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THURSDAY **Novi News**

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**Done deal**

**Council approves removal of Fuerst Farm facilities**

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

Regardless of the 1,307 signatures collected by supporters of the Fuerst Farm, Novi's City Council approved Monday, by a 5-2 vote, the contracts for removal, demolition and dismantling of the existing farmstead facilities.

The 6.5-acre farmstead, which is listed on the State Register of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places, currently houses three barns and the former Fuerst home, along with a well house, gardens and an orchard.

More than 20 community members spoke during audience participation at Monday's meeting. Although three were in favor of council's decision to remove the buildings and create a more passive parkland, the majority of participants voiced concern about tearing down a piece of Novi's history and asked council members to place the issue on the November ballot.

"If city council is so sure this is what the people of Novi want, leave it up to the voters," said Novi resident Cathy Tollis.

According to Novi City Clerk Maryanne Cornelius, 1,737 signatures were needed to require the issue be placed on the November ballot.

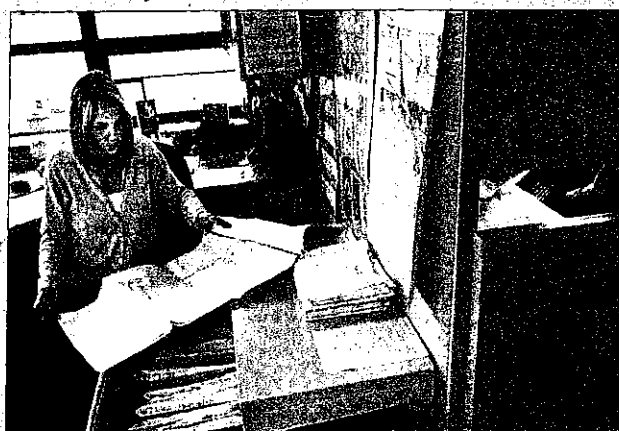
The idea to review potential uses for the property became a priority with plans for the new \$16 million library, set to break ground this fall.

"The construction of the new library may cause the old Township Hall building to be relocated," Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director Randy Auler said in January. "So it makes sense to look at the whole property and its future use."

Through focus group sessions, research and community input, McKenna Associates, Inc., the

Please see **DONE, 4A**

**FLEX TIME**



Kristen Kapelanski, and other co-workers in the City of Novi Planning Department, is taking part in a pilot program for alternative work schedules.

**Novi, Wixom, Oakland County look at alternative work schedules**

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

With gas prices on the rise and the economy on the decline, many workplaces have adopted four-day workweeks.

Local governments have begun to follow suit as Oakland County switched to the four-day plan following a unanimous June 12 approval by county commissioners. Bloomfield Township and Macomb County have also made changes while other local municipalities, including Novi and Wixom, are discussing similar options.

"We've been talking about it since our budget meeting in February," said Tia Gronlund-Fox, the City of Novi's human resources director.

With the four-day workweek, offices remain open five days as employees stagger their schedules so some take Mondays off and others take Fridays off.

In Wixom, city officials are discussing closing offices Fridays and offering extended operation hours Monday through Thursday. Based off a Brigham Young University study, city officials said increased productivity, less

absenteeism, lower operational and fueling costs and more after-hours availability are some of the reasons an alternative schedule is under consideration.

All traditions were new at one time. The eight-hour day, 40-hour week was new at one time and we grabbed onto it and it became the tradition," said Wixom City Manager Mike Dornan. "In this economic atmosphere in this country, if organizations catch the fever and this becomes contagious for a temporary period of time, we may be able to reverse the economic tide and the pressures of the cost of oil."

Wixom is also looking at a five-day office schedule where employees alternate shifts to work four days each, although Dornan said the potential city savings would be lost by keeping offices open.

"There's actually savings to our citizens and we reduce wear and tear. Staying open five days, the employee benefits are derived, but the organizational benefits aren't derived," Dornan said, adding the four-day weeks could result in more than \$25,000 in savings to the city of 14,000 each year. "We're

encouraged by our city council to be creative without the fear of retaliation if we come up with a dumb idea."

The City of Novi is currently testing out a pilot program where employees can work a nine-day, 80-hour schedule over a two-week time period. The voluntary program for non-union employees started Memorial Day and lasts until Labor Day.

"Of our 59 administrative staff, we have 30 that signed up to participate," Gronlund-Fox said, noting none of the department heads were able to take advantage of the program. "It seems to be working well and the employees seem to like the alternative work schedule."

Alternative work schedules have a few benefits, with the most notable being reduced costs spent toward transportation.

"The majority of our employees live outside the city," said Gronlund-Fox, listing Lansing, Howell, Farmington Hills, Lincoln Park and Metamora in Lapeer County as some of the furthest distance city employees travel to work.

Please see **FLEX, 4A**



Novi Fire Department search and rescue personnel assist in locating a boater who drowned Monday in Walled Lake.

**Death ruled accidental drowning**

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

Tragedy occurred in the waters of Walled Lake in Novi on Monday afternoon.

After about six hours of searching, the Oakland County Sheriff's Dive Team & Marine Division recovered the body of Novi resident Anthony Curtis, 38, at 8:15 p.m.

The Novi Fire Department was on the scene within minutes of receiving the call and launched its marine boat into Walled Lake from South Lake Drive. The Novi Police Department and Oakland County Sheriff's Aviation Unit also assisted in the search.

Curtis, who was reported missing earlier that day, had been driving a 17-foot motorboat, with fiancée Charlene Wagner, 38, and 17-month-old son, Tony Curtis, both of Novi, when the three of them were reportedly thrown from the vessel.

"The woman (Wagner) reported they hit a wake from another boat and, next thing she knew, they were all out of the boat," said Novi Community Relations Manager, Sheryl Walsh. "None of the occupants were wearing life jackets."

Witnesses on the shore of West Lake Drive heard screaming and called 911.

Maria Dismondy, a resident of West Lake Drive on Walled Lake, jumped in her kayak and rowed to the scene of the incident.

"She took the baby and Ms. Wagner grabbed hold of the kayak," said Novi Police Chief David Molloy, noting two gentlemen also assisted in the rescue by putting Wagner and the child in

their row boat, allowing Dismondy to return to the scene to look for Curtis. "Without her heroic efforts and the heroic efforts of those two gentlemen, we would probably be dealing with a triple fatality, rather than a single fatality."

The woman and baby were taken to Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, where both were treated and released Tuesday morning.

According to the medical examiner, the results of the autopsy ruled Curtis' death was accidental due to drowning.

Molloy said there are no indications that alcohol was involved in the accident.

The location where the tragedy took place was roughly 400-500 yards off the northern portion of the lake and the body was found in the same general area as originally reported by witness accounts.

It is unknown if Curtis and Wagner are residents on Walled Lake, but the boat was reportedly launched onto the lake between the 1100-1200 block of West Lake Drive.

On Saturday, a 39-year old Wixom man drowned in Saginaw Bay at the Casewille County Park Beach.

Thomas E. Weaver was wading in about 4 feet of water while using a metal detector to search for valuables, when he suddenly called for help several times before going under the water. Weaver was discovered about 20 minutes after he went under

Please see **DEATH, 4A**

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**SATURDAY**  
Roll out the bowling ball and head over to Lucky Strike Lanes, 44325 12 Mile Road, at Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk from 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Bowl a few games while enjoying a full kitchen and drink menu. Ages 21 and older only after 9 p.m. and those younger than 21 must be accompanied by an adult from 5-9 p.m. Call (248) 374-3420 for more information.

**SUNDAY**  
Get your stick-handling practice and ice skating practice in at Novi Ice Arena, 42400 Arena Drive. An open "sticks and pucks" session will take place from 1:30-2:50 p.m. and a public skate from 3-4:50 p.m. to give skaters the chance to sharpen their skills while dulling their skates. Sticks and pucks costs \$8. Full equipment is required for all players younger than 18 and a helmet and gloves are required for those 18 and older. Public skate costs \$4 for residents and \$5 for non-residents. Skate rental costs \$3. Call (248) 347-1010 for more information.

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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



**New Neighbors!**  
Residents of Novi's Fox Run community have been enjoying these Crested Indian Runner Ducks in their pond. This proud parent was swimming around with 12 of the ducklings on a recent morning. Residents said more nests were seen around the pond, which also holds a healthy population of Koi fish.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

## Novi Police Department to host Mature Driver Workshop

The Novi Police Department, in partnership with the Traffic Improvement Association (TIA), will host a Mature Driver Workshop 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Aug. 6-8 at Holy Family Catholic Church, 24505 Meadowbrook between Grand River

### My Novi, briefly

evening television news and daily newspapers have more dire predictions. In metropolitan Detroit gas prices are now regularly topping \$4 per gallon. This ever increasing trend is creating hardships that are impacting just about anyone who owns, operates or depends on a gas powered motor vehicle.

**Novi Parks Foundation Annual Golf Outing**  
The Novi Parks Foundation Annual Golf Outing will take place Thursday, Aug. 7 at the Links of Novi. Prices are \$125 Individual and \$500 for a foursome.

**Novi Parks Foundation**  
The Novi Parks Foundation is a non-profit corporation that assists the Novi Parks Department by raising funds through events and the Naming Rights Program to support park projects, recreational opportunities and the scholarship program.

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

Victoria Mitchell, editor  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
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# MY NOVI COMMUNITY

Thursday, July 10, 2008  
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## Guido's Premium Pizza joins booming business center in western Novi

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

Renny Barris and Greg Parnell spent a lot of time searching for the right location to open Guido's Premium Pizza before settling on West Market Square for the franchise business.

"We spent about one year looking for the proper spot," Barris said of his and Parnell's first endeavor to open a business. "This area is so up and coming. I think, when the hospital opens, the rest of the center will fill up."

Located on the northwest corner of Beck Road and Grand River Avenue, across from the Providence Park Campus, West Market Square currently has about 25 tenants.

Chris Piligan, of Janna Realty Ventures, said the complex currently has two vacancies, not including the newly completed building where Guido's is located.

Piligan, who is responsible for leasing and managing the property, said during the last year, the complex has welcomed Olga's

Kitchen and Guido's, with Paradise Tanning opening in the next couple of weeks and Zoup! slated to open in the fall. During the same time, the only businesses that have moved out of West Market Square are ISOLD It on eBay and Henry J Will Funeral Home.

Guido's Premium Pizza opened about four months ago, making Novi the sixth franchise location. "We started off fairly busy and it's been pretty consistent," said Barris, noting he thinks the lunch crowd has started picking up because of surrounding businesses such as Providence Park Hospital, Kroger and Home Depot.

Offering dine-in, delivery, carry-out and catering, Guido's is serving Novi and surrounding communities such as Northville and Wixom.

"Specifically where we're at, there's not much opportunity for a quick, casual eating experience," said Kevin Steeland, director of marketing and franchise sales for Guido's Premium Pizza. "We started in what we call the east side, in Lake Orion. We wanted to

### The Savory Sauce Boss!

Guido's Premium Pizza  
47964 Grand River  
Avenue  
At the corner of Grand River and Beck Road in the West Market Square Shopping center.  
(248) 449-1111  
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make an impact on the west side. There's nothing like what we do on this side of town."

Guido's is known as "The Savory Sauce Boss" for their selection of sauces, such as original, chunky tomato and spicy fire roasted.

"Everything is made fresh daily and our portions are large, so you get a lot of pizza for your money," Steeland said. "People want to be able to go out on a Friday night and feed the entire family for \$20."

Aside from pizza, Guido's



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Guido's Novi Grand River Avenue pizzeria co-owners Renny Barris, left, and Greg Parnell are joined by manager Amanda Watson and together hold a large special pizza with just about everything on it except ham. Guidos opened in Novi's West Market Square this past winter, across the street from the Providence Park Hospital complex.

offers salads, premium subs and pastas.

"We don't want to be the biggest pizza franchise, we want to be the best pizza franchise," Steeland said. "All of our loca-

tions are owner operated, so it's not like a chain. It's important to us to open with people who want to be a part of their community and Renny and Greg are just like that."

Barris said if business keeps booming, he and Parnell might open more locations.  
kmurad@gannett.com | (248) 349-1700, ext. 103

### West Nile Virus

This spring, Department of Public Works staff continued the City of Novi's fight against West Nile Virus by dropping charcoalized larvicide pellets through the grates of the City's storm drains.

The treatment slowly releases an agent for up to 150 days that kills mosquito larvae. This same treatment will be repeated this summer.

To help aid the cause, there are precautions homeowners can take to reduce mosquitoes around their

home and the threat of West Nile Virus.

• Eliminate standing water that collect in children's toys, buckets, tires, unused pools, roof gutters, birdbaths and other containers.

• Use insect repellents containing up to 35 percent DEET.

• Use repellents containing not more than 10 percent DEET sparingly on children 2-6. Do not use repellent on kids younger than 2.

• Wear protective clothing such as long sleeve shirts and long pants.

• Limit outdoor activity at dusk

and dawn when mosquitoes are active.

• Maintain window and door screening to keep mosquitoes out of your home.

• Clean roof gutters often.

• Wash birdbaths weekly to prevent build-up of algae and dead leaves.

• Keep outside food and water bowls for pets clean and change water daily.

• Keep swimming pools cleaned and chlorinated and drain water that collects on top of pool cover.

• Eliminate low-lying areas where standing water may collect.  
• Mow your lawn on a regular

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**EXCUSE 237**  
*"I don't have time to make an appointment."*

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**DONE**

continued from front

planning consultants hired to review the city-owned property on the southeast corner of Taft and 10 Mile roads, came up with two multi-million dollar conceptual plans.

On April 7, council voted in favor of a plan for adaptive reuse of the site and removal of the existing facilities, but agreed to reconsider its decision if a group or individual was able to come up with the funding to restore and preserve the buildings, within 90 days.

A group of residents joined together to form Friends of the Puert Farm. The group focused its efforts on drawing community awareness and support through a petition, which ultimately supported the preservation of the buildings and asked council to consider an alternative plan for the property.

In the end, the group's lack of fundraising efforts proved unsuccessful in winning over the votes of council members, who all voted the same as they did 90 days ago, including the dissenting votes of councilman Andrew Mutch and councilwoman Kathy Crawford.

Council previously approved to allocate \$347,250, during the 2008-09 fiscal year, toward improvements to the Puert Farm property, and the city's plans are moving forward.

