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HomeTown COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

NOVI NEWS

Opinion COUNCIL CAN'T TURN BACK ON MAIN ST. / **18A**

Living A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A ROAD PATCHING CREW / **1B**

Sports FASTPITCH TOURNEY COMES TO AREA TUESDAY / **9B**

Repairs start on Novi ice arena's wall

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

Architects and engineers have determined the cause of a structural flaw at the $8.5 million Novi Ice Arena and began late last week to fix the problem.

Designed to sink into the ground, the arena was built with 15 feet of backfill against to act like a retaining wall, said Dan Davis, director of Novi Parks and Recreation. However, pressure from the dirt proved to be too heavy for the structure.

The result was a shift in the front wall that set the opening of the arena back to the original mid-August start date.

An early finish to construction had the city optimistic about opening, but youth hockey and figure skating camps scheduled for this month were canceled due to concerns about the wall's stability.

Davis said construction crews are implementing the solution this week. The backfill dirt around three sides of the structure will be removed and replaced with sand and an underground system of foundation supports designed to move the walls back their original place will be installed, he explained.

"We're not going to have to rip it out and replace (the wall)," Davis said.

The repairs should take about three weeks, he said, putting the

Continued on 12

Photos by JOHN HEIDER

Brieanne, 7, and Brittany Andrews, 10, dance Saturday evening to the music of Rich Eddy.

Voters see two races in primary

By MICHAEL MALOTT
Staff Writer

Novi voters face a tough choice next Tuesday, Aug. 4 — to vote Republican and help settle the Bill Bullard-Barbara Dobb run-off for the 15th State Senate District primary or cast their ballots Democratic so they can have a say in the Geoffrey Fieger-Larry Owen-Doug Ross contest.

Voters can cast ballots for any party, but may not split their ticket, voting in different party races on the same ballot. Split ballots will be invalidated.

Little else is on the upcoming ballot. Yes, there is a race in the Republican party for the nomination to the gubernatorial race in November, between incumbent John Engler and Gary Artinian, a physician and member of Wayne State University Board of Regents. And there will be candidates for delegate to the county convention for both parties in individual precincts.

But there are no other contests. Incumbents 11th District Congressman Joe Knollenberg, 38th District State Representative Nancy Cassis and 17th District County Commission Kay Schmid all get a by in the GOP primary. Knollenberg will have to face Democrat Travis Reed in the fall for the congressional post, as Cassis will have to confront Democrat Kristy Mary Demas, both of whom have no competition in the primary.

The winner of the Bullard-Dobb race will face Democrat S. Ruth Fuller in the fall for that State Senate seat, but she is the lone candidate on the Democratic side.

The Reform Party has a section on the ballot but put forward not a single candidate in the City of Novi.

Polling begins at 7 a.m. and will run until 8 p.m. next Tuesday. The location of polls has been moved for five Novi precincts. Precinct 1, formerly at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, now votes at Meadowbrook Congregational Church, 21355 Meadowbrook Rd. Precinct 7, formerly casting ballots in Fire Station No. 1, now votes at Holy Family Church, 24505 Meadowbrook Rd. Precinct 10, formerly at Beachwalk Apartments, now votes at Hickory Woods Elementary School, 30655 Novi Rd. Precinct 14, which used to vote in Novi High School, casts ballots at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Rd. Precinct 17, which used to vote at the Church of the Holy Cross, also moves to the Civic Center.

Incumbent State Senator Bill Bullard first won the post in 1996, in a contest then against Dobb, after David Honigman resigned the post due to illness. Bullard began his political career on the Highland Township Board and has served as a State Representative.

Dobb is currently the state Representative in the 39th House District, which includes Commerce

Continued on 5

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Larry Nevers chats with Novi Rotarian Robert Mayner after his speech to the local club last Thursday.

Larry Nevers makes first speech to Rotary

By MICHAEL MALOTT
Staff Writer

"I'm a truly innocent man and I hope to have a chance to prove it in court," Larry Nevers told the Novi Rotary Club last Thursday in his first speaking engagement since getting out of federal prison last December.

Yes, the former Detroit police officer said in an interview following his speech, he did strike Malice Green in the head with a flashlight six to seven times during their encounter outside a known crack house in Detroit in November 1992.

But that was because Green, Nevers contended, was reaching for the officer's gun. Green had his hand on the butt and the only thing holding the weapon in place was a small strap and Nevers' hand. He hit Green while telling him to let go of the gun. Later, he hit Green again when Green attempted to swing at him with "a shiny object" in his hand. It turned out to be a set of keys with the keys extended through the knuckles, Nevers said.

Regardless, his actions were all in accordance with the rules and procedures laid down to guide officer conduct in the Detroit Police Department policy manual. Had a police department Board of Review been convened to examine the incident, Nevers said, it would have reached that conclusion.

Instead, Police Chief Stanley Knox denied a Board of Review hearing, Nevers said. Further,

Continued on 11

50s Fest rocks this town

Jan & Dean played before a record crowd.

Oldies performers, car show draw crowds

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

Michigan 50s Festival headliner Lou Christie's plane trip to Novi wasn't lightening quick, but the 1960s teen singing sensation made it just in time to perform his famous single "Lightening Strikes" for the crowd.

"He was a true performer," said festival manager Jane Thomas. "He freshened up, changed his clothes and went on stage. He put on a great show."

Christie was to leave that morning from Newark but the airline canceled his flight, leaving him to drive and hour and a half to LaGuardia where another flight was scheduled. As of 4 p.m., organizers were taking deep breaths, unaware of where Christie actually was.

Chief of Police Doug Shaeffer was sent to pick him up at the airport and Christie rolled into the Expo Center about 8:30 p.m., only about a half hour late.

The wait all day Friday was an exercise in patience and keeping calm, said Thomas.

When Christie arrived "I just took a big sigh of relief and went on with it," she said.

Continued on 8

inside

BUSINESS 1D
CALENDAR 2A
CLASSIFIEDS 3D
DIVERSIONS 6B
EDITORIALS 18A
HEALTH 12B
LETTERS 19A
LIVING 1B
NOVI BRIEFS 4A
NOVI HIGHLIGHTS 2B
OBITUARIES 16A
POLICE NEWS 4A
SPORTS 9B

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Life's a beach

At least, it is in Lakeshore Park

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

Up Novi Road, past the bustling shopping malls and through the exhaust fumes of traffic, is a little oasis in Novi.

This time of year, when the sun is shining and temperatures soar, many residents discover it for the first time and others make a journey well traveled.

Like Tom Crutchfield, who along with his wife, Pam, and son, Grant, spent a Friday afternoon, July 17, at Lakeshore Park on Walled Lake. Crutchfield grew up near the beach and park and though he now lives in Farmington Hills, when he can he makes the trip to Lakeshore Park.

"The park's gotten a lot nicer since I was a kid ... I may as well come here as Kensington. There's more to do here," he said.

Lakeshore held an open house July 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring a moonwalk for the kids, face painting, arts and crafts, hot dogs and popcorn and plenty of information about parks and recreation programs. Residents could apply for free season passes and learn about the difference aspects of the park, including the relatively new mountain bike trail.

"It went well," said Marilyn Troshak, deputy director of parks and recreation. "We had comments from people like, 'We never knew there was a back part of the park.'"

Last year, the open house was held on the first Saturday of Memorial Day and drew 800 people. It was a little more than the department could handle so it was changed to a weekend in July.

However, this year drew a less than expected crowd.

"It was a little slower this year but people really did enjoy it," Troshak said.

Along the thin strip of sand, blankets lay spread with pop coolers and potato chip bags. Sand castles littered the shoreline in between groups of kids digging

Continued on 17

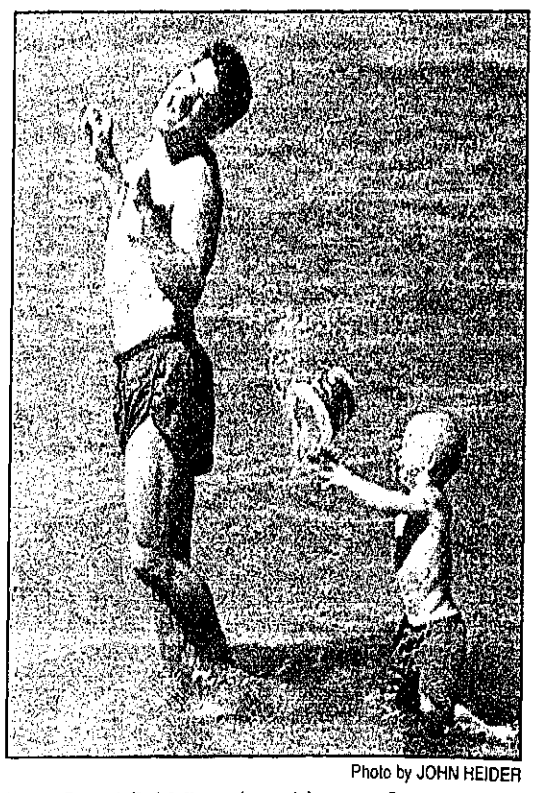

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Tom Crutchfield flees from his son, Grant, 3, and a bucketful of water on a Friday afternoon.

Community Calendar

To have 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.

Thursday, July 30

Sounds of Summer

The Sounds of Summer Concert Series resumes at the Novi Civic Center at 7 p.m. on the lawn. Rich Eddy's Rockin' Oldies Band will be featured.

Friday, July 31

City Council

Novi City Council meets in at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Rd.

Monday, August 3

TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly for all ages meets at 7 p.m. at the Novi Meadows Clubhouse on Napier Road. For more information, call after 6 p.m. (248) 344-2167.

Motor City Speak Easy Toastmasters

The Motor City Speak Easy Toastmasters Club meets from 7-9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile. For more information call Tom Laluff at 348-6019 (evenings). Visitors are welcome.

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Tuesday, August 4

Seniors meeting

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

Novi Concert Band rehearsal

The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For information, call (248) 932-9244.

Civil Air Patrol

The Sixgate Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, meets at Novi Middle School. 25299 Taft Rd., from 7-9:30 p.m. Adults and youths who have finished the sixth grade are welcome. For additional information call 349-2669.

Menopause Support Group

Providence Medical Center's Conference Center, 47601 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.

Amateur Radio Club

The Novi Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. For more information call 348-0009.

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, 344-4269 evenings after 6 p.m.

Optimist Club

The Novi Optimist Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at the Big Boy Restaurant on Novi Road, across from the Novi Town Center.

Primary election

On the ballot are contests for party run-offs for governor and state senator. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

National tourney

The National Fast Pitch Tournament comes to Power Park, behind the Novi Civic Center on Taft Road, beginning today and running through Sunday, August 9.

Wednesday, August 5

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.

Thursday, August 6

Novi Rotary

The Novi Rotary Club meets at noon at the Novi United Methodist Church at 41671 Ten Mile Road. For information, contact Bob Limbright at 380-6500.

Sounds of Summer

The Sounds of Summer Concert Series continues at the Novi Civic Center at 7 p.m. on the lawn. The Novi Concert Band will be featured.

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One of the most common noises that drivers hear coming from their engines is a rattling sound that occurs upon acceleration. This noise, known as pinging, results when the moisture in the combustion chamber explodes before or after it should. If left unchecked, pinging (detonation) can lead to serious damage to the pistons. The first step to find a cure involves a check of the owner's manual to make sure that the car is using the correct octane gas. If pinging persists, the car should be checked for overheating. A faulty thermostat or loss of pressure in the cooling system can cause the engine to run so hot that it pings. Proper engine timing is also critical in preventing ping. Ping can also result from a hose or wire disconnected from an emission-control device.

Early detection of a mechanical problem can save you time, money, and aggravation. Protect your vehicle by having routine evaluations every 3,000 miles. If you hear noises such as pinging, bring your vehicle to MARTY FELDMAN CHEVROLET. We use the latest computerized equipment to thoroughly inspect all components including the pistons, heating and cooling systems, brakes and battery. **Call us at 348-7000 to arrange a convenient appointment, or visit us at 42355 Grand River, Novi. Showroom hours are Mon & Th, 8-9; Tues, Wed, & Fri, 8-6; and Sat, 10-4. Service hours are Mon-Fri, 7:30-7. Free shuttle service available.**

HINT: The switch to a higher octane fuel should only be made when no other cure provides a fix for ping.

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OCC students get 'lion's share' of scholarships

A "lion's share" of a new state scholarship program is going to Oakland Community College students.

"We are proud that we were singled out for the lion's share of Governor's Scholarships," said OCC Chancellor Richard Thompson.

OCC will get $1.6 million of the $20 million pot. It will help pay for 1,800 scholarships – more than double the number of the next highest provider, neighboring Macomb Community College.

Thompson said the 1,800 scholarships will cover a two-year cycle and be given to about 750 students because some will be in two-year associate degree programs and others in shorter certificate programs.

"There is also $30 million for tech centers (capital) – five or six in the state," Thompson added. "One by law will go to FocusHOPE. The state is accepting proposals until mid-August. The grants probably will be announced in late October. We will be a candidate.

"We are working on getting our partners lined up in business, industry and the high schools along with Walsh College and Lawrence Technological University."

Gov. John Engler announced the $50 million plan to train Michiganians for "gold collar jobs" during his state of the state address. They are defined as well-paid jobs requiring a high level of skill but not a four-year university degree.

Scholarships cover half the cost of books, fees and tuition for two years of full-time study or four years of part-time study.

Applicants should begin applying immediately, both for admission to OCC and for scholarships. There is no application charge. The fall semester begins Sept. 3.

Questions? Call Kristine Erickson at OCC's Governor's Scholarship hot line, 248/540-1543.

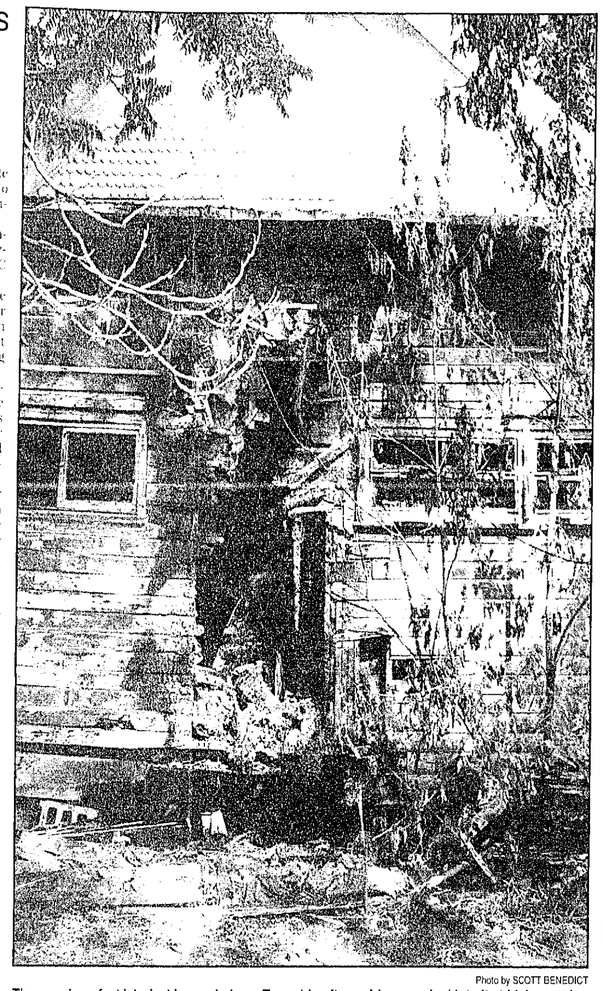

Photo by SCOTT BENEDICT

The remains of a historical house in Lyon Township after a driver crashed into it at high speed.

Novi traffic stop attempt ends in crash and burn

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

A 22-year-old Detroit woman's car crashed into an old New Hudson farmhouse and burst into flames during 2:30 a.m. chase that began in Novi Tuesday.

"We were dispatched for a house fire," said Lieutenant Andy Dotson, with the Lyon Township Fire Department. "When we got there we found the house was burning and also the car ruptured the natural gas line which was feeding the fire."

Dotson said at least one person was in the house at the time of the fire, but escaped without injury.

It took nearly three hours to locate the female driver who escaped from the car with an 11-month-old infant.

"She just got out and started walking around (the area)," said Novi Police Lieutenant David Butler. "That's why we couldn't find her."

New Hudson fire officials discovered the woman and child outside a the Lyon Township fire station which was about 200 feet from the accident.

The mother and child were both taken to the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. The woman was released Tuesday afternoon into police custody. She was being held pending charges of fleeing and eluding an officer and on four other outstanding felony warrants, police said.

According to police, she was scared of being arrested on the outstanding warrants and losing custody of her child. The child remains in protective services.

The incident began about 2:30 a.m. when a Novi Police officer spotted a car driving erratically westward on Grand River Avenue near Haggerty Road. According to reports, the officer followed the woman toward Meadowbrook and activated his lights and sirens. The car, however, accelerated and continued westbound with the police car in pursuit.

> Police said the woman was already speeding so fast the officer couldn't keep up.

The chase continued outside Novi into Wixom and then to New Hudson where the officer lost sight of the vehicle.

"It was my understanding he didn't chase her," said Butler.

Police said the woman was already speeding so fast the officer couldn't keep up. She also ran several red lights, according to the report.

Nearing Pontiac Trail, the officer spotted smoke and discovered the woman had run into an old Centennial farmhouse on Grand River Avenue.

The car was in flames, but the occupants were nowhere to be found.

Area police and fire arrived on the scene, extinguishing the car and house, which suffered smoke damage throughout and fire damage in one room.

A Novi canine unit also arrived to track the scent, but was unable to locate the driver of the car. She remained at large until appearing at the fire station.

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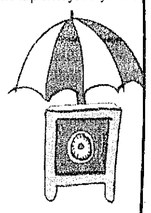

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HealthNote

by Dennis Engerer, P.T. and Patricia Westerbur, P.T.

A LESSON FROM THE PRO'S

Lessons learned from rehabilitating injured professional athletes have filtered down to the rest of the population with the use of immediate and aggressive rehabilitation. This includes a regimen to retrain such key faculties as balance, reaction, and timing. To understand the importance of this concept, consider the case of a sprained ankle, which results in a slightly torn ligament. After the swelling subsides and the pain recedes, the injury heals -but not totally. Damage to some very tiny receptors in the muscles and in the joint cause disruption in the joint's stability that creates the need for retraining. Before the importance of retraining neuromuscular pathways was understood, athletes would reinjure themselves even though their strength had returned to normal.

If you are in need of rehabilitation for a sports injury, call NOVACARE at 349-3816. Stressing simple common sense treatment techniques, our therapists offer individualized treatment programs that focus on returning patients to their highest level of function. In addition, we work closely with referring physicians and provide timely initial evaluations and routine progress correspondence. Located at 215 E. Main St., Suite B (across from our previous location), we have early and late business hours, including weekends.

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P.S. On the basis of their understanding of the need to retrain the neuromuscular pathways of injured athletes, physical therapists have developed higher-level coordination and agility drills.

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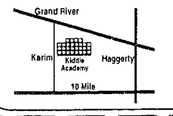

Guests cause trouble at party

Police News

Three uninvited guests caused trouble for a Holyoke resident July 26, according to Novi Police reports.

A young woman living there told police she had friends over while her parents were out of town. However, three young men showed up drunk about 2 a.m. and were asked to leave.

She said they did leave, but then one of them reappeared and damaged her screen door trying to get back in the house. She told him to leave again and all was quiet.

The next morning, though, the woman's friend found her car tires deflated. Someone had let the air out.

BAD YOLK

A car parked in the driveway of a Staunons Street home was hit by eggs during the night of July 23, police said.

The eggs damaged the paint of the black Ford Ranger.

STOLEN

A green 1996 GMC Jimmy was reported stolen from the parking lot of the Springs Apartments, according to police.

There was no glass found in the parking lot. The owner said the doors were locked.

GUTSY

A black Ford Mustang was stolen from the parking lot of the 52-1 District Court in Novi July 22.

Police said the owner left the keys to the car on or under the front seat and was not sure if the doors were locked. He added they can be opened when locked anyway.

A cell phone and CD player were in the car.

OPEN SESAME

A set of $2,000 golf clubs and cases of Coca-Cola and Fresca were stolen from a garage on Davenport overnight July 21. The dashboard of the homeowner's Porsche was also damaged when the suspects ripped the stereo and speakers from the car.

Police said suspects may have used the garage door opener in the car in the driveway to open the garage.

BUMMER

Someone stole a West Bloomfield woman's luggage packed for a vacation.

Police said the woman left the packed suitcase in her car parked on Fremont, July 21. Sometime during the night, someone got into the Ford Explorer and took the luggage.

GRABBED

A 42-year-old Wixom man sitting outside the Dress Barn in West Oaks July 25 watched as a dress-snatcher executed her plan.

The man told police a man and woman drove up to the sidewalk sale in progress in a light blue car about 12:30 p.m. The woman, described as white with long dark hair, jumped out of the car and grabbed about 40 dresses from a rack throwing them in the car. The couple then drove off. The store estimated the dresses were worth about $60.

RUNNING SCARED

Police questioned a 24-year-old Novi man after Office Max employees saw him drop a piece of merchandise and run from the store.

According to reports, the man told police he was in the store and noticed a man to whom he owes money. The man had been following him, he said. Scared, he dropped what he had and ran from the store carrying the cell phone he'd brought in with him.

Police tracked the man down after store employees jotted down his license plate number.

PUSHY

Novi police said a shoplifter pushed past a Comp USA store employee to get a $2,500 computer system out the door and into a waiting car, July 24.

Police said the incident occurred about 6:30 p.m. A black man, weighing about 200 pounds and standing between five foot eleven inches and six foot tall was seen putting computer equipment and software in a cart.

He walked past registers and tried to get past an employee checking receipts but was stopped. He told the employee the items were returns and tried to push by. The employee grabbed the cart, sending some of the items crashing to the floor. Still, the suspect pushed the cart out the door to a waiting green Ford Expedition waiting outside.

Citizens with information about the above incidents are urged to call the Novi Police at 348-7100.

Novi Briefs

Hazardous waste to dump

The City of Novi will hold a Hazardous waste disposal day Sept. 12 from 9 a.m. t o 3 p.m. at the Department of Public Works garage.

The DPW garage is located at 26300 Delwal Drive off of Eleven Mile Road between Meadowbrook Road and Town Center Drive.

Public Information Director Lou Martin said on that day only, the garage will accept everything from bug sprays, herbicides, fluorescent light bulbs, oil based paint and paint thinner to transmission fluid, car batteries, household batteries, gasoline and kerosene.

For further info call RRASOC at 248-208-2270

Softball event hits Novi

The Amateur Softball Association National Championship for Girls 16 and under begins Aug. 3 and runs through Aug. 9. Opening ceremonies begin 4 p.m. on Aug. 3 on the Novi High School Football Field.

Famed Detroit Red Wings singer Karen Newman will sing the national anthem. Fox 2 sportscaster Jennifer Hammond will emcee the event.

Leave message at NYA

Because of the nature of the work, the Novi Youth Assistance office may not always be open, but leaving a message is a sure way to reach the organization which helps Novi children and families. Claudia Walter, case worker, said messages will be returned. The number is 349-8398.

Golfing for dollars

The golf outing sponsored by Local Color Brewing Co. and Las Vegas Golf and Tennis July 13 netted $4,500 for Novi Youth Assistance. The event was held at the Links of Novi course. Thirty restaurants and stores donated prizes.

Groups seeking homes for foreign exchange students

David from Madrid, Spain, and Joao from Campinas, Brazil, and are looking forward to spending the 1998-99 school year in suburban Detroit. Several area high schools have agreed to accept these two students. However, a local family must be found to host each boy before his year in America can begin.

David will be 17 when he arrives here in late August. He has been playing tennis since age 5. David also enjoys playing soccer. He is very strong academically and is looking forward to the challenge of *spending his senior year in America.* David is active in the Catholic church and regards his trip to Paris to see the Pope as one of his life's highlights. David is a sociable boy who enjoys going to the movies with his many friends and two younger brothers. David is eager to find many new friends in Michigan.

Joao is an outgoing and friendly 16-year-old who loves sports, especially soccer and basketball. He also has fun camping with the Boy Scouts. He plays the guitar, sings and enjoys listening to all kinds of music. Joao's hobbies are computers, cooking, and indoor games. His mother is a librarian, his father is a journalist, and he has a huge extended family. He has a great relationship with his younger brother with whom he shares a room.

Both David and Joao are sponsored by the Program for Academic Exchange, which will provide full medical insurance and money for personal expenses. Lynne Levenbach of Plymouth is coordinating the search for families for David and Joao. She also has applications from additional boys and girls from about 20 different countries (including mainland China) who are eager to come to America for a year. All families, with or without children, with any interest in hosting a high school foreign exchange student are encouraged to call. For more information, contact Lynne Levenbach at (734) 453-8562 or (734) 453-6851.

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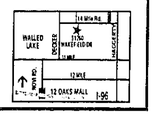

REAL ESTATE UPDATE

by John Goodman
Coldwell Banker Preferred

BUYING OR SELLING JITTERS

You want to sell your house, and you are fortunate because buyers have made you an offer that you couldn't refuse. Once the ink dried on the contract forms, however, it seemed like everything threatened to come unraveled.

Once the buyers' earnest money check cleared their account, they came up with a list of concerns that never occurred to their structural expert. Their fears and demands caused you to see them more as an adversary rather than the sweet young couple who want to start a family in your house. How could the atmosphere have changed so quickly?

You should know the buyers and sellers are both susceptible to different forms of "temporary insanity"--"Buyers' Remorse" and "Sellers' Remorse". Fortunately neither one of these conditions is contagious to Realtors. An important part of our job is to help our sellers and buyers through their buying or selling jitters with understanding and humor.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying or selling real estate, contact **John Goodman, one of the top 9 sales agents internationally out of 60,000 Coldwell Banker agents for 1994, 1995, 1996, and 1997. Call 810-908-2799.**

THIS WEEK'S FEATURED LISTINGS

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AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION • AUGUST 4

Bullard won seat against Dobb in just two years ago

Incumbent Republican Willis Bullard may feel he's experiencing deja vu. He just ran against challenger Barbara Dobb two years ago to win the then vacant seat. No doubt he's hoping the outcome will be the same this time.

Unlike Dobb, Bullard is not affected by term limits since he has yet to serve a full four-year term. Senators are allowed two.

Bullard, an attorney and state lawmaker since 1982, started his career in politics as a Highland Township trustee from 1979-80 and supervisor from 1980-82.

"I'm more of a citizen politician," Bullard said, adding that he's always been accessible to his constituents since he was first elected and has fought hard for reforms that would improve the quality of life in his home district.

He's lived in the Milford/Highland area for 23 years, where he's been a practicing attorney for the past 16. Still an attorney in private practice, Bullard's office is in Milford. Business there takes a backseat to his elected responsibilities, Bullard says.

Proposal A was a big win for Michigan taxpayers, especially for those in Highland Township, where taxpayers realized a 63-percent property tax cut, Bullard said.

"Proposal A has just been a win, win, win in Highland," he said. "But Proposal A has been a significant tax cut for this area — even for the schools, which are getting more money."

As a representative, he sponsored 41 bills, 11 of which were signed into law by Gov. John Engler. Bullard sponsored more bills that any other representative at that time, the record reflects.

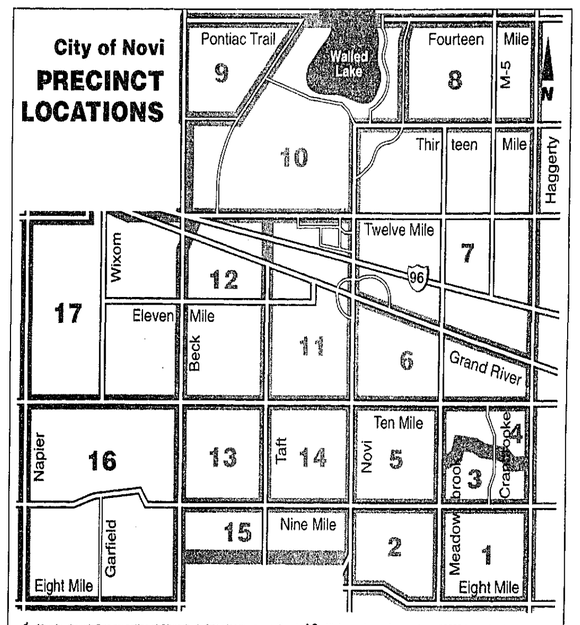
As chair of the House Tax Policy Committee, finding ways to cut taxes was a key component to his job.

Proposal A was a step in the right direction that most taxpayers have already benefited from or will do so in the future, he said.

"People will see it over the next couple of years," he said of the impending tax relief. "Fewer people are going to the Board of Review and Tax Tribunal."

But there have been other initiatives that have helped cut taxes. The repeal of the inheritance tax is one, as is the $250,000 exemption for small business owners. Both were significant cuts, he said.

Bullard has continued his tax cutting ways in the senator. Along with Novi's state representative Nancy Cassis, Bullard proposed a cut in the state income, which was picked up this year by Gov. John Engler as the proposed tax reform plan of the year during his State of the State address.



1. Meadowbrook Congregational Church 21355 Meadowbrook Road
2. Meadowbrook Congregational Church 21355 Meadowbrook Road
3. Village Oaks Elementary School 23333 Willowbrook Road
4. Novi United Methodist Church 41671 Ten Mile Road
5. Orchard Hills Elementary School 41900 Quince
6. Holy Family Catholic Church 24505 Meadowbrook Road
7. Holy Family Catholic Church 24505 Meadowbrook Road
8. Hickory Woods Elementary School 30655 Novi Road
9. The Grand Court Novi (Novi Village) 45182 West Road
10. Hickory Woods Elementary 30655 Novi Road
11. Novi Christian School 45301 Eleven Mile Road
12. Novi Middle School 25299 Taft Road
13. Faith Presbyterian Church 44400 West Ten Mile Road
14. Novi Civic Center 45175 West Ten Mile Road
15. Novi Civic Center 45175 West Ten Mile Road
16. Thornton Creek Elementary 46180 West Nine Mile Road
17. Novi Civic Center 45175 West Ten Mile Road

Barbara Dobb gets a rematch in GOP primary election for state senate seat

For Barbara Dobb, the August primary is a rematch. Dobb first faced off against Bill Bullard for the senate seat in May 1996 when then-senator David Honigman stepped down due to illness.

