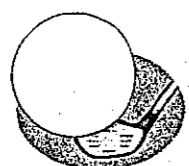


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THURSDAY
June 2, 2011

NOVI NEWS

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Number 2
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NOVI NOW
Wanted: Gardens for walk
If your garden, or that of a friend, has been blessed with a bounty of blooms and/or a bevy of vegetables, the Gardeners of Northville & Novi Garden Club would like to take a peak. The group will be treading down garden paths for the next few weeks in search of gardens that will be featured in the Clubs July 2012 Garden Walk.
If you are interested, please call Audrey Murphy at (248) 349-0376.

Summer Teen Center
Looking for some fun this summer? Students going into sixth-ninth grades can attend the Jeanne Clarke Summer Teen Center June 20-July 28 in the cafeteria at Novi High School. Hours are noon-5 Mondays-Thursdays.
Registration is from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 11 at the Novi Civic Center (Ten Mile Road, east of Taft Road), Phone (248) 347-0410 for cost and more information.

'The Last Five Years'
The Andiamo Novi Theatre brings the 2011 Off-Broadway Series to a close for the season with the hit musical "The Last Five Years." Performances run Wednesdays-Sundays through June 26. Tickets are now on sale.
Created by Jason Robert Brown, "The Last Five Years" is an emotionally powerful and intimate musical about two New Yorkers in their 20's who fall in and out of love over the course of five years. The show's unconventional structure consists of Cathy, the woman, telling her story backwards while Jamie, the man, tells his story chronologically; the two characters only meet once, at their wedding in the middle of the show. Brown won Drama Desk Awards for the music and the lyrics after the Off-Broadway premiere in 2002 starring Norbert Leo Butz and Sherie Rene Scott. The show has since been produced at almost every major regional theater in the US, and has been seen in Korea, Japan, the Philippines, Germany, Italy, Canada, and Spain.
Individual tickets may be purchased at the Andiamo Novi Theatre box office, by phone at (248) 348-4448 (theater box office) or 800-745-3000 (Ticketmaster) or on-line at www.ticketmaster.com. The Andiamo Novi Theatre is located at 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi.

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Weed control starting on Walled Lake

Effectiveness will determine schedule for second batch of treatments

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Weed control treatments on Walled Lake were set to begin Wednesday as the Walled Lake Improvement Board looks to improve conditions in the lake.

The board, which was created in 2008, approved the \$519,615 project last June. It is being funded by a five-year Special Assessment Roll that includes roughly 7,367 parcels in Novi

and Walled Lake. The city of Novi also contributed \$30,000 to the project.

"The outcome should be a noticeable decline in the amount of weeds in the lake," said Brian Coburn, secretary/treasurer of the board and city of Novi engineering manager.

Coburn said the board was getting complaints from people on the east side of the lake after weeds that were cut by boat propellers were washing up on their beaches.

The decision to move forward with the mechanical harvesting and herbicide treatment came from an engineering study done in November 2009.

Herbicide treatments in 30 acres of the lake were expected to take place Wednesday in the northwest area of the lake along the south central shore. People should stay out of the water for 24 hours following the treatments — signs will be posted — and the lake water should not be used for irrigation

of ornamental plants and gardens for two weeks.

The mechanical weed harvesting of 120 acres of the lake is scheduled for the week of June 13.

A second treatment and weed cutting is also expected later this year and will be scheduled after the board reviews the effectiveness of the first treatments.

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JOHN WEDDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hero's welcome

A group of veterans moves along the parade route during Monday's annual Memorial Day Parade down 10 Mile Road. For more photos from the parade, see A8.

Honoring a friend

Tennis teammates hosting charity tourney for Nathan Farooq

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

A pair of former Novi High School tennis teammates are doing their part to ensure the memory of their friend is not forgotten.

Novi graduate Kyle McGuire and high school junior Andrew Cho will be hosting the inaugural Nathan Farooq Memorial Open on June 11-12 to honor their friend who was killed on Jan. 25 when he was struck by a vehicle on Southfield Freeway.

Farooq was one of the school's most decorated tennis players, amassing a school record 98 wins in his career. He also received all-state honors in 2009 and made the semifinals of the state tournament his last three years.

McGuire, who has known Farooq since they were younger and played tennis with him for several years, said his death was "shocking and surprising," and he hopes the tournament helps everyone remember Farooq and "reminisce."

"I thought it would be a good way to honor him as well as bring everyone together and have fun," he said. "It was something we all shared a common bond about and it was something he cared so



Former Novi High School student and tennis player Nathan Farooq is being honored by his former teammates June 11-12 at the Inaugural Nathan Farooq Memorial Open.

much about as well."

The tennis tournament is open to only current and former Novi and Northville players, and 32 have already signed up. It also will be a competitive tournament, something Cho said Farooq would have wanted.

Tennis coach Jim Hanson

said at the time of Farooq's death that he was "one of the best doubles players" the school has ever had. He also said he was "highly respected" by his teammates and opponents.

"You couldn't ask for a

Please see **TOURNEY, A2**

Former Scout's training saves choking classmate

BY LONNIE HUHMAN
CORRESPONDENT

He was just going to wait for his girlfriend to get done with work and grab a bite to eat, but for Ryan Obarzanek what started out as a quick lunch soon turned into a life-saving situation.

A student at Michigan State University, Obarzanek was sitting at the cafeteria at Brody Hall earlier this spring. At a table by himself he began to notice a woman sitting at another table facing him begin to signal as



Obarzanek

though she was having some trouble.

"She was trying to signal for help and holding her throat," he recalled.

"At first I thought it might be an allergic reaction, but she stood up and made even more motions for help."

And that's what Obarzanek did.

Please see **CHOKING, A2**

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TOURNEY

better team player and teammate," he said. "He is one of the best competitors I have ever had in my 40 years of coaching."

"Nathan will always be part of our tennis program here at Novi."

There will be a moment of silence for Farooq at the beginning of the tournament and his parents also are expected to attend. Each player is paying \$20 to play, with that money being donated to the Andre Agassi Foundation for Education.

The public also is invited to attend.

Chid said while dealing with Farooq's death has been hard, he hopes this tournament becomes an annual event.

"We just want him to stay remembered," he said. "He was a really good person and I hope he will be remembered in the community."



Nathan Farooq holds the school record in tennis wins with 98 and was all-state in 2009. He was killed in January after being struck by a car on Southfield Freeway.



Fighting hunger

This past winter, Pepsi and Kroger teamed up to provide \$50,000 to Forgotten Harvest to help feed the Metro Detroit hungry. The donation was made possible through the purchase of Pepsi products at participating southeast Michigan Kroger stores from Jan. 10-March 27. Partnering with Forgotten Harvest since 2000, 76 Kroger stores in the tri-county area support the organization with food and monetary donations. Kroger delivered an estimated four million pounds of donated food to Forgotten Harvest in 2010. Operating 29 refrigerated vehicles six days per week to cover the 2,000 square miles metro Detroit area, Forgotten Harvest picks up approximately 75,000 pounds of food per day from 450 food donors. Pictured (from left) are Joel Phillips, Pepsi account representative for Kroger; Scott Henzi, vice president and general manager, Pepsi Beverages of Michigan; Rick Going, president of The Kroger Co. of Michigan; Russ Russell, chief development officer for Forgotten Harvest; Brandon Barrow, assistant advertising manager, Kroger.

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CHOKING

Back in Northville, he was a Boy Scout for Troop 717 and he became an Eagle Scout while attending Novi Catholic Central High School. As he looks back to that moment in the cafeteria, he remembers learning to do the Heimlich maneuver on a "test dummy" during scout summer camp.

His training then helped him through the following moments as he stood up and went over to Shanna Savage, a fellow student at Michigan State, and asked her if she needed help. She did. Past lessons, which included a refresher course at college, let him know these were classic symptoms of choking.

After spinning her around and he performed five back slaps to aid in dislodging the obstruction. This step is used before the abdominal thrusts. That did not work, so he did the Heimlich.

It worked as she spit out a piece of bluish-colored sushi. He said she then quickly moved away breaking down in tears, walking away. A couple of sweaty minutes for Obarzanek, he tried to calm down.

The woman soon came back to thank him; she was crying. "She thanked me and was very emotional," he said. "She said she had to call her mother and tell her. I understood why ... it was very intense."

Obarzanek's reaction to the crisis didn't surprise his old scout master, David Rabahy. "This is quite a thing for Ryan, and it says a lot about him," Rabahy said. "It's a great example of the importance of the training that's instilled in the scouts."

Ryan will be starting his senior year this fall at Michigan State University, majoring in kinesiology as a pre-med student.

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Volunteer help needed to Rescue the Rouge

Friends of the Rouge, a local non-profit organization dedicated to restoring the Rouge River in southeast Michigan, calls for volunteer help to rescue the Rouge. Thirty work sites are being coordinated in nineteen (19) communities across the Rouge River watershed on Saturday, June 4 and one activity taking place on Saturday, June 11.

The Friends group is celebrating their 25th year of Rouge Rescue and is pleased with the cleanup efforts over the past 24 years but warn the public should not become complacent.

Volunteers have made great strides in cleaning up the Rouge," said Cyndi Ross, River Restoration Program manager for the group. "We have seen tremendous improvements, but there is still work to be done."

Historically, the focus of Rouge Rescue was trash removal from dumpsters along the river. In the past decade or so, the focus of the event has shifted toward restoration activities, and volunteers work to stabilize eroding stream banks, plant native vegetation to reduce the impact of storm water on the river and educational activities to inform the public how their everyday activities affect water quality.

"Wouldn't it be great to be able to jump into a tube and float down the Middle Rouge from Northville to Dearborn on a hot summer day?" asked Ross. "If we all take corrective actions to improve the river, that dream may become a reality for our grandchildren and their children."

