

Novi singer heads to Italy for opera 'boot camp' - Neighbors, A6

THURSDAY
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NOVI NEWS

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Summer camp is magic for kids - A3

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY 6/25/09

NUTSHELL

E-Newsletter winner!

Walter Sahijdak of Novi is this week's winner of a pass for two Imagine Theatres and a free Buddy's pizza. Sahijdak signed for the E-Newsletter and was selected in a random drawing. To sign up, click on the E-Newsletters tab on Hometownlife.com (top left of the home page). The Novi News will offer E-Newsletters on Thursdays, and local business and entertainment newsletters will come out once a week.

In Her Shoes

Two Walled Lake women, Stacy Brown and Tammy Chiaravalli, have partnered with HAVEN, a 501(c)(3) organization providing programs promoting violence-free homes and communities, and will present an upscale charity event, In Her Shoes, Saturday, June 27, at the Bayside Sports Grille located on the shores of Walled Lake. Attendance is anticipated at more than 500 people for the evening, which includes a designer shoe fashion show, live entertainment, raffles, food/drink specials, door prizes and much more. Organizers are looking for corporate sponsorships and donations; contact Chiaravalli at tamrachiaravalli@yahoo.com or (248) 766-9398; or Bonnie Brown at bonnieb43@comcast.net or (248) 202-8600.

Fire up the ice cream

The grand opening celebration of Stuart's of Novi ice cream shop will see 100 percent of all sales donated to the Novi Fire Department to raise money to purchase an automated external defibrillator for one of the fire trucks. The event will take place from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 27, with fire department personnel on site and a moonwalk for children. Stuart's is located on the northeast corner of 10 Mile and Meadowbrook roads. Call (248) 615-2955 for more information.

Chamber golf

The Novi Chamber of Commerce's 22nd Annual Golf Outing is Tuesday, Aug. 18 at Tanglewood Golf Course. Fee per golfer of \$145 includes 18 holes of golf, coffee-and-danish breakfast, lunch by Carrabba's Italian Grill and a pig roast dinner; foursomes are \$560. Call the chamber at (248) 349-3743.

Time is ticking on Cobo deal

Rock president supports keeping auto show in Detroit

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Blair Bowman, president of Rock Financial Showplace, has no problem with the North American International Auto Show staying at Cobo Center in Detroit. But if that plan does not work, Bowman believes his facility is the best alternative and capable of handling the large-scale event. "If (the auto show) is accommodated in a responsible expansion and



Bowman

renovation of Cobo Center and maintained in Detroit that would be fine," Bowman said. "But the concern is, given the track record, we need to have an alternative that if (a deal) does not occur in a certain time frame then there needs to be a way of saving the show." Not allowing the show, which attracted more than 600,000 people last year, to leave the state is a major objective for everyone involved. The hope is that the show stays in Detroit, but other options are being explored. "In these economic times for Michigan to lose anything is a very troublesome and hard to take

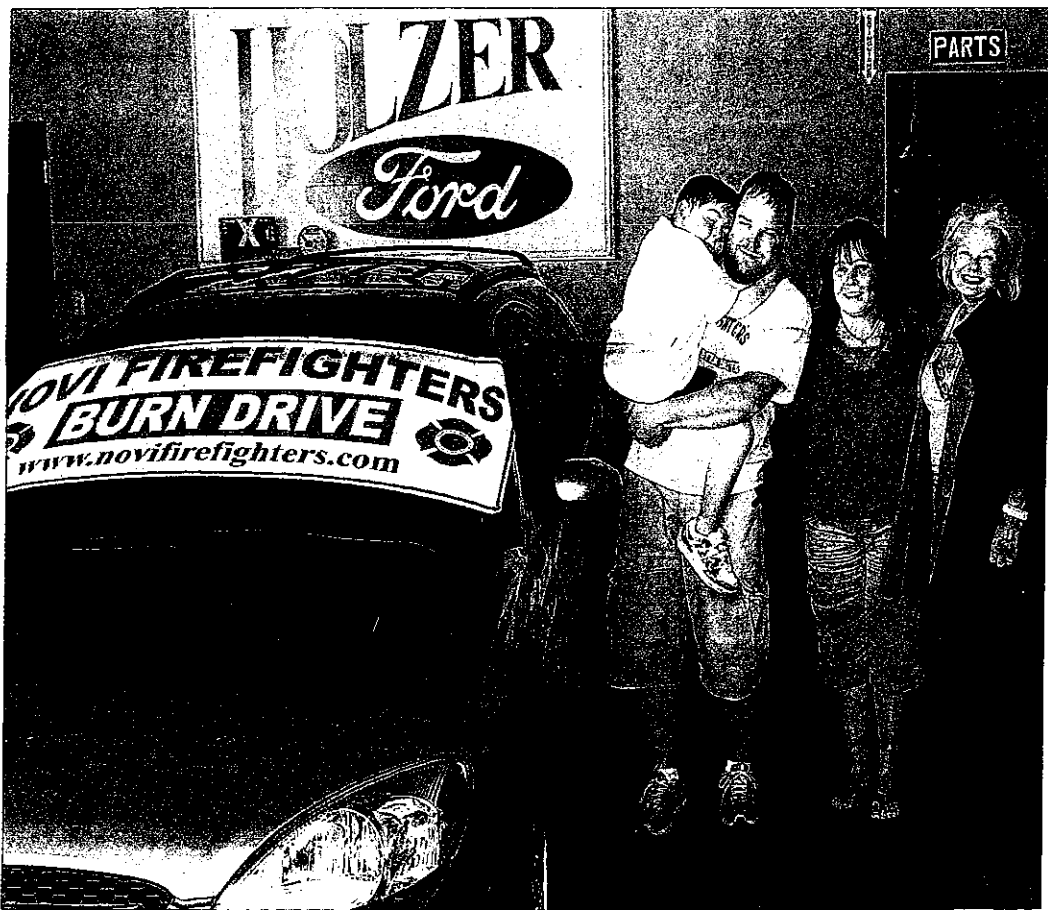
situation," said Sen. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi. "This is do or die. It's very important to our state and our image as a state." A pair of bills passed in the state House on June 18 would allow Detroit to keep ownership of Cobo through a lease agreement and give residents in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb counties priority for Cobo Center jobs. The bills are now slated to go to a conference committee made up of members of the House and Senate, with the hopes the two sides can work out a compromise. Rep. Hugh Crawford, R-Novi, has asked to be on the conference committee and is "extremely concerned" about not getting it completed in time. The Senate package approved in May included a July 1 deadline for

WHERE IT STANDS

A pair of bills passed in the state House on June 18 would allow Detroit to keep ownership of Cobo through a lease agreement and give residents in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb counties priority for Cobo Center jobs. The bills are now slated to go to a conference committee made up of members of the House and Senate, with the hopes the two sides can work out a compromise.

Detroit to turn Cobo over to a regional authority, but the House version did not have that stipulation, instead

Please see COBO, A2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Helping hand

Thanks to the help of the Novi Firefighters Burn Drive and Connie Holzer (right) of Tom Holzer Ford, Tim and Anita Lucas got the transportation they needed to take their seven-year-old son Trevor to cancer treatments.

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Study: Novi can improve police and fire services

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Novi Mayor David Landry understands that change is hard. Hearing an outside firm be extremely critical of services the city takes a lot of pride in might be even harder.

But Landry knows that for the city to continue its positive track record, it must continue to look for ways to improve, especially during tough economic times.

"If you don't bring in an outside source, you get comfortable in what you are doing. And we want to make a commitment to be critical of ourselves before anything bad happens," he said.

"If you don't bring in an outside source, you get comfortable in what you are doing. And we want to make a commitment to be critical of ourselves before anything bad happens."



DAVID LANDRY, Novi mayor

"We think it is good to bring in someone to say, 'You have great

Please see STUDY, A2

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COBO FROM PAGE A1

saving the transfer would have to be effective by Sept. 30.

Both Senate and House packages agreed to give Detroit \$20 million to defray costs and the state would give the authority \$9.4 million for the expansion.

"I just have my doubts that it can be done soon enough with the process we are going through in Lansing," Crawford said. "Personally, I think Detroit is the place for it, but we cannot lose it in this state and region."

Novi perspective

Rock Financial Showplace is not a show-in for the auto show if it leaves Detroit. Ultimately the decision is up to the auto dealers involved with the show.

However, if Rock were the choice, an addition of 975,000-square-foot would have to be put on the existing 320,000-square-foot facility along with 5,000 parking spaces. It would be an authority-owned operation with Bowman leasing and managing it.

Bowman said he would have to know within 30-45 days what the plan is so construction could start and the facility could be ready for the 2011 NAIAS.

Novi Mayor David Landry,

like Bowman, is OK with the auto show staying in Detroit, but he also cannot help but be excited about the opportunity if Novi was the next option for the event that draws nearly \$500 million in business.

"I don't think Detroit is going to let it go. It would be a mistake for them to let it go," Landry said. "But as the mayor (of Novi), I would like to see it come."

Landry said if it were to happen, he wants Novi to get direct dollars to cover the additional costs of more police and fire personnel among other things. Traffic issues would also have to be looked at.

