

Thursday, March 22, 2001

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Volume 48 Number 15

Novi, Michigan

50¢

HomeTown Communications Network

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GREEN SHEET
Classifieds

INSIDE



Charitable auction

Novi Newcomers and Neighbors spices up their auction with more prizes and fun — Page 8A

GREENSHEET

Dr. Adie

Dr. James Adie is a new dentist located in the Main Street downtown development — Page 1D



LIVING

DECA
qualifies
at states

Members of the High School DECA team will travel to Anaheim, Calif. to compete in the national competition in April — Page 6B

SPORTS



Winter Sports Wrap up

Novi High School cleaned up in terms of winter sports this year. Not only did the Wildcats bring back three state championships, but every team played with heart and determination — Page 1B

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Bowling for dollars



A Novi Meadows student contemplates the pins before Bowling Friday morning at Novi Bowl during the school's visit to the Novi Road center.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Real life lessons learned

Bowling
teaches math
and teamworkBy STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

While fifth graders Andy Harrington and R.J. Gordon sparked a newfound interest in the sport of bowling, they still couldn't get used to the

shoes. "They're so ugly," Harrington exclaimed.

As the finale of a three-week unit in their physical education class, the students at Novi Meadows Elementary let good times roll, as they enjoyed a fun-filled morning at Novi Bowl last Friday.

"Bowling is a great family activity and as with any sport, it provides a good opportunity to teach kids about sportsmanship and

teamwork," said Novi Meadows physical education teacher Pat Schluter.

Schluter said while bowling may not be as strenuous as other sports, it still requires some physical activity as well as hand-eye coordination and can even be used to teach elementary physics and mathematics.

"We try to incorporate math into our P.E. curriculum so in

Continued on 4

O'Hairs found;
FBI tags KarrBy RANDAL YAKY
Staff Writer

After five long years, the mystery over the whereabouts of famed atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair has been solved.

The remains of O'Hair, 76, have been identified by a west Texas forensics team after three bodies and parts of a fourth, were found last January in a shallow grave five miles west of Camp Wood, Texas.

As a result of the findings, a former Novi resident, Gary Paul Karr, could be up for murder charges and a date with the electric chair if prosecutors feel it necessary to bring the death penalty against the 53-year-old ex-handyman. Karr is currently serving two concurrent life sentences in Texas.

The remains are of Ms. O'Hair and her family members," Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) spokesperson Darren Holmes said. "There were three bodies stacked on top of each other and the head and hands of a fourth victim."

Along with O'Hair, FBI investigators confirmed the remains of O'Hair's children Jon Garth Murray, 40, and Robin Murray O'Hair, 30.

Investigators also believe they found the head and hands of co-

"There were three bodies stacked on top of each other and the head and hands of a fourth victim."

Darren Holmes
FBI spokesperson

conspirator Daniel Fry.

"We expect that the head and hands are that of Daniel Fry," Holmes said.

The FBI believes that Fry, Karr and David Donald Waters were co-conspirators in the kidnapping and killing of the O'Hairs for \$500,000 in gold coins - \$100,000 of which have never been recovered.

Fry was found dead near Dallas in October of 1995. Fry's decapitated body was not identified until early 1999.

Investigators believed the three O'Hair victims, who disappeared from their Austin home in August of 1995, were killed, dismembered inside a North Austin storage unit.

Continued on 15

CSX bridge will
stay up for nowBy RANDAL YAKY
Staff Writer

The CSX bridge over Grand River Avenue, constructed by convict labor in the late 1920s, will remain in place until it is decided who will pay out \$1.5 million to get the project going, according to city officials.

The bridge was originally supposed to be demolished this spring. The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) then pushed the project back to this fall. Now, the RCOC is trying to figure out how to pay for the project before going through the process of drawing up plans for replacement.

According to Novi City Manager Richard Helwig, the state doesn't have enough funds for the bridge project to commence and has asked the city to "pitch in" replacement costs. Helwig said the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), who has complained of being "cash-strapped" in the past, is having trouble coming up

with the with funding for the project.

"The road commission said the situation has not been figured out yet," Helwig said. "The issue for funding is back in local hands, local being county and city."

According to city officials, the city may have to cough up the estimated \$1.5 million up front to get the project started and the city would be reimbursed at a later date. Helwig said he will be meeting again with RCOC officials to continue talks on the situation.

The estimated cost of completing the bridge project is approximately \$6 million. The state is expected to pay an estimated \$3 million and the county is expected to handle another \$1.5 million.

"I have been saying for a number of years now that the bridge has to be replaced," Mayor Richard Clark said. "You pick up

Continued on 10

Council questions
Meadowbrook rules
on senior housingBy RANDAL YAKY
Staff Writer

No pets, no Christmas trees, and no guests over 14 days during a one year period.

No, it's not a stay at the Oakland County Jail. It's the lease requirements for the Meadowbrook Commons retirement community.

But Novi Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Lorenzo says it's more like living in "jail" that a retirement community for senior citizens.

"When we approved the management company we discussed the rules," Lorenzo said. "At that time, we thought the rules were overly restrictive. And it doesn't look like they have gained any flexibility. It looks like these rules have become more restrictive than when I first looked at them."

Lorenzo said the management team at Meadowbrook Commons, located on Meadowbrook Road between Ten Mile and Grand River Avenue, needs to be less "restrictive." Lorenzo said some of the rules set were "ridiculous."

"A few come to mind," Lorenzo continued. "Pets are not permitted, only leader dogs. Indoor cats are not permitted and that means that hamsters would not be permitted. This isn't a prison. It's suppose to be somewhere you would want to live."

Lorenzo also brought an issue with hanging plants, bird feeders and restrictions on barbecuing on balconies or patios and a ban on clothes lines.

"You can't hang pictures? You can't put a pot of flowers out," Lorenzo said. "Guests must be registered with management office and are limited to a stay of two weeks during a one year period. These are senior citizens. Maybe a grandchild wants to stay a month during the summer. Again, this isn't prison. It's a place we want our senior citizens to live."

Lorenzo has asked that a meeting be scheduled with management of Meadowbrook Commons to come to some kind of agreement over "easing up" on the stringent rules employed at the commons.

The 115-unit housing complex was constructed to be utilized by, primarily, current and former Novi residents. It includes one and two-bedroom apartments ranging in price from \$600 to \$1,000.

The city of Novi paid for the \$15 million complex and expects to repay the money through revenue collected on the apartments.

Randal Yaky is a staff writer for the Novi News. His e-mail address is ryaky@hometownnews.net.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi High School student Amy Burkhardt dances an Irish jig in the Orchard Hills classroom of Michael Carter Friday afternoon.

Doing a
little jigStudents
discover more
than clovers
on holidayBy STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

In the spirit of St. Patrick's Day, the students of Mr. Carter's class at Orchard Hills Elementary took in the sounds and sights of the country of Ireland.

Thanks to reading teacher Janice Burkhardt and her daughter Amy, a Novi High School student, the children had the chance to see some live Irish dancing and enjoy a folklore story.

The students watched in amazement as Amy kicked and stomped her way around the classroom as the sounds from the bagpipes bounced off the walls.

"This is pretty cool," said fourth grader Allen Mencer.

Janice explained to the students in one song, really an Irish/Scottish jig, the moves of the dancer actually tell a story of an angry Irish woman.

Amy, dressed in a green skirt, white apron and step shoes, clinched her fists forward and kicked her heels high to the lively beat of accordions, fiddles and vio-

Continued on 11

Voters will see bond of \$75 million for schools

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

Now with the identified needs finalized and the projected costs reconfigured, voters of Novi can expect a school bond millage of \$75 million this summer.

Last week, board members subtracted over \$19 million from the estimated school bond issue, eliminating a new elementary school and new pool.

Upon Thursday's discussion concerning the final recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Task Force, the board felt in light of the many immediate needs of the school district, it would be wise to present voters with something less expensive.

"Knowing these two issues may jeopardize some of the items on the bond issue that are truly needed, I just don't think now is the right time, but it will be something that we will continue to look at every year," said board president Carol Elzing.

Elzing said in terms of a new pool, maybe it could be a project the city would be willing to be a part of in the future.

"I look at this as a community effort that might be a joint (process) between the city and the schools at some point in time," she said.

According to the price analysis of the project, the new pool, which was proposed to be placed at the middle school, would cost approximately \$6.5 million.

A new elementary school in the district would cost a bit over \$12.5

2001 BOND PROJECTS FOR THE JUNE 11 ELECTION

PROJECT	BOND COSTS
High School Expansion	\$25,331,000
High School Renovation	\$10,835,000
(Buildings \$8,017,300)	
(Pool \$2,817,100)	
Technology Upgrade	\$15,512,000
Novi Woods Ren./Expansion	\$8,706,000
Elementary Ren./Expansion	\$3,174,000
Middle School Improvements	\$352,000
Transportation/Warehouse Expansion	\$2,600,000
Land Purchase	\$8,500,000
Total	\$75,640,000

million.

"Right now a new elementary is something that can wait - I don't see it as a desperate need for this district," said board vice-president John Balgoin. "Referring to the projections for the next 5 years, we will be operating at less the capacity we have right now."

According to the figures provided from the Starfield Consultants from MSU, the K-4 portion of the district currently has 2,253 and in the next five years will have an estimated 2,247 students.

The capacity for all five K-4 buildings is approximately 2,792.

Using the remaining recommendations brought forward by the task force, the public would see a new district renovation and expansion total in the amount of approximately \$75,640,000.

This would include upgrading and expanding technology - now over 8 years old - throughout the district.

total renovation at Novi Woods, expansion of the media centers at Village Oaks and Orchard Hills, and site improvements at the middle school including new tennis courts, basketball courts and a concession stand.

Other renovations include expanding the district's transportation warehouse facilities, the Bosco land purchase and the expansion and renovation of Novi High School.

"These items are all things we have to have - by necessity, by size - to keep our property and assets up to date," said board trustee John Street. "Our district certainly can't survive without them."

Voters can expect to see the \$75 million bond issue on the June 11 ballot.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@home.com.net.

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Loud party lands couple in jail

A loud party got out of hand and ended up with a 23-year-old man and his 21-year-old wife in the Novi Jail on St. Patrick's morning.

Novi police arrived at the 45700 block of Lakeview to find "very loud amplified music" being played inside.

Police announced their presence as, "Novi Police" several times. At one point, police heard a male voice inside the residence say "Don't open the door." After, police reported hearing "female voices giggling."

At approximately 1:28 a.m., a female from inside the apartment opened the door and stepped out.

The female suspect, the wife, was immediately placed into custody for obstructing a police officer.

When the husband saw that his

Police News

wife was being arrested, he exited the apartment shouting profanities at the police. "You can't do this," the man told police. Police then arrested the husband for loud music, resisting arrest and obstructing police officers.

BREAK IN
Management of the Environmental Care company at 25400 reported a break in sometime during the overnight hours of March 13.

According to police reports, an estimated \$1,268 was taken from inside a cash box in an office area.

Police were not able to determine if anything else was taken from the business.

The police report indicates that there was no forced entry at the business. The building owner reported that nothing appeared to be missing from his office.

Police are continuing to investigate the incident.

TRAILER MISSING
A 16-foot trailer was located out of the Autumn Park Subdivision off of Beck Road and Nine Mile Road on March 15.

According to police, workers left

the trailer parked out in front of the first house east of 23100 Argyle. They never saw it again.

The owner of the trailer said the estimated value of the items inside at about \$4000. Police have no further information on the trailer.

Another similar trailer was found missing on March 2. At that time, Novi Troop 407 was the victim. The troop's gear was stolen from its storage spot behind the Holy Family Catholic Church in the 34000 block of Meadowbrook Road.

According to police reports, the trailer could have been stolen between February 11 and March 2.

Anybody with information about the two incidents are asked to call the Novi Police at 348-1700.

Community Education Briefs

Here's the upcoming available classes Community Education has to offer you and your family this spring:

Juggling Workshop
This workshop will teach participants age 12 through 59 how to explore the method of cascade juggling. Students will learn how to keep three objects moving in relationship to each other. They will have hands on experience juggling balls, scarves, and pins. Students will explore overhead techniques, juggling while eating an apple and juggling variations.

This is a beginners workshop

and is for people who have never mastered juggling three balls.

Class will be held in the gym at Novi High School from 2:45 - 4:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 31. Cost is \$10 with a \$10 material fee.

Ukulele Workshop

The ukulele for decades has been played by people who live in the Pacific Islands. It was spread throughout the Pacific by Portuguese sailors who played the instrument. Workshop goes will learn to play this wonderful four stringed instrument. Participants will receive their own ukulele to take home and learn to play at

least seven songs. No prior music training or experience is necessary.

This class, for ages 10 and up, will be held in Room 602 at Novi Middle School from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 31. Cost is \$16 and includes a material fee of \$27.

One Night Ballroom Dance Class

Spring is coming! That means weddings, cruises and other social events. This fun-filled night will teach you all you need to know so that you and your partner will be prepared. Don't miss out on all the excitement.

Class will be held in the cafeteria at Deerfield Elementary from 6:30 - 8 p.m. on Friday, April 6. Cost is \$19 per couple.

One Night Swing Dance Class
Everyone is doing it! Swing is the hottest thing out there today! You will be taught a variety of steps and turn combos. The moves learned can be performed with music from the 20s through the millennium!

It's fun, exciting and everyone can do it. Class will be held in the cafeteria at Deerfield Elementary from 8 - 9:30 p.m. on Friday, April 6. Cost is \$19 per couple.

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Novi Briefs

Blood Drive Today

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. For more information, call the school office at 248-449-1230.

Red Wings Come To Novi For Benefit Game

The Novi Community Trust Cares Coalition presents the Red Wing's alumni hockey team on Sunday, April 1 at 3 p.m. The game will be played at the Novi Ice Arena, with tickets at \$10 each.

Tickets may be purchased at either the Novi Parks & Recreation Department, Novi Ice Arena, or at the Novi Community Education building.

All proceeds benefit substance abuse prevention and after school recreation programs in Novi.

For more information call, Chief Douglas Shaeffer at (248)347-0504.

Novi Ranked as Gold Medal District by Expansion Management Magazine

The Novi Community School District has been ranked as a Gold Medal school district by Expansion Management Magazine in its tenth annual Education Quality ratings. This year, Expansion Management ranked 2,234 school districts across the country on how well those districts are preparing their students to be part of the work force after graduation. Gold Medal districts rank in the top 17 percent of those districts evaluated.

"It is always positive to be recognized by a publication with nationwide circulation and is one more affirmation that Novi Community School District is meeting the educational needs of the young people in our community," said Superintendent Dr. Emmett Lippe.

This special report is mailed to more than 45,000 CEOs, Vice Presidents, Directors, and other officers of companies which have indicated they are considering expanding into new geographic areas. The EQ evaluates school districts according to three indices: Graduate Outcome (how well students learn and how many stay to graduation), Resource Index (which measures a community's financial commitment to education) and Community Index (which measures the community's adult education and income levels).

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Novi Meadows student Aaron Letzler lets one fly down the lanes of Novi Bowl during his Friday morning class trip to study the fine art of the seven-ten split.

Academics, athletics taught through bowling lessons

Continued from 1

this case the students learn how to keep track of their own scores which helps them with addition," he said.

Other techniques taught during the unit include aim, stance, ball selection, approach and release. Most importantly, the lesson concludes by showing how to successfully put together all these skills together.

"It really is a good unit and it's a lot of fun," Schluter said. "Today, we've even invited the parents to come out and join us."