Bullard won that contest, but with term limits now in effect, Dobb cannot run again for her state House seat in the 39th District which she has held since 1990.

"The whole political landscape is going to change under term limits. This will be our first election under term limits. The public will get a real wake-up call as to how far-reaching it is. It does affect just those legislators who are term-limited, like myself," she said recently.

The winner of the primary will face off in November with Democrat S. Ruth Fuller, who has no competition in the primary. The winner will win a 4-year term. Senators are limited to two 4-year terms.

As one of only a few certified public accountants in the legislature, Barbara Dobb has said she sees herself as a voice of pragmatism in the often theoretical debates about proposed tax legislation.

She remembers the role she played along with fellow accountant Susan Grimes Munsell, R-Howell, in the bipartisan school reform committee that eventually churned out Proposal A:

"We were the two with the calculators on the team," she said. "We were out there with our calculators and said, 'This is how it will affect an individual's tax return.'"

The same pragmatic sense shows through in her efforts to reach out to her constituency. For instance, she has developed a "Senior Horizons Network" to inform senior citizens about what's available to them.

"All of those programs that are designed to help people are no good when the seniors don't know about them," she said.

The response from the seniors has let her know that they appreciate the program. More than 8,600 have signed up to receive the information that Dobb's office distributes. The information is geared toward informing senior citizens of what issues are at hand and what services and publications are available to them.

Dobb has also frequently spoken at the schools and libraries in her district and is frequently found at the podium of local chamber organizations.

On the legislative frontier Dobb has focused on tax bills, acting as an advocate both for businesses and senior citizens.

In her efforts for business, she was part of the effort to increase the tax threshold for businesses up to $250,000. In most cases, businesses who bring in less than $250,000 in receipts for a given year no longer need to file a tax return. Likewise, she helped push to make it easier for small businesses to qualify for an alternate tax that offers lower rates.

On behalf of senior citizens, she takes credit for initiatives passed near the end of 1995 that will eventually offer senior citizens an annual tax deduction of up to $7,000 on earnings from interest and capital gains.

As a lifelong resident of the area, Dobb resides on Union Lake in Commerce Township. She cites golfing and traveling as primary interests. She also has close relationships with her six nieces as well as her siblings and parents.

The close family ties have helped her as she has graduated from her tenure on the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce and Commerce Township Planning Commission to the public campaigns that accompany the pursuit of a legislative post.

Precincts have been moved for August 4 primary election

Continued from 1

and West Bloomfield. She has served in that post 1990. She has her own CPA firm in West Bloomfield.

The winner of the seat, following the fall election, will win a 4-year term. Senators are limited to two terms in office. The district includes Novi, Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Lyon Township and South Lyon, Milford, Commerce and Highland.

In the Democratic run-off for governor, Geoffrey Fieger is the outspoken attorney who has represented Jack Kevorkian in his dealings with the law over physician-assisted suicide.

Larry Owen, who has received the support of most labor unions, worked on mental health and insurance in the administration of Gov. William Milliken. Under Gov. James Blanchard, Owen was in charge of setting up the state's pre-paid tuition program.

Doug Ross is a former State Senator, served as the Michigan Commerce Director, and was President Bill Clinton's Assistant Secretary of Labor for a period of time.

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When surgery is recommended to get rid of bunions, you'll be glad to know that today's techniques make the process easier and faster, and recovery is quite a bit more comfortable than just a few years ago. If you are one of the unfortunate victims of bunion pain, consider professional help. Our techniques are up-to-date, with three basic goals: To relieve pain, restore function, and improve appearance. Bunions can be corrected in our office or on an out-patient basis at the hospital.

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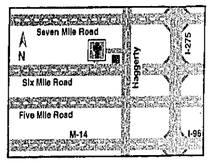

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Police bond mill rate set for fall

By MICHAEL MALOTT
Staff Writer

A bond issue to fund $3.3 million in renovations to Novi's police department building would cost taxpayers an average of 0.145 mills for 15 years, according to preliminary estimates provided to the city by municipal finance advisors Bendzinski & Co. of Detroit last week.

The figures were given to the city a day after council members voted to place the issue on the ballot for voters in November. The figures will be needed to prepare the ballot wording, Assistant City Manager Craig Klaver explained. And council will have to approve that wording before the question can go on the ballot.

One mill equals $1 for each $1,000 of a home's assessed valuation. So a rate of 0.145 mills would equate to an additional $14.50 in taxes per year for the owner of a $200,000 home.

According to the Bendzinski estimates, the millage requirement would start at 0.15 mills the first year, in 1999. It would range to a high of 0.165 in the year 2008 and wrap up at a low of 0.128 mills in 2013. The estimates assume an interest rate of 5.5 percent and a growth in the city's SEV of 3 percent.

Klaver warned the rate might rise a tad by the time the ballot question reaches the ballot, since the addition of equipment, such as a new phone system, could cause the cost of the police department building renovation to increase to $3.6 million. He said the rate would stay in the range of 0.15 mills.

> "Officers have to have a building from which they can operate effectively. Dispatch, as mundane a service as that may be, has to operate effectively, along with all the other support services, if the police department is to be effective."
>
> Craig Klaver
> Assistant City Manager

The bond issue would fund an array of improvements to the building, bringing it into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, making repairs to the building such as replacing sinking floors and repairing walls so the building can be used through the year 2030, and making alterations to accommodate growth and redesign.

Voters have previously rejected funding for a renovation of the police department building. At the time, the cost was estimated to be $2.5 million.

Klaver said he believed the list of repairs and renovations may have confused voters. He also noted that repair of the police building would likely be a lower priority for residents than, say, upgrades to the roads.

"But residents do use the building even if they don't go there," he said. "Officers have to have a building from which they can operate effectively. Dispatch, as mundane a service as that may be, has to operate effectively, along with all the other support services, if the police department is to be effective."

The police building renovations previously appeared on the ballot back in 1996, when the rate was 0.13 mills. Although voters rejected it at that time, they approved bond proposals for $17 million worth of road improvements and $2.2 million for fire department construction in that same election.

Council delayed putting another proposal for a bond issue for road improvements on the ballot until next spring. City Finance Director Les Gibson said last week the duration and assumptions would likely be identical for that bond issue.

So if the city decided to place the entire $65 million road bond package on the ballot, the rate would come to an estimated 2.856 mills. That rate would cost the owner of the same $200,000 home $285.60 in additional taxes each year.

The road bond package, as presently designed, would include $48.8 million for 12 city funded road upgrades to Beck Road, Crescent Boulevard, Main Street West, Delmont Street, Disner Street, Garfield, Grand River, Meadowbrook, Nine Mile, Ten Mile and Twelve Mile roads.

The bond would also provide the $13 million in local matching money needed for five projects, for which $88 million would come from state and county grants. Those projects would make improvements to the Beck/I-96 interchange, Ten Mile, Novi Road, Twelve Mile and Grand River.

Bus hit by drunk driver after students arrive at school

By WENSDY WHITE
Staff Writer

Just minutes after a group of special education students had arrived and entered Old Village School, their school bus was rear-ended by a drunk driver.

According to Northville police, it was 8:30 a.m. when a Ford Ranger pick-up drove left of center on Main Street and collided with the bus on July 20.

When police arrived to the scene, the 42-year-old driver from Sterling Heights told them he had been run off the road. He also said the bus had cut him off, even though it had been parked in front of Old Village the entire time.

"It's an unfortunate situation. We were lucky that the bus had already been debarded and there weren't kids in the area. During the school year there could have been a lot more serious consequences," said Sergeant Jim Marks of the Northville City Police Department. "This type of driver is out there during the day as well as night."

Although the driver told police he hadn't been drinking, his blood alcohol registered .33 percent, or three times the legal limit.

"It's been years since I've had had results that high, even at night," Marks said. "That high in a person who didn't drink a lot, (he) would have been in a lot worse shape."

The driver of the vehicle was a land surveyor who worked for McNeely &Lincoln of Livonia and was driving a company car. A passenger in the vehicle at the time said he didn't know his co-worker was under the influence of alcohol behind the wheel.

"We're currently investigating the accident," said Mike Dwyer, a spokesperson for the company.

No one was injured in the crash, but police said it sends a message that driver's should be on guard even in the morning.

Police urged motorists to call the police if they notice any unusual driving patterns.

"Cell phone holders have a big advantage. It's always a good idea to report that so we can get them off the road," Marks said.

After sobering up and paying a $100 bond, the driver was released from the Northville Township Police Department. He was charged with a misdemeanor that carries 90 days in jail or up to a $500 fine. His license may be suspended up to two years.

The driver had been arrested for and OUIL in 1993, and for driving while impaired in 1990.

Novi Michigan 50's Festival

11th Aniversary

July 22 - 26, 1998

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Mary E. Sweeney
Roy Szalony
Carol S. Szalony
Skip Tuck
Wally Wigand
Carol Workens

THE 11TH ANNUAL MICHIGAN 50S FESTIVAL

Novi becomes 'Surf City USA' for a night

Dean Torrence, of Jan & Dean, tells of his nearly 40 years in the music business

By GINA C. MATHEWS
Special Writer

Novi was "Surf City USA" Saturday night.

Musical artists Jan & Dean brought their Southern California sound and transformed the Michigan 50's Festival this weekend into sun, sand and fun, fun, fun.

Jan Berry and Dean Torrence delighted the crowd at the Novi Expo Center with old standards like "Surf City," "Little Old Lady From Pasadena," "Deadman's Curve" and "Barbara Ann." The crowd sang every single word, without missing a beat.

These two native Californians sold more than 30 million records between the years of 1960 and '66. Their skyrocketing career as teen idols came to a crashing halt on April 12, 1966 when Jan Berry almost died in a catastrophic car accident. With a strong will, therapy and the support from his partner Dean, Jan & Dean began touring again. On April 12, 1996 Jan & Dean were inducted into Hollywood's Rockwalk.

The Novi News interviewed Dean Torrence after the duos' performance.

Novi News: You were so young when your career started. What was it like to have girls screaming for you? How about trying to date? Did it enhance or hurt it?

Dean Torrence: I was four. Actually, it did not affect it as much as one would think. The business was not all that big. In today's terms you think about what it is like to be a rock star. Even my friends thought it was quite a lowly thing for me to be involved in, because it was teen or preteen music, now that we were going on to college we shouldn't be involved in an industry that caters to 12-year-olds, so it was way beneath most of my friends. My friends didn't care, most girls did not particularly care. It wasn't until much later, once we reached our 20s and then we had the Beatles, then it all changed.

Novi News: You've worked alongside so many different artists over the years, which person or people made the biggest impression on you and why?

Dean: Musically, too many to mention. People that are just nice people and fun to hang around with, Paul McCartney is one, most all the Beach Boys. There were a couple of Beach Boys I never really connected with, but most of them were guys I liked and we enjoyed one another.

Novi News: Do you still enjoy performing the standards/hits, "Little Old Lady From Pasadena" or is there a lesser known song that has special meaning?

Dean: I have lots of songs, if I were to play them at home I certainly wouldn't play any of these. I'm tired of these. There are tunes I would get a kick out of and want to share them, but they do not belong on stage. People come to hear what is recognizable, what they can dance to immediately and relate to and this is no forum to introduce a new release one's working on. Even in the 60s we didn't do that. We waited until the song was officially out, on the radio, hopefully it had gotten some plays, so people can react to it, because without them knowing it, what good is it?

Novi News: Going along with that, you're up there on stage, in Novi, Michigan, you have a really diverse crowd, people that were not even born when your hits came out and yet they know the songs word by word, how does that happen?

Dean: They're listening to the host radio station, Oldies 104.3. Their demographic spread is continuing to be wider, than it was even 10 years, it's not just baby boomers, if you had just boomers listening to oldies it wouldn't stay on very long. Baby boomers don't haven a lot of time to sit around listening to music, so it really does have to include younger people, that's where they're hearing it and why they can relate.

Novi News: California born and breed, how about sailing, surfing or in-line skating?

Dean: I went sailing once. When you've got young kids, I have an 8 and a 4-year-old, you don't have time to do anything else.

Novi News: What do you think about new recording artists? What is your favorite type of music? Is music as good today as it used to be?

Dean: Those are loaded questions. I listen to a lot of the Spice Girls. I think they are really good. They're doing very kind of benign stuff and seem to be pretty nice girls. I hear it in passing, because my daughters play it. I don't listen to a lot of music. I listen to talk radio.

Novi News: If the music business was as competitive and as big of a business, back when you started, as it is today would you have remained in the business as long? Do you think you would of been as successful?

Dean: I wouldn't be here. You couldn't afford me. I would probably be living in Maui, next to George Harrison and surfing with him.

Novi News: Do your daughters like your music? Are your two daughters musical?

Dean: Yes, actually they do. I have not pushed them, quite frankly I'm tired of it. It's in with their regular rotation with the Lion King and Annie. My 4-year-old likes Boyz II Men. They have shown a little interest in music. I catch them at the piano, also they play soccer, horseback riding lessons and ballet.

Novi News: When do you say, OK, this is the last concert?

Dean: I have been toying with the idea maybe New Year's Eve of 1999. Our first record came out in 1959, so that would make it 40 years, that would be neat. Jan physically is starting to wear down. There has to be a point where you say enough's enough. There will be a time, fairly soon. I say that, but the last time I said that was in 1961.

Novi News: Jan and you both played varsity football, in high school, what position did you play? Do you still enjoy football? Do you have a favorite team pro/college?

Dean: Jan would have been considered a tight-end. He had good hands and could catch the ball. I was 10-15 pounds lighter and played wide-out. The following year I found defense and played safety and free-safety. My nickname was the "Blade." I was so skinny I hurt people not by how hard I hit them, but by my bones.

Novi News: Does your schedule allow for you to return for high school reunions? Do you see any of your friends that were in your 1958 high school band "The Barons?"

Dean: That's very interesting, that has been very intriguing to me. I would of thought by my mid-50s I would have run into more old friends. I hope they're not dead or something. In the times I have run into them we have nothing in common anymore. We're just in a different place.

Novi News: Do you consider yourself old?

Dean: Probably not, I probably don't understand how old I am. I don't think of myself as getting old, if I think about it it is pretty scary.

Novi News: You were attending college full-time, while recording and traveling. You graduated from USC, with a degree in fine arts/advertising design, from the school of architecture. Jan graduated from UCLA where he was pre-med and accepted to medical school. How did you juggle both accomplishments?

Dean: The business wasn't all that big, in those days. It was difficult physically, but emotionally it was not. We would work on weekends, even at the height we probably only did 25-35 concerts. We never did bus tours. In retrospect it probably was good we were separated out, the weasels that were running the electric companies couldn't dangle a carrot in front of us.

Novi News: What do you think of Novi's own Local Color beer?

Dean: I love it! It is the best micro-brewed beer.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Jan, left, and Dean perform on stage before a record crowd Saturday evening at the Michigan 50s Festival.

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THE 11TH ANNUAL MICHIGAN 50S FESTIVAL

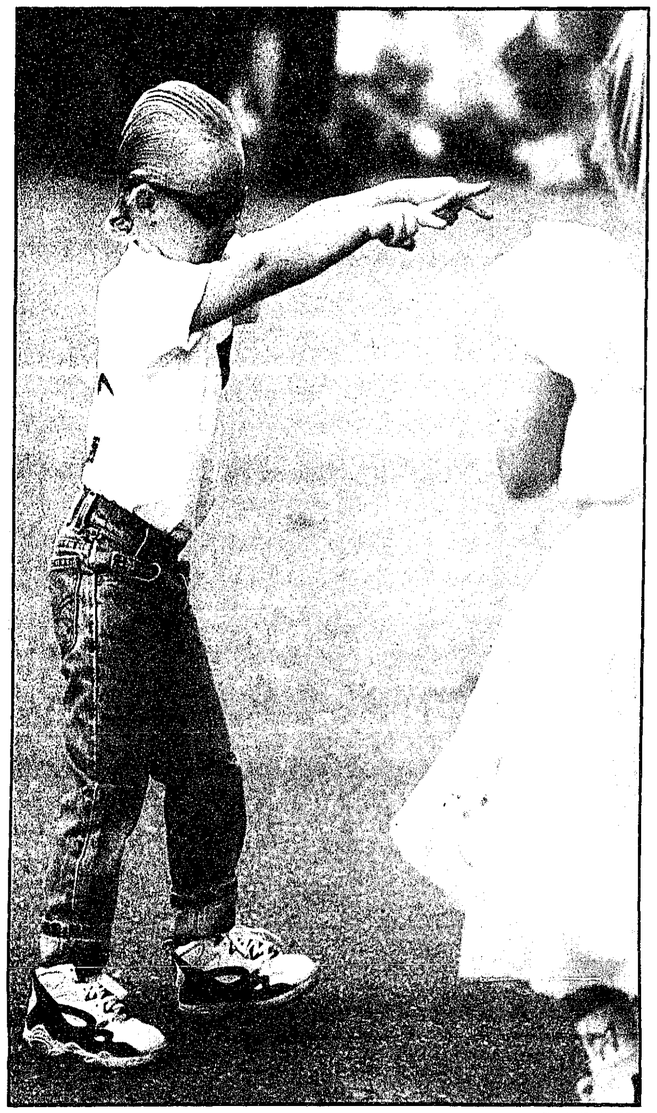


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

With his hair greased back and shades on his face, a youngster gets into the Rich Eddy's Rock and Roll show at the Michigan 50s Festival Saturday afternoon.

Rocky and the Rollers kept the crowd moving Saturday night.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Michigan 50s Festival rocks this town

Continued from 1

An estimated 300,000 people attended the five day event at the Novi Expo Center beginning July 22, according to Thomas. She called it record breaking. Last year, organizers counted about 200,000.

Festival President Bob McCann said the Saturday show was the festival's best attended ever, and not just by a little bit. Attendance rose 16 percent over last year on Saturday night alone, he said. Attendance was up Wednesday, down for Thursday and Friday, but up sharply that Saturday night. The carnival, new to the festival this year, had ticket sales 15 to 20 percent over expectations, he said, but the numbers were still being tallied early this week.

"The weather was perfect," he said. Temperatures were cooler than last year when thermometers hit the 97 degree line. This weekend registered about 80 degrees. The sun stayed out and the rain stayed away.

The Michigan 50s Festival, in its eleventh year featured food, games, carnival rides, a family entertainment stage, a Las Vegas casino tent, commercial vendors, a car show and cruise, a dog show and of course, music and dancing.

Half a dozen bands provided the rock and roll and even country sounds for festival guests to get shakin' to. Along with Lou Christie, the California beach-sound duo, Jan and Dean topped the playbill.

Detroit radio host Dick Purtan introduced some of the nightly acts as did his sidekick from the show, Big Al.

More than 1,280 classic cars, hot rods and newer models filled the parking lot for the 50s Festival Car Show, after which the roadsters hit the pavement for the annual Cruise down Grand River Avenue.

"It went great, we had a larger crowd than ever," said Tim Herrington, vice president of the festival. "We let in newer models this year so we ended up with a little more variety which I thought that was good. Everything seemed to run very smoothly."

This year, Local Color Brewing Co. in Novi sponsored an official beer for the festival, named "Tailfin Lager" during a contest. Lengthy federal procedures in labeling, though, prevented the company from selling the beer in bottles as planned. But it didn't prevent the Novi brewing company from serving the beer in high numbers from the tap.

"It was great. It was a really, really fun event," said owner Peter Paisley. "The volunteers are really good people. It had a feeling of hometown quaintness where everyone came together and worked hard."

She added the entire event couldn't be done without the help of the many sponsors who provide staffing as well as money. In addition, dozens of local volunteers put in time as "Cruisers" during the event.

Thomas said many people told her the festival was enhanced this year by the addition of more family events, including the carnival.

"They said it gave more things for the family which is what we wanted," she explained.

Arts and crafts vendors along with charity organizations and community group booths filled the inside of the Expo Center, although smaller than in previous years.

Thomas said arts and crafts vendors are tough to get in July, but that all other vendors were successful.

Debby Brauer from Novi Community School District said her booth filled with information about the district went over well each night.

It was slow during the day, she said, but each night interest picked up.

The dunk tank offering $1 tries at dumping one of many a Novi Police officer from the platform was also a hit.

"It's fun," said Officer Pat Fanning. "We're just having a good time. The hard thing is when it's dark it's not getting in the water, it's sitting out of it. It's cold."

The law enforcement torture raised money for the Police Officers Association of Michigan, Holy Family Church and Knights of Columbus.

Local merchants around the four corners of the I-96 and Novi Road area were able to capitalize on the event.

Jack and Jan Daniels from Milford hit the sidewalk sales at the local shopping centers before heading to the festival with their two children and a family friend.

"It's great," Jan said. With the warm, but not hot, temperature she was surprised there weren't more people around Friday afternoon.

Thomas said the success of this year's festival means more of the same and even more for next year.

"We'll try to improve and we have more ideas for events, for example, a grand prix so people can sponsor and race cars," she said.

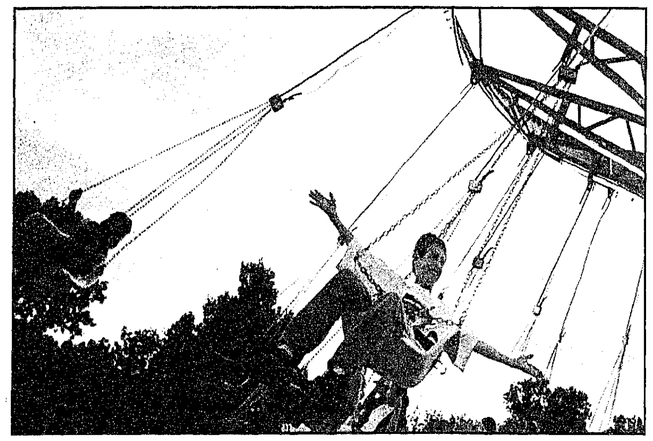
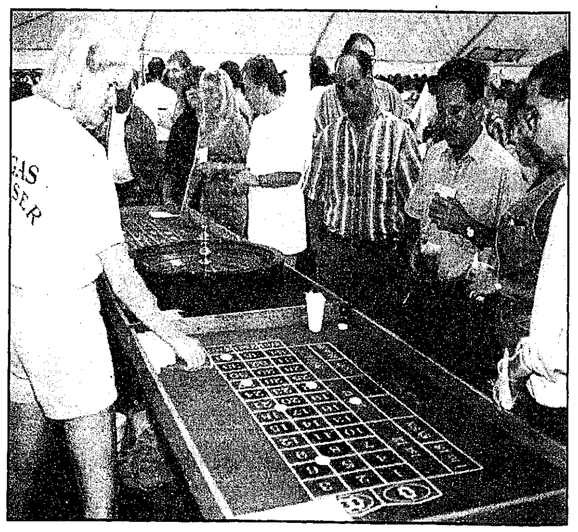


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Michigan 50s Festival-goers enjoy an amusement ride Friday on the grounds of the Novi Expo Center.

Photos by JOHN HEIDER



Above, Kathleen Hart, right, and her date heat up the dance floor Saturday night. Above right, a young girl attempts to dunk a Novi police officer at the fundraiser dunk tank. At right, people crowd around the roulette wheel as gambling heats up Friday in the Festival Vegas Tent.

THE 11TH ANNUAL MICHIGAN 50S FESTIVAL

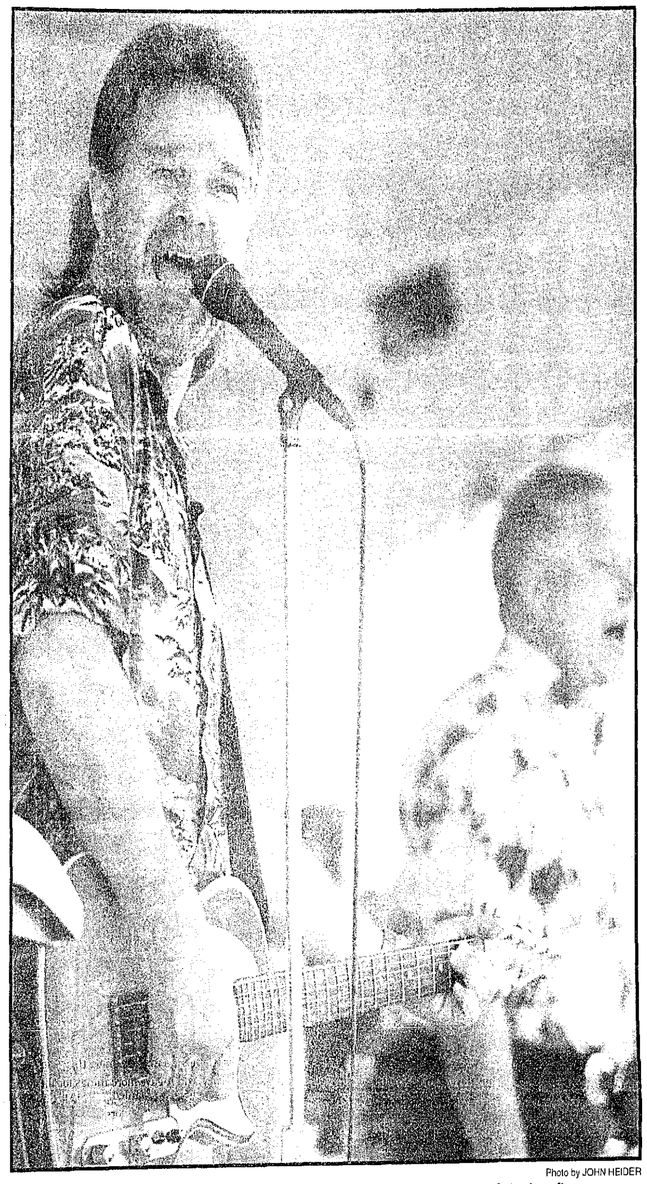
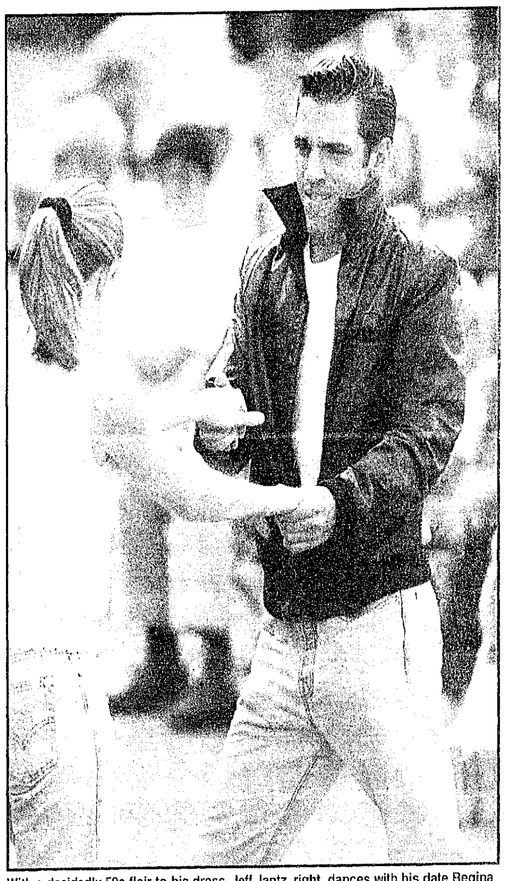


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

The Rich Eddy's Rock and Roll show duo belt out some tunes on the Family Stage Saturday afternoon.



With a decidedly 50s flair to his dress, Jeff Jantz, right, dances with his date Regina Russel Saturday in the Entertainment Tent.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

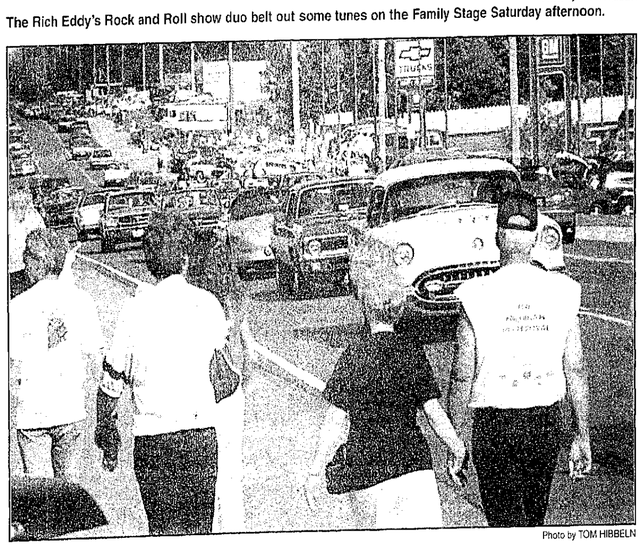


Photo by TOM HIBBELN

The festival's annual Car Show and Cruise attracted a record 1,286 cars this year.

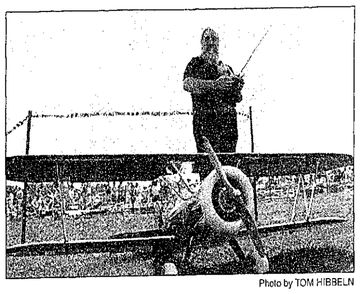


Photo by TOM HIBBELN

Above, the Novi Expo Center is all lit up Saturday night. At left, the Ribcrackers model airplane club hosted an airshow in conjunction with the festival at the Lang Aerodrome on Ten Mile Road. Below, a participant in the Rock and Roll K-9 show prepares to send her dog scooting down the obstacle course in the Novi Expo Center.

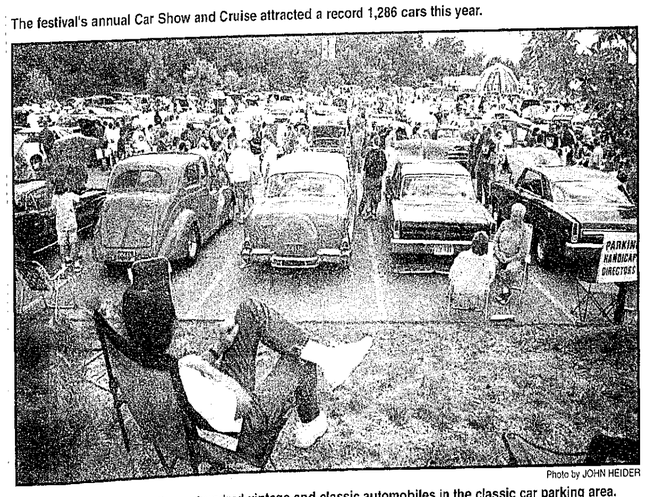


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Spectators look at more than a hundred vintage and classic automobiles in the classic car parking area.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Supreme court restores verdict for whistleblower

The Michigan Supreme Court restored the $405,000 that a jury had awarded C. Marie Jacobson, who sued her former employer under the state's Whistleblower's Protection Act.

