



Novi News

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Thursday, February 16, 2006

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Volume 50 Number 37

Novi, Michigan

INSIDE



Creating masterpieces

Epoch Events' chef Terry Foster preps vegetables in the company's large kitchen inside the Rock Financial Showplace. Epoch became the facility's exclusive caterer when it opened last year.

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Celebrating triple digits

Whitehall resident Helen Burnston turned a 100 a week ago. Read what she and other locals have to say about hitting the century mark.

— Page 14A

SPORTS



The air up there

Wildcat Cateb Dean — a 6'8" sophomore — has high hopes for his basketball career.

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Special Information:

Battle Grounds

Whole 'latte' coffee craze in Novi

■ No room for decaf or regular; the future brews cappuccinos and mochis

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Suzette Bannell is a non-fat extra hot Caramel Macchiato or a white chocolate mocha, depending where she stops for her daily coffee.

"I've gotten to the point where I don't like regular coffee anymore," said the Northville resident. "I like flavored drinks."

Like Bannell, many people are choosing to have it their way when it comes to their daily coffee. And places like Starbucks, Caribou Coffee and Beaner's Gourmet Coffee in Novi are brewing up gallons of flavored drinks daily to keep regular and non-regulars in line for their personal favorites.

Chisley Collins said people are choosing to spend a few minutes more in local coffee houses due to the convenience.

"People are getting more high-maintenance these days," said the supervisor at Caribou Coffee on Grand River Avenue. "People like their extras, and they like being able to come in and order exactly what they want."

Collins said many coffee shops still sell coffee beans, but already brewed coffee is where the real sales are.

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Beaner's employees Abou Jallow, left, and Drew Bartlett team up to make a mocha-mocha coffee drink. Their shop, at the northeast corner of Beck and Pontiac Trail, has been open about two weeks.

All five schools "neighborhood"

■ Novi School Board votes to redistrict, add more full-day kindergarten

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Bruce Bogdady's biggest wish is that the Novi community can now come together as a whole and move on.

It may take a while for that to be granted to the school board president following last Thursday's school board meeting. The board voted to:

- redistrict and what the parameters will be;
- form a School Utilization and Redistricting Committee; and
- make every K-4 elementary — including Deerfield — a neighborhood school.

Those decisions didn't sit well with the Deerfield staff and parents in attendance. Most were upset and some were even crying after hearing the decision.

"Given that I was one of the first parents to move my kids out of their current school and into Deerfield six years ago with my fourth grader and my second grader, I feel betrayed that my kid was a seat filler and I didn't know it," said Bobbie Murphy minutes after the decision was made. "I was told on the philosophy and I brought it from

2007 Elementary Redistricting Parameters

The Novi Community School District Board of Education voted every K-4 elementary school will be a neighborhood school and have its own attendance area beginning in the 2007-08 school year. It passed 4-3, as it was presented. Board members Bruce Bogdady, George Korlandi, Dave Brown and Ann Glubzinski voted yes. Board members Dan Austin, Julia Abrams and Carol Biring voted no.

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"... I feel betrayed that my kid was a seat filler and I didn't know it."

Bobbie Murphy
Parent of Deerfield students

City-owned acreage to be designated parkland

■ Councilman says move's an important step

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Three parcels of city-owned land in Novi next to parks will be officially designated as parkland in the near future.

The suggestion was made by Council Member Andrew Mutch at the Feb. 6 city council meeting and was unanimously supported by his fellow council members. Mutch said it is important that these properties be included in the city's parks inventory to protect them and to have the city's Master Plan for Land Use and

Community Recreation Plan reflect the parcels as parkland. Having these two documents "on the same page" as Mutch described it, is also essential when it comes to obtaining state or federal grants for parkland.

"We want to get those two plans in sync," Mutch said.

The properties in question were donated or acquired by the city and are currently designated by the city's master plan as Public Parks and Open Space.

But, none of the properties were formally designated by the council to be parkland. Council members supported Mutch's idea to direct the city administration to draft a resolution for three properties to be designated as parkland. The land includes only properties currently owned by the city and does not include any properties still in control of private developers. The city acquired these 127.6 acres over several years.



A. Mutch

Mutch noted that officially designating such city-owned parcels as parkland was one of the city council's goals.

Council Member Kim Capello noted that there is also some city-owned property on South Lake Drive that could be added to this list.

Another area was mentioned in the M5 mitigation area that the

New parkland

The properties of city-owned parcels to be officially designated as parkland include:

- Bristol Corners South donation adjacent to Lakewood Park property. The 16.49 acres were donated to the city in 2003;
- Audubon Society property next to Rotary Park. The city acquired this 2.22 acres next to the park between Eight and Nine Mile roads in 1998; and
- Singh Trail properties between Nine and 10 Mile roads south of the intersection of 10 Mile and Wixom roads.

Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department is talking about acquiring. This land will be discussed at a later date.

Council Member Tom Nagy supported Mutch's suggestion to designate the city-owned parcels as parkland.

"I think this is important when we do grant applications," Nagy said.

"I think it's a good idea."

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.

Helping paralyzed veterans of America, one at a time

■ Michigan Chapter advocates for those down on their luck

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

It's usually a last resort, but when paralyzed war veterans need help getting something healthy people can get with no problem, they call Michael Harris.

Harris is the deputy executive director of Paralyzed Veterans of America, Michigan Chapter. His job is to advocate for those who "are down on their luck."

"It's almost like brainstorming because a lot of times there isn't always an answer, but usually if you talk it over with a person you find that there is a solution to a lot

of problems," said Harris. The organization advocates for members who are "spinal-cord injured veterans, or spinal-cord injured disabled veterans. It helps to make sure they get the benefits they've earned through services to their country."

"I also advocate when their civil rights are violated," said Harris. "What benefits our members, in a lot of instances, will also benefit the disabled community."

The organization's origin

The Michigan Chapter was created in 1961 and has about 500 members.

Members must be war veterans and have spinal cord injuries and/or diseases. The organization has been headquartered in Novi for about 11 years.

One of the accomplishments Harris is most proud of is the

organization's partnership with Ford Field and Comerica Park in Detroit.

"When it came to the design of the stadiums, we wanted to make sure they were designed so wheelchair users could freely access the facilities without having to face architectural barriers," said Harris.

"We worked with the management from both organizations along with the architect. You try to get to them before they build, because after it's very difficult to change."

Harris' organization is currently working with the University of Michigan on the school's renovation to Michigan Stadium.

Harris said one of the many unique abilities he has is being able to think "outside

of the box. He tries to be as creative as possible when coming up with solutions to problems."

continued on page 3



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Michael Harris, deputy executive director of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Michigan Chapter, in their Novi office on Grand River Avenue.

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BUSINESS

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Photo by PAM FLEMING

Bonefish Grill opens at Novi Town Center

Menu best described as 'South Florida'

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Bonefish Grill, a chain of seafood restaurants founded in St. Petersburg, Fla., has come to Novi.