The problems facing the Rouge River today are more complicated than removing trash from dumpsites, albeit the need for cleaning up trash remains. The biggest impact to the river is pollutants carried by storm water and the quantity of rain water that is piped directly to the river to prevent flooding on streets and in neighborhoods. There are 1.5 million people living in the Rouge watershed, whose everyday activities impact the River.

What can watershed residents do? Become involved in cleaning and caring for the Rouge River on Saturday, June 4 and everyday thereafter.

More information, including a list of sites, can be found on the Friends of the Rouge website at www.friendsoftherouge.org or by calling (313) 792-9921.

Parenting time: Are courts biased on gender?

BY HENRY ALTON GUEST COLUMNIST

Parenting time is the legal term used in divorce for the specific schedule that each parent has with their children. Two recent studies conducted by Arizona State University raise some questions about whether or not the family courts are gender-biased in their awards of parenting time.

I recently wrote an article (May 13 edition of the Record) about the parenting time schedule that the Wayne County Circuit (Family) Court recently implemented. Effective this year, parents that have a judgment or order that specifies "reasonable parenting time" will be bound by the court's schedule. Wayne County Circuit Court Co-Parenting Plan. Interestingly, the Co-



Wendy Alton

both parents. Equal time with both mom and dad was preferred in these studies even in high-conflict situations. The participants of the study made mock decisions as a judge in custody disputes and overwhelmingly granted equal time to mom and dad. The studies support the general public view that family courts favor mom, and that perhaps the court should instead be giving equal time with the kids to both mom and dad.

The law in Michigan requires that parenting time states that "It is presumed to be in the best interests of a child for the child to have a strong relationship with both of his or her parents...parenting time shall be granted to a parent in a frequency, duration, and type reasonably calculated to promote a strong relationship." MCL 722.27a.

Many believe that this goes hand-in-hand with giving mom and dad equal time with their children. Many believe that the enforcement of cookie-cutter parenting time guidelines or even the Wayne County Co-Parenting Plan does not promote a strong relationship between the parents and their children.

It will be interesting to see how the courts respond to the growing public demand for equal parenting time, especially in light of recent parenting time guidelines that generally favor mom.

Wendy Alton is a Northville attorney and mediator with Faussone Bohm, LLP focusing on family law, which typically involves divorce, custody, support and probate. She can be reached at (248) 380-9976 or walton@fb-firm.com.

NOVI COMMUNITY 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 ctstone@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.

Light refreshments will be served from 6:30 to 7 p.m. followed by the lecture from 7-8 p.m. At the lecture series is free and open to the public.

Contact: Please RSVP to snoviblibrary@southlionslibrary.edu or (248) 675-0243

Evening in the Gardens - Creating Backyard Bird Habitats
Time/Date: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 9
Location: MSU Extension Tollgate Education Center, 2815 Meadowbrook Road, Novi
Details: Tim Nowicki, naturalist for Oakland County Parks, will lead you through the steps necessary to make your backyard a retreat for resident and migrant birds. You will learn some basic steps to developing a backyard habitat that will add new dimensions of color and activity when birds visit. Tim will also offer ideas on bird watching equipment, books and resources. Bring your binoculars and practice watching birds around the farm under Tim's watchful eye. The cost is \$20 per person.
Contact: For further details, call 248-858-0887, e-mail smithlin@oakgov.com or visit www.msue.msu.edu/oakland

LOCAL EVENTS

4th Annual Happy Feet for Happy Hearts Family Walk
Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, June 4
Location: Maybury State Park, Eight Mile Road west of Beck Road, Northville
Details: Leah's Happy Hearts is a local charity that raises funds for pediatric brain tumor research and awareness projects. It is named in memory of Leah James of Livonia who lost her battle with a brain tumor at the age of 5. The cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids with a light lunch, entertainment and many raffles.
Contact: www.leahshappyhearts.com

Media Replaced Advertising? How to Market in the Dynamic World of Social-Commerce
Time/Date: 6:15 p.m. Wednesday, June 8
Location: DoubleTree Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi
Details: Presentation by Kerry Barnett, president of FOURSIGHT Creative Group, 6:15 p.m. networking: 6:45 p.m. dinner meeting: \$16 per person: \$17 online through PayPal at www.abwa-novi.org
Contact: (248) 344-8900
Lecture: The State of the Michigan Economy
Time/Date: 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 9
Location: South University, 41555 W. Twelve Mile Road, Novi
Details: The first lecture in a new series will be given by Dr. Theodore Bolesma, an expert on economics.
Please see CALENDAR, A11

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Novi Meadows students fish for a cure

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Emily Kaley was only in preschool when best friend Leah James died from brain cancer at the age of 5.

It was something that was tough for Kaley to grasp at the time, but as she has gotten older, the now-sixth grader at Novi Meadows is doing her part to make sure Leah is remembered and others battling cancer get help.

"She was always smiling and laughing and I thought it was sad she died and I wanted to do something for her," Kaley said.

Kaley and many others have been doing something for Leah the last three years and will do so again on June 4 at the annual Happy Feet for Happy Hearts Walk at Maybury State Park in Northville to benefit the nonprofit Leah's Happy Hearts. The organization raises money for pediatric brain tumor research and promotes awareness.

"Her parents started this nonprofit as a way to keep her memory alive and be a way to bring smiles to other families and children going through similar situations," said Emily's mother Karen Kaley, who also sits on the board of



'The Guppy Girls' at Novi Meadows pose with the certificates given to them after the group raised nearly \$300 to donate to the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Cancer Center. Pictured back row from left: Anita Anzulova, Shradha Jadhav, Danielle Stewart; middle row: Gwen Baker, Rajdeep Kaur, Karen Xu, Karen Faisal, Nithisha Omkar; front: Emily Kaley.

directors for the organization. And Emily is doing her part of keeping Leah's memory alive by sharing her story with her classmates and spearheading a project dubbed "Guppies for Cancer" to raise money for the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Cancer Center.

Katherine Ellis, a teacher at Novi Meadows, said it all started when she brought three guppies into class for a topic the students would be discussing in the spring. When Kaley saw the guppies, she asked Ellis if they could sell them to students for a dona-

tion and give the money to the cancer center.

Joined by eight other girls — called "The Guppy Girls" by Ellis — Kaley presented their plan to the principal and leadership group at Meadows before they were able to proceed with the program. After getting their approval, the next task was getting their classmates to buy guppies — a task that turned out to be extremely



Novi Meadows sixth-grader Emily Kaley (center) stands with her teacher Katherine Ellis (left) and Medical Director of the Oncology Program at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Dr. Philip Stella after dropping off the money 'The Guppy Girls' raised through their program at the school.

successful. Shradha Jadhav, a member of the group, said they were inspired by Leah's story to help.

"We saw a video about Leah and she was always saying her heart was happy and it was sad to know she died," she said. "By doing this it showed us we could make a difference."

The Guppy Girls spent two weeks selling guppies to students — never having to buy additional guppies because they continued to reproduce — raising nearly \$300.

"We all know people who have cancer so it was very important to us," said Rajdeep Kaur. "It gives me a good feeling inside to have done this."

Ellis, who requires her students to complete five hours of community service, said the idea was completely kid-oriented and she was only a sounding board to support it.

"I really am in awe and humbled to be their teacher," she said. Several members of The Guppy Girls, which included Kaley, Jadhav, Kaur, Anita Anzulova, Gwen Baker, Karen Faisal, Nithisha Omkar, Danielle Stewart and Karen Xu, also plan on walking on June 4 to benefit Leah's Happy Hearts.

"It's joyful to be able to help people who are sick," Xu said. For more information about the walk, visit www.leahshappharts.org.

EDUCATION

Thursday, June 2, 2011 hometownlife.com

District taps South Lyon principal to lead Novi Meadows

Brickey replacing Ascher at sixth-grade house

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

John Brickey said he was not actively looking for a new job when he came across the open principal position at Novi Meadows.

He had been in South Lyon his entire nine-year career, the last three as principal at Salem Elementary, and was pleased with the direction the school and his career were going.

But the Meadows job was intriguing to him. Working solely with fifth- and sixth-grade students is one of his passions, and it was a position he had to go after.

"It was one of those opportunities that was too good to pass up," he said. "It was literally my dream job. So, I took my shot, and here I am."

"I'm all kinds of fired up about it."

Current Superintendent Peter Dion said he and his successor, Steve Matthews, agreed that Brickey was the best of the more than 50 candidates who applied to lead the sixth-grade house because of his leadership skills.

"We felt he was strong in his relationships with staff, built

a team concept not only as a teacher but as a principal, and the fact he is a servant leader," Dion said.

Brickey taught for six years at Millennium Middle School in South Lyon before taking over as principal at Salem. He said his biggest comfort level is in sixth grade because he understands those students "emotionally, academically and how they learn."

Leaving the district he has called home for nearly a decade will be tough, he said, but he's looking forward to a new challenge.

"It's something I am at peace with because the friendships I have created here are not going anywhere," he said. "It has been a wonderful experience, but it's also exciting when you think about what lies ahead."

Melissa Baker, assistant superintendent for administrative services in South Lyon, said Brickey left his mark on many people during his career.

"He's been in the district a long time. He is really loved by the parents and students. He is just phenomenal, and will be missed," she said.

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Most improved

The 10 most improved students from Novi High School were recognized and rewarded at the May 19 Novi Rotary Club luncheon. The students were selected by counselors and teachers from the high school based on improvement in grades, attendance and attitude. Accompanied by parents, friends, teachers and counselors, the students' accomplishments inspired many attendees. Many of the students overcame significant obstacles to turn around their educational careers. A check for \$125 from the Rotary club was also part of the reward for each student. Current Novi School Supt. Peter Dion and his successor, Dr. Steve Matthews, joined fellow Rotarians at the event. The recognized students include Dayna Clayton, Arica Cochman, Joseph Dworetzky, Alissa Layton, Steven Meadows, Kameron Mitchell, Gautam Nithyanand, Justin Price, Mitchell Smith and Christine Zeiler.