With the sounds of pop music filling the alley and the cosmic lights in full force, the students were truly having a ball.

"It's fun, but I'm really bad at it though," said fifth grader Alina Bruder who was lining up on lane 20. "I don't care though, I'm having a great time."

Students Blake Klocke, Chaz Kuczejda and Alberto Albanelli were taking their game a little more seriously, scoring high with a combined average of 80.

"I love bowling," Kuczejda said. "My aunt and uncle own three bowling alleys, so we go a lot."

For Albanelli, the biggest challenge for him was consistency.

"It really is a good unit and it's a lot of fun. Today, we've even invited the parents to come out and join us."

Pat Schluter
physical education teacher

"Sometimes my ball goes straight, other times it curves," he said.

Because bowling is a sport that knows no age barrier, the boys said it was a lot of fun. "It's a something that the whole family can go and do," Klocke said, after scoring his first strike. "I love it."

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@homecomm.net



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HEEL SPUR SURGERY

Advances in heel surgery have led to fewer complications, less scarring, and quicker recovery times for patients. Heel spurs, bony growths that develop on the heel bone near the foot's arch, are a common cause of heel pain. They can occur due to high-impact exercises like running, excess weight, arthritis, and poorly fitting shoes. One new surgery involves removing the spur via a tiny transverse incision on the bottom of the heel just before the arch. The podiatrist then closes the wound and places a dry, sterile dressing on the foot. Patients may choose to insert an orthotic device in their shoe to support the foot after surgery.

Don't despair if surgery is recommended for your heel pain or other podiatric problem. Although problems haven't changed all that much, podiatric procedures have greatly improved over the past few years. If your feet hurt, there's no advantage to putting it off—see your podiatrist. If you don't have one at this time, we are accepting new patients. If you have questions about today's column, or any question about footcare, your own or a loved one's, please feel comfortable calling NOVIFOOTCARE ASSOCIATES, 248-476-1500. Our office is located at 3955 West Ten Mile Road, Suite 307.



A PERFECT COMBINATION

While many women prefer to wear both an engagement ring and a wedding band, there are those who think it best to wear a single engagement/wedding ring. This sentiment is largely shared by women who either lead active lives or who prefer simplicity. Either way, a single ring can have the impact of two with the addition of a double band that is up to double the width of traditional engagement rings. A variety of mountings are available. All that is missing is the diamond, which the couple chooses. Combination engagement/wedding rings have considerable impact, owing to the fact that the wide band captures the attention of the eye and draws it to the gemstone it encircles.

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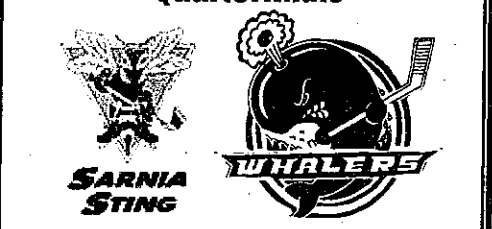
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Game 3
Wednesday, March 28th @ 7:30 pm

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Fire Log

Monday, March 12

Medical, 24807 Olde Orchard, 1:38 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 27475 Huron Circle, 2:13 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 31198 Tanglewood, 6:25 a.m., Squad 2.
Service, 27475 Huron Circle, 1:27 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 47601 Grand River, 3:57 p.m., Squad 4.
Medical, 30730 Beck, 5:18 p.m., Squad 2.
Building fire, 21075 Cambridge, 6:21 p.m., Engines 3, 1.
Medical, 43200 Crescent, 7:53 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 26833 O'Justin, 9:28 p.m., Squad 1.

Tuesday, March 13

Investigation, 30237 Celeste, 4:52 a.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 26856 O'Justin, 12:59 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 26868 Woolsey, 3:59 p.m., Squad 3.
Fire alarm, 42100 Crescent, 4:48 p.m., Engines 1, 2.
Investigation, 20980 Woodland Glen, 5:08 p.m., Engine 3.
Building fire, 29864 Montmorency, 5:12 p.m., Engines 2, 1.
Medical, 24230 Karim, 5:14 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 39799 Village Wood, 6:09 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 29858 Rousseau, 7:53 p.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 30145 Rousseau, 8:33 p.m., Squad 2.

Wednesday, March 14

Investigation, 30237 Celeste, 2:21 a.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 24600 Olde Orchard, 11:27 a.m., Squad 1.
Gas leak, 21555 Haggerty, 3:22 p.m., Engine 3.
Medical, 25704 Cody, 4:41 p.m., Squad 4.
Medical, 40000 High Pointe, 5:29 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 25909 Clark, 5:35 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 27475 Huron Circle, 5:49 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 27475 Huron Circle, 6:34 p.m., Squad 1.
Wipe down, Eleven Mile and Seelye, 9:22 p.m., Engine 1.

Thursday, March 15

Service, 44490 Eleven Mile Road, 12:13 a.m., Squad 1.
Investigation, 22706 Cortes, 6:51 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 24062 Taft Road, 9:25 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 22450 Tower, 9:49 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 39555 Ten Mile Road, 10:49 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 24062 Taft Road, 12:21 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 21230 Woodland Glen, 10:49 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 24500 Meadowbrook, 11:29 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 21070 Haggerty, 11:33 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, Fourteen Mile and M-5, 11:42 p.m., Squad 2.

Friday, March 16

Medical, 27475 Huron Circle, 8:53 a.m., Squad 1.
Personal injury accident, Nine Mile and Meadowbrook, 2:18 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, Town Center and Eleven Mile, 3:43 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 26401 Novi Road, 6:09 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 24062 Taft Road, 7:24 p.m., Squad 3.
Personal injury accident, 24251 Novi Road, 7:35 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 24062 Taft Road, 8:33 p.m., Squad 3.
Saturday, March 17

Personal injury accident, I-96 and Novi Road, 9:38 a.m., Squad 1.

Fire alarm, 1127 S. Lake, 12:02 p.m., Engines 2, 1.
Medical, Twelve Oaks Blue Lot, 5:11 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 27475 Huron Circle, 8 p.m., Squad 1.
Sunday, March 18

Medical, 45182 W. Park, 6:20 a.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 26892 O'Justin, 8:24 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, Novi Road and Nine Mile, 10:35 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, Eight Mile and Glen Haven, 1:34 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 24741 Apple Crest, 1:56 p.m., Squad 1.
Fire alarm, 30985 Blue Ridge, 6:31 p.m., Engines 2, 1.



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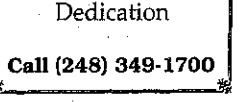
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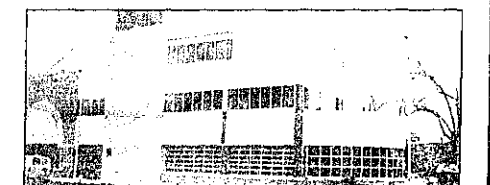
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Energy bill to help those in need

By RANDAL YAKY
Staff Writer

A plan to help residents in the face of looming tax hikes was announced by Michigan State Energy and Technology Committee Chairperson and Rep. Nancy Cassis (R-Now). "No one should have to worry how to buy food and clothing or how to pay for shelter or unexpected increases to keep warm in winter," Cassis said. "For a senior citizen or person just getting off welfare who is struggling to survive with a limited income, we want to let them know that help is on the way."

The bills are designed to keep the home heating expenses down for those in need by extending the Home Heating Credit through 2004 and eliminate credit proration so residents may receive the entire amount of the credit.

According to Cassis' office, the changes in the bill will also allow more families to be eligible for the tax credit. Additional tax credits will be available for weatherized materials and installing energy efficient home appliances to reduce fuel consumption.

"State government can do little about the price of fuel but lawmakers can lift the burden from people who will be hardest hit by the increased bills," Cassis said. "Tax benefits don't directly pay the monthly heat bill but the assistance will help meet people's needs."

The new bill would also cap the taxable price for natural gas, propane and fuel oil and introduce a 3 percent replacement fee on rate portions above the capped amounts.

The new bill also protects against utility shut-offs. Tax donations will be available to those who wish to donate to energy assistance programs for those in need.

Resolutions in the package encourage programs that allow utility customers to round their bill payments up to the nearest dollar with the extra payment being used to fund local assistance needs and promote and publicize existing private, state and federal funding energy awareness programs.

NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL MEETING CITY OF NOV/ROAD COMMISSION FOR OAKLAND COUNTY 12 MILE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS

The City of Novi and the Road Commission for Oakland County invite your comments on the proposed project to widen and reconstruct 12 Mile Road from just west of Meadowbrook Road to east of Novi Road. Briefly, this project consists of constructing a 4-lane boulevard roadway complete with traffic signals and decorative supports.

We invite all interested citizens to attend and express their views or request information on this matter prior to the start of construction of this project. For this purpose, we have scheduled an

INFORMATIONAL MEETING
DATE: March 27, 2001
TIME: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
PLACE: Novi Civic Center

WHAT IS PLANNED

At this meeting, staff from the City of Novi, the Road Commission for Oakland County and Finbarr's, P.C. & S. will be available to discuss the project and answer questions individually. Project drawings will be available for review. The meeting is informal; please stop by anytime between 7:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

WHEN IT COULD HAPPEN

Tentative project schedule is to begin construction in conjunction with the paving project to the west. Construction is scheduled for the 2001 season.

HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED

Your attendance at the meeting will give the best opportunity for presenting your views and gaining desired information. However, we welcome your written statements to us. Send your comments to: City of Novi, Department of Public Services, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48275. If you request accommodation in accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, please provide our department (248) 347-0354 with five days advance notice.

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.
(3-22-01) NPNV 1035/91

Applebee's comes to Grand River

By RANDAL YAKY
Staff Writer

There is a new restaurant or more fittingly, a familiar restaurant, moving into Novi.

The Novi City Council approved Monday a Class C liquor license for a new Applebee's to be constructed in the Market Square development at the northwest quadrant of Beck Road and Grand River Avenue.

Applebee's International Inc., with over \$2.5 billion in sales annually, will be serving beer and wine at the new establishment. A

NOTICE — CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR BIDS POLICE MOTORCYCLE EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATION

The City of Novi will receive sealed bids for Police Motorcycle Emergency Equipment and Installation 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, Tuesday, April 3, 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 48275-3024**

All bids must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. ENVELOPES MUST BE PLAINLY MARKED "Police Motorcycle Emergency Equipment" 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 informality or both, to reject any or all proposals; and in general to make the award of the contract in any manner deemed by the City, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the City of Novi.

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Class C liquor license forbids the serving of hard liquor.

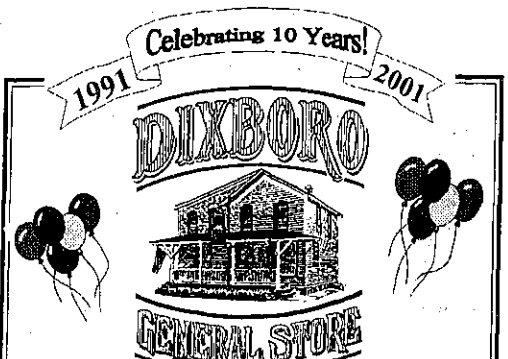
Representative for Applebee's, John Carlin, spoke to council about bringing the new restaurant to the city.

"We're pleased to be putting one (Applebee's) at the shopping center on Beck," Carlin said. "It will be immediately west of the shopping center entrance."

Applebee's received preliminary site plan approval from the planning commission in January. The company is currently in the review process for its final site plan. The final plan will have to go back in front of the planning commission then on to city council as the last step in the process that would allow construction to begin.

Council voted 6-0 to give the liquor license to Applebee's. Council member Craig DeRoche was not in attendance.

Randal Yaky is a staff writer for the Novi News. His e-mail address is ryaky@htl.homecom.net.



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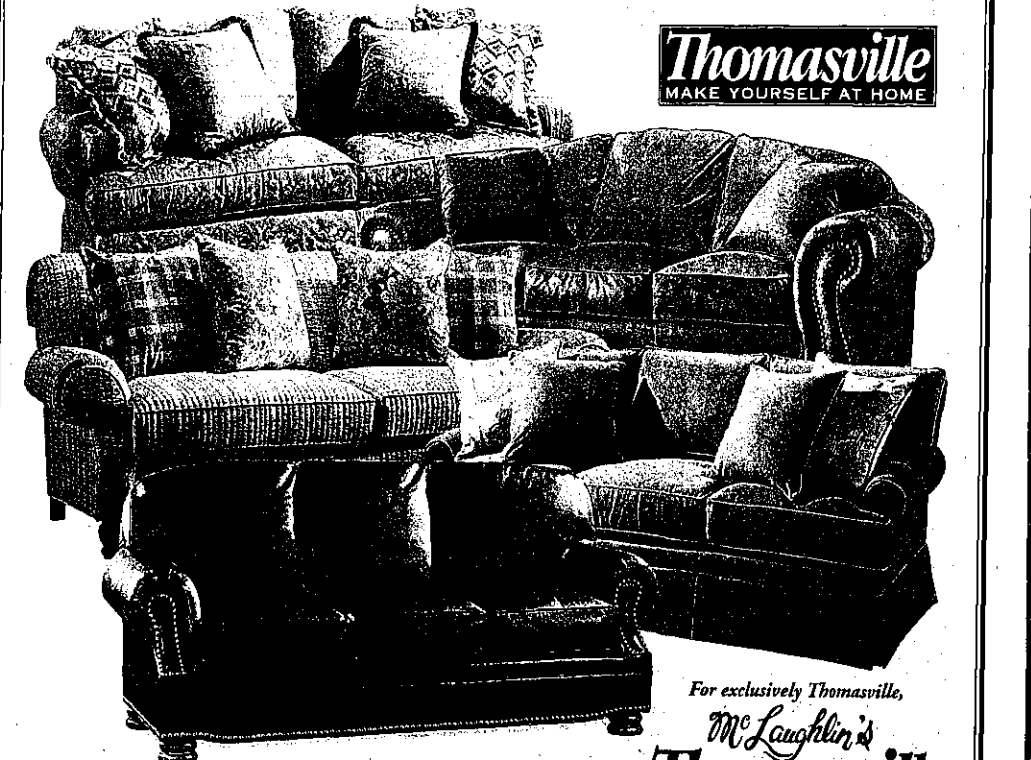
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WALLED LAKE NEWS

Thursday, March 22, 2001

PAGE 7A

COMMUNITY EXPRESSIONS

AUCTION THIS FRIDAY

Glengary School of Walled Lake will host a PTA Auction, benefiting school programs. The auction will be held this Friday, March 23, from 7 - 9 p.m. Cost is free and open to the public.

Glengary is located at 3070 Woodbury, north off of Glengary, east of Benet Road.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Join students from the middle and high schools as they present their perspectives on key substance abuse issues in our community. What do they know and how do you feel about what is going on.

March 22 from 7-9 p.m. at the Community Education Center, 615 N. Pontiac Trail in Walled Lake.

Representatives of Student Assistance, Probation, Public Safety, Substance Abuse Treatment, Youth Assistance, Faith Community and parents will share what they know about the issues.

For more information or to RSVP call Youth Assistance at 956-5070.

MOMS 2 MOMS SALE

A Moms-2-Moms sale will be held 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 24 at the Walled Lake United Methodist Church. Over 20 people will be selling their gently used baby equipment, baby and children's clothing, toys and games, and maternity clothes.

The 50 cents donation for admission will benefit the church's Appalachia Service Project group.

