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Thursday, February 23, 2006

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Volume 50 Number 38

Novi, Michigan

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INSIDE



Good-bye, chief

At Langham, Novi fire chief, speaks at his retirement party Tuesday. He stepped down after 28 years.

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Conference-bound

Novi High student Shrimant Saxena will be participating in the National Student Leadership Conference this upcoming summer.

— 17A



Gone to the dogs!

"Emmy" is one of Michelle Asher's Parson Russell terriers. The breeder was invited to the Eukanuba Tournament of Champions National Championship Jan. 14-15 in Tampa, Fla.

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Randall Patterson operates his home inspection business. "Pillar to Post," out of his Novi address. Here he checks out the operation of a gas furnace.

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Main St. gets new landlord

About 75% of development now occupied

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Tenants at the Main Street project in Novi now have a new landlord—Hafeez Shaikh. Last Friday, Grubb & Ellis, a global provider of integrated real

estate services with local offices in Southfield, announced the sale of 125,143 square feet of office/retail space at Main Market—43155 Main Street in Novi, to MainStreet Partnership LLC.

Shaikh invited a group including some city officials to have lunch and tour the building today.

The property was owned by Wells Fargo Bank c/o Archon Group LP. Shaikh, of Farmington Hills, is



"Novi is an upscale town on the move. We hope to be part of the success..."

Hafeez Shaikh
New MainStreet landlord

one of five partners that comprise MainStreet Partnership LLC. The other four partners live in Chicago.

"My partners already have property in Chicago, and we felt this might be an opportunity for us," Shaikh said.

"Novi is an upscale town on the move. We hope to be part of the success of the city of Novi and will continue to nurture our valuable tenants."

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Special census could yield a liquor license

State to prepare cost estimate

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

City clerk Maryann Cornelius will include a resolution in the next packet for city council to consider moving forward on a special mid-decade census for Novi.

A mid-decade census could yield an additional Class C quota liquor licenses for the city. This type of license allows on-premise serving of alcohol. Novi currently has 94 with one still available.

"Liquor licenses would become available on a basis of one per 2,500 people," Cornelius said.

Kathy Smith-Roy, finance director, said based on additional research on the special census, Novi would need to complete the task this year.

"Further, it has been determined that the best time for this to be conducted is in May and June prior to the end of the school year," Smith-Roy said in a memo City Planner, Interim city manager.

City council members learned details about a mid-decade census at a special meeting at city hall on Feb. 11.

The site does not recognize a special census for revenue sharing items, such as the gas and weight tax or library state aid funds. She noted that while the value of a Class C quota liquor license can be as high as \$65,000, these funds are retained by the recipient of the liquor license, not the municipality. The city clerk's office conducted

a fee survey on liquor license applications in August 2005. Cornelius said the survey revealed that Novi charges one of the lowest application fees for a liquor license at \$100 per application plus \$200 for each person with a financial interest in the business. The Michigan Liquor Control Commission said no law exists that limits the fee set by council to review liquor license applications.

Novi conducted one in 1996

In the last special mid-decade census, 34 Michigan communities participated. Those in Oakland County included Brandon Township, Commerce Township, Independence Township, Orion Township, Novi and South Lyon.

Novi's census was conducted from April 4 through June 28, 1996.

Through the city's various memberships, the finance department staff in Novi conducted e-mail surveys to see which communities are currently conducting a mid-decade census.

Results showed that four communities—Linden, Rosebud, Union Township and Holly Township—have completed a mid-decade census.

Four more have been authorized or are in process: New Baltimore, Algoma Township, Canton Township and Grand Haven.

Eight municipalities considered such a census but decided not to complete one. One other community besides Novi is contemplating a census.

Smith-Roy said her department has requested a cost estimate for a mid-decade census from the U.S. Census Bureau and hopes to have an answer by the March 6 council meeting.

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.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Lee Rosi zooms down one of the rails he designed for or are in process: New Baltimore, Algoma Township, Canton Township and Grand Haven.

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To skate or snowboard?

New outdoor park can be used year-round

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Lee Rosi is not your average professional snowboarder.

He's a 45-year-old licensed builder from Brighton.

But that was the perfect combination for Modern Skate, Novi, however, as the business has decided to sponsor Rosi this year.

And to repay Modern Skate, Rosi took it upon himself to design and build a brand new outdoor snowboard park on their property.

"I noticed in the back of the property they had an outdoor skateboard park that you can only use in the summer time," said Rosi. "I thought to myself,

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Novi home inspector does a little choreography on the side

Farmington Chorus brings couple together

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Randall Patterson and his wife, Ilene, can thank the Farmington Community Chorus for many things.

Not only does the three group give the couple a chance to have fun doing what they love, but it's because of their involvement they met and became happily married five years ago.

"It's the second marriage for both of us, and it's the best thing that ever happened to us," said Randall. "Sometimes we just

can't believe it."

Patterson owns Pillar to Post, a Novi-based home inspection company he started almost four years ago. He got into the business after being laid off a few times in his career.

"I feel of feeling frustrated and not having any control over his future, Patterson used his knowledge and experience to start building his own company."

As a teenager, Patterson had an uncle who was a plumber. "He was a big guy, and he used to take me out with him so I could get into some of the craft aspects," said Patterson. "He taught me a lot about plumbing, and when I was in college I was into roofing. Also, when I got

home, inspectors and environmental services testing for people who are buying a house or for people who want to get their houses ready to put on the market for sale," he said. "We also have a program for homeowners who have lived in their houses for many years and have never had them checked for

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Looking for a new location?

Any area individual or business interested in opening an office or retail establishment at Main Street Novl can call Hafeez Shaikh of MainStreet Partnership LLC at (248) 305-8154 or write him MainStreetNovl@gmail.com.

Wide variety of tenants occupy building

MainStreet Partnership LLC has been able to attract a wide variety of tenants to the Main Market building at the northwest corner of the Main Street Novl project.

The two-story office/retail space includes a variety of ethnic restaurants on the first floor.

Diners can find Mexican fare at Lazy Lizard and Asian selections at Bi-Bim-Bub and bi's Mongolian Barbecue.

Steak on Main offers American favorites, and those with a taste for the Middle East can enjoy menu items at Bora Bora Bistro.

Novl Jewelers and Larson Jewelry Design are both family-owned businesses on the first floor.

A travel agency, Passageways, is in a space formerly occupied by a tennis shop, also on the first floor.

Sincerely Yours, a card shop that also features wedding organizational items, and Hoosters, a men's grooming shop, are located on the building's ground level.

Toll Brothers' new upscale design showroom opened recently on Main Street.

Eastern Kappa, an upscale, full-service salon is on the first level, and Mixx Lounge, a martial bar, will open in about two months.

Second-floor businesses

A dentist, James Adie, D.D.S., on the second floor, provides cosmetic and family dental care. A Real Estate One office is located on the upper level.

A computer support business, Computer Specialists, recently opened upstairs as well as Blazent, a computer software developer, and Cambridge Payment Systems.

