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insert

SPECIAL



Prom night for Novi

Josh Christopherson and Britney Bixmon slow-dance during Saturday night's Novi High School senior prom. 596 students attended the prom at Livonia's Burton Manor.

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Up in arms

Construction delays have Novi businesses venting, but city officials say road work's right on schedule

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

Shelly Gibson and Ann Ray run businesses where the road runs out and they're none too happy with it.

Gibson, the general manager of Harold's Frame Shop, is so unhappy she's instructed her attorney to file an injunction against the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) halting its project to replace the now demolished CSX Bridge on Grand River Avenue until her concerns over traffic congestion are

addressed.

"It's just getting pathetic," she sighed. "I don't know what to do. You call the city, they tell you who to call; then they come out and tell you what you want to hear to feel better, but they don't change anything."

Ann Ray, who runs Carol's Upholstery just up the road, complained Friday that the city had promised businesses along Grand River Avenue between Beck Road and the railroad bridge that two-way traffic would be maintained throughout the project, which is slated for completion by mid-

November.

"There's been a machine sitting out there last half hour," blocking one lane of traffic, she groused. "It's really bad the last two weeks."

According to Gibson, it's taken some of her customers nearly half-an-hour to travel three-quarters of a mile from Taft Road to Harold's Frame Shop near the base of the old CSX Bridge. "On a good day, it's difficult," she said, adding that in addition to construction equipment blocking the road at random times during the day, mornings find long lines of

gravel trains blocking half the road.

"They're going to need to do something," she insisted.

"I'm not angry at the city," said Ray, "but they promised us signs at Taft and it didn't happen." Ray said that while the city did put up black-and-white signs at Beck and Grand River indicating that businesses between that intersection and the railroad are open for business during the construction project, they are overwhelmed by the large orange and black signs declaring the road closed to through traffic along with the

large lit changeable message signs.

Ray said that while her business is more of a destination business, her customers tend to be older and less aggressive. "Every customer that comes in is gasping for air that they made it through. They have the life drained out of them," she said. Worse yet, she added, many of her customers are calling to say that flag crews have waived them off.

"I think a little consideration of business by flag crews would

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All tucked in



Photo by John Heider

Students sing a song to their moms during a Mothers' Day program last Thursday afternoon at Parkview Elementary. Here they're singing about how they appreciate their moms tucking them in when they sleep.

Cash reward offered for bank robbery info

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

Up to \$1,000 is now being offered for information leading to an arrest of the person or people wanted for robbing National City Bank earlier this month.

Crime Stoppers is offering the cash as an incentive for anyone with information about the May 5 afternoon robbery to come forward.

Representatives from the crime solving organization said tipsters do not have to give their names and will remain completely anonymous.

The suspect wanted for robbing the bank at Haggerty and 14 Mile roads was described by employees as a white male in his 30s standing about 5 feet 4 inches to 5 feet 6 inches with a slim

to medium build.

Witnesses said the unknown man has sandy hair, ruddy complexion, blue eyes and high cheek bones.

Novi police said the man walked into the bank at the southwest corner at about 4 p.m. and gave a teller a note demanding money.

After leaving with a non-disclosed amount of cash, he left behind a 3-by-4.5-inch package, stating it was a bomb.

Witnesses said he then fled by foot with the cash.

The Novi Police Department requested help from the Oakland County Sheriff's Department K-9 team.

Novi Detective Sgt. David Molloy said "the team tracked the suspect in a southeasterly direction from the scene."

Clothing matching the suspect's description was located in the wooded area nearby where the dogs were tracking.

"The K-9 team lost the suspect track near Haggerty Road just south of 14 Mile Road," Molloy said.

Personnel from the Michigan State Police Bomb Squad were called to the bank to examine the package believed at the time to be a bomb.

The heavily-traveled intersection was closed during rush-hour traffic during the investigation.

State Police determined the package was not an explosive device.

Molloy said federal agents from the Troy office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation also assisted Novi detectives

HOW TO HELP

Anyone with information about the May 5 robbery of National City Bank is asked to call the Novi Police Department at (248) 348-7100 or Crime Stoppers at (800) SPEAK-UP (1-800-773-2587).

Crime stoppers will pay up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest of the individual or individuals responsible for the Novi crime.



with witness interviews and follow-up investigations.

Novi Police Chief Douglas Shaeffer said the investigation continues.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@ht.hometown.net.

Novi's Teri Moblo tapped for NEA board position

■ Middle school teacher also president of local association

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

For years, the Novi Community School District has been a model for all other districts in Michigan in terms of setting a standard. Now Novi has a new reason to be

proud. Teri Moblo, the current president of the Novi Educational Association and American History teacher at Novi Middle School, was elected to the National Education Association Board of Directors last week. The term is for three years and it starts on Sept. 1.

The Novi Education Association is the union that represents the 450 teachers and professional staff in the district. In addition to that, about a year and a half ago Moblo was elected out of Oakland County to serve on the Michigan Education Association

Board of Directors.

As the largest teachers union in the country, there are 2.7 million members in the National Education Association.

In fact, one out of every 100 people who live in the United States is either a member, or has been in the past. Under it, there are state organizations and the Michigan

Education Association, which is one of the largest in the country, is one of them. It represents 160,000 members in the state and Novi is part of Region Seven, which covers all of Oakland County, Livonia and Northville.

"This is a great position and I'm looking forward to it because I want to have an impact on the kinds of things that impact kids," Moblo said. "That's really what it's all about. This is a position I'm excited about because I want to have a positive impact on public education and this is a way to do that."

Moblo said Novi is a model around the state in terms of the collaborative relationship that the union and the district and the community have together.

"The opportunity for me to take what we do so well in public education in Novi to the state level and to the national level, it's a great opportunity for us," she said.

About a year and a half ago, Moblo was elected from Region Seven. Following that, there were two positions open from Michigan to be part of the

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Novi High School students arrive at their prom last Saturday night.

Photos by John Heider



Josh Christopherson and Brittney Bixmon slow-dance during Saturday night's Novi High School senior prom. 596 students attended the prom at Livonia's Burton Manor.

Novi High School Prom 2003



Novi High School students Phil Weimar and Johanna Dase walk towards the Burton Manor for the start of the senior prom last Saturday night.

Much preparation goes into making prom a memorable evening

Phil Hornshaw
STUDENT WRITER

Not much happens in the month of February. For the majority of the Novi population, February holds but one thing: the incredibly accurate predictions of one extra-special grounding (six weeks or a month and a half). But, unbeknownst to many teenage boys, February is the beginning of a process that won't conclude until mid-May, preparation for the most epic night of high school: prom.

February is the first time that many girls start digging through magazines, surfing the Internet, and joining a discussion that continues for the next two months regarding dresses, hair, shoes and dates.

"My dress fit when I tried it on at the store, but when I got it home and put it on, the clasp broke," Meghan McKenna, a Novi High senior, said.

For boys, however, the thought of prom doesn't even occur to most until long after.

"I let my date handle preparations. I just followed. I provided the money, she provided the plans," senior Nick Hurwicz said.

Many guys take the beginning of prom talk as their signal to find a date, the most trying and frightening of all prom practices.

"I had to ask five different girls," said Clinton Wong, another senior. "It was torture."

Leaping ahead to April, the process begins again with a desperate search for wardrobe. Girls gather friends, sisters and mothers to go hunting for that perfect gown. For many, the process takes "all day and some," according to Rebecca Whitehart, a junior.

Meanwhile, the boys wait until two weeks before the event to procure the necessary "monkey suit" for the occasion.

"The line was 10 people long at the tux place when I got there," junior Eric Hansen said. "When I got it fitted, I had to wait in line for about 40 minutes."

With snazzy clothes hanging at the ready in closets of teenagers all over town, the only things left on the boy's plate to take care of are the tickets. After dropping anywhere from \$50 to \$150 on the tuxedo (which hopefully fits, but then, only so much can be expected of a teenage boy when it comes to clothing), bank accounts might be a little low, especially when a prom ticket runs \$45 a head—an automatic total of \$90.

"I can't say it was worth my \$300, but it's just something you have to do," said senior Mike Pitcher.

This is also the time for last-minute date-finding for the big night.

"I found my date at a track meet with 10 seconds to spare," said Eric Hansen.

Tickets in hand, tuxedos and dresses at the ready, the big day can finally begin. Three months after its beginning for guys this is sweet vengeance for the emotional distress caused by finding dates and spending money.

Preparation for a night of dancing for girls begins at about 6 a.m.; they have it easy. Arriving at a hair appointment, they allow someone else to do most of the work for them for about the next two hours.

"I got there at three and they weren't done until quarter to five," senior Martina Lombardi said. "I got a haircut and an up-do, twisted and curled. He used 25 bobby pins in my hair."

Meanwhile, guys have no one but themselves to handle their preparation. Hair requires more effort than a guy is usually willing to expend: roughly 10 to 15 seconds of gelling and checking. Often a guy will spend

up to and including 10 minutes doing all the work himself, getting ready for prom.

Finally prepared, with a date picked up, roughly 90 pictures must be taken of the couple by as many relatives as can be found before 6 p.m. With the pre-prom groundwork completed, it's off to Livonia's Burton Manor for the real deal.

Mingling commences while everyone awaits dinner. At this point, girls enjoy talking to every other girl they can find (mostly to make sure that their dress is better than that of the others). Guys say hello to anyone who crosses their paths between the table and the refreshment bar.

Dinner finds its way to the table. It's important to remember that feeding over 600 people is difficult, which might account for the lack of "good" food.

"It was just bad, but when you go to prom, you look past all that," senior Evan O'Brianovic said.

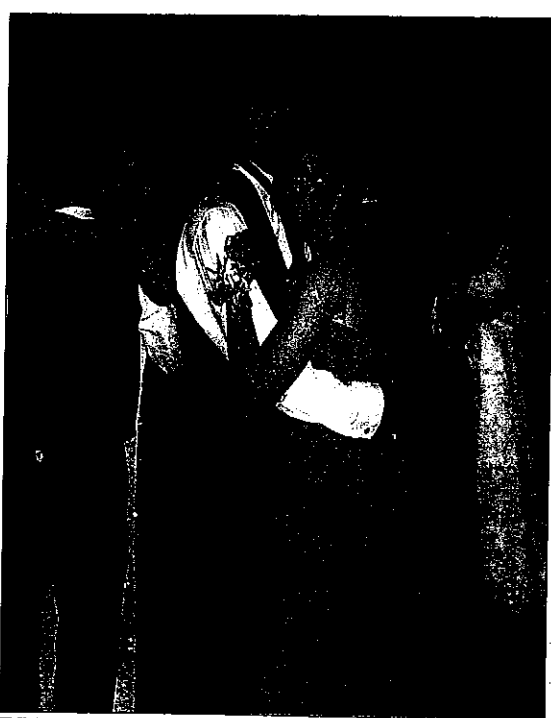
The dancing starts soon after dinner, lasting for roughly two hours, and there's a lot of move-busting and funk-get-downing had by everyone. "Dancing is much more fun at a prom than it is at a high school," junior Jake Piper said.

As the night winds down, the happy students realize just how great prom can be. The months of preparation and huge amounts of money spent by all involved have finally paid off. If only the ground hog knew what was in store every year.

Phil Hornshaw is a senior at Novi High School and editor in chief of its newspaper, The Wildcat Roar. He plans on attending Central Michigan University where he will study English and journalism.



Ian Robertson buttons up his vest and gets ready for some dancing at last Saturday night's Novi High School prom at Burton Manor.



Couples dance at last Saturday's Novi High School prom at the Burton Manor.

page designed by Bianca Mith
Novi News intern

POLICE REPORT

Tipsy traveler

A Chicago visitor was arrested by a Novi officer last week for drinking too much and driving too erratically. The officer was driving south on Novi Road at about 1 a.m. on May 8 when he saw a Pontiac Grand Am rental car come to a complete stop right in front of him for no reason. The officer said the car then started up again and began changing lanes without signaling. As the vehicle proceeded through a solid red light at the intersection of Novi Road and Grand River Avenue, the officer made the traffic stop. The 53-year-old female from Illinois said she was returning to the Wyndham Garden Hotel after having a cou-

ple of glasses of wine with friends. According to the report, the driver needed help opening the car door when exiting for field sobriety tasks. After failing all tests, she blew a .137 and was arrested.

Cash collectors

Police were dispatched to the intersection of Eight Mile and Haggerty roads last week, after drivers complained of cash collectors standing in the street. A Novi officer responded to the scene on May 8 at about 9 a.m. and found two ladies collecting donations for Veterans of America. The ladies did not have a permit from the City of Novi. One of the women told the officer she thought because it was National Veterans Week that a permit wasn't neces-

Crappie credit

A Novi man learned last week that his credit rating wasn't as good as he thought it was after he tried to refinance his home. The 44-year-old Novi male called police on May 7 at about 11 a.m. after he learned someone had charged about \$4,000 worth of goods to four different credit cards using his name and social security number. The charges began showing up in December of last year because it was National Veterans Week that a permit wasn't neces-

sary. The officer said both women were wearing bright yellow Veterans of America vests and had organization identification. They complied when told to leave the area.

Bye, bye bike

A Novi woman called police on May 8 at 8 a.m., reporting a stolen bike. The 57-year-old female living in the 3000 block of Montmancy, near 13 Mile and Novi roads, told police someone stole her bike from her deck. The resident said she last saw the bike on May 7 at about 11 p.m. and it was not locked. She told the officer the bike was new and she hadn't written the serial number down yet. The woman told the officer she didn't hear any strange noises or see anyone on her property. The woman called the police back later

the same day at about 12:30 p.m. to say she found the bike. She told police she was walking to her car when she saw it near the subway station's club house. The woman said no one was around so she took the bike back home.

Incorrect identification

Caught with a fake driver's license and drunk, a 19-year-old South Lyon female was arrested by Novi police last weekend. An officer was driving on Intersect 36 on May 9 at about 1 a.m. when he noticed a silver Pontiac approach him from behind. The vehicle then pulled up alongside of the patrol car swerving toward the vehicle. The officer pulled behind the car and paced it going about 30 mph before he made the

traffic stop. As the driver pulled out her driver's license, the officer noticed it was fake. After waiting for the woman to get out of the car, the officer asked her questions. She said she started driving at 15 years old, but her license was a fake. According to the report, as the officer asked her questions, she was dropping things all over the floor. The officer said she was crying. She said she was driving to her boyfriend's house. After getting in the police station, she agreed to a chemical test, registering .18. The 19-year-old received a ticket for reckless driving and returning to a PBT.

NEA: Taps Teri Moblo

continued from front

National Education Association Board of Directors, representing 160,000 members from Michigan. "I announced my candidacy for one of these two seats last November," Moblo said. "Since then, I ran a state-wide campaign. I traveled to almost every area of the state, every region, speaking about my position on public education and what I would do if I were elected to the Board of Directors for the National Educational Association. My election was at the NEA Spring Representative Assembly. There were about 800 delegates there and they elected me to this position."

For her new position, Moblo will be doing some traveling to Washington, and one of her jobs will be to lobby our legislators, our two state senators and congressional delegation in terms of issues that impact public education. In addition to that, part of the job is to help determine policy for the 2.7 million members that the association represents.

"I'm actually the first elected state board of directors member and the first elected national board of directors member to come from Novi," Moblo said. "It was a huge accomplishment for me. It was a very long and tiring campaign because my goal was not to be out of the district any more than I absolutely had to. I did most of this at night and came to work every morning because I also teach two classes here. I teach two hours of American History. I run unopposed, which is very unusual."

One major issue that Moblo will be tackling is the "No Child Left Behind" program. "I have some wonderful materials that we're using with our members to help them understand the basic components that are going to impact them the most," she said. "There are basically a couple of things that are going to impact our people the most in Novi. One is this concept of the highly qualified teacher in every classroom. This is a cool concept because the union totally buys into the idea that everybody ought to be qualified. At the federal level they have defined it in such a way that, believe it or not, some of our teachers who have taught for 20 or 30 years, are not going to be considered highly qualified."

"The second thing is, they have all of these mandates, the testing and the training that they want teachers and paraprofessionals to have," she added. "Right now the proposed budget for 2004 is underfunded by 11 billion dollars, so we have 1,200 cases of government mandates and no funding to go along with it. So, the implications for school districts are huge. Since the federal government has passed all of these laws, we are spending all this money and they're not funding it. So, where is the money coming from? That's a great question."

Another thing that Moblo will be working on from the National Education Association standpoint is, she is going to lobby for full funding of this.

"It's not the laws that concern me as much as the money," she said. "If you talk to teachers, you will hear a lot of really good things about No Child Left Behind. Teachers should be accountable and teachers should be highly qualified to teach kids. These are not bad things, so we are all on the same side in terms of that, it's just how are we going to get there with the money? That's the key."

The goal of the association at the local, state, and national levels, according to Moblo, is to ensure the highest quality working and learning conditions for its members and for the children it seeks to educate. That can best be done by ensuring that public schools are fully funded and that government mandates such as "No Child Left Behind" and the idea are implemented reasonably and fully funded.

Ramesh Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@h.homecomm.net.

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Photo by Phil Foley

Some businesses along Grand River Avenue east of Taft Road are complaining that city and road officials have broken their promise to keep at least two lanes open during the project to widen the road and replace the CSX railroad bridge. City officials say they're doing the best they can and that the project is on schedule for a Nov. 15 completion.

DELAYS: Businesses vent

continued from front

help," said Ray. Doug Densmore, Harold's heavy truck manager, said traffic through the construction zone was so bad at some points last week that some of his customers couldn't get through to the shop, which has stood at the base of the CSX bridge since 1970. He said some of his customers told him that if it weren't for the business' reputation, they would have taken their business elsewhere.

Novi City Engineer Nancy McClain said city officials, along with representatives of M-DOT and RCOC, were slated to meet with business owners along Grand River between Taft and the bridge Tuesday afternoon at JCK and Associates' office, in the heart of the construction project, to address their concerns.

However, she added, with the exception of some problems caused by mud as a result of recent heavy rains, the project has actually been going fairly well.

McClain said as a result of lessons learned from the county's widening of Grand River between Beck and Wisom roads, "We're doing a little better than average."

She noted the city's community relations office has been airing free spots for businesses in the construction zone on Cable 13, the city's public access channel. "We are trying to accommodate (area businesses) with signs, but there's only so much I can do with signs. If

you have too many signs, they don't get read," said McClain. The city has also been holding meetings the last Wednesday of each month to keep business people and residents informed of the project's progress. Nearly 300 people attended the first two meetings in January. Last month four people attended the morning session and no one attended the evening session.

The next Grand River road project meetings are slated for 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. May 28 in the training room at Novi Police headquarters.

Phil Foley is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 108 or pfoley@ht.honcom.net.

NOVI CITY BRIEFS

Teen Volunteer Program

Applications are being accepted now through May 23 for the Novi Public Library Summer Reading Program. Students in the sixth grade and older are needed to volunteer two hours a week June 23 through Aug. 1 to help with the program. Volunteer assignments will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis as the applications are returned. All volunteers must attend one 45-minute orientation session before the Summer Reading Program begins. Orientation sessions will be held 4 p.m. on Wednesday, June 4, and Thursday, June 5. For more information, contact a Youth Services librarian at (248) 349-0720.

Senior Hoe Down

All area seniors are invited to kick up their heels during the city's Spring Hoe Down coming up this Saturday, May 17, at the Novi Civic Center. The event will feature live music and light refreshments. The event will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center inside Meadowbrook Commons. Tickets will be available at the

door for \$3. Meadowbrook Commons is located at 25075 Meadowbrook Road. For more information, call (248) 347-0414.

Annie

The Novi Theatre's Performance Plus, Children's Annex and Little People Players present "Annie." Tickets are on sale now at the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department inside the Novi Civic Center. All reserved seats are \$17. Performances will take place on the Novi Middle School stage Saturday, May 17 at 2 and 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 18 at 4 p.m. For more information, call (248) 347-0400.

