

FAMOUS FINALS SCENE

SPORTS: CROSS COUNTRY TEAM RUNS WILD! P. 1B

INSIDE:



Novi News

Your hometown newspaper celebrating its 51st year serving Novi and the Lakes



Thursday, November 9, 2006

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50 cents

Volume 51 Number 24

Novi, Michigan

What you **NEED** to **KNOW**

■ **City hall closed Friday**
All city offices, the Novi Senior Center and the Novi recycling center will all be closed Friday in observance of Veteran's Day on Saturday. There will also be no senior van service on Friday. The Novi Public Library, however, will be open.

■ **North American Horse Spectacular**

The annual North American Horse Spectacular will take place Friday-Sunday at Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue. Show times are 1-9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. This is an all-breed horse expo with demonstrations and more than 50 horses representing more than 20 different breeds. Shop at about 250 booths plus ride the full-size carousel all weekend for free. Information will be available on many clubs and associations. Admission is \$10 for attendees age 13 and over; children age 12 and under will be admitted free. Parking is \$5. For more information, call (800) 878-5131 or go to www.horsespectacular.com.

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WHAT'S GOING ON?

■ **Happening in town**
Check out Novi's official events calendar. Page 15A.

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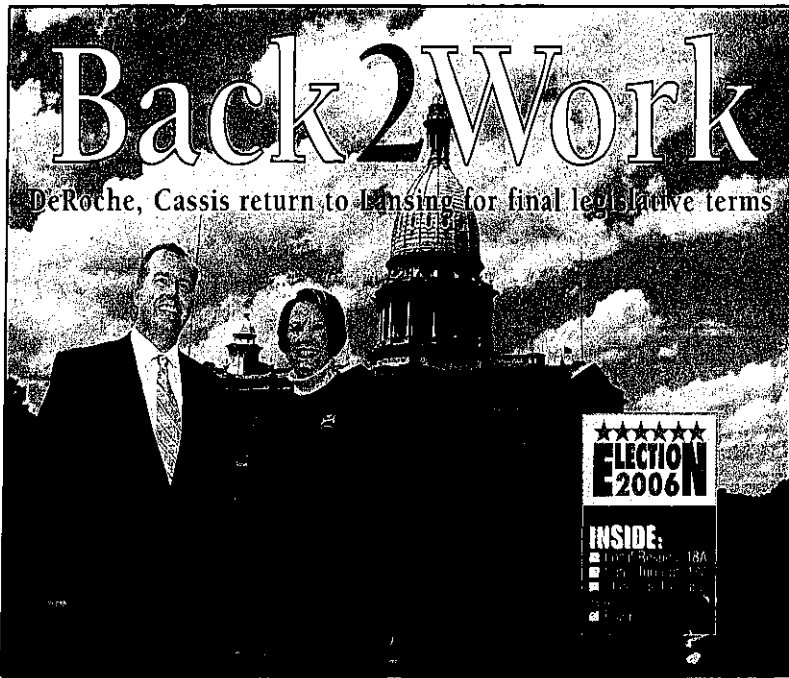
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NOVI REPUBLICANS ROLL; HARROW GOP SENATE MARGIN; DEMS CONTROL STATE HOUSE, P. 18A



Back 2Work

DeRoche, Cassis return to Lansing for final legislative terms



The new challenge: making nice with majority Democrats

Legislative agenda includes economy, education and environment

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

You could call it their last hurrah. Speaker of the House Craig DeRoche and State Sen. Nancy Cassis, two Novi Republicans, will be serving their final terms once they take their oaths of office in January.

Both term-limited candidates won re-election Tuesday. Nov Cassis has 48 months, and DeRoche has 24 months before they move on. That leaves 72 months

between them to get the job done. So, what job stands out?

Concentrating on the four E's

Cassis, who was elected state senator in 2002 after serving six years in the State House of Representatives and nine years on the Novi City Council, said jobs and the Michigan economy are at the forefront.

"That is going to be reflected in my being a major player in developing a new business tax code that is pro-growth, pro-job, simpler and fairer," said Cassis, a fixture of southeast Michigan politics since she ran for city council in 1985.

Doing so, she hopes, will make Michigan's business climate more attractive to current companies and ones looking to relocate here.

She'll also push for reducing unnecessary burdens

"We have to become more competitive."

State Sen. Nancy Cassis
R-NOVI

placed on businesses, streamlining opportunities for firms to come to Michigan.

Cassis said high personal property taxes in Michigan are keeping businesses away.

"We have to become more competitive," she said. She said public education and the state's growing

continued on Page 19A

NOVI: SURVEY SAYS?

City officials await citizen responses

By Greg Migliore
STAFF WRITER

Melissa Agosta has concerns about Novi.

Not all-consuming, physically draining, so awful she can't sleep at night troubles, but legitimate civic concerns, nonetheless.

She's wondering how the city will deal with its rapid growth and traffic's always-modernizing traffic issue.

"It just seems like overnight we've doubled in size," she said. Agosta and others like her are exactly whom Novi wants to hear from.

The city is in the midst of its first recent community survey and was mailed to 1,200 residents about a month ago.

In a nutshell, the goal is to



Photo by JOHN HEIDEN/Novi News
City of Novi officials Sheryl Walsh and Rob Giacoppelli review a city of Novi survey.

make sure elected officials and administrators are focusing on what residents believe is actually important and rank priorities for future budgets.

"The survey is really part of an

continued on Page 3A

Residential construction freezes over in Novi

City's downturn mirrors state's arctic economic climate

By Greg Migliore
STAFF WRITER

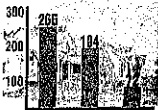
Brandon Finkel and Alaina Apap adore their new house.

The 20-somethings just moved into a freshly built, two-story house in the Knightsbridge Cove neighborhood on the city's west side, snagging it for an attractive price and getting the developer to throw in a pile of extra amenities.

But Finkel and Apap are in the minority this year.

The number of residential building permits approved in Novi has plummeted to 72 through the first three months of

Novi Residential Building Permits



Novi residential building permits have plummeted. In July, August and September, the first quarter of the 2006-07 fiscal year, just 72 permits were issued. This is a sharp decline from the same period in 2005-06, when 104 were issued, and 2004-05, when 266 were issued.

SOURCE: City of Novi
The 2006-2007 fiscal year, compared with 194 in the same period.

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Families can eat healthy with Main Dish Kitchen

Home cooked meals can still be a part of the daily routine with Main Dish Kitchen of Novi. Now every parent actually has time to cook - since an entire week of meals can be prepared in about an hour at Main Dish Kitchen.

"Families can actually sit down to dinner together around the dinner table and talk," said owner Lisa Guertin. "Instead of pulling into a drive-thru, if they know they have a meal waiting for them at home, they'll go home and eat together instead."

Main Dish Kitchen offers a plethora of choices that can include something for everyone in the family. Families can choose from gourmet recipes like Chicken Parmesan, Veggie Supreme Lasagna, Chicken Philly Pita and Turkey Stroganoff. Pre-made side dishes, pies and gourmet cookie mixes are also available.

All vegetables and meats used in the dishes are fresh. Even standard favorites such as meatloaf are zipped up with creative alternatives for even the most discerning palates.

Many clients report that their families are eating more healthy and feeling better since they've started preparing dishes at Main Dish Kitchen. The fresh produce, low-fat ingredients and lean meats provide the best that nature has to offer. Plus they skip all of the preservatives and additives found in fast food or frozen entrees.

"This is perfect for families that are trying to eat healthier, or people that are dieting," said Guertin. "We have everything you need to start that health program that you never had time to do before."

Healthy recipes like Tropical Tuna start with Yellowfin Tuna Steak and fresh vegetables, robust garlic, cilantro and tender mango chunks. Various other recipes such as Pork Milanese take six high-quality pork chops which are then hand-breaded in parmesan and Italian herb bread crumbs. Finish this dish by sautéing then drizzle in lemon butter wine sauce. All of the meals allow for personalization with more or less spices tailored to your family's liking.

Other multi-meal stations allow parents to make meals exactly the kind of food they know the family likes. At a chicken and rice bake station, it all starts with six moist chicken breasts atop a bed of rice. Create a new family favorite by adding your choice of toppings and spices. Bacon Feta Chicken uses the featured ingredients to send your taste buds to heaven and Swiss Alps Chicken is the perfect blend of wild rice and swiss cheese to make even the coldest of nights cozy. Other station favorites include Italian Chicken and Cordon Bleu Chicken.

Other meal stations provide everything for a Mexican feast - with everything from Burrito Pollo or Mexican Lasagna to Crazy Quesadilla or Big Horn Burrito. Not enough variety? Try the Pizza and Stir-Fry bar.

At Main Dish Kitchen, customers spend an hour in the beautiful, large kitchen, putting together ingredients that have been fully prepped. All of the chopping and preparations have been done for staff, so customers can make six meals quickly. Meals can be split in half for couples or singles. The meals are baked or stir-fried at home, for the freshest taste. The disposable containers and easy direction labels make it a snap to throw the meal in the oven on a busy night - even for a teenager.

