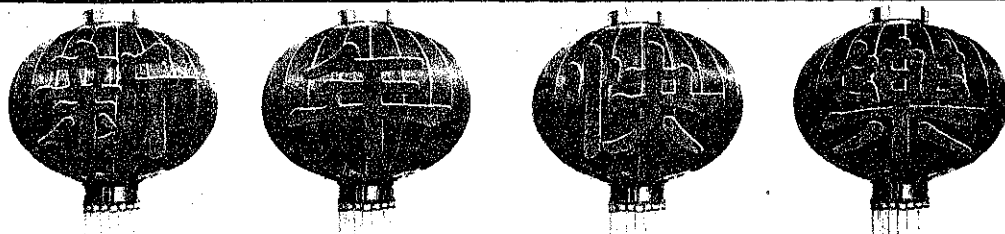
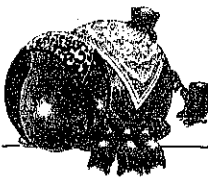


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**My Novi Sports**

PAGE 1B

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# Novi News

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007

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VOLUME 51 • NO. 38 50 CENTS

## Bond Review

**2007 NOVI SCHOOL BOND**  
**\$26.4 M**

### How would the money be spent?

By Renee Gates  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Novi residents will determine May 8 if three elementary schools receive gymnasiums and if school district buildings receive enhanced security and technology when they vote on a \$26.4 million bond proposal.

Last week the Novi School board unanimously approved the bond proposal.

"The thing you have to keep in mind is what is the benefit for the community?" said Novi Superintendent Peter Dion. "To have facilities that are equitable, facilities that are up to date, technology that is up to date, I think our community expects that and this will provide that for our community."

If approved by voters, the bulk of the proposal, \$19 million, would cover the construction and renovation cost of building separate gymnasiums, art rooms and music rooms for Orchard Hills, Village Oaks and Parkview Elementary schools. The \$6.78 million technology portion of the bond, would replace student and

See BOND, 3A

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■ A GROWING ASIAN COMMUNITY IS REFLECTIVE OF AN INCREASINGLY DIVERSE CITY POPULATION. QUIETLY, NOVI PREPARES FOR

## A Brand New Day



Photos by DAVID AGUILAR/Novi News Editor

ABOVE: Zoe Ling, 5, attends Grade 1 Chinese every Sunday at the Michigan New Century Chinese Center, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Ling is a kindergartener at Novi Woods Elementary School. BELOW: Deerfield Elementary School student Nicolas Oo, 8, practices martial arts.

### At This Sunday School, Students Learn to Embrace Chinese Culture, Ethnic Heritage

By Renee Gates  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Hong Tan has two daughters in Novi Public Schools, and like all parents she is concerned for their safety. She wants them to do well in school and receive a quality education that will lay the foundation for a successful future.

But Tan is also concerned about their cultural education. Will they be able to talk with their grandparents? Will they understand their own customs? Will they celebrate their own holidays?

Tan is among a growing population of Chinese-American immigrants living in Novi and throughout the state. Many came to the United States for school, stayed for employment, started families



### SPOTLIGHT NOVI: MY DIVERSITY

What is SPOTLIGHT NOVI? Every week, the Novi News reviews in-depth one aspect of local life. Next week: MY GROWING COMMUNITY.

and are raising first generation Chinese-American children - tens of thousands of miles away from the environment where mom and dad grew up. Linda Feng and her husband work for Ford Motor Company.

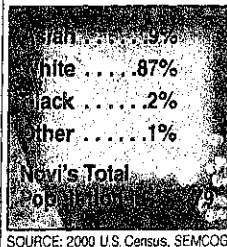
"We both got our masters degrees here; we decided to stay here. We like it here," she said. They moved to Novi four years ago because they liked the school system, and now have a first grader at Deerfield Elementary.

"We see some friends, they have second generation or older kids, they kind of lost their culture (or) education of Chinese background," Feng said. "We don't want our children to forget what we are or where we are from. We want them still connected."

### INSIDE

■ A closer look at Novi's growing Asian influence - from school curriculum and business to seniors and customs. Pages 12-15A

### Novi's Population Breakdown



SOURCE: 2000 U.S. Census, SEMCOG

### Learning their culture

Keeping their children connected to their heritage means working overtime for Chinese parents who also realize their children want to take advantage of everything their American culture affords them. So in addition to ballet, skating and music lessons, along with after-school pro-

See BRAND NEW DAY, 12A

## 'SHARED' STRAIGHT

### Governor: \$27M incentive for more locally shared services

By Greg Miglore  
STAFF WRITER

Republicans and Democrats are digging in for a lengthy fight over the state budget.

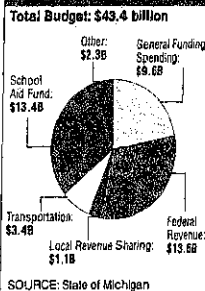
But a relatively uncontroversial part of Gov. Jennifer Granholm's proposed \$43.4 billion plan unveiled last week could resonate in Novi: revenue sharing.

Granholm wants to increase cash for cities by \$27.2 million. But to secure the money, governments must efficiently use their services, often for more than one task.

The concept, known as shared services, has been a dicey topic in Novi. The City Council killed a plan to explore putting senior facilities in plans for the library expansion last year. Some city leaders also want to build an indoor gun range for the police department at the Field Services Complex off 11 Mile Road, in part to help increase security for the Department of Public Works facility.

See SHARED, 5A

### By the Numbers: The Proposed Budget



SOURCE: State of Michigan

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## NOVI WEEKEND PLANNER

■ **FRIDAY**  
Visit the 41st Annual Camper & RV Show from 2-9 p.m. today at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave. Receive thousands in discounts on RV purchases and visit booths featuring parts and accessories and campground information. For more information, visit [www.marvac.org](http://www.marvac.org).

■ **SATURDAY**  
Come and celebrate the Chinese New Year 6:30 p.m. tonight at Kim's Garden, 26150 Novi Road. A special menu and Lion Dance will be featured as part of the festivities. Attendees must call ahead, (248) 348-0700.

■ **SUNDAY**  
Go bowling today at Novi Bowl! Limited availability open bowling is available anytime every day. Reservations are accepted and suggested. Call (248) 348-9120.

■ **My Novi Bulletin Board!**  
Novi's official events calendar. Page 18A.

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## MY EDUCATION

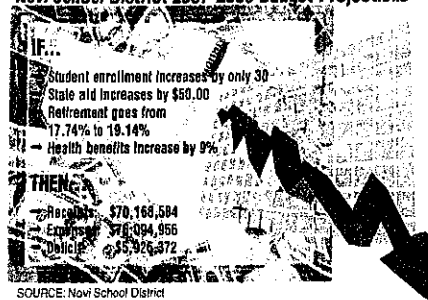
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### District Budget Woes

News from State not a fix for schools

By Renee Gates  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Novi School District 2007-2008 Budget Projections



Novi Public Schools is no longer immune from financial difficulties, district officials told the Novi Board of Education at the February school board meeting.

Even with the momentary reprieve from school funding cuts the governor announced in her State-of-the-State address last week, the district is facing a \$3.5 million deficit in its current school year operating budget and a projected \$3.9 million deficit next year.

District officials cited increases in retirement cost and health benefits for employees and an inconsistency in state school funding as reasons for its budgetary dilemma.

"All the districts are upset and they want the legislature to do something about cost containment (for) retirement and health insurance," said Novi Schools Superintendent Peter Dion. "They have to do something about that because it's affecting the dollars that are going into the classroom."

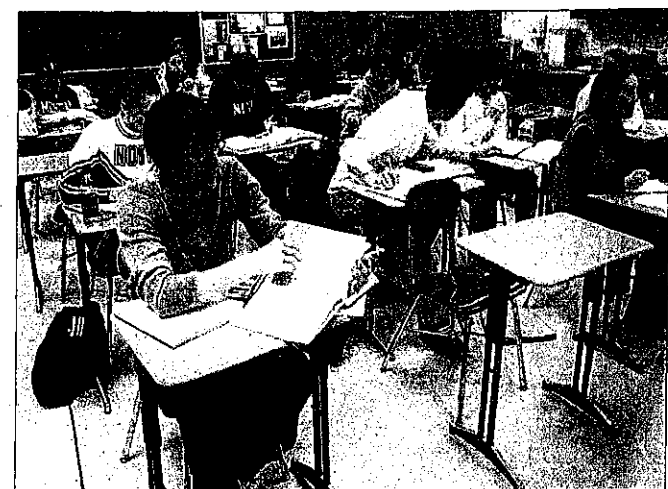
Last week, Dion accompanied a group of 25 school superintendents to Lansing and met with Oakland County legislators to discuss school

funding. "One of the things we tried to impress upon them is that we have to stop this yearly guessing game on the budget because every year we go through this same thing," Dion said. "A system that's based on sales tax just isn't working."

"This is not a new story," said Carol Elving, Novi School Board President. "We know we really have not had any true increases in several years, nothing that has kept up with the inflation of our cost."

By law, school boards are required to adopt a budget by June 30, said Gail Credit, Novi Schools Director of Finance. Last summer, when the board approved the 2006-07 budget, it made the decision to use capital from its fund equity to meet the expenses.

"There were certain things they wanted to see happen in the district and they needed to take that amount from the fund equity," Credit said. "We knew there would be a deficit." The spending from the fund equity will leave the district's fund balance at 10.2 percent at the end of



Students in Rand Heimcamp's A.P. chemistry class at Novi High hit the books. Though Gov. Jennifer Granholm forestalled cuts to schools for now, Superintendent Peter Dion has ongoing budget woes for Novi students.

this school year. But that will not work for next year, Credit said. The district is working with employee groups and school staff to develop a balanced budget by June 30. A public hearing for the 2007-08 school operating budget is scheduled for the May board of education meeting.

In the governor's proposed 2008 budget, released last week, she proposed a \$178 per pupil increase for Michigan schools.

Two points already. We don't have any control over that. That eats into the \$178 right away."

Renee Gates is a news writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext.108 or by e-mail at rgates@gannett.com.

### BOND: Breaking Down the \$26.4M School Bond

continued from 1A staff computers and printers, as well as upgrading and replacing networking and wireless infrastructure throughout the district.

The remaining \$1.38 million would add security systems to all district buildings. The total bond amount to the district, including bond fees and minus

anticipated interest, is \$26,400,000. The owner of a \$200,000 home would pay an additional \$49 per year.

Board officials said the technology portion of the 20-year bond can only be financed for a five-year period. "That's how the debt is structured," said Gail Credit, Novi Public Schools director of

finance. "We have in the past always made the (technology) plan for the five-year period, so you're still purchasing the newest (equipment) five years out," she said. "Our kids are so used to technology from the moment they come into kindergarten until they leave us in the 12th grade, they're using technology all the

time," said Dion. "We've been fortunate to pay for the technology through bonds in the past. "Without a bond, that expectation is still going to be there. That would challenge us to take it from our operating funds and that would be real tough to do."

By state law, the bond can only be used for construction and technology and can not be used for salaries or operating expenses. The district has developed a February to May timeline to communicate the specifics of the bond issue to Novi residents. The plan includes community question and

Bond Breakdown	
Add replacement of 8 media rooms to three elementary schools:	
Bridford Hills Village Mills	\$6,972,240
Parkview	\$7,000,950
Add security system to all school district buildings:	
Cypress technology district-wide	\$1,288,200
Marquette bond fee	\$2,788,041
Total Expenses	\$27,058,131
Less Interest	(\$1,258,131)
<b>Total Bond Payment</b>	<b>\$26,400,000</b>

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# MY RELATIONSHIP



Novi attorney Michael Leavitt sees his fair share of divorce cases in his Haggerty Road office.

## Heartbreaker: Divorces Surge Around Valentine's Day

By Greg Migliore  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

The feast of love and romance is over. But the "Valentine's Effect" lingers. It's a reverse phenomenon triggered by holiday emotions — and for local divorce lawyers, it can mean big business. LegalMatch, an online attorney matching service that tracks the "Valentine's Effect," said requests for divorce and annulment lawyers spiked 26 percent nationwide during the two weeks around Valentine's Day in 2006, compared with the six months surrounding the holiday. Valentine's Day is even busier in Metro Detroit, where requests surged 35 percent around the holiday in 2006, LegalMatch said. Talk about a season of discontent. "We tend to see spikes like that related to different times of the year, all sorts of seasonal strangeness, but this is one of the sad ones," said Cheryl Smith, online marketing director for San Francisco-based LegalMatch. In Novi, attorneys agree February is a busy month for divorces, though they cite a variety of reasons. The chief one actually applies to another holiday: Christmas. Local

lawyers say many people simply want to get through that holiday, and by January and February they're fed up with their significant other. Hence, Valentine's Day becomes a lightning rod. To escape additional heartache, some people try not to actually file for divorce on the holiday, said Susan Elkour, a Novi attorney. "People try to avoid having to go to court on that day," she said. Conversely, some make it a point to file papers on Valentine's Day for revenge purposes, particularly if an affair is suspected. "It all depends on the people — some are spiteful," Novi attorney Lawrence Nease said.

**Seasons of discontent** Other times of the year are also ripe for divorce proceedings, Nease said. Some people file in the fall, usually on the heels of a sour summer. Other will file at a specific time to maximize their tax benefits. "People come into heartache at all times of the year," Nease said. Regardless of when the divorce is filed, money is usually a key reason. Though Novi has a thriving economic base, residents aren't totally insulated from the pressures besetting the rest of the state. "A lot of people nowadays are

### SPLITTING FACTS

▼ LegalMatch, an Internet search firm, said requests for divorce and annulment lawyers increased 26 percent during the two weeks around Valentine's Day in 2006.

▼ Requests spiked 36 percent in 2005.

▼ In Oakland County, there were 3,763 divorces in 2005, according to the Michigan Department of Community Health.

▼ There were 4,123 divorces in Oakland in 2004.



SOURCE: Michigan Department of Community Health LegalMatch

getting divorced because of the economy," said Novi attorney Michael Leavitt.

Automotive-related layoffs also spur divorces in the area, said Novi attorney James Harrington III. He speculates spouses may be tired of a relationship and see the severance cash as an opportunity to escape.

Greg Migliore is a staff writer for the *Now News*. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or [gmigliore@gannett.com](mailto:gmigliore@gannett.com).

### Novi links deal with CEMS

Novi has renewed its contract with Community Emergency Medical Services (CEMS) for another five years. The city has used CEMS for 22 years. The fees for the services are paid for by insurance companies. The Novi Fire Department received nearly 4,000 calls for service in 2006, and about 75 percent of those calls were for emergency medical services. The contract with CEMS ensures advanced life support response within eight minutes or less, 99 percent of the time, the city said.

### First tenant signs on at Campus Park

Whitehall Real Estate is pleased to announce the completion of its first major lease in its Novi Campus Park development to JPRA Architects of Farmington Hills. JPRA Architects, an award-winning architectural and environmental graphics firm, specializes in the retail industry and hospitality sector. JPRA, which will move from Farmington Hills to Novi by the end of 2007, will lease one of Campus Park's three planned buildings. JPRA's space will be approximately 30,000 square feet, and house its new, two-story contemporary design studio. Campus Park is a three-phase development, including office, research and technology facilities with more than 94,000 square feet. The complex is located on the south side of Interstate 96, west of the M-5 interchange along Meadowbrook Road.

### MCAR names Director

The Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors (MCAR) recently named Rick Conley as the Director of Educational Development. He is in charge of the daily operations of the MCAR School of Real Estate. Before coming to MCAR, Conley was the director of the Real Estate One Academy for six years. Conley is a graduate of Duke University. He resides in Wixom.

## My Novi, briefly

### Novi joins Trade Network

To increase accessibility and streamline the bidding process, Novi has joined the Michigan Inter-governmental Trade Network (MITN). MITN is comprised of 25 public organizations formed to create a centralized, Web-based, procurement system that provides a single point of contact for vendors to access new business opportunities throughout the region. Novi no longer maintains a bid list and is sharing lists with the organizations on the MITN. Organizations now have access to all Novi bid information by accessing the city's Web site at [www.cityofnovi.org](http://www.cityofnovi.org) and clicking on the "purchasing" section under "city services."

### Crissman named partner

Dr. Amy Crissman has become a full partner at Town & Country EyeCare of Novi, where founder Dr. Tim Kirk recently celebrated 20 years of practice. Dr. Crissman has been in practice for 10 years, the last four at Town & Country.

### Holleman named principal

The law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. announced Todd A. Holleman of Novi has been elected a principal of the firm. Holleman specializes in appellate practice, securities litigation and arbitration, commercial contract disputes, construction litigation and equipment leasing litigation. He graduated summa cum laude from Wayne State University Law School and was a law clerk for the Honorable Marilyn J. Kelly of the Michigan Supreme Court from 1999-2000.

## SHARED: Granholm budget may prompt more locally shared services

continued from 1A

State House Republican Leader Craig DeRoche (R-Nowi) said the shared services section of the budget could be critical for the city, but wants to see the state expand it. "I think we can go a lot further," he said. The budget also includes \$1.1 billion in revenue sharing for local governments. Even in an era when revenues have been cut sharply — reflective of the state's flagging economy — Novi has been angling to get a larger chunk of state money, and is conducting a mid-decade census to demonstrate the population growth needed for an allocation.

Granholm unveiled her proposed budget last week and gave the annual State of the State address. The budget includes \$9.6 billion in general fund spending. Her plans also include a lower tax on some businesses, but a 2-percent services tax on such things as haircuts, concert

tickets and professional consulting fees. Her plan also increases levies on liquor and cigarettes. "This budget cuts spending and waste in order to invest in the things that make Michigan competitive," Granholm, a Democrat, said in a statement. "It continues to implement the state's economic plan and implements an aggressive, economic stimulus package to further diversify our economy. It will fix our tax system, which today undermines our ability to compete and win in the fight for new jobs and new investment."

State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Nowi) disagreed with much of Granholm's plans, and is wary of some of the proposed tax increases. "The one thing we have in common is we want to solve the crisis and move forward," said Cassis, who is chair of the Senate Finance Committee.

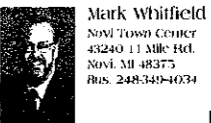
Greg Migliore is a staff writer for the *Now News*. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or [gmigliore@gannett.com](mailto:gmigliore@gannett.com).

