



Novi Community Guide

Your annual resource for Novi inside this edition!



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Novi News

THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2007

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VOLUME 51 #47 50 CENTS

Census goal hit, funds in doubt

Novi's latest population count tops 52,000, but any revenue increase is still up to state legislators



Maryanne Cornelius

By Greg Migliore
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Novi's population has grown considerably since the last U.S. Census, but the city could face an uphill battle collecting its share of additional state funds.

Novi finished its mid-decade census this month, tallying 52,270 residents, a growth spurt of about 10 percent that far eclipsed the 2000 count of 47,579.

But to net the cash, Michigan legislators will have to make

room for it in the state's shrinking budget, which could be a challenge as Democrats and Republicans are currently embroiled in a bare-knuckled fight over spending.

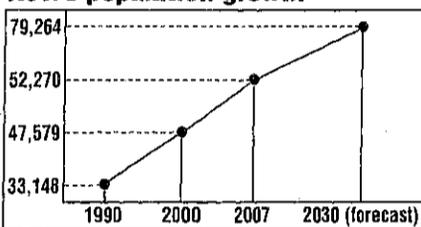
"Without new revenue, and with the Michigan economy still declining in recession, there does not look like considerable money would be made available," said State Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi), who is chair person of the Senate's Finance Committee.

The primary reasons cities con-

duct mid-decade censuses is to get more cash from the state and liquor licenses.

The last time Novi did a mid-decade census in 1996, the city scored an extra \$3.5 million in state funding. It's unclear how much, if any, the Novi could snag this year. The city does stand to get three more liquor licenses. Communities need to demonstrate at least 10 percent growth to be eligible for additional funding.

Novi's population growth



SOURCE: City of Novi, U.S. Census, SEMCOG

continued on page 4

Buy the bottle

Local Novi businesses seek support

By Victoria Mitchell
NEWS STAFF WRITER

When Eric Gettel decided to open a wine shop, his business plan included one important ingredient - customers.

He needed consumers willing to take a leap of faith, vaulting over big box stores to reach his family-owned business.

Now nearing the two year mark, Gettel and his wife, Joy Beatty, say their niche business is doing well and slowly customers are finding their way inside, joining the effort to support local businesses.

"We want to have long-term relationships with people," Beatty said. "We want to develop rela-



Photo by MIKE SHUSTER/Special to the Novi News
Joy Beatty and her husband, Eric Gettel, own and operate By The Bottle in Novi.

continued on page 4

Novi questions the candidates

School board election, bond vote May 8

By Renee Gates
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Nearly 50 residents and Novi School District administrators were in attendance Tuesday to observe and question the seven

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

candidates running for the Novi Community School Board in the May 8 election.

In a forum hosted by the League of Women Voters Oakland Area and the Novi Continually

continued on page 4

Cable Competition

AT&T may challenge Bright House

By Greg Migliore
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Novi is getting another cable provider - AT&T - but it's unclear when service could start.

The communications giant was granted a franchise agreement Monday by the City Council. The company has applied to provide cable service in Novi and other

area communities after Michigan legislators changed the law governing local cable agreements.

"It's exciting," AT&T spokesman Joe Steele said. "The intent of the legislation was to bring competition to Michigan."

Proponents say the law opens the door to increased competition in communities long monopolized by one cable company, but some cities have argued that it takes control of television out of the hands of local officials.

Bright House Networks is

continued on page 4

NOVI WEEKEND PLANNER



FRIDAY
The Sugarloaf Art Fair hits the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., at 10 a.m. today through 5 p.m. Sunday. The show in its 13th year, features more than 300 nationally recognized craft designers and fine artists from 33 states and Canada. The cost is \$7 for adults for all three days. Parking is free. For more information, call (800) 210-9900.

SATURDAY
Come celebrate National Library Week with facts and fun from 2-5 p.m.

at the Novi Public Library, 45245 W. 10 Mile Road. Some activities will include library tours, raffles, light refreshments and a visit by Clifford the Big Red Dog. For more information, call (248) 349-0720.

SUNDAY
Enjoy Earth Day today by visiting one of the City of Novi's many parks, like Community Sports Park, 51000 Eight Mile Rd. This 73-acre park is designed for the sports enthusiast containing fields for a variety of games. The whole family can enjoy a

reunion or party at the large park shelter, while the kid's play on the Tim Pope Memorial Playstructure.

MY NOVI BULLETIN BOARD
Novi's official events calendar. Page 10A.



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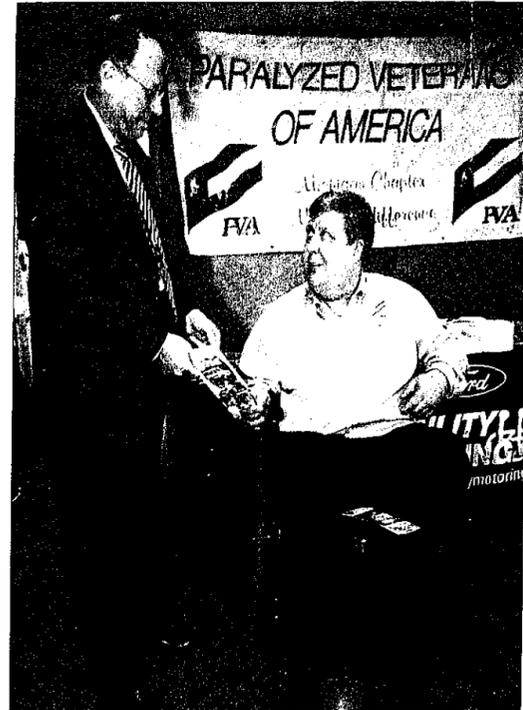
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MY NOVI COMMUNITY

Making maneuverability easier



Area disabled residents learn about improving mobility at Novi event

More about the MPVA
 Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America has served the state for 46 years by providing free services and programs for people with spinal cord injuries or disease.

By Victoria Mitchell
 NEWS STAFF WRITER

Maneuvering through an overflowing Novi parking lot last week, more than 100 attendees found space to attend the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America annual open house.

From 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. last Thursday, residents from throughout the Metro Detroit area attended the event, learning more about mobility options for the paralyzed and showing support for those who've served their country.

"It was an enjoyable session," said Roland Heaton, Novi resident and WWII veteran. Although not paralyzed himself, Heaton said he wanted to attend.

"We need more public appreciation for indigent veterans," he said. "We need more groups like the Novi Chapter of the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans to build awareness and more media recognition."

The open house featured displays and speakers discussing products and services offering quality of life improvement.

PBS television show "Disability Today" host Roger McCarville was on site, greeting attendees.

R. Sue Dodek, representative for the Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America, said the event was for veterans and those dealing with short- and long-term paralysis from spinal cord injuries and disease.

The event also marked the

statewide debut of the "Ford Michigan Mobility Resource Guide," call (800) 952-2248.

To obtain a copy of the "Ford Michigan Mobility Resource Guide," call (800) 952-2248.

Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 112.

Produced by Versacom Inc.

Photo by Michael Shuster / Special to the Novi News
 Versacom President Martin Shoushanian presents Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America (MPVA) Deputy Executive Director Mike Harris with a copy of Versacom's new resource guide at MPVA's open house. The guide contains networks, businesses, products, and transportation services to aid mobility for disabled individuals.

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Roads of the future roll through Novi

Technology that reduces crashes to be tested in Novi

By Greg Migliore
 NEWS STAFF WRITER

It's an emerging technology that could transform driving—and it's being tested in Novi.

Officially known as Vehicle Infrastructure Integration, or Vii, the technology uses a wireless network to allow cars to communicate with each other to avoid accidents and improve safety. Equipment is being mounted on poles along Interstate 96 and other roadways in Novi. Testing will be done over the next year, starting in September.

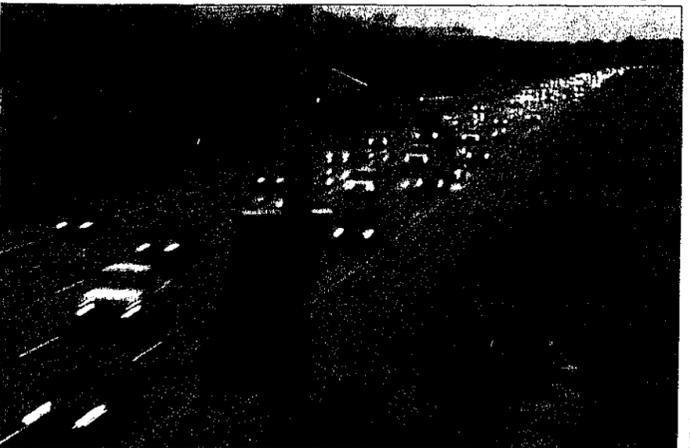
Vii development is a cooperative effort among federal, state and local transportation departments, as well as the Big 3 and import automakers. Leaders from Volvo and Sweden are also involved.

It's costing \$1.3 million just for the testing around Novi, but officials are betting it will pay off in lives saved.

They say the technology will drastically reduce the number of people killed each year on U.S. highways. About 43,000 motorists die annually in highway accidents. A significant number—21,000—are killed when their vehicles stray from the road or when crossing an intersection.

"We're trying to make cars talk to the road, the road talk to the cars and the cars talk to each other," said Greg Krueger, Michigan's Intelligent Transportation Systems program manager.

Though it offers a slew of benefits, Vii is years away from being commonly implemented. Krueger said the plan is spread out over a "25-to-30-year vision," although he expects some of it, like mapping features, to be working in about five years.



Vehicle Infrastructure Integration uses a wireless network to allow cars to communicate with each other to avoid accidents. Equipment will be mounted on poles similar to the one shown above on Interstate 275 in Livonia.

at home of the U.S. auto industry. And government leaders hope to get a center on the jobs Vii potentially offers if the program ever becomes commonly used.

"There's potential there for a new industry to be formed," Krueger said. "We want the jobs associated with that to be in Michigan."

But this is where things get

Driving the future

WHAT IT IS: Vehicle Infrastructure Technology (Vii)
WHAT IT DOES: Uses a wireless network to allow cars to communicate.
NOVI CONNECTION: Testing will be done this year on some roads in the city.

murky.
 A new industry based on Vii could be lucrative, but oversight would be lacking. Essentially it would be selling safety. And Krueger admitted it's unlikely any company would want to take legal responsibility for preventing accidents.

The infrastructure would also need to be usable by cars all over the country—not simply a fleet of test vehicles in Michigan. It would also require large automakers, all of whom are engaged in a cut-throat battle for market share and profits, to come to a consensus on how to uniformly develop the technology.

In a nutshell, the technology would be drastically re-making the transportation system.

As Krueger noted, "Everybody has to be involved."

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

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- **Edgewater Medical** located in Commerce Township, near Edgewater Country Club.
- **Olde Town Village** located at Beck Road and Grand River Avenue in Novi.
- **Hartland Offices** located right next to the township hall on Hartland Road, north of M-59
- **Union Lake Office Center** located on Union Lake Road, north of Commerce Road.

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Local Novi businesses seek support

continued from front

Buy the product

Gettel and Beatty's venture, *The Bottle*, is surrounded by other locally-owned businesses in the strip mall located at the southwest corner of Novi Road and Grand River Avenue.

Newly opened businesses *Garnish*, a restaurant featuring an all-fresh ingredient menu, and *High Wire Girls*, a smart and savvy boutique filled with jewelry and home decor items, also offer a dream with their products they hope residents will support.

According to the American Independent Business Alliance—a nonprofit organization helping communities prevent displacement of locally-owned independent businesses—before developing shopping habits, consumers typically choose to do business where they perceive the best value is for their time and money, often choosing national chain stores.

