks Mall. Cost is \$20.
CONTACT: (248) 349-3743
DATE: Thursday, Sept. 29
TIME: registration at 11:30; lunch at noon

SCHOOL/GOVERNMENT

Novi City Council

DATE: Tuesdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, 25; Nov. 9, 23; 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: Mondays, Sept. 26; Oct. 10 and 24; Nov. 14 and 28; Dec. 5 and 19
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 344-0470

Novi School Board Meeting

DATE: Thursday, Oct. 6
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Educational

New Member Reception and Orientation

DATE: Thursday, Oct. 20
TIME: 8:30-10 a.m.
LOCATION: Chamber Office, 305 N. Pontiac Trail, Suite B, Walled Lake
Evening Connection
DATE/LOCATION: Thursday, Oct. 27, Open Door Outreach Center, 7170 Cooley Lake Road, Waterford

BUSINESS

Sixth Gate Cloggers Beginners Class

DATE: Wednesdays through Oct. 26
TIME: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 10 Mile, west of Novi Road
DETAILS: The fee is \$24 for Novi residents; \$36 for non-residents; \$20-30 p.m., drop-in class with a \$4 fee.
CONTACT: (248) 669-2253, Instructor Paul

Builder's Pre-License Class

DATE: Monday/Wednesday, Sept. 26, 28, Oct. 3, 5
TIME: 6-10 p.m.
LOCATION: South Lyon High School, 1000 N. Lafayette Street
DATE: Tuesday/Thursday, Oct. 4, 6, 11, 13
TIME: 6-10 p.m.
LOCATION: Wixom Parks & Recreation, 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
DETAILS: The help you need to pass the Michigan State

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Events

DATE/LOCATION: Oct. 5, Big Apple Bagels, Commerce Township; Wednesday, Oct. 12, Volare Restaurant, Wixom

CLASSES

Wixom City Council

DATE: Tuesdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, 25; Nov. 9, 23; 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: Mondays, Sept. 26; Oct. 10 and 24; Nov. 14 and 28; Dec. 5 and 19
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 344-0470

Novi School Board Meeting

DATE: Thursday, Oct. 6
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Educational

Diabetes, America's Walk is the premier event of the American Diabetes Association. The Kensington Metro-park event will feature either a 4-mile or an 8.5-mile walk. Funds raised are used toward diabetes research, advocacy, programs and events. For information or to register, call (888) DIABETES or visit www.diabetes.org.

Lyon Oaks County Park Fun Run/Walk

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 8
TIME: 10 a.m.
LOCATION: 52251 Pontiac Trail, between Old Plank and Wixom roads, Lyon Township
DETAILS: Fees for the 5K Fun Run/Walk are \$15/person, which includes a t-shirt, lunch and free parking.
CONTACT: City of Wixom, (248) 624-2850

Oktoberfest

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 22
TIME: 2-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Detroit Public Television, Grand River at Napier Road, Wixom
DETAILS: This event includes children's activities, food, German Band, entertainment and dancing.
CONTACT: (248) 624-2850

Borders Bookstore Events

LOCATION: 43075 Crescent Boulevard, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 347-0780
Book Signing
DATE: Thursday, Sept. 29
TIME: 7 p.m.
DETAILS: Children's author Patrick Carman will be signing his book, Land of Elyon #2: Beyond

the Valley of Thorns

Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0400

Novi Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Lunch

DATE: Thursday, Sept. 29
TIME: registration at 11:30; lunch at noon
LOCATION: Gus O'Connors, 42875 Grand River Ave. (located on Main Street)
DETAILS: Heart-warming anecdotes presented by Robert Thorne, president, Petrol-Twelve Oaks Mall. Cost is \$20.
CONTACT: (248) 349-3743
DATE: Thursday, Sept. 29
TIME: registration at 11:30; lunch at noon

BUSINESS

Sixth Gate Cloggers Beginners Class

DATE: Wednesdays through Oct. 26
TIME: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 10 Mile, west of Novi Road
DETAILS: The fee is \$24 for Novi residents; \$36 for non-residents; \$20-30 p.m., drop-in class with a \$4 fee.
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continued from page 18

each of these genealogy websites. Prerequisite: Comfortable knowledge of Internet navigation and basic knowledge of genealogy.

Teen Reading Game

DATE: Oct. 1-31
DETAILS: If you are in grade 9 and higher, stop in the Library beginning October 1 and pick up a reading game card. Complete the six activities on the card, and return it to the Library on or before October 31. Everyone who returns a completed game card will earn a book light, and all completed game cards will be entered in a drawing for \$20 in Borders Gift Cards. The drawing will be held November 1.

Isiah McKinnon

DATE: Wednesday, Oct. 5
TIME: 7 p.m.
DETAILS: Dr. Isiah McKinnon, Detroit former Chief of Police, WDIV Channel 4 broadcast, university professor, author, and motivational speaker provides audiences with a thought-provoking message full of humor and hope.

The Virtual Magazine Rack

DATE: Thursday, Oct. 6
TIME: 7 p.m.
DETAILS: Complete articles from magazines are now available on the Internet through many online databases. The contents of these magazines range from current events and popular culture to fitness and health matters. But how do you search these databases efficiently to find the information you need? Take the opportunity to learn how to use two of our most popular magazine databases like a pro in this hands-on class. Prerequisite: Internet searching experience.

Benefit for NPL Walker Building Fund

DATE: Saturday, Oct. 8
TIME: 10 a.m.
PLACE: Emagine Theatre at Fountain Walk
DETAILS: Emagine Theatre at Fountain Walk is holding a special screening of the new film, "Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of

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We'll bring the store to you! Let our team of trained professionals help you choose the style and color that's best for every room of your home. Select from a full assortment of blinds, window shades, shutters, curtains, top treatments and more!

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PILATES

Oakland Physical Therapy offers Pilates classes in a safe, professional environment. Our Instructor and Staff Physical Therapist, Pam Geboski, is a Certified Stott's® Pilates Instructor and a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist.

Evening Class
Tuesday and Thursday
(2 classes per week)
7:00 - 8:00 pm

Lunchtime Class
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
(option of 2 or 3 classes per week)
12:00 - 1:00 pm

Private and duet sessions are available

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

PLEASE CALL (248) 380-3550 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Something Good is Cooking

To place your ad in our Holiday Recipe Book

Space Reservation: October 17th
Copy Deadline: October 18th
Publication Date: November 10th
Call for more information:

PRESS & ARGUS 517-548-7060
Milford Times 248-685-1507
Northville Record 248-349-1700
Novi News 248-437-2011

Livingston County Daily
PRESS & ARGUS 517-548-7060
Milford Times 248-685-1507
Northville Record 248-349-1700
Novi News 248-437-2011

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Call Today!

To receive your space in this special section which will focus on your most important investment...Your Home.

Story Reservation Deadline
Monday, September 26, 2005

Ad Reservation Deadline
Tuesday, September 27, 2005

SENIORS

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com

Sixgate Squadron assists Pearl Harbor survivor

On the crisp morning of Sept. 10 members of the Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol (CAP), joined with local city employees and family members in coming to the aid of a local hero.