Her former employer is Parda Federal Credit Union of Rochester. Jacobson had started as a temp in 1972, rose to executive vice president and was in line to become president. But she was "constructively discharged" – forced to quit – in October of 1989.

Parda's board turned against her when it learned in February 1989 that she had told the Federal Bureau of Investigation she was suspicious of a bond claim Parda filed with its insurer.

In the words of her attorney, Mayer Morganroth of Southfield, "Pandemonium broke out at the board meeting, and the board members were very angry and concerned about the ... report to the FBI."

Morganroth said Jacobson, a Grosse Pointe Shores resident, feared she might be prosecuted for fraud if she didn't blow the whistle on Parda.

Parda was represented by Troy attorneys Thomas R. Bowen, Susan Leigh Brown and Evelyn C. Tombers.

The Supreme Court split 4-3 in her favor along party lines.

Democratic nominees and appointees Michael Cavanagh, Conrad Mallett, Patricia Boyle and Marilyn Kelly ruled her lawsuit was filed in Oakland Circuit Court within the 90 days allowed by the Whistleblower's Protection Act.

Republican nominees and appointees Clifford Taylor, James Brickley and Elizabeth Weaver dissented, saying she sued too late. They said the calendar began running when Parda began discriminating against her, not on Oct. 21 when she actually quit.

An Oakland County jury awarded her $277,000 in economic damages and $128,000 in "future economic damages" for a total of $405,000. At Parda's request, Judge Robert C. Anderson set aside the verdict.

A Court of Appeals panel in 1995 reinstated the jury verdict. That panel consisted of William B. Murphy, a 1996 Democratic nominee for the Supreme Court; Kathleen Jansen, who sought the Democratic nomination in 1996; and Robert Kaczmarek.

Corporate politics at Parda got hot after Jacobson's call to the FBI was revealed. As Justice Cavanagh related it in the majority opinion, Joseph Abate announced he would retire as president and chief executive officer April 1. The flap over Jacobson's tip to the FBI erupted a month earlier. Until then, Jacobson believed she would succeed Abate, and board members assured her no search for a replacement would be conducted.

But things began souring for Jacobson. First, the board ran an ad for the CEO position. Second, it voted to elect her CEO but never informed her. Third, it rescinded the appointment. Fourth, it hired another woman to be interim president and CEO. Fifth, Jacobson's staff was assigned to the interim president, and Jacobson was relieved of her previous job duties. Sixth, she was "ostracized and ignored by the board."

She filed suit 90 days after resigning. The question was whether the board's actions were outside the 90-day limit under the Whistleblower's Protection Act.

Cavanagh wrote that those actions "are nonetheless relevant to determining the reasonableness of the plaintiff's resignation ..." He cited federal court decisions from Philadelphia and Texas that a "constructive discharge" dated from the resignation.

Cavanagh said that if the calendar began running earlier, when the corporate politics was working against Jacobson, lawyers would start advising workers to resign "at the first sign of serious trouble and file a claim of constructive discharge." There would be no incentive to resolve the problem.

Dissenting, Taylor said "it is the employer's adverse action that triggers the limitation period ... I am convinced that the limitation period was triggered by defendant's (Parda's) alleged discriminatory actions, none of which occurred after August 1989."

"Constructive discharge is not in itself a cause of action," Taylor added, "but rather is a defense against the employer's argument that the employee is precluded from bringing suit because he voluntarily terminated his employment."

Vacation season is also break-in season

As families head out for that final summer getaway before school starts, their unoccupied homes become targets for burglars.

Unfortunately, August is not only a peak time for vacations, it is generally a month with the highest number of break-ins, according to an insurance industry spokesperson.

Last year in Michigan, there were 70,912 burglary offenses reported in July and August. In 1996, that figure was 79,066.

The number of burglaries last year declined in the most populous counties of the state. Among the listed was Wayne County at a 10.7 percent decrease.

"Although the number of burglaries is decreasing in Michigan, homeowners still need to take precautions," Leanne Snay, executive director, Insurance Information Association of Michigan, said. "The most effective means of protection against this crime if often the most obvious."

There are some common-sense precautions residents can take to deter burglars, according to the Insurance industry spokesperson. The following are some suggestions:

- Equip doors with dead-bolt locks, put a slide bolt on sliding-glass doors and make sure all windows are locked;
- Use automatic timers to turn lights on and off in the living room and bedrooms when you are not at home;
- Engrave an identification number on items, such as televisions, VCRs and stereos; and
- Store cash, expensive jewelry and other valuables in a safe or bank safety deposit box.

"One of the most effective deterrents against burglary has been the formation of neighborhood watch groups, often organized with the aid of local police," Snay said. "Less formal programs also can be effective if cooperation is enlisted among neighbors. Nearby residents should be requested to watch for any unusual activity around your home while you are away."

1996-1997 Burglary Offenses
Oakland County
1997: 5,010
1996: 5,215
Percent change from '96: -3.9
Wayne County
1997: 26,108
1996: 29,233
Percent change from '96: -10.7

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Nevers addresses Novi Rotary

Continued from 1

Detroit Mayor Coleman Young branded Nevers and his partner, Walter Budzyn, as murderers the day after the incident, before an investigation had been completed. The two were fired by the department before his preliminary examination was completed. And the city of Detroit paid the Green family a $5.25 million settlement before the pair even went to trial.

Nevers contends he and Budzyn were prosecuted on second degree murder charges to keep the Detroit community from rioting. The incident occurred shortly after Los Angeles erupted in violence after officers there were acquitted of charges of beating Rodney King. Comparisons between the two cases were prevalent in the Detroit media at the time. And he blames the Detroit media for a lot of the pretrial prejudice in the Detroit area about his case. He argues many misstatements and inaccuracies were included in the coverage, just adding fuel to the fire of community tensions.

Nevers was convicted in 1993 of second degree murder, but a federal judge vacated the sentence last year, ruling the trial was unfair. The Wayne County Prosecutor has appealed and Nevers is presently out of jail awaiting oral arguments on that appeal.

He was invited to address the local club by Novi Rotarian Tom Fry. Fry, who knows Nevers through family connections, has previously invited Larry's wife, Nancy Nevers, to address the Rotary Club. She spoke to the Rotary last August.

Fry introduced Nevers as a police officer with an exemplary record. He'd been on the police force 36 years, and had received over 115 awards for his work, when the incident occurred nine months before Nevers was scheduled to retire. Fry said Nevers had made 10,000 felony arrests and was credited with 250,000 contacts in the line of duty.

> "I vowed then and there that I would never again let some guy get my gun. Malice Green tried and I protected myself."
>
> Larry Nevers

In that time, 11 citizen complaints were filed against Nevers. All were reviewed, and all were dismissed, Fry said.

"We're pretty confident they'll be coming after him," Fry said of attempts by the Wayne County prosecutor to appeal the case and expectations that a new charge will be filed should that appeal fail. "But the most important thing to him is to clear his name."

"I loved the job," Nevers said, "and I thought I did it well. I trusted the department would stand behind me ... I did nothing wrong, and if the department had conducted an inter-departmental investigation to determine if the rules and regulations had been followed, it would have found that out."

Instead, the Board of Review was denied, the mayor condemned him and the prosecutor "folded to the pressure," Nevers said.

He compared his case to a 1994 incident in which a Detroit officer shot suspect Jose Interaulde. Officers ordered Interaulde to take his hands out of his pockets and in the ensuing scuffle shoot him seven times. Later, they found nothing in his pockets, but the officers were not suspended and the Board of Review cleared them of any wrongdoing.

"City council never expressed an opinion. No one, no Hispanic groups, came out against the officers. The newspapers did not pick up on the case," Nevers said, explaining the difference.

Nevers also told the story of a 1981 incident outside the Book Cadillac in which he and his partner had pulled over a car. They'd been told the pair inside had a gun and the driver was covered with blood. While they had the two against the car, one began resisting and knocked Nevers to the ground, he said.

The suspect then managed to grab Nevers' loose gun off the ground. As the suspect stood over Nevers, he said, "I knew I was going to die and there was nothing I could do about. I knew he would shoot me. I knew it was going to hurt. As he stood over me with that cuff dangling off his wrist, I closed my eyes."

Remarkably, he said, the suspect turned toward his partner. His partner shot and struck the suspect in the stomach, and the suspect then fled two blocks before he was shot again.

"I vowed then and there that I would never again let some guy get my gun," Nevers said. "Malice Green tried and I protected myself."

The incident occurred at about 10:15 p.m. on Nov. 5, 1992. Nevers said he and Budzyn saw the car Green and a friend were riding in pull up to the drug house. They noted bullet holes in the car's fender. Green was asked to produce a drivers license, and when an object fell from the glovebox, both Green and Budzyn grabbed for it. Green got it and Budzyn was attempting to make him open his hand when the struggle started. Nevers said he saw a rock of crack cocaine fall from Green's hand during the incident.

"At that point, I was legally obligated to make an arrest," he said. "The regulations don't say I can if I want to. They say I must overcome resistance to make the arrest. They say I can use force to make that arrest if necessary, but I saw no need to use deadly force that night and I never did use deadly force."

Nevers argued a second autopsy of Green, who died on the way to the hospital, showed he succumbed due to an enlarged heart brought on by the use of cocaine and alcohol, not due to blunt force trauma to the head, which was the conclusion of the first autopsy.

Of the witnesses who testified against him, saying they saw him beat Green while he was offering no resistance, Nevers said, "I knew those people. Hell, I'd arrested half of them."

Although it was Nevers' first speech, it likely won't be his last. Nevers' supporters have launched a fund raising effort to pay his legal defense bills. A fundraising event has been set for Sept. 24 in Livonia. The Nevers & Budzyn Fund can be reached at P.O. Box 458, Royal Oak, MI 48068, or by calling (248) 975-6611.

The Nevers and Budzyn Web site can be reached on the Internet at www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/4701.

Local police react to Nevers' talk

Larry Nevers' speech last Thursday brought out a contingent of police officers and law enforcement personnel to the Novi Rotary luncheon at the United Methodist Church on Ten Mile Road.

Nevers, a former Detroit Police officer, was convicted in 1993 of second degree murder in the Malice Green case, but a federal judge vacated the sentence last year, ruling the trial was unfair.

The reaction among officers ranged from completely supportive to understanding. Mostly police officials were reluctant to state an opinion on his guilt or innocence, saying they had not reviewed the investigation, nor had they sat through the trial.

Still, like Novi Police Chief Doug Shaeffer stated, officers are expected to make snap decisions in the field which get reviewed later by people who have a lot of time to reach their conclusions. He told a story of one officer who used deadly force in the line of duty and, although eventually cleared of any wrongdoing, the case took 14 years to resolve.

"You have to be sympathetic to Nevers and his family, for what they are going through," Shaeffer said. "It could happen to any of us. It really could."

Roger Graves, Chief of Police of the City of Marshal, drove half way across the state to listen to his long-time friend's speech. He addressed the Rotary to tell them his friend of 36 years was "fearless but never reckless." He said he did not believe Nevers would be abusive toward a suspect.

"I would never condone abusing a suspect, especially to the point someone dies," he said later. "But there are times when you have to use force to defend yourself. And that's what I'm supportive of ... As I understand it, (Nevers) was acting in self-defense, to keep (Green) from getting his gun. And there were other factors that caused (Green's) death."

Wayne Bullens, a member of the Michigan State Police for 25 years who now operates the security firm, W.B. Investigations, in Novi, said "you have to have compassion for him" after hearing the speech. Such a tragedy could happen to any officer in the line of duty, he said.

"When you are an officer on the streets of Detroit, you have to have a different demeanor. If you don't, you may not survive and you should find another line of employment," Bullens said.

Yes, police should be held to a higher standard for their conduct, he said, but reviewing an officer's quick decisions on the street in a time of crisis is often a matter of "Monday morning quarterbacking." Bullens won't say whether he thinks the verdict was proper, but he does feel strongly that Nevers was overcharged. If charged, he said he feels Nevers should have been charged with an offense less than murder.

Judges says court violated officers' right to fair trail

At least one judge has agreed with Larry Nevers that his trial was unfair.

Federal District Court Judge Lawrence Zatkoff condemned the 1993 trial in an opinion written last year. Zatkoff vacated Nevers' sentence on the charge of second degree murder for the death of Malice Green and Nevers was released from prison last December.

He had served nearly four and half years by that time.

The Wayne County Prosecutor's office is presently appealing the Zatkoff ruling. Briefs have been filed in federal circuit court and Nevers is currently free awaiting oral arguments.

If the appeal fails, however, Nevers said he expects the prosecutor will refile charges against him in an attempt to retry him.

Walter Budzyn, Nevers' partner on the night of their encounter with Green, has already been retried. After an appeal overturned his original conviction on a charge of second degree murder, Budzyn was retried and convicted of involuntary manslaughter. This past May, Budzyn was sentenced to time served, but his attorneys have promised an appeal of the verdict anyway, according to Nevers.

In Nevers' case, Zatkoff stated, "the Constitution of the United States does not bend to placate an enraged citizenry."

He noted that at least one juror had learned the city was bracing for a riot should Nevers and Budzyn be acquitted.

"The Court cannot imagine a more prejudicial extraneous influence than that of a juror discovering that the City he or she resides in is bracing for a riot - including activating the National Guard and closing freeways - in the event the defendant on whose jury you sit is acquitted. The magnitude of such extraneous influence cannot be overlooked," he wrote.

Zatkoff called the court's refusal to change the venue in the light immense pretrial publicity a "manifest error."

"This was not simply a case of one or two minor instances of extraneous influence finding its way into the jury room, but, rather, serious, repeated encroachments of the Petitioner's constitutional right to have a jury decide the case solely on evidence submitted at trial," Zatkoff stated.

In his opinion, Zatkoff noted that his ruling was not a judgment on Nevers' guilt or innocence, but only about whether Nevers received a fair trial.

Still, Zatkoff pointedly disagreed with the Michigan Supreme Court that there was "overwhelming evidence" against Nevers.

"The Michigan Supreme Court apparently found the testimony of the EMS workers (who witnessed part of the incident) to be 100 percent accurate and completely true and thus overwhelming evidence of Petitioner's guilt. However, the only way the Michigan Supreme Court could so find is by ignoring the significant inconsistencies in EMS workers' testimony, and by completely disregarding the testimony of Petitioner (Nevers)," Zatkoff stated.

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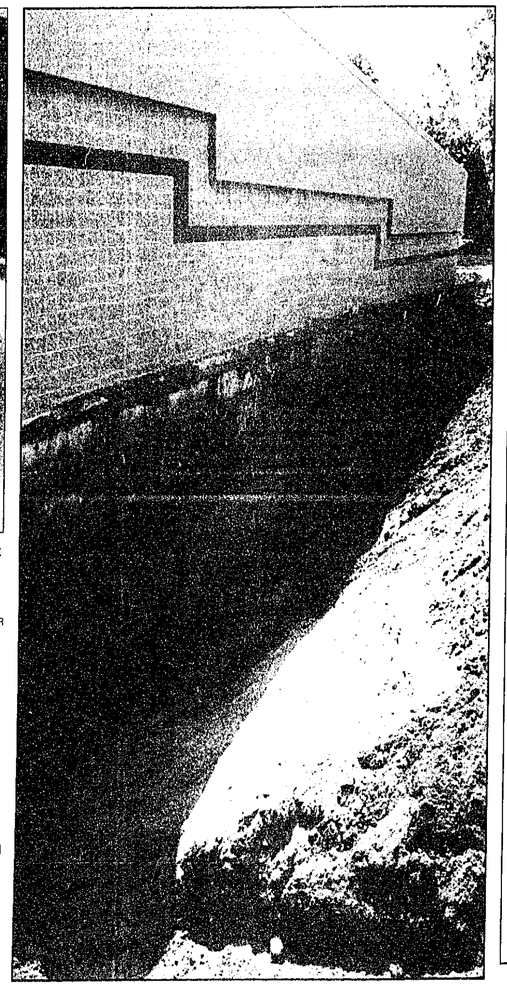

As work continues outside to repair a support wall at the arena, a smooth, white, ice surface covers the southern rink inside, ready for use when the building is.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Work underway to repair arena wall for opening

Continued from 1

arena back to the original schedule.

Davis also maintained the flaw and additional repairs should not cost the city any additional funding under a quality clause in the contract. Otherwise, finishing touches on the arena are underway.

"The facility is looking great," he said. "Right now they're touching up the paint. The ice is in and they're painting it right now."

The arena was designed by Archenomics Architects and built by Rudolph/Libbe Inc.

K mart robbery suspect faces charges in court

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

The 34-year-old man shot in a botched armed robbery attempt in South Lyon in April was arraigned last week in 52-1 District Court on charges stemming from a Novi incident.

Kevin Alexander, of Farmington Hills, faces four counts of armed robbery in an attack on the West Oaks K mart store in Novi April 6. Already facing charges in the South Lyon robbery in circuit court, Alexander's case could also move to Pontiac from the Novi court.

He remains incarcerated, unable to post bond and under a parole hold, police said. Alexander's preliminary exam is set for July 30 at 1:30 p.m.

Novi police said the similarities to the South Lyon as well as more than six other cases were obvious.

"He was wearing exact same outfit in South Lyon robberies," said Novi Detective Ron Roy this week. "He hides in the store and comes out after closing with a ski mask and gun."

Plus, in Novi he was seen on videotape coming into K mart with his wife. As in the other robberies, the female accomplice leaves before the attack.

Alexander's wife was questioned by police but has not been charged in connection with any of the robberies.

A task force of area police was created after a series of armed robberies led them to believe the same perpetrator was involved. Beginning in September of 1997, eight grocery or K mart store were robbed at gunpoint by a suspect in a dark-colored ski mask.

Police said in every case, the suspect hid in the store until closing, and he then confronted employees with the gun, demanding cash. Police said he usually locked the employees in another room or forced them to flee the store while he made his escape.

Officers pointed out the suspect had consistently displayed a demeanor of being in control and calm and even was described as polite.

"We knew we were looking for same suspect in all eight robberies," said Roy.

Careful monitoring of possible targets for the robber led to his arrest.

Nearly two weeks after the Novi K mart robbery, Alexander was shot and wounded by officers from the South Lyon Police Department after allegedly robbing Showerman's IGA. Officers in the store April 18 watched as a man wearing a ski mask emerge from his hiding place behind a large walk-in cooler at the back of the store. He demanded money from three store employees at gun point and fled out the back of the store.

Meanwhile, other officers were called to the store and as soon as the suspect walked outside, he was confronted by two South Lyon officers. Officers reportedly identified themselves and ordered the suspect to halt. Instead, he turned and pointed his weapon toward the officers.

Officers opened fire, expending an estimated dozen rounds. Alexander was hit three times in the lower extremities. He ran 200-300 feet with officers in pursuit as he attempted to reach his car, which was parked nearby. Alexander then surrendered his weapon and was placed in custody.

Staff writer Kevin Shopshire contributed to this report.

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Dear Novi Citizen:

As elected Novi officials, we are writing to strongly recommend and endorse the re-election of State Senator Bill Bullard, Jr.

Bill has represented Novi in the State Legislature for sixteen years. First, he represented Novi in the House of Representatives for fourteen years, and the last two years he has been our State Senator. Bill has always been concerned about Novi and has been responsive to our needs and desires.

Bill has the best interests of Novi in mind as he votes on important issues. As Chair of the Tax Policy Committee in the House and currently as Vice-Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, Bill authored four of Governor Engler's twenty-four tax cuts and has been instrumental in the passage of the other tax cuts. Recently Senator Bullard's bill to cut the state income tax rate from 4.4% to 3.9% passed the Senate. We are hopeful that this income tax cut will become law either this year or next.

Please remember to vote on August 4, and when you cast your ballot, please support Bill Bullard, Jr. for State Senator!

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Wendy's still on burner for Town Center location

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

Where's Wendy's?

The national hamburger chain announced more than a year ago it would take over the vacant Hardee's building on Novi road, but today the weeds, boarded windows and broken sign remain.

But never fear, the home of the made-to-order hamburger is still set to open near the Novi Town Center.

"They are in the process and are finishing up," said Heidi Hannon, staff planner with Novi's Community Development office. The plans have moved to the building department which will issue permits to begin renovations.

Wendy's received the OK from Novi Planning Commissioners in March of last year to begin work on the building, which is to get a new face. The property is to be updated with greenery, trees, shrubs and a brick wall with lighting to fit into the Town Center scheme of things.

Novi City Manager Ed Kriewall said last year the restaurant had tried to make a name for itself in Novi for many years, but with very few areas zoned for fast food chains, Wendy's ran into roadblocks. The vacated Hardee's restaurant left an opening.

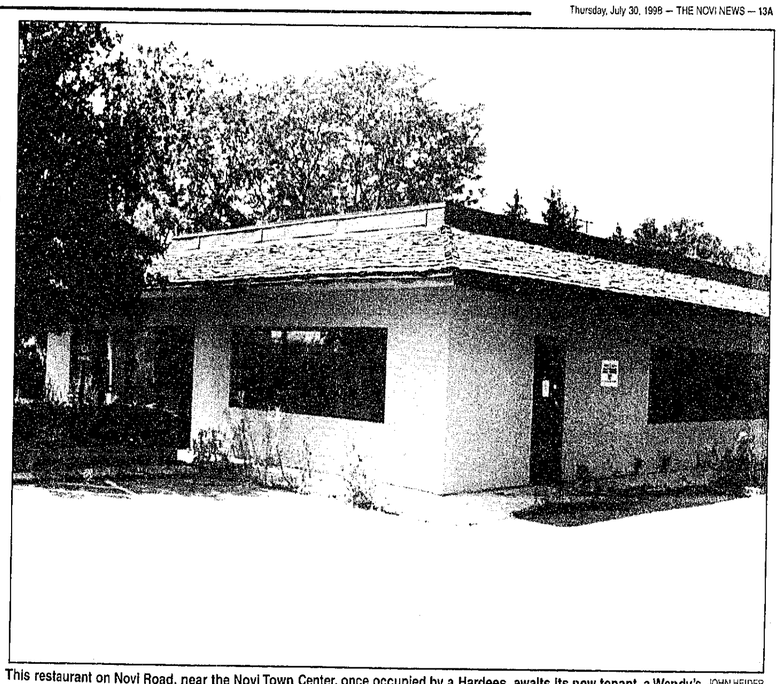
> With very few areas zoned for fast food chains, Wendy's ran into roadblocks.The vacated Hardee's left an opening.

The Novi store is planned as part of a strategic growth plan in the Detroit area.

In October of 1996, Wendy's purchased 45 Hardee's restaurants in the Detroit area.

In 1995, Wendy's merged with Tim Horton's, a Canadian coffee and baked goods quick service restaurant.

According to the Wendy's Restaurant International HomePage, Dave Thomas established his first restaurant in downtown Columbus in 1969. He named it after his daughter. Now there are nearly 5,000 restaurants in the chain world-wide.



This restaurant on Novi Road, near the Novi Town Center, once occupied by a Hardees, awaits its new tenant, a Wendy's. JOHN HEIDER

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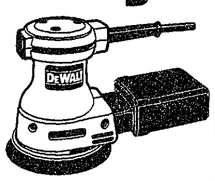

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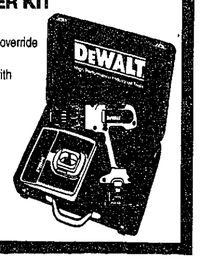

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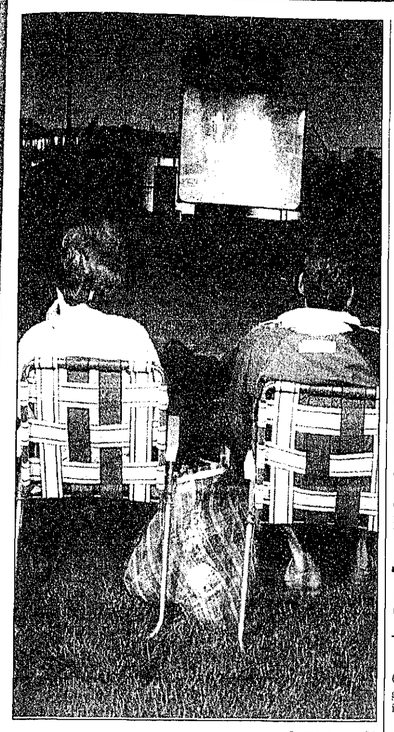

File photo by AL WARD

Novi Recreation will revive the drive-in with its outdoor movie program.

Outdoor movies come to Novi

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
Staff Writer

Drive-in theaters used to be the perfect fit for the American family.

For a low price, mom, dad and the kids could pile into the Chevy station wagon loaded with a cooler of pop and plenty of snacks. Pillows and blankets would serve as makeshift beds after the first family feature was over and the second movie hit the screen.

"You could go dressed the way you wanted to and be comfortable in your car," said Marilyn Troshak, deputy director of Novi Parks and Recreation.

Novi Parks and Recreation has recreated the drive-in movie experience for Thursday, Aug. 6, at the Novi Civic Center. The family movie "Angels in the Outfield" will hit the big screen set up on the north lawn at 9:30 p.m., rain or shine.

The movie stars Danny Glover and Tony Danza and is about a losing baseball team called the Angels which, thanks to a young boy, begin to rise to the occasion and see success.

The movie ties in with the National Girls 16-under Fastpitch Softball Tournament hosted by Novi at the Power Park softball fields during the week and that night. Troshak said holding the two events consecutively may draw more fans to the softball field before the movie. It also gives out-of-town players something to do.

You may not want to wear your pajamas but blankets, lawn chairs, coolers and food are more than welcome. The cost is $3 per person, children 3 and under are free.

"This is something inexpensive to do with the family and it's novel. You're not going out to the movie theater (as usual)," Troshak said.

Lemonade, popcorn and other concession items will be for sale. Please, say organizers, no alcohol.

The night actually begins at 7 p.m. with a free concert performed by the Novi Concert Band and sponsored by the Novi Arts Council. Kids activities begin at 7:30 p.m. including a Moonbounce, sidewalk chalk art, frisbee games, a skatemobile and basketball hoop hustle. The Moonbounce is sponsored by the Novi Community Credit Union.

There will also be a climbing wall which one turn at the exercise is included along with the $3 admission price. Also included is a turn at the skatemobile. A second turn or more is 50 cents.

Tickets can be purchased in advance from Novi Parks and Recreation offices in the Civic Center though or at the gate.

A company called Big Wave International supplies the equipment.

"They set it all up," said Troshak. "They have mega speakers. It's really cool."

Rebecca Vorwerk of parks and rec encourages guests to use the adjacent Novi High School parking lot. Other lots around the Civic Center are likely to be congested, she explained, due to the National Girls 16-under Fastpitch Softball Tournament that night.

Capitol Capsules

'U' MONEY HIKED

Last February, Gov. John Engler recommended a 1.5 percent aid increase for Michigan's 15 state universities, but last week he signed a budget bill boosting them 3 percent.

Oakland University was one of the big winners as it got a floor increase of $4,296 per student. OU's total state check will be $43.5 million.

Total state spending on universities was boosted to $1.6 billion. Leading political lights were quick to put their own spins on what it means:

Engler: The fiscal 1999 boost of 3 percent, combined with 1997 and 1998 hikes of 5.5 and 4.4 percent respectively, provide a 13.7 percent boost over three years - "well above the projected inflation rate of 7.5 percent."

Sen. John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, chair of the Senate Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee: He emphasized the floor boost to Oakland as well as UM-Flint, Central Michigan and Grand Valley, smaller institutions that had been considered underfunded.

House Speaker Curtis Hertel, D-Detroit: "A new program is included in the budget to expand the number of minority teachers." It will be named for Rep. Morris Hood Jr., D-Detroit, who is being term-limited out after 28 years in the House.

Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, author of the law giving income tax credits to families of students at universities which hold tuition hikes to the rate of consumer price inflation: "By raising tuition higher than inflationary rates, schools will be gouging students and their families twice - once with higher tuition costs and second by making them ineligible for this tuition tax credit."

Bennett singled out the University of Michigan, which announced a 3.9 percent increase for the fall semester that will kill income tax credits worth up to $375. Bennett urged others to follow the lead of Eastern Michigan and Michigan State.

Biggest state aid amounts were: $323 million to UM-Ann Arbor; $287 million to MSU; and $230 million to Wayne State.

EMU will get $78 million, and UM-Dearborn is due for $24 million.

'DATE RAPE' DRUG

Engler went to the OU campus to sign Senate Bill 726 outlawing possession of the "date rape" drug, gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB).

Sponsor was Sen. John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, who said, "Until now, law enforcement officials had no means of prosecuting those selling or using GHB. This law makes possession a felony" punishable by up to seven years in prison.

At least five deaths in Michigan and 20 nationwide have been linked to GHB. Victims often are college-aged women. GHB acts fast, leaves victims unable to defend themselves and erases memory of the assault.

Information on self-protection from GHB is available from the Michigan Women's Commission at (517) 373-2884.

LAKE ACCESS STUDY

Rep. Penny Crissman, R-Rochester, praised Engler for signing her bill to establish guidelines for the Department of Natural Resources when it acquires land for public boat launches on inland lakes.

Her Public Act 210 requires DNR to create an advisory committee to study DNR's methods for buying sites and send a report to the Legislature. It also requires DNR to notify local units of government and set up a public hearing process for its proposed launches.

APPOINTMENTS

Gov. Engler has appointed:

• **Virinder Chaudhery** of Northville to the state Board of Architects for a new term expiring in March of 2002. Chaudhery is a professor at Wayne County Community College and associate director of the Adith Institute of Fine and Performing Arts.

Public Access

The following is the Time Warner Channel 12 community access program schedule for Novi for the coming week.

