

Look inside for your  
**GREEN SHEET**  
 Classifieds

**INSIDE**

**Stolen mail found**

Mail was recovered that was stolen from the U.S. Postal mailboxes outside the Novi Post Office last week. Inspectors are still investigating — Page 6A

**The ol' switcheroo**

As reported last week, Sen. Bill Bullard (R-Highland) will try for a Novi judgeship. Rep. Nancy Cassis (R-Nov) announces she will run for Bullard's seat — Page 3A

**GREENSHEET**



**Family based**

Novi's O'Brien Sullivan Funeral Home has been family owned and run for over 100 years — Page 1D

**LIVING**



**Twirling on ice**

Many local residents beat the winter blues by taking to the ice in ice skates. Find out what you need to get started — Page 5B

**SPORTS**

**Conference champs**

The Novi-Northville Gymnastics team won the W.L.A.A. Conference with a team score of 146.925. — Page 1B

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**Green Sheet Classifieds**  
**Presidential Dollar Days!**  
 + = \$6

# Leaking

**Deerfield Elementary's roof leaks in its first year of operation.**

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
 Staff Writer

A leaky roof at newly built Deerfield Elementary has the school drowning in orange buckets.

With the snow and ice from this winter now melting, leaks in the new school are springing up in classrooms, hallways, and offices.

"Everything is all taken care of," said Deerfield principal Richard Njus. "We really can't do anything until the weather warms up, but the roof will be fixed."

While there are several areas in the roof that need to be corrected, both the school's architect firm Fanning/Hovey Associates, Inc. and its roofing contractors, CEI Roofing Inc., said they will fix the problems at no cost to the district.

"The first year is always critical for a new building in its first year of operation," said AIA, REFP Principal/Designer from Fanning/Hovey, Michael Hall.

"It goes through heating and cooling cycles, it moves, expands and contracts so it's relatively normal that we find deficiencies and we expect some of that."

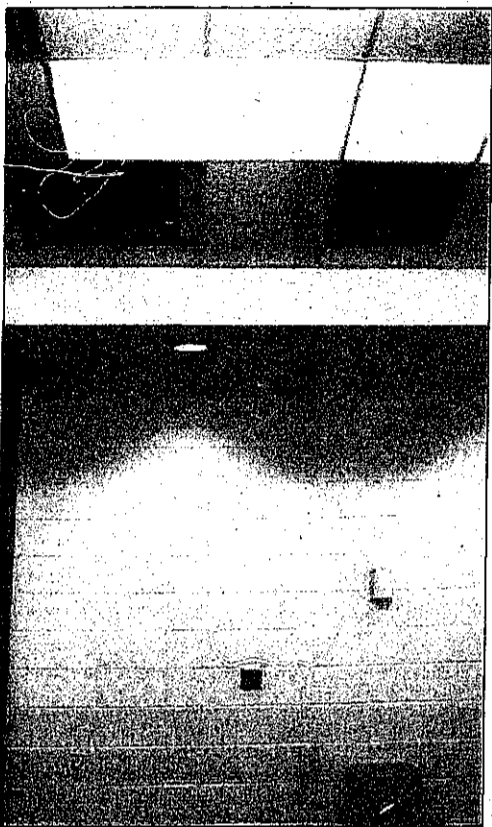
After a visit from an engineer consultant, Hall said it was found that there are several areas that need attention.

The two biggest problems of the roof are the shingles, which were improperly set and the slope, which was positioned too low.

"The top of the roof, where the curve meets the vertical wall was too low, so the water piles up over the height of the curve," Hall explained. "We consider that a design error on our part and we will do the work to extend it up."

Sub-contractor George Cooke from CEI Roofing said they will pick up the cost to redo some of the valleys between the canopy and main roof as well as some of the shingles.

"The shingles run in two directions, with each shingle 36 inches long. When we got to the end of the



Missing and stained ceiling panels and a bucket to catch falling water are evidence of some of the leakage problems that have plagued Deerfield Elementary this winter. This photo taken in its lobby area.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

hip, we had to trim some of those back," he said. Cooke said it could be a possibility that cropping the shingles may have contributed to the leakage.

"It was something that was unforeseen in the construction," he said, "but the building was built according to the plans and specification of the design. If it's an error on my part, however, I'll fix it. But we built it per manufacturer specification."

Cooke and Hall agreed that because they have not had a chance to open up the roof, it is difficult to tell

Continued on 6

# McRobbery

Comerica Bank robbed by man with McDonald's bag

By RANDAL YAKE  
 Staff Writer

He waited patiently in line and when it was his turn at the teller's window, he slipped over a note indicating his intentions to rob the bank.

At approximately 3 p.m. on Tuesday, the white male suspect in his mid to late 20s wearing a dark colored coat and light colored denim pants entered the Comerica Bank on Novi Road, just west of the Twelve Oaks Mall, and got in a teller's line.

The suspect, who was wearing a baseball cap possibly from Home Depot, waited in line and when he approached the window, gave a teller a note saying he was going to rob the bank. According to police, there was no weapon visible to bank employees.

"He enter the back and stood in line for about thirty minutes and when he got to the teller he handed her a note demanding money," Novi Detective Tom Lindberg said. "We don't know how much at this time and he walked directly out of the bank. He never said a word."

Police were on the scene minutes after the call came in and the Novi K-9 Unit searched the parking lot and adjoining areas for evidence.

"He put the money in a McDonald's bag," Lindberg said. "Witnesses said he exited the bank and went to the right. We don't know if he went up to Red Lobster or got in a car in that area."

The Federal Bureau of

Continued on 3

# Task Force picks one high school

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
 Staff Writer

The last hand has been played and it looks as if one high school is in the cards for the Novi Community School District.

After exhausting deliberation by the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Feb. 15, the committee voted 18-4 to move forward and present the school board with a bond proposal that would include an addition to the existing high school.

"Our job, as a committee, is to give the board our best recommendation and decide what has the strongest chances for success," explained committee co-chair Robert Schram. "We have to give the board a clear recommendation and not pose them with a dilemma on the high school."

Before the vote, committee members went back and forth, reviewing previous data as well as last week's community survey. During the discussion, Novi High School principal Dr. Jennifer

Cheal questioned the committee's charge.

"Is our job to recommend what has the best chance to pass or what's best for the kids?" she asked.

Schram said that either way, the task force is doing what's best for kids because one high school has a better chance of succeeding.

"Unfortunately, we don't have the flexibility we'd like to with the library bond coming up in August and the Novi Fire Department staffing issue pending," he said. "This is really about economics and voters will vote with their pockets."

In a previous meeting, Cheal, who voted for two high schools on Thursday, said as the school's enrollment becomes larger, the sense of connection becomes smaller.

"One thing that I think is important at any age, especially high

Continued on 4

# District warns businesses about peculiar ads

**Promotions company has no affiliation with high school**

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
 Staff Writer

A promotions company is using Novi High School to swindle money from area businesses, according to school officials.

The company, High School Sports Promotions, telephones

local businesses selling ad space for posters of the high school's football and basketball schedule. However, Novi High School principal Dr. Jennifer Cheal warns that the team calendars are simply a fraud.

"This is a scam," Cheal said. "We have no association with this poster, nor have we ever seen it. This company never had authorization from us to sell them."

While businesses are under the impression they are helping to promote spirit throughout the school and the community, as the company claims, Cheal said busi-

ness members are being taken for a ride.

"Unless something is written and signed by a school authority on school letterhead, don't participate in it," she said. "It just upsets me because our community is so supportive of our schools and look at all this money they're sending in."

Depending on size, ads run from \$199 to \$599, and are placed underneath the school's team schedule on a 11" X 17" poster.

Novi Police Officer Jared Hart said while no action has yet been

taken, the company is under investigation.

"When I contacted them and asked what affiliation they had with the high school, their response was 'we don't,'" he said. "Obviously, they had no permission from this school district and this week we will do some further investigating and find out what exactly these businesses were promised."

From what Hart has gathered, local businesses are led to believe the posters are placed in area restaurants and in the school.

"I've lived here ten years, and

I've never seen one of these calendars," he said.

Hart said the company most likely uses the Internet to obtain the sports schedules and then creates their own poster, using the school's team colors.

"I wouldn't be the least bit surprised if they're doing this in other communities as well," he said.

Cheal became aware of the situation after attorney Louis Bugbee, from Fried, Watson & Bugbee in Novi, called the high school to inquire about the calendar, do-

Continued on 4

# Rossi Galla receives award for Woman of the Year

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
 Staff Writer

With the near mention of her recent award, the exhilaration seems to bubble out of Loreta Rossi Galla.

As a reputable business owner by day and a songstress by night, the fiery brunette has been named Woman of the Year by the American Business Woman's Association's Novi Oaks charter chapter.

"I'm just so honored," Galla said. "They've been so wonderful and I feel really proud that the chapter thinks enough of me to make me Woman of the Year."

As an ABWA member since 1994, Galla has used her creative talents in promoting the organization through a number of membership campaigns, including "Network Mingle/Business Showcase," for which she has chaired.

Loreta has been an active participant since day one in promoting the mission of the ABWA: to bring together business women of diverse occupations and to pro-

vide opportunities for them to help themselves grow personally and professionally," said Novi Oaks chapter spokeswoman Tricia Corona.

"She shies away from taking any credit to our most successful events and her own professional accomplishments—imagine that, an entertainer who doesn't like attention. How refreshing!"

After 22 years in the music business as a singer, Galla founded LRG Entertainment, Inc., in which she acts as an events coordinator and entertainment consultant, pairing up performers with social functions.

"I do everything from weddings to private parties to corporate functions and graduations," she explained. "I've been on both sides of the fence now so I know what clients want. It's been such a blessing for me because it's all I've ever known and it's something I really feel passionately about."

While Galla may be busy booking her clients, which range from comedians, magicians, musi-

clans, and other acts, she still has time to entertain the public with her own band, Secrets. The 5 piece variety band, which Galla is the lead singer in, have been together since 1982.