"With all of the productivity being accomplished, customers relish the relaxing time in a Main Dish Kitchen. Coffee, tea, pop and snacks are provided as busy moms and dads relax and spend time together, chatting. When friends come in together it is even more of a social event than a chore. Convenient session times are available in both the afternoon and the evening and even on Saturdays.

This holiday season, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners are available. There is a full line of ready to serve appetizers and ready to bake cookies for the busy holiday season. Stop in anytime and choose from all the items pre-made and frozen.

Main Dish Kitchen is located at 24271 Novi Road in the Pineridge Plaza at Ten Mile and Novi Roads in Novi. To make a reservation call (248) 348-9900 or go to www.maindishkitchen.com

By Kate Hill



Main Dish Lisa Guertin.

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City seeks area groups, vendors to join Ringing in the Holidays

Get your photo taken with Santa

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Want to see your name in lights? Tracie Ringle says if you can drive it, tow it, pull it or push it, then light it up and be part of the city's Ringing in the Holidays Electric Light Parade.

Ringle, event and marketing coordinator for Novi's Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department, said the city needs participants and area restaurants to sign up now for the 6-9 p.m. Nov. 30 event at Main and Market streets in Novi.

Registration deadline is 5 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 20. "Get your name in lights," Ringle said.

"This will be the fifth year for the holiday event, which includes food for purchase from area

How to enter the parade

Area community groups and businesses can obtain an entry form for the city's Thursday, Nov. 30 Ringing in the Holidays Electric Light Parade by calling the Novi Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department at (248) 347-0400. Forms must be returned by 5 p.m., Monday, Nov. 20.

Restaurants, a 7 p.m. parade bells for parade-goers to ring, and a variety of parade entries, including floats, bands, marching units, specialty vehicles and animals. The parade is viewed by thousands, and all entries will be recognized at the event, on Channel 13, on the city's Web site and in the Novi Parks & Recreation Guide.

"The majority of the event is held outside, so people need to dress appropriately," Ringle said.



Photo courtesy city of Novi

Children dressed like presents are just one of the sights in store for those who attend the Thursday, Nov. 30, Ringing in the Holidays celebration at Main Street Novi. The event begins at 6 p.m., with the parade starting at 7 p.m.

Taking the Pulse of Novi



SURVEY: Say what?

continued from Page 1A

entirely new approach to the budget process," Novi Mayor David Leaday said.

Responses to the survey are due this month, and results are expected in early January. The \$14,000 survey is being conducted by Denver-based National Research Center. Most of the survey is similar to what other cities have used, allowing officials to compare Novi to other municipalities.

"It's somewhat of a form of direct democracy," said Robert Giacopelli, Novi's budget management analyst. "Novi also hopes to use the survey to evaluate city services and general perceptions about the community."

"It's just a good business practice," City Manager Clay Pearson said. The city also considered using focus groups, but decided they were too expensive. Giacopelli said.

Regardless of the method, Agosta, who works at Novi's Gina Agosta Salon, is glad citizens have a way to express themselves to city hall. She's definitely sending her form back.

"They've covered everything," she said.

Greg Migliore is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or gmigliore@novinews.com.

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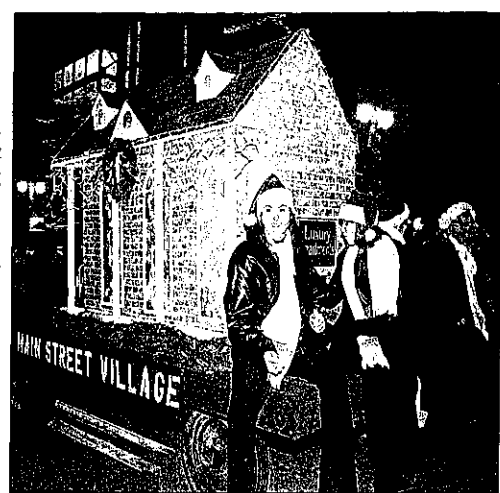


Photo courtesy city of Novi

Staff from Main Street Village in Novi had fun at one of the previous Ringing in the Holidays Electric Light Parade. Area restaurants and parade participants need to sign up now for the Nov. 30 event at Main and Market streets.

Ringing in the Holidays

Want to see your name in lights? Entries from area businesses are needed for the city of Novi's Ringing in the Holidays Electric Light Parade. The 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, event will be held at Main and Market streets in Novi. Festivities will include:

- Photos with Santa before and after the parade.
- Parade at 7 p.m.
- Food from area restaurants
- Bells for the crowd to ring.

Area restaurants, businesses, service organizations and clubs are encouraged to provide food for sale or have a parade entry. Call (248) 347-0400 for a parade application. Deadline for entry is 5 p.m., Monday, Nov. 20.

SOURCE: City of Novi

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School board awaits bond election details

By Renee Saunders
STAFF WRITER

Even though the governor's race is over, Novi School Board members still have an election on their minds.

The board intended to vote Thursday on what bond proposals it will ask voters to decide in May 2007, but members tabled the idea so they could work out details on the proposed preschool that a part of the bond would pay for.

The school board needs to decide a special meeting date before the next 7:30 p.m. regular meeting.

Tracee Katie Kocou and input from residents would be helpful.

"Public input would be a good idea rather than waiting until the election," she said.

Providence Hospital has offered the district space for the new school at its Grand River Avenue and Flex Road site. The terms: \$1 per year, for 99 years.

The school district also owns vacant land big enough for a new school. Carol Ellings, school board president, said the district-owned property would put the school in a natural setting, but if the school board were to choose the Providence parcel, the school would be surrounded by hotels and restaurants.

The bond would pay for new technology throughout the district, building improvements and a new preschool.

The \$38 million proposal, presented the board with two options for the bond proposal during Thursday night's meeting.

Koster said the bond could be all rolled into one package, or it could be broken into two separate components.

He said the first option could be to ask voters for the entire \$38 million to vote question.

The second option, he said, would be to ask two questions on the ballot, one for \$26 million for technology improvements and building construction and another for \$12 million for the new preschool.

Resident Marcy Salama told district officials in September that residents don't want a mallage so big it goes down in flames.

"We don't want to be another Noviville," she said.

The bond proposal was a result of district-wide improvement recommendations made by the School Utilization and Reallocating Committee.

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

Renee Saunders can be reached at (248) 449-1700 ext. 119, or via e-mail at rsaunders@novi.net.

Seeing red!



Photo by JOHN HEIGER/Novi News

Rows of red-hued maple trees line the sides of Sullivan Lane in Novi as fall finishes up in southeast Michigan.



Read...Then Recycle This Newspaper



Novi man arrested on drug charges

A Novi man pleaded guilty Friday to delivering or manufacturing drugs at Brighton Market & Deli.

Tony Paul Farida, 36, was initially taken into custody in August 2005 by officers from the Livingston and Washtenaw Narcotics Enforcement Team, who had raided the market, 1540 E. Grand River Ave., east of U.S. 24.

Seized during the raid were about 3.5 pounds of marijuana, 48.5 grams of cocaine, just under \$10,000 in cash and a loaded handgun, officers said.

Officers conducted a second search of the store four months later and seized about \$130,000 as well as business, bank and tax records.

In exchange for Farida's plea, prosecutors dismissed one count of possession of a narcotic and three counts of felony firearms.

Farida faces up to 20 years in prison when he is sentenced Dec. 1.



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The Beck Road Compromise: Fix it now, widen it later

Two-tiered approach could ease traffic flow

By Greg Migliore
STAFF WRITER

They're often a bumpy issue for local governments — roads. Short of announcing a new landfill for Canaanish trash, roads are probably the quickest way to ignite controversy. And sparks have been flying this fall, as Novi provides improvement plans for Beck Road between Eight Mile Road and Grand River Avenue. But city officials recently unveiled a staggered approach that could balance residents' concerns with the growing needs of steadily increasing traffic.

The first phase would fix the pavement and upgrade intersections by adding turn lanes, perhaps as soon as next year. The

second phase involves widening the road during the next 15-25 years.

Novi's engineering department plans to have a report for city council to review at the Dec. 4 meeting.

"I think everyone's in agreement that something needs to be done... It made more sense for us to go to a two-tiered approach," said Bob Hayes, Novi city engineer.

Future considerations

The plan also buys Novi time to analyze traffic patterns on other roads and examine banking communities' Beck Road plans. Other communities are considering widening the road to five lanes.

"Does that lock Novi into building a five-lane section? Well, no," Hayes said.

While the five-lane option is perhaps the most controversial, the city's long-term plans could

shape up several ways. Other possibilities include adding a center turn lane or parking the road a four-lane boulevard.

Karen Dennemann, a Novi resident who lives one house from Beck Road, said she likes the city's most recent plan but doesn't want a "superhighway." She also hopes the speed limit can stay the same or perhaps drop.

"We definitely have to have some more traffic flow to make it blend a little better," she said. "I don't want anything more than we absolutely have to have."

Evelyn Mayer, who lives about

A Two-Part Answer?

Novi is considering a two-tiered approach to improving Beck Road. Details include:

- Phase 1
- One year to 10 years in future
 - Fix the pavement
 - Upgrade intersections by adding turn lanes
- Phase 2
- In the next 15 to 25 years
 - Widen the road to three, four or five lanes
- SOURCE: City of Novi

a quarter of a mile from Beck Road, said this area is no longer a sleepy residential neighborhood and needs to adapt to modern traffic patterns.