MONDAY, AUG. 3
10:00 a.m. — The Great Adventure
10:30 a.m. — The Cutting Room Floor: Singer
11:00 a.m. — Christian Singles Today: Where is Your Faith
11:30 a.m. — Cosby and Company
12:00 p.m. — Just for the Health of It: Whiplash
12:30 p.m. — Speakout
1:00 p.m. — Adventures with Pirate Pete
1:30 p.m. — Yoga Relaxation and You
2:00 p.m. — Financial Strategies
2:30 p.m. — A Culinary Adventure: The Whitney
3:00 p.m. — 1998 Candidates Forum
3:30 p.m. — (con't)
4:00 p.m. — (con't)
4:30 p.m. — (con't)
5:00 p.m. — Who, What, Where, Y
5:30 p.m. — Up Close Today: Arthur Kent
6:00 p.m. — The Elegant Life: Aromatherapy
6:30 p.m. — Bagels and Talk with Tracy
7:00 p.m. — Critter Connection
7:30 p.m. — Let's Talk with Ben Marks: Colleen O'Brien
8:00 p.m. — (con't)
8:30 p.m. — Community Comments: Ben Marks
9:00 p.m. — Lansing Connection
9:30 p.m. — Groove Session: Uranium Bonsai

TUESDAY, AUG. 4
10:00 a.m. — Legislative Forum
10:30 a.m. — Specs Profile: Automotive
11:00 a.m. — Law Talk: Lawrence Raymond
11:30 a.m. — (con't)
12:00 p.m. — 1998 Candidates Forum
12:30 p.m. — (con't)
1:00 p.m. — (con't)
1:30 p.m. — Personal Safety in the '90s: Home Security
2:00 p.m. — Lansing Connection
2:30 p.m. — Center for New Thinking
3:00 p.m. — (con't)
3:30 p.m. — (con't)
4:00 p.m. — Turning It Around: Good News, Good Views
4:30 p.m. — (con't)
5:00 p.m. — The Way, The Truth, and The Life
5:30 p.m. — People Who Make Things Happen
6:00 p.m. — Exploring Tollgate
6:30 p.m. — (con't)
7:00 p.m. — Fitness Motivators: All Aerobic Workout
7:30 p.m. — Financial Strategies: David Kahr
8:00 p.m. — Show Me Show: The Duane LeFlore Project
8:30 p.m. — A Culinary Adventure: The Whitney
9:00 p.m. — Let's Talk with Ben Marks
9:30 p.m. — (con't)

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 5
10:00 a.m. — Welcome to the New Millennium
10:30 a.m. — MDOT Today
11:00 a.m. — Huntington's Disease Update
11:30 a.m. — Family Solidarity Chuck Moorman
12:00 p.m. — (con't)
12:30 p.m. — (con't)
1:00 p.m. — Study in Scripture
1:30 p.m. — AMVETs
2:00 p.m. — Restoration Now
2:30 p.m. — Christian Singles Today: Where is Your Faith
3:00 p.m. — Show Me Show
3:30 p.m. — Groove Session: Uranium Bonsai
4:00 p.m. — Critter Connection
4:30 p.m. — Dusty Rhodes: A Collection of Love Songs
5:00 p.m. — Aviation Journal
5:30 p.m. — Community Comments
6:00 p.m. — Reading with Tatiana
6:30 p.m. — Battle of the Books
7:00 p.m. — Adventures with Pirate Pete
7:30 p.m. — Cosby and Company
8:00 p.m. — Novi Street Beat
8:30 p.m. — Who, What, Where, Y
9:00 p.m. — The Great Adventure
9:30 p.m. — Speakout

THURSDAY, AUG. 6
10:00 a.m. — Fitness Motivators: All Aerobic Workout
10:30 a.m. — The Happiest People Alive
11:00 a.m. — Abundant Life Arabic Ministries
11:30 a.m. — People Who Make Things Happen
12:00 p.m. — Bagels and Talk with Tracy
12:30 p.m. — Madonna Magazine: Traveler's Aid
1:00 p.m. — Praise, Praise, Praise
1:30 p.m. — That's Italian
2:00 p.m. — Speak Out
2:30 p.m. — Who, What, Where, Y
3:00 p.m. — The Secret Place
3:30 p.m. — Adventures with Pirate Pete
4:00 p.m. — Law Talk: Lawrence Raymond
4:30 p.m. — (con't)
5:00 p.m. — Shaarey Zedek
5:30 p.m. — (con't)
6:00 p.m. — The Detroit Radio Reunion
6:30 p.m. — (con't)
7:00 p.m. — (con't)
7:30 p.m. — (con't)
8:00 p.m. — People Who Make Things Happen
8:30 p.m. — Christian Singles Today: Where Is Your Faith
9:00 p.m. — Law Talk: Lawrence Raymond
9:30 p.m. — (con't)

FRIDAY, AUG. 7
10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. — To Be Announced
4:00 p.m. — Fitness Motivators
4:30 p.m. — Let's Talk with Ben Marks
5:00 p.m. — (con't)
5:30 p.m. — Cosby and Company
6:00 p.m. — To Be Announced
6:30 p.m. — Groove Session
7:00 p.m. — Financial Strategies
7:30 p.m. — People Who Make Things Happen
8:00 p.m. — Bagels and Talk with Tracy
8:30 p.m. — To Be Announced
9:00 p.m. — Law Talk
9:30 p.m. — (con't)

SUMMER SELECTION

Fresh Shipments Weekly!
At Plymouth Nursery, we are a full-time garden center. That's all we do. Fresh shipments of nursery stock and perennials arrive weekly. While others are clearing out tired, old stock, we offer new nursery stock and perennials in bloom. Come in and check us out!

Just Arrived! BLUE SPRUCE 4-5', 5-6', 6-7', 7-8' Balled and Burlapped — FRESH DUG

SELECT Spring Dug Evergreens 25% Off

PERENNIAL HEADQUARTERS We carry a huge selection all summer long! Hardy Mums in bud and bloom 1 gallon $3.99 #1200 101; 2 gallon $5.99 #1200 102

POTTED ROSES BUY 1, GET 1 FREE* *of equal or lesser value. Excellent selection in bud and bloom. Includes Miniatures and Rose Trees. Does not include Shrub roses.

MILORGANITE 40 lb. bag. For vegetables, lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers. NOW $5.99 each OR 2/$10.00 REG. $7.99 #1739 005

HOME & GARDEN SHOWPLACE 734-453-5500 SUMMER HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 9-6 • Sun. 11-5 OFFERS EXPIRE 8/5/98

PLYMOUTH NURSERY and GARDEN CENTER 9900 Ann Arbor Rd./Plymouth Rd. 7 Miles West of I-275 1 1/2 Miles South of M-14 Corner of Gotfredson Rd.

CHAMPIONSHIP CLUB OAKPOINTE

AUGUST APPRECIATION
Good for the month of August 1998
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11 am - 2 pm
Play 9 or 18 Holes - WITH FREE CART
9 Holes.....$15.00 18 Holes.....$25.00
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Before 11 am with Cart
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Master Games target over-50s crowd

Fifty isn't "fifty" anymore.

With more people developing and maintaining healthy lifestyles, "fifty" goes hand in hand with fitness.

Oakland County Parks is hosting the Master Games on Friday, July 31, for the over 50 crowd that enjoys walking, swimming and more.

"As more people realize the benefits of keeping in shape for their health and looks, they want recreational events to improve their lifestyles," said Sandy Dorey, event organizer.

The Master Games combine athletic competition and the arts. Events include a race walk, tennis, volleyball, basketball, track and field, swimming, baking, arts and crafts, and a Bridge tournament.

The games take place at Royal Oak Kimball High School at 13 1/2 Mile and Crooks roads.

A health expo will include a massage therapist and health screenings by William Beaumont Hospital. Entertainment will be provided by The Ban-Jones of Michigan, Pearl The Hat Lady, Paul Parent and the Oakland County Parks Singsation.

Master Games is sponsored by M Care — Senior Plan, William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak Parks and Recreation and Oakland County Parks.

For more information on events or athletes, call Dorey at (248) 858-7596.

Funding approved for Mercer Beach improvement

Gov. John Engler recently signed into law a bill providing supplemental funding to improve access to Mercer Beach in the city of Walled Lake. Methods for enhancing the beach and lake front include constructing a stone retaining wall, boardwalk, and concrete sidewalk, building a play structure for children; and upgrading facilities. This funding, appropriated from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF), will provide $97,170 toward the total purchase price of $138,815 with the remaining $41,645 coming from a local match from the city of Walled Lake.

This project is one of 35 projects totaling $16.8 million approved by the MNRTF Board in this second round of a bi-annual project approval process.

Obituary

JUANITA K. GAAB

Juanita K. Gaab, 84, of Novi died July 25 at Angela Hospice in Livonia. She was born Dec. 28, 1913, in Northville to Rollin C. and Mabel [Lauray] Preston.

Mrs. Gaab, a lifelong member of the Novi area, was retired from Ford Motor Co.

She is survived by son, Rollin F. (Nancy) of Horton; sister, Carolyn Parrish of Northville; nine grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Mrs. Gaab was preceded in death by her husband, William Arthur.

Services were held on Wednesday, July 29 at Casterline Funeral Home Inc. of Northville. The Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Vernon, First United Methodist church of Northville, officiated. Interment was in Rural Hill Cemetery.

Memorials to the Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia, MI 48154 would be appreciated.

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AUGUST 8 & 9 1998

MILFORD Memories Summer Festival

ART IN THE VILLAGE
"VOICES ON THE PORCH"
CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT
GIFT BASKET AUCTION
RIVER RAFT RACE
SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE
RAFFLE
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Do you have more work than you can handle or vacant positions that have left you scrambling to get vital work done? Scramble no more!

Join our Job Fair and introduce yourself to thousands of prospective employees.

The Fair will include all types of businesses: retail, manufacturing, engineering, professional, health care, trades, financial, office/clerical, organizational, and many more.

Commit now! Space is limited.

Don't miss this chance to find the help you've been searching for! To reserve your space, call the HomeTown Classified Department at 1-888-999-1288. Ask for Linda or Sherri.

HOMETOWN Newspapers Observer & Eccentric

Laurel Manor in Livonia
Wednesday, September 23, 1998 • 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Our 15th Annual "Art Festival"

Brighton ART Festival

Saturday & Sunday August 8 & 9

Art brought to you by...

The Brighton Argus | The Marketeer | WHMI 93.5 FM | The Chamber

Enjoy & Celebrate Brighton

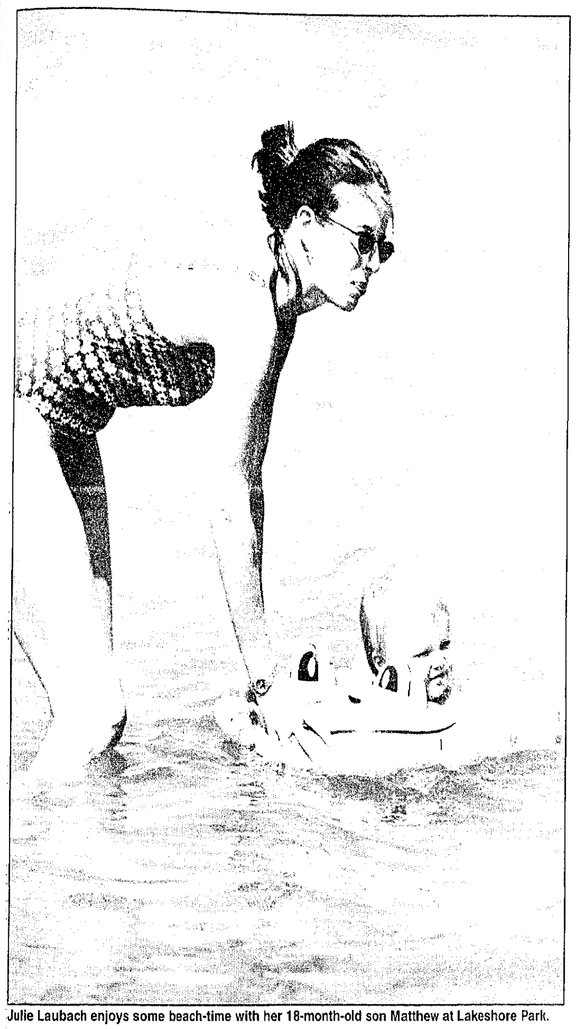
Saturday, Aug. 8th
8am-1pm Farmer's Market, City Parking Lot
10am-4pm Live Street Entertainment, Horullocta (Carlos Quincho), Main Street-west end
10am-6pm Needlework Exhibit, Embroidery Guild, Chamber Office
10am-7pm Art Show, 100 Juried Art Booths
10am-7pm Main Fare, Food Court
10am-7pm WHMI FM 93.5, Music/Live Broadcasts
11am-3pm Live Street Entertainment, Sean Blackman & John Arnold, Millpond at Main Street
1pm Ronald McDonald Fun Show, Imagination Station
4pm Alexander Zonjic, Hi Fulvin' Music, Mill Pond Gazebo

Sunday, Aug 9th
10am-5pm Live Street Entertainment, Horullocta (Carlos Quincho), Millpond at Main Street
10am-5:30pm Art Show, 100 Juried Art Booths
10am-5:30pm Main Fare, Food Court
10am-5:30pm WHMI FM 93.5, Music/Live Broadcasts
11am-5pm Needlework Exhibit, Embroidery Guild, Chamber Office
12noon Classic Car Show, City Parking Lot
7pm Classic Car Parade, Main Street, sponsored by Kiwanis of Brighton
7:30pm Kiwanis Concert, Mill Pond Gazebo, Featuring "Intrigue"

Don't miss the Saturday gazebo concert by "Alexander Zonjic

Over 100 artists will be offering original designs & Creations

Whether you are looking for paintings, sculptures, pottery, wearable or decorative art chances are you will find just that right unique place.



Julie Laubach enjoys some beach-time with her 18-month-old son Matthew at Lakeshore Park.

Photos by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Lakeshore Park on Walled Lake, under blue skies and moderate temperatures, sees dozens of visitors enjoying its beach and water on a typical summer afternoon.

Lakeshore Park is Novi's hidden recreational treasure

Continued from 1

mud bogs filled with buckets of water. The sounds of children shrieking with glee drift in from the lake with the soft crashing of waves. Sometimes it's overcome with the blasts from car radios as the traffic hums by on the bridge above the park.

"Not much happens here," said 16-year-old Adam Borashko, a lifeguard at the public beach. Not one for having to perform scenes from "Baywatch," Borashko said he once had to kick some drunk people out of the park.

"It's mainly just little kids and their moms," he explained.

Like Meg Heiman, of Novi, and Sue Putman, of Northville, who wrangled up their six little boys and hauled them off to the park. Lakeshore is a break from day camps and sprinkler entertainment, they said.

"This is the first time this year," said Heiman. "We came because of the open house and because it's pretty out."

To get to Lakeshore Park, head north on Novi Road past Twelve Mile Road. As the road curves at the light, turn left on Old Novi Road and keep north until you reach South Lake Drive. Turn left at the light and follow the lake around about half a mile . Lakeshore Park will be on your left.

Lakeshore is open from. 8 a.m. until 9:30 p.m. until Sept. 1. The beach is open from 10 a.m. to 7 :30 p.m., weather permitting.

Other activities at the park include a mountain bike trail, play equipment, a softball field, picnic shelters, grills, tennis courts and volleyball courts. During the winter months cross country ski trails and a sledding hill are open.

Entry to the park is free for Novi residents; $4 per day for non-residents or $50 for a seasonal permit.

For additional information, call 347-0400.

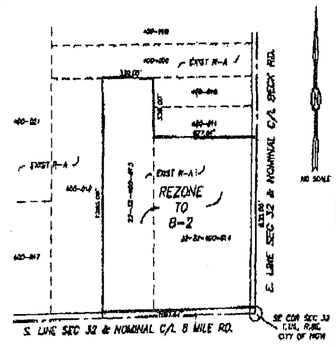
CITY OF NOVI
LIBRARY BOARD AND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there are vacancies on the Library Board and Parks & Recreation Commission. If you are interested in appointment to these boards, applications may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road or by calling (248) 347-0456.

(7-30 & 8-6-98 NR/NN 841950) TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK

CITY OF NOVI
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Novi, on Wednesday, August 19, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI shall consider ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.576 FOR POSSIBLE REZONING FROM RESIDENTIAL ACREAGE (R-A) TO COMMUNITY BUSINESS DISTRICT (B-2) OR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE ZONING DISTRICT.



ORDINANCE NO. 18.576

ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 576
CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL _____

_____ MAYOR

_____ CLERK

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning & Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 19, 1998.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
KIM THOMAS CAPELLO, SECRETARY
TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK

(7-30-98 841933)

Recycle HOMETOWN Newspapers

CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF OFFICIAL COMPUTER TEST
PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 4, 1998

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there will be an official test of the computer and computer program to be used by the City of Novi, Michigan, for the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, August 4, 1998.

The test will be conducted at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 1, 1998 at the City Clerk's Office, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI.

(7-30-98 NR/NN 841939) TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK

CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE OF ADOPTION
ORDINANCE NO. 98-100.22

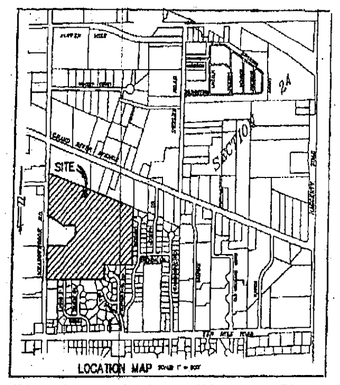
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 98-100.22 — **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 28-1 AND SECTION 28-6 OF THE NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO ALLOW BUSINESS CENTER SIGNS FOR BUILDINGS WITH MORE THAN ONE STORY; TO ALLOW BUSINESS CENTER SIGNS TO BE WALL SIGNS; TO PROVIDE AREA, HEIGHT, PLACEMENT AND DESIGN STANDARDS FOR SIGNS IN THE TC-1 DISTRICT TO BE REVIEWED BY A DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE; TO EXEMPT TC-1 DISTRICT WALL SIGNS FROM THE COMMON STYLE REQUIREMENT; AND TO PROVIDE ENTRY-LEVEL DIRECTORY SIGNS FOR THOSE BUILDINGS IN THE TC-1 DISTRICT WITH TENANTS ON UPPER FLOORS OR IN THE REAR OF THE BUILDING.**

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, July 20, 1998. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

(7-30-98 NR/NN 841949) TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK

CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 5, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **WILLOWBROOK FARM SUBDIVISION NO. 2 & 3, SP97-45,** located east side of Meadowbrook Road, between Grand River Avenue and Ten Mile Road, seeking **Tentative Preliminary Plat approval and Woodlands and Wetland Permit approvals.**



All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning & Community Development Department, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 5, 1998.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
KIM THOMAS CAPELLO, SECRETARY,
TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK

(7-30-98 NR/NN 841934)

CITY OF NOVI
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 19, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.142: AN ORDINANCE TO ADD A DEFINITION OF "ADULT DAY CARE CENTER" TO SECTION 201 OF ORDINANCE NO. 97-18, AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, TO ADD SUBSECTION 7 TO SECTION 302 TO SAID ORDINANCE AND TO ADD SUBSECTIONS 8 AND 9 TO SECTION 303 TO SAID ORDINANCE, TO PERMIT AN ADULT DAY CARE CENTER IN A RA DISTRICT, AS A PRINCIPAL USE PERMITTED SUBJECT TO SPECIAL CONDITIONS.**

All interested persons are invited to attend. The proposed ordinance is available for review at the Planning and Community Development Department. Verbal comments will be heard at the public hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning and Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375, until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19, 1998.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
KIM THOMAS CAPELLO, SECRETARY
TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK

(7-30-98 NR/NN 841936)

CITY OF NOVI
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 19, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 18.141: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND FOOTNOTE a of SUBSECTION 1602.4 OF ORDINANCE NO. 97-18, AS AMENDED, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, TO PROVIDE SIZE AND PLACEMENT RESTRICTIONS FOR AWNING AND PROJECTING SIGNS IN A TC-1 DISTRICT.**

All interested persons are invited to attend. The proposed ordinance is available for review at the Planning and Community Development Department. Verbal comments will be heard at the public hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning and Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI, 48375, until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 19, 1998.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
KIM THOMAS CAPELLO, SECRETARY
TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK

(7-30-98 NR/NN 841937)

CITY OF NOVI
GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN. That a General Primary Election will be held in the City of Novi, County of Oakland, State of Michigan on **TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1998** from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the polling places listed below:

PRECINCT	LOCATION	ADDRESS
1*	Meadowbrook Congregational Church	21355 Meadowbrook Road
2	Meadowbrook Congregational Church	21355 Meadowbrook Road
3	Village Oaks Elementary School	23333 Willowbrook Road
4	Novi United Methodist Church	41671 Ten Mile Road
5	Orchard Hills Elementary School	41900 Ounce
6	Holy Family Catholic Church	24505 Meadowbrook Road
7*	Holy Family Catholic Church	24505 Meadowbrook Road
8	Hickory Woods Elementary School	30655 Novi Road
9	The Grand Court Novi	45182 West Road
10*	Hickory Woods Elementary School	30655 Novi Road
11	Novi Christian School	45301 Eleven Mile Road
12	Novi Middle School	25299 Taft Road
13	Faith Community Presbyterian Church	44400 West Ten Mile Road
14*	Novi Civic Center	45175 West Ten Mile Road
15	Novi Civic Center	45175 West Ten Mile Road
16	Thorton Creek Elementary School	46180 West Nine Mile Road
17*	Novi Civic Center	45175 West Ten Mile Road

* New Voting Location

For the purpose of nominating candidates of all participating political parties for the following offices:

State	Governor
Congressional	Representative in Congress
Legislative	State Senator & State Representative
County	County Commissioner

And nominating candidates participating in the Non-Partisan Primary Election for the following office:

Circuit Court Judge (non-incumbent position)

And for the purpose of electing Delegates to the County Convention of the Republican, Democratic and Reform Parties.

Absentee Ballots for said election are available to qualified electors at the Office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. The deadline for receiving applications for ballots to be mailed is Saturday, August 1, 1998 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Persons qualified to vote by absentee ballot may obtain an absentee ballot until 4:00 p.m. Monday, August 3, 1998. This ballot must be voted in person in the City Clerk's Office.

(7-30-98 NR/NN 841938) TONNI L. BARTHOLOMEW, CITY CLERK

the NOVI NEWS

104 W. Main Street
Northville, Michigan 48167
(248) 349-1700

Opinions

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MICHAEL MALOTT Managing Editor
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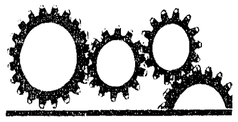
JILL GRAHN Sales Representative
GINA MATHEWS Receptionist
MARCIA CHOMAS Receptionist

As We See It

Why create new downtown, then back away from it?

Ever heard the phrase: "You made your bed now sleep in it."

Over the years Novi has become a retail mecca with city planners arranging the zoning to center it all around the Novi Road and I-96 freeway. Location, freeway access and proximity to other stores have made it a prime area for major shopping centers and malls.



Development

Those same things, though, have created traffic problems and close competition.

With the recent proposal for sixth major shopping center, that competition could be dangerous. And city officials and planners are going to have to take responsibility whether it succeeds or whether it fails.

In the late 1980s, city leaders sought a downtown-like atmosphere that would give Novi character. What transpired was the Novi Town Center at Grand River Avenue and Novi Road. The result was not necessarily what the leaders were aiming for.

Next came the city's imaginative Main Street Novi concept. After completing studies the city sought a developer who could bring the urban-style shopping, office and residential district to the southeast corner of Grand River and Novi Road. What they got was James Chen of Evergreen Hi. Together, Chen and the city created Main Street which is currently under construction but undergoing problems.

Delays in rewrites of the ordinance and construction have become financial woes for Chen who is looking hard for tenants for his buildings, some of which still don't exist.

"We thought that once the building was above ground the tenants would catch up," said Chen at a recent Novi Planning Commission meeting at which the West Village center was proposed. "But it didn't happen. Some went to the other project you see tonight."

As of late, city officials and leaders appear to have backed away from Chen, blaming him for his own problems.

In addition, city planners and leaders requested the West Village proposal include more of a village feel, instead of using big box stores and creating another West Oaks I and II. Ramco-Gershenson is proposing a 71-acre shopping center project on Twelve Mile Road that would put 660,000 square-feet of retail in the I-96 freeway/Novi Road area. It's a pretty proposal with many retailers already on board.

Now Chen is afraid West Village will take over his concept and put him in deeper trouble. Already he said tenants looking closely at Main Street have jumped ship and gone to West Village.

While some leaders have chalked it up to fair competition in the marketplace. We don't believe it's that easy.

Why create and help foster a downtown Main Street and then back away when the going gets tough? And why encourage another developer to compete in the same venue?

The city created this situation, inspiring Main Street and approving the West Village rezoning. They'd better deal with it.

Have millage rate in hand, at least a ballpark figure

"Is there any good reason why we shouldn't go to the editorial page and slap City Council around for not having at least some idea of what the millage rate was going to be when it voted to put the police building bond on the ballot?"

Assistant City Manager Craig Klaver fielded that wildly spinning hardball question with an expert glove. The police building renovations had been on the ballot once before, a couple of years back when the cost was $2.5 million, he said.

"This has not been very far off council's front burners, so I have to believe they had a pretty clear idea of what it was going to be," Klaver said.

The only problem is, they apparently didn't. When we asked a number of city officials about the expected millage rate, including Mayor Kathy McLallen and Police Chief Doug Shaeffer, they could not give us even a ballpark figure.

When council voted last Monday to approve placement of the issue on the ballot for this November, no mention of a proposed millage rate was made. The numbers did not arrive until the following day, when the city municipal finance advisors sent over a sheet to help administrators with the preparation of the proposal's final wording.

Granted the cost is small, and council surely knew it would be. The estimate offered by the advisors set the rate at an average of 0.145 mills per year for 15 years. That works out to $14.50 per year for the owner of a $200,000, roughly the equivalent of the cost of one good seat to watch a single game in any old ballpark.

And yes, the issue has been on the ballot once before, but the cost has gone up, now to $3.3 million and it is expected to rise a bit higher with additions before it reaches the actual ballot, to around $3.6 million.

Then there's the question of the bond's duration and the anticipated interest rate. And all of that has a direct bearing on how high that millage rate will have to be.

To be fair, council members will get at least one more look at this bond issue proposal as it crosses their plate for final approval of the ballot wording. But council shouldn't be waiting till then, in our opinion, to be asking about the millage rate.

It is council's job to check over any proposed bond issues before they go to the ballot to make sure they are worthwhile, worth spending voters' time on. Yes, we understand a committee studied the building to determine the need for renovations, but just how badly you need something is directly related to how much you can afford to pay for it. If a project is out of reach financially, that should put a different spin on just how bad the need for it really is.

We trust that before council tries to pitch any more bond proposals to the community, it will get its signals straight about the millage rate — like we said, even just a ballpark figure will do — before it begins its wind up.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This newspaper welcomes letters to the editor. We ask, however, that they be issue-oriented, confined to 400 words and that they contain the signature, address, and telephone number of the writer. The writer's name may be withheld from publication if the writer fears bodily harm, severe persecution, or the loss of his or her job. The writer requesting anonymity must explain his or her circumstances. Submit letters for consideration by 4 pm Monday for that Thursday's paper. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity, clarity, libel, taste and relevance. The week prior to an election, this newspaper will not accept letters to the editor that open up new issues. Only responses to already published issues will be accepted, with this newspaper being the final arbiter. This policy is an attempt to be fair to all concerned. Submit letters to: Editor, The Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167. Or send E-mail to: novinews@hiconline.com.

If truth is on your side, tell it

Michael Malott

Larry Nevers is nothing like you'd expect. Now, I've interviewed my fair share of criminal defendants over the years and the vast majority are not nice guys. They're usually defensive, often hostile, frequently accusatory. To a person, they want to avoid any detailed discussion of their alleged crimes.

Nevers, the former Detroit cop convicted of second degree murder for allegedly beating Maltee Green to death in 1992 but later let go when a federal judge concluded his trial was unfair, is personal and affable. He is willing to talk at great length about the incident that put him behind bars for four and a half years. He evaded not a single question I threw at him during an interview last Thursday following his talk to the Novi Rotary Club. He willingly repeated details over and again to make the situation clear.

You have to be impressed with his sincerity. When he says he did nothing wrong during that incident, it's quite clear he truly believes it.

Now, I'm not bear to absolve him. I've not studied the case in great depth, nor was I in the courtroom at the time of his trial. To this point, I heard primarily his side of the story.

But his openness with this writer was all the more remarkable because he blames the media for a large portion of his troubles. And I can appreciate that. During the height of the trial, in 1993, Detroit newspapers and television stations covered him extensively. And they were not kind.

The extensive coverage of the case was enough to convince Federal District Judge Lawrence Zatkoff last year that there had indeed been a prejudicial effect. The media's coverage and the fact members of the jury could not help but read or heard some of it, resulted in essentially trying the case in the papers, Zatkoff concluded.

Likewise, Nevers contended that much of what was written about him was inaccurate and slanted.

Nonetheless, at the time, Nevers wasn't talking to the media. He'd been advised to say nothing. He was told by attorneys to get an answering machine for his home phone. Union reps told him to put nothing in writing.

"I know attorneys often advise their clients not to talk to the press. Would you say that's bad advice?" I asked him.

Yes, he said. He'd advise people to talk openly, freely and often if they've been wrongly accused.

"If you're not telling the truth, don't say anthing," he concluded. "But if the truth is on your side, tell it."

Michael Malott is the Managing Editor of The Novi News and The Northville Record. He can be reached by phone at (248) 349-1700 or by e-mail at novinew@hiconline.com.

In Focus

By John Heider

Doggie friends A youngster greets a trio of collies during Northville's Fourth of July Parade. Dozens of dogs who joined their human friends in the parade.

How many names fit in a Rolodex

Wendy P. Mitzel

This week I've found the answers to the following questions:

How many folders of notes can one reporter accumulate over three years? Seven file cabinet drawers.

How many names can be squeezed into a Rolodex? So many they don't all fit.

How hard is it to say goodbye to the number of people this reporter has met along the way? Pretty darn hard.

When I was offered the job here at The Novi News in November of 1995, I had reservations. Could I be taken seriously as a professional in a town that watched me grow up? Now I know the answer to that question, too.

Absolutely.

The people here in Novi; the leaders, the residents, the business owners, the teachers, embraced me with welcome arms. To some I was literally a hometown girl, and that worked to my advantage.

It was fun for me to call my former teachers by their first names. To learn how the city really worked. To meet residents I'd never known.

While most of what I wrote over the years was less than controversial, I hope the stories that leaned toward investigative or the not-so-happy were seen by readers as positive because of their honesty and informative nature.

I say all this because I'll be moving in August to be the editor of a new newspaper within the HomeTown chain. Pinckney may be growing, as is Novi, but it's definitely going to take some getting used to. No malls, ice arenas, 50s Festival, you get the picture.