Louis Gombasy, a Pearl Harbor survivor, former seaman aboard the famed USS Nevada, and travel aviator, currently resides within Novi city limits.

After many years of service to his nation and service to the community as a founding member of the local CAP unit, Sixgate Composite Squadron, this 85-year-old veteran found it more and more difficult to keep up his yard with the passing of time. When city officials noted several violations regarding the home, they decided to assist the Gombasys rather than fine them.

Linda Stazeni, Gombasy's daughter, then called upon her and her father's former squadron for aid. Capt. Terry Danol, current commander of the unit, responded with not only enthusiasm but with a number of the unit's members. These members include Lt. Col. Noel Gregory, Maj. Patrick Gorman, 2d Lt. Jo Ellen and Ben Harris, 2d Lt. Gregory Lis, and cadet Curtis Berenguer. Joining the



Courtesy photo

Members of Civic Air Patrol shown (left to right) after cleaning up the yard of Louis Gombasy: Lt. Greg Lis, Lt. Ben Harris, Lt. Jo Ellen Harris, Leah Hansel, Maureen Underhill, Tim Wiggle, Linda Gombasy, Capt. Terry Danol and Maj. Patrick Gorman. Sitting are Curtis Berenguer and Evelyn Malloy.

group was Maureen Underhill and her daughter Leah Hansel of Novi, Evelyn Malloy of Farmington Hills and Tim Wiggle.

From 9 a.m.-1 p.m., these volunteers labored tirelessly cutting the grass, trimming trees and bushes, removing weeds and generally providing their time and caring effort to the yard of a friend and neighbor. Their combined effort resulted in over 35 bags of cuttings and trimmings. At the end of the mission the

yard sparkled like the eyes of Mr. Gombasy.

CAP, now considered by their military counterparts as the fourth pillar of the Air Force, is the Air Force's leading resource in in-land search and rescue. Handling over 93 percent of all missing aircraft searches, the CAP not only sees its adult members coming to the aid of their country here at home but also provides leadership in the future of the aviation industry through their

cadet program.

By Maj. Patrick Gorman, Sixgate Public Affairs Officer, and Lt. Lt. Jen Gorman, director of Cadet Programs.

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Friday 9/23

8:45 a.m. Panera Bread
9 a.m. Stretch and Strength
10 a.m. Body Recall
noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Bingo
1:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge
2:2:30 p.m. Massage/Healing Touch

Monday 9/26

9 a.m. Stretch and Strength
10 a.m. Body Recall
noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Pinocle*
2:2:30 p.m. Massage/Healing Touch
6:30 p.m. Clogging*

Tuesday 9/27

9 a.m. Panera Bread
9 a.m. Line Dance
9 a.m.-noon Spinal Health Screening, Dr. Kintz-free
10 a.m. Asian Pacific
noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Bingo held in activities room
2:2:30 p.m. Massage/Healing Touch
Macomb Island Trip

Wednesday 9/28

9 a.m. Stretch and Strength
10 a.m. Body Recall
10:30 a.m. Quilting
11 a.m. Blood pressure
11 a.m. Taking Off Pounds Sensibly class
noon Lunch
12:30 p.m. Clogging*
2:2:30 p.m. Massage/Healing Touch
2-4 p.m. Estate Planning by Appointment
Agawa Canyon Trip

Thursday 9/29

9 a.m. Line dance
11 a.m. "Achieving What You Want", Catholic Social Services room
Lunch
12:15 Bridge*
1:2 p.m. Line dance
2:2:30 p.m. Massage/Healing Touch
Rochester, Mich. Leader Dog Trip
*Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. Phone (248) 347-0414.

PEOPLE

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com

WEDDING



The Galdes

Elizabeth Christine Bass and Ian Joseph Galdes were married September 3, 2005 at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Novi. Pastor Karen Henry and Father John Henry officiated the ceremony. A reception was held at Links of Pinewood.

The bride is the daughter of Richard and Sherry Bass of Novi. She earned her associates degree from Oakland Community College, Cosmetology School and is employed as a hairdresser at Dawn and Company.

The groom is the son of Ken and Linda Galdes of Brighton, formerly South Lyon. He is a Central Michigan University graduate and is employed as a foreman for an excavating company.

The matron of honor was Sarah (Bass) Synowick, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Maria Roma, Kristen Jones, Val Dankert, Shuna Aldred and Mackenzie McNamara. Scarlet Synowick, niece of the bride, was the flower girl.

Serving as best man was Eric Galdes, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Loren Gille, Michael Aldred, Mitchell Anderson, Kevin Dankert and Jamie Jones.

The couple honeymooned at St. Luca, staying at the Sandals Halcyon Resort.

ENGAGEMENTS



Gordon-Knight

Bob and Debbie Gordon of Novi announce the engagement

of their daughter, Stephanie Gordon to Michael Knight, son of Milton and Debbie Knight of Walled Lake.

The bride-elect is a 1998 graduate of Novi High School. She earned a bachelor of science degree at Michigan State University and is teaching kindergarten at Cesar Chavez Academy in Detroit.

The groom-elect is a 1998 graduate of Detroit Country Day. He earned his bachelor of arts degree at Albion College and is employed at Napo Auto Parts.

An October 2005 wedding is planned.



Boyle-LeRoy

Mike and Debbie Boyle and Tim and Robbi LeRoy, all of

Novi, announce the engagement of their children, Sarah Arlean Boyle and Brian Timothy LeRoy.

The bride-elect is a 2002 graduate of Novi High School and currently majoring in Special Education at Michigan State University with graduation, May 2006.

The groom-elect is a 1996 graduate of Novi High School. He graduated in 2000 and 2003 from Michigan State University with a Masters of Business Administration degree. He is currently employed as a Plant Manager for Cintas, Macomb Township. A June 2006 wedding is planned.

OBITUARY

DARYL ROBERT GRINDROD

Of Boston, August 18, 2005 age 37. Beloved son of John W. and Jenica M. Grindrod of Springfield, Mass. Daryl was the youngest of four children. He was a graduate of Springfield High School and currently employed as a supervisor with the Census Bureau. A celebration of Daryl's life will be held on September 24 at the Novi United Methodist Church 41671 10 Mile at 1:00 pm. Donations in Daryl's memory can be made to the Ferway Community Health, Prudential Tower 800 Boston St. 4th Floor Boston MA, 02189. On line sympathy message at www.oberlinfuneralhome.com

Henry Ford BC County & Wyandotte Hospitals now accepting HAP Senior Plus members!

Medicare recipients: Good news you've been waiting for.

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powered by **hap**

If you're a Medicare beneficiary with Medicare Parts A and B and live in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb county, HAP is pleased to announce that Henry Ford Medical Group (HFMG) is now accepting new Senior Plus members.

