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PAGE 1B

**• FRIDAY**

Come get wild at O'Tooles of Novi, 4555 Novi Road, by hitting the dance floor and enjoying top DJs spinning the hits. O'Tooles also offers a full menu including pizza and burgers and is wireless if your Friday includes a laptop. Call (248) 349-7038 for more information.

**• SATURDAY**

Attend the Savas Health Expo from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. today at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. Entry fee is \$20 and up and includes information, screenings, classes, meals and prizes. Call (248) 356-5033 or visit <http://malista.com/Savasepo.htm>.

**• SUNDAY**

Outdoorama is today at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave. Call (517) 371-1041 for more information. Admission \$10 for adults.

**• MY NOVI BULLETIN BOARD**  
Novi's official events calendar.  
Page 15A



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# Novi News

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2007

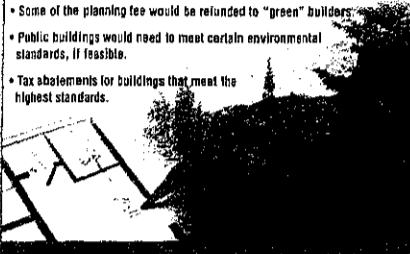
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VOLUME 51 #39 50 CENTS

**Going Green**

Novi is considering implementing a "Green" building policy. It could include:

- Faster plan review — if certain environmental standards are met.
- Some of the planning fee would be refunded to "green" builders.
- Public buildings would need to meet certain environmental standards, if feasible.
- Tax abatements for buildings that meet the highest standards.



## Go green?

**■ City of Novi considers environmentally-friendly building policies**

By Greg Migliore  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

"Green" developments could be sprouting in Novi this spring.

City leaders are considering environmentally-friendly or "green" building policies for developers to follow. The rules would be voluntary, but offer several incentives to builders that conform to them.

Chiefly, developers would get a speedier site review, a refund of some planning fees and tax breaks.

"I think the green building policy represents the wave of the future of where communities are going to go," Novi City Council Member Andrew Mutch said.

"We can be the leader on that — or we can play catch-up on that — but it's going to happen."

Mutch and supporters of the policies said they would cut long-term costs for developers, but not everyone is sold on the plan.

A resolution supporting green standards was postponed by the City Council earlier this month amidst concerns the policies would further cement Novi's reputation for being hard on developers. It could be brought up again in a couple months, Mutch said.

**Developers watching closely**

Local developers are taking a wait-and-see approach, but are initially supportive — as long as the policies are voluntary and offer benefits to them.

"The incentives have to be there from the public policy makers," said Matthew Sosin, vice president of Northern Equities Group, a Farmington Hills-based developer that does extensive work in Novi.

For green policies to catch on, Sosin said, companies would need to understand the economic benefits to them.

"(It's) how the market values what dollars you're putting into that building," he said.

ITC Holdings Corp., which is planning to build a new headquarters in Novi, is open to environmental standards for the city. ITC's facility will feature many windows to reduce energy costs and is being constructed to minimize impact on nearby wetlands.

"Certainly, building a headquarters that was more green-friendly was on our minds," ITC spokeswoman Lisa Aragon said.

Although the policies hit a road block at council, Novi officials are watching how similar policies play out in other communities, including Auburn Hills.

"It's something that is in keeping with Novi's tradition of preserving natural areas when possible," City Manager Clay Pearson said. "We're for anything that provides long-term cost efficiencies."

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

## SPOTLIGHT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

# Islands of Opportunity

**■ Novi's office, service and technology districts key to economic future**

By Greg Migliore  
STAFF WRITER

Novi is banking its economic future on three letters — OST.

The non-descript, three letter-acronym is the official designation for the city's office, service and technology districts — and the unofficial buzzword for Novi's plans for a modern, white-collar based economy that could insulate the city from the brutal economic conditions that have buffeted the rest of Metro Detroit.

The districts rake in significant tax dollars and generally don't require the high level of city services of other areas, like residential. In a nutshell, OST districts fund Novi's rapid growth by providing revenue needed for infrastructure expansion and repair.

"The OST areas are really seen as the city's long-term bread and butter for providing job opportunities," City Manager Clay Pearson said.

**What it is**

The sector is comprised of development islands, which spread out along the city's north-eastern border, and then cut through its middle, roughly mirroring the shape of the Hawaiian archipelago. Most the districts are sandwiched between Haggerty Road and M-5, extending from 14 Mile down to the Interstate 696 interchange. About 1,098 acres of land are zoned for OST.

The seven-year-old districts feature a diverse mix of business-



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Michael Lembke, director of automotive advancement at Timken Co., shows Novi City Manager Clay Pearson a wheel hub assembly that the Novi R&D facility makes for the Big 3. Timken's specialty are the wheel's ball bearings.

**What is the OST?**  
OST stands for office, service and technology. It represents a cluster of companies in an area, specifically zoned to encourage development. Facts about it include:  
• About 20 percent of OST land is developed or under construction  
• About 40 percent of the land doesn't have buildings  
• Was created about seven years ago  
• Companies include Lewis Technology, the Rock Financial Showplace and Magna Interior  
SOURCE: City of Novi

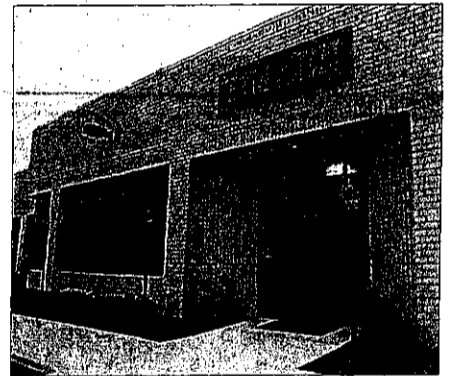


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

continued on page 8 Timken's north Novi business location.

**SPOTLIGHT INSIDE:**

**SIBLING RIVALRY: SUBURBS CLAW FOR DEVELOPMENTS . . . . .9A**

**NOVI'S DEVELOPMENT FORMULA: OPEN SPACES = MONEY . . .8A**

**MOLECULAR INNOVATIONS: NEW R&D, LAB FACILITY . . . . .8A**

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News  
Claire Abraham likes to attend concerts and sporting events and collects the ticket stubs.

## Honor student reaches for dreams despite disability

By Renee Gates  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Claire Abraham describes herself as a determined person with an optimistic attitude.

Her 100-pound frame may be frail and her body may need the support of her motor-powered wheelchair, but don't let that fool you.

In 18 years the Novi High School honor student has never let it get in the way of reaching her goals, and she says it never will.

"I've always been really motivated, but motivated to be suc-

cessful overall," Abraham said. "I just wanted to be a well-rounded person academically and socially ... and that's all I really ever wanted to be."

**Yes, she can**

Abraham has never crawled or walked. When she was 15 months old she was diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a neuromuscular disease where the muscles deteriorate but the brain and sensory nerves are not affected.

Claire began riding in her

motorized wheel chair when she was 3 to the pre-primary impaired program at Novi Woods Elementary. She never looked back.

"She is my inspiration" said Stacy Abraham, Claire's mother.

"If I have a bad day or think that I have problems, then I look at Claire and how she just doesn't even blink at all the obstacles she faces in a day.

"She can't open doors. She sits outside of a doorway in the hall waiting for someone to come open doors for her. Or when someone says, 'The paper is on

the desk.' She can't reach the desk or the counter. But she just flies through the day. All of her teachers are so impressed with how motivated she is and how she pushes on all the time."

For her persistence, her well roundedness and her 3.95 grade point average, Claire is receiving the "YES I CAN!" award for academic achievement March 1 in Grand Rapids. The National Foundation for Exceptional Children created the award in 1981 to honor young people with

continued on page 10

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**INDEX**

Bulletin Board . . . . .15A	Public Safety . . . . .13A
Education . . . . .10A	Regional Marketplace . . . . .6B
Food for Thought . . . . .5B	Senior Citizens . . . . .5A
Commentary . . . . .14A	Sports . . . . .1B
People of Novi . . . . .7A	Your Novi Community . . . . .2A

**OBITUARIES**

Martin R. LeBlanc, 44  
Terry Thomas, 83  
Page 7A

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## PERFECT PARTIES

### Parents gravitate to themes for children's fetes

By Victoria Mitchell  
 NEWS STAFF WRITER

Toss out the Dixie cups and Chiné plates. That just isn't going to cut it.

When it comes to children's birthday parties, experts say it is all about themes — and the more involved the better.

"Theme parties are very popular," said Tracy Ann Kosar, owner of Enchanted Garden Tea Party. "I think this is what parents are going

for nowadays."

The company, servicing Novi, provides parents with themed tea party birthday packages.

"My most popular package is the 'My Little Princess Tea Party,'" Kosar said.

As part of the package, children receive a two-hour party including dress-up clothes, custom invitations, table setting, porcelain tea set and table setting, porcelain tea set and table setting, porcelain tea set and table setting, porcelain tea set and table setting.

The convenience  
 Kosar said another bonus of

going with an event planner for children's birthday parties is it takes the burden off parents, allowing them to relax and enjoy.

"I take care of everything from the beginning to the end," Kosar said. "From the food to the China to being hostess."

Kosar said since opening her business in 2004, the number of parents looking for themed party planning has increased.

"I think with the tea parties it is a very unique thing," she said.

Holding themed parties at other venues is another popular trend, experts said.

Novi locations include Novi Ice Arena, Novi Bowl and Putting Edge Fun Center.

#### How to plan a Birthday party (without losing your mind)

- Start your planning early
- Get an idea on your guest list to determine how many kids will attend
- Pick something fun and appropriate for your child
- Decide whether you're having the party at home or another location
- Set a budget and stick to it
- Create a party organization table
- Enlist lots of help for party prep
- Be sure your little one's night's sleep the night



SOURCE: DetroitBirthdays.com



Barb Kehoe, manager of Twelve Oaks Mall's All The Hoopla looks at some of the specialized birthday party hats made by Department 56 that her retail shop offers. The hats go for \$25.

#### The cost

For about \$20 per child, parents can throw a birthday party at the Putting Edge Fun Center including golf at the 18-hole, multi-themed glow-in-the-dark course with a private party following featuring food and crafts.

Kosar charges anywhere from \$280 and up for her deluxe tea parties.

Sales associates at Party America Novi said the cost of parents pulling theme parties together themselves ranges anywhere from \$50-\$300.

Associates said the most popular do-it-yourself themes include parents grabbing matching cups, plates, napkins and balloons with the cartoon characters Dora the Explorer and SpongeBob SquarePants.

Other popular themed items sold at the West Oaks location includes gift bags and favors.

gift bags are out of control; kids are being over-stimulated; and themes and venues have to be cooler and better each year.

The Minnesota-based group was formed to raise awareness of the growing problem of outrageous parties and offer alternatives for parents and kids who want birthdays without pressure.

#### The consequences

While Kosar said her clients have all been extremely thrilled with her company's themed tea

Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or vmitchell@gannett.com.



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## Think women don't have heart attacks? They do.

And women are more likely to die from their first heart attack.

Women may not have the same symptoms as men. What to watch for:

- Weakness, fatigue
- Sweating
- Nausea
- Dizziness, lightheadedness
- Shortness of breath
- Chest discomfort/burning that lasts more than a few minutes or spreads to back, neck, jaw, or stomach
- Uncommon or unusual hot flashes (especially with other symptoms)

If you have any of these symptoms, call 9-1-1 immediately.

The sooner you get help, the better your chances of surviving a heart attack without permanent heart damage.

Huron Valley Ambulance paramedics can diagnose heart attacks on the scene and contact hospitals whose cardiac teams are ready to treat you on arrival.



