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 SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE



**THURSDAY**  
 August 19, 2010

HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

Volume 55  
 Number 13

\$1.00

# NOVI NEWS

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see our online images

You can see staff photographer John Heider's photos in print in the Novi News and Northville Record, but don't miss his videos of the Super Gardener, a young moth rancher and the Novi girls state soccer march. His photo galleries feature the Farmers' Market, Buy Michigan Now Festival, the Michigan Art Institute's open house, Novi High's Band Camp and much, much more.

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Then look for your photo in the newspaper and on our Facebook site under WISH YOU WERE HERE!

**Lucas fundraiser**

The Novi Firefighters Burn Drive is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser from 6-8:30 p.m. Aug. 24 at the Rock Financial Showplace for the family of 8-year-old Trevor Lucas who died on Aug. 5 after a nearly two-year battle with an inoperable brainstem tumor.

The fundraiser is being held to help the family with the costs associated with Trevor's illness and funeral.

Cost for the dinner is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 3-12. It includes spaghetti, salad, breadsticks and a drink. There also will be a cash bar and a silent auction. Tickets can be purchased at the door or by calling (248) 514-5230. Rock Financial Showplace is located at 46100 Grand River Ave.

**Blood drive**

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene is sponsoring a Red Cross blood drive 3-9 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 1. Call Taylor Dickey to reserve your appointment time at (248) 737-7263. The church is located at 21260 Haggerty Road, Northville.

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## No increase coming in pay-to-play fees

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
 STAFF WRITER

The financial burden on families in Novi who have students playing sports is going to remain unchanged.

A decision by the Novi Board of Education last Thursday returned the pay-to-play fees to the rates established for the 2009-10 school year, calling for students to pay \$175 per sport at the high school, with a cap of \$350, and \$75 per sport at the middle school, capping out at \$225.

The cost that was in the budget for the 2010-11 school year asked students to pay a \$350 flat fee at the high school and \$225 at the middle school.

Board restores athletic charge to '09-10 levels

Several board members felt that number was too high and asked the administration to look at other options.

Superintendent Pete Dion said they were able to keep the fees the same because the athletic expense draw on the general fund was \$56,993 less than budgeted, thus making up for the projected increase in the upcoming year. Parents who already paid the previous fees will receive a refund from the district.

"Basically it's a wash if you look at it over a two-year period," he said, making the recommendation "in an effort

to help our families through another tough financial year."

Athletic director Curt Ellis said the athletic department was able to save \$18,000 last year by spending less on uniforms and equipment, and the booster program has been instrumental.

He said 10 years ago the club raised \$35,000-\$40,000 and now it is bringing in more than \$150,000.

"The gaps we have had through the systematic cuts we have made have been filled by the booster club," he said. "But should the budget continue

to be an issue, there will come a point where it's personnel and programs."

In terms of cost, Novi's rates are in the middle of the pack in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association. And while Ellis believes cost does play a factor in whether students come out for sports or not, he doesn't think it will show at the end of the day — at least for now.

"Overall, if you look at the end of the year, our participation numbers will be very comparable to what they have been," he said. "But I do think there is a danger that as participation rates go up, the numbers will drop accordingly."

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The staff at Goodman Orthodontics joined 285 of its patients and their families at a July 19 Detroit Tigers game for Patient Appreciation Day. (From left in front) Christy Hazelrigg and Niki Klein (back) Dr. Robert Goodman, Dr. Sindy Goodman, Mary Myers, Christina Brayman and Sara Alias.

## Take me out to the BALLGAME

Orthodontists give free tickets to patients, families

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
 STAFF WRITER

The staff at Goodman Orthodontics has always prided themselves on giving back to their patients and the Novi community.

They are constantly involved in fund-raisers and hold contests throughout the year to show their appreciation.

But one of their biggest gifts took place on July 19 when they gave Detroit Tigers tickets to all their current patients and families. More than 300 people attended the game as part of Patient Appreciation Day, an 8-6 loss to the Texas Rangers that ended after 14 innings, but the result didn't matter.

"We were looking at something to bring all our patients together and thought what could be better than a summer night at the Tigers game," said Mary Myers, patient coordinator. "It was our way of recognizing and thanking them."

Goodman Orthodontics is run by Drs. Rob and Sindy Goodman, and Myers said events like this show the patients they care about them.

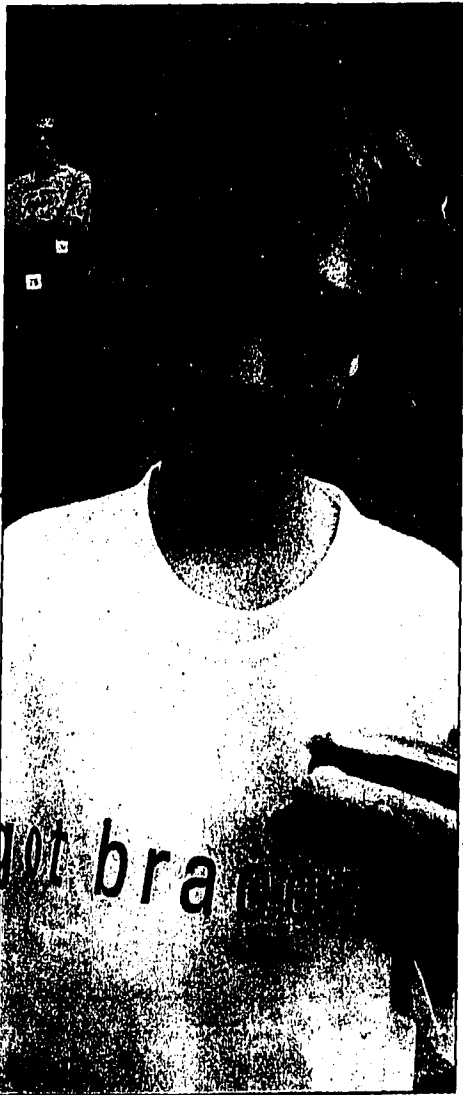
She said an orthodontist is often the most visited doctor in a child's life, and because of that, families often bring multiple children to see them and are involved for several years.

"We really get to know not only our patients but their families as well," Myers said.

The practice also has an on-going Goodman All-Star program that awards patients who get good brushing grades and have no breakages at their monthly appointments.

"This is not done for our resume or because we want to be in the newspaper but because we really enjoy our patients and our families," Myers said.

For more information on Goodman Orthodontics, visit [www.goodmanortho.com](http://www.goodmanortho.com).



Goodman Orthodontics patient Hunter Montry enjoys a hot dog at the July 19 Detroit Tigers game.

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## Softball tournament provides boost to area businesses

Novi one of 100 cities to host national event

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
 STAFF WRITER

Compliments are still pouring in two weeks after the city of Novi hosted its first national softball tournament since the late 1980s.

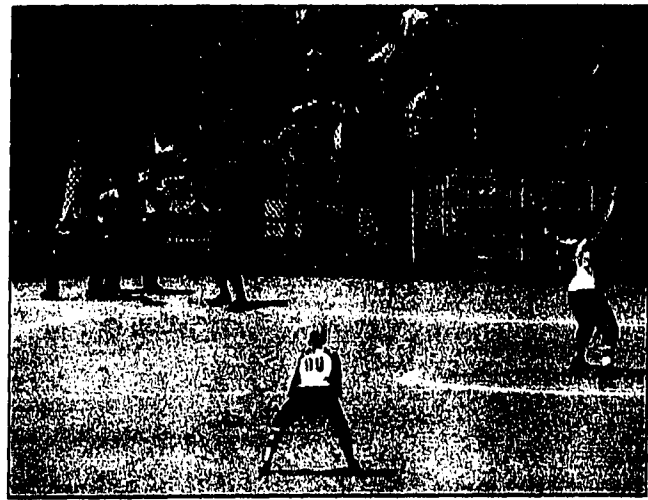
The city was one of 100 cities in the United States selected by the Amateur Softball Association to host a tournament this year as 44 teams from seven different states embarked on Ella Mae Power Park for the Girls' Under-18 Class A Fast Pitch Northern National Tournament.

Nancy Cowan, interim director of parks, recreation and cultural services, said the tournament provided an economic boost to the area as more than 1,500 people visited the park daily and more than 225 hotel rooms were booked for the weekend.

"That money does not show up in the city's account, but it had a tremendous impact for businesses in the area," she said.

Recent renovations to Ella Mae Power Park over the last few years have made it a

Please see **SOFTBALL, A2**



A pair of teams competing in the 2010 ASA Girls' Under-18 Class A Fast Pitch Northern National Tournament at Ella Mae Power Park do battle last weekend.

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**SOFTBALL**  
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destination for tournaments, and Novi already has another national tournament coming next year.

A pair of teams from Illinois played in the finals. Stu Alderman, metro Detroit ASA commissioner, overheard one of the managers talking about how they could have played the game there. His opponent disagreed, praising the field conditions in Novi.

"We got rave reviews from the teams, the players and the fans," he said. "They said it was one of the best tournaments they have been to from the field conditions and the site to the organization of the tournament."

Alderman said bringing national tournaments to is important, not just for the city



The Bartlett Silver Hawks from Wayne, Ill., took home the under-18 Class A Fast Pitch Northern National Tournament title two weekends ago in Novi.

but for the state as well. "This is the first time many of these people had been to

the state and it's great for the economy especially with what Michigan is going through

right now," he said.

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**Making Novi more walkable**

Three sidewalk segments coming this year

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

The Novi City Council's continued emphasis on creating sidewalks and pathways will continue this summer when 2,000 feet of sidewalk will be constructed in three different locations.

These areas were selected because of their locations and will be completed this year:

\* The first is a sidewalk on the east side of Willowbrook Drive, south of Ten Mile Road that will improve safety at Village Oaks Elementary.

\* The second is a mid-block pedestrian crossing of Ten Mile Road at Nilan Drive to link the neighborhoods on both sides of Ten Mile.

\* The third is a sidewalk on the north side of Ten Mile, between Hampton Hill Road and Myrtle Court to link the adjacent neighborhoods with businesses near Ten Mile and Meadowbrook Roads.

Mark Spencer, staff liaison for the Walkable Novi Committee, said continuing to create sidewalks in the community adds value to the city in many ways.

"It provides a means for furthering the goal of a healthy community by giving people places to exercise, it provides a place for social interaction

because when you are walking through a neighborhood you walk by people and get to interact with them and it also adds to the value of property,"

he said. "It's an amenity most people want."

The city has won the Promoting Active Communities Gold Award three times from the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, and has more than 225 miles of existing and planned public pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Brian Coburn, city engineer, said the it will cost \$110,000 to build the three segments, with the money coming from the municipal street fund.

Four other projects are planned for 2011 at a cost of \$156,000:

\* A sidewalk on the north side of Ten Mile Road between Myrtle Court and Catherine Drive.

