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Novi News

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Farewell Fuerst Farm facilities

Council approves demolition plan

By Kelly Murad
STAFF WRITER

The buildings currently residing upon the Fuerst Farm property are facing demolition, unless a group or individual can come up with the proposed restoration costs of \$3 million in the next 90 days.

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A fifth action item was added to the agenda at Monday's council meeting

regarding the recommendations presented by McKenna Associates, Inc., the planning consultants contracted by the city to study potential uses of the Fuerst Farm property. Through research and community input, the consultants came up with two multi-million dollar conceptual plans for the city-owned property at Taft and 10 Mile roads.

The slightly more expensive plan suggests restoration, with the plan of adaptive reuse recommending demolition of the barns and farm house, and creating passive parkland.

"This proposal keeps the area open, it keeps the area green," said Mayor David Landry in support of Concept 'B'.

A number of citizens attended the highly anticipated council meeting to voice their concerns regarding the plan for adaptive reuse, which was recommended to council by city staff.

"As a former history teacher, I would prefer choice 'A,'" said Novi resident Carol Crawford. "That's probably not going to happen, but I think we need to hang on to any piece of history we have left."

In moving forward with plan 'B', the farmstead is at risk of loss.

Please see FARM, 4A

'Bye Bye Birdie' takes the stage

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

Tonight, Novi High School's musical "Bye Bye Birdie" opens the curtain for the first of a three-night performance schedule at Fuerst Auditorium - and the curtains won't close until the show is over, even during set changes.

"It's very unique. We're not using curtains, at all. Things are getting thrown around," said 18-year-old senior Mike Marsoupien, who plays a lead role as Albert Peterson, rock star Conrad Birdie's manager, who devises one last event before Birdie ships out for basic training.

The show begins in Allentown, Pa., circa 1958, where Peterson and his secretary and lover, Rose Alvarez (played by senior Alina Bruder), make plans for their top star, an Elvis Presley-personified Birdie (senior Nikko Laudicina), to give "one last kiss" to a lucky contest winner during a concert before he heads off for duty with the Army.

Kim MacAfee (senior Andrea Jennens) wins the contest, bringing Peterson, Alvarez and Birdie to Sweet Apple, Ohio, where MacAfee, her new boyfriend Hugo Woods (senior Colin Woods), and the rest of the town take different approaches to the

rock-n-roll star's presence. Mixing humor with a classic line of upbeat songs, dance and an abstract set design, the Novi Creative Arts Collaborative has produced an entertaining ensemble many cast members expect will sell out all three nights.

"Opening night is always kind of an experience. We've sold out a lot of shows in the past," said 17-year-old Jennens, who was a chorus member for the past two musicals.

Student director and stage manager Michael Barbour said the crowd would relate to the characters, as many of the cast members have.

"I think it's more relatable to the audience and it's easier to get into a person character-wise because they (the actors) are teenagers. There are a lot of aspects to the show and it's really balanced," the 17-year-old senior said. "(I expect) a sold out show - really powerful and shocking to the audience. Shocked where their jaws drop, but not because anything went wrong."

Laudicina said the show has all anyone could want in a musical.

"It incorporates a lot of things. We have dancers coming in and vocals and a lot of people working on the set. It's going to be a

Please see BIRDIE, 8A

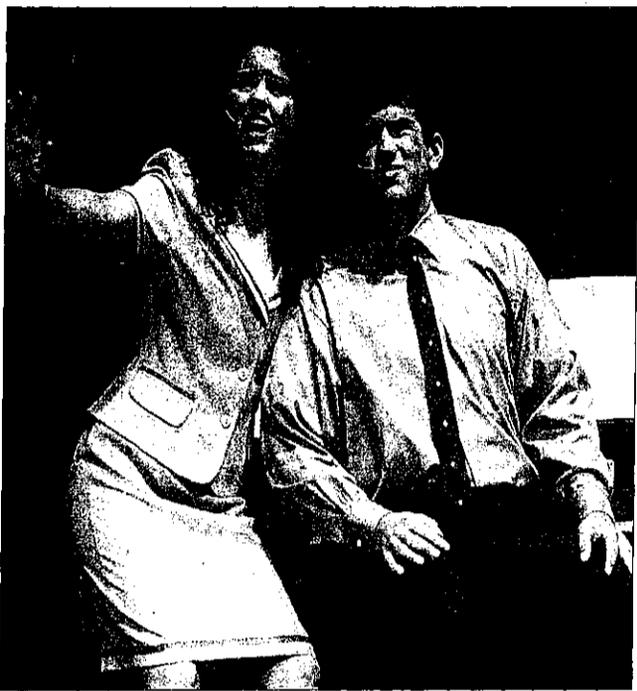


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Roslie (Alina Bruder) and Albert (Mike Marsoupien) go through a dress rehearsal of "Bye Bye Birdie" at Novi High School.

Giving back: A contagious lesson of caring



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Student Morgan Krupic ties up a bunch of toiletry bags she and her classmates assembled for HAVEN.

By Victoria Mitchell
NEWS EDITOR

Morgan Krupic hasn't been squirreling away loose change and her hard-earned allowance for the latest Webkinz or Hannah Montana memento.

Instead, the 9-year-old Deerfield Elementary School student may be found bargain hunting for washcloths, shampoo and hand lotion at Target.

For close to three years, Krupic has been gathering items of need for abused women and children temporarily residing at HAVEN in Pontiac.

HAVEN is a nonprofit organization providing comprehensive solutions and innovative programs promoting violence-free homes and communities. The HAVEN shelter houses about 40 people a day, with more than half children.

"I usually buy washcloths because there are like 12 in a pack," Krupic said.

HAVEN CEO Beth Morrison visited Deerfield last Thursday, where Krupic and her fourth-grade classmates assembled nearly 200 bath bags filled with needed items for a grateful Morrison to take back to the shelter.

Items including toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, combs and small toys for the children filled the bright colored bags tied with pink ribbons by students' petic hands.

"We make toiletry bags because they drop everything and go," Krupic said.

Morrison explained to the students many of the HAVEN residents arrive at the shelter with nothing, often leaving their personal belongings behind to escape domestic violence.

Morrison said the organization

has received help from elementary school-age children in the past, but not to the extent Krupic has helped out and rallied her fellow students to help out as well.

"I think it is unique that a child her age is so involved," Morrison said. "She's pretty special."

So special, that Morrison nominated Krupic for the statewide Governor's Service Award - Youth Volunteer category. Award winners will be announced in May.

But, for Krupic, helping and inspiring others has become a part of her daily routine, promoting the spirit of giving, seemingly without thought. A habit of giving beginning at 6, and spreading like multiplying wildflowers to her classmates.

The student's mother, Janice Krupic, said they sent a letter to

Please see GIVING, 4A

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Wine connoisseurs should head to Rock Financial Showplace's Diamond Ballroom, 46100 Grand River Ave., from 5-10 p.m. for the Michigan International

Saturday. For more information, visit www.michiganwine-expo.com.

SATURDAY

Have some old paint, dead batteries or spray cans lying around the house? From 10 a.m.-1 p.m., the City of Wixom is having a Hazardous Waste Disposal drop-off at the Department of Public Works, 2041 Charms Road, Future Hazardous Waste Disposal



dates can be found at cityofnovi.org/Services/PublicWorks/Recycling.asp.

SUNDAY

Kick off National Library Week with a trip to the Novi Public Library, 45245 W. 10 Mile Road, between 1-5 p.m. The library offers tons of books for children and adults of all ages, along with activities and gatherings throughout the week. The Novi Public Library is open to the public seven days a week, with hours from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For more information on events at the library, call (248) 349-0720 or visit www.novi.lib.mi.us.

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MY NOVI COMMUNITY

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Summer camps pique interest of all



Novi's Camp Lakeshore counselor Chadd Neal, right, dumps a cool bucket of Walled Lake water on camper Rachel Fox during an afternoon session in late July of 2005.

Register through Novi Parks department

By Kelly Murad
STAFF WRITER

With the end of the school year countdown in motion, the City of Novi introduces summer camp programs designed to keep kids occupied during summer vacation. "We have 32 different camps, 24 of which are brand new," said Nancy Cowan, superintendent of recreation for the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department. "There are a wide variety of programs this year to fit a lot of different interests."

Along with the return of camps such as Camp Lakeshore and Project Broadway, formerly Kids on Broadway, the Parks Department is offering a variety of camps for athletes, scientists and artists. Possibly the most unique of the new camps offered is Cirque Amongus. "It's a four-day camp where (kids) come and learn skills such as juggling, balance and movement," Cowan said. "We have a strong and quality theater program and the circus ties into that. We have a lot of kids who are looking for new things to do in the performing arts so the circus tie seemed like a natural one for us." Other new arts camps include Fantasy Garden Ballet; One-Act Theatre Showcase; and Kids for Shorties, a sports camp for kids ages 3 to 5.

Whether interested in individual or team sports, kids will gain useful skills in a variety of sports. "Soccer tends to be very popular, as well as tennis, and those are a couple of camps we are highlighting this summer," Cowan said. Aside from the traditional favorites, the city is introducing new sports to Novi's youth. "We've broadened the horizon of our sports camps," Cowan said, noting they added cricket this year. "It's a sport that's growing in the area and we're actually going to get the experience of using the Lyon Oaks County Park, they have a cricket pitch there." Other new sports camps include Sticks for Kids golf camp; English Horseback Riding; Mountain Biking; and Sports for Shorties, a sports camp for kids ages 3 to 5. "We want to be able to give our little ones a chance to be a part of sports as well," Cowan said. "It's kind of a mixed bag of a lot of different sports skills." For those scientists out there, the City of Novi is offering a Crazy Science Camp and LEGO Engineering Camp, among others. A complete list of all summer camp programs can be found on the city Web site at www.city-of-novi.org and will be included in the City of Novi publication Engage, which will be sent out next week.

Novi News staff writer Kelly Murad can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or kmurad@gannett.com.



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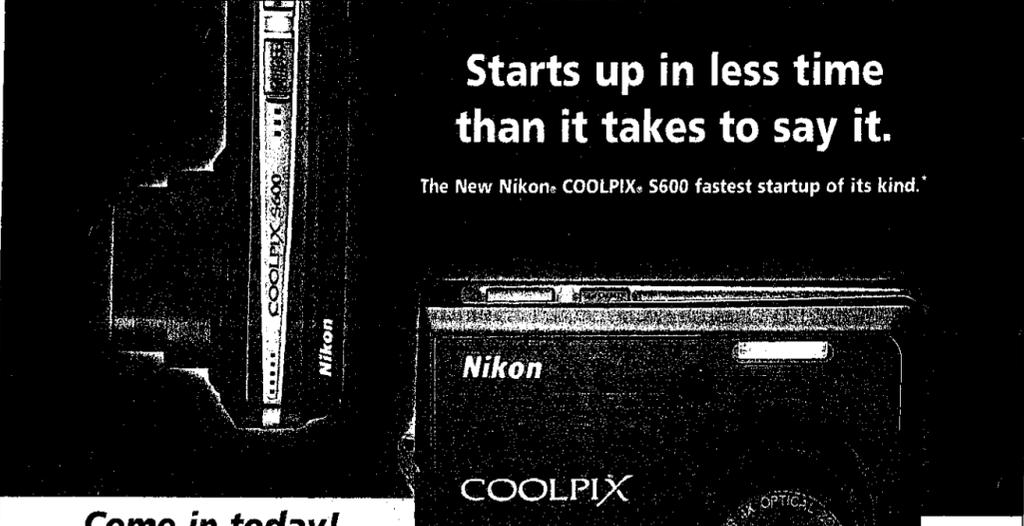
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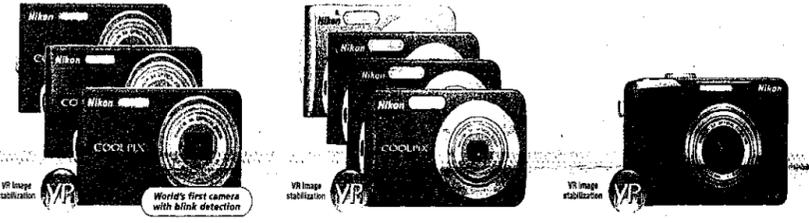
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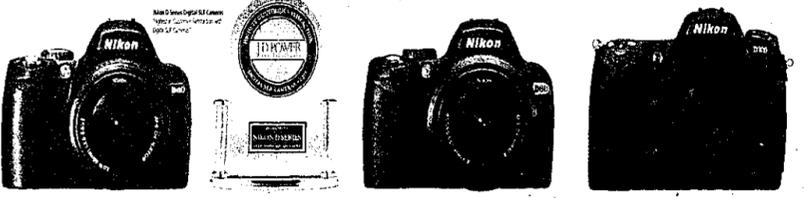
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Read - Then Recycle



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Deerfield Elementary School fourth-grade students gather items for HAVEN.

GIVING

continued from front

Morgan's teacher asking for support - a gesture that was well received. The students made it their mission to collect 100 items for the bath bags to celebrate Deerfield's 100th-day of school. They ended up surpassing the goal, overflowing two large containers.

Morgan's fourth-grade teacher, Myla Lee, said she welcomed the opportunity to help, saying it complimented last

year's class theme on how one person can make a difference. Lee said the other students were impressed as well.

"She was doing something beyond what a kid can do," Lee said. "It's the fact that they feel empowered enough to feel 'I can make a difference.'"

"I can't wait to see how this will spiral. They're thinking out of the box."

And Morgan's mother is terribly proud as well. "I feel it's just phenomenal," Janice said. "She does it on her own."

Morgan also does charitable

work for the Special Olympics. "It's fun to help other people and it helps you feel good and other people feel good," Morgan said.

In addition to the bath bags, Krupic donated necklaces for little girls residents and notepads for professionals.

She also toured the facility on one of her days off, surprising even her mother with her desire to wake early and spend the day with HAVEN professionals.

"These are lessons that last throughout a lifetime," Deerfield Elementary School Principal Richard Njus said.

FARM

continued from front

ing its status on the State Register of Historic Sites and the National Register of Historic Places.

"This is not our personal history, this is our community history," said Kathy Mutch, chair of the Historical Commission.

Regardless of resident outcry, council approved, by a 5-2 vote, to support the general intent of Concept 'B' for adaptive reuse. Council members Andrew Mutch and Kathy Crawford dissented.

"Our past may not be as picturesque as Northville or Farmington, but I cannot agree to total demolition of all the buildings on the farmstead," said Crawford, who noted it may not be practical to preserve all the barns, but suggested finding a common ground through meeting of the two conceptual plans.

Although councilman David Staahl said his personal preference would be restoration, he

believes funding would need to come from private sources.

"This is not something I think the taxpayers of Novi have a stomach for right now," said Staahl, who added language into the motion supporting restoration if a group or individual could come up with the necessary funding in the next 90 days.

The estimated \$3.3 million project cost of Concept 'A' includes restoration of the existing three barns and Finest house, along with adding an entryway plaza, amphitheater and common area for events such as art fairs, ice sculptures and live markets.