"It was years ago," she said. "It isn't now."

Greg Migliore is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or gmigliore@novinews.com.

EATING RIGHT

Reading labels key to healthy eating

State Points Media
SPECIAL TO THE NOV NEWS

Deciphering food labels can be a challenge — especially when the claims on the front of the package don't always match the "Nutrition Facts" label on the back.

Here are some quick tips on how to read those labels to make healthier choices.

According to Molly Morgan, Registered Dietitian and author of "Supermarket Shopping Guide," you should first review the serving size to determine how much of the product to eat. If you can eat two servings of the item, you need to remember the Nutrition Facts information for two servings.

Next, look at the saturated fat and trans fat, aiming for the lowest amount possible.

"Glance at sodium. It is a good idea to choose foods that are lower in sodium," Morgan said. "The American Heart Association recommends keeping your sodium intake to less than 2,300 mg per day. So, if a food has 300 mg, don't get worried and put it back. After all, that is only a seventh of your daily intake."

Next, it's on to dietary fiber. When selecting grain products, look for two grams or more of dietary fiber per serving. Fiber can help your heart and keep your body regular.

"Scan the percentage of vitamins and minerals and see what is provided in the food. If there are no additional vitamins and minerals, likely the food is not the best way to spend your calories because it would be considered 'empty calories,' or a food that lacks much beneficial nutrition," she said.

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HOUSING PERMITS: Frozen in time

continued from 1A

od in 2003-2006. Novi had 265 permits approved in 2004-2005, helped by 119 units at Fox Run Village.

Fewer building permits means less money for the City. So far this fiscal year, Novi has raked in \$472,557, a sharp decline from \$635,953 at the same point in 2005-2006.

Novi Mayor David Landry blamed the downturn on Michigan's ailing economic conditions.

"What you're seeing is just a market trend," he said. "I don't think it has anything to do with Novi."

Residential permits have fallen to 18,732 in 2005, from 25,350 in 2004 Metro Detroit, according to the Southeast Michigan Council of Government's most recent research.

"The building climate in

Southeast Michigan has been a challenge ... But at the same time, we are selling some homes and making it work," said Randy Wertheimer, owner of Hunter Pastour Homes LLC, one of the Knightsbridge Gale developers.

Silver lining?

Wertheimer predicted a rebound could come as soon as the second half of 2007 — if the Big 3 automakers can sort out their problems.

In Novi's case, a slow-down in residential building could have a silver lining, as it gives the city's infrastructure time to catch up with its rapid growth, Landry said.

All of these economic factors have blown together into a perfect storm for Finkel and Apap, whose three-bedroom house was built in four months. The couple, who both work for DaimlerChrysler,

were the first to move into Knightsbridge Gate.

"We felt we had some bargaining power when we went into the buying process," Finkel said, as the wooden frame of his neighbor's house sprouted up next door and construction crews labored on adjacent lots. "We really wanted to be in a new home and design it from start to finish."

The couple, who grew up in Metro Detroit, were attracted to Novi because of its nightlife, shopping and schools. Still, Apap noted being the first in an exciting development has its downsides.

"It's been really nice," she said as she balanced her two five-month old puppies. "But there's not a lot out here."

Greg Migliore is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or gmigliore@novi.net.

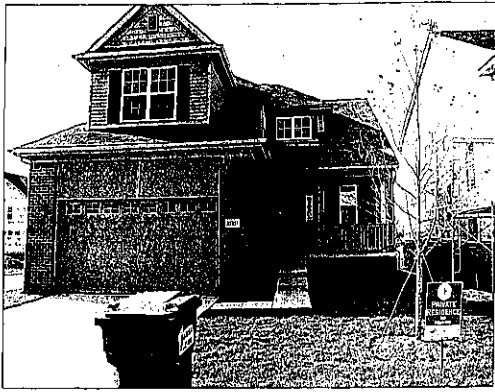


Photo by JOHN HEIDERS/Novi News

Finkel and Apap's home in Novi's new Knightsbridge development, off Napler Road.

New high-tech gadgets sharpening cutting edge

By Deborah Porterfield
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

If the grandparents are always clamoring for more photos, you can keep them happy with a multimedia picture frame that displays photos, plays music and displays video clips. Designed by Pandigital, each frame has a built-in media reader and two USB ports, so you can easily copy data from a PC, a digital camera or a memory card to its built-in memory. It has two interchangeable frames. (Wooden and acrylic), built-in speakers, a headphone jack and a remote control. A 5.6-inch frame with 64-megabytes of memory costs \$130. Other frame and memory sizes are available. — www.pandigital.net

Packet-sized wireless remote moves with you

The Gyrotransport lets you pocket your favorite music, pictures and presentation files for

later playback on a PC. Loaded with 1 gigabyte of memory, the device works as a wireless remote control for a mouse and a USB drive. To launch files stored on the device, all you have to do is plug it into a PC's USB port. Thanks to a 2.4-gigahertz radio frequency and a gyroscope motion sensor, the wireless control has a range of 100 feet and can respond to different movements. You can, for example, set it to zoom in on a Web page when you move your hand to the left, or pump up the volume when you move your hand upward. Small enough to carry on a key chain, it costs \$200. — www.gyration.com

Docking station gives sleepers wake-up calls

You can wake up to your favorite Apple iPod tunes with JVC's new portable docking station. Measuring about 1 foot long and 3 inches tall, the white RA-

P10 model has a built-in alarm clock and stereo speakers powered by a 4-watts-per-channel amplifier. It also has an FM tuner, a blue-backlit display, a room thermometer and a remote control. Cost: \$130. — www.jvc.com

Keep track of your car, driver with GPS

Nervous about a new driver in the family? Or maybe you're worried that your new car will be swiped? Either way, the Millennium Plus Global Positioning System can help. The system includes a Mobile

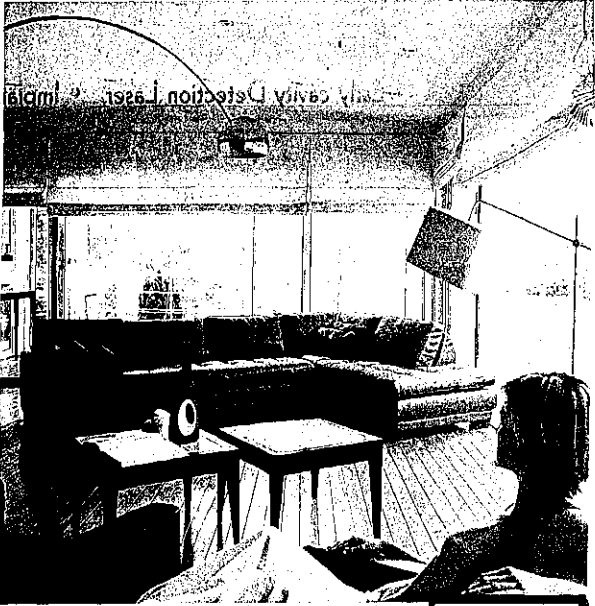
Location Unit that fits beneath the dashboard and wirelessly transmits information, including the location of the car and its driving speed, to a Web-based program that analyzes the data and posts it on a secure Web site. If the car is going too fast or travels outside of a set area, it will e-mail you an

alert. And if the car is stolen, you can disable its starter and lock the doors via e-mail or a phone call. The system costs \$600 with a \$20-a-month service fee. — www.sagegpsprotection.com

Moving Sale

now through November 27th

The Roche-Bobois Detroit franchise is closing its Novi store and moving to Troy. This has created a one-time savings opportunity as we reduce inventory to facilitate our move. For a short time, Roche-Bobois style and quality will be available at truly unprecedented prices. And this week only, we'll pay your sales tax for an additional 6% savings!

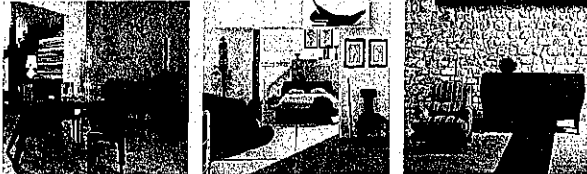


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Now is the time to start planning for next year. Contact the Archdiocese of Detroit at 877-AOD-TEACH for information on upcoming Catholic high school open houses, high school placement tests and tuition assistance.

NOVI CULTURE

3 WAYS

IN NOVI TO ENJOY INDIAN CULTURE!

WITH FLAIR!

Whether it be a trip to a specialty grocery and cafe or talking to an expert on Indian cooking, Novi has a lot to offer those interested in Indian food and traditions.

1

INDIAN GROCERY

Vandana Indian grocery at 24259 Novi Road in the Pine Ridge shopping center just north of Ten Mile Road offers a variety of Indian groceries, snacks, kitchen for catering and a small dine-in cafe. Hours are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

2

VEGETARIAN COOKING

She recently moved to Troy, but former Novi resident and vegetarian Indian cooking expert Soneira Humbat may still offer her cooking classes through the Novi Community Education program. Visit her Web site at www.ivetoking.com, or e-mail her at info@ivetoking.com.

