BREAKING NEWS

Wellinger pleads no contest

■ Crash killed Novi jeweler's wife, two sons

By Pam Fleming

Thomas Wellinger, the 49-year-old Farmington Hills man charged for murder of a Fannington Hills woman and her two sons last May, pleaded no contest Wednesday afternoon to counts of second degree murder in Oakland County Circuit Court. "That was



the largest tragedy that we've ever experienced amington

Tom Wellinger William

Dwyer, Farmington Hills Chief of Police. Farmington Hills Chief of Police.
Wellinger was charged with
nurder in the deaths of Judy
Weinstein and her sons, Alex and
Sam, when his 2005 GMC Denali
crashed into the Weinstein's
Honda near the intersection of 12
Mile and Orchard Lake roads on
the afternoon of May 3.

"Mr. Weinstein wants closure,"
Plantened "Ho's erill in the heal-

Dwyer said. "He's still in the heal-

Police said speeding and alco-hol were to blame for the crash. Wellinger's blood alcohol at the time of the accident was measured at 43 percent, more than five times the legal limit in Michigan, which is .08 percent. He was also traveling at more than 70 mph at the time of the accident.

Judith Weinstein, 49, was tak ing her sons, Alex, 12, and Sam, 9, to the dentist. Their Honda Accord was in a center turn lan 12 Mile Road when it was hit by Wellinger's vehicle. A four-vehicle crash resulted near a med-ical center east of Orchard Lake

Barry LaKritz, attorney for Gary Weinstein, who owns Weinstein Jewelers in Novi, said

Weinstein Jewelers in Novi, sald the judge imposed a sentence of 19-30 years in prison.

The formal plea will be given April 26 in circuit rount in Judge Rudy, Nichols' courtoom. The 'formal sentencing will be also be handed down that day."

"It's like a death sentence, because the man is almost 50 years old now," LaKritz said. Wellinger ums 50 on June 19, according to Farmington Hills rding to Farmington Hills

"He can't get out until he's at least 70 years or older. It doesn't get much worse than second-degree murder."

LaKritz said any civil actions will be instituted following the formal sentencing.

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50C

xom plant employees wait

■ Five programs now proposed for official buyout agreements

By Pam Fleming STAFF WAITER

Wixom Assembly Plant workers are waiting for Ford Motor

Company officials to formally inform them about separation

packages.

Ford Motor Co. announced last week that the firm would offer early retirement packages and separation packages to hundreds of workers as part of its Way

Forward restructuring plan.
Ford and officials from the Ford and officials from the United Auto Workers approved the bayouts recently, which are supposed to coincide with the end of production of the Lincoln LS at

The company plans to close the Wixom plant with 1,433 hourly workers and 134 salaried employees in the first quarter of 2007.

the plant in April.
The company of The company plans to close the Wixom plant with 1,433 hourly

workers and 134 salaried employees in the first quarter of 2007.
Marcey Evans, Ford Metor Co. rials issued a bulletin to

autoworkers at the end of tax-week, and employee meetings will be held this week at the plant. "The informational meetings will let employees know that they can select a voluntary separation package if they choose." Evans

"We are not yet opening an official consideration window

continued on page 2

MEAP scores show gains in every category

■ Novi students make biggest leap in social studies, from 39 to 89 percent

By Ramez Khuri

MEAP test score results show improvement across the board for Novi's third through eighth grade

Compared to 2004-05 scores, students have made gains in every category. This is the first year any

state test results have been col-lected for third graders. In math, reading, and writing, the district's youngest students tested have set



consistently high as the Nancy Davis grades increase, while statewide, many districts see a decline in math as the grade levels go up.

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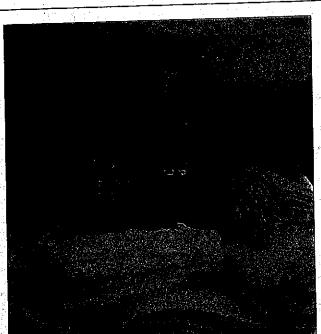


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi

Novi resident Virginia Barnes taunders and donates the gently-used towels of Life Time Fitness to Holy Family Church's clothes close

A local Secretary of State office, finally

■ Residents won't need to drive far with new 'Plus' office

By Tracy Mishler

Kristine Martin drove 10 miles out of her way to renew her vehi-cle registration in West Bloomfield.

The 36-year-old Navi resident said she tries to go to the Secretary of State's office first thing in the morning to avoid long lines.
"When you have things to do, it's a main to drive way out of the

it's a pain to drive way out of the way and stand in line for an hour," Martin said. "You can preity Martin said. "You can pretty much kiss your day good bye if you have to go

In the past, Novi residents had to drive to Farmington Hills, Livonia, West Bloomfield or Brighton for a Secretary of State's

But the drive won't be so painful saymore as the Southwest !!



Oakland County Plus Office opened Monday at the Shoppes at the Trail plaza on Beck Road and

continued on page 2

Active in work, volunteering take advantage of the towels and other items available. Barnes

helps less fortunate, one towel at a time

By Ramez Khuri

Virginia Barnes may be throwing in the towel, but by no means is she quitting her job.

A 50-year resident of Novi. Barnes, 85, tries to stay as active as possible each and every day. When she's not working her job at LifeTime Fitness, she's busy helping less fortunate, folks at the Holy Family Church clothes closet. Family Church clothes closet The nicest thing about

LifeTime is, the manager has allowed me to take the used towels," she said. "I bring them towers, sue said. Toring them home, probably two or three times per week, I wash them in bleach, and I get them looking like brand new. Then I take them over and donate them to the clothes closet."

Rayne, serbhined them are

Barnes explained there many less fortunate people who

and outer nems available,
"I-find it very rewarding,"
said Bames. "I get out of it as
much as I give. Carol Anne,
who runs the clothes closet, got
me stanted a year-and-a-half

ago."

Barnes belongs to Holy Family. When her husband passed away almost two years, ago, she wanted to get more involved in the community and was looking for different ways to do that. Having been in retail

years, she thought the clothes YOUR NOVI

would something she would like to be a part of.

"I didn't start taking the low-els home until I found out there was such a need for them," said Barnes. "When LifeTime Priness gave me permission to do this. I just thought it was great (the towels) weren't going to be wasted."

The clothes closet receives donations from all over Novi and beyond. The Holy Family Church keeps items they feel

they can't keep to other charita-ble organizations.

The discovery of a

Before she started working at LifeTime Fitness, Barnes and her husband, Earl, had memberships at another health club establishment. Earl had to have a knee operation and went through physical therapy. He was never able to get on any machines

after that,

asked his wife if they

witch their memberships to

LifeTime.
"I said yes, and we did," said.
Barnes, "I was interested in the swim aerobics, but it wasn't long after I was there that I decided to put my application in and see if I could get hired. I didn't know whether they'd hire anyone over 80. But they did, and it's a job I absolutely love."

continued on page 2

Novi water bills to rise,

City hasn't been notified yet on rate hike

By Pam Fleming

members' approved water are increases to suburban customers, but not city residents, the big nt not city? residents, the big lestion became, is this legal? Novi's water rates were schedboth sweet sales were can be used to increase 4.1 percent. If this week.

Buil no sooner had the vote the control of the contr

questioning the validity of such as move. On March: 10 the Detroit City/Council passed a resolution to also raise. Detroit water rates.

water rates.

Legislation that would take away control of the Detroit water and sewer system from the city and create an oversight board with most of its members from outside Detroit passed 61-44 in the Michigan Of House 12:00

Representatives March 9
A The legislation should appear on Gov. Jennifer Granholm's desk

morecon Her fir ware agone ercente (renese in No) ricem year from the land ware and switch

...advisory board proposed the House Republican Policy

■ Previous bill vetoed by Gov.

By Pam Fleming

Senate Bill 372 would establish Water Accountability Advisory

The board would be for each water or sewer system operating water or sewer system operating water or sewer system operating wayer. County, These include in Michigan that provides service Dearborn, Canton, Township, to more than 20 percent of the Livonia, Taylor and Westland board expenses would be paid by the system, and the state would and Severage Department is the county such System. The board would be for each

The board would review

oversee the system as well as make recommendations.

The body would be compris The body would be comprised of seven members: one of of seven members: one of or Oakland County, one from Macomb County, one from Genesee County, three from the city of Detroit and one appointed by the five largest local units in Wayne County, These Include Dearborn, Cautton Township, Table and Westland.

continued on page 3

ing what you relooking for in the Green Sheet Classifieds Call 1-888-999-1288

local Secretary of State office

continued from front page

"Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land has finally offered a plan to break the mold on our traditional branch office structure so we can offer services closer to home, said Kelly Chesney, spokesperson for the Secretary of State, "She visited every branch office in the state and listened to customers oneens of needing more servic-

Chesney said Land established two new types of branch offices, Plus offices and Super Centers, in order to help redirect limited resources and provide services

where people want them.

"There are 22 Plus ulffices in the date, and the Novi location is the last to open," Chesney said. She said locations for branch offices are based on population

"Novi is boundag, and it's time that area had an office." Chesney

Faster service

Plus offices offer more counter help, longer hours on Wednesdays to accommodate different schedales and an on-site customer serv ice specialist to make sure people correct documents while raiting in line.

Chesney said Plus offices also

■ Five programs now proposed for official buyout agreements

continued from front page

et," she said. "We are just letting em know that this is coming it the near future."

There are five separation packages available, which have also been offered in other Ford Motor Co. plant locations. These locations include the

Edison, N.J., assembly plant that closed in February 2004; the Lorraine, Ohio, assembly plant: and the Ohio Assembly Plant in von Lake, Ohio, near Cleveland, Ford Motor Co. closed the Lorraine plant closed in December 2005, and these operations were consolidated with the Ohio Assembly Plant. The separation packages were

also offered to employees at the St. Louis Assembly Plant which is also being idled this quarter. Dave Berry, president of UAW Local 36, which represents workers at the Wixom Assembly Plant

was not available for com UAW public relations personnel in Dermit would also not comment on a bulletin supposedly dis-tributed to Wixom plant workers

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News, She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. e-mail

The packages

Ford Motor Company will programs to Wixom Assembly Plant workers: Workers 55 and older with

receive \$35,000 and begin etirement with full benefits. Workers 55 and older with 10 or more years of service will receive a fixed income

for life, although not as much as they would receive under regular retirement plan. The amount will vary.

Workers with 28 years of

service but not yet 40 years can receive a special pre-retire ment leave program where they will get 85 percent of their of service and are eligible for Ford is also offering two

other separation packages.

Workers with at least one. s100,000 lump sum for employees if they agree to leave the company and waive all benefits except accrued

Workers with at least one year of service can receive up to \$15,000 a year in tuition their choice for up to four. pay white going to school and

noment, the couple's youngest of eight children, Karen, is the office

anager. Barnes started working when

Karen was in kindergarten, but was

home every night.
"I've had some beautiful jobs,"
she said. "I've worked for Guandan

Industries for 20 years as a dealer

went to work for Crowley's for 11 years until they closed. Then I went to work for Sears for a couple

■ Resident helps less fortunate, one towel at a time

continued from front page Barnes described LifeTime as e of the nicest clubs she's ever been in. Her main duty is to hand out lowels to exercising members.

She works Tuesday mornings, Wednesday nights and Saturday monlings. In her spare time, she can "It's important to stay busy," she said, "My busband and I were mar-ited for 60 years, and he was a naval pillor in World War II. We had a won-ited to the world war II. We had a won-ited to be able to help any-

puti in World War I. We had a wonderful narriage."

Earl ran a counseling business in
Novi, which is now called
Community Counseling of
Michigan. He had five counselors
working for him, and at the

years."

Barnes can remember when the only paved road in Novi was Grand River Avenue. She's seen it grow into the thriving community it is

Ramez Khuri can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@gannett.com.

Virginia Barnes

Age: 85
Occupation: Ste's in charge of handing out towels to ment bers at Ule Jimpe Finess in Nov!
Family: Her husband, Earl, passed away almost two years ago, The couple has eight children: Mancy, Jimp; Michael, Filchard, Joseph, Pegpy, Joanne and Kalen.
Hobabes and/or interests: It's very important to: Barnes to stay busy. When she's not working she's taking advantage of the wiring aerobics program at Life Time Fitness.
Fig. 1997
Filmes and the street of the program of the program of the swing advantage of the wiring and it is very important for two people to agree on timps and it hings out the street of the program of the pro



The door to Secretary of State office at the Shoppes at the Trail Plaza lies open last Tuesday as its readled for business.

offer an ATM self-service style Good for business

said, "No more long lines. "Tab renewals are our number one transaction and our higgest volume of business. This way, you can do it yourself and leave with

Plus offices also offer a number a lot of walk-in business," Tomes of new services, including the ability to buy a driving record, instant titles for vehicles and

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. "Super Centers are very similar to Phis offices, but the difference Super Centers offer Saturday hours," Chesney said. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com

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good for businesses in that area,

"(The office) is going to attrac

said. "There aren't any office

cluser, so it's going to attract a lot

Chesney added.



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a canaling in

Dairy donation Guernsey Dairy's Pam McGuire holds a twoscoop cone of mint Ice

and 17 the Novi Rd. restaurant and ice cream shop will be offering either a free scoop of frozen treat or chocolate milk to anyone who donates to the Northville ongoing efforts to Last year the McGuire cow to Maybury.



which equals 7,500 gallons. The two numbers was to pay for the proposed increase would be to city's water operation expenses,"

The rate hikes are necessary to

help pay to replace the water sys-tem's 100-year-old mains and

upgrade treatment plants and

pumping stations.

Water rate increases for the suburbs average 5.7 percent, whereas increases for Detroit's

residents are to increase an average of 5.4 percent. Proposed rate increases total \$38 million.

Not all cities get rate hikes

Increases were not proposed for all suburban communities. Bloomfield Hills, Canton, Lenox

Township, New Haven, Northville, Northville Township,

she still did

explained that the rate city's pay is based on three fac-

city's water operation expenses," Smith-Roy said. Smith-Roy said Detroit contracts on engineering firm to evaluate the

east of the Detroit water operation

and determine what rate increases

should be. The city of Novi then

evaluates its rate structure. She said Tuesday that she can-

not determine a figure for what a

new water rate would be for Novi until the official letter comes from

"There are just too many yan

is separate from any budget reso

pfleming@gaimett.com.

rate alteration before it become

Detroit stating the rate hike.

City hasn't been notified yet on rate hike

continued from front page Bill passes in House

House Speaker Craig DeRoche

ties should have some say on the proposed water rate hikes.

"This is a governmental agency that is setting the rates without any input from its users," DeRoche said. "It's taxation without representation. Our country was founded on this type of dis-

DeRoche said that when he served on the Novi City Council that residents always understood about decisions that affected Kathy Smith-Roy, finance

"I'm worried about how this affects our slood they added. he added. "They [the Detroit City

Toni Nagy **Nov!** City Council Conneil tors - elevation, distance from the water supply and peak hour gasoline increasing, as well as utility costs, that Metro Detroit

are demonstrating their power to arbitrarily raise Novi's rates." DeRoche said the bill has to go He noted that any type of water

rate increase may not affect residents this year.

The regrites it would take effect would be October 2006 or maybe as late as April 2007.

DeRoche said.

Currently, Novi residents' average wholesale water rate is \$18.11 per 1,000 cubic feet of water,

■ Previous bill

vetoed by Gov.

continued from front page

reimburse the system through the

appropriations process.

Nearly every Michigan
Legislature in the last 20 years has
introduced legislation addressing

suburban ralepayer concern over

operational problems with the Detroit Water and Sewerage

Department.

The first bill to be passed by

both chambers and presented to the governor was Senate Bill 195, which would have created a five-

member regional water authority

oversee the administration of certain contracts and the rate-so ting process with the DWSD.

this hill in March 2003, saying

identified with the department.

She was referring to a consor-tium created by U.S. District Judge John Feikens, Eastern District of Michigan In 2001.

District of Michigan and Peikens invited 40 civic and gov-

Michigan to create a consortium lo address water quality problems.

However, he issued an order Jan. 6 saying that he is not convinced the consortium is "a venue in which further progress can be

1,000 gallons.
"The difference between the

"That's why it varies from one

community to another," she said. Smith-Roy added that if Detroit

Senate Bill 372 addresses questions raised by Granbolm in her 2003 veto message on Senate Bill

2003 raised by Grainform in ner 2003 veto message on Senate Bill 195.

Under the newly-proposed bill, 105, or by e-mail at-customers must be notified of a pfleming@ganneit.com.

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Fire at Second City/Andiamo's caused by local power outage

Business could reopen this week

By Pam Fleming

A minor fire early Monday morning at The Second City/Andiamo's restaurant and Dirty Martini lounge at 42705 Grand River Avenue in Novi was caused by an emergency light igniting a curtain.

Jeff Johnson, acting fire chief,

said dispatch received a cull at 7:37 a.m. Monday for a downed power line on Grand River Avenue east of Novi Road near Belle Tire. The department then

call that morning about a transformer that was arcing on Cherry Hill Road south of

The city lost power along the entire Grand River Avenue area from Novi Road to Mendowhrook Road Monday

Meadowbrook Road Monday moming due to high winds. A third call was a fire alarm at 8:16 a.m. to the Second City/Andiamo building on the east side of the Main Street Novi project on Grand River Avenue.

When firefighters arrived, they went to the second floor, where a sprinkler head had activated. Water from second floor sprin-klers had dripped down onto the

smoke in the building.
"The emergency light came on when the building lost power,"
Johnson said. The fire alarm call mehed, and heat produced by the burning curtain set the sprinkler off. "The sprinkler did the job it

first floor. There was also light

and water damage to the build ing.
"The way they were working

feverishly, it's reasonable to expect that the building can reopen this week, providing it

passes inspection by the fire mar-shal and the building depart-ment," Johnson said.

The Second City was supposed to open its 27th revue, "Bobble Heads of State," in Novi at 8 tonieht. It has been rescheduled to Wednesday, March 22.

Employees would not com building would reopen in the absence of Dan Linnen, operating manager of The Second City comedy theater. His partner, Joe Vicari, was also not available at press time, For more tion, call (248) 348-4448.

for the Novi News, She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by quickly to deal with the smoke pfleming@gannett.com.

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Methods explored for attracting and retaining business

■ Margolis lists four specifics

Maireen Kranse knows that ecorunging in new instances.

It's just as important to keep the
companies a community already has
and keep them happy.

That was just one of several tips
Krause of the Oakland County

Economic Development Corporation offered to city council members during their March 6

meeting.

Krause gave a brief presentation to council outlining what the corporation does and how Novi can improve its economic outlook. She noted that Cynthia Grubbs, a Novi resident who works for the Michigan Economic Development

Corporation, talks to companies on a daily basis to help retain these The state, which is also involved in attracting new business, works with companies outside the area to

with companies outside the area to help find them a good location if they want to move to Michigan. There are currently about 42,000 companies in Oakland County, and the Oakland County Development Corporation tries to interact with as

nany as possible. "Oakland County has always had an aggressive business attraction program." Krause said.

Foreign companies are recruited, and about 700 foreign businesses can now be found in the Oakland County with an average of two new foreign businesses coming into the v each month.

A city needs to have clear and consistent policies and procedures to successfully recruit new business. s whether it's the donut shop on he comer or a major factory, Krause

"Novi has come a very long way." the said, as far as its ordinances and recruitment efforts,
"Communication with local and

state partners is important." Krause said, because they are in the busi-ness of corporate intelligence gath-

Incentives can't be ignored The role of incentives, such as tax

abatements, is always a controver-sial issue, she added.