Other second-floor tenants include Jefferson Pilot Financial and Title Resource Agency.

The Sidak Group, an architectural, structural engineering and project management firm, occupies an office on the second floor and has doubled their original space.

A Japanese travel agency, JALPAK, also makes its home upstairs.

Wells of Michigan, an insurance company, holds the largest space on the second floor, with HDG Construction Company also situated upstairs.

Main St. gets new landlord

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How were tenants acquired?

Shaikh said tenants were acquired through several sources.

"We had some support from Grubbs & Ellis, and others were obtained through various contacts," he said.

Occupancy is up in the building, with about 250 people now working in the building. But the partnership is still seeking tenants.

"We've attracted several new tenants in the last few weeks. It's about 75 percent full. The second floor is mostly occupied, but some offices are still available."

Shaikh, who serves as part owner and property manager, noted that this building was the first property conceived in the Main Street Novl project.

A resident of Farmington Hills for eight years, he previously lived in Ann Arbor. Shaikh said he and his partners are satisfied with the progress of the leasing so far.

"Our tenants are happy, and the property is moving well," he said. "We're looking forward to more development coming into area and completing the Main Street Novl development."

Tom Fleming is a staff writer for the Novl News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 115, or by e-mail at tfleming@gannett.com.

Novl's new outdoor snowboard park can be used year-round

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"If I could transform it into a snowboard park in the winter, it could attract a lot more people to Modern Skate."

Rost ran his idea by the owners of the establishment and was delighted to hear they were already thinking along the same lines. He then worked with Modern Skate to design a park both parties thought would be interesting and then built it.

Modern Skate opened up a store in Royal Oak back in 1981. And at the time, Rost, who had just finished high school, met the owner and bought a skateboard from the store. He liked the shop so much, it became his favorite hangout. Snowboarding wasn't something people did back then, but when it started becoming popular about 10 years later, Rost knew exactly what he wanted to do with his life.

"Today, he enjoys taking people from the Michigan area to places like Tano and Colorado, or anywhere else that has big mountains, to show them around and to acclimate them to the sport."

"I'm promoting the industry of snowboarding," said Rost. "It's been great for me. And the more people who get turned on to it, the more they're happy, the better it makes me feel."

"The new snowboard park at Modern Skate just provides another option for people to do," he added.

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

"I put together a snow-making machine, so when it's cold enough and there's no snow, which happens quite often in Michigan, we can make three feet of snow. I designed it so that people who never snowboarded can go out and try it safely."

Lee Rost

Designer of Modern Skate's new outdoor park

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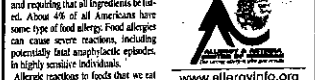
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MORE FOOD INFORMATION FOR ALLERGY SUFFERERS

A new food-labeling law that became official on January 1, 2006 requires the identification of all allergens even if the substance occurs as a tiny ingredient. Triggers like peanuts, soy, and wheat will be identified on more food items which is a welcome news for food allergy sufferers. It may cause some confusion among consumers, however, since the amount of an allergen included in a product may be so tiny that it would never cause a reaction in most people.

But, the FDA is playing it safe for now and requiring that all ingredients be listed. About 4% of all Americans have some type of food allergy. Food allergies can cause severe reactions, including potentially fatal anaphylactic episodes. In highly sensitive individuals, even a tiny amount of an allergen can cause a reaction.

For more information on food allergies, visit our website at www.allergyinfo.org



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Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novl News

Roundball camp

Working on their dribbling skills at last week's Wildcat Basketball Camp are Ryan Miyazawa, 12, left, and Andrew Bell, 12. The pair were among dozens of boys and girls who took part in the mid-winter school break camp, held at Novl Middle School and coached by Pat Schluter, and brushed up on their fundamentals of roundball.

Farmington Chorus brings couple together

continued from front page

air quality, cold or levels of radon following the environmental protection agency guidelines for a healthy living environment."

His best friend and partner

A real estate agent, Rene has been busy helping her husband grow and promote the company. And she's enjoying every part of it.

"I help him on his campaigns and materials on inspections," she said. "We do a lot together, like singing, dancing and playing golf."

And do they ever dance Patterson is the Farmington Community Chorus conductor.

He's been with the group for 15 years. Rene has been with the chorus for 17.

An 80-plus member group, the chorus performs stage shows. It does three summer concerts each year where it performs at adult school graduation ceremonies, the Farmington Wellness Festival and at the Heritage Park outdoor amphitheater.

Audience members get to hear everything from Broadway, to classical, to jazz, rock 'n' roll and much more.

A self-described "easy-going guy," Patterson's biggest inspiration in life has been what he calls his "angel."

"It's that voice inside your head that tells you what's right and wrong," he said. "You have to do what you feel is right for yourself and trust your gut sometimes. There isn't any one person that I can contribute anything to other than my wife. Over the last few years she's been my strongest supporter. She has helped me more than anybody in my recent life."

But it was one of his teachers who gave Patterson the advice he lives his life by.

"He told me to always trust myself and do what I knew was right," he said. "You can tell when you do something wrong. It tells you from the inside — and if you ignore it, it'll bug you."

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

Randall Patterson

Occupation: owner of Pillar to Post

Family: wife, Rene, son, Christopher, daughter, Melissa, step-daughter, Tara; step-daughter, Jenna

Hobbies and/or interests: He and his wife enjoy working in the yard, and singing and dancing with the Farmington Community Chorus. They also love to play golf.

Advice: "First, get yourself properly educated to do what we do professionally," said Patterson. "Also, make sure you understand all the certifications you need. There's a lot of detail to make sure you understand."

Awards: Patterson has won everything from customer appreciation awards to peer recognition awards.

Schools: He graduated from Antioch High School in Nashville when he entered the United States Navy. After, he graduated from California State University, Long Beach.

Years in business: almost four years

Grew up in: Nashville

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BRIEFS

Suburban Hockey Clinics

Suburban Hockey Schools will conduct the highly popular Learn to Check clinics at several locations prior to the spring hockey season, including Suburban Ice Farmington Hills (March 27-29) and Novi Ice Arena (April 3). The program is geared toward squirt players moving up to the pee wee level, as well as pee wee and bantam players who need instruction on the techniques of checking. This is an extremely popular program and there is limited enrollment. For more information on the checking clinics or any other Suburban Hockey program, contact (248) 476-1600 or visit www.suburban-hockey.com.

Wine Tasting Event

A local Wilson restaurant is offering patrons the chance to experience firsthand the flavorful wines and foods of Italy without leaving the country. Volare Ristorante will offer extraordinary wines from five regions of Italy at its first ever Tour of Italy Wine Tasting Event next Tuesday. The event will feature fine wines from Tuscany, Sarlinia, Piemonte, Sicily, and Veneto. In addition, Volare's four-star chefs will create exquisite appetizers to complement the event's wine selections. The cost is \$30 per person and reservations are required. Volare Ristorante is located at 49115 Pontiac Trail, east of Witom Road. For reservations, call (248) 969-7771.

