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Thursday, May 11, 2006

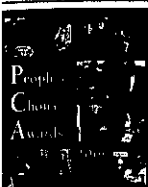
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Volume 50 Number 40

Novi, Michigan

INSIDE

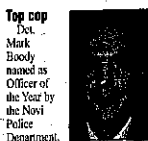


Who do you love?

Our readers picked their favorites - from auto dealers to veterinarians



Kansas? The Novi Theatres upcoming production of The Wizard of Oz includes a record 41 Novi residents in its combined 100 cast and crew.



Top cop Det. Mark Boddy named as Officer of the Year by the Novi Police Department.

INDEX

Table with 2 columns: Category and Page Number. Includes Business, Calendar, Classifieds, Community, Education, Faith, Health, Opinion, People, Public Safety, Regional Marketplace, Seniors, Sports.

CONTACT US

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City manager search begins

Next round of interviews set for tonight at city hall.

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

Round one of the city manager interviews took place Saturday morning, with three candidates tackling questions from city council.

Michael Stampfler

The first to sit in the "hot seat" was Michael Stampfler, served as city manager of Portage on the west side of the state for 20 years.

Here in is Channel 13 interviews for the next three candidates for Novi's new city manager will take place tonight in council chambers.

The one-hour interviews will be broadcast live on Channel 13. The schedule will be: 7 p.m. - Alex Alie, currently city manager of Huntington Woods.

member trying to push an item onto an agenda. "I counsel them that we should really go to the full council, and if they agree, fine," he said.

continued on page 2



A night to remember Courtney Ratkowiak and Chris Rankiewicz arrive for Novi High's prom last Saturday at the Rock Financial Showplace. For more photos, please see page 5B.

Drug cash to pay for cruisers

Novi's budget passes in 5-2 vote; Paul and Nagy dissent

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2006-2007 was passed by the council five votes Monday, with council members having to make some compromises.

After the April 30 budget session, members suggested about \$95,000 above and beyond targeted expenditures.

Council voted to hold off on the following expenditures in order to balance the budget:

- Postponing an architectural analysis and master plan for Fire Stations #1, #2 and #3 at a cost of \$25,000.
• Reducing the judgment trust fund transfer by \$25,000 from \$250,000 to \$225,000 for covering deductibles for property and liability insurance and legal claims.
• Saving \$10,000 by not purchasing Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department utility vehicles for the proposed Singh Trail at 10 Mile and Wixom roads.

Mixing it up with Automation Alley

Novi welcomes neighboring communities to promote city

By Tracy Miesher STAFF WRITER

Sherry Zylka believes meeting new people will provide ideas for future classes and opportunity at

Schoolcraft College. An associate dean of Continuing Education and Professional Development at the Livonia-based college, Zylka was among several business professionals who attended the "Gearing Up Business Spin-Off" mixer at the Rock Financial Showplace last Wednesday.

"We're always looking for new course ideas," Zylka said. "We're also looking for partnership options for education and training." The cities of Novi, Farmington

Automation Alley is a non-profit organization concentrating on automotive, manufacturing and high-tech companies and organizations in southeast Michigan.

and Farmington Hills teamed up with Oakland County-based Automation Alley to introduce the organization's efforts in branding southeast Michigan as a world

center for technology. More than 40 people showed up to tour Novi's new exposition center and learn more about Automation Alley, which has grown to more than 630 members since kicking off in September 1999.

Automation Alley is a non-profit organization, concentrating on automotive, manufacturing and high-tech companies and organizations in southeast Michigan.

continued on page 2

Veterans needed for Memorial Day parade

Deadline to register May 19

By Ramez Khuri STAFF WRITER

Last year's Memorial Day parade was a breakthrough in Novi.

It was the first time war veteran recognition was added to the ceremony, and according to Tracie Ringle, events and marketing coordinator, the department is looking to continue the trend.

This year's parade will be on Monday, May 29. "We personally invited veterans we had contacted from the Novi area and had a lot of responses with that last year," said Ringle. "We're bringing that back this year. To you, we'll get you on a decorated veteran float, and the mayor will present you with a certificate at the Memorial ceremony which takes place immediately following the parade."

Those who participated last year may do so again this year. Ringle said there are many ways to register.

Forms are available at the Novi Civic Center, online at www.novi.mi.us, at the Novi Senior Center and at the Novi Public Library. Deadline to register is Friday, May 19, Call (248) 342-5400 for more information.

One new aspect added to the festivities this year is the recognition of those currently serving in the military. Ringle said the Parks Department has a banner which reads "Novi supports our troops." Those with loved ones or friends currently serving can register and give a photo to be made into a photo button that they can wear

while marching as a group in honor during the parade. The parade route is the same as last year. It starts at Karim Boulevard and heads west on 10 Mile Road to the Novi Civic Center. Karim is just west of Hagerty.

"The parade starts at 10 a.m.," said Ringle. "At the civic center there will be a memorial service with a flag folding, singing, 'Taps' and a gun salute.

"Everyone who wants to enter the parade does need to register so we know we're going to accommodate," she added.



As they both laugh, Juliet Culp gives a piggyback ride to her mom Carol Jean Stockhausen at her mom's Dunlap St. home in Northville.

BECOMING 'MOM': Daughters fight and embrace the inevitable

By Maureen Johnston GANNETT NEWS SERVICES

The day Juliet Culp realized she was stockpiling dried flowers, it dawned on her.

"She had become her mother." By the time Culp reached high school, she knew some of her habits, mannerisms and hotbeds mimicked her own. Carole Jean Stockhausen. At that age, Culp said she recalled in the thought of becoming a carbon copy of her first role model.

"The dried flowers, an olive-green phase, and their shared laugh were just the beginning." Now, the 53-year-old said, "Thank you very much" when someone cites a similarity.

"I did go through a phase that I was very concerned I was going to be my mother," Culp said. "It was spooky." "It got to the point I said, 'I love you but I don't want to be exactly like you.'"

Five traditions

Elizabeth Clancy, an observer of mother-daughter interaction for 17 years, said younger girls can be quite different from their mothers. The owner of Elizabeth's Bridal more independent than they used to be. They may heed their mother's opinion, but they are definitely not trying to replicate their walk down the aisle.

Clancy said the influence of her mother, Sabine Clark, remains with her today, including her early lessons about fabric and a love for fine things. And in ways she vowed to avoid, Clancy said she has become her mother.

"I had knock-knocks and plinks everywhere," she said. "Now I'm the cleaning lady's nightmare." Patty Castrogale, an Elizabeth's sales clerk, said daughters naturally duplicate their mother's habits. While packing for a trip, 15, related her clothes to pack her suitcase, a practice Castrogale never taught her, but she picked up just the same.

continued on page 6

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Next round of interviews set for tonight at city hall

continued from front page

Stamper said he favors quality infrastructure improvements and a tax policy that invites people rather than scaring them away.

Terry Margolis inquired about strategic planning and goal setting.

"One of the strengths that I had in Portage was the goal-setting process. I think that it helped us stay on the same page," he said.

Stamper said Portage's goal setting includes a citizens' survey, advisory boards and city administration.

"The budget then tries to reflect those goals," he added.

Stamper said Portage's goal setting includes a citizens' survey, advisory boards and city administration.

"Novi has the same problems other cities do with revenue sharing," Stamper said.

"I don't want to leave Illinois, but it was in the best interests of my family to take retirement," he said.

Stamper said Portage's city staff made special efforts to have the community development director abreast of what was happening in the state, the Midwest and the nation.

"There are always going to be relationships between council and staff. But I encourage people to talk with me," he said.

David Dorgan is the next candidate. Dorgan, grew up on a farm in central Illinois and was most recently the city manager in Elgin, Ill.

Currently, he is working as a consultant in the private sector. He went to a small high school and put himself through the University of Illinois, earn-

ing a political science degree. Dorgan also worked his way through graduate school, earning a master's degree in public administration from the same school.

He and his wife, a German national with a law degree, have two sons, 13 and 15. He had an opportunity to take an early retirement from Elgin and has been in city management since then.

"I'm retired the way (baseball great) Roger Clemens is retired. I'm looking for a team," Dorgan said.

Gatt asked what he knew about Novi, its challenges and his qualifications.

"Each city I've worked in, I've been able to help that city get to the next level," Dorgan said.

"I ended up working for a city council that didn't hire me," he said.

"I really call on municipalities in this state to be ahead of the curve as much as they can in terms of revenue generation and expense control."

"Revenue issues are primary. I'm always looking for opportunities to get other governments' money and to help when you can," Dorgan said.

Stamper said Portage's city staff made special efforts to have the community development director abreast of what was happening in the state, the Midwest and the nation.

"The number one job of the city manager in my view after working with the council is economic development."

"I believe the start on the budgeting process is to have the management team sitting down with the council in a public setting and talking about priorities, and that needs to be done every year," Suso said.

Julian Suso said he was impressed with Novi.

"Obviously, there's a lot of shared vision and pride in the community," he said.

Suso most recently served for 16 years as city manager of Madison, Ohio, about 15 miles east of Cleveland. He left in January.

He and his wife have two sons: Anthony, who is studying to be an ordained priest, and Michael, a student at Notre Dame University.

Novi welcomes neighboring communities to promote city

continued from front page

"Bringing Automation Alley into Novi was an opportunity to work with the company and promote our area," said Novi's interim city manager Clay Pearson.

"We already work with Farmington and Farmington Hills, and this event was opened up to his business contacts as well."

"It's important to have business-to-business networking," Brock said.

"Novi, Farmington and Farmington Hills are vital to this economy," Rogers said.

"Everyone recognizes that, 107, or at turnisher@gannett.com, including Automation Alley."

Automation Alley Executive Director Ken Rogers said the organization's goal was to expand into the eight southeastern counties and the city of Detroit.

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(Left to right) Steve Brock, Farmington Hills city manager; Blair Bowman, owner of the Rock Financial Showplace; Vincent Pastue, Farmington city manager; Clay Pearson, Novi interim city manager; and Ken Rogers, executive director of Automation Alley

Photo by TRACY MISHLER

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Novi's budget passes in 5-2 vote; Paul and Nagy dissent

continued from front page

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Opinion No. 5243 on Nov. 3, 1977, said that "no conflict of interest presents a retired city employee, who is receiving a pension from the city of running for the office or serving as a member of the city's council."

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Council member's vote questioned

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Gatt winds up refusing \$1,000

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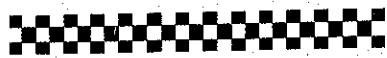
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Advertisement for Taorello's. The Flavor Of Europe... The Taste Of Taorello's! Features gourmet produce, meats, and groceries. Includes a list of products and prices.

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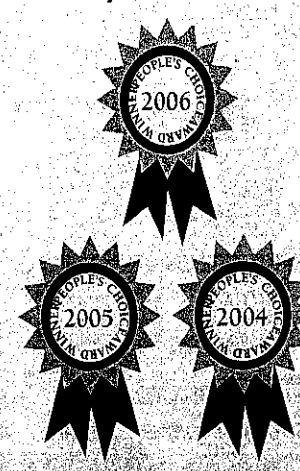
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LANSING CONNECTION

Campaign Finance Reform

Timely disclosure of campaign finance reporting would be required under legislation recently introduced. Senate Bill 1243 will require campaign committees to report all contributions they receive within seven business days of receiving the contribution and all expenditures be reported within 10 business days.

Current law requires officials in an off-election year to report campaign finances received and spent every 12 months. In an election year, they file reports just before and after the primary and general elections.

Timely disclosure ensures that this public information is available in a timely manner for the citizen to review.

With modern technology, including electronic filing and the Internet, campaign finances can be disclosed very quickly. A fully informed public is a smarter electorate. This will help them make knowledgeable decisions in the voting booth.

School Election Consolidation

With less than 9 percent of voters turning out in the recent school elections, legislation to consolidate with the November regular election this makes sense.

House Bill 4755 requires school districts to hold their elections for school board members in November instead of the current option of choosing between four dates. This change would save our schools precious dollars that they can't afford to lose right now.

Placing these school elections on the November ballot would not cost the schools anything unless the municipalities incur an additional expense due to running the school election. Many schools have complained about the cost of holding elections especially when some of the races are uncontested. Within Oakland County, South Lyon schools have taken the lead to utilize the November date.

Voters are more accustomed to the November election date and therefore the potential for greater turnout would be likely. This is a win for our schools, a win for the taxpayers and voters. It is just common sense.

The legislation is currently before the Senate Committee on Government Operations of which I am a member.

Job Resource Guide

As reported last week in the Novi News, in these uncertain economic times, many people with established careers have found themselves looking for work or perhaps a career change. To strengthen their search and make the transition quicker and less painful, I have put together a Job Resource Guide to offer them assistance.

The Job Resource Guide provides resources for job seekers and information on retraining to help constituents find meaningful training in their careers or perhaps a new career path. The guide includes information on adult education, organizations that can assist in job searches, and apprenticeships.

For a copy of the Job Resource Guide, contact Cassie's office at 1-888-38-NANCY or go to www.senate.michigan.gov/opentext.aspx and click on Senator Cassie's Job Resource Guide.

State Senator Nancy Cassie, 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, as well as the Villages of Holly, Milford and Wolverine Lakes, and the cities of Novi, Northville (the portion in Oakland County), Orchard Lake, South Lyon, Walled Lake and Westland. You can contact her by e-mail at ncassie@senate.michigan.gov or call free at 1-888-38-NANCY.

Visions of a Child photo show Monday

Fourth-graders to display talents

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Photography enthusiasts can look forward to a special event Monday night in Wixom.

The city of Wixom invites the public to a photo show, "Visions of a Child," from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Wixom Library, 49015 Pontiac Trail.

This is the program's fifth year and the fourth year the city has been able to use a grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Oakland County Arts, Culture and Film for the show.

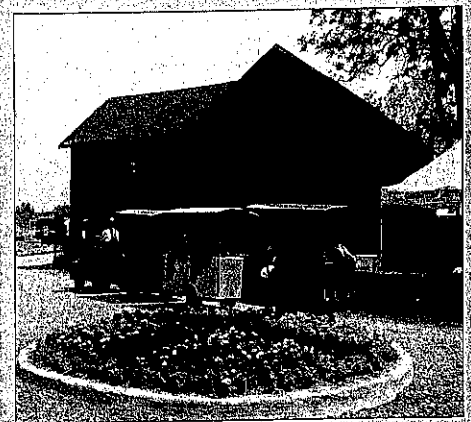
City staff brought Monte Nagler, a professional photographer, to Wixom Elementary, Loon Lake Elementary and Walled Lake Elementary to instruct fourth-graders on how to compose a photograph.

Next, staff provided the photo skills they had just learned.

Their film was developed, and Nagler chose the best picture from each child. This year, 249 children participated in the project.

Nagler will be present at Monday's reception as well as many of the child photographers and their family members.

Each child received the chosen photograph and was asked to write a description of the photo. It was then mounted and displayed at the Wixom Library. The photographs will be on display until May 19.



Founder's Day Festival details

Area residents can enjoy festivities planned from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, May 21, at Wixom's fifth annual Founder's Day Festival at Gibson Park, 48805 Pontiac Trail.

Activities will include a petting farm; sheep shearing; a blacksmith and candle maker; wool spinner and quilters; school and church music groups; antique car and tractor displays; children's train rides and a craft tent; a horseshoe tournament; the "Strut Your Mutt" dog walk; a juggler, clown and ventriloquist; historical ice cream social and fourth-graders' "Visions of a Child" photo display.

On May 21, the pictures will be on display at the city of Wixom's fifth annual Founder's Day Festival planned from 1-4 p.m. at Gibson Park.

The library is open 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and is closed on Sunday.

For more information, call (248) 624-2850.

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

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Michael S. Rowe, M.D., F.A.C.P., C.C.R.I.

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Children cough for many reasons. The most common being a viral upper respiratory tract infection (URI). But, coughing can also be a sign of something more serious. It can signal asthma. For example, in some asthmatic children, a cough is the only noticeable symptom. An asthma-related cough will typically worsen at night, after exercise or during or after a cold. Nasal acid reflux disease, such as rhinitis or sinusitis, may also cause a cough. Your child's stomach and esophagus may even cause a cough. This cough is typically related to gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD). Other causes of a cough include: inhaling a foreign body or being exposed to an irritant like smoke or fumes.

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■ Becoming 'Mom': Daughters fight and embrace the inevitable

continued from front page
Just like dad?

Six-year-old Maya Sankaran said she and her mom Elizabeth like some of the same food and both like to go shopping and play games.

The Winchester Elementary first grader said that's where the similarities end. And she's not so sure she'll be picking up any of her mom's tendencies.

"She usually wears dresses and I don't," Sankaran said. "I don't like dresses." And she said

she would prefer teaching to her mom's profession as a business analyst in Ford's information technology department.

"She makes computers," Sankaran said. "I wouldn't like to do the work she does because it's kind of boring."

Mother and daughter both have long hair, Sankaran said, but people don't comment on a resemblance.

"I look more like my dad," she said. "My mom said we look like twins."

The oldest of five children, Culp said she is more like her

mom than her two younger sisters. In looks, build and gestures.

"They say 'Oh, she's obviously your daughter,'" she said. "Of the girls, I am the one who looks the most like my mom."

The two women share hobbies of knitting, quilting and old home restoration.

"I'm so like my mother," Culp said. "It's obviously more than just interests, it's the genes as well."

Gone are the days of trying to emerge from her mother's shadow, Culp said. Just like her

mom said, she arrived at a place where she was comfortable with her own identity, regardless of how many traits they shared.

"There's definitely a part of me that tries to emulate her," Culp said. "She's such a good person."