3

CELEBRATION

Last month, the Indian community observed Diwali, a five-day festival celebrated by Hindus that began on Oct. 19. The third day of Diwali is the main day, called the "Festival of Lights." Diwali's dates are determined by the lunar calendar. In 2007, Diwali will begin on Friday, Nov. 9.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Haveena Munnangi and Shivanj Kozarekar participated in Deerfield School's Festival of Cultures on Oct. 11. The event celebrates the diversity of the students and 13 countries were represented, including Mexico, Africa, USA, Japan, India, China, Italy, Canada, Poland, Syria, Lebanon, Russia and Korea.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

See Novi's official events calendar, "What's Going On?" Page 15A.

■ Parks Foundation Meeting

The Novi Parks Foundation, a non-profit organization focused on raising funds to supplement funding for the city's park and recreational facilities, will hold its annual meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, George's Senate Restaurant, 39430 Dun Ravin Drive, in Northville. Jeremy Holt, vice president of the Novi Jaguars Soccer Association, will present the foundation with checks totaling \$11,300, representing a \$25 contribution from 452 families in and surrounding communities.

Grand Opening

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Back Pain?

Novi, MI - According to a recently released back pain relief report, most back pain sufferers have no idea how to eliminate their pain. Some use heat, others ice, from sleeping on the floors, to pillows underneath legs, back pain relief techniques vary. But thanks to a free report, local back pain sufferers finally know exactly what to do. To get a copy of the free "Back Pain Relief Report", call toll-free, 1-800-233-9372 (Toll-free, 24 hour recorded message) or go to www.FreeBackReliefInfo.com

LIFE DOESN'T STAND STILL AND NEITHER SHOULD YOUR INVESTMENTS

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All ladies' down, wool and leather coats and jackets.*

extra 25% off sportswear, dresses and suits

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sale 79.99 and 84.99 cashmere

Luxurious two-ply cashmere - Indian, Alaska, Tibetan and cream-colored cardigan sweaters for her. Only \$120 & \$100. Currently 69.99 & 94.99 nowhere but Lord & Taylor.

sale 69.99 to 159.99 boots

A great selection of styles for her. Reg. \$39-\$228

25% to 30% off designer handbags

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men's wardrobe event

40% off suits, sportcoats and blazers
40% off topsuits and outerwear
30% off dress shirts, ties and shoes.

extra 25% off sportswear for men and kids

Already-reduced styles, total savings 40% to 60%.

40% off kids' outerwear

Plus 40% off outerwear on Web and mobile accessories.

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Sale ends Tuesday, November 14th, except for clearance items or as noted. Savings off original and regular prices. No adjustments to prior sale purchases. Selected colorways not every day in every store. *Excludes Cindy Racine, Max Mini, Shaini, Hilary Bailey Black Label, Runetta, Andrew Marc, BCBG/BIGX Max Azria, Kenneth Cole New York, French Connection and Laundry by Shelli Segal Black Label. Our regular and original prices are offering prices only and may or may not have resulted in sales. Advertised merchandise may be available at sale prices in upcoming sale events. Charge it with your Lord & Taylor Credit Card. We also accept American Express, MasterCard, Visa and the Discover Card. For the Lord & Taylor location nearest you, please visit our website at lordandtaylor.com. Or call 1-800-222-7440 and say hi, any time.

CLASS NOTES

Board of Education

The next meeting will be held Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., at Novi Woods Elementary.

Novi High School CMNT Students

Novi High School students who attend the Oakland Technical Center in the afternoon, are learning computer maintenance and networking technology. CMNT students are involved in a non-profit community service project, building computers for underprivileged and physically impaired children in Walled Lake and the Oakland County area. Sunday, Oct. 29, they participated in a Walk-A-Thon, enlisting sponsors to raise money. The following students participated: Matt Atton, Curt Lawrence, Chris Zampas, Jeff Wardrop, Marcus McDuffie, Erin Moruzzi, and Dana Wosik.

"Character is Everything" Seminar

This is a special program for freshmen and parents, designed to improve decision-making skills, held at the high school auditorium this morning at 8 a.m. Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, and World Record-Setting Distance Swimmer Jim Drayer are speaking. Sponsors include Novi High School, Novi Rotary Club and Tekcom Credit Union. Novi Police Chief David Malloy speaks Nov. 16, and Novi High School Mentors wrap up the program Nov. 30.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Kindergarten through Fourth Grade conferences will be held tonight 4-7 p.m. and 8:30-8:30 p.m.

Musical

Parkview Elementary's 2nd-grade musical is Tuesday at 2 p.m.

PSAT

PSAT/PLAN Testing will be Nov. 18 at Novi High School. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$20. Students pick up packets from the Student Services Office. Call your counselor for more information.

Novi Meadows

Family Bingo, tomorrow night at Novi Meadows, 7 p.m.
Middle School Concert at Novi High School Tuesday.
Vocal Music Concert at Novi High School, Wednesday at 7 p.m.
No School Nov. 22.

Market Day

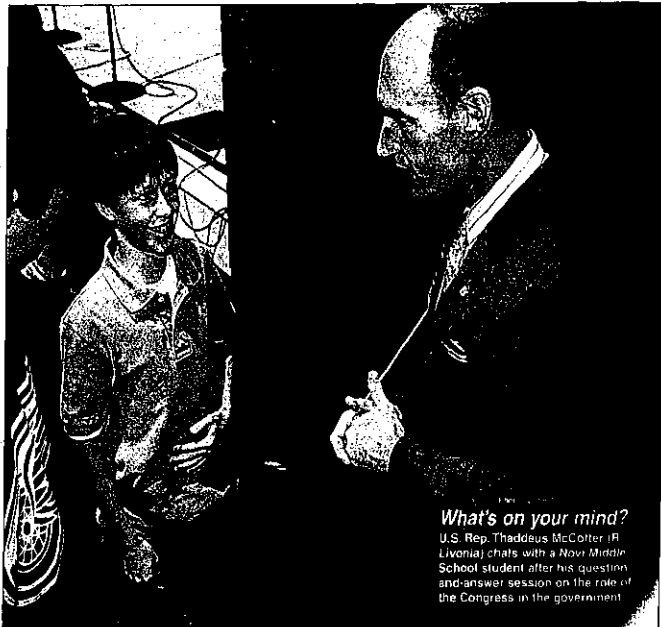
Deerfield Elementary will have Market Day this evening from 4-5 p.m.

High School Talent Show

The talent show will be on Friday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. Enjoy an evening of unique and various talents performed by high school students that have auditioned to participate in this program.

Parent Information Nights

Jane Hesse, the Kindergarten through 12 Director of Curriculum and Assessment, will host meetings during the school year relating to curriculum, assessment, and testing in Novi. The schedule of topics, dates and time is as follows: Assessment Literacy-Assessment of and for Learning, Nov. 15 at 6-7 p.m. or 7:15-8:15 p.m.; Examining Student Work-What is the Evidence of Learning?, Feb. 7 at 6-7 p.m. or 7:15-8:15 p.m.; Learning Growth-Reflecting and Planning the Next Steps for your Child, March 26 at 6-7 p.m. or 7:15-8:15 p.m. All meetings will be held in the TTC Building, in the Forum.



What's on your mind?

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) chats with a Novi Middle School student after his question-and-answer session on the role of the Congress in the government.

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Japanese doll show reflects City of Novi's diversity

By Kerli Wilkins
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Emi Nakashima misses her native Japan so much, she decorates her Novi home with reminders of her culture and heritage. And when she heard Novi was selected to become the first Michigan city to host an international exhibit of traditional Japanese dolls, she was thrilled.

"I miss Japan so much," said the 45-year-old mother of three who has lived in Michigan for nearly 20 years. "I'm very happy the dolls are here."

Starting this week and running through Nov. 30, about 60 Kokeshi dolls will be on display in the atrium of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile.

The exhibit is free and can be seen whenever the center is open, which is generally from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, said Tracey Ringle, the events and marketing coordinator for the Novi Parks and Recreation Department.

She said the city was chosen to host the exhibit because of its substantial Japanese population.

"We're honored to host it," Ringle said last week. "This is a great fit."

According to Nakashima, Kokeshi dolls originated in the Tohoku region of Japan, an area known for its hot springs. She said tourists would bring back dolls as souvenirs.

Each region has its own interpretation of the dolls' meaning, with some representing fertility and others representing the loss of a child.

Nakashima said the dolls often are given as wedding gifts so the couples are blessed with healthy children.

The dolls are simple wooden figures, some as small as babydollies. Others are larger and more elaborately carved and painted.

The Novi exhibit, sponsored by the Japan Foundation, arrived from Montana. And after its run in Novi, it will be sent to Utah, Ringle said.

"It's been all over the world," she said.

Anno Sawa, spokeswoman for the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit, said Kokeshi dolls originated about 200 years ago and are still very popular in Japan.

