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THURSDAY
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WHO HAVE LOST CHILDREN / 1BSports WE PICK THE HOLES
FOR FANTASY GOLF COURSE / 7BFuerst fate
discussed;
board may
vote soonBy RANDY COBLE
Staff Writer

Just what the Novi Community School District will do with the homestead of Iva and Ruby Fuerst isn't nailed down yet.

But if the Aug. 19 meeting of the Board of Education is any indication, the odds seem good it will become a restored, preserved "community education center."

The district owns the homestead land and buildings which sit on the corner of Taft and Ten Mile roads. The board in December formed a committee to study potential uses for the site. In May that committee gave its report to the board, recommending that the Fuerst estate be preserved for school and public use.

The committee detailed a three-phase plan to achieve that, the first step being to "stabilize" the buildings to prevent damage from further deterioration. At their Aug. 5 meeting, board members discussed restoration architect Michael Kirk's report on the property. Kirk said that the structures there were in generally good condition and not in imminent danger of collapse.

The board asked administration officials to estimate how much the stabilization would cost but did not formally endorse the committee's recommendation. Board members said that they wanted to make sure the Fuerst homestead wouldn't suffer damage while they decided what to do with the property.

Factoring into that decision is the district's financial condition. What the state legislature may do in school funding following last month's \$6.5 billion property tax wipeout seemed to be of particular interest to some on the board.

The board will likely see a cost estimate at its Sept. 2 meeting. Several board members expressed enthusiasm for the restoration idea but said that they hadn't come to any decisions yet since the body

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Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Turn out the lights. . .

With fall almost here, that means the fun of the surf, sand and sun at Camp Lakeshore is on its last leg: Josh Kade, 7, is on only one leg himself. The youngster took part in a relay

race there, when contestants race to a pile of old clothes, put them on and race back — a last hurrah for the joys of summertime. Turn out the lights, the party's over — well, almost.

Mussels are
weak in lakeBy JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Will the shores of Walled Lake become mussel beach?

Maybe yes. Maybe, no.

But a sampling of the lake water taken as part of a summer survey of 32 inland Michigan lakes has found the pesky bivalves here and in one other Oakland County location, Cass Lake.

The project's coordinator, Paul Marangelo told *The Novi News* in June that the chances of finding zebra mussels or their larvae in Walled Lake seemed slim, because the lake lacks a public access site for boats. Then 17 microscopic zebra mussel larvae showed up in the 600 gallons of Walled Lake water drawn by local volunteers.

"I expected to find none," he said Tuesday.

"That was one of the biggest surprises of the summer for us. It's hard to say with any certainty how they were brought in."

"The density is very, very low." Six larvae were found in Cass Lake. The highest number of larvae found in a Michigan inland lake was 23 in Wayne County's Belleville Lake.

Unlike in Monroe, where the zebra mussel infestation threatened to clog pipelines bringing the water supply from Lake Erie, Walled Lake water is not used for public consumption.

In a worst case scenario, the zebra mussels, which devour vast

volumes of microscopic algae, could decrease the food supply for fish, leading to a possible decline in the lake's game fish population.

In addition, a large wash up of zebra mussel shells, which are sharp, could wreak havoc with barefooters on formerly sandy beaches, Marangelo said.

"They would be a nuisance, that's for sure," he added.

The Lakes Area Residents Association was expected to address the issue in their meeting Tuesday night (past press-time.)

The theory is that the mussels, which originate in the former Soviet Union, are brought in on the hulls of boats which have cruised in the infected waters of Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River.

LARA president Harry Avagian said the group will request Novi and City of Walled Lake boaters to carefully scrub down their vessels before launching them in Walled Lake.

However, Marangelo doesn't see Walled Lake becoming a major breeding ground for the zebra mussels. The larvae have low survival rates.

But where there's larvae, there's most likely breeding adult zebra mussels, who are about a finger nail's length, he said. One female of the species can deliver one million eggs per year.

Continued on 6

After hiding, a mother loses child

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Monday, Jake Ross Swanner, almost three years old, left his mother, maybe forever, with little more than a change of clothes, a blanket and a teddy bear.

The boy and his parent, Susan Swanner — both former Novi residents — had been in hiding for over a year when she was apprehended by police last week at her brother's Taylor home.

"Before, we had some hope we could see him, she could see him. I seriously think I'll never see my grandson again."

Maurice Ripard

Swanner, 44, is wanted on kidnapping charges in Albemarle, North Carolina, where her estranged husband, Robert Donald

(Don) Swanner has been granted custody of their child.

On Sept. 17, a Wayne County court is scheduled to decide if the

Michigan woman will be extradited to North Carolina to stand trial there.

Since Jake's parents' marriage reached the breaking point in the summer of 1992, the toddler has been the focus of an unusually bitter custody battle carried out in two states. It has pitted North Carolina courts against Michigan courts and Oakland County courts against those of Wayne County.

Continued on 6

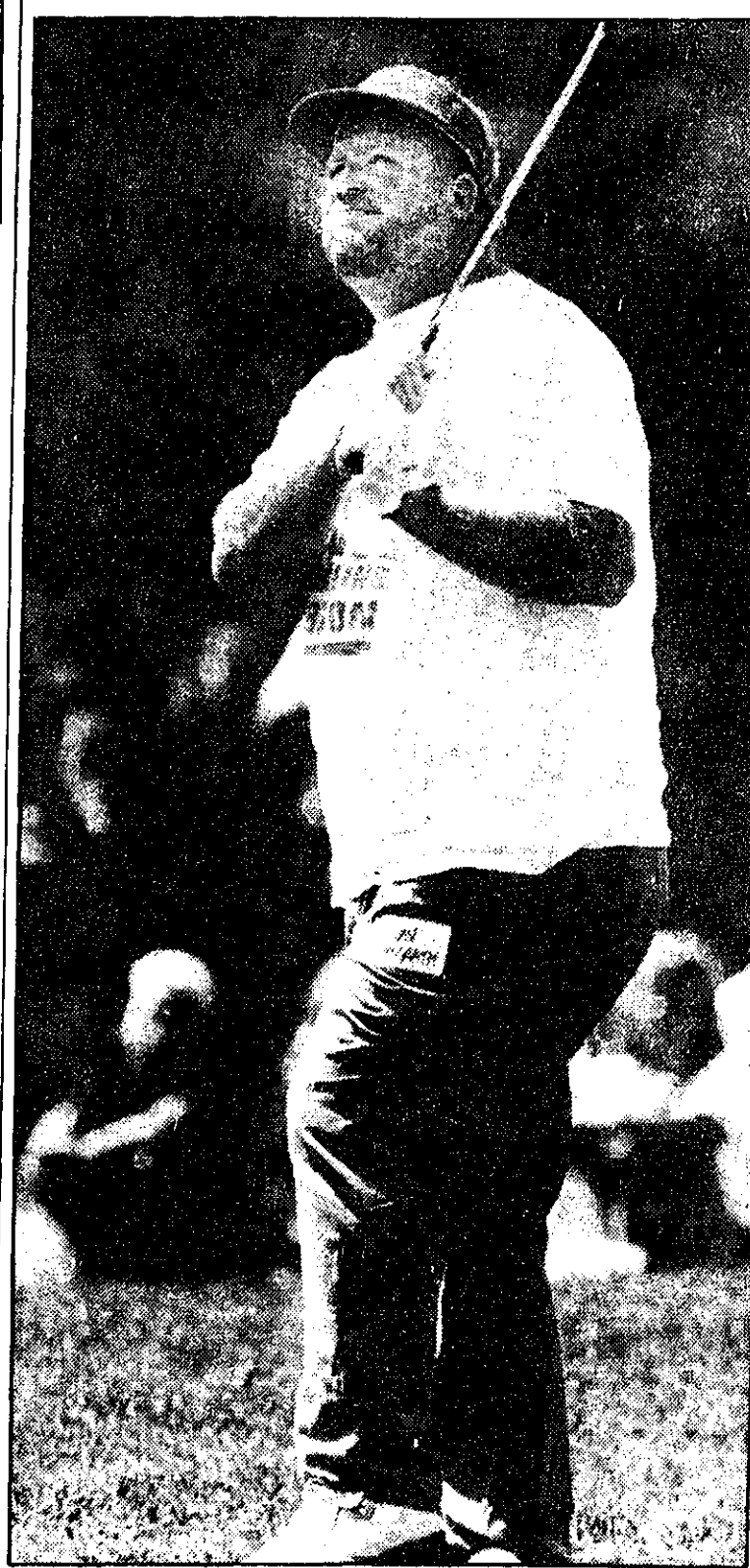


Photo by JON FREILICH

Golfing for dollars

Dan McGrath of Novi swings away in Sunday's final leg of the Ronald McDonald Children's Charity event at Country Club Village golf course in Northville Township. McGrath was the top prize winner, coming away with a cool \$10,000 in cash. The golfer took home the win by driving closest to the pin during a shoot-out which offered a \$1 million grand prize to the golfer hitting a hole-in-one. For the full story, please see page B-7.

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In today's issue

HOMETOWN
Extra
NEWSPAPERS

A special section . . .

PRO
GRE
SSMan claims cops
violated his rightsBy CRISTINA FERRIER
Staff Writer

A Novi man says he's fighting mad about the way police treated him July 30 when they arrested him for disturbing the peace.

David James, who lives on Duana Street in Novi's north end, said he plans to file a civil suit against the department because he believes his rights were violated when five officers allegedly "jumped" him from behind and hauled him off to jail. He said officers failed to tell him why he was being arrested, failed to read him his Miranda rights, and never allowed him to make a phone call.

But police officers say that James was intoxicated and combative, and continued to disturb the peace after he was asked to quiet down. Further, according to Novi Police Officer Matt Conquest,

James refused to give officers ID when it was requested and actually told them to "go ahead and arrest me, but you'll have to use force."

Novi Police Chief Doug Shaeffer said that officers are required to read the Miranda rights only before beginning to question a suspect about a crime.

In addition, he pointed out, it is not necessary to charge someone with a crime at the time of arrest, if officers can show just cause for the arrest.

The jail cells in the Novi police department are equipped with telephones that automatically reverse the charges so, Shaeffer added, James would have had access to a telephone.

James said he was kept in a room rather than a cell. However, police records indicate he was lodged in

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Community Calendar

To get your organization's activities, regular meetings or special events listed in the Community Calendar, send information to Community Calendar, The Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

Sunday, August 29

Dance auditions: The Midwest Dance Theater will hold auditions for company membership and non-company parts for its upcoming performance of *The Snow Queen* at 1160 Welch Road in Walled Lake. Senior and apprentice members ages 13 and up will audition from 2-3 p.m.; juniors ages 10-12 will audition from 3-4 p.m. Females, please bring pointe shoes. For more information please call 669-9444 or 437-5434.

Tuesday, August 31

Novi Youth Theatre: The Novi Youth Theatre "Performance Plus" needs actors and actresses for its fall performance, *Anne of Green Gables*. Auditions will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. Rehearsals begin September 7 and run Tuesdays, 7-10 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12 noon. The performances will be November 5, 6 and 7.

Wednesday, September 1

Athletic Boosters: The Novi High School Athletic Boosters Club will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in room 107 of the high school.

Planning Commission: The Novi Planning Commission will meet in regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Business Network International: The Farmington Hills chapter of The Business Network International, made up of members from 10 neighboring communities, meets at 7 a.m. at the Tollgate 4-H Education Center, 12 Mile at Meadowbrook Rd. For chapter information or an invitation to one of the meetings, please call 642-7725.

Thursday, September 2

Novi schools: The Novi schools Board of Education will meet in regular session in the Educational Services Building.

Monday, September 6

Labor Day: City offices and the public library will be closed.

Tuesday, September 7

Seniors meeting: The Novi Center Seniors will hold their general meeting at 11 a.m. in the Community Center of the Novi Civic Center.

Menopause Support Group: Providence Medical Center's Conference Center, 47801 Grand River Ave., hosts a monthly menopause support group from 7:30-9 p.m. for women with concerns about menopause. Call 380-4115 for more information.

Board of Appeals: The Novi Board of Appeals will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Band rehearsal: The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For more information on the group, call manager Warren Ledger at 348-2955.

Chess Club: The Novi Chess Club will meet from 7-10 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. There is no charge to attend and all players are welcome. For more information, call Tim Sawmiller, 344-9833 evenings after 6 p.m.

Jaycees: The Novi Jaycees will hold a membership meeting at 8 p.m. at the Jaycee House on Sixthgate.

Wednesday, September 8

Lions Club: The Novi Lions Club will meet at Kim's Gardens at 6:30 p.m. for dinner followed by a meeting.

Seniors potluck: The Novi Senior Social Club will gather at noon in the Novi Civic Center for their monthly potluck luncheon.

AARP Meets: The Walled Lake Area Chapter of the American Association of Retired People holds its monthly meeting at 1 p.m. at the Walled Lake Community Education Center, formerly Walled Lake Middle School, 615 N. Pontiac Trail. Any Lakes Area community member 50 or over is welcome to attend. Call 960-8444, or 669-6299 for more information.

Youth baseball: The board of directors of Novi Youth Baseball meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center. The meeting is open to the public.

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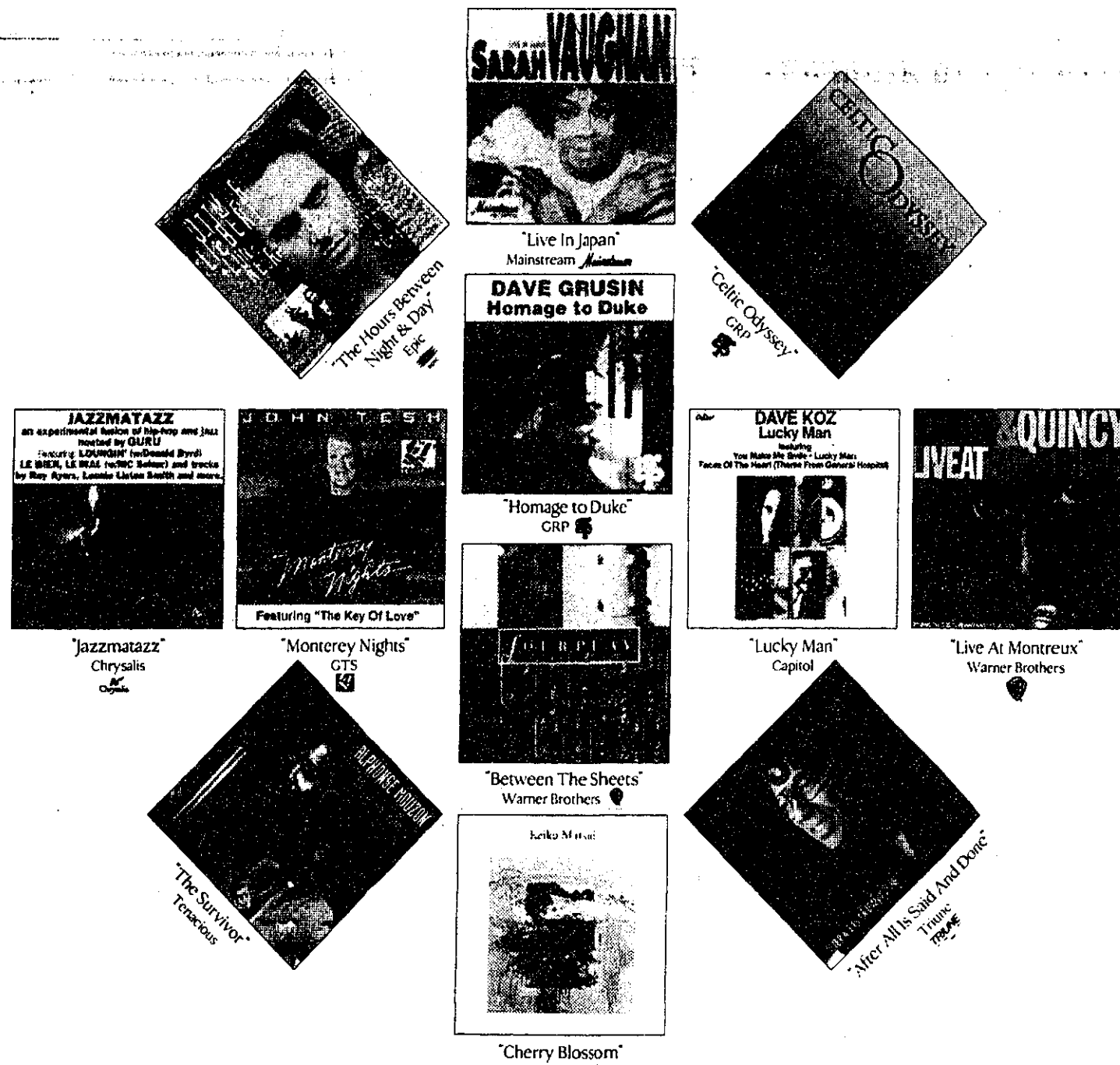
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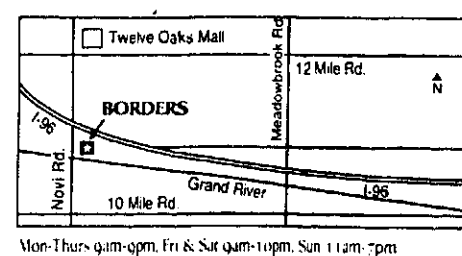


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THE LAW AND YOU



by Richard J. Corriveau & Mary Ann Mericea
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What do you want to be?

A common answer to the eternal question: "When I grow up, I want to be a fireman — or woman — or fighter... whatever." Some kids took a close look at the business at Novi's Spirit of

'76 park. City firefighters Dave McLeod and Bill Fritz brought Engine No. Four over, and took time to talk with the children about what it is they do.

Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

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Board cuts deal on bread, milk, pizza

By RANDY COBLE
Staff Writer

The Novi school district's Board of Education approved contract bids for milk, bread and pizza services in the 1993-94 school year.

The board unanimously approved the food contracts Aug. 19, which together total some \$65,983.71. The companies involved will provide milk, bread and pizza for all district schools for the coming academic year.

Novi is a member of a "milk consortium" which includes the school districts of Huron Valley, Walled Lake, Northville and South Lyon.

McDonald Dairy of Flint was one of 11 firms the consortium invited to bid on the contract and the lowest bidder, Novi's slice of the cost for its services comes to \$35,855.58.

Winning the bread contract for the coming year was Schaefer Bakery of Lansing. It was one of three firms who offered bids and was the lowest bidder.

The firm will provide district schools with bread, ham/burger, hot dog and sub buns, French bread and several varieties of dinner rolls for \$8,278.13.

Six area firms were invited to bid on the district's pizza contract. An evaluation team consisting of four parents, two high school students, three middle school students, seven elementary students, one administrator and an assistant superintendent sampled the products each offered.

Nine of the 18 participants preferred Domino's, six like Cottage Inn and 3 wanted Papa Romano's to be chosen, a report on the subject said. Domino's was the lowest bid, coming to \$21,850.

The bids called for a per pie price based on the district buying about 4,000 in all this year. Domino's price was \$4.75 per pizza, Cottage Inn's \$4.95 and Papa Romano's \$5.30.

The board went with the majority muncher's judgment and awarded the bid to Domino's.

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Teens rocket their way to arrest

Novi police arrested two local teens, age 17 and 19, for the ordinance violation of "violent, tumultuous, offensive conduct" Aug. 24 after they were caught allegedly shooting bottle rockets at homes on Sarah Flynn, Picara, Naples, Venice and Bramblewood streets.

A Novi officer reported that he saw them at Fairway Hills and Cider Mill heading west on Cider Mill and going into backyards.

At the intersection of Red Wing and Bramblewood, police said, the teens saw the police car and ran back behind a house, where an officer was already standing. The officer told them to stop and put their hands on top of their heads. One suspect tried to run but was apprehended behind a residence on Bramblewood, police said.

Police confiscated the rest of their fireworks.

FRAUD: A resident on East Lake reported Aug. 17 that someone has been tapping into her phone line and calling 900 numbers.

She told police that her phone bill has reached over \$750 in two months and that it has been shut off for non-payment. She said that neither she nor her husband has made the calls. She also noted that \$140 in calls had been charged to her credit card.

Police News

ASSAULT: A resident on Paramount reported Aug. 18 that several suspects hit him and knocked him down, then stole a \$500 stereo from his car. The victim was in his driveway at the time of the incident.

The suspects, who the victim apparently knows, reportedly approached him and asked if he had some CDs. He told them that he didn't know what they were talking about. Then, another of the suspects allegedly said "I want my tapes back, too."

The victim again told the suspects that he didn't know what they were talking about. At that point one of the suspects hit him on the side of his head with his right fist and knocked him to the ground.

Then, he told police, three of the suspects began to hit and kick him, then took the stereo and left.

ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN: A resident on Maudlin reported Aug. 18 that someone tried to break into her home by kicking in a window screen. She said she left home for approximately an hour around 3 p.m. to pick

up her children. When she returned she discovered a bedroom door open that she was sure she had closed. She then noticed that the screen was bent, although it had not been completely kicked in. There was also dirt on a sheet under the window.

Police noted that a fence below the window had also been bent down, as if someone had stood on it. The unknown suspects apparently stood on the fence and kicked at the screen, but were unable to enter the building.

An investigator theorized that the dirt came from the shoe as it kicked at the screen.

LARCENY: A resident on East Lake

reported Aug. 18 that someone stole a chainsaw and case from his garage. He told police he believed the theft occurred some time during the previous week while he was away from home. Police said there was no sign of forced entry.

There are currently no suspects or witnesses.

LARCENY: A resident on Paramount reported Aug. 18 that someone stole a collection of CDs in their cases as well as a small diamond from her vehicle.

The car was broken into some time during the previous night, police said. No description of the vehicle was available.

BREAK-IN: An employee at Stricker Paint on Novi Road reported Aug. 18 that someone broke into the building through the rear door and took a computer.

Novi Briefs

Fundukian speaks: Novi Community School District Director of Physical Education and Athletics John Fundukian appeared as a member of a discussion panel addressing the possible changes for the funding of public schools in Michigan and the impact on an educational activities and athletics. To address this issue, the Michigan High School Athletic Association, in cooperation with Pro Am Sports (PASS) produced a live video teleconference Aug. 24 to discuss the issues on statewide cable television. The teleconference was titled "Future Funding in School Athletics." Topics addressed included a legislative update, funding philosophies, participation fees, booster club guidelines, program rationing, and the role of transfer regulation.