Sleeping Beauty

Area residents ages 7 through college are invited to audition for the Novi Theatre's upcoming production of "Sleeping Beauty." Auditions will take place Tuesday, May 20 and Thursday, May 22 at 4 p.m. inside the Novi Civic Center. Rehearsals for the play will begin June 24 and the actual production will take place July 11, 12 and 13. Laura Uter is the director. For more information, call (248) 347-0400.

Amusement Park Tickets

Discounted tickets to popular amusement parks are now available at the City of Novi Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry. Tickets to the following parks are available: Battle Creek Fall Blast, Cedar Point,

continued on page 5

City seeks veterans for a special recognition event

By Victoria Sadiola
STAFF WRITER

Veterans and families of the men and women serving our country from 1945 to the present are invited to a special Recognition Day ceremony sponsored by the City of Novi.

The annual event, scheduled for 1 p.m. Sunday, June 22, was created to give thanks and applaud those serving during that time period including Desert Storm, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Kosovo,

Cold War, Grenada, Panama, Somalia as well as family members of those actively serving in the armed forces.

Architect of the celebratory ceremony, City of Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark, urges all residents to register for recognition.

Clark said whether in combat, keeping the peace during the Cold War or serving troops in an advisory capacity while enlisted in the armed forces, the city wants to give its thanks.

"If people have family members who may be in Iraq right now serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, that would include all of them," he said. The city's mayor hopes all veterans will step forward for the acknowledgment he believes they deserve, and that which sparked his desire to create the event three years ago.

"I've long thought we all take our freedom so much for granted, and people don't realize it's not really free and someone always has to pay the price," Clark said. For every day residents wake up and enjoy free press, freedom

of religion and the freedom to do as they please, Clark said we owe our country's veterans.

Last year during Novi's Vietnam Veterans Day Recognition event, Clark said some being honored came to him with tears in their eyes, saying the event was the first time anyone had said thank you since they set foot back on American soil.

This year's event, held inside the Novi Civic Center, will feature many special presentations and performances, displays, entertainment and refreshments.

Robert Heft will be one of the guest speakers. Heft created the 50-star flag in 1959 when Alaska and Hawaii joined the Union. The Saginaw resident entered a contest while in high school and was recognized by the creator of the new U.S. flag.

Special performances have also been scheduled by the Novi Theatre and Novi Concert Band. More details about the day will be announced closer to the event. All veterans interested in being honored are asked to contact the City of Novi Community Relations Office located at 45175



Courtesy photo

Area residents and veterans gathered last year at the City of Novi Veterans Recognition Day event inside the Novi Civic Center, giving thanks to all serving in the Vietnam War.

W. Ten Mile Road, between Novi and Taft roads.

Interested veterans may also call (248) 735-5628 for more information or to register for the event.

Victoria Sadiola is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or vsadiola@ht.honcom.net.

LIBRARY LINES

Hours

The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. (Note: Beginning May 25, the library will be closed on Sundays during the summer.) We are located at 45245 W. 10 Mile Road, just east of Taft Road. Call (248) 349-0720.

Teen volunteer opportunity

The library's Youth Services department is looking for teen volunteers to help with our Summer Reading Program. Volunteers should be in the 6th grade or above and be able to work two hours a week from June 23 to August 1. Applications are available in the library and must be returned by Friday, May 23. For more information, please contact one of our Youth Services librarians.

Memorial Day closing

The library will be closed Monday, May 26, for Memorial Day.

NOVI CITY BRIEFS

continued from page 4

Crossroads Village Plaza, Six Flags World of Adventure, Greenfield Village & Henry Ford Museum, Kings Island, Cincinnati, Michigan Adventure, Muskegon, Michigan Renaissance Festival, Michigan State Fair, Oakland County Waterford Wave Pool/Red Oaks Wave Pool and Six Flags Great Escape. Discounts vary depending on destination. Adult tickets for Cedar Point are \$32.50, resulting in a \$10.45 savings for Novi residents. Visit the parks and recreation inside the Novi Civic Center or call (248) 347-0400.

Petition filing

Tomorrow, May 16 is the first day nominating petitions will be accepted by those wanting to run for City Council. Novi residents interested in running for City Council should file their petitions with the City Clerk's Office by 5 p.m. Friday, June 6. For more information, call (248) 347-0456.

Memorial Day Parade

Calling all groups and businesses interested in being part of the City of Novi 2003 Memorial Day Parade. The annual event will serve as a

special opportunity to bring recognition to those who have served our country. Entry forms are available at the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department or by visiting the city's Web site at www.ci.novi.mi.us. The parade will take place 10 a.m. Monday, May 26. Completed forms must be returned by Friday, May 23. Confirmation and instructions will be provided by mail. Call Tracie at (248) 347-0400.

Calling all Veterans

On Sunday, June 22 at 1 p.m., the City of Novi will recognize the men and women of our community and the surrounding area serving in the armed forces from 1945 to 2003 at the Veterans Recognition Day event.

This event will honor veterans of the Cold War, Grenada, Panama, Desert Storm, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Somalia and Kosovo. Additionally, Novi residents who have been called to active duty from the Reserves or National Guard Units and, while they may not be able to attend, we would ask that their families join us so we can honor them. Contact the City of Novi Community Relations Office, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 or (248) 735-5628 for a registration form for this event.

Are you an organ & tissue donor?

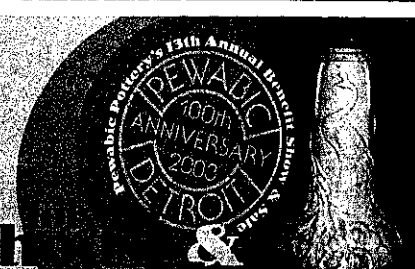
Ask your family today, and let them know your decision, too. That way you'll know, they'll know, and there will be no questions later. For a free brochure, call 1-800-355-SHARE. Share your life, share your decision. Michigan Coalition on donation.

THE NOVI NEWS Published Each Thursday By The Novi News 104 W. Main Street Northville, Michigan 48167 Periodical At Northville, Michigan

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10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Low Admission. Donations are welcome. Memberships are available at the door - receive membership discounts on purchases.

Family Fun Day, Sunday, May 18, 2003

Family activities include: The Pressing, The Kidding, The Driving Demolition, Face Painting.

For more information, please call: Donor's Battery at 813.222.0943 ext. 111. Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Price is \$10.00. The event is free for the participants at Donor's Battery. The event is free for the participants at Donor's Battery.

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Change the batteries in your smoke detector at least once a year.

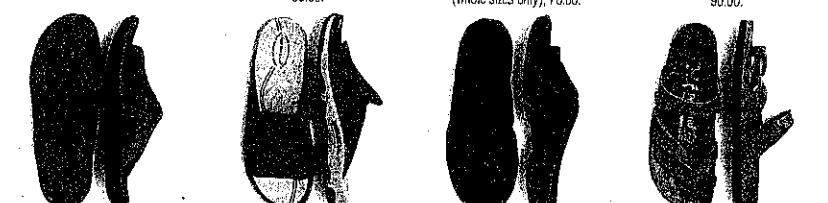
United States Fire Administration Federal Emergency Management Agency <http://www.usfa.fema.gov>

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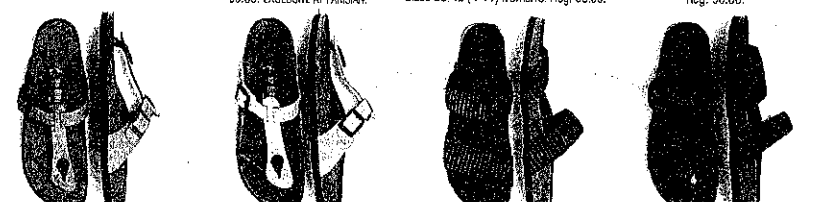
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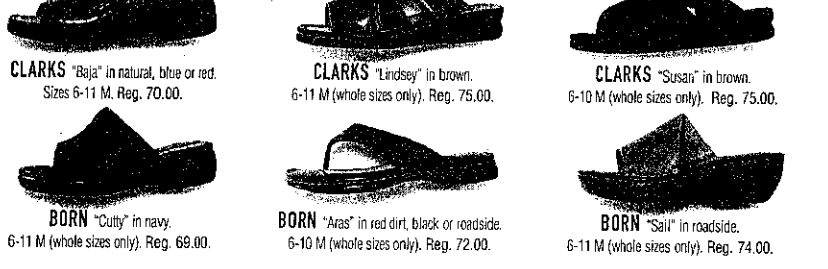
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ENGAGEMENT



LENA PANTUSO

Lena Pantuso of Plymouth died May 6, 2003. She was 88. Survivors include two sons, Tony (Gloria) of Novi and Mark; one daughter, Christina (Paul) Rase; four grandchildren, Tony, Jr., Bill, Mike and Anna Marie; and four siblings, Robert, Hugo, Teresa and John.

Buck and Wienke

Gordon and Rosemary Buck, formerly of Novi and now of Commerce Twp., and Marcia and John Battistelli of Highland announce the engagement of their children, Thomas Buck and Ami Wienke. The bride is the daughter of Marcia Battistelli of Highland and John and Kris Wienke of Twin Lakes, Wis.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Reuther Central, Kenosha, Wis., in 1988 and currently is employed by Oakridge Children's Centers. The groom-elect is a 1994 graduate of Novi High School and 1998 graduate of Lawrence Technological University. He is currently employed by General Motors. A June 2003 wedding is planned.

OBITUARIES

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John R. Soloy

John Soloy of Howell died April 29, 2003. He was 92. Mr. Soloy was a member of the Detroit Harbor Terminal for 20 years. He was originally from Duquoin, Illinois and was the first survivor from a family of 10. Survivors include his daughter, Jeanette (Henry) Wolicki; his son, John (Joy) of Novi; seven grand-

children; and four great-grandchildren. His wife, Ethel, preceded him in death. A funeral service was held May 3, 2003 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Donations may be made to the Angela Hospice or Diabetes Association.

Evelyn Arletta Götter

Evelyn Götter died May 9, 2003 in South Lyon. She was 89. Mrs. Götter was born April 3, 1914. Survivors include four daughters, Kathy (Hugh) Crawford of Novi, Nancy Götter, Barbara Götter, and Jan Meinhold; five grandchildren, Doug, Amy, Kelly, Carrie and Nick; and two great-grandchildren, Alexis and Devin; and one sister, Mary E. Petty. Her husband, James T., preceded her in death. A funeral service was held May 14, 2003 at Novi United Methodist Church, Novi. Interment will be at Oakland Hills Memorial Garden Cemetery, Novi. Memorials may be made to Novi United Methodist Church or Angela Hospice.

children; and four great-grandchildren. His wife, Ethel, preceded him in death. A funeral service was held May 3, 2003 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Donations may be made to the Angela Hospice or Diabetes Association.

Creed Miller

Creed Miller of Novi died May 11, 2003. He was 81. Mr. Miller was born February 2, 1922 in Detroit and had been a resident of Novi for 27 years. Mr. Miller was a former employee of Masco, retiring in 1992 after 50 years of service. He was a member of Farmington Elks and the Marine Corps League and had served in the U.S. Marines during WWII and the Korean Conflict. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Esther Miller; two sons, Dana (Helen) Miller of Tulsa, Oklahoma and David (Adrienne) Miller of Gibraltar, Mich.; one daughter, Karen (William) Henderson of Nevada; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. A funeral service was held May 14, 2003 at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, Farmington Hills, Mich., with Pastor Sue Ellis officiating. Interment will be at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy, Mich. Memorials may be made to Hospice of Michigan, 400 Mack Ave., Detroit, Mich. 48201 or First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, 26165 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, Mich. 48334. Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi.

children; and four great-grandchildren. His wife, Ethel, preceded him in death. A funeral service was held May 3, 2003 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Donations may be made to the Angela Hospice or Diabetes Association.

John Joseph Brick

John Brick of Wyandotte died May 13, 2003. He was 75. Survivors include his wife, Martha; three children, Patrick (Mary Clare), Sharon (Scott) Hall and Joseph (Stephanie); five grandchildren, Sean, Megan, Quinn, Caitlin, and Tara; and four siblings, Pat, Tim, Tom, and Ray. His sisters, Margaret and Elizabeth preceded him in death. Visitation will be Wed., May 14, Thursday, May 15, 2 p.m.-4 p.m., and 6 p.m.-9 p.m., at the O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Novi. Interment will be Friday 9 a.m. until time of funeral service, 9:30 a.m., at St. Suzanne Church, 9357 Westwood, Detroit. Interment will be at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. The family requests memorials may be made to The Capuchins, 1820 Mt. Elliott Ave., Detroit, Mich. 48207-3496. Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi.

Albert W. "Lefty" Earehart, Jr.

Albert Earehart, Jr. of Luther died April 28 at his home. He was 78. Mr. Luther was born July 10, 1926, in Fort Wayne, Ind., to Albert Earehart and Lucile Conrad. He later married Jean Ann (Hann) Earehart on Aug. 10, 1958. She survives him.

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Advertising targets least likely to buckle up

Michigan teenagers and young adults are going to be surrounded by the strong message, "Click It or Ticket: If you won't buckle up to save your life, then buckle up to save yourself a ticket," as the Novi Police Department joins more than 12,000 law enforcement agencies in a nationwide crackdown on safety belt violators. The message to teens and young adults will be seen and heard in television and radio ads, in Internet chat rooms, over public high school address systems, and through enforcement in locations where young people congregate — such as schools and shopping malls.

The two-week enforcement wave, which runs from May 19 through the Memorial Day holiday, will be supported by more than \$20 million in state and national advertising. It is based on a proven public health model to increase belt use called "high visibility enforcement."

The only proven way to get significant increases in belt use among young people and ultimately save lives is through high visibility enforcement, including targeted and intense advertising to alert people to the enforcement," said Novi Police Sergeant Terry Whitfield. "Teens and young adults are killed at far higher rates in crashes because they are caught in a lethal intersection of inexperience, risk taking and low safety belt use. These tragedies are preventable and therefore preventable, using proven techniques like high visibility enforcement mobilizations."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 5,341 teens, ages 16-20, died and thousands more were injured in traffic crashes in 2001. Fatality rates for teens are twice that of older drivers and the risk of crashes for teens is four times that of older drivers. Two out of five deaths among teens are the result of a traffic crash. In 2000, the estimated economic impact of police-reported crashes involving drivers between 15 and 20 years old was \$3.2 billion.

Cassis bill helps locate abducted girl

State Senator Nancy Cassis (R-Nowi), who was instrumental in helping Michigan become one of the first states in the nation to adopt the Amber Alert program into law, is satisfied that the program has already been influential in the return of dozens of abducted Michigan children.

Oakland County prepares for spring auction

As sure a sign of spring as tulips and robins is the first crop of garage sale signs. And just as warm weather prompts many Oakland County residents to get rid of unwanted items, so it does county government.

The county will be unloading everything from trucks and bicycles to lawn equipment and office furniture at its annual Spring Auction at 9:30 a.m. May 17 at the Oakland County Central Garage, Building 16 East, 1200 North Telegraph Road in Pontiac.

Items up for auction will include unclaimed recovered stolen property as well as goods confiscated by local law enforcement. Vehicles on the auction block will be viewable from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 16 in the parking lot behind Building 26 East, 1200 North Telegraph Road. All other items will go on display at 8:30 a.m. the morning of the auction.

Farmers Market runs through Oct.

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER

On a chill, gray morning more suited to the mallards parading the edges of Walled Lake City Hall Field than people, Walled Lake's Downtown Development Authority touched its past and opened a farmers market.

There used to be a Farmers Market where Pontiac Trail and Commons Street used to come together at an old angle, recalled Mayor Bill Roberts. "It was there when my family came in '54." The new farmers market kicked off last Wednesday with 15 vendors selling everything from flats of flowers and garden statuary to organically raised eggs from Clifford up in the Thumb and Cherry syrup made in Leelanau County.

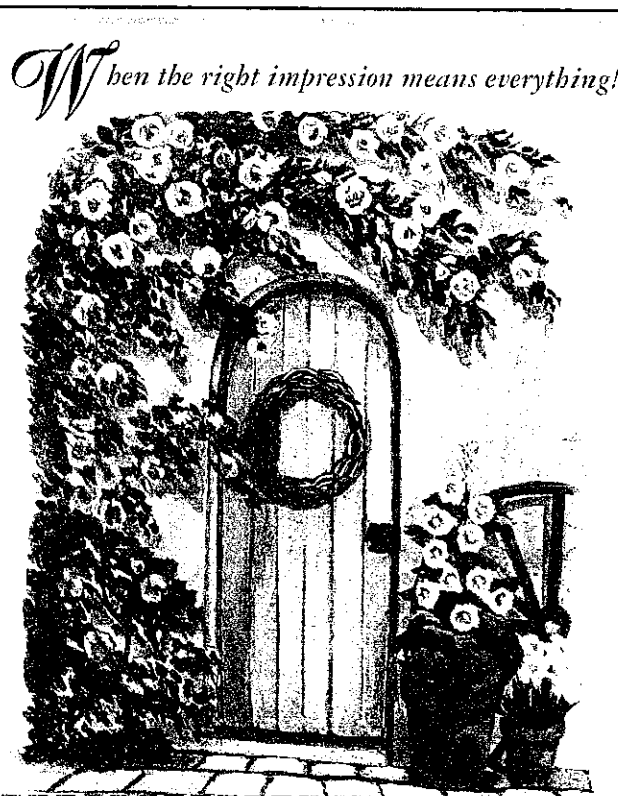
So far, said DDA administrator assistant Jessie Brewer, who dressed in overalls and dotted her cheeks with fake freckles for opening day, 23 people have signed up to sell items at the market and two have signed contracts for the entire season, which runs through Oct. 29. She said there is still plenty of room and vendor spaces are available for \$10 a day or \$200 for the season.

Marian Clifton, the market's mother, was busy handing out five canvas bags from one end of the market to the other to the first 200 shoppers. Local veterinarian Steve Burns, who with Clifton serves as Market Master, said the first customer was waiting patiently a quarter-hour before the ribbon cutting ceremony at 7 a.m. "I'm excited," he said, "we had more people turn out that I thought."

SENIOR CALENDAR

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Thursday 5/15 | 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Massage Therapy | 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Sundry Shop Open |
| 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Computer Class-Intro to Windows | 12:30 Pinchme! "Tootsie" | 12:30 Lunch |
| 9:30 a.m. Line Dance* | 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Healing Touch | 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Lunch |
| 9:30 a.m. Travel Meeting | 6:30 p.m. Clogging* | 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Attention Tea |
| 12:30 Bridge* | | |
| 12:45 Line Dance-Beginners | | |
| 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Line Dance-Advanced | | |
| 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Computer-Fund. of Internet | | |
| 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Crafts-Sun Catcher | | |
| Renfro Valley/Pigeon Forge Trip | | |
| Friday 5/16 | 9 a.m. Stretch & Strength | |
| 10 a.m.-11 a.m. Body Recall | | |
| 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sundry Shop Open | | |
| noon Lunch & 12:30 | | |
| 12:30 Bridge* | | |
| 12:30 p.m. Dupl. Bridge | | |
| Saturday 5/17 | 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Line Dance Hoedown | |
| Skipay at door | | |
| New England Canada Cruise Trip | | |
| Monday 5/19 | 9 a.m. Stretch & Strength | |
| 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Intro to Computer Class | | |
| 10 a.m. Body Recall | | |
| 11 a.m. Goodie Party | | |

*Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Fox Mill Road. All other activities will take place at the Meadowbrook Commons Community Center. Note: ALL TRIPS will depart from the Novi Civic Center on Ten Mile Rd. Phone (248) 347-0414.