With the slogan, "We get fish. You get fresh," the new location on the south side of Novi Town Center at 43304 11 Mile Road opened Feb. 6. This is the second restaurant in the Metro Detroit area.

"We have been extremely pleased with the reception that we have received since we opened our restaurant in Sterling Heights this past December," said Julian Copesey, joint venture partner for Michigan.

"Our polished, casual seafood restaurant appeals to those who crave high-quality seafood in a comfortable, lively atmosphere."

The 5,685-square-foot restaurant's dining room features an open kitchen and large bar area with three community tables. Capacity is 215, which includes seating for 22 in the bar.

Bonefish Grill specializes in market fresh fish grilled over an oak-burning grill, which gives the fish a tasty, even cook. An array of sauces gives diners many options on entrees.

Daily specials allow the staff to prepare fish with a topping they think is unique.

Appetizers include such offerings as Bang Bang Shrimp, a crispy shrimp tossed in a creamy, spicy sauce; Crab Cakes with jumbo lump crab centered and served with sauces; Ahi Tuna Sashimi sliced thin with wasabi and pickled ginger.

Homemade desserts include Creme Brûlée with whipped cream and berries, Deep Dish Key Lime Pie with roasted pecan crust and whipped cream and Chocolate Macadamia Nut Brownie Cake with raspberry sauce, vanilla ice cream and whipped cream.

Signature martinis include selections such as the Hopalong Brezzer Martini, the Leslie Aphrodisiac, the Insomnio Martini and the Bonefish Martini (Don't worry — there's no fish in it.)

A wide selection of wine, including a reserve wine list, and several choices of beer are also available.

"We are very excited about our opening here in Novi," said Brian O'Hara, proprietor. "We are committed to taking the mystery out of fish for people who don't eat it very often."

Waiters and waitresses are known as "anglers." Server trainer Joey Fichetti was in the Novi restaurant last week from the Gainesville, Fla. store along with trainers from other locations across the country.

Bonefish Grill's Novi restaurant's three investors include O'Hara, Copesey and Outback Steakhouse, Inc., the parent company.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103, or by e-mail at pfleming@gannett.com.

What's a bonefish?

A bonefish is a slender, silvery, small-scaled fish that is a notable sport and food fish of warm seas. It's indigenous to the Gulf of Mexico on the Florida coastline. "It tastes good, but it's hard to prepare," said Bonefish Grill proprietor Brian O'Hara.

"It's known as the ghost of the flats because it swims in such shallow water," according to James Smith, front house coordinator of the Novi restaurant. "They're fighters. They're fast and they're fun to catch."

Founders Tim Corci and the late Chris Parker, who opened the first restaurant in 1999, named the chain Bonefish Grill because they used to love to go bonefishing.

Bonefish Grill details

Dinner is served at the new Bonefish Grill in Novi, located at 43304 11 Mile Road in Novi Town Center, from 4-10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 4-11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 4-10 p.m. Sunday.

Reservations are not required but are available by calling (248) 347-1835.



Photo by PAM FLEMING

Dave Durkes, left, front of the house manager; Julian Copesey, joint venture partner for Michigan; and James Smith, coordinator of training, were in the house Feb. 6 at the Bonefish Grill restaurant in Novi.

Julian Copesey, joint venture partner for Michigan, watches as Shaun Gordon of Birmingham, Ala., waits to grab a plate from the kitchen at the new Bonefish Grill in the southwest corner of Novi Town Center. The new chain restaurant opened Feb. 6.

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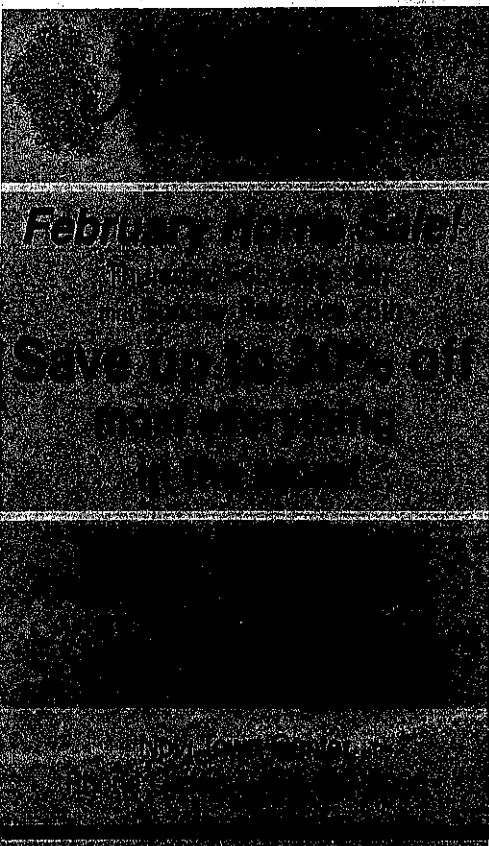


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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Construction begins

Twelve Oaks Mall has finally embarked on the construction phase of the mall's expansion, the addition of Nordstrom. The lower level parking lot near Lord and Taylor will be closed during construction. Due to the entrance closure, the Customer Service Desk, formerly located near Lord and Taylor, has been moved to the Lifestyle Cafe Food Court.

Happenings at Borders

Borders Books in Novi will be hosting several events including Disney Princess Storytime at noon tomorrow. This event is for children. Each child will receive a special princess gift while supplies last.

Borders also welcomes science fiction writer Timothy Zahn at 7 p.m. Feb. 24. Zahn will read from his book, "Star Wars: Outbound Flight," the sequel to "Star Wars: Heir of the Empire." Zahn, a born, American-bred rocker Venice Mark will deliver an original mix of music with his new album, "Which Way is Out," at Borders at 7:30 p.m. March 3. The performance is open to the public.

Help for retirees

Last month in Novi the State of the State address, Gov. Jennifer Granholm suggested a program to help those who don't have 401k programs to save for retirement. Under the proposal, the state would not contribute money to the plans.

The state said \$100 could set up a state-administered 401k retirement program for residents whose employers don't offer one. State Treasurer Jay Rising said once in place, the program would fund itself out of participants' investments.

Rising said four in 10 employees don't save for retirement. Senate Finance Committee Chairwoman Nancy Cunniff (R-Now) said the government should only provide services individuals can't provide themselves. She said the private sector already offers such a service.

Cigna Corporation joins forces with healthcare society

Cigna Corporation, a network specialist, has become a member of the Healthcare Information

and Management Systems Society (HIMSS). With a steady increase in the adoption of Cigna's Adaptive wide area networks solution among healthcare organizations, including Northville-based Trinity Health, LLC Davis Medical Center and Dornbecher Children's Hospital, Cigna is creating flexible wide area networks to support a variety of healthcare-related technology applications including business continuity, HIPAA compliance, remote storage extension and picture archiving communication systems.