D-Day for Dr. Death: Survivors of some of the 17 people Dr. Jack Kevorkian assisted in committing suicide are expected to be on hand Friday offering moral support to the Royal Oak man when he appears for a preliminary examination.

Kevorkian is charged with enabling Novi resident Thomas Hyde, who had Lou Gehrig's disease, to die by the inhalation of carbon monoxide. The deceased doctor is charged under a new Michigan law temporarily banning assisted suicide.

If convicted, he could face up to four years in prison and a \$2,000 fine.

Monthly Allergy Tip

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Senior housing gets closer look

By RANDY COBLE
Staff Writer

The Novi City Council has decided there's wisdom in the saying "be prepared."

City officials want to get a jump on examining issues related to senior housing in Novi and get the facts before next year, when they'll decide whether or not to apply for a federal grant for it.

Council members in June rejected a 3-1 request to allow Cooperative Services, a non-profit firm which specializes in developing senior housing, to apply for just such a \$5 million grant.

The money would come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and if approved would be used for the construction of an 80-unit senior housing complex to sit just south of Novi High School on Tall Road.

Senior housing on that site is an idea many have kicked around for years. Community activists Ruby and Iva Fuerst gave the land to the city in their wills, specifying that a senior housing center should be built there. The sisters also left the money to develop senior housing there if other funds were not available.

Many in Novi have made affordable senior housing an issue in recent years, pointing to statistics that indicate the need for it. According to the 1990 U.S. census, Novi has about 8,000 residents age 55 or older. If the city's population reflects the national trend of about 10 percent of those 55 and older living at or below the poverty line, some 750-800 Novi seniors could be eligible for space in a federally-subsidized housing complex. Some estimate the figure is even higher.

The application deadline for this year's grant money expired July 8. The city can apply next year if the council wishes.

Before then, Council Members Nancy Cassis and Tim Pope said in

an Aug. 11 letter to the council, the city should examine a range of legal and financial issues related to senior housing in Novi. The two offered a list of suggested items for officials to research in the letter. The full council voted 7-0 at its Aug. 18 meeting to have city staffers follow through on most of them.

In their letter, Pope and Cassis said that their suggestions of issues to consider were just that: suggestions. Having city officials research the issues they brought up, both stressed, did not mean that the council — or even the letter's authors — endorsed them. A couple of the items the letter suggested were deleted at the council's request because they were "premature."

The point, Pope said, was to see what issues the city may face in dealing with senior housing and in particular the Cooperative Services proposal.

"This will allow all this information to come back to us, so we can get to work," Pope said.

Those voting against the June application request said that they could not vote for a plan with such far-reaching implications when they hadn't had time to fully examine it.

The letter calls first for city officials to take a closer look at the Cooperative Services plan. The proposal requests the city to waive all fees for the project (such as for building permits), donate the land for the complex and waive all zoning requirements for it.

The letter asks Finance Director Les Gibson to review the proposal and for Department of Parks and Recreation staffers to arrange for tours of housing facilities similar to the one proposed.

Gibson, the letter continues, should see if the city should require competitive bidding in any sale of city property for senior housing. The city's charter requires competitive bidding in the sale of city land unless the finance director decides there would be no advantage in it.

If Gibson did find an advantage, the letter continues, the City Manager Edward Kriewall should prepare a bid package on the land for the council's final approval. City officials should also have the land in question appraised for its market value, the letter suggests.

City Attorney David Fried, it continues, should prepare or review option agreements for a senior housing plan with Cooperative Services after Gibson makes a decision. Fried should also report on state laws that authorize tax payments by the state for such federally tax-exempt non-profit corporations.

The letter then asks Kriewall to estimate the costs to the city of waiving all fees as the firm requests. Fried, meanwhile, the letter suggests, should see if the city has the power to waive fees for water taps. Kriewall, it says, should see if taps would be given by the city to the project, given the existing water moratorium in Novi.

Cooperative Services' proposal also asks the city to provide a van for a transportation program. The letter asked that Kriewall research how much that would cost and request Cooperative Services to provide federal guidelines used in considering the applications for the complex and the company's own policies.

Fried, the letter continues, should also update the council about what funds the project will require for senior housing and any restrictions involved.

One of those, the letter continues, should be checked out with the Novi Community School District. Kriewall, it says, should ask the Board of Education how much money it may receive each year for scholarships under the terms of the Fuerst sisters' wills and the board's policy for distributing it.

If the terms of the will allow the city to have the monies, the letter continues, Kriewall should prepare a report suggesting how to spend it.

Another task the letter suggests Kriewall perform is to provide the council with an overview of the public and private alternatives the city has considered in senior housing. The letter encourages city officials to explore other private sector options that might be out there.

The letter then asks City Clerk Geraldine Slipp to provide the council with the language of a 1989 special election regarding senior housing and the results of it.

"Our purpose in offering this approach is to encourage City Council and administration to pursue positive steps fostering development of affordable senior housing consistent with council's commitment and that of our senior housing committee," the letter concludes.

Pope and Cassis added that they'd like to see all of the suggestions fully considered within six months.

Council members seemed receptive to most of the suggestions in the letter. Some urged that Novi turn harder for private sector solutions, while others strongly supported the efforts to obtain the HUD grants.

Cassis said that the key issues in any proposal the council may consider are the location of the complex and whether it would be affordable to seniors. She suggested holding a series of public hearings or forums to garner resident input.

Council Member Joseph Toth said that he wanted to make sure that any proposal the city adopted guaranteed a certain percentage of the units be set aside for Novi residents. HUD's grant would not allow the city to restrict the complex solely for the use of city residents.

Whether any formal senior housing proposal for Novi wins approval, or what shape it might take, however, remains to be seen.

Schools get tough on bus route swap

By RANDY COBLE
Staff Writer

The Novi school district's Board of Education has voted for an amendment to its transportation policy that tightens the rules for those seeking to change their child's bus stop or route.

The board voted 6-1 Aug. 19 to add the amendment. President Raymond Byers was the lone dissenter.

The amendment more clearly spells out the reasons why district administrators will consider granting a request to change a child's assigned bus route or stop. Those reasons, the amendment makes clear, must be appropriate ones to justify a change. Its language reads as follows:

Each student entitled to transportation will be assigned to a specific bus route and bus stop, which will be the same for the entire school year unless altered by the transportation supervisor. No student will be permitted to use any other route or stop without permission. Such permission may be granted upon receipt of a written request of a parent or guardian subject to the following conditions and limitations:

■ The requested change must not result in the overcrowding of any bus, alteration of any regular bus route, bus stop, or time schedule, or in any other way interfere with regular operation of the transportation system.

■ No request will be approved for

the purposes of entertainment or for the simple convenience of the parent or student.

■ The specific situations in which special permission for a change may be granted are as follows:

(a.) To accommodate sudden changes in regularly scheduled child care services that result in a long term alteration to a child's bus schedule.

(b.) To participate in an organized group activity for children of school age, which is basically educational in nature. (The schedule for these events shall be given to the school principal at least 24 hours in advance.)

(c.) Other deviations from a child's pre-established transportation routine will not be considered, except in case of emergency.

(d.) In an emergency, written requests must be made to the child's principal who will be responsible to coordinate necessary actions with the transportation supervisor.

It was that last point that Byers cited as his reason for voting against the measure. If a principal were to forget to inform the supervisor of a change, Byers said, the supervisor might be called on the carpet if a problem developed. The policy did not provide adequately for that, he continued, and so he could not support it.

The new policy amendment goes into effect immediately.

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Fugitive mom arrested, loses son in custody battle

Continued from Page 1

And Jake has been in the center of a hide-and-seek game played for keeps.

Monday afternoon was a time of grieving for Susan Swanner and her parents, Lorraine and Maurice Ripard.

She was denied the chance to say goodbye to her son, who had been placed in two foster homes for the week between Susan Swanner's Aug. 16 arrest and Jake's remand Monday to his father by Wayne County Circuit Court Frances Pitts.

"They know nothing of his likes and dislikes. They never asked me what food he likes, what routine he is used to. They (the caseworker) said they had a hard time controlling him, he didn't want to eat. He was restless, he kept waking up and calling for me," she said.

Susan Swanner has also been denied any visitation rights with the child.

Since her release from jail last week, she has moved back into her parents' apartment.

Susan Swanner and her father say they are shocked at how quickly the Wayne County court system disposed of the child's future, when Oakland County Circuit Judge Fred Mester had granted physical custody of Jake to his mother and unsupervised visitation to his father only a day earlier.

That was on August 19. On August 20, a Wayne County referee ruled that Jake would go back to his father; this was the decision upheld in the Wayne County Circuit Court.

"Before we had some hope we could see him, she could see him. I seriously think I'll never see my grandson again," Ripard said.

Jake, an only child, was born October 31, 1990 in North Carolina. His mother, who was 41 when she had the baby after a series of miscarriages, says that from the beginning

she was Jake's primary caregiver. In March 1992, the couple decided to move north, planning to temporarily stay in the Ripard's home.

By June, according to an October 1992 letter Susan Swanner sent to a North Carolina judge, her husband said he was tired of living in Michigan and wanted a divorce and full custody of the child. He refused marriage counseling, Susan Swanner said.

The war began in full force when the six foot tall Don Swanner walked into the Ripard's condominium on July 1, 1992 and snatched Jake from the arms of his protesting five foot tall grandmother. At the time, the baby's mother was at work.

On July 2, 1992 Mester granted temporary custody of Jake to his mother, but the father left the state before the papers could be served. For 48 hours, Susan Swanner was unsure of her child's whereabouts. Jake remained in his father's hands for 12 days.

She then flew down to North Carolina, where the Stanley County Sheriff's Department refused to serve the Oakland County judge's papers on Don Swanner.

Michigan and North Carolina are both signatories to the federal Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act, which calls for cooperation between states in these matters.

"Our own orders mean nothing in North Carolina because the Civil War is still going on down there," Ripard said.

The Stanley County sheriff's department told Susan Swanner they could not serve her husband with the Michigan order because it was not addressed specifically to the department.

On July 13, Susan Swanner said she signed a North Carolina joint custody agreement "under duress" because it was the only way she could see the baby. She agreed to find a home in that state and trade the child off on a weekly basis with her

husband.

But that never happened. Susan Swanner says that following the advice of her Michigan lawyer, on August 1, 1992 she took Jake back up north to continue the legal proceedings in Oakland County and went into hiding for what she thought would be several weeks. Instead, she was a fugitive for over a year.

"My attorney told me to bring the baby up here no matter what the costs," she said.

"If I had known what I know now, I would have forced trying to get permanent custody down there, but I felt as a Northerner I wouldn't get it or I would be forced to live down there."

Susan Swanner added that she wanted to keep her full-time job and health insurance in Michigan and that she felt the northern state offered more opportunities for Jake.

Ripard said he encouraged his daughter to return to Michigan.

"I was in his (the attorney's) office when he was talking to her. He said you tell your daughter she's got to bring that baby back here. I regret saying to her, 'Sue, if you ever had any guts in your life, bring that baby here.' It was a timid soul," Ripard said.

"I've lost a grandson. Now I'm going to lose a daughter. They want to put her in jail for five years."

On Sept. 15, 1992, in North Carolina, Don Swanner was given exclusive custody of Jake. Prior to that, there were several custodial hearings, but Susan Swanner says she and her attorney were never notified of them.

Don Swanner kicked off a flyer campaign in Novi, circulating Susan's picture with a \$500 reward for notification of her whereabouts.

Meanwhile, the custody case dragged on in the Oakland County Court system. As part of the proceedings, Susan Swanner's family paid out \$1,500 to have several members evaluated by a psychiatrist.

North Carolina has not required psychological testing in its custody proceedings, according to Ripard.

He says he has drained his retirement savings and the family has chipped in to pay the over \$100,000 in expenses related to the custody case.

During all the court battles, Susan Swanner was never permitted to testify. It was always lawyers talking to lawyers, she says.

Susan Swanner's new attorney has filed an appeal with the Michigan Court of Appeals hoping to overturn the Wayne County decision. But with Jake gone, the appeal is meaningless, Ripard says.

He added that Don Swanner has never sent Jake any money, gifts, cards and that his telephone calls focused on threats to the family, not inquiries about Jake's welfare.

"It was always harassment. He never asked about the child," Ripard contends.

Susan Swanner says she believes Jake as a pawn in the beginning and is now being used for revenge against her. She had planned to prepare Jake for his father's visits, as ordered by Mester, by showing the child photographs and videos of his dad.

"He doesn't really remember Don. He doesn't really remember anything about his father. He was too young to

remember what was going on," she said.

"My concern for Jake is that Don isn't going to be able to emotionally handle a three-year-old."

Going to jail was a "horrible, horrible experience," Susan Swanner said.

"When those doors slam shut, it's a feeling you can't describe unless you're there, but the worst thing of all is they took my child away and not knowing what was going on with him," she said.

"It just doesn't seem right. I believe he was in the wrong to take a child into hiding without my knowledge and consent."

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Bivalves muscle into lake

Continued from Page 1

"It's not a foregone conclusion that they'll infest the lake. There's not enough evidence to say it will become another Lake Erie. Few examples of inland lakes have developed severe infestations," Marangolo said.

Three or four years down the road, scientists may be able to get a better handle on how infested Walled Lake will become. Or the zebra mussel population already there may just

"lize out," he explained.

The survey is part of a \$20,000 project funded by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The work is being conducted by scientists from the Connecticut-based Mystic Seaport Museum's Maritime Studies Program.

Marangolo said a grant request to expand the scope of the project to additional Michigan inland lakes — there are a total of 11,000 — will be submitted to the state this fall.

The hypothesis is that the zebra mussels were first introduced to the United States in 1986 when a Russian freighter dumped its ballast water in Michigan in Lake St. Clair. Scientists first detected the mussels, which originate in the Caspian and Aral seas, there in 1988.

Oakland County lakes which were tested but found free of zebra mussels include Kent, Orchard, Pontiac, Stoney Creek, Orion and Fenton lakes.

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Facilities the focus of Walled Lake's bond issue

By RANDY COBLE
Staff Writer

With apologies to Shakespeare, to bond or not to bond, that is the question facing voters in the Walled Lake Consolidated School District.

The district's Board of Education voted last month to ask its residents to approve a bond issue of approximately \$135.5 million for new school construction, expansion and renovation of existing facilities and technology purchases. The matter will come for a vote of the people this October.

District officials cite growing enrollment and the need to keep Walled Lake students up to date with technology as the reasons for the request.

The proposal, called "Project 21," is designed to meet the needs of education in Walled Lake schools into the next century, spokesperson Lois Lang said in a report on the subject.

The board decided to go for the bond issue just months after work wrapped up from the district's 1989 bond issue, which paid for two new elementary schools, a replacement for another school and additions and renovations for others.

The proposed bond issue, Lang said, would "provide needed facilities for our rapidly increasing enrollment, quality learning environments in all school buildings and prepare Walled Lake students to be competitive with students from other districts in the acquisition of knowledge and skills through use of technology."

The board's decision followed the recommendation of Superintendent of Schools James Geisler and a year-long study of the district's needs over the coming decade or more.

Walled Lake now levies 36.8866 mills for general operations and

another 3.5 mills for debt. Exact numbers on how much the bond proposal would increase that amount — or of the expected cost to the average homeowner — are not yet available.

In detail, the issue proposes to fill those needs by paying for:

- A new elementary school.
- Additions and renovations to the 13 existing elementary schools.
- Two new middle schools.
- Renovations and additions to one of the two existing middle schools.
- Renovations and additions for both high schools.
- Renovations of the district's com-

munity education center.

- Buying technology and infrastructure equipment.
- Land acquisition and costs related to the issuance.

The 1989 issue, by comparison, paid for two new elementary schools and a replacement for the aging Walled Lake Middle School. Also included in the bond issue were a transportation/maintenance facility, high school renovations and site improvements and elementary media center additions.

The projects, Lang added, were all completed on time (October 1992) and within the issue's \$47.8 million

budget.

The \$135.5 million request — the board has not yet precisely set the amount it will ask voters to approve — comes on the heels of the district getting a better credit rating. That will make it both easier and cheaper for it to borrow money.

Moody's Investor Service, which assigns credit ratings to public entities of all kinds, upgraded Walled Lake's credit rating for the sale of bonds from A to A1, the first change since 1986.

In a related move, the board and administration saved taxpayers more than half a million dollars by re-

financing part of the district's 1989 bond issue balance.

The savings will total \$529,000 over the next 13 years, Executive Director for Business Services Sandra Moir estimated.

"By taking advantage of the historically low interest rates that now exist," said banker and district consultant Anne Noble, "this re-funding has reduced the district's debt obligation."

How the market will look if and when the district sells \$135.5 million in bonds is still uncertain. Voters will decide if they want officials to find out this October.

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Planning commission nixes rezoning for large store

By RANDY COBLE
Staff Writer

The Novi Planning Commission rejected a developer's request for a rezoning that would have allowed him to bring a "big box" retail center to western Novi.

Commissioners voted 8-0 (Chairperson Richard Clark was absent) on Aug. 18 to recommend that the Novi City Council deny Novix Associates' request to rezone 61.8 acres of land on Grand River Avenue east of Wixom Road.

The property lies in an I-1 (light industrial, including office, use) zone. Developer Joseph Gerak asked the city to change that to B-3 (general business).

Gerak would not divulge the name of the commercial tenant likely to take the new space.

Novix wants the change, he said. In order to build two, large side-by-side enclosed 100,000-square-foot retail stores. Parking for 1,200 cars would be provided; the southern half

of the site is not scheduled to be developed.

"We would have a large building encompassing all the normal sorts of stores you'd find in a typical strip mall," Gerak said.

The enclosures, called "big boxes," are the trend in marketing nowadays, Gerak said. The city should approve the rezoning, Gerak argued, to allow them to come in for two reasons: the changes that have taken place in Novi and in the real estate market in recent years.

Residents in the area want a large retail center there, Gerak said. Those living in western Novi must travel to Wixom or the central part of the city to shop, he said, and would welcome a neighborhood location that would satisfy their needs. The big box, he argued, would prevent strip malls from springing up all over western Novi, something residents have said they don't want to see happen.

Second, Gerak continued, the rezoning for the land isn't practical, given the trends in today's market. A better

use was the one Novix has proposed.

Howard Green, a Novix representative, told the commission that the Grand River/Wixom spot was a prime one for such an outlet.

"Most of the national retail chains represented in the Detroit market," Green said, "are looking at western Novi. My estimate is that there are sufficient retailers out there to fill up the acreage."

On the other hand, Green continued, there's very little demand for light industrial/office-type land. Green said that there is a lot of it available now, but much is vacant. That trend, he predicted, will continue for "probably the next two decades."

(A proposal for an industrial subdivision on the site received tentative city approval two years ago, planning consultant Bradon Rogers said, but the plan's backers have decided not to follow through with it.)

Rogers disagreed with Green's and Gerak's reasoning, recommending that the commission oppose the

rezoning.

While some nearby property is zoned B-3, Rogers said, the city's master plan for land use calls for the land to be I-1 zoned. Deviating from it, he said, could open up a Pandora's box of such "spot rezoning" requests.

Increased traffic in the area was another reason Rogers cited. He also said that there were other sites in Novi that may better suit a big box.

The minus of a commercial center at Wixom and Grand River was the square-foot size of the Novi Town Center, he said, outweigh the pluses.

Responding to a point Gerak made, Rogers said that the decision by the city of Wixom to allow commercial zoning right across the road from the parcel wasn't enough to justify the rezoning.

"There's no reason we should tag

along and add to a busy traffic situation at that intersection," he said.

Novi is an attractive area for those seeking light industrial/office space, Rogers said, and added that he felt the city could find users for I-1 zoned space there.

Director of Planning James Wahl, however, urged commissioners not to throw the baby out with the bathwater.

"This particular area," he said, "does have the potential for commercial development. Don't close the door on that idea."

"We've been approached on three or four sites for this type of use," Wahl

said. "We felt that this was the most appropriate site in the city for it. It's near the freeway, it's in a commercial corridor and it's less offensive to nearby uses (than other locations would be)."

Commissioner Robert Taub wondered if the city was making a mistake in refusing the request.

"Are we looking a gift horse in the mouth?" he queried.

If the big box center decided to move to Wixom for example, Taub said, Novi would get the worst of both worlds: increased traffic to the site but no tax monies from it.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there are vacancies on the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Corporation. Interested persons may contact the City Clerk for further information or an application. The deadline for receiving applications is August 31st. Persons unable to meet the deadline may contact the Clerk for further instructions.

GERALDINE STIPP, CITY CLERK
(8-23 & 8-26-93 NR, NN) 347-0456

NOTICE — CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR BIDS — OFFICE SUPPLIES

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for Office Supplies according to the specifications of the City of Novi. Bids will be received until 3:00 p.m. prevailing eastern time, Wednesday, September 29, 1993, at which time proposals will be opened and read. Bids shall be addressed as follows:

CITY OF NOVI
CAROL J. KALINOVIK, PURCHASING DIRECTOR
45175 W. Ten Mile Rd.
Novi, MI 48375-3024

All bids must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED, "OFFICE SUPPLIES" AND MUST BEAR THE NAME OF THE BIDDER.

The City reserves the right to accept any or all alternative proposals and award the contract to other than the lowest bidder, to waive any irregularities or informalities or both; to reject any or all proposals; and in general to make the award of the contract in any manner deemed by the City, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the City of Novi.

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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, September 1, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider HAVENHILL FARMS, located on the south side of 14 Mile between Harper and Decker Roads for POSSIBLE PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN APPROVAL, WOODLANDS AND WETLANDS PERMIT APPROVALS.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Department of Community Development, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 1, 1993.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LODIA RICHARDS, SECRETARY
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Arrested man sings different tune from police report

Continued from Page 1

Cell Number 3.

About the only fact of the incident that James and police agree on is that James and two other people were playing instruments in his garage. James was playing the drums. A neighbor called police to complain about the noise.

James said he and the neighbor have been feuding ever since the neighbor moved in. The neighbor told police that the music woke up her baby, who has a heart condition. James' attorney, Jerry Watson, would not comment on the case.

The police incident report states that James was intoxicated, but there is no record of any breathalyzer or blood-alcohol tests being performed that night.

James denies that he was intoxicated at the time of the incident. He says he had two beers.

James also denies telling police to arrest him. He says he and his friends stopped playing instruments in his garage as soon as they noticed an officer standing in the doorway.

