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### INSIDE

#### Brothers in Art

Photographers Tom Coratti and Kim-Tong Chan have a lot to talk about at the office water cooler. The friends and co-workers, who work at 3M in Livonia, love to take pictures and will have their first collaborative show Saturday at Meadowbrook Art Center on 10 Mile Road just east of Meadowbrook Road in Novi.

— 4A



#### Thousands roll into Novi

Blake Dlesarz, 13, becomes separated from his skateboard as he makes a jump off a ramp in Novi's Modern Skate Park in Fountain Walk Plaza. The park, formerly known as Van's, offers kids of all ages indoor, roller-based sports.

— Page 9A

#### Put it out!

Several businesses in Novi are feeling the burn from non-smoker complaints and asking smokers to step outside.

— 13A

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# A special gift for city manager

## City of Novi staff thanks Rick Helwig

By Pam Fleming  
STAFF WRITER

Rick Helwig now has a special remembrance of his five years with the city of Novi.

The retiring city manager, who will step down after five years with the city on Feb. 3, received a replica of "The Thinker," the famous statue created by the late French sculptor Auguste Rodin, at the 2006 City of Novi Annual Appreciation Dinner.

Mayor David Landry presented the gift.

The event took place at the Sheraton Detroit Novi Hotel on Haggerty Road just north of Eight Mile Road.

The dinner included the presentation of awards to employees who celebrated milestone anniversaries with the city and to citizens who were members of boards, committees and commissions in 2005.

After the awards presentation, attendees danced to the sounds of the local group, The Hiss.

Landry presented the first special award to former Mayor Lou Csondas, who he said worked tirelessly for the city of Novi and "calls it as he sees it."

He added that Csondas first joined the city as a member of the planning commission in 1996 and in 1999 was elected to city council and then as mayor in 2003.

"He's the man who took the 'no' out of Novi," Landry said.

Laura Loresto, who recently ended her term on city council, also received a special award at the dinner.

Landry noted that she was elected to city council in 1993 and served through 2003.

"This is a woman who has only one motivation and that has always been the best interest of the taxpayers," he said.

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## Council approves Uptown complex

### Retail, rentals planned for site

By Pam Fleming  
STAFF WRITER

Michael Kahn finally got the answer he's been seeking for more than two years.

The West Bloomfield developer won city council's approval Monday night for a preliminary site plan for Uptown Place in Novi.

The mixed-use development, which will combine retail and apartments, will be built on the south side of 12 Mile Road between Novi and Meadowbrook roads.

Kahn and staff traveled a rocky road before getting approval on the development.

Planning commission members denied Singh's proposal about a year ago because it did not meet zoning ordinances.

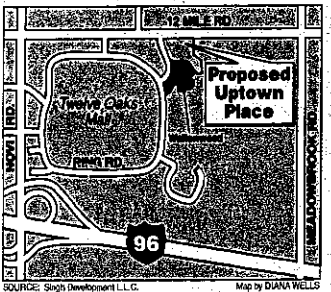
After a zoning amendment was adopted allowing a mixed-use development in the area, however, the developer was able to bring the project back for possible approval.

The property, located just north of Singh's Waldenwood retirement home off the ring road around Twelve Oaks Mall, will include 148 luxury apartments with about 22,000 square feet of retail and restaurant space on the first floor.

"The project is urban in both concept and design," Kahn said.

The retail and restaurants will face 12 Mile Road, with the building going from three stories to four stories in the rear. Singh won a waiver on the height of the building due to the extreme grade of the property. Parking for residents will be all underground.

The project will also include the construction of another access road on the south side of the property.



SOURCE: Singh Development LLC. Map by DIANA WELLS



Bookworm Reading club member Elizabeth Coleman smiles as her group meets at the Novi Senior Center to talk about literature. See the full story on the back page.

# Novi dealers prepare for auto show's impact

By Tracy Mishler  
STAFF WRITER

Dean Silver anticipates a good year for car sales in 2006.

With new products on the way, Varsity Lincoln Mercury's general sales manager is expecting an increase in sales.

"The problems that arose in the car industry this past year didn't affect us a great deal," Silver said.

"We didn't see any decreases from 2004-05, and now it's going to effect us in the future is still undetermined."

Silver said Lincoln will be rolling out a new 2007 sedan at the North American International Auto Show and expects the new year to be big.

Much like Varsity, located on Wisnom Road, several Novi dealers are expecting a good year and

are excited for the public to check out the future at the 18th annual auto show.

Tom Rzeppa said he is expecting an upswing in business at Suburban Acura with the rollout of several new products this year.

"More people are going to be buying cars this year," said the sales manager. "Acura came off of

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Tickets: tickets can be purchased at the door or online at [www.miaas.com/vp/tickets.asp](http://www.miaas.com/vp/tickets.asp)

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

**Tracie Ringle has the hands full** coordinating Novi's festivals, like its Memorial Day Parade and the Ring in the Holidays event.

## She's living the American dream

### City's Ringle doing what she loves in Novi

By Ramez Khuri  
STAFF WRITER

Want an honest opinion or answer? Just ask Tracie Ringle. Tracie Ringle's friends learned the pretty early on. "It's that fresh

honest approach to life, along with a few other aspects, that have gotten her to where she is today: Ringle is the Novi Parks, Recreation and Porsary department's event and marketing coordinator, a position she's held since November, 2002.

The Highland native's job, which she enjoys tremendously, entails marketing for the department and planning special events.

"I don't know if there is a typical day in my job," Ringle said. "It's divided. In the marketing aspect, I make sure the public knows what sports events are coming up, what theater programs are happening, what's happening at our parks and what improvements we're making in the community."

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# Bands to play at Civic Center

Concert series starts tomorrow

By Ramez Khuri  
STAFF WRITER

Max Landry and his fellow band members crave opportunities like this.

The rock band, called Landry, is one of those that will kick off Novi's new concert series, scheduled tomorrow night at the Novi Civic Center on 10 Mile Road, east of Taft Road.

"We're opening up the Novi Civic Center for high school and college bands from the area to come in and play to audiences using our theater stage," said Thrice Ringle, Parks, Recreation and Forestry event and marketing coordinator.

The series is called "Out of the Basement." Local bands are invited, first of charge, to perform their music in a controlled environment. Other performances are planned for March, May and June.

The June date is going to be held outside, like a mini-Loftopolis deal with a couple of stages, local acts all day at Flower Park in Novi and refreshments," Ringle said. "It will be teen oriented."

Landry, the first act to take the stage tomorrow, is comprised mostly of Novi Mayor David Landry's children.

"It's me, my two brothers and our friend, Eric," Max Landry said. "We're always looking for any place to play. We all love playing music."

The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department still needs volunteers to be adult supervisors at each date to help monitor activities. Parents are encouraged to help, and each band performing has been asked to confirm five adult volunteers to help with the event.

"This will be a lot of fun," said Mike Stefanik of Outlawed Expression.

Outlawed Expression is comprised of four friends who met while attending Village Oaks Elementary School. They're all sophomores at Novi High School now.

Stefanik describes his band traditionally as "Green Day, mixed with Van Halen," though they have more of an alternative flavor now.