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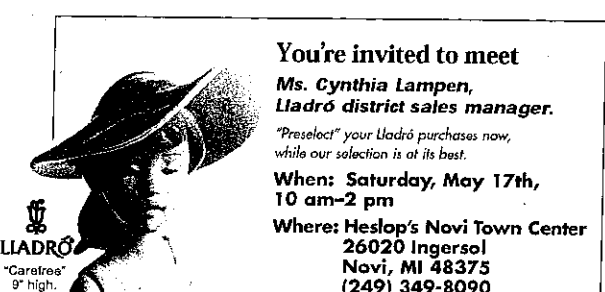
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DON'T MISS Juan Vicente Lladro's Appearance Thursday, June 19th 6-8 pm

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Relay for Life moves to Northville's Ford Field

By Jennifer Norris
STAFF WRITER

On May 17-18, the American Cancer Society will host Relay for Life, a 24-hour event slated to be hosted at Ford Field in Northville beginning at 10 a.m.

The event is geared to raise funds and awareness for cancer research.

"We call it a block party with a purpose," said Beth Iovan, community development director for the American Cancer Society.

The event is free and open to the public.

According to officials, team members from businesses, families, schools and places of worship will walk a track and camp out during 24 hours of entertainment, celebration and reflection.

Iovan said in past years, the event has been hosted in Novi, but a more spacious area became necessary.

"Logistically, it's much better in Northville," she said. "The site allows for a lot more growth."

Cancer survivors are invited to attend and be honored, Iovan said.

The event will commence with a cancer survivor victory lap at 10 a.m., followed by a reception for the survivors and their caretakers. Later, at 10 p.m., the track will be lined with luminary candles.

The Lumina Ceremony will consist of small candlelit bags, or luminaria, tagged with the

On May 17 and 18, the American Cancer Society will host Relay for Life, a team event to celebrate cancer survivorship, honor those who have been lost to the disease and rally the community to fight cancer. The 24-hour event will be hosted at Ford Field in Northville beginning at 10 a.m.

For more information, contact the American Cancer Society at (248) 557-5353 or visit www.cancer.org

names of people lost to cancer or cancer survivors.

"It's just quite a moving ceremony," said Iovan. "It's just unbelievable. It's very powerful."

The luminary candle bags are available for \$10 and may be purchased the day of the event, she said.

Iovan added it's not too late for interested area residents to form a team.

Handfuls of participants are slated to lace up their best walking shoes in support of the 24-hour relay.

"I'm expecting 600-800 people," said Iovan. "Basically, we try to shoot for having one member [from each team] on the

track at the same time. It should be quite an event. People can just come for an hour if they want to see what it's about."

Iovan said plenty of entertainment and activities will be arranged for the event.

Officials said the Northville/Novi Relay for Life has taken up the fight with 34 teams already participating including Northville High School, Meigs Mill Middle School, Hillsdale Middle School and Novi Middle School. Other groups that have created teams include St. James Catholic Church of Novi, First United Methodist Church of Northville, Northville Eagles, Northville Rotary and the Wixom Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Local businesses such as the Water Wheel Health Club, Toll Brothers and Hilliers are also taking up the fight against cancer, officials said.

According to a press release, Relay for Life is a team event to celebrate cancer survivorship, honor those who have been lost to the disease and rally the community to fight cancer.

For more information, contact the American Cancer Society at (248) 483-4317 or visit www.cancer.org

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 107 or by e-mail at jnorris@ht.hometeam.net.



Andy Anuzis, legislative aide for state Rep. Craig DeRoche, meets with National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice in the East Room of the White House. Behind him is Antanas Valionis, the Lithuanian foreign minister to NATO.

Courtesy photo

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Sharon MICHIGAN

BUSINESS

Phil Foley, business reporter (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 pfoley@ht.hometeam.net

Bamboo Club serves up Pacific delights

By Phil Foley
STAFF WRITER



Photo by John Heider

A waitress with a tray of hors d'oeuvres buzzes by a colorful display of tropical flowers at last Tuesday's grand opening of Novi's Bamboo Club restaurant.

Flanked by flaming torches 24 feet high, Novi's newest restaurant, The Bamboo Club, threw open its doors for the first time May 6 to a high-profile crowd that included the likes for WDIV's Paula Tolan, Detroit Zoo Director Ron Kagan and State Senator Nancy Cassis.

Owned by Phoenix, Ariz.-based Main Street and Main Inc. (which operates 63 TGIFridays, six Redfish restaurants and is publicly traded on the NASDAQ exchange as (MAIN), the Bamboo Club is one of 10 in five states, including Arizona, Florida, Kentucky, Pennsylvania and Michigan. Plans are for five to six more Bamboo Clubs to open across the country.

Karrie Dunn, the restaurant's general manager, said all of the restaurants are located in upmarket shopping centers like Novi's Fountain Walk. However, she added, while The Bamboo Club presents itself as an upscale dining experience, it's also family friendly.

She said that means if a family comes in with a finicky eater who turns their nose up at everything on the restaurant's extensive menu, the chef will gladly whip up a bowl of plain noodles and butter.

Unlike many Asian restaurants which lean toward a red-and-black color scheme with highly-colored, gold-trimmed pottery, The Bamboo Club offers a muted color palette of dark greens and mustard. If the restaurant has a drawback it's what Dunn calls a "high energy atmosphere." The high, open ceilings reflect sound creating

a din when the restaurant is full. The restaurant also offers two outside dining areas.

After stints on both coasts in the restaurant trade, taking the reins of The Bamboo Club is something of a homecoming for Dunn, who grew up in nearby South Lyon.

The Bamboo Club bills itself as a Pacific Rim restaurant and its menu includes items from Korea, China, Malaya, Vietnam, Thailand and Hawaii. Lunch and dinner entrees range from \$9 to \$19.

Located on the south side of Fountain Walk off 12 Mile Road, The Bamboo Club opens for lunch daily at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is served until 5 p.m. and the restaurant stays open until 10 or 11 p.m. every night depending on business. For more information call (248) 347-1036.

Phil Foley is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 108 or at pfoley@ht.hometeam.net.

Here we GLOW again!

Miniature Golf will never be the same - not with the May 23 opening of Putting Edge at Fountain Walk in Novi. The creators of Putting Edge have taken the traditional game of mini golf, thrown it inside, added an art gallery of over 350 props & obstacles, cranked up the music and turned off the lights.

The result is total immersion in a kaleidoscope of dazzling colors and themes. Players are transported from medieval times to the densest forests, from the ocean depths to the farthest reaches of their imagination as they vie to sink their putts on the challenging 18-hole course.

According to Craig Lang, general manager, "The Novi Putting Edge will be the hot spot for players of all ages. Whether you are a pro or duffer, Putting Edge will knock your socks off."

"The Novi Putting Edge is our 15th course and one of the best yet," says Jerry Vanderburgh, president. "Our design team goes out of their way to provide an environment that stimulates the senses leaving every player in awe. Their work on this 9,500 square foot course takes the game of mini golf to the next level."

The business' grand opening is Friday May 23. Putting Edge is open daily with extended hours during the summer. Call the course at (248) 348-4022 for more information or visit the Web site at www.puttingedge.com.

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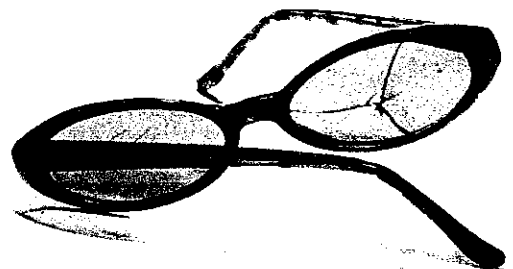
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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Hail to the chief

The Novi chapter of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) will hold its annual election's meeting at 6:30 p.m. May 19 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi. There is a \$16 charge, which includes a full dinner and a great opportunity to network with area businesswomen. To make a reservation, call Christina Struwe at (248) 269-0205 or E-mail her at Christina.struwe@huntington.com.

Changes at Sellers

Sam Slaughter has been named president of Bob Sellers Pontiac-GMC-Lexus. Robert Sellers, who founded the business in 1972, has been named chairman of the board. Slaughter is responsible for day-to-day operations of one of the largest dealerships in the country. The Farmington Hills locale employs 105 people.

New partner

Novi's Fox Run Village has a new best friend. CNL Retirement Properties, Inc. ("CNL"), an Orlando, Fla.-based investment company specializing in the seniors' housing industry, announced April 29 that it has invested approximately \$35 million in Fox Run and another Erickson Retirement Community in Peabody, Ma. Part of our long-term strategic program is to enhance our relationship with Erickson," said Thomas J. Hutchinson III, president of CNL Retirement Properties, Inc. "They have proven to be a successful partner for us and we are currently exploring other investment opportunities with them in the second and third quarters of this year." Upon completion, Fox Run Village will be the largest retirement community in the state and will include 1,815 residential units.

Triple threat

The Manitowoc Company, Inc. (NYSE: MTW), the world's largest provider of lifting equipment for the global construction industry, has signed an agreement with Novi-based BRT and Skyline Technologies to implement an enterprise scale Web Content Management initiative based on the Documentum (NASDAQ: DCTM) WCM product edition. BRT and Skyline, when they join, will deliver a global system to manage Manitowoc's public Web sites, and their secure intranet and business extranet communica-

tions portals. BRT and Skyline will provide integration and consulting services to migrate 18 public Web sites from Manitowoc's Crane, Food Services, and Marine Groups, as well as Manitowoc's Employee Intranet and Customer Extranet operations.

"We are very excited about the collaborative, partnering relationship that has rapidly evolved between our (three) companies," says Andy Stallman, vice president of BRT. "Skyline has been a trusted provider to Manitowoc for some time now. BRT has extensive, specialized experience with the Documentum product platform. Without Skyline's insider experience we could not have hoped to successfully migrate from Manitowoc's existing [home-grown] Web applications environment into an enterprise level Documentum WCM system on the aggressive schedule required by our customer. This is going to be an interesting project, with a distinctively mid-western sensibility to it."

Hello Dave, I am the HAL-9000

Wixom resident David Keir, a senior account executive with AT&T Government Solutions, was recently presented with the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning's President's Award by association president Ricki Chowning and executive director Ric Wilcox at the group's annual conference in Detroit. An association spokesman said AT&T gave the group a \$50,000 grant to support the third annual Student Technology Showcase slated for Oct. 8 at the State Capitol Building. Students from some 80 schools across the state are expected to participate. For additional information visit www.macu.org.

Up against the wall

Providence Center for the Healing Arts was one of a dozen non-traditional arts organizations to divvy up \$228,000 in grant money from the Michigan Association of Community Arts Agencies. Funding for the grants came from the Ruth Mott Foundation in Flint and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. The center will be using its \$19,037 to complete its Lasting Impressions project. Artist in residence Judy Burek, along with Jac Gibson, will install a life assemblage based on the themes of hope and inspiration in a tunnel

joining the Assarian Cancer Center to the center's main campus with the help of numerous civic, government and business organizations.

We happy few

If you just can't wait to get to work in the morning, the Michigan Business & Professional Association (MBPA) wants to hear from you. The MBPA taking nominations for metro Detroit businesses (located in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb county) through June 10 for its third annual "Metropolitan Detroit's 101 Best and Brightest Companies to Work For" awards. To begin the nomination process, entrants simply complete and submit to the MBPA a one-page entry form available at www.101detroitbest.com or call the MBPA at (586) 393-8800 to receive the form. There is a \$25 application fee to process nominations. A complete questionnaire will be sent to the company's Human Resources Manager/Director following submission of the nomination form.

"The MBPA is proud to host an event that recognizes employees as the greatest asset a business can have," said Jennifer Kluge, executive vice president of the MBPA. "In today's competitive economy, it has become increasingly difficult to retain the best and brightest for employees. From the research gathered through this event, we hope to develop and share new human resource benchmarks that will positively impact the Detroit area business community." Awards will be presented at an official ceremony on Wednesday, October 22, 2003 at the Troy Marriott by the MBPA at which the top ten winners and overall winner will be announced.

New BRT team members

Yigin (Sean) Tan joined Novi-based BRT, Inc. on March 19 with over 15 years of experience. His most recent projects include experience with Java, J2EE, JSP, and Struts. Sean is leveraging his experience with the rest of the Archtix team in the internal development of a web-based document management system designed specifically for the corporate tax environment. Joe Savino joined BRT on March 24 with over 15 years of experience. He has a number of years of Documentum (DCTM) experience in addition to PC DOCS. Savino is working with the Center of Excellence team at Ford Motor Company as one of BRT's many Documentum Admins.

Ravi Voleti joined BRT on March 28 with over eight years of experience. A majority of his experience has been working with the DCTM product. Voleti is leveraging his Web Content Management experience with DCTM to help BRT deliver an enterprise scale Web Content Management initiative for the Manitowoc Company.

On the way up

Novi Community Credit Union's former vice president of operations, Robin R. Johnson, has been named executive vice president of Motor Parts Federal Credit Union (MPFCU), effective last week. Johnson was appointed to the position following the recent promotion of Heidi Kasah to president and chief executive officer. Johnson, 33, began her credit union career at 16 as a teller with the Oakland County Credit Union in Waterford.

She came to the Auburn Hills-based MPFCU in 1998 from Troy's Oakland Catholic Credit Union, where she was vice president of finance. From 1995 to 1998, Johnson worked for Novi Community Credit Union. She joined the credit union as an accounting supervisor where she processed financial reports, supervised the maintenance of general ledger accounts and maintained accounts payable subsidiaries. In 1996, she was promoted to vice president of operations for Novi Community Credit Union. In this position, Johnson served as the No. 2 operating official and assistant treasurer. In addition, she managed several departmental operations, including accounting, loans, member services and the teller area. MPFCU has more than 15,000 members and assets in excess of \$116 million. For more information, visit www.mpfcu.org.

It's this or the Simpsons

Residents of Novi, Wixom and Walled Lake are now among 350,000 households in Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair, Wayne, Washtenaw and Livingston County who can now view Realcomp II Ltd.'s MLS-TV on one of two cable channels, Novi residents, and others served by AOL-Time Warner, can find MLS-TV on Channel 79, while Wixom, Walled Lake and others served by Comcast Cable Digital Tier can find it on Channel 281. MLS-TV is a televised tour of homes for sale. Going digital, said Realcomp CEO Karen Kage has allowed MLS-TV to expand from 40 communities in four counties to 171 in six.

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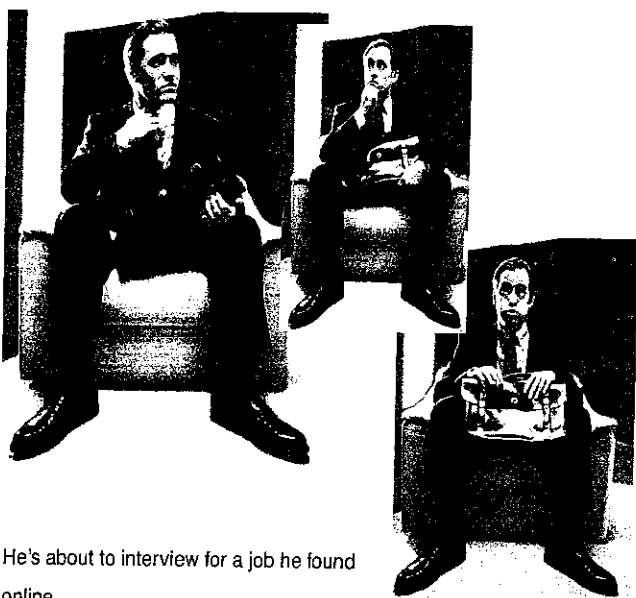
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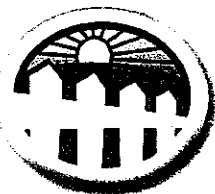


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CLASS NOTES

Ramez Khuri, school reporter (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 rkhuri@ht.homedcomm.net

Novi Meadows wax museum highlights African-American Hall of Fame

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

It's a good thing the weather isn't too hot yet, because Novi Meadows kids and teachers would be up to their knees in wax right now. Students in Lisa Fenchel's sixth grade class learned costumes and memorized speeches last Wednesday as they held an African-American Hall of Fame Wax Museum.

According to Fenchel, the project was part of a year-long study.

"The students read a couple of novels earlier in the year that all dealt with racism issues, prejudice and the African-American experience in the past," she said. "We wanted to have the kids utilize their research skills and apply some of the writing skills they have learned over the year. They did it in front of their peers as a practice and then in front of their parents at night so they had two different audiences."

The wax museum project applied the six different test structures that the students learned over the school year and they created six different projects along the way. The monologues that they shared were descriptive papers that they wrote. The items on display were projects that they created.

"For sequencing they did a time line of a person's life," Fenchel said. "For a narration, they wrote a paragraph about the person's accomplishments. They also made some collages and some awards for all the contributions or accomplishments that their person had. They really became an expert on this one person."

Sixth grader Alexio Gomes portrayed Alex Haley. "Alex Haley wrote the book 'Roots,' which was made into a mini-series and translated into three different languages," he said. "I chose him because he really



Photo by John Heider

Novi Meadows' student Evan Muller portrays NASA astronaut Ronald McNair during last week's "wax museum" of historical African Americans.

made a big difference in his life. The speeches we make are a life story of the character."

In addition to writing speeches, the students did some comparing and contrasting with the characters. An example, according to Fenchel, is they would compare an athlete to a writer

and talk about similar experiences growing up or things that they faced as adults. "It really kind of gave them a chance to go beyond that superficial research and really get to know their person," she said. "Their job at the wax museum was to share their person with others. As an expert

on their person, they actually become the person they have researched now and their job is to teach about their life to other people. They all have a button and they have monologues that they have memorized. They also have artifacts on their desks, like props they brought in or just projects that they created along the way for people to see."

Sixth grader Katie Shinkel and Jonathan Lee both contributed to the wax museum. "My character is Ruby Bridges because I thought it would be really interesting to see what she did," Shinkel said. "She was the first African-American girl to go to an all-white school and she

wrote her own book called 'Through My Eyes.' I'm telling the people when she was born, where she was born and what her accomplishments are."

Lee portrayed Crispus Attucks. "I chose him because I like politics," he said. "He was a political leader and he was famous for being in the Boston Massacre and he was in the Revolution. He was symbolic because he was the first one to catch a bullet. Besides the date and when they were born, we can also tell how the people felt and their opinions."

Fenchel said that the project combines many different academic skills into one. "This

project is nice because the kids are able to integrate skills from a couple of different areas," she said. "They work on their research skills, they work on their reading, they work on writing in a variety of ways and they work on their public speaking. It's all in the curriculum that we are supposed to cover plus they learn some life long skills as well."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.homedcomm.net.

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EYE EXAMS - OVERNIGHT SERVICE AVAILABLE

Students awarded for jobs well done

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

More than 40 high school students and area employers were recognized at the Ninth Annual CO-OP Employer/Employee Appreciation Breakfast on Friday.

According to Novi High CO-OP Coordinator and Business Teacher Barbara Clift, the main purpose of the breakfast was to thank all of the employers who worked with the students. "They trained them and supervised them and helped them to grow in their career goals," she said. "We really view it as a partnership because we can teach them things out of a book and in a classroom. But to get real job skills, that can only happen on a job."

Clift explained that many of the students pick CO-OP jobs based on what they want to study in college. "We had a student who wants to be a medical office who wants to be a doctor, we had students at schools who want to be teachers, and we had a student work at a restaurant who wants to own his own restaurant," she said. "It really is a learning experience for them because they learn a lot about how the whole operation is run even if they are doing just a small part of it. They can learn a lot by watching others."

The way the CO-OP program works, students are released early from school. They get credit for being on CO-OP and they get grades on their report cards. They get evaluated by their bosses quarterly and they get feedback on how they are doing on the job. The students also have to turn in weekly hour sheets to Novi High School to verify that they are working the required number of hours.