"I would be honored for someone to say, 'You're exactly like your mother,'" Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103, or via e-mail at mjohnton@gannett.com.



Girls gone wild! Birthday parties aren't what they used to be

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Children's birthdays aren't just about cake and ice cream anymore.

A multitude of possibilities exist in today's world when it comes to turning a year older.

Taji Totoni, of Northville, invited six of her Northville and Novi friends to "Taji's Spa 11" on her 11th birthday last September.

The party took place at the home of her father, Sam Totoni, who lives in Northville with his wife, Hasana Totoni.

During the three-hour party, 10 women and 4-year-old Megan Graham of Southgate provided a full-day of pampering for seven girls.

The day started with the girls registering with "spa manager" Nikki Alderson of Treeton, Taji's mother.

The birthday girl said her favorite station was the foot bath.

"This was no ordinary party," she said. "I think I'm the first person to have a spa in their house."

Alderson said she came up with the idea for "Taji's Spa 11" because she believes going to the spa is something every woman wants.

"All women love the luxury of a spa," she said. "So, I thought, 'Wouldn't it be fun to create your own spa for your little girl for a birthday party?'"

Alderson noted that depending how many volunteers are available, the hostess may want to assign a "lifter" to circulate around the various spa stations, serving food and beverages.

Party with a princess
Fantasy Tea Parties is a traveling tea and princess party service in which a young woman dresses up like a real princess for children's parties. The local firm will come to the Novi/Northville area. For more information, call (810) 227-2789 or visit www.fantasy-tea-parties.com.

Amusement parks, sleepovers
The spa party is just one idea, however, for an unusual birthday party.

Loveless said she once went to a hotel party.

"You reserve a suite and have a sleepover at a hotel," she said.

Ceramic shops, such as the Best Knees in Northville, also organize children's birthday parties.

Amusement parks, like the new Paradise Park that just opened on Grand River Avenue in Novi, is another idea. The new park offers sleepover parties for children.

Lynne Paul, a member of the

Novi City Council, said she's given special birthday parties to each of her three children.

For her daughter Natalie's ninth birthday two years ago she had a tea party where the guests wore Mad Hatter hats (like the character's in "Alice in Wonderland") and drank apple cider.

"We also had various stations where they did crafts like making outfits for Teddy bears," Paul said.

She had a basketball party for her son, Adam, when he turned 11 two years ago. At this party, he and his friends went to an open gym in Northville to shoot some hoops.

Megan Paul, now 9, had a gymnastics party at the Sports Club of

Novi two years ago on her seventh birthday.

"Bowling is fun, too, and Novi Bowl has great parties," Paul said.

Another idea for a children's birthday party is the SoccerZone in Novi at (248) 374-0590.

Or consider Rainbow Recreation of Michigan, on Grand River Avenue five miles west of Novi Road, where kids can frolic on indoor playscapes. For more information, call (248) 486-5300.

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

A day at the home spa

The girls began their "spa experience" with a paraffin wax hand treatment, which softens the skin. Next, they had a facial, complete with sliced cucumbers for their eyes.

After relaxing on a living room sofa, they headed downstairs for a foot bath, makeup application, manicure, pedicure, arm and hand massage and hair styling.

Sara Loveless, 11, of Northville, said she liked the facial the best.

Dani Winiarski, 10, of Northville, enjoyed the arm and hand massage.

"The lady who did it almost made me fall asleep," she said.

Molly Reisman, 11, of Northville, said her favorite station was the paraffin hand treatment.

Maggie Haberstroh, 11, of Novi, enjoyed the hand massage. "It was relaxing," she said.

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Appreciating seniors in a 'big' way

■ Local Big Boy welcomes seniors for free breakfast

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Vivian Coleman swore she'd never eat scrambled eggs again.

But, after feasting her eyes on the spread offered to Novi seniors by Big Boy on Novi Road, the 85-year-old Meadowbrook Commons resident couldn't resist.

Tuesday was Senior Appreciation Day at Big Boy.

And owner, George Darany sent a big invitation to all community seniors to enjoy a free breakfast on him.

"Community involvement is important," Darany said. "Senior Appreciation Day is our way of saying 'thanks for coming in.'"

More than 100 seniors piled in to taste the many choices offered on Big Boy's breakfast buffet bar.

"It was all very good," Coleman said.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Novi Big Boy restaurant owner George Darany greets guests Lillian McKart, Jackie Archer and Barbara Hays at Tuesday's Senior Appreciation Breakfast. All seniors visiting the Novi Road eatery received a free breakfast.

newest store and it's important to get involved with the people in the community."

Darany said he is and will be offering other incentives and events to members of the community, including the Read For Fun Club and Big Boy's Most Valuable Player Award.

"Ann Marocco said she couldn't get enough of the pancakes and waffles."

"I definitely plan on coming in again," said the 78-year-old from Commerce Township, "because everything was so good."

Glenda Hamilton said she appreciated the breakfast due to her tight budget.

"It was very kind of them to do this because most of us are on fixed incomes," said Hamilton, 70.

Novi Little League and we're working on getting involved with the schools," he said. "I want my restaurant to be the neighborhood restaurant. That's so important to me."

Darany owns five other Big Boy restaurants in Taylor, Monroe and Adrian.

"Our goal is to make sure we

get this place first class," he said. "I feel that I'm a citizen of the community and it's important to be involved with what we consider to be our customer base."

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

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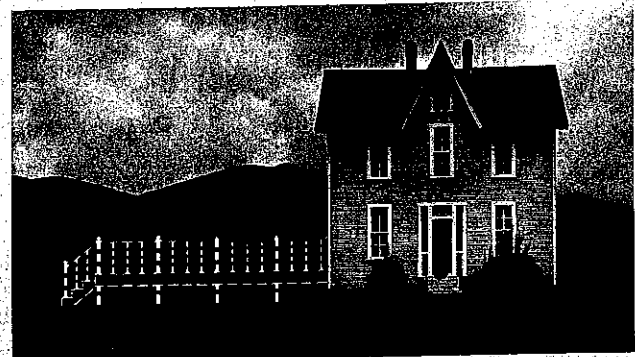
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BUSINESS

DESIGNER OF THE YEAR

Novi's Roche Bobois will honor Sacha Latic Monday

■ Reception set at location by 12 Oaks

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Those who love contemporary furniture are invited to meet an internationally known designer Monday evening at Roche Bobois by Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.

A special reception from 5:30-7:30 p.m. will honor the European design and furniture retailer's designer of the year, Sacha Latic, (pronounced sasha lakek).

Latic has designed an edgy line of modern furniture named Speed Up exclusively for Roche Bobois.

The catered event at the Novi showroom at 43221 12 Mile Road will include Latic talking about his design, a showcase of select pieces and a guest list of Metro Detroit designers, architects and builders.

General Motors Corporations' Advanced Design Team will host a breakfast for Latic on Monday. Anne Asensio, executive director of the team who was hired by General Motors from Renault, knows Latic.

Latic will also visit the Michigan Design Center in Troy on Monday afternoon, where trade professionals will meet the famous designer.

Greg Eitelman, owner of the Roche Bobois-Novi, said every year the furniture company honors an up-and-coming designer.

The staff is especially excited to be honoring Latic this year. "He started out as a product or industrial designer and has designed bicycles, motorcycles and cars in Europe,"

Eitelman said.

"Surface" magazine features an article on Latic in its most recent issue.

"From his love of design, he has gone into designing an entire line of furniture for Roche Bobois," Eitelman said. "These pieces look like they're in motion. Their's a real dynamic and automotive feel to them, not only in the look of the furniture but also the technology surrounding them."

One of the dining room tables he designed for the Speed Up line took two years to make and won several European design awards, according to Eitelman. Latic, known for his design work for Peugeot, Yamaha and Suzuki, features aerodynamic curves and slick, lacquered finishes in his Speed Up line.

Owner and creator of Sacha Latic Design Company, Latic has worked with Roche Bobois since 1996 when he was awarded the "Casaidea" prize in Rome for his Onda bed.

It all started with a Mustang

Latic's design career began at age 8, when on his way to school he caught a glimpse of a metallic green Ford Mustang.

He felt an immediate, deep desire to draw it until he could reproduce its contours as perfectly as those of the original model.

Even though he never attended design school, Latic, now 42, was designing professionally by age 17.

He is completely self-taught, but style runs in his family. Born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, but raised in Paris from the age of 1, he grew up watching his fashion designer father work for some of Paris' largest haute couture houses.

Latic began his apprenticeship at Peugeot's interior design department in 1985. He was quickly noticed and after a year joined the design agency owned by Alain Carre, the star designer of the 1980s.

He established his own company in 1994. "Being a designer means performing an act of creation in an industrial environment," Latic said.

"It means attempting to create intelligent objects which pollute neither the environment, nor man, nor the mind of man. It also means trying to create symbols and shape emotions in a quite reasonable context based on strict logic."

"I like to arouse in people the desire to see, to touch and to use my creations or simply to feel their presence."

Roche Bobois, which has showrooms in about 30 countries, introduces a new exclusive collection every six months.

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

Want to meet the designer?

The staff at Roche Bobois NovI invite contemporary furniture lovers to a reception honoring Sacha Latic, the retailer's designer of the year, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Monday in the showroom at 43221 12 Mile Road on the Twelve Oaks Mall ring road.

R.S.V.P. as soon as possible to Nabilah Mosher at (248) 347-6888.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Service provider named best
Novi-based Fehrer was named as a General Motors Supplier of the Year for its overall business performance in providing GM with world-class parts and services. The award was given during a ceremony April 29 at GM's Vehicle Engineering Center at the General Motors Technical Center in Warren.

The GM Supplier of the Year award began as a global program in 1992. Winners are selected by a global team of executives from purchasing, engineering, manufacturing and logistics who base their decisions on supplier performance in quality, service, technology and price. This year, General Motors honored 85 suppliers for their outstanding performance throughout 2005.

No payment for creditors

The creditors committee of Novi-based Tower Automotive Inc. filed an objection April 28 with a bankruptcy court claiming a deal guaranteeing \$35 million to the auto-parts supplier's Milwaukee unions and retirees would keep other creditors from getting paid.

Tower, a supplier of vehicle frames, this month agreed to pay retirees at least \$35 million and cut their health and life insurance bene-

fits as part of a plan to reduce expenses. Most of the employees worked at the Novi-based company's now-closed Milwaukee plant.

Writing on behalf of the creditors committee, attorney Jm S. Dizengoff of Akin Gump Strauss Hower & Field LLP in New York said the deal Tower reached favors retirees at the expense of the other unsecured creditors.

Dizengoff said because the deal is contingent on Tower's reorganizing plan, which the creditors committee is supposed to help negotiate, Tower is essentially already locked into terms of a reorganizing plan without committee approval.

In addition to approval of the retiree settlements, Tower is also seeking a 60-day extension to June 27 for filing a bankruptcy reorganization plan and repaying creditors. The creditors committee said it doesn't oppose the request, adding that it should work with the company to formulate a plan by that date.

Tower filed for bankruptcy in February 2005.

Ameriqwest closes Novi branch

Ten Michigan branch offices of Ameriqwest Mortgage Co. were abruptly closed May 2 and scores of employees were terminated. The closings, including a loca-

tion in Novi, were part of a restructuring by its parent company, ACC Capital Holdings Corp., which announced it was consolidating its operation and shuttering 229 retail branch offices nationwide while terminating 3,800 employees.

The job cuts amount to a one-third reduction of ACC Capital's work force of 11,000.

Officials said the move was aimed to consolidate the lending operations into four regional mortgage production centers in California, Arizona, Illinois and Connecticut. They said the centralized operations will improve efficiency and strengthen the firms.

The company will continue to make loans in Michigan and other states through online access, the company said.

Work resumes in Wilcox

Ford Motor Company resumed building vehicles at seven assembly plants that were shut down for a day due to a parts issue that has been resolved.

Working quickly with its supplier partner, Ford resolved the issue on the clutch mechanism in its

4R7075 four-speed, rear-wheel-drive automatic transmission. The transmission is used in the Ford F-150, Expedition, E-Series and Lincoln Town Car. The vehicles are built at Ford's Dearborn Truck, Michigan Truck, Norfolk Assembly, Ohio Assembly, Wisconsin Assembly, Kansas City Assembly and Canadian Assembly plants.

Ford is confident that no affected vehicles reached customer hands, as the company worked to ensure the part met its quality standards and specifications.

The day of lost vehicle production will be made up.

Cutting branches

Detroit Edison line-clearance crews will be working in more than 30 Southeastern Michigan communities in May and June, combining their year-round effort to keep trees and branches away from power lines. The utility trims trees to reduce the potential for power outages. Detroit Edison tree-trimming crews follow International Society of Arboriculture standards, which are designed to maintain the health of trees. The utility has received the National Tree Line USA Award for quality tree care for 10 consecutive years.

Detroit Edison removes from customer property small branches

and debris that result from its line-clearance program. Larger trimmed branches are cut into firewood length and left behind for customer use or disposal.

TRW financial increase

Livonia-head TRW Automotive Holdings Corp. reported first-quarter 2006 financial results with sales of \$3.4 billion, an increase of 5.3 percent compared to the same period a year ago. Net earnings for the quarter were \$47 million, or \$0.46 per diluted share, which compares to net earnings of \$50 million or \$0.50 per diluted share in the prior year quarter.

As previously announced, first-quarter 2006 earnings included expenses of \$57 million for loss on retirement of debt associated with the tender for the outstanding GBP \$4.6 million 10.875 percent bonds of the Company's Lucas Industries Limited subsidiary. First quarter net earnings excluding these expenses were \$104 million, or \$1.01 per diluted share, which were above previously provided guidance primarily due to a higher level of revenues, a more favorable operational performance and a lower level of tax expense than previously anticipated.

Compiled by Tracy Mishler

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Man walks against elimination of state's Single Business Tax

■ Lansing liberal Matt Ferguson asking for reform

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Lansing resident Matthew Ferguson walked east on Grand River Avenue in Novi about noon last Wednesday on a personal mission.

His crusade? The 29-year-old liberal decided to hoof it all the way from Lansing to downtown Detroit to protest the elimination of Michigan's Single Business Tax, which is scheduled to go away after Dec. 31, 2009.

The tax, signed into law by former Gov. John Engler, taxes Michigan employers and has been touted by its opponents as a tax that huts economic development in the state.

Local opponents of the tax include House Speaker Craig DeRoche (R-Now) and State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Now).

Ferguson is the Web master for www.MichiganLiberal.com. His journey, which he deemed the Fiscal Compassion Walk, began Sunday, April 30, and formally ended Sunday at St. Paul's Cathedral in Detroit.

An Episcopalian, Ferguson said the walk was a spiritual journey for himself as well.

"I left after church on one Sunday, and was at the seat of our diocese the following Sunday," Ferguson said.

Ferguson said.

"What that means is that if they get their signatures by the end of the month, it goes back to the legislature, and they vote on it," Ferguson explained.

"If they do what they did before, it will become law. The governor doesn't have the right to veto it at that point, and it doesn't go to the ballot," Ferguson said.

"There seems to be a lot of confusion about that."

If lawmakers reject the proposal, then it will go to the ballot.

Ferguson made it to Detroit last Thursday afternoon in time to see the Detroit Tigers play the Los Angeles Angels.

He stayed with friends he knew either through church or politics along the way during the approximately 90-mile walk.

"Last night, I stayed with a regular reader of MichiganLiberal.com who offered to put me up," Ferguson said.

He just recently took on running the Web site as his full-time job and previously worked for a political consulting firm.

A native of Ann Arbor, he's lived in Lansing for about 12 years. He said when Michigan repeals the Single Business Tax, a quarter of the state's general fund budget will disappear.

"There's been absolutely no provision that's being made for people who are out of a job, the elderly, the disabled and others who have the least amongst us," Ferguson said.

"That's one thing most churches hold in common — compas-

sion for people who are struggling," he said. He stopped at every church he came across along Grand River Avenue with a letter to the pastor about the issue.

"People feel differently about this issue," he said. "I just want to make people aware of the Single Business Tax and to ask them to pay attention to it and keep the needs of these less fortunate on their mind."

Ferguson said those who want the tax eliminated argue that its repeal would boost the economy.

"I believe it would have just the opposite effect," Ferguson said. He added that a Wall Street rating firm recently downgraded Michigan's credit outlook.

"One of the things they cited was the proposal to eliminate the Single Business Tax and the uncertainty caused by it," he said.

"The state may have a hard time weathering the serious downturn in the auto industry. We may be in for some pretty tough times here, and we need to have a government which is able to respond to that," he said. Ferguson said he's no lover of the Single Business Tax. "I do think it needs to be reformed or replaced in some way, and the governor says the same thing."

At least he didn't have to walk back to Lansing; family members picked him up in Detroit and drove him home.

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



Photo by Pam Fleming

Matthew Ferguson of Lansing was eastbound on Grand River Avenue in front of Rock Financial Showplace May 3 as he walked from the state capitol to Detroit to protest the elimination of the Small Business Tax. Ferguson, who is the Web master for www.MichiganLiberal.com, believes the loss of revenue from the tax will hurt Michigan's economy.

Proposal being circulated

An initiative proposal on the Single Business Tax is currently being circulated in the state.

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Catholic Central dedicates tennis courts

By Marc Pechla
SPECIAL WRITER

"After 77 years, Catholic Central can finally hold court in its own backyard."

Past and present CC tennis players, coaches, parents and clergy were on hand to officially dedicate a new, eight-court tennis facility at Catholic Central High School in Novi on Sunday.

