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**Born on the 4th of July**

Lee BeGole celebrates 88 years of life, accomplishments

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

The Fourth of July is a day of celebration for many, as people watch fireworks and have barbecues with friends and family in celebration of the nation's Independence Day. For Lee BeGole, the day also features cake.

BeGole, who was the first notion of public safety in Novi, turned 88 tomorrow. He plans to spend the holiday on his brother George's farm in Shiawassee County.

"Firecrackers weren't for me. It's always a big day and the police department used to have a party for me every year," he said.

BeGole began his public service career as a Wayne County Sheriff's Patrol officer in 1946 and patrolled the Plymouth and Northville region south of Eight Mile Road and as far east as Redford.

"When I got out of the army, I briefly served with Wayne County. I got to know a lot of people in Plymouth and Northville Township," he said of the patrol job he performed while taking classes at the University of Detroit Law School. "I decided I better quit law school or quit the road patrol, so I quit the road patrol."

One of the people he met was then-Novi Township Supervisor Frazer Slaman.

**Answering a need**

Slaman told BeGole about the current public safety

Please see **Born on the 4th of July, 4A**

Lee BeGole, photographed at Novi United Methodist Church after attending a recent Rotary Club meeting. The former Novi police chief was born on the Fourth of July.



A Novi fire fighter battles a city barn fire last Friday.

**Novi barn fire probe continues**

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

Officials are still investigating the cause of a fire that burned a Novi barn to the ground Friday evening, said Novi Fire Chief Frank Smith.

The barn, located at 42000 13 Mile Road, just east of Novi Road, was not inhabited by animals or attached to any other structure, Smith said.

"It did bring down a Detroit Edison line behind the barn and there was a power outage for a short while Friday evening," he said. "Edison was on the scene shortly after 9 p.m. and power

was expected to be back on by midnight."

Smith said residents of Hometown Novi Mobile Home Park, located northeast of the barn, were among the community members who experienced power outages Friday evening.

There is a house for sale on the property, but no residents were on the scene at the time of the fire.

"It got going and just went to the ground," Smith said of the structure.

The 911 call came in at 8:07 p.m. and the first unit was on scene within five minutes, Smith said. The fire was done burning at about 8:50 p.m.

**Novi's two chamber boards support group unification**

**Voting deadline for members today**

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

If all goes according to plan, the Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce and the Novi Chamber will officially merge into the Novi Chamber of Commerce of Novi today.

"Once both chambers have accepted (the merger and bylaws) it's immediate," said Bob Thorne, chairman and president of the Novi Chamber of Commerce. Board members of both cham-

bers approved the changes to the bylaws and voted in support of the merger last week. Currently, both organizations are awaiting membership approval.

"I believe it's going to pass relatively simply," said Keith Kuhn, chairman of the Greater Novi Chamber.

Following town hall-style meetings held last week, both chambers sent out the proposed bylaws to members, pending approval for an official merger between the two organizations.

"I've got nothing but positive responses," Thorne said. "Not one dissenting opinion I've got from anyone."

In trying to meet their goal of dissolving the Greater Novi Chamber by July 12, members have until

today to cast their votes via e-mail regarding the potential merger.

"It just gave us a goal," Kuhn said of the July 12 date. "We have to close up our books, file papers and tally the votes."

Today is also the deadline for members of the Novi Chamber to vote by e-mail, fax or in person at the member meeting from 5-7 p.m. at Andiamo.

Major changes outlined in the bylaws include the board of directors, which will include 24 members, split equally among the two chambers' current board members.

Each of the chambers will designate 12 of their own board members to serve on the Novi Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, which will be composed of 12 voting and 12 ex-offi-

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cial, non-voting, directors.

Also split evenly among the existing organizations will be the executive committee, which will be composed of eight members, four with voting rights.

"It's a complete melding of the two," said Whitney McClellan Stone, executive director of the Greater Novi Chamber.

The idea of a dual directorship, as opposed to one executive direc-

tor, has also been proposed for the Novi Chamber, with McClellan Stone serving as the director of operations alongside Linda Day, director of marketing and administration.

"We want the two of them to work together as a team," Thorne said.

However, for 90 days following the official merger, Thorne will serve as the temporary, unpaid executive director of the combined Novi Chamber. Once the 90 days are up, Thorne said the board will review everything and decide if they want to move someone into that position or extend his tenure.

"Everybody's on the same page, it's just figuring out how we can get from A to B," McClellan Stone said. "I want to keep the energy we (the

Greater Novi Chamber) have. I think it's extremely positive."

The transition for members should be relatively simple, with the length of membership and dues paid, rolling over to the newly combined chamber.

The Greater Novi Chamber was formed two years ago by a group of business people who were not pleased with the direction the Novi Chamber of Commerce was taking at that time. Officials of both organizations said issues of the past have since been resolved.

Kuhn said he is not aware of another community in southeastern Michigan with two chambers.

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**NOV WEEKEND PLANNER**

**FRIDAY**  
Happy Fourth of July! Fireworks are needed, but, with the Michigan 50's Festival still three weeks away, a drive to nearby Whitmore Lake will be the best answer. Whitmore Lake is hosting a free fireworks display at dusk. The city is located off US-23, lined up at about Eight Mile Road. Looking for something closer? Wolverine Lake is hosting a free Tiki Night and Fireworks display Thursday. Wolverine Lake is located just north of Maple Road, off Benstein Road. Check [www.michiganfireworks.com](http://www.michiganfireworks.com) for other city's availability. Novi city services, library and senior center transportation are closed Friday.

**SATURDAY**  
Spend the fifth day of the month at 5th Avenue Ballroom, 25750 Novi Road, as DJ Miguel M spins the hits from 10 p.m.-2 a.m. There's a \$5 cover charge from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Call (248) 735-4011 for more information.

**SUNDAY**  
The holiday weekend is a common reason for families to head to the movie theater. The air conditioned interior is another reason on a warm July day. Head to Imagine Novi, 44425 W. 12 Mile Road, to see the weekend's biggest box office draw, "Hancock," which stars Will Smith ("Men in Black," "Independence Day") as a superhero who's lost his way and his public image. Sure to boast a mix of humor and action, follow Hancock as he tries to redeem himself in the public eye. Call (888) 319-FILM for show times.

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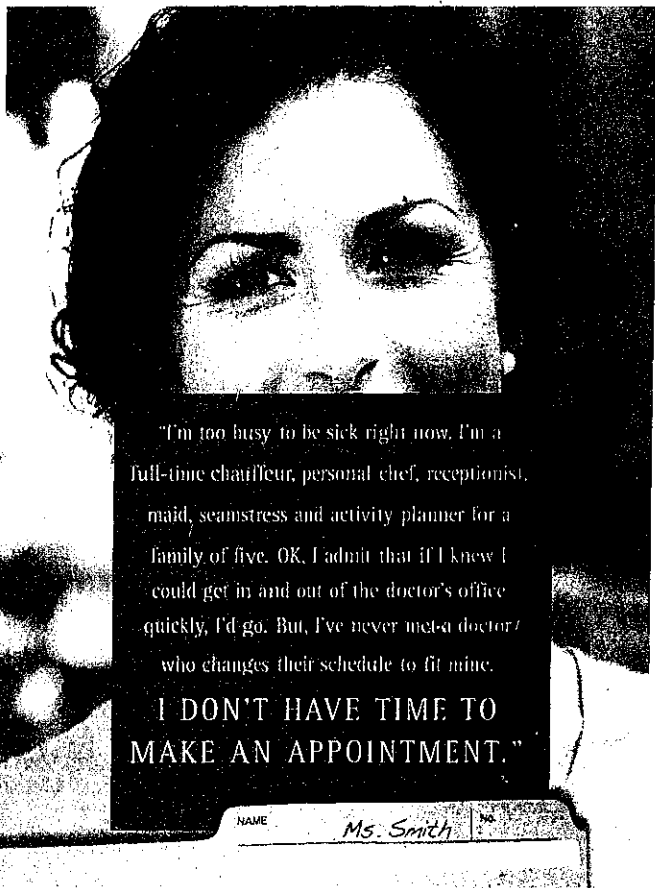
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*"I'm too busy to be sick right now. I'm a full-time chauffeur, personal chef, receptionist, maid, seamstress and activity planner for a family of five. OK, I admit that if I knew I could get in and out of the doctor's office quickly, I'd go. But, I've never met a doctor who changes their schedule to fit mine."*

**I DON'T HAVE TIME TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT.**

NAME Ms. Smith

### My Novi, briefly

#### Registration deadline near for August primary

Secretary of State Tom Lynn Land reminds residents that Monday, July 7, is the last day to register to vote in the Aug. 5 primary election. To register, people must be at least 18 years old by Election Day and be U.S. residents. They must also be residents of Michigan and of the city or township in which they wish to register. Voters may register in person or by mail. The mail-in form is on the Department of State Web site at [www.Michigan.gov/sos](http://www.Michigan.gov/sos). First-time voters who register by mail must vote in person in their first election, unless they hand-deliver the application to their local clerk, are 60 years old or older, are disabled or are overseas. To check their registration status, voters may visit the Michigan Voter Information Center at [www.Michigan.gov/vote](http://www.Michigan.gov/vote). Voters are again reminded of the identification requirement. They will be asked to present photo ID at the polls, such as a Michigan driver's license or identification card.