"It's something the audience wouldn't normally get to see, and it's not an easy thing to put together," Stefanik said.

Ringle believes there is a demand for such a concert series.

"There are a lot of high school bands, and this idea had been presented to my director (Randy Auler) a couple times," she said. "It's something that he had done in a prior position in another state, and it was received well. It's not a battle of the bands but still another opportunity for them to get out and play."

Jeff Rowdell, of Helmut, can't wait for the opportunity. He said his band will try to please the crowd by playing a bunch of cover songs.

"We figure the people who show up to the concert wouldn't know any of the songs we actually wrote, so we'll be playing stuff that they will be able to sing along to," Rowdell said. "We might play some Eagles and the Beatles stuff and maybe some Bon Jovi."

Ben Foerg, of Outlawed Expression, is also thrilled to perform.

"We're grateful for this show because it's a chance to get exposed around here," he said.

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.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

### Horsin' around

A couple of plowhorses, shaggy in their winter coats, wander in an enclosure at the MSU Tollgate Education Center in Novi. The center and farm, at Meadowbrook and Twelve Mile roads, encompasses 160 acres and serves as an education facility for agricultural, horticultural and waste-management issues. It is open to the public year-round.

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"Out of the Basement," the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department's (Novi) band concert series, will kick off at 8 p.m. tomorrow night at the Novi Civic Center. Bands featured include Landry at 8 p.m.; Outlawed Expression at 9:45 p.m.; and Helmut at 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person.

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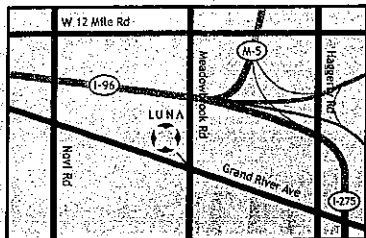
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# Mondays are yummy at the library

■ **Snack Tails lets residents cook and read at the same time**

By Ramez Khuri  
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Public Library has brought the two activities of cooking and reading together into one program.

And residents seem to be eating it up.

"Monday's was our third Snack Tails we've done, and we've had around 35 to 40 kids in each time," said Sherrill Berman, library youth department assistant.

Snack Tails means monthly. The thought behind it was that children would probably express an interest in cooking activities, so why not introduce it along with reading stories?

"We incorporate stories that either are about the food we're cooking or about the particular project we're doing, and that gives the kids more of a hands-on opportunity to cook or create something with food," Berman said.

The library surveyed families involved in the department, asking them about their various areas of interest. Many of them said they were interested in cooking.

There's no charge for the events, which are open to students in kindergarten through third grade. All that is asked is that they sign up ahead of time so the library can plan how much food to have available.

The next two Snack Tails are Monday, Feb. 6, and Monday, March 13.

So far, children have made gain-

bread houses and Thanksgiving treats.

"Pizza was our theme this last time, so we picked out a couple of age-appropriate books that talk about pizza," Berman said. "Then we have the kids go ahead and make their own pizza, and we usually read something to wrap it up in the end. It's a 45-minute program, and the kids have really enjoyed it."

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.



Photo by JOHN HEIDGER/Novi News

Amanda Aude reads a book with her daughter Yasmeena, 2, on a Wednesday afternoon at the Novi Public Library. The library, located east of Taft on Ten Mile, is open Mon.-Thurs. from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sun. from 1 to 5 p.m.

# Knitting's not just for grandma anymore

■ **Novi Library to host sessions on hobby**

By Ramez Khuri  
STAFF WRITER

Perhaps they want to become clothing producers, or maybe they'd like to sit alongside "The Knitting Lady" at Red Wings games.

But for whatever reason, knitting has become quite popular among America's youth, and Novi is no exception.

That's why Novi's Public Library is offering two knitting sessions this month.

"For the last couple years a lot of celebrities have gotten into knitting, and it's just continuing to

be sort of a hot hobby," said Mary Storch, who works in the library's youth and teen services department. "Teens are picking it up, and there were a lot of books that were published recently on cute things that you can knit."

Novi is not the only library offering knitting. Libraries across the state and beyond are hosting similar programs.

"It's just something that's fun," Storch said. "I think we'll get a nice response from primarily women and daughters. We're hoping it's something kids could do with an older friend or a parent."

But that doesn't mean boys can't participate as well. The library is promoting the program for kids 10 years or older with an adult. Almost 25 people have signed up so far.

On the first night of the program, which took place yesterday,

participants learned how to knit. On Wednesday they will learn how to cast on, and on the last night they will learn how to bind off.

"Casting on means putting stitches on the needle and binding off means being able to take the stitches off the needle without it unraveling," Storch said. "We're not teaching them to do anything too fancy."

Storch explained that if someone were to take a paid lesson at a yarn store, they would probably learn a little bit more, and there would be more lessons involved. But the library is just teaching the basics now.

She said it's enough to teach them how to make a scarf, an afghan or a poncho, but if afterwards they're interested in learning more, they will be supplied with names of Web sites and area yarn stores where they can go

The Novi Public Library will be offering knitting sessions next Wednesday and Wednesday, Jan. 25. There is no charge for either session, but those attending are asked to provide their own yarn and needles. Call (248) 349-0720 for more information.

and get instruction.

"It's a fun night now, and we have a lot of cool knitting books. It's a way to spotlight some of our collection," Storch added.

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.

# Novi library tallies \$170k in donations

■ **Walker family to review funds**

By Pam Fleming  
STAFF WRITER

Brenda Lussier says the long-awaited numbers are now in on funds raised for the library's capital campaign.

The director of Novi Public Library said donors contributed \$170,000 that will hopefully be matched by the Walker family of Novi.

In 2004, longtime Novi residents Charles and Myrtle Walker donated \$1 million to help expand or build a new library in Novi. Under an agreement signed by the Walkers, the couple said it would also match funds received by Dec. 31, 2005, dollar-for-dollar, up to an additional \$1 million. Charles Walker passed away since signing the agreement.

"That is the amount that the library has recorded as being received over the course of the Walker Library Building Fund campaign," Lussier said. This total includes gifts in-kind (contributions of goods or services) in addition to monetary gifts.

If this entire amount is matched by the Walker family, that means \$340,000 will go toward the capital campaign to expand the existing building on 10 Mile Road east of Taft Road.

"These contributions will be shared to the Walker family for the purpose of matching. If some of the gifts are reviewed or evaluate these gifts, they may not all be matched under the scope of

the agreement," Lussier added. "We just simply want to document what we've taken in, and we will certainly appreciate whatever they can provide us." Lussier said the \$1 million that the family already donated to the library in 2004, the grand total would be \$1,340,000 toward the building expansion program if the family agrees to match all funds donated before the deadline last month.

In addition to the library's capital campaign, library board members are trying to determine what the millage rate might be for an \$18 million to \$19 million addition to the library.

"It depends on whether the library board requests a 26-year, 25-year or 30-year millage," said Robert Cutler, current president of the board following the recent resignation of Rick Smith, who was transferred by his employer, Visteon, to Paris, France. "We are waiting for the numbers to come back on the millage as well as a proposal from a local accounting firm," Cutler said. "We're trying to keep the millage rate as low as possible."