Dave Shingler, a 36-year Novi resident, said he does not believe Novi has the infrastructure to handle the crowds, and believes the hassles, including with traffic, far outweigh the gains.

"I truly don't think it's coming here regardless because there is nothing in Novi to attract people in January," he said. "People would have to stay in Detroit and drive out here in what could be miserable road conditions that time of year."

The deadline for a deal in the Senate package is Wednesday, and as of press time, a conference committee meeting has not been scheduled.

nmiller@planet.com | (248) 437-2011 ext. 255

STUDY FROM PAGE A1

people, but you could be even better if you did this."

The two services the city had ICMA Consulting Services look at were the police and fire departments. According to the study, both departments have "dedicated and well-trained personnel" and "provide a high level of specialized services to the citizens."

But the study also pointed out deficiencies in the departments and provided recommendations for how the city could improve the services.

In regards to the fire department, the study said the department is "handicapped by a dysfunctional deployment system which has created two separate fire departments under one management structure. This dysfunction is enhanced by two separate unions, two standards for operations and continues to the level of uniforms worn by employees."

The department is staffed by full-time and paid-on-call firefighters and a recommendation was to work the two groups side-by-side to ensure the stations are staffed equally for 24 hours, an idea Landry

said was "wonderful." Other suggestions were to develop a technology task force and restructure the department to create a second and quality control position utilizing the fire marshal, among other recommendations.

The recommendations for the police department were to implement a temporary directed patrol for property crimes and create a second deputy police chief position and one new lieutenant with no net changes in staffing, among others.

Novi City Manager Clay Pearson said the city is going to spend time internally looking at the recommendations and plan how it wants to implement them going forward. Not all recommendations will be put into place, but everything is being looked at.

"Novi residents know they have a safe community and know we have good public services, and that doesn't happen by accident," Pearson said. "It takes a lot of hard work."

"We do these studies because we do not want to settle. We want to be better."

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Face to Face

Picasso Cafe presents Face to Face, an exhibit of life drawings and paintings by Barbara Elio Murphy, July 1-28. Hours are 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9-5 Saturday. The cafe is located at 39915 Grand River Avenue in Novi. Owner Allen Attee began letting artists show their work at his cafe seven years ago. Murphy returns each year to do a solo show. Call (248) 427-0600 for more information.

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Summer camp is magic for kids

BY SUE HASON OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Teachers get their summers off from school, but career-technical teacher Will Heine has decided to go back to school, so to speak.

A veteran magician, Heine has decided to open a summer magic camp for youngsters interested in learning the art of prestidigitation.

"As a high school teacher, I realized that kids don't have a lot of interaction time with people anymore," said the Plymouth resident. "They're busy texting friends, they're on the computer. The camp will be fun and teach kids those interaction skills."

Campers will learn sleight of hand, stage magic, juggling, balloon animals, presentation skills, the art of magic, building a stage magic trick, writing a story line for a trick and timing of humor, all leading up to a Grand Finale Magic Show for their parents. The week also will include magic performances by Heine and other magic and juggling guests.

They'll receive a Magic Bag full of all the props they'll need to learn the magic routines taught during the week and a DVD containing all the lessons



Juggling will be one of the skills youngsters will learn at a summer magic camp being offered by magician Will Heine of Plymouth.

taught so that kids can refer to them, if they happen to forget how to perform a trick.

"They'll come away with the tools needed to perform tricks they've learned during the week," Heine said. "They'll learn how to tear and restore newspaper, amazing rope tricks, how to float objects and how to make sponge rabbits disappear from guests' hands into their hands."

The camp will be offered in four sessions — Monday-Friday, July 6-10, July

13-17, July 20-24 and July 27-31 — at the Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile, just west of Meadowbrook, Novi. If those four weeks fill up, sessions will be opened the first two weeks of August.

Hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and lunch will be provided by the church's licensed kitchen. The cost is \$370 — a deposit of \$185 in advance with the remainder due at a pre-camp meeting. Child care also is available 6:30-8:30 a.m. and 3-5:30 p.m. for

a one time fee of \$40. Parents will receive a full refund of their deposit if the child is unable to attend the camp.

For more information about Heine's Summer Magic Camp, call (877) ALAKAZAM, (877) 252-5292, or go online at SummerMagicCamp.com. "The camp is about fun and making kids smarter," said Heine. "The camp will be entertaining and will be about entertaining."



According to Will Heine, youngsters will learn to do 'amazing rope tricks.'

Heine has been a magician for more than 30 years. He was introduced to the sleight of hand at age 10 and did his first show at age 11. His first gig was three doors down his street at a birthday party and his first trick was the egg bag in which an egg magically appears and disappears in a bag.

During his career, he has been an opening act at the Fisher Theater for comedian Robert Townsend and for fellow magician Harry Blackstone Jr. A desktop publishing teacher at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center in Westland, he also has used his magic to capture his students' attention and as

an incentive. His dream has been to open a magic camp and it's been in the works for five years. Heine found that being a respected magician was a huge boost for his self-esteem and he wants to provide his campers with the positive identification. "I wanted to build a solid camp that offers a great experience for the kids, something that would help them develop their life skills," he said. "If you're a good communicator and a fun person, you do better in life. People will gravitate to you because you're fun to be around."

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Large advertisement for Children's Hospital of Michigan Autism Center. Text: Join us for an Open House. Sunday, June 28, 2009, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Children's Hospital of Michigan Autism Center. Tour the new center, meet the team of experts, and learn about the specialized services available. Educational Program: 1:30 pm Autism Screening and Referral for Pediatricians, 2:10 pm Evidence-based Behavioral Services for Autism, 2:30 pm Imaging Research and Designing New Treatments for Autism. Light Refreshments. Activities for kids of all ages. 41935 W. 12 Mile Road, Suite 202 Novi, MI 48377 (between Meadowbrook and Novi Roads, just east of Twelve Oaks Mall). For more information, please call (248) 305-6172 or email gdeboard@dmc.org.

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47 MEMPHIS W/ SUPERCHICK and SEVENDORY
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

474 MC HAMMER W/ COOLD and TONE LOC
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

TONIGHT

26 NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK X 7:30PM
W/ JESSE McCARTNEY and JABBAWOCKEEZ
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

25 GOODNIGHT MOON X 7:30PM & 7:50PM
Children's Musical Program
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

THIS SATURDAY

23 THE BRAY W/ JACK'S MANNEDUX X 7:30PM
and RICHARD SWIFT
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

27 ABC W/ ANDY CHUNG X 8:00PM
MISSING PERSONS and CUTTING CREW
REGENERATION TOWN 2ND
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

THIS SUNDAY

28 NAS & DAMIAN MARLEY, THE ROOTS, X 1:00PM
GUSTA NYRIES, BIG BOI and MORE
ROCK THE BELLS 2009
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

29 BEST OF BARABE Fiddle Fest X 7:30PM
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

THIS TUESDAY

30 HEART W/ MICHAEL GRIMM X 7:30PM
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

THIS WEDNESDAY

1 BAD COMPANY X 7:30PM
THE DOBBIE BROTHERS
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

JULY

3 NO DOUBT W/ PRAMORE
and BEDDING SOUNDCLASH
THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

4 STAINED W/ CHEVELE,
SHINEDOWN and HALESTEREM X
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

8 BLUE OYSTER CULT / OVER THE RAINBOW X
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

9 COUNTRYBOY GOODW/ W/ AUGUSTANA
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

10 RED SPEEDWAGON / STYX W/ 30 SPECIAL X
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

11 1984 THE THRUITE X
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

12 BRAD PAISLEY W/ DIKERS BENTLEY X
and JIMMY NAYVE
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

13 LASERACTACULAR - THE MUSIC OF PINK FLOYD X
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

14 THE STYLISTS X
THE MANHATTANS and THE MAIN INGREDIENT
featuring CUBA GOODING, SR. - 70'S SOUL JAM
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

15 GREEN DAY W/ THE GRAVEY
THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

16 JUDAS PRIEST W/ WHITESNAKE and POP EVIL X
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

17 ABBA THE MUSIC X
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

18 ALAN PARSONS LIVE PROJECT X
W/ THE ORCHESTRA featuring former
members of ELECTRIC LIGHT ORCHESTRA
and ELECTRIC LIGHT ORCHESTRA PART II
DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

19 LYLE LOVETT and HIS LARGE BAND X
MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

20 BEYONCE W/ RICHIE RICE
THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

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Senior Interim Miss Majorette of Michigan

Novi resident Kristen Kiger, 17, poses with her coach Patti Jankowski of Lake Orion. Kristen, a junior at Novi High School, recently competed in the Miss Majorette of Michigan Pageant. Kristen took first place overall in her division of the 16 and over group for her combined scores in Twirl Solo, Fancy Stroll Routine and Best Appearing. She also placed second in her two-beat routine. Her title allows her to compete as the representative of Michigan in the Miss Majorette of America pageant this July at Notre Dame University.

NOVI COMMUNITY BRIEFS

'Oliver' auditions

Novi resident Barbara Bloom will be directing the Spotlight Players upcoming presentation of "Oliver" at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill (504300 Cherry Hill Road, Canton). Auditions will be held at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, July 12 (for ages up to 16); and at 6:30 p.m. on July 13-14 (ages 16 and older).