Citizens for Peace

Shea Howell, professor of Communications and Rhetoric at Oakland University, will speak at the 11th Congressional District "Citizens for Peace" meeting, 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 14 at Unity of Livonia, located on Fire Mile road east of Middlebelt. Professor Howell's topic will be: "Truth, Activism and Creating a Community Peace Movement: Reframing our Vision and our Strategy." For information, call Colleen Mills, (734) 425-6079.

Couple's gone to the dogs!

Breeders prep for March shows in Detroit

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Mike and Michele Asher will tell you that Parson Russell Terriers are the best.

The Novi residents have three of the energetic canines in their home who have become part of the family.

Champion Fox Valley Glowing Ember, known as Emmy, is 4; Champion Cobblestone Gungster, known as Doc, is 16 months; and Champion Fox Valley Covergirl, known as Halle, is 3.

"She's the most famous of the group," Mike Asher said. The Ashers breed Parson Russell Terriers, which have longer legs than the more well-known Jack Russell Terriers.

Recently, the Ashers were invited to the Eukanuba Tournament of Champions National Championship Jan. 14-15 in Tampa, Fla., where Halle won an award last year.

Doc won this year's National Championship AKC Eukanuba Best Breed by Exhibitor award. There are three ways to get invited to the Eukanuba show, which is in the top 25 in national rankings win a Best in Show, or finish in the top in the special breed by Exhibitor class, which is how the Ashers got invited.

Next, the Ashers will take their terriers to compete in the Detroit Kennel Club Shows, March 18-19 at Cobo Convention Center. Halle has taken Best of Breed in these shows and has been open on local television. The couple loves their terriers,

which they say are very intelligent dogs with a long history.

Originally bred in England, they're good around horses. In earlier times, they were often taken on hunts to sniff foxes out of holes.

Michele Asher noted that Parson Russells can even compress their chests so they can turn around inside of a hole. "They need to carry them on their saddles in a terrier bag because these smaller dogs couldn't keep up with the larger fox hounds," she said. "And, they bred them to be white so they could distinguish them from the fox."

The Ashers noted that images of terriers on horses can be found in paintings.

"They're not afraid of anything, and they keep the barn free of rodents," Michele Asher said. "Don't let a bunny go in the back yard!"

Used to show dobermans

The Ashers used to show dobermans. But they couldn't get one to live past age 10. And, as they got older, the couple found this larger breed more difficult to handle.

Parson Russell Terriers, just recently recognized by the American Kennel Club, are also easier to travel with, according to Michele Asher.

"We wanted something smaller, and we fell in love with them," she said.

Michele Asher is a pet groomer, and Mike Asher has been a fire fighter with Madison Heights for 13 years.

Before that, he was volunteer firefighter for the Northville Fire Department for 14 years. They have two children — Mike Asher Jr., 24, and Melissa, 20.

"They're pretty much grown, and the dogs give us something to



Photo by JOHN HEDDER/Novi News

Novi breeder Michelle Asher poses with her trio of dog show standout Parson Russell Terriers. From left are Emmy, Doc and Halle.

Parson Russell Terrier facts

The most famous Parson Russell Terrier is Eddie on the television show "Frasier." They're also in a lot of current television commercials.


This breed of terriers has either a smooth coat or a broken coat. They weigh about 17 pounds. Show dogs are not supposed to be smaller than 12 inches high or taller than 15 inches.

Terriers are high-energy dogs that love people. They are excellent hunters of small game, such as rabbits and rodents.


Detroit shows coming in March

The 96th and 97th annual Detroit Kennel Club Dog Shows will be held on Saturday and Sunday, March 18 and 19, at the Cobo Convention Center, One Washington Blvd., in downtown Detroit. The breeds are on exhibit from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday. Judging starts at 9 a.m. each day. For more information, visit www.detroitkennelclub.com.

Originally bred in England, they're good around horses. In earlier times, they were often taken on hunts to sniff foxes out of holes.



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CHURCH CALENDAR

Meadowbrook Congregational Church invites everyone to attend its 2006 Lenten Program, the Ash Wednesday Potluck Dinner and Worship beginning at 6:30 p.m. March 1. Worship will begin at 7:30 p.m. For the program during the year, the church will return to the video series "Questions of Faith." The video is approximately 30 minutes long, and will be followed by discussion. Each class will meet each Wednesday after at 7:30 p.m., beginning March 8.

Sunday worship service at 10 a.m.

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

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-located by a registered pediatric nurse.)

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

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

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi, Call (248) 427-1175 or visit www.holycross-holycross.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 Antos and Hosas class on Tuesday's at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Cost for the book and class is \$19. Everyone is welcome.

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

The church is located at 44400 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi. Call (248) 340-2345, or visit www.fcmh.com.

The Holy Family Church is located at 24505 Meadowbrook Road, between Grand River and 10 Mile Road. Call (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamilynovi.org.

Oak Pointe Church service times will be at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. every Sunday. Visit www.oakpointe.org or call (248) 912-0013. The church meets at North High School.

St. James Catholic Church is located at 46225 10 Mile Road, Novi, Call (248) 343-7778.

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/Novi 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: 8:15 and 11 a.m. on Sundays. The church is located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road (at Taft Road), Northville. Phone: (248) 349-1144, or visit www.fumcnorthville.org.

St. John Lutheran Church is located at 23225 Gill Road in Farmington Hills. Sunday service begins at 8:30 a.m. and Sunday traditional services are at 8:30 a.m. Sunday contemporary service begins at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday

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PEOPLE

Kevin Cunningham, director of dining at Fox Run in Novi, a campus for men and women age 62 plus in Novi, announced that Kristina Taylor Mosby has joined his staff as service manager in the community's Fireside Restaurant.

Taylor Mosby is responsible for overseeing the wait and bussing staff in campus' full-service restaurant to ensure the residents' dining experience meets Fox Run's exemplary standards. The staff is comprised of area students who work at the restaurant during their high school as well as college years. Her duties also include scheduling, performance evaluations, general dining assistance and participation in the Fireside Restaurant's many special events with Taylor Mosby brings a diverse food services background to Fox Run. She was most recently senior supervisor at Damon's Grill in Ann Arbor. She was also a trainer/coordinator and bartender at Damon's. Previously Taylor Mosby worked at Red Lobster as a service trainer and at Mrs. Field as an assistant manager.

She graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in April 2005. She held a double major of communications and African American studies. She is a resident of Belleville.

Judi DeMarec, director of General Services at Fox Run in Novi, announced the appointment of Jeff Jacobs as facility manager. Jacobs will be responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the security and transportation departments.

Jacobs was most recently the manager of safety and security at St. John Senior Community where he was tasked with the 24-hour security and safety operations of multiple properties within the Senior Services Group at St. John's. He also has experience with Target Stores and was formerly a police officer in Saginaw.

Jacobs earned a criminal justice degree from Lansing Community College and has successfully attained a CDL license.

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EDUCATION

Novi district clear on list of criminal school employees

District works to determine list's accuracy

By Ramaz Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Bob Schram wasn't worried to see some names of current Novi Community School District employees on a recently released criminal list by the Michigan State Police.