"This is the first time in our school's 77-year history that we have a court of our own," said Joe Stafford, CC's head tennis coach. Cheryl Carroll, whose son Nick is on the tennis team, explained the facility comes from the result of hard-working volunteers. "They really did a lot of fundraising through the school."

It was, perhaps, a sign of the times as Father Mike Buentello of



Courtesy photo

Father Buentello and Coach Joe Stafford at the dedication of Catholic Central's tennis courts Sunday.

CC blessed the courts with holy water from an appropriately athletic-looking Nalgene brand water container.

"May this holy water be a symbol of CC's dedication to academics and athletics," Buentello said. "Let the games begin."

The tennis team was successful in attracting alumni from as far back as 1993 for the event, according to current team captain Chris Atallah and Nick Carroll. "We made over 200 calls to CC 'tennis grads,'" said Atallah.

Current players were happy to see former teammates and meet alumni they'd only heard about from coaches. Coach Stafford had all players draw cards to determine the pairings of friendly doubles matches that spread over all eight courts.

In previous years, CC's tennis team was forced to play "home" matches at Schoolcraft College's courts because CC's previous home in Redford had no such facilities. "I think, in some ways, all that traveling made us stronger," said Buentello.

It would be hard to disagree as CC tennis has shined over the last

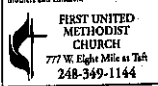
25 years. The school was Class A state champions in 1985 and 1986 under former coach Frank Garlicki. In 1984 and 1991 the team was runner-up at the Class A finals. In 2000 and 2004, CC finished second at the reorganized Division 1 state finals and was fifth last year.

The Shamrocks are currently ranked seventh in the latest Michigan High School Athletic Association's tennis coaches' poll. After winning the Catholic League upper division sectional, the team will head to the league championship May 13.

With four tournament wins so far, CC has an attention-grabbing match-up May 18-19 when they compete against now cross-town rival Novi High School as the Wildcats, ranked fourth in the latest poll, host a state regional competition.

M.O.M.S. Annual Baby, Kid & Me Resale

M.O.M.S. (Moms Offering Moms Support) will hold its annual Baby, Kid and Me resale on Friday May 19th from 9am to 5 pm, and Saturday May 20th from 9 am until noon at the First United Methodist Church, 777 Eight Mile Road (at Tully, Northville). Wonderful selection of gently-used items for babies, kids, equipment, and toys. Baby, kids and maternity clothing, baby and kid strollers and strollers, baby furniture, shoes, toys/books and car seats and play structures. \$1 minimum. This resale is a fundraiser to help support mothers and children.



Get an idea for a story for our Faith section? Give Cal Stone, editor, a call at (248) 349-1700.

CHURCH CALENDAR

continued from page 14

your own. Conversation is free. Single Place of Northville is offering a Divorce Recovery Workshop II, Living Beyond Divorce. Pam Jacobs-Landau is the speaker. The workshop meets on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:30 p.m. May 18 to June 15. Topics covered include honesty, trust, loneliness, depression and self-esteem. The cost of this workshop is \$45. Childcare is available for toddlers through grade six. Register for child care at least two weeks before the Divorce Recovery Workshop begins.

For more information, or to register, call the First Presbyterian Church at (248) 349-0911, or visit www.singleplace.org. The church is located at 200 East Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

The Presbyterian Church in America is coming to Novi. The first informational meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, May 21 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Novi, just off I-96 and Novi Road. The purpose of this meeting is to gather those around Novi and Metro Detroit who are interested in hearing about the vision, core values, and strategic plan of the new church to be named GracePointe Presbyterian Church. It is being started by Pastor Brian Sleeth, who has led churches in 15 states with starting new churches for over 15 years.

The PCA, the denomination of such nationally known pastors as R.C. Sproul, D. James Kennedy, Philip Graham Ryken, Scott Smith and Tim Keller.

The public is invited to come as early as 6 p.m. The meeting will take place in the Amphitheater just inside the entrance of the DoubleTree. Guests are welcome. For additional information on GracePointe Presbyterian Church, contact Sleeth at (248) 497-3178, or by e-mail at brian.sleeth@gracepointepresbyterian.org. Visit www.gracepointepresbyterian.org.

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church will celebrate its 25th anniversary beginning at 4 p.m. Sunday, Reverend Gene Jankovic, who served Good Shepherd from 1982-93, will be the guest preacher.

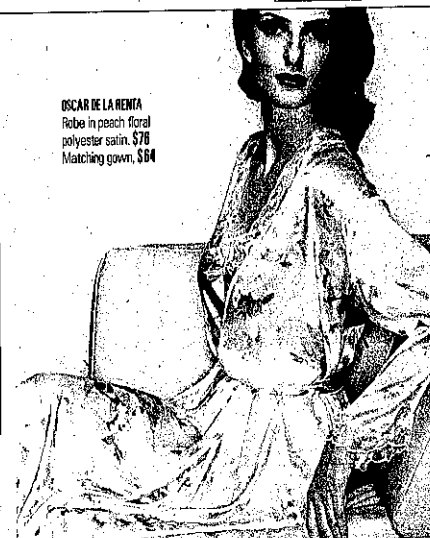
The first service of "Novi Area Evangelical Lutheran Church" will be in September of 1980. Good Shepherd was incorporated a few months later. The charter service was held May 3, 1981. Services were first held at the former Novi Middle School North, then moved to the former Novi Community Center. Construction of the church's permanent home for Good Shepherd began in 1985 at the corner of Meadowbrook and 9 Mile Road, where it is today.

For more information, contact Reverend Thomas Sirodick at (248) 349-0565 or Mark Casmer at (248) 919-0808. Visit www.welnsnovi.org.

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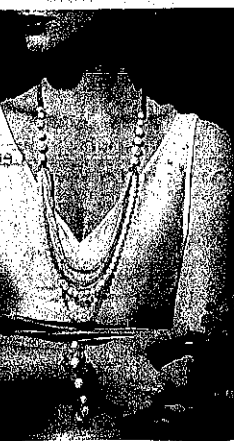
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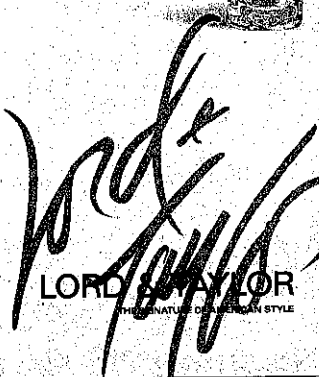
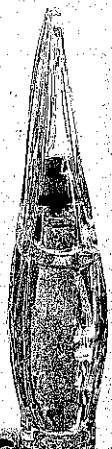
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Police recognize 2005 award winners

2005 Novi Police Department Awards

Olc. Bradley Cwright — Life Saving
Olc. Timothy Farrell — Life Saving
Olc. Craig Chismar — Merit
Civilian Employee of the Year — Communications Manager Joseph Burchett
Officer of the Year — Det. Mark Boody

Perfect attendance

Chief David E. Molloy
School Resource Olc. Michael Wilson
Sgt. Michael Warren
Olc. Jeremy Strampien
Olc. Sarah Moulk
Olc. Randall Mince
Det. Jason Meier
Det. Eric Lindblade
Olc. Kevin Heaney
Det. Jarrod Hart
Det. Todd Ager
Lt. Keith Wuolinen
Sgt. Tony Whitfield
Olc. Michael Bender
Sgt. Kenneth Meier
Olc. Scott Baetens
Det. Sgt. Matthew Conquest
Clerk Sue Hein



M. Boody



J. Burchett

Longevity

Deputy Chief Thomas Lindberg - 20 years
Olc. Timothy Harper - 15 years
Olc. Louis Biglardi - 15 years
Olc. Craig Chismar - 15 years
School Resource Olc. Michael Wilson - 15 years
Olc. David Marino - 10 years
Police Information Systems and Records Mgr. Linda Carpenter - 10 years
Lt. Keith Wuolinen - 10 years
Olc. Tony Avant - 5 years
Dispatcher Debra Nissen - 5 years
Records Clerk Michelle Raugh - 5 years
Records Clerk Phyllis May - 5 years
Det. Kevin Gilmore - 5 years
Dispatch Shift Leader Karen Jackson - 5 years
Dispatcher Kimberly White - 5 years
Dispatcher Kelly Mesh - 5 years

Mark Boody named Novi's Officer of Year

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Novi Police Department administration handed out special awards last Wednesday, with Det. Mark Boody named as Officer of the Year and Communications Manager Joseph Burchett selected as Civilian Employee of the Year.

The honors were presented by Police Chief David Molloy, with the assistance of Deputy Chief Thomas Lindberg, at the Police Training Center.

Life Saving awards

In the two hours of March 19, 2006, Ofcs. Bradley Cwright and Sarah Moulk responded to a possible attempted suicide at the Country Inn Suites.

The man had alcohol and a knife, was combative with the officers and was arrested. A short time later, the officers saw that he received medical treatment for a cut on his arm, which was wrapped with a good deal of gauze. When they checked on him in the Novi jail, they noticed that he had taken the gauze off his arm, fashioned it into a noose and was trying to

hang himself.

They returned the gauze and sought psychiatric treatment for the man.

On Jan. 25, 2006, Ofc. Tim Ferrell was patrolling the area near 12 Mile and Beck roads when he noticed a car parked near the Novi Oaks Golf and Sports Center.

When he checked the suspicious vehicle, he saw a man slumped over in the front seat with a suicide note on his lap. The man was transported to an area hospital after police found two empty bottles of pills on the seat.

The man had consumed about 90 pills. If it were not for the efforts of Ofc. Ferrell, according to the Huron Valley emergency staff, the man would not be alive today.

On March 20, 2006, Ofc. Craig Chismar was in the area of Grand River Avenue and Novi Road looking for a vehicle that had been seen at a bank robbery.

Ofc. Chismar became suspicious when he saw a license plate that did not match the vehicle. He found two drug users and faces from drug use. He then learned from the Livingston County Sheriff's Department that the car was stolen March 1.

The officer also found stolen property and drug paraphernalia in the car. It appeared that the suspects were just finishing committing a

crime at the CVS drugstore at Novi Road and 14 Mile, according to Molloy. They both were charged with felonies and are in jail awaiting trial.

Chismar received a Merit Award for his efforts.

Officer of the Year

Boody has been with the department for 10 years, joining the force after graduating from Ferris State University in 1995.

"He quickly earned the reputation of being a very thorough and detail-oriented police officer," Molloy said.

In April 2003, he was assigned to the juvenile section of the Novi department.

"He's become a recognized leader and expert in the field of child sexual assault investigations and dealing with criminal cases involving juvenile offenders," Molloy said.

Last year, he was active in dealing with cases of child sexual abuse.

"Mark has done an outstanding job not only in prosecuting these offenders but also having the parental rights of these parents terminated," Molloy said.

Boody was the primary detective on a case where a man in Novi was charged for attempted murder after dousing his wife with acetone and setting her on fire.

Oakland County Prosecutor's Office staff members recently

asked if Boody could train other investigators on child sexual abuse investigation protocol.

Civilian Employee of the Year

Burchett has overseen Novi's dispatch department for 16 years. He was recruited from West Bloomfield Township, where he working in that communications center.

He also worked as a dispatcher in Grove City, Ohio, until he was promoted to a dispatch supervisor in 1989.

Molloy said Burchett has turned Novi's dispatch center into one of the finest operations in the county if not the state. He manages 16 people and helps run a 911 center for Novi police and fire, South Lyon police and fire and East Township Fire Department.

Oakland County is going through an 800 megahertz radio transition. "All police and fire departments and EMS are going to have the ability to talk to one another on a common radio frequency in the event of an emergency," Molloy said. He said Burchett has been a true leader in putting this system in place.

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

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Grand River

First Alert fire alarm deemed hazardous

City officials warn residents to check their alarms

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Novi Acting Fire Chief Jeffrey Johnson warns people to live in their homes fire-free. And he wants to make sure residents have safe fire alarms installed.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission recently issued a recall notice on First Alert battery-powered smoke alarms and combination smoke/carbon monoxide detectors for rapidly draining battery power.

"It's good for residents to know so they change the alarm out immediately and purchase a new smoke detector," Johnson said.

One potential hazard: If batteries in the alarm are not replaced before battery power terminates, the alarm will not detect smoke in the event of a possible fire and the presence of carbon monoxide.

According to fire officials, approximately 145,890 First Alert smoke alarms were produced and 52,400 were sold to consumers across the U.S.

The First Alert alarms were manufactured by Mexico-based BRK Brands, Inc. and sold in stores nationwide from June 2005 through March 2006 for about

Contact First Alert

For more information, contact First Alert Inc./BRK Brands Inc. at (800) 323-9005 between 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Friday or visit www.firstalert.com

\$40 to \$75.

"We recommend that residents test their alarms monthly and follow the directions to make sure it's sounding," Johnson said. "We always recommend they change the batteries once a year also, usually around daylight savings time."

Residents should look at the back of their detectors for the model number SC0500.

He said there have been no reports of injuries, incidents or alarms failing to detect smoke or carbon monoxide.

"Residents absolutely need to have something in their home to provide protection," he said. "If a family can't afford a new alarm, the Novi Fire Department will provide them with one and install it."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1702, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com.

CITY OF NOVI WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT 26300 DELVAL DRIVE NOVI, MICHIGAN 48375 MARCH 15, 2006

2005 CONSUMERS ANNUAL REPORT ON WATER QUALITY

The City of Novi is pleased to present the 2005 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report contains mandatory information about water quality issues and potential health effects, lists the source of our water and provides the results of the water quality monitoring tests for 2005. The City of Novi is committed to providing safe drinking water, complies with all mandatory Federal and State Drinking Water Regulations. If the water quality is not what you expect, we will notify our customers immediately.

The City of Novi is pleased to present the 2005 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report contains mandatory information about water quality issues and potential health effects, lists the source of our water and provides the results of the water quality monitoring tests for 2005. The City of Novi is committed to providing safe drinking water, complies with all mandatory Federal and State Drinking Water Regulations. If the water quality is not what you expect, we will notify our customers immediately.

SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER: The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. Our water comes from Lake Huron and/or the Detroit River, as appropriate. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT: The City of Novi source water comes from the lower Lake Huron watershed. The watershed includes the Lake Huron basin, eastern Ontario that drain to Lake Huron. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, and the Michigan Public Health Institute perform source water assessments to determine the susceptibility of potential contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a six-level scale from very low to high based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry, and contaminant sources. The Lake Huron watershed is generally considered to have a moderately low susceptibility to potential contamination sources. The Lake Huron water treatment plant has historically provided satisfactory treatment of this source water to meet drinking water standards. If you would like to know more about this report, please contact Gary Clark, Assistant DPW Director, (248) 735-5552 or garyc@novi.net.

CONTAMINANTS THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which can come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and

petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radixactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates the maximum levels for contaminants in bottled water; which must provide the same protection for public health.

VULNERABILITY OF SUB-POPULATIONS: Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Infants and young children are particularly at risk from contaminants. Pregnant women, persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from contaminants. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT OUR WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM:

The City of Novi purchases treated water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSJ) who provides drinking water to approximately 4.2 million people in 129 southeastern Michigan communities. The water is treated at two (2) large water treatment plants for processing. A fifth water treatment plant located in St. Clair County uses surface water from Lake Huron. The majority of the water supplied to the City of Novi comes from the DWSJ Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant which is located north of Port Huron, Michigan at the lower end of Lake Huron. This water is treated for a minimum of 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Chlorine is used for disinfecting the source water and Fluoride is added to the treated water for the dental care benefit.

In 2005, we purchased 2,377,050,000 gallons of treated water from DWSJ. The City of Novi currently has more than 11,890 customers on the Water Distribution System. In our current Capital Improvement Program (CIP) we have identified construction projects valued in excess of \$15,400,000 for potential construction in the next five to six years.

MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: The State and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We meet all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 2005.

We will update this report annually and keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. Copies of this report are mailed to all 11,890 water accounts in Novi City. Copies of this report are also available at all multi-family complexes for internal distribution. Copies are also available at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road and the Novi Public Library, 45245 West Ten Mile Road.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. City Council meetings are held twice a month on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Rd., Novi MI 48375. Contact the City Clerk's office at 248-347-9456 for specific dates. For more information about your water or the contents of this report, contact Gary Clark, Assistant DPW Director, (248) 735-5552 or garyc@novi.net.

For more information about safe drinking water, visit the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) at www.epa.gov/safewater.

DETECTED CONTAMINANT TABLES:

The tables and information contained on the next pages are based on tests conducted by DWSJ and the City of Novi on the year 2005. DWSJ conducts many tests throughout the year, however, only tests that show the presence of a contaminant are shown.

high wire girls

Mother's Day Open House
Friday, May 12th & Saturday, May 13th 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Treats, purchase incentives and free gifts!

Our customer service, great gift selection and complimentary wrap will have you ready for Mother's Day completely stress free.

25875 Novi Rd. | The City Center Pharmacy
(Next to the Bank and City Center)
248.349.2323

Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant 2005 Regulated Contaminant Tables

Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation yes/no	Major Source in Drinking Water
Inorganic Chemicals - Annual Monitoring at Plant Finished Water Tap								
Fluoride	8/9/2005	ppm	4	4	1.41	n/a	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive, which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum industries.
Nitrate	8/9/2005	Ppm	10	10	0.41	n/a	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectant Residuals and Disinfection By-Products - Monitoring in Distribution System								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	Feb-Nov 2005	ppb	n/a	80	19.9	10.7-23.2	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Halocetic Acids (HAA5)	Feb-Nov 2005	ppb	n/a	60	16.2	5.7-13.8	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Disinfectant (chlorine Residual (ppm)	Jan-Dec 2005	ppm	MRLD ¹	MRLD	0.75	0.53-0.75	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Radioactive Contaminants - Plant Finished Water Tap								
Alpha Emitters	1/1/2001	pCi/l	0	15	3.19	n/a	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits

2005 Turbidity - Monitored every 4 hours at Plant Finished Water Tap

Highest Single Measurement Conductance	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit of 0.3 NTU (minimum 95%)	Violation yes/no	Major Source in Drinking Water
0.15 NTU	100%	No	Soil Runoff

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Regulated Contaminant

Regulated Contaminant	Treatment Technique	Running Annual Average	Monthly Range	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)					Erosion of natural deposits

The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal rate is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC was measured each month and because the level was low, there is no requirement for TOC removal.