Even though local preservationists believe the recommended project includes inaccurate estimates and unnecessary additions to the site, councilman Mutch said there are a lot of people who would put the time and money into preserving the site.

"I would agree that I think preserving history is important, but the site is not used," Councilwoman Terry Margolis said. "The reality is that it hasn't been taken care of. Quite frankly,

I find the site itself more historic than the home."

Concept 'B' suggests eliminating the barns and house, opening up the site for more green space, and adding an amphitheater, plaza with sculptures and art, entryway plaza and a 4,000-square-foot multi-purpose building. The \$2.9 million projected cost of Concept 'B' was inaccurate, underestimating the entryway plaza by \$100,000.

Margolis believes the city could move forward immediately with Concept 'B', whereas the first phase of Concept 'A' suggests renovating all the buildings at a cost of \$1 million.

"The first phase of Concept 'B' includes restoration of the existing buildings and relocation of the Old Township Hall, is already included in the proposed budget for 2008-09.

Relocation of the historic township hall is required with the coming construction of the new library.

Novi News staff writer Kelly Murad can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or kmurad@gannett.com.

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events. There is no way to stop tornadoes, and not all tornadoes show up on radar, but they can be seen. Only one instrument can detect a tornado or funnel with complete certainty, and that is the human eye. Having more trained "eyes" in the field will allow

for better notification of the public. Of those receiving the training, three were Novi Police Department Officers, two dispatchers, and 33 Novi CERT Team members. The training was held at the Novi Police Department Training Center.

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MY NEIGHBORHOOD

Community mourns death of Bill Slinger, former Novi News owner

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

The community mourns the death of William Slinger, former owner of the Northville Record and the Novi News, who died March 31.

"To me and to all others in our town who knew and admired Bill Slinger, he was the perfect personification of the committed, engaged, passionate publisher of his hometown newspaper and citizen of his community of Northville," said Phil Power, former owner of the Northville Record and Novi News.

Power said he first met Slinger in the late 1960s, when he had just started his own newspaper company. "He treated me very well, as a young man coming into the field that he had mastered. And he taught me what it means to be the owner and publisher of a hometown newspaper."

Michele Focht, current member of the Northville city council, worked with Slinger as an education reporter for the Northville Record from 1980-1987. "Bill technically had already sold the newspapers to Hometown Newspapers at that time, but he

still maintained an office on the third floor and wrote a weekly column for the paper."

Focht said Slinger was tremendously influential in the Northville community and was the consummate community journalist.

"I think the dedication and passion he brought to newspapering was equaled by his love of the Northville community," she said. Focht said Slinger led to the success of Main Street '78, which was the project that renovated the downtown area.

"With Twelve Oaks Mall coming in, there was a need to revitalize Northville's downtown, and he was one of the critical leaders who pushed for this project," she said. Amazingly, 25 years later, he was also involved in the recent renovation of the Town Square.

"Bill was a private man," she said. "He was one who never drew attention to himself and always gave credit to others." She noted that he was also named a Citizen of the Year.

Phil Jerome worked for Slinger in numerous capacities, including as a reporter and an editor of the Northville Record and the Novi News, from 1971 until Slinger sold

the papers. "He was just a great community journalist," Jerome said. "He did as much for Northville as anyone. He was an old-fashioned community journalist, a man of strong beliefs, and he fought for what he felt was right."

Jerome said Slinger, as an editor, covered the Northville City Council and went 17 years without missing a meeting. "It was a matter of pride. Because he was the boss, he set the standard for rest of us. He was very dedicated to Northville and the paper."

Local retired businessman Chuck Lapham, former owner of Lapham's Man Shop in Northville, agreed that Slinger was a private man.

"He's a person who doesn't want a lot of fanfare," he said. "He did a lot for this city, and he encouraged others to get behind projects and get behind them himself. He was the one who talked me into running for city council in 1967."

Lapham said he first met Slinger after he had just purchased the Northville Record. "I was new to the publishing store in 1956," Lapham said. "He helped me draw up ads and promote a business I knew little

about."

The two formed a close friendship that continued over the years. He spoke to him about three weeks ago.

"He wasn't up to doing our regular morning breakfast," Lapham said.

Slinger was a member of the city's Economic Development Corporation. In addition, he and Lapham were also members of the Northville Area Economic Development Corporation, which was able to purchase and package projects on behalf of the city.

John Genitt, owner of Genitt's Hole-in-the-Wall Restaurant in downtown Northville, said, "It was gentlemen like Bill who laid the groundwork for this great town and left it up to the citizens and the merchants to continue. He will be sorely missed for the work he has done."

On a more personal note, Genitt said, "You can always tell the measure of a man if he'll walk across the street to talk to you. Bill certainly did that, and I appreciated that all these years. He always had time for a visit."

Staff writer Pam Fleming can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103.



Photo by Steve Focht

Bill Slinger blowing up balloons for Northville's 50th Anniversary Ice Cream Social in the park adjacent to the District Library, behind City Hall in August of 2005.

St. John to cut positions, Novi's developing campus not affected

By Patricia Anstett
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

St. John Health will reduce its workforce by 400 positions by April 30 and will end some perks like company-provided cell phones to save \$85 million, the Warren-based system announced last Monday.

In all, 300 jobs are being eliminated and another 100 openings will not be filled, said Patricia Maryland, president and CEO of St. John.

The cuts, the biggest in recent years announced by any local health care system, will take effect Monday in e-mails and voice mails to employees and talks between management and staff.

Maryland cited three factors that led to the reductions:

- Mounting losses at St. John.
- Michigan's economic downturn.
- Renewed pressures to deliver cost-effective high-quality care.

Uncompensated care is expected to rise from \$137.1 million in fiscal 2007 to \$177.4 million in the 2008 fiscal year ending June 30.

St. John faces declining margins this fiscal year. It expects \$16.4 million in operating income on \$1.8 billion in patient services revenues, down from \$42.8 million in fiscal 2007, on \$1.7 billion in revenues.

Other savings will come from moving from company-purchased cell phones and other communication devices to a payroll deduction program that allows employees to purchase devices at a nominal

fee. St. John expects to save \$100,000 alone by eliminating calls to directory assistance, Maryland said.

Asked if the cuts involve scaling back St. John's 200-bed, \$200-million Providence Park Hospital and Providence Center, scheduled to open in August in Novi, Maryland quickly added: "Oh, no, absolutely not."

Employees will have priority consideration for open jobs within the system. Those leaving the system will receive severance and help in finding new jobs, Maryland said.

St. John began the process with an assessment by the Deloitte and Touche consulting firm to compare it to other model health systems. Then it created more than 20 teams to identify redundant programs and procedures.

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Winter Guard finishes season strong

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

The seniors of the Novi Winter Guard groups were part of the program's founding class, and have found success.

Novi White, the group of more experienced flag-spinners, placed fourth in the Scholastic A division at the state competition last Saturday, hosted by Saginaw Valley State University. The fourth-place finish was among a competitive batch of 13 teams and followed the team's highest-scoring performance of the season — 82.1 points.

"My favorite memory would have to be after States when the competitive season is winding down and every team member has given their all," said 17-year-old senior captain Amanda Portesi.

The team performed "The Promise," a mix of the Tracy Chapman song with a UCLA acappella twist. Their performance at the state competition followed a first-place finish at the Milford Contest on March 30, hosted by Lakeland High School.

"My favorite part is being able to tell a story on the floor through movement and see the audience's reaction, and knowing I caused it," Portesi said, noting the performance's message was, "If you don't stand for anything, you're not worth fighting for."

Portesi joined Winter Guard as soon as she heard about it and was one of the founding team members.

"I decided to do Winter Guard back in eighth grade because I've been a dancer for 12 years," she said. "I've done ballet, jazz, modern and was in a traveling group, Dance Ensemble West, for eight years."



Photos by Shawn Galt

The Novi Winter Guard performs its routine at Lakeland High School in March.

Green growth

With the program's growth, a second team, Novi Green, was created for less experienced members. Novi Green is also open to eighth graders in the fall.

"Everyone in White has a Green buddy and helps them out," Portesi said. "When the eighth graders enter high school, they already know 24 other girls."

Francie Zoroya, a 15-year-old sophomore and Novi Green member, said she's glad she was convinced to join during her freshman year.

"I came into it with nothing," she said. "I really like the practices and being with friends. It's a lot of fun to perform in front of an audience."

Zoroya is also a member of the five-person JV Weapon Line, a portion of Novi Green that performs part of the five-minute show with rifles. This season, Novi Green's experience consisted of only two girls with three or more years of experience, two girls with two years of experience, four eighth graders and another four first-year team members.

The team still managed a second-place finish in the AAA division at last weekend's state competition.

"It went really well. We were happy to be there and showed it," said 17-year-old junior Kitty Gasaway, a three-year member of Novi Green.

Zoroya said the team went in knowing they would have some stiff competition for first place though.

"We went into the competition in first by two-tenths of a point, so we knew it'd be close," she said. The weekend prior, Novi Green won the Milford Contest despite an ever-changing roster.

"At first, people kept dropping out of the program, even as recently as two months ago and

we'd have to relearn our program. We were learning new work up to (March 31)," Zoroya said.

Personal growth

Portesi said a lot of personal lessons were learned by both teams throughout the season. Also, since the teams practiced and hung out together, one team's lessons were easily picked up by the other.

"We always get along, never had drama. We don't let petty problems get in the way of the bigger goal," Portesi said. "There are times when the judges give you a totally unfair score. You have to judge a good show or a bad show off how you personally did."

Competitions are judged on movements, equipment, ensemble and the judge's general opinion.

"It's a lot different from all the other kinds of sports because you're dancing and spinning the flag," Gasaway said.

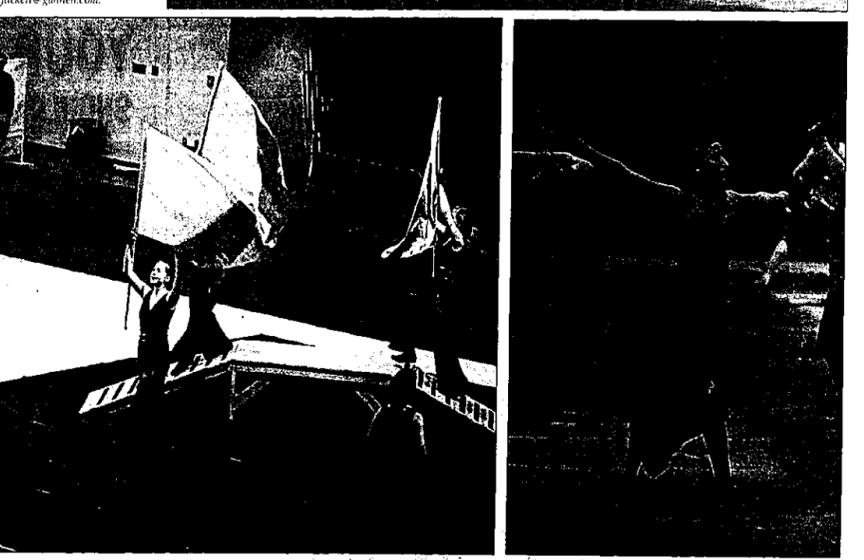
The Winter Guard program's fourth season will wrap up with Novi White's trip to compete at the national competition today through Saturday in Dayton, Ohio.

Betsy Pilon, program director and founder, said she formed Winter Guard in part to help members of the fall Color Guard improve.

"I saw the opportunity to grow something," she said. "All the girls in White are (in Color Guard). We do have a lot of girls that do both seasons."

Color Guard performs with the marching band during their fall competition season.

Novi News staff writer Chris Jackett can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or cjackett@gannett.com.



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: 7 p.m. April 17, inside the Educational Services Building on Taft Road

Victoria Mitchell, editor
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Thursday, April 10, 2008
www.hometownlife.com
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Popularity increases for full-day kindergarten

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

As more Oakland County schools offer full-day kindergarten, Novi Community Schools finds its program has been embraced by the community in the first few years.

"Doerfield had it ever since it was open. It's in the third year at all of the other buildings," said Bob Schram, assistant superintendent of human resources. Doerfield Elementary School, which opened its doors eight years ago, has experienced success with the program — success that Novi Woods, Orchard Hills, Parkview and Village Oaks elementary schools have echoed in recent years.

"When we first offered it, our enrollment went up," Schram said. The district offered 15 kindergarten classes this year — four at Doerfield, two at Orchard Hills and three at each of the other three schools. Of the 399 kindergartners counted on the Feb. 13 student count day, 322 are in the full-day program.

"We met 95 percent of demand," Schram said, noting a waiting list exists at Orchard Hills. "All (sections) are filled at this point."

The district decided to offer the full-day program when a disparity between kindergarten enrollment and first-grade enrollment was noted a few years ago.

"Students were going somewhere else for kindergarten and coming to us for first grade," Schram said. "We did it intentionally because we were losing students to private schools. It was demand, and studies show it's better for them."

National Center for Education Statistics show improved test scores throughout their educational careers for students starting out



Photo by JOHN HEDER/Novi News

Novi Woods half-day kindergartners get on their bus last Tuesday before noon. There is a drop in half-day students since parents began taking advantage of full-day Novi School District kindergarten classes.

in full-day kindergarten. But, although there may be long-term educational benefits to the full-day kindergarten program, not all children are ready for it.

"I think it's been an excellent program for those kids who want it. Some kids aren't ready (for full-day)," said Superintendent Pete Dion. "It's a convenience for some parents to have half-day kindergarten and spend time with their kids at home."

Dion said he is glad the district can offer both the full- and half-day programs.

"We've been real fortunate to offer both programs. There's a push statewide to mandate full-day kindergarten. Parents should have a choice. Buildings have been built in Michigan for half-day. It should be phased in over 5-10 years," he said. "I don't think it's fair to mandate it. I don't think they ought to eliminate the half-day program."

However, with just 77 children in half-day classes throughout the district and enrollment numbers

expected to drop, half-day classes may be in jeopardy at some schools.

"For next year, 349 are in kindergarten. You can see the drop in the economy and birth rate," Schram said of the 50 fewer kindergarten students. "We may not have half-day at all schools next year."

"Although enrollment is expected to decrease, Schram said students can enroll through the start of the semester this fall, so it would be possible to even out."

If too few kindergarten students sign up for half-day at any one school, a half-day class may be combined with that of another nearby elementary school, Schram said.

Dion was adamant that the district will aim to offer half-day kindergarten on a continual basis as long as there is a demand from parents.