HAP Senior Plus is an alternative to Medicare supplemental insurance for a plan premium of only \$40 per month. Senior Plus is a federally qualified HMO with a Medicare contract.

* Routine inpatient hospital care is provided at Henry Ford Hospital.
** Medicare covered services. *** Coverage subject to limitations.

To get the facts about Senior Plus, call 1-800-971-7878, TTY/TTD 1-313-664-8000.

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Gas Logs Now On Sale! As Low As \$149! Starting at \$499!

Wood & Gas Stoves Including fireplace, marble, and mantel. Starting at \$955!

Woodburning Package. fireplace, marble, and mantel. Starting at \$955!

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The cost for the photo will be \$10.00 for the first day and \$5.00 per day for each additional day, plus the cost of the ad copy based on the number of lines used.

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Now available: you can add photos to your classified ads to show what you are selling. In addition to ad copy, ads will appear where ever you want them to run, under the classification you choose.

ENHANCE YOUR AD WITH A PHOTO
Now available: you can add photos to your classified ads to show what you are selling. In addition to ad copy, ads will appear where ever you want them to run, under the classification you choose.

Reproducible 3.5 or 4.6 photos or photos emailed to us will be used. Call for e-mail address. Photos will not be returned. Private party merchandise, auto and real estate ads. Prepayment required. No refunds.

Call 1-888-999-1288 to place your ad today! **Green Sheet CLASSIFIEDS**

Excludes Business/Commercial Ads
Deadline for Thursday's publication is Monday at 12 noon
Deadline for Sunday's publication is Thursday at 12 noon

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4.20% APY*
13 MONTH CD

*Certificate of Deposit Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective as of 8/1/05. 13 month annual percentage rate is 4.20%. Minimum opening balance requirement is \$500 and maximum deposit is \$100,000. Deposits are allowed only on the maturity date or during the grace period. Penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Interest compounded quarterly. Rates are effective for a limited time only and subject to change without notice. Offer cannot be combined with coupons or other special offers and not eligible for APY bonus. Not available for public units. Please contact your local Flagstar branch for more information. Certain restrictions may apply. Member FDIC.

Flagstar Bank

www.flagstar.com

The Holiday Season is fast approaching!

Our account reps will assist you with all your holiday advertising needs.

Holiday Gift Guide

Space Reservation: October 24th
Copy deadline: October 25th
Publication Date: November 24th

Last Minute Gift Ideas

Space Reservation: November 18th
Copy deadline: November 21st
Publication Date: December 15th

Call NOW to reserve your space in our most popular Holiday sections!

LIVINGSTON COUNTY DAILY PRESS & ARGUS 517-548-7060

Milford Times 248-685-1507

Northville Record Novi News 248-349-1700

South Lyon Herald 248-437-2011

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, obituaries must be received by noon, under the classification you choose.

For more information, call 888-999-1288 or contact your funeral home.
*Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

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BACK PAIN?

A free report is now available to local back pain sufferers that is entitled, *How To Eliminate Most Back Pains Without Exercise, Medication, and Surgery*. For your free copy, call 1-888-808-4299. (Toll-Free 24-Hour Recorded Message)

NOVI TOWN CENTER 8

www.novitowncenter8.com

ALL DIGITAL STEREO (LIST 485-SHOW)

NO PASSES FROM 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM (9/23)

SHOWTIMES 9/23 - 9/23

FREE FALL MATINEES
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10:00 AM ARE WE THERE YET? (PG-13)

BY THE WAY IN DISCUSSION: THE BROTHERS (PG-13)
1:30, 3:30, 5:00, 7:05, 9:00
PREMIERE 11:00

UNDERCLASSMAN (PG-13)
2:15, 5:15, 7:20

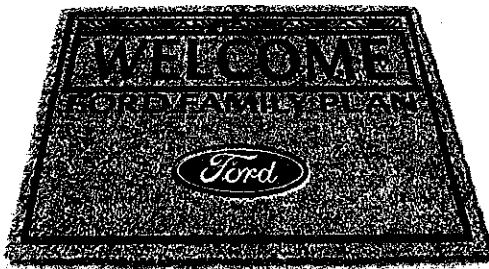
FOUR BROTHERS (R)
1:00, 2:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

FANTASTIC FOUR (PG-13)
1:00, 3:20
PREMIERE 11:30

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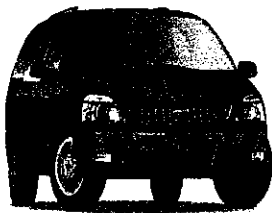
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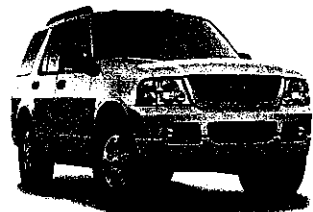
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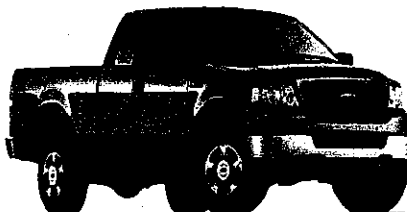
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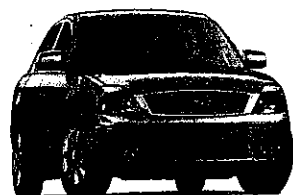
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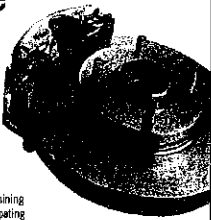
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Ouch!
Just where was the football game last Friday? It couldn't have been at Novi because the Wildcats waltzed over the Lakeland Eagles, 41-0. That's more like a practice than a game.
— Page 2B



Top 10 showdown
The Novi Wildcats soccer team is ranked second in the state right now and the Northville Mustangs are ranked sixth. The game was as tough as anyone might have hoped last Saturday with the teams tying, 1-1.
— Page 3B



Scoreboard
Want to know how your team did? Check out the scoreboard every week in the Novi News sports section.
— Page 2B

SPORTS

Thursday, September 22, 2005

www.novinews.com

B1 Novi News

Quick Hits

Pretty, isn't it?

The Novi girls soccer team — you know, the ones who won a state championship — received their state championship banner last Friday at the halftime of the Novi/Lakeland football game.

The girls were represented by 14 of the 18 players as well as coach Brian O'Leary as they went out on the field and displayed their banner to the crowd.

The only downside to having a state championship banner is that it hangs in the gym and not at the soccer stadium. That means soccer fans will just have to stop in at a basketball game to get a glimpse of it after it's hung next week.

Root, root, root for the home team

The Novi Wildcats football team finally made it home last Friday and did so in front of a packed house. Not-so-perfect weather didn't deter the faithful, who came out to cheer their squad to victory over KVC rival Lakeland.

Unfortunately, it's one of the few times the Wildcats will be home this year. All the teams in Livingston County have the pleasure of hosting the 'Cats.

Something tells us that even a road trip won't be slowing down too many of these green-and-white fanatics this year.