\* A mostly federally funded pathway along the north side of Nine Mile Road between Haggerty and Meadowbrook Roads.

\* A sidewalk on the south side of Thirteen Mile Road near Old Novi Road and just west of Martin Drive.

\* Numerous new sidewalks and pathways on Novi Road between Grand River Avenue and Ten Mile Road.

The city also is creating a non-motorized transportation plan and is asking the public for input. There will be a web-based survey on www.cityofnovi.org this fall and two workshops at the Novi Public Library, one at 7 p.m. on Sept. 29 and the other at 7 p.m. on Oct. 26.

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Novi's new nightclub on Main Street - 29 Park - features a large dance floor, lots of lounge seating and a pair of bars for its patrons.

**29 Park: Customer service main focus of new Novi nightclub**

Upscale atmosphere also features down-to-earth feel

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

The ambiance at Novi's newest nightclub 29 Park gives it an upscale feel.

But the customer service and focus on "fun" is what truly sets it apart.

Carol Sassine, director of operations for 29 Park, said the idea behind the nightclub was to create a nice place for people to hang out and attract a diverse crowd.

"People enjoy being treated well, and we believe that doing that will make people want to come back," she said.

The 9,200-square-foot nightclub is on the corner of Main and Market and features two large bars as well as a 1,200-square-foot dance floor.

Surrounding the dance floor

are several booths that can be reserved in advance, and there is no minimum fee or bottle service requirement for sitting in them.

Near the entrance is a lounge area with plush chairs and tables for those who want to get away from the action.

There is a casual smart dress code; no hats, jerseys or baggy clothes are allowed.

"When you come here all you want to do is have fun," Sassine said.

29 Park celebrated its grand opening last Friday, and will be open every Friday and Saturday from 9 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

There are two other 29 Park locations in Canada, one in Windsor and the other in London. Sassine said the owners were interested in bringing

a location to the United States after seeing how many customers were making the trip to their Windsor location from Michigan.

The key was finding a spot big enough for their operation, and Novi worked perfectly.

The club is 21 and up, and there is a cover charge of \$5 on Friday and \$10 on Saturday, but that also includes complimentary food at 12:30 a.m. and water bottles when people leave.

"We want to do things customers enjoy and also add that special little touch to their experience," she said.

For more information on 29 Park or to make a reservation, visit www.29park.com or call (248) 344-2925.

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**That's cool**

Corey Grassmyer, 11, flings himself into the water of Walled Lake at Novi's Lakeshore Park beach on Aug. 4. With temps that day in the high 80s and plenty of humidity, the waters of Walled Lake were the perfect place to cool off.

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**NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS**

**Catholic girls school scholarships**  
Saint Catherine of Siena Academy recently has been given two large gifts that make it possible to grant 15 tuition scholarships. Tuition expense for families who qualify will be only \$2,500 for the 2010-2011 school year. For further information, please contact Director of Admissions Amy LeBlanc at (248) 587-0130 or [aleblanc@saintcatherineacademy.org](mailto:aleblanc@saintcatherineacademy.org).

**Back-to-school check-ups Aug. 29**  
Has your child had his/her back-to-school check up yet? Reach Out and Read Michigan is partnering with Henry Ford Medical Center-Farmington Pediatrics to offer free back-to-school check-ups. Children are encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear or stuffed "friend" to the event to receive a physical from a Henry Ford nurse or physician. Parents and kids also will receive information about the importance of reading. No appointment is necessary. Pediatrician Beth Robinson Swartz, M.D., and nurse Claudia DeRain, from Henry Ford Medical Center-Farmington, will hold the clinics from 2-3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 29 at Borders Books & Music store in Novi, 43075 Crescent Boulevard. There is no fee, and no appointment is necessary. To learn more, visit [www.reachoutandreadmich.org](http://www.reachoutandreadmich.org).

**C.A.R.E. now open**  
Registration for Novi Community Education's Summer Child C.A.R.E. is now open for all Novi residents ages preschool through eighth grade. The program ends Wednesday, Aug. 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.novi.k12.mi.us](http://www.novi.k12.mi.us) under Community Education - C.A.R.E., or call (248) 449-1713 for more information.

**All-star mathematics team**  
The Michigan All-Star team of 39 high school mathematics students fielded three teams in the American Regions Mathematics League Competition held June 5 at the University of Iowa, Pennsylvania State University, University of Georgia and the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. The Michigan team - which included Akhil Nistala, Sachin Padmanabhan, Raj Raina and Apurva Shrivastava from Novi High School and Chanukya Malla from Northville High School -- competed in Iowa.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Funny voices**  
Kids (above) laugh along with the ventriloquism show of Vicki Gasko during her Aug. 4 visit to the Novi Public Library. Vicki Gasko (below) entertains a group at the Novi Public Library with ventriloquism with a theme on the importance of reading.



**NOVI ON CAMPUS**

**Kaplan University**  
Jacob M. Krzyzak of Novi was awarded an associate of applied science degree in health sciences and Lisa Kruse of Novi, MI, was awarded an associate of applied science degree in health sciences during a live ceremony on Aug. 7 in Chicago.

**Saginaw Valley State**  
Novi's Lauren E. Cheaney, Sarah K. Robb, Andrea H. Stinar and Dashonda S. Woods were named to the Deans' List for the winter 2010 semester.

**Assistant principal looks forward to challenges**

LaClear joins staff at Novi High School

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

Charles LaClear was looking for a challenge. And he thinks he may have found it right here.

The new assistant principal at Novi High School took a step down from his principal post at Bridgeport High School earlier this month in an effort to further his career.

"If I could be an instructional leader in Novi and make some great things happen here, it would be a new chapter in my own personal development and growth," he said.

LaClear spent the last 11 years of his career in the Bridgeport Spaulding Community School District, including the last three as principal. He also served as a curriculum coach at the middle school for a year and prior to that was a teacher for seven years at the high school.

He said leaving the district was not easy, but Novi was closer to home for him and his wife and was a district he wanted to be part of.

"It's a pretty dynamic school district," he said. LaClear led a school of about 500 students in Bridgeport and helped it make Adequate Yearly Progress two years in a row after not making it for several years.

Novi High School Principal Carol Diglio said that was one thing that stood out to her during the interview process. Novi had more than 240 applications for the position and whittled it down to four -- two internal and two external candidates -- before selecting LaClear.

"What made him an outstanding candidate was that he has some valuable experience he is bringing to the table," Diglio said.

LaClear said he is looking forward to interacting with the students, especially the at-risk ones.

"I looked at the MME scores here and the scores are wonderful overall, but I think some areas we can improve on are working with the at-risk population and focusing and gearing education to meet their needs as well," he said.

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City of Novi continues recycling partnership
The City of Novi has renewed its contract with the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County (RRRASOC).

Another benefit provided to Novi residents through the partnership is the ability for Homeowner Associations to contract with the RRRASOC hauler, Duncan Disposal, at the lowest disposal rate of any haulers operating in Novi.

The City of Novi and RRRASOC annually host Household Hazardous Waste Day at the Novi Civic Center/Power Park. The 2010 event will take place 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9. The 2009 event was the largest ever held in a RRRASOC community with over 1,600 cars dropping off hazardous waste material such as cleaners, paints, herbicides, insecticides, and solvents.

For more information about the City of Novi, Household Hazardous Waste Day and green initiatives, visit cityofnovi.org. To learn more about RRRASOC, visit RRRASOC.org.

County's mobile clerk office coming Aug. 19
The Mobile Office for the Oakland County Clerk and Register of Deeds Office is heading to the Novi Public Library on Thursday, Aug. 19 announced Oakland County Clerk Ruth Johnson.

Anyone who lives in the area or surrounding communities is welcome. The mobile office will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the library, 45255 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi.

"We so appreciate the hospitality of the Novi Public Library," said Johnson. "Our office in Pontiac can be a long way for people, especially with gas prices today," said Johnson. "We've put most of our services on our website, but we realize that there are people without Internet access or those who may be more comfortable with personal service. In an effort to reach out to all our communities, our Mobile Office pilot project will offer convenient one-day stops in each of the western, eastern, northern and southern portions of the county."

stressing that there is no additional expense associated with the Mobile Office because resources, including employees and computers, are simply being redeployed in regional locations.

For more information, visit www.oakgov.com/clerkrod. Youth Toastmasters Club
A new Toastmasters club will meet for eight one-hour sessions within the next few months.

Toastmaster members basically present short speeches to be peer critiqued during the meetings. Organizers are looking for enthusiasm and a positive hardworking attitude from dedicated young adults ages 11-18. The first meeting will be an information session.

Please call or e-mail Pooja Singh for more information: (248)-996-5253 or asinghi@yahoo.com. 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. Camp Lakeshore returns this summer under a new name, Lakeshore Park Adventure Camp.

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. Camp Lakeshore returns this summer under a new name, Lakeshore Park Adventure Camp.

After humbling primary victory, Weipert looks to November

BY VICTORIA MITCHELL STAFF WRITER



Weipert

Since last week, South Lyon resident Phil Weipert has been on a memorabilia ride. He said looking back, the week of the Aug. 3 primary is a fog.

After standing at the polls until they closed at 9 p.m. — and receiving quite a sunburn — Weipert had to wait long after the polls closed to know he was the Republican nod as the 8th District Oakland County Commission candidate.

Weipert won the primary with 1,550 written-in votes, what election officials are calling an impressive victory for a primary election. He will face Democrat Michele Berry of Wixom in November.

Weipert was followed in votes by written-in candidates Patricia Maida, 812; Joseph Shigley Jr., 295; Frank Christopher, 281; Sean Walsh, 37; and Adam Chalmers, 16. "It felt very good," Weipert said. And instead of a big celebratory event, Weipert, on little to no sleep, went to his first Oakland County Commission meeting Aug. 4 following an invitation by board Chairman Bill Bullard.

"I'll continue going to the meetings and get ready for November," Weipert said.

Until then, Weipert will continue to campaign and temporarily conduct the humbling work of picking up all of his own election signs posted throughout the voting territory.

"I want to really thank everyone who helped," he said. Weipert said preparing for the primary was a lot of work and he is ready to do more.

"I'm grateful for all the support and look forward to November to earn the trust and confidence of the people in the 8th District," he said.

vmitchell@gannett.com | (248) 437-2011, ext. 262



Sweet music

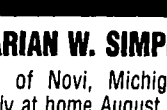
Reshma Gadge, 14, and Nastaeh Tajin, 13, perform at violin duo at the Aug. 13 talent show at the Novi Public Library. The Library, at 45255 W. Ten Mile Rd., can be phoned at (248) 349-0720 for information about its upcoming schedule.

Passages Obituaries, Memorials & Remembrances
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JAMES F. BOARD, JR.
Age 79, passed away on August 8, 2010, in New Hudson, MI. Formerly of Milford. Mr. Board proudly served in the U.S. Air Force from 1951-1954.