"Whether we like them or not, they're going to be around," Krause said. But, she added, incentives don't always have to be in the form

sidered an incentive," she said.
"Time is money. Sometimes, time-saving factors are incentives. Look broadly at incentive nackages."



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Economic food for thought

Terry Margolls, city council member, offered the following goals regarding

• Improve internal processes to reduce time and variability in planning and building approvals,

 Retain and encourage growth and expansion of current Novi businesses by improving city processes regulations to assist busitaining a quality of life for

 Attract blob quality new specific emphasis on OST Technology) and

· Work cooperatively with partners on the city, county and state level to attract and retain quality business

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Council Member Lynne Paul noted that Canton Township uses a point system in determining busi-ness incentives, and said that Novi's Office Service Technology sector is only 33 percent built out. "Providence Hospital may attract

Permit, nian process issues Paul added that she has heard complaints about Novi's permit and plan process in the past.

plan process in the past.

Toni Nagy, council member, said
she would like to see more showcasing of businesses on Novi-TV 13
and would like to see members of Novi's Economic Develops Committee serve as ambassadors by

writers.

Nagy said the planning process takes too long in Novi and said she had recently heard a complaint about the city's system from an

attorney.

Mayor David Landry suggested Development Corporation, which consists of nine people, meet and come back to city council in about

Pam Fleming can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-

ness sector.



This year, 1.2 million Americans will have a heart attack. Half of them will die.

HERO AT HEART

Novi Middle School hosted a fundraiser March 3 to benefit the Novi Youth Assistance. The school's assistant

with a team. Here, students Artem Vincenti and Michelle Stefaniak get ready to put more tape on Faletti.

principal, Dennis Faietti, volunteered to be "taped to the wall" for an hour at Activity Night. Students were able to purchase two feet of duct tape for a \$1 donation. The Middle School PTO sponsored the event and raised \$200, which was donated to the NYA at the Bowl-a-thon last Saturday. The middle school was well represented

The truth is that heart disease is still the number one cause of death of adults in America - and in Michigan. But the heart doctors of Providence Heart Institute are working to change that. And that's why we salute this week's Hero At Heart.

Meet Dr. Phillip Robinson, Cardiovascular Surgeon on staff at the Providence Heart Institute.

6: Dr. Robinson, when did you know you wanted to be a doctor? * While I was in the Air Force. I had quit college, where I was studying to be an engineer, and was drafted in 1972. When I returned from overseas, I completed my degree in engineering which was not for me - so I accepted a position with the Air which was not for me – 30 I accepted a posmou, with the Ambert Force. One night I stopped flipping through the cable stations when I found an ear surgery being performed on a deaf girl on the Discovery channel. I decided I wanted to make a difference, so I went back to school to become a surgeon. Heart surgery

What do you think are the challenges of practicing medicine? All the changes in medicine as far as becoming fina responsible while taking into account what is best for the patient.
With Medicare and rising insurance costs and co-pays, doctors need to be prudent with new technology. Although new advancements are important, we have to be sure we aren't chasing nore expensive equipment if it won't produce measurable results Overall, doctors need to be patient-oriented, not disease-oriented

What makes a good patient/physician relationship? At Honesty on behalf of the patient, and compassion and knowledge, on behalf of the physician. (2) What's on the horizon in heart care?

& Arrhythmia surgery and heart failure surgery are the new frontier edure referred to as MAZE is an alternative to drug therapy in many cases. Through a small incision, this highly ne-hour procedure requires no radiation and involvery low risk. This is a promising arena for heart surgery.

What is some medical advice the world can't do without your health is the best medicine, Eating sensibly and exercising while managing the heart disease risk factors such as smoking and stress will decrease the likelihood that you'll need a heart surgeon.

O: Why did you choose St. John Health?

At I was attracted to St. John Health because of their comm to the undernovileged and their explicit spiritual emphasis. As a Christian, I share St. John Health's values and beliefs of providing quality care to all in need. It is St. John Health's niche, Personally, I travel to Ethiopia each year in May to perform heart surgeries, since they currently have no heart surgeons in their country. I am committed to helping them develop a heart program.

The state of the s and the second of the second To find out your risk for heart disease, visit us online and take our Z-minute heart assessment at www.realmedicine.org/heartcheck

You can find Dr. Robinson at Southeastern Michigan Cardiovascular Surgeons, PC, in Troy and Dearborn: If you would like to make a ent, please call 1-888-440-REAL or visit us online at www.realmedicine.org

Di Phillip Rob

1-888 440 REAL

BAL NEOKONE

Building department proposes satellite office to city council

has enough staff now to handle the needs of the new hospital and mall

expansion.
The team that will be assembled

for these projects will make these

woman need to be returnished before it could be occupied. He is suggest-ing that four building inspectors and one clerk work at the satellite loca-tion, which would be needed for at bent turn and a build record.

least two and a haif years.

'The logistics of this building are

great," Saven said.
He said the building department

looked into putting trailers up on site but decided that this would be too much cohabitation with the clients

they are regulating.
Terry Margolis, city council

member, wants to see a staffing

plan, and Council Member Kim Capello suggested hiring workers on a contractual basis for the two

major projects. Clay Pearson, interim city man-

ager, said in a March 9 memo to the

mayor and city council that admin

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, est. 105, or by e-mall at

so that the remaining city projects do not fall to the wayside."

nnining if an outside

10 Mile

Big projects

■ Providence Park

496,000-square-foot 200

bed hospital, a 200,000-

building and a 70,000-

gical center.

square-foot medical office

square-foot ambulatory sur-

Construction on the hos-

pital began Nov. 1, 2005,

expansion includes a 165,000-square-foot

with the project scheduled

for completion in July 2008.

The Twelve Oaks

store, a 60,000-square-fool

Field's and a 90,000-squar

foot expansion to the mall for about 30 retailers.

Work on the mall expan

sion started this year and is

Hospital will include a

■ 11Mile/Beck

By Pam Fleming

the triese projects wan make disset two projects their first priority. That's why, "...it is important to hire additional personnel to fill in the gap so that the remaining city projects do not fail to the way-side." Saven said in his report to Don Saven, Novi building department director, says his staff eeds a little elbow room.
With Providence Park Hospital the city.

About 470 square feet of office scheduled to open in 2008, and a major expansion already under-way at Twelve Oaks Mall, Saven space could be used at the building.

"These are significant projects that happen once in the life of a community," Saven said. In 2005, Novi was first for commercial projects in the entire state.

is proposing a satellite office at 11 Mile and Beck roads.

Total annual inspection requests increased by 3,648 inspections in 2004, and the annual building department income increased by \$296,840 in 2004, Saven noted that a new, single-family home

equires 20 inspections.

The satellite office would be in the former Fire Station #4 that was abandoned when the new fire sta-tion was built on 10 Mile Road Currently, the building is only being used as a storage facility for Novi Parks, Recreation & Forestry

Saven addressed city council March 6 about the proposed satellite office and departmental staffing

review would help to make recom-mendations on the building depart-Department equipment. An area exists that could be refurbished to ment's needs. "There are some promising leads," Pearson said.
Administration hopes to suggest something to city council by the next council meeting Monday. house building records and add

He said the building department

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Dr. Phillip Robinson

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a time that brought them much joy. And because each senior is gently guided along in a place that looks and feels like home, every day can be a pleasant day.





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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Coffee & Conversation with Cassis

State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) will host coffee and conversation with area residents from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday in the lower level study room at the Highland Township Public Library, 444 Beach Farm Circle in Highland. No appointment is necessary

attend.
Residents may contact Cassis by c-mail at; senneassis@senate.michigan.gov, or tell free at 1-888-38-NANCY.

ryone is welcome to

Cassis represents the 15th Senate District, which includes Highland, Holly, Lyon, Milford Novi, Rose, West Bloomfield and White Lake; as well as the villages of Holly, Milford and Wolverine Lake; and the cities

of Novi, Northville (the portion in Oakland County), Orchard Lake, South Lyon, Walled Lake

Celebrate St. Baldrick's

Everyone knows about St. Patrick's Day. But do you know about St. Baldrick's Day? St. Baldrick's Day was estab-

lished to raise awareness and

funds to conquer kids' cancer by shaving heads. This year, the city of Walled Lake will cele-brate its first St. Baldrick's Day from 2-6 p.m. Saturday at the Walted Lake Fire Half on Maple Road just west of Decker Road An afterglow party will follow at Casey's Irish Sports Pub at 1003 E. West Maple Road. The

public is invited.

Jameson and Emily MacBeth.

a Walled Lake couple who lost, their daughter to cancer four

years ago, organized the event.
They challenge everyone to
join them by coming out and
having their head shaved or sup port the "shavees" by making a tax-deductible donation to the St. Baldrick's Foundation

To see a complete list and pic-ture of the local "shavees," make a donation, or learn more about the event visit www.St.Baldricks.org. or call 888-899-BALD.

Ice arena has hot water

Clay Pearson, interim city manager, reported in a March 9 memo that one boiler has been repaired to provide hot water a the Novi Ice Arena. The playing surface ice is





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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

continued from page 5

being made with cold water and is reported to be of good quality. Mechanical and plumbing professionals said insufficient water storage in the equipmen was the main source of the hot

water boiler issue. The arena, located on Arena Drive between Nine Mile and 10 Mile roads, has two 200-gallon boilers which continually drain and refill during prime tim

The cold water flow creates sation which caused parts

of the boiler to corrode.

The city is working to obtain unother 200 gallons of addition-al storage this week. The second boiler is scheduled for repair

Retirees group honored

The Society of Active Retirees, SOAR, an adult learning program of Wayne State University, was recently selected as "Non-Credit Program of the Year" by the Association for Continuing Higher Education (ACHE) Region VI which includes Illinois, Indiana, Ohio Michigan, Wisconsin and south-

The award was presented dur-ing the association's Region VI/ICCE joint conference March

The mission of SDAR is to courses as well as social enrich-

Revigator of the Sees'

Mariner of the Sens'

7-Night Eastern/Western Caribbean August 6, 13, 20, 37; September 19.17, 24; Octobe 1, 22, 29; November 12, 26; Depender 3, 17, 2008

Explorer of the Seas'

9-Night Eastern Carthbean August 11, 25; September 8, 200

Les Brescheiten

dight Eastern/Western Caribbean mber 15 & 30, 2006; October 14 & 21, 2006

ties for active adults. be a community-based initiat member-driven and member-

run, but always in collaboration with Wayne State University. Classes are offered to active adults and cover a wide range of interests and topics. A secondary goal of the organization has always been to provide apportunities for social interaction

among members.
Classes are taught by WSU volunteer faculty, both active and retired, along with volunteer faculty from other area universities and colleges, and/or by committee-approved professional persons from the local area.

Mail-in registration for the spring term ends tomorrow, and final walk-in registration takes place April 4-5 at the WSU Oakland Center at 33737 West 12 Mile Road in Farmington

Those who are not SOAR members may obtain a class schedule and registration form by calling the SOAR office at (248) 489-0005 or by visiting the association's Web site at WWW.LL.WAYNE.EDU.

Solar power at Civic Center?

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lingrade from Acons View to Ralcony for Oaly \$49

Offer from March 3 to March 16, 2006

During a business retention visit to Novi Energy, Clay Pearson, interim city manager learned that there was interest in exploring grant funding for solar power at the Novi Civic Center. The idea is to provide the city

with a cost-saving and environ entally-friendly program.
The firm advised Pearson that preparing this for administra-

As the grant deadline is tomorrow, Pearson suggested that the city proceed with completing and filing the grant application by the deadline, with the provision that it could be rithdrawn by council at Monday's meeting.

Book 'em, says Law

State Rep. David Law announced he will sponsor a book giveaway for area children in honor of March is Reading

The giveaway will be Saturday, March 25, from 1-2 p.m. at the Commerce Township Library, 2869 North Pontiac

"March is Reading Month is a great time to focus on the importance of reading to chil-dren," said Law, R-Commerce Township, "This event will be an opportunity for children to receive free books.

The available books titles are geared for grade- and middle books is limited to one book per attending child and available on a first come first served basis. For more information contact Law's office at 1-888-496-4968 or davidlaw@house.mi.gov.

Compiled by Novi News staff

LANSING CONNECTION

The Senate has been taking a closer look at improving the quali-y of education through statewide righ school graduation requirements. Also, the newest edition of the Taxpayer's Guide is now available online and through my office.

Senate Education Committee Hits the Road

The Senate Education

Committee, of which I am vice chair, has been traveling across the state, hearing from educators, parents and students on the proposal to improve statewide high school graduation requirements. In the past few weeks, I was pleased to Township and Clinton Township. Our last stop will be in Milan,

Michigan. State Board of Education member Nancy Danhoff and Deputy State Superintendent Jeremy Hoghes, in their appearances before the committee, have emphasized the keys to education: rigor, relevance and relationships. It is essential to give students high standards, a setting where they under-stand the importance of what they are learning, and how to apply it to the real world.

The requirements would be increased from the current one credit in civies to four credits each in math and English, three credits each for science and social science one in arts and one in health and physical education. Incorporating these subject areas in both college and career/technical pathways will

prepared to compete well upon

The Financial Information Regarding the K-16 Proposal

The Senate Fiscal Agency, who provides non-partisan legis analysis, has released their estimates of the K-16 Coalition's pro posal to write guaranteed educa-tion funding increases into Michigan's Constitution. The peti

tions for this are currently being reviewed by the Secretary of State to determine if they have sufficient signatures. If this is the case and if subsequently approved by voters, it would require annual spending increases for Michigan public schools, community colleges and miversities canal to the U.S. numer Price Index - the rate of inflation - on a yearly basis; Money would also be earmarked to

What was interesting about this report is that with the exception of community colleges and universities, Michigan has already increased education funding by more than this amount for the 10 years. What this proposal could do is tie the hands of future legislatures by forcing them into making deep cuts in other essential service es like Community Health and

fund teacher retirement plans.

In fact, if the proposal was in effect today, Michigan would have to trim half a billion dollars from the budget, or accept substantial tax increases. According to the tax increases. According to the Senate Fiscal Agency, most of this

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retirement benefits rather than go into the classroom. You can obtain a copy of the Senate Fiscal Agency report online at http://www.sen-ate.michigan.gov/sfa/Main/SACpre sentation0301.pdf

Taxpayer's Guide How Available Online

In other news, the 2006 Taxpayers's Guide: Reference for the 2005 Tax Year is now available in a downloadable .pdf format. You can obtain it and other useful guides at the state legislative web site under "publications" at www.legislature.mi.gov or by going directly to www.legisla-ture.mi.gov/documents/publica-tions/faxpayers/Guide.pdf. You can also contact my office and we would be happy to mail it to you.

As always, your comments are welcome and appreciated. You may reach me by e-mail at: senneassis@senate.ttichigan.guv, or toll free at 1-888-38-NANCY.

State Senator Nancy Cassis, a Novi Republican, represents the 15th Senate District, which includes the townships of Commerce, Highland, Holly, Lyon, Milford, Novi, Rose, West Bloomfield and White Lake: us well as the Villages of Holly, Milford and Wolverine Lake; and the cities of Novi, Northville (the portion in Onkland County), Orchard Lake, South Lyon, Walled

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Alleged predator of girl, 13, back in court

Agents arrest teacher in Novi

By Pam Fleming Agents from the Michigan Attorney General's Office arrest-ed a man in Novi March 5 for

that felony criminal charges had been filed against Louis Aaron Pressell, 43, a Mount Clemens

High School teacher From Jan. 11 diagram From Jan. 11 through March 5, Pressell chatted with a 13-yearold girl for the purpose of setting

believed was a 13-year-old girl. He was arrested by Attorney General investigators when he arrived for the meeting.

Pressell was arraigned March 6 in 52-1 District Court in Novi one count of child sexually abu activity and one count of using the Internet to com with a minor to commit child sexually abusive activity.

Holtz set bond at \$300,000, and Pressell was scheduled to be back predators in court for a pre-exam confer

No prior problems at school

TC Wallace, superintendent of Mt. Clemens Public Schools, said Friday that Pressell taught chemistry to 11th graders and 12th esting the Internet to arrange to meet a minor for sex.

Michigan Atturney General
Mike Cox announced March 7
that felony criminal characters.

issue that would be remotely related to this type of conduct."

Pressell was placed on administrative leave without pay March 7,

the day after his arraignment. Wallace said the school has On Murch 5, Pressell drove to only received two calls about the Novi to meet with who he case, and that Pressell will remain on unpaid leave until the court makes a decision in the case.

> Pressell's classes and is interview ing for a replacement if one is needed. "We won't fill the job until there's a disposition by the court," Wallace said, "We have to assume

Since its restructuring, Cox's Child and Public Protection Unit has prosecuted 83 Internet sexual predators. Cox encourages par-

www.michigan.gov/ag for tips on pected Internet child predators via the Report Internet Abuses

resell had no prior problems at the keport Internet Abuses Presell had no prior problems at the school.

"He's considered to be an excellent instructor," Wallace said. "We had no indication of any their child's teacher is an Internet in the child's teacher in the child t sexual predator. My office will continue to track down those who seek to harm Michigan's children

and bring them to justice."

Child sexually abusive activity is a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison and/or a \$100,000 fine.

cate with a minor to commit child sexually abusive activity is also a felony and is punishable by up to 20 years in prison and/or a \$20,000 fine.

Pum 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.

Man pleads guilty in trafficking

■ Women held in Livonia, Novi

By Pam Fleming

A Livonia man pleaded guilty March 8 to crimes relating to holding several Eastern European women against their will in Livonia and Novi and forcing them to work at Detroit area strip

Aleksandr Maksimenko, 26, appeared before U.S. District Judge Victoria A. Roberts in federal court.

Maksimenko pleaded guilty to

multiple unlawful conspiracies, including deprivation of civil rights by involuntary servitude, illegal transportation and harbor-ing of aliens, and money launder-A naturalized U.S. citizen born in the Ukraine, Maksimenko was arrested in February 2005. He is

one of the ringleaders in a con-spiracy to force Eastern European in Detroit area strip clubs.
Another ringleader, Michail
Aronov, a Lithuanian citizen from
the Chicago area, pleaded guilty
a similar charge in Santamber. to similar charges in September

took advantage of several Eastern European women by enticing them to come to the United States and then holding them in bondage for commercial and sexual exploitation," said U.S. Attorney

these women in escaping and bringing their condition to the attention of law enforcement brought an end to their involun-lary servitude and to the violence and intimidation perpetrated by the defendants," Murphy said. Maksimenko admitted that he

and his business partners illegally brought in Eastern European women and used the guise of a legitimate business, Beauty Search, Inc., to cover their crimi-

nal conduct.

He said they smuggled the women into the U.S. and compelled them through threats and coercion to work as dancers in strip clubs.
To get the women to comply to their demands, the men confiscated their passports; imposed large debts on them; and enforced rules designed to the control of t strip clubs.

designated to isolate the dancers

m potential rescuers through interrogations, monetary penal-ties, physical violence and threats. They also searched the

According to Aronov's plea agreement, Maksimenko forced the dancers to engage in non-con-sensual sexual relations with him, by intimidating and threatening them with arrest and deportation Stephen J. Murphy. them with arrest and deportation and by reminding them that they and by reminding them that they are the courage shown by two of them.
Although Maksimenko faces a

statutory maximum sentence of up to 40 years in prison, the par-ties agreed that under federal sen-The specific sentence within

this range will be determined by the court after a hearing to deter-mine whether he sexually abused any of the women. Under the terms of the plea bargain, Maksimenko will also pay at least \$957,050 in restitution for

July 27. With Maksimenko's plea, seven people have now been convicted of crimes associated with the traf

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@gunnett.com.