NOVI SCHOOL BRIEFS

Community Ed preschool

Preschool registration for Novi's 2011-12 school is now open for full-day and half-day morning or afternoon classes.

Class programs focus on social, emotional, physical and cognitive development. The program follows the State of Michigan Standards and Benchmarks for Preschool along with the Creative Curriculum. The Creative Curriculum includes language arts, social studies, science, math, music and movement. Novi's Community Education Preschool provides all children with experiences and opportunities that allow them to meet the State Early Learning Expectations for 3s, 4s and young 5s.

Classes are three hours for the half-day and six and a half hours for the all-day program. Children must be 3, 4 or 5 years old by Dec. 1, 2011. Children also must be completely toilet trained. All preschool classes follow the Novi Community School District calendar and will begin Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011. To secure a spot in the fall's 2011-12 sessions, parents must register their child at the Community Education office in the Community Education/ITC Building, 25945 Third, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile roads. Child care is also available for students attending preschool. Space is limited. Call (248) 449-1206 for rates and availability. When registering a child (or children), please bring the fol-



Music in the Parks

Novi Middle School Band students hold the second place trophy earned at the Music in the Parks festival in Ohio on May 21. The students (from left) are Amanda Liddicoat, Carolyn Watson, Christina Ditre, Emily Richmond and Catherine Boileau. The school's choirs, bands and orchestras enjoyed the afternoon at Cedar Point after competing. Novi's scores were: seventh and eighth grade band, second place, excellent; seventh and eighth grade men's choir, first, superior; seventh grade women's choir, second, excellent; eighth grade mixed choir, second, excellent; and seventh and eighth grade orchestra, first, superior and best orchestra of the day. The festival followed a wonderful NMS theatrical performance of the musical 'Mulan' on May 20.

• A completed registration packet, available on the district's website under Community Education Preschool, www.novi.k12.mi.us

• Child's birth certificate or passport

• Non-refundable registration fee payment of \$45

• C.A.R.E. is available for parents needing child care before or after preschool classes. Registration information and prices are posted on our website at www.novicomunityed.org. Our C.A.R.E. program is also available at all of our elementary schools for students in grades K-8 students. For more information, call (248) 449-1206.

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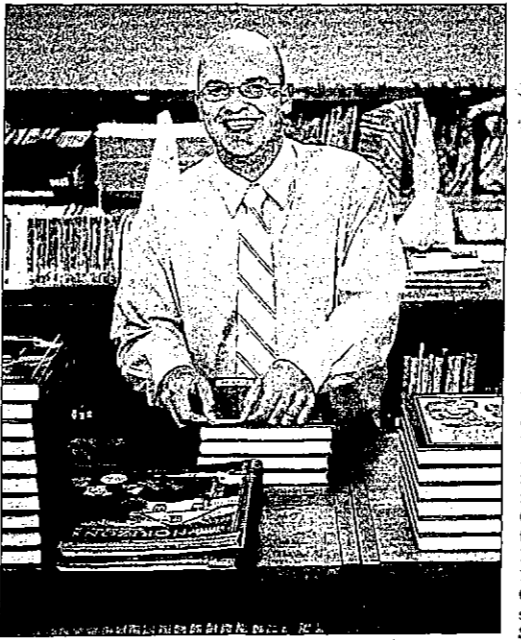
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NOVI WINE SHOPPE 2011



John Brickey, pictured here as the principal at Salem Elementary in South Lyon, will be taking over the sixth-grade house at Novi Meadows next fall.

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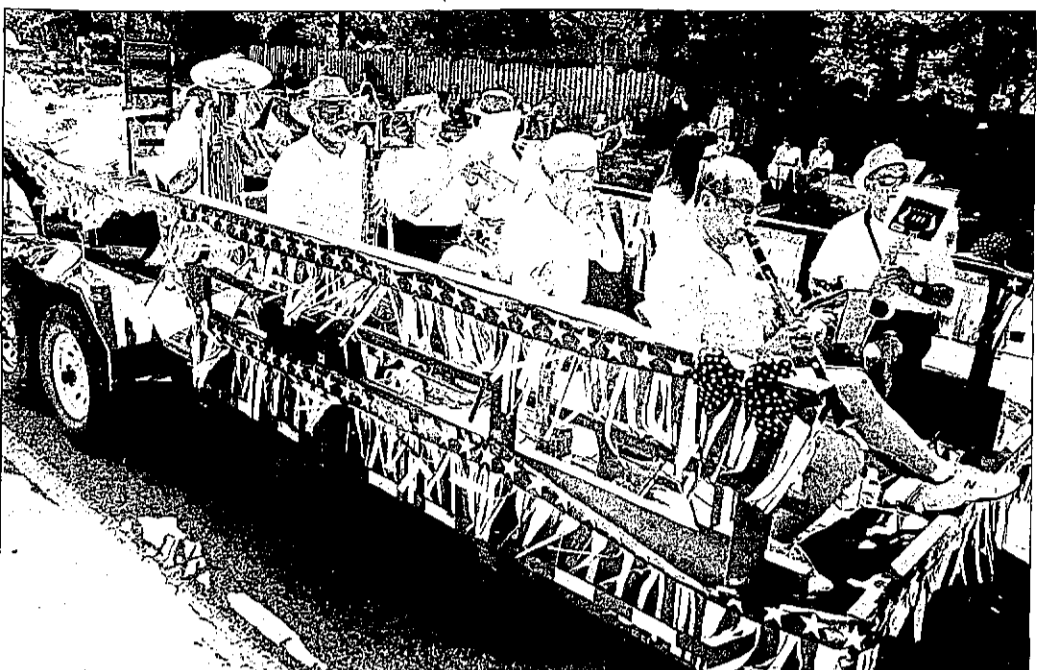
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Remembering fallen heroes



Members of the Novi Community Band entertain the parade route on Monday.



Novi's Fox Run resident and Vietnam War veteran Chel Tarczynski carries the American flag during Monday's Novi Memorial Day Parade along Ten Mile.



The Novi Memorial Day Parade gets underway right around 11 a.m.



Madeline Wiktorowski, 9, leans in to see how close the parade is.



Hot dog "Rudder" and owner Kellie Setsuda wait the start of Monday's parade. With the temperature in the upper 70s, and high humidity, it was a pretty warm start to summer.



Members of Novi High's color guard march in Monday's parade.



Kelly Varhol blows a few rings of bubbles to the delight of some kids as they await the start of Monday's parade.



Novi's Memorial Day Parade makes its way west along 10 Mile Road.



Attendees of Monday's Memorial Day parade stand and applaud as service men and women go past.

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Thursday, June 2, 2011

hometownlife.com



Slated to open in the fall of 2012, this \$89 million project is the sixth major renovation in the hospital's history since it was built in 1959.

Construction under way at St. Mary Mercy Hospital's \$89M addition, renovation

Construction began in February on St. Mary Mercy Hospital's new South Pavilion, a three-story, 154,000-square-foot addition located in the southwest campus. Slated to open in the fall of 2012, this \$89 million project is the sixth major renovation in the hospital's history since it was built in 1959. After the completion of the South Pavilion, the hospital's existing patient rooms on the north campus will also be renovated to private patient rooms. St. Mary Mercy Hospital will remain licensed for its current 304 beds.

The first floor will boast a 45,000-square-foot Emergency Department, twice its current size, with over 50 specialized treatment areas including a senior ER, behavioral medicine treatment rooms, as well as trauma, rapid assessment and fast track bays and more.

The second and third floors will have a total of 80 all-private patient medical and surgical rooms specifically designed with the community's involvement. The all-private rooms benefit the patients and families through more personal and private space, fewer patient transfers, a quieter atmosphere, and a healing environment emphasizing natural light and warm natural colors.

"Our new private patient rooms will enhance the care we provide for our patients and their families," said David Spivey, president and CEO, St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

We designed our private rooms with the input of patients, families, physicians, nurses and support staff. Site visits and evidence-based research prepared the design team to implement best practices for a healing environment. Patient safety, staff efficiency, effectiveness and ergonomics were all considered during the design process.

Hobbs + Black Architects is the architectural firm hired to design the new addition while Granger Construction Company will be doing the construction. Both have experience in health care design and construction. Steve VanBrussel, of Canton, was hired as the project manager for the new South Pavilion.

Philanthropic support from community partners is a vital component of this project. To learn more about the philanthropic campaign initiative or to make a gift, contact the St. Mary Mercy Development Office at (734) 655-2990.

For more information, visit stmarymercy.org.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Wixom company to assist Joplin, Mo. pet owners

Assistance found its way on May 27 to the pets affected by the devastating tornadoes in Joplin, Mo. as a mobile microchip clinic is offering free microchip implanting, microchip registrations, and pet food to residents.

In the aftermath, many families are struggling to try to locate their lost pets in addition to protecting their families from further loss. Wixom-based helpmefindmypet has joined the efforts within the pet industry to provide assistance to pet owners. A microchip can dramatically increase the chance that a pet will be returned to its owner -- by as much as 36.7 percent -- helping grief-stricken families and easing the burden on animal control and pet rescue resources in the area. However, the microchip must be registered in order to work. helpmefindmypet, a pet ID registry and lost pet alert service, provided free, lifetime registration to Joplin pet owners on May 27.

helpmefindmypet is a pet ID registry and lost pet alert program serving all of North America. Their database registers pets with microchips or any other form of identification number, and their service includes access to a lost pet alert, which may be used to send a notification with a photo, description, and identification information for a member's missing pet to area animal shelters, pet professionals, volunteers, and pet owners.