Healthy lifestyles in Northville

A new community fitness initiative titled "Northville's 30 days to healthy lifestyles" will kick off from 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 4 at the Water Wheel Health Club on Griswold Street. The event objective is to address the worldwide situation of obesity and lack of overall activity at a community level. This initiative will combine fitness, education, health screenings, fun and food for the entire family.

This collaborative effort is hosted by Northville Parks and Recreation, the Northville Chamber of Commerce, the Water Wheel Health Club and St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.

The kick-off is a free event open to the public and includes free cholesterol and blood pressure screening, posture assessments, personal lifestyle assessments, chair massages, healthy snacks, kids activities and more. The event kicks off 30 days of a variety of physical activities and educational seminars such as smoking cessation and truths and myths for tire weight loss, available throughout Northville including at the Senior Center, Hillside Recreation Center, and the Water Wheel Health Club.

The 30 day calendar of events is available at all the sponsor locations or send your e-mail to waterwheel@tds.net to leave the calendar of events e-mailed directly to you. For more information call Traci Sincsek at (248) 349-0203 or Chris Klebba at (248) 449-7634.

Healthcare upgrades

The state of Michigan took a step in upgrading its home healthcare system by proposing

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increased funding to ensure seniors and persons with disabilities can get quality care in their own homes.

The budget proposal by the Granholm administration included \$20 million to raise wages for home health care workers—a move to help stabilize the current 35 percent turnover rate among caregivers. This turnover leaves seniors and those with disabilities at risk of going without care or being forced into more costly institutions.

The wage increases mark the first step toward implementing one of the recommendations of Michigan's Medicaid Long Term Care Task Force. Their report, issued last May, highlighted the need to pay caregivers better wages.

The Michigan Quality Home Care Campaign is urging Michigan lawmakers to support the proposed funding increase and protect citizens' rights to stay in their own homes and receive support. The MQHCC is a statewide coalition of more than 40 seniors and disability rights groups, religious leaders, civic organizations and others.

Compiled by Tracy Mielner

Heart of the Lakes Gala slated at Shenandoah Country Club

Event benefits two groups

By Pam Fleming
 STAFF WRITER



Courtesy photo

Looking for a fun night out with all the benefits from Super Bowl XL, now over?

Come out and feel like a star at "Hollywood Nights," the 4th Annual Heart of the Lakes Gala. The event, presented by the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce in Walled Lake, benefits the chamber and the Cardiac Care Program at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital in Commerce Township.

The Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce has served Commerce Township, Union Lake, Walled Lake, Waterford, White Lake, Wixom and Wolverine Lakes since 1963.

Screaming fans and paparazzi will greet guests arriving on the red carpet for the fund-raiser, which will take place at 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 11, at Shenandoah Golf, Hamquet and Country Club in West Bloomfield. Lila Lazarus, former WDIV-TV Channel 4 health reporter who will join WJBK FOX2 in Detroit, will serve as master of ceremonies for the event again. Lazarus is also a member of the Board of Directors of Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital.

Guests can enjoy dinner and dancing to music by the Little Darlin's. Event sponsors will be highlighted in a Hollywood-style production performed by dancers from Dance Dynamics Performing Arts Academy in Walled Lake.

A drawing that night will determine the "Star of the Lakes Area," who will be lavished with awards befitting a Hollywood icon. The event will also feature a silent auction and contests with prizes.

In previous years, the event has allowed Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital to purchase state-of-the-art biphasic defibrillators, exercise equipment for the cardiac rehabilitation program and diagnostic equipment such as the Marquette Universal System of Electrocardiography (MUSE).

In 2003, the event raised \$22,000, and 125 businesses provided silent auction items.

In 2004, the fund-raiser collect-

ed \$33,248, and the number of participating businesses jumped to 165.

Last year, attendees donated \$42,516 with 350 attending and 166 businesses donating more than 275 items.

Organizers hope to sell more than 400 tickets to this year's event and raise \$50,000.

Proceeds from the gala are evenly divided between the chamber and the hospital's cardiac program.

"Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital is growing by leaps and bounds," said Mark Steinberg, chairman of the event.

"That whole area is growing. They're getting a lot of new patients, and the hospital is expanding significantly. This fund-raiser is a way for us to give back to the hospital and the community."

Steinberg added that attendees are welcome to dress up like their favorite movie star or come in formal, black-tie attire.

"We're committed to raising money for the hospital and the chamber and have fun doing it," he said. "We're focusing on fun."

How to get tickets

Cost for the 4th Annual Heart of the Lakes Gala is \$50 per person.


Reservations can be made by calling the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce at (248) 624-2826 or on the chamber's Web site at www.LakesAreaChamber.com.

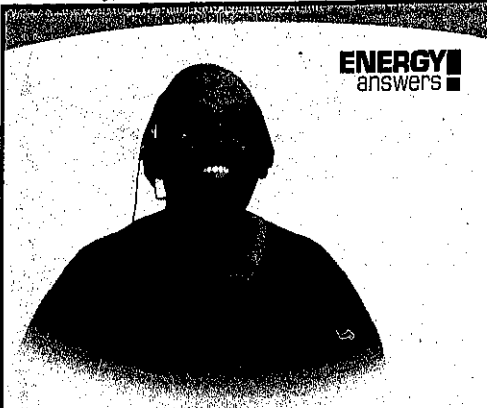
■ Deadline for reservations is Thursday, March 2.

■ Making reservations early is suggested since the event was a sellout last year.

Hospital officials hope to purchase a new cardiac stress testing system with funding from this year's fund-raiser.

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@novinews.com.






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HEALTH

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Novi and Northville residents get ready to 'Relay For Life'

Kickoff for emotional fund-raiser races forward

By Tracy Mishler
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Marianne Simanek doesn't mind telling her story as long as it means she's helping others. Diagnosed four years ago with ovarian cancer, the 58-year-old Novi resident said dealing with cancer was hard because her only thoughts were how to get her family through it. "I wanted them to see me as the caregiver and strong person," Simanek said. "I was shocked. How could I tell (my family) that everything was going to be OK?" "I wanted my family to go in facing this with all the confidence in the world... we're going to get through this," Simanek, a registered nurse at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, underwent surgery to remove her ovaries and appendix, and doctors were able to remove all signs of cancer. "I was lucky because I never had to go through chemotherapy or radiation," she said. "I've been clear for about three years. As long as I go in for my blood test each year, I'll be fine." Simanek said joining the Relay For Life was a way to share her story and help others. Relay For Life is a 24-hour team-based fund-raiser that supports the American Cancer Society. Money raised during the fund-raiser goes toward cancer research, programs and services

for cancer patients and their caregivers.

More than a walk

Relay For Life is more than a walk around a track.

