NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

Novi News

50 YEARS 1955-2005

Your hometown newspaper celebrating its 50th year serving Novi and the Lakes area

Thursday, January 26, 2006 www.novinews.com 50¢

Volume 50 Number 34 Novi, Michigan

FORD CLOSING WIXOM PLANT

■ Automaker's bold Way Forward plan leaves over 1,500 local jobs behind

By Cal Stone
EDITOR

For the 1,567 workers at Ford's Wixom Assembly Plant, the wait is over. For weeks, some might even say years, the fate of the facility has been in question.

Not any more.

M. Fields

As part of its Way Forward restructuring plan announced Monday, the automaker will close the facility, probably by July 2007.

Mark Fields, Ford vice president and president of The Americas, made the announcement from the company's headquarters in Dearborn.

"Today, we find ourselves with plants running at about three-quarters of capacity, and that is clearly unsustainable," said Fields. "Obviously, this has significant

continued on page 2

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

The Wixom Assembly Plant will close, most likely in June 2007, as part of Ford's Way Forward restructuring plan.

Shock, sorrow, anger, relief

■ Workers just glad the waiting game is over

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Ralph Holzback watched his 14-year career come to an end at the Ford Wixom assembly plant Monday morning after Ford Motor Company officials announced they were idling the plant by 2008, but more likely by July 2007.

While more than 1,500 employees dealt with the shock of the plant's future demise, Ford officials offered the choice of a free ham or turkey sandwich to soften the blow.

"That was real nice of them," the 37-year-old Lincoln LS body shop employee said sarcastically.

"I knew (the closing) was going to happen," he said. "It was obvious because they weren't updating or getting any new products in."

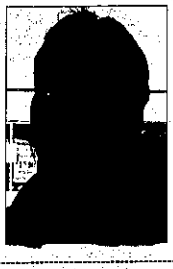
Holzback said he's going to continue going to work everyday until he's told to leave.

"We're going to work now and probably get a bunch of weeks off," he said. "Then I should be gone by April.

"I guess we're all just suppose to sit on the street."

Holzback said production at the plant was stopped during the live announcement and employees were allowed to take a seat in

continued on page 2



"I guess we're all just suppose to sit on the street ... I've got four kids and a wife to take care of."

Ralph Holzback
Wixom plant employee

1-26-06

Index

Business	12A
Calendar	20A
Classifieds	1D
Community	8A
Education	16A
Faith	19A
Food	6B
Opinion	18A
Public Safety	14A
Regional Marketplace	8B
Seniors	19A
Sports	1B

Look inside for your

GREEN SHEET
Classifieds

Contact Us

Novi News
104 W. Main
Northville, MI 48167

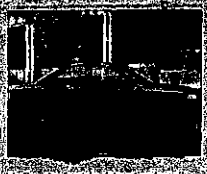
- Classifieds: (888) 999-1288
- Newsroom: (248) 349-1700
- Fax: (248) 349-9832
- Home Delivery: (888) 840-4809

0 53174 22222 0

Postal Information: 0867 NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY 45245 W 10 MILE RD NOVI MI 48375-3014

Current Wixom Assembly Products

Lincoln LS

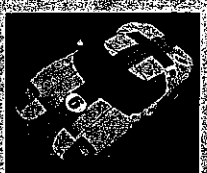


- 1999: Lincoln introduces the LS as a 2000 model with a blend of luxury and sport to attract a new generation of buyers to the Lincoln brand.
- 1999: Motor Trend names LS "Car of the Year."
- 2001: LS earns double-five-star frontal safety rating from the federal government.
- 2003: More than 500 improvements include a power increase, design changes and interior updates.
- 2004: LS earns "Best Pick" safety rating from Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

Lincoln Town Car

- 1981: Lincoln introduces Town Car as its own nameplate.
- 1990: All-new Town Car debuts.
- 1998: Extensive redesign of suspension, exterior and interior.
- 2000: Long-wheelbase versions join lineup.
- 2001: Town Car earns double-five-star government safety rating.
- 2003: Redesign improves exterior, interior, handling and ride.

Ford GT



- 1966: Ford GT40s win 1-2-3 at Le Mans take the "triple crown" of endurance racing with victories at Sebring and Daytona as well.
- 1967: Ford beats Ferrari by just four laps at Le Mans.
- 1968: A GT40 in Gulf Oil orange and blue (very) takes the checkered flag at Le Mans.
- 1969: GT40's final Le Mans win with just two-second margin becomes one of the most exciting moments in the history of endurance racing.
- 2001: Living Legends studio in Dearborn begins work on GT40 concept.
- 2002: Bill Ford unveils GT40 concept at North American International Auto Show.
- 2003: Ford GT production starts to commemorate the Ford Motor Company centennial.
- 2004: Full-scale production begins.

Time to go high-tech?

■ Tools available to attract new business, jobs

By Duane Ramsey
SPECIAL WRITER

With the impending loss of the Ford assembly plant and more than 1,500 jobs in Wixom, it becomes even more critical to attract more high-tech business and jobs to the area for the future, according to industry sources, state and local government officials.

Governor Jennifer Granholm spoke to the leadership in Wixom and their legislative representatives on Monday about making sure those workers have a place to go for jobs.

"We have economic development programs to help replace the jobs that will be lost in Wixom and other communities," said Granholm.

"The auto industry is what gave Michigan its reputation for innovation. We have a plan to capitalize on that innovation, to grow new industries that will strengthen the auto industry and our economy."

Granholm was referring to the new 21st Century Jobs Fund initiative that allocated $2 billion, including nearly $400 million of the state's tobacco settlement revenue in 2006-07.

"Today's news (from Ford)

continued on page 3

Michigan's Research & Development Rankings

- #1 state for automotive R&D spending with $10.3 billion annually.
- #2 state for overall R&D expenditures.
- #3 state for engineering graduates.
- 4th largest high-tech workforce in U.S.
- Home to over 50 percent of North American automotive supplier base.

Source: Michigan Economic Development Corp.

Tips for dealing with job loss

■ Consultant offers help for plant workers

By Maureen Johnston
STAFF WRITER

Martha Adamson said don't go it alone.

The Northville resident and co-author of a workbook designed to help people find their next job said metro Detroit is in for a big shock this year as the automotive industry and related businesses layoff thousands of employees.

People need to share a challenge as dramatic as unexpected job loss, the human resources recruiter said.

"Most people, no matter how far in advance the company has informed them, the majority of people are taken by surprise it's them," Adamson said.

She said employers might think layoffs are so common these days, workers no longer experience the shock.

"I don't believe that's true," Adamson said. "It still comes as a

continued on 4

Closing affects neighboring areas, too

■ South Lyon, New Hudson hit hard by decision

By Dan Trudeau
STAFF WRITER

Ford's decision to close the Wixom Assembly Plant will have a big impact on many living and working in nearby communities.

For close to 50 years, the Ford auto plant in Wixom has played a major role in the area's economy, providing jobs and commerce up and down the I-96 corridor, including New Hudson and South Lyon.

Jeff Potter.

The plant's past success has led to opportunity for many area residents, and many in the South Lyon area rooted for the large facility to bounce back after several years of job reductions and dwindling production.

Former South Lyon Mayor and current Oakland County Commissioner Jeff Potter has worked at the Wixom plant for 28 years, including 21 years spent on the assembly line.

Potter said the plant has been good to his family, helping him

continued on 4

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Ticket scalpers, beware! If you're ready to face 90 days in jail and/or a $500 fine, then by all means, try to sell your Super Bowl ticket near Ford Field on Feb. 5.

— See Page 15A

"I'm proud to report that Novi is growing, diversifying and flourishing," said Novi Mayor David Landry at the **State of the City Address** last Thursday at Rock Financial Showplace.

— See Page 8A

It's the hottest ticket in southeastern Michigan – **Taste of the NFL** – and it's right here in Novi at Rock Financial Showplace. Get all the details (and recipes, too!)

— See Pages 6A & 7A

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ford closing Wixom facility

continued from front page

implications for our labor force. It's something we knew we would have to address honestly and with sensitivity to the impact on Ford employees and their families. Our pledge is to address those challenges in full collaboration with our union partners."

Fields said that in order to achieve the right capacity for the size of today's business, Ford will idle and eventually cease operations at 14 North American manufacturing facilities by 2012, including seven assembly plants:

- Wixom Assembly
- St. Louis Assembly
- Atlanta Assembly
- Batavia (Ohio) Transmission
- Windsor Casting
- Two additional assembly plants to be determined later this year

"These actions will reduce our assembly capacity by 1.2 million units, or 26 percent, by the end of 2008," said Fields. "But will help us improve our assembly capacity utilization rate dramatically. I'd emphasize that most of these capacity actions are occurring early in the plan period, with the most substantial actions completed by the end of 2008."

The closures will reduce plant employment by up to 30,000 salaried and hourly positions over the next six years, said Fields.

Ford will reduce its St. Thomas Assembly plant to one shift, as well.

"As hard and as painful as it is to close plants and reduce our work force, we know these sacrifices are critical to set the stage for a stronger future," said Fields.

That future, said Fields, will include a new, low-cost manufacturing operation that to be built in North America at a location still to be determined.

The restructuring plan follows Ford's 2002 Revitalization Plan, where the company reduced capacity by nearly a million units; slashed material costs; added new products; and refocused on its core business.

But Fields said revenue did not keep pace with higher costs. Gas prices were $1.30 a gallon in 2002, and steel has nearly doubled from $320 a ton. Additionally, there are 40 more nameplates battling for consumer dollars, and that is expected to climb to over 300 by the end of the decade said Field.

"That's unprecedented, and it has spelled the end of the Big Three as we know it," he said. "Today, it's the up-for-grabs Big Six and a competitive shootout like we've never seen before."

Fields said the 2002 initiative was driven by costs and capacity. The Way Forward plan will be driven by customers.

"We don't underestimate the challenges ahead. But I speak for the entire Ford team when I say we are eager to get to work," said Fields. "We are ready to reclaim our place as America's Car Company."

Col Stone is the editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 or by e-mail at cstone@gannett.com.

Monday announcement highlights

■ Bill Ford: "Ford Motor Company was solidly profitable in 2005 and growing around the world. The next chapter in our history will be remembered for a renewed commitment to innovation and as the time we moved boldly to prepare Ford's North American business for global competition."

■ Comprehensive North American "Way Forward" plan focuses every part of the business on the customer – to build stronger Ford, Lincoln and Mercury brands, a strengthened product lineup and far greater quality, competitive costs and improved productivity.

■ Product investments will result in new vehicles in new segments to reach more customers – including small cars and more crossovers – while maintaining Ford's truck leadership.

■ Ford is committed to stabilizing its U.S. market share in the near term.

■ Competitive cost structure includes net material cost reductions of at least $6 billion by 2010.

■ Productivity improvements leverage the company's global product development scale and lean and flexible manufacturing system to introduce more products faster.

■ Straightforward vehicle pricing will continue to be introduced with new models.

■ North American capacity is realigned to match demand – with 14 manufacturing facilities to be idled – resulting in significant cost savings and reduced employment of 25,000-30,000.

■ Salary-related costs are being cut 10 percent in North America with the previously announced reduction of the equivalent of 4,000 salaried positions by the end of the first quarter. In addition, the company's officer ranks are being reduced 12 percent by the end of the first quarter.

■ Ford is planning a new low-cost manufacturing site for the future.

■ North American automotive profitability is achieved no later than 2008.

■ Beginning in 2006, Ford Motor Company will no longer provide earnings guidance – to keep the company and investors focused on one goal: sustainable profitability over time in all regions.

Workers glad waiting is over

continued from front page

front of four projection screens set up.

"It's just hard to think about it," he said. "I've got four kids and a wife to take care of."

A total of 14 facilities, including seven assembly plants, will cease production by 2012.

"I'm not surprised," said 29-year veteran Ellis Gauthier. "I'm glad to know in advance, but I want to know my options."

Gauthier, material handling employee for the plant, said with his seniority he could be placed at another location in the future.

"Their goal is get those with high seniority out," he said. "They could put me at another plant, put me on the assembly line and force me to retire.

"I'm 50 years old and I can't keep up with those young guys, but I'm certainly not ready to retire."

Gauthier said he believed in the next few weeks, Ford would be offering employees several proposals and buyouts.

"What really got me was when (Ford officials) got up there and said they we're going to be building American luxury vehicles," he said. "But production happens in Mexico."

Neighboring Varsity Lincoln Mercury dealership vice president Michael Stanford said they are going to miss the Wixom Assembly plant.

"The good news is I'm glad they've made a decision," Stanford said. "They really helped us – but now we're going to plan for the life after."

Stanford said since the plant stopped second and third shifts, "We've been braced for this."

"We've experienced what it's going to be like for the definite end," he said. "It's like the Boogeyman syndrome – I don't know what's going to happen."

Stanford said his company's just going to wait until something takes over the plant once Ford moves out.

"Ford's looking to shed the expense of that plant," he said. "They just can't let it sit and stay dormant.

Stanford said a lot of the businesses in the area will be affected short term, but will come back to life once something else takes the plant's space.

"My heart goes out to everyone who will be touched by the decision to close the Wixom plant," said Rick Helwig, Novi city manager. "A plant that large and so modern, it just seems like it could have and should have been avoided.

> **"What really got me was when (Ford officials) got up there and said they we're going to be building American luxury vehicles. But production happens in Mexico."**
>
> *Ellis Gauthier*
> *Plant veteran of 29 years*

"It's just very sad for the region, and I hope there's a commitment to take care of the workers. I know there will be a commitment from Wixom and with our help to make good use of that property."

Venessa Selden was among several assembly plant employees who chose to eat lunch at Leon's Family Dining on Wixom Road after the restructuring announcement.

"We're just shocked," said the 15-year assembly line worker. "We just have to be optimistic, balance and budget, and hope for the best."

Are you tired of living with a drip?

If so, call **Benjamin Franklin** THE PUNCTUAL PLUMBER.

We will take care of all your drips as well as all of your plumbing problems!

90 DAYS SAME AS CASH Subject to Approved Credit

If there's any delay, it's you we pay! When we say We'll be there — WE'LL BE THERE!

Up to a 2 year guarantee on all repairs

That's why we will PAY YOU $5.00 a minute if we are late!

Phone answered LIVE 24 hrs/day • 7 days a week

— Call Now —
Hartland ~ 810-632-0700
Brighton ~ 810-227-7770
Howell ~ 517-552-0700

Testimonials:
"Knowledgeable employees who were helpful, kind & efficient. I was impressed!" –Lisa, Hartland
"The plumber was great! We love your company. We will only call your company for future work." –Nicky, Brighton

visit us online at www.benfranklinplumbing.com
~Our plumbers are drug tested and background checked~

Ravenswood Old Vine Zin Big Dense and Delicious $14.99 750 ml. Break Out the Steaks!

JOE'S PRODUCE Michigan's Finest

Cellar Selection Von Strasser Reserve '01 96 pts. Wine Connoisseurs Guide 95 pts. Wine Spirit 92 pts. Wine Spectator 93 pts. Wine Enthusiast

Joe's January Specials!

Florida Driscolls Strawberries $1.99 lb. Sweet & Juicy

Florida Grape Tomatoes 2/$4.00 — Great on a Salad

Naturipe Fresh Blueberries 2/$4.00 8 oz. pkg.

Idaho Potatoes $1.99 10 lb. bag — Great for Baking

Umani Ronchi Montepulciano d'Abruzzo $10.99 750 ml. This is an easy drying-low acid wine! — Perfect for Pizza without Sauce

Huntsman Double Gloucester with Blue Stilton $10.99 lb. Suitable for vegetarians

ZaZa Semi-Sweet Hungarian Merlot $9.99 750 ml. Sweet with a clean quick finish! — As the North Dakotans prefer their food

T. Marzetti's Dips $2.99 ea. Great for parties! 15 oz. container — All Varieties

Alpine Lace Swiss Cheese $4.89 lb. Low Sodium with a nutty earthy flavor

Bateman's French Onion Chip Dip 79¢ each 8 oz. Container — Great Party Essentials

Byrd's Choice Meats!

Super Bowl Specials! Beef • Pork • Chicken Seafood • Deli

Prices Good Thru Superbowl Sunday February 5, 2006
33006 W. Seven Mile 248 478-8680

Shop at Joe's Produce... for a wide selection of fresh fruits and vegetables! Joe's also offers a variety of domestic and imported wines & cheese. Come in and see our Cellared Wine Selection. Our Wine Consultant Frank will be happy to Assist You!

Prices Good Through January 29, 2006

Joe's Produce
33152 W. Seven Mile • Livonia, MI 48152
www.joesproduce.com (248) 477-4333

rEvolve

DO YOU BELIEVE IN SPEED WITHOUT LIMITS? WE DO.

➤ OUR CABLE INTERNET IS UP TO 100X FASTER THAN DIAL-UP

➤ WE GIVE YOU FREE TOOLS TO HELP PROTECT YOU ONLINE

➤ PLUS, AWARD-WINNING CUSTOMER SUPPORT, 24/7

Just $29.95 a month FOR 6 MONTHS!

Plus, FREE Standard Installation, FREE activation, and NO annual commitment!*

bright house networks EarthLink We revolve around you

1-866-898-9101

Visit www.mybrighthouse.com

*Offer good for a limited time. Additional restrictions may apply. Offer available to new customers only. Introductory service subscription offer is good only for time specified, thereafter standard monthly service fee of $44.95 applies. © 2006 Earthlink, Inc. EarthLink and Earthlink logo are registered trademarks of EarthLink Inc. All rights reserved.

Wixom Assembly Plant Facts

- Ground breaking in December 1955
- Plant opens in 1957
- Initial payroll anticipated between $25million and $30 million
- Capacity to employ 5,000 yearly
- 325 acres
- 4.7 million square feet
- Currently 1,433 hourly and 134 salary workers
- Produces Lincoln LS and Town Car and Ford GT; has also produced Lincoln Continental and Ford Thunderbird
- Capacity to build 250,000 vehicles annually
- In 1991, first North American assembly plant to win Q1 Award for quality
- Currently operating at one shift
- Ford's largest North American facility
- Assembled 220,000 vehicles in 1990; 92,000 in 2004; 75,000 in 2005
- For several years, plant accounted for one-fifth of Ford's profit, according to UAW Local 36

Ford Wixom Plant Size Comparison

What it means to city of Wixom

- Represents 2.49 percent of Wixom's tax base
- Represents 4.29 percent of Wixom's total industrial real property
- Accounts for $5.5 million in annual taxes to schools, Oakland County and Wixom (city taxes alone are $1.2 million)
- Generates 12 percent of Wixom's total tax revenue

Contributes 7.3 percent of revenues Wixom derives from industrial facilities

About Wixom

- Settled in 1830s; originally called Sibley's Corners; became a village in 1957 and a city in 1958
- 9.4 square miles in western Oakland County
- Current population is 14,163
- Median age is about 30
- Median income in 2000 - $44,920

Source: Ford Motor Company Web site; city of Wixom; Gannett News Service

Tools available to attract new business, jobs

continued from front page

underscores the importance of diversifying Michigan's economy to make it less reliant on auto manufacturing," said Granholm. "The 21st Century Jobs Fund will enable us to take a giant leap forward towards diversifying our economy and creating thousands of high-tech, high-paying jobs here."

The governor also signed a legislative package of eight bills in December that will provide $600 million in tax cuts to Michigan's struggling manufacturers in another effort to protect and create jobs in the state. The bills include tax incentives for manufacturing or high-tech businesses that create jobs in the state in 2007 and 2008.

"We need a more conducive environment in Michigan to keep jobs and attract new jobs. It should include lower taxes, less regulation, and more investment in infrastructure and education," said Craig DeRoche, (R – Novi, Wixom), who grew up in Wixom and now represents the area in the state legislature.

DeRoche also thinks that the Single Business Tax in Michigan is the "worst business tax in the country and we need to get rid of it before it expires in 2009. Michigan is the only state that has it and the only state that has a net loss of jobs in each of the last three years. There is a definite correlation."

"We have to have a balanced approach in Michigan. We need to make the environment for manufacturing jobs better while working to attract other kinds of jobs to the state," said David Cole, chairman of the Center for Automotive Research in Ann Arbor.

Cole emphasized the high economic value of automotive manufacturing jobs. Each of those jobs *requires 9.4 additional jobs to support it.* The high-tech jobs just don't have the same multiplier of spin-off jobs as auto assembly jobs have, added Cole.

"They (high-tech) are very desirable jobs and we have a very high-tech environment in Michigan," Cole said. "The automotive industry is already extremely high-tech."

With decreasing tax revenues from the Ford Assembly Plant over the past decade, the City of Wixom has implemented plans to attract a more diversified employer base to the area, according to City Manager J. Michael Dornan.

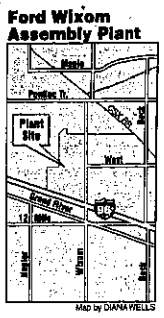
Oakland County is also working to diversify its employer base so many of the people who are losing their jobs can find jobs in other areas, according to Dennis Toffolo, deputy county executive for Emerging Sectors and Economic Development.

"We want to provide opportunities for the workforce to find jobs in their local communities," said Toffolo. With 160,000 residents in the technical workforce, the county is working to attract businesses in sectors that are employing those people.

One company, Ceradyne Inc., recently opened a new facility for its vehicle armor systems operation in Wixom. The company, which produces advanced ceramic products for automotive, defense, and other industrial applications, just announced a $70 million order from the U.S. Army for lightweight ceramic body armor.

Toffolo said the Wixom Technology Park across from the Ford plant is an example of the type of location with the infrastructure needed to attract more high-tech businesses.

Ford Wixom Assembly Plant



Map by DIANA WELLS

Wixom is one of seven communities chosen as pilot projects for the Oakland Wireless Initiative, a plan to bring wireless Internet service to businesses and residents in the county. The pilot projects began late last year and are scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2006 with county-wide coverage expected by the end of 2007.

"Oakland could be the first county in the country to supply it to all its residents," said Toffolo. "Wireless Internet is another tool in our tool box used to attract more business."

Southeast Michigan is in the midst of a rapidly changing business environment, one that is shifting from the traditional "hands-on" manufacturing, to the highly automated, knowledge-based manufacturing, according to Thomas Anderson, director of Automation Alley's Technology Center in Troy.

"In order to succeed, we must adapt to these new conditions. Automation Alley is working with businesses, government and educators to ensure this success through leveraging southeast Michigan's existing technological strengths," said Anderson.

"Automation Alley is a model of where we need to go as a state," said Granholm.

Michigan is the global automotive research and development center, investing more than $10 billion annually, employing more than 65,000 professionals at more than 200 facilities in the state. This high-tech business focuses on engineered products, processes and technologies in the automotive industry.

Skilled workers available

Another key element is the availability of a skilled workforce in Michigan, said Cole. The state has an abundance of highly skilled workers to meet the needs of industry compared to other nations around the world, he added.

Industries in those developing nations will be short 10 million skilled workers in 5 years and 30 million in 15 years due to the retirement of the baby boomer workforce, according to Cole.

"It's more critical in other nations such as Japan," Cole said. "Toyota is investing in R&D facilities here in the U.S. due to the shortage of skilled workers in Japan."

At the same time, the labor issue "has become a killer" for billions of dollars in international investment that are on hold due to the labor environment in Michigan, Cole said. The governor and Michigan contingent that visited Japan last year heard about those labor perceptions from the Japanese.

"Perception is reality and the foreign perception is a serious problem," said Cole, who said they received the same feedback from foreign companies at the auto show.

> **"We have economic development programs to help replace the jobs that will be lost in Wixom and other communities."**
>
> *Jennifer Granholm*
> *Michigan Governor*

Cassis amendment sets stage for Ford plant property redevelopment

State Sen. Nancy Cassis, (R-Novi), Tuesday sponsored an amendment that would permit the city of Wixom to designate all or part of the Ford Wixom Assembly [illegible] Beck Road [illegible] Oct. 4, 2005.

"They held up a sign that read 'WIN: Wixom I-96 Now,' referring to the fact that the Wixom interchange project was supposed to begin right after Beck Road was completed.

"Beck is done. Gov. Granholm twice vetoed the Wixom project before having a change of heart, and has now publicly stated that Wixom is on MDOT's five year plan. It is high time for the governor to keep her promise to begin reconstruction."

"With the amendment, Senate Bill 922 gives local officials the option of using tax breaks to spur redevelopment."

Cassis also urged action on the long-delayed Wixom Road/I-96 interchange. She noted that a more modern, safer interchange is essenial to attracting redevelopment to the area and spurring economic growth.

"Importantly, although Ford company officials have indicated that the Wixom interchange wasn't part of their decision, Governor Granholm said she would reinstitute the project in conjunction with Ford sparing Wixom's closure," Cassis said. "Furthermore, Ford union workers, appeared in [illegible] Granholm's remarks at the grand [illegible]

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

Subscription Rates:
Inside Counties $26 one year home delivery. Outside Counties (In Michigan) are $40 per year, prepaid. Out of state, $50 per year.

The Novi News is published by Federated Publications, Inc a wholly owned subsidiary of Gannett Co. Inc. Postmaster, send address changes to: The Novi News, Post Office Box 470, Howell, MI 48844. POLICY STATEMENT. All advertising published in The Novi News is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department, The Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167, (248-349-1700). The Novi News reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. The Novi News ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Publication Number USPS 396290

Good Neighbor.
GREAT RATES.

Looking for great rates and a secure place to grow your money? Call your local State Farm agent today for more information about a CD from State Farm Bank.

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

90 days	4.00%APY*
180 days	4.25%APY*
1 year	4.25%APY*
2 years	4.35%APY*
3 years	4.35%APY*
4 years	4.35%APY*
5 years	4.35%APY*

Bank.

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.®

Note: *Annual Percentage Yields as of 1/18/06. Rates subject to change without notice. Minimum balance to open an account and obtain the stated APY is $25. Fees apply to deposits less than $100,000. A penalty may be imposed for a withdrawal prior to maturity. Certificates automatically renew at maturity at the then-current rate for the same term.

NMLS#: STATE FARM BANK • HOME OFFICE: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS • statefarm.com® • 08/05

Charter One
Not your typical bank.®

Introducing our new mortgage pre-approval.
Shown actual size.

The Simplified Charter One Mortgage Pre-Approval Form
Simply fill this out and bring it to one of our Bankers.

Name: _____
Current Address: _____
_____
Phone #: _____ SSN: _____
Loan Amount: _____ Purchase Price: _____
State where property is located: _____
Employer: _____ Length of employment: ____
Total Annual Income: _____ Total Assets: _____

Charter One
Not your typical bank.®

Mortgages are offered and originated by CCO Mortgage Corp., a non-bank subsidiary of Charter One Bank, N.A. Charter One Bank is a subsidiary of Citizens Financial Group. All loans are subject to approval. © Equal Housing Lender. This form is reserved for single-family primary residence purchase; other property types and uses are easily available. Additional regulatory information may be collected at the branch.

Getting pre-approved for a mortgage used to be a hassle. We've decided to change all that. With our tiny new pre-approval form, you can get the process started in no time. And at Charter One, you'll get an answer in minutes. Even on Sunday. It really is just that simple. So why wait? Just fill out the form above and visit one of our helpful bankers at any of our 124 convenient Michigan branches today.

Mortgages are offered and originated by CCO Mortgage Corp., a non-bank subsidiary of Charter One Bank, N.A. Charter One Bank is a subsidiary of Citizens [illegible] other property types and uses are easily available. Additional regulatory information may be collected at the branch. All loans are subject to approval. [illegible] or by phone, and limited hours apply. © Equal Housing Lender.

■ South Lyon, New Hudson hit hard by decision

continued from front page

put his children through college. The plant has a seasoned workforce, he said, that has produced quality products for years. Qualities that he had hoped would keep the plant moving forward.

In the past, Potter said, money and jobs from the plant have led to growth in other areas in South Lyon.

"In good times, my family used to walk a lot of money down to Tenpenny Furniture and other local businesses," he said. "Right now, I think everybody's pulling back."

In his role as an elected official, Potter said he believes the region and Oakland County as a whole are in a strong position to recruit new and diverse businesses and support a thriving economy.

But as a worker at the Wixom plant, Potter said the uncertainty over the facility's future had been a challenge for the staff to overcome.

At the New Hudson Inn, manager Karrie Green said that workers from the Wixom plant do not feed the bar's customer base the way they once did. Currently, the plant's workforce is down to one shift after years of operating with two or more.

However, Green said she thinks the plant's presence plays a bigger role in other area establishment, and workers still sometimes spend their dues at the inn.

"Now that the traffic's heavy here, they don't stop by as much," Green said. "Some of them do come in at night to eat and drink."

An auto industry veteran, John Wallbank has been at the Wixom plant for 17 years. The Brighton area resident believed that the plant has the potential to be a highly productive one, citing audits that praised the plant's efficiency in previous years.

But that wasn't not be enough to keep the plant open.

"There's no question it's a valuable resource," Wallbank said. "Whether or not Ford can make use of the resources at that plant, that's something we don't know."

As he and other workers awaited Ford CEO Bill Ford's presentation, Wallbank said they'll be hoping the company makes good decisions. Regardless, Wallbank said the workforce in Wixom will continue to produce what he calls a quality product.

"People are still quite intense about their dedication to their work," Wallbank said. "There's some salvation in that, even though these are trying times."

Dan Trudeau is a reporter for the South Lyon Herald. Reach him at (248) 437-2011 or at dtrudeau@gannett.com.

■ Consultant offers help for plant workers

continued from front page

shock. It still comes as an upset to your life."

Stages of loss

Adamson suggested starting with a candid conversation with a spouse and children.

"I think engaging the family members helps everyone get through it better," she said. "You can reassure them everything's going to be OK. There might be changes.

"Kids feel better when you level with them."

If an employer offers outplacement services, take them up on it, Adamson said.

Job coaches, often called in to meet with workers immediately following a company's announcement, give job-search advice. They also listen.

"It's like going through the grieving process with a death in the family," Adamson said. Workers cycle through emotions of shock, denial, disbelief, anger and grief.

"You're fearful what's going to be happening to you and your family," she said. "You may be very angry at your employer.

"It can be something that can take a while to get over."

A second reason to attend workshops? There is comfort in numbers.

"You see that you're not alone," she said. "Others are going through the same thing."

Counseling by the book

General Motors vice chairman Bob Lutz was among the professionals praising the workbook "Job Search Navigator," Martha Adamson co-authored with Linda Henderson.

"It achieves a rare balance between conceptual, strategic life guidance and tactical 'how to' next steps," Lutz said. "Any person starting a career, or contemplating new career options, will find this work a singularly illuminating guide to the path ahead.'

Single purchasers can find it on Amazon.com or in local bookstores. Quality purchasers may contact SuccessIPress at successpress@wowway.com for discounts.

Shock waves

Word that Ford is closing its 50-year-old Wixom plant sent unsettling waves through the community. Northville's history is intertwined with the auto manufacturer's, from its lore as a former Henry Ford vacation stop to its current role as home to many executives.

"I was shocked when I heard it was closing," said Joe Barberio. He retired in 1998 from his position as Lincoln Mercury sales analysis and reporting supervisor after more than 30 years with Ford.

Still a loyal purchaser of Ford products, Barberio did domestic automakers still are trying to shake the decades-old perception foreign-made cars are better quality. He sympathized with employees losing their jobs.

"I know the mood can't be too good," he said. "I've only heard the plant is closing. ... I've not heard what's happening to any of the employees."

Rank and file

Adamson said during her years as an outplacement coach she saw treatment differ between white- and blue-collar workers.

"Increasingly, over the past five to 10 years, the generosity of the programs has dried up," she said. "Many dislocated employees at lower levels receive minimal support, sometimes only a short-term workshop to help them develop a resume and some career target.

"The assumption that employers make is the less-skilled, the less specialized you are, the more job opportunities you have."

Job loss can be an opportunity to identify values, goals, skills, interests, strengths and accomplishments, Adamson. From there, the job seeker identifies industries and employers to target.

The bottom line is there is life after layoffs, she said. Although with the salaries and overtime pay automotive workers have negotiated, reality might be a lower paycheck, she said.

If finances are a concern, she suggested talking to creditors. "They would much rather keep you as a customer," she said.

"In the initial days you're told you lost your job, don't do anything rash," Adamson said. "Thinking you're going to go into financial ruin, or your family is going to come apart."

It is time for a gut check, she said.

"Take a little time to think it through, have a plan, don't panic," Adamson said. "Sometimes you have to think about relocating."

"It doesn't always mean you're going to make the same money you were or have the same prestige, but you might find yourself happier."

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103, or mjohnston@gannett.com.

Relative dates in Ford Motor Company history

1922 Ford buys Lincoln Motor Company for $8 million.
1938 Mercury line introduced by Ford.
1939 Lincoln Continental introduced.
1945 Lincoln-Mercury Division is established.
1950 One-millionth Mercury, one of 293,658 automobiles manufactured by the division this year, rolls off the line.
1954 Ford introduces Thunderbird.
1955 Separate Lincoln and Mercury divisions established; Special Products Operations becomes a division.
1955 Continental Mark II introduced.
1955 Ground broke for Wixom Assembly Plant.
1957 Lincoln and Mercury divisions recombined.
1957 Wixom Assembly Plant opens
1958 Mercury, Lincoln and Edsel divisions are joined to form M-E-L (Mercury-Edsel-Lincoln) Division.
1959 Ford announces it will discontinue Edsel car line.