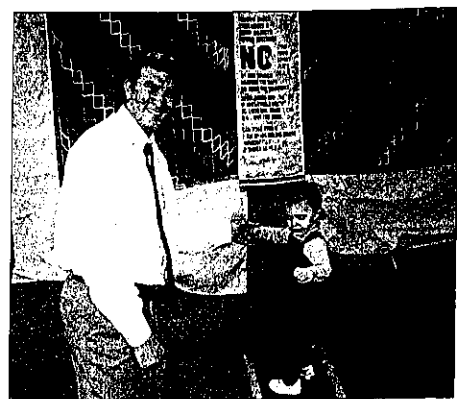
She said traditional Kokeshi dolls tend to be simple and don't have legs or arms.

The dolls are not to be played with, however. They are for display only, Sawa said.

"It's a very popular exhibit," she said, noting that it's been touring for several years.

Nakashima said Novi's 1,000 or so Japanese residents are excited to share a bit of their culture with the community. She said it's important to show how diverse and culturally rich Novi has become.

"We're all very excited about this," she said. "I can't wait."



Submitted Photo

Jump around!
Reuben Levy and his daughter McKaila enjoy the Moonwalk at the Sukkot holiday party. The event was hosted by the Novi-Northville Center for Jewish Life.

NOVI BUSINESS BRIEFS

Optimists seeks essay writers

Members of the Lakes Area Optimist Club encourage students in Walled Lake, Wixom, West Bloomfield, Commerce Township and Wolverine Village to expand on the phrase "I Want to Make a Difference Because..." as part of the 2007 Optimist International Essay Contest.

The Optimist Club will judge the local students' essays and determine the top winners.

Winners will receive local recognition, and the winning essays will be sent to the district level.

Each district will send top entries to the international level. College scholarships are available for top winners at the district and international levels.

For more information, contact Ken in Terry at (248) 343-6437.

ITC Transmission begins study

ITC Transmission, a subsidiary of ITC Holdings, recently signed a memorandum of understanding with Ameren Electric Power to look at the feasibility of building a 765kV transmission network in Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

The network would improve electrical service delivery for Michigan and regionally.

The scope of the understanding does not include provisions to build or operate transmission.

Any future activities regarding construction of any transmission upgrades will be determined after the completion of the study, expected by late 2006.

The gift that gives more

Borders, Borders Express and Waldenbooks stores will also exclusively carry the 2007 "I am Powerful" CARE calendar.

Priced at \$11.99, the stores will donate \$2 for every calendar sold in its stores to CARE, an international poverty-fighting organization that places special emphasis on working with women to create permanent social change.

Each month of the calendar features an image of women and girls in Nepal, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Nicaragua, India, Sri Lanka and other countries.

The women are some of the people supported through CARE's community-based programs that improve education, prevent the spread of HIV, increase access to clean water and sanitation, expand economic opportunities and protect natural resources.

Novi has a Borders location at 43075 Crescent Boulevard in Novi Town Center at Novi Road and Grand River Avenue.



Submitted Photo

Greater Novi Chamber!
Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Whitney McClellan, Co-Chairs J.R. Atiyeh and Gina Kozlowski stand with Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson during a luncheon last week.

AAA members save at Art Van

Art Van Furniture is offering AAA members special savings on select merchandise.

Art Van Furniture has a location at 27775 Novi Road near 12 Mile Road.

AAA members in Michigan can now save 10 percent on in-store Art Van sale and non-sale merchandise, with certain restrictions, when they show their membership card.

Little Caesars, Hasbro team up

Little Caesars and Hasbro are teaming up to bring customers fun for the holidays. Beginning today and running through Dec. 31, a national online sweepstakes will run in conjunction with local prize drawings at participating locations.

Local Little Caesars prize drawings will offer one winner from each restaurant a Family Fun Pack including a Hasbro Games Prize Pack and Little Caesars Family Pizza Party.

Customers who visit any participating Little Caesars store may receive an individual Family Game Bouleback (print piece) while quantities last.

AAA members save at Art Van

Along with this print piece version of popular Hasbro games, the boulebacks include a coupon for 10 percent off Hasbro Games.

Novi has a Little Caesars location at 41467 10 Mile Road just west of Meadowbrook Road.

ITC announces new hire

ITC Transmission, a subsidiary of ITC Holdings, has hired Frances Brown as director, state governmental affairs.

Brown will lead ITC's regulatory and legislative efforts in Michigan.

A Grand Valley State University graduate, Brown was previously a state regulatory advocate and lobbyist for AT&T and has worked for law firm Dykema, PLLC, and State Representative James Mick Middledag.

Bookstores help those in need

Borders, Inc. and Walden Book Company, Inc., subsidiaries of Borders Group, Inc., have teamed with First Book, an international nonprofit providing children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their first new books, for a holiday giving campaign.

This is the second consecutive year Borders, Waldenbooks and First Book have joined for the holiday fund-raising drive.

Beginning today and ending Dec. 31, customers in Borders and Waldenbooks stores will be encouraged to donate \$1, \$3, \$5 or more to First Book as they make their holiday purchases.

Give the gift of light, warmth

DTE Energy will send holiday warmth this season with gift certificates that can be applied to DTE Energy utility bills.

"DTE Energy gift certificates are ideal for friends on a tight budget, relatives living on a fixed income or children living away from home," according to Suzanne Thornton, manager of customer service for DTE Energy.

"They are a thoughtful and practical gift, particularly as we enter the long winter heating season," she said.

DTE Energy gift certificates are available in denominations of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$75 and \$100 and can be applied to any DTE Energy utility bill.

The certificates are provided by CertiChecks, which supplies gift certificates for businesses nationwide.

Greater Novi Chamber!

Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Whitney McClellan, Co-Chairs J.R. Atiyeh and Gina Kozlowski stand with Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson during a luncheon last week.

INCAT assists racing team

Headquartered in Novi and Stuttgart, Germany, INCAT is engaged with the Williams Formula 1 racing team on two projects involving production engineering and design work for the team's 2007 race car.

The first project is production engineering of some elements of the 2007 race car.

The firm will redesign a composite car every year where about 98 percent of the components are new.

INCAT is in the design phase of that car now, and INCAT employees in Pune, India, will production-engineer some of the parts the company is designing.

The second project is design work for a new transmission test rig.

A Formula 1 car will do 4g lateral acceleration in cornering and up to 5g acceleration in braking. This can cause problems with the ongoing lubrication of the gear box.

The firm will test this on an articulated rig.

Dunkin' Donuts thanks heroes

In appreciation of the courageous efforts of U.S. military personnel, Dunkin' Donuts has donated Wednesday as Military Appreciation Day.

From 6 a.m.-6 p.m., military officials — active and veterans — can receive a free, large cup of coffee at any Dunkin' Donuts in Michigan. Simply by showing their ID cards or badges.

The free coffee offering is the third, between now and December 2007, thanking the area's hard-working, dedicated individuals who keep America running.

"We appreciate the relentless sacrifices made by our service men and women," said Nick Spencer, marketing manager of Dunkin' Donuts. "We at Dunkin' Donuts, salute the nation's protectors with a free cup of our signature coffee as we cherish all you do to keep our nation safe and running."

Dunkin' Donuts' "What Keeps America Running" survey revealed earlier this year that Americans believe military personnel are one of the most important professions that keep the nation.

Novi has a Dunkin' Donuts location at 39415 10 Mile Road at Haggerty Road.

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- Chocolate Coins
- Free Money-Making Review

Taco Tuesday - November 14th

- Free Chips, Salsa and Mini Tacos
- Mexican Jelly Bean Jar Contest
- On the Border Gift Card Coupons for Every Client

Warm Apple Wednesday - November 15th

- Free Cider, Hot Cocoa, Caramel Apples
- Apple® Store Gift Card Giveaway

Tribute to Our Tigers Thursday - November 16th

- Free Peanuts Popcorn, Hot Dogs and Pop
- UNO's Restaurant Gift Card Giveaway
- Tiger T-Shirt Raffle

Family Fun Friday - November 17th

- \$5.00 Credit for New Kids Savings Account*
- Beat the Banker Competition
- Northville Fire Department (1-4 p.m.)
- Northville Police Department: Child Safety Kits (4-6 p.m.)
- Snip It's - Children's Hair Salon Giveaway
- Free Papa John's Pizza, Schlotzsky's Chocolate Fountain, Cookies, Candy, Pop

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Incumbents roll on Election Day

Cassis, DeRoche, Crawford, Potter and McCotter lead Novi Republican charge

By Greg Migliore
STAFF WRITER

It's over — and at least in Novi — there were few surprises.

The city's four most prominent local candidates — State House Speaker Craig DeRoche, State Sen. Nancy Cassis, U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter and County Commissioner Hugh Crawford — all incumbent Republicans — won re-election handily over Democratic challengers.

For DeRoche, however, the victory was a bit hollow. Democrats took control of the State House, unseating him as speaker for the next session. Democrats grabbed a 58-52 majority in the House, according to local reports at press time.

Election results underscored that Novi, despite inroads by Democrats in Oakland County, is still largely a GOP stronghold. Republicans Dick DeWes and Michael Honchard failed in their bids for governor and U.S. senate, but each won more than 50 percent of the vote in Novi.

The most hotly contested ballot issue, Proposal 2 (forming a affirmative action), passed statewide and in Novi.

The final results

DeRoche, a former Novi council member, won his third term in the House. He defeated Walded Lake Democrat Tim Jarell, a Western Michigan University student.