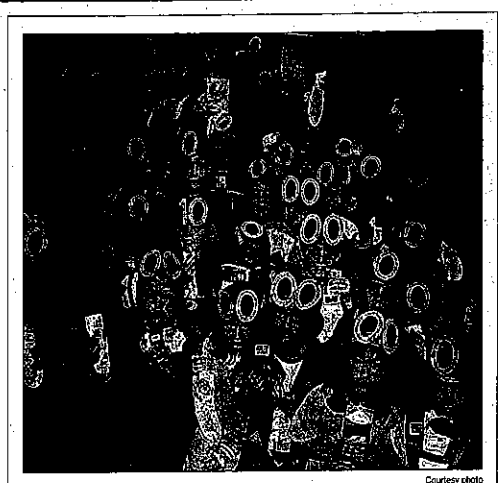
"There is some legislation in Lansing to try to clean that up," he said. "We've heard it could be anywhere between two to four weeks before we see an accurate list from the state. In the meantime, we're making every effort to determine the accuracy of our list."

Schram said the district's primary focus is the safety of all its students, and there is nothing on Novi's list that would warrant any concern.

"These are people on the list who wrote non-sufficient-funds checks," said Schram. "What does that have to do with whether they're safe to be around kids or not?"

Schram said the district's primary focus is the safety of all its students, and there is nothing on Novi's list that would warrant any concern.

"These are people on the list who wrote non-sufficient-funds checks," said Schram. "What does that have to do with whether they're safe to be around kids or not?"



One-hundred
Jennifer Semein and her teammate, Sherry Griesinger, at Dearfield Elementary School, have their first/second multi-age students do a community service project each year tied to the 100th day of school. In the past, students have collected many items for local shelters, such as toothbrushes, gloves/mittens, and cans of soup. This year, however, students were asked to contribute socks. The teachers hoped to help 100 people, but instead were able to collect 115 pairs of socks to donate to a local shelter.

Bob Schram, ex-sulve director of human resources
Novi Community School District

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Volleyin'

Right: The Novi Meadows Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization hosted its annual Family Volleyball Night recently. Coach Julie Fisetle and her varsity team from Novi High School came to Meadows and helped students and their families play volleyball in a loose tournament setting. After an hour and 15 minutes of playing, the varsity team was introduced and gave a demonstration on how competitive volleyball is played. After, everyone enjoyed ice cream sundaes and the team autographed pictures. Pictured here is one of the volleyball teams led by varsity players (front, l to r) Katelyn Tuck and Kacyln McAbooy and fifth graders Alyssa Yarrish and Amber Staudt (back) fifth grader Christina Oakley and Brittany Beruhka, fifth grade teacher Kyle Johnson, fifth grader Yumeno Nakai and her mother Naoko Nakai.



More funds needed for seniors' all night party

Parents seek support from businesses

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Cindy Kuhn would like nothing better than to see this year's Novi High seniors have the best time of their lives. That's why she sent a letter to every Novi business in November, hoping to receive help in the form of funding for the end of the year seniors all night party.

"This party is put on by the parents, so we're seeking lots of help with it," said Kuhn, chairperson of donations and Parkview Elementary School third grade teacher. "We are very lacking in our funds right now."

meaningful to the kids. We try to make it very special." Kuhn said she understands it's probably not a good time economically for many businesses, but she feels if everyone pitches in just \$20 it would be enough to put on a memorable party this year's graduates would enjoy. Kuhn explained the first wave of funding for the party comes from the students themselves when they purchase \$45 tickets during registration. For students who wait, the price goes up to \$50 at a later date. It then increases to \$55 after that.

There are also fundraisers going on during the school year, but it's still not enough to cover all expenses needed. "The majority of the money needed is for entertainment," said Kuhn. "We keep what goes on at the party a secret so the kids have no idea what to expect. It's typically, the graduates go to the school after commencement. They have to check in by a certain time. Once in, they can't leave and come back."

"Kids don't leave anyway," said Kuhn. "They stay because they're so entertained."

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.

Visit us on the Web: www.novnews.com

Beat 'em

Left: The Novi High School Winter Drumline look first in its class in the preliminaries and finals at last Saturday's regional competition at Troy Athens High School. Novi beat out six regional lines and won its class with a score of 82.80. Shown are two tenors, John McKenna and Adam Burkhardt.



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Junior selected to attend National Student Leadership Conference

Saxena looking to study medicine or biomedical engineering

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER



Novi High student Shrimant Saxena will be participating in the National Student Leadership Conference this upcoming summer.

Shrimant Saxena is not one to shy away from hard work. The Novi High School junior, who has two advanced placement classes on his schedule this semester, attended computer camp last summer. And he's not stopping there. Saxena, 16, was recently selected to participate in the National Student Leadership Conference, a program that will take place this July.

He will have the opportunity to study, experience and develop the skills and traits that define and identify a leader. "They have different career pathways, and you can pick which ones you want to go into," said

Saxena. "I picked medicine so I could have more leadership skills there, which, I'm hoping, will help me after I get a job in excel and get into a higher level position." Saxena would rather like to study medicine or biomedical engineering when he moves on to higher education. He has already won his SAT and ACT scores to his top four choices in schools: University of Michigan, Case Western Reserve University, Purdue University and Northwestern University. This year, approximately 8,000 high school students from across the United States and from 45 countries around the world will attend the conference. Special guest speakers to the conference add a sense of reality and bring current national and international issues to life. Saxena and the many others who were selected will be expected to develop abilities to think on their feet, to engage in critical analysis and to communicate effectively.

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.

ON CAMPUS

Novi residents Alexander Butch and Kenneth Deligro were named to the dean's list for fall 2005 semester at Kettering University.

Walton Lake resident Joshua David was named to the dean's list for fall 2005 semester at Kettering University.

Novi residents Lauren Anderson, Teresa Azevedo, Jenica Bay, Alexander Baum, Kristen Collins, Amanda Dixon, Jessica Felthous, Danielle Fennelly, Phillip Hornshaw, Michael Kowalski, Julie Longo, Caleb Newman, Marie Ruhl, Nick Sanchez, Keith Slawinski, Katie Slawinski, Katie Soltysiak, Whitney Tobel, Steven Walling and Andrew Wonnacott were named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at Central Michigan University.

Novi resident Rachel Watson was named to the dean's list for fall 2005 semester at Northern Michigan University.

Megan Garnham, of Novi, has been named to the dean's list for fall 2005 semester at Calvin College.

Celeste Greer, of Novi, has been named to the dean's list for fall 2005 semester at Bowling Green State University.

Novi residents Erin Reid and Andrea Morabito were named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at Syracuse University.

Ann Marie Nelson, of Novi, was granted the Northwood University/California Motor Car Foundation Scholarship for the 2005-2006 academic year. Ann Marie is the daughter of Arthur and Marianne Nelson.

Novi resident Mark Evertine was named to the dean's list for fall 2005 semester at Adrian College.

Novi resident, Kate McClymont, was named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at the University of Nebraska.