Wixom THE END OF THE ROAD

Lincoln-Mercury Division is reformed.
1968 One-millionth Lincoln Continental built.
1968 Continental Mark III introduced.
1983 Continental Mark VII introduced.
1992 New Lincoln Mark VIII introduced.
1995 ord 2000 initiated; restructuring plan includes merging North American and European automotive operations into single Ford Automotive Operations (FAO).
1998 Lincoln-Mercury announces its headquarters will move to Irvine, Calif., in 1996 to foster continued development of unique brands.
1998 Lincoln Mercury announces plans to discontinue production of the Lincoln Mark VIII luxury coupe in June 1998.
1998 America's premier luxury automotive company becomes a California-based firm today as Lincoln Mercury opens its new world headquarters in Irvine, California.
1999 Lincoln LS is named Motor Trend Car of the Year.
2000 Ford reports record earnings of $7.2 billion in 1999, more than any other automotive company in history.
2001 Jac Nasser retires as CEO of Ford Motor Company. William Clay Ford, Jr. is named CEO and continues as chairman of the board.
2001 Ford Thunderbird named Motor Trend Car of the Year for record fourth time.
2003 Ford GT is reborn
2003 Ford Motor Company celebrates Centennial
2003 Ford GT production car nets $557,500 Christie's auction.
2005 Production of Thunderbird ends.
2006 Ford announces Way Forward plan, which includes closure of Wixom facility.

Taorello's MARKETPLACE
Sale Dates: SUNDAY, JAN. 22nd thru SAT., JAN. 28th, 2006
Store Hours: Mon.-Sat. • 8-8 and Sunday • 9-6
For The Connoisseur Of Taste!
GARDEN FRESH PRODUCE
WOW! 1/2 PINTS SUGAR SWEET BLUEBERRIES 2/$3
GARDEN FRESH ROMAINE LETTUCE 69¢ lb.
SWEET IMPORTED KIWI 5/$1
8 oz. PACKAGE ORGANIC MUSHROOMS 2/$4
GOURMET DELI
BUY 1 lb. OF ANY BOAR'S HEAD MEAT or CHEESE AND ENTER TO WIN A 6 FOOT SUPER BOWL PARTY SUB FREE!
DRAWING ON FEB. 5 2006 YOU NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN
YANCY'S FANCY HORSERADISH CHEDDAR $6.99 lb. SAVE $1.00
BOAR'S HEAD SWEET SLICED HAM $6.99 lb. SAVE $1.00
BOAR'S HEAD BLACK FOREST TURKEY $7.99 lb. SAVE $1.00
CHOICE GOURMET MEATS
EXTRA LEAN GROUND BEEF FROM ROUND $2.39 lb.
GRADE 'A' STUFFED CORNISH HENS $1.99 lb.
U.S.D.A. CHOICE • BONELESS BLACK ANGUS SIRLOIN STEAKS WOW! $3.99 lb. SAVE $5.00
JET-FRESH SEAFOOD
TAORELLO'S OWN HANDMADE SALMON WELLINGTON READY FOR THE OVEN $9.99 lb. SAVE $1.00
FRESH CATCH OF THE WEEK WALLEYE FILLETS $11.99 lb. SAVE $3.00
GOURMET GROCERY
7 oz. BOX VINTA SQUARES CRACKERS $1.99 BOX SAVE $1.00
THE WINE SHOPPE
NEW! 90 POINTS IN "PARKER" PILLAR BOX RED SUSAN'S PICK OF THE WEEK $11.49 750 ml.
750 ml. BOTTLES IL PALU PINOT GRIGIO $9.99 EACH SAVE $5.00
ALL CHEF PRUDOMME'S MAGIC SEASONING BLENDS 2/$5
GOURMET 2-TO
CHEF YVONNE'S NEW BAKED PIZZA SPAGHETTI $4.99 lb. SAVE $1.00
BAKERY
8 INCH APPLE, PECAN or SWEET POTATO PIE 2/$4
FLORAL
ASSORTED COLORS BEAUTIFUL MINI CARNATIONS SAVE $1.00 $3.99 10 STEM BUNCH
1007 E. GRAND RIVER • BRIGHTON
VISIT US ON THE WEB www.taorellos.com (810) 225-8900 GOURMET CATERING GIFT BASKETS

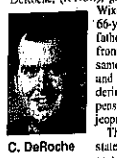
10% OFF DISCOUNT COUPON Day Care valid 1/26/06 through 2/28/06 Coupon must be presented at time of service. Prior services excluded. Limit one coupon per customer.
15% OFF DISCOUNT COUPON Boarding valid 1/26/06 through 2/28/06 Coupon must be presented at time of service. Prior services excluded. Limit one coupon per customer.
20% OFF DISCOUNT COUPON Grooming valid 1/26/06 through 2/28/06 Coupon must be presented at time of service. Prior services excluded. Limit one coupon per customer.
• Boarding
• Attended kennel care
• Daycare from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Mon. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sat
• Grooming
• Training
Dog Centers of America
Bed • Bath • Play
★ ★ ★ www.dogcenters.com ★ ★ ★

Charter One
Not your typical bank.®
With Circle Gold Checking you get all this:
2.00% APY on checking balances
Prime -1% VAR APR on Home Equity Lines
4.50% APY 9-month CD
Banking. Fully Loaded.
To switch to Circle Gold Checking with Interest, visit any of our 124 Michigan branches or call 1-877-TOP-RATE.
Member FDIC. Circle Gold minimum opening deposit is $50. Checking balances mentioned above refer only to Circle Gold Checking with Interest balances. You may be charged a fee by other banks or financial institutions for use of their ATMs. The $20 monthly fee is waived with a combined relationship of $20,000. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) on Circle Checking and Certificate of Deposit is accurate as of this publication date. APY on checking is variable and subject to change without notice. CD offer: limited-time offer may be withdrawn at any time. Minimum CD opening deposit is $1,000. Penalty for early withdrawal. Fees, if any, may reduce the earnings on the checking account and certificate of deposit. Home Equity: Variable APR based on The Wall Street Journal Prime Rate ("Prime") published on the last business day of the month. Prime minus 1.01% (7.24% APR as of 1/1/06) available for qualifying properties in IL, IN, MI and OH for lines of $100,000 or more with a loan-to-value (LTV) of 85% or less, with a balance of $25,000 at closing ($50,000 in IL). Circle Checking Account with $50 minimum opening balance required. Rate and terms may change at any time and vary by property type, loan amount and LTV ratio. Maximum APR 18%; minimum APR 2.5%. Annual fee of $100 is waived for the first twenty-four (24) months after account activation. Fee is waived thereafter if balance requirements are met. Property insurance required. Flood insurance may be required. Title review fees ranging from $85 to $175 apply for properties held in trust. Accounts and services subject to individual approval. If Line of Credit Agreement is canceled within one year of activation, a prepayment fee of $250 will apply. Consult a tax advisor regarding deductibility of interest. See a banker for details. © Equal Housing Lender.

Politicians react to Ford's plan to close Wixom facility

As Ford made known its intentions to close the Wixom Assembly Plant, local politicians took the opportunity to give their views.

Speaker of the House Craig DeRoche, (R-Novi), grew up in Wixom. His 66-year-old father retired from that same factory, and is wondering if his pension is in jeopardy.


C. DeRoche

The local state representative listened to the automaker's announcement at Leon's, a favorite eatery of his near the plant. He said the mood was one of concern and uncertainty.

"The workers that I talked with have put their heart and soul into Ford Motor Company – in many cases for decades" said DeRoche.

Like Ford, DeRoche said Michigan needs "to find its way forward." It is, he said, the only state in the last three years that did not create new jobs.

"We still need to go a long way in our own restructuring of our tax policy, our regulatory environment and our investment in infrastructure to make us a magnet.

The fate of the Wixom facility has been up in the air for the last several years. Ford indicated that a revamp of the Wixom Road/I-96 interchange would be vital for the plant to continue operating. It was on the state's list of road projects, then taken off by Gov. Jennifer Granholm, and apparently – after much effort by local and state officials – added back on to the list last year.

"In this specific case," said DeRoche, "one can't help but to think that North America's largest manufacturing facility warranted a modern interchange."

Although some say the plant closing is another indication that Michigan should move away from auto-industry reliance, DeRoche said we cannot turn our back on our automotive roots, and that the state should do everything in its power to help the Big Three retain and create jobs in Michigan.

The announcement, he said, is a general indication of the economics of Michigan.

"Our single business tax is a job killer," he said, "and we're the only state that has that tax. It needs to be eliminated.

DeRoche said the state has too many bureaucracies in place for businesses that want to invest in Michigan, and added that "there is a lot of work to do to improve the climate" for every business in Michigan.

With the Wixom plant being idled next year, the representative said he's not sure what will happen to it after that.

"We'll have to wait and hear from Ford," DeRoche said. "But their decision is final. Now the community and state need to plan for what that site can be used for."

State Senator Nancy Cassis

Nancy Cassis, (R-Novi), said the workers and their families affected by the plant closure are "utmost in our thoughts at this time," but she was able to find some good news in the bad.

N. Cassis

The plant will not close until a year from now, in the second quarter 2007. There will be time for adjustments. Ford personnel will be meeting with all those affected, as well as the City of Wixom.

"Ford certainly will try to relocate as many jobs from Wixom and integrate them into other plants in Michigan, and will offer early retirement and other voluntary incentives," said Cassis. "In addition, we need to look at ways for the state to partner with Ford for retraining opportunities."

After two vetoes by the governor, the fate of the Wixom/I-96 interchange reconstruction is unknown, "but we will continue to work for the project being completed," said Cassis. "It is now more important than ever that we replace this outdated interchange to accelerate the potential redevelopment of this area and the reuse of the Wixom plant facilities."

U.S. Representative Thad McCotter

Representative Thaddeus G. McCotter (R-Livonia), gave his reaction regarding the closure of the Ford Wixom Assembly Plant immediately after the announcement of the Way Forward plan.

T. McCotter

"It is a body blow to the 1,567 hard-working men and women of the Wixom Assembly Plant," he said. "Our prayers and thoughts must be with the workers and their loved ones. They fought for their jobs and their plant every step of the way. Yet now that their paths are uncertain, I will do everything possible to assist them through this difficult transition to a better future."

An ardent supporter of saving Wixom Assembly, in January 2005 outside the Ford World Headquarters, Congressman McCotter stood with the plant's employees as they fought to keep their jobs and their plant open.

U.S. Senator Carl Levin

Sen. Carl Levin, (D-Mich.), reacted to the Ford Motor Company's announcement that it plans to close 14 facilities by 2012, eliminating up to 30,000 jobs, saying it was a "sad and difficult day" for the thousands of hardworking employees and their families.

C. Levin

"Ford's announcement this morning illustrates the plight of our domestic manufacturers and their struggle competing on an uneven playing field with foreign counterparts," said Levin.

The senator said it further highlights the need to turn around the drain of manufacturing jobs in the U.S.

"We must be aggressive in leveling the playing field for domestic manufacturers in areas such as health care and trade, including efforts to fight currency manipulation by other countries," said Levin. "We need an Apollo-type federal program that includes federal R&D and tax incentives to encourage manufacturers to continue doing business here and to expand and re-equip existing facilities to meet today's challenges."

Levin said he was pleased to see Ford's announcement that it plans to expand its use of advanced technology, which will help to increase its competitiveness. However, he said we need to do much more as country to encourage advanced technology to help all of our domestic manufacturers.

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow

Debbie Stabenow, (D-Mich.), who said she would help the affected workers and families "in any way that I can," noted that the plant closings are yet another wake-up call to the Administration that we need to change our policies to save our manufacturing jobs.

D. Stabenow

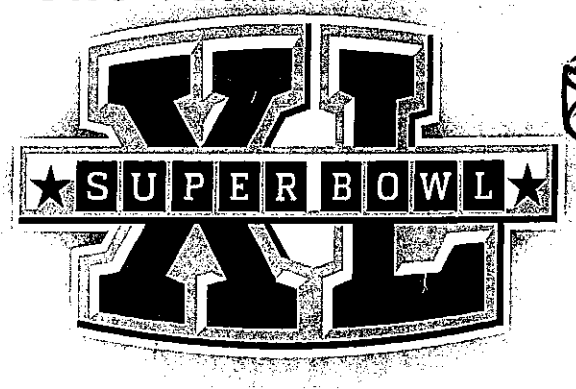
"I agree with Bill Ford when he says that we cannot cut our way to success," said Stabenow.

"We have to enforce our trade laws, change the way we fund health care and protect pensions in a way that does not hurt our manufacturers."

Compiled by Cal Stone

2 DAYS ONLY
FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 AND SATURDAY, JANUARY 28
Earn a certificate for $10 OFF
WITH EVERY $30 PURCHASE.
SEMIANNUAL CLEARANCE
EXTRA 50% off ENTIRE STOCK
RED-LINED LADIES', MEN'S & CHILDREN'S APPAREL
NO PRICE ADJUSTMENTS ON PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED MERCHANDISE. INTERIM MARKDOWNS HAVE BEEN TAKEN.
YOU'RE SOMEBODY SPECIAL
PARISIAN
save an extra 10% when you open a Parisian account
VALID ON YOUR FIRST DAY'S PARISIAN CHARGE PURCHASES. EXCLUDES SERVICES, FEES AND GIFT CARDS. SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL AND ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS. SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.
TO ORDER ANYTIME, CALL 1-800-424-6155: MONDAY THRU SATURDAY, 10:00 AM TO 10:00 PM EST, AND SUNDAY, 11:00 AM TO 7:00 PM EST. American Express not accepted with phone orders.
STORE HOURS: The Village of Rochester Hills (248) 276-5755 and Laurel Park Place (734) 953-7500 open Sun. 12-6, Mon.-Sat. 10-9.
CHARGE IT: Parisian Credit Card, MasterCard, Visa, the American Express® Card or Discover®. LOCATED AT THE VILLAGE OF ROCHESTER HILLS, CORNER of NORTH ADAMS ROAD AND WALTON STREET AND LAUREL PARK PLACE IN LIVONIA, CORNER OF NEWBURGH ROAD AND SIX MILE ROAD. Percentages off regular prices of original prices, as shown. Actual savings may exceed stated percentage off. "Regular" and "Original" prices reflect offering prices whichever has resulted in actual sales. Merchandise selection may vary from one store to another.

The tasty road to



Leg of Elysian Fields Farm Lamb Stew of White Bean and Root Vegetables

BY GREG ALAUZEN OF ELEVEN REPRESENTING THE PITTSBURGH STEELERS

White Beans and Root Vegetables

1 tablespoon olive oil
1 medium onion, diced
1 carrot, diced
1 rib celery, diced
6 garlic cloves, minced
1 pound dried white beans, rinsed, picked for stones, and soaked overnight
4 cups low sodium chicken broth
1 sprig fresh rosemary, leaves picked and chopped
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Leg of Lamb

3 to 4 pounds boneless leg of lamb
1/2 tablespoon olive oil, plus 1 tablespoon
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
6 garlic cloves, minced
1 sprig fresh rosemary, leaves picked and chopped

To Prepare the White Beans and Root Vegetables: In a 2- to 3-quart stockpot heat the olive oil to medium high. Add the onion, carrot, and celery and sear until soft. Add the garlic cloves. Sweat, but do not brown. Rinse the beans and add them to the pot. Add the chicken broth, bring the mixture to a simmer, cook until the beans are tender (about 1-1/2 hours), and then add the rosemary. Season to taste with the salt and pepper. The beans can be made 2 to 3 days ahead and stored in the refrigerator.

To Prepare the Leg of Lamb: Sear the lamb in a hot skillet with 1/2 tablespoon of the olive oil. Brown on all sides. Coat the lamb with the salt and pepper, and then add the garlic cloves and rosemary. Coat the lamb with the remaining olive oil. Roast the lamb in a 400-degree oven for 15 minutes, then reduce the heat to 300 degrees and cook until it reaches an internal temperature of 140 degrees. Remove from the oven and place on a serving dish. Allow to rest for 30 minutes before slicing. Add any lamb juices and pan drippings to the bean mixture.

To Serve: With a slotted spoon, divide the bean mixture between each of 4 plates. Place the sliced lamb over the beans. Drizzle the remaining bean juice around the perimeter of each plate.

Novi to host 'Taste of the NFL'

■ Players, celebs will, attend flavorful event

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

The Rolling Stones might be there, and maybe even musician Paul McCartney.

John Bowen, executive director, Rock Financial Showplace, and staff are getting ready to host a major bash in Novi.

Festivities begin at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4, when the Taste of the NFL comes to Novi's new conference and exhibition center on Grand River Avenue just west of Taft Road.

Bowen

The event is the premier food and wine tasting extravaganza featuring a top chef from each of the 32 NFL cities, paired with an alumnus or current player from each team.

Attendees can sample specialty foods, meet the chefs, and get autographs and photos from players and special celebrity guests.

The 15th annual event is the largest fundraiser on Super Bowl Weekend and benefits local food banks.

Bowen said 3,000 to 4,000 people from all over the world will be in attendance.

In addition to the national event in Novi, 12 NFL cities will raise additional funds for their community by hosting a local Taste of the NFL celebrity dinner.

A large portion of proceeds from this year's Taste of the NFL will stay in the metropolitan area, going to Gleaners Community Food Bank of Metro Detroit and Forgotten Harvest.

Funds raised will help these food banks provide more than 24 million pounds of food to needy people in the area.

"Over a third of the proceeds will go to local food banks," Bowen said.

"Detroit has been extremely generous in its donations to the victims of recent national disasters," said Wayne Kostroski, Taste of the NFL founder and executive director.

"But with Detroit listed as the poorest city in America, there are many hungry residents right here that need assistance.

"Taste of the NFL is proud to help raise awareness and funds to support Detroit and extend those benefits to other food banks across the country."

Also known as "The Party With A Purpose," the event has raised more than $5.7 million for hunger-related charities since it began in 1992.

A token of goodwill is presented each year by an all-star chef from each of the 32 NFL teams along with an alumnus or current player who serve gourmet dishes and sign autographs for more than 3,000 fans.

Bowen said the chefs, who come from other NFL cities, will serve their favorite dishes.

Bowen said the Super Bowl Host Committee approached Blair Bowman, owner, Rock Financial Place, two years ago about having the Taste of the NFL at the Novi facility.

"There are several large events that they needed space for, and they really wanted to see us get the Taste of the NFL," Bowen said. "They knew that we have the kind of space that they need for the event."

Rock Financial Showplace opened in August, and the Super Bowl Host Committee had all of the particulars on the building even before the grand opening.

"They identified us as the next large structure," Bowen said. "They heard of our plans and were looking forward to it opening."

Cobo Conference & Exhibition Center in downtown Detroit hosts the NFL Experience from Wednesday, Feb. 1, through Monday, Feb. 5.

Showplace staff ready to roll

Bowen said the staff at Rock Financial Showplace is ready to roll for the big affair.

"We're thrilled to get a high profile, international event here in Novi at our new showplace. This is something that probably won't come about again for many decades, and we're excited about being part of the Super Bowl experience in Detroit."

He noted that in addition to the Novi staff, the Taste of the NFL has about 200 volunteers from various food banks who will help at the event.

Suggested attire is business casual.

"We expect a lot of local people will attend," Bowen said.

"The buzz is really starting to pick up now. Our phones have been ringing actively about how people can get tickets to the event now that the auto show charity preview and auto show are over."

And with 4,000 in attendance, no telling who might show.

"Who knows?" Bowen said. "You just may see a celebrity."

Where to get tickets, guide

Individual tickets are available for $400; early entry VIP tickets are $600; and corporate tables with VIP privileges are $6,000.

In addition to national event ticket sales, auction proceeds and sponsorships, funds are also raised through the sale of the Taste of the NFL Restaurant Guide. The guide, which sells for $19.95, features recipes of the dishes served and biographies of the participating players and chefs.

Tickets to Taste of the NFL and copies of the 2006 Restaurant Guide can be purchased by calling (952) 835-7621 or by visiting the Taste of the NFL Web site at www.tasteofthenfl.com.

The Super Bowl Party ...with a Purpose

Who's sponsoring the event?

Sponsors for the Taste of the NFL XV include:

- Gallo of Sonoma
- Xbox 360
- Alouette/Chavrie Cheese
- ConAgra Foods, Inc.
- SIKU Vodka
- Ecolab
- Rock Financial
- WXYZ-TV (ABC)

What's the schedule?

- 6 p.m. — VIP and Corporate Table entry
- 7 p.m.-9:30 p.m. — Main event. Food and beverages served
- 9:45-11:30 p.m. — Motown legends, The Funk Brothers perform

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@gannett.com.

Sizzling Dungeness Crab Cakes

BY JOHN HOWIE, SEASTAR RESTAURANT AND RAW BAR REPRESENTING THE SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

24 Dungeness crab cakes (recipe below)
2 cups Thai beurre blanc sauce (recipe below)
Pickled ginger, for garnish
Daikon sprouts, for garnish

Dungeness Crab Cakes

1/4 cup whole butter
3 tablespoons onions, minced 1/8 inch
3 tablespoons carrots, minced 1/8 inch
3 tablespoons celery, minced 1/8 inch
2 tablespoons yellow bell peppers, cored and minced
2 tablespoons red bell peppers, cored and minced
2 tablespoons green bell peppers, cored and minced
1/4 cup cream
1 pound Dungeness crab meat
1 egg yolk
1/4 teaspoon black pepper, ground
1 teaspoon sea salt
1-1/2 cups flour
1-2/3 cups egg wash (3 eggs mixed with 1 cup milk)
4 cups panko breadcrumbs
3/4 cup clarified butter

Thai Sweet-n-Sour Sauce

1-1/2 teaspoons cornstarch
4 tablespoons water
1/2 cup sugar
1/4 cup Thai sweet chile sauce
3 tablespoons rice vinegar
1-1/2 teaspoons Thai fish sauce
1-1/2 teaspoons lime juice, fresh
1/2 teaspoon peeled and minced ginger
1/4 teaspoon finely minced garlic

Thai Beurre Blanc Sauce

1 cup white wine
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
1 tablespoon finely minced shallots
1/2 cup whipping cream
1-1/2 cups butter, unsalted, cut into 2-inch chunks
1/2 teaspoon salt, sea or kosher

To Prepare the Dungeness Crab Cakes: Heat the butter over medium-low heat (do not brown butter). Add the onions, carrots, celery, and bell peppers, sautéing until tender. Add the cream and let reduce slightly. Transfer into a large mixing bowl and let cool for 5 minutes. Add the crab meat, egg yolk, pepper, and salt.

Put the flour, egg wash, and panko breadcrumbs in three separate pans for the breading procedure. Portion and form the crab cake mix into 24 1-ounce balls. Start the breading process by first dusting the crab cake ball with flour. Quickly dip the crab cake ball into the egg wash and then place it into the panko crumbs. Gently press and mold the crumbs into the cake, forming a 1/2-inch thick round patty.

Heat the clarified butter in a sauté pan over medium heat and pan fry the crab cakes on both sides until the exterior is golden brown. Transfer and hold the crab cakes warm in a dmin pan.

To Prepare the Thai Sweet-n-Sour Sauce: In a small bowl, combine the cornstarch and water, mix well, and set aside. Combine all the other ingredients together in a sauce pot over medium heat and cook until the sauce reaches 180 degrees. Add the cornstarch and water mixture to the sauce pot and cook for 5 minutes or until the sauce has a slightly thick texture.

To Prepare the Thai Beurre Blanc Sauce: Combine the wine, vinegar, and shallots into a sauce pot and reduce to a light syrup consistency (approximately 90 percent). Add the cream and reduce by 60 percent over medium-high heat. Slowly add and whip in the butter cubes over low heat until melted. Strain the sauce through a fine mesh strainer, and then add the salt and Thai sweet-n-sour sauce.

To Serve: Sauce the front of each of 8 plates with the Thai beurre blanc sauce. Transfer and arrange 3 crab cakes around the outer edge of each plate on the sauce. Garnish the plate with the pickled ginger and daikon sprouts.

Funk Brothers to entertain 'Taste' attendees

The Funk Brothers will bring the sounds of Motown to the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi on Feb. 4.

The trio will perform live at the 15th annual Taste of the NFL.

The Funk Brothers have played on more No. 1 records than the Beatles, Beach Boys, Rolling Stones and Elvis combined.

Led by original members, Eddie Willis on guitar, Bob Babbitt on bass and Uriel Jones on drums, the Funk Brothers' performance starts at 9:45 p.m.

Better known for their sound than group name, they defined the Motown sound of the 1960s, playing on such songs as: "Stop in the Name of Love," "I Heard it through the Grapevine," "Ain't Too Proud To Beg," "My Guy," "The Way You Do The Things You Do," "Dancing In The Street," "Heatwave," "How Sweet It Is To Be Loved By You," "Baby Love," and more.

"We couldn't ask for a better fit for this year in Detroit," said Wayne Kostroski, Taste of the NFL founder and executive director. "Having the Funk Brothers on board provides us the perfect opportunity to pay tribute to the Motown sound right where it began. Their talent and sound will be the perfect entertainment for our Party With A Purpose."

Taste of the NFL is an annual event of fine cuisine and entertainment featuring a top chef and player representative from each NFL team.

During the past 14 years, it has raised nearly $6 million for hunger relief charities that feed children and the homeless.

Funds raised are distributed to select national programs of America's Second Harvest — The Nation's Food Bank Network, as well as hunger relief agencies in each NFL city.

Courtesy photo

The Funk Brothers, from left, Uriel Jones, Bob Babbitt and Eddie Willis, will perform Motown hits from 9:45 to 11:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4, at the Taste of the NFL charity fund-raiser at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

"Having the Funk Brothers on board provides us the perfect opportunity to pay tribute to the Motown sound right where it began."

Wayne Kostroski
Founder, "Taste of the NFL"

Taste of the NFL Restaurant Guide 2006

$19.95

The 15th edition of the Taste of the NFL Restaurant Guide is bigger and better than ever before! Now you can prepare the dishes served at Taste of the NFL XV in Novi in your own kitchen. The new guide is packed with lavish recipes, color photos of the featured dishes, NFL Chef and player biographies, and information about hunger agencies in each NFL city. To order, call (952) 835-7621 or visit www.tasteofthenfl.com/store/index.html.

Taste of Milford

■ Five Lakes Grill represents Detroit at fund-raising event

By Amelia Skimin
STAFF WRITER

Submitted Photo

Julia and Brian Polycn pose with former Detroit Lion James Hunter at last year's "Taste of the NFL."

Milford will be well represented next week during the festivities leading up to Super Bowl XL.

Brian Polcyn, chef and proprietor of Five Lakes Grill in Milford, will represent Detroit at the annual Taste of the NFL Super Bowl event, the night before the game itself.

The first Taste of the NFL took place in 1992 on the eve of Super Bowl XXVI in Minneapolis. The event, which draws the nation's top chefs and past and present heroes of the NFL, is now considered one of the most popular events of the Super Bowl. Each city with an NFL team is represented by a chef, chosen by the events organizers as the top chef in that city.

This year — Polcyn's 14th year representing Detroit in the annual fund raiser — will be a little different. As the event's host chef, Polcyn has that much more on his plate. For the past few weeks, he's been getting calls and e-mails from his colleagues around the country, asking him what to do while in Detroit.

"Freaky," is how Polcyn described how it feels for the annual event to come to him instead of vice versa.

There is a benefit to having the event so close to home though. Half the money raised, about $200,000, will go to local charities.

Polcyn has invited the other chefs to dine at Five Lakes Grill on the Thursday before the Super Bowl. Though he knows his restaurant will be under scrutiny, he looks forward to showing them what Milford and the greater Detroit area has to offer when it comes to food.

"Chefs are tough competitors," Polcyn said. "They're always looking over each others shoulders."

Other chefs have teased Polcyn through the years about choosing to stay in Michigan, instead of moving somewhere known for restaurants, like New York, Los Angeles or Chicago. But to Polcyn, for the past 15 years, Milford has been home.

"It's got that sense of community that you don't see in other cities," he said.

That's why Polcyn chose to open his restaurant in Milford. Ten years ago, he said, 85 percent of his business came from outside the community. Today, that number has dropped to 60 percent.

Now Polcyn is looking forward to showing off his community.

"People don't look at the Midwest as a culinary capital," he said. "I'm on a march to change that."

Amelia Skimin can be reached at (248) 685-1507 or by e-mail at askimin@gannett.com.

Lobster and Foie Gras Sausage over Braised Leeks and White Truffle Oil

1-1/2 pounds Maine lobster
8 ounces foie gras pieces
1 egg white
1 cup heavy cream
Salt and freshly ground white pepper
3 tablespoons chopped chives
1 large leek
2 tablespoons butter
1/2 cup chicken stock, plus extra for cooking sausages
Salt and fleshly ground black pepper
3 tablespoons white truffle oil
4 feet natural sheep casings, rinsed

To prepare: Bring a pot of water, large enough to completely submerge the lobster, to a boil. Plunge the lobster in and blanch for 4 minutes. Remove and shock in ice water.

After the lobster has cooled, remove the meat from the shells (save the shells for another purpose) and dice, keeping the claw meat separate.

Place the lobster meat (except the claw meat) into a food processor with the foie gras pieces and egg white. Puree until smooth, and then with the machine running slowly, pour in the heavy cream. Season with the salt and pepper. Transfer to a bowl and fold in the diced claw meat and chives; keep chilled.

Wash the leek well, split in half, and cut into thin slices crossways. Melt the butter in a heavy pan. Add the leeks and sauté gently. Add the chicken stock and braise until tender. Season with the salt and pepper, to taste and finish with the white truffle oil.

Stuff the lobster mixture into the sheep casings and twist off into 3-inch lengths. Poach in 170 degree chicken stock for 4 to 6 minutes or until firm. Remove and refresh under cold running water. Separate the lengths by snipping with kitchen shears. At the time of service, grill or roast the sausages until warmed through.

To serve: Divide the warmed braised leeks between each of 6 plates. Add the sausages on top, 3 per plate.

Wine suggestion: 2002 Gallo of Sonoma Single Vineyard Chardonnay, Russian River Valley. An elegant Chardonnay with intense peach, pear, apple and melon flavors, with hints of sweet vanilla from oak aging.

Portion of proceeds to be donated

Each year, a portion of the net proceeds from Taste of the NFL are donated to a Second Harvest organization in the Super Bowl host community, with the remaining portions shared among other hunger-relief initiatives across the nation. This year's designated local recipients are Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan and Forgotten Harvest. Past recipients to benefit from the Taste of NFL have included the other organizations listed on this page.

- **Gleaners Community Food Bank:** Gleaners Community Food Bank proudly celebrated a quarter century of "nourishing communities by feeding hungry people" in 2002. As the third-oldest food bank in the United States, Gleaners' mission has been to turn surplus food, which otherwise would go to waste, into millions of hot, delicious meals for hungry people in southeastern Michigan.

Since 1977, Gleaners Community Food Bank has grown from distributing just one or two million pounds of food a year to nearly 24 million pounds annually, equivalent to 65,000 meals per day.

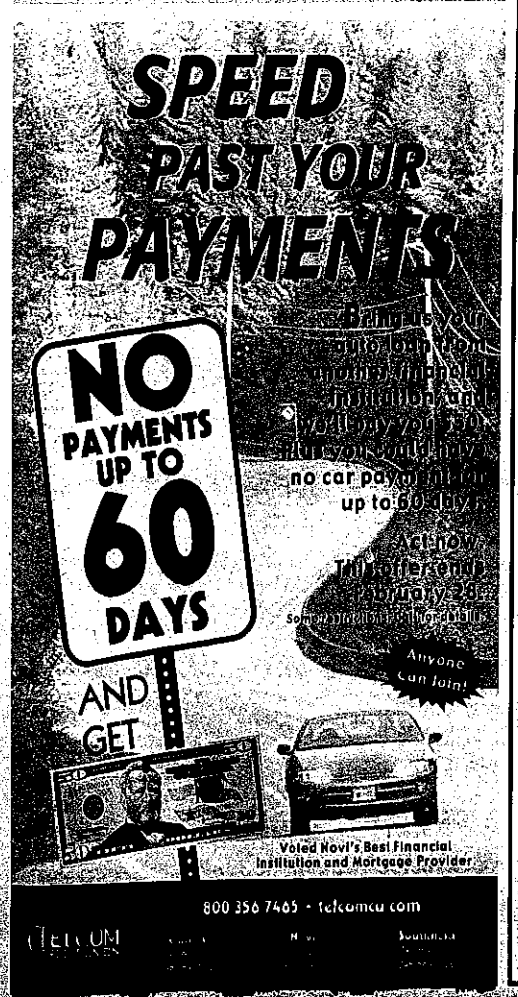
- **Forgotten Harvest:** Forgotten Harvest is a nonprofit organization which has provided hunger relief to the metro Detroit area since August 1990 through a prepared and perishable surplus food program. Donated food is collected from airlines, restaurants, vending companies, distributors, growers, dairies, bakeries, and other health department-approved establishments and transported directly to soup kitchens and shelters in our community.
- **Food Research & Action Center:** Since 1970, the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) has been fighting to end hunger in this country. FRAC is a nonprofit and nonpartisan research, policy, public education, legal, and training center that serves as a hub of a nationwide anti-hunger network of thousands of individuals and state and local organizations.
- **Taste of the NFL:** Taste of the NFL is proud to announce that every NFL city's America's Second Harvest Food Bank will receive a portion of the net proceeds from this year's Party with a Purpose®, Taste of the NFL exists to raise awareness and dollars for hunger relief. We are able to reach out across the country due to the generous participation of the guests, sponsors, volunteers and community leaders.
- **Community Kitchen:** The Community Kitchen Program provides culinary job training to low income men and women. The program gives participants valuable kitchen skills while they re-prepare rescued, surplus food into balanced meals that are served to people in need. Courses are taught by professional chefs and usually include life skills and job-readiness training, as well as placement in career-track positions in foodservice industry.