The church is located off Pontiac Trail at 313 Northport behind Lynch Funeral Home. Call (248) 624-2405 for more information.

No strollers, please.

CALLING ALL INTERESTED RESIDENTS

Interested area residents are invited to attend monthly Commerce Planning Action Committee meetings. The next informal meeting will be held on Monday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m. For information and directions, call (248) 360-2374.

Subsequent regular meetings will be held at the Richardson Center on the following dates: Mondays at 7:30 p.m., April 30, May 21 and June 18. Richardson Center is located on Oakley Park Road (across from Walled Lake Central High School).

Bring your ideas and input. Call Sue at (248) 360-2374 or Marcia, (248) 363-3571 for more information.

LIBRARY BRIEFS

Walled Lake City Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and closed on Sunday.

The library offers many interesting events and programs.

• **Friends "Fill-a-Bag" Book Sale.** March 24, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Buy a bag for \$2 and fill it to the top with fiction, non-fiction, juvenile and adult books.

• **Friday, March 23 the Friends will preview the sale and be able to fill a bag for a buck.** This is a great time to join the Friends group and take advantage of early bird shopping.

• **Preschool Story Hour.** Wednesdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m. For ages 3- to 5-year-olds. Registration is required. Programs will include simple crafts, fingerplays, music, and group activities. Recommended for the independent listener.

• **Sessions 1 and 2 are over.** However, Session 3 is from March 28-April 11 and Session 4 April 25-May 9.

• **Children's Programs**

• **Honey Pot Evening Story Hour.** Thursdays, 7-7:30 p.m. For ages 2-6, no registration is required. Children are invited to bring their own Honey Pot or favorite stuffed animal as we gather around the "Honey pot" to enjoy fingerplays, songs, simple crafts, puppets and all the stories we can hold.

• **Laplet Story Hour.** Thursdays, 10:30-11 a.m. For ages 18-35 months. A special time for parent and child to interact together with stories. Designed to introduce stories to a group setting along with simple fingerplays, songs and activities which foster group participation, listening and social interaction.

• **Registration is required for Session 3, March 29-April 12; Session 4, April 26-May 10. Sessions 1 and 2 are finished.**

Walled Lake Consolidated Schools lunch menu for the week of March 23:

Friday, March 23 - Cook's Choice.
Monday, March 26 - Italian Dinkers w/ Marinara Sauce; Taco Bell Burrito; Little Caesars Pizza at Leon Lake Elementary.
Tuesday, March 27 - Aunt Jemima Waffles w/ Turkey Sausage; Galaxy Cheese Pizza; Little Caesars Pizza at Keith Elementary.
Wednesday, March 28 - Cook's Choice.
Thursday, March 29 - NO LUNCH SERVED.
Friday, March 30 - NO LUNCH SERVED.

2001 prices:
Complete Lunch \$1.75
Reduced Price Lunch 40 cents
White/Choc. Milk 30 cents
Homemade Cookies 25 cents
Fun-size Snacks 25 cents
Ice Cream 40 cents
Sunchips, Doritos, and Popcorn 40 cents
Yogurt 50 cents
Assorted Flavors Fruit Roll Up 40 cents
Assorted Flavors Fruit Drink Box 40 cents

VILLAGE OF VOLVERINE LAKE

The Park and Recreation Board will be sponsoring "Lunch with the Easter Bunny" on Sunday, April 8 at the Richardson Community Center. There are two sessions, 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The cost of \$9 per person includes lunch and a goodie bag. There will also be a raffle for prizes.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling the village office at 624-1710.

ENROLL FOR KINDERGARTEN

If you have a child who will be starting kindergarten next fall, or know of someone who does, contact the school office at (248) 956-2600.

Incoming kindergarten students must be five years old on or before December 1, 2001.

COMPUTER RECYCLING

Residents of the cities of Farmington, Farmington Hills, Novi, South Lyon, Southfield, Walled Lake, Wixom and Lyon Township should gather their used computer equipment (UCE) and mark their calendars for the six regional Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Days scheduled for 2001.

The Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County has added used computer equipment to its list of items it will accept at its regional HHW events. UCE includes central processing units, monitors, keyboards, mice, modems, printers, and other personal computer peripheral devices.

In addition to used computer equipment, residents may take oil-based paint, pesticides, herbicides, cleaners, fluorescent light bulbs and other common household chemicals from their homes, garages and workshops to Wixom City Hall, 49045 Pontiac Trail (between Wixom and Beck roads) April 21, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

TALENT SHOW COMING TO GUEST ELEMENTARY

The talent show at Mary Helen Guest Elementary is fast approaching. A dress rehearsal is slated for March 26 at 4 p.m. Two performances of the talent show will be presented at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27.

For more information on the talent show, contact Guest Elementary at (248) 956-3300.

FOLLOWING IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS

During the month of March, students at Guest Elementary will be encouraged to emulate the actions of famous peacekeepers.

The theme is "Following in Their Footsteps." Footsteps representing these peacekeepers: Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela and Cesar Chavez, are placed in the hallway. When students are recognized as peacekeepers by staff or other students, their names will appear on the footsteps.

As Guest participates through April 4, the school community has chosen to use the green ribbon as a sign of peace, non-violence and unity. A green ribbon to tie on his or her backpack for all to see.

Connector planning in the works

Residents will get chance to have their say on corridor

By TRAN LONGMOORE
Staff Writer

At the first two rounds of meetings of the West Oakland Corridor Study, residents will have a chance to have their say on the project. The study will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. March 29 at Milford High School and from 7 to 9 p.m. April 3 at the Wixom Community Center.

"Public input is critical to the entire process," said Mike Howell, Director of Planning and Development for the City of Walled Lake.

With a big lake in the middle of the town, it's unlikely that anyone would suggest a north/south highway through Walled Lake. Still, Powell, who serves on the study's steering committee, said it's important for city residents to make their voices heard.

"Any major improvements to the road infrastructure in western Oakland County is going to affect life in Walled Lake," Howell said. "It's important that residents are heard while the study is being done. We don't want to spend 18 months and a million dollars only to have people complain after the fact."

Judging from the preliminary map, residents seem to think the east end of Milford Township and western City of Wixom is a good place to build a highway.

But Milford Village Council member Ron Fowkes, also a member of the study's steering committee, is telling people not to over react.

"These are very preliminary, resident-suggested improvements," Fowkes said. "At this point, we're just keeping the options open."

Representatives from the study committee will take more ideas from the public in the upcoming meetings. Then, it will be time to start paring down.

"It's a very complex process," said Rogers. "We'll put each proposal up against hundreds of factors to see if they're feasible."

Rogers said that residents can expect many more public meetings as it gets down to crunch time.

When we can narrow it down to three or four proposals, we'll extensively gather public input," Rogers said.

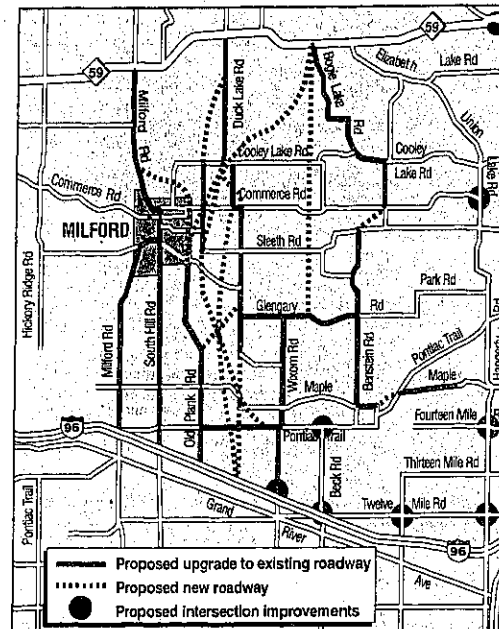
The West Oakland Corridor Study is inviting residents to two public meetings.

Thursday March 29, 7-9 p.m.
Milford High School Cafeteria

Tuesday April 3, 7-9 p.m.
Wixom Community Center

To learn more about the study, call 1-866-662-WOCS, e-mail WOCS@PBWorld.com, or visit www.oaklandcorridor.com.

Preliminary connector proposals offered



SOURCE: West Oakland Corridor Study

The study should be completed by March of 2002, Rogers said. It would take at least 12 years to acquire the funding and federal approval to build the road.

The recommendations have to be approved by each of the communities on the steering committee, including the cities of Walled Lake, Novi, Farmington Hills and Wixom, and the villages of Milford and Wixom.

But Milford Village Council member Ron Fowkes, also a member of the study's steering committee, is telling people not to over react.

"These are very preliminary, resident-suggested improvements," Fowkes said. "At this point, we're just keeping the options open."

Representatives from the study committee will take more ideas from the public in the upcoming meetings. Then, it will be time to start paring down.

"It's a very complex process," said Rogers. "We'll put each proposal up against hundreds of factors to see if they're feasible."

Rogers said that residents can expect many more public meetings as it gets down to crunch time.

When we can narrow it down to three or four proposals, we'll extensively gather public input," Rogers said.

TRAN LONGMOORE is a reporter for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 655-1507 or by e-mail at tlongmoore@htl.homecom.net.

Volleyball marathon at Western raises money for Make-a-Wish Foundation



By JENNIFER NORRIS
Staff Writer

Students at Walled Lake Western High School participated in a 24-hour volleyball marathon beginning Friday afternoon to benefit the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

The marathon began at 4 p.m. Friday and continued until 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Craig Rimpsey, student activities advisor, said every participant was required to receive \$100 in pledges from sponsors. The money from pledges will be presented to the Make-a-Wish Foundation, a not-for-profit organization that grants wishes to children under age 18 suffering from life-threatening illnesses.

Students not only played rounds of volleyball during the 24-hour period; they were served several meals and entertained by a variety of other activities including aerobics, a limbo contest, a fortune teller, games, a performance by the "19 Wheels" band and much more.

Students also said they were pleased with the level of student participation and were supportive of the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

"I think it's great," said Kelly Simeteta, a junior at Walled Lake Western High School. "We had a great turnout. It brings everybody together."

"If we can help sick kids feel better, that makes you feel like you've done something and made a difference in someone's life," she said.

Sofiane Szlamkovic, a senior at Western and member of student council, said, "I think it's a great thing. It's amazing all the work that went into it. It's a great feeling to know that after everything we've done, it's all coming together. Everybody's having a good time."

An estimated \$30,000 was raised for the Make-a-Wish Foundation as a result of the marathon.

Senior Hallie Rosenbaum, also spoke highly of the fundraiser.

"It's a way to get the community involved and have all the students at Western participate in a good cause," she said. "It was surprising how well it came off."

"It's fabulous," Rimpsey said. "It's a great way for kids to get some understanding of what they're really capable of in regards to community service."

The marathon was also staffed by scores of volunteers who prepared meals, assisted with the various activities and provided supervision.

Brenda Vidovic, fundraising manager for Make-a-Wish, said she was pleased to see so much participation and student involvement.

A 24-hour volleyball marathon was held at Walled Lake Western to raise money for the Make-a-Wish Foundation last week.

High school shadowed by bomb threat

By JENNIFER NORRIS
Staff Writer

What impressed me the most was that our students were upset that someone would call in and do that."

A prank telephone call resulted in Walled Lake Western High School students being dismissed early on March 15.

According to Western school officials, an anonymous phone call was placed suggesting that there was a possible bomb threat.

The Oakland County Sheriff's Department was notified and it was decided to evacuate the school building. A thorough police search ensued with the canine unit sniffing throughout the facility for explosive materials. Nothing was discovered in the search.

In a written statement that was sent home to parents, school officials said announcements to release students began at 10:30 a.m. and students departed by 11:15 a.m. Officials also said that students who rode the school buses were instructed to wait in the football field bleachers until the buses arrived and student drivers were allowed to drive home.

During the building evacuation, Barlow said the students behaved commendably.

"The kids were so orderly," he said. Barlow also said that students were angry that such a call was made to the school.

"What impressed me the most was that our students were upset that someone would call in and do that," he said.

It. Dennis Davis, of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department's Commerce Substation said the investigation to determine who placed the phony threat to the high school is still ongoing.

"It's a problem because it ties up a lot of people," said Davis, adding that this type of prank is considered a four-year felony offense.

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at 248-349-1700 ext. 107 or by e-mail at jnorriss@htl.homecom.net.

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LET'S HEAR IT FOR VOLUNTEERS!

COMMUNITY FOCUS

PAGE 8A

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Newcomers and Neighbors spice up annual auction

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

Take a ride on a hot air balloon or enjoy five home cooked meals prepared by a personal chef - all while supporting a great cause.

On March 24, the Novi Newcomers & Neighbors will host their annual Gift & Craft Auction to help benefit a number of charitable programs in the area.

The event, with its Mexican fiesta atmosphere, will be held at the Village Oaks Club House and will include appetizers, beer, wine, music and dancing. "It won't only be a fun evening, but in the process will support our community, our children and our schools," said auction co-chair Kafa Sawaya.

The money collected at the auction will benefit such local programs as the Emergency Food Bank, Backpacks for Kids, and D.A.R.E. Funds will also be used to provide scholarships to high school students, help needy families during the holidays and offer assistance to local nursing homes, as well as the Novi Library and local sports programs.

"I would encourage anyone and everyone in the community to attend because all the donations benefit the community," said Novi Newcomers & Neighbors president Debbie Sunden. "All the money raised stays in the community."

Auctioned items at this year's event include: movie packages,

"The businesses in Novi have been extremely generous. We couldn't have done this without them."

Robbi LaRoy
Novi Newcomers and Neighbors
Auction Co-Chair

sports club memberships, gift baskets, restaurant certificates, comedy club tickets, autographed sports memorabilia, jewelry, and salon visits. A one night get-away at the Hotel Barometre for two will also be auctioned off, as well as a Darren McCarthy Detroit Red Wings jersey and two rounds of golf at the Links of Novi with a cart. In all, over 60 items, valued at over \$5,000, will be up for grabs.

"The business in Novi have been extremely generous," said auction co-chair Robbi LaRoy, on all the donated items. "We couldn't have done this without them."

Traditionally the club's auction was primarily for arts and crafts, but this year decided to make the event larger and more formal.

"Hopefully, it will become big-

ger and better with each passing year," Sawaya said.

The event begins at 7 p.m. with a silent auction running until 9 p.m., followed by a live auction from 9-10 p.m. and food and music until midnight. A D.J. will provide the entertainment.

"Not only does the auction help strengthen our city, but people will find great gifts and some good deals," Sawaya said. "We really hope the community will help make this a success."

Couples are encouraged to attend and attire is casual. Tickets are \$15 a couple or \$7.50 per person in advance, and \$20 per couple or \$10 per person at the door. All major credit cards will be accepted for auction purchases.

The Village Oaks Club House is located at 22959 Brookforest, off Village Lake Road, off of Meadowbrook between 9 and 10 Mile.

With 108 members, the Novi Newcomers & Neighbors is a local organization formed to help newcomers to the area, as well as current residents, become more familiar with the Novi community on a social and civic level.

For more information on this year's auction or to R.S.V.P., call Janice Church at (248) 344-4882.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@n.news.com.net



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi Newcomers and Neighbors' Kafa Sawaya, Robbi LaRoy, (both co-chairs) and president Debbie Sunden will be gathering this Saturday to auction off these and other fine goods.