NEXT LEVEL Athletes

It's gotta be the hair

Jeff Freers, who was so easy to identify thanks to his amazing amount of hair, has recently earned a spot with the Purdue Boilermakers lacrosse team.

No doubt he'll make as much of an impact with the Boilermakers as he did during his time with the Wildcats.

Quiet down, please

Just before the Novi marching band began their performance of their new piece, "Prism," the announcer at the football game asked everyone to quiet their conversations.

It is halftime, right? The time to use the restrooms and grab a quick bite from the concessions? The time to talk about the first half of the game?

The band wasn't stopped by the constant buzz of football talk in the bleachers. Instead, they did exactly what the football team has learned to do — ignore the fans and play their best.

Thanks, Norm!

The Novi athletics department honored Norm Norgren, the former girls cross country coach, at the football game's halftime last Friday night.

Norgren coached for 33 years at Novi High School and was the Wildcats' only girls cross country coach until this fall when Marsha Reid took over.

Always calm and collected, Norm found a way to bring out the best in his girls, even earning a surprising trip to the state finals last year.

Thanks, Norm, for all you've done for Novi. All the best in your retirement!



Novi Wildcat swim team captains Courtney Ratkowiak and Sona Kotecha, right.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Wildcats swimming and diving ready to follow new captains' lead in KVC, beyond

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Sona Kotecha and Courtney Ratkowiak are workaholics.

That's why, despite being a part of several organizations each, they still manage to find time to be team captains for the Novi Wildcats swimming and diving team.

The two seniors are both involved in groups like National Honor Society and both work outside of school as well. Kotecha works for the school newspaper and Ratkowiak interns for the Novi News. Kotecha is the president of the Spanish club and Ratkowiak is a member of the marching band and the varsity volleyball team.

The list goes on. "When I was filling out my resume to give to my teachers for college it was over

a page long," joked Kotecha. "I wondered how I could get into this many activities."

But both Kotecha and Ratkowiak manage to make it work. The two captains not only have responsibilities for the team like planning the team banquet, they also have to lead by example — and it must be one heck of an example because the Wildcats are currently undefeated and resting in first place in the Kensington Valley Conference.

"I'm really happy with how well the team has done so far," said Ratkowiak. "We have four girls who have state (finals) cuts and they are all freshmen, sophomores and juniors. This team is going to be really good in the next few years."

The two captains would know. They've been on the swimming and diving team for all four years of high school. The last

two have been without a Novi tanker qualifying for the state finals.

But neither girl would trade their experiences for any state finals berth. They've enjoyed their time with the swim team, which is exactly why they were so excited to be voted captains by their peers.

"I'm glad to be a captain with Courtney," said Kotecha. "We're so much alike and we work well together."

"I'm excited that both of us were picked together." The Wildcats will be looking to get in the hunt for the KVC title this year. The seniors, who include Emily Erickson, Tanya Cripps, Elaine Grech and Kaitlyn Higgins along with Kotecha and Ratkowiak, are balancing having fun their final year with being leaders.

For the captains, the balance isn't that hard.

"Some of the responsibilities are actually fun activities," Ratkowiak said. "I really enjoy organizing things and planning things. It's fun."

The skills required to be a captain will bode well for both girls in their future endeavors. Kotecha and Ratkowiak, who both carry a 4.0 grade-point average, have both applied to the University of Michigan, Michigan State as well as some other colleges.

Though they have varying interests to study, both captains will have plenty to keep them busy in the coming years.

"I'm looking forward to it," Kotecha said. "I've had a great time in high school, but I'm really looking forward to college."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or seggleston@gannett.com.

No, no — that's equestrian, not equation

By Courtney Ratkowiak
SPORTS INTERV

Contrary to popular belief, members of the Novi equestrian team do not keep their horses in the Fuest Farm.

This common misconception is one of many that Dana Koenig wishes to clarify about her favorite sport.

"I have people who come up to me and say, 'I ride horses ... I've been to Maybury once or twice,'" Koenig, a captain, said. "That's not riding horses. I don't walk up to people on the tennis team and say, 'I play tennis; we did it in gym.'"

"Half the people can't even say the word 'equestrian.' They're like, 'What's the equation team?' It's not that I'm really angry about it. We're trying to educate people. It's just really different because it's not foot-

ball, it's not cheerleading."

Captain Aimee DePotter added, "Getting support and recognition is a big challenge because most people don't even know what equestrian is, or that we have a team. Most people don't care or think it's funny. We don't get much school support."

The smallest Novi varsity fall sports team is unfamiliar to many, due to the relative obscurity of the sport and the fact that it is not school funded. There are nine girls on the team, coached by Nancy and Kellyn Burkha.

During an equestrian meet, riders have the opportunity to compete in four "seats", or positions: Western, hunt, saddle, and gymkhana. The Western seat emphasizes performance, with flashy costumes and slower horse movement, while hunt and saddle seats are more traditional and compete at a faster pace. The

timed gymkhana contests focus on the horse's speed and accuracy.

For most of the team, typical individual expenses include the lease of a horse, trailer, and lessons. Novi riders board their horses at stables in South Lyon, Howell, and Sterling Heights. Due to high transportation costs, the team does not meet for practices; each participant trains and takes lessons individually. DePotter said that the training program is a reason why she enjoys the sport.

"I don't like the stress in other sports where you have to be there at a certain time every day (for practice), or that you have to deal with the same coach every day," she said. "I like to practice on my own schedule, and I have several trainers in equestrian."

The lack of conventional practices does not detract from team

unity, Kellyn Burkha said.

"Even though we don't practice together, we spend all day together at the meets and become a tight, close-knit group," she said. "The girls help with each other's horses, answer questions for each other at the meets and really work together."

"We spend a great deal of time during the summer months doing activities that focus on our preparation for the season," Nancy Burkha added. "The activities are our way of beginning to create some camaraderie. It's a short season, but it's very intense."

The team has participated in two meets this season, both at Milford High School. On Sept. 10, Novi earned 83 points, placing fourth out of six in their division. On Sept. 17, the team earned 81 points. High scorers in the meets were sopho-

more Megan Young and freshman Alison McKinley. The final district meet is Sept. 24-25 at Fowlerville, where the top teams in each division will advance to the regional competition.

Kellyn Burkha said that she is pleased with the results of the two meets, but does not feel that the team's success should be evaluated by its record.

"We don't necessarily have to win," she said. "We have a really great time seeing the girls learn and progress during the season and...if everybody learns something and has a good time, we're happy. We're doing pretty well (this year)."

Courtney Ratkowiak is a sports intern for the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

By the numbers	309 Novi football's total yards gained against Lakeland Friday	125 Total yards gained by the Eagles in their 41-point loss to the undefeated 'Cats	24 Points scored by the Carnegie brothers, Brandon and David, in the win	2 More wins Novi needs to secure a berth in the state playoffs	5 Sacks the Novi Wildcats defense came up with against the Eagles	7 p.m. Kickoff at Brighton tomorrow — both teams are 3-0 in the KVC title race	4 Yards gained by the Eagles in their rushing game on 39 carries
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KVC blowout

Novi notches 21st-straight win over Lakeland

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Beating Lakeland in football is a lot like waking up and going to school in the morning for the members of the Novi Wildcats football team.

