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INSIDE

Optimists honor

The Northville/Novi Optimists' Club 2006 Charity Ball will take place Saturday at the Meadowbrook Country Club. Ruth Beson (pictured) and David Hall (of Rock Financial) will be honored for their charitable efforts.

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SPORTS

Gridiron split

On a rarely-seen play in high school football, the Novi Wildcats beat Lakeland with a field goal Friday, but Catholic Central couldn't pull out a win in the annual Boys Bowl on Sunday.

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They're Falling for Novi!

Joshua Louis of Novi gets a look at the make of a patrol car with Officer Tony Avant of the Novi Police Dept. at Saturday's annual event at city hall.

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Novi News

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Thursday, September 28, 2006 www.novinews.com 50c

Volume 51 Number 18 Novi, Michigan



85th Catherine (Kay) Adams raises her hand as she's introduced during last week's 85th Birthday Celebration at the Novi Senior Center. Seniors 85 and over were invited to share cake and coffee and completed brief biographies of their lives. Kay, 94, was born in Detroit, married for 74 years, had one child and has two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Photo by JOHN HEDDER/Novi News

New school lines?

Officials look forward to vote on redistricting

By Renee Saunders STAFF WRITER

The Novi School Board is aiming to make a final decision next week on where to draw new district lines.

The next regular school board meeting is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5.

"We are trying to accomplish a timeline that we set from the very beginning," said Carol Elffing, school board president. "We're on schedule so far, so good."

The plan, which includes building improvements, constructing a new pre-school building and changing Beechfield Elementary from a school of choice to a neighborhood school, was based on recommendations made by the School Utilization and Redistricting Committee and two public forums.

The committee consisted of 27 parents, eight teachers and four school district administrators.

Implementation of the proposal could also mean residents will vote on a bond issue in May 2007, but officials won't know how much residents may be asked to raise their taxes until the school board votes on the proposed plan.

Elffing said board members had a chance to further understand the administration's proposal during a work session last Thursday.

Superintendent Peter Dion said Monday that he was optimistic school board members might approve the redistricting plan.

"They'll take out recommendations and concerns the public has and make a vote," he said.

Dion said there were about 10 community members at Thursday's work session. When Elffing asked if anyone had any questions or comments after the work session, no one stood up.

A public forum was held for parents and residents to ask questions and offer their concerns regarding the issue on Wednesday.

Renee Saunders can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110.

Taller buildings for Novi

City council loosens height rules, adds three staffers

By Greg Migliore STAFF WRITER

Novi's skyline and payroll could be growing in the near future.

On Monday, the city council approved a revised zoning ordinance that allows for taller buildings in the main business district, as well as a plan to add three new workers.

Both plans were passed after a lengthy debate, as council members grappled with ways to address Novi's rapid growth.

The height ordinance squeaked past a 4-3 vote.

The city council also approved adding three staffers to the city's workforce.

City Manager Clay Pearson said about 600 Maricuz Burgers are ground beef concoctions shaped like a hot dog.

City Council Quick Hits

- New Assistant City Manager Pam Arfill was formally introduced at Monday's meeting. It was also her first day on the job.
- City Clerk Mahyenne Cornelius got a 3.75 percent raise, retroactive to July 1. The raise was a result of her evaluation that was discussed after the Sept. 11 meeting in executive session and for what city jobs are called "exceptional" performance.
- A public forum was held for Novi residents to ask questions and offer their concerns regarding the issue on Wednesday.

continued on page 4A

Michigan CAT **Walled Lake struggles with DDA issues**

Man killed unloading construction vehicle

By Greg Migliore STAFF WRITER

A man was killed unloading a construction vehicle at the Michigan-Cat tractor facility in Novi early Sept. 21.

Ronnie Stockton, 59, was thrown straight up in the air and landed back in the construction vehicle when its rear wheels fell in a gap between the transport truck and the ramp, around 7-7.5 ft.

Novi police think the truck rolled forward when the construction vehicle tried to get on the ramp, which was slightly higher than the truck.

Stockton was taken to Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills, where he was pronounced dead. The Oakland County Medical Examiner's Office said he died from chest trauma.

continued on page 13A

County sues Walled Lake over revenue-sharing pact

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

Oakland County filed a lawsuit against one of its own cities last Thursday over a revenue-sharing agreement between Walled Lake and its downtown development authority.

The agreement, signed last summer, forced the DDA to give \$321,000 in Walled Lake DDA captured tax dollars to the city, with increases each year until June 2010.

City officials would not approve the DDA budget unless the agreement was signed.

The county filed the suit because the county treasurer estimates it will lose more than \$1 million in tax revenue under the agreement.

The city of Walled Lake, on the other hand, will stand to gain about \$3.5 million over the course of the agreement, according to the treasurer.

"This is a declaratory action," said Judith Cunningham, county attorney.

"That means we are asking the court to declare the rights and responsibilities of the parties and to interpret the statute."

continued on page 4A

Authority and city try to rebuild relationship

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

The face of the Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority is still a question mark.

The body currently acts only as a group of board members who make bond payments.

At the authority's monthly meeting earlier this month, Jerry Walker, city manager and executive director of the DDA, suggested that he and Casey Ambrose, DDA chair, sit down with two other members to discuss priorities.

Board members John Marshall and John Semma agreed to meet with the two to discuss the authority's project list.

The Walled Lake DDA was placed in this debating-only mode earlier this year after the city council members refused to approve its budget due to lack of a clearly defined project list or plan.

After Walker and Ambrose prioritize the DDA's project list,

continued on page 4A

Novi Meadows fifth-grade teacher Gary Hurst spent some time in the stocks while at an educational workshop for teachers in Williamsburg, Va.

Sponsored photo

Novi Meadows fifth-grade teacher Gary Hurst spent some time in the stocks while at an educational workshop for teachers in Williamsburg, Va.

continued on page 13A

Free week in Virginia

Veteran Novi fifth-grade teacher gets a mysterious gift

By Renee Saunders STAFF WRITER

As a teacher, it's Gary Hurst's job to make a difference in other people's lives.

But this summer someone made a difference in his.

The fifth grade teacher, who's worked for the Novi School District for 27 years, received nearly \$3,000 from an unknown donor last spring to attend a teaching workshop at the Colonial Teacher Institute in Early American History in Williamsburg, Va.

Hurst, who teaches at Novi Meadows, attended Eastern Michigan University, where he majored in parks and recreation.

continued on page 4A

Fall Eyewear Style Show

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COMMUNITY

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Optimists of Northville/Novi's have a ball assisting students

Dinner, awards ceremony, silent auction and dancing planned for this year's event

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Lori Dow will join fellow members of the Optimist Club of Northville/Novi Saturday to honor two of Detroit's movers and shakers.

The club's second charity ball will include a ceremony to present the 2006 Exemplary Achievement Honor Roll Award to David Hall, executive vice president of Rock Financial, and Beth Beson of Northville, an advocate and benefactor of programs for women and children.

The ceremony will also include the announcement of a community service award for high school seniors.

The ball will take place from 6:30-11:30 p.m. at Meadowbrook Country Club, 40941 Eight Mile Road in Northville. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served at 6:30 p.m. outside, weather permitting.

A sit-down dinner will begin at 7:30 p.m.; the awards ceremony will start at 8:30; and attendees can dance to the Detroit band Love Jones at 9 p.m.

"They play just about everything and take a lot of requests," said Dow of Northville, a board member of the club.

Attire is black-tie optional, and complimentary valet parking will be provided.

Dinner selections include Traverse City chicken, peppercorn steak, en crusted whitefish or vegetarian.

Purchase art, jewelry, food

A silent auction that will include art, wine and jewelry, will also take place during the charity event.

"Auction items will be donated by downtown Northville businesses, including the Northville Gallery at 147 E. Main Street, Orin Jewelers at 101 E. Main Street and MacKinnon's Restaurant at 126 E. Main Street.

About 28 people currently belong to the local club, according to Dow.

"Last year, we had a fireman's ball," she said. "This year, we changed the program to honor people who have dedicated a portion of their life to community service."

Optimist International is a worldwide organization dedicated to the wellness and betterment of young people. Local clubs focus on the needs within their respective communities.

The Northville/Novi club has supported annual college scholarships, community service awards, Astor Hospice for Children, Northville Explorer Post 1717, Firefighter's Great Escape Program, Civic Concern Back Pack Program, Northville and Northville Township Drug Awareness, Resistance Education, Cooke and Old Village Schools, Braveheart and Classroom Cares Book Exchange.

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



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Optimist Club members Lori Dow, left, and Ruth Schmidt, right, stand with honoree Beth Beson. The Northville/Novi Optimists Club 2006 Charity Ball will take place Saturday at the Meadowbrook Country Club. Beson and David Hall, of Rock Financial, will be noted for their charitable efforts.

Reservations

To RSVP for Saturday's second Optimist Club of Northville/Novi Charity Ball at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville, contact Lori Dow at (248) 349-1593 or lordow@comcast.net or Ruth Schmidt at (248) 320-1807 or ruth.schmidt@myattorney.com, or send a check for \$135 per ticket to 143 Cadycentre, #76, Northville, MI 48167. Make checks payable to OCNV.

Two to be honored

David Hall, executive vice president of Rock Financial, and Beth Beson of Northville, will receive Exemplary Achievement Honor Roll Awards Saturday from members of the Optimist Club of Northville/Novi.

Hall, through the firm's presenting sponsorship of the Detroit Pistons, has participated in the NBA's "Read to Achieve" program and has overseen the distribution of nearly 20,000 Pistons tickets for area young people.

Hall and Rock Financial support the Rock Financial Junior Achievement Saturday Park, where middle-school students can learn about personal finance in a real-world setting. They also support the local Gleaners Food Bank and the 2008 Detroit Pistons "Know Your Local Black History Tour," which presents scholarship to high school students.

Beson dedicates much of her time to children in need.

Charities she supports include the Reformed Church for Kids Program that benefits children

in foster care at the Methodist Children's Home Society; mentoring programs for middle school and high school girls at Southwest Detroit and Franklin high schools; and the Vista Maria home for girls in Dearborn Heights.

She also contributes to summer camp scholarships, music, dance and art lessons and athletic programs, providing funds for equipment and registration fees for area students.

Scholarship details

To be eligible for an Optimist Club of Northville/Novi Community Service Scholarship, an applicant must be a high school student who lives in one of the two communities. The following criteria must also be met:

- Full-time enrollment in good standing.
- Passing grades for the school year in which application is made.
- An essay of 250 words or less explaining what they have learned through their community service and why being involved in the community is important to them and society.

- Two letters of recommendation with phone numbers from adult sponsors.
- Application postmarked by the Monday, April 30, 2007, deadline.

Children of club members are not eligible for a scholarship.

For an application, contact Lori Dow at (248) 349-1593 or lordow@comcast.net.