DORIS L. WALLER (NEE BROOKS)
Aug. 11, 2010, age 84. Funeral was August 16 at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Memorials to the American Cancer Society. Online condolences: www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com



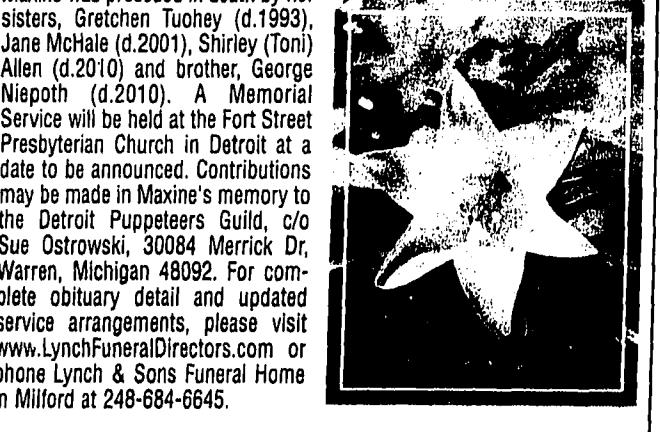
MARIAN W. SIMPLER
Age 89 of Novi, Michigan died peacefully at home August 8, 2010. Born in Ripley, Alabama, Marian had a life long ambition to own her own camp. She graduated with a degree in Recreation and Physical Education from Montevallo College Alabama, taught at the University of Wisconsin, and then headed the Physical Education department at Done College, Crete, Nebraska.

CRAIG BRATLY
A resident of Milford since 1979, died on August 16, 2010, at the age of 51. He is survived by Sue, his beloved wife of over thirty-three years; his son, Richard; sisters, Paula (Charles) Paul, Tur (Charles) Boyd; brother, Martin Bratly; sister-in-law, Pamela (Warren) Richards; brother-in-law, Leonard M. Wargo; nephews, Jeff (Janie) Paul, Charles Paul, William, Scott, Tom & Philip Boyd, Michael, and Chuck Rhoads; nieces, Maureen Rhoads, special friend, Rick Marion and many other dear friends. A Funeral Service was held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford, on Wednesday, August 18, at 7 PM. Chaplain Joseph Grabe officiated. Memorials may be made in his name to Odyssey Hospice. For further information please phone 248-694-6545 or visit: www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

KAREN J. FOULKS
Age 62, of South Lyon, passed away, August 12, 2010 at her home in the care of her loving family. A memorial service will be held Thursday, August 19 at 2:00 PM at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME.

FLOSSIE MAE HOGAN
Age 92, passed away, August 6, 2010. She was born on April 22, 1918 in Campbell, Missouri, daughter of the late Albert H. Pennington and Ada Higdon Pennington. Flossie was married to Clyde T. Hogan on October 10, 1936 in Malden, Missouri. To this union was born two sons, Carroll Wayne Hogan, Clyde Ray Hogan, and two daughters, Deanna Hogan (Gittens) and Margaret Ann Hogan (Hammon). The Hogan's moved from Missouri to Michigan in 1946. Flossie worked at Evans and Crowder for eight years and also Refrigeration Research in Brighton for seven years. Flossie was a member of Lodge 485 since 1952 and was a member of the First Baptist Church of South Lyon. She was preceded in death by her husband Clyde Hogan on May 12, 1986. In addition to her four beloved children, she is survived by 13 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren and her sister, Lucille Danner of California. Visitation was held on Sunday, August 8th. Funeral services were conducted on Tuesday, August 10th, at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, 122 W. Lake St., South Lyon. Online Guestbook: www.phillipsfuneral.com

OBITUARY POLICY
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Or fax to: 313-496-4968 Attn: HTWobits
For more information call: Char Wilson 586-286-7082 Liz Keiser 586-877-7538
The first seven "lilled" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$3 per line. You may place a photo of your loved one for an additional cost of \$25. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)
Deadline: Tuesday at 10 am for Thursday obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.



MAXINE 'MACIE' TAYLOR (NEE NIEPOTH)
Died at the age of 95 in Milford on Friday, August 13, 2010. She is survived by her loving daughter, Julie (Robert) Bernstein; four beloved grandsons, Joseph (Eileen) Bernstein, Ryan (Sarah) Bernstein, James Bernstein, Robb Bernstein; two granddaughters, Audrey and Nicholas; a dear sister-in-law, Mary Niepeth, and many beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, and wonderful friends. In addition to her beloved husband, Stanley Taylor (d.2005), Maxine was preceded in death by her sisters, Gretchen Tuohy (d.1993), Jana Michale (d.2001), Shirley (Tom) Allen (d.2010) and brother, George Niepeth (d.2010). A Memorial Service will be held at the Fort Street Presbyterian Church in Detroit at a date to be announced. Contributions may be made in Maxine's memory to the Detroit Puppets Guild, c/o Sue Ostrowski, 30084 Merrick Dr. Warren, Michigan 48092. For complete obituary detail and updated service arrangements, please visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com or phone Lynch & Sons Funeral Home in Milford at 248-694-6545.



M-m-m good
Art Institute of Michigan culinary academy student Andrew Meininger (above) does out bowls of chili during the school's open house on Aug. 7. Art Institute student Max Schnorrack (below left) uses a high-speed rotor to sculpt an ice display during the school's open house last Saturday. Art Institute of Michigan graphic design student Chyenne Dixon (below right) draws a city-scene on the sidewalk in front of the school off Twelve Mile. The open house (bottom) featured lots of food and craft demonstrations by its students.



Your Invitation to Worship
Brighton: LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH, HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL, SOUTH HILL CHURCH, S.C.C., ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA, WEST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH, HIGHLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH, NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, HIGHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation, NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN, NORTHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH, FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE, WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE, ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH.
Milford: CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, FIRST BAPTIST OF MILFORD, SOUTH HILL CHURCH, S.C.C., WEST HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH, MILFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
Farmington Hills: ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA.
Highland: HIGHLAND COMMUNITY CHURCH, NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, HIGHLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.
New Hudson: NEW HOPE - A Unitarian Universalist Congregation, NEW HUDSON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.
Northville: NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN, NORTHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH, FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE, WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE, ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH.
Livonia: FELLOWSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE, WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE, ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH.
White Lake: WHITE LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
Novi: GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL, FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, OAK POINTE CHURCH, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SOUTH LYON, CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH, FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH, BIBLE BELIEVERS CHURCH, FAMILY LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH A/B, ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, CROSSPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH.





All wet

Diego Moore, 6, leaps into the water of Walled Lake while attending Camp Lakeshore on Aug. 4.

**Drunk driver also caught with weed**

Novi police arrested a man at 1:55 a.m. on Aug. 14 for drunken driving and possession of marijuana after he was initially pulled over for speeding on I-96 near Novi Road. According to the police report, the vehicle was traveling 70 miles per hour in a 60 mph construction zone prior to being stopped. When the officer approached the car, the driver smelled strongly of intoxicants and he struggled getting his license out of his wallet. The man admitted to having two drinks but failed field sobriety tests. A preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of 12 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent. During a search of the vehicle, the officer found a metal grinder and tobacco tin that contained 4 grams of marijuana. The driver was taken to the Novi Police Department where he was issued a ticket for both charges and released when sober.

**Woman arrested for drunken driving**

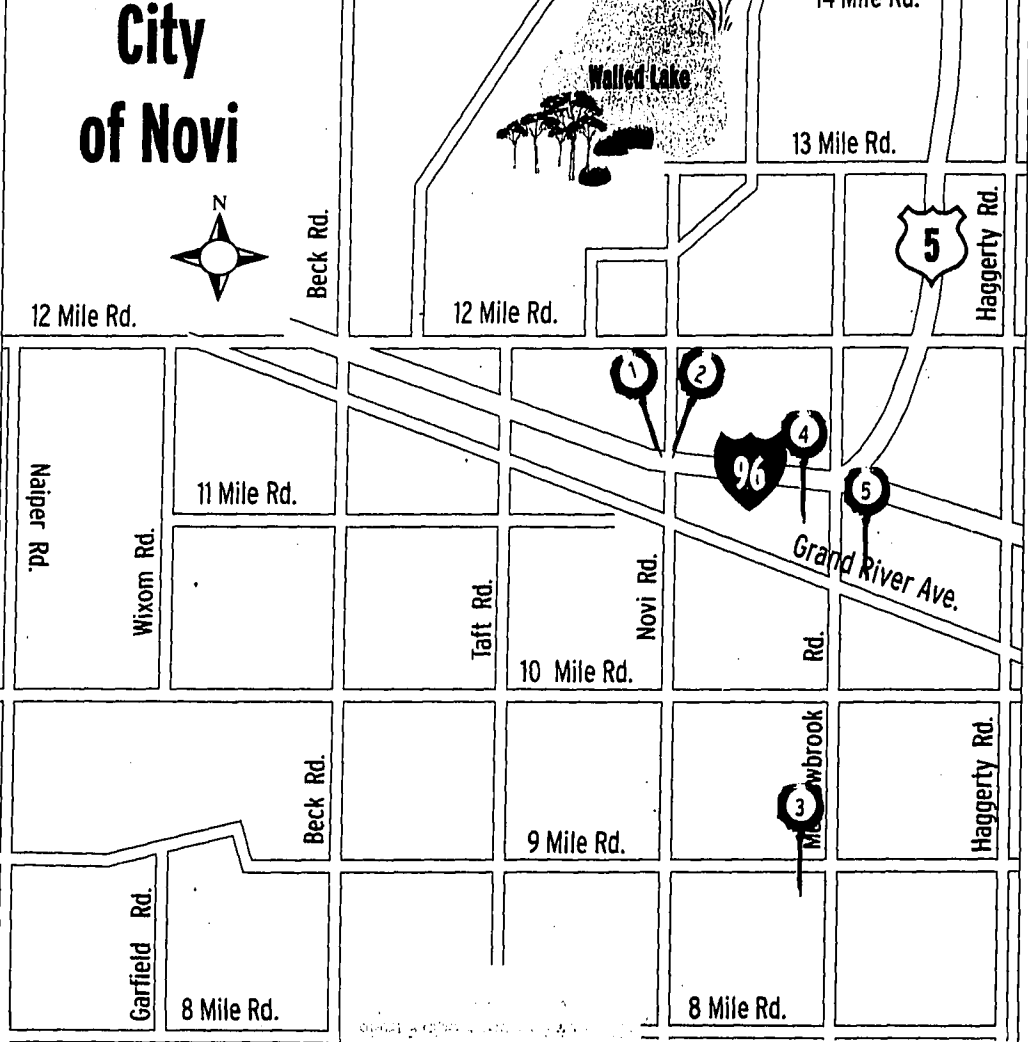
A Howell woman was arrested at 12:32 a.m. on Aug. 12 for drunken driving after she pulled in front of a marked police car and swerved across the center line several times on Novi Road near I-96. The officer had to brake sharply when the woman pulled her Saturn onto Novi Road and she was stopped on the entrance ramp to I-96. The officer could smell intoxicants when he approached the car and she admitted to have a beer at a local restaurant. 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. She was taken to the police department where she was issued a citation for operating while intoxicated and released when sober.