Beatty said she hates when customers come in to the store talking about buying wine at Costco to receive an inexpensive price.

The co-owner and business professor said the prices at *The Bottle* are extremely varied, including many wines at lower price points. She said prices begin at \$6 a bottle.

"We have good prices here," she said. "If you want to buy a night wine, we have a Tuesday night wine."

Tips for beating Big Box stores



SOURCE: Allbusiness.com

Personal touch

Beatty said other perks found shopping at her family's locally owned wine shop include parking convenience and the service.

Gettel's passion for wine, his wife said, translates into superior customer service.

Always in the store, Gettel said he is willing to take the time for each customer. Whether that means providing education for a novice shopper or helping a seasoned connoisseur find a particular port, first-hand knowledge will translate into customer service, he said.

"The couple said the store also offers a large variety of wines, including special orders."

"We sell pretty much what our customers want as opposed to selling what a corporate office in a different part of the country decides is best," Gettel said.

Benefits of buying local

According to the American Independent Business Alliance, the disappearance of local businesses leaves a social and economic void that is palpable and real—even when it goes unmeasured.

A spokesman for the group said locally owned businesses add economic value of other independent businesses, ensure choice and diversity and maintain community character.

Beatty said she and her husband continually contribute to local charities and partner with other businesses and residents for wine tasting events.

She urges residents to support local businesses.

"Check out local merchants," Beatty said. "You might find something unique that you can't find at big box stores."

Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122.

Uncorking a dream

Couple focuses on customer service

By Victoria Mitchell
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Why sign when you can buy the bottle?

That is the mantra hummed by local shop owners Eric Gettel and Joy Beatty.

The couple making their home in Novi, took a leap of faith nearly two years ago and opened *The Bottle*, a wine specialty store featuring more than 1,000 bottles of wine and specialty food and gift items.

Variety is key

Beatty said the store features a wide variety of wines, ranging from everyday table wines to special occasion bottles.

The store also features a wide selection in the \$10-20 range, she said.

Along with wine, the store carries a selection of beer, coffee, teas, Brown's sodas and food items including crackers, smoked salmon, cheese, candies, chocolates and snacks. Sausages, syrups, mustards and jellies also fill the shelves lining the front of the shop.

Gift baskets are available to purchase in-store and special requests are filled personally by Beatty.

Other specialty services offered at the Novi Road and

Grand River Avenue location include helping shoppers pick a perfect bottle of wine and the couple will also help customers host wine tasting events at their homes.

Gettel is in the store at all times, personally offering his love of wine to anyone needing help. He also carefully places buying tips on the walls throughout the store for those who like to browse in private.

Wines in the warm-feeling storefront are organized by region and then broken down by variety.

"I think people that come in here have a healthy appetite for wine," Gettel said.

Leap of faith

Before making his dream a reality, Eric Gettel earned his living as an accountant.

Passionate about wine, the move was natural for career outside the fledgling auto industry his former business career was reliant upon.

"Living here in Novi, I wasn't satisfied," Gettel said. He and Beatty often made trips to Ann Arbor and Birmingham looking for an exclusive selection.

"It seemed there was a need in Novi," he said.

Opening a broad-range, full-service wine shop was a natural step, the couple said.

Population count in Novi tops 52,000

continued from front

Still, some local leaders are optimistic Novi will be able to secure additional cash.

"As we continue to progress towards the completion of the state budget, I will be certain to be on the lookout to ensure that special census funding remains a priority of the state," State House Republican leader Craig DeRoche (R-Nowi) wrote in a March letter to the city. "The city of Novi deserves the increased funding for the responsible use of public funds that they have demonstrated."

About 11 other communities in Michigan have been doing censuses, although Novi is the largest. South Lyon and Holly have also been working on them.

A long process

The census has been a lengthy process for Novi officials. It started last summer with 50 enumerators going door-to-door, and follow-up mailings and phone calls continued through the winter. The city also reached out to apartment managers and homeowners' groups to try to count as many people as possible.

In the end, City Clerk Maryanne Cornelius and her staff filled eight boxes of legal documents.

"They were very steadfast in their dedication to completing the census," said Cornelius, who personally drove the materials to Lansing last week for certification.

Though it's questionable if Novi will secure additional state funding, there's little doubt the city is among the fastest growing in the state. The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments estimated Novi's population is 54,434 in April, and forecast the city will have 79,264 people by 2032.

"It's fortunate that they still continue to be a growing city," Cassis 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.

AT&T may compete with Bright House

continued from front

Novi's current cable provider. The deal with AT&T would be similar, with Novi getting five percent of gross revenues. However, advertising figures aren't included in the AT&T agreement, city documents said.

The coverage areas weren't disclosed, but Novi Mayor David Landry said AT&T wants to "cherry pick" the most lucrative areas of the city. The deal with Bright House covers all of Novi.

Sieele, however, said AT&T plans to cover the entire city, noting the company has every reason to reach as many customers as possible.

AT&T has cable service set up in 15 U.S. markets, including Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Dallas-Fort Worth.

City officials had little choice in accepting the deal with AT&T. Under terms of the new law, all companies that submit an agreement that meets the minimum standards must be approved. Cities have 30 days to respond or the agreement automatically goes into effect.

"Whether we agree with it or not—it goes into effect," Landry said.

Robert McCann, president of Bright House in Livonia, said he's been exploring the move from AT&T since the legislation went into effect.

"We would welcome anyone to come in... We're the local company that's been here supporting the community for a number of years."

McCann also said he expected rates to remain the same.

United Way honors Novi volunteer

High schooler lauded for efforts in community

By Pam Fleming
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Although they exude humility, Mikhaili Gorge of Novi and Hub Rosowski of Northville are both smiling from ear to ear this week.

The local residents both won awards at the United Way for Southeastern Michigan's Celebrate Volunteers... Recognition Luncheon.

During National Volunteer Week this year, April 15-21, staff members at the United Way for

Southeastern Michigan join other organizations across the country in recognizing volunteers who enrich the lives of others.

The luncheon attracts more than 1,000 guests each year and is one of the largest volunteer recognition events in the nation.

This year's honorees hail from Detroit, Dearborn, Huntington Woods, Madison Heights, Novi, Northville, Sterling Heights and Windsor, Ontario. They each received \$250, which they can donate to a charity of their choice.

Volunteer since seventh grade

Nominated by the American Red Cross, Gorge, 16, received the Outstanding Youth Award, which recognizes individuals age 12-18

who show leadership, commitment and character.

A junior at Detroit Country Day School, Gorge has volunteered since he was a seventh-grader at Novi Middle School.

He has spent more than 100 hours helping at local blood drives. He has completed requirements

for a blood trainer certification, which will allow him to set up blood bags so they can be given to the right patients.

He also volunteers for the new City of Novi Youth Health Council, giving about 60 hours of his time to help organize community events

that promote health awareness for children.

Mikhaili spent 40 hours last year Northville for eight years was nominated for the United Way's Heart of Gold Award by the Accounting Aid Society. For the past 20 years, he and other members of the society have helped low-income individuals and seniors with their taxes at no cost at the Bazel Family Center on Detroit's east side.

Retired about two years after serving as vice president and treasurer of Masco Corp., he became involved with Accounting Aid Society as a board member. "A colleague of mine said, 'Bob, Why don't you take a look at this?'" It allows me to use my accounting skills.

His service has put more money back in the hands of metro Detroiters each year. He recalled

He's become a tax time guru

Rosowski, 66, who's lived in Northville for eight years was nominated for the United Way's Heart of Gold Award by the Accounting Aid Society. For the past 20 years, he and other members of the society have helped low-income individuals and seniors with their taxes at no cost at the Bazel Family Center on Detroit's east side.

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His service has put more money back in the hands of metro Detroiters each year. He recalled

one client this year who was a single mother with two young children who was going to school and working part time.

"I was able to get her the Earned Income Tax Credit, which she didn't know about," he said. This federal tax credit was designed to provide a work incentive and to redistribute income to low-income workers.

Rosowski golfs in his spare time and enjoys watching sports on TV. He and his wife, Kathleen, had four children — the late John, Paul, Mary and Judith — and have 11 grandchildren.

"I've been so blessed," Rosowski said. "This has given me an opportunity to give back."

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

REVVED: Lotus bank offers chance to drive Lotus race car

Novi bank marks grand opening today

In celebration of its grand opening, Lotus Bank will be holding a drawing from April 19 — May 31 for two opportunities to take a 2007 Lotus Elise or Lotus Exige out at Waterford Hills Raceway in Waterford or Grattan Raceway in Grand Rapids. The winner will be able to choose from various "race" dates scheduled June through October.

The Lotus is a lightweight, agile and dynamic vehicle and considered to be the quintessential track car. Both cars are being supplied

by Auto Europe in Birmingham. There will also be a second drawing for a Grand Opening prize package consisting of a one-night stay at Comfort Inn Suites Novi, dinner for two at Andiamo Novi and 2 tickets to Secou City Novi.

Lotus Bank's grand opening festivities will also include a ribbon cutting ceremony today at 5 p.m.

According to Lotus Bank President Satish Jasti, "With the opening of our new branch, we are excited to be able to provide Novi and the surrounding communities with banking services with a difference, including outstanding customer service and a convenient and proximal location for all of

their financial needs."

Lotus Bank is a newly chartered community bank in Novi, Michigan offering a full array of banking services to small businesses, individuals, professionals and families in the Northwestern

Detroit suburbs, the medical industry, and the Asian consumer and small business banking segments.

Lotus Bank is located at 45650 Grand River Avenue (just west of Taft, north side, First Floor). Lotus

Bank can be reached at (248) 735-1000 or on the web at www.lotusbank.net.

Lotus Bank's hours of operation are Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. and closed Saturday and Sunday.

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<p>FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE On Hogarty Rd. North of 8 Mile Rd. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Celebration 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m. (248) 348-1100 Dr. Ron Blake, Pastor</p>	<p>OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH 1710 Howell Ave., Northville WEEKEND LITURGIES: Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 7:30 & 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. Church School 9:30-10:30 a.m. Religious Education 3:45-2:59 p.m. The Parish Priest, Pastor</p>
<p>MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 1170 Howell Ave., Northville 248-348-7737 • MCCOY@meadowbrook.org Worship: Sunday 10:30 a.m. Religious Education: 3:45-2:59 p.m. Overseer: The Board of Deacons 40 W. Livingston, Farmington Hills</p>	<p>HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL 10 Mile between Meadowbrook & Hogarty Phone: 248-427-1172 Sun 9:30 a.m. 7:30 & 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m. Rev. Karen Harty, Pastor www.holycrossmeadowbrook.org</p>
<p>FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-347-2345 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd. Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Service Dr. Richard J. Henderson, Pastor</p>	<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 9 Mile & Meadowbrook Worship by Lutheran Synod Worship School and Adult Bible Class 8:45 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Thomas E. Schneider, Pastor: 349-0565</p>
<p>ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 44325 10 Mile Rd Novi, MI 48374 Sunday 9:30 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Reverend George Chantry, Pastor Pastor Office: 347-3100</p>	<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 1401 1st St. 6 Mile & 1st Sts. Sunday Worship Services at 10:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. (new service) Rev. John Rice, Pastor www.tumcnorthville.org</p>
<p>CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 1620 Meadowbrook Rd., MI 48375 Mass: Sat 5 p.m. Sun 7:30 a.m. 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. Holy Days: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. Fr. John G. Bueker, Pastor Fr. John G. Bueker, Pastor Parish Office: 349-8847</p>	<p>OAK POINTE CHURCH Novi 50200 W. 1st Mile Sunday 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Casual, contemporary live band (248) 342-0343 www.oakpointe.org</p>
<p>MATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 2551 E. Main Rd. (S. of Hogarty) Phone: 248-461-1100 Sundays 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Monday (Orthodox) 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Rev. Fr. George M. Vassilios, Priest www.mativitygreekchurch.org</p>	<p>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA Farmington Hills, 24225 Co Rd 31 • 248-474-6564 Sewell-Groves & Freeman Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. Sunday School & Sunday School 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at ages 18 to 19 Lynne Kasper</p>

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Fielding questions at Tuesday's candidate forum are (left to right) David Brown, George Kortlandt, Bobbie Murphy, Craig Parker, Karl Wizinsky, Jeff Nielson and Marcy Salemi.