"He's very grateful that the residents of the 38th District are trusting him with another term," DeRoche spokesman Matt Resch said.

DeRoche has been Speaker of the House since 2005. Cassis, a multistay of Novi politics, scored a second term in the State Senate. She defeated Democrat Ray Ruzewski, a Novi engineer and businessman. She said she is open to working with Democrats, who now have substantially more power

Things Tuesday's election results mean to Novi:

1. Speaker unseated
Craig DeRoche (R-Nowi) won't be Speaker for the next term. For more than a year, Novi has had considerable clout in the State House with DeRoche in charge. Now, Novi issues will need to line up with Democratic priorities to get the greenlight.

2. Experience
One of the most valuable currencies of politics — and Novi has it in the State Legislature: DeRoche won't be Speaker, but he did get another term in the House, and Cassis will again represent Novi in the Senate.

Although the GOP's influence, and by extension Novi's, in Lansing is diminished, these two will ensure the city's voice is still heard.

3. Continuity in Congress
McCotter's victory, despite a backlash nationwide against Republican congressional candidates, gives Novi a veteran representative at the federal level.

in Michigan and nationally. "This state is too important to let partisanship divide us," she said. "We now need to unite and put Michigan first."

Cassis also was a state representative for six years and a city council member for nine years. McCotter earned his third term in Congress, beating Democrat and former talk show host Tony Danza.

McCotter, of Livonia, is a former state senator and represents swaths of Western Wayne and Oakland counties. Crawford, who was Novi mayor pro-tem for eight years, overcame Novi Democrat Mary Jane Dulya for another term on

Novi Election Winners

Official Vote
State Sen. Nancy Cassis
City of Novi: 12,161
Novi Twp.: 55
Total votes: 67,068
*State Rep. Craig DeRoche
City of Novi: 11,466
Novi Twp.: 49
Total votes: 22,310
*City Comm. Hugh Crawford
City of Novi: 10,091
Novi Twp.: 51
Total votes: 11,137
*City Comm. Jeff Potter
Precincts 9 and 10 only
City of Novi: 898
Total votes: 11,001
*Congressman Thaddeus McCotter
City of Novi: 11,599
Novi Twp.: 51
Total votes: 50,961
Proposal 1
Yes: 16,515
No: 3,995
Statewide: Passed

Proposal 2
Yes: 12,591
No: 7,462
Statewide: Passed
Proposal 3
Yes: 5,535
No: 14,269
Statewide: Failed
Proposal 4
Yes: 15,458
No: 4,104
Statewide: Passed
Proposal 5
Yes: 6,371
No: 12,835
Statewide: Failed
City and township combined.
City of Novi Voter Turnout
Registered Voters: 33,253
Total Votes: 20,512
Voter Pct.: 61.99 percent
Novi Twp. Voter Turnout
Registered Voters: 124
Total Votes: 91
Voter Pct.: 73.39 percent

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, November 29, 2006 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 16.212, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 97.18, AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE TO INCORPORATE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MICHIGAN ZONING ENABLING ACT, ACT 110 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 2006.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, November 29, 2006. Published November 9, 2006
NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
MARK PEHRSON, SECRETARY
(11-9-06 NN 322647)

PUBLIC NOTICE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Notice of Intent to Determine Ownership of Abandoned Oil and Gas Well
Notice of Intent to Plug and Abandon Well or Transfer Permit by the Supervisor of Wells

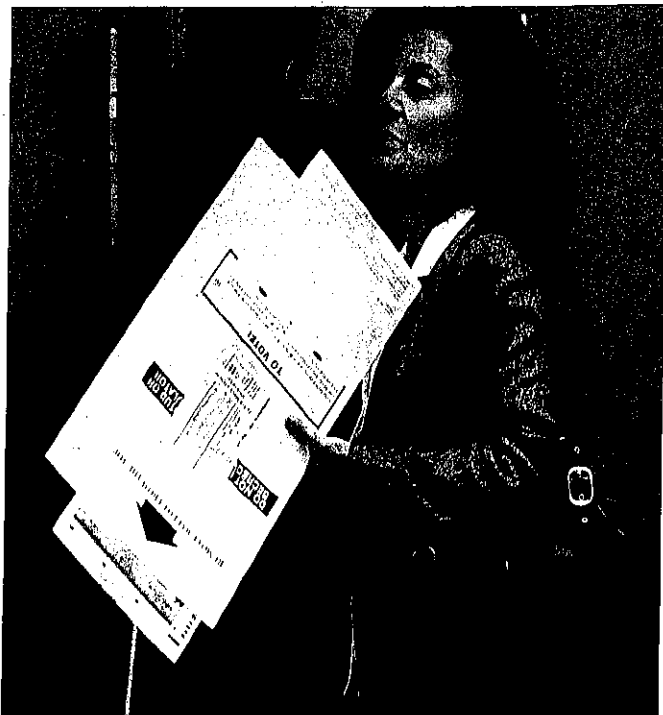
Pursuant to Part 615, Supervisor of Wells and Part 616, Orphan Well Fund, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA), it is the intent of the Supervisor of Wells to determine whether the following well has been abandoned and to issue a Notice of Determination pursuant to Section 61519 of Part 615. The Supervisor of Wells further intends to find the permittee to be in non-compliance and to undertake plugging, response activity, and site restoration pursuant to Section 61603 of Part 616 or to transfer the well permit to a new owner pursuant to R 324.206 of Part 615 for the following well:

Well Name & No.	P.N.	Company Name	Q	Sec	Township	County
Little 1	15218	Charles A. Cherry & Harry E. Roberts	SW	31	Novi	Oakland

Any person having information to show they have a mineral or working interest in this well is encouraged to contact the Supervisor of Wells by Monday, December 11, 2006 at the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Geological Survey, P.O. Box 30255, Lansing, MI 48906. If upon review of the information received, the Supervisor of Wells determines the information is sufficient to hold a hearing, regarding ownership of and responsibility for this well, a hearing will be scheduled.

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Frances Tadjewski from Precinct 14 prepares to vote Tuesday afternoon in the Novi Civic Center. By 4 p.m., more than 600 people had cast ballots in that Novi precinct.

"This state is too important to let partisanship divide us."

State Sen. Nancy Cassis



Precinct 15 voters kept the booths busy Tuesday afternoon at the Novi Civic Center.

and tax issues," Potter said. Potter earned his third term on the board. He also was the mayor of South Lyon for 13 years and recently retired from Ford's Wixom plant.

Greg Migliore is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or gmigliore@gannett.com.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT NOVI, MICHIGAN
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi Community School District will receive sealed bids for \$300,000.00 Installation Purchase Agreement. Bids will be accepted at the Educational Services Building, 25346 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48374-2423 until 2:00 p.m. local time, November 21, 2006. Specifications may be picked up at the Educational Services Building during normal business hours.

PUBLIC NOTICE Department of Environmental Quality Office of Geological Survey
Notice of Intent to Determine Ownership of Abandoned Oil and Gas Well
Notice of Intent to Plug and Abandon Well or Transfer Permit by the Supervisor of Wells

Pursuant to Part 615, Supervisor of Wells and Part 616, Orphan Well Fund, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (NREPA), it is the intent of the Supervisor of Wells to determine whether the following well has been abandoned and to issue a Notice of Determination pursuant to Section 61519 of Part 615. The Supervisor of Wells further intends to find the permittee to be in non-compliance and to undertake plugging, response activity, and site restoration pursuant to Section 61603 of Part 616 or to transfer the well permit to a new owner pursuant to R 324.206 of Part 615 for the following well:

Well Name & No.	P.N.	Company Name	Q	Sec	Township	County
Little 1	18218	Charles A. Cherry & Harry E. Roberts	SW	31	Novi	Oakland

Any person having information to show they have a mineral or working interest in this well is encouraged to contact the Supervisor of Wells by Monday, December 11, 2006 at the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Geological Survey, P.O. Box 30255, Lansing, MI 48906. If upon review of the information received, the Supervisor of Wells determines the information is sufficient to hold a hearing, regarding ownership of and responsibility for this well, a hearing will be scheduled.

HAROLD R. FITCH
ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR OF WELLS
517-241-1515
(11-9-06 NN 321412)

BACK TO WORK: DeRoche, Cassis head back to Lansing for final legislative spin

continued from 1A

unemployment rate are major challenges. She would like to open the state's vocational career centers in the evening and partner with vocational teachers to re-educate unemployed workers.

She also wants to expand the landmark "Save the Children" legislation for early intervention and prevention of failing students for which she recently was able to secure a \$400,000 grant.

Cassis said energy independence is also high on her list. For a decade, Cassis has been on the energy and technology committee for both the House and the Senate.

"I believe this is an area Michigan can lead in through alternative fuel sources and advancing the hybrid automobile," she said. Her fourth concern is the environment, which she thinks would be well-served by promoting new recycling efforts.

"Michigan is far behind other

states in terms of curbside recycling," she noted.

In dealing with partisan politics, Cassis said elected officials need to take time to hear, then move on in the best interest of all citizens to solve the state's problems. "It means a give-and-take," she said.