Kristen Sorek, from Novi, was named to the dean's list for fall 2005 semester at The College of Wooster.

Novi resident, Ryan Cook, has been named to the dean's list for autumn quarter 2005 at the University of Washington.



Chinese New Year Students at Novi Woods Elementary School learned about the Chinese New Year and culture on Jan. 27. The children rotated through five centers using chopsticks, learning about Chinese cutting, making Chinese dumplings, using Chinese yo-yos, and learning calligraphy. Here, students Aaron Zeng, Tim Lu, Mitchell Magliocco, Kyle Kilponen, Kendall Kramer, Andrew Lonsway, Kyosuka, Katakami, Karlissa Koomen and Kari Grandstaff all use Chinese yo-yos.



Be mine First graders at Parkview Elementary School enjoyed a morning of Valentine Centers on Tuesday, Feb. 14. They played Valentine Bingo, ate Ice Cream Sundae, did Broken Heart Math puzzles, counted red dots, graphed candy canes and did heart art projects. Pictured from left to right are: Sarah Redmond, Noah D'Arcy, Jesse Lee and Emily Kline.



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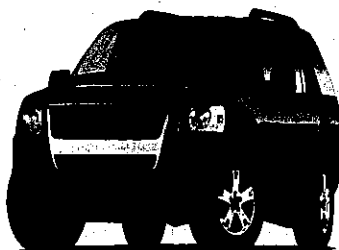
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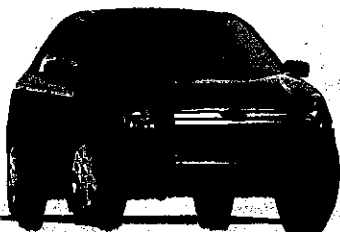
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OPEN SATURDAYS



Bending over backwards
Nov's Jacques Gazeit doesn't mind bending over backwards for her team — as long as it means the Wild Stangs gymnastics squad does well.
— Page 3B



Sweet!
The Novi Wildcats hockey team has earned a Top 10 ranking thanks to their outstanding play this season. They're a team that doesn't mind playing a little scrappy when they have to.
— Page 4B



Quick Hits

Familiar face...
Flipping through Sports Illustrated and suddenly there was a familiar face looking back — Ryan Churella, the fifth-year wrestler for the University of Michigan Wolverines.
Churella was a standout wrestler for the Novi Wildcats before venturing to the next level. There, he has succeeded in his continued growth and search for victories, earning even a Big 10 championship in his weight class.
It's refreshing to see a local face in a national magazine like Sports Illustrated. Churella is one of those athletes who truly deserves it.

Help your Wildcats
The Novi Wildcats athletics boosters are looking for a little help from their friends.
The club is a big source of funds for the various athletics programs at Novi High School and they're hoping to get a few more dollars for the sports through everyday shopping at Meijer.
The boosters have teamed up with Meijer and the "Community Rewards Program."
The program costs nothing. Just go to www.meijer.com/rewards and select "Join today" or complete and its membership application. Remember to include Novi's organization code number, 179918.
It's for a good cause and it's something you probably do every week anyway. Is there a better way to give money to Novi's athletics than by going out shopping for food?
Nah, we didn't think so.

Hard worker
While many kids are off gallivanting around and having a slacker old time during Winter Break, Novi News sports department intern Courtney Ratkowsk is working hard.
She took an assignment despite having the time off from school, showing just how reliable she is.
We here at the Novi News just want to thank Courtney for her hard work and dedication. We know how tempting it is to go off and have a fun time instead of working, so we applaud her and the work she does for us.

Eat at Subway!
Not that athletes need another reason to eat healthy instead of biting some burger joint, but the Walker family is the proud owner of some Subway sub shops, including the one at the West Oaks shopping center.
The parents of the "Walker twins" Katie and Kellie, run a great little shop that serves some of the tastiest subs in the business.
It never hurts to support the Wildcats, on or off the field, so make a trip over there and snag a bite to eat.

Top 10!
It's notable any-time a team breaks into the top 10 rankings, but to have neighboring schools ranked that high is pretty impressive!
Catholic Central is currently ranked first in Division I while the Novi Wildcats are ranked 10th in Division II.
That just goes to show Detroit isn't the only hockey town in Michigan — Novi is right up there, too!
Compiled by Sam Eggleston



With teammates and traffic near his net, Wildcat goalie Brad Clos keeps his eye on the puck.

Photo by JOHN HEDDER/Novi News

TEAM PLAYER Brad Clos knows the value of taking one for his squad

By Courtney Ratkowsk
SPORTS INTERN
Brad Clos has learned to forget. In a sport where he is one of the most visible athletes on his team, the varsity hockey goalie has found success by intentionally ignoring the goals of his opponents.
"I've trained myself to basically erase goals from my memory. Even after the game, I'll have a hard time remembering why they scored," the Novi High School senior said. "It just helps me stay focused in the game."
Clos, in his second year on the varsity team, has helped Novi to a tenth place ranking in the state. The Wildcats are 11-2 overall and 6-5-1 in the KVC.
"Earlier in the year, we had some bad games and we got dropped out of the rankings," Clos said, noting that his

team was ranked seventh in early December. "People realize that rankings don't really mean anything. They're just bragging rights. Anybody could beat anybody on any given night—it just depends who shows up."
He feels that Novi's second-half success began with a 6-3 win against Northville; the team was 2-5 before and 9-3-2 after the victory. The Wildcats' fall regular season game is Saturday, February 25, with regional play beginning February 27 against Plymouth.
Preferring to note team accomplishments instead of personal records, he said that his only goal is to contribute to victories.
"We're just coming together as a team, so it should help for regionals," he said. "Our defense has been playing great lately, and it makes the goalies

look a lot better, it makes it a lot easier."
"We don't have any really local teams that we're playing in regionals. We had a decent draw for the teams that we're playing, but we'll still have to play hard. If we keep playing like we are right now, I think we'll have a good run."
As a senior, Clos has become more assertive in goal while adjusting to a larger leadership role on the team.
"Last year, I didn't play too well," he said. "I have more confidence this year, and so I'm playing better, but I feel like there's quite a bit of pressure. A lot of people see the goalie first. If you win, the goalies get a lot of credit. If you lose, you get the credit for the loss."
Clos has played for Southfield travel teams and the Novi varsity team during a nine-year hockey career; next year, he will be attending Central Michigan

University and is unsure if he will participate in the school's club hockey program.
High school hockey players, during the winter sports season, can choose to play for their varsity team or in a travel league. Clos, by playing for Novi, knows that he has made the right decision.
"Travel teams are more serious, but high school's a lot better," he said. "I think playing in front of students is a lot of fun, and you can build friendships that you probably wouldn't have if you weren't on a (high school) sports team."
Courtney Ratkowsk is a sports intern for the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Is this the end of the co-op era?