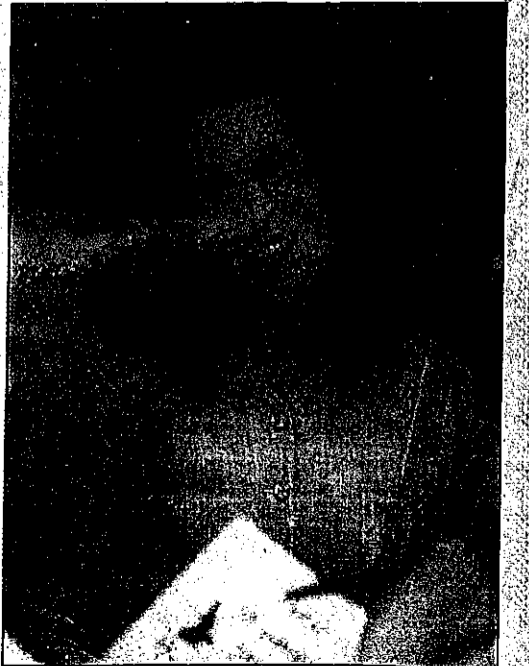
"We do a little bit of everything and not a lot of anything," she laughed. "But my band is just a small part of what I do."

Galla said because she sees herself in some of her clients, she really tries to spend a lot of time with her acts.

"It feels good to do what I can and help someone get off the ground, because I was there once," she said. "Plus, I want to make up what I claim and give my customers good entertainment."

Each year, every ABWA Chapter nationwide selects one member as their Woman of the Year, which recognizes the outstanding contributions and achievements made within the chapter. The Woman of the Year is one of the highest honors a chapter can bestow on a member.

Galla said it was starting her



Loreta Rossi-Galla received the ABWA Business-woman of the Year award.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Continued on 6

# Amateur hockey game turns ugly

February 19th was hockey night in Novi.  
But for one man, when the hockey game became much too combative he cried foul and fled a report that could result in assault and battery charges.  
On the evening in question, two men were involved in a game of floor hockey at the Soccer Zone sports center when a fight broke out between the two. One of the men, from South Lyon, took a number of punches to the head when the game referee decided to let the fight run its course.  
The South Lyon man filed a police report and the investigation into the incident continues.

## Police News

**SMOKIN' IN THE BOYS ROOM**  
A Novi High School student was given a citation and brought to the Novi Police Department after a cigarette smoking incident at the high school on Feb. 12 at about 8:45 a.m.  
The student was apparently inside the second floor bathroom of the high school smoking when the police liaison officer went into the bathroom, enter an adjacent stall and witnessed the student standing on the toilet smoking and blowing the smoke into the toilet bowl.

**BACK LASH**  
After a Novi teen and his girl friend were jumped and apparently assaulted on Feb. 13 at about 8:20 p.m., the alleged victim, and his girlfriend's brother, vandalized their alleged attackers home about an hour later.  
According to Novi police, the two Novi teens were jumped on Lerol street and the retaliation was carried out at a residence on Montgomery located on the city's northeast side.  
Witnesses say they saw the suspect at the scene of the vandalized home on Montgomery with a baseball bat and large stick. Witnesses told police they saw one of the teens use the bat to break windows and smash a door to the residence.  
Police arrested two teens and charged them with vandalism based on eyewitness accounts of the crime. Police continue to investigate the alleged assault.

**NEEDED: WORLD WIDE PANTS**  
An Iranian national was arrested for shoplifting after Twelve Oaks Mall security observed the man putting on a pair of \$127 pants over his own trousers on Feb. 13 at about 8 p.m.  
The man, a Detroit man who spoke very little English, required security to get a translator to explain the situation to the man. The man had two separate identification cards noting his name as two different people. According to police, one of the ID's came up as being of refugee status. That card was forwarded to the U.S. Border

Patrol for additional investigation.

# Robbery suspect left bank on foot

**Continued from 1**  
Investigation (FBI) was on the scene about thirty minutes after the robbery, according to Novi police. It is common practice for the FBI to help on bank robbery cases considering they are federal offenses.  
Police will be checking mall security cameras for clues to the robber's escape. Police suspect that the robber may have picked that particular bank because of the number of people and access to Novi Road and the freeway and the ability to "blend in."  
Police say that particular bank has been robbed at least twice in the past fifteen years.  
Anyone with information or who may have seen a person fitting the description of the suspect leaving the bank, are asked to call the Novi police at (248) 348-7100.  
Randall Yakey is a staff writer for the Novi News. His e-mail address is ryakey@ht.homecomm.net.

LET'S TALK *Jewelry* WITH **GARY S. WEINSTEIN** GEMOLOGIST

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**  
While many people are well acquainted with white opal, black opal is far more rare and less widely known. As with white opal, black opal derives its flash of color (iridescence) from the manner in which its internal arrangement of tiny silica spherules reflects light. The only difference is that black opal's iridescence occurs against a black background instead of white. The darker the base color, the more pronounced and vivid its color. Black opal's beauty is the product of the contrast between its color play and the background. Most believe a preponderance of red and orange is the ideal color. The preferred pattern is "harlequin", which is an arrangement of well-defined symmetrical and asymmetrical geometric shapes.  
Fretless gem purchases, such as opals, should always be handled by qualified gemologists. At WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI, we assure every customer of courteous, personalized service and of course, a world class selection of stones. You will receive correct information and a complete examination of competitive offers. With 3 generations of experience, we are "The name you know, the name you trust".  
Most major credit cards accepted. Count on us for all kinds of repairs including rash and emergency "if you have jewelry you have borrowing power. Bring it in for a fast cash loan."  
PH: All opal is composed of gel silica. It is, therefore, porous.

# Cassisi looks to Senate in 2002

By RANDAL YAKEY Staff Writer

In the era of term limits for state legislators, it is only common sense that Rep. Nancy Cassisi (R-Now) keeps an eye on potential job opportunities.  
Cassisi, who will be term limited out of a job at the end of 2002, is expected to run for the soon-to-be vacated seat of Sen. Bill Bullard (R-Highland).  
Bullard, who confirmed that he would consider running for the 52-1 District Court seat to be available in 2003, is term limited out of the senate at the end of 2002.  
Cassisi confirmed this week that she would be considering running for the 16th district senate seat.  
"Yes, I have been urged to take a run at the senate seat," Cassisi said. "With an open seat, there may be other state representatives within the boundaries that may consider a run."  
Cassisi, who is a member of the both the Tax Policy and Redistricting and Elections Committee, said she will concentrate her duties on redistricting issues concerning state senate, house and U.S. Congressional seats. After every ten year census, state legislators are obligated to look over redistricting possibilities.  
Cassisi said, for now, she is more than "happy" to continue to work for the benefit of the 36th District which includes Novi parts of



Rep. Nancy Cassisi

Northville, Milford, South Lyon, Lyon Township, Walled Lake and Wixom. The 15th senate district includes all these communities plus Highland, Farmington, Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield.  
Another name bantered about as a possible candidate is Mark Shuman, (R-West Bloomfield) though he has not publicly announced his intentions. Shuman has said that he would like to concentrate on duties as house representatives chair.  
Due to term limits, Cassisi is in her third and final term as a state representative.  
Randall Yakey is a staff writer for the Novi News. His e-mail address is ryakey@ht.homecomm.net.

# DeRoche to seek Cassisi's Rep. seat

By RANDAL YAKEY Staff Writer

Novi City Councilman Craig DeRoche has confirmed that he would consider a run at the Michigan State Representative seat currently held by Rep. Nancy Cassisi (R-Now), when her term expires at the end of 2002.  
"It's something I would look at, definitely, if the seat is available," DeRoche said. "There have been inquiries and people have been asking if I would run."  
DeRoche, who has been outspoken on the Michigan Economic Growth Authority's handling of the tax abatement issue, would like to see increased control when it comes to the granting of tax abatements or infrastructure funding grants for companies that wish to relocate or expand

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**Footnotes** Dr. Michael P. Burk

**ANKLE SPRAINS**  
They hurt when they happen and they hurt while they heal. Ankle sprains are common and painful. A person suffers a sprain when ligaments connecting the foot and ankle bones are stretched, partially torn, or completely torn. The injury can occur by walking on an uneven surface, tripping, or participating in an athletic event. After a sprain, the affected area may swell or bruise. A podiatrist will first examine the area to feel for possible damage to ligaments, tendons, bones or joints. An X-ray is taken to rule out a fracture. After classifying the sprain as mild, moderate or severe, the podiatrist will recommend a course of treatment.

Surgery may be required in severe cases. The old adage "it is better to break an ankle than sprain one" is not necessarily true. If the injury is appropriately diagnosed and treated by a podiatrist. As a specialist in foot and ankle conditions, he or she is the most qualified person to help rehabilitate an injured ankle or foot and bring it back to normal function. If you have questions about today's column, or any questions about footcare, your own or a loved one's, please feel comfortable calling **NOVI FOOTCARE ASSOCIATES**, 248-476-1500. Our office is located at 39555 West Ten Mile Road, Suite 307.

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## Company sells ads for sports poster

**Continued from 1**  
 which Cheal had no knowledge of. "My first tip that something was odd was that the company was out of East Peoria, Ill.," Bugbee said. "I don't do things over the telephone, so I asked this High School Sports Promotions to fax me some information."  
 Bugbee was then faxed ad prices, as well as last year's sport's calendar.  
 "Obviously, this is not the first year they have done this," Hart said.  
 In total, eight area businesses, including Pizza Hut, Denny's, Time Warner Cable and Royalty Jewellers, placed ads with High School Sports Promotions last year.  
 "Typically when you hear about something that supports the schools, you want to help," said Bob McCann, general manager, from Time Warner Cable. "You presume your money is going towards a good cause. This kind of thing is unfortunate."  
 Robert Goreff, owner of King Amusements, Inc. in Novi, who placed an ad for last year's football calendar, said he has been receiving numerous phone calls from the promotions company for

years and does not, in fact, have the schools' permission.  
 While the Better Business Bureau did not have any information about the company, it was found that High School Sports Promotions, also goes by the name Hometown Productions and All-States Media, Inc., is a subsidiary of Chamber of Commerce Director Stacey DeLoche said she is aware of the company's solicitations and has already sent a fax to all chamber members.  
 "Our business community is so supportive, we'd hate to see them get taken advantage of," she said.  
 Hart said anyone who receives a call should simply decline and in any case should always double-check when giving money.  
 "I would caution people if they are receiving a phone call from any organization to call before sending a check," he said. "You can't be too certain in today's society and people should not be hesitant to call and check."  
 Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@nl.homecom.net

## Parks and Rec Briefs

**DROP-IN LINE DANCE LESSONS**  
 Treat yourself to an exciting way to meet new people and exercise. Join the 6:30-7:30 p.m. class for basic beginners or jump right in intermediate class, from 7:30-9 p.m. The lessons are followed by an open dance, from 9-10:30 p.m. The class takes place every Friday night and taught by Jean Rowe of Steppin' Time. See class schedule for specific class location or call the Novi Parks and Recreation office at (248) 347-0400.

**COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE**  
 Come join the February Country Western Dance at the Novi Civic Center on Friday, Feb. 24, from 7 until 11:30 p.m. Single and couples are welcome. Dance your favorites: Line, 2-step, Waltz or Cha Cha. Admission is \$7 for Novi residents and seniors age 55 and over or \$5 for non-residents.

## Group feels one high school best option

**Continued from 1**  
 school, is that they feel connected with each other and with their school, but as the school gets larger, there's still, for example, only one basketball team," she said in September. "While we have a great number of athletic programs and club activities, there is still that limit to how many kids can be a part of them."  
 Cleal added that with more and more students, it becomes increasingly difficult to hold assemblies and other school functions.  
 If the final decision is to build an addition to the existing high school, Cleal would be in charge of roughly 2,400 students.  
 Committee member Terri Moho said the reality of the situation in reviewing the survey results is that the people who want two high schools recognize the need for space and are willing to vote for two, however, she believes that those who want one high school would most likely vote against two.  
 "I think it's a very emotional issue for them and one that they won't be able to separate from the cost," she said.  
 Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations Jim


Koster said in terms of second school, "we have to support what we create," and the operating costs of opening a second high school have not been estimated or factored in.  
 "Because, legally, the district can only put one bond proposal on the ballot, the decision has to be made prior to the summer election."  
 While the job of the task force was to implement the future needs of the district, the board does not have to accept the task force's recommendation if they feel it is not warranted.  
 If the board adopts the committee's recommendation as it now stands, the public is looking to see a bond proposal of around \$90 million on June 11.  
 Other recommendations finalized by the committee Thursday night included the Bosco land purchase, technology upgrades, a new pool, and the construction of a new elementary school.  
 The task force will meet with the school board and present them with their recommendations on March 1.  
 Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@nl.homecom.net

## Novi Theatre Briefs

**"Music Man" to be performed by Novi Theatres**  
 Tickets are now on sale for the upcoming Novi Theatres musical, The Music Man.  
 The show, held at the Novi Civic Center, will run March 2 at 7:30 p.m.; March 3 at 7:30 p.m.; March 4 at 2 p.m.; March 9 at 7:30 p.m.; March 10 at 7:30 p.m.; and March 11 at 3 p.m.  
 All seats are reserved and tickets cost \$15.  
 For more information please call the Novi Parks & Recreation Department at (248) 347-0400.

**Raggedy Ann & Andy Auditions for the Novi Theatres' Children's Annex production of Raggedy Ann & Andy** will take place March 13 and 15 at 4 p.m.  
 The Children's Annex is for children ages 10-14. All actors must pay a participation fee of \$125 once cast.  
 Performances will take place May 18, 19, and 20.  
 Auditions will be held at the Novi Civic Center on Ten Mile Road.  
 For more information please call the Novi Parks & Recreation Department at (248) 347-0400.

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**25% - 60% OFF** Storewide!!  
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**SAVE AN EXTRA 20% OFF**  
 All Already Reduced Floor Samples - LIMIT 1 Coupon Per Customer Get Details At Walter's. Valid 2-24-01 ONLY  
 "What You're Looking For In An Appliance Store"  
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 BRIGHTON, CANTON, LIVONIA STORES OPEN DAILY 10AM-8:30PM • BRIGHTON & LIVONIA STORES OPEN SUNDAY 12PM-5PM

THE NOWI NEWS  
 Published Each Thursday  
 By The Novi News  
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 Northville, Michigan 48167  
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 At Northville, Michigan

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**CATERLINE FUNERAL HOME, INC.**  
 For the past four generations our mission has been to meet the individual needs of those we serve. We feel it is important that you are able to ask questions and receive the answers you need regarding funeral service. Our family extends to you an invitation to visit our beautiful facilities and meet our dedicated staff.  
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 Ray J. Casterline, II - Owner

## Roof will be fixed by next school year

**Continued from 1**  
 where exactly the water is entering.  
 "Where the water was coming from, is not always where it's leaking," Hall said.  
 Hall said because most of the school buildings they do are custom designed, each one comes together a little bit differently.  
 "We don't have the liberty of developing a prototype design in a lab," he said.  
 The architects and contractors said repairs on the roof will begin as soon as the weather permits and the work will be complete way before the start of the next school year.  
 "What parents need to know is this building has a five year water-tight warranty so the roof is guaranteed to be corrected at no one's expense," Hall said. "We'll take care of it, it's nothing the school district has to fight about."  
 According to Hall, Farming/Howey's portion of the cost to repair the roof is an estimated \$18,000. CSI Roofing stated that they did not have a complete assessment for their share.  
 Due to winter break, school officials could not be contacted for a total estimated cost.

## Long term construction looms for Novi Road

**By RANDAL YAKÉ Staff Writer**  
 Those who take Novi Road to work or for shopping on a daily basis may want to make long term vacation plans - especially during the summer of 2004.  
 The Road Commission for Oakland County announced the list of road projects that have received federal funding for the 2004 construction season and at least three projects are in store for Novi. The Oakland County Federal Aid Task Force Committee approved the list last week.  
 The list includes the section of Novi Road between Ten Mile and Grand River at an estimated cost of \$9.6 million.  
 According to RCOC spokesperson Craig Bryson, a bridge will be constructed over the railroad tracks.  
 "An elevated bridge will be built over the railroad, and the road will be closed down, we expect, for most of the summer," Bryson said.  
 Besides the Novi Road construction, there will be work done on Twelve Mile Road, east of Novi Road to Meadowbrook, at an estimated cost of \$720,000. Construction on Grand River will also take place between Beck Road and Wixom Road.  
 According to the RCOC, the design phases of both projects will take place next year.  
 "The committee was clearly overwhelmed by the number of projects that it is unable to find funding for," RCOC managing director Brent Bair said. "This certainly underscores the fact that road needs in Oakland County far outpace the available funding."  
 According to the RCOC, the committee would like to have up to \$104 million in funding for additional road work. The total amount received to all the projects in Oakland County will exceed \$24 million. Typically, the RCOC receives about \$24.6 million per year. The committee had asked the federal government for approximately \$60 million for the 2004 construction season.

**Orchard Grove Community Church**  
 Chris Cramer, Pastor  
 Sunday, 10:30 A.M.  
 Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.  
 Located in OLD ORCHARD THEATRE  
 28123 Orchard Lake Road Farmington Hills  
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 More Info: www.antiquest.com/MSM

**NOTICE**  
 Pursuant to state law, a sale will be held at American Self Storage, 24985 Haggerty Road, Novi, MI, on 04/26/01 at 2:00 PM. The following goods will be sold:  
 (Space No. D-190) Big John's Antiques  
 9 Boxes, Two Meter Saw, 2 Speakers, 2 Folding Tables, 2 Table Saws, other Misc. Items  
 (Space No. G-443) Amy Terry, Jack Karobon  
 15 Boxes, 3 Tires, Antique Radio, 2 Tool Boxes, Slat Shovel, Refrigerator, other Misc. Items  
 (Space No. H-1121) Letitia Flores Boxes  
 (Space No. D-226) Jane Pyle  
 4 Boxes, Sewing Machine, other Misc. Items  
 (Space No. F-325) Dennis Kitchan Fred Popper  
 (Space No. H-447) Sommer Allister  
 3 Boxes, 11 Containers, 3 Keyboards, 15 Car Parts, other Misc. Items

**NOVI TOWN CENTER 8**  
 1490 and Novi Rd 344-8978  
 \$4.50 Family Tvl gift 4:45pm daily  
 \$4.25 Pizza & beverage 4pm-8pm  
 \$2.50 Daily Mattress \$14pm  
 \$5.75 Late Show Fri & Sat  
 \$15.00 Screened  
 \$10.00 Screened  
 Unlimited French Fries & 25¢ Coca Cola  
**MOVIE GUIDE**  
 8:00 AM (R)  
 8:35, 8:55, 9:15, 9:40, 10:05, 10:30, 11:00, 11:30  
 12:55, 2:00, 4:45, 7:20, 9:10  
 12:55, 2:00, 4:45, 7:20, 9:10  
 1:45, 2:35, 3:25  
 12:55, 2:00, 4:45, 7:20, 9:10  
 11:55, 1:55, 4:15, 6:50, 9:25  
 12:00, 2:00, 4:20, 6:55, 9:30  
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### Lending a hand

Novi Rotarians (from center-right) Tony Musu, Jerry Krause, and Joe Carrier accept a donation container and a stack of well-wishing correspondence Friday morning at Deerfield Elementary School from students Christa Kondracki and Nirali Makam and Christi's mother, Mary. The students of Deerfield raised about \$900 in relief efforts for the Indian Earthquake.

### Novi Briefs

**St. Patrick's Irish Luncheon & Dublin Derby**  
"Faith & Begorra," you better be wearin' your green on this special day. A great Irish lunch followed by the Dublin Derby Horse Race. The event is Friday, March 16, at noon. Cost is \$3.50. Tickets on sale now at the Senior Center.

**Teams and Sponsors Needed**  
Novi Youth Assistance will be holding its annual Bowl-A-Thon, Saturday, March 10, from 1-4 p.m. at Novi Bowl. The bowl-a-thon is Novi Youth Assistance's major fundraiser of the year to help raise money for summer programs. According to John P. O'Brien, chairperson of this year's event, this year's goal is to raise fifteen thousand dollars. Contact the Novi Youth Assistance office at (248) 347-0410.

The bowlers get pledges based on their score for three games. The format for the bowl-a-thon is a nine pin, no tap. If you knock down nine pins, it counts as a strike. The bowling is free, along with food, refreshments, door prizes and prizes for top money raisers.

Anyone interested in bowling, sponsoring a lane, making a team, or donating a prize can contact the Novi Youth Assistance office at (248) 347-0410.

# 2001 GOLF CLUB CARD

Swing into savings for the 2001 golf season! As a HomeTown Newspapers™ Golf Club Card holder, you'll enjoy golfing at some of the area's finest courses. Your HomeTown Newspapers™ Golf Club Card will pay for itself by using it one or two times. Golf club cards are a great gift idea that keeps giving all year. Stop in today at one of our offices and get your card for scenic golfing adventures at 10 area courses ... FORE!