- The results:
- Fewer deaths
  - Less heart damage
  - Faster recoveries

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## Experts say more and more drivers reaching for iPods

#### Invasion of the iPods

Hey... Hey... HEY! You in the cubicle there.

Take out those iPod earbuds and listen up.

These gadgets have made click wheels in the workplace as common as Starbucks coffee.

Employers report that employees are increasingly plugging in the ubiquitous white earbuds, able to tune out co-workers, ignore bosses and pretend they are somewhere else as they enter data to "Farefare for the Common Man."

Judging by the drooling over Apple Inc.'s new iPhone, there's a whole new wave of little handhelds about to invade workplaces.

The devices, costing \$499 and \$599 and set to arrive in June, have reignited the debate over what role, if any, MP3 players have in the workplace.

A Harris Interactive poll indicated that 32 percent of workers nationally used some kind of music-listening device. Nearly 80 percent thought it improved their satisfaction and/or productivity.

Cardiovascular surgeon Grayson Wheatley III promotes the use of iPods in his clinic and practice at the Arizona Heart Institute in Phoenix.

"We use iPods to deliver important medical information to patients in the waiting room and offices," he said. "We allow patients and employees to listen to their medical information which has been pre-loaded onto iPods."

Instead of reading an out-of-date magazine, patients can be updated on the latest cardiovascular information for preventing and treating cardiovascular disease.

He also encourages employees to develop new uses for iPods to help make their jobs easier.

"iPods are not a distraction but a powerful educational tool," he said. "I believe that even when used for listening to music at work, the iPods offer improved patient and employee satisfaction."

The Moss Anshell marketing agency in Phoenix has a resident DJ who spins tunes to set the workplace's mood by picking songs from a library of more than 13,000 tunes.

"Basically, one of the requirements when being hired at Moss Anshell is that you better be able to handle the constant tunes we have going on here every day, especially since we have a gigantic speaker system in the middle of the office specifically for the iPod," spokesman Ryan La Ross said.

But not everyone believes the iPod in the workplace is a positive development.

Some argue that employees waste time and block open communication by putting those conspicuous white headphone buds in their ears.

Robin Craig, a personal-branding expert based in Scottsdale, Ariz., offers the following etiquette when using an iPod at work:

- Assuming your company allows iPods, let your colleagues know you're turning it on to work.
- If anyone in your workplace approaches you, always take out the earbuds from both ears, even if your iPod is off. Anyone you have a conversation with deserves respect.
- No singing, head popping or taking your iPod to meetings.
- Be aware of your iPod's volume. If you're unsure about the noise level, remove the earbuds and cover them with your thumbs. You should barely be able to hear the music.

By Chad Graham, Gannett News Service

By Victoria Mitchell  
 RECORD STAFF WRITER

When customers walk into the showroom of Varsity Lincoln Mercury, they echo one popular need.

Dean Silver, general sales manager of the Novi dealership, said customers are looking for ways to connect their Apple iPods.

"It is a very popular request," he said.

During a January press conference, Apple president Steve Jobs announced 70 percent of new cars sold in the U.S. offer iPod connectivity as an option.

That statistic echoed at the Detroit Auto Show, where iPod friendly models were introduced in droves.

Silver said Novi is a community interested in iPod technology, which includes downloading music, books, TV shows, movies and podcasts.

According to a survey conducted by text-to-speech software manufacturer NextUp.com, three out of four iPod and portable consumers also use their devices for listening to text outside the home or office, with 60 percent listening in their car.

The company manufactures TextAloud software utilizing voice synthesis to "speak aloud" documents, Web pages and e-mails for playback by MP3 players.

Rick Ellis, president of NextUp.com, said most people view their commute to work as wasted time, but with the use of portable audio devices like iPods, a whole new world for the commuter has opened up.

According to Novi Mayor David Landry, 183,000 vehicles travel Interstate 275 each day, and 153,000 vehicles pass through Interstate 96.

"The world passes through Novi," he said during his recent state of the city address.

And traffic backups come hand-in-hand with long or congested commutes, causing many drivers to reach for their MP3 players for solace.

"The technology will eventually replace CDs and CD changers," Silver said. "This is how prevalent iPods are."

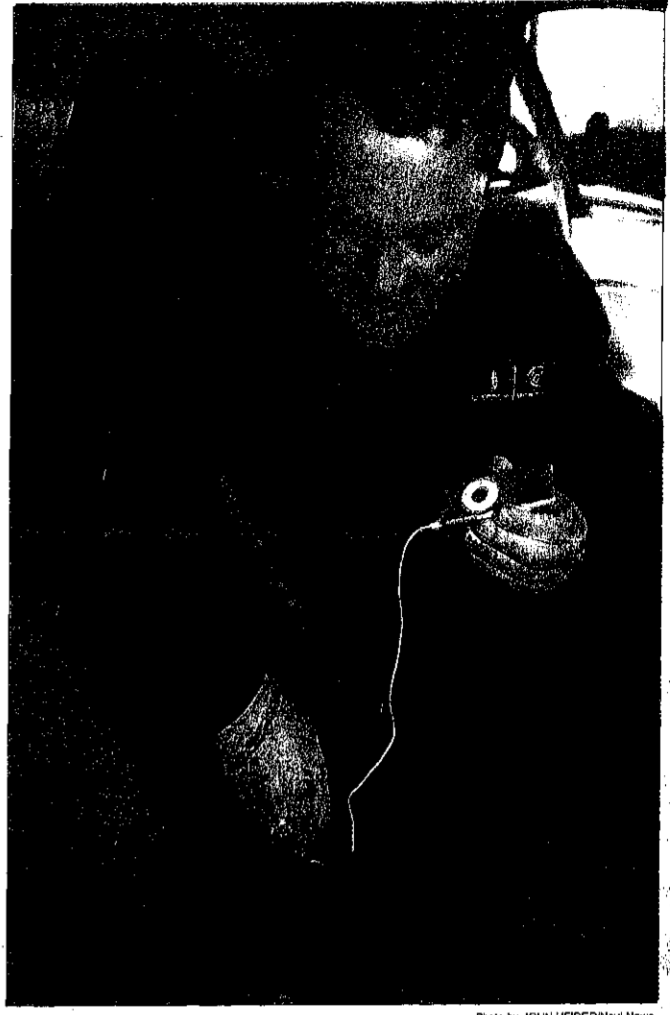


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News  
 Vladimir Aksenich attaches an iPod to the sound system of a 2007 Mercury Milan at Novi's Varsity Ford. Personal music players, like iPods are making many commuters' travels more enjoyable as people bring along their own favorite tunes.

"It is a great advance that will eventually free up a lot of dashboard room for technology."

Ford Motor Company executives announced in January the launch of a new factory-installed, in-car communications and entertainment system designed to change the way consumers use digital media portable music players and cell phones, including iPod connectivity.

Features of the "sync" technology scheduled for debut in select 2008 Ford and Mercury models include a USB 2.0 port for command, control and charging of digital media players and USB digital storage devices.

The new iPod-friendly technology will be available in the 2008 Ford Focus, Fusion, Edge, Freestyle, Explorer and Sport Trac; Mercury Milan, Montego and Mountaineer; and Lincoln MKX and MKZ.

Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or vmitchell@gannett.com.

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# Beating breast cancer: Survivors tell their stories

By Tracy Mishler  
NEWS SPECIAL WRITER

Gretchen Pugsley is a survivor. Clear of breast cancer for five years now, Pugsley, 73, of Novi, has learned to appreciate life more.

"I found the lump myself," Pugsley said. "I immediately went and saw my gynecologist and she sent me for a mammogram and ultrasound."

Pugsley said she was told the lump was near tissue, but she wasn't comfortable with the diagnosis.

"I wanted a second opinion, so I went to a specialist and was diagnosed with breast cancer in my right breast in November 2001," she said.

Pugsley is a third-generation breast cancer patient, diagnosed in her grandmother, Johannah Duff, at age 83, and in her mother, Vera Seltz, at age 46.

"I've been extra aware all my life," she said. "I was in my late 60s when I was diagnosed, and your chances are higher the older you get."

Pugsley said she opted to have a mastectomy, leaving her chest muscles.

"You do have choices," she said. "I grew up with a mother who had a mastectomy and she survived 14 years after."

Mentally, I felt more comfortable having the breast removed," Pugsley said. "I didn't find the surgery painful, and I wasn't ill or anything else."

She said her surgery was done at noon as an outpatient procedure in December 2001, and she was home by 6:30 p.m.

"I didn't cry," she said. "It didn't affect me that way. I knew from my mom that I was going to be OK."

Like Pugsley, many women are diagnosed and survive breast cancer every year.

According to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, every two minutes a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 211,000 new cases are expected in the U.S. this year.

"Breast Cancer is the most common cancer in women today, but not the most common cause of death," said Dr. Judie Goodman, an oncologist specializing in breast cancer, of the Novand Medical Group at Providence Hospital. "More women are being diagnosed with early stage breast cancer, and early detection is definitely helpful."

Goodman said though there is no cure for breast cancer, doctors and scientists know much more about the disease now than they did 10 years ago.

"We're far ahead of where we were," she said. "Instances are declining. We're really identifying people who benefit from certain types of therapies, and we're not giving chemotherapy to everyone."

"We're able to give women a better idea of prognosis."

thing I could about the disease," Mathers said the scariest part about having cancer was not knowing what was going to happen.

"The worst fear is fear of the unknown," she said. "So I became an expert. And my fear went away."

Mathers, now 58, is a 10-year breast cancer survivor.

"I don't know if it will ever come back," she said. "But I can't live my days in fear. Now I spend my days educating others."

Both Mathers and Pugsley said they use their experiences with breast cancer to inform other women of the disease.

"I'm very active in my garden club, and after every meeting, I always ask if I can give a message," Pugsley said. "I tell them I'm a survivor, to keep on their testing and to not be afraid."

race for the cure."

Goodman said though everyone is different and every treatment is different, if caught early, breast cancer can be stopped in its tracks.

"I think we're getting closer (to finding a cure)," she said. "We're really beginning to understand all the cellular pathways that both initiate and promote the uncontrolled cell growth (in breast cancer), and we're making really remarkable progress."

"The most important thing is early detection. If you feel something and your doctor doesn't feel the need to do a biopsy, go see another doctor."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News  
**Five-year breast cancer survivor Gretchen Pugsley, left, will lace up her sneakers this June with daughter Nora Meyer for the Race for a Cure fundraiser. She will race as a member of Julie's Angels, in memory of a friend's daughter, Pugsley, a Novi resident, is also a third generation cancer survivor.**

**Racing for a cure**

Both Pugsley and Mathers also participate in the annual Race for the Cure in downtown Detroit.

"We've raced for six years," Pugsley said. "We race for our friend's daughter who died from breast cancer."

Known as Julie's Angels, Pugsley said her group has more than 200 members and has been the largest family-generated group for the past two years.

The 10th annual Detroit Race for the Cure will be Saturday, June 16 at Comerica Park and registration is now available.

"There needs to be a cure, and that's why we've raised millions over the past years," Mathers said. "We race for the cause. We

### Breast Cancer Myths

- ❖ **Myth:** Finding a lump in your breast means you have breast cancer.  
**Truth:** Eight out of ten lumps are benign, or not cancerous.
- ❖ **Myth:** Men do not get breast cancer.  
**Truth:** This year 211,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 43,300 will die; however, 1,600 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 400 will die.
- ❖ **Myth:** Having a family history of breast cancer means you will get breast cancer.  
**Truth:** While women who have a family history of breast cancer are in a higher risk group, most women who have breast cancer have no family history.

Source: National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc.