Michigan retail sales rebound, but retailers wary

Michigan retailers rang up better sales in April, although they remain concerned about high gasoline prices and unemployment, according to the latest Michigan Retail Index survey conducted by Michigan Retailers Association (MRA) and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

"A late Easter and resilient consumers helped overall retail sales rebound in April," said James P. Hallan, MRA president and chief executive officer.

"However, retailers' short-term sales projections dipped for the third month in a row, indicating continued concern about the economy. The recent easing of gas prices -- after this survey was completed -- should help soften some of those fears as we head into summer."

Retail sales dipped sharply in March as a combination of rising prices at the pump, a late Easter and cold weather hit the industry. But that same late Easter helped pull up April sales, and enough consumers shrugged off \$4-a-gallon gasoline to move the Index back into positive territory.

The Michigan Retail Index for April found that 45 percent of retailers increased sales over the same month last year, while 32 percent recorded declines and 23 percent saw no change. The results create a seasonally adjusted performance index of 53.1, up from 42.8 in March. Index values above 50 generally indicate an increase in overall retail activity.

Looking forward, 48 percent of retailers expect sales during May-July to increase over the same period last year, while 16 percent project a decrease and 36 percent no change. That puts the seasonally adjusted outlook index at 60.9, down from 63.8 in March and 72.3 in both February and January.

Department stores, gift retailers and automotive service shops posted the best performances in April. Central and Southeast Michigan were the strongest regions.

Step Into Success seminar

Belinda Ellsworth, president and founder of Step Into Success, Inc. and nationally known expert in the Direct Sales industry, will be conducting her Five Priorities of a Successful Leader (How to build a million dollar organization) in Novi on Saturday, June 18 at the Sheraton Detroit Novi, 21111 Haggerty Road, Novi.

This seminar is open to all level of leaders and aspiring leaders in direct sales.

To reserve a seat or to find out more about Belinda Ellsworth, visit www.StepIntoSuccess.com or contact Donna Zee at (931) 525-3552 or e-mail at Donna@StepIntoSuccess.com.

OAKLAND COUNTY BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

- Waterford. For pre-registration and location specifics, visit oakgov.com/peds/calendar or call (248) 858-0783.
- WORKSHOPS
- June 2: Pre-Business Research Workshop (PM)
- June 7 FastTrac NewVenture
- June 8 CEED Microloan Orientation (AM)
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- June 8 Social Media Marketing Part 3 (PM)
- June 9 Fundamentals of Starting a Business (PM)
- June 16 Fundamentals of Writing a Business Plan (PM)
- June 21 Small Business Loan Workshop (AM)
- June 23 QuickBooks Essentials Part 1 & 2
- July 7 Pre-Business Research Workshop (AM)

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

Simple steps to speed up your computer

BY JON GUNNELLS
GUEST COLUMNIST



Tech Savvy
Jon Gunnells

Unless your laptop or desktop computer is fresh out of the box, it probably isn't performing as well as you would like it to. There are, however, a number of tasks you can do to help your computer run as fast and efficiently as possible -- just like it did the first time you took it out of the wrapping.

Virus Scan -- Every computer owner should run their anti-virus, or anti-malware programs regularly because they can help identify and rid computers of virus, spyware and other threats that are likely slowing you down. Try leaving your computer on setting your anti-virus software to run a time at a time when you aren't using your computer -- such as the middle of the night. By doing so, your computer won't be bogged down with scanning for viruses while you're trying to send out e-mails or browse the web. If you have a newer machine, you can probably do other tasks while simultaneously scanning viruses.

Disk Defragmenter and Disk Cleanup -- When you run these programs, your PC will identify programs and files that are no longer used. Your computer will automatically delete and remove these files to clear up memory on your computer. The more memory your computer has available, the more "energy" it will have to perform necessary processes.

Add or remove programs -- Over the course of a few

months or even a few years, your computer can accumulate a number of programs that take up space and slow down your machine. On a PC you can add or remove programs by clicking on the control panel. From there you can click "add or remove programs" and then sort through programs and remove items you no longer use, or never wanted (some computers come pre-loaded with a multitude of games or media players that you may not want). When you are inside the "add or remove programs" window, your computer will show you the last time you used each program. This helps you to easily identify the programs you don't need, or the programs that you do need that were pre-loaded on your computer. Just be careful not to delete necessary programs that you need like a plug-in for your printer or your preferred media player. This option is best for removing programs like Internet toolbars and other applications you have accumulated over the years.

You can also easily add or remove programs from a MAC. Simply click on the finder and open the applications folder. You can delete the unwanted programs by dragging the items to the trash. You can do the same with old movies, songs, or anything else that takes up space that you don't want to keep.

Condense your own files -- Whether you are on a MAC, or PC, or even using an external hard drive, you can save a load of space by removing duplicate files. Maybe you have a folder full of old resumes, or outdated documents, or even double-copies of movies or music. By removing these items, or deleting other documents you don't need, you can save valuable space.

If you have gone through all of these steps and you are still finding yourself with a slower-than-desired computer you can always try running system restore (PC only). System restore allows a user to go restore their computer to exactly how it was configured at an earlier date -- like when the computer was first purchased. This is a great way to remove Trojan viruses, or other malware, but it also only meant to be used rarely.

Remember if you use system restore in June 2011 to revert to January 2011, you will lose any data you acquired between the two points. So be careful, and if you want to save any documents like those updated resumes, or freshly-downloaded music, make sure you back it up on discs, or thumb drives first.

Jon Gunnells, a Northville Township resident, is a social media planner at a Detroit-based advertising agency. A 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, he holds a B.A. in journalism. When he's not working, Gunnells enjoys college sports, social media, driving and playing basketball. He can be reached at jonathan.gunnells@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @GunnShw.

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'Nobody can replace her'

Longtime Novi Senior Center coordinator retiring after 28 years

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Jan McAlpine expected to be in Novi for only four days when she was asked to fill in at the then-Lakes Area Senior Center because the manager was sick.

But when the center manager never returned, that four-day stint turned into a 28-year career filled with memories.

"I wasn't a senior when I started, but I aged in place," McAlpine said Monday with a laugh. "It has just been great being around all these people and their upbeat, positive attitudes. I really loved what I did and work with some wonderful people."

The Highland resident, whose career spanned nearly three decades, is calling it quits June 3 to spend more time traveling and with her husband and family.

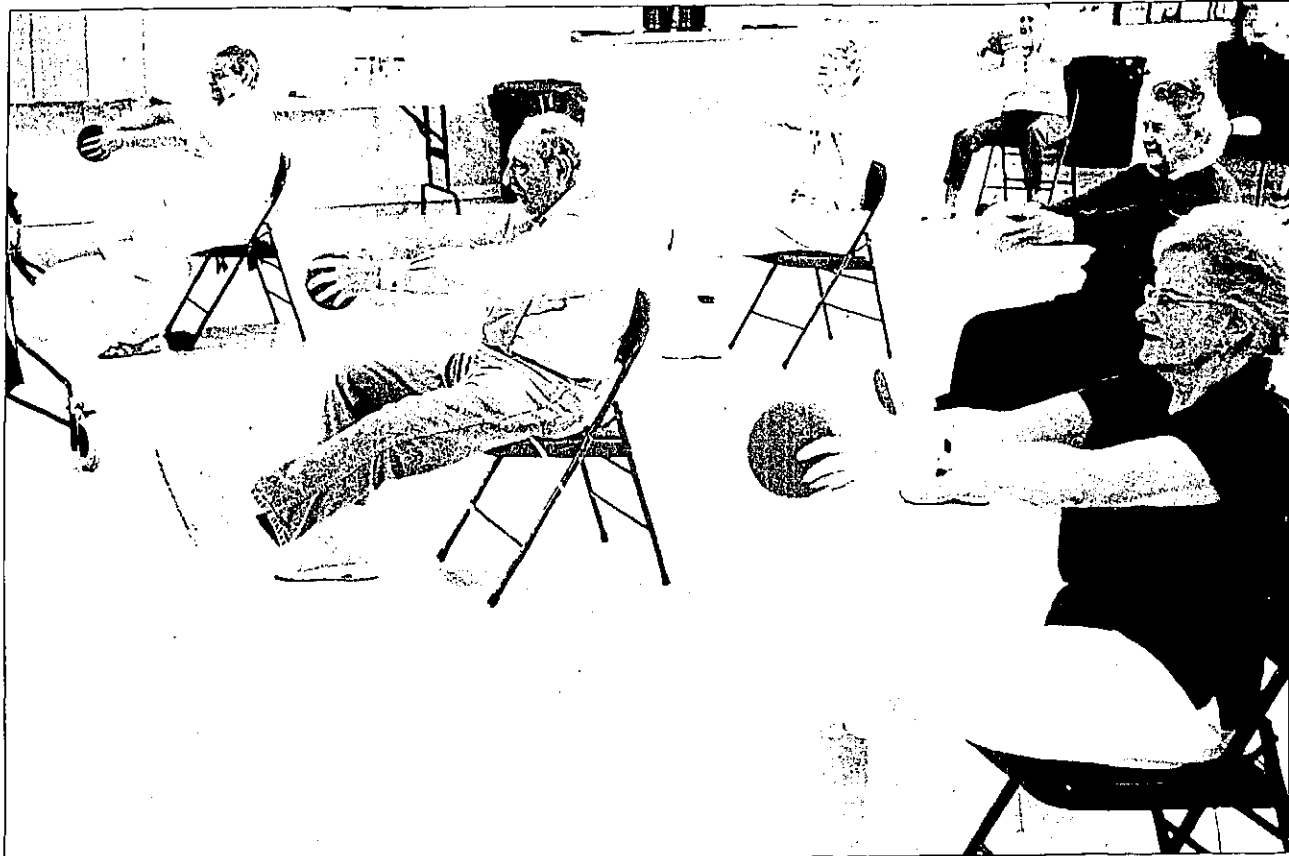
She has seen the center grow from its roots in the community building at Novi Elementary to the Presbyterian church and civic center before finally getting its own building on Meadowbrook Road.

