

Holiday visits time to check health of the elderly

Anna Mary Vollick's sons reside only a few minutes away. Christmas will mean a short trip from Wynwood of Northville to share holiday dinner with three generations of familiar faces. But, for many local families, a Christmas reunion is an overdue update on an elderly parent's condition.

- Page 17A



Write Away

High school students show talent for prose

Northville High School students Linda Li, left, and Shruti Agrawal have been noted for their writing abilities by the National Council Teachers of English. - Page 9A



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Northville Record

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Thursday, December 21, 2006

northvillerecord.com

Volume 137 Number 23

Your Hot Ticket

Guys Night Out

Men, take advantage of latenight shopping for her perfect gift as the Northville Central Business Association extends hours tonight.

More things to do

Check out Northville's official Community Calendar. Page 13A

You Need to Know



Volunteer Tammy Harris assists her daughter at the Northville Cooperative Preschool. The 56-year-old non-profit's five-year stay at the Church of the Nazarene on Haggerty Road will expire in May. Find out more - and how you can help.

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UBITUARIES

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Hip-hop into the holidays

Students take a 12-day waltz from routine

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

It's beyond sugar plums. The visions dancing most availy in local school children's heads: Making the most of a 12day Christmas break. At dismissal today, jingle bell time became a swell time to hip-hop into family visits, travel and other sidesteps from routine.

On Wednesday, Jan. 3, they'll waltz back to Northville and Novi classrooms. But in the meantime, it's to the mall, to Grandma's and to the big screen they go. Dash away all!

Out-of-step on holiday-break moves? Here's some suggestions:

Do the hustle?

No alarm bell tomorrow morning will send some students back under the blankets, smiling at the opportunity to sleep in.

They'll tuck themselves on sofas - grunged, with friends or alone, melting hours with video games, gabbing and text messag-

ing by phone. "They get to live in their pajamas a few days," said Northville mom Susan Hatch. "Who of us doesn't want to do that?

But a dozen days off to some students equates to additional work hours to earn gift money.

Kerri Vivins, a 2004 Novi High School graduate, remembers taking the extra work shift when Christmas breaks hit. "When you're in school, it's so hard to do both."

Inside Glide

This year, Mother Nature's reluctance to paint the dance floor white quashed traditional seasonal pursuits of sledding, snowboarding and shoeing.

"We used to go sledding at merman," said Wendy Amerman," Gutowski, a Northville resident, whose children are grown. "But, hello, where is the snow?

According to the www.weathcrmichigan.com extended forecast, unseasonably mild temperatures will continue through the week with the first chance of flurries Sunday when the expected highs are 38-42 degrees.

With snow on Christmas day a mere 40 percent chance, this sea-

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City explores phasing projects

Northville Downtown Development Authority board members learned Tuesday they might have an alternative to borrowing the approximate \$1.5 million they'll need to proceed with the town square expansion they've deemed their top priority.

It will strain the piggy bank, but they liked the sound and pace of a pay-as-you-go plan.

"We can get the town square and we don't have to bond for it," said board member Greg

Presley. "That's pretty cool." Nickie Bateson, city finance director, said funds the authority has been saving toward downtown improvements would enable a pay-as-you-go approach - without interest and bonding costs - for this first phase of projects identified during recent strategic planning efforts

The Northville City Council will have the final say about how much is spent and when. Characterizing the plan as

"realistic" and "conservative," Bateson took the board members through the pros and cons of the cash approach. Taxes levied on properties inside development district boundaries generated the bulk of funds eyed for the project.

Bateson cited several benefits of a pay-as-you-go philosophy, including avoiding costs associated with floating a loan. Another key: flexibility. A

continued on page 2

Early Christmas gift

Northville Township Trustee Brad Werner received word Tuesday from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office he will not face criminal charges.

That word follows investigations by Michigan State Police and the prosecutor's office into a Northville developer's allegations in October that Werner exerted undue influence regarding a local property deal

Werner could not be reached for comment yesterday. More uetails will follow in next week's edition.

Increasing class size one answer to district growth

By Victoria Mitchell RECORD STAFF WRITER

Pay-as-you-

go move will

help control

costs, timing

By Maureen Johnston

City leaders may shun the

credit-card trend and pay cash

RECORD STAFF WRITER

instead.

Increasing class size for Northville Public Schools may be on the list of answers when district officials present growth management solutions early next year. Changing student-teacher ratios has been discussed along with other options including portable classrooms, redistricting, using Cooke School and utilizing Early Childcare Center classrooms.

According to district documents, average class sizes for regular K-12 grades this year are 22.31 students at the elementary school level; 25.74 students at the middle school and 23.08 students at the high school level.

Northville Public Schools - Teacher Pupil Ratios - Regular K-12 Program - Past 10 Years

School	K	inderga	ten 👘		Elémentar	y:		Middle			Senior Hig	h		Total K-12	
Year	58.41	2.135	TPA	S-1			S.	漱口書		Sen S	Ĵ	S.IPR	See		
1996-97	324	,70	23.14	1860	77.0	24.15	1161	64 35	1804	1319	61.00	21.62	4664	209.35	22.28
1997-98	322	75	21.47	1855	790	23.48	1181	65 30	18 08	1372	72 80	18 84	4730	224 60	21 05
1998-99	350	-80	21.88	1916	81.0	23.65	1223	66.75	18.32	1395	75.40	18.50	4898	231.10	21.19
1999-00	352	80	22.00	1984	87.0	22 80	1247	69.10	18 05	1462	75 20	[•] 19.44	5045	239.30	21.08
2880-01	332 -	. 80	20.75	.2096	94.0	22.30	.1302	<u></u> 69.55	18.72	1555	81.20	19,15	5285	252.75	20.91
2001-02	381	85	22.40	2135	980	2180	1355	72 80	1861	1592	85 90	18 56	5463	265 20	20 61
2082-03	381	.9.5	-20.05	2242	101.0	22.20	1418.	79.60	17.81	1746	91.80	19.02	5787	281.90	20.53
2003-04	382	11.0	17.36	2407	111.0	2168	1514	79.45	19 06	1799	93.80	19.18	6102	295 25	20 67
2004-85	:411	115	. 17.87	-, 2470	115.0	21.48	1576	- 86.50	18.22	1946	98.20	1982	. 6403	, 311.20	-20.58
2005-06	428	12.0	17.83	2588	119.0	21.75	1582	87.70	18 04	2083	104 80	19 88	6681	323 50	20 65
2006-07	426	110	19.36	12633	118.0 4	2231	1616	(87.80 ·	18.41	2125	.107.40	19.79 x	6800	324.20	20.97

S = Students (exclusive of self contained special education students)

SOURCE: Northville Public Schools

T = Teachers - Classroom only, exclusive of special services teachers

continued on page 4 TPR = Teacher Pupil Ratio - Computed by dividing the number of students by the number of teachers (exclusive of Special Services)



Ever wonder why a gift from Orin Jewelers is so special?

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Boot scootin' boogie

Opportunity knocks as soon as noon tomorrow for students who want to pump up the volume.

Northville Parks and **Recreation Department has** scheduled open gym at the Northville Senior Community Center, 303 W.-Main St., noon-5 p.m. Dec. 22 and 27. On Dec. 28 and 29, open gym is noon-4:30 p.m.

"in past years, our open gym has been backed. especially if the weather has been very cold," said recreation superintendent Pat Brown.

On Dec. 28, Northville recreation is hosting open swim time 2-3 p.m. at Hillside Recreation Center, on the corner of Center Street and Eight Mile Road.

For other sports action, Novi Bowl, 21700 Novi Road, suggests calling ahead at (248) 348-9120 to check open bowling availability.

Novi Ice Arena, 42400 Arena Drive, is hosting learn-to-skate camps Dec. 27-29. With the exception of Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, the arena is offering a full schedule of holiday skate, public skate, and "Sticks and Pucks" opportunities. Visit www.noviarena.com for costs and timing.

Jitterbuggin' out -

Looking for a special event to get you out of the house?

Dec. 23: The only showing with tickets still available, Genitti's Little Theatre will present the live production of "Cop Kids" at 11:30 a.m. The \$14.95 tickets for children (\$16.95 for adults) include lunch, show and a visit with Santa, so bring the camera.

Dec. 26-29: The Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main St., will continue to present the musical production of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" live on stage at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. The \$8 tickets are available at the door of by calling (248) 349-8110.

Dec. 31: The Northville Parks and Recreation Department is hosting its 10th annual Northville Nite 4:30-8 p.m. at the **Recreation Center at** Hillside, at the corner of Center Street and Eight Mile Road.

Hip-hop into the holidays

continued from front page

son's best powder will be confectioner's sugar on cookies instead of on Maybury State Park trails.

Play dates will forego snow ball tights, forts and angels in favor of the latest gifts and gadgets found under the tree.

Family Fox Trot

Home for the holidays shifts time usually spent with computer and books to moments with Mom, Dad, siblings and visitors. The circle of relatives will tighten around church services and shared meals.

"Usually during Christmas break, we don't program heavily," said Pat Brown of the Northville Parks and Recreation Department. "We find historically, that's kind of family time.

"If it snows out, kids like to be to be outside, at home."

Hatch said the days between Christmas and New Year's are rare opportunities for children and adults to break from routine and do things together -- like shopping, going to the theater or just hanging out at home

"It doesn't matter how many cookies or if they're homemade," she said. "Of course the house is messy. Who cares?

"They're going to remember the time that you spent with them."

Light-tour Line Dance

Time to swing through the neighborhood before the holiday lights are doused for the season. And don't overlook the Midwest's largest holiday light show in your own back yard.

Lasting through Jan. 1, the 7-10 p.m. daily (except on Christmas Day) Wayne County Lightsfest is a 4.5-mile spectacle of giant animated displays and nearly one million lights along Hines Drive. Motorists enter at Hines Drive and Merriman Road, 2.5 miles south of I-96 in Westland.

As the winking characters dance, drivers and passengers bend for a better view, bond and applaud the seasonal treat.

Creative Cha-Cha

For the days after Christmas, kids can get crafty with the now-passé greeting cards.

With so many arriving embla-zoned with photos, put little fingers to work pasting the smiling faces in a memory book. The standard variety can be trimmed and recycled as next year's gift tags.

Or, for an outing, Bee's Knees on Main Street in downtown Northville will be open through the break, except Monday, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Children can create ceramics and mosaics 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and noon-5 p m. Sunday.

Movie/Mall Mambo

An avalanche of new releases ccompanies (Sliding between movie start times provides opportunities to spend the one-size-fits-all gift. "Everyone gets a ton of gift cards," said Jessica Bojan, 18. "We go to the mall. I have spent a lot of break time shopping and going to the movies." For the car buff in the family, Twelve Oaks Mall is offering a DaimlerChrysler auto display through Dec. 30. The latest styles and colors will be parked on the lower level near Lord & Taylor. Novi's outdoor mall, Fountain Walk, offers a variety of childappeal attractions, from the rush of indoor skateboarding to the racket of Chuck E. Cheese. There's also Family of Pets, video games during the day at Lucky's and Putting Edge, at the corner of 12 Mile and Novi roads in Novi. During Christmas break, the

🔊 Jim Seghi

Renovations

indoor 18-hole glow-in-the-dark miniature golf course is closed only on Christmas Day, New Year's Day hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Visit www.putting-edge com.

Library Limbo

Students who stroll into their local public libraries during break will find familiar favorites and fresh options, too --- newly arrived books propped up for inspection, a fulllength film presentation and special collection of holiday books ripe for

checkout or reading on the spot. On Dec. 27, the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St., will host "Curious George: Show Me the Monkey" at noon. All ages are invited; munchies will be provided.

On Dec. 28, the Novi Public Library, 45245 W. Ten Mile Road, will host "Ant Bully" at 1 p.m. School-age children are invited to bring a blanket and pillow, and

enjoy the popcorn. "We find that a tremendous amount of people go out of town." said Margi Karp-Opperer, head of youth and teen services at the Novi Public Library. "It's a calm time to come, a beautiful time to come and relax.

"We have a wonderful selection of books."

Karp-Opperer can direct students to age-appropriate materials paperbacks, hardcovers, DVDs, music CDs or books on CD. A rear corner in the library is a dedicated space for youngsters to retreat.

"It's just a nice little cozy area." she said. 'The kids just love it. They can flip through and pull out what they want."

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

City explores phasing projects

continued from front page

bond issue sized to cover a multiple-phase project is constraining in its required specifics, she said.

Plus, there would be no timing constraints related to bonding, Bateson said. Paying cash doesn't require voter approval - and abiding by set election dates - to borrow funds to pay for the project.

"I'm not saying bonding is bad," Bateson said. "I'm saying you don't know until February or May whether you can go ahead.

"We're also really buying

another year to evaluate our

The big picture

parking strategy."

On Dec. 11, council agreed to take the next step with the town square portion of conceptual drawings presented by the city's design consultant. Northvillebased Grissim Metz Andriese and Associates.

During the past four months, the design team drafted a sixpart proposal to make over the downtown - including expanding Bandshell Park on Main Street - which totaled nearly \$4.1 million.

City leaders had discussed approaching the improvement in

phases, because of the expense and to avoid disrupting the commercial district with simultaneous projects.

Presley said a timely start to improvements would allow town square completion by summer 2007.

Bateson said approaching the town square project independently would allow breathing room for deciding how to approach subsequent projects.

Comprehensive approach

And while the design team has been sketching a central gathering space, a welcoming arch to draw visitors to Ford Field and a more pedestrianfriendly streetscape, other committees have been addressing other deficiencies highlighted in the city's recent downtown strategic plan.

The development authority budget Bateson referenced Tuesday included funding design, business mix, marketing. organizational and parking aspects as part of a comprehensive, long-term downtown improvement plans

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

What's next?

The Northville City Council is expected to decide whether to proceed with the town square expansion project paying with Northville Downtown **Development Authority's** reserve funds, rather than pursuing a bond issue.

If council proceeds, the city will need to hire'a consultant for the professional design development phase. On Tuesday, the development authority board tabled the proposal submitted by design consultant Grissim Metz Andriese and Associates, the Northvillebased firm, which met a Dec. 22 deadline to submit the first-step, conceptual design.

The next regular meetings are scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3, and Tuesday, Jan. 16.

The development authority board scheduled a special meeting at 8 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10, in order to review a revised Grissim Metz proposal prior to the council's second January meeting.

"We're also really buying another year to evaluate our parking strategy."

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Nickie Bateson Finance director. City of Northwile



Ticket costs are \$2 for children age 1-2; \$10 for age 3-12, and \$5 for 13 and up. If tickets remain, they will be sold at the door the night of the event, said recreation superintendent Pat Brown.

Highlights include magician David Castle: inflatable structures; carnival games, coffee house and a live band by Oak Pointe Church; slot car racing; Home Depot wood crafts, and noisemakers and a balloon drop at 8 p.m. For tickets and information, call (248) 349-0203 or visit the recreation department behind Hillside Middle School.

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Community

fax: (248) 349-9832 (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 www.northvillerecord.com Cal Stone, editor

SECOND-HAND NOTION: Consignment shoppers focus on value of name-brand finds

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

Dena Kallgren knows how \$40 holiday sweaters for three kids add up.

The co-owner of BabyBaby decided to parlay her experience clothing three children into what she calls a more affordable alternative to mall shopping. Kallgren and her husband, Pete, purchased the Main Street children's resale shop this summer.

"With the way the economy is going, I think people are more likely to shop at consignment," Kallgren said. "When I'm so picky about what I'm bringing in. they can get a Ralph Lauren sweater here for \$9 and there's nothing wrong with it.

"Now that I'm in the business, I think people are crazy to go to the mall and pay \$40 for a sweater."

For local resale shops like BabyBaby, the state's stormy economy has meant a healthy sales climate.

New to my closet

Fortunately, many area residents are shopaholics, said Lynn Bays, manager of Consignment Clothiers Seven Mile Road. Their first-line purchases become resalers' products.

"We're getting the gals who shop at Somerset," she said.

A new look at re-sale

Consignment Clothiers manager Lynn Bays attributes the store's kongevity to commitment to guiding principles: Merchandising: "We look great," she said, citing thoughtfully

planned displays, like hangers and current styles. "We have high standards - everything needs to be current styles, freshly laundered or drycleaned. We are fussy, but fussiness ultimately pays off."

Staff attitude: "We have a big chunk of employees that have been here over 10 years," she said. "We know our customers. That's a big deal."

Variety: From Gucci to Gap, the store stocks fur coats to \$10 sweaters, Bays said. "We have all ends of the spectrum - the evening wear to the blue jeans."

Customer service: "We're extremely convenient for the shopper," she said.

Mall-like features: Private fitting rooms, a layaway policy and special discount sales throughout the year.

"We're getting that full spectrum To them, it's something new in of consignors. We're happy to their closet." look at it all."

For some women, once they walk out of the mall, the thrill is over, Bays said. But their counterparts balancing a limited budget can find brand names for significantly reduced prices, she said.

"Women are problem-solvers and creative people anyway," Bays said, "If you have concerns about what's going on out there. you're going to figure out another way to put new clothes in your closet. "I don't think our customers think about it as 'used clothing,

Bays said owner Sherry Gorman and her experienced sales team understand they cater to two clienteles: clothing owners seeking to convert their goods back into cash and bargain hunters.

Two clienteles

"This is a very complex business," Bays said. "We have almost two businesses going on under one roof. We're equally committed to both."

continued on next page



Photo by David Aguilar Lynn Bays, manager of Consignment Clothiers on Seven Mile Road, attributes the store's longevity to a commitment to sound business principles like merchandising - thoughtfully displaying and accessorizing clothes.

Introducing...









BITTE TALE VILLAND A CARL

Increasing class size one answer to district growth

continued from front page

School officials said class sizes have been consistently down, reaching a low of 17 students per teacher at the kindergarten level three years ago and decreasing dramatically from when they hovered near 28 kids per classroom in the mid-tolate 1970s at the elementary school level.

In the past nine years, student-teacher ratios have been at 20 or less consistently at the middle and high school levels.

But while student-teacher ratios decrease and student enrollment increases, answers must be found on where to place the community's children.

"I think we're honing in on some of these options ..., said Joan Wadsworth, school board secretary. She said the board's goal is to put solutions out for the public to facilitate dialogue within the community - including class size.

Reports available

Documents showing student enrollment by school and grade are available at the Northville Public Schools district offices located at 501 W. Main Street.

For more information, call (248) 349-3400.

"I believe parents care a lot about class size, but if they don't, we need to know," she said.

Part of the district's growth management informational campaign will include meeting with school PTA groups and other public forums.

According to district documents, total enrollment for the current school year is 6,820 students, up 2,141 from 10 years ago and 3,452

from 20 years ago. Handling Northville Public Schools growth has been at the forefront since the failure of two Northville Public Schools February bond proposals totaling \$70.7 million. The requests included building a seventh district elementary school

Northville High School social studies teacher Joe Cislo faces 28 students in his classroom on this particular Tuesday afternoon.

Consignment shoppers focus on name-brand finds

continued from page 3

Bays agreed with Kallgren's assessment that tighter economic times are driving the consignment industry, citing sales at the women's resale shop creeping upward since Sept. 11, 2001.

"We've been finding that people are here who have not been in in five or six years," she said. "That, to me, also is a sign there's something going on there."

'Second-hand' notion

Resale shoppers ranging in age. income and profession come from in and around Northville, the merchants agreed. Women consigning clothes - a roster topping 9,000 at Consignment Clothiers often are part of the buying clientele, Bays said.

Likewise at BabyBaby, Kallgren said, unless the consignor no longer needs maternity clothing and her children have outgrown BabyBaby's sizes, toys and furniture.

Bays said once people get past the notion of second-hand, they appreciate the value, Bays said. She and Kallgren said careful selection on the front end is the key.

Another avenue

This fall, BabyBaby owner Dena Kallgren unveiled a "Design a Dolly" area in the store's lower level. She'll host walk-ins and parties for children ages 2-10.

For \$6-14 per animal or doll, children take home a birth certificate and Polaroid photo of the character they stuffed and outfitted.

Where's Diane?

After 17 years as owner of BabyBaby, Diane Wise sold her Main Street children's consignment store in August.

'My dreams have been fulfilled with BabyBaby,' she said. 'I have seen it grow to its fullest potential and have watched my store survive a tough economy as well as other competition."

The Northville resident has been reconnecting with friends, volunteering at church and resuming hobbies of gardening and exercise. She said she is leaving her next adventure in God's hands.

Local resale shops

- BabyBaby, 153 E. Main St.
- Consignment Clothiers, 42947 Seven Mile Road
- Home to Home, 42939 Seven Mile Road
- New 2 You, 120 E. Main St.

"I'm really picky about what I buy," Kallgren said "I didn't want for my kids and I don't think anyone else would either?

Maureen Johnston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. to buy anything with a stain on it 103, or via e-mail at mjohnston@gannett.com



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NORTHVILLE CITY COUNCIL NOTEBOOK

Dec. 18 Meeting

Councilmember Jim Allen was absent. Next meeting: Jan. 3

Financial excellence

State Rep. John Stewart (R-20th District) opened the meeting by presenting a tribute congratulating the city for receiving the Government Finance Officers Association distinguished budget award, the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting.

Tower approved

Council unanimously approved an agreement with Verizon Wireless allowing the communications company to place an antenna on the city's elevated water storage tank and necessary equipment at the base, pending planning commission approval. Verizon also received permission to place a temporary trailer-

THEATERS

mounted antenna on the site for up to 90 days.

According to a five-year renewable contract, Verizon will pay the city \$23,760 per year, as part of a contract similar to five other cellular companies that currently lease space for their attenae on the tower.

Ordinance amended

Council unanimously approved the adoption of changes to the city's zoning ordinance to bring the rules into compliance with a new state law, Public Act 110 of 2006 The amendments will become effective within 10 days upon publication.

On the consent agenda...

Council unanimously appointed Sherri Mewha to the Northville Downtown Development Authority, Owner of downtown stores Awakening . the Artist Inside and Sherrus Gallery. Mewha is a member of the Northville Chamber of Commerce and past president of the Northville Central Business Association.

Mewha, appointed through Sept. 30, 2009, fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Rick Shaffner.

Compiled by staff writer Maureen Johnston

POLICE REPORT

Suspects admit to Northville break-ins

Thieves broke into Earl's Farm and Produce on S. Milford Road in Milford Dec. 9, smashing and dumping food and causing extensive damage to the inside of the store, police said.

Milford police arrested two men, a 20-year-old from Burton and a 23-year-old from Holly. who reportedly admitted to several other break-ins recently in Northville, Grand Blanc and Eenton Milford police are coerdinating with law enforcement. from those communities before bringing charges against the men which are expected to be Fre king it decitening receiving

and concealing stolen property and malicious destruction of property.

Underage consumption

A 19-year-old Detroit woman is expected in court today facing underage drinking charges.

On Dec. 9, Northville police reports indicated the woman was driving a Pontiac Grand Am eastbound on Eight Mile Road. near Griswold Street, when an officer clocked her speed well in excess of the posted 40 mph limit.