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lectures with door prizes</li> <li>Kick boxing &amp; Jazzercise demos</li> <li>Stop smoking booth</li> <li>Health care booths with free literature</li> <li>Massages</li> <li>Trader Joe's Healthy Cooking demonstrations</li> <li>Complimentary gifts including cookbooks, pedometers, glucometers &amp; more</li> <li>Christian Dior makeovers with complimentary gifts</li> <li>Complimentary breakfast &amp; lunch buffet - Senate Coney Island &amp; Ginopolis</li> <li>And lots more!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No food after midnight. Bring a self-addressed, stamped envelope to receive your test results</li> <li>Blood Sugar</li> <li>Blood Pressure</li> <li>Body Mass Index (BMI)</li> <li>Lipid Profile (Cholesterol, HDL, LDL, Triglycerides)</li> <li>Prostate Cancer (PSA)</li> <li>Thyroid (TSH)</li> <li>Bone Density Test</li> </ul>

For information: email: [savashealthexpo@hotmail.com](mailto:savashealthexpo@hotmail.com) • Call: 248.356.5033

Return this registration form along with a check payable to Dr. Vicky Savas. Please use one registration form per person attending. No refunds. No onsite registration please. Mail registration form and check to: 27211 Lasher Road #202 Southfield MI 48034

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David Agular, editor (248) 349-1700 ext. 102

MY GOVERNMENT

Charting the Future: City Unveils Interactive Maps

By Greg Migliore

Jonathan Braman is pretty close to home when he looks at the city's future. He's based in the city's planning department...

Live and Interactive

Novi has unveiled a new mapping technology on its Web site, cityofnovi.org. Some of the things you can do with it include:

- Getting an aerial view of property
Looking up environmental information
Determining zoning and school boundaries

SOURCE: City of Novi

to the counter and ask somebody to pull something up," said Braman, president of Jonathan Braman Properties Inc. and a frequent visitor to the Novi Building Department.

The system cost \$14,900, including development and maintenance, said Robert Petty, Novi's director of information technology.



City employee Chris Blough, left, checks the city's new Internet mapping site with building official Don Saven.

"Time is always money," he said. The maps employ Novi's Geographic Information System (GIS) technology, which makes the maps responsive for developers.

"It's very helpful to be able to do something from your desktop," he said.

The interactive maps were the brainchild of veteran Building Official Don Saven, who said the city is trying to give builders more information early in the development process.

OBITUARIES

CHARLES EUGENE TOTTON SR. 'GENE'

Age 88. Entered eternal life on Feb. 10, 2007. Mr. White was born on May 20, 1918 in Nora, Nebraska to Charles and Elsie Totton. He served in the Coast Guard during World War II.

Only in my Novi News! www.novinews.com fax: (248) 349-9632

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MY INSPIRATION

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I'm Special

Student's book helps those with special needs

By Renee Gates

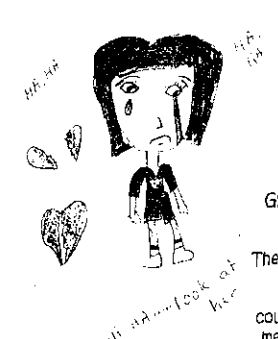
One book, like one life, can have an impact. Just ask Lauren Parent.

Her seventh grade year at Novi Middle School was difficult. Kids called her names, put gum in her hair and teased her for being different.

"I'm different, but I'm special." With the help of her mother she self-published 70 books.

"It's about how to treat other special needs kids, the way you want to be treated," she said.

Now Lauren and her mother are on a campaign to sell books, but more importantly to find sponsors for the book so they can give them away to schools.



Gym class was hard for me and all the kids laughed at me. They treated me different and it hurt inside.



"It's about how to treat other special needs kids, the way you want to be treated."

Lauren Parent Resident, Novi

COUNCIL NOTEBOOK

Feb. 12 Meeting

City Council met in a public session on Feb. 12, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi City Council Chamber.

Storm Water Report Oked

City Council members approved the report authorizing the city to apply for a grant to fund a stormwater management plan.

Second reading of ordinance approved

Council members approved the second reading of the city's revised commercial vehicle ordinance. It applies to peddlers, transient merchants and others.

Road vacation postponed

Council members agreed to postpone vacating a section of Orchard Avenue near the Main Street development.

Librarian honored

Retiring Novi Library Director Brenda Lassus was honored with a proclamation.

Kitchen Top Shop Inc. SALE ON STARMARK Laminated Solid Surface Counter Tops 248-477-1515

Joe's Produce Michigan's Finest Joe's February Specials: California Navel Oranges \$4.99, Golden Ripe Pineapples \$2.99, Texas Grapefruit \$3.99, etc.

Get Healthy. Get Happy. Get Started.

Tina M., Livonia, 128 lbs. The best part of losing weight is being able to keep up with my family... Michigan Bariatric Institute at St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

Why Weight? Learn more at our next free educational seminar at St. Mary Mercy Hospital! Call 734.655.2692 to register NOW!

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review shall convene in its first session at 9:00 a.m. EST, Tuesday, March 6th, 2007 in the Novi Assessing Department at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the assessment roll.

Notice is further given that the second session of the Board of Review will meet for the purpose of hearing and considering assessment appeals in the Novi City Council Chambers at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road on March 12, 13 & 14, 2007.

Persons on fixed or limited income may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes due to poverty. Applications are available at the Assessing Department, or at www.cityofnovi.org

BOARD OF REVIEW SCHEDULE Monday, March 12, 2007 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, 2007 - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, 2007 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

FEMALE INCONTINENCE You can do something about it!

Attend a FREE seminar sponsored by Coloplast Corp. to learn more about new and minimally invasive solutions.

DATE: Wednesday, February 21, 2007 TIME: 7:00 p.m. LOCATION: St. Mary Mercy Hospital Marian Professional Building Classroom 11

Find a solution that is right for you! Coloplast ST. MARY MERCY HOSPITAL

SPOTLIGHT ON ALLERGY & ASTHMA Presented by Michael S. Rowe, M.D., F.A.C.P., F.C.P.I. SECONDHAND SMOKE AND ALLERGIES

By now you probably know that exposure to secondhand smoke is not good for anyone's health. Research now shows that exposure to secondhand smoke even makes a difference in the health of children.

Michigan to arrange a consultation with Dr. Rowe and learn what she can do to help you maintain your regular schedule and lifestyle. No diagnosis and trial periods of all persons' allergies was studied.

Secondhand smoke is a serious health risk. If you are an allergy or asthma sufferer, the smoke may worsen your condition. To improve your health, see a specialist. Call the ALLERGY AND ASTHMA CENTER OF

Invest in your Future with an IRA Introducing two great IRA options You have until April 15, 2007 to make your 2006 Individual Retirement Account (IRA) investment, and now is a great time to set up your 2007 account.

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Are you an organ & tissue donor? Ask your family today and let them know your decision, too. That way you'll know, they'll know, and there will be no questions later.

Michigan Coalition on donation www.allergyinfo.org

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# MY CLASS NOTES

Only in my Novi News!  
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## Student Community Service Awards

The Optimist Club of Northville/Novi is offering \$500 awards to area youth through its Student Community Service Award Program. High school students that are residents of Northville, Northville Township and Novi are eligible, and must meet the following criteria: full time student in good standing; passing grades in all classes for the current school year; provide two letters of recommendation; write a 250 word or less essay on what they have learned through their experience in community service and why being involved in community service is important to them and society. Applications may be picked up in the counseling offices of the Northville or Novi high schools. The deadline for submission is March 16, 2007. The applications and essays should be sent to: OCNNA(CSA), 143 Cady Center, No. 76, Northville, MI 48167.

## Novi Meadows Fun Fest

Novi Meadows Fun Fest 2007 is coming up Mar. 23. Two hundred plus volunteers are committed to making this year's event successful. Plan to attend, make a donation or lend a helping hand.

## Novi 2007 Kindergarten Registration

Open enrollment for kindergarten classes has started. Parents with children beginning kindergarten this fall should go to their neighborhood elementary school to register for full or half day classes. If a registration form is not available, sign up for classes and a registration form will be sent to you. You can look up your neighborhood elementary school on the district's Web site: www.novik12.net

## Scrapbook Day Fundraiser at Walled Lake Western

Walled Lake Western's basketball team is holding a scrapbook day from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. on Saturday, March 3 in the high school's cafeteria. The event costs \$30 per person, or \$100 for a table of four. The fee includes table space, lunch, dinner, coffee, equipment and prizes.

## Bright House Networks Teacher Award Program

Bright House Networks of Michigan seeks to award teachers using cable programming in the classroom as a resource for learning.

## Novi Educational Foundation Green Gala

The Novi Educational Foundation announced the fundraising event "Green Gala" to be held from 7 p.m.-midnight on Saturday, March 17 at the Rock Financial Showplace.

## District playing catch up with local effort

Do you know where to recycle this newspaper after you've finished reading it? No? Neither do the students of Novi Public Schools.

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# MY COMMUNITY

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## Novi school recycling program

### District playing catch up with local effort

By Renee Gates  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Do you know where to recycle this newspaper after you've finished reading it? No? Neither do the students of Novi Public Schools.

But that may be changing, if one Novi elementary teacher has her way.

First grade teacher, Becky Hurst, is the driving force behind making Orchard Hills Elementary the first district school with a community-based recycling program.

"In looking forward to seeing how this works, and hopefully it will expand," said Hurst.

"We don't have any policy in regards to recycling," said Novi Public Schools business manager Jim Kosler. "There is definitely an openness for it. I think it's just a matter of timing."

In 2006, Hurst called the district office with information regarding a community based recycling company. After speaking with the company, the district passed on the information to principals who could determine whether or not their school would sign up for the program.

When no schools responded, Hurst took the initiative and asked her principal if their school could pilot the program.

Hurst, 54, has run a virtual 'reduce, recycle and reuse' center out of her classroom and school for the last several years. She kept plastic, cardboard and paper recycle bins in her class for students to put in their used plastics and paper. She would also keep

tubs of used paper for students to reuse as scrap paper, drawing or practice work.

She encouraged her fellow teachers and administrators to recycle by sharing environmental activities and projects with them.

And she placed recycle bins in the school's office and copy room. At the end of the week, she would load up her car and drive to a recycling center in her home city of Plymouth to unload her cargo.

"She has been a real advocate for recycling," said Nancy Ludwick, kindergarten teacher at Orchard Hills. "She is to be credited for bringing recycling to our school."

### School-community recycling

On her many trips back and forth to Plymouth, Hurst said she began noticing green and yellow community recycling bins outside the schools in Plymouth-Canton.

She gave the district the contact information for Abitibi Paper Retriever, one of the largest paper recyclers in North America.

"One-in-three major dailies buys their newspaper from us," said Paula Peters, Detroit area manager.

"The company's paper retriever program works with community-based organizations to collect used newspaper, office paper, envelopes and advertising inserts.

The program also works as a fund generator because the more tonnage a school generates the more money they receive.

There is no fee for schools to sign up for the program but there is a two-ton monthly minimum.

"That's where the community

### Novi Recycles

Take your old newspapers, envelopes, magazines and advertisements to two drop points in Novi.

### RRRASOC recycling center

Department of public works  
26300 Deval Drive  
Between Novi Rd and Meadowbrook, off 11 mile Rd.  
The center is open Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed on holidays.

### Orchard Hills Elementary

41500 Quince  
Recycling bin is in the parking lot

participation comes into play," said Peters. "They have to have good participation."

Hurst is not all worried about the participation aspect. "We presented the program to our PTO and they were very excited. They are supplying us with recycling bins for each classroom," Hurst said. "My principal went to every classroom last week to explain the program and let them know what we'll be doing. The kids are all very excited and all of them are on board."

### It's the environment

Hurst says the program is still so new, the school has not even discussed what it plans to do with the money the recycled paper will generate. But she's not as excited about that anyway.

"You know what's great?" she asked. "They will tell us how many trees we saved so the kids will be able to see the difference they're making. We're not really pushing the fact that they're giving us money. We're pushing the fact that we're doing this to help the earth."

Renee Gates is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or by e-mail at [rgates@gannett.com](mailto:rgates@gannett.com).

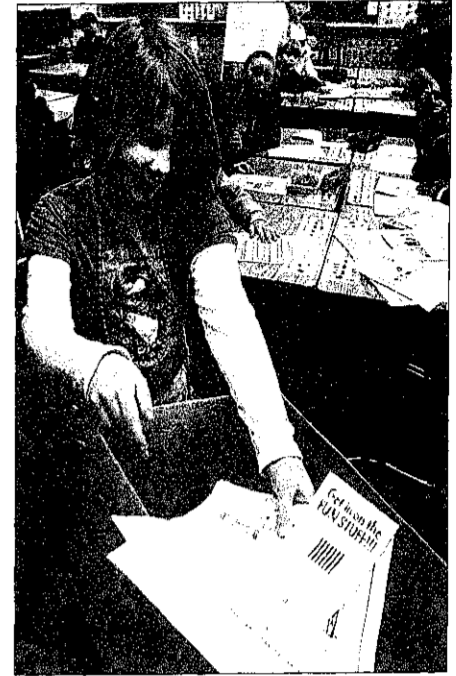


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News  
Students in Becky Hurst's Orchard Hills classroom, like Sophie Antilla, have been recycling paper and now have a Dumpster in the parking lot where they can place their paper, newspaper and catalogs, recycler.

## NOTICE

**PUBLIC SALE.** Pursuant to state law, a public sale will be held on February 17, 2007 at 11:00AM at COLONIAL MINI STORAGE, 48200 West Road, Wixom, Michigan 48393. Contents will be sold by competitive bidding for cash only to the highest bidder and include miscellaneous household, furniture, tools and personal items including clothing. Units are as follows:

- 147 Jennifer Fields
- 231 Keith Risinger
- 248 Luke Steverman
- 304 Jesse Villegas
- 811 Woodward Ave. Ltd.
- 540 Abou Jallow
- 850 Tonya Brooks
- 713 Victoria Miller
- 753 Michael Griffey
- 845 Jeff Chase
- 870 Jeff Drachow
- 831 Jodi Powell
- 864 Valerie Megular
- 877 Janice Docherty

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Sat & Sun 1,4 & 7pm  
Mon & Wed 1 & 7pm  
Tues & Thurs 7pm only  
Wednesday  
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with paid admission  
Thursday  
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Monday is  
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\*Offer ends Tuesday, February 20th. Includes regular-price Great Threads & Content merchandise. 10% discount on men's suits, suit separates, sportcoats & shoes. Excludes: BRAND NAMES: All Kate Spade, BCBG/BCBG Max Azria, Marc by Marc Jacobs, men's Marc New York outerwear, Tumi, Marcel Schuman and Payson. DEPARTMENTS: Cosmetics, fragrances, beauty accessories, Best Boys, watches, special event promotions and designer jewelry in Fine Jewelry, Beauty Salon, restaurants, alterations & gift cards. Cannot be combined with Savings Passes or Coupons. Not valid on prior purchases. Bonus savings % applies to reduced prices. Not valid on telephone or internet orders, or at Lewittown and Water Tower Plaza. Sale ends Tuesday, February 20th, except for clearance items or as noted. Savings off original and regular prices. No adjustments to prior sale purchases. Selected collections, not every style in every store. \*Valid in our Coat Department only, excludes Cirrus Boxes, Max Azria and Hilary Bentley Black Label. †Subject to normal credit approval. Open one credit card. See your Sales Associate for details. 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](http://lordandtaylor.com). Or call 1-800-223-7440 any day, any time.

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MY PERSONAL FORTUNE

Only In My Novi News! www.novineews.com

Ignore Academics Who Slam Dollar-Cost Averaging

Russ Wiles GANNETT NEWS SERVICE That's not an accurate portrayal... Proponents rarely claim the approach beats lump-sum investing over long periods...

It's also more practical for Americans on a budget and those investing at work. And it doesn't take more than a dozen academic studies to recognize that.

Russ Wiles is a Gannett News Service writer.

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\*Important information about the Special Offer: Subject to credit application, credit approval and acceptable appraisal and title search. Rate is available subject to meeting certain underwriting criteria.

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MY SENIOR LIFE

Only In My Novi News! www.novineews.com

Savvy Senior: Keeping Track of Mental Fitness Tools

Dear Savvy Senior, I've been reading that seniors can sharpen their memory by playing video or computer games...

Dear Patty, It is true that playing video or computer games can be good for the brain, but not many older adults have an Xbox or PlayStation...

Mental Fitness It's been proven in various studies that by exercising the brain through mental challenges...

age-related mental decline and even build a stronger brain. Today, there's a growing number of interactive, brain-boosting Web sites and computer software programs specifically designed for boomers and seniors.

online gym that provides its members a place to do brain exercises, learn something new every day, play fun mental games and socialize, which are all key elements to staying mentally fit.

boomer/senior targeted computer games, visit Boon game page at fun.eons.com/games. And if you don't have a home computer, or if computer brain games don't appeal to you...

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# SPOTLIGHT NOVI: MY DIVERSITY

STORY CHAT: WHAT DO YOU THINK? TELL US AT WWW.NOVINews.COM

## A BRAND NEW DAY:

### When It Comes To Diversity, Novi Children Lead The Way

continued from 1A

ditions, Chinese parents hope surrounding their children with cultural activities while they are young will help them remain interested in their culture when they grow older.

"We usually gather together to celebrate Chinese New Year and other Chinese festivals, serving special Chinese foods for the occasions, teaching the kids the backgrounds of the festival, the food and traditions," said Peng.

She also makes time to read to her daughter from classic Chinese novels. And then there is the school.

"One major way is to send them to Chinese school to learn how to speak, how to write, how to read (Chinese), and in the future hope they can continue with Chinese," she said.

**"Language learning cannot be separated from culture because it is embedded in culture ..."**

Penny Wei Zhao

Teacher, Michigan New Century Chinese Center



Chinese language teacher Buyun Liu teaches Grade 1 Chinese at the Michigan New Century Chinese Center in Schoolcraft College. The class meets two hours every Sunday during the Spring semester.



Deerfield Elementary School student Eloise Wilbur, 6, left, sits with her friend, Malla White, 8, of Bingham Farms during a break at the Chinese school held at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

#### Sunday school

Every Sunday, Tan, Peng, and hundreds of other Chinese families from Novi send their children to the Michigan New Century Chinese Center (MNCCC) that meets on the campus of Schoolcraft College in Livonia. The center is a non-profit organization, one of four in Southeastern Michigan, that offers Chinese language and culture classes.

The school opened in 2000 with 80 students and is now almost at its 450-student capacity. The center was developed to address the need of teaching Chinese culture to Chinese-American children.