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City council loosens height rules, adds three staffers

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through the council 4-3, and a plan to add workers passed 6-1.

Taller buildings

The revised ordinance means buildings in what is officially called the Office Service Technology District can now be up to 115 feet tall, or about eight stories. Previous buildings were capped at 65 feet.

The goal of the new rule is to encourage economic development in an area where businesses are already thriving, while keeping a relatively low-lying profile for the city. The district is also where Novi raises in a significant portion of its tax revenues.

"This kind of development pays for itself," council member Terry Margolis said.
Opponents said there were holes in the proposal. Council member Andrew Much, who voted against it, noted Novi buildings could jut out compared to neighboring residential areas in Farmington Hills. Council members Jerome Paul and Tom Nagy also voted against it.

Mayor David Landry, Mayor Pro-Tem Kim Capelle, and council members Bob Cain and Margolis voted for the measure.
"This is not some huge monolith," said Landry in response to council concerns that the new height ordinance could drastically alter the city's profile and alienate neighbors.

More city workers
Novi also will add three new jobs: a building inspector (\$87,075), an engineer-in-training (\$77,121) and a part-time seasonal clerical position (\$29,551). The figures include wages, benefits and

other startup costs.
The new roles will help speed building reviews. They were added as a result of a recommendation from the Sixth Report, a recent third-party review of Novi conducted at the city's request.
Landry acknowledged Novi has appeared frosty towards businesses in the past and said the new jobs are critical to changing that perception.

"If we're committed to fixing the problem, we need to hire these three positions — or else we're talking and not doing anything about the problem," he said.
Although it passed by a wide margin, the plan drew considerable criticism from council members worried about future legacy costs and if the positions would be needed when Novi's growth spurt tapers off. Paul was the lone dissenter.

"I don't want to add any legacy to the taxpayer," he said. "I don't think that's fiscally responsible."
Greg Migliore can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or gmigliore@gannett.com.

County sues

continued from front page

Cummins argued that it is the county that there can be a fiscal lawsuit. "It is about as friendly as you can get."

She said the county learned about the agreement through the media and tried to resolve the issue first before deciding to sue Walized Lake.

Judge Mark Goldsmith will review the case in which the county is asking for the revenue sharing agreement to be declared null and void.

County attorneys tried to pursue similar legal remedies, but they were not getting the response

they had hoped for.
"This was the last resort," Cummins said.
The lawsuit asks that the agreement be declared null and void because it contradicts the downtown development authority statute, Public Act 197, signed into law in 1975.

"It's unfortunate that it had to come to this," said Casey Ambrose, chair of the Walized Lake DDA. Ambrose said the county treasurer warned Jerry Walker, Walized Lake city manager and executive director of the Walized Lake DDA, to be very careful in regard to any revenue sharing agreement or improper use of DDA funds.

Three years ago, Walker came to the DDA board requesting \$280,000 for three years to balance

the city's budget.
Walker said after the Sept. 19 city council meeting that he was surprised that the county decided to file the lawsuit and that he learned about the filing from local media.
Council members discussed the suit during an executive session immediately following their meeting.

Oakland County Commissioner Jeff Potter (R-Smith) says who attended the Sept. 19 city council meeting, said he hopes the lawsuit will be resolved quickly.
"I think it's in everyone's interest to sit down and settle the matter," Potter said. "There are a lot of unknowns here, and I'm sure the county and Walized Lake would just as soon get on with the business of partnership and not be in litigation."

Veteran Novi fifth-grade teacher gets a mysterious gift

continued from front page

and elementary education as an undergraduate student and earned his graduate degree in educational leadership.

The workshop he attended in Williamsburg was held last month. "I'd like to guess who my sponsor was," Hurst said. "Maybe it was a parent, maybe it was somebody in the community or maybe it was a business."
"I have no way of telling them how grateful I am."
Hurst said he learned someone paid his way to attend the workshop when he received an e-mail from an employee at the institute in March.

He said he didn't believe it at first, and if it weren't for his

daughter, Kyla, who persuaded him to call and validate the offer, he may have never gone.
"It was a little apprehensive," he said. "But sure enough, it was legit."
During his week-long stay he participated in re-enactments of 18th century events, met historians and shared teaching strategies with other participants.

"It was a wonderful experience," he said.
He said of the 21 other fifth grade history teachers from across the country who were in his group, he was the only person who didn't know who his sponsor was.
And he said the donation wasn't intended to only enrich his skills. It was a business.

"I have no way of telling them how grateful I am."
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Gary Hurst

How you know him: Gary Hurst has been a fifth grade teacher at Novi Meadows for 27 years.

Family: His wife, Becky, has been a teacher within the Novi Community School District for 32 years. His daughter, Kyla, is a junior at Eastern Michigan University and his son, Cory, is a junior at Canton High School.
Quote: "My wife inspired me to become a teacher."

He said he hopes his trip helps him help other teachers at Meadows.
"I brought this back, not just to my classroom," he said.

Renee Saunders can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110, or via e-mail at rsanders@gannett.com

Authority and city try to rebuild

continued from front page

they plan to bring it back to city council for possible approval. Once a project list is approved, a DDA budget can be approved.

Walker said that he and Ambrose recently met to discuss the project list, but Ambrose wasn't sure what direction the DDA Board would take.
"Nobody likes what has happened in the last year or so and a half, but we're past that now," he said. "We need to move forward. I don't think anybody wants to lose any of the revenues that can be retained."

Ambrose said there has been a question of trust between the DDA and city leaders.
"What kind of assurances are there that this will not continue to be business as usual?" Ambrose asked.

"We've done everything as far as good faith efforts, continuously wanting to create a city that we can all prosper and drive in, only to end up taking numerous steps backward."

Walker believes the city council has taken some significant steps forward as far as being willing to take the DDA out of just a debt-paying mode.
"Nobody likes what has happened in the last year or so and a half, but we're past that now," he said. "We need to move forward. I don't think anybody wants to lose any of the revenues that can be retained."

Ambrose said there has been a question of trust between the DDA and city leaders.
"What kind of assurances are there that this will not continue to be business as usual?" Ambrose asked.

Cherlene Long, former managing director of the DDA, had to be let go since there was no budget to pay her salary. She has been offered a sever-

ance package, but is currently having her attorney review her options before signing any agreement.
Walker said he wants a team-oriented progression forward and that he had identified six projects for the DDA to be involved in without amending the DDA's boundaries.
Marshall said he thinks it would be advantageous for the DDA and city officials to work together to revitalize the downtown area.
"Hopefully, we can go forward," Marshall said. "We need each other."

Another DDA visioning session took place Tuesday evening at the Walized Lake Fire Department.

Tom Fleming can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105.

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Phase 1 is already 75% Sold!

Avalon Pointe Office Condominiums

Avalon Pointe is located on the South side of 11 Mile Road, just West of Meadowbrook in Novi. It is currently under construction and will be ready for occupants by this winter.

Office Development That Offers Options

Mike Huszti wants to teach a thing or two to Doctors, Lawyers and other business professionals. What can Mike teach to this already well-educated group? As it turns out, a lot when it comes to choosing their office space. Mike Huszti and his company, HLL Development Corp., along with his partner, Larry Shev of Shev Construction Inc., having a combined 38 years experience in building and managing office buildings, are currently constructing new office condominiums in Novi called Avalon Pointe. What makes Avalon Pointe different, are options. Avalon Pointe offers two program choices for occupying office space: immediate purchase or Lease-to-Own. Both programs offer their own advantages, and are attractive to various prospective customers for a variety of reasons.

That's why Huszti makes it his goal to educate his prospective customers on all their options and help them to decide which one is the best choice for them. Mike Huszti, a graduate of the Masters of Real Estate Development program at Texas A&M, says, "Quantifying the benefits of owning versus leasing came from my Finance Professor, Dr. Peter. Huszti recognizes that different businesses and professionals at different stages of their careers need different options when choosing an office space, but many still choose to lease, often, because that is what they've always done. Mike wants to enlighten these professionals and business owners to the benefits and savings that are available by owning their own office space.

Why buy your office space? Ownership costs less than leasing. Office users who choose immediate ownership enjoy a first year savings of 54% over leasing a comparable space taking into account all the tax benefits, mortgage-principle pay down, and potential property appreciation. With the shell price at \$165 per sq ft and \$35 per sq ft for a high-quality interior build-out and assuming a conventional lease rate of \$19 per sq ft, over a ten-year period, the net cost of ownership is \$62 per sq ft, while the net cost to lease would be \$186 per sq ft. Creating a 67% savings!

Nora Champion, President of the Novi Chamber of Commerce and Avalon Pointe's first customer says "I'm really excited and looking forward to owning our own office space, and appreciate a great partnership with Avalon Pointe. I look forward to our ground-breaking ceremony this month."

Huszti realizes not every business is able to invest the funds needed for a down payment in an immediate purchase scenario or they do not want to obtain a mortgage, but still want the benefits of ownership. That is why they offer their Lease-to-Own program. Tenants accrue ownership equity with each lease payment. Upon completion of the lease, the tenant has the option to purchase their space at a reduced price, reflecting the equity they have built over the lease term. This option saves the average office user 44% over a ten-year period over the cost of leasing. Huszti says "Businesses are better off with this program even if they have a down payment, if they are able to invest their down payment in an alternative investment, like their own business, and achieve a rate of return greater than 7%."

Upon request, HLL will compress a personalized detailed analysis modeled on the prospective customer's specific situation, comparing purchase to lease options. Huszti recommends they take this analysis to their CPA or financial advisor for further review. These models give the tenant the long-term perspective of their particular situation and often are very effective in helping to make that final decision of which choice is best for them and their business.

Shell Price: \$165 / SF

- Size: 1,000 SF - 10,000 SF
- Single story, all brick building
- Individual suite entrances
- Adequate parking for medical
- M-5 & 12 Mile exit, 1 mile away

For more information about Avalon Pointe, or to request a personalized lease versus buy analysis, contact Mike Huszti at HLLDevelopment 248-937-1777 or visit their website at www.NoviOfficeCondos.com

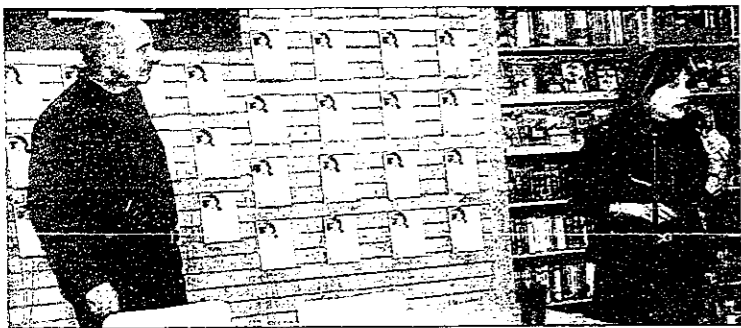


Photo by PAM FLEMING

Dr. Phil McGraw made a brief appearance at Borders Books & Music in Novi Sept. 21 to introduce his wife, Robin, at a book signing of her new release, "Inside My Heart: Learning to Live with Passion and Purpose." The autobiographical piece talks about how she met the famous therapist and her life as a woman, wife and mother.