Officers reported smelling intoxicants and observing the driver's eyes as glassy and speech as slurred. The report aid the woman allegedly told police she had not been drinking. but a subsequent preliminary breath test showed a .14 blood alcohol content

Officers arrested the woman for underage consumption and transported her to the Northville Township police station where she was held pending posting a \$500 bond.

S. Main Street crash

A 28-year-old Novi man told police he "got on it" before causing the car crash that earned him a reckless driving ticket. Northville police reports indi-

cated the man's Dec. 7 test drive of a Northville man's silver Honda \$2000 went bad when the driver lost control of the car, striking a curb, a yield sign and a tree on the S. Main Street median near Johnson Street. While the driver was taken from the seene by ambulance, the heavily-damaged vehicle was towed away





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Courtesy photo

Going places

The band Population Game, which includes former Northville area resident Brett Farkas (left) on guitar, will play Fifth Avenue Downtown (in Comerica Park) 10 p.m. Wednesday and at Sazaerac Lounge in Grand Rapids at 9 p.m. Thursday. The group was named in Music Connection magazine's 15th Annual Hot 100 Unsigned Artists. Check them out online at www.populationgamemusic.com.

JASON P. DOWDELL Jason P. Dowdell, age 27, died December 17, 2006 in Novi. Jason was a graduate from Northville High School and a painter with Technology Plus Trailers. Visitation will be on Wednesday, December 20, 2006 from 4 to 9 P.M. at the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home followed by services on Thursday at 10A.M. The Rev. James P. Russell will officiate. Jason is survived by his parents Roger E. Dowdell (Tia) and Marleta L. Thomas (Rick): and two sisters, Jennifer (Michael) Allison and Carolyn Dowdell. In Lieu of flowers

SPENCER NICHOLAS SELLAS

Age 42, of Clearwater, FL, died December 15, 2006 at Mease Countryside Hospital. Born in Born in Garden City, Michigan he moved here in 1988 from Northville, Michigan. Currently he was a Sr. Group Manager with the Home Shopping Network; he formerly worked for IBM for 12 years. He was a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church and a member of its parish council; He graduated from Adrian College, Adrian, MI and received his MBA from USF; and was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. Survivors include his wife of 12 years, Kristen (Whitney) Sellas; 3 sons, Nicholas, Christopher and David all of Clearwater; Father and mother, Dr. Nicholas and Catherine Sellas of Northville, MI and winter residents of Tarpon Springs; 1 broth-er, Steven of Mahwah, NJ and 1 sister, Laraine Warner of Richmond, VA. Both the visitation, Tuesday, 5PM-8PM and funeral Wednesday at 11:00AM, will be at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 409 Old Coachman Rd., Clearwater, FL 33765. Burial will follow at Sylvan Abbey Memorial Park, Clearwater. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to Holy Trinity Spencer Sellas Fund, 409 Old Coachman Rd., Clearwater, FL 33765. Moss Feaster Funeral Home Belcher Road Chapel Clearwater, FL 727-562-2070

OBITUARY POLICY

The first seven lines of an obituary are published free of charge. After that, there is a fee of \$3 a line. Pictures may be published for \$25.

*Deadline for obituaries is Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. for publication in Thursday's newspaper.

-----For more information. call 888-999-1288,

or contact your funeral home. *Holiday deadlines are subject to change



Kohl-Turner

ENGAGEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kohl of Northville announce the engagement of their daughter Amy Katherine Kohl to Patrick Thomas Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Blake Turner of Columbia, Mo.

The bride-elect is a 1996 graduate of Northville High School, and 2000 graduate of Michigan State University. She is currently employed Capmark with Securities, Inc. in Denver, Colo.

The groom elect is a 1998 graduate of the University of Missouri, and is currently employed with Infomation Mountain Iron Mangement.

A June 9, 2007 wedding is planned in Boulder, Colo.

BIRTHS



Olivia Rose Bleau Corriveau

Joseph and Melissa Ann Corriveau are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Olivia Rose Bleau Corriveau on Oct. 4, 2006. She weighed in at 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and measured 20 inches.

Proud grandparents include Terry and Glenda Bleau of Livonia, Mich., Katherine Corriveau of South Lyon, Mich.; Richard and Dorothy Corriveau of Northville, Mich. Protid "great-grandparents include Goldie Edwards of Harrisville, Mich., Wayne and Jan Reibow of Ocala, Fla



UBITUARIES

JACK W. REYNOLDS

Age 89, of Plymouth, passed away December 17, 2006. He was born November 1, 1917 in Redford, Michigan to Walter J. and Verna E. (Wright) Reynolds. Jack was united in marriage to Janet (Stewart) Reynolds on September 1, 1945. He had been a resident of Plymouth for 45 years, and was formerly of Northville. Jack received a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from the University of Detroit and worked in Sales and Marketing for Gulf Oil. He proudly served his country as a Lieutenant (jg) with the Navy during WWII, where he received the American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Area Medal, and WWII Victory Medal. Jack was a member of the VFW Post 4012 in Northville. He was an avid golfer, who also enjoyed bowling. He is survived by his sons Jay Reynolds of Birmingham and Jeff Reynolds of Plymouth. He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, and 1 sister. Private family services for Mr. Reynolds will be held. He will be laid to rest at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. The famity would appreciate memorial contributions to American Red Cross, Southeastern Michigan Chapter, 100 E. Mack Ave., Detroit, MI 48201. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. of Northville.

BLAKE T. COUSE

Age 78, of East Tawas, passed away December 13, 2006. He was born February 1, 1928 in Detroit, Michigan to Blake T. Mott and Georgianna (Crawford) Mott Couse. He had been a resident of Northville since 1937, he moved to East Tawas in 2000 with his late wife Jean Day Couse. Blake was the President of the Walter L. Couse Company in Detroit. Memorable projects were the Serpentine Wall and covered bridge at Greenfield Village, St. John's Armenian Church in Southfield, and extensive work for Ford Motor Company including executive office renovations. Blake was an avid bridge player and played with the East Tawas Bridge Club. He loved fishing and spending time at the fam-ily cabin on Douglas Lake. Blake also enjoyed traveling, antiques, garden-ing, and reading. Survivors include his children, Robin (Steve) Reisig of Sylvan Lake and Peter (Susan) Couse of Montana; step daughters Roberta (Ed May) Day of Washington and Laurie (Eric) Egeland of Whitehall; his sisters Barbra (Scott) Allen of Hawaii and Elsa (Richard) Stuber of Ann Arbor. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean Day Couse, and his first wife, Carol Siebert Couse. A Memorial Service was held Tuesday, December 19, 2006 at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. of Northville. Pastor Walter Stuber from Webster Presbyterian Church of Webster, New York officiated at the service. The family would appreciate memorial contributions to American Diabetes Association, 30200 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 105, Bingham Farms, MI 48025 or Salvation Army, 16130 Northland Dr., Southfield, MI 48075. Arrangements entrusted to Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. of Northville.

memorial contributions to the charily of your choice would be appreciated.



Anderan I.

Flight to Shanghai? Speak up for establishing a key trade route

Thanks, Mr. Representative ... During John Stewart's visit to the city council meeting Monday, Northville Mayor Chris Johnson thanked him for his service to the community. It was Stewart's final visit to city hall as the state lawmaker winds up his six-year tenure, prohibited by term limits from seeking another term.

....

Oh, we know you have a junk drawer ... for all the gadget lovers who receive new wireless phones and accessories as gifts this holiday season, don't put them in there! The Verizon Wireless store on Haggerty Road is collecting no-longer-used devices for their Hopeline program, regardless of condition or original wireless service provider. All proceeds

from the sale of these used phones support shelters and organizations devoted to helping domestic violence survivors and to preventing further abuse. Throw it in the car for next time you're shopping at Six Mile and Haggerty ...

The catalogs are here, the catalogs are here ... community residents received their Northville Parks and Recreation Department Winter/Spring 2007 Activities Catalog last week. So flip the pages or through visit www.northvilleparksandrec.org to check out the upcoming fun and fitness in store ...

Speaking of parks and recreation ... volunteers are still needed for the upcoming Northville Nite. The New Year's Eve party, from 4:30-8 p.m. Dec. 31 at Hillside recreation center, is fun for the whole family. Call (248) 349-0203 for tickets or to help!

Seen the line wrapping around the corner at Wing Street? OK, so the post office isn't that busy. Just an option to be aware of: You can also purchase postage stamps at Mike Ladwig's UPS Store on Center Street.

....

At the heart of it all ... after another successful Christmas adopt-a-family program this year, Marlene Kunz of Northville Civic Concern was wowed by the community outpouring of support. Here's a thank you to Kunz and the rest of her crew for their tireless efforts throughout the year!

Speaking of the giving spirit ... compliments to students of Northville Public Schools young living class, who donated infant clothes to Flower Baby Project.

And the John Romano family recently stepped up, too, making a donation of \$4,833 in landscaping for the Northville High School grounds. Way to go!



Oh, what the school board meeting audience saw last week ... superintendent Leonard Rezmierski's amazing slide show from his recent trip to Japan. Good thing he didn't take an eye out with that 8-foot bow and arrow ...

And here's a heads-up for employers ... Park Avenue Financial investment advisor Nicholas Hopwood shared some interesting workforce news in his weekly bulletin: Seems a recent poll found American employees were less engaged and less satisfied with their work during 2006 than they have been in the past, citing perceived declines in work rewards from compensation and benefits to work content and career advances ...



Turnover among your peers? The Sibson 2006 Rewards of Work Survey also said an engaged workforce has vision, knows what needs to be done and is committed to achieving it. Satisfied employees are more likely to stay with a company ...

Coming soon to Rebecca's on Center Street ... Teens Aiding the Cancer Community, a student nonprofit group that makes backpacks for children affected by cancer, will be something hosting a fund-raiser at the family restaurant in January. Good job on their efforts to spread holiday cheer ...

Speaking of youths up to all good ... 40 teens from "Pulse," the teen choir at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville will be out caroling tomorrow night, entertaining passers-by. Way to spread the Christmas spirit!

It's Guys Night Out tonight ... downtown merchants are staying open late with treats and special features to cater to last-minute shoppers. Check it out!

Check the calendar ... With city hall closed Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 1 and 2, the next city council meeting will be Wednesday Jan. 3. In the council chambers at 7:30 p.m. ...

This is interesting ... \$160 million in added economic activity for the state hangs in the balance. Seems Northwest Airlines is applying for new ponstop service between Detroit and Shanghai, China. a potentially key route for this region's businesses. With stiff competition from other U.S. cities, community support will be a factor when awarding the Visit speak flight. То up: http://capwiz.com/detroitchamber/state/main/?state=

Dominic Gino Gaudino

Jackie and Gino Gaudino of Northville are proud to announce the birth of their son, Dominic Gino Gaudino on Nov. 30 at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. He weighed 10 pounds, 6 ounces, and was 22 inches long, Dominic joins big brother Anthony, who is 2.

Proud grandparents are the late Anthony Gaudino, and Savina Gaudino of Butler, Penn., and Philip and Norma Salloum of Dearborn Heights.



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• 11pm Candlelight Chancel Choir Service

NEW YEAR'S EVE, SUN. DEC. 31 **10:30AM SERVICE**

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ROOM AT THE INN: Co-op preschool seeking new home

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

Annette McGowan wants to keep her education enclave alive. In the midst of Christmas preparations, the Northville mom is sandwiching school search committee time between a flight attendant job and volunteer classroom duty.

But showing up is the foundation on which the 56-year-old Northville Co-op Preschool is built. And she has her 2-year-old Carly's next two school years to consider.

"I just love the preschool, the whole concept of the co-op, being able to be involved," said McGowan, who also ushered her son, Patrick, now in kindergarten, through the program.

McGowan's parent committee has self-imposed a January deadline to relocate the school or watch the tradition crumble.

Time to move on

The non-profit co-op preschool, run too lean to own a home, is historically mobile, according to Susan Collins, director and teacher. Run by a volunteer school board of students' parents, the program has had four homes

during Collins' 21-year tenure. The current five-year stay inside the First Church of the Nazarene on Haggerty Road will expire in May due to expansion of the church programming, said pastor Ronald Blake.

Collins said the three classrooms leased from the church divided for 2-, 3- and 4-year-old

For breaking news

on the Web: www.northvillerecord.com

THINKING ABOUT...

LENNOX

FREE estimates (734) 525-1930

programs --- was convenient for families of the 60 pupils from Northville, Novi and the surrounding area.

But the clock is ticking.

Hands-on transition

School board president Tammy Harris, also a relocation committee member, has been a fixture in the classrooms seven years while three of her children learned through the co-op. Harris said children and adults, who commit to involvement when they register, develop relationships through the school.

Collins said in exchange for a hands-on transition to a child's school experience, parents pay less than traditional pre-school programs.

"That's why we have to have fund-raisers for extras," she said. "Strictly tuition is how we operate.

Wherever the program lands, the three-teacher staff — support-ed by moms, dads, grandparents will make the children feel at home, Collins said. The relocation committee has looked at three potential sites so far, she said, adding the site selected needs to meet stringent state requirements.

"It has to be licensed, up-tocode and something we can afford," she said. "If we can't find a place, the co-op has to close."

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Wednesday FREE sm. Popcorn with paid admission

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'Not the building'

Collins said the state's sluggish economy has impacted the school's enrollment, typically 100 pupils.

She has stood alongside parents committed to the cooperative environment in the past, helping pack up the school's belongings and hanging on after the move.

"I believe in what we do for the families --- and families as a whole — not just the children," Collins said. "These days, families need a lot of support.

"They're working on staying in the Northville area, but they're having a difficult time."

With the school's enrollment drive scheduled for February, Collins said the school board needs to have an answer about the program's fate.

"We can't enroll people truthfully without knowing our location," she said. "It's the atmosphere we provide, not the building itself.

"We consider ourselves kind of a family."

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



Want to get involved?

Call (248) 980-7179 with location suggestions. Call (248) 348-1791 to ask about enrolling children ages 2, 3 and 4 and leave a message for the membership volunteer.

Photo by JOHN HEI-DER/Northville Record Volunteer **Tammy Harris** assists her daughter across a balance beam at the Northville Cooperative **Preschool at** the Church of the Nazerene on Haggerty Road.

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2006 All Aglow Illumination for Education Mothers' Club of Northville

On Friday, December 8th, 2006, downtown twinkled with the lighting of the tree in recognition of over 300 donations in the name of loved ones. Steven Collareno and Maddie Moran helped light up the tree by "throwing the switch" and the Hillside and Meads Mill Choirs sang along. This special event raised over \$11,000 for the educational enrichment of Northville School Children. Mothers' Club of Northville wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to all the generous contributors.



PEARL - IN MEMORY OF Brad Still Cindy Butcher Eleanor Dzendzel Grandpa Stack Joseph S. & Frances T. Martin Linda Park Lona Sprader

PEARL- IN HONOR OF Grandma Stack Vicky Dwelley

SAPPHIRE - IN MEMORY OF

Bernice Barnes Brett Poupard Brian D. Cornett Carol Coates **Charlie Stilec** Craig & Pearl Black Debbie Hall - Hillside Doug McFeggan Dr. George M. Marston G. Donavan Dean George Stadtmiller Georgina & Mike Traicoff Grandpa & Grandma Abraham Heidi Van Arnem Jenna Marquardt Joseph S. & Frances T. Martin Josephine Bognetti Judy Valenti Kasi Kimbrell Lauren & Kathleen Schleh Lenore Goshom Lynn Bablock - Moriane Principal Marge Carmona Marge Carmona Marge Carmona Margot I. Schaumann Marianne Argenta Marie Durham Mark J. Foucher, Sr Mike Allen Moriane Office Staff Mr. Robert Line **Pearl Stephens Phyliss Raines** Sheryl Khoury, A strong advocate for NPS Susan Birdsall The Siepierski Family Wilfred Koilpillai

Mike Paciorek Mike Soukur Northville High School Marching Band Northville Teachers Orson Atchinson Paul Tripp Pearl E. Stephens **Ray Balutowicz Ridge Wood ECC Staff Ridge Wood Elementary** Ridge Wood Elementary Staff Rita C. Werner Rob Watson **Rob Watson** Robin Taksony Robin Taylor Shar Stephens Sharon Wilchowski Stacie Fortner Steve Sutherland The Boyd Chidren The Hagan Children The Peterson Children Todd Gudith Tonya Nugent Vera Marchese Wendy Martin Young Life Zachary Taylor

EMERALD - IN MEMORY OF

Rachel Lypka Wayne & Julia Van Houten

EMERALD - IN HONOR OF

Joe LaDuke Aiden, Ella, Ashley, Collin & Lili Allissa & Karina Moore Amerman Teachers and Staff Ann White Art & Agnes Klolan Brad Lempke Bridget Phillips Cameron Bayer Chris Hewlett Colin, Patrick & Erin McDonough Dane Rupley Debbie LaLonde **Devon Rupley** Eileen Beaugrand Graham, Hannah & Sean Smith Grandma Putzi Gret Bergin – Amerman 4th Grade Harry & Ava Kaloustian Helen Jolly Helen Laidlaw Hillside Teaches, 8B: Mr. Janigian, Ms. Hardy, Ms. Ziegler, Mr. Lee Jolly Valade Grandchildren Joy Donnellon, Hillside Middle School Karen DeBenedet Karen Stephens Karen Stuard – Moriane 1st Grade Kayla Hickey Ken & Betty Dyer Laurel Rupley Louis & Josephine Folino Marilyn Southers Mariyn Southers Mary Rupley Matthew & Maria Morrissey Meads Mill Middle School Melissa & Jackson Doyle Michael & Megan Monticciolo Mike Zubor Miss Dean & Morriane Staff Molly Steiner, Cooke School Moriane Kids Club Staff Morane Kids Club Staff Mr. Scott Snyder Mr. Watson, Northville High School Mrs. Bambrough, Thorton Creek My Wonderful Family, the Townsend's Nick, Ben & Grace Cracraft Northville High JV Girls Basketball Team Northville High School Staff Northville High School Staff Northville School Children Northville Students & Teachers Olivia McCutcheon Pam Lazarus Renee Grant **Robert Boshoven** Robin Cerretani Ron Horwath Sam McCutcheon Samantha Bayer Shirley Lockman St. Edith CYO Football Champions Staff of Northville Public Schools Stephanie, David & Kyle Brown Stephen Lempke Superfisky Girls Teachers at Hillside Teachers in Northville Public Schools Team 7B at Hillside Middle School Team 8B - Hillside Middle School Team 8B & Hillside Staff The Brennan Childrer The McKee Grandchildren Walter & Lee Kleinert

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1st Wednesday Ladies All Mothers Carter & Kacey Cerretani Clara Fecht David Fecht Jaclyn, Jeremy & Jaimee Risher Jeff Mundy Joseph Lombardo Lauren & Mikey Lokey Lawrence Hastings Mary Kay Gallagher Mev, Lucy & Billy Mulder Mike Raben Mike Raben Mr. & Mrs. Richard Zabell My Gram, My Hero Northville Children Northville Public School Children Northville School Children Northville Teachers & Coaches Staff & Teachers at Morriane & Hillside Students and Staff of Winchester Elem. The Amerman Family The Children of Northville The Students of Northville Vicki Zidell Zachary & Jacob Taylor

SAPPHIRE- IN HONOR OF

Alex Webb Amy Balog Amy Webb Ann Quay, Russ & Rob Rushing Brett Johnson BSA Troop 755 Cheryl Walro Chris Gearns Connor, Maddie and Will Moran Crystal Gregg Dave Bolitho Dr. Sue Meyer Eric Maise Grandsons: Aiden, Steven, Simon, Nick Jack Gallon Jacob Taylor Joe & Flo Denton Joe Gomez John Bajanowski John Street Kelly Maise Kevin Cavanaugh Kristi Maurer Kristy Bilbie-Bekius Laura Melvin Laura Taylor Laura Taylor Lauren & Krystin Schleh Len Rezmierski Lillian Jelonek Linda Clark Lisa Lindsay Lynne Mossoian Mary Kay Gallagher Matt & Danny Kuriluk Max & Mason Gecowets

Anastasia Challis Anne Monforton Becky Hilger Becky Hilger Bessie Vest Bradley Hogan Bradley Hogan Bridget Phillips Charles Tangora Dave Sturtz Don Bray Don Sanders Dorothy & Johnson Quick Dorothy Makowski Ed Hogan Frances McCausland Fred Southers George Surdu, Sr. Grandma Putzi Hannah Doody Harry Ellis Helen Tyszka Hugh J. Montgomery Jack & Helen Lysaght James Castellano Jerome Monaco John & Louise Hymes John Kaczor John Sack Jonathon Galloway Lynn Schlicher Margaret W. McNamara Marie Ottino Mark R. Fisher, Jr. Mike Allen Millie Herman Mindy Sievert Mr. & Mrs. Emil Zabell Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Furdak Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Spigarelli Mr. Irvin Burry Mr. Irvin Burry Mr.& Mrs. Ernest Lamberty My Loving Mother, Mae Church Nicholas Lomako Niles Beaugrand Orin & Mary Massoni Phyliss Kirkpatrick Dev Starboar Ray Stephens Robert D. Bothwick Rod Kotylo - Soccer Coach Roy Jobin Scott Anderson Susan Mihalik Sylvia L. Lally ŧ Ted Parent Victor & Margaret Pagano Warren C. MacPhee William Lee

RUBY - IN MEMORY OF Abigail Ellen Grimes

1

Bill Grant Bill Wood Chris & Butch Prain Dona & Jim Harvey Donald & Mary Wolfe Dorothy Clarkson Edward Hogan **Gladys Eichman**

DIAMOND - IN MEMORY OF Alfred Thomas Bernard Baker Brian Zatkoff Chet & Claire Nowaczyk Chuck Lane, Sr. Clarence Fischer Clarence Fischer Jamerson/Earl Family Members Jeff Stemberger Joe & Barbara Echert Judy Manarina Mark Malfese Norman D. Postma Ruth Edgington Shirley Brost

DIAMOND - IN HONOR OF

Ashley, Adam & Andrew Nix Avery Nelson Chad Kelterborn Donald & Kindra Kaiser Families Esther Lane Irving Marion McLead, Jr. Jack Klarr Jay Brost Karlek & Tollie Johnson Lynne & Daniel Dargo Northville Board of Education Northville High School Staff R.J., Maddy & Nate Holloway Robert & Joy Holloway Trevor Kelterborn



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Kids give new meaning to 'Afterglow'

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

After the last Christmas song note faded, the true spirit of the season grew louder.

Northville High School music students who organized the inaugural Afterglow event after their concert Saturday night raised \$730 to give to local emergency service agency. Northville Civic Concern.

"It was the first time the kids did anything like that," said high school choir director Mary Kay Pryce. "The kids were talking about it - how to make the third night a little bit different.

They decided to make a gift back to the community."

The 530 choir students and 250 band members performed a timeless Northville High School tradition last week, hosting their annual holiday concert Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. The event is a perennial sell-out, with the auditorium at capacity for the standard two-night run.

So, when the music department added a third concert allowing more friends and family to enjoy the holiday music, Pryce said, the students went to work. Choir officers spearheaded decorating the cafeteria and gathering food.

Sated with seasonal favorites, all 1,000 audience members who attended the Saturday finale were invited to the afterglow following the concert.