"It's a time to remember those lost to cancer and celebrate those who have survived," said American Cancer Society officials. "It's a night for people who have shared the same experiences to comfort and console one another."

The kickoff for the fifth annual Northville-Novati Relay For Life is from 6-7:30 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Northville Senior Community Center.

Barb Irwin said the kickoff is an opportunity to introduce and reintroduce the relay to the community.

Irwin, community development director for the American Cancer Society, said there will be over 4,500 events across the nation this year and 42 will be held in several communities surrounding metro Detroit.

"If you have someone going through this terrible illness or have lost someone," Irwin said, "Relay For Life really gives you a way to be proactive."

According to the American Cancer Society, about 570,280 Americans are expected to lose the battle with cancer this year. "We lose so many people each year to the battle," Irwin said. "The relay is such a great way to raise awareness and to educate people."

Life's struggle

Laura Steiner only worries about her children.

With technology rapidly improving each day, the 45-year-old Northville Township resident

Novi-Northville Relay For Life
Kickoff: 6-7:30 p.m. Feb. 22 at the Northville Senior Community Center.
Relay For Life: 10 a.m.-10 a.m. May 20-21 at Ford Field, Northville.
Cost: Free of charge
Web site: www.aacr.org/relayforlife
Contact: (800) ACS-2345

said she hoped there was a cure for cancer by the time her kids, Michelle, 15, Lowell, 18, and Robert, 20, had to really worry about it.

Watching both of her parents survive several bouts with disease, Steiner said knowing her family history can be scary.

"I've seen my dad and his mother or go through breast cancer," she said. "He also had prostate cancer — then my mother had eye cancer, a spot on her lung, and now a spot on her spine."

Steiner and her family joined the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life in 2000 to show support for her family and community.

Simanek said having gone through life's challenges herself helps her understand what other people are going through and what their families are feeling.

"I can say 'I know how you feel' and they believe me, because I really have been there. I can show them my scar," Simanek said. "We're walking for that one."

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

ASK CHRIS KLEBBA

Editor's note: Ask Chris Klebba is a new health feature where readers can send their questions about weight loss, exercise and nutrition to Chris Klebba, owner and operator of the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville. Klebba will choose one question to answer in the Novi News on a regular basis.

WEIGHT LOSS MYTH: Eating after 8 p.m. will result in weight gain.

NO! In fact, have your last meal in bed if you want. You just don't consume more calories than you burn for the day.

By the way, a day is 24 hours, so who cares when you eat your calories?

The body does not have an enzyme with a watch that after 7 p.m. preferentially stores items, especially carbohydrate, as fat.

All of us have a certain number of calories we can consume without gaining weight.

If you happen to change your daily schedule and end up eating a final meal or snack later in the evening without changing your calories, you are in no danger of accumulating weight as a result of that minor alteration.

Ideally, however, you would spread your allotted number of calories throughout the day to prevent hunger and prevent wild fluctuations in blood sugar levels, which can sap your energy levels.

I am a woman over 40. How do I get long, lean muscles? I heard weight training makes you bulky. Is this true?

One of the most persistent myths among women when it comes to strength training is that working with weights will turn them into female hulk. Many women chase trendy programs and plans that they think will effect their long, lean muscles versus the bulky muscles that more traditional strength training

creates. Mountains of valid research supports that nothing could be further from the truth!

Most women begin to lose bone density and lean muscle mass at about age 40 and in part because of this, they start to slow down; and because they slow down, they lose more lean muscle mass and the downward cycle of change continues.

Women who include a proper strength training program a couple of times a week change too, but in the opposite direction.

After as little as 12 weeks your body can begin to be more youthful and firmer; bone density can actually begin to stabilize or increase and you will realize an entire list of potential physical and emotional benefits all leading to a quality, active lifestyle.

Women do not have the ability to gain muscle size like men. Resistance training can be done at home or a gym using bands, and simple dumbbells. Your muscles will develop along a pre-determined genetic path, so don't get confused over what will develop your muscles longer, or different.

The bottom line is that a healthy lifestyle for women should include strength training a couple of days per week. Try it and watch your body wake up!

Is Body Mass Index (BMI) a good indicator of a healthy weight?

BMI indicates your health risks by comparing your height and weight. Males with a BMI above 27.3 and women over 27.3 are considered overweight.

Males with a BMI less than 20.7 and women below 19.1 are classified as underweight.

BMI is a tool that can help determine health risks, like any tool it has limitations so it's important to realize that it is only an estimation of body fat.

People who have valid reasons for maintaining weight outside of normal ranges (pregnant or breast feeding women, competitive athletes, body builders and people who are chronically ill) may experience inaccurate BMI values.

People with a high percentage of muscle mass may appear overweight using BMI because muscle is more dense than fat. Anyone can log onto our affiliate web site www.yepet.com and click on fitness tools to calculate your BMI.

Bottom line — there is not one tool that can conclusively indicate one's overall health risks. Discover your BMI and utilize this tool for evaluating your health risks and more importantly where you can improve those risks.

This column was written by Chris Klebba, Chris owns and operates the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville, and is a certified fitness trainer, regular columnist and public speaker. For more information call 248-449-7634 or go to www.waterwheel.com.



Chris Klebba

Discovering Franklin Road Christian



Franklin Road Christian School student Kim Toth takes notes in an algebra class.

Open house a big success

Prayer, word of mouth make K-12 school's event "best yet"

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Kathy Ramos believes the Franklin Road Christian School open house last Tuesday was the facility's best ever.

"We do two open houses per year, one in February and one in November," said Ramos, elementary secretary and open house coordinator. "Our winter open house is great timing because we have open enrollment to the public starting Feb. 1."

About 40 families and 80 students attended from Novi, as well as many other surrounding areas, to check out the building and to decide if they would like to make Franklin Road their school.

Guests were treated to packets, pamphlets and poster boards, all filled with information about the school's curriculum. They filled out a few forms and took a tour of the facility. Then, administration took time to answer any questions they had over refreshments.

After five years in their current building, the school administration has held many open houses, but Ramos believes this last one was so successful for two reasons.

"I prayed about it," she said. "I gave it to the Lord and said, 'whoever you want coming to this open house, I'll pray for them.'"

Also, Ramos says people are really beginning to take notice of the school.

"The community is starting to hear about us more and word is spreading," she said. "Things are really happening here."

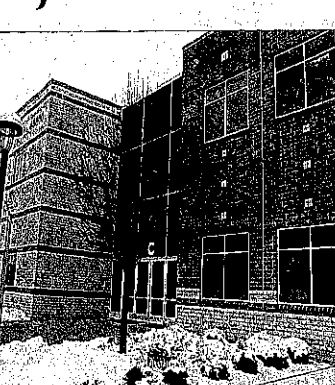
Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at khuri@gannett.com.