Dr. Phil and wife stop by

Book reviews
her life to date

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Phil McGraw, "America's therapist," paid a visit to Novi last Thursday to help his wife, Robin, promote her new book, "Inside My Heart: Learning to Live with Passion and Purpose." The autobiographical piece talks about how she met the famous therapist and her life as a woman, wife and mother.

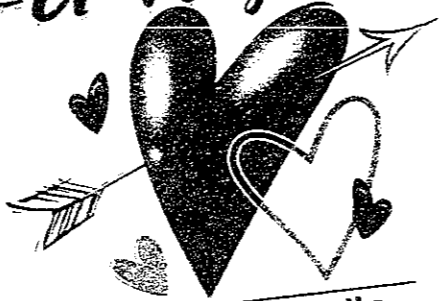
The autobiographical piece, "Inside My Heart: Learning to Live with Passion and Purpose," talks about the 52-year-old's life so far — from her younger years to how she met the famous TV psychologist and her life as a wife, mother and now, celebrity in her own right. Dr. Phil spoke only briefly to introduce her prior to the book signing, and people tried to get his wife to write a book for a long time, but she just wasn't ready. "She's done a lot of things in her life," said Dr. Phil. He added she was a career woman when they got married, working in the frame, as he did. When she had their two boys, she wanted to stay home. "Now that the boys are up and gone, she decided to write the book," he said. Their oldest son, Jay, just got married a month ago. "She will not be on one of my mother-in-law shows soon, because they get along famously," Dr. Phil

said. Their youngest son, Jordan, just started his sophomore year at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. "We've been up talking to him all night long, if we talk sleep," he said, "because he has a new French building and it broke his leg last night." "It's a wonderful story, the day the McGraws were in Detroit."

They still get starstruck

Dr. Phil said his wife was born in California but moved with her family to Oklahoma when she was just a few weeks old. They live in Los Angeles now, but she lived most of her life in Oklahoma and Texas. Dr. Phil, a native Texan, said they're both still starstruck when they see celebrities. "We are the heart of our home, and we are many things to many people," she said. She believes women sometimes forget how important they are and hopes that after reading her book they will feel more empowered to appreciate themselves. "I had every woman in mind when I wrote this book," she said. Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@novinews.com.

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LANSING CONNECTION

Legislation passed to protect citizens from embezzlement

Legislation has passed in the Senate that will increase fines and prison time for individuals who embezzle from nonprofits, vulnerable adults or citizens over the age of 65.



N. Cassis

Senate Bills 454 and 455 were written in response to a number of recent embezzlement cases and were designed particularly to increase punishment for those who embezzle \$20,000 or more. Under current law, embezzlement of \$20,000 or more does not have an increased punishment, therefore, leaving inadequate consequences for higher amounts.

Senate moves cervical cancer vaccine legislation

Legislation that would give the way for girls entering sixth grade to receive a vaccination which prevents the virus that causes cervical cancer recently passed the Michigan State Senate overwhelmingly. Recent studies have shown that cervical cancer may be one of the few cancers that is actually preventable.

As with all other school-required vaccines, parents ultimately have the right to choose whether or not to allow their daughter to be immunized. Senate Bills 1416 and 1417 require a vaccine for the human papillomavirus (HPV) to be added to the immunization schedule for Michigan's schools and academics beginning next school year. The measure comes after the recent FDA approval of an HPV vaccine for girls and women aged 9 through 26. The federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended routine vaccination in girls 11 and 12-year-old and, as appropriate, for the other approved age groups. The vaccine has been shown in clinical trials to be 100 percent effective at preventing disease from the two types of HPV that are responsible for approximately 70 percent of all cervical cancers. Cervical cancer is the second most diagnosed cancer among women, behind breast cancer.

Your feedback is always welcome. You can contact me by e-mail at: senecassis@senate.michigan.gov, or toll free at 1-888-38-NANCY.

State Senator Nancy Cassis (R-Now) represents the 15th Senate District which includes West Bloomfield, Oakland County portion of Northville, Novi Township, Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, Lyon Township, South Lyon, Milford, Highland, Holly, Rose, Commerce, White Lake, Orchard Lake and Woburne Lake. Constituents can contact her at senecassis@senate.michigan.gov or toll free at 1-888-38-NANCY.



Doing their part
Novi Woods fourth-graders recently participated in a community service project. The students weeded flower beds, picked up trash and planted over 20 mums at the school's entrance.

Lions outing to aid visually-challenged

Marcus burgers planned for lunch

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Golf and Marcus burgers — what a combo. Area residents can enjoy both at the Novi Lions Club's Novi Family Fun Golf Outing on Saturday at Riverbank Golf Course in South Lyon. The event, sponsored by the Novi Lions Club in cooperation with Todd Gerhardt, owner of Riverbank, will include a continental breakfast at 7 a.m., four-person, 18-hole scramble, the famous Marcus burgers for lunch, skill, fun and door prizes: a \$0.50 raffle; and a cash bar. Local businesses or individuals can sponsor a hole for \$50 or a cart for \$20.

Patti Barr, new president of the Novi Lions Club, encourages everybody to come out and enjoy one of the last golfing events of the year. The cost is only \$25 for golfers age 15 or younger, who must

How to sign up for outing

To register for the Novi Lions Club's Novi Family Fun Golf Outing on Saturday, mail a check made payable to the Novi Lions Club to William Barr, 41614 Keniworth Lane, Novi, MI, 48377. Cost is \$50 for adults and \$25 for children age 15 and under accompanied by an adult. For more information, call William "Doc" Barr at (248) 960-9092 or Wes Diggs at (248) 926-0216.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to the Michigan Eye-Bank in Ann Arbor. Leader Diggs for the Blind and other Lions charities.

The event, sponsored by the Novi Lions Club in cooperation with Todd Gerhardt, owner of Riverbank, will include a continental breakfast at 7 a.m., four-person, 18-hole scramble, the famous Marcus burgers for lunch, skill, fun and door prizes: a \$0.50 raffle; and a cash bar. Local businesses or individuals can sponsor a hole for \$50 or a cart for \$20. Patti Barr, new president of the Novi Lions Club, encourages everybody to come out and enjoy one of the last golfing events of the year. If you do not have a foursome, event organizers will partner you with a team.

The 40-member Novi Lions Club is committed to helping those with visual impairments in the area. For example, children and adults with financial difficulties can sponsor a hole for \$50 or a cart for \$20.

Diags noted that a number of golfers from the Novi Senior League will be participating in Saturday's outing. This is the fifth year the club has organized the event. Pam Fleming can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105.

NOVI ROTARY

Each week, the Novi News will feature a story on what students are doing in the Novi Rotary Club's Character in a Beginning series.

Week #2 (Thurs., Oct. 5): Self Concept/Self Worth

People with a poor self image often have difficulty with the various attributes of character. We will study ways to develop a better self image and why this can help us in our dealings with others. We will continue our study of how to make ethical decisions.

Inspirational Examples:
(1) Cooperation (Ferdinand Magellan) - He met with setback after daunting setback, yet he never gave up in the pursuit of his goal.

(2) Cooperation (John Wooden) - The modest coach whose wisdom and decency taught generations of boys how to become winners and better human beings. Want to learn the secret of winning with integrity?

Practical Advice:
(1) Making ethical decisions #2 - This week learn the groundwork for making effective decisions.

(2) What do you stand for? For teens - Positive attitudes: Examples of positive attitudes, 12 ways to be more positive (rather than those who you are feeling negative).

22nd Annual
Hobo Halloween Train
Come in costume and have fun filled afternoon on the Walled Lake Scenic Railway Festival.

- Onboard Magician & Face Painting
- Truck or train pulled by the 4th
- Special A-Lunch available for purchase

Oct. 21 (10am, Noon, 2pm)
Oct. 22 (10am, Noon, 2pm, 4pm, Noon, 2pm)
Oct. 29 (10am, Noon)
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Joe's Pasta Sauce 2/\$7.00	Edys Ice Cream 2/\$6.00	Joe's Canned Tomatoes 2/\$3.00

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STARTS Fri, Sept. 29
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Tuesday at 6pm
Evenings
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Tuesdays \$3.00

Wednesday
FREE sm. Popcorn
with paid admission

Thursday
FREE Ice Cream
with paid admission

Monday is
Senior Citizen Night
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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
Northville First United Methodist Church
777 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville, MI 48167
Sunday Morning Worship Services at 8:00, 9:15 and 11:00 AM
5 PM Evening Worship Service starting on September 17, 2006

BUSINESS BRIEFS

ITC offers common stock

ITC Holdings Corp. is making a public offering of 6.7 million shares of common stock. The Novato-based company is the umbrella organization for ITC divisions.

Its principle stockholder, ITC Transmission Holdings, Limited Partnership, is also selling 2.9 million shares of ITC Holdings common stock.

ITC said it plans to use the proceeds to fund its recent acquisition of Michigan Electric Transmission Company LLC.

Taubman launches 'My Mall'

Taubman Centers Inc. has launched a new feature called "My Mall" at six shopping centers, including Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.

The feature allows consumers to build an online shopping list, and Taubman hopes it will save shoppers time and money.

Anyone who uses the feature through Saturday is eligible to win a \$500 gift card redeemable at Twelve Oaks, Parklane Town Center or Great Lakes Crossing.

Automation Alley winners

Automation Alley announced winners of its annual awards last week. Call Forecase of AI&I was honored as "Top 100" for continued commitment to Michigan, and Josh L. Miller of ePrice was named CEO of the

year. Southfield-based auto parts supplier Lear Corp. was named Technology company of the year.

DeMaria adds to staff

DeMaria Building Company, with offices in Detroit and Novi, recently hired two new people.

Mark Reardon is the new project superintendent in the Health Care and University Groups.

He had spent the past six years with Project Control Systems, Inc., as a project superintendent.

Reardon earned a bachelor's degree from Eastern Michigan University in facility management.

Sam Ruggiero, Jr., is the firm's new safety coordinator. He will be assigned to a Detroit Watermeter & Sewerage project in Detroit full-time.

It was previously the site safety coordinator at JM Olson. Ruggiero completed a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University in occupational safety, health and fire science.

Photographers to help kids

Every year, Operation Smile changes the lives of children around the world by correcting cleft lips, cleft palates and other facial deformities.

Throughout the month of October, elite professional photographers from across the country will raise funds for Operation Smile by participating in the Professional

Photographers of America Charities' "Family Portrait Month."

These photographers will donate a portion of each October family portrait sale to the cause.

David M. Deutsch, Master of Photography in Commerce Township, will donate \$100 from each October family session.