"They just loved the music." Pryce said. "I think they were in such a good mood after hearing that sound."

Their donations to Civic Concern will go toward providing groceries and other essentials for Northville families temporarily seeking assistance, director Marlene Kunz said.

Pryce said the students, who had selected the service agency as the afterglow recipient, were pleased with their audience's gencrosity.

"It meant a lot to them," Pryce said "I'm sure they'll want to do something like that again."

Maureen Johnston can be readed at (248) 349-1700 ext 103 or wold study converticem

Ending on a high note

After a week of holiday concerts at Northville High School, treating several self-out crowds to beautiful seasonal music, 26 lucky winners took home over \$40,000 from the first Music Boosters Raffle.

The barrel spun at 9 p.m Saturday after the final concert, and most of the winners drawn were local residents.

Soteen of the 26 winners were parents of band or choir students at the high school.

The top prize of \$15,000 went to band parent Nancy Gomez. Second prize of \$7,000 went to band parent Sherry Hanovich and third orize of \$4,000 went to choir parent Susan Zielesch.

Fourth prize winners of \$3,000 and fifth prize winner of \$2,000 are Northville residents

Christopher and Karen Roosen and Amy Sullivan, respectively. The winner of the cruise for six

to the Bahamas was band parent Patti Cheaney. Along with handing out thou-

sands in cash, the music boosters made a sizable profit as well. A total of 892 tickets were sold resulting in a net profit of \$46,450.

"There isn't another year in the books where the Music Boosters made that kind of net profit," said Bill Felosak, treasurer. "With this kind of fundraising success, the Music Boosters will really be able to support the needs of the 10 choir groups and five bands at NHS.

"They are strong programs, and this Music Booster budget will be spent wisely to provide the tools that Choir Director Mary Kay

Pryce and Band Director Mike Rumbell need to continue growing their programs."

Award money was also given to the top sellers of the \$100 raffle tickets. Band parent Julie Felicelli received a check for \$1,000 for selling 57 tickets.

Band parent Judy Starr received \$500 for setting 54 tickets and band parents Deanna and Lou Dorantes received \$250 for selling 51 tickets.

"We can't thank this community and our own music family enough for supporting this fundraising effort," said Raffle Chair Mary Jo Ring. "We decided to try something new to raise funds this year since our previous fund-raisers were not doing the job, and we are pleased with the outcome."



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Both students entered the contest during their junior year of high school.

Li's board-submitted entry was a practice college application essay.

"I wrote about a childhood belief that I had that rain was actually God's tears, and I tied it into a friend's death." she said.

For her impromptu essay, Li said she wrote about the virtue of respect.

Agrawal and Li were two of 12 Michigan winners.

Agrawal said the win validated one of her loves.

"I enjoy writing, and it pretty much confirmed my passion for writing," she said.

Agrawal said in her free time she enjoys creative writing more specifically writing descriptive short stories.

Li said these days she is writ-"It was a nice surprise when 1 ing mostly college application essays

> Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349 1700, ext. 122 or senatchellC supert com



Northville High School students Linda Li, left, and

abilities by the National Council Teachers of English.

WRITE THIS WAY:

High school students

show talent for prose

By Victoria Mitchell

When Shruti Agrawal was

encouraged to write an essay for a

national writing competition, she

reached to her culture for inspira-

The Northville High School

senior said her award-winning

essay described her changing

perspective of India after visiting

as a child and then again as a

young adult Agrawal said she

also touched on accepting other

open mind and be tolerant of

"It is important to keep an

Agrawal's perceptions and

writing ability earned her top

honors in the 2006 National

Council of Teachers of English

Achievement Awards in Writing

found out I was a finalist," she

Joining her in the honor is

Northville High School student

RECORD STAFF WRITER

tion.

cultures.

others," she said.

competition.

said.

Linda Li

Shruti Agrawal have been noted for their writing

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Students reflect on traditions during the holidays

By Victoria Mitchell RECORD STAFF WRITER

Every year, Justin Days' family wakes up early to open gifts.

"I run in my parent's room and jump on their bed and yell, 'Its Christmas!" he said. "We all run downstairs to see our presents."

Days, 9, said he watches his favorite DVD, "Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer," while opening presents and eating leftover cookies and drinking hot chocolate. He does this all with his family.

The Ridge Wood Elementary School student wrote about this favorite family tradition recently along with other children in Mark Gerlach's fourth-grade class

Here's what they wrote about their favorite family tradition.

We wish you a Merry Christmas

My sister and I wake up and wait until its 7 a.m. on X-mas. Then we run very fast down the hallway to mum's room, seeing if they are a wake. We start calming down and begin playing. Next we run down the stairs and open our stockings, Mum writes down what we got. After that we have breakfast and I eat it very fast. Finally, dad passes the presents down. We open our presents and play with them. I am always over excited on X-mas.

Henry Timms, 9

"It's Christmas!" my sister yells as she shakes me. I wake with a jolt and I run down the stairs so fast I nearly trip. There my parents are waiting for me. I wait for my dad to get the video camera and then I don't hold back. I explode into those presents. I open them and play with them. We then get dressed in really good clothes and go to both sides of our family. We eat and get gifts and I go to bed

after our good holiday tradition. Alex Salah, 9

Every Christmas Eve, my family and I have the same tradition. We put our Christmas ornaments and lights around the tree as Christmas music plays. For dinner we eat all kinds of foods. When it is tune to go to bed, we can't fall sleep. The commotion of Christmas is upon us. Eventually, we slowly fall asleep. That's when old St. Nick visits once again. In the morning we wake up and run down stairs to find more presents.

Martina Sopko, 9

Every Christmas is the same, I wake up and run to my morn and dad's room to wake up my dad. He always says, "5 more minutes, Go get ready for the snow man" I bundle up good. Some years it's me and my dad, but sometimes Sami and Samantha help me make a snow man. When we come in my dad will drink coffee and w. 'ch-TV. My mom will make a teast for everyone that will be coming to our

Christmas party, And that is what I do every Christmas. Mikey Shihadeh, 9

Every Christmas I tackle my sister because she tries to wake me up. Eventually, my sister gets me up. That's when the fun begins !!! First, we put our kittles on my mom and dad. Once they wake up, we open our presents. Hove it because my mom makes awesome food. We get so many toys that I make forts out of them. There's no school too!!! Sometimes I even get sugar rushes! Christmas is a great time make a new tradition. That is why it is a family favorite! Tony Miller, 9

As I stepped off the plane the warm air took me in. I ran to hug grandpa, he smelled like his dog Baxter, Every year, my parents, brother, and I go to Florida for Christmas. One thing I do there is help my mom bake Santa's cookies, we make peanut butter chocolate chip. We also leave a plate of sprinkles and carrots for the reindeer. We usually go swimming on Christmas. I can't wait to go swimming and eat by the pool side. My grandpa lets us eat in the pool. These are reasons why I like our tradition.

Veronica Agne, 9

My mom calls us into her room with a hig happy grin. We sit on her flufty bed and wait for our Christmas Eve gift Ahh!' My dad throws us our gifts. On the count c13 we np open our gifts and find

our family tradition, a new pair of pajamas and a new book. My momstarted this tradition on my first Christmas. My mom wanted to make Christmas special, so she gave me a book and pajamas. I always look forward to this tradition. I hope I will pass this tradition down for generations to come. Makenna Strunk, 9

One tradition my family has is getting up early on Christmas. Hike waking up at 6 a.m. so I can take revenge on my parents for getting me up so early on school days. My mom always gets the video camera and tapes me opening my presents. Another tradition we have is getting together with family. Every other year my mom's side of the family comes over to give and receive gifts. On the other years, my dad's side of the family comes over. Whichever side of the family is over, we all enjoy getting together. Ben Barrick, 10

Every year my family wakes up early to open our gifts. I run in my parent's room and jump on their bed and yell, "Its Christmas!" We all run down stairs to see our presents. We turn on our TV and search for our favorite DVD. Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer. While we open our gifts we eat left over cookies and drink hot chocolate. We have been doing it since 1993. The only bad thing about this tradition is Lalways eat all the cookies. and I get a sick feeling, but I never threw up. Well except for when 1. was 5 Hove hiving Christmast

Justin Days, 9

Lights from the tree downstairs kept me up. I crept down the stairs. Alex followed me and we both just stood there. Our stockings were packed. I sat on the couch looking at the tree. I looked around and saw Alex but this time he was asleep. I whispered, "Okay". Then I fell askeep again too. When I finally woke up for good, the clock read 6:48 a.m. That's when we opened our gifts. Opening gifts at the exact same time is our tradition. Traditions are important because they help families have more time together on the holidays. Brett Ridener, 9

Holiday of lights

"When is he ever going to come," I moaned. It is a Diwali afternoon and I can't wait. Diwali is the holiday of the lights. It is a fun holiday; in fact it is the best holiday. It is usual for my dad to be late from work on Diwali. When he finally arrives, he has a big pack of fireworks. After a while we have a feast at the dinning table, and then go outside. I watch as the color of the fireworks fills the sky. The best ones are the snakes and pencils. I can't wait for next Diwali to come. Vaishnavi Aradhyula, 9

The candles I lit up were my only aid in letting me see. I could smell them burning as I finished lighting them at 1 st. I was ready Continued on 11

M Physical Unerapy Rehabilitation Update

by Dennis Engerer, P.T.

BACK ON YOUR FEET!

When suffering injury due to disease or At NORTHVILLE PHYSICAL REHA-trauma, patients should submit them-BILITATION, PC., we've been providing rehabilisation therapy for a variety of itation. It is the last element of this formu-to for methods and injuries. la for restoring health that will be the sub-ject of our column in the weeks and months to come. Our purpose is to inform and advise you, the public, about the variety of therapeutic and rehabilitative tech-niques and services available. They may be off considerable value in restoring com-fort, strength and function to body and soul. In simple terms, physical therapy offers patients their best assurance that they will "get back on their best assurance that they will "get back on their feet" after a physical setback. The column will also be useful in providing information that can help avert injury in the first place. Welcome to our new physical therapy.

rehabilitation therapy for a variety of orthopedic conditions and injuries, including sports injuries, neck and back pain, arthritis, and hymphadema care since 1985. In addition to our clinic, we offer rehabilitative care at home and our therapy staff is happy to visit assisted liv-ing centers. To schedule an appointment, call 248.3499339. We are converiently located at 215 E. Main, Suite B. New patients are gladly accepted. A tradition

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Continued from 10

for Diwali that evening. This holiday I like best because family and friends are invited to hum firecrackers. After that we go to pray to Lakshmi. When our praying is over my mother passes out prasadam. We eat the prasadam and then feast. Diwalt is what makes Indian families unique. I feel traditions and holidays are important because I think everyone is special That's why everyone has a tradition or holiday.

Alekya Vinta, 9

Finally! The time has come, my favorite festival. Diwah. It is celebrated throughout India in the month of October. As a family tradition, in the morning we wake up and say prayers to God and thank Him for giving us everything. In the evening, we get ready and

go to the temple in Plymouth. The temple is beautifully decorated outside with lights and candles. My favorite part is when we light

candles outside on the front porch. Diwali is definitely incomplete without fireworks. I enjoyed this day very much and always look forward to this special tradition of Diwalı.

Malika Sachdev, 9

Giving Thanks

My family has a tradition we do every other year. We go to my Aunt Terry and Uncle Ben's house on Thanksgiving because everybody on my Mom's side is there. My Mom's family comes from a long way away. During that time I also get to see my grandparents and my brother's, Greg and Ryan. Everybody always has fun catching up with each other and watching the Lion's game. Well, except for me and my cousins. We are too busy having stuffed animal fights and playing downstairs. I think that 1 love to dance. "Raas" is so much

traditions are special and keep people close to one another Jaime Allcorn, 9

Every Thanksgiving our tradition is to go to my Uncle Gerry's house and have stuffing, turkey, and turkey gravy. All of that is just for me! Just before we eat, we do our Lord's Prayer. After we eat, me, my cousin Melissa, and my nephews Christopher and Jordon play Mario. Then Christopher and I play basketball. Het Christopher win. I like traditions because you get to spend time with your family and that's fun; especially when you get along with them Peter Elieff, 9

Fall moments

Thave a special Halloween tradition. When it gets dark outside people

come to get candy. That's when we get our costumes on This year I wore a Ninja costume because

I only wore it once. My brother wore a Batman costume because he likes Batman. My brother, my friends, and I go to get candy. We go to as many houses as we can. It is special with my friends because we always have fun. At home my brother and I split our candy. I like this tradition and I want to keep going it for a long time. Vijay Dev, 9

In October, my family and I celebrate "Navratri". We go nine nights to our temple. My brother and I dress up in Indian clothes. At the temple every one dances and one type is called "hinge" where we dance in circles. "Raas" is a dance where you hit two sticks together to the beat of music. Finally we pray and the priest gives Indian sweets. Then we go home. This holiday is my favorite because fun. Navratri is a great opportunity to spend time with family and friends. Anyssa Patel, 9

Summer fun

Our tradition is going to the Fourth of July parade in Boston. I enjoy sipping a nice cold glass of lemonade while watching the trucks proceed down Main Street. One year I observed a plush green badminton court. Meandering to the court. I relished kids having a great time and wanted to join in. I grabbed a racket. I had no notification I was about to be smacked. OUCH! Even though I got hit, this is still my favorite tradition. Tradition + Fun = a marvelous Fourth of July and I think it's important to be with your family! Will Guilfoile, 10

The 4th of July is one of our family's favorite traditions. I wake up and run down stairs and ask when are we going to Kayla and Erin's house? I enjoy seeing my cousins. Once we get there we knock on the door and Sadie barks. Our aunt Denise answers the door along with the cats and the dog. We always go out onto their pontoon boat and find the firework show. I look forward to it every year. Traditions can be fun for families and they keep families togeth-

Alex Justice, 9

Family ties

The misty air in the morning, coming through the windows of my Aunt Darlene's camper, made me shiver. I moved farther into the soft, warm blankets. I heard the fire crackling outside the windows. I rose out of the bed and went over to the door. I turned and saw many of my family members. Every year, my family and I meet up with the rest of our relatives for a summer family reunion. I really like this tradition because I ride bikes ride golf carts, swim- and most impor-

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Ridge Wood students Makenna Strunk, left, and Alex Salah, both 9, wrote about their family holiday traditions. Strunk wrote about how every Christmas evening her mom gave her a new pair of pajamas and a book and Salah wrote about how his family wakes up Christmas morning, opens presents and then travels to visit his relatives.

tantly, roast marshmallows in the smoking fire with my cousins. Ally Eads, 9

It was a hot muggy summer day. The sun was shining bright through my bedroom window. I was so tired and hot it felt as my legs were steaming. I just wanted to sleep. "Come on were leaving without you!" My dad said. I knew automatically that he meant we were going to a picnic. This tradition is important to my family because my whole family gets to see each other The picnic food is always delicious and the best food is com soup. I like seeing my grandparents and cousins because I don't see them much during the year. Kevin Baghaie, 10

Every year, during winter break, my family and I go up north to Petoskey to ski. I get really excited to ski and hang out with my cousing Normally the first run of the ski scison is to sturt grinding or flying off the jumps in the terrain park. Sometimes I try spinning, but sometimes I fall and get a headache. I don't mind the headaches because after the terrain park I ski in Fu land. After two days of skiing I head home to Northville, I always look forward to break and our family tradition. JP Basford, 9

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"Three, two, one, GO!" The volume of the TV shakes the room. A rumble in the pit of my stomach and screeching in my ears, tells me that this is no ordinary race, it's the Daytona 500! This race is special because my whole family looks forward to it. We've made watching it a tradition. This race is the best because we get to be loud During commercials we dance and scream' One of the cool parts is seeing who won! If your guy won you have to jump up and down saving My guy wont" Finally,

after the race is over, it's dinnertime. That is why I love this, awesome tradition! Ryley Decker, 9

Luck O' the Irish

What else would be a better holiday tradition than having a birthday party, plus going to a St. Patrick's Day party! When we are there they announce only two birth dates and I always hear my name over the a microphone. I always bring a friend to come with me to celebrate my birthday. I like to do the Irish dance. When the Irish dancers kick for the grand finale you can barely see their sparkles. We go home after the party and I go straight to bed. I have a great birthday! I really think traditions keep families close over the years Alexandra Griffin, 9

Victoria Mitchell can be reached at (248) 349 1700 ext. 122 or venitel ell's gan ett com.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP **OF NORTHVILLE** NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSINGS

The Charter Township of Northville Administrative Offices will be closed on the following dates for the Holidays

Friday, December 15, 2006 at 2 00 pm (offices reopen on Monday, December 18th at 8 a m)

Monday, December 25, 2006 & Tuesday, December 26, 2006 (offices reopen on Wednesday, December 27th at 8 a m)

The Department of Public Safety (Police and Fire) will remain

Monday, January 1, 2007 . (offices reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd at 8 a m)

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Northville Record

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

Stop, think, then pay-as-you-go

A new town square in the middle of downtown Northville by next summer inched closer to reality this week as the city's financial gurus explained to local leaders how the project could be paid for with cash on-hand.

It's an interesting social commentary that paying for a project with saved --- rather than borrowed --- money seems an almost novel concept --- not the first option considered and wildly embraceable.

As presented, the benefits of the pay-as-yougo approach are many - most notably savings of bond finance costs and timing flexibility. But that doesn't mean a pay-as-you-go plan needs to become a hurry-up plan.

When exploring options to pay for a new town square, downtown development authority board members raised key questions about ensuring that this first step in downtown improvement plans includes a solid infrastructure for future project phases. And then there's consideration of ongoing maintenance costs related to improvements.

Creating a central gathering space — a magnetic, new downtown focal point --- emerged as a project the community wholeheartedly supports. City leaders should proceed thoughtfully, though, ensuring this cornerstone becomes a solid foundation on which to build toward longterm downtown vitality at the core of this effort.

Schools: Write on top



Record Thanks! Julie Cole and Northville's Great Harvest Bread Company will be putting together hundreds of gift baskets for corporations' thank-yous in this Christmas season.

ET T ER L

Feeding wildlife is the issue, not hunting

(In response to Dan and Nancy Lorigan's letter last week, "Hunting in the city?"): There are 1.5 million car deer accidents each year in the U.S. That is \$1 billion in damage to vehicles.

One-hundred and fifty human lives are lost each year and there are 10,000 personal injuries involving car-deer accidents.

Michigan is the second worst state for cardeer accidents.

This couple is only guilty of one thing: simple trespassing. They are not guilty of poaching. In order to be guilty of that you need to trespass and take game by an illegal method; bow hunting is not an illegal method. You can bow hunt Oct. 1-Nov. 14 and Dec 1-Jan 1. If there are no laws in the city or township prohibiting these actions, there has been no poaching.

Because the deer was harvested with the use of a bow, there is a claim that this is a "dangerous weapon." True, this is a dangerous weapon, but deer have been killed in the township with an automobile. I don't hear people wanting to ban automobiles. Automobiles are a dangerous weapon, too. A bow is only effective to about 80 yards, and this would be a totally safe method to harvest a deer in this community (as long as safe hunting practices were followed, and I'm sure that this couple did follow them). They didn't draw the bow on you. So the only thing in danger was the deer, not you. If they did draw a bow on you, you would have had the police file other charges. You didn't. After all, wasn't it a few short years ago that a deer trashed Garden Views? That was dangerous, too.

We go "almost daily to feed the deer, squirrel, fox and other wildlife. We feel this is a refuge for wild animals in Northville." The real shame is that you continue this practice of feeding the wildlife. These are wild animals. They are not your pets. They are wildlife and have lived here for years without your handouts. The only other shame is that our community has developed in the way that it has with little concern about the wildlife. In one section of the paper you call for the ordinances to be passed to stop the hunting of wildlife in Northville. Yet I think it would be fair, if such is passed, that there should be ordinances passed that would prohibit the feeding of wildlife with fines equal to those that would be assessed for people that harvest the wildlife.

If you feel that you must feed the animals, I'm sure that there are animal shelters in southeastern Michigan that would be happy with your contribution of food. But why not make a real difference and make a contribution of food to a food kitchen to feed homeless people of this area?

> **Dwight Wild** Northville

Stop school cuts now

After several years of minimal funding increases and funding cuts for public schools, it came as a relief that the State of Michigan increased its funding for K-12 education by \$210 per student last fall. Now, after elections are over and officials are safely on their way to Lansing, the groundwork is being laid for a reduction in funding to local school districts, forecasted to be \$180 a student. For Northville, that means a loss of over \$1million. While we would receive \$30 per student more than last year, this doesn't even begin to cover increases expenses for running the district.

If implemented, these cuts would come in early 2007. The effects of such a mid-year cut are particularly devastating. Budget, staffing, and hiring decisions are made in the summer to coincide with when the State forecasts how much money it will provide local districts. We are now halfway through the school year; staff has been hired, programs are in place and budgets have been adjusted. Trying to make changes at this point is particularly difficult and has an extremely disruptive impact upon our schools.

tating for Northville Public Schools. Over \$3 million has already been cut from the budget in recent years. Another \$2.5 million has been spent from the district's fund balance (rainy day fund) to offset prior state funding cuts. There is simply no room left for budget cuts without dramatically affecting the delivery of education to Northville's children.

What can you do? Contact the Governors' office, your local State Representative and tate Senator. Let them know that mid-year funding cuts are unacceptable. Telephone calls and e-mails really do make a difference. The campaign promises of lifting Michigan's economy through a commitment to excellent public education must be kept.

> Ken Roth President, Northville Board of Education

The 12 Days of Christmas for teachers

On the 12th day of Christmas, my students gave to me:

- 12 Hanging Ornaments
- 11 Books for reading
- 10 Pairs of socks
- 9 Boxes of Baked Goods
- 8 Frames for Photos
- 7 Scarves and Mittens 6 Generous Gift Cards
- 5 Coffee Mugs!!
- 4 Calling Cards 3 French Fry coupons
- 2 Chocolate Dove Bars
- And a CONTRACT under the tree!!
- Happy Holidays, dear teachers, and thanks for all you do!

Kudos and thanks to all the NHS choral and instrumental students and the music department staff for the wonderful holiday concert. I loved the songs by candlelight, and my kids can't stop laughing about the 12 days and the beat in "Happy Holidays." Keep up the great work!

At the Northville Public Schools board meeting last week, Winchester Elementary School Learning Consultant Jay Hillard gave a wonderful presentation highlighting the writing achievements enjoyed by the students and staff. Bettering student writing performance is one of Winchester's school improvement goals, which is the same with many other district buildings. It is pleasing to see the strides made and the emphasis placed on writing by Northville administrators, teachers and students. From elementary students writing about their favorite holiday traditions to high school students winning top writing honors, the effort shows throughout the community.

Some might see this timing as a natural byproduct of the State's flagging economy. The more cynical among us might see it as post-election politics.

Either way, mid-year cuts would be devas-

Kim Koilpillai Family Northville

What do you think?

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

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

Fax: (248) 349-9832.

E-mail: cstone@gannett.com.

Deadline: Letters must be received by noon on Tuesday to be published in the Thursday edition.