"It's just habit," said KVC coach Tab Kelleppony. "The Wildcats, coached by Tab Kelleppony, don't know what it's like to lose to their conference foes. Last year it happened, which was 1984, and this year added to the winning streak as they ran around through and over Lakeland on route to a 41-0 victory.

"We're very proud of the way the kids handled themselves out there," said Kelleppony. "Our offense, defense and special teams played some outstanding football."

And they never quit playing at that level.

The squad notched their first touchdown of the game at 7:37 in the first quarter as David Carnegie hit a 30-yard pass to Brandon Carnegie for a 21-0 lead to end the first half.

Nearly 10 minutes later Steve Hart connected with Ben Czeke on a 30-yard swing strike to increase the lead to 14-0. Hart added another score on a 36-yard pass to Brandon Carnegie for a 21-0 lead to end the first half.

The Wildcats didn't slow down in the third quarter, adding touchdowns on runs from David Carnegie from 65 and four yards out in the

SCORE BY QUARTER
Novi 7 14 20 0 - 41
Lakeland 0 0 0 0 - 0

LEADERS
Rushing: David Carnegie, 6-50; R.J. Gordon, 1-50; Bobby Diugella, 3-24; Adam Chandler, 4-21
Passing: Steve Hart, 6-7-165
Receiving: David Carnegie, 1-65; Brandon Carnegie, 2-53; Brett Cooke, 3-47
Sacks: Alex Bartlett, 2; Frank Tafaloni, 1; Brad Petroskey, 1; John Brown, 1; Tyler Hoover, 1 assisted
Tackles: Bartlett, 7.5; Mike Kolis, 6.5; Ryan Murphy, 4

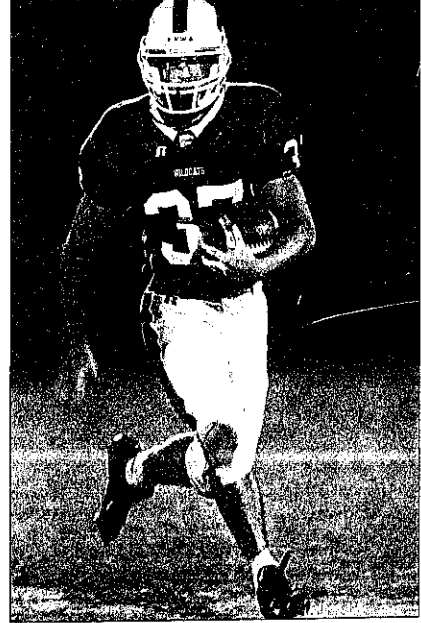
In the 11th minutes of the second half before R.J. Gordon scored on a 50-yard punt.

"We felt better going into this game than we have in the past against Novi, and they still beat us 41 to nothing," fourth-year head coach John Maltese said. "That's hard to swallow."

Novi's defense held the Eagles to negative four yards on the ground but gave up 129 yards through the air as Bill Sinistaj connected on 7 of his 11 passes. Sinistaj had his share of hits, though as he was sent to the ground with five Novi sacks.

The Wildcats also snagged an interception in the game from the defensive play of Stefan Figurski.

Novi 4-0 overall, 3-0 KVC will visit Brighton (3-1; 3-0) in a game that will be crucial for the conference title. Kickoff is slated for 7 p.m. at Brighton tomorrow.



Novi's RJ Gordon carries the ball upfield in Friday night's game against Lakeland.

League title on the line

The Novi Wildcats know one thing for sure: The road to a Kensington Valley Conference title leads through Brighton.

The Wildcats, coached by Tab Kelleppony, are the two-time defending KVC champions and are trying to make it a sweet triple. Of course, Brighton (3-1 overall, 3-0 league) wants to get back to their glory days that have now run and win back a KVC title of their own.

Novi (4-0; 3-0) faces a foe that managed to spend the third-ranked team in the state in the Midwest Mavericks last week, beating them by one point.

The Wildcats will have to do everything right again this week. Passing and rushing will be keys, yes, but not as important as the defense they will have to slow-pace.

Kelleppony has said in the past that there are few places tougher to

Wildcats topple conference foes

The Novi Wildcats swimming and diving team keeps rolling along.

The squad, coached by Bill McCord, snagged a second-place finish in the West Bloomfield Invitational before opening Pinckney in KVC action, 117-69.

In the West Bloomfield Invitational, Novi's Kerry Abel earned a state cut in the 200 individual medley with a time of 2:18.93 while Malai Vadalari earned first in her heat in the 100 butterfly.

Elsaine Grech was first in her heat in the 100 freestyle while Nicholas Panton was first in her heat in the 100 breaststroke.

The 400 freestyle relay team of Karlin Higgins, Jessica Postema, Claire Wick and Nina Aboud came in first in their heat as well.

Against Pinckney, the Wildcats took first with the 200 medley relay team of Julie Schramm, Mary Madzinski, Abel and Dan Hapanowicz with a state cut time of 1:57.73. Stella Chang and Lauren Paquette finished first and second, respectively, in the 500 freestyle and Julie Schramm finished first in the 100 backstroke. Waranowicz finished second and third in diving, respectively.

Novi is now 4-0 in dual meets.



Swim
The Novi Wildcats swimming and diving team keeps rolling along.

Cross Country
The Novi Wildcats cross country team showed off its abilities in the U-D Invitational last week as Meghan Bamatz ran to fifth place followed by Erin Haynes in sixth, Andrea Kramer in seventh, Eric Howard in ninth and Emily Barton in 10th.

Girls running well
The Novi Wildcats girls cross country team showed off its abilities in the U-D Invitational last week as Meghan Bamatz ran to fifth place followed by Erin Haynes in sixth, Andrea Kramer in seventh, Eric Howard in ninth and Emily Barton in 10th.

Golf fighting out of slump
The Novi golf team started the season on a hot streak but has cooled recently as they fight to get out of a slump.

The squad fell to Howell, 158-161, and Lakeland, 161-166 before falling to Brighton, 150-164.

"We're in a slump right now, but hopefully we can recover soon," said Brad Huss.

"We are in third place in the KVC and will have a decent chance of winning it but we need to get untracked. I am confident we will because every team goes through streak like this."

Alex Lyall was the top golfer in each match, shooting a 39, 41 and 39, respectively. Nick Prokop shot a 41 against Lakeland and a 39 against Brighton while Scott Czeskaj shot a 41 against Howell, a 42 against Lakeland and a 43 against Brighton.

James Kim recorded a 41 against the Highlanders and shot a 42 against Brighton while Brent Neville carded a 43 against the Lakeland Eagles.

Tennis playing well
The Novi girls tennis team came 8-0 wins over the Howell Highlanders and the Lakeland Eagles last week but fell to a strong Ann Arbor Huron team, 7-1.