Upcoming projects include moving the Township Hall, removing the three barns and farmhouse, adding a park entry feature at the corner of 10 Mile and Taft roads, and creating pathways throughout the site.

City manager Clay Pearson said Universal Consolidated Enterprises Inc., the company awarded the \$6.479 contract for demolition of the farm house, agreed to completion within 20 days of the notice to proceed and purchase order, which will take place this week.

The contract to remove the north barn was awarded to Luke's Trucking, in the amount of \$3,350, with an expected completion date of Aug. 30.

A Farmington Hills resident, Dave Wittbrodt, was awarded the contract to dismantle and remove the south and east barns by Feb. 28, 2009, in the amount of \$4,000.

Wittbrodt intends to reassemble the barns on his 4-acre property.



The woman who rescued a Novi mother and her baby shows a diver where the incident occurred Monday afternoon on Walled Lake.

**DEATH**

continued from front

and was taken to an area hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

As people are out on the water during the summer months, Molloy offers some tips to have a safe and enjoyable time:

• Always have children in personal flotation jackets

• Use coast guard approved

floatation devices

• Learn to swim

• Pay attention to the weather before heading to the water

• Maintain a safe speed while on a boat and always drive carefully

• Always remember, alcohol and boating don't mix.

kmurad@gannett.com | (248) 349-1700, ext. 103. Gannett News Service contributed to this report.

**League of Women Voters Oakland Area Candidate Forum**

The League of Women Voters will host a candidate forum for those running for State Representative of the 38th District from 6:45-8 p.m. Tuesday. Immediately following, interviews for County Commissioner District 9 will take place. The forum will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road.

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**Summer Dance & Fantasy Camps**

**FLEX**

continued from front

In working the alternative schedules, Grunlund-Fox said the most important thing to maintain is customer service by having people available in person and via phone. This is one reason for suggesting the individual employee schedule rather than closing the offices for one day.

"Potential users are the customer service aspects. That's why it's just a pilot program," she said. "If everything goes the way it's going, I could see us doing a four-day workweek."

Grunlund-Fox said such a change likely wouldn't be discussed until after the pilot program ends in September, but city officials will remain open five days per week regardless of the schedules of individual employees. She also said the current program requires employees to work during the core hours from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. She said some employees work 7 a.m.-5 p.m. or a similar schedule more than eight hours per day so the two-week total is still 80 hours.

"If they choose, they can take a half day off Friday every week," she said, adding that, although it wouldn't cut gas costs for an employee, it would allow them to have more time with their family.

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**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that on 7/28/08 at 10:00 a.m. the following will be sold by competitive bidding at Estate Storage 21650 Novi Rd., Novi, MI

(Space No. 195) Martin Mitera Household Items, Recreational Items, Misc. Goods.

(Space No. 218) Shakela Downey Misc. Goods

(Space No. 28) Umar Cabay Household Items, International Items.

Advance registration is not required for American Girl auditions. Come anytime from 3 - 8 p.m. (plan to stay about one hour). Please wear a leotard, tights, and dance slippers or shorts. Any style dance shoes may be worn. Models and dancers selected are required to attend rehearsals at Center Stage Dance in Northville prior to the Fall Schedule on 8/18/08 and 8/25/08. 7/29, 8/21, 2008.

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**American Girl Doll Tea & Fashion Show**

a charity event to benefit Children's Hospital of Michigan - Festival of Trees

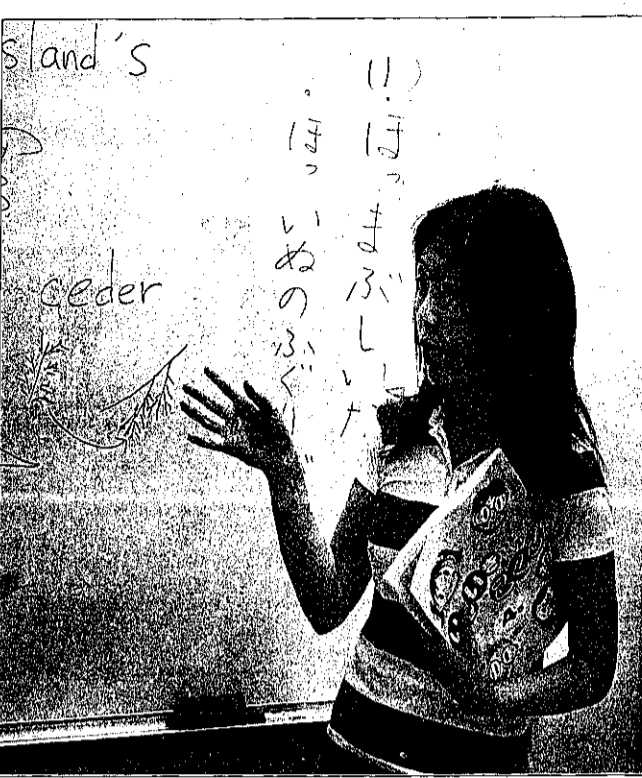
To take place at the Detroit Inn Sunday, Oct. 6, 2008, 2 shows

**Open auditions will be held during our studio open house!**

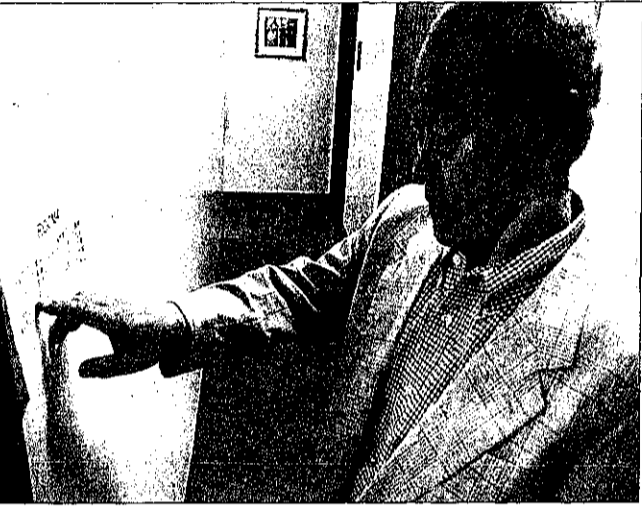


With brush and ink well, Koby student Konoka Hattori works on painting an asparagus during a Thursday morning kindergarten class. Many of the students at the Novi Japanese academy speak English as their first language and are sent to the school by their parents to learn their native tongue.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER



Ridsuko Shudo talks about instructing her pupils at Novi's Koby International Academy.



Yoshihisa Kobayashi, founder of Novi's Koby International Academy, checks the schedule outside one of the many classrooms in the Meadowbrook Road school.

**Private school in Novi offers bilingual education in Japanese and English**

**Koby International Academy**

By Kelly Murad STAFF WRITER

It's a sunny, summer afternoon and Rino Nagayoshi, 8, is sitting in a Novi classroom studying Japanese.

"Today, we are learning about a famous Japanese tree," she said, while showing the picture she drew of a Japanese cedar.

Nagayoshi's teacher, Ritsuko Shudo of Novi, explains the most notable Japanese cedar is found on Yakushima Island and is estimated to be about 7,200 years old.

Although the traditional school year is over, about 200 students, grades kindergarten-12, are currently enrolled in the Koby International Academy's summer school program, learning things such as

located on Meadowbrook Road, just south of 10 Mile Road, is an independent, private and bilingual school in English and Japanese.

The Academy was founded by Yoshihisa Kobayashi 15 years ago to meet the needs of Japanese children who are currently living in the United States, but slated to return to Japan in a few years.

"More than 80 percent of the kids here are only here for three to five years and then return home because of the job of their parents," Kobayashi said. "On one hand, they have to acquire new language skills to get along well with their American counterparts and on the other hand, they have to pursue the maintenance or even further improvement of their mother tongue skills to prepare for the days when they return to Japan."

"If they stop practicing new Chinese characters and fail to increase their vocabulary, when they return to Japan, they cannot read the newspaper, literature, novels ... anything written in Japanese."

Accommodating students from Novi and surrounding areas such as Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Commerce, Walled Lake and Ann Arbor, the Academy offers a variety of programs, with a maximum capacity of about 200 students in each program.

The Day School program, which is offered for students grades kindergarten-nine, is the smallest in size, enrolling about 10-20 students.

Students who attend the Day School follow a similar curriculum of a traditional school, but they focus on using two languages - English and Japanese.

"This is a very unique institution because we offer both English education and Japanese education combined together," Kobayashi said. "Students should try to allocate their time to the mastery of two languages and two cultures."

The Kinder Program, for Japanese kindergarten, is also

school, we don't get any subsidies from the government or anybody," Kobayashi said. "All of the expenses are taken care of by the tuition revenues, paid by the student's parents."

**Koby Language Center**

Along with the Academy, Kobayashi also established Koby Language Center, a private language school in Ann Arbor in November 2005. In 2007, Kobayashi opened the KLC's second location on Main Street in Novi.

The language centers offer a variety of courses in English and Japanese, such as business, practical and intensive English, heritage Japanese and Japanese for young people.

For more information regarding the KLC of Novi, visit [www.klcnovi.com](http://www.klcnovi.com) or call (248) 374-8511.

kmurad@gannett.com | (248) 349-1700, ext. 103



A chart on the wall of Novi's Koby International Academy shows how many kilometers in pages the students have read so far in the year.



As students repeat the formulas in unison with her, Reina Ishida teaches fourth grade mathematics in Japanese at Novi's Koby International Academy.

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

Victoria Mitchell, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102

MY NOVI PEOPLE

Thursday, July 10, 2008 www.hometownlife.com fax: (248) 349-9832

WEDDING



Mr. and Mrs. James Steele Ryan Mae Kelly and James

Bryant Steele was married Dec. 21, 2007 at the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. A reception followed in the Atrium at St. John's. The bride is the daughter of John and Michele Kelly of Northville. She is a 2001 graduate of Mercy High School, 2005 graduate of Michigan State University and a recent graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. She is sitting for the Michigan bar exam in July 2008. The groom is the son of William and Ann Steele of Novi. He is a 2002 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School and a 2006 graduate of Michigan State University. He is currently employed with Aon Risk Services as vice president of business development. The maid of honor was Megan Kelly, sister of the bride and there were six other bridesmaids. The best man was the groom's brother, Britton Steele. The six groomsmen also included the bride's brothers, Jack and Michael Kelly. The bride wore a white gown by Lazaro, hand beaded and embroidered with silk satin with a dropped waist, circular skirt and chapel train. She carried a bouquet of two dozen red roses. The couple honeymooned in Jamaica and make their home in Novi.

NEWSMAKER

Oakland County resident, Christina Struwe, was honored locally as the 2008-09 Woman of the Year of the Novi Oaks Charter Chapter of American Business Women's Association. Struwe has also been nominated by her chapter for the 2009 Top Ten Business Women of ABWA. The final 10 will be announced later this summer. At the association's national conference in Covington, KY, this October, ABWA will honor the Top Ten and designate one woman as the 2009 American Business Woman of ABWA. Struwe works as a treasury management officer and serves the public sector customers at Huntington Bank in Troy. She feels very strongly that individuals should be involved in the community and give back. Part of what attracted her to ABWA is the raising of scholarships for women. She wishes that she had known about ABWA a long time ago.

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Island Luau to Benefit the Alzheimer's Association Hosted by Brighton Gardens of Northville. We have Elvii Brighton Gardens of Northville presents an Island Luau to benefit the Alzheimer's Association. Enjoy a traditional Hawaiian feast including a pig roast, island dancers and the main course: Elvis Blue Hawaii Reue. 100% of the proceeds benefit the Alzheimer's Association. While you've been here, we've been here. While you've been here, we've been here. While you've been here, we've been here. Event Details: Island Luau Sunday, July 20th 1:30pm - 5:00pm Space is limited. RSVP to 734-420-7917 by July 6th. Donations can be made the day of the Luau or may be sent in advance c/o Brighton Gardens. Please make checks payable to the Alzheimer's Association. Brighton Gardens of Northville 734-420-7917 15870 Haggerty Rd, Northville, MI 48170 Also serving seniors at Sunrise of Northville 734-420-4000 16100 Haggerty Rd, Northville, MI 48170 Assisted Living • Memory Care

REPORT CRIME: Call (248) 348-7100 for non-emergencies in Novi MY PUBLIC SAFETY

String of thefts from Novi vehicles reported

Between June 19-30, numerous reports were made regarding larceny from automobile complaints in the City of Novi. The vehicle of a Life Time Fitness employee was broken into between 10 a.m.-4 p.m. June 30, while parked in the lot off High Point Boulevard, near Haggerty and Eight Mile roads, reports said. The victim said the driver's side, passenger window of the silver Jeep Cherokee Sport was broken several times. According to the report, items missing include the victim's brown American Eagle wallet, Mobil gas card, Life-Time Fitness work identification card, cash and a hunter green Garmin global positioning system. Also taken were 15 compact discs and the board game Cranium. The total value of the missing items is about \$500. Police said there was visible bending of the window frame where a prying tool could have been used to break the window. There was no fingerprinting. No other vehicle break-ins at the location have been reported at this time. Between June 26-30, a car stereo unit, containing a navigational system and radio, was stolen from a vehicle parked at the Hunter of Novi dealership, at Grand River Avenue and Meadowbrook Road, reports said. The vehicle was dropped off for service work at about 11:30 a.m. June 26 and when the adjuster came to inspect the vehicle at about noon June 30, the unit was missing. According to the police report, the doors of the vehicle were locked and the keys were turned over to the dealership. There were no signs of forced entry. The estimated value of the unit is \$1,000. Items are suspected stolen from a 2003 Dodge, while parked in the driveway of a residence on Burroughs Road, off Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road, between June 19-21, reports said. According to the victim, a pair of black Ralph Lauren sunglasses worth \$250, a Garmin global positioning system worth \$150, and three credit cards were stolen from inside the vehicle. The credit cards were located inside the woman's purse, which was not stolen. The woman said the doors to the vehicle may have been unlocked. A global positioning system, golf clubs and a hard drive are suspected stolen from a vehicle between 3:15-8:30 a.m. June 30, reports said. The victim said he doesn't think he locked the vehicle, which was parked in his driveway on Moorgate Street, near Nine Mile and 7th roads. According to the report, the man woke up to find packing for a trip and noticed the dome light on inside the vehicle. Upon further investigation, the man reported a Bushnell GPS unit, a black and silver Callaway golf bag containing Callaway and TaylorMade golf clubs and a Hewlett Packard hard drive missing from the vehicle. A black Garmin global positioning system was stolen from a red Ford between 8:30 p.m. June 25 and 1:15 a.m. June 26, reports said. The doors to the vehicle were left unlocked while it was parked in the driveway of a residence on Yorkshire Drive, near Tait and 10 Mile roads. According to the report, the suspect stole the \$212 GPS unit from the center console of the vehicle. There was no damage to the vehicle or signs of forced entry. The spare tire cover for a blue Toyota RAV4 was missing between 6 a.m.-noon June 24, reports said. According to the complainant, the cover was on the tire while it was parked outside her apartment, and at about 12:30 p.m. she noticed it was missing. There was no damage and nothing else missing from the vehicle, reports said.