"I looked up and saw him standing there smiling and tapping his foot," James said. "He told us there'd been a complaint about the noise."

"I turned to my buddy and said, 'This is a bunch of bulls---,'" he said.

According to James' side of the story, the officer asked him if he was getting belligerent and walked toward his car. James said he asked the officer "What are you going to do, arrest me?" and the officer didn't respond.

According to Officer Conquest, when he told the people in the garage about the noise complaint, James

loudly yelled "This is bulls---." He said he asked James to stop playing and James stood up from the drum set and again yelled "This is bulls---," then punched a nearby beer can and knocked it to the floor.

Conquest said he told James that if he didn't stop, he would be ticketed. He alleges that James responded by saying "Well, then you will have to write me a ticket because this is bulls---. It's only 10 o'clock."

Conquest states that, at that point, he "observed James becoming hostile" and he asked him for his license. He says that when James allegedly refused, he warned James that he would be arrested if he didn't cooperate. Conquest said that he was outside with the other officers, and was "explaining the situation" when James came out of the garage and into the street. He said he again

asked James for his license so he could write up an ordinance violation for the loud music. Conquest alleges that James said "No, go ahead and arrest me." He then allegedly tried to push Conquest aside and go into the house.

James says that he never told Conquest to write him a ticket, never told him to arrest him, and was never asked for ID. He says that he remained in the garage as Conquest went out to his car to call for backup. He said he was walking away to get another beer when he was suddenly "jumped" from behind by four Novi officers and a Wixom officer.

"They came up behind and jumped me. I kept saying 'I'm not resisting arrest,'" but the officers forced him to the ground and handcuffed him. James' face was cut in several places. He believes it happened when

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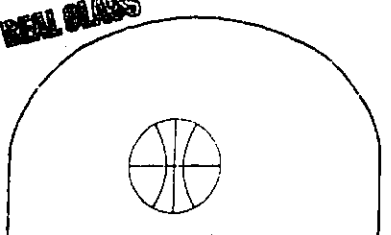
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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, September 1, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ACA GAS, location the south side of Grand River between Haggerty & Meadowbrook Roads for POSSIBLE SPECIAL LAND USE AND PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN APPROVAL.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Department of Community Development, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 1, 1993.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LODIA RICHARDS, SECRETARY
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Resident is down on the farm

Continued from Page 1

was still examining the plan.

Resident Nick Wagner urged the board to reject the committee's recommendation last Thursday.

"Is it the proper function of the school board," he asked, "to get involved in the preservation of property?"

The Furst land, Wagner said, was worth money on the real estate market and it was a better idea to sell it and put the money towards school programs.

"In past meetings, you've said you needed funds," Wagner said. "You have an asset here. Use it."

He said that restoring the site was not the best use for the property.

"The Fursts didn't intend to preserve that site as a monument to them," Wagner said. "If they did, they would not have left it to the district."

Several on the board agreed with that point, but disagreed that the committee's plan was just to create such a "monument."

"I wouldn't support a proposal to save the land just to save it," Trustee

Craig Foreback said, "but I see real educational uses for the property to enhance our programs and for the community."

Trustee Robert Schram urged the board to be cautious in making a decision about the 19th century home.

"Once you take something like that down," he said, "it's gone forever."

Kathy Mutch, a member of the board's committee and of Preservation Novi, disagreed with Wagner. Mutch said that the district would not need to use its money or personnel to achieve the restoration. Money would come from grants and other sources, she indicated, and there were plenty of volunteers, expert and otherwise, willing to lend a hand.

Restoring the site, Mutch continued, would make it a monument to the values of the Furst sisters and the community they lived in: family, love of education and involvement in local government. The Furst estate the committee envisioned, she said, was one that offered benefits to school curriculum and the community alike.

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Library Notes

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Fall library hours: As of Sunday, Sept. 12, the Novi Public Library will be open seven days a week through Memorial Day. Fall hours are Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

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Opinions

12A

THURSDAY
August 26,
1993

As We See It

Coordinate approach on seniors housing

Seniors housing is back on the council table, and that is the good news. If it moves the City of Novi toward the goal of constructing a rent-subsidized residential complex for senior citizens, then that is to the credit of council members Nancy Cassis and Tim Pope.

But we see a real danger here, a potentially divisive fight between two factions who want to be the proponents of senior housing in Novi, each wanting credit for the idea and bringing it to fruition.

When seniors housing is constructed here, there will be plenty of credit to go around to all who contributed and participated. But if infighting and election-year posturing get in the way and slow this project down, no one will benefit. Clearly, the best way for the city to proceed would be in a coordinated fashion, with the cooperation of all proponents of the project.

Readers may remember that back in June Kathy Crawford, the Parks and Recreation Department's Seniors Coordinator, brought a request to City Council asking for immediate approval to apply for a \$5 million federal grant to build the 80-unit complex just south of Novi High School. And readers may recall that Pope and Cassis were among the four council members that voted to turn it down.

Their reasons were clear enough: It was a sudden request. They said there had not been time to get public input on the idea of building a complex on that site. They said they didn't have enough information to determine if Cooperative Services Inc. was the firm they wanted to represent Novi during the grant application or to build and run the complex later.

Crawford admitted at the time it was an eleven-hour request. She and council member Carol Mason, who had worked together on this project through the city's senior housing committee, had

Government

been told Novi stood no chance of winning a Housing and Urban Development grant. Cooperative Services had broached the issue with them only a short time before the July deadline for submitting the grant applications.

Of course, Crawford and Mason always intended to bring the issue back to the council at another time. The only question was when. Crawford said back then she was considering returning immediately to ask for reconsideration. If not, she promised she'd be back next year, and would have all the information laid out well ahead of time.

This month, Cassis and Pope revived the issue earlier than had been expected. They submitted to the city administration a list of the questions they would like to have answered before they could lend their support to the project. They explained they wanted to get the ball rolling again.

But herein lies our concern. Crawford, Mason and the rest of the seniors housing committee have already worked on getting just such answers.

And we don't need two groups trying to do the same work. It is not duplicative; it is potentially divisive.

We want to see all the potential proponents working together. The council should work with the committee. It should not ask the administration to reinvent a wheel that has already been invented by the committee. All these efforts should be coordinated toward reaching that single goal.

Listening is the hardest part



Mike Malott

Sometimes, just listening — truly listening — is the hardest part. That is something we journalists often do not do very well. We're supposed to. How can we hope to produce accurate, truthful stories unless we are willing to simply sit down sometimes and just listen to what someone has to tell us? Well, we can't.

Still, many reporters say it's their "job" to ask the questions, and many take pride in the fact they can "ask the really tough questions." It never seems to dawn on some of them they should be listening to the answers.

That just a part of human nature, I suppose, and we are all guilty of it at least sometimes, myself included. But I also wonder if the tendency to ask questions without listening to the answers is exacerbated these days by the pace the electronic media sets. In the age of the 15- and 30-second sound bite, many of us have come to see short, simple answers as "direct" answers and long answers as "evasive," regardless of their content. Many of us seem to have forgotten that long answers can also sometimes be "thoughtful" answers.

Other times, the issues are either too unpleasant or too complex, so we just apply some nifty little label to a school or mode of thought — liberal vs. conservative, gun control vs. the NRA, pro-life vs. pro-choice — and it saves us the time and trouble of having to listen.

I digress. My point here is that there are also some notable exceptions. *NoviNews* Staff Writer Jan Jeffries is one. She's not your "typical" reporter, if there is such a thing. She's not the overconfident, abrasive type that seems to be the stereotype of today's journalist. Instead, she's rather mild-mannered. Mostly, she really tries to hear what her sources have to say.

That made all the difference in the world recently on one

story that really needed to be told. Jan got the story when most others could not have. And in fact, most others didn't.

Heldi Fernandez, who was the fiancée of the late Thomas Hyde, the 30-year-old Novi man who committed suicide with Dr. Jack Kevorkian's help, called to complain about an article in our paper. She didn't think a physician, who hadn't seen Hyde in weeks, should have said some of the things to the press that he did.

When Heldi made that complaint to reporters at other papers, she got a defensive reaction from them. They'd simply gone to the doctor when they could not get a comment from her, they said.

Jan, on the other hand, said she'd be happy to hear whatever Heldi had to say. Heldi must have believed her, too, because she invited Jan over for an interview. To date, that is the only interview of any real length she's done with anyone.

If you read the story, you'll remember it. If you didn't, I'd suggest you go back, get out your August 16 edition and take a good close look at it. It was the front page piece headlined "Hyde didn't want fiancée to discover him dead."

Like I said, it was a story that needed to be told. It was not one based on press conferences or media hype. It was not a story that advocates a position on the assisted suicide law. It didn't debate any public policy questions.

Instead, it was just a story of how Hyde, Fernandez and their 2-year-old daughter fought a losing battle against Lou Gerwig's disease over two years. It was about how Hyde didn't want his fiancée to watch him choke to death in front of her and about how he didn't want his daughter to find him dead one day. It was about how their daughter, Carmen, was still searching the apartment looking for him days after he'd committed suicide with Kevorkian's help.

It was a story the public needed to hear, and probably one Heldi needed to tell.

She talked. Jan listened.

Michael Malott is the Managing Editor of The Northville Record/Novi News.

Moments By Bryan Mitchell



'Gotcha Melisa'

Northville High School
trainer Melissa Marks is
captured on film

Some just like to think, talk



Lee Snider

Tireless letter writers. There's at least one in every community. It seems like whenever they get a thought more elevated than how to spend their Saturday morning, they sit down at the terminal or take pen in hand and write. Whether it's to a product manufacturer, the president of the United States or, alas, the local newspaper, there seems to be no end to the flow of paper they generate.

Those of us in the newspaper business, hurried types who work under constant deadline pressures, tend to regard them as nuisances who have nothing much to do with their lives. Sometimes that's the case, sometimes not. Sometimes they're just folks who have a lot to say.

This area's letter writer is a man named Alfred Galli, a resident of Northville Township for 40 years. Fred is a retiree who likes to write about world affairs. We hear from him on such far-reaching topics as Kuwait, Iraq, Somalia and Bosnia. Government stupidity, the failings of George Bush and the abominable human rights record of people around the world are other favorites. Rarely does he comment on anything close to home. He's 60.

I had spoken to Fred on the phone a few times and found him to be likeable and well informed. Still, I couldn't help but think of him as someone who had too much time on his hands. After all, the Branch Davidson fiasco down in Texas inspired him to read the entire book of Revelations, the bizarre, symbol-rich Biblical finale which describes the anti-christ and the four riders of the Apocalypse. Anyone who can manage to get through that strange language code, with its flaming patins and its alphas and omegas, has to have nowhere to go while waiting for The Price Is Right to come on.

But Fred has always been a letter writer, a reader and a thinker, even while he was putting in long days as the di-

rector of nursing services at Northville Regional Psychiatric Hospital.

A self-proclaimed atheist, Fred nonetheless likes to explore issues of faith. He has read the Bible twice, and studied virtually every form of religion, including Zoroastrianism and primitivism.

Opinionated yet open minded, he would take hours out of his work day to argue the meaning of life with a man-of-his-work-day friend. He would phone calls and the pleadings of secretaries, he would close his office door and mix it up with the minister, claiming that faith is fine but must be based on truth.

Before most people had even heard of Vietnam, he wrote to JFK, telling the young president just what a mistake it was for us to get involved in that far-away conflict. He continued his letter barrage with Kennedy's successors, sending anti-war messages to LBJ and Richard Nixon. It's a shame no one listened.

Born in Rome, Italy, in 1913, Fred has lived a full and colorful life. He eventually moved to Pennsylvania and became involved in nursing at the suggestion of a friend. It seems that his buddy spent some time in a Catholic hospital in Pittsburgh after getting injured in a mining accident. The nurse took a liking to him and invited him to become a nurse apprentice under her tutelage. The friend urged Fred to do the same.

"He said, 'Give you three meals a day and you get to deal with doctors and nurses.' It sounded great."

Fred went on to obtain a masters degree at Wayne State and spent 16 years as a department head at Northville Regional.

Even in Italy, he's kept in touch with family back in the Old Country and has written biographical outlines of many of his relatives. A few years ago, he wrote his autobiography, a 70-page work, on a manual typewriter.

It's easy to dismiss people like Alfred Galli, to write them off as eccentric gaffs. But it's also wrong. Who knows what treasures and pearls of wisdom that autobiography contains? Lee Snider is editor of The Northville Record.

Trails issue elicits pro-con letters

Kudos to News for editorial

To the Editor:
Kudos to The Novi News for their strong editorial of Thursday, August 19, "City's Shattering Trails was a Hasty Move."

In 1985, the Novi City Council approved the master plan that included the nature trails. In June, 1993 there was a public dedication of the first trail that runs through the woods near Chase Farms subdivision. Cutting the ribbon at that ceremony was Mayor Matthew Quinn accompanied by Ernie Aruffo (who oversaw and spurred the development and in attendance were Council members Nancy Cassis, Tim Pope, Bob Schmidt and Hugh Crawford).

The audience and officials then walked the trail and the vocal expressions overhead were that the trail was terrific and a real boon to the city. The Chase Farms development thought so highly of the trail that elaborate signs were erected along Chase Drive with wording: "City Walking Trail" and "Nature Preserves and Park Area."

Our dwelling abides the woods with their first trail and in almost three months of existence there have been no untoward incidents and the consensus of neighbors and others who have walked the trail has been entirely favorable. Now, as the editorial pointed out, apparently a petition against the trails and signed by fewer than 150 persons in another part of the city, caused the council on Monday, August 16, to vote 4 to 3 to drop plans for a development that would benefit a population of 35,000.

In the meantime, I hope the proponents of the trails will speak up and let the council members that voted against the trails know that their vote was not appreciated by the majority of Novi residents.

The sudden reversal of their original approval appears to lend credence to the strong accusations in the editorial.

If anyone has any doubts as to the benefit of having the trails, I invite you to come and walk it. You'll enjoy it.

Raymond W. Lustig

Council was courageous

To the Editor:

It's unfortunate that the question of the trail system has pitted neighbor against neighbor. Conceptually the notion of a trail system appears to have been a good one, but the real inquiry should be, where do you route the trails and who has the greatest say in where they should go?

Contrary to the beliefs of this newspaper and recent bias reporting, a property owner's right is not really ended at the property line, and to profess that they do is naive and immature.

Why is this newspaper so strongly supporting residential trails and advocating disrupting the lives of the affected residents and the protected woodlands and wetlands? Hopefully they are just plainly misguided with their viewpoint and do not have other motives.

For those patrons who see nothing wrong with having the general public right on their property line and behind residential homes, how would they like it, if it was now proposed to put a power plant, or a solid waste dump, or a shopping center, or a state prison, or even something as simple as a nice children's playground right next to their place of residence after they have expended large sums of funds to obtain a certain type of lifestyle?

Hopefully, this is an extreme, but the point is, they would not like it any more than those residents who did not want the public trail system right next to them.

Let's try and be realistic about where the system should have been placed and who should have the greatest say in that decision. Should it be residents who would have been directly affected by this system or the residents of apartment complexes, mobile home parks, non-affected subdivisions or even the neighbor across the street, since it's no skin off their noses? Why should the will of the non-directly affected subjugate the desires of the residents who are face-to-face with the trail system?

For those committee members

who have been placed in the position of making the decision, I would like to suggest that they acted bravely without concern for political fallout and lost many votes if you are right that the rest of the Novi electorate are for the trail system. Of course, I do not take wild guesses the way you, the editor of The Novi News do and speculate about the opinions of the rest of the Novi electorate.

But I can speak for myself. I too am opposed to the trail system and support the safety and privacy concern of my neighbors because what affects them affects us all. If the petition had been presented to my wife and me, there would have been 152 signatures on it.

You called the council's action "hardly representative government." Was it perhaps representative government at its best? The majority studied the facts, got a sense of what is best for all of the citizens of Novi, and then, despite the criticism they might get for their decision, they voted their minds

and their consciences.

Finally, I will always respect your right to editorialize on philosophical points. But please do not attack people's integrity or attach selfish motives to them when you have neither facts nor proven of such. For several months in the past year you published editorials critical of the Novi school system and its Board of Education. When the citizens of Novi refused to buy into that and were content to let the two incumbent board members run unopposed for re-election, you chided the citizens of Novi for not caring and not getting involved. Now some 150 people have become active and involved with an issue and you resort to name calling by designating them as a "fear-mongering, NIMBY-istic special interest group."

I know that you would like to raise The Novi News to the level of being a respectable paper and being a real contributor to this community, but I can assure you that illogically and sensationalistic name-calling is not the way to do it.

L. Berry

Dennis F. Ringelski

Put the pathway issue to rest

To the Editor:

We object to The Novi News' editorial of August 19 regarding the proposed pathway system. You haven't done your homework on this issue. There most certainly is a grounds-well of public protest over pathways in residential neighborhoods. Fortunately, the four City Council members who voted to delete them from the system have been doing their homework. You called it "election-year pandering." We call it representing their constituents.

Although this system has been discussed in some circles for many years, the general public is just now becoming aware of it. We are residents of Cedarburg Estates No. 4. A close to one of the proposed paths which would run between Cedarburg Estates and James-ton Green and west of Taft Road. We organized a petition and along with some other volunteers called on every house backing up to the proposed trail and some others nearby. Most homeowners were unaware of the plan, but once told were opposed to it. In fact, only one household was in favor.

Granted, this is a small sampling, but it's pretty clear how the people feel. Royal Crown Estates, another subdivision, has done the same thing. These four subdivisions are just the tip of the iceberg. As the rest of Novi's residential areas scheduled for trails become more aware of this plan, they too will mobilize and produce the same results.

There are many reasons why people opposed to residential trails think they are a bad idea. We do have concerns about misuse, the cost of city maintenance of the paths, the loss of privacy to homeowners along the trails, the disruption of wildlife in here-to-fore protected wetlands, the absence of disclosure of the proposed trails to buyers, the safety of children wandering in swampy lowlands, etc. However, The Novi News' pronouncement that we are motivated by "fear-mongering NIMBY-ism" is irresponsible.

We commend Nancy Cassis, Tim Pope, Carol Mason and Robert Schmidt for acting quickly on this issue. By doing so, they have saved all of us from having to waste our time fighting our own government and have saved the Council's time so it can get on with other issues. We strongly urge the Planning Commission to act in kind and put residential pathways to rest once and for all.

Lee and Marsha Volchoff

Jim Utley

Vote may end domino effect in area

To the Editor:

In my opinion, zoning is the single most important long-term issue facing the City of Novi. In turning down McDonald's request 4-3 to rezone the area at Ten Mile and Novi Road from office OS-1 to B-3, the Novi City Council took a major step in the right direction. Hopefully, the domino effect of more retail in that area will now be slowed and perhaps stopped altogether in favor of low-rise office and residential.

Generally speaking, it has been quite disappointing to me on many

zoning issues over the years including this one that Councilmen (Hugh) Crawford, (Joe) Toth and Mayor (Matt) Quinn for the most part have philosophically taken the position of pro-development (increased tax base) at the expense of infrastructure and the quality of life in this case, does not seem to be an issue worth worrying about in their minds or else logically they would have voted against the rezoning.

In the above case, all three council people inexplicably voted in McDonald's favor for a more in-

tense zoning of B-3 at Novi and Ten Mile roads. Brandon Rogers (the city planning consultant), the city Planning Commission, the city Master plan, Whitehall Nursing Home, four council people and several residents at the Novi council meeting were in direct opposition to the B-3 rezoning. Rather than taking five minutes to meet with the council used to two meetings to muddle through the issue.

Would you consider this to be gridlock, unresponsiveness or lack of leadership? I think that a combi-

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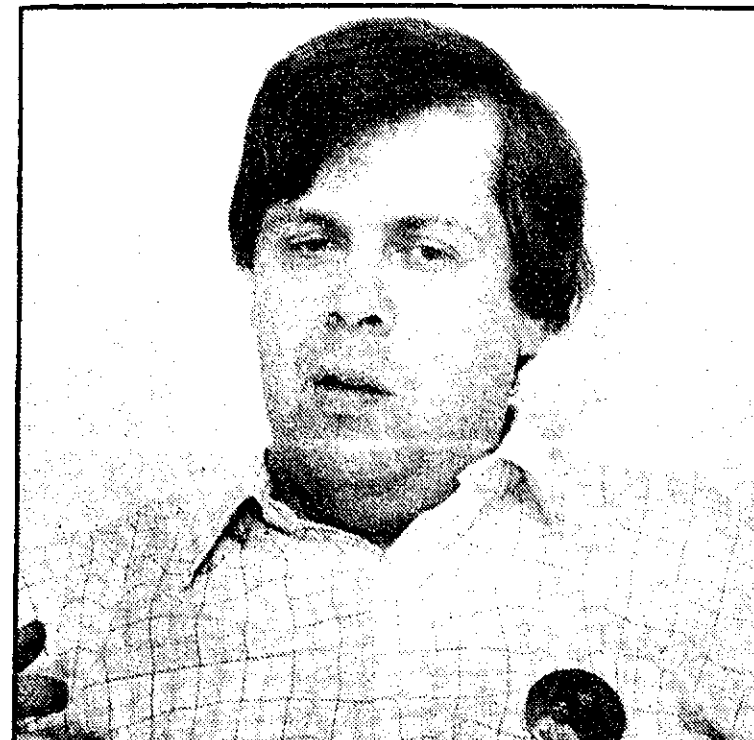
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copes with

tragedy



Wayne Loder wears a button with pictures of his children, Stephanie and Stephen, who died in a 1991 auto accident.



Compassionate Friends Lakes Area organizers (from upper right) Wayne Loder and his wife Pat, with members Chuck and Lynn Shapiro.

By CRISTINA FERRIER
Staff Writer

Wayne and Pat Loder will always remember that day in 1991 as the day their lives fell apart.

It was 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20 when Pat — a former Novi deputy clerk — tried to make the left turn she'd made so many times before into her family's subdivision in Commerce Township.

There, just yards away from their home, her vehicle collided with a motorcycle that was heading toward her. She'd thought there was room to make the turn safely. Witnesses at the scene told police that the motorcyclist, who was killed on impact, was going an

estimated 80 mph in the 45 mph zone.

Pat and the Loders' two children — Stephanie, 8, and Stephen, 5 — were rushed to nearby Huron Valley Hospital. Pat survived the accident.

But Stephen died that evening. Stephanie died the next morning.

"A lot of people didn't know what to say," Wayne said. "They tried to help — they'd say 'I know how you feel, I remember when I lost my grandmother, or my father.' One person actually tried to compare their loss to the loss of a pet."