"Chinese parents want their kids to keep Chinese skills, history and culture," said Jeff Zheng, chairman of the board of MNCCC and one of its founders. "It was a demand from the community."

The center follows a traditional classroom format. The curriculum includes K-12 Chinese language courses and Chinese cultural classes, such as martial arts, dance, painting and drama. The center also offers special classes for Chinese children adopted into non-Chinese families.

Before Penny Wei Zhao came to the United States, she taught English for 10 years as a foreign language at the university level in China. With the exception of her husband, her two children and her visiting parents, all of Zhao's family still lives in China. She works at Chase Bank in Novi and teaches Chinese for English-speaking children at MNCCC.

"Language learning cannot be separated from culture because it is embedded in culture; so much of the things (in language) are culture related," Zhao said. "Most parents want their kids to be able to speak and read Chinese. They don't want to break the tie with their families back in China."

#### Ties that bind

Wendy Wilbur adopted her Chinese daughter when she was 13 months old. During kindergarten, her daughter came home telling her mother she wanted blonde hair to be like the other kids.

"That made me a little more aware of what our life is like and what I need to do to try to make her proud of who she is and realize she doesn't have to be blonde," Wilbur said.

She became more in tune to what her daughter was doing and tried to help her young, assimilation-minded daughter diversify



Katherine Hou, first grader, Deerfield Elementary (front); Karen Cao, second grader, Deerfield Elementary (left); Michelle Lin, first grader, Novi Woods Elementary (back); and Sarah Wang, second grader, Deerfield Elementary, pose during their Sunday Chinese dance class at the Michigan New Century Chinese Center, held at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

her growing number of friends.

Now her daughter is enrolled in the more diverse Deerfield Elementary School. She has several Chinese-American friends who also have Caucasian mothers. Wilbur said she surrounds her daughter with Chinese culture through books, films and attending gatherings with organizations like Families with Children from China-Metro Detroit.

But she doesn't force her daughter to engage in Chinese culture or speak the language — yet.

"Eloise is very aware that she is Chinese. She is very proud that she is Chinese but she does things on her own level," Wilbur said of her 6-year-old daughter.

"Every parent is different. Regardless of what race a person is and what race their children are, every household has their own way of dealing with culture."

"I think it really depends on the family and what they choose to do."

#### Cultural and economical

Zhao disagrees. "Some parents probably share the view that since (their children) are American ... they should mingle with American kids and that is why they do not pay much attention to their kid's Chinese acquisition," she said. "There are groups like that too. In the end, who will win, who will lose? Only history will tell."

"Recent history is an indicator, the advantage will go to those who are bilingual. The world is growing; it's developing," Feng said. "If they know how to speak Chinese they will be more marketable in the future."

#### Building a future

The Novi School District agrees. Beginning this school year, Novi High School added Chinese Language and Culture to its world languages curriculum. Novi Schools joins Bloomfield Hills, Troy, and Birmingham high schools in offering Mandarin Chinese to its students.

"No longer can we think of a local economy; we have to think of a global economy," Novi Schools Superintendent Peter Dion said regarding the new class.

"We're graduating kids that are interested in science and math and those kids are going to be engineers ... they're going to be in Asia ... we need to prepare them."

This semester, 19 students from Novi Middle School, three from Novi High School and three from Northville High School are taking the course. A beginning and advanced course are scheduled for Fall 2007.

#### The next generation

Chinese Americans who study the language as children find that when they are older they can

speak it nearly fluently. They are bilingual and bicultural and can exist in two worlds. While they acknowledge it as an asset, it also can present different pressures.

Zhao's 14-year-old son, Zhao Weng, is a freshman at Novi High School.

"Sometimes when you are in the minority you have to assimilate to make yourself fit in with your surroundings," he said. "I do assimilate when I'm at the mall and at school. I think it's normal for people to want to fit in."

Novi High School Sophomore Erica Qiao said she hasn't felt a need to assimilate. But she has felt pressured in other ways.

"If I didn't have to take Chinese classes I would have my Sunday afternoons free. I wouldn't have so much homework to do during the week," she said.

Qiao, 16, works at MNCCC, but is no longer enrolled in classes.

Both Weng and Qiao feel there exists a common misperception about their culture among most non-Asian.

"There's always the misperception that Asian people are smarter, bookworms, they study all day," Weng said. "In our culture we have to study harder, we have to work harder to get what you want in life ... it is very competitive in China," he said.

Weng came to the U.S. with his mother when he was 5. He visited China with his father in 2005. His grandparents came to visit last year and stayed to assist his mother with his now 11-month-old brother, Peter.

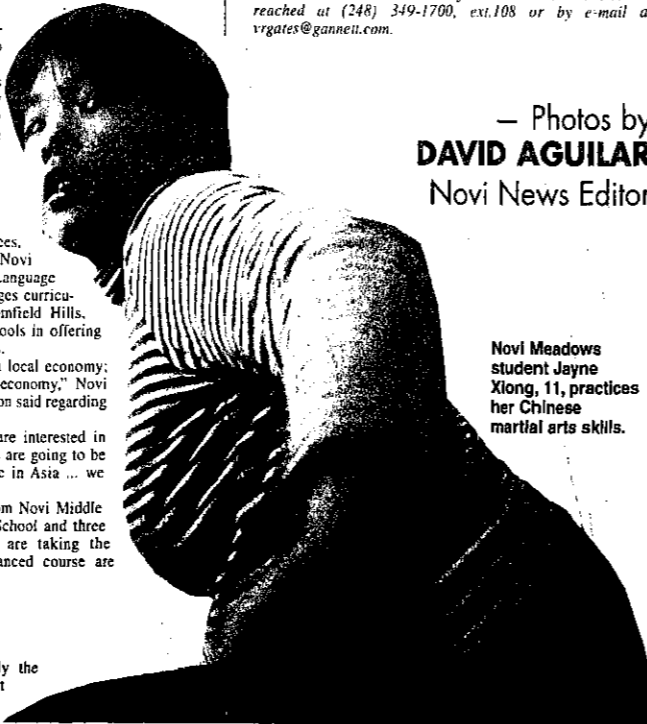
"It feels like I'm in China when I'm at home now because I speak Chinese all the time," he said.

"When (my grandparents) weren't here I could speak English, but now I have to speak all Chinese to be able to communicate with them."

Renee Gates is a news writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext.108 or by e-mail at rgates@gannett.com.

— Photos by **DAVID AGUILAR** Novi News Editor

Novi Meadows student Jayne Xiong, 11, practices her Chinese martial arts skills.



Novi Meadows student Albert Gang, 11, left, Deerfield Elementary School student Nicholas Oo, 8, right, and Novi Middle School student Christopher Oo, 11, practice Chinese martial arts in a Schoolcraft College hallway.

# SPOTLIGHT NOVI: MY DIVERSITY

STORY CHAT: WHAT DO YOU THINK? TELL US AT WWW.NOVINews.COM

## Building Bridges

### District develops relationship with Chinese high school

By Renee Gates

NEWS STAFF WRITER

The Novi School District welcomed a delegation of Chinese educators to Novi High School last week.

The delegates came from Nankai High School in Tianjin, China, a school Novi School Superintendent Peter Dion and Novi High School Principal John Lawrence visited last October during an educational tour of the country.

"In general we're trying to develop a relationship with the school over there so we can begin communicating with them," Dion said. "The more we can learn about China and Asia the better for us and our understanding."

District officials hope the relationship with the high school will lead to opportunities for students and teachers to trade places with their Chinese counterparts in a student-teacher exchange program.

"We are committed to exploring increased opportunities for our students to have a broader understanding of the world around them," Lawrence said.

"Understanding the culture in a part of the world adds to world unity and peace and, I think ultimately we all want that."

The Chinese delegation

Race	# of Students	% of School Pop.
Asian	1447	23%
White	4443	70%
Black	230	4%
Hispanic	148	2%
Hawaiian	4	>1%
American Indian	3	>1%

District Ethnicity Breakdown as of 9/25/06  
SOURCE: Novi Public Schools

**"The more we can learn about China and Asia the better for us and our understanding."**

Peter Dion

Superintendent, Novi Schools



Novi High School principal John Lawrence, left, and Novi School District Superintendent Peter Dion, unfurl a painting given to them by Tianjin Nankai High School principal Kang Xiuyan. Xiuyan, right, was part of a delegation of Chinese educators who visited Novi High School last week.

## Novi Leading the Way to China

Beginning this school year, Novi High School added Chinese Language and Culture to its world languages curriculum. Novi Schools joins Bloomfield Hills, Troy, and Birmingham high schools in offering Mandarin Chinese to its students.

This semester, 19 students from Novi Middle School, three from Novi High School and three from Northville High School are enrolled in the course.

"Any student can sign up for it," said John Lawrence, Novi High School principal. "Students are learning to speak the language as well as learning about the culture. They're learning about the country, learning about its history, learning about its current demographics, government, arts, humanities all of those aspects that would make up a culture."

Chinese Language I and II are scheduled for Fall 2007.



Students in Novi High School's Chinese Language and Culture class practice writing Chinese characters. Twenty-five students enrolled in the class this semester are learning Mandarin Chinese and different aspects of Chinese culture. Mandarin is the official spoken language in China and Taiwan.

## Breaking News: NoviNews.com

### ON THE WEB!

This past summer, Novi school officials were part of a contingent who visited China. Read about the trip, as written by former Michigan School Superintendent Tom Watkins. Only at [novinews.com](http://novinews.com).

### MY CONVERSATIONS!

Read what Tom Watkins has to say about China, and its importance to the United States. Only at [novinews.com](http://novinews.com). Page 18A.

## Patterson Orders Chinese for Oakland County Schools

### Novi already among state's Mandarin pioneers

**"We think it is important to offer cultural fluency as our kids will be dealing with China, Thailand, and other places in the future."**

Peter Dion

Superintendent, Novi Community School District

By Carol Cain

GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

"Buoyed by the success of being able to brag his county will soon have free wireless internet service — the first in the nation to do so — Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson set another goal last week in his state of the county speech: Offering instruction in all 28 school districts of Mandarin, the dialect of Chinese that most people in China speak."

Patterson said he believes Oakland County young people need to become familiar with China, its culture and language.

Indeed, the Asian nation of 1.3 billion consumers — one fifth of the world's population — has a burgeoning economy that continues to expand while Michigan struggles with high unemployment and a stagnating economy.

Adding Mandarin to help educate students will help to prepare them for the future and will help in Patterson's bid to bring more businesses into Oakland County from China and other places.

"As we attempt to build the Oakland County economy," Patterson said in his 13th state of the county speech (he did not give a vote for the year). "I think it's both critically important and prudent to understand the global challenges facing us over the next 50 years and to begin to position our children to adequately respond to those challenges."

He mentioned the National Geographic Society which recently reported that U.S. students are "dramatically unprepared" about international matters, particularly Asia, home to 60 percent of the world's population.

"They know little about China's customs, language, culture, religion, politics or economics, and we have to begin to change that," Patterson said.

Patterson credited Tom Watkins, former state of Michigan school superintendent who has been a champion for creating economic and educational bridges between the state and China, for the language arts idea and is working with Watkins on it.

Patterson also has held meetings with Vickie Markavitch, Superintendent of Oakland Schools, and a committee of superintendents from Oakland County's 28 school districts about the idea.

"I want Oakland County to be the first county in America to teach Mandarin Chinese in all 28 school districts," Patterson said.

Reaction to the Mandarin countywide goal was welcomed by some educators.

"We think it is important to offer cultural fluency as our kids will be dealing with China, Thailand, and other places in the future," said Peter Dion, Superintendent of Novi Community School District.

"And the more exposure they receive now will help them become more successful."

Novi High School is among numerous schools of diverse backgrounds across the state offering Mandarin. Novi began its program this year and has 25 students.

Just as Michigan's business leaders have been reaching out to China, more is being done to reach out educationally too.

"Their economy and educational systems are on steroids. We can either stick our head in the sand about China or we can make it work for us here in Michigan," said Watkins, who wrote a report on distance learning and the connections between China and Michigan in 2005 (Read the New Education Revolution report at [www.nacol.org](http://www.nacol.org)).

While serving as school superintendent in 2003, Watkins arranged a sister educational relationship with Tianjin, a port city of 10 million people near Beijing, and the state of Michigan.

Watkins also recently met with school superintendents in Wayne County.

Meanwhile, Chinese educators are traveling to Michigan to learn about America's educational system and to figure out new ways to exchange teachers, students and ideas.



Novi Co-op Preschool students parade through the hallways to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

"We are here to learn more about how we can work together to make both of our educational systems better," said Kang Xiuyan, principal of Tianjin Nankai High School during a visit to South Lake Middle School.

Kan and three other Chinese educators also visited other area schools including Novi High School, Detroit Country Day and Cornerstone School in Detroit.

"We have much to learn from each other," Kan said.

Kiern Clark, 12, of St. Clair Shores, a seventh grader at South Lake Middle School in St. Clair Shores, is taking Mandarin this year.

"It will show us how to better understand our cultures and how to be better prepared for the future," Clark said.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano has been pursuing business in China — visiting there twice and opening three trade offices. During his trip in November, Ficano had leaders from Henry Ford Community College and other schools along to talk about exchange programs.

It's a conversation that goes beyond language. Ficano's conversation that goes beyond language.



**SPOTLIGHT NOVI: MY DIVERSITY**  
STORY CHAT: WHAT DO YOU THINK? TELL US AT WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM

# Novi's Asian Community: Where's Everybody At?

Japanese residents value identity, embrace culture; many enjoy city attractions

By Greg Migliore  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Novi's thriving Japanese community embraces American culture, but is fiercely protective of its core values. And while this is similar to other Asian immigrant pockets in the city, Japanese residents differ in one key way: many return to the homeland after three to five years.

Japanese often come to the area for educational purposes or for automotive-related jobs, which often are for set time periods, said Steve Myers, principal associate with Suzuki, Myers & Associates Ltd., a language and consulting firm in Novi.

"In terms of living, they assimilate very well," he said. "In terms of values, almost nothing changes."

Retaining much of their identity is critical when it comes time to transition back into Japanese customs.

"In terms of values, almost nothing changes."

Steve Myers  
Principal Associate, Suzuki, Myers & Associates Ltd.

Myers said. Asian-Americans comprised 9 percent of Novi's population, according to the 2000 Census. Though the Census did not break down specific nationalities, many believe the core of Novi's Asian population includes Chinese, Japanese and Taiwanese-Americans.

Though officials and businesses are increasingly reaching out to Asians, it's important to target specific groups in different manners, Myers said.

"We're not surprised if someone from Des Moines, Iowa and someone from New York City are different," he said.

To help retain cultural identity, many Japanese residents frequent certain areas in Novi, including the Pastry House Hippo, Cherry Blossom Japanese Restaurant and One-World Market.

While some Japanese-Americans return home after their education is completed or work stint ends, many do stay and set down roots in the community. A Novi Chamber of Commerce official once dubbed the city "Little Tokyo," because of its diverse makeup, Myers said.

Greg Migliore is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or gmigliore@gannett.com.



Shavnee Qi opened Tiki Tea in Twelve Oaks Mall. Tiki Tea offers many types of tea, including slush teas and Boba tea, which contains tapioca.

## Chinese enclaves scattered throughout Novi

Residents embrace city life, protective of traditions

By Greg Migliore  
STAFF WRITER

Life for Chinese-Americans in Novi is a blend of Old-World and local culture. Residents are scattered throughout the city and mostly adapt to area customs. But when Chinese immigrants want to return to their roots, they often gather at restaurants, including Kim's Garden on Novi Road or the Gourmet Buffet in West Oaks Mall.

"One of our strengths is our diversity," said Community Relations Manager Sheryl Walsh. "That's one of the things the city of Novi prides itself on."

Local businesses tailor their marketing efforts to Chinese residents, and leaders of both of Novi's chambers of commerce say diversity is an economic priority. The Chinese New Year holiday also offers many opportunities for Novi businesses to expand their customer base.

"It's an excellent climate for the businesses," Novi Chamber

"I like this multi-cultural environment. It's open. It's freedom."

Ronghua Luo  
Resident, Novi

## Something to talk about

Novi seniors learn English

By Tracy Mishler  
NEWS SPECIAL WRITER

Shirley Tong knows English isn't the easiest language to learn. And it isn't the easiest language to teach.

The 72-year-old Novi resident coordinates the Asian Pacific Program at the Novi Senior Center, which helps non-English speaking seniors from the Novi area learn the English language.

"Total, we have about 100 seniors," Tong said. "But we have around 30 seniors on a regular basis."

Tong, formerly from China, said the majority of senior students in the Asian Pacific Program are also from China.

"Most of the students are lone at home because we say they don't have cars, feet or mouths in order to communicate with anyone," she said. "They feel lonesome. They want to get out of their houses. And that's why we thought it was a good idea to have this program."

Tong said the Asian Pacific long-term program after much support from the Older Persons Center in Rochester.

"This is an all volunteer program, with five instructors meeting with three classes every



Husband and wife team Dennis-shen and Shirley Tong review vocabulary in an English class they teach at the Novi Senior Center. The class is part of the Asian Pacific Program offered by the center.

free and seniors will be transported to and from the senior center as long as they are Novi residents.

She said the program started from a state grant given to the Rochester OPC about 10 years ago.

"They didn't need as much of the funds as they were given," she said. "And they offered us to have the program once a month."

McAlpine said once funding



It is estimated more than 1 billion people are currently learning English worldwide. By the year 2050, there were an estimated 750 million English as a foreign language speakers and an estimated 375 million English as a second language speakers. In Asia, a 2002 report estimated that 470 million Euro were spent on English language teaching materials.

welcome to join the Asian Pacific Program. "They are a wonderful, hard-working group of people," she said. "They are learning a language that is so different from their own."

"I admire their spirit in trying to get along in this country."

**Joining up**  
McAlpine said the program is

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# It's Party Time!

Novi residents ready to celebrate Asian holiday

By Victoria Mitchell  
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Michelle Yue plans on ringing in the New Year with family and friends.

On Feb. 17 - Chinese New Year's Eve - she will be surrounded by family members in their new home.

She said the celebration will be subdued from a traditional Chinese fest, but the important qualities will remain.

"We'll enjoy a huge dinner at home," Yue said. "Mostly the whole family will eat together, and the kids will play and enjoy each other."

She said the Chinese New Year officially begins Feb. 18, carrying many of the same connotations as an American New Year's Day.