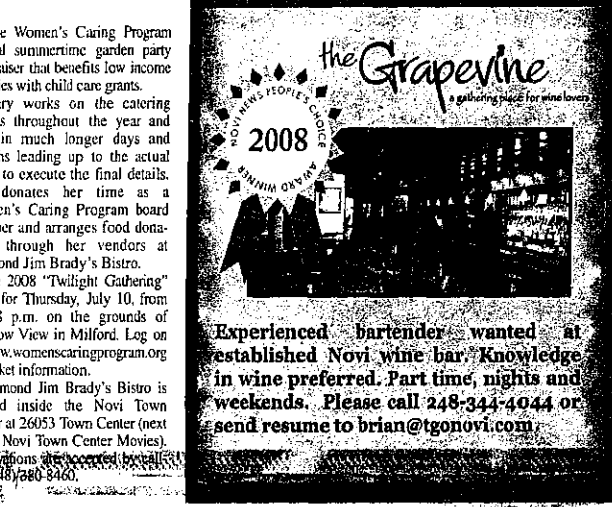
#### Bright House Networks continues launching HD channels

Bright House Networks announced that one out of two of its Digital Video customers now enjoys the provider's HD offerings. Most of the six Bright House divisions have recently announced additions to their HD programming and channel lineup. Bright House will add more channels and hundreds of hours of programming throughout this year. New HD channels include a wide variety of products that range from movies to lifestyle and family viewing. While launch dates, channel locations and specific channel additions vary from market to market, BHN continues to honor its pledge to add new HD product across all of its geographical locations. The new HD channels for the Detroit Division, set to launch by the end of July, will be Discovery HD, Animal Planet HD, The Learning Channel HD, History HD, Science HD, HGTV HD and Food HD. These channels will be added to Bright House Network's HD Basic lineup at no additional charge to digital video customers. MGM

HD will be added to the optional HD Package, which features HD-SD content from HD Net, HD Net Movies, MGM, Universal HD and HD Showcase On Demand for a \$6.95 monthly subscription. "As the number of HD programming services continues to expand, Bright House Networks is continuing to invest in its infrastructure to ensure our customers have access to quality HD programming well into the future. While HD is important now, we know that there will be additional enticing products available in the future. We are poised to easily offer a wide array of services," said BHN Corporate Executive Vice President of Cable Operations Kevin Hyman.



**Now That's Imagination!**  
Camp Invention camper John Stainbrook tears apart a radio to create a "laser zapper" during last week's imagination-fueled week at Novi Middle School. Campers were encouraged to bring in old appliances and electronics, which they were allowed to open up and re-purpose into new gadgets and creations.



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Victoria Mitchell, editor  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
[vmitchell@gannett.com](mailto:vmitchell@gannett.com)

# MY NOVI COMMUNITY

Thursday, July 3, 2008  
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## Kroger ground beef recalled, residents react

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

Kroger shoppers who purchased ground beef in the past two months should check their freezers as a recall has been issued for all products with sell-by dates between May 21 and June 8.

The recall follows 35 reports of E. coli-bred illness to Michigan and Ohio shoppers. Since the recall was issued last Wednesday, an additional 12 reports are being investigated between the two states. There were three confirmed reports in Oakland County, 16 total in Michigan.

E. coli is a bacterial infection that can cause stomach cramps, vomiting, diarrhea and, in extreme cases, kidney failure or death. "If you have ground beef in the freezer that you are the least concerned about, please bring it back and we will refund your money," said Dale Hollandsworth, the Michigan spokesman for Cincinnati-based Kroger Co. The grocery company uses several large suppliers for more than 2,470 stores in 31 states.

The United States Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced Monday Nebraska Beef, Ltd., is responsible for the Class 1, High Health risk recall of 531,707 pounds of ground beef components contaminated with E. coli. "We're working with them by providing any and all records that we have relative to that," he said. "This is critical not just to Kroger, but to the food industry."

The Novi Kroger store on the northwest corner of Beck Road and Grand River Avenue had a sign posted on the side of the beef display area last Friday informing shoppers about the recall and reminding them to clean, separate and chill to ensure proper food safety. It also said to call (800) 632-6900 with questions. "I wished they would've put something out earlier because

people shop every day," said shopper Deborah Taylor, a Southfield resident who works in Novi. "I was going to eat some of the other day and now I have to bring it back."

Shoppers said they heard about the recall through television Tuesday, but the information should've been relayed sooner through other mediums such as radio.

Novi resident Laura Lilac-Tate said she doesn't eat much red meat, but her kids do. "I do get it for my kids, so I'm going to be concerned," she said, adding that she's trying to purchase ground chicken and ground

turkey alternatives now. "You don't hear too much about ground chicken and turkey recalls." She said she was also concerned about the recent tomato scare and stopped serving tomatoes with her family's salads. Kroger and health officials said none of the infected products remain in stores, but do encourage shoppers to check their freezers for any and all ground beef products with sell-by dates between May 21 and June 8.


Fourteen of the 35 confirmed cases of E. coli infection resulted in hospitalization, including one Michigan resident treated for kidney failure who was later released. Products currently in stores should be safe to purchase, Hollandsworth said. "The health department has done several testings and samplings to make sure that the ground beef is safe," he said.

Cooking ground beef to an internal temperature of at least 160 degrees Fahrenheit kills potential bacteria.

Contact Chris Jackett at [cjackett@gannett.com](mailto:cjackett@gannett.com) or (248) 349-1700, ext. 122. Gannett News Service contributed to this report.



**Dairy Doings**  
Novi resident Naomi Kantor and friends help milk a cow at Kensington Farm last week, part of a series of summer activities for children at the metropark.



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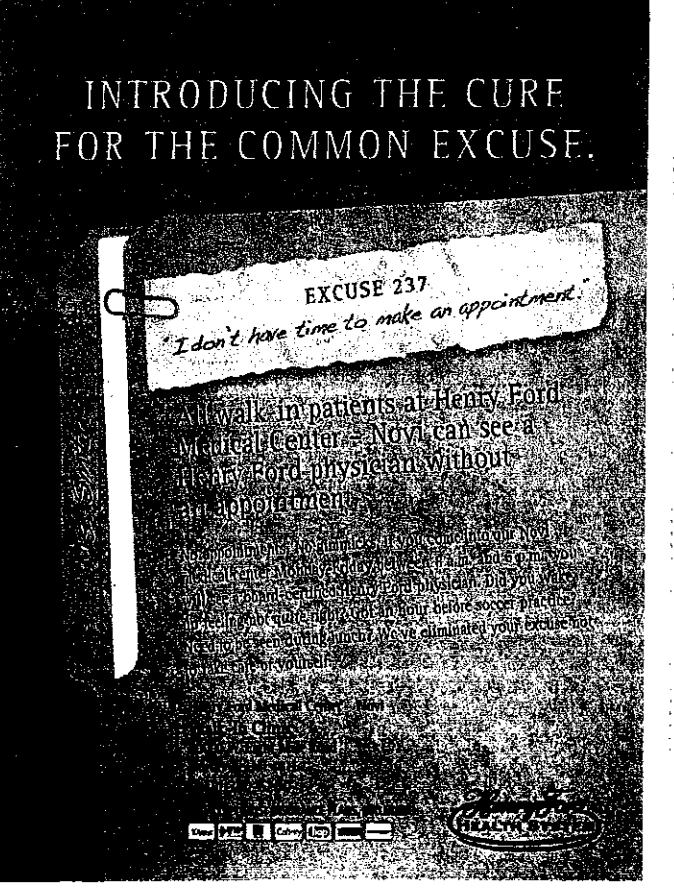
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# Born on the 4th of July

continued from front

for Novi, which was made up of two Oakland County police deputies who worked five days a week, but were paid for seven days. They spent two hours of their patrol each day driving to Novi from their Pontiac station and back again, with stops for food at Novi's Saratoga Farms twice a day.

After listening to this, Frazer and I decided I had been a county patrol man, (so why not patrol Novi), Novi Township had no full-time employees of any nature. They were interested in bringing someone in," he said. "Wald Lake had a guy named Wald Lake to inspect down to 12 Mile. Frazer fought that. Frazer promised 24/7 police response."

Moving to the village in 1954, BeGole became Novi's first director of public safety, first police officer and first fireman. In 1955, he was the acting chief of Wacoan village, which was part of Novi Township, and had a population of about 4,000 people when he started.