We need to lay a foundation for our state

Does Michigan's constitution, which celebrated its 43rd birthday this year, need a face lift? Citizens for Michigan. a newly reborn bipartisan group, thinks so - and last week called for a series of mostly sensible constitutional changes

Those suggestions include: • Increasing legislative term

limits, currently set at six years for Representatives and eight years for Senators, to 12 years.

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This makes perfect sense although abolishing the limits altogether would be even better. Term limits have turned out to be a bad idea from the time the voters adopted

them in 1992. Their net

effects have been to destroy institutional memory. eliminate the wisdom of experience, trigger a frenzy of campaigning for higher offices and encourage silly short-term thinking in Lansing about long-term issues.

• Banning out-of-state interests from proposing amendments to the constitution. Or, failing that, requiring that any such proposals be approved in two successive general elections.

This, too, is a good idea. Of all our nation's major states. Michigan is "by far" the easiest in which to propose constitution-

al amendments, according to John Axe, who chairs Citizens for Michigan and teaches law at Wayne State University. Michigan is

one of only 15 states that allow voter-initiated amendments to their constitutions. And we make it a lot easier to get things

on the ballot than

most of the rest. No matter how wacky any proposed amendment might be, all you have to do to get a statewide vote on it is to gather the valid signatures of a mere 10 percent of the number of votes cast for governor in the most recent election.

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For the next couple election cycles, that now comes to 380,125.

What that means is that Michigan is now an easy target for out-of- state groups looking to advance a cause.

Ward Connerly saw that, and rushed here to fight affirmative action. That, in fact, is also exactly how U. S. Term Limits, a Glenview, Ill.-based outfit, shoved term-limits down our throats, putting it on a statewide ballot back in 1992.

In addition to those points, Citizens for Michigan also called for gubernatorial appointment, instead of direct election, of members of the governing boards of the University of Michigan, Michigan State and Wayne State universities.

I'm somewhat conflicted about this proposal, having been elected years ago to serve on the U of M board. But over those years it's become increasingly tough for candidates to avoid damaging and irrelevant litmus tests imposed on them by the political conventions that select these nominees. Republicans must be anti-abortion, for example; Democrats, acceptable to the big unions.

This, Citizens for Michigan notes, really becomes a farce when electing members of higher education boards. Voters know virtually nothing about the candidates, their backgrounds and their stances on the issues. The result is an electoral crapshoot.

As for my opinion - on balance, appointing members of governing boards makes sense. There are a number of other suggestions made by the Citizens for Michigan group - most of them perfectly reasonable - including allowing local governments the ability to levy taxes for roads and mass transit systems. This introduces the possibility of multicounty or regional transportation departments instead of county road commissions.

But the larger question is whether actually to call a constitutional convention. The constitution approved in 1963 says that voters must be asked every 16 years whether they want a new constitutional convention. That next will be on the ballot in 2010. The Citizens for Michigan report says it is time for a convention and argues that the existing constitution needs a wholesale makeover that can only be done in full convention.

This, in my opinion, would be a bad idea.

Back in 1962, when delegates to the last constitutional convention were chosen, Michigan politics were managed by a set of very powerful and relatively reasonable godfathers: Walter Reuther, then president of the United Auto Workers union: and Neil Staebler and John Feikens. chairmen, respectively of the state Democratic and Republican parties.

There were also various powerful business leaders and others who belonged there. There were a few crazies back then, but they were effectively marginalized.

Things are vastly different today. Raging ideologues from all sides infest the Michigan political environment. There are ultra-liberals and hard rightwingers. Right to Lifers and those who want reparations paid to the descendants of slaves. Worse, we lack powerful, centrist political leaders who can shut the crazies up and keep them from doing damage at any constitutional convention.

The amount of mischief that could be done to our relatively benign constitution is enormous. Far better to persuade the legislature to put the sensible amendments Citizens for Michigan is promoting on the ballot without risking a no-holds-barred convention.

That said, the Citizens for Michigan report is a valuable contribution to our public dialogue in that it goes well beyond mere baby steps and speaks to consequential matters.

We need far more such discussions if we are to invent and adopt a far-reaching restructuring plan that can help lay the foundation for a vibrant and more prosperous Michigan in the future. Which is exactly what we have to do.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan, and was a regent of the University of Michigan from 1987 to 1999. He is also president and founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate thinkand-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 ppower@hcnnet.com.

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Phil Power



NORTHVILLE **EVENTS**

Northville Civic Concern Donations

DETAILS: Century 21 Town & Country is collecting food items, naper products, cleaning supplies, baby products, and personal hygiene items at their office between the hours of 9 a.m.-7 pm. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m-6 p m. Friday, and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday through Dec. 30.

CONTACT: Amy Zubor, (248) 736-0443 or Marlene Kunz, (248) 344-1033

Art Walk

DATE: First Friday of every month

TIME: 5-9 p.m. LOCATION: Downtown

Northville DETAILS: Art galleries, arts and crafts stores and restaurants will be open; art demonstrations and

exhibits available in shops. CONTACT: Tom James, Gallery of Fine Arts, (248) 349-0105

Guys Night Out

DATE: Tonight LOCATION: Downtown

Northville DETAILS: Late night shopping for her perfect gift. Presented by the Northville Central Business Association.

Northville Nite - New Year's Eve

DATE: Sunday, Dec. 31 TIME: 4:30-8 p.m. LOCATION: Hillside Recreation Center

DETAILS: Celebrate New Year's Eve with your entire family with a full line up of activities for all ages. There will be giant inflatable games, putt-putt, face painting, Home Depot crafts, and much more. Tickets are \$5 for adults (13 and up), \$10 forchildren three to 12, and \$2 for one-two year olds. Tickets are on sale at the Parks and Recreation Department, 700 W. Baseline Road

CONTACT: (248) 349-0203

Northville Arts Commission **Exhibit Opening**

DATE: Friday, Jan. 5 TIME: 5:30-8:30 p.m. 'LOCATION: Northville Art House

DETAILS: This exhibit will showcase local talent and will run through Jan. 21. CONTACT: (248) 344-0497

Snow White and The Seven **Dwarfs**

TIME/DATES: 2:30 p.m. Saturdays through Jan. 20. No shows on Christmas or New Year's Eve, continuing Sundays from Jan. 7-21. Special matinees at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, Dec. 26-29

DETAILS: Tickets are \$8 per person, and please no children under the age of three.

Genitti's Little Theater

LOCATION: 108 E. Main St. CONTACT: (248) 349-0522 or www.genittis.com "Holiday Health Spa" DATE: December DETAILS: Genitti's will be open for lunch and dinner theater everyday, and evening, in December. Please call for details. Genitti's Acting Workshops DATE: We will open any date for 10 or more. DETAILS: Enjoy our famous family style lunch or dinner, then practice voice and body movement with one of our actors on stage. Play theater games. Take a backstage tour. \$16.95 per per-

Maybury State Park & Farm LOCATION: Eight Mile Road,

son. Everyone gets a Genitti's fun

patch.

between Beck and Napier roads CONTACT: (248) 349-8390 NOTE: The Maybury Farm will be closed through Feb. 28, 2007

LIBRARY LINES

LOCATION: 212 W. Cady St., near Northville City Hall, parking off Cady Street

TIMÉ/DAY: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday-Saturday; and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

closed Dec. 24, Dec. 25, Dec. 26, Dec. 31, Jan. 1, and Jan. 2. CONTACT: For information or to register for programs and request or renew library materials, (248) 349-3020

DETAILS: The Friends Store, located inside the library, offers a **Book Donations** DETAILS: Used books and materials are needed by the

deductible. If you need assistance unloading books from your car,

Alhambra and sat with students for photos and listened to their Christmas wishes.

variety of gifts for all ages. All pro-, Donations for the dinner and con- - ceeds benefit the library. Cert are suggested at \$10, or just \$5 if only attending the concert.

> the Christian Life Center. **Divorce Recovery Workshop** TIME/DAY: 7:30-9 p.m.

LOCATION: Emeritus Room DETAILS: This seven week workshop will cover a range of

CONTACT: (248),374-5966. . . MOPs (Mothers of Preschoolers)

DATE: First and third Thursday of the month; Resumes Jan. 4. TIME: 7-9 p.m. LOCATION: Room C307-309

DETAILS: MOPs is an international organization that provides support and encouragement for mothers of young children. Meet other moms like you and share

Healing-Service - - - - - -----DATE: First Monday of every month

TIME: 4 p.m. Suicide Loss Support Group DATE: Second Thursday and Fourth Monday of every month TIME: 7-8:30 p.m.

DETAILS: New Hope Center for Grief Support is offering this support group to those who have lost a loved one to suicide.

Monday and Thursday Pinochle (single deck) LOCATION: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday LOCATION: Recreation Center and Hillside

DETAILS: All levels of play are

CONTACT: Northville Parks and Recreation, (248) 449-9947

Thursdays

Center

is \$1.00

DATE: Monday-Friday TIME: 8-10 a.m. LOCATION: Senior Community

MILL RACE MATTERS

Mill Race Historical Village LOCATION: 215 Griswold

Avenue, north of Main Street, near Ford Field

DETAILS: Office Hours Mon-Fri 9 a.m.-1p.m.; Archives Open Thu-Fri 9 a.m.-1 p.m. CONTACT: (248) 348-1845

Thursday: 9 a.m. Archives open; 7 p.m. Northville Historical

Society Meeting Friday: Office & Archives

Closed Sunday: 10 a.m. Mill Creek Church

Monday: Christmas Day-Closed Tuesday: Office Closed Wednesday: Office Closed; 6:45 p.m. Mindfulness Meditation;

7 p.m. Mill Creek Church

Grounds closed to the public

LOOKING FOR

Susan B. Galli Angel Fund DETAILS: Hidden Springs

Veterinary Clinic has created a fund to assist families in need with medical expenses for their pets. The fund is in memory of one of their long time clients and friends, Sue Galli, that passed away in November. Hidden Springs welcomes all donations from the community to help build this fund, and help as many pets as possible. Please make checks payable to Hidden Spring Vet Clinic SGA Fund, and mail to: 48525 W. Eight Mile Road, Northville, MI 48167. CONTACT: (248) 349-2598

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Northville Record

Note: The Library will be

Friends Store

Friends of the Library. The library contributes to the collection and donates the rest to the Friends for sale, with proceeds benefiting the library. Donations are tax

Santa visits Santa Claus meets with Old Village student Matthew Holycross last Friday afternoon. Santa was invited to the school by Northville's Shriner's No. 217 Order of

Card and game playing will also be held in the Gathering area by

Thursday

Co-ed Adult 50+ Voileyball TIME/DAYS: 10 a.m.-noon,

welcome. Bring your friends. Cost is \$1.00

Co-ed Adult 50+ Basketball

TIME/DAY: 10 a.m.-noon,

LOCATION: Senior Community

DETAILS: All levels of play are welcome. Bring your friends. Cost

CONTACT: Northville Parks and Recreation, (248) 449-9947

Health Walking

Center gym, 303 W. Main St.

Sherrus Gallery "Painters' Play-Act II"

DATE: Friday, Jan. 5 TIME: 6-9 p.m. LOCATION: Sherrus Gallery of

Fine Art

DETAILS: This will be a one night performance of three unique artists demonstrating the creation of their work. Guests will be able to converse with the artists and participate in a silent auction to obtain the original art. The exhibit and sale of the featured artists' work will run through Jan. 31.

CONTACT: (248) 380-0470

Country Garden Club of Northville

DATE: Tuesday, Jan. 9 TIME: noon

LOCATION: Mill Race Village DETAILS: The Garden Club will meet on the second Tuesday of the month due to the New Year's holiday. Speaker Margaret Converse will cover the four seasons of wildflowers.

CONTACT: Sue Witek, (248) 349-7783

Novi Choralaires Auditions

DATE: Tuesday, Jan. 9 TIME: 7:30-9:30 p.m. DETAILS: All voice parts are welcome to audition for this chorus that is made up of men and women from Novi, Northville, and the surrounding community. The group rehearses September through May on Tuesday evenings and holds a series of Christmas concerts as well as a Spring concert.

CONTACT: Dick Bayerl, (248) 349-3267

Marguis Theatre

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LOCATION: 135 E. Main St. CONTACT: (248) 349-8110 or www.northvillemarquistheatre.com

call (248) 349-3020 in advance to make arrangements.

Movies & Munchies for Kids DATE: Wednesday, Dec. 27 TIME: noon

DETAILS: Kids of all ages are invited to bring a sack lunch and enjoy a movie. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Children ages four and under must be accompanied with a caregiver. Parents or cargiver of children four and over must remain in the Library during the program. Library Board of Trustee

Meetings

DATE: Fourth Thursday of every month TIME: 7:30 p.m. DETAILS: Open to the public.

<u>CHURCH</u> **EVENTS**

First Presbyterian Church of Northville

LOCATION: 200 E. Main St. CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 **Single Place Events** CONTACT: www.singleplace.org St. Mary Hospital Night TIME/DATE: 6 p.m. Tonight **DETAILS: A special Single Place** dinner will be held in the cafeteria at St. Mary's. The cost is \$5, and reservations must be made by noon, Tuesday, Dec. 19, by calling the church office. A sign-up sheet will be available at Single Place, and all reservations must be honored.

Christmas caroling through the halls of St. Mary's will begin at 7 p.m., starting at the Five Mile Road entrance. **Dinner-Light & Lively Concert-Games** TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Dec. 28 DETAILS: A casual dinner will be followed with a concert by Julie Firth. Reservations for the dinner must be made by noon on Dec.28 by calling the church office.

topics presented by a variety of speakers. The cost is \$35 per person including the book, "Growing Through Divorce". Childcare will be available for toddlers through children in sixth grade with registration at least two weeks before the workshop begins. Upcoming topics are: Networking/Midlife Crisis, Jan. 11, presented by Pastor Jim

Russel Stages of Grief, Jan. 18, pre-

sented by J. Harold Ellens, Ph D. Putting Your "Ex" in Focus, Jan. 25, presented by Dell

Deaton.

Walking Group TIME: 11:30 a.m. LOCATION: First, second and fourth Saturday, Big Apple Bagel Shop, 2334 Farmington Road, Farmington; Third Saturday, Panera Bread Co., 34635 Grand River Ave., Farmington DETAILS: This is a walking/social group. Everyone is invited.

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene

LOCATION: 21260 Haggerty Rd.

CONTACT: (248) 348-7600 Sunday School: 9:30 a m. Sunday Worship: 10.50 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study, Youth

& Children Ministries: 7 p.m. **Organizing Your Life** TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 10

- DETAILS: The class is free and
- all are welcome to attend. Internet Safety TIME/DATES: 7 p.m. Jan. 17,

24, 31 DETAILS: This class will offer practical help to keep your family safe on the Internet. The class is free and open to all.

Ward Evangelical **Presbyterian Church**

LOCATION: 40000 Six Mile Road

experiences. Speakers present topics relevant to you and your role as a mom. MOPs is about celebrating motherhood, meeting needs, making connections, experiencing God's love. Leave feeling valued, pampered and recharged.

CONTACT: Keli Plansinis, atplavintennis@comcast.net or Women's Ministries (248) 374-5978

WOW Tuesdays

DATE: Tuesdays; Resumes Jan. 9

TIME: 9.30-11:30 a m. LOCATION: Chapel, NE corner of church

DETAILS: WOW Tuesdays offer seven different classes, four new. Something for everyone, bible veterans or wanting to learn more. Small groups enable richer, deeper understanding of God's Word, and how we can apply it to our every day lives. 20s and 30s Women's Bible

Study DATE: Tuesday evenings;

Starts Jan. 16 TIME: 7-8:30 p.m. LOCATION: Room C317-319 DETAILS: Study Scriptures in this twelve week program through "Breaking Free," a video series by Beth Moore. Reserve workbook. CONTACT: Women's Ministries (248) 374-5978 **Single Adults** DATE: Sunday TIME: 11:30 a.m. CONTACT: (248) 374-5920 College Age DATE: Sunday TIME: 10:20 a.m. CONTACT: Mark Tarpinian, (248) 347-3525

First United Methodist Church

LOCATION: 777 W. Eight Mile Road CONTACT: (248) 349-1144

Sunday Worship DETAILS: 8, 9:15, 11 a m., and 5 p.m.

Registration is not required.

CONTACT: New Hope Center for Grief Support, (248) 348-0115 or www.newhopecenter.net

SENIOR **EVENTS**

Thursday 9 a.m.: Take Off Pounds Sensibly 9 30 a.m : Yoga 12:30 p m.: Pinochie 1 p.m.: Tai Chi; Computer 1 By appointment: Chair Massage Friday 9:30 a.m.: Focus Hope and Liquid Nutrition Distribution 10 a.m.: Strength Training 11 a m.: Poker 11 a.m.: Computer II 1 p.m.: Movie-Miracle on 34th Street Monday

Christmas Day

Senior Center Closed Tuesday Senior Center Closed Wednesday Foot Reflexology by Appointment 9 a.m.: Strength Training 10 a.m.: Oxycise 11 a.m.: Oxycise New Enrollees noon: Bridge 1 p.m.: Computer I Class

Board Games

DATE: Tuesday, ongoing TIME: 1 p.m. LOCATION: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St. CONTACT: (248) 349-4140

Ongoing Card Games

Bridge TIME/DAY: 12:30 p.m., Monday

Euchre TIME/DAY: noon-3:30 p.m., Wednesday Pinochle (double deck) TIME/DAY: 12:30-4:30 p.m.,

Northville Colts Football

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DETAILS: The Colts are expanding their teams in 2007 and are looking for good people with a willingness to serve as coaches and Board of Directors. The organization is currently made up of teams in the brackets as follows: Freshman, ages eight to 10; Junior Varsity, ages11-12; and Varsity, ages 13-14, also cheerleaders in these age groups.

CONTACT: www.northvillecolts.com and click on "Contact Hs '

Northville Newcomers and Neighbors

DETAILS: This group is for residents of Northville and surrounding communities. Activities include monthly coffees, various interest groups and special programs. New and potential members are welcome. CONTACT: Nancy Murphy, (248) 305-5460

Mentor Volunteers

DETAILS: The Oakland County Youth Assistance is looking for volunteers for their Mentor Plus program. Training and orientation sessions will be held at the Oaldand County Courthouse, 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac. TIME/DATE: 9 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 13 CONTACT: (248) 858-0041

continued on next page

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continued from page 13

Anxiety Disorder Support Group

TIME/DAY: 7:30 p.m. Thursday, weekty LOCATION: Faith Lutheran

Church, 30000 Five Mile Road, Livonia

DETAILS: A.I.M. (Aim for Recovery) is an organization that will be holding meetings to offer support and recovery for those suffering with anxiety disorders, and their families. The meetings consist of planned behavioral lessons and discussions. Educational material will be available. Donations for the program and materials are accepted.

CONTACT: Robert Diedrich at robtddrich@msn com

New Hope Center for Grief Support

DETAILS: The Center offers age and loss groups specific to men, women, and children. Groups are offered on an on-going basis, and at no cost to participants. CONTACT: (248)-348-0115, or

vist www.newhopecenter.net

YWCA of Western Wayne County

DETAILS: The YWCA is looking for volunteers to assist with office help, after-school programs, building projects, communications, and marketing in its various locations throughout western Wayne County. They are also offering internships for college students in communications, media relations, and computer information service. Additional opportunities are available in early childhood education, and education administration.

CONTACT: Tabatha Manuel, (313) 561-4110, ext. 20, or tmanuel@ywca-wwc.org

Meals-On-Wheels

DATE: Ongoing TIME: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. DETAILS: Permanent and substitute drivers are needed. CONTACT: Elieen at Allen Terrace, (248) 231-9950, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday through Friday or Judy LaManna, (248) 348-1761

Northville Downtown **Development Authority** Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, Jan. 16 TIME: 8 a.m. LOCATION: City Council Chambers, 215 West Main St. DETAILS: All are welcome to attend the monthy meeting of the DDA CONTACT: (249) 349-0345 or go to Downtownnorthville.com

Camera Club

DATE: Second Tuesday of every month CONTACT: Tom James of Northville Camera at northvillecamera@sbcglobal.net, or Northville

Arts Commission DATE: Second Wednesday of

every month TIME: 7:30 p.m. LOCATION: Art House, 215 W. Cady St.

Beautification Commission

DATE: Second Tuesday of every month

Christmas **Service Schedule**

First Presbyterian of Northville

200 E. Main Street, Northville (248) 349-0911 Christmas Eve: 9:30 & 11 a.m.; 5 p.m. Family, 7, 9, & 11 p.m. Candlelight

St. Paul Lutheran

201 Elm St. (248) 349-3140 Christmas Eve: 10 a.m.; 8 & 10 p.m. Christmas Day: 10 a.m.

First United Methodist Church 777 W. Eight Mile Road (248) 349-1144 Christmas Eve: 10 a.m., 4 p.m. Children's, 6 p.m. Contemporary, 8:30 p.m. Festive, & 11 p.m.

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene 21260 Haggerty Road (248) 348-7600 Christmas Eve: 10:50 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Candlelight

Ward Evangelical **Presbyterian Church** 40000 Six Mile Road (248) 374-5966 Christmas Eve: 9 & 10:20 a.m.; 4, 5:30, & 7 p.m.

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church 770 Thayer Boulevard (248) 349-2621 Christmas Eve: 7:30, 9, & 11 a.m., 4 p.m. Children's, 6 p.m. & Midnight Christmas Day: 9 & 11 a.m.

Northville Christian

Assembly 41335 Six Mile Road (248) 348-9030 Christmas Eve: 6 p.m. **Carols & Candles**

**** First Baptist Church 217 N. Wing St. (248) 348-1020 Christmas Eve: 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

> **Oak Pointe Church** 50200 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi (248) 912-0043 Dec. 23: 5:15 p.m. Christmas Eve: 9:15 &

TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Northville City Hall, 215 W. Main St., Meeting Room B

Housing Commission

DATE: Second Wednesday of every month TÍME: 3 pm. LOCATION: Allen Terrace, 401 High St.

Youth Assistance

DATE: Second Tuesday of every month TIME: 8 a m. LOCATION: Youth Assistance office, 775 N. Center St. CONTACT: (248) 344-1618

Parks and Recreation

Commission DATE: Second Wednesday of every month TIME: 7 p.m. LOCATION: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St.

PARKS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES

LOCATION: 775 N. Center St., back entrance of Hillside Middle School

CONTACT: For registration and information on camps, classes and activities, (248) 349-0203 or visit

www.northvilleparksandrec.org

Winter Youth Basketball

DATE: Saturday, January 20-March 10

DETAILS: Registration until leagues are full. A \$10 late fee will be assessed on all registrations after Nov. 17. There will be leagues for girls in grades sixtheighth, and grades ninth-12. The leagues for boys will be grades eight and nine,10-12

CONTACT: (248) 349-0203, extension #1405

Adult Coaches Needed

DETAILS: Coaches are needed for Northville Parks and Recreation's winter youth basketball leagues. CONTACT: Dave DeMattos, (248) 349-0203, extension #1405

Open Basketball

DATE: Every Sunday TIME: 6-9 p.m. LOCATION: Senior Community Center, 303 W. Main St. DETAILS: The fee is \$3 per person.