### New study to better quality of life

Henry Ford Hospital is conducting a study to test the effectiveness of acupuncture in breast cancer patients receiving hormonal therapy, in order to reduce the nuisance of hot flashes.

The study is being done at the Henry Ford Center for Integrated Medicine in Novi, and main hospital in Detroit.

Researchers are currently looking for eligible patients interested in proving that acupuncture is just as effective in reducing hot flashes as the hormonal drug Effexor.

Dr. Eleanor Walker, director of breast radiation oncology for Henry Ford Hospital and lead study investigator, said the reason for the study is to better the quality of life for cancer survivors.

"I was trying to look for another way that would have few side effects and relieve side effects," Walker said. "Women do complain of hot flashes enough, and this is another way we can try and make their quality of life better."

Walker said the study lasts 12 weeks, and those eligible to take part are randomly chosen to receive acupuncture treatment or Effexor hormonal treatment.

"In order to be eligible, the patients have to have had breast cancer within the past five years, have had anti-estrogen hormonal therapy and have at least two hot flashes a day," she said. "An alternative form of treatment with minimal or no side effects is needed."

Henry Ford Hospital is recruiting eligible patients until April 30. For more information, call (313) 916-9398.

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**MY NOVI PEOPLE**

Thursday, February 22, 2007  
www.novinews.com  
(248) 349-1700 ext. 113  
estone@gannett.com

### OBITUARIES

**MARTIN R. LEBLANC**  
Age 44, of Novi, passed away February 8, 2007. Beloved son of Lois A. LeBlanc and the late Gerald A. LeBlanc. Dear brother of Greg Vincent (Lulu Beth), Aaron (Lara) and Desree. Adored uncle of Kyle, Renee, Robert Stehl (Emily), Joseph Stani, Madeline Hall and Sydney. Well loved by many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Many graduated with honors from Novi High School in 1981. He was a Chief Warrant Officer (CW2) in the Army National Guard. He became a member of the Army's Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) in 2002. He was an experienced helicopter pilot with 22 years of service in the military. He was well known for his love of aviation. LeBlanc's name will be added to the memorial wall for soldiers at the Grand Lodge, 301 Army Base. Memorial gifts may be made online at: [www.healthcarefoundation.org](http://www.healthcarefoundation.org) or by mail. Contributions to Healthcare Foundation (please specify Postage/Philanthropy - Arthur Bates Fund), P.O. Box 4433, Gathersburg, MD 20878. Arrangements by Catherine Funeral Home, Inc. of South Lyon 248-446-1111.

### TERRY THOMAS

Age 83 of Farmington, N.J., and Verona, a father for many years in Novi and surrounding communities, died February 17. Predeceased by his wife Lorraine J. in 1992. Survived by daughter, Laurie (Robert) Bates son Joseph C. (Robin) Thomas, daughter Kelly, grandchildren Ryan, Brian, Jason, Bates, Kimberly, Thomas, Ryan, Kuhlou, Brian, and dear friend Florence Flannigan. Memorial service 1-4 pm February 24 at home of Laurie Bates, 734-624-5578. No flowers please. Memorial donations may go to Kidney Foundation.

### OBITUARY POLICY

The first seven lines of an obituary are published free of charge. After that, there is a fee of \$3 a line. Pictures may be published for \$25.

\*Deadline for obituaries is Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. for publication in Thursday's newspaper.

For more information, call 888-999-1288, or contact your funeral home.

\*Makes obituaries subject to change

For breaking news on the Web: [www.novinews.com](http://www.novinews.com)

### SOUTH LYON THEATER

Newly Renovated Theater

STARTS Fri., Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>

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Friday Feb 23, 7pm  
Sat 1 & 7 Only  
Sun 1, 4 & 7pm  
Mon - Thurs 7pm Only

Wednesday  
FREE sm. Popcorn with paid admission

Thursday  
FREE Ice Cream with paid admission

Monday is Senior Citizen Night \$3 admission

126 E. Lake St.  
437-4545

### WEDDING

**Mr. and Mrs. Brendan Hadley**

Chloe Clark and Brendan Thomas Hadley were married on Sept. 16, 2006, at the Chapel of St. John's in Plymouth. Father Kelleher officiated the ceremony. A reception at The Inn at St. John's followed the wedding.

The bride is the daughter of Thomas and Claudia Clark of Novi. She is a 2000 graduate of Novi High School and 2004 graduate of Miami University. She is currently employed as a category analyst with Keaf Foods.

The groom is the son of Dr. Thomas and Carol Hadley of Columbus, Ohio. He is a 2000 graduate of Novi High School, and 2004 graduate of Miami University. He is employed as an underwriter with Fifth Third Bank.

The matron of honor was Stephanie Zywiec. Bridesmaids were Sarah Corless, Nichole Ranka, Jessica Clark, Sara Hadley and Aleagon Erwin. Madeline Erwin was the flower girl.

The best men were David Storer and Jeremy Fitzgerald. Groomsman were Christopher Dracen, Ryan Edginton, Ty Clark, George Erwin and Mitchell Maier. Andy Ravbenott and Pete Goetz served as ushers.

The bride wore an ivory charmeuse silk gown and carried a bouquet of orchid and orchids.

The couple honeymooned in Hawaii and make their home in Cincinnati.

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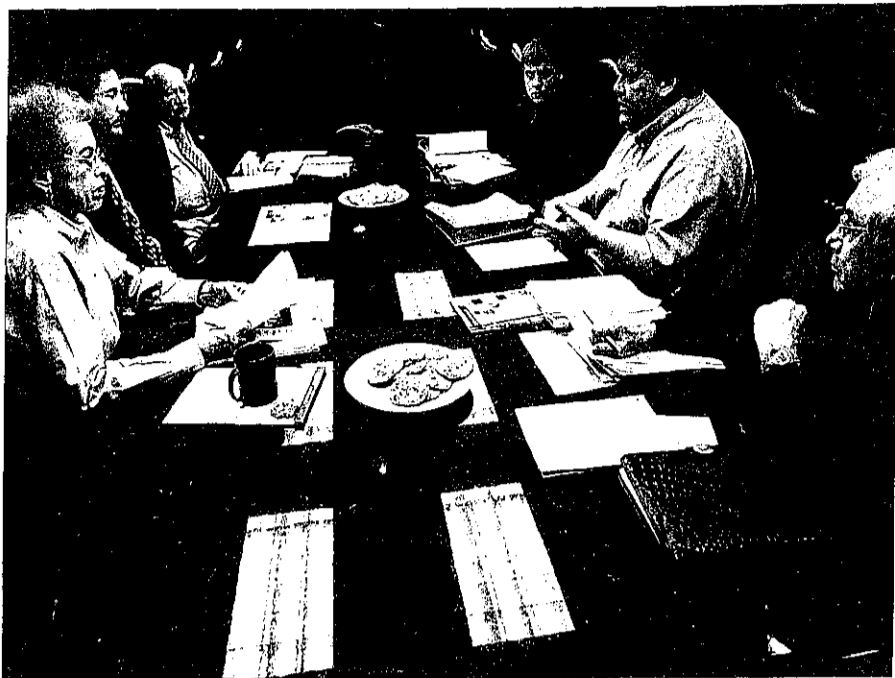
Sale ends Sunday, March 4th, except as noted. No adjustments to prior sale purchases. Selected collections, not every style in every store. Certain items and prices are on sale prices only and may or may not have resulted in sales. Advertised merchandise may be available at sale prices in upcoming sale events. Charge it with your Lord & Taylor Credit Card, or use American Express, MasterCard, Visa and the Discover Card.

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**SPOTLIGHT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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

By zoning these open areas for specialized, knowledge-based development, Novi leaders are trying to shape the city's economy and position it to compete globally.



Planning the future business growth of the city, members of the Novi Economic Development Corp. meet in the offices of FDI Group on High Pointe Blvd. From left: Eleanor Rzepecki, Mayor David Landry, Fred Ciampa, Novi City Planner Tim Schmitt and chairman of the NED - Dave Staudt.

**Novi's development formula: Open spaces = money**



Novi Mayor David Landry listens to proposals during a meeting of the Novi Economic Development Corporation.

Smart zoning key to spurring growth

By Greg Migliore  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Novi's got a formula for development. Take the wide open spaces, zone them shrewdly to cultivate the right investors — and reap the rewards of being one of the fastest-growing communities in the state. So far, it's paid off handsomely. It's perhaps most evident in the city's office, service and technology districts. Known simply as OST, the districts are one of

Novi's last truly blank canvases. By zoning these open areas for specialized, knowledge-based development, Novi leaders are trying to shape the city's economy and position it to compete globally. And they have plenty of space to do it. The OST districts total 1,098 acres — 61 percent of which is still available. In fact, 48 percent of that land is absolutely vacant, according to the most recent figures available from the city. "There's still a significant amount of development activities," said Clay Pearson, city manager. About 80 percent of the remaining open land in the city will be developed in the next seven to 10 years, Pearson said.

The underlying theory is simple: open spaces mean big bucks. The undeveloped property in OST districts is worth \$51.8 million — as is. Throw in the value of the developed property, about a third of the land, and the districts' worth balloons to \$183.3 million. And the cash can grow exponentially, said Greg Chapman, a Novi resident and investment manager at the Sierra Group. As new businesses come in, they bring more people, who eat, shop and sometimes live in the city. "You bring people in, you have centers of influence," Chapman said.

**MOLECULAR INNOVATIONS**

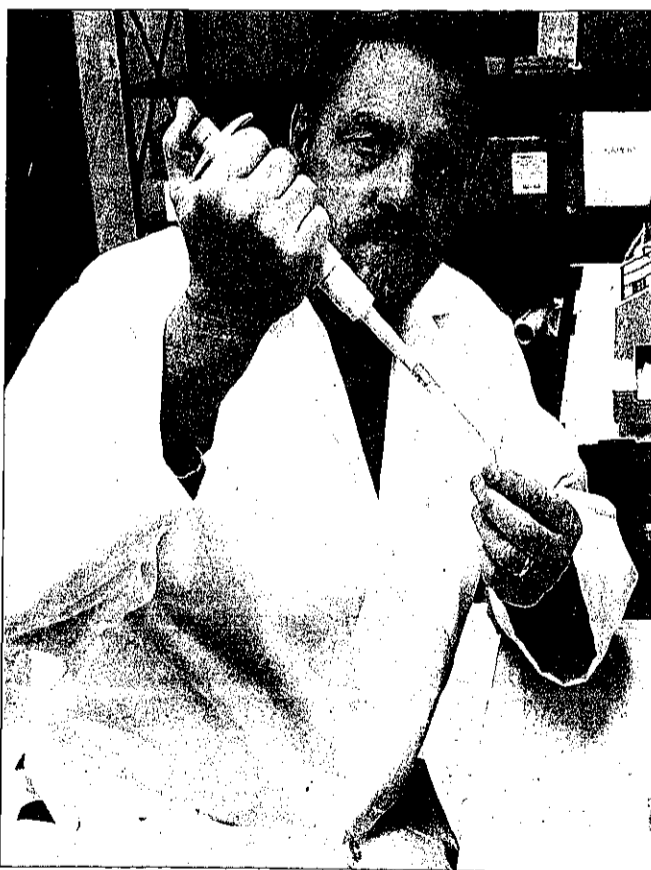
**Building new R&D, lab facility in Novi**

\$2.7 million facility to employ 50, expand global sales

By Pam Fleming  
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Duane Day is living the American dream. In a little more than a decade, the Novi resident has literally taken his biotech business, Molecular Innovations, from his garage into a \$2.7-million-dollar building. "I started the business in my garage with a crack pot," Day said. "That was my temperature-controlled water bath." The company broke ground in October 2006 on a state-of-the-art research and development lab and production facility in Novi designed by Synergy Group, Inc., of Bloomfield Hills. The 12,000-square-foot facility, to be built in the Beck North industrial park at Beck and West roads north of I-96, is scheduled for completion in fall 2007. Molecular Innovations does research on gene cloning and produces proteins for academic, institutional, commercial and pharmaceutical research use. Looking for biotech start-ups Day plans to hire about 40 new scientific and technical employees, as well as clerical staff.