"You can't have a village without a township. All these village days and township days, public safety was the way to go. When I came in, I lived in the apartment. It was one of the perks of the job, although I didn't realize it was a 24/7 job," BeGole said. "I was the one and only officer. The contract (with the county) expired in '54 and we became the police (patrol). I appointed myself police chief, as well as director of public safety."

Another officer was hired soon after and BeGole moved out of the station after living there for less than two years and the station, so I bought a house on Grand River, just west of Novi Road, and I still live there," he said. "I thought I'd only stay for a year or two. Every year got better and better. I met a hell of a lot of good people over the years. The township boards were terrific. The city council, I don't think we ever had a bad one."

It's been 54 years since BeGole came to Novi. He served as police chief until he retired in 1991 and the current station was named in his honor.

"That was really an honor (former city manager) Ed Knevel told me on my retirement party," BeGole said. "I would trade it for anything and anything else. BeGole was nearly the fire chief too, but chose public safety and police work because the fire chief position was a volunteer position in the 1950s. Although he

## Nearby firework displays

**July 3**  
• Wolverine Lake Tiki Night and Fireworks in Wolverine Lake. Launched from the center of the lake at dusk. Free admission.  
• Union City fireworks launched at dusk. Free admission.

**July 4**  
• Taylors Beach Campground Fireworks in Howell. Launched at dusk. Campground admission applies. See [www.campingfriend.com/TaylorsBeachCampground](http://www.campingfriend.com/TaylorsBeachCampground) for details.  
• Whitmore Lake Fireworks at dusk. Free admission.

**July 25**  
• Michigan 50's Festival at Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk in Novi. Launched at dusk. Free admission.  
Source: [www.michiganfireworks.com](http://www.michiganfireworks.com)

was the police chief, he still helped put out brush fires caused by freight train hot boxes. "Sometimes we'd have to handle an emergency down to the rear of the fire truck because we had no cell," he said.

On one such instance, BeGole recalls a grass fire on Novi Road north of the freeway. They didn't have time to move the inhibited Northville Estates, was annexed to Northville," BeGole said, recalling a trailer parked on the south end of Novi keeping watch over the property. "Without Frazer Staman, Novi today wouldn't exist. It'd be part of Wald Lake, Farmington and Northville."

BeGole speaks most of his time with the organizations he's helped develop. He's the only Novi Rotary Club charter member left and serves as the chair of his parish council at Holy Family Church in Detroit. He is also a member of the Novi Board of Review, Friends of the Forest Farm and Novi Historical Commission, among several other service-related organizations.

BeGole's community has become his family. He never married and has a younger brother, William, died in service in Italy in 1944. "I almost married, but unfortunately breast cancer was more serious than I thought it was and took her away," BeGole said.

BeGole plans on spending his last months here with his family. He will be 74 on July 4, 2008. He has a wife and two children. He has a son and a daughter. He has a son and a daughter. He has a son and a daughter.

BeGole said the first few police officers also sported the number six, which, combined with the tollgate number, gave birth to the most popular myth of how Novi got its name.

## Retirement, kind of

After retiring from Novi Police, it wasn't long until BeGole was back in the game.

"Green Oak Township was looking for a chief, so I applied. I had some pretty tough competition. I told them when I took it, I'd find a good chief. I held it for about a year and hired Bob (Brookins)," he said.

BeGole spent 15 years with Green Oak Police, taking his second retirement in 2006. When he started, he was one of six-person force. He served as police chief for Green Oak on two one-year occasions, the second time when Brookins needed surgery.

BeGole speaks most of his time with the organizations he's helped develop. He's the only Novi Rotary Club charter member left and serves as the chair of his parish council at Holy Family Church in Detroit. He is also a member of the Novi Board of Review, Friends of the Forest Farm and Novi Historical Commission, among several other service-related organizations.

BeGole's community has become his family. He never married and has a younger brother, William, died in service in Italy in 1944.



Photos by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

## The Few. The Proud.

Retired Capt. Corey Clothier of Saber Leadership talks to a group of Marines about Michigan's first Marine For Life program recently at Novi's Gus O'Connor's Irish Pub.



A group of Marines listen to retired Capt. Corey Clothier of Saber Leadership talk about Michigan's first Marine For Life Program. Clothier tailored his speech to focus on core ways the Marines could network in their various businesses in a timely and efficient manner.

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## MY NEIGHBORS

Thursday, July 3, 2008  
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# Program assists residents with home repairs

Money now available

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

Novi resident JoAnn Curley, 79, believes the Minor Home Repair program is the reason she is still alive today.

While ascending to other repairs at Curley's residence five years ago, contractors employed through the program discovered a crack in her condominium furnace.

"It had a leak of carbon monoxide," Curley said. "They told me I couldn't live it, and before the day was out, they had a new furnace in there, up and running. They were so good to me."

The Minor Home Repair program is designed to assist low-income homeowners, within the City of Novi, make necessary repairs and improvements to their homes.

"It's very helpful for poor people," said John Spalding, 79, of Country Cousins Mobile Home Park, near Haggerty Road, just south of 12 Mile Road.

Spalding received six new windows in his mobile home in 2005 and is applying for the program again this year.

Minor Home Repair program," said Novi Assistant Finance Director Marina Neumaier, who serves as the staff liaison with the Housing and Community Development Committee.

"We want to provide as much assistance for our residents as possible," Although Curley received assistance five years ago, she qualified to receive assistance again this year.

"I thought there wasn't any opening, but I've been treated really well," she said. "I think I'm just so poor they really feel sorry for me."

Neumaier said residents are allowed to apply annually as long as they continue to qualify for assistance.

The program is administered through the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency and eligibility follows basic income guidelines established through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Interested homeowners must complete an application, which can be obtained by contacting Neumaier at (248) 347-0468 or OLHSA at (248) 209-2760, to determine eligibility. The program is currently accepting applications.

If a household qualifies for assistance, OLHSA will send out an inspector to determine necessary repairs and go to bid for qualified contractors.

"Between reviewing the applications and securing a contractor could take about 30 days," Neumaier said. "The length of time to complete the work is going to depend on the scope of the projects."

"The most common types of repairs would be replacing water heaters, furnaces, new roofs, handicap ramping ... we've replaced defective windows, especially when there's lead paint involved - items that are of a real health and safety concern."

Last Tuesday, Curley received word that all the leaky faucets and windows in the front of her 1,200-square-foot home are going to be replaced, as well as the patio door and screen.

"The new (windows) in the front are so bad, I've taped them," she said. "They've been here since the condo's inception."

Curley lives in her 30-year-old Old Orchard condominium with her 14-year-old white, westie terrier, Datto.

"I love no family, she is my pride and joy," she said. "As of July 1, the Minor Home Repair program has \$66,758 in grant money for the 2008-09 fiscal year."

"What we've experienced over the last year, is we don't have as significant of a waiting list as before," Neumaier said. "The Housing and Community Development Committee is very passionate about this program and ensuring these CDIG monies are used to provide much needed assistance to our residents."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi resident JoAnn Curley stands in the second floor of her condo. Curley is hoping that the city's Minor Home Repair program will replace its windows which leak water when it rains and let in bugs in the summer.

Since 2002, the program has provided about \$386,000 worth of assistance to Novi residents. "We can provide assistance to roughly 10-12 households per year," Neumaier said. "The grant provides up to \$5,000 of assistance, per household, for improvements."

**LET'S TALK**  
WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN  
GEMOLOGIST  
A SAPHIRE BY ANOTHER NAME  
If you love sapphires, you love every facet on four rubies. Both have the family name "corundum," are color of sapphire, with the notable exception of red to violet sapphires. Red corundum, on the other hand is called rubies. These fortunate enough to have July as their birth month have rubies as their birthstone. Known as the "king of gems" in ancient India, rubies are indeed a special gemstone. Like its counterpart sapphire, it is second only to diamonds in terms of hardness. However, when it comes to its absorption of light, rubies are no gemstone that is as equal as that. This reason rubies were used for coronation rings in England, although anyone can wear rubies to great effect.

**Tanglewood Restaurant**  
Weekend Specials  
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Fish Fry \$7.95  
All You Can Eat  
Pork Porterhouse Dinner \$9.95  
Saturday, July 5  
Build Your Own All You Can Eat  
Pasta Bar \$9.95 with Garlic Bread  
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**U.S. Naval Academy graduate Anna Christa Switzer**  
U. S. Naval Academy  
Anna Christa Switzer, a 2004 graduate of Novi High School and daughter of David and Karen Switzer, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, on May 23 and was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy. Ensign Switzer successfully completed four years of intensive academic and physical training, resulting in a bachelor of science degree with a major in international relations and a minor in Russian. Following graduation, Ensign Switzer will

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Publication Number USPS 986290

**CITY OF NOVI  
NOTICE OF PROVISIONS OF THE NOXIOUS WEED ORDINANCE**

TO: All owners, occupants or possessors of subdivided lands or lots: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, all noxious weeds, or other weeds, grass, brush, or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of eight (8) inches growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City of Novi, shall be cut down, destroyed or removed as the case may be, at least twice in each year, once during the last half of the month of May and again during the last half of July of each year and more often as may be necessary.