Gymnastics team has unknown future
By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER
A decision meant to level the playing field would end up leveling an entire program.
The combined Northville-Novu gymnastics team, called the Wild Stangs, are just one of many programs across the state facing separation following a ruling by the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Executive Committee and Representative Council.
"The MHSAA has plans to dissolve co-op teams from schools that have a combined enrollment of more than 5,500 students,"

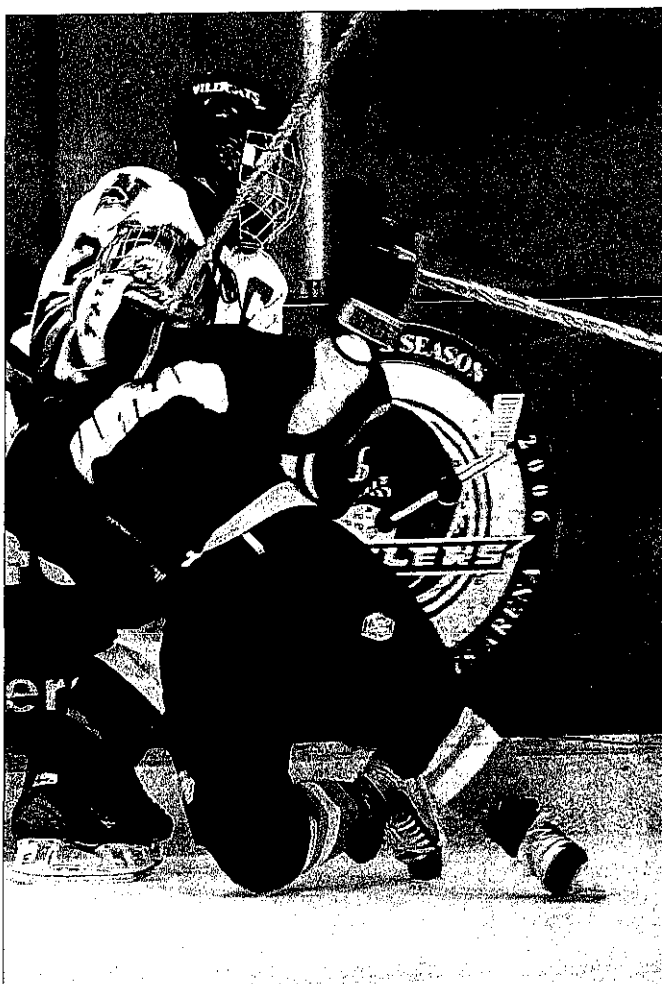
continue our co-op."
Northville and Novi feature seven gymnastics pieces, but only three from each school return following this year's graduation.
Separation of the team likely means neither school will have enough gymnasts for their own teams. So if they are no longer allowed to compete together, it could mean the end of the program.
"I'd really be sad to see it end," said Jacqueline Gazeit, a junior gymnast. "I don't know what else I'd do. I've always only been in gymnastics."
Not just gymnastics
The decision will affect more than just gymnastics. Combined hockey teams will most likely be disbanded, as well. The only sports that won't be affected are

girls' and boys' lacrosse, which will have three-year exemptions.
"My concern is the impetus of this entire thing is more about hockey co-op than sports like gymnastics," Ellis said. "But if they make a blanket decision, then I believe there is a real risk (gymnastics will end at Novi)."
There are currently 61 gymnastics teams in Michigan with 21 being co-op programs.
Teams must appeal to the MHSAA by March 15 to be considered for exemption. Decisions will be made from late March through May.
Exemptions will only be granted with rare exception, for districts with extraordinary facility, financial or participation difficulties.
Ellis said he believes Northville-Novu team falls into those categories.
"If the team isn't given an

exemption, Ellis said he'll be sad to see the program come to an end.
"I would hate to see such an opportunity disappear for the kids who are coming in now," Ellis said. "At the end of the day, it would be a real shame."
The MHSAA's ruling was made to end co-op "super teams" that drew the best players from several schools to help maintain winning traditions.
The Wild Stangs have one state championship in the combined team's history. The current top-ranked team in the state, Tri-Farmington, draws from Farmington, North Farmington and Farmington Hills' Harrison and is a two-time defending state champion.
Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at eggleston@gannett.com.

Take that!

Wildcats earn Top 10 hockey ranking



Wildcat senior Ryan Fox pulls down a Highlander along the glass during the first period of a recent home game. Fox, a co-captain, was called for a penalty on the play.



Novi's Greg Morissette moves the puck up ice in a game against Hartland High at the Novi Ice Arena.

Photos by
**JOHN HEIDER/
NOVI NEWS**



Wildcat forward Shamus Finnerty rushes on to the ice at the start of a recent home game.



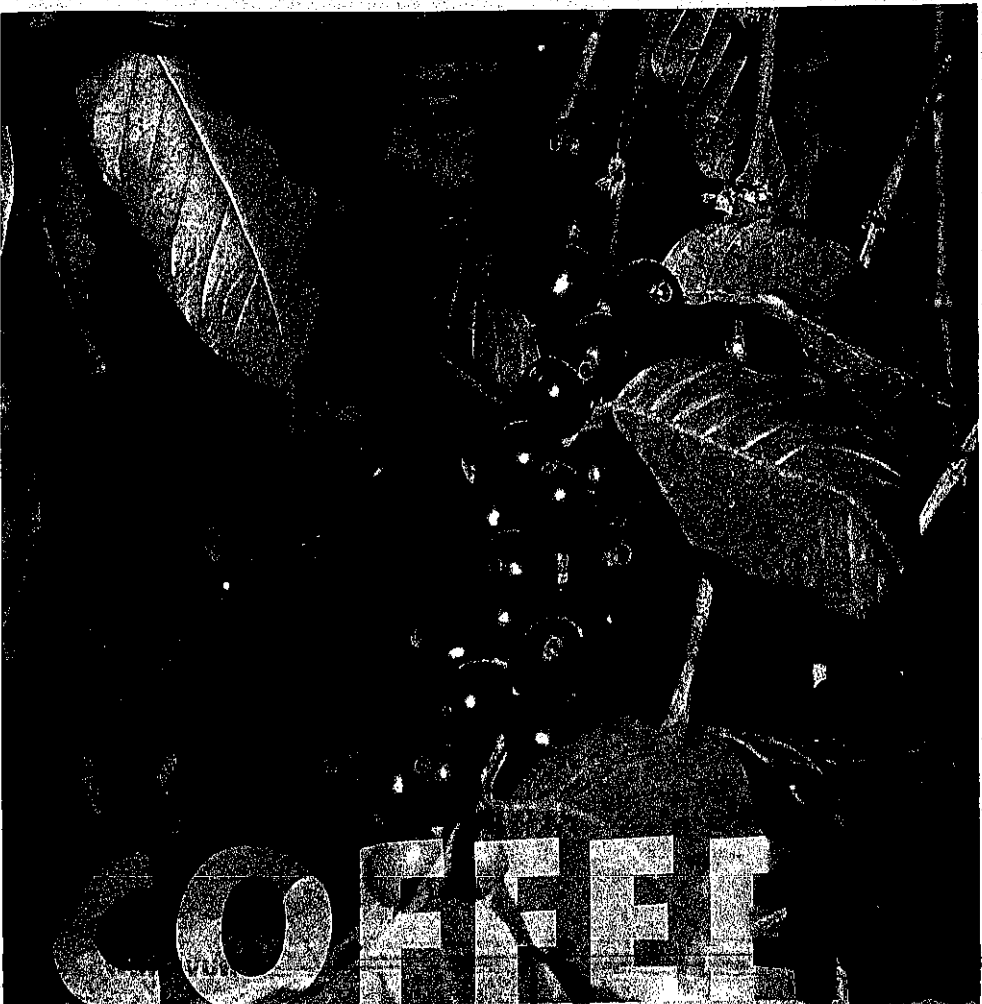
Wildcat Ryan Timar tries to control the puck as he gets pressure from a Highlander during the first period of last Wednesday's game. Novi lead 4-0 after 15 minutes.