— Photos by —
JOHN HEIDER

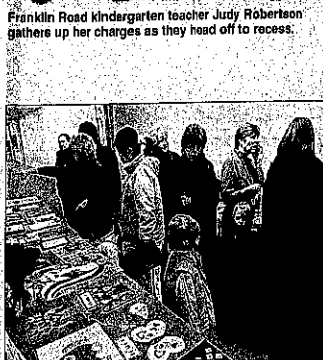
Suh Lin Kang jots down some information at Franklin Road Christian School as her daughter Sarah, 6, waits. The pair were at the school last Tuesday during its open house activities. Prospective parents and pupils toured the K-12 Christian school and got to peek in its classrooms, labs, chapel, gymnasium and hallways.



Franklin Road kindergarten teacher Judy Robertson gathers up her charges as they head off to recess.



Franklin Road Christian School at 40800 W. 13 Mile Rd. in Novi.



An art teacher Diane Ledesma, far left, points out some school projects to prospective parents and pupils tour Franklin Road Christian School last Tuesday afternoon.



Franklin Road Christian School kindergartners run through the school's gymnasium during recess.

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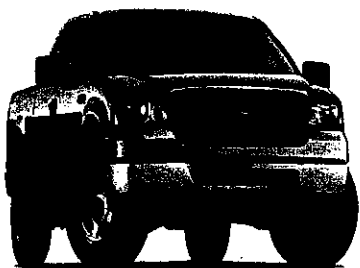
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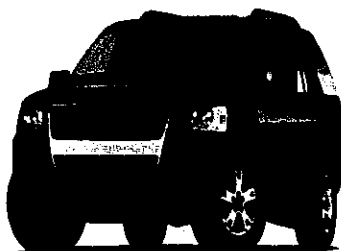
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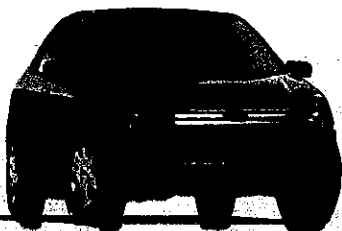
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OPEN SATURDAYS



The Wright stuff

Novi's Nick Wright gives his all in everything he does, especially in the pool when he's swimming for the Novi Wildcats swimming team. — Page 3B



Part of the team

Novi News intern Courtney Radzowik looks at what it takes to be an assistant with the Novi Wildcats and why it's a special position for one Novi student. — Page 4B



Quick Hits

We have a winner!

Eric Zhao has plenty to be proud of when it comes to the arena of athletic competition. There are few athletes that are able to put up the same skills he possesses and the few who do rarely are able to compete with him. He's a standout and a captain this year in track and a competitor in football and basketball.

Nov Zhao has shown it's not just athletically he succeeds, but in the classroom and now in the even more competitive venue of scholarships.

Zhao was recently announced as one of the MHSAA's \$1,000 scholarship winners. He'll use the money to help pay for his pre-pharmacy studies at the University of Michigan.

Zhao's essay excerpt defines his role as an athlete. "By knowing that I'm doing the right thing, every pregame shrill, every bead of sweat, and every mark that I make in the sandpit means that much more to me. The effects of sportsmanship are everlasting."

Zhao may have earned the scholarship, but he wasn't the only Wildcat in the running. John Favorite was a finalist for the award as well.

Daddies and their daughters

Kudos to the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry department for holding the annual Daddy/Daughter Dance last Friday and Saturday.

Sports writer Sam Eggleston took his four-year-old daughter, Shaylyn, to the dining where they enjoyed a nice sampling at the buffet, the chocolate fountain, having their photo taken and dancing. It was, quite simply, a blast.

While they were there, Eggleston ran into some familiar faces in basketball coach Pat Schluter with his two daughters and assistant principal Randy Gavel and his daughter.

It's nice to know these guys aren't all work and no play.

Folino earns yet another honor

Rachelle Folino, Novi's top girls' basketball player and first-ever Division I basketball scholarship recipient, recently received notice she's one of the McDonald's All-American nominees.

Though the final selections haven't been made, it's an honor just being a nominee for the prestigious squad.

Newcomer of the Year

Speaking of accolades, Novi graduate Brad Simpson sure knows how to rake them in. The former All-Area player of the year in soccer was recently named as the University of Cincinnati Soccer Team's Newcomer of the Year.

It probably won't be long until he's being named player of the year while he's at it.

Writer wanted

The Novi News is looking for a writer interested in covering Catholic Central sports for the remainder of the winter season and through spring.

The Shamrocks have state-ranked spots, potential state championships and plenty of athletes to write about.

Interested writers should e-mail Sam Eggleston at seggleston@gnanet.com.



Photos by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Wildcat Caleb Dean has high hopes for his basketball career.

The air up there

Novi's 6-foot-8 sophomore Caleb Dean has lofty goals he wants to reach

Size 16 shoes. Over 6-feet-8-inches tall. And, yes, he can dunk.

Oh, yeah — Caleb Dean is only a sophomore.

The Novi Wildcat is the prototype of the future. In eighth grade, he decided to see how tall he could jump. He slammed the ball home. That was the same year he decided he wanted to play college basketball. Now, he wants more.

"It's the dream of dreams," Dean said. "My goal is to play college basketball, but my dream is to play professionally. I have to focus, though, and make sure not to look ahead."

Dean is straight off the back of a Nike shirt. He drinks, eats, breathes, sleeps and lives basketball. On Sunday, he goes to the temple: Novi High School's basketball court. The hardwood welcomes him, it accepts him. He's home.

He worships the game. When he wakes up in the morning, basketball is the first thing that runs through his head. When he goes to sleep, it's the last thing that dances through his noggy mind, reminding his dreams with savory orange and black accents.

"I have a passion for basketball," Dean admits. "It's something I really enjoy. I want to play. I like to play."

And he's not blind to the realities of the game, either. Dean started on his path in eighth grade. He lifts weights. He runs. He shoots every chance he gets.

More importantly, he listens and he learns. Working with Dean's new coach, Coach Tom Schluter, Novi's head varsity coach, as well as the coaches of the Amateur Athletic Union Michigan Mustangs basketball program.

He listens to what college coaches have to say. He's had unofficial contact with Oakland University, Central Michigan University and even the University of Michigan.

He loves the paint crew though green and white flows through his veins.

"I'm a Michigan State guy myself," he said with a laugh. "But if I ended up going to Michigan and getting my tuition paid for, then I would still want to go to Michigan."

Dean said he has high expectations for himself. Though obtaining a scholarship to a place like a Mid-American Conference school would reach his primary goal, he said he knows he can do better.

He plays the game for himself. For his family who comes and cheers him on — his father, Mike, his mother, Heidi, and his sister, Hannah. He does it for those who can't come watch him play, too.

Dean's grandmother, Bethal Tisch, died in August. She always told her grandson that hard work pays off and everything happens for a reason.