Open Basketball, 40 and Over DATE: Wednesdays through Dec.

27 TIME: 8-10 p.m.

LOCATION: Senior Community Center DETAILS: The fee is \$3 per per-

Open Volleybali

SON.

TIME/DATE: 7-10 p.m., Thursdays; 10 a.m-2 p.m., Saturdays, Sept-April LOCÁTION: Recreation Center at Hillside

DETAILS: There is a fee of \$3 per person for Thursday, and \$4 per person for Saturday.

Open Badminton

DATE: Every Tuesday and Friday TIME: 7-9:30 p.m. LOCATION: Halside Recreation Center, 700 W. Baseline Road DETAILS: Competitive style badmir ton is available. All skill levels are welcome. The cost is \$7 per night.

Table Tennis

TIME/DAY: 6-10 p.m., Monday and noon-4 p.m., Saturday LOCATION: Hillside Recreation Center, 700 W. Baseline Road

DETAILS: Eight tables are available. All skill levels are welcome. The cost is \$4 per day.

REGIONAL

Plymouth Symphony **Orchestra Holiday Gift Pack** DETAILS: Tickets to two concerts for one low price of \$30 can be purchased through tomorrow, Dec. 22. The concerts are "Brahms & Bolcom", Saturday, Feb. 10 and "Sunday Seranade", April 1. For more informatio and to purchase tickets, call (734) 451-2112.

Diamond Center New Year's Eve Gala

TIME/DATE: 8 p m , Dec. 31

LOCATION: Rock Financial Showplace, Novi

DETAILS: Persons 21 and older are invited to celebrate New Year's Eve with this evening complete with hors d'oreuvres, four-course dinner, dessert, open bar, champagne at midnight, pizza and snack bar, and entertainment by Steve King and the Dittlies. Tickets are \$90 per person. Tables of 10 are available for \$850. Reservations are required.

CONTACT: (248) 348-5600, ext. 200

Grief Support for Widows

DATE: Sunday, Jan. 7 TIME: 2-3:30 p.m. LOCATION: Prince of Peace Parish, 4300 Walnut Lake Road, West Bloomfield

DETAILS: The Archiocese of Detroit group Widowed Friends is offering a six week program covering the phases of grief, dealing with loneliness and coping with the loss of a spouse. A \$20 fee payable at the first meeting covers all materials. Register before Jan. 4.

CONTACT: Mary Ann, (248) 681-9424

Swing City Big Band Concerts

TIME/DATES: 8 p.m. Jan. 5; 8 p.m. Feb. 10; 8 p.m. Mar. 31 LOCATION: Village Theater at

Cherry Hill, Canton

DETAILS: A 19 piece band brings back the music of the 1940's big band era for listening and dancing enjoyment. There will be door prizes and an open dance floor. Tickets are \$12 per person. CONTACT: (734) 394-5460 or

www.cantonmi.org/villagetheater/index.asp for tickets:

swingcity_bigband@yahoo.com or www.swingcitybigband.org for more information on the band.

Italian Language Class Registration

DATE: Tuesday, Jan. 16 LOCATION: Italian American Club, 39200 Five Mile Road, Livonia

DETAILS: The Italian American Cultural Committee will offer Italian language classes for 10 weeks beginning Jan. 30 and 31 for adults, and Feb. 3 for children. Beginning and Intermediate classes will be offered depending on the

number and type of students registered. The cost is \$75, plus books, for adults and \$50, plus books, for children.

CONTACT: Gianna Prokop, (734) 953-1137 - press 2 twice with the automated answering system.

Angela Hospice Groups

DETAILS: Grief support groups include general grief, loss of a spouse, women's grief, heartstrings: parents who have lost a child and a gnef support quilter's group. All groups are led by bereavement professionals and trained volunteers. LOCATION: Angela Hospice Care Center, 14100 Newburgh Road,

Livonia CONTACT: Joan Lee, (734) 953-6012

Business Networking International

TIME/DAY: 7-8:30 a.m. every Thursday LOCATION: Eastern Michigan

University, Livonia Campus, 38777 W. Six Mile Road, Suite 400

DETAILS: Visitors are welcome to all meetings. Reservations required. CONTACT: Jim Green, (248) 345-3302

Great Books Discussion Group

TIME/DAY: First and Third Thursday of every month. LOCATION: Livonia Civic Center

Libray, Five Mile and Farmington Roads DETAILS: Discuss novels, plays,

poetry, and non-fiction. CONTACT: (248) 349-3121

Master Gardener Association DAY: Second Thursday of every

Environmental Interpretive Center at

University of Michigan-Dearborn

campus, 4901 Evergreen Road,

between Ford Road and Michigan

DETAILS: Metroparks and

Oakland County Parks are offering a

dual park pass. The annual cost is

\$43 and can be purchased at any

CONTACT: (800) 477-3178 or

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Avenue.

Park Pass

park office.

www.metroparks.com

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TIME: 7 p.m.

DETAILS: Meet at the

the northwest corner of the

Arts Commission, (248) 449-9950

11:15 a.m.

Disc Herniat

New FDA Approved Technology Treats Herniated Discs Without Drugs or Surgery

Suburban Detroit - A new free report has recently been released that reveals an amazing new medical breakthrough that has proven 86% successful treating debilitating back pain. Even with multiple herniated discs. Find out how space travel solved astronauts back pain and how this accidental discovery has let to the most promising back pain treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" call 1-800-469-3618 and listen to the toll-free 24 hr. recorded message for all the details. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.midischerniation.com

SYNOPSIS **DECEMBER 14, 2006** SPECIAL MEETING **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Thursday, December 14, 2006 DATE: TIME: 7:30 p.m. 44405 Six Mile Road PLACE: CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Abbo called the meeting at 7:30 P.M. PRESENT: Mark Abbo, Supervisor, Sue Hillebrand, Clerk, Richard Henningsen, Treasurer, Marjone Banner, Trustee, Marv Gans, Trustee, Christopher Roosen, Trustee and Brad Werner, Trustee.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

1. Agenda:

- Approve Special Meeting/Study Session Agenda Change item 5.A to 5 D.
- Presentations, Resolutions Appointments, Announcements:
 - Dick Allen reappoint to Planning Commission approved. Donaid Samhat reappoint to ZBA approved. Brian Doren reappoint to ZBA approved.
 - 8.
 - C.
 - D. Mike Putman - reappoint to Parks & Recreation - approved.
- E. Brad Werner reappoint as Llaison to Senior Cruzens Advisory Council approved. Brief Public Comments & Questions; None.
- Study Session Business:
 - Renaissance Strategies Closed session.
 - 8. Board Packets - discussion
- Campaign Finance Reform (local)- removed no action taken.
- Any other business or public comment for the Board of Trustees: - various board comments - no action taken.
- Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M. 6.

(12-21-06 NR 328732)

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED SUE A. HILLEBRAND, CMC





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SAVVY SENIOR - VOLUNTEERING

Dear Savvy Senior, I am interested in doing some volunteer work when I retire next year but I want to find something meaningful to do. Do you have any recommendations on how to find interesting volunteer opportunities? Looking Ahead

Dear Looking,

Volunteering is a great way for retirees to stay socially connected as well as make a positive contribution to their community - but how can you find the right opportunity to satisfy your needs and interests? Here are some tips that may help.

The Right Fit

For many retirees, figuring out and finding the right kind of volunteer work is a lot like finding the right job or career. Remember what that was like? Depending on how serious you are, it will likely take some work

and persistence, and you may even go through several volunteer jobs before finding one you like. To get started, here are some questions to ask yourself that may help point you in the right direction.

• What inspires you? (It might sound obvious, but few volunteers actually take time to reflect on what really matters to them.) •What types of activities are

you interested in? How much time can you give - once a week, a few times a month, or every so often?

 What kind of skills can you bring to a volunteer organization?

· What types of new skills or knowledge (if any) would you like to acquire?

· Where and how do you want to serve?

· What do you want to gain from your experience (for example, meet new people, learn new skills, help those in need, exposure to a particular issue)?

Savvy Tip

While most nonprofit organizations need and want volunteers, they likely haven't thought of every way possible that they might use an individual's donated time and skills. If you have a unique idea or special skill you'd like to offer, talk with the organization you're interested in. You may be able to create you own volunteer position.

Getting Started

A good resource to help you start your volunteer search is the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that recently launched a national volunteer awareness and recruitment campaign called "Get Involved," At

www.getinvolved.gov (or call 800-424-8867), you'll find helpful tips on how to choose volunteer work that best suits your interests, skills and availability. And, through their partnership

with the USA Freedom Corps Volunteer Network, you can search their massive database of over 2.3 million volunteer opportunities - many of which are available right in your own community. Most of the opportunities are flexible so you can volunteer when your schedule allows.

More Help

Here are some additional groups and Web sites to help you explore your options and find your volunteering niche. • Volunteer Match (www.volunteermatch org): A great Web resource for finding volunteer opportunities in your community to match your areas of interest. · United Way (www.united-

way.org): Click on the "Volunteer" button to find oppor-

tunities in your area.

David J. Boyd, AAMS CFP

117 East Dunlap Northville, ML 48167

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" books.

 I-800-VOLUNTEER (www.1-800-volunteer.org): This is another good site for finding volunteer positions nationwide. Hands On Network

(www.handsonnetwork.org): A volunteer clearinghouse that serves more than 50 communities around the country. They offer a broad range of activities and projects to choose from.

 Experience Corps (www.experiencecorps.org):

Offers new adventures in service for people over 55 - currently available in 14 cities.

 Next Chapter Initiative (www.civicventures.org/nextchap ter): Offers publications, resources and a directory of centers across the country, many of which offer retirees guidance on volunteering.

Healthy Choice

Volunteering has more benefits than you may realize. Through volunteer service, you not only strengthen and improve the quality of life within your community, you can also help yourself and others to live happier, healthier and more productive lives. In fact, several studies suggest that seniors who volunteer regularly actually live longer and have fewer medical problems.

EVEN IF THINGS AT FORD ARE UP IN THE AIR, YOU CAN STILL KEEP YOUR **RETIREMENT ON SOLID GROUND.**

For those who work in the auto indu-try it's easy to feel like events are out of your control lately. So it's essential to consider every financial decision carefully.

Edward Jones can help. We'll start by getting to know your goals. Then we'll sort through your current situation and work with you face-to-face to develop a strategy that can help you keep your retirement on track.

To make sense of your retirement alternatives, call today.









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16A NORTHVILLE RECORD Thursday December 21, 2006



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SENSING CHANGE: Holiday visits time to check health of elderly relatives

By Maureen Johnston RECORD STAFF WRITER

Anna Mary Vollick's sons, Ken and Dale, reside only a few minutes away

They frequently see their 89-yearold mother, handling her finances and chauffeuring her weekly salon appointment. Christmas will mean a short trip from Wynwood of Northville to share holiday dinner with three generations of familiar faces.

But, for many local families, a Christmas reunion is an overdue update on an elderly parent's condition.

"It's when the family is home for the holidays they see how much the parent has declined," said Marie Policelli, owner of Comfort Keepers, in-home care agency. They'll be taken aback because Mom or Dad don't complain. They're surprised they need help. "it's when we get crazy busy."

Really OK?

As operators of Comfort Keeper franchises in Northville and Ann Arbor, Policelli said she and her husband, Kim, connect caregivers with clients in need of temporary after-hospital care or regular visits.

"A lot of them don't live in Michigan or they're busy working full-time," she said.

Parents might not require a nursing home or assisted living. Policelli said, but an in-home companion could help keep them safe and healthy in their own home for years.

A hectic pace, considerable distance or specialized needs often prevent adult children from providing the care themselves, Policelli said, When they gather for the holidays, they may first notice the change in a parent's condition.

"It's something we should actually be watching out for - we should be in tune to these things," Policelli said. "If Mom and Dad are living on their own, you need to have your eyes wide open.

'You need to see for yourself: Are things really OK? Because all it takes is one fall, one broken hip."

Tough decision

A year ago, Vollick fell in her Redford home, suffering from a diabetic stroke. During her hospital recuperation, her sons decided to move her into the Six Mile Road assisted-care facility.

Vollick said she resisted her son's suggestions to sell her house for years, despite a series of strokes.

"I'm really independent," said Vollick, an artist, a former school board member and now president of Wynwood's resident council. "I have been all my life."

Their invitation to dinner turned into a trip to her new home. Her family packed her belongings, moved furniture and filled the apartment walls with her paintings.

"One side of my brain says, "This is a very good idea," she said. "The other side says, 'I miss my car and my house."

"I took to it," she said. "Everything is done for me."

That sixth sense

Travis Havens, Wynwood executive director, said moving a parent into the assisted-care facility can be an emotional transition.

Consideration may begin when a parent wanders outside, falls or leaves the stove on, rather than waiting to make the decision on the heels of a crisis

Those are the toughest times the family members aren't ready, the resident's not ready."

How smooth the move is depends on how well-prepared and educated the family members are, he said.

"I would encourage the families to go do their homework," Havens said, citing children who visit the



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Northwite

Anna Mary Vollick, 89, a resident of Northville Township's Wynwood community, will enjoy time with her family during the holiday season.

facility, meet the staff and research the community. Residents join peers with similar

concerns and opportunities to socialize in a safe, comfortable environment, Havens said.

"A lot of the time it is the family members who have a tougher time. he said. "They have a lot of feelings brought on by the decision.

They have to come to grips with what's the best for their loved ones."

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

Using your five senses

Comfort Keepers, 143 Cadycentre, suggests the following tips for children to evaluate their elderly loved one's changing needs:

1. Sight: Check your loved one's appearance, and that of their home.

is the house orderly and clean? Mail being managed? Plants watered? Maintaining basic personal grooming habits? Bathing, brushing teeth, hair clean and brushed, wearing clean clothing? Still enjoying extras such as wearing make-up?

2. Sound: Take the time to really listen to how your loved one is speaking, whether they're slurring or losing context. Are they speaking normally? Do they hear you when you speak to them? Do they know and call you and your family by name? Are they aware of local news, world news? Do they still enjoy outside activities? Do they have or talk about friends, future plans or goals?

3. Smell: This sense is an accurate indicator of many things -- decline in personal grooming habits, home maintenance, proper and safe nutrition. Are there unpleasant odors in the house? Is the refrigerator clean and odor-free? Is all garbage in a proper receptacle outside of the home?

4. Taste: Is your elderly loved one property feeding himself or herself or safely managing medications? Are pantries reasonably stocked? Check expiration dates. Evaluate freshness of anything that looks questionable to you.

Are there new or different prescriptions? Are they from more than one pharmacy? Are they

paying attention to expiration dates?

5. Touch: A simple hug can alert you to abnormal weight loss or increasing fragility, which can be indicators of declining health, immediate health issues, or lack of proper nourishment. Does your loved one look healthy? Does their skin feel soft and appear normal in color? Any unusual bruising or skin abrasions?

Source: www.comfortkeepers.com

Residence options

Home, with contracted care.

· Assisted living: promotes maximum independence for each resident through a combination of supportive services and assistance, such as help with eating, bathing, dressing and personal hygiene, supervision of self-administration of medications, laundry service, housekeeping, and 24-hour staffing.

 Independent living: residential setting for elderly or senior adults that may or may not provide hospitality or supportive services. Under this living arrangement, the senior adult leads an independent lifestyle requiring minimal or no extra assistance.

• Nursing home: 24-hour medical care. Considerations for deciding on residential options include: whether assistance is needed for walking, bathing, eating, toileting and medicating; mobility; memory; pets; oxygen; tube feeding; vision/sight; hearing and budget.

Source: www.senior-community.net



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Hours:

Sat..... 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sun /Holidays.....9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



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Gavin Schonfeld June 23, 2006 Wyandotte Hospital Bryce & Angela

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Include a SASE if you would like your photo returned.

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Northville bowling preview ... page 3B

Northville hockey fires in nine goals in two-game span; Competitive Cheer preview ... page 3B



www.northvillerecord.com

'STANGS DUNK 'CATS

Sports

Thursday, December 21, 2006

J BULOVA

Northville Watch & Clock Shop

132 N. Dunlap Iowa Northville + 245-349-4938

By Jeff Theisen RECORD SPORTS WRITER

Northville senior guard Alvin Storrs slammed the door shut on a border-war classic at home against Novi on Friday. The Mustangs improve to 2-0 with a 51-45 victory against the Wildcats (2-2).

Storrs scored 14 of his game-high 27 points in the fourth quarter. sending the Mustang crowd into a frenzy at one point with a



dunk off a turnover.

"It was a beautiful thing to be a part of," Storrs said. "It's fun to win. It's fun to beat anybody." Novi led by five at the half, but

the Mustangs outscored the Wildcats 14-6, taking a 29-26 lead into the fourth.

The game came down to a thrilling finish after Brandon Bradford hit a 3-pointer to tie the game with about 45 seconds left.

Mike Rogers retaliated with a bucket for Northville before the game took a wild twist in the final seconds.

Novi tried to work the ball inside, but Storrs jumped in front of the pass for the steal. He worked a couple of dribbles up the court before Bradford appeared to steal the ball from Storrs that would've led to a breakaway. Instead, Bradford was called for a foul, and the Novi bench erupted and received a technical foul with 8.5 seconds left to play.

Storrs hit both technical shots and two more for the foul, ending the score at 51-45.

The Mustangs shot a perfect 6for-6 from the floor and 10-for-10 at the line in the fourth quarter.

'I said this is a game we're either going to (win or) lose on the free throw line," Northville head coach Darrel Schumacher said. Northville made just 5-10 free

throws in the first three quarters. Storrs was held in check for

much of the game. He had just six points at half and 13 heading into the final quarter as Novi tried to deny him the ball fullcourt.

Storrs maintained his composure and picked up his defense, which led to several fastbreaks and 14 points in the fourth.



Popcorn, movie and some insight

Planet Fitness

have had many feelings and thoughts after watching a family movie in the past. including but not limited to? What a waste of time, boy that was unrealistic, I could have written that," etc.; but I don't recall a feeling of guilt being one of them until recently after watching "Over the Hedge!" I

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examples of the Chris relationship Klebba between the

typical American's daily activity and food (as so blatantly depicted in this movie) in hopes of shedding more light on why so many of us 'typical Americans' face this lifetime battle of the bulge.

It was a cold, snowy, windy, dark night about 7 p m ; it felt like bedtime since the sun had set what seemed like foreverago Typically, in summer at this same time, the kids would be outside, and we would be active on some summer project taaah such is the Michigan winters) We didn't feel like driving to a movie or even getting inthe car and driving two miles to rent one, too much work, so the wonderful world of technology allowed us to lift a little switch and the cozy fireplace kicked on instantly, push two buttons on our magic little black box from our cable company and, presto "Over the Hedge" appeared on our screen. Once the movie began, we of course instantly paused the movie (well not instantly --- it took us 20 minutes to figure out how to pause it) to get our snacks. drinks, and everyone in their right seat on the couch. This snack preparation consisted of pushing more buttons and waiting for the popeorn to pop, and grabbing a cool drink from the fridge. Never mind the fact we just ate dinner, never mind the question if we were hungry or not, we were programmed to have snacks while watching a movie. All was well with life until the star of the movie (a little raccoon) had some trouble with a very large bear. The story is based on the fact he had stolen the bear's food and had to replace it prior to the bear coming out of hibernation. The raccoon found foraging the forest for common animal tid-bits the "old tashion way" too much work and decides to visit typical suburban America and gets a quick education on how convenience and technology has affected the way food and humans interact in today's culture. He then has to recruit. some other forest friends to help, however they have not yet been exposed to this culture and the raccoon sets out to educate them on the real facts of food and the humans.

"Our team defense just opened up a lot of stuff," Storrs said. "Everybody in Northville can play basketball, we've just got to prove to them that we can play."

Dean led the Wildcat charge with 17 points, including 9-for-9 at the free throw line.

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"Our guys played their hearts out and Northville played their

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continued on 2B Northville senior guard Alvin Storrs slams late in the fourth quarter against Novi.

Photo-submitted by DIANA BIRDSALL

Lone senior leads Mustang gymnasts



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Northville Record

Mustang senior Julie Foucher is the captain of the gymnastics team.

■ Northville will build with youth, having just two upperclassmen and a trio of returnees

By Jeff Theisen

RECORD SPORTS WRITER

To say Northville gymnastics is going to be young would be a major understatement.

Only two of the nine girls are upperclassmen senior captain Julie Foucher and junior Becky Murphy. Besides them, sophomore Amy Reynolds is the only other returnee.

But don't feel sorry for head coach Erin McWatt. She's excited about this group.

"I'm so impressed with this group and encouraged by the progress they've all already made so early into their season," she said.

Early practices have shown McWatt instant camaraderie, focus, hard work and talent.

Foucher isn't the captain just because she's the lone senior. She's a state qualifier and an all-round performer.

"Julie is one of the hardest working gymnasts I've ever coached, completely self-motivated and extremely team-oriented," McWatt said. "Her leadership qualities are outstanding. I'm sure she'll be leading our team into some great team performances this season?

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Team goals include getting everyone qualifying scores in each event to compete at regionals. and, if the team can peak at the right time, a run to state

One other goal for McWatt is to not let her team try to play it safe once the competition rolls around.

"I'm interested in the girls being able to upgrade their skills and routines, but also to perform with a level of consistency that's necessary to be competitive," she said, "It's easy to abandon those new skills you were working on during the summer and pre-season, and instead focus on the safe skills and routines that will be performed during the ycar."

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

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continued on 2B





Northville bowling preview ... page 3B **Sports**

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B1 Northville Record



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Planet Fitness Popcorn, movie and some insight

BULOVA

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132 N. Dunlap 1000 North 116 + 248-349-4938

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Other top teams to look out for are Farmington and Canton.

"I'm so excited to jump into competition this year," McWatt said. "It seems that we already have a close group of girls that will be supportive of each other This group is very focused, and we're looking forward to a fabulous and fun season.

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

continued on 2B



Northville wrestlers building momentum

Mustangs finish fourth at Franklin

By Jeff Theisen RECORD SPORTS WRITER

Northville split a pair of decisions Dec 13 -- beating Walled Lake Central and losing to Westland John Glenn. The Mustangs also finished in fourth place Saturday at Franklin.

The Mustangs built a 32-4 lead

and cruised to a 50-22 win against. Walled I ake Central

Mike Bagian (103 pounds), Mike Bagian (103 pounds), Matt Ladhoff (130), Jon Hebert (135), Dan Dalzo (152), Jim Caroll (171) and Dave Stewart (Heavyweight) each earned pinstor Northville Brian Bagian (140) won by technical fall, and Brian Dulzo (119) won by decision Steve Manney won by void at 112 Northville dropped a 40-32 decision to John Glenn

Winning for the Mustangs were Manney, Dulzo, Hebert and Brian Bagian by pin Ladhoff won by

technical fall, and Stewart won by decision

At the Franklin Invite, the Mustangs took fourth of 10 teams Dulzo took the lone Northville title at 112 pounds

"Brian is putting together an outstanding senior season," said Jeft Balagna, Northvalle head coach "This is his second straight tournament championship. He had an outstanding day collecting three pins in the early rounds and winning a tough finals match."