2005 Special Monitoring

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Source of Contamination
Sodium/ppm	n/a	n/a	4.47	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant

City of Novi 2005 Microbiological Contaminants - Monthly Monitoring in Distribution System

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Number Detected	Violation yes/no	Major Source in Drinking Water
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	Presence of Coliform bacteria > 5% of monthly samples	In one Month 0	No	Naturally present in the environment.
E.coli or fecal coliform bacteria	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal or E.coli positive.	entire year 0	No	Human waste and animal fecal waste.

In 1992 we began testing homes with plumbing systems which may contribute lead and copper to the household water supply. The results of lead and copper testing have all been below the EPA prescribed action levels. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

City of Novi Lead and Copper Monitoring at Customers Tap

Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Action Level AL	90th Percentile Value	Number of Samples Over AL	Violation yes/no	Major Source in Drinking Water
Lead	2005	Ppb	0	15	0	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2006	Ppb	1300	1300	428	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

The 90th percentile value means 90 percent of the homes tested have lead and copper levels below the given 90th percentile value. If the 90th percentile value is above the AL additional requirements must be met.

Key to Detect Contaminant Tables

Symbol	Abbreviation for	Definition/Explanation
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MCLD	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MRLD	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is compelling evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
ppb	Parts per billion (one in one billion)	The ppb is equivalent to micrograms per liter. A microgram = 1/1000 milligram.
ppm	Parts per million (one in one million)	The ppm is equivalent to milligrams per liter. A milligram = 1/1000 gram.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	Measures the cloudiness of water.
T	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
HAA5	Halocetic Acids	HAA5 is the sum of bromoacetic, chloroacetic, dibromoacetic, and trichloroacetic acids. Compliance is based on the total.
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes	Total Trihalomethanes is the sum of chloroform, bromochloroform, dibromochloroform, and bromoform. Compliance is based on the total.
n/a	Not applicable	
>	Greater than	

(5-11-06 NN 284322)

NOTICE - CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR BIDS SUBSIDIZED TAXI SERVICE

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for Subsidized Taxi Service according to the specifications of the City of Novi. Bid packages are available at the Office of the Purchasing Director.

Sealed bids will be received until 3:00 PM, prevailing Eastern Time, Wednesday, May 31, 2006 at which time proposals will be opened and read. Bids shall be addressed as follows:

CITY OF NOVI
CAROL J. KALINOVIC, PURCHASING DIRECTOR
45175 W. Ten Mile Rd.
Novi, MI 48375-3024

All bids must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED "SUBSIDIZED TAXI SERVICE BID" AND MUST BEAR THE NAME OF THE BIDDER.

The City reserves the right to accept any or all alternative proposals and award the contract to other than the lowest bidder, to waive any irregularities or informality in bids, to reject any or all proposals, and in general to amend the award of the contract in any manner deemed by the City. In its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the City of Novi.

CAROL J. KALINOVIC, PURCHASING DIRECTOR
(248) 347-0446

(5-11-06 NN 284269)

Dr. Robert Paulen
An Associate Optometrist

...and our old friends & neighbors, new ones at our new location

26300 Delval Drive, Novi, MI 48375
248.349.4300

Are you an organ & tissue donor?

Are you ready to help others who need an organ or tissue? You may not know they'll know, and there will be no questions for you. For a free brochure, call 1-800-555-SAVEOR.

Save lives. Donate. Organ & Tissue Donor Center

Organ & Tissue Donor Center

(5-11-06 NN 284322)

OPINION

www.novinews.com

Novi News

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EDITOR

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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

Getting Your Business in Gear: What a brilliant idea

In less than seven years, Automation Alley has grown to 630 members. The non-profit organization's mission is to promote southeast Michigan's high-tech, automotive and manufacturing prowess.

Last week, Novi joined forces with Farmington and Farmington Hills to help spread the word about Automation Alley's efforts.

It was also a perfect opportunity to show off cooperation between neighboring municipalities as well as a great business-to-business networking opportunity — something this area has been requesting.

This region, especially the three cities mentioned, is a natural for businesses to locate and thrive.

Over 40 people showed up at Rock Farming Showplace for last Wednesday's event. It's a pretty sure bet that they all went home with something that will help their businesses grow. Kudos to the organizers for filling a need. Hopefully, there's more to come.

Trio finds keys to success, joy

Piano lessons. That's one thing I've always wanted to do, but never have. I don't know if it's too late for me now, but there's a trio of Novi kids who aren't waiting around to tinkle the 88s. Alison Greshover, Chris Greshover and Jennifer Hepp take lessons from Debra Cook in Novi, and they each earned superior ratings — the highest — for their piano solos at the National Federation of Musicians Piano Festival in March. Shortly after, Chris, a sixth grader at Novi Meadows, went on to earn an outstanding rating for his solo and music theory exam at the Michigan Music Teachers Association Student Achievement Test Piano Solo Exam. It was his second year in a row achieving that rating, and it earned him a trophy. His sister, Alison, is a fourth grader at Parkview Elementary, and their parents are Mr. and Mrs. James Greshover. Jennifer is in third grade at Village Oaks and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hepp.

One of the things that will make you start thinking about doing things you never got around to is cancer. If you're unlucky enough to get it, but lucky enough to catch it quickly, your chances for survival are drastically increased. That's why I'm baffled to learn that "Michigan Michigan does not have a law mandating insurance companies to cover prostate cancer screening, forcing men to pay out of pocket for it," according to Richard N. Atkins, M.D., the CEO of the National Prostate Cancer Coalition. He said that the survival rate is 99 percent when prostate cancer is caught early — and it's only a 50 percent test. There's a state law that requires insurance to cover breast cancer screenings but not prostate cancer. I don't understand that.

If you've got some bottles lying around the house that you don't want to deal with, let the Novi High School Band have them. They're holding a bottle drive Saturday, May 20 at the Farmer Jack on 10 Mile Road. Call Patti Kochyan at (248) 348-5135 if you want to help them out.

There's another "helping out" opportunity that same day. It's the Gus O'Connor's Second Annual Charity Ride to help kids with cancer. You can pre-register at the Irish venue (at Main and Market in downtown Novi). The cost is \$35, and that includes a continental breakfast, entertainment, giveaways, a barbecue and prizes. The registration and ride are at 9 a.m. For information, call Michael Keys, (248) 608-2537 or click on www.gusocconnors.com.

Novi's Craig DeRoche, the Speaker of the House, launched a pretty cool initiative last week: Advancing Beyond the Classroom — that will allow 200 low-income Michigan children the opportunity to get connected to a world of possibilities with home computers provided with the help of Detroit's Focus: HOPE, Comcast and TEKsystems. No state taxpayer funds will be used.

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

Correction: In the Rebuilding Together article on page 6-A of the May 4 issue, a volunteer effort in which people repair the homes of low-income residents, Rick Bloomfield's cell phone number was printed as a contact number. Those interested in volunteering next April or donating materials should instead call the organization's office at (248) 889-5450.

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



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Calm in the city
Springs' growth and colors burst forth as rain fell last Tuesday at Novi's Rotary Park. The park, with trails, flowing water, tennis courts and pavilion — can best be accessed off Nine Mile Road near Novi's fire station #3.

LETTERS

Move on, restaurateur

And you thought the School Board was the only source of arrogance in our city.

Welcome to Novi, Mr. Chuang. I'd like to apologize on behalf of our "government" in denying you the liquor license you would like for your restaurant, and that the people of Novi deserve. Our city council treats "uniqueness" like the Supreme Court's definition of pornography — they won't define it, but they'll know it when they see it. I, like many others, enjoy a glass of wine or a stein of beer when I go out for dinner. It is becoming increasingly difficult to get these restricted items (did we learn nothing from prohibition?) at any place other than a chain restaurant. You are but one in a long list of unique, family-owned restaurant concepts that has been denied a liquor license here in Novi: while you and your attorney retreat and regroup, any national chain that comes in will get one. Take a look around and see what I mean. When the family that owned the Thai restaurant at West Oaks tried for a license some years ago they found themselves in the same position that you are — meanwhile, (since-defunct) Grady's got one; Red Robin did too. Big chains have lots of money and big gun attorneys behind them, and our city has some experience in losing expensive legal battles based on arrogance. I never dine at a Novi chain restaurant, but often visit Shiro. Just the fact that Shiro isn't a chain makes it unique enough for me.

Did I mention parking? The city should be held responsible for allowing a building to be built (They issued the permit, didn't they)? Didn't the planning department approve it too? That can't accommodate the required parking for its tenants. But beyond that, you need 254 spaces and there are only 257. Denying somebody the ability to operate a business over one parking space in over 250 is extremely short-

sighted. An empty building is much worse than a full parking lot, or does city council fail to see that?

My suggestion, Mr. Chuang, is to forget Novi; build your restaurant in a more accommodating city. Forget negotiation over one parking spot. Forget modifying your plan to make your restaurant more unique. You'll only get frustrated and make your lawyer a wealthy man. Novi is not the only source of customers for you, but I for one will travel to get to your restaurant when it opens. Good Luck.

Michael Salemi

Get ready, Katie

Congratulations to Katie Racon on her victory. I'm confident that she'll serve our district well.

There are many issues that need to be addressed by our school board in the near future. But let's not kid ourselves... for many who came out to vote in the rain, this year's election was indeed about Katie Racon. Deerfield. This is supported by comments from folks quoted here in the Novi News and other Novi-related Web sites.

The redistricting decision was a tough one (based on the 4-3 vote.) I'm concerned, though, that a small but vocal minority will attempt to pressure our new board member in hopes of overturning this decision. Should this happen, expect major fireworks and a possible lawsuit which will simply lead to wasted dollars. I'll certainly be watching.

When I asked Ms. Racon (prior to the election) if she would involve herself in such nonsense, she replied: I am not considering overturning this decision. The school utilization and redistricting committee have been working very hard on its recommendations. Over the next four years, we need to move beyond this decision, heal our wounds and deal with future decisions in a more transparent and effective manner. I trust that she will keep to her word.

Now that this is over, how do we move forward? Does it make sense for one of five elementary schools to teach in a "non-traditional" style? Previously, a parent could decide which style was best suited their child and then make their decision accordingly. I've been told of numerous Deerfield students who have struggled at Novi Meadows (at least initially) due to the differences in styles. Although they probably end up doing just fine, what choice will a concerned parent in the newly-formed Deerfield "region" have now?

What do we do with the kindergarten issue? Will the number of full-time classes ever be distributed evenly among the five elementary schools? I understand that there is a demand for full-time kindergarten, but is the right answer to simply add more? Is full-time kindergarten about what's "really" best for children or is it simply a glorified babysitting service? I understand that an "expert" who recently visited our board testified that the "first-grade curriculum expects full-day kindergarten." If this is really true, then who changed the curriculum putting all 1/2-time students at a disadvantage? What are we doing to help these students catch up?

Years ago, we implemented block scheduling at the high school. I certainly understand why students and teachers prefer this, but what has it meant academically? I'll repeat what some have asked before: Are our high school students getting the education that we as parents are expecting? What do we tell parents who have publicly stated that their 3.5+ GPA graduates felt unprepared in the college classroom? When will we be given some tangible metrics showing this scheduling system to be superior to the previous one? Until then, I'll continue to be skeptical.

Ms. Racon... good luck. You have tons of work ahead of you. Please help get us some answers.

Willy Moss
Novi

COMMENTARY

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

We've known it all along: Novi High School ranked one of best in nation

When you strive to offer the best at all times, you're eventually going to be recognized for it.

Novi High School, one of the premier public schools in the state, was recently listed by Newsweek Magazine as one of the top schools in the nation. This year, Novi ranked 1,191.

"It's always nice to know that you're the principal of one of the top schools in the nation," Novi High principal John Lawrence said. "But what we do here isn't about getting on lists. We're here for education and looking after the best interests of our students. If we happen to be noticed, that's a bonus. When education is done right by people who care, it gets noticed. But the people who should be noticing isn't the staff at Newsweek, but rather the parents who send their kids to school at Novi."

Here is an institution that strives to offer the best to every student, no matter of race, religion or color. They don't care if the student plays football, chess or video games. They don't care if their parents work for Ford, Toshiba or McDonald's. What matters to the staff and administration of Novi High School is what matters most — education. Each and every day they

endeavor to fill each and every student with the knowledge to take into the world and to help make them a success. History, math, science, social studies, languages, computers and even physical education will all play a vital role in the coming years.

"When you take care of the learning, everything else takes care of itself," Lawrence said.

The truth is, the way Newsweek determined just how good a school is should be explained. They don't take overall grade point averages or difficulty of scheduling or even the results of the SAT or ACT tests.

Lawrence said the Newsweek equation for determining a school's ranking is by taking the number of senior students that take advanced placement (more commonly known as "AP") tests in comparison to the number of seniors in the class.

So, a college-prep school with 200 kids in the graduating class that had 200 kids in AP courses and taking AP tests is going to rank better than Novi. Even if Novi had 100 kids ace their advanced placement tests their senior year and the college-prep school only has 50 ace theirs, the prep school will still rank higher.



Sam Eggleston

AP courses and taking AP tests is going to rank better than Novi. Even if Novi had 100 kids ace their advanced placement tests their senior year and the college-prep school only has 50 ace theirs, the prep school will still rank higher.

In no way should this diminish Novi's achievement. Getting ranked on any national list as one of the top schools is an honor. But Novi's staff doesn't show up every week to get their names on a good-job list. They come to work because they want to educate your students and the future leaders of this country.

Novi offers 15 advanced placement courses currently. If a student passes their class and test, they get college credit. In the past there have actually been students who graduated with enough credits that they started in college as sophomores. That's not on any list.

In a day and age where curriculum, standards and rigor are being questioned in public schools, parents in the Novi School District should take a moment out of their lives and be thankful their children are attending such a fine institution.

The old cliché is that you can lead a student to school but you can't make them think, but somehow Novi manages to do it.

Most likely it's the enthusiasm the teachers bring to the classroom each day. It's contagious. Somehow, no matter how hard they fight against it, the students end up learning and, eventually, they end up walking in a long line with their fellow classmates white pomp and circumstance plays.

Now that's something they deserve a gold star for.

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

Science Center helps nourish math, science

I've been worrying lately about kids, science and technology — and what that means for the future of Michigan.

Here's why. To survive, we have to replace a brain-based, one-size-fits-all manufacturing economy with a brain-based, value-added economic model. If our kids don't get interested in science, technology and math, we won't have anybody around to drive this transition to a better economy for us all.

And even though the new, much tougher state K-12 school curriculum was adopted last month, it won't fully take effect before the kids who will be graduating from high school in 2011.

Plus, many of today's kids are just not interested in their courses in science and math — and making them required courses may not change very much. As the old saying goes — you can lead a horse to water, but learning quadratic equations is something else.

So for all those reasons, I joined my old friend, Bob Anthony, in visiting the New Detroit Science Center in downtown Detroit, on Warren Avenue not far from the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Now retired from PricewaterhouseCoopers and vice chairman of the Science Center, Bob is one of those people whose passionate volunteering makes Michigan a far better place. It was a beautiful spring day, so we drove with the top down and parked in a lot just behind the DIA. The Science Center's bright crimson bricks glowed in the sun as we walked in to a modern building jam-packed with noisy, interested, energetic kids.

Some were sitting wide-eyed at a demonstration of how the Venturi principle kept balls levitating in space on a column of rising air. Others were poking at interactive exhibits. Some were eating lunch in a school group, while others were dashing about in the happily intent way kids have.

But they were all clearly learning — and having fun. The newly expanded Science Center offers 111,000 square feet of scientific exploration, including exhibit halls, auditoriums and an IMAX dome theater. It's the largest and most popular place for informal science and technology education in Michigan.

The mission is straightforward: To inspire children and their families to discover, explore and appreciate science, technology and engineering in a dynamic and fun learning environment.

If you last visited the Center before 2001, it isn't the same place. It has completed a \$30 million renovation and expansion, and has since then had attracted more than 1.3 million visitors.

Last year, nearly half all visitors were children who came with school or other groups. The total annual budget is a bit more than \$5 million, with about half coming from admission fees and half from contributions, mostly from the auto companies and various Southeastern Michigan foundations.

Kevin Prihod, the Center's energetic CEO, started with General Motors as an industrial engineer back in 1979. He is clear about the mission — and the stakes: "As a society, we are facing a crisis in math, science and engineering. Our kids increasingly are tuning this stuff out. If we can excite and inspire kids, especially young ones, to these fields we will have made an enormous difference in our future."

As Bob and I walked around, we ran into a family from Ohio visiting Detroit on the kids' spring break. They were enjoying Detroit and having a great time at the Science Center. One daughter, eyes shining, offered that she'd love to be an astronaut or an engineer.

I wondered how that family would main-

tain their daughter's interest and nurture it long after their visit. The Science Center has a nifty tip sheet for parents on exactly that point.

• Build their math skills. Buy them a calculator to carry. Have them calculate the tip at a restaurant or guess how many gallons of gas a car will need (and cost!) the next time you stop at the pump.