"It keeps me going," he said. "I just remember that every time I wake up and I don't want to go school. Hard work always pays off. I think it's going to pay off for me if I work hard enough. I know I still have a lot of work to do."

And he's far from ready. Upper-body strength, speed, shooting — they're all the things Dean knows he has to work on in order to get the attention he needs to draw college interest to the point of a scholarship.

But he's only a sophomore, right? There's plenty of time to get better.

Unless, of course, you want to make it to the ranks of the Big 10 and beyond.

"Sure, there's a lot of pressure," Dean admits. "You have to expect that. When you have the passion for the game I do and the goals I do, you have to expect that pressure."

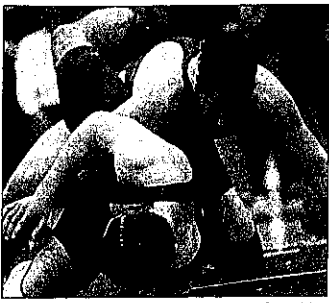
Dean is ready to do what he needs to do in order to make his dream of dreams come true. One step is to earn an invitation to the prestigious ABCD Basketball Camp.

"I have to keep that in my mind at all times," he said. "Even if I'm tired or if I've already gone to practice, I have to work harder. I'll stay after, lift weights and do pushups. I'll get there early and work on my jump shots. If that's what I need to do, then I'll do it."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 249-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@gnanet.com.



Sam Eggleston



Submitted photo

The Shamrocks 215-pounder from Northville, John Kinville, keeps control of his opponent from Brother Rice and goes on to win his second consecutive CHSL Championship.

CC wrestlers grab another CHSL title

The Catholic Central wrestling team captured their 12th consecutive and 26th overall Catholic League Championship Wrestling title last Saturday. The Shamrocks hosted the 32 annual CHSL Wrestling Championships at their new Novi facility. A field of nine teams wrestled for the title. The Shamrocks were able to retain their title by earning a commanding 224.5 team points. Second and third place was a close race as it was decided by only one half of a point with second place going to Divine Child with 179 points while Brother Rice led in points for third place with 178.5 points.

Hockey team wins two

The Catholic Central Shamrocks competed and won their two games in the MIHL High School Showcase held at the Kennedy Ice Arena in Troy. Thirty teams from all over Michigan competed during the weekend in front of Junior A and college scouts. The Shamrocks beat Grosse Pointe North by a score of 5-1 in the opening game of the MIHL Showcase. With the victory CC claimed the MIHL Conference Championship for the seventh straight year. CC out shot the Roseman by a 22-12 count. Goal scorers for CC were: Chad Wilhelm, Nick Krull (2), Dan Naarsto, and Tim Buttery. Assists were recorded by: Adam McGee, Greg Merrill (2), Steve Jankowski (2), Evan Anton, Dan Naarsto and Tim Buttery. In the second game of the weekend the Shamrocks defeated Muskegon Moa Shores by a score of 5-2. The game was a penalty filled affair with Moa Shores making most of the infractions. The Shamrocks got on the board first against CC and held a 1-0 lead going into the second period. In the second period the Shamrocks made Moa Shores pay during two power plays by scoring two goals in 17 seconds to take a 2-1 lead.

CC finished out the second period scoring on a full strength goal with only three minutes remaining. In the third CC scored two more goals to secure the victory. The Shamrocks dominated the Shamrocks by out shooting them 33-8. Goal scorers were: Nick Krull, Steve Jankowski, Adam McGee, Chad Wilhelm, and Jeremy Christopher. Assists were recorded by: Tim Buttery (2), Mike Maviglia, Greg Merrill and Jeff Leary. Catholic Central's record now stands at 16-3-2.

Cagers lose a close contest

The Novi Wildcats basketball team would rather not talk about last week's loss to Lakeland. The squad, coached by Pat Schluter, fell, 27-22, to the Lakeland Eagles. The Eagles came into the contest and played their traditional, slow-paced, defensive basketball and it proved enough to earn the victory.

"We just didn't have any luck," said Schluter. "We were right there, but we couldn't get the win."

The Wildcats came out in the first half and fell behind, 9-4, before coming out in the second half 17-15 thanks to the shooting of Caleb Dean and Wiley Moss in the interior game.

In the third, scoring was a dismal sight as Lakeland hit a three-point field goal and Novi's A.W. Stasch had two points for a total of five points in the quarter. Novi held its lead, 19-18, heading into the final stanza.

Lakeland took the lead in the opening minute on a quick three pointer before Novi crept back into the contest. In the final moments, the Wildcats cut the Lakeland lead to one point on a free throw by Stasch. His second shot was negated on a late violation. Stasch snagged an offensive rebound on the following possession and scored to give Novi a two-point lead before Lakeland added the final field goal of the contest with just over 40 seconds left.

The game ended with a missed three point shot by Novi's Trevor Borsak and a quick foul that added two points from the free-throw line.

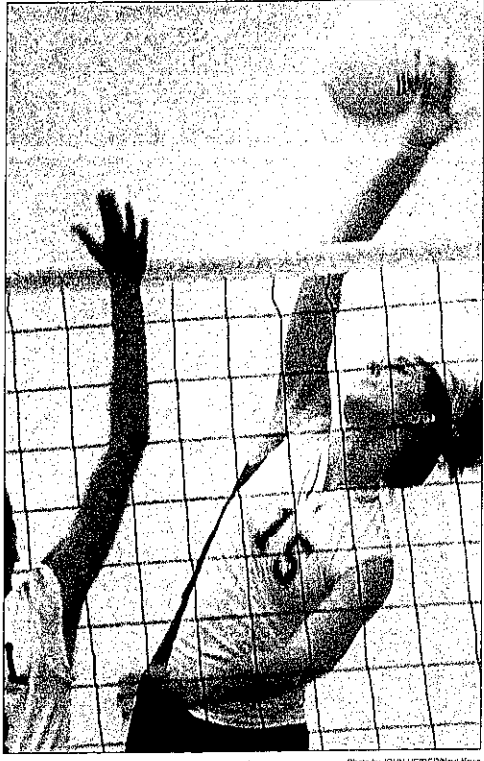


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's Stephanie Cripps smacks a spike over the net during the Wildcats' home game against the Howell Highlanders.

Novi dropped in 7-8 overall and 6-3 in the KVC. They are still in second place in the conference.

Novi dropped in 7-8 overall and 6-3 in the KVC. They are still in second place in the conference.

why they are ranked in the top-10 in the state last week when they beat Chelsea, 5-1, and South St. Marie, 4-0.

Scoring against Chelsea, the third-ranked Division III team in the state, were Alex Martell, Steve Rousseau, Ryan Timar, Shamus Finnerty and Tom Claverilla. Brad Chase earned the win in the goal.