Infrastructure Improvements

DeRoche, who spent four years on the Novi City Council and is in his third and final term in the Michigan House of Representatives, has often been a lightning rod for partisan Lansing politics.

He thinks Michigan needs a new business tax code. "I believe it needs to be written in a way that makes us one of the 10 most competitive states in the country," he said.

He wants Michigan to become a magnet for new businesses worldwide rather than a state that

"We can do a much better job and become a leader in the Midwest and the northern states."

Craig DeRoche
Speaker of the House, R-Nowi

repels them. DeRoche said although Michigan is the 10th highest funded education system in the country, he believes there is plenty of room for improvement.

"We need to reform education and maximize the use of the dollars we're investing while we continue to pursue more money for education," he said.

DeRoche also believes more work needs to be done on the state's infrastructure — roads, sewers, bridges etc. "We can do a much better job and become a leader in the Midwest and the northern states," he said.

He said if the state can repair these areas, it will become easier to address other issues, such as police and fire services; parks, recreation and leisure; social services and the health care system.

"We simply can't make investments in those areas if we don't have the economy, education and the infrastructure working right," DeRoche said.

He believes state legislators will be able to make significant changes in the next two years, setting the state on an improvement course for the next 20-30 years.

Despite partisan politics, DeRoche said he's always gotten along with Gov. Jennifer Granholm, even when they're at odds.

"I like her, and I think we have a relationship," he said. "I'm looking forward to working together."

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



State Sen. Nancy Cassis won re-election Tuesday, and will return to Lansing for a final 4-year term.

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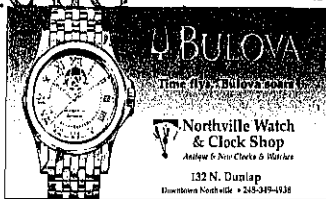
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Novi basketball struggles against Brighton, P. 3B

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B1 Novi News

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Thursday, November 9, 2005

RUNNERS-UP!

Novi finishes second to Pinckney

By Jeff Theisen
 NOVI NEWS

BROOKLYN, Mich. — The Novi boys cross country team was focused on keeping the tradition of state top-10 finishes alive, but they secretly wanted more.

The Wildcats wanted to set a high bar to match for future Wildcats and to finish higher than the 2004 team did, when this year's seniors were freshmen.

Mission accomplished. The 2006 Novi team finished runner-up to KVC for Pinckney at Saturday's Division 1 state cross country meet at Michigan International Speedway. The 2004 team finished in fourth place.

"As long as we're better than fourth place, we're better than 2004," Prasad said. "Any of those kids (2004 team) that read this in the paper, we're better than you. You can quote that."

"It was a heckuva season," Mike Wheat led the way with a 14th-place finish in team scores and 20th overall at 16:01.8.

"It's a great thing to accomplish, being better than '04. It was a goal we all had in the back of our mind, but we didn't want to admit it," Wheat said. "It was a lot of fun. It's a great experience."

Wheat receives All-State honors for finishing in the top 30.

Alex Prasad was next in for Novi in 21st team, 32nd overall (16:10.2).

Josh Lumley, Novi's lone junior in the team's top five, finished in 24th team, 41st overall (16:16.7).

Kenny MacDonough also finished off his Novi career with a 38th-place finish for team, 59th overall (16:24.6).

"We're such tight group," MacDonough said of his teammates. "The whole team, not just the top seven, is an amazing group of guys. I wouldn't want to go through this season with any other group of guys. It's just awesome."

Senior Michael Beard finished the scoring for the Wildcats with a 43rd-place finish for team, 69th overall (16:29.3).

The other two runners were senior Scott Wagner (46th, 73rd — 16:32.3) and junior Aaron Crood (70th, 104th — 16:41.9).

"All seven guys, I think, set records for themselves today," Novi head coach Robert Smith said. "We ran the best we could."

Pinckney blew away the competition, placing its top six runners in the top 11. Senior David Emery won the meet in 15:34.8, with junior teammate Mike Kasefiras was second in 15:39.6.

Pinckney would've actually beat the rest of the state if it was considered a dual meet, 27-28.

"Pinckney is amazing," Prasad said. "Every time we



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Wildcat Mike Wheat finishes first for Novi and 20th overall in the MHSAA cross country state finals at MIS last Saturday.

Continued on 3B

Mike Wheat Senior



State Finish

Team totals — 14th
 Overall — 20th
 Time — 16:01.8

Alex Prasad Senior



State Finish

Team totals — 21st
 Overall — 32nd
 Time — 16:10.2

Josh Lumley Junior



State Finish

Team totals — 24th
 Overall — 41st
 Time — 16:16.7

Kenny MacDonough Senior



State Finish

Team totals — 38th
 Overall — 59th
 Time — 16:24.6

Mike Beard Senior



State Finish

Team totals — 43rd
 Overall — 69th
 Time — 16:29.3

Team scores


1. Pinckney — 27 (new team state record)
2. Novi — 140
3. Traversa City Central — 231
4. Traversa City West — 231
5. Milford — 246
6. Sallina — 271
7. Warren DeLaSalle — 275
8. Portage Northern — 285
9. Ann Arbor Pioneer — 301
10. Lake Orion — 302

Novi News

Athletes of the Week

Novi 200 Freestyle Relay

The Wildcat 200 freestyle team of Dana Haponowicz, Julie Schramm, Meredith Cole and Kerry Abel won the league title, finishing in 1:42.94. They just missed setting a new league record (1:42.54), set last year by Brighton.



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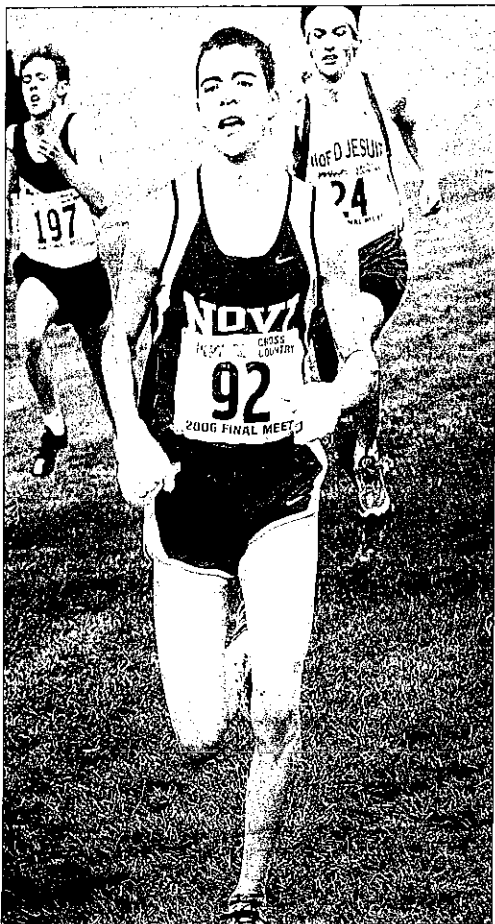
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2006 STATE CC



Novi's Mike Beard finishes fifth for the Wildcats and 69th overall during the state meet last week at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn.



Novi's Kenny MacDonough finishes 59th overall during the state finals.

Photos by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

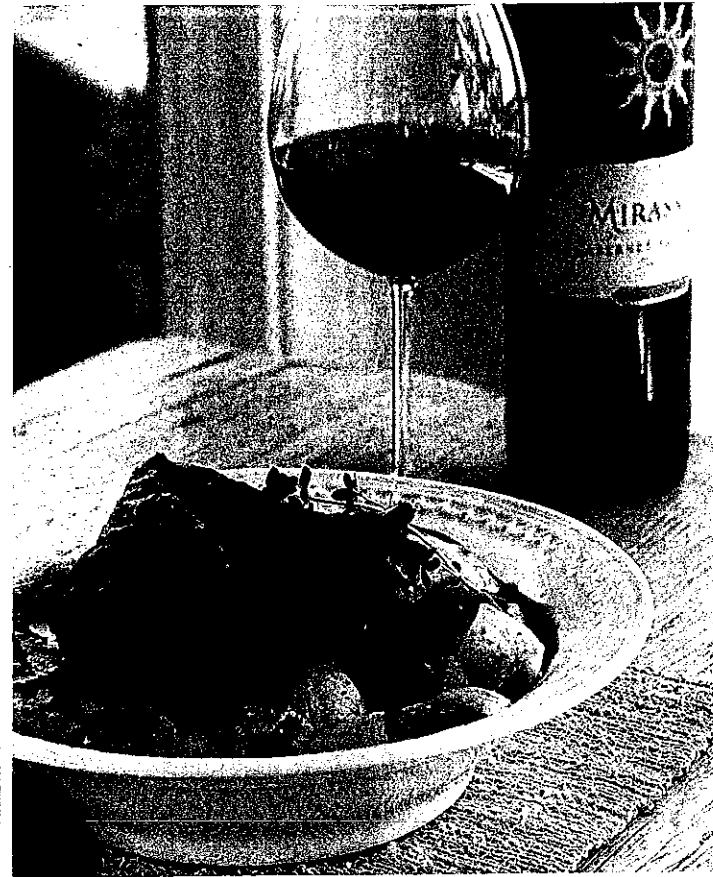


Wildcat Josh Lumley, who finished 41st overall, helps Novi take the runner-up slot at Saturday's state cross country finals.