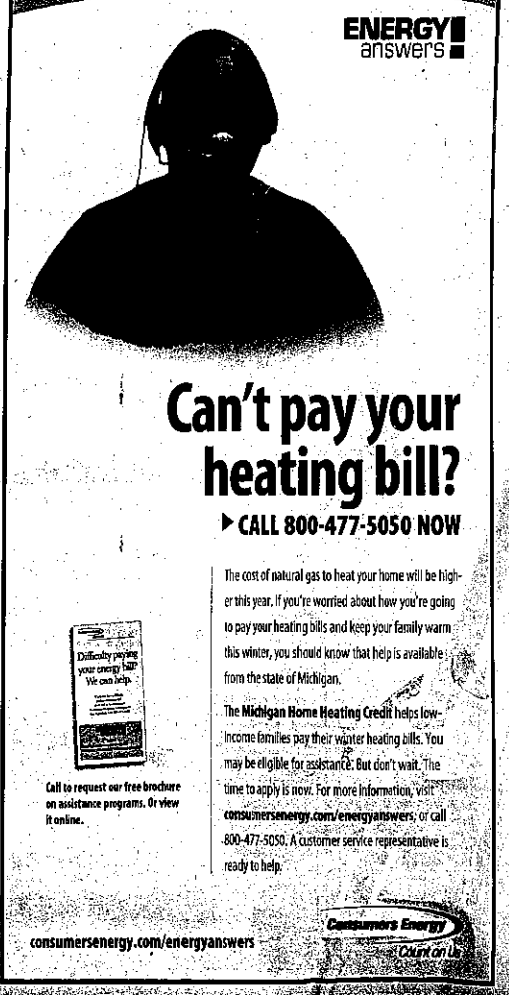
Chinese New Year Special Menu
(Now to 2-15)

Dinner for four $78
- Dried Scallop & chicken Soup
- Sliced Conch & Cuttle Fish w/XO Sauce
- Stewed Honey Spare Ribs
- Steam Tilapia w/ Ginger & Green Onion
- Dessert

Dinner for six $128
- Dried Scallop & Chicken Soup
- Dried Oyster & Shrimp w/Lettuce Wrapped
- Deep Fried Seafood w/Salad Sauce
- King Mushroom & Bamboo Patch w/Vegt.
- Whole BBQ Roast Duck (Hong Kong Style)
- Steam Tilapia w/Ginger & Green Onion
- Dessert

Dinner for 10 available
Dim Sum Available everyday 11-3pm
Chinese Lion Dancing Show
January 28, 2006 6:30pm • Reserve your seat in advance
KIM'S GARDENS
248 348 0700





COMMUNITY

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax (248) 349-9832

Mayor: Novi still on the move

■ State of City Address paints a great picture

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Mayor David Landry is in an enviable position.

As the new mayor of the fastest growing city in Oakland County, he has a lot to look forward to as the city approaches build out.

"I'm proud to report that Novi is growing, diversifying and flourishing," he said at the State of the City Address last Thursday at Rock Financial Showplace. The event was hosted by the Novi Chamber of Commerce.

For over 150 years, Novi has been 31 square miles of real estate, he noted. But in 2006, the population topped 53,000 residents. In 2000, the population was 47,500, and in 1990, the population was on 33,000 residents.

In the last 15 years, the population of Oakland County has grown 10 per center. But, the population of Novi has grown 60 percent.

The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments reports that Novi is the fastest growing municipality in Oakland County.

Last year alone, the city issued 361 single family residential permits, 425 multiple family permits, 175 commercial permits and 549 addition/alteration permits. All of these numbers show an increase over 2004.

"The additional construction valuation for last year alone was over $189 million," Landry said.

The average growth rate in the Novi tax base for each of the past five years has been 8.9 percent.

This says two things about Novi, according to Landry: People are coming here. But more impressive, people who are already here are staying and improving their premises.

Novi has more than 3,500 acres left to be developed, and build out is expected to be reached between 2015 and 2020, and the projected population is to be between 75,000 and 80,000.

Some highlights of 2005

A number of major developments were completed in 2005 and several new ones announced.

Rock Financial Showplace opened, the groundbreaking took place for the new Providence Park Hospital and Novi Catholic Central High School opened.

"There are only two Hummer dealerships in the metropolitan area. One's in Detroit, and one opened in Novi," Landry said.

Andiamo Restaurant and The Second City opened, and developers broke ground for the new Meadowbrook Medical Office, Columbus Corporate Center, Novi Corporate Campus, and Paradise Park Fun Park opened.

One of the most exciting developments in 2006 is the Beacktown development at Grand River Avenue at Meadowbrook, a mixed-use development.

"But what is impressive is not the number but the nature of the development going on in Novi," Landry said. "It is the mix of development that constitutes the recipe for a tasteful city."

The mayor said Novi is an attractive place to live and work because the city is 30 minutes from an international airport.

It's also at the confluence of four major freeways, and there's more retail shopping than anywhere in the state.

"And, we're not stopping," Landry said, with an expansion project coming to Twelve Oaks Mall. "Somerset ain't got nothin' on Novi."

He said Novi also has what every family is looking for — excellent schools.

Landry said people are also moving to Novi because the city is in sound financial condition. The millage rate at 10.5416 mills is the sixth lowest in the county and has remained the same since 1999.

The rainy day fund at about $5.6 million (as of first quarter 2006 after rollover adjustments from 2005) has also tripled in the last four years and is greater than 14 percent. In 2005, the city spent more on police, fire, building, planning and neighborhood services than in 2004.

"We take care of the basics and take care of the taxpayer," Landry said.

The city received the Distinguished Budget Award from the Government Finance Officers Association for the ninth year. It also won the Excellence in Financial Reporting award for four years. The city's Standard & Poor's bond rating of AA and Moody rating of AA2 have also been maintained.

"This is a result of leadership and stewardship," Landry said.

He said legacy and health care costs will be challenges for the city in the future.

Many road improvements, including the replacement of the Meadowbrook Road Bridge, were also completed in Novi in 2005.

The city also spent more money than ever before on neighborhood road repaving, about $1.7 million. In total, more than $40 million worth of road improvements were made.

By the people, for the people

But the mayor said it's the people who make Novi.

"If you're looking for the heart of this city, don't look on the balance sheet," he said.

"It's people that built Novi and people that define Novi."

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@gannett.com.

Novi Chamber presents 2006 board

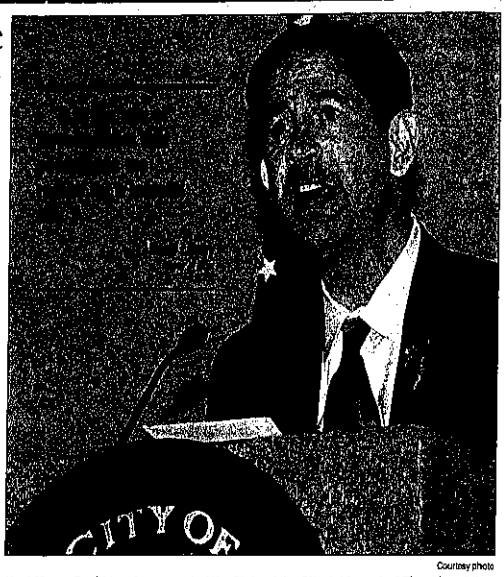
The Novi Chamber of Commerce introduced its board of directors for 2006 at last Thursday's State of the City Address luncheon at Rock Financial Showplace.

Peggy Hayes of Twelve Oaks Mall serves as chair, with Joe Sulschek of Ramco-Gershenson, Inc., named as chair elect.

Art Johnson of Johnson's Printing Services is vice chair. Jim Koster of Novi Community Schools is treasurer, and Keith Wilson of Bob Sellers Pontiac-GMC is past chair.

Returning board members include Karen Anderson of Smart Office Systems; Greg Carn of Averill Accounting; Christy Seaberg of Republic Bank; Cal Stone of the Novi News; Robert Thorne of Pelland Novi; and Patricia Zopfi of Office Express.

New board members include Eddie Bourque of Lucky's; Kathleen Beagan-Miller of CORT Furniture-Relocation Central; Gregory Chapman of The Sierra Group at Smith Barney; Anita Dellicolli of Cityscape Architects; Fred Meschetta of Fox Run Village; and Cahte Nance-Buzzy of Dinsers Greenhouses, Inc.



Courtesy photo

Novi Mayor David Landry presented the State of the City Address last Thursday at the Rock Financial Showplace. The public is invited to hear an abbreviated version of the mayor's address at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Novi Civic Center following the annual Homeowners Association Breakfast.

Rotary Awareness Month: Local members hit highlights

■ Novi club reviews latest world goals

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

There's nobody who can tell a story better than Mav Sanghvi.

This month, the Novi Rotary Club member, along with other club members, are telling the story of Rotary.

Every January, Rotary Club members from across the world observe Rotary Awareness Month.

As part of this effort, clubs have special programs to make Rotarians as well as the community at large aware of what the club does.

The Novi Rotary Club had a special luncheon last Thursday during which Sanghvi talked about Rotary's mission and current activities.

Sanghvi, who has been a member since 1977, is a past president of the Novi Rotary Club and a past district governor.

Last month, Novi Rotary members organized the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch. They will plan a Senior Citizens Easter Lunch and a Spring Fling for seniors at Novi Middle School this year.

Club members are also organizing applications for high school scholarships funded by Rotary.

"We fund $4,000 for scholarships to high school students headed to college every year," Sanghvi said.

The Novi club currently has 42 members, has been in existence since 1959 and is part of International District 6380.

The current president of the Novi Rotary Club is Randy D'Amore of DirectBuy.

Novi Rotary Club members take the organization's motto, "Service Above Self" seriously, Sanghvi said.

"We believe in people helping people," he said.

Rotary International's membership includes more than 1.2 million people in 168 countries with a goal of promoting international understanding and peace.

International goals

The organization has initiated and continues to support the eradication of polio from the planet. This year's programs also include those to increase literacy, improve water management and health, and alleviate hunger.

Rotary International wants to create awareness of the United Nations Millennium Development goals and targets related to education, drinking water and sanitation.

These goals include:

- to ensure that by 2015 children everywhere will be able to complete a full course of primary education;
- to eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education this year and at all levels by 2015;
- to reduce half the proportion of people without sustainable access to clean drinking water by 2015; and
- to reduce by half the proportion of people without access to adequate sanitation by 2015.

Current members invite new members to join the service organization. Those who would like information about joining the Novi Rotary Club can visit www.rotary.org or www.novirotary.org.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@gannett.com.

Buy life insurance and save on your home and car.

When you buy your life insurance from us through Auto-Owners Insurance, you'll receive special discounts on your home, mobile home or car insurance. We'll save you money. As an independent Auto-Owners agent, we take great interest in you - as well as your home and car. We are specialists in insuring people - and the things they own.

Auto-Owners Insurance
Life Home Car Business

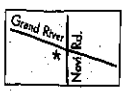
C. HAROLD BLOOM INSURANCE
108 W. Main, Northville
349-1252

DO YOU REALLY KNOW WHAT'S IN YOUR WATER?

QUALITY ASSURANCE
*1/2¢ per gal
- PLUS -
GUARANTEED TO SAVE MORE THAN IT COSTS
Average cost less than 1/2¢ per gal. call for details

TOTAL WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
INSURE YOUR WATER QUALITY EVERY DAY!
KINETICO
90 DAY FREE TRIAL!
Try Quality Assured Water For 90 Days
Then Decide - You Can't Lose!
1-800-356-7971

BY THE BOTTLE
Fine Wines
Gourmet Foord
Gift Baskets

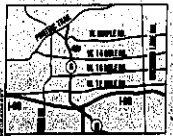


Located in City Center Plaza at the corner of Grand River & Novi Road
Open Mon.- Thu. 10-7, Fri - Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5
Choose your wines with the people who know and love them!
248 344 8992

HAMPTON INN DETROIT/NOVI
NOW OPEN
Hampton Inn
we love having you here

FEATURES/ACCOMODATIONS:
- 100% Satisfaction Guarantee
- On the House™ Hot Breakfast
- 82 Guest Rooms
- Interior Corridors with Elevator
- Free Local Phone Calls
- Meeting Room
- Fitness Room
- Indoor Pool with Spa
- Complimentary Coffee and Tea in Lobby (24 Hours)
- Complimentary USA Today Newspaper (M-F)
- Copy, Fax, Dry Cleaning Services at Cost
- Free High Speed Internet
- Two Line Telephone with Dataport/Voice Mail
- In Room Movies
- 95% Non-Smoking Rooms
- Handicap Accessible Rooms
- Micro-Fridge in all Rooms
- Special Rates for AAA & AARP
- In-Room Irons/Board, Hair Dryers & Coffee Maker
- Guest Laundry
- Hilton HHonors Points & Miles
- Free Stay for Children under 18 accompanied by parents
- Complimentary Cookies Served
- Express Checkout Service

ATTRACTIONS:
- Rock Financial Showplace - 7 miles
- 12 Oaks Mall - 4 miles
- Detroit Metro Airport - 28 miles
- Downtown Detroit - 29 miles
- Henry Ford Museum - 29 miles
- Walled Lake - 1.5 miles



169 Loop Rd. • Commerce Twp., MI 483990
Phone: (248) 624-8100
Fax: (248) 624-0500
e-mail: DTTNI_Hampton@hilton.com
TheHiltonFamily
Hilton HHonors membership, earning of Points & Miles® and redemption of points are subject to Hilton HHonors Terms and Conditions. ©2006 Hilton Hospitality, Inc.

Meet the only known rabbi in the Novi/Northville area

■ Establishing a prevalent Jewish community is his top priority

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Avrohom Susskind's occupation gives him a license to do what he loves best.

He described being a rabbi as a job, plus a personality, because one of the requirements is to help people in many aspects of life — something he looks forward to each and every day and takes much pleasure in doing.

"It's really a combination of a job and a hobby together," he said. "Our purpose of being here is to service the Jewish people in the community of any background and affiliation, and even those who aren't affiliated at all."

Susskind and his wife, Leah, moved to Novi last September. For six years of being a rabbi, he primarily taught in a Rabbinical College in New York, an experience he described as "very good" because of the process of teaching and learning Judaism.

"There's the idea of seeing how my students are being challenged by it, which has really sharpened a lot of what I wanted in being a rabbi," Susskind said. "As time went on, we began looking to a shift over as well, on to a place where there are Jewish people."

YOUR NOVI Neighbors

About a year ago, while teaching, Susskind discussed with different Jewish organizations in the Detroit area of where Jewish people are moving to and where they live now. From doing the research, Novi and Northville seemed to be an area with potential for a vibrant Jewish center, services and programming. He began speaking to Jewish people in the area, and found more Jews living here then he realized.

Avrohom Susskind

Age: 31
Occupation: Rabbi
Family: wife, Leah; three daughters, Mushka, 4; Faga, 2; Chana, 11 months
Hobbies and/or interests: Being a rabbi because he enjoys being able to help people in physical and spiritual aspects, as well as being available for people in the community.
Awards: Susskind has received his diploma in rabbinic studies, as well as a number of letters from older rabbinical rabbis
Schools: He graduated from the Rabbinical College of America in New Jersey and Rabbinical High School in New York
Years in business: almost seven years
Grew up in: New York

Bringing Jewish people together

"We found they're very spread out," Susskind said. "There isn't a specific spot in Novi or Northville where one would say Jewish people live primarily. We moved closer to Novi Road so that we could be in the center and be more accessible to people."

Susskind explained the primary reason why the identity of Jewish people in Novi and Northville isn't as expressed as an area like West Bloomfield is because they're very spread out.

"Because there isn't any Jewish organization or any Jewish programming done here in Novi or Northville, there's no place really for the Jewish people to congregate or get together," he said. "People don't know who's Jewish and who's not. It's hard to tell."

But the Susskinds would like to change that. They have already hosted gatherings and parties in different areas in hopes of attracting more Jews to the area, and to participate in activities.

They're discussing the idea of opening a Jewish Center for different Jewish activities, which will make Judaism available on any level. They have already established a Jewish teenage group, where a large amount of teenagers participate. They also do children's programs and classes.

"We haven't had Jewish services yet, but we've had a tremendous amount of requests for it and we plan to accommodate that," Susskind said. "The idea is really instead of us bringing the programs, people request the programs. We want to give people here what they want in Judaism, not so much what we want, and we're as busy as can be."

Organizing Jewish programs is nothing new for the Susskinds. In fact, before coming to Michigan, Leah spent a year in Anchorage organizing Jewish programs and activities within the community.

"I've always looked forward to being involved in community work," she said. "I enjoy meeting and helping people, and making new friends."

One of the major plans is to eventually build a temple, or synagogue, where Susskind can practice permanently.

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or rkhuri@gannett.com.

Photo by JOHN REIDER/ Novi News

Rabbi Avrohm Susskind in his Novi home with wife, Leah, and their children Chana, 1, Fayga, 2, and Mushkie, 4.

Photo by PAM FLEMING

Farewell

Outgoing Novi City Manager Rick Helwig, left, and his wife, Leslie, talk with Speaker of the House Craig DeRoche, (R-Novi), holding daughter Zoe at a reception Monday night for Helwig at the Novi Civic Center. Helwig will retire on Feb. 3.

Heslop's
China & Gifts
Storewide Sale
and
Clearance Event!
Thursday January 19th
thru Sunday January 29th, 2006
Save Up To
25% Off Clearance
20% Off Storewide*
Novi Town Center
Phone Orders (248) 349-8090
Tabletop • Gifts • Collectibles • Home Decor
Novi Town Center
26020 Ingersol
Novi, MI 48375
(248) 349-8090
*Some exclusions apply, see store for details

Make molehills out of mountains.

Are your monthly expenses getting too high to scale? Huntington's Home Equity Line of Credit can bring them down to size. With no closing costs* and a great rate, it's the perfect way to consolidate those costly monthly bills. Plus, you can lock in a fixed rate at any time.* And you can get an instant answer while you wait on the phone. When you put it all together, there really isn't a downside.

Save with **4.99%*** APR
3-Month Introductory Rate

Then as low as **6.50%** APR
Non-Introductory Rate as of 1/16/06

For an instant answer, call toll free at 1-877-480-2345 or stop by any local banking office. Or apply online at huntington.com. Hurry, offer expires March 3, 2006.

Huntington
A bank invested in people.

*More Information: Subject to application, credit approval and available current introductory APR is fixed and applies through the statement period ending in the 6th month following the month in which your account is opened. After the introductory rate ends, your normal rate (non-introductory rate) will be based on Prime plus or minus a margin. The margin is based on your home's loan-to-value ratio, credit history and the size of your credit line. Your normal rate is variable and can change monthly, but will never be higher than 18%. "Prime" means "Bank Prime Loan" rate published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in its statistical release H.15 (519) entitled "Selected Interest Rates." Current Prime rate is 7.25% as of January 19, 2006. Use of the word "Prime" does not mean that the rate is the best or lowest rate offered by any lender. Current normal rate (non-introductory rate) shown in advertisement is available on lines of $150,000 or greater and also reflects a 0.25% discount for optional automatic payment from a Huntington deposit account. Annual Fee is $50. Other rates available without an annual fee. Maximum loan-to-value ratio is 89.9% to qualify for the advertised rate. Other credit line products and rates that require less equity. Insurance must be carried on the real property securing the account. Borrower pays the insurance and also is required on line accounts greater than $400,000. There may be an early cancellation fee of $250 if you close your account within 3 years. Rates subject to change without notice. Fixed rate option allows you to lock in a fixed rate for a term of 12 months up to 240 months on transactions of $2,000 or more. A $50 fee will be charged for each transaction converted from a variable rate to a fixed rate for accounts in Ohio, Michigan and Kentucky. Fixed rate option is not available for credit lines secured by properties located within the city of Cleveland, Ohio. Member FDIC. ® and Huntington® are federally registered service marks of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated. ©2006 Huntington Bancshares Incorporated. CO7900

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Ready to help youths

With Brian O'Hara, center, leading the way, staff of Novi Youth Assistance tour the soon-to-open Bonefish restaurant in the Novi Town Center. Bonefish will be hosting a charity fundraiser for the Novi mentoring program on Saturday. Staffers, from left, are board member Bob Steeh, (O'Hara), fundraiser coordinator Kim Ziegler and case worker Claudia Walter.

Community Briefs

Sanitary sewer connected

After a lengthy legal battle involving the city and the park owner, Old Dutch Farms manufactured home park is finally connected to the city's sanitary sewer system.

Rick Helwig, city manager, noted at Monday's city council meeting that the park, which is east of Napier Road between 10 Mile Road and Grand River Avenue, passed tests relating to the connection.

Residents had been trying to get the park connected to the system for several years.

Board seeks assistance

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners needs volunteers to serve the community through appointment to the Oakland Community Mental Health Authority.

The Authority is responsible for assuring provisions for services and support to individuals faced with mental, emotional and developmental disabilities. Individuals selected by the Oakland County Board of Commissioners will serve a three-year term.

One citizen representative who has personal experience with a family member facing mental, emotional and/or developmental disabilities is sought to serve as a Secondary Consumer Representative.

One citizen representative is sought to serve as a General Public Representative.

Two mental health professionals are sought to serve as Mental Health Service Providers.

To apply or receive more information about these positions, submit an application, no later than Friday, Feb. 17. To obtain an application, go to www.co.oakland.mi.us, and click on the Board of Commissioners, then click the Boards, Commissions, and Committees link. Click on application form and print out the form or call (248) 858-0104 to request an application.

Mail completed application forms to: Oakland County Board of Commissioners, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Dept. 470, Pontiac, MI 48341, or fax to (248) 858-1572.

Register for community ed.

Registration for Novi Community Education Adult and Youth Winter Classes has begun. To register, call (248) 449-1206, or visit the Community Education office at 25345 Taft Road.

Internet safety seminar

St. Paul's Lutheran School in downtown Northville will be hosting a free seminar, "Internet Safety and Your Child," given by Kristen Miklusiak tonight at 6:30-8 p.m. in the school's gymnasium, located at 201 Elm Street, behind Hillers Market. For more information, call (248) 349-3146.

Harvill named vice president

Constellation announced that its subsidiary, Constellation NewEnergy, has named Novi resident Terry Harvill as vice president of regional regulatory and government affairs. Harvill is responsible for directing Constellation NewEnergy's regulatory activities in Ohio and Michigan.

Prior to joining Constellation NewEnergy, Harvill was the director of regulatory policy and operations for DTE Energy Company in Michigan and served as a commissioner of the Illinois Commerce Commission. Harvill was selected as one of 20 U.S. participants in the European Union Visitors Program. He is a past member of the Board of Advisors of the Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies at Illinois State University and the Harvard Electricity Policy Group.

Send information to Novi News, Cal Stone, editor, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-9832; e-mail to cstone@gannett.com.

Engagement

Wampler-Rhodes

Jim and Pam Wampler of Northville announce the engagement of their daughter, Cynthia Ann Wampler to Daniel Reed Rhodes, son of Dan and Alice Rhodes of Jenison, Mich.

The bride-elect is a 1997 graduate of Northville High School and a 2001 graduate of the University of Michigan, with a bachelor's degree in psychology. She obtained her graduate degree in school psychology at the University of Detroit Mercy and is currently a school psychologist in the Chelsea School District.

The groom-elect is a 1997 graduate of Jenison High School and a 2000 graduate of the University of Michigan, with a bachelor's degree in molecular biology. He is currently an MD/PhD student at the University of Michigan, with his studies focusing on oncology and bioinformatics.

A July 2006 wedding is planned.

In the Service

Navy Seaman Recruit Jonathan M. Picano, son of Patricia L. and Daniel L. Picano of Northville, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. He is a 2004 graduate of Novi High School.

During the eight-week program, Picano completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All claimants of Mom's Retirement, Inc. shall submit their name, address and amount of claim to the company at 22581 Moorgate, Novi, Michigan 48374. All claims against the company will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within 1 year after publication of this notice.

All claimants of Abacus Real Estate II, L.L.C. shall submit their name, address and amount of claim to the company at 22581 Moorgate, Novi, Michigan 48374. All claims against the company will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within 1 year after publication of this notice.

All claimants of Abacus Real Estate III, L.L.C. shall submit their name, address and amount of claim to the company at 22581 Moorgate, Novi, Michigan 48374. All claims against the company will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within 1 year after publication of this notice.

All claimants of Abacus Real Estate III, L.L.C. shall submit their name, address and amount of claim to the company at 22581 Moorgate, Novi, Michigan 48374. All claims against the company will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within 1 year after publication of this notice.

(1-26-06 NN 263450)

14th Annual BIA Novi Home Improvement Show

2006 NOVI HOME IMPROVEMENT SHOW

FRI. SAT. SUN. ◆ January 27-29, 2006

Wallside Windows' Annual "House of Nails" Contest! Win a houseful of windows valued at $10,000 from Wallside Windows

Your paid admission includes a subscription to THIS OLD HOUSE MAGAZINE.

This Old House HOME & GARDEN SHOW SERIES. GMC

WINTER TIME ESCAPE GIVEAWAY! Register to win an all-inclusive trip for two to a warm weather destination from 94-100.3 WNIC FM

FAMILY FUN DAY GIVEAWAY! AM 910 Radio Disney will host family fun activities on site and will be giving away A Family Fun Prize Package! including Great Wolf Lodge, Getaway and more! Register to win at the show.

America's #1 Cleaning Expert and Author, Don Aslett... ...will demonstrate how to clean and organize your home like a pro with special workshops at the show!

LOG ON TO NOVIHOMESHOW.COM FOR DISCOUNTS Discount Coupons Available online at www.novihomeshow.com or at participating Dunkin' Donuts Locations

GO TO: www.novihomeshow.com or CALL (248) 862-1019

Rock Financial SHOWPLACE (at Grand River Ave., a Mile between I-96 & Beck Roads) In NOVI

Hours: Fri., January 27 noon – 9:00 pm; Sat., January 28 10:00 am – 9:00 pm; Sun., January 29 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Admission: Adults – $9.00; Seniors – $8.00; Children 12 and under admitted FREE

SPONSORED BY: James Hardie Siding Products; LOCAL 4; Dunkin' Donuts; HOUR; Kitchen Craft

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

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be meeting to interview applicants for appointment to the Beautification Commission, Construction Board of Appeals, Economic Development Corporation and Historical Commission.

If you are a qualified voter in the City of Novi and interested in volunteering to serve on a City Board or Commission, applications and booklets containing information about the various Boards and Commissions are available in the office of the City Clerk, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375. Also, you may contact the City Clerk's office by calling (248) 347-0456 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.ci.novi.mi.us to print out an application.

The deadline for filing an application is Wednesday, February 8, 2006, at 4:00 pm to allow time for scheduling interview appointments.

Council will be interviewing applicants on Monday, February 13, 2006, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Interviews are scheduled for 10 minutes each and all City Council meetings are televised.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK

(1-19/26 & 2-2-06 NN 263023)

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS SUMP INTER-COUNTY DRAIN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that special assessment amounts and the apportionment of costs of lands within the Sump Special Assessment District for maintenance of the Sump Drain will be available for review on February 8, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Oakland County Drain Commissioner's Office, One Public Works Drive, Waterford, MI 48328.

This special assessment will be levied on the 2006 winter taxes for properties located within the Sump Drainage District, described as those properties located in Section 31 in the City of Novi and Section 36 in the Township of Lyon.

Therefore, all unknown and non-resident persons, owners and persons interested in the above described lands, and the County Clerk of Oakland, Board of Oakland County Road Commissioners, Township of Lyon Supervisor, and the City of Novi Mayor are hereby notified that the time and place aforesaid and at such other time and place to which said day of review may be adjourned, the apportionment for benefits and the land comprised within the Sump Special Assessment District will be subject to review.

The owner of any land in the special assessment district or any city, village, township, district or county who may disagree with the apportionment of benefits may appeal the apportionment within ten days after this day of review of apportionments by making an application to the Oakland County Probate Court for appointment of a Board of Review, as provided in Section 155 of the Michigan Drain Code (Act 40 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1956, as amended).

The County of Oakland will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the review should contact the Oakland County Drain Commissioner's Office at least one week in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

(1-26 & 2-2-06 NN 263453)

Resolve to Make Your Money Work for You!

High-Yield Checking offers access and pays dividends!

- Very competitive rates on deposits of $10,000+
- Free check printing & unlimited check writing
- Free VISA® Check Card with no transaction fees
- Free Internet Banking with bill pay & check imaging
- Unlimited ATM access
- Insured to $350,000

Stop in or call today & experience banking made easier.

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL

Thinking forward. Banking right.

(734) 453-1200 (877) 937-2328 toll free www.cfcu.org

PLYMOUTH 500 S. Harvey | CANTON 6355 N. Canton Center | NORTHVILLE 400 E. Main | NOVI 43350 Arena Dr.

Minimum deposit to open $5; $2,500 to avoid monthly fee. Fees, if applicable, may reduce earnings. Dividend rate subject to change after the account is open. Some restrictions may apply to free check printing.

NCUA Your savings federally insured to $100,000 by the National Credit Union Administration, a U.S. Government Agency. Your savings also privately insured up to an additional $250,000 by Excess Share Insurance Corporation (ESI). ESI is a subsidiary of American Share Insurance. Equal Opportunity Lender. ©2006 Community Financial

WHO LET THE DOGS OUT?

Julie Slauterbeck of Belleville poses with one of her toy fox terriers at last weekend's dog show at the Rock Financial Showplace. One of Slauterbeck's terriers, "Cruzer", won best of breed during judging on Friday afternoon.

Kennel Club show to return to Novi in 2007

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Delores, or "Dee" Gidday as she's known, bought her first dog when she was 10 years old.

Obviously, it was love at first sight.

Today, she serves as secretary and treasurer of the Metropolitan Kennel Club and has worked with dogs for more than 40 years.

Dee and her husband, Bill Gidday, of Linden, worked many hours to make their dream a reality.

Their efforts came to fruition last weekend at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi when the club hosted its first United Kennel Club benched, all-breed, licensed dog show.

"We worked on this particular show for about a year. We plan to build it up each year, making it bigger."

Delores "Dee" Gidday
Metropolitan Kennel Club

The Giddays founded the Livingston Kennel Club in 1964 and the Metropolitan Kennel Club in 1989.

They said last weekend's show was a success, with more than 6,000 attending.

The Giddays plan to bring the show back to Novi the same weekend next year.

"We worked on this particular show for about a year," Dee Gidday said. "We plan to build it up each year, making it bigger."

She said the show is designed not only to give dogs a way to earn championship points but also to acquaint the public with the variety of breeds.

About 135 breeds were represented at this year's show, according to Dee Gidday.

"The United Kennel Club recognizes more breeds than the American Kennel Club," she noted. "By learning about the breeds, people can wisely select one," she said.

Bill Gidday said the premise of a dog show should be and was many years ago a benched show.

"At a benched show, each dog is on a bench, with the owner sitting there with it. The dog goes to the ring, is shown and goes back.

"The public can come in, walk up and talk to the owner and pet the dog if they allow you to," he said.

"If you want to buy a dog, it's the best situation available to properly research and buy a puppy."

The club even offers a prize for the nicest decorated bench and one for the bench that represents why the breed was founded.

A national Fly Ball Tournament also took place during the event as well as demonstrations with hunting and search and rescue dogs.

One activity at the show that really drew a crowd, according to Dee Gidday, was "Dancing with Your Dog."

"People really seemed to enjoy that one," she said.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@gannett.com.

ABOVE: Brianne Cook leads a golden retriever named "Mikey" around the ring during judging of best of breed at last weekend's dog show.

Photos by JOHN HEIDER

RIGHT: With another dog on a leash, Bonnie Klonowski plays with her Boston terrier "Ebony" outside of the Rock Financial Showplace.

TOP: "Flyball Dogs" competitior Donna Venner of Grand Rapids holds the haunches of her border collie "Jolea" as her dog prepares to rocket down a track at last weekend's dog show in a timed competition.