Cutler said board members plan to give a presentation to city council in the near future, most likely in February or early March.

The next library board meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Jan. 18 at city hall and is televised on Cable Channel 13.

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.

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# EDUCATION

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700 ext. 113 calstone@gannett.com www.novhnews.com fax (248) 349-9872

## Enjoy an evening of food, friends and fundraising for a good cause

### ■ Bonefish Grill to host charity night for Youth Assistance

By Ramez Khuri  
STAFF WRITER

Bonefish Grill is celebrating the opening of its newest location in Novi with a fundraising event to benefit Novi Youth Assistance. The charity event will be held on Saturday, Jan. 28 from 6-8:30 p.m. at Bonefish Grill, located in the Novi Town Center.

A \$25 donation per person includes two complimentary drinks, appetizers and a main course, lasting with all proceeds benefiting Novi Youth Assistance and children participating in Novi Community Education Child Care Services Programs.

NYA and Novi Community Education, along with the support of Providence Park, have been providing scholarship funds for Novi children.

"We are very appreciative for Bonefish Grill choosing NYA as the recipient of their charity night," said Bob Stech, director of Novi Community Education and board member for NYA. "These funds will give children enriching educational opportunities that they normally may not have been able to participate in."

NYA is an organization directed by citizen volunteers who are guided by professional staff. Their purpose is to help strengthen youth and families and to provide positive growth experiences by offering educational, recreational and co-cursing opportunities.

"We are looking forward to having our Charity Night with Novi Youth Assistance," said Brian O'Hara, managing partner of Bonefish Grill. "This is such a

To RSVP for Bonefish Grill's charity night, contact Gail O'Connor of Novi Community Education Child Care Services at (248) 449-1713 or by e-mail at goconnor@novi.k12.mi.us.

Those interested in donating prizes for the raffle or silent auction can contact Kim Ziegler of Novi Youth Assistance at (248) 247-0410 or by e-mail at kziegler@ci.novi.mi.us.

wonderful way to introduce both Bonefish Grill and our commitment to the community and Novi Youth Assistance."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or rkhuri@gannett.com.



Courtesy photo  
**Fun with face paint**  
Students in Ella MacArthur's second grade class at Orchard Hills Elementary School painted their faces at the class holiday party. Pictured here are Ashley Moore, Joey Carr, John Robertson and Brendan Kelly.

### VARSITY LINCOLN MERCURY COLLISION CENTER

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Cyndy Cauty and her daughter Siobhan from Magic105 will be on hand for Irish Dancing step dancing with a bagpipe!

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\$80 per six-week session @ 1 class per week (6 classes)  
\$150 per six-week session @ 2 classes per week (12 classes)  
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U.S.D.A. CHOICE - BONELESS BLACK ANGUS NEW YORK STRIP STEAKS \$7.99 (SAVING \$1.00)	FROM ITALY - ASSI VARIETIES FORNO RUSTICO - RUSTIC COOKERS \$2.99 (SAVING \$1.00)
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# PEOPLE

Call Stone editor (248) 349-7100 ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com

## NAMES IN THE NEWS

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) has named two new managers: Jeff O'Brien has been named manager of the Subdivision Improvement and Development Division (SID) of the Engineering Department, while Jay Carter has been named maintenance operations engineer in the Highway Maintenance Department.

An eight-year RCOC veteran, O'Brien previously served as a civil engineer III and served as leader in the Road Commission's Engineering Department Design Division. Prior to that, he worked in the Engineering Department Programming Division and in RCOC's Permit and Environmental Concerns Department. He took over his new position Jan. 3.

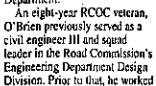
O'Brien and his wife and two sons reside in Windsor. Carter is a seven-year RCOC

employee. He has been in RCOC's Highway Maintenance Department since 2002, serving as the maintenance staff engineer until his recent promotion. Prior to that, he was a civil engineer II in RCOC's Engineering Department Design Division. Carter resides in Madison Heights.

Novi-based Tower Automotive, Inc. (TWARQ) announced Craig Corrington has joined the company as vice president of operations for North America. He will report to Bill Pamphrey, president, North America.

Corrington, who recently retired from DaimlerChrysler Corporation, will develop and implement manufacturing strategies to enhance Tower's North American product portfolio. He also will improve manufacturing processes and help execute the company's restructuring plans in North America.

Corrington earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Kentucky and a master's degree in business administration from Central Michigan University. He also attended the Executive



**J. Carter**  
Department.

Development Program at Harvard University.

Corrington is a native of Louisville, Ky., and currently resides in Rochester.

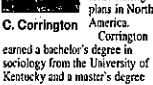
Transar Autobody Technologies, Inc. has appointed Julie Pallares to the newly-created position of marketing manager in her new role. Pallares reports to William Ruffini, who was recently promoted to Director of Operations.

She is the daughter-in-law of Mr. Mariano Pallares, Ph.D., and Ms. Annette Pallares of Novi.

In her new role, Pallares will manage all advertising, product marketing, marketing communications and strategic marketing programs for the company's jobber network and bodyshop customers worldwide.

"Julie's aforementioned experience on both sides of the desk at various levels of increasing responsibility has prepared her well for this role," Ruffini said. "She brings both corporate and advertising agency knowledge along with a strong track record to Transar."

Prior to joining Transar, Ms. Pallares was part of the AE/Creative organization, Vision Corporation and RT Thompson Company, an advertising agency. Pallares earned a bachelor's degree in communications and English from the University of Michigan and a MBA with a marketing concentration from Eastern Michigan University.



**C. Corrington**  
Department.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

• Meadowbrook Congregational Church invites everyone to attend a Sunday worship service at 10 a.m.

The church is located at 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile roads. Call (248) 343-7757.

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

• Adult Bible Study is Sundays at 9 a.m. Worship Center for children ages 2-7, and Sunday School is at 10 a.m.

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

• Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. Call (248) 427-1175 or visit www.churchofholycross.com.

• Faith Community Presbyterian Church invites you to worship at either the 9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. services. Adult Sunday school is offered at 9 a.m. Sunday school and nursery care is available at both services.

Dr. Henderson will be teaching an Arjos and those classes on Tuesday's at 10 a.m. and Wednesday's at 7 p.m. Cost for the book and class is \$19. Everyone is welcome.

Women's Bible Study, led by Jane Martin, is the first Wednesday and Thursday of each month, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

The church is located at 34400 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi. Call (248) 349-2345, or visit www.fairfaxcommunity-novi.org.

• The Holy Family Church is located at 74505 Meadowbrook Road, between Grand River and 10 Mile Road. Call (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamily-novi.org.

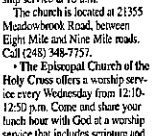
• Oak Point Church service times will be at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. every Sunday. Visit www.oakpoint.org or call (248) 912-0403. The church meets at Novi High School.

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

• First United Methodist Church of Northville will be hosting a community-wide healing service, called Prayers for Healing of Body, Mind, Relationship and Spirit on the first Monday of each month. This service of hope is open to the Northville community and persons of all faiths who desire to ask God for healing in their life, or that of someone they hold dear. Church worship hour schedules are as follows: 9, 9:15 and 11 a.m. on Sundays. The church is located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road (at Fair Road), Northville. Call (248) 349-1444, or visit www.lutherannorthville.org.