"But they cannot possibly know how you feel unless they have gone through it themselves," he said. "No pain in the whole world can equal losing a child."

As the Loders tried to sort

through their confusion and pain, they turned to various bereavement support groups but still felt that people didn't understand how they felt.

"We would say we lost our children and the room would just go silent," Pat recalls. Even today, most people seem uncomfortable if the Loders speak of Stephanie or Stephen.

"People always flinch or get really quiet if I mention the children," she said. It's hard, because they need to be able to talk about them. In their hearts, their children remain alive.

"You know, a child who loses his parents is called an orphan," Wayne said. "Someone who loses a spouse is a widow or widower. But there is no name for people who lose their children."

Finally, they learned about The Compassionate Friends, a support group strictly for bereaved parents.

The Compassionate Friends is a self-help organization that offers friendship and understanding to its members.

The organization's credo states "We need not walk alone. We are The Compassionate Friends. We reach out to each other with love, with understanding, and with hope. Our children have died at all ages and from many different causes, but our love for our children unites us..."

The meetings are generally broken into two parts. During the first part, members take turns talking about their grief, if they want to. Members provide support for one another. The second half is devoted to guest speakers or activities, such as a recent balloon release where members wrote messages to their children and released the balloons into the air.

The Compassionate Friends is not a religious group, although people are more than welcome to talk of their religious beliefs if that is how

they cope with their loss.

"The group does not espouse any religion," Wayne explained. "We are very lenient of other people's beliefs. We don't condemn anyone for their beliefs, and we don't push any beliefs on anyone."

The important thing about The Compassionate Friends is that, within this group, members find others who truly understand their pain.

"We're never going to feel good about a lot of things," he added. "But this gives you a chance to relate to other people who understand."

Pat agreed. "They really do understand," she said. "They do know what you're going through."

After attending several meetings of the Livonia chapter, the Loders decided to start a chapter closer to home. Through hard work and dedication they have developed the Lakes Area Chapter, which meets from 7 to 9 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month, in the Richardson Center across from Walled Lake Central High School (1485 Oakley Park Road, Commerce Township). Anyone whose child has died is welcome to attend the meetings.

"We decided to start the Lakes Area group because there is no group that's close to us here," Wayne explained. "There are chapters in Brighton, Flint, Livonia, Ann Arbor, Birmingham, Troy — nothing closer than a 45 minute drive."

And after the deaths of their own children, they noticed every newspaper article or obituary that involved the death of a child.

"We became acutely aware of other people in this area who lost their children," Pat said. "We knew there was a need."

Wayne, who is a former editor of The Novi News, now publishes the Lakes Area chapter

Continued on 4



Lynn Shapiro wears a picture of her daughter Robin.

Volunteer



CONNIE CRONIN

Board member finds
that she's never bored

"Northville is an old town that grew up," commented Connie Cronin, the only woman on the Zoning Board of Appeals, and it grew both in residential and business property without the zoning ordinances that are in effect now.

As a result, Cronin said, there are many "non-conforming structures," and if the owners want to expand or change, they have to ask the appeals board for a variance or change their plans.

Envelopes detailing these cases are mailed to board members a week ahead of each monthly meeting, she said, "sometimes with one case and sometimes five or six," most of them residential.

It can be, for example, a matter of how close to the lot line a new building may be set, or a question of whether a sign for a subdivision is a traffic problem, maybe even an eyesore.

Board members are encour-

aged to look at the site, and then at the meeting they will listen to the reasoning of the owners, the developers, and even the neighbors who have been sent notices regarding the problem.

"We give the persons who make the appeal," Cronin said, "all the time they need, and sometimes after having talked to the builder about altering the original plans, they may come back again and again."

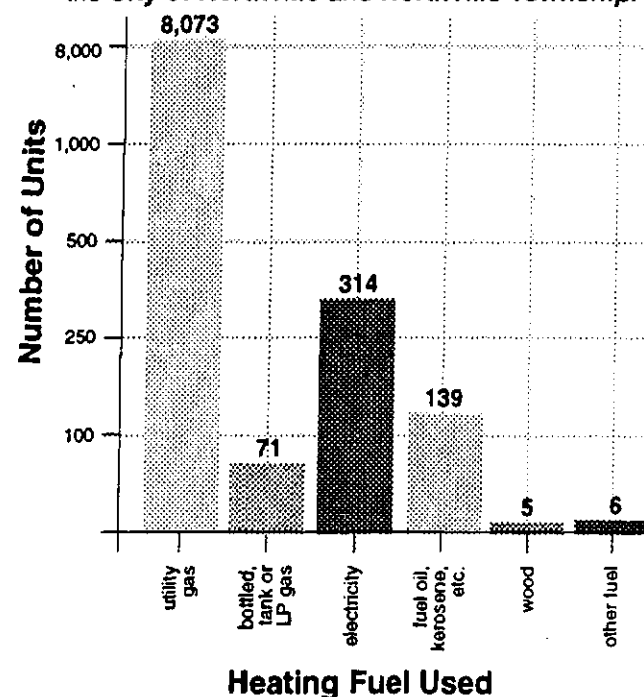
At present there is an opening for an alternate. If you're interested, you may apply at the City Clerk's office for it.

For more insight on the operation of the board, you may attend a meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 8 p.m. at the City Hall.

It's A Fact

Heating the House

There are 8,614 occupied housing units in the City of Northville and Northville Township.



Heating Fuel Used

Novi Senior Center has full schedule of fall activities

By JEANNE CLARKE
Special Writer

Novi Senior Center Manager Jan McAlpine and her staff continue to offer good programs. The center is located in the Novi Civic Center on Ten Mile Road and the activities range from lunchtime meals for a small donation to coffee and conversation, card games, socializing, exercise, bingo and much more.

The monthly senior dances continue to be very popular. Everyone dresses up for the refreshments and live music. The next dance is set for Sept. 28 from 1 to 3 p.m. The cost is \$2 at the door.

This month, the senior center is also running a number of special programs on a variety of subjects. For instance, one is on estate planning and another is called "The Wellness Seminar." In addition, blood pressure is taken by a registered nurse every Wednesday from 11 to 11:50 a.m. This service is free.

Marie Graham, a public health nurse from the Oakland County Health Department, is at the center twice a month between 9 a.m. and noon. She will discuss a number of problems with seniors individually that they might have and will offer advice. This program also is free.

Many other programs are offered by the center, including information about the Senior Days at the Detroit Zoo and the Michigan State Fair.

Seniors are especially encouraged to keep Friday, Sept. 17 open on their calendars for the Novi Skills-O-Frantic Players variety show and potluck dinner starting at 5:30 p.m. The cost will be \$1.

Novi Highlights

Other trips planned for seniors include the Au Sable River Queen trip on Friday, Oct. 15. This is two-hour trip on the riverboat which will include dinner at a Lake Huron smorgasboard and shopping at Pinconning cheese shops.

On Dec. 6, the center is organizing a one-day holiday shopping spree trip to Macy's in New York City with tickets for the Rockettes Christmas Show at Radio City Music Hall. Call 347-0414 for details.

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS
The Compassionate Friends meet monthly and are available for parents who have lost a child or children and need to share their experience and grief with others.

Local facilitators are former Novi residents Pat and Wayne Loder who lost two children in a tragic accident.

The group was a satellite of the Livonia chapter until when it was granted a charter by the national organization July 13. The chapter library, which has books on pertinent subjects is open at 6:45 p.m. For more information, call 363-0722.

The Lodgers attended the 1993 National TCF Conference held in Chicago recently. The conference had an overall attendance of 1,800. While

the Lodgers were there, they met Joe and Iris Lawley, original co-founders of TCF, who were visiting from England and were the keynote speakers at the convention. The Lawleys started with six people at a first meeting and now there are more than 1,000 chapters in 35 countries.

The local chapter members will be having a barbeque on Saturday, Aug. 28 at the home of Chuck and Lynn Shapiro. This will be the first meeting other than regular meetings that the group has had. Members hope that, in a social atmosphere, they can continue to share their mutual problems and thoughts.

In addition to the local chapter, there are chapters in Ann Arbor, Brighton/Howell, Birmingham, Livonia and Troy.

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
The congregational picnic of Hope Lutheran Church will be held at Powers Beach in Wyom. This Sunday, the afternoon will include face painting, water games, scavenger hunt, volleyball, horseshoes, treasure hunt and a picnic.

On the Saturday before the picnic, teens and parents are encouraged to

come to a "Clear It Out" day to make room in the church basement for a room that will be used for youth activities and Sunday Bible study.

The Family Learning Hour will begin on Rally Day Sept. 12 from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. and three courses will be offered for adults. They include "See Through the Scriptures," "Living Discipleship," and "Living the Good News."

In addition, the Board of Christian Education is presenting a new Sunday School curriculum for all ages. Preschoolers will gather in their own area while the rest will meet for opening activities. Children in kindergarten through fifth grade will have lessons come to life by visiting various learning centers with hands-on activities. The junior/senior high and adult students will then join in their classrooms. Later in the morning they will all meet together again and share their experiences.

Rally Day is the first day of Sunday school in the fall. A special program is being developed with a Bible Trivia competition at 7 p.m.

A new group is being formed for singles or couples called "Eight for Fun" and will be a program of getting together for social activity, fun and fellowship. It could be a picnic, a night at the theater, a baseball game, or a progressive dinner.

The women of the church are making plans for a retreat on Saturday,

Oct. 9 with Jackie Edmonds, wife of Pastor Edmonds of Ward Presbyterian Church as speaker.

NOVI PIN POINTERS:
This league of 10 teams, which was started in the Novi area for women bowlers and their friends about 25 years ago, will be resuming bowling on Sept. 9. The league was scheduled to have an organizational meeting today (Aug. 26) to make plans for this coming year.

The league will be bowling at Belaire Lanes. There are openings for additional bowlers and auls. For more information, call Secretary Rosemary Barish at 477-8968 or the bowling alley at 476-1550. Bowling is at 9:30 a.m. and babysitters are available.

Other league officers for the coming year include Barbara Dettore as president, Linda Dettore as vice president, and Barb Walling as treasurer.

PERSONALS
Kenton Patrick Taylor is the new baby at the home of Tim and Carle Taylor of South Lyon. He weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces and was born Aug. 17 at Huron Valley Hospital.

Grandparents are Russell and Sue Taylor, also of South Lyon; David Goodman of New Hudson and Janna Goodman of California. Kenton has three great grandmothers, including

Mary Louise Taylor of Novi.

Richard and Pauline Drueschel have returned from a family reunion at the home of Mrs. Drueschel's parents Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kessler of Hastings. While at the reunion they were able to visit with Mrs. Drueschel's brother, Sgt. Major Stephen Kessler and his wife Marilyn, who have been stationed in Germany. They were also in the states for their daughter Laura's graduation from West Point Academy this month.

Weekend guests at the home of Jeanne Clarke were her brother Dr. James Travis and his wife Lucille from Blue Mountain, Mississippi. Dr. Travis and Mrs. Clarke spent the weekend visiting with old friends at their respective class reunions of the Walled Lake High School classes of 1939 and 1940. The weekend included breakfasts with the group, a fishy at Multi Lakes and a picnic at Willis Park in Wyom. They also attended the 17th birthday party of Leslie Timko, Mrs. Clarke's granddaughter. Special guest was Leslie's great grandmother Betsy Clarke, a former Novi resident now living in Waterford.

Nout Highlights is written by Jeanne Clarke. Should you wish to contact her with information for this column, please call 624-0173.



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Song of the Woods

Tollgate Education Center, located on Meadowbrook at Twelve Mile, hosted a music camp for junior and senior high school students last week. Over 100 student musicians poured into the camp to study under experts including members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and college-level music instructors.

The camp featured classes in both instrumental and vocal music. Pictured here are (left to right) musicians Nathaniel Whigham, 12, Stephanie Bussineau, 12, and Nicole Martin, 13, as they practice in the woods.

On campus

SUSAN LeMay of Novi was among 31 students in grades 10-12 who participated in the Engineering Institute offered by Wright State University's Office of Pre-College Programs.

The Engineering Institute, a week-long residential camp, offered students numerous activities including engineering workshops and seminars, analyzing and solving engineering problems, and hands-on activities with laboratory equipment.

In a special component, "Personal-Social Dynamics," the students met daily to encourage self-development, decision-making and risk-taking skills. Faculty and staff served as mentors and covered such topics as personality types, time management, differences in learning/working styles, stress management, leadership and group process. Wright State University is located in Dayton, Ohio.

Anniversary



The Lustigs (seated in chair) celebrate with family.

Betty and Ray Lustig — 50 years

On June 25 Betty (McClain) and Ray Lustig of Country Place in Northville celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

The following day they were joined by many of their friends and combined families.

Relatives arrived from Ohio, Florida, Montana and California to share in the golden anniversary. Mass was celebrated by the couple's nephew, Thomas McClain S.J.,

and included special readings by their four children, Cindy Dixon of Grand Rapids, Bill of Kalamazoo, Diane Schovers of Northville and Kathy Haulon of Farmington Hills.

In addition to their children, the Lustigs enjoyed the company of their 10 grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews, including three newborns.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

For information regarding rates for church listings call The Northville Record or Novi News 349-1700

WALLED LAKE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
309 Rogers Road, Rogers, MI 48063
(between East of America Bank and Potomac Rd.)
Worship: 10:00 a.m. (Nov. 1993) - 11:00 a.m. (Nov. 1993)
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Nursery Available At Welcome

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN FARMINGTON HILLS
22224 Galt Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. (Nov. 1993)
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Pastor: Charles R. & Doris Cove
474-0864

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
9 Mile & Meadowbrook
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. (Nov. 1993)
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Pastor: David A. Gaudin
349-1700

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST
110 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, MI 48150
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Meeting: 7:30 a.m.

NORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY
11165 Westfield Road, Northville, MI 48161
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. (Nov. 1993)
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. E. J. Bacher
Northville Christian School
349-1700

NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
41671 W. Ten Mile - Meadowbrook
349-2425 (MI)
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Nursery: Available
Pastor: Dr. J. Jacobs
Church School: 9:15 a.m.

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
21355 Meadowbrook Rd. Now at 8th Mile
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Church School: 10:00 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. J. Jacobs
349-1700

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL
10 Mile between Telford & Back, Novi
Phone: 349-1175
Worship: 7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 Holy Eucharist
The Rev. Leslie F. Harding
11:00 a.m. Sunday School

WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
17000 Farmington
Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. (Nov. 1993)
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. J. Jacobs
349-1700

ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
44401 W. 10 Mile Novi
Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. (Nov. 1993)
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. J. Jacobs
349-1700

CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
24550 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi
Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. (Nov. 1993)
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. J. Jacobs
349-1700

VICTORY LUTHERAN CHURCH (MISSOURI SYNOD)
NOVI MEADOWS SCHOOL
On Telford Rd. near 11 Mile Road
Worship: 10:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. (Nov. 1993)

TO HAVE YOUR CHURCH APPEAR HERE CALL 349-1700

HomeTown



CONNECTION

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1. Write your ad



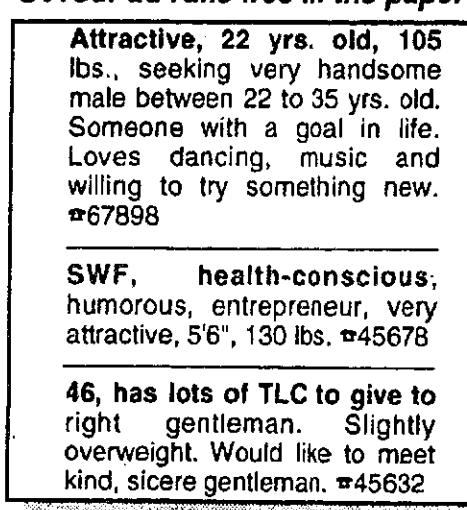
We'll assign you a voice mailbox which will appear in your ad. Your ad will run for 4 weeks.

2. Record your message



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Voice Mailbox \$ FREE
First 5 lines of print ad \$ FREE
Additional lines x \$1.50 each x 4 weeks
Subtotal \$
The following information is completely confidential. We cannot accept your ad without it.
Name
Address
City State Zip
Phone (daytime) (evening)
Mail to: HomeTown Newspapers, Classified Department, P.O. Box 251, South Lyon, MI 48178

You must be 18 years of age or older to use this service. One person cannot place an ad for another person. Ads containing obscene or sexually explicit language will be rejected. This publication reserves the right to edit or refuse any ad and assumes no liability for the content of, or response to any ad or message.

An Important Message for MetroVision Customers...

The Federal Communications Commission requires that all cable rates be changed effective September 1, 1993, in accordance with the new Cable Act. The legislation requires changes in cable rates, services and equipment. The rules require that we price our cable service on a per channel basis and price our equipment on actual costs.

The FCC has "frozen" cable company revenues until November 15, but has encouraged repackaging and re-pricing of our services to comply with the new rate guidelines. Even though some customers' rates may go up, others will go down. The FCC has stated that MetroVision or any other cable company cannot realize an increase in revenues from these rate adjustments.

We hope you have appreciated our efforts to keep our rates low, and we are disappointed that some subscribers are experiencing rate increases as a result of the FCC's new pricing guidelines.

• Your Rate Schedule •		
	OLD RATE PER MONTH	NEW RATE PER MONTH
Service Charges		
Broadcast Basic Service	\$ 0.08	\$ 10.62
Satellite Cable	19.87	11.11
Total - Full Basic	\$ 19.95	\$ 21.73
Equipment Charges		
Addressable Converter Box	\$ 0.00	\$ 1.13
Basic Converter Box	0.00	.58
Remote Handheld	3.00	.19
Additional Outlets	3.95	.00
New Installation Rates		
Unwired Home - aerial		\$45.01
Unwired Home - underground		\$67.98
Prewired Home - (Initial and reconnect)		\$24.05
Additional Outlet at time of initial install		\$22.59
Additional Outlet - separate install		\$28.33

A 5% franchise fee will be applied to the rates above and paid to your local government. This rate was previously included in the service and equipment rates. It will now be shown separately.

For further information regarding these rate changes, tune to channel 3.



Call our customer service representatives with any further questions at 553-7300. We have temporarily extended our office hours Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

MetroVision

37735 Enterprise Court
Farmington Hills, MI 48331

This isn't the only way a physician should listen to his patients...

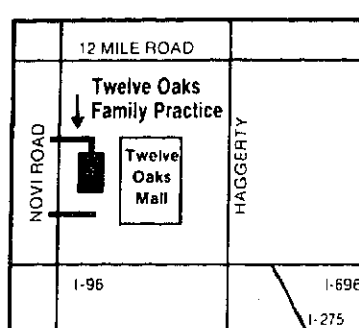
Wouldn't it be nice to have a doctor who listens to a lot more than your heartbeat and blood pressure? A doctor who actually listens to what you have to say?

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Polo match raises funds

By CRISTINA FERRIER
Staff Writer

The major fundraiser for Tollgate's Exceptional Equestrian program attracted a crowd of over 1,500 and raised nearly \$30,000.

Those are the figures Exceptional Equestrian program director Cindy Richards came up with after Tollgate Challenge Cup III came to a close Aug. 15 at the Detroit Polo Club in Highland Township.

"We're very happy with the turnout," Richards said, adding that the event is growing at a steady pace each year.

"The first year we made \$20,000; last year we made \$25,000 and this year we made \$30,000."

The highlight of the day was the Exceptional Equestrian Drill Team, which is made up entirely of handicapped youths from around the area.

"They did great," Richards said. "Just fabulous. I can't say enough. We had a difficult drill, the hardest we've ever done. It was not going well last week in practice, but it turned out just wonderful."

The polo match led to a generous act by area polo player Harold Kall, who, upon learning that the team was raising money for a show in Kentucky, donated a trailing crew to transport the players there.

"We've been invited to the Kentucky Horse Park as part of a demonstration on handicapped drill team programs," Richards explained. "We needed to raise \$7,500 to go. When he learned about this, he donated some of his trailing people. We also needed someplace to practice in-



Novi attorney Dennis Cleary talks with Vera Jenkins at the Aug. 15 event to benefit the Exceptional Equestrian program.

doors for about a month, after it gets cold, and he donated the space."

Kall owns B. Kalt Travel, which also donated airline tickets for the auction.

Richards said the drill team will still need to raise \$4,000 for other expenses for the trip, but "that's a lot less than \$7,500."

The demonstration, which is put on by the National Association for Handicapped Riding programs, is a very prestigious show to even be invited to, especially since our program is only three years old," she added.

Richards said that most of the proceeds came from over 40 live auction packages sold with the help of TV 2 news anchor Jerry Hodak, who served as celebrity auctioneer. The silent auction, which was also profitable, was staffed by a large group of volunteer employees of Hudson's Twelve Oaks and was headed by Hudson's officials Stacy Byers and Corneil Barnes.

Richards also credited volunteer coordinator Danielle McCuskey, who organized most of the event, and praised the weather.

"Right at the end we thought the

rain was going to hit," she said. "But it blew right over us and it poured in downtown Milford. Somebody up there was watching over us."

Many supporters came from the Novi and Northville communities. Among the attendees were Sen. Robert Geake, Rick and Debbie Haller, Ann and Dennis Cleary of Novi and Dave and Pat Bashur of Northville. Ann Cleary served on the committee for the event and the Bashurs' son James performed as part of the Exceptional Equestrian Drill Team.

The Exceptional Equestrian program provides therapeutic and recreational horseback riding to more than 500 area children and adults who have physical, emotional and mental disabilities. In four years it has grown to become the third largest program of its kind in the U.S. The program operates at the Tollgate Education Center, located on Meadowbrook at Twelve Mile.

Tollgate is always looking for volunteers to help with the riders and care for horses. Those who are interested should call Tollgate at 347-3860.

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rain was going to hit," she said. "But it blew right over us and it poured in downtown Milford. Somebody up there was watching over us."

Compassionate Friends provides understanding among grieving parents

Continued from 1
newsletter. It is a 6-page publication filled with touching essays and poems written by local members as well as members from across the country. The newsletter is mailed to families who have lost a child whenever the family is referred to them, and includes information on meeting times and dates. Bereaved parents say the writings in the newsletter provide comfort, and many decide to attend the meetings after reading it.

Through The Compassionate Friends, Wayne and Pat have met and befriended Chuck and Lynn Shapiro, a Commerce Township couple whose daughter Robin died in a November, 1991 car accident, just a few days short of her 18th birthday.

