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NOVI NEWS

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LOCAL GARDENS FEATURED ON ANNUAL WALK JUNE 26, A6



NOVI NUTSHELL

Autism Love

The Hunt-Sampey Foundation with help from Melissa Hunt-Sampey and Nicole Spears are pleased to present Autism Love, a fundraising event that will raise funds for local Autism charities on Saturday, June 26, 2010 from 3-9 p.m. at Mixx Lounge in Novi.

Autism Love will include music by world-famous DJ and father; a photo booth; Mobile Exposures; strolling hors d'oeuvres; vendor booths; raffle prizes and drawings all in a lighthearted, fun environment. Other local celebrities will be on hand to welcome guests.

Sponsors are: Mixx Lounge in Novi, Mobile Exposures, Pocket Painting and Six Star Customs. There will be a \$5 donation at the door. Event proceeds will be donated to St. Louis Center, home for the developmentally disabled, Judson Center, EMU Collaborative Center and Autism Speaks.

To donate or questions, please contact Melissa Hunt-Sampey at M.HuntSampey@gmail.com.

'Birdfeeder' signing

In celebration of the launch of the hardcover edition of "The Myster at the Birdfeeder," Wayne Brillhart will be autographing his book at Borders Novi on Saturday, June 26 at 3 p.m.

After graduating from the University of Michigan and accepting a teaching position with the Los Angeles Unified School District, Brillhart pursued a side interest in photography. Taking photographs of sunsets over the Pacific Ocean to majestic peaks in the Himalaya Mountains of Tibet, Brillhart had no idea he would one day author a children's photographic adventure book.

It was on a winter day that some snapshots through the dining room window that set him on the path to authoring. When he obtained the developed photographs and saw the results he determined this had to become a book. So all winter long (2008-2009), he continued to take photographs of birds and his English Setter, Purdy, to put together a story of who knocked the birdfeeder down and ate all the bird seed.

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County commissioner Potter dies at 58

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Jeff Potter always had a knack for making people feel like he had known them forever, even if he just met them for the first time. He engaged them with his smile, could tell stories for days and was always good for a one-liner or two.

Potter was known for his work as a politician, but two other titles carried more importance to him — "husband" and "father."

His wife and three children always came first, his city second and himself last.

Potter, 58, died Monday morning after suffering an apparent heart attack at his South Lyon home, one



Potter

day after spending time with his family on a day made for him — Father's Day.

"He is truly the most amazing person I have ever met," said his daughter Jessica, 19. "He loved so much, whether it be us or my mother or the cities he worked for. He loved everyone and it showed and we will never forget that."

The apparent heart attack happened around 7:38 a.m. Monday, when Potter and his wife Andra woke up to eat breakfast. Andra said he complained of having a headache and felt warm, but did not think it was anything serious. He also cleared his throat several

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Visitation is from 2-5 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. today, and a memorial service is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Friday. Both will take place at Phillips Funeral Home, 122 W. Lake Street, South Lyon.

times, but that was normal for him since cancer treatments began a few years ago.

Eventually, the coughing became more frantic and Potter was unable to breathe. Emergency personnel arrived on the scene shortly after Andra called and they were able to get an intermittent pulse before transporting him to Providence Park Hospital in Novi. They continued to work on him at

the hospital, but were unsuccessful.

Potter, who has lived with his family in South Lyon since 1984, took little time getting active in the community. He ran for a seat on city council as a write-in candidate in 1987, holding that seat for two years before being elected mayor in 1989. He spent the next 14 years shaping much of what the city is today.

He was a strong supporter and creator of the Huron Valley Trail System, which connects many southwest Oakland County communities and area parks, and also was behind the creation of one of the state's first shared city hall/school board buildings.

Please see POTTER, A2



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

State champs

Novi's Morgan Haffey (No. 8, center) is surrounded by her teammates moments after making a penalty shot to win the state finals soccer match against Plymouth on Saturday in East Lansing. See the full story and photos in the B section.

Local communities continue partnership

Novi to handle building plan review, inspections for South Lyon

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The cities of Novi and South Lyon are pairing up once again to share services.

Novi, which currently provides dispatch services for South Lyon and a few other surrounding communities, will now also handle building plan review and inspections for South Lyon.

South Lyon City Manager David Murphy approached Novi officials a couple months ago with the idea and the Novi City Council approved the request at Monday's meeting. The South Lyon City Council approved it a week prior.

"It just makes a lot of sense and their volume is something we can handle," said Novi City Manager Clay Pearson. "It shows that the local governments around here have the kind of city managers open to doing things a different way, and our objective is to provide a high-quality service and make it quick and efficient for South Lyon."

Murphy said he weighed hiring a part-time employee to replace current zoning/building inspector Joe Veltri, who is retiring, but felt contracting with Novi was a better option because of the location and accessibility.

"This is going to work out well," he said. "This is going to be the best service for our residents and anyone who wants to develop in



Pearson

South Lyon."

The contract is to run from July 1 until June 30, 2011, with a reopener in December 2010 to discuss the fee and funding arrangements.

South Lyon will compensate Novi with 75 percent of all review, permit and inspection fees for construction projects collected during that time based on the current and future fee schedules South Lyon has in place.

Andy Gerecke will act as building official for South Lyon. Novi staff will provide reviews, inspections, residential plot plan reviews and coordinate building permits issued by South Lyon. Novi also will handle telephone calls and provide face-to-face consultation at the Novi Civic Center.

Novi is expected to generate more than \$50,000 in revenue from the deal and it will save South Lyon roughly that same amount. South Lyon Mayor Pro-tem Erin Kopkowski said being in the building industry herself, she knows Novi is very thorough.

"It's not going to hurt us to try it for one year," she said.

Murphy also said the contract can be expanded if more is needed from Novi.

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Novi replacing three administrators after next school year

Dion, Credit, Schram taking state retirement incentive

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The administrative offices for the Novi Community School District will have a completely different look one year from now.

All four of the top administrators are scheduled to leave the district at the end of the 2010-2011 school year — Monique Beels is leaving the end of this month to take a job in Grosse Pointe, and superintendent Peter Dion and assistant superintendents Gail Credit and Bob Schram are retiring.

The latter three were scheduled to leave at the end of the current school year but were granted retirement extensions to remain with the district for one more year.

"The one thing I'm very grateful for is they all took the deferment," said school board president Ann Glubzinski. "Could you imagine the situation we would be in if the state didn't allow that?"

Had the three administrators retired at the end of the year, the district would be scrambling to find replacements during a non-traditional time of year for hiring. Most administrative positions are posted in the fall.

Novi had nine employees who were granted extensions, and Schram said they chose them based on whether or not they were on the lay-off list or if their positions would be difficult to fill.

Glubzinski said the retirement offer from the state was "more of a disincentive to stay than it was an incentive to go," as those eligible to retire would have to start contributing 3 percent of their income to the retirement system if they stayed.

For those with at least 30 years of experience who opted to retire, the state offered a bump in the formula for calculation.

Please see REPLACE, A2

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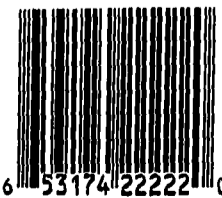
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JOHN HEDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Down off the farm

Mike Hatfield of Springbrook Farms finishes up selling plants and flowers at Walled Lake's farmer's market on June 16. The market, located on Maple Rd., east of Pontiac Trail, is open every Wednesday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Potter's name to stay on primary ballot

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

The death of former South Lyon mayor and Oakland County Commissioner Jeff Potter sent shockwaves through the community. With his passing, South Lyon lost one of its true advocates, someone who spent more than two decades in public office.

But Potter's death also has implications for both the county commission, which now has a 12-12 split between Democrats and Republicans, and the upcoming elections.

Potter, who was a Republican, was already certified to run for re-election in the Aug. 3 primary. He is the only Republican in the race for Potter's seat in the Democrat Michele Berry of Wixom.

According to Oakland County election officials, Potter's name will remain on the ballot and the Republican Party does not have the authority to name a replacement candidate. Oakland County Elections Director Joe Rozell said when the county does the certification of the election, Potter's official vote will not be counted. He also served as a city councilman and mayor for South Lyon.

Oakland County Commission Chair Bill Bullard, R-Highland, said Potter enjoyed talking about policy and would be missed by his colleagues.

"He loved what he was doing. He was very elegant and very passionate," said Bullard, who served with Potter on the commission for eight years.

"He was almost a policy wonk." Potter's Democratic colleagues said he was willing to work with them.

"Across the board, everyone is just really, really bummed," said Commissioner David Coulter, D-Ferdale. "I like people who are really passionate about issues, and Jeff was."

Staff Writer Victoria Mitchell and Gannett News Service contributed to this story.

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seat. With the 12-12 split, however, that may be unlikely.

Potter, 58, was elected four times to the county commission, beginning in 2002. He also served as a city councilman and mayor for South Lyon.

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POTTER

FROM PAGE A1

In 2002, he was elected to the Oakland County Board of Commissioners and was planning on running for re-election in November.

Rod Cook, who served as city manager during Potter's time as mayor and calls Potter a "good friend," said Potter did an excellent job during his time as mayor and continued to do so when he became a commissioner.

"He always had the city in his thoughts," Cook said. As county commissioner, Potter served Lyon Township and the cities of South Lyon, Walled Lake and Wixom, along with a portion of Novi. He made it a point to fit his meetings into his schedule to stay on top of the issues that were affecting them.

John Doyle, who became mayor in 2003 when Potter joined the board of commissioners, called Potter the "best leader the city of South Lyon has ever had."

"He was my mentor. He taught me everything I know about politics, running a city council and being mayor," Doyle said. "I would have not been able to do what I did without him."

Doyle also said he taught

him a great deal about family. And, Potter's wife of 36 years, said he "loved his children and me more than anything I can possibly tell you."

"He never thought he would marry and have a family and he felt very gifted by it," she said. "He also loved being mayor and county commissioner and felt it was a gift given to him to be allowed to serve the people."

Much of Potter's political influence rubbed off on his son Michael, 23, who recently received his master's degree in public affairs.

Michael said he went to school every day at the dinner table because his dad taught him more about politics and government than any class ever did.

"That is the greatest gift he has given me," Michael said. "I couldn't have been anything of the things I have been so far in my life without his guidance and growing up in his household. Most people aren't lucky enough to have had what I did."

Potter's oldest son Daniel, 25, said he will always remember his father's passion, his quick wit and his love for his family.

"We had a great Father's Day together," he said. "It was nice having everyone together."

In 2007, Potter was diagnosed with throat cancer, a scary diagnosis for a person

who relied on his voice for his job. But Potter approached it with the same fervor he always did.

"I have a sense of gratitude about everything and I have so much to work with and for," he said at the time. "I do not know where this is going to lead, but I am not slowing down."

He endured months of radiation to fight the disease, and Andrea said his most recent tests in January came back negative.

"He was cancer free," she said.

It is fitting that Potter's last four days were spent doing what he loved. On Thursday, he sat on the Walled Lake Improvement Board, Friday he visited Daniel's new house, Saturday he went with Michael to pick up an old BMW motorcycle, and he had his birthday dinner (his birthday was June 15) with his sister and brother-in-law and Sunday he ate breakfast with his family and relaxed.

Patricia, Father. Husband. Not necessarily in that order, but Jeff Potter was all three.

"He is going to be deeply missed," South Lyon Mayor Ted Wallace said. "He was a big part of this community and it's heart-wrenching to think that he is gone."

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Get ready to read
Local libraries teaming up for Community Read project

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Times are tough for many local libraries. And despite funding, donors are being forced to find new ways to offer the services their patrons expect while also expanding programs and opportunities.

So in an effort to combat those struggles, five local libraries — Novi, Northville, Salem-South Lyon, Lyon Township and Wixom — are teaming up to bring their communities together and continue to promote literacy.

The project, called Community Read, is a first-time event that encourages patrons to read the same book and participate in discussions and programs about the book at the different libraries. There also will be a meet-and-greet with the author.

"For me, it is a wonderful opportunity to be working with neighborhood libraries, pulling resources and cooperating together," said Novi's director Julie Farkas. "I think it will be well received by our communities and we hope to make this an annual event."

The five libraries involved make up the newly-created Neighborhood Library Association, and the Community Read is their first project together.

Lindsay Levier, public relations coordinator for the Salem-South Lyon District Library, said sharing resources for the Community Read "makes it easier on all of us," and shows the residents they are dedicated to improving services.

"Hopefully they see that even though libraries are struggling, we can all pull together and offer something not only for South Lyon but for the surrounding communities as well," she said.

The book for the Community Read will come from the 2010 Michigan's Notable Book List and will be available at the libraries on August 2. The title of the book will be released in July.



JOHN HEDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Denis Rau helps her son Spencer, 8, with a crafts project at the Novi Public Library on the first day of its summer reading program on June 21. Young readers can visit the library to sign up for its program with its theme "Make a Splash."

Northville Public Library Director Julie Herrin said the project is a "wonderful way to expand our resources," and makes sense because the libraries are so close in proximity and share patrons already.

"We are not only giving people a book to read, but a chance to discuss it with their neighbors," she said.

Farkas said the Community Read is the only planned project the five libraries have right now, but more could come in the future.

"From this we are striving to see what other resources we can share and programs we might be able to do together to provide to our communities," she said.

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Lake board approves assessment roll
Discussion regarding treatment options forthcoming

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The five-year Special Assessment Roll to control weeds in Walled Lake has finally been completed.

After months of research and discussion, the Walled Lake Improvement Board approved the estimated \$519,615 project on June 17. The roll includes roughly 1,367 parcels in Novi and Walled Lake, and the city of Novi contributed \$30,000 to the project.

The only change to the roll was increasing the assessment on back lot owners

from .1 units of benefit to .2 units. Brian Coburn, secretary/treasurer of the board and city of Novi senior civil engineer, said the next step is to discuss the various options for treatment.

The lake board is looking at controlling the weeds through a combination of mechanical weed harvesting and chemical treatments.

"We have been getting a lot of feedback from residents who want to discuss different types of treatments so we want to hear from our consultants about the different options before we move forward," he said.

Coburn said the meeting will likely take place in late July or early August, and the assessment will first be notified on the winter tax bill.

The board also is going to have to replace the seat vacated by Oakland County Commissioner Jeff Potter, who died early Monday morning.

"He is definitely going to be missed on this board," Coburn said. "He understood the people and their perspectives."

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REPLACE

FROM PAGE A1

ing their pension to 1.6 percent instead of 1.5.

"It's unfortunate due to the state's economic situation that Lansing has forced people into retirement who under other circumstances might not have made that choice," she said. "And consequently, the result will be a loss of valuable and experienced employees."

The school board is responsible for hiring the next superintendent, and that person will hire their assistants.

But the fact there will be no one with a lot of history of the district on the staff will be a challenge, Glubzinski said.

"It's going to be a new leadership team and we hope they will bring some creative ideas to the district and have experience in leading high achieving districts that are diverse," she said.

Milan Obrenovich, Novi Middle School principal, also will be retiring at the end of next school year.

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Giving students a 'Legg' up

Longtime Novi High School media technology teacher leaves behind a legacy

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

It all started with a tape deck, two turntables and a microphone. And as David Legg's 36-year teaching career came to an end last week, it ended with him walking out of a state-of-the-art facility and leaving behind one of the state's best high school broadcasting departments.

"David, to put it simply, is a master teacher in every sense of the word," said Novi High School Principal John Lawrence. "His heart is in the right place and his passion for what he does and his compassion for students says it all."

The accolades he has earned speak volumes as well. This year, Legg received the Golden Pen Award — given to an outstanding adviser of a scholastic publication — at the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association Spring Conference, and also was a runner-up for the 2010-11 Michigan Teacher of the Year. He said the teacher of the year honor took him by surprise because he does not know who nominated him. He called the experience "very gratifying and humbling."

"I'm still flabbergasted by this whole thing," he said. "There are so many good teachers all over this state and in Novi and I still wonder why I was singled out."

It probably helps that Legg



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi High School media technology instructor David Legg is retiring after being with the school since it opened 33 years ago.

oversees what Lawrence calls the "finest radio and television program in the state," as many of his students have earned local and national awards under his tutelage.

The radio station runs 24/7, and the Cat's Eye News is broadcast five days a week during the school year. The newscast also is online and seen all over the world. "I always believed that if you give students the right tools they will create high-quality work," he said.

Student success is why Legg teaches, and throughout his 33-year career in Novi, there has been a lot of it. Many of his students have gone on after

high school to win Emmys, work for major broadcasting companies and more. Legg also said it makes him just as happy to see students use the skills he taught them to excel in other fields of work.

"It's very satisfying to know that you have helped people," he said.

ELEMENTARY TEACHER CALLS IT QUILTS

Unlike Legg who decided at the beginning of the year he was going to retire, Parkview Elementary teacher Patti Kettlehut was not as prepared. Kettlehut, who has worked in Novi since 1976 and started in



Patti Kettlehut will be leaving her classroom at Parkview Elementary.

Pontiac in 1973, chose to take the state retirement incentive late in the school year, but isn't ready to go just yet.

"I'm going to come back and visit, I really am," she said, noting that many of her students will still be in the school for a couple more years.

Kettlehut got her start in Novi after coming to the area to play tennis with

her husband and noticing a new school was being built. She walked into what was Novi Elementary at the time and got a job on the spot.

The new school being built was Novi Woods, and she was there the first year it opened.

She also has worked at Orchard Hills Elementary, but retired the last 20 years of her career at Parkview.

A lot has changed over the years, Kettlehut said, but the students' attitudes have always remained the same.

"Some things never change, and when you are in a classroom with kids and love reading and love books, that is what they take from it," she said. "And that is why we are in this (profession)."

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Diglio to take over reins of Novi High School

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Novi High School has a new leader.

Carol Diglio, who served as the assistant principal at the high school for the last three years, is taking over the principal position that was

vacated after John Lawrence announced his retirement at the end of the school year.

Diglio has worked in Novi for 15 years, including stints as the dean of students, writing softball coach and teacher among others.

She is set to start the job as the eighth principal of the high

school on July 1.

"I'm really excited to have this opportunity and have it at Novi High School," she said. "I know we are a successful school and my vision is to keep it that way and raise the bar even more."

Prior to coming to Novi, Diglio worked at inner city and alternative education

schools, and believes her diverse experiences will help her in Novi.

She also credits Lawrence for helping her grow as an administrator during the last couple years.

"John is one of those leaders that is a role model and a leader that leads by example," she said. "He has really taught

me to be a good listener, not that I wasn't before, but to listen more patiently."

Superintendent Peter Dion said when he first started looking for Lawrence's replacement he met with the entire staff at the high school and everyone was "complimentary" toward Carol. He said they told him Diglio was a very good listener and evaluator of teachers, has a work ethic that never stops, has both passion and compassion and wants all kids to be successful.

"I think Carol is going to do

an excellent job at the high school," he said.

Diglio has a specialist degree in educational leadership from Eastern Michigan University and a master's degree in administration and undergraduate degree in health from Central Michigan University.

She also has organized a school-wide school shooting simulation, the production of emergency manuals, CERT training and CPR/AED training over the years.

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EDUCATION

Thursday, June 24, 2010 hometownlife.com



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Readin' and writin'

Parkview Elementary School students applaud their efforts in a year-end Bear Bash book club celebration on June 17. The club was intended to encourage reading and writing efforts at the school and was sponsored by Telcom Credit Union and aided by many volunteers.

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

Good-bye, Mrs. Groom

The Novi Woods Elementary School staff and students had a surprise assembly for Mrs. Barb Groom. After 22 years with the Novi Community School District (18 of those at Novi Woods), Mrs. Groom is retiring as the school secretary effective July 1.

C.A.R.E. now open

Registration for Novi



Groom

Community Education's Summer Child C.A.R.E. is now open for all Novi residents ages preschool through eighth grade. The program begins Thursday, June 24 and ends Wednesday, August 25. Hours of operation are 7 a.m.-6 p.m.

Students will be placed in age appropriate groups and will participate in crafts, sports, field trips, games and free play. This year's location will be at Village Oaks Elementary School. Registration and weekly session fees are available on the Novi School District Web site at www.novisk12.mi.us under Community Education - C.A.R.E., or call (248) 449-1713 for more information.

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Cal Stone
Voice Mail: (248) 437-2011, ext. 237
E-mail: cstone@gannett.com
Comment online at hometownlife.com

Student eyes helping less fortunate

Tutoring program to help children in Detroit

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Dhivya Sridar could not believe what she saw when she visited a couple schools in Detroit earlier this year.

Students were going to class in trailers, there was a shortage of books, and the necessities Sridar and her classmates are accustomed to having in Novi were lacking.

The visit made the eighth-grader at Novi Middle School not only reflect on what she has but also made her want to extend a helping hand.

"When I saw what they go through it made me feel grateful for the opportunities I have," she said. "And because I have so much, I feel like I should give something back to them."

Sridar contacted

Bridgepointe, a non-profit organization that serves the children of the southwest Detroit schools, and asked if they would help her start a summer tutoring program at Neimas Elementary.