"It's kind of a win-win situation because the students are able to get out of school, go to work, get some valuable job skills and the employers are able to get some students who are in a program," Clift said. "Every month we select an outstanding student and every year we select an outstanding employer. It's important to know that many students at the high school will get recognized for sports or for getting all A's or for being a scholarship winner, but some of these students might not be in any of those categories. In fact, some of these

A list of all the students and where they worked for their CO-OP jobs

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| • Jordan Gensio | Wendy's |
| • Sara Jenson | McDonald's |
| • Kristen Owens | Papa John's Pizza |
| • Michael Minear | Wendy's |
| • Jill McNamara | Kerby's Koney Island |
| • Emily Modick | Guernsey Farms Dairy |
| • Ashley Petroskey | Rebecca's Restaurant |
| • Vibhu Rohatgi | Dunkin' Donuts/Baskin Robbins |
| • Bryan Smith | Mesquite Creek |
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| • Lyndsey Bone | Walgreens |
| • Kristen Dufresne | Carnival Cuts |
| • Kaarle Eriksson | Suburban Arena Management |
| • Garett Mallot | Soccerzone |
| • Ashley Smith | Wet Seal, Inc. |
| • Kyle Tevens | The Sports Club of Novi |
| • Lisa Vula | The Learning Tree |
| • Lauren Adler | Novi Schools Educational Services Building |
| • Meredith Aran | Novi Middle School |
| • Brittany Borman | Village Oaks Elementary School |
| • Carrie Capayola | Novi Middle School |
| • Kelly Charnell | Law Offices of J.J. Harrington III |
| • Keri Delgreco | Novi Police Department |
| • Megan Dotinga | Deerfield Elementary School |
| • Danielle Duquesnel | 52nd District Court |
| • Megan Garnham | Novi School's Athletic Department |
| • Nik Giannoulakis | Salon Luna |
| • Whitney Haynes | S.C. Novi, Inc. |
| • Dana Hicks | Vector Canteen |
| • Lindsay Howell | Parkview Elementary School |
| • Kate Kotlyo | Stempfen and Stempfen |
| • Laura Longo | Novi High School |
| • Lisa Matheny | Novi Police Department |
| • Amanda Orlando | Novi High School |
| • Jaclyn Paretta | Novi Meadows School-6th Grade House |
| • Dana Poole | Novi Schools Educational Services Building |
| • Cassidy Saylor | Orchard Hills Elementary School |
| • Michelle Slavin | Novi Woods Elementary School |
| • Christy Stewart | Novi Meadows School-5th Grade House |
| • Michael Kotlyo | Highland Lakes Auto |

students perhaps struggled in the classroom, but then they got out on the job and they shined. They have wonderful experiences, they get A's in CO-OP and so I think they are going to be successful in their future careers because they're the type of people who can work with difficult people and can handle the job situations."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 119 or by e-mail at rkhuri@h.homecomm.net.



Courtesy Photo

Don't call me Trebeck!

New Orchard Hills LEP (Limited English Proficiency) staff member Karen Knight works with students Rin Honda, Komel Khan, Taichi Kanada and Ryo Sen. They used the Jeopardy game to learn English grammar and structure.

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Care Packages on way to Iraq

By Lorie Howell
NOVI RESIDENT

Just because you have graduated from Novi Schools doesn't mean you have been forgotten by the staff. The proof is in the Care Package Project sponsored by the Novi Schools Secretaries and Paraeducators. The members of the Novi Educational Support Personal Association (N.E.S.P.A.) got busy preparing packages for Novi grads and family members of school employees serving in the Middle East. Soon there will be 19 military personnel (18 men and one woman) with a Novi connection receiving a surprise package from home.

This support group usually goes about doing its daily work quietly in a supporting role, but this time it was leading the charge. The group felt it was important to show the young men and women serving in the Middle East that they are being thought of and supported.

The secretaries and paraeducators got the ball rolling, but it was truly a community effort. Dr. Herb Elfring donated dental supplies. The Kroger Company pro-



Courtesy photo

Novi Meadows fifth grader Carol Howell, Novi Meadows sixth grader Mary Howell, paraprofessional Candy Litman, 2002 Novi graduate Elizabeth Hilbert and paraprofessional Nancy Hilbert are loading the N.E.S.P.A. packages to be sent to the Middle East.

vided sunscreen and other miscellaneous items and The Bath and Body Works employees supplied numerous hygiene products. School employees pitched in with such items as snacks, note paper and Wildcat T-shirts.

To defray the cost of mailing the 10-pound packages, the N.E.S.P.A. sold American flag pencils donated by Ellice's Weigh as well as having families and groups sponsor packages. The

staff and members of the community responded generously to the group's plea for help with the shipping costs. The team work generated by the project has been a rewarding experience for everyone involved.

Lorie Howell is a Novi resident and a parent of two children at Novi Meadows School.



Courtesy photo

Down on the farm

Margaret Schmidt, the "farm lady," visits Pathways to Learning Children's Center five times a year, each time bringing different animals. The children get to hear stories about those particular animals and learn what life on the farm is like. Her next visit will be June 11 at 9:30 a.m. The center is located on Meadowbrook in Novi.



Courtesy photo

Family picnic

Novi Woods Elementary School celebrated the end of the school year with its Family Picnic on May 9. Families donated items to the Ronald McDonald House in Ann Arbor as a volunteer admission to the picnic. Pictured is Novi Woods Principal Pam Quilguit (far right) presenting the donated items and a "McThanks" to McDonald owners Claude and Teresa Murphy (holding the shake next to Ronald McDonald) for their support of Novi Woods throughout the year.

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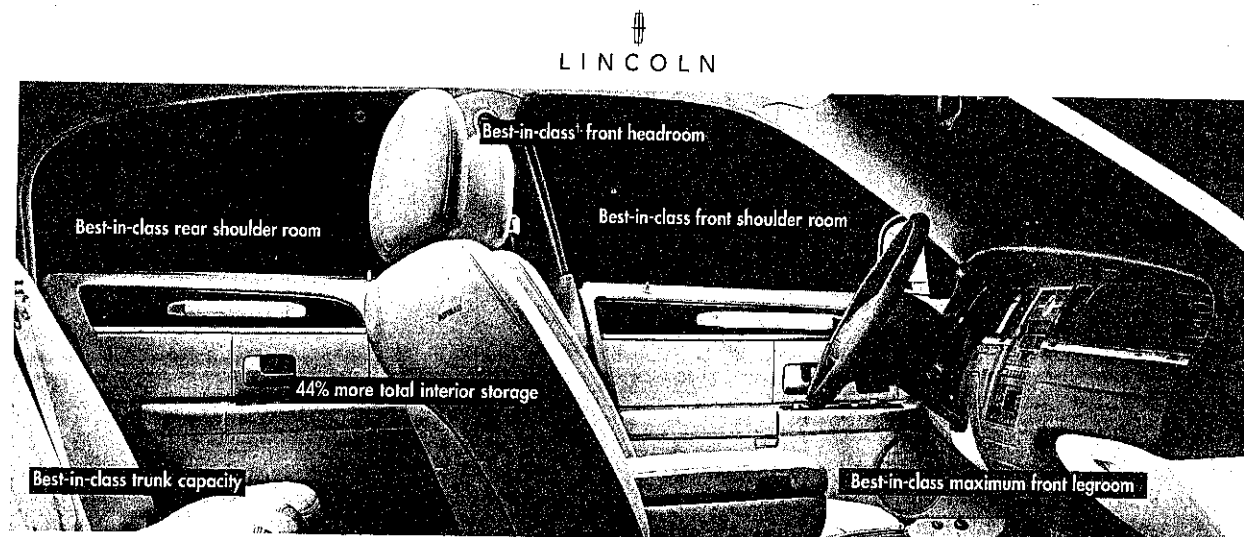
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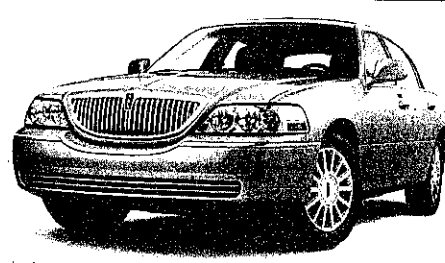
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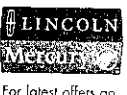
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Relay For Life

The American Cancer Society is hosting Relay For Life in our community again, this year in two locations - Ford Field in Northville and City Hall Field in Walled Lake. We hope you'll join us at one of these events, and help our community continue to fight cancer.

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NOVI NEWS

"The Goose" visits for D.A.R.E. assembly

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or D.A.R.E., is something that the Novi Community School District takes very seriously. That is why Novi Meadows has an assembly every year with a keynote speaker who urges children to stay off the stuff.

Students at this year's assembly, which was held last Tuesday, witnessed something extraordinary. Keynote speaker Brian "The Goose" Finnerty, who is the former Detroit Rockers goalie, announced that he would give \$1,000 for college to each student in attendance that day who stayed off drugs and maintained a "B"

average until their senior year of high school.

"The assembly was to celebrate the kids going to a program of drug resistance education, and the purpose of that is to help our kids get all the tools they need to be able to say no to drugs," Meadows Assistant Principal Greg Camacchi said. "We usually have a keynote speaker or a guest speaker come in and it really helps to motivate the kids and continue on that path."

Even though he was in no shape to do so, Finnerty was the keynote speaker last year as well. He is so committed to the cause that, he still came to the school even though he was ill and after the assembly he had to go to the hos-

pital for an I.V.

This year Finnerty shared a story with the kids about his best friend in high school. He said that he and his friend both received scholarships to the same college. He said that he received an academic scholarship and his friend got an athletic scholarship. "His friend went out and celebrated, and he had never done drugs, but he did that night and he died as a result of the celebration," noted Camacchi. "Finnerty then made a promise to his mother that any chance he had to help educate kids of the dangers of drugs, he would do it."

Finnerty is compared to San Antonio Spurs' Coach David Robinson in that he never takes money and always gives back to the community. "He told the kids at the assembly that he was going to create this endowment and he said to all the kids that if they stayed drug free and maintained a B average, that when they are seniors in high school, he would give them \$1,000 towards college or training school or technical school," Camacchi said. "He also wants to get other local celebrities to help him out. It's great. It's just a wonderful thing."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@lti.homecomm.net.



Courtesy photo

Now that's talent!

"The Chinese Acrobats" visited Orchard Hills Elementary last Tuesday to perform amazing acrobatics, balancing acts and contortionist moves. This woman kept six spinning plates balanced on sticks as she did somersaults and bends. Principal Paul LePlae called it a humorous as well as a very skilled exhibition of acrobats. "Kids definitely enjoyed it and the children got a lot out of it as well I think, in terms of gymnastic type skills," he said. "The connection would be with our physical education program in terms of flexibility of the body and stretching."

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 28, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT 99-18-181.

An Ordinance to amend the City of Novi Code of Ordinances by amending the Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of creating a new Article 27, authorizing review and approval by the City Council of requests for special accommodation uses in order to provide and regulate equal housing opportunities particularly suited to the needs of persons entitled to reasonable accommodation under law and to encourage innovation in land use and variety in design and layout.

All interested persons are invited to attend. The proposed ordinance is available for review at the Planning Department. Verbal comments will be heard at the public hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375, until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 28, 2003.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LYNN KOCAN, SECRETARY

CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council will be interviewing applicants for appointment to the Board of Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission, Planning Commission and Stormwater Management & Watershed Stewardship Committee on Monday, June 9, 2003 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

If you are a qualified voter in the City of Novi and interested in volunteering to serve on a City board or commission, applications are available in the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375, or by calling (248) 347-0456 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.novimi.us to print out an application. Please submit your application by Monday, June 2, 2003 to allow time for scheduling appointments. Interviews are 15 minutes each; all City Council meetings are televised.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 28, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 18-184 - Gateway East (GE) District.

AN ORDINANCE TO ADD ARTICLE 9A TO ORDINANCE NO. 97-18, THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE, TO ADD THE DESIGNATION FOR THE GE GATEWAY EAST DISTRICT TO THE SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS CONTAINED WITHIN SECTION 2400 OF SAID ORDINANCE, TO AMEND FOOTNOTES (i) AND (j) TO THE SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS CONTAINED WITHIN SECTION 2400 OF SAID ORDINANCE, TO AMEND SUBSECTION 2507.2 OF SAID ORDINANCE, TO AMEND SUBPART 2509.6A AND 2509.6B OF SAID ORDINANCE, AND TO ADD THE DESIGNATION FOR THE GE GATEWAY EAST DISTRICT TO THE REGION 1 OF THE SCHEDULE REGULATING FACILITY MATERIALS CONTAINED WITHIN SECTION 2520 OF SAID ORDINANCE, TO CREATE THE GATEWAY EAST ZONING DISTRICT WHICH IS INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, OFFICE, AND LIMITED COMMERCIAL LAND USES, AND TO PROVIDE AN OPTIONAL TOOL WITH GREATER FLEXIBILITY TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE GATEWAY EAST DISTRICT BY AUTHORIZING USE OF PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT OPTION) REGULATIONS.

All interested persons are invited to attend. The proposed ordinance is available for review at the Planning Department. Verbal comments will be heard at the public hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375, until 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 28, 2003.

(5-8-03 NN 55294)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2003-2004 BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council will hold a PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2003-2004 BUDGET at the Regular Meeting of Council to be held on Monday, May 19, 2003. Said hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the same may be reached, at the Novi Civic Center, Council Chamber, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan.

Interested citizens may appear and present written and/or verbal comments on the proposed budget.

A copy of the proposed 2003-2004 budget is currently available at the Novi Civic Center, Office of the City Clerk, for public inspection, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan.

This notice is published by:

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(5-15-03 NN 57055) MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK

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Ad Council

Three transportation employees get recognition awards

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Two transportation employees from Walled Lake Schools, Tim Stage and Suzanne Brady, and one from the Novi Community School District, John Zofchak, all won awards at the Second Annual Oakland County Excellence in Transportation Banquet, which was held on April 9 at West Bloomfield High School.

According to Novi Director of Transportation Dan Tooman, the winners were nominated by employees and not bosses, or directors.

"The employees nominate them and then the directors take the nominations and we select the ones we think should be the people getting the awards," he said. "The director of a certain department can not vote or have anything to say in regards to a person from their own department, only other directors can. For instance, I could vote on Tim and Suzanne, but I couldn't vote for John because he is a Novi employee."

Zofchak, Stage and Brady were humbled by the awards they



Photo by John Heider

Tim Stage and Suzanne Brady of Walled Lake School District transportation department were recently recognized for their service by the district.

received.

"I guess this is just for doing your job," Zofchak said, who is the Novi Schools Head Mechanic. "You're awarded an excellence award and there is a plaque. This is the second year for this and I've been here 15 years come July. It's just a job and you're doing it the



Photo by John Heider

Novi School District transportation department worker John Zofchak was recently given an Excellence in Transportation Award for his service.

best you can. They just recognized it and appreciated it."

Stage, who is the Walled Lake Schools Head Mechanic, has been working for Walled Lake Schools for only two years.

"I think this is an honor for me because I haven't really been here that long," he said. "It's picked

out of 150 people, that was pretty nice and special."

Brady is the Secretary to the Supervisor of Transportation in Walled Lake Schools. She echoed Stage's thoughts.

"I have been there for four years, so I'm also fairly new," she said. "This was an honor for me. It's overwhelming really, to have that honor and also to join the people who had the honor last year. It's really nice to be acknowledged with those people who have been here over the years."

Tooman said that the whole process was a "Totally non-political thing. It's by the employees, for the employees," he said. "They get a plaque and their names will be on the wall forever as the employee of the year. They had a nice dinner and it's just something that is done to recognize the employees."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@lti.homecomm.net.

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 03-009

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Flynn Contracting LLC is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow the placement of two (2) storage containers at 35900 Orchard Hill Place (ITC) from the date of the meeting until November 21, 2003.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 3:00 p.m. on May 21, 2003 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI. Written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to May 21, 2003.

SARAH MARCHIONI, TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

(05-15-03 NN 56788)

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 03-010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Jimmies Rustic is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow the outdoor display of furniture at 48700 Grand River from the date of the meeting until October 15, 2003.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 16, 2003 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI. Written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to May 16, 2003.

SARAH MARCHIONI, TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(248) 347-0415

(05-15-03 NN 56770)

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Photo by John Heider

Moms enjoy an song about their skills during a Mothers' Day assembly at Parkview Elementary last Thursday.

Parkview Mother's Day tribute a hit

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Last Thursday was a special day for mothers of Parkview students as the school's second graders put on a Mother's Day program.

According to Second Grade Teacher Jackie Norris, the show was done every year. "The kids have songs that they have learned from music class, they have learned several poems over the past couple of weeks and they recited them at the show," she said. "We also had a special puppet show, where they chose something that their mothers really like and they made a puppet of her to go with that theme."

When the program was finished, mothers and their kids came back to the classroom to eat Mother's Day cake with punch. Students shared with their mothers some booklets that they have made that talk about the many wonderful things that they have done for them, they painted a card with bugs and kisses candies in side, wrapped in tissue paper and they also made a program which talks about what happened throughout the show.

Other Parkview second grade teachers who had their students involved in the program were Eileen Galupin, Patti Kotellut and Carolyn Chaney.

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@lti.homecomm.net.

Village Oaks second grade show brings tears to mother's eyes

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Mothers of Village Oaks students received a special treat last Thursday as the school's second grade classes presented a Mother's Day concert. Students sang while the mommies tried desperately to hold back their tears of joy.

Teachers Kathy Siarto and Lynn Secord started the Mother's Day tradition close to 20 years ago while they were at Novi Woods. They then brought it to Village Oaks.

"We brought it over here and we transformed it here," Secord

said. "We always do it with our second grade students. The children bake all of the muffins, they write original compositions and poetry about their mothers and it's a way for children to show their appreciation and their love for mothers for Mother's Day."

This year the children made portraits on the computer of their mothers and printed them out. They also wrote poems using the letters M.O.T.H.E.R., which the mothers received as gifts.

"The children baked muffins with their teachers," Secord said. "The mothers shared luncheon and muffins with their children and each child read something special to honor their mothers in

An example of a poem that was read in the program:

Mom you are the best
Only you mom are nice
Together we are best friends
Happy Mother's Day!
Every day you help me
Really I care for you

the classroom."

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@lti.homecomm.net.

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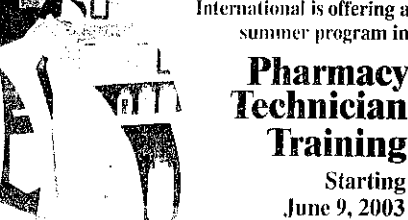
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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Students: Let the game begin

I think I've come up with a great way to generate ticket sales for the jazz concert at Novi High School next month, and to get area students involved in the event.

On Wednesday, June 18, the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis will perform two shows (7:30 and 9:30 p.m.) at the NIS auditorium.

From 2-3:30 p.m. that same day, Victor Gaines will give a concert a free workshop for area music students in the high school band room.

Gaines is the director of jazz studies at Fairland in New York, and he plays saxophone and clarinet in the L.C.J.O.

I met with NIS Director of Bands Mark Hourigan to talk about the workshop, and we also discussed a contest. Here's what we came up with.

The workshop will be open to music students from high schools in Novi, Northville, South Lyon, Walled Lake (Central) and Western and Farmington Hills.

We are asking these same students to promote ticket sales with the student who sells the most tickets winning a copy of the Ken Burns documentary "Jazz" in DVD format.

If you've seen Burns' work on PBS, then you know what a great prize this is. It is an excellent look at the history of America's true art form.

All the students have to do is spread the word about the concert and keep track of the names of individuals who they get to buy tickets.

Students will give the buyers the number to the Novi Community Credit Union (248-348-8500) to phone in their ticket order.

The contest will run from this Friday through Monday, June 16. Students will turn in their tally sheets at that time, and we'll compare it to our sales log. The student who sold the most tickets will win the DVD set.

Actually, everybody wins on this one. Great music, an educational workshop, a worthy cause and student involvement.

Cal Stone is the editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 or at cstone@hometowncomm.net.