He's also interested in serving as an incubator to one or more small biotech start-ups with the added space. "To have our own facility designed and built to our custom specifications to further our scientific research and expand our product offerings is simply fantastic," Day said. "This is going to give us some room to grow." Day said the firm has patent-pending technologies it wants to capitalize on, which demand expansion of staff and the physical plant. Currently, the company is headquartered in Southfield in a facility lacking the ability to control temperature or air quality — essential to cell culture work. "This is going to allow us to expand our capabilities," Day said. **Groundbreaking draws 100** About 100 well-wishers, including State Rep. Craig DeRoche, Oakland County Executive Brooks Patterson, State Sen. Nancy Cassis, Novi City Manager Clay Pearson, Novi Planning Commission Chair Victor Cassis, and Novi City Council Member Tom Nagy joined Day for the Oct. 19, 2006, groundbreaking. "This facility is at the cutting edge and symbolic of Mr. Patterson's vision of emerging sectors companies, like Molecular, creating a stronger biotechnology presence in Michigan," Day said. He decided to make the move about a year ago when he visited collaborator, Hugh Hoogendoorn, of Affinity



Duane Day, president and CEO of Molecular Innovations works in the lab of his Southfield office. Molecular Innovations, who does genetic cloning for academic and pharmaceutical purposes, will build a 12,000-square-foot lab in Novi.

About the president

Duane Day, of Novi, CEO and president of Molecular Innovations, grew up in Clarkston and graduated with a degree in chemistry from Oakland University. He was a researcher for 18 years at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and started his company on a part-time basis while working at the hospital. He left in 1998 to devote himself full-time to the company. He lived in Royal Oak, Farmington Hills, Wayne, Southfield and now Novi. He wanted to be an entomologist when he was growing up. The person who inspired him the most in his life is the late scientist Carl Sagan; astronomy is one of his hobbies.

Pam Fleming can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@gannett.com.

**SPOTLIGHT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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

**SIBLING RIVALRY: Suburbs claw for developments**

Local leaders say regionalism, cooperation key in sluggish economy

By Greg Migliore  
STAFF WRITER

Novi isn't the only city trying to attract highly skilled, lucrative white-collar jobs. The competition is cut-throat in Southeast Michigan as the area grapples with downsizings by domestic automakers and the sluggish economy. If Novi gets a high-tech corporate complex, it means Southfield, Troy or Livonia is losing out. And vice versa. Despite this, local city officials say they take a regional approach to development and use different tactics like Novi's office, service and technology districts to lure an increasingly shrinking pool of employers. Troy, long known as the economic engine of Oakland County, is a city Novi could mirror in 25 years if its rapid growth contin-

ues. Troy has several approaches for development. Its SmartZone encourages technology and knowledge-based companies in the city and features upgraded infrastructure for communication. The city also has a Downtown Development Authority, which has its own budget. Troy wants to keep pace with the growth of other communities, but City Manager Phil Nelson said he's just happy when companies simply choose to come to the area. "We'd like to have it in Troy, but if it locates in other areas of Oakland County, so be it," he said. "It's good for everybody." Livonia, like Troy, developed swiftly during the 1960s and 1970s. It was one of the original beneficiaries of the scores of residents and businesses that migrated from Detroit. Now, Livonia is concentrating on diversifying its economic base, mixing industry with office developments. The city has an Economic Development Corp. and an entrenched industrial sector, called Industry's Highway. "We pride ourselves on our diversified economy," said Jeff Bryant, Livonia's economic development director.

The Competition

Other cities are vying with Novi for lucrative white-collar jobs. A look at some of the competition:

Troy

The economic heavyweight of Oakland County has a slow of executive and office jobs. The city has a SmartZone and a Downtown Development Authority, which encourage development.

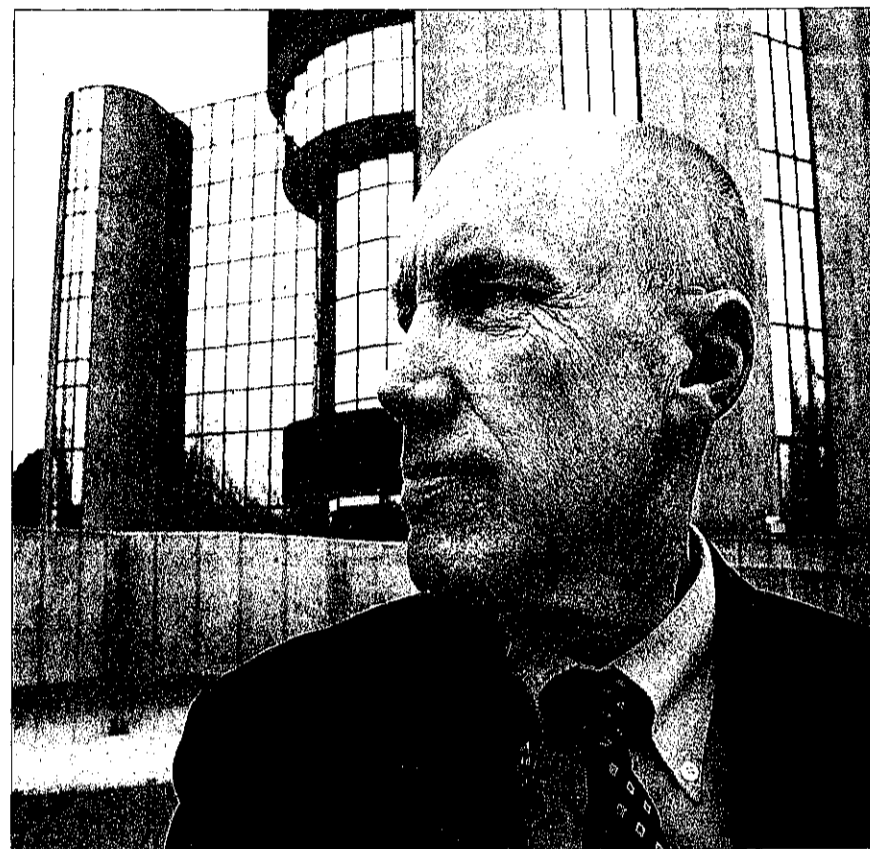
Livonia

The Wayne County suburb has more people and is more developed than Novi. It tries to spur all kinds of development through its Economic Development Corp., Industrial Corridor, as well as a recent creation called Industry's Highway.

Commerce Township

Like Novi, Commerce is a growing community. It is a "planned" development that allows developers to sidestep zoning restrictions. It improves the property. It also has a Downtown Development Authority.

SOURCE: Novi News research



Jeff Bryant, as Livonia's chief economic developer, has helped to steer the suburban community's business future. Bryant stands outside Livonia's City Hall.

The Real Competition

Despite often getting tagged with blanket labels like "cookie cutter" or "vanilla," Detroit's suburbs have various strengths and weaknesses that mean developments tend to fit better in certain communities. Novi's popular shopping district is renowned, and its growing night scene rivals places like Royal Oak, where young people commonly gather. But Novi pales in comparison to Livonia's established industrial night. "No community can be all things to all people," Bryant said. "We complement each very nicely."

Novi has stood out as a bit of a western frontier in recent years, common for up-and-coming communities. But the city has a slew of rivals in its heels, including Walled Lake, Wixom and Commerce Township, which see even further from the regional

center and offer plenty of development opportunity. Like its more built-up suburban rivals, Commerce has an economic strategy to spur growth. It uses what it calls planned unit development, allowing developers to sidestep certain zoning ordinances if they improve the property. "Whatever goes up there doesn't seem to bother what happens in Commerce," Township Supervisor Thomas Zoran said. "Regardless of recent trends, economic development tends to be cyclical. Detroit Regional Chamber CEO Richard Blouse Jr. said suburbs need to cooperate to thrive. "Our competition isn't each other," he said. "Our competition is other parts of the country, other parts of the world."

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

**ISLANDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Novi's office, service and technology districts key to economic future**

continued from front page

and create a business-friendly image. "I think they do it because it creates a whole marketing concept around it," Detroit Regional Chamber CEO Richard Blouse Jr. said. Marketing strategies aside, OST stands for green. The districts have an assessed property value of \$183.3 million, according to a 2006 city report, and remain among the highest grossing tax areas in the city. "To see it continue to work is a beautiful thing," Mayor David Landry said.

The Future

Despite its initial success, the OST districts are still a work in progress. Many of them are not developed, and the Novi officials

estimate about 48 percent of the land doesn't even have buildings. To spur future growth, the city tweaked ordinances last fall. Most notably, height guidelines were revised in the districts, allowing companies to build taller structures than were previously allowed. The underlying theory: flexibility equals jobs. "I think that they're a very aggressive job recruiter, and they certainly have a lot of clout in Oakland County," said Jeff Potter, a county commissioner who represents a portion of Novi. "Novi is in a prime position to wrest some success away from our international competitors."

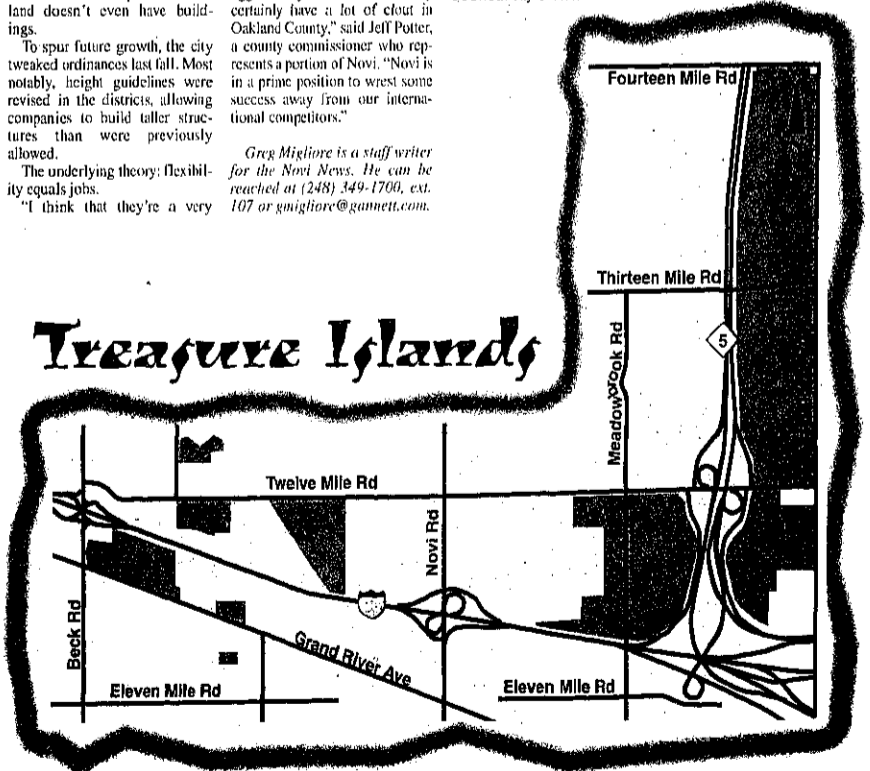
Greg Migliore is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or gmigliore@gannett.com.

NAME	PHONE	ADDRESS	CITY	INDUSTRY
Single				
Two's Cafe				
Hospitality Center				
Partners Financial Walk				
Five Run				

SOURCE: City Of Novi



Michael Lemcke talks about how Novi's Timken automotive company does for its Big 3 customers.