• Foster their inquisitiveness. Ask them to replace the batteries in a flashlight or smoke detector. Help them take apart a toy, a pen, a telephone or small appliance.

• Challenge them to come up with a better design for products they see every day — a light bulb, a coffee maker, a skateboard, stop lights. Take them on a factory tour to see how something is built.













When I was young, my interest in science was initially charged by my uncle, a physician who took me to his office and helped me stain my blood sample to diagnose my appendicitis. In high school, our physicist next-door neighbor gave me a summer job in his laboratory.

My professional interests later went in another direction, but many others who went on to a career in science or engineering had similar childhood experiences. Science and technology should only not be abstract; they need to be part of the texture of everyday life.

The things the Science Center is doing make precisely this point. The Center is one of those enormously valuable institutions that make life in Michigan worth living — and yet are not nearly as well-known as they should be. If you're a parent or an uncle or merely a friend and want to make a difference in a kid's life one afternoon, I can't imagine anything more worthwhile — and fun — than a trip to the Science Center. It just might be a life-changing experience.

And by the way... You'll enjoy it too.

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

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There's a New Church Starting in the Novi/Lyon Township Area!



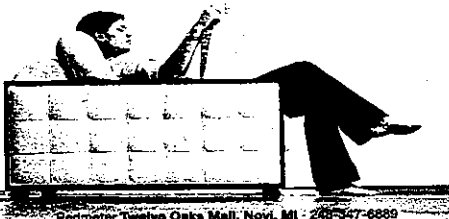
GracePointe Presbyterian Church (PCA) is having its first Informational Meeting on Sunday, May 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel in Novi, near I-96 and Novi Road.

The purpose of this meeting is to share our vision, core values, and plan to get the church started.

For more information, call Pastor Brian Sleeth at 248.497.3178 or email him at info@gracepointepresbyterian.org. Visit us on the web at: www.gracepointepresbyterian.org

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CALENDAR

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext 111 cstone@gannett.com www.novnews.com fax (248) 349-9632

EVENTS

Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce After Hours

DATE: today
TIME: 5-7 p.m.
LOCATION: Dirty Martini Lounge, above Andiamo, downtown Novi
DETAILS: Hors d'oeuvres and open bar \$10.
CONTACT: Show up or RSVP at (248) 347-4622

Second City Comedy Club

TIME/DATES: 8 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday; 8 and 10 p.m. Friday, 7 and 9 p.m. Saturday
LOCATION: 42795 Grand River Avenue, across from Novi Town Center
DETAILS: "Trophy Heads of State" is the theme for this month's shows. Tickets are \$15 on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday and \$20 on Friday and Saturday.
CONTACT: Visit www.ticketmaster.com or call, (248) 645-6666

Novi Chorales Spring Concert

DATE: Saturday
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Forest Auditorium at Novi High School, 24062 Taft Road
DETAILS: The Novi Chorales will perform their spring concert featuring music from film and television. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children under 12. They are available from any Chorale member, Novi Parks and Recreation, the Novi Senior Center at Meadowcroft Commons, and at the door.
CONTACT: Novi House, President, (248) 348-0439

Novi Choralaires Spring Concert

DATE: Saturday
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Forest Auditorium at Novi High School, 24062 Taft Road
DETAILS: The Novi Choralaires will perform their spring concert featuring music from film and television. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children under 12. They are available from any Chorale member, Novi Parks and Recreation, the Novi Senior Center at Meadowcroft Commons, and at the door.
CONTACT: Novi House, President, (248) 348-0439

Flower Sale

DATE: Saturday-Sunday and May 20-21
TIME: 9 a.m.-noon
LOCATION: Oakland Schools Technical Campus "Sunflowers", 1000 Beck Road, Wixom
DETAILS: This sale includes annuals and perennials and is sponsored by the Agriculture Greenhouse/Landscape Class.
CONTACT: (248) 668-5673

Walk-A-Thon

DATE: Saturday
TIME: 8 a.m. registration
LOCATION: Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty Road, Northville
DETAILS: This walk-a-thon is

to raise money for Royal Family Kid's Camp, a program for abused and neglected children. Camps are sponsored by various churches. The registration fee is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 10.
CONTACT: (248) 348-5731

Livonia Youth Philharmonic Auditions

TIME/DATES: By appointment, Saturday
LOCATION: Church Hill High School, 8900 Newburgh Road, Livonia
DETAILS: Auditions are for six concert groups: string orchestra, flute choir, sax choir, wind ensemble, concert orchestra and philharmonic orchestra. Novice through advanced musicians are eligible to audition.
CONTACT: Kathy Bilger, President, (734) 464-8704

AAUW Annual Scholarship Dinner

DATE: Tuesday
TIME: 6 p.m.
LOCATION: Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge Campus
DETAILS: The Northlitt/Novi American Association of University Women (AAUW) will award scholarships to Schiefelbusch College and Oakland Community College at this dinner. Arlene Frank, Program Coordinator for the Womencenter at OCC, and Charlotte O'Connor, Volunteer Program Coordinator at the Women's Resource Center at Schiefelbusch College, will discuss information at their centers and activities.
CONTACT: Beth Ann Kuisley, (248) 305-8922

Democrats of West Oakland County

DATE: Tuesday
TIME: 6 p.m. dinner/social hour, 7 p.m. meeting
LOCATION: Novi Sausaliki Coney Island, 31150 Novi Road
DETAILS: Tony Tripiaro will be the speaker. He is the Democratic candidate for U.S. Congress in Michigan's 11th District. The public is invited.
CONTACT: (248) 624-7228

Singles Place Ministry

DATE: Thursday, May 18
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: First Presbyterian Church of Northville, 200 E. Main St.
DETAILS: The program will be "Dating Red Flags: What You Need to Know". The cost is \$5. This event will include common dating

red flags and ten strategies to counteract them.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0911

Northville Beneological Society

Individual Help
TIME/DATES: 1-3 p.m. Monday, ongoing and by appointment
DETAILS: Volunteers are available to offer individual help on genealogy.
CONTACT: Grace Wilfong, (248) 349-9079 or visit www.rootsweb.com/~mjmg

Photo Show

DATE: May 15-21
LOCATION: Wixom Library, 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
DETAILS: This is the fifth annual photo show titled "Visions of a Child". The opening reception will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, May 15. This is a show of pictures taken by students in fourth grade.
CONTACT: Monte Nagler helped select one from each child for the exhibit.
CONTACT: (248) 624-2850

Linda Transon Melanoma March

DATE: Saturday, May 30
TIME: 10 a.m.
LOCATION: Maybury State Park, corner of Eight Mile and Beck roads
DETAILS: This is the second annual walk. Participants can enter one- or three-mile walks. Lunch is provided. The cost is \$35 per adult. Pre-registration is accepted but not required. All proceeds benefit the Melanoma Research Foundation.
CONTACT: www.caringbridge.org/milindalou

Novi High School Band Bottle Drive

DATE: Saturday, May 20
TIME: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
DETAILS: Students will be collecting bottles at homes throughout the community and sorting in the parking lot of Farmer Jack Supermarket.
CONTACT: Paul Koehyan, (248) 348-5115

Novi High School Band Bottle Drive

DATE: Saturday, May 20
TIME: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
DETAILS: Students will be collecting bottles at homes throughout the community and sorting in the parking lot of Farmer Jack Supermarket.
CONTACT: Paul Koehyan, (248) 348-5115

Novi High School Band Bottle Drive

DATE: Saturday, May 20
TIME: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
DETAILS: Students will be collecting bottles at homes throughout the community and sorting in the parking lot of Farmer Jack Supermarket.
CONTACT: Paul Koehyan, (248) 348-5115

Novi Hold 'Em Casino Night

DATE: Saturday, May 20
TIME: 6-10 p.m.
LOCATION: Lucky's Lucky Strike, Fountain Walk
DETAILS: This is a fund-raiser for the Novi Chamber of Commerce. A variety of sponsorships are available, including attendance and donations. Sponsors are needed.
CONTACT: Chamber of Commerce, (248) 349-3743

Fifth Annual Founders Day Festival and Ice Cream Social

DATE: Sunday, May 21
TIME: 1-4 p.m.
LOCATION: Wixom Wire House, corner of Maple and Wixom roads
DETAILS: City of Wixom Community Services and the Wixom Historical Society are sponsoring this event. It will include old tractors, cows, candlestick maker, blacksmith, quilting, peeing farm, train display, kid's train rides and games, horseshoe tournament, "Sine Your Mutt" preceeding the event at noon, ventriloquist and juggler, kids craft station and chorus groups. Also Wixom, Loon Lake and Walled Lake Elementary fourth grade classes will be displaying the "Visions of a Child" photos inside the Gibson house.
CONTACT: (248) 624-2850 or www.cityofwixom.com

Pet Adoption Day

DATE: Sunday, May 21
TIME: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
LOCATION: One to the Dogs, 22397 Holly Drive
DETAILS: Local animal shelters, humans societies and animal rescue organizations will be bringing dogs and cats to adopt.
CONTACT: (248) 347-9061 or visit www.GoneToTheDogsNovi.com

Farmers Market

DATE: Thursday through Oct. 26
TIME: 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
LOCATION: Northville Downs parking lot, corner of Seven Mile

and Sheldon Road, Northville
DETAILS: There are 100 stalls of fresh produce, plants, flowers, baked goods, garden art, crafts and home accessories available. This is sponsored by the Northville Chamber of Commerce and Preswick Estates of Northville Hills Golf Club.
CONTACT: (248) 349-7640

SCHOOL GOVERNMENT

Wixom City Council
DATE: Tuesday
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Wixom City Hall, 49045 Pontiac Trail
CONTACT: (248) 344-4557

Novi City Council Meeting

DATE: Monday, May 22
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 344-0470

Novi School Board Meeting

DATE: Thursday, May 18
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Educational Services Building, 25345 Taft Road
CONTACT: (248) 449-1200

Novi Youth Assistance General Citizens Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, June 6
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0410

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce

DATE: Monday, May 22
TIME: 1:30 p.m. shotgun start
LOCATION: Edgewood Country Club, 8599 Commerce Road, Commerce Township
DETAILS: This event includes 18 holes of golf with lunch, buffet dinner, contests and door prizes.
CONTACT: (248) 624-2826

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Events

DATE: Monday, May 22
TIME: 1:30 p.m. shotgun start
LOCATION: Edgewood Country Club, 8599 Commerce Road, Commerce Township
DETAILS: This event includes 18 holes of golf with lunch, buffet dinner, contests and door prizes.
CONTACT: (248) 624-2826

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Events

DATE: Thursday, May 18
TIME: 8:30-10 p.m.
LOCATION: Hampton Inn, 169

Loop Road, Commerce Township
DETAILS: Meet other members and learn how to take advantage of chamber membership at this reception. Bring business cards.
CONTACT: Jan Hubbard, email jhubbard@wslscollege.edu

Females in the Family Business Affinity Group

TIME/DATES: 8:30 a.m. Third Thursday of every month
LOCATION: Walsh College, Troy Campus
DETAILS: Walsh Business Leadership Institute invites women who own, are partners in, or work for family businesses. Items discussed will be common issues and share solutions in a non-threatening, non-competitive, non-sales roundtable. Registration is required.
CONTACT: Jan Hubbard, email jhubbard@wslscollege.edu

Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce Business to Business Networking

DATE: Today
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Andiamo, Dirty Martini lounge
DETAILS: Informal meeting and networking opportunity for new business group seeking members. Open bar and hors d'oeuvres; cost is \$10.
CONTACT: Please RSVP by May 10 at (248) 347-4622.

GOLF OUTINGS

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce
DATE: Monday, May 22
TIME: 1:30 p.m. shotgun start
LOCATION: Edgewood Country Club, 8599 Commerce Road, Commerce Township
DETAILS: This event includes 18 holes of golf with lunch, buffet dinner, contests and door prizes.
CONTACT: (248) 624-2826

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Events

DATE: Thursday, May 18
TIME: 8:30-10 p.m.
LOCATION: Hampton Inn, 169

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†Free mortgage rates are products of National City Mortgage, a division of National City Bank of Indiana.
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TIME: 10 a.m. shotgun start
LOCATION: Western Golf and Country Club, 14600 Knoch Road, Royal Oak
DETAILS: This fund-raiser will benefit programs for terminally ill patients and their families. It will include 18 holes of golf with carts, box lunches, dinner, dessert, and a silent auction.
CONTACT: (734) 953-6018 or visit www.angelshospital.org

Novi Rotary 21st Annual Charity Dinner

DATE: Thursday, June 15
TIME: 10 a.m. shotgun start
LOCATION: Oak Point Country Club, 4500 Oak Point Drive, Brighton
DETAILS: The cost is \$140 per person and includes 18 holes of golf, cart, unlimited range balls, lunch and dinner. There will also be an auction, raffle, cash bar and prizes.
CONTACT: (248) 476-4977

Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce

DATE: July 12
LOCATION: Links of Novi, 50395 W. 10 Mile Road
DETAILS: sponsorships available
CONTACT: (248) 347-4622

Novi Lives Club

DATE: Thursday, July 13
TIME: 9 a.m. shotgun scramble
LOCATION: Links of Novi, 50395 W. 10 Mile Road
DETAILS: Individuals and businesses are needed to participate as sponsors, golfers or to provide gifts or gift certificates as prizes for the attendees, or donate items for the "Silent Auction." All proceeds will be given to local charities.
CONTACT: Jerry Coates, (248) 348-0531 or Terri D. Taylor, (248) 755-2384

Novi Chamber of Commerce

CONTACT: (248) 349-3745
9th Annual Tycoon Tee-Off Golf Outing
DATE: Wednesday, August 9
LOCATION: Moose Ridge Golf Course, 11801 Doane Road, South Lyon
DETAILS: This outing will include sponsorship opportunities, prizes, networking and championship caliber golf.

CLASSES

Midland County Summer
LOCATION: Oakland County complex, 1200 N. Telegraph Road,

Pontiac
TIME: 9 a.m.-noon
Write a Business Plan
DATE: Thursday, May 18
DETAILS: This is a workshop for small business owners who are developing a plan to serve as a road map to success. The fee is \$40 per person. Registration is required.

Expectant Parent Class

DATE: Monday through June 26
TIME: 6-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Oakland County Health Division, 1010 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake
DETAILS: These classes will include information on childbirth preparation, labor and delivery, care of the newborn baby and caring for ill children. The cost is \$25. Registration is required.
CONTACT: (248) 858-4003

Assisted Living Discussion

DATE: Thursday, May 18
TIME: 7-8 p.m.
LOCATION: Walledwood Senior Community, Twelve Oaks, 27495 Huron Circle
DETAILS: Kathleen Murphy, General Counsel, Michigan Assisted Living Association, will speak on the benefits of choosing a licensed assisted community for seniors. Reservations are recommended, but not required for this free program. Refreshments will be served.
CONTACT: (248) 735-1500

Providence Center for the Healing Arts

LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Avenue, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455
Colored Pencil Workshop
TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m., second Tuesday of every month
DETAILS: This is a free class. **Arts In Residence**
TIME/DATE: 10-11:30 a.m. first and third Thursday of every month
DETAILS: Join Artist-in-Residence Mary Ourn Terebins and experiment with drawing, pencils, watercolor, Chinese brush painting, mixed media and collage. Beginners are welcome, there is a \$5 materials fee.
Ceramics Class
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 1-5 p.m. Wednesday
DETAILS: There is a \$10 materials fee.
Thi Chi Class
TIME/DATE: 12:15-1 p.m. Thursday
DETAILS: This is an ancient Chinese exercise used to improve flexibility, balance and strength. No experience is necessary. The cost is \$5.
Yoga Class

TIME/DATE: Various times, Monday, Wednesday and Friday
DETAILS: The cost is \$10 for walk-in, \$80 for 10-class card and \$70 for 7-week evening session. Pre-registration required.
Massage
TIME/DATE: Various times, Monday and Thursday
DETAILS: Therapeutic massage is shown to be effective for stress and tension, chronic fatigue, pain and headaches. Everyone is welcome. Patients undergoing treatment should bring a physician's referral. Call for an appointment. The cost is \$50 for a 30 minute session.
Art Workshops
TIME/DATE: 2-4 p.m. Friday, "Discover Paper Beads" 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, "Muscle Project" 9 a.m.-noon Wednesday, May 24, "Flower Making"

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, 42400 Arden Drive
DETAILS: No partner needed for lessons in this pay-as-you-go program. Cost is \$5 for Novi residents and for those ages 55 and up; \$6 for non-residents.
CONTACT: (248) 348-9116

LIBRARY LINES

Novi Public Library Hours

LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile Road
HOURS: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday; closed Mother's Day
DETAILS: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0720

Summer Teen Volunteer Applications

DETAILS: The library's Youth and Teen Services department is looking for teen volunteers to help with the Summer Reading Program. Volunteers should be in going into the 7th grade and up in the fall and be able to work two hours a week from June 19-July 22.

Kiddie Karaoke

DATE: Today
TIME: 1-3 p.m.
DETAILS: Preschoolers are invited to bring a special adult

singing partner to perform favorite songs. No registration is required.

Spring Story Times

DATES: Monday, Wednesday, Friday
TIME: 1-4 p.m.
DETAILS: This is for all ages and includes stories, songs, and movement. No registration is required.

Page-turners

DATE: Wednesday
TIME: 4:30-5:15 p.m.
DETAILS: This is for fifth and sixth grade students and will include snacks and discussing the book "Fireballs" by Benny Byans. No registration is required.