The Novi Newcomers & Neighbors would like to thank the following businesses for their donations:

AMC Theatre, Ann Arbor Hands On Museum, Backyard Birds, Bahama Breeze, Balloon Quest Inc., Balloon Ride, Bally's Total Fitness, Bed Bath & Beyond, Bodies In Motion, Bonfire Bistr & Brewery, Border Cantina, Breckenridge Studios, Charisma Salon, Conrad's Gymnastics Academy, Cookers Bar & Grill, Country Epicure, Danman's Hardware, Dave & Buster's, Davis Auto Care, Detroit Lions, Detroit Red Wings, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Diamond Castle, Jewellers, Diamond Cuts, Diamond Jim, Brady's, Edwards Caterer & Carry-out Cuisine, Family Christian Bookstores, Fireplace & Spa, Frankly Gourmet, Friday's, Cinopolis, Glenda's, Goldstein Jewelry, Grady's American Grill, Great Lakes Jewelry, Hotel Baronette, J. Alexander's, JoAnn's Etc., Jet's Pizza, Johnny On The Spot, Knights Inn, Las Vegas Golf, Lazy Lizard Cantina, Lifetime Fitness, Links of Novi, Lover's Lane, Macaroni Grill, Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, The Marquis Theatre, Meadowbrook Art Center, Novi Bowl, Novi Community Education Class Certificate, Novi Hilton Inn, Novi Ice Arena, Novi Parks & Recs, No. VI Salon, Olive Garden, On The Border, Palace, Papa Ramono's, Papa Vito's, Pat's Supplies Plus, Plymouth Whalers, Ready Set Paint, Rent-A-Flick, Salon Head West, Santitas, Second City, Shepherd's Hollow Golf Course, Sparr's Flower's, Sports Club Membership, Steve & Rocky's, Talent Network, The Sawmill, Vision's Salon, White Rabbit, and Zax's Car Wash.

Novi Middle School Honor Roll - third card marking

Grade 7

Joseph Abbo, Ansa Ahmed, Justin Allison, Brett Anderson, Jillian Angelico, Michelle Angeli, Jonathan Ansara, Allison Arce, Michael Arnold, Monica Arun, Kyle Bagdon, Meghan Barnatz, Jennifer Barlage, Emily Barton, Daniel Beal, Erica Benham, Kyle Blickensstaff, Ken Bond, Ashley Bowles, Kristen Bradford, Amanda Branderhul, Daniel Bruder, Laura Brudzynski, Shane Budding, Erica Buratini, Melanie Burchard, Joshua Bush, Myranda Cady, Kenneth Calderone, Samantha Caldwell, David Carnegie, Margaret Chang, Michelle Channell, Ryan Charette, Bhavin Chauhan, Katherine Check, Pearl Chiang, Elizabeth Chidsey, Thomas Claverilla, Katherine Colacino, Brandon Coles, Megan Corwin, Henry Coy-Burt, Matthew Crawford, Tanya Cripps, Rachael Cunningham, Kimberly Davies, Justin Davis, Danielle DeBiasi, Gina DeLeon, David Denyer, Almee Brienne DiNapoli, Angela Dietz, William Dircks Jr., Hallee DiRocco, Aaron Dixon, Jennifer Dorsch, Courtney Doling, Robert Duquette, Diego Duran, Stacy Ephraim, Lauren Egan, Steven Fannon, Samantha Farless, Meredith Farrugia, Nicholas Fenzan, Molly Flaherty, Katie Flanagan, Michael Fleischner, Rachele Polino, Ryan Fox, Jeffrey Fraser, Joshua Freeman, Hilson Fummo, Yuta Funatsu, Kathleen Furman, Jessica Gaslovec, Ashley Gazdecki, Elizabeth Gee, Benjamin Genise, Brittany Gerich, Sangita Ghosh, Peter Gignac, Steven Gilliam, Bryan Glick, Julie Goldsmith, Anna

Gonzalez, Kyle Goodman, Cassandra Gordon, John Goubi, Nicholas Graziano, Elaine Grech, Sarah Greenberg, Abigail Greulich, Hollie Gurizian, Samantha Guss, Daniel Haddad, Renee Hadley, Alexander Hamilton, Ann Hamill, Lisa Harden, Steven Hart, Lauren Haska, Andrew Hayes, Erin Haynes, Ryan Heffernan, Kelli Herick, Danielle Heverly, Erin Himes, John Ho, Justin Hodges, Michael Hoffer, Brian Hopton, Erica Howard, Melinda Hur, Amber Hutchison, Matthew Irwin, Melissa James, Todd Janer, Laura Janik, Linda Janik, Justin Jeffe, Sarah Jones, Samantha Jungman, Madalyn Kaitz, Alexandria Karas, Georgia Katopodis, Scott Keling, Kara Kelly, James Kim, Laurei Kline, James Knockeart, Alex Kolb, Jeffrey Kolb, Scott Kotecha, Nicholas Kroll, Natalie Kuczajski, Jenna Kuhn, Julie Kuhn, Julie Langenhorst, Bradley Larson, Craig Lawler, Amanda Lawrence, Andrew Lee, Kevin Lee, Seang-Yon Lee, Benjamin Lichorobiec, Nicholas Lichorobiec, Heather Liu, Jenny Loboda, Allison Lofgren, Riley Lokar, April Lucas, Derek Lynch, Elena Lyons, Katelyn MacDonald, Andrew Marek, Christopher MacIsaac, Christina Maczko, Nikhi Maley, Nicholas Malloy, Bindu Manyan, Lauren Martin, Crystal Martinez, Kristen Maxwell, Jack Mason, Melissa Masson, Lauren McLeod, Heather McManaman, Ryan McManara, Eric McQueen, Michael Mehl, Kenneth Michaluk, Bryan Miller, Jennifer Miller, Megan Miller, Nicole Minghine, Michael Mitsangyi,

Elizabeth Mitchell, Nicole Moisan, Jonathan Moore, Scott Moran, Gregory Morissette, Hope Morris, Kyle Mouch, Chris Muganias, Kana Murase, Lauren Murray, Marie Nagle, Ayano Nakamura, Kimberly Natzel, Brenden Neville, Brent Neville, Margaret Noble, Samuel Nuttle, Shane O'Connor, Kevin O'Keefe, Brandon O'Sullivan, Sawako Ojima, Catarina Oliveira, Kamil Oliver, Carlos Ortiz, Peter Papa, Robert Papellian, Andrew Park, Lewis Park, Nipa Patel, Lauren Perlin, Jennifer Platok, Candice Pistoletti, Elizabeth Plucher, Emma Platt, Megan Prekates, Quinn Priels, Liding Qi, Nicholas Racon, Adrienne Ragsdale, Apoorva Rastogi, Courtney Ratkowitz, Shae Reichley, Shaun Reinhold, Matthew Renner, Jason Rigdon, Rachael Rogge, Steven Rousseau, Denise Rowe, Amanda Roy, Travis Rozek, Katrina Rydzewski, Brittany Safford, Kauri Sakamoto, Nicholas Sailey, Caitlyn Samples, Ishaan Sandhu, Kevin Schmidt, Brian Schore, Thomas Schryer, Emily Schutman, Brett Schwarzlose, Carrie Shadwell, Nicholas Shafer, Nicholas Sherman, Reina Shishikura, Elaine Shope, Joshua Short, Adil Siddiqui, Matthew Simpson, Katie Siskonen, Bradley Sisson, Christine Skouberdis, Audrey Smith, Derek Smilli, Meagan Shavey, Xue Song, Marcus Spears, Daniel Sprys, Ruchira Srinivasakrishnan, Jessica Steadnika, Albert Stanek, Nicole Stephen, Chase Stevens, Laura Stiner, Lindsay Stran, Robert Strawser, Richard Sturgis III, Steven Swanson, David Switzer,

Megan Szalony, Patricia Szegyel, James Tamana, Natsuko Tateishi, Ashley TerBeek, Lindsey TerBeek, Kristin Thomas, Matthew Thomas, Chelsea Thorpe, Matthew Thrush, Todd Thurman, Diana Tieu, Patrick Torossian, Josh Toyoda, Lauren Troher, Katelyn Tuck, Caitlin Ulrich, Laura Vandersteiner, Amy Varhol, Christina Vickers, Lillian Vuja, Suzanne Vuljevic, Eric Waggy, Shannon Wagner, Katherine Walker, Kellie Walker, Megan

Wallen, Steve Wang, Eri Watanabe, Robert Watts II, Michael Webber, Kimberly Wedl, Jennifer White, Sean White, Sherick White, John Wilde, Nicholas Wright, Donald Wu, Wei Xie, Anna Yangguchi, Wendy Ying, Michael Yim, Mishlene Yono, Ashley Yum, Lindsay Yuskio, Eric Zhao, Amanda Zorza, and Michael Zurek.

Grade 8

Charles Adams, Majed Afana, Deanna Albanelli, Andrea Alfors,

Molly Alpert, Lauren Anderson, Meera Arghal, Geoffrey Attia, Ahrens, Chelsea Atiyeh, Georgiana Baciu, Nicole Baradi, Jordan Barnes, Stephanie Barth, Adam Bednarek, Sara Bloeski, Megan Bixby, Kell Black, Nicole Blaszyk, Gordon Bowdell, Evan Boyajian, Kelly Breedlove, Christopher Britten, Richard Branson, Laura Brunner, Michelle Budlow, Brendan Buff, Drew Bulbak,

Continued on 16

Organizations Calendar

ACORD
Phone: (734) 349-1043

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Where: Faith Community United Presbyterian Church, 44400 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375
When: General meeting Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.; Couples meeting Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.; Men's meeting Sunday at 4 p.m.
Contact: Stanley
Phone: (734) 522-8971

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS
Phone: (248) 620-0877

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN - NORTHVILLE/NOVI BRANCH
What: Develops programs to enable college graduates to continue their own intellectual growth.
Contact: Barbara Wilson (248) 348-3999

AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION - NOVI OAKS CHAPTER
What: Bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow professionally.
Where: Wyndham Garden Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi.
When: Every third Monday of the month
Contact: Bettie Johnson
Phone: (248) 960-9559

AMERICAN LEGION NORTHVILLE - POST 147
Phone: (248) 349-1060

AMERICAN LEGION NOVI - POST 19
What: Service group open to all eligible veterans of all wars and conflicts as prescribed by the U.S. Congress. Auxiliary is open to all female members of eligible veterans' families.
Where: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Dr., Novi
When: Every second Tuesday for business and every fourth Tuesday for social event at 8 p.m.
Contact: (248) 344-8235; Auxiliary: (734) 981-5125

AMVETS
What: Provide services and assist with obtaining benefits for veterans and their families of military service during and after World War II through present.
Where: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Dr., Novi
When: First Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m.
Phone: (248) 349-2835

BUSINESS NETWORK INTERNATIONAL

Greater Novi Chapter
Where: Novi Hilton, 2111 Haggerty Road, Novi
When: Every Wednesday from 7-8:30 a.m.
Contact: BNI regional office
Phone: (810) 323-3800
When: Chapter
Where: Leon's Restaurant, 29710 S. Wilson Road, Wilson, between Pontiac Trail and I-96
When: Every Friday from 7-8:30 a.m.
Contact: BNI regional office
Phone: (810) 323-3800

CALLING CARD
Contact: Senja Lane
Phone: (248) 348-0628

CIVIC CONCERN
Contact: Marlene Kutz
Phone: (248) 344-1033

CIVIL AIR PATROL - NORTHVILLE
Phone: (734) 591-0360

CIVIL AIR PATROL - SIXTH GATE COM. POST
Where: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Dr., Novi
When: Second Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m.
Phone: (734) 421-8298

COMMUNITY CLOTHES CLUB
What: Assists with emergency needs and helps low-income families with clothes and baby items.
When: Every Monday from 9 a.m. to noon and 6:30-8:30 p.m.; the first two Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon and the last two Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon
Phone: (248) 349-5553

COUNTY GARDEN CLUB
Phone: (248) 349-8111

DETROIT OAKLAND CHAPTER - GENTLEMEN SINGERS CHORUS
Contact: Fran Durham
Phone: (248) 344-4613

FRIENDS OF MAYBURY STATE PARK
Contact: Bob Peterson
Phone: (248) 349-2357

FRIENDS OF NORTHVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION
Phone: (248) 462-4413

FRIENDS OF NORTHVILLE DISTRICT LIBRARY
Phone: (248) 348-6023

FRIENDS OF NORTHVILLE MILL POND
Phone: (248) 349-0712

GOODELLEWS
Contact: Bob Peterson
Phone: (248) 349-2357

HURON VALLEY GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL
Phone: (800) 497-2688

KIWANIS CLUB

Phone: (248) 349-0611

KIWANIS EARLY BIRDS
Phone: (248) 347-3470

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Phone: (734) 453-9833

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTHWEST OAKLAND
What: Promotes responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and action on selected governmental issues
Phone: (248) 380-8474

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE - LODGE NO. 1190
Phone: (248) 344-0920

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE - NORTHVILLE DETACHMENT NO. 52
What: A service-oriented organization dedicated to the purpose of uniting all U.S. Marines, both discharged and on active duty. They also assist and help all needy veterans and their families.
Where: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Dr., Novi
When: Second Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m.
Phone: (734) 421-8298

MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOCIATION
Phone: (248) 476-0320

NORTHVILLE ACTION COUNCIL
Phone: (248) 349-1237

NORTHVILLE ANIMAL AID
Phone: (248) 349-3738

NORTHVILLE ARTS COMMISSION
Phone: (248) 349-5104

NORTHVILLE ATHLETIC BOOSTERS
Phone: (248) 380-6459

NORTHVILLE COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Contact: Laurie Marrs
Phone: (248) 349-7640

NORTHVILLE CO-OP NURSERY SCHOOL
Phone: (248) 348-1791

NORTHVILLE EAGLES
Phone: (248) 349-2479

NORTHVILLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Phone: (248) 348-1857

NORTHVILLE LIONS CLUB
Phone: (248) 348-9075

NORTHVILLE MOTHERS CLUB
Phone: (248) 344-1555

NORTHVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION
Phone: (248) 349-3738

Contact: Traci Smoock
Phone: (248) 349-0203

NORTHVILLE RAINBOWS NO. 28
Phone: (248) 349-1714

NORTHVILLE ROTARY CLUB
Phone: (248) 344-8440

NORTHVILLE SENIOR CITIZENS
Contact: Sue Kolrus
Phone: (248) 349-1140

NORTHVILLE WOMAN'S CLUB
Contact: Virginia Martin
Phone: (248) 349-3054

NORTHVILLE YOUTH ASSISTANCE
Contact: Mary Ellen King
Phone: (248) 344-1615

NOVI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
What: Serves the public through amateur radio service. It offers help during all emergencies and disasters. The club also provides parade control on July 4 and works with R.A.C.E.S. and the tornado alert system.
Where: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile, Novi
When: First Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.
Phone: (248) 349-4064

NOVI BAND
Where: Novi High School or Novi Middle School, throughout school year
When: Tuesday evenings, 7:30 p.m.
Phone: (248) 332-8244

NOVI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
What: The chamber of commerce is an organization which coordinates the talents and resources of business and professional men and women.
Where: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Drive, Suite 100, Novi
When: Membership meeting: third Tuesday of every month at noon and board of directors meets at 6 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday
Phone: (248) 349-8748

NOVI CHESS CLUB
Phone: (248) 344-9833

NOVI HISTORICAL SOCIETY
What: Gives residents of the community a knowledge of their common heritage; fosters the collection and preservation of records and objects; and loans historical material to other historical societies or educational institutions have a curator. It is also the purpose of the society to establish a historical museum in Novi.
Contact: Kathy Match
Phone: (248) 349-6774

NOVI JAYCEES
What: Group of men and women ages

21-39 working on community projects, leadership and spiritual and management skills. The Jaycees sponsor fund raising projects for muscular dystrophy, St. Jude, March of Dimes and local charities affiliated with the Jaycees.