School board election, bond vote May 8

continued from front

School District PTO candidates were given a minute to respond to seven questions taken from the audience at the start of the forum.

Questions ranged from the bond issue to charter schools in Novi, balancing the budget and adjustments to curriculum.

Audience members listened politely as the questions were addressed to each candidate during the hour-and-15-minute forum. When the forum ended, many had not made up their mind on who they would support.

"I came out to hear their different perspectives," said Sarah Savels, Novi Educational Foundation trustee.

"I have to say I came out with a perspective on one of the candidates — someone I've kind of been against before — and liked what I heard. It was very worth while for me," she said.

"I hope everyone will take the

chance to either watch it on channel 10 or read what they find in the voter guide because it is really critical for our community."

Novi resident Claudia Day has two children in Novi schools. She has watched or attended every school board meeting since she moved into the district four years ago.

"I think all the candidates did a good job. I may have come in here having certain feelings, but I walked out learning quite a bit," she said. "I haven't made a final decision."

Linda Boaron does not envy any of the candidates running

during the current economic climate.

"These candidates are facing the toughest problems I think I've ever seen in the district," she said. "I give them credit for wanting to take it on. I don't."

Five candidates are on the ballot vying for one of two four-year terms ending in 2011. Those candidates are school board incumbent David Brown, George Kortlandt, Bobbie Murphy, Craig Parker and Karl Wizinsky.

Two candidates are running for one two-year term ending in 2009: board trustee Jeff Nielson and write-in candidate Marcy Salemi.

Forum moderator Judy Bateman encouraged community members to watch the rebroadcast of the forum on Channel 10 and read more on the candidates at the League of Women Voters Web site, www.lvwa.org.

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.

Coming in the Novi News:

Learn more about the applicants running for Novi School Board by reading our candidate profiles.

The candidates are school board incumbent David Brown, George Kortlandt, Bobbie Murphy, Craig Parker and Karl Wizinsky — all seeking one of two four-year terms ending in 2011.

Two candidates are running for one two-year term ending in 2009: board trustee Jeff Nielson and write-in candidate Marcy Salemi.

To learn more about the school board candidates now, visit the League of Women Voters Web site, www.lvwa.org.

Forum moderator Judy Bateman encouraged community members to watch the rebroadcast of the forum on Channel 10 and read more on the candidates at the League of Women Voters Web site, www.lvwa.org.

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City unveils ball field improvements

■ Infields and warning tracks get facelifts

AROUND NOVI

A RECAP OF NEWS AND NOTES FROM AROUND THE CITY

By Greg Migliore
NEWS STAFF WRITER

The ball fields at Ella Mae Power Park got a facelift this spring.

The city made improvements to the infields and warning tracks, installed a modern irrigation system and added new fences and backstops. The grounds around the complex were also spruced up with 175 new trees.

Novi sunk \$342,000 into the upgrades — the first of three rounds of improvements to Power Park. The city also plans to put in new lights, pathways and a concession stand.

The fields, which sit behind the Civic Center off 10 Mile Road, will be officially unveiled at a welcome back barbecue from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday.

Sticker Shock

Novi is trying to slash teen drinking this spring with its Sticker Shock Program. And the police department is taking square aim at the source: adults who buy booze for kids.

The second year program is fairly simple. Stickers are affixed to alcoholic beverages warning adults not to buy for minors. The idea is to give would-be buyers a last-second change of heart, perhaps preventing alcohol from reaching the hands of a minor.

Novi Youth Council members and police officers visited stores last week with the stickers.

Sticker Shock coincides with prom and graduation season, when teen drinking also spikes.

New fire truck on the way

Novi is getting a new fire engine later this month.

Two fire department officials visited the new truck as it was being assembled in Appleton, Wis., recently. While they were there, the compartment module was put on the chassis.

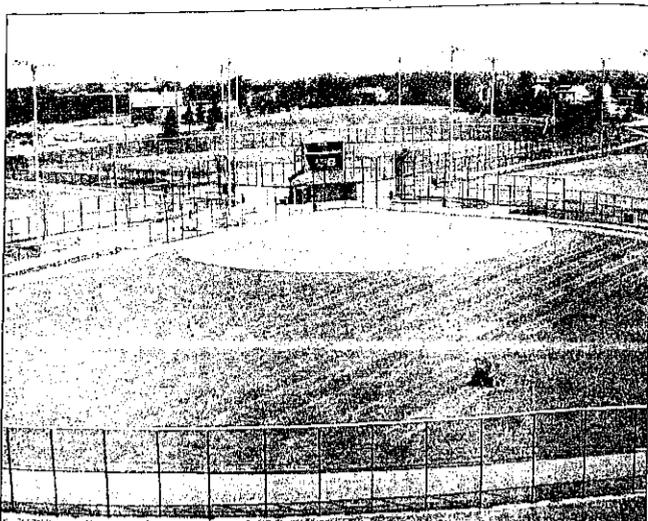
The truck will be similar to other engines local departments use. It has an imposing grill, and of course, is red.

Branding Novi?

Officials are considering using a branding campaign to create a uniform image for the city.

"There would be the Nike 'just do it' or the Starbucks recognition. Community Relations Manager Sheryl Walsh told council members Monday.

Greg Migliore can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or gmigliore@novi.net.



Submitted photo

Novi made a slew of improvements to Power Park's ball fields, including upgrading the infields and warning tracks.



Visit us at the International Women's Show May 3-6 at the Rock Financial Show Place to see if you are a candidate for Varicose Vein Treatment

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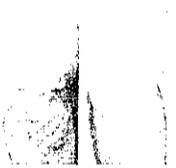


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TALK ABOUT IT: Join in discussing our stories online via **Story Chat** at novinews.com

Cal Stone
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MY EDUCATION



Thursday, April 19, 2007
www.novinews.com
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District court in session at CC

■ Day in Court program visits first private school

By Renee Gates
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Judge Brian MacKenzie has seen this scene before: felons, misdeemeanors, defendants, prosecutors and high school students.

For 18 years, MacKenzie has taken the 52nd District Court First Division away from its \$150 Grand River Ave. address in Novi and recreated it at high school auditoriums and gymnasiums to teach students about the judicial branch of government and to show them the consequences of where their potential actions can lead them.

"We've done it in all area high schools," he said.

But next Thursday will mark the first time this traveling Day in Court program will reside in a private school. Catholic Central is getting its Day in Court.

"I'm really excited about it. I think it's a great thing," said David Lewis, Detroit Catholic Central Assistant Principal.

"I think it's a great opportunity to see how the court system works. Many of (our students) have never had the opportunity to see how the system works in reality."

Approximately 400 to 500 social studies students from grades nine to 12 will observe as Judge Robert Bondy and MacKenzie preside over misdemeanor and felony cases. Every defendant has agreed to have his case heard in the high school setting, and because the high school is transformed into a court room, the hearings are open to the public, MacKenzie said.

Judge Bondy will preside over the first cases beginning at 8 a.m. and Judge MacKenzie's hearings will follow at 9:40 a.m. Each session is followed by a question and answer time.

It will be a special session for

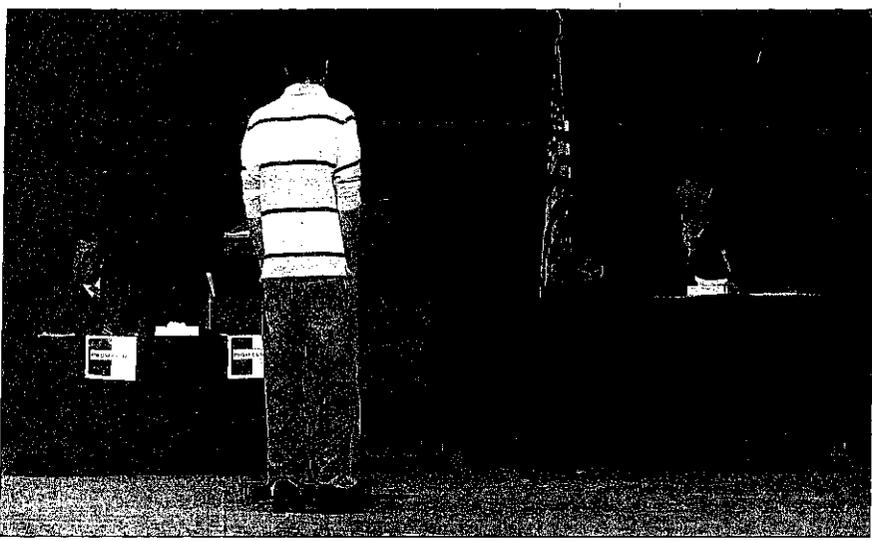


Photo by JESSIE ELLIS/Gannett News Service

As part of the Day in Court alcohol and drug abuse prevention program, a 20-year-old defendant stands before 52-1 District Court Judge Brian MacKenzie to learn his fate while Prosecuting Attorney Marcel Benavides looks on. The defendant was sentenced to 90 days in jail and work release because he agreed to appear in court at the school.

"I think it's a great opportunity to see how the court system works. Many of (our students) have never had the opportunity to see how the system works in reality."

David Lewis
CC assistant principal

Bondy because his two sons are students at Catholic Central. MacKenzie had a similar experience when the Day in Court program was held at Novi High School several years ago and his children were students there at the time. The court is talking with administrators in Novi now to plan another Day in Court at the high school, he said.

MacKenzie has had too many days in court sessions to count, and he remembers the stories of students

who contact him, sometimes years later to tell him how the sessions impacted them.

One student became a lawyer because of the Day in Court session at his high school. He knows the program is having an impact by

stories like that one and will continue his traveling court program as long as he is on the bench, he said.

That's welcome news to high school administrators. Detroit Catholic Central President Father

Richard Elmer is already looking forward to the next Day in Court session at the school.

"Our student body changes, and as it changes I'd like our new students to have that experience," he said.

ON CAMPUS

Northwood University

Joshua Freeman of Novi has attained the distinction of being placed on the fall 2006 dean's list at Northwood University, Midland.

Arlie Jirasek of Novi, majoring in Entertainment, Sport and Promotion Management at Northwood University has been named the NU Style Show chair for the fashion show to be held at Haech Student Life Center, April 26 at 7:30 p.m. She is the vice president of the Entertainment, Sport and Promotion Management Association, a resident assistant, member of the Student Government Association and Delta Epsilon Chi. In addition she is the promotions chair for the 2007 Northwood University International Auto Show.

Rachel Lilly of Novi has been named Programs and Tickets Chair for the Northwood University Style Show, taking place on April 26 at the Haech Student Life Center. She is working towards a triple major in Entertainment, Sport and Promotion Management, Automotive Marketing, and Management.

Lance W. Suttle of Novi has been named to the Dean's List for winter term at Northwood University. To achieve this recognition students must earn a 3.25 grade point on a 4.0 scale.