Performance dates are Sept. 18-20, 25-27. Follow Oliver, an orphan, from the workhouse of his birth to an upper class neighborhood in London and meet all the strange, wicked, misely and nice people that enter his life

including Fagin, Nancy and the Artful Dodger through wonderful songs and a light hearted approach to a very dark Dickens tale.

For more information contact (734) 480-4945 and leave a message for Barbara Bloom and visit www.spotlightplayersmi.org or http://www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

WLW Class of 1977

The Walled Lake Western Class of 1977 will be gathering at Possum Hollow in Kensington Metro Park on Saturday for the fifth year in a row. Come one, come all, and please bring a dish to pass and pictures to share.

OAKLAND COUNTY FAIR PICTURE THE FUN July 7-12 2009 FREE DAILY ATTRACTIONS NIGHTLY EVENTS... Springfield Oaks County Park 12451 Andersonville Rd. Davisburg • 248-634-8830 www.oakfair.org

For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at www.hometownlife.com.

Send calendar submissions via e-mail to estouse@hometownlife.com, by fax to (248) 349-9832, or by mail to Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

Local Events JAVA AND JAZZ JAM TIME/DATE: 9-11 p.m. June 25, July 30, Aug. 27 LOCATION: Biggby Coffee, 43346 Grand River at the corner of Grand River Avenue and Novi Road

EVENING IN THE GARDENS TIME/DATE: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, July 9 LOCATION: MSU Extension Toigoate Education Center, 2815 Meadowbrook Road, Novi

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE The Novi Chamber of Commerce is an active, progressive chamber offering a variety of events, educational programs, an enhanced website, and involvement with

local charities. LOCATION: 41875 11 Mile Road, #201, Novi CONTACT: For more information, call (248) 349-3743 or www.novitchamber.com

Business ABWA ANNUAL 'PICNIC' AT THE NOVI DOUBLETREE HOTEL TIME/DATE: 6:30 p.m. July 6 LOCATION: Doubletree Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi

NOVI ROTARY CLUB TIME/DATE: Noon every Thursday LOCATION: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY Library Hours LOCATION: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road

SUMMER HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Adult and Youth Summer Reading Programs DATE: Starting Friday, June 19 DETAILS: See our website for more details on these exciting summer reading programs!

DETROIT JAZZ BEFORE MOTOWN DATE: Thursday, June 25 TIME: 7-8:30 p.m. DETAILS: Hear a talk given by Jim Gallert and Lars Bjorn, authors of Before Motown: A History of Jazz in Detroit, 1920-1960.

Tuesday Evening Book Discussion DATE: Tuesday, June 30 TIME: 7-8 p.m. DETAILS: Join your Novi neighbors in a great discussion of My Life in France by Julia Child.

Create a Masterpiece DATE: Monday, July 1 TIME: 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. DETAILS: Drop in anytime between 11 a.m.-1 p.m. to create your own masterpiece. We will have supplies from our craft closet for you to re-invent for your own unique artistic creation.

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Womens Health Complete Women's Health Care Madhuri Gudipaty, M.D. Obstetrics & Gynecology Metro Partners in Women's Health 26850 Providence Parkway Suite 500 Novi, MI 48374

Doctors Surgeon A. DAMADI M.D. Colorectal Surgeon Specialized in colonoscopy, minimally invasive management of diverticulitis, colorectal cancer and treatment of hemorrhoids. 26850 Providence Parkway Suite 168 Novi, MI 48374 248-662-4388

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OUR VIEWS

We should all learn from these students

"Kids these days ... they're not like they used to be."

Nope, they're not. In towns like Novi and Northville, they're intelligent, talented, motivated and, most importantly, caring.

Case in point: the students who attend the 24 schools (including the Wildcats and Mustangs) that make up the Kensington Lakes Activities Association. Each school has numerous fundraisers throughout the year, donating the money to a variety of charities — local, state-wide, national and even international, like the American Red Cross, Veteran's Hospital, Rotary-African Water Pumps, American Cancer Society, World Vision, Toys for Tots, Humane Society, Special Olympics, Heifer International, Gleaners Food Bank, Muscular Dystrophy, Operation Good Cheer, Doctors Without Borders and more.

This school year, the KLAAs students had a goal of raising \$100,000.

They hit it ... and then some. Final tally: \$374,000.

That's incredible, especially considering the current economic climate.

It says a lot about our local youth: if they can display this level of care for those in need, how just think what they'll be able to accomplish in the future.

LETTERS

Candidate's message

I am a candidate for Novi mayor because I believe that I offer a track record of strong fiscal leadership and discipline as the city faces operational budget deficits and needs to control and prioritize spending. I would not support spending on hard-earned tax dollars needlessly, such as on a special election for a non-essential ballot proposal. During the greatest financial crisis of our time, I am concerned that city officials may be looking back and relying on growth revenue of the past, instead of adjusting to the present and foreseeable future, and planning for the worst. To those who may say that "the sky isn't falling," I say that when the sky is falling, it may be too late and the consequences for Novi taxpayers may be serious.

When I previously served on City Council and as mayor pro tem, I strived to serve Novi citizens in a fair and consistent manner. During that time, the city took pride in having the sixth lowest tax rate in Oakland County and strived to be a city that could pay for itself without tax increases and stand the test of time.

As Novi mayor, I would strive to provide stability, maintaining existing services and facilities, and keeping our taxes low in order to retain and attract residents and businesses, and maintain our property values.

Laura Lorenzo
Novi

Punishment fit crime?

Quite a difference between what Mr. Capello was arrested for and what he was convicted of: I am very anxious to see what action will be taken against whichever police officers were guilty of such a poor choice of charges.

Paul Hobel
Novi

Join the discussion

Do you think the Michigan economy will improve by year's end ...?

Go to hometownlife.com to give us your feedback.



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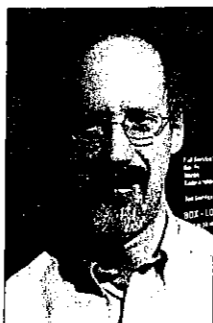
COMMUNITY VOICE

How do you plan on celebrating the Fourth of July?



We'll probably go to the Northville parade, and then I'm working in the afternoon.

Samantha Martindale and daughter Georgia



I am going to take citizenship; that's the plan! It's in downtown Detroit. I'm from England.

Alan Rooke



I'll be with my family and friends at my fiancée's house here.

Jason Schmitt



I'm going up north to Higgins Lake, but I'll be going to a party on a lake here before.

Dan Abrams

IN YOUR VOICE

The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues. In Your Voices, on the Web at hometownlife.com.

Mayor facing competition; six vie for three council seats

Lorenzo has a history of NOT spending our money needlessly, and with the coffers being depleted by Landry, Margolis, Burke, Crawford, I think Lorenzo is a great choice for mayor. I don't always have to agree with her, but on the whole she is definitely someone who won't spend the taxpayers money on fluff stuff like a park with a theater. Lorenzo has my vote! Mutch did not support the park issue and I saw Cordas out at the polls against it! I want fiscal responsibility before these present bozos take this city into a deficit!

2fartdrive

It is good to see Lorenzo and Landry going head to head. They see the world entirely differently. It will be interesting to see if Lorenzo is actually going to campaign. Landry has a lot of support and I doubt allowing the voters to make a decision on the Park will affect him at all. Lorenzo will need to bring specific ideas to the table instead of just anti-spending commentary. By the way — Lorenzo opposed the library. The library passed by a wide margin so her track record is not that great in having the pulse of the city.

whathappenednovi

Incumbent = incompetent. Vote the idiots who thought we needed the multimillion dollar park during an economic depression out of office! Too bad we cannot bill them back for the cost of the election which was another waste of money since there was no way a tax increase was going to be approved during this economy.

PatAnthony

The Southeast economy is in shambles but most members of the Novi City Council do not acknowledge this. Signature Park, the police gun range building, and spending money on a new city logo are examples of excess spending in a poor economy. For these reasons and many more, I will be supporting Laura Lorenzo for mayor and Andrew Mutch, Wayne Wrobel, and Cheryl Cordas for City Council. Fiscal responsibility must be the main focus of our next City Council. Unfortunately, the mayor and some of the current council members just do not get it.

NoviKona

Maybe we should suggest that the city keep collecting taxes from everyone and save all of it. None should be spent on improvements because folks like NoviKona think we should never move forward ... especially during economic downturns. Then, when the economy is good, we'll hear that the city needs to save for the next downturn. Also, do your homework. Gun range came from forfeiture funds.

Novi99



Save a proud parent. Subscribe to your community newspaper.

Proposed Catholic high school searching for a new order

Honestly, with Ladywood High School right at the junction of I-96/M-14 and I-275, is this new High School really needed?

With all of the upper and mid-level managers being let go at Ford, GM, and Chrysler, is the money really there? It's not.

The Dominican Sisters of St. Mary probably have seen the handwriting on the wall. It is simply not prudent to build another all-girls school, when one is in Livonia only 11 miles away.

We have all wanted to have bigger, bolder, and grander; and that was the symptoms of the problems of the last 15 years, but now it is time to conserve dollars, help the archdiocese, invest in the needy, and our fellow man. Building a monument high school out in Novi or Lyon Twp. is not the answer.