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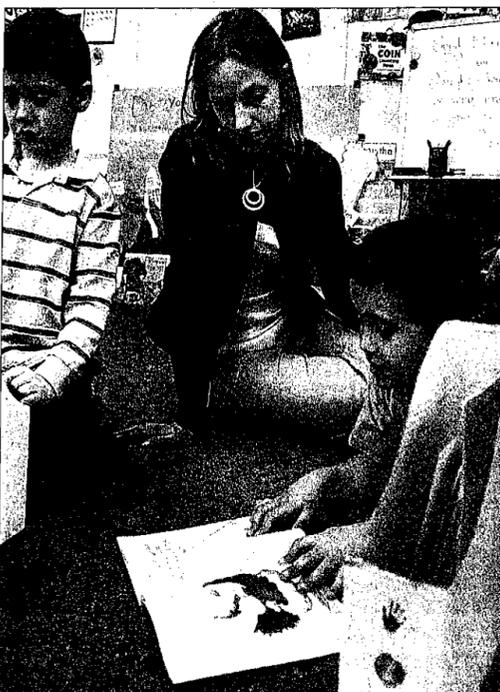


Photo by JOHN HEDER/Novi News

Novi Woods kindergarten teacher Lindsay Mann works on reading skills with some of her students. The Novi Community School District offers full-day kindergarten classes for its students.

Entire Fuerst Farm property not yet in city hands

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

A crucial element of the Fuerst Farm Property redevelopment is the city's acquisition of a 1.25-acre piece of land owned by the Novi Community School District.

"They haven't made any formal contact with us. I think it's premature. What they're doing is fine," said Bob Schram, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources for Novi Community School District. "If the city starts zoning in on a plan and says 'this is the best thing,' then they'll come to the board and us."

Monday's City Council meeting

Fuerst Farm walk-around

The Novi Historical Commission is hosting an event for residents to hear from experts in the field of preservation and restoration.

Time: 1 p.m.
Date: April 19
Location: Meet at Old Township Hall
Contact: Kathy Mutch
(248) 224-4211

ing evaluated concept plans that each require the city to develop the currently flat, district-owned

greenspace along Taft Road, stretching from Novi High School's staff and bus driveway north to the Fuerst Farmhouse and from Taft Road east to the three barns.

The concepts, which range from moving some buildings to demolishing others, and adding new structures, such as an amphitheater, were discussed without the full property officially in city hands.

"There's been some talk between (City Manager) Clay (Pearson) and I where we'd redesign it. It hasn't been a discussion item at a (board of education) meeting. The city hasn't

approached us formally," said Superintendent Peter Dion. "The school district doesn't have a position on it because it's the city's jurisdiction."

"Although nothing has been officially discussed, Dion said one possibility would be for the city to give the district land closer to the staff parking lot, where the barns reside, in exchange for the southwestern portion of the area under redevelopment planning. A potential trade would only involve property on the southeast corner of 10 Mile and Taft roads, Dion said.

The other proposed option in the city-commissioned study, pre-

pared by planning consultant firm McKenna Associates Inc., would be to try and purchase the land from the district.

"I think anything's possible, but there's been no conversation I'm aware of," Schram said. "It depends what is economically feasible."

"If the house can't be used for anything functional and the area can be used for heritage, I'd be open to it," he said.

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District staff children allowed to attend Novi schools

Without a student board member in attendance or comments from the audience, the board began with approving the three consent agenda items: last meeting's minutes, February bills and the district's amended budget, by a 7-0 vote.

Action Items

The board unanimously approved personnel recommendations for teacher Andrea Czarniecki to take a health leave of absence this semester and for teachers Tanya Jones, Wendy Martin and Jennifer Stevenson to take child care leaves of absence for the 2008-09 school year. Betsy Ventura's resignation was also approved, along with several tenure recommendations.

After further discussion on extending the one-year trial modification to Board Policy 5010, which allows children of Novi Schools employees to attend district schools if they do not live in Novi, the board voted 7-0 to initiate the change with the amended provision that the district updates the board on the program status each February and September. This school year, five of the six student applicants were accepted because space was available. Once a student is in the system, they are permitted to continue until they graduate the 12th grade. The amended provision was made, in part, because trustee George Kortlandt was concerned the program would give district

Discussion Items

Assistant superintendent of business and operations Gail Credit recommended the bid for the district's door access control and security system to Livonia-based Security Designs Inc. for \$158,612. Security Designs has worked with other school districts such as West Bloomfield, Wayne, Westland and Livonia in the past 14 years and will install door control systems requiring key card access throughout the Novi district. The board will vote to award the bid at the April 17 regular meeting.

Board communication

Trustee Julie Abrams summarized a three-hour meeting of the Long Range Planning Committee where 45 district and community members discussed the district's future. The committee will continue meeting and present the board with findings at a May board meeting.

Trustee Bobbie Murphy noted the success of the Novi Youth Assistance Bowl-A-Thon March 15 and encouraged parents to begin looking at NYA summer camps for their children. Murphy

also pointed out that, although the district lost their bowling match with the city team, School Board President Jeff Nielson was the high fund-raiser.

Superintendent's report

Peter Dion said he wanted to start a tradition of delivering "Teacher of the Year" awards to a faculty member at each of the three educational levels. Under the new district awards, he announced Barb Chif was the high school recipient, Stacey Becker was the middle school recipient and Glen Walhall (of Novi Meadows) was the elementary recipient. The Novi Educational Foundation "Teacher of the Year" award will be handed out between May 15-23.

Dion thanked Kortlandt for suggesting the addition of parents and community members to the Long Range Planning Committee.

Surveillance video camera installations were expected to be complete at Novi High School this week.

Construction permits for Village Oaks and Orchard Hills elementary schools were passed at the city and state levels. The Parkview Elementary School permit has been approved at the city level and the state permit is pending.

The Novi High School FIRST Robotics Team 503 Frog Force took first place at the Great Lakes Invitational at Eastern Michigan University. The team also won the

Engineering Inspiration Award and will travel to Atlanta for an April 19 competition. Abrams noted that robotics coach Craig Hepler is a member of the Long Range Planning Committee.

Dion said the district is working on a pick-up/drop-off study at Village Oaks Elementary School and is designing a plan with the city, Novi police and traffic engineers to make the area in front of the school safer. On April 21, traffic changes will take place affecting the flow of traffic in front of the school and disallowing left turns during certain time periods.

School funding from the state is being estimated at a \$71-142 increase, which would result in a \$71 increase for Novi schools despite a projection of enrollment to decrease 54 students next year because of fewer incoming kindergartners than outgoing seniors. Dion questioned if the amount was based off "what was left over" when the rest of the state budget is set and said the amount should be looked at as "what is the cost to educate a child in Michigan, in Novi?"

The board adjourned to executive session at 8:40 p.m.

School board meeting notes were taken from the Thursday, April 3 regular meeting of the Novi Community School Board by Chris Jackett. All board members were in attendance. Next meeting: 7 p.m. April 17 at the Educational Services Building, 25345 Taft Road.



Photo by JOHN HEDER/Novi News

Jump Start Your Heart Orchard Hills student Joey Hosley jumps rope outside his Novi school. Hosley has been active in getting pledges for the school's Jump Rope for Heart fundraisers — gathering more than \$500 for the last two years.

Scenes from 'Bye Bye Birdie'



Conrad Birdie fans pledge their allegiance to the rock star during rehearsal.



The cast of "Bye Bye Birdie" rehearses at Fuerst Auditorium in Novi High School.

Conrad Birdie (Nikko Laudicina), left, and Albert (Mike Marsoupan) rehearse a scene from Novi High School's production of "Bye Bye Birdie."

BIRDIE

continued from front

great show. It's more modern," he said. "In Act I, during the song 'Honestly Sincere,' I've got a lot of Elvis moves and slide on my knees."

Role research

Laudicina said he did some research on the Internet at work. He helped find Laudicina was also awarded the senior superlative of "best dancer" by his classmates.

Marsoupan has been working toward his role for eight years, although he didn't know exactly what show or character he would portray until a few months ago. "I've been doing musical theater since I was 6. My goal was to be a lead since the fifth grade. My brother's friend Mike was the lead in "Crazy For You" in 2000," Marsoupan said, adding he joined fifth-grade chorus that fall.

"This is, by far, the most favorite (show) for me. It's kind of my dream character to play the goofy, dancy kind of guy. It's been a really good experience and way to finish my senior year. I've been in Novi Schools since the start and it's a good way to go out."

Although Marsoupan has been working toward his role since a young age, his cast mates have been progressing through the musicals as well. Laudicina played a meat vendor in last spring's "Breakdown" and Bruder had a small role in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" when her brother, Dan, played Joseph in 2006. Jennens made her way up through the chorus the last two years before landing a leading role this spring.

Seventeen-year-old junior Ryan Dougherty, who is in charge of set design and assists with lighting, said the set's abstract arrangement is working well.

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Kim MacAffee (Andrea Jennens) portrays Conrad Birdie's biggest fan in Novi High's production of "Bye Bye Birdie."

"It's very simplistic. Instead of building a house or office, we have the idea of a house or office. It's very abstract and there's lots of colors. It's a really abstract show," he said.

Each character will also have a different color projected on the white backdrop when they are on stage. Dougherty said Bruder's character will have red lighting to go with her feisty nature. Laudicina's rock-star persona will be backed in gold, while Jennens innocent small-town girl persona will be flared with pink. Marsoupan's developing character will feature lots of blues and greens.

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Cast members of "Bye Bye Birdie" rehearse a dance number.



A cast member of the high school's production of "Bye Bye Birdie" goes through a dress rehearsal last week.

REPORT CRIME: Call (248) 348-7100 for non-emergencies in Novi



Victoria Mitchell, editor
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102
vmitchell@gannett.com

Thursday, April 10, 2008
www.hometownlife.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

Missing keys to a Saturn? Contact Novi Police

A good Samaritan turned in a set of car keys to Novi police officers at 11 p.m. March 14, reports said.

An officer was assisting during a traffic stop near Main and Market streets when a man approached them with a set of car keys he found in the road, reports said.

The man said he found the property, which included one key and keyless entry to a Saturn vehicle, in the road in front of MIXX Lounge.

The officers contacted nearby businesses such as MIXX Lounge and The Post to notify them of the found keys, which are being held at the Novi Police Department, 45125 W. 10 Mile Road, (248) 348-7100.

Stereo equipment stolen from Explorer

According to a recent police report, about \$800 worth of stereo equipment was stolen from a vehicle between 9:30 p.m. March 27 and 8 a.m. March 28.

The black Ford Explorer, which was parked outside Saddle Creek Apartments near Nine Mile and Novi roads, showed no signs of forced entry and the victim

POLICE BRIEFS

Believes the doors were locked.

Among the items stolen were two black Rockford 6-and-a-half-inch speakers; a 12-inch black and gray Alpine Type-R subwoofer; a black Highmics amplifier, and a 30MB video Apple iPod, reports said.

According to police, the iPod was in the glove compartment and all the other items were mounted in the rear of the vehicle.

The victim said all the wires and equipment were cleanly removed.

Bicycle bandit

A hike was stolen from Novi High School between 2-5 p.m. March 27, reports said.

According to the victim's mother, her son left the Haro trick bike in the area of the high school football field while he was at lacrosse practice, and when he returned, it was missing.

The electric blue bike, which had pegs in the back wheel, is worth \$500, reports said.

At this time, there is no further information.

The doors of the Saturn were unlocked while parked outside the victim's residence, but nothing was missing from inside the vehicle.

The victim said she does not know of anyone who would damage her vehicle.

According to police, this was a

Possible auto theft attempt

A vehicle that was parked on Shorecrest Drive, between 9 p.m. March 18 and 8 a.m. March 19 was damaged by an unknown suspect, reports said.

According to the report, the front windshield of the silver Saturn was cracked in the middle and spidered out; the rearview mirror was ripped off; the handle to the glove box and the plastic part around the ignition were missing; and the bumper was damaged.

The doors of the Saturn were unlocked while parked outside the victim's residence, but nothing was missing from inside the vehicle.

The victim said she does not know of anyone who would damage her vehicle.

According to police, this was a

possible attempt of unlawful driving away of an automobile.

The officer immediately smelled an odor of intoxicants coming from the victim, who said she only had two beers and finished the last one at about midnight.

According to the report, the victim was unable to maintain balance and walk in a straight line during the field sobriety tests.

A preliminary breath test was administered and the woman's blood alcohol concentration was .12 percent, reports said.

Police interviewed neighbors of the victim, but no one saw or heard anything suspicious.

Turn your headlights on

A woman was arrested at about 3:30 a.m. March 23, near Grand River Avenue and Market Street for operating while intoxicated, reports said.

While turning onto eastbound

Electric shaver missing

According to recent police reports, an electric shaver is suspected stolen from a vehicle between 8-9:30 p.m. March 24.

The silver vehicle was parked in the driveway of a residence on Whistler Drive for about 90-minutes with the doors unlocked, reports said.

When the victim entered the vehicle, property from the center console and glove box were scattered throughout the interior of the vehicle, reports said. The exterior was undisturbed.

An electric shaver, which was sitting in the cup holder of the center console, was reported missing.

Police interviewed neighbors of the victim, but no one saw or heard anything suspicious.

Turn your headlights on

A woman was arrested at about 3:30 a.m. March 23, near Grand River Avenue and Market Street for operating while intoxicated, reports said.

While turning onto eastbound

at a family emergency plan and supply kit, visit www.ready.gov or cityofnovi.org.

Novi emergency management officials, along with the National Weather Service, stress the continued importance of education and preparation for severe weather.

"Knowing what to do in advance can help prevent unnecessary panic and confusion when severe weather does strike," Molloy said.

For information on how to re-

City of Novi observes Severe Weather Awareness Week

As the weather starts to warm up in Michigan, severe weather starts to appear on the forecast.

As a result, Gov. Jennifer Granholm has designated this week as Severe Weather Awareness Week.

During this week, Novi residents are encouraged to learn more about the risks associated with severe weather and familiarize themselves with the information necessary to help protect themselves and their property in the event of severe weather.

As part of his emergency preparedness and management responsibilities for the City, Novi



David Molloy

will help prepare Novi residents

each spring, the City of Novi, in partnership with the National Weather Service, promotes Severe Weather Awareness Week with these goals in mind:

• Become familiar with various severe weather alerts

• Create a preparedness kit for home and car that includes such items as a first aid kit, flashlight, portable radio and extra batteries

• Monitor NOAA Weather radio and local radio, television and cable stations for current weather conditions

• Keep an eye on the sky for threatening weather

To increase awareness of severe

weather events and promote storm safety, the Oakland County Office of Emergency Response and Preparedness conducted a special test of the early warning sirens yesterday at 11:30 a.m.

Novi emergency management officials, along with the National Weather Service, stress the continued importance of education and preparation for severe weather.

"Knowing what to do in advance can help prevent unnecessary panic and confusion when severe weather does strike," Molloy said.

For information on how to re-

OBITUARIES

VIRGINIA F. FETTERLY

Of Novi, 93, passed on April 3rd. Mother of Linda Fetterly, Julie A. Lindow (Fetterly), Grandmother of Christopher and Renee, Great-grandmother to Victoria, Christopher, Megan and Kendall.



KIRK RAYMOND ROSEY

Age 51, died March 30 after a long illness. Beloved son of the late Raymond and Betty Rosey, cherished brother of Gayle, Carol (Rick Edwards) and the late Craig, loving uncle of Nicholas and David Edwards. Graduate of Novi High School and Eastern Michigan University. Friends are invited to a celebration of his life on Sat. April 12 4:00pm @ Nardin Park United Methodist Church 11 Mile & Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, in lieu of flowers, you may send memorials to the Indiana University School of Medicine, Alzheimer Disease Research Center, 635 Barnhill Dr. M.S.A.-142, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202.