"Every match was closely contested and I think they would have gone either way," said Jim Hanson, the tennis coach. "It was the best we have played all year long."

The lone Wildcat to earn a win against the Hurons was Carly Lyall at two doubles, who won 6-4, 6-1.

Tennis
The Novi boys tennis team had a strong showing at the Wall Lake Western Invitational last Saturday and came home with victories in both the

Photo by JOHN HEIDER



Wildcat Derek Smith tries to take down a Lakeland ball carrier.

Underclassman Scores

JV tennis
The Wildcats beat Howell, 8-0, September 12 in regular matches and 14-0 overall. The team set a new shut-out record of 22 sets.

The JV tennis team defeated Lakeland, 8-0, September 14 to remain undefeated in the KVC.

Freshman basketball
The Wildcats beat Canton September 15, 25-16. Top scorers were Rachael Burnard and Chelsea Hudling with six points each. Jill Passanante

was the defender of the game with five steals.

JV football
The Wildcats beat Lakeland, 25-8.

Freshman football
The Freshman Football team lost to Lakeland September 15, 21-15.

JV basketball
Novi's small, but quick, team is quickly building a rep-

CC SCOREBOARD

Catholic Central didn't help their bid for a state playoff berth with a 28-7 loss to Brother Rice Sunday.

The loss came during the annual Boys Bowl.

The Shamrocks' only score of the game came on a three-yard run stand-out Jeremy Babin-Gray with 1:31 remaining in the game following a 49-yard march on two passes from quarterback Rob Forc.

The first found Jon Coover for a 33-yard completion and the second landed in the hands of Dustin Hess.

The Shamrocks (2-2) will visit the U.D. Jesuit (4-0) at 7 p.m. Saturday night.

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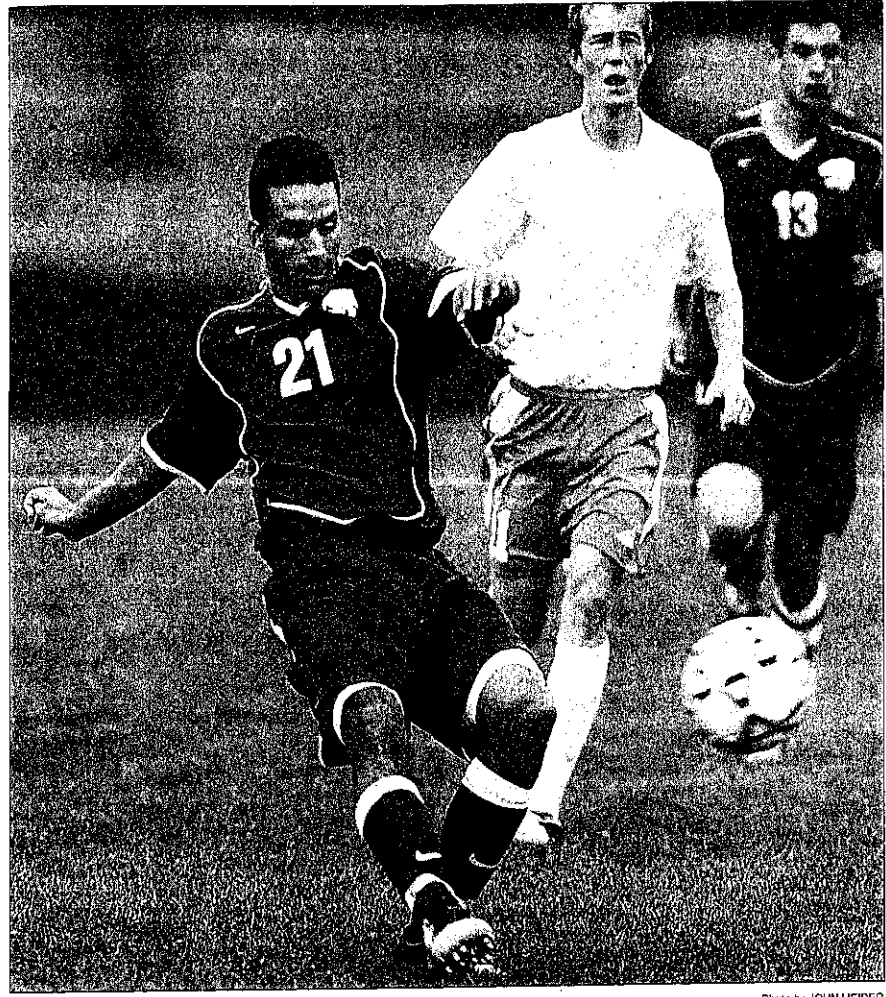
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Johnny Depp Helena Bonham Carter
"BEAUTIFULLY AN INSTANT CLASSIC"
"INSPIRED AND DAZZLING."
"ABSOLUTELY BRILLIANT!"
"VISUALLY STUNNING."

Corpse Bride



Novi forward Matt Simpson, left, kicks the ball towards Northville's net during last weekend's game.

Novi earns tie against 'Stangs

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Brian O'Leary was satisfied with the end result in Novi's annual cross-town rivalry game last Saturday.

The Novi Wildcats soccer coach watched as his team took on and tied the number-six ranked team in the state, Northville, 1-1.

The Mustangs, too, were satisfied with their performance.

"We played outstanding," said Henry Klimes, Northville's head coach. "We showed a lot of character and came back to tie it even after we spotted them a goal."

"That spot came in the form of a free kick by Novi senior Matt Crawford, who booted the ball and watched as Shane Budlong put it in the back of the net for the 1-0 lead.

"Shane has been doing a great job subbing into goals, providing a lift for our team and scoring some goals," said O'Leary. "He's now the second-leading scorer on the team."

The Mustangs bounced back nicely though, adding a tally of their own in the last 15 minutes of the game to tie it. Jon Fucina, who has been a standout for the Northville squad this year, scored the tying goal.

Novi refocused their defense, applied additional pressure to the



Novi's Hiroki Yamanada tries to wrap up and impede Northville's Enrique Acovedo.

SPORTS SHORTS

Fasfpitch softball clinics
The Northville High School Varsity Softball Team is offering a series of fastpitch softball clinics for the players of the Varsity team. The clinic is opened for two different sessions; grades 3-5 Mondays and Tuesdays, starting Monday Sept. 26 and grades 6-9 Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting Tuesday Sept. 27. The clinic will cost \$100 for six sessions and will be held at Northville High School softball field, located behind the High School.

For more information, call the varsity captains; Laura Zima at (248) 345-583, Chrisy Badden at (248) 380-2712 or Bridget Hughes (248) 348-5186.

Hockey golf outing
The Novi Wildcats hockey team will be raising funds by holding the Third Annual Novi Wildcat Hockey Golf Outing at Tanglewood Golf Club on Friday, Sept. 30 at 8:30 a.m. with registration at 7:30 a.m. The funds raised by the outing help defray the cost for student waiting to play high school hockey. High school hockey is "pay to play" sport and this fundraiser helps to lessen the costs for players who otherwise might not play. There are some openings left for teams (fourosomes) that wish to participate and/or for groups wishing to be hole sponsors.