POLICE REPORT

Man charged in identity theft

William McCusker, 47. of Novi was arraigned
March 8 in 18th District Court in Westland on Michigan Stale Trooper John Gora of the Metro South Post sald McCuske worked us a security guard at the Walter P. Reuther

Psychiatric Center in Westland had access to payroll information and used a hat he owed money on the coan and that McCuster, inter confested to the single of the

Thefts at Andiamo's

A 48-year-old West Bloomfield man renorted to someone stole his credit card from his car at Andiamo's Restaurant off of Grand River-

The man said the card was stolen from his Jeep Cherokee said that he didn't know exactly when he last saw the card, bu the only time anyone would have had access to his car was when he had it valet parked at Andiamo's. Nothing else was

missing from the car.

He told police that he received a phone call from his credit card company who was reporting sound arrivity on his card and asked him if he had made pursaid he did not and learned the card was missing at that time.

Police interviewed the valet the valet workers who was working that night lives somewhere in the Clinton Township area where purchases were made with the

The victim did not want to

and 2 a.m. Feb. 5.

The woman said her Fendi purse, three credit cards, a cell phone, driver's license, checkbook and \$110 in cash was stoler room. She and her husband stayed at the restaurant until clos-ing to see if the purse and con-tents would turn up, but nothing

was found. When she called to cancel the credit cards, the company told her two of the cards were used in Southfield at Crystal Marks. Th woman even called her own cell ione, but the suspects hung up

Vandalism in Gatsby's lot

A 23-year-old Highland man told police at 6:04 p.m. Feb. 9 window out of his vehicle between 9 p.m. Feb. 2 and 10:30 a.m. Feb. 3 at Gatsby's restaurant on Grand River Avenue

The man told police that he parked his 2004 silver Toyota Corolla in the parking lot of the when he decided to get a ride home from a friend because he

When he returned to his c ine next morning, he found the in a separate incident, a 49 back window smashed out and year old Milford woman fold select found a dent in the tronk police at 445 nm Feb. 5 that was and scrape marks and dents on the purse, was stolen from the selection of the purse, was stolen from the selection and se was stolen from the driver's side door above the objectives 9 p.m. Feb. 4 window



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BUSINESS

Water-free urinals keep money from going down the toilet; installed at Rock

Design around can be environmentally conscious."

Water-free urinals come in two for several years

By Pam Fleming

John Bowen says using water-free urinals at Rock Financial saving a few bucks.

The devices are also environ

mentally friendly and, surprisingly, more sanitary than traditional Howell High School installed

them at its new football facility. according to Bowen, and they're in structures as diverse as the Taj Bowl Stadium in Pasadena, Calif.:

Bowen, executive director and general counsel for the Novi exhipition and conference center on building has about 30 of the water-free urinals.

Although water-free urinals are available for a few years, according to Bowen. Blair Bowman, Rock Financial

Showplace owner, said Sloan They work well, and every-

towman said. "It's not going to he a huge net savings, but we like

Business Briefs

types: ones that use a cartridge and ones that don't. Rock Financial nals with the disposable cartridges with a biodegradable scalant liquid that is lighter than urine and acts as an odor trap.

The cartridge traps sediment but allows urine to flow into the sanitary drain. The cartridge mus be replace about every 6,000-7,000 uses.

The more expensive water-free urinals without a cartridge have a ceramic siphon cast into the body of the device that serves as a sediment and odor trap.

The urinal is flushed out with water, and the sealant liquid is

ing Los Angeles' water supply by Dr. William S. Comanor, Ph.D., professor of economics, University of California at Santa Barbara, "The amount of water that could be saved by adopting the new technology could easily approach three-quarters of a bil-lion to a billion gallons annual-

a mildly acidic spray cleaner

35 percent in the fourth quarter over last year's fourth quarter.

nereased to \$27.7 million in

ctary iron-delivery product, Soluble Ferric Pyrophosphate (SFP), reduced earnings four

per share was a loss of three cents as compared to break-even in the fourth quarter of 2004. Net loss

2005 were \$.01 as compared to \$.02 in 2004. Investments in FDA approval costs for SFP during 2005 totaled \$.04 per share. 2005

profit of \$76,808 was reduced by \$350,000 for SFP related expens-

Five percent of chief financial

officers in the Detroit area expect to add staff during the second quarter of 2006, and 5 percent

Financial Hiring Index. Results are up two points from the first-quarter 2006 forecast. The major

ity of respondents, 88 percent, anticipate no change in hiring. The local results reflect a two

ing to the most recen

mings per share for

of \$274,040 in the fourth quart ided \$186,000 of drug product spending for SFP related expenses. Earnings per share

cents per share in 2005.

percent over 2004. Sales

manufacturer or the same cleaner

Hats on at Twelve Oaks Twelve Oaks Mall announced the opening of Lids, specializing in baseball hats.

Located on the Upper Level, near JCPenney, Lids features hats college: Styles range from classic logos to the latest trends in color and style. Sizes range from tod-dler through adult. In addition to paseball hats. Lids also sells other sports memorabilia, such as Red Wings jerseys and T-shirts. This location also offers a perrems nurchased in the store, or Shopping hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday.

Novi-based DeMaria Building omnany has been hired by Next Alternative Fuel Platform Phase 2 project. The new station will vdrogen fueling. Located in Tech Town, just

north of Wayne State University the project is funded in part by BP and the U.S. Department of Commerce five-year fuel cell ini \$340,000. The City of Detroit

also hired DeMarin as general contractor for a hydraulic hoist oit. Total value of the project is \$5 million. And Philadelphia-based Aramark has hired DeMaria to University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus. Total value of the project is \$625,000.

nent of Transportation has

Neena Peketi, owner of Neena's Eyebrow Shaping, will celebrate her business' grand opening Sunday in Novi. Peketi offers threading, a traditional Indian form of facial hair Peketi said threading is a very

precise method and allows greater control in perfecting eyerow shapes. Peketi has been practicing Peketi has been past six years. Her salon is located at 24301 Catherine Industrial Road. Suite 122. For more information

How much do they save?

Multiplying each use by 1.6 gallons of water (to compare to low-flow toilets) or by 3.5 (to compare to older units) shows a savings of 9,600 to 24,500 gallons of water per cartridge. For more information about water-free urinals, contact the Sloan Valve Company's local manufacturer's representative, Diversified Spec Sales in Oak Park, at (248) 398-2490 or visit

been found to reject odor better than fiberglass models.

There is some expense involved in the chemicals owners have to but manufacturers of water-free urinals can show they still save facilities money in both water and maintenance costs.

The pieces say "water-free urinul" right on the apparatus in case there's any confusion for users Rock Financial Showplace pur-

Company, headquartered in Franklin Park, Ill., but other com-The device has attracted the

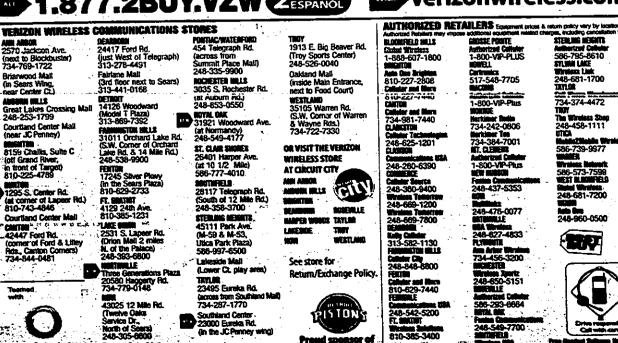
it." Bowen said. "I haven't had

Good Neighbor. **GREAT RATES** our money? Call your local State Farm agent today for 4.35%APY 4.45%APY 180 days 4.50%APY* 4.55%APY 4.60%APY 4.65%APY* Bank.

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PEOPLE

Names in News

ower Automotive, Inc. ounced Paul Radkoski has joined the company as senior vice president, global purchasing. Based at the corporate headquar-ters in Novi, he will be a member of the company's senior leader-ship team reporting directly to

Kathleen Ligocki, president and CEO of the company. Radkoski, age 46, will be charged with further developing global purchasing and supply-base management strategies. He will also work closely with North American Operations to manage.

supply logistics through the continued restructuring of the region's manufacturing opera-As a seasoned automoty execution industry executive, Paul brings key expertise that will assist in fully integrating Tower's pur-chasing processes around the

globe," said Ligocki.
Siace 2000, Radkoski las been
with Visteon Corp. where he held
senior positions in purchasing
and materials management. Most
recently, he was vice president,
North American purchasing and supplier management. Prior to joining Visteon, Radkoski was with Lear Corp. where he was director of purchasing from 1997 to 2000. Earlier in his career, he

held manufacturing and logistics positions at BMW, as well as purchasing and logistics posi-tions at Honda of North America. Radkoski, a native of

Novi-based Macorofessionals

staff development for the firm 20 engineers. Additionally, he is charged with ensuring quality control and leading the enterpris server and directory integration

teams. Ross has been with Macprofessionals for more than five years. He was previously senior technician. He resides in Canton, Mich.

ENGAGEMENT



Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Wallace, Sr. of Novi announce the engage-ment of their daughter, Angela Joy Wallace to Charan Leng, son of

wattace to Charan Leng, son of Saky Neov of Boston and the late Chen-Chanrden.

The bride-elect is a 1991 graduate of Mercy High School. She carned a bachelor of science and a master of business adminis tration degree in 2000 from the University of Michigan. She is currently employed as a Strategic Market Manager at Altra Industrial Motion, Quincy, Mass.

The groun-elect is a 1992 grad-uate of Revere High School, Boston and a 1997 graduate of the University of Massachuseits with a bachelor of science degree in Microbiology. He is currently employed as an Associate Scientist at Cytyc Corporation, Mariborough, Mass.

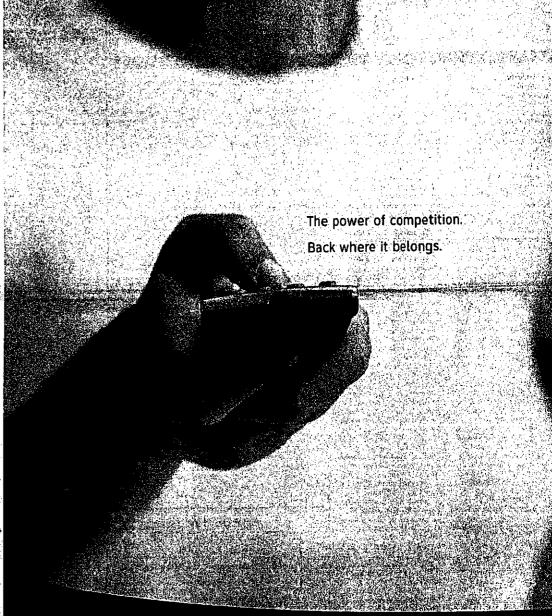
> Visit us on the Web: WWW. novinews.



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The Michigan Legislature can be the catalyst.

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Wiferen: Majarol south testering equiples of south is sent

HEALTH

Free home delivery for diabetics

■ American Diabetic Supply expands in Novi

By Tracy Mishler

Bill Carlin holds the key to finding supplies for all diabetic needs.

American Diabetic Supply and his wife, Vicki, recently relocated and expanded his business to Beck Road in Novi. First starting the family owned

and operated business in Farmington Hills in 1996, Carlin, a resident of Novi, said after 10 years it was time to expand. "We're in about 14 states, and

business comes primarily from even know it." said, "We've got a lot of cus-tomers in Novi. We now are more

American Diabetic Supply is committed to providing cus-tomers with quality service and products that offer free home delivery with no up-front out-of-pocket expenses. "(Diabetes) can affect anyone at any are." Carlin said. "(Peonle)

at any age," Carlin said, "(People) think that it's a death sentence, and it's not. People are very mis-informed about diabetes,"

"Most people on the street think you have to weigh 300 pounds. No. That's not the case." According to the American Diabetes Association, more than 20.8 million children and adults suffer from diabetes in the U.S.

Carlin said his company prima-

rily focuses on testing supplies. "We just got into therapeutic shoes," he said, "Some diabetics have nerve damage in their feet ... You could stub your too and not

Offering more, no hassles

Diabetic Supply Location: 28317 Beck 1 Road, building E. Suite 18

American

Web site: www.diabeticsuppliesrus.com

Contact: (800) 477-4785 Offers: Lancets, lancing devices, therapeutic shoes, inserts, moist heating pads, testing strips and monitors. American Diabetic Supply offers free delivery anywhere in the U.S., direct insurance

billing and fast, friendly serv-

molded to a person's foot and fit into a custom shoe.

"It's almost like a retail storefront environment," Carlin said. "There are about 18 different American Diabetic Supply almost as if you went into a shoc

American Diabetic Supply also offers moist heating pads and uplift seats for arthritis

patients.
Carlin said his main reason for starting the business in 1996 was seeing a need for diabetic eare and maintenance through home

"So many people are confused as to what insurance coverage they have and what they will pay for," he said, "it's a state law that all diabetic supplies are paid for

by insurance, irregardless of what insurance you have." Carlin said his company works directly with Medicare and other insurance companies.

"We hill them directly ... No paperwork or forms for you to fill out," he said, "We mail your supplies directly to your home so you are never without your diabetic needs."

for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at imishler@gameti.com.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

American Diabetic Supply owner Bill Carlin, right, shows a custom designed shoe to customer Robert We

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR **TEMPORARY USE PERMIT** TUP 06-007

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Discount Tire Co. is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow a tent sale at 42990 Grand River Avenue, from April 24, 2006 through April 29, 2006. A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a struc-ture located within 300 feet of the boundary of the proporty being con-

eldered for lemporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 10:00 a.m. on March 17, 2006 at the Novi Chite Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to Sarah Marchioni and must be received prior to March 17, 2005.

(3-16-06 NN 273105)

SARAH MARCHION BUILDING PERMIT COORDINATOR (248) 347-0418

Ongregational Church will return to the video series "Onestions of Faith." The viden is sion. Each class will meet

Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. Meadowbrook is located at 21355 Meadowbrook Road in Novi. The church can be reached at 248-348-7757 or at

www.inboce.org. Normal Sunday worship service For further information, ask for

Rev. Dr. E. Neil Hunt, Minister of Meadowbrook. The Episcopal Church of the Huly Cross offers a worship serv-

ice every Wednesday from 12:10-12:50 p.m. Come and share your lunch hour with God at a worship ervice that includes scripture and loly Communion. The church 7:45 and 10 a.m. Nursery care is available at 10 a.m. worship service. (The nursery is coordinated by a registered pediatric nurse.) Adult Bible Study is Sundays at

9 a.m. Worship Center for children s 3-7, and Sunday School is at

Worship Service of Compline is held at 8:30 p.m. Rite 13 (ages 11-14) and 12A (ages 14 and up) groups meet at 5 p.m. for their program and dinner. Youth Worship Service is held at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Sunday of

every month; all are welcome.

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi, Call (248) 427-

· 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 mursery care is avail-able at both services.

Dr. Henderson will be leaching an Amos and Hosea class on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Cost for the book and class is \$19.

Women's Bible Study, led by lann Martin, is the first dnesday and Thursday of each

month, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m The church is located at 444(X) W, 10 Mile Road in Novi. Call (248) 349-2345, or visit

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) 912-0043. The church meets at Novi High School. St. James Catholic Church is located at 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi, Call (248) 347-7778.

· First United Methodist Church of Northville will be hosting a community-wide l 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. A one day women's retreat will be held 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 25. Registration begins at 9:30 that morning. The \$20 fee includes continental breakfast and

Church worship hour schedules are as follows: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. on Sundays. The church is located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road (at Taft Road), Northville, For more information, call (248) 349-1144,

or visit www.fumenorthville.org. . St. John Lutheran Church is located at 23225 Gill Road in Farmington Hills, Saturday service begins at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday

study at 10 a.m. Call (248) 474-0584 or visit Crosspointe Meadows Church meets Sundays at

traditional services are at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday contemporary service begins at 9:50 a.m. and Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. Nursery is provided.
Prayer each Friday begins at
9:30 a.m. followed by adult bible

Meadowbrook Elementary School. Services are at 9 and 10:30 a.m. Fresh brewed hot coffee is available from 10-10:30 a.m. The church also has children's programs for all ages and a nursery of St. Paul's, 4 p.m. Sunday, May 21. The church is located at 201 The church is located at 29200

Meadowbrook Road, just south of 13 Mile Road, For more informaion, call (248) 427-2700 Monday p.m. or www.crosspointemead-• St. Paul Lutheran Church in

Northville will be studying the best selling book "Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren during Lent. Over 13,000 churches nationwide have gone through this campaign. St. Paut is hoping to bring this book and study to homes locally. These who already bought the, book and are looking to get more out of it, may sign up for a study group. Books will also be uvailable through the church, Study groups will meet at various home in Northville, Navi, South Lyon, Plymouth, Canton and Livonia. Most will meet Wednesday

 The Baha'i Faith will host a community-wide devotional gathering focusing on prayers for peace at 11 a.m. on the last Saturday of each month at the home of the Kians, 23803 Ripple Creek Street, Novi. Interested par

ties are asked to call in advance, (248) 473-0355, People of all faiths are welcome, "The earth i more information, visit

• St. Paul Concert Series will host Buddy Budson Trio featuring Ursula Walker at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 19. Upcoming concerts are Daniel Foster and Martha Folts Violin and Harpsichord 4 p.m. Sunday, April 30 and The Music

(248) 349-3140 for more informa • The First Presbyterian Church in Northville will be host-ing Dr. Terri Orbuch next Thursday Orborh will be present-

> Dating."
> Thursday, March 30 David Blake will showcase his musical gifts and discuss the Five Languages of Love by Gary Chapman. Thursday evening pro-grains begin at 7130 With social best time followed by the speaker at 8

The workshop meets in the Emerius Room of First Presbyterian Church from 7:30-9:30 Thursday evenings. Child care is available through grade six. Please register for childcare at Divorce Recovery Workshop

The cost of the workshop is \$35 and includes the book "Grawing. Through Divorce."
For more information, or to reg-

ister, call the First Presbyterian Church at (248) 349-0911, or visit www.singleplace.org. The church is located at 200 East Main Street,

Compiled by Ramez Khur

CITY OF NOVI SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE MARCH 22, 2006

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council for the City of Novi will hold a special meeting on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2008 AT 7 PM in the Activities Room at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, for the purpose of tretivening and considering the contents of applications for employment of City Manager.

(3-16-06 NN 273360)

NOTICE - CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT **BLOCK GRANT** MINOR HOME REPAIR

The City of Novi is seeking bid proposals from qualified service providers to manage and administer a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Minor Home Repair Program for the 2008 Program Year peginning July 1, 2008. The program will provide minor home repairs to qualified low and moderate-low income residents of the City of Novi. Bid packages are available at the City of Novi. Office of the Purchasing Director, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi Mi 48375, Bid proposals must include a detailed outline on how the program will be manned and administered.

aged and administered.

Bid proposals will be funded with Community Development Block Grand (CDBG) funds and the administrator must be familiar with, and comply with, all applicable CDBG requirements. When awarded, the term length of the contract will be two (2) years.

Sealed proposals will be received until 3:00 P.M. pravalling Easiern Time, Friday, April 21, 2005 at which time proposals will be opened and read, Proposals shall be addressed as follows:

CAROL 1. KALINDUK PILICAUS PLICAUS DIRECTOR

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

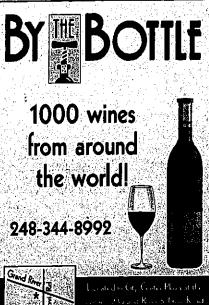
Novi, MI 48375-3024
All proposals must be signed by a legally sutherized agent of the proposing firm. ENVEL OPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED
"CDBG MINOR HOME REPAIR".