Novi Firefighters launch new Web site Pittao trial delayed

Novi residents now have a great opportunity to learn more about their Paid On-Call firefighters, while enjoying some great family fun - all at the same time. The Association of Novi Fire Fighters launched a new and exciting Web site last week, at www.novifire.com. The site features fire safety information, events, on-line children's games and plenty of other fun and interactive items for families and friends. "We are really excited to get this site up and running," said The Association of Novi Fire Fighters President Jerry Holtzman. "We felt that everyone has a Web page these days, and it was time for us to get one as well." Paid On-Call firefighters are planning to use their site to communicate valuable information to the public. They will also utilize the site as an internal communication tool for its membership, through a secured area. "We really feel this site will help give the public a better understanding of who we are and what we do," Holtzman added. "As well as interacting with the Novi community, the site's secure area will enable us to post training schedules, recruitment and other important information for the ANFF membership." The Association of Novi Fire Fighters organization has a history of being very active in the Novi Community. "If you have a scout troop pursuing a "Readymen" patch, or if your group needs a fire safety talk, CPR class or a first aid class, the association can help organize that as well.



A photo of Novi firefighters in action from their newly created Web site.

Pittao was delayed a second time and will now begin Sept. 2. The 49-year-old Highland Township resident's court case was first rescheduled from May 30 to July 7 to follow up on the Feb. 7 mistrial verdict reached in the original trial. Before the assistant prosecutor and defense attorney requested the second extension, according to Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Michael Warren's office. Pittao is on trial for the alleged murder of his estranged wife, Tamara Pittao, who was killed on Nov. 27, 1997, at age 30 in her Novi apartment. After a five-week trial in January, a mistrial was ruled when the jury spent two weeks in deliberations, only to reach a split vote with seven jurors suggesting Pittao as guilty and five finding him innocent. The case heard more than two dozen witnesses ranging from friends, co-workers, law enforcement representatives and relatives. Pittao's history of domestic violence with his son and first wife, if convicted, would carry a sentence of life in prison. Pittao has been in county custody since January 2007 and faces charges of first-degree murder, which, if convicted, would carry a sentence of life in prison. cjackett@gannett.com | (248) 349-1700, ext. 122

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# MY BUSINESS

Thursday, July 10, 2008  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)  
fax: (248) 349-9832

## Operating expenses prove too much, force Lazy Lizard out of business

By Chris Jaccett  
STAFF WRITER

MainStreet manayst The Lazy Lizard Cantina is no longer in business after a series of events left owner Richard Golmetis with the wrong side of the locked door. The doors were locked May 16, three days after Dr. Hafeez Shaikh, a partner of the MainStreet Novi complex and manager of the Atrium of Novi, manually shut off the restaurant's gas. Golmetis called Novi Police after both instances to report what she called utility fraud and illegal activity. "Hafeez went and personally turned my gas off," she said. "They changed the locks illegally. They have my stuff locked in there. I own everything but the four walls. My staff was there and clocked in on Monday (May 19). All that food is now spoiled rotten and just sitting there. That's just going to be totally sick."

Golmetis said the eviction notice she received gave her through May 18 to move out and the locks would be changed May 19. Shaikh said the MainStreet Partnership had gone to court to speed things up. "That was all done with a court order. We went back to the court and explained the whole thing. The whole thing was done legally," he said.

Novi Police reports of the two disputes read that Shaikh told police unpaid bills contracted allowed him to turn off the gas, although Shaikh said he had paid the gas and electric bills in full and in advance. Golmetis said her rent was at an unfair market value, costing her \$17,800 per month, plus gas, electric and water bills that

brought the total to more than \$20,000 each month. "I have been in business since 2000, the anchor of that development. They thought they could strong-arm me. They moved over \$17,800 around that was paid with a zero balance," she said. "I told them I was no longer staying at MainStreet."

Shaikh said the money Golmetis was talking about was used to pay Lazy Lizard's other unpaid rent from last summer. "We applied it to the only rent that she owed, which was last August, August 2007. She had been behind since last July or August," he said.

Golmetis found herself at the 521 District Court in Novi to argue her case June 19 in a civil court proceeding in front of Judge Brian MacKevie. Deputy Court Administrator Janet Rehm said there was a June 19 ruling for plaintiff MainStreet Partnership to be paid \$100,000 by GW Restaurant Group, operating as Lazy Lizard Cantina.

Shaikh said the amount would be for more than \$100,000, but will be determined by the court. He said the remaining property in the restaurant is also beyond his jurisdiction. "It's all the hands of court right now. She owes taxes to the county, state and IRS. We cannot move or remove anything without them being there," he said.

The May 22 notice of seizure posted on the restaurant's door via a sign that said "I don't like the way it ended," she said. "I wish them luck and I've moved on. The price we pay for peace... I just walked away from nine years of my life. I really don't have a plan right now, but that's OK because I'm home



A seizure notice is posted on the outside door of The Lazy Lizard Cantina.

payment for \$3,000. So, I don't know where the \$8,000 number came from," Golmetis said. The struggling economy had been a factor in The Lazy Lizard Cantina closing, both Shaikh and Golmetis said.

She had previously petitioned for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in August 2006 after failing \$800,000-\$1 million in debt to vendor services, rent, insurance, construction and various taxes. That tab had included \$20,000 in rent owed to the MainStreet Partnership.

Shaikh also pointed out Golmetis had dealt with some personal problems earlier this year when her ex-boyfriend and Detroit Police Officer Gary Steele attacked her at her Canton home March 4 after she broke off their relationship.

Golmetis said she doesn't have immediate plans of reopening Lazy Lizard Cantina at a new venue because the economy is poor. "I'm moving out gracefully. What's done is done. I'm OK with moving on. I don't like the way it ended," she said. "I wish them luck and I've moved on. The price we pay for peace... I just walked away from nine years of my life. I really don't have a plan right now, but that's OK because I'm home



The Lazy Lizard Cantina in Novi is closed for business.

with my kids." In December 2001, the entire Atrium of Novi building, then simply called the Main Street building, nearly had its power shut off by Detroit Edison as a result of months of unpaid bills to the complex as a result of some tenants' unpaid bills. Chen and Evergreen III eventually left the MainStreet project, which Shaikh and the Chicago-based MainStreet Partnership have since taken over to continue developing the existing complex. The complex was originally

drawn up in the late 1990s to become Novi's new downtown area, featuring restaurants, shopping and residential housing in a condensed area. Farmington Hills-based Triangle Development has taken over the undeveloped land and plans to continue building up the area similar to original plans. Visit [www.mainstreetnovi.com](http://www.mainstreetnovi.com) for a glimpse of the MainStreet Novi concept.

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## Karmanos Cancer Center partners with Meadowbrook to expand outreach and access for cancer services

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Center announced that it has signed an agreement with Meadowbrook C Management LLC, to lease space and equipment at the Meadowbrook Medical Center, located in Novi. The about 14,000-square-foot space will allow Karmanos to expand its outreach to cancer patients in Novi and the surrounding communities, as well as provide access to radiation oncology, medical oncology and chemotherapy services. With this agreement, Karmanos expects to start seeing patients at this location in January 2009.

"Creating partnerships and collaborations to bring exceptional

state-of-the-art cancer care to patients is part of Karmanos' regional, national and international strategy," said John C. Rockfischel, M.D., president and chief executive officer, Karmanos Cancer Institute. "We are pleased to work with Meadowbrook Medical Center so that cancer patients in Novi and nearby areas have access to the best possible cancer treatment and care close to home." In addition to the Meadowbrook location, Karmanos Cancer Center also operates the Lawrence and Idell Weisberg Cancer Treatment Center, in Farmington Hills, and has affiliations with several other hospitals, both in the United States and abroad. Patients at

every affiliate benefit from access to Karmanos resources within their own communities.

Located in mid-town Detroit, the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute is one of 41 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the United States. Caring for more than 6,000 new patients annually on a budget of \$216 million, the state-of-the-art class "A" medical office building devel-

oped by physicians. The facility is designed for the overall convenience and efficiency of patients by providing an integrated one-stop services for patients' needs. Meadowbrook Medical Center features the Novi Surgery Center along with several specialists in the medical field. The Novi Surgery Center offers a warm and personalized setting that is convenient and efficient, allowing the patient to quickly return to the comfort of his or her own home on the same day. The facility is able to handle all the needs of the growing western Oakland County population.

Submitted to the Novi News.

Blanketing the entire county in free Internet service. "MichTel Communications, LLC, has worked very hard to secure funding that ultimately will make the wireless Internet service a reality," Bertolini said. "Unfortunately, this funding pursuit has occurred during an international credit crisis and one of the most difficult economic times Michigan has ever seen. The uncertainty of the Michigan economy, coupled with more stringent banking practices, has caused investors to limit their risk and avoid cutting-edge technology opportunities."

For resurrected, Bertolini said the county's private sector partner will secure funding and own, operate and maintain the Wireless Oakland network. Public tax dollars will not be used to subsidize or fund the effort.



Welcome! The staff at Meadowbrook Urgent Care P.C. stop for a photo during the grand-opening celebration of the Novi medical facility. From left, Sandra Long, Dr. Amy Embree, Asher Sigler, Yisroel Sigler, Dr. Rona Wadde, Kristina Camaj, Nate Gardin, Renee Nafal and Melissa Powell.

## Wireless Oakland suspended

By Joe Bauman  
STAFF WRITER

Oakland County has pulled the plug on its highly-touted Wireless Oakland initiative. County officials blamed a lack of private sector funding for the decision to power down its seven phase-one areas of service and suspend the entire project for six months. The service will be restarted when additional funding has been secured by MichTel Communications, LLC, according to deputy county executive Phil Bertolini.

The ambitious plan called for

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BREAKING NEWS: Go to the Web at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com) for updated news and information

Victoria Mitchell, editor  
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# MY FAITH & RELIGION

Thursday, July 10, 2008  
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## FAITH

**Meadowbrook Congregational**  
LOCATION: 21355 Meadowbrook Road  
CONTACT: Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7757, visit [mbccc.org](http://mbccc.org) or e-mail to [office@mbccc.org](mailto:office@mbccc.org).  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 10 a.m.  
Vacation Bible School-Power Lab  
DATE: July 21-25  
DETAILS: Cost is \$15. Sign up online at [mbccc.org](http://mbccc.org).

**First Baptist Church of Novi-Family Integrated Church**  
LOCATION: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road  
CONTACT: (248) 349-3647 or [firstbaptistchurch@novi.org](mailto:firstbaptistchurch@novi.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 [churchoftheholycross.com](mailto:churchoftheholycross.com)  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 7:45, 10 a.m.  
Sunday School and Nursery Care  
TIME: 10 a.m. Worship Service  
Alzheimer's Support Group  
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month  
DETAILS: Offering support and open discussion for all those dealing with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia.

**St. James Catholic**  
LOCATION: 46325 10 Mile Road  
CONTACT: (248) 347-7776  
Mass Schedule  
TIME/DAY: 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday-Tuesday; 7 p.m. Wednesday, 5 p.m. Saturday.  
Novi United Methodist  
LOCATION: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road  
CONTACT: (248) 349-2652 or [visit@unovimethodist.org](mailto:visit@unovimethodist.org)  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 9:45 a.m.  
Healing Service and Holy Communion  
TIME/DATE: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month  
Peace Vigil  
TIME/DATE: Noon, first Sunday of every month  
LOCATION: In front of the church  
DETAILS: Members of the

**Church of the Holy Family**  
LOCATION: 24505 Meadowbrook Road  
CONTACT: (248) 349-8847 or [visit@holymfamilynovi.org](mailto:visit@holymfamilynovi.org)  
Mass Schedule  
TIME/DAY: 7:30, 8:45, 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Sunday; 7 p.m. Tuesday; 9 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; 5 p.m. Saturday.  
Interested in the Catholic Church?  
DETAILS: If you are in search of a deeper relationship with God, and wish to learn more about the Catholic faith, there is an opportunity for you to get answers and information.  
CONTACT: Call Maria at (248)349-8847 or [spiritualwalk@001@aol.com](mailto:spiritualwalk@001@aol.com)

**Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting**  
TIME/DATE: 10-11 a.m. last Wednesday of each month  
DETAILS: This free informational meeting is open to all adoptive families in Oakland County. Child care is available. Registration is required.

**Fall Program Kick-off**  
DATE: Sunday, Aug. 17  
DETAILS: Join us for worship followed by food, fun and games on the lawn. See the new and continuing programs we offer.

**Oak Pointe Church**  
LOCATION: 50200 W. 10 Mile Road  
CONTACT: (248) 912-0043 or [visit@oakpointe.org](mailto:visit@oakpointe.org)  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 9:15 and 11:15 a.m.  
Renew Life Ministries  
TIME/DATE: 7:15-9 p.m. Mondays  
DETAILS: Ongoing Life Groups that support and facilitate personal growth, healing, learning and change from a Christian perspective. The groups are: GriefShare; DivorceCare; Anger Management; Promiseland (children's worship ages five through fifth grade). Our worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship service.

**Crosspointe Meadows Church**  
LOCATION: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, Novi, south of 13 Mile Road  
CONTACT: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit [www.crosspointemeadows.org](http://www.crosspointemeadows.org)  
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m. Bible study classes for all ages; 10:30 a.m. worship service.  
DETAILS: Nursery and older children programs available including Noah's Ark and Promiseland (children's worship ages five through fifth grade). Our worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship service.