And no corporate jet rides like the one I took in July with City of Novi officials to see a plastics machinery manufacturing plant in Canada. Instead of muffins on fine china and no long check-in lines, I'll have to go back to peanuts and cramped quarters I guess.

Back to saying good-bye. I never know quite how to do it gracefully. I'll miss the many people I talk to every day at the school district, city hall, the police station. I'll miss my co-workers who've become my friends and confidants, enduring many years of my asking out loud in the newsroom "How do you spell ... ?" In particular, I'll miss reporter Jan Jeffries' eclectic desk and witty comments. And I'll no longer hear daily stories from editor Mike Malott on the adorable antics of his three kids.

Of course, I've promised them I'll pop in when I can. Just to get my fixes of Novi News from time to time.

I need to say thank-you to all those people I've worked with here in Novi. My last minute calls for information were always taken gracefully by everyone. Assistant Superintendent Jim Koster talked me through many a hairy budget review. Evie and Brenda at the police station kept me company each Tuesday morning I sorted through police reports.

I hate to mention a few because it leaves out so many, but I think everyone knows my fondness for the people and the community of Novi.

And who knows? Someday I may be back. After coming back to Novi once, I'll never say never.

Wendy Pierman Mitzel is a Staff Writer for The Novi News and The Northville Record.

Summer frustrates primary turnout

Phil Power

"Sec. 534. A general primary of all political parties ... shall be held in every election precinct in this state on the Tuesday after the first Monday in August before every general November election. ..."

So speaks the electoral law of the State of Michigan. And, to quote Charles Dickens in Oliver Twist, "If the law supposes that, ... the law is an ass. ..."

Certainly, anybody contemplating the primary election next Tuesday must wonder just why we in Michigan have chosen to place this significant voting day in early August. Kids are out of school, often in camp or making things tough at home for parents. Parents, in turn, are either on vacation or wishing they were. The weather is hot, often humid. The sweet corn is coming in, or else the season would have nothing whatsoever to recommend it.

But as a season to prick up the public conscience and spark voter interest? Well ... forget it. That's why voter turnout is so low.

It turns out we have held our primary elections in early August at least since 1954, when the major state laws on elections were codified. It's no secret that August is a lousy time to hold primary elections. So how come we continue to do it?

Because it's in the interests of determined, organized interest groups, which have learned that the dog days of August are wonderful times to turn out the motivated faithful minority at times of general public political boredom and so achieve disproportionate influence on the public political life of our state.

In the old days, it used to be the solid business constituency represented by the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. Then organized labor, especially the UAW, discovered that the rank and file could be turned out in early August, especially as plants were often shut down for model changeover. School folks, both administrators and teachers unions, discovered the same thing, only to be joined in recent years by the Christian right wing, ever vigilant.

Put all these together, and there is no way this particular law is going to get changed, no matter how sensible it would be to hold primary elections in May or September.

This recital is of particular concern to the three Democratic candidates for governor who face the judgment of the voters next Tuesday. The subtle, complex dynamics of voter turnout in August primary election time will likely determine the result.

Geoffrey Fieger, who earned early notoriety by being Jack Kevorkian's lawyer, has been the surprise of the campaign. His bombastic rhetoric ("sniveling weasel," "barnyard miscegenation") has succeeded in cutting through the general boredom, to the point that he has partially succeeded in making his opponents look like Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee.

The problem for Fieger, who hopes to get substantial support in Detroit, is that the electorate in that city is preoccupied with the contest over gambling casino licenses between Mayor Dennis Archer and businessman Don Barden. That struggle has to do with serious things - turf, power - which have nothing to do with the trivial matter of who will face Gov. John Engler in November.

Larry Owen, the designated front runner by virtue of locking up the most endorsements of party and organized labor grandees, has only one problem. The UAW leadership - understandably - is much, much more interested in the strike against General Motors than it is in turning out the faithful for Owen's electoral success.

Only Doug Ross, who has been struggling to propose new ideas in earnest attempt to break through the prevailing media presumption that there is nothing going in on this campaign, has developed a constituency that is not heavily cross-cut by turf wars.

We shall see.

In any case, please do vote. Especially in August primaries, one vote can make a big, big difference.

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@oconline.com.

Thanks to those who helped at fest

Letters

To the Editor:

As we closed the doors this past Sunday on the 11th annual Michigan '50s Festival, we took a step back to see if we had met our goals for this year. Each year we have but two goals - bigger and better. Thankfully, we have a group of dedicated, fun loving professional people who work together for an entire year to throw one five-day party. We hope that you all will agree that we met our goals and if I may .... it was one hellava party. Now it is time to say thank you.

Ed Kriewall, one day back in 1986, you decided that Novi needed a community festival, and with that, the Michigan '50s Festival was born. Ed - This time will forever be in your debt. You continue to do all the things that most people do not see, but for those of us that do, we know that the festival runs as smoothly as it does because of your assistance. Thank you.

The festival kicks off with a reception hosted by Mayor Kathy McLallen on Wednesday. That is our chance to thank our many corporate sponsors. Lou Martin runs this function and anyone who attended the reception this year will tell you Lou succeeded, "bigger and better." Thanks again Lou for another great job. To Matt Quinn who handles all of the our legal matters. Fortunately, there has not been many this year. However, whenever it was needed, you were there and as always, pro-bono. Thanks, Matt. To Vic Muscat who runs the food vendors and ice machines. You suffered a traumatic loss in your family just before the festival. Even with this weighing heavily on your mind, your dedicated spirit carried through to us all. Thanks, Vic, and our thoughts and prayers are with you and Susie.

Pat Webb and Linda McCarthy, you were new to the board this year and probably were thinking at one point last week ... what have I gotten myself into? Pat in charge of sponsors and Linda, the commercial vendors and the Detroit Pistons "HoopFest." The sponsors, who are vital to the success of the festival, were considerably larger in both numbers and dollars than ever before. The commercial vendors were terrific, but your work did not stop there, you both stepped up and did whatever was necessary all week. You are two of the best people I have ever worked with, thank you. Tim Herrington ran the largest car show and cruise we have ever had. Records in both attendance and the largest car show and cruise we have ever had. Records in both attendance and participation. This is an enormous task and Tim, as usual; you pulled it off without a hitch, thank you. Brent Canup may well have been the hardest working man in Novi last week. Not only the immense task of signage but for every little thing you did and always calmly, with a smile on your face. Brent, you are a tremendous asset to this festival and we are very fortunate to have you on our board. Thank you. Cindy K runs the best group of volunteers anyone could ever ask for. We call them our "Cruisers" and every year you schedule them, assign them to different areas, and manage their work 18 hours a day, every day of the festival. I am not sure how you manage to have as much fun as you do while your doing all of that, but you do and you make it fun for everyone around you. Thanks. Tom Marcus, you are nothing less than one of the truly good people on this earth. You never stop doing. Please never learn the word no, this festival needs you. Thanks.

The man with the worst job at the festival is Gary Wyatt, our treasurer. Gary handles all the money and pays all the bills. It is unquestionably the most stressful job of the week. Gary, not only do we appreciate your work but just as importantly, your friendship, dedication, and sense of humor. No one could do that job as well as you. Thanks.

Just over two years ago the festival made perhaps its best decision. We hired a marvelous woman by the name of Jane Thomas as our festival manager. We are structured in a way where each board member has committee assignments and one person is there to pull everything together, that is Jane. It is not simply coincidence that 1,286 classic cars showed on Sunday or that singers like Lou Christie, Jan and Dean and Rocky & the Rollers happened to be in town. Or that the Twelve Oaks Family stage had continuous entertainment every day. It did not just happen that a carnival was driving through town looking for a place to park. It is not happenstance that commercial vendors and crafters and food vendors and car dealers and the number one radio station in town - Oldies 104.3 WOMC decides to come to Novi for the weekend. The list of activities at the festival is incredible and the task of managing those activities is even more incredible. The job that Jane does is nothing short of amazing and on behalf of the board of directors and everyone of the 312,000 people who came to the festival this year, Jane, we thank you.

To John Doneske and Paul Kemp and the Boy Scouts who park the cars, keep the place spic and span. You both are great role models for those hard working scouts and should be very proud. Thank you. Our office staff, Nikki, Ashley, Tommy K. and Leigh Ann, you can take the telephones out of your ears now. Thank you all for a job well done. Lynn George, as always we appreciate everything you do for us and hope you too never learn to say no when we come calling. Thank you. Thank you as well to Gerri Stipp, who records the minutes at our meetings so we can keep moving forward. If it were not for you, we would still be talking about the peanut man.

Two people who really deserve a special thank you are Blair Bowman and the staff of the Novi Expo Center. Blair, every year you donate your facility for this event. A gesture of extreme generosity. Your staff is tremendous and this city is lucky to have you here. Also Peter Paisley and the staff of Local Color Brewing Co. Words cannot express our gratitude to you for this event. Any time we needed anything you were there. The bands loved your food and the town loves your beer. We loved working with you and look forward to next year.

To our many corporate sponsors, this event cannot happen without your support. Thank you all and we sincerely hope you can be as generous in the years to come. Finally, to all of you who came to our party. You came in record numbers all week long, we hope you enjoyed yourselves and we hope you will come back next year. We promise two things ... bigger and better.

Bob McCann, President
Michigan '50s Festival Inc.

Animal control law too weak

To the Editor:

I read with great interest your article on the sheep killings near Beck and Eight Mile. My own two lambs were killed in the spring and most likely by the same dogs, a Husky-like black and tan dog and a Beagle.

The woman who owns these dogs was cited but did not lose her dogs, did not have to pay me, and denies the whole thing. After the incident, I was advised by two people that these dogs were running loose in Northville Estates and now we have more killings.

I am furious about the ineffective law that allows this to happen. It is written in favor of the offenders and leaves people like myself dangling with no help in sight.

I would like to know how an animal control officer is going to be on sight when a kill is taking place. I'm sure an officer will be in my backyard or John Beemer's pasture when these two rotten dogs come for more prey.

I saw the dogs the night after they killed my lambs – they were in my backyard at 3 a.m. but my word counts for nothing. If the dogs are running loose and are seen by individuals again, their word counts for nothing. They must be seen by an animal control officers, and I'd like to know how often they patrol the Eight Mile and Beck area. They must be seen by the officer to be taken in.

Something really needs to be done about these animal control laws; they allow dogs to run loose; dogs that can kill livestock and also harm people. Something also needs to be done about this woman and her dogs. She takes no responsibility for their actions.

The only thing I can think of at this point is if you see dogs fitting this description, Husky-Shepherd black and tan dog with a Beagle companion, try to get a photo of them and send it to Margaret Schmidt, 25377 Wixom, Novi, MI 48374. Please include your name and phone number. I would really appreciate help on this.

Every morning when I go to the barn I worry that my two kids (baby goats), Alpaca or sheep, might be torn up. As long as these dogs go free, this is a reality I might have to face.

Margaret Schmidt

Coach thanks cheer supporters

To the Editor:

I am writing to acknowledge the incredible generosity of the residents in Novi that I have recently witnessed. I am the head cheer coach at Novi High School and on July 11, my teams went door-to-door to collect returnable bottles and cans as a fund raiser. We were overwhelmed by the extensive enthusiasm of our friends and neighbors.

Not only were we given thousands of cans and bottles that were to be returned to local stores, but we were given cash donations as well. The citizens living in this area were extremely thoughtful and we felt we needed to share our happiness and success with our many contributors.

The funds collected from this event have been put towards the many camp costs incurred during the summer. Any money leftover will be used throughout the school year for special events and activities. Once again, a very warm and appreciative thank you.

Amy Zyczynski
Head Cheer Coach
Novi High School

Looking for an easy council?

To the Editor:

After checking with staff in the Planning Department, I just learned that having received a negative recommendation to council for his recent request to rezone portions of his property, Andris now has no time limit as to when he petitions the council for same. And ... not only is this the case with a negative recommendation, it is also the case with a positive recommendation. How can this be?

It would be my presumption that Andris waited until now to present his issues, after all, Michelle Bononi is gone, Pete Hoadley is gone, and Art Vreltas is also gone (from the Planning Commission). If ever there was a commission to be presumed to be in Andris' favor, it is this one. My ... what a lovely surprise that they actually ... dare I say it? Planned.

For the knowledge of the reading public, Mr. Andris, in his last attempt with council, waited until there was no Tim Pope, no Nancy Cassis, no Carol Mason, and no Joe Toth. The man told others in the area that "... this is a much easier council ..." or I have been led to believe those were his words to Mr. Avagian during his "reign" as president. Andris, too, must have been shocked when his attempt to sway the council failed. The mayor was quoted as saying, "We'll probably send a letter saying 'no, thanks.'"

So, back to the point: There is no time limitation placed upon anyone requesting a change in zoning in this city. There is no "performance" bonding or requirement to ensure the site presented will be built as presented. This loophole has the potential of presenting many, many problems to all of us as John Q. resident and taxpayer. Something should be done to close this loophole so "Catch 22" does not take a serious bite out of the intent of any proposed development in Novi. Mr. Andris can wait until he again thinks he has a council in his pocket and petition for the same changes he's lost on so many occasions in the recent past. I don't have to tell you how wrong this is to hold any neighborhood or section of this city hostage for an undetermined length of time. It is also my fear that if someone is not at every council meeting, someone will slip-in to the agenda this proposal. It is not uncommon that agenda items are added for various reasons.

We can only hope that the public interest far outweighs Andris' schemes and shenanigans and his close relationships with certain elected and appointed officials. Yes, Mr. Schmid, I mean you.

James E. Korte

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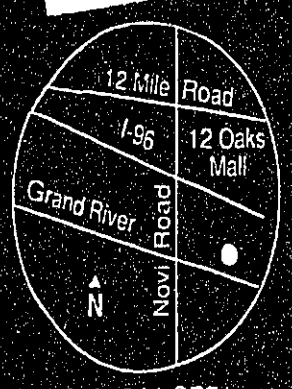

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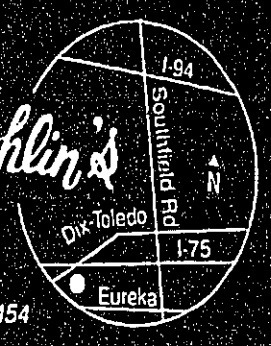


NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

the NOVI NEWS

Living

B

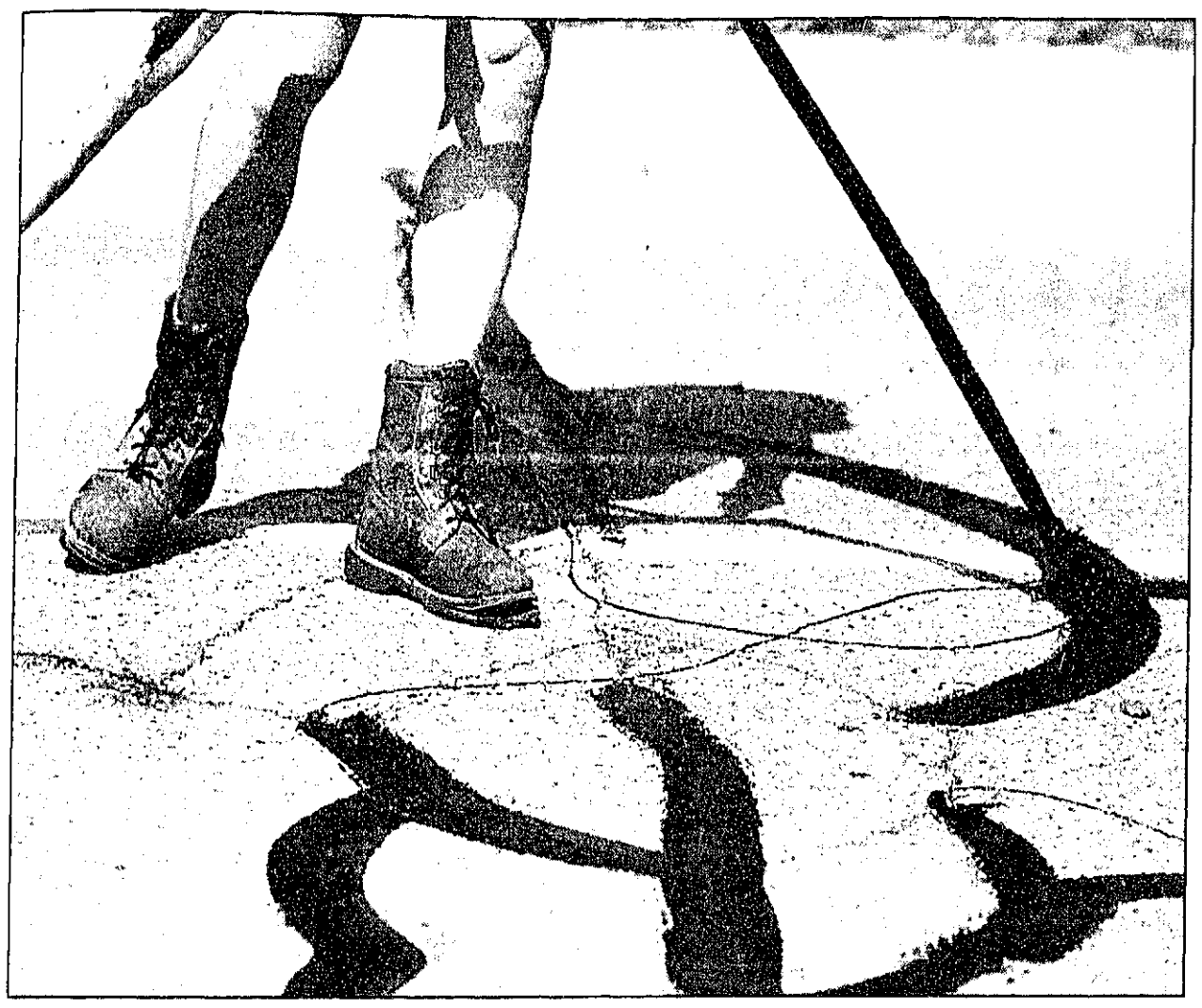
THURSDAY
July 30,
1998

HIGHLIGHTS:
Ice cream social serves hundreds–2B

PET OF THE WEEK:
Dufus is looking for a home with children–4B

ROSE CONTEST:
Winners announced in Brickscape's contest–3B

DIVERSIONS:
Youth present different version of 'Cinderella'–6B



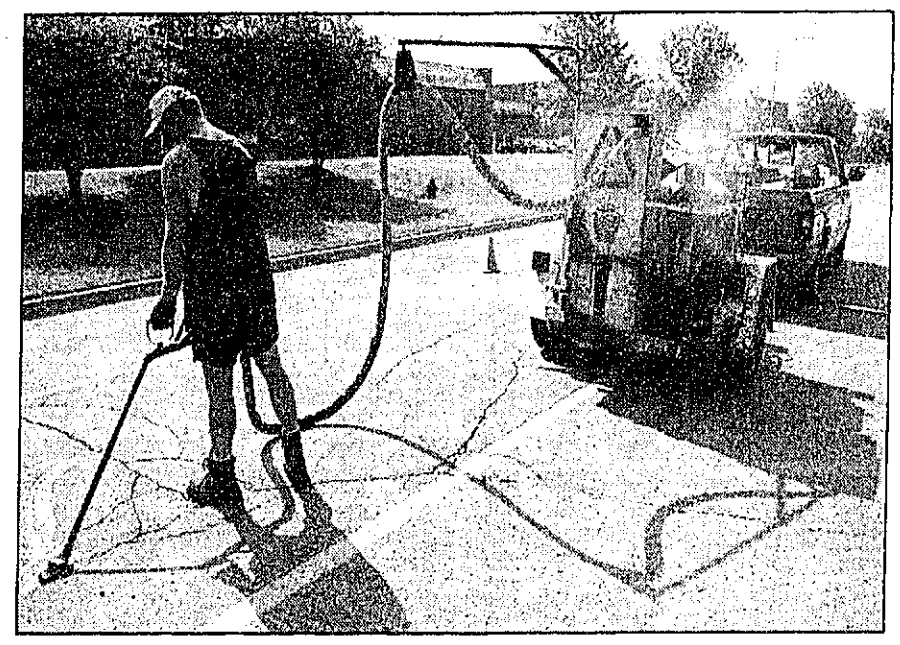
Crew members like Marc Tolsdorf go through one pair of work boots each summer because of the intense heat of both the torch and applicator used in the hot patch road repair. Right: Bob West uses the torch to remove old tar, debris, and moisture from cracks that have formed in the road surface.

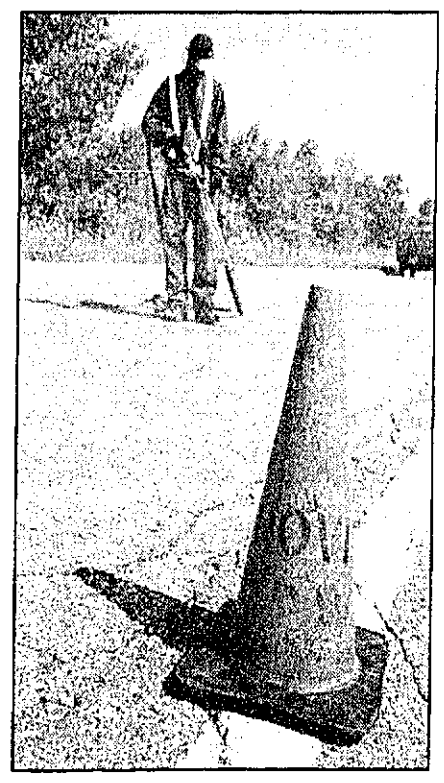
ROAD WARRIORS

They work outdoors during the hottest days of the year with equipment and materials that generate thousands of degrees of heat and can literally melt the soles off their boots as they wage war against cracks and potholes.

They're the City of Novi's road repair crew.

Crew leader Tim Wright, right, puts the hot tar applicator hose into a box to contain the spill caused by the hose springing a leak, that stalled the patching efforts for morning.





Left: Bob West is required to wear a protective vest and boots; safety vest, glasses and ear muffs; and long sleeve shirt and pants when working the torch which has an exhaust gas of 2,200 degrees. Above: Marc Tolsdorf works the applicator on a road behind Novi's West Oaks Mall to apply the rubberized compound which is 370 degrees.

This summer has been the hottest on record. Some employees may be thankful they have jobs which keep them in an air conditioned building.

Then there's a road repair crew in Novi that says one of the perks of the job is being outdoors.

Of course, they operate equipment that can melt skin instantly. Their boots literally fall apart. Motorists sometimes drive by shouting obscenities.

Welcome to a day in the life of a City of Novi Department of Public Works road repair crew.

The repair crew was using a hot rubberized compound to seal cracks in a stretch of road behind West Oaks Mall in mid-July.

Combine the record-breaking temperatures with equipment that generates even more heat and you have a crew of seven men who, out of necessity, switch assignments about every hour to hour and a half.

When you see a crew member sitting in a pick up truck, you may think, "What a cushy job." But he may have just finished a shift on the torch or applicator equipment. The guy holding the stop sign or waving the directional flag has not been doing that all day. He also takes turns on the torch and applicator.

Starting pay is $7.50 an hour for seasonal workers with returning college students earning $8.

The road repair foreman, Mike Deaton, periodically drives to the site.

"He handles all work assignments and keeps track of the crews," said Craig Smith, DPW superintendent.

Tim Wright, the crew leader, is on the site at all times.

The day begins as the crew checks in at 6 a.m. to start up the double boiler machine which heats the rubberized compound. It takes one and a half hours to get the machine up to operating temperature. Boxes totaling about 1,000 pounds of rubberized compound which will be used throughout the day are loaded into the truck. About 200 pounds of propane is required each day to power both the torch and applicator machines.

The crew heads out to the road at 7:30 a.m. and works until 2:30 or 3:30 p.m. depending on the weather.

The maintenance program of applying the hot patch follows the pavement improvement program where patches of concrete have been cut out and replaced.

"I like to follow behind that pavement improvement program with these guys, they seal up the pavement good," Smith said.

Certain roads are targeted each year and Smith says to go through the entire city takes between three and four years.

Bob West was working the torch, which puts out between 375,000 to 400,000 BTUs. The exhaust gas is 2,200 degrees.

West wore the required ear muffs, safety glasses, hat, safety vest, long sleeve shirt and pants, and protective boots.

"For this crew, that's about the nastiest because of the heat by your feet," Wright said.

The torch blows all the debris and moisture out of the cracks to be sealed, sometimes embedding it into the operator's work boots.

West alternates with the driver of the pick up truck who is pulling the torch's generator at a snail's pace. The hotter the day, the more often they switch.

"Just being outside is what I like. I like doing different stuff every day, that is the nice part about it," West said.

West, who lives in Wixom, has done road repair work in previous summers for the City of Wixom, but never on a Novi crew. He plans on going to Oakland University in the fall.

Sitting in the truck is no picnic. There is no air conditioning. The trucks are constantly overheating because they have to be kept running.

"With the temperature up you're not getting enough airflow through the radiator to cool the system down properly," Wright said. "We've had a lot of problems with overheating this year."

Sometimes the guys have to take off their boots while in the truck to hasten their cooling time.

"If you are real careful you can make (the boots) last one summer," Wright said. "They are just junk after that."

Wright has been working this type of road repair since the city bought the machine eight or nine years ago. Dean Reed, Marc Tolsdorf and Jerry Orchard have been with the crew for about three years.

Novi resident Ben Bedard, one of three seasonal crew members, is working for Novi's road repair crew for the first time this summer. He plans on going back to school to pursue a degree in criminal justice.

"I've never been indoors," Bedard said. "I like being outdoors."

Reed was driving the truck which pulls the hot patch double boiler machine. Marc Tolsdorf was following behind with the hot patch applicator.

One part of the double boiler contains hot oil which is kept at 550 degrees. The other is 75 gallons of rubberized compound that comes out of the applicator wand at 370 degrees.

"When the kettle starts getting low we throw a couple of boxes of compound in and bring it back up to level," Wright said. "We don't have to shut down and wait for it to melt. There is still enough material inside to keep right on working.

"If you get any of that on your skin it bonds instantly," Wright said.

The applicator's hose is wrapped in a thick yellow fire proof material which acts as a heat

Continued on 5

Story by **CAROL DIPPLE** • Photos by **JOHN HEIDER**

Bake sale funds ice cream social for hundreds

By JEANNE CLARKE
Special Writer

About 200 people were guests of the Novi Charter House Community Council at the recently-held annual ice cream social for residents and their families. The council was assisted by activities staff, administration and also volunteers Bonnie Korte and Ernestine Merlotti. This is an annual project presented by the Community Council and financed with proceeds from their recent bake sale.

The families and their residents visited in the patio area, Rose Garden dining room and Meadowbrook room.

The new garden area continues to flourish with zucchini, tomatoes, strawberry plants and green beans harvested from the specially-built gardening boxes, constructed level high for residents in wheelchairs. Cement walks will be poured this weekend, enabling wheelchair-accessibility to the entire area.

Tom and Mark Kastler, brothers of staff member Heidi Kastler, have created musical wind chimes by cutting pipes to various lengths, another new project which will be enjoyed by the residents.

Additional new activities include "Creative Exercise," a summer tea party scheduled for Aug. 4 and Pastor Tom Homrich conducting a memorial service Aug. 5, in remembrance of friends who have passed away in the last six months. Volunteers who helped in some way with the creation of the new patio are invited to the "patio dedication" Aug. 12. Fruit and veggies will be served, and entertainment will be provided by Joe Sharpy. The monthly birthday party will again be held at the end of the month, with entertainment by accordionist, Ed Bardyga; and on Aug. 27, a picnic will be held at Wolverine Lake Park.

Activities staff member Heather Fronrath gave birth to 7 pound Brenden Alexander, born July 9.

A wedding shower for activities staff member Heidi Kastler will be held this week. Her marriage to Mark Yost will take place Aug. 1.

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

"Blossom with Books," six weeks of arts and crafts, special events and story times for ages 3 to 10, ends on Friday with an ice cream sundae party. This event was most successful this year with a record number of participants including 230 youngsters from fifth grade and up. Much appreciation given to the 80 teen volunteers who were absolutely wonderful. The staff could not have handled all the activities without the seventh graders and up, 40 percent boys and 60 percent girls.

Among the interesting programs presented were the "Leader Dogs" and "Paws with a Cause." Eight dogs were at the daytime program and 14 attended the evening class. They met with over 300 kids. Both of these groups are interested in hearing from anyone who would like to become involved in working with these puppies. The number to call is 1-800-253-7297.

The craft sessions were also popular with over 100 kids in attendance. In keeping with the theme, they made three dimensional bugs and mosaics with seeds.

Another popular library activity was when Margaret Schmidt and her duck, chicken and goose presented "Summer on the Farm."

Storytime pictures which appeared on the bulletin board are available and ready for pickup.

A large display of over 60 gardening books are available for children. A very informative free booklet entitled "Novi Preschool and Child Care Directory" is also available at the library.

The program "People to People" is displayed in one of the show cases. This is a student ambassador program about three students chosen to travel to England, Scotland, Whales, Ireland, etc. The display offers several postcards Jessica Cole, David Bliss and Jennifer Davies sent back telling about their travels. For details on this program, call the library.

NOVI METHODIST CHURCH

"Space Mission Bible Camp" concluded this week. It started last Sunday with a week of dinners, classes and activities.

The youth group has made plans for the coming month. Aug. 2 will be sailing, volleyball, and other activities at Kent Lake. Aug. 29, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. they will assist with Habitat for Humanity. This is underway in Ypsilanti and is being sponsored by Northville First Methodist Church. Those attending are asked to furnish their own lunch. Adults are also needed to help with this project.

Sponsors for the young people are looking for others who could help in developing Christian experiences for the youth. Those who have hobbies in fishing, basketball, football, soccer, volleyball, softball, bowling, camping, dancing or other suggestions would be welcome. In addition, the youth ministry is in need of: swimming pool use, camping facilities, retreat facilities, ping-pong table, etc., please call the church office.

Softball plans are being made for either a formal or informal league in the fall. If interested, please call the church office.

The United Methodist Women group is sponsoring two projects: a pencil project for Tadjikistan and a school kits project. Included in the kits will be unsharpened pencils with erasers, construction paper, scissors, 1/2 inch ruled paper, ruler and pencil sharpeners. The collection ends Oct. 3.

Future church projects include the winter arts and crafts show on Nov. 14 and the annual auction scheduled for Nov. 7.