This year is the Year of the Pig.

Yue said traditional recipes will be enjoyed and visiting with friends and family will take top priority.

And, she said, the celebration will last for a week, not just one day.

**A different holiday**

Novi resident Shirley Tong said the most notable difference between the American and Chinese New Year is the date.

The Chinese New Year follows the lunar calendar, she said.

"This year it's Feb. 18," she said. "It's different every year."

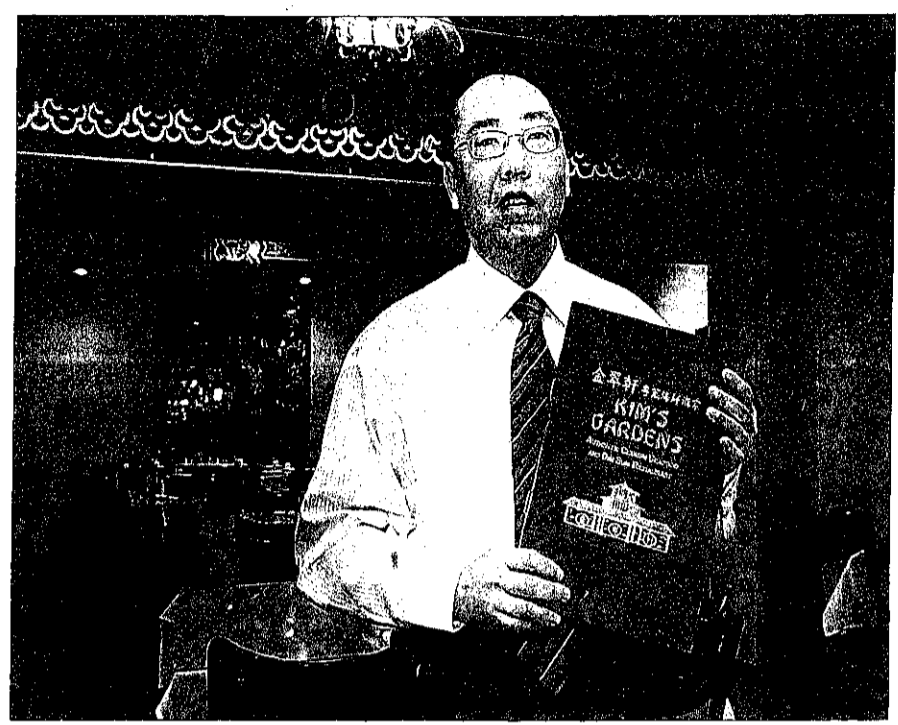
Tong, formerly from China, said the actual American celebration of the Chinese holiday also boasts notable variations.

"It's very different here," she said. "There is no atmosphere here. Almost nothing."

"We just go to the restaurant, no big celebration here. In China it's quite different."

Tong said in China the focus of the holiday celebration is on eating. And then there are the firecrackers.

"Sometimes you can't even walk on the street because of the firecrackers," she said.



Roger Tam, manager of Kim's Garden Chinese restaurant in Novi, will offer dining specials beginning this Friday to celebrate the beginning of the Chinese New Year.

Tong said firecrackers for the kids is an exciting event.

**Carrying on tradition**

Yue said carrying on traditions for the family's children is important.

Her family will pass out small gifts to the kids.

"We give them small red envelopes with lucky money," Yue said.

She said the kids gather up their small cash gifts to save for the new year.

Yue said some of the money will be held on to, and some will go fast.

According to the Chinese Culture Center, another Chinese New Year superstition involves cleaning the entire house before New Year's Day and other cleaning equipment are put away.

The Center states no sweeping or dusting should be done on New Year's Day for fear good fortune will be swept away.

**Come one, come all**

Yue's family will also carry on the tradition of feasts at their Novi restaurant.

For nearly 26 years, her family has owned and operated Kim's Garden on Novi Road.

**2007 is the Year of the Pig (boar)**  
It is also known by its former name: DingHai

- The Chinese animal signs are a 12-year cycle used for dating the years.
- The Chinese Lunar Calendar is based on the cycles of the moon, and is constructed in a different fashion than the Western calendar.
- A popular folk method which reflects the cyclical method of recording years are the 12 Animal Signs.
- Every year is assigned an animal name or "sign" according to a repeated cycle.
- The animals are: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Boar.
- A cultural sidelight of the animal signs in Chinese folklore is that horoscopes have developed around the animal signs.
- The animal signs also serve a useful social function for finding out people's ages.
- In the Chinese calendar, the beginning of the year falls somewhere between late January and early February.
- The Chinese have adopted the Western calendar since 1911, but the lunar calendar is still used for festive occasions such as the Chinese New Year.



SOURCE: ChineseCultureCenter.org

**The Year of the Pig**  
1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007

People born in the Year of the Pig are chivalrous and gallant. Whatever they do, they do with all their strength. For Boar Year people, there is no left or right and there is no retreat. They have tremendous fortitude and great honesty. They don't make many friends but they make them for life, and anyone having a Boar Year friend is fortunate for they are extremely loyal. They don't talk much but have a great thirst for knowledge. They study a great deal and are generally well-informed. Boar people are quick tempered, yet they have judgments and are quarrelling. They are kind to their loved ones. No matter how bad problems seem to be, Boar people try to work them out, honestly if sometimes impulsively. They are most compatible with Rabbits and Sheep.

SOURCE: ChineseCultureCenter.org

# When Midnight Tolls: Happy Chinese New Year!

Fun, food and family usher in lunar new year

By Vivi Hoang  
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

When the lunar new year comes, as it does this Feb. 18, so, too, arrive the lions, dragons, and lucky money.

Several but not all Asian cultures celebrate the holiday, which marks the first day of the lunar year and is often known as the Chinese New Year.

This year's turning usher in the Year of the Boar (or pig).

Anyone born in the coming lunar year, according to Chinese astrology, will have the sign's traits - including honesty, loyalty and amiability.

The Chinese, Taiwanese, Koreans and Vietnamese - along with the Tibetans and Mongolians - observe Lunar New Year.

There are time-honored foods to be eaten, decorations to be hung, ancient rites to be observed.

It is a time for communities around the world to reunite with family and invoke long-held superstitions in hopes of gaining prosperity, luck and longevity.

"The New Year is like Christmas," explains the Rev. Ngoc H., who pastors the Vietnamese congregation at Lutheran Baptist Church in Nashville, Tenn. "It's a big holiday for the nation. In Vietnam, the holiday is known as Tet.

Lunar new year grew out of agricultural beginnings.

Its arrival heralded the end of winter and the coming of spring.

The day is often regarded as a communal birthday, as well.

"At the New Year, everyone's a year older," H. says.

Families have much to do before the big day arrives.

People begin making their way back to the family home.

Unfinished business and debts get settled.

Around their doors, the Chinese and Taiwanese hang red scrolls - the color of life and vitality - scrawled with hopeful messages.

They scrupulously clean house, along with the burial plots of their deceased.

Cleaning is taboo in the first few days of the new year, for fear of sweeping away good luck.

Taiwanese and Chinese families prepare sweets for the Kitchen God, hoping he'll have sweet things to say about them - or that his mouth will be too full to speak - when he reports to the Jade Emperor in heaven.

It's customary to pay your respects to your ancestors.

Many families have an altar in their homes for such a purpose.

They set bowls of food on the altars as offerings and light incense and burn ceremonial money as a way to communicate with and appease the dead.

They ask the spirits to bless and watch over the family in the coming year.

Afterward, all the food is taken down and added to the dinner table.

During dinner, conversation is kept cheerful and positive. Nothing negative can be uttered. Each culture has special dishes they eat at this time of year.

For the Chinese and Taiwanese,



that includes fish, since the word "fish" in Chinese, "yu," also sounds like the word for "plenty."

Dumplings resemble Chinese ingots of money, so they're considered lucky to eat. Shark's fin soup is thought to bring good health.

The Vietnamese eat banh chung, a square block of sticky rice with pork and bean paste inside.

The rice cake is wrapped in banana leaves and tied with twine. The leaves stain the outer layer of rice green, representing the Earth.

In Korea, families sit down to eat a special noodle dish with vegetables and meat, and fried mung bean patties known as bindaetuk.

Everyone also dines on dug-gook, a traditional rice cake soup believed to add a year to a per-

Read all about it!



Novi resident Jeff Lianggen Zheng is the owner and publisher of the Greater Detroit Chinese-American News (www.nacnews.us) and executive board member and founder of the Michigan New Century Chinese Center, which every Sunday holds Chinese language and cultural classes at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.



TALK ABOUT IT: Join in discussing our stories online via Story Chat at novinews.com

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MY CONVERSATIONS

Only in my Novi News!
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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

IN OUR OPINION:

How to harness Novi's diversity?

Novi gets frequent pats-on-the-back for its diversity. New people and new ideas have helped spur the city to its current position among the fastest growing in the state. Novi leaders need to come up with plans to harness the city's diversity and nurture it.

Story Chat: What's on Your Mind?

OK Novi, what do you think? You've read the paper, now go to novinews.com and weigh in. It's your community. It's about you. Have a voice. Take a stand.

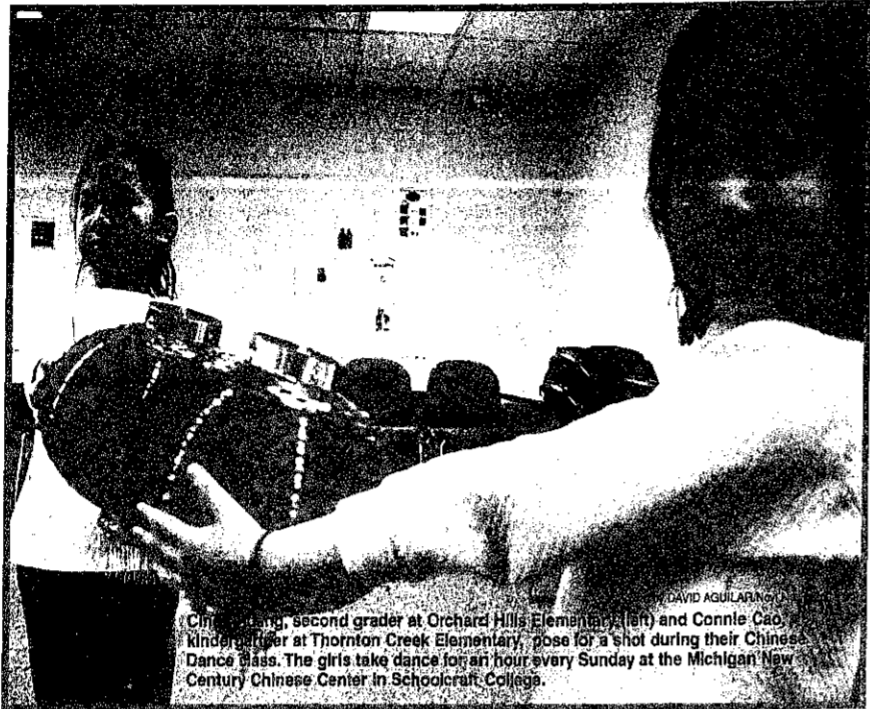
NEWS SOURCES

Hey, Novi: What's Your Story?

- During the past six months, have you moved into a newly constructed home?
• Do you spend more than \$100 per week on gasoline?
• Are you a high school student who receives an allowance from your parents?
• Are you a high school student who has an interesting job?
• Are you a Novi senior citizen with an interesting job or hobby?
• Are you a working woman who has recently returned to work?
• Are you a Novi resident interested in sharing a story about how your religious faith has carried you through tough times?

Contact Novi News editor David Aguilar at (248) 349-1700, ext. 102, or via e-mail at dagular@gannett.com.

LIGHT OF THE WORD!



Ching Wang, second grader at Orchard Hills Elementary School, and Connie Cao, kindergarten teacher at Thornton Creek Elementary, pose for a shot during their Chinese Dance class. The girls take dance for an hour every Sunday at the Michigan New Century Chinese Center in Schoolcraft College.

LETTERS

More Funding Ideas for Parks...

So the park's and recreation SDI is to start selling park names, benches, playgrounds, beaches, etc. Who's stop there? How about selling advertisement space on the back of police cars? DPW trucks? A billboard in front of city hall? If indeed there is a need for more money for the parks, why not just let the people that use the parks the most, pay more?

Gary Reamer
Novi

MY THOUGHTS: WHAT DO YOU THINK, NOVI?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Letters to the Editor, David Aguilar, Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167. Fax: (248) 349-9832. E-mail: dagular@gannett.com. Letters submission deadline is 5 p.m. Monday.

Satire Reveals Reality

The passing of Molly Ivans, a Texas columnist, will make it more difficult to hold the powerful accountable. She has been quoted as saying, "Satire has historically been the weapon of powerless people aimed at the powerful." And her use of satire was an exceptional talent.

continued on 21A

MY TURN: TOM WATKINS

Novi Embraces Diversity: Building Bridges With China and the Chinese

"Ni hao" is "hello" in Mandarin Chinese. If you cannot understand this, you are not alone. Learning about China will prepare you for the 21st Century. Novi is blessed to have a diverse ethnic population. Twenty-four percent of Novi's students are Asian, from Japan, Korea, India and China.



Tom Watkins

I have met 4-year-old Chinese students who speak English, and many high school students and young adults that are fluent in English. Yet what gives me hope is the great students I have met attending Novi schools such as: Mitchell Wong, eighth grader at the middle school and his sister, Shannon, a sixth grader at Novi Meadows are great students exceeding within the Novi School District. Mitchell is excelling in math and as part of the math club will be competing at Lawrence Technological University. Shannon is immersed in her studies and enjoys piano.

Call (248) 349-1700, ext. 102 any time, any day with your news tips!

STORY CHAT: Only at www.novinews.com

MY COMMENT

Apathy, Bleak Economy Tearing Michigan Apart

Gov. Jennifer Granholm summed up our situation perfectly in the first few lines of her State of the State speech: "Tonight we are at a turning point — a decisive moment in Michigan's journey. The decisions we make in the years ahead will shape Michigan's future for decades to come."



Phil Power
Political Columnist

During that same period, Michigan ran up cumulative budget shortfalls of nearly \$1.0 billion. Since deficits are illegal, it avoided them by using up reserves, including \$1.4 billion in rainy day funds, tapping one-time resources, \$5.4 billion, and cutting more than \$3 billion in spending. Tax cuts: Since the passage of Proposal A in 1994, Michigan has enacted tax cuts that have reduced current state revenue by \$3.2 billion per year, while local property taxes have been cut by \$5.4 billion. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Michigan ranked 25th in the nation in state and local tax revenue in 2004 as a share of personal income.



My Letters to the Editor

We welcome your comments regarding editorials, columns and other topics discussed in the Novi News. Only submissions arriving by 5 p.m. Monday and including the author's full name, address and daytime phone numbers — for verification by the Novi News — will be considered for publication.

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TAX PROBLEMS?

Never Talk to The IRS. Talk to Tax Resolution Specialists of Michigan. Offer in Compromise, Remove Liens/Letters, Penalty Abatement, Audit Representation, File Old Returns, Innocent Spouse Relief, Installment Payments, Payroll/Sales Tax Relief.

MILFORD WINTER FEST

February 16, 17, 18
Fun for the Whole Family!
Sponsored by: BOB'S FISH FRY, GM, etc.

clearwater KINETICO

Whole House Water Filter with new HELECTRIC TECHNOLOGY. Bottle Water Without the Bottles! SAFE WATER. FREE INSTALLATION \$9.95 A Month Rent-to-Own.

Novi Road Drycleaners & Laundromat

Home Delivery, Specialty Service Available, Large & Small Washers/Dryer, Same Day Service, Bulk Drycleaning Available, Drop Off Laundry Service, Professional Work, All Work Done on Premises.

Physical Therapy Rehabilitation Update

by Dennis Engerer, P.T. TENNIS LEG. The injury commonly referred to as "tennis leg" involves a muscle tear, usually a partial tear of the inner portion of the gastrocnemius (the main calf muscle). This injury usually occurs abruptly while a person is running. Often, there is a loud snap that accompanies the sudden, sharp pain.

GET LISTED: FAX YOUR EVENT INFORMATION: (248) 349-9832 • MORE INFO: CALL (248) 349-1700

David Aguilar, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102. daguilar@gannett.com

MY BULLETIN BOARD

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EVENTS

Pure Barre Grand Opening DATE: Friday TIME: 8:30-9:30 p.m. LOCATION: 113 W. Main St., Ste. 240, Northville... New Book Club DATE: Friday TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Starbucks, 302 East Main St., Northville...

community and the businesses in it. For more information, visit www.novichamber.com or contact the chamber office at (248) 349-3743

GREATER NOVI CHAMBER The Greater Novi Chamber is a nonprofit business association. We provide enjoyable networking opportunities for our members, act as a bridge between local business and government...

LAKES AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Since 1963, the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce has proudly served as West Oakland's Regional Chamber, servicing the communities of Commerce Township, Union Lake, Walled Lake, Waterford...

Novi Youth Assistance Bowl-A-Thon DATE: Saturday, March 10 LOCATION: Novi Bowl DETAILS: Support for this event is needed from the community...

SCHOOL & GOVERNMENT Novi City Council Meeting DATE: Monday, March 5 TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road...

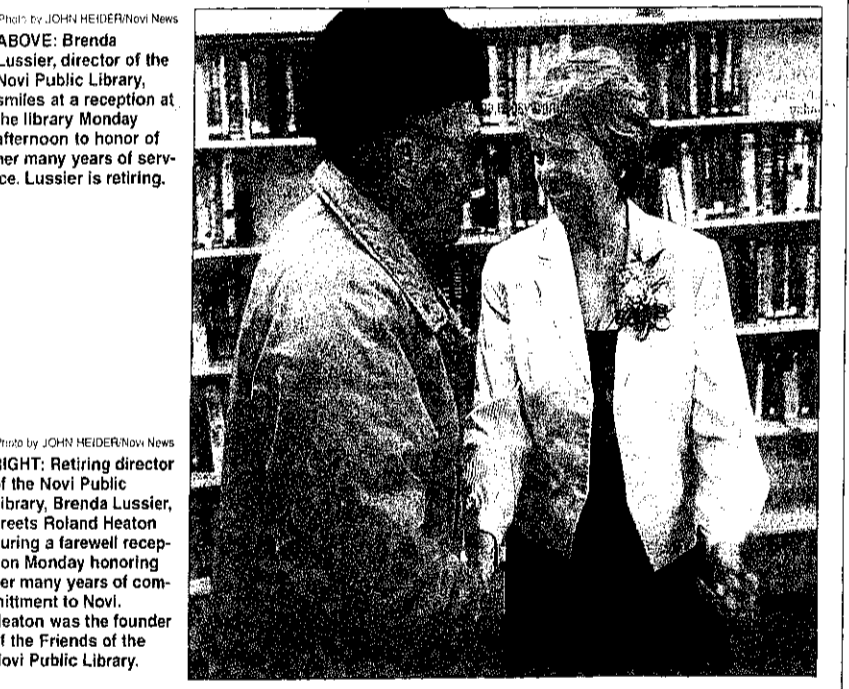
Novi School Board Meeting DATE: Wednesday March 7 TIME: 7:30 p.m. LOCATION: Novi Meadows Elementary

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE The chamber is celebrating 40 years of business, representing over 500 members. Our mission is to be a responsible, proactive advocate of business interests in the greater Novi area...