On-line sympathy message at www.obituariesullivanerathome.com

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Before After

Fan club members of Conrad Birdie react to his presence during a rehearsal of "Bye Bye Birdie."

TALK ABOUT IT: Join in discussing our stories online via Story Chat at hometownlife.com

MY OPINION

Thursday, April 10, 2008
www.hometownlife.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

Novi News

Victoria Mitchell
EDITOR
Susan Froskoff
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Peter Neil
VICE PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER

In our opinion: Officials need to realize error of voter list debacle

From start to finish, it's hard to remember a bigger political debacle than the 2008 Michigan presidential primary. By now, the history of this fiasco is well-known. Both the Democrats and Republicans in Michigan were tired of being so far down the primary tote pole, so both parties decided they wanted to jump ahead on the calendar. In defiance of both national parties, Michigan held its primary on Jan. 15.

The Democratic National Committee responded by stripping Michigan of all its delegates. The primary itself was a joke with only one major candidate, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-N.Y.) on the ballot. Since the primary was meaningless and since the Democrats now find themselves in the position of needing to count every delegate — they've been trying to figure out a way to fix this mess. Thus far, nothing has worked.

The Republican National Committee, meanwhile, stripped Michigan of half its delegates, but with Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) having clinched the nomination, there's no need for any sort of a GOP do-over in Michigan. The delegates will be seated at this year's GOP convention.

The most troubling aspect of the Michigan primary, though, was a provision — approved by both the Legislature and Gov. Jennifer Granholm — that said voter lists from Jan. 15 would be made available to the state's two major political parties. And not to anyone else.

Everyone who voted Jan. 15 had to declare whether they were voting in the Democratic or Republican primary, and the state-approved plan would have turned those lists over to the state parties, which no doubt would have used them to send out targeting mailings. That provision was overturned by two lower courts, but the Michigan Supreme Court disagreed. True to its partisan

makeup, the Republican-dominated court ruled that there was nothing wrong with turning the lists over to the two political parties. The court even tried to advance a ridiculous argument that this somehow served the public good.

Unbelievable. Thankfully, the Michigan Supreme Court was overruled last month by U.S. District Judge Nancy Edmunds. She was responding to a lawsuit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union against Michigan Secretary of State Terry Lynn Land on behalf of the Green, Libertarian and Reform parties of Michigan, the Metro Times magazine, and Winning Strategies, a political consulting firm.

The 2007 law made it a misdemeanor for anyone other than the major parties to use the lists. Edmunds was forgetful in her declaration that this statute was unconstitutional, saying it "benefits the major political parties to the detriment of others." She said the state doesn't have to give the party-preference information to anyone — but if it does, it should be available to everyone.

There are no plans to appeal the decision, so hopefully this will be the end of it. Nobody will see these lists.

We remain extremely troubled, though, that Granholm, the Legislature and the Michigan Supreme Court just don't get why this was so wrong. It was a mistake that this law was passed in the first place, and it was even more troubling that the state's highest court backed it up.

There shouldn't be any such thing as "semi-public" information. Judge Edmunds was correct — if you're going to make information available to some, you have to make it available to all. To somehow argue that only the Republican Party and Democratic Party chairs should have this information is mind-boggling.

So we're happy that the judge put an end to this fiasco. But we remain troubled that it got this far.

Send us your News

Do you have a new hire at your business? Are you gearing up for your grand opening? Is your business heading in an exciting new direction, celebrating an anniversary or moving? If so, we want to know.

Mail: Novi News, Bulletin Board, 104 W. Main Street, Suite 101, Northville, MI 48167.
Fax: (248) 349-9832
E-mail: vermitchell@gannett.com
Deadline: Must be received by 5 p.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.
If possible, include a photograph with your submission. Briefs can come in the form of press releases or announcements.

LETTERS

Destruction of farm decision deceptive and offensive

Last night, April 7, I attended the city council meeting. The McKenna report was presented relating to the Fuerst Farm. The majority of the council members voted to demolish the farm unless in 90 days the group supporting the farm could come up with about \$3 million. Their action was no surprise to those of us backing the farm. I left there not only sad but dismayed. The members who voted against the farm demonstrated a complete misunderstanding of historic preservation. It was stated more than once that because this isn't a working farm the buildings have no historic value. Mr. Gatt expressed the opinion that it was the school's duty to educate the people, but not the responsibility of the city. Mrs. Magoois claimed that when she entered the barn she was concerned for her safety. It was also stated more than once that a report was issued in 2000 giving uses for the farm by a committee and then this committee failed to follow through to find money to support this plan. What I'd like to know, was this committee given the authority to go after money and bring this farm to life? I wasn't aware of this. I've been designated by someone at the MSU museum as an agricultural educator. I have been involved in festivals, barn restoration activities, my farm camp and historic farm parks. I know these things work. Look at the Octagon barn in Gagetown. It was in very bad condition but the community came together and saved it. Volunteers built the backbone of this project. The members of this council exaggerate, dismiss and misunderstand. On the other hand, Councilwoman Kathy Crawford would like to use the house as a museum. The negative response was the cost of demolition. In communities with small local museums these are usually run by volunteers. Why is maintaining this historic farmstead in a simplistic fashion with a board of directors, a paid director and an army of volunteers such a cost?

At their April 7 meeting, the Novi City Council voted to take steps to demolish the buildings that make up the city-owned historic Fuerst farmstead located on the corner of Taft and 10 Mile. With the notable exceptions of Andrew Mutch and Kathy Crawford, the council opted for a plan that would remove the farmhouse and three barns from the site. Although our mayor proposed to council that he would be willing to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to fund Plan B, the demolition option, the city council was unwilling to provide any support for the restoration of the buildings on the property. I agree with the

Opportunity to save Fuerst farm

We just returned from the Novi City Council meeting regarding our precious, historical site, the Fuerst Farm property. The long-awaited McKenna report was presented last night. Unfortunately, although city council members were given an opportunity to comment and ask questions, the public input was delayed until the end of the council's agenda.

We have an opportunity to influence our leaders to repair the historic house and barns that were left to us by the Fuerst family. Many years of leaving these structures in neglect and disrepair have taken their toll, but we now can put some funding and hard labor into restoration work as a part of the proposed Plan A, presented last night. The necessity to move the township hall, in connection with its displacement by the new library, means that our historic buildings can share a holistic focus on the Taft and 10 Mile Road 6.5-acre location.

Yes, the proposal asked for \$3 million for an ambitious plan, but we could take a far less expensive option of adding paths, gardens and linkages to the campus connecting the high school and the new library to the Fuerst farm, as well as restoring the existing buildings.

A concern to all is to use the area more extensively. As we move to bring the buildings up to occupancy standards, the usage for the house and barns is limited only by our imaginations. Classes, meetings, workshops and concerts can all take place without spending millions of dollars. The greenspace and the tranquility of an earlier time will be saved for future generations to learn from and to savor.

The Novi Public Library was so fortunate. We partnered with Community Reads to offer a Community Reads Event: Monique Heels, Assistant Superintendent of Novi Schools; David Molloy, Chief of Police from the Novi Police Department; Andrew Mutch, councilman from the City of Novi; Steve Grunwald, morning show DJ from 99.5 FM radio station; and Row Barratt, fireman from the Novi Fire Department, were our guest readers. They shared fantastic stories and offered an opportunity for the children to interact with our community helpers. Thank you so much to each and every one of you. We are very proud of the wonderful City of Novi.

Bill and Betty Nick
Novi

Council short-sighted

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Margaret Schmidt
Novi

council that the Fuerst Farm must be made more accessible and usable if it is to reach its full potential as a leading and recreation asset for the citizens of Novi. The buildings are significant and worth saving in their own right, but the primary value of the property is the structure of the farm itself. I do not envision that the Fuerst Farm will be some kind of agricultural training area. It can and should contain elements that we need to make our city more livable. Art, amphitheaters, studios, gardens and art, strolling, resting and relaxing areas are all compatible with restoring the buildings and keeping the farmstead intact. Making the site more usable is very possible while still respecting and preserving the integrity of the farmstead. I believe that it is short-sighted of the council to move to destroy one of the last remnants of Novi's farm heritage.

Roy Prentice
Novi

Thank you to Community Reads participants

On Monday night, the Novi City Council took a step toward demolition of one of the city's most significant and best known historical properties, a step that is neither inevitable nor necessary. The Novi Historical Commission strongly disagrees with this decision and supports the preservation of the Fuerst Farmstead, i.e. the house, barns, outbuildings, curchards and gardens; and the adaptive reuse of the buildings and necessary improvements to the surrounding and for public use.

This farmstead is the only property in the city of Novi on the National Register of Historic Places, therefore any adaptive reuse should meet the standards for preservation, rehabilitation and repair with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, which are the guidelines for properties on the National Register. It is the unanimous opinion of Historical Commission members that neither of the two plans presented to the city by the McKenna Consulting group are acceptable preservation plans for the Fuerst Farmstead.

Commission members will be working with members of the community interested in developing an alternative plan that could lead to preservation of this property as was intended when it was acquired by the city more than 10 years ago. Citizen participation in this process is welcome and encouraged.

Youth & Teen Librarians
Novi Public Library

Financial plan needed

Fuerst things first — it appears that the majority of focus group survey participants want to see the Fuerst Farm preserved. If city council thinks differently, the question should be placed on the ballot. For now, the City should relocate the Township Hall to the Fuerst Farm property at the least expense. Beyond that, it seems premature and fiscally unwise to

Novi Historical Commission
Kathleen Mutch, Roy Prentice,
Elizabeth Nick, Lee BeGole

spend tax dollars on a project that is not urgent.

According to the City's financial advisors, the City can expect zero growth revenue for three years and 2.5 percent thereafter. Meanwhile, personnel costs will rise about 3.5 percent each year, along with health care, gasoline, utilities, road salt, etc.

Knowing that, there is an urgency for the City to present a financial plan to the taxpayers showing at minimum, how the City is going to continue fully funding police, fire, public works and neighborhood road improvement services, in addition to the Reireer Health Care Fund debt, for the next several years, without asking for a tax increase.

Laura Lorenzo
Novi

Demolition is unnecessary

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Novi Historical Commission
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Chinese officials will tell you Tibet has historically been part of China; their efforts are to bring the Tibetan people out of the dark ages and to enable them to benefit from the Chinese economic boom. The Tibetans will respond that the Chinese military overran their country and are occupying Tibet with the goal to dilute, if not eliminate, their cultural identity.

The exiled spiritual leader of Tibet, the Dalai Lama, has called what is transpiring today in Tibet as "cultural genocide." The Dalai Lama is determined to pursue the "Middle-Way" policy that "takes into account the benefits to all parties involved, rather than one party alone." The Dalai Lama is not demanding independence for Tibet, but rather that they have the

autonomy promised to practice their religion and to maintain their cultural heritage. The Dalai Lama has threatened to resign should Tibetans continue to use violence in their protests.

Yet, in China, with its one-party rule, there is no such thing as the "loyal opposition" or middle way. Historically, like today, the emperor's legitimacy can only be assured when there is total and complete obedience between ruler and ruled. Any dissent is disharmonious and is viewed as the beginning of loss of control that the communist leaders fear most.

It should be noted that China President Hu Jintao was party secretary in Tibet and put down the last Tibetan rebellion in 1989. There are now more Han Chinese in the Tibetan Autonomous Region than there are Tibetans.

I have been fascinated by all things Chinese for more than four decades. I have been disgusted and in awe as I have watched this communist country overcome the horrors of Mao and the Cultural Revolution while his successor, Deng Xiaoping, opened China to the world, lifting hundreds of millions out of poverty.

In May 1988, I stood in Tiananmen Square with the Chinese students who were calling for greater freedom and democracy. I will never forget the young student, standing among hundreds of thousands of his contem-

poraries asking me, "Describe freedom?"

In 1990, I wrote in an article, "China's achievement gained through the last decade of reform is remarkably and universally acknowledged, especially when put in a historical perspective. We should expect a country that is struggling to overcome the horrors of the Cultural Revolution to be conservative as it transforms itself, but it should not be repulsive and repressive. I feel very strongly that what the Chinese government did on June 4, 1989 to its own people was repulsive. It is something that I nor the world should ever forget or forgive. Yet, I believe as strongly that we should not abandon the cultural, academic and professional exchanges that have flourished since the reopening of China. It is through the open exchange of ideas that democracy and change flourish. If we do not stay involved with the people of China, the young man who asked me in Tiananmen Square to 'Describe freedom' will, describe freedom" we never have his question answered.

Those sentiments remain today.

Like in 1989, I am fearful for the young Tibetans I met and left behind on Beijing Street in front of the Potala Palace. As a freedom-loving nation, we must continue to speak out about the oppression of the Tibetan people and call on the leaders of China to show restraint and open dialog with the Tibetan leaders to resolve their differences peacefully.

Many have called for boycott of the of the Beijing Olympics. I concur with the Dalai Lama that this would be ill advised.

Let's continue to engage China at all levels while putting a spotlight on the concerns of the Tibetans along with other issues such as fair trade, the genocide in Darfur and other human rights violations.

From the Olympic view, a spotlight will shine on all things Chinese: the good, the bad and the ugly. It is through the lens of engagement that change will take place. If not, the pressure cooker will certainly blow.

Tom Watkins
Novi

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Thursday, April 10, 2008
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COMMENTARY

PHIL POWER:

Michigan's rich in entrepreneurial history



About Phil Power

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan, and was a recipient of the University of Michigan from 1987 to 1988. He is also president and founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think-and-do tank. These opinions and others expressed in his columns are his own and do not in any way represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. Phil would be pleased to hear from readers at power@hcnnet.com.

Michigan sometimes can seem like a place stuck in time, caught between a past that relied on cutting giant white pines and digging copper out of the Upper Peninsula mines, and a future that seems tied to an endlessly shrinking or "restructuring" automobile industry.

Why, many ask, is our state so unwilling to try new things? Possibly, it's the result of an economy that for decades relied on massive industrial enterprises (the Big Three and their giant suppliers) that gave workers little incentive for innovation or risk-taking. Without any doubt, we've been infected by widespread feelings of dependency and belief in a sort of corporate welfare state.

Certainly, generations grew up believing that all they had to do in life was catch on with "Generous Motors" and they'd be set for life.

As a result, many now sadly believe that the spirit of innovative brilliance and entrepreneurial risk never settled in Michigan.

And he had plenty of company.

Herbert Henry Dow, a Canadian chemist, heard about the salt seeps around Midland. He invented a new way of extracting Bromine from the quantities of brine in the area. And the company he started in 1897 to exploit this new technology — The Dow Chemical Co. — is today arguably the world's leading firm of its kind.

Dr. John Harvey Kellogg was a physician who started a sanatorium in Battle Creek to experiment with his new fangled ideas about a good diet for sick patients. His brother, Keith Kellogg, had the idea that he could sell this stuff and make a profit. So he founded the Battle Creek Toasted Corn Flake Company in 1906. The resulting Kellogg Company made

today's global economy.