If the owner or occupant, or any person or persons, agent, firm, or corporation having control or management of any subdivided land upon which any building or buildings have been erected shall fail, refuse, or neglect to comply with the above mentioned Code provisions, the city shall cause the weeds, grass, brush, deleterious, unhealthy growths, rubbish, to be cut down, destroyed or removed. Provided, further, that any lands which are situated within the floodplains of any natural streams or watercourses, or any area between the lower or upper banks of such streams or watercourses shall be exempted from the provisions of such Code provisions. The expense incurred by the City in the cutting, destruction or removal of same together with a ten (10) percent administrative charge will be levied and collected against such property in the manner provided by law.

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, may also result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penalty therein provided.

CHARLES BOULARD  
BUILDING OFFICIAL  
CITY OF NOVI

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Call (248) 348-7100 for non-emergencies in Novi.

**MY PUBLIC SAFETY**Victoria Mitchell, editor  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
vmitchel@comcast.netThursday, July 3, 2008  
www.novivillage.com  
Fax: (248) 349-9832**Novi Police Department welcomes new K-9 to team**

Earlier this month, a new member of the Novi Police Department joined the team when K-9 Alex officially became Officer Bob Manar's partner.

Alex is a German Shepherd and has been assigned badge number 907.

He joins colleague Mouse and handler Officer Shawn Penzak on the force.

Alex was born in the Netherlands on June 21, 2006 and began an extensive two-week training program in February 2008.

Alex then trained with Officer Manar for an additional five weeks of canine training.

At the Oakland Police K-9 Academy, Alex successfully completed his training and all tests and received official certification by the National Association of Professional Canine Handlers in both narcotics and tracking.

"Attending the academy with Alex was a most humbling experience, seeing how these dogs work is quite an amazing feat," Manar said. "This is going to be one of the most rewarding decisions I have ever made and I look forward to working with Alex and watching him become an integral part of the Novi Police Department team."

Officer Manar has been a member of the Novi Police Department since May of 2005. He graduated first in his class at Wayne County Regional Police Academy and is a graduate of the University of Michigan - Dearborn where he earned his degree in criminal jus-



City of Novi Police Officer Bob Manar and his canine partner, Alex.

relations benefit by performing K-9 demonstrations at local schools and community events.

Alex was purchased by the City of Novi with dog forfeiture funds. These same funds paid for the training program and will pay the dog's food and veterinary expenses.

For more information on the Novi Police Department, visit [www.novivillage.com](http://www.novivillage.com).

**Want some fries with that ketchup?****POLICE BRIEFS**

An unknown suspect covered a vehicle in condiments and slashed three of its four tires between 10 p.m. June 22 and 10 a.m. June 23, reports said.

The front and rear windshields of the Saturn ILS, which was parked in a driveway on Orange Avenue, near Maple and 12 Mile roads, were covered in ketchup and salad dressing and three tires were slashed, valued at \$200, were slashed.

According to the victim, the vehicle was also damaged during the night of June 21-22. He said he has no idea who is responsible for damaging the vehicle.

**Suspect shatters dump truck windshield**

The front windshield and driver's side window of a Ford dump truck were shattered between 5:30-6:30 p.m. June 20 and 7 a.m. June 21, reports said.

The vehicle was parked in a vacant lot at a Mirage Development on Dumont Road and Madison Drive, near Meadowbrook and 10 Mile roads.

According to the owner of the vehicle, this is the second time in 10 days his vehicle had its windshield smashed.

While investigating the com-

plaint, the officer found several large rocks on and near the vehicle.

**Purse suspected stolen**

A woman suspects her purse was stolen from her vehicle while parked on Patonaville, near Main and Market streets in downtown Novi.

According to the complainant, she parked the gray Mercury Monterey van near the Main Street Village Apartments clubhouse on Haggerty Road.

According to the report, the officer found the driver's route suspicious because it wasn't the most direct route.

The officer also observed the vehicle had a cracked windshield and initiated a traffic stop on Nine Mile Road, east of Haggerty Road.

After the officer approached the vehicle, he noticed the driver's eyes were glassy and bloodshot and could smell an odor of intoxicants, reports said.

The woman said she saw several young teens walking around the area while she was at the clubhouse.

The main item missing from her purse was the wallet, containing a driver's license, two credit cards, \$20 and a library card.

When the woman cancelled the credit cards, they showed no activity, reports said.

**Operating while intoxicated**

A man was arrested for operating while intoxicated just before 4 a.m. June 22, reports said.

An officer traveling west on 10 Mile Road, observed a black Jeep Grand Cherokee, heading eastbound, swerve toward the shoulder, reports said.

Once the officer got behind the vehicle, it turned south on Cranbrook Drive and east on Village Wood Road, before exiting a subdivision southbound on Haggerty Road.

According to the report, the officer found the driver's route suspicious because it wasn't the most direct route.

The officer also observed the vehicle had a cracked windshield and initiated a traffic stop on Nine Mile Road, east of Haggerty Road.

After the officer approached the vehicle, he noticed the driver's eyes were glassy and bloodshot and could smell an odor of intoxicants, reports said.

The driver said he had a few beers earlier, but quit drinking at about 1:30 a.m.

The officer conducted field sobriety tests and administered a preliminary breath test which registered his blood alcohol concentration to be .15 percent.

**Novi Police Department Youth Police Academy**

The City of Novi is accepting applications for the Novi Police Department Youth Police Academy. Novi youth ages 13-17 are eligible to enroll. All applicants must pass a background check. The deadline for enrollment is July 7. For more information, contact Detective Mike Wilson at (248) 921-2887.

**Safety Town teaches children life lessons**By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

It was a beautiful, sunny day at Safety Town Thursday morning as 4- to 6-year-old kids biked and scooted around an imaginary neighborhood in the small parking lot, located in Deerfield Elementary School's bus loop.

Safety Town is more than a fictional city painted on concrete to teach children the most basic rules of the road, it's a four-day program designed to teach the preschool through second-grade students about basic safety practices in various situations they may encounter throughout their lives.

"The kids are having fun while learning the safety rules," said Jill Ostroff, the four-year teacher of Safety Town. "The little children love being with the high schoolers."

Five Novi High School students and her daughter, Ashley, a senior-to-be at South Lyon High School, help Ostroff take care of the 18 kids.

The lessons the children learn tackle many issues. The rules of the road are enforced during a daily exercise period riding around the small "neighborhood" on plastic three-wheelers and scooters.

The kids get stickers for stopping at the stop signs and are instructed to stay in the right lane. If they get tired of driving, there are painted sidewalks they can walk on to help other drivers learn to give pedestrians the right of way when crossing the road.

"I learned to stop and look both ways or else you'll crash. You always have to look both ways," said 6-year-old Alivia Hart.

After heading inside, the kids had a visit from Dr. Mari Nugent and Nicole Laskin from Underkesh, a mobile veterinary service. The vet brought a dog, tortoise and two macaws for the students to see and, in some cases, pet.

The students learned a few lessons, such as the importance of approaching an animal from the front because walking up behind could scare it into a defensive attack. Also, many animals carry lots of germs, so it's important to wash hands after handling them.

"They might bite you if you bother them. You let them sniff your hand, if it's a dog, and get to know them," Hart said. "You have to wash your hands really well or else you'll get really sick. If you use soap, it'll get off more."

Earlier in the day, students traveled to a nearby Novi fire station to learn about fire safety.

"If there's a fire or smoke, or the smoke detector goes off, you roll out of bed. Don't touch the door. If it's a really low window, you can climb out of it, if it's high, you can call for help," said 6-year-old Lauren Wik.

Hart's 4-year-old brother, David Wik, said fire safety taught him a lot of important lessons if there's a fire in his three-story home.

"You feel (near) the door and, if it's cold, you can open it and get out safely. If it's hot, you need another way out," said David, who was a firefighter for Halloween one year. "At the first station, we learned if they have all their equipment on you, don't run away."

Hart said that, although a fire-

**Fire safety**

fighter may seem scary to some when they're dressed in full uniform, it's important not to be scared of them.

"Don't be afraid of the firefighter because he's trying to help you or else they can't find and help you," she said.

**Important lessons**

Other lessons learned throughout the week ranged from a bus safety lesson from Gus the School Bus and a visit from the lightning bug, who taught them about safety around electrical sockets, wires and outlets.

"When you start to learn safety, you learn a lot of safety that you haven't learned that you need to learn and you teach your mom," David said.

The Safety Town program uses songs, poems, art projects, stories, movies, books and special visitors to teach the children safety lessons.

"We really try to stress that they should always be with someone who can take care of them; an adult who can take care of them," David said.