• St. John Lutheran Church is located at 22225 Old Road in Farmington Hills. Sunday services begin at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday traditional services are at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday contemporary service begins at 9:50 a.m. and Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. Nursery is provided. Call (248) 474-0584 or visit www.stjohnlutheran.com for more information.

• Crosspointe Meadows Church meets Sundays at Meadowbrook Elementary School. Services are at 9 and 10:30 a.m. Fresh brewed hot coffee is available from 10:10-30 a.m. The



**J. Henderson**  
Department.

church also has children's programs for all ages and a nursery available.

The church is located at 29000 Meadowbrook Road, just south of 13 Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 427-2700 Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., or www.crosspointemeadows.org.

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

*Compiled by Ramon Klure*

chapel. He has been in RCOC's Highway Maintenance Department since 2002, serving as the maintenance staff engineer until his recent promotion. Prior to that, he was a civil engineer II in RCOC's Engineering Department Design Division. Carter resides in Madison Heights.

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## OBITUARY

### RUTH E. BAUMGARTEN (WHITMAN)

Died Monday afternoon, January 2, 2006 in the company of her two sons, David and John Mark at the age of 81. She was the beloved wife of the late Louis F. Baumgarten for 31 years (1948 to 1979). Beloved mother of David and Mary (Lyn) of Commerce Twp. and grandchildren Lindsey, Benjamin, Anna, Clarissa, and John Mark and Lisa (Mason) of Novi and grandchildren Eric, Alex and Laura. Ruth will be missed by sister Kay Whitman of Paradise MI and nephews Ferent (Whitman) of Blissfield, MI and Robert Wolverton of Orsted, MI. Ruth was raised on the Whitman farm in Blissfield, Michigan. She attended Blessed High School and went to college at the University of Toledo and studied nursing. She worked as an RN at Eday Hospital in Avon for many years. After nursing Ruth was a homemaker and raised her family in Avon. She lived in Avon until 2005. After the death of her husband, Louis, in 1979, Ruth shared with her special friend Marion Lang, she was an accomplished seamstress and gardener and volunteered for the Red Cross and St. John's Lutheran Church. Services were held January 6th at St. John's Lutheran Church by Unit. Lyle Crisp of Elton Black & Sons Funeral Home, White Lake Michigan.

### OBITUARY POLICY

The first seven lines of an obituary are published free of charge. After that, there is a fee of \$3 a line. Photos may be published for \$25.  
•Deadline for obituaries is Thursday at 10:00 a.m. for publication in Thursday's newspaper.  
For more information, call 588-999-1283, or contact your funeral home.  
\*Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

#### NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

##### NOVI, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi Community School District will receive sealed bids for the following items:

High School Band Uniforms

Bids will be accepted at the Educational Services Building, 25345 Tall Road, Novi, Michigan 48374-2423 until 2:00 p.m. local time, January 30, 2006. Specifications may be picked up at the Educational Services Building during normal business hours.

(1-12-19-06 NN 262070)

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Ann Arbor - A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven non-surgical decompression 86% successful in treating debilitating back pain. Find out how NASA's accidental discovery led to the most promising treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" Call 1-800-293-2399 for the toll-free recorded message. Supplies are limited - call now. If phone lines are busy, visit: [www.fixdiskreport-4r.com](http://www.fixdiskreport-4r.com)

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### FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT

#### TUP 06-001

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Clark Construction Company is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow placement of a construction trailers for the GLA Expansion at Twelve Oaks Mall (Parcel #5022-14-100-058). This permit is to be issued from the date of the meeting to February 1, 2007.

A public hearing meeting to consider this request will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 20, 2006. The meeting is at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. Written and signed approvals or objections will be accepted into the file if received prior to the scheduled meeting. Please address all communications to Gail Backus at the City of Novi Building Department 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

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

(1-12-06 NN 262029)

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### CITY OF NOVI

#### NOTICE OF PROVISION OF THE

#### SNOW EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 39, Article III, Division 5, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, a snow emergency shall be deemed to exist whenever: (1) freezing rain, sleet or four (4) or more inches of snow has been forecast for the area by a newspaper circulated in the city; or by a radio or television station with a normal operating range covering the city; or (2) freezing rain or sleet has fallen or four (4) or more inches of snow has accumulated in the city.

Whenever any vehicle without an operator is found parked or left in violation of any provision of this ordinance, the Director of the Department of Public Works, or his designee, or the Police Department may immediately remove the vehicle or cause the vehicle to be removed to a place of safekeeping at the expense of the registered owner of the vehicle.

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 39, Article III, Division 5, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, may also result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penalty therein provided.

SERVY MOUKSEK, DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

(1-12-06 NN 261222)

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# SENIORS

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## Reading between the lines

### Bookworms stack up

By Tracy Mishler  
STAFF WRITER

Joan Johnson remembers spending countless hours in the library as a kid surrounded by stacks of books.

More than 70 years have passed since Johnson's childhood, and nothing has changed. "I've read so many books in my life," said the 71-year-old Meadowbrook Commons resident. "I wouldn't know where to begin if I had to name my favorites. I tend to like all of them."

Johnson, along with several other bookworms at the Novi Senior Center, is currently reading "The Kite Runner."

"I've always wanted to belong to a book club," Johnson said. "It's great to be able to get together with a group of people and discuss what you've read."

The Bookworm Reading and Discussion Group, which began in March 2005, meets once a month to discuss selected authors and novels read by the group.

"We try to choose books we might not normally pick up," said group coordinator and member Jan McAlpine. "The majority of seniors read tens of books. If they've been a reader, then they will continue to read as long as they are able to."

McAlpine said when choosing books, she usually consults the New York Times Best Sellers list, or takes suggestions from her fellow club members.

"There are so many good books to choose from," she said. "It is hard to choose, but we try



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NOV NEWS

Members of the Bookworm Reading and Discussion Group, meeting at the Novi Senior Center, discuss Khaled Hosseini's "Kite Runner." From the left are Rose Tutay, Helen Fust, Jan McAlpine, Hazel Plummer, Elizabeth Coleman and Joan Johnson.

to read biographies, mysteries, short stories, religious novels and fiction."

Plummer, who said she's read thousands of books in her lifetime, said she joined the club to expand her genre of reading.

"I just started reading romance novels," she said, "and they aren't that bad."

Elizabeth Coleman, 84, said as a child she used reading to escape from a hard childhood.

"I was orphaned at five years old," said the Meadowbrook Commons resident. "I was taught to read before I started school, and by time I was six years old, I was walking to the library by myself."

Coleman said she's spent every moment of her life reading.

"It's a way to escape," she said. "I read morning, noon and night, and I love it."

Rose Tutay, 64, said she joined

the Bookworms to be part of an intellectual group.

"Reading is a way of exercising the brain," Tutay said. "Once people retire, they lose their brain stamina, and reading could help prevent diseases like Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia."

"Joining this club really helped to awaken my love for books and will definitely keep my mind challenged," added Tutay.