GOVERNMENT

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

United States Senate

Carl Levin (D-Detroit)
260 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510
(202) 224-6221
senator2@levin.senate.gov
Local office:
124 W. Allegan
Suite 1810
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 377-1508
FAX: (517) 377-1506

Debbie Stabenow (D-Lansing)

702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510
(202) 224-4822
senator@stabenow.senate.gov
Local office:
280 East Saginaw
East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 203-1760

United States Congress

11th District
Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia)
415 Cannon HOB
Washington D.C. 20515-8171
(202) 225-8171
FAX: (202) 225-2667
Local office:
17197 N. Laurel Park Drive
Suite 161
Livonia, MI 48152

Governor

Jennifer Granholm (D-Northville Twp.)
PO Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 335-7858

State Senate

15th District
Nancy Cassia (R-Nowi)
PO Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536
(517) 373-1758
senncassia@senate.michigan.gov

State House of Reps

38th District
Craig DeRoche (R-Nowi)
30887 House Office Building
PO Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514
(517) 373-0827
FAX: (517) 373-5873
craigderoche@house.mi.gov

39th District

Marc Shulman (R-West Bloomfield)
351 Capitol Building
PO Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Oakland County

Executive
L. Brooks Patterson
County Service Center
Building #24 East
1200 N. Telegraph Road
Pontiac, MI 48341
(248) 858-0484

7th Commission

Christine Long
1342 E. Commerce Road
Commerce Twp., MI 48382
(248) 366-2666
longco@co.oakland.mi.us

8th Commission

Jeff Potter
1095 Stable Lane
South Lyon, MI 48178
(248) 437-7597
potterj@co.oakland.mi.us

9th Commission

Hugh D. Crawford
46275 11 Mile Road
Novi, MI 48374
(248) 349-5079
hughcraford@msn.com

Townships

Novi
Raymond Schovers,
supervisor
PO Box 924
Northville, MI 48167
(248) 348-0365

Commerce - Charter

Thomas K. Zoner, supervisor
2840 Fisher Avenue
Commerce Twp., MI 48390
(248) 624-0110
FAX: (248) 624-5834

Cities

Novi
45175 West Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375-3024
(248) 347-0460
FAX: (248) 347-0577

Walled Lake

1499 E. West Maple Road
PO Box 99
Walled Lake, MI 48390-0099
(248) 624-4847
FAX: (248) 624-1616

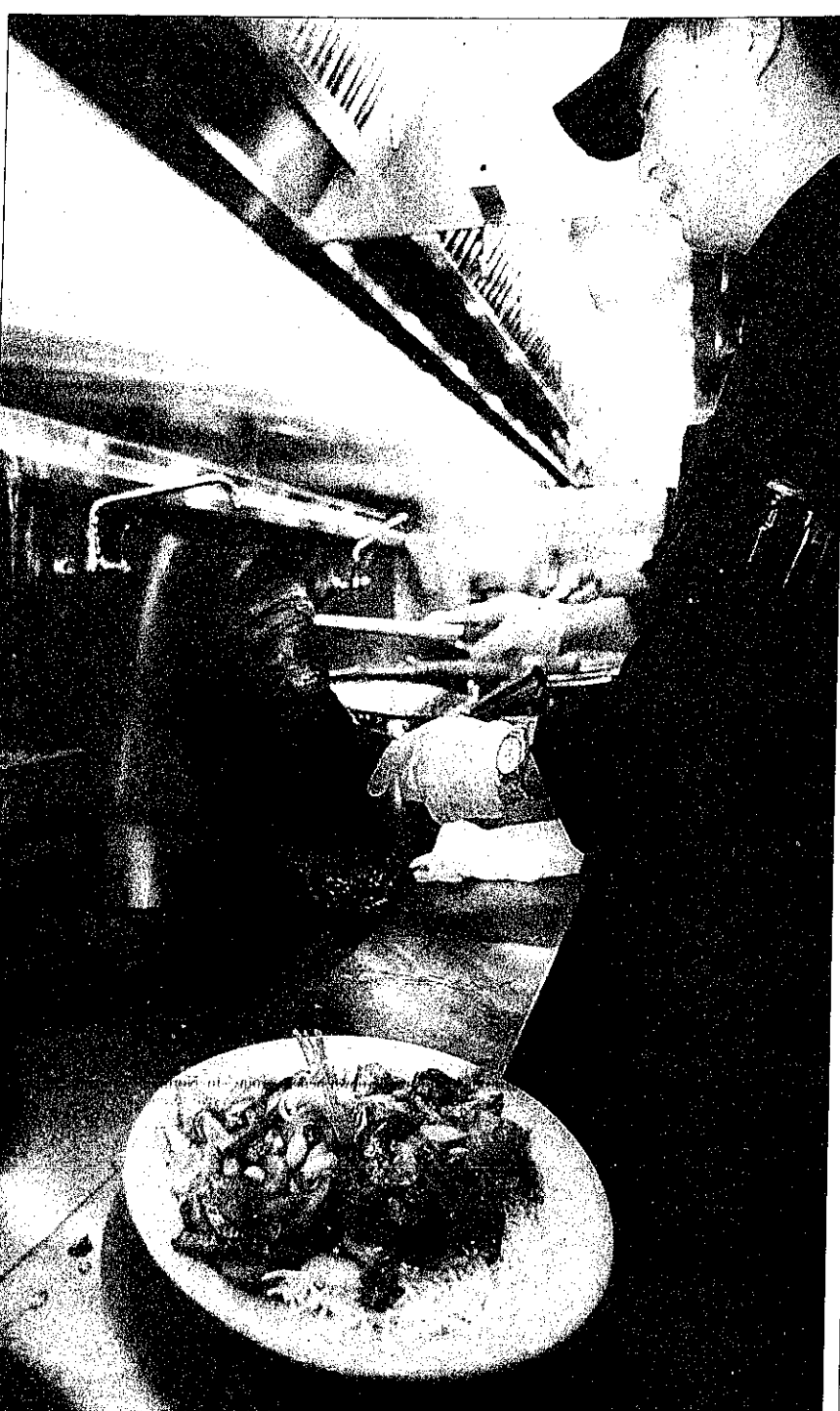
Wixom

49045 Pontiac Trail
Wixom, MI 48393-2567
(248) 624-4557
FAX: (248) 624-0863

OPINION

novinews.com

It's new - Bamboos!



Bamboo Club chef Hanguang Chen finishes a kung pow scallop and shrimp dish during their recent grand opening dinner.

LETTERS

Saving lives

The facts about young drivers and safety belt use aren't pretty.

In 2001, 5,341 teens, ages 16-20, died, and thousands more were injured in traffic crashes. More than half of all teens who died in crashes were completely unbelted; and belt use for teens and young adults ages 16-24, at 69 percent, continues to lag behind the rest of the population.

So how do we get young people to buckle up when they think they are invincible? It's simple, surround them with the strong message, "Click it or Ticket; if you won't buckle up to save your life, then buckle up to save yourself a ticket," and back it up with a strong enforcement push.

That's exactly what's going to happen this Memorial Day as the Click It or Ticket Mobilization delivers the message to teens through television and radio ads, Internet chat rooms and public high school address systems, in addition to enforcement in locations where young people congregate - such as schools and shopping malls and several enforcement zone areas that have been designated high crash areas for the City of Novi.

By buckling up their safety belts, teens could save more than just money from hefty fines, they could save their lives.

Sergeant Terry L. Whitfield
Novi Police Department

Join her battle

I have volunteered for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to raise \$5,000 or more and to complete a marathon. My reasons are for doing this are quite simple - even though cures for leukemia and other blood related cancers have improved significantly in the past 30 years, I feel more can still be done.

I need all the help I can get to make a difference, especially for a 36-year-old man currently battling leukemia. I would like to help give him a second chance at living a "normal life" with his wife and 6-1/2-year-old daughter. Please join me in the fight to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and to improve the quality of life for patients and their families.

My target is \$5,000 toward this effort, and every donation, big or small, helps this goal become reality. If you decide to help me reach this target, please make checks payable to "The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society" and mail it to Deb Foy at 47679 Beckenham, Novi, MI 48374. Thank you in advance for any gift you may choose, and for your support of my efforts.

Deb Foy
Novi

Gatt was right on target

I had heard that Bob Gatt might be running for office this fall, but when I read his letter in the news last week I thought he might be shooting himself in the foot. But now I totally agree with him.

I have lived in Novi since October 1973, when pigs grazed at the corner of 10 Mile and Meadowbrook and the land that the police station now sits on was a horse farm. I have watched this city grow in leaps and bounds. I have seen mistakes made by our city and I have testified in court as president of the Willowbrook Homeowners Association in the 1970s on behalf of the city. But what I just went to look at in front of the Novi Police Station, borders more on paranoia than homeland security. Who are we saving? Not the public that may need police help NOW, who drive up to the front entrance for assistance. Not the employee's inside the station who could need help from fire or rescue service, and certainly not the handicapped in incident or any weather. Providing services doesn't include blockades for its community. TAKE DOWN THE WALLS. If they don't, just drive over the curb!

John Beach
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.

Mail: Letters to the Editor, Cal Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167

E-mail: cstone@hometowncomm.net **Fax to:** (248) 349-9832



OTHER OPINIONS

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@hometowncomm.net

Beardmore worked for betterment of education

Readers of this column with good memories will recall how much I admired Dorothy Beardmore, who was probably the single most distinguished advocate for schools of her time. I am sorry to report that Dorothy died of cancer at home in Rochester Hills on May 2. She was 76.

She told me she originally got interested in schools while raising her children. She was elected to the Rochester school board in 1967, to the Oakland County school board in 1974 and to the state board in 1984. She served as the state board's president, vice president, secretary and treasurer; she never missed a meeting in her entire 16 years as a board member.

During her time on the state board, she was instrumental in pushing the legislature to adopt Public Act 25, the first Michigan school law that required school accreditation, annual school improvement plans, a comprehensive school curriculum and annual public reporting of educational outcomes. School reform had been a subject of talk but relatively little action from the 1980s on, but the passage of Public Act 25 put school improvement front and center of public policy in Michigan.

She received a ton of awards, including the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of State Boards in 2000 and the Michigan Education Association Distinguished Service Award in 1999. She was elected to the Michigan Hall of Fame in 1996.

In April, the State Board of Education unanimously created a new award in her honor, the Dorothy Beardmore Service to Education Award, which annually will honor a person for outstanding work in education.

All this recital of impersonal fact is fine, the sort of stuff that keeps reporters and columnists employed and busy. But it misses the real point of Dorothy Beardmore's life and career. She was one of those rare people who became enormously involved in public policy and got tremendous amount done, but who did so not out of personal ambition or aggrandizement but from a sense of commitment to internal values and public responsibility.

Here's an example. I have from time to time written columns on things educational. Nearly every time I did so, I would receive about a week after the column was published, a perfectly written, literate and clear letter from Dorothy, commenting on the column over several single-spaced pages. Errors were gently corrected; illogical conclusions pointed out; omissions in the public record rectified. Never once did she ever inject herself or her ego into the discussion. She was entirely focused on education and how to make it better.

A good editorial in the Rochester Eccentric, Dorothy's hometown paper and a sister publication to this newspaper, began, "Independence, not ideology, underscored Dorothy Beardmore's days on the Michigan Board of Education. Her long-time friend and fellow state board member, Kathleen Straus, told me 'Dorothy was interested solely in making things better, getting things done, improving education for kids. She was selfless and entirely without political ambition.'"

According to Lynn Banks, a former 14-year state legislator and friend, Republican Dorothy Beardmore "had a harder time with the (party) nomination process than with the voters. She

didn't believe in litmus tests." In Michigan, candidates for State Board of Education are nominated at partisan conventions. Both political parties have litmus tests at their conventions, but the GOP test includes pro-life and pro-charter schools. Dorothy was both pro-choice and (largely) anti-charter school. She told me she ultimately decided not to run for a third term because she figured she couldn't make it through the Republican convention.

Although a staunch Republican, Dorothy wasn't afraid to take on even tough guy Gov. John Engler (mostly over charter schools). And she didn't toe the line of the MEA, Michigan's largest teacher's union, either. "She truly was an independent thinker," Bob Harris, former secretary to the board and now an MEA official told the Rochester Eccentric. "For her, what was best for the kids always came first. She really walked a tightrope between her beliefs and party ideology."

Dorothy was a person who was terrifically effective at the political (small "p") process of setting public policy, but who was never the least bit partisan. She enjoyed service in the various offices she held, not as an ego trip but as a point of leverage to affect the making of policy. She never once in our long acquaintance talked about "higher office."

Dorothy Beardmore was the archetype of the citizen politician who puts herself forward to get something done, not from personal ambition but from deep commitment to make things better for all of us. Somehow she always fell to me a figure out of a more principled time, one who excelled trust and who won admiration both for her career and for the rarity she exemplified in the sorry political system of today.

Phil Power is the Chairman of the Board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (734) 953-2047 or at ppower@hometowncomm.net.



Phil Power

We could make Northville 'Super'

I'll admit it - when I first heard that Northville was being eyed as a potential attraction by the Super Bowl XFB committee, I chuckled. I mean, this is an event that pulls the kind of crowd you'd see only in a papal visit, only with more pomp and circumstance.

And they wanted to plug Northville as a place to check out in the days leading up to the Big Game? A town with more small businesses than a New Delhi marketplace? Oh, c'mon! Get serious!

To me, this concept seemed like it had just a slightly better potential for success as the Lisa Marie Presley / Michael Jackson marriage.

Yeah, right - Northville? Hmm. Northville, Northville, Northville... Sure...Northville! Why not Northville? After all, there's only so many times you can lose at the blackjack tables before you start to get a hankerin' for a different town. Northville seems as good a choice as any, and it gets particularly good when you look at the suburbs nearest Detroit, which in many instances lack the kind of identity and charm Northville has.

We have a chance to cash in on the extremely lucrative financial payout and image spotlight that will rain down in February 2004. That, of course, assumes that Northville is made a featured destination by the committee. Even if it isn't, Northville still stands to gain a great deal of residual and trickle-down benefit from the Super Bowl.

Folks who keep their fingers crossed for an infusion of more modern attractions and offerings (I happen to be one of them) need to be reminded of what put Northville on the map in the first place. It was precisely the kind of small-town, high-class kind of businesses and services that kick-started Northville's reputation as an attraction throughout metro Detroit. If you look at attendance figures at some of Northville's annual events - the Victorian Festival chief among them - you begin to see the lasting impression Northville makes on its visitors.

More important, though, is the need for Northville not to get swept up in the mania of being a quasi-live without: let's make certain that visitors don't confuse Northville's Ford Field with Detroit's Ford Field. With all due respect to our community's parks and recreation department, I think things are a lot more comfortable in mid-February when you're in instead of on the banks of the Middle Rouge River.

There's plenty of time to prepare for the Super Bowl and all its implications, but thinking these things through now will make us better-prepared for the game when we're shivering in the snow and cold of a southeast Michigan winter.

(Here, as always, I don't think we can live without: let's make certain that visitors don't confuse Northville's Ford Field with Detroit's Ford Field. With all due respect to our community's parks and recreation department, I think things are a lot more comfortable in mid-February when you're in instead of on the banks of the Middle Rouge River.)

Chris C. Davis is the editor of the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 114, or at ccdavis@hometowncomm.net.

No more Novi for me; I'm Ferndale-bound

It is always hard to say goodbye, and this farewell is no exception.

For nearly two years I have met the people and seen the places making Novi a special community.

I truly feel over my time as a reporter with the Novi News that I have become an honorary resident.

Along with all of my assignments, I have spent many of my own hours at special meetings, holiday gatherings, plays and parties.

I have even spent a lot of those hours sharing some of Novi's best moments with the people I love.

Just this past weekend my niece told me she traded in her "Lilo and Stitch" book for a "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" book to remind her of the Novi Theaters' play we saw last Halloween.

I have also met so many wonderful people it would be impossible to name them all. The cooperation and professionalism I've been extended from all of my regular-business contacts is something I'm sure will be unmatched.

To all of the people I may have met only once, your stories and willingness to share them with a total stranger will never be forgotten.

And for those who actually made the transition from source to friend, the decision to move on was even harder and made my last week at the Novi News bittersweet.

Speaking of bittersweet, what made my decision to accept a new job the hardest was my boss and the paper's editor, Cal Stone.

Cal has been the best leader I have ever worked under. I even really considered not moving on because I wanted to continue to work for Cal.

I never decided coming to work and always looked forward to each day, a priceless feeling.

I will also greatly miss our sports reporter Sam Eggleston.

Sam does a great job as basically the entire sports department for the Novi News and the Northville Record.

He also took the idea of having an entertainment section and added that task to his overflowing list of responsibilities.

I have had so much fun contributing to the section writing movie reviews and a weekly advice column.

Most importantly, Sam is that one employee that turned into a real friend.

For all of these reasons writing this column is very hard, but opportunity won out and eventually led to my dreaded two-week notice talk with Cal.

I was offered the opportunity to become the city editor of one of HomeTown's sister community newspapers.

The new position will add so many new challenges and responsibilities that I am ready for. I will have the chance to write headlines, read and verify all the letters to the editor and most importantly have the final say into what makes the paper and in what order.

I will also have the opportunity to meet and be involved with a whole new community. If my experience is anything like Novi than I am very excited for the chance to become a part of a new family.

As for what I won't miss about being the city reporter for Novi, city council meetings lasting past midnight and I am.

I think all meeting regulars would second that feeling.

So good luck, make sure you vote this November and goodbye.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@hometowncomm.net.



Victoria Sadlocha

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Marsalis and crew hit Novi High June 18

The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis will play two shows (7:30 and 9:30 p.m.) on Wednesday, June 18 at Novi High School auditorium (see B section for details). This is a Novi Rotary Club event, sponsored by JCK&Associates.

In the upcoming weeks before the shows, the Novi News will take a look at the LCJO and the 15 band members that make up one of the swingiest ensembles in jazz today. - Editor

Vincent R. Gardner (trombone) was born in Chicago in 1972 and raised in Virginia. His family had a strong musical background, including his mother, his brother, and his father, Burgess Gardner, a trumpeter and music educator who has been very active on the Chicago music scene since the 1960s. Singing in church from an early age, he began playing piano when he was six, and soon switched to the violin, saxophone, and French horn before finally deciding on the trombone at age 12. Mr. Gardner became interested in jazz while attending high school and upon graduating went on to Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida and the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. In college, he took a summer job performing with a jazz band at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, where he caught the ear of Mercer Ellington, who hired him on his first professional job. After graduating in 1996, he moved to New York to pursue his professional career. Mr. Gardner has performed, toured, and/or recorded with The Duke Ellington Orchestra, Bobby McFerrin, The Count Basie Orchestra, Frank Foster, The Glenn Miller Orchestra, Chaka Kahn, A Tribe Called Quest, Nancy Wilson, McCoy Tyner, Nicholas Payton, Illinois Jacquet, Wynton Marsalis, Tommy Flanagan, Marcus Roberts, Matchbox 20, Jimmy Heath, Lauryn Hill, and others. He has been a member of the LCJO since 2000.

Victor Goines (tenor and soprano saxophones, Bb clarinet and bass clarinet) was born and raised



in New Orleans. He received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Loyola University (New Orleans), and his Master's of Music degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. Mr. Goines serves as the Director of The Juilliard Institute for Jazz Studies - a collaboration between Jazz at Lincoln Center and The Juilliard School - and serves as Education Consultant to Jazz at Lincoln Center. He has previously served

on the music faculties of Florida A & M University, Xavier University, Loyola University, and The University of New Orleans. A member of the LCJO since 1993, Mr. Goines is also an acclaimed solo artist and leads his own quintet. He has made several recordings as a leader, including Sunrise to Midnight (2000), To Those We Love So Dearly (1999), Joe's Blues (1998), and Genesis (1992). He has performed and

recorded with The Wynton Marsalis Septet, The Ellis Marsalis Quartet, The Wycliffe Gordon Quintet, Marcus Roberts and The Academy Of The Ascension, The Smithsonian Masterworks Orchestra, Terence Blanchard, Ruth Brown, Dizzy Gillespie, Lionel Hampton, Freddie Hubbard, James Moody, Dianne Reeves, and a host of other renowned musicians and ensembles in a wide variety of genres.

