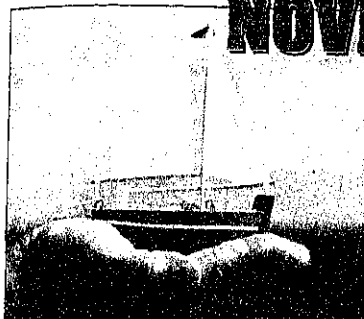


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NOVI WEEKEND PLANNER



• FRIDAY

It's all about the Luck-O-The Irish today at The Novi Senior Center. The center will be hosting its annual **St. Paddy's Day Event** at noon at the Novi facility located at 25075 Meadowbrook Road. The Novi Senior Activities Center is open Monday through Friday and hosts many activities. For more information, call (248) 347-0414.

• SATURDAY

Visit the Spring Boating Expo from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. today at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave. New boats, trailers, accessories, gifts and services will be on display and available for purchase. Admission is \$10 and children 11 and younger are free.

• SUNDAY

Attend the Novi Lions' Club Texas Hold'em Tournament beginning at noon today at Novi Bowl, 21700 Novi Road. Admission is \$65 and proceeds benefit the charitable organization.

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



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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER CELEBRATING ITS 51ST YEAR SERVING NOVI AND THE LAKES AREA

My Novi Sports

Novi News

PAGE 1B

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2007

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Bring on the Green!!!

Mary Alice Brunner and son Jim (dressed as the Novi Wildcat) are getting ready for the upcoming Green Gala event - a fund-raiser for the Novi Education Foundation on Saturday. For more about the event, see page 9.

Photo by JOHN HEIGER/Novi News

Murder hearing starts today

Dan Pittao

■ Evidence in 10-year-old slaying to be presented

By Greg Migliore
NEWS STAFF WRITER

The pre-trial exam of accused killer Daniel Pittao begins today in 52-1 District Court.

Pittao is charged with murdering his estranged wife, Tamara Pittao, nearly 10 years ago in her Novi apartment. He pleaded not guilty.

The exam is expected to last two days. Authorities will present witnesses and evidence to try to establish probable cause. Pittao, of Highland Township, was arraigned in January.

"We fully anticipate that it will continue to trial," said Lt. Victor Lauria, Novi police general services division commander.

A lawyer representing Pittao did not return a phone call seeking

comment. Tamara Pittao was found dead on Thanksgiving morning in 1997 after her family became suspicious when she failed to arrive in suburban Chicago for the holiday. The Oakland County Medical Examiner's Office said she died of head and neck trauma. She sold cosmetics and was 30 years old at the time of her death.

The couple was married for five years and had a rocky relationship, authorities said. When Tamara Pittao was killed, she had a personal protection order and domestic assault case pending against her husband. She had moved out of their home in July 1997. They had one daughter who was 2 years old at the time. Pittao's parental rights were terminated.

Novi police continued to use the marriage as the foundation for their investigation. They were able to arrest Pittao after he tried to collect on a \$180,000 life insurance policy on his wife last May and gave inconsistent accounts of

continued on page 2

Technology: The competitive advantage

Third in a series of articles addressing the specific areas of the 2007 Novi School Bond Issue

By Renee Gates
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Novi residents will decide in May if the Novi Community School District will receive a technological upgrade.

The second largest segment of the 2007 bond earmarks \$6,788,043 to improve technology educational programs throughout the district. All school buildings will receive

upgraded and/or replacement technology to remain competitive and do more in the classroom, administrators and teachers said.

The technology component works differently than other aspects of the bond. Instead of being dispensed all at once, the money is financed and utilized over a five-year period to ensure the most recent technology can be purchased. It also prevents the district from paying for technology it will no longer use near the end of the 20-year bond note.

2007 NOVI SCHOOL BOND
\$26.4M
VOTE MAY 8

It has been six years since the last bond was used for technology in Novi. The funds are gone, but technology has moved on. Soon Novi will need to implement the most recent

equipment or risk losing its competitive edge, administrators said.

"A computer in your home doesn't stay current forever," said John Lawrence, Novi High School principal. "Hardware and software is constantly changing. And if we are going to expect our students to compete in what I call the global village ... then we have to afford every opportunity for (them) to be able to do that."

continued on page 2



Parkview Elementary fourth graders Joey Haddad and Bryan Fegert work on wireless laptops purchased with the last technology bond six years ago.

Area Irish bars ready to roll out green carpet for St. Patty's Day

■ From brisket to fish 'n' chips

By Pam Fleming
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

St. Patrick's Day is the one day out of the year when no matter what your nationality is, everybody gets to be Irish.

And local bars and restaurants

are ready to roll out the green carpet for this year's celebration that — as the luck of the Irish would have it — just happens to be on a Saturday.

Gus O'Connors in Novi, an authentic Irish pub on Grand River Avenue east of Novi Road that's been open for four years, will begin its festivities at 7 a.m., said Jamie Grebeck, general manager.

A traditional Irish breakfast,

served from 7-10 a.m., will include scrambled eggs, Irish bangers (sausage), rashers (bacon) and O'Brien potatoes, which consists of diced potatoes with onions and bell peppers.

Entertainment will be provided from noon-5 p.m. and 7-midnight, with the local Irish band The Cork Town Brew performing.

"They play a wide variety of music, from Irish to cover songs," Grebeck said.

Line starts forming at 4 p.m.

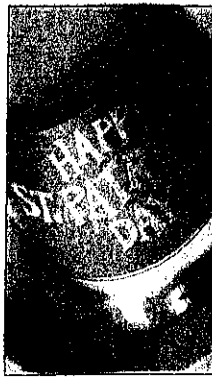
"We'll have a lineup outside the bar by 4 o'clock in the afternoon," Grebeck said, when the pub usually reaches its maximum capacity on its busiest day of the year.

"We count everyone who comes in and everyone who goes out. That's how we determine when we're at capacity."

The pub can accommodate 489 patrons.

O'Connors will naturally be serving green-colored beer as well as Guinness, the national brew of Ireland, and other Irish beer.

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My Novi News
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Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Dan Pittao enters his arraignment in handcuffs in Judge Dennis Powers' 52-1 Novi courtroom earlier this year.

■ Authorities to present evidence in 10-year-old slaying

continued from front

her death. A 2006 law change also allowed authorities to use previous acts of domestic violence, which they said helped them build a case against Pittao.

Since he was arraigned, investi-

gators have reinterviewed witnesses and refreshed evidence in preparation for today's hearing.

"We've continued to work on the case," said Laura, who has been at the investigation since the beginning. Authorities have not interviewed Pittao since he was arrested and have had little contact with him over the course of the decade-old investigation. He spoke with them briefly the day after his wife was found dead and refused subsequent interviews.

Gina Migliore is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 or by e-mail at gmigliore@gannett.com.

Technology: The competitive advantage

continued from front

Starting early

Preparation for the global village starts early. At Parkview Elementary, first graders are learning Microsoft Word and are proficient by the time they're third graders. All grade levels, K-4, know how to go online to work on their literacy and math skills at different interactive Web sites, and third and fourth graders use laptops on their desks when they are working on in-class projects.

"Technology is truly integrated with everything we do," said Jennifer Kramer, media specialist at Parkview Elementary.

"Kindergarten through fourth grade are on the computers every single day in the media center and in the classrooms as well. It's a key component."

Kramer and her team of parent volunteers train over 500 Parkview students to use the school's online library system.

"They know how to find a book of a particular subject, find a book of a particular author or title. The checkout is all online as well. And the children learn to do that in the third and fourth grade," she said.

Besides making students computer savvy by age 10, technology is a tremendous instructional aid for teaching children at various levels.

"The technology allows teachers to differentiate instruction across the curriculum," said Allison Burg, special education teacher consultant at Parkview. "The whole reason for this is trying to hit the target for that student's learning needs."

This is particularly important when working with students who have special needs, Burg said. "It enables them to participate in the curriculum. Otherwise it would be very difficult for them."

Parkview's computers are doing fine for now, Kramer said, but it isn't the present that concerns her.

"Right now our computers are five years old, and we're doing pretty good. If this bond

Bond Breakdown: Technology

All Schools - Instructional Technology

- Replace student/staff workstations (2,327) printers (141), peripherals (376)
- Replace/upgrade classroom presentation capabilities
- Replace/upgrade networking/wireless infrastructure \$5,607,462
- Replace/upgrade data infrastructure/administrative \$1,180,581

Total: \$6,788,043

SOURCE: Novi School District

2007
NOVI SCHOOL BOND
\$26.4M
VOTE MAY 8

Novi Community School District Bond Ballot History 1993-2006

Bond Issue

■ Dec. 15, 1992

\$31,900,000

Passed

Total Votes: 1,737

High school addition, parking lot addition, renovation of elementary schools, technology.

■ Dec. 13, 1994

\$33,000,000

Failed

Total Votes: 2,286

New middle school, purchase middle school land, Meadows renovation.

■ Sep. 23, 1995

\$33,435,000

Passed

Total Votes: 2,819

New middle school, purchase middle school land, Meadows renovation.

■ June 9, 1997

\$5,500,000

Failed

Total Votes: 1,353

Improving elementary playgrounds.

■ March 28, 1998

\$17,300,000

Passed

Total Votes: 3,144

Deerfield elementary, improving elementary playgrounds

■ June 11, 2001

\$75,640,000

Passed

Total Votes: 2,459

High school addition, elementary additions, Novi Woods expansion, transportation/warehouse expansion, middle school concession and tennis courts, purchase of land.

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NEXT WEEK IN SENIOR NEWS: Meet some local seniors learning to read braille

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MY SENIOR LIFE

Thursday, March 15, 2007
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CLUB CRAZY: Seniors join to keep active

By Tracy Mishler
NEWS SPECIAL WRITER

Allen Davis calls himself a sports junkie.

And upon moving to his new home at Fox Run about one year ago, the 73-year-old wanted to find a group of people who he could share his sports passion with.

Davis said his true love is baseball, and upon starting his club, his hope was to bring together people who had a passion for the Detroit Tigers and his once favorite pastime.

The name of his club: the Hot Stove League.

"Hot stove was a term used in baseball lore, dating back to the 1920s," Davis said. "It was a term used to describe people who would gather around a hot stove and talk about the upcoming baseball season."

Davis said his club, including former Detroit Tigers announcer Ernie Harwell, meets once a week for about an hour to talk about the team.

"I grew closer to people who had a common interest, and that's what this club is all about," he said. "It's been exciting watching the Tigers come from a dismal recent history to a burgeoning force in American league baseball."

"I'm selfishly very interested in baseball, and I enjoy talking about it."

Like Davis, many seniors enjoy spending their time in clubs and organizations to keep active.

Seniors living in the city of Novi have hundreds of clubs to choose from.

Keeping your brain active

Stay curious and involved, commit to lifelong learning

Read, write, or do crossword or other puzzles

Attend lectures and plays

Enroll in courses at your local adult education center, community college or other community group

Play games

Garden

Try memory exercises

SOURCE: National Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org

From the Bookworm Reading group and fitness classes offered at the Novi Senior Center to the Bridge club and pinoleño groups offered at the

Waltonwood Retirement Community near Twelve Oaks Mall to the more than 100 clubs offered at Fox Run, Novi seniors have the pick of the litter when it comes to choosing a favorite pastime.

Constant interaction

Doreen Peppard, 70, said anything that expands social connections is great.

Peppard started the Pet Lovers group at Fox Run, to help those with pets in the community become better acquainted with each other.

"There are 14 dogs here," she



Scanned photo

Members of the Hot Stove League include Eileen Zolad, Ernie Harwell and Lee Ritchie (front row from left to right) and Harold Bradshaw, Al Davis, Ozzie Ostrander, Robert Hooper and Jack Schwanitz (back row from left to right).

said. "We all knew the dogs names, but we didn't know the owners names."

Another group that keeps seniors interested is the Treasure Chest organization.

"The Treasure Chest is a place where we reuse yesterday's treasures from our residents," said Dolores Grose, 77, of Fox Run. "They've moved in the dining room every once in a while."

"We have contests about our pets. It's just silly things, but we sell it."

Another group that keeps seniors interested is the Treasure Chest organization.

"The Treasure Chest is a place where we reuse yesterday's treasures from our residents," said Dolores Grose, 77, of Fox Run. "They've moved in the dining room every once in a while."

"We helped supply the quilting club with three new sewing machines," she said. "There aren't many who need the Benevolent

care fund, so the board members decided it was only right to use some of the money in helping residents get started ... offering money for supplies."

The benefits

Grose said belonging to clubs and organizations is good for seniors because it keeps them young.

"It keeps their minds young," she said. "It's not so much of what you do, but the social interaction that is important."

According to the National Alzheimer's Association, research has found that keeping the brain active seems to increase its vitality and may build its reserves of brain cells, thus decreasing the chance of developing Alzheimer's.

Ralph Rays said clubs and constant interaction are why so many seniors are active today.

"I'm the kind of person that needs to keep busy," said Rays, facilitator of the Happy Hour Team. "I'm not a good sitter. I've got to keep doing something."

"I sit when I read the paper or a book, but I keep myself active all the time. That's a personal trait of mine."

Rays said even things such as providing Happy Hour for residents is a good way to stay involved, stay busy and keep active.

"It's important, and that's why we have all these clubs," he said. "Without question, I think clubs and organizations give us reason enough to keep benefiting."

Tracy Mishler is a freelance writer with the Novi News.

Study debunks sedative's link to hip fractures in elderly

Robert Preidt
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Sedative drugs called benzodiazepines (such as Valium) don't increase the risk of hip fractures in the elderly, a Harvard Medical School study says.

The finding suggests that U.S. federal and state policies that restrict access to these drugs among the elderly need to be re-examined, the study authors added. Their work is published in the Jan. 16 issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Concerns about misuse and the adverse effects of benzodiazepines have led to federal and state laws that regulate access to the drugs.

For example, since 2006, benzo-

diazepines have been excluded from coverage through the Medicare Part D benefit, according to background information in a news release.

"Hip fractures often lead to disability and death in older people," the study's researchers examined hip fracture rates among more than 90,000 Medicaid recipients aged 65 and older before and after the state of New York implemented tight controls on benzodiazepine prescriptions in 1989.

The researchers also looked at hip fracture rates in New Jersey, which did not put restrictions on benzodiazepine prescriptions. The New York policy resulted in an immediate 60-percent drop in benzodiazepine use among elderly women and a 38-percent decline among

men.

But there was little change in the incidence of hip fractures.

"The policy drastically decreased use of benzodiazepines in New Jersey, and we did not see any decline in hip fracture rates compared to New Jersey. In fact, we seem to see an increase in New York over New Jersey," study author Anita Wagner, an assistant professor of ambulatory care and prevention at Harvard Medical School, said in a prepared statement.

She said biases in previous studies may have led researchers to make a link between benzodiazepines and hip fractures.

"It is very challenging to answer the question whether or not benzodiazepines cause hip fractures,"

Wagner said.

Robert Preidt is a Gannett News Service writer.

People who get benzodiazepines, such as chronically ill elderly patients with dementia, have conditions, like dementia, that can cause hip fractures - and their hip fractures may not be due to their benzodiazepines," Wagner said.

Robert Preidt is a Gannett News Service writer.

men.

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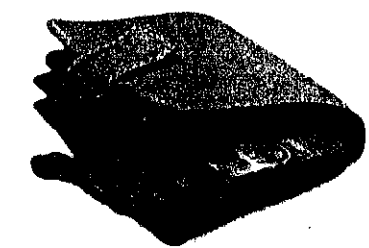
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EarthLink CABLE INTERNET bright house

From brisket to fish 'n' chips

continued from front

Their limited menu that day will feature corned beef sandwiches, fish 'n' chips and Guinness Stew, a beef stew made with the Irish beer.

"Pretty much everybody who's employed here will be working that day," Grebeck said.

O'Toole's takes it outdoors

Chuck Bieler, one of the cooks at O'Toole's restaurant and bar on Novi Road just north of 10 Mile Road, said doors open at 7 a.m. for a morning movie and the early-morning celebration called "Kegs and Eggs."

"The movie title hasn't been selected yet, but it will have an Irish theme," Bieler said.

Steve Taylor, a local acoustic guitarist, will perform from 1-5 p.m., and boppers will play at the Novi bar at 3 p.m.

Austin Scott, another local acoustic guitarist, will take the stage from 5-9 p.m., and a local DJ will play from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Sunday.

Green beer will be served, and a beer tent will be set up outside on the patio.



The following Irish pubs and restaurants in the area will offer special activities:

Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro, at Novi Town Center, 26053 Town Center Drive, Novi, (248) 380-8460. Open 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday.

Claddagh Irish Pub, 17800 Haggerty Road, Livonia, (734) 542-8141. Open 9 a.m. Saturday-2 a.m. Sunday.

Dunleavy's Pub & Grub, 34505 Grand River Ave., Farmington, (248) 478-8866. Open 10 a.m. Saturday-2 a.m. Sunday.

Gus O'Connors, 42875 Grand River Ave., Novi, (248) 465-9670. Open 7 a.m. Saturday-2 a.m. Sunday.

O'Toole's, 24555 Novi Road, Novi, (248) 349-7038. Open 7 a.m. Saturday-2 a.m. Sunday.

Shanahan's Irish Pub at the Holiday Inn, 17123 Laurel Park Drive, Livonia, (734) 464-1300. Open 10 a.m. Saturday-2 a.m. Sunday.

Sheehan's On the Green, 39450 Five Mile Road, Plymouth Township, (734) 420-0646. Open 10 a.m. Saturday-2 a.m. Sunday.

Source: Staff research

The St. Patrick's Day special is a corned beef sandwich for only \$5.50.

Sheehan's On the Green on Five Mile Road just east of Haggerty Road next to the Oasis

Golf Center will celebrate its 29th St. Patrick's Day this year. Irish menu and drink selections will include corned beef and cabbage, Irish stew, green beer, Guinness and Smithwick's Irish ale.

Giveaways will feature hats, beards and Irish songbooks, and boppers will play throughout the day.

Irish music will be played all day—from 10 a.m.-2 a.m. Sunday morning—and no cover will be charged, said manager Tim Sheehan.

Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro

Executive Chef Mary Brady and her husband Tom, owners of Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro at Novi Town Center, are going all out for St. Patrick's Day.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m., when they start serving authentic Irish food.

Entertainment will include live Irish music from 6-11 p.m. Saturday by Pete Feters. Guests are encouraged to come and sing along.