The group immediately got on board, and now Sridar and other students in Novi will be heading to Detroit from June 22-July 29 to tutor students during summer school. The program will run five days a week and feature students of like grade levels helping teachers or tutoring students.

Kelle Vela, Novi's Bridgepointe coordinator, said student-organized projects are the ones the organization loves to see.

"We start working with the kids and helping them learn about these relationships and create these opportunities for

them so it becomes a part of their lives," she said. Chitra Sridar, Dhivya's mother and organizer of the tutoring program, said everyone is excited and eager to help.

"I hope (our kids) learn that everyone is important and we have to be open to the whole society," she said. "And the students in Detroit) will be happy to know people are there to help them go higher than what their goals are."

Dhivya, who will be tutoring students in grades K-5, said her ultimate goal is for the students of Detroit to "learn more."

For more information about the tutoring program or to sign up to tutor, contact Chitra at c_sridar@yahoo.com

nmuel@hannett.com | (248) 437-2011, ext. 255

NOVI ON CAMPUS

Saint Mary's College

Novi's Megan Flaherty has been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2010 semester. A student must achieve a grade point average of at least 3.4 on a 4.0 scale to earn academic honors.

Loyola University

Courtney Anne Cloutier (Novi, '09) graduated from Loyola University, New Orleans, College of Law with a juris doctor on May 12. The College of Law recognized her excellence in oral advocacy and brief writing with her nomination and subsequent selection for membership in the Order of Barristers, a national honor society renowned for regional, national and international interscholastic oral advocacy competitions. Courtney's collegiate experience included participation as a Trial Advocacy

Team Member in the Texas Young Lawyer's Association, White Collar Crime (George Washington University), and the Louisiana State Bar Association Invitational competitions. During intramurals, Courtney was recognized as Best Overall Advocate. As an intern, she actively participated in the Loyola Law Clinic in the Orleans Public Defender Office.

Courtney graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas with a bachelor of arts in psychology in 2005. She lives in Chicago where she plans to practice law.

College of Wooster

Jordan Nelson, a graduate of Northville High School, has been named to the Dean's List for the spring semester. Nelson, a sophomore, English major from Novi, achieved a grade point average of 3.65 or above.

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Gardeners of Northville & Novi plan Blooms of Bounty walk

BY PAM FLEMING
STAFF WRITER

Everybody knows that economic times are hard. So, this year, the Gardeners

of Northville & Novi are featuring vegetable gardens in their annual walk on June 26, among other attractions. "In these current economic times, a lot of people are resorting to growing their own vegetables, fruits and herbs," said Gina Van Horn of Novi, a longtime member of the club and co-chair of the event with Audrey Murphy and Marcia Korzenowski. "So, this year's gardens will include vegetable gardens, herb gardens and fruit trees, as well as perennial gardens and annuals."

The theme of this year's walk that will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. is Blooms & Bounty, reflecting the produce-producing yards. This is the club's fourth garden walk, and it's only held every two years.



A trellised gateway leads into the Novi garden of John Styles.

GARDENERS OF NORTHVILLE & NOVI
There are currently 28 members of the Gardeners of Northville & Novi, and they welcome new people. They won a Keep Michigan Beautiful Award in 2009 for the Monarch Habitat Garden at Maybury State Park and care for the garden in front of the Northville Art House.

ROOMS WITH A VIEW
John Styles of Novi, who is not a club member, is sprucing up his yard as his one of several stops on the walk. Styles, who has worked in production at *The Oakland Press* for 40 years and lived in Novi for 20 years, loves to garden. One of the side yards features an arbor entrance. "We were trying to create a journey," into their yard, Styles said, who is assisted in the garden by Greg Schultz, an unofficially adopted brother of his who lives with him and his wife, Bonnie.

"Every time you turn a corner, you see a different garden," Styles said. His yard on the walk is called Rooms With a View. The yard includes ferns, bluebells, geraniums, Carol Mackie daphne (which is hard to grow), a gazebo and two ponds. "His and Schultz' latest project is a shade garden with a bench and stone wall that features rocks from all over Michigan - from Lake Superior to the Ohio border."

"It's nice at night," Styles said. "I love to be outside, and weeding is my therapy," he said. He also enjoys sharing perennials. "Gardening helps me think through problems," Styles said. "It's very calming to me."

Another yard on the tour belongs to Connie Marcangelo of Northville. It features a raised vegetable garden, terracing, a water feature, herb garden and more.

TIE A YELLOW RIBBON
To show support for members of the armed forces throughout Michigan, the club will also be part of the Grow a Yellow Ribbon Garden effort that began in 1945. This tradition at each garden and the central venue will feature a yellow ribbon in one place at

each garden. **CIVIC CENTER ATTRACTION**
A main attraction of the walk will be at the Novi Civic Center on 10 Mile east of Taft. This central stop on the walk will feature garden vendors with such items as two furniture, ornamental glass and other yard ornaments, pottery, sculptures and gardening aprons, plus refreshments, with parking behind the Civic Center. This portion of the walk is free and open to the public. Tickets for \$60 will also be sold there as well as at Gardenview, 117 E. Main St. in Northville. Backyard Birds at 627 S. Main St. in Plymouth; Diner's Flowers and Greenhouse at 24501 Dinsler Drive in Novi; and at Farmer John's at 26590 Haggerty in Farmington Hills.

Proceeds from the walk will go to charitable causes and community service projects. For more information, go to www.gardenersnorthville-novi.org or call Van Horn at (248) 349-4152.

Styles has been taking care of lawns since he was a boy in charge of his parents' lawn, and he even has a couple of side jobs at the end of the subdivision where he lives. "I've been gardening since I was old enough to push a lawn mower," he said, growing up in Oak Park. He lived in Farmington Hills for 15 years before moving to his half-acre lot in Novi. "I love to be outside, and weeding is my therapy," he said. He also enjoys sharing perennials. "Gardening helps me think through problems," Styles said. "It's very calming to me."

Another yard on the tour belongs to Connie Marcangelo of Northville. It features a raised vegetable garden, terracing, a water feature, herb garden and more. "Greg does the hardscape, and I do the design and layout," Styles said. "When the kids were young, we had a huge above-ground swimming pool in our yard," Styles said. Once they got older, the Styles took the pool down and created a beautiful garden in its place. Styles has been taking care of lawns since he was a boy in



Gina VanHorn of the Novi & Northville Gardeners Club checks out the Northville garden of Connie Marcangelo which will be featured in the June 26 tour.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Wells & DuRussel
Paul and Donna Wells, of Novi, and Joe and Ann DuRussel, of Reese, Mich., announce the engagement of the children, Lindsay Wells and John DuRussel, both of Northville. The bride-to-be graduated from Novi High School in 2000 and Michigan State University in 2005. She is employed by Valassis in Livonia. The groom-elect graduated from Michigan State University in 2004 and Wayne State University in 2006. He is attending dental school at University of Michigan. A wedding in Breckenridge, Colo., is being planned for this summer.

Passages

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WILLIAM ABBE
June 16, 2010, age 69. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial donations to: National Kidney Foundation of the American Cancer Society. Online condolences: www.obrienwilliamfuneralhome.com

DEBBIE AZAR
June 14, 2010. Loving daughter of Carol Azar. Dear sister of Nick Azar & aunt of Brooke & Natasha. Funeral was June 17, 2010. Donations may be made to the Ovarian Cancer Foundation. Online condolences: www.obrienwilliamfuneralhome.com

DON CONNOR
Age 78, June 12, 2010. Memorial service held June 19th at Meadowbrook Congregational, Novi. Memorial donations may be made to The Foundation for Peripheral Neuropathy. Online condolences: www.obrienwilliamfuneralhome.com

ARNOLD WILLIAM COMWADROW
Age 70, died at his home June 15, 2010 with a smile on his face after a long illness. He was born May 21, 1940 in Coventry, England to Marjorie and Kenneth Comwadrow, attended King Henry VIII Grammar School in Coventry (founded by the king), and received his Bachelors of Science Degree from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He married Mary Martha Pennington in 1962. They spent 2 years in the British Solomon Islands where Arnold was a Forestry Officer for the British Crown Government. He next went to Yale University, where he obtained Master of Forestry and Master of Science Degrees. He worked with computers in the Sociology Department at Yale University National Crime Survey before moving to Ann Arbor in 1979. He was employed in robotics by Horiba Instruments, and then worked for Perce-Davis automating laboratory test equipment until he retired in 2005. He played rugby for the University of Michigan Rugby Team, and was a Michigan Rugby Reserve. He began playing the game when he was 11 years old. He is survived by his wife Mary Pennington Comwadrow, his son Dylan Comwadrow of Tecumseh, Dylan's wife Cara, and by his daughter Roshani Comwadrow of Austin, Texas, her husband Sean Wheeler, and their 2 children Lucas and Jonah. A celebration of his life will be held later this year. If you would like to share a memory of his life, please visit vermeulenfuneralhome.com

THOMAS "SAM" DUNCAN
Age 91, passed away, June 19th, 2010 at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born on March 27, 1919, in Letonia, Arkansas, to the late Thomas Allen and Maude (Graddy) Duncan. He is survived by his 4 loving children, Jo Ann (Lavinne) Woolf of Pigot, Arkansas, Donna (Lyn) Benson of Jonesboro, Arkansas, Carolyn Sue Duncan of Springhill, Tennessee and Thomas L. (Joanne) Duncan of South Lyon, Michigan. He is also survived by 9 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren and his brother Dewayne (Wanda) Duncan of Arnold, Missouri. Sam was preceded in death by his beloved wife Louise. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 24, 2010 at the Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon, Michigan. Arrangements by: Castlerine Funeral Home, Inc.

ANN JESIONOWSKI
Age 96, died May 24, 2010. She is survived by her daughter, MaryAnn Wagner, six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren and her sister, Frances Wiktorowski. Memorial services will be held on June 26 at Church of the Holy Spirit in Highland.

EVERLYN J. KOLOMYSKI
Age 90, life long resident of Northville, passed away 6/20/10. Service held Wed., 6/23/10 at Rural Hill Cemetery. Contributions to American Diabetes Assoc. Arrangements by: Castlerine Funeral Home, Inc.

BERNADETTE STAWARA
Age 67, June 16, 2010. Daughter of the late Frank & Sheila. Sister of Frank J. (the late) John, Norbert (Theresa), Patricia (Leonard) Kobak, Jerome (Patricia), Leonard (Sandy), Mark (Kathy). Funeral June 24th at Holy Family Church, Novi. Online: www.obrienwilliamfuneralhome.com

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Deadline: Thursday at 11:00 am for Thursday obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

NORTHVILLE / NOVI CHURCH EVENTS

Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to stone@gannett.com by fax to (248) 685-2892; or by mail to Church Events/Northville- Novi, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48178. Items must be received by noon on Monday to be included in Thursday's newspaper.

Church of the Holy Family
Location: 24505 Meadowbrook Road
Contact: (248) 349-8847 or visit holyfamilynovi.org
Mass Schedule
TIME/DAY: 7:30, 9, 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 6:30 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday; 7 p.m. Tuesday; 5 p.m. (English), 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Saturday
Holy Days: 9 a.m., 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.
Reconciliation: beginning 9 a.m. Saturdays or by appointment
Crosspointe Meadows Church
Location: 29000 Meadowbrook Road, south of 13 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 669-9400, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday or visit www.crosspointemeadows.org
Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m.
Bible study classes: 10 a.m. for all ages
Details: Nursery and older children programs available. Worship blends traditional and contemporary elements resulting in a multi-sensory worship experience.
Detroit First Church of the Nazarene
Location: 21260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road
Contact: (248) 348-7600 or visit dfnazarene.org
Sunday Schedule: 9:15 a.m. Worship service with Praise Band, children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship and refreshments; 11 a.m. Traditional worship service, Children's Church, Youth Sunday School and Adult Bible Fellowship; 6 p.m. Evening Service, Children's program, Youth Worship Service
Tuesday Schedule: Tuesday 9:30-11:15 a.m. Women of the Word Bible Study with childcare available for

through age 5; 6:45 p.m. Ladies Evening Bible Study; 7 p.m. Men's Evening Bible Study
Wednesday Schedule: 5:30 p.m. Family Meal, \$4 per person, \$12 per family; 7 p.m. Children's Caravan, Club 56, Bible Study, Quilting, Adult Classes, Youth Blast
Thursday Schedule: 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do
Women of the Word
Time/Date: 9:25-11:15 a.m.
Details: The W.O.W. Tuesday Ladies Bible Study welcomes you to their study of the Book of Exodus. There is a \$15 registration fee, which includes interdenominational study materials. Childcare will be available in the morning for children through age 5.
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Location: 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia
Contact: (248) 442-8822 or www.nwemmanuel.org
Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross
Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 427-1175 or churchoftheholycross.com
Sunday School and Nursery Care: 10 a.m. Worship Service
Alzheimer's Support Group
Time/Date: 10 a.m. second Saturday of month
Faith Community Presbyterian
Location: 44400 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-2345 or visit faithcommunity-novi.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
First Baptist Church of Northville
Location: 217 N. Wing
Contact: (248) 348-1020
Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays
Men's Bible Study: 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month
Please see CHURCH, A9

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New Hudson
NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation
5785 Grand River Ave., New Hudson, MI 48165
Phone 248-747-9108
248-687-7319
Sunday Celebration of Life Service 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister
Website: <http://www.newhopeuuc.org>

NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Open Heart, Open Mind, Open Door
5675 Grand River Ave. • New Hudson MI 48165
(248) 474-7171 • Central S. Transit, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Worship 10:30 a.m.
Nursery provided • Youth Group activities
Great groups available • 248-747-9108
A place to belong - wherever you are, just as you are.

Northville
NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN
Experience Life Each Week
Sunday Worship - 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.
Sunday School and Children's Programs
www.colligo.org
41555 Six Mile Road
248-348-9030

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
(248) 349-2400
777 West Main Street • 6 Mile and 1st Road
Worship Time: September - May 8:00, 9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
November thru June 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Jeff Sturgeon, Associate Pastor
www.firstunitednorthville.org

WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
200 E. Main Street
Traditional Worship 8:00 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Contemporary 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided
www.wardunited.com
248-349-2400
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided
Rev. Dr. Annetamaria Kidder, Pastor

OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH
133 Orchard Rd., Northville
WEEKEND LITURGIES: Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
Church 348-2821, School 348-3610
Religious Education 348-3550
Rev. Dennis Thrauer, Pastor

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE
200 E. Main Street • (248) 349-2400
Worship & Church School - 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Contemporary 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided
248-349-2400
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided
Rev. Dr. Annetamaria Kidder, Pastor

St. John's Episcopal Church
A church that shares the light from Christ
874 S. Bedford Rd. • South Lyon, MI 48176
734-493-0190
www.stjohnslyon.org
Services on Sunday mornings at 7:45 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:00 AM
888 W. Eucharist with Contemporary Music
11:00 AM - Eucharist with Traditional Music

Livonia
FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Services held at:
Saint Andrews Episcopal Church
18300 Hubbard Road • Livonia
South of Six Mile Road
Adult Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15 a.m., Weekly 10:30 a.m.
Oklahoma Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Dr. James H. McGuire • Nursery Provided

White Lake
WHITE LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
405 Highland Rd. • White Lake, MI 48191
(248) 387-4054 • Debra J. Kerr, Pastor
Worship Services 10:00 a.m.
Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Children's Church 9:30 a.m.
Child Care Provided
The Friendly Church Established 1855

White Lake
Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church
Our Savior Lutheran School - Pre-school thru grade 12
1367 West Livingston
(248) 387-3300
Sunday Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Children's Church 9:30 a.m.
Oklahoma! 1:00 p.m. • 1st & 4th Grades, Noon Sun. 11:00 a.m. • 1st & 4th Grades, Noon Sun. 11:00 a.m.
www.saviorlutheran.org

South Lyon
CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN (Missouri Synod)
Pastor Tony Johnson
437-8810 • 486-4335
Grand Rd. at 10 Mile
Summer Worship 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Evangelical Presbyterian Church
2220 Pontiac Trail, South Lyon Ave. & 10 Mile
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
Refuge Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
Youth at 9:00 p.m.
Rev. David Brown, Pastor
248-371-2222 • www.fellowship.org

The Church of Christ
Pastor Tony Johnson
21805 Pontiac Trail • South Lyon, MI 48179
248-437-3555 • www.southlyoncc.org
9:30 a.m. Sunday School,
10:30 a.m. Praise and Worship
Wednesday Midweek Ministries 7 p.m.
Roo Callcott, Pastor

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
10774 10 Mile Road
Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) - SOUTH LYON
Sunday School 11:30 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Nursery Care Provided
Check us out on the web: www.pcsofsl.org
248-437-2075 • 205 S. Lake 10 Mile
Rev. Dr. Annetamaria Kidder, Pastor

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
Wisconsin Synod • Republic Street, East Livonia
at Liberty St.
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.
All Classes 9:00
Pastor Scott Miller, (248) 437-2289

Northville
SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH
22155 Littlefield Road
10 a.m. Sunday Celebration
Pontiac Trail and 8 Mile (Mary's Shopping Center (Nursery & Children's programs)
Office 248-486-4400
www.solidrocksouthlyon.org

BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH
Gathering in Jesus Name
601 S. Lafayette St. • South Lyon, MI 48178
Sunday 10:00 and 1:30
Thursday 7:00 p.m.
Mike Ragan, Pastor
724-347-1983 please call
Old fashioned preaching KXJ

FAMILY LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH A/G
62345 W. 9 Mile Road 437-1472 • www.familylifec.net
Sr. Pastor Joseph R. Tabbi
Sunday Christian Education 8:00 a.m.
Wednesday Worship 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Christian Education and Family Life 7:00 p.m.

Wherehouse Church
Sponsored by Family Life Community with Merge Worship
Saturday's 6PM
CLUB 8:18 8:30
2324 West Right Main Road, South Lyon, MI 48178
Visit us on facebook-Wherehouse

Wixom
CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH
28230 Wixom Rd.
Wixom, MI 48393
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
888 W. Eucharist with Contemporary Music
11:00 AM - Eucharist with Traditional Music
www.cpcnw.com

Library grand opening

The Novi Public Library is celebrating its grand opening on Saturday, June 26 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The community is invited to enjoy a day of family activities, food, music, and tours of the new building.

The new Library, located at 45255 W. Ten Mile Road, is approximately 57,000 square feet in size and includes a computer lab, outdoor patio, and rooms for group study, youth activities, teen study and socialization, and meetings of various sizes. It also offers convenience features such as a drive-up window and after-hours pick-up of library materials.

"On behalf of Novi citizens and businesses, we are pleased the project came in on time and under our budget," said David B. Landry, Novi mayor. "The new library is something the entire community can be proud of; a destination for education, culture, and community spirit."

The construction project is on time and under budget. The final phase of the construction, the new parking lot, is on schedule for an August completion. The new library was funded by \$16 million in General Obligation Bonds approved by the voters in November 2007. The project is anticipated to cost approximately \$15.5 million. The debt service for the bonds is being paid through the city's property tax millage which has been maintained in total at 10.416 mills. There have been no increases in staffing.

"The planning paid off! Since the new library opened on June 1 more than double the number of patrons are using it on a daily basis," said Larry Kilgore, Novi Library Board President. "The Read-a-Late Café, the bookstore, the



'Smart Tables'

Maddy Hensley, left, and Lexi Robinson, both 11, check out one of two 'Smart Tables' at the Novi Public Library on June 21. The tables, with their touch-screens, allow users to browse and organize multiple videos, play puzzles, and work on mathematics.

self checkouts, the computer lab, the outdoor patio, the book drop off and all of the new computers are a huge success. Over 38,000 new titles have been added to the collection for the opening, including CDs and DVDs.

For more information on the celebration, visit www.novilibrary.org or cityofnovi.org.

Summer camps
Novi Parks offers camps to meet every child's needs. Novi Parks, Recreation, and

Cultural Services is excited to offer many engaging camps with something to meet every child's interest, close to home, and at economical prices. Summer camps provide benefits in a broad variety of areas including physical, emotional, social and intellectual. "We hope the community embraces our returning and new offerings this summer. We truly have something for every child," said Nancy Cowan, City of Novi superintendent of Recreation. "Beyond the fun of a Project Broadway where the kids are introduced to the advanced techniques of performing arts: a Sports Camp like basketball or tennis where basic skills are learned and enhanced; or a traditional day camp such as Lakeshore Park Adventure Camp, children create memories and skills they will carry with them forever. The camp experience is truly like no other and one every child should have an opportunity to enjoy."

Great Camps for 2010 include:
* Musical Theatre Camps
* Horseback Riding Camps
* Sports for Shorties-preschool sports camp
* Sports Camps including: Soccer, Golf, Cheer, Football, Tennis, and Basketball
* Martial Arts and Padded Weapons Camps
* Lego Camps
* Painting Camps including Mural Camp
Camp Lakeshore will return this summer under a new name, Lakeshore Park Adventure Camp. The camp will offer adventures such as kayaking, canoeing, climbing with a belay harness, canoeing, and hiking. Annual camper-favorite field trips including the Detroit Science Center, Red Oaks Wave Pool and the Detroit Zoo are included.