Walter Blanding, Jr. (Tenor Saxophone) was born on August 14, 1971 in Cleveland, Ohio to a musical family and began playing the saxophone at age six. In 1981, he moved with his family to New York City, and by age 16, he was performing regularly with his parents at the Village Gate. Mr. Blanding attended LaGuardia High School for Music & Art and the Performing Arts and continued his studies at the New School for Social Research. Mr. Blanding lived in Israel for 4 years, where he had a major impact on the music scene, inviting great artists such as Louis Hayes, Eric Reed, and others to perform. He also taught in several Israeli schools and toured the country with his ensemble. During this period, Newsweek described him as "Jazz's Ambassador to Israel." His first recording, Tough Young Tenors, was acclaimed as one of the best jazz albums of 1991. Since then, he has performed or recorded with many artists, including Cab Calloway, the Wynton Marsalis Septet, Marcus Roberts, Illinois Jacquet, Eric Reed, Roy Hargrove, and others. His latest release, The Olive Tree, features fellow members of the LCJO.

For more information on the free workshop for local student musicians, please turn to page 17A. For more on this special Novi Rotary event, please visit the Web at www.veeland.com.

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It's in their sights

Novi just about has KVC crown

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

A Kensington Valley Conference crown appears to be all but in the grasp of the Novi Wildcats tennis team.

The team finished a strong week up on Saturday by winning the KVC tournament convincingly. The team earned 22 points to beat out the rest of the teams, including Brighton who took second with 13 points.

"We played one of the best tournaments we've ever been in," Novi coach Jim Hanson said.

Novi took first in two, three, and four singles, and one, three and four doubles. The team took second in one singles and two doubles. So, Novi won outright six of the eight possible flights and finished second in the other two flights.

"I was very pleased at how we played," Hanson said.

Novi took on Brighton in five of the eight finals matches and twice in other areas of the other flights.

"In essence we met (Brighton) seven times in one tournament and beat them six out of the seven times," Hanson said. "The key matches were obviously when we played Brighton."

Novi made the most of those, especially in the 2 singles where Prasanna Venugopal knocked off both the number one and two seeds to take first. Venugopal beat top seeded Brett Hawthorne from Northville 6-1 and then 6-1 before beating the second seeded player, Jeff Lisiecki from Brighton, 6-4 and 6-3.

"Prasanna did an excellent job. When you upset the number one and two seeds you've had a good day," Hanson said.

In another big match against Brighton, Steve Chang knocked out Brighton's Brian Faistenhammer in the first round of four singles to prevent the Bulldogs from getting any points. That was the only flight where Brighton didn't score any points.

Novi also played well in the 1 singles, although they didn't come out with the championship. Suraj Ramachandran had only lost two games in four sets before he ran into Milford's Brian Schubert who is one of the best



Photo by John Heider

Novi High's #3 ranked tennis player Andrew Laskowski returns a warmup forehand while waiting for his opponent to get to the court in a late-April home game.

players in the state, and the defending KVC champ.

"I was pleased with how Suraj played, he made him work for every point," Hanson said.

Novi played very well as a team and scored more points in the tournament than did all the other KVC teams combined minus Brighton.

"It takes a team effort," Hanson said, "Everyone contributed."

Novi knew that they had to win their matches against Brighton and they did just that.

"We had beaten them previously so we were somewhat in the driver's seat," Hanson said. "We didn't want to share the title."

Novi 7, Hartland 1

In a dual match on Thursday, Novi knocked off Hartland to improve their conference record to 5-0. Ramachandran, Venugopal, and Andrew Laskowski all won their singles matches. The teams of Joe Lynch and Chris Kovasinski, James

Peurach and Richie Fetters, Drew Doster and Jeff Wallen, and Connor Hogan and Jeff Korby all won their doubles matches to give Novi their 7-1 victory.

Novi 2, Ann Arbor Huron 6

Earlier last week, Novi fell to a very strong Ann Arbor Huron team who is ranked number two in the state in division two.

"Even though we lost, I was happy with how we played," Hanson said. "It is those situa-

tions, playing those caliber teams that cause you to improve."

After winning the conference tournament, Novi was just one victory away from locking up the KVC championship. Now, the team looks forward to MHSAA Regionals which begin tomorrow.

Brian Doyle is a special writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Playoffs.

The very word can cause such a variety of reactions. Some people cheer, others frown. Some get pumped up and ready to play, and others nervous as though it was about to be their first game of the year all over again.



Sam Eggleston

The teams from Northville and Novi aren't the kind that cower in some corner and bite their nails in fright. Instead, they are the squads that rise up and play to the best of their abilities at the best times. They are the squads that other teams quake in fear over. Will their seasons end off a goal by the Northville Mustangs? Will the Wildcats blow them out of the water with a killer defense and intense offense?

Some playoffs involve team sports, and the Mustangs and Wildcats are more than happy to bind together and play as a unit instead of individuals. Other playoffs require individuals to climb out of the pack and stand above the rest as an all-star. It's their turn to shine, and the athletes from Northville and Novi hardly shy away from such a request either.

The coaches of these athletes prepare them through tough practice sessions and from demanding the best of results. Yeah, not all of the squads can go to the state finals, and there are a lot of teams and individuals out there to compete with, but is that really something to worry about?

How have these teams made it this far? By working hard each and every day and taking each team on one at a time. You can't win the district title until you are in the game, and there are steps to make it to that point. You can't win the state title in track until you make it by the regional first.

The one thing the Novi and Northville athletes have to remember is that these contests and events are no different that the rest of the year. All of the teams have gained experience compared to day one of the spring season, and all of the teams are ready to play to their best abilities. Sure, as you progress the competition gets tougher and tougher, but that's why the competition was scheduled to be so tough during the regular season.

Competitive nature is something that the athletes from Northville and Novi possess. They know what it takes to win, and they can't over think the process. Every dog, cat and mustang has their day — and the only way to win is to play the best game you can.

I have no doubt, and neither do the fans of these remarkable athletes, that all of them will do just that.

Good luck to all of the athletes from Northville and Novi that are hoping to advance through the playoffs and to the highest peaks of high school sports. The dream is there for the taking — but just remember that even if you don't reach the summit, you'll still be winners in the eyes of your friends, family, coaches and fans. And, not to mention, in this sports section.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

GAME OF THE WEEK



The Post Season is Here

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

Proving to be the dominant force



Photo by John Heider

Wildcat Sarah Schmitt scored a goal on this shot against Milford during a home game in April.

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

They just can't quit winning — and it's doubtful that they want to either.

The Novi Wildcats girls' soccer team, under the guidance of coach Brian O'Leary, notched their 10th victory of the season as they slid by the Pinckney Pirates 3-0 May 7 after slamming the Howell Highlanders with a 7-0 loss just a day earlier.

The victories, which marked goalie Kellie Pfeiffer's fifth and sixth shutouts of the season, kept the Wildcats at a perfect 7-0 in the Kensington Valley Conference thus far this season. Against the Pirates, the Wildcats found themselves in a peculiar situation. The Pirates possess an amazing home-field advantage with a very narrow field with a high crown and very long grass.

"These conditions always favor the underdog in soccer," O'Leary said.

And if that wasn't enough, the Wildcats were given a red card against top-scorer Maureen Pawlak with 10 minutes remaining in the first half and were forced to play the remainder of the contest minus one player. The red card, which was Novi's first this season, found Pawlak ineli-

gible to take the field for the following contest — which was Monday against South Lyon.

"But, even with all of those factors against us, we still came out with a hard-fought victory," O'Leary noted.

Nikki Hermann, who is back to a near-100-percent since coming back from an injury she took earlier this season, played what O'Leary called "her best game of the year" as she went on to score two of the Novi goals.

The first score off Hermann's foot came on a penalty kick, and the other came on a sweet pass from Kristi Timar, who also played an excellent game in the winning effort.

Lisa Checcobelli scored the third and final goal for the Wildcats. Her goal came from 30 yards away and found the top corner of the net — just out of reach of the Pirate goalie. Kellie Walker earned the assist on the play.

Pfeiffer played the entire game between the posts, making seven saves to ensure the victory and earn the shutout.

Novi 7, Howell 0

Wacky weather hasn't been a friend of spring sports this season, and soccer hasn't been any

different.

After having a rain delay on Cinco de Mayo, the Wildcats took to the pitch to blast the Highlanders with a major Kensington Valley Conference loss.

"We did a much better job this game of attacking aggressively as a team," O'Leary said. "Players with the ball and without went to the goal with authority."

The Wildcats also had a high rate of ball possession as they looked to the entire team to make things happen.

Leading scorer Maureen Pawlak scored two goals in the contest, as did Kellie Walker. Sarah Schmitt, Timar and Katie Walker all scored one in the winning effort. Earning assists were Hermann, Julie Johnston, Timar and Katie and Kellie Walker. Pawlak earned two assists in the contest.

Pfeiffer once again held her own in the goal as she earned her fifth shutout of the year.

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'Cats not having too much trouble with foes

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

Late in the afternoon, the Novis Wildcats softball team took to the field at the Northville Recreation Center. The Wildcats, coached by Dan Morrison, were in action against the Northville Wildcats. The game was a doubleheader, with the first game starting at 6:00 p.m. and the second game starting at 7:00 p.m.

Club 7-6 and 9-7.

"It was fun playing a non-league game against a team of that caliber," Novis coach Rick Green said about the Saturday doubleheader.

Novi 7, Lake Orion 6

Lake Orion's team was very physically and started the first game off with a bang.

"They team all looked like football players," Green said. "They were hitting the cover off the ball."

Lake Orion's first four players got hits before starter Dan Morrison took control from the mound.

"It started out rough," Green said. "We had faith in Dan and stuck with him."

Morrison gave up only six hits in the rest of the 5 and 1/3 innings he pitched while striking out five and walking only one.

"He did a great job and hung in there," Green said. "We had faith in Dan and stuck with him."

Novi also got it done from the plate. Sophomore Kevin Cisko went 2-4 and knocked a home run and senior Darren Gurfey was 2-3 and scored twice.

Kerry Kreutzberg had one of his two-hits singles on the base on a hit that game and went 2-2 with a walk, a run and one RBI.

"We hit the ball well," Green said. Novi also played well on the defensive end. With two outs, late in the game, Matt Nickels made a game saving catch on a ball that looked like the wind would carry over his head.

"That was probably our best defensive play of the game," Green said. "That was key to our win."

Novi's Kerry Kreutzberg watches as a pitch flies past against KVC rival South Lyon.

Photo by SAM EGGLESTON

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Novi 9, Lake Orion 7

Novi trailed for most of the second game and found themselves down 7-1 in the fifth inning.

"Our hitters just found a way to get back in the ballgame," Green said.

Nickels, Billy Morrison, Kreutzberg, and Doug Benton all had two hits on the game. Chris Scott, who entered the game as a relief pitcher went 1-2 with 2 runs scored and 2 RBIs.

Scott came in the game for Steve Gorenzki who pitched just over three innings and allowed seven hits and four earned runs. Scott pitched his first game the day before this doubleheader and continued to throw well.

"It was nice to see what he could do," Green said. "He has great movement on his fastball. I think it threw the Lake Orion hitters off."

Lake Orion, who dropped to 14-7, were led from the plate by Andy Klais who went 4-9 on the day. Lake Orion is a strong club who is very familiar to the post-season.

"It felt like a playoff atmosphere," Green said. "We enjoyed playing each other."

The day before that doubleheader the Wildcats pounded out two games against South Lyon, who has struggled a bit in the KVC this year at 2-11 in the conference.

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Novi 8, Brighton 0

Novi dominated a tough KVC game two days prior to the back-to-back doubleheaders. Junior Mike Hurt pitched the whole game and struck out 10 bringing his record to 3-2 on the year. Hurt suffered an injury against Brighton last year and was nervous about re-living the scene in Brighton once again.

"He told me he was kind of worried about it happening again," Green said. "He pitched through it and had a great game."

Adam Brundage had 2 hits in the game and Cisko knocked in two runs.

"It was a strong win, Brighton was one of the teams to beat," Green said.

The series of games last week boosted Novi's confidence.

"We are really starting to hit the ball well," Green said. "Everybody's contributing...and really starting to believe in themselves."

"We had a lot of chances to score earlier in the game," Green said. "We just needed to focus."

Kevin Cisko pitched just over five innings and let in five hits and Scott finished the game in his first action at the mound.

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Novi 17, South Lyon 5

The game was close until Novi's hitters went on a tear in the sixth inning. South Lyon had tied the game at five with a three-run shot in the fifth inning. Novi's bats came out blazing and the team scored 11 runs without before making an out in that inning. Novi finally capitalized big on chances to score that had been there earlier in the game.

"We had a lot of chances to score earlier in the game," Green said. "We just needed to focus."

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Novi 9, South Lyon 4

Adam Doores pitched the whole game for the Wildcats to improve his record to 3-0. Zach Flavin was 3-3 from the plate and had 3 RBIs. Nickels went 2-4 and had 4 RBIs. Kreutzberg got it done defensively for the Wildcats and made three great plays from the outfield.

"Our hitters just found a way to get back in the ballgame," Green said.

Nickels, Billy Morrison, Kreutzberg, and Doug Benton all had two hits on the game. Chris Scott, who entered the game as a relief pitcher went 1-2 with 2 runs scored and 2 RBIs.

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SPORTS SHORTS

Searching for records

Novi High School is currently looking for any information regarding a possible record for a single game, single season or a career dating back to the opening of the school. Records can be proven with old newspaper articles, end-of-season reports or scorebooks as documentation.

Anyone with this information should contact the high school via mail by sending the documentation to: Novi High School, 24062 Taft Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, Attn. Julie Fissette, Athletic Records.

All volunteers will receive free food and refreshments and a Galyan's Northville Solstice Run T-shirt. Please call (248) 349-0203, ext. 1408.

The Recreation Center at Hillside Pool announces open and lap swimming during the spring on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30-8:30 p.m. and Friday 6-7:30 p.m. and Saturday from 7-8:30 p.m.

The cost is \$3.00 per person, regardless of age. Please pay the fee and bring correct change. Dates and times are subject to change. Cancellations will be posted on the Recreation Center doors.

Junior Golf Clinics

Tanglewood Golf Club and head instructor/PGA professional Tom Shaw are hosting the 2003 Tanglewood Junior Clinic this summer. The clinic is open to children ages 7-13 and consists of four three-hour classes.

The clinics will be held on the following dates:

• Clinic 1: June 17, 19 and 24 from 9 a.m.-noon and June 26 from 8-11 a.m.

• Clinic 2: July 8, 10 and 15 from 9 a.m.-noon and July 17 from 8-11 a.m.

• Clinic 3: July 23, 25, and 30 from 9 a.m.-noon and August 1 from 8-11 a.m.

The price of each clinic is \$130 per person with the price including lessons, lunch, trophies and a souvenir. Each clinic is limited to 26 kids, so call (248) 486-3355, ext. 26 and ask for Tom Shaw to register or to get more information.

Golf Lessons Available

Looking to improve that swing? Want to get rid of that slice? Tanglewood Golf Club is offering individual and group lessons by PGA Certified instructors for private lessons. Call (248) 486-3355 and ask for Brad, Larry or Tom.

Volunteers Needed

Northville Parks and Recreation is seeking volunteers to help with the inaugural

Novi Rotary Club is taking a "SWING" at polio. Help them throw the knockout punch as they use a portion of the concert proceeds to eliminate this disease.

Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra

with Wynton Marsalis

Wednesday, June 18

7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Novi High School

Tickets on sale now!

To charge, call (248) 348-8500, ext. 406

To pay by cash or check, call (248) 348-8500, ext. 404

Look for details on the Web: www.veeland.com

Call Tony Musu for sponsorship information (248) 465-1370, ext. 404

Novi News

St. Claire

Toll Brothers

Northville Record

Novi Expo

Galyan's Northville Solstice Run June 21.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the start line, registration, tent, help desk, the kiddie course, aid stations, food/refreshments, clean-up crew, finish line set up and also to help along the five kilometer course.

All volunteers will receive free food and refreshments and a Galyan's Northville Solstice Run T-shirt. Please call (248) 349-0203, ext. 1408.

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The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

NANCY REUTTER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56340)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 03-100.31

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 03-100.31, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 28, "SIGNS" OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 28-16 "VIOLATIONS" TO IMPLEMENT A MISDEMEANOR PENALTY.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

NANCY REUTTER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56340)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 03-100.32

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 03-100.32, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 28, "SIGNS" OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 28-16 "VIOLATIONS" TO IMPLEMENT A MISDEMEANOR PENALTY.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

NANCY REUTTER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56341)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 2003-18.175

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 18.175, AN ORDINANCE TO ADD SECTION 25.14 TO THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 97-18, AS AMENDED, TO ADD TO THE DEFINITION OF HOME OCCUPATION A LIMITATION ON THE PLACEMENT OF SIGNS VISIBLE THROUGH WINDOW AREAS SUGGESTING OR IMPLYING THE EXISTENCE OF A HOME OCCUPATION.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56336)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 03-125.15

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 03-125.15, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, CHAPTER 37, Section 37-30 (a) and (c) TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A PERSONNEL, AND SO THAT CITY PERSONNEL ARE NOT HEARING THE APPEAL OF THEIR OWN DECISIONS MADE IN THE COURSE OF THEIR DUTIES AND THEY ARE AVAILABLE TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR A GREATER SCOPE OF NOTIFICATION TO NEIGHBORING PROPERTY OWNERS PRIOR TO A DETERMINATION OF A USE PERMIT APPLICATION BY THE WOODLANDS REVIEW BOARD.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56429)

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL #169 CITY OF NOVI COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN

TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, has determined it to be necessary to make the following described public improvement in the City of Novi:

The paving of approximately 2,000 linear feet of residential streets in Section 3, which will provide a direct benefit to portions of Supervisors' Plat No. 2, John Hawthorn's Subdivisions No. 1 & 2 and Lake Wall Subdivision (Lebanon Street, Ludlow Drive, North Haven Boulevard and West Lake Drive).

The City Council has determined that all of the cost of the above described public improvement shall be assessed against the following described property abutting the above described improvement:

22-03-128-017 22-03-130-088 22-03-131-059 22-03-204-004
22-03-204-021 22-03-128-018 22-03-130-069 22-03-131-010
22-03-204-007 22-03-204-022 22-03-129-019 22-03-131-001
22-03-131-011 22-03-204-010 22-03-204-023 22-03-129-020
22-03-131-002 22-03-131-012 22-03-204-011 22-03-204-024
22-03-129-021 22-03-131-034 22-03-131-034 22-03-204-012
22-03-204-025 22-03-131-004 22-03-131-052 22-03-204-013
22-03-204-027 22-03-129-025 22-03-131-055 22-03-201-005
22-03-204-014 22-03-204-029 22-03-130-005 22-03-131-006
22-03-202-003 22-03-204-015 22-03-204-030 22-03-130-005
22-03-131-007 22-03-202-006 22-03-204-016 22-03-130-007
22-03-131-008 22-03-203-001 22-03-204-017 22-03-129-024

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City Council has caused reports concerning said public improvement to be prepared, which reports include plans, profiles, specifications and estimates of cost of such public improvement, a description of the assessment district and other pertinent information, and these reports are on file in the office of the City Clerk and are available for public examination.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City Council will meet on **MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2003, at 7:30 o'clock a.m.**, prevailing Eastern Time, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road in the Council Chambers in the City of Novi for the purpose of hearing comments to the making of such public improvement.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that appearance and protest at such hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the State Tax Tribunal. An appearance or protest may be made by an appearance at the Hearing to protest the Special Assessment or by filing an appearance and protest by letter.