Where: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile, Novi
When: First Thursday of every month at 8 p.m.
Phone: (248) 348-6884

NOVI LIONS CLUB AND LIONESSES CLUB
What: The Lions' objectives are to help the blind, sight-impaired and blind physically and mentally challenged children and to help find cures for preventable blindness. Lionesses work with the Lions Club but also host their own projects and programs.
Where: Kim's Garden Restaurant, 26150 Novi Road, Novi
When: Lions: every second and fourth Wednesday; Lionesses: every third Tuesday. Social hour is at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m.
Phone: Lions: (248) 348-0531; Lionesses: (248) 348-9088

NOVI MINISTERS ASSOCIATION
Phone: (248) 348-8847

NOVI NEWCOMERS AND NEIGHBORS
What: To help newcomers to the area, as well as, current residents who would like to become more familiar with the community on a social and civic level. Newcomers hold fund raisers to aid the Novi community.
When: Once a month, September through May. Social interest groups meet once or twice a month.
Phone: (248) 349-2414

NOVI REBEKAH'S LODGE 482
What: A fraternal organization; the women's division of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.
When: Second and fourth Thursday of every month at 1 p.m.
Phone: (248) 349-2835

NOVI ROTARY CLUB
What: A service-oriented club composed of business and professional people within the community. The Rotarians hold a variety of fund raising events every year.
Where: Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 W. Ten Mile, Novi
When: Every Thursday at noon
Phone: (248) 380-6500

NOVI YOUTH ASSISTANCE
What: Prevention program that relies on local citizens who volunteer their time and skills toward the goal of preventing juvenile delinquency. They are aided by a professional staff person in implementing programs such as

Summer Teen Center, parenting classes, and Substance Abuse Prevention.

Where: Novi Community Education Office, 25345 Tall Road, Novi.
When: Committees meet every fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Phone: (248) 347-0410

ORDER OF ALHAMBRA
Phone: (248) 349-2903

PRESERVATION NOVI
What: Non-profit corporation whose stated goal is to promote and encourage preservation of historic buildings in Novi, for example, restoration of the Forest Farm property.
Where: Annual meeting is in the second quarter and open to all interested residents.
Contact: Kathy Mutch
Phone: (248) 349-6774

SWOCC
What: Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission serves Novi residents with community access television. Residents interested in registering for the TV or radio workshops can call for more information.
Contact: Caren Collins
Phone: (248) 473-7266

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN CLUB
Phone: (248) 348-9077

VETERANS ALLIANCE OF NOVI
What: VAN is a coalition of the following veterans groups: Novi Post 19, The American Legion, Perry Keener Post 76, AMVETS, Northwest Detachment 162, Marine Corps League, and Novi Post 2165, Veterans of Foreign Wars.
Where: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Drive, Suite 100, Novi
When: First and third Monday every month at 7:30 p.m.
Phone: (248) 349-2835

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS - NOVI POST 2165
What: Service oriented organization dedicated to helping military veterans, their families and the community. Membership is open to all honorably discharged veterans of active foreign duty during a wartime as prescribed by the U.S. Congress.
Where: Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Drive, Suite 100, Novi
When: First and third Tuesday every month at 7:30 p.m.

VEV POST NO. 4012
Phone: (248) 348-1450

WOMEN'S NATIONAL FARM AND GARDEN ASSOCIATION
Phone: (248) 349-7596

YMCA
Phone: (734) 261-2161



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NFNN

Bridge will stay in place until financing is found

Continued from 1

the paper and almost every other day you see somewhere in the United States some infrastructure has collapsed. Perhaps, and with all due respect to our county executive (L. Brooks) Patterson, he should come out here and visibly look at this bridge and stand on the side when a semi truck goes

over. I can tell you this. If we have an infrastructure collapse, the people at this table are not going to take the heat for it." "That bridge has to be replaced," Clark continued. "It is on Grand River and that is the county jurisdiction. We are more than willing to work with the county, but it is up to them to stop stalling and step up to the

plate because this is an issue of urgent public safety." According to RCOG spokesperson Craig Bryson, the bridge project is still planned for later this year in hopes that a compromise can be reached over payment. Last month, the RCOG admitted that two other bridges in Novi are not up to

quality standards.

At least two of those bridges have been given weight restrictions that would bar some large trucks from crossing over. Two bridges on Twelve Mile Road, just east and west of Taft Road, were issued weight restrictions for the potential further damage if large semi-tractor trailer trucks cross

the bridge.

The bridges on Twelve Mile are off-limits to trucks carrying 20 tons on one axle or 38 tons for two axle trucks. There are no restrictions on the Grand River bridge at this time, according to RCOG officials. When the Grand River bridge does come down, it could take up to six months to repair.

Oakland County bridges handle nearly ten times the original amount of traffic they were designed to handle, according to the RCOG.

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

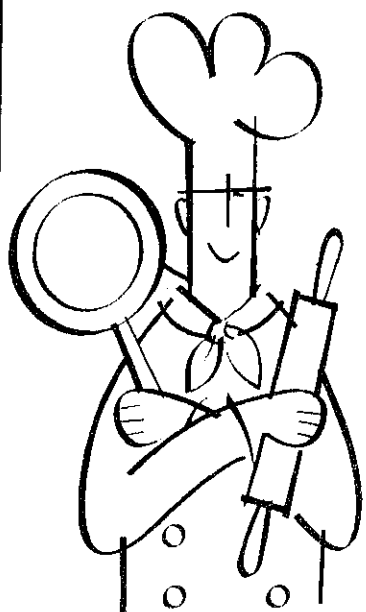
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Elementary learns of Irish customs

Continued from 1

lins. "She looked like she was really mad about something," said eight-year-old Tom Bourque, "maybe at her husband or something."

Any, who has been doing Irish dancing since she was in third grade, enrolled in her first class nine years ago following in the footsteps of her mother.

Janice even joined her daughter for a small number, which the students seemed to really enjoy.

"I didn't think Mrs. Burkhardt could move that fast," said seven-year-old Victoria Tomkinson.

Aside from the dancing, the students also enjoyed hearing the story of a young boy named Becan in the story "The Irish Cinderella" written by Shirley Climo.

A retelling of an Irish variant of the "Cinderella," Becan lives with his mean stepmother and horrible

stepisters. With the help of a magical bull, Becan is able to defeat a sword-wielding giant, slay a fire-breathing dragon, and rescue a princess.

But before the princess can thank him, Becan runs away, leaving only a giant boot behind.

Students, Derek Smith, Jenna Borthwick, Andrew Bell, Kayla Cummins, and Collin Talbot said they not only enjoyed the story and dancing, but the entire day.

"It was fun learning about the history of St. Patrick," said Borthwick. "Like, I never knew that St. Patrick wasn't even Irish. It was interesting."

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@ht.homecomm.net

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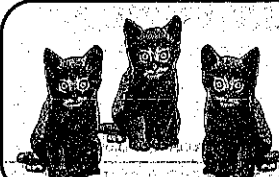
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Library Lines

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.

THE CHAPTER CLUB

The Chapter Club, a book discussion group for grades 4-6, meets Saturday, March 24, from 11 a.m. to noon. Discussed will be "Sideways Stories From Wayside School," by Louis Sachar. To sign up, please stop by the library or call the youth department at 349-0720.

AARP TAX WORKSHOP

An AARP Tax Workshop will be held at the library on Thursday, March 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please register in advance, in person or by calling the library. (Note: You cannot prepare small business or rental property taxes at this workshop.)

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

April's selection is "The Drowning People" by Richard Mason. The group will meet Monday, April 2 at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room. Drop-ins are welcome.

MORE INTERNET

This class is designed to implement further use of the Internet, building on concepts presented in the Introduction to the Internet class. Topics include e-mail, online shopping, Internet Service Providers, viruses, and security. The class meets Thursday, March 22, from 7-8:30 p.m. Hands-on practice included. Please register in advance for all Internet classes by calling the library at 349-0720.

INVESTMENT RESEARCH

Want to start tracking your stocks on the Net? Need to find historical stock data? Want to

learn more about that "hot stock" your broker mentioned? Join us for an overview of Internet sites for personal investors on Monday, March 26, from 7-8 p.m.

GETTING CONNECTED TO THE NET

This 1 1/2 hour program talks about traditional options for getting connected, as well as free Internet connectivity options, cable access, and DSL. Even if you are already connected to the Internet, this class will help you to determine if there's a better way for you to access the Internet. The class meets Tuesday, March 27, from 7-8:30 p.m.

ANCESTORS ONLINE FOR SENIORS

Designed for seniors who want to begin searching the Internet for information on their ancestors, this class meets Wednesday, March 28, from 1-3 p.m. The program will explore key genealogy

Websites and effective search techniques for locating genealogy information.

USING THE LIBRARY CATALOG ON THE WEB

We'll cover author, title, subject, and keyword searches on Thursday, March 29, from 7-8:30 p.m. Learn how to limit your search results to items in the library and/or to specific types of media, such as videos or audio books. The session includes hands-on practice.

MASTERING THE MOUSE FOR SENIORS

This hands-on class, designed to introduce seniors to using the computer mouse, meets Thursday, April 5, from 10-11 a.m. We will complete a self-guided online tutorial, learning and practicing all of the basic functions of the mouse. If you've never used a mouse, this class is definitely for you.

Three parks will receive upgrades

By RANDAL YAKY Staff Writer

Residents will be able to visit new and improved city parks in the future due to the park improvement program passed by city council on March 19.

Council approved \$302,659 for park development including constructing restrooms and picnic shelters this year at both Community Sports Park located at 81000 Eight Mile Road and at the Eleven Mile/Wixom Road Park. The projects will also include grading, installation of public utilities and site restoration.

Community Sports Park will also get playground equipment designed for children between the ages of 5 and 12 years of age.

Rotary Park, located on Roethel Drive off of Nine Mile

Read, will receive new restroom facilities as part of the funding allocation. Rotary Park will also get the same type children's play equipment that will be installed at Community Sports Park.

Construction will begin sometime during the first two weeks of April and is expected to be completed sometime in mid-August.

Community Sports Park and Eleven Mile/Wixom Road Park will get the bulk of the funding, receiving \$216,538 in facility upgrades and development.

Rotary Park will receive \$86,121.

Randal Yaky is a staff writer for the Novi News. His e-mail address is ryaky@it.homedown.net.

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

PAGE 13A

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Parkview Elementary

The Novi News is continuing its school spotlight page, with Parkview Elementary this month.

Located on 11 Mile between Taft and Beck Roads, Parkview, built in 1989, serves students in kindergarten through fourth grades, with an enrollment of about 500 students.

With Joseph Imrick heading as principal, the staff of 30 stands behind the belief that "each child is a special person who is capable of learning."

Parents help the school be the special place that it is by volunteering hundreds of hours each year through their parent teacher

organization. Through the efforts of the PTO, children are provided many opportunities for enrichment beyond the core academic curriculum.

Currently, in the midst of National Reading Month, the PTO is giving Parkview students a chance to choose a new book from the pot at the end of the Library Rainbow that is not filled with gold, but instead full of popular books.

With the new Library Labyrinth program, students choose a favorite book which will be labeled with a special shamrock including their name, and then will be added to the Media Center collection.



These 3-D fish swim in a coral reef.

Artwork by Kristen Schott, third grade

If you were the leader of the country, what would you change?

As ruler of this country my first priority is to reduce violence in our everyday lives, especially in schools. To make this change we need to have the parents of children not work as many hours. Businesses and corporations would be required to limit the work hours of their employees, allowing them more time at home with their children. This would benefit the children so that they would be well supervised with love and affection. I feel that the children would spread goodness to others, and not act out in a violent or destructive way. This would make our world

a peaceful and better place to live.
-Caroline Johnson, age 10

If I were the leader of the country, I would want everyone to have health insurance, especially elderly people and people with cancer. Since health insurance covers money for medication, this would help people that have to take expensive drugs for their illness. Many people have to go without food to pay for the medication they need. If you don't know someone that is ill, chances are you will. I feel

that our leaders waste a lot of money. I feel they should use the money to help people. Many of our leaders should have to visit senior citizens and people with serious sicknesses that don't have insurance, and then they would see how bad these people are without their medication. If I were the leader of the country, I would be very upset to see these people or anyone else without health insurance, so I would make it a law that nobody is without it.
-Glenn Maley, age 11



A sunflower grows tall.

Artwork by Nicole Ripdon, first grade

CLOUD POEMS

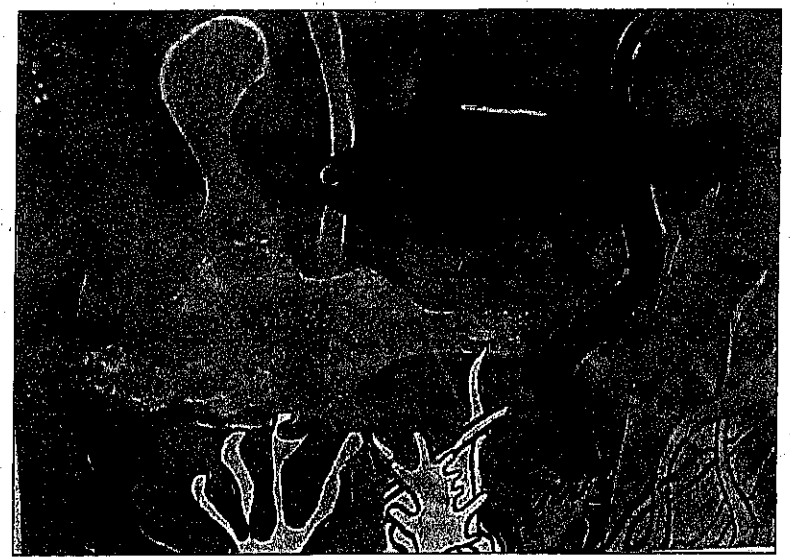
Stratus, stratus.
I can't wait until you come.
Winter will be so much fun.
But when summer comes
Away you'll run.
And there'll be no more winter fun.
-Third grader Katie Barry

Clouds, clouds,
They go so high.
They go so low.
They make rain,
They make snow!
-Third grader T.J. Karsisz



A bird, perhaps a sparrow, perches on a branch.

Artwork by Mimi Chen, third grade



These 3-D fish also swim in a coral reef, maybe the same one.

Artwork by Caitlin McEachern, third grade

MY SPECIAL PLACE

By Kristen Sanctorum
Third Grader

My special place is my grandma's house. We do a lot of fun things there. One of my favorite things to do is draw pictures. My grandma is a very good artist. Once she helped me draw a seal. It turned out really well.

Sometimes my whole family goes and sometimes just me and my sister go. A lot of times we build card houses and knock them down. My grandma sews clothes for me, my sister, and sometimes my American Dolls. She is a great sewer. Me, my grandma, and my sister like to do puzzles. Once we did a kitten puzzle that had 100 pieces. It was awesome.

We like to play board games too. One of my favorite games is Operation. We like to plant flowers. My favorite kind of flower is the Snap Dragon. It is so neat! My grandma's house is a special place.



Fish swim in their natural habitat.