**Woman arrested for drunken driving**

Chase Drive were vandalized overnight on Aug. 11 by unknown suspects. In the Chase Drive incident, the homeowner awoke to the sound of running water outside and discovered two hoses stretched one with one running. He also found a statue that was not his on his mailbox as well as a plastic bird feeder. A large metal bench valued at \$600 was stolen from in front of the home as well as a doormat and garden hose. The Brookshire Street incident involved unknown suspects breaking two cement benches valued at \$300 and damage to a fruit tree. Police have no suspects in either incident.

**Two Cadillacs missing wheels**

A pair of Cadillac Escalades had the rear two tires removed from them by an unknown suspect between Aug. 5-8 while they were parked in the lot of the Cadillac dealership on Grand River Avenue and Meadowbrook. According to the police report, the SUVs were backed up near the grass on the east side of the lot and a bottle-style jack was used to elevate the vehicles. A customer noticed the theft and reported it to an employee. Police have no suspects at this time.



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Map showing location near I-96 and Grand River Ave.

**NORTHVILLE / NOVI CHURCH EVENTS**

**Submitt:** Send calendar submissions via e-mail to cstone@gannett.com by fax to (248) 685-2892 or by mail to Church Events/Novi/Novi, 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon, MI 48176. 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, 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: 2260 Haggerty Road, north of Eight Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 349-7600 or visit dcnazarene.org  
**Experiencing God Study**  
Date: begins Aug. 29  
**Details:** A 12-week study by Henry and Richard Blackaby and Claude King. It focuses on deepening one's relationship with God by knowing and doing God's will. Each week there are five lessons to be completed on your own, followed by participation in a small group discussion. Cost for workbook is \$12.  
Contact: (248) 349-7600

**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 World

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, Outing, Adult Classes, Youth Blast  
**Thursday Schedule:** 6 a.m. Men of Purpose Prayer Group; 7 p.m. Tae Kwon Do  
**Women of the World**  
Time/Date: 9:25-11:35 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.newhopecenter.org  
**Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross**  
Location: 40700 W. 10 Mile Road  
Contact: (248) 427-1175 or churchoftheholycross.com  
**Sunday Worship:** 7:45 a.m., 10 a.m.  
**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 faithcommunitynovi.org  
**Sunday Worship:** 10 a.m.  
**First Baptist Church of Northville**  
Location: 217 N. Wing  
Contact: (248) 348-1020  
**Sunday School:** 10:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.  
**Sunday Worship:** 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesdays  
**Men's Bible Study:** 9 a.m. first Saturday of every month

**First Baptist Church of Novi-Faith 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**  
Time: 9:30, 11 a.m.  
**Walking in the Park**  
Time/Date: 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

**Single Place Ministries**  
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. social time; 7:45 p.m. opening; 8-9 p.m. program, every Thursday.  
**Details:** Informative and entertaining programs of interest to singles; \$5 per person. Check Web site for details single-place.org.

**18th Annual Sharing the Gift Fine Art Show**  
Oct. 1-8  
**Details:** The juror will be MaryAnn Wilkinson, a scholar and curator and a Northville resident. Entry forms are available at the church at 200 E. Main St., Northville or by calling the church. Deadline for entry is Sept. 17.

**First United Methodist Church of Northville**  
**A Stephen Ministry Church**  
Location: 777 W. 8 Mile Road at Taft Rd.  
Contact: (248) 349-1144 or www.umcnorthville.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  
**Logo 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 e-mail hwallas@umcnorthville.org



"Kiss Me, Kate"

Northville's Susan Behrens and Dr. Scott Behrens are part of the cast of the Village Theater's "Kiss Me, Kate", the latest presentation from the Spotlight Players. "Cole Porter is one of those songwriters whose work you know without realizing it," said director Barbara Bloom. "He's just everywhere, and his magnificent lyrical powers are in full command for this, his most successful musical. Whether quipping on the Bard or, fittingly, commenting on the heat, Porter manages to be sophisticated, affectionate and biting all at once." Performances are Sept. 17-19 and 24-26 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Rd., Corner of Ridge and Cherry Hill Rds., Canton. The Village Theater has free parking, is handicap accessible and has a concession stand. For tickets, call (734) 394-5300 or 734-394-5460 or go online at www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

**Novi/Northville**

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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.

NOVI NEWS Online at hometownlife.com
Cal Stone, Community Editor
Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor
Grace Perry, Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

Next governor 2010 race needs focus, civility

Businesses in Michigan and around the country don't need another reason to doubt the wisdom of locating here. Voters, beleaguered by the state's economy, and desperate for solutions to long-term budget challenges, don't need distractions from serious issues in the fall campaign. So let's all agree on this: The best thing that Democrat Virg Bernero and Republican Rick Snyder can do during the weeks leading up to the Nov. 2 election is engage in a high-minded, civil debate of their ideas for Michigan's future.

There are clear differences to be discussed and explained. But Michigan doesn't need a shrill and nasty campaign that serves mainly to deepen such well-known divisions as pro-life vs. pro-choice, business vs. labor, Main Street vs. Wall Street — and ends up guaranteeing the next governor will do about as well as the last one. That will send a "go away" signal to business and a "tune out" message to voters, who will once again see their election choice as the lesser of two evils. Instead, Michigan needs a vigorous, extensive debate that will serve to identify the candidate who will work best on behalf of the state's varied interests, keeping partisan rancor in sufficient check. These serious times call for an adult approach, not playground name-calling and midnight TP parties.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Why do you stay fit? (Asked at fitness boot camp at the Sports Club of Novi.)

Four photos of individuals with quotes about why they stay fit. Quotes include: "So I don't get fat. And I just like to feel good about myself.", "I think it's a lifestyle and you have to follow it to stay healthy the rest of your life.", "My reason is so that I can get more out of my day, be a better husband and father and a better trainer to my clients.", "I'm 51, and my father had heart disease — and I don't right now — so the more physically fit I am, the better I'll be. I love it!"

LETTERS

Novi Palooza thanks: As it was pointed out in the editorial last week, a festival can't be successful without the support of the entire community. We were very encouraged by the start that we had for this first-time event and look forward to getting all community service groups and other members of the Novi and surrounding community to participate for next year.

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: rstone@gannett.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.

online at hometownlife.com

CALENDAR

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 rstone@gannett.com...

LOCAL EVENTS

Metropolitan Single Professionals Dance and Mingle: Time/Date: 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday, Aug 20. Location: Diamond Center at Rock Financial Showplace.

Summer Sidewalk Music Series: Time/Date: 4-7 p.m. Saturdays June-Aug. Aug. 21: Billy Brandt & Sara Yerrin; Aug. 28: Big Boss Trio featuring Barb Payton.

Sunset Jazz @ Fuerst Park: Time/Date: 7:30-9 p.m. first Wednesday. Location: Fuerst Park, southeast corner of Taft and 10 Mile roads.

Free Varicose Vein Screening at Providence Park Hospital in Novi: Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25.



Visit to the park: Jared Boyd, center, plays soccer with his daughter Collette, 3, as his son Jaeken, waits in his stroller - at Novi Lakeshore Park on Aug. 13.

Location: The Providence Park Outpatient Center is located at 4760 Grand River Avenue at Beck Road. Enter the campus off of Grand River Avenue and come to the main entrance of the Outpatient Center.

Rock Financial Showplace: Location: 4600 Grand River Avenue, Novi. Contact: (248) 348-5600. Michigan Antique Arms Show: Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday.

Michigan Gun & Knife Show: Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25. Details: Admission \$6. Anyone under 18 years must be with a responsible adult to attend this show.

inspire and encourage individuals to embrace a life of health, beauty, wellness and fitness. The Health, Beauty & Fitness Expo allows exhibitors and sponsors the opportunity to exhibit and promote to a large segment of the population.

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.

American Legion Post 19 Monthly Meeting: Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. third Tuesdays. Location: Rock Financial Showplace, Grand River Avenue between Taft and Beck roads.

MSU Extension: Location: MSU Extension Tollgate Education Center, 2815 Meadowbrook Rd. Novi. Contact: (248) 858-0887.

Evening in the Gardens - Putting Your Garden to Bed the Right Way! Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 31.

60% OFF CABINETS FREE TAX FREE DELIVERY. Expires Sept. 11th. SEGHU RENOVATIONS. WWW.SEGHU.NET. 440 N. LAFAYETTE, SOUTH LYON 248.437.2454

GUEST COLUMN

Local government needs to reform, restructure to meet modern-day needs

Maintaining Michigan's government structure as though nothing has changed, when everything has changed, is pure insanity — or Pure Michigan. Too much of our limited tax resources are invested in propping up the past rather than investing in our future. We are witnessing the beginnings of success for GM, Ford, Chrysler and other corporations after they accepted their new reality, restructured and reorganized for the unpredictable global economy. Have we seen the same degree of change in government?

low air into a government bureaucracy that sucks the life out of our ability to grow and prosper. It is past time for Michigan to consider radical change and begin acting to reorganize school districts, the state and local units of government. This involves streamlining, sharing services/resources and consolidating school districts and local government units to help redirect limited public resources and promote the region and state for economic development and job creation.

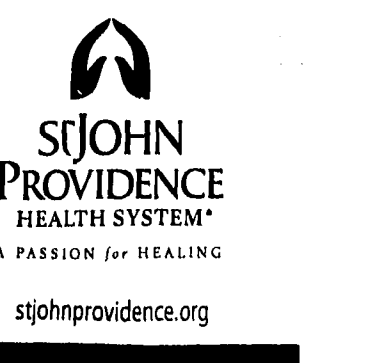
The father of power politics, Niccolò Machiavelli, captured the essence of the wrote to unseat the status quo when he wrote in 1532, "There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things."

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Choose to live well, choose a primary care doctor. Call 866-501-DOCS to find physicians. St. John Providence Health System advertisement featuring photos of doctors and patients.

Passion and expertise don't often go hand-in-hand, but for our primary care physicians, these are everyday tools of the trade. They provide compassionate and knowledgeable care to help you maintain good health.

Individual doctor profiles: Raveend Thabalingam, M.D., Michael Montico, M.D., Carrie Leff, D.O.