Registration is going on now at cityofnovi.org and online registrants receive a \$5 discount. For more information, please contact the Novi Parks office at (248) 347-0400.

Food addiction
Are you having trouble controlling the way you eat? You are not alone. Today, there is a solution. There will be a Public Information Meeting for Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous on June 26 at 10 a.m. at the Crossroads Presbyterian Church, 1445

Welch Road, Commerce Township. There are no dues or fees associated with this 12-step program. For more information see our website, www.foodaddicts.org.

Novi's new Bestival
The long running and wildly popular community event, the Novi 50th Festival, has merged with last summer's West Oakland Rib Cook Off and Family Fest to emerge as the Novi Bestival on July 30-31 and Aug. 1, adjacent to the Rock Financial Showplace! Fun for the whole family will include live music from a wide variety of talented local bands, a casino tent, volleyball tournament, ribs for sale, beer tent and more. Details about the event are available at www.novibestival.com.

The West Oakland Rib Cook Off is currently seeking BBQ competitors who want to test their skills for prizes totaling \$4,000 and a chance to compete in the Memphis Barbeque Network's national competition in the spring of 2011. Restaurants located in Western Oakland County are invited to participate in the fun by entering their own BBQ cooking team. For registration information and applications please visit www.experience2011.com or call Shelby Wallace at (248) 348-5600 x 206.

Career fair July 1
Seeking to put Michigan back to work, hiredMYWay.com is hosting its inaugural career fair, showcasing more than 30 companies and 3,000 Michigan jobs at the Rock Financial Showplace on July 1. Doors open to job-seekers at 9 a.m.; personal interview breakout sessions run from 1-3 p.m.

Rock Financial Showplace located at 45100 Grand River Ave in Novi. hiredMYWay.com's team of experienced recruiters will be pre-qualifying candidates who register for the site's Personal Interview Service Program, giving companies the option to conduct 15-minute interviews with job seekers that specifically match their job criteria. For candidates interested in participating in the one-on-one interviews, e-mail career-fairs@hiredMYWay.com. Companies and candidates interested in participating in the career fair, can visit hiredMYWay.com for more information.

Variety Series
If you are 50ish or better, love to sing, dance, or be just a part of a group, you are invited to be part of the Senior Variety Series: Thanks for The Memories: A USO Tribute Show. No auditions required; there are great parts for everyone.

Registration is \$50 (fee includes the cost of costumes, music, instruction, and set construction). Rehearsals are 12:30-2:30 p.m., Mondays and Fridays through Sept. 9 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, between Taft and Novi roads.

This year's show is a tribute to the music and performers who have entertained our troops for over 60 years. Help us remember the Andrews Sisters, Danny Kaye, Bing Crosby, Betty Grable, and, of course, Bob Hope. We will honor the classics and the armed forces.

Registration for this camp is limited to 110 children, so register early. Contact Seth Furlow, Camp Director, at (248) 449-1600 or sfurlow@novi.k12.mi.us for more information. You may also visit Camp Invention's Web site at www.campinvention.org to find out more.

LEGAL NOTICE
Walled Lake Improvement Board, Cities of Novi and Walled Lake, Oakland County, Michigan
NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF ASSESSMENT ROLL
Notice is hereby given that at a continued Public Hearing held on June 17, 2010, the Walled Lake Improvement Board, by resolution, confirmed a five (5) year special assessment roll for years 2011 through 2015 for the purpose of weed control and lake maintenance programs in the total amount of \$488,615.00 (\$97,723.00 annually).

This Notice of Confirmation is published pursuant to the provisions of Act 461 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, Part 309.

WALLED LAKE IMPROVEMENT BOARD
David Greco, Secretary

Novi Planning Commission
David Greco, Secretary

Join WAVES
WAVES of Harmony, a Women's Community Chorus, is looking for ladies to join the group this summer to learn and perform some patriotic songs. WAVES will meet 7-9 p.m. on Mondays at the United Commerce Methodist, 1155 N. Commerce Road, Call (248) 887-2455 for more information.

Schoolcraft Colleges continuing education department will hold a series of weekend motorcycle classes for those interested in hitting the streets on two wheels. Using federal grant money, the school has held the program at Milford High School for several years. Vince Consiglio, who works for the school, said it didn't look like the money would be available this year, but the state allocated some money a few weeks ago for the program.

The class is open to anyone ages 16 and older and runs three days, including a Friday evening and all day Saturday and Sunday. Sessions run July 9-11, July 16-18 or July 23-25. The program costs \$225, and students must provide their own gear - helmet, boots, gloves, long-sleeve shirt and long pants. Motorcycles are provided. Those adults who pass the class can waive the state license test to get a motorcycle license, although that test isn't required for all motorcycle riders.

"The skills that are taught in the motor safety class will enhance the riders basic ability to survive on the street and give them the legal cycle endorsement," Consiglio said. Register by calling (734) 462-4452 or register online at www.schoolcraftcc.mus in the continuing education section.

Camp Invention 2010
Creativity and brainstorming are the building blocks to your child's future. Camp Invention emphasizes those skills and more, and Novi Middle School is proud to be among the select schools in Michigan that will serve as a host site during the week of June 28-July 2.

Children will create exciting new games and transform ordinary household items into extraordinary inventions during this weeklong summer adventure for three currently in grades K-5. Children will participate daily in five activity-oriented, hands-on modules focused on science literacy, math, history and the arts. There is also a heavy emphasis on the STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

Registration for this camp is limited to 110 children, so register early. Contact Seth Furlow, Camp Director, at (248) 449-1600 or sfurlow@novi.k12.mi.us for more information. You may also visit Camp Invention's Web site at www.campinvention.org to find out more.

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Novi Planning Commission
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CHURCH

FROM PAGE A7

First Baptist Church of Novi-Family Integrated Church
Location: 45301 W. 11 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-3647 or firstbaptistchurchofnovi.org
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

First Presbyterian Church of Northville
Location: 200 E. Main St.
Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpresville.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Walking in the Park: 10-11 a.m. every Saturday
Location: Meet at the Visitor's Center of Heritage Park (Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads)
Details: Group meet for lunch afterwards.
Contact: Sue (734) 459-0016

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Location: 4145 Nine Mile Road, corner of Meadowbrook Road, Novi
Contact: (248) 349-0565
Sundays: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study, 10 a.m. Worship
Lakes Baptist Church
Location: 309 Decker Road, Walled Lake
Livonia Church of Christ
Location: 15431 Merriman Road, Livonia
Contact: For further information, please contact NSO Douglas K. Wells at (313) 964-6595.

Meadowbrook Congregational Church
Location: 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight and Nine Mile roads
Contact: Rev. Arthur P. Ritter, Senior Minister (248) 348-7757, visit mbccc.org or e-mail to office@mbccc.org
Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Sermon: Having a Plan
Church School: 10-11 a.m.
Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.
Merry Widows Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month
Pilgrim Fellowship: 6 p.m. Sundays
Asking Questions adult education class: 10 a.m. Tuesdays
Vespers: 7:30 p.m.

Novi - Northville Center for Jewish Life
Details: A Jewish center with events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year - children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.
Contact: Rabbi Avrohom & Leah Suskind at (248) 790-6075 or rabbi@novijewishcenter.com; www.novijewishcenter.com

Novi United Methodist Church
Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-2652 or visit umcnovi.com
Sunday Worship: 9:45 a.m.
Healing Service and Holy Communion: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month
Peace Vigil: Noon, first Sunday of every month
Location: In front of the church

Stephen Ministry Church of Northville
A Stephen Ministry Church
Location: 777 W. 8 Mile Road at Taft Rd.
Contact: (248) 349-1144 or www.funorthville.org
Sunday worship: Times: 8:30 and 10 a.m. (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend), 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. (Sept.-May)
Pastors: Rev. Dr. Steven J. Buck, senior pastor and Rev. Jeff Sturgeon, associate pastor
Coffee Hour: 9:30 a.m. Sunday (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend); 10:15 a.m. Sundays (Sept.-May)
Healing Service: 4 p.m. first Monday of every month
Loop Youth Club: 5 p.m. Wednesdays for fourth-12th graders (Sept.-April)
Men's Club: 8 a.m. second Saturdays
Contact: Heather J. Wallas, communications director, (248) 349-1144, Ext. 26, or email hwallas@funorthville.org

Northville Christian Assembly
Location: 41355 Six Mile Road
Contact: (248) 346-9030
Sundays: 9-10 a.m. Sunday School for Adults / Youth / Children
9 a.m. Contemporary service in multi-purpose gymnasium
10:15 a.m. Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210)
Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study: 8:45-10:30 a.m. (café)
Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m. Adult elective classes; jr. and sr. high student ministries; children's programs (M-Pact Girls Club & Royal Rangers Boys Club) Nursery and Preschool Program on Sundays and Wednesdays Home of Northville Christian School (day care; preschool through eighth grade) - contact (248) 348-9031
Summer Vespers: 7:30 p.m. July 18 and Aug. 22

Novi - Northville Center for Jewish Life
Details: A Jewish center with events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year - children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.
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Peace Vigil: Noon, first Sunday of every month
Location: In front of the church

Alberto Aviles, M.D.
Board Certified Plastic Surgeon
5641 W. Maple Road, West Bloomfield
26850 Providence Pkwy, Ste 250, Novi
Phone: 248-538-3020
www.dralbertoviles.com
Fellowship-trained hand and reconstructive plastic surgeon experienced in a wide range of surgical and microsurgical services including: advanced techniques for breast reconstruction and enhancement, surgical correction for hand and wrist problems, body contouring procedures such as abdominoplasty and liposuction and procedures to rejuvenate and enhance facial appearance.

Kelly Burke, M.D.
Obstetrics & Gynecology
26850 Providence Pkwy, Ste 315, Novi
Phone: 248-465-4340
www.yourgyrogy.com
Committed to listening to patient concerns, Dr. Burke provides the highest quality care for women of all generations. A background in social work and medicine blends to provide compassionate obstetrical and gynecological care with a special focus on adolescent gynecology and minimally invasive surgery.

Mubashir Sabir, M.D.
General and Bariatric Surgeon
26850 Providence Pkwy, Ste 460, Novi
Phone: 248-662-4272
27483 Dequindre, Ste 204, Madison Heights
Phone: 866-823-4458
www.stjohnweights.com
Fellowship trained in bariatric surgery at University Medical Center at Princeton and performing bariatric and general surgery since 2005. Dr. Sabir offers a full range of surgery services to his patients. His special interest is bariatric surgery which he offers as part of St. John Weight Loss, a Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence.

Carrie Leff, D.O.
Internal Medicine & Pediatrics
Novi Internal Medicine & Pediatrics
39475 Lewis Drive, Ste 130, Novi
Phone: 248-374-0502
www.novidoctors.com
Training in internal medicine & pediatrics allows Dr. Leff to provide comprehensive care for children and adults, with an emphasis on preventative medicine. Partners with patients to achieve their best health by allowing them to become active participants in their own health decisions. Special interest in all aspects of women's health, from adolescence through menopause, including in-office gynecological care.

Madhuri Gudipaty, M.D.
Obstetrics and Gynecology
26850 Providence Pkwy, Ste 500, Novi
Phone: 248-662-4388
www.womenandkids.com
Dedicated to providing comprehensive women's health care including pregnancy, child birth, menstrual problems and menopause management, with an emphasis on wellness through annual physicals, pap smears, breast exams, and preventive medicine.

Rebecca Studinger, M.D., M.S.
Plastic, Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgeon
26850 Providence Pkwy, Ste 125, Novi
3270 W. Big Beaver Ste 415, Troy
Phone: 248-305-8400
Fellowship trained in microsurgical reconstruction and specially trained in lymphatic reconstruction for lymphedema. Dr. Studinger offers the most advanced breast reconstructive procedures and a full range of cosmetic procedures such as tummy tucks, face lifts, brow lifts, breast augmentation, Botox and facial fillers.

Todd Frush, M.D.
Orthopaedic Surgeon
26750 Providence Pkwy, Ste 200, Novi
22250 Providence Drive
Ste 401, Southfield
Phone: 248-884-6155
www.parrtettercenter.com
Fellowship trained in sports medicine and orthopaedic surgery. Coordinates care with other physicians, physical therapists, and athletic trainers. Specializes in arthroscopic surgery, knee replacements, cartilage restoration, rotator cuff repair, knee ligament reconstruction, tennis elbow and other sports related injuries.

Michael Montico, M.D.
Family Medicine
Providence Family and Athletic Medicine
1050 Corporate Office Dr, Ste 100, Milford
Phone: 248-884-6155
Family practice physician specializing in the field of sports medicine. Special interests include caring for adolescents, preventative medicine, and evaluation and treatment of musculoskeletal problems. As a family practitioner Dr. Montico is trained to address the medical issues that affect all members of the family.

STJOHN PROVIDENCE HEALTH SYSTEM
Hospitals in Southfield and Novi
www.stjohn.org
1-866-501-DOCS

CHURCH

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Family Movie Night: 5:30 p.m., fourth Sunday of every month

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Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.
Walking in the Park: 10-11 a.m. every Saturday
Location: Meet at the Visitor's Center of Heritage Park (Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile roads)
Details: Group meet for lunch afterwards.
Contact: Sue (734) 459-0016

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Sermon: Having a Plan
Church School: 10-11 a.m.
Fellowship Hour: 11 a.m.
Merry Widows Luncheon: 11:30 a.m. fourth Thursday of each month
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Vespers: 7:30 p.m.

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Sunday Worship: 9:45 a.m.
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Peace Vigil: Noon, first Sunday of every month
Location: In front of the church

Stephen Ministry Church of Northville
A Stephen Ministry Church
Location: 777 W. 8 Mile Road at Taft Rd.
Contact: (248) 349-1144 or www.funorthville.org
Sunday worship: Times: 8:30 and 10 a.m. (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend), 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. (Sept.-May)
Pastors: Rev. Dr. Steven J. Buck, senior pastor and Rev. Jeff Sturgeon, associate pastor
Coffee Hour: 9:30 a.m. Sunday (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend); 10:15 a.m. Sundays (Sept.-May)
Healing Service: 4 p.m. first Monday of every month
Loop Youth Club: 5 p.m. Wednesdays for fourth-12th graders (Sept.-April)
Men's Club: 8 a.m. second Saturdays
Contact: Heather J. Wallas, communications director, (248) 349-1144, Ext. 26, or email hwallas@funorthville.org

Northville Christian Assembly
Location: 41355 Six Mile Road
Contact: (248) 346-9030
Sundays: 9-10 a.m. Sunday School for Adults / Youth / Children
9 a.m. Contemporary service in multi-purpose gymnasium
10:15 a.m. Contemporary service in worship center; children's super church on the second level (208/210)
Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study: 8:45-10:30 a.m. (café)
Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m. Adult elective classes; jr. and sr. high student ministries; children's programs (M-Pact Girls Club & Royal Rangers Boys Club) Nursery and Preschool Program on Sundays and Wednesdays Home of Northville Christian School (day care; preschool through eighth grade) - contact (248) 348-9031
Summer Vespers: 7:30 p.m. July 18 and Aug. 22

Novi - Northville Center for Jewish Life
Details: A Jewish center with events, programs and activities for all ages throughout the year - children's programs, Sunday school, adult Jewish classes, youth clubs, holiday services and programs, community social events.
Contact: Rabbi Avrohom & Leah Suskind at (248) 790-6075 or rabbi@novijewishcenter.com; www.novijewishcenter.com

Novi United Methodist Church
Location: 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
Contact: (248) 349-2652 or visit umcnovi.com
Sunday Worship: 9:45 a.m.
Healing Service and Holy Communion: 9:45 a.m. first Sunday of every month
Peace Vigil: Noon, first Sunday of every month
Location: In front of the church

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26850 Providence Pkwy, Ste 315, Novi
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www.yourgyrogy.com
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General and Bariatric Surgeon
26850 Providence Pkwy, Ste 460, Novi
Phone: 248-662-4272
27483 Dequindre, Ste 204, Madison Heights
Phone: 866-823-4458
www.stjohnweights.com
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Carrie Leff, D.O.
Internal Medicine & Pediatrics
Novi Internal Medicine & Pediatrics
39475 Lewis Drive, Ste 130, Novi
Phone: 248-374-0502
www.novidoctors.com
Training in internal medicine & pediatrics allows Dr. Leff to provide comprehensive care for children and adults, with an emphasis on preventative medicine. Partners with patients to achieve their best health by allowing them to become active participants in their own health decisions. Special interest in all aspects of women's health, from adolescence through menopause, including in-office gynecological care.

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Rebecca Studinger, M.D., M.S.
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3270 W. Big Beaver Ste 415, Troy
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Todd Frush, M.D.
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22250 Providence Drive
Ste 401, Southfield
Phone: 248-884-6155
www.parrtettercenter.com
Fellowship trained in sports medicine and orthopaedic surgery. Coordinates care with other physicians, physical therapists, and athletic trainers. Specializes in arthroscopic surgery, knee replacements, cartilage restoration, rotator cuff repair, knee ligament reconstruction, tennis elbow and other sports related injuries.

Michael Montico, M.D.
Family Medicine
Providence Family and Athletic Medicine
1050 Corporate Office Dr, Ste 100, Milford
Phone: 248-884-6155
Family practice physician specializing in the field of sports medicine. Special interests include caring for adolescents, preventative medicine, and evaluation and treatment of musculoskeletal problems. As a family practitioner Dr. Montico is trained to address the medical issues that affect all members of the family.

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

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Cal Stone,
 Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
 Executive Editor
Grace Perry,
 Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

Water rules

If you boat, remember to do so safely

After a slow start, the summer season got off in high gear this month with high temperatures and a promise for more good weather ahead. Boaters have been out in large numbers already and likely will be out in full force this weekend and moving ahead into July. That's great. That's one of the great reasons to live in Michigan. But enjoying the state's bountiful natural resources requires responsible action when it comes to safety. Regrettably, that's not always the case. Such carelessness, or even momentary lapses, can have tragic results. It may seem obvious, but there are a number of basic boating rules that will increase the chances that this summer is remembered for enjoying the great outdoors.

First, alcohol is just as dangerous on the water as on the road. The warm summer weather, the presence of good friends and the relaxing promise of a boat ride are often part of a social environment that includes drinking alcohol. But that must be done responsibly. It's not only the boat's operator who must limit his drinking until after the craft returns to shore. Passengers, too, need to be mindful of the hazards of poor judgment and physical impairment caused by excessive alcohol consumption.

Boats are great fun. But they are also powerful and, operated poorly, dangerous. Safety must always come first.

Boats are great fun. But they are also powerful and, operated poorly, dangerous. Safety must always come first.

In that regard, most boaters and passengers tend to ignore the safety provided by life jackets, which by law must be on-board but which are often only used by small children, water skiers, tubers and the like.

That's a choice that carries a big risk. According to figures from the U.S. Coast Guard, life jackets were not worn by 90 percent of those who died in boating accidents in 2008. There is no way to know how many of those fatalities could have been avoided if the victim was wearing a life jacket. But the chance to allow the jacket to save a life was missed for all those who perished without wearing the protective device.

All boaters must accept the responsibility of proper preparation. That means at a minimum storing the appropriate number of life jackets, making sure that a working fire extinguisher is on board and ensuring that the boat is seaworthy.

Common sense and extra precautions remain the best courses of action when pulling skiers, tubers or wake boarders. Always have a spotter in addition to the skipper. When someone is in the water, always circle around for the pickup; never reverse the boat. Take great caution not to operate the engine when anyone is near the propeller. Take great care to watch for skiers and tubers from other boats. In fact, it often makes sense to postpone skiing and tubing until times when the lake is not congested.

Know and observe boating rules. Respect no-wake zones. Keep boats an appropriate distance from the shore, docks and floating rafts. Keep speeds moderate when pulling tubes, and stay well-away from docks and other structures. Respect boating rules that direct traffic in a counter-clockwise direction.

Personal water craft are great fun, but all safety rules apply and then some. As inverting as wake-jumping is, it is unsafe and illegal to cross closely behind another water craft.

Once understood, safety rules and laws are not hard to follow. Adhering to them will increase the chance that the most memorable parts of a great summer will be the good times.

COMMUNITY VOICE

What type of books do you like to read?

(Asked at the Novi Senior Center during the Novi Public Library's regular visit on the third Tuesday of the month.)



"Books by Daphne du Maurier, like 'Jamaica Inn' and 'My Cousin Rachel' - it's about smuggling."

Florence Baptist
Novi



"I like variety. When the bookmobile visits, I'll grab a bunch of books without looking at their titles."

Ruth Weber
Novi



"I like mysteries - that's what I like. Like James Patterson's books."

Rita Evans
Novi



"I love science fiction - Michael Crichton and Amy Tan; she's the heart of a woman."

Marlon Scott
Novi

LETTERS

Senior party thanks

On behalf of the Novi High School Senior All Night Party, we would like to express our sincerest heartfelt thanks for the generous donations provided by the businesses and individuals listed below. Without their support, this event would not be possible.