Against the Blue Devils, Novi's scorers Timar, Claverilla, Mike Arnold and Marc Bernier. Matt Wiggy earned the win at goalie.

Hockey showcases talent

The Novi hockey team showed

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FREEDOMLAND

STARTS FRIDAY/FEBRUARY 17

Walker sisters head for the Hills

Twins Katie and Kellie will play soccer for Western Kentucky

By Sam Eggleston, SPORTS WRITER



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Wildcat soccer standouts Katie, left, and Kellie Walker sign their letters of intent to attend Western Kentucky University.

Western Kentucky should count it's blessings when the women's soccer team starts thinking about next season. They don't have to count very high to know they're in for some solid soccer.

One, two. The Walker twins, Katie and Kellie, will take their game from Novi to the hills of Kentucky next fall after signing their national letter of intent to play for the Hilltoppers and coach Jason Neidell.

"We are thrilled to have Katie and Kellie join our program," Neidell said. "The twins are technically gifted players with great quickness and a really tenacious attitude. We believe that they both have the ability to compete for playing time right away."

Kellie will most likely play inside midfielder for the Hilltoppers while Katie will play outside mid.

The decision to attend that same college came early for the Walkers, who will room together at the university.

The sisters picked Western Kentucky over other schools like Ball State and Middle Tennessee State.

"I don't think I could go anywhere without her," Katie said. "It's comforting to know she'll be right there."

Kellie is planning on studying to become a teacher while Katie isn't decided yet, though she has narrowed down to teaching or exercise sciences.

The school is about seven hours south of Novi, located about 45 minutes away from Nashville.

The twins' parents, John and Lisa, are thrilled for their daughters.

SPORTS SHORTS

CYO football
St. Edith Football will be holding a sign up on Sunday, February 19th, anytime from 2-4:30 p.m. inside the entrance of the St. Edith gym.

Players entering the 3rd-8th grades in the fall and are members of St. Caletic, St. Aidan, St. Kenneth, St. Gerald, St. Maurice, St. Fabian, and St. Edith are invited to sign up.

The program includes a freshman (3rd grade), junior varsity II (5th grade), junior varsity I (6th grade), varsity II (mostly 7th grade), and varsity I (mostly 8th grade).

For more information, please contact Jason Tomasi and email: jtomasi@twm.com or edith-football@bol.com or visit www.stedithcyo.com

3-on-3 basketball youth tournament
Northville Parks & Recreation will be hosting the 75-26 at the Recreation Center located at Hillside Middle School on the corner of Eight Mile Road and Center Street.

The cost is \$85 per team with three or four players on each team. Prizes will be given to all participants and awards will be given to the first-place team.

For more information, call (248) 349-0203 for more information.

Adult hockey
Sign-up now for the winter season of the Breakfast Club Adult Hockey Series.

Registration is underway for the Breakfast Club presented by Labatt-Suburban Hockey's weekly morning skills and conditioning series for adult hockey players of all ability levels.

The Breakfast Club will take place at Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills on Tuesday and Wednesday. Suburban Ice-Metro on Tuesday, Oxy-Rochester Ice Arena and Dearborn Ice Skating Center on Thursday. Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills will also be the site of the Advanced Breakfast Club program on Thursday.

The goals of the program are to improve players' overall knowledge of the game, teach new skills, increase enjoyment of the game, build confidence, conditioning and develop skating and stick skills in a competitive and fun environment.

Coaches include former professional and collegiate players with vast coaching and playing experience.

All youth hockey coaches receive 50 percent off tuition to the Breakfast Club. New this year is a special offer from RBK Hockey - all registered players may purchase an RBK SK Modano pattern hockey stick for just \$75 (retail is \$150).

In addition, players who refer a new player to the Breakfast Club will receive \$50 off their tuition.

This is a popular program and there is limited enrollment. For more information on the Breakfast Club or any other Suburban Hockey program, contact (248) 478-1600 or www.suburbanhockey.com.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi High student Nick Wright swims his specialty in the Wildcat pool: the butterfly.

DEDICATED TO SWIMMING



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Wildcat swimmer Nick Wright feels right at home in the water.

By Sam Eggleston, SPORTS WRITER

Nick Wright isn't afraid to suggest someone else right into something if they want to try it — but they better be willing to give it their all when they hit the water.

Wright has made a career out of putting 100 percent into his work. That's why he gave up football and track to focus primarily on swimming.

"When I was a freshman and a sophomore, I was in football and track," Wright said. "The last two years I quit so I could stay in shape for swimming."

The other two sports didn't lend themselves well to the 200 individual medley and the 100-meter freestyle, which are Wright's bread and butter events.

The senior captain is just a second off his lifetime best in the medley and is swimming as fast as he ever has in the freestyle.

He said it's not about what he's able to accomplish as an individual though, but what the team is able to do.

Now, that's different. Now, they have more to strive for, like a title in their conference.

"We didn't have the KVC my freshman and sophomore year," Wright said. "It's nice to have a championship and a title. Now, every meet means something in the KVC and that makes it a lot more fun."

In his senior year, Wright is learning the value of being a leader. He said in his younger days, he may have tried slacking a little and maybe even dodged some hard work now and again. As a captain, he focuses on making sure everyone is ready to put in a hard day's work.

He said that's a job made easier under the watchful eye of his coach, Bill McCord.

"Coach McCord seems like he's always laid back, but practices aren't easy and you don't mess around," he said. "When he's watching, you're working."

Thought the opportunity to swim at the next level has peaked at Wright, he said he's heavily considering taking time away from competitive swimming and focusing on his collegiate courses.

Oakland Community College presents a place where he can

take basic classes before transferring to a place like Oakland University where he said he'll consider trying out for the swim team.

But if he never swims competitively again, Wright said the sport will always be a part of his life.

"I'll always be swimming," he said. "When I'm not doing that, I'll be working out. I want to stay in shape and swimming is a great way to do that."

And one day, Wright hopes to apply his future career to the sport. He said he hopes to study to become a teacher and perhaps, one day, run a gym and health curriculum and coach a swim team.

But Wright isn't all work and no play. When he isn't in the pool — which is most of his life — he's out with his girlfriend watching movies at Emagine Theater in Novi or playing sandlot football with his friends. Sometimes, he even takes some alone time and plays his Playstation 2.

At the end of the day, he's probably where most people expect to find him though: Right in the pool.

"I love swimming," he said. "It's something I'm good at and it's something I enjoy. I really couldn't ask for anything else."

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

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 68

Local News

Thursday, February 16, 2006

ADVERTISEMENT RENTER'S INSURANCE COVERS PERSONAL BELONGINGS THAT YOUR LANDLORD DOESN'T

Do you know the value of your belongings?
Weston, Mich., February 16, 2006
If your apartment burns down or is burglarized, would you have the money to replace your personal belongings? Most renters do not realize that their landlord's insurance only covers the building structure and not tenants' belongings. Renter's insurance is available to protect personal belongings from fire, theft, vandalism and damage from plumbing.