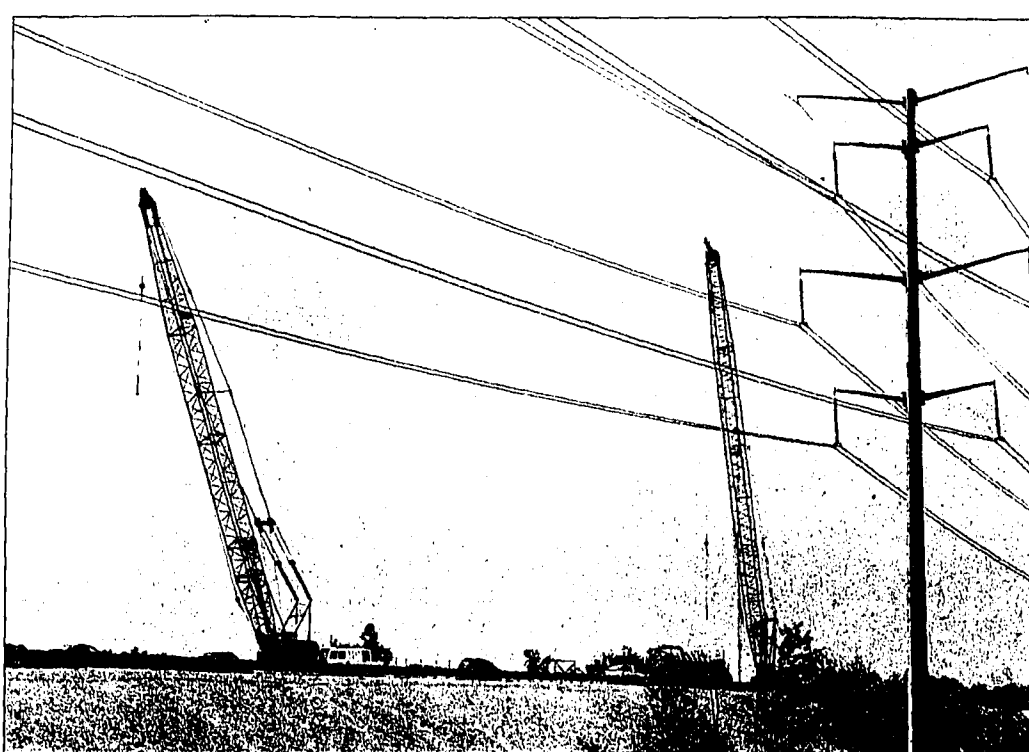


**CALENDAR**  
FROM PAGE A11

ing fresh and tasty produce, gorgeous plants and flowers, yummy baked goods, honey and jam, sensational crafts and works of art. Presented by the Novi Chamber of Commerce, Bright House Networks and the Toasted Oak Grill. Face painting and artisans. List of vendors available at [www.novifarmers-market.com](http://www.novifarmers-market.com).

**August 22 Market Day featuring:** Asian vegetables, sweet corn, scalions, cucumbers, green beans, eggplant, parsley, basil, bunch onions, cherry tomatoes, potatoes, lettuce, rhubarb, spinach, broccoli, radishes, turnips, mushrooms, strawberries, cherries, raspberries, blueberries, plums, peaches, cheese, fresh eggs, bedding plants, statice, flower baskets, herbs, baked goods, coffee, jams, sandwiches, and other concessions

**Entertainment:** Tola - Wind Synthesizer  
**Business to Business Breakfast**  
Time/Date: 8-9:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 26  
Location: Courtyard by Marriott, 3525 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills  
Details: Networking and a light breakfast; \$5 payable at door.  
**Metro Novi BNI**  
Time/Date: 7:30 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 provid-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**More construction**

Two cranes tower over I96 near Novi Rd. on Aug. 13 as work continues on replacing a bridge of the highway over a set of CSX rail lines. The work is to be completed in Nov. of this year.

ing bona fide referrals to each other. Members learn how to create and refine an "elevator speech," develop a broad network of other business professionals in the community and receive training/education on networking more efficiently. Guests are invited to attend free of charge. Continental breakfast provided.

**Novi Toastmasters Club**  
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. every first and third Tuesday

**Novi Rotary Club**  
Time/Date: Noon every Thursday  
Location: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road  
Details: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check Web site for speaker information; novirota.org.

**NIGHTLIFE**  
Andiamo Novi / Dirty Martini Lounge / Andiamo Theater

**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 leadership skills. Our members also have fun while building confidence in day-to-day communications and mentoring toward professional and personal excellence. Guests are welcome - and bring a friend. Visit [www.novirotary.org](http://www.novirotary.org).  
**Contact:** Linda Kreuter at PR@novirotary.org

**Novi Writers' Group**  
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Aug. 28  
Details: Writers' groups can be a great way to make connections in the writing and publishing world and to get critiques that will improve your skills as a writer. Come to the Library for an inspirational environment where you can create and share ideas. This group is facilitated by local writer, Kathy Mutch. Please Register.  
**Spelling Bee**  
Time/Date: 3-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 31  
Details: Participate in The Novi Library's third annual spelling bee for students going into grades 3-5

**Location:** 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi  
**Contact:** (248) 348-3838  
**Liquor Store**  
Location: Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk, 44325 Twelve Mile Road, Novi  
**Contact:** (248) 305.8135  
**Mbargo**  
Location: Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk, 44325 Twelve Mile Road, Novi  
**Contact:** (248) 374-3420  
**Bar Louie**  
Location: Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk, 44375 12 Mile Road, Novi  
**Contact:** (248) 662-1100  
**The Grapevine of Novi**  
Location: 43155 Market Street, Novi  
**Contact:** (248) 344-4044; [www.thegrapevineofnovi.com](http://www.thegrapevineofnovi.com)  
**Live blues Fridays and Saturdays:** 8:30-midnight  
Aug. 20 - Greg Nagy  
Aug. 21 - Okie Dokie Stompers  
**The Post Bar**  
Location: 42875 Grand River Avenue, Novi  
**Contact:** (248) 465-9600  
Wednesdays: WYLD! Wednesdays.

with DJ Joey "A" & mc Jevon Hollywood  
**Thursdays:** DJ Tommy Holiday  
**Fridays:** Famous Friday with DJ iMix & mc Jevon Hollywood  
**Mixx Lounge**  
Location: 43155 Main Street, Novi  
**Contact:** (248) 347-6499 or [mixx-novi.com](http://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.novilibrary.org](http://www.novilibrary.org)  
**Story Times:** Please see the Library website or story time brochure for details.  
**Please note that the Novi Public Library will be closed Saturday, September 4 - Monday, Sept. 6 in celebration of the Labor Day holiday.**

**Five communities united by one book!** Join the Great Read by reserving your copy of *Annie's Ghosts* by Steve Luxenberg and registering for a great variety of related events at the Novi, Northville, Lyon Township, Salem-South Lyon Township, and Wixom libraries. See our website for more details!  
**Story Times:** Please see the Library website or story time brochure for details.  
**Novi Writers' Group**  
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Aug. 28  
Details: Writers' groups can be a great way to make connections in the writing and publishing world and to get critiques that will improve your skills as a writer. Come to the Library for an inspirational environment where you can create and share ideas. This group is facilitated by local writer, Kathy Mutch. Please Register.  
**Spelling Bee**  
Time/Date: 3-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 31  
Details: Participate in The Novi Library's third annual spelling bee for students going into grades 3-5

**Walled Lake City Library**  
Location: 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake  
Phone: (248) 624-3772  
**EDUCATION**  
**Novi Community Education**  
Contact: (248) 449-1206  
Web: [www.novi.k12.mi.us/district/communityeducation](http://www.novi.k12.mi.us/district/communityeducation)  
**SENIORS**  
**Novi Senior Center**  
Location: 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi  
**Contact:** (248) 347-0414

**Reform will help improve student performance using existing resources**

As a former educator myself, I recognize that education reform must focus on the student in collaboration with informed parents and competent teachers. With the state's dropout age increasing from 16 to 18, it is more important than ever to enact my legislation to give struggling students the assistance they need for success in school and economic independence.



Nancy Cassis

Approved by the Senate in July, my reform provides a model approach and structure without a mandate to establish key benchmarks for grade-level achievement and strongly encourages evaluation, intervention and programs in the state's lowest-performing 5 percent of public schools. Senate Bill 1284 builds on my SAVE the Children initiative, which allows intermediate school

districts to develop model early intervention programs for children in kindergarten through third grade. While struggling students will be helped more by the landmark reforms we enacted in January than any one-time federal money boost, the reforms were missing a systematic program to recognize students starting to struggle, intervene early and follow them to ensure they succeed. My legislation will put in place a proven plan to identify student weaknesses and work to remediate them in a comprehensive manner. Understanding that kids

start to struggle early on, programs like SAVE have actually reduced costs and improved student academic performance at the same time. All this can be accomplished within the framework of existing school resources. We can help struggling students without federal assistance. Three months ago, Senate Republicans once again approved a balanced budget without raising taxes. Understanding the economic and fiscal realities our residents and the state are facing, we balanced an expected \$1.3 billion shortfall for Fiscal Year 2011 by cutting spending and making structural reforms. On July 1, the Legislature

approved a school aid budget to get certainty and additional dollars to our schools. While that was a positive step, the rest of the state budget remains unfinished. My Senate Republican colleagues and I have worked to reduce the size, scope and cost of government, because we know that continuing to spend like the state has in the past is unsustainable. The primary has passed. Senate Republicans have completed our budget plan. Now is the time for the House to act. I urge the House to stop stonewalling on the budget. They must pass the Senate plan or come to the negotiating table with a clear alternative - not balanced with revenues "To Be Determined." This isn't baseball. Going to extra innings is not an acceptable option.

These measures add to the list of actions that manufacturers are prohibited from taking, including imposing unreasonable performance standards or requiring unreasonable improvements to a dealership. The new laws were the result of extensive negotiations between auto dealers and manufacturers, so to ensure fairness - not tilt the playing field in anyone's direction. State Sen. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, represents the 15th Senate District, which includes the townships of Commerce, Highland, Holly, Lyon, Milford, Novi, Rose, West Bloomfield and White Lake, as well as the villages of Holly, Milford and Wolverine Lake and the cities of Novi, Northville (the Oakland County portion), Orchard Lake, South Lyon, Walled Lake and Wixom. Visit [www.SenatorNancyCassis.com](http://www.SenatorNancyCassis.com) or contact her toll free at 1-888-38-NANCY.

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**CITY OF NOVI**  
**NOTICE OF ADOPTION**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 10-32-01**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 10-32-01 to amend CHAPTER 31, "STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES", ARTICLE II, "STREET IMPROVEMENT" OF THE NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, IN ORDER TO ADD A NEW SECTION, "SECTION 31-20, ENTITLED "ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN STREETS," TO INCLUDE STANDARDS AND A PROCEDURE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF STREETS NOT GOVERNED BY OTHER CODE PROVISIONS.  
The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, August 9, 2010 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 46176 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., prevailing local time.  
Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk  
Published: August 19, 2010

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# Novi resident hopes to 'Keep Michigan Working'

BY NATHAN MUELLER  
STAFF WRITER

Novi resident Jacob Brown has seen firsthand the struggles of an unemployed worker as his wife has been applying for jobs for the last year with no success.