Artwork by Kevin Hu, second grade

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OPINION

PAGE 14A

Thursday, March 22, 2001

NOVI NEWS

Part of HomeTown Communications Network™

Kelli Cooley
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Robert Jackson
MANAGING EDITOR
Grace Perry
PUBLISHER
Banks Dismore
VP/COO

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.

Responsibility is the word with RCOC and bridge

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) once again has seemingly forgotten about its responsibility to roads within the city of Novi.

Last winter, the RCOC told city administration that they did not have enough equipment to plow county roads in the city. Now, with plans for demolition of the CSX bridge over Grand River

county roads, the bridge at Grand River and CSX Railroad should certainly take priority. We sympathize with other communities but potholes are not as serious as the RCOC is now over 70 years old and in dire need of replacement.

We agree with Mayor Richard Clark when he says that the RCOC should "step up to the plate" and get the bridge replaced. We are also aware that there are weight restrictions on two other bridges along Twelve Mile Road. What is to become of those bridges? We understand the need for more money into roads but the hazard of dangerous bridges must be considered.

After the governor appointed a committee to look at how the state's gas tax should be divided (Act 51), and the committee did virtually nothing, we would urge lawmakers to re-establish the committee and take a serious look at how gasoline tax money could be used to repair bridges.

As for the RCOC, why is the county road commission in money trouble and why is it in trouble when it comes only to Novi roads?

According to the RCOC, approximately \$104.4 million worth of projects that were submitted in previous years have yet to be funded. We understand the plight of the RCOC. But unlike the serious potholes that plague other

Reality T.V.; Novi-Northville style

Capitalizing on the current fad of "reality TV" shows, entertainment producers in the industry with connections to Northville and Novi communities recently announced their plans for spin-off shows with local themes.

No longer will Novi and Northvillians have to be content with merely watching these all-hype and less-filling television shows. Now they can be in them.

The shows will be based upon shared experiences we're all familiar with and will run from late April until the fall.

CB S plans to begin production on "Survivor III" to survive the h u t s down production.

Two tribes, the "BentaRim" and "BustaXie," will compete in timed trials to see who can maneuver the stretch of road the quickest while inflicting the least damage on their cars.

No Hunvees, M1-A1 Abrams tanks, Hoveverall or Land Rovers will be eligible to apply for tribal positions. A major underwriter of the hour-long program will be Ed's Alignment and Tire Repair off of Grand River Ave.

Cars not finishing the quarter mile long stretch of road or those that pull over with blown-out tires will be "voted off" the competition.

Immunology will be granted for those contestants of TTTO who remain on the show for more than two days without gaining weight will be booted out of the mall.

Entering the fray in local reality TV shows will be MTV's "Real World VII: Sex Education In Our High Schools." Recent controversy over the proper teaching of the euphemistically titled "teenage health curriculum" in local school districts has elicited elevated blood pressure in many concerned parents and massive amounts of eye rolling in their astute teenagers.

Honing in on this local conundrum, the music video channel will bring its lights, cameras and action to Northville and Novi school board meetings to capture the rantings of

what nasty screamed threats it took to accomplish what Ms. Cooley understands to be Freedom of Speech! Was your letter published in a timely fashion? Was your letter shortened or abbreviated? Was it edited for content and context? I would provide not only a transcript of your letter, but also a transcript of the editor's response.

Final comment on the hotshot: it is, in my opinion, apparent that I am no longer worthy of association now that the self-importance of the person stands out. Isn't it interesting how we have worked together for so many years at the North End and the outcasts because of new affiliations with the "old boy" network? And as I speak of the North End, and I've always spoken of the North End, can someone tell me what has happened to LARA/SES/LAHA? For many years, the various presidents of those groups worked actively with the Novi & Walled Lake Councils in the direction of a better Lakes area. Who is their president now? Many at City Hall want to know, as the Association seems to have disappeared since last summer.

James E. Korte
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.

Letters to the Editor
Kelli Cooley
Novi News
104 W. Main St.
Northville, MI 48167
E-mail: kcooley@ht.hometown.com

Novi Theaters deserve praise
As a 40-plus year resident of the city of Novi, I am pleased that we are fortunate enough to have the Novi Theaters group in our community under the direction of Linda Wickert. This group is a jewel and has afforded so many people of all ages the opportunity to take part in stage productions. Their presentations are professional and greatly entertaining. I attended the performance of "The Music Man" and it was wonderful.

Sue Trafletti
Novi

"Anything Goes" comparable to Broadway
On Thursday evening, I was fortunate enough to be in the audience during the performance of "Anything Goes." The Performing Arts Department at Novi High School deserves a standing ovation - what talented students. I still can't believe we were watching "high school" students - I felt like I had a front row seat at a theater on Broadway. With two children still in elementary, I can only hope that they will someday be a part of one of these wonderful productions. To the cast, crew, director, choreographer, orchestra, and all others involved - what a great performance.

Michelle Sankovic
Novi

"R" rated film doesn't add up in English class
Recently, high school freshmen students were shown the "R" rated film, "Shakespeare in Love." In a required English class, Freshmen in high school are typically 14 years old. Doesn't it seem odd that under minors can attend Novi High School and view a "Restricted" film, and that these same students could not see this film if they attended the local theater?

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

Local office:
1810 Michigan National Tower
124 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)-203-1760

UNITED STATES CONGRESS
Joe Knollenberg (R-Bloomfield)
2349 Rayburn House Office

Already in the works is a "Survivor IV" series to be based in Novi. This reality TV show, subtitled "Will the Last Person Out of Novi Please Turn Off the Lights?" is sponsored by Sandstone/Vista housing development.

good intentioned yet flat-world parents who believe their children should learn about sexual congress the old fashioned way: in the STD clinics and "single-mothers' homes".

Already in the works is a "Survivor IV" series to be based in Novi.

This reality TV show, subtitled "Will the Last Person Out of Novi Please Turn Off the Lights?" is sponsored by the Sandstone/Vista housing development corporation and details what happens to a burgeoning, vibrant community when it gets its infrastructure feel entangled in a multi-million dollar residential project and has its pants sued off.

Viewers will tune into the weekly episodes with rapt attention to see which city officials are voted "out" by the dwindling population of frustrated homeowners who are justifiably looking for someone to blame for their skyrocketing local tax assessments, aging and overcrowded high school and diminishing city services.

Immunity and minor debt status may be granted for the governmental work who secures an agreeable settlement with the developers that spares the cities' residents indentured servitude or the possibility of having to eat rats.

John Heider is the staff photographer for the Northville Record and Novi News. He may be reached by phone at (248) 349-1700 ext. 106 or by jheider@ht.hometown.com.

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OTHER OPINIONS

Page 15A

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Youngsters clueless on economics

As most parents who have tried discussing budgeting with their kids know all too well, most high school seniors know next to nothing about economics.

Here's how abysmal the ignorance is, according to the National Council on Economic Education: Only 34 percent know that money loses its value through inflation. Less than 60 percent understand that when demand for a product goes up but the supply doesn't, the price is likely to increase. Around two-thirds do not know the stock market works to bring people who want to buy stocks together with people who want to sell them.

Just how dangerous economic illiteracy can be to our kids was demonstrated in the news headlines last week.

Stock exchanges tumbled. The NASDAQ dropped 62 percent below its peak. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 1,000 points.

Just in time, now comes an outfit called the Michigan Council on Economic Education, a non-profit group based at Walsh College's Novi campus. Headed by an MSU economics education Ph.D., David Dietele, the Council is in the second year of a five-year program to increase and improve economics education in Michigan high schools.

Kids learn about personal budgeting and investing through a Web site, appropriately enough called "The Mint." Kids and teachers learn about the mysteries of the stock market by playing "The Stock Market Game."

Teachers get generalized but up to date support materials through www.economicsamerica.org. The council offers Michigan Standards and Benchmarks for Economics, where a teacher can click on a given benchmark and get a listing of classroom material appropriate at their grade level; the web site is www.michecon.org.

Dietele is careful to make clear his group

Phil Power is the chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He is also a member of the board of the Michigan Council on Economic Education. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@hometown.com.

Cleanliness is next to...successfulness
Now that I have kids, I find that a lot of my conversations with other adults revolve around parenting tips.

Put any two moms or dads in a room together, and it won't be long before they start swapping stories about how to handle such-and-such a situation, or so it seems.

One mom I ran into recently found it difficult to answer some of her kids' questions about the lessons she was trying to teach them.

"The loudest one to answer," she said, "is when they ask why they have to clean their rooms every day. They say, 'I'm just going to mess it up again when I go to sleep tonight.'"

The correct response is, "You want to grow up to be rich don't you?"

Now, kids won't immediately see the connection between the two, but believe it or not the researchers at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research do.

They've just released a study that shows that "the cleanliness of the home children grow up in predicts their educational attainment and earnings more than 25 years later." The study, based on data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, was presented recently to a meeting of the American Economic Association.

Rachel Dunifon, researcher at the U-M's

ISR, along with Greg Duncan of Northeastern University and Jeanne Brooks-Gunn of Columbia University attempted to isolate the impact household cleanliness had on education and earnings later in life among 3,395 young adults through a study that dates back to 1968. There certainly were other factors that weighed in on the youngsters' achievements, such as the parents' socioeconomic background, cognitive ability and education. But when the results were adjusted for those factors, the researchers found that cleanliness did play an important role.

They found that "young adults who grew up in homes rated clean to very clean had completed 13.6 years of school compared with 12 years for those whose childhood homes were rated as not very clean to dirty. Their wages reflected the same pattern, with those growing up in the cleanest homes averaging \$14.17 an hour compared with \$12.60 an hour for those raised in the least clean homes. For a 40-hour week, that adds up to about \$3,100 more a year."

The researchers tried to differentiate between keeping the house clean and "obsessive cleaning activity." Time spent cleaning house was not the criteria. Instead, researchers visited the homes of the subjects repeatedly between 1968 and 1972 and rated them on a one-to-five scale. So a person who cleaned for only a few hours per week might score better than someone who cleaned all the time.

"Keeping a clean and organized home reflects an overall ability and desire to maintain a sense of order in a wide range of life activities," Dunifon said, offering a possible explanation of the study results. "These are qualities that also seem to be important in predicting intergenerational success."

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (248) 634-8219 or by e-mail at mmalott@hometown.com.

Memories of Opa will never fade away
Last weekend I was cleaning out my closet and I came across some old slides.

As I held them up to the sunlight seeping out my window, I discovered the laughing faces of a young 6-year-old and her grandfather covered in burrs.

The 6-year-old was me and the smiling old man was my Opa.

I still remember the day the picture was taken. It was my second visit to Germany and we had driven up to my Uncle Linus' farm. The farm was set high in the hills with wondrous, mountainous goings on for days.

While I can remember the beautiful trees, the prickly burrs that covered our clothing, and the clear mountain air, what I remember most is the joy I felt being next to my grandfather for he always kept me entertained.

As an only child visiting a foreign country, we would do all sorts of fun things together: whether it was painting in his studio, performing a puppet show, or just taking a bike ride to the Bad Mergentheim castle.

He had this young spirit within him that never seemed to be affected by the wrinkles on his skin or the few hairs that were turn-

pick from the pages of help wanted ads in the newspaper. But today's kids have no idea how to manage their careers in a time of rising unemployment, much less an understanding of the kinds of skills needed to qualify them for good paying jobs.

What's odd about all this is that while 96 percent of Americans think economics should be taught in the schools, only 13 states require students to take an economics course to graduate, Michigan not included.

Many of our high schools do offer economics courses, and Michigan started last year to test economics (along with history, geography and civics) in the social sciences part of the MEAP test. But many Michigan teachers admit economics is the subject most lacking in their professional preparation and most experts think course materials need improvement. Not surprisingly, less than a quarter of the eleventh graders who took the MEAP test met the standard.

Just in time, now comes an outfit called the Michigan Council on Economic Education, a non-profit group based at Walsh College's Novi campus. Headed by an MSU economics education Ph.D., David Dietele, the Council is in the second year of a five-year program to increase and improve economics education in Michigan high schools.

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He had this young spirit within him that never seemed to be affected by the wrinkles on his skin or the few hairs that were turn-

Karr could face chair for murders

Continued from 1

then put into 56-gallon drums and transported to the burial site.

According to investigators, it appears that Jon Murray had suffered a blow to the head and, reportedly, had a plastic bag placed over his head.

"What led us to the grave site and the bodies," Holmes said, "was part of the plea-bargain, he (Waters) will not be charged with murder."

When Holmes was asked if there was a possibility that Karr would be charged with the murder, he said "yes" but the ultimate decision would be up to the United States District attorney's office in Austin, Texas.

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), they had been searching the grounds of a 5,000 acre ranch for the remains last month over a three weekend period looking for the grave.

Waters apparently led investigators to the area where the remains were found.

We searched over 120 miles of area and the ranch," Holmes said. "We knew the area but the exact location wasn't clear at the time we began the search."

"The implications of the findings for Gary Paul Karr, 53, could be significant," according to Holmes.

Last August, Karr, who once rented a home on East Lake Drive, was sentenced to two concurrent life sentences after being found guilty on four of five felony counts leveled against him in a U.S. court room in Austin.

Karr was convicted last June of conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery, extortion, interstate travel in aid of racketeering, conspiracy to engage in monetary

transaction and criminally acquiring property and interstate transportation of stolen property, including a half million dollars in gold coins. Karr was not charged with murder, at the time.

According to U.S. District Attorney Gerald Carruth in Texas, Karr could be charged with murder if it was found that he was involved in the "killing or dismemberment" of the bodies.

"That fourth body has a bullet hole in it," Carruth said, "It appears to have been made by a metallic fragment."

Carruth noted that during Karr's trial, an inmate testified that Karr told him he shot Dan Fry in the head but was never charged with the crime.

"Nobody has ever been brought up charges concerning the 'Fry killing,'" Carruth said, "Maybe someone should ask Mr. Karr's attorney how that bullet got there."

Karr's attorney, Tim Mills, did not return phone calls from the Novi News.

Karr, whose case is up for appeal, had denied he had anything to do with the killings, according to prosecutors. During the trial, there were even reports that Karr had been seen eating meals in a Bucharest, Romania restaurant.

"O'Hair, who called herself the 'most hated woman in America,' was the driving force behind the 1955 landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision that banned bible readings and prayer in the public schools."

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

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104 West Main Street Northville, MI 48167

Periodical at Northville Michigan

Grace Perry

MANAGING EDITOR (248) 349-1700, ext. 120

gracerry@ht.hometown.com

Lisa Dranginis

ADVERTISING MANAGER (248) 349-1700, ext. 116

lisa@ht.hometown.com

Ronnie Sexton

CIRCULATION MANAGER (248) 349-1700, ext. 119

vsutton@ht.hometown.com

Jan Haskell

CLASSIFIEDS MANAGER (888) 955-1281, ext. 275

jashask@ht.hometown.com

Bob Jackson

EDITOR (248) 349-1700, ext. 117

jackson@ht.hometown.com

Stephanie Fordyce

STAFF WRITER (248) 349-1700, ext. 108

sfordyce@ht.hometown.com

Randal Yakey

STAFF WRITER (248) 349-1700, ext. 105

ryakey@ht.hometown.com

Mike Malott

REPORTER (248) 349-1700, ext. 109

mmalott@ht.hometown.com

Thursday, March 22, 2001

Young Wildcats get four on All-Area V-ball team

Rzepka gets first team bid, underclassmen Hildreth and Simpkins earn places on the second team

Because of youth, inexperience, and the presence of dominating squads, many of the area teams struggled during the 2000-2001 volleyball season. Despite the fact that none of the area teams captured any hardware, there was still an abundance of talent, and several outstanding performers throughout the year.