Special dishes will include County Cork gravlax (a smoked salmon appetizer), Irish stew (with lamb), Salmon a la Dublin Bay, Parmesan seared sea scallops Kinsale style, beef and beer

Homemade hash at Claddagh's

Claddagh's Irish Pub on Haggerty Road in Livonia will open its doors at 9 a.m. and serve homemade corned beef hash until 11 a.m., said manager Athena Kostoulakis.

The full-service bar will be open from 9 a.m. Saturday until last call at 1:30 a.m. Sunday, with the bar closing at 2 a.m.

The pub's full menu will be served from 11 a.m.-midnight. Irish specialties include shepherd's pie, Irish beef stew and corned beef and slaw sandwiches.

"Those are our most popular Irish dishes, but we are also known for our fish 'n' chips, which is dipped in butter with Buss ale," she said.

Live music will include a different band every three hours, and boppers will be on hand a couple of times during the day.

Irish dancers will perform about 1 p.m.

A cover charge of \$5 will begin at 4 p.m.

Several promotional giveaways from various beverages will be available throughout the day, and patrons will have a chance to enter a

special drawing for a couple of Guinness jackets that will take place on Sunday.

Irish singers at Dunleavy's

Dunleavy's Pub & Grub on Grand River Avenue in Farmington will serve Irish specialties such as corned beef and cabbage, Irish stew, fish 'n' chips and green beer all day.

Entertainment will be provided throughout the day and evening, and will feature Irish singers, dancers and a bopper.

The festivities will begin 10 a.m. until 2 a.m. Sunday.

Shanahan's Irish Pub in Livonia serves traditional Irish fare in an authentic Irish pub-style atmosphere. Doors will open at 10 a.m. Saturday, with a live band playing about 10:30 a.m. and a delay on hand that night. A \$10 cover charge begins at 3 p.m. and includes the buffet served from 4-9 p.m., said Chris Muzzini, supervisor.

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Northville, Michigan 48167

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At Northville, Michigan

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MY DIVERSITY

Thursday, March 15, 2007
www.novinews.com
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Diversity with teeth

Novi dentist uses cultural awareness to grow practice

By Greg Migliore
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Dr. Wen-Chi Takada understands Novi's growing diversity. Her dental practice, in fact, is based on that. And for her, it's more than simply speaking the language.

CELEBRATE: Let us tell everyone **your big news:** engagements, anniversaries, births, weddings

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MY NOVI PEOPLE

Thursday, March 15, 2007
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ENGAGEMENTS



Schreiber-Colos

David and Susan Schreiber of West Bloomfield announce the engagement of their daughter, Gretchen Elizabeth Schreiber, to Brian Lee Colos, son of Edwin and Pamela Colos of Novi.

The bride-elect is a 2002 graduate of Walled Lake Central High School and is a graduate of Michigan State University. She participated in the Michigan State Marching Band program from 2002-2005 and was a student teacher in Farmington Public Schools in Elementary General Music.

The groom-elect is a 1999

graduate of Novi High School and 2003 graduate of Grand Valley State University with degrees in Finance and Management. He was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and is currently employed as a recruiter for Aerotek in Grand Rapids.

The groom-elect is a graduate of Albion College and is currently employed as a counselor at St. John's Home in Grand Rapids.

A September wedding is planned.



Chimienti-Plant

Dave and Pat Chimienti of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Lauren Michelle Chimienti, to Ross Daniel Plant,

son of Roger Plant of Grant, Mich. and Ruth Plant of Ravenna, Mich.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Albion College and is currently employed as a recruiter for Aerotek in Grand Rapids.

The groom-elect is a graduate of Albion College and is currently employed as a counselor at St. John's Home in Grand Rapids.

A September wedding is planned.

ANNIVERSARY

Golden Anniversary

Mack and Clara Porter, formerly of Novi, celebrated their 50th anniversary on March 9, 2007. Mr. and Mrs. Porter lived in the Village Oaks subdivision for 25 years and now reside in Hiram, Ga.

Mr. Porter owned an operated a custom glass business and Mrs. Porter was Director of Community Education for Novi Schools. Their four children, Mark, Greg, Nancy and Eric threw a celebratory dinner and hosted an open house for friends and relatives.

OBITUARY



IRENE C. FAULKNER

Irene C. Faulkner, age 88, of Novi, passed away on March 7, 2007. She was born January 14, 1919 in Howell, MI to Howard and Flora (Ricketts) Newman. Irene was united in marriage on April 25, 1959 to Richard A. Faulkner. She spent her childhood in Howell, and became a resident of Novi in 1982, where she was a homemaker. Irene was a member of St. James Catholic Church in Novi. She adored her grandchildren and was very supportive of her husband, especially his affiliation with the Novi Lions Club. Irene loved to travel; she visited many different places all over the world. She was an avid fisherman, and one of her favorite spots was the St. Clair River in Port Huron where she would catch Walleye. Mrs. Faulkner also enjoyed cooking. Survivors include her husband Richard A. Faulkner; her children Richard (Christine) Faulkner, Jr., Melissa (Jon) Mutschall, Todd (Julie) Faulkner, and Nathan (Tammie) Faulkner; her grandchildren Caleb, Jacob & Hannah Faulkner, Naette & Alexis Mutschall, Lauren & Lea Faulkner, and Elaine & Christian Faulkner; and her siblings Lyle (Doris) Fellows and Ardis Klavins. She was preceded in death by her parents. A memorial mass was held this past Saturday at St. James Catholic Church of Novi with Father George Charley officiating the service. Mrs. Faulkner will be laid to rest at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. of Northville.

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.

*Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

BIRTHS

Rainah Noelle Petersen

Donald and Jennifer (Kellogg) Petersen of Rockford, Mich. are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Rainah Noelle Petersen on Dec. 29, 2006. She weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 20 1/2 inches long.

Proud grandparents are Michael and Susan Kellogg of Novi.

Maekira Rose Stowell

Todd and Michelle Stowell of Novi are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Maekira Rose Stowell, on February 16. She weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 21.5 inches long.

Proud grandparents are John and Joyce Stowell of Northville, and Ken and Cheryl Maher of Wynnum, Australia. Great-grandparent is Duke Maher of Wynnum, Australia.

NEWSTIP

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MY BUSINESS

Thursday, March 15, 2007
www.novinews.com
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ITC Holdings earnings grow

Novi electric company expects to become sixth largest in nation

By Greg Migliore
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Novi-based ITC Holdings Corp., the nation's eighth-largest electrical transmission company, reported a nearly \$2 million jump in fourth-quarter earnings last week.

ITC booked net income of \$3.6 million for the period, up from \$1.7 million in the fourth quarter of 2005.

"We positioned ourselves for future growth," said Joseph Welch, chief executive officer, on a conference call.

The company's revenues also spiked \$27 million in the quarter, helped mostly by ITC's acquisition of the Michigan Electric Transmission Company (METC).

Company officials said the cash has bolstered the grid's reliability, pointing out there have been no significant outages, despite heavy usage.

The five-year-old company has been rapidly growing and provides electricity for nearly all of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Last year, it set up two subsidiaries that focus on grid development and expansion into the Great Plains region.

ITC also announced a \$750 million deal in January to buy Interstate Power and Light Company, an Iowa transmission company. ITC officials expect to close the transaction in the fourth quarter of this year, which could make the company the six largest transmission firm in the United States.

Additionally, it's planning on building new, larger headquarters in Novi.

Investment drives expansion

ITC has been investing in Michigan's electricity grid, pumping \$171.5 million into it last year, and it expects to invest about \$1 billion into improvements through 2011.

Company officials said the cash has bolstered the grid's reliability, pointing out there have been no significant outages, despite heavy usage.

Snapshot: ITC Holdings Corp.

- Headquarters: Novi
- Founded: 2002
- Business: Electrical transmission for most of the Lower Peninsula.
- News: Net income grew by nearly \$2 million in the fourth quarter



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Open for business!

Mezza waitresses Jennifer Goike, left, and Jamie Hoffman hold a tapas-style plate food from the Novi restaurant. Mezza in arabic means "small plate."

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Area authors offer job hunting tips

By Pam Fleming
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Northville resident Martha Adamson was once a "trailing spouse" — one who follows their partner when they get a new job in a new city.

At that point, the question for the unemployed spouse becomes: "What do I do?"

Now, more than a decade later, Adamson and Linda Henderson, of Green Oak Township, are helping area job seekers with their revised and updated workbook, "Job Search Navigator."

The authors met years ago when Henderson owned a business, Careers on the Move. She had negotiated with her husband's employer for a career transition service and picked Henderson's company.

Since Adamson had been working in New York to help laid-off workers find jobs before moving to the Detroit area, she decided to do some work for Henderson.

"She needed to update her training materials, so we started working on a new vision for her workbook, originally published in 1999," Adamson said. "We wanted to freshen it up and make sure we were including state-of-the-art techniques and information for job seekers."

A lot of the technology, such as how to find a job on the Internet, was not fully covered.

"The Internet kind of exploded during that time frame," Adamson said. "The authors finally republished the workbook in 2005."

Career Ministry started

Recently, Adamson has been working as a volunteer in the First United Methodist Church in Northville's Career Ministry that began Jan. 7.

Adamson uses parts of her and Henderson's "Job Search Navigator" workbook in the Career Ministry.

"In the book, we start with life planning before you even look at the type of job you want," Henderson said. "Your life and what you want to accomplish is very much related to the type of work you want to do."

This means looking at family, finances, health and recreational interests first.

The authors suggest ways applicants can get themselves in front of an employer and how to make the best possible impression, giving them an edge over other job seekers.

"We teach things you need to know about yourself, such as what your skills are, what your accomplishments have been in past jobs, and what your personal goals are for your work and your life so you seek opportunities that meet your needs," Henderson said.

The authors stress networking and prospecting.

"Don't wait for a company to advertise a job," Adamson said. "Be proactive and approach companies. Sometimes things just coincidentally open up. I call it serendipity."

They also suggest looking outside Internet job offerings.

"That's a shot in the dark," Adamson said. "You could be one of thousands applying for one job."

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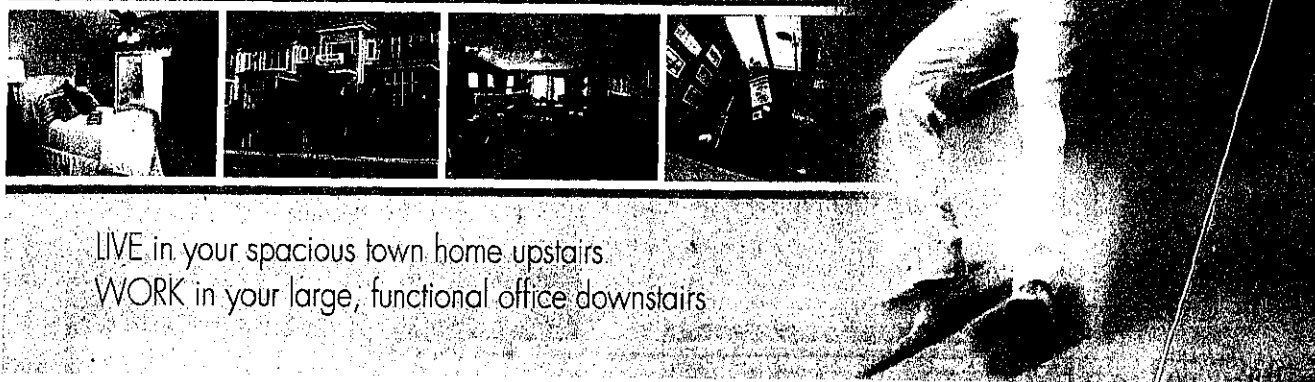
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NEXT WEEK: A look at the security aspects of the May school bond vote

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MY EDUCATION

Thursday, March 15, 2007
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Pot of gold for Novi schools

■ NEF hopes gala event provides more scholarships, grants

By Renee Gates
NEWS STAFF WRITER

The "luck of the Irish" will work doubly hard this weekend at the Green Gala.

Board members of the Novi Educational Foundation are hoping it will touch attendees of their first casino-style fundraiser and help raise the \$50,000 pot of gold for scholarships and grants the organization provides to Novi teachers and students.

"The NEF, through this grant process, is really going to benefit our kids. I would encourage anyone, everyone to attend," said Peter Dion, Novi Schools superintendent. "It will be a fun event."

The Green Gala concept came from Dion, who experienced a similar event with success in another school district and brought the idea to the foundation.

"They thought it was a good idea; it took off from there," said Robert Schram, NEF executive director and assistant superintendent of Novi Schools.

The NEF awarded \$35,000 in scholarships to Novi High School graduates last year and over \$9,000 in classroom grants to teachers during the 2006-07 school year. Since 2001, NEF has awarded over \$57,000 in classroom grants throughout the district.

"Money comes in specifically dedicated to scholarships," said Schram. "Scholarship funds given to the foundation are used for that purpose."

The organization has no overhead because the 17 members that serve as officers and trustees do so as volunteers.

The Green Gala

The Novi Educational Foundation is hosting an evening of casino gaming, dancing, refreshments and entertainment to support educational grants that benefit Novi schools.

In addition to gambling, attendees have the opportunity to win various raffle prizes and bid on silent and live auction items. The mistress of the ceremonies is Parkview Elementary School parent and Channel 7 News reporter Jo Anne Purhan.

When: Saturday, March 17, 7 p.m.-midnight
Where: Rock Financial Showplace
Tickets: \$75
Reservations: www.novik12.com/us/nef or (248) 449-1206

Ahead of its time

Schram remembers when the foundation began, 20 years ago this school year. He was involved with the development of it. Things were different then, he said.

"Taxes were all provided locally," said Schram, noting that money for schools came from the community and went to the district. So there really wasn't a need for an educational foundation at the time.

"The board had only seven members, but they had the foresight to organize as a foundation that could receive tax-deductible donations for scholarships. For three years the foundation was inactive, but then everything changed."

"By '93 the tax structure in the state had changed," Schram said. "You could see the writing on the wall. Financing education would be a burden in the future."

When he was hired by the

school board in 1995, he also took the position of NEF executive director. The foundation has been very active ever since.

"More people became involved," he said. "We started seeking money that we'd offer as grant opportunities to teachers. The needs (in schools) were greater. The need is there more now than ever."

Funding the need
For the past 11 years the foundation has funded its grant programs through its annual charity golf outing and various fundraisers. Last year's outing raised nearly \$12,000 which the foundation dispensed in grant awards of up to \$1,000 to Novi teachers. Last month the NEF board of trustees voted to increase its grant amount to \$5,000 per teacher per project.

"Our staff has been getting grants in the past, and now they are going to be eligible to get grants up to \$5,000," Dion said. "That includes our PTO's."

PTO's will also be able to write grants, Dion said, and that's a first ever for them, too.

The classroom and project grants give teachers additional instructional support for educational enrichment beyond the district's budget limitations. They also support professional development for teachers.

Previous grants have been used to provide music technology software to elementary schools, a wireless graphing calculator communication system to the high school and to purchase music and money materials to aid autistic elementary students in grasping these concepts.

Grant applications are available online, at the Educational Services building, or by contacting the foundation office. Foundation scholarship applications are available at Novi High School.

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



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Japanese Club

Novi High student Kenneth Hanson gets some help preparing a California sushi roll from Yukari Ikeda and her daughter Supika during a Tuesday afternoon Japanese Club meeting. The club's gathering allowed all members to learn how to prep the sushi rolls, which did originate in California, and then, luckily, eat them.

CLASS NOTES

Novi City Council Seeks Youth

Novi City Council encourages high school level youth to become active citizens on a board, commission or as members of the City of Novi Youth Council. Currently there are 10 students serving as representatives who provide valuable perspectives on community issues, while learning the operational and decision making processes of city government. Young residents can use this experience to help them prepare for future civic duties and volunteer opportunities.

Nineteen student members serve on the Novi Youth Council, a group responsible for making recommendations regarding the needs of Novi families and youth, including ways to address the issues through the cooperating efforts of public and private agencies combined with volunteerism. Applications are available at the city clerk's office or visit www.cityofnovi.org through March 28. City council will conduct interviews April 2.

Novi High School Band Honors

The Novi High School Concert Band, Symphony Band and Wind Ensemble received top honors in the Michigan School Band Orchestra Association District Four Band Festival. All three bands received a division score of "1", qualifying them to compete in the State Festival.

For breaking news on the Web: www.novinews.com

QUOTED: "The potential really is only limited by our imagination and willingness"

Bill Dunbar

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MY EDUCATION

Thursday, March 15, 2007
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Hospital University

■ District partnership with Providence will prepare students for future careers

By Renee Gates
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Students in the operating room, students in the emergency room, students doing the rounds with doctors and nurses. Not high school students, but Novi High School students.

Through a partnership with Providence St. John Health Organization and Novi Community School District, high school students that are interested in pursuing medical careers will have the opportunity to shadow medical professionals at the new Providence Park Hospital campus.

And that's just the beginning. "The potential really is only limited by our imagination and willingness," said Bill Dunbar, Novi High School Science department chair and program facilitator.

"Our kids will be able to gain real life experience by visiting Providence professionals in all areas not just medicine. It's not just a hospital over there it's a complete business community." Beginning this month, Dunbar said, the high school will recruit a nurse shadowing program, meaning it run several years ago with students at the Providence Southfield location.

"We have kids now who are working as registered nurses at Providence Southfield as a result of that experience, convincing them that they really wanted to be nurses," he said. "We can point to a number of cases where kids have been influenced by these experiences where they are now in the healthcare field, some of them doctors."

The future is here
The new Providence Park Novi campus will open in another 16-17 months, Dunbar said, and students are already involved in different aspects of its development. "The high school art department, teachers and students, are going to be involved in the design and decorating of some of the pediatric units in the new hospital," Dunbar said. "They will actually be working with the builders and the designers on room design and art work and decoration. That's in progress right now."

In September, Dunbar will teach Medical Careers Exploration, a new science course for students interested in pursuing medical careers. The course will give students both the academic and practical aspects of different medical related professions. "We'll get first hand from the professionals and be able to see real world application of what they just learned," Dunbar said. "For the hospital it's great, they can look at potential employees. They can show kids what kinds of jobs are available. I think it's really a win-win situation for everybody. I think the community will love it and get behind it because it's going to prepare our kids for the future."

On Thursday March 8 the high school held a scheduling fair to give students an opportunity to learn about courses they may want to take in the fall. The interest in the new medical careers class was "incredibly high," Dunbar said.