For additional information, interested parties can contact Kevin Finnerty at (248) 361-7989 or KFinerty@Sprynet.com, or Robert Ehrhler at (248) 390-5664 or robert@pobox.com.

Registration for Fall Learn to Skate underway
Novi Ice Arena will run a six-week fall session of its Learn to Skate Program through October 22 (no classes October 12-15). Classes are offered Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and skate rental is available. In addition, Learn to Skate students get a punch card for free admission to open skating at Novi Ice Arena throughout the program they are enrolled in.

The following classes will be offered:
• Beginning Tots
• Snowplow Sam 1-3
• Basic 1-5
• Skater's Edge Accelerated Bridge Program - NEW!
• Adult
Classes will run once per week for 30 minutes with optional 30-minute practice sessions. Open registration for Learn to Skate is underway.

The Learn to Skate Program is popular so call the Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010 to inquire about the proper class.

Coach wanted
Northville High School is in need of an assistant gymnastics coach that has experience in spotting.
Please contact Bryan Masi, Athletic Director at (248) 344-5414.

Want to see your event listed in sports shorts? E-mail Novi News sports writer Sam Eggleston@gmail.com at seggleston@gmail.com. Included in the league fees

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCHEDULES

Novi Football		Boys Soccer		Girls Swim		Girls Tennis	
09-23-05	... Away ... Brighton HS	09-23-05	... Home ... South Lyon HS	09-22-05	... Home ... Howell HS	09-22-05	... Away ... Ann Arbor Pioneer HS
09-27-05	... Home ... Brighton HS	09-27-05	... Away ... South Lyon HS	09-27-05	... Home ... Pinckney HS	09-26-05	... Home ... Hartland HS
09-29-05	... Home ... Novi JV Quail	09-29-05	... Home ... Novi JV Quail	09-29-05	... Home ... Howell HS	09-28-05	... Away ... Milford HS
09-29-05	... Home ... Novi JV Quail	09-29-05	... Home ... Novi JV Quail	09-29-05	... Home ... Lakeland HS	09-29-05	... Home ... Brighton HS
09-29-05	... Home ... Novi JV Quail	09-29-05	... Home ... Novi JV Quail	09-29-05	... Home ... Lakeland HS	09-29-05	... Home ... Brighton HS

Catholic Central Football		Boys Golf		Girls Basketball		Soccer	
9-24-05	... Away ... U of D	09-22-05	... Away ... Hartland HS	09-22-05	... Away ... Howell HS	9-25-05	... Away ... DeLaSalle
9-26-05	... Home ... U of D	09-23-05	... Home ... Hartland Invite	09-27-05	... Home ... Lakeland HS	9-26-05	... Home ... Brother Rice
9-24-05	... Home ... U of D	09-27-05	... Home ... KVC Candybag	09-29-05	... Away ... Brighton HS	9-25-05	... Away ... DeLaSalle
9-24-05	... Home ... U of D	09-27-05	... Home ... KVC Candybag	09-29-05	... Away ... Brighton HS	9-27-05	... Home ... Brother Rice
9-24-05	... Home ... U of D	09-27-05	... Home ... KVC Candybag	09-29-05	... Away ... Brighton HS	9-27-05	... Home ... Brother Rice

Varsity Football		Boys Golf		Girls Basketball		Soccer	
9-24-05	... Away ... U of D	09-22-05	... Away ... Hartland HS	09-22-05	... Away ... Howell HS	9-25-05	... Away ... DeLaSalle
9-26-05	... Home ... U of D	09-23-05	... Home ... Hartland Invite	09-27-05	... Home ... Lakeland HS	9-26-05	... Home ... Brother Rice
9-24-05	... Home ... U of D	09-27-05	... Home ... KVC Candybag	09-29-05	... Away ... Brighton HS	9-25-05	... Away ... DeLaSalle
9-24-05	... Home ... U of D	09-27-05	... Home ... KVC Candybag	09-29-05	... Away ... Brighton HS	9-27-05	... Home ... Brother Rice
9-24-05	... Home ... U of D	09-27-05	... Home ... KVC Candybag	09-29-05	... Away ... Brighton HS	9-27-05	... Home ... Brother Rice

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Think give before you get when networking

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

People who lack networking skills could learn a lot from the late U.S. president John F. Kennedy. He's the one who coined the famous phrase "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

This philosophy is exactly what works when it comes to networking, according to Denise Roberts, creator of the Painless Prospecting System.

"It's the give-before-you-get concept," she said.

Roberts addressed a roomful of business people last month at the DoubleTree Hotel in Novi on "The Art of Networking."

The half-day workshop by Partners for Success, Inc., included an explanation of networking, self-introductions that get noticed, how to enter an established group, networking techniques for introverts, ice breakers and how to gracefully exit a conversation.

Roberts said the key to successful networking is when dealing with people, get into their world and look at life through their eyes.

"You're partners, trying to be of service to each other," she said. "Understanding each other is the key to success."

Roberts, who has addressed members of Automation Alley in Oakland County and the Traverse City Chamber of Commerce, said people should contact others, follow up, become a resource for them and keep in touch.

"It's not just about your products and services," she said. She suggests sending contacts an article you read that reminded you of them.

"You strengthen relationships and build trust by becoming a resource. Think of yourself as a search engine."

Roberts said the old way of networking was to go up and ask someone what they do for a living. Instead, when you meet people, think of other people you can connect them with.

"Focus on getting to know each other," she added.

Here's how it works. A banker in the audience, Michelle, asked one of her clients what type of business he was in, then sent two clients his way. He then returned the favor and sent two clients her way.

She suggests not going to events with hidden motives.

"Park the agenda," Roberts said. In her experience, any time she searched for leads for new customers, she couldn't find them.

"Try to be of service to people. Life is just market research. You learn from your mistakes."

If you're looking for ice breakers, a simple one is to walk up to a table of people and ask, "May I join you?" Or ask others to join you.

"Find the host or hostess and ask them if they can introduce you to someone if you're feeling left out," she added. "Sit next to someone new."

Roberts noted that introverts can often make the most of their contacts because they have the special gift of being good listeners.

"Ask people not only what they do but how they got to where they are," she suggested. "Bring others into the conversation."

Finally, if you're trying to make a quick getaway from someone you're no longer interested in talking to, try this approach: "You know, I think I'll get out of your hair and let you talk to some other here."

In other words, make them think that you're helping them, not yourself, by ending the conversation.

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

Offering key bathroom remodeling ideas

Today's homeowners are spending more time in, and money on, their master baths, so it is no surprise that they are one of the most highly regarded amenities in the home. No longer a strictly utilitarian room, master baths are becoming a personal retreat to rev up for the day's start or wind down at the day's end.