RIGHT: In a blur, Venner's collie leaps out of her arms and down the track.

BELOW LEFT: With a tennis ball in its mouth, a border collie leaps over a fence during an agility and speed competition.

BELOW: A group of golden retrievers prepares to be judged for a best of breed rating during last weekend's Metropolitan Dog Show.

For more information about the Metropolitan Kennel Club, call (248) 476-0700 or visit www.metrokennelclub.com

BUSINESS

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax. (248) 349-9832

Perfecting the smile

■ Dentist embraces the Novi community

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Anjoo Ely takes her patients smiles in her hands every day.

With extensive work in cosmetic and family dentistry, Ely took over the Novi Oaks Dental practice last August from Dr. Jeff Vanhook.

Ely said she's in tune with what her patients would like to receive as a result from her work.

"I listen to my patient's and make them a key part of their treatment so we can work together as a team to reach their desired result."

The 35-year-old Canadian native, and Novi resident for the past several years, graduated from the University of Michigan in 1997 with a degree doctor of dental surgery.

"I was always intrigued with my own dentist as a child," Ely said. "I like working with the public, and I like medicine. That's why I became a dentist."

Before coming to Novi, Ely practiced in Detroit. She said it is really nice to be living and practicing in the same neighborhood.

Ely said her main goal is to bring awareness to the public that oral health is an important part of overall health.

"I've tried to bring this awareness by hosting events at Lifetime Fitness," she said, "in order to answer questions from potential patients."

Ely, who cares for adults and children ages 3 and up, said customers should know they can bring their entire families to her chair, instead of visiting a pediatric dentist.

"There's no need to make a special trip," she said. "Everyone in the family can come here."

Novi Oaks Dental offers tooth prints for parents with children under 13.

"Basically, they're records of your child's teeth," Ely said. "In case there was a situation where your child went missing, the tooth prints are a record of your child's DNA."

Ely also offers in office whitening procedures, cosmetic dentures and other basic dentistry practices.

Ultimately, Ely said she would like to get back in the academic area of dentistry.

Having taught for a brief time at the University of Michigan as part of a periodontal faculty, Ely said there are always things to learn in the dental field.

"Being a dentist is a commitment to lifelong learning," she said. "I'm grateful I could bring my knowledge and commitment to the Novi community."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com

Photo by Tracy Mishler

Dr. Anjoo Ely recently took over the Novi Oaks Dental practice, located in the Pine Ridge Center on Novi Road.

Novi Oaks Dental

Location: 24275 Novi Road, northwest corner of Novi and Ten Mile roads in the Pine Ridge Center

Hours: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursdays and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. some Saturdays to accommodate patients schedules.

Contact: (248) 347-3030

Web site: www.novioaksdental.com

Michigan Heritage Bank.
We mean business.

There's no such thing as "your average business owner."

If you want a banker who listens—really listens—to your business needs, and shows you more than one way to help you meet them,

[illegible] rather than later

[illegible] talk to a real person in real time about the realities of your business

[illegible] not fit all

Call today and speak to one of our experienced commercial banking officers at (248) 538-2525.

[illegible] ments? Call us, and really within the same [illegible] that's our guarantee.

MICHIGAN HERITAGE Bank
www.miheritage.com

Farmington Hills
Mark Jullen
248.538.2552

Livonia
Rich Klein
248.538.2548

Troy
Mark Boettcher
248.689.3151

Novi
Craig Rogers
248.538.2563

Wixom
Bill Vance
248.465.9584

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

INTRODUCING
CAST MUSIC
NOW GET INSTANT MUSICAL SATISFACTION
Download Full Songs Straight to Your Phone With V CAST Music

- Choose From Hundreds of Thousands Of Songs
- Download Hot Tracks From Today's Top Artists
- Manage Your Music, Create Play Lists, And [illegible] Releases From Your Favorite Artists All Right On Your [illegible]

V CAST VPak
FREE FOR ONE MONTH
To Experience V CAST Music For Yourself
[illegible]
Activation charge applies for new customers

Lite Music [illegible]
$99.99

IT'S THE [illegible] NETWORK
CALL 1.877.2BUY.VZW
verizonwireless.com

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES

ANN ARBOR
2570 Jackson Ave. (next to Blockbuster) 734-769-1722
Briarwood Mall (In Sears Wing, near Center Ct.)
AUBURN HILLS
Great Lakes Crossing Mall 248-253-1799
Courtland Center Mall (near JC Penney)
BRIGHTON
8159 Challis, Suite C (off Grand River, in front of Target) 810-225-4789
BURTON
11295 S. Center Rd. (at corner of Lapeer Rd.) 810-743-9946
Courtland Center Mall
CANTON
42447 Ford Rd. (corner of Ford & Lilley Rds., Cambo Corners) 734-844-0481
DEARBORN
24417 Ford Rd. (just West of Telegraph) 313-278-4491
Fairlane Mall (3rd floor next to Sears) 313-441-0168
DETROIT
14126 Woodward (Maple Y Plaza) 313-869-7392
FARMINGTON HILLS
31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (S.W. Corner of Orchard Lake Rd. & 14 Mile Rd.) 248-538-9300
FENTON
17245 Silver Pkwy (In the Sears Plaza) 810-629-2733
FT. GRATIOT
4129 24th Ave. 810-385-1231
LAKE ORION
2531 S. Lapeer Rd. (Orion Mall 2 miles N. of the Palace) 248-393-6800
NORTHVILLE
Three Generations Plaza 20500 Haggerty Rd. 734-779-9140
NOVI
43025 12 Mile Rd. (Twelve Oaks Service Dr., North of Sears) 248-305-6600
Twelve Oaks Mall (lower level play area)
POINTE/WATERFORD
454 Telegraph Rd. (across from Summit Place Mall) 248-335-6800
ROCHESTER HILLS
3035 S. Rochester Rd. (at Auburn Rd) 248-853-0550
ROYAL OAK
21021 Woodward Ave. (at Normandy) 248-549-4177
ST. CLAIR SHORES
26401 Harper Ave. (at 10 1/2 Mile) 586-777-4010
SOUTHFIELD
28117 Telegraph Rd. (South of 12 Mile Rd) 248-358-3700
STERLING HEIGHTS
45111 Park Ave. (N-59 & M-53, Utica Park Plaza) 586-997-6300
Lakeside Mall (Lower Ct. play area)
TAYLOR
23105 Eureka Rd. (across from Southland Mall) 734-287-1770
Southland Center
23000 Eureka Rd. (In the JC Penney wing)
TROY
1913 E. Big Beaver Rd. (Troy Sports Center) 248-528-0040
Oakland Mall (Inside Main Entrance, next to Food Court)
WESTLAND
35105 Warren Rd. (S.W. Corner of Warren & Wayne Rds.) 734-722-7330

OR VISIT THE VERIZON WIRELESS STORE AT CIRCUIT CITY
ANN ARBOR
AUBURN HILLS
BRIGHTON
DEARBORN
ROSEVILLE
HARPER WOODS
TAYLOR
LANSING
TROY
NOVI
WESTLAND

See store for Return/Exchange Policy.

Proud sponsor of the Detroit Pistons

Free Ringtone Software Upgrade!

BUSINESS CUSTOMERS: PLEASE CALL 1.800.900.2002

AUTHORIZED RETAILERS Equipment phase 6 upgrade policy varies by location. Authorized Retailers may impose additional equipment related charges, including activation fees.

ANN ARBOR
Ann Arbor Wireless 734-327-5500
Custom Communications 734-677-6600
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
Global Wireless 1-888-697-1600
BRIGHTON
Auto One Brighton 810-227-3606
Cellular and More 810-227-7440
CANTON
Cellular and More 734-981-7440
CLARKSTON
Cellular Technologies 248-625-1201
CLINTON
Communications USA 248-280-6390
COMMERCE
Cellular Source 248-360-9400
Wireless Tomorrow 248-669-1200
Wireless Tomorrow 248-669-7300
DEARBORN
Kelly Cellular 313-582-1130
FARMINGTON
Dawson Touch 248-615-1177
FARMINGTON HILLS
Cellular City 248-848-8800
FENTON
Cellular and More 810-629-7440
FERNDALE
Communications USA 248-542-5200
FT. GRATIOT
Wireless Solutions 810-385-9400
GRAND BLANC
Communications USA 810-694-0500
GROSSE POINTE
Rutherford Cellular 1-800-VIP-PLUS
HOWELL
Cellmatrix 517-548-7705
HUGHES
Authorized Cellular 1-800-VIP-Plus
IMLAY CITY
Rutherford Radio 734-242-0806
Herkimer Tire 734-384-7001
MT. CLEMENS
Authorized Cellular 1-800-VIP-Plus
NEW HUDSON
Fusion Communications 248-437-5053
NOVI
Multiplex 248-476-0077
OWOSSO
USA Wireless 248-627-4533
PLYMOUTH
Ann Arbor Wireless 734-459-3200
ROCHESTER
Wireless Sports 248-650-5151
ROSEVILLE
Authorized Cellular 1-800-VIP-Plus
ROYAL OAK
Fusion Communications 248-549-7700
SOUTHFIELD
Wireless USA 248-355-2222
STERLING HEIGHTS
Authorized Cellular 1-800-VIP-Plus
SYLVAN LAKE
Wireless Link 248-681-1700
TAYLOR
Cell Phone Warehouse 734-374-4472
TROY
The Wireless Shop 248-458-1111
WARREN
Wireless Network 586-573-7200
WEST BLOOMFIELD
Global Wireless 248-681-7200
WIXOM
Auto One 248-960-0500
YPSILANTI
Ann Arbor Wireless 734-327-5400

BEST BUY

Drive responsibly. Call with care.

Verizon Wireless

Powered with Lucent Technologies

*Non-Surcharge fee: 2.29% Federal Universal Service Fee is not a tax or charge. Taxes, fees & surcharges vary by state. Details: 1-800-256-8686; gov't taxes and regulatory cost recovery fees are not taxes. Activation fee: $35. IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Customer Agreement, Pooling or Digital Calling Plan. VCAST Services, Mobile Forms & credit approval. $175 termination fee, up to $45 activation fee, other charges & restrictions. Unless rounded to next full minute. Rebate takes 8-10 weeks. Network details, coverage maps at verizonwireless.com. Nights 9:00 pm-7:00 am M-F. Weekends and holidays available nights free. VCAST phone and coverage area required. Verizon Wireless reminds you to always download legally. Graphics simulated. VCAST Pak free offer: Cancel by calling 1.800.2BUY.VZW within 1st month to avoid $15 monthly fee. Credit approval required. ©2006 Verizon Wireless.

VWR0452

MDA
Muscular Dystrophy Association
Jerry Lewis, National Chairman
1-800-572-1717
www.mdausa.org

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Funding future education

Mercedes-Benz USA with support from Mercedes-Benz of Novi and dealers nationwide will make $1.5 million in scholarship funding available to students who are the first generation in their families to attend college.

Students can visit www.mbusa.com/drivefuture to learn more about the programs and access application materials through Feb. 10. Scholarship recipients will be announced in May.

Closing the deal

As previously reported, Novi-based Cooper-Standard Automotive entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the Fluid Handling Systems business of ITT Industries, Inc. in a transaction valued at approximately $265 million.

Best Buy recycles phones

Best Buy Co., Inc. has debuted a pre-paid, mail-in cell phone recycling program at Best Buy stores across the U.S. that provides a convenient alternative to donating used or unwanted cellular phones, while raising funds for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

Best Buy is distributing free, postage-paid cell phone donation envelopes to customers who buy cell phones or related equipment at any store in the U.S.

For each phone mailed, a $1 donation will be made to the Boys and Girls Clubs of America to support that organization's efforts to give kids a safe place to learn and grow.

Exclusive Licensing Agreement approved

Wixom-based Rockwell Medical Technologies, Inc., a hemodialysis concentrate manufacturer in the healthcare industry, recently reported it has obtained an exclusive license for the U.S. patent for a proprietary, water-soluble vitamin and carnitine mixture for dialysis patients to be delivered via the Company's Dialysate. The license agreement gives the Company the exclusive right to manufacture and market this novel vitamin/drug delivery product.

Rockwell has entered into a license agreement with Charak, LLC, based in Cerritos, Calif.

The agreement grants the company the exclusive worldwide rights to manufacture and market liquid and dry dialysate compositions containing a proprietary, water-soluble vitamin and carnitine mixture for which Charak LLC has obtained a U.S. patent. Prior to marketing the product, Rockwell will have to obtain US Food and Drug Administration approval. Rockwell estimates that the potential U.S. dialysis market for vitamins and carnitine could be as much as $200 million.

State to cut tax rates

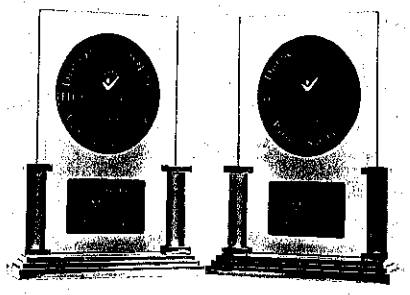
The Senate recently approved legislation sponsored by state Sen. Nancy Cassis that lowers the alternative rate small businesses pay on the Single Business Tax. Senate Bill 957 would cut tax rates in half for more than 32,000 Michigan job providers.

The bill will reduce the alternative rate small businesses pay from 2 percent to 1 percent for job providers that have less than $10 million per year in gross receipts and whose chief executives make less than $125,000 per year.

Compiled by Tracy Mishler

A MERCY HEALTH PARTNERS MINISTRY

One Great Hospital.
Two National Awards.
St. Mary Mercy Hospital



St. Mary Mercy Hospital is the proud recipient of the 2005 HealthGrades **Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence™**, ranking St. Mary Mercy among the top 5% of hospitals in the U.S. for overall clinical quality.

St. Mary Mercy is also the recipient of the HealthGrades **Distinguished Hospital Award for Patient Safety™**, ranking the hospital among the top 2% of hospitals nationwide for patient safety.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital is one of only 30 hospitals nationwide to receive both of these prestigious awards in the same year. One Great Hospital. Two National Awards.

For quality and convenience, ask your doctor about St. Mary Mercy Hospital's HealthGrades national ratings or call 1-888-464-WELL for more information.

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia.
Great Doctors and Nurses..... in your Own Backyard.

www.stmarymercy.org

ST. MARY MERCY HOSPITAL

HealthGrades is a nationally recognized independent healthcare quality company.

Visit us on the Web: www.novinews.com

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Stuart Topper, manager of Novi's Ya-Ya's restuarant, displays one of its more popular dishes: the two-piece, flamebroiled white chicken.

Kicked up taste

■ Restaurant spices up Novi cuisine

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Ryan Tapper has a passion for food and is ready to share it with residents in the city of Novi.

Opening his first Ya Ya's Flame Broiled Chicken on Grand River Avenue Dec. 13, the 23-year-old Farmington Hills resident is excited about how the Novi community is embracing his health-conscious cuisine.

"We offer good healthy food," Tapper said. "It's about our taste and service we strive to give."

Ya Ya's is a franchised business, which first opened in Flint about 25 years ago, by Gus and John Chinonis, and has locations in Michigan, Florida and Georgia.

"Our chicken is a healthy product made without oil," Tapper said. "We use a water-based marinade and several spices to create the taste."

Tapper's uncle, Stuart Tapper, approached his nephew in 2003 with the Ya Ya's idea.

According to Ryan, a 2004 graduate from Michigan State University, it took two years of planning to get the Novi location up and running.

Unlike other restaurants, Ya Ya's strictly serves chicken.

"The chickens are never frozen here," Stuart said. "They come in 36 to 48 hours on ice after being killed, and we marinate them for two to five days."

Ryan said he trains his staff to serve the food up fast, under 27 seconds.

"We offer food fast, not fast food," he said.

"We're a triple threat here," Stuart said. "Good food and good portions at a fair price with fast service."

The restaurant also offers a variety of side dishes, including mashed potatoes and gravy, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables and Ya Ya's famous honey butter.

Both Ryan and Stuart agreed they would eventually like to open other Ya Ya's a year or two after the Novi location takes off.

"Anyone can learn how to cook," Ryan said. "But you have to know how to run it to be successful."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com

Ya Ya's Chicken

Location: 47590 Grand River Avenue, Novi

Contact: (248) 474-9292

Hours: 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Sunday

Web Site: www.yayas.com

Offers: dine in or take out

Make Your Classified Ad STAND OUT with Photos!

The cost for the photo will be $10.00 for the first day and $5.00 per day for each additional day, plus the cost of the ad copy based on the number of lines used.

ENHANCE YOUR AD WITH A PHOTO
Now available: you can add photos to your classified ads to show what you are selling. In addition to ad copy. Ads will appear wherever you want them to run, under the classification you choose.

ENHANCE YOUR AD WITH A PHOTO
Now available: you can add photos to your classified ads to show what you are selling. In addition to ad copy. Ads will appear wherever you want them to run, under the classification you choose.

Reproducible 3x5 or 4x6 photos or photos emailed to us will be used. Call for e-mail address. Photos will not be returned. Private party merchandise, auto and real estate ads. Prepayment required. No refunds.

Call 1-888-999-1288 to place your ad today!

Green Sheet CLASSIFIED

Excludes Business/Commercial Ads
Deadline for Thursday's publication is Monday at 12 noon
Deadline for Sunday's publication is Thursday at 12 noon

$0 down

The All-Wheel Drive Lexus Rx 330
Even More Attractive in the winter

New '06 RX330 AWD
$499*
[illegible] CD Power [illegible] Heated Leather Seats All Wheel Drive, Premium Sound

LEXUS OF ANN ARBOR
(734) 996-1662
(866) 645-3987
www.lexusofannarbor.com

Log on & Save

LEXUS OF LANSING
(517) 339-1800
(800) 539-9877

PUBLIC SAFETY

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax (248) 349-9832

Robber turned over to the FBI

■ Police say he hit five banks

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Thomas Husianka, who allegedly robbed five banks in the Metro Detroit area last week, including one in Novi, will be arraigned in federal court on the charges.

Husianka's image was caught on bank surveillance cameras when he allegedly passed a note to a teller at the Family Service Credit Union at 10 Mile Road and Meadowbrook on Jan. 16.

On Jan. 18, banks in Allen Park and Melvindale were robbed, with the suspect's physical description and method of crime being identical to that of Husianka's robbery in Novi.

A multijurisdictional manhunt ensued, and Husianka was eventually taken into custody during the early morning hours of Jan. 19, at an apartment complex in Melvindale. Husianka is being lodged at the Wayne County Jail.

Lt. Chad Hayes of the Melvindale Police Department said Husianka has been accused of committing bank robberies in Wixom, Novi, Melvindale, Allen Park and New Hudson and was turned over to the FBI for the crimes.

He is being lodged at the Wayne County Jail pending formal charges in Oakland and Wayne counties.

Sticky fingers

■ Cracking down on shoplifters

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Scott Denomme won't embarrass his family by shoplifting.

The seventh grader at Hillside Middle School in Northville Township said most kids in the area shoplift candy, which can be bought for $1.

"It's not worth getting in trouble for," said the 12-year-old. "Shoplifting's pretty dumb because you can easily work for your money to buy what you want or get it from your parents."

Shoplifting remains one of the nation's most costly silent crimes.

Although millions of people try and get away with it each day, the damage affects more than just the offender.

Glen Uranis said he takes it personally when someone shoplifts from his Novi store, Switched on CDs, located on Grand River Avenue.

"If I think I've got a shoplifter, I'm on them," Uranis said. "We're not some faceless national chain.

"When you're a small community business, the cards are already stacked against you. We don't understand why (people) would want to steal from someone in their own town."

Novi Police Department Deputy Chief Thomas Lindberg said the city gets more attention from shoplifters because it is a highly retail centered area.

"The most effective way of detouring shoplifting is educating the store's staff," Lindberg said. "The greatest thing we tell businesses is to greet their customers and make eye contact.

"That way, you're greeting the legitimate customer, and you've instantly shown that you're watching them."

Costly crime

Detective Sgt. Matthew Mayes of the Northville Township Police Department said businesses suffer from shoplifters because product prices go up in order to accommodate loss.

"The dollar amount and loss all reflect back into other products," Mayes said. "Prices go up in some situations to maintain security of the store."

Mayes said shoplifting in Northville is spread over all socioeconomic boundaries.

"We've had people from all social classes (shoplift)," he said. "From adults with money to teens with no money."

"Kids steal video games, adults steal alcohol. We've also seen people who steal baby formula in order to sell on the street. It's such a wide spectrum of things stolen."

Getting caught

Uranis said catching shoplifters at a CD store is difficult.

"We use hot tags and security sensors so they will get caught at the door," he said. "Otherwise, it's just good detective work."

Mayes said shoplifting offenders are charged with retail fraud and, depending on the situation, can result in a first-second-or-third degree offense.

"First-degree is a five-year felony with a fine no more than $10,000," he said.

A second-degree offense is a misdemeanor punishable up to one year in jail, and a third degree offense can result in up to 93 days in jail with no more than a $500 fine.

"People should never think they won't get caught," Mayes said. "They might get away with it the first time, but most definitely not the second."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com.

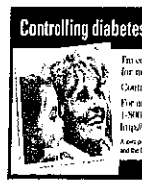
Shaking the five-finger discount

- More than $10 billion worth of goods are stolen from retailers each year.
- There are approximately 23 million shoplifters, or 1 in 11 people, in the nation today.
- Approximately 25 percent of shoplifters are kids and 75 percent are adults. Fifty-Five percent of adult shoplifters say they started stealing as teens.
- 86 percent of kids say they know other kids who shoplift.
- Drug addicts, who have become kleptomaniacs, describe shoplifting as an equally addicting drug.
- Most non-professional shoplifters don't commit other types of crimes.

SOURCE: Novi Police Dept.

Source: National Association of Shoplifting Prevention

Controlling diabetes makes a huge difference.



I'm controlling my diabetes so I'll be around for my family... for my friends... for life.
Control your diabetes. For life.
For more information, please call 1-800-438-5383. Or visit us at http://diabetes.org/ny.
A joint program of the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
NATIONAL DIABETES EDUCATION PROGRAM

THINKING ABOUT A NEW FURNACE
LENNOX
FREE ESTIMATES
(734)525-1930
Our 31st Year!
UNITED TEMPERATURE

MERLE NORMAN
FREE
43426 West Oaks Dr. • Novi • 248.348.4020

VARSITY LINCOLN MERCURY COLLISION CENTER
2 exits west of 12 Oaks Mall at Grand River and Wixom Road
1-248-449-6901
PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD WINNER
"BEST COLLISION SHOP" 2005
It's your choice so choose the best!
Tell your insurance company
"I'm going to Varsity Lincoln Mercury's Collision Center"

~We Repair All Makes & Models
~Direct Repair For All Major Insurance Companies
~Guaranteed On Time Repairs
~90 Days Same As Cash On Your Collision Deductible*

Varsity Collision Center Special*
Save this in case of an accident for
FREE TOWING
Courtesy of Varsity Lincoln Mercury Collision Center
248-896-8888

Varsity Collision Center Special*
"IN CASE OF ACCIDENT" CLIP THIS COUPON & SAVE
FREE Collision Loaner
Courtesy of Varsity Lincoln Mercury Collision Center
248-449-6901

MY HOMETOWN Novi

Awards: The Novi Historical Commission will award $100, $50 & $25 to the top three photographers as judged by a committee of professional photographers based on photographs entered in this contest. A total of $175 will be awarded. A "People's Choice" Award will be selected by popular vote of those attending an exhibit of entries to be scheduled in late 2006. Winning photographs will be published in the Novi News.

Exhibits: The 2005 My Hometown Novi Photo Competition winning photographs will be exhibited at a reception to be held at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi at a date following the close of the competition. Additional entries may be selected for exhibit or for publication as outlined in the release form. Photographs randomly selected from among entries received may be published in the Novi News during the course of the competition to promote the competition and to encourage additional entries.

Work(s) Eligible: Photographs submitted should be an image that represents the photographer's interpretation of the competition theme of "My Hometown Novi".
- Each photographer may submit up to five photographs.
- Each photograph will be judged as an individual entry.
- Altered photos (any alteration that distorts the original image) are not eligible for prizes. There is no residency requirement for entrants.
- All entries whether submitted by amateurs or professionals will be judged as a single group.

Specifications: Entries must be 8" x 10" photographic prints, window matted using white matte board. Using the format shown on the entry form, provide name and contact information on the back of each photo entered. Labeled photographs must be submitted with a completed entry form and entry fee by the November 3, 2006 deadline. Keep a copy of your entry for your records; photos will NOT be returned.

Judging: Preliminary judging will be of the prints as originally submitted.

Entry Form: Complete the entry form. Form may be photocopied, but submitted entry forms require an original signature.

Contest fees: Each photo entry is $5. Photographers can enter up to five photographs. Checks or money orders should be made payable to "City of Novi 2005 Photo Competition" and be submitted with the completed entry form and matted photograph(s). All contest fees are non-refundable.

Contest deadline: November 3, 2006 is the last day that photos and entry fees will be accepted for the competition. (All entries must be received at the Novi News office by 5:00 p.m. or postmarked by that date.)

For more information contact Cal Stone at 248 349 1700 or Kathy Mutch at 248 224-4211.

Entry forms and [illegible] at the Novi News office, [illegible] Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road, Park [illegible]

POLICE REPORT

Narcotics violation

A 20-year-old South Lyon man who was a passenger and the driver, who was pulled over for speeding, were both arrested for possession of narcotics equipment at 12:25 a.m. Jan. 4 at 12 Mile and Napier roads.

An officer was on routine patrol on southbound Napier Road south of 12 Mile Road when he saw and paced a vehicle in front of him traveling at 53 mph in a 45 mph zone.

Upon pulling over the driver of the silver 2003 Chevrolet Malibu, the officer smelled the odor of burnt marijuana coming from the vehicle.

After patting down the driver and a back seat passenger, the officer found no weapons or drug paraphernalia.

Then, a "dugout," which is a wooden box used to store marijuana, and a metal cigarette called a "one hitter" were found in the right boot of the front-seat passenger.

When asked if there was any other narcotics equipment in the car, the driver said there was another "one hitter" in the vehicle, which police found with two packages of rolling papers.

Snowy splnout

A 25-year-old Novi man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 1:48 a.m. Dec. 31 at Novi Road and Arena Drive.

An officer was driving southbound on Novi Road north of 10 Mile Road when he saw a 2003 black Honda Civic sitting perpendicular in the middle of the road facing east.

The officer watched as the driver backed up, pulled forward, backed up again and continued driving south on Novi Road.

He followed the driver to the stoplight at 10 Mile Road and noticed that the car was past the stop line and the crosswalk.

The man did not pull over for at least 15 seconds after the officer activated the lights on his police car.

The officer then turned on his car's siren for at least 15 seconds before the driver finally pulled over.

After talking with the driver, police noticed that his eyes were bloodshot and glossy and his speech slurred.

He told police that he had consumed two glasses of beer between 9 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

A blood alcohol level of .19 percent in the driver was found from a breath test.

Construction site struck

Police responded to a vandalism complaint at the Orchard Hills West Subdivision construction site reported at 8:01 a.m. Jan. 3 that occurred between 1 p.m. Jan. 2 and 7 a.m. Jan. 3 near 10 Mile and Meadowbrook roads.

The complainant told police that unknown suspects came into the subdivision under construction and tried to steal a heavy equipment trailer and possibly a bulldozer.

The suspect or suspects started a bulldozer and used it to try to free a trailer attached to a dump truck. They could not free the trailer, however, and left the scene.

The vandals damaged a concrete curb on Dunston during the ordeal, valued at $1,000 to replace.

The complainant said the Caterpillar equipment works on universal keys, so anyone could have started it. But two keys are required, and the equipment is not easy to operate.

Elephant Bar visitor

A 22-year-old Farmington Hills woman was arrested for operating while intoxicated at 2:03 a.m. Dec. 29 at Novi Road and I-96.

An officer was traveling northbound on Novi Road north of I-96 operating moving radar when he saw a 2003 green Pontiac traveling southbound on Novi Road that appeared to be speeding.

Radar clocked the driver at 54 mph in a 40 mph zone.

When police pulled the woman over for speeding, they could smell intoxicants, noticed that her speech was slightly slurred and that her eyes were glassy.

She stated that she had a couple of beers at the Elephant Bar on Maple Road.

A breath test showed she had a blood alcohol level of .21 percent.

Road rage incident

A 27-year-old South Lyon woman was the victim of a road rage incident that allegedly occurred at 5:36 p.m. Dec. 29 at 12 Mile and Beck roads.

The suspect was a 39-year-old Wixom man; and the driver had witnesses in the car with her [illegible] 36-year-old Fowlerville man and a 34-year-old Fowlerville woman.

The victim said the road rage happened while she was driving westbound on 12 Mile Road from Fountain Walk shopping center.

She told police the suspect vehicle, a 2002 white, four-door Mitsubishi, pulled out in front of her, forcing her to brake and change lanes.

The woman then passed the vehicle before merging and honked her horn at the vehicle. The suspect then allegedly tailgated and attempted to pass her several times.

The victim said once she stopped for the light near Beck Road, the suspect came up to her front passenger side door and kicked the door two or three times, yelling at her.

The woman got the vehicle's plate number after it passed her, and a witness also pulled up next to her and gave her the plate number.

Police contacted the suspect who said the woman had cut him off and "flipped him off with her middle finger."

He said that his wife and two young children were in the vehicle at the time and that the woman almost killed his family.

He said that when she cut him off, he had to drive into eastbound 12 Mile Road lanes and was almost struck by oncoming traffic.

Compiled by Pam Fleming

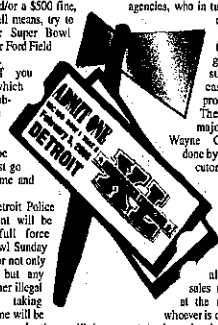
Selling a Super Bowl ticket?

■ Don't do it near Ford Field!

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Ticket scalpers, beware!

If you're ready to face 90 days in jail and/or a $500 fine, then by all means, try to sell your Super Bowl ticket near Ford Field on Feb. 5.



But if you aren't, which would probably be the wise decision, it would be best to just go to the game and have fun.

The Detroit Police Department will be out in full force Super Bowl Sunday looking for not only scalpers, but any and all other illegal activities taking place. Some will be in uniform and others will be undercover.

"You can't sell within a certain amount of distance of the stadium," said James Tate, spokesperson and second deputy chief of the Detroit Police Department. "We'll have folks who are going to be out in plain clothes, undercover to purchase tickets. We also have a team searching online for ticket scalpers. If you're selling tickets for profit without any authorization from the NFL or anyone affiliated with the Super Bowl, you're scalping. Whether you're doing it in person or online, it's all the same."

According to Keith Wright, chief of screening and district courts, arrests are made by police agencies, who in turn, make a determination of who they're going to submit the case to for prosecution.

The vast majority in Wayne County is done by city prosecutors.

"People advertise tickets on the Internet all the time, but all ticket sales need to be at the request of whoever is offering the event, and maybe those people are sanctioned to do that," Wright said. "Our statute addresses selling on public property."

The police need your help!

The DPD won't be the only ones working the Super Bowl. Folks from the NFL will be stationed at all areas of the stadium, and police officers from partnering agencies will be on hand as well to make sure things run smoothly.

Though police presence is nothing new for events downtown, it will be magnified tremendously because of the magnitude of the Super Bowl.

"The NFL is nothing but a big event," said Tate. "It's an international event, and we're asking people to be vigilant altogether. Our folks will definitely be targeting counterfeit goods, as well as ticket scalpers. Because of the nature of the event we are in a heightened state of alert and we plan as if something were to occur, or may be occurring."

Tate said the police department always plans for worst case scenarios, though they hope they won't have to use those plans. In addition, experience has shown that something people tend to do is leave potentially illegal situations to police.

"But we all have an obligation to be vigilant because we're all affected by it if an incident occurs," said Tate. "We all have an obligation to make sure we keep a watchful eye of what's going on. We all want to have a good time, but we also want to make sure we're all very careful."

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@gannett.com.

Faith Community Preschool
44400 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi
(between Taft and Novi Roads)
OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, January 28
9:30am - Noon
Registration for 2006/07 school year begins January 20
3 year olds 2 days per week • 4 year olds 3 days per week
• Mom & 2 year old classes
248-349-7911
Caring, Growing, Learning

ENTRY BLANK

Fill Out This Award Ballot And You'll Be Registering To Win A GIFT CERTIFICATE To One Of The Award-Winning Restaurants

Name _____
Day Time Phone _____
E-mail Address _____
Date Sent _____

Drop Off Or Mail In Ballot To:
People's Choice Awards - Novi News
104 W. Main St.
Northville, MI 48167

Only one entry per person per week. 18 years or older. Ballot box stuffing will not be allowed. Partial ballots may be disqualified.

Hey...Novi

It's Time to Pick Your PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

We Need Your Input On The Best Places To Shop... Best Places To Eat...Best Place For Great Service. This is NOT scientific! It's a fun, readers poll. Join in on the Balloting!