AND MUST BEAR THE NAME OF THE PROPOSER.
The City reserves the right to accept any or at a alternative proposals of eward the contract to other than the lowest bidder, to walve any liregarties or informalities or both; to reject any or all piposals; and in genall to make the award of the contract in any manner deemed by the City, the sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the City of Novi.

PURCHASING DIRECTOR

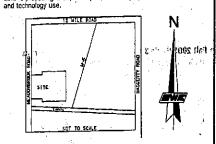
PURCHASING DIRECTOR CARÓL J. KALINOVIK PURCHASING DIRECTOR (248) 347-0446

新疆特别是1998年1月1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1日,1998年1月1日,1998年1日,



CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wadnesday, March 22, 2006 at 7:30 P.M. In the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Read, Novi, Mi to consider MEADOWBROOK CORPORATE PARK PHASE 2. SITE PLAN NUMBER 06-05, FOR PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN, WOODLAND PERMIT. AND STORM WATER MARAGEMENT PLAN APPROVAL. HIS SUBJECT PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN SECTION 13, EAST OF MEADOWBROOK ROAD, SOUTH OF TWELVE MILE ROAD AND NORTH OF 1956 IN THE OST. PLANNED OPPICE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY DISTRICT, The subject property is approximately 4,57 acres and the applicant is proposing a 34,100 sq. ft., one-story speculative office, service and technology use.



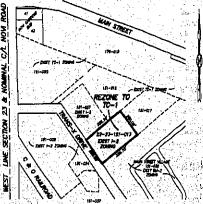
All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 PM., Wednesday, March 22, 2006.

(3-16-06 NN 273358)

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION WAYNE WROBEL, SECRETARY

CITY OF NOVI **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing or Wednesdey, April 5, 2006 at 7,30 PM. In the Novi Citic Center, 45178 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, Mi to consider ZONING MAP AMENDEMENT 18,681 FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING OF PROPERTY IN SECTION 23. NORTH OF TRANS-X DRIVE, EAST OF NOVI ROAD, FROM 1-2, GENERAL, INDUSTRIAL, DISTRICT, TO TC-1, TOWN CENTER DISTRICT, THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS APPROXIMATELY 1,5 ACRES.



To rezone a part of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 23, T.I.N., R.BE., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan being parcel 22-23-151-013 more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point located Due South 1137-18 feel, (previously described as 1137.32 feet), along the West line of Section 23 (normal C/L of Novi Road), and S70*45'00'E, 1096.69 feel, (proviously described as 1096.50 feel), and S53*36*45'W, 299.79 feel, from the Northwest corner of Section 23; thence S38*20'45'E, 200.00 feet (proviously described as S38*20'00'E), thence S38*38'45'E, 200.00 feet (proviously described 38*35'36'E) and Northwest Corner of Section 23; thence S38*38'45'E, 200.00 feet (proviously described 38*38'85'E) and Northwest Victoria Crimes-X Drive, (previously described 38*38'45'E, 326.70, feet to the point of beginning: Containing 1.50 acres:

FROM: 20 GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT
TO: TO: TO: TOWN CENTER 1 DISTRICT
CORDINANCE NO, 18.661

ZONING MAP AMENOMENT NO, 661

ZONING MAP AMENOMENT NO, 661

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verhal comments may be ard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the noting Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 unit 4:00

Planning Department, 3, 2006

EDUCATION

MEAP scores produce gains in every category

have done in the past three years to align the corriculum with the state standards, implementation of the Grade Level Content

performing at a 90 percent range from third grade through eighth. Eighth grade math went from 84 rom third grade through eighth.

Eighth grade math weat from 84
percent to 89 percent from last
percent to 89 percent from last
County, and science from 84 per"Individual student reports will nty, and science from 84 per-

cent to 87 percent.

According to Nancy Davis, assistant superintendent of Davis said teachers and princiwell, do show the district needs to focus more an specific strategies in the elementary grades. She said the earliest learners must master strong writing skills and techniques.

In social studies, students in the fifth grade is 200122.

strong niques.
In social studies, students in the fifth grade in 2004-05 scored 39 percent. But when those same students tested at the sixth grade level in 2005-06, the score leaped 18 percent.

Teachers in each school in from the first properties of the score subjects of reading, writing, mathematics,

About MEAP Scores

Elementary and middle school MEAP assessments are administered in the fall of each school year in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Retests are

not offered. MEAP assessments must be taken the appropriate grade (students must take sev-

enth grade assessments while in seventh grade; dighth grade assessments while in eighth grade)

Each elementary and middle school MEAP content area, i.e. Math, Science, Social Studies

erformance levels:
• Level 1: Exceeded Mi Standards

• Level 3: At Basic Level: 32:113344

Michigan Standards" or "Did Not Meet Michigan Standards. See Elementary and middle school MEAP scores are reported as percentages for example, a score of 42.5 means 42.5% of the students who were

assessed performed at the level of achievement Elementary and middle school MEAP scores are based solely on the number of "included" scores, not on the number of students who may have actually taken the test ("number tested"). "Number included" represents the number of

Reading Writing, and the integrated English lan-guage arts (ELA) assessment, has its own set of valid tests. To assure confidentiality of individual students serves that represent fewer than 10 students are intentionally omitted from reports.

• Level 2: Met MI Standards For more information about MEAP assess-• Level 4: Apprentice The optional Listening portion of the ELA has: ments: call toll free (877) 560-8378 or visit only two performance levels, Met or Exceeded www.michigan.gov/mide

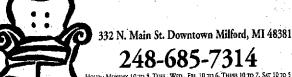
A CONTROL OF THE PARTY OF THE P NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT MEAP SCORES

10 1 1 1 1 1	1				
Fall 2005 Grade 3	A Section	Math	Reading	m, Writing	ELA
Level 1: Exceeded Michigan Standa	ards	78.8%	45%	9.3%	22.3%
Level 2: Met Michigan Standards		18.9%	51.5%	61.3%	70.5%
Level 3: At Basic Level	•	2.3%	2.6%	26.1%	6%
Level 4: Apprentice		- 0%	0.9%	3.3%	1.2%
Met or Exceeded		97.7%	96.5%	70.6% 29.4%	92.8% 7.2%
Not Met		2.3%	3.5% 429	429	430
Number Included		439 439	429	429	430
Number Tested		439	423	425	-100
Fall 2005 Grade 4		Math	Reading	Writing	ELA
Level 1: Exceeded MI Standards		70.2%	37.2%	5.7%	16%
Level 2: Met MI Standards		26.2%	56.2%	63.4%	73.8%
Level 3: At Basic Level	100	2.5%	5.5%	28.5%	9.1%
Level 4: Apprentice	100	1%	1,1%	2.3%	1.1%
Met or Exceeded		96.4%	93.4%	69.1% 30.9%	89.8% 10.2%
Not Met		3.6% 477	6.6% 470	470	470
Number Included		477 477	470	470	470
Number Tested	11.	477	410	710	7/0
Fall 2005 Grade 5	Math	Reading	Science	Writing	ELA
Level 1: Exceeded MI Standards	66.7%	38.2%	48%	4.7%	17.2%
Level 2: Met Mi Standards	24.7%	53.5%	40.2%	69.4%	71.3%
Level 3; At Basic Level	6.7%	5.6%	9,9% 1.9%	23.1% 2.9%	10.1% 1.4%
Level 4: Apprentice	1.9% 91.3%	2.7% 91.7%	88.2%	74%	88.6%
Met or Exceeded Not Met	8.7%	8.3%	11.8%	26%	11.4%
Number Included	519	516	517	516	516
Number Tested	520	516	518	.516	516
	1. 4. V- 9			y	
Fail 2005 Grade 6	Math	Reading S	ocial Studies	Writing	ELA
Level 1: Exceeded MI Standard	65.5%	41%	69.2%	12.6%	27.3%
Level 2: Met MI Standards	24.5%	52.3%	19.7%	75.2%	63.2%
Level 3: At Basic Level	6.7%	5.7%:	5.6%	10.3%	8.4%
Level 4: Apprentice	3.2%	1%	5.4% 88.9%	1,9% 87.8%	90.5%
Met or Exceeded	90.1% 9.9%	93.3% 6.7%	11.1%	12.2%	9.5%
Not Met Number Included	534	524	533	524	524
Number Tested	534	526	533	526	526
Million (card			E-7		
Fall 2005 Grade 7		Malh	Reading	Writing	ELA
Level 1: Exceeded MI Standards		70.4%	37.3%	7.3%	17%
Level 2: Met MI Standards		20.1% -6.6%	54.6% 4.9%	77.5% 14.6%	74.6% 6.3%
Level 3: At Basic Level		2.8%	3.2%	0.6%	2%
Level 4: Apprentice Met or Exceeded		90.5%	91.9%	84.8%	91.7%
Not Met		9.5%	8.1%	15.2%	8.3%
Number Included		497	493	493	493
Number Tested		497	493	493	493
	Balat S	مراجع المحادث	Coloman	Writing	ELÁ
Fall 2005 Grade 8	Math 69.3%	Reading 31.6%	Science 53.3%	18.1%	24.6%
Level 1: Exceeded MI Standards	19.8%	51.8%	33.3%	66.1%	57.7%
Level 2: Met MI Standards Level 3: At Basic Level	7.3%	8.8%	9.4%	12.6%	√ 12.2%
Level 4: Apprentice	3.5%	7.8%	4%	3.2%	.5.5%
Met or Exceeded	89.1%	83.4%	86.6%	84.2%	82.3%
Not Met	10.9%	16.6%	13.4%	15.8%	17.7%
Number included	479	475	478	475	3 475
Number Tested	479	475	478	475	475
		REPORT			震制器
Note: * = Fewer than 10 students in	cuαed.			想。据是	M15030

NATIONAL She added continuous improve-She added continuous improve-ment means continuous analysis and conversations about student learning. This data is just another layer of the measures the state of Michigan and the federal govern-ment are tracking in achieve Adequate Yearly Progress under No Child Left Behind. Ali custom ordered Flexsteel furniture - Including for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@gan-**Sofas, Chairs And Tables** Exclusive to Flexsteel Galleries only! Sale Starts March 16 thru April 4, 2006 Your Nesting Place

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SENIORS

Searching for the right word | Senior Center Calendar

■ Seniors battle it out in fight to be best speller

By Tracy Mishler

Jean McCreedy's word was rap-

rochement. The 80-year-old Redford resi-

which contained more than 20,000 "I went through the entire book,"

the words in the competition, if I could see the word writen, I might be able to stell it."

speller. Max Kirschke, of Milford, wor with the word geisha. "I was very disappointed in

nany times."
O'Brien said she was knocked

"It was just the luck of the draw on whatever word you got," she said. "We all stanted out with the

"There's no mercy shown here,"

brouhaba,
"I'd never even heard that word the spellers, everyone left the com-petition with a certificate, and the top three spellers took home tro

used in a sentence before," said the 80-year-old Northville Township resident. "I was writing everything down and got about 95 percent of the words right. Then 1 got to broubaha, which knocked phies.
"It was a lot of fun," McCreedy said. "I will definitely participal next year."

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi Ne

elling Bee at the Northville

active persons ages 50 and over.

Athletes compete in medal, fibbon and exhibition events, including swimming, volleyball, track and field, softball, cycling, racewalk, shuffleboard

and new softman, evening the wars, summers and bowling, golf, tennis and more. Many events are expected to take place near the Older Persons Commission facility in Rochester. The garnes will take place August 6-11, 2007 and August 4-9, 2008. August 4-9, 2008,
Miller's goal is to raise \$70,000 to cover the

Miller's goal is to raise \$70,000 to cover the cost of the garnes. To date, she has commitments from Oakland County Parks and Rochester Community Schools for in-kind services.
"The social aspect is also very important. The athletes enjoy meeting people from around the state. The opening feremonies include a dinner and a balt," she said. "The seniors usually spend a few days in the area. They don't just come for their competition and leave. We'd like to show them a cond time." them a good time." nore information or to receive a registration

booklet for the 2006 games (July 8-15 in Kalamazoo), calf 1-800-400-8161 or 248-608-0250 or visit www.michiganseniorolympics.org

The 80-year-old rection are sold ready representing the Novi Senior Center, was among several seniors competing in the Senior Spelling Bee last Thirtschy afternoon at the Northville Senior Center.

"I was a little nervous," McCrowly Said "luss to be a good McCrowly Said "luss to be a good

McCreedy said. "I use to be a good peller and I'm glad I got as far as I

McCreedy said she studied a book a friend gave her from 1944.

she said. "I figured after seeing the words in the book and then getting the words in the competition, if I

More than 40 seniors from Milford, South Lyon, Highland Township, Northville and Novi competed to be the top senior

myself," said 70-year-old Agnes O'Brien. "I misspelled a word (medieval) that I had practiced

out of the competition close to the

idea that we were going to do fine. It's a lot harder than you think." Some of the words given during the spelling bee included, epitheli-

said Rachel Zagaroli, scnior servic-es director for the Novi Senior

Senior Community Center. do a lot of crossword puzzles. I'v spellers," she said. "It's really competitive ... a thought process Marion Cowan lost to the word No matter what word stumped

Novi's Marion Cowan attempts the word "brouhaha"

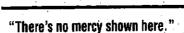
during last week's Senior Sp

I'can't even say."

Zagaroli said the Novi seniors

Cowan said she'd like to compete for the Novi News She can be a gain, representing the Novi Senior reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. and nonth from a book of the most common misspelled words.

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News She can be a gain, representing the Novi Senior reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. and the Novi Senior reached at (248) 349-17



Rachel Zagaroli Senior services director for the Novi Senior Center



Friday 3/17 8:45 a.m. Panera Bread 9 a.m. Streich and Strength held at Novi Civic Center 12:30 p.m. Dupl. Bridge 12:30 p.m. Bingo cancelled 2-2:30 p.m. Massage Monday 3/20

 9 a.m.
 Stretch and Strength

 10 a.m.
 Body Recall

 11:30 a.m.
 Goodie Lady

 noon
 Land
 ...Pinochle* 2-2:30 p.m. Massage by appointment 6:30 p.m. Clogging* Tuesday 3/21

8:30 am. 9 a.m. Line Dance*
10 a.m. Asian Pacific

11 am. Taking Oil Pounts Schamy
Lunch
Lunch Thursday 3/23 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Income Taxes by appointment 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. AARP Driver Safety Program noon Lanch 1-3 p.m. Computer Lab open
2-2-30 p.m. Massage
* Activities will be held at the Nort Civic Center, 45175

Wednesday 3/22

SENIOR BRIEFS

Senior Olympics changes

Fresh on the heels of the Winter Olympics rress of the teets of the winter opinions comes news of another type of athletic event.

These ganies are for active adults over 50.

Marye Miller, Michigan Senior Olympics chair-

person, is excited to announce the games are mov-ing to Oakland County for 2007 and 2008. This summer the games take place in Kalamazzo.

"We expect a greater participation of athletes since Oakland County is so heavily populated with the 50+ generation," Miller said, "We expended to 1,000 athletes, Plus, we'll recruit 400 volu teers and have another several hundred in specia-

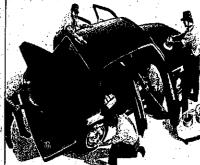
tors."

Miller believes moving the games will have a positive impact on Oakland County.

"This is a chance for Oakland County husinesses to get involved in something positive and sup-port the seniors," she said.

Michigan Senior Olympics is a non-profit organization that promotes healthy lifestyles by organizing state games, sports competitions plus health, fitness, nutrition and wellness programs for

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Above: Fifth grader at Novi Meadows Elementary School have been rock climbing during physical education.
According to Colleen Wandel, fifth grade P.E. teacher,
Indoor rock climbing is one of the fastest growing activities today, it simultaneously develops coordination,

"Stranger" scoop Right: Robert and Laura Sams, narrator's in the movie: Stranger in the

'Stranger in the Woods" by

Carl Sams II and Jean

The two took students on

a journey from the original ideas to the finished pro-

duct. They emphasized

that involves choices. The

interactive program fea-

tured original music from

Stranger in the Woods: The Movie. Students sang,

danced, made unimal nois

graphs and heard some of

the authors' inside stories

Waiting for rating

Above: Alyssa Kochyan and Caitlin Herbert, members of

the Novi High School wind ensemble, await the rating of the band's performance at South Lyon High School

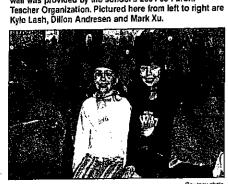
es, helped edit photo-

Staick.

Woods, came to visit Deerfield Elementary School recently. The movie was inspired by the book,

strength, flexibility and cardiovascular fitness.

Additionally, important life skills like problem solving, goal setting, perseverance, inner confidence and patience are being learned in this unit. The school is using a traverse climbing wall to host many exciting activities. At its highest point, the wall measures 10 feet and is just over 30 feet long. Participants climb horizontally across the wall. The rock wall was provided by the school's 2004-05 Parent



Striped

March 4. It was a great day for the Novi Band program, Above: The children in Kim Deinek's first grade class at Orchard Hills Elementary School performed a play called "How the Chipmunk Got its Stripes." This story is a Native America legend and is part of the first grade genre study. Students performed for their parents and a New York first grade classiform via antellite fast 1.2 % Thursday, as part of "Read Across America." Here, Alena Duckworth and Mia Althoiz play the role of chipmunks.

MY HOMETOWN

Visit us on the Web;

PHOTO CONTEST

he Novi Historical Commission and the Novi News are looking for photographs that best represent Novi. Judges will select the top three who will win \$100, \$50 or \$25.



Shown is Mary M. Drafta's "Best Hamburgers in Town"

Deadline for entries is Nov. 3.

Go to www novinews com-

Book Time

Above: Novi Woods students kicked off "March is

Reading" month with a reading assembly starring Ronald McDonald. The assembly was sponsored by Claude and

Teresa Murphy, owners of the McDonald's restaurant at 10 Mile and Grand River and long time Novi Woods support-

ers. Pictured from left to right are first graders Ryan Heffernan, Alexa Hatz, Joyce Cucksey and Jack Heffer

In this year's Women in the Know coming in May!

Reserve your space by April 14th 2006 contact your sales representative for more information.

Control of the second of the s

OPINION

Novi News

Grace Perez Perry SENERAL MANAGER

Richard Periberg

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

WHERE WE STAND

MEAP test: Improvements say much about Novi

With all the recent negativity created by the Deerfield I redistricting issue in the Novi school district, it's refreshing to note that local students in third through eighth grade showed improvement in every category of the MEAP test compared to the previous year results.

Whether you like it or not, the Michigan Educational Assessment Program has been the benchmark for measuring learning progress for years. The categories include math, science, social studies, reading writing and integrated English language arts.

Although the numbers can be confusing at first (see results on page 13), the one to watch is "Met or Exceeded" Michigan standards. Consistently, Novi's percentages are

Congratulations, students!

But let's also give credit where it's due - to the teachers and administrators for working to make sure Novi's curriculum aligns with the state's standards and increasing progress assessment.

This district is meeting the challenges of No Child Left Behind and is striving to hit Adequate Yearly Progress. Sure, there's always room to improve, and it appears Nancy Davis, the district's assistant superintendent of instructional services, is going to make sure that continues to happen.

Parents will be receiving reports soon. We encourage you to review them and to ask questions, but also to say thanks to those who are making sure your children are receiving a great education.