ModerateOne

Letters to the Editor: Is Bob Gatt kidding?

Unions overwhelmingly supported Obama. Their paycheck was massive union membership losses (layoffs) and significant pay reductions. The UAW and other automotive sector unions have lost their direction. Obamanomics has no place for high paying union jobs. BTW — Rock Financial (TBON) pays nearly \$250,000 in taxes annual. They do have an abatement, however it is a 50 percent abatement. I would guess they bring more than 100 times that back to the community in spending at local businesses. Seems like a fair trade-off. Yesterday, bills were passed in the MI House and Senate that largely killed "Plan B." There will be no real pressure on Detroit and they will ultimately get what they want (ownership retention and job guarantees). In Michigan, Detroit still carries the big stick politically.

BTWW — Tindall takes an awful lot of credit for something that was a community effort. Sounds like a guy getting

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats. Web: www.hometownlife.com Mail: Letters to the Editor, Novi News, 101 N. Lafayette St., South Lyon, MI 48178. Fax: (248) 437-3386. E-mail: cstone@gannett.com. Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

ready to run for something.

whathappenednovi

Novi = Not Obviously Very Intelligent. Bring on the Auto show!!!! Excitement & more revenue for the community & businesses, something everyone needs at the moment. By the way, because they may/may not be union workers should be a primary decision maker in this? Who's kidding who? So, once again, and over and over, here comes the union crying & whining about their cut. I would think there are many that would (or not) agree the Big Three are partially where they're at today. The union held management hostage & laughed & snickered — all the while their importance was nothing more than emptying the wallets of people who would buy their cars. Then came the fallout & look who has their tail between their knees today. I'm union, but I'm also a veteran of 30 years of service who hates to see their country being held hostage, and fatter by a bunch of greedy people who still don't get it. The union carpenters or not, the rest of the business community needs and seeks business today, and tomorrow.

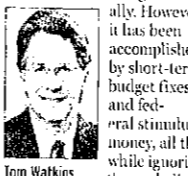
whyisitaboutu

Leadership, oh, where, oh, where art thou?

WHERE ARE THE LEADERS?

Some argue that what is going on in Lansing is more akin to a pogo convention where there has been a lot of jumping up and down without going anywhere.

Our governor and legislature have managed to do the constitutionally mandated minimum and balance the budget annually. However, it has been accomplished by short-term budget fixes and federal stimulus money, all the while ignoring the exploding structural budget deficits.



Tom Watkins

Our governor has thus far cut state spending in her two terms, with more to come, than all previous governors combined. Yet, there has been no action on the knowledge that this unprecedented economic decline cannot be solved using the typical tools of budget cuts and tax increases.

THE NEW 3 R'S

Addressing this economic and budget crisis requires leadership that employs the new 3 R's — reform, restructure and reinvent — for all aspects of government. We cannot simply cut or tax our way out of this mess.

To date, the private sector has remained on the sidelines griping but unwilling to exert pressure to set the stage for change.

There are three notable exceptions:

• The Center for Michigan (www.thecenterformichigan.net), led by its founder and president, Phil Power, and Executive Director John Bibow. The center's goal is to assist our state through its current period of wrenching economic trouble and lay the foundation of informed hope for a better future Michigan. It has engaged citizens across the state and spelled out action steps necessary to forge positive change.

• The Citizens Research Council of Michigan (www.crcmi.org), led by Earl Ryan,

COMMENTARY

president, and Craig Thiel, director of State Affairs. The CRC is the Sergeant Friday of public policy research groups, always laying out "just the facts." The council has provided the state's leaders with reflecting and ignoring the structural budget crisis.

• The Detroit Renaissance (www.detroitrenaissance.com), the state's premier business leadership organization, led by Doug Rothwell. Detroit Renaissance has undertaken the work of benchmarking how Michigan stacks up on economic competitiveness with other states and advocating for fundamental state structural reforms. The organization has identified nearly \$1 billion in major state tax, spending and business reforms to reduce Michigan's structural budget deficit.

Each of these three organizations have offered the tools to help our state elected leaders reform, restructure and reinvent itself.

To date, the governor and legislature have refused the tools developed on their behalf and offered to them. And as we all know, a tool not used properly, or not used at all, is of no help in solving a problem. All of us should ask them why they continue to ignore or refuse to use these tools to help turn around a state that so desperately needs to turn itself around.

Like Chrysler and GM, the day of reckoning has arrived for the State of Michigan. Those in leadership positions have been provided with road maps for change and reform. The time for our elected leaders to act is now.

These are perilous times. Perilous times make or break leaders.

Leadership does matter.

Tom Watkins of Northville served as state superintendent of schools, 2001-05, state mental health director, 1996-99, and as an elected member of the Wayne County Charter Commission, 1980-82. He can be reached at: twatkins@aol.com.



JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rainy day feeling

After attending a recent Celebration of Success program at Meads Mill Middle School, parents of students leave with umbrellas held high as the rain picks up.



JEWELRY BY ANN JALSA

Art in the Sun

The 21st Annual Northville Art in the Sun fine arts festival invites you to experience over 100 juried artists, lively music, food, kids' activities, and the ambiance of downtown Northville. Over 15,000 people will enjoy the sights and sounds of this popular event on June 27-28 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and 11-5 Sunday. Kids activities include sand art, plaster painting, sandy cany, caricatures and face painting. Musical guests include Sheila Landis, award winning jazz vocalist (noon-4 p.m. Sunday); Roy Scott, classical guitarist; Americana, Brazilian music; and Ken Majors, professional drummer (10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.). Sponsored by Atlas Home Improvement, Enerdry Waterproofing, Achieving Health Chiropractic, Plus, Americraft, Trupp Family Care Chiropractic, Infinity Windows, Relax the Back, St. Mary Mercy Hospital, GutterToppers, Renewal by Anderson, and Varsity Lincolin Mercury. For more information, leave a message at the Northville Art House at (248) 344-0497 or visit online at www.northvillearts.org.

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Bible Studies and Prayer Nights
Learner's Bible Study
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Monday Room A01
Men's Bible Study
TIME/DATE: 6:30 a.m. Wednesday Single Adult
Miri's office
Single's Bible Study
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. second and fourth Mondays, Room C209
LightHouse Cafe
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m., June 26
DETAILS: Also known as game night. This is a great way to end your work week. Guest musicians provide background music, snacks provided, free child care. Tickets \$5 at the door. CONTACT: For more information contact Ward Church (248) 374-5520.



Brightest & Best
WXYZ-TV/Channel 7 paid tribute to over 250 high school seniors from throughout Southeast Michigan at a special picnic in the 30th annual celebration of the "Brightest & Best" on May 16 on the grounds of Broadleaf House in Southfield. Since 1980, the station has honored graduating seniors from public and private schools who have demonstrated excellence in academic, extracurricular and community pursuits.

Downsizing for Dollars: How to make money on unwanted stuff

Dear Savvy Senior
Over the years, my husband and I have acquired a house and garage full of stuff, and would like to start downsizing before we get too old. To do this we would like to sell off what we can. So my question is: what is the best way to get the most money for our possessions? Retired Packrats

Dear Packrats,
Selling off old items that you don't want or need anymore is a great way to downsize, de-clutter and pad your pocketbook. Here are some top options to help you pedal your stuff.

Online Selling
If you have the time and access to the Internet, the best way to get top dollar for your old unwanted possessions is to sell them on the World Wide Web. Online selling provides literally millions of potential customers, so your odds of getting more money for your stuff is much greater than you'd get at a garage sale or through a consignment store.

Craigslist
If you're not familiar with Craigslist.org, it's a huge classified ads site that serves more than 550 cities and attracts some 50 million visitors each month, and it's free to use. It works just like putting an ad in your local newspaper. You list the item you want to sell including a brief description (pictures too) for the price you want. Interested buyers will then

SAVVY SENIOR
contact you directly via e-mail, and the rest is up to you. Larger items that are difficult to ship well as Craigslist like furniture, appliances, exercise equipment and even vehicles.

eBay
With around 85 million active members, eBay.com is by far the biggest selling site on the Web. Almost anything can be sold on eBay. The downside however is their fees which eat into your profits. eBay charges a non-refundable listing fee of 20 cents and \$4 per item, depending on the asking price. And if it sells, a closing fee of 8.75 percent of the sale price up to \$25, with declining percentage paid on larger sales.

Price Setting
When it comes to figuring out how much to charge for your stuff, you can get a ballpark idea by doing a search for items that are similar to yours on the sales site you're planning to use. If however, you suspect you have a rare or extremely valuable item, you should get it appraised. Check with a local auction house to see if it offers free appraisals. If not, for a fee you can hire a professional appraiser (see www.appraisers.org) or call a reputable dealer to assess your possessions.

Other Options
If online selling doesn't appeal to you, have a garage sale (see www.garagesalequeen.com for tips), or see what your nearby consignment store will sell for you. While neither of these options will make you as much money as the Web, they're still great ways to get rid of old stuff and make a few bucks in the process. And the stuff that doesn't sell can always be donated to a charity for a tax deduction.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.com. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.