OUR GOOD FRIEND!



Above: Brenda Lussier, director of the Novi Public Library, smiles at a reception at the library Monday afternoon to honor her many years of service. Lussier is retiring.



Right: Retiring director of the Novi Public Library, Brenda Lussier, greets Roland Heaton during a farewell reception Monday honoring her many years of commitment to Novi. Heaton was the founder of the Friends of the Novi Public Library.

Line Dancing DATE: Monday and Friday TIME: 8:30-9:30 p.m. LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road...

Yoga Classes TIME/DATES: 12:30-1:15 p.m. Monday (for back); 5:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday (for strength & endurance)...

Novi Public Library LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile Road HOURS: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday...

LIBRARY LINES

Novi Public Library LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile Road HOURS: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday...

World Music Program for Kids TIME/DATES: 7-7:45 p.m. Tuesdays DETAILS: Yara Tafari brings the music and rhythms of Brazil, Cuba and the Caribbean to the library...

Walled Lake City Library LOCATION: 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake, MI 48394 CONTACT: (248) 624-3772

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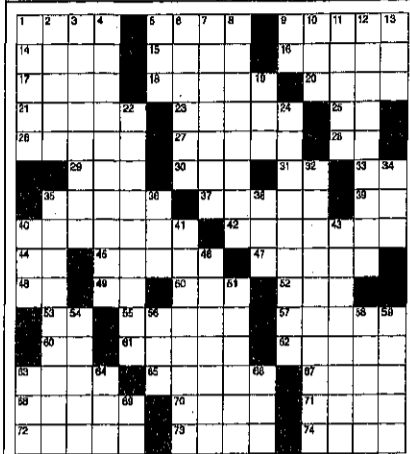
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BABY THINK!

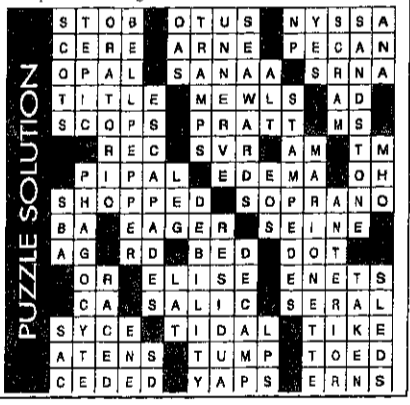


The Novi Educational Foundation helped purchase "Baby Think It Over" dolls for a parenting class. The life-like dolls are held by Chelsea Berger, Stephanie Wilson and Elyse Miller.

My Crossword



CLUES ACROSS 1. Suke 5. Squeech owl genus 9. Tupelos 14. Bral Paly 15. Thomas - British composer, 1700 16. Southern tree cultivated for its nuts 17. Opacque gem 18. Yemen capital 20. Soluble ribonucleic acid 21. Property ownership document 23. Whimpers 25. Product or service promotion 26. Type of small owl 27. ... & Whitney, engine maker 28. Manuscript (abbr.) 29. Neighborhood play center 30. Russian Foreign Intelligence Service 31. Morning 33. Ranc-caun element 35. Bo tree 37. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues 39. Express emotion 40. Visted stores 42. Having a high range 44. Academic degree 45. Impatiently desirous 47. Famous French river 48. Silver 49. Rural delivery (abbr.) 50. A stratum of rock 52. A very small circular shape 53. An alternative 55. NBC meteorologist Finch 57. Phantag - riled from 154 to 199 60. 5th most abundant element in the earth's crust 61. Of Sallian Franks 62. Intermediate stages of ecological succession 63. Sableman in India 65. Wave a.k.a. tsunami 67. Young person, soldier 68. Near-earth asteroid 70. To overturn (Southern U.S.) 71. Having loss 72. Summertime 73. Yipes 74. ... & Young



NOVI SENIOR CENTER Located in the Meadowbrook Commons Senior Complex, 25075 Meadowbrook Road

Friday 12:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge 10 a.m.: Bingo Monday 12:30 p.m.: Duplicate Bridge 10 a.m.: Bingo

First Baptist Church of Novi LOCATION: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 349-3647

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

Holy Family LOCATION: 24505 Meadowbrook Road CONTACT: (248) 349-8847

St. Paul Lutheran LOCATION: 201 Elm St., Northville CONTACT: (248) 349-3140

MOMS Club of Novi DATE: First Thursday of each month TIME: 10 a.m. LOCATION: Novi Civic Center

Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting DATE: Last Wednesday of each month TIME: 10-11 a.m. DETAILS: This free informational meeting is open to all adoptive families...

Women's Prayer Support DATE: Saturday TIME: 9-10:30 a.m. LOCATION: Harvest Fellowship Church, 45229 Pontiac Trail, Wixom

Breast Cancer Support Group DATES: Second and fourth Tuesday of each month LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Conference, Classroom C

Crohn's & Colitis Support Group DATES: First and third Wednesday of each month LOCATION: Providence Park Hospital and Medical Center

Novi Toastmasters DATE: First and third Tuesday of each month LOCATION: Novi Civic Center

FAITH Meadowbrook Congregational LOCATION: 21355 Meadowbrook Road CONTACT: Rev. Ed. Willingham

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

Holy Family LOCATION: 24505 Meadowbrook Road CONTACT: (248) 349-8847

St. Paul Lutheran LOCATION: 201 Elm St., Northville CONTACT: (248) 349-3140

St. James Catholic LOCATION: 46325 10 Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 347-7778

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List your event in our calendar!

To be included in the Bulletin Board, please send event name, date, time, location, details and contact. Mail: Novi News Bulletin, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167

Novi United Methodist LOCATION: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 349-2852

continued on 20A



**GET LISTED: FAX YOUR EVENT INFORMATION: (248) 349-9832 • MORE INFO: CALL (248) 349-1700**

David Aguilar, editor  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
daguilar@gannett.com



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continued from 19A

**St. John Lutheran**  
LOCATION: 23225 Gill Road,  
Farmington Hills  
CONTACT: (248) 474-0584 or  
visit [www.stjohnlutheran.com](http://www.stjohnlutheran.com)  
Saturday Worship  
TIME: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 9:11-10 a.m.  
Sunday School  
TIME: 10:15 a.m.

**Fifth Community Presbyterian**  
LOCATION: 44400 W. 10 Mile  
CONTACT: (248) 349-2345 or  
visit [www.fifthcommunity-novi.org](http://www.fifthcommunity-novi.org)  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 9:10-10 a.m.

**Gracepointe Presbyterian**  
Worship and the Arts Ministry  
CONTACT: (248) 497-3178 or e-  
mail [gracepointe@mac.com](mailto:gracepointe@mac.com)  
"Preview" Worship Service  
TIME/DATE: 6-7 p.m., Sunday  
Feb. 25

LOCATION: Holiday Inn and  
Suites, 3759 Grand River,  
Farmington Hills  
DETAILS: The public is invited  
for worship and to stay after for  
friendship and learn more about  
Gracepointe. Child care will be  
available. For more information on  
Bible Study and other ministries,  
see above.

**Health**  
Providence "Dinner with a  
Doctor" Series  
DATE: Thursday, Feb. 22  
TIME: 6:30 p.m.  
LOCATION: Providence Park, Beck  
and Grand River Roads, Conference  
Rooms A, B, and C  
DETAILS: The program is  
"Keeping Your Heart Healthy: Can be  
Simple for the Whole Family," pre-  
sented by cardiologist Dr. Debra  
Small. He will focus on what a family  
can do to support each other  
towards heart health as well as the  
signs and symptoms of heart issues  
at all ages. There is no charge.  
Reservations required.  
CONTACT: (888) 440-7325

**Health**  
St. John Providence Park  
Health - Novi Classes  
LOCATION: 47601 Grand River  
Ave.

CONTACT: (888) 440-7325, 8  
a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday  
Childbirth Education  
DETAILS: Evening or weekend  
series helping you and your partner  
get ready for the birth of your baby.  
Childbirth Refresher  
DETAILS: A one-time class to  
review important information for  
birth of your baby.  
Breast-Feeding Preparation  
DETAILS: A one-time class for  
mom and her partner helping to  
provide tips for successful breast-  
feeding.  
Baby Care Basics  
DETAILS: A one-time class with  
practical information about how to  
adapt to life with a baby.  
Infant Massage  
DETAILS: This two-session class  
teaches parents how to offer their  
infant the comfort of massage.

**Oakland Physical Therapy  
Classes**  
LOCATION: 47601 Grand River  
Ave., Suite B124  
CONTACT: (248) 380-3550  
There is no charge for the fol-  
lowing classes. Advance registra-  
tion is required.  
Introduction to Pilates  
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. March 7  
DETAILS: This presentation will  
guide you through the basic Pilates  
philosophy and principles to help  
you understand what to expect in a  
Pilates workout.

**Regional**  
Mentor Volunteers  
TIME/DATE: 9 a.m. Saturday,  
Mar. 17  
LOCATION: Oakland County  
Courthouse, 1200 N. Telegraph  
Road, Pontiac  
DETAILS: The Oakland County  
Youth Assistance is looking for vol-  
unteers for its Mentor Plus program  
to be a positive role model for  
someone 5-16 years old.  
CONTACT: Joy DeBauter (248)  
658-0045 or Phyllis McGaffrey  
(248) 858-0999

**Regional**  
Friends of Sabeel North America  
Detroit Group  
DATE: Tonight  
TIME: 6:30 p.m.  
LOCATION: First Presbyterian  
Church, 1669 W. Maple Road,  
Birmingham  
DETAILS: Rev. Carlos Anim Ateek,  
director of the Sabeel Liberation  
Theology Center in Jerusalem speaks  
on "Persecution in the Land of our  
Savior."

**Regional**  
Wayne State University Indian  
Students Association Culture Show  
DATE: Saturday  
TIME: 7 p.m.  
LOCATION: Ford Community And  
Performing Arts Center, 15801  
Michigan Ave., Dearborn  
DETAILS: The show is a fund-raiser  
for the student association that  
promotes cultural diversity. Tickets  
are \$10 and \$12 and may be  
obtained by e-mailing  
[weissj@gmail.com](mailto:weissj@gmail.com).  
CONTACT: Ishand Sandhu, (568)  
438-6528

**Regional**  
Detroit Mackenzie High  
School Class of 1957 Reunion  
DATE: Friday, Oct. 19  
LOCATION: 630 p.m. to midnight  
LOCATION: Holiday Inn  
Livonia, 17723 N. Laurel Park  
Drive, Livonia  
DETAILS: The cost is \$75 per  
person. Mail M. vonGlahn, 20997  
Chase Drive, Novi, MI 48375 for  
tickets. The deadline is June 30.  
Note: The reunion committee is  
looking for classmates from the  
class of 1957.  
CONTACT: June Class-Marj  
Storch at [marj.storch@sbjglobal.net](mailto:marj.storch@sbjglobal.net)  
or Mary Middleton at  
[myvglahn@aol.com](mailto:myvglahn@aol.com).  
January Class-Eleanor Locke  
at [elocke@aol.com](mailto:elocke@aol.com) or Dick  
Bebbington at  
[rbbbroseville@yahoo.com](mailto:rbbbroseville@yahoo.com).

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[myvglahn@aol.com](mailto:myvglahn@aol.com).  
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financialshowplace.com for more  
information.

**41st Annual Camper & RV Show**  
SCHEDULE: 2-9 p.m., today,  
Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday; 11  
a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday  
DETAILS: Receive thousands in  
discounts on the purchase of select  
RVs. Booths featuring parts and  
accessories, campground informa-  
tion, RV financing and RV rentals at  
the show. Admission \$9. Children  
under 12 free. Seniors \$5 today.  
CONTACT: (517) 349-8881 or  
[www.marvac.org](http://www.marvac.org).  
**Dulciorama**  
DATE: Wednesday, Feb. 21-  
Sunday, Feb. 25  
DETAILS: The latest in hunting  
gear, fishing gear, RVs, guided trips  
on display and available, plus retail  
section, "Great Cats of the World"  
and "Hawg Trough."

## GOOD BUSINESS!



Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Whitney McClellan, center, chats with Larson Jewelry and Design's Nancy Larson, left, and Caldwell Bankers' Linda Barsamian during a luncheon at the Hotel Baronette.

## REGIONAL

**Mentor Volunteers**  
TIME/DATE: 9 a.m. Saturday,  
Mar. 17  
LOCATION: Oakland County  
Courthouse, 1200 N. Telegraph  
Road, Pontiac  
DETAILS: The Oakland County  
Youth Assistance is looking for vol-  
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to be a positive role model for  
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THE NOVI NEWS  
Published Each Thursday  
By The Novi News  
104 W. Main Street  
Northville, Michigan 48167  
Periodical  
At Northville, Michigan

Subscription Rates:  
Inside Counties \$9 for 13 wks. home delivery. Outside Counties (in  
Michigan) are \$20 for 13 wks., prepaid. Out of state, \$25 for 13 wks.

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Publication Number USPS 395290

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Lewis Medical Office Centre, 39475 Lewis Drive,  
Suite 150, Novi, Michigan 48377  
[greatlakesderm@yaho.com](http://greatlakesderm@yaho.com)

**Sciatica?**  
Suburban Detroit - A new free report has  
recently been released that reveals an amazing  
new medical breakthrough that has proven  
85% successful treating debilitating back pain.  
Even with multiple herniated discs. Find out  
how space travel solved astronauts back pain  
treatment today. For your free report entitled,  
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1-800-469-3618 and listen to the toll-free 24 hr.  
recorded message for all the details. If phone  
lines are busy, visit: [www.midsciernation.com](http://www.midsciernation.com)

**HAIL TO THE CONQUERING HEROES.**

The Cancer AnswerLine is for anyone with questions about  
cancer. Any needed information on treatment options when her niece Suzie  
was diagnosed with leukemia. When Amy called, a cancer nurse personally  
answered all of her questions, helping her realize they were not alone in  
the fight. It's another reason, what you remember about U.M. are the people  
who are there for you along the way. That's the Michigan Difference.

**M**  
University of Michigan  
Comprehensive Cancer Center

1-800-865-1125 [mccancer.org](http://mccancer.org)

## WAXING NOSTALGIC!



Fourth graders at Novi Woods participated in their annual Wax Museum, Feb. 8 and 9. As part of the school's literature study program, students read biographies of famous people throughout history and prepared speeches about their heroic traits and accomplishments. The presentations took place in the school gymnasium, where each student dresses like their hero and stood frozen in a pose until a paper "button" was pressed and they "came to life" and give their speech.

TOP: Pictured left to right - Mother Teresa (Paola Ramirez), Cleopatra (Karla DeLaCruz) and Annie Oakley (Olivia Bradford) pose for the fourth grade Wax Museum at Novi Woods.

ABOVE: A few athletes made an appearance at the fourth grade Wax Museum at Novi Woods including Lance Armstrong (Brandon Sabagh), Michael Jordan (Koki Mizuno) and Steve Yzerman (Drake Shepard).

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (CONT'D)

continued from 16A

Now the American people are being asked to support a "surge" of troops to that country. We are asked to support our government as it ratchets up tensions with Iran. We need more Molly Ivans to declare that the "Emperor has no clothes."

**Doreen Lawton**  
Novi

Michigan in Good Hands

As many of us are already aware, our state is in a pretty bad spot. On Tuesday evening, Gov. Jennifer Granholm laid out a choice for all of us: We can either invest in our people so they can succeed and our economy grow, or we can fall them and let our state fall further behind. We can't afford the latter.

As the governor explained, these are tough times and they require tough leadership. The governor has cut more out of state government than her predecessors, but she believes government should be lean and not mean. We can't just keep cutting. We must support our governor in these tough times. I'm standing with her

and invite you to do the same. We have to believe in Gov. Jennifer Granholm because the fact of the matter is: She believes in us. She made that clear in the State of the State address as she said every citizen should be given the opportunity to build a great life in Michigan. Times may be tough but our governor is not just sitting back letting the state unfold.

She is aggressive and is doing everything in her power to diversify our economy. As citizens of Michigan, we must believe in our governor and help her fight through this crisis. There is light at the end of the tunnel and it's to a brighter Michigan.

I can honestly say without any reservations, the people of this great state are in the extremely capable hands of Gov. Jennifer Granholm. God bless us all, and God bless our Michigan.

**Mark Blackwell**  
Wayne

Current Parties not Productive

On the Republican side of the aisle, the apathetic reaction to most of Gov. Granholm's State of

the State address said enough. We can expect a continuation of partisan gridlock.

When is our state legislature going to realize that the voters are fully disgusted with the asinine partisanship that has contributed so much to the regression of the state?

Granholm shot straight when she surmised that the "naysayers" have already decided against her program. The barrage of "nays" began with her last utterance.

We are destined to remain in a financial quagmire until we remove parties from politics at both state and national levels. I'm as embarrassed by the deeds of the Democrats and their intellectual posturing and empty promises as I am disgusted with the Republicans and their unending loyalty to their wealthy constituency.

When it comes to ethics, idealism, intellectual courage, statesmanship, integrity, etc., it's a toss-up between "Tweedledum" and "Tweedledee." Both parties are in great need to either recreate themselves or dissolve altogether.

Yesterday would not be soon enough.