Novi's office, service and technology district is comprised of development islands, which spread out along the city's northeastern border and then cut through its middle, roughly mirroring the shape of the Hawaiian archipelago. By wisely cultivating economic growth in the sector, Novi leaders hope to shield the city from the economic troubles that are weighing down the rest of Michigan.



CLASS NOTES

2007 Candidates Announced

Five candidates are running for two open seats on the May 8 election of the Novi Community Schools Board of Education. Incumbent David Brown is joined by George Korfahl, Robert Murphy, Craig Parker and Karl Wronski in pursuing one of two four-year terms beginning July 1, 2007 and expiring June 30, 2011.

Novi Meadows Fun Fest

Novi Meadows Fun Fest 2007 is coming up March 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.

Scrapbook Day Fundraiser at Walled Lake Western

Walled Lake Western's Rose-hall 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 a table, space, lunch, coffee, equipment and door prizes.

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; 17 years of age or younger; and have completed at least 20 hours of community service.

filled out and returned with payment by Feb. 23 to WJW Baseball, c/o Walled Lake Western High School, 600 Beck Road, Walled Lake, MI 48390.

Walled Lake Schools Parenting Fair

Walled Lake Schools will hold the annual Parenting Fair Saturday, March 10 at Walled Lake Central High School. The keynote speaker will be Michael Garian. There will be 24 sessions to select from, childcare available and a PISA Council Health Information Fair.

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. The prizes include \$10,000, a trip to Chicago, Tiffany crystal star, a prize from Self magazine, an invitation to the Star Teacher Awards Gala at Universal Studios in Orlando and a laptop computer for the school's media center.



A group of girls hurdle down the slope of Novi's North Lakeshore Park. Included are Emma Hagan, Caillie Rafalko, Emily Rafalko, Sarah Rafalko, Brittany Pol, Kelly Girschler, and Molly Anger.

http://www.novik12.mis.us

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 fall or half day classes. If a registration form is not available, sign up for classes and a registration form will be sent to you.

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. The evening will feature food and dance with proceeds to benefit Novi Community students.



Gary D. Greely D.D.S. P.C. Family Dentistry

332 East Main St., Suite B Downtown Northville 248-349-1616 Graduate of Catholic Central, University of Detroit, University of Michigan Dental School Licensed in Michigan, Fla., & Ariz. Most insurance accepted (including MET) Emergencies Welcome! Hours: 8-6 M, T, Th, F

Flower Alley advertisement: NOW OPEN! From Elegant to Whimsical Florals, Balloons & Gifts. Weddings • Special Events • Sympathy Tributes. 20% OFF Next Purchase. 25914 Novi Road • just South of Grand River 248.305.9190

OUDOORAMA February 21-25. Michigan's biggest and best hunting, fishing and sportsman's show! Present this ad and get \$1 off admission.

clearwater KINETICO advertisement: Bottle Water Without the Bottles! Get GREAT Tasting SAFE WATER at a fraction of bottled water prices. FREE Reverse Osmosis Purifier with each new Kinetico Softener Purchase. FREE INSTALLATION \$9.95 A Month Rent-to-Own.

Open House NORTHVILLE CO-OP PRESCHOOL. March 3, 2007 from 10a.m. - Noon. Enrolling for 2007-2008 2's, 3's, & 4's classes Science Enrichment classes. \$10.00 off registration!

SPOTLIGHT ON: ALLERGY & ASTHMA. Presented by Michael S. Rowe, M.D., F.A.C.P., C.P.I. ASTHMA RISK FACTORS. Over the years, experts have gathered an amazing amount of information about sleep, year, regular schedule and lifestyle.

Monthly bills advertisement: When it comes to managing your monthly expenses, less is more. That's where a Huntington First Mortgage Equity Loan comes in. Fixed rate as low as 5.99% APR. Don't wait any longer than you have to. To make less of more, call toll-free 1-800-550-7958 for an instant answer or stop by any of our banking offices.

REPORT CRIME: Call (248) 348-7100 for non-emergencies in the city of Novi. MY PUBLIC SAFETY. Thursday, February 22, 2007 www.novinews.com fax: (248) 349-9832

Beefing up the Bark: Police K-9 unit gets muscle car

Cops to get Hemi-powered Magnum by spring in Novi. The Novi police are adding more muscle to their K-9 unit. After years of jamming the police dog into a patrol car or lumbering around the city in a hulking SUV, the department is buying a 2007 Dodge Magnum, complete with the potent Hemi V-8 engine.

BARK AND BITE advertisement: Hemi 5.7 liter V-8 engine 340hp. Holding Area For Dog. Rear Wheel Drive. High-Performance Suspension.

The car also holds a good deal of symbolism for the four-legged officers, who see it as their dog house on wheels. "They see that car, and they equate it with: it's time to go to work," Lindberg said. And their job is a bit easier in the Magnum, which is larger and faster than most other police cars. Its V-8 engine pumps out 340 horsepower, considerably more than the 250 hp typically produced by police Ford Crown Victorias. The Magnum is also rear wheel drive, which usually provides better acceleration, and has a performance suspension borrowed from DaimlerChrysler's Mercedes division.

By Greg Migliore NEWS STAFF WRITER. The Novi police are adding more muscle to their K-9 unit. After years of jamming the police dog into a patrol car or lumbering around the city in a hulking SUV, the department is buying a 2007 Dodge Magnum, complete with the potent Hemi V-8 engine. The car provides more room for officers and dogs, and more speed to catch law-breaking motorists, police said. It's expected to arrive this spring, and is being bought with state drug forfeiture money for \$23,337.50. "It's going to be a great asset."

WANTED HOMES THAT NEED ROOFING. A select number of home owners in the area will be given the opportunity to have a lifetime Erie Metal Roofing System installed on their home at a reasonable cost. If we can use your home in our campaign to showcase the look of our new metal shingle roof, we will definitely make it worth your while.

Cost-Effective Statewide Coverage advertisement: Place your 2x2 display ad and reach over 3.5 million readers for just \$999! Place a 25-word classified ad and reach over 4 million readers for just \$299!

TAX PROBLEMS? Never Talk to The IRS. Talk to Tax Resolution Specialists of Michigan. Offer in Compromise, Family Abatement, File Old Returns, Installment Payments, Payroll/Sales Tax Relief. Call (248) 985-HELP (4357) for a FREE consultation. Tax Resolution Specialists of Michigan.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 07-40.06. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 07-40.06, an ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 26, "Peddlers, Solicitors and Transient Merchants" in order to clarify the provisions relating to non-commercial solicitation and the standards for granting a permit for such solicitation.

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 14, 2007, at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.214, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND APPENDIX A OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, ORDINANCE 07-18, AS AMENDED, KNOWN AS THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, SUBSECTION 2306, IN ORDER TO MODIFY THE STANDARDS FOR PARKING END ISLANDS.

Hey...Novi It's Time to Pick Your PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS. We Need Your Input On The Best Places To Shop...Best Places To Eat...Best Place For Great Service. This is NOT scientific! It's a fun, readers poll. Join in on the Balloting! Drop Off Or Mail In Ballot To: People's Choice Awards - Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167. Only one entry per person per week, 18 years or older. Ballot box stuffing will not be allowed. Partial ballots may be disqualified.

- BEST FOOD OUTLETS: Best place for coffee/donuts/bagels, Best specialty coffee house, Best place for breakfast, Best Sunday brunch, Best deli, Best fast food restaurant, Best family restaurant, Best place for soup, Best place for salad, Best place for burgers, Best place for hot dogs/coneys, Best place for subs, Best place for desserts, Best Sushi restaurant, Best Italian restaurant, Best Asian restaurant, Best Mexican restaurant, Best Greek restaurant, Best place for pizza, Best martini, Best wine selection (store), Best wine selection (restaurant), Best beer selection (store), Best beer selection (restaurant), Best place for romantic dinner, Best after work meeting place, Best sports bar, Best place for dancing.

- BEST SERVICE PROVIDERS & RETAIL STORES: Best entertainment for kids, Best bank, Best consignment store, Best eyecare, Best funeral home, Best salon, Best nail salon, Best tanning salon, Best jewelry store, Best real estate company, Best real estate agent, Best mortgage provider, Best accountant, Best auto dealer, Best auto service, Best oil change shop, Best collision shop, Best tire store, Best veterinary service, Best travel agency, Best video store, Best landscaping business, Best health/fitness club, Best car wash, Best flower shop, Best garden center, Best dance studio, Best orthodontist, Best dentist, Best custom home builder, Best apartment complex, Best insurance agency.

All Entries Must Be Received By March 6th





continued from page 15

Alzheimer's Support Group
DATE: Saturdays
TIME: 10 a.m.
DETAILS: This group will meet on the second Saturday of each month, offering support and open discussion for all those dealing with Alzheimer's.

Holy Family
LOCATION: 24505 Meadowbrook Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamilynovi.org

Parish Mission
DATE: Sunday March 4-Wednesday March 7
TIME: 7-8:30 p.m.
DETAILS: The program will be presented by Father David Farnum and Ms. Barbara Budde.

Bible Study
DATE: Thursdays
TIME: 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.
DETAILS: Join the group for prayer, sharing, and discussion of the Sunday scripture readings.

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 in Oakland County. Child care is available.

Oak Pointe
LOCATION: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 912-0043 or visit www.oakpointe.org

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

Novi United Methodist
LOCATION: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-2652

Novi United Methodist Choir Presentation
TIME/DATE: 5 p.m. Sunday, March 25
DETAILS: The Chancel choir will present Mozart's "Te Deum" which will be followed by a soup potluck.

First United Methodist of Northville
LOCATION: 777 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville
CONTACT: (248) 349-1144 or visit www.fumcnorthville.org

Career Ministry Meetings
DAYS: Sunday
TIME: 1:30-3 p.m.
DETAILS: The Career Ministry program is to help meet the needs of job seekers and others in career transition.

Crosspointe Meadows
LOCATION: 29200 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 427-2700

Gracepointe Presbyterian Worship and the Arts Ministry
CONTACT: (248) 497-3178 or e-mail gracepointe@mac.com

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

The Baha'i Faith
CONTACT: (248) 473-0355 or visit www.us.bahai.org

First Presbyterian Church of Northville
LOCATION: 200 E. Main St.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0911

St. John Providence Park Hospital-Novu Classes
LOCATION: 47601 Grand River Ave.
CONTACT: (888) 440-7325

Walking Group
TIME: 11:30 a.m.
LOCATION: First, second and fourth Saturday, Big Apple Bagel Shop, 2334 Farmington Road, Farmington

St. John Lutheran
LOCATION: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills
CONTACT: (248) 474-0584 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com

Faith Community Presbyterian
LOCATION: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-2345 or visit www.lalithcommunity-novi.org

Gracepointe Presbyterian
LOCATION: 29200 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 427-2700

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

The Baha'i Faith
CONTACT: (248) 473-0355 or visit www.us.bahai.org

First Presbyterian Church of Northville
LOCATION: 200 E. Main St.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0911

St. John Providence Park Hospital-Novu Classes
LOCATION: 47601 Grand River Ave.
CONTACT: (888) 440-7325

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.

ONGOING
SWOCC Studio Tours
LOCATION: 33300 Nine Mile Road, Farmington
DETAILS: Come in for an up-close look at the Southwest Oakland Cable Commission Studios local community television studio.