Send news about Novi's college students to cstone@gannett.com

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

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MY BULLETIN BOARD

Thursday, April 19, 2007 www.novinews.com fax: (248) 349-9832

EVENTS

Seminars for Seniors

LOCATION: Waltonwood Retirement Community, 27475 Huron Circle, Novi, adjacent to Twelve Oaks Mall... CONTACT: (248) 735-1500

Book Club Meeting

DATE: Friday, April 20 TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Starbucks, 302 East Main St., Northville... CONTACT: northvillebookclub@gmail.com

Spring Talent Show Fundraiser

DATE: Sunday TIME: 2-3 p.m. LOCATION: Novi Civic Center... CONTACT: francesca.tuzzolino@excite.com

Spring Design Seminar

DATE: Thursday, April 26 TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Art Van, 27775 Novi Road... CONTACT: francesca.tuzzolino@excite.com

Skating Club of Novi Presents Ice Revue 2007

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m., Friday, April 27; 1 and 7 p.m., Saturday, April 28... CONTACT: (248) 960-3975

Diamonds and Denim Party to Benefit Hospitallity Club

DATE: Saturday April 28 TIME: 6:30-11 p.m. LOCATION: Edgewood Country Club, 8399 Commerce Road... CONTACT: (248) 960-3975

Novi Chorales Spring Concert

DATE: Saturday, May 12 TIME: 7:30 p.m. LOCATION: Faust Auditorium, New High School... CONTACT: Dick Bayerl, (248) 349-3267

Atrium USA "America's Hometown Art Museum"

TIME/DATE: 11 a.m.-6 p.m., June 8-12... CONTACT: Michelle Winn (248) 349-3267



Honoree! Members of the American Legion present Rock Financial Showplace executive Blair Bowman (second from left) with a certificate of appreciation for his generosity with the group. Rock Financial Showplace executives donate space for the group to meet.

encouraged. CONTACT: Cathy Behrens (248) 624-4847 or Train Travel, Inc. (248) 960-9440...

It's a Big Deal! TIME/DATE: 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, May 1... CONTACT: Michelle Winn (248) 349-3267

Neighborhood Round Table TIME/DATE: 3 p.m. Today... CONTACT: Whitney McClellan, executive director (248) 347-4622

After Hours at Andiamo TIME/DATE: 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17... CONTACT: Andiamo Round Table Group

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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...

Novi Chamber of Commerce The chamber is celebrating 40 years of business, representing over 300 members. Our mission is to be a responsible, proactive advocate of business interests in the greater Novi area...

Novi Youth Assistance General Citizens Meeting DATE: Tuesday May 1 TIME: 6 p.m. LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road... CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

Novi Chamber of Commerce Annual Casino Night DATE: Saturday, May 19 LOCATION: Lucky Strike Lanes, Fountain Walk... CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

Novi Chamber of Commerce Annual Casino Night (continued) DATE: Saturday, May 19... CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

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Line Dancing DATE: Monday and Friday TIME: 6:30-7:30 p.m. begins: 7:30-9:30 p.m. Intermediate... CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

Novi Public Library LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile Road... CONTACT: (248) 349-0720

SCHOOL & GOVERNMENT Novi City Council Meeting DATE: Tuesday May 1 TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road... CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

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VISIT OUR NEW GOLF AND RESORT CLOTHING STORE! NOVI CLEARANCE CENTER Across the lot from 43253 Crescent Boulevard, Novi. HUGES SAVINGS ON OUR GREAT SELECTION OF BRAND NAME GOLF AND SUMMER CLOTHING! NOW OPEN!

SPRING OPEN HOUSE OPEN HOUSE APRIL 21, 22, 11-5p Vendor seminars • Door prizes • Balloons Entertainment • Refreshments Come talk with our vendors and have your yard and garden questions answered by professionals!

DOUBLE PINK WEEPING CHERRY \$149 17" 565 Reg. \$199.00 Pristine display of double pink flowers early spring. Graciful weeping form. AZALEAS \$9.99 10" Reg. \$14.99 many colors. PLYMOUTH NURSERY AND GARDEN CENTER 9900 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth Rd. 734-453-5500

Farmington PUBLIC SCHOOLS Early Childhood Program Open Houses Sunday, April 29 Each center will be available for you to visit, meet staff, and ask questions about the early childhood programs 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Farmington Community School Early Childhood Center 10 Mile Road... 1 - 2 p.m. Alameda Early Childhood Center 11 Mile Road... Discover all your public schools has to offer you and your preschooler: Meet our well qualified, experienced teaching staff... See our spectacular science, media rooms and gym... Learn about our curriculum, educational support, and full-day services. Start Young, Finish Strong

BUSINESS

Females in the Family Business Affinity Group TIME/DATE: 8-9:30 a.m. Third Thursday of every month... CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

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continued from 11A

DETAILS: Dr. J.C. Patterson will explain what science knows about how four relatively uncomplex chemical compounds combine to produce all the complexity of our biosphere.

Wixom Public Library
LOCATION: 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
CONTACT: (248) 624-2512

National Library Week
Activities

All Aboard the Wixom Library Express!

TIME/DATE: 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 20

DETAILS: This program is for children ages 2-6. There will be stories, songs, crafts, food and lots of friends. Registration required.

Drummin'ly
TIME/DATE: 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 21

DETAILS: All ages are invited to join in a large drum circle to create rhythms together with professional facilitator Lori Fithian. Percussion instruments from all over the world will be provided. Registration required.

NOVI SENIOR CENTER

Located in the Meadowbrook Commons Senior Complex, 25075 Meadowbrook Road

Friday
9 a.m.: Stretch & Strength

10 a.m.: Body Recall
11 a.m.: Bingo

Monday
9 a.m.: Stretch & Strength

10 a.m.: Body Recall
12:30 p.m.: Pinocchio

Tuesday
8:30 a.m.: Panera Bread

9-11 a.m.: Line Dance-Intermediate

10 a.m.: Asian Pacific

11 a.m.-12 p.m.: Computer Lab

noon: Lunch

1 p.m.: Bingo in Activities Room

1-3 p.m.: Computer Lab

1-3 p.m.: Dance, 56 at door

Wednesday
9 a.m.: Stretch & Strength

10 a.m.: Body Recall

10:30 a.m.: Quilting

11 a.m.: Blood Pressure

11 a.m.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly

12:30 p.m.: Clogging-Beginner

noon: Lunch

1-3 p.m.: Game Day

6:30 p.m.: "Clogging (Beg./Easy/Int.)"

7:30 p.m.: "Clogging-Club

Thursday

9-11 a.m.: "Line Dance-Int."

11-15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.: "Line Dance-Beg."

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

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

Message: Call for an appointment.

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 Church, 49329 Pontiac Trail, Wixom

DETAILS: Come for encouragement, help, hope and prayer. Drop in for five minutes or longer.

CONTACT: Nancy or Susan (248) 326-8332 or harvestfellowship@comcast.net

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 Tracz (248) 380-0998

Friendship Circle
DATE: Second Thursday of each month

TIME: 1 p.m.

LOCATION: St. James Catholic Church, 46325 10 Mile Road, between Tah and Beck Road

DETAILS: Social group for all widows and widowers.

CONTACT: Norbert Monson (248) 851-6730, Florence Voight (248) 477-3032 or Joy Lovaldi (248) 348-9138 or joylovaldi@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 (MOMS) is a non-profit support group for mothers who choose to stay at home with their children or work out of their homes.

CONTACT: jensungfening@yahoo.com

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples

DATES: Second Thursday of each month

TIME: 7 a.m.

LOCATION: Witch'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: (248) 437-5496 for more information.

Women's Prayer Support Group

DATE: Saturday

TIME: 9-10:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Harvest Fellowship Church, 49329 Pontiac Trail, Wixom

DETAILS: Come for encouragement, help, hope and prayer. Drop in for five minutes or longer.

CONTACT: Nancy or Susan (248) 326-8332 or harvestfellowship@comcast.net

Breast Cancer Support Group

DATES: Second and fourth Tuesday of each month

LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Commerce, Classroom C

TIME: 10-11:30 a.m.

DETAILS: No registration needed.

CONTACT: (248) 937-5017

Crohn's & Colitis 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 Crohn's & Colitis 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) 585-9226

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Chapter

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) 305-8046

First Baptist Church of Novi

LOCATION: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road

CONTACT: (248) 349-3647 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
DATE: Saturday, May 12

TIME: 10 a.m.

DETAILS: Meetings held on the second Saturday of each month, offering support and open discussion for all those dealing with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia.

Holy Family
LOCATION: 24505 Meadowbrook Road

CONTACT: (248) 349-8847 or visit 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; 9 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; 5 p.m. Saturday

Bible Study
DATE: Thursdays

TIME: 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

DETAILS: Join the group for prayer, sharing, and discussion of the Sunday scripture readings.

CONTACT: Maria (248) 349-8847 or e-mail at spiritwalk-e001@aol.com

Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting

DATE: Last Wednesday of each month

TIME: 10-11 a.m.

DETAILS: This free informational meeting is open to all adoptive families in Oakland County. Child care is available. Registration is required.

CONTACT: Lisa Molloy (248) 334-3595

Catholic Update
DATE: Monday, April 30

TIME: 7-8:30 p.m.

DETAILS: A "Coffee House" in the family center moderated by Monsignor John Budde. Discuss and raise questions about God, church, faith, heaven, hell, anything.

CONTACT: Rev. Ed Williamson, Interim Minister, (248) 348-7757.

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Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross
LOCATION: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road

CONTACT: (248) 427-1175 or

www.churchoftheholycross.com

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/DATE: 8, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. Wednesday; 5 p.m. Saturday

2nd Annual Family Health and Fitness Fair
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 29

DETAILS: Activities and information will include Catholic Bookstore, 911 call simulators, Tai Chi, bike helmet sale, ear seal inspection, fitness and much more.

Novi United Methodist
LOCATION: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road

CONTACT: (248) 349-2662

Sunday Worship
TIME: 9:45 a.m.

First United Methodist of Northville
LOCATION: 777 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville

CONTACT: (248) 349-1144 or visit www.fumcnorthville.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
DATE: 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.

Spring Performing Arts Series Concert
TIME/DATE: 6:30 p.m. Sunday, April 29

DETAILS: Presenting the Christian concert team of Randy

and Mari. Afterglow immediately following the performance.

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.crosspointemeadows.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.

Kindergarten Registration
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' Faith
CONTACT: (248) 473-0355 or visit www.bahai.org

Devotional Gathering
TIME/DATE: 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

Tonight: Laughter is the Best Medicine with Walt Stasinsk.

Learn how humor can boost your immune system.

April 26, "Can You Hear Me Now?" presented by Joanne Estes.

Learn new communication skills and generate stronger connections with anyone.

Divorce Recovery Workshop II
DATE: May 17-June 14

TIME: 7:30-9 p.m.

DETAILS: The cost for the workshop is \$45. Child care is available for toddlers through sixth grade. Register for child



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

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

COMMENTARY

Thursday, April 19, 2007
www.novinews.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

Novi News

Richard Perlberg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Rich Rambold
PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER
Grace Perez-Rent
GENERAL MANAGER

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture our growth and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Look closely at the city budget

It's numbers time in Novi. This month, the city issued its proposed version of the budget for the 2007-08 fiscal year, and residents should take note. The budget is the gameplan for how city leaders are going to spend your money over the next year. Even if nothing else about city government excites you, this should. It's money — cold, hard cash. Plan and simple. And as a resident of this city, you have a say in how the city is playing host to at least two special city council meetings to specifically discuss the budget. There's one tonight at 7 p.m. at the Civic Center. If you can't make it, consider dropping by the Saturday session, which starts at 9 a.m. If necessary, a third meeting will be April 26. It's a pretty straight forward format. The budget is presented. Novi city council members talk about it. Then there's open audience participation. And if you can't make it in person, check out the meetings on television or the city's Web site, www.cityofnovi.org. And feel free to call and e-mail council members and city officials to let them know what you think. Write letters to the Novi News. Don't fret powerless. You vote for the council members who approve the budget. They're the government workers who physically make up the budget. There's accountability here — if you want there to be.