"We are so excited about this project,"

The hospital and the high school have a history of working together on smaller projects. Art and science students have participated in several projects over the years at both hospital locations, Dunbar said.

The positive experience students had from their interaction with the hospital community, convinced Dunbar more needed to be done. At a December meeting between the district and hospital leadership, Dunbar made a case for why a deeper partnership would be of tremendous value to everyone involved.

"Both groups have made the commitment since Dec 27 and we're now in the process of developing this systemic foundation," Dunbar said.

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



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Teamwork

Students in substitute teacher Heather Rose's Deerfield Elementary class work together on a group project on a recent Wednesday afternoon. Deerfield's moving from a magnet, or school of choice, to a community one - wherein students living within its school district borders are given precedence.

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BE SCENE IN NOVI



Mei Lang, left, and his wife Yiyang smile as they dance to some music from "The Internationals" at the Novi Senior Center.

SWINGIN' SENIORS



Mel Knops and Marge Hildebrandt cut a rug at the monthly dance at the Novi Senior Center.



Mike Zelenak plays drums and sings as he and Tommy James of "The Internationals" play tunes.



Loren, right, and Linda Totwell work their way around the floor.



Dancers enjoy the sounds of a live band.

All photos by John Heltzer/Novi News

GALLERIES: See more of photographer John Heltzer's work on www.novinews.com



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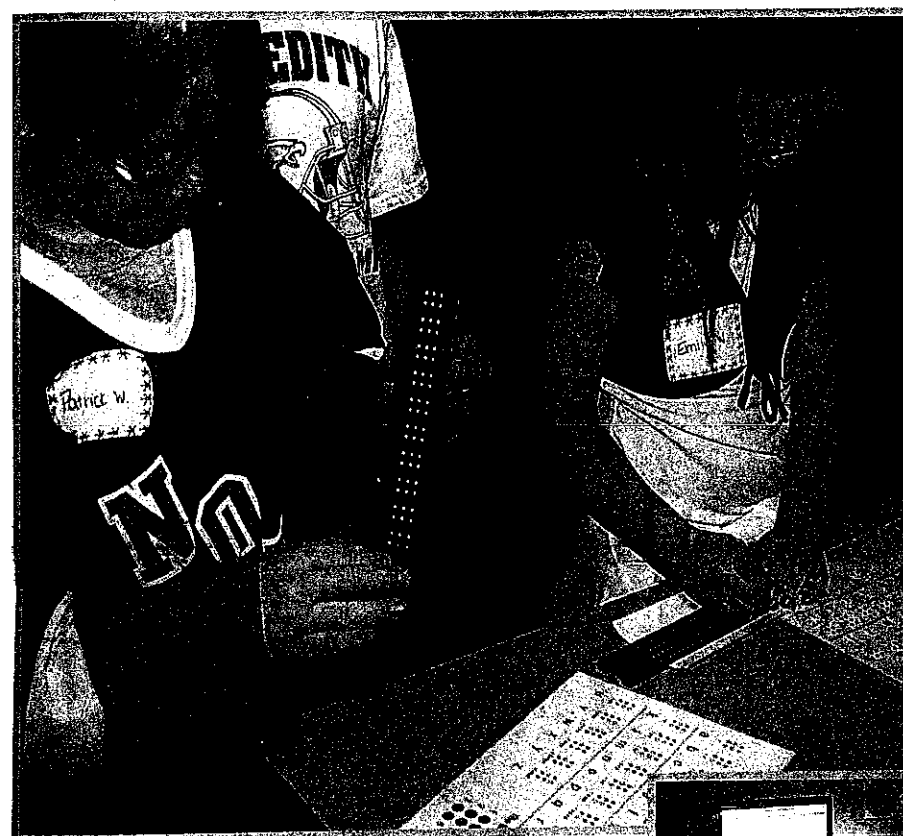
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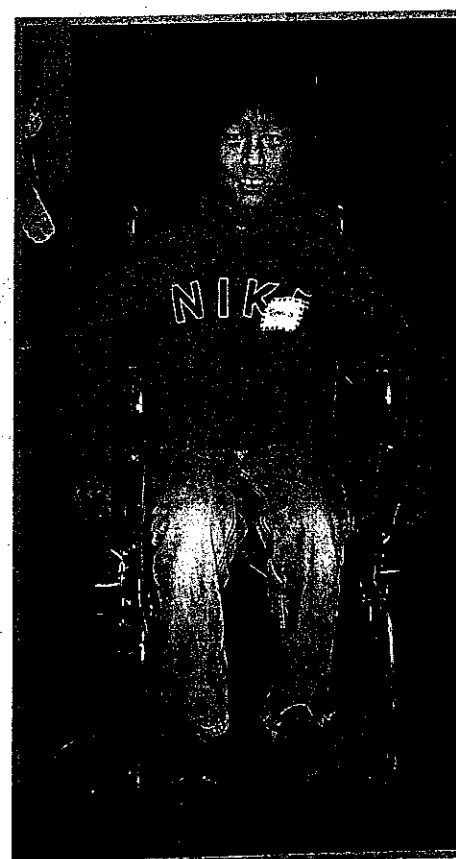
BE SCENE IN NOVI



AWARENESS



Melissa Lind, a fourth grade teacher at Village Oaks Elementary in Novi, wanted to share some great photos with readers from their disability awareness day on March 6. During the all-day event, children rotated through stations that taught them about physical impairments, vision and hearing impairments, architectural barriers for the handicapped and a speaker who was a quadriplegic. The children loved the day and especially the wheelchair obstacle course.



Courtesy photos



GOT A STORY IDEA? Contact the Novi News to spread the word about what's going on in Novi

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MY COMMUNITY

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ARCHER: 'We're all in this together'

■ Former Detroit Mayor stresses regionalism to spur economic rebound

By Greg Migliore
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Civic leaders need to think regionally to spur Southeast Michigan out of its economic slumber, former Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer said last week.

A key starting point: Capitalizing on the pockets of growth in the area — like Novi.

"We're all in this together," said Archer, who was noted for his cooperative approach to working with the suburbs while mayor.

"Whatever happens to Novi impacts other cities in the region."

Speaking before a Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce luncheon audience last week at the Rock Financial Showplace, the former two-term leader of Michigan's largest city said local governments should look to collaborate in areas like purchasing to cut costs.

Archer, who now serves as chairman of the Detroit Regional Chamber, also called for changes to the area's economic structure.

"We want to be able to create an environment that will allow all our businesses to be as successful

'One D'

Former Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer says regional cooperation is key to turning around Southeast Michigan's sagging fortunes. At a luncheon in Novi last week, he suggested the following ways:

• Collaboration between city governments in areas like purchasing

• Promoting diversity

• Helping to grow Michigan businesses to offset the loss of larger corporations, like Comerica.

as humanly possible," he said.

Natally attired in a dark suit and bow tie, the silver-haired Archer spoke softly, but forcefully, during his remarks. He said the recent exodus of businesses offered chances for smaller companies to grow and fill the void left by companies like Pfizer and Comerica.

"It creates opportunity," he said.

'One D'

Still, Michigan does have some strengths, including its



From left: Former Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer, Novi Assistant City Manager Pam Antil, Greater Novi Chamber Executive Director Whitney McClellan and City Manager Clay Pearson pose after a luncheon last week in Novi.

blend of cultural and ethnic groups, which could poise the state for a rebound, he said.

"We've got a rich mixture of diversity," said Archer, who doubles as chairman of the powerful Detroit law firm Dickinson Wright PLLC and also served

on the state Supreme Court. Diversity plays into one of his pet projects, a coalition called One D, which aligns the area's most influential civic organizations to promote growth. The group's roster includes local heavyweights

Renaissance, the United Way for Southeastern Michigan and others.

Archer's remarks resonated with Christopher Barrett, a Huntington National Bank vice president, who attended the luncheon.

"They typically are very forward-looking, very progressive and very positive," Barrett said.

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

Novi snares \$10,000 tree grant

■ Will pay for trees felled by ash borer

By Gretchen Burley
NEWS SPECIAL WRITER

Novi's forestry department has received a \$10,000 grant to plant trees in city parks.

The trees replace ones that were infected with emerald ash borer and cut down. The grant

will cover the cost of 80 trees and is from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Urban and Community Forestry program.

"Trees play a vital role in the health and beauty of Michigan's communities," said Lynne Boyd, chief of the DNR's Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division.

"Through this grant program, along with other state, local and private tree planting initiatives, communities are able to replace trees lost to the

emerald ash borer and take steps toward creating a healthy community forest though diversity."

Emerald ash borer has killed more than 20 million trees in Southeast Michigan, Ontario, Ohio and Indiana since 2002.

This is the fourth grant that Novi has received, totaling \$70,000.

Gretchen Burley is an intern for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 or gburley@gannett.com.

POLICE REPORT

Taco Bell incident

Police say a drunk man argued with Taco Bell workers then drove to a nearby hotel where he was arrested early March 2.

Police were called by workers at the restaurant at 8 Mile and Haggerty at 1:54 a.m. after verbally arguing with the man. Police

led him to a hotel on Orchard Hill Place. In the parking lot, the man faked a sobriety test, registering a .13 blood alcohol level.

Window bashed

Someone bashed in the driver's side window of a Subaru parked in

front of the Buffalo Wild Wings at Fountain Walk March 4 between noon and 5 p.m.

Damage was estimated to be \$300. Nothing was taken from the car, and there are no suspects.

— Compiled by News Staff
Writer Greg Migliore

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MY LEISURE



Thursday, March 15, 2007
www.novinews.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

Keep your eye on the flop

■ Local charity event benefits Lions Club

By Victoria Mitchell
NEWS STAFF WRITER

If you know how to hold them and fold them then make your way to the Novi Lions Club Texas Hold'em Tournament at Novi Bowl this Sunday.

Organizers said it is a great way to have fun and raise money for a good cause.

Novi Lions Club long-time member Doc Barr encourages the community to attend.

"We want to raise money for our charities," Barr said.

"Proceeds from the event will benefit Lions' charities: Leader Dogs for the Blind, MI Eye Bank, Penrickton Center for Blind Children, Juvenile Diabetes Research and more.

For more information, call Doc Barr at (248) 960-3092 or wbarr@vmlr.com

Texas Hold'em Tournament

Who: Sponsored by the Novi Lions Club
When: Sunday March 18
Where: Novi Bowl, 21700 Novi Road
Cost: \$60 in advance; \$65 at the door
Must be: 21 or older
Check-in: noon-2 p.m.
With \$5 pizza buffet
Maximum payout: \$500
Benefiting: Proceeds will go to Lions charities.
Leader Dogs for the Blind, MI Eye Bank, Penrickton Center for Blind Children, Juvenile Diabetes Research and more.

For more info: Doc Barr (248) 960-3092 or wbarr@vmlr.com

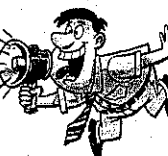
related challenges.

"I just had a call recently from a young lady who doesn't live in Novi, but she needs a cornea transplant," he said.

List your event in our calendar!

To be included in My Bulletin Board, please send event name, date, time, location, details and contact.

■ Mail: Novi News, My Bulletin Board, 104 W. Main Street, Suite 101, Northville, MI 48167.
■ Fax: (248) 349-9832
■ E-mail: cstone@gannett.com



■ Deadline: Must be received by noon on Tuesday to be published in the Thursday edition.
Call (248) 349-1700 for additional information.

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Meadowbrook's renowned Chancel Choir, under the direction of Patrick Kuhl, will perform one of Fauré's greatest works accompanied by chamber orchestra.

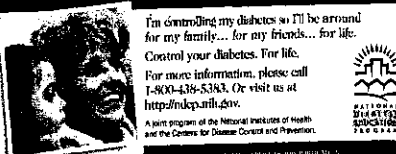
Featured soloists:
Iris Hankins, soprano & Kenneth Shepherd, bass

Sunday, March 25
10 a.m. worship service

Church School/Nursery provided

23355 Meadowbrook Road between 8 and 9 Mile roads in Novi
248-348-7757 www.mbcoc.org

Controlling diabetes makes a huge difference.



The Easter bunny hops into town

■ Twelve Oaks Mall hosts annual visit

The bunny trail leads to Twelve Oaks Mall as the Easter Bunny hops into the Novi shopping center's Central Park Garden Saturday through April 7.

The garden, decorated for spring, is located in the lower level, center court.

Photo operation hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday.

The bunny does take brief breaks during the day.

Each visitor will receive a free gift and photos with the Easter Bunny will be available for purchase.

For a complete list of photo packages and prices, visit www.shoptwelveoaks.com.

Prices vary to create a package just for you.

Twelve Oaks Mall is located at Interstate 96 and Novi Road.

The center features 180 shops and services along with Macy's, Lord & Taylor, JCPenney, Sears and the LifeStyle Cafe Food Court.

Coming on Sept. 28, 2007 ... Nordstrom and more than 30 exciting new and expanded stores.

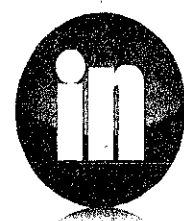


Shopping hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Visit www.shoptwelveoaks.com.

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MY HEALTHY LIVING

Thursday, March 15, 2007
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Stay safe and get vaccinated

■ New vaccine helps prevent HPV

By Tracy Mishler
NEWS SPECIAL WRITER

Janice Miller just wants to protect her daughters.

The 42-year-old Novi mother of two girls, Cara, 12, and Ellen, 14, said it's her job to ensure her girls are safe.

"I can't be with them every minute of their lives," Miller said. "But I can do whatever it takes to make sure they're safe."

Miller said the minute she heard a vaccine was being made to protect young girls from developing the Human Papillomavirus (HPV), which can cause cervical cancer, she and her daughters were the first in line.

"My mother died from cervical cancer," she said. "It runs in my family. Anyway, I can prevent those I love from getting it, I will."

The Human Papillomavirus,

better known as HPV, is the name of a group of viruses that includes more than 100 different strains or types, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

More than 30 of the viruses are sexually transmitted, and can infect both men and women.

Get the shot
In June 2006, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices voted to support the first vaccine to help prevent cervical cancer caused by certain strains of the Human Papillomavirus.

The vaccine, known as Gardasil, protects against four human papillomavirus types, which together cause 70 percent of genital warts, according to the Center for Disease Control.

Dr. Lakshmi Gaur, of Park Gynecology and Pelvic Medicine at Providence Hospital, in Novi, said anyone who is sexually active could develop HPV.

"The problem is so many people have it," Gaur said. "When you have partners who are exposed, they may have gotten the

infections.

"Men may not even know they have the virus."

Gaur said the vaccine is an excellent form of protection.

"The HPV Vaccine is to decrease the risks of high-grade types," she said. "And if you get the vaccine before you're sexually active, it protects 70 percent."

"Girls still need to get regular pap smears. People still need to use condoms. The vaccine doesn't protect against other sexually transmitted diseases."

What is it?

Distribution of Gardasil to the public began last October, and Kathy Sweeney, a registered nurse, said television advertisements for the vaccine help make people aware.

"We get a lot of phone calls about it," said Sweeney of Park Gynecology and Pelvic Medicine at Providence Hospital, in Novi, said anyone who is sexually active could develop HPV.

"The problem is so many people have it," Gaur said. "When you have partners who are exposed, they may have gotten the

Sweeney said Gardasil is a

Human papillomavirus vaccine

- The HPV shot is only given to girls between the ages of 9-26 right now.
- It is called Gardasil and is the only vaccine available.
- The shots are given in three, meaning you get shots over a sixth month period of time.

SOURCE: Merck & Co. Inc.

series of three injections given over a six-month period of time, and is approved currently for girls ages 9-26.

"The goal is to reach girls before they're sexually active," Sweeney said. "They're targeting the pediatric."

Kay Renny, registered nurse and manager of community programs for the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) of Southeast

Michigan, said the vaccine is another way of keeping the community healthy.

The VNA of Southeast Michigan is one of many facilities offering the HPV vaccine, by appointment.

"We also offer on-site meningitis clinics at high schools and locations, and we're willing to offer on-site clinics for HPV as well," Renny said. "It does pre-

HPV: No joke

• About 20 million people are currently infected with HPV.

• At least 50 percent of sexually active men and women acquire genital HPV infection at some point in their lives.

• By age 50, at least 80 percent of women will have acquired genital HPV infection.

• About 6.2 million Americans get a new genital HPV infection each year.

SOURCE: CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

vent cervical cancer and is a very preventative vaccine."

Miller said even though the vaccine is new, people should not turn their heads away.

"I'm not saying it's OK to go and have sex because you're vaccinated," she said. "I'm not promoting promiscuity. I'm promoting safety."

Tracy Mishler is a freelance writer for the Novi News.

Janice Miller
Novi Parent

Author considers kids' feelings amidst divorce

■ Susan McKenna said families will see themselves in the story characters

By Maureen Johnston
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Ten-year-old Nathan was sure he was reading about his divorcing mom and dad.

Susan McKenna said that kind of reception to her book — a youngster in the midst of his parents' marital strife identifying with the story — tells her she's onto something.

This month, the Northville Township author will begin a signing tour, promoting "Feelings Only I Know." She said the story about divorcing parents finds the right words of comfort to explain the change to children.

"He thought it was written just for him," McKenna said. "It's just those little feedbacks that I got that I knew."

Starting from 'clueless'

McKenna, 48, who endured a "difficult" divorce in 1992, knew a lot about conflict between separating spouses and potential impact on their children.

Struggling to comfort her two sons, Jonathan and age 2 at the time of her split, she was dismayed by the lack of material available. The pediatric nurse started collecting stories of wisdom through experience in divorce recovery workshops she created.

"The parents were clueless," she said. "You're overwhelmed with emotions. It's really emotional because these people are really hurting."

"You could just feel the pain in the room."

She learned from the recurring themes that emerged from the anecdotes and incorporated them into workshops, support groups and finally, books.

After this year, her book "More Feelings Only I Know" will also be available at Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com and on her Web site.

'Feelings Only I Know'

What: Book about divorce recovery
Audience: Children ages 3-10 and their parents

Author: Susan McKenna
Available: Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com and other stores

For info: www.way-farbooks.com or (734) 420-8100

"Fourteen years ago, there was nothing like this out there."

Over the years, McKenna asked her workshop participants, "Do you love your children more than you love your ex-spouse?" Her point: Parents need to do what's best for their children.

She said scenarios in "Feelings Only I Know" emphasize that core message.

"It takes more than someone telling you it's the hard thing to do," she said. "It's hard not to do when you're reading it with your kid."