Novi Concert Band Rehearsals
LOCATION: 47601 Grand River Ave., Suite 8124
CONTACT: (348) 380-3550

Rock Financial Showplace
DATE: Friday Oct. 19
TIME: 6:30 a.m. to midnight
LOCATION: Holiday Inn Livonia, 17123 N. Laurel Park Drive, Livonia

Health Screenings at Meijer
LOCATION: 49900 Grand River Ave., Wixom
DATE: Friday, March 2
DETAILS: The pharmacy at Meijer will offer the following tests for low cost:

Boost Camp Day
DATE: Friday, March 23
TIME: 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Providence Park Hospital, Novi
DETAILS: This day-long retreat

is designed to provide participants with the tools, information and perspective toward living life in balance. The cost is \$50, including materials, and registration is required. CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

Novi Concert Band Rehearsals
LOCATION: 47601 Grand River Ave., Suite 8124
CONTACT: (348) 380-3550

Rock Financial Showplace
DATE: Friday Oct. 19
TIME: 6:30 a.m. to midnight
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Boost Camp Day
DATE: Friday, March 23
TIME: 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Providence Park Hospital, Novi
DETAILS: This day-long retreat

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 3 and Sunday, March 4
DETAILS: This is the nation's largest expo for expectant and new families. See, learn about and buy products and services for babies. Free product samples and coupons available from over 100 exhibitors. Admission is \$8, children 12 and under are free as well as grandparents. Parking is \$5. CONTACT: (877) 959-2229

Regional
Mentor Volunteers
TIME/DATE: 9 a.m. Saturday, Mar. 17
LOCATION: Oakland County Courthouse, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Pontiac

Novi Concert Band Rehearsals
LOCATION: 47601 Grand River Ave., Suite 8124
CONTACT: (348) 380-3550

Rock Financial Showplace
DATE: Friday Oct. 19
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DETAILS: This day-long retreat

MAYBURY FARM
Adopt an animal; help defray annual feed cost

Donations from \$200-\$900 set up
By Pam Fleming
SARGE is hungry, and he needs your help. The 30-year-old horse that lives at Maybury Farm in Northville Township's Maybury State Park is just one of many animals that need assistance.

What animals are at the farm?
The farm is a favorite place for families with young children who want to introduce youngsters to barnyard animals. "Most of them are hay eaters," Weeks said, and currently, the farm has seven horses — Sarge, Prince, Jewel, Julie, Jane, Patty and Rose.

Other animals include three cows; pigs Elmer and Matilda; sheep; goats; turkeys; tons of chickens; about 15 rabbits and several ducks, Weeks said.
Adopt an Animal donations don't cover the full cost of feeding an animal for a year, but they certainly help.

Those who adopt animals can come visit them when at the farm if they wish.
Shari Peters, director of the Northville Community Foundation, and members of her staff can also answer any questions residents may have about the adoption program.

Why adopt a farm animal?
So, why should local residents
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@sbciop-al.net or Mary Middleton at mvonglahn@aol.com.



Dana Weeks, Maybury Farm event coordinator, says hello to "Carmel," a Guernsey cow at the farm. Northville Community Foundation is sponsoring an Adopt an Animal program to help feed the animals.

Come visit Maybury Farm
Maybury Farm, which will open again in mid-March, is located inside Maybury State Park in Northville Township. The main entrance to this park is on the south side of Eight Mile Road west of Beck Road. Farm hours will be 11 a.m.-4 p.m. through May 30, with hours subject to change. The park charges a nominal entrance fee per vehicle. For more information, call (248) 8390.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105.

Advertisement for Charter One bank. It features a large '5.25%' APY offer for 11-month or 15-month CDs. Text includes 'One rate. Two options. Many happy returns.' and 'To open a CD, visit your nearest branch or call 1-877-TOP-RATE.'

Advertisement for Chevrolet Specials. It lists various car models with their starting prices: 2007 Chevy Impala LT (\$13,491), 2007 Aveo 5 (\$8,860), 2007 Chevy Trailblazer LS (\$17,751), 2007 Chevy Silverado Ext Cab 4x4 (\$18,325). It also lists used car specials: 03-05 Chevy Impalas (\$6,900), 03-07 Chevy Trailblazers (\$7,900), 01-04 Chevy Silverados (\$6,900), and 00-04 Malibu, Stratus, Taurus (\$4,900). A finance specialist offer is also included.

Advertisement for Champion Chevrolet. It features the company logo and contact information: 5000 E. Grand River • Brighton/Howell, I-96 Exit 141 & Grand River, Toll Free (888) 339-2438, www.champchev.com.

City of Novi Public Hearing Notice. The notice states that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 28, 2007 at 7:00 PM in the Novi Civic Center. The subject property is located in Section 1, North of Thirteen Mile E. East of Meadowbrook Road, in the B1-Low Density, Low Rise Multiple Family Residential District. A location plan map is included showing the site location.

Advertisement for The Merle and Shirley Harris Birthing Center at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital. The ad features a photo of a woman and baby and lists services: Beautiful, all private birthing suites; Anesthesiologists available 24 hours a day; Complete-care nursery including full-time neonatology service; High-risk pregnancy, infertility and genetics services. Contact information for DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital is provided.

PHOTO GALLERIES: See more of photographer John Heider's work at www.novinews.com

\*Payments based on GMS, plus tax. Total due at signing \$3995.00 with a transfer of plate. Residency restrictions apply. Subject to presale. Vehicles may not be as pictured. GMAC approval required. Closed-end leases, 30 months, 10,000 miles per year, 25¢ per mile over 10,000 per year. Excess wear and tear provisions apply.

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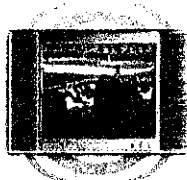
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High school schedules and standings, P. B4



Shamrocks win team title; two Novi wrestlers win individual district titles ... page 3

**SPORTS GALLERY: BOYS HOCKEY**

PAGE 4B

**NOVI SPORTS**

**Wildcat cheer finishes second in KVC** SPORTS, 2B

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22 • WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM • SPORTS SUBMISSIONS: JTHEISEN@GANNETT.COM • SECTION B

**SPORTS SPOTLIGHT: VOLLEYBALL**

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

**Seniors shine in leadership roles**



Novi senior Wildcat volleyball team members, from left: Lauren Purdy, Amanda Diacono, and Natalia Frask show off their pre-serve form. (Not pictured is senior Meghan Goldsmith).

**Seniors leaving mark on Novi program**

By Jeff Theisen  
NEWS SPORTS WRITER

Novi volleyball coach Julie Fisette has big expectations for her team as the playoffs loom ever-so-closer.

Four of her major reasons for optimism come from her seniors — Lauren Purdy, Natalia Frask, Meghan Goldsmith and Amanda Diacono.

"I'm very pleased with their level of competition in the way that they play and the way they practice," Fisette said. "They're more than willing to go up and beyond what needs to be done."

Novi is 26-10-1 and 10-3 in league play. The Wildcats are currently second in the KVC, two games back of Lakeland.

"I think they're capable of a lot more than they think they are capable of," Fisette said. "I've seen them play against some state-ranked teams ... and have fought right next to them and have won in several cases."

"If they play that game, if they play up to that level, they have the ability to do it. It's just the belief in them doing it and being able to play consistently that way."

Purdy is fired up for her last shot at post-season play for Novi.

"I think that we have enough talent, drive

and passion to go all the way this year, more than any year in the past," she said. "We've all be working really, really hard, and I think we can do it."

**Led by the seniors**

Each senior brings different talents to the team, but Fisette has been most pleased with their ability to lead, on and off the court.

Goldsmith is an outside hitter for the Wildcats. This is her third year on varsity.

See SENIORS, 2B

**What is SPORTS SPOTLIGHT?** Each week, the Novi News takes a closer look at Novi athletes. Have a suggestion? E-mail [jtheisen@gannett.com](mailto:jtheisen@gannett.com).

**AT NOVINNEWS.COM: NOVI WILDCATS SPORTS SCHEDULE. CHECK IT OUT!**

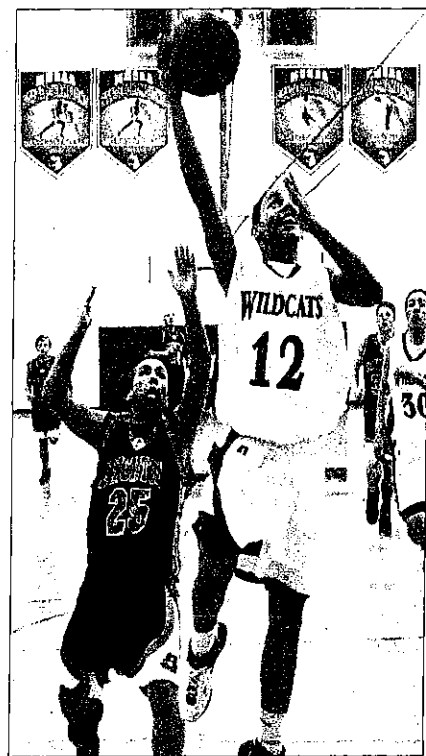


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

On a breakaway, Novi's Brandon Bradford gets to the hoop just ahead of Brighton's J.P. Carron.

**Wildcats win 4th straight**

KVC hopes distant, but stay alive with winning streak

By Jeff Theisen  
NOVI NEWS

The Novi basketball season hit a low mark Feb. 2 at Milford, the Wildcats fourth straight loss. Since then, it's been nothing but winning for the Wildcats.

Novi dispatched Lakeland 44-39 Feb. 13 before beating crushing Brighton 54-40 Friday.

Winning the KVC is still a distant hope for Novi (12-5, 7-4), with South Lyon holding a two-game lead and just three league games remaining, but the Wildcats are still on the Lions' schedule.

"You never know," Novi head

**STORY CHAT**  
What do you think? Tell us at [WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM](http://WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM)

coach Pat Schluter said of the KVC hopes. "We're still saying let's take care of our business."

**Novi 54, Brighton 40**

The Wildcats wasted little time in taking control against Brighton, Novi scorched the nets in the opening quarter and led 19-7.

See HOOPS, 2B

**WEB EXTRA! GAME UPDATES AT WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM**  
PHOTOS • SCORES • STANDINGS • SPORTS SCHEDULES • STORY CHAT



**NOVI NEWS Athlete of the Week**

Novi junior wrestler Ryan Thomas

Thomas captured the 145-pound title at the district meet Saturday. He pinned Farmington's Dennis Villarreal in 1:12 to win the title.



## VOLLEYBALL: Seniors leaving their mark on Wildcat program

continued from 1B

"She has grown tremendously," Fissette said. "Meghan, in my opinion, has done a really good job of just leading the team with her skills and her abilities, and yet still handling the pressure on the court of being that go-to girl."

Frask, a second-year varsity member, sets up the action for her teammates.

"She's stepped up to the role very, very well," Fissette said. "This year, she's played defense a lot better and she's got more confidence in her sets."

"She's really improved physically, but beyond that she's shown great leadership abilities."

Fissette said Frask and the other setters have put in a lot of extra practice time throughout the year.

Purdy sets the tone in the middle, concentrating on blocks. She is also one of the vocal leaders on the team.

Having fun on the court has been one of the biggest differences for Purdy compared to last year.

"She was more worried about the quality of her play versus just going out and having fun and doing what she loves to do," Fissette said. "Lauren needs to be the vocal leader for the girls, in order for them to feel comfortable. She's loves to celebrate and really gets them fired up."

"She's done a great job with the younger kids and getting them to realize how important it is to cheer and talk and communicate."

Biscara is another outside hitter for Novi, and she is the only left-handed option.

"Amanda is by far a more dynamic, more aggressive, more accomplished player this year than she was last year," Fissette said. "We always knew that Amanda had it in her."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News  
While waiting for a teammate to join her for a photo, Wildcat senior volleyballer Lauren Purdy laughs as she tries to juggle in the athletic director's office.