Chuck recalls that, after Robin died, he felt that some people even shunned his family.

"There are people who haven't called since the funeral," Chuck said. "That is very commonplace. People are just so uncomfortable not knowing what to say."

The best thing anyone can say is just "I want you to know I don't know what to say," I had a good friend who told me that. I respected him for it."

One of the topics of an upcoming Compassionate Friends meeting is "What We Would Like to Teach the World."

"People don't talk about death," Pat said. "Talking about death is a real taboo. And then, to talk about the death of a child... it's just too much. You hear people say 'I'll be there for you' or 'if you need anything give me a call.' But you don't see those people again. The people who really care keep in touch. They ask 'what can I do?'"

There is plenty that friends can do to help a family overcome the initial shock and grief of death.

"You need people to come over with food," Wayne said. "You need people to come over and wash your clothes." It's the day-to-day necessities of life that just fall apart in the face of death.

Then, after the initial shock wears off, parents continue to grieve over lost children for a long, long time. They may seem alright one day, but the next day the grief might return with a new, painful freshness. That's how life is now for the Lodgers and the Shapiros.

"I thought people were going to stick a For Sale sign on our house for us," Pat said. But they have stayed there because it's where they feel close to Stephanie and Stephen.

"This is where the kids were very happy," Pat said. "We had just moved here in September."

"We still feel the kids' presence here," Wayne added.

"I don't feel close to my children standing over their graves," said Pat. "I feel their presence here. They're in the air. They're in my heart."

Shapiros.

"People don't understand that grief," Pat said. "You might seem OK one day, then be unable to function the next."

"You don't get over this," Chuck said. "I will probably never get over this. I feel like, when Robin died, a big part of me died. You go to functions and things, but you are never the same."

The common family functions, that other people take for granted, are especially painful for bereaved parents.

"We have a difficult time going to weddings," Lynn said.

"People say time heals," Chuck said. "But I don't know if that's true."

"I wonder when I will be able to have happy memories of Robin," added Lynn.

"Oh, we remember the good times," Chuck said. "But it's not like they come to mind just like that."

For example each day, because she could not accept that her children had died, she would wait near the school bus in vain hope that Stephanie and Stephen would get off the bus.

Lynn's experience was similar. "I would go away on purpose thinking that when I come home I'll be able to deal with it," she said. Only through Compassionate Friends did Pat and Lynn discover that their feelings were normal and not uncommon among grieving parents. The discovery helped each of them to know, at least, that they were not alone.

The Lodgers still live in the same house they lived in before the accident, even though friends and family strongly urged them to move.

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"This is where the kids were very happy," Pat said. "We had just moved here in September."

"We still feel the kids' presence here," Wayne added.

"I don't feel close to my children standing over their graves," said Pat. "I feel their presence here. They're in the air. They're in my heart."

Surviving such a tragic loss has helped them to put everyday irritations into perspective.

"The other day we had the hot water pipe to our washing machine burst," Wayne said. "Water was all over the place."

"We just laughed," Pat said. Then they both paused.

"Well, we laughed after a while," Wayne amended. "Maybe not at first..."

The Lodgers now have a third child, Christopher, and a fourth is on the way. Christopher—a bright, happy baby with a 200-watt smile—adds joy to their lives, even though he will never replace their first- and second-born children.

Last month Wayne and Pat attended a national Compassionate Friends convention in Chicago, and were touched by the close feeling of the 1,800 member crowd.

"There were 1,800 people, 1,800 strangers," Pat said. "And we still felt such a bond."

"We saw strangers walk across the room and put their arm around someone's shoulders—someone they had never met before—and say 'I saw you over here and you looked like you were having a difficult time.'"

Wayne felt the bond, too. "They were like friends you just haven't met yet," he said.

So if the Lodgers can find anything positive in the tragedy that struck their lives over two years ago, it's the fact that they've been able to make a difference in the lives of others.

"By helping others we have helped ourselves," Wayne said.

The Shapiros have also found comfort by helping others. They have set up a scholarship fund at Walled Lake Central High School, where Robin was a student, in her memory.

The Lodgers, the Shapiros, and every other parent who grieves for a child still feel their difficult days. Pat still feels an emptiness inside that will never be filled. Wayne still cries when he hears the song "From a Distance," because that was Stephen's favorite song to sing.

But, Pat said, "There is a lot of healing in helping."

"I just hope that Stephanie and Stephen are looking down at us and saying 'that's my mom and my dad, and I'm proud of them.'"

Diversions

Take a trek on 'the wild side'

By JAN JEFFRIES
Staff Writer

Walled Lake business owner Brian Obrecht was discussing transportation logistics over the telephone Monday with a prospective client.

"By the end of the third day, most people feel comfortable enough to gallop freely across the desert on their camels," he assured the caller.

In the Australian outback, that is. Obrecht and his wife, Lisa, run Outer Edge Expeditions from their home on Pontiac Trail Road.

While the setting—to us—seems far from exotic, the destinations offered by the travel firm are the stuff of National Geographic articles.

These are not the mass-market jaunts in tourist-packed buses, breezing through 15 European cities in ten days.

Instead, their brochure details dog sledding in the Canadian Rockies, whalewatching by kayak near Vancouver, and swimming with pink dolphins in the Yaraapa River, a tributary of the Amazon.

Or journeying into the Stone Age. Obrecht spent much of July leading a group of four travelers in Iran Jaya, the Indonesian share of the island of New Guinea.

The government there had been keeping travelers out of the region ever since an incident in the 1960s when Nelson Rockefeller's adult son disappeared and was believed to have been consumed by cannibals.

The local diet has since changed. "That is the most remote cultural destination on earth. I saw adults who claimed never to have seen a white person before," he said.

"Keeping it closed off is what kept them close to traditional habits and customs. It was completely safe and they're very gentle people."

The Outer Edge group traveled by foot and canoe, sleeping in tree-houses 50 feet off the ground while visiting the Koroway, former headhunters. This Stone Age tribe had been secluded from the modern world until as recently as 20 years ago.

The group then dropped in on the Dani and Lani tribes in the hill country. The Dani men wear only strategically-placed gourd and some decorative bones in their noses. The women favor grass skirts.

The most worrisome part of adventure travel, for those who can get over the lack of indoor plumbing, is the

impact Westerners may have on members of a virtually pristine culture and are fascinated by outsiders. Obrecht said each trip is extensively researched to minimize the local culture shock.

One of the ground rules of Iran Jaya trip is that group members were not to trade off their modern goods, even a tee shirt, for tribal artifacts. Obrecht said each trip is extensively researched to minimize the local culture shock.

Obrecht said. "We use cities as a necessary evil. They have airports we can fly into," Obrecht said.

Some of the profits are returned to local environmental groups, such as a research lab studying the humpback whale.

His own initial overseas trip was in 1989 in China, going it alone with a friend. That wasn't done much then.

"We watched other people in the airport on tourist group trips. We realized they had been protected from the most educational part of the entire stay. We immersed ourselves in China," he recalls.

That was the first fix of what Obrecht calls his addiction to travel.

Before the couple started their company, he was a consultant with a major accounting firm.

"My wife said what do you want to do when you grow up? That question kind of took me back. I wanted to take people to the kinds of places and explore them the way I like to do it, not the way it's done," Obrecht said.

He says Outer Edge is well-poised to take advantage of the current trend towards environmentally-aware adventure travel. "I think people have had enough of laying on the beach in Maui."

The firm's average client ranges in age from 30 to 60, is reasonably affluent and shares one key characteristic: "All of them have what I call a sense of adventure. They all want to experience the destination and not just see it," Obrecht said.

Outer Edge Expeditions may be reached at 1-800-322-5235 or 624-5140.



Brian Obrecht doesn't bring home t-shirts as travel souvenirs.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Wayne State University

PIANO SALE

Numerous pianos will be liquidated this Sunday on campus between noon and 5:00 p.m. Grand, consoles, digitals and uprights in many finishes will be on sale. Some are less than one year old. Brand names include Kawai, Steinway, Baldwin, Yamaha & others.

For more information, or to schedule a preview call the Wayne State Music Dept.

(313)577-6323

All pianos to be sold Sunday, August 29 noon till 5:00 p.m.

Wayne State University Campus Music Department Cass & Ferry Mall (313)577-6323

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ONE DAY ONLY

Registration begins for CCS

Registration for the dance, music and visual arts extension programs at the Center for Creative Studies (CCS) is now open. A wide variety of programs for beginners through professionals is available. Classes begin Sept. 7 in Novi.

The extension program, the non-degree granting arm of CCS College of Art and Design, offers credit and non-credit courses. Studies include fine and applied arts, graphic design, ceramics, glass, photographic studies, transportation design, fiber design, clay modeling, portfolio preparation, and a calligraphy diploma program.

New to the extension program is a course entitled "Film Production with a Camcorder." Emmy award-

winning filmmaker Gary Glaser will instruct students in the basic skills needed to produce a personal documentary.

The dance program includes ballet, tap, modern, jazz, African, Dunham, East Indian, and yoga.

New to the dance program is the Dunham Repertory Ensemble. The Dunham technique combines folk dance styles of Africa, the Australian bush, Cuba, Haiti and Brazil. The ensemble is directed by former lead male dancer of the Clifford Fears Dance Theatre, Greg Curry. An audition is required.

Private and group music lessons in classical and jazz studies are available in all instruments and voice. Ensembles include jazz performance

ensemble, junior orchestra, and children, youth and adult choirs. Music theory and music appreciation classes are also available.

New to the music program is the Small Classical Ensembles program. Intermediate level youth as well as adults interested in performing in trios and quartets are encouraged to audition. Students will be grouped according to standard and mixed instrumentation, and will study sight-reading, rehearsal and performance techniques, group interpretation and arranging.

For information regarding visual arts classes, call 872-3118, ext. 297. For music and dance information dial ext. 607.

Northville's Victorian Festival

Sept. 17, 18, & 19, 1993

Northville's 5th Annual Victorian Festival is fast approaching and should be bigger & better than ever.

Lots of exhibits and entertainment, a lot of families and fun, and a lot of shopping.

Again this year the Northville Record will publish a special tabloid section promoting this fantastic event, and this will be used as a guide at the Festival!

46,200

copies will be printed and distributed in Northville, Novi, Milford, Farmington, Livonia and Plymouth along with being passed out during the festival. Don't miss out.

Published: Thurs. Sept. 16
Proof Deadline: Tues. Aug. 31
Final Deadline: Fri. Sept. 2

Full Page	Half Page	1/4 Page	1/8 Page
10" x 13"	4 1/2" x 13 1/2"	4 1/2" x 6 1/2"	4 1/2" x 3 1/2"

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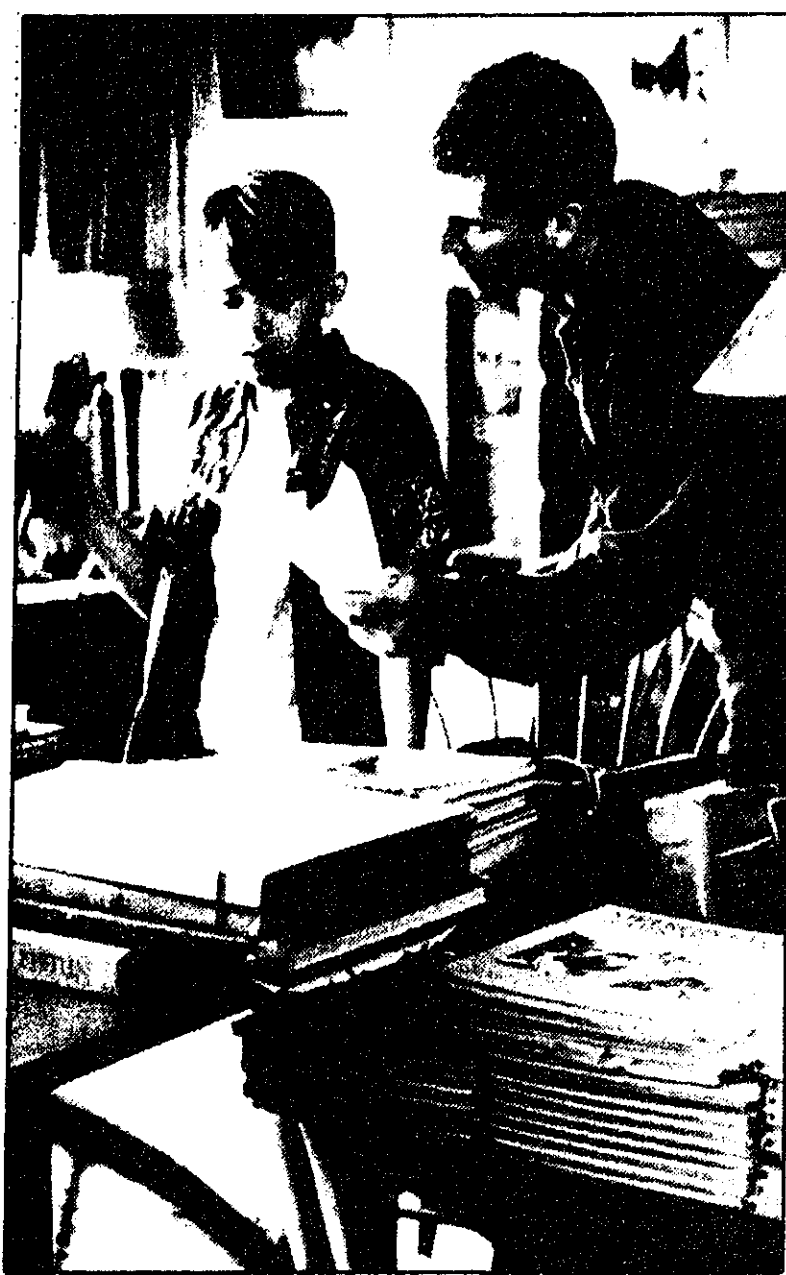
Movies

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'The Man Without a Face'

Mel Gibson debuts as director in film about a man and a boy



Chuck Norstadt (Nick Stahl) learns a lesson from the reclusive Justin McLeod (Mel Gibson) in Warner Bros.' heartwarming drama about friendship.

A boy who's troubled about his future. A man who's haunted by his past. Together they build a friendship that has healing power for them both.

That's the storyline for 'The Man Without a Face,' a drama about overcoming loneliness, learning to become an adult and remembering a special summer when understanding, companionship and encouragement transformed two lives.

The Warner Bros. release marks the directing debut of internationally acclaimed actor Mel Gibson, who also stars in the film.

To the people of Cranestown, Maine, Justin McLeod (Gibson) has been an outsider since the day he arrived in their peaceful coastal village. For the last seven years, his scarred face and the mystery surrounding his past have made him the object of rumor and scorn.

Whispered snatches of a tale involving a terrible car accident, a fatally injured student and a brilliant teaching career cut short follow McLeod all over town.

Surrounded by his books and paintings, he has learned to live with the solitude his tragic past and disfigurement have forced upon him. Twelve-year-old Chuck Norstadt (Nick Stahl) is also an outsider—to his own family. Living with his supercilious, flirtatious mother (who is about to latch onto husband number five) and two resentful sisters, Chuck has only cloudy memories of his dead father, who disappeared from Chuck's life when the boy was a toddler.

His confusion over his father's de-

parture and his feeling of being unwelcome within his own family have made Chuck a defensive and distant kid on the outside—and desperately unhappy on the inside.

Determined to find a place in the world that doesn't put him in competition with his sisters, Chuck is resolved to spend this summer in Cranestown studying for an entrance exam to the boarding school his father had attended. But, having failed the entrance examination once, he realizes he needs help and turns to McLeod for tutoring.

As their summer unfolds, both McLeod and Chuck discover more than either had hoped for: their friendship, which begins as a clashing of ideas and thoughts, enriching both and providing each with a crucial perspective on his life. Chuck discovers his own intelligence, confidence and tolerance and McLeod rediscovers the ability to relate to another human being and the joy and excitement of teaching.

But the townspeople of Cranestown, accustomed to connocting—and believing—their own outrageous speculation about McLeod, learn he is tutoring Chuck and become distrustful of the man they fear and cannot understand.

Chuck's mother, who has spent years ignoring her son's need for attention, suddenly becomes a strident accuser, demanding that McLeod stay away from her son.

Chuck is horrified and McLeod is furious, but hysteria sweeps the small Maine town and, before Chuck knows it, his summer of friendship

and learning has been painted in much darker shades. Chuck must say goodbye to his mentor forever, but not before being prepared to pass the entrance exam to his father's alma mater and beginning his own trek to adulthood.

And McLeod, 'the man without a face,' has learned to make peace with his past, to view with compassion the fear that people have of what they can't comprehend, and to regard with new appreciation the invigoration that friendship has once more brought into his life.

From the time Icon Productions

was formed, both Gibson and his partner Bruce Davey had three goals: to continue to produce movies starring Gibson, to create quality films with Gibson and Davey producing, and to search for the right project for Gibson to direct.

The right project would turn out to be Malcom MacRury's adaptation of a novel by Isabelle Holland which explored serious themes of hope and dignity that appealed to both men.

What was surprising was Gibson's decision to star in the film as well as direct it.

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AMC BEL AIR
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STAR GRATIOT
STAR TAYLOR

AMC EASTLAND
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STAR LINCOLN PARK
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The 'Super 18' fantasy golf course

News picks best holes from local courses to create the most challenging

By SCOTT DANIEL
Staff Writer

What if you could take your favorite and most feared golf holes in the area and combine them into one monster course. What would it look like, how would it play and how long would it be?

Those were questions the Novi News recently mullied. What we came up with is 18 of the most challenging and scenic holes in the area.

Our Super 18, some 6,392 yards, is short by professional standards but long enough to make the average player feel more than tested. Accurate tee shots, spectacular approach shots and careful putting would all be needed to hit our par of 71.

Here's our selections which are sure to put a scare in even the best golfers in Novi:

NO. 1 Brookline No. 2, 317 yards, par 4
A dog-leg left, the hole presents a problem in choosing what club to hit off the tee.

For those who hit medium or long distance with the driver, better leave it in the bag. A long straight shot or slice will put you in the third fairway.

A safer bet is to hit a 5-wood or even a low iron off the tee. The fairway slopes downhill which will add length to a tee shot with such a club and leave an easier second shot. Once on the green, putting out shouldn't be a problem on the flat, smooth surface.

NO. 2 Brookline No. 5, 129 yards, par 3
Easily the prettiest hole on the front nine at the Northville course, golfers must contend with a creek off the tee. The small stream runs in front of the green and heavy woods protect the back of the putting surface.

NO. 3 Pebble Creek No. 1, 501 yards, par 5
A couple of options off the first tee are available at the South Lyon course. One is to lay up in front of the creek, which cuts through the fairway about 240 yards out, or go for it.

NUMBER	COURSE	HOLE	PAR	YARDS
1	Brookline	2	4	317
2	Brookline	5	3	129
3	Pebble Creek	1	5	501
4	Pebble Creek	5	3	198
5	Pebble Creek	9	5	534
6	Hilltop	4	4	392
7	Hilltop	9	3	185
8	Hilltop	6	4	387
9	Mission Hills	3	4	468
OUT				35
10	Mission Hills	13	4	375
11	Mission Hills	15	5	570
12	Links	2	3	210
13	Links	5	4	410
14	Links	1	4	376
15	Downing	3	4	379
16	Downing	6	3	130
17	Tanglewood	18	5	443
18	Tanglewood	10	4	388
IN				36
TOTAL				71

With any kind of wind, the choice becomes an easy one. Second shots must be accurate. Any kind of slice will put your ball in the drink. Keep it in play at No. 1, even with heavy wind, and it becomes a very birdie-able hole.

NO. 4 Pebble Creek No. 5, 188 yards, par 3
Easily the most difficult par-3 on our Super 18, the hole has a pond instead of a fairway. The blue stuff stretches from the tees to 10-yards away from the green.

If that isn't enough, woods run along the left side and in back of the hole leaving only the right side to ball out on. One suggestion: if you put your tee shot in the pond,

drop a ball in front of the green and save yourself some frustration.

NO. 5 Pebble Creek No. 9, 534 yards, par 5
The par-5 is the longest on our mythical front nine at 534 yards. A straight away, players must avoid a pond guarding the green's front right side. Do that and it should be an easy par.