BEST FOOD OUTLETS

- Best place for coffee/donuts/bagels _____
- Best specialty coffee house _____
- Best place for breakfast _____
- Best Sunday brunch _____
- Best deli _____
- Best fast food restaurant _____
- Best family restaurant _____
- Best place for soup _____
- Best place for salad _____
- Best place for burgers _____
- Best place for hot dogs/coneys _____
- Best place for subs _____
- Best place for desserts _____
- Best Italian restaurant _____
- Best Asian restaurant _____
- Best Mexican restaurant _____
- Best place for pizza _____
- Best wine selection (store) _____
- Best wine selection (restaurant) _____
- Best beer selection (store) _____
- Best beer selection (restaurant) _____
- Best place for romantic dinner _____
- Best after work meeting place _____
- Best sports bar _____
- Best place for dancing _____

BEST SERVICE PROVIDERS & RETAIL STORES

- Best bank _____
- Best consignment store _____
- Best eyecare _____
- Best funeral home _____
- Best salon _____
- Best nail salon _____
- Best tanning salon _____
- Best jewelry store _____
- Best real estate company _____
- Best real estate agent _____
- Best mortgage provider _____
- Best accountant _____
- Best auto dealer _____
- Best auto service _____
- Best oil change shop _____
- Best collision shop _____
- Best tire store _____
- Best veterinary service _____
- Best travel agency _____
- Best video store _____
- Best landscaping business _____
- Best health/fitness club _____
- Best car wash _____
- Best flower shop _____
- Best garden center _____
- Best dance studio _____

All Entries Must Be Received By March 7th
For A Chance To Win A GIFT CERTIFICATE To An Award Winning Restaurant

EDUCATION

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax (248) 349-9832

Legislature requires school districts to fingerprint employees

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Detective Sergeant Matt Conquest of the Novi Police obtains fingerprints at the department's Ten Mile station.

■ But who will fund the fee of $70 each?

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Bob Schram understands, and agrees, with the new law handed down to Michigan school districts by the state legislature.

But what he's still unsure of is how his district, Novi Community Schools, will handle financing it.

A series of 18 bills, commonly referred to as "the school safety legislation," has been handed down. One of those bills, the mandatory fingerprinting of all employees, is making the biggest impact on Novi's school district.

"We're required to fingerprint all of our employees on our records as of Dec. 31, 2005, by June 30, 2008," said Schram, executive director of human resources. "We will probably do it sometime this year and not delay it. We may end up doing part of it this year and part next year for budget reasons, but we still have to figure all that out."

Novi has approximately 1,000 employees in the school district. If any of their fingerprints come back with what's called a "listed offense," they must be dismissed from their jobs immediately. The law states school districts can not employ anyone convicted of accosting, enticing, indecent exposure, gross indecency, kidnapping, pandering, or first degree criminal sexual conduct, just to name some.

It also says if an employee is charged or convicted of other offenses, they're required to notify their district, and if they're a teacher, to notify the state tenure commission that they've been charged or convicted of another group of charges, which are felonies or misdemeanors.

"This is a brand-new law that was passed very quickly last summer," said Schram. "But it's a concern because the legislature did not provide any funding for it."

At this point, it costs $70 per employee to get fingerprinted, and the legislature said school districts could pay for it, or negotiate with their unions to have employees pay for it.

"It put us in a very awkward situation," said Schram. "Employees don't feel they should have to pay for it, and the school districts know there are better things they can do with $70,000."

Any Novi employees convicted of crimes?

Schram said he feels confident that Novi has good employees who haven't been convicted of any of these crimes. However, the legislature said it is aware of 200 existing employees out of about 100,000 in the state of Michigan who are working for school districts.

Schram said his district originally fingerprinted all employees before the law even came down. But the state police tossed all those records out because they didn't have the ability to store them.

"That's what caused all this," he said. "The legislature said that was unacceptable, and we have to re-fingerprint everybody to make sure kids are safe. You can't argue with the intent of the law because of the way it was done."

As of right now, there is one location available one day a week in Oakland County for employees to get fingerprinted at. Only four people an hour are able to be fingerprinted, which equates to about 30 people in an eight-hour day. Schram estimated there are between 40,000-50,000 employees in all of Oakland County's school districts, and at 30 per day, that's about 7,000 per year.

"That will take you about seven years to finish it up," Schram said. "Obviously something has to change."

Oakland ISD to the rescue!

The Oakland County Intermediate School District is discussing the possibility of purchasing 10 computers, which school districts in Oakland County will have access to 40 hours a week. Discussions are about training employees to use them, and buying a link to the state police so districts can process everything through the ISD.

"That would be a big help if they can do that," said Schram. "We're still going to have a cost of $54 per employee, but we'll save $16,000 that way."

The state of Michigan requires $54 to process each employee. The company that charges $70 marks it up to cover their costs.

"I think there's no question that any changes for the safety of students is good," Schram said. "I understand fully why the legislature did this, but it would have been nice if they attached some funding to it."

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@gannett.com.

ON CAMPUS

Walled Lake resident, Michael Aschinger, was among the recent graduates at Michigan Technological University during December 2005 commencement exercises.

Novi residents, Chase Chandler, Neil Kocan, Douglas Ray, Elizabeth Clark, Kelsey Collins, Ben Landry, Megan Lilly and Lindsay Zeigin-Netter were named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at Albion College.

Novi resident, Anna Cynar; Walled Lake residents, Rebecca L. Klanic, Nicholas Nida and Matthew Nielsen; and Wixom residents, Haruko Okamoto and David Walters were named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at Michigan Technological University.

Novi residents, Vanessa Dekneklock and Timothy Everett, were named to the fall 2005 academic honors list at Ferris State University.

Novi resident, Jaime Sabol, is the Assistant Director for the 7th Annual Hope College Dance Marathon in March. The dance marathon raises money for the DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids through Children's Miracle Network. Jaime is the daughter of Paul and Connie Sabol and is a 2002 graduate of Novi High School.

Rachel Lilly has been named to the fall term 2005 dean's list at Northwood University. She is the daughter of Craig Lilly, Sr. of Novi and Tina Lilly of Wixom.

Novi resident and Northwood University junior, Ann Nelson, was invited to be an intern at the 2005 North American International Auto Show in Detroit. Interns greeted the media, handed out press kits, served as golf cart chauffeurs and worked in the warehouse distributing items for displays. Ann is the daughter of Arthur and Marianne Nelson of Novi.

OPEN HOUSE and ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Sat., Jan. 28th • 10 am-Noon
REGISTER for FALL ENROLLMENT
NORTHVILLE CO-OP PRESCHOOL
21260 Haggerty Road
Between 8 and 9 Mile Roads
248-348-1791

SPOTLIGHT ON:
ALLERGY & ASTHMA
Presented by
Michael S. Rowe, M.D., F.A.C.P., C.C.R.I.
EPINEPHRINE

Epinephrine is a powerful medication designed to treat allergic reactions. When epinephrine is administered in the early stages of an anaphylactic reaction, it can greatly reduce the severity of the episode and accelerate recovery. Most people with food or insect sting allergies carry Epipens with them in case they are unexpectedly stricken. These pens allow patients and others to inject epinephrine directly into the bloodstream for quick, temporary relief. Epinephrine increases a person's heart rate, dilates pupils, and constricts arterioles in the skin and gut while dilating arterioles in the leg muscles. It also elevates blood sugar. After using epinephrine, patients must seek emergency center care immediately. Adverse side effects may include palpitations, anxiety, headache, and hypertension.

Your doctor can discuss all your allergy treatment options with you, including allergy shots, medications or allergen avoidance. Talk to your doctor about the pros and cons of all of these options. When you require the care of an allergist, or if you would like further information about today's topic, call the ALLERGY AND ASTHMA CENTER OF MICHIGAN at (248) 473-6400. We provide outstanding care for your allergy and asthma problems, utilizing the newest treatments and medications. Our office is located at 30200 Meadowbrook Road, STE 201, Novi. New patients are welcome. "The Caring Allergist Who Gets Results."

P.S. School health officials often stock epinephrine for use in emergency cases of food allergies.

www.allergyinfo.org

More Within Reach

6.25% APR*
Home Equity Line of Credit
OR
6.24% APR
10 Year Fixed-Rate Home Equity Loan**

Bring calm to your financial chaos.

LaSalle Bank can help you take control of your finances. Enjoy the security of a Fixed-Rate Home Equity Loan and your payment will never change, even if rates go up. Or, take advantage of a flexible Home Equity Line of Credit and borrow what you need, when you need it. Whether you want to give your home a new look or save money by consolidating your bills, more is within reach. Applying is quick and easy. Plus, there are no closing costs, no application fees, and no appraisal fees* But these rates won't last long. So act now. Call (800) 326-8062, stop by any LaSalle Bank, or visit lasallebank.com today.

Making more possible LaSalle Bank ABN AMRO

LaSalle's Home Equity Lines of Credit and Fixed-Rate Home Equity Loans are limited to owner-occupied, 1-4 family principal residences and are subject to no less than a second lien position on your property. Collateral property must be located in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan or Ohio. Bridge loans or credit do not qualify. You must carry insurance on the property that secures the loan. Flood insurance required if necessary. Closing costs paid by LaSalle are limited to appraisal, title insurance, flood certification and recording fees. Any additional fees or conditions including, but not limited to, those imposed by the city, state or county where the subject property is located will be the borrower's responsibility. Rates are subject to change without notice. Consult your tax advisor concerning the deductibility of interest. Promotional offers are subject to change, may not be combined with any other home equity offer and may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Application must be received by March 31, 2006 to qualify for promotional rates. *The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) on LaSalle Bank's Home Equity Lines of Credit are tied to Prime. Prime is the highest Prime Rate as published in the "Money Rates" section of the Wall Street Journal on the first business day of the calendar month immediately preceding the billing cycle. The margin tied to Prime varies and depends on the approved credit line amount and combined loan-to-value. On December 30, 2005 Prime was 7.25% and the APR on LaSalle Bank's Home Equity Line of Credit products varied between 6.25% and 10.25%. Quoted APR of 6.25% assumes 90% or less loan-to-value, a credit line of $425,000 or greater, and a 30% rate discount for maintaining an initial draw of $15,000 at the end of the non-draw period. There is a $50 annual fee after the first year. Annual fee may be waived for customers participating in certain LaSalle checking account programs. Home Equity Line of Credit Promotional Offer: New home equity customers must draw a minimum of $15,000 at the close of the promotion period. Existing LaSalle home equity customers must pay off a current Home Equity Line of Credit or Fixed-Rate Home Equity Loan with their new Line of Credit, and must borrow an additional $15,000 in new money at the close of the promotion period. The combined amount of our pay off balance and the $15,000 advance must remain outstanding for 180 days or the Annual Percentage Rate will increase 1.0% for the remainder of the term. **On December 30, 2005, the Annual Percentage Rate (APR) on LaSalle's Fixed Rate Home Equity Loan products varied between 6.24% and 11.00%, depending on the loan amount, combined loan-to-value (CLTV) and term. The advertised rate of 6.24% APR is available for qualifying properties with an LTV of 80% or less, loan amount of $100,000 or more, and a 10 year term. For example, a loan amount of $100,000 for 10 years, at an interest rate of 6.24% APR, will have a monthly payment of $1,112.30. To qualify for a promotional rate, existing LaSalle home equity customers must pay off a current Home Equity Line of Credit or Fixed-Rate Home Equity Loan by opening a new Fixed-Rate Home Equity Loan and must borrow an additional $15,000 in new money. LaSalle Bank N.A., LaSalle Bank Midwest N.A., Member FDIC ©2005 LaSalle Bank Corporation.

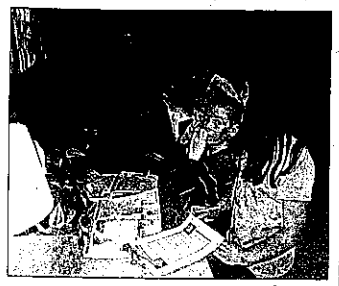
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN MISSOURI SYNOD High & Elm Streets, Northville T. Lubecki, Pastor Church 349-3140 School 349-3146 Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Contemporary Service 11:00 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:45 a.m.	**BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA** "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place..." Luke 2:15 39375 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, MI 48150 (Ann Arbor Trail & Newburgh) Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:45 AM Sunday School (All Ages) 9:30 AM
FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE On Haggerty Rd. North of 5 Mile Rd. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Morning Celebration 10:30 a.m. (248) 348-1700 Dr. Ron Boiles, Pastor	**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE** 205 E. Main St. at Hutton • (248) 349-0911 Weekend Church School - 9:30 am & 11 am Childcare Available at All Services Youth Praise Prog. Nov. 4 (5:00 - 8:00 PM) Single Place Ministry - Thurs. 7:30pm Rev. W. Kent Claus, Senior Pastor Rev. James P. Russell, Associate Pastor
MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 21355 Meadowbrook R. - Novi at 8 1/2 Mile Morning Worship 10 a.m. Sunday School & Nursery 10 a.m. 248-348-7767 Minister: Rev. Dr. E. Neil Hunt Minister of Music: Patrick Kuhl	**OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH** 770 Thayer, Northville WEEKEND LITURGIES Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 7:30, 9 AM, 11 AM, 12:30 PM Church 349-0291, School 349-3640 Religious Education 349-2559 Rev. Terrence Kernet, Pastor
CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL (Anglican) 10 Mile between Meadowbrook & Haggerty Phone 248-427-1175 Sun. 7:45 & 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Sunday School & Nursery 10 am Rev. Canon Henry Pacini www.churchoftheholycross.com	**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH** 9 Mile & Meadowbrook Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod Sunday School and Adult Bible Class 8:45am Worship 10:00am Thomas E. Schroeder, Pastor - 349-0865
FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 44400 W. 10 Mile, Novi, 248-349-2345 1/2 mile west of Novi Rd. Sunday 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Service Dr. Richard J. Henderson, Pastor	**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE** 349-1144 8 Mile & Taft Roads Worship Services 8am, 9:15am & 11am Rev. John Hice Rev. Lisa Cook www.fumcnorthville.org
ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 46201 10 Mile Rd. Novi, MI 48374 Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 & 11:00 a.m. Reverend George Chantley, Pastor Parish Office: 347-2778	**OAK POINTE CHURCH** At Novi High School 10 Mile & Taft Roads Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Casual, contemporary, live band (248) 912-0043 www.oakpointe.org
CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 25606 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi, MI 48375 Masses: Sat. 5 pm; Sun. 7:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. Holy Day: 9 am, 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm Fr. John G. Bulsko, Pastor Fr. Robert Shyler, Associate Pastor Parish Office: 349-8847	**HARVEST FELLOWSHIP** 49329 Pontiac Trail Wixom 248-926-8332 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 39533 Five Mile Rd. (S. of Haggerty) Plymouth, MI 48170 Phone 734-420-0131 Sunday Services Matins (Orthros) 9:00 a.m., Liturgy 10:00 a.m. Rev. Fr. George M. Mastoras www.nativityoaclerk.org	**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA** 23225 Gill Rd., Farmington Hills Between Grand River & Freedom 248-474-0664 Saturday Worship 5:30 Sunday Worship 8:00 & 11:00 Traditional, 9:50 Contemporary Sunday School 9:45
WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Dr. James M. McGuire, Senior Pastor 42351 Schoolcraft - Northville, MI 48167-1400 Traditional Worship, 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service, 11:45 a.m. Sunday School & Nursery Provided Sunday Evening Service, 7:00 p.m. Junior Preschool Mass 9:00 AM, 10:30 a.m.	**✡ CONG. BEIT KODESH ✡** **1-248-477-8974** 31840 W. Seven Mile Rd., Livonia Friday Night Services 8:00 p.m. Saturday Services 9:00 a.m. **HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES** Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sept-May

CHURCH DIRECTORY
For information regarding rates call The Northville Record or Novi News (248) 349-1700

Racing to research

■ Village Oaks kids take an "Amazing Journey" into information age

By Sue Ruddy and Melissa Lind
SPECIAL WRITERS



Courtesy photo

Given only coordinates in their challenge question, these students use an atlas to help find the right location to complete their task. Pictured are students Laura Baumgarten, Kyle Tam, Don Nakashima, John Hood and Emily Rubida.

Friday the 13th was a pretty lucky day at Village Oaks Elementary School, as students in Melissa Lind's fourth grade class took an "Amazing Journey" into the world of information and research.

Similar in style to the popular reality show, "The Amazing Race," students received challenge questions that took them to various locales throughout the world.

In preparation for the event, students spent several weeks with Sue Ruddy, the school's media specialist. They learned how to use various media resources, such as encyclopedias and atlases to access information.

The state's content standards and benchmarks for learning include having all students develop their ability to define and investigate important issues and problems using a variety of resources, including technology.

These educational standards provided the basis for this learning activity. The event was referred to as a journey as students moved beyond an awareness of resource materials to the real life application of the information to solve their challenges. Their target goals were to research and to have every team cross the finish line.

"I liked when we had to look up a French recipe because I didn't know there was a French way to make a grilled cheese sandwich," said student Leah Maxfield.

The six student teams came to the media center for a brief rally before they packed their bags and were off. The checkered flag was the signal for the fun to begin. Envelopes containing the clues were ripped open and the teams began using their resources to locate the answers to their challenges. Some challenges involved using math skills as students were asked to make a rope and a sailboat using precise measurements, while others required gathering information using cookbooks, dictionaries, atlases, the Internet, encyclopedias and almanacs.

"We worked together by having two people look in a book for answers and two people searching on the computer," said student Dany El-Fallal.

Pit stop personnel took their positions and awaited their team's arrival. Some of the pit stops the children traveled to were the principal's office, the secretary's desk, office of support staff and, parent volunteers, who were situated around the school. Answers were checked at the stops, and, if correct, stamps were affixed to each child's passport and the next challenge envelope was given to the team. Incorrect answers sent teams back researching.

Students and teachers who happened to see a team "race by" provided further encouragement with cheers and high fives. Teams finished within minutes of each other. Lind had each student complete a post assessment of their experience. Here's some of what they had to say.

"I liked the Amazing Journey because even though we were fast, it feels great to know that we made it to the finish line by working together," said Emily Rubida, a student.

That thought was echoed by fellow student Dominique Hutchings. "What I liked the most about the Amazing Journey is that we got to learn and have fun at the same time," she said.

Sue Ruddy is Village Oaks Elementary School's media specialist and Melissa Lind is a Village Oaks fourth grade teacher.

Courtesy photo

Fun Night

Novi Woods families enjoyed spending time together at the school's annual Family Fun Night. They were entertained by comedian and juggler Joel Tacy and cooled down with an ice cream social after the show. In lieu of an admittance fee, the families donated items to "Teens Aiding the Cancer Community," which is a community service project run by Novi High School students. Pictured here Kira Hurley, Cassidy Cirka and Austin Beyer and high school students Rose Xie and Jim Brunner.

Thank you Northville for voting us Best Accountant!
RINGO & Associates
Certified Public Accountants
We've moved to the new Long Building
• Individual Tax Preparation
• Bookkeeping Services
• Audits of Financial Statements
• Business Valuations
• Corporate, Partnership, Estate Tax Preparation & Planning
ringocpa@msn.com
120 W. Main Street • Suite 207 • Northville, MI 48167
248-735-2407 • fax 248-735-2426

Visit us on the Web: www.novinews.com

Let us Cater your Football Party!
• Party Subs • Pizza
• Salads • Wings • Ribs
FREE DELIVERY IN NOVI
Along with your food order we deliver beer, wine and liquor
See our coupon flyer in today's paper!
PIZZA MARVELOUS
248-348-1000
43340 W. 10 Mile Rd., Novi
Inside the Food & Wine Bazaar

Price Slicer
We're cutting our prices with this one time sale, when you buy an ad in the Price Slicer!
(Sorry, color isn't discounted)
Space Reservation Deadline
Monday, January 30, 2006
Copy Deadline
Tuesday, January 31, 2006
Publication Dates
February 23, 2006
HIGHLAND MILFORD LYON TOWNSHIP NOVI OAKLAND COUNTY NORTHVILLE
Northville Record . . . 248-349-1700
Novi News 248-349-1700
South Lyon Herald . . 248-437-2011
Milford Times 248-685-1507

Expecting Someone?
THE MERLE AND SHIRLEY HARRIS BIRTHING CENTER AT HURON VALLEY-SINAI HOSPITAL
• Beautiful, all private birthing suites, for labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum (LDRP) care
• Anesthesiologists available 24 hours a day
• Complete-care nursery including full-time neonatology service for infants with special needs
• High-risk pregnancy, infertility and genetics services*
*All in conjunction with Hutzel Women's Hospital and Wayne State University.
Expect the Best.
To schedule a tour of the Merle and Shirley Harris Birthing Center at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, call 248-937-5120. To schedule an appointment with one of our physicians, call 1-888-DMC-2500.
DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital
DETROIT MEDICAL CENTER/WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
A New World in Healthcare™
1 William Carls Drive • Commerce, Michigan • 248-937-3300 • www.hvsh.org
At Commerce & Commerce in Commerce

OPINION

www.novinews.com

Novi News

Cal Stone
EDITOR

Grace Perez Perry
GENERAL MANAGER

Richard Periberg
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Richard Rainhoff
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

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.

WHERE WE STAND

Way Forward: Some valuable lessons learned

There are 1,567 individuals who were thrown out of the game after Ford Motor Company's restructuring plan announced Monday.

But it's not the plan that needs to be scrutinized, rather the factors that forced the automaker to develop it. And there are many factors that led to the closing of the Wixom Assembly Plant.

As a state, we need to make Michigan an attractive (i.e., profitable) place for businesses to come, stay and invest. Tax incentives help, as does funding for research and development.

Our single business tax may be the single biggest detriment to our economy. It needs to go.

Critical road improvements – like revamping the Wixom / I-96 interchange – need to completed without delay.

As a country, we need to level the playing field between domestic and foreign manufacturers.

We need to rethink the way we fund healthcare.

As workers and unions, we need to be willing to make wage and benefit concessions so jobs can stay here.

As manufacturers, we need to make reliable products that people want and can afford.

Yes, Ford has made mistakes, and this is its second swing in the last four years at getting it right. It might not get a third strike before its called out. But if we're all on the same team, there are things we can all do to help them get back on base (and perhaps prevent another 1,567 ejections).

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Old Glory

Novi American Legion Post #19's Ray Garcia and Anthony Lolli, right, helped to get 63 American flags for Novi High School and its principal, John Lawrence, left. The flags, which were purchased with help from the school, will be hung in its classrooms.

LETTERS

Will Ford lose loyalty?

As I have indicated on numerous occasions, t he U.S. auto executives and news media, have a o realistic concept of the average US auto cus tomer, as your guest and the Ford executives de monstrated once again this morning. They are s o accustomed to associating with the 'rich and f amous' that they have isolated themselves from the average customer. I suggest that if they woul d just visit the average auto dealership in Ameri ca and talk to the average customers looking for new cars, instead of chasing auto shows all ove r the world, they might learn something.

I did not bother to listen to most of the Ford PR this morning, because I know the mentality of such executives after working for GM for 25 years. However, as I was walking through th e living room where my wife was watching, the TV screen just happened to be displaying the p lans that were to be closed. Simultaneously a F ord spokesman was indicating that a new plant, whose location was yet to be determined, would be built in the future. Detroit is/was the auto ca pital of the world. As such, Michigan has/had t he most loyal U.S. auto customers in the U.S.; o r the world for that matter. For Ford to close the Wixom plant in Michigan and in the next breat h talk about building a new plant somewhere els e in North America defies common sense. But t his is nothing new, as I have accused U.S. auto executives of being devoid of common sense on many occasions before. How many loyal U.S. Ford customers, especially the Ford workers wh o lost their jobs and their families, do you think there will be in Michigan after today?

I think Ford's problems just got bigger, at leas t here in Michigan.

Richard Reising
Novi

Keep Deerfield as is

Seven years ago, the Novi school district set out to deliberately create an alternative elementary school concept. The merits of such a magnet school of choice were studied at length, wi th citizen input as well as cross-referencing agai nst the top school districts in Michigan. The result was Deerfield Elementary, which opened in the fall of 2000 and has had a wait list every year since. The school has operated at capacity since the fall of 2001.

Now, the school board has recognized that there is an imbalance amongst the student populations of the four traditional elementary schools (also referred to as neighborhood schools.) Parkview is seriously overcrowded, while Orchard Hills and Village Oaks are underutilized. The school board should be commended for past practices, as it has not had to re-district for 17 years. This is an amazing feat considering the rapid population growth in the area.

However, now the school board has concluded that re-districting the elementary schools can no longer be avoided. That is a logical conclusion, based upon the presentation made at the last school board meeting. However, they also have concluded that Deerfield should no longer be a magnet school, and instead revert to a neighborhood school.

This is very strange. How does the topic of re-districting amongst the four neighborhood schools suddenly shift to one of eliminating a program that was so carefully created just 5-7 years ago? And how come they can eliminate this program without any debate, discussion of value, strengths, weaknesses, citizen input, due process, etc.? The only reason given for eliminating this program was the population imbalance cited at the last school board meeting. Considering that Deerfield operates at capacity, it seems like that would be the LAST thing the board would want to do to solve the problem.

Tim Rose
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. Generally, no more than one letter per month by the same author will be published. Letters must be received by noon Tuesday to be printed in the Thursday edition. **Mail:** Letters to the Editor, Cal Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167 **E-mail:** cstone@gannett.com **Fax to:** (248) 349-9832

Future looks bright, but city still faces many challenges

During Mayor David Landry's State of the City Address last week, he noted that Novi is the fastest growing municipality in Oakland County.

And, a recent report by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation showed that Novi had more substantial nonresidential development projects in 2005 than any other community in the state.

The city manager's office provides the MEDC with updates on new Novi development projects.

Novi had 21 new projects last year, followed by Grand Rapids with 19.

In 2004, the city had 23 qualifying nonresidential development projects — the second highest in the state.

Pam Fleming

MEDC compiles this list from across the state. It is the basis for Michigan's annual national ranking in site selection scorecards.

The criteria used are new or expansion nonresidential developments with 50 or more employees and/or $1 million or more in private investment. These are projects actually under construction during 2005 not just planned.

Obviously, Novi's investment activity continues to be strong.

Our city leaders, with the help of a voter-approved road bond in 2000, have done much to improve the road system.

And the state has cooperated with a new interchange completed at Beck Road and I-96 and a Wixom Road/I-96 interchange scheduled to be revamped next.

But, Novi has several challenges it will have to face in the near future.

Legislation mandates that all taxing units in Michigan must adjust their millage rates annually so the only increase in tax dollars they receive on property that existed the prior year is whatever the rate of inflation was for the year.

New construction is excluded from the calculation. This legislation is referred to as the Headlee Amendment.

Each year, the taxable value on individual properties can only be increased by the rate of inflation, although the market value may increase substantially more than this amount.

When a property is sold, however, the taxable value is adjusted to reflect the market value. These sales are what bring the Headlee Amendment into play.

At the Jan. 9 council meeting, Mayor Landry proposed a special council meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11, to discuss the composition of the city's millage rate.

The mayor has stated that council members will not discuss raising taxes.

He only wants the finance director to educate them and the community about the Headlee amendment and the city's millage rate.

The city will not only face a possible change in its tax rate. It also needs to fund retired city employees' pensions and health care insurance, as well as the health care expenses of current employees.

This will have a major impact on the city's reserves in the years to come.

The recent fund-raising campaign for capital improvements for the Novi Public Library raised only $1.7 million for an $18 million to $19 million expansion project.

This means voters will most likely be asked on the next general election ballot to support a millage that will help fund this project.

Another question raised at a special joint meeting Monday night between planning commission and city council is whether Novi's current ordinances have kept up with the times.

When developers request five to six variances per project, according to Victor Cassis, planning commission chair, perhaps our city leaders need to look at changing ordinances to match current market trends.

With about 3,500 acres of land yet to be developed in the city, our ordinances will be put to the test for several more years.

These are just some of the challenges that Novi's new city manager will face after Rick Helwig retires next week.

Helwig said it best during his last city council meeting on Monday night: "It's a new era."

With the sudden death of Police Chief Doug Shaeffer last August and David Molloy moving into the top law enforcement spot, Helwig leaving and Fire Chief Art Lenaghan also retiring next month, Novi will have three new city officials in less than a year.

It looks like 2006 will be an especially exciting year in Novi's history.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103, or by e-mail at pfleming@gannett.com.

State's solutions must come from us

Last Tuesday, they held a tribute dinner for Steve Hamp, who ended his enormously successful run of nine years as President of The Henry Ford and became a vice president at the Ford Motor Company and chief of staff for Bill Ford, Ford's chairman and CEO.

The gathering, appropriately enough, was in the main Henry Ford Museum. Three hundred of the good and the great of Southeastern Michigan strolled for their supper and then listened as heartfelt praises gushed over Hamp, whose eyes even grew moist as the evening went on.

Phil Power

Bill Ford was funny and charismatic. Steve's father and mother-in-law, William and Martha Ford, were gracious and proud.

The Ford family is the closest thing we have to nobility in these parts. Their combined civic concern, generosity, dignity and ... well, class have been of incalculable benefit to the entire state for decades. Think of Michigan without the Ford Motor Company.

Now try to imagine it without The Henry Ford (which includes Greenfield Village) or the Detroit Symphony, the Detroit Institute of Arts — or countless other institutions of stature and merit. None would exist, at least not as they do now, without the Ford family.

Now fast forward to Monday. Bill Ford announced that his company's "Way Forward" involves closing 14 assembly and parts plants, including the Wixom plant that employs 1,500, and eliminating around 30,000 jobs throughout North America over the next five years.

The Ford Motor Company will be shrinking itself overall by nearly a quarter, reducing production capacity by around a million units.

To say the situation is critical is an understatement. "It's the most serious crisis at Ford in modern times," says David Cole, the chairman of the Ann Arbor-based Center for Automotive Research.

Although Ford overall showed a profit for the first nine months of 2005, its operations on this continent lost more than $1.4 billion before taxes. Combined total market share for Ford, Mercury and Lincoln fell from 18.3 percent to 17.4 percent.

To appreciate how sobering that number is, consider that a decade ago, Ford's share was more than 25 percent. The company's market capitalization has fallen by a flabbergasting $40 billion since 2001. Currently, its factories are running at a puny rate of just 79 percent capacity, far below the 90 percent-plus mark needed for profitable operations these days.

The question is whether it can survive, given the weight of its chains. This enormous company resembles Gulliver tied down by the Lilliputians, thanks to the web of contract agreements Ford signed with the United Auto Workers.

According to these agreements, even if Ford closed every one of its U.S. factories, it would still have to pay wages to the 87,000 UAW members who now work in them. Additionally, Ford would be liable for their health care and pension expenses — and for twice that number of retirees and dependents.

For years now, experts like David Cole have argued that the business model of the American automobile industry is broken: Too much capacity, too little flexibility to cut costs, too much competition from foreign manufacturers.

Recent shocks have aggravated a desperate situation. Globalized workers in China and India are able to turn out parts and cars at a fraction of what they cost in America.

Meanwhile, in recent years the price of steel, aluminum, plastics, gas — everything! — have skyrocketed.

We've lost something like 100,000 auto-related manufacturing and parts jobs in this state since 1999, and many more since the 1970s. They aren't coming back, and this week's plant closings are clear evidence the decline is far from over.

One can only admire the guts that it took Ford to call its restructuring plan "The Way Forward." And one can only wish — with every atom in one's being — that the plan turns out to be successful.

What all this means for us in Michigan is reasonably clear.

If our kids ever thought they could support a family with nothing more than a high school diploma, this week's news should come as a bucket of cold water in their faces.

If those who have retired or are about to ever thought their golden years were going to be securely taken care of by pensions and fully paid health care plans, they'd better think again.

And anyone in Michigan who was still assuming all we had to do was just wait for auto sales to improve next year or the year after that needs a speedy attitude adjustment, if not shock therapy.

But there's an upside, too. A smaller domestic auto industry may well turn out to be a healthier one. Loss of brawn-heavy jobs in Michigan may clear the decks for a far more healthy emphasis on high-skilled, brainy workers. . . .

And there may be an added benefit from the shock of seeing a treasured icon, the company whose name was once synonymous with Detroit, reeling from the crush of a kind of competition the original Henry Ford never imagined.

Perhaps this will bring us — politicians, citizens, auto executives — to the realization that it's silly for us to sit around and just wait for the climate to change. That's what the dinosaurs did.

Nor can we bank on government or industry or the automakers themselves figuring out what to do. They must try, but we all have a role to play. To paraphrase Shakespeare, the solutions cannot come just from our stars anymore; they must come from ourselves

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan. He would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@hcinet.com.

FAITH

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax: (248) 349-9832

• **Meadowbrook Congregational Church** invites everyone to attend a Sunday worship service at 10 a.m.

The church is located at 21355 Meadowbrook Road, between Eight Mile and Nine Mile roads. Call (248) 348-7757.

• **The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross** offers a worship service every Wednesday from 12:10-12:50 p.m. Come and share your lunch hour with God at a worship service that includes scripture and Holy Communion. The church invites all to worship Sundays at 7:45 and 10 a.m. Nursery care is available at 10 a.m. worship service. (The nursery is coordinated by a registered pediatric nurse.)