Dan Frangola, the Wildcat's head coach, brings his team to the bench at the start of Novi's game against Hartland to map out a how they'll take the facelift and then move the puck.

FOOD

Call Stone editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113; editors@farnett.com www.novnews.com fax: (248) 349-9432



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Between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, a "coffee belt" encircles the globe.

Here, abundant sunshine, moderate rainfall and year-round warm temperatures nurture coffee trees. At harvest time, these trees are laden with bright red coffee cherries. Encased in a thin layer of fruit is a coffee bean — the seed of the coffee cherry.

Coffee is harvested primarily in three areas: Latin America, the Pacific region and Africa. The soil, climate, altitude and surrounding plants that a coffee tree is exposed to, as well as the method by which the bean is extracted from the fruit, all affect the flavor of the coffee. In the tasting room at Starbucks Coffee Company, coffee experts often experience and describe "the taste of the place."

To evaluate coffees, Starbucks tasters use a technique called "cupping." Small batches of coffee are roasted, ground and brewed without a filter. Each coffee's aroma, body, acidity and flavor are at a peak, and the tasters pick out nuances in each coffee's character and discuss them.

The tasters expect certain characteristics from each coffee, depending on their respective growing regions. Coffees from Latin America are generally light- to medium-bodied, with clean, lively flavors. Pacific coffees — such as those from Indonesia — are on the opposite end of the taste spectrum: They are typically full-bodied, smooth and earthy, with very low acidity and occasionally herbal flavor notes. Finally, coffees of East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula often combine the crisp, clean acidity found in Latin American coffees with distinctive floral aroma and enticing fruit or wine flavors.

The next time you pick up a bag of coffee, take a look at where it was grown. When you drink it, see if you too can recognize the taste of the place.

Tasting Terminology

Starbucks coffee tasters use a specific glossary of terms to describe coffees. The critical components of any coffee are as follows:

Aroma
The scent of a coffee is a very important component of its flavor. Much of our sense of taste is created through the nose and its olfactory glands, which add the thousands of subtleties that are tasted in food and drink every day.

Acidity

This term refers to the lively, palate-cleansing characteristic of all coffees grown at high elevation, which is experienced primarily on the sides of the tongue. Acidity is not the same as bitterness, but is rather a sensation reminiscent of fresh-squeezed juice.

Body

The tactile impression of brewed coffee in your mouth can be described as light, medium or full. Some coffees naturally have more body than others. The brewing method also affects the perception of body. Coffees made in a coffee press or an espresso machine seem



Starbucks coffee tasters Anthony Carroll, Dub Hay and Andrew Linemann experience the taste of the place by cupping coffee.

fuller in body than those brewed by other methods.

Flavor

The most important tasting term describes the total impression of aroma, acidity and body. It can be used generally — "this coffee is flavorful" — or with specific attributes in mind — "this coffee has a chocolatey flavor."

For more information on coffee, visit www.starbucks.com.

Bright red coffee cherries are ready to be hand-picked from the trees.

Café Diable

Great coffee with dramatic presentation

Serves 4

1 1/2 cup Starbucks® Colombia coffee

2 1/2 cups cold

Filtered water

8 sugar cubes

2 teaspoons orange extract

4 lemon peel twists

4 cinnamon sticks

4 orange slices

4 coffee spoons

4 coffee filters

4 coffee cups

4 coffee spoons

4 coffee spoons

4 coffee spoons

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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Home Owners Do You Know... and Understand the concern of Radon Gas?

RADON GAS is the second leading cause of lung cancer. It is estimated that 20,000 to 40,000 deaths occur annually in the U.S. from radon gas poisoning. The Surgeon General and the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) recommend testing for levels of Radon in homes. Radon gas is an invisible, odorless and tasteless gas. It occurs naturally in the environment, from the decay of uranium, and is measured in units called Pico curies per liter (pCi/L). Radon seeps up through rock and soil and enters a house through cracks in the basement foundation, around water and sewer pipes, floor drains, or well water. In the U.S., the EPA has set the "action level" (to have the home mitigated) at levels of and above 4 pCi/L.

The modern measurement technique used by professionals is the Continuous Radon Monitor (CRM). This device provides an hourly report for the level of Radon in your home. You are provided with a detailed report at the end of the ten period. A minimum of 48 hours is required to test for the level of Radon in your home. Typically 4 test runs between 48 to 72 hours. The EPA guidelines for testing protocols and remediation guidelines should always be followed.



YOU CAN FIX A HOME WITH ELEVATED LEVELS OF RADON. 1. TEST THE LEVELS OF RADON IN YOUR HOME. 2. HIRE A PROFESSIONALLY INSTALLED RADON REDUCTION SYSTEM INSTALLED IF THE TEST LEVELS ARE AT OR ABOVE THE EPA GUIDELINE OF 4pCi/L.

RADON REDUCTION SYSTEMS WORK

The Radon Reduction System is installed in the basement or crawl space of the home. There is a pipe installed below the foundation. This pipe is extended to the exterior of the home above the roof line. There is a super quiet fan in the attic attached to the pipe (running 24 X 7) which draws the Radon gas from beneath the structure and discharges the Radon Gas to the outdoors before it has the chance to enter the home. This system avoids the Radon gas from entering through the basement heating and cooling system, and eliminates you breathing the Radon gas which has been proven to damage the lungs.

Maintaining the radon reduction system take little effort. Ensure the system has a change or warning device installed that you can routinely check to ensure the Radon Gas is being discharged to the outdoor environment. Ensure the fan is operational. Some fans have a three year warranty and some have additional length warranty, always check the warranty time frame for your system.

The EPA also recommends that after the system is installed and has been running for 2-3 weeks, that the house be certified for the reduced levels of radon to verify system operation. Then having the home tested every few years will confirm that radon levels are staying low and your family is protected.

If you have had your home tested for Radon in the past and had a reading of 4pCi/L or higher and you are planning on adding a new foundation for the addition to your home, then it is recommended that you address the radon issue during construction for ease of installing a radon reduction system.