We worked hard to create a fun, safe and supervised environment for the graduates to celebrate after their commencement ceremony on June 5. Because of the outstanding support from these businesses and individuals, the Senior All Night Party was a huge success. Please show your support by patronizing these establishments:

- ABC Warehouse, ACO Hardware, Adams Family, Ah Wok Restaurant, Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar, Apree Salon, Arby's, Athenian Cony Island, Attractive Nails, Barry Family, Bauer Family, bd's Mongolian Grill, Benchmark Jewelers, Benito's Pizzeria, Berent Family, Best Buy, Better Health Market, Bi Bim Bab, Big Boy Restaurants, Big Ray's Quick Lube, Bigby Coffee, Bill Harb Agency, Inc., Bodine Family, Bonfish Grill, Border Cantina, Borders, Boston Market, Brecknridge Veterinary Clinic, Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar, Burger King, Busch's, California Pizza Kitchen, Carlson Family, Carrabba's Italian Grill, Cesari Family, Cherry Blossom, China Cafe, Citizens Bank, Collin Family, Costco, Cottage Inn Pizzeria, Dairy Queen, Deadwood Bar & Grill, Deli Unique Novi, DePotter Family, Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro, Domino's Pizzeria, Don's of Traverse City, Dr. Stephen J. Minns, DDS, Drs. Ruskin, Krishnan & Ruskin, DDS, Elizabeth's Bridal Manor, Emagine Theatres, Epoch Catering, Faces by Freda, Family

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. E-mail: cstone@gannett.com.

Read or comment online: www.hometownlife.com

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at www.hometownlife.com.

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Novi High School Senior All-Night Party Committee Class of 2010

Support OCC when voting Aug. 3

Oakland Community College (OCC) is a great educational asset that benefits our entire community, not just students. They have earned our support.

On Aug. 3, OCC will ask voters to renew a tax. This is a renewal request, NOT a new or increase in our taxes. The vote authorizes a renewal of the .8 mill supplementary levy first approved by Oakland County voters in 1995, and renewed by a 2-to-1 margin in 2001.

If this millage is not renewed it would eliminate 30 percent of OCC's revenue — hurting not only the students but our entire community.

Oakland Community College is the grand entranceway to enhancing knowledge and skills, giving individuals a boost up life's economic ladder while strengthening the greater community.

Education has been and will remain the great equalizer. America is great because we have invested in "human capital" — we have educated our people. OCC is an integral part of the education chain that has helped make our community strong. OCC is Oakland's County's Statute of Liberty. I challenge you to name another institution that truly takes the tired, the unemployed, the poor, huddled under-employed and gives them hope and educational opportunity. This happens every day at Oakland Community College. At OCC, students are being taught by instructors who are focused on teaching what they know best while students are saving themselves and their families a ton of cash.

Over 700,000 people have come to OCC since their doors were first opened in 1965.

Oakland Community College makes a significant difference in helping prepare students and employees for our hyper-competitive and technologically-driven global economy where ideas and jobs now move across the globe effortlessly.

Oakland Community College is doing this important work with ever shrinking resources from Lansing. Thirty years ago, on average, Michigan's community colleges received nearly 50 percent of their funding from state appropriations and another 25 percent each from property taxes and tuition. Today the state's contribution is less than half that — 20 percent — while the other 80 percent is derived from property taxes and tuition. And as we all are painfully aware, as our property values tumble so too does local taxes sent to OCC.

We need to continue to invest in education if we want to be competitive as individuals, a state and a nation in the global knowledge economy.

Oakland Community College is a great investment for us all. Please remember to vote for this tax renewal on Aug. 3. Your taxes will not go up and you will be supporting our collective future.

Tom Watkins is an education and business consultant. He served as Michigan's state superintendent of schools, 2001-05. He can be reached at: to Watkins@aol.com.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues. In Your Voices. Find more comments or join the discussion on the Web at hometownlife.com.

Marine returns to Novi

Thanks for serving our country!!!

lenny12

Lansing Connection with State Sen. Nancy Cassis

Excellent article. Finally a voice of reason and sense on this border debate!

JoeBlog1

Commentary by Tom Watkins:

Tom again nailed it! How do we go about drafting Tom Watkins for Governor?

ecerano

The U.P. could experience a disaster similar to BP's oil spill

Today, TV screens, newspapers and the Internet are consumed worldwide with the horrendous British Petroleum oil leak into the Gulf of Mexico, now believed to be the greatest man-made environmental disaster in our history, if not that of the planet.

But something eerily similar is going on, far from the cameras, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula near the tiny village of Big Bay.

There, a company with a history as one of America's greatest polluters is now planning to mine for copper and nickel right under one of Michigan's most uniquely famous trout streams.

The design for this mine has been attacked by independent mining engineers, who see it as all too likely to cave in. If that happens it will kill the trout and release a pulse of dissolved copper and nickel into a stream flowing into Lake Superior. It takes only tiny amounts of these heavy metals to wipe out fish and plants.

Michigan needs jobs, true. But under the best of scenarios, the mine would employ maybe 200 workers — many from out of state — for less than 10 years. That would bring big-time industrial development to one of Michigan's most pristine wilderness spots and threaten long-term tourism, fishing and hiking resources, perhaps forever. Worse, the mine would also defile Eagle Rock, a sacred site to Native Americans.

Members of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and local residents are camping there, watching in



Phil Power

frustration as crews clear-cut the timber from the surrounding area. What's going on here, anyway? Welcome to the so-called Eagle Prospect mine, a project of Kennecott Eagle Minerals Corp., a subsidiary of Rio Tinto, Ltd., a vast London-based mining company.

The Rio Tinto board of directors announced last week it would invest \$469 million in the mine. That may sound like a large sum, but it's a pittance compared with the \$5-\$10 billion worth of ore they believe is there.

The mine will be dug directly under the headwaters of the Salmon Trout River, one of Michigan's best trout streams. Perhaps more importantly, it's also one of the world's last remaining spawning sites for the Coaster Brook Trout, a variant of the native speckled trout that behaves like a steelhead and comes near it in size.

Recent research suggests there are less than 400 of these iconic fish left in the river. Kennecott plans to blast through the Eagle Rock into the ore body which is located in sulfide rock, which when exposed to oxygen and water produces "acid mine drainage," including sulfuric acid and dissolved heavy metals.

Every such "sulfide mine" ever opened has produced long-term acid mine drainage — some dating back to

In the BP/Gulf of Mexico oil spill scandal, it has become clear the agency with regulatory oversight of the offshore drilling industry — U. S. Minerals Management Service — had been "captured" by the very industry it was supposed to oversee. And now we have seen the result. The Kennecott Eagle Prospect mine is exactly the same kind of disaster just waiting to happen ... for virtually identical reasons.

Roman times. What if the mine does, in fact, cave in?

Alas, Kennecott has no known disaster plan for managing the resulting environmental damage. The trout will all die, of course — and that may not be the worst of it.

Sound like Michigan's version of the BP disaster in the making?

How could this have come about? Approval of the mine was recommended by the Michigan Office of Geological Survey, which used to be a division of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and is now part of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The Survey is our equivalent of the now-infamous U.S. Minerals Management Service that oversaw BP's operations in the Gulf of Mexico. The head of the Survey

Office's mining team called the Kennecott project "my baby" and identified the company as "my customer." During the review process, he admitted suppressing an expert memorandum that spoke to the risk of a mine collapse. Another member of the state's mining team formed a business partnership with Kennecott employees to offer mining services to the private sector; the partnership was dissolved after it became public. And Governor Jennifer Granholm's UP representative who helped her formulate her position in support of the mine has left government service to work — you guessed it — for Kennecott.

There have been efforts to stop it, including several lawsuits, one of which came before a state administrative judge who was caught sending a note to a top official at the DEQ asking how he should deal with the resulting appeal.

Permits for the project have been issued by the DNR and confirmed by a newly passed law governing metallic mineral underground mining.

That statute required Kennecott to submit environmental baseline studies on both the actual mine site and also the "affected area," the nearby land and water that ran the risk of being environmentally compromised if something went wrong.

Kennecott's permit applications ignored that provision, among others. (Full disclosure: I was a member of the work group that wrote the stat-

ute, and I am a member of the Huron Mountain Club, a UP group that is suing to try to halt the mine.)

Kennecott has not yet received a federal permit from the Environmental Protection Administration to inject treated water from the mine into area ground water. Yet the company is proceeding full speed ahead, as if no permit was needed.

And no evidence has been produced that Kennecott has a disaster plan in place to cope with the environmental trouble that many experts see as likely, if not certain.

In the BP/Gulf of Mexico oil spill scandal, it has become clear the agency with regulatory oversight of the offshore drilling industry — U. S. Minerals Management Service — had been "captured" by the very industry it was supposed to oversee. And now we have seen the result. The Kennecott Eagle Prospect mine is exactly the same kind of disaster just waiting to happen ... for virtually identical reasons.

This is a true outrage. But so far nobody seems to be noticing.

Mine opponents have tried to talk with DNR director Rebecca Humphries, but she hasn't been responding. Concerned readers who might want to make their opinions known can email her at humphries@michigan.gov.

Phil Power is the founder and president of the Center for Michigan, a bipartisan centrist think-and-do tank. He welcomes your comments at ppower@thecenterformichigan.net.

Novi/Northville

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Check out the bargains at area garage sales inside today's Classified section

More: For a complete listing of local and regional events, see the Novi Calendar online at www.hometownlife.com.
 Submit: Send calendar submissions via e-mail to clstone@gannett.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

Building Teamwork for Business Success
Time/Date: 8-10 a.m. Thursday, June 24
Location: Novi Chamber of Commerce, 41875 Eleven Mile Road, Novi
Details: Gerald W. Bricker, managing principal and founder of business consultancy Advise Consulting, LLC (Northville, Mich.), will continue his series of strategic management seminars by leading a

session on building teamwork that contributes to business success. Cost is \$39 at the door; \$29 for Novi Chamber members; additional \$5 off for pre-registration paid in advance.
Contact: (248) 974-1537
Evening in the Gardens - Butterfly Gardens
Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 24
Location: MSU Extension Tollgate Education Center, 28115 Meadowbrook Road, Novi
Details: Brenda Dziedzic, co-founder and president of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association, will introduce you to the world of butterflies and butterfly gardening. Cost is \$20.
Contact: (248) 858-0887
Northville-Noti Garden Walk
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, June 26
Details: The Gardeners of Northville & Novi (No-No's) present "Blooms and Bounty", a self-guided

tour of seven exceptional gardens in Novi, rain or shine. Tickets are \$10 (cash or check) and will be available on the day of the tour at the main venue, Novi Civic Center, 45000 W. 10 Mile Road. This year's gardens were selected for their outstanding blend of flowers, shrubs and water features combined with a section devoted to vegetables and/or herbs. The gardens featured will also participate in the state-wide "Yellow Ribbon Garden" program to honor and support our military men and women - a tradition dating back to 1945 to pay tribute for their service and sacrifice to our country.
Contact: For advance ticket purchase information see www.gardenersnorthville-novi.org or call (248) 349-0376.

Novi High School Class of 1990 20-Year Reunion
Time/Date: 7 p.m. close Saturday, June 26
Location: Bar Louie, Novi (12 Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk)
Details: Reconnect with Class of 1990 alums. Dinner and two drink tickets included; \$55 per person.
Contact: lffboson@comcast.net to have an invite e-mailed to you.

Summer Sidewalk Music Series
Time/Date: 4-7 p.m. Saturdays June-August
Location: at Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountainwalk in the center roundabout by Lucky Strike
Details: Free concerts and art. ArtsNovi will have 4 artists selling work and doing demonstrations each week. Bring a chair! Bands for June: 19 - Catfish Mafia; 26 - Michael May and the Messarounds.
Contact: Twelve Mile Crossing (248) 348-8762

Sunset Jazz @ Fuerst Park
Time/Date: 7-9:30 p.m. first Wednesdays of June, July and August
Location: Fuerst Park, southeast corner of Tall and 10 Mile roads
Details: Free live jazz - bring a picnic basket and make it a date night. July 7 - Don Swindell Quartet; August 4 - Royal Garden Quartet; September 1 - Sheila Landis & Rick Matle
Contact: ArtsNovi@yahoo.com or Facebook ArtsNovi

Rock Financial Showplace
Location: 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi
Contact: (248) 348-5600
Gem & Jewelry Show
Time/Date: noon-6 p.m. Friday, June 25; 10-6 Saturday, June 26; 11-5 Sunday, June 27
DETAILS: A fabulous jewelry exhibition that gathers hundreds of designers and manufacturers together to offer buyers the best high-quality selection at the lowest price. Admission is \$8; parking is \$5.
CONTACT: 301.294.1640 www.intergem.com

American Legion Post 19 Monthly Meeting
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. on third Tuesdays



Yacht club

Founding members of the Novi Model Yacht Club (1 to 1) Al Logan, Ken Greywall, Dave Harrington and Chuck Rynztz prepare to race their Soling One Meters on Island Lake of Novi. They race Thursdays from 10 a.m.-noon. For more information, contact Chuck Rynztz at crynztz@gmail.com.

Location: Rock Financial Showplace, Grand River Avenue between Tall and Beck roads
Details: Comrades and fellow veterans, please join these monthly meetings; attendance is needed to maintain and grow the Post.
Contact: Commander Dennis Sirkulis (248) 378-7841 or dstrikulis@tmir.com or Service Officer Paul Erickson (248) 344-7193 or pnerick@aol.com.

Novi Chamber of Commerce
 The Novi Chamber of Commerce is an active, progressive chamber offering a variety of events, educational programs, an enhanced Web site, and involvement with local charities.
Location: 41875 11 Mile Road, #201, Novi
Contact: For more information, call (248) 349-3743 or www.novichamber.com.

MSU Extension
Location: MSU Extension Tollgate Education Center, 28115 Meadowbrook Rd, Novi
Contact: (248) 858-0887, e-mail smithlin@oakgov.com or visit www.msue.msu.edu/oakland/botsford/SwimLessons
Time/Date: Wednesday evenings through July 28
Location: The Botsford Center for Health Improvement, 39750 Grand River Ave. in Novi
Details: Ensure safe swimming for your kids with American Red Cross swim lessons. Group classes are split up by age and swim level. Parent supervised through advanced stroke development groups are available. The cost is \$48 for Botsford Center for Health Improvement members and \$75 for non-members. Times vary by swim level.
Contact: Call (248) 473-3100 or visit www.botsford.org/ochi.

Novi Farmers' Market & International Street Fair
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sundays, through Oct. 31
Location: Main Street, between Grand River Avenue and Novi Road
Details: An open-air market featuring fresh and tasty produce, gorgeous plants and flowers, yummy baked goods, honey and jam.
Contact: www.novifarmersmarket.com

Bright House Networks and the Toasted Oak Grill
 Garden Walk and Dinner Tour tickets will be available
 Face painting and artisans
 List of vendors available at www.novifarmersmarket.com

Novi Toastmasters Club
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., every first and third Tuesday
Location: Novi Civic Center, Activities Room, 45175 West 10 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375
Details: Novi Toastmasters is a community-based club which is part of Toastmasters International. Our diverse group provides a mutually supportive atmosphere in which all can develop and refine their public speaking and leader-

Business
Metro Novi BNI
Time/Date: 7-8:30 a.m. every Wednesday
Location: On the Border Restaurant, 21091 Haggerty Road (north of 8 Mile), Novi
Details: BNI is a structured networking environment for professionals. The Metro Novi BNI team members are committed to providing bona fide referrals to each other. Members learn how to create and refine an "elevator speech".
Contact: Call (248) 473-3100 or visit www.botsford.org/ochi.

Novi Chamber of Commerce
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Purse stolen from cart at Kroger

A woman had her purse stolen from the child seat area of a shopping cart around noon on June 14 while she was shopping with her husband at Kroger on Grand River Avenue.

According to the report, the woman said she was in the bread/deli area and about 20 minutes later her husband noticed her purse was missing. The couple said they left the cart unattended for a short period of time and they later discovered additional items in their cart that were not there before.

The purse contained the woman's wallet including her driver's license, credit cards and possibly her social security card as well as car keys and keys to their home among other miscellaneous items.

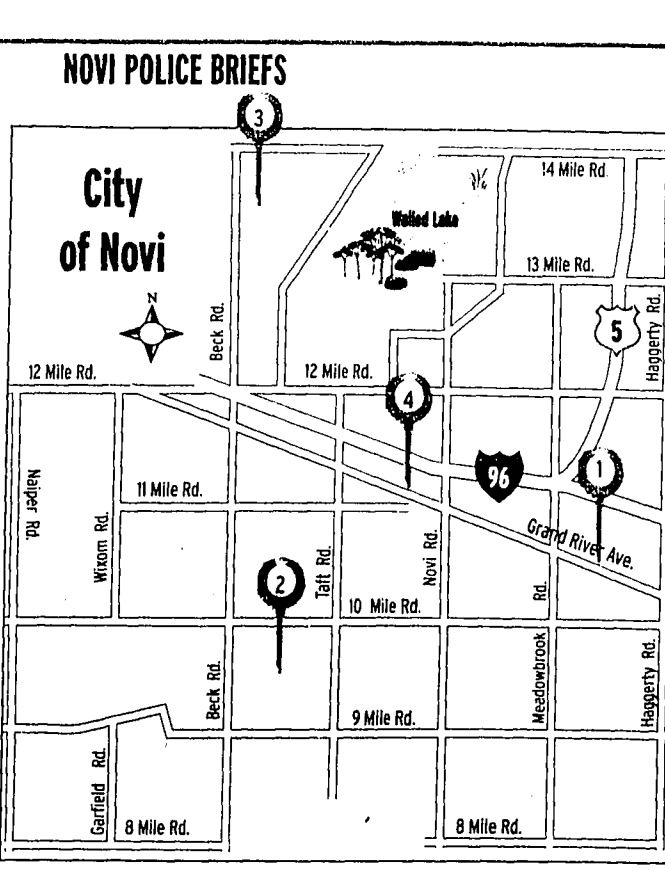
The manager of the store said because of their location, the surveillance camera in the area was not able to capture the larceny.

Police have no suspects at this time.

Computers taken from SUV
 A pair of laptop computers belonging to the victim's company were stolen from a GMC Acadia over the weekend of June 11 while it was parked in the driveway of his home on White Pines Drive.

The victim said the vehicle was not used all weekend and it was left unlocked.

One computer is valued at \$550 and the other at \$2,500. There was no evidence on the scene for police to process and they have no suspects at this time.



Resident has table stolen from patio

A Novi resident had their metal table with glass top stolen overnight on June 21 while it was on the back porch of their home on Wellington Drive.

The owner said he was up until 2 a.m. watching television and didn't notice the table was missing until 8 a.m.

There were no footprints or evidence and neighbors in the area said they didn't hear or see anything suspicious.

Police have no suspects.

Drunk driver causes accident
 A woman was arrested at 6:52 p.m. on June 17 for

drunk driving after causing a four-car accident on Grand River Avenue east of Town Center.

According to the report, the woman admitted to having two drinks and a shot of alcohol. She failed field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .15 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

The woman was transported to the Novi Police Department where she was issued a citation for operating while intoxicated and unable to stop in assured clear distance.

Police have no suspects.

One computer is valued at \$550 and the other at \$2,500. There was no evidence on the scene for police to process and they have no suspects at this time.

A woman was arrested at 6:52 p.m. on June 17 for

Novi police offering civilian pistol safety class

The Novi Police Department will host a civilian pistol safety class from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday, July 17. This course fulfills both the classroom and shooting requirements to obtain a Michigan Concealed Pistol License (CPL).

The CPL class will take place at the Novi Police Department Training Center, located at 45125 W. Ten Mile Road. After lunch, participants will move to the Novi Firearms Training Center to complete the training.

This is the first time this

MORE INFO
 Visit cityofnovi.org or contact Sergeant Michael Warren at mwarren@cityofnovi.org or (248) 347-0572.

class has been offered in the City of Novi.
 "I am excited we can offer our residents these types of services," said Novi Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police David Molloy. "These educational opportunities help strengthen the bond between

the community and the Novi Police Department."
 Participants must be 21 years old and can register either online at cityofnovi.org or pick up a registration form at the Novi Police Department no later than July 12. The course costs \$200 and can be paid with cash or money order. All participants are subject to a criminal background check. Students must bring their own equipment, including a personal handgun, 100 rounds of ammunition, safety glasses, and shooter's earmuffs or ear plugs.

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Hometown Hero

Dawn Bause — chef, cookbook author, and owner of Cooking with Dawn, a Commerce Township cooking company — was recognized for her passionate work educating the public of the need to eat better and incorporate locally grown produce into our daily lives. The awards were bestowed to the 12 deserving Michiganders during Michigan Public Health Week in April. This designated week strives to celebrate public health at work in Michigan. These heroes represent individuals who have made extraordinary efforts to improve health and well being in their communities. "I am inspired and even more committed



to stay my course and work harder to help change the way people eat," Bause stated. "My focus is the Mediterranean diet, which centers around cooking with extra virgin olive oil, eating more whole grains, fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs, berries, beans, leafy greens, nuts, seeds, and fish." Bause (right) is pictured with Kerry Krone, representing State Sen. Nancy Cassir (R-Novi).