Jonny D'Anna (119), Hebert and Dave Stewart each took third place Evan Bentley (130) and Brian Bagran placed fourth.

"I thought everybody wrestled a real strong tournament today, I was very pleased with the results." Balagna said. "We won a lot of matches and I think we showed the other teams that Northville is no longer a push over. Taking fourth place was a great accomplishment seeing as how we were 9th at this tournament last year."

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

Popcorn, movie and some insight

continued from 1B

getting food and preparing it today and it is simple to see how this culture directly contributes to our obesity epidemic affecting people ages 8 to 88

Think about what a human can do from a sitting position. Shopping, banking, research, cook, eat, watch TV, play games and the list goes on and on. A better question might be, what can a human not do from a sitting position in today's world?

The movie was entertaining but

the message is sobering, be aware of your physical movement daily and think twice about how much and what kind of tood we are putting on our plates. One day technology may not require us to move at all and then where will we be?

This column was written by fitness expert Chris Klebba-Chris owns and operates Planet Etiness in Northyille, and is a regular columnist and public speaker. For more information call 248-449-7634 or 50-to www.planetfitness.com

Basketball border war victory

continued from 1B

hearts out," Novi head coach Pat Schluter said "Every time we got a little lead, they just answered with a run. Alvin made some big plays and that was the difference

"I'm proud of our kids, We tought hard, We're a young team so we've just got to keep working hard and getting better."

Both offenses struggled through the first half. The Wildcats led 8-7 after the first

www.northvillerecord.com

quarter and 20-15 at the half. Kirkpatrick and David Burke pitched in six points each for Northville.

"It's a great night," Schumacher said, "Our student section is just fantastic. What more fun can you have on a high school setting."

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



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Emily Morris leaps into the air during a competitive cheer practice.

Bringing seasonal cheer

By Jeff Theisen RECORD SPORTS WRITER

Numbers are up for the Northville competitive cheer team. Head coach Mindy Gentz said the team has added 20 girls since starting two years ago. Bringing in more girls, 55 in

all, allows the Mustangs to compete in an area loaded with perennial state-bound area teams, including Brighton, Hartland and Novi. The Mustangs have 21 on varsity, 18 on JV and 16 on the freshman team.

"In our area, it's becoming more competitive," Gentz said.

"We have a very young team. We've got a big group of juniors. We're going to be strong over the next few years with the girls that are coming up through the ranks." Cheer meets are based on three

rounds. The first round is known as the required round. The teams must complete several required movements and formations, with a heavy emphasis on jumps.

The second round is the compulsory with 10 arm movements and five skills required with everything having to be uniform. The final round is the open.

more of a free-form round with more stunts.

Gentz explains what sort of skills the girls must have to make the team: "They need to have decent tumbling skills. We're looking ideally for backhand springs, backhand tucks and backwalk overs - good jumps, good flexibility and strong motions."

Once the girls are assembled, Gentz said the hardest thing is to get 12 girls working as one.

"A lot of the stuff that we do in cheer is very simple for an individual to go out and by themselves. But when you expect 12 of them to go out and do it exactly the same way, that becomes kind of a sticking point," she

said.

highly-trained.

tioned athletes."

Gentz said throw away any stigmas that come with cheerleading. "They're going to see a lot of athleticism. A lot of people are surprised because their perception of what cheerleading is doesn't match up with what they see at a competitive cheer meet," Gentz said. "It's not cute girls on the sidelines anymore. These girls are

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

highly-condi-



Submitted to the Northville

standing in net turning away all but later, Novi scored their second Northville 4, goal. Defenseman Nic Atkinson jumped into the air near the end of the game and batted the puck away potentially saving a goal. Andy Bray was in goal for this win.

Brother Rice 2

Mustangs roll up big scores

Northville bowlers show early promise with high league scores

By Jeff Theisen RECORD SPORTS WRITER

Northville bowling is showing strong life in a very competitive area.

The Mustang boys have topthree scores in several areas of competition in the Oakland-Wayne conference.

Each match consists of five bowlers from each team competing in a Baker format. They also bowl two games each as individuals and as a team for 30 possible points.

Baker format is each of the five bowlers rolling two frames to make one game as a team.

The Mustang season is showing great promise with some big scores being thrown.

Northville junior Danny Beger has been the steadiest performer so far, averaging just over 204 in the past week. On the season, he has a high game of 256 and a two-game high series of 447.

Michael Jacoboni, a junior, had the hottest hand the past week, averaging 206.8 during a five-game stretch.

Senior Stephen Bryant also had a strong week, posting an average of 201.67 for three games.

Rounding out the top five are junior Daniel Dwyer (196.5 avg.) and senior captain Brian Carroll (186.75). Four other bowlers had averages between 175-185, adding depth to the team.

Head coach Jerry Harris is keeping 14 players on varsity, with six more on JV and three others on a reserve team. Of the 23 boys bowling, 13 are returnees and eight are seniors.

All games are scratch bowling, meaning no handicap.

The JV team won conference two years ago," Harris said. "As they grew up, all those kids are on the varsity. The only thing they're lacking is a little fine-tuning, but they're very strong.

"Keep an eye on them. At the end of the year, I've got some bowlers that are going to do very well.

Northville Girls Bowling

Ten girls return from 18 for the Northville girls bowling team, five of which are seniors. Senior captain Laura Means

had the strongest week for the Mustangs, averaging 153 with a high game of 170.

Sophomore Angle Ramsey and junior Michelle Steiner have also been early leaders for the Mustangs. Steiner and Ramsey both averaged just over 147 for the week.

The Mustangs girls have nine on the varsity team and nine on JV.

"They're good kids. They listen and they're learning," Harris said. "The ultimate goal by February is to be in your prime. lt's a two-part season - your conference and regionals and finals is the second half."

The bowling teams are a nonfunded sport and require donations and sponsors to keep the costs down for the teams. More information can be found by emailing

bowling@novibowl.com.

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

Goals-A-Plenty

Mustangs tally 16 goals in two games Submitted to the Northville Record

If Northville bockey fans were looking for some high scoring games, this past weekend offered a couple of gems. Northville broke their scoring slump with an outburst of seven goals against Grosse Pointe North on Friday, and another nine against Walled Lake Central on



Submitted photo

Northville junior forward Kevin Uetz heads up ice



Catholic Central 3, Northville O

Nov. 25: The Northville boy's J.V. Hockey team played a game at Compuware Arena against Catholic Central. This was the first home game for Catholic Central so they had a brief opening ceremony with the players on each team being introduced and a woman sang "God Bless America." There was a capacity crowd for this game and everything went well for Catholic Central which was able to control Northville's offensive and defensive efforts, Catholic Central scored a power play goal in the first period and a full strength goal in the second. With only 29 seconds left in the game, Catholic Central was able to score their third goal. Andy Bray was in goal and stopped 31 of 34 shots.

Northville 1, DeLaSalle 1

Nov. 28: The De La Salle team came to the Novi Arena for a rematch with Northville. This game was very exciting. Northville got the first goal at 10:40 in the first period when Matt Rosiar passed the puck to Tyler Jones who stammed it into the net. De La Salle's only goal came in the second period at 12:35. The Nonhville team played very strong defensively and managed to keep the game tied. Andy Bray was out-

Volleyball

Swimming

1/8

1/6

Stoney Creek 5, Northville 4

Dec. 1: The Northville team traveled to Rochester to play Stoney Creek. Matt Rosiar from Northville was the first to score an unassisted power play goal at 3:21 in the first period. Then with only 32 seconds left in the first period, Jay Kastely scored with an assist from Tyler Jones. Stoney Creek scored at 13:59 in the second period. Then a few minutes later, Derek Raymond scored an unassisted goal. Stoney Creek came back quickly scoring two unan-swered goals. Early in the third period Nick Vitale passed the puck to Josh McMullen who sent it onto Troy McMullin who scored Northville's fourth goal. Stoney Creek scored two more times in the third period to win the game. Steve Ciranna was in goal for this game.

Northville 3, Novi 2

Dec. 2: Northville beat Novi 3-2 at the Novi Arena. Jay Kastely scored the first goal at 6:17 in the first period with an assist from Matt Rosiar. At 13:52 in the second period, Troy McMullin passed the puck to Alex Belanger who fired it into the net. Novi scored near the end of that period. In the third period, defenseman Mitch Sledz scored the winning goal with an assist from Ryan Schafer. Several minutes

Cranbrook 5, Northville 0

Dec. 5: The Northville traveled to the Cranbrook campus to play them at home. Cranbrook was able to bottle up Northville's offensive and defensive efforts. They scored twice in the first period, twice in the second and once in the third. Most of the game was played in Northville's end and a strong defensive effort from Neil Arthur and Mitch Sledz. and steady goaltending from Andy Bray kept the game from getting out of hand. Cranbrook outshot Northville 32-12.

Northville 3, Novi 2

Dec. 9: Northville played a rematch with Novi and won the game by the same score as the first time. Alex Belanger scored the first goal for Northville with assists from Jon Heinonen and John Wozniak. Novi scored their first goal five minutes later. At 11:41 in the second period, Eric Goebel and Nick Vitale setup Jay Kastely who slammed the puck into the net. Novi scored their second goal at 5:59. Less than 2 minutes later Tyler Jones scored the winning goal assisted by Jon Heinonen and John Wozniak. Steve Ciranna was solid in goal.

Dec. 11: Northville traveled to the Oak Park Arena to play Brother Rice. Defenseman Kevin Andrews scored the first goal unassisted for Northville, Later Brother Rice scored two unanswered goals in the first period. At 10:03 in the second period, Matt Rosiar slapped the puck into the net with assists from Ryan Schafer and Matt DeSpirt. Then at 4:28 Josh McMullen scored the winning goal with an assist from Jay Kastely. In the third period Brother Rice scored their second goal on a power play when the puck took a strange bounce off a stick, flew over Andy Bray's shoulder and into the net. Andy played very strong in this game.

Northville 3, Rochester 1

Dec. 16: The Northville J.V. team played their final game of 2006 against Rochester United at Compuware Arena. Defenseman John Wozniak of Northville scored first with an assist from defenseman Mitch Sledz, Goaltender Andy Bray was injured and was replaced by Steve Ciranna late in the second period. A minute later, Neil Arthur went end to end to score an unassisted goal. Before the end of the period, Northville scored their third goal from Alex Belanger with an assist given to Troy McMullin. Rochester scored their lone goal late in the third period.

6:30 p.m.

7 p.m.

6 p.m.

Northville High School Schedule						
Basketball 12/21 1/5	at Dexter at Churchill	TBA 7 p.m.	Wrestling 1/4	Walled Lake Western		
Hockey	Lakeland	6 p.m.	Gymnastics 1/3	at Walled Lake Central		
1/5	Laverand	U p.m.	Cheer			

7 p.m.

Noon

1/10

at Novi

Saturday.

The first period of play against Grosse Pointe ended at a 2-1 Northville advantage with a goal from senior forward Anthony Deneau followed by another from junior forward Kevin Uetz after a beautiful pass from Deneau during a 2-on-1 breakaway.

In the second period goals from senior lan Jezak and senior Brandon Wales were not enough to hold the lead, as Grosse Point exploited powerplay opportunities to tie the game at four.

Senior forward T.J. Hohl notched one a few minutes into the third with a nice assist from sophomore defensemen Matt Kreager. But Grosse Pointe responded quickly on a 5-on-3 powerplay to tie it back up.

Wales and senior forward Kyle Storey paid the price behind the net to get the puck to Deneau for a sweet wrap around, putting the game at 6-5 Northville. The Mustangs were sitting pretty when Wales scored another with a little over four minutes left in the period.

But Grosse Pointe came to play, and put the puck in the net two more times to put the official score in the books as a 7-7 tic. As the game was not a league game, and with time remaining on the curfew clock, an unofficial eight minute overtime was allowed just for fun. Fans cheered as scoring chances racked up at both ends until Grosse Pointe scored with less than a minute remaining to end the contest. Game highlights included many selfless acts by the Mustangs, including some great passing, taking the hits, and blocking shots with the body. Unfortunately, seemingly constant trips to the sin bin interrupted the flow of the game, and gave Grosse Pointe the opportunity to claim a regulation tie.

Northville returned to league play with a game against Walled Lake Central Saturday at Lakeland Arena.

Being the first team to score was not a critical factor in this game as Walled Lake scored a couple of minutes into the first

during a recent game.

period.

A few minutes later senior forward Mike Garbarz took a pass from Wales to put the game at 1-I. Senior defensemen Steve Dawson darted in from the right point to catch a sweet pass from Wales, watching from the corner and fired the puck home for a 2-1 lead. Sophomore goaltender Teddy Keranen, playing his first varsity game, made several key saves to hold the lead until Walled Lake tied it up again with a little over two minutes to go. ending the period at two.

The scoring fest began a few minutes into the second when Dawson scored what would be the game winning goal. He pinched in and took the puck deep into the corner, brought it out for a shot, tried again on his rebound and the third shot was a charm.

Then, Hohl skated in on a 2on-1 breakaway and cut behind the Walled Lake defensemen to put the game at 4-2. Twenty seconds later, junior forward Case Moerman fired a slap shot and would not be denied when the puck bounced off their defensemen's skate to hit the back of the net. Deneau took a pass from Kreager along the boards, dodged two checks and took it in behind the net to slide it out in front and notch another for the Mustangs. The final goal of the period was a tribute to passing, as Garbarz worked the puck up the boards and sent it to Deneau who took it behind the net to pass it off to senior defensemen Tyler Probst who quickly slammed it home.

About three minutes into the third, Deneau took a pass from senior defensemen Kyle Ziomek and shot from the left side at a wide angle to slide the puck through the five hole. The final goal of the game was scored during Northville's second 5-on-3 powerplay when Dawson saw his opportunity during a scramble in front of the net and tipped it in with an assist from Hohl. Dawson's hat trick ended the game at 9-2 Northville.

John Glenn

Brother Rice



The Northville student section cheers on the Mustangs during a win against Novi.

Photo submitted by MiKE KOLBOW

'STANGS PLAY BORDER BULLIES





Photo submitted by MiKE KOLBOXY Northville's Dan Kirkpatrick goes up for a shot against Novi's Caleb Dean.

Photo submitted by DIANA BIRDSALL

Novi's Brandon Bradford pressures Northville senior Bret Spencer.



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Northville's Martins Trautmanis keeps track of Novi's DeAngelo Jones during Friday's game.

Photo submitted by DIANA BIRDSALL

FOOD

Thursday, December 21, 2006

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Thursday December 21, 2006-NORTHVILLE RECORD

AND THE REAL PROPERTY AND A STATE

FAMILY FEATURES

Dehool means a return to packing lunches and preparing after-school snacks. Make this school year fun with a new collection of easy-to-make snack recipes from the National Honey Board.

Instead of giving your kids the same boring sandwich, jazz up their lunch box and snacks with a few easy tips:

Update a classic

Honey gives a new twist to an old favorite. Try a PB&H by switching out the jelly for honey, and this sandwich will be a new lunch box staple.

Wrap, roll and skewer

Wrap fixings in a tortilla for a handy 'to go' snack. Cut sandwiches into small, flattened, crustless squares; spread bread with honey and chopped fruit, and roll into kid-friendly rolls or fashion them into kabobs.

Prepare for snack attacks

Make a double batch of spacks and keep them on hand when hungry bellies come calling. Honey-sweetened granola bars stay fresh in Tightly sealed containers and banana pops store perfectly in the freezer. Honey is also a natural preservative that will keep your snacks extra fresh.

Customize to fit cravings

Snack time is more fun with your favorite and colorful toppings. Roll a banana pop in graham cracker crumbs, dried fruit or coconut for a fun, individualized sweet treat.

Reach for a quick dip

Eating fruit is twice as fun with a naturally sweetened dip

NATURALLY SWEET SNACKS ARE BACK

Peanut Butter & Honey Roll-Ups

Honey Cherry Granola Bars

Keep individual serving-sized packages of honey fruit dip in the refrigerator where it's ready to grab and go.

Add energy and brainpower to your kid's school day with good-for-you snacks made with pure honey. Honey is a great all-natural sweetener with no added ingredients. Read the label to make sure you purchase 100 percent, pure honey.

The National Honey Board provides a full collection of snack recipes and tips in the Honey Snack Recipe Brochure, complete with colorful photography. To receive a free copy of the brochure, visit www.honey.com or send your mailing address to Pure Honey Snacks Brochure, P.O. Box 14636, Madison, WI 53708-0636.

For more recipes using pure honey, or to find out more about the benefits of using honey, visit www.honey.com. To find a local honey producer or special honey variety, visit www.honeylocator.com



Peanut Butter & Honey Roll-Ups

Makes 2 servings

- 4 slices wheat bread
- 1/2 cup smooth peanut butter
- 1/2 cup honey
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped nuts (sunflower seeds, almonds or walnuts)
- 1/4 cup strawberries, finely diced
 - 4 skewers (optional) Additional fresh fruit such as kiwi, strawberries, grapes or pineapple (optional)

True crusts from bread. Gently press bread or flatten with a rolling pin. Spread each slice with 2 tablespoons peanut butter and 2 tablespoons honey. Sprinkle 2 bread slices with 1 tablespoon nuts each. Sprinkle remaining slices with strawberries Cut each slice in half. Firmly roll up each slice and serve, or thread the roll-ups and fruit onto skewers and serve as kabobs.

Honey Cherry Granola Bars Makes 12 to 16 bars

- 1/3 cup honey
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 3 egg whites
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon 1/2 teaspoon almond flavoring
- 3 cups low-fat granola
- 1/2 cup almonds, coarsely
- chopped
- 3V4 cup dried cherries

Preheat oven to 350°F. Whisk together honey, butter, egg whites, cinnamon and almond flavoring. Stir in granola, almonds and cherries. Spoon granola mixture into a 9-inch nonstick (or well-greased) square pan. Using a piece of wax paper, firmly press granola mixture in pan. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove pan from oven and place on a cooling rack. Cool completely; cut into bars.

Frozen Honey Banana Pops Makes 8 pops

- 4 just-ripe bananas, peeled
- 8 craft sticks
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1-1/3 cups finely chopped nuts, coconut, carob chips, dried fruit, graham cracker crumbs, etc.

Cut bananas in half cross-wise. Insert a craft stick into each cut end. Freeze for at least 30 minutes on a wax paper-lined tray.

Meanwhile, spread desired toppings onto separate plates. Spoon about 1 tablespoon honey over each slightly frozen banana, rotating and smoothing boney with back of spoon to coat all sides. Roll banana in desired topping until coated on all sides, pressing with fingertips to help toppings adhere. Return pop to wax paper-lined tray and repeat with remaining bananas. Freeze pops 15 minutes or more to set toppings. Serve.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE Thursday, December 21, 2006 Northville Record

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La Casa del **Rio Grande:**

NEW HUDSON: Where good friends meet for good food

By Kate Phillips SPECIAL WRITER

La Casa del Rio Grande has always been known as the best Mexican restaurant in the area, but now it's also a popular place to watch sporting events.

The restaurant is just finishing up renovations that include a larger bar area with lots of seating, newly designed booths, and TVs in both the bar and the dining room.

"We wanted to make this a really fun place to come watch sports." said owner Dawn Salvati. "Now you can hang out in our new bar and watch the big game.

"Or you can sit with your family and enjoy a great meal, and still watch the game. Then the whole family is happy."

Along with the updated look, Salvati is now operating the restaurant with help from a new manager, so the legendary customer service is now even better. There's a lot of new things at

Rio Grande, but the food is still the same - we're not going to change that." explained Salvati.

Authentic food

After one bite of the food at La Casa del Rio Grande customers never go back to chain restaurants. The authentic Mexican flavor at Rio Grande is nothing like other restaurants, which often serve spicy Tex-Mex. The recipes were actually imported directly from central and southern Mexico.

"There's nowhere else in the area where you can get this type of food." said owner Dawn Salvati. "It's real Mexican food, not Americanized Tex-Mex."

La Casa Del Rio Grande offers something for every member of the family. It serves lunch and dinner seven days a week. There are a variety of Mexican appetizers, lunch and dinner specials, unique desserts and a full-service bar. Lunch specials offered Monday through Friday include favorites like Mexican Pizza. It's made from two fried flour tortillas with a choice of meats inside and topped with cheese and vegetables.

LA CASA DEL RIO

At a glance

La Casa del Rio Grande is located at 57721 Grand River Ave., just west of Milford Road in New Hudson. Follow the Lyon Center Drive loop from Wal-Mart to Grand River Avenue.

• Call (248) 446-7700 or FAX orders to (248) 446-7701

· Go online at www.riogrande-

restaurant.com

 Open for lunch and dinner seven days a week

 Sports are always on TVs in the bar and the restaurant Reservations available but not needed. Carry-out and

call-ahead can save time. All major credit cards accepted.

Celebrate the holidays · Christmas Eve: open noon

to 9 p.m.

- . Christmas Day: closed • New Year's Eve: open
- noon to 9 p.m. . New Year's Day: noon to

9 p.m. • La Casa del Rio Grande:

good food and favorite sports

around," said Salvati.

Pedro's stacked sandwich is another recommended dish. It starts with three flour tortillas layered with rice, refried beans and your choice of tender diced pork, ground beef, shredded beef or chicken. It's topped with melt-ed muenster cheese and jalapeños by request.

On Monday there is a dine-in all-you-can-eat taco special for \$7.25. Hungry guests can order as many tacos as they like, filled with ground beef, shredded beef. chicken or traditional bean and potato. Some try one of each. For only \$8.25 chefs will fry soft flour tortillas into crispy taco ADVERTISEMENT



Friends and families love to gather at La Casa del Rio Grande in New Hudson.



Photo By HAL GOULD GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

La Casa Del Rio Grande, located at 57721 Grand River Ave., just west of Milford Road in New Hudson.

fingers," the menu explains It's about having a good time.

"It's family dining that's fun and casual," said Salvati. "You can dress up if you want, or come as you are and bring the whole family."

With the first basket of chips and salsa free, the fun starts as soon as the family takes a seat

The dining room keeps the atmosphere moving with festive Mexican music, while the bar plays classic rock.

low-carb diet," said Salvati. "We can just cut down on the beans. rice and tortillas."

The restaurant also offers smoke-free nights in the dining room on Friday and Saturday. On those nights patrons are allowed to smoke in the bar or on the patio when weather permits.

Special nights

www.riogrande-restaurant.com for more information on special promotions. Diners can also sign up for an e-mail club to receive a free dinner on their birthday and wedding anniversary, plus valuable coupons. Sign up for the club at Rio Grande.

A family effort

Families pack the place on Owner Dawn Salvati actually clown night. A side-splitting operates the restaurant in the home where she lived as a child. Her father bought the house more than 37 years ago. New Hudson is Salvati's beloved hometown, through and through. After operating Don Pedro's Restaurant in Detroit with exhusband, Tom Salvati, she saw how much folks loved the food and decided that New Hudson would be the perfect place to open another restaurant. Since the home on Grand River was still in the family. Salvati decided to transform the building into a homestyle restaurant - hence the Spanish name for, "The house on Grand River." The food at Don Pedro's and La Casa Del Rio Grande is the same, so many loyal customers drive out to Rio Grande now that Don Pedro's has closed. Most of the staff are close friends or family members, including Salvati's two daughters, Samantha and Carmen. "It's a small-town family atmosphere," said Salvati, "You can feel the love of family here"

"The food is not overly spicy or hot, but we'll make it hot upon request," said Salvati.