The studio is also offering a 20-percent discount on any wall portrait 16-inch-by-20-inch or larger selected from the October photo session.

The studio is located at 2071 E. West Maple Road, Suite E-505, in Commerce Township, one mile west of Hagerly in Commerce Place.

To book a family portrait call (248) 569-3681.

Orthopedics office opens

Sean Bak, M.D., of Performance Orthopedics, William Beaumont Hospital Sports Medicine, has opened a satellite office in Novi at 42450 W. 12 Mile Road, Suite 105.

Although the satellite office is currently within an existing practice rather than a freestanding office, Bak hopes to expand his practice in the future.

To make an appointment at either the Bingham Farms or Novi office, call (248) 988-8085.

Compiled by Greg Migliore and Pam Fleming

Novi's Paragon Leadership tries to spur 'Brain Retain'

Group plays host to panel on job retention

By Greg Migliore
STAFF WRITER

With experienced workers parting out of Michigan, business leaders are searching for creative ways to keep talent in the state.

To stimulate ideas, Novi's Paragon Leadership International is having what it calls "The Future Face of Leadership" forum from 3 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville.

After a panel discussion, the event will break down into roundtables led by senior executives from Compuware, Domino's, Yazaki North America and other Michigan businesses.

"We don't want to just come and take notes. We want to come away with some examples," McKenna said.

Pangon expects to draw about 200 people to the event, which will also look for ways businesses can take proactive steps to develop the next generation of industry leaders and keep them in Michigan.

The idea is to inspire a "brain retain" to the state, Paragon spokeswoman Christina McKenna said.

"There was a real concern that the best and the brightest were leaving Michigan," she said.

Other panelists are: Walter Douglas, chairman of AVR Fund; Elton Joseph, CEO of St. John Health; Josh Linkner, CEO of ePrice; Dave Sawyer, portfolio manager and economist for Loomis Sayles & Co.; and Mary Ann Wright, executive vice president, Collins & Aikman.

After a panel discussion, the event will break down into roundtables led by senior executives from Compuware, Domino's, Yazaki North America and other Michigan businesses.

"We don't want to just come and take notes. We want to come away with some examples," McKenna said.

Pangon expects to draw about 200 people to the event, which will also look for ways businesses can take proactive steps to develop the next generation of industry leaders and keep them in Michigan.

'Brain Retain'

WHAT: The Future Face of Leadership Forum
WHERE: Meadowbrook Country Club, 40941 W. Eight Mile, Northville
WHEN: 3 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Tuesday
ABOUT: The first-year event hopes to stimulate discussion about job retention through panels and roundtables featuring business leaders from Michigan.
CONTACT: (248) 449-2955

costs \$195 for two. Pangon is an executive coaching and consulting firm founded in 2001.

Greg Migliore can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107.

BE SCENE IN NOVI

Call Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113. cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax: (248) 349-9432



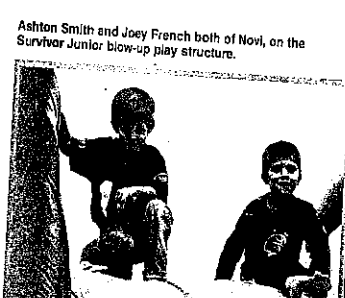
Ryan Daly of Novi at the wheel of the Novi Special race car.



Holly Holt of Pinckney, Jennifer Franks of Novi and Hayden Holt of New Hudson at the Perennial Exchange. The Holts are Franks' step-grandchildren.



Above, Lion Mike Fiero of Novi helps serve Marcus burgers with Patti Barr, president of the Novi Lions Club.



Left, Isaac Gibbs of Novi.



Right, Kris and Sam Avingh of Novi.



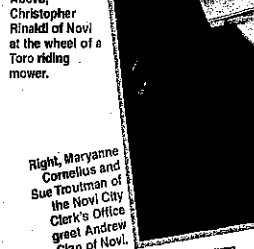
Below, Records Specialist Michelle Raugh of the Novi Police Department serves a hot dog to Robert Cardno and son, Sean, both of Novi.



Above, Christopher Rinaldi of Novi at the wheel of a Toro riding mower.



Right, Maryanne Cornelius and Sue Troutman of the Novi City Clerk's Office greet Andrew Chan of Novi.



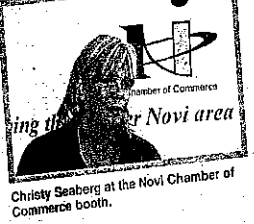
Christy Seaberg at the Novi Chamber of Commerce booth.



Below, Tristian, Arique and twins Trevor and Egan Kattenberg, all of Novi, peering through a window of "The Colonel," an armed personnel carrier from the Oakland County Sheriff's Office.



Gina Kozlowski, left, and Whitney McClellan at the Greater Novi Chamber booth.



Joan Bechard of Howell and Donna Petty of Clinton Township from St. John Health System.



Area residents really did "Fall for Novi" at the annual autumn event last Saturday organized by the city of Novi on the city's campus on 10 Mile Road. The event included free hot dogs and Marcus burgers, chips and beverages; blow-up play structures and face-painting for the kids; tours of the Novi Police Department; and booths in the Civic Center atrium representing many city departments and local organizations. The Fall Perennial Exchange, where gardeners share bulbs and plants, took place under a tent on the grounds, and music was provided by local bands such as Landry. The weather was perfect for the event, providing an overcast but warm day for the first-weekend-of-fall event.

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Sponsors the 1st Grapes & Grooves

A wine tasting, featuring strolling appetizers from local restaurants, jazz by The Keith Kaminski Trio, and a silent auction with wonderful items.

Date: Friday, September 29, 2006
Time: 6:30pm - 10:00pm
Place: Novi's MainStreet Atrium
43115 MainStreet: S. of I-96 and E. off Novi Rd.
Price: \$30 prior to event. \$40 at the door

Brought To You By: **AND THE MAINSTREET MERCHANTS!**

GREATER NOVI CHAMBER

RSVP: Whitney McClellan, Executive Director, Greater Novi Chamber, 248-347-4622, whmcc@yni100.com

Novi News Northville Record
Proud to Sponsor the First Grapes & Grooves Event!

Falling 4 Novi

Area residents really did "Fall for Novi" at the annual autumn event last Saturday organized by the city of Novi on the city's campus on 10 Mile Road. The event included free hot dogs and Marcus burgers, chips and beverages; blow-up play structures and face-painting for the kids; tours of the Novi Police Department; and booths in the Civic Center atrium representing many city departments and local organizations. The Fall Perennial Exchange, where gardeners share bulbs and plants, took place under a tent on the grounds, and music was provided by local bands such as Landry. The weather was perfect for the event, providing an overcast but warm day for the first-weekend-of-fall event.

Got an event you'd like featured?
Call Call Stone, editor at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113

Photos by Pam Fleming

FAITH

PUBLIC SAFETY

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

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

Meadowbrook Congregational... LOCATION: 21355 Meadowbrook Road... CONTACT: Rev. Ed. Whittingham, Interim Minister...

Sunday Worship... TIME: 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. St. James Catholic... LOCATION: 46325 10 Mile Road...

Rosh Hashanah celebrated... The Novi-Northville Center for Jewish Life celebrated Rosh Hashanah last weekend with services and meals at the Eaton Center in Novi.

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross... LOCATION: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road... CONTACT: (248) 427-1175 or www.churchoftheholycross.com

St. Paul Lutheran... LOCATION: 201 Elm St., Northville... CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

St. John Lutheran... LOCATION: 23325 Gill Road, Farmington Hills... CONTACT: (248) 474-0584 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT... NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Allan Burbary of Joma Construction is requesting a Temporary Use Permit for a temporary storage trailer to be located in the Woodfield Square shopping Center at 48000 Grand River from October 4, 2006 through October 4, 2007.

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION... FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING APPLICATIONS FOR THE REGISTRATION OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS IN THE CITY OF NOVI NOT ALREADY REGISTERED.

CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS... Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be meeting to interview applicants for appointment to the Beautification Commission, Board of Review, Housing and Community Development Advisory Committee, Historical Commission, Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission, Public Access Promotion Commission, Stormwater Management and Watershed Stewardship Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT... NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Keith Jones of Oak Point Church is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to hold an indoor/outdoor carnival at Oak Point Church located at 50200 W Ten Mile Road north of Ten Mile and west of Wascom Road on October 21, 2006.

CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL JUDICIAL LOCAL... AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING ON THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS: STATE PROPOSAL 06-1 A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REQUIRE THAT MONEY HELD IN CONSERVATION AND RECREATION FUNDS CAN ONLY BE USED FOR THEIR INTENDED PURPOSES.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER Cancer Stem Cells: The Root of the Problem... Cancer stem cells are the small number of cancer cells that fuel the growth of new tumor cells. Finding drugs that target and kill these stem cells could dramatically improve cancer treatment.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FIRE PROTECTION... Township of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan TO THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NOVI, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FIRE PROTECTION... Township of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan TO THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NOVI, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 11 7-8:30 P.M. KENSINGTON COURT HOTEL 810 HILTON BOULEVARD ANN ARBOR (ADJACENT TO BRIARWOOD MALL) For registration, please call 800-742-2300 and enter category 7870 or visit us online at www.rcccancer.org/events.

NOVI POLICE REPORT

Underwear, watch stolen... A TAG Ioner watch worth \$1,500 and Victoria's Secret lingerie worth \$50 were among the items stolen from a Honda Civic parked at a residence on Cranbrook late Aug. 29 or early Aug. 30.

59-year-old dies after accident at Michigan Cat

Police located the vehicle on Interstate 75 near the Lodge Freeway and made the arrest about 12:30 a.m. Sept. 21. The suspects were charged with receiving and concealing stolen property and fleeing and eluding police.

Thieves make off with SUV, caught in under two hours

Police use GPS to nab suspects... This is another example of the cooperative partnership between the Novi Police Department and the State Police, as well as a private company, QaStar, that brought a successful conclusion to this incident.

Laptops stolen... Someone stole a laptop out of a Buick parked at a residence on Broadwood Sept. 17. The laptop was taken from a bag on the floor in the rear of the car.

IPod, radio stolen from Caddy... An iPod and radio were stolen from a Cadillac parked at a residence on Springlake Sept. 9.

Dine-and-dash... Two men and a woman ate \$17.88 worth of food at the Denny's restaurant on Novi Road and left without paying around midnight Sept. 10.

Jeep, Volvo entered... A cell phone, charger and ash tray with change in it were stolen from a Jeep parked at a residence on Knollwood late Sept. 17 or early Sept. 18.

Lawm damaged... Someone drove over the lawn of a residence on Norfolk Sept. 16. The grass was damaged, and two sprinklers were broken.

Members only... Membership cards to Costco, Sam's Club and Bucklebuster were missing from a Ford Taurus parked at a residence on Dunbarton Sept. 1.