School's out

Novi Meadows sixth grader Rosie Ashworth plays with a Hula-Hoop on June 17 during an outdoor picnic for students on the school's last day.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A12
 Contact: (248) 344-4044; www.thegravevineofnovi.com
Live blues Fridays and Saturdays:
 8:30-midnight
 June 25 - Paul Miles
 June 26 - The Messarounds
The Post Bar
 Location: 42875 Grand River Avenue, Novi
 Contact: (248) 465-9600
Wednesdays: WYLD Wednesday with DJ Joey "A" & mc Jevon Hollywood
Thursdays: DJ Tommy Holiday
Fridays: Famous Friday with DJ Mix & mc Jevon Hollywood
Mixx Lounge
 Location: 43155 Main Street, Novi
 Contact: (248) 347-6499 or mixx-novi.com
Thursday-Saturday: DJ

LIBRARY LINES

Novi Public Library
 Location: 45255 W. Ten Mile Road
 Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Sundays (through Labor Day)
 Details: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the Library.
 Contact: (248) 349-0720
 Website: www.novipubliclibrary.org
Story Times: Please see the Library website or story time brochure for details.
Grand Opening Celebration
 Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, June 26
 Details: Celebrate the Grand Opening of the new Library with music, food, tours, and entertainment for the whole family.
Jim Gill Concert
 Time/Date: 2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 26
 Take part in our Grand Opening celebration by attending a family concert performed by musician Jim Gill. Rather than just performing for the audience, Jim will encourage you to sing and participate!
Puppets in the Park
 Time/Date: 10:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesday, June 29
 Details: Bring the kids and enjoy games, activities, and an interactive fun puppet show at Fuester Park. The show will be held at the Library, if there is inclement weather. Presented in partnership with the City of Novi.
Fabulous Fish Fest
 Time/Date: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesday, June 30
 Details: Create a super stuffed fish to hang on your wall without even going fishing! Use your imagination and our supplies to design a work of art you can be proud of for years.

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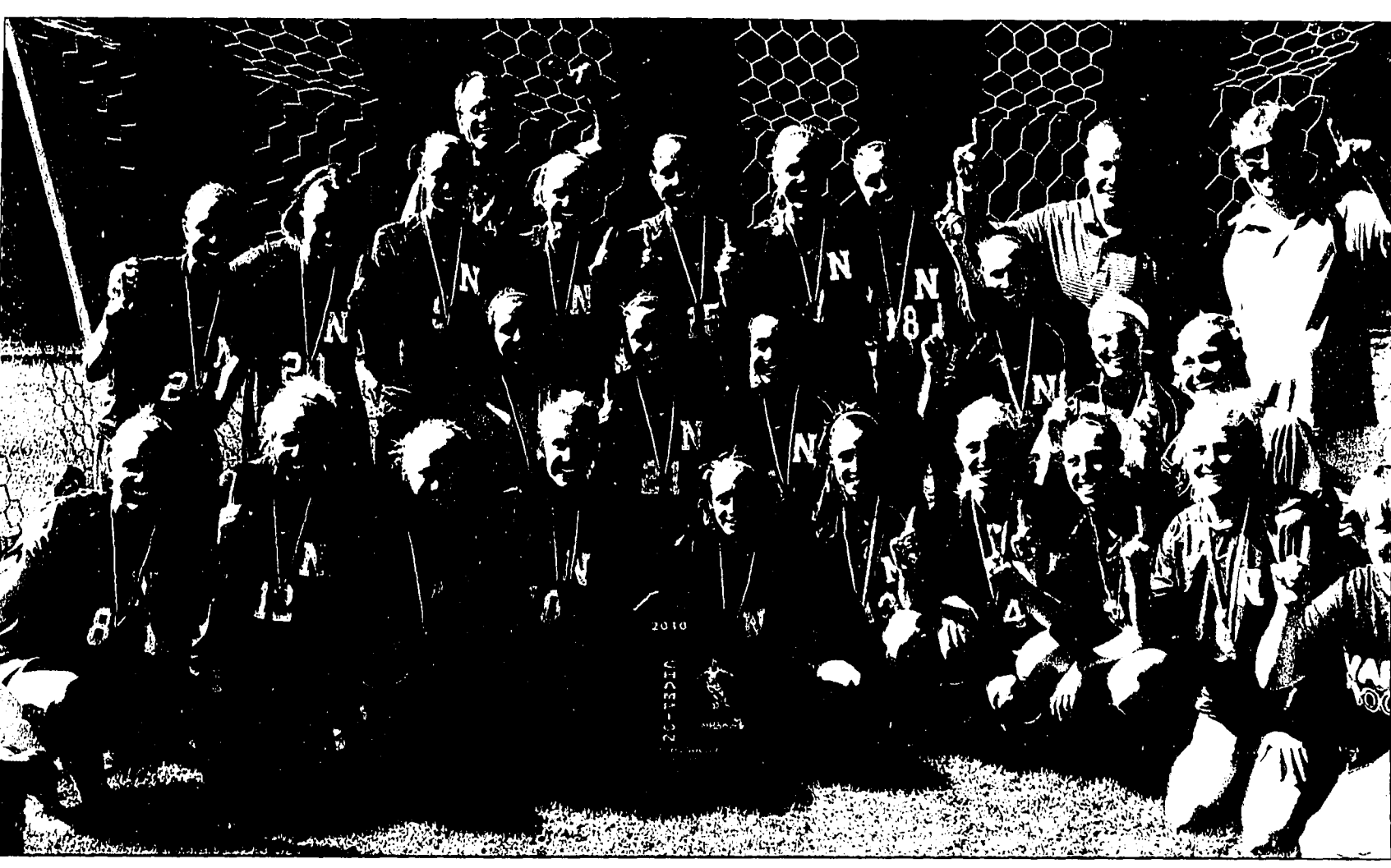
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 SECTION B
SPORTS
 THURSDAY, June 24, 2010
 hometownlife.com

Wildcat girls grab state soccer title



Teammates Taylor Hoover, left, and Morgan Haffey hug after they become state champs.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi, posing with its trophy, wins the 2010 MHSAA Division 1 state soccer final on Saturday, June 19.

Top Plymouth 2-1 in overtime

BY TIM SMITH
 OBSERVER/STAFF WRITER
 Novi girls soccer coach Brian O'Leary challenged his players not to let Plymouth goalkeeper Marissa Williams get in their heads if Saturday's Division 1 final came down to penalty kicks. It did and she didn't. After an official ruled a hand ball in the box midway through overtime, Novi senior defender Morgan Haffey faced the junior goalie 12 yards away. Haffey stalled for a few moments — taking a page out of Williams' book — then stepped in and blasted a laser worked with players on what to do in a penalty kick scenario against Williams — who had been golden during shoot-outs, winning three games in that fashion as underdog Plymouth (15-5-4) marched to MSU's DeMartin Soccer Complex. "We knew their goalie likes to play head games on the thing," O'Leary said. "The ref asks her if she's ready and she said no. And she did that to Northville (district opener) and Northville really got rattled by it. "So I said to the girls, 'I'm not going to say a word. It's up to you to throw it back in their face.' If you notice, Morgan did a real good job. She turned her back on her (Williams), she bent down to tie her shoe, took a little tape off and gave it to the referee."

Northville's Solstice Run slated for June 26

BY SAM EGGLESTON
 CORRESPONDENT
 The streets of Northville and Northville Township will be filled with runners next weekend as they gather in town to compete in the various races of the 2010 Northville Solstice Run. The event, which will take place June 26 starting at 7:30 a.m., is in its eighth year and has seen continual growth since its inception in 2003. This year, with an expected turnout of over 2,000 runners, the Solstice is poised to become the 12th largest race in Michigan — quite a feat considering the top turnouts are for long-time events such as the Free Press Marathon. "It has grown so much in the last couple of years," said Alan Whitehead, the executive race director and founder of the event. "It's turned into a much bigger event than it was when it started." That's due not only to the challenging course, but also to the desire of event organizers to include everyone from any age group, skill or level. The Solstice Run will again feature a 5K walk and a 10K run, but will also have a Mustang Mile for those who want something relaxing and enjoyable and for the younger competitors. In addition, for the first time, the Solstice is featuring an endurance race of 10 miles. "There just aren't enough streets in Northville and Northville Township for a half marathon," noted Whitehead. "We still wanted to do something for long-distance runners. That's why we did the 10-mile run this year." That 10-mile course sets the Solstice apart from other races in Metro Detroit. That's important, considering the competition to draw the interest of the state's runners.

Novi marathoners take to Plymouth streets Sunday

BY CHRIS JACKETT
 CORRESPONDENT
 Several Novi residents made the short drive to downtown Plymouth early Sunday morning for the Plymouth YMCAs 31st annual Fathers Day Run. Both Novi and Plymouth high schools call themselves the Wildcats, but the similarities bridged further than that as residents from both towns and many more came together during a fun, family running event. Of the few dozen who were part of a crowd of about 2,000, only three competed in the 10-kilometer run, 5-kilometer run and one-mile run all in the same day. Their combined times for the three races form the standings for the MDG Triple, which amounts to a cumulative 10.3-mile run. Steve Marocco, 34, was the fastest of the three Novi residents in the Triple, accumulating a time of 1 hour, 16 minutes, 44 seconds, good for 33rd in the Open Men's field. 35-year-old Clint Verran of Lake Orion won the Triple event in 52:49. Myra Cox, 52, took 11th in the Women's Masters (ages 40 and up) in 1:32:52, while Jeff Nielson, 43, was 28th in the Men's Masters in 1:38:18. The trio were the only three one-mile runners who hailed from Novi. Marocco finished in 5:27, Cox in 7:44 and Nielson in 9:18. Marocco and Cox were each second in their age groups for the event. In the 5K, Novi had 21 participants, the fastest of which was oldest resident in the race. Dale Yagiela, 61, took first in his age group and 91st overall in 21:50. Marocco was next at 22:11. They were followed by Angela Mills, 23, in 22:44; Anthony Chiara, 17, in 23:39; Pat Gregory, 37, in 25:45; Ryan Gregory, 24, in 26:45; Marie Chiara, 22, in 25:37; Cox in 25:59; Becky Schrad, 36, in 26:28; Dale Chiara, 56, in 26:28; Nielson, in 26:59; Ted Mills, 39, in 27:38; Abby Chandler, 16, in 28:04; Rachel Chandler, 25, in 29:21; Nicole Rodgers, 10, in 34:55; Warren Radgens, 50, in 35:18.

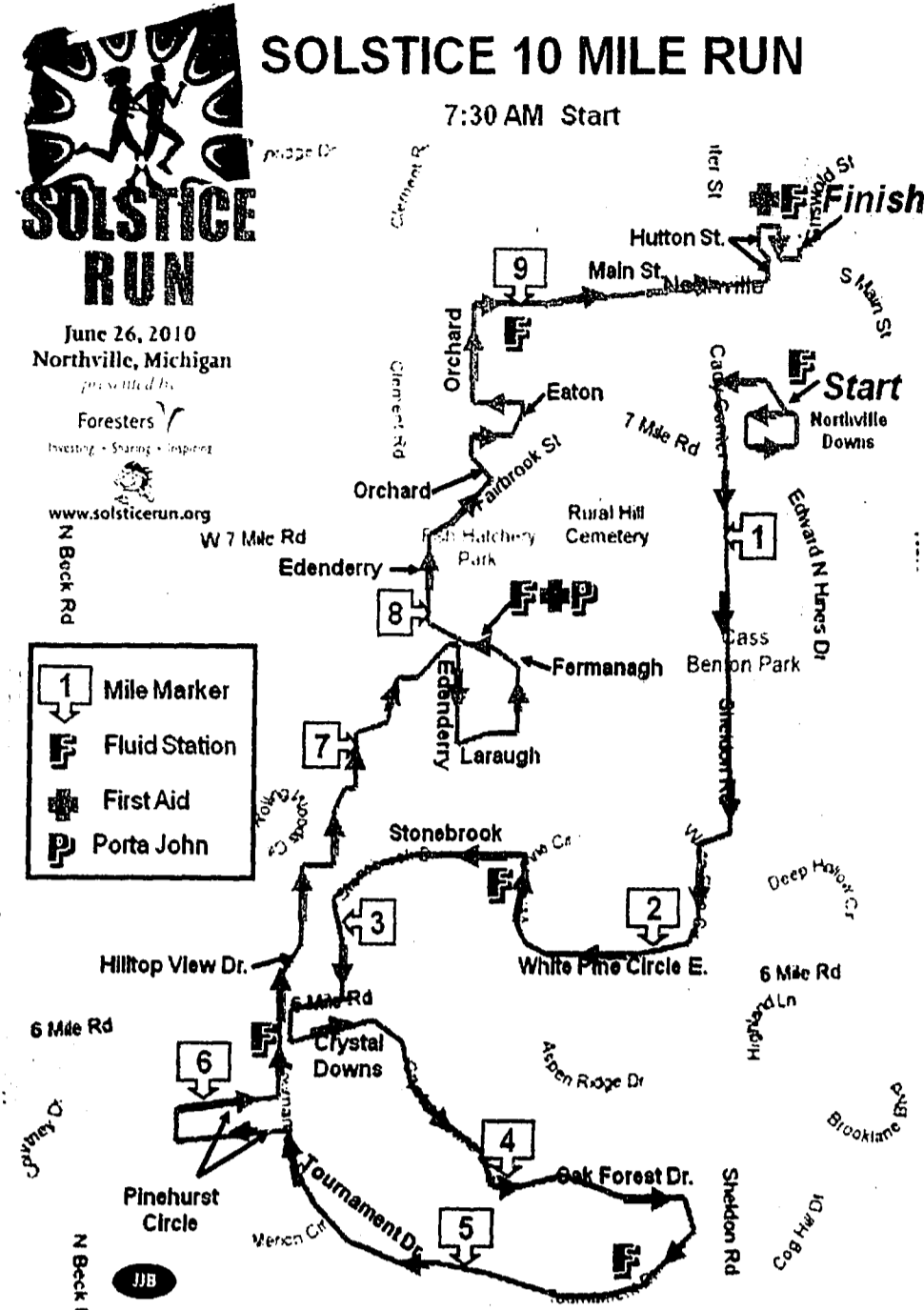
Novi marathoneers take to Plymouth streets Sunday

BY CHRIS JACKETT
 CORRESPONDENT
 Novi's Abby Chandler smiles as she approaches the finish line for Sunday's 5-kilometer race. The streets of Northville and Northville Township will be filled with runners next weekend as they gather in town to compete in the various races of the 2010 Northville Solstice Run. The event, which will take place June 26 starting at 7:30 a.m., is in its eighth year and has seen continual growth since its inception in 2003. This year, with an expected turnout of over 2,000 runners, the Solstice is poised to become the 12th largest race in Michigan — quite a feat considering the top turnouts are for long-time events such as the Free Press Marathon. "It has grown so much in the last couple of years," said Alan Whitehead, the executive race director and founder of the event. "It's turned into a much bigger event than it was when it started." That's due not only to the challenging course, but also to the desire of event organizers to include everyone from any age group, skill or level. The Solstice Run will again feature a 5K walk and a 10K run, but will also have a Mustang Mile for those who want something relaxing and enjoyable and for the younger competitors. In addition, for the first time, the Solstice is featuring an endurance race of 10 miles. "There just aren't enough streets in Northville and Northville Township for a half marathon," noted Whitehead. "We still wanted to do something for long-distance runners. That's why we did the 10-mile run this year." That 10-mile course sets the Solstice apart from other races in Metro Detroit. That's important, considering the competition to draw the interest of the state's runners.

Wildcats' Caruso scores honors

BY CHRIS JACKETT
 CORRESPONDENT
 It's hard to make racking up 27 points look easy, but that's what Novi junior Nicki Caruso did this season. Caruso had 19 goals and eight assists during a season in which she earned All-State honors and every all-anything tier along the way. "She plays the left side forward and is a player that is equally strong with both feet, she is our best dribbler and provides a speedy drive to the goal that is unmatched on our team," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "Nicki gives us a one-on-one threat on the outside that leads directly to many of our scoring chances." Caruso had four goals and four assists during a state tournament run that ended with a Division I title and 21-2-2 record for the Wildcats. She had the game-winning assist against Walled Lake Northern, both goals in a 2-1 Regional win against and the game-winning assist against Troy in the quarterfinals. She has a 3.6 GPA and has committed to play soccer at Central Michigan University starting with the 2011-12 year.

FIRST TEAM
 Gabby Gauruder (Novi Jr.)
 Tying a school record with 18 shutouts, Gauruder allowed just eight goals in 25 games to amass a 0.32 goals against average. Just like Caruso, Gauruder was All-State and every tier along the way. "Gabby was a very clutch goalie for us. We had many close games this year and numerous times she provided a save in a game that would preserve a one-goal lead to lead us to victory," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "None bigger than the save she made in the quarterfinals, with five minutes left and us winning 1-0, a Troy player fired a ball to the upper corner and Gabby made a back-pedaling, full-extension dive to tip the ball up some, it then hit the crossbar and she jumped right back up and grabbed the loose ball. It was the best save I have ever seen a goalie make with the game on the line." Mallory Weber (Northville So.)
 Behind an impressive 15 goals and six assists, Weber was second-ranked Mustang MVP and also was given the team's Outstanding Forward award, making her their opponents' most-feared problem. She was All-Conference and All-District, and trains with the Region 2 Olympic Development Program in the offseason. "Opposing defenses were set up to stop with double and triple teams and she still found ways to score," Northville coach Eric Brucker said. She was "recognized by competing coaches by a first name basis. You say Mallory, all area coaches know who you are talking about." Kelsey Fiscus (Northville Sr.)
 The Mustangs allowed just nine goals on the season, largely thanks to Fiscus' defensive work, which has been a staple of Northville varsity soccer the past four years. She was All-District and All-Conference while earning her team's Outstanding Defense award. "Kelsey got the assignment to mark the best of the other team had to offer. She did a great job of shutting down the likes of Novi's Nicki Caruso," Northville coach Eric Brucker said. Fiscus was a MHSAA Scholar Athlete, which was vital as she secured both soccer and academi-



SOLSTICE

Last year, on the same weekend as the Solstice, there were 31 different races being held.

"We had to do something that would set us apart," said Whitehead. "So far, the 10-mile race has the most registrations."

"New this year is the start of the races—all of them—being held at Northville Downs Race Track, which is also the site for all of the parking for runners and participants. Each runner will have a D-Tag attached to their bibs that accurately time them right down to 1/1,000ths of a second. The computer-tracked time will begin when the runner crosses the start line and stops when they cross the finish line."

"If you're in the back of the pack, your time doesn't start until you cross that starting line," said Whitehead, noting that's the fair way to keep track of each runner and the standard used in distance races

even at the Olympic level. The event will finish, as it has every year, at Ford Field. To help the racers this year, the Solstice volunteers will be handing out GU Brew, a sports beverage that helps give athletes energy.

There will be eight watering stations this year, too, which is the most the event has ever had. To help accommodate the needs of the athletes, the Solstice organizers are still looking for volunteers to lend a hand. Runners in all races will be given a shirt for participating and not just some old cotton mock-up either. This year, the Solstice participants will each receive a tech shirt, which is made of water-wicking material.

"You get one of those if you run the Mustang Mile or one of the big races," Whitehead said. "We didn't want to exclude anyone."

As always, the net proceeds from the event will be handed out to local charities, which include Northville Parks and Recreation, Kids Against Hunger, Athletes With

Disabilities Network and the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Registration for the event is underway and can be done online via www.solstice.org until 9 a.m. June 24th. After that, runners will have to register Friday from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. and Saturday from 6:30 a.m. until 8:15 a.m. The cost to participate is \$42 for the 10 mile until race day and \$50 on race day; \$30 for the 10K run until race day and \$35 the day of, \$30 for the 5K run/walk until race day and then \$35; and \$15 for the Mustang Mile until the day of and then \$17. Seniors of 50-years of age and older get a \$3 discount for the 5K run/walk.

For more information, or to register, visit www.solstice.org. For those interested in volunteering, please contact Alan Whitehead at whitehead@mi.rr.com.

Runners are invited to visit around the downtown area after the race.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.

ALL-AREA

FROM PAGE B1

scholarships to Grand Valley State University for the fall. Morgan Haffey (Novi Sr.) She was Novi's leading scorer last year, but her lone goal this season won the Wildcats a state title in overtime on Saturday. Haffey was an All-State defender who had one goal and eight assists after converting from a 17-goal, eight-assist performance as a junior forward. She started every game as a center mid-fielder as a sophomore and was a freshman only when the Wildcats won the 2007 state title.

"She took all of our free kicks and all eight of her assists came off of set pieces," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "Her versatility is amazing."

Graduating with a 3.5 GPA, she heads to Michigan State University this fall.