**\$20** **GOLF CLUB MEMBERSHIP**  
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**SOUTH LYON OFFICE** 101 N. Lafayette (248) 437-2011  
**MILFORD OFFICE** 405 N. Main Street (248) 685-1509  
**NORTHVILLE OFFICE** 104 W. Main Street (248) 349-1700  
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**Holly/Fenton OFFICE** 15225 Apollo Circle (248) 634-8219  
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2000 Sleeth Rd. Commerce Twp., MI. 48382  
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Valid Monday-Friday 10am-2pm, Weekends and holidays after 4pm. 1 time only, unless otherwise indicated. Applies only to 2001 Golfing Season. Excludes league play and outings. Not valid with other discounts or coupons.

**METROPARK GOLF COURSE**  
**Huron Meadows**  
8765 Hammel Rd. Brighton, MI. 48116  
(800) 477-3193  
Valid Mon.-Fri. anytime. No Holidays. 1 time only, unless otherwise stated. Applies only to 2001 Golfing Season. Excludes: League play & outings. Not valid with other discounts or coupons.

**Faulkwood Shores Golf Club**  
300 S. Hughes Howell, MI. 48843  
(517) 546-4180  
Valid: Mon.-Fri. 10am-2pm. Not valid on weekends. 1 time only, unless otherwise indicated. Applies only to 2001 Golfing Season. Based on regular rates, 16 holes only. Golf cart required. Excludes: League play & outings. Not valid with other discounts or coupons.

**METROPARK GOLF COURSE**  
**Hudson Mills**  
4800 Dexter-Pinckney Rd. Dexter, MI. 48130  
(800) 477-3191  
Valid Mon.-Fri. anytime. No Holidays. 1 time only, unless otherwise stated. Applies only to 2001 Golfing Season. Excludes: League play & outings. Not valid with other discounts or coupons.

**Lakeland Hills Golf Course**  
5119 Page Ave. Jackson, MI 49201  
(517) 764-5292  
Valid Mon.-Fri. 10am-2pm. Weekends & Holidays after 4pm. 1 time only, unless otherwise indicated. Applies only to 2001 Golfing Season. Excludes: League play & outings. Not valid with other discounts or coupons.

**REDEMAN FARMS GOLF CLUB**  
555 S. Dancer Rd. • Chelsea, MI 48118  
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**Indian Springs**  
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Valid Mon.-Fri. anytime. No Holidays. 1 time only, unless otherwise stated. Applies only to 2001 Golfing Season. Excludes: League play & outings. Not valid with other discounts or coupons.

**Oak Lane Golf Course**  
800 N. Main St. • Webberville, MI 48892  
(517) 521-3900  
Valid Mon.-Fri. 12pm-2pm. Weekends & Holidays after 3pm. 2 times only. Applies only to 2001 Golfing Season. Rental of power cart required. Excludes: League play & outings. Not valid with other discounts or coupons.

**Whispering Pines Golf Course**  
2500 Whispering Pines Dr. Pinckney, MI 48169  
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For more information or to order by phone call Carolyn @: 1-888-999-1288 ext.226

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**2001**

Novi is filled with people and places that stand out from the crowd. We want to know what readers think is head-and-shoulders above the rest. Take a few moments to make your nominations for the Best of 2001.

Please check which category the entry falls in during voting:

- Daily media
- MIRecord Times
- Northville Record
- Novi News
- South Lyon Herald
- Canton Independent

**BEST FOOD TYPES**

- Appetizer
- Bussert
- Sandwich
- Main dishes
- Salad
- Soup
- Staple
- Steak
- Pizza
- French fries
- Ice cream

**BEST SERVICE PEOPLE**

- Bank teller
- Teacher
- Barber
- Deafist
- Car dealer
- Doctor
- Veterinarian
- Hair stylist
- Waiter
- Waitress
- Receptionist
- Insurance agent
- Chiropractor
- Pharmacist
- Florist
- Police officer
- Jeweler
- Travel agent
- Accountant
- Fast food employee
- Librarian
- Governmental employee
- Shopped official
- Firefighter
- Snow removal person

**BEST RESTAURANTS**

- Italian food
- Family restaurant
- Fast food chain
- Family dining
- Coffee shop
- Bar
- Bakery

**BEST SHOPPING LOCATIONS**

- Appliances
- Books
- Video store
- Hardware
- Bookstore
- Men's store
- Women's store
- Shoe store
- Lawn equipment
- Specialty shop or gift shop
- Pharmacy
- Furniture
- Auto parts
- Carpet
- Home improvement
- Hardware
- Crocery
- Musical Store
- Auto dealership

**BEST MEDIA OUTLETS**

- Television station
- News reporter
- Radio station
- Radio personality

**MISCELLANEOUS BEST-OFs**

- High school rivalry sports team
- Local band
- Rock 'n' roll club/bar
- Place to take a date
- Most romantic location
- Movie theater
- Hotel/motel
- Place to have fun
- Seafood restaurant
- Golf course
- Park
- Festival

**BEST SERVICE OUTLETS**

- Bank
- Gas station or quick mart
- Hair salon
- Insurance agency
- Interest provider

**CONTEST RULES**

- Original newspaper entry blanks must be used. Photocopies or facsimiles cannot be accepted.
- All entries must include the entrant's name, address, daytime telephone number and signature. Incomplete entries do not count.
- Employees and relatives of HomeTown Newspapers are not eligible to enter.
- A winner must be reached on or before noon, March 15, 2001. Entry may also be dropped off in person at the office of the HomeTown News Herald, MIRecord Times, Northville Record, Novi News or South Lyon Herald. Results of the contest will be announced in a special HomeTown Newspapers supplement.
- Prizes must be located within the community served by the Novi News. Each community's winners are recognized separately.
- Expired entries should be sent to:

Novi News  
620 Mill Colony, editor  
104 W. Main Street  
Novi, MI 48167  
(248) 347-0410

### NOTICE CITY OF NOVI PARK DEVELOPMENT BID ADDENDUM #3

Intent: This addendum has been issued to modify and/or interpret the specifications for the Park Development project. Unless otherwise indicated, the information contained within this Addendum shall take precedence over anything contrary in the original specifications and shall hereinafter be considered as part of the Park Development bid package.

Response: The Contractor shall verify receipt of this Addendum in the Bid Proposal Form.

Contents: Included in this Addendum is one (1) written addendum description. Extension of bid due date: The bid due date for the Park Development Project has been extended to 3:00 p.m., prevailing eastern time, Wednesday, March 14, 2001.

A pre-bid has been scheduled for 2:00 p.m., prevailing eastern time, Wednesday, February 28, 2001 at the City of Novi (Council Chambers), 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375.

CAROL J. KALINOVIK, PURCHASING DIRECTOR  
(2-22-01 NR/NN 1032508)

### NOTICE - CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR BIDS PAVEMENT STRIPING

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for Pavement Striping according to the specifications of the City of Novi. Bid packages are available at the Office of the Purchasing Director.

Sealed bids will be received until 3:00 p.m., prevailing eastern time, Thursday, March 22, 2001, at which time proposals will be opened and read. Bids shall be addressed as follows:

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

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

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

CAROL J. KALINOVIK, PURCHASING DIRECTOR  
(248) 347-0448  
(2-22-01 NR, NN 102974)

### NOTICE - CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR BIDS UNIFORM CLEANING SERVICE CONTRACT

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for Uniform Cleaning Service Contract according to the specifications of the City of Novi. Bid packages are available at the Office of the Purchasing Director.

Sealed bids will be received until 3:00 p.m., prevailing eastern time, Wednesday, March 14, 2001, at which time proposals will be opened and read. Bids shall be addressed as follows:

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

All bids must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED "Uniform Cleaning Service Contract" BID AND MUST BEAR THE NAME OF THE BIDDER.

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

CAROL J. KALINOVIK, PURCHASING DIRECTOR  
(248) 347-0448  
(2-22-01 NR, NN 102974)

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**McLaughlin's of Southgate**  
10001 LUMBERHILL DR. S.W.  
248-344-2551 • 42200 Grand River, Novi  
(1 block E. of Novi Rd.)

**McLaughlin's of Southgate**  
10001 LUMBERHILL DR. S.W.  
734-285-5454 • 14405 Dixie, Southgate  
(2 blocks North of E. 14th Road)

NAME:  
Kathy Wilcox

OCCUPATION:  
Pet Store Owner

DEPENDENTS:  
2 Calico Cats  
3 Cocker Spaniels  
2 Geckos  
6 Box Turtles  
1 Husband

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### Obituaries

**DONALD G. HAFFNER**  
Donald G. "Duck" Haffner, 68, of Novi died Feb. 15 in Livonia. He was born in 1932.  
Mr. Haffner was a 1950 graduate of Hirsch High School in Chicago and a 1954 graduate of Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill. He was a former resident of Mansfield, Ohio, and past president and member of the Mansfield Exchange Club. Mr. Haffner was also an elder at the First Presbyterian Church of Northville.  
He is survived by his wife, Bonnie; daughters, Sandy Haffner, Candace (Brian) Burks, and Laura (Brian) Blessing, son, Don of Austin, Texas; sister, Jean Wright; and grandchildren, Lindsey, Rissy, Jenna, Connor, Hunter, Morgan, and Lauren Grace.  
A memorial service was held Thursday, Feb. 22 at Hallowell and James Funeral Home, LaGrange, Ill.

**WILLIAM E. HEATH**  
William E. Heath, 67, died Feb. 15 at his residence in Novi. He was born Feb. 29, 1933 in Willis, Mich., to his late parents, Guy W. and Czeszenta E. (Minnie) Heath.  
Mr. Heath was a 23-year resident of Northville before moving to Novi. He retired in 1985 after 33 years as an educator in the Plymouth-Canton School District. His memberships included the National Education Association and the Michigan Education Association.  
He is survived by his wife, Marion L. of Novi; son, Clark E. of Royal Oak; two sisters, Monica J. Hovatter of Willis and Mary M. Schutz of Inlay City; and brother, Ronald C. of Byron.  
A private family service was held at Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor. The Rev. David Bevington of Angela Hospice officiated. Entombment followed in the mausoleum at Washtenong Memorial Park. Announcement of a memorial service will be made at a later date.  
Arrangements were made by Northrop-Sassanum Funeral Home of Northville.  
Memorials to Angela Hospice would be appreciated by the family.

**ELIZABETH J. D. ROSS**  
Elizabeth Jean Donn Ross, 76, died Feb. 18 in Novi. She was born in Detroit May 17, 1924, to her late parents, Hector and Jessie (Perguson) Ross.  
Memorial contributions to the Hospice of Michigan would be appreciated by the family.