Build a Model Rocket

DATE: Saturday, May 20
TIME: 1-4 p.m.
DETAILS: John Kiehlhoff from Rider's Hobby Shop in Livonia will guide students fifth grade and up in building and launching rockets. The fee for the rocket kit is \$7, payable the day of the program. Registration is required.

Library Board Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, May 17
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: City Council Chambers at the Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: Community members are welcome to attend. Meetings are also broadcast live on cable channel 13.

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 7:30 p.m., Thursday
DETAILS: Includes stories, crafts, finger plays and games. Designed for ages 1-5. No registration required.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples

DATES: second Thursday of each month
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Which's Hat Depot, 300 Dorothy St., South Lyon
DETAILS: This group provides information, support and social activities for mothers of multiples, birth parents and their families. Mothers of multiples living in and

around the Kensington Valley school conference are all welcome.
CONTACT: For more information, (248) 437-5496.

Women's Prayer Support

DATE: Saturday, ongoing
TIME: 9-10:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Harvest Fellowship Church, 49329 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
DETAILS: Come for encouragement, help, hope and prayer. Drop in for five minutes or longer. **CONTACT:** Nancy or Susan, (248) 926-8332 or harvestfellowship@comcast.net

Novi Toastmasters

DATE: first and third Tuesday of each month
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center Activities Room, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road
TIME: 7-8:45 p.m.
DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
CONTACT: Colleen, (248) 685-9226

New Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TUPS) chapter

DATES: every Wednesday
TIME: 11 a.m. weigh-in; 11:30 a.m. meeting
LOCATION: Meadowbrook Commons, 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi
DETAILS: \$20 per annual membership includes handbook; \$1 per meeting. New members welcome.
CONTACT: (248) 347-0414

HEALTH

Yoga Classes

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, Novi
DETAILS: The cost is \$10/walk-in, \$80/10-class card; \$70/7-week evening sessions.

Providence Medical Center Classes

LOCATION: Providence Park, Novi, 47601 Grand River Avenue
CONTACT: (888) 440-7325, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Childbirth Education
DETAILS: Evening or weekend series helping you and your partner get ready for the birth of your baby.
Childbirth Refresher
DETAILS: A one class class to review/participate in information for birth of your baby.

Breastfeeding Preparation
DETAILS: A one class class for mom and her partner helping to provide tips for successful breastfeeding.
Baby Care Basics
DETAILS: A one time class with practical information about how to adapt to life with a baby.
Infant Massage
DETAILS: This two session class teaches parents how to offer their infant the comfort of massage.
Yoga Classes
TIME/DATE: 1:30-2:30 p.m. Monday; noon 1:30 p.m. Friday
DETAILS: The cost is \$10/walk-ins or 10 class card for \$50.

ROCK FINANCIAL SHOWPLACE

The Rock Financial Showplace is located at 46100 Grand River Avenue, Cell (248) 348-5600 or visit <http://www.rockfinancialshowplace.com>

Scrapbook Mega Meet

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday
DETAILS: This is the ultimate cropping, shopping and learning experience. The cost is \$10 admission/parking is \$5. Umbrellas stroller only.
CONTACT: (248) 583-7133 or visit www.megameet.com

Mother's Day Brunch

DATE: Sunday
TIME: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
DETAILS: Reservations are required. The cost is \$19.95 for adults, \$17.95 for seniors 55 and older, \$9.95 for ages 4-12 and free for ages 3 and under.
CONTACT: (248) 438-5600, ext. 200

Motor City Comic Con

TIME/DATE: 2-8 p.m. Friday, May 19, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, May 20 and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, May 21
DETAILS: This is a multi-media event with over 1 million comics and collectibles for sale and trade. The cost is \$20/one day and \$50/three days for adults and \$10/one day and \$25/three days for ages 10 and under. Parking is \$5.
CONTACT: (248) 426-8059 or www.motorcityconventions.com

Save your calendar items to Cal Street, Clinton Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 999-9832; or e-mail to cstn@punnet.com

Thank You!

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK
May 7-13

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EDUCATION

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novnews.com fax: (248) 349-9832

Broadcasting students win top state honors

Novi High School's live daily television newscast, captured the top awards in the state for the second year in a row. The Michigan Interscholastic Press Association (MIPA) named Novi's Eye News for first place in the NewsCast On-Site category at their annual competition in Lansing. The newscast team also took first place in March from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters' high school competition.

Several students brought home individual awards. Senior Jason Margolis won first place in Feature News Story, third place in the Short Film category, and honorable mention in News Story, Best Commercial, and Feature News Story, taking two awards in that category.

Junior Craig Chupinski won first place in Best Opener, a taped introduction to a program, for his elaborate and creative computer-generated opening sequence for The Cat's Eye News. Greg Layton, a senior, won second place for his portfolio of images and credits in the Best Graphics category. Senior Katie Colacino took first place honors in the Best Weathercast competition. Novi took two out of the three top honors in Weathercasting, as junior Arthi Candrasekaran came home with the third place award. She also won the first place award in the prestigious News Anchor category. A group of Novi students took first place in the Best Commercial

competition. Craig Chupinski, Katie Colacino, senior Lisa Harden, and Jason Margolis won with their 30-second commercial. Novi entered 12 productions, and came away with 12 MIPA awards. NHS is proud to promote our program as "Michigan's Number One High School Television Newscast." WOV Radio Broadcasters also won honors this spring. Junior Alex Prasad won Honorable Mention in Radio News and senior Dan Sprys took honorable mention in the disc jockey category. These awards came at the Michigan Association of Educational Broadcasters Honors Night in April. This event was held at Bloomfield Hills Andover High School.



Courtesy photo

Drumming in Dayton

The Novi High School Winter Drumline competed in the Winter Guard International World Championships, held April 19-22 at both the University of Dayton Arena and the Nutter Center at Wright State University. The group did extremely well, placing second in their round in prelims with a score of 90.75. They finished ninth overall in the semis, which advanced them to the finals, a great accomplishment for the group. Pictured are Elna Shope, Victoria Kelsey, Dan Hawley, John Webber, Chris Edwards, Andrew Torkanisa, Sandra Wuerth, TJ Butler, Brad Lonsway, Kyle Tice, Scott Hokett, Adam Burkhardt, Jon Clarkson, John McKenna, Brianna Diephuis, Natalie Kuczajda, Jeanline Seidi, Brooke Vermillion, Kim Weid, Patrick Kochyan, Rachel Otis, Michelle Fernandes, Lauren Zbranchik, Sarah Sherman, Libby Schulta, Andrea Stinar, Rebecca Wicker, Sarah Wicker, Stephen Sorensen, Mike Carroll, Jackson Landry, Dan Wall, Mike Webber, Alex Brey, Erica Glao and Tom Nowak. Not pictured is Nick Colacino.

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ON CAMPUS

Jennifer Najjar and Lindsay Zeigler-Nator, both of Novi, recently participated in Albion College's Filkin R. Isaac Student Research Symposium. The students made public presentations of research projects.

Novi resident, Scott Kottland, was awarded an Outstanding Dance Student Award for exceptional academic achievement during Albion College's annual Honors Convocation.

Ann Marie Nelson, of Novi, has been named to the Executive Board for Northwood University's 43rd International Auto Show.

Novi residents, Leslie Bateman, Alexander Bauman, Ginalise Hissi, Jacquelyn Chedy, Bryan Creemers, Jeffrey Dodds, Amandia Kowalski, William Morrison, Adam Noble, Matthew Puley, Michelle Quenneville, Rebekka Rauen, Amanda Tuffit, Samantha Wilson and Julie Wincza were named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at Western Michigan University.

Walled Lake residents, Lauren Abec, Jarius Baird, Jennifer Barnett, Sean Keblains, Trevor Monfette and Eric Pares were named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at Western Michigan University.

Novi residents, Julie Kowalski, Holly Lloyd, Anthony Palamini, Jessica Reihman and Sarah Smith were named to the fall 2005 dean's list at Western Michigan University.

Chase Chandler, of Novi, received an Ernst and Young Public Accounting Scholarship at Albion College.

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<p>FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE On Haggerty Rd. North of 8 Mile Rd. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Celebration 10:30 a.m. (248) 348-1700 Dr. Ron Blake, Pastor</p>	<p>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 200 E. Main St. or Horton, (248) 349-0111 Worship & Church School 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Children Available at All Services Worship: Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. Styler Place Ministry, Thurs. 7:30pm New Youth Center, 40000 Old Orchard Rev. James P. Ryan, Associate Pastor</p>
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<p>CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL (Anglican) 18 Mile between Meadowbrook & Haggerty Phone: 248-470-7173 Sun. 7:45 & 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m. Rev. Karen Harty, Pastor www.churchoftheholycross.com</p>	<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 9 Mile S. Meadowbrook Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sunday Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 8:45 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Thomas E. Schwabek, Pastor - 349-0555</p>
<p>FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4440 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-349-2343 172 mile west of Novi Rd. Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Service Dr. Richard J. Henderson, Pastor</p>	<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 8 Mile & 1st Road Worship Services from 9:30am & 11am Rev. John Hoce Rev. Lisa Cook www.umcnorthville.org</p>
<p>ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 4325 10 Mile Rd. NOVI, MI 48242 Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Religious Education, Children's Pastor Pastor Office: 349-7773</p>	<p>OAK POINTE CHURCH At Novi High School 10 Mile & 1st Road Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Casual contemporary Ave band (248) 912-0343 www.oakpointe.org</p>
<p>CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 2425 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48229 Masses Sat. 5pm Sun 12:30pm 8:30am 10:30am 12:30pm 1:45pm 7:30pm 8:30pm 10:30pm Rev. Fr. George M. Vokonas, Pastor Religious Education Pastor Pastor Office: 349-6840</p>	<p>HARVEST FELLOWSHIP 49300 Pavilion Trail Livonia 248-926-8332 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>
<p>NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK CATHOLIC CHURCH 3901 Thompson Ave., Farmington Hills Farmington, MI 48334 Sunday Services Worship 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Rev. Fr. George M. Vokonas, Pastor Religious Education Pastor Pastor Office: 349-6840</p>	<p>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA 20225 68th Rd., Farmington Hills Between Grand Ave. & Freedom 248-416284 Sunday Worship 9:30 8:30 & 11:00 Wednesday 9:30 Contemporary Service 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2425 W. 10 Mile Rd. North of 17 Mile Worship: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m. Rev. Karen Harty, Pastor Pastor Office: 349-7773</p>	<p>CONG. BETH KODESH 31840 W. Seven Mile Rd., Livonia Friday Night Services 8:00 p.m. Sabbath Services 9:00 a.m. HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES Sunday School 7:30 a.m. Sept-May</p>



Courtesy photo

Serve it up

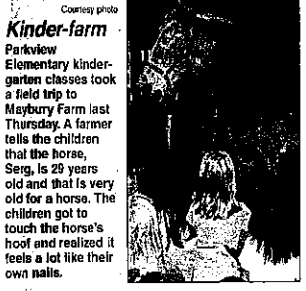
Orchard Hills third-grader Andy Wilchynski gets "served" by teacher Mrs. Ella MacArthur at the recent McDonalds Family Fun Night. Twenty teachers and staff members helped out at the event that was attended by Orchard Hills families. Proceeds benefit the Orchard Hills PTO.



Courtesy photo

Cinco celebration

Deerfield Elementary held an assembly to celebrate El Cinco de Mayo last Friday. The Latin Extravaganza Dance Group, Inc. taught the students about the historical event of El Cinco de Mayo, as well as Latino dancing. The students in the pictures were having fun learning how to perform a Latin dance.



Courtesy photo

Kinder-farm

Kindergarten classes took a field trip to Meybury Farm last Thursday. A farmer tells the children that the horse, Serg, is 25 years old and that is very old for a horse. The children got to touch the horse's hoof and realized it feels a lot like their own nails.

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■ **TRACK & FIELD:**
New Wildcat pole vault record set page 2B

■ **PROM:**
Novi High student enjoy their big night page 5B

SPORTS

1B Novi News (248) 349-1700 www.novihighnews.com fax (248) 349-9832 Thursday, May 17, 2006

KICKING and SCREAMING



■ **Standout soccer star making plenty of noise on pitch as she prepares to play for the Buckeyes**

When Novi junior Emily Estbrook was a little girl, her parents knew she had a kicking problem. It wasn't tantrums or shin kicking. It was kicking the side of the neighbor's house and kicking holes in the garage. With her soccer ball in a couple of years, she'll be kicking holes in Big Ten defenses as a member of the Ohio State Buckeyes soccer team.

"I got so much enjoyment out of it and I never found it hard to practice on my own," Estbrook said. "I just liked kicking the ball around."



Sam Eggleston

Estbrook's dad, John, built a board stopper and placed it in the basement for her to kick against. It was a strategy that worked. Property values in her community stayed up and Estbrook became one of the state's best high school soccer players.

"Emily Estbrook is a very skilled player that has an amazing ability to control the ball and possess it until someone on her team is open," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "She passes the ball well with both feet and does a great job of controlling the flow of play by always keeping the defense guessing. She will get the ball five times in a row and do five different things with the ball."

"Estbrook said she learned many of her foot skills by watching high-level soccer. When the professionals and collegiate players would make a move, she'd practice it again and again until she got it down pat.

"That's why it's not uncommon to see Estbrook moving the ball down the field with a defender moving up to stop her. She'll make a move, like crossing the ball behind her or a quick kick, and leave the defender in her dust."

"The midfielder has been a phenomenon in the making. From her first year under coach Tom Myrland and the Novi Jaguars to a national championship team with the Michigan Hawks and the Olympic Development Team, she's been selected to the All-State Dream Team, All-State First Team, All-Area Dream Team, All-Conference squad and a slew of other honors.

"It's nice to know that all the hard work has paid off," Estbrook said. "I didn't just wake up and find out I was good at soccer. It was something I had to work at."

Future Buckeyes

Estbrook, like many highly recruited athletes, had more college choices than she knew what to do with. But her first trip to Columbus, Ohio, produced an immediate reaction.

"I just loved the campus and the coaches and the team," Estbrook said of Ohio State University. "From an academic standpoint, it's an amazing school."

"Playing Division I sports is considered a full-time commitment. Athletics on scholarship, during season, aren't even usually allowed to work."

"But Estbrook is used to sacrificing her time in order to play at the highest level. Not only does she compete with the Michigan Hawks, she has also made the Olympic Development Program's state regional and national squads."

"During her freshman and sophomore years, her social life suffered as she missed events like the homecoming dance. "It's pretty much an all-year sport."



Emily Estbrook in action on the Wildcat's home turf. The junior has committed herself to playing for Ohio State University.

Estbrook said, "You get about a month of between January and December. I enjoy it, but I start to get restless and can't wait to get back again."

Ohio State's Estbrook's collegiate choice has made some members of her family change colors from the good old

maize and blue to scarlet and gray. "It broke a few hearts," she said of her decision. "My family is full of Michigan fans. I never, personally, had a preference."

"My brothers all said they'll root for Ohio State's soccer team, but they're not going to cheer for the football team."

Photo by JOHN HEDER/Novi News

But on the soccer pitch? The Estbrooks face all about Hawks, Cats and Buckeyes. Oh my!

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

Quick Hits

Novi grad gives back through athletics

Emily Balagna (formerly Emily McCluskey), the wife of Novi grad and former Novi (current Northville) coach JJ Balagna, just completed in and finished the St. Anthony's Triathlon in St. Petersburg, Fla. She graduated from Novi in 1998 after four years of varsity swimming. Her newest athletic endeavor found her finishing the race in three hours and 37 minutes. The race consisted of a 0.9 mile swim, a 25 mile bike, and a 10K run — the Olympic length triathlon.

This was her first ever race, and she was one of 3,500 competitors.

Balagna took on the challenge as part of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Team-in-Training. She raised \$4,560, the Michigan chapter raised \$250,000 and the National Chapter raised 2.2 million with this event.

Detroit Jaguars all brought up

The Detroit Jaguars semi-professional soccer team was recently purchased by the always-competitive and elite Michigan Hawks soccer club.

The squad, which used to be based in Novi, will continue playing their games in Livonia and features both Northville and Novi talent as well as a slew of players from surrounding communities.

For more information, check out the article in this week's sports section.

New Novi Athletic Booster officers elected

At last Wednesday's athletic boosters meeting, new officers were elected for the 2006-07 term. Their responsibilities, like every member of the boosters, is to provide support and partially fund the athletic teams at Novi High School.

Earning the position of president was none other than Paul Flazin, who's son, Zach, graduated last year after a very successful career in hockey and baseball. Roger Jausi was elected vice president — his two sons were also very well known hockey players and on the golf team — and secretary is Joanne Pritchard, who's son Ryan was an unstoppable force on the football field and throwing in the field events for the track team (Ryan is now at Princeton, playing football for the Tigers). Elected as booster treasurer was Jeff Donato.

The newly-elected officers will continue to help the athletic boosters work to raise funds and coordinate volunteers to support all of the athletic teams at Novi High School.

With sports-minded people like these, the boosters are definitely in good hands.

Time for another team

It seems like there are new teams being added to the lineup at Novi High School every month and now Kelly Shinkel wants to start a skiing team.

Our thoughts? It's a good idea. Skiing is continuing to be a growing sport across the state with teams already in Novi with Catholic Central's squad and plenty rooming around in the Kensington Valley Conference.

Shinkel, who is a top-notch national skier, has the right idea to try and offer it up as an additional choice for Wildcats to choose from.

Besides, there's already two hockey teams (an indoor one in the spring and traditional ice hockey in the winter) and plenty of other non-traditional sports (bowling, lacrosse and basketball, to name a few) that are available. When the time comes, we think it's the right decision for Novi to add a skiing at their newest addition.