Coming out of the middle, Timar led the state champions with 10 assists. She also had five goals while earning a 4.0 GPA, All-Conference and All-District honors.

"Kalli has a great combination of being able to play north and south, going to goal, and to play east and west, distributing balls to the flanks," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "Her composure on the ball are key to our team's success. Her ability to read the play and either play quick or dribble, are the best on our team."

"She is a clutch player as well. She had the lone goal in our first state tournament game, a 1-0 win over Walled Lake Northern, and she had the lone goal in our 1-0 quarterfinal win versus Troy."

Stacy Clough (Northville Sr.) Similar to Timar, Clough led her team in assists as a left midfielder. She had one goal and nine assists while earning All-Conference, All-District and the Mustangs' Most Dedicated award in her second year on varsity.

"Stacy was our motivation leader. While being soft spoken, she led through her actions to have the team play at their best," Northville coach Eric Brucker said. "She also was deadly with play in corner kicks and dead balls."

Clough earned a soccer and academic scholarship to Indiana State University for the fall.

Courtney Harrison (South Lyon Jr.) Harrison was an All-State honorable mention, earning All-Region, All-District and All-KLAA honors as a defender with four goals and eight assists. She has several offers from college teams, but has yet to decide on a school.

"Always saddled with marking some of the top strikers in the state, doing a great job in games against Northville, Stevenson and Salem," South Lyon coach Tracee Senter said.

Andrea Pesch (South Lyon Fr.)

Although she's a freshman, Pesch tied her school's single-season assist record (11), was second in the program's history of goals (13) and set a record for points (24).

"Her 24 points in a season is a school record," South Lyon coach Tracee Senter said. "Looking forward to three more seasons with this scoring phenom."

Taylor Pyden (Novi Sr.) As an All-District and All-Conference defender for the Wildcats, Pyden was instrumental in chasing down any loose opposing forwards.

"Taylor is an unsung hero for us. For the past three seasons she has played center defense for us and has been responsible for our organization, especially our depth. Her positioning and ability to read the play and keep us organized as the play goes on are top notch," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "Then you throw in the fact that she is the fastest player on our team and can cover so much ground in back of our defense, it makes it impossible to get breaks behind our flat four defense."

The Wildcats' captain graduates with a 3.6 GPA and heads to Michigan State University this fall.

Taylor Hoover (Novi Sr.) Another All-District and All-Conference defender for the Wildcats, Hoover covered the outside lanes and shut down opponents' runs. She had three goals and three assists, including Novi's first goal in the state title game.

"Taylor had a great season playing outside defense, after last year playing outside mid for the whole year," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said. "Taylor had the unique ability to play defense when it was needed, but also join the attack from her outside defense position. This year, we played without any outside mids and that is due to the fact that Taylor is able to play both positions at the same time. She is also one of the hardest working players on our team; her focus and drive on an everyday basis are what great leaders do for teams, she leads by example."

Hoover, another captain, graduates with a 3.75 GPA and will join Pyden at Michigan State University this fall.

Caroline Castelli (Northville Sr.) She won her team's Outstanding Midfielder award, orchestrating the Mustangs' defense behind an All-District and All-Conference performance that resulted in one goal and four assists during her fourth varsity season.

"While not scoring a lot this year, Caroline was a force in solidifying the center of the field. Her role, while not glamorous, was to shut down the opposing attack and jumpstart our transition from defense to offense," Northville coach Eric Brucker said. "Caroline will continue her soccer career at IPFW (Indiana-Purdue at Fort Wayne) on a soccer and academic scholarship."

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

SECOND TEAM

FROM PAGE B1

Heddi Haller (Northville Sr.) A leader on the Mustangs' defense, Haller scored four of her five goals off headers following deadballs. She also got three assists to earn All-District and All-Conference honors in her second year on varsity.

Katie Walker (South Lyon East So.) Often double-teamed by opposing defenses, Walker's five goals and four assists earned her All-District honors as a forward for the Cougars.

Amy Carlton (Lakeland Sr.) She was the Eagles' MVP, earning All-District and All-Conference honors while scoring four goals and one assist.

Kristine Graham (Lakeland Jr.) Graham was the Eagles' scoring leader with seven goals. She added two assists in earning All-District and All-Conference honors.

Sam Cook (South Lyon East Fr.) Behind one shutout on a struggling Cougars squad, Cook managed to be named as the second goalkeeper for the All-District and earned her East's team MVP.

Jillian Parsons (Lakeland Jr.) Parsons was the Eagles' Defensive Player of the Year and earned All-Conference honors.

Morgan Kroezen (Lakeland Fr.) Leading the Eagles in assists, Kroezen had 10 to go with her four goals. She was All-District and honorable mention for All-Conference.

Kortney Koenig (South Lyon Sr.) Koenig had five goals and five assists to put her varsity career total at 11 goals and 12 assists. She earned All-KLAA honorable mention.

Paige Colosimo (South Lyon East Fr.) Playing in every game, Colosimo did a little bit of everything for a young Cougars squad. She had five goals and four assists as an All-Conference midfielder, but was also East's backup netminder.

Mary Reid (Novi Sr.) A captain and source of inspiration for the state champion Wildcats, Reid also had four goals this spring.

Courtney Horaney (South Lyon Fr.) A spark in the Lions' offense, Horaney had eight goals and three assists.

HONORABLE MENTION Lakeland - Jillian Draheim (Sr.) Milford - Tess Zasuwa (Sr.), Sam Sturgeon (Jr.), Paige Smith (Fr.) Novi - Ellen Brinza (Sr.), Mollie Krick (Jr.) South Lyon - Kara Sullivan (Jr.)

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

TITLE

FROM PAGE B1

"I don't think he should have called it. She was on the ground, it wasn't intentional."

Williams, still clutching the runner-up trophy under the awning at Plymouth's bench, smiled when discussing the ruling.

"If the ball hits your hand it has to help you in some way," said Williams, who posted 15 shutouts this year including four in the postseason. "She's on the ground, it hit her hand, it didn't help her in any way whatsoever."

"The ref asked me if I understood the call and I was, 'Yeah, I wouldn't have made it. But whatever. It was a perfect goal, it hit the side netting. That's one of those unstopable ones even if you dive the right way.'"

Early dominance The way the first half unfolded, with plenty of tic-tac-toe precision passing by Novi, few in the stands could have predicted such a finish.

During the opening 40 minutes, Novi outshot Plymouth 9-2, almost played keepaway with the ball and took a quick 1-0 advantage.

Senior defenders Taylor Hoover and Morgan Haffey combined for a goal just 10:04 into the contest.

Haffey, who along with Ellen Brinza and Ali Howard were the lone holdovers from Novi's 2007 title team, served a free kick from the left side of the pitch. Hoover then headed it in past Williams.

Nickie Caruso had a break-away and had a one-on-one, Hoover said. "She took her and the defender bit and got her ankle. Morgan just served a great ball in and it was beautiful, all I had to do was change the ball's direction and that was it."

The Wildcats had other opportunities to pad that lead before halftime as the Wildcats controlled play and kept the ball in Plymouth's end.

Novi junior midfielder Mollie Krick said her team's pre-game adrenaline had something to do with the Wildcats' fast start.

"We were just getting our mindset ready for the game," Krick noted. "I know we were all pumped up pushing each other to do better and helping each other out."

But the second half was more evenly played (Novi's shot advantage was 8-5) and Plymouth started to pick up some offensive steam. Plymouth finally gave their fans plenty to cheer about when junior forward McKenzie Hengish scored with 13:29 to go in regulation.

Hengish, parked on the doorstep, headed the ball behind Novi junior goalkeeper Gabby Gauruder — denying her of a 19th shutout.

"We got it back out to (junior forward) Jen Babcock and she did a second try in crossing it," Neschich said. "They left McKenzie Hengish wide open far post and she just drilled it, headed it in."

Plymouth finished the half with momentum, but could not get the tie-breaker.

WINDS OF CHANGE O'Leary said warm breezes played a role in how regulation was almost a tale of two halves. "They play very direct, they play a lot of straight balls (to forwards)," O'Leary said. "The wind slows it up enough to make it a 50/50 ball instead of a direct pass."

"Flip that over, the second half the wind helped them get the ball to the forward a little quicker and we struggled a little bit more."

The Novi coach, meanwhile, said the latest trophy is just a bit more sweeter than those the Wildcats earned in 2005, 2006 and 2007 because this year's run wasn't expected. "The other three when the season started a state championship was within our expectations," O'Leary said. "But when this season started, I don't think we were one of the top-20 teams in Michigan and I don't think anybody on our team thought we were."

"But all of that doesn't matter now. All that does are the medals worn around players' necks and what they symbolize. "We're winners, number one, state champs," said Krick, getting ready to hurry back to her teammates for another round of high fives and hugs.



Morgan Haffey, far left, boots what will become the winning goal - on a penalty shot - for Novi's MHSAA state finals winner.



Novi's Courtney Laux, left, battles Plymouth's Meaghan Hughes in the first period of their MHSAA finals game at MSU on Saturday, June 19. Novi won the match 2-1 in the first overtime on a penalty kick by Morgan Haffey.



Stephanie Sheridan, left, and Katie Barry.



Jessica Heck, left, and Nickie Caruso.



Ellen Brinza, left, and Jessica Scott go for the ball.



Novi netminder Gabby Gauruder flashes twin "HI" signs as she and her teammates win the state title in soccer.



Jubilant on the field for Novi as they beat Plymouth.



Novi hoists its state soccer finals trophy on Saturday at MSU.

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FATHER'S DAY

FROM PAGE B1

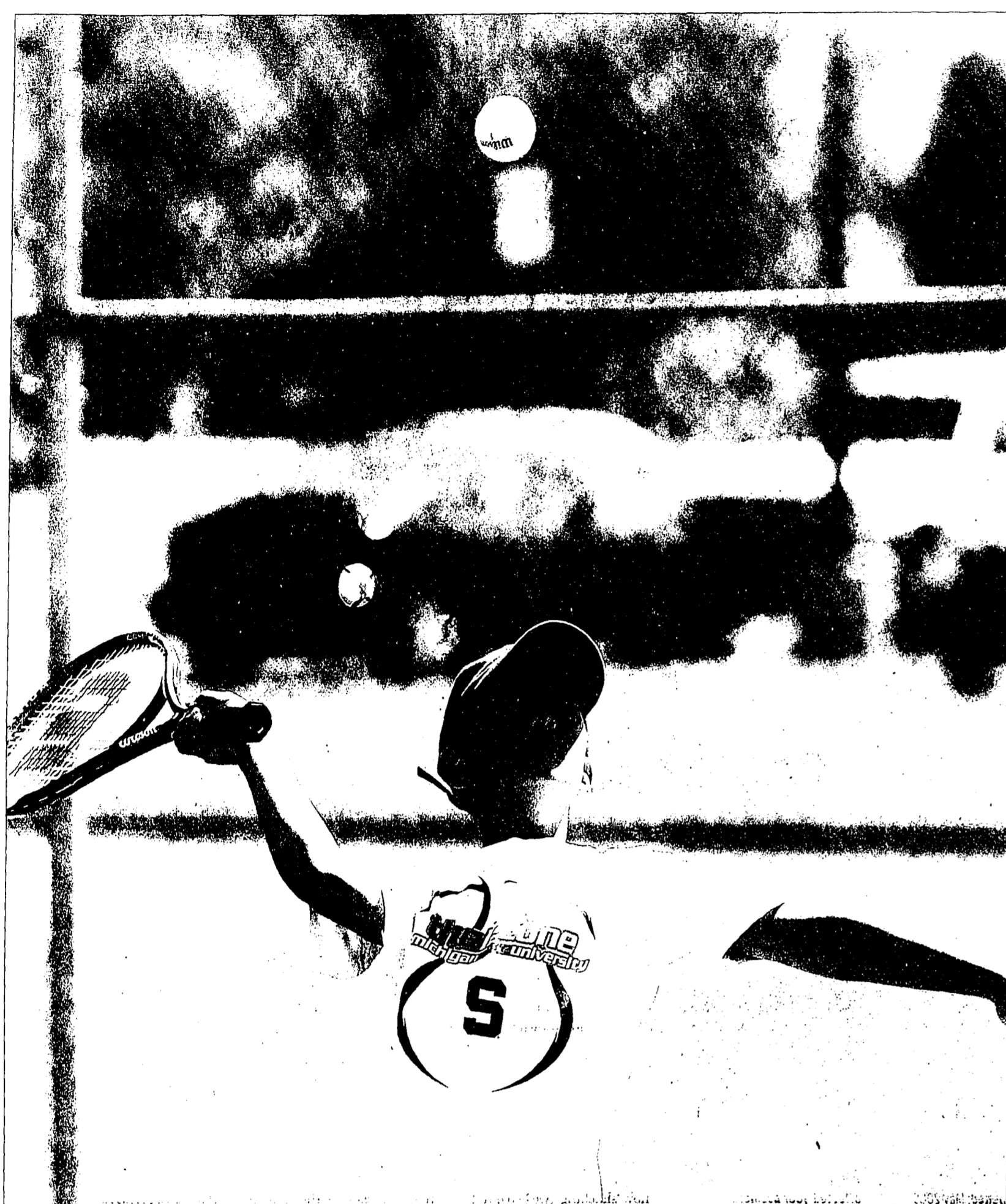
35:22; Patti Crowley-Harpencen, 41, in 39:08; Genevieve Chiara, 14, in 53:29; Anne Chiara, 55, in 53:29; Erin Chiara, 20, in 1:00:07; and Maura Gregory, 20, in 1:00:07. Monroe's David Brent, 22, won the 5k in 15:28.

The 5k was, by far, the favorite event for runners at the event. The 10k didn't get as many competitors, but eight Novi residents took to the 6.2-mile course.

Brian Sparks, 49, finished sixth in his age group and 65th overall in 44:50 to lead all Novi 10k runners. He was followed by Joe Byrnes, 41, in 44:52; Marcero in 49:06; Tom Morris, 50, in 49:25; Kelly Aschenbach, 36, in 56:09; Cox in 59:09; Nielson in 1:02:01; and Barbara Sobotta, 56, in 1:08:46. Verran won the 10k in 32:48.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

WHILE YOU'RE IN OUTDOOR GEAR... VISIT US AT CABELA'S!



CC grad Michael Kinville

Kinville helps East to All-Star victory

BY SAM EGGLESTON
CORRESPONDENT

Mike Kinville has been a dominant force on the football field since he first strapped on pads as a Northville Colt so many years ago.

He always found himself in the right place and the right time, making devastating hits that forced coaches to run away from him and running backs happy that they did.

Kinville carried that football ability to Detroit Catholic Central where he continued to rise as a force on the field. And, like before, Kinville found himself in the right place at the right time. One of those places was Ford Field in November when the Shamrocks won the Division I state championship. Another work is done on the premises, from design to completed product. Our specialty may be jewelry and watch repair, but we also sell a full line of men's, ladies, religious and family jewelry as well as unique and difficult to find products, including tungsten, stainless and titanium jewelry. We offer the latest in bridal jewelry and provide custom design service. We can create almost any custom design using a special computer program that duplicates logos, pictures, etc. for a variety of jewelry applications.

"It was great," said Kinville. "I met some great guys. They are the best players in the state and they love to play football as much as I do."

Kinville and his fellow football fanatics from the east side of the state got to know each other over the course of a week of intense football training. They ended it with a wild football game in front of screaming fans as the East came back from behind with 20 unanswered points to secure a 20-16 victory.

The West had taken the lead, 2-0, after an early safety. From that point on, they scored two touchdowns and looked poised to secure another win in the East-West game.

"We heard them," said Kinville, who recorded two tackles in the game. "They had a lot to say. We answered, but we let the scoreboard do the talking for us."

When Michigan State-bound running back Jeremy Langford broke through the defense and bullied his way into the end zone with 10 seconds remaining to give the East its first lead of the game and the victory, Kinville was screaming on the sideline with his defensive corps teammates.

"Anytime you come from behind like that and win, it's a great feeling," he said. "It's a lot like winning the state championship."

Kinville's days on the gridiron are far from over. The All-Star linebacker was recruited by Central Michigan University where he will play in the defensive backfield for the Chippewas. There, he'll be joined by three of his fellow All-Star players.

"It was great to meet some of the guys I'll be playing with," Kinville said. "I'm really looking forward to it."

Kinville said he plans on studying business while attending CMU, a Division I college.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.

First day of summer

Above, Brennan White, 9, returns a serve to his mom Heather as he and his brother Preston play on the courts adjacent to Novi High on the first day of summer, June 21. At right, Preston White, 5, and his shadow take a swing at tennis.



Level 1 champs

The local Michigan Elite 15-1 Girls' Volleyball Team was Level 1 State Champs at the MIVA Association Championship held in Grand Rapids this past weekend. They won all seven of their matches, only losing one game in the two-day tournament. Their last tournament is AAU Nationals in Orlando, Florida starting June 19. Pictured (l to r, back row) are Coach Vince Muscat, Kaitlyn Schoppner (Farmington Hills), Breann Revesley (Grosse Pointe), Cayla Watkins (Brighton), Rebecca Martin (Northville), Nicole Hahn (Troy), Nicayla Joyce (Farmington Hills), Tori Wudrich (Grosse Pointe) and Rachel Fish (North Branch); (front) Aren Cupp (Holt) and Carrie Subject (Novi).

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, June 24, 2010

hometownlife.com

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



John Heuser | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Benchmark Jewelers' Mike Myers at his 47670 Grand River Avenue location.

Owners offer that personal touch at Benchmark Jewelers

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

We have over 50 years of combined jewelry repair and manufacturing experience. All work is done on the premises, from design to completed product. Our specialty may be jewelry and watch repair, but we also sell a full line of men's, ladies, religious and family jewelry as well as unique and difficult to find products, including tungsten, stainless and titanium jewelry. We offer the latest in bridal jewelry and provide custom design service. We can create almost any custom design using a special computer program that duplicates logos, pictures, etc. for a variety of jewelry applications.

How did you first decide to open your business?

I have had the pleasure of working in the jewelry manufacturing and repair business since 1975. My partner and staff have enjoyed many years doing the work they do as well. We wanted to share our excitement and enthusiasm with others.

Why did you choose this area?

We decided to open our store in Novi because it's such a growing and thriving community. We couldn't be happier with our choice.

What makes your business unique?

Customers deal directly with the owners - myself (Michael L. Myers), a master jeweler, and David Robinson,

DETAILS

Business name and address:

Benchmark Jewelers

Address: 47670 Grand River Avenue, Novi, MI 48374

Your name/title: Michael Myers/ jeweler, co-owner

Your hometown: Commerce Township

Business opened: May 2009

Number of employees: four

Hours of operation: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday

Your business specialty: custom manufacturing of fine jewelry, jewelry and watch repair

Business phone: (248) 390-5650

a diamond and watch expert - which gives a personal touch to our customer service. Along with our senior staff members, Marcus Gonzalez, jeweler and diamond setter, and Linda Petrovich, jewelry designer, our goal is to give our clients high quality service and products while saving them a significant amount of time and money by dealing directly with the manufacturers.

How has it changed since you opened?

Our business has evolved with the demands of our customers. We have been doing more and more custom pieces as well as finding ways to make things more cost effective, which is everyone's number one priority right now.

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

We have had many successes in the past year, but none more special than restoring a ring and upgrading the diamond for a couple celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. How has the recent economy affected your business?

The economy has made the jewelry business in general change. As people are looking for more alternatives to platinum and gold, a larger selection of styles and designs are becoming available in metals such as tungsten, titanium and silver. We offer an extensive selection of rings, bracelets, necklaces and pendants in these metals. We also do a lot of recycling of old or broken gold jewelry for our customers. We can use the reclaimed gold or stones to make a new custom designed piece for them or we will buy the gold, putting some extra cash in the customer's pockets. Who couldn't use that right now?

Any advice for other business owners?

Value every customer and never take anything for granted!

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

We want to grow our business and continue to service the people of this community so we can become the family jeweler you depend on for generations to come.

Saying 'that's far enough' when employees have a meltdown

Meltdowns: The process used by individuals to, formally, self-destruct in front of anyone occupying a seat in the organization's public arena.

This, typically, unpredictable event has slowly and steadily moved from being a minor annoyance underneath the radar to a full-scale event that only lacks the planned whistles and fireworks of the WWE's Smackdown.

The one thing that the Smackdown and the individual Meltdown have in common is both love a crowd. It is not a mere coincidence that the number of reported, individual meltdowns have escalated in recent years.

What we have learned, along the way, is that, economic prosperity has a calming effect and tends to suppress those parts of our personality border on lunacy. In fact, it is not too much of a stretch to say that there is a greater tendency to tolerate random acts of 'melt down' because of the number of support systems that emerge in business settings when things are going well.

At the very least, we could always say to the 'melt downer,' "Go take a vacation, your job will be here when you get back." Since we can no longer guarantee to John and Josephine Meltdown that their job awaits upon their return, the strains of modern day economic times have forced the fringe part of that lunacy into the center of the bell curve.