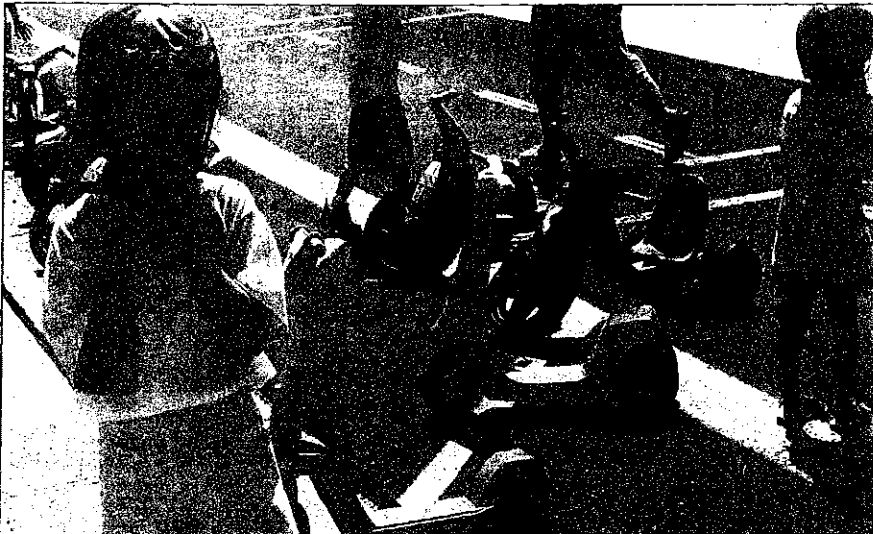


Photo by Chris Jackett

Juliana Petrucci takes off her safety helmet after a successful drive around Safety Town in the Deerfield Elementary School bus loop. The final four sessions, starting July 7, 14, 21 and 28, are open for registration through Novi Community Education.

**Novi's open burning ordinance**

Novi City Ordinances allow open burning for recreational needs such as burning of sand for mortar at construction sites and for recreational purposes.

A recreational fire must be contained within an outdoor fireplace or in a bonfire pit located within 30 feet of a lake. A bonfire may not exceed 3 feet in size.

The ordinance prohibits any outdoor fire that is within 50 feet of a building or any fire that may spread within 50 feet of a building.

Only seasoned dry firewood is allowed to burn. Leaves, yard waste or any type of trash, or the burning for waste disposal purposes, is strictly prohibited.

All open burning must be attended at all times and fire extinguishing equipment must be on hand. Any fire that is determined to be objectionable or dangerous in nature must be extinguished.

The above open burning parameters do not require a permit or prior approval by the Novi Fire Department. Any violation of the city's open burning ordinance is a misdemeanor and is subject to the assistance of a court appearance ticket that carries a penalty of a maximum \$500 fine and 90 days in jail.

For further information, contact the Novi Fire Department at (248) 921-2887.

**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that on 7/25/08 at 10:00 a.m. the following will be sold by competitive bidding at Estate Storage 21650 Novi Rd., Novi, MI

(Space No. 195)  
Marlin Mizera  
Household Items,  
Recreational Items,  
Misc. Goods.

(Space No. 218)  
Nakeia Downey  
Misc. Goods

(Space No. 28)  
Omar Coney  
Household Items,  
Recreational Items,  
Misc. Goods.

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...On the Patio

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...in the neighborhood  
Between Currie & Chubb Road  
South on Country Club Drive  
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- Colors the Clown with Free face painting • Oddz & Ends and Mich Chip Child ID sponsored by the Walled Lake Masons

- The World Famous Budweiser Clydesdales, celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, check-site for details.
- Miller Spectacular Amusements daily, visit our website for hours of operation.
- Vegas Tent Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night brought to you by Varsity Lincoln Mercury and the Brighton Knight of Columbus
- Friday Night Fireworks brought to you by Tom Holzer Ford, and Shuman Chrysler Jeep
- Beverage Garden nightly brought to you by Budweiser & Leone Imports
- Festival Food Court, Commercial and Craft Exhibitors

Saturday, Free Ice Cream Social brought to you by Cold Stone Creamery, and Michigan Milk Producers. Bike Parade, Free bike helmets from Bright House Networks to first 200 kids, while supplies last.

Entertainment nightly brought to you by Bright House Networks Under the entertainment tent:

Wednesday	The Teen Angels	.....Free Admission
Thursday	Sieve King and the Ditties	.....\$5.00
Friday	Rocky and the Rollers (Fireworks at dusk)	.....\$5.00
Saturday	Charlie Thomas and the Drifters, The Reflections, And Rocky and the Rollers	.....\$10.00

Children 18 and under free when accompanied by an adult  
\*No lawn chairs allowed, no coolers, tickets are non-refundable, no advance ticket sales, general seating only, events subject to change

Visit [www.michigan50sfestival.org](http://www.michigan50sfestival.org) or call 248-349-1950 for up to date schedule

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**OBITUARIES****BETSY A. RANSON (FISHER)**

Age 35, June 26, 2008. Wife of Brad. Mother of Jordan, Justin, Madison and Drew. Daughter of Jack & Carolyn Fisher. Granddaughter of Martha Crouch. Sister of David Fisher, Mark (Melanie) Fisher, Memorial Service held July 1 at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home 4155 Grand River Novi 248-348-1800. Donations in Betsy's memory can be made to The American Diabetes Association 30200 Telegraph Road #106 Birmingham Farms MI, 48025 or in Memory of Betsy Ranson Registry of Uof M G1 Pancreatic Research Mt. Jeff Holden 3312 Tawlerman Center U of M Ann Arbor MI, 48109. On line sympathy message at [www.obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com](http://www.obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com)

**DR. HELEN E.R. DITZHAYZ**

June 22, 2008. Age 81 of Novi, Michigan, 52 years a Michigan educator and "stress calling" broker teacher, guidance counselor, assistant principal at Thurston High in Redford; principal, high school teacher in Novi; assistant and deputy superintendent in Jackson; 20 year professor and professor Emeritus in Ypsilanti (EMU). Obtained B.S. and M.A. at MSU, Ph.D. at U of M and M.B.A. at MSU. Paul Harris Fellow Rosarian, Phi Delta Kappa, and past president of John Saker chapter DAR. Descendant of Mayflower Compact signer, Edward Doty. Survived by husband of 59 years Joseph Andrew, Sr. and daughter Carol (Marian) Vogel of Baur, WI; predeceased by son Joseph A., Jr. Grandmother of Kimberly, Alexander, and Christina Vogel, Kira, Hilary, and Whitney Ditzhazy, Joseph A., III and Hunter Ditzhazy. Sister of the late John (Maxine) Ringold. Visitation Monday July 7, from 5-8 pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile Rd., Livonia. Funeral service Tuesday July 8, 11am-12pm at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 40000 Six Mile Rd., Northville.

**OBITUARY POLICY**

The first seven lines of an obituary are published free of charge. After that, there is a fee of \$8 a line. Pictures may be published for \$25.

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

For more information, call 888-999-1288, or contact your funeral home. \*Obituary deadlines are subject to change.



TALK ABOUT IT: Join in discussing our stories online via **Voices & Views** at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

Victoria Mitchell, editor  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
vmitchell@gannett.com

# MY OPINION

Thursday, July 3, 2008  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)  
fax: (248) 349-9832

## Novi News

Victoria Mitchell  
EDITOR  
Susan Rosiek  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR  
Peter Hill  
VICE PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER

### In Our Opinion: Drunk driving enforcement centers on Fourth Holiday

Law enforcement agencies will be out on Michigan's roads with special patrols looking for one thing: Drunk drivers.

Stepped up patrols funded by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning through federal traffic safety dollars will put extra officers on the road this Fourth of July holiday weekend, including in the City of Novi.

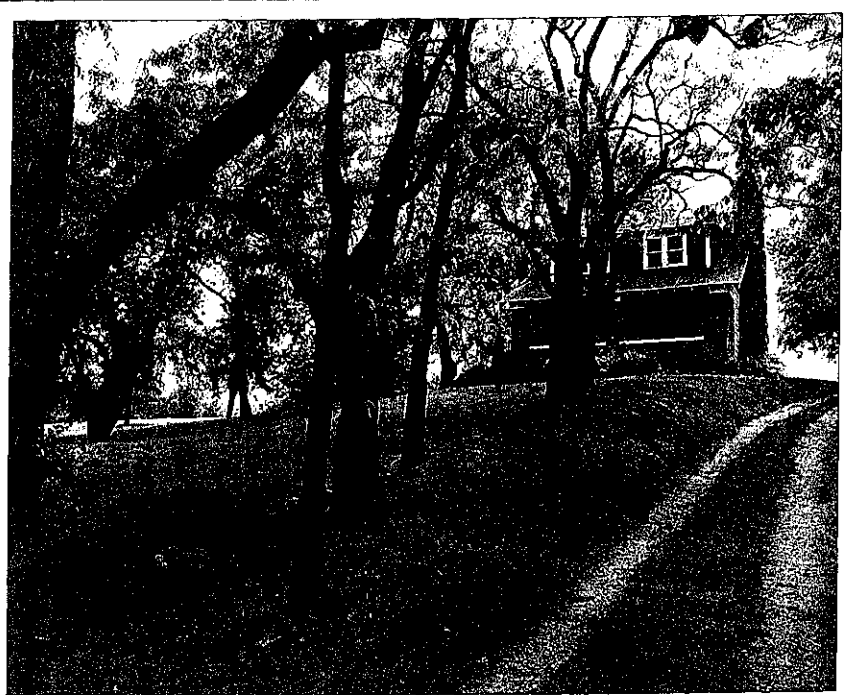
In 2007, there were 382 alcohol- and drug-related traffic deaths, a decrease of 13 percent from 2006. Although the number of alcohol and drug-related traffic deaths went down last year, crashes involving alcohol are eight times more likely to be fatal, according

to the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning.