The sky's the limit

■ Machisak sets pole vault mark

Novi's Chris Machisak went 13-feet-5-inches to break the high school pole vault record against South Lyon last week.

The team won the meet, 91-46. Earning firsts for Novi were John Howa (discus), Mouch (shot put), Eric Zhou (long jump), Andrews (high jump), Machisak (pole vault), Derek Coleman (high hurdles), Mike Wheat (mile run), Brandon Coles (400), Alex Prasad (800), Andrew Lee (low hurdles), the 4-by-200 relay and the 4-by-100 relay.

Novi also beat Brighton last week, 82-46. Firsts went from Bevin (shot and discus), Bobby Duquette (100), 4-by-800 relay, Coleman (high hurdles), 4-by-200 relay, Wheat (mile), 4-by-100 relay, Coles (400), Simmons (200) and Lee (low hurdles).

Girls have busy week

Novi's week started with a loss against Brighton but turned around with a win against South Lyon and a win at the Stafford Relays.

Strong performances were given by: Allie Nissan (handball), Kim Zeno and Laura Vandensteen (shot

and discus), Allison LaGrain (long jump) and Meghan Benzanz and Laura Sheeran (distance).

'Cats fail to Brighton

Novi's golf team fell to Brighton last weeks, 183-188. Scoring for Novi: Atsuko Akomatsu, 46; Abby Gruetler, 46; Natalie Krick, 47; Megan Wenzl, 49; Lindsay Celoski, 50; and Brenna Quinley, 52.

Tennis gets wins

The Novi tennis team beat Stevenson, 7-1, South Lyon, 8-6, and Brighton, 6-2, before winning the Novi Quad Tournament last week.

Undeclared in dual meets last week were Vivek Athalye, Kyle Goodman, Mani Mhadkevan, Eric McQueen and Adam Dost, Jason Hsu and Gourham Rendapat and David Switzer and Michael Thomas.

In the Novi Quad, the Wildcats beat a depleted Ann Arbor Huron team, Brother Rice and Troy to take the championship.



Photo by AMY JACQUES

Novi's Chris Machisak set the new school pole vault record at 13-feet-5-inches

Catholic Central tennis continues its dominance

By Aditya "AI" Athavale

SPORTS INTERN

The Catholic Central tennis team bounced back from its loss to Country Day by beating rival Brother Rice 5-3 in the Sectional Catholic League Championship. This is the second year CC has beat them.

The team won the number three singles and swept all four doubles.

Junior Samir da Costa won his

singles match.

"Samir played a really intelligent match," said coach Joe Stafford. "He is really starting to pick up his shots and exploit his opponent's weaknesses."

Coach Stafford also added that beating the Brother Rice team in the regular season championship this year was a significant accomplishment.

The tennis team is currently 4-2 overall and 3-0 in the Catholic League.

NOVI HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCHEDULE

Tennis			
Varsity	Away	KVC Championships	TBA
5/13	Away	KVC Championships (Rain)	TBA
5/16	Home	Regionals	TBA
JV			
5/11	Home	JV Candy Bag	2 p.m.
5/13	Away	Saline Quad	TBA
Track			
5/13	Away	Sunshine Invic	9 a.m.
5/16	Home	Millford	4 p.m.
5/19	Away	Regionals	TBA
Softball			
Varsity	Home	Lakeland	4 p.m.
5/12	Away	Canton Classic	9 a.m.
5/13	Away	Brighton	4 p.m.
5/19	Home	South Lyon	4 p.m.
JV			
5/12	Away	Lakeland	4 p.m.
5/17	Home	Brighton	4 p.m.
5/19	Away	South Lyon	4 p.m.
Freshman	Home	Howell	4 p.m.
Baseball			
Varsity	Home	Lakeland	4 p.m.
5/12	Home	Harrison	11 a.m.
5/13	Away	Brighton	4 p.m.
5/19	Home	South Lyon	4 p.m.
JV			
5/12	Away	Lakeland	4 p.m.
5/13	Away	Harrison	11 a.m.
5/17	Home	Brighton	4 p.m.
5/19	Away	South Lyon	4 p.m.
Freshman	Home	Howell	4 p.m.
Golf			
5/11	Home	Hartland	3 p.m.
5/15	Away	Millford	3 p.m.
5/17	Home	Ann Arbor Huron	3 p.m.
Lacrosse			
Varsity	Home	Howell	6:30 p.m.
5/15	Away	Millford	7 p.m.
5/18	Home	South Lyon	6:30 p.m.
JV			
5/15	Away	Millford	5:30 p.m.
5/18	Home	South Lyon	5 p.m.
Soccer			
Varsity	Home	Livonia Stevenson	7 p.m.
5/12	Home	South Lyon	7 p.m.
5/17	Home	Millford	7 p.m.
5/19	Home	Millford	7 p.m.
JV			
5/12	Home	Livonia Stevenson	5 p.m.
5/19	Home	Millford	5 p.m.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi High School lacrosse captains Scott Smith, Bobby Watts, John Favorite and Nick Shaffer are all looking to extend the Wildcats' season as long as possible.

Lacrosse captains step up

By Courtney Ratkowiak

SPORTS INTERN

NO coach? No problem.

Nick Shaffer, Bobby Watts, John Favorite, and Scott Smith, after learning of the departure of their varsity lacrosse coach at the beginning of the season, were faced with the challenge of planning preseason conditioning and organizing a new team.

"Right when we were supposed to start practice, we found out we didn't have a coach," Shaffer said. "We didn't even know where to start."

"Shaf, Bobby, John, and I pretty much ran everything because we didn't know when we were going to get a coach," Smith added. "Basically, we just buckled down and decided what we needed to do. If we're not given anything, we have to create something."

The four varsity lacrosse captains love for lacrosse helped them to motivate teammates and start preseason training. Four months later, their team has a winning record and high expectations for the state playoffs.

Smith feels that the experience of the captains has helped them to succeed as leaders during their final varsity season.

"The four of us all lead well by example, and

we all try to do the right thing," Smith said. "I think that we four probably work the hardest on the team, so we just try and show that on the field and, hopefully, everyone else will pick that up, too."

The captains have been teammates since middle school. Shaffer and Smith said that lacrosse is their favorite school sport.

"It's just fun. It's not routine, it's always different," Shaffer said. "In football, you run over the same play 50 times in practice. With lacrosse, you're just doing something different all the time. Nothing's ever the same."

"It's an individual sport on a team field. For that minute or so that you have the ball, it's all yours," Smith added. "Everything that you're doing shows all of the work that you put in, all the time and all the practice. You know when you score, it was all the hard work that got you to that point."

Smith, Shaffer, and Favorite were also teammates on the varsity football team. Many of the athletes on the lacrosse team have played together on other non-lacrosse sports teams and summer league clubs, and Shaffer said that meeting lacrosse players outside of the varsity team has helped to improve team chemistry.

"We've all been playing together, so we all know each other's playing style. When we were

freshmen, Bobby, John, and I went to the middle school and coached the kids that are freshmen and sophomores on our (current varsity) team," Shaffer said. "Lacrosse is a tight-knit program. Everyone knows each other."

The lacrosse team will have their last regular-season home game on May 18 vs. South Lyon. Smith said that a main team goal is to win the league championship, while Shaffer hopes that his team does not lose another game on the way to the Division 2 state finals.

"The KVC was just formed for lacrosse, and everyone wants to beat cross-town rivals," Smith said. "For a state championship, everyone has to be pretty much working at 100 percent. When we have games like that, then a state championship would be easy, but when we have home games where some kids are running at half speed, that's going to be tough."

"We're really good when we play together. Lacrosse is a team sport," Shaffer added. "We have games where we're unstoppable, where no one could beat us. We could win a state championship."

Courtney Ratkowiak is a sports intern for the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 249-1700, ext. 101.

Wildcats can't handle Grosse Pointe South

For the second time in less than a week, Novi fell to Grosse Pointe South in lacrosse.

Too many Novi turnovers and a tenacious Grosse Pointe defense proved to be the keys to the game as Novi fell flat, 11-2.

Scott Smith scored on John Favorite's midway in the first to tie at 1-1, but that would be the only score Novi would get for the game. Novi was down 4-1 at the end of the first period of play.

Novi stayed in the game and held Grosse Pointe to one in the

second, thanks to some great saves by goalie Eric Hepler.

Novi's best score came in the third and added three more in the fourth.

Travis Blackledge scored the only other Novi goal.

Novi 14, South Lyon 7

Bobby Watts started the scoring with an unassisted goal four minutes into the first quarter. South Lyon tied it up and Scott Smith broke the tie with a goal fed by

Craig Howell. That proved to be the closest South Lyon would ever get.

In the second, Howell scored his own unassisted with a blistering shot from the front corner. South Lyon slipped one past goalie Eric Hepler and then the onslaught continued. Travis Blackledge, Bobby Watts, and Scott Smith scored in the fourth on passes from Watts, Paul Favorite and George Riggs. Novi led at the half, 5-2.

The third half Watts scoring his second from Scott Miran. A

half minute later, Blackledge scored again on a pass from Scott Miran. Watts followed the performance with three goals in a row, the last off a feed from Paul Favorite. Smith scored on a pass from Nick Zoroya and Novi had a dominating advantage after three periods of play, 12-5.

Blackledge, Bobby Watts, and Scott Smith scored in the fourth on passes from Watts and Riggs. Scott Miran scored unassisted. South Lyon scored a few in the latter part of the fourth but Novi emerged off with the victory, 14-7.

Novi gets baseball back on the right track, headed for .500 year

The Novi Wildcats baseball team is getting their season back on track, earning four wins and taking one loss last week.

The lone loss came against Allen Park, 14-4, with Mike Spischak earning a triple and scoring a run while Pat Schmitz went 2-for-2 with a run and an RBI.

Novi came back to beat Trenton, 12-2, in six innings with Matt Hohenstall getting the win with five strikeouts and one earned run. Brandon Schwartz threw one inning.

Novi picked up 11 hits in the game with Danny Peligian going 1-for-2 with three runs scored and three walks while Steve Hart was 2-for-3 with two walks and two runs scored. Craig Lovler was 1-for-1 with two RBIs and a run scored while Brett Glover was 2-for-3 with two RBIs. Tom Spischak had a double and an RBI while Ryan Figurski was 1-for-1 with three walks, a double and three

runs scored.

Treor Borsak hit the game-winning single.

Against Pinckney last Monday, the Wildcats won 17-6 over five innings in the opener of a double-header.

Schwartz earned the win, giving up six earned runs along the way. Offensively, Matt Simpson was stellar, going 3-for-3 with four RBIs and two stolen bases while Hart went 2-for-4 with three runs scored and two RBIs. Spischak was 2-for-3 with three RBIs while Stefan Figurski was 2-for-2 with three runs scored and an RBI.

Ryan Figurski had a strong day, going 3-for-3 with two doubles and a home run and a walk while scoring four runs and knocking in three RBIs.

The nightcap against Pinckney found Novi winning, 12-3 after five innings (game called due to darkness). The winning pitcher was Borsak, who picked up his

second win with seven strikeouts while allowing one earned run.

The big hitter of the game was Hart, who went 2-for-3 with two runs scored and two RBIs. Glover

knocked his third homer of the year, cashing in three RBIs, while Schwanz had an RBI double and Slack was 2-for-3 with a triple and two RBIs.

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SPORTS SHORTS

Girls basketball camp

Registration is underway for the Lady Wildcats basketball camp for girls in grades 2nd-9th.

The camp, which costs \$125 per player, will run June 19-23 at the Novi High School field-houses.

It will focus on all game phases, including dribbling, shooting, pivoting, faking, rebounding, team play, sportsmanship and an introduction to the Lady Wildcat offensive and defensive schemes.

Camp Director will be Bill Kelly, the girls varsity basketball coach at Novi High School. Gym clothes and shoes are required. All participants will receive a T-shirt and an outdoor basketball.

For more information or to register, please contact Novi Community Education at (248) 449-1206.

Boys basketball camp

Registration is currently underway for the Novi Wildcats boys basketball camp for boys in grades 2nd-9th.

The camp, which costs \$135 per player, will run June 19-23 at the Novi Middle School gym. It will focus on all game phases, including dribbling, shooting, pivoting, faking, rebounding, team play, sportsmanship and an introduction to the Wildcats offensive and defensive schemes.

Camp Director will be Pat Schluter, the boys varsity basketball coach at Novi High School. Gym clothes and shoes are required.

All participants will receive a T-shirt and an outdoor basketball.

For more information or to register, please contact Novi Community Education at (248) 449-1206.

Girls and boys shooting camps

A shooting camp for boys and girls grades 2nd-9th is currently taking registrations through Novi Community Education. The camp will be packed with instruction, techniques and drills a player needs to shoot the basketball well. Emphasis will be placed on three-point shooting, free throws, shooting off the dribble and spot shooting. Awards will be given to shooting contest winners. Gym clothes and shoes are required.

Cost for the camp, which will be run by Novi varsity boys basketball coach Pat Schluter, is \$70. It will run from July 24-28 and will be held at the Novi High School Field House.

For more information or to register, please contact Novi Community Education at (248) 449-1206.

Girls and boys basketball camp

Future basketball players, grades K-2nd, are invited to learn basketball skills and build confidence. Emphasis will be placed on dribbling, pivoting, passing, lay-ups and shooting. Gym clothes and shoes are required. The camp will run July 24-28.

Cost for the camp, which will be run by Novi varsity boys basketball coach Pat Schluter, is \$70. It will be run at Novi Meadows 5 gym. For more information or to register, please contact Novi Community Education at (248) 449-1206.

Northville alumni athletes dinner

Northville alumni athletes, coaches and administrators are invited to attend the Varsity Alumni Dinner May 12, starting at 6 p.m. at Geniti's in Northville.

The cost is \$20 per person plus a cash bar and the event is open to any former Northville High School student athletes, coaches, administrators and their guests that graduated in 2001 or before. Payment is due by May 5 and can be sent to the Athletic Department of Northville High School with the guest's name, year of graduation, address and if they are a former athlete, coach or administrator. Please mail payment to Bryan Masl, Athletic Director, 45700 W. Six Mile Road, Northville, MI, 48168.

For more information, please contact Northville athletic director Bryan Masl at maslb@northville.k12.mi.us

LTC camp hosts NCAA Division I coaches

Lacrosse Training Centers brings some of the top East Coast lacrosse coaches (and staff) during their June 23-25 lacrosse camp in Brighton.

Tom Mariano enters his tenth season as the head men's lacrosse coach at Sacred Heart University. Marino has helped the Pioneers evolve into a solid and competitive program as they enter their fourth season as members of the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), arguably one of the top lacrosse conferences in the country.

Currently in his eighth season as head coach, Tim McIntire has been at the forefront of the successful turnaround of the Manhattan men's lacrosse program. McIntire joined Manhattan after a stellar playing and coaching career on the collegiate, professional and international level.

Darryl Della is a certified US Lacrosse Progression Instructor, as well as a co-director of Run and Shoot Lacrosse Camps. Della coaches at Fairfield University where his duties include serving as Offensive Coordinator as well as Recruiting Director for the Stags.

Register online at www.lacrosseTC.com or give (248) 788-7020.

Spring Learn to Skate at Novi

Novi Ice Arena will run an eight-week spring session of its Learn to Skate Program through May 13, 2006 (no classes after 12-23). Classes are offered Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and skate rental is available.

Learn to Skate students get a punch card for free admission to open skating at Novi Ice Arena throughout the program they are enrolled in. Classes will run once per week for 30 minutes with optional 30-minute practice sessions.

The following classes will be offered:

- Beginning Tots
- Snowplow Sam 1-3
- Basic 1-5
- Skater's Edge Accelerated Bridge Program
- Adult

Open registration for Learn to Skate is underway and skate rental is available. The Learn to Skate Program is now accepting to call the Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010 or visit www.novicarena.com today to inquire about the proper class for your skater.

Sign up for Suburban Showdown

Team and individual registration is underway for the Suburban Showdown Youth Spring Hockey League.

All West League games will take place at Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills and Novi Ice Arena, while all East League games will take place at Suburban Ice-Macomb and the Onyx-Rochester Ice Arena.

Two divisions will be offered for team registration this year - the Gold division permits up to three players who competed at the A, AA, Junior Varsity or Varsity level during the 2005-06 season, while the Silver division does not allow players from those levels to compete.

Teams will play only other teams in their division at the mile (1998-99 birth years), square (1997-97 birth years), pentagon (1994-93 birth years), and midger (1992-93 birth years) and midger (1990-91 age classifications). All teams will play 10 games plus playoffs and playoffs can be purchased at a discounted rate based on availability.

Individual registrations are being accepted at the mile, square, pentagon and midger age classifications. Players who competed at the A, AA, AAA, Junior Varsity or Varsity levels are not eligible to compete. New this year is a girls division. All girls ages 7-14 are welcome to register, regardless of ability level.

Players who sign up as individuals will participate in an evaluation skate to form teams and will only play against other teams made up of individuals. Requests to play together will be honored whenever possible.

The Suburban Showdown Youth Spring League schedule will begin in April and end in mid-June, with no games during Spring Break, Mother's Day or Memorial Day weekend.

All players in the Showdown will be eligible for a discount towards a Suburban Hockey Schools summer program if they register by April 30.

For more information, contact Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010 or go to www.novicarena.com.

Compiled by Sam Eggleston

Detroit Jaguars purchased by Hawks

By Brad Emmons

GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

The Michigan Hawks have purchased the franchise rights to the Detroit Jaguars of the United Soccer League's Women's League.