Then he sees the unemployment rate, which is hovering around 13 percent, and his stomach starts to tie up in knots.

"It's sad and sickening actually," he said. But instead of standing pat, Brown decided he wanted to make a difference -- not just

for his wife, but also for the more than 1.5 million unemployed Michigan residents.

That is where www.keepmichiganworking.com comes in. The newly-created Keep Michigan Working website features more than 45,000 Michigan-specific job openings, as well as jobs all across the United States, pulling postings from various other websites.

More importantly, Brown said, it features more than just jobs. "Originally I created it as a job search site but I want it to be more than CareerBuilder or

Monster," he said. "I want it to be something for people who don't know how to write resumes or need job training. It's intended to help those people who are not up to knowledge on what they need to do to find a job."

He said there is a misconception that businesses are not hiring, but the reality is that people lack training or their resumes are not up to par.

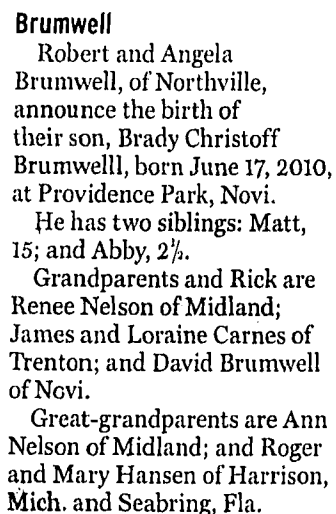
Brown, who owns his own company called Jacob Brown Designs, plans to have blog writers and resume professionals work on those areas of the site, and has even created a

Keep Michigan Working page on the popular social networking site Facebook.

The website was launched two weeks ago and Brown said it has "taken off like a firecracker." Job seekers and employers have been contacting him daily and eventually he would like to apply for a grant and hire his own developers and supply jobs himself.

He does not plan to turn a profit off the site, even though he will be charging advertisers and employers to post jobs.

"I just want to help people find jobs," he said.



**Brumwell**  
Robert and Angela Brumwell, of Northville, announce the birth of their son, Brady Christoff Brumwell, born June 17, 2010, at Providence Park, Novi. He has two siblings: Matt, 15; and Abby, 2%. Grandparents and Rick are Renee Nelson of Midland; James and Loraine Carnes of Trenton; and David Brumwell of Novi. Great-grandparents are Ann Nelson of Midland; and Roger and Mary Hansen of Harrison, Mich. and Seabring, Fla.

ANNOUNCEMENT



**The Medical Marijuana Clinic**  
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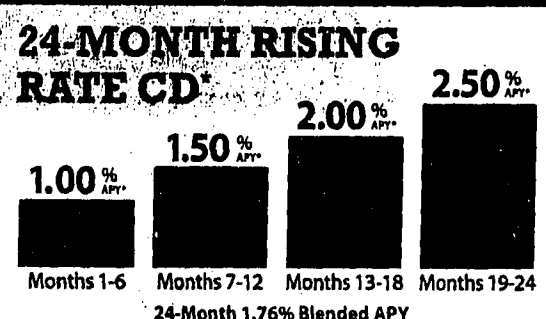
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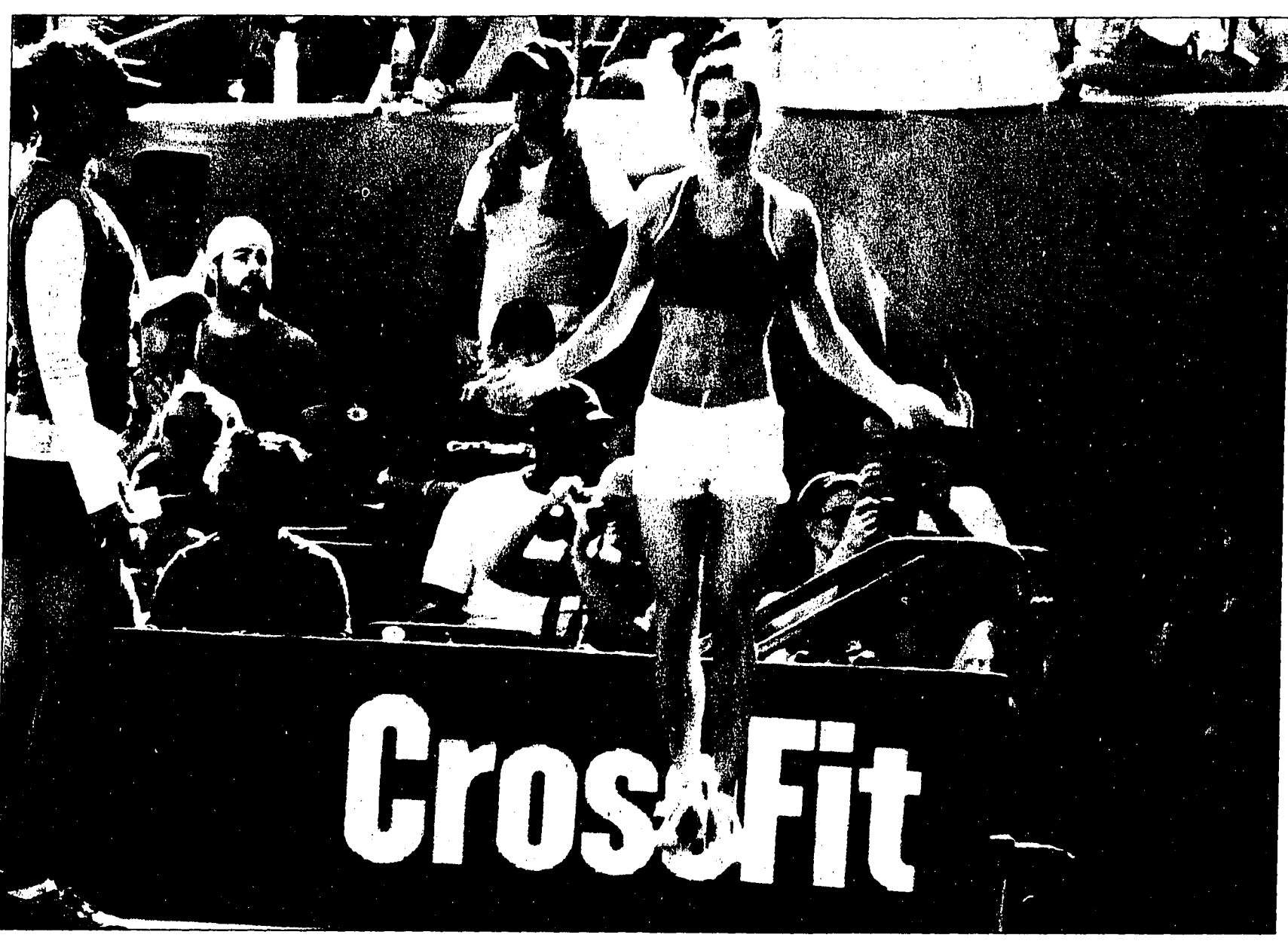
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SECTION B (NRNN) **SPORTS** hometownlife.com  
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CrossFit has made quite the impact on Julie Foucher, and vice versa. Foucher competed just last month in the fourth annual CrossFit Games in Los Angeles, Calif. There, she finished fifth overall in the individual division.

**Julie Foucher takes fifth at CrossFit Games**  
Northville graduate, former gymnast finds niche with CrossFit

BY SAM EGGLESTON CORRESPONDENT

It's hard to believe Julie Foucher ever had trouble finding ways to stay in shape. The former Northville-Novu Wild "Stangs gymnastics standout once dominated at the high school athletic level. Her grace and ability earned her first-place medals year after year and marked her as one of the best gymnasts in the state.

But, like many high school athletes, Foucher found herself without a sport when she graduated and headed to the University of Michigan to study biomedical engineering.

"Since high school, I had been struggling to motivate myself to work out," Foucher admits. "I'd go to the gym and hop on the treadmill or elliptical and then visit a few of the weight machines before getting bored and abandoning my workout."

Without the "community aspect" of high school sports and a program laid out for her to practice with, Foucher had difficulty finding her motivation. And then she discovered CrossFit, a strength and conditioning fitness methodology that promotes broad and general overall fitness and combines weightlifting, sprinting and gymnastics into a series of events.

"When I heard about CrossFit about a year and a half ago, I thought it was too good to be true—it was exactly what I had been looking for since quit-

**SPORTS BRIEFS**

**Novi all-sports passes**

The Novi Athletic Boosters organization has announced that all-sports passes are available for the 2010-11 school year.

Passes provide entry into all Novi High School and Novi Middle School home sporting events, excluding tournaments, invitational events and play-off games. Prices, which remain the same as last year, are \$60 for an individual pass and \$180 for a family pass.

Proceeds from the sale of all-sports passes benefit Novi Athletic Boosters, a nonprofit fund-raising organization with the sole purpose of supporting all sports programs at Novi High School and Novi Middle School. Fans also have the option of paying regular gate admission rates—\$5 for high school events and \$3 for adults attending middle school events.

Purchasing all-sports passes from the booster organization ensures that revenue generated is used to directly support Novi athletic programs.

To download the pass order form, go to the Novi Community Schools web site at [www.novi.k12.mi.us](http://www.novi.k12.mi.us), click on the Athletic Department Page and follow the link to the form. For those who had passes last year, please keep your cards so they can be reactivated.

**Meads Mill football**

A parents' meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Aug. 19 on the football field bleachers for Meads Mill Middle School football, which starts Aug. 23. Practices begin at 3:30 p.m. and end at 5:30 p.m.

Volunteer coaches are needed for the Patriot program. All volunteers must submit a background check through Northville Public Schools.

**Sports physicals**

Students participating in athletics are required to have a MHSAA Physical on file before they will be allowed to participate with any team, including tryouts. Please see below for informational meeting times/locations for each of the sports.

- \* Cheerleading (7th and 8th grade girls): Information meeting at 5 p.m., Aug. 30 in the forum. Students trying out for the cheerleading team must attend two clinics to learn try-out materials. The clinics will be held at Hillside cafeteria from 3:15-4:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 2 and Tuesday, Sept. 7.
- \* Tryouts will be held 3:30-5 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 8 in the forum.
- \* For more information please contact Mrs. Watts at [wattsan@northville.k12.mi.us](mailto:wattsan@northville.k12.mi.us).
- \* Cross Country (7th and 8th grade): Information meeting at 6 p.m., Aug. 30 in the media center.
- \* 7th & 8th Grade Football: Informational meeting at 6 p.m., Aug. 30 in the forum.
- \* Girls Volleyball (7th and 8th grade): Information meeting at 5 p.m., Aug. 30 in the media center. For information on volleyball clinics run through Northville Schools, please visit [www.northvillevolleyball.com](http://www.northvillevolleyball.com)

**Local netminder puts in time for college career**  
Duquette backstops Wolves to u-18 title

BY CHRIS JACKETT CORRESPONDENT

Novi's Tom Duquette is your average teen athlete, concerned more with honing his game than anything. However, Duquette's game is already a bit ahead of the curve.