**Patrick Downey**  
Novi

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BIRMINGHAM	32767 Woodward (1 block South of 14 Mile)	248.549.1951
LAKESIDE	13903 Hall (Across from Lakeside near Old Navy)	586.532.8055
LIVONIA	31629 Plymouth Road (1 block West of Merriman)	734.425.1500
NOVI TOWN CENTER	(South of I-96)	248.348.5494
ROSEVILLE	32093 Gratiot (Across from Macomb Mall at Masonic)	586.294.8360
ROYAL OAK	28074 N. Woodward (South of 12 Mile)	248.414.6909
SOUTHGATE	17800 Eureka Road (Between Reack & Allen Rd.)	734.281.7766
TAYLOR	22385 Ecourse (1/2 Mile East of Telegraph)	313.291.3603
TROY	3335 Rochester Road (Bet. Big Beaver & Wattless)	248.743.1088
TAYLOR	23650 Eureka (Near Southland Mall)	734.287.0454
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**Clear a path!**  
 Novi resident Kim Bonsall finishes clearing her Christina Lane sidewalk Tuesday afternoon — at the start of a winter snowstorm.

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**CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold public hearing on Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center 45175 W. Ten Mile Road to consider:

**Case No. 07-001** filed by Elkin Equities for Hilton Garden Inn located at 27355 Cabaret Drive  
 Elkin Equities is requesting one variance for the construction of a four-story, 147 room hotel (Hilton Garden Inn) on unit four of the Timber Creek Office Park adjacent 45022-22-15-28-022. Applicant is requesting a twenty-foot side yard parking lot setback variance from the northern property line. The property is zoned OST and located south of 12 Mile Road and west of Cabaret Drive.

**Case No. 07-002** filed by Autumn Park LLC for Autumn Park III located on the SE corner of White Pines Drive and Beck Road  
 Autumn Park LLC is requesting one (1) sign variance to allow a temporary Subdivision Business Sign to remain on the southeast corner of Beck Road and White Pines Drive for Autumn Park III. The property is zoned R-1 and is located north of Nine Mile Road and east of Beck Road.

**Case No. 07-003** filed by Mile Associates LLC located at 39525 W. 14 Mile Road  
 Mile Associates is requesting one (1) sign variance to allow the date, time, temperature and a message to alternately display on an existing business sign located at 39525 W. 14 Mile Road. The property is zoned DST and is located on the south side of 14 Mile Road and 14 mile west of Haggerty Road.

**Case No. 07-004** filed by Mozart Homes LLC located at 51385 W. Ten Mile Road  
 Mozart Homes LLC is requesting one (1) sign variance to allow a motor vehicle with advertising to be parked at 51385 W. Ten Mile Road. The property is zoned RA and is located on the south side of 10 Mile Road and east of Napier Road.

**Case No. 07-005** filed by Apex Sign Company for Dog Ear Tree located at 45955 Pontiac Trail in the Novi Square Shopping Center  
 Apex Sign Company is requesting one 47 square foot sign variance for a 112 square foot wall sign and one sign variance to allow an additional 25 square foot sign wall sign to be located at 45955 Pontiac Trail in the Novi Square Shopping Center. The property is zoned B-3 and is located on the south side of Pontiac Trail and east of Westgate Blvd.

**Case No. 07-006** for 1328 East Lake Drive  
 Applicant is requesting nine setback variances for the construction of a new home and attached wood deck at 1328 East Lake Drive. Applicant is requesting an east front yard setback variance of 19 feet, a west rear yard setback variance of 12.1 feet, a north side yard setback variance of 6.25 feet, a south side yard setback variance of 11 feet, with an aggregate total of two side yards of 17.25 feet and a total lot coverage variance of 10%. Additionally applicant is requesting a rear yard projection variance of 4 feet, northwest side yard setback variance of 1 foot 4 inches and a 5 foot 6 inch southwest side yard setback variance for the construction of an unenclosed wood deck. The property is zoned R-4 and is located east of Old Novi Road and north of Thirteen Mile Road.

**Case No. 07-007** filed by Harty Villagewood Properties LLC for Villagewood Place located on Karlar Lane west of Haggerty Road between Nine and Ten Mile Roads  
 Villagewood Properties LLC is requesting one sign variance for the continued placement of a fifteen square foot real estate marketing sign measuring six feet in height for Villagewood Place. The property is zoned RM-1 and is located on Karlar Lane west of Haggerty Road between Nine and Ten Mile Roads. Sign variance originally approved in ZBA04-062 for one year and extended for one year in ZBA05-107.

**Case No. 07-008** filed by Beacon Sign Company for Novi Big Boy located at 28401 Novi Road  
 Beacon Sign Company is requesting two sign variances for the placement of a 25 square foot ground sign supported by a pole measuring 15 feet in height for the Novi Big Boy Restaurant located at 28401 Novi Road. The property is zoned TC-1 and located north of Grand River and south of I-96. (2-15-07 NN 327227)

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**ON CAMPUS**

**John Carroll University**  
 Stephanie S. Kinsman from Novi has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2006 semester. Students eligible for the Dean's List must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours within one semester and have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

**West Point**  
 Cadet Peter W. Kelly, son of William and Phyllis Kelly of Novi, has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2006 semester at West Point U.S. Military Academy. To earn this honor, a cadet must maintain a 3.0 grade point average in all courses.

Kelly graduated from Northville High School in 2003. He plans to graduate from West Point in May and be commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

**HEALTH EXPO**

**Heart healthy in 2007**  
 Dr. Vicky Savas of St. John Heart Health Care Network and Providence Hospital is hosting a health expo from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road.

Impassioned about empowering others to adopt a healthy life style, Dr. Savas' event will feature many educational opportunities and experiences. Tests will include BMI, bone density, blood sugar and cancer screenings.

Organizers said there will also be informational centers, health care booths, exercise demos, massages, cooking classes, makeovers by Christian Dior representatives and healthy meals along with giveaways.

For registration and cost information, call (248) 356-5033 or visit <http://malista.com/Savasexpo.htm>.

**Dinner with a Doctor**  
 The next Providence Hospital "Dinner with a Doctor" series will take place 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22 in conference rooms A, B and C at the Grand River and Beck roads facility.

The topic is: "Keeping Your Heart Healthy Can be Simple - for the Whole Family" presented by St. John Providence Park Hospital cardiologist Dr. Delano Small.

Dr. Small will focus on what a family can do to support each other toward heart health as well as the signs and symptoms of heart issues at all ages.

There is no charge, but spaces are limited. To RSVP call, (888) 440-7325.

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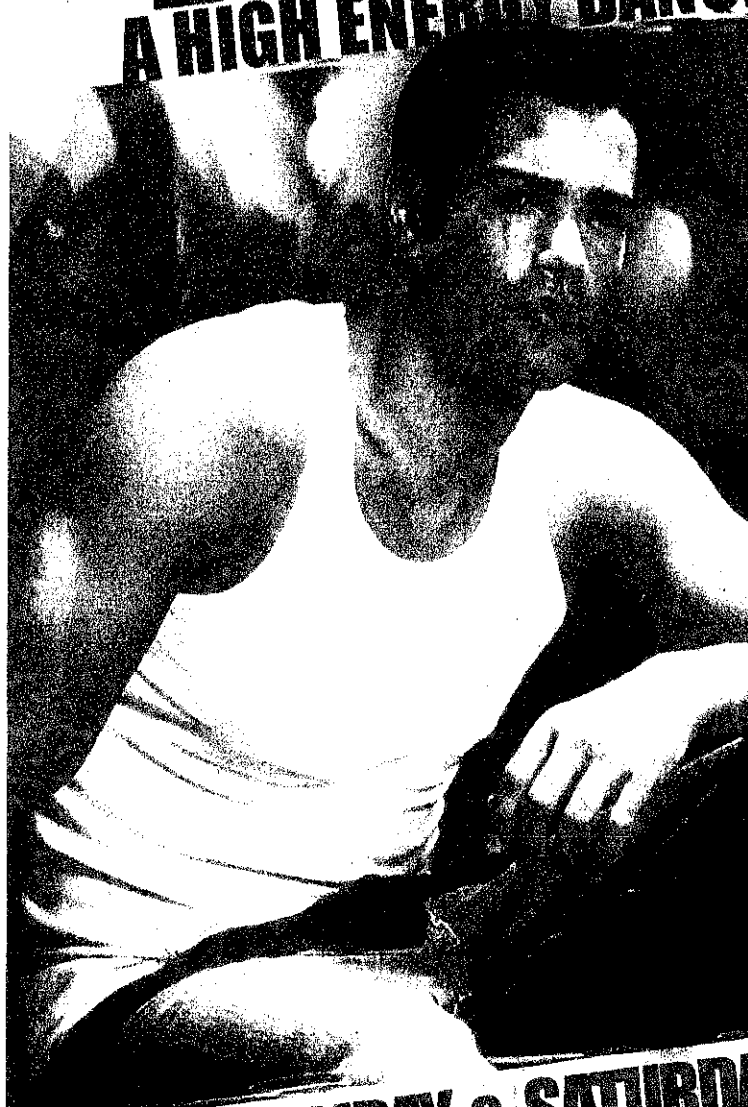
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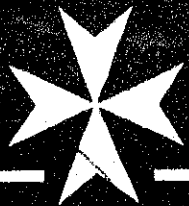
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**NOVI BASKETBALL BACK ON TRACK** PAGE 4B

**My NOVI SPORTS**

**Wildcat cheer team keeps on winning** SPORTS, 4B

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2006 • WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM • SPORTS SUBMISSIONS: JTHEISEN@GANNETT.COM • PAGE 1B

**SPORTS SPOTLIGHT: CC WRESTLING**

STORY CHAT. WHAT DO YOU THINK? TELL US AT WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM

**Coach Rod:  
 'An awesome run'**



Novi Catholic Central wrestling coach Mike Rodriguez stands in the middle of his team Saturday with the 2007 Catholic League trophy.

**Rodriguez to retire after 51st coaching season**

By Jeff Thelsen  
 NEWS SPORTS WRITER

A coaching career of more than a half century will come to a close at the end of the wrestling season. Catholic Central's Mike Rodriguez will hang it up after this year's postseason run.

"It's been truly an awesome, spectacular

run to have touched so many people," Rodriguez said. "God has been great to us. I've never thought in my wildest dreams that I would last until '75."

Rodriguez has coached thousands of kids throughout his tenure. He has coached kids and later on, their kids. He's impacted the lives of countless amounts of people.

Oh yeah, he's also won more than 700 dual

matches, captured 13 straight Catholic League titles (27 overall), won 27 district titles, 19 regional titles and eight state championships — with one final run left.

The Shamrock wrestlers extended the string of league titles with a commanding

See COACH, 3B

**The seventh sign-ees**



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi High School athletes sign their letters of intent during the Feb. 7 "Signing Day." From left: Pat Sijan, Stephanie Janssens, Christine Chaklos, Stephanie Crawford, Jessica Barndt, Emily Esbrook, and Brandon Carnegie.

**Novi soccer has five girls sign with Division I schools**

By Jeff Thelsen  
 NEWS SPORTS WRITER

STORY CHAT  
 What do you think?  
 Tell us at WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM

National Signing Day is a big day for thousands of kids across the country, but it was an extra-special day for Novi athletes.

Five players from the girls soccer team signed a Division I letter of intent. Two football players also signed, and Brandon Carnegie became the second Novi football player to sign a Division I letter.

The five girls signing were: Stephanie Crawford, with Michigan; Emily Esbrook, with Ohio State; Kristine Chaklos, with Vanderbilt; Jessica Barndt, with James Madison; and Stephanie Janssens, with Eastern Michigan.

Pat Sijan also signed a football letter of intent with Northwood University.

Soccer coach Brian O'Leary admitted it was a special day for him and the entire program.

"It's pretty rare. You're lucky if you get one. To get five is amazing," O'Leary said. "We've had a pretty good string of sending girls to Division I schools. It seems like we get a little bit more each year. Last year four girls went to play college soccer, three girls Division I."

"They're not very egotistical at all. All five of them are very team-focused. They very much care about everyone from the bottom to the top. I think that says more about them than playing college soccer."

Crawford and Esbrook have

teamed up to win back-to-back titles with the Novi program, but they will become instant rivals once they move onto Michigan and Ohio State.

"I think it will be fun because we're both really competitive," Esbrook said. "I think it would be competitive and fun."

Esbrook also admitted there would be bagging rights on the line.

For Chaklos, signing with the girls that she grew up playing the game with was the highlight of the day.

"It's awesome that so many of us can sign together," she said. "Three of them are on my club team. I've been playing soccer with Stephanie since I was 8 years old."

Barndt wouldn't have it any other way either.

"It's awesome," she said. "I've been playing with them since I can't even remember."

Don't expect the Wildcats to relax just because five of the girls know where they are playing next year.

"It makes it so they can concentrate on high school soccer and making their last high school season the best that it can be," O'Leary said. "I've seen kids before who signed and they take

See INTENT, 2B

What is SPORTS SPOTLIGHT? Each week, the Novi News takes a closer look at Novi athletes. Have a suggestion? Email jtheisen@gannett.com.

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**NOVI NEWS Athlete of the Week**

Ryan Brown, CC wrestling

Brown, a senior captain, won the top wrestler award at the Catholic League meet Saturday at Catholic Central. He won all three of his matches by fall at 152 pounds to earn the league title and MVP.



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# COLLEGE BOUND 'CATS



**Kristine Chaklos**

**Where:** Vanderbilt University  
**Why:** "I wanted a good academic school as well as a good athletic school."  
**Major/career:** Pediatrician  
**Favorite Novi memory:** "Two of them — both district championships. One, this year for basketball and my sophomore year winning districts for soccer. That propelled us to win states."  
**What it was like to be a Wildcat:** "It's been awesome. I'm wearing (Vanderbilt) colors right now, but it's so weird to not wear green and white. It's all I've ever known."



**Jessica Barndt**

**Where:** James Madison University  
**Why:** "I went to Virginia... fell in love with the campus right away because it's gorgeous, in a valley with mountains all over."  
**Major/career:** Physical therapy  
**Favorite Novi memory:** "Winning states twice in a row. It's amazing to even be able to have a chance to be able to win it twice and maybe three times in a row."  
**What it was like to be a Wildcat:** "Being a Novi Wildcat has been a lot of fun. They treat us well. I can't imagine myself being at any other high school."



**Stephanie Crawford**

**Where:** Michigan  
**Why:** "I know I wanted to stay in state, so it was between Michigan and Michigan State. They both have good soccer programs, but Michigan was better academically."  
**Major/career:** Undecided  
**Favorite Novi memory:** "Playing soccer. The state finals, both of them, were really exciting."  
**What it was like to be a Wildcat:** "It's been a great experience. I've been so much fun. I love it."



**Emily Esbrook**

**Where:** Ohio State  
**Why:** "I like the school, academics, the team, the players and the coaches."  
**Major/career:** Premed  
**Favorite Novi memory:** "Winning states last year, because it was against Northville."  
**What it was like to be a Wildcat:** "It was really fun. Our team gets along really well. There's not like any drama. Everyone works hard."



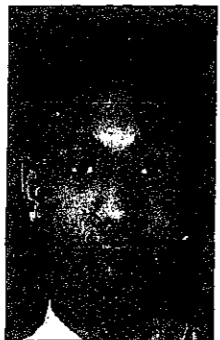
**Stephanie Janssens**

**Where:** Eastern Michigan University  
**Why:** "The head coach at Eastern used to be my head coach way back when I was young. He knows my background."  
**Major/career:** Elementary education  
**Favorite Novi memory:** "Winning state champs back to back."  
**What it was like to be a Wildcat:** "I really enjoy coming out on the field every day and as a team we represent Novi."



**Pat Sijan**

**Where:** Northwood University  
**Why:** "It's a small school with a good football program. I like the coaches. They're up and coming."  
**Major/career:** International business and finance  
**Favorite Novi memory:** "Beating Lakeland this year."  
**Sijan won the game with a rarely used free kick.**  
**What it was like to be a Wildcat:** "I had a lot of fun. It's a good school with great coaches. They push you to the limit and same with the teachers."



**Brandon Carnegie**

**Where:** Ball State  
**Why:** "I like the area, the campus. The program looks like it's going up too."  
**Major/career:** Undecided but something with business  
**Favorite Novi memory:** "Kelleyporty in his sophomore year. They were undefeated. They were supposed to kill us. We shut them out."  
**What it was like to be a Wildcat:** "It was fun. I had a lot of good times. A lot of good memories."

**■ INTENT: Seven onto next level**

Continued from 1  
 While Kelleyporty is proud of Carnegie and Sijan, he also appreciated those who laid the ground work before them.  
 "In the last seven years that I've been around here as the head coach, we've had some tremendous ballplayers that I felt were very gifted and talented players," Kelleyporty said. "What they did on the field for us created the groundwork for what these two young men are able to get today also."  
 "These guys will take out of here the responsibility that they are alumni and that means they're going to have to give back to our program. They'll become role models for us and our program."  
 Jeff Theisen can be reached at jtheisen@gannett.com or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.



Catholic Central wrestling coach Mike Rodriguez is presented with a cake after winning his 700th dual match.

# COACH ROD - A LIVING LEGEND



Mike Rodriguez during his first year with the Shamrock wrestling team in 1968.



Mike Rodriguez stands in the middle of the 1969 state champion Catholic Central wrestling team.

*Photos submitted by Jeffrey Gatt*

Continued from 1

win over the weekend. Catholic Central placed nine wrestlers in the finals — six winning their weight class.  
 "It was an awesome day," Rodriguez said. "It was very meaningful and very touching. But it's just the start. The best is yet to come."  
 "Our goals are just a little ways off from being accomplished and this is the first."

**Looking back**

Rodriguez's coaching career started with Royal Oak Kimball in 1957. After two seasons and a 24-6 dual record, he moved to River Rouge from 1959-1967. He left that job with eight consecutive regional titles and one state title for the Blue and White at Catholic Central.  
 The regional title followed for the next four years, including three straight state titles in his second to fourth years with the Shamrocks, a collection of guys that still stands as one of his coaching highlights.  
 "The first group of young men that I had that were so hungry," Rodriguez said. "These guys were starving to be first. They won the first regional in the history of the school (in 1968). The next year they won the state and won it three years in a row."  
 "These kids, from freshmen to sophomores and sophomores to juniors, they became men. They had arms like seniors. Out of that class, we had three millionaires. I know them personally, and they come back and say, 'Hey coach, it was the room that taught us to be obsessed with working ethics. We worked our butts off.'"