### Suggested Bookworm Novels:

- "The King Runner" Khaled Hosseini
  - "An American Life" Ronald Reagan (autobiography)
  - "The Lincoln Lawyer" Michael Connelly
  - "The Art of Happiness" The Dal Lama
  - "Plain Truth" Jodi Picoult
  - "Time Travelers Wife" Audrey Hefenberg
  - "Cassandre Gansu" Marie Currie
  - "Life of Pi" Yann Martel
  - "The Photograph" Penelope Lively
  - "Widow of the South" Robert Hicks
  - "Team of Rivals: Lincoln" Doris Kerns Goodwin
  - "Where the Heart is" Billie Letts
- Source: Bookworms

"I was taught to read before I started school, and by time I was six years old, I was walking to the library by myself."

Elizabeth Coleman, resident  
Meadowbrook Commons

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com

### SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Friday 1/13	
8:45 a.m.	..... Panera Bread
9 a.m.	..... Stretch and Strength
10 a.m.	..... Body Recall
11 a.m.	..... Medicare, Jack Meira
12:30 p.m.	..... Lunch
12:30 p.m.	..... Bingo
2:30 p.m.	..... Dupl. Bridge*
	..... Massage
Monday 1/16	
Senior Center/Civic Center/Lunch Service/Transportation closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance; Management Office open	
Tuesday 1/17	
9 a.m.	..... Panera Bread
9 a.m.	..... Line Dance
10 a.m.	..... Asian Pacific
10:30-11:30 a.m.	..... Bookmobile
11 a.m.-1 p.m.	..... Computer Lab open
11 a.m.	..... Medicare Part D-Kathy, Providence Hospital
noon	..... Lunch
12:30 p.m.	..... Bingo
2:30 p.m.	..... Massage

Wednesday 1/18	
9 a.m.	..... Stretch and Strength
10 a.m.	..... Body Recall
11 a.m.	..... Blood Pressure
11 a.m.	..... Making Off Bounds Sensibly class
noon	..... Lunch
12:30 p.m.	..... Clogging*
1 p.m.	..... Game Day
2:20 p.m.	..... Massage
2-4 p.m.	..... Estate Planning, Karen Stewart (by appointment)
Thursday 1/19	
9 a.m.	..... Line Dance*
9:30 a.m.	..... Travel Meeting
11 a.m.	..... Hospice Questions answered, conference room
11 a.m.-1 p.m.	..... Computer Lab open
noon	..... Lunch
12:15	..... Contract Bridge*
1-2 p.m.	..... Line Dance
2-2:30 p.m.	..... Massage

\*Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Phone (248) 347-0414.

Don't miss your chance to be a part of Oh Baby 2005! All babies born in 2005 will be published on Feb. 16, 2006.

Just fill out the coupon below and send it along with a photo of your baby. Be sure to include a SASE if you would like your photo returned.



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Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ 2005 Hospital \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents' Name (First & Last) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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**One-tough guy**  
 Al Vellathotom doesn't let little things stop him from wrestling, but a broken arm in each of the past two years sure did.  
 "Big Al" reasons for his junior year and his sites are set on a potential state finals berth.  
 — Page 3B



**More volleyball**  
 The Novi Wildcats volleyball team didn't have the best of luck against Lakeland Monday, losing in three games.  
 That didn't stop them from having plenty of fun though.  
 — Page 4B



# SPORTS

Thursday, January 12, 2006

NOVI NEWS, PAGE D1

www.hometowntoill.com

## Quick Hits

**Super Bowl plans?**  
 It's that time of year again, but it's so much more exciting thanks to Detroit's hosting of the big game this year.  
 Here at the Novi News, some of the staff will be watching the game on television and one lucky son-of-a-gun is going to the game itself.  
 But what about you? Our sports department wants to know. E-mail sports writer Sam Eggleston at [seggleston@hometowntoill.com](mailto:seggleston@hometowntoill.com) and let him know what you're doing. Include your name and phone number, please.

**Mid-January resolutions**  
 At the first of the year everyone was probably proud of all of the resolutions they've made. How many have kept them just two weeks in? Probably not many.

The Novi Wildcats and the Catholic Central Shamrocks have probably made some resolutions that have lasting power though: keep improving every game and keep winning.  
 Both schools have plenty of talent and both are looking to stay competitive in their sports. Help them along by attending their games and cheering them on. The only thing better than winning is winning with cheering fans in the stands.

**Next week**  
 Don't miss next week's sports section where the Novi Wildcats hockey team's trip to the Upper Peninsula will be detailed. The squad made the trek, played some top-notch hockey and had a good time — that's what sports and road trips are all about!

**Got game?**  
 The Novi News is currently looking for an interested intern for Catholic Central High School to cover sports and write columns and features. Candidates should have a strong interest in writing and general knowledge about sports. For more information, contact the sports department at [segment10@hometowntoill.com](mailto:segment10@hometowntoill.com).

**Smart cookies**  
 There are some pretty smart football players in Novi. The Catholic Central Shamrocks placed second in the MISFCA Academic All-State Football Team 2004 list with 3,989 points and the Novi Wildcats were third with 3,954.

Earning honorable mention honors on the Academic All-State team were Catholic Central's David Lopez and Novi's Eric Zhao.

**Also earning honors...**  
 Dave Hartman earned Assistant Coach of the Year honors for his 26 years of service in Novi Football. Hartman is the kind of guy that knows his game, coaches punishing defense and deserves the honor, though he's the first guy to say it belonged to someone else, Congressman Dave!

**Novi News earns award**  
 The Novi News sports section was recently honored with a second-place finish in the Suburban Newspapers of America editorial contest for best sports section.

## Wildcat Captain Megan Miller can dish it out when needed

By Sam Eggleston  
 SPORTS WRITER

Megan Miller knows the value of tough love. The Novi senior volleyball captain has been the recipient of it from her fellow spikers over the years and has handed out doses of her own in return. This year, however, she's not quite sure what amount she should be handing out.

"It's difficult right now," she said. "We're such a young team and I really don't know how to treat them about things that happen on the court. Each person takes it so differently."

Last season, Miller was a big part of Novi's march to the Kensington Valley Conference title and eventual district title. She provided the court, snarling when she had to add scolding when the time called for it.

It was tough love in exponential amounts. The members of the team weren't afraid to bare their teeth when they had to — and everyone responded in turn.

"Last year it was basically a cut fight on the court all the time," Miller said. "This year it's more of a nice, little party." And nice isn't always Miller's way of dealing with things. She's aggressive and, though she doesn't understand why, she's intimidating. With Miller safeguarding the middle of the front line, few things get through for points.

She does her best though, biting her tongue when she needs to and making sure no one takes her personally. Every now and then, she even makes them smile.

Against Lakeland Monday, the Wildcats found themselves in a hole on their way to a loss over three games. The Novi spikers were huddled together and it was obvious most of them figured the game was over.

Then, the music started. "I just started dancing," Miller said. "It wasn't over. I just hate seeing people down when they shouldn't be. Volleyball should definitely be competitive, but you should still have fun while you're playing."