The most famous example: Henry Ford, who in 1903 founded today's Ford Motor Company. Ford became successful thanks to his adaptation of the fundamental new technology of the assembly line. His innovation was to use interchangeable, identical parts to manufacture the automobile quickly and at an affordable price. When Mr. Ford dumped a bunch of identical parts on the floor of an exhibition in Paris, the assembled crowd gasped in admiration.

And he had plenty of company.

J. L. Hudson founded in 1881 the J. L. Hudson Company; by the 1930s it was the third largest retailer in the world. A serial entrepreneur, Mrs. Hudson also founded the Hudson Motor Company (1909-1954) which had a relatively short but glorious life.

Each of these entrepreneurs took advantage of the distinctive resources of Michigan at the time. As a result of the profitable logging operations that cut the great pines of northern Michigan and dug the ore from the mines, Michigan had a lot of start-up capital available to finance new ventures. Mr. Dow had only to look around at Midland and figure out how best to take advantage of it.

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Tom Watkins: Tibet and the Dalai Lama provide a clear view of China



About Tom Watkins

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools from 2001-2005 and state mental health director from 1988-1990. He can be reached at twatkins@aol.com.

Standing on the roof top of the world, in Lhasa, Tibet only a few short weeks ago, I absorbed the tranquility of a special place. Since returning to Michigan, the roof has been blown off by the eruption of violence in their protests. Yet, in China, with its one-party rule, there is no such thing as the "loyal opposition" or middle way. Historically, like today, the emperor's legitimacy can only be assured when there is total and complete obedience between ruler and ruled. Any dissent is disharmonious and is viewed as the beginning of loss of control that the communist leaders fear most.

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Physical Therapy Rehabilitation Update

Barbara Hayes, P.T.

GETTING THE DARK GREEN LIGHT

Older women, who account for the majority of Americans who suffer from hip fractures each year, may help themselves by eating more dark-green vegetables. Studies show that adequate consumption of vitamin K, an important activator of three proteins essential to bone health, may decrease the risk of hip fractures due to lower bone-mineral density among women of any age. The rich sources of vitamin K include dark-green vegetables, such as kale, collard greens, and spinach. Just one daily serving of greens (1 1/2 cups fresh) or two of broccoli (1/2 cup per serving) more than covers the RDA of phyloquinone (the form that vitamin K takes in green vegetables). The best way to deal with hip fractures is to prevent them. When your family requires physical therapy care, call NORTHVILLE PHYSICAL REHABILITATION P.C. at 248.349.9339. We are conveniently located at 215 East Main, Suite B. New patients are welcome.

P.S. Dihydroxycholestanone, a less active form of vitamin K found in hydrogenated margarines, is completely inactive as a bone-forming protein.

www.northvillephysicalrehab.com

Considering Better Water?

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BRIGHTON 10000 E GRAND RIVER MON-FRI 10am-5pm SAT 9am-2pm
ALMOND 4516 N. WARD DYKE MON-FRI 10am-5pm SAT 9am-2pm

LUSCIOUS LAWN

Scott's BEST QUALITY Lawn Fertilizer Program

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4-STEP \$54.75
After \$10.00 mail-in rebate + bags 5,000 sq. ft. each

PACKAGED PERENNIALS 20% OFF

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PLYMOUTH NURSERY
www.plymouthnursery.net
734-433-5500

9900 Ann Arbor Rd./Plymouth Rd. 7 Miles West of I-75
1 1/2 Miles South of M-16
Corner of Greenhills Rd

HOT TICKET: For a complete listing of area churches and faith-based activities visit www.hometownlife.com

Victoria Mitchell, editor
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102
vemitchell@gannett.com

MY BULLETIN BOARD

Thursday, April 10, 2008
www.hometownlife.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

EVENTS

Novi Parks Department Summer Camps

DETAILS: The Novi Parks Department is offering over 15 new camps this summer with something for everyone. New camps include: Farm Camp, Mountain Biking Camp, Sports for stories - preschool sports camp, Sports Camps - crickets, bowling, cheer, football and tennis, Crazy Science Camp, Lego Camp, Dance Camp - ballet and Hip-Hop, Painting Camp, and Circus Camp. Camp Lakeshore returns this summer with field trips to Pump It Up, Detroit Science Center, Red Oaks Wave Pool and the Detroit Zoo. Registration is now open. For more information or to register, visit cityofnovi.org. There is a \$5 discount when registering online. CONTACT: (248) 347-0400

Romanza Ice Revue

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Friday, 1 and 7 p.m. Saturday
LOCATION: Novi Ice Arena, 42400 Arvia Dr., Novi
DETAILS: The Skating Club of Novi presents Romanza Ice Revue 2008 directed by Kevin Byczek. Tickets are \$8, children 4 and under are free. Purchase tickets at the reception desk or at the door on performance day. CONTACT: (248) 347-1010

"Bye Bye Birdie"

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday
LOCATION: Novi High School, Fuester Auditorium, 24062 Taft Road
DETAILS: The spring musical at Novi High School is "Bye Bye Birdie," a satire set in 1958. The plot revolves around singing superstar Conrad Birdie and the local teens in Sweet Apple, Ohio. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and younger and seniors. CONTACT: For more information or to order tickets, call (248) 449-1500

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. Saturday
LOCATION: Novi Christian Community Center, corner of Taft and Ewegen Mile roads
DETAILS: Cost is \$100 per team of four players and the prize is \$400 to the winning team. Deadline for sign up is March 28. Spots are filling up so call today. CONTACT: Gary at (248) 349-9441, ext. 3

Wine Tasting Benefit

TIME/DATE: 7-10 p.m. Saturday
LOCATION: Mezza Mediterranean Grill, 42050 Grand River Ave.
DETAILS: The Lakes Area Optimist Club is sponsoring this event benefiting Lakes Area children. Cost is \$35 per person for wine tasting and appetizers. Ages 21 and over only please. For tickets call (248) 568-4316 or e-mail lsbri@comcast.net

23rd Annual Economic Outlook Luncheon

TIME/DATE: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17
LOCATION: Rock Financial Showplace
DETAILS: Top economists from the University of Michigan will present their report on the economic future of Oakland County. Also presented will be the 2008-2010 Employment Forecast for Oakland County. Cost is \$40 per person. Register online at www.oakgov.com/peds/calendar/outlooklunch.html. For more information, call (248) 858-8706.

Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America Open House

TIME/DATE: 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17
LOCATION: 40550 Grand River Ave., east of Meadowbrook Road
DETAILS: Presentations and information on products and services that contribute to the highest possible quality of life for persons with spinal cord injury or dysfunction. Adaptive vehicle display. Refreshments provided.

Live Like Andl Foundation Fund-raiser

TIME/DATE: 8 a.m. registration, 10 a.m. 5K walk, 10K run, noon 1 mile Fun Run, 12:30 p.m. Fashion Walk Saturday
LOCATION: Detroit Catholic Central High School, Novi
DETAILS: This Walk/Run event is to benefit the research of adenoid cystic carcinoma. Registration fee for the 5K walk and 10K run is \$30 (register by

Smart Chicks Consignment Gold Event

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday
LOCATION: 43039 Grand River Ave.
DETAILS: Receive cash for your unwanted, broken, mangled or tangled gold jewelry. It will be tested by carat and weight and you will then be offered top dollar. Nothing to lose, only cash to gain. CONTACT: (248) 347-1600

Apple Trees and Shrubs Class

TIME/DATE: 9 a.m.-noon Tuesday
LOCATION: Michigan State University Extension, Tollgate Education Center, 28115 Meadowbrook Road
DETAILS: This class is for all gardeners interested in learning how to keep woody shrubs and trees looking their best through pruning. The class will deal with deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs. The cost is \$20 per person. CONTACT: (248) 858-0887 or e-mail smilhin@oakgov.com

Mother/Son Tiger Baseball Day

TIME/DATE: 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: Spend the day watching the Tiger's game on television while enjoying popcorn, hot dogs, games, activities and prizes. Registration is \$15 for residents, \$17 for non-residents. Register on-line at www.cityofnovi.org

"Refusing to be Enemies: The Zeitouna Story"

TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. Tuesday
LOCATION: Educational Services Center, 850 Ladd Road, Walled Lake
DETAILS: The Lakes Area Community Diversity Council invites the community to attend the exciting screening of this Michigan-made documentary film. Laurie White's film lets audiences witness the intimate, unexpected and powerful bridge that dialogue has provided for the six Arab and six Jewish women of the Zeitouna group. Filmmaker and Zeitouna member, White, will be present to answer questions. The film is recommended for high school age through adults. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for students. CONTACT: (248) 956-2093

Novi 4th Grade Roller Skating Party

TIME/DATE: 6-8:30 p.m. Monday, April 28
LOCATION: Bonaventure Roller Skating Rink
DETAILS: This meet and greet party is for all Novi fourth graders (Class of 2010). The kids have an opportunity to meet other fourth graders in the district plus the principals from Novi Meadow. Lots of fun games and prizes planned. Sorry, no siblings please. CONTACT: For more information, call Karen at (248) 449-5079

Waltonwoods Craft Show Fundraiser

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday, April 28
LOCATION: Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks Retirement Community, 27475 Huron Circle (adjacent to Twelve Oaks Mall)
DETAILS: Vendors are needed for the craft show. Rent a six foot table for \$20. All proceeds will benefit the Michigan Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Craft Show is free and open to the public. CONTACT: For more information, call Barb at (248) 735-1500

Novi Chamber of Commerce

The chamber is celebrating 40 years of business, representing over 500 members. Our mission is to be a responsible, proactive advocate of business interests in the greater Novi area. We are business and professional people working together to enhance the life of our community and the businesses in it. For more information, visit www.novichamber.com or contact the chamber office at (248) 349-3743.

Coffee and Conversation

TIME/DATE: 8:30 a.m. Wednesday
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, City Council Chambers
DETAILS: Dr. Lee Meadows, author, columnist and noted speaker will present a talk on interpersonal communications and how you can improve your business relationships through better communication.

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce

Since 1963, the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce has proudly served as West Oakland's Regional Chamber, servicing the communities of Commerce Township, Union Lake, Walled Lake, Waterford, Wixom, Wolverine Lake and White Lake. Our purpose is to improve the quality of life for businesses and residents in the Lakes area. We act as a unified voice on behalf of the business community, provide a forum to discuss and review topics of interest, serve as a source of information and develop programs that are responsive to the needs of the communities

Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce

We're about business. We're about networking. We're about creating excitement in business and networking! Everyone is welcome to attend any of our events. For more information call Whitney; executive director at (248) 347-4622 or whitney@greaternovichamber.com. Also visit www.greaternovichamber.com.

Sales Leads Group

TIME/DATE: 8:30-5:30 a.m. Thursday (second and fourth Thursday of each month)
LOCATION: Hooter's of Novi
DETAILS: Serious networking will happen on a bi-weekly basis. No cost.

Marketing Committee Meeting

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. Tuesday
LOCATION: Boerema Chaben and Co., 23965 Novi Road, south of 10 Mile Road.

Arts Round Table

TIME/DATE: 5:30 p.m. first Tuesday of every month
LOCATION: Grapevine, Main Street
DETAILS: Come and discuss art and network with local artists. No cost.

Experience West Oakland

TIME/DATE: 3 p.m. Today
LOCATION: Flamings Steakhouse, Haggerty south of Six Mile, Northville
DETAILS: Working on electing new committee members; join this group and work to bring more conventions and visitors to the area. No cost.

After Hours Networking

DATE: 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, April 10
LOCATION: Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Red Lion Pk., 10 Mile and M.S. Farmington Hills
DETAILS: Networking great food and a photo booth. \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. Please RSVP.

Ambassadors

TIME/DATE: Noon Tuesday, April 22
LOCATION: The Post
DETAILS: Learn how you can help us grow, earn chamber dollars and have fun. No cost, just bring your own lunch. Please RSVP.

Financial Round Table

TIME/DATE: 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 23
LOCATION: Let's Coney Island, Novi Road and Grand River Ave.
DETAILS: Discuss financial business with members in banking, financial planning, insurance and more. No cost.

Business Accelerator Luncheon

TIME/DATE: 11:30 a.m. registration, noon lunch, Tuesday, April 29
LOCATION: Sheraton Novi, 21111 Haggerty Road
DETAILS: This luncheon will feature speakers from Automation Alley, southeast Michigan's global technology consortium. The cost is \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members. R.S.V.P. by April 25 to info@greaternovichamber.com or call (248) 347-4622.

It's a Big Deal

TIME/DATE: 8:30-10 p.m. Tuesday, May 6
LOCATION: The Dirty Martini and Second City, 42705 Grand River Ave.
DETAILS: Help celebrate our second anniversary. Food, friends, networking and a game show. Great prizes. Tickets are \$40 per person. Please RSVP.

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LOCATION: Boerema Chaben and Co., 23965 Novi Road, south of 10 Mile Road.

List your event in our calendar!

To be included in My Bulletin Board, please send event name, date, time, location, details and contact.
Mail: Novi News, My Bulletin Board, 104 W. Main Street, Suite 101, Northville, MI 48167.
Fax: (248) 349-9832
E-mail: vemitchell@gannett.com

Deadline: Must be received by noon on Monday to be published in the Thursday edition

Call (248) 349-1700 for additional information.

we serve.

LOCATION: 305 N. Pontiac Trail, Ste. B, Walled Lake
CONTACT: For more information visit www.lakesareachamber.com or (248) 824-2826.

New Member Reception and Orientation

TIME/DATE: 8:30-10 a.m. Thursday, April 17
LOCATION: The Grand Court, 45182 West Park Dr., Novi
DETAILS: Learn how to use your membership to increase business leads and become more visible in the community. All members welcome. Complimentary breakfast. Reservations required.

Morning Connection

TIME/DATE: 8:30-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 22
LOCATION: Studio Artiza, 6323 Haggerty Road, West Bloomfield
DETAILS: Join other business members for early morning networking over coffee.

Ambassador Meeting

TIME/DATE: 9:15 a.m. Friday, April 25
LOCATION: Chamber office
DETAILS: Chamber office Programs Meeting
TIME/DATE: 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 30
LOCATION: Chamber office

Females in the Family Business Affinity Group

TIME/DATE: 8-9:30 a.m. third Thursday of every month
LOCATION: Walsh College Troy Campus
DETAILS: Walsh Business Leadership Institute invites women who own, are partners in or work for family businesses. Items discussed will be common issues; and women can share solutions in a nonthreatening, noncompetitive, no-sales roundtable. Registration is required.

Walsh College, Business Leadership Institute

LOCATION: 41502 Gardenbrook Road, near 11 Mile and Meadowbrook roads, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 823-1392
HR Professionals Affinity Group
TIME/DATE: 8 a.m. Thursday, May 1
DETAILS: Please call for more information at (248) 823-1392.