Since taking over the Shamrock program, Rodriguez has had a state placer in all but one of his years, and as many as six in 1988. He won state titles in 1969-71, 1974, 1978, 1983 and 1988.  
 But even Rodriguez is surprised at his coaching longevity.  
 "My second oldest son was my assistant for five years and he said 'When are you going to quit Dad?' he said, 'I said, well, I really don't know David. I just love it so much I'd hate to give up right now.'"  
 "I said, 'but if I get to the point when I get in my 70s, if I can't walk, put me in a wheelchair and roll me out to the mat so I can scream at somebody.' Well, I've made it. I can still walk out to the edge of the mat."

**Position filled**  
 Since Rodriguez took over the Shamrock program in 1968, no one else has been the head coach. Current Athletic Director Bob Santello has enjoyed knowing who the wrestling coach would be, but he's enjoyed seeing the impact that Rodriguez makes off the mat even more.

"He's more than just a coach — he's a teacher and a father figure," Santello said. "It's amazing, the wrestling community, when they graduate, they never forget Mike Rodriguez. He does so much besides just teaching the fundamentals of wrestling. He's a teacher of how you should live life."  
 Santello said it will be difficult penciling in a different name next year for wrestling, but he appreciated all his former coaches did for the program.  
 "Thanks for all that you've done for Catholic Central," Santello said. "We all wish him well in retirement. I'm sure we'll see him at a number of our meets. He's not going to disappear."

**Filling the void**  
 Mitch Hancock, a former Catholic Central wrestler, for Rodriguez, will take over the program next year.  
 Hancock had opportunities to go to other schools after an All-American career that ended in 2005 for Central Michigan University, but he knew where he wanted to go.  
 "It's just so gratifying to know that he's all Catholic Central," Rodriguez said. "He's very disciplined. He demands excellence from the young men that are in the room."  
 Santello said it will be weird with someone else at the wrestling helm, but it won't be a total change for the program.  
 "Mitch is a disciple of Rod," Santello said. "He graduated from CC and was coached by him for four years. His philosophies will continue. She said 'You always are dealing with a different personality.'"

**The final scene**  
 Tears are going to flow when the final match is wrestled for Rodriguez, and he's the first to admit he'll be part of the action.  
 "I don't know if I can keep the tears out of my eyes," he said. "It's going to be difficult to walk away. But I'm blessed to walk away and leave it in good hands. He's going to keep it clean and make the kids work hard."  
 Rodriguez said his wife has been there for him throughout his career, but this year especially.  
 "I kept coming home just ragging on these kids. She was always there for me," Rodriguez said. "She said 'You always are dealing with this in the beginning of the season and you always come out in the end.'"  
 The end is near, but the final chapter will be written in a book filled with highlights both on and off the mat. Whatever happens, Rodriguez will go down as one of the greatest coaches of all time for high school wrestling.

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



Mike Rodriguez stands proudly in front of the Catholic Central wrestling banner before the 2006-07 season.



Mike Rodriguez walks with his 2005 state champion team.



Mike Rodriguez stands with his team after coaching his 1,000th wrestling dual.

**Career Stats**

All records prior to 2006-07 season

Wins: 728	Losses: 271	District titles: 27	Regional titles: 19	State titles: 8	Individual state champs: 45	Individual state placers: 123
Wins by school	Royal Oak Kimball, 1957-58	24	River Rouge, 1959-67	146	Catholic Central, 1968-present	558

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Standings

KVC Basketball

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, W, L. Rows include South Lyon, Lakeland, Hartland, Novi, Pinckney, Howell, Milford, Brighton.

KVC Volleyball

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, W, L. Rows include Lakeland, Novi, Milford, South Lyon, Howell, Brighton, Pinckney, Hartland.

KVC Hockey

Table with 4 columns: Team, W, L, T, W, L, T. Rows include Brighton, Howell, Hartland, Novi, Lakeland, Milford, South Lyon, Pinckney.

Schedules



Basketball: 2/15 Brighton, 7 p.m.
Hockey: 2/16 U-D Jesuit, 6 p.m.
Volleyball: 2/15 at Brighton, 5:30 p.m.
Wrestling: 2/17 at individual districts, TBA.
Boys Swim and Dive: 2/15 Hartland, 6 p.m.
Cheer: 2/17 KVC championships, TBA.
Bowling: 2/15 at 700 Bowf, 3:30 p.m.
Ski Team: 2/15 Regional championship, TBA.
Basketball: 2/18 CHSL playoff, TBA.
Hockey: 2/15 Fort Huron Northern at McMoran Place, 6 p.m.
Wrestling: 2/15 Team districts, TBA.
Swim and Dive: 2/15 DeLaSalle, 7 p.m.
Bowling: 2/17 CHSL tournament at Oak Lanes, 9 a.m.

Wildcat basketball back to winning ways

Novi cheer team mows down KVC foes

By Jeff Theisen, NEWS SPORTS WRITER

The Wildcat basketball team broke out of a recent funk with a pair of wins against league opponents. Novi beat Pinckney 51-49 in overtime Feb. 7, and scored a second win two days later with a 44-26 thumping of Howell.



The Novi cheer team, along with members from the wrestling team, celebrate a recent victory at Brighton.

Against Pinckney, things started slowly for both teams with just 14 total points in the first quarter, and Pinckney holding a 23-18 lead at the half. The Wildcat offense came alive in the third quarter, and Novi held a 33-32 lead heading into the fourth.

Novi went into the half on 21-12, but entered the fourth with a commanding 34-12 lead. Dean again led the Wildcats with 11 points, Bellamy tallied eight, Brandon Bradford chipped in seven, and Chandler had six.

Novi Wildcat PreSeason Baseball Camp. The Wildcat preseason baseball camp for players age 7 to 14 is set for March 17 at the Novi High School fieldhouse gym.

Sport Shorts

Novi Wildcat PreSeason Baseball Camp. The Wildcat preseason baseball camp for players age 7 to 14 is set for March 17 at the Novi High School fieldhouse gym.

Celebrity bowling. The Detroit Lions' Barry Stokes is hosting a bowlingthon March 24 at Drake's Lanes in Farmington. The money raised will go towards the Barry Stokes Foundation.

Committed to UNLV. Novi's Jamie Fratto announced her commitment to attend the University of Nevada Las Vegas to play soccer in 2008.

BattleCats prove best. The Nov BattleCats captured the Great Lakes Tournament Series Spirit B Championship with a hard-fought 3-2 win Feb. 4 over the Rochester Moccasins in Holland, Mich.

Novi Wildcat PreSeason Baseball Camp. The Wildcat preseason baseball camp for players age 7 to 14 is set for March 17 at the Novi High School fieldhouse gym.



Novi's Mason Irvin heads for the water during a home meet against Pinckney High.

Hartland topped the Wildcats 57-5, with Jon Lachowebec getting the lone win for Novi at 103 pounds. Things went much better for the Wildcats in a 59-18 win against Milford.

Novi Wrestling. Novi wrestled against Hartland, but came back to beat Milford in a quad Feb. 2.

Hockey brackets

MHSAA Ice Hockey Pre-Region 27 @ Novi Ice February 26 & 28, 2007. Brackets showing teams: Plymouth (H), Novi (A), Franklin (H).

MHSAA Ice Hockey Pre-Region No. 10 Compuware Arena. Brackets showing teams: Catholic Central, Farmington Flyers, West Bloomfield, Birmingham Unified.

Novi Wildcat PreSeason Baseball Camp. The Wildcat preseason baseball camp for players age 7 to 14 is set for March 17 at the Novi High School fieldhouse gym.

Planet Fitness

Weight loss always a tough subject

By Terri Lynch

Recently my toughest client ever, (my wife), was venting about how tired she was of my "burn more calories than you take in" technique of weight loss.

Novi Cheer continues to mow down KVC opponents, beating South Lyon 66-60-59-50 Feb. 7.

The Wildcat volleyball team improved to 25-8-1, 9-2 with a pair of league wins against Pinckney and Howell.

Novi Swim and Dive. The Novi swim and diving team lost 109-77 Feb. 8 to South Lyon.

Catholic Central Wrestling. The Novi Catholic Central wrestling troupe through the field in winning the league title Saturday.

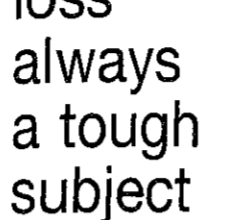
Planet Fitness

My toughest client ever, (my wife), was venting about how tired she was of my "burn more calories than you take in" technique of weight loss. She had just passed on desert and was watching her one-millionth commercial about some magic pill that a shapely bikini-clad model swears that you take once a day and you will lose 15 pounds in a month while you sleep and have a body like hers in no time...

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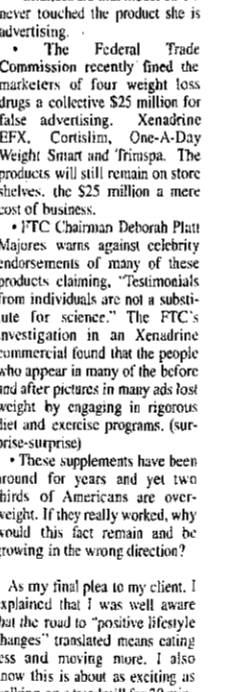
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MY CAREER

Thirteen years ago, Terri and Joey Lynch found themselves and their careers at a crossroads. After successful stints in a variety of fields ranging from hair styling to merchandising to the grocery business, the now-turned professional truck drivers longed for something different as they headed into their golden years.

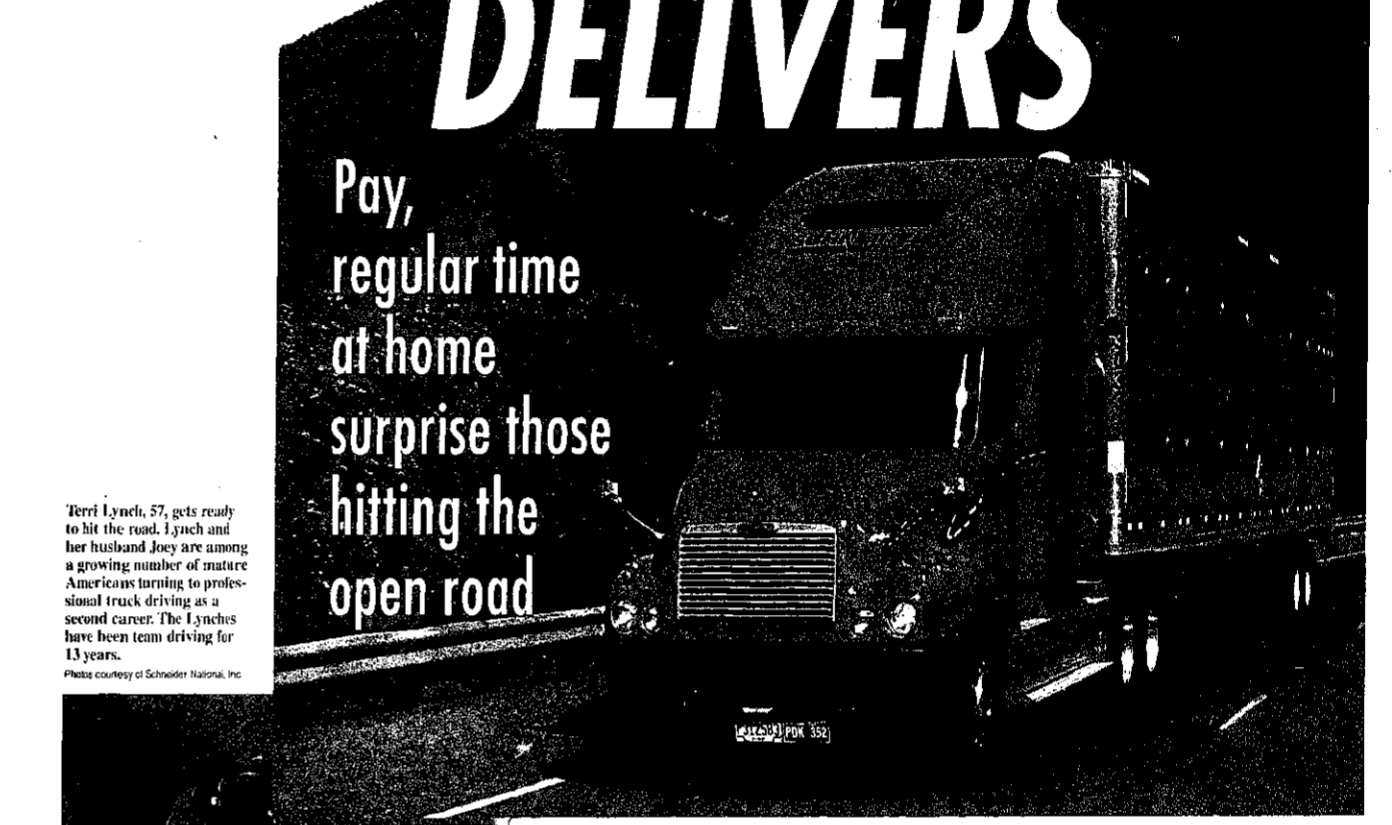


Truck driving is certainly a career that's paid off for us, says Terri Lynch, 57. "Our employer has treated us well and given us steady work, good money and a good life. We're planning on doing this for many more years, and each year, we see more and more people our age getting into the business."

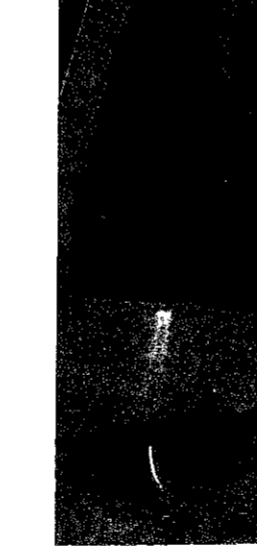
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MY CAREER

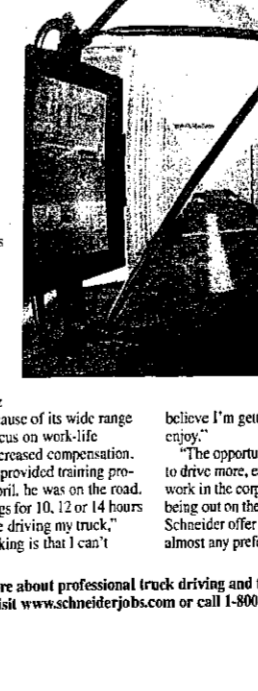
Professional Truck Driving DELIVERS



Pay, regular time at home surprise those hitting the open road



Terri Lynch, 57, gets ready to hit the road. Lynch and her husband, Joey are among a growing number of mature Americans turning to professional truck driving as a second career.



Thirteen years ago, Terri and Joey Lynch found themselves and their careers at a crossroads. After successful stints in a variety of fields ranging from hair styling to merchandising to the grocery business, the now-turned professional truck drivers longed for something different as they headed into their golden years.

While it's no secret that truck driving is hard work and has its challenges, most job seekers are surprised to learn just how much the industry and the profession have changed in recent years. Today, driving opportunities that best meet individual lifestyle needs are a focus for many companies.

To learn more about professional truck driving and training opportunities, visit www.schneiderjobs.com or call 1-800-44-PRIDE.



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# MY GOOD HEALTH

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# Better Health

## AROUND THE CLOCK

JANBYLLI GIBBS  
**Get a minute?**

You're just in time to learn how small adjustments to your daily routine may add up to improved health and a more balanced lifestyle. With the start of a new year, examining your personal profile and pinpointing opportunities where better-for-you changes can be made. Whether you'd like to shape up or slim down, the key is making smarter choices and finding real solutions that can bring about positive results.

Before you know it, you'll be eating better, feeling better and living better, explained Dr. Bob Arnot, who has served as chief medical and health correspondent for national news shows. For example, exercise should be compared to play — not a chore. "I've always advocated fun sports, such as walking, golfing or biking, as the best way to stay fit," said Arnot, also a best-selling author. "I find biking the single best sport for keeping in shape because from day one, you put in as much time and distance as you want. It's also friendly to the joints."

Another timely tip: bookmark a favorite online resource that offers a refreshing perspective and a dose of inspiration. A top pick is [www.BetterAmerica.com](http://www.BetterAmerica.com), which features simple tips on eating better, the benefits of doing so and recipes to get started. Good nutrition, Arnot notes, not only plays a role in weight management, it can also have a big impact on reducing risk for chronic diseases such as diabetes.



### Raspberry-Banana Soy Smoothie

Try this soy-based smoothie on for size. Perfect for a mid-day snack, it delivers 9 grams of protein, 10 grams of fiber and 100 percent delicious flavor. Enjoy in less than five minutes.

- 1 container (6 ounces) fat free French vanilla yogurt
  - 1 1/2 cups 8th Continent original soy milk
  - 1 cup unsweetened frozen or fresh raspberries
  - 1 medium banana, sliced (1 cup)
1. Place all ingredients in blender or food processor. Cover; blend on high speed about 30 seconds or until smooth.
2. Pour into 2 glasses. Serve immediately.
- 2 servings (about 1 1/2 cups each)**
- 1 Serving: Calories 210 (Calories from Fat 30); Total Fat 3.5g (Saturated Fat 1g); Cholesterol 5mg; Sodium 150mg; Potassium 100mg; Total Carbohydrate 37g (Dietary Fiber 3g); Protein 12g
- % Daily Value: Vitamin A 15%; Vitamin C 4%; Calcium 30%; Iron 4%; Vitamin D 25%; Folic Acid 2%
- Exchanges: 1 1/2 Other Carbohydrate, 1 Skin Milk, 1/2 Fat
- Carbohydrate Choices: 2 1/2

### Munchy Trail Mix

Eating portion-controlled snacks between meals gives the body the burst of fuel it needs to sail through the day. A smart snack — such as trail mix paired with a favorite fruit or veggies and dip — curbs hunger and can be a good source of important nutrients you may not get otherwise.