Connected to Meadowbrook Commons, Novi's senior housing community, the Novi Senior Center is the gathering place for all older adults in the city.

Bingo and lunch were two of the more popular activities when McAlpine first started working at the center, but now the opportunities are nearly endless.

"We have much more of an ability to connect with the community," she said.

Though her title has changed several times over the years — it is now senior center coordinator — McAlpine has done just about everything.



McAlpine has led this seated exercise class at Meadowbrook Commons for the last 12 years.

She runs the food distribution program for low-income seniors, handles the equipment loaning program, oversees pen pals with first-graders, runs a body recall fitness class and much more.

Rose Tutay, a Novi resident, said when people talk about the Novi Senior Center, they "automatically think about Jan."

"She will always accommodate you no matter how busy she is and she knows everyone by name," Tutay said. "We will really miss her. Nobody can replace her."

While McAlpine did her best to reach out to everyone at the center, she also gained quite a bit from them as well.

"Sometimes you talk to these people and don't even realize their age," she said. "They really are an inspiration."

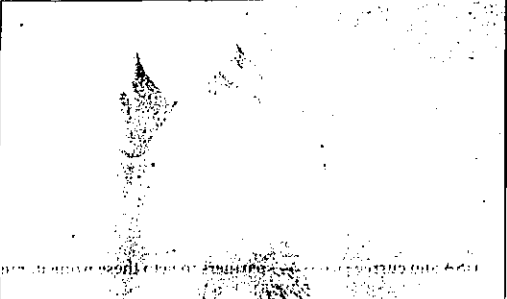
Tutay, who was a regular at McAlpine's exercise class, said she even videotaped the last two sessions so McAlpine can watch it when she misses our company.

And even though she is retiring, McAlpine said she will be back plenty as a volunteer.

"I made a lot of friends here and I want to see them," she said.



Novi Senior Center Coordinator Jan McAlpine smiles as she leads a Friday morning seated exercise class at Meadowbrook Commons. McAlpine is retiring in June after 28 years at the senior center.



Novi Senior Center Coordinator Jan McAlpine leads an exercise class.

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Northville Public Schools Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all proposals or to accept the proposal that it finds, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the school district.
A pre-bid meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on June 7, 2011 at the Administration Building, Room 302, 501 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167. A copy of the RFP will be available on the district's web site (www.northville.k12.mi.us) by June 3, 2011. Potential bidders are asked to e-mail any questions to Mr. Michael Zopf, Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations at zopfmi@northville.k12.mi.us.
All proposals must be submitted no later than 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 22, 2011. All proposals should be delivered in a sealed envelope and addressed to the Northville Public Schools and be clearly marked: Student Transportation Services Proposal.
Publish: June 2, 2011

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Oakland County seeks citizens to serve on boards, commissions and committees

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners is seeking interested citizens to volunteer to serve the community through appointment to the Friend of the Court Citizens Advisory Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission and the Library Board.

The Board seeks one of the following:
 • One (1) Non-custodial parent representative for the Friend of the Court Citizens Advisory Committee. The application deadline is Monday, June 6.
 • One (1) individual to fill a vacancy on the Parks and Recreation Commission. The application deadline is Monday, June 6.
 • One (1) citizen representative to serve a new five-year term on the Library Board. The application deadline is Friday, July 22.

To apply or receive more information about these positions, go to www.oakgov.com/boc and click on the Boards, Commissions, and Committees link. Click on the application forms. Apply online, print out the form, or call (248) 858-0103 to request an application. Mail completed application forms to Oakland County Board of Commissioners, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Dept. 470, Pontiac, MI 48341 or fax to (248) 858-1572.

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. Visit hometownlife.com every day and see what's new!

Wanted: vacation photos!
Take a copy of your Northville Record along on your vacation and we'll publish a photo of you and your travel companions in the paper with the headline: Wish You Were Here. Just be sure to include the newspaper in your photo. Send your photo in a jpg format to estone@gannett.com.

Identify everyone in the photo (first and last names) and tell us where they live. Tell us when the photo was taken and where. Tell us what was special about your trip, if you wish. Include a daytime phone number so we can contact you if necessary. Then look for your photo in the newspaper and on our Facebook site under WISH YOU WERE HERE!

Novi News online

Have you checked out our newly redesigned website? It's chock full of local news from the Novi community and is updated often. There are several cool features at www.hometownlife.com that allow you to browse through the latest news and features from your neighboring communities, too, chime in with your opinion on our stories, editorials and letters to the editor, check out our amazing photo galleries and videos that are captured daily by our reporters and photographers. Readers can also find garage sale listings — with a map! — each week from Wednesday-Sunday. So, bookmark www.hometownlife.com to be sure you're always in-the-know in your hometown. You can also find us on Facebook by searching "HometownLife."

Cleaning for a reason

If you know any woman currently undergoing chemotherapy, please pass the word to her that there is a cleaning service that provides free housecleaning once per month for four months while she is in treatment. All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason will have a participating maid service in her zip code area arrange for the service. This organization serves the entire USA and currently has 5-7 partners to help these women. Find out more at www.cleaningforareason.org.



Novi American Legion members will now be meeting at the American Legion Post 147 on the northwest corner of Dunlap and Center streets in downtown Northville as the two organizations have merged.

Novi, Northville to combine American Legions

Merger expected to create 'more vibrant and active' post

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The Novi American Legion Post 19 will soon be no more.

As a result of dwindling membership numbers and no building to call home, the Novi post is in the process of merging with Northville Post 147 in the hopes of creating a "more vibrant and active" post, said Dennis Strikulis, newly-elected post commander of the combined outfit.

"We want to be a stronger and more viable organization and want all the members to

have the benefits of it," he said.

The Novi post has been around more than 20 years but always held its meetings at the Rock Financial Showplace (now Suburban Collection).

There are about 80 dues-paying members, but less than 10 were showing up for meetings. The Northville post, on the other hand, has been in its building on West Dunlap Street since 1944 and has 170 dues-paying members, with active membership over 50.

"We thought this would be an opportunity to revitalize the area," said Dan Wisely, Northville's former post commander. "The borders blur anyway and we thought this might be a good idea and a way to get people involved in veterans helping veterans."

Strikulis also said the auxiliary units with Northville — the Sons of the American Legion, the American Legion Riders and the women of the American Legion Auxiliary

will give the Novi members more options.

The post also is open to the public several times per week for dinners.

Wisely said the combination post will spread its focus to events in Northville and Novi, including the parades and scholarship programs.

"We are hoping everyone will become involved at a family level," he said.

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- Fall Prevention
- Orthopedics and Joint Replacement
- Healthy Aging Strategies
- Insurance, Medicare and Health Care Reform

- Health screenings: balance, blood pressure, bone density, depression
- Exercise demonstrations: strength and stretching exercises, yoga
- Cooking demonstration: simple, healthy cooking
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10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Speakers and Demonstrations

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Free Lunch

1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Speakers and Demonstrations

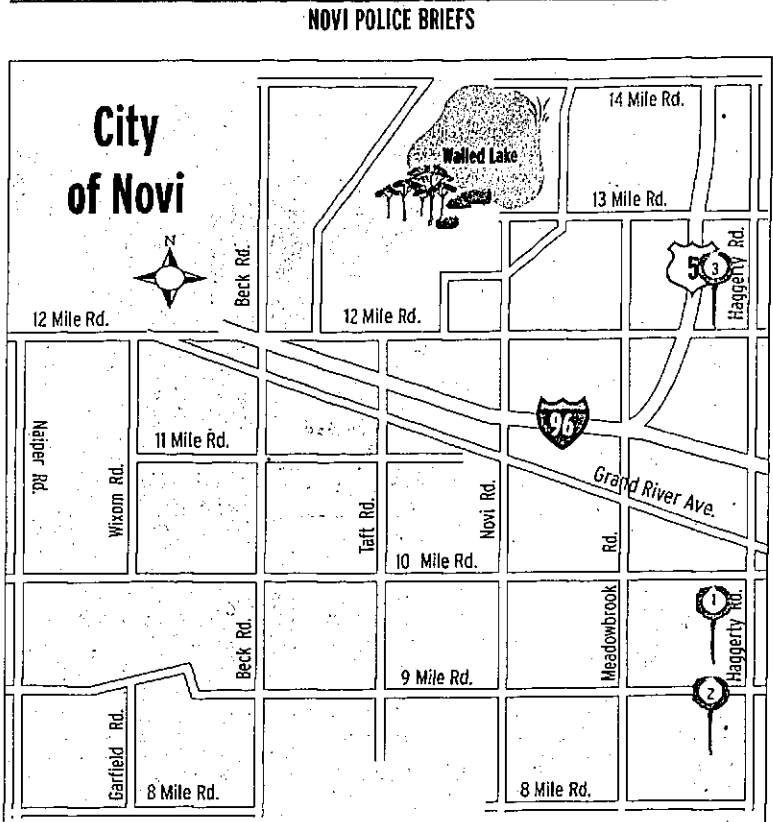
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Pre-registration is preferred. Please call 734-655-2929 to register or request more information. For a complete list of exhibitors and activities, visit our web site at stmarymercy.org/SeniorHealthFair

Thanks to our sponsors: Marcycrest Heights, Arden Courts, Home Instead (Lunch Sponsors), Hearing Center of Excellence, Heartland Subacute Rehab, ComlarCare, Ray's Drugs, Orthopedic Institute of Michigan, Yogamedics, and Michigan Eye Institute, and Livonia Senior Center, Farmington Costco Center, HVA LifeLink, The Senior Alliance-Area Agency on Aging and Livonia Family YMCA.