Hadar detector stolen... Several items, including a radar detector, were stolen from a Lexus parked at a residence on Broadway late Aug. 31 or early Sept. 1.

Members only... Membership cards to Costco, Sam's Club and Bucklebuster were missing from a Ford Taurus parked at a residence on Dunbarton Sept. 1.

Members only... Membership cards to Costco, Sam's Club and Bucklebuster were missing from a Ford Taurus parked at a residence on Dunbarton Sept. 1.

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OPINION

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Novi News

Cal Stone
EDITOR
Grace Perez Perry
GENERAL MANAGER
Richard Perlberg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Richard Ramhoff
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

Our fundamental purpose is 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

Taller buildings, more staff: Applause for council for focusing on business

For quite some time, Novi has had the reputation of being a tough place to do business with the city, that is.

From mom-and-pop shops to corporations, we've heard endless stories about the difficulties of dealing with various city entities (i.e., planning, zoning, building inspections, etc.).

Slowly but surely, things seem to be turning around, and that's good news for businesses.

On Monday, city council approved raising the height restriction of buildings in the Office Service Technology District from 65 feet to 115.

That's only eight stories - not enough to severely change the look of the city, but enough to bring in some extra tax revenue (which should be good news to resident taxpayers).

One of the biggest complaints from business owners has been the length of time it takes to get something done through the city. In recent years, steps have been taken to speed up the process.

Council took another step Monday by approving three new positions - a building inspector, an engineer-in-training and a part-time season clerk - which should speed up building reviews.

We applaud Mayor David Landry and the council members who supported both of these measures. They're positive indications that Novi is committed to becoming a city that welcomes and embraces businesses.

Let's see if they have a measurable impact, and let's hope that our city leaders continue this effort and keep tweaking the system.

Correction
In an article on page D-3A of last week's paper on the Providence Park Hospital construction in South Haven, Michigan was mentioned as the general contractor. The general contractor unit is actually a joint venture between Barton Malow and White Construction in Detroit.

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

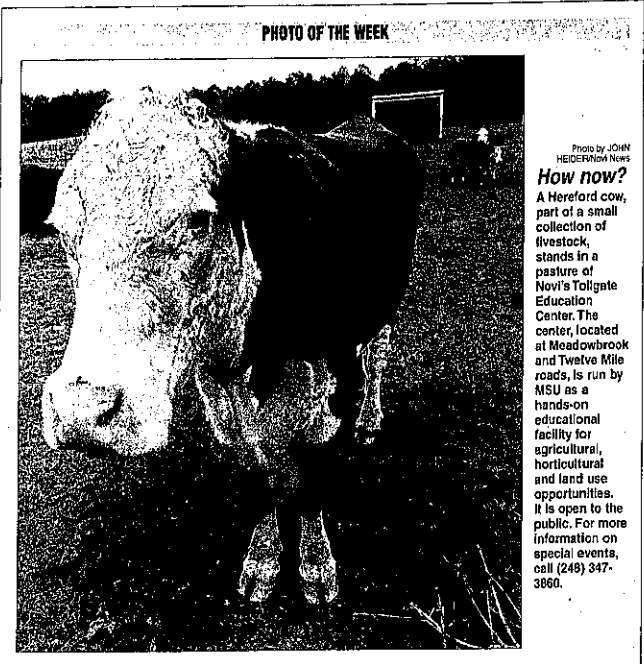


PHOTO OF THE WEEK

How now? A Hereford cow, part of a small collection of livestock, stands in a pasture of Novi's Tollgate Education Center.

PEOPLE

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

ENGAGEMENT



Hundley-Wacker

William and Theresa Hundley of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Nina Renee Hundley, to Brandon David Wacker, son of Dave and Audie Wacker, of Canton.

NAMES IN THE NEWS



C. Smith

Achieved downtown and neighborhood planning specialist Charles R. Smith, AIA, has joined McKenna Associates, Inc., the Great Lakes region's largest community planning and design firm, as principal planner.

In addition to specializing in downtown and neighborhood plans, Smith is a skilled public participation facilitator. He has facilitated dozens of public meetings, workshops and presentations. Prior to joining McKenna Associates, Smith served as director of planning at the Johnson Hill Land Ethics Studio in Ann Arbor.

SENIORS

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

Local seniors lend a hand to children

Mentors travel from Novi to help Detroiters

By Renee Saunders
STAFF WRITER

Connie Starr was tormented by her neighbors when she was growing up.

Her family moved from the South to Brush Street in Detroit in an attempt to escape the Depression in the 1930s.

She said after the move, people in her neighborhood called her and her family "white trash" and "hillbillies."

Now the former Farmington teacher, who lives at Fox Run retirement community, is mentoring kids who aren't too different than her when she was growing up.

She is one of about five residents living in the upscale Novi senior complex who traveled to City Mission, an inner-city, Christian-based school on Schoolcraft and Englewood in Detroit.

The school caters to children living in the Big Horns Community and staff there are required to live in the neighborhood it serves.

Elementary-aged children attend the two classroom school, which is financed through fund-raising efforts, grants and tuition the families pay based on what they can afford.

Every Tuesday last school year, Starr and a few other Fox Run volunteers piled into a Chrysler PT Cruiser destined for Detroit with the aim of helping these kids learn and have confidence in their capabilities.

And this year, they're going back to help some more.

They drive themselves to a tough neighborhood to serve other people," Mike McCormick, executive director of Fox Run, said.

McCormick said by his wife, Kristine, have volunteered at City Mission for the last four years.

McCormick, who lives in Birmingham, runs basketball camps there while his wife helps with classes and fund-raising.

Both of them deliver food to the school during the holiday season.

He said he was talking in some of the sessions about what he and his family do there, and they became interested and wanted to help out, too.

While McCormick brought City Mission to the senior spotlight, the Fox Run group who mentors at the school is coordinated by resident Bill Moran, a retired Catholic school teacher and principal.

He said the volunteers plan to go back to the school again this year, starting next month.

"We listen to the kids read, do art projects ... we do tutoring for the kids in every area," said Moran.

"They mean something in our lives and, hopefully, we mean something in theirs," Audrey Becker, a Fox Run volunteer who retired as an administrator from the Livonia School District, said.

Becker said she and the other mentors know what setting the kids live in. They don't know what kind of house they go home to in the afternoon; they don't know what their family life is like; and they don't know how much their household income is.

She said they don't want to know.

"We take the kids as they are," she said. "The kids are respected."

Renee Saunders can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 349. She can also be reached at rstone@novi.com.

NOVI SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Calendar listing activities for Friday 9/29, Saturday 9/30, Monday 10/02, Tuesday 10/03, Wednesday 10/04, and Thursday 10/05. Activities include stretching, body recall, lunch, and various classes.

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

SAVVY SENIOR - OUR GRANDKIDS ARE FAT

Dear Savvy Senior: My husband and I are helping our daughter raise her two kids...

Dear Slim: Your problem is more common than you may realize in the United States today...

Healthy Suggestions: The best place to start helping your grandkids is by talking to your daughter...

are some solutions to consider:
- Eat smart: It's a good idea to work with a pediatrician or dietitian to develop a weight-loss plan for your grandchild...

- Physical activity: Exercise is essential for long-term weight loss, so encourage your grandkids to get out and play...

LETTERS

The Republicans' record

Recently, I read that a USA Today poll reports that 42 percent of Americans believe that the recent dip in gas prices has fallen because of political influence.

Let's move on to Michigan politics. Dick DeVos has spent \$16 million so far and he hasn't shown us anything yet.

Are your readers aware that President Bush is working on converting NAFTA to a "North American Union," which would combine the countries of NAFTA (Canada, Mexico, United States) into a single super country...

Existing borders would be eliminated as was done for the European Union. A common currency (the Amero) has been proposed to replace the U.S. dollar.

North America unites?

Let's move on to Michigan politics. Dick DeVos has spent \$16 million so far and he hasn't shown us anything yet. How is he going to restore the good-paying jobs that have left Michigan in the dust?

Let's move on to Michigan politics. Dick DeVos has spent \$16 million so far and he hasn't shown us anything yet.

Let's move on to Michigan politics. Dick DeVos has spent \$16 million so far and he hasn't shown us anything yet.

Let's move on to Michigan politics. Dick DeVos has spent \$16 million so far and he hasn't shown us anything yet.

Michigan must focus on educated citizens

There now can be absolutely no serious doubt that the key to Michigan's economic survival is preparing more young people for the new global economy...

But so far, it's not happening. A report released this month by the Center for Public Policy and Higher Education reveals...

Over that same time, family median incomes have declined by double digits.

Michigan's report card didn't carry all bad news. We ranked A- in the benefits citizens derived from a college degree...

But preliminary findings from the Kalamazoo Promise, a program that provides graduates from Kalamazoo public schools with free college tuition, suggest...

What about the idea that popular perception there's a "brain drain" with highly educated Michiganians leaving the state in droves?

young people don't go to college. Same went to into a trade without getting a degree.

And some family cultures simply don't value higher education - something that now has to change, if their children are to survive.

But preliminary findings from the Kalamazoo Promise, a program that provides graduates from Kalamazoo public schools with free college tuition, suggest...

Michigan's population is increasing, although at a relatively slow rate. Most of the increase is due to new births and an influx of foreign immigrants.

Sure, that would cost a lot. But what kind of return do we get from the billions we spend warehousing tens of thousands of idlers at \$40,000 a year each?

Reduced state support leads inevitably to increased college costs. Even after financial aid is factored in, the share of an over-

seas immigrants with college degrees. During those same three years, 61,800 college-educated foreigners arrived here from places like Canada, India and China.

Unfortunately, simple math shows that means something like a net 26,000 degree-winners left the state during that same period.

Young graduates who come to Michigan universities from out of state. Barely one in 10 of them end up settling here, while more than 70 percent of in-state college graduates remain in Michigan.

Conclusions? First, we need drastically to increase the percentage of Michiganders who go to college and get degrees. If affordability is a problem, we'd better figure out how to support state universities so they don't have to charge such high tuition.

Second, we should be active in recruiting college graduates from around the world. Before you snarl at this, consider what happened in Vancouver, Canada, in the 1960's, when word that China was going to take over Hong Kong caused panic there.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan. He is also the founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think-and-do tank.

SPOTLIGHT ON ALLERGY & ASTHMA. Presented by Michael S. Rowe, M.D., F.A.C.C., C.C.R.I. SINUSITIS SEASON. The beginning of autumn spells the beginning of the sinusitis season.

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Novi Carpets

Providing expert design help and professional service



Bill Benton of Novi Carpets on Meadowbrook Rd.

When looking for new flooring stop by Novi Carpets to get a good product with a great value. The family owned store has the largest selection and best prices in the area.

Novi Carpets offers all types of wood, ceramic, vinyl, carpet and laminate flooring. All major brands are available, including Mohawk, Shaw, Mannington and Bruce Hardwoods. It also carries a large selection of area rugs, including custom-made creations.