So, the observed frequency of the meltdown makes it seem more like normal behavior; the behavior, it was attributed to, was once 'shocking' is now 'shocking' (we learn to live



Takin' Care of Business

Lee Meadows

with it). Does the stress of a strained economy translate into a double O Shocking license to disintegrate?

Human behavior is a flexible, adaptable part of the human experience such that our range of tolerance expands with the times. However, we have, for good reason, drawn lines in the sand as a way of saying to someone, "That's far enough!"

What's left unresolved, in these current times, who is supposed to say to the person having the meltdown, "That's far enough?"

For example, at a meeting where the team found itself running a little behind the completion date for the project, one employee chose that moment to engage in a verbal yelling match with someone who had asked a very simple, non-blaming question. The melt-downer verbally attacked and accused everyone of plotting against her. There were a number of obscenities that worked their way into the yelling, and the recipient of the attack, to her credit, wisely said nothing that would further spark a meltdown-in-progress.

However, the team, rightfully, looked to the project leader to address the behavior, and he didn't. Unfortunately, the project team leader or the melt-downer's immediate supervisor never attributed the behavior. It was attributed to the pressure of the moment

and dismissed as a non-recurring event.

Sadly, it occurred again and again.

There was, also, the incident of the employee who returned from the cafeteria, after discovering they no longer carried an item that he wanted, and proceeded to kick his trashcan, throw files off his desk and pound on his computer. He'd either forgotten or ignored the fact that his cube is, also, a public arena. It was the third meltdown that he'd had in two weeks. The behavior was never confronted. No one said, "That's far enough!"

As the incidents rise, the tolerance increases, or should it? Are we unconsciously saying, "There but for the grace of Prozac go I?"

We know we spend a lot more time in our work environments, and we know that we have a few more stresses than we use to having. We know that the workplace has become a surrogate home and our colleagues are extended, deeply dysfunctional family members. However, the first step in confronting the turnaround of an individual or an organization, starts with that someone who is willing to say, "That's far enough!"

Lee E. Meadows, Ph.D. is a professor of management at Walsh College working at the Novi Campus. He teaches leadership and management in the MBA and Doctoral programs and provides a number of consulting services for the surrounding community. He is the author of the leadership fable, "Take the Lull By the Horns: Closing the Leadership Gap." He can be contacted at leemeadows@walshcollege.edu. Visit his website at www.leemeadows.biz.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Walled Lake Outlet Mall

In pursuit of a new community event to acquaint shoppers with the breadth of businesses in Downtown Walled Lake, the Walled Lake Outlet Mall began in April of 2009 with a line-up of 31 local merchants.

"We felt this was a great way to showcase our downtown, exhibit terrific merchandise from local businesses, and give the public some truly remarkable deals," said Walled Lake Executive Director Charlene Long.

With this third showcase, the DDA incorporates the summer season with flair by featuring deals both in the usual indoor space and flowing out into the large parking area in front. "This will give us an opportunity to expand not only the space, but the offerings," stated Long. "Here we can bring in businesses built around the warm weather and offer family-fun activities."

With more than 10,000 square-feet, this nine-shift mall will include bargains on everything from jewelry, accessories, antiques, home goods, and clothing, to sports memorabilia, toys, video games, musical instruments, and survival gear. On top of that, shoppers of all ages can partake in the summer festivities of food and face-painting - all at unbeatable outlet prices.

All shoppers are invited to enjoy the deals Friday, June 25 and Saturday, June 26 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Walled Lake Commons

Shopping Center on the corner of E. West Maple Road and Pontiac Trail. For more information contact the Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority office at 248-926-9004 or visit www.DowntownWalledLake.com.

The Back Room debuts

Summer is the time for home improvement, and to kick-off the season Walled Lake's Home Interior Warehouse has debuted a special new venture: the Back Room at Home Interior Warehouse.

Displaying over 2,000 square-feet of unique and budget-conscious furniture, floral, art and accessory finds, the Back Room is literally a "store within a store" that is surrounded by the massive 17,000 square-foot Home Interior Warehouse showroom.

With new merchandise arriving weekly and savings starting at an unprecedented 50 percent off on special purchases, close-outs and one-of-a-kinds, the Back Room is the place to go for stylish steals and deals that are perfect for that sought-after summer and is surrounded by the brand new Back Room is now open Monday-Friday from 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at its location within Home Interior Warehouse at 1017 E. West Maple Road.

For more information on the Back Room and the latest from Home Interior Warehouse call (248) 624-6700, or check out their website at <http://www.homeinteriorwarehouse.com/>.

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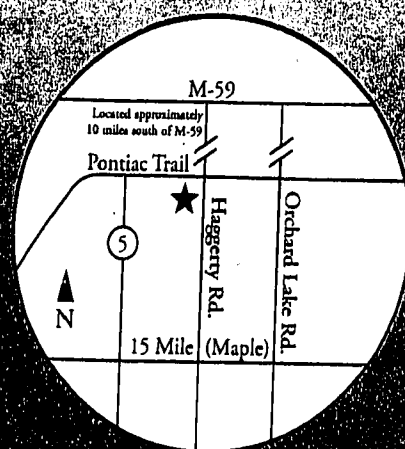
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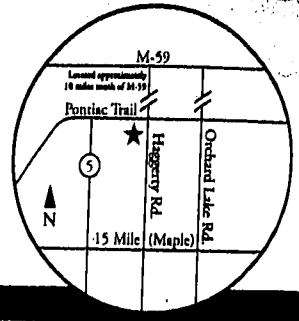
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He Means Business

Meet the successful businessmen of today



Ed Rosenbaum, Dr. Benjamin Stein, Joseph Norber
Abbey Park • Lyon Township & Grand Blanc



Ronnie Williams
Perfect Floors • South Lyon & Rochester



Peter Maxfield
RE/MAX Fine Homes • South Lyon



Gary Childs & Mark Childs
South Lyon Cycle • South Lyon



Max Sidorov
South Lyon Watch & Jewelry
South Lyon & New Hudson



Randall Patterson
Pillar to Post • Novi

Jeffery Allen, P.T., O.C.S. • Christopher Bifano, O.D. • Gary Childs • Mark Childs
Dr. Nicholas Doinidis • Tom Groom • Darin March • Dwayne March • Peter Maxfield
Paul Mellott • Joseph Norber • Dr. John Parker • Randall Patterson • Ed Rosenbaum
Jim Seghi • Max Sidorov • Dr. Benjamin Stein • Dr. Ronald Studer • Ronnie Williams

MILFORD TIMES NORTHVILLE RECORD NOVI NEWS SOUTH LYON SHERALD

www.hometownlife.com

Seghi Renovations

248-437-2454 • www.segghi.net



Jim Seghi is challenging homeowners to rethink their ideas about renovation by offering a free consultation, valued at \$250.

Jim Seghi

"I enjoy the designing aspects of home renovation and all of the challenges. I'm all for tackling jobs that other guys won't, because that's what it's all about — making sure that the customer wants at the best possible value."

— Jim Seghi, Seghi Renovations

"Just bring in your ideas, and we can bring them to life."

For more than 20 years, Jim Seghi of Seghi Renovations in South Lyon has been a local expert on home renovation to homeowners and contractors alike.

Seghi, a 24-year resident of Lyon Township, has built a solid customer base in Livingston, Oakland and Wayne counties. He is well known around town and often recognizes customers at his children's South Lyon Community Schools events.

"With 20 years of experience, we make remodeling simple," Seghi said. "We have on staff designers and a fully stocked showroom to help bring any project from concept to completion. We're in it to give the customer exactly what they want."

Seghi and his staff are experts in kitchen remodeling, bath installation or renovation, additions and basement

making sure what the customer wants at the best possible value."

Seghi is widely referred by clients satisfied with their renovations, whether they are small projects like kitchen tile backsplashes or large 2,500-additions.

Visit Seghi's website, www.segghi.net, to read customer reviews and testimonials, project photos and remodeling ideas to inspire your next home update.

Jim Seghi is challenging homeowners to rethink their ideas about renovation. Right now, Seghi is offering a free consultation by appointment, a \$250 value.

"Combined, my staff and I have over 100 years of experience," Seghi said. "We will be there every step of the way to ensure your project goes smoothly."

Visit the Seghi Renovations showroom today. Hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday; or anytime by appointment.

To make an appointment, call 248-437-2454.

— By Alison Bergsicker

Bifano Eye Care

248-446-1146 • www.visionsource-bifanoeyecare.com



Dr. Christopher Bifano puts special emphasis on customer service at Bifano Eye Care in South Lyon.

Dr. Chris Bifano

"We are carrying on the family tradition of good customer service. Our doctors and staff are what set us apart from our competition."

— Christopher Bifano, O.D.

Customer care, experience and up-to-date technology advances have made Bifano Eye Care a staple in the South Lyon community for many years.

Christopher Bifano, O.D., and Rhonda Bifano, O.D., have a reputation for happy customers and extensive knowledge to provide patients of the South Lyon communities and surrounding areas with the best treatment possible.

Dr. Bifano is quick to point out that his experienced staff deserves much of the credit for his business' success.

"We are carrying on the family tradition of good customer service," he said. "Our doctors and staff are what set us apart from our competition."

His notoriety for good service began with the Bifano family of optometrists, including his now-retired sister and father who

practiced in Dearborn for many years. Even now, Dr. Bifano maintains an office in Dearborn Heights where he splits his time with the South Lyon practice.

Dr. Bifano, a resident of South Lyon and father to Lauren, 12, and Michael, 13, is very involved in the community. He coaches South Lyon Panthers football and St. Joseph's CYO baseball.

Bifano Eye Care sponsors several high school events and the business is a member of the local Chamber of Commerce. A graduate from the Ferris State College of Optometry, Dr. Bifano has been in business for 16 years. He attended grade school and high school at Divine Child in Dearborn.

Dr. Bifano keeps up on the latest technology in the field of optometry and he believes in staying one step ahead of the technology curve.

Services at Bifano Eye Care include eye exams, contact lenses, eyeglasses, contact management laser refractive surgery and treatment of some diseases. For children and adults who have problems processing visual information, Bifano Eye Care is able to help them with vision therapy, resulting in improved hand-eye coordination.

Emergency and after-hours services are available, and a doctor is on-call every day. The Bifano Eye Care staff includes Drs. Chris and Rhonda Bifano.

"Join us in welcoming Dr. J. Dorony, the newest addition to our staff," Dr. Bifano said. Doctors are available Monday, Thursday and Saturday. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursday; and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Bifano Eye Care is located at 317 N. Lafayette St., two blocks north of Lake Street in South Lyon.

Call to make an appointment today. — By Alison Bergsicker

He Means Business

Men are proud of who they are, how much they accomplish and what they overcome to be successful. From the small town business owner to an entrepreneur to the CEO of a prominent company, men continue to excel in everything they do.

In this issue of He Means Business, we celebrate the men who give young boys someone to look up to, and help readers of the Milford Times, Northville Record, Novi News and South Lyon Herald connect with the men who shine in our communities.

Meet the 2010 men of He Means Business.

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South Lyon Cycle

248-437-0500 • www.southlyoncycle.com



Gary, left, and Mark Childs offer quality bikes, parts and accessories, one-day repair service, tune-ups and more at South Lyon Cycle.

Gary Childs & Mark Childs

South Lyon Cycle has the best selection of bikes, parts and accessories in the area. Customers are sold a bike that meets their needs with proper fit for comfort and safety emphasized.

The Childs brothers, owners and operators of South Lyon Cycle, are devoted to bikes.

South Lyon Cycle stocks a large selection of bicycles at great values. Mountain, comfort, hybrid, road, cruiser, recumbent, BMX, freestyle and juvenile bicycles include top brands like Trek, Gary Fisher, Giant, Electra, Townie and Haro. Expert assembly is offered on all bikes.

Bikes are available in a variety of sizes including 12-inch, 16-inch, 20-inch and 24-inch wheel bikes for children as well as adult models in many frames and sizes. Trikes for adults and children are also stocked.

Wide mountain bike tires can be replaced with narrow road tires that are more efficient and easier rolling on pavement. South Lyon Cycle offers many accessories, such as racks, baskets and bags to carry everything from groceries to work equipment to camping and sports gear to small dogs.

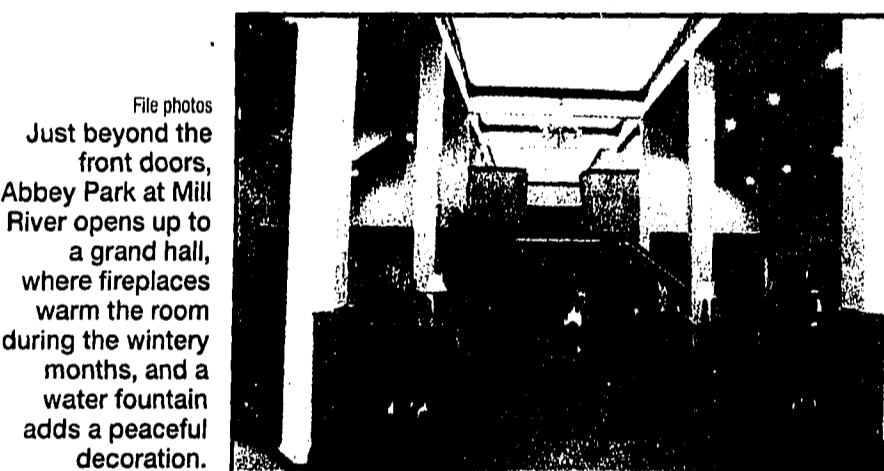
South Lyon Cycle has the best selection of bikes, parts and accessories in the area.

South Lyon Cycle is located in downtown South Lyon at 209 S. Lafayette (Pontiac Trail), two blocks south of Ten Mile Road, minutes from Island Lake State Recreation Area, Kensington Metropark, Maybury State Park, the Huron Valley Trail System and South Lyon's Rail Trail.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

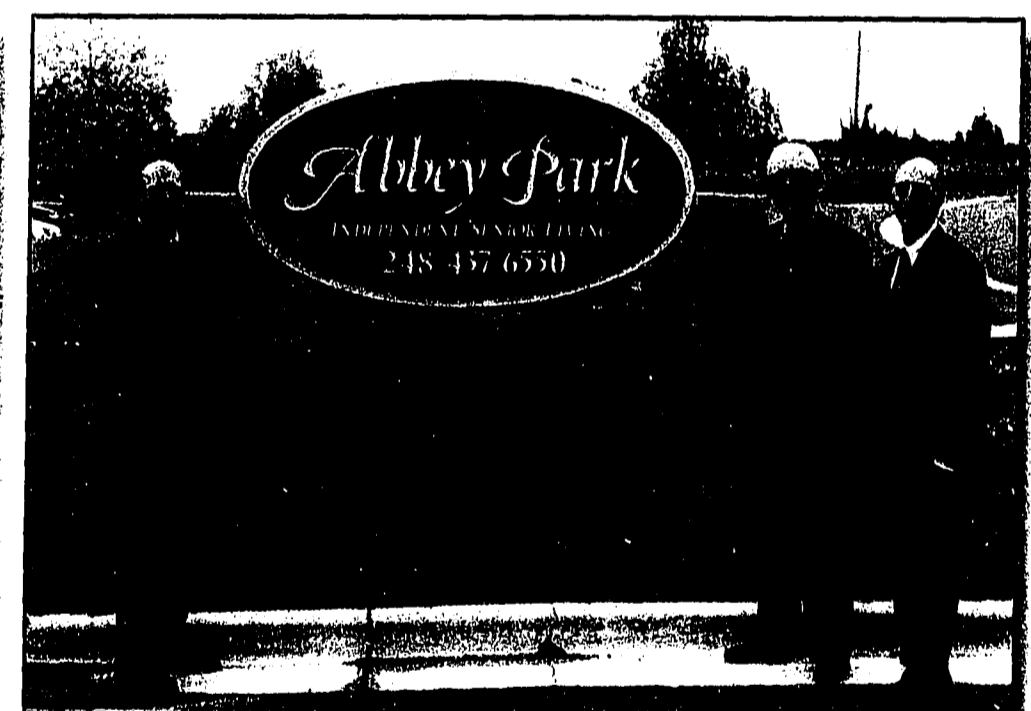
Abbey Park at Mill River

248-437-6550 • www.abbeyparkatmillriver.com



Just beyond the front doors, Abbey Park at Mill River opens up to a grand hall, where fireplaces warm the room during the wintery months, and a water fountain adds a peaceful decoration.

The library at Abbey Park is tucked away on the second floor for a quiet getaway. The books are restocked every 60 days by the Lyon Township Public Library, along with other donated books from community members.



(From left) Ed Rosenbaum, Dr. Benjamin Stein and Joseph Norber, owners of Abbey Park at Mill River, have created the ultimate, affordable living experience for seniors seeking independence, closeness to family and friends and an enjoyable social environment.

Ed Rosenbaum • Dr. Benjamin Stein • Joseph Norber

"The food, activities and people are all great. We enjoy coming here not only to see the residents enjoying themselves, but to see our friendly staff, too. Abbey Park gives seniors the opportunity to be as independent as they want to be and a place to feel at home."

— Dr. Benjamin Stein

A typical week at Abbey Park kicks off on Sunday with an elegant Champagne Brunch, all-faiths church service and relaxing time with family and friends. Then it's on to miniature and pedicure Mondays, Nintendo Wii bowling league Tuesdays, dinner night out on Wednesdays, ice cream social Thursdays, Happy Hour Fridays, and Grand Kids Day on Saturdays once a month.

There's never a dull moment at Abbey Park, where everyday is filled with activities, entertainment and conveniences for active seniors. The community's owners, Dr. Benjamin Stein, Ed Rosenbaum and Joseph Norber, have created the ultimate, affordable living experience for seniors seeking

independence, closeness to family and friends and an enjoyable social environment.

Recognizing the need for more congregate living options for aging adults in Oakland County, the trio opened two Abbey Park facilities in Grand Blanc and Lyon Township.

Dr. Stein, age 92, visits the communities frequently for socializing and knows the importance of staying mentally and physically active.

"The food, activities and people are all great," Dr. Stein said. "We enjoy coming here not only to see the residents enjoying themselves, but to see our friendly staff, too. Abbey Park gives seniors the opportunity to be as independent as they want to be and a place to feel

at home."

The apartments range from one bedroom, one bedroom with a den, two bedrooms, walk-in closet options and handicap amenities. All apartment rental fees include basic cable, a daily continental breakfast, luncheon or dinner in the grand dining hall, daily housekeeping, weekly full cleaning service, scheduled chauffeured transportation, a complete schedule of organized events and activities and more.

An emergency pull cord is accessible in each room of the apartment in case a resident needs assistance from a nurse.

Dr. Stein and long-time business partner Ed Rosenbaum have been in the nursing home business since before the onset of Medicare through the mid 1980s, and are now excited to introduce new congregate living options for aging adults in Oakland County.

"We took our experience and applied it to the congregate living

business," Rosenbaum said. "Our goal at Abbey Park is to keep our residents physically, mentally and emotionally healthy and active."

The Lyon Township community is a vast 195,000-square-foot facility constructed by partner Joseph Norber, who brings 46 years of construction management experience to the team.

"The facility is uniquely designed so that all of the activities are in central areas, while apartments are tucked away on separate wings for privacy," Norber said. "Cathedral ceilings enlarge the top floor rooms as an added amenity, and an enclosed patio or balcony."

Abbey Park features a grand entranceway complete with fireplaces, comfortable sitting area, an elegant water fountain and piano. Just out of reach is a grand dining hall, chapel for daily worship, movie theater room and country store with modest grocery and toiletry supplies.

Take a stroll upstairs to find a beauty parlor, quiet library and computer room.

A fitness center around the corner is stocked with treadmills, a pool table and a Nintendo Wii gaming console, used often for virtual bowling tournaments.

Abbey Park is located at 28413 Abbey Lane in New Hudson, across from Coyote Golf Course. Tours are available during regular office hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Advance reservations for tours are encouraged. Check out Abbey Park's Facebook page at www.facebook.com; search "Abbey Park" to become a fan.

Contact Administrator Tamra Ward at 248-437-6550 or visit www.abbeypark.com for more information.

An additional Abbey Park location is available in Grand Blanc at 3221 E. Baldwin Road and can be reached at 810-606-1110.

— By Alison Bergsicker

Computer Communications Alliances

248-437-1304 • www.ccainc.net



Paul Mellott of Computer Communications Alliances is ready to make the process of buying and fixing your computer a simple one.

Paul Mellott

"I emphasize personal, one-on-one service. We're known by the quality of our service and the honesty of our work. We may not be a super-sized store, but we do provide super-sized service."

— Paul Mellott, Computer Communications Alliances owner

If you own a computer, you'll be glad to know a man like Paul Mellott.

As the owner of Computer Communications Alliances (CCA) in South Lyon, Mellott can make your computer equipment — whether it's a personal computer or a laptop — "I emphasize personal, one-on-one service," said Mellott. "We're known by the quality of our service and the honesty of our work. We may not be a super-sized store, but we do provide super-sized service."