Adult Bible Study is Sundays at 9 a.m. Worship Center for children ages 3-7, and Sunday School is at 10 a.m.

Worship Service of Compline is held at 8:30 p.m. Rite 13 (ages 11-14) and J2A (ages 14 and up) groups meet at 5 p.m. for their program and dinner. Youth Worship Service is held at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Sunday of every month; all are welcome.

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. Call (248) 427-1175 or visit www.churchofthe-holycross.com.

• **Faith Community Presbyterian Church** invites you to worship at either the 9 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. services. Adult Sunday school is offered at 9 a.m. Sunday school and nursery care is available at both services.

Dr. Henderson will be teaching an Amos and Hosea class on Tuesday's at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m.. Cost for the book and class is $19. Everyone is welcome.

Women's Bible Study, led by Jann Martin, is the first Wednesday and Thursday of each month, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Zacchaeus Retreat begins at 7 p.m. Friday and concludes at noon Sunday.

The church is located at 44400 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi. Call (248) 349-2343, or visit www.faith-community-novi.org.

• **The Holy Family Church** is located at 24505 Meadowbrook Road; between Grand River and 10 Mile Road. Call (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamilynovi.org.

• **Oak Pointe Church** service times will be at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. every Sunday. Visit www.oakpointe.org or call (248) 912-0043. The church meets at Novi High School.

• **St. James Catholic Church** is located at 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi. Call (248) 347-7778.

• **First United Methodist Church of Northville** will be hosting a community-wide healing service, called Prayers for Healing of Body, Mind, Relationship and Spirit on the first Monday of each month. This services of hope is open to the Northville/Novi community and persons of all faiths who desire to ask God for healing in their life, or that of someone they hold dear. Church worship hour schedules are as follows: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. on Sundays. The church is located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road (at Taft Road), Northville. Phone (248) 349-1144, or visit www.fumc-northville.org.

• **St. John Lutheran Church** is located at 23225 Gill Road in Farmington Hills. Saturday service begins at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday traditional services are at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday contemporary service begins at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. Nursery is provided.

Call (248) 474-0584 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com for more information.

• **Crosspointe Meadows Church** meets Sundays at Meadowbrook Elementary School. Services are at 9 and 10:30 a.m. Fresh brewed hot coffee is available from 10-10:30 a.m. The church also has children's programs for all ages and a nursery available.

The church is located at 29200 Meadowbrook Road, just south of 13 Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 427-2700 Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or www.crosspointemeadows.org.

Compiled by Ramea Khuri

SENIORS

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax: (248) 349-9832

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Lawyer Eric Glick talks to Meadowbrook Commons resident Joan Wojnarski about building financial trusts for her children.

SENIOR BRIEFING
ELDER CARES
- Power of Attorney
- Living Wills
- Estate Planning
- Medicare
- Social Security

Ask the lawyer
Location: 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi Senior Center
Date/Time: 1-3 p.m. Feb. 7, March 14, April 11 and May 9
Price: Free of charge
Contact: For appointment, call (248) 347-0414
Topics discussed: probate avoidance, tax avoidance, wills, power of attorney, patient advocate designation, Medicaid qualifications, asset protection, estate planning, Medicare Part D and trusts

Learning the law

Novi seniors pick attorney's brain on legal issues

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Joan Wojnarski expressed her gratitude of having an attorney at hand to answer possible questions about her future.

The Meadowbrook Commons resident said it's important for seniors to understand the many legal issues affecting them today.

"Many seniors can't get in the car and go talk to a lawyer," Wojnarski said. "It's convenient to know that (someone) will be here to answer our questions."

Novi Senior Center officials introduced the community to "Ask the Lawyer" in November to provide clarifications on issues concerning senior citizens, including power of attorney, Medicare Part D, Medicaid, trusts, wills and designations of patient advocates.

Eric Glick and Karen Stewart are area lawyers meeting, free of charge, with Novi seniors to discuss any questions they may have regarding legal issues.

"These sessions are a good opportunity to ask questions," said the estate-planning attorney from Bingham Farms-based Thaw Gross Steinway and Bennett. "It's a good way to see if they need documents updated."

Glick, a 1997 graduate from the Detroit College of Law at Michigan State University, said it's important to have and be current with changes in the law, especially with estate planning.

"Attorneys don't normally make house calls," he said, "but people need to be informed.

"The point is to answer peoples questions and have them know what's out there and how it can help them."

Rachel Zagaroli said the big question on seniors' minds is, 'Am I being taken care of?'

"Many people are intimidated to sit down and talk with lawyers," said Zagaroli, senior service director for the Novi Senior Center. "It's not so intimidating if they're here on their own turf."

Zagaroli said the program is very beneficial to the Novi senior community.

"It's our job to be advocates of the seniors," she said. "We're always looking for people who can offer their expertise in areas that might be intimidating on their own.

"There's no pressure, and that's what we're looking for."

Zagaroli said she hoped to welcome more seniors into the program in the future, and the center was fortunate to have Glick and Stewart to help.

"(People) need to understand that it's not just about playing games, special events and programs," she said. "It's planning for your future – which in turn fits into that well-rounded wheel to complete the program we're trying to offer our seniors."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Friday 1/27
8:45 a.m. ..... Panera Bread
9 a.m. ..... Stretch and Strength
10 a.m. ..... Body Recall
noon ..... Lunch
12:30 p.m. ..... Dupl. Bridge*
12:30 p.m. ..... Bingo
2-2:30 p.m. ..... Massage

Monday 1/30
9 a.m. ..... Stretch and Strength
10 a.m. ..... Body Recall
noon ..... Lunch
12:30 p.m. ..... Pinochle*
2-2:30 p.m. ..... Tai
2-2:30 p.m. ..... Massage
6:30 p.m. ..... Clogging*

Tuesday 1/31
9 a.m. ..... Panera Bread
9 a.m. ..... Line Dance
10 a.m. ..... Asian Pacific
11 a.m.-1 p.m. ..... Computer Lab open
noon ..... Lunch
12:30 p.m. ..... Bingo
2-2:30 p.m. ..... Massage

Wednesday 2/1
9 a.m. ..... Stretch and Strength
10 a.m. ..... Body Recall
11 a.m. ..... Blood Pressure
11 a.m. ..... Taking Off Pounds Sensibly class
noon ..... Lunch
12:30 p.m. ..... Clogging*
2-2:30 p.m. ..... Massage

Thursday 2/2
9 a.m. ..... Line Dance*
11 a.m.-1 p.m. ..... Computer Lab open
noon ..... Lunch
12:15 ..... Contract Bridge*
1-2 p.m. ..... Line Dance
2-2:30 p.m. ..... Massage

** Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. Phone (248) 347-0414.*

M. MAZZONI JEWELERS
CUSTOM JEWELRY DESIGNING
JEWELRY REPAIR • APPRAISALS
-All Work Done on Premises-
12726 Grand River Ave. • Farmington
248-478-3300 www.mmazzonijewelers.com

Herniated Disc Technology Discovered by NASA Scientists
Ann Arbor – A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven non-surgical decompression 86% successful in treating debilitating back pain. Find out how NASA's accidental discovery led to the most promising treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" Call 1-800-293-2595 for the toll-free recorded message. Supplies are limited - call now. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.freediscreport-4u.com

DETAILS
by Brandi Brennan
Total Salon Experience at your Door
Professional Stylist available to travel to your home or desired location.
WEDDING PARTIES • PROMS
PRIVATE PARTIES • SPECIAL OCCASIONS
Call for group package pricing and Details!
248-486-9827 BOOK EARLY!
bbrennan0055@hotmail.com

Proud to be a part of this great community
O'BRIEN & SULLIVAN
FUNERALS, CREMATIONS, PREARRANGEMENTS
41555 Grand River Avenue
Novi, Michigan 48375-1822
(248)348-1800
John J. O'Brien John P. O'Brien
Michael D. Watt
State Licensed-Board Certified Funeral Directors
Family owned
www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com
Offering Prearrangements & Prefinancing

PUBLIC INVITED
ANTIQUE RADIO SHOW and SALE
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th
9 A.M. to 2 P.M.
free appraisal/repair clinic/silent auction
See hundreds of art deco and antique radios from tube type, battery operated to unusual transistor models at our swap meet and sale.
COSTIC ACTIVITIES CENTER
29600 Eleven Mile
Farmington Hills
(between Middlebelt & Inkster Roads)
Sponsored by the
MICHIGAN ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB
For information, call Robert Murrell (248) 399-2149

Special auto insurance savings for GM and GM Supplier Employees
GMAC Insurance
Call Mark Tarpinian for a FREE quote
TFI Insurance & Benefits
217 S. Center St.
Northville, MI 48167
248-347-3525

CALENDAR

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax: (248) 349-9832

EVENTS

Art Show

DATE: through January
TIME: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday
LOCATION: Meadowbrook Art Center, 10 Mile and Meadowbrook roads
DETAILS: Photographers Tom Coratti and Kim-Tong Gau will be displaying their color photographs of their travels around the world.
CONTACT: (248) 477 6620

Novi Co-op Preschool Open House

DATE: Saturday
TIME: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi United Methodist Church, 41671 10 Mile Road
DETAILS: This event will be the first time to register for the 2006-2007 school year. Meet the teachers and tour the preschool.
CONTACT: (248) 349-3223

Bonefish Grill Charity Night

DATE: Saturday
TIME: 6-8:30 p.m
LOCATION: Bonefish Grill, Novi Town Center
DETAILS: Bonefish Grill is celebrating their opening in Novi with a fund-raising event to benefit Novi Youth Assistance.
CONTACT: Gail O'Connor, Novi Community Education Child Care Services, (248) 449-1713 or by e-mail at goconnor@novi.k12.mi.us. Those interested in donating prizes for the raffle or silent auction can contact Kim Ziegler, Novi Youth Assistance, (248) 347-0410 or by e-mail at kziegler@ci.novi.mi.us.

Muscular Dystrophy Association Fund-raiser

DATE: Sunday
TIME: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
LOCATION: Total Baseball, 30990 S. Wixom Road, Wixom
DETAILS: All proceeds from the batting cages will go to MDA. Raffle tickets are available. Reservations not required, cages can be reserved for one team/one hour for a donation of $100.
CONTACT: (248) 668-0166

Novi Town Hall Lecture

DATE: Wednesday
TIME: 11:30 a.m., luncheon; 12:30 p.m., lecture
PLACE: Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue
DETAILS: This is the second in the Lecture Series and will feature WDIV Channel 4 "Weather Guy" Chuck Gaidica. He is the director of meteorology at WDIV TV, CEO of Gaidica Communications, and an emcee and motivational speaker on weight loss and overcoming adversity. The cost of the luncheon and lecture is $50; the lecture is $35. Proceeds from the 2005-2006 Novi Town Hall Lecture Series will be donated to the Novi Public Library Capital Campaign. Reservation forms for the event are available at the library.

City of Wixom 4th Annual Wine Tasting

DATE: Friday, Feb. 10
TIME: 7-9 p.m.
LOCATION: Wixom Community Center, 49015 Pontiac Trail
DETAILS: This event is for ages 21 and up. Merchant's Fine Wine will bring wines and cheeses from around the United States. A buffet table including breads, assorted crackers and fruits will be available. The cost is $28 per person; registration deadline is 3 p.m., Feb. 8
CONTACT: (248) 624-2850

Providence Center for the Healing Arts Exhibit

DATE: through Tuesday
LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., Novi
DETAILS: This is the fourth annual "Mad Hatter Tea Party," a free show of original artwork by patients, families and associates, as well as jurried pieces by Novi High School students. A reception will be held, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6. Costumes are encouraged.
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

Novi Youth Assistance General Citizens Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, Feb 7
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0410

SCHOOL/ GOVERNMENT

Wixom City Council

DATE: Tuesday
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Wixom City Hall, 49045 Pontiac Trail
CONTACT: (248) 624-4557

Novi City Council Meeting

DATE: Monday, Feb. 6
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 344-0470

Novi School Board Meeting

DATE: Today
TIME: 7:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Orchard Hills Elementary, 41900 Quince Street
CONTACT: (248) 449-1200.

BUSINESS

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Events

CONTACT: (248) 624-2826
Morning Connection
DATE: Tuesday, Feb. 7
TIME: 8:30-9:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Flagstar Bank, 7950 Cooley Lake Road, Waterford
DETAILS: Bring business cards to network.
Manufacturers' Roundtable
DATE: Wednesday, Feb. 8
TIME: 5-8 p.m.
LOCATION: WTVS, Clover Drive, Wixom
DETAILS: Manufacturers are invited to attend this discussion relating to problems in the manufacturing sector.

Oakland County Business Workshops

TIME: 9 a.m.-noon
LOCATION: 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Pontiac
CONTACT: (248) 858-0783
How to Start a Business
DATE: Feb. 2 and March 2
DETAILS: This class is for anyone thinking about going into business. Participants examine their entrepreneurial skills, learn how to implement their ideas and receive a list of pitfalls to avoid when starting a business.
Write a Business Plan
DATE: Thursday, Feb. 16
DETAILS: This is a workshop for small business owners. The fee is $40, including all materials. Registration required.
Certification Orientation Session for Women Business Owners
DATE: Thursday, Feb. 23
DETAILS: This is a workshop for businesses at least 51 percent owned, operated and controlled by women, needing resources to help expand and finance business growth. The fee is $25 per person, including all materials. Registration required.
How to Write a Business Plan
DATE: Thursday, March 9
DETAILS: This is a workshop for small business owners who are developing a plan to serve as their road map to success. The fee is $40 and includes materials.

CLASSES

Providence Center for the Healing Arts

Colored Pencil Workshop
TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m., second Tuesday of every month
LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center-Art Studio, 47601 Grand River Avenue, Novi
DETAILS: This is a free class.
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455
Artist in Residence
TIME/DATE: 10-11:30 a.m. first and third Thursday of every month
LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center-Art Studio, Novi
DETAILS: Join Artist-in-Residence May Oura Teevens and experiment with drawing, pastels, watercolor, Chinese brush painting, mixed media and collage. Beginners are welcome, there is a $5 materials fee.
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

Line Dancing

DATE: every Monday and Friday
TIME: 6:30-7:30 p.m., beginners; 7:30-9:30 p.m., intermediate
LOCATION: Novi Ice Arena, 42400 Arena Drive
DETAILS: No partner needed for lessons in this pay-as-you-go program. Cost is $5 for Novi residents and for those ages 55 and up; $6 for non-residents.
CONTACT: (248) 348-9116

LIBRARY LINES

Novi Public Library Hours

LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile Road
HOURS: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday
DETAILS: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the library.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0720

High School Game Day

DATE: Tuesday
TIME: 3-4:30 p.m.
DETAILS: High school students can try their hand at some of the library's games or bring their own favorites. Refreshments will be provided. No registration necessary.

Etiquette Program

DATE: Thursday, Feb. 2
TIME: 4:30-5:30 p.m.
DETAILS: Etiquette experts from the CharmElle School are offering this class on social etiquette and manners for ages 5-8. Class size is limited to 25 children. The cost is $15 per child, payable the day of the program. Registration is required.

Thomas Jefferson

DATE: Tuesday, Feb. 7
TIME: 7 p.m.
DETAILS: Professional actor David Dabust portrays founding father Thomas Jefferson. Registration is required for this free program, sponsored by the Friends of Novi Public Library.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0720

Battle of the Books Registration

DETAILS: The Battle of the Books is a program designed to encourage reading and to recognize young people who like to read. All fifth and sixth grade students who live or attend school in Novi are eligible to participate by organizing teams of 3-6 students, plus an adult coach. (It is not necessary for teams to be from the same school or grade.) Students read from a list of five books and then participate in a contest where each team answers questions about those books. The first 12 teams to return their registration forms will be eligible to participate in the Battle, which will be held in March 2006. For more information, please contact the library's Youth and Teen Services department.

Library Board Meeting

DATE: Wednesday
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: City Council Chambers at the Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: Community members are welcome to attend. Meetings are also broadcast live on cable channel 13.

Walled Lake Library Events

LOCATION: 1499 E. West Maple Road, Walled Lake
CONTACT: (248) 624-3772
Weekly Story Hours
TIME/DATE: 10:30 a.m., Monday-Wednesday; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Thursday
DETAILS: Includes stories, crafts, finger plays and games. Designed for ages 1-5. No registration required.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Neighborhood Baby-sitting Co-op

DETAILS: Using the co-op, you and your children can make friends and get what you need accomplished without the little ones in tow. Also enjoy a mom's night out and other social events.
CONTACT: Sue Tracz, (248) 380-0998.

Friendship Circle

DATE: Second Thursday of each month
TIME: 1 p.m.
LOCATION: St. James Catholic Church, 46325 10 Mile Road, between Taft and Beck roads.
DETAILS: Social group for all widows and widowers.
CONTACT: Norbert Monson, (248) 851-6730, Florence Voight, (248) 477-3032 or Joy Iovaldi, (248) 348-9138, joyiovaldi@earthlink.net

MOMS Club of Novi

DATE: First Thursday of each month
TIME: 10 a.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: The Moms Offering Moms Support (MOMS) is a non-profit support group, for mothers who choose to stay at home with their children, work out of their homes, or work part-time.
CONTACT: divnatlinan@sbcglobal.net

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples

DATES: Second Thursday of each month
TIME: 7 p.m.
LOCATION: Witch's Hat Depot, 300 Dorothy St., South Lyon.
DETAILS: This group provides information, support and social activities for mothers of multiple birth children and their families. Mothers of multiples living in and around the Kensington Valley school conference are all welcome.
CONTACT: For more information, (248) 437-5496.

Healing Prayer Service

DATE: First Monday of each month
TIME: 4 p.m.
LOCATION: First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile Road
DETAILS: This service is open to all faiths and is a service of hope.

Women's Prayer Support

DATE: Saturday
TIME: 9-10:30 a.m.
LOCATION: Harvest Fellowship Church, 49329 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
DETAILS: Come for encouragement, help, hope and prayer. Drop in for five minutes or longer.
CONTACT: Nancy or Susan, (248) 926-8332 or harvestfellowship@comcast.net

continued on next page

continued from page 20

Breast Cancer Support Group

DATES: Second and fourth Tuesday of each month
LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Commerce, Classroom C
TIME: 10-11:30 a.m.
DETAILS: No registration needed.
CONTACT: (248) 937-5017

Novi Toastmasters

DATE: First and third Tuesday of each month
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center Activities Room, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road
TIME: 7-8:45 p.m.
DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communication skills, voice your opinion, polish your presentations and practice leadership.
CONTACT: Colleen, (248) 685-9226

New Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) chapter

DATES: Every Wednesday
TIME: 11 a.m. weigh-in; 11:30 a.m. meeting
LOCATION: Meadowbrook Commons, 25075 Meadowbrook Road, Novi
DETAILS: $20 per annual membership includes handbook; $1 per meeting. New members welcome.
CONTACT: (248) 347-0414

HEALTH

Oakland Physical Therapy, P.C. Classes

LOCATION: Providence Medical Center, 47601 Grand River Avenue, Suite B124
CONTACT: (248) 380-3550
Preventing Injuries in Instrumental Musicians
DATE: Wednesday
TIME: 7 p.m.
DETAILS: This presentation includes a lecture with an audience participation format focusing on prevention and management of instrumental playing-related injuries. Musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments. Participants should wear form-fitting shirts or tops to properly evaluate posture. No fee, registration is required.
Introduction to Pilates
DATE: Wednesday, Feb. 15
TIME: 7 p.m.
DETAILS: This presentation guides you through basic Pilates philosophy and principles and expectation in a Pilates workout. No fee, registration is required.

Providence Medical Center Classes

LOCATION: Providence Park, Novi, 47601 Grand River Avenue
CONTACT: (888) 440-7325, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Childbirth Education
DETAILS: Evening or weekend series helping you and your partner get ready for the birth of your baby.
Childbirth Refresher
DETAILS: A one time class to review important information for birth of your baby.
Breastfeeding Preparation
DETAILS: A one time class for mom and her partner helping to provide tips for successful breastfeeding.
Baby Care Basics
DETAILS: A one time class with practical information about how to adapt to life with a baby.
Infant Massage
DETAILS: This two session class teaches parents how to offer their infant the comfort of massage.
Yoga Classes
TIME/DATE: 1:30-2:30 p.m. Monday; noon-1:30 p.m. Friday
DETAILS: The cost is $10/walk-ins or 10 class card for $80.

Boost Camp Days

DATE: Friday, Feb. 3 and March 3
TIME: 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Providence Center for the Healing Arts, 47601 Grand River Avenue
DETAILS: This is a day of enrichment and personal exploration designed to provide valuable tools, information and a new perspective on healthier living through wholeness. The cost is $50 per person, including lunch and materials. Registration is required.
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455

Yoga Classes

TIME/DATE: 12:30-1:15 p.m. Monday; 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Friday
LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River, Novi
DETAILS: The cost is $10/walk-in; $80/10-class card; $70/ 7-week evening sessions.

ROCK FINANCIAL SHOWPLACE

The Rock Financial Showplace is located at 46100 Grand River Avenue. Call (248) 348-5600 or visit http://rockfinancialshowplace.com/for more information.

Home Improvement Show

TIME/DATE: noon-9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday
DETAILS: This is the 14th annual Home Improvement Show featuring over 300 exhibitors including the latest technology, products and services for kitchens, baths, doors, windows, remodeling, heating and cooling. Admission is $9 for adults; $8 for seniors; under 12 are free.
CONTACT: (248) 737-4477 or www.builders.org

Antique Arms Show

TIME/DATE: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday Feb. 12
DETAILS: Buy, sell and trade antique arms. Admission is $6; ages 16 and under free.
CONTACT: (248) 676-2750

40th Annual Detroit Camper & RV Show

TIME/DATE: 2-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15-Friday, Feb. 17, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, February 18; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19
DETAILS: 2006 recreation vehicles will be on display including folding campers, motorhomes, travel trailers, truck campers, park models and fifth wheel travel trailers. Booths will feature parts and accessories, campground information and RV financing. Admission is $9 for adults; under 12 free.
CONTACT: (517) 349-8881 or visit www.marvac.org

Outdoorama

TIME/DATE 2-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22; noon-9 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23 and Friday, Feb. 24; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26
DETAILS: Outdoorama is a family show with something for everyone who enjoys the outdoors. 300 exhibitors will have the latest in hunting and fishing gear, boats, RV's and guided trips with a new retail section, Great Cats of the World and the Hawg Trough. Admission is $8 per adult; $4 for kids; $20 for a family pass.
CONTACT: (517) 371-1041 or visit www.mucc.org

Great American Train Show

TIME/DATE: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, March 4; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, March 5
DETAILS: This is the largest traveling show in the USA. Admission is $8 for adults; under 12 free.
CONTACT: (702) 252-0334 or visit www.gats.com

ONGOING

SWOCC Studio Tours

LOCATION: 33300 Nine Mile Road, Farmington.
DETAILS: Come in for an up-close look at the Southwest Oakland Cable Commission Studios, local community television studio.
CONTACT: Melissa Cohn, (248) 473-2840

Novi Concert Band Rehearsals

TIME/DATE: 7:30-9:30 p.m., Tuesday
LOCATION: Novi High School, Taft Road
DETAILS: Open to all wind and percussion players.
CONTACT: Dirna Kochyan, (248) 348-5135

Send your calendar items to Cal Stone, editor, Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-9832; or e-mail to cstone@gannett.com.

Plans to fit your needs.

Plan A:
36-month Penalty-Free CD
4.50% APY*
Close the account or take a one-time withdrawal anytime during the term of the CD
No Penalty**

Plan B:
13-month CD
4.75% APY†

Plan C:
4-month CD
4.25% APY†

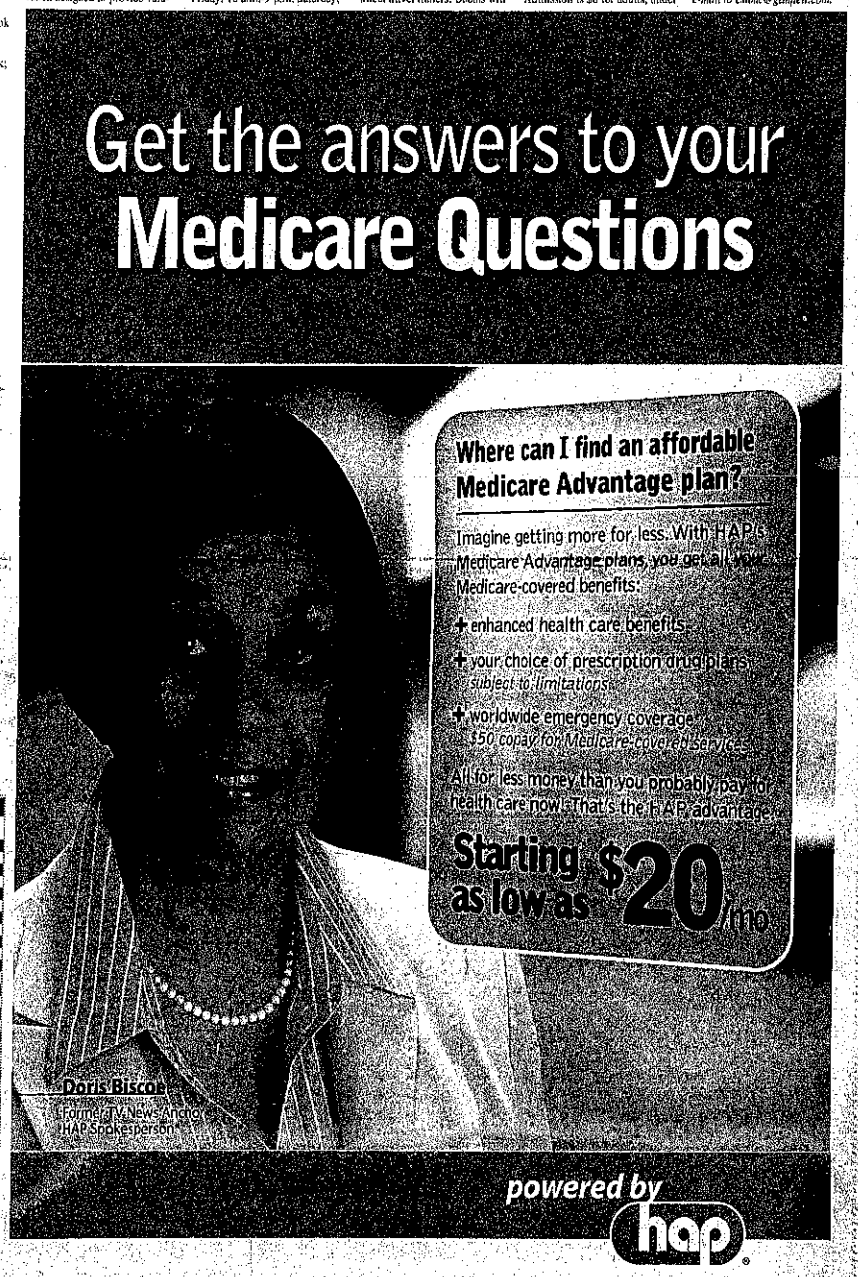
Plan A - *Certificate of Deposit Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective as of 1/11/06. 36-Month Penalty Free CD is limited to one per tax ID number. Minimum opening balance requirement is $500 and maximum deposit is $100,000. Deposits are allowed only on the maturity date or during the grace period. **One complete or partial withdrawal can be made at any time with no penalty. Further withdrawals, if necessary, will incur a penalty of 180 days interest earned or unearned or market-to-market penalty, whichever is greater. Interest compounded quarterly on 36-month CD. Rate is effective for a limited time only and subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions may apply. Offer cannot be combined with coupons or other special offers and is not eligible for VIP bonus. Plan B & C - †Annual Percentage Yield (APY) on 13-month CD and 4-month CD (120 days) is effective as of 1/04/06. Minimum opening balance requirement is $500 and maximum deposit is $100,000. Deposits are allowed only on the maturity date or during the grace period. Penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Interest compounded quarterly on 13-month CD. Interest paid at maturity on 4-month CD. Rates are effective for a limited time only and subject to change without notice. Offer cannot be combined with coupons or other special offers and is not eligible for VIP bonus. Not available for public units. Account fees could reduce earnings. Please contact your local Flagstar branch for more information. Certain restrictions may apply.

Flagstar Bank

FREE MOTOR
VALID THIS WEEKEND ONLY at our showroom or at our booth #533 at the Novi Home Improvement Show
*Must Present at Booth or in the Showroom
One coupon per customer. No other discounts or offers apply. 2006 in stock inventory only. Expires 1-29-06
1-800-44-AWNING
or 734-422-7110
SHOWROOM HOURS
M-F 9am-6pm // Sat & Su 10am-4pm
www.marygrove.com
12700 Merriman Rd., Livonia
I-96 Jeffries to Merriman North, 1st light, turn left then turn right to the railroad tracks.
SELECT RETRACTABLE AWNINGS Starting at $595.00
*Manually while supplies last
Marygrove

SOUTH LYON THEATER
Starts Fri Jan 27th
Cheaper by the Dozen 2
starring Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt
Rated PG 100 Min
7pm Shows $4.00
Matinees $3.00
Tuesdays $2.00
Sat & Sun 1, 4, 7pm
7pm Everynight
Wednesday FREE sm. Popcorn with paid admission
Thursday FREE Ice Cream with paid admission
Monday is Senior Citizen Night $3 admission
126 E. Lake St.
437-4545

WHAT A CHILD LEARNS ABOUT VIOLENCE A CHILD LEARNS FOR LIFE.
Teach carefully, so we can show you how. Call 877-ACT-WISE for a free brochure or visit www.actagainstviolence.org



Health Alliance Plan (HAP) and Alliance Health and Life Insurance Company each have a Medicare contract with the federal government. To take advantage of these plans, you must continue to pay your Medicare Part B Premium.

1-800-651-3525, TTY/TTD 1-313-664-8000

PPO is a product of Alliance Health and Life Insurance Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Health Alliance Plan. PPO is powered by HAP.

*Paid spokesperson; Doris Biscoe is powered by HAP.

www.hap.org

H2312 H2322 604NP

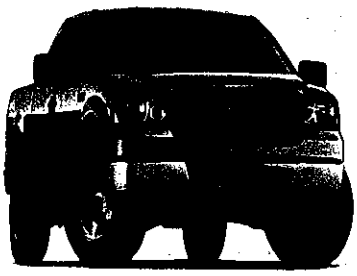
YOUR SUBURBAN FORD DEALERS

WANT TO PUT YOU

BEHIND THE OVAL

TO GET YOU THERE...

WE'LL WAIVE YOUR SECURITY DEPOSIT AND MAKE YOUR FIRST PAYMENT*

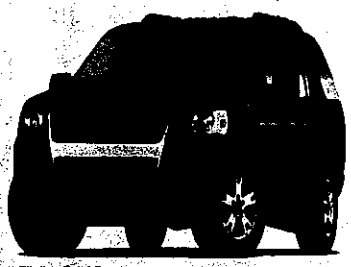


Eligible Ford Employees can Lease a 2006 F-150 SC 4X4 XLT

For as low as **$127** A month(1) with a 24 month low mileage Red Carpet Lease. *

With $3,095 customer cash due at signing.

Includes acquisition fee; security deposit waived. Excludes tax, title and license fee. Cash due is after $2,500 cash back.

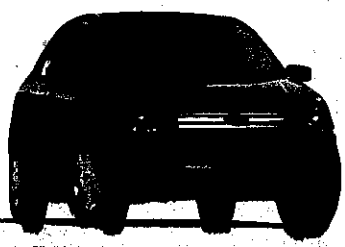


Eligible Ford Employees can Lease a 2006 Explorer XLT 4x4

For as low as **$189** A month(1) with a 24 month low mileage Red Carpet Lease. *

With $3,795 customer cash due at signing.

Includes acquisition fee; security deposit waived. Excludes tax, title and license fee. Cash due is after $2500 cash back.



Eligible Ford Employees can Lease a 2006 Ford Fusion SE

For as low as **$159** A month(1) with a 24 month low mileage Red Carpet Lease. *

With $2,670 customer cash due at signing.

Includes acquisition fee; security deposit waived. Excludes tax, title and license fee. Cash due is after $1000 cash back

Eligible Ford Employees can Lease a 2006 Escape XLT fwd

For as low as **$186** A month(1) with a 24 month low mileage Red Carpet Lease. *

With $3,281 customer cash due at signing.

Includes acquisition fee; security deposit waived. Excludes tax, title and license fee. Cash due is after $1000 cash back.

SUBURBAN FORD DEALERS
OPEN SATURDAYS

TAKE A RIDE IN A FORD...

(1) Not all buyers will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet Lease. Payments may vary; All payment examples are for Current Ford Employees and eligible family member Leases. Residency restrictions apply. * First payment up to $500.00 and security deposit waived. For special lease terms, RCL Cash and FMCC bonus cash, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/31/2006. Supplies are limited, not all dealers will have all featured models. See dealer for complete details. Customers must finance through Ford Credit.