The Hawks will continue to play their Midwest Division games this season at Livonia Stevenson High School. The W-League season starts Friday, May 19 at home against the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Fever.

Former Stevenson High varsity girls coach Kim Kinble, who met the Hawks' soccer program, will serve as team President taking over for Laura Ferrigno, who left to take a job as Executive Director for the Atlanta (Ga.) Silverbacks of the W-League.

Kinble, who guided Stevenson to back-to-back girls state title softball titles in 1997-98, has been named Rochester player Doug Landefeld as head coach. Landefeld was an assistant last season.

Last year's head coach, Michele Brach, and former Rochester player Tim Ernst, who coached the U-18 Hawks to the 2004 U.S. Youth Soccer Association national title, will be Landefeld's assistants.

"The W-League is the third best league in the world as far as competition and it was important to keep it in Detroit, and it was important that it was the right thing to do," Landefeld said. "Most of the league is comprised of college kids who have eligibility left or are just finishing their collegiate careers."

"We also felt with our name (Hawks), we could attract some of the Region's top talent and it gives players from Michigan, Michigan State and Oakland University a place to come home and play as well."

Kinble and Landefeld have stocked their roster with former Hawks youth standouts including 2005 W-League Player of the Year Melissa Dobbey, a Stevenson High grad who earned team MVP honors last fall at the University of Michigan.

The team's second leading scorer from a year ago, New Mexico native Kristi Swarving (Oakland University), also returns.

Texas A&M teammates Marissa Sarvas, a midfielder, and Jordan Pukacian, a defender, remain in the fold. The Salem High grads were also Hawks teammates. Other original Hawks signed for this season include goalkeeper Kathryn Cumming (Pepperdine), an All-Conference player last year; Novi grad and midfielder Maureen Pawlik (Michigan State); and Northville High product and midfielder Nicole Castillo (Kansas University).

Two former Varsity club players, midfielder Erin Koehnel (West Bloomfield) and defender Nina Mastrocchi (Troy Athens), will suit up this season along with defender Dean (Dearborn High). All three were teammates at MSU.

Another catch for the Hawks is Big Ten Freshman of the Year Jessica Okoroafo, a forward from Purdue. The Sylvia, Ohio native is a member of the U.S. Under-20 National Team development pool along with Dobbey.

The Jaguars, 11-3 a year ago, played their first season (2004) at the Total Soccer complex in Wixom before moving their home games last season to Stevenson.

"The Jaguars did a nice job creating a foundation," Landefeld said. "The team has had great success and great players." For more information about clinics or Hawks tickets, call Landefeld at (734) 542-4936.

SKI PATROL: Novi student wants ski team

By Sam Eggleston

SPORTS WRITER

Novi's Katy Shinkel is all about big news this year.

Shinkel, a sophomore at Novi High School, earned first place in her age group and second place out of all the women's divisions at the NASTAR National Skiing Championships held in March in Steamboat, Colo.

Now, she wants to spread the love of the sport to the Wildcats.

"I was so happy I was jumping up and down," Shinkel said after finishing in first after day one.

After the second day, Shinkel had to wait until the banquet to find out who she feared.

The announcer began to read the awards for the platinum division for 15-16-year old girls and Shinkel said she could feel the suspense.

"I got butterflies in my stomach," she said. "The next words that came out of that man's mouth made me scream and cry at the same time. I had won the gold medal."

Shinkel's victory allowed her to take on 22 other women, all varying ages, in the Race of Champions. The top three finishers stood on a podium and as their time was beat, they were replaced.

Shinkel said the "Wow!" she'd never get on the podium.

Boy, was she wrong.

Shinkel took first place with just 1.6 more seconds left on the docket. With only three left, she was still in first before being bumped down by just 0.01 seconds.

"I was so sad, but, hey, second in the nation out of all women isn't bad," Shinkel said. "I'm so proud of what I have accomplished. I never thought I could have won, but I did. All you have to do is believe, have fun and go fast."

Spread the wealth

Shinkel has had so much fun taking to the slopes that she thought it would be a good time for her high school to start offering the sport as a winter option for both boys and girls.

"I'm not the only one in Novi who skis," she said. "When I wanted to get the team started, it seemed like no one wanted to join. I was surprised when 22 people showed up for the ski team meeting. Also, next year we'll have more freshmen and that means more ski team friends."

The process has required Shinkel to get her idea passed through the principal and the athletic director. Now, she has to wait for a board of education meeting to present the idea.

She said though the process has been a long one, it's been helpful.

"The school has been very cooperative," Shinkel said. "I am happy that they are letting me to try to start a team."

Novi is currently the only team in the Kensington Valley Conference without skiing as a sport. "It is a Michigan High School Athletics Association



Novi High School student Katy Shinkel hopes to start a Wildcat ski team.

sponsored sport. Novi athletic director Curt Ellis said he thought skiing could be a good fit.

"There are a number of kids in the community that are involved in the sport," Ellis said. "I am cautiously optimistic that this is something our board will take a look at."

Novi athletic director Curt Ellis said he thought skiing could be a good fit.

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"There are a number of kids in the community that are involved in the sport," Ellis said. "I am cautiously optimistic that this is something our board will take a look at."

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Novi's Mani Mahandevan prepares to serve.



Kyle Goodman returns a shot to his Highland High opponent during an early May meet at Novi High.

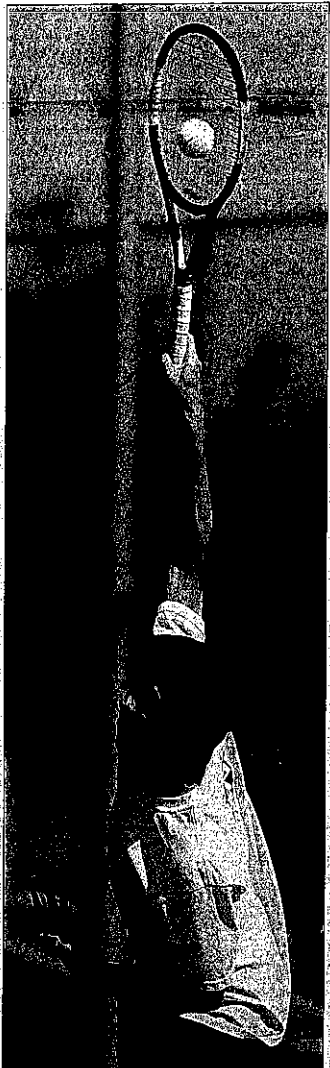
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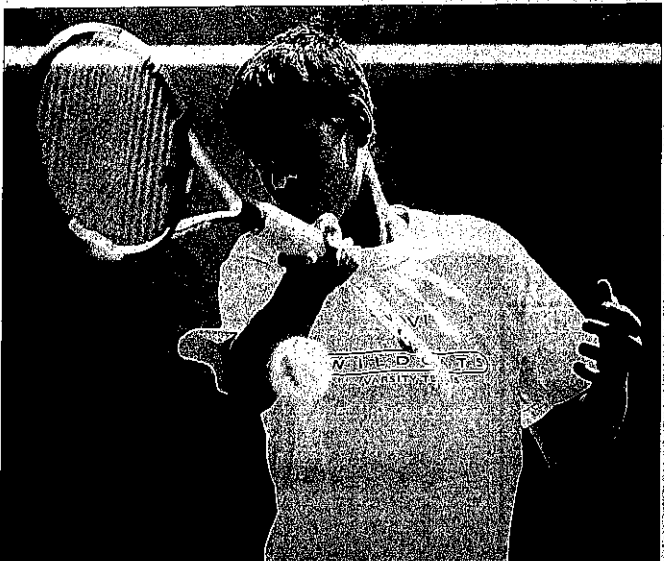
Wildcat Goutham Kondapi serves to his Hartland High opponent.



Ryan Heffernan, part of Novi's No. 1 doubles team, makes a play at the net.



Part of Novi's No. 1 doubles, Ryan Bell, serves during a home match against Hartland.



Novi's No. 1 singles player Roshen Ramachandran warms up with a Hartland High opponent.

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Novi's prom night full of friends, memories and more



Kristen Marzoni and Eric Zhao arrive arm-in-arm for Saturday night's prom at Novi's Rock Financial Showplace.



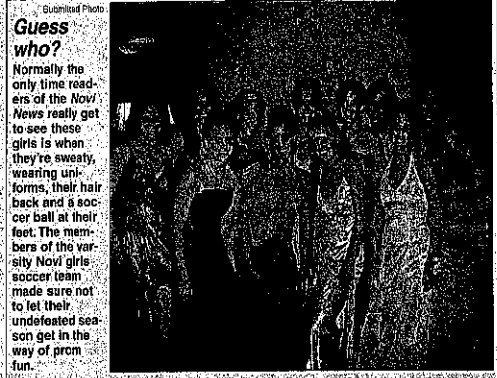
and Max Bentley dance the night away.



Novi High School prom-goers dance at the 2006 prom held at the Rock Financial Showplace.



Maczka, right, are



Submitted Photo
Guess who?
Normally the only time readers of the Novi News really get to see these girls is when they're sweaty, wearing uniforms, their hair back and a soccer ball at their feet. The members of the varsity Novi girls soccer team made sure not to let their undefeated season get in the way of prom fun.

Photos by **JOHN HEIDER**

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NFIB

Read a lease before you sign

If you're like most small-business owners, your business is located in leased space. When it comes to commercial leases, keep one thing in mind: Leases are binding contracts. Don't assume that you'll be able to change the agreement without extra cost and hassle. And unlike residential tenants who benefit from generous state protections, the rights of commercial tenants are almost entirely defined by the specific terms of the lease. This means that the lease you sign today could affect your business' bottom line for years to come.

Don't assume that you'll be able to change the agreement without extra cost and hassle.

Consider these three points before you sign your next lease:

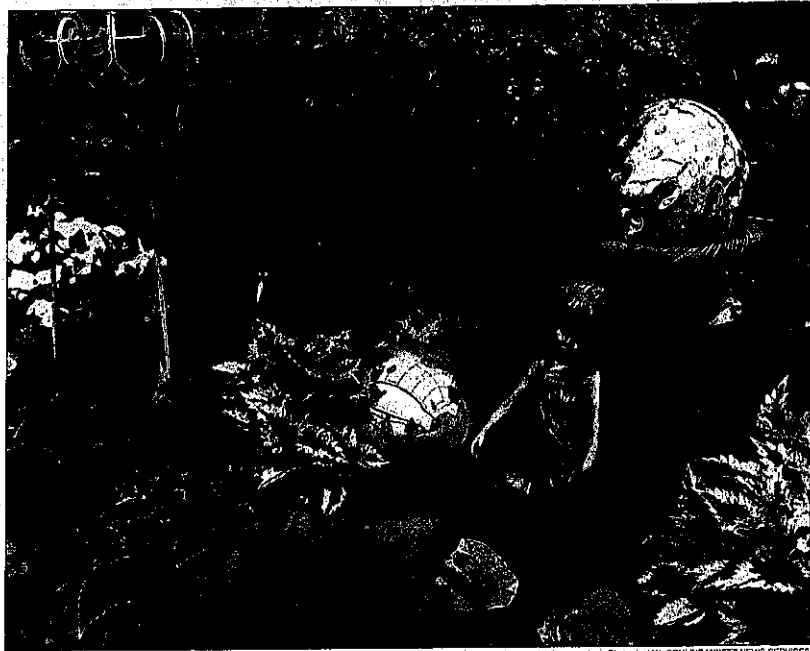
- 1. Negotiate your lease agreement.** Any standard lease that a landlord offers you is more of a landlord wish list than a reflection of what a typical lease looks like. It is merely the opening offer in a negotiation process. Take at least one day to read the lease all of it. Try to think of everything that could possibly go wrong and then see how the agreement would deal with that situation.
- 2. Focus on the small print.** Don't just focus on rent—rent is usually calculated by square foot—make sure you consider other terms that will also cost you, such as:
 - Parking. How many spaces? Who maintains the lot?
 - Option to renew. How will future rent be determined?
 - Competition. Is the landlord prohibited from leasing space to a competitor?
 - Can you cancel the lease if your business fails?
 - Security deposit. When is the deposit returned, and who gets the interest?
 - Signage. Is it permitted? If so, how big and who will pay?
 - Americans with Disabilities Act. Is the building in compliance, and who pays if it's not?
 - Building services. Who is responsible for cleaning, maintenance, heat and air conditioning?
 - Tenant improvements. What improvements are to be done and when?
 - Defaults. Is your rent abated (reduced) if there are defects or construction delays?
- 3. Make a plan for resolving disputes.** Even if you've negotiated significant improvements in your lease, you still might have disputes with your landlord. Try to resolve them without going to court. If you've been dealing with the management company, go directly to the owner. You may also want to consider mediation. (Your lease might even have a mediation clause.) If you can't resolve the problem, check with an attorney. Remember that taking things into your own hands without legal advice—like withholding rent—can get you in a worse situation than you're already in.

Beth Gaudin is a staff attorney with the NFIB Legal Foundation. www.nfib.com/legal. This article is intended to provide general information for reference only and should not be considered legal advice.

Story idea?

Our readers have great ideas, and we want to hear them. Send us your ideas:

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Photos by HAL GOULD/GARNETT NEWS SERVICES

Raney's Rainbow Garden, located at 57707 Ten Mile Road in South Lyon, has everything a person needs to make their home look beautiful.

Raney's Rainbow Garden: In bloom

Popular plant and garden center offers full selection

By Annette Jaworski
 SPECIAL WRITER

If you're looking for a cure for cabin fever, just step inside Raney's Rainbow Garden in South Lyon. Even if it's raining outdoors, the sun's always shining inside their greenhouses.

"The atmosphere is such a pleasurable experience. After you've been inside all winter, it's a great feeling to come into a garden center and smell the flowers," observed Mike Raney. They've been working hard since the month of November, right up until April to prepare the spring crop.

If you're in a hurry to add a splash of spring color, they're ready to add some instant beauty to your yard right now.

"We've already got all of our combination plants. It's the perfect way to start that party. For early planting, we've got plants ready to go in all colors and varieties," said Tony Raney.

For those who crave an instant garden, they now feature a larger size in annual and bedding plants, as well as the 48 count flats for the economy-minded grower.

"We pride ourselves in growing almost everything right here. Growing vibrant, healthy plants and offering a wide variety and selection is a tradition and the Raney family's ultimate goal."

Get ready to choose from over 12,000 hanging baskets. You're sure to find your favorite includ-

ing million bells, impatiens, giant bogonia, thumbergia or black eyed susan vine, lobelia, geranium and many more. In addition to baskets, flats and combination plants, they carry a wide variety of perennials with new varieties every year.

"If you can't find what you're looking for, just ask, chances are we do have it," Tony added. Customers benefit from their expertise because they're careful to select the best plants for each particular area. It does make a difference.

"As far as vegetables, we're always looking for better hybrids so that customers get better production from their gardens."

Don't forget Raney's baskets, cut flowers, live plant arrangements and garden décor made great Mother's Day gifts. Raney carries plants for all holidays like Christmas, poinsettias, Easter lilies, Thanksgiving centerpiece and St. Patrick's Day shamrocks.

"The staff continually strives to make the shopping experience more convenient."

"Even with our new check-out system, we're trying to move things along. We're always trying to think of the customer," Mike Raney said. "Gardening should be pleasurable. We want you to be able to make your selection, then go home and enjoy your hobby."

When it comes to garden décor, think unique. One of a kind items you won't find anywhere else to showcase your gardens. Mike travels throughout the country to find the latest trends in garden statuary and accessories. For example, you'll find a fish shaped bird bath with aqua and gold scales, or a walling-well shaped fountain. There are silk trees so lifelike you have to touch them, and handcrafted hammer and nail hangers for hanging plants. Mercury gazing balls that come in



Raney's Rainbow Garden is located at 57707 Ten Mile Road in South Lyon.

"We pride ourselves in growing almost everything right here."

Tony Raney
 Raney's Rainbow Garden

cohort blue and green and more ceramic pottery in every shape size and color from functional to decorative.

As a long time member of the community, Raney has a tradition of supporting the schools with tours as well as carrying materials required for many student projects. It's another way they support their local community.

Before you leave with your plants, pick up whatever else you might need in the way of garden supplies to keep them growing

beautifully. That includes, plant sproutcants, potting mix, fertilizer and topsoil. Mike Raney notes they focus on earth friendly products because their customers care.

"I think a lot of young families are concerned about that." Raney's Rainbow Gardens is conveniently located on 10 Mile and Millford Roads, near I-96, within minutes from most communities in the metro Detroit area including Novi, Northville, Ann Arbor, Brighton and Millford. Call (248) 437-2856 for more information.

WHAT'S NEW?

Just like home décor, color and texture plays a big part in today's gardening trends.

"Its color and more color. Anything that's bright and bold in the way of pottery and home accents is popular," Mike Raney said.

Texture in plants is really big as well. For example the new spikes and ornamental grasses can add interesting shape and texture to an existing garden. An ornamental red spike is something new and exciting to try this year.

Flowering shrubs have gained even more popularity, including the colorful hydrangea and hibiscus. Roses continue to be a favorite, and they're not as hard to grow as you think. Just ask Mike Raney.

"We can provide you with all the information to keep them healthy."

A spillover from home interiors, botanical prints make a new and exciting garden décor indoors or out. Currently Raney carries botanicals in dramatic screen prints in knick green ornamental combination glass and poly resin with a metallic bronze look.

For something new and unique Raney's now offers dwarf and miniature conifers. You can create your own bonsai or container, he pointed out.

Words wisdom for new gardeners: have a plan, do it in easy increments, and don't be afraid to ask the experts for advice. You'll be surprised at what a big difference you can make with small changes.

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