"It reinforces the right values," McKenna's book was favorably reviewed by Maxine Thorne, executive director of the Michigan chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, and other health care professionals.

Two audiences

McKenna said her book explains divorce in a way children can understand, and in a positive light. Also, unlike other books on the market, the illustrations are children, not animals, so the kids see themselves in the story, she said.

Meanwhile, the book includes a parent guide with advice for making a smooth transition from a two-parent home to living with one and visiting the other.

"Comments from men have been that this presented them in the most respectable light," she said. "They were surprised when they saw in this book they are very important."

"People are always surprised because they expect me to take sides."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Northville Record

Northville Township resident Susan McKenna employed the wisdom she garnered from going through a divorce with kids into writing the children's book "Feelings Only I Know."

If adults pick up even one tip to make the relationship with their former spouse more civil, McKenna said she would be pleased. She dedicated the book to her sons, Eric, 14, and Adam, 16.

"I just never want to see kids go through what my kids went through," she said. "I think this can become a real peacekeeper."

"When it comes to your kids, it's whatever it takes to make them healthy."

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113, or mjohnston@gannett.com.

CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be accepting applications for appointment to the Economic Development Corporation.

If you are a registered voter in the City of Novi and interested in volunteering to serve on the Economic Development Corporation, please contact the City Clerk's office by calling (248) 347-0455 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.cityofnovi.org to print out an application.

The deadline for filing an application is Monday, March 19, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. All applicants will be required to be present at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 19, 2007 in the Council Chambers to be interviewed by City Council. All City Council meetings are televised.

(3-15-07 NN 342537)

MARYANNE CORNELIUS
CITY CLERK

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADDITION ORDINANCE NO. 07-37.33

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 07-37.33, an ordinance to amend the City of Novi Code of Ordinances, as amended, Chapter 34, "Utilities", Article II, "Water Supply System", Divisions 1 and 4, Article III, "Sewage Disposal System", Divisions 2 and 3, in order to update definitions, to delete all expired and/or completed payback agreements and special assessment districts, and to update the water and sewer connection fees and clarify the procedure for assessing such fees.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, March 5, 2007 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

(3-15-07 NN 341408)

MARYANNE CORNELIUS
CITY CLERK

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 3, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road to consider:

Case No. 07-009 filed by Gus O'Connor located at 42875 Grand River Avenue
Irish Beer Works, Inc./Gus O'Connor is requesting a variance to a previously granted variance in 2B405-09 which stipulated the petitioner remove the 14.5 square foot Gus O'Connor's sign over the door located at 42875 Grand River Avenue. Property is zoned TC-1 and located south of Grand River and east of Market Street.

Case No. 07-010 filed by Monday Properties LLC located on Nine Mile Road between 48315 & 48321
Applicant is requesting two 10'1" wide dimensional variances to the minimum required lot width for frontage on a public street. The subject property is located on Nine Mile Road between 48315 & 48321 (part of parcel number 5022-09-076-010, a parcel containing 1.5 acres). In addition the applicant is also requesting two 86'18" wide variances for the reduction below ninety (90) percent of the required minimum lot width. Property is zoned RA and located south of Nine Mile Road and east of Garfield Road.

Case No. 07-011 filed 41051 S. McMahon
Applicant is requesting 3 side yard setback variances and one front yard setback variance to construct a 126 square foot addition and a 1000 square foot second story on an existing home in the Willowbrook Estates Subdivision located at 41051 S. McMahon. The property is zoned R-4 and located south of Eleven Mile and west of Haggerty Road.

Case No. 07-013 filed by Schostak Brothers, A Co., for Olga's Kitchen located in the Westmarket Square Shopping Center at 47998 Grand River Avenue
Schostak Brothers & Co./Olga's Kitchen is requesting three sign variances for the Olga's Kitchen and Suncoast Smoothies restaurant located in the Westmarket Square Shopping Center at 47998 Grand River Avenue. Applicant is requesting one 54'73" square foot sign variance and one 9'94" square foot sign variance for the east elevation of the building and one 8'84" square foot sign variance for the south elevation of the building. Property is zoned B-2 and located north of Grand River and west of Beck Road.

Case No. 07-014 filed by Interphase Land Development LLC for lot 4 of the Casa Loma Condominium Development located at 21633 Beck Road
Applicant is requesting one 25-foot rear yard setback variance from the required 50-foot rear yard setback for the construction of a new single-family condominium home on lot 4 of the Casa Loma Condominium Development located at 21633 Beck Road. Property is zoned R-A and is located south of 9 Mile Road and west of Beck Road.

(3-15-07 NN 342021)

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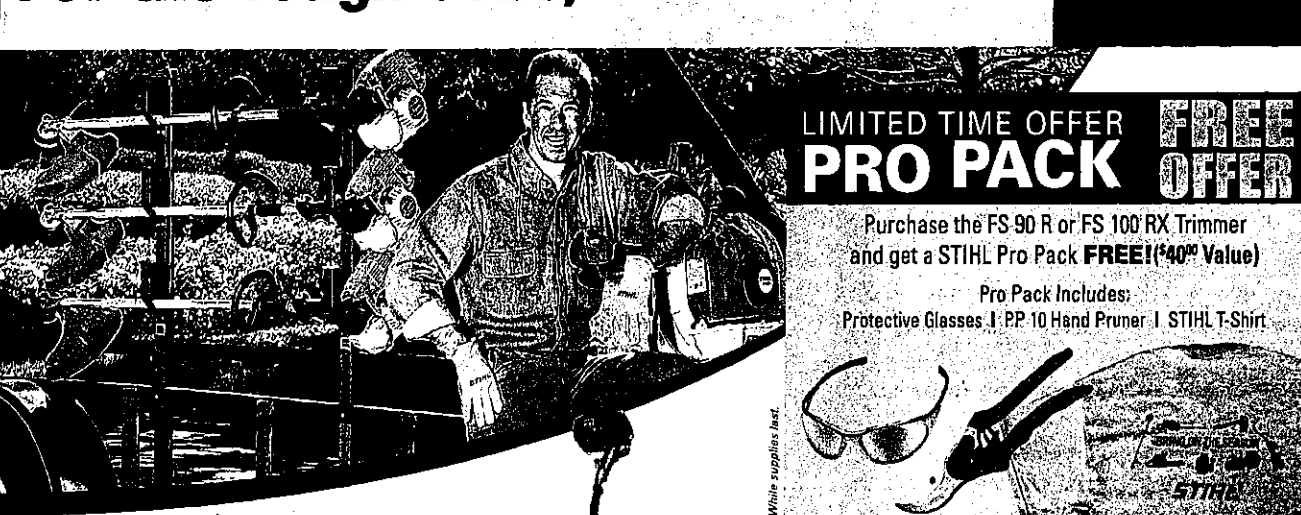
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The Cancer AnswerLine provided Lisa with information on alternative treatments for her mom, Juli's, rare form of sarcoma. Lisa's e-mails to Kim, one of our oncology nurses, helped her discuss options and make informed decisions with their doctor. Lisa says Kim's personal responses were quick, thorough and gave her peace of mind. And she's happy to report that her mom is in remission. The nurses of the Cancer Answerline — another reason we say, at U-M what stays with you are the people who are there for you along the way. That's the Michigan Difference.

1-800-865-1125 mccancer.org

M
University of Michigan
Comprehensive Cancer Center

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

MY COMMENTARY

Thursday, March 15, 2007
www.novinews.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

Novi News

Richard Perlberg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Rick Reinhold
PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER
Graco Perez Perry
GENERAL MANAGER

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Cooperation is needed for region to reach full potential

For inspiration on future growth, individuals should look to the past mayor of Detroit.

Thomas Archer, the former two-term mayor of Michigan's largest city, has an interesting theory.

What's essential for part of the area is to be the best of it.

"Revolutionary," No.

"Revolutions," Absolutely.

For less time, Metro Detroit has been held back by boundary lines and petty turf wars, often with racial overtones. For the area to fully rebound, local leaders need to work cooperatively with each other.

As Archer told a Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce luncheon audience in Novi last week, "We're all in this together."

He was.

When the Super Bowl came to the area in 2006, it was a reminder of a regional event. Though the name was placed downtown, many of the athletes got into the action. Novi was able to play host to the elite of the NFL event, which had a few thousand fans around the home.

But it works both ways.

Latter on his address, Archer said, "Whatever happens to Novi impacts other cities in the region."

While Novi is rapidly growing and has avoided many of the economic pitfalls besetting the rest of the state, the city is not an island. Make no mistake, no one south of Toledo makes any distinction between Novi, Livonia, Warren or the core city itself. It's all Detroit to them.

With this in mind, Novi should look for ways to show leadership. What can the city do to benefit the region as a whole?

This doesn't mean splashing cash to bankrupt faraway developments in other jurisdictions. But it does mean keeping an open mind, particularly on hot-button topics like expanding Metro Council, education and regional transportation.

City leaders in Novi, Detroit, and everywhere in between need to take a hard look in the mirror and honestly ask themselves: Are we part of the solution? Or are we simply adding to the problems that have weighed down the area for nearly 50 years?

See you later ...
Nelson the Animal Guy offers up an American alligator for Village Oaks students to feed during his recent visit to the Novi school. Nelson is from Canton's Wildlife Safari Company and also brought along an owl and a lion's head rabbit, among other creatures.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Can Michigan connect with the 21st century knowledge economy?

Public education must adapt to a changing world by filtering out the noise and focusing on the essential. This means restructuring to a six-hour day delivered within the confines of the classroom or school building. The new model is not in sync with the way today's wireless kids get about their daily lives.

Why do far too many schools continue to want to force learning by using the force of the past? Learning has become an individualized, self-paced, and self-directed process, and interactivity that are available 24/7.

Today's students increasingly expect and need learning experiences that are relevant, authentic and real. They require skills and knowledge that will enable them to succeed in a world that is global, connected, agile, and entrepreneurial. Are we preparing them to be ready for this new reality? The answer is a qualified "yes" — but only if Michigan's education, business, government and civic leaders engage their collective imaginations and energy to deliver quality 21st century learning while retaining our older workers to adapt.

The Internet has expanded access to knowledge exponentially and has placed it literally at the fingertips of everyone. E-learning is bringing education to people and changing how we learn.

Technology allows the customization of each student's learning experience. Where is it written that, like Henry Ford's Model T, students have to accept a one-size fits all educational experience? E-learning allows educators to move from the historic "sage on the stage" delivery model to a more progressive "any time, any place" facilitated learning model.

We Must Change

It is imperative that our system of public education play the lead role in preparing our citizens for success in the global economy. Michigan cannot lead in the 21st century without casting off the anchors of the attitudes, archaic laws and public policies and beliefs that chain us to the 20th century education and economic model.

In a report I wrote for Michigan Virtual University and Wayne State University (The New Education Revolution) I spelled out a number of recommendations that can help break Michigan out of the educational and economic rut and help propel us boldly into the 21st century knowledge economy.

Some of the recommendations have been adopted by policy makers. Michigan high school students now must take at least one on-line course before they graduate. Another example is that schools in Michigan are connecting with schools in China via e-learning. Yet many others remain available for policy makers to study and implement, such as requiring those who collect waste, employment or other state assistance to use e-learning to upgrade their reading, math and other skills to make them employable. This training could be done for thousands of people throughout Michigan without any increased spending or taxes.

Some of the report's recommendations are more bold than others. Some are more readily double than others. Some require changes in vision, imagination and attitude, while others require changes in law and bold, decisive leadership. All the ideas are offered as a catalyst for policy conversations that should lead to bold action and change for Michigan's teachers and students. Given the state of Michigan's economy, doing nothing is not an option.

With imagination, innovation and creativity that incorporate the

latest learning technology, what should a 21st century education look like?

Imagine a time when all parents and students have access to the best learning institutions/teachers in the world — not just what is available within the artificial boundaries of local school districts.

Imagine gaining knowledge in a network of international learners connected country-to-country, school-to-school and student-to-student.

Imagine a senior year in high school where students volunteer around the world and develop a portfolio of knowledge and skills outside the walls of their high school.

Imagine actually living in a flattened world rather than just talking about it.

Imagine Michigan transforming itself from the automotive capital of the world to the knowledge capital of the world.

Imagine the catalyst for change that catapults Michigan into a 21st century leadership role begins in our schools.

Our Reality

Today we exist, as most in Michigan are painfully aware, in a borderless world where ideas

and work are free to flow from person to person and country to country. Our quest must be to make the new reality work for us — and not against us. The negative unemployment numbers, plant closings and companies fleeing our state are more than just statistics; they are painful realities impacting our families, communities and our state of mind.

Until we use our intellect, creativity and knowledge to innovate and change, work will continue to flow to venues with an educated workforce and low labor costs. We are living in a world where the undereducated and underemployed will be left behind. The 21st century will reward brainpower. Harnessing the power of the Internet and e-learning could be our ticket to success as we move forward.

Clearly we do not have significant new resources within public education to help forge change. However, we currently spend \$13 billion on public education. The question is, are we investing it wisely? Can we change how we spend that money and produce better educational payoffs in the future? Change requires giving up the "we have always done it that way" mentality and redirecting resources to new initiatives that will produce the skills and knowledge necessary to soar. This requires imagination and leadership.

In this century, the state and nation that gets its system of education right will be the most prosperous. It must be our collective goal to make Michigan that state and America that nation.

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About Tom Watkins

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools from 2001-2005. Read his internationally recognized report: The New Education Revolution at www.nacel.org. He can be reached at tdwatkins@aol.com.

Who are these stakeholders? Well, business leaders, legislative leaders, our educational system (K-12 going through post-graduate degrees), our unions, our civic and economic development organizations, our local and county political leaders, local newspapers and so forth. One new Michigan will be a high-prosperity one with our per capita income above the national average. How do we get there? We get there by becoming a knowledge-based, high-education economy.

As the "Road to Renaissance" report suggests, our strategic priorities should be:

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3. grow greater Detroit's creative community

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(248) 349-1700, ext. 113
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OPINION

Thursday, March 15, 2007
www.novinews.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

"New" Michigan can lead

I have been asked to address Michigan's economy and the many challenges that it presently is facing. I have had the opportunity to discuss this topic several times over the last year and have realized that what we are speaking about is really the "Old Michigan" versus the "New Michigan." I would like to briefly spend some time on the old Michigan, but focus primarily on the new Michigan because this is where our future lies.

The old Michigan relied on the automotive industry almost 100 percent and economic development was typically defined as chasing smoke stack projects which generated large amounts of jobs and good amount of investment. During these times everyone was pleased with our economy and we were moving along without any worries. Then somewhere the tide shifted.

Now the old Michigan is reeling from a devastating seven consecutive years of declining employment, the past three years during a national economic expansion. What has caused this decline?

In large part we could say that we have been slow to adapt to the rapid changing economy. Across the nation and the world communities are leaving behind the Industrial Age. They have insulated an environment that is knowledge based driven and entrepreneurial in nature. In Michigan we have seen and lived with following:

- The struggles of GM, Ford and Chrysler and the decline in their market share.
- We have lived, read and heard about our supplier base deteriorating through bankruptcy and other means.

We have seen state revenues decline at a rate faster than any other time in history.

We have seen our population and "brain drain" move to greater pastures as supported by the recent study showing Michigan is tied for the most outboard migration.

We have seen companies expand and invest in other parts of North America as well as across the globe.

The decline in per capita income for citizens of Michigan.

And I can go on and on and on.

We have all lived in this very difficult period of time. That is the old Michigan. One we can not and will not and should not forget. This historical relationship will act as the catalyst for the new Michigan.

What does the new Michigan look like. First let's understand that state and local policy is not the only answer to transforming our economy. Yes, they have a role, but the new Michigan will be dependent on collaboration — collaboration among the many stakeholders in our state.

Who are these stakeholders? Well, business leaders, legislative leaders, our educational system (K-12 going through post-graduate degrees), our unions, our civic and economic development organizations, our local and county political leaders, local newspapers and so forth. One new Michigan will be a high-prosperity one with our per capita income above the national average. How do we get there? We get there by becoming a knowledge-based, high-education economy.

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Clearly we do not have significant new resources within public education to help forge change. However, we currently spend \$13 billion on public education. The question is, are we investing it wisely? Can we change how we spend that money and produce better educational payoffs in the future? Change requires giving up the "we have always done it that way" mentality and redirecting resources to new initiatives that will produce the skills and knowledge necessary to soar. This requires imagination and leadership.

4. become a global logistics hub.

And I do believe that the city of Novi sits right in the middle of these recommendations and is well positioned to be a major contributing influence on them. For those of you not familiar with the Road to Renaissance, it is a report which was commissioned by the civic organization Detroit Renaissance for the purpose of identifying solutions to economic crisis.

As you hear these recommendations, they are not new to us. We have heard them in the past, but for whatever reason chose to ignore them. The decline of economy has now forced us to focus.

In my mind, the common thread among the Detroit Renaissance recommendations and the new economy is education and talent. Let's quickly look at each of these assets as discussed by the civic group Michigan Futures:

Education

Perhaps the best asset the new Michigan has to offer is our higher education system. Michigan has spent decades building a world-class system of higher education, both universities and community colleges. They are arguably the most important asset we have in developing the concentration of talent we need to be successful in a knowledge-based economy. This is particularly true of our major research universities.

Higher education's importance in preparing talent for a knowledge economy is clear, but it is also one of the most important in retaining and attracting talent. Our universities, particularly the research universities are among the low enterprises that attract talent from around the world. The single most important thing policy makers can do for the future economic success of Michigan and the region is to ensure the long-term success of a vibrant higher education system.

Talent

What distinguishes successful areas from Michigan is their concentration of talent. Put simply, it is a knowledge-based and entrepreneurial economy, the places with the greatest concentration of talent wins.

Regions with out concentrations of talent will have difficulty retaining or attracting knowledge based enterprises. Where talent decides to reside will have a huge impact on regional economic development.

So now we ask, is Michigan, and in particular Oakland County and the city of Novi, on the correct path?

Yes, because we are. Michigan's focus on the emerging markets, defense technologies, alternative fuel, homeland security, advanced automotive and financial services, is the key to our growth.

Already our life science initiative has generated 31,777 jobs spread over 542 companies. Our alternative fuel efforts have resulted in the creation of Global Energy and the Global Hybrid Development Team (which is collaboration between GM, DC, and BMW). The Homeland Security industry is in the beginning stages with the formation of the Homeland Security Consortium. As far as Advanced Manufacturing is concerned, Michigan is the No. 1 state for automotive R&D and No. 3 in the nation for

ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.ALAcoves is a principal of UHY Advisors MI, Inc. and leads the firm's national Tax Incentive Practice (TIMS). He is responsible for obtaining and negotiating statutory and discretionary incentives from state and local governments. He can be reached at alacoves@uhy-us.com.