The soon-to-be 18 year old had an eventful summer, graduating from Novi High School and earning the Most Valuable Goalkeeper award as his Michigan Wolves premier soccer team won the under-18 MSYSA State Cup in June.

An All-Area first-team and second-team All-State stand-out, Duquette is one of the state's premier goalkeepers. It all started with Novi Parks and Recreation when he was 5, and he hopes it will continue on to college ball after another season in club soccer.

"I'm going to play one more year of club soccer and then try to play college soccer," Duquette said. "I'm basically trying to use club soccer to pay for college."

Starting with the Parks and Recreation Department for a few years, Duquette joined the Novi Jaguars' program in fourth grade for three years before he joined the u-12 Wolves.

Duquette wasn't always a goalkeeper, either. He was a youth forward for several years before making the jump with the u-9 Jaguars.

"There was a game and the goalie who was playing got hurt and the coach asked for volunteers and I raised my hand," Duquette said. "All three years I played field. When I got to the Wolves, I stopped playing field. I liked the pressure, I guess."

Duquette split his time between the pipes for four years before he dedicated himself solely to goalkeeping as a u-13 player.

"I had one goalkeeper coach that made me who I am today," Duquette said of former Jaguars coach George Tomasso, who now helps operate Five Star Goalkeeping and coaches Canton's girls soccer team.

The Wolves' Brian O'Shea, a former Detroit Rockers player and two-time All-American at Schoolcraft College, has been instrumental to Duquette's development since he joined the premier Wolves club.

"It definitely taught me the

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**CROSSFIT**  
FROM PAGE B1

tion, Foucher had to place in the top 20 in the sectional tournament in March and in the top three in the regional competition in May.

"I really had no expectations going into the competition season, and I surprised myself at each qualifier and at the games," she said. "I just wanted to do my best in each workout and have fun with it."

Foucher credits her performances to the training of Doug Chapman, who owns HyperFit USA.

"He has a lot of experience with CrossFit, and competitive athletics, so he really knows the ins and outs of preparing an athlete for the CrossFit Games," Foucher said. "I decided last September that I wanted to train for competition along with a couple other people, and from there on out I religiously followed the workouts Doug programmed for us. He somehow has a way of knowing how to push you just to the edge of your limit, making you do things you didn't think you were capable of."

Leading up to the games, Foucher trained five or six days per week and there were periods where she would be at the gym more than once per day doing multiple workouts with a rest in between. She ran into some difficulty after landing a summer internship at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

She worked out at CrossFit Bethesda, a local affiliate there, and had to force herself to train away from her familiar environment and her coach, though she was able to push through.

Foucher said reaching her goals with CrossFit are rather easy for her.

"My number one goal as a CrossFit athlete is to have fun," she said. "That's the reason why I do CrossFit in the first place. I've always loved working out and pushing the limits of my body, and CrossFit allows me to do that at a level I couldn't reach in any other environment."

In addition, CrossFit gives Foucher the chance to compete again, something she has always thrived at.

"This year I've realized exactly how much I've missed



"Anyone who is serious about improving their level of health and fitness should consider CrossFit," said Julie Foucher. "Regardless of whether you are a well-seasoned athlete or have never worked out a day in your life, you will benefit greatly from the program."

the thrill of competing in high school sports," she said. "I want to keep training hard, improving and competing as long I am able to, but when the time comes that I can no longer train at this level I know I'll still be doing CrossFit and reaping its benefits for many, many years. While the competition aspect is a lot of fun, it is sort of an added benefit to the way CrossFit improves your life on a day-to-day basis."

And while this season is behind her and Foucher is "taking it easy and starting to think about training for next year," she urges others to consider taking up the CrossFit lifestyle. You don't even have to have been a former standout high school athlete, she said.

"Anyone who is serious about improving their level of health and fitness should consider CrossFit," she said. "Regardless of whether you are a well-seasoned athlete or have never worked out a day in your life, you will benefit greatly from the program."

Foucher added that it's about more than just becoming

physically fit that is a draw to the games and the training, but the way of life it promotes.

"I also love the lifestyle the CrossFit promotes—not only does CrossFit make you physically stronger, but mentally stronger as well," she concluded. "You get comfortable and you learn a lot about yourself as a person when you are in this state. CrossFit makes you better at all aspects of life with its functional movements and high-intensity."

For more information about CrossFit, check out their website at [www.crossfit.com](http://www.crossfit.com).

The site features resources about daily workouts, the CrossFit mission, techniques, nutrition and more.

"There is also a list of affiliates by state, many of which offer a free "intro session" where a brief workout can be done to get an idea of what CrossFit offers before deciding to join.

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



**KVBSA champs**

The 10U Northville Broncos, coached by Mike Granzotto, are the champions of 25 teams in the Kensington Valley Baseball & Softball Association (KVBSA) after winning a tournament at Ford Field in downtown Northville the weekend of July 9. They defeated Brighton Black Bulldogs with a 11-10 score in the championship game. This is their second year in a row as KVBSA champs. Pictured are (l to r, top row) John Lobbia, Mike Granzotto, Fred Stinebiser; (middle) Jack Sargent, Isaiah Papp, Cooper Smith, Stephen Ernst, Matt Stinebiser; (front) Johnny Lobbia, John Jeannotte, Nick Fegert, Matt Granzotto, Connor Ziparo and Jason Hesse.



**Undefeated**

The 10U Northville Bronco Girls Fastpitch softball team went to Frankenthum this past weekend and went undefeated (5-0) in the tournament to win the championship. Pictured (l to r, back) are coaches Dan Warford, Jennifer Childers (head coach), and Jeff Childers; (middle) Sarah Flegal, Sammie Niles, Rachel Holmes, Kayla Shaw, Allison Lobbia, Marissa Lobbia, Shelby Warford; (front) Makenzie Kamm, McKenna Hill, Sarah Hige and Kiera Borwick.



**Three-peat**

The 2010 Novi Black finished off their season with their third straight league championship with a win over Lakes Athletics on Aug. 1. Led by coaches Tim Rush and Rob Reilly and assistant coaches Jeff Laya, Jim Armaly and Ron Braugh, Novi went 18-0 in league play and finished 19-1 on their season. Congratulations to all of the players and coaches on a great season! Pictured are (l to r, back) Coach Jim Armaly, Coach Tim Rush, Matt Stefan, Zach Masserant, Tom Heffernan, Chris Leja, Justin Rush, Eric Lash, Austin Wertheimer, Derek Edwards, Nick Aprilliano, Coach Jeff Laya, Coach Rob Reilly; (front) Jon Armaly, Kiefer Haffey, Matt Brasili, Kyle Lash and Kevin Marson. Not pictured are Mark Braugh, Ryan Kobylarek and Coach Ron Braugh.

**DUQUETTE**

FROM PAGE B1

basic fundamental training that a coach can't teach you," Duquette said of having specific goalkeeping coaches.

The position-specific training has paid off for Duquette. The MVG award this year wasn't his first. He also won it as a u-13 netminder for a State Cup champion squad several years ago. He was also the starting goalie for a u-14 finals appearance and backup goalkeeper for a u-16 developmental academy national championship team backstopped by University of Michigan-bound Adam Grinwis of Grand Rapids.

"With the Wolves, you're playing with kids from all over the state. You can only go so far with the kids in your city," Duquette said, noting players came from Lansing, Tecumseh and the Saginaw Bay area to play with the Wolves each week. "One of the biggest differences was, in club, you only practice two days a week; while in high school you practice four days a week, plus you

have games."

Duquette pushed through this past fall season with a nagging groin injury sustained in an Oct. 8 game against Plymouth Salem. He said he wasn't able to take his own goal kicks as the Wildcats (12-6-5) advanced deep into the playoffs before getting eliminated by eventual state champion Birmingham Brother Rice (16-3-6) Oct. 30 in the state quarterfinals.

"Tommy Duquette's been our best player, the guy we can count on. In all my 12 years, this is the first time we've had a goalie carry us through state playoffs," coach Brian O'Leary said last fall after the Wildcats were eliminated by Brother Rice. "Tommy played so well this year that he allowed us to be in every game and then he brought it up to another level in the state tournament and we were able to ride his great play all the way to the state quarterfinals."

Duquette had 11 shutouts and a 0.65 goals against average with the Wildcats last fall. The first half of the year was high school and then I had

a month off and then club," Duquette said. "When you go from high school to winter, you have the training (for club indoors)."

With only three months of free time per year split up, Duquette spent plenty of time on the field with other All-Area first-team members Jon Bauer (Novi) and Doug Beason (Northville), who both played in the u-18 Wolves.

Duquette said he had coaches from Western Michigan University, Adrian College and Saginaw Valley State University approached him during the Wolves' recent play-off run.

Rather than head across the state to play soccer at one of those schools, Duquette plans to take classes at Oakland Community College this fall and play with the Vardar u-18 academy team.

"I played with the Wolves for seven years," Duquette said. "Academy is pretty much the top league you can play in."

Chris Jacketti is a freelance writer and former staff writer for the Novi News.