NO. 6 Hilltop No. 4, 392 yards, par 4
Trying to cut the corner to the green is a big mistake. Unless you can hit a 300-yard drive and fly over a grouping of thin trees along

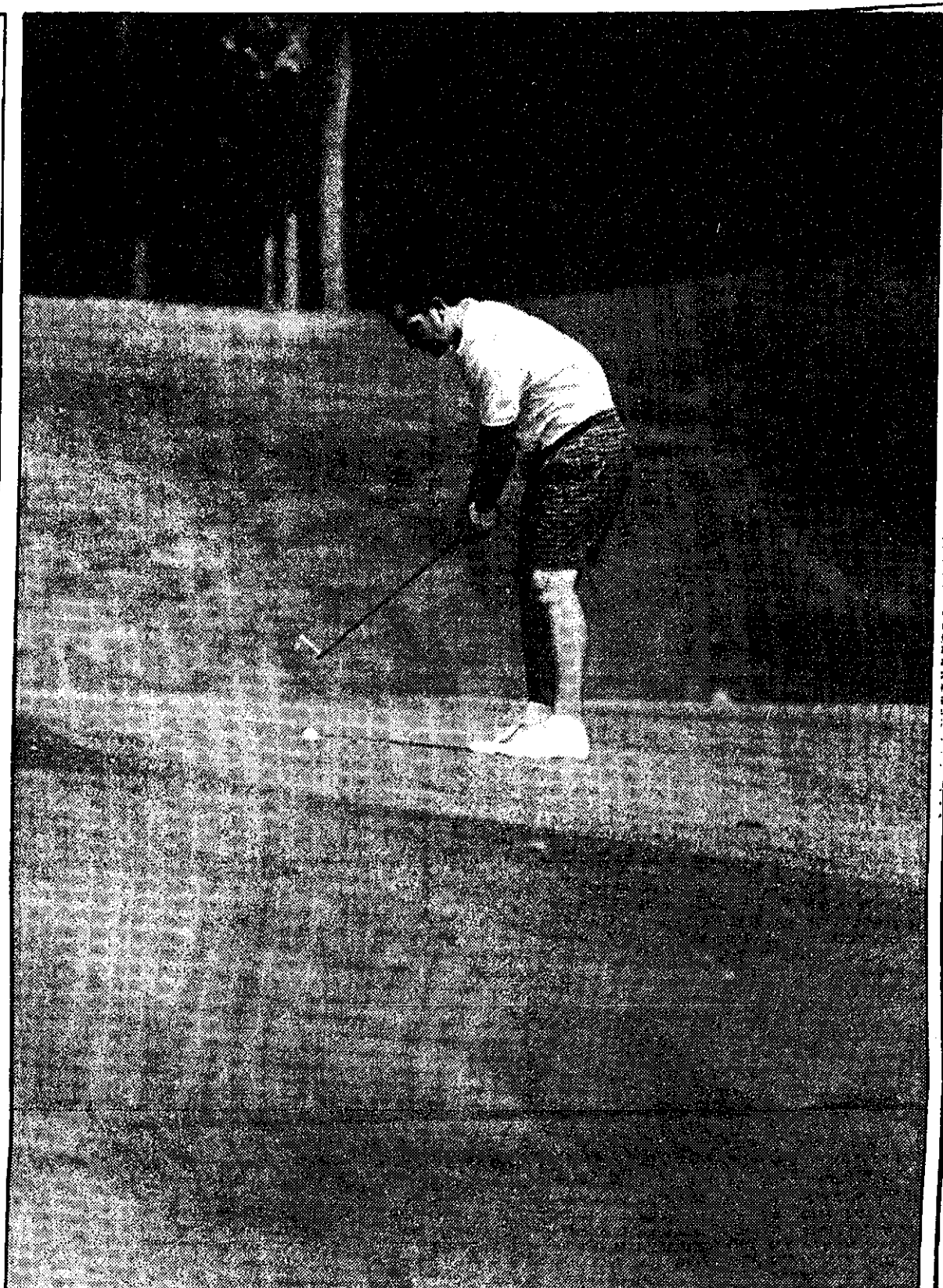
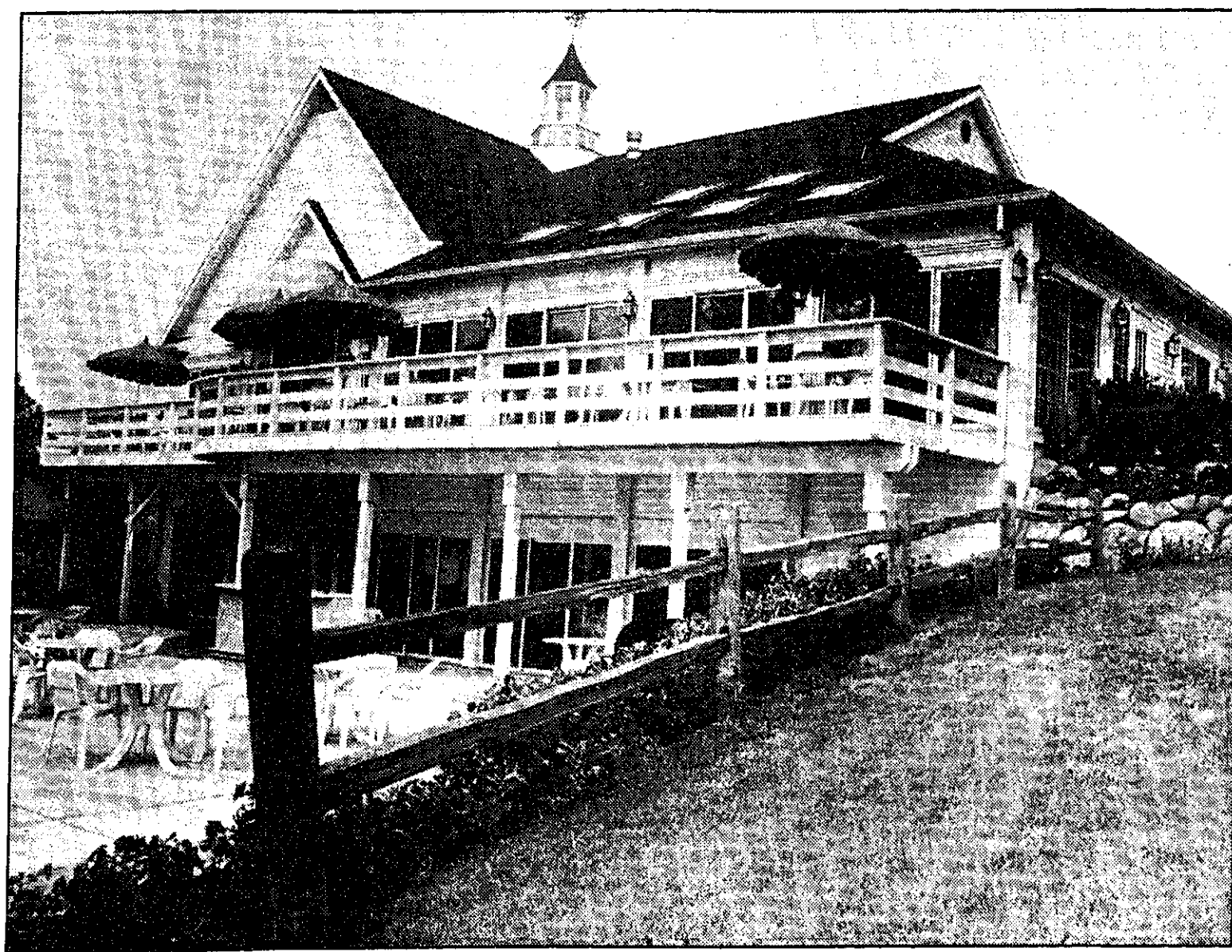


Photo by HAL GOULD

The Links of Novi has several holes which would be in our Super 18 fantasy golf course.



Tanglewood is a course for real golf fans.

A review of Tanglewood course

By SCOTT SIGLER
Staff Writer

You really have to be a golf fan to play Tanglewood.

It's not just the fact that taking a cart to play nine holes is going to cost you over \$20; it's that the course has some of the most un-

forgiving hazards in the area. Built on wetlands, the course hosts dense swamps that meander across fairways. With some of Tanglewood's hazards, if it goes in, you'll never get it back.

Despite being one of the most expensive courses in the area, Tanglewood remains one of the

best. If you can hit well there, you can probably handle anything in the county, if not the state.

With four tees (gold, blue, white and red), it caters to everyone's ability, although a poor golfer will have a tough time no matter what tee he or she hits from.

Tanglewood is in the midst of a

huge residential development project with houses springing up all over the place. Within 10 to 20 years, most of the course should be surrounded by homes that run \$300,000 and up. It's definitely going to be a posh place to golf and an even posher place to live.

Continued on 8

McGrath nets \$10K in charity tourney

By LEE SNIDER
Editor

Dan McGrath of Novi didn't make \$1 million over the weekend, but he's not concentrating.

"I smacked it over 20 yards over the green," he said. "I was too pumped."

McGrath, a machinist at the General Motors Power Train plant in Livonia, said he and his wife spent the day Monday thinking of what they should do with their winnings.

"We'll pay a few bills off. My mom's 70th birthday is coming up and we're all going to be going to Vegas—it'll help with that. Other than that, we'll probably just put it into our savings."

McGrath won the prize money in the Ronald McDonald Children's Charity event which concluded Sunday at the Country Club Village golf course in Northville Township.

McGrath took home the cash by driving closest to the pin during a shoot-out that offered a \$1 million prize to the golfer hitting a hole in one.

No one shot an ace on either of the two final rounds, meaning awards of \$1 million and a \$200 thousand home went unclaimed.

McGrath, however, came within 15-feet, 9-inches of the cup on a 160-yard hole, earning him best linkster honors on the day. His reward was a cool 10-grand.

"It made you feel a little bit like a pro when one shot was the difference in big bucks," the 40-year-old McGrath said. "I can't say I wasn't nervous. I still don't think it's really hit me yet."

The shoot-out raised more than \$90,000 for charity, a figure that will be added to \$180,000 as the result of a matching grant from the Skillman Foundation.

The money came from the participants, who paid a daily entry fee and \$1 a ball to tee off during nine days of qualifying rounds. McGrath said he parted with about \$40 trying to hit a shot good enough to gain him status as a qualifier.

According to the charity publicity release, a total of 2,600 golfers completed in the event. Forty-five hopefuls won the right to shoot for \$1 million in the finals and for a \$200 thousand home in a bonus

round. McGrath took part in the bonus round but, after winning \$10,000 in the finals, was just too excited to concentrate.

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"We'll pay a few bills off. My mom's 70th birthday is coming up and we're all going to be going to Vegas—it'll help with that. Other than that, we'll probably just put it into our savings."

McGrath won the prize money in the Ronald McDonald Children's Charity event which concluded Sunday at the Country Club Village golf course in Northville Township.

McGrath took home the cash by driving closest to the pin during a shoot-out that offered a \$1 million prize to the golfer hitting a hole in one.

No one shot an ace on either of the two final rounds, meaning awards of \$1 million and a \$200 thousand home went unclaimed.

McGrath, however, came within 15-feet, 9-inches of the cup on a 160-yard hole, earning him best linkster honors on the day. His reward was a cool 10-grand.

"It made you feel a little bit like a pro when one shot was the difference in big bucks," the 40-year-old McGrath said. "I can't say I wasn't nervous. I still don't think it's really hit me yet."

The shoot-out raised more than \$90,000 for charity, a figure that will be added to \$180,000 as the result of a matching grant from the Skillman Foundation.

The money came from the participants, who paid a daily entry fee and \$1 a ball to tee off during nine days of qualifying rounds. McGrath said he parted with about \$40 trying to hit a shot good enough to gain him status as a qualifier.

According to the charity publicity release, a total of 2,600 golfers completed in the event. Forty-five hopefuls won the right to shoot for \$1 million in the finals and for a \$200 thousand home in a bonus

round. McGrath took part in the bonus round but, after winning \$10,000 in the finals, was just too excited to concentrate.

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Let Barney bring a smile to your child's school day.

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Choose The Line, Beauty & The Beast, or Aladdin.

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STAR TAYLOR

AMC EASTLAND
AMC STERLING CITY
RENAISSANCE
SHOWCASE
STAR LINCOLN PARK
OAKLAND

Our pick of holes for Super 18 fantasy course

Continued from 7

the left side of the fairway, play it safe.

Hitting the green at the fourth isn't easy, even after a good drive. Golfers must drop their shots on to a green elevated about 20 feet from the fairway. To make matters more difficult, the green slopes down toward the fairway. With the pin in the front of the green, shooting par here is excellent.

NO. 7

Hilltop No. 6, 387 yards, par 4

Teeling off downhill can give players a false sense of security at the Plymouth course's sixth hole. The real challenge of the hole is finding the green. Protected by woods on all sides, anything but an accurate shot will lose a golf ball.

NO. 8

Hilltop No. 9, 185 yards, par 3

The par-3 is a test in accuracy. Hitting the large surface shouldn't be a problem for most. But with a front pin placement, hitting the backside of the green is a sure way to three-putt.

NO. 9

Mission Hills No. 3, 468 yards, par 4

A slight dog-leg right, tee shots must be hit long and down the left side of the fairway for any chance of making the green in two. A long shot to the right side of the fairway puts players directly in front of several large trees.

The green is well protected with a large bunker on its left and pond on the right. Laying up short of the green isn't a bad play here.

NO. 10

Mission Hills No. 13, 375 yards, par 4

The fairway is the tightest on our

Super 18. Heavy woods run along the left side of the hole while more trees and a CSX railroad line are on the right.

If that isn't enough, the fairway also rolls up and down violently. Hope your tee shot finds the top of the hill. Second shots must be perfect to hold the tiny green.

NO. 11

Mission Hills No. 15, 570 yards, par 5

Our longest par-5, the hole is a dog leg right. But a long, straight drive and well placed second shot can tame this monster.

NO. 12

Links of Novi No. 2, 210 yards, par 3

The hole heads slightly uphill, making a fairway wood off the tee a must. Don't hit a hook on your first shot, though. Trees line the left side of the hole starting about 100 yards from the tee. A slice will cause fewer problems, but makes a tough second shot onto the green.

NO. 13

Links of Novi No. 5, 410 yards, par 4

The par-4 for long tee and second shots. The second shot, in fact, might be the toughest on our course. Even a long drive will leave a medium to long

iron shot into the green. Missing in any direction means a quick trip into the woods. Bunkers protect both front sides of the green.

NO. 14

Links of Novi No. 1, 376 yards, par 4

One of the more open holes on the nine, golfers should tee off with whatever club is most comfortable to them. A decent 3- or 5-wood or even a long iron should set up an easy shot to the green. A large, well-maintained green awaits.

NO. 15

Downing Farms No. 3, 379 yards, par 4

The tees face heavy woods, while a thin tree-line runs the length of the hole on the right. A hook means an almost certain trip out-of-bounds while a slight slice is actually rewarded. Second shots must also hit their mark as a small marsh sits off to the right of the green.

NO. 16

Downing Farms No. 6, 130 yards, par 3

A cattailed pond protects the right side of the hole while a bunker sits directly in front of the green. A long drive off the tee sends the shot into the woods.

NO. 17

Tanglewood No. 10, 388 yards, par 4

A short par-4, golfers must avoid a slice off the tee. Such a shot will put your ball in a heavy clump of brush or on the 18th fairway, making a par all but impossible.

NO. 18

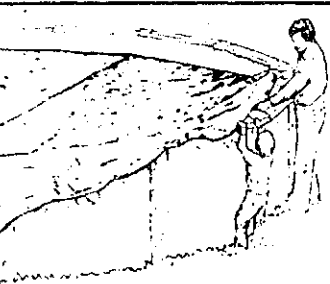
Tanglewood No. 18, 443 yards, par 5

From the white tees the green is reachable in two, but be careful. Water protects the right front portion of the green while a well-placed bunker is on the left.

Conventional and Advance Payment Program lease payments based on '93 Villager GS with PEP 692A MSRP \$20,104. '93 Sable GS with PEP 451A MSRP \$19,404 and Cougar XR7 with PEP 260A MSRP \$16,743 excluding title, taxes, license fee. Lease payment based on an average capitalized cost of 93.35% of MSRP for Villager, 90.82% for Sable and 95.75% for Cougar for 24-month closed-end Ford Credit Red Carpet Leases purchased in the Great Lakes Region for the period 9/92-5/93. Some payments higher, some lower. See dealer for payment and terms. Take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 9/22/93. Lessee may have the option to buy vehicle at lease end at a price to be negotiated with the dealer at signing. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear and \$.11 per mile over 30,000 miles. Credit approval/insurability determined by Ford Credit. Cash savings based on comparison of total of monthly payments under a conventional 24-month Red Carpet Lease plus cash down payment vs. one lease payment under the Advance Payment Program lease: \$8,820 vs. \$7,817 on Villager; \$8,312 vs. \$7,386 on Sable; \$9,096 vs. \$8,328 on Cougar. MSRP for Topaz GS 2-door with PEP354R includes \$500 cash back, excludes title and taxes. For cash back take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 9/22/93. Excludes title and taxes. *Except on models with privacy glass. Always wear your safety belt.

SWIM POOL COVER SALE

w/7 Year Warranty



Above Ground*

POOL SIZE	REG. COST	SALE
16'	\$56	\$42
18'	62	47
24'	100	75
24'x16'	84	63
32'x16'	104	78



Below Ground*

POOL SIZE	REG. COST	SALE
32'x16'	\$110	\$83
36'x18'	140	105
40'x20'	170	128

Heavy Duty Vinyl WATER BAGS

10' Double Tube	\$6.99
-----------------	--------

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VAN DYKE		COODICE
1496		1496

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LEASE OR BUY

WE'VE GOT YOUR MERCURY!
NOW AT GREAT SAVINGS

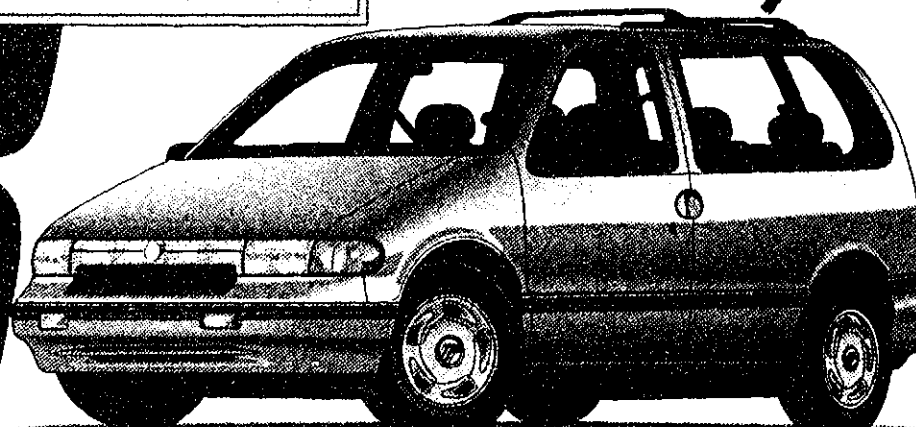
Advance Payment Saves \$1,003 Over Conventional 24-Month Lease*	Conventional 24-Mo. Lease	Payment Program
First Month's Payment*	\$299	N/A
APP Payment*	N/A	\$7,817
Down Payment*	\$1,644	N/A
Refundable Security Deposit*	\$300	\$350
Cash Due at Signing*	\$2,243	\$8,167

JUST \$1,644 DOWNS

\$299 OR

JUST \$1,003 DOWNS

\$7817



1993 MERCURY VILLAGER GS MINIVAN

The new Villager is nothing less than a new kind of minivan. It combines front-wheel drive, V-6 power and a specially engineered suspension for a remarkable "car-like" ride! Plus, Villager has standard anti-lock brakes and meets all federal passenger car safety standards.*

- Anti-Lock Brakes
- V-6 Power • "Car-Like" Ride
- Meets All Federal Passenger Car Safety Standards*

First Month's Payment*	\$269
Down Payment*	\$1,856
Refundable Security Deposit*	\$275
Cash Due at Signing*	\$2,400

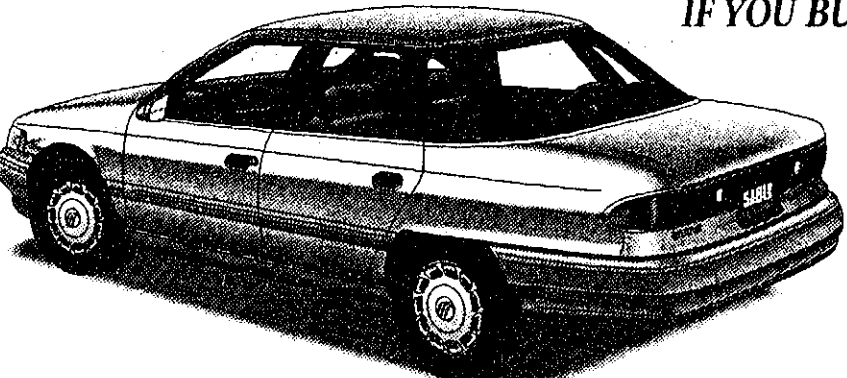
JUST \$269 DOWNS

\$269 OR

JUST \$1,000 DOWNS

\$1,000 CASH BACK

IF YOU BUY!



1993 MERCURY SABLE GS

STANDARD FEATURES: 3.0-liter V-6 engine • Sequential multi-port electronic fuel injection • 4-speed automatic overdrive transaxle • Power rack-and-pinion variable-assist steering • Air conditioner • Tinted glass • Driver- and right front passenger-side air bag Supplemental Restraint System* PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGE 451A: Power side windows • Front and rear carpeted floor mats • Fingertip speed control • Power lock group • Electric rear window defroster • Light group • 6-way power driver's seat • Aluminum wheels • Bodyside paint stripe • Electronic AM/FM stereo cassette radio

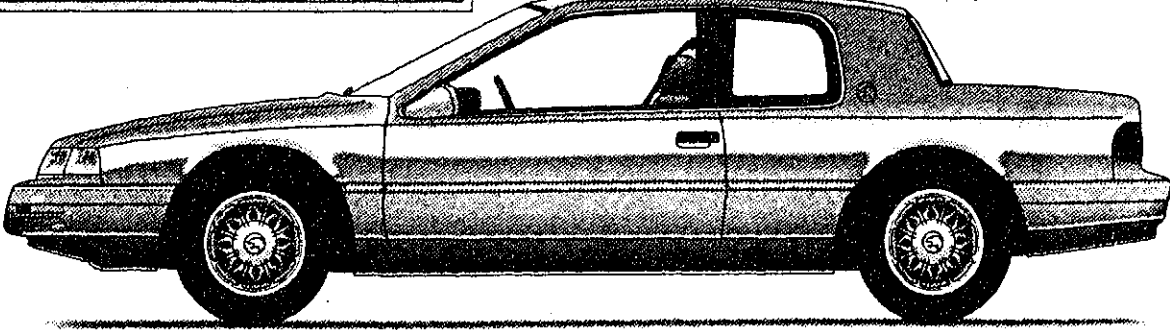
Advance Payment Saves \$768 Over Conventional 24-Month Lease*	Conventional 24-Mo. Lease	Payment Program
First Month's Payment*	\$309	N/A
APP Payment*	N/A	\$8,328
Down Payment*	\$1,680	N/A
Refundable Security Deposit*	\$325	\$350
Cash Due at Signing*	\$2,314	\$9,678

JUST \$1,680 DOWNS

\$309 OR

JUST \$768 DOWNS

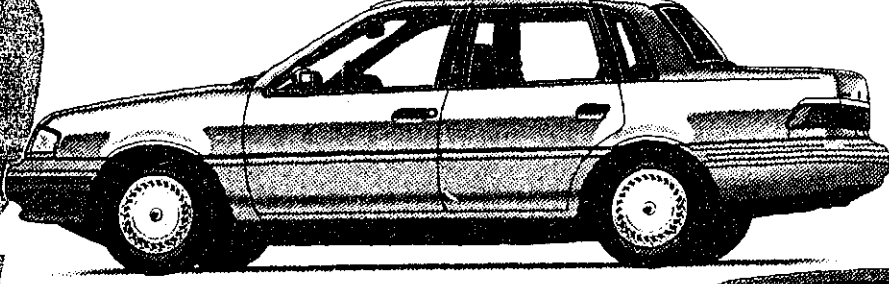
\$8,328



1993 MERCURY COUGAR XR7

COUGAR STANDARD FEATURES: 3.8-liter V-6 engine • Automatic overdrive transmission • Power rack-and-pinion steering • Air conditioner • Power windows • Dual power outside mirrors • PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGE 260A: Fingertip speed control • Power lock group • Electric rear window defroster • 6-way power driver's seat • Cast aluminum wheels • Leather-wrapped steering wheel • Electronic AM/FM stereo cassette radio

\$700 CASH BACK



\$9,965³ M.S.R.P.