The restaurant is home to several groups of regulars who like the fast lunch-time service. For those looking for a quick lunch, Salvati suggests calling in orders ahead of time. Those who place phone orders can carry-out or dine in the restaurant.

Of all the appetizers, a customer favorite is the Mexican flaming cheese. The restaurant has also brought back a winterume favorite, the Chicken Tortilla Soup The hearty chick-en soup includes black beans and vegetables.

The selection of entrees features chimichanga platters, fajttas, enchiladas and burritos. "We have the best fajitas

shells for the all-you-can-eat special. The flour fried taco shells are

absolutely amazing," said Salvati.

Since plenty of people can't choose just one item, sampler platters provide a taste of several. A Don Pedro sampler comes with a ground beef taco, enchilada, shredded beef flauta, ground beef tostada, beans and rice.

Or the Rio Grande sampler includes a chicken taco, ground enchilada, beef pork chimichanga, beans and rice.

Early birds that come in for dinner between 3 and 5 p m. can cash in with a "buy one get the second dinner half off," deal by request.

Party down

The festive atmosphere at Rio Grande sets the tone for fun, casual dining. Colorful blankets, wooden benches and sombreros are part of the cheerful decor. "Don't be afraid to use your

The entire community is invited to come home for the holidays, to the home on Grand River -- which in Spanish is called La Casa del Rio Grande. The restaurant is ready for fun, holidays meals, staying open on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Treating you right

Affordable pricing makes Rio Grande a great place to bring the entire family. Adult dinners average about \$7.5, and kids' meals are \$3.50, including beverage.

Tuesday and Saturday are kids' days, with meals for just \$2.99, including a beverage and dessen.

The restaurant is happy to accommodate special requests and allergy concerns. No lard or chicken stock is used in the beans and rice to provide a vegetarian-friendly experience.

Most items are easily adaptable to a low-carb diet.

"Mexican food is great for a

clown known as Jannie Annie entertains the kids and adults. too. Annie comes one Saturday a month for kids' day.

For adults looking for a night out, Rio Grande stocks a fullservice bar with a large selection of both American and Mexican beer. Happy hour prices run on beer and alcoholic drinks from 3 to 7 p.m. daily.

There are always running beer specials. In December, Miller Light and Miller Genuine Draft are on special for \$2 a bottle.

There are also ongoing drink specials. Wednesday and Sunday are "margarita days" with all inhouse margaritas at happy hour prices.

The Spyder Margarita is Salvati's own secret recipe, made with citrus tequila.

There are even Spyder parties to celebrate every month. The Spyder Margarita is specially priced at \$5, plus bar items, like T-shirts, are given away as prizes.

Check out the Web site at



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Thursday December 21, 2006 GREEN SHEET EAST 20



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Video surveillance has benefits

Q. We are thinking about having a surveillance camera on our premises and were wondering if you have any comments regarding its benefits.

A. It may well be a good idea based upon a recent incident in Florida where a board member was charged with aggravated assault with a firearm, carrying a concealed firearm, and impersonating a police officer when he became overzealous in enforcing a bylaw provision at the pool of the condominium. He denied pulling out a gun but a surveillance video clearly showed him pointing a gun at a resident and a guest. In that case, video surveillance was indeed beneficial. You should check with your association attorney concerning all the ramifications of it.

Q. We love our dog at our condominium but the association has a bylaw restriction against it and we are trying to get it changed. What is the process for doing so? What kind of arguments can we use to get the dog rule changed?

A. You will have to amend the condominium bylaws and get a sufficient number of co-owners to approve the amendment. You might argue that based upon a survey of the Americans'



Awareness of First Amendment Freedoms developed by the McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum in Chicago, "one out of five Americans believes that the First Amendment grants citizens the right to own and raise pets." You may indicate the real estates benefits to allowing pets in the condominium based upon the number of people that have pets assuming, of course, that you have adequate restrictions to deal with them.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or visit bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.









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The City of Naples has a charm that you might find in areas of Oakland County such as Birmingham; small and comfortable, with a touch of sophistication. The area is perfect for Michiganders longing for warmer weather and a community with parks, shopping, galleries, restaurants and upscale "in town" residences. Naples is a town that can truly relate.

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The Keating name itself has been one of excellent reputation in the real estate business for years. Doug Keating Sr. has been an associate broker with Snyder, Kinney, Bennett, and Keating of Birmingham since 1990. Doug Keating Jr. is a licensed Florida broker, along with associate broker and office manager, Mandria Moore. All together, they bring traditions from 4 generations of family real estate experience to Southwest Florida.



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CANTON - Lovely detached 3 bedrm, 2.5 bath condo w/ loads of upgrades. 1st flr master, gournet ktchn w/ granite cntrs, island & ample custom cabs, 1st flr laundry, great rm w/ vaulted ceiling & gas frpic, upper loft, full bsmt, 2 car garage + more! \$318,000 (D06Abb)

BRIGHTON - Beautiful custom built 3 bedrm, 2.5 bath colonial offering huge gourmet ktchn w/ Jennair island, endless cabs & wood firs, large sunken great rm w/ stunning frpic & custom built-ins, wooded lot, 3 car garage + more. \$320,900 (L35Lau)

PLYMOUTH - This traditional Plymouth colonial offers all the right stuff! Updated kitchen includes all appliances, first floor laundry, family rm w/ natural fireplace overlooking lovely yard w/ patio and wonderful playscape! Great location! \$309,900 (L11Tall)

NORTHVILLE - Lovely upscale condo w/ lots of premium upgrades. Spacious master w/ jetted tub & walk-in-closet, 2nd bdrm w/ add'l full bath, fin'd basement w/ 3rd full bath, fantastic ktchn w/ breakfast bar, backs to lovely setting. Golf, pool & tennis. \$269,900 (L48Cha)

CANTON - Unbelievable Value! Beautiful 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath colonial backing to woods. Offers dual stone frpic in fmly rm & country ktchn, hdwd floors, frpic in master ste + large yard w/ brick paver patio, fish pond w/ waterfall & privacy. \$419,900 (D59Mad)

CANTON - Beautiful colonial w/ great location close to the Summit, parks, shopping & Xways. Offers 3 bedrms, 2.5 baths, master w/ double closets, 1st fir laundry, sprinkler system + updated carpet, windows, ktchn, floors, furnace, paint & new roof. \$218,900 (L32Bro)

DEARBORN - Wow & Wow! This house has it all! Offers 4 bdrms, 1st fir master, newer ktchen w/ hickory cabs, ceramic counters & limestone floor, new baths, library w/ Ig wndws, cedar lined closets, fin'd bsmt w/ lav + tons more! \$209,000 (L25Cam)

NOVI - Charming 3 bedrm colonial in great area! Offers cathedral ceilings in great m, family rm w/ brick frplc, hardwood floors throughout, doorwall off nook to patio & beautiful yard. Updates inc: roof, siding & wndws! A must see! \$194,900 (L98Dun)

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BRIEFS

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If your credit score is holding you back from buying a home, you've been turned down for a mortgage or loan, can't pay off those collection accounts or want to improve your score but don't know how, this free seminar may be for you. It is 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 6, at the Public Library of Westland, located at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. Call Diane Adamick at (734) 516-8043 to register.

Free workshop

A workshop for first-time homebuyers will be held 6-7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 22, at 28544 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills (just north of 12 Mile on the east side of the road). It is sponsored by Century 21 Today Inc.

This free workshop will cover topics such as: how to effectively use the Internet for home searches; why to get preapproved; what paperwork will be required to buy a home; benefits of using a Realtor, and more.

On hand will be licensed Realtors and a mortgage broker to answer your questions.

RSVP by calling (248) 855-2000, Ext. 219, or e-mailing Mpopp@Century21Today.com.

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FOR EVERY *50 IN PURCHASES when you shop in store and online Friday-Sunday, Dec. 22-24, 2006: Koh's Cash" coupon may be redeemed in store only Tuesday-Saturday, December 26, 2006-January 6, 2007 for regular-, sale- & clearance-priced merchandise. Kohi's Cash coupon may not be redeemed as price adjustments for prior purchases. Customer will receive a \$10 Kohi's Cash coupon for the first \$50 in purchases. An additional \$10 in value will be added to the coupon for each additional \$50 spent in that single transaction. Kohi's Cash coupon is earned on the amount of customer purchases after all applicable discounts are applied and before tax is imposed. Eligible customer purchases include sale-, regular-and clearance-priced methodise, but each disk than umbase of Kohi's Cash coupon of Kohi's Cash coupon are safe and before tax is imposed. Eligible customer purchases include sale-, regular-and clearance-priced methodise, but each disk than umbase of Kohi's Cash coupon are same at the NOT methodise of Kohi's Cash coupon for the first. and clearance-priced merchandise, but excludes the purchase of Kohi's Gift Cards. Kohi's Cash can be earned but NOT redeemed on purchases of Kohi's and clearance-priced merchanoise, our excludes the purchase of Kohl's Cards. Kohl's Cards, Kohl's Cards for Kids@ merchandise or other charitable items. Kohl's Cash coupon may not be redeemed to reduce customer's Kohl's Charge or any third party charge account balances or redeemed to purchase Kohl's Gift Cards. Purchases made in store and online may not be combined to receive Kohl's Cash coupon. Kohl's Cash coupon will be forfeited for merchandise purchased that is subsequently returned. Return value of merchandise purchased with Kohl's Cash coupon that is then returned will be subject to adjustment. See store for details.

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- Hal O'Leary enables disabled snow skiers
- Finding a good home contractor
- Our Picks
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Q Who performs "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" at the end of the movie 50 First Dates? I remember



Hawaiian entertainer "Iz" took fans "Over the Rainbow" after his death.

this particular version also was used on ER when Dr. Greene died.

-Mary Hall. Ore City. Texas

The lovely, ukulele-backed version was recorded in 1993 by Hawaiian singer Israel Kamakawiwo'ole, more widely known as "Iz" and also known for his physical stature, standing 6 feet, 6 inches tall and weighing some 700 pounds. After his death in 1997 of weight-related respiratory illness, his striking version of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" also was used in the movies *Finding Forester* and *The Big Bounce*, for TV episodes of *Providence*, *Charmed* and *Party of Fine*, and in a 2006 commercial for Rice Krispies.



Actor Sean Penn's most recent movie was All the King's Men.

Please give me some information on my favorite actor, Sean Penn. Where is he from, is he married and most of all—is that beautiful head of hair all his own? —Peggy G., Philadelphia

Penn, 46, was born in Santa Monica, Calif., and now lives in San Francisco with his wife, actress Robin Wright-Penn, and their two children. He made a rare TV appearance on *Larry King Lave* last September to promote his latest film, *All the King's Men*, and chuckled after watching a segment on the different hairstyles he's sported over the years. "I'm a hair actor!" he said, laughing. And yes, those locks are really his.

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-Susan S. Geneseo. New York

Munro died in 1972 at age 38 from an illness associated with heart disease. The spunky actress grew up on British TV and in 1959 caught the eye of Walt Disney, who gave her

starring roles in several films, including Darby O'Gill and the Little People and Suiss Family Rohinson. After winning a Golden Globe award for most promising newcomer, she began to outgrow youthful roles and lost momentum in her career. Two failed marriages and two miscarriages led to a bout with alcoholism before her untimely death.

Q Who is the youngest person to ever receive an Academy Award? My husband says Shirley Temple, but I think he's wrong. —Abbie R., Boaz, Ala.

He's not completely wrong-but not completely right, either. Five-year-old Shirley Temple received an honorary "Special Oscar" in 1934, but it was not in one of the official Academy-voted competitive categories. Otherwise, the record-holder is Tatum O'Neal, who was 10 when she took home the Best Supporting Actress Award in 1973 for the movie Paper Moon. Thirtythree years later, O'Neal's still in the game. Her latest project: playing a devious spurned lover on the series Wicked Wicked Games on the new MyNetworkTV network.



* Cover photo: Robert Benson

Would you like to know more about your favorite celebrity or public figure?

Home For Christmas."

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Tatum O'Neal stars in Wicked Wicked Gomes. Americam *Profile*

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Paisley blends holiday

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Paisley Christmas, delivers what he does

best, blending heart and humor. George

Jones, Little Jimmy Dickens and Bill

Anderson make guest appearances on

"Kung Pao Buckaroo Holiday," and

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sics "Winter Wonderland" and "Til Be

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Cover Story

by MARTA W. ALDRICH

How the Paul Ecke Lamity developed the Christmas flower

POINSetton Ranch

Paul Ecke III drives his pickup truck north on Interstate 5 in southern California, recalling the sea of poinsettias that once covered thousands of sun-splashed acres farmed by his family when he was growing up in San Diego County

in the 1960s. "It was glorious when the red came in," says Ecke, 51, the third-generation owner of the Paul Ecke Ranch in Encinitas, Calif. (pop. 58,014).

Nowadays, as Christmas draws near each year, hundreds of thousands of poinsettia plants bloom in greenhouses on the ranch and millions of Eckebred poinsettias are sold to decorate homes, businesses and churches around the world. Ecke Ranch is the world's largest producer of poinsettias, providing 50 percent of the world's—and 75 percent of the nation's—supply.

"We like to think that poinsettias are nature's way of dressing up the holidays," says Andy Higgins, a horticulturalist and president of the Paul Ecke Ranch. "They're like the bow on the package."

A holiday flower

Poinsettias have not always been synonymous with Christmas. Once considered a flowering roadside weed in Mexico, the gangly plant was brought to the United States in 1828 by Joel Poinsett, U.S. ambassador to Mexico and an amateur horticulturalist. In June of the following year, poinsettias were introduced to the public at an exhibition that was the precursor of today's Philadelphia Flower Show.

A century later, Ecke's grandfather began cultivating poinsettias in California and selling the



Paul Ecke III maintains the family's floral tradition.

ornamental plant as a Christmas flower. "It was brilliant marketing," says William LeFevre, executive director of Bartram's Garden in Philadelphia, America's oldest botanical garden. "Here you have this wonderful showy red plant you can provide people at the holidays. It was a winner."

The first Paul Ecke arrived in Los Angeles at age 5 with his parents who, like many other German immigrants at the time, worked the land for a living. "His parents never learned to speak English, so he had to take my great-grandfather to the flower and produce market in L.A. and translate for him," Paul III says. "So he learned business at a very young age."

Launching his own business, Ecke focused on cultivating the red poinsettias that had migrated West over the decades and were growing wild in California. "My grandfather sort of stumbled upon it," says Paul III, who estimates the family business began between 1915 and 1920. "Poinsettias bloom naturally at Christmastime when the daylight hours get shorter. There was no official Christmas flower in those days, and he decided to fill the gap' by selling the cut flowers at a roadside stand on Sunset Boulevard.

As Los Angeles developed into an entertainment industry hub, Ecke moved his farming operation south in 1923 to the beach towns of Encinitas and Carlsbad, eventually growing poinsettias on 4,000 acres. "One year in the 1930s, my grandfather woke up to a hard freeze and every plant was dead," Paul III recounts. "They went out and dug beneath the soil line and the roots were alive. They reproduced from the roots and saved the business."

In 1955, Paul Ecke Jr. returned from Ohio State University with a degree in floraculture and new ideas about running his father's business. Instead of shipping poinsettia rootstock by rail to growers around the country, Paul Jr. advocated shipping less-expensive plant cuttings by airplane and moving the poinsettias from farm fields into climate-controlled greenhouses.

"I can remember some very heated arguments between my dad and my grandfather during this



Three generations of Eckes - Paul III, Paul and Paul Jr. - have produced poinsettias on the Paul Ecke Ranch in Encinitas, Calif. time," Paul III says. "My father would say, 'This is the future. Why can't you see?' And my grandfather would dig in his heels. Finally, my dad prevailed, thank goodness. If he hadn't, we wouldn't be here today."

A budding business

As the family began replacing open fields with greenhouses in the 1960s, Paul Jr. took marketing to the next level. "He wanted to have a poinsettia in every house at Christmas," Paul III says. "So he gave poinsettias to the sets of The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson, the Dinah Shore Show and Christmas specials by Bob Hope and Ronald Reagan. He got them into the women's magazines like Ladies Home Journal and Better Homes & Gardens. It was subliminal advertising at its earliest. The women would open their magazines and see these nicely decorated homes with a Christmas tree and poinsettias everywhere, and then they would head to the florist and ask for poinsettias."

During the same time. Paul Jr. launched a breeding program to improve and expand the ranch's product line. Previously, Mother Nature provided occasional new varieties through mutation. But Paul Jr. saw no reason to wait on nature to develop stronger, more beautiful poinsettias in various shades of red, white and pink. "Even though he didn't have any competition, my dad was very forward-thinking," Paul III says.

When Paul III bought the company in 1992 at age 37 after earning a master's of business administration degree from Duke University and working a stint at Hewlett-Packard, the Ecke Ranch faced competition from foreign growers for the first time. "Even though we had almost 100 years of loyalty from our customers, they were getting squeezed by the big-box stores and our new competitors were growing offshore and selling cuttings at half our price," he says.

In response, the ranch moved much of its growing operations to Guatemala beginning in 1997, invested in technology to improve the ranch's efficiency and diversified its product line to include other floral plants, including geraniums, impatiens and chrysanthemums.

(Continued on page 14)

Caring for Poinsettias Poinserrias need light, so place them in indirect sunlight for at least six hours a day, Keep room temperature between 68 and 70. degrees. Do not place plants near cold drafts or * Water thoroughly when the soil feels try to the touch, but do not let plants. sir in standing water. Overwatering auses plants to droop. To protect from chilling winds when rainsporting plants, carry them in a large

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ILLINOIS—An 1850s authentic working Dutch windmill, Fabyan Windmill, whirls in the Fabyan Forest Preserve in Geneva (pop. 19,515). The five-story windmill was featured on a 1980 U.S. postage stamp.

INDIANA—South Whitley (pop. 1,782) is small, but it's a true party town. Home to Stumps—the world's largest supplier of prom and party goods—the company makes mascot costumes, parade float kits, rhinestone tiaras, crepe paper and custom banners. Founded in 1926, Stumps changed its name in September to ShindigZ, the World's Largest Party Superstore.

IOWA—Trappist monks at the New Melleray Abbey in Peosta (pop. 651) are well known for their highquality handcrafted wooden caskets, made from timber harvested from their own forest.

KANSAS—Jakub Voboril, 17, made perfect scores on two major college entrance exams this year: a 36 on the American College Testing exam (ACT) and a 2400 on the SAT Reasoning Test. A senior this year at Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in Wichita, Voboril hasn't decided what he'll study in college, but is considering math, philosophy and law.

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MICHIGAN—"King of the Countdowns" Casey Kasem hosted *Casey Kasem's American Top 40* on the radio from 1970 to 2004. The Detroit native began his radio career as an actor on *The Lone Ranger* during his college years.

MINNESOTA—Homesteader and prospector Cuyler Adams discovered iron ore in 1904 in central Minnesota and named the Cuyuna Range of iron mines by combining the first three letters of his name with the name of his constant companion, his St. Bernard, Una.

MISSOURI—In 1931, newly widowed Irma Rombauer of St. Louis needed to support her family and self-published 3,000 copies of *The Joy of Cooking*. Seventy-five years later, her book has sold millions of copies and remains a hit in the kitchen.

NEBRASKA—Built in 1856, the Old Presbyterian Church in Bellevue (pop. 44,382) is one of the state's oldest churches and boasts stained-glass windows and original oak pews.

NORTH DAKOTA—A larger-than-life statue of Meriwether Lewis' pet dog, Seaman, stands watch over the Missouri River at Fort Mandan in Washburn (pop. 1,389). The Newfoundland dog accompanied the 1804-1806 Lewis and Clark Expedition.

OHIO—Media mogul Ted Turner was born in 1938 in Cincinnati. In 1980, the businessman and philanthropist launched Cable News Nerwork (CNN), the first live, in-depth, round-the-clock news television network. He founded WTBS, which pioneered the superstation concept in cable television, and he also originated the Goodwill Games as an international, worldclass, multi-sport competition.

SOUTH DAKOTA—At an elevation of more than 4,400 feet, Bear Butte near Sturgis (pop. 6,442) long has been a sacred place for American Indians. On the hike to the top are bits of cloth tied to trees as prayer offerings.

WISCONSIN—Guests at the Taylor Inn Bed and Breakfast in Clear Lake (pop. 1,051) can stay in Aunt Bee's room, Opie's or Andy's. Marsha and Dave Scheuermann are such fans of *The Andy Griffith Shau* that they've re-created the TV show's set as their own home and inn.

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Ahead

If the holiday time crunch

has you wondering what snacks to have available for unexpected guests and onthe-go family members, consider these two no-fail, make-ahead recipes.

Julie Wesson, of Wilton Wis, sent us her recipe for Mushroom Mini-Muffins. These savory muffins are great as part of an elegant holiday buffet or to snack on in front of the television. And best of all, 'The muffins can be frozen and re-warmed, which makes them handy," Wesson says

With some snack crackers and Doris Sturgis' Garlic Cheese Roll, you'll be ready to serve a holiday hors d'oeuvre whenever friends stop by The cheese roll will keep indefinitely in the refrigerator and can be removed and sliced when guests walk through the door, says Sturgis of Mt. Pleasant, Texas If you don't want to use processed cheese, simply increase the amount of Cheddar to about 2 pounds and cream cheese to 4 ounces, keeping amounts of the other ingredients the same.

Abacrican Profile looks forward to receiving your favorite recipes and sharing them with our millions of readers across the nation. Send them to Hometown Recipes, American Profile, 341 Cool Springs Blvd., Suite 400, Franklin, TN 37067.

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RECIPE: Mushroom Mini-Muffins

Photo: High Cotton roc Styling & Photography



Mushroom Mini-Muffins

- ¹/₂ cup, plus 3 tablespoons, butter, divided
- l cup finely chopped sweet or Vidalia onion
- I pound portabella mushroom caps, finely chopped
- 3/4 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1/4 cup shredded Swiss cheese
- 1/2 cup finely chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 2 egg yolks, beaten
- l teaspoon sea salt
- 2 teaspoons Italian seasoning
- 8 slices wheat bread

I. Preheat oven to 350F.

2. Melt 3 tablespoons butter in a large skillet over medium heat, add onions and mushrooms, and sauté 6 minutes or until softened. Remove from heat. Stir in cheeses, parsley, egg yolks, salt and Italian seasoning.

3. Melt 1/2 cup butter in a small saucepan. With a rolling pin, flatten each slice of bread and cut into four squares. Dip each square into melted butter and place in a mini-muffin cup. Top each with a tablespoon of mushroom mixture. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until lightly browned. Serve warm. Garnish with extra cheese if desired. Serves 10 to 12.

Garlic Cheese Roll

- 1½ pounds sharp Cheddar cheese
- ¹/₂ pound processed cheese (like Velveeta)
- 3 ounces cream cheese, softened
- ¹/₂ cup finely chopped pecans
- I teaspoon seasoning salt Garlic powder, to taste Chili powder Chopped fresh parsley Chopped pecans

I. Shred Cheddar and processed cheese into a bowl. Mix in cream cheese. Add pecans, seasoning salt and garlic powder; mix well.