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HOT TICKET: Rock Financial Showplace presents the **Spring Boat Expo** this weekend.

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



MY BULLETIN BOARD

Thursday, March 15, 2007
www.novinews.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

EVENTS

Book Club Meeting

DATE: Friday
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Starbucks, 302
East Main St., Northville
DETAILS: The book for March is "Rabbit, Run" by John Updike.
CONTACT: northvillebookclub@gmail.com

Democrats of West Oakland County

DATE: Tuesday, March 20
LOCATION: Novi Souvlaki and Kabob Restaurant, 31150 Novi Road at 14 Mile
DETAILS: The program will be Dr. Kathryn Savoie, Ecologist, who will present a slide show on the issue of global warming. Question and answer session to follow.
CONTACT: Jim Gualdoni, (248) 624-7228

Walsh College Alumni Association Speed Networking

DATE: Thursday, March 22
TIME: 5-9 p.m.
LOCATION: Giv O'Connor's, 42875 Grand River Ave., Novi
DETAILS: Network with other professionals one-on-one, a few minutes at a time. The cost is \$15 for Walsh College students and alumni, \$20 for general public, which includes appetizers. Preregistration is required by March 16.
CONTACT: alumni@walshcollege.edu or call (248) 823-1241

"The Man Who Came to Dinner"

DATE: Thursday, March 29; Friday, March 30; Saturday, March 31
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Walled Lake Central High School, 1600 Oakley Park Road, Walled Lake
DETAILS: Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$7 for seniors and students. All seats are reserved. Tickets can be ordered by calling the number that follows after March 19, and can also be purchased at the door.
CONTACT: (248) 956-4750

Teens Aiding the Cancer Community Fundraiser

TIME/DATE: Sunday, April 1
LOCATION: Rebecca's, downtown Northville
DETAILS: Enjoy acoustic artists, food, ice cream and raffle. TACC is a non-profit student organization raising money to fill backpacks with toys for cancer-affected kids in area hospitals.

Novi Woods Montessori Center Open House

TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m.
Saturday, March 31; 6-7 p.m. Monday, April 2
LOCATION: 42800 W. 13 Mile Rd.
DETAILS: Montessori infant, toddler, preschool and kindergarten programs offer an enriching curriculum that includes these foreign languages: Japanese, French, Spanish.

Novi High School Reunion Classes of 1974-1977

DATE: July 28
DETAILS: A combined class reunion is being planned for the four graduating years.
CONTACTS: Laurie (Maier) Butler, Class of '74, butlerl@motorcityhatter.com; Claire (Salow) Klingelhof, Class of '75, clairek1@comcast.net; Leigh (Tatzy) Guzowski, Class of '76, liguzow@alumni.nnu.edu; Patty (Pohlman) Mayer, Class of '77, mayer123@comcast.net

Novi High School Reunion Classes of 1987

DATE: Saturday, Aug. 11
DETAILS: More information coming.
CONTACT: Call (323) 467-0642 or NovHigh@gmail.com

LAKES AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Since 1963, the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce has

proudly served as West Oakland's Regional Chamber, servicing the communities of Commerce Township, Union Lake, Walled Lake, Waterford, Wixom, Wolverine Lake and White Lake. Our purpose is to improve the quality of life for businesses and residents in the Lakes area. We act as a unified voice on behalf of the business community, provide a forum to discuss and review topics of interest, serve as a source of information and develop programs that are responsive to the needs of the communities we serve.
CONTACT: (248) 628-2826
Annual Membership Luncheon and Installation of Officers
DATE: Wednesday, March 28
TIME: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Edgewood Country Club, 8399 Commerce Road, Commerce Township
DETAILS: Come to hear our community leaders speak on the business environment of West Oakland County. The cost is \$25 per person.

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The chamber is celebrating 40 years of business, representing over 500 members. Our mission is to be a responsible, proactive advocate of business interests in the greater Novi area. We are business and professional people working together to enhance the life of our community and the businesses in it. For more information, visit www.novichamber.com or contact the chamber office at (248) 349-3743.

Threads of Power Breakfast

DATE: Friday, March 23
TIME: 8 a.m.
LOCATION: Wyndham Garden Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi
DETAILS: Bring your gently used business attire that will be donated to men and women entering or re-entering the workforce. The cost is \$15 per person. Advance paid registration required.

Networking Across the Borders

DATE: Tuesday, April 3
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Burton Manor, Livonia
DETAILS: Join the Novi Chamber and 17 other chambers for speed networking across the borders. Cost is \$10.

GREATER NOVI CHAMBER

The Greater Novi Chamber is a nonprofit business association. We provide enjoyable networking opportunities for our members; act as a bridge between local business and government; help businesses stay aware of other members' services and products and the activities of their community. For more information, contact: Whitney McDiellen, executive director, at (248) 347-4622 or wmgnc@yahoo.com. For event listings, check: www.greater-novichamber.com.

After Hours Mixer

DATE: Tonight
TIME: 5-7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Moe's on Wixom, Wixom Road, 3/4 mile north of 1-96 on the east side.
DETAILS: Enjoy great food and networking. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for not-yet members. R.S.V.P. by March 12.
828 Breakfast
DATE: Wednesday, March 21
TIME: 7:45 a.m.
LOCATION: Hank's Fly Fishing, on Grand River just west of Novi Road on the south side.
DETAILS: Networking and light breakfast. The cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for not-yet members. R.S.V.P. by March 19.

Sales Lead Group I

DATE: Beginning Thursday, March 29
TIME: 8-9 a.m.
LOCATION: Hooters, Fountain Walk Mall
DETAILS: This is an ancient



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

\$1,000 donation

The Sports Club of Novi, represented by Connie Loftus, left, presents a check for \$1,000 to Novi Youth Assistance and Bob Steh after its annual fundraiser this past Christmas season. The club and its ballet students have put on the Nutcracker ballet three years in a row to benefit Novi Youth Assistance and its programs.

DETAILS: Join the group to connect with sales leads and learn what is developing in the business community.
CONTACT: Michelle Winn, (248) 835-3754

BUSINESS

Females in the Family Business Affinity Group

TIME/DATE: 8-9:30 a.m. Third Thursday of every month.
LOCATION: Walsh College Troy Campus
DETAILS: Walsh Business Leadership Institute invites women who own, are partners in, or work for family businesses. Items discussed will be common issues, and women can share solutions in a nonthreatening, noncompetitive, non-sales roundtable. Registration is required.
CONTACT: Jan Hubbard, jhubbard@walshcollege.edu

CLASSES

Providence Center for the Healing Arts

LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Avenue, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455
Wanted: One-Time Art Workshop Instructors
DETAILS: We are looking for people who have an art or craft that they would like to share in our series of one-time workshops. Please call (248) 465-5455 if interested.
Learn to Design Your Own Jewelry
TIME/DATE: 1:30-3 p.m., Wednesday, April 18
DETAILS: The cost for the class is \$5. Call the number above to register.
Modern Mosaic Masterpieces
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-noon, Wednesday, April 25
DETAILS: The cost for the class is \$5. Call the number above to register.
Colored Pencil Workshop
TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m., second Tuesday of every month
DETAILS: The cost is \$2. Beginners are welcome.
Ceramics Class
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 1-5 p.m. Wednesday
DETAILS: There is a \$10 materials fee.
Knitting Yarns
TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m. Wednesday
DETAILS: Join others and create hats and shawls for those in need.
Tai Chi Class
TIME/DATE: 10:15-11 a.m. Thursday
DETAILS: This is an ancient

SCHOOL & SPORTS

Novi Educational Foundation Green Gala

DATE: Saturday
TIME: 7 p.m.-midnight
LOCATION: Rock Financial Showplace
DETAILS: This is a benefit for Novi Community Schools that will include food, dancing, casino games and a silent auction.
CONTACT: (248) 449-1205

Novi Co-op Preschool Open House

DATE: Saturday, March 31
TIME: 10 a.m.-noon
LOCATION: Novi Co-op Preschool is located in the Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
DETAILS: Teachers will be available to answer questions.

Open enrollment has begun for the 2007-08 school year.
CONTACT: (248) 349-3223 or go to www.novipreschool.com

Novi City Council Meeting

DATE: Monday, March 19
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

Novi Youth Assistance General Citizens Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, April 3
TIME: 6 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0410

Novi School Board Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, April 19
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Orchard Hills Elementary

Faith Community Preschool

LOCATION: 44400 West 10 Mile Rd.
CONTACT: (248) 349-7911

LIBRARY LINES

Novi Public Library

LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile Road
HOURS: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday
DETAILS: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0720
Story Time
DETAILS: Session 4 begins Feb. 26 through March 30. Brochures available in the library for further information.
Mastering the Mouse for Seniors
DATE: Today
TIME: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
DETAILS: This class is for seniors to help them learn how to use the computer mouse. Registration required.
Starlight Story Time
DATE: Tuesday
TIME: 7-7:30 p.m.
DETAILS: Preschoolers and their families are invited to enjoy bedtime stories. No registration needed.
Reading Maniacs
DATE: Wednesday
TIME: 4:30-5:15 p.m.
DETAILS: Children in third and fourth grade are invited to come and discuss "The Word Eater" by Mary Amato. No registration needed.
Introduction to the Internet for Seniors
DATE: Wednesday
TIME: 1-3 p.m.
DETAILS: Comfortable use of

the mouse is required for this class. Registration required.
Real Estate and Mortgage Fraud
DATE: Thursday, March 15
TIME: 7-8 p.m.
DETAILS: Ruth Johnson from the Oakland County Clerk's office will discuss the growing problem of deed and mortgage fraud and what you can do to protect yourself from these two fast growing crimes. Registration required.
Sign, Say and Play
DATE: Saturday, March 17
TIME: 10:30-11:15 a.m.
DETAILS: This program is for babies 6-24 months. Sing songs, read books and engage in parachute play while learning six popular signs with Baby Signs instructor Lori McLaren. Registration required and there is a limit of 15 children with parent or caregiver.
AARP Tax Day
TIME/DATE: 10:20 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday, March 19
DETAILS: AARP volunteers will be available to assist middle and low income individuals in preparing their taxes. Special attention will be given to persons age 60 and older. Assistance is limited to simple tax returns. Appointments are necessary and usually run for one hour. Call the library to schedule an appointment.
Snack Tales
DATE: Wednesday, March 19
TIME: 7-7:45 p.m.
DETAILS: This program is for kids in kindergarten through third grade. Children will enjoy a story and make an edible treat based on that story. Call the library to register.
E-Mail for Seniors
DATE: Wednesday, March 21
TIME: 1-3 p.m.
DETAILS: Must know the basics of navigating the Internet and using a mouse. Call the library to register.
Pageturners
TIME/DATE: 4:30-5:15 p.m. Wednesday, March 21
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi City Council Chambers, Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: This class is to give seniors a chance to practice the skills they've learned in previous computer classes. A librarian will be present to provide assistance. Registration is necessary.
Battle of the Books
DATE: Saturday, March 24
TIME: 1 p.m.

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continued from page 18

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: Teams of pre-registered fifth and sixth grade students come together to answer questions based on the six books they have read for the competition.
Lego Club
DATE: Monday, March 26
TIME: 6-7 p.m.
DETAILS: Kids in kindergarten through fourth grade get together for Lego show-and-tell and building activities. No registration required.
Novi Knitters
DATE: Monday, March 26
TIME: 6:30-8 p.m.
DETAILS: Drop in for an informal knitting group in the Youth area of the library. Knitters of all levels are welcome.
Pop Art 3-D Craft for Kids
DATE: Wednesday, March 28
TIME: 4-5:30 p.m.
DETAILS: This is for children in fifth grade and up. Create and artistic optical illusion piece of wall art with artist Jane Alkon. Registration is required by March 21 and there is a \$5 materials fee payable at the class.

Driving Program
11 a.m.-noon: Computer Lab
11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.: "Line Dance-Boogie"
noon: Lunch
12:15 p.m.: Contract Bridge
1-2 p.m.: Yoga
1-3 p.m.: Computer Lab
2:30-3:30 p.m.: Line Dance
Message by appointment
Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. Phone: (248) 347-0414.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting

DATE: Last Wednesday of each month
TIME: 10-11 a.m.
LOCATION: Holy Family Catholic Church, 24505 Meadowbrook Road
DETAILS: This informational meeting is open to all adoptive families in Oakland County. There is no charge. Child care is available. Registration is required.
CONTACT: Lisa Molloy (248) 334-3595

Bereavement Support Group

DATE: Third Tuesday of each month
TIME: 7:30-9 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: A clergy from the area will lead in prayer and reflection to help those recover from the loss of a loved one. All are welcome and there is no fee.
CONTACT: Michael M. Meyer, Doctorate of Ministry

Neighborhood Baby-sitting Co-op

DETAILS: Using the co-op, you and your children can make friends and get what you need accomplished without the little ones in tow. Also enjoy a mom's night out and other social events.
CONTACT: Sue Tacz (248) 380-0898

Friendship Circle

DATE: Second Thursday of each month
TIME: 1 p.m.
LOCATION: St. James Catholic Church, 46325 10 Mile Road, between Telford and Rock Road
DETAILS: Social group for all widows and widowers.
CONTACT: Nugent, (248) 851-6730; Florence Voight (248) 477-3032 or Joy Lovatelli (248) 346-9138 or joylovatelli@earthlink.net

MOMS Club of Novi

DATE: First Thursday of each month
TIME: 10 a.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: Moms Offering Moms Support group for mothers who choose to stay at home with their children or work out of their homes.
CONTACT: jensung@earthlink.net

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples

DATES: Second Thursday of each month
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Which's Hat Depot, 300 Dorothy St., South Lyon
DETAILS: This group provides information, support and social activities for mothers of multiple birth children and their families. Mothers of multiples living in and around the Kensington Valley school conference are all welcome.
CONTACT: Colleen (248) 685-9226

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Chapter

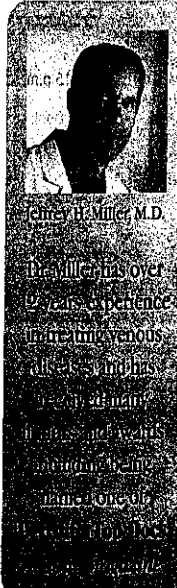
DATE: First and third Tuesday of each month
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center Activities Room, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
TIME: 7-8:45 p.m.
DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
CONTACT: Colleen (248) 685-9226

Novi Toastmasters

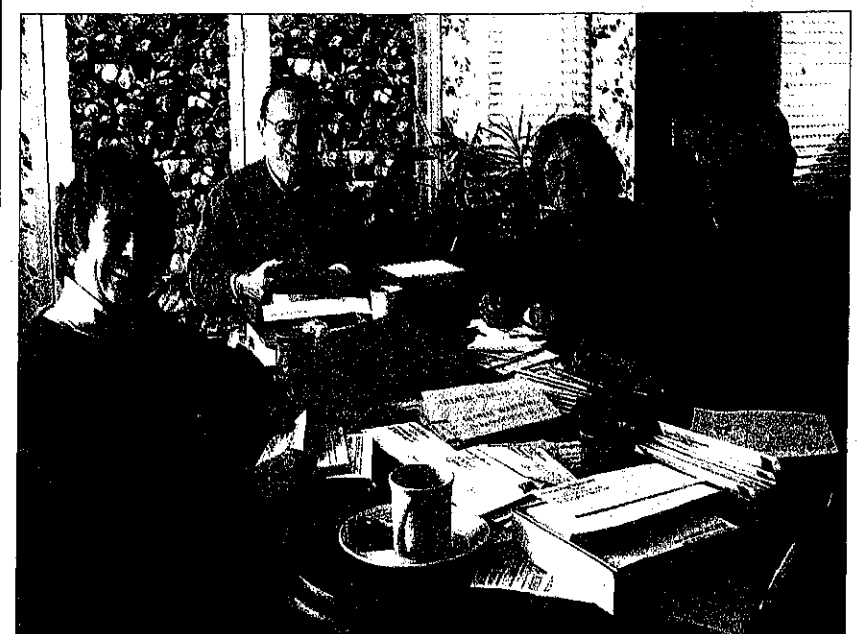
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DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
CONTACT: Colleen (248) 685-9226

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Before AFTER



Submitted photo

An Inconvenient Truth

Jim Gualdoni, president of the Democrats of West Oakland County (second from left), and Mary Jane Duly (second from right) came to the home of Robert (right) and Karen (left) Zyczynski recently to stuff envelopes with an announcement of the group's March 20 meeting. Global Warming will be the topic of that meeting, and the speaker, Dr. Kathryn Savoie, is one of several academics who have trained with Al Gore to help in the work of spreading the news and educating people on this topic. The meeting will run from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Novi Souvlaki and Kabob restaurant (corner of Novi Road and 14 Mile Road). Contact Gualdoni at gualdoni23@aol.com or (248) 624-7228 for more information.

CONTACT: (248) 437-5496 for more information.

Women's Prayer Support

DATE: Saturday
TIME: 9-10:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Harvest Fellowship Church, 48329 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
DETAILS: Come for encouragement, help, hope and prayer. Drop in for five minutes or longer.
CONTACT: Nancy or Susan (248) 926-8392 or harvestfellowship@comcast.net

Breast Cancer Support Group

DATES: Second and fourth Tuesday of each month
LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Commence, Classroom C
TIME: 10-11:30 a.m.
DETAILS: No registration needed.
CONTACT: (248) 337-5017

Grohn's & Collins Support Group

DATES: First and third Wednesday of each month
LOCATION: Providence Park Hospital and Medical Center
TIME: 7-9 p.m.
DETAILS: Enter facility through southeast entrance. Meeting in Conference Room A, immediately to the left.
CONTACT: Al Biggs (313) 805-7605 or Grohn's & Collins Foundation of America (888) 737-2322

Novi Toastmasters

DATE: First and third Tuesday of each month
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center Activities Room, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
TIME: 7-8:45 p.m.
DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
CONTACT: Colleen (248) 685-9226

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Chapter

DATE: First and third Tuesday of each month
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center Activities Room, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
TIME: 7-8:45 p.m.
DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
CONTACT: Colleen (248) 685-9226

TIME/DAYS: Wednesdays 11 a.m. weigh-in; 11:30 a.m. meeting
LOCATION: Meadowbrook Commons, 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi
DETAILS: \$24 per annual membership includes handbook; \$1 per meeting. New members welcome.
CONTACT: Rebecca Boyke (248) 305-9646

First Baptist Church of Novi

LOCATION: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-3547 or www.firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org
Sunday Schedule
Family Bible Hour: 9:45 a.m.
Family Worship: 11 a.m.
Bible Study: 6 p.m.
Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m., fourth Sunday of every month.