2nd Annual Small Business Conference

TIME/DATE: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday, May 8
LOCATION: Walsh College Novi Campus
DETAILS: Sponsored by the Walsh Business Leadership Institute. Every presenter, exhibitor and sponsor will provide a tangible take-home resource, benefit or product to assist small businesses. Only those companies in attendance are eligible to apply for the next Extreme Small Business Makeover. Results of this year's makeover will be revealed during the morning session and lunch of the afternoon session and speaker. More than 20 breakout sessions. Those attending include: Walsh College alumni; Walsh Business Leadership Institute members; small business owners in southeast Michigan; The City of Novi is co-hosting the event and has invited every small business in the city; and the Greater Novi Chamber is a partner and all partners receive discount admission. All tickets are \$50 if purchased before April 15; from April 16-May 1, tickets are \$50 for Walsh alumni, chamber members and partners, and \$75 for non-members. After May 2, all tickets are \$100. If you wish to exhibit, the cost of \$500 includes two tickets, a six foot table, free wireless internet, electrical outlet, continental breakfast, lunch and afternoon wine reception. Only 12 tables left. For more information or if you'd like to attend, visit <http://smallbusinessconference.walshcollege.edu> or call (248) 823-1392.

Confidence on Ethics

TIME/DATE: 8 a.m. Thursday, May 22
DETAILS: Walsh College and The Michigan Women's Tax Association offer this conference especially for CPAs who need to earn CPE credits. Tickets are \$20 for students; \$50 for Walsh alumni, MWTA and BLI members; and \$75 for all others. Full breakfast and networking begin at 8 a.m. followed by the program at 8:30 a.m. featuring Paul McKinney from Varum, Riddinger, Schmidt and Howlett; Jennifer Sanderson from The Rehmann Group and Linda Hagan, Ph.D. from Walsh College. Call the college for more information.

Novi Rotary Club

TIME/DATE: Noon every Thursday
LOCATION: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road
DETAILS: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check Web site for speaker information; www.novirota.org.

Business

Walsh College, Business Leadership Institute
LOCATION: 41502 Gardenbrook Road, near 11 Mile and Meadowbrook roads, Novi
CONTACT: (248) 823-1392
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American Business Women's Association Meetings

TIME/DATE: 6:15 p.m. second Wednesday of every month
LOCATION: DoubleTree Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd. (formerly the Wyndham Garden Hotel)
DETAILS: Local chapter provides many advantages to today's working women and offers a strong community service program which includes raising money for scholarships.

Providence Center for the Healing Arts

LOCATION: Assarian Cancer Center, 47601 Grand River Ave.
CONTACT: (248) 465-5455
Wanted: One-time Art Workshop Instructors
DETAILS: We are looking for people who have an art or craft that they would like to share in our series of one-time workshops.

Caramels Class

TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday
DETAILS: Explore the Art of playing with clay. Express yourself in this three-dimensional art form \$10 lab fee. Call to verify class times.

Knit'n' Yarns

TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m. Wednesday
DETAILS: Join others and create hats and shawls for those in need.

Meditation

TIME/DATE: Meditation for individuals or groups by appointment.
DETAILS: Learn proper breathing techniques that can be used at home or on the job to help reduce stress; class held in reflection space; Cancer Center.

Therapeutic Yoga

TIME/DATE: 10-11 a.m. Monday - Yoga for Kids with Parents; 12:30-1:30 p.m. Monday - Yoga for Backs; 6-7 p.m.



Deadline: Must be received by noon on Monday to be published in the Thursday edition
Call (248) 349-1700 for additional information.

SCHOOL & GOVERNMENT

Novi Community School District Board of Education Meeting
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Thursday, April 17
LOCATION: Educational Services Building, 25345 Taft Road
CONTACT: (248) 449-1204

Novi City Council Meeting

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. first and third Monday of month (April 21)
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

Novi Youth Assistance General Citizens Meeting

TIME/DATE: 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 6
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 347-0410

Novi Community Education Corner

CONTACT: (248) 449-1206
Novi Community Education's Spring and Summer Brochure is now available. Sign up today for adult and youth classes, camps and summer programs. Online registration is available 24/7 at www.novix12.mius.edu/District/CommunityEducation. For more information, please call the Community Education office at (248) 449-1206.

LIBRARY LINES

Novi Public Library
LOCATION: 45245 W. 10 Mile Road
HOURS: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday
DETAILS: Just in time for spring, come view works of art by Novi artist Mayumi (May) Ota Tevens. This show is an exciting presentation of May's exquisite work featuring a palette of colorful and engaging acrylic paintings.

Line Dancing

DATE: Monday and Friday nights
TIME: 6:30-7:30 p.m. beginners; 7:30-9:30 p.m. intermediate
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
DETAILS: No partner needed; pay-as-you-go. Novi residents \$5, non-residents \$6.

March 24th, 2008 BID SPECIFICATIONS Classroom Multi-Media System Howell Public Schools

Howell Public Schools is currently soliciting proposals for the procurement and installation of classroom multimedia systems per the specifications available for viewing at www.howellpublicschools.com. The deadline for sealed bids is April 15, 2008, at 2:00 p.m. at the following location:
Howell Public Schools District Operations
Attn: Paul Sperandio
411 N. Highlander Way
Howell, MI 48843
Bids opening will take place at that time.
Howell Public Schools reserves the right to reject any or all bids; to waive any defects, information or irregularities in any bid; and to make the award in any manner deemed to be in the best interest of the school district. Inquiries should be directed via e-mail to: lbhsmrmp@howellpublicschools.com (3-272830 & 4-136961) DAILY 8-3-27 & 4-31-08 NN 406179)

ROLLING STONE "CLOONEY THROWS US A ROWDY PARTY OF A MOVIE"

NEWSDAY
"A SMART, CHARMING, SPORTS-THEMED ROMANTIC COMEDY."
Roder Guanini
DAILY NEWS
"LEATHERHEADS' IS ARGUABLY CLOONEY'S MOST AMBITIOUS FILM. IT'S CERTAINLY HIS BIGGEST."
Rob Strauss

NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

Bid proposals will be received by the Novi Community School District, located at 25345 Taft Road, Novi, Michigan, 48074, by mail or hand delivered by 10:00 a.m. local time on Friday, April 18, 2008, when the bids will be opened and read publicly. Bids received after the specified date and time will not be considered or accepted. Failed or e-mailed responses will not be accepted. All submissions should include a bid bond in the amount of \$10,000.00 and a bid bond certificate. Bids should be delivered in a sealed package, addressed as follows:
Novi Community School District
BID: COVER PROJECT
Attn: Gail Croft, Asst. Superintendent-Business
25345 Taft Road
Novi, MI 48074

Bid documents will be available for examination and distribution beginning April 4, 2008. Specifications and bid documents may be obtained and/or examined at Novi Community School District, 25345 Taft Road, Novi, Michigan 48074, and are also available online at

continued from 13A

Storytellers Connection Volunteers
DETAILS: Volunteer readers are needed to read to children in a classroom setting. Contact the library for more information.

Wixom Public Library
LOCATION: 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom
HOURS: 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday
CONTACT: (248) 624-2512
ESL Cafe
TIME/DATE: 3:30 p.m. every Thursday
DETAILS: Coffee and conversation. Improve your English speaking skills by speaking with people from other countries trying to improve their English. No tests; instructor help; free.

Baby Days
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. Monday, April 14, 21, 28 and May 5
LOCATION: Craft Room
DETAILS: Children up to 24 months and their caregivers can drop-in for playtime and story time.

Mommy and Me
TIME/DATE: 10:30-11 a.m. Thursday, April 10, 17, 24 and May 1
DETAILS: For two year olds with a caregiver. Hear stories, sing songs and make a project. Must be two years old by April 10. Registration begins on Monday, March 31.

Preschool Story Time
TIME/DATE: 10:30 a.m. every Tuesday, April 8-29; or 1:30 p.m. every Wednesday, April 9-30
LOCATION: Craft Room
DETAILS: Stories, songs and art activities. Program designed for the independent listener. A caregiver must remain in the building, but not in the Craft Room. Children must turn three, and not be currently enrolled in kindergarten, before the session begins. Registration begins on Monday, March 31.

William Jennings Concert
TIME/DATE: 6 p.m. Monday
DETAILS: Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to a live performance by William Jennings, a singer, songwriter, hip hop producer and emcee. Enjoy food, a grand prize drawing and receive a free CD by Jennings. Registration required.

One-Stroke Painting: Spring Vase Project
TIME/DATE: 4-5:30 or 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday
DETAILS: Donna Roskamp will guide each class through making a lovely spring vase. No cost, but space is limited. Registration required.

Saturday Specials - Around the World in a Harpabet
TIME/DATE: 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 19
DETAILS: Kids age 2-10 can celebrate with this fun, interactive and educational introduction to world geography. Visit seven continents, hear several different languages and learn about cultures from Mexico to Egypt, Japan and Australia. Registration required.

Fantastic Fridays
DETAILS: For children ages 2-6, with a caregiver. Programs are a combination of food and friends, stories, songs and crafts. Register now.

Moonlight Story Time
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Monday, April 21 - April Showers
DETAILS: For children ages 2-6 with an adult. Stories, songs, crafts and fun. Register beginning March 31.

Slaves of Suspense Afternoon Book Club
TIME/DATE: 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, April 30
DETAILS: "Case of Two Cities" by Gai Xieoling

NOVI SENIORS

Novi Senior Activities Center
LOCATION: Located in the Meadowbrook Commons Senior Complex, 25075 Meadowbrook Road.
CONTACT: (248) 347-0414
Message by appointment: 12:30-4 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-noon Saturday

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Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks Retirement Community
Independent Living Residence; Licensed Assisted Living; Licensed Memory Care
LOCATION: 27475 Huron Circle (adjacent to Twelve Oaks Mall)
CONTACT: (248) 735-1500

2:30 p.m.: Line Dance
Friday
9 a.m.: Stretch & Strength
10 a.m.: Body Recall
Noon: Lunch
12:30 p.m.: Duplicate Bridge
1 p.m.: Bingo
Monday
9 a.m.: Stretch and Strength
10 a.m.: Body Recall
Noon: Lunch
1 p.m.: Scarlet Ladies Red Hat Group

12:30 p.m.: Pinochle
6 p.m.: Pilates Mat Work
Tuesday
8:30 a.m.: Panera Bread
9 a.m.: Line Dance-Int
10 a.m.: Asian Pacific
10:30-11:30 a.m.: Bookmobile
Noon: Lunch
1 p.m.: Bingo
1:30-3 p.m.: Computer Lab
Open
Wednesday
9 a.m.: Stretch and Strength
10 a.m.: Body Recall
11 a.m.: TOPS, Blood Pressure
Noon: Lunch
12:30 p.m.: Clogging (Club)
1:30 p.m.: 85th Birthday Celebration (ticket required)
6:30 p.m.: Clogging-Beginner/Intermediate

Writing Workshop
TIME/DATE: 1:30-3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17
DETAILS: Introduction to Family Story Writing. Come, listen and reminisce with Rosa Tutay as she takes you on a journey to your remembered and almost forgotten memories of yesterday. This introductory class will encourage and help you collect, re-tell and record your life: Memories of childhood, teenage years, young adulthood, marriage and family life, and persons who influenced you in your life decisions. You will also have an opportunity to reflect on your life as older adult and the transitions you have made to arrive where you are in life. This introductory class will also inspire (and prepare) you to participate in a six-week, family-life writing workshop in the spring/summer. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$5. Limit of 10 people.

Angela Hospice Groups
DETAILS: Grief support groups include general grief, loss of a spouse, woman's grief, parents who have lost a child and a grief support quilters group. All groups are led by bereavement professionals and trained volunteers.

Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia
CONTACT: Joan Lee (734) 953-6012
General Grief Support Groups
TIME/DATE: 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of month
DETAILS: Open to all losses. Loss of Spouse/Significant Other Support Group
TIME/DATE: 6:30-9 p.m. first Tuesday of month
Men in Grief
TIME/DATE: 6:30-9 p.m. fourth Monday of month
Suicide Loss Support Services
DETAILS: Individual and family services offered free for those who have lost a loved one through suicide. Call (734) 484-7810 for more information.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Heartstrings: Parents Who Have Lost a Child
TIME/DATE: 7-8:30 p.m. first Thursday of month
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TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m. first and third Wednesday of month
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Adoptive Parent Networking Meeting
DATE: Last Wednesday of each month
TIME: 10-11 a.m.
LOCATION: Holy Family Catholic Church, 24505 Meadowbrook Road
DETAILS: This informational meeting is open to all adoptive families in Oakland County. There is no charge. Child care is available; registration required.
CONTACT: Lisa Molloy (248) 334-3595

Bereavement Support Group
DATE: Third Tuesday of each month
TIME: 7:30-9 p.m.
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road
DETAILS: The meeting provides the opportunity for those in grief to share their story and to learn about the phases and tasks of grief. All are welcome; no fee.
CONTACT: Michael M. Meyer, Doctorate of Ministry

Al-Anon Support Group
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. every Sunday
DETAILS: For family and friends of someone with an alcohol problem. No pre-registration required. For information, call (248) 937-3314.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group
TIME/DATE: 2-3:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month
LOCATION: Krieger Center (South Garden Entrance)
DETAILS: Designed to allow caregivers to share tips and offer support to each other, for questions or directions call (248) 937-3314.

Babysitter Training Class
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Breast Cancer Support Group
TIME/DATE: 10-11:30 a.m. second and fourth Thursday of every month
LOCATION: Sinai Center for Women; next to the hospital's South Garden entrance.
DETAILS: This support group is for any woman diagnosed with breast cancer.
CONTACT: (248) 937-5163
Breather's Club Support Group
TIME/DATE: Noon the third Wednesday of the month
DETAILS: Free year-round program for persons afflicted with lung disease. Provides support and information. Pre-registration not required. For information call, (248) 937-3314.

H.U.G.S. Group for Parents
TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. third Thursday of each month
DETAILS: Support and counseling to parents who have suffered a pregnancy or newborn loss; no pre-registration required.
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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.

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DMC Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Support Groups
LOCATION: 1 William Cats Drive, Commerce Township
CONTACT: (248) 937-3314
Alcoholics Anonymous Support Group
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. every Sunday
DETAILS: No pre-registration required. For information, call (248) 937-3314.

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Friendship Circle
TIME/DATE: 1 p.m. second Thursday of each month
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 Vought (248) 477-3032, Joy Iovaldi (248) 348-9138 or joyiovaldi@earthlink.net

Widows Club of Novi
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. first Thursday of each month
LOCATION: Novi Civic Center
DETAILS: Moms Offering Moms Support (MOMS) is a non-profit support group for mothers who choose to stay at home with their children or work out of their homes.
CONTACT: jensungfleming@yahoo.com

Kensington Valley Mothers of Multiples
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. second Thursday of each month
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: (248) 437-5496 for more information.

Breast Cancer Support Group
DATES: Second and fourth Tuesday of each month
LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital (Classroom C)
CONTACT: (248) 937-5017

Crohn's & Colitis Support Group
TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. first and third Wednesday of each month
LOCATION: Providence Park Hospital and Medical Center
DETAILS: Enter facility through southeast entrance. Meeting in Conference Room A; immediately to the left.