HINES PARK FORD

I-96 at Milford Rd.
248-437-6700

OPEN SATURDAYS

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

Regional Marketplace — Page 8B

Bending over backwards
The Northville-Novi Wild 'Stangs gymnastics team just couldn't put together enough points to edge Brighton last week, though they bent over backwards trying.
— Page 5B

SPORTS

Leading the 'Cat pack
Novi basketball captains Steve Hart, Todd Joner and A.W. Stanek have to keep their cool in tense situations, lead by example and keep the Wildcats on track despite a tough start to the year — but that doesn't mean they can't have fun while they're doing it.
— Page 3B

Illustration by GEOF BROOKS

Novi versus Northville

Wildcats have the edge when it really counts

Black and orange. Green and white.

Novi. Northville. What's expected is cross-town conflict. Records don't matter.

Like gladiators taking to the floor of the Coliseum, fans expect games between Northville and Novi to be intense and messy. Dirt and sweat mix, gritty determination smears across the faces of determined athletes.

But who's gotten the best of whom?

In the past three years, it's been a one-sided affair when the games truly matter.

It's not the Mustangs. Often, they're not the victors. Too commonly they slink from the field, shoulders drooped and chins dropped to their chests. Defeated.

Sam Eggleston

Novi pumps a fist in the air. Champions. Again and again. Bragging rights. Baseline conquerors.

"The Jug is ours!" the Wildcats scream, heaving their trophy above their heads.

Numbers game

Northville doesn't deserve it. In football, they've fallen time and time again, last winning their rivalry game in 2000 under the leadership of Coach Darrel Schumacher. Coach Clint Alexander couldn't find the winning recipe, despite four chances. Coach Ryan Hockman is contemplating the strategy after just one.

Novi's Tab Kellepourey smiles when the Jug is handed to his kids. It's an old friend.

It's not just on the gridiron where the Wildcats have planted their flag. In basketball, the Mustangs boys team has just one a single game in the past seven years, going 1-5 over the past three with a win last week.

But what does it matter? It's not a playoff game. The last two times these teams have met in the post-season Novi has paraded off the hardwood: An overtime victory three years ago and a double-overtime win two seasons ago.

In girls basketball since 2003, Novi is 4-1, though they've split their post-season showdowns. Novi won in 2004, then Northville in 2003. Northville coach Pete Wright and Novi's Bill Kelp have put together some intense contests, but the overall record is hard to ignore.

Some sports define the rivalry. In hockey, the record between the two teams is 3-3, though most will recall the mid-December thrashing the Wildcats dished out, despite a far inferior record compared to Northville.

Novi and Northville's boys swimming teams have swam to a stalemate with a 2-2-1 record.

In girls soccer, the Mustangs and the Wildcats have evened things out nicely. Northville earned a state title in 2004; Novi won one in 2005. Each year, the eventual state champ defeated the local rival during the district finals.

"Should be quite a match this year," said Northville coach Ron Meteyer.

Some sports pull their weight in the rivalry, making it worthwhile to attend. Others get slapped around by the Wildcats like a featherweight standing toe-to-toe with a heavyweight.

Bad medicine

Get your act together, Northville.

It's harsh, but it's true. Too many of the "big" sports don't make it enough of a game to even care about.

When was the last time anyone thought the football game was going to mean something?

In 2004, the Baseline Jug contest was meant to mean something. Then Novi outscored their opponents 86-20 in back-to-back games. In the past three years, it's been a lopsided affair, with Novi cranking out 154 points. Northville has a meager 48.

The "big" sports are the white collar workers, sitting in their office, shuffling paperwork while the blue collar workers are scrapping away.

Girls cross country, boys and girls track, softball — they've been on the winning side of the rivalry more often than not during the past three years.

They're doing all the hard work, keeping the cross-town rivalry alive.

Novi's blue collar workers aren't quitting either. Cheerleading, lacrosse and boys cross country haven't flinched when it comes to playing across town. They, too, have had some strong showings and some intense contests over the years.

What will it take for the big games — the games that matter in the playoffs and for playoff berths — to start counting for something other than a Novi win?

Maybe a miracle, if you're Northville. Then again, Novi likes things just the way they are.

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@gannett.com.

Cheer keeps winning

■ Novi's cheerleaders keeping pace with opposition

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It's all about great performances for the Novi Wildcats cheerleading team this winter.

The squad, coached by Emily Parker, earned a recent second place finish at the Allen Park Invitational, beat Northville* in head-to-head competition and third at the Novi Invitational.

In the Allen Park Invite, the Wildcats found themselves tied for second place with Wyandotte with 346.6 points after two rounds. The squad buckled down, turning in a strong third round performance to edge their foes to take sole possession of second.

The squad finished behind former regional rival and usual state competitor Allen Park.

"Even though Allen Park will not be in their regional this year, my team looks forward to competing against them again at the Wyandotte Invite in February," said Parker. "They hope to improve their round two skill timing in order to close the gap between the two teams."

Allen Park finished with 669.80 points while Novi had 619.10 and Wyandotte had 613.60 for third.

Wildcats pound Mustangs

Closing the gap sure wasn't a concern last week when the Novi Wildcats bowled over the Northville Mustangs in a dual meet competition. The two squads went head-to-head and the Novi cheerleaders came out on top with a 677.5-613.3 performance.

In round one, the Wildcats earned 192.5 points while picking up 205.5 in the second round. Round three found Novi getting 279.5 points.

Northville earned 178.5 points in the first round, 169.3 in the second and 265.5 in the third round.

'Cats third at Novi Invite

The Novi cheerleading squad took third place in the Novi Invitational two weeks ago when they took on some of the top teams in the state.

Finishing first was Rochester, currently ranked first in the state, and second was Southgate Anderson, currently ranked sixth.

"I am thrilled with their performance on Saturday," Parker said. "We received the highest scores so far this season. I am especially pleased with their round one performance. They scored high on their jumps, which is something that we have been working to improve."

Novi scored 187.5 points in the first round, while Rochester scored 196 and Southgate Anderson scored 185.5. It marked the first time in school history Novi outscored Anderson in the first round of competition. The Novi tally also set the high school record for a round one performance.

In round two, Novi scored 185, well short of Rochester's 211.3 and Anderson's 210.5, which was the same result in round three, where Novi's 372.5 was far below Anderson's 396 and Rochester's dominating score of 407.3.

By the numbers

2-0	589	491.5	487.5	344	438	0
Novi cheerleading's all-time record against Northville's team.	Novi's score at the varsity level from last week's meet against the Mustangs.	Northville's all-around score against Novi during last week's cheerleading meet.	Novi's junior varsity score against Northville during their dual meet.	The score awarded to Northville's JV team by the cheerleading judges.	The score collected by the Novi Wildcats freshman cheer squad against the Mustangs.	The number of freshman cheer teams at Northville High School this year.

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

Underclassman Scores

Freshman basketball

Last Tuesday, the freshman basketball team hosted Lakeland in a Kensington Valley Conference rivalry game and won, 53-41.

From the very start of the game Novi played with a lot of intensity and smart. In the first the lead was exchanged back and forth until Nick Brockman and Grayson Woolford hit back to back three-point field goals that allowed Novi to take the lead, 13-8. During the second quarter, Novi continued to play extremely well and outscored the Eagles, 11-6. Brad Kotylo scored 10 of those points, as the 'Cats took a 24-14 lead into the half.

Lakeland came out at halftime and made several runs at the Wildcats, who were able to respond accordingly each time. Novi was able to expand the lead to 36-21 going into the fourth, where they held off several more runs made by Lakeland.

Kotylo scored a season- and team-high 19 points and added six rebounds. Nick Brockman had 13 points and Zack Danks chipped in with four. Novi is now 5-3 on the season and 1-2 in KVC play.

Junior varsity basketball

The junior varsity boys basketball team suffered their first KVC loss of the season as they fell to undefeated Lakeland, 45-43 last Tuesday.

The Wildcats jumped out to an early 10-0 lead spearheaded by Shuan Rydzewski's six first quarter points. The lead eventually evaporated when the Wildcats could not stop Lakeland's guard penetration in the second quarter. Novi held a four-point lead heading into the locker room at halftime and continued to hold the lead until the final seconds of the game as Lakeland hit a shot with seven seconds remaining to break a 43-43 tie. It was Lakeland's only time leading in the entire game.

Nick Pagano had nine points while Mark Heard and Miles Reichley each had seven.

The Wildcats are now 4-4 overall and 2-1 in the KVC.

Junior varsity volleyball

The junior varsity volleyball team finished in third place overall at the South Lyon Invitational last Saturday.

The Wildcats played an amazing match against Brighton and earned an early win to send them into bracket play undefeated and ranked first.

The team fell short in the semifinals and lost to a strong Northville team.

Top servers were Katie Morrison with nine aces, Paula Dietz with seven and Lauren Farley with five. Kim Hildreth had two blocks and 12 kills while Dietz had two blocks and five kills. Best on the defensive was Rachel Burndt with seven digs and Hildreth with five.

Novi's overall record is 14-8-3 and 8-7 in the KVC.

Submitted photo

The Novi Wildcats wrestling team took second at the South Lyon Invitation.

Novi Wildcats take second in South Lyon Invitational wrestling tourney

The Novi Wildcats wrestling team took second place at the South Lyon Invitational recently with some very impressive grappling.

Going undefeated on the day were John Favorite, Nic Lichorobiec and Al Vellahottam.

Against Cultana Novi won 50-12. The Wildcats earned pins from Lichorobiec and Jamie Espinoza, while Vellahottam, Favorite, Robbie Yurko, Brad Frey, Andrew Lee, Jeremy Young, Riley Lokar, Ryan Ridenour and Dan Sprys earned wins.

Though the 'Cats lost to South Lyon, 42-27, they had pins from Vellahottam, Lichorobiec, Sprys and Favorite while Derek McClelland edged a win.

Novi narrowly beat Ann Arbor Pioneer, 38-36, as Vellahottam, Justin Pullin, Young and Favorite earned pins and Jeff Rauen and Frey earned wins for the victory.

The final match up of the day pit Novi against a tough Temperance Bedford team, and Novi won, 43-23. Earning pins were Aditya Sathi and Jeff Lai while Vellahottam, Rauen, Lichorobiec, Espinoza, Ridenour, Sprys and McClelland earned wins.

Gymnasts can't beat Brighton

Injuries and the stress of final exams week didn't combine well in Northville-Novi's gymnastics bout for a win over Brighton last week.

The team, coached by Erin McWatt, fell 141.45-139.4.

The Wild 'Stangs had strong all-around performances from Jackie Gazette (34.55), Sarah Ilkhani-Pour (34.35) and Julie Foucher (33.65). Leading the way on the vault was Gazette's 8.95 while Lauren Duda earned an 8.9 and Emma Platt had an 8.75.

On the bars, Ilkhani-Pour notched an 8.9 while Gazette had an 8.7. The beam found young Amy Reynolds scoring an 8.9 while Ilkhani-Pour earned an 8.7. Julie Foucher led on the floor, scoring a 9.2 while Gazette had a 9.0. Duda had an 8.8 and Reynolds earned an 8.7.

In the Farmington Invitational, the Wild 'Stangs bounced right back and took third with a season-high 141.55 points.

Leading the way all-around was Foucher (35.85), Gazette (34.4) and Ilkhani-Pour (33.4). On the vault Gazette was in the lead (9.2) along with Platt (9.15) and Duda (9). Leading on the bars was Gazette (8.6), Platt (8.5) and Foucher (8.45) while Rachel Deneau led on the beam (9.5) with Foucher (9.2). Deneau did well on the floor (9.55) along with Foucher (9.4).

Cagers fall to undefeated Brighton

The Novi Wildcats basketball team couldn't muster enough points to catch Brighton last week and fell, 50-40. A.W. Staunk led the team in scoring, which fell to 2-1 in KVC play and 4-5 overall.

Novi also beat Lakeland last week, 42-40 on a last-second jump shot by captain Todd Janer.

Hockey earns 2-0 victory

The Novi Wildcats hockey team pumped out a 2-0 victory over the Howell Highlanders with senior Brad Clos in the goal.

Leading the way was Steve Rousseau, who smacked home two goals for the victory. Rousseau is "on fire," said coach Dan Phelps.

Novi spikers topple Milford

In a match up that is always known for its intensity, the Novi Wildcats and the Milford Mavericks squared off last week on the volleyball court and gave the fans what they came to see.

After falling behind in two-straight games, 25-22, 25-20, the Wildcats came back with a vengeance to win the final three and take the contest, 25-22, 25-23 and 15-11.

"I don't know why my girls like to do that," Fisette said about staging the comeback victory. "But they didi it again."

The Wildcats were led by senior Jenna Kuhn with 13 kills while sophomore Stephanie Cripps earned a lackluster four solo blocks on the night. Katelyn Tuck led on the serving end of the game, notching six aces.

"Kately played terrific," said Fisette. "She didn't play the first two games and then when I put her in she had six serves and five of them were aces.

"She definitely made the difference and helped the momentum shift in our favor."

Milford was led by standout Alex Prieditis, who notched 20 kills and nine blocks while Chelsea Murray had 38 assists and 20 digs. Laura Adler added 20 digs.

The Wildcats improved to 22-4-2 overall and 3-2 in the league.

"We had to win this one if we wanted to keep our league (title) hopes alive," Fisette said.

The Wildcats also took second place in the Novi Invitational last weekend, finishing behind a very strong Marion team.

"They played at the next level," said Fisette. "Everything they did was very fast."

The Wildcats were undefeated in pool play and topped a tough Salem team in the semifinal to advance to play Marion. There, they sputtered out and couldn't get their game on track.

Leading the way for the Wildcats was Kuhn, who had 54 kills, 18 digs and eight aces on the day while Megan Miller added 30 kills and 18 blocks. Shannon Cody, the team's defensive specialist, added 31 digs while Tuck notched eight aces and six kills.

Capture the moment

Photo reprints available

See a familiar face? Have a particular moment you want framed for a lifetime? The Northville Record is your source for caputring all those special moments. Color 8x10 and 12x18 sizes are available. Call (248) 349-1700 for more information.

JANUARY 27TH & 28TH

FOR TICKETS CALL 734-453-8400 ticketmaster

PLYMOUTH WHALERS

S.S. MARIE GREYHOUNDS JANUARY 27TH 7:30PM

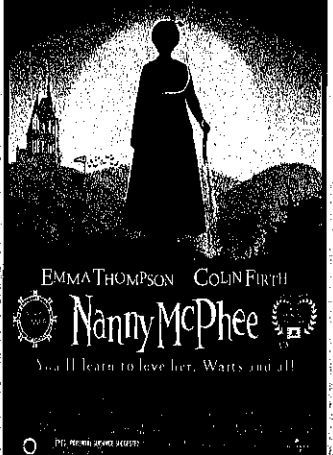
SAGINAW SPIRIT JANUARY 28TH 7:30PM

FAMILY VALUE PACK NIGHT
4 EXECUTIVE RESERVED SEATS
4 HOT DOGS
4 PEPSI BEVERAGES
4 GAME NIGHT LINEUPS
JUST $44.00!
($ 44.00 VALUE) (Not valid on specific games only) See section at "Promotional Events" for Family Value Nights.
734-453-8400

FRIDAY JANUARY 27TH 7:30PM
SATURDAY JANUARY 28TH 7:30PM
Throw the Night to the Dogs — FIREBOWL CELEBRATION

COMPUWARE SPORTS ARENA
14900 BECK ROAD PLYMOUTH TWP, MI 48170
www.plymouthwhalers.com

"THE NEW MARY POPPINS!"
A magical adventure for all ages!
"A MAGICAL, FANTASTIC AND WONDERFUL FABLE!"
"PERFECT FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT!"



EMMA THOMPSON COLIN FIRTH
Nanny McPhee
You'll learn to love her. Warts and all.

STARTS FRIDAY

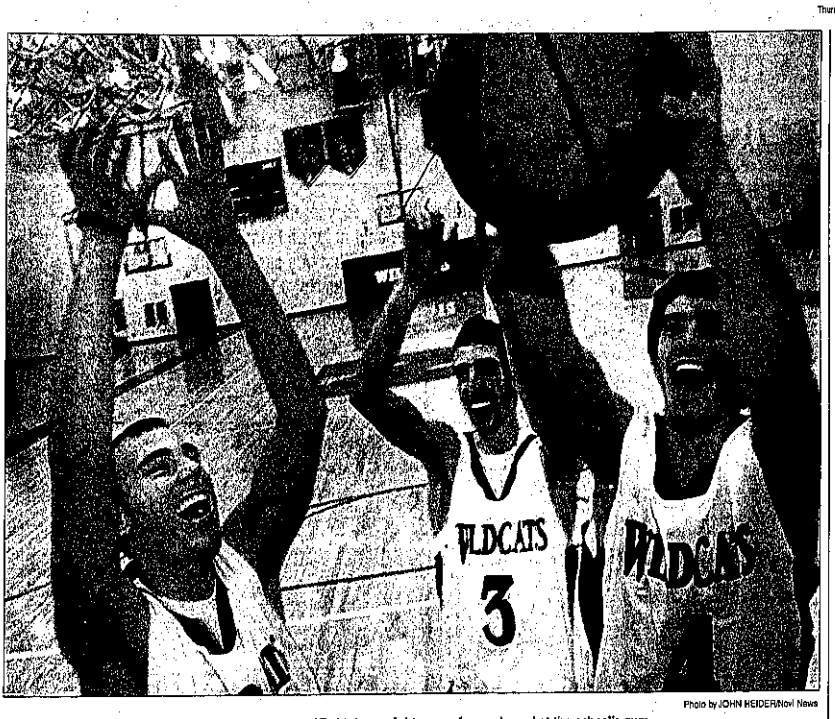


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

The Novi Wildcat captains, A.W. Stanek, Steve Hart, and Todd Janer, right, go up for a rebound at the school's gym.

Captains, teammates, friends

Hart, Janer and Stanek lead 'Cats, but have fun too

By Courtney Ratkowiak
SPORTS INTERN

32-0.

The matchup between the two crosstown rivals was a blowout. Five years later, Steve Hart is still reminded of his team's crushing loss by the constant presence of his former opponents.

Todd Janer and A.W. Stanek refuse to let him forget the day that their St. James basketball team dominated Hart's Holy Family team in an eighth grade Catholic Youth Organization game.

The love of competition and historic rivalries has continued to motivate Hart, Janer, and Stanek, now teammates and co-captains on the Novi High School varsity basketball team, to overcome early team difficulties and look toward a successful KVC season.

The three seniors have played on the same basketball team throughout high school, and Janer and Stanek have been soccer teammates since childhood.

"We've been playing together for so long, we're good at reading each other," Janer said. "We know where each other is going to be, we pick each other up when they need to be picked up. There's really no negativity at all between us, and if it is, it's positive criticism."

Early in the season, while leading a team of mostly inexperienced varsity players, the captains' main challenge was to promote team unity.

"With a lot of new guys on the team, we've kind of had to build our team chemistry as we went along," Hart said. "We're constantly getting better with our team chemistry as everyone's becoming better friends."

"I'm usually pretty positive but there's got to be a time where you have to say something to the younger guys, but you can't be too hard on them," Stanek added. "They'll take things to heart so you have to bring them up."

Despite early non-league losses to Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Western, Fordson and Northville, the captains believe that their team can rebound in league play and capture a fourth straight KVC title.

"We just keep plugging away, keep working harder every day," Janer said. "We have to keep everybody motivated, keep them on the positive side. You just have to look one game ahead and worry about what's in front of you, not what happened behind you."

During the fall sports season, Hart and Stanek were captains of the varsity football and soccer teams. They felt that their previous experience has helped with the transition to a leadership role on the basketball team.

"(As a basketball captain), I'm just prepared for more responsibility," Stanek said. "At the beginning of the soccer season, I was expecting to get captain but I wasn't really expecting all the responsibilities that came with it."

Next year, the longtime teammates will attend different universities. Stanek will be playing soccer for Michigan State University, while Janer plans to study at the University of Michigan and Hart hopes to attend Central Michigan University. Although the three will no longer be students at the same school, they hope to continue their friendship.

"I'm going to miss playing with Todd and A.W.," Hart said. "I'm going to miss the fun of playing all these sports and how we just goof around and have a good time."

"I just want to stay friends after high school," Janer added. "You can make new ones in college, but there are no friends like the ones you have in high school."

Courtney Ratkowiak is a sports intern for the Novi News. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Having fun on the court this season, Wildcats Steve Hart, A.W. Stanek and Todd Janer.

St. James wins tourney

Submitted photo

St. James seventh and eighth girls B team won another tournament recently. The seventh-eighth grade at St. James team won the St. Patrick's Church Christmas Tournament. Players are: Liz Engleson, Kelsey DeRidder, Alyssa Miller, Marie Steinbock, Megan Gertley, Allysa Armiak, Madeline Sinkovich, Kelsey Sutka, Brooke Collins, Laine Farley and Molly Stutika. Coachs are: Jean Gertley, Jeff Sinkovich and Bob Armiak.

SPORTS SHORTS

Pistons basketball clinic

Ward Church, in Northville, will be hosting a Pistons Basketball Camp for players in kindergarten-fifth grade Jan. 28.

The clinic will run from noon-4 p.m. and will be conducted by coach Steve Moreland of the Detroit Pistons and Shock.

The cost is $15 per child and participants receive a "Pistons Basketball" t-shirt.

For more information, or to register, call Ward Church at (248) 374-5932.

Coach wanted

Northville High School is currently in need of a girls junior varsity soccer head coach for the upcoming spring 2006 season. Interested candidates should contact Bryan Masi, Northville Athletic Director at (248) 344-8414.

Adult hockey

Sign-up now for the winter session of the Breakfast Club Adult Hockey Series

Registration is underway for the Breakfast Club presented by Labatt-Suburban Hockey's weekly morning skills and conditioning series for adult hockey players of all ability levels. The 10-week session will run through March 16.

The Breakfast Club will take place at Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills on Tuesday and Wednesday; Suburban Ice-Macomb on Tuesday; Onyx-Rochester Ice Arena and Dearborn Ice Skating Center on Thursday. Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills will also be the site of the Advanced Breakfast Club program on Thursday.

The goals of the program are to improve players' overall knowledge of the game, teach new drills, increase enjoyment of the game, build confidence, conditioning and develop skating and puck skills in a competitive and fun environment. Coaches include former professional and collegiate players with vast coaching and playing experience.

All youth hockey coaches receive 50 percent off tuition to the Breakfast Club. New this year is a special offer from RBK Hockey — all registered players may purchase an RBK 5K Modano pattern hockey stick for just $75 (retail is $150).

In addition, players who refer a new player to the Breakfast Club will receive $50 off their tuition.

This is a popular program and there is limited enrollment.

For more information on the Breakfast Club or any other Suburban Hockey program, contact (248) 478-1600 or www.suburbanhockey.com.

Novi Heat fund-raising event

The U13 Novi Heat baseball team will be holding a fund-raising event at Genalti's Hold In The Wall restaurant Feb. 12 at 2 p.m.

The team over the past two seasons were USSSA World Series consolation finalists as well as last year's run to Puerto Rico, which included being Michigan District champions, Ohio Regional champions and a berth to the World Series in San Juan.

The team also played in the Cooperstown Dream Park tournament.

The cost is $50 per ticket, which includes dinner and wine with dinner. A cash bar is also available.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Pete Talbot at (248) 349-5688 or (734) 905-4578.

Ten Star All Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for The Ten Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp. This camp is by invitation only. Boys and girls, ages 10-19, are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison. Players from every state and 18 countries attended the 2005 camp.

College basketball scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team. Camp locations include: Lebanon, Tenn., Prescott, Ariz., Thousand Oaks, Calif., Sterling, Colo., Bridgeport, Conn., Babson Park, Fla., Gainesville, Ga., Champaign, Ill., North Manchester, Ind., Towson, Md., Ypsilanti, Glassboro, N.J., Schenectady, N.Y., Hickory, N.C., Commerce, Texas, Blacksburg, Va., Lyndonville, Va. and Beloit, Wis. For more information and a free brochure, call (704) 373-0873.

Compiled by Sam Eggleston

Signal seems clear — satellite radio is a godsend for true sports fanatics

By Bob Young
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

For fantasy football geeks, it's another connection to all things pigskin.

For baseball lovers, it is an opportunity to renew their romance with the unique voices of hardball on the radio — without the static.

There is a burgeoning extraterrestrial turf war going on between XM Satellite Radio and its only competitor, Sirius Satellite Radio.

Sports fans may wind up being the winner.

The two satellite providers are trading punches in a battle for subscribers, with each offering lots of commercial-free music, news and talk programming.

Now, they're squaring off over sports programming and betting big money that sports fanatics are willing to pay $12.95 a month to get it.

XM signed an 11-year, $650-million contract to carry Major League Baseball games, allowing subscribers to listen to any game being played this season.

Sirius scored big by reaching a seven-year, $220-million cash-and-stock deal with the NFL. The network will carry both home and away broadcasts of each NFL game this season.

Sirius also has deals with the NBA, NHL, Wimbledon and the NCAA Division I basketball tournament, among others. XM counters with the PGA Tour, NASCAR — until 2007 when Sirius takes it over — and the Indy Racing League.

XM recently announced the addition of XM Deportivo, which will produce Spanish broadcasts in sports such as boxing and soccer in conjunction with Andres Cantor, the guy best known for his World Cup "gooooooal!" calls.

"Sports programming is a very important factor in whether subscribers are asking for and signing up for our service," said Steve Cohen, vice president of sports programming at Sirius. "I can tell you that in a survey we took, sports at one point was the No. 1 factor people subscribed to satellite radio."

A survey commissioned by XM revealed that 23 percent of the network's new subscribers signed up specifically because of Major League Baseball.

"We knew it would translate well to radio, but what we didn't expect was the personal and emotional reaction we got from listeners — people telling us they feel like kids again listening to the ballgames on the radio," said David Butler, director of corporate affairs for XM. "We hear that especially from displaced fans — a Dodgers fan who lives in Dallas or a Red Sox fan who lives in Los Angeles."

Although Sirius' Cohen insists that the real competition is "terrestrial" — over-the-air — radio, this is no small space-age tug-o-war between the satellite carriers.

> **"Sports programming is a very important factor in whether subscribers are asking for and signing up for our service. I can tell you that in a survey we took, sports at one point was the No. 1 factor people subscribed to satellite radio."**
>
> *Steve Cohen*
> *Vice President of Sports Programming*
> *Sirius*

XM reports 4.4-million subscribers. Sirius has 1.8 million, and those numbers tell only part of the story.

Just two years ago, Sirius reported only 149,612 subscribers, and satellite radio wasn't even available before XM launched in 2001.

But is it really having an impact? Katy Bachman, senior editor at Mediaweek, a top industry publication, isn't so sure.

"You have to remember this," she said. "They have about 6 million subscribers combined. Divide that by some 200 stations combined, give or take, and that gives you an idea about how much effect they're having right now — which isn't much. There aren't that many listeners per channel.

"It isn't anywhere near as much impact as the PR (public relations) bang they're getting."

That said, Bachman believes that sports on radio might be the niche that sells.

"We all know what a big success ESPN has been on television," she said. "In terrestrial radio, the all-sports stations do really well, even though they don't have the biggest audiences. WFAN in New York is probably somewhere between 15th and 20th overall (in its market), but it's one of the top 10 revenue producers in America.

"It's a targeted audience. As a friend of mine in sports radio likes to say, (the listeners are) 'rich boys with cell phones.' As an advertiser, you can't go wrong with that."

Go, Bobcats!

Submitted photos

The 2005 Novi Bobcat Freshman Cheerleading Squad took first place at the Cheerfest at Stevenson High School. In the Cheer Division, the team took first Place before capturing the top spot with their Pom Routine as well. Pictured are: Row one: (kneeling) Chiraze Christie, Kennedi Bullard, Katie Wheeler and Allison Teran; Row 2: Michelle Kearney, Madeline Conroy, Avery Ragatzki, Rachael Mullins, Samantha Troher and Mallory Ragatzki.

LEFT: Bobcats who participated in the Cheerfest 2005 competition where (pictured together): Samantha Troher, Kennedi Bullard, Chiraze Christie, Madeline Conroy, Michelle Kearney, Rachael Mullins, Allison Teran, Katie Wheeler, Mallory Ragatzki, Avery Ragatki, Autumn Bingamen, Shelby Clothier, Lauren Collins, Jenna Giragosian, Jasmine Kamal, Callie LaPalm, Jacqueline Mullins, Alyssa Ninkovich, Kaley Oppat, Hannah Shanker, Drew Thomasson, Allison Tschirhart, Delaney Ulle, Kelly Wilton, Erna Well, Renee Well, Bianca Aprillano, Nina Ferrini, Danielle Mazer, Chantale Christie, Ali McLeod, Kaley Mullins, Lauren Windfield, Kacey Sheldon and Paige Pierdon.

Quick Hits

Coffee stop

Tab Kellepourey and the football coaching staff must sure like their Starbucks Coffee. On their way to a coaching clinic last week, Kellepourey stopped off at Twelve Oaks Mall for a quick cup of Joe.

Biggest Loser

Novi News sports writer Sam Eggleston is hoping to find his slimmer self. He joined Weight Watchers, lifts weights and works out at the Water Wheel Health Club in Northville and made the trek down to Columbus, Ohio yesterday for a casting call for the reality television show "The Biggest Loser."

If he makes it, he's hoping to come back a whole new person — well, a half a person, at least.

Dunkin' more than donuts

While Novi News photographer John Heider was at Novi High School taking pictures of the basketball captains he watched sophomore Tyler Hoover show off some of his vertical skills.

Hoover, who is a member of the varsity basketball team, dunked during gym class, showing he's not only showcasing good height at 6-feet-7-inches, but he can add to it too with some impressive leaping skills.

Looking for good writers

Want to do some writing for the Novi News? The sports department is currently looking for a high school student or interested parent to pick up coverage of Catholic Central sports. Skiing, bowling, basketball, hockey, wresting and swimming — Catholic Central lets you see it all.

Got a sports story?

Got something or someone you'd like to see in an upcoming edition of the Novi News sports section? E-mail seggleston@gannett.com with more details.

If you've got a youth team you'd like to see in the paper, send a photo, the names of the players on the team and some of their most recent accomplishments and we'll get them in as soon as we're able.

Brighton Bulldog

Last week when the Novi-Northville gymnastics team lost to Brighton, there was a Novi connection helping to do the beating. One of the Bulldogs, Amanda, is the daughter of Novi News ad rep Lisa Tincu.

Both Tincu and News receptionist Marcia Cromas were at the event and both were torn — sure, they wanted Amanda to do well, but we're positive they really, deep down, wanted the Wild 'Stangs to get that win!

High School Sports Schedule

Novi

Boys Basketball

Varsity			
1/26	Away	Hartland	7:30 p.m.
1/31	Away	Milford	7 p.m.
2/3	Away	Pinckney	7 p.m.
JV			
1/26	Away	Hartland	6 p.m.
1/31	Away	Milford	5:30 p.m.
2/3	Away	Pinckney	5:30 p.m.
Freshmen			
1/26	Away	Hartland	4:30 p.m.
1/31	Away	Milford	4 p.m.
2/3	Away	Pinckney	4 p.m.

Volleyball

1/26	Home	South Lyon	5:30 p.m.
1/30	Home	Pinckney	5:30 p.m.
2/2	Home	Howell	5:30 p.m.

Swimming

1/26	Away	Brighton	6 p.m.
1/31	Away	Northville	7 p.m.
2/2	Home	South Lyon	6 p.m.
2/3	Away	Oakland Co.	12 p.m.

Gymnastics

1/26	Home	Salem	7 p.m.
1/28	Away	Salem	TBA
1/30	Away	Churchill	7 p.m.

Cheerleading

2/1	Home	South Lyon	7 p.m.

Wrestling

1/27	Home	KVC Quad	5 p.m.
1/28	Away	Fenton Invite	8:30 a.m.
1/28	Away	Holt Invite	9 a.m.
2/3	Away	KVC Quad	5:30 p.m.

Hockey

1/28	Away	East Grand Rapids	7 p.m.
2/1	Home	Brighton	6 p.m.

Catholic Central

Basketball

Varsity			
1/31	Home	Brother Rice	7:30 p.m.
2/3	Away	De LaSalle	7:30 p.m.
JV			
1/31	Home	Brother Rice	6 p.m.
2/3	Away	De LaSalle	6 p.m.
Freshmen			
1/31	Home	Brother Rice	4 p.m.
2/3	Away	De LaSalle	4 p.m.

Bowling

Varsity			
1/31	Away	U of D Jesuit	3:30 p.m.
JV			
1/28	Away	Ladywood Tournament	2 p.m.

Hockey

1/27	Away	Culver Military Academy	7 p.m.
1/28	Away	Culver Military Academy	12 p.m.
1/1	Away	Trenton	7:30 p.m.
1/3	Home	U of D Jesuit	7 p.m.

Ski Team

1/26	Away	Seaholm/Groves	4:30 p.m.
1/31	Away	Brighton/S. Lyon/ U of D	4:30 p.m.
2/2	Away	Brighton/S. Lyon/ U of D	4:30 p.m.