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

**Faith Community Presbyterian**  
LOCATION: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road  
CONTACT: (248) 349-2345 or [visit@faithcommunity-novi.org](mailto:visit@faithcommunity-novi.org)  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 10 a.m.  
Movie Night "Amazing Grace"  
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 23

**GracePointe Presbyterian**  
CONTACT: Rev. Brian C. Slieth, Pastor (248) 497-3178 or [gracepointe@mac.com](mailto:gracepointe@mac.com), and [gracepointe@pcpa.org](mailto:gracepointe@pcpa.org)  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 10 a.m.  
LOCATION: The Novi Civic

**Man Builds Record-Size Tree House**  
After Using Thera-Gesic®  
BEXAR COUNTY - "Then W. applied Thera-Gesic" on his itching knee, then built a monster 1650 sq. ft. tree house on his friend's ranch while his friend was on vacation. When asked why he built the tree house, especially knowing his friend had no kids, he painlessly replied: "None of your dang business!"  
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**Spinal Stenosis**  
Severe Back, Sciatica or leg pain guide that You Should Know About... Available free.  
Detroit, MI - Have you tried pills, injections, therapy, surgery or massage? Shane L. Stanley, D.O. of Chiropractic offering The Severe Back, Sciatica, And Disc Pain Guide for local residents suffering from severe back, sciatica, and leg pain. Discover why your treatments have failed and a possible new solution that most doctors have not heard of.  
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Novi, MI 48375-3024  
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The City reserves the right to accept any or all alternative proposals and award the contract to other than the lowest bidder, to waive any irregularities or informants or both, to reject any or all proposals, and in general to make the award of the contract in any manner deemed by the City, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the City of Novi.  
See Moranti, Purchasing Manager (248) 347-0446 or [smoranti@cityofnovi.org](mailto:smoranti@cityofnovi.org)  
(7-10-08 NN 422049)

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(7-10-08 NN 422049)

**Center, Council Chambers**  
DETAILS: Nursery staffed by Nanny Poppinz.  
**Orchard Hills Baptist Church**  
LOCATION: 23455 Novi Road, Novi  
CONTACT: Pastor Jon Hix (248) 349-5655  
**Preschool/Kids Choir**  
TIME/DATE: 7-8:15 p.m. every Wednesday  
DETAILS: For ages three to six; ongoing event; no need to pre-register, all are welcome.  
**Vacation Bible School**  
TIME/DATE: 5-8:20 p.m. Sunday, June 22-Aug. 17  
DETAILS: Led by Rev. Lisa Cook. Cost is \$15.

**Ward Evangelical Church**  
LOCATION: 40000 Six Mile Road, Northville  
CONTACT: (248) 374-5978  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.  
Traditional: 9:30 a.m.  
Contemporary: Nursery and Sunday School during the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services.  
Every Sunday: 11:30 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; Knox Hall  
Every Monday: 7 p.m. Learner's Bible Study; Room A1  
Second and Fourth Monday: 7 p.m. Study of Ephesians; Room C309  
Every Tuesday: 7 p.m. Praying Together; Sanctuary  
Every Wednesday: 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study; Single Adult Ministries office; 7 p.m. Single Men's Bible Study; 7 p.m. Single Parents; Single Adult Ministries Office; 8:30-10 p.m. Co-ed Volleyball; Knox Hall.  
Every Saturday: 10 a.m. Bicycling Group starts from various locations; geared towards tourist level riders; all levels welcome; helmets required; lunch half-way through ride at your own expense.  
Every Sunday: 1-3 p.m. Sunday; Tennis for beginners; Stevenson High School; Six Mile Road west of Farmington Road.  
A Grand Weekend for Grandparents/Kids  
DATE: July 25-27  
LOCATION: Fahofo Camp and Conference Center, Grass Lake  
DETAILS: Retreat for grandparents and grandchildren. Includes two nights lodging, five meals, a special memento to take home, inspirational teaching by Barbara George-Howard, a wagon ride and bonfire, the

**St. Paul Lutheran**  
LOCATION: 201 Elm St., Northville  
CONTACT: (248) 349-5140  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 8:30, 11 and 11:30 a.m.

**First Presbyterian Church of Northville**  
LOCATION: 200 E. Main St., Northville  
CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 or visit [firstpresville.org](http://firstpresville.org)  
Sunday Worship  
TIME: 9:30 and 11 a.m.  
Single Place Ministries  
TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m. social time; 7:45 p.m. opening; 8-9 p.m. program, every Thursday  
DETAILS: Informative and entertaining programs of interest to singles; \$5 per person. Check website for details [singleplace.org](http://singleplace.org).  
OAK: July 10 - The Love Doctor; Dr. Terri Orback; July 17 - Volunteer Opportunities with Gayle Quatro; July 24 - How to Handle Difficult People with Dick Egli; July 31 - Picnic and Concert.  
Divorce Recovery Workshop  
TIME/DATE: 7:30-9:30 p.m. every Thursday through July 24  
LOCATION: Emeritus Room  
DETAILS: Cost is \$35 per person and includes the book "Growing Through Divorce." Scholarships available. Childcare available for toddlers through grade six. Tonight - Putting Your Ex in Focus with Dell Deaton. July 10 - Helping Children Through Divorce with Sharon Bergman. July 17 - Passage of Divorce is a panel discussion. July 24 - Relationships Old and New with Sadie Bolos.

**Brighthouse Christian Church**  
LOCATION: 40800 W. 13 Mile Road, corner of Michigan-5  
CONTACT: (248) 668-7000  
Emergency Preparedness Training  
TIME/DATE: 9 a.m.-Noon Saturday, Aug. 9  
DETAILS: Sponsored by Aglow International. Registration \$5.00. Send to Aglow International P.O. Box 1394, Walled Lake, MI 48390

**First United Methodist of Northville**  
A Stephen Ministry church  
LOCATION: 777 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville  
CONTACT: (248) 349-1144 or visit [umcnorthville.org](http://umcnorthville.org)  
Sunday Worship (Summer)  
DETAILS: 8:30 and 10 a.m. Coffee hour at 11 a.m.  
Healing Service  
TIME/DATE: 4 p.m. first Monday of every month  
Men's Bible Study  
TIME/DATE: 6:30-7:30 a.m. every Wednesday  
LOCATION: Room 10  
Men's Club: People, Pancakes and Praise  
TIME/DATE: 8 a.m. second Saturday of every month (July)

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**Medical Assistant needed to assist physician with hospital rounds & office patients. Computer experience necessary.**  
Send resume attention: Christy (734) 451-1583

**CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 30, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider MAYBURY PARK ESTATES ENTRY GATES PHASES 1 & 2, SITE PLAN NUMBER 08-14. FOR A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL ON A REVISED PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN AND AN AMENDMENT TO THE R.U.D. RESIDENTIAL UNIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN, THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS LOCATED IN SECTOR 32 NORTH OF EIGHT MILE, BETWEEN GARFIELD ROAD AND BEAR ROAD IN THE RA RESIDENTIAL ACRES DISTRICT. The subject property is approximately 133.72 acres and the applicant is proposing to add gated access and change the existing, approved RUD plan to permit the roads to be private rather than public.

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

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

# MY NEIGHBORS

Thursday, July 10, 2008  
www.hometownlife.com  
fax: (248) 349-9832

## Novi resident one of youngest appointed to federal court

By Sandra Armbruster  
STAFF WRITER

Novi resident Ray Kethledge was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals based in Cincinnati last month.

The Senate confirmed the Tray attorney to the post June 24, two years after he was nominated by President George Bush.

Also appointed were Michigan Appellate Court Judge Helene White and U.S. Attorney Stephen J. Murphy of Detroit.

Kethledge is a partner in the Troy law firm of Bush Seyferth Kethledge and Paige in Troy. "He is either the youngest or among the youngest - person ever nominated, and deservedly so (for the circuit bench)," said Rick Paige, Kethledge's law firm partner and friend.

The youngest ever appointed to a U.S. Court of Appeals was William Howard Taft, who was 34 when he was commissioned a judge of the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals on March 17, 1892, according to Matt Williams, deputy press secretary to U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow.

Kethledge, now 41, was appointed by President Bush at age 39.

Paige praised Kethledge for his intelligence and "excellent judgment." He will objectively look at the facts and not come with a bias to cases.

The federal appeals court "could not have a better sitting judge," Paige added.

The appointments of Kethledge and the others were mixed in partisan politics for years. Last spring, Kethledge received a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Stabenow is pleased that, after so many years of delay and frustration, the confirmation process is finally over, according to



Ray Kethledge

Williams.

Paige credited Stabenow and U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, both Michigan Democrats, with moving forward a compromise that allowed White to be appointed in exchange for the appointments of

Kethledge and Murphy.

Previously with Honigan Miller Schwartz and Cahn, Kethledge joined BSKP as one of its founding partners in 2003, according to Paige. At BSKP, Kethledge has done class action and appeals work, having appeared before several federal circuit courts.

"Ray's practice is very important to the firm," Paige said. "Among the BSKP firm's practices is product liability, with Chrysler as one of its big clients. Kethledge previously served as a clerk for a Supreme Court justice and 6th Circuit Court judge, and as a Senate judiciary counsel for Spencer Abraham.

After attending Wayne State University's law school, he transferred to the University of Michigan law school, graduating with honors.

Kethledge is unavailable for

comment following decorum. He was scheduled to be sworn in July 8.

He and his wife, Jessica, have a son, Ray, and a daughter, Ella.

In his spare time, Kethledge "loves to fish and he talks about it endlessly," Paige said. "(He's) very even-keeled, smart and a very good friend. We'll all very much miss him, but we're very excited to see what he will do from this point forward."

Contact Sandra Armbruster at sarbruster@hometownlife.com or (248) 901-2585. Chris Jockett contributed to this report.

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Members of Experience West Oakland planned, sponsored, donated water and walked in the I Gave My Sole for Parkinson's, a walk-a-thon and 5K run, held at Maybury State Park. The group raised \$1,000 and presented a check to the foundation last month. Experience West Oakland is a group formed two years ago. Members represent area hotels, restaurants, transportation, attraction and entertainment venues.

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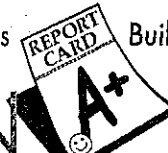
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**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING:** 7 p.m. tonight inside the Educational Services Building on Taft Road

# MY EDUCATION



Thursday, July 10, 2008  
www.hometownlife.com  
fax: (248) 349-9832

## Fox Run raises money for student scholarship fund

Fox Run, a full-service retirement community in Novi, is home to more than 800 men and women who serve their meal each night by area high school students.

The student staff, which totals almost 150, gains valuable experience while earning a good wage with flexible hours that are considerate of their school activities.

Many of the residents and students also develop life-long friendships.

In addition, the student dining staff at Fox Run is offered an incentive for their dedicated service. Qualifying students are eligible for up to a \$4,000 scholarship to the accredited educational facility of their choice.

The scholarship is given in increments of \$1,000 per year and continues for four years of undergraduate studies as long as the student remains in good academic standing.

"The students gain so much more than how to wait on tables or seat diners," said Lola Johnson, staff development manager. "They learn the rewards of being committed to something and doing a great job along with the value of the wisdom our residents shared with them."

This year, 19 area students received scholarships from Fox Run that will total \$76,000 dollars. Fund-raising efforts are cumulative and each year's additional money is used to endow the scholarship fund.

Since the inception of the program, more than \$300,000 has been raised and 33 students have already received scholarships. All funding for the scholarships is raised from the generous gifts of residents and staff.



Students receiving scholarships from Fox Run include (front row, from left) Amber Parker, Alyssa Brennan and Leslie Sullivan. Back row: Nadine Yeldo (left), Amanda Barbosa, Ashley Parker and Kelsey Onder.

"Our residents know the value of a good education and contribute to the fund as a result of their strong relationship with the students and their support of education," McCormick said.

To qualify, students must work at least 1,000 hours typically during their last two years of high school

and be in good standing employment. Students serve as host and hostesses, as well as servers and kitchen support, in the campus Kismet Restaurant, Signatures Restaurant and Hunt Club Cafe.

The scholarships were presented at a Scholar's Ceremony on June 23 in the Fox Run Performing Arts Center.

The Novi residents honored as Fox Run's 2008 Scholars include: Alyssa Brennan, a recent graduate of Walled Lake Western High School. She plans to attend the American Academy of Art in Chicago. She hopes to use her artistic abilities to pursue a career

in advertising.

Amanda Barbosa, a student at the University of Michigan-Dearborn where she studies psychology and carries a 3.85 grade point average. She also plays the flute and is planning a pilgrimage with her Holy Family youth group this summer to see

the Pope.

Amber Parker, a Walled Lake Western graduate who plans on attending either Eastern Michigan University or Schoolcraft College to study education. She hopes to teach English and History after pursuing a business degree.

Ashley Parker, a Walled Lake Western graduate. She will pursue a business degree at Schoolcraft College. After completing her education, Parker would like to pursue a career at Fox Run.

Kelsey Onder, a future Michigan State University student this fall. She is a recent graduate of Walled Lake Western. At MSU Onder will study secondary education with the hopes of teaching math or history.

Leslie Sullivan, a Walled Lake Western graduate who plans to attend Oakland Community College and major in English; and Nadine Yeldo, a Walled Lake Western graduate considering Baker College in Muskegon or Saginaw Valley State University to pursue a business degree.

More than 800 people live at Fox Run, an Erickson full-service retirement community that promotes a vibrant lifestyle. Erickson Retirement Communities is one of the leading national developers of full-service retirement communities. Headquartered near Baltimore, Erickson has built an innovative network of 21 communities that combine a maintenance-free active lifestyle with an ever-expanding host of amenities, social activities, and wellness and medical centers, proven to improve both physical and mental health.

Submitted to the Novi News.

**Gutter Topper**  
No more climbing ladders to clean your gutters

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- patented rain diverters
- optional Advanced Heated IceRelease™ System

**HUGE SAVINGS \$3 off per foot & free \$50 gas card\***

(866) 532-3739

\*\$1 off per foot and \$50 gas card offered good only at time of initial appointment. Limit one gas card per household. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase to receive gas card and/or \$3 off per foot.