"And the winner is..."

78th annual Academy Awards winners will have been announced and everyone will know which actors, actresses and directors took home Oscars, 1 I've got a special interest in itthis year. One of the nominees

for Best Full Length Documentary features people I know, people who I share an interest with, and people whose wheelengirs I've rat cast of "Murderball" "Murderball" is the original

name for one of sports, Quad rugby. It's an all-out, full contact sport for quadri-plegic athletes. Athletes strap forced wheelchairs that can

take a beating. The game itsel involves moving ball from one end anyone who's in

your way.
"Murderhall" is the story of the US Quad ruby wheelchair king its way to the interanal Paralympic Games. The between the American national team and their Canadian counter-It certainly has my yold for Best Full Length
Documentary because it tells so many sides of the game; the team rivalries, the international the best, and the personal tri-

umphs of the players.

Quad righy was introduced in the United States in 1981, and the United States Quan Rugby Association was established in 1988. There are more than fortyfive organized teams in the U.S., and Michigan's "Great Lakes Storm" quad rughy team, sponcurrently ranked #14 in the nation. The "Great Lakes Storm" ted a tough Chicago eam (ranked 12th) to win the Heartland Regional tournament and will move on to the sectional

ats seeded 3rd with the top 4 teams moving on to the National teams in the nation with the 1st 8th ranked teams competing for the division I national title and teams 9-16th competing for the Division 2 national title If this encourages you to auch "Murderball" at home on

DVD, you may also want to get involved in the many other wheelchair snorts activities avail able here in Michigan. They aren't all as rugged as "Murderball"! For example, Michigan Wheelchai MPVA One Step

table tennis

field events

friend Ray Brown of North

ranked sevent

the javelin, in the top 15 in the shot put, and top 25 in the dis-

experienced up-and-coming ath eres who'll look at Ray as a

local gold. Ray is a former U.S.

Marine, a man living with mus-cular dystrophy, but far more important is his status as a

If you want to know more

about the Academy Awards and who won an Oscar, you'll need

to look somewhere else. But it you want to learn more about

people whose determination and

their lives through sports, take a look at "Murderball" and visit

www.stornrugby.com then con-

Veterans in Novi at (248) 476-

9000 for more information about

sports and recreation for wheel-chair aihletes.

for the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America, Novi. He

can be reached at (248) 476-

world-class athlete.

cus. There will also be less-

spiration as they go for t

in the world in

12-13 in Sterling Heights, athlete will compete in howling, bil-liards, swimwell as track and

Shoot not the messenger

LETTE

Fixing division causes disadvantages

The Novi School Superintendent remarked in the Feb. 23 issue of the Detroit Free Press that all the Nevi schools are quality schools. While I agree that all the Novi schools are of the school board treat the schools equally. This is misleading, because they do not treat the schools equally as they have given
Deerfield four significant advantages that the other schools do not have.

1. Deerfield has a large state-of-the-art building with project areas that the other schools do not have. I think they did the right thing by designing it that way, because the building should be adequately sized and mod-ern. However, it still belongs in the advantage column when compared to the other elemen-

tary schools.

2. Deerfield has middle school volunteers. that help out for free every day, Wouldn't any institution be more productive if it had extra help? Why can't middle school sludents be based to the other elementary schools, help out, and then ride the elementary bus home

3. Deerfield gets to cap its entollment while the school nearest to it suffers overcrowding. This still doesn't make sense to me since Deerfield has buses driving down all the same streets that Parkview does. Why can't some uliustments be made for the 2006/2007 year?

4. Deerfield has always offered 100-per full-time kindergatten, while all the other schools are only allowed to offer a smaller percentage of full-time. Children who attend full-time are better prepared for first grade, so a school that offers 100-percent will be more productive than a school that offers less. Further, if a family were to buy an academic half-day to supplement their child's education the cost would be at least \$3,000, so this is a his advantage for the families at the school n with the four full-time classes added, it s still Deerfield 100-percent and other

schools a percentage. The last three issues could be changed, but the board has barely addressed them over the last six years. Why does it take so long when six years is a kinderganner's lifetime? The school board seems to place new schools on a pedestal and only very gradually brings equality to the other schools.

Why does the board see progress and equality as mutually exclusive goals? When confronted with questions of inequality, the board and their supporters always deflect the question by saying all the schools are good,

Families living within the vicinity of Deerfield have always had a disproportionary high access to the benefits of the school because they are the ones most likely to ser their kids to that school. The decision to make Deerfield a neighborhood school guarantees families living near Deerfield greater access to Deerfield for the 2006/2007 year because families in other areas are less likely to apply. knowing their children will have to be moved the following year. The board has therefore disadvantaged children from the other areas relative to the Deerfield area.

If you don't believe that last statement, look at what area of the school district 2006/2007 year. You will see it is the Deerfield area that gets the most full-time, and the farther a student lives from that area, the less likely the child will get full-time.

The above inequalities do not match the vision of the Novi Community School District, which states "Meets the individual learning needs of all students." How does giv ing ongoing preference to one school or area achieve that goal? As a taxpayer, I'm appailed by the board's ongoing actions of preferential

Another problem with these big inequality issues is that the other benefits of Deerfield do not shine as brightly as they should. I credit the principal, the teachers, the more individualized learning, and the multi-age classrooms as being the true strengths of Deerfield. It's a shame that the board hasn't brought these other benefits to our attention more; instead,

they simply grow the inequality.

I really don't see this as a my-neighborhood versus your-neighborhood situation. It is a situation where the folks who value equality must speak up every time the board creates greater situation of inequality. Please consider that if the board disadvantages my neighborgood this time while saying they are "lixing division," they might disadvantage your neighborhood next time.

RJ Macv

I stated in a letter last month that stand right wing Republican response to dissent is to attack the messenger. This also holds true ing my ability of understanding. In my defense I'd like to point out that I wasn't the one not grasping the concept of the opinion page of this newspaper.

Another writer attacked me for my criticism of the Oakland Press (not what I would call a new outlet of news), My comment was not based solely on their constant right-lean-ing reporting and editorials, but also on firstand experience of reported stories and letter written over the years. Now somewhat lost in all of this was a debate on the current ethics scandal and cor-

runtion in Congress (a Republican-led Congress). Furny how some want to deal with that by calling the mainstream media liberal. This writer also stated that our country faces huge challenges today. I agree, and I also agree very much with Doreen Lawton's recent letter, that it is our challenges to expres

ourselves on facing these challenges through letters to the editor A lot of people feel the mainstream media bias (some say left, others say right). We don't know which newspaper columnists are being paid to further a certain agenda. The President claims he pays no attention to the opinion polls, so writing letters would seem

be the best way to tell our elected leaders where we wish to be lead. Otherwise President Bush might still be wasting taxpayer money flying around our country trying to sell us on privatization of Social Security had it not become clear that most of us don't buy

Our other elected officials seek our input, as was said to me by an aid to U.S. Rep. Thad McCotter. He stated that the Congressmen opposes the President on the Dubai ports deal and his proposal of a guest worker program.

I don't intend to sit idle as some claim. I intend to continue doing my duty and add to the public debate and hope in my next letter it won't be necessary to defend the messenger

so more can be spent on the message.

Time to take the high road

As Mr. Reising stated in his recent letter to the editor, I am a member of the Democratic Party. And the mantra I repeat, "No weapon ss destruction were found in Iraq," is fact. There were investigators looking for them at the point that our President decided invade. Once we were in Iraq, the present administration failed to understand the enormity of the challenge of bringing peace to a very troubled land. This administration also has not been able to assure the people of Iraq that life will be any different for them in a democracy. The prisoner abuse in Iraq is a scandal. That is not a Democratic Party is And it is not a Republican Party, issue, This is

a national issue; an outrage that the citizens of this country can not condone. The present administration has failed the lruqi people in the same way it has failed to understand the enormity of the tragedy Katrina brought to the south. The war in Iraq is not a Democratic Party or a Republican Party issue, I agree with Mr. Reising that Democrats, as a whole, have not shown courage in opposing our entry into the war in Iraq. The problem is the Republican Party has the power in Washington at this time, so I cannot very well rail against the Democrats. I was against the war in Vietnam and was as

So, this too is my mantra: "War begets war. Violence begets violence." In this time in tory, with all the weapons available for man to assaut man, I rear we must forego making war and instead make peace. How do we do that? By following the teachings of those who throughout history have shown us how to walk humbly on earth, loving even our enemies. Yes, that is hard to do but many worthwhile endeavors are hard to do. If we look throughout history, we find that those who took the high road are the ones we admire. Those who did not seek power bu sought to help mankind are the ones we wish o emulate. We thank whatever higher power we believe in for the peacemake throughout history, shown us the way. Now i is time for us to apply those teachings to our

Doreen Lawton

Parents, don't worry about which school

I have read some of the controversy regardg the redistricting of Deerfield in the paper last few weeks. While I am not up to speed on all the issues, I just want to reassure any parents whose children will be sent to Orchard Hills. Both my daughters graduated from Orchard

Hills, and we could not have conceived of a better elementary school experience for them. When all is said and done, no matter what your building looks like (have you seen the redone Orchard Hills and that beautiful library? I have, and it is wonderful), my experience is that the child's educational exper ence comes down to the leacher they have and the support of their principal. Orchard knows what they're doing, as it sounds like all the Novi elem-1 am grateful for our experience and want to take this opportunity to thank all the teach-

Correction:

Last week's letter from Jerry
Sheridan, "Bid award suspect," contained an error, using the word "agents" instead of "against." It should have read: It is pretty obvious to many Novi citizens that City Hall carries a vendetta against ICK & Associates.

ers that made our daughters' experiences exceptional. Orehard Hills taught us to expect lot from the Novi Schools, and we haven't been disappointed, from grade school through high school. Thank you to all the educators who have gone above and beyond. You make Novi schools what they are.

Lisa Barton

High bids have hidden costs

Once again this great city stumbles over its own feet. The city, in all its wisdom, again rejects the low bidder on a project? Why? They rejected JCK & Associates hid for extending a particular for the control of the extending a water line (most of which they designed) because it was "too low." Are these

live off of South Lake Drive, and a couple of years ago the city denied another "low b by JCK to engineer the rebuilding of South Lake. They did not look at what a great job JCK did on East Lake Drive a few years earli-er. Instead we took a higher bidder from out of state. We (the taxpayers), by the way, are still paying the price for this project. The other firm broke sewer lines to houses and they went unnuticed for months. We (the taxpayers) paid to repair this. We (the taxpayers) had to pay for digging extra ditches to get water to flow off of many residents' property from bad engineering of the water flows that they missed. We (the taxpayers) had to repave some areas because of water problems

problems with this newly-engineered "higher hid" road project. On S. Lake and Owenion we have had water seeping out of the new road so bad this winter that you can not walk on this newly-engineered road, It forms an ice sheet about 12 feet wide, about 60 feet long, and at times six inches deep. Honest, It is so had at the stop sign that the city has had DPW workers come out on weekends to plow and saft this area. Did I mention that the firm involved is from out of town? And we (the taxpayers) are still paying for this? Please, please council, reconsider what you

are doing to us (the taxpayers) I wish that we (the taxpayers) could get an has spent on South Lake to correct pr since the contractor has left our area. Then we could really see what "high" cost actually

Dick Stopinski

Rebuttal to Mr. Power

Although by and large I agree with Phil Power that elected officials should not shy away from unpopular topics, I believe that an ffective leader must also be pragmatic. The overall in government, you must first earn and keep the trust of the voters

My own experience as a former elected official in local government tells me that the people often take it very personally when government continues to dig into their pockets to olve problems, particularly when their indiidual standard of living is continually declin-

Of course, there are voters who will support a tax/fee increase for a specific purpose that is important to them, but ultimately it depends on their own financial priorities at the time. While "framing" a tax/fee increase proposal in a certain way may gain a favorable response in a survey, it is crucial that elected officials can actually deliver and achieve the desired results as promised. If not, the voters rould rightfully feel duped and manipulated

I think in order to objectively consider any enced, the reader would need to know the

specifies for each survey.

If Mr. Power was referring to the 204 Michigan Education Poll, the actual survey that I read showed that 397 of the 592 voters o vote "yes" for a tax increase to renovate existing buildings or build new ones to

mprove school programs.

In the New York Times/CBS News Poll, of, the slightly less than 1,018 voters who esponded to the "framed" questions pertain-It is one thing to "govern" as a political commentator, it is quite another to run for

Laura J. Lorenzo

Share your opinions: We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Generally, no more than one letter per month by the same author will be published. Letters must be received by noon Tuesday to be printed in the Thursday edition. Mail: Letters to the Editor, Cal Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main St. Northville, MI 48167 E-mail: cstone@gannett.com Fax to: (248) 349-9832

COMMENTARY

Newly-created The Center for Michigan will have two missions

And a few of us are finally trying something new in an effort to do something about it. I'll explain more soon, but first, here's a hard look at cality. Most people don't yet realize how seri-

Basic manufacturing, the traditional core of our economy, is hemorrhaging jobs — jobs that will never return. Our largest mployers — Ford, General Motors, and much of the autonotive supply chain — are losing market share, and money. Some, like Delphi, are flirting

Detroit public schools are on the brink of insolvency. Our unem-And our family income has imeted.

Today's economic crisis is quite different from the periodic tough times we've faced in the Phil Power east. It's the result of uncontrol past, it's the result of uncontrol-lable changes in the way the world economy works. This has been aggravated in the case of the auto industry by a cost and labor-manage-ment business model that simply can no longer be sustained in the era of the global village. Webeduw tho workerstands what it mings on

Nobody who understands what is going or thinks this crisis can be resolved simply by an mum in auto sales, Instead, the state needs to lopt a far-reaching and broadly acceptable eco mic policy agenda to help us get through our time of troubles, and to set in place the ground work for a better economy and a brighter future or us and our families. Sadly, however, Michigan's political system has proven largely paralyzed, preoccupied with partisan squabbles, and unable or unwilling to

How come? Simply, Michigan politics today are dysfunctional for three reasons:
• First, partisanship. The coming election is

Growing up, we always received the Detroit Free Press at our house. Dod read it religiously every night when he got home from work, either before dinner or right after. At the time, writer Bob Talbort's regular col-

urun was extremety popular, but not with my i dad. He couldn't stand it, saying it was gossip about people he could care less about. But I think my dad disliked Talbert, who passed awa

in 1999, because he had a pony tail and tinted glasses. My morn, on the other hand, loved his column and considered it a must-read.

Back then, I was too young to care either way. I just read the sports and entertainment sections.

But now that I'm in the newspaper business,

realize that Talbert's column, whether you liked

it or not, was great for one simple reason: It got

Quick blurbs about a celebri-

ty spotted eating at such-and-such a restaurant with so-and-so; a note about the hideous

dress worn by the wife of a

Demoit athlete at a fund-raiser:

etc., etc. Hard news? Hardly. Interesting and fun? Usually. So why not try it here in the Novi News? Admittedly, p. nov

Novi News? Admittedly, pony tail or not, I'm no Bob Talbert.

But there is enough going on in this city that's worth passing

this city that's worth passing along even though some of it might not be considered "news"

I don't think I was hearing things when at our cekly Thursday luncheon, fellow Rotarian

Keith Wilson, an avid car collector, announced

that he would soon have the largest gamge any-where - like 300,000 square feet, in fact. It seems the former GM at Bob Sellers Pontiac is

for an all-encompassing, year-round car show where folks could come in and look at lots of

Kinda like the ultimate car dealership, all under

one roof. Keith's just waiting for approval from the city of Novi to get the project in gear. By then, the 2010 models should be ready to roll.

Seems that plenty of readers were outraged

over last week's guest columnist, Michael Salemi, and his "What you may not know abou

ubscription" phone calls. Funny thing, the week

n's letter. And the week before that, i

Deerfield" piece, Lots of "I'm canceling my

before, the opposing side was leaving those same type calls because of Sue and Doug

was the other side. And prior... Hey, I got an idea: Let's scride this the old fashioned way -

duel. Too drastic? How about a spelling bee

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Pam Fleming - Staff Write

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too tame? What if everyone votes for somebod

ng at leasing the Novi Expo Center facility

ho was overhead saying what;

body. The Republica hell-bent on making sure nothing happens to help the state that Gov. Jennifer Granholm ca claim credit for, regardless of what happens to the rest of us in Michigan. Yet the governor's office isn't much better. When not consumed by ing the various departments of

succeeding in bringing out the worst in every

state government for Granholm's political advantage. Second, ideologues.

Traditionally, Michigan politics depended on moderate civic leadership that, when all was said and done, would work across the partisan divide to develop and implement practi cal solutions to problems. But over the past decade, ideo logues - particularly of the hard right, but also the semi-

socialist left - have hijacked

interests, coupled with term limits. Aggressive and wealthy interest groups buy "face time" with legislators through their campaign contributions. And term-limited lay makers lack the experience, information and

Moreover, knowing they'll soon be booted out of their present positions, they've got their eyes fixed on the next job they want to run for. What that means is that holding the hand out for campaign contributions has become Lansing's most highly developed reflex. The overall result is a growing alienation between most voters, who occupy the middle of the road, and an increasingly partisan and ideological political class. This has contributed to the middle of the road of

solitical system is essentially broken. What we're getting these days from our politi-cal leaders is an odd combination of harsh rhetoric and failure to do anything other than pussyfoot around our greatest problems. This helps nobody.

Almost newsworthy, but worth noting

they think will represent their views on a school board and we let that board do their job? Nah,

Novi's favorite son, Speaker of the House

Craig DeRothe, was raught reading twice, last week. The first time was the not act, which he read to Detroit City Council for voting to raise water rates ONLY for suburbanites (Novi was

water tales o'rn' for students of to 'm's hit with a 4.1-percent hike). The second time was several Dr. Seuss stories, which he read to a group of 90 students at Glengary Elementary in Walled Lake as part of March is Reading

n can de it all.

Not that you're looking for a new job, but... Is

your resume ready to go, but you're unsure how to craft that all-important cover letter? Help is on

ts way. The Walled Lake City

Library (1499 E. West Maple) is

offering a free workshop, "Winning Cover Letters," at 7

Oakland University, to help peo-

My pop used to tell me, "There

are two kinds of people - those who are Irish, and those who wish they were." On St. Patrick's day,

we're ALL green, but not with

envy. The very Irish McGulre Family, owners and operators of Guernsey Farms Dairy, are

offering special treats for customers while at the same time helping Maybury Farm. On March 16 and 17 (the second most important day of the year, next to Super Bowl Sunday) anybody mak

ng a donation to the Farm will get a coupon for

a free ice cream cone. Guernsey's Restaurant will also be serving up comed beef and cabbage

dinners, including a complimentary pint of green milk. How lucky can you be?!!!

Financial Showplace the evening of March 4. Cars, Cash & Casino, the Brighton Area

Novi in an effort to bring the event closer to the

chamber's members. With around 1,700 atten-

might have to tweak things - bring the tempera ture up and bring the time waiting in lines down

a bit before next year's event. Paul Richard,
who cwns a couple of auto dealerships in

Brighton, was the big winner. Obviously not in

need of one of the three vehicles rafiled, he

McClure, an instructor at

ple of all ages and occupat with their job searches.

nobody would ever agree to that.

public perception that at our time of crisis our

So some of us have decided to do something about it. We're starting a "think-and-do tank," which we call The Center for Michigan.

and reinforce each other. It will assist in devel and reintorce each other. If will assist in developing a broadly acceptable, high-impact, practical strategic agenda for the rebirth of our economy. And it will work to make our politics more civil, less ideological, and more effective by reenergizing Michigan's bipartisan civic leadership and countless thousands of moderate grussmost outers.