### Meeting the challenge

Becoming a senior brings instant leadership roles, regardless of whether a player wants it or not. Facing this, some players will under the pressure and some thrive on it.

"As a whole, all four of these girls, they're having a much better senior year than they ever had a junior year," Fissette said. "They're handling the pressure, they're accepting problems head on, they're addressing issues, they're leading, delegating things and they're demanding."

"It's really showing the juniors how to do it the right way. They're doing it on and off the court - how to handle the pressures, have a good time and win."

Jeff Theisen can be reached at [jtheisen@novi.net](mailto:jtheisen@novi.net) or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

## BASKETBALL: Novi finding confidence, stays in hunt for KVC title

continued from 1B

The lead grew to 26-13 by halftime, and eventually to 20 in the fourth quarter.

"We've been playing pretty well," Schluter said. "We went through a little slump. We had a hard time scoring. We've always stopped people, but we've been shooting pretty well."

Caleb Dean led all scorers with 21 points, and Brandon Bradford scored a career-high 12 points to lead Novi. Chris Bellamy added 11 points.

"It's been more or less a team effort," Schluter said. "We're getting other guys scoring other than Caleb."

"It was just a confidence thing. We've got two young guys that are getting better. They're hitting shots and getting more comfortable."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News  
Novi's Chris Bellamy runs into Brighton's Mitch Cieslak near the basket during last week's game hosted by the Wildcats.

### Novi 44, Lakeland 39

The Wildcats showed their best and worst basketball, all in one game.

Lakeland started the game on an 8-0 run and ended the first quarter up 12-6.

The Novi offense was stuck in neutral throughout the first half, and the Eagles went into halftime up 24-13.

The Eagles pushed the lead to 28-13 in the opening moments of

the third quarter, but the Wildcats didn't just trail in.

Novi opened off the next nine points to pull within six. The Eagles ended the run at the free throw line, but Novi kept pouring

in the points to start the fourth. A 10-0 run for the Wildcats finished off a 19-2 run that put Novi in front for the first time in the game -- and for good.

Bellamy hit four free throws down the stretch, and the Wildcats pulled out an improbable comeback after being down 15 points in the second half.

Dean led the Wildcats with 17 points, 13 of which came in the fourth quarter.

Bellamy finished with seven points, and Mike Lango and Tyler Hoover each scored six points.



The University of Michigan pom team surrounds the second-place trophy the Wolverines won at the Mid American PomPon State Finals at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center.

## Former Novi student starts pom team at U-M

Submitted to the Novi News

Laura Hirschfeld, an entering Chemical Engineering freshman in 2005, had performed PomPon routines in her years at Novi High School. When she got to U-M, she realized there was no Pom team, so she decided to create one.

Hirschfeld enlisted the help of Meena Davuluri, a sophomore in the Ross Business School. After petitioning the University for club status, calling for tryouts, arranging practice sessions, auditioning forty young women, and designing and purchasing uniforms, they finally decided on the twenty-five member team.

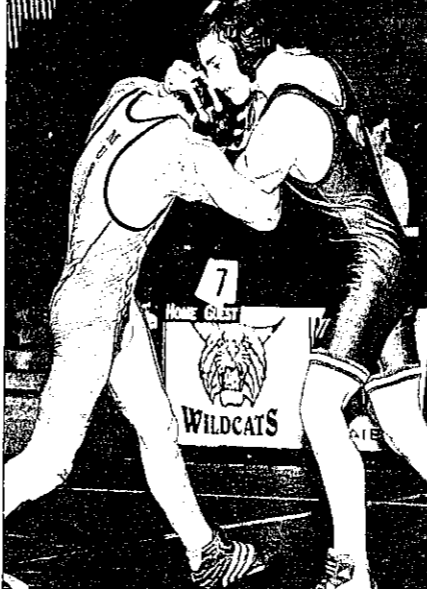
This past fall, the club performed at half time for the Men's Varsity soccer games, Blood Battle on the Diag, and even the pre-game festivities for the Detroit Pistons. All of the costs to establish the team were covered through various fund-raising events. They will also be performing at Necto on Feb. 22 as another fund-raiser.

On Feb. 11 the team competed at the Mid American PomPon State Finals at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center. The team, in their first year out, placed second.

The team consists of Freshmen — Andrea D'Agostino, Betsy Callan, Laura Zander, Mariya Volvovsky, Nicole Lesnau, Rebecca Petroff; Sophomores — Allison Barton, Andrea Soner, Aparna Shah, Ashley Schroeder, Felicia Pesis, Janay Scott, Julianne Kjolhede, Katie Scheich, Laura Hirschfeld, Lauren Bowman, Lisa Klein, Meena Davuluri, Rachel Semonelli, Wendy Yang; Juniors — Jillian Dewell, Kabe Odbi, Shavon Calvert; Grad Student — Lauren Davis.



Novi's Jon Lichorobiec works against a Northville opponent during the team districts at home.



Novi's Ryan Thomas wrestles a Northville opponent during the team districts at Novi.



Novi's Ryan Thomas wrestles a Northville opponent during the team districts at Novi.

## Novi advances 4 from individual districts

Submitted to the Novi News

The Novi Wrestling team kicked off the postseason this week in individual districts at Saline High School. Novi had the fourth best showing at the tournament out of 14 teams. Four wrestlers qualified for regionals by finishing in the top four of their weight class.

Novi improved off its performance from last year when it sent just two wrestlers to regionals, none of whom competed this year due to injuries, and nearly matched its performance from two years ago when five wrestlers advanced.

or the first time in several years, Novi had two districts to finish in first place.

Jon Lichorobiec (103) joined them in the finals but lost to another tough wrestler from Canton to finish runner-up.

Adam Ballantyne (145) finished in third place while wrestling a weight class up.

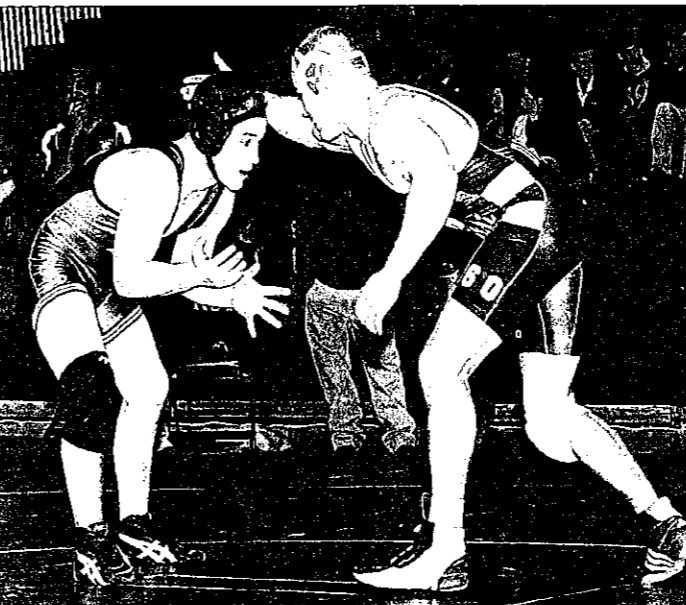
Robbie Yusko, Brad Frey, Ryan Ridenour, and Nadeem Jones made it to the "blood round" of districts, falling just short of qualifying for Regionals.

The John Glenn district and Saline district will meet up to create the south region, which will be held Saturday at Novi High School. Wrestling starts at 9:30 a.m. and wrestlers who finish in the top four of their weight class at regionals will qualify for the state meet.

- 112—Justin Pullin**  
1st Place  
Beat Mark Farrell of Ypsilanti Lincoln 14-8  
Beat Carl Luck of Canton 8-1  
Beat Jared Pietrik of Livonia Franklin 7-0
- 145—Ryan Thomas**  
1st Place  
Pinned Vince Rogers of Plymouth in 1:42  
Beat Aaron Towne of Northville 7-3  
Beat Danny Small of Livonia Churchill 18-5  
Pinned Dennis Villarreal of Farmington in 1:12
- 103—Jon Lichorobiec**  
2nd Place  
Pinned Jarrod Lijthorn of Ypsilanti Lincoln in 1:21  
Pinned Ramiro Kozimov of Farmington in 4:51  
Beat by Donnie Watkins of Canton 5-11
- 145—Adam Ballantyne**  
3rd Place  
Beat Justin Bose of Ann Arbor Pioneer by Technical Fall in 3:31  
Lost to Danny Small of Livonia Churchill 2-4  
Beat Aaron Towne of Northville 9-0  
Beat Brandon St. Pierre of Ann Arbor Huron 6-2  
Beat Jason Zanger of Franklin by Technical Fall in 4:24

Photos submitted by Jeffrey Gatt

# DISTRICT WRESTLING



Catholic Central's Stefan Gatt, right, competes against a Novi opponent during the team district meet.



Catholic Central coach Mike Rodriguez holds the trophy for winning the team district meet at Novi.

## Catholic Central individuals advance

Wgt	Wrestler	Record	Place
285	Mike Martin	37-8	1st
119	Nieko Ianni	13-5	2nd
119	Barrett Schwarzlose	20-11	3rd
125	Trevor O'Connor	8-4	4th
135	Shea Hasenauer	23-3	1st
152	Ryan Brown	32-17	2nd
160	Stefan Gatt	32-8	2nd
189	Joe Kinville	15-2	1st
189	Matt Aubrey	23-9	3rd

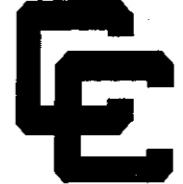
Catholic Central worked its way through the team district to advance to regionals Feb. 15 at (119). Trevor O'Connor (125), Novi. Two days later, nine wrestlers advanced from the individual districts at Saline High School. Advancing for the



Catholic Central's Nieko Ianni, standing, wrestles a Novi opponent during the team district meet.



Catholic Central's Ryan Brown, right, wrestles with a Novi opponent during the team district meet.



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Chuck Thomas, EW.COM

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Steve Dahl, FOX-TV

**"IT KEEPS YOU ON THE EDGE OF YOUR SEAT"**  
Kelli Gillespie, FOX-TV

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Guy Farris, ABC-TV

CHRIS COOPER PHILIPPE LAURA LINNEY

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Jim Carrey skillfully leads us on a twisted trek with hair-raising jolts. A must-see movie.  
Pete Hammond - MAXIM

**"A genuine, intelligent, scary thriller."**  
Jeffrey Lyons - BBC

the number **23**

JIM CARREY

STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

PG

Golf Digest rated ★★★★★ (3 1/2 stars)

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Tuesday 4:30 9 holes w/cart - \$14\*

**Women's Social Golf League**  
Wednesday 6:00 9 holes w/cart - \$14\*

**Senior Men (50+) Golf League**  
Monday 9:00 A.M. 9 holes w/cart - \$14\*

**Co-Ed Golf League**  
Friday 6:00 9 holes with cart/2 for \$22\*

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# REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 6B

Thursday, February 22, 2007

## Home Owners having a New Home Built should Consider A New Construction Inspection

When having a new home built, I am sure you will be very excited and can hardly wait until you are in your new home. You may be thinking that since the home is new construction, that you may not need a home inspection. But considering this may be the largest purchase of your life, a New Construction Inspection will help reduce the risk with the purchase of your new home by reducing and eliminating any unknown surprises down the road.