**Tanglewood Restaurant**  
Weekend Specials

Friday, July 11

Fish Fry \$7.95  
All You Can Eat

Orange Roughy Dinner \$9.95

Saturday, July 12

Build Your Own All You Can Eat

Pasta Bar \$9.95 with Garlic Bread

\$2.00 Bud Light Pints

35303 W. Ten Mile Road  
... in the neighborhood  
Between Currie & Chubb Road  
South on Country Club Drive

248-486-6217



**Redefining Nursing Care**  
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- 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 Steve King and the Dintiles ..... \$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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Victoria Mitchell, editor  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
vmitchell@gannett.com

# MY OPINION

Thursday, July 10, 2008  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)  
fax: (248) 349-9832

## Novi News

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

### In Our Opinion: Larkin is better choice for 11th District nomination

Whoever wins the Democratic nomination in the 11th Congressional District will have a long uphill battle to unseat incumbent Republican Thaddeus McCotter.

Despite McCotter's support for the unpopular war in Iraq and his solid party line voting record at a time when many voters are disenchanted with Republican positions, McCotter remains a formidable candidate. As chair of the Republican House Policy Committee, McCotter is respected within the ranks of his party and with the party's conservative base.

McCotter hasn't faced a well-known elected Democrat since his first congressional term against then Redford Township Supervisor Kevin Kelley. That holds true in this election. Lavinia attorney Joseph Larkin has never run for elected office. Former Novi City Mayor Edward Kriewall served in appointed government positions. Both candidates are running as relatively conservative Democrats.

Larkin and Kriewall share many of McCotter's views on immigration, gun rights and even trade agreements. Larkin describes himself as a pro-life Catholic Democrat. They both say the war in Iraq is a major reason they decided to run.

White Kriewall has more government experience, he doesn't give Democratic voters a clear alternative. He admits voting for Bush in the last two presidential elections. His views on energy, immigration, guns and taxes could easily fit into a Republican candidacy.

Larkin makes a stronger case against the war, for alternative energy, fair trade and measures that would help people keep their homes in the foreclosure crisis.

For the Democratic nomination we support Joseph Larkin as someone who will offer voters a clearer choice.

### State education funding lacking, causes layoffs

Layoffs. This is perhaps the least liked word at any workplace.

With state funding growing slower than the rate of inflation, it has begun to take effect on our schools. Districts across the state have been forced to cut corners and charge for services that used to be free. There's only so much cutting to be done before it affects the children, and laying off faculty and staff has become the next step.

June 30 was the final day for districts to set their 2008-09 budgets and many reacted to shortfalls by cutting out salaried members of the educational family. It also cut out a member of my family.

My cousin, who just finished his first year as a fourth-grade teacher at Fisher Elementary in Redford, was one of seven teachers and two directors that were laid off at the June 23 South Redford School District trustees meeting.

Just four days prior, on his 23rd birthday, I had asked him how he liked teaching at Fisher, a school I used to play soccer and basketball at years ago. He told me he enjoyed it, the kids liked him and he was keeping busy teaching summer school there.

I haven't talked to him since the layoff announcement, but I can imagine summer school isn't as fun now.

There's a lot of issues with layoffs. I understand the state's lack of funding has put districts in a tough spot, but the actions taken by the districts are always interesting.

In Novi Community Schools, five teachers and a custodian were laid off at the May 1 board of education meeting. By the June 19 meeting, one of the teachers and the custodian had already been recalled from the layoff. Since the layoffs were effective June 30, the pair saw no changes.

Last year, most of the instructors facing layoffs were recalled during the summer, which may have



Chris Jackett

All he wrote

lingering questions during the summer months, but kept them safely in Novi's classrooms teaching the same kids they had the spring before. District administrators have said they hope a similar situation will occur this year and the other laid off staff members can be recalled.

The layoff process can be highly questionable. In South Redford Schools, I can understand a younger teacher with one year of experience being among those laid off in order to preserve those with more experience who have been with the district for years.

However, the eight-year athletic director for Thurston High School and Pierce Middle School and the district's technology director were also both laid off.

Maybe they had larger salaries and it was easier to cut two administrators than three or four more teachers. But what about those portions of the district? Athletics and technology? Those seem to be pretty prominent in running a school district. Not to mention the athletes' pay-to-participate fees increased and daily bus routes were completely eliminated in an effort to face a \$2 million shortfall.

If the decision-makers in Lansing haven't felt the effects of these layoffs, I'm sure they will when fall rolls around and upset parents receive explanations from the districts as to where some of the teachers went. A State Foundation Allowance Increase of \$50-\$100 per pupil each year doesn't fill the hole left by the costs to educate a student when it is growing by about \$250 each year. The state has yet to respond to that with action.

## LETTERS

### Response to Mayor Landry's commentary

After reading all of Mayor Landry's very long and detailed commentary, it should be clear to all that it is a FACT that he is of the OPINION that the Fuerst Farm should be torn down.

Regardless of what is said by any number of citizens, in his opinion, it is time to build something new in its place.

The mayor says the barns are of no use and yet the school district is using them for storage. Are we charging for that? Any private sector owner would be.

The mayor also says we (the public) can't use the site. I did not know it was restricted and I was unaware that the historical site was supposed to be doing any more than just being there for us to see and visit if we choose.

Also, for some reason we can wait no longer, we must act soon for this historical site is getting older. All we need to do is put a marker on this site for what used to be there and it will be just as good.

When I first read that the city council had approved spending \$14,500 to a firm to tell the city what the city wanted to do with its historical site, I thought they were looking for an excuse to get rid of it.

That's just my opinion, the way it is playing out certainly makes me feel I was right.

White Kriewall has more government experience, he doesn't give Democratic voters a clear alternative. He admits voting for Bush in the last two presidential elections. His views on energy, immigration, guns and taxes could easily fit into a Republican candidacy.

Larkin makes a stronger case against the war, for alternative energy, fair trade and measures that would help people keep their homes in the foreclosure crisis.

For the Democratic nomination we support Joseph Larkin as someone who will offer voters a clearer choice.

### Chuck Tindall Candidate State Rep. 38th District

### City Council has lost our confidence and trust

The Novi City Council approved Fuerst Farm demolition on June 10th. I am disappointed that they would have persuaded them to do this. I am disappointed that they would have persuaded them to do this. I am disappointed that they would have persuaded them to do this.

The largest group of citizens to rally in many years. The group identified free services, funding sources, paths for preservation and income. Council could have chosen to work with their citizens, discuss compromise or placed the issue on the ballot. The approved McKenna plan B has a \$3,000,000 taxpayer price tag. A new plan recently surfaced. Gone is the home of the 19th century. It is the home of the 21st century. I have known Doug Curry for over 25 years and know him to be a man of his word and know him to be dedicated to whatever task is before him. He has been a teacher for over 30 years and continues to participate in the teaching community. He has been a dedicated South Lyon School Board member for 25 years and has been a leader in ideas and resolve that has resulted in the South Lyon School District rise to one of the finest in the state. I have been amazed at the fortune that he has, and the tireless time that he devotes to different causes. Doug is a

## Sen. Nancy Cassis' Lansing Connection: Legislation protecting consumers heads to governor

Have you ever opened a drawer to discover a gift card you had forgotten about? This has happened to most of us but now you won't need to worry about whether the card is still worth anything.

As the sponsor of one of the bills in the package limiting the restrictions retailers can place on gift cards I am pleased to announce that after over two years of hard work, the legislation recently passed unanimously in the Senate and will soon become law.

The package of bills, Senate Bill 388 and House Bills 4050, 4317 and 4680, do the following:

- Ensures gift cards purchased after Nov. 1 are valid for at least five years.
- Prohibits inactivity fees or other service fees in conjunction with the purchase of a gift card.
- Prevents stores from changing the terms of the gift card after it has been issued.

This is consumer friendly legislation that now goes to the governor for his signature.



Nancy Cassis

Cassis bill will provide a boost to Michigan's construction industry

The Michigan Senate unanimously approved legislation, which I sponsored, that will provide relief to the state's struggling construction industry by being a structural problem in the Michigan Business Tax (MBT).

Senate Bill 1217 will allow builders to deduct the cost of materials, supplies and subcontractor payments from their gross receipts under the MBT. This legislation is what

helping multitudes of construction companies across the state to keep their doors open for business. It will provide clarity and peace of mind to job providers that we are serious about doing everything in our power to help ensure that Michigan gets back on track.

SB 1217 has been presented to the governor to be signed into law.

Your feedback is always welcome. You can contact me by e-mail at: [senncassis@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senncassis@senate.michigan.gov), or toll free at 1-888-38-NANCY.

State Senator Nancy Cassis, R-Nowi, represents the 15th Senate District, which includes the townships of Commerce, Highland, Holly, Lyon, Milford, Novi, Rose, West Bloomfield and White Lake, as well as the villages of Holly, Milford and Wolverine Lake and the cities of Novi, Northville (the Oakland County portion), Orchard Orchard Lake, South Lyon, Walled Lake and Wixom.

### City has failed in its' stewardship of Fuerst Farmstead

Fuerst Farmstead is not in the way of the new library. The 2000 report indicated a city task force to work on preservation. The Friends of the Fuerst Farm used the programs from the Historical Commission to hear about preservation costs and adaptive reuse. The City Council was provided the following opportunities from the FFF:

1. Barn expert Steven Sifers discussed the condition of the barns and costs associated with restoration. Much less than the \$1,500,000 stated by the city.
2. Ron Campbell, Oakland County Preservation Architect and Pat McKay, Rochester Hills Museum talk about adaptive reuse and potential income from the property.
3. A letter from the Americana Foundation discussing grant funds specifically in regards to the Fuerst Property.
4. Free architectural services from Oakland County for Preservation.
5. Petitions signed by 1,300+ voters in favor of preservation/park combination.

City Council did not take advantage of the above. No formal presentation on the city council agenda was allowed. A city focus group and the vocal public favored preservation. The mayor, council members Gatt, Margolis, Capella, and Staudt did not.

The mayor talked about former council members, a previous preservation group, \$500,000 for Fuerst Farm Family days. They talked about emotions. What wasn't talked about was the decision before us. Demolish a historic farmstead or work in partnership with a large citizen group. In that 90-day period, FFF identified 1,300+ citizens. The largest group of citizens to rally in many years. The group identified free services, funding sources, paths for preservation and income. Council could have chosen to work with their citizens, discuss compromise or placed the issue on the ballot. The approved McKenna plan B has a \$3,000,000 taxpayer price tag. A new plan recently surfaced. Gone is the home of the 19th century. It is the home of the 21st century. I have known Doug Curry for over 25 years and know him to be a man of his word and know him to be dedicated to whatever task is before him. He has been a teacher for over 30 years and continues to participate in the teaching community. He has been a dedicated South Lyon School Board member for 25 years and has been a leader in ideas and resolve that has resulted in the South Lyon School District rise to one of the finest in the state. I have been amazed at the fortune that he has, and the tireless time that he devotes to different causes. Doug is a

### Kathleen McLellan Northville

### Doug Curry for State Representative

Doug Curry has stepped to the plate and has decided to run for the vacated office of Michigan Representative for the 38th District. This is a great decision for Doug and a great decision for the 38th District. I have known Doug Curry for over 25 years and know him to be a man of his word and know him to be dedicated to whatever task is before him. He has been a teacher for over 30 years and continues to participate in the teaching community. He has been a dedicated South Lyon School Board member for 25 years and has been a leader in ideas and resolve that has resulted in the South Lyon School District rise to one of the finest in the state. I have been amazed at the fortune that he has, and the tireless time that he devotes to different causes. Doug is a

### Ginger Barrons Novi

JOIN IN: Discuss our stories online via **Story Chat** at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com)

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

# COMMENTARY

Thursday, July 10, 2008  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)  
fax: (248) 349-9832



**Summer Fun!**  
Matt Wingfield, 10, is guarded while playing basketball during the recent summer-opening session at the Novi Teen Center. The Teen Center, located at Novi High, runs for seven weeks, and is open Monday-Thursday from noon-5:30 p.m., and costs \$80 for all the activities at the school. Field trips, taken on Thursdays, costs a bit extra.

## Tom Watkins: Life is uncertain — enjoy family, friends and 'Pure Michigan!'

Life in Michigan and America seems surreal of late. With gas absorbing more and more of an average person's income, jobs evaporating, the stock market diving, inflation emerging, home values plummeting and foreclosures increasing (if not affecting you directly, your neighbor's loss of their home impacts us indirectly) — well, it can be overwhelming and depressing.

So, live life as if you never will pass this way again.

While there are many challenges, "as long as you have your health, family, friends and love you are a rich man" my grandma would remind me.

I have been searching for fun, inexpensive, close-to-home adventures to give me a lift. Here are some of my favorites and some suggestions:

- A weekend at the Detroit Institute of the Arts or the Detroit Film Theater
- A bike ride along Hines or Kensington parks, giving thanks that we are not in Iowa with the floods or California with the wild fires
- An escape to any one of the Metro Parks while absorbing the beauty of Michigan close to home
- The Jeff Daniels' inspired Purple Rose Theater in Chelsea
- Belle Isle, the jewel of the City of Detroit
- The Ark in Ann Arbor,

offering some of the finest musical talent you will find anywhere

- A local Borders or Barnes and Noble with aniced coffee and the New York Times on a crisp Sunday morning
- Your local library
- The Henry Ford and Greenfield Village

Capitol is truly beautiful and worth the drive.

- Take part in the numerous ethnic festivals and art fairs that dot our region and state all summer long
- Check out the Hot Air Balloon Festival in Battle Creek
- Go to Frankenmuth and see the largest Christmas decoration display in the world and enjoy the most mouth-watering chicken and good family cooking you can get even if it is only Fido
- Go ahead, it is okay if you go to the movies to see "Kung Fu Panda" or the "Hulk" — relive those childhood days!
- Reinvest in our democracy by volunteering for a candidate of your liking in a local, state, county, congressional or presidential campaign
- Drive to Lansing, not with your pitchfork and tar and feathers, but to see our lawmakers in action and tour our beautifully restored State Capitol. Yeah, I know what they say about watching laws and sausage being made, but the State

Life is uncertain. Enjoy Michigan, family and friends while you can. You will discover the simple pleasures and our beautiful peninsula are joys to behold.