Police Honors
Cindy Hayes, left, was named the Novi Police Department's Civilian of the Year for 2006 during a ceremony earlier this month. Chief David Molloy, right, presents her with her award.

China - free/fair trade: How hot will it get?

Have you ever attempted to untangle a bowl of spaghetti or unscramble an egg? Yes, it is virtually impossible. Well, this is the phenomena that are taking place as we debate the US-China trade policies. Our economies are inextricably linked and mutually dependent on each other and to proceed otherwise is sheer foolishness. Yet, one would think that with all the chest thumping, saber-rattling, threat of tariffs and trade wars that the U.S. could simply just snap its finger and make China dance to our economic beat. Ah, if it were only that simple. If the truth be known, our mutual destinies are so tightly intertwined that we will either have a peaceful rise together or will surely sink our respective countries. And the world economy will be pulled under by the undertow. In the forward to John King Fairbanks' book, "The United States and China," Edwin Reichbauer wrote, "The relations between the two great nations, their understanding or misconceptions about each other, their cooperation or friction will play a large part in determining the future of humanity." These words could not be any truer today than when they were written in 1979. "China and the U.S. are going to be the dominant powers of the 21st century. These two countries are

going to be number one and two trading countries in the world; they're going to consume the most energy in the world. They need to understand each other," wrote Jeffrey A. Bader, Director of the John L. Thornton China Center at the Brookings Institution (www.brookings.edu). The latest U.S. trade deficit, which hit a record \$76.3 billion in 2006, has many U.S. workers and politicians worried as the 2008 presidential election comes into focus. Globalization, deficits, trade imbalances, unfair trade practices, loss of high paying white and blue collar jobs and the fear of job losses began to shake the stage with the war in Iraq for voters' attention. A recent Brookings Institute conference on trade found that Congressional Democrats "are worried by Beijing's accumulation of more than \$1 trillion in foreign exchange reserves, the continued deficit of the U.S.-China trade deficit (now running close to \$250 billion annually). China's refusal to substantially revalue the RMB (China's currency) and its inability or unwillingness to successfully combat intellectual property rights theft." According to an April 10th New York Times editorial, "What must be avoided are the kinds of misunderstandings intensified by growing anti-China sentiment in this country that lead to tit-for-tat tariff reprisals and things spin out of control. A trade war would do more harm to American business than to China's subsidies." The editorial went on to say, "The Progressive Policy Institute, (www.ppionline.org) a Democratic research group, found 'Foreign manufacturers invest more in America than American manufacturers invest abroad.'" This reality means little to the workers who believe globalization and cheap labor in China and in different government policies have cost them their jobs. We can expect the four flames of globalization, China and free/fair trade will be fanned for political advantage in the coming months. In our country there is a real and growing cry for protectionism and isolationist sentiment that is likely to get stuck in a heated presidential campaign. The future presidential debate about these issues is likely to make the China burbs hurred in the Granholm/Devo's governor's contest look like child's play. While this may make for good politics, it may not bode well for our long-term relations with China and our mutual economic interests. But, will it bode well for the American worker? The United States has filed against China at the World Trade Organization two cases — for movie, music and software

About Tom Watkins
Tom Watkins is the President and CEO of TDW and Associates, working with education and business clients in the U.S. and China. Watkins served as Michigan's State Superintendent of Schools (2001-2005) and President and CEO of the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Fla. (1996-2001). Read his internationally recognized report (now translated into Chinese): The New Education (R)evolution at (www.nacoe.org). He can be reached at twatkins@aol.com.

the middle class in the U.S. To deny the pain of the American worker brought about by technological and global changes would be as insensitive as it would be politically naive. The long-term welfare of our country is dependent of the long-term stability of the working men and women who have helped create it. Even so, the American consumer is benefiting in two major ways because of China: 1) Rapid economic growth has benefited U.S. consumers because they can purchase low-priced goods, including clothes and electronics, which helps keep inflation low and buying power high and; 2) By buying out debt/bonds, the Chinese (along with the Japanese) have helped keep our interest rates for cars, homes and other large-ticket items at historical lows. Buying our debt has helped fuel our domestic consumption for the past decade. Lawrence Goodwyn, in the April 2007 edition of The Nation, wrote, "Woven deeply into the shared experience of Americans is a sense of people actually 'getting somewhere,' of being able, through hard work, to 'move up in the world ... He goes on to say, "It accounts for the peculiarly American sense of the possibility of dignity for everyone." Can we create a way for American workers to "get somewhere" while riding the China/globalization wave? Regardless of whether you like the middle Chinese flavors of Confucius cuisine. It is more likely that the China we will be served in the coming months will be as hot as any Hunan or Szechuan dish you ever tasted. The only questions that remain are if the debates will be spiced with xenophobia and reality and who will get stuck with the bill when the political posturing is over?

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Cal Stone
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OPINION

Thursday, April 19, 2007
www.novinews.com
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LETTERS

Novi City Budget

It appears that the city of Novi is starting to live beyond its means. For the second year in a row, the city's general fund revenue is estimated to be less than expenses, and the city is proposing to use its "rainy day funds" to balance the budget. The general fund revenue for the 2007-08 budget year is actually estimated to be less than revenue for 2006-07 — \$30.96 million for the 2007-08 versus \$31.07 million for 2006-07. The general fund expenses for 2006-07 are estimated to be \$32.66 million, and \$34.16 million for 2007-08. The public safety portion of the proposed budget alone is stated to be up 8 percent or \$1.4 million. The budget also includes over \$700,000 for park improvements. The city is proposing to use \$1.56 million of its "rainy day funds" to balance the 2006-07 budget, and is proposing to add up front, \$3.19 million of its "rainy day funds" to the 2007-08 budget. If expenses continue to rise above revenue, and the city uses its accumulated cash reserves to pay for non-essential expenses, the cash will not be available to "weather the storms." Novi may soon wind up like other cities, reducing city services and employees or approving/asking for tax increases. The city could reduce general fund spending and use the use of its "rainy day funds" by considering the following adjustments: 1) Eliminate the \$700,000 of proposed park improvements, 2) Eliminate the proposed sidewalk/bikeway path connections, and use those road funds for the neighborhood road program/Beck Road improvements. 3) Use available federal drug asset forfeiture funds to purchase police vehicles and training/equipment. 4) The building function is supported to pay for itself through permits/fees. Expenses should meet revenue. The city's financial future will only continue delivering the current level of services depends upon fiscally prudent decisions today.

In order to be fair to everyone, this newspaper will not run letters to the editor the week prior to an election that open new issues. Expressions of thanks to political supporters are best made by buying an advertisement. The Novi Public Schools election will be held on Tuesday, May 8.

be fiscally imprudent during these complicated, economic times. I suggest that a no vote will not and should not end the future equitable plans for the school district. I believe a no vote sends a message that we think this is too much. Go back to the table, cut out the fat, and present a more fiscally responsible proposal to the voters.

Denise Buckley
Novi

Get school info right

In response to Dr. Armand Caralano and Christian Elsen letters on April 12, I feel that they have not attended a meeting about the bond issue or read anything about it. First of all, if anyone wishes to get the correct information, please go to www.novi.k12.mi.us and then hit NEW Bond Information Website. On this website, there is a few items, including all the information in Review of the Bond Proposal by Gail Credit, our Director of Finance. Per Dr. Caralano, increasing the size of the three elementary schools that are smaller and older than Deerfield and Novi Woods would increase the cost of janitorial cost is incorrect. There will be no hiring of janitors. Plus, if he had been at some meetings, Novi is under a contract to save utility costs with a company over the next few years. Already a security system placed in the hallway at the high school found a student stealing an iPod. The parents denied that their student would do such a thing, but when they saw the tape, it was a security camera. This is a security system as this is much more reliable than a security guard. I guess this gentleman has already forgotten about the school massacres over the last years. Mr. Christian Elsen should look at the Review of the Bond Proposal and see that it will not raise his property tax at all! Gail Credit just completed and reduced some of our bonds and saved us \$3 million. If you have any questions about the bond, please come to one of the various meetings. Mr. Brian and Mrs. Credit have been sponsoring. If you read the superintendent's letter each month, he has talked about this. If not, feel free to contact Mr. Dion at pdion@novi.k12.mi.us. He is working very hard to make Novi schools the very best.

Please get out and vote. The city sends out absentee ballots to those residents 60 years and older, which were 2,700 this time. In November, 75 percent of these residents sent them in. I hope they know that this bond issue will not increase their taxes to improve the schools. I hope everyone does their homework on the candidates better than these two gentlemen did on the bond issue. Jeff Neilson, George Kortland and Dave Brown are the ones to look at and have been on the board. These men are not mad about Deerfield being changed from a magnet school to a neighborhood school, as the Deerfield parents that are running as candidates, in my opinion. These men are looking out for our school district and not running for malice.

Linda Boran
Novi

Supports Kortland

I'm writing this letter to urge members of the Novi community to vote for George Kortland in the upcoming election for the Novi School Board on Tuesday, May 8. Some may feel that it's necessary to have a more experienced child currently enrolled in our school system to be effective. On this point, I must disagree. George Kortland and his wife have successfully raised three wonderful children within the Novi school system. George was my help out board member for several years; he has loads of firsthand knowledge and experience to offer our district. In his previous 12 years on the board, he assisted in balancing 12 consecutive budgets. He utilized his financial expertise to help our district maintain a fund equity that protected our schools from the type of budget cuts that affected other districts. George objectively evaluated all issues that came before the board without prejudice or bias. He's an excellent listener and has always been extremely responsive to every question or concern presented to him by members of the community.

George is a candidate with great passion who is deeply involved in the educational interests of our Novi children. I've run into George at almost every school district function I've attended in the past eight years I've lived in Novi. From sporting events — cross-country meets, track meets, football games, even Novi's inaugural roller hockey game — to school musicals, plays, drug awareness workshops and so many more. He has even volunteered his time in the past as a "Book Buddy," helping struggling first-grade readers, in our district, improve their reading skills. George is a true professional. He is honest, ethical and knowledgeable, offering the financial acumen, and critical thinking skills we need to keep our Novi School District competitive during these difficult economic times. I'm voting for George Kortland and hope that you do, too.