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross

LOCATION: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 427-1175 or www.churchoftheholycross.com
Sunday Worship
TIME: 7:45 and 10 a.m.
Sunday School
TIME: 9 a.m. Adult Bible Study; 10 a.m. Worship Center for ages 3-7; 10 a.m. All ages
Lunch Hour Worship
TIME/DATE: 12:10-12:50 p.m. Wednesday
DETAILS: The service will include scripture and Holy Communion.
Youth Worship
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. second and fourth Sunday of every month
DETAILS: All youth welcome. Alzheimer's Support Group

Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting

DATE: Last Wednesday of each month
TIME: 10-11 a.m.
LOCATION: Holy Family Catholic Church, 24505 Meadowbrook Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-3547 or www.holyfamilynovi.org
Mass Schedule
TIME/DATE: 7:30, 8:45, and 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. Sunday; 7 p.m. Tuesday; 8 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; 5 p.m. Saturday
DATE: Thursdays
TIME: 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.
DETAILS: Join the group for prayer, sharing, and discussion of the Sunday scripture readings.
CONTACT: Maria (248) 349-8847 or maria@earthlink.net

Gabriel Fauré's "Requiem" performed by the Chancel Choir

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. Sunday, March 25
DETAILS: The Chancel Choir, chamber orchestra and soloists

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rewards.com is provided for more information."/>

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Oak Pointe
LOCATION: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 912-0043 or visit www.oakpointe.org
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.

St. James Catholic
LOCATION: 46325 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-7778
Mass Schedule
TIME/DAY: 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday, 7 p.m. Wednesday, 5 p.m. Saturday

Novi United Methodist
LOCATION: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-2652
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9:45 a.m.
Lenten Soup Potluck and Choir Presentation
TIME/DAY: 5 p.m. Sunday, March 25
DETAILS: The Chancel choir will present Mozart's "Te Deum" which will be followed by a soup potluck. All are invited.

First United Methodist of Northville
LOCATION: 777 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville
CONTACT: (248) 349-1144 or visit www.firstumcnorthville.org
Sunday Worship
TIME: 8, 9:15, 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Community Healing Service
DATE: First Monday of every month
DETAILS: This service is open to anyone asking God for healing in their life or in someone close to them.

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. It is free of charge and is focused on providing career development resources, programs, and networking opportunities to anyone in the Northville/Novi area.

Crosspointe Meadows
LOCATION: Meadowbrook Elementary School, 29200 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 427-2700, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or visit www.crosspointe.org

pointmeadows.org
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9 and 10:30 a.m.

St. Paul Lutheran
LOCATION: 201 Elm St., Northville
CONTACT: (248) 349-3140
Sunday Worship
TIME: 8:30, 11 and 11:30 a.m.
DETAILS: Children who turned five before Friday Dec. 1 may register for full or half-day kindergarten at St. Paul's Lutheran School.

The Baha'i Faith
CONTACT: (248) 473-0355 or visit www.bahai.org
Devotional Gathering
TIME/DAY: 11 a.m. last Saturday of every month
LOCATION: 23803 Ripple Creek St., Novi
DETAILS: This is a gathering focusing on prayers for peace. People of all faiths are welcome.

First Presbyterian Church of Northville
LOCATION: 200 E. Main St.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0911
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9:30 and 11 a.m.

Single Place Ministries
CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org
PROGRAM SCHEDULE: 7 p.m. Thursdays
PROGRAMS:
Tonight: Open panel lead by Darlene Sweeney
March 15: St. Patrick's Day dinner and sing-a-long
March 22: "Communication and How to Resolve Conflict" with Dr. Terry Orbach, Ph.D.
March 29: Concert with Men of Grace

Divorce Recovery Workshop
DATE: Beginning March 22
DETAILS: The course will run through May 10. The cost is \$35 and includes the book "Growing Through Divorce". Registration required.
Swing into Spring Dance
TIME/DAY: 8-11 p.m. Saturday, March 24
DETAILS: This is for mature singles 45 and older. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.
CONTACT: Jane, (248) 591-0014
Adult Education
TIME/DATES: 7-8:15 p.m.,

Thursdays, March 1-29
DETAILS: These sessions will deal with "Confronting the Controversies of Tough Issues." Pastor Kent Clise will discuss issues such as separation of church and state, the death penalty, euthanasia and homosexuality, and how the Christian faith relates to them. A participant book may be purchased for \$10. Call the church office to sign up.
Walking Group
TIME: 11:30 a.m.
LOCATION: First, second and fourth Saturday, Big Apple Bagel Shop, 2334 Farmington Road, Farmington; Third Saturday, Panera Bread Co., 34835 Grand River Ave., Farmington
DETAILS: This is a walking/social group. Everyone is invited.

St. John Lutheran
LOCATION: 23225 Giff Road, Farmington Hills
CONTACT: (248) 474-0584 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com
Saturday Worship
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9, 11:15 a.m.
Sunday School
TIME: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community Presbyterian
LOCATION: 44600 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 349-5345 or visit www.faithcommunity-novi.org
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9, 10:30 a.m.

Gracepointe Presbyterian
CONTACT: (248) 497-3178 or e-mail gracepointe@mac.com
"Preview" Worship Service
TIME/DAY: 6-7 p.m. Sunday
LOCATION: Holiday Inn and Suites, 37255 Grand River, Farmington Hills
DETAILS: The public is invited for worship and to stay after for fellowship and learn more about Gracepointe. Child care will be available. For more information on Bible Study and other ministries, see above.
Bible Study/Children's Ministry
TIME/DAY: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesday, March 21
LOCATION: Pastor Sleeth's home, 23738 Lyon Ridge Drive, South Lyon
Core Group Meeting
TIME/DAY: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesday, March 28
LOCATION: Pastor Sleeth's

home, 23738 Lyon Ridge Drive, South Lyon

Walled Lake United Methodist Church Spring Concert
DATE: Sunday
TIME: 3:30 p.m.
LOCATION: 313 Northport, off Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake
DETAILS: The Chancel Choir will perform, featuring Alexandria Clark, and all are invited for an afterglow reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Spring Boating Expo
TIME/DAY: 2-9 p.m. Thursday, March 15 and Friday, March 16; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, March 17; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, March 18
DETAILS: 2007 boats and trailers, accessories, and more.

ROCK FINANCIAL SHOWPLACE

46100 Grand River Ave. Call (248) 348-5500 or visit <http://rockfinancialshowplace.com> for more information.
Spring Boating Expo
TIME/DAY: 2-9 p.m. Thursday, March 15 and Friday, March 16; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, March 17; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, March 18
DETAILS: 2007 boats and trailers, accessories, and more.

Admission is \$10, children 11 and under are free if accompanied by an adult, and parking is \$5.
Back Yard Pool and Spa Show
TIME/DAY: 3-9:30 p.m. Friday, March 23; 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, March 25
DETAILS: Show for swimming pools, spas and outdoor entertainment. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 6-14 and children 5 and under are free. Parking is \$5.

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Novi Fine Wine & Liquors

Imagine that you have been given a homework assignment. You are to go into the Novi Fine Wine & Liquor Store on Ten Mile Road, just west of Novi, Road and inventory all of the various liquors, wines, beers, and assorted soft drinks in the popular store. Now imagine that you only have one day to do it. Think you could? Not likely. It isn't because owner Andy Nofar wouldn't let you; it is because there are too many items to count. And even if you counted them, the steady flow of customers would keep churning the count off.

Nofar isn't shy about saying that his store has the best selection of liquor, wine, and beer in Novi. There are thousands of different brands of each spirit as well as hundreds of different varieties of beer. So it is easy to see that a person trying to inventory the entire store would get frustrated, not to mention hungry or thirsty.

But if you still must complete the assignment, you will have plenty of things to keep you refreshed and satisfy your appetite. Besides the abundant selection of beverages, you can enjoy a slice of fresh pizza from the popular Pizza Marvelous, the carryout fresh food business located within the four walls of Novi Fine Wine & Liquor (more about Pizza Marvelous in a later story), and other snack items.

The recently remodeled store continues to add new varieties of beverages and continues to cater to customers who want special order products for personal use, parties, and sporting events. If you simply want to browse through the store, Nofar and his co-worker Rod Dawood would be happy to recommend what to purchase.

"A lot of people come in asking for my advice," said Nofar. "And a lot of people just come in to visit and see what's new."

What isn't new are the great specials that the store offers year-round. These specials also include discounts on larger case purchases, usually 15%. That fits right into the budget of people who are planning wedding receptions or graduation parties.

And if it's something rare a customer would like, Nofar would be happy to help, too. "I sample a lot of the products ahead of time and go to many wine tastings," he said. "A lot of people depend on Nofar for his advice, including busy executives who want only the best."

"We carry a lot of rare wines and liquors," said Nofar. "Last year we sold a bottle of Johnnie Walker Blue Anniversary for \$3500."

For most people who don't normally spend thousands of dollars on one bottle, prices of wines from all countries and regions, including a large selection of Asian and Michigan wines, range from \$5-\$300 per bottle.

The selection of beverages is very important and what keeps bringing people back to Novi Fine Wine & Liquors. But there are still more reasons to visit the store. There is a wide variety of fresh cigars from some of the leading cigar makers. If you feel lucky you can buy from a wide variety of instant lottery tickets and take a stab at the bigger lottery games.

If you see a pattern here you are right — variety and selection are the key to Nofar's success. In just six short years since he purchased the business he has become the liquor and wine store of choice for the Novi community. In fact, he has won several awards for carrying the largest selection of beverages in the area.

When a customer wants something and doesn't see it in the store (highly unlikely), Nofar can custom order it and have it within a week. That is one reason why his business has grown. He believes in customer service and uses the demographics of his customers to keep adding to the selections.

Nofar invites customers to come in see his "new look" store, complete with logos of the favorite professional, college, and high school sports teams in custom block on the exterior of the building.

Novi Fine Wine & Liquors is located at 43340 W. Ten Mile Road. Store hours are Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.; Friday-Saturday 10 a.m. - Midnight; and Sunday Noon - 10 p.m. Call (248)-349-9690 or (248)-349-2931.

— John R. ...

Novi News

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Technological advances offer options for golfers

■ Clothing, balls, clubs make duffers feel, play better

By Pam Fleming
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Pete Line says when it comes to the game of golf these days, it's all about the technology.

Line, general manager of Carl's

Golfland in Bloomfield Hills, has a front-row seat when it comes to seeing the latest in golf equipment.

The store also has a location in Plymouth Township at Five Mile and Sheldon roads.

"We've had great traffic the past two Saturdays during our Demo Day promotion," Line said. So, what's hot for the 2007 golf season?

"There's a lot of interest in geometric-shaped drivers," Line said. "They have a higher MOI, which stands for 'moment of inertia.'"

In layman's terms, that means less twisting of the club on an off-center shot, less spin on the ball

and more speed.

"In other words, you can hit it longer and straighter," Line said.

It's those marginal swings, according to Line, where the new technology can really help the golfer, whether amateur or pro.

The new Callaway irons are getting a lot of buzz right now, too. The X20 irons feature the more forgiving, cavity-back design. And a larger hitting surface is a given in all new golf clubs.

"There's new technology in every piece of equipment, even in apparel," Line said.

Moisture-wicking materials

The latest technology in golf apparel involves new moisture-wicking materials that make golfers not feel as hot or cold, depending on the weather situation.

The materials literally pull moisture away from the body. "Instead of wearing that old 100-percent cotton shirt, now golfers can keep their cool even in temperatures up into the 90s," Line said.

A large number of vendors are using these new performance fabrics, according to Line.

Each vendor has their own

"There's new technology in every piece of equipment, even in apparel."

Pete Line
General Manager, Carl's Golfland

brand, but they basically work the same way.

Golf ball manufacturers are also coming out with "new and improved" models each year.

New golf shoes on the market include the SP8 by Nike.

This shoe features the new caged air sole for improved stability.

"It's waterproof and the same shoe Tiger Woods wears," Line said.

Foot Joy also has a new shoe, the Reel Fit, with no laces.

Instead, the golfer custom tightens the shoe with a device on the back of the heel. The design is currently available only in men's styles.

Colors are big this spring in golf shoes, with Ecco leading the way with its European-style designs for women.

Designer styles include a light rose argyle and a white-and-light purple combo.

"There are all kinds of new colors out this year," Line said. "It just depends on what strikes your fancy."

Line offers some tips on how to get the biggest bang for your buck when it comes to golf footwear.

"Don't wear your golf shoes when they're wet if you can avoid it, because this can stretch out the leather," he said.

He also recommends having more than one pair of golf shoes and rotating them in order to extend the life of both pairs.

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

Where to go for equipment

Carl's Golfland is located at 44135 Five Mile Road in Plymouth Township (734) 354-9274 and at 1976 S. Telegraph in Bloomfield Hills (248) 355-8095. Hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday.

Other local golf shops include Golf Tech at 41300 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi (248) 426-2266; Golfsmith at 17615 Haggerty Road in Northville Township (248) 374-5601; and Motor City Golf Classic Shop, 430 N. Telegraph in Dearborn (313) 273-8300.

Used golf equipment can be found at Play It Again Sports, 24287 Novi Road, (248) 449-4544 and 2nd Swing, 43448 West Oaks Drive, Novi, (248) 374-0938.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Left, Carl's Golfland manager Mike Fogarty takes a look at two of this season's biggest hitters: carbon and titanium-crowned drivers.

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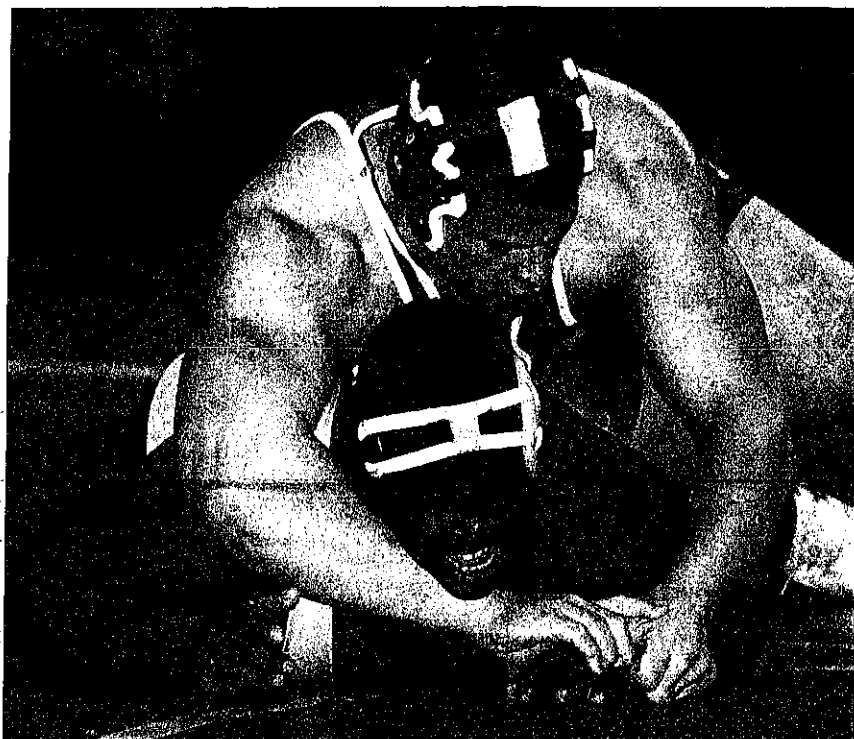
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SPORTS SPOTLIGHT: WRESTLING

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

1ST IN SHOW



Submitted by Jeff Gatt

Catholic Central junior Mike Martin gets the upper hand on an opponent during the state finals.

Catholic Central's Martin wins 285-pound title

By Jeff Theisen
NEWS SPORTS WRITER

Novi Catholic Central heavyweight wrestler Mike Martin has been a champion at showing rotweilers.

Now he's top dog in Division 1 wrestling. Martin knocked off Port Huron's Aaron Robinson in the 285-pound finals to claim the title in his first year as a wrestler Saturday at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Martin started wrestling when his best friend and fifth-place finisher at 160 pounds, Stefan Gatt, convinced him to come out and practice with the team.

Martin said he wasn't convinced wrestling was for him, but a few months and a state title later, he's singing a different tune.

"I didn't like it ... but coach talked to me after practice," Martin said. "I couldn't quit. I wanted to help the team as much as I could. I love my school."

"I'm starting to love this sport now," Martin started the meet with a 40-10 record. He breezed through the opening round with a pin 5:49 into the match against Anthony Gibson of Utica Ford.

Holi's Curtis Ferguson was next to go with a pin at 5:26.

Canton's Donnie Larimie also lost by fall

at 3:26 in the semifinals.

Robinson got the early lead on Martin with a takedown in the second period. Martin earned an escape point and used a bullrush to get a takedown for a 3-2 lead.

Martin started the third period in the down position and earned the final point by escape. He held off all Robinson's lunge attempts and earned the title.

"He's been wrestling for five months," CC assistant coach Mitch Hancock said. "He wasn't really sure if he wanted to do it. He

See WRESTLING, 3B

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



Submitted photo

Novi's Chris Bellamy hangs in the air for a shot against Plymouth.

'Cats can't top Canton

Novi hammers Plymouth, falls to host Chiefs, 66-54

By Jeff Theisen
NEWS SPORTS WRITER

STORY CHAT

What do you think? Tell us at WWW.NOVINews.COM

Novi basketball's impressive run to the district finals came to an end at the hands of the host Canton Chiefs on Friday.

A 10-2 Canton run in the third quarter broke open a close game and provided the cushion for a 66-54 Chiefs victory.

"We knew it would be tough playing Canton (at home)," Novi head coach Pat Schluter said. "We were underdogs, but I'm proud of how hard our kids played. They never quit."

The teams were tied at nine at the end of the first before the Canton offense broke through in the second.

Novi (14-9) took its final lead of the game on a basket by Caleb Dean to open the second quarter.

Canton took the lead with a 6-0 run and never looked back. The Chiefs put up 24 points in the second quarter to take a 33-24 halftime lead.