The Center will have a definite stance in the sensible center. It will be non-ideological, muscularly moderate, and anything but weak. The Center is not interested in fighting the battles of the past — management vs. labor, city vs. suburb, white vs. black, east side vs. west side Instead, it is aimed at rullying moderates who

have brains, courage and backbone.

The Center's first initiative was a conference held this week, co-sponsored with the Center for State, Local and Urban Politics at the Ford School of Public Policy at the University of

A cross section of Michigan's civic, business and labor leadership gathered to consider
"Where Do We Go From Here?" in attempting to develop a broadly acceptable economic agen

As one of the founders of The Center, I am saddened and appalled at the economic disinte gration of what was once - and can and shoul be again — one of the most beautiful, rich and successful states in the union. Our situation is dire and brings to mind the fam that all that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men and women to do nothing.

Phil Power is the Chairman of The Center for Michigan, He would be pleased to hear from readers at prower@hannet.com.

More information about The Center is avail-

dealerships, but only 420 receive the automak-er's most prestigious honor – the President's Award, give annually to dealers who provide

dealershin at Wixom Road and Grand Rive

Avenue earned this recognition. How, I asked Mike? "... our entire staff's commitment to delivering the best customer experience possi-

ble," Drive it like you stole it and get over to

OK, so you're just too lazy put down the

The Web site won the Marketing Showcase

Recreation and Park Association, the state's

recreation organization. Campgrounds, water-parks, nature centers, golf courses, banquet cen

ters and more are featured. Discount coupons are available. In 2005 the site offered more than 200

pages of information and nearly a million page views, an average of 2,980 each day, he added.

Local celeb Chuck Gaidica, of WDIV

Channel 4, will emece a fund-raiser to bene-fit Hospice of Michigan on Friday, March 31 at The Inn at St. John's (44045 Five Mile

Road, Plymouth). The line has been a Michigan landmark for more than half a cen-tury. Showcasing the work of some of the

area's top artists, this special evening will

celebrate the opening of The Inn's 118-room luxury boutique hotel and the new Five Star Restaurant. The black-tie event will include a

strolling dinner, cocktails, tantalizing, desserts, three rooms of live entertainment

and a silent auction featuring artwork donated by local artists. And if all that is not enough

nfort care to people with acute, chronic

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and terminal illness, and offers support for their loved ones. Call (734) 357-5344 for

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Asthma has become so common that many of us have become describited to TER OF MICHIGAN can offer you sup the seriousness of this condition. Did you they seriousness of this condition. Did you they were the seriousness of this condition. Did you to make the seriousness of this condition to make the fire reduce the name than 10 million doctor visits each thought and the seriousness of coldy's column or to schedule year? Or that it is responsible for rearly a popularity and a 12 Million of the seriousness and 15,000 deaths of the common Michaelment band et 24 Million of the seriousness and 15,000 deaths of the seriousness and 15,000 de anous are city affected by asshma, either because have it in their households or imme-e families or know someone with the ase. Allergic asthma-asthma Iriggered illergens such as pollen, pet dander, or

you or someone you know suffers from asthma and are seeking medical treat-ment or just require helpful, practical advice, then call us now at (248) 473-6400.





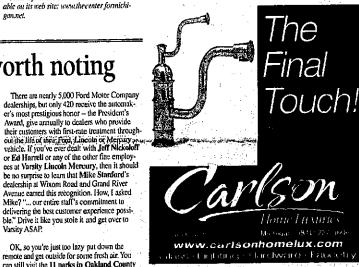
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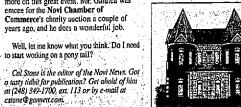
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EVENTS

Second City Comedy Club TIMI/DATE: Various times

LOCATION: 42795 Grand River

DETAILS: "Hobble Heads of State" is the theme for this mouth's

nows. CONTACT: Visit www.ticke master.com ur call. (248) 645-6666

Novi Theaters present "Guys

and Dolls" TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 17-18; 2 p.m. LOCATION: Novi Civic Center,

35185 W. 10 Mile Road DETAILS: The Friday, March 17 performance will be a special nadent night. Tickets for all students from college level on down will cost \$10, instead of the regula

CONTACT: Tickets can be purchased at the Novi Parks desk or

St. Baldrick's Day Celebration

DATE: Saturday TIMU: 2-6 p.m LOCATION: Walled Lake Fire fall, 1499 E. West Maple Road Walled Lake DETAILS: St. Baldrick's Day was established to raise awareness Flower Safe

Cancer." Adult volunteers have their heads shaved to raise money for this cause. Parents are enco aged to bring their children to enjoy the activities and games planned just for them CONTACT: Visit 899-BALD

Taste of Northville Business Showcase

DATE: Saturday TIME: noon-4 p.m. LOCATION: Northville High School, 45700 Six Mile Road,

DETAILS: This event will feaservice and professional businesses. Restaurants and caterers will provide samples from their menus and There will also be free give a-ways. Ticket are \$5 for adults; \$4 for seniors 65 and over; and \$4 for chilfren under 12. Tickets may be pur-

CONTACT: Northville Chamber of Commerce, (248) 349-7640 or

Democrats of West Oakland County Meeting

TIME: 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. LOCATION: Novi Souvlaki

Concy Island, Novi Road at 14 Mile Road DETAILS: James Clift, Policy Director of the Michigan Environmental Council, will speak on "Hot Environmental Election Issues," The public is invited. CONTACT: (248) 624-7228

Borders Bookstore and Music

LOCATION: 43075 Crescent Boulevard CONTACT: (248) 347-0780 TIME: 7 p.m. DETAILS: Author Timothy

DATE: Friday, March 24 TIME: 7:30 p.m. LOCATION: Sheraton Detroit Hotel Novi, 21111 Haggerty Road DETAILS: Motor City Brass Band, directed by Craig Strain, will be featured as part of the American Music Therapy Association convention, The concert is open to the public. Herb Cocking and Ray Murphy, both of Novi, are members of the band.

CONTACT: (248) 788-6618 or

CONTACT: For more informa-

tion, (248) 735-8100

Skating Club of Novi Ice

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Friday

LOCATION: Novi Jee Arena.

42400 Arena Drive DETAILS: Tickets for the 8th

20. Admission is 57 per person; children under 4 are free. CONTACT: Skating Director Micki Freier, (248) 347-1010

DATE: Saturday and Sunday, May 6, 13, 14, 20 and 21 TIME: 9 a.m.-noon

LOCATION: Oakland Schools

DETAILS: This sale includes

CONTACT: (248) 668-5673

Novi Hold 'Em Casino Night

LOCATION: Lucky's Lucky

DETAILS: This is a fund-raiser

ships are available, including atten-

CONTACT: Chamber of

Novi Youth Assistance

General Citizens Meeting

DATE: Saturday, May 20

TIME: 6-10 p.n

Annual Ice Show go on sale March

April 7: 1 and 6 p.m. Saturday,

DETAILS: This event is for mul-**Heart Healthy Seminars** tiple chambers to speed network. DATE: Saturday, March 25 The cost is \$10 and includes hors res and cash bar. This even plements: 2-4 p.m. Micro Biotic ooking and antioxidants: 1-5 p.m. tions are required. General Membershir smart samples in store LOCATION; Better Healt 42875 Grand River Avenue,

DATE; Tuesday, April 11 TIME: 11:30 registration; noon

LOCATION: Fox Run Village. required. The cost is \$20 per per-

LOCATION: Burton Manor,

27777 Schooleraft Road, Livogia

... 19th Annual Tycoon Tee-Off Golf Outing DATE: Wednesday, August 9 LOCATION: Monse Ridge Golf urse, 11801 Doane Road, South

DETAILS: This outing will include sponsorship opportunities, prizes, networking and champi-onship caliber golf.

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Events DATE: Saturday, April 8

TIME: 1:30 p.m.
LCCATION: Northville High
School Auditorium, 45700 Six
Mile Road, Northville CONTACT; (248) 624-2826 2006 Heart of the Lakes Gala DETAILS: Center Stage Dance LOCATION: Shenadoali Country Club, West Bloomfield CONTACT: (248) 380-1666 or per person. Sponsors and donation email csdc5678@sbcglobal.ne welcome for the silent auction.

Business Card Exchange

DATE: Wednesday, April 26 LOCATION: Marriott, 3600 point Parkway, Opdyke at quare Lake, Pontiac. DETAILS: The cost is \$10 annuals and perennials and is spon-sored by the Agriscience Greenhouse/Landscape Class. advance reservations and \$15 at the door. There will be a cash bar and iors d'oeuvres. The host is Pontiac Regional Chamber of Commerce

CONTACT: (248) 335-9600

CLASSES

Walled Lake Community **Education Seminar**

DATE: Monday and Wednesday

March 27, 29, April 3 and 5 Middle School, 46720 W. Pontiac

> \$199 plus \$20 for textbook and materials. Pre-registration with ired no later than rsday, March 23, to Walled 956-5000, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday Friday, This 16-hour seminar will pass the Michigan state bu ense examination. The course is for those who want to subcontrac homes, real estate investors and developers and building trades peo ple who want to work legally in Michigan

Women's Empowerment Weekend

TIME/DATE: 7:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Friday, April 28, and 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 29 DETAILS: This seminar is spo ored by Suttle Enterprises LLC, Marilyn Statle, The cost is \$150; \$127 if paid before Feb. 28. Class d to 20 women. Marily Suttle is a communication pro sional specializing in bringing life into balance with practical, usable

CONTACT: To register, cal Marilyn Suttle, (248) 348-1023 or visit the Web site: www.ChangeLimitingBeliefs.com

Providence Center for the

LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Avenue CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

Colored Pencil Workshop TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m., second Artist in Re

TIME/DATE: 10-11:30 a.m. first third Thursday of every month Residence May Oura Teevens and experiment with drawing, pastels, watercolor, Chinese brush painting, mixed media and collage. Beginners are welcome, there is a \$5 materials fee.

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 1-5 DETAILS: There is a \$10 mate-

TIME/DATE: 12:15-1 p.m. DETAILS: This is an ancient Chinese exercise used to improve flexibility, balance and strength. No

Tai Chi Class

Yoga Class TIME/DATE: Various times, DETAILS: The cost is \$10 for

walk-in; \$80 for 10-class card and \$70 for 7-week evening session.

Line Dancing DATE: every Monday and

Friday TIME: 6:30-7:30 p.m., beginners; 7:30-9:30 p.m., intermediate LOCATION: Novi Ice Arena, DETAILS: No partner needed for lessons in this pay-as-you-go program. Cost is \$5 for Novi resients and for those ages 55 and up;

CONTACT: (248) 348-9116

Boost Cama Day TIME/DATE: 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Priday, April 7 and May 5 LOCATION: Providence Medical Building, 47601 Grand

DETAILS: This is a day of enrichment and personal explo-ration designed to provide tools, information and a new perspective materials. Registration is required. CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

LIBRARY <u>LINES</u>

Novi Public Library Hours LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile

HOURS: 10 n.m.-9 p.m Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Friday and Saturday and 1-5 p.m. DETAILS: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the CONTACT: (248) 349-0720

Snack Tales

DATE: Monday students in kindergarten-t grade. Refreshments are included. CONTACT: (248) 349-0720

Story Time

DATE: Tuesday, March 14 TIME: 7-7:30 p.m. DETAILS: Preschoolers and bedime stories. No registration

Charter One

DATE: Tuesday, April 4 TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 347-0410

SCHOOL/ GOVERNMENT

Wixom City Council

DATE: Tuesday TIME: 7:30 p.m. LOCATION: Wixom City Hall, CONTACT: (248) 624-4557

Novi City Council Meeting

DATE: Monday TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 344-0470

Novi School Board Meeting

DATE: Monday, April 6 TIME: 7:30 p.m. LOCATION: Novi High School, CONTACT: (248) 449-1200

BUSINESS

Nevi Chamber of Commerce CONTACT: (248) 349-3743

DATE: Wednesday TIME: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Herniated Disc Technology Discovered by **NASA Scientists**

Ann Arbor - A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven non-surgical decompression 86% successful in treating debilitating back pain, Find out how NASA's accidental discovery led to the most promising treatment today. For your free report entitled. How Space ge Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery | Call | 1-800-469-3618 for the foll-free recorded message Supplies are limited | call now. If phone lines are busy visits www.midischemiation.com RATES AS LOW AS

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E-Mail for Seniors

DATE: Wednesday, March 15 TIME: 1-3 p.m DETAILS: Learn the basics of sending and receiving e-mail, and sign up for a free e-mail account. This class includes interactive dis-

the library to register. Pageturners

DATE: Wednesday TIME: 4:30-5:15 p.m. DETAILS: This program is for th and sixth grade students. It ill include stacks and discussing the book "A Week in the Woods by Andrew Cletnents. No registra

Downloading Audiobooks

DATE: Saturday, March 18 TIME: 2 p.m. DETAILS: Learn how to download and listen to audiobooks from NetLibrary and recorded books through the Internet, Participants will learn how to download an audiobook from the library's web device. Call the library to register.

Tax Assistance Workshop

DATE: Monday, March 20 TIME: 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m DETAILS: AARP volum viduals with middle and low incomes in preparing their tax returns. Special attention will be given to participants age 55 and older. Please note that the volun

DATE: Tuesday, March 21 TIME: 7 p.m. DETAILS: Kids of all ages are invited to a family story time fea turing guest readers sharing their favorite stories. Sponsored by Community Financial Credit Union in honor of National Library Week.

Battle of the Books

DATE: Saturday, March 25 45135 W. 10 Mile Road DETAILS: The community invited to attend and cheer for lifth and sixth grade teams.

School Readiness Program DATE: Monday, March 27

TIME: 7 p.m.
DETAILS: A speaker from Onkland Schools will discuss a ready-for-school checklist inclu ing what to expect from children 3-5 years of age and the ten hall-marks of children who succeed in school, as well as ways to boost your child;s confidence before th sus comes. No registration

Novi Town Hall Lecture

DATE: Wednesday, March 29 TIME: 11:30 a.m. lunch, 12:30 m. tecture LOCATION: Rock Financial shownlace, 46100 Grand River

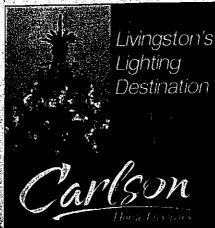
DETAILS: This event features filmmakers Laura and Rob Sums This brother and sister learn has

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Spring Boating Expo

will feature video clips from

available at the library.

Library Board Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, April 19

work, as well as live music. The

cost of the luncheon and the lecture

Don't miss the 14th Ainual Spring Boading Expo today; through Sunday at the Rock Financial Showplace, fenturing but dreds of new 2006 and new overstocked 2005 model boats, motors, and trailers priced to sell; See more than 100 exhibitors under one roof, showing boats for skiling, fishing, and cruising; personal watercraft; electronics; accessories; dockage; canvas

docks; hoists and much inore.

With bergain prices, low interest rates, and financing on the spot, this show is the time to buy a boat.

Special attractions include casts-nad-release fishing at the Huck Pin Tront Pond and the Discover Boating Cepter. Kids get in free every day and on Saturdays and Sundays they can shake a paw with Salty Dog and laugh with Willie T Clown. Show hours are 2-9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. 9 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m.-6 p.in. Sunday, Admission is \$8 for ee for children 12 and under with an adult. Buy

directed three films, including "Stranger in the Woods," based on the bestselling picture book of that itle. Their Town Hall appear

will be at the library to assist indi eers help in the preparation of sin are required. Call the library to reg-

TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: City Council March into the Library Chambers at the Novi Civic Center DETAILS: Community members are welcome to attend Walled Lake Library Events

LOCATION: 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake

CONTACT: (248) 624-3772 Weekly Story Hours TIME/DATE: 10:30 a.m., Monday-Wednesday; 2 p.m. and crafts, finger plays and games. Designed for ages 1-5. No registra-

GROUPS

SUPPORT

Baby-sitting Co-op DETAILS: Using the co-op, you and your children can make friends and get what you need accomtow. Also enjoy a mom's night ou CONTACT: Sue Tracz, (248)

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples DATES: second Thursday of TIME: 7 p.m.

LOCATION: Witch's Hat Depot,

300 Dorothy St., South Lyon. DETAILS: This group provides

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of the Skin, Hair & Nail Invites you to visit his new location

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CONTACT: For more informa-Women's Prayer Support DATE: Saturday IME: 9-10:30 a.m. LOCATION: Harve Fellowship Church, 49329 Pontiac DETAILS: Come for end

activities for mothers of multiple

birth children and their families

(248) 926-8332 or ha ship@comeast.net

DATES: second and fourth

raising groups and non-profit

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Wicha, M.D., Director, U-M

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difficult journeys.

Coach Carr Cancer Fund

Cancer Center

cises, and prevention of common golf inujuries, especially low back pain. The formal will include lecment, help, hope and prayer, Drop ture, demonstration, discussion CONTACT: Nancy or Susan, and group participation

Breast Cancer Support Group

Tuesday of each month

CONTACT: (248) 380-3550

TIME/DATE: 12:30-1:15 p.m.

Monday; 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Friday LOCATION; Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River, Nov

lospital, Commerce, Classroom C TIME: 10-11:30 a.m. DETAILS: The cost is \$70/ 7-week evening sessions.

Providence Medical Center

LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai

CONTACT: (248) 937-5017

DATE: first and third Tuesday of

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center

rities Room, 45175 W. Ten

DETAILS: Tonstmasters will

help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion,

polish your presentations and prac-

tice leadership. CONTACT: Colleen, (248) 685-

New Take Off Pounds Sensible

TIME: 11 a.m. weigh-in; 11:30

DETAILS: \$20 per annual mem-

a.m. meeting
LOCATION; Meadowbrool

meeting. New members welcon CONTACT: (248) 347-0414

(TOPS) chapter

HEALTH

Golfers Seminar

DATE: Wednesday

Park Medical Center)

TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Oakland Physical

DETAILS: This is a seminar for

flexibility and strengthening exer

Therapy, P.C., 47601 Grand River Avenue, Suite B124, (Providence

Novi Toastmasters

TIME: 7-8:45 p.nt.

LOCATION: Providence Park Novi. 47601 Grand River Avenu CONTACT: (888) 440-7325. londay-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Childbirth Education

DETAILS: Evening or weekens

series helping you and your part-ner get ready for the birth of your Childbirth Refresher DETAILS: A one time class to

inh of your baby. DETAILS: A one time class for

provide tips for successful breast Baby Care Basics DETAILS: A one time class with practical information abo

how to adopt to life with a baby DETAILS: This two session class teaches parents how to offer their infant the comfort of mas-

age. Yoga Classes TIME/DATE: 1:30-2:30 p.m. Monday; noon-1:30 p.m. Friday DETAILS: The cost is

ROCK

FINANCIAL SHOWPLACE The Rock Financial Showplac

is located at 46100 Grand Rive Avenue. Call (248) 348-5600 or

Spring Boating Expo DATE: March 16-19

p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

DETAILS: Display of current 2006 boats and trailers, acces-sories, gifts and services. Great Admission is \$8 for adults; free for children 12 and under. CONTACT: (734) 261-0123 or

Back Yard Pool & Spa Show

DATE: March 24-26 TIMES: 3-10 p.m. Friday, 1 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday; 11

DETAILS: Detroit's only show wimming pools, spas, and out door entertaining. This is the best place to turn your backyard space into outdoor living.