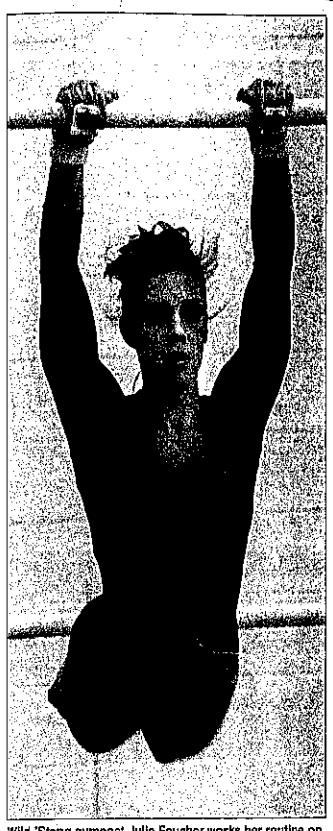
Swimming

1/26	Home	Ann Arbor Huron	7 p.m.
1/30	Away	Brother Rice	6:30 p.m.
2/2	Home	U of D Jesuit	7 p.m.
2/3-4	Away	Oakland County	TBA

Wrestling

Varsity			
1/26	Home	Adrian/AA Pioneer	5 p.m.
1/28	Away	Observerland	9 a.m.
JV			
1/26	Home	Adrian/AA Pioneer	5 p.m.

Wild 'Stangs stay well balanced



Wild 'Stang gymnast Julie Foucher works her routine on the bars.

Gymnast Jacqueline Gazette performs a back handspring on the balance beam.

Wild 'Stang gymnast Sarah Ilkhani-Pour performs on the uneven parallel bars during a home meet against rival Brighton.

Photos by JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

LEFT: Gymnast Emma Platt performs on the uneven parallel bars. RIGHT: Watched by her Wild 'Stang teammates, Rachel Deneau begins her dismount from the balance beam during last week's home meet against the Brighton Bulldogs.

FOOD

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700 ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax (248) 349-9832

From left: Golden Egg Flower Corn Soup, Tomato Beef Stir-Fry With Basil and Sweet & Sour BBQ Chicken

FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

On January 29, families all over the world will come together to celebrate the start of the Chinese lunar year 4704, the Year of the Dog.

The 15-day New Year festival is a time to look back and honor ancient traditions. But it's also a time to look forward — a celebration of all things new. Before the festival begins, the house is given a thorough cleaning, everyone gets a haircut, doors and window frames are repainted and old grudges are forgiven.

This mix of respecting the old and welcoming the new is a fitting symbol for the experience of Chinese Americans, who, with each new generation, have created new traditions that build on the past — especially when it comes to food.

Chinese American cooks have learned to adapt beloved recipes and flavors with fresh twists, using locally available ingredients to create dishes that reflect the best of classic and modern, East and West.

It might be a handful of basil tossed into a quick beef and tomato stir-fry; a salad of flavorful imitation crabmeat, accented with the bright flavor of mango and the sweet crunch of candied walnuts; or a noodle dish, symbolizing happiness and longevity, made not with Chinese noodles, but with linguine.

These kinds of "family fusion" dishes have something for everyone — and that makes them a perfect choice for celebrating Chinese New Year.

So, this year, invite friends and family over to usher in the Year of the Dog. Set the table with red and gold, symbolizing prosperity. Put a tangerine (with leaves attached) at each place as a token of good luck and happiness. And serve up a feast featuring these easy, modern takes on classic Chinese dishes.

Gung Hay Fat Choy! Here's to a year of good fortune, good eating, old friends and new traditions.

For more about Chinese New Year and other entertaining tips, download Kikkoman's official Chinese New Year Celebration Guide at www.kikkoman-usa.com.

Golden Egg Flower Corn Soup

Makes 8 servings

- 1 can (14.75 ounces) cream style sweet corn
- 1 can (14 ounces) chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon Kikkoman Soy Sauce
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 cup frozen green peas
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup diced soft tofu
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/4 teaspoon ground white pepper

Combine corn, chicken broth, soy sauce and water in medium saucepan. Bring to boil; reduce heat, cover and simmer 5 minutes. Add green peas; return soup to boil over high heat. Gradually pour egg into boiling soup, stirring gently in one direction. Add tofu and cilantro. Sprinkle in pepper and stir well.

Happiness & Long Life Noodles

Makes 6 to 8 servings

- 1/4 cup *plus* 2 tablespoons Kikkoman Stir-Fry Sauce
- 1 tablespoon dry sherry
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
- 1 pound fresh *or* thawed medium shrimp or prawns (31 to 40 count), peeled and deveined
- 3 cups green cabbage chunks
- 1 red bell pepper, cut into short strips
- 4 green onions and tops, cut into 2-inch lengths, separating whites from tops
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger root
- 1/2 pound linguine, cooked

Combine stir-fry sauce and sherry. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in wok or large skillet over high heat. Add shrimp. Stir-fry 1 minute, or until shrimp turn pink; remove. Heat remaining 1 tablespoon oil in same pan. Add cabbage, bell pepper, whites of green onions and ginger; stir-fry 1 minute. Add green onion tops; stir-fry 1 minute. Pour in stir-fry sauce mixture, linguine and shrimp. Cook, stirring, until all ingredients are heated and evenly coated with sauce.

Tomato Beef Stir-Fry With Basil

Makes 6 to 8 servings

- 1 pound boneless tender beef steak
- 1-1/2 tablespoons *plus* 4 teaspoons cornstarch, divided
- 1-1/2 tablespoons *plus* 3 tablespoons Kikkoman Soy Sauce, divided
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar
- 3/4 cup water
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
- 1 green bell pepper, cut into 1-inch squares
- 1 onion, chunked and separated
- 1-1/2 cups fresh basil leaves
- 1 tomato, chunked
- Hot cooked rice

Cut beef into thin slices, then into 1-inch squares. Coat beef with mixture of 1-1/2 tablespoons *each* cornstarch and soy sauce and garlic; let stand 5 minutes. Meanwhile, combine remaining 3 tablespoons soy sauce and 4 teaspoons cornstarch, sugar and water. Heat 1 tablespoon oil in wok or large skillet over high heat. Add beef and stir-fry 1 minute; remove. Heat remaining 2 tablespoons oil in same pan. Add bell pepper and onion; stir-fry 2 minutes. Stir soy sauce mixture; pour into pan. Add beef and basil; cook, stirring until sauce starts to boil and thicken. Add tomato; cook, gently stirring, 1 minute. Serve with rice.

Sweet & Sour BBQ Chicken

Makes 6 to 8 servings

- 3/4 cup Kikkoman Sweet & Sour Sauce
- 3 tablespoons Kikkoman Soy Sauce
- 1 tablespoon packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon tomato ketchup
- 1 clove garlic, pressed
- 4 boneless chicken thighs
- 2 boneless chicken breast halves, cut in half crosswise
- Nonstick cooking spray

Combine sweet & sour sauce, soy sauce, brown sugar, ketchup and garlic; remove and reserve 1/4 cup mixture. Pour remaining mixture over chicken in large plastic food storage bag. Press air out of bag; close top securely. Turn over several times to coat pieces well. Refrigerate 1 hour, turning bag over once. Place chicken, skin side down, on rack of broiler pan sprayed with cooking spray; discard marinade. Broil chicken 4 inches from heat source 8 minutes, brushing with reserved sauce mixture once. Turn chicken over, brush with sauce mixture. Cook 5 minutes longer, or until chicken is no longer pink in center, brushing with remaining sauce mixture after 3 minutes. To serve, slice chicken and arrange on platter.

"Crab" & Mango Salad

Makes 6 to 8 servings

- 1 package (8 ounces) mixed salad greens
- 1 ripe mango, peeled, seeded and cubed *or* 1 can (11 ounces) Mandarin orange segments, drained
- 1 cup peeled, halved, seeded cucumber slices
- 1 cup (5 ounces) imitation crab meat, chunked
- 1/2 cup original-flavor glazed walnuts
- Soy-Ginger Vinaigrette

Combine salad greens, mango, cucumber, crab and walnuts in large serving bowl. Prepare Soy-Ginger Vinaigrette; pour over salad mixture. Toss to coat all pieces well.

Soy-Ginger Vinaigrette: Whisk together 3 tablespoons rice vinegar, 2 tablespoons each Kikkoman Less Sodium Soy Sauce and vegetable oil, 3/4 teaspoon sugar and 1/2 teaspoon grated fresh ginger root until sugar dissolves.

HEALTHY LIVING

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700 ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax (248) 349-9832

Make this your slimmest winter to date

Fitness magazine found four strategies to keep away the pounds despite comfort food cravings, evenings on the couch and roomy sweaters that hide every bulge.

■ Eat more water

Foods with high water content include soups (80 percent to 95 percent water), fruits and veggies (80 percent to 95 percent) and hot cereal (85 percent). Water adds weight and volume without adding calories.

■ Get some sun

Sunlight can prevent dips in serotonin, a mood-boosting brain chemical that is also partly responsible for feelings of fullness. Even a heavy dose of artificial light, especially in the morning, may help suppress food cravings and the urge to overeat.

■ Slim down your comfort foods

There's no shortage of cookbooks full of healthier favorites, from mac and cheese to turkey pot pie. Try "Diet Simple: 192 Mental Tips, Substitutions, Habits & Inspirations" by Katherine Tallmadge, R.D. (LifeLine Press, 2004); "The New American Plate Cookbook: Recipes for a Healthy Weight and a Healthy Life" by the American Institute for Cancer Research (University of California Press, 2005); and "The French Culinary Institute's Salute to Healthy Cooking: From America's Foremost French Chefs" (Rodale Press, 1998). Among the top Web sites for healthy recipes: edicts.com and foodfit.com.

■ Call in the pros

If you find your motivation flagging, winter may be the time to hire a trainer once a week. Or meet the cold head-on: Layer up and head out for an invigorating winter walk, or try mega-calorie-burning sports like snowshoeing (648 calories per hour for a 135-pound woman) and cross country skiing (729 calories per hour).

Copyright 2006, Suzanne Schlosberg. First printed in the February 2006 issue of Fitness magazine. Write to the editors of Fitness magazine: fitnessmail@fitnessmagazine.com.

Studies suggest vitamin D may help prevent some cancers

By Randy Dotinga
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Forget the fiber. You may be able to fend off colon, breast or ovarian cancer by simply getting enough vitamin D, a new analysis of previous research suggests.

But if you're overweight, black, older or live in the Northeast, there's a good chance you're not getting enough vitamin D in your diet, said study co-author Cedric F. Garland, a professor of medicine at the University of California, San Diego. The study appears in the current online edition of the American Journal of Public Health, and will appear in the February 2006 print edition.

So what to do? The experts are divided on that answer.

Garland urges everyone to consume 1,000 International Units (IUs) a day of Vitamin D, which comes in yogurt, cheese, orange juice, fatty fish and milk.

By contrast, Lona Sandon, a spokeswoman for the American Dietetic Association, said adults aged 19 to 50 should get 200 IUs a day, equivalent to two glasses of fortified milk. People aged 50 to 70 should get 400 IUs, she said, while those 71 and older should get 700. But she acknowledged that "it is difficult to get this much vitamin D from food alone."

She also recommends that people take brief walks during lunch to get exposure to vitamin D from the sun.

Visit ods.od.nih.gov for details.

Glaucoma costs rise as vision worsens

By Robert Preidt
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

As glaucoma progresses, so do the costs and time associated with treatment, a new Duke University Medical Center study finds.

The researchers concluded that delaying the progression of glaucoma to its later stages would reduce the overall cost of care.

Glaucoma, usually caused by high blood pressure in the eye, damages the optic nerve and can lead to loss of vision. An estimated 2.2 million Americans over the age of 40 have glaucoma, though half are not diagnosed, according to the study.

"The incidence of glaucoma is expected to rise with the growth of the elderly population. Glaucoma costs the U.S. health-care system an estimated $2.5 billion annually: $1.9 billion in direct costs and $0.6 billion in indirect costs," the authors noted.

The researchers analyzed the records of 151 people with primary open-angle or normal-tension glaucoma, glaucoma suspect or ocular hypertension to see if costs of care increased as the disease progressed.

"Direct ophthalmology-related resource use, including ophthalmology visits, glaucoma surgeries and medication use, increased as disease severity worsened," the study authors wrote.

"Average direct cost of treatment ranged from $623 per patient per year for glaucoma suspects or patients with early-stage disease to $2,511 per patient per year for patients with end-stage disease. Medication costs composed the largest proportion of total direct costs for all stages of disease," the authors wrote.

They also noted that glaucoma is, "generally asymptomatic or nonspecific in its symptoms in its earlier phases, resulting in delayed diagnosis and relatively increased medical vigilance throughout the later stages of the disease."

"Based on these findings, a glaucoma treatment that delays the progression of disease could have the potential to significantly reduce the health economic burden of this chronic disease over many years," the authors concluded.

The study appears in the January issue of the Archives of Ophthalmology.

Visit the Glaucoma Foundation at www.glaucomafoundation.org for more information about glaucoma.

Female urban legends and myths finally debunked

By Maeleeke J. Lavan
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Most women would admit to their complexities, which sometimes may lead to confusion and faulty information about their bodies.

Will drinking caffeinated beverages before exercise help burn more calories? Are women destined to suffer premenstrual syndrome? Are breast-fed babies better off than their bottle-fed peers?

Experts answer these and other questions:

Q: *Is a salon tan better than a tan from the sun?*

A: Not necessarily. Too much time on a tanning bed can accelerate the skin's appearance of aging, says Dr. Mary Gail Mercurio, associate professor of dermatology at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

"The unique rays that are used for the tanning bed are ultraviolet A, or long wave rays. They actually penetrate more deeply into the skin than the rays that are in the natural environment." Too much tanning of any kind increases a person's chances of premature skin aging and of developing skin cancer.

Q: *When and why does a woman's metabolism slow and lead to weight gain? Can women counteract this?*

A: Once women reach their 30s, they begin losing muscle and gaining more fat, says dietitian Julie Black. At about this time, women also tend to become more sedentary and priorities — such as maintaining weight — often are neglected. Losing weight takes time, Black says. Eating right, exercising and increasing muscle mass can help boost and maintain metabolism.

Q: *Can you tell the sex of a baby by whether the mother is carrying the child high or low in her belly?*

A: "There's just no way you can tell," says obstetrician and gynecologist Dr. Michelle Chin. "Each woman is going to hold each subsequent pregnancy different because of having prior kids."

Q: *Do women turn evil for five to seven days during menstruation?*

A: No, says Dr. Robert Tatelbaum, chief of the obstetrics and gynecology department at Rochester (N.Y.) General Hospital. There are some extreme circumstances, but overall women react differently to the hormonal changes during menstrual cycles.

"Some people, perhaps, don't cope as well in stressful situations, become more irritable, depressed and reactive to things they wouldn't normally react to," he says. Tatelbaum says he encourages patients to exercise regularly and avoid foods such as chocolate and coffee that act as stimulants and may heighten a woman's sensitivity in some situations.

Q: *Will wearing pointy shoes, high heels, or both, ruin your feet?*

A: Sadly, yes, your Manolo Blahniks are not your best friends. According to podiatrist Dr. Jeffrey Teibel, studies have shown that high heels contribute to arthritis in the knees, ankles and feet. Also, over time the foot conforms to the position of the shoe, and prolonged wear of high heels can actually shorten the Achilles tendon and make wearing flat shoes painful. Sniff. Say goodbye to Jimmy Choo, ladies. Or at least don't wear him all the time.

Q: *Will drinking caffeine before exercise help burn more calories?*

A: The calories you burn are related to your level of conditioning, not your caffeine intake, says clinical dietitian Grace Ricci. It's wishful thinking to believe drinking caffeine will increase performance and burn calories, she says. "Drink water," she says. "Water's going to rehydrate you."

Q: *Will breastfeeding your child boost the child's intelligence?*

A: There are studies from around the world that indicate children who have been breastfed for at least four months score better on institutional intelligence tests than children who have been bottle-fed, says professor of pediatrics Dr. Ruth Lawrence. The nutrients in human milk foster early brain development and allow children "to reach their fullest potential," says Lawrence, a leading national expert and advocate for breastfeeding.

Q: *Where do stretch marks come from?*

A: No, they're not from Satan. "When the skin is stretched out and when the collagen doesn't stretch back, you get the stretch marks," says Lawrence. The amount of collagen — connective fibers in the skin — determines the appearance of stretch marks.

Q: *If you have female pattern hair thinning, should you dye or perm your hair?*

A: If the hair is healthy, dye away, says Mercurio. Female pattern thinning is a problem at the root of the hair, she explains. She encourages patients to dye or perm their hair because that can help camouflage the appearance of thinning hair.

Q: *Is it safe to dye your hair when you're pregnant?*

A: Tatelbaum says he isn't aware of scientific data that answers this question.

"Anything someone applies to their body is absorbed by the system. The small amount that is absorbed is probably going to get into the pregnancy a little bit. What that's going to do to the fetus in the long run you don't know." Tatelbaum leaves the decision up to his patients, telling them that they are responsible for their actions.

Q: *Will giving your fingernails a break from polish, acrylic chemicals, or both, keep them healthy?*

A: It depends on the person. Wearing nail polish for a long period of time may yellow the nails as pigments in the polish settle into the nail, but it's not harmful, Mercurio says. Fake nails pose no risk in the absence of infection or allergy, she says.

Q: *Will breastfeeding encourage weight loss after pregnancy?*

A: Some studies show breastfeeding women have lower incidence of long-term obesity, says Lawrence, an expert on breastfeeding. A lactating woman burns calories to make milk, which can translate into weight loss. One ounce of milk contains 20 calories and nursing moms usually produce about a quart of milk a day. The number of calories burned depends on the amount of milk produced, calories which are then ingested by baby. Lawrence cautions that, metabolically, each woman is different, but in theory the idea is sound.

Q: *Does drinking alcohol while breastfeeding pose a health risk to the baby?*

A: Moderate alcohol consumption by breastfeeding mothers will not be harmful to their babies, Lawrence says.

"A mother who can sit down and sip a little wine or sip a little beer ... and relax" could contribute to a better feeding for a baby, she says. "Not because of the alcohol but for the relaxation for the mother." If a mother were to sip an alcoholic drink with a meal and wait an hour or two before feeding, there shouldn't be much worry about passing any alcohol to the child, Lawrence says. Alcohol is absorbed into the blood stream, not directly into the breast or breast milk.

Q: *Does leg hair grow faster when you're cold or if you shave too often?*

A: No, says Mercurio. Hair follicles below the skin have nothing to do with what's going on at the skin's surface, she says. A hair follicle "doesn't know if that hair is a foot long or whether you just shaved or waxed."

Q: *Do women who work or spend a lot of time together synchronize to the same menstrual cycle?*

A: Rarely. Menstrual synchrony depends on the amount of time women spend together and the synchronization of airborne hormones. Women release pheromones — chemicals produced by the body that stimulate behavioral responses — from their underarms, explains Chin. If other women have receptors for these airborne neurochemicals, the hormones can synchronize, causing monthly cycles to occur at the same time. It's less likely to happen among women who work together and more likely among women who live in close quarters or among friends who spend all their time together.

Q: *Will shaving hair off your face — or other body parts — make it grow back faster, darker and more coarse? Should you only wax or use hair-removal creams?*

A: Hair grows at a predetermined rate, says dermatologist Mercurio. The only difference between shaving, waxing or other hair-removal procedures is that shaving gives the hair a blunt end. Waxing pulls hair out by the root, removing it from deeper inside the follicle. That means it won't grow back as quickly and gives the skin a softer feel in the spot where it was removed.

The do's and don'ts for exercising when feeling sick

Should you exercise when you're sick? It depends on the illness. Following are some guidelines for exercising during sicknesses.

■ Cold symptoms: runny nose, sneezing, sore throat

- Exercises to do: Aerobic or weight lifting, walking.
- Exercises to avoid: If medicating, avoid treadmills and barbell squats. Antihistamines can affect coordination and put you at risk of falling.
- Intensity: Some experts suggest reducing time, intensity level or weights lifted by 50 percent to 60 percent, increasing to regular levels when they can be tolerated.

■ Flu-like symptoms: fever, nausea, vomiting, muscular aches and pains

- Exercises to do: Maybe short walks, if symptoms are mild.
- Exercises to avoid: Skip workout if you're vomiting or have a fever of 100.5 degrees or higher.
- Intensity: Low-level, if anything. Rest until you're better; ease back into routine, allowing several days or up to a week of lighter workouts after symptoms are gone.

■ Sleep deprivation or jet lag

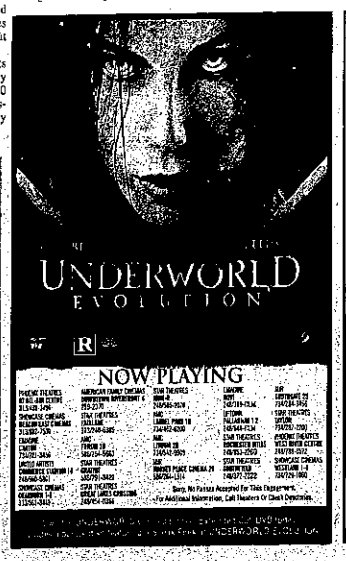
- Exercises to do: Cardio exercises on a bike or stair-climber; maybe light weightlifting to invigorate and help reset your internal clock.
- Exercises to avoid: Treadmill, heavy weightlifting. Your form may be bad and could cause injury.
- Intensity: Reduce speed and intensity by 60 percent or so at first.

■ Hangover

- Exercises to do: Light weights and cardio exercises.
- Exercises to avoid: Climbing wall, ski machine, any activity that involves coordination.
- Intensity: Low- to moderate-level intensity, but if you're really hung over, it may be good to skip exercising for a day.

Sources: Sports medicine doctors, athletic trainers; Rodale Online Health (www.rodale.com).
— Gannett News Service

Have a news story? Call (248) 349-1700 with the details!



Home Owners...If you are Buying or Selling a Home Choose a home inspector with care

A Realtor called a few weeks ago and said, "I've heard some good things about your company, and I've given your name to one of my clients. She'd like to use you, here's her number." I called the client and scheduled an appointment. As I'm finishing an inspection the afternoon prior to this client's appointment, my phone rings. The client, with a hint of apprehension in her voice, says that she has some questions to ask me before the inspection. The following are her questions and my answers: **Question: Do you have errors and omissions insurance? My Response:** Yes, Pillar To Post requires each franchisee to have Errors and Omissions Insurance. I carry E&O as well as General Liability insurance. **Question: Are you a member of any professional organizations? My Response:** I am proud to say that I am a Certified Inspector with Pillar To Post® and a National Association of Home Inspector - Certified Residential Inspector (NAHI-CRI). I also abide by the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI) Code of Ethics and our inspections meet or exceed the ASHI Standards of Practice. Readers who would like a free copy should call me at (248) 755-3422. Note:

Randall Patterson

Also ensure your Inspector is also certified with any additional services being performed such as Radon, Mold, Water & Air Quality, Well & Septic, etc I am also Certified in Radon with The University of Minnesota, a member of the American Association of Radon Scientist and Technicians, and a member of Environmental Solutions Association for Mold and Air Quality Testing. In order to maintain my membership with ASHI and NAHI I must continue learning by completing 24 hours annually of continuing education in my professional field. In order to have my ASHI membership and my NAHI-CRI membership I had to complete and have my inspections reviewed by these professional organizations to obtain their certification and use of their logo. **Question: Are you a full-time home inspector? My Response:** Yes I am a full time home inspectors. Pillar To Post requires franchisees be full-time inspectors. The difference between a part-time and a professional home inspector is important. First, a part-timer is not likely to have the insurance or training we discussed. More important to the client is the fact that Insurance Companies don't like the risk of insuring part-time inspectors and therefore their rates are higher and therefore many do not carry insurance. More importantly, a part-time inspector is less likely to have developed the knowledge base needed to conduct a professional inspection. He probably does not have the tools or expertise to detect moisture problems in walls or assess foundation cracks. They are unlikely to give you a written report or review in details with you the findings of the inspection.

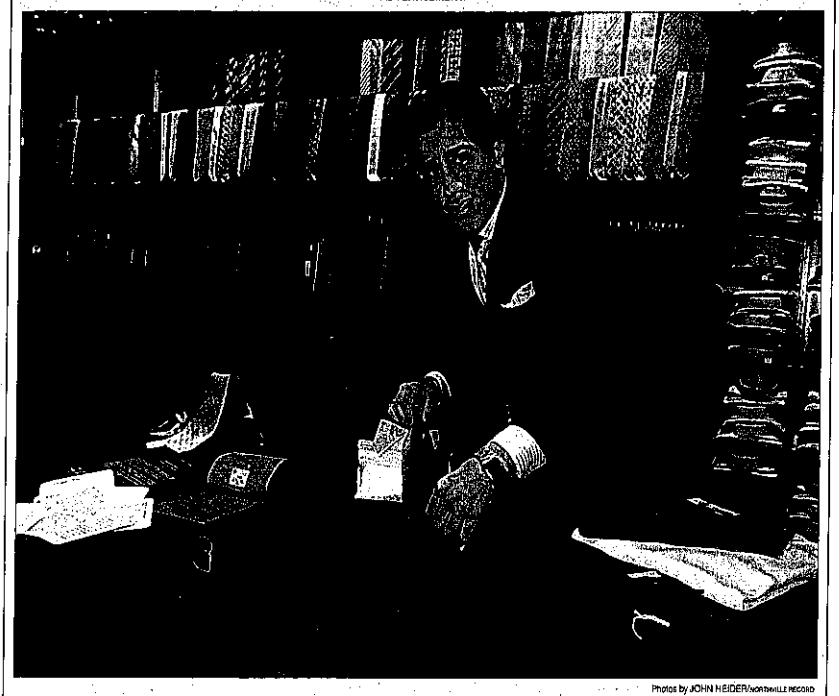
The client, relieved, confirmed our appointment. The home she was buying had been a rental for a few years, with out-of-state owners who were adamant that the home was for sale "as is". During the inspection, we found numerous items of concern which needed attention. Some electrical issues and drainage issues where items of the most concern. I documented each item and made recommendations for correction of each. As you would expect, the client was pleased to have this information to help her make an informed decision about the property she wanted to purchase. Her Realtor was at the inspection with us and he Thanked Me for "going above and beyond with the review of the report for all items discovered during the inspection" and that he looked forward to working with me again. **Randall Patterson Certified Pillar To Post® NAHI-CRI Home Inspector (248) 755-3422** Randall Patterson is a Certified Home inspector with Pillar To Post® and the National Association of Home Inspectors-CRI For additional information please visit our web site at www.pthome.com/westoakland/livingston We also provide home owner with the following: Environmental Testing Services to ensure your home does not have elevated levels of Radon, Mold, or various other issues. We use only Nationally Certified Labs to provide the lab results to our clients. Call us today to schedule a home check up and ensure your family has a healthy and safe living environment, even if you are not planning to sale your home. •Radon Measurement Testing • Mold Sampling • Lead Paint & Asbestos Sampling •Water & Air Quality Testing • Pest Inspections • Well & Septic Inspections • Home Energy Surveys • Customized Inspections for Home Owner

Do You Want Someone To Look Around? Or Do You Want A Professional Home Inspection?

Pillar To Post® Is Considered the Best

ADVERTISEMENT

ADVERTISEMENT



Photos by JOHN HEIDER/NORTHVILLE RECORD

Alexander Hamka offers a full range of clothes at his Northville men's clothier, including suits by Jhane Barnes, Hugo Boss shoes, Faberge ties and Borgo Alto Italian shirts.

Alexander's: a perfect fit for men

■ *Northville clothier creates right customer impression, quality image*

By Kate Phillips
SPECIAL WRITER

Alexander Hamka has seen men go from ordinary to extraordinary with a change in clothing. He's cultivated a stand-out image for players on the Detroit Lions. He's helped celebrities like "Superman" Dean Cain maintain a superstar look.

And with a brand new store in Northville, Alexander Hamka is ready to help every man achieve his potential. Alexander's Custom Clothiers open on West Main Street in Northville last November.

A family of clothiersAlex comes from a long line of tailors and clothiers. His family has owned eight clothing stores and garment makers throughout the metro area and overseas, starting with his grandfather's first business 40 years ago.

Although he grew up immersed in the business, Alex decided to pursue pre-dentistry at the University of Michigan. When his father became ill and was hospitalized, Alex took over his father's clothing store. The eight months at the store were enough to make Alex realize that the family business was in his blood.

"I've been told many times that I have an eye for clothing and color," he said. "This is what I'm good at."

Men's clothier, Alexander Hamka, offers tailoring services at Alexander's, located at 124 W. Main St. in downtown Northville.

Alex started learning the dying trade of custom tailoring from family members, and opened a clothing store in Laurel Park Place. It continues to thrive as a popular store.

Developing image

Alex also began work as a corporate image consultant. He flew all over the country to help new hires and promoted executives achieve a professional look.

The young consultant found that people stereotype others depending on the way they look. Wrinkles khakis and sports shirts give an impression of incompetence, even in a casual workplace. Alex advises business people to dress meticulously in order to earn instant respect from clients, coworkers and bosses.

With a downturn in economy, Alex has noticed that fashion trends are actually turning towards a dressier business look, to boost production and moral, and capture the shrinking client base.

"When you come to work dressed in a fine suit you feel motivated to work hard and achieve," said Alex. "The right clothing changes your way of thinking from lazy and tired to confident and energetic."

And with downsizing at many corporations and small businesses it is more imperative than ever to look more polished and professional than other employees.

"Instead of being the sloppiest one at the office, choose to be the most well dressed person and it will change the way others think about you and your work," Alex explained.

Alexander's Custom Clothiers offers wardrobe and image consulting at his store or at client's home. He drives to a clients homes bringing along hundreds of swatches and pictures of dozens of suit styles to help create just the right combination. Evening and weekend appointments are available for busy professionals.

Alex is thrilled when he can help someone go through their wardrobe and get rid of clothing that is out of date, ill fitting or projects the wrong image. He spends time getting to know clients and talking through career goals in order to determine what clothing choices would serve them the best. He tries to get a good handle on the preferences and individual style of each client so that he can help them find clothes that they really love.

"When it's right for you, you just know it, there's no wondering," Alex said with a smile. "My clothes make you feel good about yourself.

Fine clothing

At Alexander's Custom Clothiers custom suits are offered at price ranges from $1,200 to $2,500. Practically every piece of the suit is hand stitched to create a one-of-a-kind masterpiece. The garment is styled and sewn exclusively for the individual, complimenting their body shape, posture and gait.

Custom made dress shirts compliment a fine suit, and are more comfortable than off the rack shirts. The gage and thread count of the material are better. The material is more dense and has a nice feel with added luster and texture. They look much neater, because they have very little excess material. Custom shirts can be made in 15 to 22 days.

The store also stocks ready made dress shirts, plus jackets, sports wear, robes, shoes and accessories.

Alexander's also offers high quality made to measure suits ranging from $495 to $1,500. The store has many styles and colors in stock to fit every size and build. Less costly suits can be ordered for those with a tight budget.

The made to measure suits at Alexander's can look as good as a custom suit with Alex's hand tailoring. His skilled tailoring can make a suit fit perfectly and hang just right. He has noticed that poor tailoring spoils an expensive suit.

"I can take a $200 suit and make it look like a $2,000 suit because of fine tailoring," he explained. "Take a $2,000 suit to a bad tailor and it will look like a $200 suit."

Men and women have been flocking in to have suits, dresses and clothing of all types tailored by Alex. His old-world technique along with careful measurements and an eye for details have grown him a reputation as one of the best tailors in metro Detroit.

The right atmosphere

When Alex designed his store, he sought to create a relaxed atmosphere where clients would feel comfortable sitting down to talk about wardrobe needs.

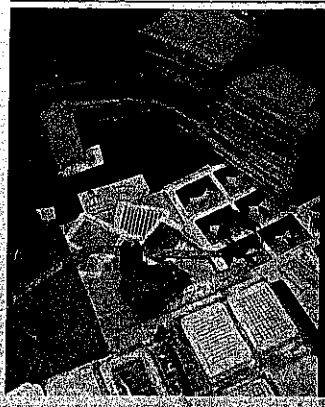
Stepping a foot in the door is like coming in to the warmth of Alexander's own home, with Brazilian cherry wood floors, a cozy fireplace and a large plasma TV. Plush leather sofas create a space for clients to unwind with a newspaper and cup of coffee.

The tables, shelving and woodwork were all hand created for the unique space. A nationally renowned artist created marble work and other unique art for the walls.

Alexander's creates a setting of excellence that challenges clients to strive for the same excellence in their lives.

ALEXANDER'S

Alexander's Custom Clothier of Northville
- **Location:** 124 W. Main Street in downtown Northville
- **Phone:** (248) 349-6080
- **Hours:** Monday, noon-6 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
- **Web:** www.alexandersdetroit.com



ALEXANDER'S
CUSTOM CLOTHIERS
Northville

Buy 3 Custom Shirts
Get 4th Shirt FREE

124 West Main Street
Northville