And in fatal crashes, safety belts use at night is 42 percent versus 73 percent during the day. To combat this issue, officers will also be on the lookout for those who are not buckled up.

We encourage all members of the community to celebrate responsibly this Fourth of July holiday and take time to remember those who have served and are serving our country.

Pre-up the barbecues and break out the legal fireworks with caution while remembering the safety of your family and your fellow community members.



**Fuerst Things First**  
Novi's Fuerst Farm and the road leading from Taft Road to its farmhouse.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

## Mayor David Landry: The Fuerst Farm - setting the 'historical' record straight

Opinions are wonderful. Everybody has one. They are part of what is unique about people. People have a right to have opinions. But what is amazing about opinions is that they usually change depending upon how much information a person has been given. Someone may initially say, "My opinion is..." and after you give them more information, they may say, "Oh, well that's a different story..."

Indeed, opinions depend on the facts.

When it comes to community issues, it is natural that people have opinions. That is a good thing. But it is never a good idea to have certain issues take on a life of their own. That is usually a direct result of a lack of information. Things may appear to be one way and, only upon obtaining all the facts, does the picture become clearer. Some people disseminate information on an issue may not know all the information. Unfortunately, others may intentionally leave out critical facts or choose to have a selective memory. The latter is neither productive nor justifiable on the basis of one's zeal on any issue.

One such issue is the Fuerst Farm. The City is finally moving forward to develop the property as a park, centrally located, as part of our civic center campus. In conjunction with the building of our new library and available for all to use and enjoy. At this time, questions are being raised, accusations leveled - "What's the rush?" "Why act without a plan?" "Why not seek grants and private funding?" "Didn't the city obtain this property in the first place to preserve the buildings?" Upon first blush, such questions are absolutely valid. However, upon understanding the history of the City's acquisition of the Fuerst Farm and what has occurred in the 11 years since the City obtained the property the answers to these questions become clear. Let's review the "history" of the City's acquisition of the Fuerst Farm and the past 11 years during which private groups have failed to raise funds for preservation.

The city should even have the right to buy it back. Councilman Schmidt asked what would happen if the city decided not to use it as a historical site and planned to use it as a small park. Mr. Byers said the only thing they are dealing with is that the city should take care of the barns where the school has been stored. He said they have no problem with what the city wants to do with the property. However, if the city decides to put the property on the market, the school would like the first right to be able to buy it back.

Councilman Schmidt noted the language states "historical." Councilman Mutch added it also includes "and other related purposes." Mr. Byers believes "public purpose" would satisfy them. Mayor McLallen advised there seems to be a consensus to retain the ability for the school to have a right of first refusal on the property if the city ceases to use the property for any public purpose.

The ultimate motion made and passed by the Novi City Council authorized entering into the agreement for the purchase of the Fuerst Farm property "with the elimination of Paragraphs B, C, D and E..." with the change of historical references to public uses.

The ultimate Offer to Purchase signed by the City and the school district on July 17, 1997, provided regarding the use of the Fuerst property "City's use of the Fuerst Property shall be for public purposes." There was no requirement that the buildings be maintained in a historical manner. In fact, the school district could use the barns for storage "until such time that the City notifies Novi School District that it will begin use of the barns."

It is most interesting to note that it was then City Councilwoman Kathy Mutch who stated that if the buildings were destroyed "She believes they (City) would have plenty of reason to continue use of the property..." The City purchased the Fuerst Farm not for historical purposes but for "public purposes." Using the property as a park was specifically discussed. City Councilwoman Mutch voted in favor of purchasing the property for those purposes.

The deed by which the City took ownership of the Fuerst Farm states the only restriction on the use of the property is "that grants' use of the above described parcel be for public purposes only." No historical purpose was included.

Moreover, at the same City Council meeting of June 23, 1997 a question was raised about possible historical restrictions on the use of the property because of its designation on the National Registry of Historic Places. Once again, it was Councilwoman Mutch who explained that such a

Private funds and grants must be available. Why doesn't the city allow time for private funds and grants to be raised?

In answering this question, we must first ask how much time is a reasonable time to allow for the raising of such funds? How about 11 years? That is exactly how long the City has been waiting for those interested in preserving the buildings to raise the funds to do so. Virtually nothing has been raised in 11 years.

In the year 2000, a Fuerst Farm Task Force examined the property. However, they did not examine the property from a neutral standpoint as to potential uses. They examined the property with the specific intent to "restore and maintain the Fuerst Farmstead." Indeed, the Fuerst Farm Task Force reported that "Since 1991 both the City of Novi and the Novi School District have been discussing and studying various alternatives for use of the Fuerst Farmstead." (Report of Fuerst property Task Force, June 2000). So we know that this issue has been discussed for the last 17 years. What has happened in that 17 years? Has anyone interested in preserving the buildings raised any money to do so?

The Fuerst Property Task Force in 2000 specifically recognized that private funds, grants and gifts must be obtained for the preservation of the Fuerst Farm buildings.

The cost of restoring the buildings for historical purposes is over \$600,000. Indeed, even the Fuerst Farm Task Force, eight years ago in 2000, recognized that city funds could not afford to be used to pay the cost of historic preservation. To preserve the buildings alone (without any necessary funds for the maintenance and enhancement of the property and its activities without putting an undo burden on the city finances - making the property self-sustaining and even profitable for future enhancements and use."

In the eight years since the Task Force issued its report in 2000, the City has spent in excess of \$70,000 directly on the Fuerst Farmstead. This is in excess of the \$65,000 recommended by the Task Force. In that same time period, only \$500 has been raised privately, rather than the \$335,000 as promised. Thus, the City has contributed its share but no action has been taken by those wishing to preserve the buildings. They presented a five-year plan. The City has waited eight years.

Thus, when the question is asked, "why does the city allow time for the raising of private funds, gifts and grants?" when the "history" of the City's ownership of the property is examined, it becomes clear that the City has allowed more than ample time.

It is one thing for someone to say, "raise private funds." It is another for someone to actually do it. The City cannot allow this wonderful piece of property to lay fallow, unused and to be lost to the Residents of Novi have a right to use this property which was acquired with the use of city funds. Eight years is enough time. It is time to move on.

The City's plan

It has been suggested that the City is proceeding without a plan. The City does have a plan. The plan is to implement the property for the very purpose it was originally acquired - public purposes, a park. McKenna Associates was retained by the City to hold public input sessions, conduct a comprehensive study of the property and make recommendations. Their study was conducted in public, with public input at various levels; community input meetings were held; an online survey was conducted; discussions were held at public Parks, Recreation and Forestry meetings; a survey was conducted at the Civic Center departmental staff participated. All of these public sessions were advertised and the public did participate. McKenna submitted its recommendations showing the cost of both historic preservation of the buildings and use as a public park.

Given the "history" of the property since the City's acquisition, the City Council has decided to move forward and develop the property for public use.

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Thursday, July 3, 2008-NOVI NEWS 8A

## LETTERS

### Give Fuerst Farm supporters one year

I lack understanding in the council's vote to demolish the Fuerst Farm.

Why hire a group like McKenna which doesn't have expertise in historic sites, which had focus groups and didn't listen, presented a plan for restoration that was outrageous and then accept that report with minimal questions and lots of praise.

The council meeting on April 7 - the time was changed which confused people. Rather than public comment after report there were lengthy interviews with teens that caused supporters to leave and then you added the vote to take action on farm after the original agenda was published.

The reasons given to demolish were personal opinion not based on fact. Very unprofessional. The barns were deemed "terifying" by one member - but based on statements by an expert, they are not. Others said, the soil is historic but not the buildings - then why have experts listed in the National Registry of Historic Places? It was stated that it had to be a working farm to be historic - that isn't true. Mr. Gatt said the city isn't in the business of education - then what about Mr. Gatt and the D.A.R.E. program. The reasons for demolishing aren't based on facts and really I can't understand why your personal thinking is behind such an important decision.