The large store shows samples of thousands of floors, with new samples arriving every day. It's the right place to look for distinctive styles.

"We have all the newest designs, and really everything you could possibly imagine," said owner Bill Benton. "If there's something you've seen on TV or in a magazine we can get it for you."

Instead of just selling a product, Novi Carpets can actually design floors that meet the needs of customers. Whether it's one room or an entire home, Novi Carpets can put together a combination of tile, hardwood and carpet that will not only be practical but beautiful as well.

"We will help them get the right design for what they are trying to achieve," said Benton. "We are flooring specialists."

Customer service separates Novi Carpets from other stores. Customers continue to return through the years because they find that Novi Carpets provides expert design help, and professional service, with great attention to detail. That can make all the difference in the overall appearance of a home.

Owner Bill Benton has served the Novi community at Novi Carpets for 33 years. Even before he owned the store, Benton learned the business as a flooring installer. After several decades he's become a flooring expert.

Benton moved just a short distance from the prior location, which was around the corner. The new larger location on Meadowbrook Road at Ten Mile Road has easier access and convenient parking. Now the store has room for even more samples, plus other helpful services.

Novi Carpets provides whole-house carpet cleaning. Technicians will travel to a home to repair vinyl flooring and carpet. Carpet, vinyl and hardwood cleaners are also for sale. Area rug binding is also done on-site. Expert installers make the entire buying process a breeze. There are no worries when choosing Novi Carpets. The installation is warranted for as long as the customer lives in the home.

Low prices are one thing that keeps people coming back to Novi Carpets. New customers are often surprised that prices are actually less than chain stores. With such a large variety of products, Novi Carpets can always help customers find something within their price range.

"We can match or beat anyone's pricing," said Bill Benton. "Price just isn't an issue here."

Novi Carpets is located at 24300 Meadowbrook Road, at Ten Mile Road in Novi. The store is open Monday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information call (248) 477-0640.

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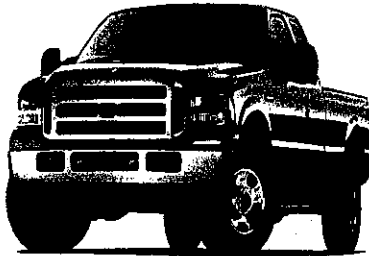
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Shamrocks travel to 5-0 St. Mary's

By Jeff Thelsen
NOVI NEWS

For the sixth straight week, Catholic Central will be playing a team without a loss.

Friday's opponent is not only undefeated at 5-0, but Orchard Lake St. Mary's is ranked as one of the top teams in the state.

"They have some excellent athletes that are game-breakers," Shamrock head coach Tom Mach said. "They have a couple of receivers that are going Division I and a quarterback that is going to Purdue."

"They are very fast, and they have a very sound defense."

Mach said St. Mary's offense is multi-dimensional. They can run or throw.

The Shamrock offense has been splayed the last two weeks, putting up seven points in two losses.

"That's the problem we've been having so far is not being able to maintain drives and take the pressure off our defense," Mach said.

Another thing hurting the offense is a bonafide game-breaking athlete.

"We just don't have a breakthrough threat to challenge (teams) in various areas," Mach said. "To score, we're going to have to drive it down and put it in. That's hard to do in our league because everyone plays very strong defense."

"We're going to have to be methodical and keep the ball away from people and try to maintain our own drives."

Mach said his team is just going to have to play at a higher level to match the competition.

"We're playing teams that can beat an awful lot of teams in the state of Michigan," he said. "You've got to bring your A game every week."

"We've got to raise that bar and play a little bit better."

Jeff Thelsen can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at jthelsen@gannett.com.

Next Up for CC:
When: St. Mary's Prep (5-0)
Where: Away
When: 1 p.m. Saturday

Undefeated soccer teams meet

By Jeff Thelsen
STAFF WRITER

Two of the top teams in the state will collide Saturday, both bringing undefeated records to the table.

Northville (11-0-3) will host Novi (8-0-2) at 1 p.m. Saturday.

For Novi head coach Brian O'Leary, the game can help momentum heading toward the postseason.

"Every year it is a big game for two reasons, one, we are so close geographically that almost all of my players know almost all of their players," O'Leary said. "Secondly, every season we are in the same district, so beyond this game it sets the tone for the state playoffs."

"I can give the team that wins a leg up going into the state tournament."

Baseline rivalry
When: 1 p.m. Saturday
Where: Northville

ON GUARD



Left, Kristi Chalkos dribbles during an intra-squad scrimmage. Right, Stephanie Crawford brings the ball upcourt during a Wildcats' practice.

Novi's senior guards push team to 7-0 start

By Jeff Thelsen
NOVI NEWS

Some preseason predictions said the Novi basketball team was supposed to be down, way down.

Fortunately for head coach Bill Kelp, his team didn't get the memo.

The Wildcats are sitting at 7-0 and loving every minute of it.

"It's all about the team. It's all they care about is the team, not about any individual stuff," Kelp said. "Nobody cares who scores the most, who gets the most rebounds, who starts and all that. They're just supporting each other, and it's fun to see."

"We always talk about expectations and what people expected of us this year. They should

have the chip on their shoulder, and they're trying to prove people wrong. We've got a long way to go, but it's been nice."

Guarding the Court

A large part of the success have come from the play of senior guards Stephanie "Craw" Crawford and Kristin "Chak" Chalkos. Both are also stars on the soccer field.

Crawford is more the highlight player at point guard. She puts up points as well as distributes the ball.

"It's been amazing," Crawford said of the 7-0 start. "People thought we weren't going to be good. We're proving everyone wrong, so it's making us feel so much better. Everyone has a lot

"We don't have as much talent. We have more heart."

Bill Kelp
Novi head coach

more confidence."

Chalkos is someone who won't show up big on the score-sheet, but her goal isn't to score. It's to keep the opposing team's best player from scoring.

"I also play soccer, and I play defense on soccer," Chalkos

said. "I know I have to play defense, and I have to concentrate."

Defense in soccer and basketball have several similarities, Chalkos said.

"You always have to be anticipating and reading," she said. "Playing basketball, I can't watch the ball when I'm guarding a girl. You have to see the eyes or where their hips are turning. It's the same kind of thing in soccer."

Crawford and Chalkos have both seen varsity time since their sophomore years. Both admit the team's start has been something even they didn't expect.

"We were predicted to win like seven games all season," Chalkos said. "Winning any so far has been awesome, let

alone all seven. I've been on varsity three years and never had anything like this. It's awesome."

"We're all really close. I feel so much closer with this team than I have in the past."

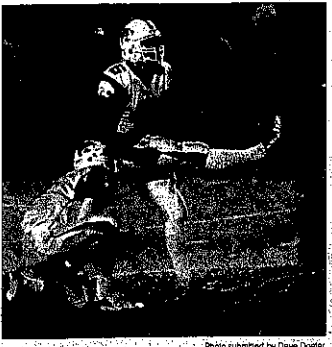
Team Unity

Crawford points out a difference in tempo has changed the team.

"We have a lot more guards," she said. "We try and push it more and run the teams down. The last two years we had post players that were really, really good, so we'd always try to give them the ball."

"Now everyone can run and go."

continued on 3B



Novi kicker Pat Sijan follows through on the game-tying extra point in the fourth quarter.

Rare play kicks in win

Sijan nails 40-yarder for 17-14 win over Lakeland

By Jeff Thelsen
NOVI NEWS

Each year, Novi head coach Tab Kellepoury practices a play that probably won't be used. Friday, it got used to perfection in a 17-14 win at Lakeland.

High school football has a rule that allows a team an unconsented free kick after a fair catch of a punted ball.

Novi's De'Angelo Jones called for the free kick, and worked his part of the play to perfection with under a minute to play in a 14-all game.

The next part of the play calls for senior kicker Pat Sijan to place the ball where he wants it and kick it off a tee with the defense at least 10 yards away.

Sijan set up from 40 yards out, and booted the ball through the uprights for the game-winning points.

"We know Pat's got a tremendous leg," Novi head coach Tab Kellepoury said. "We just decided to go for a free kick. He probably had another 10 yards to spare. Sijan really did a nice job in terms of having confidence to finish the play off."

continued on 4B

	1	2	3	4	T
NHS	0	7	0	10	—17
LHS	0	14	0	0	—14

Second Quarter
L — 7:25, Cody Leavenworth 6 run, XP kick
L — 4:58, Leavenworth 51 run, XP kick

N — 4:40, Brandon Carnegie 52 pass from Adam Chandler, Pat Sijan kick

Fourth Quarter
N — 3:05, John Brown 1 run, Sijan kick
N — 0:52, Sijan 40 FG



Novi News Athlete of the Week

Sara Carlson
Novi freshman tennis player

Carlson has not lost a match since moving to No. 4 singles for the Wildcats. Last week she won three matches while only losing four games in six sets.

Coaches: The Athlete of the Week will now run every week. Please make nominations known by Monday to Jeff Thelsen at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or to jthelsen@gannett.com.

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State girls 4th in participation



As Northville's Chelsea Atzinger nears the net, the Wildcat defense closes in during a Sept. 12 game.

Statewide activities involve 135,377

Participation by girls in high school sports in Michigan... remained unchanged from a year ago...

SPORTS SHORTS

Twelve Oaks hosts Tigers
Detroit Tigers reliever Fernando Rodney...
Novi Athletics Raffle
The Novi Athletics Booster Club is raffling a two-year lease...



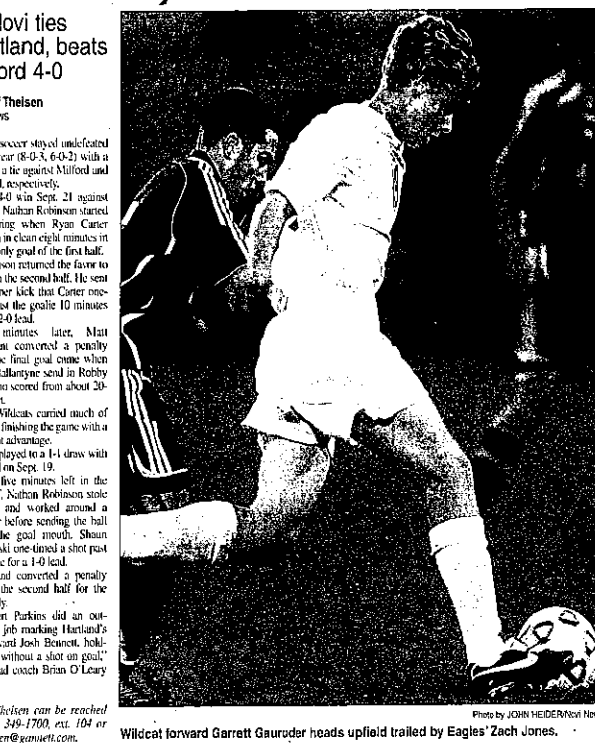
Rush of Success! The Michigan Rush Soccer U12 soccer team won its division at the Petoskey Autumn Blast Tourney...