- 2 cups Cheerios cereal
  - 2 cups Chex bite-size squares cereal (any variety)
  - 2 cups Kix crispy corn puffs cereal
  - 1 cup raisins
  - 1 cup yogurt or carob candies, if desired
  - 1 cup peanuts, if desired
1. In large bowl or resealable food-storage plastic bag, mix all ingredients. (If serving to children under 4 years old, omit the raisins and peanuts.) Store tightly covered.
- Makes 7 cups**
- 1 Serving/1/2 Cup: Calories 90 (Calories from Fat 0); Total Fat 1/2g (Saturated Fat 0g); Trans Fat 0g; Cholesterol 0mg; Sodium 10mg; Total Carbohydrate 20g; Dietary Fiber 2g; Sugar 7g; Protein 2g
- % Daily Value: Vitamin A 4%; Vitamin C 4%; Calcium 4%; Iron 25%
- Exchanges: 1 Starch, 1/2 Fruit
- Carbohydrate Choices: 1

## One Doctor's Rx for Eating Better, Feeling Better

Dr. Bob Arnot, experienced medical journalist and best-selling author, offers his top three personal tips for better health:

**First Things First:** Breakfast is my favorite meal — hands down. I still start with a whole grain cereal, such as my childhood favorite Wheat Chex, slice a banana on it, throw in some blueberries and douse it in ice-cold soy milk. I tell patients breakfasts are free — meaning this meal won't add inches to your waistline, but it will give you the energy to help fuel your morning. And, choose cereals with lots of fiber to help fill you up and get you off to a healthy start. What if your kids won't eat adult cereals? Look for kids' cereals made with whole grain; they provide many essential nutrients in addition to the health benefits of whole grain.

**Chill:** Fresh vegetables are often perceived as the healthiest choice. However, within hours after harvest, nutrients begin to disappear. And, during the week-long trip from the fields to the grocery store, a significant amount of nutrients can be lost. What's the solution? Today, food companies literally freeze fruits and vegetables within hours of being picked to retain valuable nutrients. In fact frozen fruits and vegetables are just as nutritious as fresh. I stock my freezer with corn, broccoli, green beans, blueberries and raspberries. They taste as fresh as if I just picked them myself.

**Enjoy Soy:** Soy is a super healthful food I enjoy every day. Using it in my cereal bowl at breakfast, or in a smoothie, is great because it delivers a low-fat, naturally cholesterol free protein great for heart health. If I'm in a hurry and need instant nutrition, I'll grab a glass of soy milk. Substituting soy milk for whole milk may help lower my cholesterol level. And, like many adults with some degree of lactose intolerance, I use soy milk as a terrific replacement for milk and a great way to get added calcium to help reduce my risk of osteoporosis and bone fractures.



Dr. Bob Arnot

"If you make one change to your health routine," said Arnot, "make breakfast a must." He recommends cereal made with whole grain topped with fruit and ice-cold skim or soy milk.



Pop open a can of ready-to-serve soup, heat and enjoy with a sandwich for a satisfying lunch or dinner. Many canned soups clock in around 100 calories per serving. Look for reduced sodium varieties, such as Progresso, if salt intake is a concern. Choosing heart-healthy reduced sodium soups can help with weight management and help decrease risk for disease.



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# MY PARTY TIPS

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# Menu Smarts

## Plan for Fabulous Food and Fun

FAMILY FEATURES

'Tis the season to celebrate!

Planning the menu for your holiday gathering should be fun — not stressful. Make a smart party plan for one-stop shopping, add a few delicious shortcuts and be the hostess of the season.

According to Sandra Lee, best-selling author of "Semi-Homemade Cooking," one of the secrets to a successful gathering is to make sure you enjoy your own party. Then your guests will as well. Adding style without sacrificing flavor is simple with a few menu secrets from Sandra that will have your guests serving up extra helpings of food and fun.

These recipes are some of Lee's favorites for entertaining. They're irresistibly delicious and easy on the cook with convenient ingredients. They, along with 196 other great recipes, are included in Sandra Lee's Recipe Card Collection. The full-color recipe cards are beautifully displayed in a red recipe box and this unique gift item is available exclusively at Wal-Mart and Sam's Club stores this holiday season.



Bacon-Wrapped Artichoke Hearts

A smart party starts on paper, so pick up a pen and make a plan. Check out these easy entertaining pointers to deck the halls with holiday cheer.

### Kick off the party with festive food

- Choose friendly foods. Bite-size appetizers are easy to enjoy and easy to serve.
- Try Sandra Lee's easy appetizer ideas, or pick up convenient, ready-made snacking platters from Wal-Mart. Order delicious shrimp, deli meat, chicken wing, cheese and fruit platters by phone a day in advance and display them on your own decorated dishes.

### Keep the party moving

- Serve in several different spots. This avoids traffic jams and helps guests move and mingle.
- For the main buffet, make Sandra's Turkey with Cranberry-Merlot Sauce the centerpiece, or pick up a Sam's Choice Double Glazed Brown Sugar Spiral Ham. Round out the menu with favorite side dishes.
- Ready-made holiday desserts like a cupcake cake or other festive treats top off the evening in sweet style — and they do double-duty as edible centerpieces.

### Plan for one-stop shopping

- Instead of running from store to store, shop at one Supercenter that offers everything you need for entertaining: groceries, beverages, home décor and even gifts — you'll feel less frazzled and save time.
- Design your shopping list for moving around the store.
- Saving time means less stress on you and more time for enjoying holiday fun with family and friends.

Enjoy your own party this holiday season, with good company, great food and lots of cheer. For easy, entertaining ideas all in one place, visit [www.walmart.com](http://www.walmart.com) and click on In-Store Now!idea Center.

### Red Pepper and Tapenade Slices

This hearty appetizer will disappear, so keep ingredients on hand for making a second or third batch.

- Makes: 8 pieces**
- 1 8-ounce can refrigerated crescent rolls
  - 1/2 cup marinara sauce
  - 1/2 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
  - 3 tablespoons crumbled blue cheese
  - 1/4 cup olive tapenade
  - 1/3 cup roasted red bell pepper, cut into strips
1. Heat oven to 425°F. Unroll dough, separate into 8 triangles. Arrange triangles on baking sheet.
  2. Layer each triangle with some marinara sauce, Monterey Jack cheese, blue cheese, olive tapenade and pepper strips.
  3. Bake 12 to 15 minutes or until edges are golden. Serve warm.

### Feta-Stuffed Artichoke Bottoms

These irresistible Mediterranean-inspired appetizers are so very satisfying — be sure to make plenty.

- Makes: 15 pieces**
- 1/2 cup chopped roasted red bell peppers (from jar)
  - 1/4 cup chopped ripe black olives
  - 1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese
  - 1 tablespoon olive oil
  - 1 13 3/4-ounce can artichoke bottoms, drained and patted dry
1. Heat broiler. Line cookie sheet with foil.
  2. In medium bowl, combine peppers, olives, cheese and olive oil. Place artichoke bottoms onto prepared cookie sheet. Mound 1 1/2 teaspoons of stuffing onto each artichoke.
  3. Broil 7 minutes or until golden on top. Transfer artichokes to a platter and serve hot.

### Bacon-Wrapped Artichoke Hearts

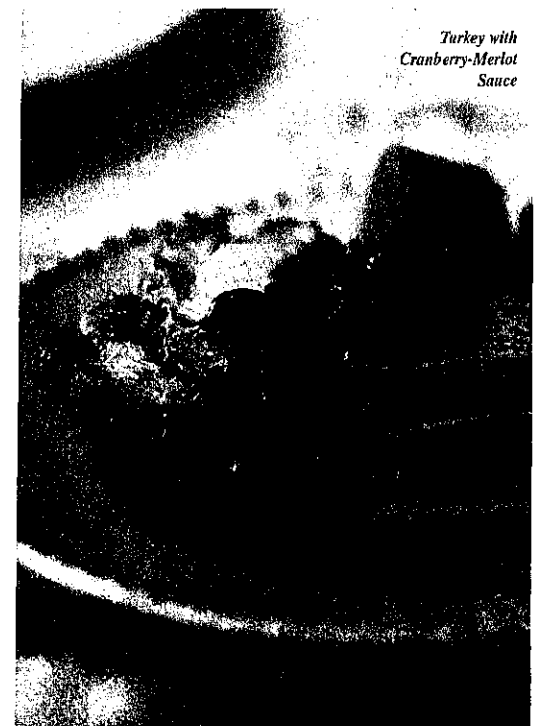
Feel free to double or triple this recipe.

- Makes: 18 pieces**
- 1 12-ounce jar marinated artichoke heart quarters
  - 9 slices bacon, cut in half
1. Heat oven to 425°F. Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil. Drain artichoke heart quarters, reserving liquid.
  2. Wrap each artichoke heart quarter with a half-slice bacon. Secure with a toothpick.
  3. Place on baking sheet. Drizzle with reserved liquid from artichokes. Roast 12 to 15 minutes or until lightly browned and cooked through.

### Turkey with Cranberry-Merlot Sauce

Tender turkey breast, arranged on a platter with this sweet-and-savory sauce is perfect on a buffet table. If you're serving a crowd, this recipe doubles easily. Or serve this turkey breast alongside a spiral-sliced ham.

- Serves: 6**
- 2 pounds boneless, skinless turkey breast
  - 3/4 teaspoon garlic salt
  - 1 cup frozen chopped onion
  - 1 16-ounce can whole cranberry sauce
  - 1 cup Merlot or other red wine
  - 1 1-ounce packet peppercorn sauce mix
1. Sprinkle turkey with garlic salt; set aside.
  2. Place onion in a 5-quart slow cooker. Place turkey on top. In medium bowl, stir together cranberry sauce, wine and peppercorn sauce mix. Pour over turkey.
  3. Cover and cook on low heat 4 to 6 hours until internal temperature reaches 170°F.
  4. Slice turkey and serve with cooking juices.



Turkey with Cranberry-Merlot Sauce





# REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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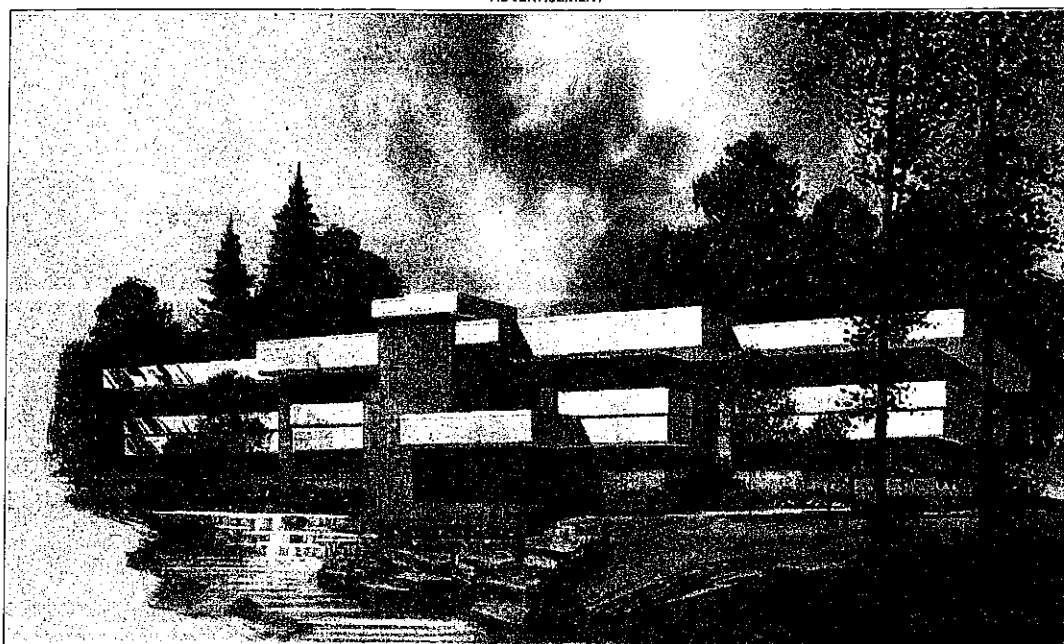
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Architecturally stunning, the Edgewater Medical Building in Commerce Township has a few prime suites still available for immediate lease or purchase.

## Office condos offer flexibility

Group 3 blends classic design with quality construction

By Kate Phillips  
SPECIAL WRITER

It's changing the way professionals do business.

Group 3 Inc., a development, construction and realty-services firm, has revolutionized the small office practice by making the office condominium commonplace to the marketplace in Michigan.

Partners Tim Adams and Charlie Percy have developed a strong reputation in the community as they build and develop solutions for local professionals, and those who want to extend their practice into the area.

"Office condominiums are good for the entire community, because when people own a building, they take better care of it and it is an asset to the community over the long-term," said Charlie Percy.

### COST SAVING

In times when funds are tight, and medical reimbursements aren't as predictable as they were in the past, many doctors and other professionals are stabilizing their costs by switching to office condominiums. Very often, an owner finds that his mortgage payment is less than a lease payment.

"There are so many advantages to ownership," said Tim Adams. "This is one way that an office can save money, fix expenses and take advantage of tax incentives. In addition, they are building equity for their future."

Group 3 Inc. has several lending sources that offer 90 percent to 100 percent financing to medical professionals, as well as other businesses.

The office condominiums make it easy for doctors and other professionals to start up a private practice, or open a satellite office to grow their customer base.

If the business chooses to relocate, they can either sell the condo or build for their future by leasing it to another business.

### Rent vs. Buy Analysis

If you would like to receive a complimentary Rent vs. Buy Analysis for your business and office-space needs, call Group 3 Inc. They will be happy to provide this for you.

(248) 684-0808 • (248) 330-6766

### GROUP 3 INC.

Development, Construction and Realty Services  
1550 N. Milford Road, in Milford  
(248) 330-6766  
www.group3online.com

Often, businesses buy two adjacent condos, and lease one out to help offset expenses until they are able to expand into both spaces.

### FLEXIBILITY

The properties developed by Group 3 are so successful, and have 100 percent occupancy rates because they are built around flexibility.

The ownership plan is flexible. Some businesses buy the condo, others enter into a commercial lease, while others lease with an option to buy.

The type of office that can be built is also flexible. Group 3 offers customized build-outs, in both new and existing properties. They're experienced enough to help buyers design the perfect space for their practice, to achieve that perfect fit and finish for their business space, whether it centers around a medical use, professional office or retail.

### SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS

For several years Group 3 has been offering business professionals office condominiums throughout the Oakland County.

Adams and Percy are embraced by the local communities because the buildings reflect the beauty of the surrounding areas, and are constructed out of quality, timeless materials with classic architecture that a business owner would be proud to call his own.

The offices of Group 3 are located in the lovely Woodland Center on Milford Road, just north of the Village in Milford Township. Other successful projects are the Heritage Crossing on Highland Road at Milford Road in Highland, plus Saddlebrook Farms and Stonecrest in Highland. Several other equally successful projects are currently under way and accepting reservations for space.

Both men live in and support the communities where they do business. Adams and Percy both live with their families in Highland Township, not far from their office.

### GENERAL CONTRACTORS

Group 3 also works as general contractors for commercial and residential projects. Percy serves as the construction manager, after nearly 20 years as a builder.

The company is now working on a large addition at Edgewood Country Club in Commerce, and the new Dobskis Restaurant

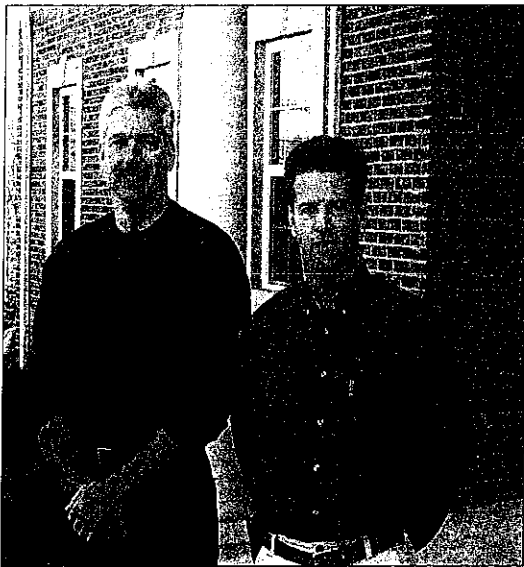


Photo by KATE PHILLIPS

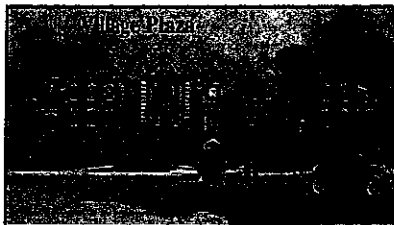
Group 3 is a general contractor and commercial real estate developer and builder. Tim Adams and Charlie Percy stand in front of their offices in the beautiful Woodland Center in Milford.

in Waterford, as well as several custom homes, additions and remodels. Group 3 is available for construction work on all new and existing structures.

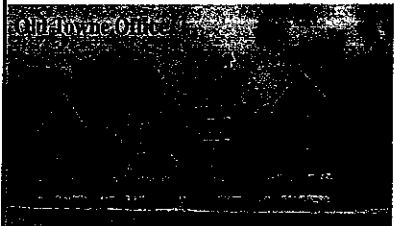
### NEW OFFICES AVAILABLE

Group 3 is now offering a number of spaces in prime locations throughout the area. Office condominiums, lease, and lease-to-own space is now available in:

- **Village Plaza**  
This approximately 27,000-square-foot three-story building will be constructed on Milford Road in downtown Milford, across from Hector and Jimmy's Restaurant. It will include office and residential space.
- **Hartland Offices**  
A new property is being planned in the growing community of Hartland. The smaller building, which is 10,000 square feet, will fit in with the quaint downtown village architecture. It will be located right next to the township hall on Hartland Road, north of M-59 and visible from U.S.-23.
- **Union Lake Office Center**  
An approximately 12,000-square-foot medical and general office is now in the planning stages. Three beautiful, traditionally styled, single-story buildings will be located on Union Lake Road, north of Commerce Road, in Commerce Township.
- **Olde Town Village**  
This approximately 105,000 square feet will be comprised of four three-story buildings that are still comfortable with old-world charm. The medical and general office building is located at Beck Road and Grand River Avenue in Novi.
- **Edgewater Medical**  
This approximately 29,000-square-foot contemporary building is located in Commerce Township, near Edgewood Country Club, shopping areas, and other medical offices. There is still some office space immediately available.
- **Marquee Building**  
The Marquee Building is a sleek, three-



Located in Milford Village



Located in Novi

**WHY RENT??**  
Group 3 offers an affordable, money saving alternative for business professionals  
Suite Ownership from 1,000 sq. ft. to 30,000 sq. ft.

You only purchase what you need vs. the entire building and grounds. Ownership builds equity instead of a stack of lease payment receipts. Your build-out decisions increase your equity not the landlord's. CAM expenses are shared proportionately with other owners. You can plan for the future expansion, plus you may wish to lease out extra space to offset operating expenses. There could be tax advantages. Pride of ownership usually denotes a nicer facility as your business grows!

Group Inc.

For more information  
Please call Tim Adams  
248.684.0808 Ext. 3

\* Also available: Hartland Office Center in Hartland



Located in Walled Lake



Located in Commerce Twp.