1993 MERCURY TOPAZ GS

STANDARD FEATURES: 2.3-liter HSC engine • Sequential multi-port electronic fuel injection • Power assisted rack-and-pinion steering • Child-proof rear door locks (4-door only) PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGE 353A (4-door only): Automatic transaxle • Manual air conditioner • Electric rear window defroster • Fingertip speed control • Power windows • Electronic AM/FM stereo cassette radio PREFERRED EQUIPMENT PACKAGE 354R (2-door only): Manual air conditioner • Electric rear window defroster • Electronic AM/FM stereo • Deluxe luggage rack • 7-spoke aluminum wheels

REAL ESTATE

Warranty coverage plans gain in popularity

By James M. Woodard
Copley News Service

After digging up enough cash to handle the down payment and numerous closing costs, the least favorite thing for a home-buying family to face is unexpected repair costs for a zapped water heater or built-in appliances.

That's one of the key motivators for buying a home protection (warranty) plan for previously owned homes being offered for sale. The coverage benefits the home seller, buyer and broker. Thus the sale of these protection plans continues to grow throughout the country.

"At least 80 percent of our listed resale homes are now covered by a warranty plan," said Bob Harrison, manager of an office of Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate Services. "It's really a great type of protection and most home buyers and sellers are now aware of its importance."

In some cases where the seller or buyer does not purchase the warranty coverage, Harrison will buy a one-year plan and give it to the buyer as a housewarming gift, he said.

Typically, a home protection plan covers the mechanical systems in a home for a one-year period after a sale. Items covered typically include the central heating, air conditioning, plumbing, electrical, water heater and ventilation ducts and major appliances like

the built-in stove, microwave oven, dishwasher, garbage disposal, trash compactor and electric garage door opener.

When these items need repair or replacement, due to normal wear and tear, the new owner calls the home warranty company. They dispatch an appropriate technician to correct the problem. A minimal service fee is charged per service call—usually from \$25 to \$50.

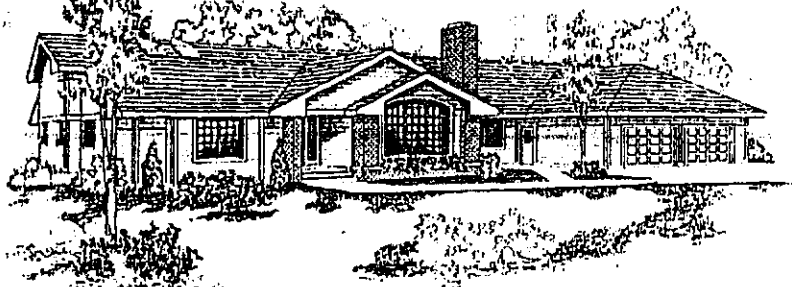
The warranty plan is not an insurance policy. It doesn't cover known pre-existing conditions or damage caused by fire, theft or vandalism. It's designed to repair or replace items that become defective after the sale of a home. The one-time fee for a basic one-year warranty plan varies from region to region and company to company, but generally it ranges from about \$200 to \$350, payable when the home is sold.

Home buyers like the coverage because it minimizes their risk of encountering large and unexpected expenses after moving into a home. Sellers like it because it protects them from after-sale hassles and possible lawsuits instigated by an unhappy buyer. Brokers like it for the same reasons.

"In past years, home protection plan firms tended to be pretty flimsy operations," Realtor Harrison said. "But today these firms have a much better and stronger structure, and brokers as well as con-

Continued on 3

HOME DESIGNS



The Crystal sparkles with light for active family living

By James McAlexander
Copley News Service

Naturally illuminated by skylights in three separate living areas, the Crystal is a bright ranch-style home designed for active family living.

A wide, arched multipaned window with a planter shelf adds street appeal to the exterior and elegance to the spacious vaulted living room. Flames in the fireplace can be enjoyed from both the living room and the dining room.

The sun porch, to the right of the family room, is the brightest of these bright spaces. It has five skylights and could be either screened or glassed. Potted plants can't help but thrive here. Add a couple of white wicker chairs and you can pretend you're in the tropics.

A spacious kitchen is at the heart of the home. Two more skylights bathe the area in natural light while its open design provides easy access from all directions. Plenty of cabinets and counters line the room on three sides. If desired, a built-in desk could be included in the plan, either next to the sunny nook or by the freezer.

The kitchen sink faces across the family room to a view of the deck and the outdoors beyond.

Face framing on one wall of shelves in the large walk-in pantry allows direct access from the kitchen.

Basement stairs, a small bathroom, and a utility room with a counter and fold-down ironing board are to the right. The utility room can also be entered from the two-car garage, which has windows and space for a small shop.

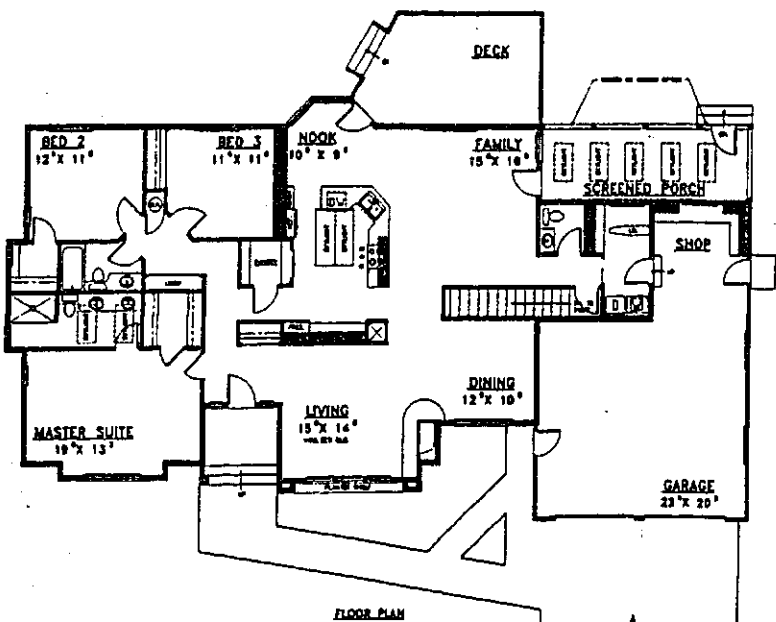
Bathrooms are clustered together on the left. The master bathroom and walk-in closet serve as sound buffers between adults' and children's bedrooms.

Luxury features in the master bath include skylights, an oversize shower and twin basins.

The other two bedrooms share a bathroom. One of the bedrooms has a walk-in closet. This situation is sure to stir up sibling rivalry, especially if there are only two children.

A large linen closet in the hallway is convenient to both of the bathrooms in the sleeping wing.

For a study plan of the Crystal (332-090) send \$7.50 to Landmark Designs, c/o HomeTown Newspapers, 323 E. Grand River Ave., Howell, MI 48843. (Be sure to specify plan name and number when ordering.)



OVERALL DIMENSIONS: 80'-0" X 45'-0"
LIVING: 2187 square feet
GARAGE: 657 square feet

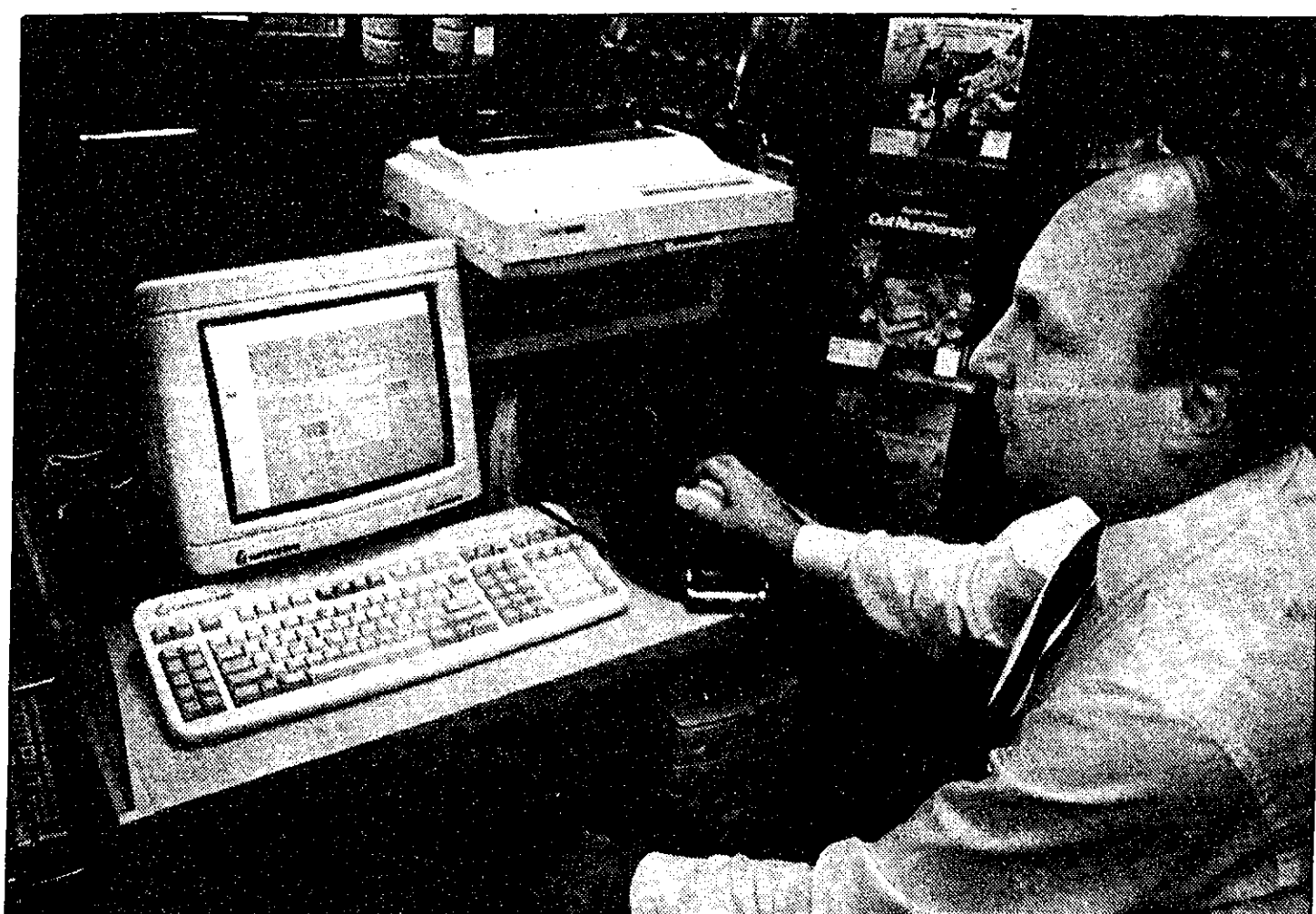


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Egghead Software Store Manager Paul Haveck whips up plans for a deck on the "Your Deck" program.

CAD CAN

Computer aided design (CAD) for your deck, bathroom, kitchen can save a lot of planning time

By MICHAEL MALOTT
Managing Editor

The time has come to build your dream house.

You've thought about it for years, and now the time is right. You know exactly what you want. While your dream home will incorporate a number of design features you've seen in other houses over the years, the floorplan you have in mind is completely unique, yours alone, one of a kind.

Of course, you'll have to have an architect or builder draw up the blueprints, so you invite them over to talk about your ideas.

And that's when you discover your vocabulary just isn't descriptive enough to explain what you have in mind. You find you just don't possess a large enough repertoire of hand signals to make the architect understand, and the builder can't quite get a grasp on your concept by looking at all those napkins you've scribbled on.

How then to explain your dream home vision to those who will actually try to build it?

Computer software designers are coming to the rescue of would-be dream home owners. A variety of new software packages are on the market, designed to run on home computers and written to be easy to learn. Further, they are priced to be within the reach of amateur home designers.

Paul Haveck, Store Manager for Egghead Software in the Novi

Town Center, explained that for \$30 to \$90, home design programs are available that can produce professional-looking blueprints on everything from dot-matrix to laser printers.

Some programs are available for even less, as little as \$12. But as Haveck said, "you get what you pay for." He explained that the inexpensive home design software packages often have limited capabilities, are not as flexible as the more extensive programs, and have small "symbol libraries."

Of course, even the better amateur home design programs won't give you finished blueprints, from which a carpenter could start building or which a city inspector would give approval on the home's structural integrity. To get something that fancy, you'd have to move to a "computer-aided drawing" or CAD program that could run \$300 or more. These are also much more difficult to learn to use, Haveck said.

The amateur home design programs available will however give an architect an very good idea of what the homeowner is looking for. They'd give the architect a good start on the final home blueprints.

Better yet, many of the programs have "3-D" options, which will automatically convert the blueprints to renditions of what the design would look like from an eye-level view, both on

Continued on 2

Best tools for the soil

By C.Z. Guest
Copley News Service

GARDENING

While there is a wide array of landscaping tools now available that will do most any yard job, from rough groundbreaking and trenching to fine finished landscaping and gardening, the trick is determining which tools are best for you and for each job.

The new, state-of-the-art tools have unique shapes and tool-head configurations to make them function in most any yard or garden situation. Many of these tools come with dual-striking head combinations for even greater versatility.

They also come in both long- and short-handle models to add to their range of jobs.

Here's a rundown on the different striking points and tool heads to look for on these landscaping jobs they will perform best.

- Trencher mattock — for breaking ground, accurate trenching, burying cable and piping.

- Planter scoop—a wide spadelike blade for ground-breaking, clearing, trenching and digging plant holes for trees.

- Tiller—has three fork tines for cultivating, weed removal, aerating soil and compost turning.

- Pick end—a sharp point for penetrating compacted soil, prying rocks, breaking up concrete and blacktop, thin trenching and furrowing for seeding.

- Ax end—for chopping roots, stubborn weed clumps and firewood.

- Chisel pick—long, sharp-edge blade for deep digging, prying and penetrating tough soil.

Look for tools with points or tool heads made of ductile iron, which is corrosion resistant and withstands tough impact.

PROTECTING PLANTS

Put some cornmeal around cabbage family plants and no insecticide will be needed. Sparrows come in for a free meal of cornmeal and add pest worms to their diet.

Turkeys make a perfect dethorner for the tomato "hornworms." They have sharp eyesight, can spot these pests and eat them without harming the plants.

However, don't make a mistake and turn them loose on a patch of new-sprouting seedlings!



Top tools

- Look for tool heads made of ductile iron to resist corrosion.
- Use the right tool for each job.
- Use a tiller for weed removal, aerating soil and turning compost.
- Use a planter scoop to break ground and dig holes for trees and shrubs.

Continued on 3

Copley News Service/Dan Clifford

Computer aided design saves time and back muscles

Continued from 1

The interior and the exterior. Some programs refer to this as a "virtual reality" option, although the 3-D programs now available only provide snapshot views and don't allow the user to move through the building as true "virtual reality" programs would.

According to Havelock, home design versions are available in all computer formats, for Macintosh as well as IBM and compatibles. DOS-based versions are available. Still, Havelock said, most of these design programs are based on Windows 3.1. Windows, Havelock explained, is a "graphic environment" and therefore particularly well suited to these programs.

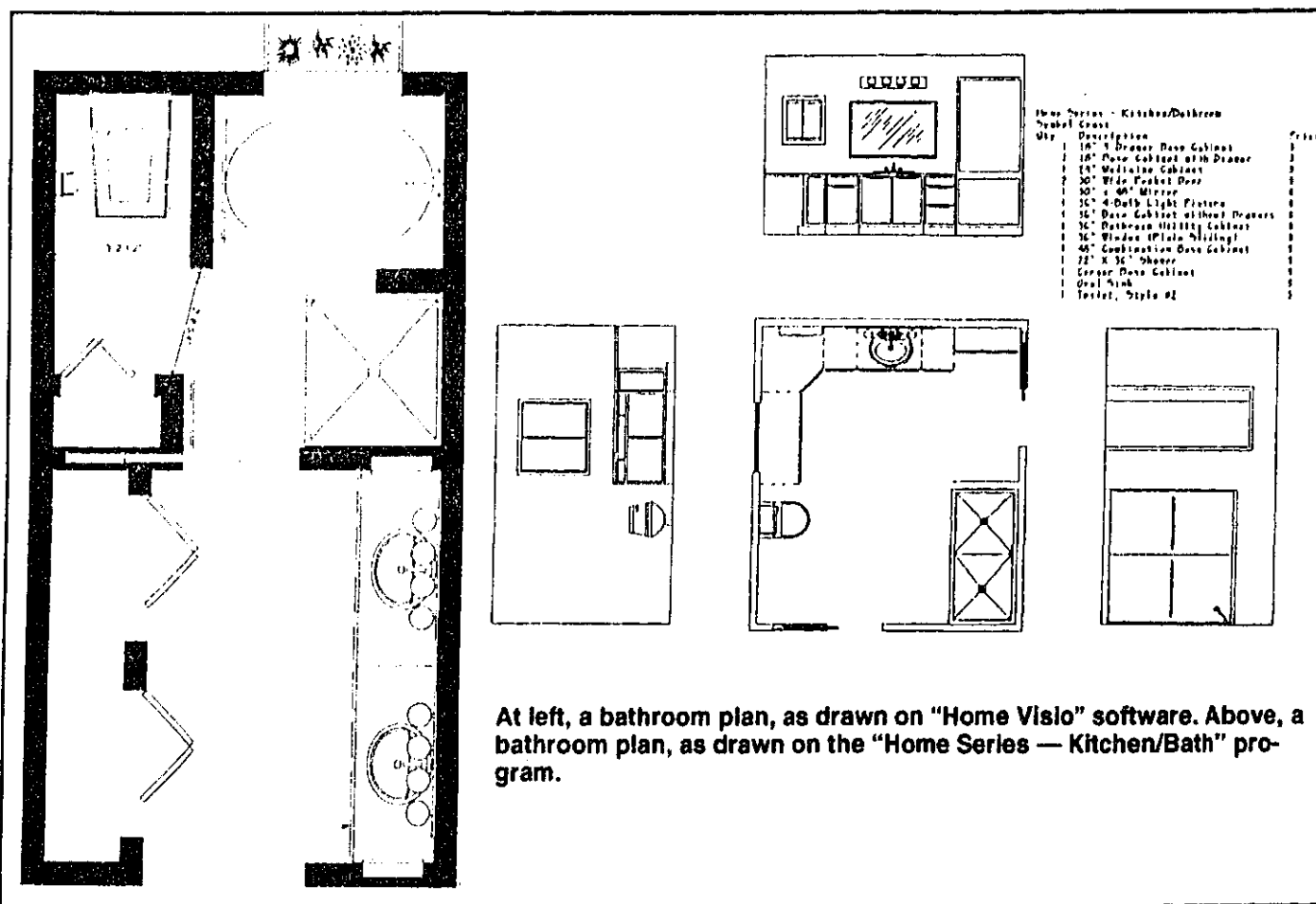
The home design programs are equally popular among all kinds of homeowners and homebuyers, Havelock said he believes those who purchase such software are about split among home buyers and home renovators. They are also popular among those who are redecorating, who want the programs for their interior designs.

And some, Havelock said, use the program simply to rearrange the furniture. "It beats moving the couch five times," Havelock said.

One of the most extensive programs out now is a new program called "Your Deck," from Books That Work, Sunset publishers.

Demonstrating the program, Havelock had an extensive deck design worked up in about 15 minutes. He then could convert the blueprints to eye-level and 3-D views. The program also would allow cross-sectional views, or could strip the decking to reveal the underlying structure.

A notable feature of this program is that once the blueprint is finished, the computer will automatically compile a list of materials needed for the construction and calculate the costs. With lumber



At left, a bathroom plan, as drawn on "Home Visio" software. Above, a bathroom plan, as drawn on the "Home Series — Kitchen/Bath" program.

prices always fluctuating, the program allows the user to change the materials prices in order to provide a more accurate final cost.

Don't know what one of the items noted on the materials list is? Havelock double-clicked on the item and a definition, complete with picture, popped up.

Don't know how to install it? Double-

click again and instructions pop up. The instructions aren't just text, they include animated pictures to show the installation procedure, complete with sound effects.

Such extensive design programs are not yet available for complete homes, but Havelock said "Home Visio" is one of the most popular programs capable of designing a complete home. The reason is that it

is easy to use and has a large symbol library, Havelock said.

The program begins with a scale grid on which the blueprint is to be drawn. Just "drag and drop" the walls into place. Then just "drag and drop" the furniture into place. In a short time, with little instruction, one can whip up full, professional-looking blueprints.

"The Home Series" is also popular, in part because it has extensive symbol libraries and is relatively inexpensive, but also because it provides eye-level renditions and 3-D views when the designers are finished with the blue print. Four versions of the program are available: Home, Landscape, Kitchen/Bath and Deck.

Among the programs available are:

- "Design and Build Your Deck," Books That Work, Sunset. Requires Windows 3.1, a 386 processor or higher, VGA graphics, 2 MB RAM and a hard disk.

- "Visio Home." Requires Windows 3.1, a 386-SX processor or higher, VGA or higher graphics, and a 8514/A or Windows-compatible graphics card. \$89.99.

- "Expert Home Designer." Requires a Macintosh Plus SE, SE/30, LC, LC II, Powerbook 100, 140, 170, Classic, Classic II, Quadra 700-950, Mac II to IIfx, System 6.0.5 or later, 2 MB RAM, or 4 MB RAM for System 7. \$32.99.

- "Expert Gold Edition Home Design." Requires Windows 3.0 or higher, a hard disk, a mouse, Hercules, EGA or VGA or higher graphics display adapter, and a printer installed through MS Windows. \$32.99.

- "Floorplan Pro Windows Plus," by ComputerEasy. Requires Windows 3.0 or DOS, and a mouse. \$51.99.

- "The Home Series." Programs are available for Home, Landscape, Kitchen/Bath, and Deck. Requires DOS 3.0 or higher, 640 K RAM, a hard disk, a floppy disk, and a 2- or 3-button mouse. \$39.99 each.

- "MyHouse," by DesignWare. Requires DOS 3.3, a 386 processor, 640 K RAM, CGA to super VGA graphics, and a hard disk.