Novi Highlights

NEWCOMERS AND NEIGHBORS

If you've just moved into the Novi area or are a Novi area community member who would like to do community service and make new friends, contact Diann Graf, vice president of membership, at 347-2124, or Robbi LeRoy, president, at 380-9244.

There is something for everyone in the interest group activities. Among the programs is the Tuesday morning bowling league at 9 a.m. They will be looking for substitutes, joining the present league or forming a new team. The league is held at the Novi Bowl near Nine Mile and baby sitting is available. The Saturday evening couples league meets at 8:30 p.m. every fourth Saturday of the month at the Novi Bowl.

A couples Bridge group is being formed to meet day or evening, or can be established as a ladies group. Pinochle for couples and Bunko will meet again in September. Bunko groups are organized for daytime as well as evening.

Golf for couples will be held at Pebble Creek Golf Course at 5:30 p.m., Aug. 7 and 21. Ladies Night Out at the Movies will meet on Aug. 12 with dessert following at Friday's.

Programs available in the fall will be: Men's Night Out, Out-to-Lunch group, Scrap Booking Workshop, and more.

The Book Club continues to meet at Borders and in August, they will be reading "Snow Falling on Cedars."

There is also a baby sitting co-op available for those with children.

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

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Beautiful day for a walk

There was not a drop of rain in sight when the Country Garden Club of Northville hosted their annual Garden Tour on July 15. Plenty of water was on hand though for about 700 visitors who toured seven gardens, as well as those at Mill Race Village, where they sipped lemonade and ice tea, ate plates of cookies, and viewed the wares of vendors. Monies raised from the Garden Tour help support the club's projects.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

A little help from friends

Flanked by Northville High School students Eric Retzbach, left, and Josh Brugeman, right, are fellow Northville Garden Club scholarship winners and Schoolcraft College students Vicky Messer and Carolyn Tobin. Seated is incoming Northville Garden Club President Donna Raney, left, and Karen Brown, Past President. Northville has two garden clubs, The Northville Garden Club and the Country Garden Club of Northville, both are branches of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association.

Winners announced in Brickscape's rose contest

First place winner of the "Rose by Any Other Name" story contest sponsored by Brickscape Gardens was Mary Ann Schuckel, who won a rose trellis and a Jackson & Perkins climbing rose at a combined value of $100.

Schuckel cut the contest article out of the paper, got the list of 115 rose names from Brickscape and took them to work at Anchor Laminat in Bellaire. Schuckel, a cost accountant, took only 15 minutes to write her story. She encouraged co-worker Dawn Hurd to enter the contest also and she turned out to be the second place winner – Corona pruning shears valued at $35.

Mary Ann Wade of Farmington Hills won third place in the contest, which kicked off at Brickscape's Rose Fest '98 on Mother's Day and ran throughout May 31. Wade won a pair of thorn resistant rose gloves worth $20.

Winners were announced by the chief judge of the contest, Carol Dipple, feature editor of *The Northville Record* and *The Novi News*, and Brickscape Gardens owner Joe DiRado.

Brickscape provided a list of 115 registered rose names, any of which could be used to "Write a captivating short story of 100 words or less, capitalizing the rose names."

Brickscape Gardens specializes in first quality Jackson & Perkins roses.

Schuckel's following rose story won first place:

ABRAHAM DARBY was sitting in the TROPICANA'S VOODOO lounge listening to the INK SPOTS sing SWEET SURRENDER for their GRAND FINALE when EVELYN strolled by in a FRAGRANT CLOUD of FRENCH PERFUME. He downed his glass of WHITE LIGHTNIN' then crossed the WHITE FLOWER CARPET to the side of the RAVEN-haired beauty. With a TOUCH OF CLASS he took her BLACK GARNET ringed wrist as he BREATHLESSLY asked the TIMELESS question, "Will you HONOR my request for this dance?" She closed her eyes and inhaled his ALLSPICE cologne as the rays of the WHITE DAWN streaked across the sky.

On Campus

Tracy Kwang of Novi and Brian Rodriguez of Northville will be among eight students ages 11 to 21, who will journey to Moscow with Schoolcraft College.

For the fourth consecutive summer, the College is sponsoring the Piano Institute in Russia which includes intensive piano instruction, private lessons, immersion in Russian approaches to piano training and historical, political and cultural introductions to Moscow.

NICHOLE M. LaLONDE of Novi was among the seven gifted students from Oakland County who attended th

e recently-held SEEKS program – Sustaining the Environment through Education, Knowledge and Skills – at Adrian College.

High school juniors and seniors participate in intensive programming in "The Interrelationship of Humanity to the Environment." Some study areas include improvisational theater, creative writing, dance, archeology, journalism, freshwater ecology, etc. Activities range from discussions to lab and field experiences to art performances.

LaLonde, the daughter of Michael and Linda LaLonde, attends Northville High School where she is active in Science Olympiad and a member of the National Honor Society. During SEEKS, she studied wetland ecology.

Novi students named to the Dean's List for winter '98 term at the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus are college of arts, sciences and letters: **BHATNAGAR NEAL**, freshman, undetermined; **JENNIFER HAMPTON**, freshman, undetermined; **KRISTEN MINKE**, senior, psychology; **CHRISTINE OKDIE**, senior, English; school of management: **STEVEN STOCKER** and **JENNIFER WOODS**; and school of education: **LINDA GOODMAN**.

Students who make the Dean's List must maintain a minimum 3.5 grade point average while carrying at least 12 credit hours.

JILL CHRISTINA CRAWFORD of Novi graduated in May from Miami University-Ohio with a bachelor of science degree in business.

Feel free to call us with any news tips, 349-1700!
the NOVI NEWS

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11 a.m. Sunday School & Nursery
The Rev. Leslie F. Harding

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Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.
Boys Brigade 7 p.m., Pioneer Girls 7 p.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

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Holy Days: 9 am, 5:30 am, 7:30 pm
Father John Buddie, Pastor
Father Denis Theroux, Assoc. Pastor
Parish Office: 349-8847

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The Northville Record or Novi News
349-1700

Engagement

Julie Platt/Michael Gowans

Anthony and Carol Gowans of Novi announce the engagement of their son, Michael Anthony, to Julie Dawn Platt, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Duane Platt of Walton, Ky.

The bride-elect is a 1989 graduate of Simon Kenton High School, Kentucky. She graduated in 1994 from Belmont University, Nashville, Tenn., and is now employed as office manager and secretary to the president of Morning Star Ministeries.

The groom-elect is a 1991 graduate of Novi High School. He received an accounting degree from Michigan State University in 1995 and in 1997, was awarded a second degree from MSU in hotel and restaurant management.

Michael is currently a minister for Champions for Christ in Nashville, where he met his bride-to-be. They were engaged in February of this year.

An August wedding will take place in Brentwood, Tenn.

News to share?

Have you recently become engaged? Newly betrothed? Or are you proud new parents? Are you celebrating a big anniversary?

Send the information and picture if you have one to *The Northville Record/Novi News*, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167, or stop by the office and pick up a birth, engagement or wedding announcement form and we'll see to it that your happy news appears in the paper. The deadline for submitting a wedding announcement and photo is six months after the wedding date.

There is no charge.

Birth

Myles Michael Sayles

Margaret and Richard Sayles of Novi are proud to announce the birth of their son, **MYLES MICHAEL,** born on June 26 at 3:53 a.m. in William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. He was 20 inches in length and weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces. Baby Myles was greeted at home by his brother, Marshall.

Grandparents are Michael and Dolores Samulski of Shelby Township and Walter Sayles of Boyne City.

In Service

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class **ROBERT W. NELSON** recently participated in a rescue at sea aboard the guided missile cruiser USS San Jacinto, currently on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf.

Members of Nelson's ship responded to a distress call from a Turkish-flagged vessel in the Arabian Sea. They provided medical assistance to an injured civilian crew member suffering from injuries sustained in a fall.

Home ported in Norfolk, Va., Nelson's ship is one of the most powerful warships ever put to sea.

Nelson, a 1985 graduate of Novi High School, joined the Navy in May 1989.

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Kudos

Dorothy Hickson

DOROTHY HICKSON of Novi was elected to the 1998-99 Women's Economic Club Board of Directors.

Hickson was elected on May 19 and will begin a two-year term in September 1998.

Hickson, development office manager with the Karmanos Cancer Institute, has been a member of the Women's Economic Club since 1986. She was the chair of the Hospitality Committee from 1997 to 1998; was a member of the Human Resource, By Laws, Nominating and Public Relations committees from 1987 to 1994; and the Membership Reception and Special Events committees from 1986 to 1990.

Of her goals for the Women's Economic Club, Hickson said, "by the unique membership we have and can offer, WEC can extend both personal and professional growth for working women through the various programs and seminars."

Hickson's other activities during the past five years include Human Recourses Association of Greater Detroit; National Association of Female Executives; Pet-A-Pet for Senior Citizens; Citizens for a Better Novi; and the Ward Evangelical Church Choir.

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Pet of the Week

Dufus would like a home with children.

Dufus, a four year old Australian shepherd/collie mix, is looking for a home as are a variety of other adult dogs and puppies are shown by Critter Connection every Saturday at the Pet Supplies Plus store at 42660 Ten Mile Road in Novi from 11:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

Dufus is neutered, and according to a Critter Connection volunteer, likes children.

Adoption fees are $125 for puppies and $100 for adult dogs which includes shots, neutering, worming and heartworm check. The fee is refundable if for some reason the adoption does not work out and the dog needs to be returned to Critter Connection.

For more information, call (248) 855-4136 or (313) 563-1823.

Singles

SINGLE PLACE, an adult ministry for single people at First Presbyterian Church of Northville, meets Thursday evenings in Fellowship Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Every Sunday, the group worships at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary followed by brunch at the Northville Crossing Restaurant, 18900 Northville Road, at 12:30 p.m.

On July 30, the topic will be "What Men Wished Women Knew" with David Blake.

On Aug. 6, the companion discussion, "What Women Wished Men Knew," will be presented by Blake.

The cost for each is $4.

Upcoming events include Diamond Jack's River Cruise and Dinner on Aug. 1; Tiger Baseball on Aug. 8; a Day at Kensington Park on Aug. 15; a Street Dance on Aug. 22; and Dinner/Bethany Together Dance on Aug. 29.

Call (248) 349-0991 for additional information.

Church

HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 46200 Ten Mile Road in Novi, hosts the Pathways to Parenting support group the first Wednesday of each month. On Wednesday, Aug. 5, the presentation will explore the importance of reading to infants. The free support group for parents and parents-to-be meets from 12:30 until 2 p.m.

For more information on the support group, call Botsford's Health Development Network at (248) 477-6100.

OAK POINTE CHURCH, a new, contemporary, non-denominational church, meets for a one-hour service at 10 a.m. in the Northville High School auditorium, 775 N. Center.

Space Mission Bible Camp will be held Aug. 3 through 7 from 9:45 a.m. until noon. The camp is open to kids who will be in the first through fifth grades this fall. The camp will be held at 46011 Nine Mile Road. Registration is $5 per child for the week and includes Bible stories, skits, games, crafts, a T-shirt, and more. There will be an All-Family Barbeque on Wednesday from 6 until 9 p.m. with a hot air balloon and moon walk.

For more information, call (248) 615-7050.

Summer worship times at **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE,** 777 West Eight Mile Road in Northville, are 8:30 and 10 a.m.

Arbor Hospice offers a professionally led support group for parents called "Loss of a Child" on July 30, Aug. 27 and Sept. 24. Also a 10-week support and educational group called "Circle of Love" which allows parents the opportunity to share, learn and heal in the presence of other bereaved parents begins Thursday, Oct. 22, 7 until 9 p.m. To register, call 1-800-783-5764.

Donations are requested for refreshments and materials.

For more information, call (248) 349-1144.

The sermon for Sunday, Aug. 2, at **NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,** 41671 West Ten Mile Road in Novi, will be "Seasons of the Soul" Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23. Sunday service is at 9:45 a.m.

For more information, call (248) 349-2652.

Send church information to The Northville Record and The Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167.

Crew cranks out the heat during hot patch road repair

Continued from 1

shield and a protective coating for the special hose.

"You learn to keep it away from your leg," Wright said.

"Even if you try your hardest to keep it away from your feet, your feet get really hot," said Wright. "It gets so hot it burns the soles off your shoes."

The torch and applicator crews also alternate every other day.

"For as long as we've been doing it I'd say we have an excellent safety record as far as injuries, being burned," Wright said.

It takes about 20 to 30 minutes for the compound to set up enough so that vehicles can drive over it. That's why the street may still be closed off a block away from where the torch and applicator guys are working. The hotter it is outside, the longer the compound takes to cool down.

When it is 85 degrees outside it takes about an hour to cool down.

"If a car drove over this right now it would peel the whole thing up and it would just wrap around the tire," Wright said of recently applied compound.

It is slow, tiresome work.

One or two miles of two-lane road that just has linear cracks will take about one day to complete. In about three hours, the crew was able to patch less than a one block stretch of road behind West Oaks Mall because of its deteriorating condition.

"When the road begins to look like it has more patch than road, it's time to redo the road," Wright said.

Being a sign guy means putting up with obscenities from motorists.

"The motoring public is the worst," Wright said. "It's like it's a big inconvenience with us. I guess that goes with everybody."

Rich Kendra has heard his share of profanities while doing the sign detail.

"We're not allowed to say anything. If somebody yells at us we just smile and bear it," said Kendra, a 1993 graduate of Novi High School. Kendra has worked as a seasonal employee of Novi's DPW for five summers to put himself though college _ two in lawn cutting and three in road repair. He returns to Michigan State University in the fall for his final semester of studies for a degree in electrical engineering.

Motorists should slow down in a temporary moving road work area, according to Wright.

"We get people flying by us at 40 and 50 miles an hour," he said. "You have to be pretty conscious about what's going on around you. You have to have eyes all the way around your head."

The road repair crew began it work this year right after Memorial Day. The road temperature has to be at least 45 degrees for the compound to properly cure. The ideal temperature for the compound to set is 80 to 85 degrees. In the afternoon, once the temperature gets to between 85 and 90, especially with high humidity, the crew can't work because the compound won't set.

"We'll just pack it up and look for something else to fill in for the rest of the day, which is mainly just maintenance on the machines," Wright said.

If it rains, the torch guy would have to blow out all the cracks again. If they put the hot patch in a crack which has any moisture, as soon as the compound cools off, it would peel right out of the crack.

The guys don't take a lunch break. If it's getting around lunch time, they begin taking shorter shifts on the applicator and torch so they can sit in the truck and eat and keep right on moving.

The road repair crew works four, 10-hour days so that they can have three day weekends.

"It's kind of like an incentive to come out and do this," Wright said.

Even after the last of the compound is down, the crew will still have to wait for the most recently applied compound to cool before they can open the street up to traffic.

"To the public they don't understand the operation," Wright said. "We have to stand here. We can't just open it up to traffic."

The crew is used to one or two minor breakdowns per summer.

About 11 a.m., only a few hours into their day, the applicator hose sprung a leak mainly from continually rubbing against the road. There were no extra hoses at the DPW facility on Delwal Drive in Novi so a crew member would have to go buy one. Hoses usually last two years and cost about $600.

"This is major enough that it shuts the whole job down," Wright said.

Provided they can get the parts and put them on in the afternoon, they were hoping to get back out on the road the next day. An air compressor had broken down about three weeks ago so the crew had resorted to renting a compressor.

After the day is done, the crew tries to scrape compound off the machine and blow out the hose as much as possible so that it doesn't get clogged up once the compound cools.

"Needless to say you don't wear your work boots in the house," Wright said of the compound they find on the soles of their boots at the end of the day.

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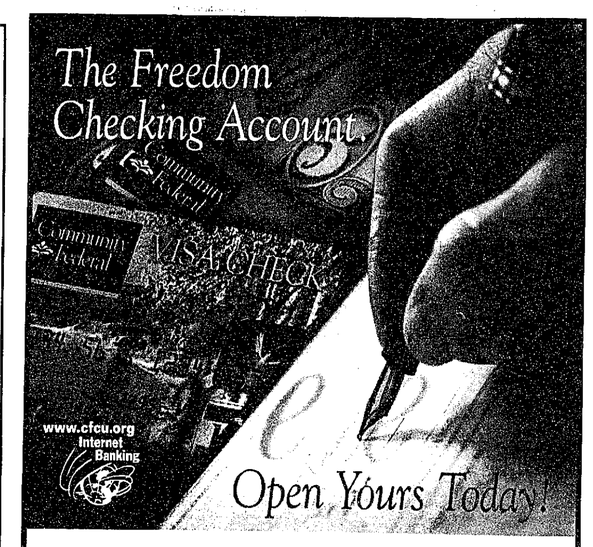

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*See credit union for details.

Youth will present 'Cinderella' with a twist

Photo submitted by HUGH CRAWFORD

Novi Youth Theatre presents 'Cinderella' on July 31 and Aug. 1 and 2.

The Novi Theatres concludes its seventh season with "Cinderella" on July 31 and Aug. 1 and 2.

Those looking for the usual Cinderella story won't be disappointed in this original adaptation of the favorite fairy tale about a mistreated young girl who meets her Prince at the Ball.

They are all there – Cinderella (Lauren Oates), The Evil Step Mother (Lindsay Anan), the Two Step Sisters (Amy Stanis and Katie Hoeg), The King (Kyle Shull), the Queen (Katie Johnson) and even the mice.

It is in the search for the woman to fit the slipper that the story takes a turn.

Prince Hubert (Kirk Jones), his servant Simon (Nate Mitchell) and the footman (Josh Glomb) travel through the entire second act knocking on door after door.

The opening of each door reveals a different fairy tale – there is Bo Peep and big Sammy (The Lambie), Baby Bear and his babysitter Goldilocks, Miss Muffet who now lives with Chuckie (a spider) and Snow White and the seven dwarfs, just to name a few.

Set Designer is Timothy Amrhein of the Hilberry Theatre. Costume Designer is Shelley Dzwonkowski and Mark Magni is the Lighting Designer.

The Novi Theatres presentation of "Cinderella" is written and directed by Linda Wickert.

Upcoming productions from the Novi Parks and Recreation Department include the Senior Citizen Variety Series presenting "Broadway Babes and Bullies" in September, the little people players' presentation of "Sleeping Beauty" in October and the newly-formed Ensemble Theatre Company of adult performers will present "You Can't Take it With You" in November.

Friday and Saturday performances of "Cinderella" are at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday performance is at 3 p.m.

All reserved seats are $8 or $7 in advance.

The Novi Civic Center Stage is located in the Novi Civic Center at 45175 West Ten Mile Road in Novi.

For additional information, call (248) 347-0460.

Entertainment listing

Submit items for the entertainment listings to The Northville Record/Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167; or fax to 349-1050.

AUDITIONS

OCC SYMPHONY BAND: Rehearsals for college students and residents for Bb clarinet, bassoon, trumpet, French horn, trombone and percussion sections are held on Mondays from 7:30 until 9:30 p.m. at the Highland Lakes Campus's Student Center, 7350 Cooley Lake Road in Waterford.

There are also two openings in the Youth Band in the French horn section. Applicants must be enrolled in their high school bands to qualify. Rehearsals are held on Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon. also in the Student Center.

For details, call (248) 360-6218.

ON GOLDEN POND: The Ann Arbor Civic Theatre is holding auditions on Aug. 2 and 3 with callbacks on Aug. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Playhouse, 2275 Platt Road in Ann Arbor.

Call (734) 971-0605 for additional information.

FARMINGTON PLAYERS: Auditions for "A Tuna Christmas" by Joe Sears, Ed Howard and Jaston Williams will be held on Aug. 10 at 7 p.m. There are roles for two men who will each portray 11 characters both male and female.

The Farmington Players Barn is located at 32332 West Twelve Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

For information call Margaret Gilkes, director, at (248) 476-3781.

HURON VALLEY COMMUNITY THEATER: Chorus members are needed for "The Pirates of Penzance." Men who can sing especially are needed to play the parts of pirates and policemen. Although a brief singing audition is necessary, no previous theatre experience is required.

Performances will continue on Sept. 4 and 5 at Lakeland High School in White Lake. Rehearsals are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings through the summer.

The Huron Valley Community Theatre is located at 134 Huron View Court in White Lake.

Call (248) 698-2868 for additional information.

SPECIAL EVENTS

TRINITY HOUSE: Paul Patton returns to Trinity House Theatre to present his latest one-act play "Holy Motion;" an excerpt from his full length play "Foul Line," humorous academic monologues; and original songs written by Patton and performed by Del and the Ruff Cuts on Saturday, Aug. 1, at 8 p.m.

Tickets are $10, $8 for members. Trinity House Theatre is located at 38840 West Six Mile Road in Livonia.

Call (734) 464-6302.

BABY & BACK TO SCHOOL SHOW: Baby's-To-Be, Inc. presents a "Back to School Show" on Sunday, Aug. 2, at the Novi Hilton, 21111 Haggerty Road in Novi from noon until 3:30 p.m. with information, ideas and products for over 100 exhibitors with free samples and gifts to expected parents and new parents, children's activities and fashions.

Tickets are $7 with advance registration by phone and $8 at the door. Children under 12 are free.

To make a reservation or receive more information, call (810) 228-2700.

BORDERS BOOKS: Ongoing events include the Toddler Time stories for children 3 and younger on Mondays at 10 a.m.; Children's Hour for children three and younger on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.; and Toddler Time for children three and younger on Wednesdays t 10 a.m.

Borders Books and Music is located in the Novi Town Center.

Call (248) 347-0780 for additional information.

BARNES & NOBLE: Children's special storytimes during the summer will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. for children to three years; Tuesday at 1:30 for ages 5 to 8; and Wednesday at 7 p.m. for children ages 4 to 7.

Michael Matthews, author of "How to Find the Best Quality Child Care," will be in the store to discuss and sign copies of book on Thursday, July 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Barnes & Noble is located at Six and Haggerty in Northville.

Call (248) 348-0609 for additional information.

THEATER

MARQUIS THEATRE: The Marquis Theatre Children will be presenting the musical "Raggedy Ann and Andy" by Patricia Thackray Aug. 4 through Sept. 27.

America's most beloved folk dolls come to life in this fun-filled story. Babette, a French porcelain doll, has been kidnapped from the playroom by the Loonies. Babette is Marcella's surprise birthday present and she must be returned. To search for her, Raggedy Ann and Andy venture bravely into Looneyland.

Performance dates and times are Tuesdays through Fridays, Aug. 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21 at 10:30 a.m.; Saturdays, Aug. 8, 15, 22, Sept. 12, 19, and 26 at 2:30 p.m. and Sundays, Sept. 13, 20, and 27 at 2:30 p.m.

For general information and groups rates, call (248) 349-8110.

No children under age three will be permitted.

The Marquis Theatre is located at 135 E. Main Street in Northville.

GENITTI'S: The interactive comedy dinner theater at Genitti's Hole-in-the-Wall is "I Do ... I Think" which runs through October.

All dinner theater presentations include the restaurant's famous seven-course, family-style Italian dinner.

For the kids there's the mini luncheon and show "Beanie Baby Capers".

Genitti's is located at 108 E. Main Street in Northville.

For reservations or more information, call (248) 349-0522.

MUSIC

TUSCAN CAFE: Tuscan Cafe presents a variety of entertainment acts nightly except Sundays.

Weekday performances are from 8:30 to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday performances are from 9 until 11 p.m.

Tuscan Cafe is located at 150 Center Street in Northville.

Call 305-8629 for additional information.

BRADY'S FOOD & SPIRITS: Live entertainment is offered from 7:30 until 11 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Brady's Food and Spirits is located at 38123 West Ten Mile in the Holiday Inn in Farmington Hills.

Call (248) 478-7780 for additional information.

FRIGATES INN: Frigates offers live music every Wednesday at 9 p.m. featuring the 2XL Band. The Tim Flaherty Trio with emcee Dan McNall will host an open blues jam every Thursday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. All musicians are welcome. Dance with The Globe at 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Frigates Inn is located at the corner of Fourteen Mile and East Lake Drive in Novi. For details, call (248) 624-9607.

SPORTS EDITION: Enjoy live entertainment at the Sports Edition Bar, located inside the Novi Hilton Hotel, 21111 Haggerty Road.

The Sports Edition is home to Intrigue and other high-powered hits groups every weekend. A cover charge begins at 8 p.m.

STARTING GATE: The Starting Gate Saloon offers live music every Friday and Saturday night from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Starting Gate is located at 135 N. Center St. in downtown Northville.

TOO CHEZ: Too Chez, located at 27155 Sheraton Drive on the northwest corner of Novi Road and I-96, hosts jazz groups Heidi Hepler and Michele Ramo from 6 until 10 p.m. every Monday; and Louis Resto and David McMurray every Friday from 7 until 11 p.m. on the patio throughout the summer (weather permitting). In the case of inclement weather, the groups will perform in the bar area of the restaurant.

For reservations, call (248) 348-5555.

NEARBY

AL'S COPPER MUG: A benefit for the Friends of the Foster Farmhouse will be held on Sunday, Aug. 2 from 2 until 10 p.m. The featured band will City Limits Blue's Band. There will be a 50/50 raffle drawing, beer, and Dearborn hotdogs, Italian sausage, buffalo burgers and cheeseburgers will be cooked on the grill outside. You must be 21 or older to enter the big tent party fundraiser.

Call (248) 624-9659 for additional information.

RADIOGRAPHS: A unique exhibit of floral x-ray photography will be on display at the Plymouth Community Arts Council through July 31. The Radiographs are the work of Albert G. Richards, an Emeritus professor of dentistry from the University of Michigan.

Examples of his unusual art have appeared in magazines around the world, in museums, in encyclopedias and on calendars.

Hours for the exhibit are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Additional viewing times are possible by calling the office at (734) 416-4278.

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is located at 774 N. Sheldon at Junction in Plymouth.

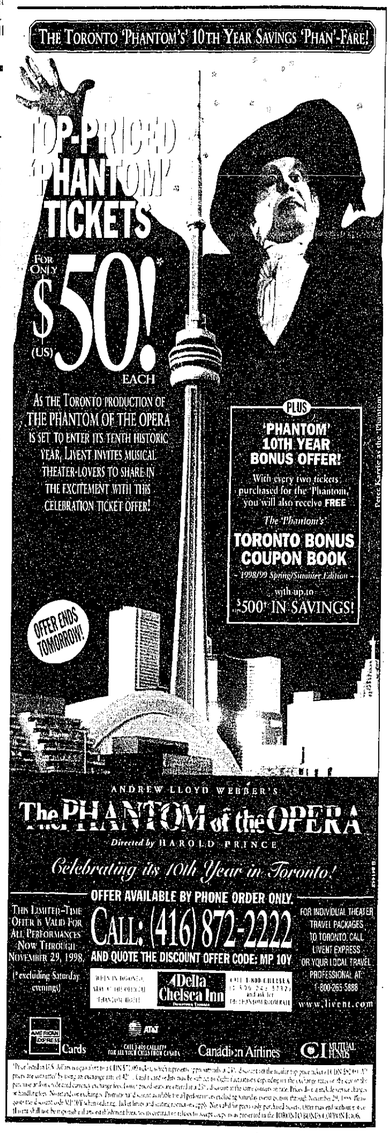
FLEA MARKET: The Canton Historical Society will hold their annual Flea Market Sale on Aug. 8 at Cherry Hill School located at Cherry Hill and Ridge roads. Spaces are available for rent for $15 each for a 10 x 10 space. Bring your own table(s) and chairs(s). No resale clothing please, but antiques, crafts, collectibles, garage sale items, etc. are welcome. Don't have enough treasures to have a table of your own? Your donation of items to the Historical Society are needed and very welcome.

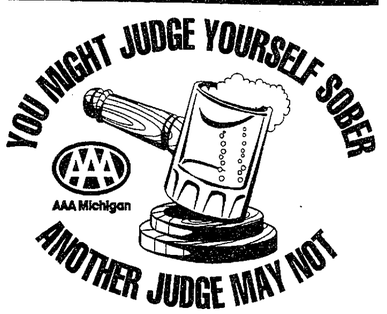
Contact Ronni Curtis at (734) 981-1475.

SUMMER LAWN CONCERTS: Oakland Community College's Highland Lakes Campus summer concert series includes Motor City Brass Band on Aug. 4, and Blackthorn on Aug. 13.

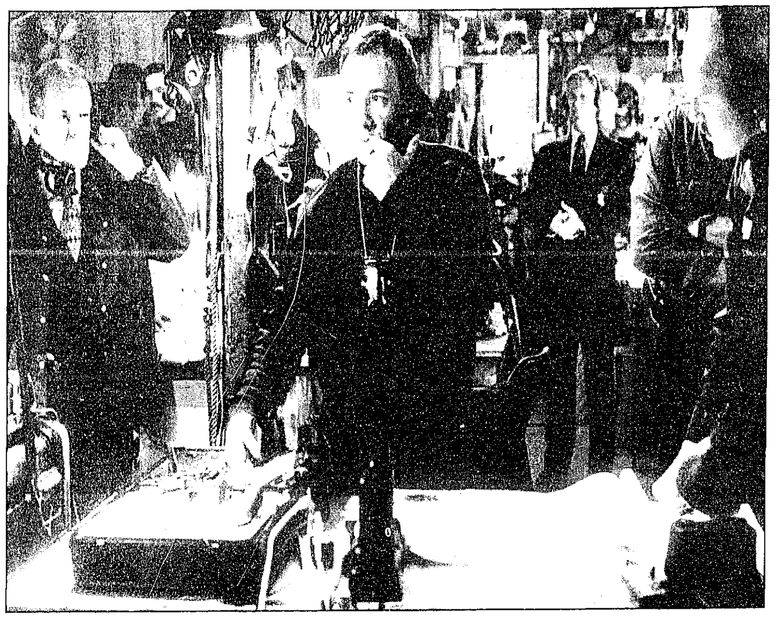
Each concert begins at 7:30 p.m. at the pavilion located on the campus's front lawn at 7350 Cooley Lake Road in Waterford and is free and open to the public.

For additional information, call (248) 360-3186.





'Negotiator' reunites Spacey, Jackson



KevinSpacey plays Chris Sabian, a cop called to negotiate a hostage situation involving a fellow hostage negotiator.

Police choppers circle the 20th floor of the Chicago Internal Affairs Division's downtown headquarters. SWAT marksmen stand ready on nearby rooftops, their high-powered weapons targeted on Danny Roman (Samuel L. Jackson), who is holding the chief of the I.A.D. and his staff at gunpoint.