Guards: Wildcats start off on 7-0 run

Having senior guards with a full year of varsity experience is a comfort for Kelly...

'Cats stay unbeaten in soccer

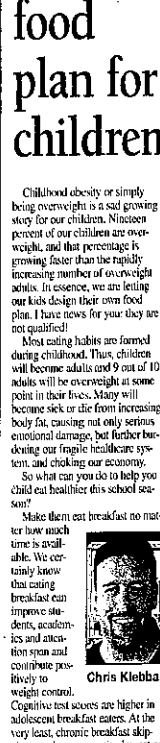
Novi soccer stayed undefeated on the year (8-0-3, 6-0-2) with a win and a tie against Milford and Hartland...



Wildcat forward Garrett Gauruder heads upfield trailed by Eagles' Zach Jones.

Develop food plan for children

Childhood obesity or simply being overweight is a sad growing story for our children...



Chris Klebba

HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULES

Table listing sports schedules for various schools including Novi, Catholic Central, and others.

OUTSTANDING!

Advertisement for Gridiron Gang featuring a football player and promotional text.

Novi runners score perfect against Howell

The No. 3-ranked Novi boys cross country team pulled off the perfect score Tuesday against Howell at Call Heron...

Advertisement for the movie 'The Guardian' featuring Kevin Costner and Ashton Kutcher.

Advertisement for the movie 'The King's Men' featuring Sean Penn and other actors.

KENSINGTON VALLEY CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Table showing conference standings for Football and Girls Basketball.

Advertisement for a raffle to benefit Novi High School Athletics, featuring a Lincoln MKZ.

Brighton ahead for 'Cats

By Jeff Theisen
NOVEMBER NEWS

Novi football head coach Tab Kellepooney doesn't like to talk about playoffs during the season. He will say that at the end of the season, whatever the team ends up is where they deserve to be.

But if the Wildcats want a shot at the playoffs, they will probably have to run the tables. Next up for Novi is a home game with Brighton, both squads are 2-3, 2-2.

"They're a young crew, over there right now, but they're getting better and better," Kellepooney said of the Bulldogs.

Brighton returns a topshelf quarterback in T.J. VanDoren. He passed for around 2,000 yards last year, according to Kellepooney.

"They've got a quarterback that took a team to the semifinals and he's back," Kellepooney said. "Anytime you've got that kind of a passing-experienced quarterback, you really better be prepared to score points against your opponent to stay up with them."

"This kid can throw the ball. He's got a tremendous touch on the football. We have to be very, very tight on our coverage." Kellepooney will be looking for a stronger offense to help limit the possession time for Brighton. Novi was held to 150 total yards last week by Lakeland.

"They can't wait around for things this week," Kellepooney said of his offense. "We've got to get points on the board with the offense and the defense has got to play great defense."

The Wildcats have four runners that have each totaled more than 100 yards rushing on the season. Brandon Carnegie leads the team with 302 yards on 57 carries. John Brown has 139 yards on 37 carries. Ryan Figurski has 121 yards on 21 carries. Stefan Figurski has 108 yards on 14 carries.

"We've just got to keep getting better and better each week," Kellepooney said.

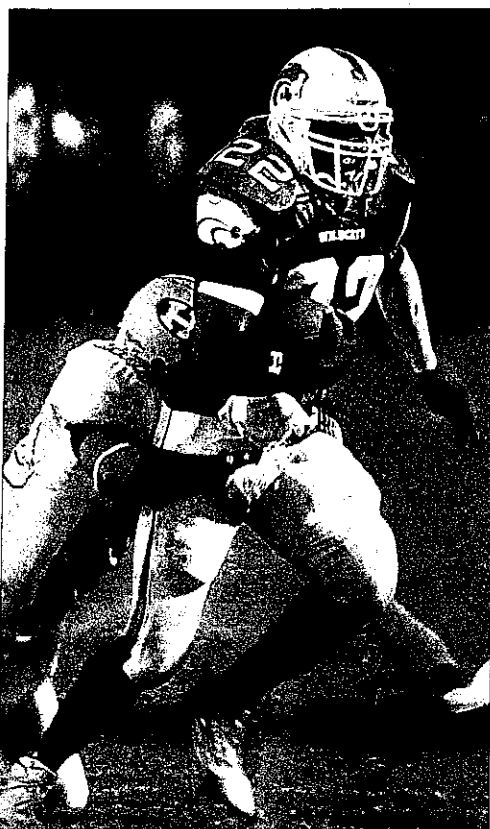


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi Times

Wildcat fullback John Brown fights for yardage with a Howell Highlander wrapped around his waist.

Next up for Novi:

Who: Brighton (3-2)
Where: Home
When: 7 p.m. Friday

Bobcats top Northville

When the Novi Bobcat Varsity football team invaded the Northville stadium, it was all Novi Bobcats, 20-12.

Novi set the tone of the game on the opening drive with dominating blocking from the offensive line of John Daquanni, Michael Mitchell, Alex King, Ben Farley, Matt Bennett and Matthew Scherzer.

Novi's control of the line of scrimmage created a 60-yard drive on runs by Krister Engja and Brady Sheldon that was stopped short by a penalty and a turn over on downs. The Novi defense, led by a Ben Farley sack, stopped Northville on their first drive after three downs.

A Jonathan Robinson 15-yard punt returns late in the first quarter set up a 50-yard Novi touchdown drive. The drive included a 15-yard pass play from Dakota Biddle to Matthew Scherzer and a 34-yard touchdown run by Sheldon. Adam Haynes added the extra point to put Novi up 8-0.

After exchanging possessions, Novi put together their second scoring drive. This drive saw big gains by Biddle and Engja behind solid offensive blocking, followed by a 5-yard run to finish the drive by Sheldon. Haynes completed the conversion which put Novi ahead at the half 16-0.

A great first half defensive effort was shown by Biddle, Nick Littleton, Sheldon, Engja, Steven Dickman and Robinson including a 60-yard pass interception return by John Engstrom.

Northville started the second half with their first scoring drive. Novi blocked the extra point attempt, making the game 16-0. Novi answered with their own 11-yard drive on the carries of Sheldon and Engja before Biddle punched the ball in from the 1-yard line. The extra point by Haynes made it Novi's game at 24-0.

On the kick-off, Northville returned the ball 60 yards for a touchdown. The Northville kick was blocked again, this time by Scherzer, making the score 24-12.

Novi answered with their own score on a 12-yard Brady Sheldon run, capping off a 54-yard drive.

Fourth quarter defensive efforts led by Matthew Stark, Andrew Bell, Dickman and Dylan West shut down the Northville offense. Derek Ince intercepted a Northville pass to end the game at 30-12.

Novi Bobcats JV 6, Northville Colts D

The Novi Bobcat Junior Varsity football team won its second game this season and against their rival and neighbor, the Northville Colts. The Bobcats will have the cross-

town bragging rights until they meet again next year.

The first three quarters of the game were marked with turnovers and penalties by both teams. The strong Bobcat defense held the Colts to very little yardage behind crushing tackles by Alex Kinnaman, Grant Cox, Brad Miller, Garrison Cook, Tomo Iitta, Matthew Kearney, Keith Dravate and Daniel Vera-Burgos. There was no score at the end of the third quarter.

The Bobcats started to click on offense in the fourth quarter. Blake Born, Josh Schiesler and Lucas Buck, behind the key blocks of Scott Schranm, Mitchell Pinkerton, Derek Edwards and Alex Caparra gained tough yardage.

Mario Ferrini's punting kept Northville's back to the wall. Collin Paw's fourth down sack stopped a threatening drive and when the Colts tried to punt, Daniel Fowler blocked the attempt giving the Bobcats great field position.

With a few minutes remaining in the game, Grant Wheeler carried the ball several times until he broke free from Northville's grasp to score the game's only touchdown. Wheeler added two interceptions to his credit while on defense and a completed pass to Michael Metz on offense.

On the ensuing Novi kick-off after the touchdown, Daniel Fowler recovered an on-side kick giving his team the ball in the final seconds of the game. The Bobcats ran out the clock.

Freeman Bobcats come up short, 13-7

The Bobcats came out ready to rumble, scoring early in the first quarter, with an impressive Jack Pinkerton running run. Pinkerton would also run it in for the extra points. Quarterback Billy Ulte would also connect with a 5-yard pass to Brandon Halmaghi and Michael Ninkovich's rushing averaged over 3 yards per carry. But a couple of fumbles, resulting in turnovers, allowed the Colts to trot in for two touchdowns.

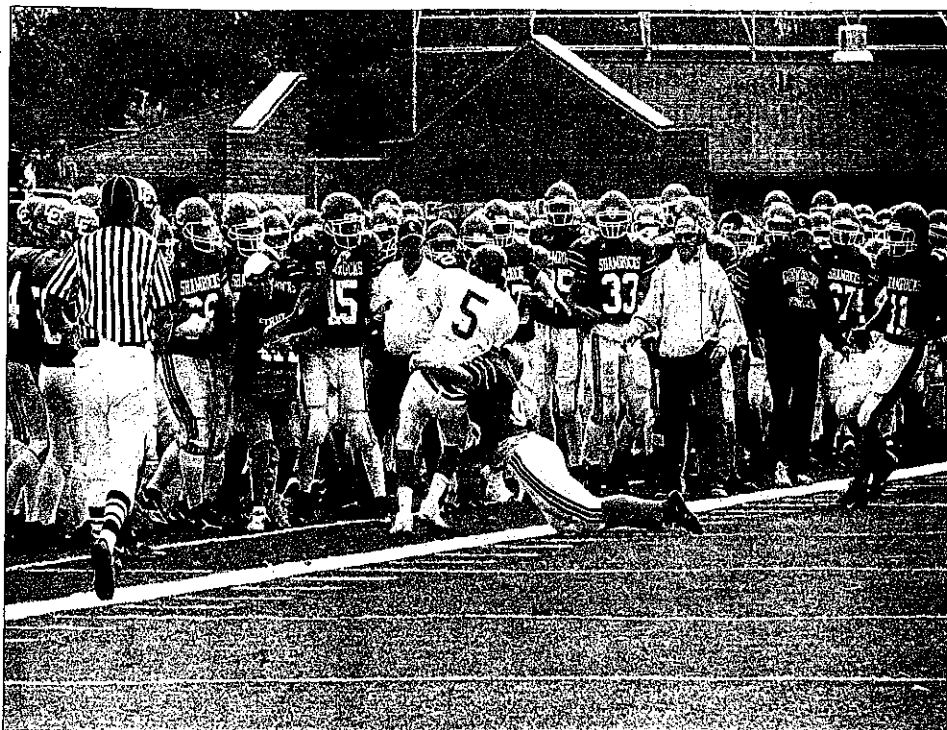
The Novi defense racked up some impressive stats.