Go to [www.michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov) and visit the award-winning official Travel and Tourism Site for more of "Pure Michigan"

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LET'S TALK **Jewelry**

WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN

A FANCY THAT MAY TICKLE YOU

Although diamonds are primarily admired for being colorless, "fancy" diamonds should never be overlooked. This is the term reserved for stones of unusual color, and it's used especially to denote colored diamonds. These are not diamonds with a slight yellowish tinge, for instance, but diamonds with full candy-yellow color. Fancies are not pinkish, greenish, or bluish, but are strongly pink, green, or blue. Their appeal comes from the combination of rich color and the fire that is so often associated with diamond. Indeed, fancies are not for everyone, but those who develop an appreciation for these colored precious gemstones will be rewarded with quite a unique color of jewelry that is bound to draw attention.

Every diamond has its own color and characteristics, and no two are exactly alike. Because of this, it is absolutely vital that you choose diamonds and other precious gemstones from a jeweler you know and trust, a jeweler you can feel comfortable with when discussing your questions. You want a jeweler you can turn to for service and advice in the future. We'd be happy to help in all your fine jewelry choices here at WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI, 41990 Grand River Ave. PH: 248-347-0303. Our business hours are Tues. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Wed. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. & Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. We are closed Sun. & Mon.

SHINE: In October, 2007, a 6.04-carat blue diamond set the record price for a diamond at \$7.68 million.

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Make a Difference **RECYCLE**

**ON THE WEB:** For a complete list of area activities and events, visit [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

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



# MY BULLETIN BOARD

Thursday, July 10, 2008  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)  
fax: (248) 349-9832

## EVENTS

**Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Hydrangeas**  
TIME/DATE: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Tonight**  
LOCATION: Tollgate Education Center, 2815 Meadowbrook Road  
DETAILS: MSU Extension Oakland County is offering this course for all gardeners who want to learn about hydrangeas. Learn about the types and how to use them in your garden. Instructor is Kim Roth from Christiansen's Plant Center. Cost is \$20 per person.  
CONTACT: For details, call (248) 858-0887, e-mail [smithh@oakgov.com](mailto:smithh@oakgov.com) or visit [msu.edu/oc/ohland](http://msu.edu/oc/ohland).

**Democrats of West Oakland County**

**Summer Picnic**  
DATE: Sunday  
LOCATION: Home of Jim and Gail Gudom  
CONTACT: (248) 960-3033

**The Detroit Blue Pigs**

TIME/DATE: Noon Wednesday  
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center  
DETAILS: Musical entertainment by Detroit Police officers, promotes education and crime prevention, crafts for kids, Novi fire and police vehicles on display.

**"Connections" Artist's Show and Reception**

TIME/DATE: Artist's Reception 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday July 16, show runs 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, through Aug. 31.  
LOCATION: Nancy A. Fox Art Gallery, Assarian Cancer Center, Providence Center for the Healing Arts, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi  
DETAILS: Local Artist Jim Quinlan presents "Connections" a colorful exhibit of original paintings from the artist's collection of watercolor and acrylic. "Connections" takes on one man's perspective on life and nature.

**Showcase Wixom**

TIME/DATE: 4-10 p.m. Friday, July 18  
LOCATION: Village Center, 49045 Pontiac Trail  
DETAILS: Celebrating Wixom's 50th Anniversary, no charge, except for concessions. Entertainment: 4-6 p.m. DJ 6-8 p.m. King Sweet, 8-10 p.m. Toxic Groove. Also includes carnival, rides, games, kids entertainment, concessions, beer tent and more.

**"A Summer Celebration" at Michigan State University's Tollgate State**

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, July 19  
LOCATION: Tollgate Farm Educational Center, 12 Mile and Meadowbrook roads, Novi  
DETAILS: Come and enjoy a day strolling through Tollgate's gardens. Volunteers will be available to answer gardening questions and provide demonstrations. Beautiful hanging plants will be on display and there is a quilt raffle. No admission charge, free refreshments.

**Michigan 50's Festival**

TIME/DATE: 9 p.m.-11 p.m. Wednesday, July 23, Thursday, July 24, 3 p.m.-Midnight Friday, July 25, 9 a.m.-1 a.m. Saturday, July 26  
LOCATION: Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk of Novi, 12 Mile Road west of Novi Road  
DETAILS: Come celebrate the 21st annual festival with Miller Spectacular Shows, Vegas Tent, Food Court, Nightly 50's Rock & Roll, Kids activities area, Petting Farm, Kids' Bike Parade, Crafts/Beauty Cycles/dance, Art & Craft Show and Ice Cream Social.  
CONTACT: For more information call (248) 349-1950 or on-line at [www.michigan50sfestival.org](http://www.michigan50sfestival.org)

**Candy Band**

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Thursday, July 24  
LOCATION: Lakeshore Park, 601 S. Lake Dr.

DETAILS: Enjoy kids songs and nursery rhymes with a Rock and Roll twist with this mom's band. Tie-dye a T-shirt for \$10.

**Walled Lake Beach Party and Wakeboard Tournament**

DATE: Saturday, July 26 and Sunday, July 27  
LOCATION: Walled Lake Sports Center, 142 E. Walled Lake Dr., Walled Lake  
DETAILS: Food vendors and boat dealers will provide a fun-filled day. Boat dealers include Malibu, MasterCraft, MB, Moomba, Nautique, Supra, and Tige. At 6 p.m. there will be a Rail-Jam with top semi-professional wakeboarders doing tricks on a slider, then launching off a kicker. On Sunday, more vendors join the event. Wakeboard tournament starts at 8 a.m., and includes four divisions: Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Outlaw with Outlaw Finals. Awards for first through third place.  
CONTACT: For more information, call Doug at (248) 444-8858, e-mail at [doug@wlvake.com](mailto:doug@wlvake.com) or visit [www.wlvake.com](http://www.wlvake.com).

**Second City Comedy Club**

LOCATION: 42705 Grand River Ave., Novi  
CONTACT: Box Office (248) 348-4448

**Jevelical! The Musical**

DATE: July 9 through Sept. 7  
TIME: 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9 p.m. Fridays, 8 and 10 p.m. Saturdays, and 4 and 8 p.m. Sundays

DETAILS: This show is a hilarious look at Jewish life and culture. It is an entirely unique evening of comedy that celebrates all things Jewish and offers an irreverent look at the Jewish culture through scenes and music, appealing to all audiences. Tickets are \$15 on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, and \$20 on Fridays and Saturdays. Tickets can be purchased by calling the box office at (248) 348-4448 or on-line at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).  
CONTACT: For more information, call Lisa at (248) 348-4448

**Pied Piper of Hamelin**

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Aug. 14-15; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17  
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road  
DETAILS: This Novi Theatres production features area youth ages 7-18. Visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org) for more information.

**Senior Variety Series "Remember When... The Game Show of the Century!"**

DATE: September 11-21  
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road  
DETAILS: The Novi Theatres invite those ages 50 or older to join in the Senior Variety Series. Meet new friends and hone your performance skills. Rehearsals begin on June 3 and continue every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the summer. No past experience necessary and there are no auditions. You can register at the first meeting or on-line.  
CONTACT: For more information, call (248) 735-5615 or visit [cityofnovi.org](http://cityofnovi.org).

**Wixom Village Center Summer Concert Series**

TIME: 7-9 p.m. every Thursday (No concert July 17, Friday, July 18 instead)  
LOCATION: Village Center, Sibley Square Park, across from City Hall  
DATE: Tonight - Steve King and the Dillies, Rock & Roll  
DATE: July 24 - Lady Sunshine and the X Band

**Farmers Market - Walled Lake**

TIME/DATE: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. every Wednesday  
LOCATION: Walled Lake City Event Field on E. West Maple Road between Decker Road and Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake  
DETAILS: The Farmers Market begins in May and runs through the end of October. Some of the items available at the market this

year include: Fresh vegetables, eggs, home jams, jelly, fruits, annual and perennial flowers and garden accessories. Vendor space is still available.  
CONTACT: Janel at the City of Walled Lake, 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake or call (248) 624-4847.

**Females in the Family Business Affinity Group**

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

**American Business Women's Association Meetings**

TIME/DATE: 6:15 p.m. second Wednesday of every month  
LOCATION: DoubleTree Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd. (formerly the Wyndham Garden Hotel)  
DETAILS: Local chapter provides many advantages to today's working women and offers a strong community service program which includes raising money for scholarships.  
CONTACT: [abwa-novi.org](mailto:abwa-novi.org)

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**Basic Marketing Seminar by SCORE**

TIME/DATE: 8:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Wednesday, July 16 at Telcom Credit Union, \$45 fee.  
Financial Round Table  
TIME/DATE: 8:30-9:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 23 at Picasso Cafe.  
DETAILS: RSVP for all events at (248) 349-3743

**Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce**

Since 1963, the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce has proudly served as West Oakland's Regional Chamber, servicing the communities of Commerce Township, Union Lake, Walled Lake, Waterford, Wixom, Wolverine Lake and White Lake. Our purpose is to improve the quality of life for businesses and residents in the Lakes area. We act as a unified voice on behalf of the business community, provide a forum to discuss and review topics of interest, serve as a source of information and development programs that are responsive to the needs of the communities we serve.  
LOCATION: 305 N. Pontiac Trail, Ste. B, Walled Lake  
CONTACT: For more information, visit [lakesareachamber.com](http://lakesareachamber.com) or (248) 624-2826.  
Home-based Business Roundtable  
TIME/DATE: 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Today  
LOCATION: Chamber office  
Programs Committee  
TIME/DATE: 9 a.m. Wednesday, July 30  
LOCATION: Chamber Office

**Farmers Market - Walled Lake**

TIME/DATE: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. every Wednesday  
LOCATION: Walled Lake City Event Field on E. West Maple Road between Decker Road and Pontiac Trail, Walled Lake  
DETAILS: The Farmers Market begins in May and runs through the end of October. Some of the items available at the market this

**Walsh College, Business Leadership Institute**

LOCATION: 41500 Gardenbrook Road, near 11 Mile and Meadowbrook roads  
CONTACT: (248) 823-1392

**Novi Rotary Club**

TIME/DATE: Noon every

Thursday

LOCATION: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road  
DETAILS: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check Web site for speaker information: [novirota.org](http://novirota.org).

**List your event in our calendar!**

To be included in My Bulletin Board, please send event name, date, time, location, details and contact.  
Mail: Novi News, My Bulletin Board, 104 W. Main Street, Suite 101, Northville, MI 48167.  
Fax: (248) 349-9832  
E-mail: [vmitchell@gannett.com](mailto:vmitchell@gannett.com)

**Join in the summer events, bees and more bees**

TIME/DATE: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tonight  
DETAILS: Learn all about bees. For children age 5 and older, registration required.  
Legg Bug Contest  
TIME/DATE: 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 17  
DETAILS: Build a "Legg bug" at home, give it a name and bring it to the library. Contest open to school age children; rules available at library. Prizes awarded and refreshments provided.  
Children's Stories in the Park  
TIME/DATE: 12:30-1:15 p.m. DATE/LOCATION: Monday, Tuesday, July 15, 22 and 29 at Sims Park  
DETAILS: Pack a picnic lunch, bring a blanket or lawn chair and come join in the fun. If raining, call the library. Drop in, no registration.

**Wixom Public Library**

LOCATION: 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom  
HOURS: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday  
CONTACT: (248) 624-2512 or visit [wixomlibrary.org](http://wixomlibrary.org)  
Museum Adventure Pass  
DETAILS: Card holders can check out free passes, for two to four people, to many area museums, cultural centers and historical sites. See [detroitadventurepass.org](http://detroitadventurepass.org) for more information.  
ESL Cafe  
TIME/DATE: 3:30 p.m. every Tuesday  
DETAILS: Coffee and conversation. Improve your English speaking skills by speaking with people from other countries trying to improve their English. No tests; instructor help. Free.  
CONTACT: Karin at the Information Desk.  
Flowers and Plants in Art  
TIME/DATE: 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Thursday July 17  
DETAILS: Slide show of nature works from the Detroit Institute of Arts. Please register at the Information Desk.  
Adult Summer Reading: Pollinate Your Mind  
DATE: Through Aug. 2  
DETAILS: See website for more details.  
Staves of Suspense Book Club  
TIME/DATE: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 30  
DETAILS: "The Accidental Florist" by Jill Churchill.  
Catch The Reading Bug: 2008 Read-To-Me and Summer Reading Clubs  
DATE: Registration ongoing.  
DETAILS: For ages 2-10; must register in person. Read eight books by Aug. 9 to participate in the closing party on Aug. 12.  
Tuesday Programs for Club Members Only  
TIME: 10:30-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday  
DETAILS: Open to "Catch The Reading Bug" members only. For ages 2-10, under 6 must be accompanied by an adult. All programs take place in the Community Services Ballroom unless otherwise noted.  
DATE: Tuesday - Young Entomologists' Society  
DATE: July 22 - Jumbo Crafts Day  
Fantasie Fridays  
TIME: 10:30 a.m.  
DETAILS: For ages 2-6 with an adult; stories, songs, crafts and fun. All "Catch the Reading Bug" members welcome to attend.  
DATE: Friday - Special Spiders  
DATE: July 18 - Doodlebugs  
Malamalorip @ Your Library  
DETAILS: Summer Reading

**Novi Senior Activities Center**

LOCATION: Located in the Meadowbrook Commons Senior Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road.  
CONTACT: (248) 347-0414  
Message by appointment: 9-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 9 a.m.-noon Saturday  
Thursday  
9 a.m.: Mixed Golf League  
9-11:00 a.m.: Line Dance - Int. 11-15 a.m.: 12-15 p.m.: Line Dance-Beg.  
Noon: Lunch  
12-1:15 p.m.: Contract Bridge  
1-2 p.m.: Chair Yoga  
1-3:30 p.m.: Computer Lab  
Open: Book Discussion "Never Let Me Go" by Kazuo Ishiguro  
2-3:30 p.m.: Line Dance  
Friday  
9 a.m.: Stretch and Strength  
10 a.m.: Body Recall  
11 a.m.: Medicare with Jack  
Noon: Lunch  
12:30 p.m.: Duol. Bridge  
1 p.m.: Bingo  
Monday  
8:45 a.m.: Men's Golf League  
9 a.m.: Stretch and Strength  
10 a.m.: Body Recall; Walk Michigan  
Noon: Lunch  
12:30 p.m.: Pinochle  
1:00 p.m.: "Scarlet Ladies"  
Red Hat Group  
6 p.m.: Plates Mat Work  
Tuesday  
8:30 a.m.: Panera Bread  
9-11:00 a.m.: Line Dance-Int.  
10 a.m.: Asian Pacific  
10:30-11:30 a.m.: Bookmobile  
Noon: Lunch  
1 p.m.: Bingo  
1:30-3 p.m.: Computer Lab  
Open  
Wednesday  
9 a.m.: Stretch and Strength  
9:15 a.m.: Women's Golf League  
10 a.m.: Body Recall  
11 a.m.: TOPS, Blood Pressure  
Noon: Lunch  
12:30 p.m.: Club Clogging  
1:00 p.m.: "Five Wishes"  
1:30 p.m.: Club Clogging  
Health Care  
6:30 p.m.: Beg/Int. Clogging  
7:30 p.m.: Club Clogging