Even though most builders provide a 1 Year Warranty on the house, and some level of extended warranty on the structure of the house, it is always best to identify any issues up front and have them corrected prior to moving into the home. We will provide a level of objectivity when evaluating the home. We provide the role of a neutral third party for the process. Below are some of the items discovered at new construction inspections:

- ✓ Incomplete electrical wiring for lights, ovens, whirlpools, and bonding of system
- ✓ Missing plumbing drain connections to tubs, whirlpools, and dishwasher connections
- ✓ Jacuzzi tubs not operational
- ✓ Insulation and ventilation issues in attic
- ✓ Missing flashing at chimney and vent stacks
- ✓ Humidifier on furnace not operational
- ✓ Exterior grade and drainage with negative grade
- ✓ Windows that would not open
- ✓ Gas leaks (gas insert fireplaces, furnaces and hot water tanks)
- ✓ Leaks in sump pump plumbing
- ✓ Unsealed gaps around plumbing and A/C lines
- ✓ Missing or incomplete molding

Without having a home inspection, many issues like the ones identified above may not have surfaced until you were in the home. The inspection process will provide the home owner with knowledge and information on the condition of the new home on a critical time of the home purchase process. It is money well spent for your knowledge and Peace of Mind. The inspection process will help you have a smooth transaction with your purchase and it is less costly to fix issues up front and avoid possible additional damages if left unknown.

We are another set of eyes to help ensure that you are purchasing a quality home and help minimize unknown repairs. I provide a written comprehensive inspection report at the conclusion of the inspection, and review the report with you up-site. The report identifies items which need attention. I also identify system shut valves for the water system, gas lines, ducts for furnaces, hot water tank, fireplaces, etc. and other tidbits of information for the systems in your new home.

Our report is provided to you in a 3 Ring binder which includes a Home Maintenance and Repair CD, a Home Wiring System for your records, and a Seasonal Check List for items to complete to prepare your home for the coming seasons, and a Cost Guide for home repairs.

Our inspection covers a 1000 point inspection for the home. Our report will provide information on the following areas:

- ✓ Property and Site
- ✓ Exterior
- ✓ Garage
- ✓ Roof Structure
- ✓ Attic Insulation and Ventilation
- ✓ Electrical Service Entrance, Panel, and circuits
- ✓ Basement/Foundation
- ✓ Heating/Cooling Systems
- ✓ Plumbing
- ✓ Bathrooms
- ✓ Laundry
- ✓ Fireplaces
- ✓ Kitchen
- ✓ Foyer/Hallway/Stairway
- ✓ Living & Dining Rooms
- ✓ Bedrooms
- ✓ Hazard conditions (Gas leak & CO detection)
- ✓ Smoke detectors & CO detector operation
- ✓ Repair Cost Estimate Guide

We also provide additional inspection services for swimming pools, spas, and extra buildings on property (barns, etc.)

We also provide and are Certified in Environmental Testing Services

- Radon Testing
- Mold Evaluations and Testing
- Well & Septic Inspections
- Water & Air Quality Testing
- Pest Inspections
- Environmental Data Reports for local community

Questions to Ask and Verify of your Home Inspector:

- How long have you been doing inspections?
- Do you carry Error & Omissions Insurance?
- Do you provide a written report on-site?
- Are you certified with ASHI or NACHI?
- Do you maintain your annual CEU requirements?
- Are you certified in Environmental Services?
- Always ask for references from the home inspector and check the references.

Call us to have your new construction checked for unseen issues and provide yourself with Peace of Mind knowing the condition of your new home.

Randall Peterson  
Certified Since 1998  
NAHI-CRI Home Inspector  
Direct: 248-755-3422  
Toll Free: 877-787-3800

For additional information please visit our web site at:  
[www.pippone.com/centralandlincoln](http://www.pippone.com/centralandlincoln)  
We provide professional home inspections and home environmental testing services for Radon, Mold, Pest, Well & Septic, Air & Water Quality testing.

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## Center Stage presents 'Anastasia, The Ballet'

Popular dance school presents annual fairy tale ballet, and offers seasonal dance classes and summer dance camps for all ages

By Kate Phillips  
SPECIAL WRITER

Families will be swept away by the ballet, "Anastasia," a heart-warming story about an unlikely princess. Center Stage Dance Company is performing the classic tale as its annual spring ballet show.

### 'ANASTASIA, THE BALLET'

With beautiful costumes, professional scenery and vibrant music, Anastasia will delight all ages. The ballet will be performed for the general public at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, March 24, at Northville High School. Tickets are now available at Center Stage Dance Company for a family-friendly price of \$8 each.

The ballet is a valuable performance opportunity that CSDC provides for its students. Dancers who join the ballet company receive the benefit of being part of a professional-level show. Students audition for their roles in the ballet. Not only is it a great dance experience, but the performers become familiar with every aspect of the full-length show, both on stage and behind the scenes, while learning how to tell a story through dance.

The ballet is an annual highlight at Center Stage. Last year the ballet company drew large crowds with their performance of "The Wizard of Oz."

"We provide as many performance opportunities for students as possible because it helps them to build confidence and self-esteem," said Lisa Shapiro, director of Center Stage Dance Company.

### PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas and spring tours offer additional performance opportunities. Dancers serve the community while gaining performance experience by dancing at nursing homes, senior centers and children's homes. They also dance at many community events in Northville and other areas.

Their annual June recital features each dance class in full costume. This year's show, "Stars at Sea," promises to entertain all ages as the dancers take to the high seas with full-out performances to great music, enhanced by exciting scenery. Recitals give each child an opportunity to shine. Specials, like a Daddy/Daughter piece (200 participants), make the recital fun for both the dancers and the audience.

### JOY OF DANCE

Center Stage Dance Company offers classes in ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, lyrical and pointe.

Preschoolers can also get dancing with a ballet-and-tap combination class for beginning students ages 3 to 6.

Even adults can join in the fun — and get some exercise — with ballet, tap and jazz/funk classes. An adult punch card makes the classes flexible and affordable.

Center Stage is a place where dancers can express themselves and share their love of dance. The emphasis is on having fun while learning the proper technique.

"We are a non-competitive dance studio dedicated to teaching the art of dance for the purpose of physical, emotional and mental development, and for the sheer joy of movement to music," said Lisa Shapiro.



Submitted Photos

Center Stage dancers from the 2006 Summer Video Dance Camp are, from left, back row, Emily Zheng, Natalie Mooney, Claire Varvatos, Lauren Nash, Rachel Coleman, Nicole Krings, Danielle Romano, Lauren Dougher and Megan Ye. Second row includes Tiffany Teng, Claire Dion, Valerie Teng, Carolyn Chen, Christiana Hart and Elena Schielele. Front row includes Sarah Brown, Kelly Owens, Gretchen Seibel and Michelle Jaskolski.

### FANTASY CAMPS

Nothing is more fun than the Fantasy Camps at Center Stage. The school is now taking registration for summer sessions that bring childhood fantasies to life. Girls and boys age 4 to 8 can choose their favorite theme: pirates and princesses, cowboys and cowgirls, Arabian nights, or mermaids and sailors. Students travel to far-off lands with lavish studio decorations. Cowgirls hang out at the "ranch" and Arabian Knights journey through the "desert."

"It's neat to see how the kids use their imaginations," said Mary Flis, camp counselor and dance instructor.

Games and crafts, plus a special dance, and lots of emphasis on using your imagination, keep kids entrenched in the theme. Activities like sack races in mermaid tail sacks, rope-the-cow, hoist the sails, steering the ship, and magic carpet rides, get the kids in the action. Daily crafts, such as making binoculars or a water canteen, promote the camp's theme and end up in the Fantasy Room as part of their activity gear.

These half-day adventures are over-the-top fun. Four sessions will be held this summer: July 10-12, July 17-19, July 24-26, and July 31 to Aug. 2.

### VIDEO DANCE CAMPS

This August Center Stage will host two video-dance camps for children ages 6 and older. Choreography classes in ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical and hip-hop are just part of the action. Campers audition for roles, rehearse scenes, and create scenery. Each camper is fully costumed, and learns how-tos for make-up and hair. Dialogue, blocking, and staging bring all the parts together into a fun experience for all involved. The camp concludes with a Friday night performance at the studio for family and friends. Choose between "A Walk Down Broadway," session 1, Aug. 6-10, or "Disco Fever," session 2, Aug. 13-17. Either, or both, will be a week you and your camper won't soon forget.

Campers can choose a half or whole day. The camps are flexible for working parents

**CENTER STAGE DANCE COMPANY**

43334 Seven Mile Road, Suite 250,  
In Northville  
(248) 380-1666  
[www.dancingcenterstage.com](http://www.dancingcenterstage.com)



Dancers from the Center Stage Dance Company's 2006 production of "The Wizard of Oz" are, from left, Jessie Stadnika, Alyssa Walneo, Katherine Reaume and Jaclyn Conti.

with before and after-camp care available (BACC). Parents can drop kids off as early as 8:30 a.m. and pick-up as late as 6 p.m.

### NEW DANCE INTENSIVES

You've heard the song "All She (or he) Wants to Do is Dance"? Center Stage Dance has a camp for that too. Dance Intensives, held from 1-5 p.m. each afternoon, July 24, 25, and 26, will be a whole lot of...dancin'. Choose jazz and hip-hop, ballet and lyrical and/or tap. Dancers must be 10 or older. Dance Intensives can be a jump-start to the fall dance season.

"It's perfect for dancers who are looking to improve a favorite technique or pick up something new," said Mary Flis, senior faculty member.

### TRADITIONAL SUMMER CLASS PROGRAM

Weekly classes are offered via their flexible "Dance Bucks" program. Classes for preschoolers ages 3-4 and 4-5, and classes in ballet, hip-hop, jazz, and tap, for ages 6 and older — including adults — are all available starting in July. Visit the Web site, [www.dancingcenterstage.com](http://www.dancingcenterstage.com), for more information.

### SOLID REPUTATION

Families travel from all around the area to attend Center Stage Dance Company. The studio has had a reputation for quality dance

instruction for nearly two decades. They are the studio of choice for the Northville Parks and Recreation dance program and are active members in the community.

Dance instructor Lisa Shapiro has owned the studio since 1988. It was originally located in Walled Lake, and then moved to Northville 14 years ago.

Center Stage also hosts birthday parties at the studio, which include pizza, cupcakes and dance, plus prizes for everyone. Customized events for Girl Scout Badge requirements are also available.

The large modern studio is located in the Northville Research Center on Seven Mile Road, just east of Northville Road, in Northville. For more information visit [www.dancingcenterstage.com](http://www.dancingcenterstage.com).

BALLET • POINTE • LYRICAL • TAP • JAZZ • HIP HOP • PRESCHOOL • BOYS • ADULTS • BIRTHDAY PARTIES

**ANASTASIA**

**DONT MISS OUR BALLET COMPANY PERFORMANCE OF**

Summer Dance & Fantasy Camps

REGISTER NOW FOR

Summer classes too!

**Video Dance Camps** Week-long for ages 6-18  
Dance, Act & Create Scenery for a Video Production  
A Walk Down Broadway - August 6-10  
Disco Fever - August 13-17

**Fantasy Camps** 3 half days for ages 4-8  
Dance, Games, Crafts & More!  
Pirates & Princesses - July 10-12 • Mermaids & Sailors - July 17-19  
Cowboys & Cowgirls - July 24-26 • Arabian Nights - July 31-Aug. 2

**Dance Intensives** 3 afternoons for ages 10+  
Ballet & Lyrical Jazz & Hip Hop, Tap - sign up for 1, 2 or all 3!  
July 24, 25, 26

**TICKETS \$8**  
ADVANCE PURCHASE AT THE STUDIO OR AT THE DOOR

Saturday, March 24, 2007, 1:30 PM

At Northville High School

43334 W Seven Mile Rd, Ste 250  
Northville, MI 48166  
(248) 380-1666  
[www.dancingcenterstage.com](http://www.dancingcenterstage.com)

visit our website for details & schedule