Wildcat Alex Prasad finishes second for Novi, and 32nd overall, at last Saturday's state cross country finals.

FOOD



Cabernet-Braised Short Ribs

Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 3 hours

- 3 to 4 pounds bone-in beef short ribs (4 large short ribs)
 - Sea salt and freshly ground pepper
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 1 pound small parsnips, peeled and cut into chunks
 - 4 medium carrots, peeled and cut into chunks
 - 1 medium onion, peeled and cubed
 - 1 garlic bulb, peeled and sectioned
 - 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
 - 1 (750-milliliter) bottle Mirassou California Cabernet Sauvignon
 - 1 (14 1/2-ounce) can reduced sodium beef broth
 - 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
 - 2 tablespoons chopped fresh thyme
- Season short ribs with salt and pepper. Working in batches in large pot, cook in oil on medium-high heat until well browned. Remove from pot and set aside.
- Add parsnips, carrots, onion and garlic; cook over medium heat, stirring frequently, 10 minutes. Stir in flour and cook 1 minute more. Add wine, broth and mustard to pot, scraping up any browned bits on bottom of pot with wooden spoon.
- Return short ribs to pot. Bring to boil; reduce heat and simmer over low heat, covered but with lid cracked, 2 hours. Remove cover and simmer over medium-high heat 30 minutes. Season to taste with thyme, salt and pepper. Serve over soft polenta or mashed potatoes. *Makes 4 servings.*
- The main cue in food and wine pairing is the type of sauce or spice used on each dish, so pair these hearty short ribs with the same Cabernet Sauvignon used in the sauce.

FAMILY FEATURES

Seasonal Food and Wine Pairings

Fall has arrived and with it comes the reawakening of the kitchen, when outdoor grilling and summer salads give way to hearty harvest cooking. Fall is distinctive for its rich dishes filled with flavorful root vegetables such as parsnips and fragrant fruits such as pears. Using fresh produce that is abundant in the fall is not only the best tasting, but is also a seasonal pleasure that can truly enhance the cooking experience.

Fall favorites of comforting rich stews and tender braised meats paired with bold red wines are the perfect complement for chilly autumn nights. David Mirassou of Mirassou Winery*, sixth-generation family member of America's oldest winemaking family, speaks about seasonal food and wine pairings in his travels throughout the country.

When menus change to rich sauces and piping-hot dishes, so too will the wine selection. Mirassou suggests keeping in mind complementing aromas, textures and dominant flavors when choosing a wine for a fall meal. He enjoys pairing complex flavors of spiced steaks and braised meats with full-bodied Cabernet Sauvignon or velvety Merlot, and accompanying rich chocolate desserts in the colder months with a luscious Pinot Noir.

For more delicious recipes or wine suggestions, visit www.mirassou.com.

FALL

for
Autumn's Bountiful Flavors

Wilted Greens With Pinot Pears

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes

- 2 strips bacon
- 2 pears, cored and cut into wedges
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 teaspoon sherry vinegar
- 1/2 cup Mirassou California Pinot Noir
- 6 cups chopped greens such as red Swiss chard
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese

Cook bacon in large skillet over medium heat until crisp. Remove from skillet and drain oil but 1 tablespoon fat. Add pears, honey and vinegar; cook 5 minutes or until lightly browned. Stir in wine; cook until wine is absorbed by pears. Stir in chard; cook and stir until just barely wilted. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Transfer to plates and top with crumbled bacon and blue cheese. *Makes 4 servings.*

Pair this salad with the same Pinot Noir used in the sauce.

Chocolate Croissant Bread Pudding

Prep time: 15 minutes
Stand time: 1 hour

Cook time: 40 to 45 minutes total

- 4 to 5 large croissants, cut into 1-inch cubes (6 cups)
- 5 tablespoons softened butter, divided
- 2 cups half-and-half
- 6 ounces bittersweet chocolate, chopped
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 3 eggs

Powdered sugar for garnish

Fresh mint for garnish

Preheat oven to 350°F. Spread croissant cubes on baking sheet. Bake until lightly toasted; set aside and turn off oven.

Spread 1 tablespoon butter in bottom of 8- or 9-inch square baking dish and add toasted croissant cubes. Heat half-and-half and remaining butter in medium saucepan until almost boiling; slowly whisk in chocolate and vanilla; let cool 10 minutes.

Whisk together sugar and eggs in medium bowl and slowly whisk in chocolate mixture. Pour over croissant cubes, making sure all are coated. Let stand 1 hour.

Bake 35 minutes. Serve warm dusted with powdered sugar and garnished with mint. *Makes 8 servings.*

For a dessert match made in heaven, try pairing chocolate with a Pinot Noir such as Mirassou Winery's California Pinot Noir.



REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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Siblings Jacques Chopjian and Tamar Aguilár offer Milford Jewellers clients friendly service, hand-crafted jewelry and superior GIA-certified diamonds and gemstones — at lower prices. Special holiday diamonds are on sale now: 441 N. Main St., in downtown Milford.

MILFORD JEWELERS

Plain talk, friendly service and affordable prices set popular Main Street, Milford store apart

Jacques Chopjian doesn't worry much about the competition. He's too busy caretaking a family tradition steeped in high-quality jewelry craftsmanship and dedicating himself to personalized customer service. It's the only he knows how to do things.

And it works. "We put people first," Jacques said, a GIA-certified Gemologist who co-owns Milford Jewellers with his sister, Tamar Aguilár. "That's the only way we know how to do business — give people what they want for a fair price."

That's an understatement. Jacques and Tamar's family business — three other brothers own separate retail stores, and together the family operates a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility — has its foundation set in basic values.

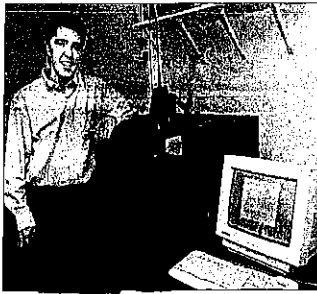
Call it high-end polish, without the high-end attitude. The approach results in handcrafted work that leaves loyal customers awe-inspired and faithful for decades. "We are what we eat," Jacques said. "If you can imagine it, we can make it from scratch — at a higher quality, but at a lower price."

How is that possible? Simple. At Milford Jewellers, there are no middle men. Because Milford Jewellers can carve, mold, cast and finish its own work, customers don't have to pay for "name brand" up-charges, or "value-added" products.

"Think of it this way," Jacques said. "If we were car manufacturers, it would be like owning our own mining equipment and steel plants, then engineering our own cars and putting each one together by hand."

"In the end, the customer drives away with a car that is higher in quality and lower in price, all because we own and operate our own facilities and don't have to answer to anyone but the customer on the other side of the counter."

What difference does that make? All the difference. Tamar said, relishing customers who become fast friends — though friends don't always have to be customers.



GIA-certified Gemologist Jacques Chopjian displays a high-tech engraving machine capable of customizing any piece of hand-crafted jewelry. Milford Jewellers is one of only a few jewelers nationwide capable of designing, manufacturing and setting all of their own work.



*Rings shown, hand-made by Milford Jewellers.

MILFORD JEWELERS

Location: 441 N. Main St., Milford
Phone: (248) 676-0721
Owners: Siblings Tamar Aguilár and Jacques Chopjian
Specialty: Handcrafters of fine quality jewelry; GIA-expert diamond setting, diamonds and gemstones for less; custom manufacturing.
Philosophy: Friendly service and affordable prices

"All we worry about is whether people feel good about coming into our store, and if they feel welcomed," she said. "Whether they need a diamond for a surprise holiday engagement, or a specially-fitted ring for someone who works outside during the day, we can do it."

This holiday season, Jacques and Tamar have vastly expanded their diamond and gemstone inventory, peering Amsterdam-direct suppliers for the highest available quality and the lowest possible prices.

"If you were planning to buy a diamond or gemstone this holiday season, and were hoping to get something nice without breaking your budget, we can make that

MILFORD JEWELERS DIAMOND AND GEMSTONE JUBILEE

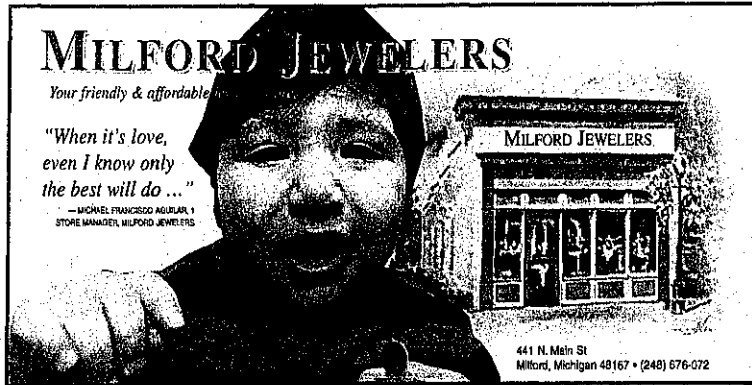
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"When it's love, even I know only the best will do ..."

— MICHAEL FRANCISCO AGUILAR, 1 STORE MANAGER, MILFORD JEWELERS



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