"I just love it. I love the adrenaline rush and seeing someone kill the ball and I love the fans."

### Whole new season

This year has proven different in a lot of ways for Miller and her fellow returning players. In year's past, the team has been ranked relatively low in the conference standings. This year, they're ranked near the top thanks to last year's league title and district championship.

It's a role Miller said she'd rather have reversed. "We liked being the underdogs," she said. "We always went out to prove people wrong and that we can do it. This year everyone is out to get us and so far we have nothing to show for being ranked closer to the top."

But that doesn't mean the Novi Wildcats have anything other than the highest goals set for themselves. Miller and her team want another KVC title and another district championship. "It's not going to be easy, but

she said it's not as far away as their 1-2 conference record suggests.

"Once we start to click and all come together, I think we can win KVC's again," she said. "We just have to click and I'm positive we'll be a pretty destructive team."

### Sister act

This year, the Wildcats have added a second dose of Miller to the recipe with the addition of Hayley to the squad.

So far, it's proven to work just fine, despite early concerns by the coaching staff. "Julie (Fisette) told me in the beginning that they thought about whether or not to put us on the same team because they weren't sure if we'd fight or not," said Miller. "I told her right off the bat that when we're on the court it's not going to be sisterly love because we're going to look at each other as teammates."

That doesn't mean Miller doesn't take a few moments to pick on her little sister, though she's come to respect the talent Hayley has as well.

"It's been great to be able to play with my senior year and see how much she's able to improve," Miller said. "She's already impressed so much from the first practice. She's in the back row and she's playing a lot. It's definitely a lot of fun."  
 And Miller's parents don't mind either. Instead of snoring through six hours of volleyball, they get to sit through just three.

### The future

Miller has been such a big part of Novi's volleyball past it's not hard to wonder how far she plans on taking it.

"She's quick to answer: Not very far. "I'm kind of opted not to play at the next level," she said. "This car I'm not even playing AAU. It's my senior year and I only live this once. I want to have fun."

Miller had plenty of opportunity, even talking to some Division I colleges in South Carolina and Virginia. She said it's just not a consideration right now.

Instead, she's planning on studying nursing and keeping herself busy with the possibility of club volleyball. She's been accepted to Central Michigan University, Grand Valley State and Arizona State and she's waiting for a response from Michigan State. She said she's also pondering an application to Oakland University.

But no matter where she goes and what she studies, Miller said, you won't find her just hanging around.

"I can't ever see myself not playing a sport," she said. "I'm not that type of person, even though I was voted 'Biggest Asshole' for my class. People just think I sit around and eat, but if I weren't playing sports, I'd be out running or working out."

"I just got so tired and fed up and disliking. I've got to keep going."

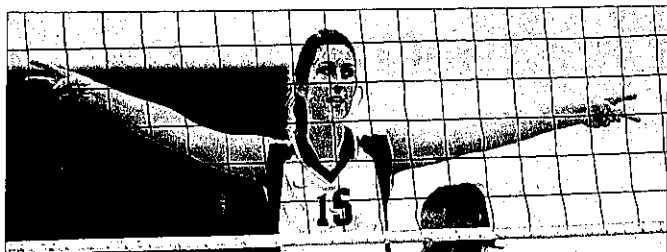
Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or [seggleston@hometowntoill.com](mailto:seggleston@hometowntoill.com).



Novi's middle blocker Megan Miller goes up to stop a spika during the Wildcat's home game against Lakeland. Photo by JOHN HAGEDORN/NOVI NEWS

By the numbers	1st	103	2	1-2	13	1st	3
	Place Novi wrestler Al Vellathotom back in Salem Tournament before break.	Pounds Vellathotom weighs in at for the Novi Wildcats wrestling team.	Fines the light-weight wrestler who has broken his arm during competition.	Novi's volleyball record in the Kensington Valley Conference.	Kills captain Jenna Kula collected in Monday's loss to Lakeland.	Place the Wildcats volleyball team back in the Northwoods tournament.	Times in a row the Wildcats have won the Northwoods volleyball tournament.





Standing at the net, Novi sophomore Stephanie Cripps calls out a defensive formation for her teammates during Monday night's game against Lakeland.

## Wildcats win title for third season

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

For the Novi Wildcats volleyball team, winning the Northwoods Tournament was a great way to kick off the second part of their season.

Under the guidance of coach Julie Fisetto, the 'Cats cruised to an impressive victory, beating all eight of their opponents in just ten games.

Novi earned their third-straight title in the tournament, having won it in 2004 and 2005.

'Cats setters were integral in the victories with Natalia Frisk collecting 64 assists, Jessica Hamill tallying 43 and Sarah Rybicki adding 28. Jenna Kuhn also had a strong night in kills, grabbing 39 while Megan Miller had 22 and Meghan Goldsmith had 25.

Kuhn also picked up eight digs, Shannon Cody had 10 and Hayley Miller had seven. Lauren Fandy notched 12 solo blocks and 24 total and Stephanie Cripps notched 10 solo and 24 total. Megan Miller added 16 total blocks to the tournament.

Frisk was plenty thrilled with the early-season success.

"You have to be happy with the results," said Fisetto. "We all played a great tournament and it's a great way to start after our break."

Fisetto said other than Amanda Dicoon, who missed the tournament due to previous commitments, the entire Novi bench was able to get playing time.

Using their deep bench and their aggressive play, the Wildcats toppled Cass Tech, Burton Branch, Lakeville and Valley Lutheran in pool play before toppling Big Rapids, Cabral, Valley Lutheran and the Lakers in the single elimination tournament.

Reaching their third-straight Northwoods Volleyball Tournament championship was a big accomplishment for the Wildcats, who began regular-season play Monday against Lakeland.

"In the KVC, I don't think the league champ is going to win without taking a loss at some point," Fisetto said. "There are a lot of tough teams this year."

Currently, only Pinckney stands undefeated in the conference with a 2-0 record while the Wildcats and Milford each are 1-1 in KVC play.

Other teams in the conference are in the running too, with South Lyon, Lakeland, Brighton, Hatfield and Howell all trying to get in the mix.

However, Novi has had much more success in non-conference play, climbing to an overall mark of 12-2-2.

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

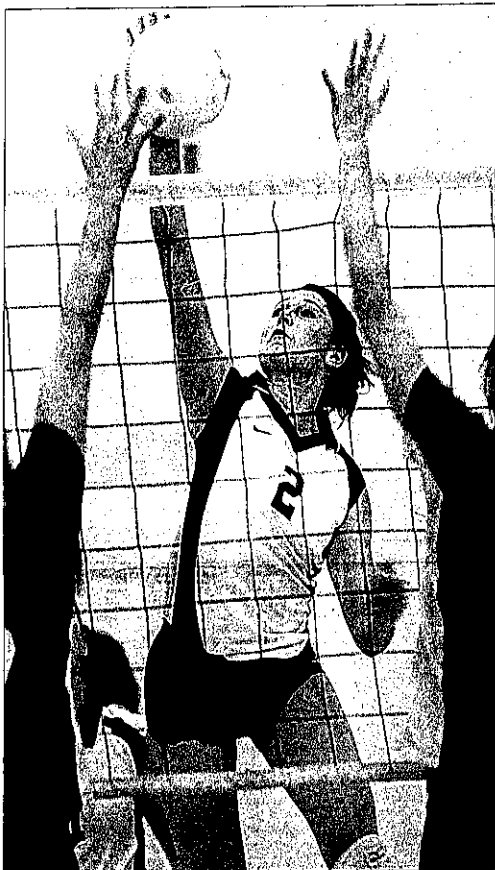
# It's not always about just wins

The Novi Wildcats fell to Lakeland in three games Monday, but they still had fun in front of their fans

RIGHT: Leaping above the net, Wildcat outside hitter Jenna Kuhn nails a spike against Lakeland during a Monday night home game.