The Northville squad, the lone area team from the WLAA, suffered from inconsistency for most of the year. They also happened to be unlucky enough to have to play several games against the great teams from the Walled Lake Schools, but they possessed some of the area's finest young players, with two of them making it onto the first team.

The rest of the area teams hailed from the KVC. Milford finished third in the brutal conference mainly because of the play of Erica May and Annie Charles, both first team All-Area selections. The rest of the teams battled each other all season in the middle of the KVC, and thus Novi and Lakeland each have one

entry on the first team.

With seven underclasswomen on the first and second teams, we should see many of these same names again next year.

1st Team
Erica May
5'11" junior middle hitter
Milford

In her third year as a starter, May was one of the best players in the KVC, as evidenced by her first-team all-league selection. She led Milford with 221 kills (on a hitting percentage of .217) and 56 solo blocks. Had May not chipped a bone in her ankle and missed the last two weeks of the regular season, those totals would have been even higher. But to put those numbers in perspective, her average of 4.1 kills a game was the best in Milford history.

It was when May was injured that her value to the Redskins became even more apparent.

"We really missed Erica," Milford coach Jim Marszalek said. "To even come back and play in districts

shows what kind of heart she has."

Annie Charles
5'11" senior outside hitter
Milford

"Annie was a solid player all year for us," Milford coach Jim Marszalek said. "She was one of our most consistent passers and hitters."

She won the team's player of the week award an unprecedented three-consecutive weeks. Charles was second on the team to Erica May with 157 kills with a hitting percentage of .202. She was a second-team All-KVC selection by the league's coaches.

"Annie was a quiet leader," Marszalek said. "She just gets the job done."

Mickie Rzepka
5'9" senior outside hitter
Novi

The rock on a team dominated by underclassmen, Rzepka was vital to the young team's development and success. One of the five seniors on the team, her all-around abilities allowed her to stay in the game at all times. She was an honorable mention selection on last year's All-Area team and a first-team all-conference pick this year, and her skills as a leader and volleyball player helped the Wildcats be competitive in a tough KVC.

"Mickie is a terrific all-around player that never came out of the game. She was a tremendous leader that all the younger girls could look to for guidance and support," said

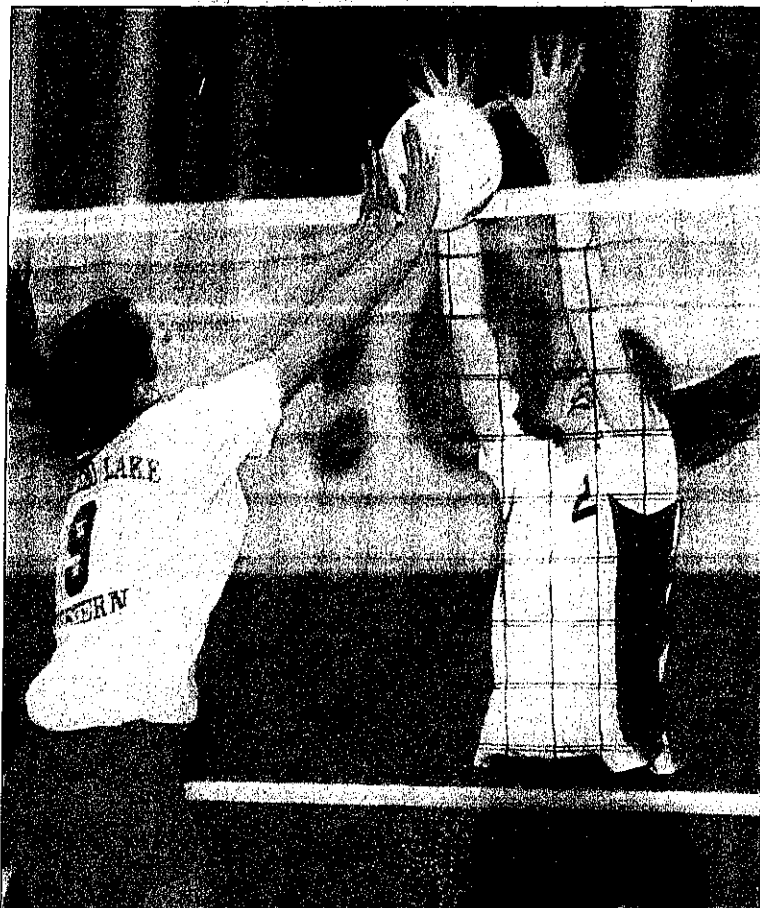


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Tina Hildreth, right, attempts to block a shot by Walled Lake Western's Erin Kerrigan during the district tournament on March 3.

head coach Julie Fissette.

Lauren Temple
5'9" sophomore setter
Northville

Temple, only a sophomore, was an All-Division selection in the WLAA west. She led the Mustangs in aces

Continued On 3

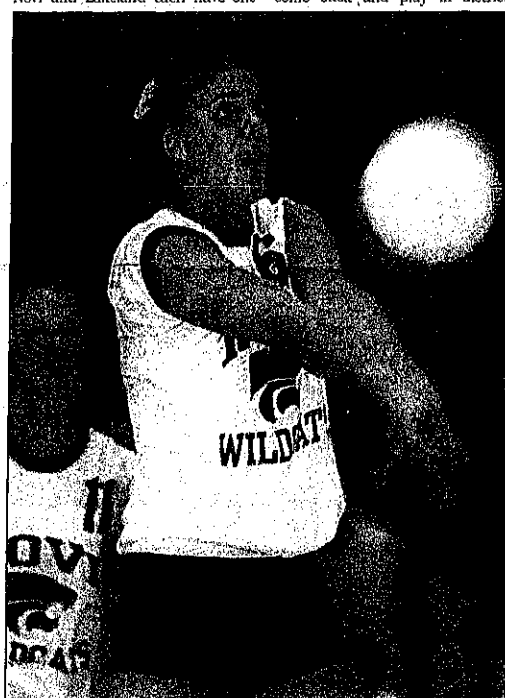


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi Senior Mickie Rzepka returns a volley, as teammate Christina Cypher looks on in the background.

Chapter closes on winter season

BY COLBY J. CAVALIERE
SPORTS EDITOR

With the thawing of the ground, and the parting of the dreary gray clouds, the winter sports season has come to an end.

All things considered, it was a very successful winter sports season for Novi High School. There were four state champions, and a slew of others that made great runs at glory. For the other teams, it was a chance to learn, grow, and cultivate young talent for a chance at greatness in 2002. With that, here is a small recap on each of the Novi varsity teams from the winter 2000-2001 season.

Basketball

With only three seniors and two sophomores expected to see heavy minutes in the backcourt, not a lot was expected of the Wildcats. Because of this, maybe they were able to sneak up on some teams early in the season, as they broke out to a fine start beating their neighboring rival Northville in the process. Before a small three-game losing skid in early February, the Cats had won 5 of 6, beating Northville again to sweep the season series. The team played very well in the early games at home, but struggled a bit down the stretch of the season when their last eight games were on the road. They went 4-4 during that period, and had their post-season ended abruptly when they lost to Detroit Henry



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Jim Cavan, and Eric Messink sandwich Northville's Greg Knapp

Ford in the district playoffs.

All things considered, it was a good season for the Wildcats. They finished up with an overall record of 12-9, and were in the thick of things in the KVC most of the year. But more importantly, many of the underclassmen got quality playing time and game experience that will go a long way in determining the team's success next season.

Senior captains Eric Messink and Jim Cavan, stalwarts on the fledgling team all season, earned places on the All-KVC team. Messink, a two year starter, averaged 11

points, 8 rebounds and 3 blocks a game, and was named to the first team. While Cavan, who was perhaps the team's best multi-tool player, earned himself an honorable mention bid.

Hockey

Ah, the Wildcat hockey team. The class of the KVC from day one, Novi raced out to a 13-0 record to start the season and didn't see their first loss until January 19 - a 3-0 loss to De LaSalle - the only time Novi failed to score a goal in a game the entire season.

The loss was only one of four the entire year, as the Wildcats won a tight KVC race with Brighton. The team, in only its third year of existence, lit the goal light over and over and over again outscoring their opponents 140-70 during their 23-4-1 season.

Besides winning conference and regional titles, the Cats topped the 20-win plateau for the first time in history and advanced to the Division 2 state semi-final game for the first time as well. But unfortunately the dream season they had lived since November came to a rude end when they lost 4-3 in an epic match against Sault St. Marie.

Starting for the squad all season was senior center Brad Zarem. Zarem lead the team in scoring with 73 points (30 g, 43 a), was named KVC Player-of-the-Year, picked to the all-state team and was selected to the Michigan Coaches

Association "Dream Team." If Zarem was the "slap," then junior Adam Haberman was the "shot." Haberman lead Novi with 31 goals, and earned second team All-KVC.

With several returning starters and the Novi hockey program continuing to grow, if things keep progressing as they have next year they should at least find themselves playing in the Division 2 title game.

Wrestling

From the first dual in December until the state tournament, this team never let up. They stormed through the regular season, beating just about everyone who hit the mat against them. On their way to piling up a 20-1 regular season record, they grabbed a share the KVC title with rival Hartland.

The winning habit continued to the districts and regionals, where the Wildcats bagged more hardware and earned themselves a trip the states. There they beat Roseville in the quarterfinals before losing to old nemesis Davison in the semifinals.

After the team's season ended, the spotlight turned on the three wrestlers hoping for personal glory. The Churella brothers, Ryan and Josh won four straight matches to earn themselves state titles. J.R. Muldoon, the other Wildcat participant in the states, placed fourth, a fantastic accomplishment considering it was his first trip to the states.

Volleyball

ALL AREA VOLLEYBALL

First Team

Name	School	Grade	Pos.
Mickie Rzepka	Novi	12	OH
Lauren Temple	Northville	10	OH
Emily LaBar	Lakeland	12	S
Erica May	Milford	11	OH
Annie Charles	Milford	12	MH
Cymbre Jaskot	Northville	11	S

Second Team

Name	School	Grade	Pos.
Christina Clisch	South Lyon	11	OH
Carmen Simpkins	Novi	10	OH
Christina Johnson	Milford	12	MH
Tina Hildreth	Novi	11	MH
Jessica Petkus	Milford	9	S
Karl Bingham	Lakeland	12	OH

Honorable mention

Northville - Kathleen Ochmanski, Lisa Tellish
Novi - Angie Schmitt

High School sports seasons could change

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has released a statement from executive director John E. "Jack" Roberts, regarding the introduction of House Bill 4293 by State Representative Chris Kolb (D-Ann Arbor). The bill would change the Michigan School Code to force public schools in the state offering a sport to both females and males to conduct their seasons simultaneously.

"The scheduling of male and female sports seasons at different times of year, resulting in increased student participation and more efficient use of facilities, equipment and personnel, is common throughout the country on the high school level, and occurs in several college sports," Roberts said.

"We suggest that legislators continue to allow local educators to do what their constituents find is best for students and their extracurricular activities."

Participation opportunities would be reduced if this proposal would become law.

Background information

Currently, Michigan is one of four states in which girls basketball is not conducted at the same time as boys basketball. Among other sports which would be affected by the proposed legislation are golf, soccer, swimming and diving, and tennis. Nationally, only 19 states have high school golf in a common season. 20 states have high school soccer in a common season, 21 have high school swimming and diving in a common season, and 30 have tennis in a common season. Among sports in which the boys and girls sports seasons coincide in most schools are cross country in the fall, skiing in the winter, and track and field in the spring.

John E. "Jack" Roberts
Executive Director

WILDCATS SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE MARCH 24-28

Saturday 3/24		
Varsity Baseball	@ Carleton-Airport	1 p.m.
Tuesday 3/27		
Track (boys)	@ Northville	3:30 p.m.
Track (girls)	vs Northville	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday 3/28		
Girls Varsity Soccer	@ Northville	7 p.m.
Varsity Baseball	vs F. Harrison	4 p.m.
Varsity Softball	@ W.L. Central	4 p.m.

Like the basketball team, the Lady Wildcats volleyball squad had a gift of young talent. During the year the girls at times played some spectacular volleyball, but also had their fair share of mistake-laden contests. That's a typical trait of a team with four sophomores and a bevy of juniors.

Taking into account the inexperience

of starters and an extremely competitive KVC, the lady Cats put together a very successful season under coach Julie Fissette. They went 18-15-2 for the season, notching a 5-6 conference record and got many of their underclassmen valuable playing time and game experience.

Continued On 2

Images of the 2000-2001 winter season

Continued From 1

ence. Hopefully, the team can continue to develop and help replace court leader and senior captain Michelle Rzepka and her fellow graduating players: Christina Cypher, Melissa Clark, Allison Tingwall, and Kaitly Zakaria.

Pom pon
One of two girls' teams to capture a state championship, the Pom pon squad added to a long list of astounding accomplishments under departing coach Julie Hobbs. They did just that, capturing the state title under Hobbs' watch and solidly themselves as one of the most successful teams at Novi High School. Prior to the state win, they placed second in a national competition that will be televised on ESPN this afternoon.

The team of 28 sophomores, juniors and seniors set coach Hobbs off in championship fashion and with the addition of members from a very successful JV Pom pon team, should be right back in the hunt for another banner next year.

Cheerleading
Coach Amy Denys' squad may have failed to reach the states by finishing third at the regionals, but it doesn't take anything away from a fine season.

Many of the same problems that troubled the team during the season cost them higher placings, but they were talented enough to place very high even when they weren't at their best. To go along with the third place at regionals, the girls barely missed winning at the state and Ladywood tournaments, finishing second and third respectively.

Swimming/Dividing
In a sport based on individual races, the Wildcats put together a fine team record.

The Cats outclassed most of their opponents during the season, suffering only a 108-79 setback to Brighton that made up their lone team loss.

One of the crowning achievements of the season came when the Wildcats romped in the Laker Invitational. They finished almost 100 points above second place West Bloomfield and staked their claim as one of the better swim teams in the area.

Mike Bliss, Jordan Moble, Matt Ochab, Mike Reynolds, Matt Pechach, Juwan, and Tachwan Yoo, Ian Robertson, Andy Capanyolo, Andrew Sawin, and Mike Bliss were the names seen over and over again as swim event winners. Steve Alberici and Derrick Zonas often battled each other for first place during many of the meets as well.

Steve Alberici, Michael Bergeson, Nick Long, Brian Schoepfle,

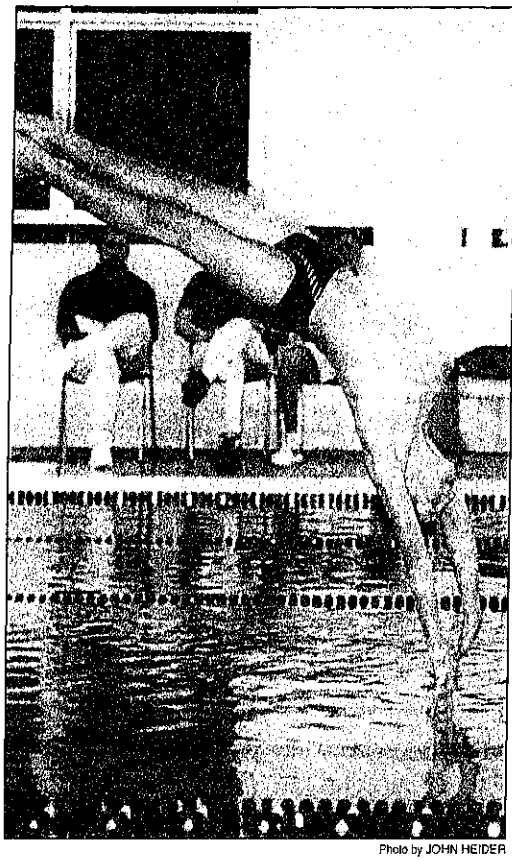


Photo by JOHN HEDER

Wildcat diver Scott Rottman is about to break the plane of the water in a late season meet at Novi High School.