Old Timers' Luncheon
Joe Traudt, left, and Wes Henriksen share a handshake at the recent Old Timers' Luncheon at Northville's Gentili's. The noon-time affair brings together those that have lived in Northville for decades and decades and has its fair share of mayors, city council members and local business owners.

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Contract awarded for more than \$960,000

Road work to begin in July

Last week, the Novi City Council approved a construction contract for the 2009 Neighborhood Roads Program to Hard Rock Concrete, Inc., the low bidder, in the amount of \$984,262.

Over the past four years, the City of Novi has spent approximately \$7 million on the reconstruction and rehabilitation of neighborhood roads, and this year's project is funded through the budgeted \$1.5 million through FY09-10. These are funded from City funds and are over and above Federal Stimulus or other outside dollars that the City secures.

Construction is scheduled to begin in July with completion in fall 2009.

Each year the City of Novi selects residential streets for

DETAILS

This year's program includes several streets that will either be completely reconstructed or rehabilitated by making major repairs.

Streets to be reconstructed include:

- Midway Drive (Steeple Path to a point 175' north of Dunbarton Drive)
 - Scenic Lane (Novi Road to end)
 - Ironside Court (Serenity to Cumberland)
 - Mystic Blvd. (Novi Road to Mystic Forest Drive)
 - Mystic Forest Drive (South of Mystic Blvd. to north of Mystic Blvd.)
- Streets to be rehabilitated include:
- Serenity Drive (Scenic Lane to end)
 - Vista Lane (Serenity Drive to Scenic Lane)
 - Kings Pointe Drive (Ten Mile to North End of Boulevard)
 - Broquet (At Intersection with Eden Dr.)
 - Morgan Creek (Midpoint of Morgan Creek)

reconstruction, repaving, and/or rehabilitation using pavement condition ratings and Department of Public Services field observations.

"The city makes it a priority to answer the needs of our residents and maintain the quality of life Novi is known for," said Rob Hayes, City Engineer/Director of Public Services, "through the rehabilitation and

reconstruction of key neighborhood roads, we hope to uphold our strong infrastructure for years to come."

The City of Novi routinely publishes a Road Construction Update which is available online at cityofnovi.org. For more information about road improvements, contact the Community Relations Office at 248.735.5628.



JOHN HEDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fitting farewell

After 24 years of service to the Novi School District, building engineer Ron Newman got a big retirement send-off at Parkview Elementary. Newman got a special visit from the Detroit Tigers' mascot "Paws", his own Tigers shirt, bobblehead and four tickets to an upcoming game. Newman, a big fan of the Bengals, was also serenaded by the kids at Parkview with "Take Me Out to the Ballgame".

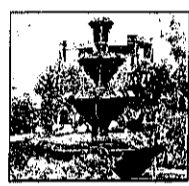
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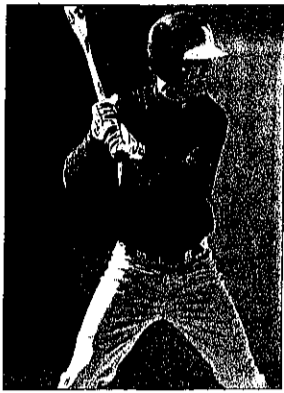
SECTION B
(NN)

Jeff Theisen, editor, (248) 349-4100
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LOCAL SPORTS

online at hometownlife.com

Samuel brought power to plate and mound



Wildcat Garrett Green earns All-Area First Team honors.



CC's Steve Harding helped the Shamrocks to a district title and lands on the All-Area First Team.



Wildcat Nick Regnier awaits the pitch. He earned a spot on the All-Area First Team.

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

Coaches love guys that can bring power anywhere to a team. Lakeland's Ricky Samuel did just that, whether at the plate or on the mound.

Samuel hit .490, drew 23 walks and struck out just eight times in 104 at bats. He also went 6-3 with a save and a 2.90 earned run average as a pitcher for the KLAAs Lakes Conference champions.

Samuel is the 2009 All-Area baseball Player of the Year.

"The way the ball comes off his bat," Lakeland head coach Todd Miller said. "It's amazing how hard he hits the baseball."

Miller said Samuel didn't put up the massive RBI stats because he was pitched around whenever possible, but he still managed to put up some insane numbers.

Samuel co-led the Eagles with nine doubles, led with three triples and was second in home runs with six. He was second in runs with 41 and second in RBIs with 35.

As one of the aces of the staff, he managed to strike out more than half the batters he faced. He had 91 strikeouts in 170 at bats, allowing just 30 hits and 60 walks in 50.2 innings.

"He was a pleasure to have for four years," Miller said. "He's a great baseball player, but he's a great kid too. He treats his teammates very well."

After focusing solely on baseball after his freshman season, Samuel is headed to Michigan to continue his career.

Samuel leaves Lakeland after posting new career records in hits, RBI, doubles and strikeouts as a pitcher. He set single-season records in hits and RBI. He is top five in career home runs and is second in wins for a season, twice posting eight wins. He is also second in career wins.

FIRST TEAM

With the level of competition in the area, making the All-Area First Team took impressive numbers. Northville won a district title, as did CC and Lakeland captured a KLAAs Conference title.

The following players were not only the leaders of their respective teams, but did it throughout the year to made an elite list.

Bobby Thomas, Northville

The senior bopper put up staggering offensive numbers, and also earned votes for Players of the Year along the way.

Thomas hit .480 (48-100), but more impressively, 28 of those hits were for extra bases. He laced 15 doubles and 12 home runs to help knock in an amazing 59 runs. That's more than a RBI every other at bat.

"He was all about winning," Northville head coach John Kostorzewa said. "He worked his butt off to get where he is. He never slumped. He was pretty consistent from day one."

Thomas is headed to Wayne State after setting records for RBI, doubles, slugging percentage (1.010) and broke the old home run record (which teammate Ryan

ALL-AREA

Mullen also did with 14 this year for the new record).

Ryan Mullen, Northville

The Mustang senior was the perfect compliment with Thomas. Mullen stroked a new school record 14 home runs, batted .420, knocked in 54 runs and had 21 extra-base hits.

"He hit balls further than high school kid I've ever seen," Kostorzewa said. "There are a lot of records that if he doesn't have it, Bobby does."

David Uberti, Northville

The senior pitcher was the ace of the staff, posting a 9-1 record with a 2.78 ERA for the 31-3 Mustangs.

"For two years, he pitched our biggest games for the most part," Kostorzewa said. "He always went against everyone else's No. 1. He lost four times in two years."

Uberti didn't exactly struggle at the plate either, stroking a .390 average and fourth on the team with 19 walks.

Garrett Green, Novi

Don't just call him the coaches son. The boy can play.

He finished his senior season with a .398 average, led the team with 40 runs, swiped 21 bases and was on base right around half the times he went to the plate.

"Garrett is a five-tool player who plays the game harder than anyone I have ever coached," said head coach Rick Green. "He never had a bad day at hustling. Garrett was 1st team All-KLAAs and 1st team All-District."

Nick Regnier, Novi

The junior provided the big bat in the lineup. He cleaned up whatever was left in front of him, knocking in a team high 40 RBI with a .398 average. Regnier also scored 28 runs and was second in doubles with nine.

"He was a very versatile player," said coach Green. "He played every position but catcher. Despite doing so, he only made one error. Nick also pitched for us, going 5-2 with a ERA of 2.98."

Steve Harding, CC

The senior earned team MVP honors after posting a .395 average with eight doubles and four home runs. He scored 20 runs and knocked in 27 more.

"Steve is a great leader and a fine athlete (3 year starter on the football and basketball teams as well)," said coach Kevin Walters. "Steve is a clutch hitter, hitting .500 with men in scoring position."

Nolan Nunez, South Lyon East

The upstart Cougars may have struggled in their first year of varsity competition, but the junior first baseman had a stellar year. He led the team with a .431 average and led the team in doubles.

"He's a great all-around player," said head coach Matt Lindman. "He's just a knowledgeable baseball player."

Tom Kort, South Lyon

The sophomore proved he could hit like an upperclassman, leading the Lions at .396. He also played at short and fielded at a .937 percentage while playing

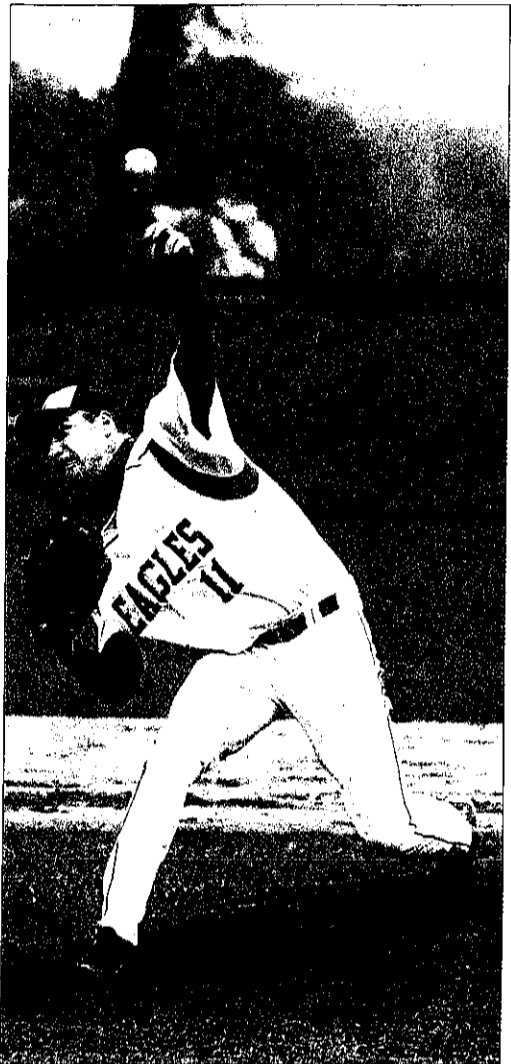


PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER WALL

Lakeland's Ricky Samuel is the 2009 baseball Player of the Year.

every inning.