Holly Bowne
Novi

Too much fat in bond proposal

The Novi School District has spent much time, effort and money on "getting the word out" concerning the bond proposal. While I do believe there is some merit to the proposal, I cannot vote for this proposal due to the added "fat." Are renovations needed at some of our elementary schools? Probably yes, but how much is too much? The proposal also has a \$1.3 million price tag for a "Big Brother" security system of cameras inside and outside of every school in the district. Don't you think our school district could find better ways of spending \$1.3 million? How about more paraprofessionals in the classrooms? How about adding more reading specialists which would equate to higher reading scores? How about reinstating some business classes at Novi High School, which have been out due to new math and science graduation requirements? Some technology upgrades are warranted. However, I question the \$6.7 million worth. We all want the best for our children, but Novi schools have better technology than many of our workplaces. Yes, technology changes, but is \$6.7 million fiscally practical? Lastly, I question the timing of this mid-year vote. Novi voters will again have the opportunity to consider a library expansion in the November elections; an improved library that directly affects ALL Novi citizens, young and old. Why isn't the school bond in November when a larger percentage of voters would decide? It is because more proponents than opponents tend to show up for mid-year elections? I hope we have a record turnout so everyone's voice is heard. Good people have worked on this committee. I recognize their efforts but cannot in good conscience vote for what I consider to

Laura J. Lorenzo
Novi

Vote for Bobbie Murphy

I am writing this letter to you in hopes that others can understand the commitment that Bobbie Murphy has to fulfill her endeavors. I got to know Bobbie when her son Scan and my son Koly played hockey together five years ago. I am a single mom with only one child, but I work two jobs and am very busy as my son is a three-sport athlete. Bobbie has a family of four kids and a husband that works for the Whalers. She is even busier than me, yet she was always willing to help me out picking up Koly from practice or whatever — and she always puts her children first. She will be a huge asset to the school board (as much as she is to the community) as she will have children in the school system for the next decade. She always works hard to do the right thing, make as many people happy as possible, and takes what is left for herself. She will be a big asset to the school board, and anyone that doesn't already know that doesn't know her. Vote for Bobbie Murphy. You won't be disappointed.

Cece Tiplon
Novi

Bond tax unnecessary

Deerfield Elementary has been

Schools are secure already

Part of the May 8 school bond asks for \$1.4 million for a security system that locks doors from a central location. All the doors at our children's schools are already locked except for the main entrance. When visitors enter the main entrance they are asked to sign in at the office. With the new system, will parents have to wait outside and be "buzzed in" when ever visiting schools or dropping off a forgotten lunch or backpack? Parents are an integral part of the education process and should be encouraged to come to the schools. They should not be treated like unwanted outsiders. When 866 parents at Novi Meadows responded to a survey last month, they "strongly agreed" to the statements "my child is safe at school" and "my child is safe going to and from school." With feedback like that, whose needs is the administration responding to? Yes, terrible stories are in the news, but would locked doors have prevented these situations from happening? If we are truly afraid, then perhaps the district should be looking at airport-like security complete with metal detectors. In February of this year, voters in Romeo, Southgate and Plymouth defeated bond proposals which included expensive security systems. Novi should do the same.

Christina Fadanello
Novi

PHOTO GALLERIES: See more

photographer John Heider's work at www.northvillerecord.com

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SPOTLIGHT ON ALLERGY & ASTHMA

Presented by Michael S. Rowe, M.D., F.A.C.P., C.P.I.
ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES FOR ASTHMA
You probably know how asthma treatments work on your airways. Do you know about alternative treatments that may help on other body systems, or with relaxation and stress management? An alternative treatment is defined as a treatment that has not been proven effective. This however does not mean it's not effective. It just hasn't been studied enough. You should be careful when using any alternative treatments, and it's a wide idea to discuss them with your allergy doctor. Some treatments include acupuncture, biofeedback, and chiropractic care. Others include hypnosis and meditation or yoga. Any activity that helps reduce stress and anxiety is going to be helpful in all areas of your life, so perhaps with your asthma, too. Though alternative treatments are sometimes worth considering, asthma sufferers should first see an asthma specialist, a medical doctor trained to diagnose and successfully treat the chronic inflammatory disease. Call the ALLERGY AND ASTHMA CENTER OF MICHIGAN for more information.

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Physical Therapy Rehabilitation Update

by Dennis Engerer, P.T.
DO YOU EXPERIENCE DIFFICULTY BATHING?
While most of us take our morning shower or bath for granted, a study involving adults with an average age of 80 found that most experienced difficulties bathing. These included problems falling, trouble getting into the bathtub, and bumping their legs on the sides of the bathtub or the threshold of the shower stall. In efforts to remedy these problems, many of the seniors studied performed such unsafe maneuvers as holding onto the shower door or towel bar for balance. One even resorting to utilizing a lawn chair as a shower seat. Needless to say, these practices are unsafe. If you (or someone you know) experiences difficulty using the bathroom, contact an occupational therapist, who can teach safe bathing methods. If you have questions about anything discussed in today's column, please call our office during business hours at 248.349.9339. We are conveniently located at 215 East Main, Suite B. New patients are welcome.

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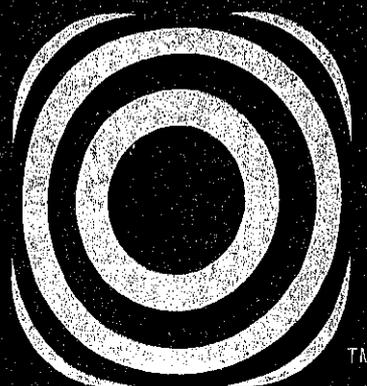
Time to bear down and work

My wife, Kathy, and I have a cabin way up north, in the Upper Peninsula. Like most summer places, it needs some work every now and then. For us, "then" is now. Two weeks ago, a big-time blizzard hit the U.P. It spanned 48 inches of snow in four days, and the waves on the south shore of Lake Superior were reportedly 20 feet high. Old timers called it the worst spring storm in recent memory. The carpenters working on our place were OK when the storm hit — the cabin was pretty much closed in, and they had heat. But when quieting time came, they were more than ready for a beer and a bowl of hot soup. So they piled into their trucks and mused their way down the snow-covered road back to town. Then, a couple miles down the road, they came to an enormous hemlock blown down right across the road, blocking their way. They didn't complain. They didn't wring their hands in fear. They didn't shake their heads, knowing they deserved better. They didn't whine. They didn't blame someone else, not even Lansing. No. They put on their mackintoshes and gloves, stepped back into the driving snow, got out their chain saws, cut the tree and cleared the damn road. That's what we Michiganers have always done when the weather gets bad ... or times get rough. We bear down!

Published by the Michigan-based accounting firm, Plante & Moran, the report provides in considerable detail the reasons to push aside our self-inflicted negativity and get optimistic about Michigan's future. One telling anecdote has to do with a conference of senior executives held in 2005. Speaker after speaker walked about the awful state of our economy and our dim future. Nobody realized that three big-shot entrepreneurs from California were in the room — that one was asked what they thought. "We feel like we've died and gone to heaven," the executive said. Their corporation had recently relocated to the Great Lakes area. They found an employee base with a tremendous work ethic where it was easy to find workers with the necessary skills. Not only was their workforce dependable, reliable and local, but workers focused on their jobs, no matter the weather. "What we found here is we don't worry if

we hear 'surf's up,'" said the executive. Ed Parks, a retired Plante & Moran managing partner, put the case for optimism this way: "The base of entrepreneurs, the base of knowing how to run small and medium-sized businesses, there's a lot of that in the Great Lakes area. These genes are born in these small towns; they have created a lot of white-collar and blue-collar jobs over the years." That's why he's optimistic. Think about it: Michigan has a lot of durable, distinctive assets that equip us very well to compete against other parts of the world — assets that can't be moved to some other place at the whim of a big corporation's board of directors. Everything starts with the Great Lakes. They hold a fifth of the world's entire supply of fresh water and offer remarkable environmental and recreational opportunities that provide a magnificent quality of life right at our back door. Our universities are among the best in the world. Our community college system is flexible and adaptive. If we nurture them and

This spring, think bright house



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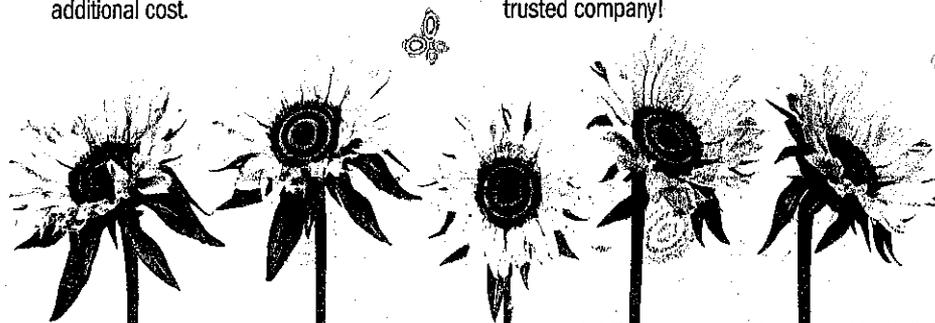
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Wildcat softball gets new coach 3B

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SPORTS SPOTLIGHT: ALL-AREA GYMNASTICS

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

ALL-AROUND BEST

■ Novi seniors end career for Wildcat gymnastics

By Jeff Theisen
RECORD SPORTS WRITER

Northville senior gymnast Julie Foucher finished in the top three in four events to finish as the Division II all-around champion.

While she wasn't the best in any particular event, Foucher showed she was the most polished gymnast in all events.

"To finish so successfully in each event and in the all-around takes not only impressive skills, especially at states where girls are throwing the big tricks, but probably most importantly — consistency," Northville head coach Erin McWatt said. "Sure, there were gymnasts at states who had more club experience — I won't lie, it's an advantage — and who threw bigger skills than Julie, but she was the one who put it all together that day, and that's by far the hardest part."

The ending capped a season that started with nothing more than uncertainty. With only a couple of girls returning, McWatt didn't even know if they were going to field a full team for each meet. But several new faces came out for the team, and the Mustangs formed into a team good enough to qualify for the state meet.

With Foucher being the only senior, she had a huge hand in providing the leadership needed to bring things together.

"She has a ton of competitive experience and was a great role model for our rookie gymnasts," McWatt said. "She showed them at every practice and competition what it was going to take to be great. For a very young team such as ours, her leadership was key."

McWatt said she expected Foucher to finish well at the state meet, but actually seeing it happen was extra special.

"The team got so excited when the announcer called out the fourth place finisher, and then the third, and neither of those names were Julie," McWatt said.

McWatt said she and another coach with the two remaining gymnasts in the running looked at each other, wondering who it was going to be.

"When (the second-placed girl's) name was called, I just looked at the girls and said, 'Oh my God, Julie!'" McWatt said. "Julie covered her mouth and started tearing up, and then when her name was called as the state champ, we all just went crazy. It was an amazing, fairy tale ending to her fabulous high school career."

"I can't think of another gymnast I've



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Northville Record

Mustang gymnast Julie Foucher saved her best for last in winning the Division II all-around championship.

coached who's more deserving than this young lady. She's a truly exceptional athlete and person and her teammates and I are thrilled for her."

All-Area Team

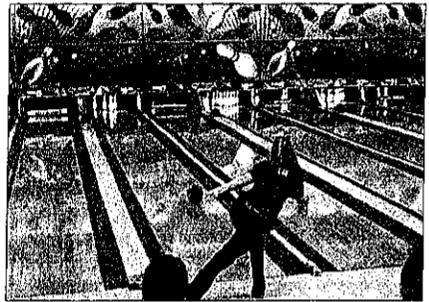
Joining Foucher at the state meet were teammates sophomore Amy Reynolds and freshman MaKenna Pohl. The two are also on

the All-Area First Team.

Reynolds' top finish came on the floor, with a 9.150 for eighth place. She also placed 12th on the beam with a 8.850 and finished 17th in the all-around.

"I saw a new confidence in Amy this year, after a year of high school competition under

See **ALL-AREA GYMNASTICS, 2B**



Submitted photo

Milford's Jenna Law tries to convert a spare shot.

Striking Law

■ Wildcats' Danielson makes 1st Team

By Patrick Pinter
SPORTS WRITER

If the past two years were any indicator then the chances that 2007 girls' individual bowling state champion in Division I was going to come from either Milford or Lakeland was fairly good.