Billy Ulte led the defense with six tackles, resulting in a total Colts' loss of over 16 yards. Graham Gausdon racked up four tackles, with two consecutive tackles behind the line. The following players each had two tackles: Jack Pinkerton, Ryan Rabinowitz, Jared Engstrom, and Ryan Moore.

Patrick Wojtyla and Andrew Schroeder each forced and recovered fumbles. Schroeder recorded a sack.

Jacy Varca knocked down a pass that would've been a sure touchdown if completed.

Submitted to Novi News



A Catholic Central defender makes a tackle into the Shamrock sideline. CC lost to DeLaSalle, 17-7.

CC Boys Bowled over



Catholic Central's Ryan Houska carries the ball against DeLaSalle.



Shamrock fans cheer on Catholic Central.

PHOTOS BY MARK HICKS / WESTSIDE PHOTO

DeLaSalle topples Shamrocks



Photo by Mark Hicks/Westside Photo

Catholic Central lineman Mike Martin takes on a couple of DeLaSalle rushers Sunday.

CC offense stymied by Pilots, 17-7

By Jeff Theisen
NOVEMBER NEWS

Warren DeLaSalle did something it hadn't done since 1994 — the Pilots beat Catholic Central.

The Shamrocks lost their first ever hosting of the Boys Bowl, 17-7 on Sunday.

"We gave up big plays that you can't do in a play like that," Mach said. "Overall, they're a very good football team. They do a sound job both offensively and defensively."

The Pilots' Jimmy Berzick returned a punt 62 yards for the first score of the game in the opening minutes of the third quarter.

A 22-yard field goal pushed the lead to 10-0, still in the third. Berzick boosted the lead to 17-0 with a 21-yard run with 5:35 remaining.

Chris Cagle threw a 7-yard touchdown to Rob Bennett to end the shutout, but the Shamrocks fell to 2-3, 0-2.

After being shutout by Brother Rice at Ford Field, the Shamrocks struggled again to put points on the board.

"We have to go back to basics and do a better job of blocking and tackling," Mach said. "That sounds trite, but that's exactly the areas we're having trouble with. We're not sustaining drives because of our blocking. We have to go back and stress the basics of good sound fundamental blocking and tackling."

Jeff Theisen can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at jtheisen@gannett.com.



Submitted photos

Andrew Schroeder and Luke Lyons tackle a Northville runner.



A Bobcat makes a tackle against a Northville running back.

Football: Sijan's free kick on a rare play puts Novi over Lakeland

continued from 18

out of 25-players coming up to him after the game and talking about how they had predicted the play but never used it.

The winning field goal capped off a run of 17 straight points for the Wildcats (2-3, 2-2).

Lakeland (2-3, 1-3) jumped into the lead with a pair of touchdown runs by Cody Leavenworth in the second quarter — a 5-yarder and one from 31-yards out. Novi got on the board after the second Lakeland touchdown.

Ryan Figurski returned the kick-off 40-plus yards. On the next play, Quarterback Adam Chandler hit Brandon Carnegie with a 52-yard scoring pass, making it 14-7.

The tying score came on a 1-yard smash from John Brown with just over three minutes left in the fourth quarter.

The defense held on the next drive, and Kellepooney knew he was going for the free kick.

"We felt going into our season that the kicking game of ours would be one that would carry us in games," Kellepooney said. "He

(Sijan) is a weapon for us."

Novi won on the scoreboard but trailed heavily in the rushing statistics.

The Wildcats rushed for 74 yards on 33 carries to Lakeland's 289 yards on 52 carries. Chandler led Novi with 29 yards on nine carries. Leavenworth finished with 142 yards on 18 carries.

The big passing play helped the Wildcats to a 76-6 edge in passing yards.

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The Wildcats rushed for 74 yards on 33 carries to Lakeland's 289 yards on 52 carries. Chandler led Novi with 29 yards on nine carries. Leavenworth finished with 142 yards on 18 carries.

The big passing play helped the Wildcats to a 76-6 edge in passing yards.

Brad Petroskey led the defense with nine solo tackles and two assists. Mike Kellis also had nine

Jeff Theisen can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at jtheisen@gannett.com.



Catholic Central head coach Tom Mach talks to his players Sunday against Warren DeLaSalle.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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Novi News

Thursday, September 20, 2006

BUSINESS SENSE

Working for you

■ Nine ways to build employee confidence

However skilled and ambitious your employees may be, their greatest value often lies in their self-confidence. Confident, independent people possess courage and eagerness — and they're strong self-starters.

Use these nine tips when you're trying to foster a spirit of confidence among members of your small-business team. Your efforts will pay off time and time again:

- **Affirm your employees' strengths.** Confidence is often based on self-understanding, so identify the key strengths of each member of your team. Then, make it a point to recognize those strengths and demonstrate that you value them.
- **Relate insights into relationships.** Most personal growth comes about when individuals learn the art of relationships. So make it a point to help your employees understand what motivates others and how to negotiate and persuade. Resist the temptation to "fight battles" when they run into relationship trouble, but help them learn how to gently navigate their way through tense, difficult situations.
- **Help them dream.** Independent people set goals, often lofty ones. Encourage your employees to dream big, to set ambitious, long-term goals. Then help them figure out the steps they need to take to make those goals become reality.

- **Assign increments.** People learn by doing. They become confident in small doses. So give your staff members small assignments and challenges at first. Then make those challenges a little more difficult — but substantially more significant — and watch your confidence grow.
- **Challenge and stretch their minds.** True confidence develops when people leave their comfort zone and realize that they can thrive outside of their routine. Once you see a genuine sense of confidence developing in an individual, give him or her a "stretch assignment" — one that forces the employee to learn and practice new skills.

- **Answer questions and teach the art of questioning.** Great mentors foster the art of independence by letting their charges be independent. That's usually a good principle to follow. But however much you may loosen the reins, always be available for questions and advice. Even more important, foster the Socratic art of questioning: Encourage your employees to pose questions and inquiries themselves.
- **Offer resources.** Independence and confidence often happen because behind-the-scenes resources are available. What can you offer the people around you? The answer might include data and information, experts, budgets, technical assistance, industry contacts, and more. Make it available, and you'll add one more building block to your employees' confidence quest.

- **Teach them that pain is not personal.** Independent, self-confident people feel every ounce in a while. Or they encounter difficulty or resistance along the way. Coach your staff to avoid taking difficulties and setbacks personally. Equally important, help them recognize that setbacks are a natural part of progress and can even be growth experiences.
- **Trust your employees.** An atmosphere of trust allows confidence to grow. Let your people know, in word and deed, that you have confidence in them and watch their self-confidence bloom. Your confidence should include a willingness to allow mistakes. Mistakes, at the end of the day, can be learning experiences for the people around you. Mistakes, when coupled with thoughtful reflection, can boost your employees' sense of independence and confidence further than you might imagine.

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Kate Phillips
SPECIAL WRITER

There is something different about Town & Country Eyecare of Novi.

From the moment one steps out of their car, they are surrounded with lush, green landscaping and a sense of peace and stillness. Service lines and wild grasses make people feel like they are spending a relaxing day out in the country. Inside the building, earthy tones, a soothing waterfall and large windows bring the outdoors in.

Looking around at the selection of eyeglasses, it is clear that Town & Country Eyecare stands out from the rest. Staff opticians pride themselves on hand-selecting frames for versatility and fashion sense. The ample selection includes designer brands like Calvin Klein, Coach, Nike, Nautica, James New York and Top Hatter.

"We carry lightweight frames that are functional as well as fashionable," said Amy Crissman, O.D., who serves as optometrist, along with Timothy Kirk, O.D.

Some frames nearly float on their own, and others have "soft temples" for increased comfort.

Town & Country offers the newest styles as soon as they are released, often featuring them during festive trunk show events.

A friendly children's area is filled with kid size eyeglasses that would make any child smile, in popular names like Disney, Hush Puppies, Nike and Converse. The Fisher Price line includes the finest of glasses that are made to fit infants.

At Town & Country, making a selection is a pleasant experience. Optometrists work with patients to decide what type of glasses or contacts best fit their lifestyle after a thorough eye health exam.

"We sit down and talk with patients about their daily activities and prescribe glasses or contacts to maximize their comfort and enjoyment," said Dr. Crissman.

The staff at Town & Country educate patients about updated technologies like Transitions photochromic lenses that become dark outdoors but return to clear indoors.

The newest progressive lenses make

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wearing no-lens bifocals possible for those that thought it was impossible. These lenses make it easier to read, use the computer and see long distances, all without changing glasses.

For those that wore thick prescription lenses in the past, Town & Country's thin lenses can make glasses thinner than ever, no matter what the prescription.

New coatings like Aflite Clear Guard cut down on reflections from night-time driving and computer use. The knowledgeable staff is committed to making technology work for you.

Contact lens wearers will find a large selection of the newest lenses in stock at Town & Country. New high-oxygen lenses allow 300-500 percent more oxygen to the eye, making it possible for more people to wear contacts. These hybrid soft lenses are available to correct near and far vision and astigmatism.

"The increased oxygen is critical for the long term health of the eyes," said Dr. Timothy Kirk, D.O. "They make wearing contact lenses more comfortable, reduce redness and dryness and stabilize vision."

And as different as the boutique-like setting is at Town & Country, the medical eye care also sets apart the practice. Dr. Kirk and Dr. Crissman use cutting edge equipment to perform multi-level vision tests, glaucoma screenings, plus they study the eye through digital retinal photography. It's a lot more than just standard testing.

These procedures help doctors track changes in the eye to detect vision problems and other physical concerns. The optometrists also treat infections and monitor diseases of the eye like macular degeneration. They are available for urgent care on eye injuries and infections.

"We spend a great deal of time listening to our patients discuss eye health concerns and visual needs," said Dr. Kirk. "We utilize the latest technology combined with personal



Dr. Amy Crissman and Dr. Timothy Kirk welcome new patients to their Town and Country Eyecare office in Novi.

attention to care for the health of our patients."

Dr. Kirk has been practicing for over 20 years. He started Town & Country Eyecare 12 years ago, at a small office nearby. Dr. Crissman is in her tenth year of practice and came on board four years ago, adding her expertise, including low vision rehabilitation. They moved the practice to the new larger facility two and a half years ago to better serve patients.

The partners continue to serve the community in a variety of ways, including support of local sports teams, bands, public libraries, senior all-night parties and charitable fund raisers. Dr. Kirk and Crissman have educated nearly 10,000 kids about eye safety and health in a partnership with local schools, in conjunction with the Novi and Northville Chambers of Commerce.

"We've always supported the community in every way possible," said Dr. Kirk. "That dedication to the community is a keystone of our success."

Town & Country Eyecare is located at 22350 Novi Road at Nine Mile Road in Novi. To make an appointment, call (248) 347-7800.

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