"I've got nothing bad to say about this kid," said head coach Jon Hatton. "I'm looking forward to the next two years."

Steve Buglione, Milford

The senior led the Mavericks in the most important categories in both pitching and hitting. He led with a 4.38 average, three triples, nine home runs, 45 runs, 26 RBI and a .565 on base percentage.

On the mound, he led in innings pitched with 73.3 with a 2.66 ERA and 76 strikeouts with 44 walks.

Aaron Saarella, Lakeland

The senior was known as starter 1-B

by coach Miller. The lefty finished 7-1 with a 3.08 ERA. In 50 innings pitched, he struck out 64 and walked 24. Saarella also hit for a .410 average and was third in RBI with 27.

"He's just a winner," said Miller. "He's right there with Ricky in career wins. Those guys made their living against the top teams. He's got a lot of movement on his fastball."

Saarella will continue his career at Madonna.

Donny Holland, Lakeland

The senior catcher knew how to get on

Please see ALL-AREA, B2

Swinging Gates

Northville senior wins individual State title

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

The Gates family tradition was in jeopardy, and it was up to Northville senior Wes to keep it alive.

Wes' grandfather (in Pennsylvania) and uncle (in Michigan) had won the State golfing title. Wes was the last shot in his generation to do so, and he did it in a playoff.

Gates beat Jared Dalga from Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central in the second hole of a playoff to win the Division 1 State individual title with a 148 (71-77), helping the Mustangs to a fifth-place overall finish.

"I had to carry the torch," said Gates. "It obviously felt great. It's been my goal my entire high school career to win it."

Gates said winning it in a playoff was even more special because he got to celebrate it with his teammates, family and friends instead of just watching

a scoreboard to figure out who won.

"We couldn't win the team title, but that was the only other way to go out on top," said Gates. "I can close my high school career on that."

"It was kind of a disappointing season until the State tournament. It's something I'll never forget."

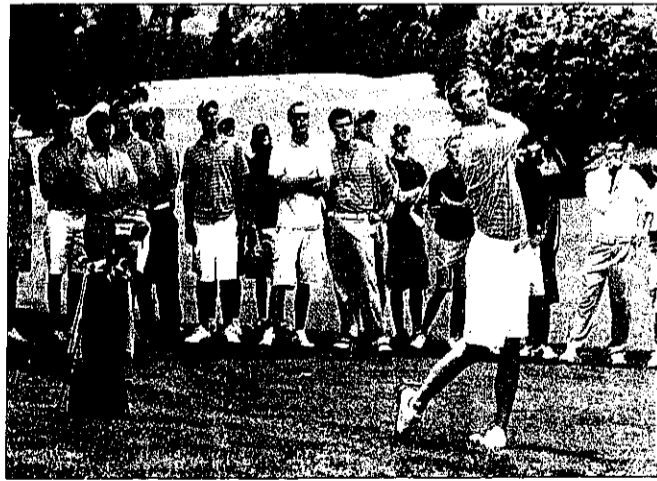
The win also helped propel Gates to the 2009 Michigan Golf Coaches Super Team, consisting of the top eight golfers from any division in Michigan.

Gates will continue to play at Bowling Green, where he received a scholarship for golf and for academics.

FIRST TEAM

The All-Area First Team is littered with players that had major showings in major tournaments.

Chris Cunningham, Milford Cunningham could be found near the top of almost every tournament leaderboard he entered. He



Northville's Wes Gates shoots in front of a gallery on the second hole of a playoff for the state title. He birdied the hole to win the individual championship. He is the 2009 Golfer of the Year.

placed in the top 10 of all but one tournament this year, highlighted by a district individual title and a fifth-place finish at the Oakland County tourney. He averaged 75.1 for 18 holes.

Cunningham was voted to the Michigan Coaches Division 1 All-State First Team.

Joe Fransted, Catholic Central

Fransted saved some of his best golf for the final tournament. He shot a 76-77 for a 153 and into a five-way tie for eighth place. He was low for the fourth-place Shamrocks.

Fransted was voted to the Michigan Coaches Division 1 All-State First Team.

Trevor Grigg, Northville

Grigg came on like a gang-buster toward the end of the year last season. He didn't disappoint this year, finishing with a 79-76 for a 155 to shoot second low for the fifth-placed Mustangs at State.

Grigg was voted to the Michigan Coaches Division 1 All-State First Team.



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Now's Tyler Manning shot a 77 to lead the Wildcats out of districts and into regional action. He shot his way onto the All-Area First Team.

Steve LaRonere, Catholic Central

LaRonere was part of a steady force that helped make up the potent Shamrock golf team. He

Please see GOLF, B2

Downtown runaround

Northville Solstice Run gearing up for race day June 27

BY CHRIS JACKETT
CORRESPONDENT

Thousands of runners will descend upon Northville Saturday, June 27, filling the streets for the Seventh Annual Solstice Run.

The event will raise funds for the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute through a 10K run, 5K run/walk and a quarter-mile Kids Fun Run. The 10K and 5K events will both feature up to 1,000 participants each and will, for the first time, have runners sweat out their first half mile around the horse track at Novi High School.

"We're up 20 percent from last year," Race Director Alan Whitehead said of what he expects to be a 1,600-person event. "We started in 2003 and it was just a 5K. The whole idea was a fitness-type event for your community. We're hoping to, next year, hit 2,000."

As the event grows, so have the features. This year's Solstice Run will include timing mats at the start and finish line so race times are accurate and tag timing (10K and 5K only), which requires runners to wear a disposable chip tag on their shoe to be scored.

"Electric carpeting at the start line (starts your time) based on your chip number," Whitehead explained.

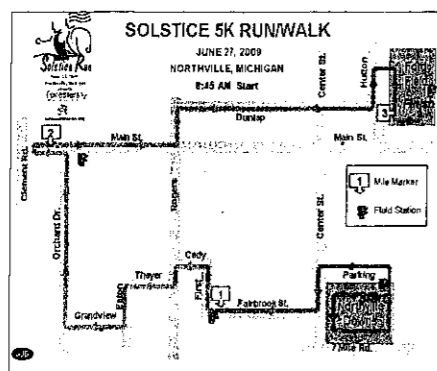
The event is more than sweat and pavement pounding for a cause though. There's plenty of fun and entertainment to be had as well.

The Kids Fun Run will be accompanied at Ford Field and throughout the course by clowns, face painting, a food and beverage buffet, two live bands, Band on the Run and Ultra Violet, the "Art in the Sun" event downtown, an awards ceremony for all three races and more.

"I wanted to start a race in Northville, a beautiful Victorian area. There's always residents that come out on their lawns and cheer on the runners," Whitehead said, noting some local celebrities have also participated. (Red Wings coach Mike Babcock was in the



The leaders of the pack round a corner during the 2008 Solstice Run.



5K. We've invited (Gov. Jennifer Granholm, her husband and kids to come out and it appears they're going to come. Her husband is an avid runner."

Although there may be some notable names in the race, the majority of participants are local residents looking for a good time and a good run.

Last year, twenty-seven-year-old Nick Stanok of Haslet won the men's 5K with a time of 15 minutes and 24 seconds, a 4:58 pace per mile. Dennis Coates, 32, of Novi

won the women's 5K in 17:20, a 5:35 pace.

Nick Krus, 22, of Whom won the men's 10K in 32:29 last year, a 5:14 pace. Kelli Williams, 23, of Ann Arbor won the women's 10K in 37:58, a 6:07 pace.

The top 500 overall finishers in the 10K Run will receive medals and all participants in the Kids Run will receive classic Forrester's medals. Age group awards will be available at the finish-line tent for the 10K and 5K events, as well as \$700 in cash awards for overall

winner. Everyone who registered by June 22 is guaranteed a race shirt. Online registration at active.com ends at 9 a.m. June 25.

"Our registration is ahead of last year's, so I think we'll do fine despite the economy. It's growing and it's a good cause," Whitehead said.

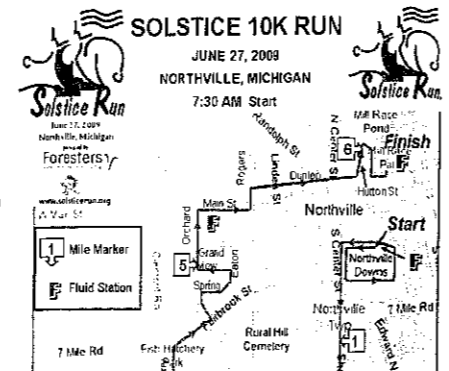
On race day, Northville Downs will be the starting line for the 7:30 a.m. 10K and 8:45 a.m. 5K. The Kids Fun Run will start 8:35 a.m. at Ford Field. Although streets will be closed, most of the races will be complete by 9:45 a.m.