Photos by JOHN HEIDER

BELOW: Wildcat Meghan Goldsmith runs into some Lakeland defensive pressure at the net.



ABOVE LEFT: Kaelyn McAbay nails a return during Monday night's game against Lakeland.

BELOW: The Novi High varsity volleyball team gets psyched up before battling Lakeland in a home match.



### Wildcats fall to Eagles

Novi fell to the visiting Lakeland team in three games Monday, 26-24, 26-24 and 25-13. With the loss, the Wildcats fell to 1-2 in the conference but stand at 13-3-2 overall.

Leading the way for the Wildcats was senior captain Jenna Kuhn, who recorded 13 kills and five digs in the losing effort while Meghan Goldsmith added six kills and seven digs. Sophomore standout Stephanie Cripps had 11 total blocks on the night.

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# FOOD

Fast, easy fall meals are also healthy with turkey, the only meat that is a "superfood."



Turkey Sloppy Joes

## SIMPLE Suppers Made SUPER

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL STYLING

As autumn settles in, more families enjoy meals at home — nearly 80 percent are prepared there as opposed to eaten in restaurants. But with on-the-go kids in school and extracurricular activities, factor in the desire to provide appealing meals that are also healthy, and it's no wonder why many busy parents struggle for evening meal solutions.

But moms and dads can excitedly proclaim "dinner's almost ready!" by adding turkey to their menu.

"The reality is that busy families can have it all — they can save time, enjoy meals that are easy to prepare, and they can ensure great-tasting, nutritious meals by simply adding turkey to those favorite dishes that parents already routinely cook," said Jennifer Bushman, author of several Kitchen Coach cookbooks including *Weeknight Cooking* and *Weekend Cooking*. "Every one will love the taste of turkey in these meals, and parents can feel great about the

nutritious, high-protein benefits turkey offers the family."

A variety of simple-to-prepare meals — many of them regular family favorites — are every bit as tasty and provide a healthy choice when made with turkey. Try sloppy joes using ground turkey for a saucy and satisfying, yet protein-packed, family pleaser. Expect a zesty taste of the Southwest with easy turkey enchiladas. And break out of the ordinary routine with Italian turkey sausage and pasta — a quick, one-dish wonder that is sure to tantalize the taste buds.

Another way to add a touch of "super" to a best-loved dish is to create fabulous lasagna with ground turkey or Italian turkey sausage (swt or hot). Turkey is also a prime-time performer when used in spaghetti with ground turkey meat sauce. Sign up for a "Turkey Recipe of the Month" e-mail newsletter and find hundreds more turkey recipes at [www.brookfarm.com](http://www.brookfarm.com) or [www.studytobrookfarms.com](http://www.studytobrookfarms.com).

### Superfood. Super easy.

Naturally protein-packed, turkey is a lower fat, healthier choice than many other meat options. In fact, turkey is the only meat named a "superfood" by Steven Pratt, MD, a food and health expert and co-author of *Superfoods For You: Foods That Will Change Your Life*. In his book, Dr. Pratt states that turkey is "a perfect example of a twenty-first-century 'healthy' protein source... and provides multiple nutrients which help build a strong immune system."

For on-the-go parents, it's easy to incorporate "superfoods" into simple-yet-super meals. Find delectable recipes that combine turkey with more of Dr. Pratt's superfoods, including spinach, tomatoes, beans, walnuts, oats and yogurt, at [www.brookfarm.com](http://www.brookfarm.com) and [www.studytobrookfarms.com](http://www.studytobrookfarms.com).

### Turkey Sloppy Joes

Servings: 6  
Prep Time: 10 minutes / Total Time: 30 minutes

- 1 package Honeyuckle White or Shady Brook Farms Ground Turkey
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 medium green bell pepper, seeded and chopped

- 1/2 cup (1/2 ounce) chili sauce
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 6 (4-inch) hamburger buns
- Green leaf lettuce, optional
- 1 medium tomato, optional

Heat oil in large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Cook onion and bell pepper until softened, about 5 minutes. Add turkey, crumble and cook until no longer pink, about 5 minutes; drain. Stir in chili sauce and Worcestershire sauce. Cook, covered, over low heat for 10 minutes. Divide mixture evenly over bottom of buns. Layer on lettuce and tomato, if desired. Top with remaining buns.

### Easy Turkey Enchiladas

Servings: 5  
Prep Time: 10 minutes / Total Time: 30 minutes

- 1 package Honeyuckle White or Shady Brook Farms Turkey Breast Chiffoni, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup light sour cream
- 1/2 cup light ranch dressing
- 10 (8-inch) flour tortillas
- 1 cup (8 ounces) shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 2 cups bottled salsa
- 2 medium tomatoes, seeded and sliced
- 2 green onions, chopped (optional)

Slice open package with sharp knife; remove sausage casings. Heat oil in large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Cook onion, until softened, about 5 minutes. Add sausage and tomato; crumble sausage. Cook, stirring constantly until sauce is thickened, about 20 minutes. In large bowl, mix cooked pasta with meat sauce. Top pasta with cheese and serve.

### Italian Turkey Sausage With Pasta

Servings: 8  
Prep Time: 10 minutes / Total Time: 35 minutes

- 1 package Honeyuckle White or Shady Brook Farms Hot or Sweet Italian Turkey Sausage
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 cans (14-1/2 ounces each) whole peeled tomatoes with juice, broken up

- 1 package (16 ounces) penne, rotelle or fusilli pasta, cooked according to package directions
- 1 cup (8 ounces) Mozzarella cheese, cut into 1/2-inch pieces

Slice open package with sharp knife; remove sausage casings. Heat oil in large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Cook onion, until softened, about 5 minutes. Add sausage and tomato; crumble sausage. Cook, stirring constantly until sauce is thickened, about 20 minutes. In large bowl, mix cooked pasta with meat sauce. Top pasta with cheese and serve.



# REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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Thursday, January 12, 2006

## Home Owners... Are You Planning To Sell Your Home This Year THEN Prepare your home for a quick sale!

Here's some advice on making your home attractive to potential buyers, from the experts at Pillar to Post Inc., a leading home inspection company.

\*Have a home inspection performed. Current knowledge of a home's condition helps when pricing the house and negotiating with buyers. Sellers can repair damage pre-sale, and can save money on repairs, for instance, replacing damaged sections of the roof rather than re-roofing the entire house, repair to unknown water leaks, air leaks, and have the home tested for gas or carbon monoxide leaks are a few things to consider.