Roman's desperate gambit has been triggered by an equally desperate situation: his world has been destroyed by false charges of murder and embezzlement brought against him. Roman knows that people listen when lives are at stake; he knows that he has a chance to prove his innocence if he can just buy a little time— time that he urgently needs to find out who's behind the frame-up.

He understands all of this implicitly—because Danny Roman is a Chicago Police officer—and the best hostage negotiator in the department.

But right now, Roman is a hostage-taker—and he needs someone who will listen to him. So he asks that Chris Sabian (Kevin Spacey), a respected negotiator from another precinct, be brought in to mediate. The cool, cerebral Sabian squares off with is formidable and furious opponent, a man he knows only by reputation, as he attempts to understand and defuse the explosive situation.

Although he begins his task convinced that Roman has had a complete breakdown, Sabian starts to wonder whether this hostage-taker is indeed a man gone mad or, instead, what Roman claims to be—an honest cop who must break the law to find justice for himself. Ultimately, Sabian is driven to answer the same questions that are obsessing Danny Roman. Who's behind the frameup? And where does Roman fit into the scheme?

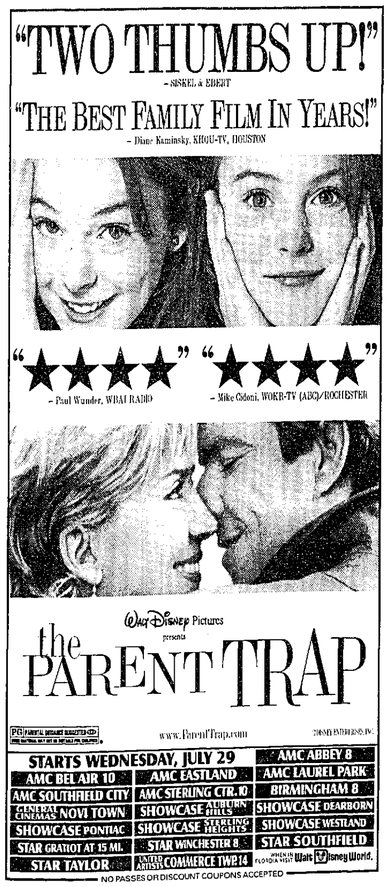
Bringing "The Negotiator" to the screen was a labor of love for producer David Hoberman since the idea was first presented to him by executive producers Robert Stone and Webster Stone, two brothers who find true stories suitable for adaption into books, films and television programs.

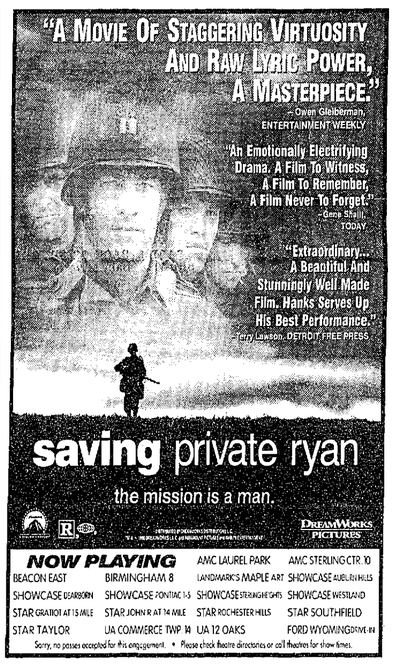
"Their idea was based on an actual event that took place in St. Louis," says Hoberman. "The best hostage negotiator in St. Louis alleged he was framed by people within the police department and ended up taking hostages to smoke out the people he said were the real culprits. And the only guy he felt he could trust was a stranger, so he called in the second-best hostage negotiator in St. Louis to work with him."

What so attracted Hoberman to the project was the story's inherent contradiction of "somebody who epitomizes the law having the break the law in order to prove his innocence; a police officer who commits a crime to prove that he didn't commit the crime they're saying he did. I always though that was a really interesting premise and moral dilemma."

The prospect of playing opposite Kevin Spacey was a big part of what excited Samuel L. Jackson about the project. "I'd read the script and really respond to the role of Danny Roman, but when the combination of Kevin and myself was presented to me I just broke out into a big smile," says Jackson.

"Sam and I have known each other for more than 18 years," says Kevin Spacey. "I used to see Sam in plays and we used to be at the same auditions. And when we did 'A Time to Kill' we has a really great opportunity to sort of feel what it's like to work together. We decided that we wanted to do something together again, and when 'The Negotiator' presented itself we both eagerly agreed to do it."





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POSSIBLE MATCH

Employed SW mom of one, 37, 5'7", full-figured, is in search of an employed, honest, caring SWCM, 35-45, who loves laughter, sports, the outdoors and children. Ad#.5878

WIN ME OVER

She's an outgoing, petite SWF, 50, 5'2", looking for a N/S, financially secure SWCM, 45-56, who enjoys life. Ad#.1947

FRIENDS TO START

Get to know this outgoing and friendly DWC mom of one, 36, 6", blonde/blue eyes, enjoys music, movies and quiet times. She seeks a similar SWCM, 29-45, for friendship, maybe more. Ad#.6244

BUILD A FRIENDSHIP

This affectionate, playful, and loyal DWCF, 55, 5'2" and petite, has diverse interests including dancing, travel, classical music, the arts, and playing cards. She's looking for her best friend: a SWM, over 50, who shares her interests. Ad#.3045

QUALITY COUNTS

Athletic SWF, 23, 5'8", with long brown hair and blue eyes, is looking for a handsome SWM, 24-31, with a good sense of humor. Ad#.1275

GENUINE INTENTIONS

Friendly, attractive WWWF, 57, 5'5", is looking for a SWM, 57-62, for good times. She enjoys gardening, music and nature. If you love board games, give her a call! Ad#.2868

BROAD-MINDED

Into youth ministry and Bible study, I'm a Catholic DWF, 60, 5'2", pretty and fit, who enjoys walks, conversation, movies, dancing, dining out and more. It would be a pleasure to hear from a similar SWCM, 70 or under. Ad#.1932

WISH COME TRUE

Thinking about a shy DWCF, 48, who likes the outdoors, country music, cooking and dancing? If you're a sincere SWM, 48 plus, your call will be answered. Ad#.1950

YOU NEVER KNOW

Call this cute, friendly, outgoing, athletic DWF, 56, 5'6", with red hair and blue eyes, who enjoys ballroom dancing and playing golf. She is in search of an athletic SWM, 54-59, to share her interests with. Ad#.4392

CALL & TALK MORE

About similar interests. I'm a DW mom, 29, 5'10", who enjoys NASCAR, camping, hiking, animals and car shows. I'm looking for a SWM, 30-35, who would be interested in friendship first. Ad#.5514

FRIENDS FIRST

Meet this outgoing SWF, 20, 5'11", 140lbs., with blonde hair and green eyes, who loves music, reading, movies and more. She'd like to hear from a SWCM, 19-25, with similar interests. Ad#.7585

DUAL TRUST

She's an outgoing, educated SWF, 61, 5'3", who enjoys the outdoors, dining out, music and is in search of a humorous SWM, 50-72, who enjoys life. Ad#.1217

CONTACT ME...

Sincore 40 year old, SW mom of one, 5'8", enjoys long walks, arts and crafts, seeks a kind, considerate SWM, 40-45, to share interests and friendship. Ad#.5236

IT'S UP TO YOU

Interesting SW mom of two, 37, looking for a SWM, 35-45, to share interests, activities and a mutually rewarding relationship. Ad#.1212

GIVE HER A CALL

She's a Catholic SWF, 28, 5'7", who is employed and is looking for friendship with SWM, 23-38, who can make her smile and keep her happy. Ad#.3818

QUIET EVENINGS

SWF, 33, 5'8", enjoys the outdoors, sports, dining out and I am hoping to meet a humorous, open-minded SWM, 27-45, Ad#.4117

TAKE THE TIME

To get to know this DWF, 46, 5'2", who enjoys bowling, dancing, concerts and the beach. She's seeking a SWM, 42-50, for possible relationship. Ad#.4431

BRIGHT FUTURE

DW mom of two, 28, 5'3", an outgoing professional, seeks a SWCM, 30-40, to share family-oriented interests and good times. Ad#.1342

GENUINE INTENTIONS

Professional SWF, 37, 5'8", seeks a SWM, 30-45, who enjoys outdoor activities, dining out, music and more. Ad#.4884

FOUND AT LAST

Get to know this outgoing SWF, 24, 5'9", who enjoys music, movies and dining out. She is looking for a tall SWM, 24-33, to spend time with. Ad#.1116

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Attractive DWC mom of two, 42, 5'5", 122lbs., long brown hair, blue eyes, a professional, in search of an ambitious, successful and intelligent SWM, 32-42, N/S. Ad#.2256

DO YOU FIT THE BILL?

Professional SWF, 25, 5'4", looking to share mutual interests, activities and friendship with a caring, sincere, honest SWM, 23-35, who enjoys movies, dining out and outdoor activities. Ad#.6964

WELL-ROUNDED

She's a SWF, 25, 5'3", whose interests are movies, camping, photography in search of a SWM, 23-30, to get to know. Ad#.6463

LOVE ABOUNDING

Outgoing DF, 48, with auburn hair, likes country drives, movies, watching sports, going for walks and barbecues, in search of a DWCM, to develop a relationship with. Ad#.9300

SOMETHING BETTER

She's a full-figured SWF, 30, 5', with brown hair, hazel eyes, who enjoys music, movies and quiet evenings at home, in search of an employed, humorous SWM, 26-36, Ad#.1667

COMPANIONSHIP, FUN TIMES

Humorous DWF, 45, 5'4", wants to meet and date a nice SWM who has a good personality and sense of humor and no children at home. She enjoys playing golf, gardening and anything outdoors that's fun. Ad#.3329

EXPLORE LIFE

Enjoy life with this SWF, 52, 5'7", a blue-eyed blonde, with a good sense of humor, who is looking for a SWM, 49-56, who enjoys traveling, bowling and dining out. Ad#.3603

LOOKING FOR MY ROMEO

I'm a SWF, 21, 5'3", with short brown hair and blue eyes. I am easygoing, laid-back, humorous and am searching for a SWM, 21-26 to spend quality time with. Ad#.3210

ARE YOU THE ONE?

She's a DWCF, 43, 5'7", with blonde hair and green eyes who enjoys sports, NASCAR, cuddling and would like to find that special SWCM, who wants to be in a relationship. Ad#.1972

NEW BEGINNINGS

Here we have a WWWF, 67, 5'6", who enjoys dining out and movies. She is looking for a humorous SWCM, 55-72, for companionship. Ad#.8629

LET'S MEET

This SW mom of two, 33, 4'10", full-figured, seeks a SWM, 30-45, to share mutual interests, activities and friendship. Ad#.9420

LOOK NO FURTHER

I'm a SWC mom, 34, 5'6" who is new to the area. I enjoy outdoors, bowling, movies, and am looking for a nice, outgoing SWCM, 34+. Ad#.5560

A PEOPLE PERSON

I'm a 42 year old professional SWF, who loves the outdoors. I am outgoing, friendly and am waiting for you, a SWM, to come into my life. Don't keep me waiting. Ad#.1749

READY FOR CRITERIA TEST?

If you are, call this Catholic DW mother, 41, 5'5", blue-eyed blonde, who is a N/S, social drinker. She is looking for a professional, sincere, honest SWCM, 40-53, who is emotionally secure, animal loving, and has family values, kids at home okay. Ad#.1345

ARE YOU CARING?

DWF, 40, 5'6", with blonde hair. I'm an honest, caring, in search of a SWM, 35-40, with similar interests, who enjoys yoga, music and movies. Ad#.3232

CALL ME

SWF, 19, 5'4", 118lbs., with brown hair and blue eyes, enjoys church activities, playing violin, horseback riding and swimming, is looking forward to meeting a SWCM, 19-26, N/S, who enjoys animals. Ad#.2222

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND

DWCF, 65, 5'6", likes bowling, travel, dining out, playing cards, country and big band music, seeks SWCM, 60-70, with similar interests. Ad#.1223

CHANGE OF PACE

Friendly SWF, 70, 5'8", N/S, enjoys meeting new people, playing cards, dining out, gardening, Big Band music and more, seeks an honest SWM, 65-78, to spend quality time with. Ad#.1949

A MIRROR IMAGE

Attractive SWF, 50, 5'9", brown hair, reserved, a professional, seeks a SWM, 53-70, to share friendship and laughter. Ad#.4847

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

DWCF, 60, 5'6', 120lbs., physically fit, N/S, friendly, self-employed, enjoys working out, dining out, the theatre, the outdoors and more, seeks an intelligent SWCM, 50-62, N/S, for friendship first, maybe more. Ad#.1739

EARN MY TRUST

Attractive SWF, 65, 5'2", outgoing, humorous, enjoys good conversation, cuddling and more, seeks an honest, loyal SWM, 64-70, to share life with. Ad#.1533

GET TO KNOW ME

Outgoing SWF, 73, 5'2", N/S, enjoys dancing, bowling, dining out and playing cards, seeks an honest, humorous, SWM, 65-80, with similar interests. Ad#.6037

SHARE MY TIME

Shy and reserved SWCF, 53, 5'2", brown hair/eyes, enjoys movies, country music, fishing, reading, concerts and art fairs, seeking a SWCM, 50-60, N/S. Ad#.4269

FRIENDSHIP FIRST

Shy DWF, 40, 4'11", blonde hair, hazel eyes, enjoys movies, golfing, gardening, cooking and the outdoors, seeks a SWM, 40+, who has a kind heart. Ad#.1261

LET'S GET TOGETHER

Outgoing SWCF, 23, 5'6", N/S, enjoys reading, family time, clubbing, movies, playing pool and spending time with friends, seeks a SWCM, 25-30. Ad#.7588

DYNAMIC PERSONALITY

Fun-loving DW mom, 43, a self-employed professional, enjoys the theatre, concerts, dining out, cooking, reading and traveling, seeks a SWM, 40+. Ad#.2543

AN ANGEL

Catholic DWF, 50, 5', N/S, enjoys family activities, movies, music and dancing, dining out and comedy, looking for a SWM, 45-57, to share friendship, laughter, maybe more. Ad#.6007

YOUNG AT HEART

WWWF, 60, 5'8", dark hair, enjoys fishing, camping, speed boats, outdoors, enjoys looking for a SWM, 58-68, who shares similar interests. Ad#.7411

BE SERIOUS

SW mom, 35, 5'1", blondish-brown hair, green eyes, N/S, social drinker, employed, enjoys cooking and all outdoor activities, seeking a N/S, marriage-minded, honest SWM, 35-40, for a long-lasting relationship. Ad#.1142

GREAT QUALITIES

SWF, 19, 5'4", blonde hair, blue eyes, outgoing, enjoys going out with friends, the outdoors and more, seeks a SWM, 18-28, for friendship first, possible relationship. Ad#.4914

A RARE GEM

Professional DWCF, 46, 5'3", dark hair/eyes, likes stimulating conversation, dining out and fun times, seeking a SWCM, 41-56, with similar interests, for friendship first. Ad#.3865

ROMANTIC

Pretty SWF, 30, 5'8", full-figured, brown hair, hazel eyes, likes music, movies, traveling, seeks honest, employed SWM, age unimportant, to have an intelligent conversation with. Ad#.1115

MUTUAL RESPECT

DWCF, 46, 5'5", shy and reserved, caring, enjoys camping, fishing, walks, nature, animals, seeks warm, sincere, honest SWCM over 45, with similar interests. Ad#.1951

SIMILAR INTERESTS?

Catholic WWWF, 58, 5'4", friendly, employed, N/S, likes cooking, walking, dancing, movies, the theatre, swimming, travel, board games and more, seeks a humorous, sincere, friendly SWCM, 55-63. Ad#.8339

A FRESH START

DWF, 34, 5'5', N/S, good sense of humor, outgoing, seeks N/S, SWM, under 38, for a long-term relationship. Ad#.3471

EASY TO TALK TO

Pretty, full-figured DW mom, 32, 5'9", blonde hair, blue eyes, one child, home owner, seeking SWM, 25-40, who has a good sense of humor and appreciates country living. Ad#.8154

SPEAKS HER MIND

SWF, 37, 5'6", blonde hair, hazel eyes, employed, enjoys sports, car racing, movies, bowling and dancing, seeks sincere S/DWM, 35-40. Ad#.8087

INTELLIGENT

Friendly, professional DW mom, 33, 5'9", enjoys children, animals, the outdoors, seeking family-oriented, Catholic SWM, 32-40. Ad#.5228

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Call 1-900-933-6226

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PLEASE CALL

He's an outgoing SWM, 20, 6', with blond hair and blue eyes, who enjoys movies, the outdoors, sports and is in search of a SF, 18-23, who is fun and caring. Ad#.9876

GENUINE INTENTIONS

Bible study, bowling, bicycling, badminton, music and church are among his interests. A SWCM, 47, he hopes to hear from similar SWCF, 32-48, to enjoy these activities and more. Ad#.6431

THE RIGHT TRACK

Here's a nice SWM, 29, 5'10", who seeks a petite/medium-built SWF, 22-33, who enjoys animals, hiking, the outdoors, aquariums and more. Ad#.1969

BE MINE FOREVER

Active DWCM, 42, professional, blond hair, blue eyes, 6'2", 220lbs., very attractive, enjoys dancing, travel, dining out, movies, camping and boating, seeks similar, compassionate, kind, caring SCF, 36-45. Ad#.2424

HERE HE IS

This friendly SWCM, 36, 5'11", 180lbs., who enjoys cooking, hiking, working around the house and walking in the woods, seeks a SWF, 27-40, who enjoys life. Ad#.7907

DEFINED LOVE

He's a professional SWM, 41, 6', 200lbs., who enjoys going to automobile events, flying and is seeking a SWF, 25-43, for friendship first. Ad#.9381

GET IN STEP

Self-employed SWM, 36, 6'1", 170lbs., with sandy blond hair and hazel eyes, is looking to share friendship with a sincere, outgoing SWF, 26-37, whose interests include rollablading, biking, fishing and camping. Ad#.2173

FOLLOW YOUR HEART

This quiet, Protestant DWM, 26, 6'3", likes outdoor activities and easygoing good times. He is seeking a SWCF, 18-32, who wants a serious relationship. Ad#.4757

WHAT YOU WANT

Professional DWM, 54, 5'6', 150lbs., would like to meet a sincere SWF, 38-58. He's personable, enjoys scuba diving, traveling, automobiles, biking and cozy evenings. Ad# 6337

YOUR OPPORTUNITY

This mellow SWM, 21, 5'8", is seeking a SWF, 18-23, who enjoys hockey, boating and walking. Ad#.5048

CAN YOU RELATE?

This DW dad of two, 35, 5'7", is educated and employed, enjoys the stock market, sports, dining out and more. He is in search of a humorous, honest SWF, under 38. Ad#.9786

THOUGHTFUL

Athletic, friendly SWM, 25, 6'6", would like to meet an intelligent SWCF, 19-30, who enjoys Bible study, sports and more. Ad#.1234

KEEP IT REAL

A kind, humorous and intelligent SWCF, 30+, is welcome to call this attractive, romantic DCW dad, 39, 6', athletic, football-type build with brown hair/eyes, n/s, non-drinker, who values honesty. Ad#.1958

SOLID VALUES

Just a phone call away is this personable, SWCM, 29, 6'2", heavyset, with brown hair/eyes, who regularly attends church. He enjoys the beach, car trips and seeks a pleasant, sincere SWCF, age unimportant, to share interests and friendship. Ad#.3333

A TRUE GEM

I'm an outgoing WWWM, 53, 5'10', hoping to get to know a SF, 44-53, who shares my interests and would enjoy movies, dinner and conversation. I have a street-rod and RV, and I enjoy camping, boating, fishing, walking, bowling and more. Ad#.3661

TWENTY QUESTIONS

This friendly DW dad of two, 35, 5'7", 160lbs., seeks an intelligent, humorous SWF, under 38, who enjoys children and all the gifts that life has to offer. Ad#.1169

THE TIME IS RIGHT

This outgoing, physically fit WWWCM, 65, 6'1", 165lbs., N/S, who enjoys outdoors, shopping and dining out, is in search of an attractive SWF, under 60, to get to know. Ad#.3347

THE KEY TO MY HEART

I'm an outgoing SWM, 32, 6'2", with dark hair and blue eyes, never-married, who enjoys sports, music, concerts and is in search of a SF, 18-43, with an athletic build. Ad#.5605

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST

Professional DWCM, romantic, youthful 46, 6', athletic, enjoys dinner and dancing, theatre, music, the outdoors, seeks SWCF, 35-46, to share adventures with. Ad#.6433

EXACT AND PRECISE....

Retired, 70 years young, WWM, 5'9", 170lbs., is a daily runner, enjoys skiing, mountain biking, ballroom dancing, traveling, interested in sharing a mutually rewarding relationship with a SWF, 60-70. Ad#.1918

MEANINGFUL

DWCM, 41, 6', 185lbs., blond hair, blue eyes, enjoys working out, dining out and more, and is looking for a SWCF, 25-40, for friendship first, possible relationship. Ad#.2957

IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?

Here's an outgoing and agreeable Catholic DWM, 59, 5'10", 183lbs.. He enjoys bowling, fishing, cooking and walking. He's seeking an honest, sincere, slender SWCF, under 57, without kids at home, for a long-term relationship. Ad#.7514

THE TIME IS RIGHT

I'm a college student SWM, 19, 6'2", who enjoys movies, concerts and the outdoors, in search of a down-to-earth SWF, 18-22, with similar interests. Ad#.5432

CALL ME

Sincere SWC dad of one, 39, 5'8", enjoys movies, picnics, boating, dining out and dancing wishes to share activities and friendship with a positive-thinking SWCF. Ad#.1276

VERY PLEASING

Fun-loving, hardworking SWM, 44, 5'5", who loves the outdoors, movies, music and traveling, seeks a SWF, under 42. Ad#.9970

SHY AT FIRST

DWCM, 47, 5'7", enjoys playing golf, country, card games and fishing. He's seeking a serious DWCF, with a good sense of humor, who is searching for peace and happiness. Ad#.2151

SEARCHED HIGH & LOW

Shy, Catholic WWWM, 57, 5'6", 155lbs., is looking for a Catholic SWF, 45-57, with similar interests. He's romantic and loves to go dancing. Ad#.4242

CALL AND WE CAN TALK!

Catholic DW dad, 31, 5'11", is employed and would like to meet a Protestant SF, for dating, possible future relationship. He enjoys the outdoors, cooking, dining out, children and more. Ad#.1866

SO, HOW ARE YOU?

Let me be your friend, perhaps more. I'm a SM, 29, and I love the outdoors with a passion. I'm 5'7, outgoing and friendly. If you are a SF and want to share life, call me. Ad#.1012

MANY OPTIONS

This honest and professional SWCM, 45, 6', with black hair and brown eyes is looking for an adventurous, fit, attractive SCF, 18-36, to be his best friend and companion. He's college educated and enjoys traveling, sports, boating, skiing and more. Ad#.3636

LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Catholic DW dad, 37, 5'10", N/S, non-drinker, enjoys outdoors, looking to meet a friendly, sincere, monogamous SWF, 22-42, for a possible long-term relationship. Ad# 2057

BE KIND TO MY HEART

Outgoing SWM, 33, 6'2", dark hair, blue eyes, never-married, enjoys sports, concerts, movies and music, seeks a tall SF, 18-40, for a possible relationship. Ad#.1126

JUST BELIEVE

WWWM, 45, 5'8", friendly, laid-back, self-employed, seeks an independent, intelligent SF, 35-50, for companionship and friendship. Ad#.8260

EARN MY TRUST

SWM, 25, 5'9", reserved, educated, enjoys working out, outdoor activities and more, seeks a SWF, 22-26. Ad#.3335

COUNTRY LIFE

Friendly WWWCM, 60, 5'10", enjoys traveling, boating, fishing, hunting, gardening, dining out, dancing and the outdoors, looking for SWCF, 50-55, to share life with. Ad#.7590

FRIENDS TO START

SWM, 19, 5'11", enjoys sports, movies, concerts and spending time with friends, seeks a SWF, 18-20, for possible relationship. Ad#.1919

SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST

Good-natured, Catholic DW dad, 57, 5'8", enjoys dining out, the outdoors and quiet evenings, in search of a SCF, moms okay. Ad#.5926

JUST FRIENDS

SWM, 20, 5'10", enjoys reading and writing, looking to meet a laid-back SWF, 18-21, to spend time with. Ad#.7734

FIND OUT TODAY

SWM, 35, 6', enjoys working out, movies, picnics in the park, dining out and more, seeks a SWF, 18-26, who enjoys life. Ad#.2325

MOMS WELCOME

SWM, 57, 6', 175lbs., smoker, enjoys boating, water skiing, classic car shows, movies, dining out and traveling, seeks a slender SWF, 21-33, for friendship first. Ad#.3664

GIVE ME THE CHANCE

Caring, sincere SWM, 26, 6', enjoys movies, camping, dining out and romantic evenings, searching for a loving SWF, 21-30. Ad#.4444

TRY ME

Shy, reserved, Catholic SW dad, 31, 6'1', enjoys hunting, fishing and nights out on the town, looking for sincere, honest DWF, under 31. Ad#.9151

GET TO KNOW ME

Spiritual SWM, 37, 6'1", athletic, employed, loves the outdoors and being with children, looking forward to meeting a SF. Ad#.2341

UNTIL NOW

Reserved DW dad, 30, 6', employed, enjoys fishing, hunting, camping, picnics, long walks and the outdoors, in search of compatible SWF, 25-32. Ad#.9743

ALL OUR TOMORROWS?

Appealing DWCM, 34, 5'10", enjoys hockey and football, camping, family times, dancing and long walks, seeks an attractive, fun-loving SWCF, under 36, for a nice life. Ad#.7152

GIVE ME THE CHANCE

DWM, 30, 6', outgoing, enjoys hunting, fishing, quiet evenings, seeks SWF, over25, who loves children, with similar interests. Ad#.8413

IN YOUR DREAMS

Personable SW dad of two, 39, 6'1", brown hair, green eyes, enjoys coaching sports, long walks, romantic evenings, seeks SWF, 21-48, for sharing of interests and friendship. Ad#.3121

CARING & ROMANTIC

DWCM, 52, 6'1", medium build, a sports fan, enjoys summer outdoor activities, dancing, movies and music, seeking a SWCF, 40+, for possible relationship. Ad#.9255

OH, THE POSSIBILITIES!

Shy, sensitive SWM, 23, 5'7", interests include movies, camping, concerts and playing guitar, in search of an intelligent SWF, 18-25, for friendship first. Ad#.1946

VERY ACTIVE

SWM, 53, 6'3", enjoys classic cars, camping, quiet evenings in front of the fireplace, seeking an honest, loving SWF, 45-58, to spend time with. Ad#.5143

NEW HEIGHTS

SWM, 60, 5'5", 160lbs., likes long walks, movies, the theatre, flea markets, art fairs, sports and more, seeking a special, petite SWF, 55-62. Ad#.2526

MANY OPTIONS

SWM, 33, 5'8", blond hair, enjoys playing golf, water skiing, baseball, hockey, camping and traveling, seeks a physically fit SWF, 25-35, who is goal-oriented. Ad#.1509

SHARE MY INTERESTS

Easygoing DWM, 48, 5'7", 160lbs., N/S, non-drinker, enjoys country life, movies, dining out, motorcycles and antiques, seeks a height and weight proportionate SWF, 38-48. Ad#.6147

BELIEVE IN LOVE

DW dad, 35, 5'10', dark brown hair, brown eyes, outgoing, honest, caring, enjoys evening cuddling, the outdoors, long walks, sports, dining out and family time, seeks SWF, 18-34, with similar interests, for possible relationship. Ad#.3149

A SOUL MATE

Catholic WWWM, 56, 5'8", N/S, non-drinker, caring, enjoys sports, music, exercising, quiet times, good conversation, good friends, seeks attractive, feminine, SWF, 40-55, for a lasting relationship. Ad#.6699

A MUSIC LOVER

SWCM, 45, 5'9", medium build, from Brighton area, likes dancing, bowling, dining out, seeking a SWCF, under 55, N/S, for possible relationship. Ad#.1469

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the NOVI NEWS **Sports**

HEAD START: Josh Tankersley gets early start on lacrosse season–10B

DISTRICT CHAMPS: Expos team tops Tigers in finals of district tourney–10B

HEAT STAY HOT: Novi team tops field at Comstock, advance to Charlotte–10B

PREVENTION: Many businesses are now focusing on health promotion–XB

Aufdemberge just misses

Two-time defending champion finishes 2nd in tight RoadRunner

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

The day couldn't have gone any better for Doug Kurtis and the rest of the coordinators of the 15th annual RoadRunner Classic in downtown Northville Saturday.

The weather was great, the atmosphere was festive and the races turned out to be competitive, making the Classic one of the most memorable in recent history.

Ann Arbor's Laurel Park won the women's 8K race for the sixth-straight year while Kalamazoo's Brad Kirk bumped off two-time defending champion Paul Aufdemberge of Novi to win his first RoadRunner Classic.

Kirk won his race in 24 minutes, 10 seconds to edge out Aufdemberge, who finished second. Aufdemberge actually led with a half a mile left, but Kirk came back for the win down the stretch.

"I've been having excellent workouts and I'm in excellent shape right now," the former Western Michigan standout said. "All I could hear the entire race was 'Paul, Paul, Paul.'

"I usually like to finish hard and I knew Paul had an excellent finish. But I had a long, extended kick in the last half a mile to win it."

Aufdemberge, who led most of the race, said he felt pretty good and felt he ran hard.

"I really expected his kick at the end, but he made a move at a good spot and it turned out he got away from me," Aufdemberge said.

Park led the entire race and finished in a time of 28:44.

Southfield's Alan Vanmeter won the men's masters race while Laurel Cibak of North Muskegon won the women's. Danny and Jeanette Wineland of Swartz Creek won the 5K walk and Nick Liversege of Ada and Sarah Kosteva of Canton won the kids 1-mile fun run.

Along with the races, this year's Classic included a whole day of festivities in the gazebo area in downtown Northville. Northville's own Superdot performed in the early afternoon and Joyride finished the night away later on.

Detroit Red Wing national anthem singer Karen Newman did the honor of singing the anthem prior to the race. *Detroit Free Press* writer Mitch Albom's appearance had to be canceled due to last-minute scheduling problems.