"It's all ages and fitness levels. It's for everybody. People need to see Northville. That's the key attraction for me. They don't realize how beautiful it is," Whitehead said.

He said the event needs more volunteers to run smoothly. Those interested in volunteering can contact Jill Whitehead at whitehead@forresters.com.

Forresters, a life insurance organization, are presenting the event and several local businesses, including the Northville Record and Novi News, are contributing. For more information, visit www.solsticerun.org/home.htm.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer living in Redford.



Since 1919, the Golf Association of Michigan has been hosting the best tournaments for the best golfers in the state. In that first year, we were known as the Detroit District Golf Association, and the first golf events conducted included Four Man Teams. The District Championship played at the Detroit Golf Club. T. Worden Hunter from the Country Club of Detroit won that first championship.

Throughout the last 90 years, we have grown into the Golf Association of Michigan, and in 2008, we hosted 16 state championships and 20 USGA qualifiers with almost 1,200 participants. These were great tournaments at great Michigan golf courses with outstanding participation.

The participants earned GAM honor roll points for finishing strongly in these events. In addition, they earn points playing and doing well in prestigious tournaments around the

country. At the end of the season, we summarize the results and determine a GAM Honor Roll by gender and age.

The top point earner in each category is the Player of the Year and rightfully recognized as the "best amateur golfer in Michigan" in their category. Listed below are those GAM Champions from 2008.

Jimmy Chestnut of Grand Blanc, GAM 2008 Men's Player of the Year. Jimmy won the Michigan Amateur and the GAM Championship. He was also a quarterfinalist at the U.S. Mid-Amateur. He attended the University of Michigan prior to transferring to Michigan State University and was an Academic All-Big Ten player in 2004 and 2005. Jimmy also won the club championship at Warwick Hills Country Club in 2007 and 2008.

Stacy Stebadnik-Stoll of Haslet, GAM 2008 Women's Player of the Year. Stacy was the GAM Women's Mid-

Am Champion, for the fourth successive year and played well in the Michigan Women's Amateur, U.S. Women's Mid-Am, Michigan Women's Open and GAM Women's Championship. She has won the Michigan Women's Amateur in '96 and '98, won the GAM Women's Senior Championship in '98 and earned Women's Player of the Year in '96, '98 and '07. She is coach of the Michigan State University Women's Golf team and was selected as Big Ten Coach of the Year in 2001 and 2007.

Bill Zylstra of Plymouth, GAM 2008 Senior Men's Player of the Year. Bill won the GAM Senior Championship and played very well in a range of other tournaments in Michigan and beyond. He played so well that he was ranked the No. 1 Senior Amateur in the country by the Titleist National Rankings and was the 2008 Golf Week Senior Player of the Year. Bill has also been GAM Senior Player of the Year in '06 and '07. He

also holds the record for the lowest round (65) ever recorded in the USGA Senior Amateur Championship (2007).

Joan Garety of Ada, GAM 2008 Senior Women's Player of the Year. Joan was the medalist at the Michigan Women's Senior Amateur and a semifinalist in the match play segment. She also tied for 3rd at both the GAM Women's Senior Championship and the GAM Chrysler Club Championship. She is a two-time Michigan Women's State Amateur Champion in '82 and '97, GAM Women's Champion in '96, GAM Mid-Am Champion in '04, GAM Senior Champ in '06 and two-time Michigan Women's Senior Amateur Champion in '06 and '07. She was GAM Woman Player of the Year in '97 and '99, and GAM Senior Women's Player of the Year in '06 and '07. Joan was inducted into the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame in 2005.

Joey Garber of Petoskey, GAM 2008 Junior Boy's Player of the Year. Joey won the Michigan Junior Amateur Stroke Play Championship

and the GAM Chrysler Club Championship in 2008. He was very active in the AJGA tour. As a high school freshman, he finished second at the MHSAA State Championship and was selected to the first team All State.

Elizabeth Ecker of Niles, GAM 2008 Junior Girl's Player of the Year. Elizabeth won the stroke play segment of the Michigan Girl's Junior Championship and finished in the top 20 at the GAM Women's Championship. During the fall season at Oakland University as a freshman she competed in all fall events and finished with the third best stroke average on the team.

The above players are truly great champions of amateur golf in Michigan. They compete with a large number of outstanding golfers in our state. The GAM is proud to have the opportunity to host these fine players at our championships. To learn more about championship golf at the GAM, simply to www.gam.org. Who knows, you might be a future Player of the Year!

Greens' day

Novi father-and-son baseball combo bask in Comerica Park glow

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Father's Day came early for Novi varsity baseball coach Rick Green.

Not only did Rick Green coach his son, Garrett, growing up from boyhood through high school, he got to share in his kid's realization of the American dream — playing on a big-league field.

Rick's son Garrett Green, a Novi High School senior who batted .404 in 2009, sparkled as a member of the East All-Stars Tuesday night at Comerica Park.

Meanwhile, the elder Green suited up as an assistant coach in the 26th annual Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association East-West All-Star Classic.

"I've been coaching him since he was 7 years old," said Rick Green during an interview following the West All-Stars 13-4 victory. "It's been a long run (and) I'm getting a little emotional here."

"But, I've been coaching him for a long time and today was the last day and you saw he was an All-Star today, at Comerica Park."

He noted that his son ranked a double, made an outstanding defensive play and "hit a bomb about 375 feet (to center field) that wasn't a home run, in my mind he was the MVP of this game."

According to Garrett, sharing the experience with his father made it all the more special.

"With my dad, it's been great over the past I don't even know how many years he's been coaching me," said Garrett, who will attend Adrian College. "Just having him out here with me has made it even more fun at the All-Star Game in Comerica."

"You're playing with a bunch of great guys, the best in the state, and it's been a really fun experience coming out here and playing."

Garrett did just that and more.

When he connected on his gapper to right-center, he "just sort of stood in the box for a while. I didn't know I hit it all that good. But basically, rounding first I knew I had a double."

His "web gem" was good enough to be shown on ESPN, stretching to snare a hard grounder and save a run.

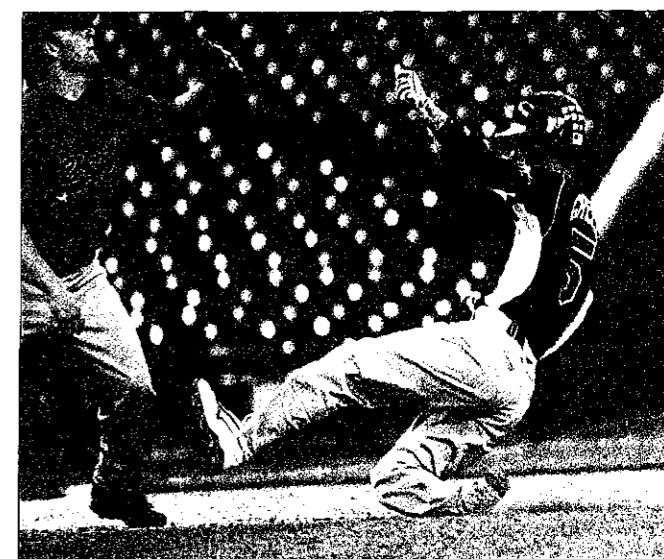
"It was a tough play to make," Garrett said. "I just laid out as far as I could and threw it to first."

Although playing on a major league stage would bring out the butterflies in any young player, Green said he just went back to the basics. "It's all instincts when you're out there."

And, remembering what your dad told you all those years.

But Garrett's adrenaline was pumping more than usual when he stepped out onto the Comerica carpet.

"Oh, it was pumping a lot," said Garrett, smiling. "Because I've had a hamstring problem



Showing off his baseball instincts is Novi senior Garrett Green, sliding into third base during the East-West All-Star Classic at Comerica Park.

and I didn't feel it at all when I was out there."

The lopsided score was the only downer for both Greens.

"But it was a great, unbelievable experience and to have your

son in here, it just happened to be my 10th year," Rick Green said. "And I always wanted to coach in this game. To have your son be a senior the same year

was tremendous and the year he

had, and the career he had this was a great finish to our career."

"Then, he quickly corrected himself. "To his career."

Advertisement for Tee Time magazine. Includes a congratulatory message to Lucas Glover of Greenville, S.C., winner of this year's U.S. Open Championship. It features a list of predicted winners for the 2009 U.S. Open and a section titled "Best amateur golfers in Michigan" listing several players and their achievements.

Advertisement for Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center. Features a large image of a golfer swinging a club and the text "PLAY MORE GOLF FOR LESS". It lists various golf packages and services available at the facility.

Advertisement for GAM (Golf Association of Michigan) membership. It lists benefits of becoming a member, such as access to courses, magazines, and special offers. It includes a registration form with fields for name, address, and contact information, and a call to action to register at www.gam.org.

Advertisement for "ALL-AREA" featuring a list of golfers and their statistics. It includes sections for "HONORABLE MENTION" and "SECOND TEAM" with names like Dan Mills, Jake Walker, and others, along with their performance metrics in various tournaments.