A better solution would have been to say - we wait this site used or taken down. You have one year. Make a plan. Put your volunteers on site. The heat will be turned on in the house. Find funding and move forward with your program. We'll review this in one year. Also, we (the council) will work with the Historical Commission to find an appropriate site for the Town Hall. That would have been a reasonable, intelligent, professional, decision.

### A government of the people?

We can't help but wonder what the true motives of the Novi City Council are as pertain to the planned demolition of the Fuerst Farm. The decision seemed to be made in secret, despite the many suggestions for varying use of the site including the buildings, which were who participated in the community focus groups earlier this year. The main thing seems to be to just get the farm demolished as quickly as possible. Why the huge rush to do this?

This government does not appear consistent with the one we learned about in school - a government representing the people - not operating behind their backs.

Any government that hides its motives from the people it serves will fail.

Why was this farmstead considered to be a city treasure right up until this year and now it needs to be torn down? Look at The Novi News "Novi Community Guide 2008" and The Novi Chamber of Commerce's "Novi Buyers Guide and Membership Directory 2008", both of which reference the Fuerst Farm as one of Novi's historical sites - even going so far as to describe the house and barns - "the house is an early 1900s arts and crafts era bungalow, while some of the barns are older, including one dating to the 1870s."

At the council meeting on June 23, a council member was overheard outside the chamber stating that "we all know there is nothing historical about these buildings." Interesting that the National Register of Historic Places and the State of Michigan thinks there is - enough to designate it as such. What, beyond being in a position of power, makes this person right and the experts wrong? This really points toward some sort of motive that we are not being told about.

Further, at the June 23 council meeting, we were very disappointed, as well as quite embarrassed, to see those on the council, opposed to the idea of preservation, not even paying any atten-

### City should protect Fuerst property, not destroy it

I find it hard to believe that the city council, that I took a part of voting into office, has decided to make a decision for me to tear down a historic structure, the Fuerst Farm. I thought the city would be stewards and protect the property instead of destroying it without my consent. I am an artist and I enjoy the beauty of the land and buildings and do not fear them an eye-roll. I talked to many citizens while petitioning for the postponement of the destruction and many of them said they par-

## Happy fifth anniversary Fox Run

In many ways, it seems like a lifetime ago that Fox Run opened its doors to its first "pioneer" residents. In reality it's been just five years since the first men and women moved into their apartment homes and started fully enjoying their retirement. From the very first day and the very first residents, Fox Run has set the bar in offering the highest standard of living available for seniors in the metropolitan area. And, boy, have we grown. We are proud of the milestones achieved during our fifth year. The number of people who live at Fox Run is now more than 800 and 400 work on the campus. In October of 2008 Fox Run will open its seventh building of apartment homes that will be comprised of many newly designed larger floor plans, created in direct response to the wishes of future residents. Recently, our community awarded 19 area students who work in our



Michael McCormick

dining services department almost \$80,000 in scholarships.

We are honored to have been nominated by our staff as a "Top Place to Work" in a competition being conducted by the "Detroit Free Press." In addition, Erickson Retirement Communities, developer and manager of Fox Run, was listed on the 11th annual "100 Best Companies to Work For" list in FORTUNE magazine.

Since our opening in 2003, we have shared many WOW experiences with our residents and staff, as well as the greater community at large. In fact, from the beginning, Fox Run has earned a reputation for being a fun and exciting place to live as well

as working. At the end of the timetable, wasn't the timetable graciously extended for the benefit of the community, to allow for additional fund raising?

Let's have one more try to make this a win-win situation. This is a great community that normally bands together. At the end of the day, if we didn't give it our all, and plowed down history, it may take some time to do mending.

Take the time to give some time. The community is worth it.

Maria Hilliard  
Novi

### Place Fuerst Farm question on ballot

Over the past twenty years, the Novi City Council and a substantial number of citizens have had strong differences of opinion that deserved to be decided in a fair, democratic way - by the people.

In the 80s, the issue was an expanded shopping center at 10 Mile and Heck roads. Concerned citizens were forced to circulate petitions to place the question on the ballot.

In the 90s, the issue was whether to construct a municipal golf course in north Novi. Again, concerned citizens were forced to circulate petitions to place the question on the ballot.

For several years the Novi City Council chose to place the question of whether to preserve the Fuerst Farm, on the November ballot.

Now, in 2008, the Fuerst Farm issue deserves to be decided in a fair, democratic way - by the people.

For several years the Novi City Council has deservedly enjoyed a positive reputation of listening to the citizens of Novi. In the spirit of continuing to foster such responsiveness, the City Council should voluntarily place the question of whether to preserve the Fuerst Farm, on the November ballot.

It's clear that council has its own vision for this property. Heels appear to be dug in deep. The way it has been done in the past has not passed based on the feedback council is receiving, does it seem that this is the right thing to do? Why is this an all or nothing issue? Why wasn't there a suggestion to save any structure that we all know there is nothing historical about these buildings?

Interested that the National Register of Historic Places and the State of Michigan thinks there is - enough to designate it as such. What, beyond being in a position of power, makes this person right and the experts wrong? This really points toward some sort of motive that we are not being told about.

Further, at the June 23 council meeting, we were very disappointed, as well as quite embarrassed, to see those on the council, opposed to the idea of preservation, not even paying any atten-

### Norm and Nancy Powell

I write asking the Mayor and Council reconsider the decision to demolish the Fuerst Farm structures, which are listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places.

This decision is stirring up some division in the community. Why is it a high priority to tear down the buildings? I hope county can acknowledge that there are more than a handful of residents that are opposed to this. How many signatures were collected on the petition? Over 1000?

It appears this is a battle of the wills. It's been decided, and that's the way it will be, like a parent to a child. City Council represents the community. Now that the community is speaking out, I hope council will revisit the issue and work with the community.

I write this request, but deep down I don't feel it's futile. City Councils in the past have revisited decisions. I don't get the feeling that will happen with this case.

It's clear that council has its own vision for this property. Heels appear to be dug in deep. The way it has been done in the past has not passed based on the feedback council is receiving, does it seem that this is the right thing to do? Why is this an all or nothing issue? Why wasn't there a suggestion to save any structure that we all know there is nothing historical about these buildings?

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### Laura Lorenzo

The Novi City Council has been very fair in giving Fuerst Farm supporters adequate time to seek private funds to maintain the barns and the home. In our 12 years in Novi, we have never seen this area put to any use except for the Fuerst Farm Day in the Fall. This city has to move forward with the construction of the new library. A fitting compromise to all is if private funds can be obtained to construct a Fuerst Farm monument to preserve the history of this site for future generations.

### Prem D'Cruz

at work. Former Mayor Lou Scordas once said "It's always a party at Fox Run." This year's events have continued to inspire our residents, staff and guests. For example, Oakland County Executive, L. Brooks Patterson was a recent speaker at the community's Center for Continuous Learning.

Of course, our reputation for exceptional customer service is what we are most proud of and we have continued to build on the foundation that we set from the first days we opened our doors. More than 96 percent of our residents have told us that Fox Run is a great place to live based on independent managed annual surveys. As a matter of fact, Fox Run is among the leaders of all 20 Erickson communities across the United States in terms of both resident and employee satisfaction.

When Fox Run opened we had some strong expect-

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### Correction

In the June 26 story "Lapses in Things closing, center's future changes" on Page 6A, Salon Nadwa was listed among stores that had left the Novi Town Center recently. The salon will be leaving the Town Center this year, but the previously reported summer date has been pushed back to an undetermined 2008 date. Salon Nadwa is currently open for business at the Novi Town Center.





continued from 11A

Angela Hospice Groups

DETAILS: Grief support groups include general grief, loss of a spouse, women's grief, parents who have lost a child and a grief support quilters group. All groups are led by bereavement professionals and trained volunteers.

General Grief Support Groups

TIME/DATE: 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of month.

Loss of Spouse/Significant Other Support Group

TIME/DATE: 8:30-8 p.m. first Tuesday of month.

Men In Grief

TIME/DATE: 8:30-8 p.m. fourth Monday of month.

Parents Who Have Lost a Child

TIME/DATE: 7-8:30 p.m. first Thursday of month.

Grief Support Quilters Group

TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m. first and third Wednesday of month.

BMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Support Groups

LOCATION: 1 William Carls Drive, Commerce Township.

Al-Anon Support Group

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. every Sunday.

Breast Cancer Support Group

TIME/DATE: 10-11:30 a.m. second and fourth Thursday of every month.

H.U.G.S. Group for Parents

TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. third Thursday of each month.

Group

TIME/DATE: 7-8:30 p.m. first and third Monday of every month.

Friendship Circle

TIME/DATE: 1 p.m. second Thursday of each month.

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. second Thursday of each month.

Novi Toastmasters

TIME/DATE: 7-8:45 p.m. first and third Tuesday of each month.

MSMs Club of Novi East

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. first Monday of every month.

Breast Cancer Support Group

TIME/DATE: 10-11:30 a.m. second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

TIME/DATE: 2-3:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month.

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.