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LOCATION: Grand River and Beck Roads, use Beck Road entrance

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TIME/DATE: Day and evening classes
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CONTACT: Amy (248) 752-2800

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Chapter
TIME/DATE: 11 a.m. weigh-in and 11:30 a.m. meeting every Wednesday
LOCATION: Meadowbrook Commons, 25075 Meadowbrook Road
DETAILS: \$24 per annual membership; includes handbook \$1 per meeting. New members welcome.
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Michigan Wine Expo
TIME/DATE: 5-10 p.m. Friday, and 4-9 p.m. Saturday
DETAILS: A unique fine wine and gourmet food experience featuring wine tasting, food tasting and seminars. Admission is \$50. Parking is free.
Sugarloaf Art Fair
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, April 20
DETAILS: Over 300 exhibitors, craft demonstrators, specialty foods and entertainment in this event. Admission is \$8 for adults for all three days; children 12 and under are free. Free parking. \$1 off coupons available at www.sugarloafrts.com.

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LOCATION: Selfridge Air

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Senior Ongoing Programs
Some of these activities have a fee
Monday: 10-11 a.m. Exercise Class
Tuesday: 10 a.m.-noon Knu/Crochet and Sew group; noon-2:30 p.m. Line Dancing
Wednesday: 10-11 a.m. Exercise Class
Second Monday: 11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch
Second Tuesday: 10 a.m. Senior Commission
Second Thursday: 11:30 a.m. Bingo
Fourth Thursday: 10-11:30 a.m. Blood Pressure

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Welcome Spring!
 Joe's Fresh Cut
 Spring Bouquets
 Starting at \$8.99
 Hydrangeas
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MY NOVI SPORTS

Novi Sturgeons shine at state meet SPORTS, 2B

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ZEROING IN

Erin Zerio starts season with 33rd career shutout

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

Take one vowel out of Erin Zerio's last name and it spells Zero — something the Novi soccer opposition often sees against the Wildcats.

Zerio has 33 career shutouts after opening the season with a 1-0 win against Canton. She is just 11 away for tying 10th place on the Michigan all-time shutouts list. The record is 64.

But don't expect the soft-spoken Zerio to take credit for the shutouts. She knows she is the last line for a stellar defensive unit. Opponents scored 11 goals against Zerio during her freshman year (14 shutouts) and just eight last year (18 shutouts).

"We have to work together and communicate and limit the amount of chances that things could go wrong," Zerio said. "I'm just really lucky to play with such talented players. It's just been a great opportunity."

The team concept has helped the Wildcats rip off three straight state titles, and Zerio has been the goalkeeper for her freshman and sophomore seasons.

"It's definitely an accomplishment as a team," Zerio said. "You can only do that as a team. You can't count on one person ... everybody's playing their part and working their hardest to win."

Head coach Brian O'Leary said the defense and the goalie are essentially a package deal.

"If the defense knows they have a strong goalie, they know they don't have to absolutely play perfect. They're going to try to, but if they do make a mistake, they have someone there to back them up," he said. "The goalie is the same way."

"If the goalie has confidence in the defense, then it makes it so the goalie can become a better player. The goalie can take some chances and do some aggressive things."

Beginning success

O'Leary didn't know who the goalie was going to be for Zerio's freshman season. But she stood out and earned the spot. Two state

By the numbers

Freshman year

14 shutouts
11 goals allowed
State Champs

Sophomore year

18 shutouts
8 goals allowed
State Champs

This year

33 shutouts
11 goals allowed
Playoffs (until late May)

titles later, it's a decision that's paid off.

"That year we knew we were going to have a good team, but the goalie was the biggest question mark," O'Leary said. "Within the first week, she just proved to everyone else that it wasn't something that we had to worry about, through her efforts in practice more than anything else."

Now a junior, Zerio's confidence has grown with her tenure as the goalkeeper.

"That freshman year, she just kind of got thrown into the fire," O'Leary said. "She was more or less doing her best to try and fill in, but never real sure if she was doing what she should've been doing or not."

"Because her confidence has grown, she's become that much better of a player."

Teaching the ropes

After two years of being the goalie that played almost every minute of every game, Zerio will have to start sharing the duties as O'Leary needs to groom others to take over when Zerio graduates.

She might not get as much time in net, but teaching others is just part of the duties that have made the Wildcats the soccer powerhouse they've become.

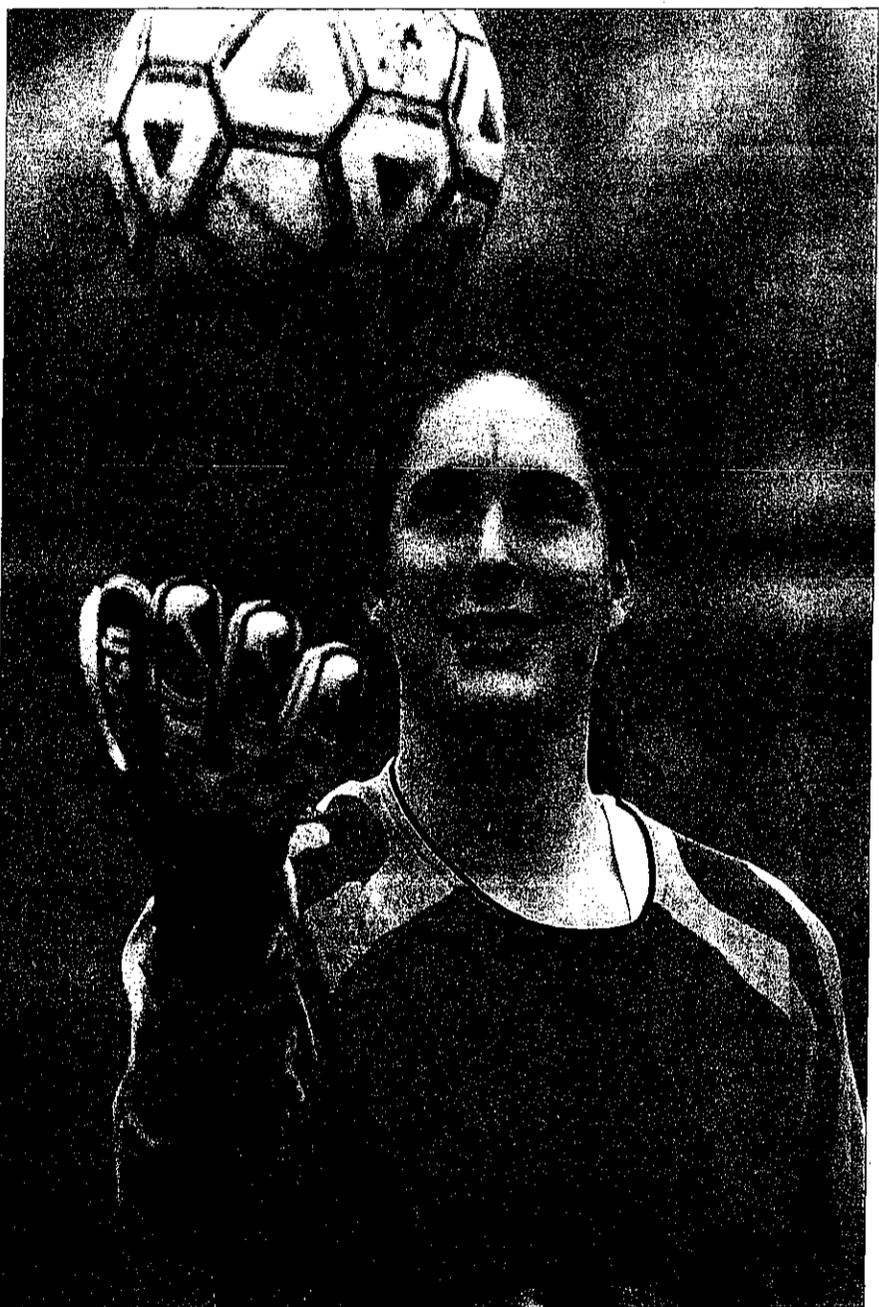


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

See ZERIO, 2B Novi junior Erin Zerio begins her third year as the starting goalkeeper for the Wildcats.

NOVI ROUNDUP: Wildcat soccer, baseball start hot

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi girls soccer team started the season with a 1-0 victory against Canton on April 2. And the Wildcats kept rolling with victories against Grosse Pointe South and Milford.

In the opener, Jenna Carosio converted a penalty kick with 15 minutes left in the second half. Mary Reid worked past a couple

of defenders before being pulled down in the Canton penalty area, where the penalty kick was awarded.

Erin Zerio made three saves to earn the win.

Novi fired 17 shots, seven of which were on goal. Katie Chaklos led the way with five shots.

Canton had 10 shots, with three on net.

"It was a good opening night

victory for us," Novi head coach Brian O'Leary said.

Next fell Grosse Pointe South 2-1.

"We actually played very well, despite what the score might indicate," O'Leary said. "We made good improvements from the first game. We dominated possession of the ball and every statistical category."

The Wildcats took 10 shots on goal and 20 shots overall. South

had just three shots and only one on net. Corner kicks were 7-1 in favor of Novi.

A Carosio feed sent Alyssa Fraser in, and she converted the first goal eight minutes in for the lone goal of the first half.

South tied the game five minutes into the second half, but Novi scored the winner with 25 minutes left.

Fraser received a throw-in deep in South's end, turned on her

defender and laid a pass off to Carosio, who fired the ball into the net for a 2-1 lead.

The Wildcats got their first blowout of the year with a 5-1 win against Milford.

Taylor Pyden sent a free kick into the box that Carosio settled and fired in for a 1-0 lead.

With 10 minutes left in the half, Mary Reid knocked home a one-timer from Morgan Haffey for a 2-0 lead that stood into the

break.

Milford pulled within 2-1, but the Wildcats responded a couple minutes later when Nikki Greenhalgh sent a rocket to the upper-corner of the net.

Jamie Fratto and Pyden scored the final goals.

Novi (3-0, 1-0) dominated on-goal shots 17-2.

See ROUNDUP, 2B

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Health

Watch out for golf's danger signs

When you think of golf, injuries are not the first thing that comes to mind, even for me. The PGA doesn't have a disabled list or injured reserve. When a golfer misses a tournament, it's usually to spend time with family or concentrate on the next one, not because they're recovering from surgery. But golf does have its share of aches and pains.



Sean Bak

Cramped, other than the occasional freak golf cart accident, injuries we see from golf are of the mild variety and rarely career-threatening.

Golfer's elbow is usually at the top of most lists of golfing injuries for obvious reasons. While golfers do get golfer's elbow, tennis elbow is actually more common in golfers. Both of these conditions are termed "overuse" injuries and involve inflammation of wrist and forearm tendons that originate at the elbow (aka tendinitis). With your arms held in the palm-up position, golfer's elbow will occur at the bony prominence on the inner side of the elbow near your funny bone while tennis elbow occurs on the outside of the elbow. Tennis elbow typically occurs in your lead arm while golfer's elbow will occur in your trailing arm. These conditions can range from simply annoying to quite disabling and the bad news is they are rather persistent often taking months to resolve.

The good news though is that they rarely require surgical correction. The first line of treatment is relative rest (a period of decrease in the aggravating activity though not necessarily complete avoidance), exercises and physical therapy, and sometimes bracing. When this fails, an injection often provides rapid relief. Whereas elbow injuries in pitchers often result from improper mechanics, the opposite is true in golf. Tennis elbow more often with the classic golf swing and is often the source of detrimental alterations in the swing. Although, I'd like to claim that my ugly swing is a medical experiment in tendinitis prevention, it truly is just plain ugly. But my elbows have never bothered me.

Back pain is a relatively common ailment of golfers. This is another nagging type of injury that usually just takes time to recover from. Rarely is this caused by a serious problem such as a herniated disc or fatigue fracture. It is usually muscular in nature and, as such, responds well (although slowly) to anti-inflammatory medication, rest, and physical therapy. Proper posture and keeping your core abdominal muscles strong can help prevent these injuries. The best way of preventing back and arm injuries is to warm up and stretch it even for only several minutes prior to taking your first swings.

The most frequent knee injury in golf is the meniscus tear, typically in middle-age and older golfers. The meniscus is commonly referred to as the knee joint's "shock absorber." As we age, they can become more prone to tearing with pivoting movements such as the golf swing. Sometimes pain is the only indicator but more serious tears will cause episodes of painful locking that can come and go for several days. While medications and injections can help mildly painful tears, those producing painful locking generally require arthroscopic surgery. In terms of return to golf, downtime from this type of surgery is typically two to four weeks. This injury is not necessarily preventable — it will either happen or it won't. Fortunately there is an effective treatment for this so if it does happen, get it taken care of and move on with life.

While many of us have been getting our fix at Oasis or Carl's for months now, we've also been impatiently awaiting the first day the greens are groomed. It seems like we've been saying it for two months now but that first weekend has to be just around the corner. Several weeks later the trickle of back, elbow and knee injuries will hit our office and grow to a steady stream by mid-summer. Do yourself a favor and pause for several minutes to stretch out so you can enjoy the entire Michigan golf season, as October will be here before you know it.

Dr. Sean Bak is a Novi resident and an orthopedic surgeon who specializes in shoulder reconstruction and sports medicine. Dr. Bak takes care of the athletes of several area universities and high schools. His practice, *Parsons Center for Orthopedic Surgery*, is located at the Novi Orthopedic Center on the campus of *Presidence Park Hospital*.



Charles Nemes tries to work around an East Grand Rapids defenseman.

CC knocks off No. 2 East Grand Rapids

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

Catholic Central lacrosse started the season with a pair of wins before dropping a tough match with Birmingham United.

The Shamrocks started the season with a 9-7 win against Flint Powers Catholic (last year's Div. 2 Catholic League champs) in pitchers often result from improper mechanics, the opposite is true in golf. Tennis elbow more often with the classic golf swing and is often the source of detrimental alterations in the swing. Although, I'd like to claim that my ugly swing is a medical experiment in tendinitis prevention, it truly is just plain ugly. But my elbows have never bothered me.

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10-3 win against East Grand Rapids. Grand Rapids came in ranked No. 2 and last year's state champs, but left with a crushing loss.

Jeff Wood and Brad Higgins were in on four goals each. Wood with two goals and two assists, and Higgins scored a goal with three assists.

Dumsa, Matt Aubrey and Nemes each scored two goals. Birmingham United stopped the Shamrocks' perfect season with an 11-8 victory.

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Jeff Theisen can be reached at jtheisen@gannett.com or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Novi Sturgeons impress at state

Novi Sturgeons swim team member Megan Fox won a Sectional Champion at the Central Zone Section 3 Championships held March 27-30 in Indianapolis. Fox won the 400 meter individual medley with an Olympic Trial qualifying time of 4:54.93. Fox also won the 200 meter butterfly in a time of 2:16.79 (she missed the Olympic Trial cut by .10 of a second). Fox placed fourth in the 200 IM (2:20.71), 22 off the Olympic Trial qualifying time and took eighth in the 100 fly (1:02.89), missing the Olympic trial cutoff by .50.