History proved to be a good fortune letter as Milford sophomore Jenna Law captured the Division I individual state title. Her win made it two consecutive years a Milford bowler took home the top flight title and the third straight year a bowler from the Kensington Valley Conference took home the title.

"She got very focused as the year went on," said Milford head bowling coach Keith Guertin. "In the second half of the season she figured it out and really cranked it up."

Only being a sophomore Law might have been viewed as a dark horse to take home the state title since both former champs Jessica Guertin and Addeleen Pointer were both back in the fold. Law qualified just three spot and 15 pins above the cut line during qualifying block scoring with a score of 1229.

"It was a huge surprise," said Guertin. "That is a good way to put it. At the state meet she started a little slow, but as the day went on she just kept getting stronger. Jenna didn't have an easy rode. She beat some major players."

In the round of 16 Law took down teammate Emily Bowers in two games by scores of 245-227 and 214-192. In the quarterfinals Law defeated Kristin Ball of Taylor Kennedy in two games. The semifinals proved to be

All-Area Bowling

Bowler of the Year — Jenna Law, Milford sophomore

First Team

- Evan Danielson, Novi senior
- Mike Erlingis, CC junior
- Conor Milroy, CC senior
- Mike Horton, OG senior
- Raachel Ringrose, South Lyon
- Josh Harper, South Lyon
- Emily Bowers, Milford
- Jessica Guertin, Milford
- Andy Derisley, Milford
- Doug Farmer, Lakeland
- Chase Siburt, Lakeland
- Addeleen Pointer, Lakeland
- Honorable Mention**
- Bryan Bivins, Novi junior
- Leslie Brown, Novi so.
- Alex Dinsler, Novi junior
- Kyle Bridges, CC senior
- Chelsea Allen, South Lyon
- Robert Dranginis, South Lyon
- Bill Anderson, South Lyon
- Michele Heikkinen, S. Lyon
- Tori Brown, Milford
- Matt Aumann, Milford
- Tommy Coyle, Milford
- Jeff Klego, Lakeland
- Nick Weak, Lakeland
- Craig Reid, Lakeland

Law's toughest match during her drive to a state title. Law trailed 1-0 after game one, but rebounded by winning the final two game to move on to the title match.

In the finals she took on Teri Broughton of Sterling Heights Stevenson. Law captured the title in two games by bowling back-to-back scored over 200. Law cemented her win with an impressive 241 in game two to

See **BOWLING, 2B**

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

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NOVI NEWS Athlete of the Week

Novi sophomore Mark Heard, Baseball

Heard continues to shine on the mound for the Wildcats, collecting his second win of the year Saturday against Country Day, allowing just one hit and no earned runs in five innings. He has yet to allow an earned run in two starts.



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ALL-AREA GYMNASTICS: Two Novi girls finish out Wildcat career by competing with Farmington

continued from front
her belt," McWatt said. "She improved her skills over the summer and throughout the season, and she also developed into a great leader for her team."
Pohl showed she was ready for high-level competition, despite being just a freshman.
In Division I, she finished 11th on the bars with a 9.175.
"MaKenna is going to be a key

all-around competitor for us in her next three years," McWatt said. "She also participates in club gymnastics and has experienced high-pressure competitive situations, which is an advantage."
"I'm expecting great things from MaKenna."
Also on the All-Area team are Novi's two gymnasts: Jacqueline Gazette and Jill Guffey.
The two competed as Wildcats, but they worked the whole season

with the Farmington team and head coach Jeff Dwyer. The girls were allowed to compete with the Farmington team, and will be the final two gymnasts to perform as Wildcats, unless the program is revived, unless the program is revived, unless the program is revived.
"You got two gymnast who have done gymnastics since they were 4 or 5," Dwyer said. "They had the opportunity to finish out their career. I know that meant a lot to both of the girls."

Gazette had her season cut short before regionals when she broke her leg while performing a floor routine.
"She had the potential to be All-State in the all-around," Dwyer said. "She broke her leg three weeks before regionals. That was a very sad story."
"She would average a 9.0 on every event. Her best event was the vault, where she would average about a 9.2."
Guffey also performed all-

around and was steady in almost every event.
"Her best event was balance beam. She would average in the high 8s," Dwyer said.
"They're both very hard working, dedicated gymnasts, and as a coach, that was nice."
Jeff Theisen can be reached at jtheisen@gannett.com or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Novi baseball splits with Country Day

Submitted to the Novi News

The Novi Varsity Baseball Team traveled to Detroit Country Day on Saturday to play a doubleheader. Once again, the weatherman may have played a role in the outcome as they came away with a split on a very cold and windy day.

Game One: DCD 10, Novi 9 (eight innings)

Both Novi's and DCD's pitching staff were affected by the cold and windy weather all day as evidenced by combining for a total of 30 walks on the day.
Novi took an early lead in game one with some timely hitting by Tyler Scott and Pat Schlenke, who both knocked in two RBIs. However, Novi could not hold on to the lead as DCD forced the game into extra innings.
In the top of the eighth, Novi scored two runs to take the lead. Phil Celeksi led off with a single and was moved to third by a beautiful sacrifice bunt laid down by Danny Kilger.

Catch Rick Green continued with his small-ball theme while attempting to get the go-ahead run in. Green called for a suicide squeeze, and Brandon Schwanz executed it to perfection to bring in the run from third. Mark Heard followed with an RBI single which gave Novi a two-run lead. However, DCD came back in the bottom of the eighth to score three runs for the win.

Brett Glover and Heard also collected RBI baschits for the

Cats. Matt Hohenshil (double), Danny Pilgiam, Schwanz and Andy Harrington also had hits for Novi.

The pitching staff of Scott, Mike Place and Schwanz gave it their best given the windy and cold conditions. Schwanz carried the majority of the load pitching 5 1/3 innings.

Game Two: Novi 13, CD 3 (five innings)

After losing the first-game marathon, the Cat's came out in the second game with a chip on their shoulder and decided to get the fans out of the cold weather early in this one by merrily merrily DCD in five innings.
Mike Slack (2 singles, 2 RBIs, 3 stolen bases), Scott (single, double, 4 RBIs) and Phil Celeksi (single, double, 2 RBIs) provided most of the firepower for Novi. Garrett Green and Schlenke also knocked in runs with base hits.

Danny Enright sparked a six run third inning by leading off with a line shot base hit into the gap in right center. Also collecting one of Novi's 11 hits were Place and Danny Pilgiam.

Heard pitched another gem to earn his second win. He held DCD to one hit and no earned runs through five innings. He also struck out two. In his first two starts Heard has not given up an earned run and has yielded only two hits.

Novi had 12 stolen bases on the day, led by Slack with three. Schlenke and Schwanz with two.



Novi's Ryan Figurski keeps an eye on the Milford shortstop as he rounds second base.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

BOWLING: Novi's Danielson on First Team

continued from front

close the door on Broughton. Law will have a chance to comeback and defend her title along with helping the Mavericks earn their first state title.
"It is going to be a big bonus having her back next year," said Garcia. "We only lose one player so she is going to comeback and

play an even bigger role for us next year."

First Team

The All-Area First Team includes Novi senior Eyan Danielson, who handled the big shots for the Wildcats all year.

"He was our anchor so he's the one making the last shot for us," Novi head coach John Osborne said. "He came through for us. He was strong all season-long for us."

Also included on the First Team are Catholic Central junior (tenth at state), senior Mike Horton (22nd at state) and senior Connor Milroy. South Lyon's Reached Ringrose and Josh Harper.

Milford's Emily Bowers, Jessica Garcia and Andy Derisley; and Lakeland's Doug Farmer, Chase Siburt and Adilcen Pointer.

Honorable Mention

Area bowlers earning Honorable Mention include Novi junior Bryan Bivins, junior Alex Dinsor and sophomore Leslie Brown; Catholic Central senior Kyle Bridges; Terri Brown, Matt Aumann and Tommy Coyle from Milford; Jeff Klego, Nick Weak and Craig Reid from Lakeland; and Chelsea Allen, Robert Dranginis, Bill Anderson and Michele Heikkinen from South Lyon.

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Sport Shorts

Novi Wildcat basketball camps

Novi boys basketball coach Pat Schlieter is hosting three summer basketball camps.

The boys basketball camp for grades 2-5 will run 8:30 a.m.-noon and grades 6-9 will be 1-4:30 p.m. July 18-22 at Novi Middle School. Cost of the camp is \$140 and will include all aspects of basketball and player development. Participants will also receive a T-shirt and outdoor basketball.

The boys and girls shooting camp for grades 2-5 will run 12:30-2 p.m. and for grades 6-9 2:15-3:45 p.m. July 23-27 at the Novi Middle School. The camp costs \$68 and will concentrate on all shooting aspects with awards being given to contest winners.

The boys and girls K-2 camp will run 8:30-10 a.m. for one class and 10:15-11:45 for another class July 23-27 at the Novi Middle School. The cost is \$68 for each class and will teach the basic skills of basketball.

Gym clothes and gym shoes are required for all camps.

Registration begins April 16 by calling Novi Community Education at (248) 449-1206.

All-Area 4-Star Basketball Camp

Novi basketball head coach Pat Schlieter is teaming up with South Lyon head coach Daren Clayton to run the All-Area 4-Star Basketball Camp at Livonia Stevenson High School.

The first camp is for boys entering grades 3-6 from 8:30-noon with boys entering grades 7-8 from 1-4:30 p.m. July 9-13.

Novi Lady Wildcats basketball camp

The Novi basketball camp run by for girls in grades two through nine will take place June 18-22.

An emphasis will be placed on all game phases including dribbling, shooting, pivoting, faking, rebounding, team play, sportsmanship, and an introduction to the Lady Wildcats offensive and defensive schemes. Gym clothes and shoes are required. All participants will receive a T-shirt and outdoor basketball.

The camp for grades 2-5 will run from 8:30 a.m. to noon each day in the fieldhouse. The camp for grades 6-9 will run from 1-4:30 p.m.

The camp is run by Wildcat head coach Bill Kelly.

The fee is \$140, and registration begins April 16 by calling Novi Community Education at (248) 449-1206.

Green hosts baseball camp

Rick Green and the Novi Wildcat baseball team are conducting another baseball camp (only outdoors this time) on Saturday, April 28 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Novi High School field for players ages 7-14.

The cost is \$50. Checks should

Schoolcraft Names Henry Basketball Coach

Randy Henry, men's basketball coach at Detroit's Renaissance High School for the 2006-07 season, has accepted the men's head coaching position at Schoolcraft College. His record for the past season was 19-4.

"I'm excited about the new challenge," said Henry. "It's a chance to work with young men at the next level. Schoolcraft is a tremendous place to field a program, with a great history."

Sid Fox, Schoolcraft director of athletics, was equally enthusiastic. "Randy, by virtue of his vast experience in coaching basketball, brings to the table instant credibility and a flawless character that will catapult our program to new and innovative heights."

In particular, his unquestionable regard and attention to human values as being paramount to the success of our program will definitely set us apart from other two-year institutions. As a veteran coach, Randy clearly understands the importance of graduation rates and the practical implications for student success.

Henry's appointment is effective immediately, and he plans to begin recruiting efforts at once. Schoolcraft has four players returning for the 2007-08 season, and Henry said he will be seeking another seven or eight players.