**ELAINE A. WATSON**  
Elaine A. (Anthony) Watson, 77, of Farmington Hills died Feb. 17 in Providence Hospital of Southfield. She was born Sept. 2, 1923, in Indianapolis, Ind.  
Mrs. Watson was a member of Orchard United Methodist Church and a life member of Plum Hollow Golf Club in Southfield.  
She is survived by her husband, Sheldon "Andy" of Farmington Hills, whom she married in January 1944 in Indianapolis; three sons, Ronald (Donna) of Novi, Sheldon "Andy" Jr. (Cynthia) of Farmington Hills, and Steve (Melissa) of Livonia; daughter, Sally (Patrick) Keyes of Rochester Hills; and seven grandchildren.  
Services were held on Wednesday, Feb. 21 at Orchard United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills. The Rev. Carol J. Johns officiated.  
Interment was held at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens in Novi.  
Arrangements were made by Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home Inc. of Farmington Hills.  
Memorial contributions to the American Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

**Ms. Ross was a bookkeeper in the tooling industry. She is survived by two nephews, James (Sandie) Ross and Jerry (Bernice) Ross; one niece, Janis (John) Burkhardt; and a sister, Grace Ross of Novi. Services will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22 at Casterline Funeral Home Inc., 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. Pastor Walter Dickinson of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia will be officiating. Interment will be in Cadillac Memorial Gardens-West in Westland. Memorial contributions to the Hospice of Michigan would be appreciated by the family.**

**Ms. Ross was a bookkeeper in the tooling industry. She is survived by two nephews, James (Sandie) Ross and Jerry (Bernice) Ross; one niece, Janis (John) Burkhardt; and a sister, Grace Ross of Novi. Services will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22 at Casterline Funeral Home Inc., 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. Pastor Walter Dickinson of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia will be officiating. Interment will be in Cadillac Memorial Gardens-West in Westland. Memorial contributions to the Hospice of Michigan would be appreciated by the family.**

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### Library Lines

**LIBRARY HOURS**  
The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The library is located at 45245 W. Ten Mile Road, just east of Taft. For more information, call 349-0720.

**SENIOR BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**  
Senior book lovers are reading non-fiction books about Switzerland this month. The senior group meets in the library meeting room on Thursday, March 8 at noon.

**BUYING A PERSONAL COMPUTER**  
Buying a computer can be a daunting process. Richard Truxall cuts through the technical jargon to help you identify the computer that best fits your needs on Tuesday, Feb. 27, from 7-8:30 p.m. Please register in advance for all Internet classes in person or by calling the library.

**INTERNET INTRODUCTION FOR SENIORS**  
Novi residents 60 and older are invited to discover how the Internet works, practice using the Netscape Navigator browser, and learn about search engines on Wednesday, March 7, from 1-3 p.m. The class includes interactive discussion and hands-on practice.

**INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNET FOR ALL AGES**  
Get acquainted with Internet history, terminology, and searching techniques on Wednesday, March 7, from 7-8:30 p.m. The class includes a question and answer period and hands-on practice.

**ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**  
Our March selection is "Princess: A True Story of Life Behind the Veil in Saudi Arabia" by Jean Sasson. The group meets Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room. Drop-ins are welcome.

**AARP TAX WORKSHOP**  
Registration forms for Spring Storytimes are now available in the library. Spring Storytime registration runs until Feb. 24. Spring Storytimes start March 12.

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

Novi judgeship will benefit who?

Term limits will keep Sen. Bill Bullard (R-Highland) from returning to the senate in 2003. Because of that, Sen. Bullard will have to find employment elsewhere.

Benefit from having this particular judgeship. The benefit is all Sen. Bullard's. Sen. Bullard's 15th Senate District includes Novi, Commerce, Highland, Lyon, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Milford, South Lyon, Walked Lake, West Bloomfield, Wixom, Wolverine Lake and a northern section of Northville.

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The judgeship is in desperately need in Novi. The Novi district court is the fastest growing court in the state and has more cases per judge than any other in Michigan.

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GOVERNMENT

Per reader request, we have compiled a list so you can get in touch with your local and regional senators and representatives. Their accessibility allows you as readers to voice your concerns directly and allows them to better represent their districts. If you feel we have missed anyone, contact us at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113.

UNITED STATES SENATE

Carl Levin (D-Detroit) 459 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. (202)-224-6221 senator2@levin.senate.gov

Local office: 1810 Michigan National Tower | 24 W. Allegan Lansing, MI 48933 (517)-377-1507

Debbie Stabenow (D-Lansing) 476 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. senator@stabenow.senate.gov

Local office: 280 East Saginaw East Lansing, MI 48823 (517)-303-1760

UNITED STATES CONGRESS

Joe Knollenberg (R-Bloomfield) 2349 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington D.C. (202) 225-5802

Local office: 30833 Northwestern Hwy. #100 Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248)-851-1366

MICHIGAN SENATE

Bill Bullard Jr. (R-Highland) State Capitol P.O. Box 30036 Lansing, MI 48909-7536 (888)-736-2855 senbullard@senate.state.mi.us

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Nancy Cassils (R-Novi) State Capitol P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI (888)-38-NANCY nacsas@house.state.mi.us

COUNTY COMMISSION

Hugh Crawford (R-Novi) 1200 North Telegraph Pontiac, MI 48341 (248)-469-5079 hughcrawford@msn.com

Nancy Dingeldey (R-Wixom) 2220 Euna Road Wixom, MI 48393 (248)-669-5921 dingeldeyn@co.oakland.mi.us

LETTERS

Traffic control not the only answer

When one looks at the composite picture depicted by three items in the Feb. 8 Novi News, one is able to draw a few conclusions.

Item one: "Crime... up..." Solving the serious crimes seems to be static. Item two: "Police News": Indecent exposure, drunks, stolen mailboxes, etc., consume a lot of our officers' time without any appreciable benefits. Item three: "Police Increase traffic stops."

With the time spent issuing traffic citations and the ensuing court appearances, our officers hardly have time to investigate those crimes that are much more threatening to our security and well-being.

My criticism is leveled with mixed feeling. I should probably appreciate the increased revenue that our police officers obviously generate. The speed trap near Meadowbrook, alone, must produce thousands of dollars annually. Traffic control is unquestionably more profitable than arresting burglars, child molesters, shop lifters, etc.

This increase in traffic citations does not necessarily reflect an increase in traffic. It most likely indicates an abundance of police officers with a lot of unproductive time on their hands.

Hopefully the revenue the tickets produce offsets the cost of their wages, benefits and pensions. More importantly, if and when I ever have a real emergency, the officer who could, perhaps, save my family from tragedy isn't preoccupied issuing a speeding ticket for 40 mph in a 30 mph zone.

Patrick M. Downey Novi

Install a water main, re-do an existing sewer, and it still is not acceptable. I commented at council several months ago as to how lovely it looked... how flat, how even it all was, never once dreaming that again the storm sewer syndrome had not been addressed. The 1200 block of East Lake - generally speaking, the non-frontal (fake) owners - have had flooding problems with water flow since Hickory Woods Elementary School was allowed to direct the flow of water to areas in which it had never before been located.

Wouldn't one think that the hundreds of thousands of dollars spent in repaving would have acknowledged previous problems, corrected same, and addressed drainage under the new road? I have been accused on many occasions of not being an engineer. How could the city's consulting engineers have not asked East Lake residents to identify problems prior to even breaking ground in the hopes of alleviating these problems upon completion of the project? How many times are we going to re-do... re-do and upgrade... before we solve the problems that have existed prior to?

JCK has told the council that current standards must be adhered to and, again, it appears that current standards simply cannot work on projects subdivided in the early 1900s. One East Lake resident declared to the council that JCK has done such a wonderful job. Is he now working in the direction of solving his neighbor's problems that were created by JCK or will he continue to remain mute?

James E. Korte Novi

Step back to see both sides

There was an experiment done in which two people on opposite sides of a stage were shown a ball from a person in the middle of the stage, and they were asked by that person what color the ball was. The person on one side said it was white and the person on the other side said it was black. A great disagreement arose between the two because each believed he was not lying and was not wrong. Only the person in the middle saw the object of contention for what it really was - a ball painted one-half white and one-half black, which each person saw from a different angle.

Patrick M. Downey Novi

front of your store. This month's "Cosmo" sports the title "Make him crave you... the look that will have him quivering with desire." I wonder if CVS management would be comfortable exposing their young children to this type of soft pornography.

I would allow my children into your store and do not make purchases at the front counter as I find the irresponsible display of such publications objectionable. However, on my last visit to pick up prescriptions, the cashier register at the pharmacy wasn't working and I had to check out up front.

I would appreciate the courtesy of a reply from someone at CVS responsible for customer service. John S. Parker, DVM Novi

Let's take a poll

Sex education is a hot topic in Novi and Northville schools. There are several good reasons why the school board should question the comments exhibited at the recent hearings. Certain groups have learned to organize their attack and try to sound the opposition. That's a sure sign of a weak argument.

Parents who are only sixth to ninth grade students have not yet confronted the problems of their children dating and experimenting with sex. Yet, they are giving advice to teachers and administrators who have had experience in the trenches with hundreds of students.

Bob Moreillon Novi

Residents deserve news on Channel 13

A good city administration is one that communicates well with its residents and taxpayers. The cities of Farmington, Farmington Hills, and other communities around the city of Novi seem to be doing reasonably well communicating with their residents and taxpayers.

Bob Moreillon Novi

Share your opinions

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

HomeTown COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

More finagling by legislators

Remember how our legislative masters in Lansing finagled themselves a 36 percent salary increase?

Next, the House (wink, wink, nod, nod) voted 100-0 to turn down the SOCC recommendation, knowing full well the law requires both houses of the legislature to reject any increase and figuring the Senate would take the heat. Boastful press releases from public-spirited... and wholly disingenuous... representatives promptly filled the fax machines of newspapers statewide.

Finally, the Senate - wanting the pay hike but not fully in the bag by its House vote - managed to convene for at least 20 minutes on the last day it could vote to reject, but somehow never managed to hold a vote. Result: The gigantic pay increase went into effect.

Now it turns out that the bill is going to have to be paid. It comes to \$2.8 million just for everybody's \$20,400 salary increase this budget year, not counting increases in future legislative pensions that run on and on. And the question is: how?