Friendship Circle

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Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples

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Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

TIME/DATE: 2-3:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month.



Billy Peck takes a swing during a Tennis Challengers lesson at the Sports Club of Novi on a recent Tuesday morning.

Crohns & Colitis Support Group

TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. first and third Wednesday of each month.

Novi Toastmasters

TIME/DATE: 7-8:45 p.m. first and third Tuesday of each month.

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Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

TIME/DATE: 2-3:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month.

Widowed Friends Support Group

DETAILS: Widowed Friends of the Archdiocese of Detroit is a peer support group.

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TIME/DATE: 7-8:45 p.m. first and third Tuesday of each month.

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ROCK FINANCIAL SHOWPLACE

46100 Grand River Ave. CONTACT: Call (248) 348-5800 or visit http://rockfinancialshowplace.com/ for more information.

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TIME/DATE: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. every Tuesday, Aug. 26-Nov. 18 (except Wednesday, Oct. 21 and 28).

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City of Wixom

CONTACT: Community Services Programs, 49045 Pontiac Trail, Wixom, (248) 624-2850.

Senior Ongoing Programs

Monday: 10-11 a.m. Exercise Class.

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Ace! A group of kids work on their court skills during a Tennis Challengers lesson at the Sports Club of Novi.

CHRISTINA'S home sweet home INTERIOR Seasonal inspirations in July... everything is violet: beautiful lavender. 410 East Main Street - Downtown Northville. 248.448.9722

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MY SHINGLES ARE GONE BUT THE PAIN ISN'T. Pain that occurs after an outbreak of shingles has healed is called post-herpetic neuralgia or PHN.

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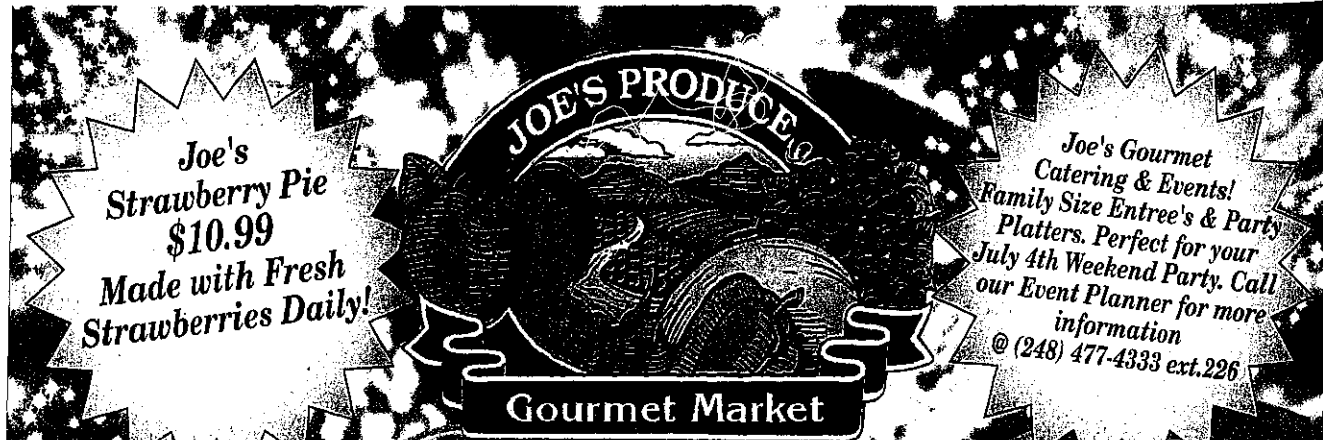
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Family Size Entree's & Party Platters. Perfect for your July 4th Weekend Party. Call our Event Planner for more information @ (248) 477-4333 ext.226

## Joe's Fourth of July Specials

<p><b>Joe's Peanut Brittle \$1.79 lb.</b></p>	<p>California Tree Ripe Sweet &amp; Juicy Freestone Peaches <b>\$1.49 lb.</b></p>	<p>New Crop New Jersey Blueberries <b>2/\$4.00</b></p>	<p>California Tree Ripe Sweet &amp; Juicy Freestone Nectarines <b>\$1.49 lb.</b></p>	<p><b>Ocean Spray Cranberries \$3.99 lb.</b> Save \$1.50 lb.</p>
<p><b>Flavor of the week Coffee Traverse City Cherry \$6.99 lb.</b></p>	<p><b>Georgia Seedless Watermelon \$1.99 each</b></p>	<p><b>Joe's Perfect Picnic Pickles 2/\$7.00</b></p>	<p><b>Georgia Bi-color Sweet Corn 8/\$2.00</b></p>	<p><b>4 Pack Jones or Stewarts Soda \$3.49</b> *deposit Mix or Match</p>
<p><b>Jarlsberg Norway Cheese \$8.99 lb.</b> <b>Stella Fontinella Dried Cheese All Week \$5.99 lb.</b></p>	<p><b>Boarshead Low Sodium Skinless Turkey Breast \$5.99 lb.</b> <b>Low Sodium Ham \$6.99 lb.</b> <b>Colby or CoJack Cheese \$5.99 lb.</b></p>	<p><b>Joe's Specials! Sara Lee Honey Ham or Honey Turkey \$5.99 lb.</b> <b>Hoffmans Hard Salami \$3.99 lb.</b></p>	<p><b>Dietz &amp; Watson Black Forest Ham \$6.99 lb.</b> <b>London Broil Turkey \$7.99 lb.</b> <b>Corned Beef \$7.99 lb.</b></p>	<p><b>Winters Hot Diggity Dog Weekend!</b></p>
<p><b>Montevina Terra d'Oro Syrah \$17.99</b> Enjoy with Blackened Salmon or Gourmet Lamb burgers</p>	<p><b>Montevina Terra d'Oro Pinot Grigio \$15.99</b> The Perfect quaffing wine, it also is a well suited dinner companion for white meat and fish dishes.</p>	<p><b>Montevina Terra d'Oro Rose \$13.99</b> Flavors of melon, grapefruit and peach are dusted with cardamom spice and orange peel.</p>	<p><b>Montevina Terra d'Oro Sangiovese \$15.99</b> This is a voluptuous, sexy, spicy, sophisticated wine all wrapped up in red velvet.</p>	<p><b>Montevina Terra d'Oro Zinfandel \$18.99</b> American oak lends melon and barbecue sauce and french oak adds vanilla and cinnamon to balanced lingering finish.</p>
<p><b>Broccoli Crunch Salad \$3.99 lb.</b></p>	<p><b>Joe's Baked Beans \$1.99 lb.</b> Delicious!</p>	<p><b>Joe's Rotisserie Chickens \$5.99 each</b></p>	<p><b>Red Skin Potato Salad \$3.99 lb.</b></p>	<p><b>BLT Pasta Salad \$2.99 lb.</b></p>
<p><b>Gummy Bears, Worms &amp; Butterflies \$1.49 lb.</b> Save \$1.50 lb.</p>	<p><b>Independence Day Cupcakes 99¢ ea.</b> Chocolate or Vanilla</p>	<p><b>Patriotic Lighthouse Cookies \$3.99 each</b></p>	<p><b>Fresh Fruit Tarts \$19.99 ea.</b> Save \$2.00</p>	<p><b>New! Try our Chocolate Mousse Trifle and our Key Lime Parfait only \$2.99</b></p>
<p><b>Medford Farms English Style Crackers 2/\$5.00</b> 3 stoneground flavors</p>	<p><b>World Harbor Marinades 2/\$5.00</b></p>	<p><b>Musette French Lemonades 2/\$6.00</b></p>	<p><b>Billy Bee Organic Honey 2/\$6.00</b> <b>Upside Down Honey 2/\$5.00</b></p>	<p><b>Cardinis Croutons 2/\$3.00</b> All Varieties</p>

**Hot Prices for July 4th Week!**

### Byrds Choice Meats

**Hot Prices for July 4th Week!**

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Choice Boneless Sirloin Steaks.....                          | only \$6.49 lb. |
| Ground Beef From Chuck. Any Amount - Ground Fresh Daily..... | only \$2.49 lb. |
| Lean & Tender Pork Tenderloin.....                           | only \$3.99 lb. |
| Grade A Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast.....                | only \$2.19 lb. |
| Tilapia Fillets.....   | only \$3.99 lb. |

Walking distance from Joe's!

**248-478-8680 • 33066 W. Seven Mile**  
Byrds Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-7pm • Sun 9-5

**Byrd's Open July 4<sup>th</sup> 9am - 3pm**  
Prices Good thru July 6th

**All of us at Joe's Wish you a Happy and Safe 4th of July!**

**JOE'S PRODUCE**  
33152 W. Seven Mile • Livonia  
(248) 477-4333  
www.joesproduce.com

Prices Good Through July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
**Holiday Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-8 July 4<sup>th</sup> 9-5 Sat 9-8 Sun 9-6**

**Joe's will be open 4th of July for all your shopping needs!**