THIS NOTICE is given by order of the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
347-0456
(NN 5-15-03 56343)

ATTENTION CHEMICAL WORKERS
If you or a loved one have worked with or around VINYL CHLORIDE and have been recently diagnosed with
ANGIOSARCOMA (Liver Cancer)
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GLIOBLASTOMA (Cancerous Tumor of the Brain)
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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 03-170

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 03-170, AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A NEW CHAPTER 28.5, "TELECOMMUNICATIONS," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN, RELATING TO PERMITS FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPARED TO PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY PURSUANT TO PUBLIC ACT 48 OF 2002.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56431)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 03-37.28

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 03-37.28, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, CHAPTER 34, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 4, SUBDIVISION XXV, TO ESTABLISH THE BECK WEST CORPORATE PARK WATER MAIN EXTENSION AND SERVICE DISTRICT AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN AVAILABILITY FEE FOR SERVICE.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56433)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 2003-18.179

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 18.179, AN ORDINANCE TO ADD SECTION 25.14 TO THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 97-18, AS AMENDED, APPENDIX A, TO CREATE SECTION 25.14, "ADDITIONAL ROAD DESIGN, BUILDING, SETBACK AND PLAYING SETBACK REQUIREMENTS, FOR ONE-FAMILY CLUSTERING OPTION, TWO-FAMILY USES, MULTIPLE-FAMILY USES, AND CERTAIN NON-RESIDENTIAL USES AND DEVELOPMENTS," AND TO AMEND SECTION 24.03, "ONE-FAMILY CLUSTERING OPTION," OF THE CITY OF NOVI ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 97-18, AS AMENDED.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56337)

CITY OF NOVI - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON NEWLY FORMED WOODLANDS REVIEW BOARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council will be interviewing applicants for appointment to the Woodlands Review Board on Monday, June 2, 2003 beginning at 7:30 pm. This three member board will have the responsibility of reviewing and approving or denying proposed activity does not otherwise require site plans or plat approval.

If you are a qualified voter in the City of Novi and interested in volunteering to serve on the board, please contact the City Clerk or commission, applications are available in the Office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile, or by calling (248) 347-0456 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.cityofnovi.com to print out an application. Please submit your application by Monday, June 2, 2003 to allow time for scheduling appointments. Interviews are 15 minutes each. All City Council meetings are televised.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56505)

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL #168 CITY OF NOVI COUNTY OF OAKLAND, MICHIGAN

TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, has determined it to be necessary to make the following described public improvement in the City of Novi:

The construction of approximately 2,331 feet of 8" WATER MAIN in Section 3 which will provide a direct benefit to portions of Supervisors' Plat No. 2, John Hawthorn's Subdivisions No. 1 & 2, and Lake Wall Subdivision (Ludlow Drive and West Lake Drive).

The City Council has determined that all of the cost of the above described public improvement shall be assessed against the following described property abutting the above described improvement:

22-03-128-017 22-03-130-088 22-03-131-059 22-03-204-004
22-03-204-021 22-03-128-018 22-03-130-069 22-03-131-010
22-03-204-007 22-03-204-022 22-03-129-019 22-03-131-001
22-03-131-011 22-03-204-010 22-03-204-023 22-03-129-020
22-03-131-002 22-03-131-012 22-03-204-011 22-03-204-024
22-03-129-021 22-03-131-034 22-03-131-034 22-03-204-012
22-03-204-025 22-03-131-004 22-03-131-052 22-03-204-013
22-03-204-027 22-03-129-025 22-03-131-055 22-03-201-005
22-03-204-014 22-03-204-029 22-03-130-005 22-03-131-006
22-03-202-003 22-03-204-015 22-03-204-030 22-03-130-005
22-03-131-007 22-03-202-006 22-03-204-016 22-03-130-007
22-03-131-008 22-03-203-001 22-03-204-017 22-03-129-024

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City Council has caused reports concerning said public improvement to be prepared, which reports include plans, profiles, specifications and estimates of cost of such public improvement, a description of the assessment district and other pertinent information, and these reports are on file in the office of the City Clerk and are available for public examination.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City Council will meet on **MONDAY, JUNE 2, 2003, at 7:30 o'clock a.m.**, prevailing Eastern Time, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road in the Council Chambers in the City of Novi for the purpose of hearing comments to the making of such public improvement.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that appearance and protest at such hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the State Tax Tribunal. An appearance or protest may be made by an appearance at the Hearing to protest the Special Assessment or by filing an appearance and protest by letter.

THIS NOTICE is given by order of the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
347-0456
(NN 5-15-03 56344)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 03-100.30

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 03-100.30, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 28, "SIGNS" OF THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 28-16 "VIOLATIONS" TO IMPLEMENT A MISDEMEANOR PENALTY.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

NANCY REUTTER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56338)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 03-28.47

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 03-28.47, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, CHAPTER 34, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 3, SUBDIVISION XXVI, TO ESTABLISH THE ELEVATION MILEWORTH AND BECK ROAD SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN AVAILABILITY FEE FOR SERVICE FOR THE REBURNING OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56435)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 03-28.46

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 03-28.46, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED, CHAPTER 34, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 3, SUBDIVISION XXVI, TO ESTABLISH THE HUSKY SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION DISTRICT AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN AVAILABILITY FEE FOR SERVICE.

The provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, May 5, 2003. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. prevailing local time.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(5-15-03 NN 56434)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PROVISIONS OF THE NOXIOUS WEED AND REFUSE ORDINANCE

TO: All owners, occupants or possessors of subdivided lands or lots:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Section 21-20 of the Novi City Code, all noxious weeds, grass, brush or other vegetation, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of twelve (12) inches, or any refuse or debris growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City of Novi, shall be cut down, destroyed or removed as the case may be, at least twice in each year, once during the last half of the month of May and again during the last half of July of each year and more often as may be necessary.

In the event the owner or occupant, or any person or persons, agent, firm or corporation having control or management of any subdivided land in any subdivision in which buildings have been erected and where such subdivisions have a zoning classification that is "residential" shall fail, refuse, or neglect to comply with the above mentioned Ordinance, the City shall cause said weeds, grass, brush, deleterious, unhealthy growths, rubbish or debris to be cut down, destroyed or removed. Provided, further, that any lands which are situated within the flood plains or any natural streams or water courses, or any area between the lower or upper banks of such streams or water courses shall be exempted from the provisions of this Ordinance. The expense incurred by the City in the cutting, destruction or removal of same together with a ten (10%) percent administrative charge will be levied and collected against such property in the manner provided by law.

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Section 21-20 of the Novi City Code may result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penalty therein provided.

DONALD SAVEN, BUILDING OFFICIAL
(5-15-03 NN 56511)

CITY OF NOVI SOUTH LAKE DRIVE RECONSTRUCTION REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Sealed Proposals will be received by the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, for the reconstruction of South Lake Drive (West Park Road to 13 Mile Road) at the City Offices. Bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. prevailing Eastern Time on Tuesday, May 27, 2003, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Each Proposal shall be accompanied by a Qualification and Experience Statement and a certified check, cashier's check or a satisfactory bidder's bond in the amount of at least 5% of the total bid, drawn payable to the City of Novi as security that if the Proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the Contract and deliver acceptable proof of insurance, Performance and Labor and Materials Bonds within 14 calendar days after the award of the Contract.

Sealed Proposals, Qualification and Experience Statement and Bid Bond shall be delivered to the office of the City Clerk. If sent by mail, the sealed envelope containing the Proposal, Qualifications and Experience Statement and Bid Bond must be enclosed within another envelope. All Proposals shall be sealed and properly labeled with the project name, Bidder name and the date and time of the opening, and shall be addressed as follows:

City Clerk
City of Novi
Carol J. Kalinovic, Purchasing Director
45175 West Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48075

A mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 20, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.** at the City of Novi Council Chambers. Prospective bidders must attend the Pre-Bid Meeting in order for bids to be considered responsive.

The Project consists of the complete removal and reconstruction of the existing bituminous road way, as well as the installation of a new underground storm water management system, and other related items. Plans, Specifications and other Contract Documents may be examined at the Office of the City Clerk or the Office of the Purchasing Director 12:00 p.m. They will be available from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 19, 2003, at the City of Novi, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, 48226 upon payment of \$25.00 per set (non-refundable). Documents may also be mailed to the prospective bidders upon written request accompanied by an additional payment of \$10.00 per set (non-refundable).

Proposals which have been submitted shall not be withdrawn after the time set for opening of bids and shall remain firm for a period of 90 calendar days after the opening.

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

CAROL J. KALINOVIC, PURCHASING DIRECTOR
(NN 5-15-03 56436)

United States Fire Administration
Federal Emergency
Management Agency
<http://www.usfa.fema.gov>

Wildcats play well

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Even though a team might not be winning every match they play, there are still signs that the season is successful.

For the Novi Wildcats girls' golf team, one of those signs came in the form of a season-long team score, as well as a fourth-place finish in a very tough tournament. The Wildcats, who are fourth in the Kensington Valley Conference, are coached by Deb Harris and are far from out of contention in any match they play.

Take their May 6 match against Highland for example. The Highland eagles are tied for the top spot in the conference, and the Wildcats played them to a 234-223 loss — only 19 strokes off the best team in their league.

Against the Eagles, the Wildcats found Jennifer McKenna leading the pack with an impressive 53 on the day. Jessica Westfall recorded a 56 in the losing effort, while Becky Hughes and Audrey Oh each carded a 57.

Sara Goodman shot a 58 for the Novi linksters, while Jenna Kuhn hit a 60.

The Wildcats also had a nice showing in the South Lyon Invitational May 2. The invitational, which plays host to 12 teams, is one of the toughest rounds of golf in the area, and Novi pulled out a fourth-place finish on the day.

Last year, the Wildcats were fifth

out of seven teams in the same tournament — which makes this year an incredible improvement for the quickly-rising squad.

No. 1 collected 356 points at the South Lyon Invite — just four strokes away from second place's 353.

The tournament's format is three girls on a foursome play scramble, while the fourth plays an individual ball. The two foursomes that a team brings then add their scores together for a final team score.

Foursome A consisted of Jessica Chady, McKenna, Hughes and Laura Vaughn, and shot a 182 on the day. Foursome B, which shot a 174 to lead the Wildcats to fourth place, found Westfall, Jackie Chady, Oh and Kuhn recording strokes in the tie effort.

"Each tournament this year we have improved in the standings, and each dual match we have improved in the scoring," Harris said. "The matches are closer and the girls are improving each day."

The day before the South Lyon Invitational, the Wildcats also had another great day. May 1 found the Novi linksters shooting a 194 — the team low for the season.

Though, in the end, the Wildcats fell to a very strong South Lyon squad 190-194. It was a milestone for the squad.

"It was a very competitive match," Harris said and noted that both teams compare relatively well to one another. "South Lyon took third in the Pre-KVC, and we took

fourth."

The Wildcats found four girls scoring into the 40s. Leading the way for Novi were Jackie Chady and Hughes. Both girls recorded an applause-worthy 48 on the day. Goodman and Jessica Chady turned in nice numbers of their own with 49s.

Westfall recorded a 51 on the day, while McKenna rounded out the Novi play with a 52 in the losing effort.

"I am very proud of the girls," Harris said.

Hitting the links for South Lyon were medalist Adrienne Downing, with 45, as well as Karly Pence (47), Alicia Fava (49), Melissa Mihalic (49), Tiffany Gelardi (50) and Kristen Rabis (54).

Most recently, the Wildcats played a tough Milford team and fell 201-217 May 7. But, there were bright spots even with this loss. Milford's home course, where the "Cats played the Mavericks, is Mystic Creek — the same course where the regional tournament will be held.

The Wildcats found Hughes leading the way in the loss as she recorded a 51 on the day. Jessica Chady shot a 53, while Westfall recorded a 54. McKenna, Kuhn and Goodman all carded a 59 on the day.

Also playing and learning the ropes of the course, but not being counted for the final score, were Brittany Neville (57), Sarah Celinski (59), Lindsey Haslett (58), Vaughn (55) and Jessica Pierce (54).

Novi picking their victories

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Sometimes, a team has to accept defeat even before the first race.

The Novi Wildcats boys' track and field team, under the guidance of coach Bob Smith, knew that the chances of beating Milford in a foot race were slim to none, and chose to take a more strategic approach to the situation.

The Wildcats lost the dual meet handily, but used ground and air to save their legs against the Mavericks, had a nice showing against Howell as well as in the Sunshine Relays and Stevenson Invitational.

Against Howell, the Wildcats posted a 105-32 victory. Taking first for the Wildcats were a slew of Novi athletes.

In the 4-by-800, the team of Arnel Huprikar, Eric Tingwall, Mark Moore and Brian Gilchrist took first in 8:30.51, while the 4-by-100 team of Bob Duquette, David Carnegie, Josh Woods and Justin Davis won in 45.67 seconds. In the 4-by-400, the Wildcats took first in 3:29.27 as

Steve Flannan, Brandon Coles, Brad Sisson and Nick Wright ran for Novi. The 4-by-200 found Carl Yu, Matt Emmenacker, Chase Chandler and Alex Harsha-Strong taking first in 1:34.45.

In individual events on the track, Yu took first in the 300 hurdles with a time of 4:20.2 seconds, while Huprikar won the mile run in 4:40.85 and Moore took first in the two mile with a 9:56.20 and Spencer Omes was second in 9:57.92.

The Wildcats were broom-handlers on the day too. They swept the 800, the 100 hurdles, the 100 dash, the 400 and the high jump. In the 800, Mike Allie was second in 2:05.88, while Eric Joseph was second in 2:06.17 and Nick Prekates was third with 2:10.73.

In the 100 hurdles, Jerod Shird was first with a 16.37, Mark Sauer was second in 17.52 and Eric Craven was third in 17.85. The 100 dash found Chandler in first in 11:35 seconds, while Woods was second in 11:36 and Eric Hansen was third in 11:54.

In the Stevenson Invitational, Novi finished fourth with 75 points and found Thelen clearing 12.6 in the pole vault to win the event, while Emmenacker jumped 6.0 in the high jump for a first-place finish. Gilchrist finished first in the two-mile with a time of 9:46.10.

The 400 found Andrew Hoffman in first with a 5:37.2, while Trent

Sisson took second in 54.19 and Phillip Hornshaw was third in 58.10. Emmenacker took first in the high jump with a leap of 5-foot-11, while Eric VanTassel took second with a 5.9 jump and Brad Spisch was third with 5.7.

In the pole vault, Dan Thelen took first with his usual clearance of 12.6 feet, while Hornshaw was close behind him in second with an 11-6 finish.

In the Sunshine Meet at South Lyon, the Wildcats took second with 116 points behind Milford's 145. Novi's performances found Ryan Pritchard winning the shot put with a throw of 41.6, while Moore won the 1,600 meter run in 10:01.70. The 4-by-100 team of Davis, Woods, Chris Duquette and Eric Hansen was first with a time of 45.50.

At the Stevenson Invitational, Novi finished fourth with 75 points and found Thelen clearing 12.6 in the pole vault to win the event, while Emmenacker jumped 6.0 in the high jump for a first-place finish. Gilchrist finished first in the two-mile with a time of 9:46.10.

NOVI UNDERCLASSEMEN SCORES

NOVI JV SOCCER

Overall: 10-1-1

The Novi Junior Varsity Girls' Soccer Team has had an outstanding spring season. The Wildcats stand out Pincney, 1-0, last Wednesday for their 10th win of the season. Novi JV is unbeaten in KVC action. The

Wildcats tied Brighton, and lost their only game of the year to non-league foe Ann Arbor Pioneer.

NOVI JV SOFTBALL

Overall: 7-8; KVC: 5-7

The Novi Junior Varsity Softball

ENTERTAINMENT

Sam Eggleston, (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 seggleston@ht.homecomm.net

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Give us more!

Like it or not, 'Matrix Reloaded' leaves one waiting for November

By Sam Eggleston
ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

You know you've been waiting to see this movie — and let me tell you, it's worth going to see.

There are few movies that I actually get excited when I hear they are coming out. "Matrix Reloaded" was one of those particular movies.

The trailer of most movies typically shows the best stuff before you even get to the movie. Then, unfortunately, you often find out that you should have just stayed home and watched the trailer. "Matrix Reloaded" offers viewers a drop-worthy trailer with plenty of action, special effects, and top-shelf actors — all brought to you at blinding speeds. You're in luck with this particular movie though, because this one leaves the best for when you're eating your popcorn and watching it on a 30-inch screen.

"Matrix Reloaded" takes place not long after the first film. Neo (played by Keanu Reeves) returns to the human city of Zion along with Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne) and Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss) after finding out that the machines are tunneling in an attempt to destroy the human city and all who live there. As you can guess, this isn't a good thing. The military leaders of Zion are sure that their only defense lies in having all available personnel on hand to fend off the machines — but Morpheus isn't so sure. He believes, as do many of Zion's citizens, that the only answer to the riddle of ending the war is one thing: Neo.

There isn't much that can be said about the movie without giving away its twisting and break-neck-paced plot. The one thing I can say is that if you enjoyed the fight sequences in

the first film, then you're going to be falling out of your seat as your eyes remain locked on the intense kung-fu on the big screen. The Wachowski Brothers have outdone themselves with this one. Before seeing the movie, I heard that some-thing that no other movies had been able to do when it came to effects and fight scenes — I have to say I agree. It's not every day you get to see a single man fight off a horde of enemies, and make you laugh at times while doing it.

For those who are intrigued by the plot of the original movie, bring your thinking caps to this one. Surprising new revelations are made about Neo's purpose in the Matrix, as well as some abilities that not even he was aware he had.

The whole cast fits perfectly in their roles, in my opinion. All of them except one. I am still shaking my head over the casting of Jade Pinkett Smith in this movie. She plays Captain Niobe of the hovercraft called the Lagos and it's the furthest reach for an actress of her limited capabilities. Not only is she unbelievable as a confident, determined military officer, but she's also one of the worst actresses I've ever seen. Her attempts to be a fierce fighter and a courageous captain fall flat, and I was disappointed to see her character make it through the film — which no doubt means she'll be in the final installment of the trilogy, called "Matrix Revolutions," which is due out in November.

Other than that particular move by the studio, "Matrix Reloaded" is the kind of movie that you can see over and over again and see and realize new things. I've seen the original more than a few times, and each time I catch something that I didn't see before — the sequel



Photo Courtesy of WARNER BROS. PICTURES
Carrie-Anne Moss in Warner Bros. Pictures' and Village Roadshow Pictures' provocative futuristic action thriller "The Matrix Reloaded," also starring Keanu Reeves and Laurence Fishburne and distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures.

is no different.