Warranty plans gain popularity; new homes construction

Continued from 1

sumers have more respect for them."

Cathy Mims, president of a regional Association of Realtors, is also a believer in warranty coverage.

"We let our seller clients know that about 66 percent of previously owned homes have some type of mechanical problem during the first year after a sale. Warranty coverage can avoid some potential major problems with buyers."

Some of those mechanical prob-

lems can indeed be serious. The repair or replacement costs normally range from \$100 to \$3,500 per item. Obviously, one item being repaired can more than cover the cost of the warranty.

As home buyers and sellers become more aware of the importance of warranty coverage, it has become an increasingly potent marketing tool. A home that is covered by a one-year home protection plan definitely has a competitive edge over a comparable property without such coverage. It's particularly effective during a

"buyers' market" period.

Also, unhappy and frustrated buyers tend to file lawsuits quickly these days when something goes wrong with their newly acquired home. The warranty coverage mitigates this tendency. It's much easier to simply call the warranty company and quickly have the problem fixed.

A recent trend is for home buyers to pay for additional coverage years (after their first year).

Among individual states, California has the largest number of warranty plans in force. Here, nearly

250,000 homeowners had warranty coverage on their property for a period last year. This included about 60 percent of all previously owned homes sold in the state. Another 50,000 existing home warranties were renewed by homeowners during the past year.

G. How many new homes are expected to be constructed in the United States this year?

A. About 1.26 million homes will start construction during 1993. It was predicted by the National Association of Home Builders. That reflects a downturn in the associa-

tion's forecast a couple of months ago.

The change was sparked by a weaker than anticipated first half of this year.

The new forecast includes 1,103,000 single-family homes and 157,000 multifamily units (condos, apartments).

G. Are mortgage interest rates about to increase?

A. Not according to the experts. Here's a recent statement from the Research Department of the National Association of Realtors:

"Interest rates on fixed-rate mortgages are expected to remain at low, affordable levels at least through the end of this year. Predictions as to what the rate on 30-year fixed-rate conforming mortgages will be at year-end range from a low of 6.75 percent to a high of 7.5 percent."

Questions may be used in future columns: personal responses should not be expected. Send inquiries to James M. Woodard, Copy News Service, P.O. Box 190, San Diego, CA 92112-0190.

Dealing with pesky grasshoppers in your garden

Continued from 1

G. How can I keep grasshoppers from destroying my garden every year? I've tried everything.

A. Growers use a number of techniques to reduce grasshopper prob-

lems such as:

- Till the top 3 inches of soil soon after your fall harvest to reduce the number of eggs in the soil.
- Consider raising trap crops of brassicas or mustard greens; many grasshopper species prefer them to other vegetables.
- Protect seedlings with row covers.
- Decrease grasshopper populations by encouraging natural predators like birds.

Install feeders, birdhouses or a birdbath. C-2. Quest is a gardening authority whose work appears in House and Garden and author of numerous books and videos, including "5 Seasons of Gardening" (Little, Brown and Co.).



OPEN SUN, AUG. 29, 1-4 PM
SWIMMING, golfing or relaxing! Here's a home for all seasons. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, family room with fireplace, formal dining room, nice large kitchen, w/ granite counter, beautiful carpeting, large storage room, 2 car garage, privacy lower's yard & Dunham Lake privileges w/ scenic sandy beach nearby! \$168,500. Immediate occupancy. Take I-45 to 4 miles E. of US-23 to N. on Tapscott Lake Rd. follow open signs to 3231 Tapscott Lake Rd.

OPEN SUN, AUG. 29, 1-4 PM
MAGAZINE MATERIAL! Attractive 4 bedroom 1 1/2 story home on peaceful 2 acre setting. GRM w/wooded setting, flr. to ceiling w/wood & dramatic flr. top country kit, wall the extras, formal dining w/wooden nooding, 1st flr. laundry, 2 1/2 baths, deluxe master suite on 1st flr, ceramic tile, central vac, sec. system, 9' ceiling in bsmt, w/wooded ex. flr, 3 car garage & much more! \$275,000. Fenton Schools. Take M-59 3 miles E. of US-23 to N. on Fenton Rd. then West on Rohn Rd. & follow open signs to 12155 Rohn Rd.

SO MUCH TO OFFER! Space galore & more in this attractive & newer 3 bedroom 2 bath Cape Cod. 1960 sq. ft. of living area on first floor including formal dining & first floor laundry, plus upper level is 1000 sq. ft., fully finished & painted & ready to finish. All this & more situated on 2 peaceful acres in Brighton Twp. \$172,000. Hartland Schools.

DUNHAM LAKE-GREENBELT FRONT! This picture perfect home features traditional floor plan w/4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths which include master suite, 1st flr. laundry, granite fireplace, patio windows, central air, flr. to ceiling, dining area, setting w/wooded pines. Impeccably maintained. Walk to golf course, Hartland. \$259,500.

YEAR ROUND ENJOYMENT! Private & secluded 10.9 acre lakefront setting on Bullard Lake with fabulous 5 bdrm, 4 full bath chateau. Great room is 21'x18' w/wooded stone flr, double kitchen, 21'x24' heated indoor pool, family room, wip, master suite has sauna, whirlpool tub, to & 14'x20' deck, 3+ car garage plus 24'x44' multi-purpose building. All this & more for \$495,000. Hartland Schools.

COUNTRY DELIGHT! Private 5 acre setting w/leaky access to M-59 & US-23! Comfortable farm house style home built in 1980. Over 1850 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, full wall stone fireplace in LR, well planned kitchen, dining area, 1st floor laundry, full bath & 2 car garage. \$159,500. Hartland.

WOODS AND WILDLIFE! Comfortable 1740 sq. ft. raised ranch on private 3.62 acre setting, 3 bdrms, 2 1/2 baths, GRM w/wooder fireplace & relaxing views, 1st floor laundry, 3+ car garage w/over 10' high door for your motor home plus 28'x40' pole barn w/elec. Call today only \$167,900. Hartland.

SHARP DUPLEX! This income property is in excellent condition! 2 units, both have stove, refrigerator & private drive. Built in 1970. Natural gas heat & good location in Brighton Twp. \$98,000. Land Contract Terms.

EXIT 147, Spauld Rd. Oak Pointe is located 5 minutes west of downtown Brighton, on Brighton Road (Main St.) east of Oak Pointe in Brighton.

Model: (313) 220-2929
Hours: 12-6 daily
Closed Thurs. / BROKERS WELCOME

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083 Apartments For Rent

WEBBERVILLE 2 bedroom, appliances, garage, no pets \$495, ask about special. (313)553-3471, (517)521-3323.

WHITMORE LAKE 2 br. Country Apt. quiet, easy access, \$650 per mo. includes all utilities. (313)231-1383.

HOWELL 2 br. duplex, washer/dryer, stove, fridge, large yard for kids & pets. \$590/mo. Security & last months rent. (517)546-1265.

HOWELL 2 br. large yard, appliances. \$565 per mo. (517)546-6905, (313)669-3080.

HOWELL 2 br duplex for rent. \$450. (517)546-0801

HOWELL 2 br., appliances, including washer & dryer. Fenced yard. Close to x-way. \$525 plus deposit. (313)486-4157.

HOWELL Clean 2 br., x-way access, neutral decor. \$525/mo. No pets. (517)546-3901.

HOWELL Deluxe 2 br., carpeted, appliances, in exc. cond., \$595. (313)227-3434

LAKE CHEMUNG access. 2 or 3 br. Security dep. required. \$600. (313)229-6821, (313)229-6309.

MILFORD village spacious 1 br., country kitchen, dining rm., dishwasher, laundry, heat included Oct. 1. (313)685-7082.

PINCKNEY nice rural setting. Deluxe 2 br., walkout bmt., carpeted, appliances, in exc. cond., \$675. (313)227-3434

084 Duplexes For Rent

BRIGHTON, in city. 2 br. duplex. All appliances, air, washer/dryer hookup, new carpet, single car attached garage, 1 yr. lease, no pets. \$575, plus security. Immediate occupancy. Leave message. (313)229-6861.

HARTLAND 940 sqft., 1 br., full walkout on lake, \$650 includes utilities & parking spot in garage. (313)632-7069.

HOWELL 2 bedroom, washer & dryer hookup. (517)548-4197 after 5 pm.

SOUTH LYON Duplex/townhouse. 2 br., 1 1/2 bath, bmt., central air, stove & fridge, no pets. \$625/mo plus security. (313)437-9259

SOUTH LYON 2 br., 1,100sq.ft. fireplace, appliances, washer/dryer hook-up, 1/2 acre lot \$550, plus deposit. (313)486-4157.

NOVI Lakeland. Furnished sleeping room. Private entrance. \$65 wky. Quiet gentleman over 40. (313)624-1959

WHITMORE LAKE Lake access, house privileges. \$250/mo. utilities included. (313)449-4684

BRIGHTON Twp. Lexington Motel. Rooms by day or week. 5 min from I-96 & US-23. 1040 Old US-23.

FOWLerville area. Furnished sleeping room w/private bath and private entrance. 1 person, only. Cable TV and utilities, except telephone included. Prefer long staying tenant. \$70 per wk., w/first and final weeks in advance. Available Sat. Aug. 28, 1993. (517)223-8319.

HOWELL city. Clean furnished sleeping room. \$45 wky. kitchen access extra. (517)548-4030.

HOWELL in town, male only, utilities included. \$60 weekly. (517)548-4985.

NORTH of downtown Howell, br. with private bath, \$300/mo. (517)548-4098.

NORTHVILLE, \$65 per week. (313)476-5227. 111 W. Main Street.

NORTHVILLE. Private entrance furnished rm, parking, security, wireframe, 8 mile & Novi Rd. (313)348-4977.

NOVI Lakeland. Furnished sleeping room. Private entrance. \$65 wky. Quiet gentleman over 40. (313)624-1959

WHITMORE LAKE Lake access, house privileges. \$250/mo. utilities included. (313)449-4684

BRIGHTON 3 br. townhouse condo. Attached garage, air, fireplace, walkout bmt., wooded setting, near expressways. Immediate occupancy. \$475 per mo. (313)227-3653.

NOVI Sublet 3 br. townhouse Novi Ridge. We just moved in but must move out. Our brand new washer & gas dryer included if you assume our 1 yr. lease Sept. 1. Can move in Sept. 8. Call (313)305-9029.

HOWELL Responsible female to share 2 br. apt. (517)548-4727.

HOWELL Lake Chemung. Working female. 1 br., No Smoking! \$300 mo. (313)229-8016 days.

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089 Mobile Home Sites For Rent

2 MOBILE home sites in South Lyon Woods Mobile Home Park. (313)437-0676.

NOVI Old Dutch Farms. Clubhouse, off street parking, new playground equipment, close to I-96. RENT SPECIAL \$229 FOR 1 YR. w/\$99 security deposit. Double & single wide sites available. (313)349-3949.

UNHAPPY with your present location? You may qualify for a free move to Chateau Novi. Call (313)624-4200. 9am-noon and 1pm-4pm. Mon.-Fri. Also 6pm-8pm Mondays. Find out if you can qualify, we are at 13 Mile and Decker Rd. Only 1 mile from 12 Oaks Mall.

BRIGHTON, E. Grand River. Up to 7000sq.ft. All taxes included. Ask for Tony or Bernie. (313)229-6323.

BRIGHTON, downtown. 1200sq.ft. retail space, 200 Main St., lower level. (313)229-9555.

BRIGHTON. 1000 sq.ft. industrial shop. 1 1/2 miles from X-Way. (313)229-9652.

BRIGHTON, for lease. 3,500sq.ft. warehouse and office. Call Fred Horton. (313)227-1111.

FARMINGTON HILLS. Light industrial. 2,000sq.ft. \$6 per sq.ft. net. (313)478-6215.

HOWELL. 2000sq.ft. retail in Promenade Mall. Good parking & traffic. First Realty Brokers. (517)546-9400

MILFORD/New Hudson. Commercial space/light industrial available. 1,000-4,500sq.ft., Grand River frontage, excellent freeway access. (313)437-1046.

NEW HUDSON. 2400sq.ft. on Grand River. Ideal for bump or repair shop. Immediate occupancy. (313)348-7181.

NOVI area. \$325 per mo., w/\$150 security deposit. Includes all utilities, except phone. Must like dogs. (313)980-7219.

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MESS BUSTERS

Maid service is clean business

By RICK BYRNE
Copy Editor

Service industries are growing in Oakland County, and the Novi Mini Maid cleaning service of Dave and Gilma Truesdell is no exception. The biggest problem they have is hiring enough people to fill their growing workload.

"I guess the recession's over," Dave said. "Our volume's been incredible. July is usually our slowest month because of vacations, and we were scrambling to get done."

Mini Maid is a national franchise organization based out of Marietta, Ga. The company has been around for 20 years. The Truesdells, a husband and wife team, came on board in 1984.

"I was in the fast food industry for 20 years at the corporate level," said Dave. "Gilma got this started. Then when we could afford to replace my income, I quit and joined her. I always say I traded in my briefcase for a toilet brush."

"At that time, there weren't that many services like this," said Dave.

"When we started, Molly Maid (a competing national house-cleaning franchise) had just come in. Now, there are just so many dual-income families. The growth is incredible if you can keep your people and keep your quality up."

The Truesdells must be doing something right because, Dave added, "We've got the best client retention of all the franchises." Dave was also named to Mini Maid's first national advisory council.

Keeping employees has been a big plus for the Truesdells. Some of their team leaders have been with them for six years or more.

"We're strictly a residential cleaning service, with four-person cleaning teams," said Gilma.

Where some companies will send one or two people to clean a home, and take four hours, Mini Maid sends a crew of four to do the job in one hour. It's less intrusion for the homeowner, Gilma said, and allows Mini Maid to fit more jobs into a day.

Mini Maid's specialty is its waterless cleaning method. Sound impossible?

"It's really so simple," said Dave. "All we need is a glass cleaner, our own disinfectant/degreaser, and an abrasive that's kind of like a homemade Softscrub. All water does for you is dilute the chemicals."

Some old habits die hard, though. Sometimes employees will come along who have experience in house-cleaning, and they're difficult to convince on the waterless method.

The Mini Maid training process also includes increasing a maid's efficiency.

"We go left to right and top to bottom around a room," said Gilma. "That way you miss fewer things around the room. One person does the bathroom, one does the kitchen, one dusts and one vacuums. Then the supervisor checks everyone's work."

Mini Maid doesn't do any deep cleaning, for the simple reason that tasks like cleaning garages and basements, or ovens and refrigerators are too labor intensive. The cost, Dave said, would scare customers away.

"Our theory is that we do specific chores, a specific way, for a specific price," he said. "Ours is really a maintenance system, and we vary from the system very little."

And, said Gilma, "The more you get away from a routine, the more quality suffers."

The Truesdell's four house-cleaning teams can do five to eight houses a day. But just because the cleaning is broken down into a routine doesn't mean there aren't any



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Mini-Maids (left to right) Gail Shank, Kathy Sopeland, Ruby Tennant and Sharon Keating.

surprises.

"When you get into people's houses, anything can happen," Dave said. "One of our clients was moving from his old house to his new one. We were cleaning the old house while the movers were packing. When our team was done, they couldn't find their vacuum. The movers had packed our vacuum into the moving van. They weren't moving far, so the team went over to the new place, but for some reason the movers didn't show up for two hours."

The maids meet a lot of police officers, too, when clients forget to turn off burglar alarm systems. There have

also been instances where a client's dog has jumped in the open tailgate of the Mini Maid car and eaten a maid's lunch.

"We really stress to our employees, though, that what they see in the home stays in the home," said Dave. Confidentiality is important since the Novi service's coverage area extends to Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and West Bloomfield, and the homes of some Detroit area movers and shakers.

"We do some really huge houses," said Gilma. "It used to be that a big house was three bedrooms and one and-a-half baths. Now we do houses

with pools and saunas and live-in help to do the laundry."

But the bulk of the Mini Maid clients have simple cottages and condos.

"I'd say they're mostly the yuppie type, where both people work, and both have a good income," said Dave. "We find apartment dwellers are very poor customers. We do mostly condos, but few apartments."

The company has older customers as well. While Mini Maids can't meet all the needs of older people, like moving furniture and turning mat-

Continued on 2

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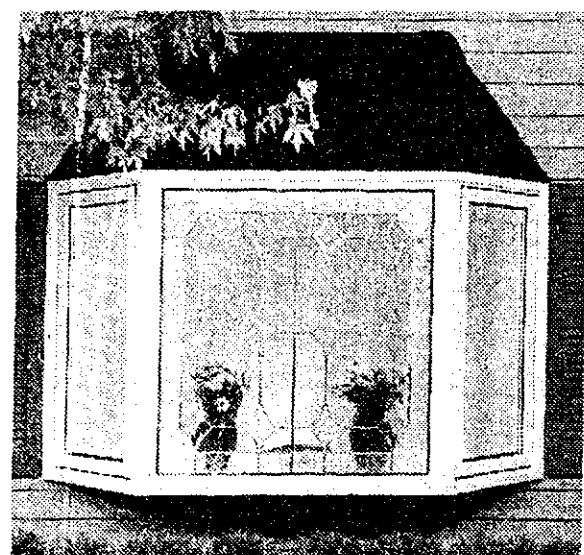
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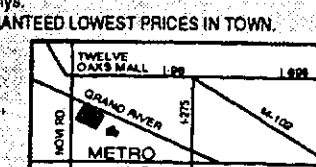
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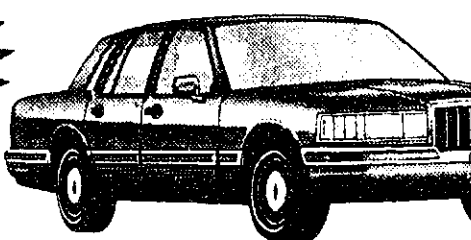
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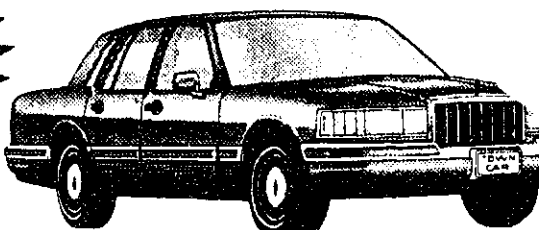
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Auto., dual air cond., p/windows & locks, AM/FM stereo, plus many more std. features.

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1992 TOYOTA Corolla, Auto, 4 dr., air, 19K miles under book value. Ann Arbor Acura, (313)663-7770.

1993 GMC Suburban, 12,000 miles, mint cond. Loaded. Trailer Package. Owner. GM retiree. Save \$4000 to \$5000. Howell area, (517)223-0089.

1993 HYUNDAI Excel. Auto, Very Nice, Low Miles & Price. Ann Arbor Acura, (313)663-7770.

1993 MAZDA 626, air, am/fm cassette and more only 6000 miles. Factory warranty like new only \$13,950. Brighton Honda Mazda, (313)227-5552.

1993 MERCURY Capri convertible, loaded, low miles, \$12,000. (313)227-1895.

Don't be ripped off by low trade-in amounts from Dealerships. I have out of state buyers paying top \$3 for 1986 or newer cars & trucks under 70K miles. Call Brian (313)829-7408.

Monday Buyers Directory: Pinckney, Hartland, Fowlerville Shopping Guides; Pinckney, Hartland, Fowlerville Buyers Directory; and Wednesday Buyers Directory deadlines will be Thursday, September 2, at 3:30pm.

Monday Green Sheet and Wednesday Green Sheet deadline will be September 3, at 3:30pm.

If you are having problems getting Auto Financing call Mr. Sims. Ann Arbor Acura, (313)663-7770.

LOCAL auto dealer has out of state buyers that pay top dollar for late model used cars and trucks. Call Brian Burke at (313)663-7770.

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1992 SUNBIRD LE Coupe, 23,000 miles. \$8,800. (313)486-0767.

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350 V-8, auto, air, West Virginia Car, all original. Must See

1984 BUICK SKY HAWK 2 DOOR
Auto, air, cassette, good miles, extra clean. \$2822

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5 speed, 63,000 miles, super clean. \$2933

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5 sp., 60,000 miles, like new! \$3444

1987 FORD E150 CARGO VAN
300 c.i., 6 cyl, auto, nice van! \$3832

1986 OLDS CIERRA 4 DR
Auto, air, 53 K - sharp! \$3844

1987 S-10 PICKUP
Red, 5 sp, cassette, 57K - sharp. \$3911

1988 PLYMOUTH SUNDANCE 4 DR
Auto, air, cassette, 49K, clean! \$4222

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Air, 5 sp, cassette, low price! \$4444

1988 SUZUKI SAMARI 4X4
35K, all custom, convertible. \$4999

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Red, 5 sp, cassette, below cost! \$5111

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1982 FORD station wagon, runs great, \$500. (517)548-6037

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1983 TOYOTA Tercel. Hatchback, 5 speed, runs exc., very reliable, high miles. \$550/best. (517)546-8005.

1984 CAVALIER 2 dr. Type 10, 4 speed, one owner, professionally maintained. New tires, brakes, clutch, exhaust & more. \$975/best. (517)546-8267 after 6pm.

1984 RENAULT, auto., exc. running cond., \$950. (313)228-2261

1984 TEMPO, 1 owner, asking \$995. Call mornings (517)223-8804

1984 VW Rabbit GTI, 90,000 miles, clean, runs good, body fair, \$750/best. (517)546-7607.

1985 ESCORT Wagon, 4 speed, 70,000 miles, \$700/best. (517)548-7857.

1985 FORD LTD II Wagon. Small down & \$25 weekly. We finance. Paul's Auto Sales, (517)548-7373.

1985 RENAULT, Air, am/fm cassette, runs good, needs love. Body good. \$550, or best. (517)546-7344.

1985 RENAULT, 5 speed, air, exc. cond. 70,000 miles. Asking \$975. (313)684-0948.

1986 ESCORT wagon. High miles, runs well, \$800 or best. (313)685-0375.

1986 MUSTANG GT. Many good parts, runs exc. \$1,000, best. Call (517)548-0574.

1987 FORD EXP 4 cyl. 5 speed. White. Small down & \$25 weekly. We finance. Paul's Auto Sales, (517)548-7373.

1987 PONTIAC 6000. \$950. 1986 Lynx Wagon, \$595. Best Sims. Ann Arbor Acura, (313)663-7770.

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