\*Get routine service for the heating and cooling systems. Pre-sale service will prevent big surprises uncovered by the buyer's home inspection process. This can also help reduce your overall heating and cooling cost.



Randall Patterson

\*Wash windows. In addition to improving the home's appearance, washing may uncover broken seals in thermal pane windows, which sellers may choose to repair prior to showing the home.

\*Repair windows and doors that don't operate easily and correctly. Windows stuck closed may simply be painted shut, or a symptom of the foundation settling. Ensure that you know which is the case and repair as required.

\*Have a garage shelf and/or donate unused items to a thrift store to clear out excess "stuff." The home will seem larger and more attractive, and offer improved accessibility to the home interior.

\*Ensure all appliances which are staying with the home are in operational condition.

\*Have your home checked for any air leaks which could be reducing your Home Energy efficiency.

\*Ensure your attic has the proper amount of insulation and ventilation.

\*Ensure the bathroom vents are not venting into the attic space which could cause excessive moisture build up and possible mildew/mold development.

\*Ensure all water to/off for the exterior is away from the foundation and structure.

\*Have any leaks repaired for the plumbing system of the house.

\*Ensure all showers, faucets, and toilets are operating properly. Experts say making your home inviting to a buyer can make a big difference.

Call us to have your home inspected and Ready For Sale! This process will help you receive top dollar market value for your home.

Randall Patterson  
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Randall Patterson is a Certified Home Inspector with Pillar to Post® serving Western Oakland and Livingston Counties. For additional information please visit our web site at [www.pillarpost.com/centralflorida.htm](http://www.pillarpost.com/centralflorida.htm). We provide professional home inspections and basic environmental testing services for Radon, Mold, Test, Well & Septic, Air & Water Quality testing. Please call us if you would like your home evaluated with our testing services for your family's health and protection.

For additional information please visit our web site at [www.pillarpost.com/centralflorida.htm](http://www.pillarpost.com/centralflorida.htm)

We also provide home owner with the following Environmental Testing Services to ensure your home does not have elevated levels of Radon, Mold or various other issues. We use only Nationally Certified Labs to provide the lab results to our clients. Call us today to schedule a home check up and ensure your family has a healthy and safe living environment, even if you are not planning to sell your home.

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Photos by JOHN HEIDEN/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Veterinary technicians Trina McGowan, left, and Sonya McConchie, right, John Dr. Barb Scheffler in welcoming pets to Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic at 48525 W. Eight Mile Road in Northville Township.

## Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic

### Preventive care key to pet health

By Kate Phillips  
SPECIAL WRITER

Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic has developed a new care plan to increase the lifespan of family pets called, "Twice a year for life."

It may sound simple, but the staff at Hidden Spring have found that by increasing preventative visits from yearly to twice yearly, dogs, cats and other companion animals stay in better health. There's a lot of opportunity for education and preventative treatments.

Plus, health issues can be detected early and dealt with more easily.

"People can't stay two hours at an appointment to learn more about diet or behavior," said practice manager Janet Talbot. "But if we see them twice a year they can have that chance to learn more."

The practice first piloted the program with senior animals and noticed astounding results. The pets were healthier, received more preventative treatments and owners were happier with the level of care.

The program was extended to animals of all ages, because while aging pets need increased monitoring, young pets also need thorough care for health and behavior issues.

Talbot said families often discuss pets due to problems with house training, teaching, scratching and other behavior issues.

The veterinarians can work on behavior training with families so problems don't get to the point where the pet is no longer welcome in the home.

Since pets age much faster than humans, a yearly visit is like a person waiting seven years to see a doctor.

"If we can see them twice a year we can do so much more to keep them healthy," Talbot said.

#### Eating habits

One of the biggest things a pet owner can do to help a pet stay healthy is choose carefully what a pet eats. Many pets are overfed or eat the wrong type of foods, which causes an array of health problems.

A pet owner should consult with a veterinarian to choose a good commercial food. A healthy dog or cat needs a nutritious, high quality food. A change in food or even a prescription dog food may help an animal with special needs.

"Veterinarians suggest keeping some of the pet's regular food in a small treat container, then doing it out as rewards. The food will be healthier than commercial dog or cat treats."

"It's just the act of giving them something the pet wants," said Talbot. "They don't care if it is a treat or their food."

Humans should also think twice before giving pets table scraps. The food is likely lower in nutrition and higher in fat than pet food. It can lead to excess weight gain and various health problems.

"If they are eating people food, not only are they getting that fat and sugar from the food, but they may not be hungry enough to eat their own food and are missing out on the protein and nutrients from their own food," explained Talbot.

**HIDDEN SPRING**  
Location: 48525 W. Eight Mile Road, a quarter mile west of Beck Road in Northville  
Phone: (248) 349-2598  
Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

#### Dental issues

Dental problems are more common in dogs and cats that eat table food. Sugar and starches from human food cause more plaque build-up. Also, hard pet food keeps an animal's mouth healthier than softer people food. Biting into hard food cleans the teeth and it also works to prevent gum disease.

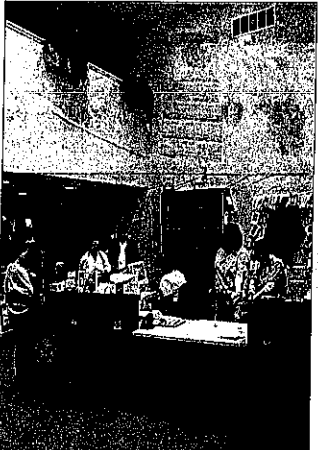
Pet owners should clean teeth with gauze or a pet toothbrush every day, but even weekly cleaning is helpful, especially important for pets that eat table food. It's easiest on the animals to start when they are young. But mature animals can learn to tolerate the cleaning if it starts very gradually.

Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic uses state of the art equipment for pet dental treatments. Some pets need yearly teeth cleaning while others need it only once or twice in a lifetime.

"A lot of pets will stop eating if they are suffering pain from plaque build-up on their teeth," said Talbot. "Or the dental problems could cause heart problems or other significant issues."

#### Pets that care

Health issues large and small mean a lot to the staff at Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic because they have a genuine love for ani-



Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic offers several pet services

mals. They go above and beyond to help owners solve behavior problems or find the answer to a health problem.

"We understand how much our clients love their pets," said veterinarian Kim Borrie. "We love them, too."

Part of the commitment to providing good care is referring sick animals out to experts. The veterinarians always have the animals' best interest at heart.

"I wish our clients could see how much our staff cares about these animals," said Talbot. "We take care of those pets like they were our own."

The close-knit staff is headed by owner Dr. Carol Geake. The veterinarian started the clinic 30 years ago in a small office. Five years ago she built a large, modern facility at the same location. There are now 23 staff members, including veterinarians Cynthia Eichman, Kim Borrie, Barbara Scheffler and Xuan Mai Vo.

Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic is located at 48525 W. Eight Mile Road, a quarter mile west of Beck Road in Northville.

Veterinarians specialize in caring for dogs, cats and small mammals. For more information, call (248) 349-2598.

## Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic

Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic has been caring for the pets in your neighborhood for more than 30 years.

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