Admission is \$8 for adults; \$4 for children ages 6-14. Parking

CONTACT: (800) 328-6550 or

Spring Home & Garden Show

DETAILS: Everything for your home and garden. Come out and develop ideas for your own projects. Fun for everyone. Parking is \$5. CONTACT: (248) 862-1019 or

Sugarloaf Art Fair

DATE: April 21-23 DETAILS: Over 300 one great event, Come to see and ate hundreds of nationally appreciate hundreds of nationally recognized artists.

Admission is \$7; free for chil-

dren 12 and under, Parking is CONTACT: (301) 990-1400 or www.sugarloafcrafts.com

Send your calendar items to Cal Stone, editor, Novi News, 104 W. fax to (248) 349-9832; or e-mail to

LOCAL COMPANY—GIVI TO SUPPORT LOCAL NON-PROFITS **\$1 MILLION**

From the small community of Hamburg, Michigan comes a landscaping company with a big heart. Todd's Services: Inc. (TSI) was started by what many in the community still refer to as two young local boys, brothers Todd and Kurt LaButte. They have grown their business from a single lawn mower and rake, to the largest residential landscaping company in Michigan. TSI is celebrating 28 years of

business and continues to grow. organizations are in need. We In 2004 and 2005, TSI experienced record sales growth. This way to thank our customers is amazing considering the economy in southeast Michigan is not the most robust. This unprecedented growth is the main reason why TSI developed the Give Back to the Community program with a commitment to give one-million dollars to local, non-profit organizations over the next couple years. Owner Todd LaButte states, "local fund

and reward their favorite local TSI donated tens of thousands last year. They are on pace to give back one-million dollars has supported us and we want

Todd's Services, Inc. has been transforming landscapes in and around the community for over 28 years, everything from design to implimentation

thought this would be the perfect organization." Through the Give Back to the Community program, of dollars to local organizations. over the next couple years. "We feel strongly that the community

"After all, the quality of this con munity is why we all chose to live

can to help support it." This is how their Give Back to the Community program works. When TSI landscapes your project, they will donate 3% of the job total to the local non-profit organization of your choice. Local non-profit

organizations qualify, including fund-raisers, churches, schools, sports teams, subdivisions, and to return the favor," says Sherry

guarantee program. "We made the bold statement that we guarantee TSI will be customer's best value, or we will give the customer 10% of our bid in cash," said Todd. "With our 10% price guarantee program, we had many more opportunities to make contact with homeowners a second time. "This has allowed us to help the customer compare apples to apples," commented Kuri LaButte, owner, "Landscaping can be expensive, and we want the customer to get the most for their money." The price guarantee is simple; TSI will be a customer's best value on landscaping, if they are not, they will give the customer 10% of their bid in cash. In addition to being the customer's best value on landscaping, they will donate 3% of the job

LaButte-Birk / Office Manager. Todd's Services MI Mi jug bed john

total to the local non-profit organization of the customers choice.

the public for voting them the best landscaping company 6 years in a row! TSI still offers all of the services as in the past, including full color landscape designs, lawn installation, retaining walls, trees, shrubs, gonds and water features, sprinkler systems, decks and outdoor structures, brick pavers, concrete, sea walls, and much more. Yarious financing programs are available including up to 12 months same as cash with no interest or 8.9% financing with a monthly payment If you are involved with a non-profit organization and would like your group to receive money, or if you want TSI to be your best value on lands caping, contact

Kurt, Todd, Sherry and all the staff at Todd's Services, Inc. would also like to thank

Todd's Services for details: 1 800 HYDROSEED, (810) 231-2778 or visit

them on their website at www.ToddsServices.com.

\$1,000,000 to the community over next couple of years.

To date. Todd's Services, Inc

has donated \$125,000+ and

51171:18 \$260,000 \$2025.00m SEATURE SEA 9 here and we want to do what we T 001.28T02 \$275,000 C 0

> 550.00b Following is a short list of organiz tions that have been added to the

\$75,000

· Hamburg Family Fun Fest • Thin Blue Line of Michigan Fowlerville Rotary
 Hilton Elementary School

Howell Hature Center. Meals On Wheels

Pinckney Yarsity Football

Min was and a

Upcoming Events in Livingston County

Saturday March 18th Green speighell dinser + And Just Hardand United Methods: Charles

Thursday March 23rd Huge Open House — 500 1700 a Bughton, across from The Michigan Include: Advanto Aufrendaes, Lagrago

will be cooking based and burbacid chocker careco of 2 potatoss to estaw, etc. for this benefit. Cost is \$6.00, Non-periphable food a monetary devolutions will be available. Please bring your families and support this workly page. No reserving successary, for more information please call the Chamber at \$10.00 periphers.

Saturday April 1st Friends of the Cromaine District Library "Book Sale" 900 stn 300 p.m. 3889 N. Hartiand Franc 8 (b. 502 5000, Fill. A BROWN BAG SALE All day Saturday!

Tuesday April 4th
Adult Book Discussion Group — 7,00 p.m., Cromake Loray, "OPEN"
HOUSE's by Eizakerti Beg. II you like to head and share thought a coul
usors led fee to jon the group for (promator, 31,043,550),
www.comane.org

Tuesday April 11th
Fourth Annual Perfy Slam — 7.00 pm, Comains Library Porned to register Adults and teers read their own original opens.
Avairs will be given Relieshmens will be served. For information 810 632 5200, www.comaine.org

Wednesday April 12th
Livingston Regional Jos Fair - 1100 am - 500 pm, Crystal
Garden's Banquel Contence & Entertainment Center, 5758 E. Grand
River, Howell. For more (flormation, please call Parm Moconegy at the Chamber 810 227-5088)

Coming in May

May - October

Saturday May 6th Bullseye Chili Blast

Farmer's Market Opening Day — 8:00 a.m. * 1:00 p.m.: Downlown *
Brighton Cedar Street Lot at the Mill Pond The Brighton Farmer's Market runs from May 6th to October 28th, 2003; Area farmars and profess risplay their wares in a community market For more information, please call the Chambor at 810-227, 536.

Sundays May 7th - October 29 Howell Farmers Market: Hosted by Ita Howell Area Chamber of

Saturday & Sunday May 20 & 21 Howell History Days — Hosted by Howell DDA

Things to Do...Places to GO...

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St. Patrick: Night Bowling

la grand

7 - Marija Karak — Parikan Pakidia Karak II. - Marija Karak III. - Marija Kalidalijak I Karak III. - Marija Karak III. - Marija Kalidalijak III. Zanan Karak III. - Karak III. - Karak III. Malidalijak III.

Shamrock Lounge St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Friday March 17th



Nutty Irishman Shots

Music

Green

- Corned Beef 'n Cabbage Dinner
- Corned Beef sandwiches
- Irish Stew
- Corned Beef Ruebens
- Turkey Ruebens Beer Specials

Live Music - Thursday, Friday, Saturday Karaoke - Sundays & Wednesdays — Keno - Pull Tabs



9859 E. Grand River, Brighton 810-227-8265

Hours: Mon-Sat 7am-2am; Sun. noon-10pm



St. Patty's Day Party



Starts at 7am GREEN BEER

qlass 'til 7:30am



Killian on Draft

Smithwick's Irish Beer bottle)

\$ **3**00 All Day \$**3**50 All Day

Great Food ... All Day Shot Specials .. All Day!

Chai Sound Entertainment



BUFFALO WILD WINGS 900 S. Latson at Grand River

Howell (517):545-9100

Places to GO...Things to Do



CASHLIPUBLIC LIBRARY COPY

Catholic Central can't stop John Glen in districts ... page 2

SWIMMING:

Wildcats end season at the state finals page 2



Photo couriesy of the Detroit Red Wings

Detroit Red Wing Henrik Zetterberg takes the puck up the ice. He joined four other Red Wings on the Swedish Olympic team to

■ Red Wings Kronwall and Zetterberg reflect on winning gold in Olympics

By Ramez Khuri STAFF WRITER

Novi resident Niklas Kronwall feels like he just woke

up from a two-week long dream.

But instead of getting a pair of ruby slippers, like
Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, the defenseman has a botony in the wizard of of, are determined as a shiny Olympic gold metal to prove it really happened. Kronwall is one of five Detroit Red Wings who helped make Sweden the best in the world in the sport of hockey—a feat that wasn't easy to accomplish by

of hockey — a feat that wasn't easy to accomplish by any means.
"I don't think it really hit me yet that we won gold," said Kronwall. "Everything happened so fast, and now we're back to really again."
Kronwall said it was a great feeling to have himself and four of his Detroit learnmates make the same team. "That doesn't happen too often," he said. "It also says a lot about the Red Wings and how good this organization is. Not only with the Swedes, but we had about 10 guys from this team who made the Olympics. That says a lot."

a lot."

Henrik Zetterberg, a left winger with the Red Wings, was also on the team. He said his greatest thrill came in the final game when he scored a hat trick and all four of his Wings tearmants scored goals.

"It was a nice feeling," he suid. "It's something that

can never be taken away from you."

Red hot Wings

Both Kronwall and Zetterberg hope their Olympic success can spill over into their National Hockey League season. Their Red Wings are currently in first

The Wings' philosophy has always been to be a puck



Nikias Kromwall, a Detroit Red Wing and Novi resident, played a major role in Sweden's gold medal run during the Olympics

last couple years, and it's a shame he can't play. We just have to try to deal with the situation.

Another season almost lost

Zetterberg and Kronwall both couldn't be more appreciative of playing for an organization that has mil-lions of fans throughout North America and the world. In fact, Kronwall believes it's the fans who make

In fact, Krouwall believes it's the lans who make Detroit "Hockeytown."
"I haven't been here that long, but I just get the feeling that if you talk about one sport in this town, hockey is the one you're talking about," said Kronwall.
"You see Red Wings signs all over the place on ears and in windows. And whenever we play on the road it's
almost like 'we're playing at home because half the
crowed is wearing Red Wings jesseys. It's just amazing."

Zetterberg described the Red Wings organization as top-notch. From the ownership all the way down to the

top-notch. From the ownership all the way down to the fins, he had nothing but good things to say. "They take good care of the players here," he said. "That's why a lot of players want to come here. I think my first thought of the Red Wings, while waiching my first game here, was everything happens so fast on the i.e. I saw a game against the Avalanche in the playoffs, and it was so fast, I never though I would be able to play in a game like that, but when I came over the guys look good care of me, and I think I fit into the team neety."

Chasing first place

Only being a point ahead the Carolina Hurricanes, the Red Wings have a very good chance of winning the NHL's President's Trophy this year as having the be regular season record. The accolade would guarantee home ice advantage throughout the playoffs. But, not surprisingly, the trophy, isn't foremost on Zetterberg's

mind.
"I personally, don't think about that too much," he said. "It would be nice to win the President's Tropby, but the most important thing is to win the Stanley Cup. Of course, it's nice to have home ice advantage, but if we don't get it we'll still have a good chance of win-ning anyway.

ning anyway

Kronwall had a slighdy different perspective on that, saying the President's Trophy would be a big deal and a good accomplishment for the team.

"I think it's laways's good to win," he said. "Some people say if you win the President's Trophy you go into the playoffs with everyone thinking you're the best team and, there's more pressure. But you want to win every game you can."

For now, Kronwall is just happy living in Novi and working in Defroit."

The Wings: philosophy has always been to be a puckpossession team, meaning to be careful with the puck,
make good passes, set up plays, and to always go hard
to the net in search of rebounds — something the feam
is capitalizing on this season.

"We're not a big team, but there are a lot of good
port movers and a lot of latent for sure; said Kronwall.

We have a very good opportunity this year to go far in
the playoffs. The team we have now locks good, and
adding Cory Cross to the defense gets some size back
there, which only helps.

Cross, a 6-60-3 defensman, was recently acquired
from the Pitsburgh Penguins and will be paired up with
Kronwall during games, He should at least fill part of
the void; created, when Red. Wings defenseman in
Fisher was forced to depart the team due to locar conthe playoffs. The stand recently acquired
see my family and frenchs and play with my did teammates, be said. This I missed this amosphere in the
fisher was forced to depart the team due to locar conflicker room and just playing for the Red Wings.

"Kronwall supply for the Red Wings."

"Kronwall copies and only the said. The atmosphere is like at
home in Sweden: very friendly. You have
retry than him me limitary I plank grow in the limitary I plank grow in the limitary limitary and the corner. It is a good
and it was boots time to become and it was boots to be added to be and the corner. It is a good are my limitary and the corner. It is a good
area."

"We've not a big team, but the team due to be a conplayed to the read due to be controlled."

"We've Oaks Mall, coffee shops and hark You have
retry limitary and the corner. It is a good
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"We've Oaks Mall, coffee shops and part You have
retry limitary and the corner. It is a good are my limitary and the corner. It is a good are my limitary and the corner. It is a good are my l

Wild 'Stangs finish 12th; program's future uncertain

At the state finals, any little slip can make the dif-

The Northville-Novi gymnastics team found that out the hard way last weekend when they took 12th in the state finals. There were some falls that cost the team points, but coach Erin McWatt said she's not over the results.

upset over the results.
"Overall, I'm happy with how states went for the girls," she said. "We had a few problems here and there on Friday that you just can't afford if you want to grab those top places.
"But the girls fought for every tenth."
The Wiki 'Stangs scored 137.2 points, Their final tally want you far off.

tally wasn't too far off

champion Tri-Farmington's 146.2. The Northville-Novi team finished their season with a 5-3 mark, taking third at the regional and fourth at their conference

m third-time state

meet. But the state finals are a different story. The best of the state's best are there. The slips and the falls counted against the



Sam Eggleston

squad.

Not to mention the injuries. With only 14 gyannasts on the team, one injury makes a huge difference.

More than that can be a decision maker.

"It's nice to work with a smaller group of girls so you can give each more individual attention, but we were also coping with more than a handful of injuries this year," McWatt said. "When you have a small pool mis year, inc wait said. "When you have a small pool of competitors to pull from, that can sometimes be stressful. But this team has a lot of depth."

One of the most unfortunate injuries, from a scoring standpoint, was the loss of Julie Foucher to a broken foot.

As a top all-around scorer, Foucher's points helped make a lot of difference in the final total. Her luss

impacted the entire team. "It was hard to lose her," said McWatt. "She's

"It was hard to lose her," said McWatt. "She's anazingly talented, and I know it was hearthreaking for her to sit out the second helf of the season." The Wild 'Stangs graduate six seniors and will return eight. But the future is uncertain for the team, made of athletes from both Novi and Northville high rebooks.

An unwise decision by the Michigan High School Athletic Association could find all cooperative teams

being disbanded. The results could be devastating for the Wild

Stangs as Novi may not be able to host a team and the Northville squad would struggle to field enough

the Prontyline Support of the december of the december of the definitely a sharne and certainty won't benefit our girls." McWall said. "It would be devastating for our juniors from Novi if they didn't get a chance to compete in gymnastics their senior year if the teams

McWatt said she believes there will still be a team

McWait said she believes there will still be a team at Northville High School, especially with the support of Bryan Masi, the district's athletics director.

To supplement the team at Northville — or the combined team if the appeal the Wild 'Stangs filed is approved by the MHSAA — the gynnasts will showcase their sport to incoming freshmen.

"In April, we have a high school athletic fair which attracts many incoming freshmen," McWatt said.
"The girls also post filers throughout both high, schools at the beginning of the school year reminding, filts to check out the gynnastics team in October."

But no matter if there is a team next year or not, McWatt said this year's squad will still hive plenty to remember.

Mewatt said trus year's square many memorial remember.

Improved skill levels, top-seven finish in each invitutional the team attended and the fourth highest regional score in the state are all things to reflect on "It was a lot of fun," MeWatt said.

No doubt she and the returning girls want to do it again. Hopefully the MHSAA lets them.

104 or at seggleston@gannett.com

■ Individual results

The Northville-Novi Wild Stangs gymnastic team dign't have the best state finals finish as a team with a 12th-place showing, but their individual performances were strong (1)

Z DIVISION 1

Reynolds: Bars: 9.05 (16th place);

Rachel Denesu: Beam; 9.4 (2nd): Floor 8.9 50h; Vault; 8.7 (3and; Bars: 7.85 (38th); Al-round; 34.85 (11th) Sarah, Inhuan: Pour; Bars, 8.6 (13th); Beam; 575 (28th); Floor 8.4 (35th); Vault; 8.4 (38th); III-Around; 33, 975 (21st); 838; Emma Phárt; Vault; 8.85 (21st); 848; 7.85 38th; Floor; 8.65 (23nd); 838 Emma Platt: Vault: 8.65 (21st) 68 ft (85 8m) Floor: 8 65 (23 m) 9 ft (23 m) 9 ft (24 m) 8 m) 9 ft (24 m) 8 m) 9 ft (24 m) 8 m) 9 ft (24 m)



Wildcat Chris Alberty dives last Friday at U of M during the MHSAA finals.

Wildcat boys achieve positive results in state diving meet

Alberty takes fifth place out of 36 divers

By Ramez Khuri

Larry Tehan couldn't be more proud of his Novi divers after last weekend's state meet. Senior Chris Alberty and junfor Alex Arbour placed fifth and 30th, respectively, out of 36 state divers in Division 1 com-

"That was a real good finish for Chris," said Tehan, assistant ceach for spring board diving. "It's hard to set a goal in diving other than what you have con-trol over, which is yourself."

Telian said there are many

factors divers don't have any control over, such as judging and what other divers do. With that in mind, the Wildcats didn't en into the meet with a particu-

lar place in mind. Alberty's main goal, however, was to be an all-stater, which he achieved. "You go out and compete as "As he went along he hest you can," said Tehan. stronger and stronger,"

Final swimming meet scores

■ 200 Yard Mediey relay (Dereck O'Branovic, Drew La Duke, Nick Wright, Sean Bugbee) was 28th Bugbee was 40th in the

200 yard free
Chris Alberty was 5th in the diving. He was also All-State for the second time in his career, to go with his All-

an excellent meet for him and

Alberty's meet was in the championship format. He had to do 11 dives: five in the preliminary, three in the semi-finals and three in the finals. After his first five dives, Alberty found himself in 13th

place, which was good enough to advance to the semi-final

ln his next three dives he moved from 13th place to seventh place in the semi-finals.

"As he went along he got stronger and stronger," said

"Loaded with laughtera great date movie!

matthew mcconaughey sarah jessica ker

. AMC UMONUL 20

MJR SOUTHGATE 20

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AMCUART PARK

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AMC FORUM 30

PHICKENCY

SHORES THEATRE

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some men just need

PRAGRICIAN PILLARAM ENAGRE CANTON
SE ROTROSOO EST ROTROS
MARKE

"AMC STAR FARLANE 2"

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Tehan, "And in the finals he moved from seventh place to

moved from
fifth place.
"Chris' first five dives were
they Weren't quite as strong as we would have hoped for," he added. "He was in com-petition with some very good divers."

Arbour's 30th place finish perspective, it's still a very good accomplishment.
"When you're talking about

being one of the top 36 kids in the state, you're doing really well," said Tehan. "To dive in

the meet and get the experience, it was a good meet for Alex too. although I think he understands he probably could have done

better. That's one thing with diving: No matter how good you do, you always could have done reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at

"Fantastic family

"A Doggone

Hilarious meat!

BOWE HIT D. STORE HANDE

SAR IT MOW! ACCINOMABLE AND FORMERS AND FORMERS AND STAR GRATIOT BE

TIM ALLEN.