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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS



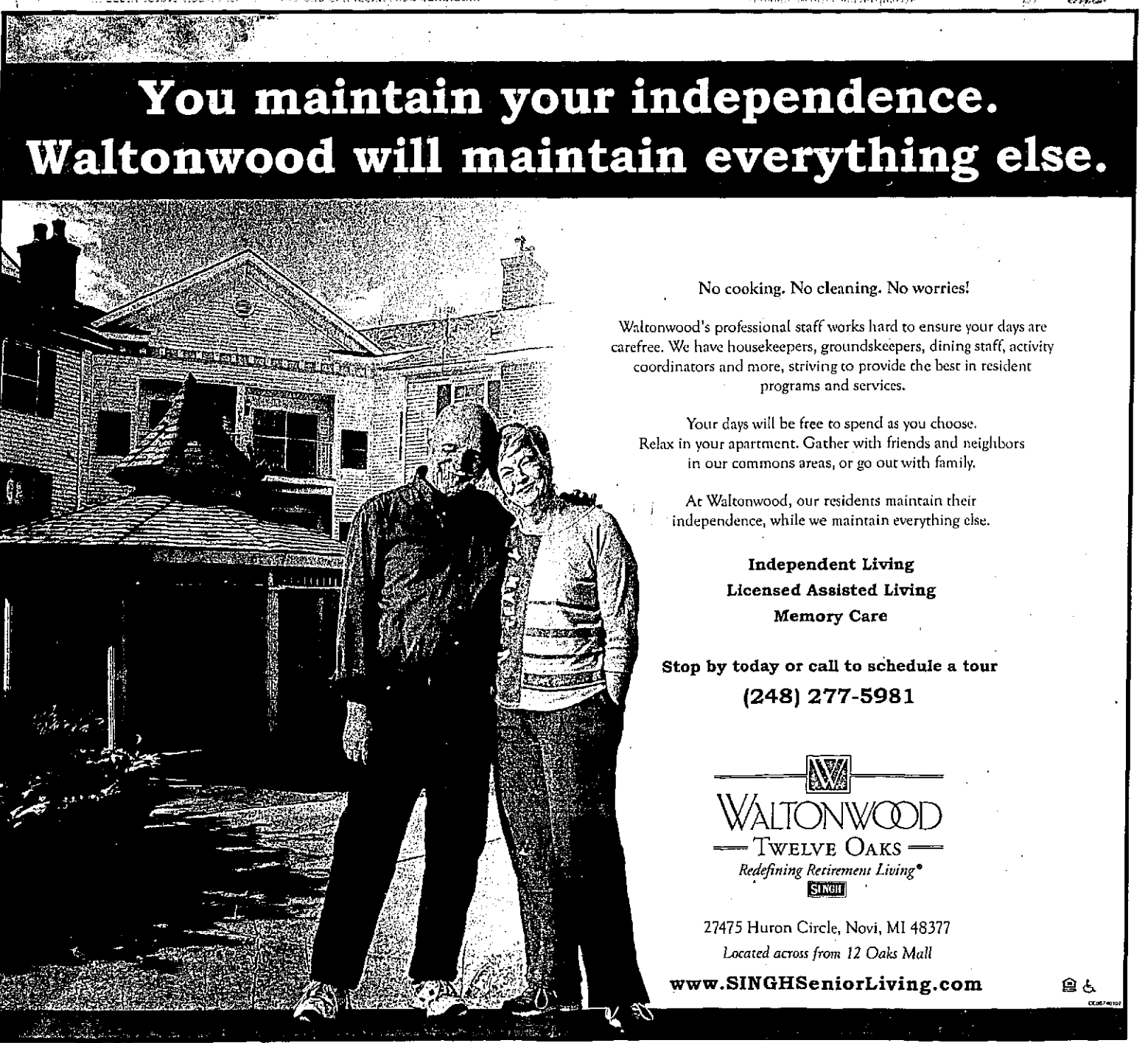
Kia broken into overnight
1 A Novi woman had several items stolen from inside her vehicle after it was broken into overnight while it was parked outside her residence on Village Wood Lane on May 15. According to the report, the woman said her daughter may have left the keys in the door when she went outside at night to grab her backpack out of the backseat. Taken from the vehicle were a GPS, iPod, charging cords and a BlackBerry cell phone. There was no sign of forced entry and police advised the woman to change her locks because they house key also was on the key ring. Police have no suspects at this time.

Purse stolen from car at Lifetime
2 An unknown suspect stole a black leather purse containing \$100 cash, gas cards, credit cards, driver's license and blank checks from a vehicle that was parked in the Lifetime Fitness parking lot between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on May 18. The victim told police she locked her car when she left because she heard it beep, but may have accidentally rolled down the windows with the key fob. There was no sign of forced entry and when the woman returned to her car both driver's side and passenger side windows were down. Police have no suspects.

Police catch drunk driver
3 Novi police arrested a woman for drunk driving at 2:24 a.m. on May 19 for drunk driving after she was stopped on Twelve Mile Road east of M-5 for swerving in her lane several times. When the officer approached the vehicle, he could smell a strong odor of intoxicants coming from inside and noticed the woman had spilled the contents of her purse on the floor. The woman said she was coming from the Post Bar in Novi and failed field sobriety tests. A preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .17 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent. She was arrested and transported to the Novi Police Department where she was issued a citation and released when sober.

- Compiled by staff writer Nathan Mueller

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Seemingly endless beaches & activities

Sarnia-Lambton is the perfect getaway location with upbeat and sophisticated venues

By JON GUNNELLS
ADVERTORIAL WRITER

If you're looking for a place to spend a day, a weekend or even a week this summer, why not visit our northern neighbors in Southwestern Ontario. Just a short drive from Southeastern Michigan and across the Blue Water Bridge, Sarnia-Lambton is home to a plethora of parks, unrivaled blue water beaches, unique shopping districts, theatres, festivals and more.

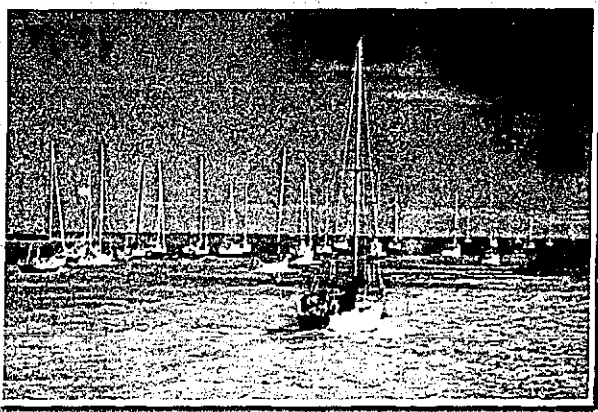
unique shopping districts, unrivaled theatre performances, and eclectic concerts and festivals.

Shopping

"We have great shopping available from two malls to local and independently-owned stores and shops in downtown Sarnia and downriver districts," Prail said. There's Lambton Mall, a 650,000 square foot shopping center with more than 90 stores and throngs of boutiques to pack a day of shopping. "The front street area is a very special area that visitors should make sure and see," Prail said.

Events

Music fans may want to get their calendars ready and start marking off July 6 to July 16th for some blockbuster concerts at the Sarnia Rogers Bayfest. This year's country and rock festival will feature famous performing artists such as Trace Adkins, Montgomery Gentry, Lady Antebellum, The Tragically Hip, Steve Miller Band, KISS, Marianas Trench and INXS. "Last year, more than 100,000 fans packed the Bayfest," Horodycki said. "It's a very fun event catering to all ages. Tickets can be purchased for licensed and unlicensed areas, general admission and VIP." For those folks who are not interested in the painted faces and guitars, riffs of the Motor City Rockers and KISS,



Mackinac Boat Race, it is one of the longest fresh-water races in the world with over two hundred boats entering the race each year

there are many other events to enjoy. The 16th annual kids fun fest (June 11) and the 5th annual Tropical Music Festival (June 24-25th). Nearly every day there is an event for the whole family from food festivals to 5k fun runs and more.

Theatre

In addition to beautiful beaches and larger-than-life festivals, Sarnia-Lambton is home to some of the finest live theatre in the world.

"We have three wonderful theatres that offer musicals and comedies performed by actors from Stratford and Broadway," Prail said. The Starbright Summer Festival which runs from July 20 to August 21 is a theatre-lover's dream. More than 20 live performances of three musicals and an inspiring play. For ticket information on the Starbright Summer Festival visit imperialtheatre.net.

Everything else

Sarnia-Lambton also offers a wide variety of gaming, sports, art, and entertainment. In the winter you can catch a professional hockey game with the OHL's Sarnia Sting - a common opponent of the Plymouth Whalers. In the summer you can hit the links or go rock climbing. Mountain biking on endless trails is a favorite choice as well. For those feeling lucky, Sarnia-Lambton offers horse racing tracks, bingo halls and a beautiful casino nestled under the Blue Water Bridge. Visitors can book a stay and play package and try their hand at the gaming tables and slots before taking a cruise on the St. Clair river, visiting the artsy Heritage District, or sampling one of the outstanding local restaurants. For more information on all that Sarnia-Lambton has to offer this summer and all year round visit www.tourism.sarnialambton.com or call toll free 1-800-265-0316. An entire world of summer activity is only a phone call away.