"I definitely want to keep these things going," Kurtis, the race coordinator, said. "It was fun to see the kids get up on stage and sing along with the band. It was nice to see all of the community involvement."

Kurtis said he plans on keeping the event in downtown Northville and hopes to create more public awareness for next year.

"We would like to continue what we have and hope that we can get more people down here next year," he said.

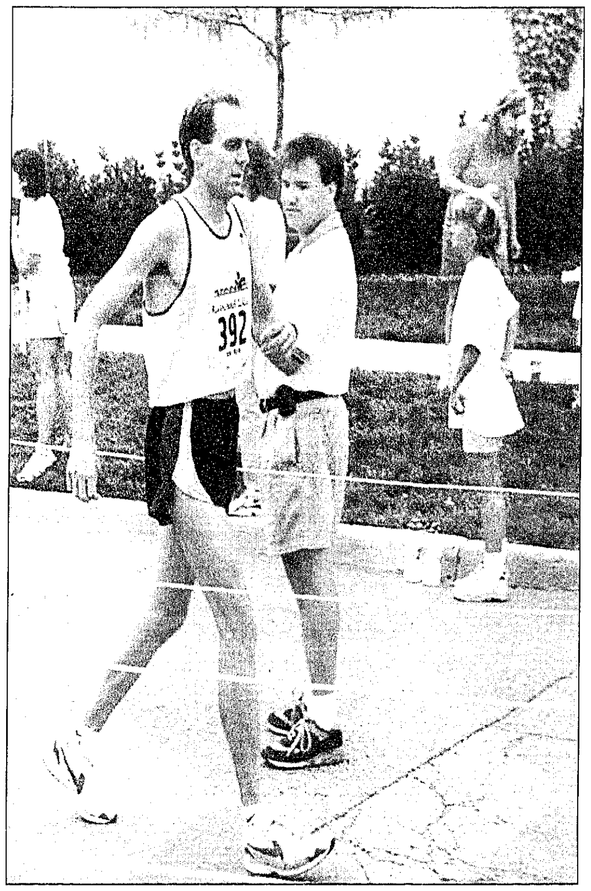


Photo by JASON SCHMITT

Novi's Paul Aufdemberge comes to a stop after finishing second in the men's 8K race.

ASA tourney begins Tuesday

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

In a little less than a week the Novi and Farmington Hills area will be overflowing with hundreds of softball players from all over the country. The Amateur Softball Association girls 16 & under fast pitch national championship tournament begins Tuesday with over 80 teams competing for the national championship.

Novi's Power Park and Farmington Hills' Founders Sports Park will be the game sites for the tournament, which will run through Sunday's championship game. Every team competing has qualified by winning a preliminary tournament. Locally, the Motor City Madness out of Novi will co-host the tournament along with Compuware. Both teams will be competing in the tournament.

This will be the first ASA national youth softball tournament held in Michigan.

"We are very much excited," Metro Detroit ASA board member Scott Mercer said. "This is the elite tournament of the ASA and there will be many college scouts here to see these girls play."

Metro Detroit ASA has never tried to get a national youth tournament before, but decided it would apply to help bring in people to the greater Detroit area. The group had to bid on the tournament nearly 20 months ago.

The tournament draw is scheduled for Monday at the Double-

Continued on 10

Old coach, friend taught this sports writer how to win

Jason Schmitt

The summer seems to be fading away just as fast as my first 11 months here at the Novi News/Northville Record. Many kids are preoccupied with summertime sports and family outings as August is prepared to roll in.

But for myself, my summer suffered a sour note last week after learning that my former tennis coach and good friend had passed away. He had been battling a heart condition for several years, finally succumbing at the age of 73.

Rarely would I talk about a person that I hadn't seen in at least two years, but this was not your ordinary person. Jack Davis exemplified everything that is good in sports. Competitiveness, kindness, the best of sportsmanship, everything young people of today should focus on while competing in athletics.

But for me, he was much more important than that. He taught me how to win, and more importantly, how to win and be happy with myself regardless of the outcome. This wasn't easy for a young tennis player who went through rackets like a Major League Baseball game goes through baseballs. He taught me patience, although rarely did he get a chance to witness it.

A former sergeant in the armed forces, Jack was as good a motivator as there was. You had just one option when you went out on that court and that was to win or face him after the match. And it wasn't a pretty sight.

But for all the motivational speeches he gave in his 12 years of coaching, it was his humor that everyone will miss the most. He was always able to get a smile out of everyone, including me, a red-headed Irish-tempered 15-year-old.

For that I will be forever grateful. And so will my favorite tennis racket.

■ Just a reminder that the National Amateur Baseball Federation Junior World Series begins today here in Northville. Some of the countries best young baseball players will be competing against each other at two different sites. Northville High School will be the main site, while Madonna University will also host some games. Due to the withdrawal of the Norman, Okla., representative, the tournament has been changed to double-elimination format.

■ Not to be outdone, Novi and Farmington Hills will be co-hosts for the Amateur Softball Association Girls 16 & Under fast pitch national championship Aug. 4-9. The tournament will be held at Powers Park in Novi and at Founders Sports Park in Farmington Hills.

■ Just a reminder that with the fall sports season coming up, tryouts for several sports will be taking place in the next few weeks. Check with the Novi athletic department to find out tryout dates.

White Lake course offers challenge to long hitters

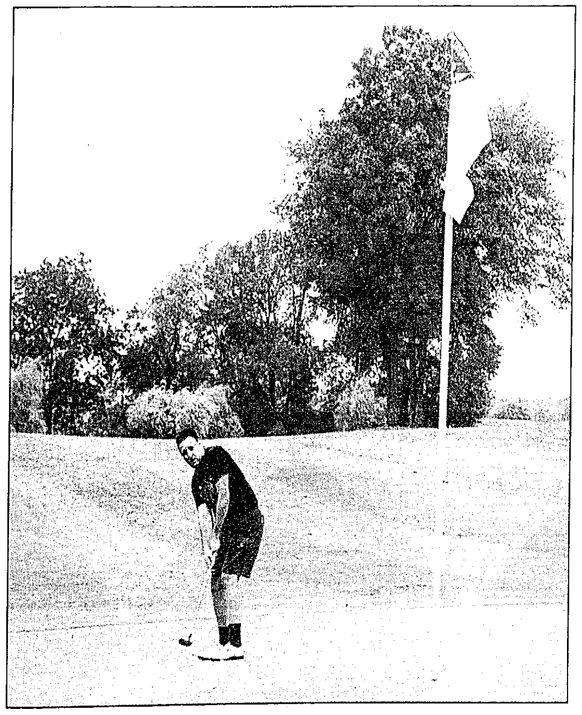


Photo by SCOTT BENEDICT

Michael Marques putts on the second green of Indian Springs golf course.

This week's Novi News continues a series of weekly golf reviews. Our goal is to provide you, the reader, useful information and tips on playing favorite courses in the area.

Indian Springs is the subject of this week's review. If you would like to see a particular course reviewed this summer, please contact us at (248) 437-2011 or (248) 349-1700.

By Julie Kempainen

Tucked away near the center of Oakland County is a jewel of a golf course with something for every level of golfer, and nature enthusiast.

Indian Springs Metropark boasts the longest of the eight metropark golf courses with some of the most challenging holes.

"We have a number of people that come out and golf it for the first time and say that it's one of the best kept secrets in Oakland County," Indian Springs Manager Al Gapske said. "We pride ourselves in the maintenance and the operation itself."

Indian Springs offers a combination of both challenging and easy holes in the middle of a nature area that will get you a glimpse of wildlife you just don't see everyday.

"The difference between Indian Springs and the other metropark courses is that we are the longest," Manager Al Gapske said. "I wouldn't say it's any tougher than the other metropark courses but we do have three very unique holes that separate us from the other courses."

Indian Springs measures 6,688 from the championship tees and it doesn't take long to get to the toughest hole on the course. The third hole measures 442-yards from the championship tees and provides golfers of any skill a challenge.

It takes a long tee shot to hit the center of the fairway. Any shots meandering right set up a second shot blocked by woods. Thick woods follow the left fairway as well.

Approaching the green provides a trick in itself. Guarded by both a left and right bunker, the green is severely undulating. Any shot to the green that doesn't land in front is rolling off the back and creating a big uphill putt.

Indian Springs second signature hole is the 425-yard, par-4 sixth hole. Pull out the big driver on this wide open fairway but be careful approaching the finicky green. A long second shot is required to reach the green. But, even a well played shot from the fairway can end up in trouble

Continued on 10

COURSE NOTES

- Indian Springs is located in White Lake. Follow M59 to White Lake and head North on Ormond. Follow Ormond to White Lake Road and turn East. Signs locate park. Car entrance fee is required at metropark.
- Indian Springs measures 6,688 yards from the championship tees, 6,474 yards from the middle tees and 5,425 from the front tees.
- Indian Springs costs $11.50 and $17 on weekdays for nine and 18 holes respectively. With a cart, the cost is $17.50 and $27, respectively. On weekends, costs are $14 and $21 for nine and 18 without a cart. With a cart cost is $20 and $31 for nine and 18. Senior and junior rates are available on weekdays.
- Contact Indian Springs at (248) 625-7870 or 1-800-23-golf-4.

Expos take out Tigers, advance to regional

The Novi Expo 12-year old team advanced to the AABC Regional in Rockford, Ill., by sweeping four games to claim the Farmington District title. Outstanding defensive play highlighted the Expos efforts as they committed only two errors during the tournament.

In the opening game, Brandon Cigna tossed a one-hitter, striking out three as the Expos defeated the Troy Tiger, 14-0. Jeff Davis doubled, walked twice and scored three runs to ignite the Expo offense. Matt Nickels went 2-3 driving in three and Cigna supported his own cause with three hits and three RBI.

Mark Sorensen threw a five-hitter in the second game as the Expos defeated Concealed Security of Farmington, 3-0. The Expos broke open a scoreless game in the fourth inning as Kerry Kreutzberg's single scored Sorensen.

The Expos added two insurance runs in the fifth. John Peters singled with one out and Jeff Davis followed with another hit. After a double steal, Mike Hart's single drove in both runners to complete the scoring.

Hart continued the shutout string by allowing three hits to post a 8-0 victory over Hartland. Mark Sorensen walked twice and stugled, scoring three runs and Steve Gawronski singled, doubled, and walked in three at bats to pace the Expo offense.

The three shutouts put the Expos in the title game once again facing the Troy Tigers.

After spotting the Tigers four runs over the first three innings, the Expos scratched a run across in the third with the help of three walks. A three run outburst in the fifth tied the score. John Peters lead off with a single, Josh Nowicki walked and Jeff Davis dropped a perfect bunt down third for a hit.

After a pop out, Matt Nickels cleared the bases with a double. After Troy scored a run in the sixth, the Expos answered with three consecutive singles by Kreutzberg, Cigna and John Gazdecki tying the score. Troy pushed another run across in the seventh to take the lead once again but the Expos ended it in the bottom half in dramatic fashion.

Matt Nickels lead off the inning with a walk and stole second. Mark Sorensen then hammered a two run home run to give the Expos a 7-6 victory and their second regional berth in three years. John Gazdecki allowed three runs over the last six innings to get the victory in relief.

The Expos start regional play in Rockford on July 22 competing with 13 other teams from Illinois, Minnesota, and Michigan. The winner advances to the World Series in Puerto Rico the following week.

Submitted Photo

Too hot to handle

The Novi Heat premier 14-year old travel team, competing in the competitive A division of WABA, finished the weekend with a district win in Comstock. The team now advances to Charlotte for the North Central U.S. regional championship with teams from Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The Heat will carry a 34-8-1 record into this weekend's regional tournament.

National tourney is nearing

Continued from 9

tree Hotel in Novi. Teams will arrive as early as tomorrow (Friday) for the tournament, which is expected to have an economic impact of more than $1 million.

Each team will play two games of pool play before being seeded for a double-elimination tournament.

Tournament passes can be purchased in advance for $30 for adults and $16 for children and seniors. Those interested must call Mercer at (248) 347-0400 by Aug. 1 to receive this rate. Daily tickets may also be purchased at the gate for $8 per adult and $4 per senior or child. Tournament coordinators are looking for volunteers for the tournament. Please contact Merrer if you are interested.

The Motor City Madness is a travel team made up of area players, including Novi's Joelle Frantz and Katie Cameron. Both girls were named to HomeTown's all-area first team this past spring. Gar Frantz is the manager of the Madness and Bill Crews and John Fitzgerald are the assistants.

Tankersley leads all-star team

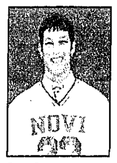
By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

Former Novi lacrosse standout Josh Tankersley led his Team Michigan All Stars to a fifth-place finish at the Vale Shootout in Vale, Co. June 25-July 1.

The team picked up wins over Utah, Colorado 14-8 and California 17-3 before bowing out to Iriquios Nation 12-9.

Team Ohio went on to win the tournament, which consisted primarily of teams from the Midwest and West.

Tankersley started at midfield and scored a team-leading 16 goals this past season in leading the Wildcats to a semifinal berth in the lacrosse state championships.



Josh Tankersley

He has earned a scholarship to play lacrosse at Towson University this next year. Tankersley was named the Michigan Lacrosse Association player of the year and was one of five all-Americans selected from the state of Michigan.

He didn't get involved in lacrosse until he started playing at Novi Middle School.

"It just took a lot of practice," he said. "I pretty much practiced anytime I could. I love the game."

Towson is a member of the American East Conference and is usually ranked in the top 15 in the country each year.

Drivers needed at Indian Springs

Continued from 9

when hitting the green. It's necessary to bump-and-run when approaching the putting surface or risk rolling off the back of the green.

"The green is also undulated and is a challenge to the putters," Gapske said. "What separates us from a lot of the other (Metropark) courses is our greens are a challenge to the putter. There are some undulated and some are sloped and with a misplaced shot your ball will roll leaving you with a considerable putt."

The third unique hole at Indian Springs is the 481-yard, par-5 17th hole. The fairway slopes towards a wooded area on the left on this dogleg left hole. An inaccurate tee shot could run towards woods on left or a sliced shot from the tee will put a golfer in the marshy area on the right.

Even if you were fortunate to hit a solid tee shot there is still work to be done. Two trees in the fairway must be maneuvered. A small white stone creek bed is just beyond the trees. A third shot to the green must be carefully placed on the tiered green, depending on pin placement.

Reaching the dance floor at Indian Springs can be both a blessing and a curse but Gapske doesn't want to scare golfers away. Not all the holes are tough ones.

"The remainder of the holes are very playable, even on those challenging holes, they're very enjoyable," he said. "The variety (of holes) is one reason why people come back. The maintenance and condition of our course is constantly being complemented by our golfers. The par fives, with a well played tee shot, are holes than can be easily birdied as well as getting into trouble easily."

Many holes at Indian Springs will remind golfers of other metropark courses with a wide open fairway, allowing golfers to go for it with big drives. Another similarity is the wildlife. While this golfer was out on the links she came face to face with three sandhill cranes. Not one, but three.

Gapske said the birds have recently returned to the area and he hopes even more will take up residence at the park.

"They started migrating here, just two of them, several years ago and last year they wee joined by the third bird," Gapske said. "They seem to be thriving here and our naturalists keep an eye on them. They won't go out on the fairways but they go about their business on the side of the fairways."

Sports Shorts

WASHATHON SCHEDULED

The Michigan Hawks U-11 soccer team will be having a car washathon on Aug. 1 at the K-Mart on Seven Mile at Farmington Road from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Their sponsors have challenged them to wash 100 cars, so come on out and get your car washed for free (donations will be gladly accepted.) The team is raising funds to travel to tournaments in St. Louis, Mo. and Washington D.C.. If you are interested in being a sponsor, please call Cindy Kuhn at (248) 380-0894.

TENNIS TRYOUTS

Tennis tryouts for the Novi tennis teams will start Monday, Aug. 10 at the Novi High School tennis courts from 8-11 a.m. All 9th-12th grade girls should report on this date. A physical exam and emergency card information is needed to participate. Necessary paperwork can be obtained at teh athletic office of Novi High School.

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Health

the NOVI NEWS
11B
THURSDAY July 30, 1998

Health Column

Health promotion is the future

As if we have not covered the multitude of proven benefits of exercise from many angles in an attempt to increase public awareness with this column over the last couple of years, let's try another one – the economic benefits of exercise. Yes, this does affect each and every one of us.

Health care costs are rising at an alarming rate, representing an ever increasing portion of the gross national product. Medical costs have risen from $247 billion in 1973 to approximately $1 trillion by the end of 1993. Worth noting is the fact that 30-40 percent of that $1 trillion was paid by businesses. This fact, coupled with the Surgeon General's report, (along with the department of Health and Human Services) report, which states 70 percent of all illnesses are due to lifestyle related causes, with one-half of all medical costs attributable to illnesses that could be prevented, clearly points out the need for continued integration of upstream health care programs and incentives. In other words, place some focus and resources on preventative measures versus all on treating and paying for only the downstream illnesses or symptoms. Programs like exercise and fitness, smoking cessation, nutrition and weight control, back care, stress control, etc.

In yet a final set of words, let's put at least as much effort and incentive on preventing as we do on treatment and prescriptions.

There is documented proof of the many positive benefits of this approach. Coors Brewing Co. spent $585,900 on its employee wellness program in 1990. The company saved at least $1.9 million as a result of lower medical costs, reduced absenteeism, and increased productivity. The Traveler's Insurance Co. claims that it receives a $3.40 return for every dollar it invests in health promotion, which yields $146 million in total corporate savings per year. Waste Management Inc. health programs resulted in an estimated savings of between $3,750 and $15,000 per participant, per year. Bank of America realized a return of $6 for every $1 spent on its health-promotion programs. How is that for a return on investment? If that was a mutual fund, we would have a line of people ready to get involved. Better decision making, improved productivity, and morale all are documented benefits. The list goes on and on. Tenneco Co. found employees who participated in a corporate fitness program were 13 percent less likely to leave the company than those who did not.

The bottom line is the evidence pointing to the success of fitness and health programs in improving employee practices, reducing medical and disability costs, and improving productivity is indisputable. Hopefully the insurance companies, medical field and corporate America will continue to notice.

This column was written by Chris Klebba, owner of the Water Wheel Health Club and a Certified Personal Fitness Instructor. For more information, phone (248) 449-7634.

Finding the right doctor for your baby

Finding the Right Doctor for Your Baby

An important task for new parents is the selection of a pediatrician and it should be done even before their baby is born. Delaying the choice can result in confusion during those first days and can leave parents without a familiar face to consult should they face a medical emergency.

It is a decision that may remain with you through 18 years of earaches, sore throats and numerous parenting decisions, so take the time to make a selection that feels comfortable to you. A good way to begin the process is to make a list of potential physicians, then refine the list, and interview your final candidates before making a choice.

Talk to as many sources as you can. Your obstetrician, an obstetrics nurse, friends whose child rearing philosophy and temperament is similar to your own, your hospital physician referral service, or your insurance directory can provide possible candidates for you.

In evaluating the list of potential pediatricians, new parents need to weigh some basic points:

Hospital affiliation can be important for several reasons. It is helpful if the pediatrician you select has privileges the hospital where you plan to deliver so that the baby can be examined before discharge. It is also advantageous if the physician is affiliated with a nearby hospital so emergency treatment is easily accessible.

Look for a physician whose credentials include completion of a residency in pediatrics and who is board certified or board eligible.

Location is another factor to think about. When you are dealing with a sick or injured child, an office near your home is a convenience. Keep in mind that a truly exceptional pediatrician may be worth a longer trip.

Your own schedule will determine what are convenient office hours. If you have a nine-to-five job, it's important to find someone who offers early morning, evening or weekend hours.

Does the pediatrician offer a payment plan or other flexibility in dealing with financial matters? Make sure you understand your insurance plan's requirements and determine if your pediatrician must be a plan provider or participant.

Learn everything that you can about the physician's practice. If you call after the office is closed, will you speak with a pediatrician or a nurse from an answering service? Does the office use pediatric nurse practitioners or are there only pediatricians in the office?

When you reach the interview stage, compile a list of questions that will help you judge whether you and your prospective physician can agree on most issues in child rearing. Breastfeeding, bottle feeding, nutrition, circumcision, and approach to discipline are among the discussion topics that can help to determine your ability to build a successful doctor-patient relationship. A few very simple questions like "What should I do in an emergency if I am unable to reach you?" or "How do you feel about being consulted over the phone?" will give you a good idea if you can work together or not.

First impressions are very important, and if you have reservations, there is probably a good reason. You have to feel comfortable with the office as well as the pediatrician you have selected. If you find that you have made a mistake after the first of second visit, never feel that you are stuck with that decision. Some managed care plans may make it difficult to change but there is always a way. Your child may be the one seeing the doctor, but you are the one who is driving, waiting, and then communicating with the physician.

You and the pediatrician are a team working on behalf of your child. The pediatric office staff help make the team complete. It is your responsibility to make the best, well-rounded team you can. Good luck and choose wisely.

Ian Fox D.O. is on the medical staff at Botsford General Hospital. He is part of Botsford Pediatric Associates located in the Botsford Professional Center South on Grand River in Farmington Hills. The number is (248) 476-1350.

Health Notes

Expectant parent classes

The Oakland County Health Division will offer a series of six expectant parent classes beginning on Wednesday, Aug. 5, at Oakland County Health Division, 27725 Greenfield Road, Southfield.

Classes will be held in the evenings from 7 to 9 and will be taught by public health nurses. There is a $25 charge for attending the series of classes, and you are asked to preregister as enrollment is limited.

Topics will include maternal physical changes, good nutrition, growth and development of the fetus and the baby, labor and delivery, infant care and parenting.

The Health Division advises that you enroll as early in your pregnancy as possible.

To register by July 31, call (248) 424-7042.

Cancer Lecture Series

Providence Hospital is offering "The Prostate Cancer Series," which takes place the last Thursday of each month from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Franklin Racquet Club, located at 29350 Northwestern Highway in Southfield.

The program provides educational information and support to patients with prostate cancer.

• Thursday, July 30, Dr. Dana Ohl, a University of Michigan Associate Professor of Surgery and Urology will discuss "Viagra/Impotence and Prostate Cancer."

• Thursday, Aug. 27, Dr. J.B. Smith will present "Your Prostate and PSA, What Every Man Should Know."

For reservations, contact Diane Thompson at (248) 424-3994.

Grieving Parents

Providence Hospital offers a support group to help parents, family members and friends cope with the loss of an infant because of miscarriage, stillbirth or newborn death. The group meets from 7-9 p.m. on the third Monday of each month in the Doctor's Dining Room in the DePaul Center of Providence Hospital, located at 16100 W. Nine Mile Rd.

The group is lead by a chaplain, social worker and a nurse and discussions include understanding grief, pregnancy after a loss, coping with guilt and how men and women grieve differently.

Providence Medical Center in Milford also offers the same support group program for grieving parents. The group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Providence Medical Center in Milford, located at 1155 Milford Road.

Those who need to speak with someone about grief and loss may call Providence Hospital's Share Line at (248) 424-5342 or (248) 424-3209. A trained professional with return the call within 24 hours.

Education Classes

Straight Talk About Heel Pain

• From 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5 at Providence Medical Center-Providence Park, located at 47601 Grand River Ave.

• From 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12 at Providence Hospital, located at 16001 W. Nine Mile Road in Southfield.

Dr. Milton Stern provides information, self help and treatment suggestions for those who suffer from this common condition.

Immunization Clinics

• From 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12 at Mission Health Medical Center located at 37595 Seven Mile Road at Newburgh, Livonia.

• From 4-8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18 at Providence Medical Center, located at 33133 W. Twelve Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

Cost is $5 per child regardless of number of immunizations given.

Learning About Cancer Seminar

• From 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18 at Providence Hospital, located at 16001 W. Nine Mile Road in Southfield.

The program is designed for cancer patients and their support persons to learn more about cancer treatment, nutrition, managing treatment side effects, reducing stress and more.

Reading to Infants

Reading to infants, even before they comprehend the written word, can help them to begin to develop language and listening skills, according to developmental experts. Introducing the very young to written — and spoken — language is the fascinating topic of Botsford's Pathways to Parenting support group in August.

The Wednesday, Aug. 5 presentation will include tips for parents on how to approach reading to their very young children as an activity that all the family can benefit from and enjoy.

A free support group, Pathways to Parenting, meets 12:30-2 p.m. at Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 46200 Ten Mile Road (just west of Taft). For more information, call (248) 477-6100.

Meeting the first Wednesday of each month, Pathways to Parenting gives moms an opportunity to network with peers, share concerns and obtain information. Every month, the group features lively discussions and speakers from a variety of professions (medicine, psychology, nutrition, etc.). These enlightening sessions cover the gamut of "mom-baby matters" from normal newborn behavior to how to get back into your pre-pregnancy shape.

Veggies

This month, rev up your culinary repertoire with Chef Dean Rumsey as he introduces the wonderful world of "Quick Vegetable Entrees." Held on Thursday, July 30 and sponsored by Botsford Health Development Network, this session will include time-saving preparation shortcuts; easy, low-fat tips to add delicious flavor; and fuss-free recipes that will win over even your most skeptical family members.

The latest presentation in HDN's Food Talk series, "Quick Vegetable Entrees" will be held at the Botsford Center for Health Improvement, 39750 Grand River Ave., at 7 p.m. There is a $6 fee and, because seating is limited, preregistration is required. For more information or to register, call (248) 477-6100.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

The Oakland County Health Division's Health Education Unit and Office of Substance Abuse is co-sponsoring a training for health care workers entitled "Reducing the Risk for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: A Community Approach." The program is designed to provide an educational and skill building experience for those who are concerned about preventing the devastating effects of alcohol on the unborn baby.

Reducing the Risk of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome will be held Wednesday, May 13, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Glen Oaks Country Club, 30500 W. Thirteen Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

To register or for information, call Kathleen Altman, Oakland County Health Division, (248) 424-7125.

Latest news on breast cancer

Botsford physician Robert Boorstein D.O., and Botsford Health Development Network Project Manager Mary Kors R.N., B.S.N., discuss breast cancer and the latest news on treatment options. This monthly forum for women ages 40-60, presents issues and concerns dealing with mid-life changes. Meets from 7-8:30 p.m. Oct. 23. There is no charge. Botsford General Hospital's 3 West Conference Room, on Grand River in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 477-6100.

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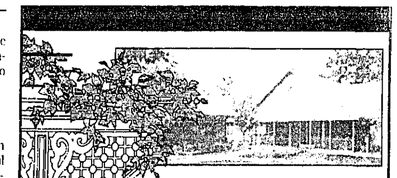

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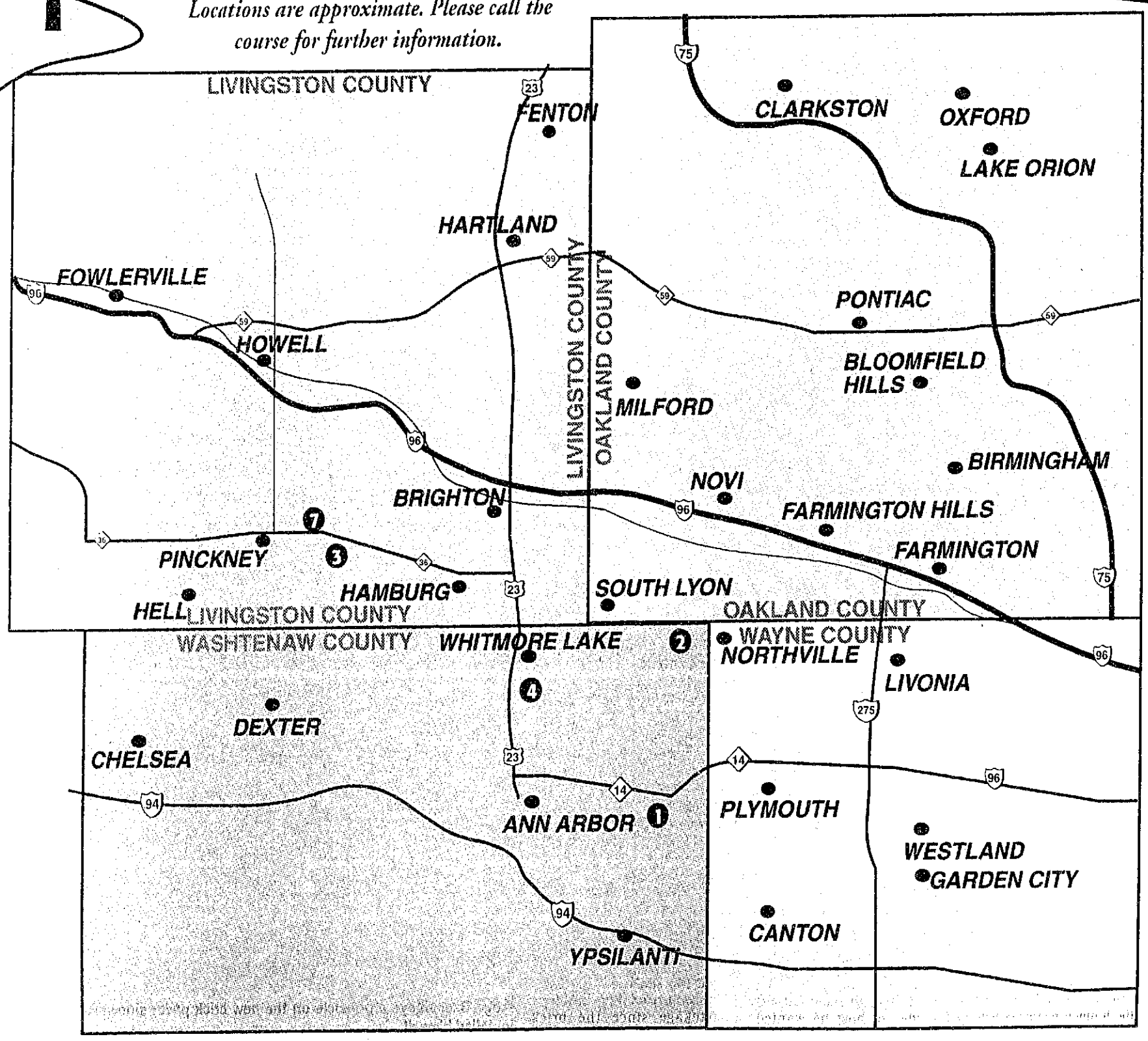

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