(C)ACT DIENEP

after winning regional title

■ 11-game win streak comes to a tough close

Though they would have rather continued playing, Novi seator captains Steve Rousseau, Ryan Fox and Tom Ciaverilla are oud of their Nevi Wildcats

Not only did the team win a regional championship, but after a slow start to the season, the a stow start to the season, the Wildcats began to gel and went on an 11-game win streak before losing to Saline in the playoffs last week, 3-2, in the state quarter final game. The streak was the second longest in Novi hockey history. The Wildeats finished with a 17-9-2 record. "After a trip up north we won

our remaining regular season getting the bounces they were, games, which was nice to and Saline's goalic played games, which was nice to improve our record and take us into the playoffs," said Fox, who played left wing for the first half Into the payoris, said rox, who played left wing for the first half of the season before moving to center. I think that was the result the content of the content of the content of the locker room were pretty depressed after the game. The day after you could tell of the content of the conten center. "I think that was the result of us coming together as a team and playing the way we were capable of."

Against Saline, Novi came out firing on all cylinders and outshed their opponent by a wide margin. The game was tied at 1 after the first period and tied at 2 after the second. Then Saline scored the game winner with about seven minutes left in the third.

Galning momentum

Dan Phelps, head coa Wildeats, explained the store the second. Then Saline scored the game winner with about seven minutes left in the third.

us together."
As the team's seniors graduate

this year, Rousseau hopes to see some of the younger kids step up to take over as leaders on the team.

Ciaverilla's personal goal of

winning a regional championship was a major highlight of his senior year — but the sting of losing in the quarter-final still lingers.

"We left everything on the ice against Saline," he said. "We played well, but we just weren't

extremely well.

Dan Phelps, head coach of the Wildcats, explained the slow start to the season was pretty typical of his tearu. In fact, there were only a

second. Then Saline 'scored the game winner with about seven minutes left in the third.

"I flink we just get a little unlucky and the bounces didn't go our way," said Rousseau. "Coming together as a team the way we did and winning regionals was very good for us this year. The coaches really brought us locelher." knew it was going to be that way going in. This year it took a little time mentally for the kids to mesh together as a unit."

Phelos went on to say it's not how a team starts a season, as much as how it finishes that shows

the true sign of progression.

"The way we ended up this year coined that," he said. "Going on an 11-game win streak, beating some big teams, coming back from a couple overtimes and ultimately winning a regional championship was luge for our program."

The regional championship was Novi's fifth in eight years. extremely well."

There are a lot of programs that
Giaverilla said his teanumates

go 25 or 30 years without winning a regional, so we're very fortunate

to be in that position," said Phelps

Shamrocks' hoop season cut short by John Glenn cagers the win for CC. The Mustangs' loss was their first of the year. The Shamrocks advanced to the

The Catholic Central team with 17 points. Senior Aras Shanrocks' run in the MIISAA Baskethall playoffs came to an abrupt end Friday evening after a loss to the Canton Chiefs. The District Final game was littered with missed opportunities by the Shamrocks, and the Chiefs shot the lights out. Catholic Central ended

Inghts out. Cathonic Contain entood up losing by a score of 69-53. Two of CC's top scorers, Seniors Anlyrio Raitner and Garrett Senczyszyn, were held to playoff lows. Senior Robert Forte led the

Catholic Central's rosa to the district finals began with a nail-biter over the Northville Mustangs. The game was close the whole way, and both teams played with intensity. The Shammerk's led with intensity. The Shamrocks led with :08 left when they missed a free throw. The Mustangs pushed the ball up the floor and Alvin Storrs of Northville took a last second shot. The ball hit the rim, bounced to the

side, and finally lipped out to seal

application are due by March

- Compiled by Adam Dubois

finals by their defeating the Salem Rocks by a 23 point margin, 86-63. Catholic Central led wire-to-wire

and never had any thoughts about

letting the Rocks into the game. Bulkunas led the Shamrock charge with 18 points, Raimer had 13 and

SPORTS SHORTS

2006 pre-season baseball training camp

Rick Green, head coach of the Novi High School baseball team and winner of six consecutive KVC Championships (2000-05) is offering this fundamental camp for players ranging from 7-14 years old. Rick and his stal

Paul Sahol and the 2006 Varsity Team will instruct participating players in the following:

Hitting
 Fielding

Throwing fundamentals
Pitching mechanics

 Base running
 Stretching/condit Video station and hand-outs The cost for each session is \$50 in advance/\$55 at the door

\$5 discount for registration of five or more players from the same team. Camp fee includes

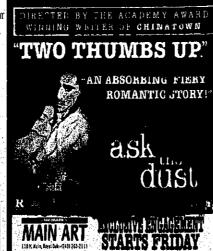
Novi Wildcat Baseball t-shirt

Each player should be prepared to workout indoors and will need to bring their own

shoes (cross training or running) and athletic supporter/cup should

Doug Scott at (248) 374-6122.

R.





Local icer goes out one happy Shamrock

By Adam Dubols

Being one of the better players on an always-solid Catholic Central hockey team is a role that not too many people could han-die. However, that's the role that one CC senior has practiced many

Nick Kroll, a Novi resident of 17 years, started playing bockey at age three. At that time, he says. Novi did not have an organ

After a few years in the Plymouth program, Nick began playing organized hockey with the Farmington Hills Hackey

learn-to-skate program," said

ASSOCIATION.
"I started playing competitively in Farmington when I was 5 years old. Farmington had just opened their rink," he said.

Kroll advanced in hockey

quickly. He was on a travel team that went to the National Finals and won the National

Championship for his age class. Nick said that playing for major goals. During his sophe more year, his hard work paid off, as he made the varsity hockey learn. He continued working hard

all throughout his career with CC. hours a day," he said. "We'd skate for about an hour and a half, and then do about an hour of off-

That rigorous practice schedule prepared the Shantrocks for many tough opponents. Kroll says his favorite teams to play against were Trenton and Orchard Lake

St. Mary's, "Those were the traditional

rivalry games. Those games were always big," he said. Nick says that his best memory, both of Catholic Central and of hockey, is the state championship the team won during his junior

ey career is over, Nick is looking forward to moving to the next

going to do yet. I'm still deciding between playing Junior A, bockey or going to college," Kroll said. No matter what he does, or what path his teammates choose

he says they will stay in contact. "We will for sure stay in con-tact. Some of the guys might be going to juniors, so I could see them there," he said. "It's still

pretty much up in the air."

Nick finished up his senior campaign leading the Sharirocks in goals with 13. He said that he enjoyed the three years he was on the varsity team and said that he had many memories to take wi

Kroll is not only a good hockey Aron is not only a good nockey player, but he is also a good stu-dent who is active in his commu-nity. Nick has maintained a 3.4 GPA and is a member of the Novi Youth Council he said the Youth Council is important because the try to get the youth of Novi involved in various activities around the city. The Council also takes ideas and forwards them to

the Novi City Council.

Nick said that he has taken away many things from his time at Catholic Central, but, to him,

two stand out.
"The school has instilled disci-pline in me," he said. "The val-ues I've learned while I've been Adam Dubois is a sports inter-

for the Novi News. Comments

department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104. Fast facts about Nick Kroll

Favorite food: Mostaccioli chicken, and salad. The pre-game mea!" Favorite movie: Slap Shot

Favorite movie: Slap Shot.
Favorite athlete(s):
Michael Jordan: Tiger Woods
Favorite hockey learn
Detroit Red Wings
Favorite class: History
Role model: "My parents
I've learned a lot from both of
them."

R Payorite video game: NHL

Favorite car: Land Rov Favorile vacation spot



why don't we keep our money in Novi?" he asked. "I think if we can get our coun-cil to open up the doors to more business-

es, we could turn it into an even better area

Just another brick in the wall

Red Wings goalie Manny Legace talks about his job; living in Novi If s been said the two hardest jobs in the Detroit area are playing quarterback for the Lions and goalie for the Red Wings. But that only gives Wings goalie and Novi resident Manny Legace part of the motivation he needs to go out on the ice and play to the highest of his abilities each and every night. start games and arenus go crazy. It's just amazing the following this team has, and it just extends from its history. It's an original six team, and they've won a lot of (Stanley) Cups. That's what makes it Hockeytown, the fans." The Red Wings have won 10 Stanley Cups in team history, including two the same years of the 1998 and 2002. Winter Olympic games. Being that 2006 is another one of those Olympic years, Legace hops to keep the trend going. Novi resident sit in the we won the President's Trophy, so it's definitely not a jinx." Legace. "And last time we won the President's Trophy, so it's definitely not a jinx." Life in Novi Legace has lived in a few of Detroit's suburbs in the past, including West Bloomfield, but he finds Novi to be the best. "West Bloomfield, but he finds Novi to be the best." "West Bloomfield is just to coluttered," he said. "But when I looked into Novi, I just fell in love with it." That was six years ago, when Novi was a bit small-ter.

and every night.

The other part: the team's hometown

Tans.

The other part: the team's hometown

Tans.

The other part: the team's hometown

Tans. Some believe winning the

"As the goalie, you're either the hero or National Hockey League's President's Trophy as the team with the best regular the goal," said Legace after practice last Friday. "There's no in between, it's a tough job, but the fans here are so knowledgeable of the game, you want to play well for

Legace described his experience of play-ing for the Red Wings as an "unbelievable" "Every city we go to there are more and

ings, just ahead of the Carolina Hurricanes' 92. The team that wins the tromore people in Red Wings jersey's then there are whoever we're playing against," he said, "We come out for warm-ups and

season record just adds more

phy is guaranteed home ice advantage nout the playofts.

pressure, but Legace doesn't. Ramez Khuri see it that way. By press time, the Wings had 93 points in the stand

can just get our city council to let things boom a little bit more, instead of trying to make it a small town, maybe open it up like a Birmingham area, it would be great for

atmosphere of going.

BASEBALL IS LIFE

By Courtney Ratkowiak

over his hometown team.

The then-freshman baseball coach

"My biggest joy is

do was play consciount would water by inthe morning on the weekend and go out and the morning continued to the morning home for dinner, and go back out again until ing season.

Rick Green prospective varsity Novi H.S. baseball coach athletes.

Legace may be one of the best goalies on one of the best teams in the league, but he still has time to take notice of some of the other talented athletes Detroit has to offer. "I love what the Pistons are doing," said Legace, "They're unbelievable. They've finally just got into double digit losses, and the season is almost over. It looks like they're

Deecetroit Baskethaaall

when Novi was a bit smaller.

"it's booming now," he said. "And I'm enjoying it. More restaurants and bars ere opening up. Now if we can just get our city council to let things boom a little text things boom a little of the said. "I love the Tigers, too," he said. "I love the Tigers, too," he said. "I love the Tigers, too," he said. "I love committee day at Comerica and taking my

opening day at Comerica and taking my son to the games. I'm not a big television watcher for baseball, but I love the whole

Novi. Legace explained by doing that, Novi Ramez. Khuri is a staff writer for the would be able to draw more people from the north.

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

■ Novi baseball coach Rick Green has spent much of his time on the diamond

In a coaching career that has been defined In a coaching career that has been defined by varsity league championships, Rick Green remembers an improbable victory

The then-freshman baseball coach returned to Brighton for the last game of a successful season and learned that Novi would be playing a strong Bulldogs team in an unexpected doubleheader.

"We were only supposed to play one game, and they had two games on the schedule," Green recalled, "I thought, 'How are we supposed to beal Brighton in two games?' I wanted to

was one of my proud

games and beat them watching the kids and watching the kids and how they improve from L had them, I never thought we'd be a 19 day one, from their first 2 team. I lived in day of tryouts, all the 2 team. I lived in Brighton, and that was just one of the greatest feelings, going to Brighton and beating them in a doubleheader. That was one of my provided the season."

moments in coach "My biggest joy ing."

Nine years later, "My biggest joy is watching the kids and, how it they from any biggest joy is watching the kids and, how it they for warsity baseball team to six straight KVC titles while coaching current minor league and Division I college athletes.

Green, 47, played baseball for Walled Lake Western High School, After high Lake Western High School, After high Lake Western High School, After high Lake league for Major League Baseball. We have a couple sophomores who I think we're looking at to make the varsity team. We have a couple sophomores who I think we're looking at to make the varsity team. Lake Western High School. The Migh School, he played Pontiac Class A ball, a feeder league for Migor League Bascball. "I've always had a passion for the game," we do have a couple sophomores, who I think we're looking at to make the varsity team. "we do have a couple septions coming up, to said. "When I was young, all we had to do was play baseball. I would wake up in tooking for them to be our leaders this leading to the western and so provide the was the western and so provide the medium of the was play baseball. I would wake up in the western and th



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Nov! New

Novi Wildcat baseball head coach Rick Green's looking forward to another season on the diamond.

Waster Hall

"Brighton's the favorite to win our league right now, (but) my goal every year is definitely to win the KVC," he said. "Once we win the KVC, we try to take care of districts. Once we get into the playoffs, it's a new season. Play hard, have fun, and see

MOLD: A GROWING PROBLEM ALLSTATE OFFERS TIPS FOR PROTECTING YOUR HOME

Wixom, Mich., March 16, 2006 - Mold claims cost homeowners more than \$3 billion last year, with average claims ranging from \$15,000 to \$30,000 per homeowner, according to the Insurance Information Institute. So when protecting your home against water damage and freezing temperatures, it is also important to protect your home against mold growth. Allstate Agent Louis Kirby offers the following winter safety tips:

 Look around your home for water leaks and cut off the source of the leak as soon as possible. Check plumbing fixtures, roof gutters and air conditioners regularly, as well as appliances like refrigerators, dishwashers and washer and dryers.

•Be aware of potential signs of future water leaks, like moisture on your windows and damp, musty smells.

Open windows and use fans for good ventilation in your home, particularly humid areas such as the laundry room, kitchen and bathrooms.

•When you go on vacation, turn off the water source to your home and set the thermostat above 50 degrees if it's cold outside. This can help prevent undetected water damage from leaky appliances or pipes.

•Mold can also settle on the decaying leaves of houseplants, so plants should be pruned regularly.

'Your home's humidity level is key in keeping mold at bay, said Allstate Agent Louis "Set your humidistat between 35 percent to 40 percent during the winter months. If your windows begin to develop water condensation, lower your humidi-

Louis Kirby also suggests the following tips:

elf you must use a room humidifier or vaporizer, keep it. clean and change the water often, to avoid contamination by mold and bacteria,

•If there is mold, clean the area as quickly as possible to prevent mold from spreading.

·If you're ever unsure if a water leak may be occurring or see gray or black water leaks, call a professional to take a look.

For more information on this and other safety topics, contact Allstate Agent Louis Kirby, located at 49357 Pontiae Trail, Suite 103 in Wixom. Louis can be reached at 248-669-0755.



Chris Meredith uses friendly customer service and unique interior design ideas to make "Your Nesting Place" feel like home.

At home, with Your Nesting Place

Unique Milford store offers friendly service, fresh design ideas

By Annette Jaworski

Chris Meredith follows only one hard and fast rule when it comes to design — and that's to expect the

unexpected.

We like to keep them guessing," explains the owner of Your Nesting Place in Milford, "I like to push the edge of what's in."

Come see what robin's en tooks like on a wall, or a l what robin's egg blue

tions time on a wall, or a leopard print crawn moulding — maybe even dare to try it at home.

"We just came out of a period where everything was earth tones. Now we're moving back to some exciting hright colors," she explained.

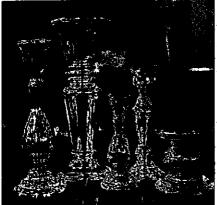
As a designer, Chris Meredith refuses to be pigeon-holed into a safe category, and has developed a faithful following who've discov-ered her fun and refreshing approach to design.

Now clients can enjoy more of a good thing with double the space at their new location in the center of downtown on Main. Street in

"It's bigger, it's brighter and it's usier to display stuff," she

That sign with the overstuffed chair is symbolic of the store — laid back, coully and inviting. Those comfortable scals are one of the first things customers notice in Your Nesting Place. There are sofas, love seats, overstuffed chairs and ottomans in topestry, leather, olive green and even plum. There are thousands of fabric selections so clients can find that perfec-

Because of their recently



expanded facilities, they can fea-ture an even lurger display of Flexsteel merchandise, which is the backbone of their merchandise.

Much of the charm of Your Nesting Place lies in its relaxed ambience. Customers might come in to a dish of chocolates or a bevcrage. Mercdith's dog, Sarah, might offer a friendly welcome. They even open doors between their neighbors, "Some Gals," so that customers can pass back and forth between both stores. They would love nothing better than for customers to have a little fun and break out of their comfort zone

nile they're at it. "I'd like to think the authode is something like Cheers ... we remember what you bought last time, and we'll remember your name, said Meredith.

True to her free spirit, she warns that her sales are at a whim

When we have one, you better show up."

are also bi-annual Flexiteel sales, a product she feels is an exceptional value, and of

course Milford Memories and Sidewalk Sale time.

Meredith uses the same approach to her merchandise, where she focuses mainly on one-

"If you see it, you better buy it, because it might be gone, and I don't know if I will get more of that item in stock," said Meredith. On the flip side, she promises there's new stuff every day, so there's always something fresh and new to

inspire.
"It's a good show place. People and net ideas," she can come in and get ideas," she added. The creative crew makes it casy for customers, because items are placed in groupings, so they can imagine how it looks when it's

all put together.

I want people to look at this and say, I can do this," said Meredith.

"My new mantra is 'get inspired, be creative, I've been following

that a lot more."
Indeed, many clients make regular visits to see what's new and for a little design inspiration.
Another fun way they encourage

a client's sense of style is by tag-

YOUR NESTING PLACE

Location: 332 North Main St., in downlown Milford.

Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday; 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday and Friday; and Saturday from 10

Phone: (248) 685-7314.

Photo by HAL GOULD!

Mercury glass fixtures are among the many unique offerings at Your Nesting Place, located in

ging certain merchandise as "favorite things." It's their equivalent of the Oprah picks, some of Chris Meredith's favorite items

including rugs, tables, and more.

As a service to her clientele she also keeps a "wish list" where they can request a certain type of mer-chandise.

chandise.
"We'll look for something to see
if maybe we can get it for them?'
she added, Another great way to
take advantage of their creative
genius includes their design services. A member of the design crew, learne imboden notes, "We're Jeanne Imboden notes,

Searching for new and innovative merchandise is literally a seven-day-a-week job for ween-day-d-week job for Merediff. It comes from a variety of sources—exactly where is part of the mystique that keeps customers coming back. Some items are from vendors and purchasing trips or hunted down at unique runs and estate sales. Part of the fun is combining the old with the new,

just like any home.

Although it was a challenge to meet their opening date, they met

"I'd like to think. the attitude is something like Cheers ... we remember what you bought last time, and we'll remember your name."

Chris Meredith

their goals with flying colors. She credits builders, Tim and Paul Brandt and decorative painter, Dolores Carlton, But most of all, she appreciates her partners in design, who contribute their own design, who contribute their own dimension of style and make the store what it is today. That includes Jeanne Imboden, Saudi Hinzmann, Nancy Hinzmann and Holly Brandt

"I wouldn't have believed it's possible. But I knew I had to move if I wanted to grow the to if I wanted to grow the business I had to do something."

Meredith notes that she believes.

Meredith notes that she believes in dealing honestly with her costioners, and woult mark up merchandise in lieu of 'big savings' later. "We're fair in our pricing,' she said.
Your Nesting Place's new location is at 332 North Main St. in downtown Millord. To go along with the newly expanded facilities are expanded business hours, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m., to 7 Tuesday and Tuesday and Tuesday and Tuesday and Tuesday and Tuesday and Mednesday, 10 a.m., to 7 p.m. to 7 Tuesday and Mednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 Tuesday and Mednesday and Saturday Thursday and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or call (248)