Police brief didn't make sense

On Page 2 of Novi News, Feb 8th edition, the story about a Midway Drive resident who suffered a cold pizza because his mailbox got stolen doesn't make very good sense. Where else he expect the pizza to be delivered to his mailbox? What if he had to call 911 to find the Fire Department, respond to his mailbox? Why doesn't he put his house number in large legible numbers and contrasting colors - plainly on the front of the house?

Doug McCormick Novi

There has been plenty of time for debate

I'm writing in response to an editorial appearing in your publication, which urged people to help defuse the new concealed weapons law passed by our legislature.

Share your opinions

HomeTown COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

There are two options. Either the legislature can find \$2.8 million in savings or it can pass a supplemental appropriation bill that amounts to taking money directly out of the pockets of taxpayers. Guess which they'll do.

Legislative leaders are putting up a brave front. Dan DeCrown, the Senate Majority leader, is quoted in newspaper reports as saying he's confident the money can be found without legislative staffers being laid off. The 35-member Senate's share of the bill is around \$750,000. House Speaker Rick Johnson is also quoted as saying there's enough in the House budget to cover the expense. (The 110-member House faces a \$2.1 million bill for the pay increase.)

Now it turns out that the bill is going to have to be paid. It comes to \$2.8 million just for everybody's \$20,400 salary increase this budget year, not counting increases in future legislative pensions that run on and on. And the question is: how?

Joseph Toth Novi

Students should be informed about reality

I'd like to express my disappointment in the January 25th front-page article and the corresponding editorial on Novi Public Schools' planned sex education program. I don't believe the issue is about whether program is better, abstinence-based or abstinence-only. Most parents want to know what exactly our children will be taught in this program.

Joseph Toth Novi

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Joseph Toth Novi

HomeTown COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Grid of staff photos and names for Novi News. Includes Lisa Dranginis, Ronnie Sexton, Jan Haskell, Kelli Cooley, Stephanie Fardyce, Randal Valkey, Mike Molott, Wendy Plannan-Mitzel, Colby Cavaliere, John Heider, Derlese Artinian, Jan McMann, and Marcia Cramos. Each entry includes a photo and contact information.

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## Subsidiary continues expansion

By RANDAL YAKEY  
Staff Writer

With the recent down turns in the automotive industry, one Novi auto supplier is bucking the trend and looking forward to an expansion that will include new opportunities this spring.

Cosworth Technology Inc. has recently completed a \$1.5 million expansion of engineering capabilities at its U.S. based operations on Vincent Court in Novi.

"We have just completed the expansion," Cosworth Technology (CT) Communications and Marketing director Danille Williams said. "We are going to be hiring but I am not sure of the number right now."

The expanded engineering center will include a testing chamber for engine seals. The new Variable Temperature SHED (Seal Housing for Evaporative Determination) and all-wheel-drive rolling dynamometer at CT's Novi location were benefited from the \$1.5 million investment. The rolling dynamometer is a braking device, exclusive to the United States, to enhance breaking on small compact cars and lightweight trucks.

Cosworth is a subsidiary of the Audi AG automotive group based in North Hampton, England, and a major supplier of Powertrain and engineering services to Jaguar of North America, Ford Motor Co., General Motors and Harley-Davidson.

According to Williams, Cosworth will be looking for new employees at the job fair for the Society for Automotive Engineers (SAE) World Congress and Exposition held at Cobo Hall during the week of March 5-8.

Randal Yakey is a staff writer for the Novi News. His e-mail address is ryakey@ht.homecom.net

## Red Cross Blood Drive

### Blood Donations Needed

On Thursday, March 22 the Novi Woods PTO, together with The American Red Cross, will be sponsoring a blood drive at Novi Woods Elementary School on Taft Road.

Please help save a life and donate blood between 2-8 p.m. in the school gymnasium. It takes one hour of your time and a "kids activity center" will be available to supervise your children while you donate.

Schedule an appointment by calling the school office at (248) 449-1230.

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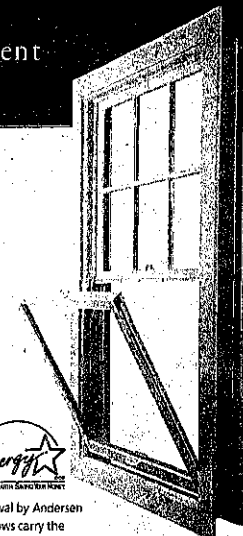


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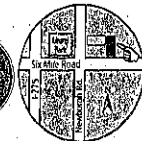
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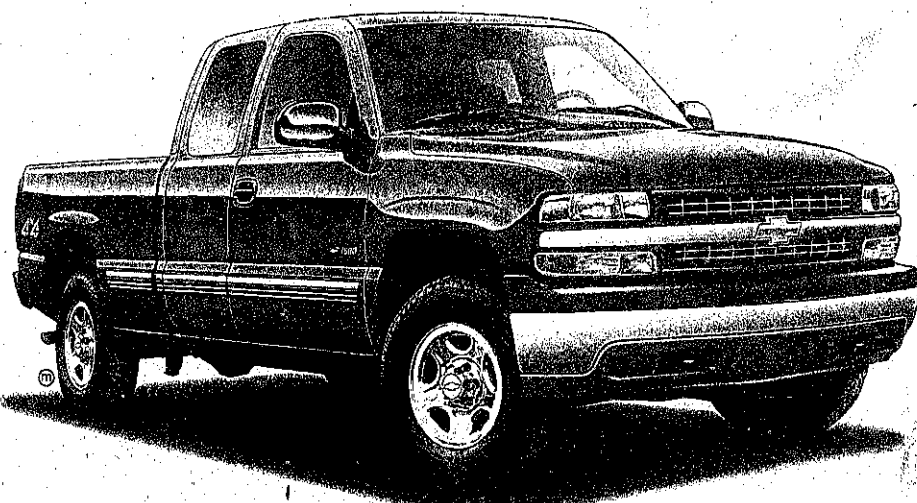
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Submitted Photo

The Novi Varsity PomPon squad placed 2nd in the High Kick division at the UDA Nationals in Florida earlier this month. Pictured above is Lindsay Anan, Laura Brandau, Valerie Caroselli, Erin Chupinsky, Michelle Claverilla, Carmen Decker, Madeline DiRocco, Dana Dzwonkowski, Kelley Elfring, Marcy Golota, Melissa Gorman, Alyssa Hamblin, Courtney Harfoot, Erin Holmes, Danielle Kazakos, Hillary Kroll, Holly Lloyd, Erin Mellem, Dana Moore, Christina Moriani, Lauren Powell, Stephanie Regan, Erin Reid, Abigail Saari, Erika Slatang, Karrie Smith, Betsy Thelen, and Sarah Wilson. The team is coached by Julie Hobbs.

## Alive and kickin' in Disney World

### PomPon squad takes second in UDA National

In early February, the Novi Varsity PomPon Squad's 28 members traveled to Orlando, Fla., to compete in the Universal Dance Association's National Dance Competition. This was Novi's first time ever entering a national competition since forming the squad 9 years ago.

The squad entered the "High Kick Division" competing against 24 teams from all over the United States, at MGM Studio's Indiana Jones complex. High Kick is a lightly choreographed routine which must contain at least 50 kicks with a time limit of only two minutes. The squad performed their vigorous routine to Jimi Hendrix's "Fire." The competition was extremely competitive and out of the 24 teams, 10 were chosen to advance to the Finals.

On Saturday, Feb. 3, Novi made the cut to the Top 10, scoring 937 points out of a possible 937 points. The Finals were held the following day at Walt Disney World's Wide

"All in all it was a wonderful experience that called for hard work, but it was well worth it!"

Julie Hobbs  
Novi PomPon coach

Hobbs. "The UDA provided such a great opportunity to travel and compete against some of the top teams from all over the country. All in all it was a wonderful bonding experience that called for a lot of hard work, but it was all well worth it."

The girls performed extremely well against professional caliber dance squads from across the United States. A second place finish for the first time ever entering this competition is a milestone and rarely accomplished. The success in the national spotlight is another in a long list of accomplishments for the team. They were Mid American State Champs in 1996, 1998 and 1999 and Varsity High Kick State Champs in 1999.

The next and final competition for the year will be for the Mid American PomPon State title at Saginaw Valley State University on Sunday, Feb. 25th. They will be competing against teams from across the state of Michigan.

World of Sports Complex, now with a totally new set of judges.

Novi performed a nearly flawless routine, scoring a 2nd place showing. They were edged out of 1st place by 6 points by Seabreeze High School, a Florida squad, which has entered this competition for the past 5 years and placed 3rd last year. The finals were taped by ESPN, with the broadcast scheduled to air on March 22.

"This is the first time I've ever taken a team to Nationals," said coach Julie

## 'Cats prey on two pool opponents

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE  
Sports Editor

Winning easily has become commonplace for the Wildcats swim team lately. After drowning Fenton 135-50 on Feb. 8, Novi returned to the pool last week to mail its next two opponents. On Feb. 12, they took out Walled Lake Western/Central 146-40, and two days later drubbed South Lyon, 141-45.

Against Central, Novi stormed off the blocks, not only winning the first three events but sweeping them as well. The Novi 200 medley relay teams swept as Ian Reynolds, Matt Ochab and Matt Schafer took 1-2-3 in the 200 freestyle. Mike Bliss, Juhwan Yoo, and Dan Thelen swept through the 200 IM, giving the 'Cats a very early 38-8 lead.

Brian Schoepfle and Stuart Smith nabbed 1-2 in the 50 freestyle, with Derrick Zonca, Steve Alberty and Scott Rettman placing 1-2-3 in diving. Following in their teammates strokes, Andrew Sawmiller and Chris Pieprzak finished 1-2 in 100 butterfly. Schoepfle and Thelen took 1-2 in the 100 freestyle, with Ochab, Schafer, and Reynolds sweeping the 500 freestyle.

By now the 'Cats had an insurmountable 99-27 lead, but they continued to pour it on. The 200 freestyle relay team took first and second, followed by Bliss and Moblo at 1-2 in the 100 backstroke. Taehwan Yoo and Ed Santos finished 1-2 in the 100 breaststroke, and fittingly the Wildcats ended the meet with a sweep in the 400 freestyle relay.

NOVI 141, SOUTH LYON 45  
in yet another display of pool

dominance, Novi rolled through their final KVC dual of the season against South Lyon.