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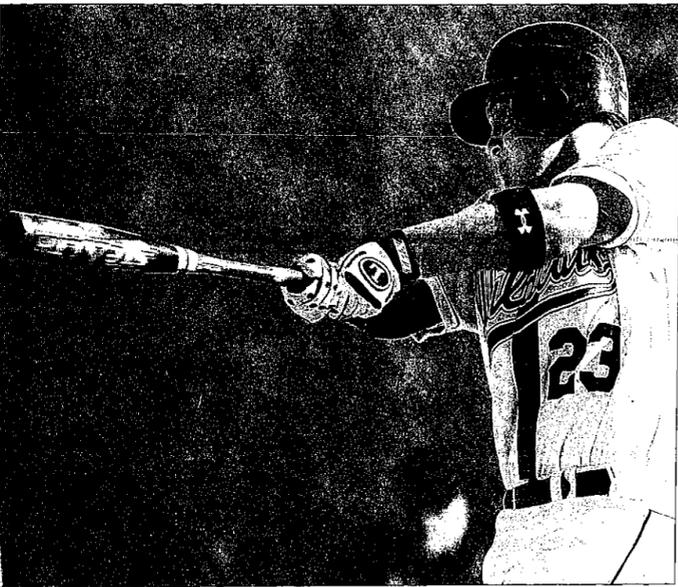
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Novi News



Wildcat Phillip Celeksi takes a cut at pitch during a Novi home game hosted in early April.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Lulek takes over Wildcat softball

By Jeff Theisen
NEWS SPORTS WRITER

Former successful Ladywood softball coach Robert Lulek has changed his hat to the Novi Wildcat.

He will try to revive a program that hasn't been able to break through into the KVC elite.

"I'm taking over a program that I don't know a lot from in the past, but I know they didn't win a lot," Lulek said. "I do believe we've got some talent."

With the players and Lulek being new to each other, Lulek does expect it to take some time before each side has the other figured out.

"I think once we get to the second half of the season and the kids finally feel comfortable with my system, I think we'll surprise some people," he said.

The new style will feature a lot of small ball on offense — bunting and slap-hitting.

"In our league, you better be able to play a small-ball game or you will get chewed up," Lulek said. "I mix it up, but we definitely know how to play the small-ball game."

overnight."

Players that have provided some punch early in the season include senior first baseman Amanda Diacono, sophomore second baseman Lauren Sheilar and senior pitcher Brittany Laska.

Speed appears to be an early strength for the Wildcats.

Lulek said the toughest thing that will have to be worked on is looking past the previous play — no letting one error lead to another and another. He is more concerned with mental and physical improvement throughout his team.

"My toughest job is going to be teaching them they can be good if they overcome the mental collapse that we've been doing," Lulek said. "We've got to make them understand they are a pretty good club — don't melt over one mistake."

But being in the KVC isn't going to provide many easy wins.

"There's a lot of talent in our league," Lulek said. "This is probably the toughest league I've coached in."

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

SKIING: Lakeland's Janssen on top of the hill

By Patrick Pinter
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Lakeland junior Justin Janssen put together a dominating season on the slopes. In every meet he competed in this year, his name could be found near the top of the standings.

Janssen, the 2007 All-Area Player of the Year, was heads and shoulders above the competition this year. He took a fifth place finish in the Giant Slalom at the state finals in Marquette. At the regional competition he took fourth in the GS and first in the slalom.

His accolades didn't end there. At divisionals he took second in both the GS and slalom. At the Kensington Valley Championships he took second in the GS and first in the slalom.

He finished the season earning All State-First Team, All-Region Team, All-League Team, All-Conference Team and All-Division Team honors.

Other boys earning All-Area honors included South Lyon's Jeff Thompson. Garrett Gelfand and Jeff Beagle. Thompson earned All League, All Region and All State honors this year. He also took home the GS title at the Kensington Valley Conference Championships. At the state finals he took 11th in GS.

Gelfand was a state qualifier this year, and he took 10th at the league championships in the GS. Beagle took 10th in the GS during the season in the KVC. At the league championships he took 15th.

Lakeland boys earning All-Area honors were Drew Fire and Mike Smallegan. Far Milford Alec Magaluk and Jack Boyd received All-Area honors.

On the girls side Maverick skier Lauren Moser, the 2007 All-Area Player of the Year, earned top five finishes in both the GS and slalom at the divisional and regional meets this year. She also took home a second place finish at the KVC meet in the GS.

"She was absolutely outstanding this season. She really came out for us this year," said Milford head ski coach Many Neighbors.

"She skied with a whole lot of heart. She had a very tremendous season."

At the state finals she helped guide Milford to a fifth place finish. She finished second on the team in the GS and first on the team in the slalom at the finals. Her slalom time of 1:35.58 was good enough for 15th place.

"She is a slalom specialist that is exceptionally quick," said Neighbors. "She is a wonderful skier, but an even better person. I

All-Area Skiing

Boys

Skier of the Year — Justin Janssen, Lakeland

All-Area
Mark Dawson, OC junior
Derek Turowski, CC so.

Alec Magaluk, Milford
Jack Boyd, Milford

Jeff Thompson, South Lyon
Garrett Gelfand, South Lyon

Jeff Beagle, South Lyon
Drew Fire, Lakeland

Mike Smallegan, Lakeland

Girls

Skier of the Year — Lauren Moser, Milford

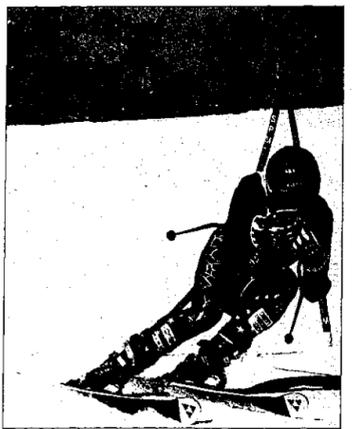
All-Area
Amy Lecureux, South Lyon
Christina Ballo, South Lyon

Kelli Vanderbaan, Milford
Kara Vanderbaan, Milford

Emily Brown, Milford
Kelly Dearing, Lakeland

Rachel Hogarth, Lakeland

Submitted photo



Lakeland junior Justin Janssens races down the hill.

sophomore Derek Turowski. The South Lyon Herald. He can be reached by phone at (248) 683-1507 ext. 25 or by e-mail at pinter@gannett.com.

Patrick Pinter is a sports reporter for the Milford Times and

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 4B

Thursday, April 19, 2006

Home Owners Do You Know... WHY MOISTURE CONTROL IN CRAWL SPACES IS SO IMPORTANT?



We all know that crawl spaces are often overlooked or not given much attention by home-owners. However, moisture in crawl spaces can have serious negative effects

on the home's structure as well as the health of the family that lives there.

Moisture in crawl spaces is a common problem that can contribute to rotted sills and rim joists, and insect infestation if not controlled. It has also been associated with health issues that can accompany mold, mildew, and other problem organisms. Your crawl space can be inspected and identify the true conditions and issues which may be unknown to the home owner.

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO CONTROL MOISTURE?

There are a number of steps that can be taken to reduce moisture levels in crawl spaces. Some items to consider are as follows:

- Grading - Ideally, the crawl space grade should be higher than the outside surface grade, and grading around the home's perimeter should always slope away from the foundation
- Ventilation - Especially in colder climates, crawl spaces should be ventilated to allow air to circulate in the crawl and help remove moisture
- Vapor barriers - depending on the climate, using a vapor barrier on crawl space floors will aid in controlling excess moisture. However in some cases it can also promote mildew/mold development.
- Vent wells - Vent wells should be used if foundation vents to the crawlspace are fully or partially below grade
- Downspouts should be directed away from foundation to ensure water run off is moved away from wall and prevent water penetration into the crawlspace.
- If you house does not have downspouts and you have a crawl, then it is recommended that gutters and downspouts are installed to move roof water run off away from foundation walls. This is also true for home with basements

VENTED OR CLOSED CRAWL SPACES?

There has been considerable debate in many areas about the benefits and disadvantages of vented vs. closed crawl spaces. Some building codes, particularly in warm, humid climates, have been moving toward requiring closed spaces. Research continues on this topic at both local and national levels. In our area the rule of thumb has been to vent crawlspaces if they are unheated. This also requires that heat duct in untreated areas be insulated to help improve the heating efficiency for the home on a vented crawl. For homes with heated crawl spaces the process would be to not vent the crawlspace and ensure the walls of the crawl are properly insulated.

The picture below was taken in a crawlspace. Look at how wet the block foundation wall is and also the fact that the plastic vapor barrier installed is holding the water from the leak like a little pond in the crawlspace. At least it was ventilated.



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Dayn Benson, owner of My Handyman in Ann Arbor, operates a crew of uniformed technicians who handle customers' home and commercial building to-do lists in Livingston, Washtenaw, southwestern Oakland and western Wayne counties.

Get it done right, on time, for a good price

By Cynthia Grochowski
SPECIAL SECTIONS

It's a trustworthy, professional service people from all walks of life call on when faced with tasks that may require a shovel or hammer, require paintbrushes, necessitate experience with plumbing, electrical fixtures or power tools and, more importantly, time and experience.

From retirees to celebrities, people have discovered they can pick up the phone and call My Handyman to take care of a host of repair and maintenance jobs around the home or office.

Dayn Benson, owner of My Handyman in Ann Arbor, operates a crew of four full-time and two part-time technicians who handle customers' to-do lists in Livingston, Washtenaw, southwestern Oakland and western Wayne counties.

"Each uniformed technician has at least 20 years of professional experience and arrives at a client's location in a marked truck at the promised time," Benson said.

Each technician has passed a criminal, motor vehicle and drug background check. My Handyman is fully licensed and insured.

With more and more people having less time to devote to home repair and maintenance, My Handyman is a dream come true.

"A lot of people can't find a stud in the wall or need minor painting," Benson explained. "If someone wants a new exterior door installed, trim carpentry or a ceiling fan wired, we can do that."

If a client needs minor work on plumbing, electrical and carpentry, three professionals are not needed — just a My Handyman technician.

"We can do the trim carpentry, fix the drywall and move the light fixtures," Benson said.

To paint an entire house or repair an appliance, a different type of service would be needed, but to paint a room or move an appliance, My Handyman fits the bill.

"We are one of the few contractors that will finish other people's projects,"

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Benson remarked. "Sometimes owners get in over their heads — like drywalling a basement, or putting in closet organizers. We can come in and finish the job."

My Handyman will also pull permits if necessary.

"A lot of our customers just want us to handle it," Benson explained.

It is not unusual for a client to have items waiting in layaway and ask My Handyman to haul them to the worksite and then complete the installation.

"If you've got it, we will install it for you," Benson said. "Most people do not have the proper vehicles to haul doors and such."

Many times a home improvement necessity comes when least expected — and My Handyman has no problem responding promptly.

"We get a lot of calls from people just getting back from the hospital," Benson said. "They need rails in their shower, for instance."

It is this responsiveness and reliability that people appreciate.

"We can usually respond to a need in 72 hours," Benson said.

My Handyman works on the outside as well. Gutter cleaning and caulking are one of the many common honey-do outdoor projects My Handyman can take care of.

Minor landscaping can also be handled, such as sloping dirt away from a building to flow rainwater away from a building's



My Handyman technicians, like Mike Morton, have at least 20 years professional experience in home repair and are appreciated by customers for their reliability and responsiveness.

foundation. Commercial businesses call upon My Handyman for their own to-do lists.

Offices call to install whiteboards, grocery stores and coffee shops call for display setups.

"National brand stores that care about their image use us a lot," Benson said. "When they think of us — it is because we are reliable and we stand behind what we do — we do what we say we are going

to do and when we are going to do it." It isn't about doing the quickest, least expensive job with My Handyman.

"We want our customers to get the best value they can. We pride ourselves on doing what we do well," Benson explained.

My Handyman has a 2-hour minimum, with prices averaging \$80 an hour. "Most of the work comes with a coupon," Benson explained.

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