"We just never got over the hump," Schluter said. "We just had that two or three minute period in the second quarter, and that kind of hurt us."

Both teams took turns making mini runs in the third, and a three-pointer by Chris Bellamy just before the buzzer pulled Novi within 50-43 heading into the fourth.

See BASKETBALL, 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

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NOVI NEWS Athlete of the Week

Catholic Central junior MIKE MARTIN, Wrestling

Martin finished off his perfect state run with a 4-2 win against Port Huron's Aaron Robinson to win the 285-pound state title. Martin pinned his way into the finals, 5:49 in the first match, 5:26 in the second and 3:26 in the semifinals. He finishes the year 44-10.



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Lichorobiec earns fifth

■ Novi junior realizes dream at state meet

By Jeff Theisen
NEWS SPORTS WRITER

Novi wrestler Jon Lichorobiec wanted nothing more than to be on the podium at the end of the state finals.

His fifth-place finish at 103 pounds allowed the junior Wildcat to realize his dream Saturday at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

"It's one of the best days of my life," Lichorobiec said after winning fifth place. "I've been dreaming about this since I came into high school."

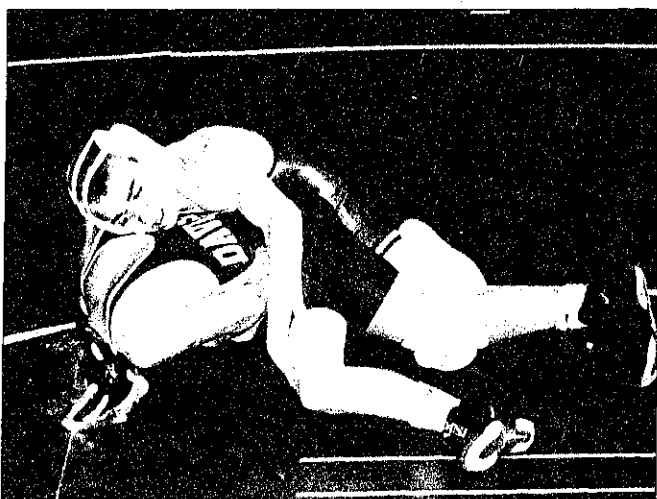
"This year I set the goal that I'm going to states. I started going through the year and said that going to states isn't enough anymore. I want to be on that podium. I want to place, and now I'm placing."

Like all wrestlers that qualify for state, Lichorobiec's initial desire was to win the title.

Things started off on the right track with wins.

Davison's Brandon Shuart lost by fall 1:18 into the match. In the second round, Lichorobiec won by technical fall (16-0) against Sammy Shamrock from Troy Athens.

Kyle Waldo from Rockford (2006 state champion) stopped the run for the title in the semifinals with a 10-0 victory.



Novi's Jon Lichorobiec wrestles Davison's Brandon Shuart in the first round of the state finals at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Lichorobiec stayed away from any unnecessary moves and won 11-2 for fifth place.

"I had my goals set up high. I got my first two kids out of the way with a pin and a tech (fall)," Lichorobiec said. "Next was Waldo, last year's state champ. I wrestled as hard as I could but came up short."

"I wanted third then. I had Watkins next but that didn't work out, either. That hurt the most because I haven't been pinned all year. I knew I had to get it done. I had faced (Bunting) before and beat him 11-2."

Lichorobiec, a junior, finished the season 44-7.

Ryan Thomas, also a Novi junior, went to the state meet at 145 pounds. He lost his only two matches and finished 27-10.

Wild ride ends in semifinals

■ Novi hockey season ends with 3-0 loss to Mona Shores

By Jeff Theisen
NEWS SPORTS WRITER

Coaches always say they want their teams playing as best hockey come playoff time.

Novi head hockey coach Todd Krygier knows his team did just that, making a run to the final four of Division 2. The run ended with a 3-0 loss to Muskegon Mona Shores on March 8 at Compuware Arena, but it didn't take anything away from the improbable run through the regional bracket and quarterfinals.

"Mona Shores has excellent hockey team," Krygier said. "They have a lot to be proud of, but so do our guys."

"Coming from 3-8-1, to actually finish 5-0 and in the semifinals, we have a lot to be proud of."

Novi's biggest winning streak of the year was a three-game midweek through the season. The Wildcats bettered that when the games mattered most — the playoffs.

Novi ripped off a four-game winning streak that left them one of four teams alive in Division 2. "I told the guys I've been proud of their work ethic, their attitude, their commitment and there's no one that expected us to be where we got," Krygier said.

The team came to a Mona Shores team that ripped the net just 27 seconds into the contest. The Shores added a second goal late in the first period and went into the first break with a 2-0 lead.

Novi wouldn't allow another goal until an empty-netter capped the scoring late in the third period.

The Wildcats had several quality chances, but Shores' netminder Justin Grevious was up to the task.

Kevin Michalak turned in a solid performance despite the heavy workload in the Novi net. He turned aside 27 of 29 shots faced, including all 17 in the second period.

"I thought overall, we started to build momentum as the game went on," Krygier said. "In one of those stupid people that believe that anything is possible. I still thought we could come back with a minute left."

Remember the feeling

Michalak is one of 10 juniors along with four sophomores that can return. Krygier wants them to remember what it was like to go on such a run through the playoffs.

"I want them just to remember the feeling — the feeling of accomplishment, the feeling of disappointment and how much work it took to get here and what it's going to take to move to the next level next year," Krygier said. "We have holes to fill, but I think we have a lot of good players that are going to be remaining on the team."

For his seniors, Krygier just wanted to say thanks. The seniors didn't quit on a team that started 3-8-1 and entered the playoffs with a meager 9-12-3 record.

"We're going to miss the seniors. They really carried the workload," Krygier said. "They had great leadership. They worked hard and they've got nothing to be ashamed of."

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

Cheerleaders seventh at state

■ Diver Mason Irvin highlights Novi state meet

By Jeff Theisen
NEWS SPORTS WRITER

Novi diver Mason Irvin highlighted the state meet for the Wildcats with a 10th-place finish Saturday during the state finals at Oakland University.

Irvin earned the final qualifying spot (16th) during the preliminaries. He got better as the meet went on, moving up six places to claim 10th with a score of 339.30.

"We were, of course, very happy with Mason's performance," Novi head coach Bill McCord said. "For a second-year diver to make it to the state finals is impressive."

To maintain his poise while much more experienced divers are, as Coach Teibon likes to say, "Crushing and burning" under the pressure of the final three dives — that is really amazing."

Fellow diver Alex Arthur placed 17th in prelims, missing the cut by one to make the second day.

Sean Bugbee fought off a bout of bronchitis a week before the state meet to finish 34th of 68 qualifiers in the 100 freestyle. He swam a personal best time of 49.44.

"Sean showed us a lot of heart with that swim," McCord said. "We're very proud of him."

Novi Cheer

The Novi competitive cheer team placed seventh at the state meet Friday in Grand Rapids. Rochester took home the title.



Novi diver Mason Irvin shows off his state medal.

with 750.1 points. Grandville finished second with 737.4, and Southgate Anderson placed third with 722.2. Novi tallied 691.6 points.

The Wildcats scored 187.5 points in the first round, 190.6 in the second and 307.5 in the final round.

The regional championship game pitted the Wildcats against state-ranked Churchill. The Chargers won in three games, 25-17, 25-20, 25-13, advancing to the quarterfinals.

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



Above: The Novi cheer team yells to the stands at the state meet Friday in Grand Rapids.

Below: The Wildcats perform a jump in unison during the state meet.



Sports Shorts

Novi Wildcat Preseason Baseball Camp

The Wildcat preseason baseball camp for players ages 7 to 14 is set for March 17 at the Novi High School fieldhouse gym. The morning session will run from 8:30 a.m. to noon with registration beginning at 8 a.m. The afternoon session runs from 1-4:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 12:30 p.m. The fee is \$55 at the site, or \$50 for early registration. Early registration is due by March 14.

For more information, contact Novi coach Rick Green at rgreen@servicesports.net or call (248) 420-6637. Checks can be mailed to the high school (24062 Taft Rd., Novi, MI 48375) care of Rick.

Hockey tryouts

The Novi JV/Prep Hockey Club will be holding tryouts for the 2007 Spring team on March 17 from 7:30-9 p.m. at Suburban Ice Arena and on March 18 from 11:00 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. at Farmington Ice Arena. Must be enrolled in Novi Schools to participate. All current eighth, ninth and 10th graders are eligible.

The team will be coached by John O'Leary. For more information, contact Paul Flavin at 248-380-5142 or email at noviwild@yahoo.com.

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Member of the South East Michigan Prep Hockey League

■ BASKETBALL: Dean, Bellamy, Bradford receive KVC honors

continued from 1

The Wildcats pulled within five in the early moments of the final quarter, but they couldn't get any closer. Canton sailed the game away by hitting 12 of 16 free throws in the fourth and 21 of 26 in the game. Novi finished 5 of 12 at the line.

"Give Canton credit," Schluter said. "They shot unbelievable from the floor. The guys that we wanted them to shoot, hit them."

Canton's Neil Sharma led all scorers with 22 points, including nine of 10 free throws.

Dean led the Wildcats with 15 points, 11 of which came in the second half. Tyler Hoover also came up big in the post with 11 points. Bellamy was next with nine points.

"Hoover had his best game," Schluter said. "My three sophomores guards played really well."

"We've just got to keep getting better and go from there. They can't be satisfied, they've just got to keep getting better."

District semifinals

Everything went Novi's way in a 66-36 thumping of Plymouth on Wednesday in the district semifinals.

The Wildcats beat Plymouth by two earlier in the year, but this was anything but a close game.

"We played our best game of the year," Schluter said. "We hit every shot. It was just one of those things."

Dean led the Wildcats with 19 points. Brandon Bradford was next with 11 points, followed by Adam Chandler with 10 and Chris Bellamy with nine.

Novi blasted Plymouth early, taking a 16-3 lead by the end of the first quarter. Plymouth scraped one off the board by halftime but still trailed 30-18. Comeback hopes were quickly extinguished with a 20-10 third-quarter advantage for a 50-28 lead after three quarters of play.

All-KVC

Dean, a junior, was voted to the First Team All-KVC. He averaged 16.5 points and eight rebounds a game.

Sophomore Chris Bellamy was voted to the Second Team. He averaged eight points and four assists a game.

The other guard, sophomore Brandon Bradford was voted Honorable Mention. He averaged 7.8 points a game.

Thank you, Coach Rod

Coach Rod is very humble and is extremely dedicated to his work. He has touched the lives of everyone he has crossed paths with at Catholic Central. It can truly be said that he makes the world a better place.

Matt Aubrey, junior wrestler

It's difficult for me to briefly describe a man like Coach Rod. I've known him since 1993 when my older brother began wrestling. Granted, I don't remember much about him from back then, but I've heard plenty of stories. Those stories, some of the other stories that I've heard from alumni, and the stories that I have experienced personally in the past four years that I now tell to freshmen have taught me one thing for sure about Coach. I can honestly say that there is no other person that I've ever met that has had a more positive impact on so many young men's lives as Coach Rod. Over the past 10 years, coach has been vital in shaping the lives of a countless number of maturing teenagers, including mine.

Nieto Ianni, senior wrestler

Coach Rod, I never got to wrestle for you and make you proud my senior year because of my broken foot. I just wanted to thank you for all your support throughout high school, you will be dearly missed. You truly are a gift from God and the greatest coach a person could ask for.

Alessandro Vagnini, senior wrestler

Coach Rod is probably the greatest coach in the history of Detroit Catholic Central. After 40 years of coaching wrestling, he's changed the lives of so many of us. His dedication has not only made his wrestlers successful on the mat, however, he instilled in us the work ethic we need to be successful in our futures, and he taught us each day about our faith and its role in our lives.

Ryan Brown, senior wrestler

In the past three years, Coach Rod has taught me so much about wrestling, but even more about how to become a true man of CC. Mr. and Mrs. Rod have contributed so much to the CC family and I will always look up to them.

Joe Kinville, junior wrestler

Coach Rod has helped me in many aspects of wrestling and a tremendous amount in life. He has pushed me for the last three years. He has been the best coach I have had and I will always look up to him. I will miss Coach Rod and remember everything he has taught me.

Stefan Gatt, junior wrestler

I've only been in the wrestling program for a couple of months, but that's all I needed for Coach Rod to make his impact in my life. Mr. and Mrs. Rod have accepted me into the wrestling family. I will always cherish the time I spent with them.

Michael Martin, junior wrestler



■ WRESTLING: Martin wins title

continued from 1B

2 to get into the medal rounds. Dustin Tams of Brownstown Woodhaven won 11-1 for the entry into the third-place match. Gatt won a 9-4 decision against Allen Sigler of Lake Orion for fifth.

Hasenauer (32-7) took a similar route. He lost 7-3 in the opening round and won his next three matches (pin, 6-0, 7-4) to stay alive. Jerry Bogges of Wyandotte Roosevelt won 9-6, sending Hasenauer to the fifth-place match. He pinned Zach LaBelle of Davison in 4:13 to earn fifth place.

Joe Kinville (45-13) finished sixth and Matt Aubrey was eighth at 189 pounds. Kinville won his first two matches but lost his last three to place sixth.

Aubrey (29-14) lost his first match, but won his next two to make the medal matches. He lost his final two matches, placing eighth.

Ryan Brown (37-22) did not place at 152 pounds, going 1-2.

"In the history of Catholic Central wrestling, I don't know if they've ever had five returning state placers," said Hannebeck. He will take over the coaching duties for Rodriguez who retired after 51 years of coaching wrestling.

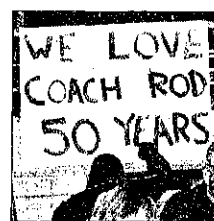
Four others place

Four other potential returning Shamrocks earned spots on the podium.

Gatt (37-12) placed fifth at 160 pounds as did Shea Hasenauer at 135. Gatt started out on the wrong foot with a 15-4 loss in the opening round. He fought back to win his next three matches, 15-2, 7-0 and 5-

Rod's career ends with Martin's title

By Jeff Theisen
NEWS SPORTS WRITER



Catholic Central fans post a sign in honor of wrestling coach Mike Rodriguez.

Catholic Central wrestling coach Mike Rodriguez's career came to an end in a fitting way, with one of his wrestlers claiming a state title.

Junior heavyweight Mike Martin became the 46th individual champion under Rodriguez's tutelage.

"I did this for coach Rod," Martin said after winning the state title.

The weekend was a wild ride for the Shamrocks.

Rodriguez was thrown out of the state meet on Friday for making contact with a referee after one of Martin's victories.

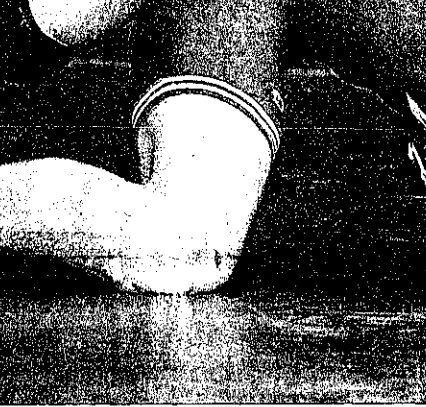
Rodriguez admitted he regretted the situation, but said he was sticking up for his kids.

However unfortunate the situation was, Martin more than made up for it by winning the final match with Rodriguez in the stands.

"It was the highlight of my career," Rodriguez said of Martin's title. "What a way to go out. (The weekend) was very emotional."

With five placers and one state title winner, Coach Rod's career ends with eight team state titles, 128 state placers, 46 individual champions, 728 dual wins with just 271 losses.

"People have got it wrong," said Mitch Hannebeck, the next CC wrestling coach. "They say he's the winningest coach in state history. He's the winning coach in national (high school) wrestling history. He passed a coach from Chicago Mr. Carmel."

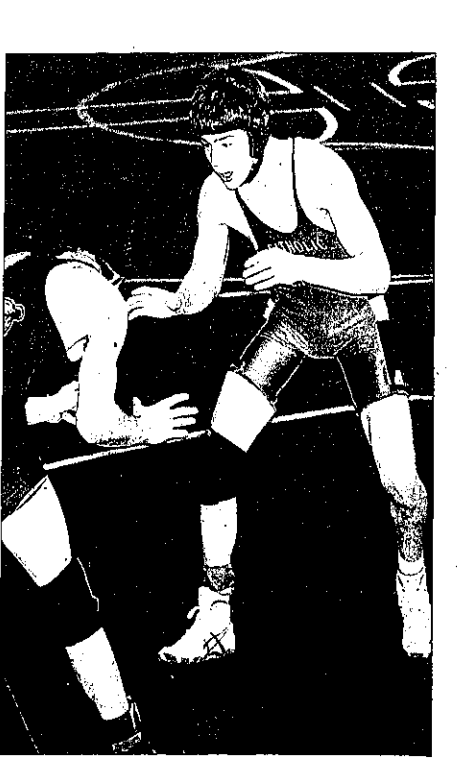
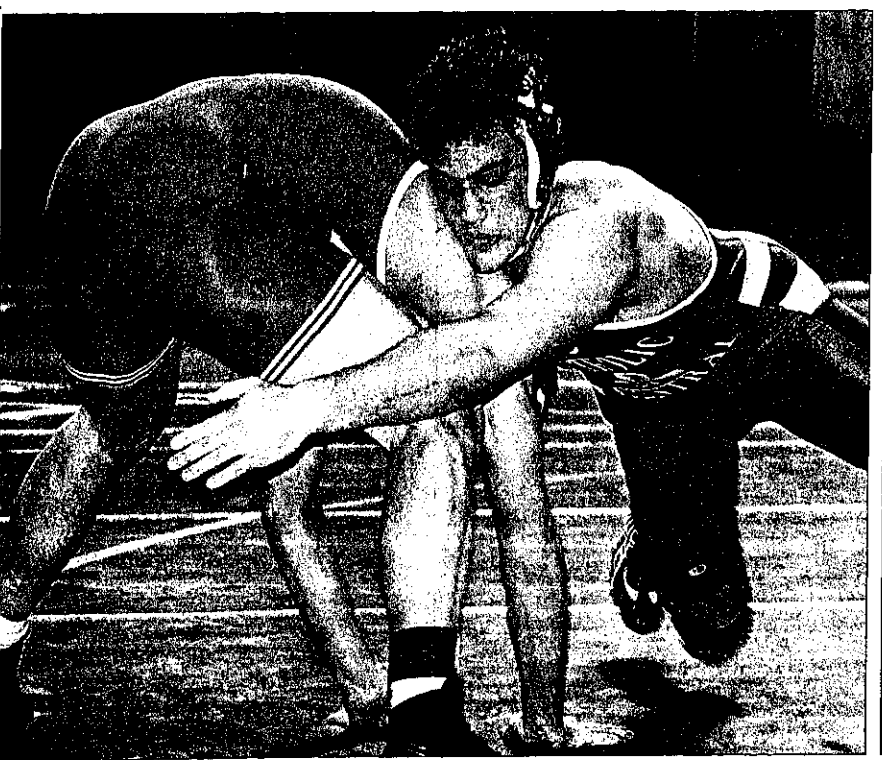


Above, Catholic Central junior 189-pound wrestler Joe Kinville works over an opponent during the state wrestling finals this past weekend at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Left, Stefan Gatt lifts an opponent during the state wrestling meet this past weekend at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Below left, Shamrock junior Matt Aubrey goes for a take-down during the state meet this past weekend during the state wrestling finals at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Below, Catholic Central junior Shea Hasenauer readies to do battle during the state meet this past weekend.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY JEFF GATT

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MY FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Thursday, March 15, 2007
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Celebrate National Peanut Month With Natural Peanut Butter

FAMILY FEATURES

Peanut butter has long been a favorite pantry staple; in fact, Americans eat enough peanut butter in a year to make more than 10 billion peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. But, peanut butter can be enjoyed many more ways than just a sandwich. **Smucker's® Natural Peanut Butter** encourages consumers to celebrate National Peanut Month by offering unique and fun recipes using peanut butter. **Smucker's Natural Peanut Butter** creamy and chunky varieties offer a robust peanut flavor, made from peanuts and salt.