Renter's insurance can also cover more than personal belongings. Options are available to cover the renter if a guest is injured while in the apartment or if the policyholder or a member of their family cause damage to another property. There are also options to cover reasonable increases in certain living expenses necessary to maintain your normal standard of living, for up to the amount of time specified in the policy, if a covered loss makes your residence premises uninhabitable.

"Most people need to be educated about the advantages of renters insurance," says Allstate Agent. "Renters are surprised to learn just how much they risk losing without proper insurance for both their personal belongings and personal liability."

Below are some additional facts and figures from Allstate Insurance Company regarding its renters policy:

- A burglary occurs every 10 seconds and according to recent FBI statistics, two of every three burglaries occur in homes, condos or apartments with an average loss of \$1,000 per residence.
- Coverage can be provided to cover theft whether at home or away from home. This coverage includes protection against robbery, pickpocket theft and even credit card loss, forged checks or counterfeit money.
- Two discounts available to renters include 5% and 10% and protective device discount. The protective device discount is available for renters who have a fire extinguisher, smoke alarm, burglar alarm or dead bolt locks. This includes a discount to renters who live in buildings that provide 24-hour security personnel.
- Your renter's policy can be enhanced to increase your coverage for certain losses by allowing you to help tailor coverage based on your needs, for such items as jewelry, silverware and personal computers. Coverage and discounts are subject to availability and qualifications. Other terms, conditions and exclusions may apply.

For more information on this and other safety topics, contact Allstate Agent Louis Kirby at 248.69.0755.

The Allstate Corporation (NYSE: ALL) is the nation's largest, publicly held personal lines insurer celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of Allstate Insurance Company. The Allstate Corporation (NYSE: ALL) is the nation's largest publicly held personal lines insurer. Widely known through the "You're In Good Hands With Allstate" slogan, Allstate helps individuals in approximately 17 million households protect what they have today and better prepare for tomorrow through approximately 14,100 exclusive agencies and financial professionals in the U.S. and Canada. Customers can access Allstate products and services such as auto insurance and homeowners insurance through Allstate agencies, or in select states at allstate.com and 1-800-Allstate. EncorpasSM and Dextrobook® insurance brand property and casualty products are sold exclusively through independent agents. The Allstate Financial Group provides life insurance, supplemental accident and health insurance, annuity, lending and retirement products designed for individual, institutional and workplace environment that are distributed through Allstate agencies, independent agencies, financial institutions and broker-dealers.



Northville Physical Rehabilitation therapist Julie Fickett watches Roger Monforton as he works to repair a torn rotator cuff in his shoulder.

Northville Physical Rehabilitation

Northville center marks 21 years of service to meet growing demand

By Duane Ramsey
SPECIAL WRITER

Northville Physical Rehabilitation is marking its 21st year of operation in downtown Northville this March. In addition to opening its second location in Northville, the practice has added new staff, equipment and treatment programs to meet the physical fitness, rehabilitation and therapy needs of its growing list of patients.

"We are thankful for the continued growth we have experienced in the Northville community," said Dennis Engerer, physical therapist and director of Northville Physical Rehabilitation, P.C., which has two downtown Northville locations on Main and Cady streets.

"We now have 20 employees, and some of the best equipment available to provide the latest physical and occupational therapy treatment techniques available," said Engerer.

"Whether it's general physical rehabilitation that may be required following an athletic injury or recovering from a spinal cord injury, we want to provide the best trained clinicians using state-of-the-art equipment to meet our patients' needs."

"We have tried to be sensitive in providing those treatment programs that our patients and the local, medical community are requesting," said Engerer.

One example, according to Engerer, is assisting men and women that have weakness in their pelvic floor muscle group, which often contributes to urinary and bowel incontinence. Since many of the treatment programs involve improving muscle strength and endurance, it made sense that we could help those patients with pelvic floor muscle weakness.

The staff at Northville Physical Rehabilitation has been able to assist many of those patients by using biofeedback and electrical muscle stimulation to educate people about regaining muscle awareness and improving strength in the involved muscle groups.

The practice has partnered



Northville Physical Rehabilitation therapist Brad Gilha works with patient Jana Sodam.

with urologists and family practice physicians, who identified a need in the community to develop that specialized service. It has been extremely successful for patients needing that kind of treatment," said Engerer.

Another example of providing the services required is the new equipment installed at the Cady Street facility. The Aquatic pool is a device that allows patients to put partial weight on their lower extremities while walking or exercising in water.

NORTHVILLE PHYSICAL REHABILITATION, P.C.

Downtown Northville

- 215 East Main Street (248) 349-9339
- 300 East Cady Street (248) 349-9336

Web: www.NorthvillePhysicalRehab.com

Hours: Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.-noon

Many orthopedic surgeons wanted their post-surgical hip and knee replacement patients to experience partial weight bearing during their initial rehabilitation. We responded to those requests with the new equipment and treatment, said Engerer.

The growth in both the size of facilities and staff has been in response to the demand for their services and also in providing the type of care people are expecting as they attempt to improve the quality of their lives.

"Quality of life may involve improving strength, reducing pain or simply being able to walk or care for oneself," said Engerer. "It's very satisfying when someone tells you that you helped them to improve their quality of life even a little bit."

Northville Physical Rehabilitation is able to provide a broad spectrum of physical and occupational rehabilitation services for patients with simple to very complex injuries or illnesses. The staff tailors its treatment plans according to each patient's ability and personal expectations.

"I am proud of our tradition of personal care and we hear it frequently from patients that have

received treatment at other rehab facilities." Engerer said. "I feel we have some of the most dedicated and empathetic staff in the business. Without the caring human element, even the best equipment and training means very little."

Since they see patients from very young to very old individuals with simple to often complex diagnoses, it is always a challenge to apply the best staff and treatment plan for the patient. "It is a challenge that we never rest with," said Engerer.

The clinical staff at Northville Physical Rehabilitation includes five physical therapists, a physical therapist assistant, occupational therapist, exercise physiologist, athletic trainer and several physical therapy technicians.

In addition to treating patients at their two locations, the staff can provide care in a patient's home, when necessary. Transportation is available for patients in the local area.

Northville Physical Rehabilitation also offers a physical fitness program at both locations on a monthly basis for a small fee. They have a personal fitness trainer and exercise physiologist on staff to serve each person's fitness needs.

"For many people who wouldn't go to a gym or health club, we provide an alternative place to go for physical fitness," said Engerer. "Many of our patients continue coming for the fitness program after their treatment because they are comfortable with our staff and equipment."

Northville Physical Rehabilitation is a participating Medicare provider and accepts most health insurance plans.

Office hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Additional information is available on their Web site at www.NorthvillePhysicalRehab.com.


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