**STRICTLY BUSINESS**

Thursday, August 19, 2010 hometownlife.com

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

**Seniors have an active lifestyle at Abbey Park**

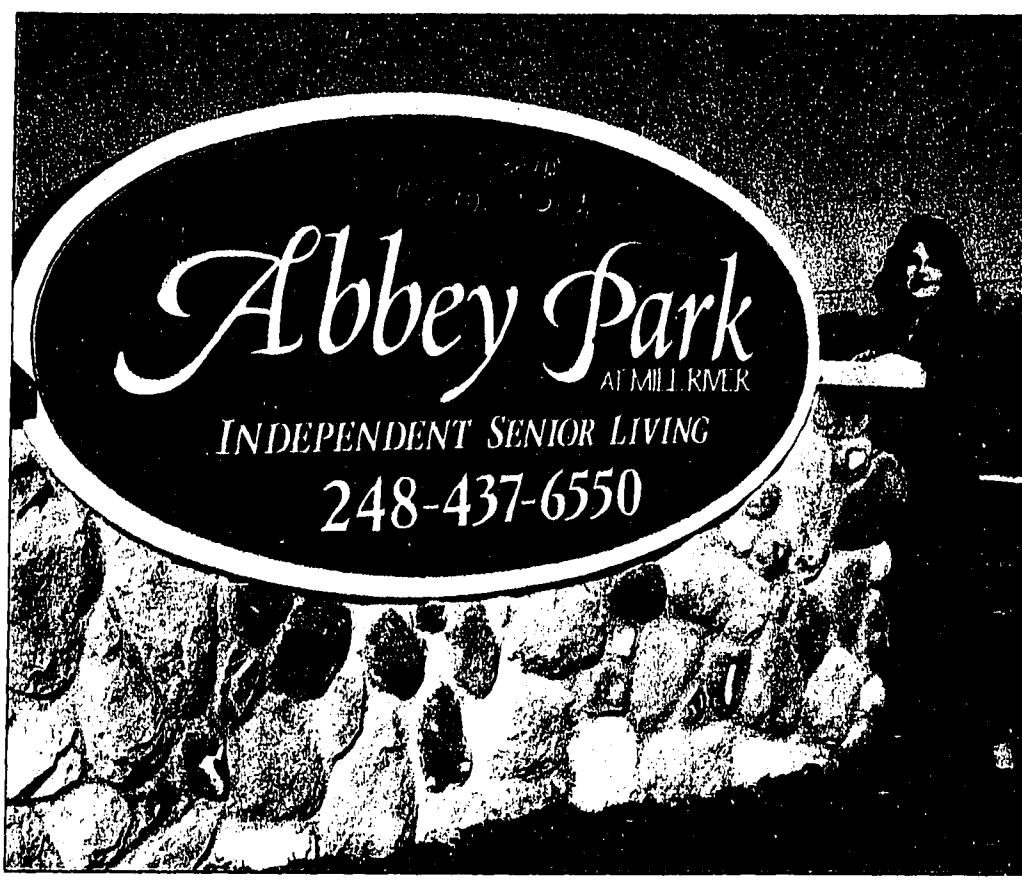
Herald: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

Tamra Ward: We are a new senior living community on Milford Road in Lyon Township, across the street from Coyote Golf Club. Our monthly rental fees include 24-hour medical monitoring, continental breakfast, your choice of lunch or dinner in our Grand Dining Room, heat, water, electricity, basic cable and a full range of activities including casino trips, Happy Hour, ice cream socials, church services, crafts and cards. We also include complimentary scheduled transportation, daily housekeeping and weekly laundry and cleaning services. Many of our veterans and their surviving spouses living here are currently receiving the Veterans Aid and Attendance benefit and receive reimbursement for their medical care and residential services.

The medical services offered here at Abbey Park can be tailored to meet the needs of our residents and in some instances, are covered by Medicare. Some of our senior residents live here without any contracted care, while others have 24-hour services. Within the community, we are served by a physician, podiatrist, audiologist, physical therapist, hairdresser, and a manicurist. We also have a library and a fitness center. Each week, we bring in live entertainment and have a full-time activity department and a calendar full of fun and entertaining activities for our residents. Life at Abbey Park is a like living in a 5-star hotel — except that we are very, very affordable.

Herald: How did you get started in this business?

Ward: I moved to South Lyon from Texas five years ago and took a job as the executive director of the Chamber of Commerce for the South Lyon Area. I volunteered to start a new Rotary club with one of our owners, Dr. Benjamin Stein. Lyon Area Rotary chartered in 2007 and I went



Tamra Ward is the administrator at Abbey Park at Mill River.

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daily basis. My residents also share their life experience with me and I learn something new every day.

Herald: What's the best reason to do business in the South Lyon area?

Ward: We are located just minutes away from shopping, great restaurants, libraries, golfing, the Huron Valley Trail and Kensington Metropark. At community events, I am constantly greeting the sons, daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of our residents. We're proud to be a community partner — and for many, we're part of the family. We host approximately 270 family members of our residents who visit on a regular basis.

Herald: How are things going lately?

Ward: Wonderful! After only 18 months of operation, we have 95 residents living with us and another 20 scheduled to move in with us during the next 60 days. Many of our residents have referred their friends, families have recommended us to other families and neighboring businesses continue to provide

referrals to our business on a daily basis.

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

Ward: After just 18 months, I could write a book. I work with a wonderful group of people who truly enjoy working with seniors. Our days are full of laughter, and as an added bonus — music, dancing, singing, great food, champagne brunch and ice cream socials. Mark Twain said it best: "Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind it, it doesn't matter."

**BUSINESS BRIEFS**

**Grede named Navistar Diamond Supplier for second consecutive year**

Grede Holdings LLC, manufacturer of cast, machined and assembled components for the transportation and industrial markets, was named a 2009 Navistar Diamond Supplier for exceeding performance expectations last year. Headquartered in Novi, Grede is one of 37 of Navistar's more than 1,200 suppliers and the only iron foundry to receive this distinction. This is the second straight year that Grede Holdings LLC has received this award.

"As a Diamond Supplier, Grede is among a very select group of Navistar suppliers in terms of supplier/customer collaboration," said Persio Lisboa, Navistar's chief procurement officer.

Grede Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Todd Heavin said the award reflects Grede's efforts to continuously improve the value the company provides its customers, from engineering through delivery. "We've worked diligently to streamline our operations, optimize quality and delivery, and meet our customers' expectations."

Grede manufactures components for Navistar's MaxForce diesel engines at its Menomonee Falls, Wis., machining operation and its casting facilities in Wauwatosa, Wis., Iron Mountain, Mich., and Biscoe, N.C. It also

**BAT assistance Sept. 30**

Novi's Business Assistance Team (BAT) continues to assist eligible small business located in Novi with their business practices from 8-9:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 30 at the Novi Civic Center.

The mission of BAT is to identify small and medium sized businesses within the Novi community that would benefit from the business and planning experience the team is able to offer.

The goal is to provide knowledge, guidance and useful tools for these businesses to utilize in order to maintain and grow their business in an effective and efficient way. There are no sales involved with this assistance.

The specific types of assistance the team can offer includes:

- Sounding board for potential ideas
- Reviewing existing business plans
- Marketing, advertising, (social media) public relation advice
- Networking within the community
- SBA financing/loan options

Please RSVP no later than Sept. 23 by contacting Sarah Marchioni at (248) 347-0580 or [smarchioni@cityofnovi.org](mailto:smarchioni@cityofnovi.org).

**Oakland County offering business workshops**

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance preparing budgets/calendars, or call (248) 858-0783.

**August Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan**

This workshop is for small business owners who are developing a plan to serve as their road map to success. Workshop participants will learn what elements are commonly found in effective plans and will work on developing each of these for their own business. Assistance in the process as well as information on resources will be provided.

Thursday, Aug. 19, 6-9 p.m. The fee is \$40, which includes all materials. No refunds.

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**HAVE A STORY IDEA?**

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Voice Mail: (248) 437-2011, ext. 237  
E-mail: [cstone@gannett.com](mailto:cstone@gannett.com)  
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**Interest rates drop below 5 percent for county's small businesses loans**

The Oakland County Business Finance Corporation is offering long-term, fixed rate financing for the purchase of commercial real estate at one of the lowest rates since the program began through the Small Business Association (SBA).

The SBA's lending partners, Certified Development Companies (CDCs) are busy working with small business borrowers who are taking advantage of this current low interest rate to purchase or build new facilities. Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said there may not be a better time for small businesses to get these historically low rates.

"A commercial loan below five percent is an incredible rate for a 20-year, fixed rate loan," Patterson said. "When you consider the drop in the price of commercial real estate and the inventory on the market now, small businesses have a wonderful opportunity to expand or buy their first building."

"I urge any business owner thinking about expanding to call their banker and ask about the SBA 504 program today. Our Business Finance Corp. is working aggressively with our bank partners, and we have money available for sound, small business real estate projects."

NADCO, the trade association for the nation's Certified Development Companies (CDCs), reports that the interest rate for a 20-year SBA 504 loan continued to fall to a low of 4.93 percent this month. The August bond sale to investors that funded SBA loans was sold at a rate of 3.52 percent. This low sale price resulted in an effective interest rate — including fees — of only

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For more information, please contact Cathy Rasegan at (248) 858-5101 or visit [http://www.oakgov.com/globaloakland/business\\_services/financing.html](http://www.oakgov.com/globaloakland/business_services/financing.html).

4.93 percent for borrowers this month. This interest rate is one of the lowest since the program began in 1996.

The Small Business Administration's 504 loan program provides long-term, fixed rate financing for commercial real estate, and has funded nearly \$60 billion in loans to growing small businesses over the past 24 years. Not only are the interest rates low right now, but one of the best aspects of an SBA 504 loan is the low down payment required by a borrower. The down payment is typically only 10 percent. CDCs across the country are busy helping small business borrowers who are taking advantage of these record low interest rates to purchase, build or expand their own facilities.

Recent loan data has shown that a large percentage of SBA 504 borrowers are professional practices. The greatest concentration of loans has been to physicians, dentists, veterinarians, lawyers and accountants.

"It's not surprising that accountants and lawyers recognize the benefits of SBA 504 loans, but it's gratifying to see so many professionals also realizing that owning their own building to fit their business occupancy costs is a very savvy financial move," said Chris Crawford, NADCO president. "More business owners would be wise to make similar investments."

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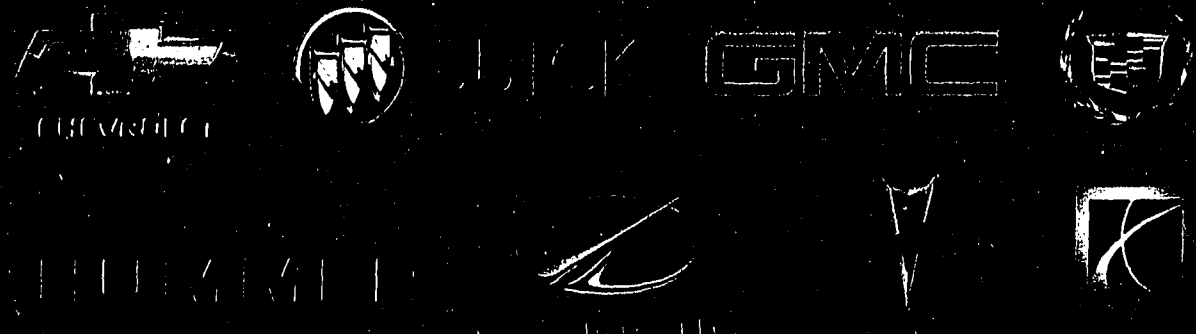
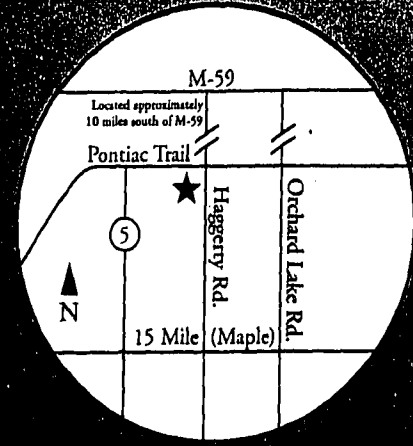
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