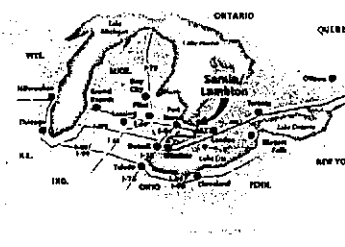
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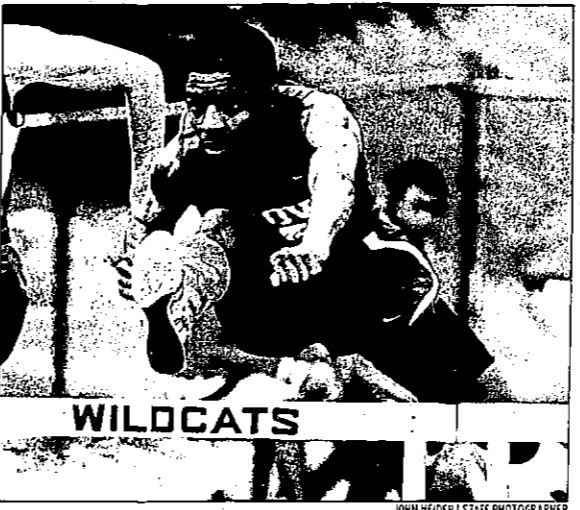
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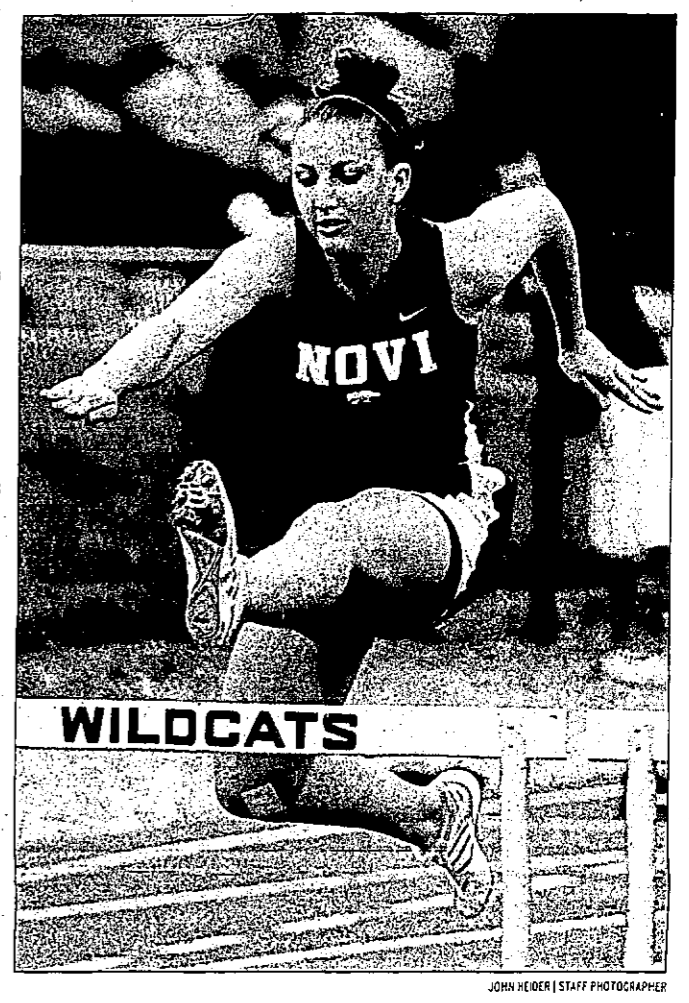
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Girls track team wins KLAAs and county titles

Novi program earns eight KLAAs titles, five county titles



With the KLAAs meet and Oakland County Championships both in the same week, Novi's girls track and field team had plenty of chances to shine. The Wildcats took full advantage, finishing first of eight teams at the association meet and first of 35 teams at the county meet. Novi's 158 points were 69 ahead of runner-up Waterford Mott at the KLAAs meet and their 80 points were 38 ahead of Detroit Country Day at the county meet.

For full county meet results, visit <http://oaklandcountychampionships.com/2011/05/oakland-county-track-and-field-championships-2011girls-results>. Listed inside are all the individual Novi student-athletes and relay teams who earned top-eight finishes in an event.

The girls track and field team will follow their regional championship with a Saturday trip to Rockford for the state meet, where D'Mya Davis, Lina Davis, Abby Downs, Kelly McCloskey, Kerri McManan, Jackie Mullins, Jasmine Ward and three relay teams will compete.

Wildcat boys dominate short hurdles, mile run

Novi program earns four KLAAs titles

The hurdle and distance events led the boys track and field team to solid finishes at the KLAAs meet and Oakland County Championships during the past week.

The guys finished fourth of eight teams at the association meet (first of the four Kensington Conference teams) and then tied for 14th of 34 county teams. Novi's 77 points were four ahead of fifth-place Canton, but 65 back KLAAs champion Milford. The Wildcats' 17 points tied both Bloomfield Hills Groves and Berkley as one point back from North Farmington and one ahead of both Walled Lake Western and Farmington at the county meet, but were still 58 points back from county champion Detroit Catholic Central.

Top-ranked Wildcats kick Brighton to curb

2005 Division I finalists rematch in 2011 KLAAs final, Novi wins again



Although it was a battle for the KLAAs crown, last week's matchup between Novi and Brighton's girls soccer teams had every inkling of a contest between two programs that have been to the Division I state championship game six of the past nine years.

The two schools only met once for the state title, when Novi defeated Brighton 3-0 in 2005.

For the 2011 association crown, the No. 1 Wildcats (15-0-2, 9-0-1 Central) got the best of the No. 13 Bulldogs (10-4-0, 9-2-0 West) once again. Last Thursday's contest - played at Total Sports Complex's Wembley field in Wisom because Novi's field was still flooded from the previous

Wildcat sluggers growing stronger for postseason

Pitchers improving in final week of regular season

Another strong week of Wildcat baseball has Novi's sluggers poised for a solid district playoff run. Since a crushing 10-0 loss to Livonia Churchill on May 9, the Wildcats (17-11) have gone 12-3 on the diamond, including a 3-1 victory over Churchill May 24 in a battle for third place in the KLAAs Kensington Conference.

Novi senior pitcher Tyler Root had a solid outing, allowing five hits, five strikeouts, five walks and one run in six and 2/3 innings of action. He had a 3-0 shutout going with two outs in the seventh before allowing a run, at which point junior Logan Regnier was brought in for the save and allowed just one hit as he secured the final out.

After facing No. 2 Howell (24-2) last night for fifth place in the KLAAs, Novi's sluggers (17-11) will play noon Saturday at Farmington against the winner of Tuesday's Farmington and Farmington Hills Harrison contest. The winner of the semifinal will face Detroit Catholic Central, North Farmington or Northville 3 p.m. Saturday for the district title and right to advance to the June 11 regional bracket at Novi.

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BASEBALL

in the fourth inning when Regnier hit a double and junior Tyler Schwanz, followed with a two-out hit to bring Regnier home.

The 1-0 lead held until the sixth inning, where junior Jim Eloff had a double and senior Mike Kruse a single before Schwanz got on base to bring Eloff home.

in 10 innings. "It was a great game even though we didn't end up on top," Green said. "We had opportunities there. We tied it up with bases loaded and one out in the meat of our lineup and couldn't touch the plate."

Wildcat girls tennis team claws past the Bulldogs

Novi netters take third in KLAAs with 5-4 victory

With the state finals on tomorrow's horizon, Novi's girls tennis team concluded their dual meet season with a 5-4 win over Brighton.

At three singles, a reversal of her tough 6-0, 3-6, 7-6(0) win. "Fortunately, we beat them at the regional," Hanson said. "It was a tight, tight match and could've went either way. We had more experience in doubles and prevailed."

After finishing third in the KLAAs, the Wildcats' (8-8, 8-1 KLAAs) head to Midland tomorrow for a sixth consecutive trip to the Division I state meet and the team's eighth visit in the past nine years.

SOCCER

day's showers - was much closer, as Novi needed a 3-2 shootout decision after two scoreless 20-minute overtimes to claim a 2-1 victory.

The Cats got on the board eight minutes into the contest when senior Nikki Greenhugh received a pass from senior Mollie Krick, got past her defender and sent a shot over the goalkeeper's head and into the far side of the net for a 1-0 Novi lead.

The Wildcats took a 1-0 advantage when Gauruder saved Brighton's second shot and Novi junior Jessica Jarvis buried hers into the net.

NOVI SPORTS ROUNDUP

LACROSSE With a 17-4 regional quarterfinal victory over No. 48 Canton (6-7) on May 26, Novi's sixth-ranked lacrosse squad (14-1) advanced to a rematch with baseline rival Northville (10-7).

SOFTBALL The rain warded the Wildcats' (10-13, 5-5 Central) schedule last week. Their May 23 contest with Wayne Memorial (6-20, 1-9 South) for ninth in the KLAAs Kensington Conference was moved to May 25, but the Zebras had to forfeit because they couldn't find a team.

BOYS GOLF Despite the wet conditions of the past week, Novi's golfers (6-3 KLAAs Central) got one of their two matches in. The Wildcats defeated Plymouth Salem (3-6) in a 156-176 match May 24 at Walnut Creek Country Club in South Lyon.

ATHLETIC CAMPS In addition to the girls basketball camp, visit http://www.novi.k12.mi.us/athletics for a list of other sports camps being run by Novi High School coaches and student-athletes.

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BOYS TRACK

along with their final placement and time/distance in their event. For relays, the Wildcats' biggest competitor is also listed.

GIRLS TRACK

along with their final placement and time/distance in their event. For relays, the Wildcats' biggest competitor is also listed.

NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

Lois Bennett makes hole-in-one Reunion Resort & Club in Reunion, Fla. congratulated Lois Bennett, of Novi, on making her first-ever hole-in-one recently on the 158-yard 10th hole of the Jack Nicklaus designed Tradition golf course.

NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

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PUBLIC COURSES

Eagle Crest Golf Club 2011 Summer Special. Seniors 18 Holes w/cart \$50.00. Coyote Preserve. Stonebridge Golf Club. Weekday Special = \$38. Mon/Tues: Any Age = \$25. Seniors = \$28. Weekend Specials: Before 8am = \$48. After 8am = \$40. After 4pm = \$28.