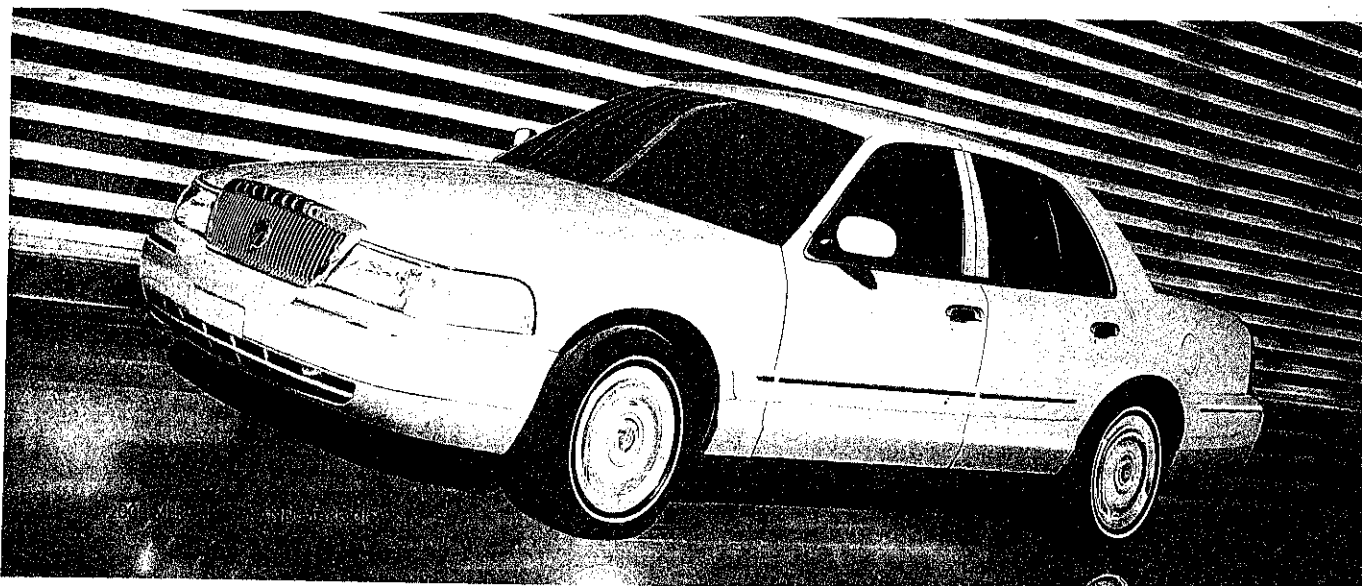
This summer looks to be the summer of sequels, with "X2," "Charlie's Angels 2," "The Terminator 3" and "Spy Kids 3" hitting the silver screen, and I am going to confidently say that this is the best of bunch. If you've seen the first

"Matrix" and liked it, then this is a must see for you. If you haven't seen the "Matrix" yet, then I have a single suggestion: Go out and rent it, then high-tail it to the theater to see "Matrix Reloaded." In a word of mediocre movies, "Matrix Reloaded" is sure to reign

supreme. And, just as a side note, already chewing your nails over the idea of a trailer for "Matrix Revolutions." Well, you're in luck. Sit through the credits after the movie, even if they are really, really long, and you'll be rewarded with a brief

glimpse of the third and final installment.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.



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ENTERTAINMENT

Sam Eggleston, (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 seggleston@ht.homecomm.net

Thursday, May 15, 2003

VIRTUAL VIC

Dear Virtual Vic,

I have been corresponding with a man I met over the Internet for quite some time and he wants to finally meet. My parents are freaking out because they say I don't really know this guy and don't want me to go. I really want to meet him so what should I do?

Internet Infatuation in Walled Lake

Dear Internet Infatuation in Walled Lake: Since I empathize with your parents, it pains me to say I think you should meet him despite their wishes for you not to meet in person.

Believe me I know what they are going through. My sister discovered the world of Internet dating about two years ago and it still troubles me every time she decides to meet her suitors in the flesh. And I understand the whole World Wide Web and dating scene!

Just think how your parents must feel. If they are anything like my dad, they just don't get any of it.

Meeting face-to-face at the soda shop is the way it used to be. If they are always encouraging my sister to meet fellas in person.

I tell her to take some classes, develop a new hobby or volunteer somewhere as a way to meet guys, but she doesn't listen.

She feels with her crazy schedule, Internet dating works. The truth of it is, she is probably right. I personally know four people who are hooked up in love with people they met on the Web.

Two couples are married and two couples are in happy, monogamous relationships. So obviously it can work.

The middle ground between those who get Internet dating and those who don't, is rules. Rules will keep you safe and keep your parents from pulling out their hair while you are on the in-person rendezvous. I have compiled a list of rules for your meeting from common sense and the book "Dating for



Victoria Sadlocha

This can have a double meaning. For starters, it can mean group dating which is always a good idea for the first date. I understand though, that many Internet daters are not group daters so the safety in numbers credo can also mean meet in a place where there are lots of people around. Dr. Browne also suggests possibly meeting in a place where people know of you, like a town diner, but I know these days towns are not very "small" anymore. This isn't Mayberry.

Pay attention to your intuition. I've started this in case you didn't notice! Dr. Browne points out, "if it feels all wrong to you, it probably is." Studies have shown people's (and predominantly women's) intuition is right more times than wrong. Many women who find themselves in unsafe predicaments later say they felt something wasn't right before things went awry. Unfortunately, the same women said they didn't get out of the situation because they didn't want to appear rude or offensive. A curse of waiting hood. Total bunk! If something doesn't seem right, leave. And if it means literally screaming out of the parking lot while your date is in the bathroom, do so without feeling bad.

Now I know a lot of this probably sounds like overkill, but just take the tips to heart at least the first time.

These are safety tips that will only benefit you, not hurt you.

And, if you explain to your parents that you are taking all of these precautions, they will feel a lot better about your clandestine tryst.

My sister has been on 29 Internet dates and none have been creepy, but that won't mean a whole heck of a lot if you are the one who meets the exception.

If you need advice, a little help or a complete over-haul, please forward your questions to sadlocha@ht.homecomm.net or seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

While we are on the subject of things your parents beat into your head, never leave your drink alone. This tidbit of knowledge I never really understood when I was younger despite hearing it from my mom a million times. But as I grew older and date rape drugs became more prevalent, I completely understood. The drink bit is good advice. There's safety in numbers.

'X2' is a great sequel Picks up where the first left off

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

You weren't thinking about passing this one up, were ya Bub?

The first thing that comes to many movie-goers' minds is the fact that the majority of sequels on this planet absolutely stink up a theater compared to the original — I'm happy to report that "X2" isn't one of those sequels.

Picking up not long after where the first movie ended, "X2" brings with it a few new characters to enjoy as well as a well-written story line that finds our crew of mutants trying to not only save the world from the madmen that would harm it, but also to save their own kind from those who would do mutants harm.

Though some fans of the comic series will find a few things that are off whack, such as the main buddy being a tad bit different than many will remember, this movie is a good one to pay and go see. Wolverine, Jean Grey, Professor X, Cyclops, Rogue and Storm are all back in business along with Magneto and Mystique. A deeper investigation into the mutant world known as Nightcrawler. There are some quick scenes where we see the raw power of Pyro, but really don't delve into his background.

Brief glimpses of Kitty Pryde (Shadowcat), Colossus and Stryker are seen as well.

The premise is an easy moving one, and viewers will hardly notice that they have just sat through 134 minutes of viewing pleasure.

Mutants, once again, are facing the threat of the Mustang Registration Act and an Anti-Mutant Movement now led by William Stryker, a man rumored to have experimented on mutants during his military past.

After an attack on the President of the United States by a mutant assassin, Stryker is given permission to invade Professor X's mansion and question the mutants who are suspected to reside there.

Don't worry, there's a twist too. Magneto, who manages to escape from his plastic prison, proposes a partnership with the X-Men to combat their common enemies.

X3 WISHLIST

There were a few things that we would like to have seen in the "X2" movie that they either didn't have the technology to really put together yet or the budget to do it with. Hopefully, for "X3," they are able to bring a few of our X-Men wishes to life.

• **Angel:** A guy with a 20-foot wingspan? Why not? If they could put wings on John Travolta for "Michael," then why can't one of the original X-Men be brought to life on the big screen?

• **Beast:** Yeah, I know having two blue-skinned mutants on screen was probably enough, but this guy is just great! Not only is he witty and funny, not to mention super acrobatic and strong, but he's also in the same boat as Angel: He's an original!

• **Wolverine's bone claws:** In the comics, after Magneto so nicely chooses to remove all the metal from Wolverine's bones, we (gasp!) find out that Wolverine had bone claws! After all of those years thinking they were just implants and to find that out! Wait, that sort of makes William Stryker's comment in the movie about giving Wolverine claws a lie — hummm!

• **Ranshee:** We get a glimpse of his daughter, Stryker, in "X2," so why not bring this lovable Irishman to the big screen as well?

• **Sentinels:** These massive robots bent of mutant destruction were always pretty cool bad guys, not to mention it really forces the X-crow to use all of their powers in hopes of bringing them down. If we remember right, Wolverine had some pretty interesting times testing the durability of his claws on their armor. These blades never dull, or your money back!

• **Phoenix:** Well, if the parting shot of "X2" gives us any indication, this might just be one wish that could come true.

Beyond that, I have to say that they were worth while to the story, and didn't damage the histories of the X-Men as we know them.

The effects were well done and exciting at times. Wolverine and Nightcrawler showcase their talents, and Jean shows that her true potential is beyond anything that she and others may have suspected in the past.

"X2" is definitely worth catching, and shouldn't be a disappointment to any of those out there who have enjoyed the first flick or the comic books. Purists may find this or that to complain about, but overall, the movie is well done and brings with the question of a possible third installment! For those wondering what the plot might be for an X3 film, let's just end it by saying it's quite possible the Phoenix will rise.

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Page B8

Thursday, May 15, 2003

MONEY MATTERS

I wonder how identity thieves can victimize more than 500,000 people annually, stealing their names and social security numbers to open bogus bank accounts, buy cars and charge up credit cards, and still sleep at night.

An imposter can seize your personal information in a variety of insidious ways.

Be on the lookout for these identity-stealing scams:

The double-swipe. Retail employees who handle customers' credit cards swipe the card twice—once for the transaction and once into another card-reading device to create new accounts using the encoded information on the magnetic strip.

The peepers. Thieves put plastic sleeves in ATM card slots so that when a consumer inserts the card the machine can't read the strip. It keeps asking them to re-enter their personal identification number (PIN). Meanwhile someone is watching over their shoulder noting the numbers they entered. Thinking the machine ate their card, they walk away, only to have the peeper remove the plastic sleeve and the card and empty their account.

Credit card application fraud. An identity thief completes a pre-approved credit card offer in the victim's name and has it sent to another address.

Business-record theft. A dishonest employee obtains social security numbers from their employer's database.

To minimize your chances for becoming a victim of identity theft, consider making these practices part of your routine:

- Shred all pre-approved credit card applications, bills or personal documents before discarding them. A light duty cross-cut shredder, which shreds about seven pages per minute, costs about \$40 and can be found at most office supply stores.
- Review your bank statements every month and reconcile your accounts regularly.
- Pay attention to billing cycles so you'll realize quickly if you're missing a bill.
- Ask your financial institution about its policies on account errors and loss.
- Provide your social security number only when it's absolutely necessary. Prior to revealing it, ask the business or financial institution why they need it, how will it be used, what law requires its disclosure and, finally, ask what will happen if you don't provide the number. Volunteer to give them another number and tell them why.
- Keep track of your credit cards and find out when the credit card company will issue you a new card.
- Approach an ATM machine carefully. Run your finger along the card slot before inserting your card. Feel for tiny prongs that enable thieves to get the plastic sleeves out of the slot.

In addition to shredding important documents, monitoring bank and credit card statements, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends taking these proactive approaches to guarding and managing your private information.

- Order a copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit bureaus once a year. (Equifax: www.equifax.com, (800) 685-1111; Experian: www.experian.com, (888) 397-3742; Transunion: www.transunion.com, (800) 688-4213.)
- Avoid using your mother's maiden name, your birth date, social security number or phone number as passwords for your bank, credit card and phone accounts.

• Ask about the information security procedures at your workplace. Identify who has access to your personal records and whether the documents are shredded before disposal.

If you are a victim of identity theft, call the FTC's Identity Theft Toll Free

Hotline at 1 (877) 438-4338. Counselors will note your complaint and offer advice on how you can deal with the credit-related problems that could result from the theft. Here are some additional suggestions from the FTC:

- Contact the three major credit bureaus and ask them to place a fraud alert on your account. Provide a written statement that asks creditors to call you for permission before any new accounts are set up in your name.
- Contact creditors about any accounts that have been tampered with or opened without your knowledge. Put your complaints in writing.
- File a police report. Send copies to your creditors and credit bureaus.

Mary Davis manages public affairs for the Michigan Credit Union League (MCUL), a statewide trade association representing Michigan credit unions. Send questions or comments about this article to mcd@mcu.org.

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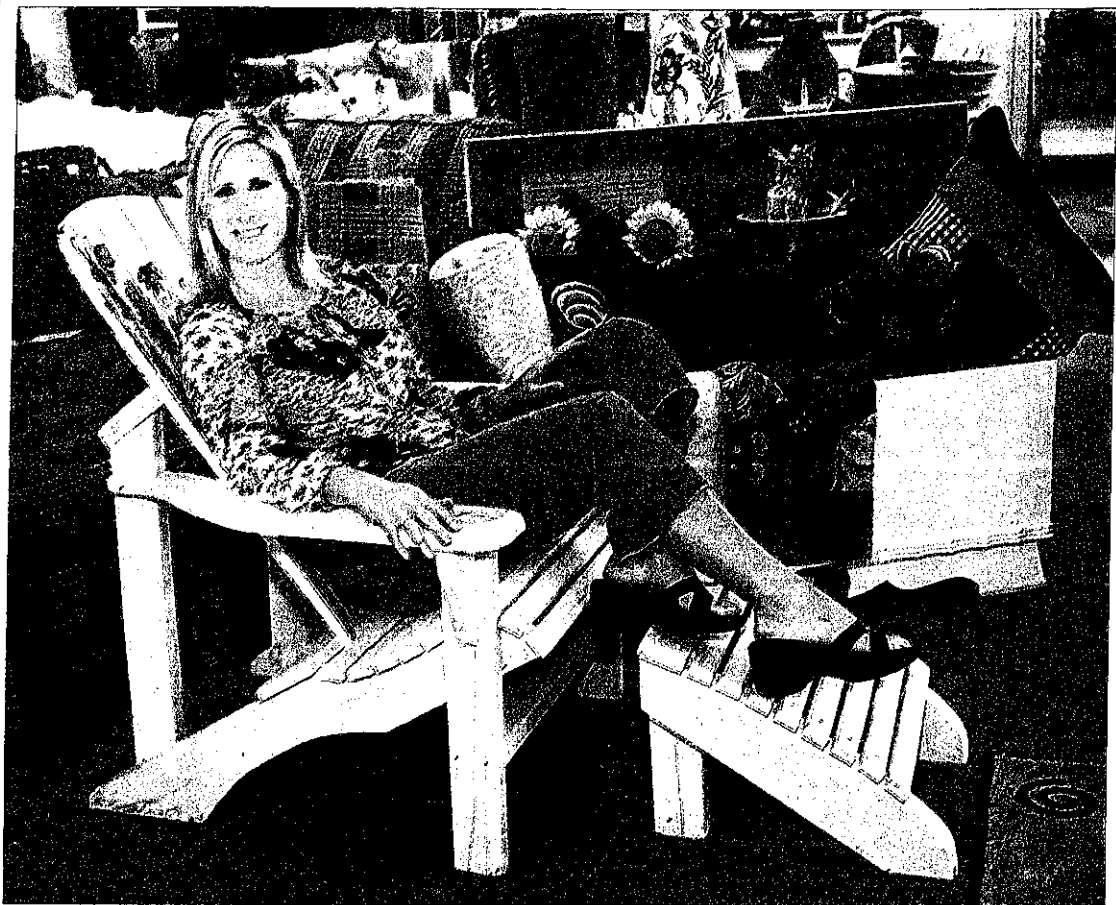


Photo by Hal Gould

Chris Meredith relaxes at her Milford interior design store, Your Nesting Place. The shop is an eclectic mix of French country, shabby chic and transitional furnishings with a few vintage items sprinkled throughout.

A boutique with affordable pricing and small-town service

By Pamela A. Zinkosky
SPECIAL WRITER

Your Nesting Place certainly lives up to its name. It's a place where people know your name, you feel comfortable, and you can get just about any home furnishings or accessories that suit your "nest."

Owner Chris Meredith hesitates to call her business a furniture store — or even a home décor store. She prefers "design boutique," although even that can be misleading — it sounds a bit too haughty. "We're really very low key and funky," she said.

Tucked away at the north end of town on West Summit at

Milford Road, Your Nesting Place doesn't exactly draw walk-in customers. "People aren't sure if we're open to the public or just for designers or what," said Meredith. "But once they come in, they love it, and they come back."

The store has everything for home decorating except wall-to-wall carpet. That includes Flexsteel furniture, rugs, wallpaper, decorative accessories and design services. Meredith employs a seamstress to make curtains and other home fashions, painters and a wallpaper expert.

The store also provides one-on-one attention from experi-

enced designers — Meredith herself, who has a design degree and a passion for painting, and longtime employee Sandi Hinzmann, who's been with the shop since it opened in 1995. If you've been to the store, chances are you've talked to one of them, and that's the way Meredith wants it. "You're not dealing with a bunch of miscellaneous sales people," said Meredith.

Meredith displays at least 12 Flexsteel couches, 10-15 chairs and some tables in her 2,700-square-foot store, but she doesn't restrict customers to what's on the showroom floor. As a Flexsteel gallery, Your Nesting Place has more than 1,000 samples of the dealer's designer fabrics for custom orders, which are typically available in four to six weeks.

Sound expensive? Think again. Meredith doesn't tack on fees for special orders. Pricing is the same as it would be for the merchandise in stock. It's only higher if the fabric you order is more expensive.

Pricing based on materials? Almost unheard of. But it's one of the ways Your Nesting Place competes with the big guys.

Another way is by building relationships, explained Meredith. "We're not a big shop," she said. "We don't have a lot of capital. So we have to create relationships. We're a mom and pop place. We can do special things for our customers. We give one-on-one attention. I try to remember everyone's name and what they bought last time so that I can hold conversations with them."

Meredith makes sure her customers get the most out of their

purchases. "It sounds like a little thing, but if a customer buys a table I've painted, I'll give them the extra paint in case it chips or wears off. Or I'll go to their house and do a touch-up," she said.

Meredith also provides in-home design consultations at reasonable prices. Her \$250 consultation fee — what she calls a "protection factor" against giving her services away for free — applies toward merchandise purchases of \$500 or more.

And lest you think her consultations are ploys to sell more merchandise, Meredith points out that customers often end up buying less than they intended. "What I love to do is people will let me dig around in their basements and other rooms and pull out things maybe they haven't thought of [to use as decorations and furnishings]," she said. "It's kind of like shooting myself in the foot, but they may think they need a couch, a table and two chairs, and they may end up needing just one chair."

It's been almost a year since Meredith purchased Your Nesting Place from its previous owner, and she couldn't be happier. She gives much of the credit for the store's success to its first owner, who built accounts with vendors, found a niche market for an artsy, cottage-y home décor shop with a flair for the original, and established a healthy client base.

Most of Meredith's customers live in Milford and have an appetite for the unique finds and personalized service she provides. They're also perfectly suited to the styles she offers — French country, shabby chic,

DETAILS

Visit Your Nesting Place for an eclectic collection of furniture and home accessories; expert design advice; painting, sewing, wallpapering and other design services; and affordable prices on made-to-order items, including the full line of Flexsteel furniture. Located at 150 W. Summit at Milford Road, Your Nesting Place is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Call (248) 685-7314 for more information.

antique, and not much in the way of pure contemporary. "People around here are typically looking for their own little treasure," she said. "And I never design the same thing twice, which is important to some people. It can be as exclusive as they want it to be."

When Meredith bought the shop, many customers were upset. "They had built a relationship with the previous owner, and they were worried I would make too many changes. But they kept coming in and gave me a chance, and I'm thankful for that."

She's also thankful for a job she loves. "I was in advertising for 10 years and thought I'd never do anything else. I loved it. But then I fell into this, and now I know this is where I belong."

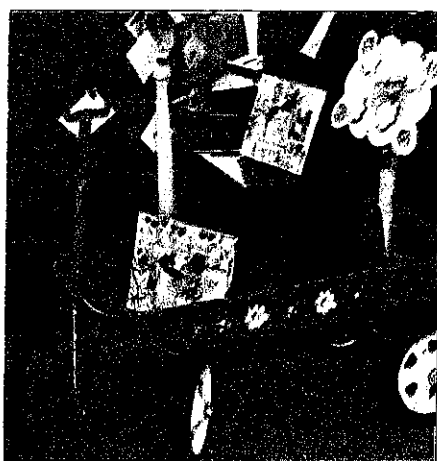
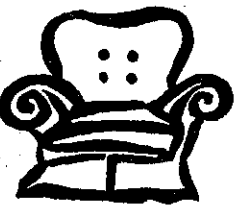


Photo by Hal Gould

There's a wide variety of items to be found at Your Nesting Place in downtown Milford.

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