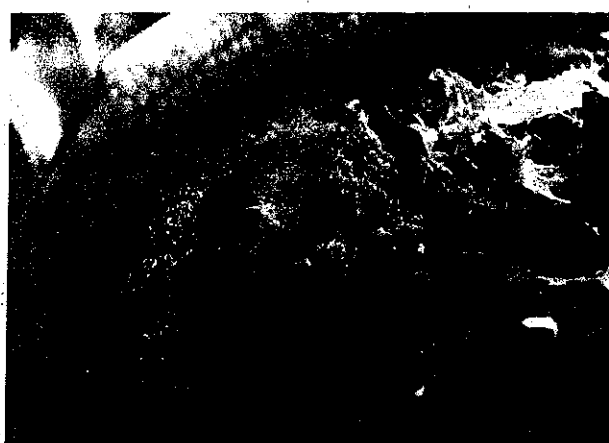
Natural peanut butter is a great way to enjoy that natural peanut taste. There are many ways to enjoy natural peanut butter. Spread natural peanut butter on apples and celery for a quick snack. Or try adding natural peanut butter to some of your favorite desserts or savory dishes. You may notice that the peanut oil sometimes rises to the top of the jar. This occurs naturally, and the oil simply needs to be stirred back in to fully enjoy the product.

Did You Know?

Just one serving of natural peanut butter — 2 tablespoons — provides:

- Eight grams of protein
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- Zero grams of cholesterol
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For more delicious meal ideas and cooking tips, please visit www.smuckers.com.



Peanut Butter and Apple Stuffed Pork Chops

Makes 8 servings

- 4 3/4-inch-thick center cut pork chops, fat trimmed
- 1/4 cup **Smucker's® Natural Creamy Peanut Butter**
- 1/4 cup seasoned bread crumbs, toasted*
- 1/2 cup finely chopped apple (packed)
- 1 large shallot, minced (or 1/4 cup minced onion)
- 1/2 cup **Smucker's® Apple or Currant Jelly**, melted (for basting, if desired)
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Crisco® No-Stick Cooking Spray**

- With small knife, make a "pocket" in each pork chop by cutting horizontally from outside edge almost to the bone.
- In medium bowl, mix together remaining ingredients except jelly, salt and pepper. Shape stuffing mixture into 4 equal patties.
- Spread each meat pocket open and put one stuffing patty into each pork chop. Using wooden toothpicks (2 to 3 per chop), close each pocket to prevent stuffing from falling out during cooking.
- Preheat oven to 450°F. Spray pork chops lightly with **Crisco® No-Stick Cooking Spray**. Place large, oven-proof frying pan over medium-high heat until hot. Place pork chops in pan and cook about 8 minutes, turning often, or until well-browned on both sides.
- Remove pan from stove and place in hot oven to cook another 20 minutes. If desired, baste pork chops with jelly during last 5 minutes of cooking time. When pork chops are done, remove toothpicks and season with salt and pepper.

Peanut Butter Salad Dressing

Makes 4 servings

- 1/2 cup **Smucker's® Natural Creamy Peanut Butter**
- 1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons freshly brewed tea, room temperature
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1-1/2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon rice or cider vinegar
- 1 teaspoon grated orange peel
- 1 to 2 garlic cloves, minced

Mix dressing ingredients in medium bowl. Stir until mixture is blended and smooth. (Dressing will keep two days.)

Buckeye Balls

Makes 8 dozen

- 1-1/2 cups **Smucker's® Natural Creamy Peanut Butter**
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 to 4 cups confectioners' sugar

Coating:

- 1 pound chocolate flavor candy coating
- 2 tablespoons **Crisco® Shortening**
- Combine **Smucker's Natural Creamy Peanut Butter**, butter or margarine, vanilla and salt in large bowl. Beat at low speed of electric mixer until blended. Add 2 cups sugar. Beat until blended.
- Continue adding 1/2 cup sugar at a time until mixture shaped into ball will hold onto toothpick. Shape into 3/4 inch balls. Place on tray. Chill.
- For coating, combine candy coating and **Crisco Shortening** in microwave-safe bowl.
- Microwave at 50% (medium) for 30 seconds. Stir. Repeat until mixture is smooth. Insert toothpick in candy ball. Dip three-fourths of ball into melted coating. Scrape off excess.
- Place on waxed paper lined tray. Remove toothpick. Smooth over holes. Refrigerate until coating is firm; then remove from paper. Store at room temperature in covered container.

Cream of Peanut Soup

Makes 8 servings

- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped carrot
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1/4 cup **Pillsbury® BEST All Purpose Flour**
- 2 12-1/2-ounce cans chicken broth
- 1 12-1/2-ounce can vegetable broth
- 1 cup **Smucker's® Natural Chunky Peanut Butter**
- 1/2 cup half-and-half

Cook onion, carrot and celery in butter over heat in medium saucepan until tender. Stir in **Pillsbury BEST All Purpose Flour**; mix well. Add chicken broth and vegetable broth; stir until thickened. Stir peanut butter into soup; mix until well blended. Reduce heat to low; cook 10 to 15 minutes or until flavors are blended. Stir in half-and-half. Season to taste.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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Thursday, March 15, 2007

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Announcing the Flexsteel sale at Your Nesting Place



Photo by HAL GOULD/Photo Files

Chris Meredith, owner of Your Nesting Place in Milford, is offering 40 percent off the entire Flexsteel furniture line until March 20. Meredith also travels to private homes for design consultations while working within any budget.

By Kate Phillips
SPECIAL WRITER

High-quality furniture has never been more affordable with a 40-percent-off sale at Your Nesting Place in Milford.

All special-order Flexsteel furniture is 40 percent off until March 20.

"This is an incredible sale," said owner Chris Meredith. "If you are thinking of buying furniture, this is the time to do it."

The entire Flexsteel line is on sale for 40 percent off, including sofas, chairs, coffee tables, love seats, recliners, beds, dressers and dining-room tables.

FURNITURE THAT LASTS

The store carries Flexsteel because it is high-quality, well-styled furniture. Consumer Reports named Flexsteel sofas as "best buy" in a recent publication.

"This furniture is wonderful quality with moderate prices," said Meredith. "It will look great for many years to come."

"It can stand up to kids, pets, and day-to-day wear. It's what I have in my own home."

With standard and designer collections, the Flexsteel line runs the gamut from traditional to semi-modern.

Your Nesting Place is a Flexsteel gallery, so it has all products available in thousands of choices of fabrics, including exclusive designer fabrics.

CUSTOM FURNITURE

The staff at Your Nesting Place can help choose a couch or chairs in fabric that will complement the surroundings and wear well. There's something special about creating a unique look with custom furniture.

"Some people think that custom furniture is costly and time consuming," said Meredith. "But it doesn't have to be. We can help you choose furniture that you will love that still doesn't cost a lot."

Taking the time to create just the right look with special-order furniture is sometimes a better idea than buying whatever furniture happens to be available, Meredith said. But for those that like to buy off the floor, Your Nesting Place stocks floor models, which are affordably priced.

A COZY NEST

Your Nesting Place is a source of inspiration for those who are trying to create an

interesting and comfortable space in their home. The store carries a large selection of rugs, lamps, artwork, decorative accessories and reasonably priced gifts.

With spaces set up in various styles and color palettes, customers can get an idea of how to decorate their own home. Those looking for something to spruce up a room will notice all sorts of possibilities.

With just one step into Your Nesting Place, it's instantly clear that Your Nesting Place is different. Meredith shops the shows and markets herself to hand-select items that aren't found in other stores.

She also re-finishes, paints and mixes antiques in with the new in her home—and at Your Nesting Place. Sometimes customers fall in love with a vintage piece because it reminds them of something from the past.

"Decorating is about choosing things that you love that are interesting to look at," said Meredith. "It shouldn't be painful. If you see something you love, take it home and you'll eventually find the right spot for it."

DESIGN HELP

Meredith also travels to private homes for design consultations. Meredith is an MSU-educated designer who has perfected her skills by working with hundreds of customers over the course of her career.

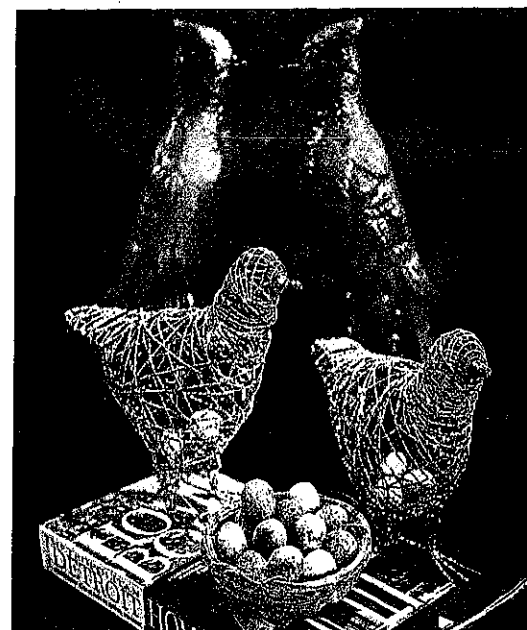
She can help customers create an amazing, unique space with new pieces or will give suggestions on rearranging furniture and adding accessories. Design service also can include prioritizing furniture selections, identifying paint colors, creating wall-space designs and ensuring overall design consistency while working within any budget.

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Your Nesting Place is a source of inspiration for those who are trying to create an interesting and comfortable space in their home.

"Working with a designer doesn't actually cost more," said Meredith. "I can help save you from costly mistakes, such as a paint color or sofa selection. And I can help you get a good price on the pieces you need so that you can have a room you love without going over your budget."

THANKS CUSTOMERS!

It's been three years since Your Nesting Place moved onto Main Street in downtown Milford. Meredith has owned Your Nesting Place for five of its 12 years in business.

"We've had such a good time getting to know people in Milford," said Meredith. "We've enjoyed the friendly people."

Meredith is thankful that customers continue to embrace the store, coming in for

ideas and design tips even if they aren't buying. She loves being a small-village shop where people come to socialize and browse.

"We are so thankful that our customers enjoy the store and have supported us throughout the years," said Meredith. "The people of Milford have been fabulous. Some love the store so much that they bring in their friends from out-of-town."

"We appreciate that our customers choose to support the downtown stores so that the downtown is a growing, thriving area."

Chris and her husband, Jason, with kids Anna, 9, and Tommy, 6, have made Milford their home for the past six years—and plan to stay!

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Vision restored at Adelson

Brothers' team approach benefits patients' eyesight

By Kate Phillips
 SPECIAL WRITER

Dr. Howard Adelson and his brother, Dr. Todd Adelson, are two of the leading eye surgeons in the state, but the questions they are often asked have nothing to do with vision.

Everyone wants to know what it is like for the brothers to work together.

The truth is that the brothers still get along well, even after Todd Adelson joined Adelson Eye and Laser Center last summer.

"It's been nice working together," said Todd Adelson. "We've known for many years that we wanted to practice together, so it just seems natural."

"We always got along well as kids and have remained close over the years. We compliment each other very well and have an easy working relationship."

WINNING TEAM

This team of two brothers has proven very beneficial for patients as well. They both specialize in ophthalmology and laser eye surgery, but have varied backgrounds and experience.

Dr. Todd Adelson is a graduate from the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his residency in ophthalmology at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in affiliation with the world-renowned Wills Eye Hospital. He then performed a fellowship in cataract and refractive surgery through Michigan State University.

Dr. Howard Adelson earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan and attended medical school at Des Moines University School of Osteopathic Medicine. He served his residency and completed his fellowship in cataract and refractive surgery in conjunction with Michigan State University. He is a board-certified ophthalmologist and a fellow of the American Osteopathic College of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology.

Both doctors are on the leading edge of their field. They are among only a handful of doctors in Michigan who have completed fellowships in refractive surgery and advanced microsurgery of the eye. They both have a great deal of experience and have performed thousands of laser, cataract and refractive surgeries.

"It is nice that my brother and I each have slightly different backgrounds, so if one of us has a question, the other probably has the answer," said Todd Adelson. "We've chosen the same specialty but we've taken very different paths."

"Our experience and training makes a big difference," said Howard Adelson.

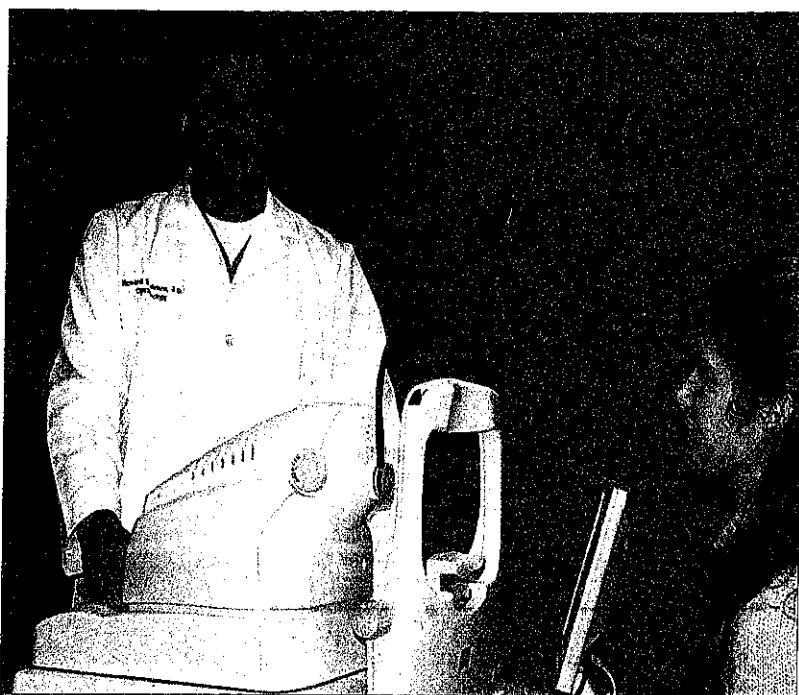
GET RID OF GLASSES

Adelson Eye and Laser Center offers laser surgery for those who want to improve their vision and those suffering from cataracts. In both instances patients say that it "feels like a miracle" to be able to see clearly again.

Eyeglass wearers can actually be restored to better than 20/20 vision with the latest lens implants or LASIK surgery.

"The results speak for themselves," said Howard Adelson. "We help people get rid of their glasses and see the world around them more clearly. Patients refer others to us because they are so happy with their results."

Those who choose a corrective procedure are never the same afterward. Life is easier without the bother of glasses and contacts. There's just something special about waking up in the morning and having clear vision, when the world usually looks like a blur.



Submitted photos

Dr. Todd Adelson prepares to check patient Sarah Connor for macular degeneration and glaucoma with the aid of a laser scanner.

ADELSON EYE AND LASER CENTER

215 E. Main St., Suite 202
 in downtown Northville

(248) 449-9292

www.adelsoneye.com

"When we are able to help patients get rid of their glasses they truly have a higher quality of life," said Todd Adelson. "It's wonderful."

LATEST TECHNOLOGIES

These highly trained physicians use the latest technology to achieve the best results possible. They specialize in painless laser surgery that is easy on patients because it requires no stitches, shots or eye patches.

"We've implemented the latest surgical techniques," said Howard Adelson. "That means quicker recovery, better results and less chance of complications."

One of the most exciting developments in refractive surgery is the ReStor and ReZoom lenses, which have the ability to adjust to multiple distances. Unlike previous lenses, the latest versions offer quick focus and better vision — both near and far.

In addition, the Adelsons offer CustomVue LASIK. This newer version of LASIK surgery improves vision plus reduces or eliminates the halos and glare of nighttime driving. Dr. Howard Adelson is a pioneer in the field of CustomVue LASIK and has performed thousands of successful procedures.

For some patients, the perfect option is the non-invasive Conductive Keratoplasty, or CK, procedure. It can reduce or eliminate far-sightedness and presbyopia without surgery.



Dr. Todd Adelson and Dr. Howard Adelson are among the few doctors in Michigan who have completed fellowships in refractive surgery and advanced microsurgery of the eye.

COMPREHENSIVE EYE CARE

Adelson Eye and Laser Center is the right place to bring all vision concerns. The office offers care for all members of the family — from infants to senior citizens.

Both doctors are experienced in treating all diseases of the eye, including glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and problems with dry eyes. Surgical treatment is also available

for issues of droopy or sagging skin around the eyes.

These doctors take the time to perform a thorough examination, which in some cases can help detect other types of health issues.

"We are a comprehensive eye-care center," said Howard Adelson. "We can help with all types of vision problems."

"Sometimes just getting a check-up to find out more information and alleviate worries is the best possible thing for your health."

ADELSON EYE AND LASER CENTER

Dr. Howard B. Adelson • Dr. Todd A. Adelson
 Eye Physicians & Surgeons • Board Certified Ophthalmologists

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