Summer Reading Programs. HOMETOWN WEEKLIES. Local Matters ~ SHOP LOCAL! Highland Township Public Library. Millford Public Library. Huntington Woods Public Library. Novi Public Library. Northville District Library.

REAL ESTATE
Thursday, June 2, 2011
hometownlife.com

Parade of Homes continues through June 30

Parade of Homes 2011, the 22nd annual exhibition of new model homes located across southeastern Michigan, opened June 1 and runs through June 30. Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, Bank of America Home Loans and DTE Energy/MichCon are the sponsors of this public event.

"There are many advantages to buying a new home at this time, including a great selection, the energy efficiency and breakthrough technology in new homes, and low interest rates on home mortgages," said Adorno Piccinini, executive director-Commercial Group, Walbridge and president of BIA. "Today's homebuyers are taking advantage of the competitive home prices available in today's market."

The Parade of Homes offers potential homebuyers a unique opportunity to visit the area's finest model and inventory homes, including condominiums and single-family homes, affordable housing and estate-sized homes. Visitors to the homes will have an opportunity to see firsthand the latest trends in energy efficiency and green building, architecture, interior design, amenities and materials. The 36 model and under construction homes and condominiums range in base price from \$125,587 to \$675,000.

Architects will judge the homes and award winners in several categories. The judges will make their decisions based on the innovative use of space and design, aesthetic appeal of the home and value for the price. Judges for this year's program will be Lony Zimmerman, AIA, STA Architects, Inc.; and Michael Gordon, RA, Moiseyev/Gordon Associates, Inc.

A Parade of Homes magazine containing renderings, features and location maps for all homes will be distributed within select home delivery of The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press on June 2, available at Bank of America locations throughout southeastern Michigan and at all participating model homes beginning June 1. For additional information on Parade of Homes please visit www.BIAParadeofHomes.com beginning June 1.

Also check this website for information on "Open House Parties" being held at some of the Parade models on June 18-19 featuring refreshments and loan officers on hand to provide mortgage information. This is the only Parade of Homes event BIA will sponsor this year. Also, the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan



The Belmont model by builder Robertson Brothers has a base price of \$289,900. It has 2,314 square feet and is in Plymouth on the east side of McClumpha Road, south of Ann Arbor Road.



The Tuscan model by Tuscan Ridge Homes, LLC is at 48945 Tuscan Hills, east off Ridge Road and south of North Trillium in Plymouth Township. It has 3,000 square feet and a base price of \$449,875.



The Hillcrest model by Lombardi Homes has a base price of \$223,400. The Howl home, south of Grand River and east of Napier, has 2,484 square feet and is in a subdivision.

and Construction Association of Michigan have partnered to present the 2011 Mid-Year Economic Forecast and State of the Industry Breakfast on Wednesday, June 29. The event will be held at the Best Western Sterling Inn in Sterling Heights and will feature keynote speakers Paul Traub, business economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and John Rakolta, Jr., chairman and CEO, Walbridge.

The breakfast meeting will begin with a VIP reception from 7:30-8:30 a.m. offering face-to-face interaction with the speakers, networking and table top displays from 8-9 a.m. followed by breakfast and the program from 9-10:30 a.m. "This is an opportunity for those

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Ballot count was done wrong way
BY ROBERT MEISNER
GUEST COLUMNIST

Q: After our annual meeting, the ballots were locked in a cabinet. A board member went into the locked cabinet to recount the votes without notice or anyone else attending or acting as a witness. Should not this situation of a recount be observed by others present?

A: At any election of an association, an inspector of ballots should be appointed and an oath of inspectors prepared and signed by the persons counting the ballots. What happened in this situation was improper as no director should put himself or herself in a position of invalidating any association records.

Q: One of our officers had received bids to make repairs they thought necessary. The officer never communicated to the other officers or directors except to send e-mails asking for their opinion. The matter was never discussed at a board meeting. Can a board member act on their own and seek bids?

A: Under general agency law, as well as corporate law, no one can act for the association and commit to a contract or agreement without authority from the Board of Directors. Keeping in mind that the directors can appoint an officer as an acting board member, the officer in question should be sent a letter advising him to cease and desist from all actions not approved by the Board of Directors at a board meeting. If the action continues, the board should remove the officer as an officer of the association.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operator: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$99.95 plus shipping and handling. He also wrote Condominium Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOME & SERVICE

Advertisement for Home & Service featuring various home improvement services like roofing, painting, and electrical work with contact information.

GARAGE SALES

Large advertisement for garage sales listing numerous events across the region with dates, times, and locations.

Crossword Puzzle Time Warp

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Answer to the crossword puzzle from last week, showing the filled-in grid.

Answer to Last Week's Puzzle

Turn Your Trash Into Someone Else's Treasure...and Create Some Treasure for YOURSELF!

Advertisement for a charity event where people can donate items to be sold at a garage sale, with proceeds going to a good cause.

Table titled 'HOMES SOLD-WAYNE' listing property addresses, prices, and locations like Canton, Livonia, and Farmington Hills.

Table titled 'HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND' listing property addresses, prices, and locations like Farmington Hills, Oakland Hills, and Novi.

REALESTATE BRIEFS
Smith, founder and president of Mortgage Loan Audit Advantage, will speak. His company does forensic mortgage audits to help homeowners and investors who have been victims of predatory lending and other violations.

Table titled 'HOMES SOLD-CLAYTON' listing property addresses, prices, and locations like Farmington Hills, Oakland Hills, and Novi.

Table titled 'HOMES SOLD-CLAYTON' listing property addresses, prices, and locations like Farmington Hills, Oakland Hills, and Novi.

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Advertising Feature

A Report



By Dale Buss

If Volkswagen is going to capture much more of the U.S. market, and ever climb to the pinnacle of the worldwide automotive business, the march must begin in Chattanooga, Tenn. Last week, Volkswagen of America hosted a grand opening ceremony at its \$1-billion new facility in the southeastern corner of the mid-South, with dignitaries ranging from U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood to Martin Winterkorn, chairman of Volkswagen AG.

VW is counting on the plant to become a robust platform for fulfilling North American ambitions that it had abandoned nearly a quarter-century ago when it shut its last U.S. plant in Westmoreland, Pa. The Chattanooga plant could be expanded to produce as many as a half-million vehicles a year that possibly could include a VW SUV, cars for the company's Audi luxury brand for the U.S. market, or even cars for export. But all of the pomp and circumstance will be for naught if Volkswagen can't further wedge the first vehicle it is building there, the new and significantly improved mid-size Passat, into a U.S. car market that is becoming a competitive donnybrook.

"The future for Volkswagen begins here in Chattanooga," said Jonathan Browning, CEO of Volkswagen of America. Building a new American plant

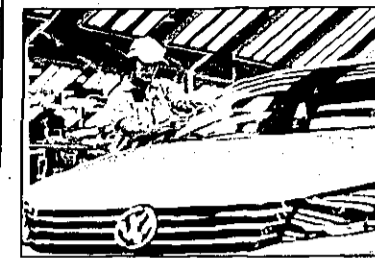
"is a strategy we talked about for a long time. This will be a key driver of our long-term success in the U.S. market. It represents a major step forward. We are making German engineering more accessible than ever before, in cars that reach the core of each of their segments. Customers are clearly responding to our vehicles that offer more of the things they want - reliability, driving dynamics, fuel economy and safety - at a better price." The car not only is being made in America, he said, but was specifically designed for the U.S. market and consumers.

Timothy Mahoney, chief product and marketing officer for the Volkswagen brand in the United States, said that VW is "clearly making a new commitment to this market." He maintained that "the sales momentum is there," noting that VW's recent push behind its new Jetta subcompact resulted in a 63-percent U.S. sales increase for VW's small-car flagship this year through April over a year earlier. "And now the new products are," too, with the new Passat due out around October 1, and the new Beetle, with its much-hyped fresh design, arriving in U.S. showrooms around the same time. Volkswagen's goal in refreshing its perception in the U.S., Mahoney said, is to create a "volume but premium" brand that is differentiated



A worker and a new Passat on the line.

The new Volkswagen Passat sits outside the new Tennessee plant.



from its competitors similar to how Target enjoys a classiness factor over Kmart even though both are mass-retail brands.

VW executives have touted several reasons the American-built Passat could mount a charge in the mid-size segment even though the nameplate has been in the U.S. market for decades and Passat sales last year were only about 11,000 units, 12 percent above 2009 sales.

"The Passat offers better fuel economy than any car in its class - 43mpg on the highway," Browning noted. "It will come highly equipped with standard premium features such as automatic dual-zone climate control and Bluetooth. It will offer class-leading rear-seat legroom and no-charge, three-year, 36,000-mile Carefree Maintenance." And with sticker prices that will start around \$20,000, Passat's entry price point will be about \$8,000 less than the version it is replacing. Yet with prices topping out over \$30,000, Passat will cover about 80 percent of the price distribution in the compact-car segment compared with just eight percent for the version it replaces.

Volkswagen can afford to slash the lowest price for Passat, executives explain, mostly because building the car in Chattanooga will remove the increasingly onerous currency-exchange penalties that they have sustained over the last several years of the weakening dollar by importing the car to the United States. Moreover, VW managed to set up a labor-cost structure in Chattanooga that will pay starting workers about \$27 an hour in wages and benefits, according to estimates by industry analysts. That's about half of the \$52-an-hour cost of labor at the Detroit Three auto makers and some non-union plants operated by Japanese automakers in this country. Besides, Browning argued, Passat isn't exactly a punchless nameplate. "We have sold significantly more Passats [in previous years] than we did last year," he said; the vehicle peaked at 80,000 sales in the U.S. a few years ago. And the new Passat family includes a Chattanooga choo-choo of its own: a clean-diesel version, adding to Volkswagen's dominance of diesel in the mainstream American market.

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