Michael Reynolds, and Jason May will join Zonas, Sawin, and Ochab as graduation seniors, but will be leaving the team in the hands of a group of very capable replacements. With another season of training under their belts, the Wildcats swim team should be well equipped to own the waters once again next year.

Gymnastics
All season they were ranked near the top of the state rankings. But at the end, they finished at the top by snatching a state title in the final event.

The long physically and mentally grueling season all came down to the final event at the state meet. Needing a near flawless performance on the beam, the Wild Stangs went out and scored 37.975 to steal a victory away from state powerhouse Rochester Adams by less than one point.

The title caps off a terrific sea-

son for the female gymnasts. Hovering on the verge of greatness all season, the team went undefeated in conference play, won the WIAA title, and regional title. They overcame numerous bumps, bruises, and sprains and the loss of senior co-captain Kelley Phelps by a devastating knee injury. The team developed the skill, desire, and maturity during the long season of competition against top opponents, culminating in the state title.

Seniors Megan Samhat, Monica Pink, Alison Gillette, and Katie Braine will be sorely missed, but with top performers Lindsey Carlson, Sara Wielewski, Jean Sturgis, and Andrea Leibelier returning next year, the team should be in terrific shape to defend their state title and shoot for a second.

The sound of slap-shots and basketballs will give way to the



Submitted Photo

The Wildcat PomPon squad brought home one of the four Novi High School state championships this past winter season, and added to their already lengthy list of accomplishments.



Photo by JOHN HEDER

Chase Chandler skys for a rebound against the Stangs.

crack of the bat and golf balls in the coming weeks. Let's hope some of the spring teams can duplicate the successes of their winter sport cousins.

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



Submitted Photo

Through the combined efforts of gymnasts from Novi and Northville High Schools, the Wild Stangs earned a state title.

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Senior joins the youth movement on All-Area

Continued From 1

with 41, and was near the top in service percentage with 98 percent. Her 104 kills were tops on the team by far. Temple's 87 digs and 26 blocks also ranked high on the team totals as well.

"As a sophomore she had to earn her spot and earned it she did. She was one of the team's hardest workers, and that combined with her exceptional abilities allowed her to become a leader even as a sophomore," said head coach Nikki McEvers.

Cymbre Jaskot
5'8" junior setter Northville. Jaskot, yet another talented underclassman on the Mustang squad earned honorable mention in the WIAA west. She led the team in assists with 277, to go along with a 97 percent team leading service percentage. Jaskot also tallied 25 kills and 81 digs, and looks to be a big part of next year's success.

"Cymbre played some last year for us as a sophomore, and I think that experience helped her tremendously this season. She worked hard, and had a big impact on the team this year and was a big reason we had the success we did," McEvers said.

Emily LaBar
5'4" senior setter Lakeland. When LaBar had the ball, the chances were that something good was about to happen.

"She scored one-fourth of all our team's points," Lakeland coach Almee Nardell said. "Emily had 92 aces for the season, which is just an amazing statistic. Those 1.8 aces per game, which is just huge."

2nd Team
Carmen Simpkins
5'6" sophomore outside hitter Novi.

"Carmen was a terrific all-around player with loads of skill, and was one of the best athletes on the team. She was instrumental in many of

our wins, and filled a variety of rolls extremely well," said head coach Julie Fissette.

Simpkins filled the void left by injured Christina Cypher and helped keep the Cats from sinking. Her versatility on the court helped coach Fissette solve lineup problems, and as she got playing time, the cat quickly became one of the team's best players late in the year.

She posted terrific numbers in late season games against Milford, and Howell and also played well in the team's lone district game.

Tina Hildreth
5'9" junior middle hitter Novi. Hildreth was a leader on and off the court for the Wildcats. When things looked bleak, the team often looked to Tina to provide a spark and get things going in a positive direction. Her play was pivotal down the stretch of the season, and she helped lead the young team with a positive attitude and work ethic.

"Tina played some of her best games during the biggest games. She performed well against some of the top SVC squads and during the Schoolcraft and district tournaments. She will return with many of her other teammates next year in hopes at making a run at a championship.

Christina Clisch
5'7" senior outside hitter Milford.

In this era of specialization, there's still a place for the kid who is a good athlete and works hard. Such is Christina Clisch, a three-sport athlete who ended up honorable mention All-KVC.

"She's not a full-time volleyball player, but her hard work made up for what she might have lacked in skills," Redskins coach Jim Marszalek said. "She was our team captain, and our vocal leader. Christina was our most improved player and the last month of the season, our best

passer."

Johnson led Milford with 280 digs and was third on the team with 116 kills.

Jessica Petkus
5'8" freshman setter Milford.

She faced a tough task as a mere ninth-grader and Jessica Petkus came up golden. "To come in as a freshman and play every game of every match is amazing," Milford coach Jim Marszalek said. "I'm looking forward to the next three years."

Petkus' 2,130 sets, 607 assists and average of 7.4 assists per game were all school records.

Christina Clisch
5'10" junior outside hitter South Lyon.

South Lyon was a much better team the second half of the season and could hang with most anyone when Beth Berry was setting up Clisch and Leah Kastamo, the Lions' outside hitters. Clisch was one of the strongest hitters in the KVC and led South Lyon in kills. She was also able to keep rallies alive with her digs.

Karl Bingham
5'1" senior Outside hitter Lakeland.

Bingham, an honorable mention all-conference selection, was the Eagles' best player at the net. "Karl has 22 percent of our kills," Lakeland coach Almee Nardell said. "She was also one of our best defensive players."

Honorable mention:
Novi: Angie Schmitt
Northville: Cathleen Ochmansky, Lisa Tellish
Lakeland: Kris Lund, Laura Henry
South Lyon: Beth Berry, Leah Kastamo, Heather Teschenlof
Milford: Christina Gilmannandrea

Sports Briefs

Stompers are #1 at Soccer Zone

The Northville Stompers U-14 Girls soccer team were league champions in the Soccer Zone's second winter season. The team, coached by Gregg Agoston, posted a 7-1 record. The Stompers' team roster includes Chelsea Baldin and Clare Selden of Plymouth, Kelly Southers of Canton, and Jessica Agoston, Adrienne Brune, Caitlyn Crawford, Jennifer Harkness, Sara Henson, Cassy Higgins, Brittany Jauer, Allison Jolley, Carolyn Moser, Laura Randall, Sara Sareni, and Elizabeth Williams, all of Northville.

Catholic Youth Organization Football Meeting

The Our Lady of Good Counsel football program is holding an organizational and information meeting. All boys grades 3 through 8 for the 2001-2002 school year and their parents are invited.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the Our Lady of Good Counsel Gym located at 1009 Church St. in Plymouth. Boys who are members of the following parishes are eligible to play at O.L.G.C.

Our Lady of Good Counsel
St. Thomas A' Beckett
St. Kenneth
Divine Savior
Our Lady of Victory
Resurrection
St. Mary of Wayne
St. James
St. Richard
St. John Nuemann

If you have any questions please contact Mike Givskis at 734-454-0847 or 734-427-6270.

T-Ball Training Classes

Total Baseball will be holding T-ball Spring Training classes for ages 3-5 Tuesdays, 10-10:55 a.m., March 20-April 24. These classes will teach kids the fundamentals of baseball in a fun, safe, and educational way. Kids will learn how to throw, hit, and catch the proper way with safe, softer balls to increase their confidence and insure better mechanics. All of the equipment is provided by Total Baseball with the exception of gloves. The class will be taught by former Montreal Expos pro player Aaron Knieper and Lee Bjerke, 32 years of high school and college experience.

The fee is \$69 per player with a \$10 discount for the 2nd child. To register call Total Baseball/Total Soccer, 248-668-0166 or e-mail at totalball-wixom@aol.com.

Softball Season is Almost Here!

Since girls' fast pitch softball is becoming more popular within the nation, more and more cities are hosting fast-pitch leagues. In Wayne Community, several cities have developed fast-pitch programs. For the last two years to expose the girls to other cities' programs and a more competitive level of play, Northville has had put together several Tournament Teams. The girls who play on this Tournament Team were required to play on a house team as well.

This year, several local cities have decided to form a Travel League for the more competitive girls (born on or after January 1, 1990) in each community. In the past, local travel leagues were only available to girls 12 years and older. The new league will play approximately 15 games

from the end of May through the end of July on Tuesday and Thursday nights. Northville's travel team will also enter 4-5 tournaments on the summer weekends. There, this new team will not be required to play on a house team as well.

The five cities that have agreed to put a team in this new league are Canton, Northville, Novi, Garden City, and Ann Arbor. Canton and Novi may be putting together two teams each.

Since the registration forms were printed in December, before this league was developed, the forms lack an option to join the travel team. Therefore, if your daughter is interested in the travel team, please sign up on both teams, house and tournament.

If try-outs are required (due to huge interest, for example more than 13 girls) and a girl does not make the travel team, she will still have a spot reserved for her in the house league, and the tournament registration fee will be refunded.

All future travel team communications will be sent to those girls who have signed up for the tournament team-so sign up now.

Tryout Dates:
(All Three Dates are Mandatory)
@ Henningsen Park, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. on:
Sunday, April 1
Monday, April 2
Tuesday, April 3
Rain Dates are April 9, 10, 11

As always, if there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either Coach Mary Cicata at (248-347-4598) or Coach Joanne Holmes at (248-347-6425).

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Stacking the DECA

California calls on octet of Novi High students to conference

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

Eight DECA members at Novi High School are preparing to put their business skills to the test as they head to the National Distributive Education Clubs of America conference in Anaheim, Calif., April 25-29.

Each year, the winners who qualify from the State Career Development Conference have the opportunity to go on to compete with more than 13,000 other DECA members across the nation.

The students will participate in a week of competition, exciting activities, and training sessions, as they become part of the nonstop people-meeting, business-planning, opportunity-seizing event.

This year's finalists, narrowed down from 30 Novi High School students who competed at the state level, include: Justin Fischer, Ryan Fedronich, Lisa Yin, Tricia Stattele, Steve Szwasl, Bidish Sarma, Ashley Burnside, and Chris Schleuder.

DECA is a national student organization designed for those interested in careers in management, merchandising, and marketing. It helps members build leadership development, civic consciousness, social intelligence, and vocational understanding.

"DECA not only teaches them about the business world at large, but also provides students with leadership opportunities, the chance to travel, and to meet others," said Amy Kolesar, DECA advisor and high school's marketing teacher.

With membership in the club increasing each year, rising from 46 to 70 in just one year, Kolesar said DECA prepares students for real-life business situations.

"It's really about how to sell yourself and sell an idea to people," Kolesar said.

Through role-playing and other activities, students are subject of a lot of the pressures of the real world such as dealing with business crisis, planning sales projects, and even speaking in front of large audiences.

Students participate in a variety of different competitions at



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi High School students active in Distributive Education Clubs of America (from left): Lisa Yin, Ashley Burnside, Ryan Fedronich, Justin Fischer, Anthony Hood and their teacher/leader Amy Kolesar.

a variety of different levels, in areas such as food marketing, retail merchandising and hospitality services for a chance to win prize money and scholarships.

"Through DECA, I think I've gained a better ability to read people and how to adjust more easily to certain types of situations," said the club's president Justin Fischer, adding that DECA will also further his interest in business administration and political science.

For third year DECA member Ryan Fedronich, the club has helped him build a higher level of confidence, which he has already put to good use during job interviews.

During competitions, students are given business scenarios, and must come up with on-the-spot resolutions.

For example, at the state competition recently held at the Dearborn Hyatt Regency Hotel,

"Through DECA, I think I've gained a better ability to read people and how to adjust more easily to certain types of situations."

senior Lisa Yin had to discuss the impact of technology in a new supermarket.

While the national DECA competition is full of fierce competition, according to senior Ashley Burnside, the fun makes it worthwhile.

"It's really a lot of fun — getting the chance to travel and having the opportunity to meet other kids your age," Burnside said.

Aside from sending eight of its members on to the national level, this year is an exceptionally exciting one for the DECA club, as one of its very own students, senior Anthony Hood,

was elected to serve as a district officer of the National Organization of DECA.

"This is the first time a student from the high school has received this honor," said Kolesar. "We are extremely proud."

As a district representative, Hood's duties will include attending DECA meetings throughout the state and displaying a positive role of leadership for the club, he explained.

While Hood will be graduating this summer, his role as district officer will continue into the next school year as a college student, which he credits as

one of his main reasons for running.

"For the past three years DECA has been an important part of my life, and it's something that I didn't want to lose just because I was graduating," he said.

Through DECA, Hood said he has been afforded a wonderful opportunity with endless advantages.

"I've learned how to be more personable, independent, and competitive in business all at the same time," he said.

Recently, Hood put his entrepreneur skills to work by starting his own valet company,

Country Club Valet Services. "I never would have thought it could be done, but using some of the skills I've learned here, I built up the confidence and gained the knowledge to accomplish it," he said.

Currently, the NHS chapter of DECA is seeking donations from local businesses to help fund the trip to Anaheim in order to ease the burden of each student's out-of-pocket expenses. Donations are tax-deductible.

For more information, please contact DECA chapter advisor Amy Kolesar at (248) 449-1500, or by e-mail at akolesar@novi.k12.mi.us or the chapter president Justin Fischer at (248) 477-2675 or by e-mail at jpfische@aol.com.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@ht.homecomm.net

ALL DECA'D OUT

GOAL OF DECA

DECA's goal is for its student members to develop a "career success kit" to carry into their business and personal lives after graduation, one that includes:

- Occupational competencies needed for careers in marketing, management and entrepreneurship
- Leadership abilities
- Social and business etiquette
- Understanding and appreciation of civic responsibility
- Ethical behavior in personal and business relationships
- Understanding the role of our free enterprise system in the global economy

DECA

Established in 1946, DECA has over 180,000 student members and faculty advisors, serving over 5,000 marketing education programs in secondary and postsecondary schools across the U.S., its territories and Canada.

For more information about DECA, visit their website at www.deca.org

HomeTown Authors

WHAT IS GREEN?

Green is fun
Green is great
Green is playing in the sun.
Green is the smell of the spring breeze.
When you want something
You always say "please."

Green is a frog
Green is a grasshopper
When you run
You always go faster

Green is a waterfall
Sometimes the sea
Grass is green
So is a tree
Green is a parrot
Who lives with a captain

Green is leaves on a carrot
Green is a shamrock
On St. Patrick's Day
Green is envy
When I don't get my own way
And that's what GREEN is!

Nicole Lada is a fourth grade student in Ms. Sandy Gallagher's class at St. William's in Walled Lake.



Nicole Lada

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3.) Stories should be between 300 and 500 words

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4.) Every piece submitted must have this form stapled to the front.

5.) We also need your photo to accompany your story. A school photo is perfect.

6.) We'd also like a parent or guardian to sign your form.

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Title of story: _____

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Address (includes street, city and zip code): _____

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