At the 13 and over State Championships, the Sturgeons finished sixth with 597.5 points. The team was led by 10-year-old Maddy Loniewski (of Northville), who won all six of her events (100, 200, 500 freestyle, 50, 100 breaststroke, 200 individual medley). Loniewski also set a new State Record for 10 and over girls in the 500 freestyle with a time of 5:38.71. Loniewski was the 10 and under female high-point winner at the meet.

Additionally, 12-year-old Rachel Green (South Lyon) won two events (100 free, 200 free) and finished second in the high-point standings for 11-12 year old girls.

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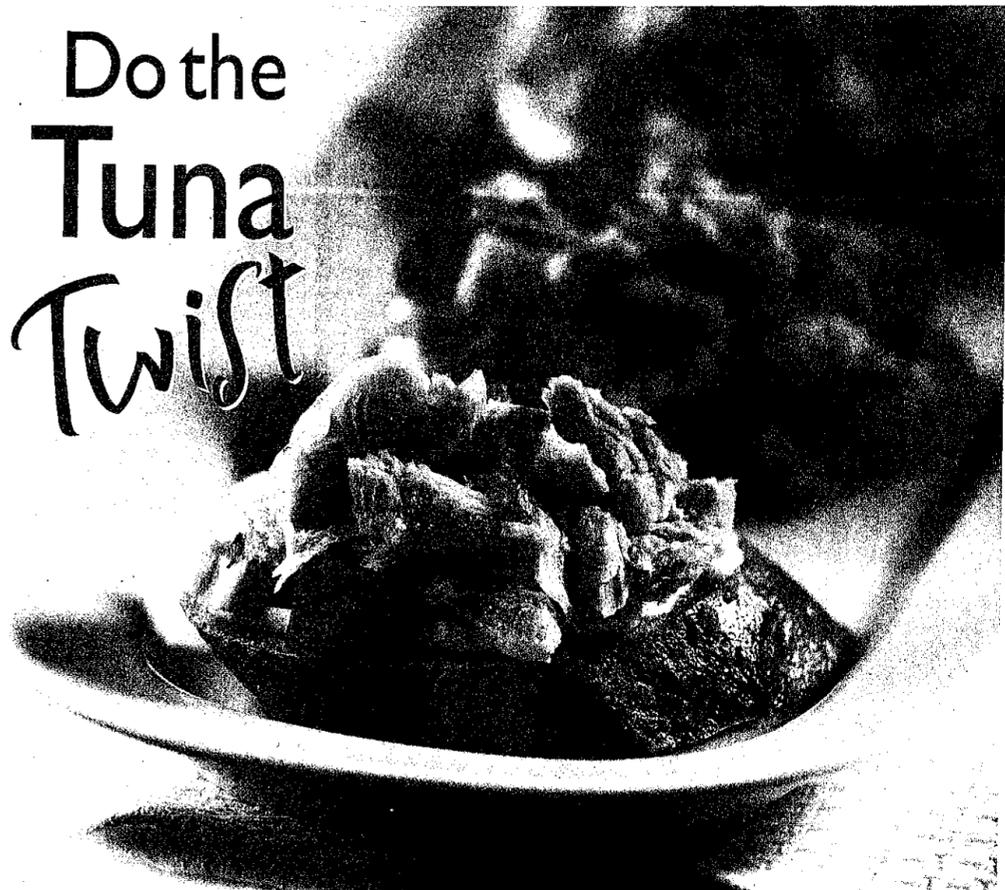
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MY FOOD FOR THOUGHT

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Do the Tuna Twist



Tuna Packs a Tasty Protein Punch

FAMILY FEATURES

Have you made tuna sandwiches and casseroles so often you don't need to look at the recipe anymore? That's a sure sign it's time to try this good-for-you pantry staple in delectable new recipes guaranteed to surprise and please the entire family!

Do the tuna twist and take the same convenient, affordable and nutrient-rich canned tuna you've always had on hand and do something different with it. "As a time pressed mom, I'm always looking for new ways to prepare healthy, delicious and quick meals my family will enjoy," said Donna Shields, registered dietitian. "Tuna is a great-tasting versatile ingredient with a wealth of health benefits so you can feel good serving it to your loved ones. Plus, it's an easy way to help ensure you're getting the recommended 12 ounces of seafood per week."

Shields suggests broadening the eating occasions when you usually enjoy tuna. It has versatile applications that go well beyond lunchtime sandwiches and dinner casseroles. For instance, try tuna as part of your morning meal, and rise and shine with a Lunar Tuna Scramble. It's packed with lean protein, B vitamins, selenium and omega 3s, making it an energizing way to jump-start your day. For an enticing snack or appetizer, put a new twist on an old favorite and enjoy Tuna Bruschetta. This tasty recipe will keep your family and friends begging for more.

Adding tuna is a healthy and delicious way to spice up most meals that call for a protein source. For more mouth-watering tuna recipes — including quesadillas, pastas, salads, stir-fries, wraps and much more — visit www.tunafacts.com. Don't forget to check out the new canned and pouches tuna flavors and on-the-go eating options found at your local grocery store.



Tuna Bruschetta

Add a twist of protein to this Italian crowd pleaser.

Serves: 4

- 6 ounces (canned in water or oil, or pouched) chunk light or chunk white tuna
- 2 jars (7 1/2 ounces/each) marinated artichoke hearts, chopped
- 1 package (6 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup diced fresh tomatoes
- 1/2 cup diced red peppers
- 8 slices Italian garlic bread, toasted

In a small bowl mix tuna, artichokes, red peppers and tomatoes with marinade from the artichokes. Spread cream cheese evenly on the slices of bread. Top evenly with the tuna mixture.

Recipe compliments of Starkis*

Lunar Tuna Scramble

Start your day the right way with a delicious and nutritious breakfast.

Serves: 4

- 6 ounces (canned in water or pouched) chunk light or chunk white tuna
- 1 medium tomato
- 3 tablespoons milk
- 6 eggs
- Nonstick vegetable cooking spray
- 2 slices (about 2 ounces) Swiss cheese

Preheat broiler. Drain canned tuna until all liquid is removed. Place tuna in a bowl; flake into small pieces with a fork. Cut tomato into quarters; scrape with a small spoon to remove seeds and soft pulp. Chop into 1/2-inch pieces. Whisk milk into eggs in a medium bowl. Stir in flaked tuna and chopped tomato. Spray a 9-inch microwave-safe plate or shallow casserole with nonstick cooking spray. Pour in egg mixture; cover with plastic or lid, microwave on high for 90 seconds. Carefully remove plastic, stir the egg mixture with a fork. Re-cover, continue to microwave on high for 3 to 3 1/2 minutes longer, stirring after each minute, until eggs are no longer runny and just barely firm. Arrange cheese slices over eggs. Place 4 to 5 inches beneath broiler for 30 to 40 seconds, or until cheese is melted.

Recipe compliments of Bumble Bee*

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Tuna is brain food. The omega-3s in tuna help improve cognitive, behavioral and motor skill development in fetuses, newborns and children.

Omega-3s in tuna help boost your whole family's mood. Omega-3s are also shown to reduce pre-term labor and postpartum depression in mothers.

The B vitamins in tuna provide an energy boost. This makes it a perfect food for parents and kids constantly on the go.

Registration for officials begins

Registrations for individuals interested in becoming a high school athletic game official for the 2008-09 school year can do so beginning Monday (April 7) exclusively online through the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Web site — mhsaa.com.

From now until about June 1, the Association will conduct an exclusive online registration period for new registrants and renewals. After June 1, applications will be accepted online, by mail and on a walk-up basis in the MHSAA office for the upcoming school year. The MHSAA Office has a lobby kiosk available for online registrations.

Registrations for the remainder of the 2007-08 school year will be accepted in all manners through April 30. Online registrants will receive a \$5 discount off their processing fees, regardless of when they submit their application. MHSAA registration fees are among the lowest in the nation. A \$10 fee is charged for each sport in which an official wishes to register, and the online processing fee is \$20. Officials submitting registration forms by mail or on a walk-up basis will incur a \$25 processing fee. Officials registered in 2007-08 will be assessed a late fee of \$20 for registration after July 11. The processing fee includes liability insurance coverage of up to \$1 million for officials while working contests involving MHSAA schools.

There is an officials' registration test, which is for first-time officials and officials not registered in the past year. The test consists of 50 questions derived from the MHSAA Officials Guidebook, which is available on the officials page of the MHSAA Web site, and may be used during the open-book test. To address the continued need for more officials in basketball and volleyball, the MHSAA will again provide an incentive to all currently registered individuals to add either or both of those sports to the activities they are already working when they renew their registration online. Those officials who add basketball or volleyball for the very first time for the coming year when they register online will have their sport registration fee of \$10 waived.

Online registration can be accessed by clicking "Officials" on the Home Page of the MHSAA Web site. More information about officials' registration may be obtained by contacting the MHSAA at 1661 Randlewood Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823. Telephone: 517-332-5046. E-Mail: register@mhsaa.com.

Jeff Theisen can be reached at jtheisen@gannett.com or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

ZERIO: Last line of defense

problem with it. She has no problem explaining how much she enjoys playing for such a successful team.

"It's a lot of fun," she said. O'Leary said, "The rest of the players on the team, the seniors have always passed down what it takes to achieve some real good things. She's in that position for the first time, so we'll see how it goes."

Don't expect Zerio to have a

Novi, CC schedules

4/16 vs. Hartland, 7 p.m.

Golf 4/15 vs. Milford, 3 p.m.

4/16 at Howell (DH), 4 p.m.

4/12 at Saline Jrv, 11 a.m.

4/16 at Howell (DH), 4 p.m.

Send sports photos, stories or ideas to jtheisen@gannett.com

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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Thursday, April 10, 2008

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Photos by LON HUHMAN

Davis Auto Care in Northville is a complete automotive repair facility, providing everything from minor maintenance to major diagnostic service and repairs, quick oil changes, and detailing.

Avoid the Tow

Preventing breakdowns drives Davis Auto Care

By Lon Huhman
SPECIAL WRITER

There is a reason Davis Auto Care has been voted the number one auto service facility every year. That reason is the trust they have generated among their customers for nearly 30 years.

The principles that guide the company remain the same, although the technology of car repair has changed dramatically.

"Our customers depend on their vehicles, and they depend on us to keep them on the road with as few problems as possible," says Jim Davis.

It's a combination of technical expertise, customer service, and quality that insure satisfaction, he explains.

ONGOING TRAINING

All technicians are A.S.E. Master Certified with anywhere from 20 to 35

years experience diagnosing and repairing cars, light trucks and SUVs. In addition, each tech benefits from continuing education every year to stay abreast of all new systems and advancements. The service advisors at Davis Auto Care take the time to explain every pro-

cedure and outline all the options available.

"We make our recommendations, but it's the customer who has the final say about the work done on their vehicle," Davis said.

In addition to honest, competent repairs, the company provides many extras to make the auto repair experience as easy as possible, including shuttle service to home or office, a comfortable waiting room with Internet access, an after-hours drop box and their Rewards Program to earn discounts on future repairs.

QUALITY IS BOTTOM LINE

While some businesses are trying to increase profits by using off-brand parts, Davis continues to emphasize quality. Name brands such as Interstate Batteries, A/C Delco, Motorcraft, Bendix, and Mobil Oil products are available.

"We're looking to prevent problems through preventative maintenance," Davis explained. "It wouldn't make sense to risk a break-down by using inferior parts in order to save a few dollars."

MORE THAN REPAIR

Davis Auto Care is a complete automotive repair facility, providing everything from minor maintenance to major diagnostic service and repairs. Additionally, Jim's Oil Depot offers quick, no appointment oil changes, tire

service and headlight, wiper and cooling system service. And the Ultimate Image Auto Spa offers vehicle appearance services from a quick hand wash to major interior and exterior detailing.

"We realize there's nothing glamorous about what we do," Davis said, continuing. "You won't find any jewel encrusted windshield wipers or designer hubcaps. But we're proud to provide a service that both keeps our customers on the road and helps them maintain the large investment they have made in their vehicles."

In a time when it seems there's little we can rely on, from our government officials to the stock market, Davis Auto Care continues to provide quality, service and peace of mind, quietly proclaiming "Integrity Makes the Difference."

THREE IN ONE

All three businesses are located at 807 Doheny Drive in the Northville Industrial Park. They can be reached at (248) 349-5115, on the Web at www.davisautocare.com or by e-mail at service@davisautocare.com.

Hours for Davis Auto Care are 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday and Thursday, and 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Jim's Oil Depot is open 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

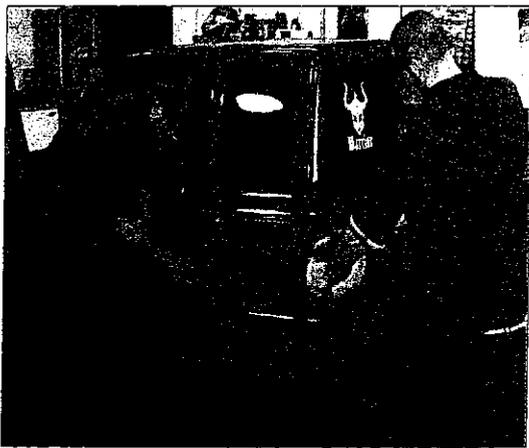
The Ultimate Image Auto Spa operates 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

DAVIS AUTO CARE

807 Doheny Drive
Northville

Phone
(248) 349-5115

Web site
www.davisautocare.com



The Ultimate Image Auto Spa at Davis Auto Care offers vehicle appearance services from a quick hand wash to major interior and exterior detailing.

DAVIS
AUTO CARE

Davis Auto Care

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<p>OIL CHANGE SPECIAL Including pre-winter cleaning Change oil with up to 5 qts of Mobil 1P 5W/20, 5q/30 or 1qt/30. Replaces oil filter. Perform our 22 point service which includes a FREE battery condition test. \$19.95</p>	<p>FUEL SERVICE TUNE-UP SPECIAL Insure Cold Starts Better Performance Improve Fuel Economy \$20 OFF</p>	<p>HIGH SPEED BALANCE Including Tire Rotation The balancing and rotation will significantly increase the life of our tires. We also check and correct the tire pressure which can improve fuel economy. \$29.95</p>	<p>TRANSMISSION FLUID EXCHANGE Extend the life of your Transmission Our state of the art system removes all of the old fluid and replaces it with new fluid. ADDITIONAL cost for specialty fluid. \$89.90</p>
<p>FUEL ECONOMY CHECK-UP Maximize your Fuel Mileage! Scan computer system for abnormal readings, check of induction system and recommend that best service. \$39.90</p>	<p>COOLING SYSTEM EXCHANGE/FLUSH Guard Against Overheating Protect Vital Cooling System Components \$10 OFF</p>	<p>BRAKE SPECIAL When Rotating Front and Rear Brakes \$24.99 Off per axle when rotating only one side. \$60.00 or more brakes. BRONX LIFETIME WARRANTY \$40 OFF</p>	<p>SPRING CLEAN-UP The Ultimate Detail Package or \$15.99 any Interior/Exterior Package starting as low as \$29.99 \$20 OFF</p>