**Novi Community School District Board of Education Meeting**

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Tonight  
LOCATION: Educational Services Building, 25345 Taft Road  
CONTACT: (248) 449-1204

**Novi City Council Meeting**

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. first and third Monday of each month  
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road  
CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

**Novi Youth Assistance General Citizens Meeting**

TIME/DATE: 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5  
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road  
CONTACT: (248) 347-0410

**Novi Community Education Corner**

CONTACT: (248) 449-1206  
Novi Community Education's Spring and Summer Brochure is now available. Sign up today for adult and youth classes, camps and summer programs. Online registration is available 24/7 at [novi.k12.mi.us/District/CommunityEducation](http://novi.k12.mi.us/District/CommunityEducation). For more information, please call the Community Education office at (248) 449-1206

**Walled Lake City Library**

LOCATION: 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake  
HOURS: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday  
CONTACT: (248) 624-3772 or e-mail to [admin@walledlakelibrary.org](mailto:admin@walledlakelibrary.org)  
Classical Music Series  
TIME/DATE: 2 p.m. first Tuesday of each month  
Friends of the Library Meeting  
TIME/DATE: 1 p.m. second Tuesday of month  
Adult Book Discussion Group  
TIME/DATE: 12:30 p.m. third Tuesday of each month (July 15 - "And You Know You Should Be Glad" by Bob Greene)  
DETAILS: Drop in for informal discussion. Bring a bag lunch, check library for current book selection.  
Library Board of Trustees Meeting  
TIME/DATE: 1 p.m. second Friday of every month  
Catch The Reading Bug  
DETAILS: Join the summer reading program and "be" a reader. Visit the library and pick up instructions and materials.

**Novi Public Library**

LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile Road  
HOURS: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Closed on Sunday until Sept. 7.  
CONTACT: (248) 349-0720  
WEB SITE: [novilibrary.org](http://novilibrary.org)  
Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library.  
Summer Reading programs for adults and children are now in session. For more information or to register online, go to [novi-b.org](http://novi-b.org)  
Museum Adventure Pass  
DETAILS: Card holders can check out free passes, for two to four people, to many area museums, cultural centers and historical sites. See [detroitadventurepass.org](http://detroitadventurepass.org) for more information.  
On-Going Used Book Sale  
DETAILS: The Friends of Novi Library sponsors an on-going used book sale in the library meeting room every day during library hours. \$6 for a big bag of

books.

Story Time  
DETAILS: Go to [novilib.mil.us](http://novilib.mil.us) for schedule and details.  
Kniters and Knotters  
TIME/DATE: 6:30-8 p.m. second and fourth Monday of each month  
DETAILS: Drop in for informal needlework group in Youth Area; all levels welcome.  
Senior Book Discussion  
TIME/DATE: Noon-1:30 p.m. second Thursday of each month  
DETAILS: Book discussion group for older adults facilitated by librarian; please call to join.  
English Conversation Group  
TIME/DATE: Noon-1 p.m. every Tuesday (June and July)  
DETAILS: For ages 18 and older. Practice your English while you make friends. Group will be guided by a volunteer from the Oakland County Library Council. No registration required.  
Library Board Meeting  
TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. third Wednesday of each month  
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, City Council Chambers  
DETAILS: General meeting of the entire Library Board. Broadcast live on cable channel 13.  
Drop-In Story Time for Ages 4 and up  
TIME/DATE: 10:30-11 a.m. Today  
DETAILS: Thirty minutes of stories and fun. Accompanying adult must remain in the building.  
Drop-In Story Time for Ages 2-3  
TIME/DATE: 10:30-11 a.m. Tuesday  
DETAILS: Stories and fun; children must be accompanied by an adult; other siblings welcome.  
Drop-In Story Time for Ages 1 and 2  
TIME/DATE: 10:30-11 a.m. Friday  
DETAILS: Stories and fun. Siblings welcome.  
Anime and Manga with Shannon "Roku-chan" Townsend  
TIME/DATE: 7-8 p.m. Monday  
DETAILS: Join professional artist Shannon Townsend as she walks you through the artistic how-to's of this immensely popular style of artwork. Supplies available or bring your own sketchbook. Please register.  
"Antz" Movie  
TIME/DATE: 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday  
DETAILS: For children ages 4 and older; movie rated PG.

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Call (248) 349-1700 for additional information.

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10:30-11:30 a.m.: Bookmobile  
Noon: Lunch  
1 p.m.: Bingo  
1:30-3 p.m.: Computer Lab  
Open  
Wednesday  
9 a.m.: Stretch and Strength  
9:15 a.m.: Women's Golf League  
10 a.m.: Body Recall  
11 a.m.: TOPS, Blood Pressure  
Noon: Lunch  
12:30 p.m.: Club Clogging  
1:00 p.m.: "Five Wishes"  
1:30 p.m.: Club Clogging  
Health Care  
6:30 p.m.: Beg/Int. Clogging  
7:30 p.m.: Club Clogging

**Novi Community School District Board of Education Meeting**

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Tonight  
LOCATION: Educational Services Building, 25345 Taft Road  
CONTACT: (248) 449-1204

**Novi City Council Meeting**



# NEXT WEEK: FINAL ALL-AREA TEAMS

## MY NOVI SPORTS

More All-Area Coverage inside

SPORTS 17A

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2008 • HOMETOWNLIFE.COM • SPORTS SUBMISSIONS: JTHEISEN@GANNETT.COM • PAGE 16A

### Northville's Stern tops strong field

#### ALL-AREA SOCCER

##### Wildcats place three on First Team

By Jeff Theisen

On a team filled with top-notch players, Northville's Sarah Stern stood out from the crowd. Whether putting the ball in the net or finding an open teammate for a goal after drawing double and triple teams, she found a way to lead the Mustangs in a season filled with unbelievable accomplishments.

"She possesses exceptional athletic ability and an unquenchable desire to win," Mustang head coach Ron Metzger said. "She was the first player chosen for the All-Conference Team."

Stern was voted First Team All-State after racking up 26 goals and 14 assists for a team that won 20 games and didn't suffer a loss until a shootout in regional play against the eventual state champions. Scoring 40 points on the season leaves her fifth on the all-time Northville single-season scoring list.

For the career list, Stern's 53 goals puts her in sixth place and 41 assists places her third all-time. Her 94 combined points are good for fourth.

"I wasn't sure what I was really expecting coming into high school," Stern said. "There were lots of great people to play with, and I definitely feel like I got better."

Stern said practices begin in mid-August and she can't wait to get going. "It will be a lot of work, but it will be fun and will keep me busy," she said with a laugh.

##### Player of the Year

Sarah Stern, Northville

Chaklos finished her career as one of the top 11 best players in the state as a member of the Dream Team. She scored five goals and passed out eight assists as a midfielder. She made Second Team All-State. She finishes her career with 32 goals and 39 assists and will play at Michigan State next year.

Cody helped anchor the defense that allowed just nine goals all year, as well as scoring three goals and assisting on six more. She will continue her career at Pittsburgh.

Fratto made Third Team All-State. She tallied three goals and six assists, and finishes her career with 26 goals and 50 helpers. She will play at UNLV.

Also on the First Team are Northville's Theresa Yankovich, Kelsey Baskins, Caroline Castell, Lauren Lokay and Elana Ryznar; South Lyon's Megan Morad, and Lauren Eckler; Milford's Althe Zemaits, Chelsea Shrewsbury and Michelle Dant; and Lakeland's Paige Schwartz.

Burns played a big part in the shutouts, helping to bolster the stingy Wildcat defense, while picking up All-District and All-KVC honors along the way.

The Second Team includes Nov's Erin Zeriu and Megan Burns help lead the All-Area Second Team.

Zeriu received Third Team All-State after allowing just 0.5 goals a game and was part of 10

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Mustang senior Sarah Stern is the All-Area Soccer Player of the Year.

### Milford sophomore Schoenle runs away with top honors

#### Novi's Shelar, Robinson, Barlage on First Team

By Patrick Pinter and Jeff Theisen

Milford head track coach Brian Salyers knew he had something special in sophomore Kayla Schoenle. The only problem was keeping her on the track and away from nagging injuries.

"This year, those injuries were not a problem and it was clear she wasn't bothered by them as she blossomed this year into a budding star.

Schoenle capped off a tremendous season with a regional championship in the 200 meter run and breaking a Kennington Valley Conference record in the 100. Schoenle's performance this year has earned her the All-Area

#### Player of the Year

Kayla Schoenle, Milford soph.

Schoenle racked up a boat load of top finishes this year. At the state finals she placed sixth in the 200 with a time of 26.06. Her regional championship time in the same event was 25.5.

"The 200 had a really good field, but we thought she had a shot at a regional championship. About a quarter way through the race, it was clear she was going to win. That was a statement race for her," said Salyers. "She was prepared and mentally focused. As soon as the gun went off, it was her show."

Schoenle was also part of three state qualifying relays. At the Oakland County relays she took second place in the 400 with a time of 58.95 which was a sophomore class record.

"She is extremely competitive and tremendously strong. She has that intangible where she wants to be great," said Salyers. "As a

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Megan Morad, South Lyon jr.

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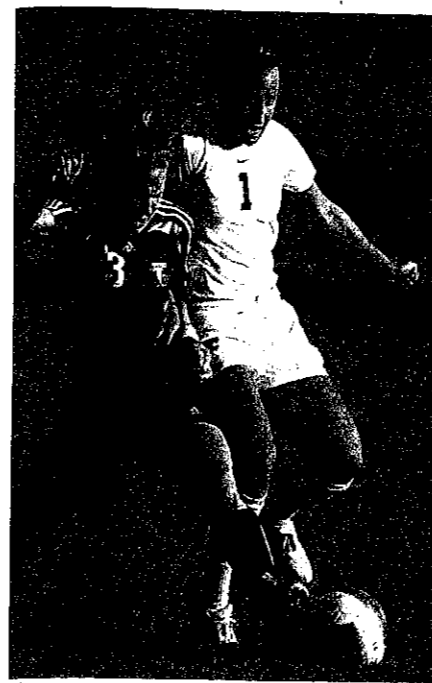
girl, she missed the entire dual meet season and was still able to secure runner-up finishes in the 200 and 400 races. This year, we were able to keep her on the track and she was able to fulfill the

expectations."

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See TRACK, 17A



Wildcat Katie Chaklos battles with a Birmingham Groves player for the ball during district play.

#### SOCCER

continued from front

Northville's Sarah Aquino, Julia Bawden, Jenaele Dolmetsch and Nicole Miller. South Lyon's Katie Williams and Courtney Harrison; Lakeland's Lauren Dahl and Macy Hubbard.

#### Honorable Mention

Receiving Honorable Mention



Novi's Jamie Fratto, left, and Northville's Caroline Castell go up after a ball during their playoff game.

#### TRACK

continued from front

coach you love to work with athletes that are full of desire like her."

At the KVC meet this year Schoenle was just as successful. She was the 100 champion and set a new meet record in the event with a time of 12.2. She also won the 200 with a time of 25.8.

"Her win in the 100 was equally impressive as her run at regionals. It was another great field and she was one of the lesser known girls in the race," said Salyers. "After that race there was no doubt who was the best."

The ability to compete in multiple events is what separates Schoenle from many of the other great athletes she competes against.

"She is not one race kid. She can compete in the 100, 200 and 400 at an elite level," said Salyers. "That ability to compete in all those events at such a high level is what separates her from the other kids."

Novi's Erin Zeriu and Megan Burns help lead the All-Area Second Team.

Zeriu received Third Team All-State after allowing just 0.5 goals a game and was part of 10



Novi's Katlyn Shelar clears the bar while pole vaulting during an April home meet.

The All-Area First Team: Elle Robinson, Monica Barlage and Katelyn Shelar. All three competed in the state meet.

Robinson, Barlage and Shelar were named All-Conference, Region and County honorees for their efforts in the 3,200 meters.

Shelar was county and regional champion in the pole vault. Barlage was voted All-Conference and region in sprinting events.

The rest of the First Team

#### Sports Shorts

##### Novi Football Camps

Novi head football coach Tab Kellepporey will be hosting football camps July 21-24 on the east practice field at the high school. Campers should bring both indoor and outdoor shoes. Pre-registration is \$50 and \$60 the day of the camp.

The following is a list of the camps:

- Third-fourth grade, 8-9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Fifth-sixth grade, 10-11:30 a.m.
- Seventh-eighth, noon-1:30 p.m.
- Freshmen, 2:30-4 p.m.
- Sophomores, 10-11:30 a.m.
- Juniors and seniors, 2:30-4 p.m.

Registration can be done by calling (248) 449-1206.

##### Novi Volleyball Camp

The Novi volleyball coaching staff is hosting a summer volleyball camp at the high school.

All Skills Camp

- Grades third-sixth - 9-11:30 a.m. July 21-24
- Grades seventh-ninth - 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. July 21-25

Those interested can register through Community Education.

##### Schluter's Hoop Camps

Former Novi boys basketball head coach Pat Schluter is hosting several basketball camps this summer at the St. James Catholic Church.

##### Novi Summer Tennis

All Novi High School students are invited to summer tennis workouts. The workouts are at the high school courts 8-10 a.m. Tuesday-Thursday July 15-17 and 22-24, weather permitting.

#### TRACK

continued from front

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##### Second Team

The All-Area Second Team includes Northville's Markea Dickinson, Daniela Drury and Chelsea Ciampa; Milford's Patience Santini, Claire Fuelling, Mary Tomlinson and Marissa Barnowski; Lakeland's Breanna Izzo; and South Lyon's Jenny Maslany.