However if you already had a radon reduction system installed and you have remediated or are planning to remodel your home (making any kind of structural change to your home) the home should be retested after the completion of the work. This will help to ensure the radon level did not increase as a result of the work. Radon can enter from the soil. The EPA estimates that indoor radon levels will increase by about 1 pCi/L for every 1000 pCi/L of radon in water. Radon can be removed from water by using one of two methods: Aeration Treatment involves spraying the water or mixing the water with air and then sending the air from the water before use. Granular Activated Carbon Treatment filters the water through carbon. Radon attaches to the carbon and leaves the water free of the radon. The carbon may need special handling in its disposal if it is used at high radon levels or has been used for a long period of time. With either treatment method it is important to treat the water in the every point of your home to ensure all the water you use in your home is properly treated. Home owners can consider having a service contract from the system installer to provide routine replacement and general system maintenance to ensure efficient and proper operation at all times.

DO YOU HAVE A WELL?

Homes with well water should have the water tested for levels of radon. Radon in your water supply can also increase radon levels, although in most cases radon entering the home through water is a smaller source of this exposure to radon coming from the soil. The EPA estimates that indoor radon levels will increase by about 1 pCi/L for every 1000 pCi/L of radon in water. Radon can be removed from water by using one of two methods: Aeration Treatment involves spraying the water or mixing the water with air and then sending the air from the water before use. Granular Activated Carbon Treatment filters the water through carbon. Radon attaches to the carbon and leaves the water free of the radon. The carbon may need special handling in its disposal if it is used at high radon levels or has been used for a long period of time. With either treatment method it is important to treat the water in the every point of your home to ensure all the water you use in your home is properly treated. Home owners can consider having a service contract from the system installer to provide routine replacement and general system maintenance to ensure efficient and proper operation at all times.

Call us to have your home tested for levels of Radon in your home. This will provide you peace of mind for your family's health and well being.

Radon Tester
Certified Home Inspector
NABCI Home Inspector
(248) 755-3422

Radon Tester is a Certified Home Inspector with 20 Years of Service in Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin. For additional information please call or visit our web site at www.radonremediation.com

We provide professional home inspections and home environmental testing services for Radon, Mold, Lead, Air Quality, Air & Water Quality testing.



Byron and Cami Muonio, owners of Lyon's Marketplace, are proud of their new store location at 601 S. Lafayette in downtown South Lyon.

Lyon's Marketplace: worth the drive

Specialty market moves to a new downtown South Lyon location

By Kate Phillips
SPECIAL WRITER

There's not many businesses that have a customer following like Lyon's Marketplace. Some drive 40 miles to buy meat and others walk down the street every day to pick up a sandwich.

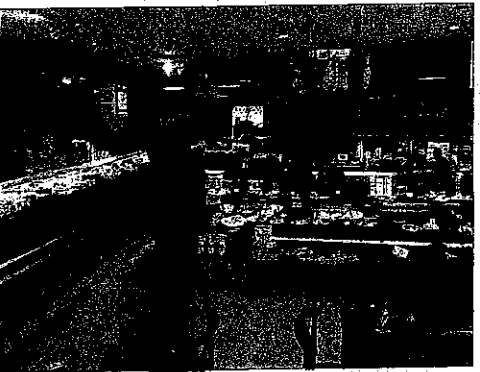
Dozens of customers helped the specialty market move down the street to a new location last month. The new large store is located at 601 S. Lafayette Street across from McHattie Park in downtown South Lyon.

"A friend sent us a card that said, 'The bigger the dream, the bigger the dream come true,'" said Cami Muonio who owns and operates the specialty market with husband Byron. "We've been blessed with the opportunity to realize this dream and owe a debt of gratitude to a lot of very special customers for that."

With the new expansion, the six-year-old family business can offer everything customers have been requesting. Now there is 60 yards of fresh fruits and vegetables. A new shipment of organic produce arrives every Friday.

Every day the new automated door opens and someone enters exclaiming, "Finally, I don't have to drive to Ann Arbor for this," or Livonia or Northville or Royal Oak.

The meat counter has doubled, favorites like Dearborn Sausage Company hot dogs and hams plus Bell and Evans chicken. The entire selection of meats is all natural with no steroids or hormones. Burgers are freshly



For six years, Lyon's Marketplace has provided quality products and personalized customer service to loyal shoppers.

ground and hand-shaped so they're juicy instead of dry.

Meat department associate Mike Sakari is learning that there's a lot of busy people out there who love the oven-ready entrees made daily in the store, like stuffed peppers and city chicken. There's a large selection of fish, scallops and other seafood. The specialty market even makes its own lalusa chicken sausage.

"We are committed to providing only high quality products," said owner Byron Muonio. "The best service for the best food for the best customer — that's our bottom line."

Another room contains a large deli with hot and cold meals. Lyon's Marketplace carries dozens of cheeses and at least 75

varieties of Dietz and Watson deli products, which contain no preservatives or MSG. Meal starters like broccoli salad, pastas, shrimp egg rolls and pizza bread are in one case. On case is bread racks, reloaded daily from Cantoro's Italian Bakery. In the 24-foot cheese case lay dip, salsa, liverwurst from Germany, feta from France and fresh ricotta from Michigan's only Italian cheese maker.

A two-story brick fireplace warms the sitting area, where customers can enjoy a sandwich or wrap. Longtime employee Janet McSorley makes four soups everyday and her chili is known for miles around. There's nothing better than a bowl of chili in front

of the fire, so customers tend to take their time eating. Quite a few top off the meal with one of McSorley's chocolate chip macadamia nut cookies baked fresh in the morning.

With an ever-growing organic and natural foods line, the Marketplace has further validated itself as a destination location. For those with international taste buds, feta, hummus or fresh gnocchetti may be a treat. There are international products galore, such as licorice from Finland and Australia, beans and wine gums from Great Britain and chocolate for those with a sweet tooth. Specialty boards of staples like vinegar, dressings, pasta, arichokes plus hard to find seasonings and handmade vine for position in the handmade shelves, center store.

LYON'S MARKETPLACE
Store: Lyon's Marketplace
New Location: 601 S. Lafayette, across from McHattie Park in downtown South Lyon
Hours: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Saturday

But as good as the food is, it's the community of friendly faces that keep many coming back. The employees are like an extended family to many of the regulars.

"We're on a first name basis with everyone who walks in the door," said employee Georgia Hornbrook. "I love all the customers."

At the new location, there's a lot of new names and faces to learn, starting behind the counter. The former staff of 15 has grown to 35 employees in the new location, but at the Marketplace, that's just more people to love. Friends and family are often referred to the Marketplace for employment, and somehow just about everyone has a connection to someone else who works or shops there.

Lyon's Marketplace is a place for families that care about one another. Byron and Cami have five children themselves — Blake, Brooke, Tanner, Logan, Mitch — so they're the first ones to strike up a conversation with the smallest customers at the store. It's friendship, food and family — a delicious combination.

Lyon's Marketplace is open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Saturday. It is now located at 601 S. Lafayette, across from McHattie Park in downtown South Lyon.

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\$1.00 OFF any **DIETZ & WATSON** Deli Meat
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