The advent of two-income families and more disposable income have driven the concept of the master bath as a sanctuary. Tired of bumping into each other while trying to get ready for the day, many couples are opting to expand their bathroom for convenience and comfort. Likewise, returning home after a busy day, couples are finding a well-appointed bathroom is a good place to unwind and relax.

What Jim Faydenko of Remodeling Remedies hopes homeowners realize is that improving any room can be a bit daunting. But, any project is manageable and well worth it - if you do your homework and follow some basic design tips, especially when considering what seems to be a smaller remodel, like a bathroom.

A bathroom remodeling project may include replacing the existing sink, shower, bathtub, and toilet with new fixtures. There can be a combination, where the tub is refinished, and the toilet is replaced with a new, efficient low-flush toilet, saving you money in water and sewer bills. Additionally, a bathroom remodel can include new paint, countertops, vanities, windows, vents, and lighting. Tub and shower enclosures can either be refitted, or renewed with less expensive kits. Floors, too, are often selected for special attention, with the installation of quality ceramic tile, or linoleum and baseboards.

One of the easiest ways to start planning your bathroom remodeling is to tour other bathrooms to get design ideas. You should make sure to pay attention to what you like and don't like. Scope out friends' bathrooms when you visit, tour houses for sale, check out design magazines, and cruise the Internet for inspiration. Ask yourself questions to generate your own bathroom remodeling ideas.

Do you want a soothing bathroom for relaxation or a practical, functional bathroom for busy mornings? If relaxation is your objective, try separating the space into areas to pamper you. Have soft lighting near your tub, a cozy dressing area with plenty of space to try on outfits, and a bench in between two vanities so you can sit while getting ready. If you want a more utilitarian space, use different types of storage to keep everything in its place and at arm's reach. Use simple, elegant containers to group your supplies. Keep hair care tools in one area, shower supplies in another. Pay attention to how you get ready in the morning and design your bathroom remodeling about how you operate. For a clean look, line the storage containers flush with



Courtesy photos

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the wall. If you share the bathroom in the mornings, add special features to help control the space. If you put your makeup on over the bathroom sink, add a separate sink and mirror for you to put on your make-up while your partner brushes his or her teeth at the other sink with no bumping into each other.

Also avoid recessed lights. These lights may set the right mood, but they will put your mirror in shadows. You want clear, bright light for applying makeup or shaving.

Toilets and bidets should be placed for privacy, either behind a wall or in a small room within the bathroom. Alternatively, move the prep center into the bathroom. It will free bathroom space and cost a fraction of a bathroom remodel.

Storage space is critical, with vanities on either side of pedestal sinks, low-hung cabinets and even dressers for undergarments incorporated into the overall design. Cabinets should be furniture-grade with accents that complement the bedroom furniture. Most are oak or maple in natural or light tints.

Mount cabinets to the wall so that they open up floor space. Use a sliding pocket door to tuck your bathroom door away. Keeping your color scheme neutral will quiet the space. Use different shades of the same color all over the bathroom, and use brighter colors and accents. Also use different textures like wooden baskets, smooth tile, and soft towels to add interest, and mirrors to stretch the space. If the bathroom is dark, don't be afraid to add windows or skylights to brighten the space. Windows and glass are becoming more copious to open up and brighten the room. Many windows and skylights and their dressings are equipped with remote controls so that bathers may open and close them while soaking in the tub.

Don't limit yourself to only fixtures in the bathroom section. Check out cabinets, faucets, and tiles for the kitchen or outdoors. You never know what bathroom remodeling ideas will inspire you.

"People want a gracious yet comfortable place to spend their time, and neutral color schemes are reflecting that," said Faydenko. "Wall and floor treatments feature soft, natural hues of green, yellow, blue and beige. Fixtures are commonly bone, biscuit or white and the most popular finish for faucets is chrome with soft brass accents."

Even within the shower, you can use color to display small streams of color which can be shown through either standing or running water, where their hues diffuse with enhanced intensity.

Tile is still the most common floor-covering, typically in marble, granite or limestone finishes. Larger tile sizes are gaining in popularity, with colored grouts for a touch of excitement and personal expression. Plenty of clear floor space should be provided for maneuverability, especially in the wet areas, and matte or textured tiles should be used to improve traction and prevent accidents.

"The sink and vanity areas are becoming the artistic and aesthetic focus of today's bathrooms, with hand-blown glass and vessel sinks gaining in popularity," said Faydenko. Hand-painted porcelain tile on countertops and walls around the vanities are also popular for their limitless color and pattern possibilities.

"Extra attention should be paid to such details such as outlets inside tower cabinets for hair dryers, electric shavers or other electrical appliances as well as ironing boards and hampers built inside closets," said Faydenko.

Plumbing fixtures are becoming more luxurious, with showers having multiple heads and

tubs featuring soft, sloping curves and pillow pads for comfort. Walkaround showers with benches are growing in popularity, with glass block separating them from the rest of the room.

Luxury items such as see-through fireplaces, mini-refrigerators, exercise equipment, saunas and televisions are also being incorporated into master baths to create a gracious and pampering living space. In keeping with that atmosphere, many design items should be taken into consideration such as putting the plumbing wall away from the master suite wall, hampers in storage areas, and temperature and pressure-balancing valves in shower, tub and vanity faucets.

Make It Safe

Safety should be a major concern when deciding on remodeling your bathroom. Recently earning his CAPS (Certified Aging in Place) designation, Faydenko urges homeowners to prepare their home for the future when remodeling—regardless of the homeowner's age. Earning this designation required Faydenko to attend educational courses designed to teach the technical and customer service skills needed to promote the newest segment of the residential industry, "Aging in Place" means remaining in one's home safely, independently and comfortably regardless of age, income, or ability level. It means the pleasure of living in a familiar environment throughout one's maturing years with the ability to enjoy the familiar daily rituals and the special events that enrich all of our lives. With a little forethought, you can include modifications that could be life-savers later. Grab bars should be installed near the tub or shower and next to the toilet for a universally-safe bath. Whether it's for young children just starting to shower on their own, the elderly, or someone suffering from

Get Professional Help

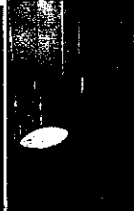
If you are remodeling your bathroom, consider retaining a bathroom remodeling expert to assist you, even if you will be doing the work yourself. Even if it is on a consultation basis, if you do not have a background in this area, it's wise to seek out the input, advice and direction of a professional. This could save you lots of money in the long run. No one wants to feel insecure after remodeling their entire bathroom or wake up with four feet of water in the house. This is especially true if you own an older home, where plumbing and electrical wiring might need replacing.

When you're considering remodeling a bathroom in your home, you're looking for a fresh new look as well as more efficient use of limited space. At Remodeling Remedies, they are experts at making the most of your bathroom, with quality craftsmanship that has earned them an outstanding reputation.

Call Remodeling Remedies at (248) 486-7494 or toll free at (866) 226-9080 to schedule an appointment and get ready to own the bathroom of your dreams!

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