The Wildcats started the meet with a 1-2 finish in the 200 medley relay. In the second event, the 200 freestyle, Robertson and Thelan grabbed first and second place finishes. The 'Cats liked that 1-2 winning flavor so much, they did it again in the 200 IM, with Moblo, and T. Yoo as the participants.

Bliss finished first in the 50 freestyle, and the divers once again rocked the pool with a 1-2-3 sweep by Zonca, Rhetman and Matt VanNortwick. At this point, the meet was all but over with Novi up 61-17. As the events continued, so did the Wildcat wins.

Jack Tyler took first in the 100 butterfly and teammate Matt Peurach earned third. The 'Cats brought out the broom for the next two events. In the 100 freestyle, they got a sweep thanks to Capanyola, Sawmiller, and T. Yoo, and in the 500 freestyle Bliss, Ochab, and Schafer got the 1-2-3 finish.

The score got even messier when the 200 freestyle relay teams finished 1-2, and Moblo winning the 100 backstroke. J. Yoo, and David Benton got themselves a 1-2 placing in the 100 breaststroke, and once again Novi finished a meet with a roar, when they swept the 400 freestyle relay.

On the horizon for the peaking Wildcats is a meet at Swartz Creek tomorrow and more importantly the KVC meet on Feb. 27.

Colby Cavaliere is the sports editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at 349-1700, ext. 104.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Captain Kelley Phelps shows the toll the body takes in gymnastics. Phelps aggravated the injury during the WLAA meet.

## Conference belongs to Wild'Stangs

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE  
Sports Editor

The Wild'Stang gymnasts ran their perfect record conference record to 9-0 by winning Saturday's WLAA Conference meet, with a team score of 146.825. Although they posted the third highest score achieved in the state this season (they also have the two highest scores), the victory didn't come easy, and wasn't without cost.

They earned the victory in what many consider the toughest conference in the state. Coach Lindsey Crews was well aware that it would be a highly competitive meet.

"Do you realize that five of the top ten teams in the state are in this conference, and capable of hitting 140s and above," said Crews. "We knew that we would have to concentrate and hit our routines in order to win."

The difficulty of the task was further illustrated by the final scores, with less than seven points separating Novi-Northville from fifth place Livonia. Tri-Farmington who finished second with a score of 144.925, was less than a point above third place Brighton. Host Hartland took fourth with a score of 142.174, with Livonia fifth, and Salem (138.5), Walled Lake Central (138.475), Canton (130.8) and Westland John Glenn (129.05) making up the rest of the field.

The hard-fought win came at a price, when senior co-captain Kelley Phelps aggravated a knee injury, and may be lost for the remainder of the season. Phelps crumpled to the mat at the end of her floor routine, clutching her knee and displaying obvious pain. "You never want to see anyone

get injured, particularly one of your captains," said Crews.

On a brighter note, the combined squad was boosted by the return of junior Lindsey Carlson, who led the team with a 9.1 on vault. Sophomore Jenn Sturgis, who was recovering from a bout with the flu led the team with an all-around score of 37.2, which was good for second at the meet. Making up her all-around score were first place finishes on bars (9.75) and beam (9.5). Close behind her was senior Megan Samhat with an all-around of 37.125, which included a second on the floor (9.55), second on beam (9.5) and third on bars (9.46).

Also making strong showings for the Wild'Stangs were Division Two gymnasts Alison Gillette and Monica Fink, as well as Andrea Ledbetter. Fink took second on vault (9.0), Gillette earned first on bars (9.1), and Ledbetter took third all-around (35.2). Crews expects Carlson, who is also nursing an elbow injury, to be ready to return to all-around competition at regionals on March 3.

The team now has two weeks to prepare for the regional competition that will take place in Canton on March 3.

The top three teams from each of the four regions advance to the state team finals. Northville-Novli has won its regional championship for four consecutive years, and is poised to do it again this year. Fink is the only member of the team remaining from the 1998 state championship winners.

"I would love to be part of a team that wins its regional four years in a row, and appears in the state team championships four years in a row," said Fink.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi destroyed Brighton in the first round of the districts, 72-3, here wrestler Matt Harsha-Strong, top, has the edge on his Brighton opponent.

## Wildcats slash their way to district championship

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE  
Sports Editor

They won all their dual meets, they split the KVC title, and oh yeah, they also won their district.

In what was almost an "oh by the way" performance, the Wildcats wrestling team rolled throughout the Walled Lake Western District, with a 72-3 win over Brighton, and a 56-15 thrashing of Walled Lake Western.

"We matched up well against W.L. Western, but we just came out focused and wrestled extreme-

ly well," said Novi coach Brad Huss.

Coming off the disappointing loss to Hartland the previous week in the KVC tournament, the Wildcats hit the mat with a vengeance, never giving Brighton a chance. In the second match, they stepped up their effort level, and desire, and stifled a tough Western team, shutting them down early on the power of their top performers.

As a team, Novi has dominated for much of the year, but several individuals have also put together

impressive seasons as well. On the day, Josh Churella (103) remained undefeated and moved his record to 35-0. Ryan Churella (145) also kept his unbeaten streak, taking his record to 40-0.

The roster is scattered with a number of impressive individual records. Here is a list of each wrestler, and their records following the team districts:

Craig Hearn (13-1), J.R. Muldoon (36-3), Corey Nobach

Continued On 2







## Community Events

### RUNNING WORKSHOP

Six sessions that educate, inspire and motivate its participants to make running a way of life, not just a recreation. Running 101 classes will be one hour in length for six weeks. Lectures will be held from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Participants may meet at 6:30 p.m. for an optional run. Sessions begin at the Novi Running Fit store on Monday, March 5 and continue through to April 9. To register in Novi, please call (248) 347-4949.

### YOUTH BASKETBALL CLINIC RETURNS

Detroit Pistons Youth Basketball Clinic is returning to Ward Evangelical Presbyterian

Church in Northville on Saturday, March 24. Coach Steve Moreland of the Detroit Pistons/Detroit Shock and "Hooper" (the Pistons' mascot) will be conducting two clinics for boys and girls. From 2:30 to 3:45 p.m. for grades K-2; and 4 to 5:15 p.m. for grades 3-6. The cost is \$15 per child and includes prizes, contests and the practices on Saturday, March 31 and April 7. Parents be sure to bring your cameras. Limited number per session so contact Ward Church at (248) 374-5307 or shelley.martin@wardepc.org to register each child.

### NOVI PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

The Novi Co-Op Preschool will be having its Open House on March 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It is located at 41671 Ten Mile Road in the Novi United Methodist Church. Bring your child to explore our classroom and meet the teachers. This is also a good opportunity for you to ask questions about what a Co-op is all about. The Open House is the first date that open enrollment begins for the school year of 2001-2002. Class sizes are limited to 15 for the three- and 15 for the four-year-olds. Please be aware that enrollment is filled on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, please contact Carrie Nye at 960-8958 or Tracy Nesler at 794-513-2841.

## On Campus

Precious N. Shah of Northville has been named to the Dean's List for fall quarter at Northwestern University. She is a sophomore enrolled in the Robert H. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science. To receive this honor, students on the Dean's List must attain a grade point average of at least 3.75.

Thomas S. McNealey of Northville was named to the Honor Roll for fall semester at Western Oregon University. He received recognition for achieving at least a 3.5 or higher grade point average for the semester.

Kristin Levin has been named to the Dean's List at Central Michigan University for the fall semester. Levin is a junior in the sports medicine program. She is secretary for both Phi Epsilon Kappa and the Student Athletic Trainers Organization. Levin is the daughter of Dave and Laraine Levin of Novi.

Andrew Bolla, a student at Concordia College in Ann Arbor, has been named to the Dean's List for his academic achievement of earning a 3.5 or above grade point average for fall semester. Bolla is the son of Mike and Carolyn Monti of Novi.

Local student Harvey P.

Steele is pledging the Albion College chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon social fraternity during the 2001 spring semester. Steele is a freshman at Albion College. He is the son of Harvey and Ann Steele of Novi and a graduate of Novi High School.

Jennifer L. Phillips pledged the Albion College Phi chapter of Alpha Xi Delta social sorority during the 2001 spring semester. A freshman at Albion, Phillips is a graduate of Coronado High School. She is the daughter of Ronald Phillips and Barbara Phillips, both of Northville.

Local area students named to the Dean's List at Western Michigan University in recognition of earning a 3.5 or better grade point average for fall term. **NORTHVILLE** Michael J. Basse, graphic design; Julia A. Boyk, English; James Price Clarkson, biochemistry; Eric J. Cooley, marketing; Andrew T. Davis, environmental studies and political science; Melissa Falout, accounting; Brett Farakas, music jazz studies; Brandon S. Feriman, mechanical engineering; Kathryn N. Giebel, elementary group minors; Michael Green, graphic design; Shawn N. Hopper, finance; Stephanie Garack Joseph, pre-communication; Lukas D. Letwisch, economics

and environmental studies; Jennifer L. Madden, psychology; Sarah Matusz, speech pathology audiology; Christina M. Mavian, special education, mentally impaired-elementary; Nicholas T. Mitchell, elementary group minors; Erin Elizabeth Moore, interpersonal communication pre-communication; Kristen M. Nelson, elementary group minors; Kelly M. O'Reilly, elementary group minors; Michelle R. Partlow, occupational therapy; Sean D. Rosalter, university curriculum; Marci R. Sabo, special education, mentally impaired-elementary; Jody R. Seal, general business; Catherine E. Timco, university curriculum; Kathryn M. Vatter, elementary group minors; Georganna S. Walsh, political science; Colleen E. Watz, general business; Charity T. Wilcox, university curriculum; and Nicole L. Will, management. **NOVI** Gary R. Becker Jr., aviation flight science; Patricia Irene Chinn, psychology; Natalie M. Corte, home economics education; Melissa M. Helton, pre-occupational therapy; Angela Y. Herbst, elementary group minors; Bryan D. Hill, Spanish and chemistry; Lisa Kyle Nitti, psychology; Kellie L. Noble, finance; Lauren M. Oates, nursing; Eileen B. Ong, social work; and Lauren M. Sorrentino, theater education.

## Parks and Rec

### DROP-IN LIVE DANCE LESSONS

Treat yourself to an exciting way to meet new people and exercise. Join the 8:30-9:30 p.m. class for basic beginners or jump right in intermediate class, from 7:30-9 p.m. The lessons are followed by an open dance, from 9:30-10:30 p.m. The class takes place every Friday night and taught by Jean Rowe of Steppin' Time. See class schedule for specific class location or call the Novi Parks and Recreation office at (248) 347-0400.

**COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE** Come join the February Country Western Dance at the Novi Civic Center on Friday, Feb. 24, from 7 until 11:30 p.m. Single and couples are welcome. Dance your favorites: Line, 2-step, Waltz or Cha Cha. Admission is \$7 for Novi residents and seniors age 55 and over or \$8 for non-residents.

### WALTONWOOD ANNIVERSARY

Waltonwood of Twelve Oaks, senior retirement community is celebrating with an open house from 1-4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 22. RSVP at (248) 735-1500.

### ZANY ACTIVITIES

Zany Brainsy in-store events are sure to brighten the weekend days. Kids can show off their creativity and smarts during these wonderful winter weekends. All events are free and open to the public. Zany Brainsy is located on Haggerly in Northville/Livonia. • Clifford Movies 'N More Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 24 and 25 at 2 p.m. each day. The reunion is scheduled for July 7 in Novi.



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# COMMUNITY FOCUS



Photo by JOHN HEIDER  
Village Oaks student Heiko Sijan gets some help from his mother Manuela in writing some poetry during his class' celebration last Wednesday of Valentine's Day.

## With heart Celebrating the holiday of love



Kyle Hurwitz, a Village Oaks Elementary School first grader, reads a Valentine's Day card last Wednesday...

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE Staff Writer  
If you ask Village Oaks Elementary first graders Michael Yono and Mitchell Hulton how they feel about Valentine's Day- the most romantic day of the year- don't expect to find these young Romantics in the spirit. "Valentine's Day is for sissies!" exclaimed Hulton. "All those heart shaped cards and mushy sayings make me sick."  
"Yeah," Yono said. "I'm not giving anyone a valentine's day card, especially to the girls. They smell."  
While these two boys may not be swept up in the amorous mood of love, luckily others were, as valentines spilled out over the pink and red bags of the students, for their class party on Feb. 14.  
"I love Valentine's Day," said starry-eyed first grader Allison Schumaker. "Getting lots of candy and cards. It's one of my favorite times of the year."  
Aside from reading all those love cards, the students were busy making heart-shaped place mats and even got to tempt their sweet tooth with sundaes and loads of sweets.  
"This is fun," said student Amy Quintan, as she dunked her spoon into her upside-covered ice-cream. "Valentine's is great because you get lots of candy and everyone tells you how much they love you."  
Quintan was even "sweet" enough to bring her little brother Ryan to the party to join in on the fun.  
"I'm her special guest today," boasted the little four-year-old, with traces of chocolate still left around his mouth.  
With tons of valentines to read and look over, first grader Sean Devor could hardly keep track of all his cards that literally covered his entire desk.  
"My favorite one is this dog one and this N'Sync one is pretty cool," he said, holding up his valentines.  
With some in and out of the holiday spirit, the children nevertheless had a ball.  
"Who wouldn't get into the spirit?" Quintan asked. "This is a day to tell the people you really care about them. What a wonderful day!"

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Random drawings will also be held for other pairs of passes.

**and the Oscar goes to... CONTEST**

HERE'S HOW TO PLAY:  
Simply check the movies in each category that you think will win. Fill out the rest of the entry blank completely and either drop your entry off at Novi Town Center 8 Theater OR mail it to: Hometown Newspapers, Marketing-Oscar Contest, 223 E. Grand River Ave., Howell, MI 48840.

BEST PICTURE	BEST ACTRESS	BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS	BEST FOREIGN FILM
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<input type="checkbox"/> Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon	<input type="checkbox"/> Juliette Binoche Diogenes	<input type="checkbox"/> Halle Berry Monster's Ball	<input type="checkbox"/> Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
<input type="checkbox"/> Erin Brockovich	<input type="checkbox"/> Ellen Barkin Apples & Honey	<input type="checkbox"/> Kate Hudson Freaky Friday	<input type="checkbox"/> Divided We Fall
<input type="checkbox"/> Gladiator	<input type="checkbox"/> Ed Harris The Order	<input type="checkbox"/> Albert Finney The Constant Gardener	<input type="checkbox"/> Everbody Has Secrets
<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic	<input type="checkbox"/> Laura Linney The Lady in the Lake	<input type="checkbox"/> Joaquim Phoenix The Untouchables	<input type="checkbox"/> The Taste of Others
	<input type="checkbox"/> Julia Roberts Erin Brockovich	<input type="checkbox"/> Julie Walters Joy	

Official Rules:  
No purchase necessary to play. Additional entry blanks are available at the Novi Town Center 8 Theater, 2008 Town Center Dr., Novi. Only one entry per person please. All entries must be received Friday, Feb. 23, 2001, by 5:00 p.m. In the event of a tie, a random drawing of correct entries will establish winners. Winners will be notified by phone. Employees of Hometown Newspapers and Novi Town Center 8 and their families are not eligible to win.

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Photo courtesy Kerry Bowman, Bowman Photography

## Cons take on Elvis personas during heist

"3000 Miles to Graceland" unfolds against the background of the glitzy, high-energy chaos surrounding International Elvis Week in Las Vegas in which thousands of Elvis impersonators flock to the city for their shot at glory.

"This is really the chance of a lifetime for a thief," said director Demian Lichtenstein. "The atmosphere is totally conducive to a major heist — confusion, crowds and disguises. What more do you need?"

Five ex-cons, who dub themselves the Elvi 5, stroll into the Riviera. Though they're all costumed in Elvis jumpsuits and tinted glasses, only one of them wears the sideburns with conviction.

Murphy believes in his heart that he is the illegitimate son of the King and feels resentful for not being recognized as such," said Kevin Costner, the Academy Award-winning actor and director of the film "Dances With Wolves," who stars as Murphy, the ring-leader of the heist. "Elvis is a sore spot for him. He has a real love/hate relationship with the King."

"With Murphy, Kevin has created one of the great bad guys," said Lichtenstein. "Personally, I put Murphy up there with Darth Vader. He is a complete mercenary. He's a bad, bad man."

Murphy's top man in the heist and former prison cell mate is played by Kurt Russell who garnered an Emmy Award nomination playing Elvis Presley in "This is Elvis," the 1979 TV movie directed by John Carpenter. Russell notes that while Michael is not as corrupt as Murphy, he is still a bad guy.

"They're both losers," said Russell, the star of such recent hits as "Breakdown" and "Soldier." "But Michael is a man who has lived a criminal life and is now finding his conscience. This prevents him, for example, from participating in the viciousness of the heist in the same way as Murphy. He wants to get away with the crime without being noticed and without gunplay."

Rounding out Murphy's team are Hanson played by Christian Slater ("The Contender," "True Romance"), Gus played by David Arquette ("Ready to Rumble," "Scream") and Franklin played by Bokeem Woodbine ("The Big Hit," "Dead Presidents"). Athlete and actor Howie Long ("Broken Arrow") stars as Jack, a helicopter pilot who plays a crucial role in the heist.

Murphy's plan is simple: get in, raid the coffers and split — fast. But his scheme goes awry when the "Elvi 5" leave the casino in ruins and a high body count in their wake, and one of their own is hit. Nonetheless, the jumpsuited crooks pull off the heist and steal away with \$3.2 million in a dramatic helicopter escape from the rooftop of the hotel.

But when it comes time to divide up the loot, Murphy betrays his fellow "Elvi," attempting to kill the others, hightail it out of their and claim the \$3.2 million for himself.

"Each character plays a pivotal

role in the casino heist," said Lichtenstein. "But Murphy's shocking treachery against them lays the ground work for the explosive battle between him and Michael. Michael is too tough to die so easily and conveniently."

Surviving the betrayal, Michael beats Murphy to the hidden stash and sets out to launder the marked currency with Murphy close behind. Michael rents a room at the aptly named Last Chance Motel, where he promptly meets "Cybil" with a "C," played by Cortney Cox.

"Here is a good looking guy with a lot of cash," said Cox, who stars as Monica on the long-running hit show "Friends." "She thinks 'I'm going to at least get a meal, hopefully sex, and maybe he'll be my ticket out of town. She's a bit of an opportunist."

"Cybil is exciting to Michael," said Lichtenstein. "A wildcat, challenging, quick and funny. And, well, he's just been released from prison!"

To complicate matters, Cybil comes with her own baggage: a precious young son Jesse (David Kaye) with a touch of kleptomaniac who is in desperate need of a father figure. After a fiery one night stand with Cybil, Michael realized that she and Jesse are making his dreams of sailing into the sunset unencumbered increasingly difficult. Russell points out that Michael is not only a criminal seeking a retirement-sized reward but a scarred man who has closed himself off from the world.

"He is vulnerable because of what Cybil and Jesse could be to him," said Russell. "He's attracted to her and wants to trust in her, but he doesn't know if he can. And he becomes attached to her little boy. I like the interplay that takes place between all three characters. They're an unlikely trio that becomes a family under some pretty extreme circumstances."

Michael and his newly acquired family career through state lines in his beat-up Plymouth Valiant with Murphy trailing ruthlessly in the cherry red 1959 Caddy convertible stolen from Michael. Having shared a cell for 5 1/2 years, the ex-cons can predict each other's moves. Each man gains and loses the upper hand at varying moments, but they approach the finish line neck-in-neck with federal, state and local law enforcement in hot pursuit.

Despite their brutal rift, Michael and Murphy never break their unspoken code of honor. As Russell explains, "Their bond remains intact throughout the film. We have an opportunity to turn each other in for the heist, but we never do."

Russell feels the lure of the heist is a shared fantasy to which everyone can relate.

"Heist films are atypically American genre that stem from our heritage," said the actor. "They appeal to our unavoidably romantic notion of lawlessness and anti-authoritarianism. This film is a lot of fun — good laugh, drama and adventure, and a very exciting and



(L-R) David Arquette, Kurt Russell, Kevin Costner, Christian Slater and Bokeem Woodbine star in the Morgan Creek Production "3000 Miles to Graceland."

unpredictable ride." "The lure of millions can bring out the best and worst in anyone," said Costner. "Timid men can be bold; heroes can turn mean. Both

of these men are fighting for the money but for different reasons. Murphy will fight until one of them is dead."

"People love the idea of overcoming the odds and getting away with the big score, sailing off into the sunset and getting the girl," said Lichtenstein. "I hope people will have a good time living vicariously

for a short time through these characters." "This film is a crazy and fun ride," agreed Cox. "And there's a love story along the way."

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