Since opening its doors in 1998, CCA is proud to offer desktop and laptop repair services, virus and spyware removal, upgrades as well

as new computer systems. "Our new computer systems range from basic home/office use computers to full gaming, CAD, video editing or sound editing systems, all built and warranted right here at CCA," said Mellott. "We are proud to be an American company providing local service and support."

CCA specializes in building custom computer systems with the help of staff technician Renee Tekieli. New computers start at around \$549, according to Mellott, and all new machines come with a two-year warranty from CCA.

"We also provide in-home services like computer set-up and software installation."

Mellott said, "Check out our pricing on service and save over GEEK Squad and others. Evaluation is \$30, and total virus cleanup is \$105. Our normal turnaround time is only two days."

Mellott is very appreciative to all of his customers, whom he considers friends after all the years he has lived and worked in the South Lyon community.

"I've been in South Lyon for more than 36 years," Mellott said. "The people in South Lyon are good, friendly, honest people."

Computer Communications Alliances is located in the Brookdale Shopping Plaza at 2271 Pontiac Trail.

Call 248-437-1304 and you'll speak directly to either Paul or Renee.

For more information about services, visit their website at www.ccainc.net.

— By Sally Runnel

Briarpointe Veterinary

248-449-7447



Drs. John Parker and Ronald Studer want clients to feel comfortable and confident when bringing their pet in, regardless of which doctor they see.

Drs. John Parker and Ronald Studer

As a small animal veterinary clinic, Briarpointe in Novi stands tall. Doctors Ronald Studer and John Parker possess more than 50 years of practice between them. From the first day of their partnership in 1991, Dr. Studer said they have worked to treat patients and clients as individuals — giving the best information they can to the pet owner, allowing them to make informed decisions about the care of their pet.

From routine check-ups to surgery, Briarpointe takes care of broken bones, wounds, performs spays and neuters, and provides medical, surgical and basic to intermediate dental services.

Their services include complete laboratory services, laparoscopic surgery, in-clinic pharmacy, radiology, dental radiology and geriatric medicine.

"We're consultants, working for the betterment of the patient," Dr. Studer said. "We offer options to the pet owner, and ultimately, it's their decision on how to proceed."

The two doctors enjoy hobbies that help them relax when away from the clinic. Both are married, have children and are pet owners. Dr. Parker plays the Great Highland and Uilleann bagpipes and studies Theology.

He is a 1988 Michigan State University graduate and has a degree in Medical Technology.

Dr. Studer enjoys practicing photography and playing golf. He is a 1973 MSU graduate and holds a master's degree in counseling from Oakland University.

At Briarpointe, Dr. Studer said they want clients feeling comfortable and confident when bringing their pet in, regardless of which doctor they see. The doctors never use any medications or procedures they wouldn't use on their own pets.

Dogs and cats make up most of Briarpointe's patients, with guinea pigs, gerbils, and birds, and even an occasional iguana making up the rest.

"A growing number of doctors are specialists," Dr. Studer said. "Briarpointe refers clients and pets when appropriate to Board Certified specialists in cardiology, neurology, internal medicine, ophthalmology and other specialties. Both doctors regularly attend local and national seminars to keep up with the latest treatments and technologies."

The two doctors are members of professional organizations including the Association of Avian Veterinarians, Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association, American Animal Hospital Association and American Veterinary Dental Association.

Briarpointe Veterinary Clinic is located at 47330 Ten Mile Road in Novi. Hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday and Thursday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Call 248-449-7447 for an appointment.

— By Mike Hogan

Pillar to Post

248-755-3422



File Photo
Randy Patterson includes electrical inspections among the Pillar to Post 1,600-point home inspection checklist.

Randall Patterson

"We use a device that measures air quality in each room of the home. We test each room because there can be something like carpeting in one room that could be affecting someone's health. Our equipment can detect and measure different levels of particulates in the air, including mold."

— Randall Patterson, Pillar to Post

Home inspections can tell a lot about a house — and what can be done to make it safe and healthy for occupants — especially when the inspections are performed by Randy Patterson of Pillar to Post inspections of Novi. Patterson has been in home inspection and environmental testing business for more than six years, and he knows what to look for when it comes to giving homeowners peace of mind to homebuyers a snapshot of the home they plan to live in. There are so many different things to inspect on a home that it would almost be impossible to list every one here. That's obvious, because Pillar to Post provides a thorough 1,600-point inspection that covers everything imaginable.

One of the most important parts of any Pillar to Post inspection is checking for safe and healthy indoor air. Patterson has attained three major indoor air quality (IAQ) certifications and he uses his experience and state-of-the-art technology to measure a home's IAQ. "We use a device that measures air quality in each room of the home," he said. "We test each room because there can be something like carpeting in one room that could be affecting someone's health. Our equipment can detect and measure different levels of particulates in the air, including mold."

Other procedures in the Pillar to Post inspection process include testing gas appliances, checking plumbing for leaks, inspecting electrical hook-ups, testing for radon and checking for volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Once the inspection is completed, Patterson compiles a comprehensive report that he puts in a three-ring binder. "The report gives people an understanding of the conditions they live in," Patterson said. "It also allows them the opportunity to plan a budget for what corrections need to be made."

The binder includes folders where customers can keep bids for work to be performed, receipts for maintenance and repairs and a utility log where homeowners can keep track of their utility bills in order to give potential buyers a complete record of energy costs.

The report includes digital photos of all areas in the home where problems or potential problems exist.

As part of his service, Patterson gives his customers three business references for remediation and clean-up work. Contact Pillar to Post by e-mail at randall.patterson@pillartopost.com or visit www.pillartopost.com or www.oaklandlinvest.com.
By John R. Hall

Doinidis Chiropractic Health Center

248-348-7530 • www.doinidischiro.com



Photo by John Heider | Staff Photographer
Dr. Nicholas Doinidis gently adjusts a patient at his Novi chiropractic center.

Dr. Nicholas Doinidis

"Chiropractic is the only healing art that relies on the body's ability to heal itself."

— Dr. Nicholas Doinidis, Doinidis Chiropractic Health Center

More local residents are realizing the benefits of chiropractic care, a natural, non-invasive approach to health care.

Dr. Nicholas Doinidis of Doinidis Chiropractic Health Center in Novi is a practicing chiropractor of 30 years at his location in PeachTree Shopping Center on Meadowbrook Road. He is a regular face in the Novi and Northville communities, with his home located only two miles from his office.

"Chiropractic is the only healing art that relies on the body's ability to heal itself," Dr. Doinidis said.

"When we make spinal corrections, nerve interference is reduced, allowing the body's healing ability to do its work along the spinal nerves of the body. Most of our patients come in with low back pain, neck pain, headaches, auto accident injuries, shoulder problems and poor posture. Whether I'm in the local Busch's, ACO or anywhere else, I always see patients of mine around town." Chiropractic is a form of natural health care that focuses on treating a patient without the use of drugs or medicines. Every year, more than 30 million Americans see chiropractors as part of the regular health care programs. Chiropractic care can help with a number of symptoms and problems, including but not limited to allergies, disc problems, Whiplash, Osteoarthritis, joint dysfunction, sciatica and pinched nerves, Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, and Fibromyalgia. Dr. Doinidis has patients of all ages, from children with sports injuries to senior citizens to young homeowners who overwork themselves in their yard or even golfers who swing improperly or too hard. "My treatments are especially gentle for senior citizens, and I generally get to know all about their life and family, if they want to tell me, that is," Dr. Doinidis said.

Dr. Doinidis has dedicated his life's work to chiropractic. He received a bachelor's degree from Oakland University in Rochester Hills in 1973, and earned a Doctor of Chiropractic from Life Chiropractic College in Marietta Georgia in 1978. Throughout the years, he has run clinics in northwest Detroit, Redford, Union Lake and Novi.

He and his wife, Linda, have happily raised their children, Jessica, 30, Steven, 26, and Ashleigh, 25, in Northville throughout the years.

Doinidis Chiropractic Health Center is located at 24037 Meadowbrook Road. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-7 p.m. Monday; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday.
By Alison Bergsticker

South Lyon Watch & Jewelry

248-486-9219 • www.sljeweler.com



Photo by Sally Rummel
Owner Max Sidorov welcomes customers through a unique arbor entrance that opens up to an exotic shopping experience at South Lyon Watch & Jewelry.

Max Sidorov

Where else would you possibly shop for fine jewelry amidst a backdrop of exotic animals and Amazon-like foliage?

South Lyon Watch & Jewelry is your destination for a bit of the unusual — both in the store's reputation for quality and custom-made jewelry, as well as the buzz it has generated for its Amazon setting.

As soon as you walk through the arbor entrance of the main door, you know you're in for a treat.

"We may be located in a shopping plaza, but we want our customers to feel as if they are in an 'exotic' place," said owner Max Sidorov.

Home to scorpions in the jewelry display cases as well as two Brazilian honey bears (Kinkajou) housed in their own exotic setting, South Lyon Watch & Jewelry aims to set itself apart from other jewelers in both its ambiance and its unique jewelry pieces.

"We are Michigan's premiere couture jeweler," Sidorov said. "Each piece is hand-crafted on-site by Master Jeweler Scott Ward."

The Ward family is well known locally as third-generation jewelers and watchmakers — a skill that has been passed down from father to son throughout the years.

When the occasion is too important to buy off the rack, South Lyon Watch & Jewelry offers a large selection of one-of-a-kind and limited edition jewelry.

"We stay on top of design trends, including colors for next year's fashions," Sidorov said. "We are generally three years ahead of the Midwest in our approach to jewelry design."

South Lyon Watch & Jewelry is now working with different diamond colors for a totally unique fashion look — using the clearest, most precise stones in shades of blue, green and even black diamonds.

Doinidis Chiropractic Health Center is located at 24037 Meadowbrook Road. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-7 p.m. Monday; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3-6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday.
By Alison Bergsticker

South Lyon Watch & Jewelry is open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. The South Lyon store is located at 20740 Pontiac Trail and can be reached at 248-486-9219. Reach the New Hudson store at 248-935-7323, located at 59754 Grand River Ave. in New Hudson.
By Sally Rummel

Perfect Floors

248-437-2838 • www.perfectfloorsinc.com



Photo
Ronnie Williams III, right, has the solid backing and training from his father, Ron Williams Jr., one of many reasons that Perfect Floors is the perfect place to buy flooring.

Ronnie Williams

Ronnie Williams III is following in the footsteps of his dad, Ron Jr., and that is good news for the many customers of Perfect Floors of South Lyon.

Ronnie is carrying on a tradition of excellent customer service coupled with an outstanding choice of floor coverings for homeowners looking to replace their existing flooring, or for those who are planning what they want on each floor of their newly constructed homes.

"We have a very big showroom," Ronnie said. "The variety and selection are as big as can be, especially for a family-run business."

Ronnie's uncle, Mike, also works in the business and each family member is very involved with every sale.

"We take the hands-on approach," Ronnie added. Ronnie has been watching and learning from his dad, who has been in the flooring business for more than 20 years. He works closely with customers who walk into the store at 21946 Pontiac Trail and also goes out to homes and businesses to give estimates.

It's a full-time job keeping customers happy and Ronnie knows the importance of customer service. He knows that people have choices and he encourages them to shop around.

"We know that people will shop for estimates," he said. "We don't mind it at all. It has never hurt us before and it won't hurt us now."

Ronnie said he is seeing a lot of customers turning to hardwood flooring. Perfect Floors has selections available from leading manufacturers, including Bruce and Mohawk.

If a customer doesn't see exactly what they want or has a specific brand in mind, Ronnie and his family can "pretty much get anything the customer wants" from their suppliers.

Another reason why customers like the service at Perfect Floors is because of the experienced installers.

"We keep six two-man crews working fulltime," Ronnie said. "These are the same people who have worked for us for years."

The customer service includes not only South Lyon but extends into Novi, Northville, New Hudson, Milford, Brighton and Ann Arbor. Ronnie said he even works in the Detroit area, thanks to customer referrals. "We have to go everywhere to keep our customers happy," he said. Referrals are a sure sign that people like the products and service from Perfect Floors. And that's no surprise. Ronnie said he stands behind the slogan of guaranteed lowest prices, which means that customers don't have to waste a lot of high-priced gas driving around from store to store to get the best price. But beyond price, it is the care for customers that keeps people coming back to Ronnie and the staff at Perfect Floors. Visitors are encouraged to stop in with any questions about flooring. Ronnie will be more than happy to provide the answers. Store hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Visit the store or online today.
By John R. Hall

Farmers Insurance

248-437-5309 • 248-486-7923



File Photo
Tom Groom, Farmers Insurance Agent, stands next to his sign in front of his office at 410 N. Lafayette St. in South Lyon.

Tom Groom

"What I think says a lot about what I do, is that I've been a multi-year winner of the People's Choice Award for the best insurance agent and agency."

— Tom Groom, Farmers Insurance

For Tom Groom, Farmers Insurance agent, it's all about customer service.

That means returning calls quickly, processing calls quickly and taking calls after hours.

He's been serving the Lyon community with that commitment for 29 years. "Treating people with respect is the key," Tom said. "I treat everyone equally, whether they have a large or small policy with me."

He provides insurance policies for autos, homes, life, RVs and mobile homes. Tom said his customers know that when they call, he is the one who answers the phone. "They have access to me all the time," Tom emphasized.

"That's one of the advantages of working with more than an insurance company," he said. "I've even gotten referrals from area agencies to help customers who are difficult to insure."

New customers will receive a 15 percent new customer discount and eligible for a 10 percent sale driver discount.

"What I think says a lot about what I do, is that I've been a multi-year winner of the People's Choice Award for the best insurance agent and agency," Tom said.

— By Nathan Menon

RE/MAX Fine Homes

248-437-4144 • www.finehomes-mi.com



Photo by Hal Gould | Staff Photographer
Peter Maxfield, broker/owner of RE/MAX Fine Homes in South Lyon, provides a wide range of real estate services and also specializes in short sales.

Peter Maxfield

"Lately we have been working hard to assist the South Lyon community with short sales. Short sales are an option to some homeowners rather than foreclosure as it helps the homeowner by minimizing damage to their credit."

— Peter Maxfield, RE/MAX Fine Homes

West Oakland County residents looking to buy or sell a home need look no further.

Peter Maxfield, owner/broker of RE/MAX Fine Homes in downtown South Lyon, offers high quality real estate services and is committed to the South Lyon area community.

Maxfield has more than 11 years in real estate and nine years with RE/MAX, is a member of the South Lyon Area Chamber of Commerce and supported local events, including the annual Pumpkinfest and summer Concert in the Park series at McHattie Park.

"We work in residential, commercial and investment properties," Maxfield said. "We also work with homes, condos, multi family properties and co-ops. The amount of support we get from homeowners is amazing. We're getting more calls and walk ins to buy and sell homes every day! South Lyon really does love it's RE/MAX."

With RE/MAX's renowned reputation behind him, Maxfield can help local residents through the entire process of buying or selling a home, starting with the mortgage and continuing right through closing — and beyond.

RE/MAX Fine Homes provides a wide range of real estate services and utilizes the most current technology, processes and systems to assist residents with all home buying and selling needs.

"Visit Maxfield at RE/MAX Fine Homes at 327 N. Lafayette St. in South Lyon. Call 248-437-4144 or visit www.finehomes-mi.com."
By Alison Bergsticker

Northville Paint Company

www.thepaintcompany.com • 248-248-1599



"We have color experts staffed at all times to help you with everything you need," said Darin March (right).



Photos by Erin Powers | Staff Designer
Northville Paint Company is owned by brothers Dwayne and Darin March, former paint contractors who also own a paint store in Brighton. Their father, David March, also helps out with the family business.

Dwayne March & Darin March

Why Choose the Northville Paint Company: A team of highly trained color experts are always available and ready to help customers with any residential or commercial exterior and interior projects.

Brothers Dwayne and Darin March do one thing and they do it well. The paint experts and owners of the Northville Paint Company pride themselves on being color experts. While big box stores and hardware stores are spread thin with tools, lawn equipment, and barbecue grills, the March brothers are painting their mark in Northville.

"We don't just sell you paint and let you go on your way," Darin said. "We have color experts staffed at all times to help you with everything you need."

After working as paint contractors for many years, the March brothers opened up their first independently owned Benjamin Moore paint store in nearby Brighton in 1994. About three years ago, the brothers opened their Northville shop at the former location of Decorating By Dan just down the road from their hometown, Plymouth.

"We noticed there was a lack of retail stores selling Benjamin Moore Paints," Darin said. "We did a lot of business with Decorating By Dan and when the timing was right, we opened the store."

The staff at the Paint Company can do more than shake up a couple cans of high gloss phoenix sand or soft shell paint—those are hues of pink by the way — they can also match colors to fix your home and provide any type of painting supply.

"If you bring in pictures we can find a paint to match your drapes, carpet or furniture," Darin said. "We can even tell you how to plaster and fix holes in your walls before you start painting."

The Paint Company has frequent specials, and a yearly anniversary sale but the best deal of all may be their free interactive paint tools. The Paint Company Web site, www.thepaintcompany.com, offers a color visualization program courtesy of Benjamin Moore paints. Customers can preview specialty finishes, color selections, and even upload images of their homes before they pick up a paint roller.

The Paint Company and Benjamin Moore have also teamed with Pottery Barn to help inspire customers and bring their color ideas to life and into homes.

But, the biggest benefit of choosing the Paint Store in Northville for any commercial or residential exterior or interior painting project can be found online.

— By Jon Gunnells

Allen Physical Therapy

www.allenphysicaltherapy.com • 248-437-2322

"Making a difference in people's pain and disabilities is what I am passionate about. We keep patient's and their families coming back year after year because of the personalized and friendly care we provide."

— Jeffery Allen, P.T., O.C.S.

Photo by Hal Gould
Staff Photographer



Jeffery Allen, P.T., O.C.S.



Jeffery Allen is a board certified Orthopedic Clinical Specialist with extensive training in manual therapy techniques. He treats a wide variety of the most complex orthopedic conditions including neck and back pain.

"Hands on Treatment, Every Patient, Every Visit."

That's the motto at Allen Physical Therapy in South Lyon, where patients receive individualized treatment not offered at larger scaled rehabilitation centers.

Jeffery Allen is a board certified Orthopedic Clinical Specialist with extensive training in manual therapy techniques. This includes training in the manual therapy technique of trigger point needling, myofascial release, muscle energy and spinal manipulation.

"Making a difference in people's pain and disabilities is what I am passionate about," Allen said. "We keep patient's and their families coming back year after year because of the personalized and friendly care we provide."

Allen is a familiar face to the South Lyon community and a resident of six years. He graduated from Wayne

State University in 1992, and has been a board certified clinical specialist in orthopedics since 1999. He also has extensive experience with industrial medicine and sports medicine.

"I treat a wide variety of the most complex orthopedic conditions including neck and back problems, Fibromyalgia, shoulders, knees and hips," Allen said. "We offer hands on treatment to every patient, every visit."

Manual physical therapy is important to correct physiological barriers in the body caused by injury, over use, prolonged poor posture. Examples are restricted connective tissue, tightened or knotted muscles, swollen joints, and misaligned joints, all of which can cause pain, restricted mobility, and function.

"Having a therapist skilled with techniques to physically correct and aide in the healing of these

problems, results in more successful and quicker recoveries," Allen said. "For many chronic pain patients these manual therapy skills may be their only hope for improvement."

Allen has been practicing dry needling for three years, and he carries more than 18 years of professional physical therapy experience. Trigger point needling is designed to relax muscles and break up knots in the muscle that causes pain, discomfort and limitations on physical movement.

Dry needling, which Jeff said is nothing like acupuncture, is one of many ways he treats patients with physical challenges. He said that this technique is one of the most researched manual therapy techniques that has been published in reputable journals over the last six years. Dry needling is very beneficial to chronic pain patients as well as acute injuries even athletic injuries. It involves

identifying and treating localized areas of muscle spasm called trigger points. Physical therapist routinely palpate and treat trigger points those are painful and contribute to physiological dysfunction. There is a lot of research to show that dry needling of trigger points is faster and more effective at resolving them and reducing pain while restoring function.

But dry needling isn't the only reason why Jeff is very busy these days. His warm water therapy utilizing a 15 x 8 warm water swimming pool in his office has "been very important for people with arthritis or rheumatology conditions, Fibromyalgia Syndrome, hips and low back pain," he added. The pool has a hydrostatic jet system that propels the water up to 1300 PSI that can accommodate the strongest of swimmers. It is maintained at 92 degrees and is large and deep enough to allow for all

types of skilled therapeutic exercise.

"Water provides the ideal medium for exercise allowing maximum muscle and joint function," Allen said. "Almost any orthopedic or neurological condition indicated for skilled therapeutic treatment would be appropriate for aqua therapy."

The office is located at 321 Pettibone, almost directly behind the old location on West Lafayette Street.

Jeff continues to update his own resume by keeping up-to-date with medical advances. He is always happy to work with patients and his hands-on approach will be in demand for a whole new generation of patients, even if they aren't world-class marathoners.

For more information call 248-437-2322 or visit www.allenphysicaltherapy.com.

— By Alison Bergsieker