##### Honorable Mention

Receiving Honorable Mention are Northville's Jenny Murphy, Anna Hardenbergh and Karina Puskorius; and Milford's Margeux Canup and Jenna Law.

The All-Area teams are submitted by coaches from Northville, Novi, Catholic Central, South Lyon, Milford and Lakeland and compiled by Jeff Theisen and Patrick Pinter.

#### ON THE MOVE

### Training alone or with others

Training runs can be enjoyable and something to look forward to or a lonely workout you wish would soon be over. One way to get more fun out of running is to do some of your training with a friend or a group. You will find you become more disciplined and the time passes more quickly. But is it best to train alone or with others? The answer is "yes" to both.

#### The "Hula Girls"

I recently met with several members of the "Hula Girls" running group as they prepared for their Thursday evening run in Northville. They have been training together once a week the year-round for over 13 years - and in all kinds of weather. There are currently 11 women in the group with a wide range of ages (21-67), backgrounds and running abilities. It is a diverse group with a common love of running.

Jan Valade of Northville and Mary DeMatteis of Novi started running together in 1990 - the year Jan ran her first marathon. Since then, Jan has become a seasoned Boston Marathon veteran and Mary has run a marathon on all 7 continents.

Two other members joined us that evening - Nina Bova from Ann Arbor and Kari Smith of Northville. Nina has completed 112 marathons and Kari balances running with raising three active children.

Why run together? They provided many reasons including the friendship and support - and not just on the weekly runs but throughout the year and at races. The group level in a group is higher than if running alone. All age differences disappear when on a run and the members will break into smaller groups for different paces and distances.

Having one or two group runs scheduled each week assures you will get out there and not procrastinate. They look forward to the exercise and fellowship. And there is always a good place nearby where they can socialize afterwards.

While there are numerous benefits to running with a group, the members still expressed a desire to run alone at other times during the week. Solitary training is much more flexible as to time, place and distance and can be very relaxing and peaceful - especially early in the morning or after a busy work day.

#### Finding Group Runs

One of the best ways to participate in a group run and to see if you like it is to visit one of the local running stores. Most have one or more weekly runs for both new and experienced runners. You may want to check to see if friends or neighbors would like to train with you. In addition, running events provide an excellent opportunity to meet people with similar interests.

#### Upcoming Events

• Saturday, July 19: The Farmington Founders Festival 4 Mile Run begins at 9 a.m. at Shawassaw Park. The final mile runs along the parade route on Grand River Avenue (running-foundation.com)

• Saturday, July 26: The Road Runner Classic at Maybury State Park features a 1 mile run/walk at 5 p.m., an 8K run/walk at 5:30 p.m., and other family fun. (northvilleroadrunners.org)

Northville resident Jerry Mittman is an avid runner and has completed over 600 races, including 59 marathons. He can be contacted at jerry9977@hamnet.com.

#### Grand Champs

The Novi Varsity and Junior Varsity Pom Pon squads attended the Mid American Pom Camp at Northwood University in Midland last week. Both teams were awarded the Grand Champion by earning a first place in each of the three categories: Kick line, original routine and speed learning. Both teams also won first place for Showmanship which is awarded to the team with the most presence and appeal in their routine.

In addition, four senior members of the varsity squad earned a first place award for their senior kick line routine. The seniors are captain Macaila Schiuff, captain Kayla Koch, Melanie Carlin and Betsy Scirra.



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Milford's Kayla Schoenle is the All-Area Track Athlete of the Year.

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# bd's Mongolian Grill makes smooth transition under new ownership

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

bd's Mongolian Grill may be under new ownership, but patrons won't see many changes at the MainStreet location.

Since founder Billy Downs sold the 35-restaurant, Ferndale-based Asian food chain to investors Roger Head, Clyde Culp and New York-based private equity firm Kinderhook Industries two months ago, the company has made a smooth transition.

"It's gone extremely well. We couldn't be happier," said Head, the company's new president and chief executive officer. "As far as the restaurants are concerned, it's business as usual. We're quite pleased with Michigan sales despite the economy. Novi performs extremely well for us. We're excited to be a part of that community and will continue to be a part of that community."

Serving the MainStreet complex for the past decade, the most noticeable change is the restaurant's name, which dropped the word "Barbique" in favor of "Grill," a modification that took place before the ownership change.

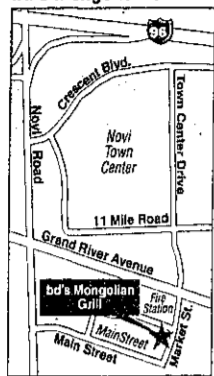
"Mongolian Grill has a nice ring to it. It's not barbecuing as Americans recognize it. It's cooking on a flat-top grill," Head said.

Head said the name change and the possibility of additional items on future menus are the only changes customers should expect to see. In February, the restaurant began adding seafood options to the menu.

"We didn't buy the concept to change it. We like what Billy has done. The concept is sound," Head said.

Downs, who still serves on the board of directors and as a member of the marketing team, opened the first bd's Mongolian Barbique in Royal Oak in 1992. "About a year and a half ago, Billy began to search for

## bd's Mongolian Grill



SOURCE: City of Novi

investors. He decided he wanted to take bd's to another level. As far as searches go, we were looking for a brand to buy, to be the franchisor, not the franchisee," Head said. "As we were looking for a brand to buy, we were looking for something in a unique space in the industry. Asian cuisine is thriving right now, bd's is pretty unique. We weren't looking at the Mongolian Grill space because we weren't familiar with it and we were just wowed with it when we found it."

bd's Mongolian Grill has 35 locations in 11 states, and one in Mongolia. Ten of the locations are company owned, including eight in Michigan. The other two company-owned locations are in Denver and Chicago. The remaining locations are all franchises and are primarily based in Michigan, Ohio and the other Midwestern states, with three in Florida. Locations recently opened in Louisville and Cincinnati, with Pittsburgh and St. Louis mentioned by Downs as potential regions to explore.

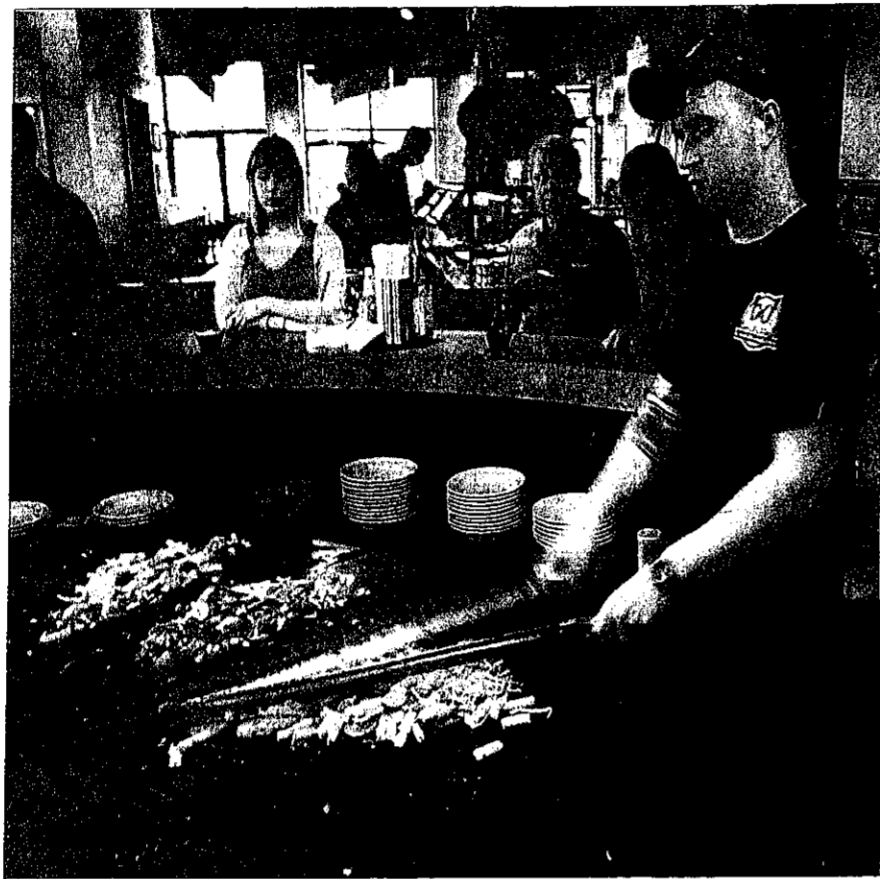


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's bd's Mongolian Grill employee Karlos Kowaleski cooks some lunch-hour food for visitors on a recent Wednesday afternoon. bd's recently had a change in its ownership.

Head hopes to expand the brand through franchises, while also adding company-owned restaurants to the Minnesota Burger King's in the Midwest. Jackett@comcast.com | (248) 349-1700, ext. 122

# Flower shop icon passes away, leaves large void

Donna & Larry's and their customers miss Theresa Podpora

By Alea Hibbeln  
SPECIAL WRITER

Donna and Larry's Flowers, located on Novi Road, was once a store filled with laughter. Now the owners, Larry and Donna Podpora, and even their customers, spend their days wiping away tears because they have lost an irreplaceable treasure.

Theresa Podpora, mother to owner, Larry Podpora, died almost suddenly at age 81 from congestive heart failure in May. Podpora and his wife, Donna, haven't been the same since. Theresa, known as Mom or Grandma to customers, lived with the couple in their Brighton home and had been working in the flower shop for the past 13 years.

"She always had a kind word and a hug to give our customers," said Podpora of his mother. "Mom just loved people. She was always out there (on the floor) with a quick compliment and a good word, a hug, a kiss on the cheek, and connecting with people. She was so genuine. Loving was as natural to her as breathing is to us."

Podpora said his mother would give the customers' kids money, cookies or candy on their birthday.

"She didn't know age," he said. "Customers keep saying, 'I came in because of your mom; she was so nice to my children.'"

"My mom added something that Donna and I couldn't—she had the time to spend with people. You can't imagine how huge the gap is here. It has left a hole

in our hearts. "I didn't even realize how far reaching her connection was to people," he said, referring to the droves of customers who come into the shop teary-eyed from grief. "Everyone who has met her says the same thing, 'your mom touched my life.'"

Theresa had a lasting effect on every being (human or animal) who was fortunate enough to cross her path—from the store's mailman who would bring her Christmas and birthday presents to the couple's golden retriever, Sammy, who still mopes around the store because he misses her so.

"Mom would sit in her Lazy Boy (at home) and every day she'd give Sammie a diggy ice cream and a massage," Podpora said. "They were inseparable."

The couple would take Sammie into the hospital everyday to see Theresa during her two-month stay. Podpora said the large beige dog would lie under his mother's bed and weep because somehow he knew the end was near. And finally, on the day before his mother's passing, Podpora placed a rose in Sammie's mouth to take to her. The loyal canine slowly walked down a long hallway and as the staff moved back to give him room, he dropped the rose in front of Theresa's closed door. There wasn't a dry eye in the house.

"Mom and I were extremely close," Podpora said with eyes welling up with tears. "She gave me emotional and spiritual strength beyond anything I could have hoped for myself. 'Tomorrow is a better day,' was her motto."

"Donna said I've got to carry on my mom's legacy." Unsurprisingly, she said, Podpora said he would do it, if only for her honor.

"Mom welcomed me into the family when we got married," Donna said. "She treated me like her daughter."

In fact, customers would say to Donna, "Oh, your mother is so sweet," and Donna didn't bother to correct them because she barely recognized the fact that Theresa wasn't her mother.

After looking at several senior care centers, Donna and Larry decided "Mom" should live with them.

"My mom said, 'the older people are nice, but they're always counting their pills,'" Larry said. Theresa needed to count pills herself, but that wasn't what she meant.

"My mom was young at heart," he said. "She loved to dance... and talk to birds."

Larry said he called his mother "the balloon lady" because



Submitted photo

Larry and Donna Podpora (seated front) will miss their mother, Theresa Podpora, greatly at their flower shop.

she had an art of blowing up balloons really fast in the store. Two days before Theresa went into the hospital, she was tying balloons for a big order when Larry said, "Mom, you really like doing balloons, don't you? She said, 'they really make me happy.'"

Ever since Theresa's passing last month, Donna and Larry have received calls daily from customers wanting to share a story about her. Prayer groups between Northville and Brighton are remembering a woman who lived her life turning strangers into her friends. A community, touched so deeply by a lady named Theresa, still weeps.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

## Going for Broke!

Shaun Fydzewski shoots some hoops - with a cast on his right leg - during a recent Wildcat Basketball Camp held at Novi Middle School. Fydzewski, who broke a bone in his lower leg while playing hoops recently, was helping out at the camp that took over the courts of the school for a week.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

A lunch-hour group dines at Novi's bd's Mongolian Grill in downtown Novi.

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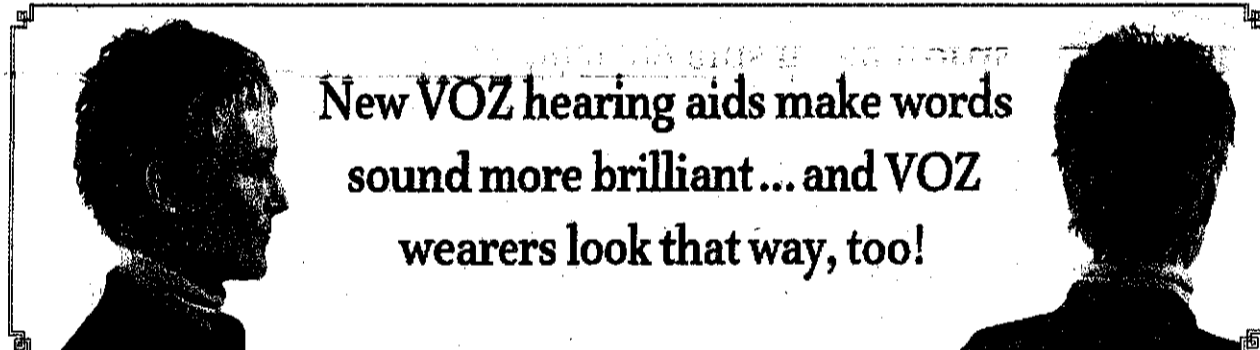
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