Advertisement for "GOLF" featuring a list of golfers and their statistics. It includes sections for "HONORABLE MENTION" and "SECOND TEAM" with names like Jayson Cronk, Steve Brown, and others, along with their performance metrics in various tournaments.

Large advertisement for "PUBLIC COURSES" and "IRONWOOD Golf Club". It lists various golf courses with their rates and amenities, and promotes a "20th Anniversary Weekend Special" at Ironwood Golf Club. It also includes a "Reader Rewards" program for subscribers.

Strictly Business

LOOKING AT BUSINESS

It's Your Novi Business - Q&A with Waltonwoods

1. Tell us about your business, including types of services and/or products you feature.

Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks is a premier senior community providing monthly apartment rentals with 24-hour on-site staff. We are dedicated in offering a senior community with quality and expert care where older adults can have all the conveniences and amenities they want, giving them a comfortable and enjoyable lifestyle. We provide a range of services for residents in independent living, assisted living and memory care; from courtesy transportation, meals and housekeeping to more intense services such as medication management and personal care services.

We offer a full social calendar that includes an array of on- and off-site entertainment and activities.

2. How did you first decide to open your business?

Waltonwood is owned and managed by Singh, a local family owned and operated builder/developer that has been providing exceptional real estate in the metropolitan Detroit area since 1973. Singh has always been able to see the needs of the communities it is apart of and meet those needs. The company saw senior housing as a necessity in the area and developed Waltonwood. Around the early 1990s the concept of assisted living was strong in the marketplace. It was realized that as Waltonwood's independent residents aged, they would need to move to another level of care and

DETAILS

Business Name: Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks
Address: 27475 Huron Circle, Novi MI 48377
Your Name/Title: Christian Miller, marketing manager
Your Hometown: Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks is located in Novi. The corporate office is based out of West Bloomfield.
Business Opened When: Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks opened in 2000.
Number of Employees: Approximately 115
Hours of Operation: It is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Sunday. Tours are available during these times or by appointment.
Your Business Specialty: luxury senior housing
Phone: (248) 735-1500
Web site: www.waltonwood.com

receive more assistance with their activities of daily living. Waltonwood then decided to venture into assisted living to better help the need of others.

In 2000, due to the influx of individuals suffering from dementia/alzheimer, Waltonwood decided to take their services one step forward and created an elegant, family style environment to better service the needs of Memory Care residents.

3. Why did you choose Novi?

Waltonwood locations have always been carefully selected to ensure that each one is part of a thriving community with convenient surroundings. Novi is a great community to be apart of. It offers our residents and their families all the amenities they ask for and continues to be prosperous.

4. What makes your business unique?

We offer a continuum of care where seniors can age in place, from Independent Living to Licensed Assisted

Living and Memory Care. We are also licensed by the state of Michigan which means we are held to the highest rules and regulations in providing senior housing.

5. How has it changed since you opened?

When Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks opened it only provided independent living. In 2005, we built on the assisted living and memory care residence to the main building. Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks has always been committed to continually enhancing the quality of life for the residents and improving the community's environment by incorporating the latest technology, offering the best services and staying at the fore front of advances in senior living.

6. Do you have a funny tidbit or story about your experience as a small business owner to share with our readers?

The first Waltonwood opened in 1989 at the corner



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Members of the staff of Novi's Waltonwood residential center, including Kim Berg, Gary Kosten, Mary Henkel, Hather Laskos, Mary Dziadzio, Stephanie Bryant, Ashley Martin, Kenney Jones, and Khushbir.

of Walton Boulevard and Adams in Rochester Hills and that's how we got our name, "Walton"wood and since then Singh has developed six more Waltonwood locations in Michigan and one in North Carolina.

7. How has the recent economy affected your business?

Many seniors have seen drops in their retirement funds do to the slumping stock market and have to reassess their long term financial situations. We have seen this cause some slight hesitation in prospective residents taking

the move to a full service senior community such as Waltonwood. However, most often we overcome this hesitation because we are a rental community and our residents do not feel locked down financially. Also, most will find that if they take a look at all of their bills compared to what it will cost to live at Waltonwood, where everything they need is included in one monthly payment, they find they are saving money.

8. Any advice for business owners? Always remember that your

business would not succeed if it wasn't for your customers. Treat them with integrity and honestly and continually try to learn more about them and what they want out of your product.

9. What's in store for the future of your business?

All of our Waltonwood communities, including Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks, will continue adding new features, amenities and services to ensure Waltonwood evolves and meets the ever changing needs of its market.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

MarketLink, Alvarion partnering

MarketLink Services, a provider of outsourced marketing and sales services, is partnering with Alvarion to focus on enterprise, education and government channels for broadband wireless products.

This new partnership with MarketLink Services will enable Alvarion to expand its reach with certain segments in U.S. and engage with leading VARs, distributors and national resellers.

"MarketLink is very excited to work with Alvarion on this project. We have extensive experience in the wireless space and have built several successful wireless channels," said Dan Dempsey, MarketLink President and CEO. "Alvarion provides the best technology solutions we have tested, and is poised to grab significant market share in the municipality, education and commercial space. Leveraging MarketLink's experience and infrastructure, we have the resources to immediately deploy a dedicated sales and marketing campaign for Alvarion. Engaging the MarketLink resellers and its comprehensive end-user base provides Alvarion with a significant advantage over the competition."

Capture 3D expanding

Capture 3D, the North American partner for GOM mbH optical metrology systems, has begun the expansion of its Novi facility to support growing R&D and sales. Since 1997, Capture 3D has provided its ATOS and TRITOP 3-D metrology systems.

Capture 3D's turnkey ATOS scanning and inspection solutions come in various automated configurations, such as motion control stations and robotics. To support the growing trend of automation, the Michigan facility will be the central location for the research and development of further improving and advancing such technology.

Scrunch Bottle Bib

Jennifer Edison, founder of Novi-based Wee Baby, Inc and

inventor of the Scrunch Bottle Bib says her niece-inspired product is the new revolutionary way to protect infants from spills during bottle feeding by attaching to the bottle instead of the infant and extending onto the infant's chin and lower cheek area catching spills before they reach that tender neck area.

"It was so frustrating when I would baby-sit my nieces and I would feed them and it seemed like half of the bottle would come spilling out of their mouths and dribbling down their necks," says Edison. "I would have to try and scrunch paper towel around their chin or hold the bib up to their chin. It was a balancing game between holding the bottle and wrestling with the bib or paper towel. I knew I had to do something to make this easier. I couldn't imagine having to do this everyday," says Jennifer. Providing spill protection for babies was essential for the auntie-inventor, as well as a hassle-free solution for moms and dads.

The Scrunch Bottle Bib™ is made of 100 percent cotton, and one size fits all bottles. It is machine washable and reversible for double usage. The Scrunch Bottle Bib is recommended for infants 0+, available in various boy, girl and neutral colors and retails for \$7.99 each.

For more information visit www.WeBabyInc.com.

Jatheon taking over NorthSeas

Jatheon Technologies, a provider of Plug n Comply e-mail archiving appliances, announced that it has reached an agreement to take over the ongoing operations and support of NorthSeas AMT, a global provider of e-mail archiving software for appliance solutions. Jatheon has headquarters in Novi and Toronto.

The new combined customer base will give Jatheon a much larger share of the e-mail archiving market with additional distribution channels across the US, Europe, Africa, Australia, and Asia-Pacific. Both Jatheon and NorthSeas ranked

in the Gartner E-mail Archiving Appliance Vendor report issued on January 15, 2009. According to the Gartner report, Jatheon held 2 percent of the worldwide market share, and NorthSeas had 8 percent market share at year-end 2008.

"This agreement, coupled with our recently launched next generation PNC2 product line, significantly strengthens our position in the growing e-mail archiving market," said Kieron Dowling, President and CEO of Jatheon Technologies. "We are pleased to be merging."

In addition to this agreement, Jatheon announced that Stephen Spence has been appointed to the Advisory Board of Jatheon. Stephen was the founder and CEO of NorthSeas, and brings a wealth of industry knowledge and contacts to the Jatheon team.

Bright House's battle

Bright House claims it has received reports that agents of AT&T have been claiming cable customers will be unable to receive local broadcast stations after the transition unless their homes undergo a costly rewiring and/or receive special equipment.

"The confusion that has been created is unnerving customers who know that they're ready for the digital transition," said Robert McCann, president of Bright House Networks Detroit Division.

"Nobody likes to argue with pushy door-to-door sales people, and since these misleading sales tactics have continued, our customers have contacted us and we have tried to have these practices stopped."

Bright House claims AT&T has resisted repeated efforts and requests to take the necessary steps to put an end to these misleading tactics by their sales contractors and set the public record straight. Bright House Networks says it was forced to file a complaint in April with the Federal Communications Commission, and it is currently under review. Bright House Networks is considering additional legal remedies.

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Northville's 21st Annual Fine Arts Festival

Art in the Sun

June 27 & 28, 2009
 Sat. 10-5 and Sun. 11-5

Experience over 100 juried artists, lively music, food, kids activities and the ambiance of downtown Northville.

For more information: Northville Art House 248-344-0497 or www.northvillearts.org

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section