 Divide into three mounds. Roll each into a log about 2 inches in diameter. Roll one log in chili powder, one in parsley and one in pecans. Refrigerate several hours before serving.
Slice '/4-inch thick and serve with crackers. Serves 10 to 12.

Make some holiday magic.



Gampbells, Green Bean Casserole Prep: 10 min. Bake: 30 min.

- 2 cans (10 3/4 oz. each) Campbell's" Cream of Mushroom Soup (Regular or 25% Less Sodium)
- 1 cup milk
- 2 tsp. soy sauce
- 1 4 tsp. ground black pepper
- 8 cups cooked cut green beans
- 2 2 3 cups French's' French Fried Onions

- 1. Stir soup, milk, soy sauce, pepper, beans and 1 1/3 cups onions in a 3-gt. casserole.
- 2. Bake at 350°F. for 25 min. or until hot. Stir.
- 3. Top with remaining onions. Bake for 5 min. more. Makes 12 servings.
 - Make it fostive: storm a colorfal 1/2 cop of chopped wed pepper with the scop
 - For cheese lovers: Add 1/2 cop sheddad Chaddan anth the scop and omit the sey surve ن کې

Gamb

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M'm! M'm! Good! Casserole POSSIBILITIES

CampbellsKitchen.com

Hometown Hero

by KAREN KARVONEN Photos by Joshua Lawton

Enabling Disabled Skiers Hal O'Leary Jef accompanies Tryear old Michael Henshall, who has cerebral palsy, on the ski slope in Winter Park, Colo.

Nothing thrills ski instructor Hal O'Leary more than seeing a dozen empty wheelchairs parked at the base of the ski slopes in Winter Park, Colo. "I see people who are double amputees or paraplegics get out of their car, pull out their wheelchair and mono-ski (a molded seat mounted on a single ski with hand-held outrigger ski tips) and proceed to the lift all by themselves," O'Leary says.

Minutes later, they are whizzing down the runs using adaptive ski equipment that O'Leary helped develop. Since founding the

National Sports Center for the Disabled (NSCD) in 1970, O'Leary has made it possible for thousands of kids and adults with close to 100 different disabilities—including birth defects, multiple sclerosis, autism, developmental disabilities and blindness—to enjoy the snow-covered slopes. Today, the NSCD gives more than 7,000 ski lessons a year, and other programs worldwide refer people to the center.

O'Leary, 68, vividly recalls teaching his very first adaptive ski les-

"It was a cold, miserable January day, and the kids were slipping and sliding," recalls O'Leary, who lives in nearby Fraser, Colo. (pop. 910). "After lunch I put them on the chair lift, and it was a melee at the top. But as we started working on the practice hill, they began moving on their own and squealing with excitement."

Ski instructor Hal O'Leary

O'Leary was hooked, and his new dream was to inspire and enable disabled individuals to enjoy the sport he loves. He began to devise his own methods and equipment, developing the three-track system for amputees who use one ski and two outriggers, forearm crutches with ski tips mounted to the bases. When teaching a child with spina bifida who had great difficulty standing, O'Leary

devised a contraption called the ski bra. "Larry's skis kept parting and going out, and he would fall forward," O'Leary says. "So I put a hole in the tips of the skis and threaded a bungee cord through them



The smile says, "What a ride!"

to stabilize them. He was able to ski and turn without falling, and now I see it used wherever I go."

A former coach of the U.S. Disabled Olympic Ski Team, O'Leary pioneered competitive racing for the disabled. One of his star pupils, David Jamison of Tabernash, Colo. (pop. 165), the 1982 U.S. world champion in the slalom category, went on to race competitively for 22 years.

A three-tracker with polio in his left leg, Jamison started skiing with O'Leary in 1971. "Without him, I wouldn't have gotten to the level of skiing I did, and the racing program wouldn't have become world class," Jamison says.

Despite O'Leary's success with his students, his first 10 years were a struggle. "People who felt that skiing was for the 'able-bodied' criticized me," O'Leary says. That mindset changed, however, after his adaptive ski program was featured on the *Today* and *Good Morning America* television shows and began to gain national recognition.

In the last 36 years, O'Leary not only has enabled thousands to ski, he's touched lives and changed their course. Susan Hildebrecht of Boulder, Colo., who has cerebral palsy and skis with a ski bra and two outriggers, took lessons from O'Leary as a 16-year-old in 1977. "Hal is a phenomenal teacher with a sixth sense. He can tell you, 'Let's do this,' and nine



Anticipation builds on the ride to the top.

out of 10 times, it works," she says.

With O'Leary's support and encouragement, Hildebrecht passed the Professional Ski Instructors of America course and taught in Winter Park's adaptive ski program for 15 years.

"Hal's teaching goes beyond skiing," says Jamison, who now works in real estate. "He's been a coach, a mentor and a friend. He has taught me that I could achieve anything I put my mind to, and that has helped me be successful in my business."

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As adaptive skiing gained momentum, O'Leary has traveled worldwide to help establish programs for the disabled and is a recipient of the prestigious Professional Ski Instructor of America Lifetime Achievement Award. But he still gets the most satisfaction out of seeing a kid who walks with crutches glide down a slope with a big grin on his face.

"I've gotten a lot more out of this than I have put in over these 36 years," O'Leary says. "And I'll keep on teaching as long as I am upright."

Karen Karvonen is a writer based in Englewood, Colo.

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(Continued from page 7)

Still, the poinsettia remains Ecke Ranch's signature product and, though sold only six weeks a year, is the world's top-selling potted flowering plant. Each year, the company's 1,000 employees in the United States, Guatemala and Mexico breed and produce more than 50 million poinsettia cuttings in 60 varieties under 100 acres of greenhouses.

"We can't rest on our laurels," says Paul III, whose grandfather and father died in 1991 and 2002, respectively, and entrusted the family business to him. "At the end of the day, you have to have more than heritage and name recognition. You have to have a good product. I'm reminded of that with every shipment."

Visit www.ecke.com for more information.

Online Extras

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SPIRIVA[®] HandiHaler[®]

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In-recase hypersensitivity reactions including angioedema, may occur after administration of SPRVA. If such a reaction occurs therapy with SPRVA should be stopped at once and alternative treatments should be considered

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General

As an anachoinerge drug SPRNA (totropum bronide inhalation powder) may potentially worsen symptoms and signs associated with narrow angle glaucoma, prostate hyperplasa or biodoarneok obstruction and should be used with calcion in patients with any of these conditions is a predominarity result with calcion in patients with any of these conditions is a predominarity result excelled crug, patients with workaria to severe renal impairment (creationer destance of <50 mil/mar) treated with SPRNA should be monitored dosety (see the treatment of the conditioner and the conditions of the conditions of the treatment of the conditioner and the conditions of the conditions of the treatment of the conditioner and the conditioner of the conditions of the conditions of the conditioner of Treatine destance of <50 mL/mun treated with SPRIVA should be monitored quoor (see CLIBICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Pharmacokinetics, Special Populations, Renally +mpared Patients Information for Patients

It is important for patients to understand how to correctly administer SPIRIVA caosules using the Handi-Haler inhalation device (see Patient's Instructions for Use). SPIRIVA capsules should only be administered via the Handmaler device and the HandHaler device should not be used for administering other medications

other medicators. Capsules struct always be stored in seared bissers and only removed immediately before use. The bisser structure structure only one capsule at a time. Open the bisser foil as far as the STOP line to remove only one capsule at a time. The drug should be used immediately after the peoplaging over an individual capsule is opened, or each is effectiveness may be reduced. Capsules that are individually exposed to an u.e. not interced for immediate use should be discarded.

Service we exposed where we can also conclude a minediate LSE should be obscarded. Ever pain or disconsion, burred vision, visual halos or colored images in association with red ever from conjunctival congestion and conneal edena may be signs of acute namow-angle glaucoma. Should any of these signs and symptoms develop, corsult a physician immediately. Mono eye drops alone are not considered to be effective treatment.

Care must be taken not to allow the powder to enter into the eyes as this may cause bluming of vision and pupil chaton

SPRIVA Handwarer is a once-daily mamenance bronchobiator and should not be used for immediate relief of breathing problems i.e. as a rescue medication

Drug Interactions

SPERIA has been used concomparity with other drucs commonly used in COPD without increases in Service that we do not be include sympathommetic branchalars methylanithes and oral and images services however the co-administration of SPRNA with other anticholine go-complining drugs reigiliphatpopum) has not been studied and is therefore not recommended

Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions None known

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenesis, Monayenesis, Miqualinen or recurity No evidence of bumongenetiy was observed in a 104 week inhavation study in rats at toctopum coses up to 0.059 mg rapitagi in an 83 week inhavation study in female mice at doses up to 0.145 mg kg ray and in a 101-week inhavitor study in make mice at doses up to 0.022 mg kg ray. Trese doses correspond to 25.35 and 0.5 times the Recommended Human Daily Dose (RHOD) on a mg m bass respectively. These dose may be over-restimated due to difficulties in measuring deposited doses in animal inhavation studies.

Torroaum bromate cemonstrated no evidence of mutagenicity or clastogenicity in the following assays the bacterial gene mutation assay the V19 Onnese hamster cell mutagenesis assay the chronosomar aberration assays in human lymphongtes in with and mouse informations formation in involute the unscreduted DMA synthesis in primary rat hepatocytes in who assay

Unscreaged own synaress in primary rainequicities in Hoo assay in rats decreases in the number of corpora luca and the performance of incounts were noted at invaluon bothopum doses of 0.078 mg/kg/day or greater isponormately 35 times the RHD0 on a mg/m basis! No such effects were observed at 0.009 mg/kg/day (approximately 35 times the RHD0 on a RHD0 on a mg/m basis! The fertily notes however was not affected at infra atom doses up to 1.633 mg/kg/day (approximately 7.60 times the RHD0 on a mg/m basis: These dose mumbes may be use estimated due to doffoutives in measuring deposited doses in animal infrastrom studies. Pregnancy

Pregnancy Category C

No evidence of structural afersitons was observed in rais and rabbits at intraliation tootsporm doese of up to 1.471 and 0.007 implyporar respectively. These doese correspond to approximately 660 and 6 times the recommended thuman caling does pR400 in a impire. Dass Makever in rais tetal resorption, litter toss, docreases in the number of live burs at both and the mean pup weights and a delay in our sexual mataration were observed at initiation totroporm doese of 1.0078 mg/kg (approximately 35 lives the RH00 on a mg/m basis) in rabbits an increase in post-implantation toss was observed at an initiation does of 0.4 mg/kg/day (approximately 360 lines the RH00 on a mg/m basis). Such effects were not observed at initiation doese of 0.003 and up to 0.058 mg/kg/tary in rats and rabbits respectively. These does correspond to approximately 4 and 80 lines the RH00 on a mg/m basis, respectively. These does multiples may be over-estimated due to officiates in measuring deposited doese in animal imation sudees. No evidence of structural afterations was observed in rais and rabbits at initialation sotropium doses of

There are no accounte and well-controlled studies to program women. SP ANA should be used during programcy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

Use in Labor and Delivery The safety and effectiveness of SPRNA has not been studied during abor and delivery

Nursing Mothers

Cancel data from nursing women exposed to bottopum are not available. Based on lactating roderst studies bottopum is excreted into breast mike it is not known whether bottopum is excreted in human mak, but because many drugs are encreted in human mike and given these findings in rats caution should be exercised if SPRNA is administered to a nursing inoman.

Pediatric Lise

SPRIVA Handihater is approved for use in the maintenance treatment of bronchospasm associated with errorine obstructive plannoiary disease, including chronic bronchos and emphysiema. This disease does not normally occur in children. The safety and effectiveness of SPRIVA in pediatric patients have not been established Senathc Use

Genatric Use Of the total number of patents who received SPRVA in the 1-year clinical trads. 426 were <65 years 375 were 65-74 years and 105 were 275 years of age Wittim each age subgroup there were no alterances between the proportion of patents with adverse events in the SPRVA and the comparator groups for most events. Dry mouth increased with age in the SPRVA group (afterances from placeto) were 9.0%. 171 Ns, and 16.2% in the alternationed age subgroups. A higher frequency of constipation and urmary tract infections with increasing age was observed in the SPRVA group in the placebo-controlled studies. The differences from placetor for constipation were 0.%, 1.8% and 7.5% kor each of the age groups. The differences from placetor for constipation were 0.%, 1.8% and 7.5% kor 4.5%, No overall differences in effectiveness were observed among these groups. Based on available cata, no adjustment of SPRVA dosage in genetic platents is warranted. Anymers Reventions ADVERSE REACTIONS

Of the 2 663 potents in the four 1-year and two 6-month controlled clinical triats 1.308 were treated with SPRVA (potropium bromde inhabition powden) at the recommenced dose of 18 mog crice a day. Patients with namow angle glazionia or symptomatic prostatic hypertriphy or bladder outlet distruction were excluded from these triats.

The most commonly reported adverse drug reaction was dry mouth. Dry mouth was usually mild and often resolved during continued teatment. Other reactions reported in individual patients and consistent with possible attachainergic effects included consistent only individual patients and consistent glaucoma, unnary difficulty and urinary referition.

Four musclenter 1-year, controlled studies included SPFMA in patients with COPD Table 1 shows at adverse events that occurred with a frequency of 23% in the SPFMA group in the 1-year placebo-controlled thats where the rates in the SPFMA group exceeded placebo by 21%. The frequency of corresponding events in the grateourm-controlled thats is included for comparison. CK Pa inical Tra Table 1- A es) in One-Year-COPO C

HADRE IT MOTOR SE EXPERIEN		EOEAAS) IN VAR - 11		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Body System (Event)	Placebo-Controlled Trials		Ipratropium-Controlled Trials	
	SPIRIVA	Placebo	SPERINA	Ipratropium
	10-5508	(n=321)	In=3661	[c=179]

	(1111)	[pmar 1]	10-0001	
Body as a Whole				
Accidents	13	31	5	8
Onest Pain (non-specific)	7	5	5	2
Edema Dependent	5	4	3	5
Gastrointestinal System Disorde	rs –			
Abdominal Par	5	3	<u> </u>	6
Constration	4	2	1	1
Dry Moust	16	3	12	6
Dyspepsia	6	5	1	1
Vomang	4	2	1	2
Musculoskeletal System				
Myaloa	:	3	4	3
Resistance Mechanism Disorder	rs		_	
triection	4	3	1	3
Man kasis	:	2	3	2
Respiratory System (upper)				
Epistaus	÷	2	11	1
Pharyng tis	9	7	7	3
Rhints	6	5	3	2
Snusts	11	9	3	2
Upper Resonatory Tract Infection	41	37	43	35
Skin and Appendage Disorders				
Rash	4	2	2	2
Unnary System				
Unnary Tract Intection	7	5	4	2

Affinitis, coupling, and influence-we symptoms occurred at a rate of >3% in the SPIRNA treatment group but we e <1% in excess of the paceto group.

group but will e it 1% in encess of the placebo group. Other events that occurred in the SPRMA group at a frequency of 1-3% in the placebo-controlled trails where the ratice exceeded that in the public group include. Body as a Whole allergic reaction, leg pain. Central and Perpineral Nervous System disponding Darsbessia. Gastroniestnal System Disponses gastrontestinal disporter to other wise specified (NOSL gastroesphageal refux). Storantis in Central discrime stimulation. Metabolic and Numicinal Disponses. Hypercholesterolema, hyperglycethia Musculoskettal System Disporter specified (NOSL gastroesphageal refux). Storantis (Roboling ducerance stimulation). Metabolic and Numicinal Disponses. Hypercholesterolema, hyperglycethia Musculoskettal System Disporter specified (and Central Dispositions). Hypercholesterolema, hyperglycethia aligna pections: Psychiatric Disporter depression. Historis horpes zoster, Respirator, System Disporter (Upper) tamptis. Vision Disporter calizact, in acotion, among the alignar technicar tachycard a impocement and uning referitor. goedental and uninary referition

In the 1-year thats the incidence of dry mouth construction, and urmary tract intection increased with age issee PRECAUTIONS, Genaric Use

Are not controlled in the state of the states evaluated SPRVA in papers with COPD. The adverse evens and the incidence rates were similar to troce seen in the 1 year controlled trads. The following adverse reactions have been identified during worldwide post-approval use of SPRNA. Adverses, epsilaris, howeverses paperations, private tackycardia throat instance and uncara powers and adverse reactions.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The recommended dosage of SPRVA HandHater (botroourn bromide inhabon powder) is the inhabon of the contents of one SPRVA capside once daily with the Handinater inhabon device (see Patient's instructions for Use

No obsage adjustment is required for genatric, hepatically impared, or renally-impared patients However palarits with moderate to server renal impairment given SPREA should be monitored dosely (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY, Pharmacolonebos, Special Populations and PRECAUTIONS

SPIRIVA capsules are for inheration only and must not be swaltowed HOW SUPPLIED

carton containing 30 SPIRVA capsules (5 bister cards) and 1 Hand Haier inharation device (MDC 0597-0075-37)



R only

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Finding a by KATIE AND GENE Good Contractor

Finding a good professional home contractor—from an independent handyman to largescale builder—is not always a speedy process. But investing the time to find the right contractor for the job is time well spent. Here are some tips to help separate the good from the bad.

Home

Word of mouth—Most contractors say their best advertisement is "word of mouth" from satisfied customers. So begin the process by asking friends and relatives if they know a good tradesman they'd recommend.

Start looking—Drive around your neighborhood. If you see a dazzling new deck on a house, knock on the door and ask the homeowners if they're pleased with the results. Also look at houses under renovation that are similar in style to your own. Since some contractors specialize in old house restoration, while others work on newer homes, look for a professional with experience doing the type of remodeling you want. Most contractors include contact information on the side of their work trucks.

"Talk to neighbors and watch the progress of the job in your neighborhood," says Paul Winans, a contractor who runs Winans Construction in Oakland, Calif. If the project moves along and the site is well maintained, the company probably is well run.

Use the Internet—Go online to *unwnari.org.* a website for the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI)—a trade group of professional remodelers. The website features "Find a Professional Remodeler," which allows you to type in your zip code and get a list of trade group members who are contractors in your area.

The Internet offers another approach to finding a local contractor. Type "contractor referral" in a search engine such as Google and you'll find numerous websites designed as a matchmaker between homeowners and plumbers, remodelers, builders or other home service professionals. The service usually is free to customers.

Hit the stores—Let local home center stores act as your general contractor and find a tradesman for a job. Walk the aisles and you'll notice "Installed Price" signs on many of the building materials, appliances and fixtures they sell. For example, a tag on laminate flooring may read: "Installed \$4.50 per square foot." This service is particularly helpful because it puts a dollar value to the labor cost. However, it usually doesn't include the cost of preparation work needed (such as removing an existing floor before a new installation). This turnkey service is popular for consumers short on time.

Go where the pros shop—Don't overlook materials suppliers where professionals shop. For example, stop at a plumbing supply store if you need a plumber and ask if they know a good one. They may not recommend someone specifically, but they probably will tell you which plumbers are steady customers. A tradesman with plenty of customers is most likely a good one. Do your homework—When you make contact with a contractor, ask a lot of questions. Request a list of clients in your area and call them. Look at samples of their work. If yours is a large remodeling project, ask to see comparable work the contractor has done. Ask to see their state and locally issued contractor's license and how long they've been in business. If everything checks out fine, then make sure to get everything in writing before any dust flies.

Finding a good contractor requires a lot of preliminary footwork, but the payoff is hiring a professional who does the job right, on time and on budget. \Rightarrow

Katte and Gene Hamilton are authors of Carpentry for Dummies.



That's right! For our newest <u>National Recipe Contest</u>, we're calling for the best original "Get-Together" recipes in the country! These are the recipes you've shared with rave reviews at **family reunions**, **community potlucks** or **church suppers**. We're looking for the best appetizers, main dishes, desserts or any other special dish you love to make — we'd love to include it in our new cookbook: THE AMERICAN PROFILE HOMETOWN "GET-TOGETHER" COOKBOOK.

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FREE BOOK: Every recipe chosen will receive a free copy of the American Profile Hometown "Get-Together" cookbook

SPECIAL PRIZE OF \$250.00 will be awarded to one recipe that uses Original French's Fried Onions





Send in Your Favorite Get-Together Recipe by March 1, 2007

HERE'S HOW: Send your entries to: Get-Together Recipes, 341 Cool Springs Blvd., Ste. 400, Franklin, TN 37067.

PLEASE NOTE: One recipe per envelope, please. Include a color photo of yourself. Please tell us about the get-together you've shared your recipe.

For Official Rules, please visit www.americanprofile.com.

NO PURCHASE OR CONSIDERATION IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Open, December 24, 2006 through March 1, 2007 only to residents of the continental U.S. and D.C., 18 years of age or older. Void where prohibited, Recipes must be postmarked by 11.59 p.m. on March 1, 2007. By participating, entrants agree to the Official Rules available at amencanprofile com and the decision of the judges. No submissions or photos will be returned.







"High Blood Pressure Lowered Naturally — Your Arteries Can Clean Themselves!"

(By Frank K. Wood)

If you suffer from high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol, clogged arteries, or other circulatory problems, you need High Blood Pressure Lowered Naturally.

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- Add years to your life? Doing this can reduce your risk of heart attack or stroke and improve the quality of your life.
- 6 ways to lose weight that actually work.
- ► If your doctor has told you your arteries are clogged, this 10,000-year-old remedy will help clean them out like a natural Roto-Rooter*.
- Mother Nature's "miracle" heart shield. Studies prove when you add it to salads, pasta, soups - you name it - it prevents the build up of fat and cholesterol in your arteries, reduces triglycerides, and

increases your "good" cholesterol.

- ► A French study has found that eating this fruit regularly can help prevent hardening of the arteries.
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- Most powerful heart healer on earth. Keeps arteries flexible, improves cholesterol levels, and lowers heart attack risk. TO ORDER A COPY

High Blood Pressure Lowered Naturally for \$9.99. See coupon. OFC&A 2006

"HONEY Can Heal WH

(By Frank K. Wood)

If you want to learn how to use gentle folk remedies to unleash your body's healing power instead of resorting to dangerous prescription drugs or risky surgery, you need The Folk Remedy Encyclopedia.

You'll be amazed by how many inexpensive, easy, natural cures you can find all around you - in your pantry, garden, garage, and grocery store.

- One super vitamin protects your vision, fights infections, keeps skin, bones, and cells healthy, plus fights heart disease. cancer, memory loss, arthritis, liver disease. Parkinson's, and complications of diabetes. Are you getting 100%?
- Flatten your stomach without gutwrenching exercises. These tips turn ugly flab into rock-hard abs!
- ► A natural way to rejuvenate your veins and arteries that will have you feeling brand new.
- Miracle healing seed lowers blood pressure, reduces risk of stroke, plus fights arthritis, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, stomach disorders, and even mental problems!
- Prevent high blood pressure, colon cancer, senility, and fragile bones. All with one - yes, one - inexpensive daily supplement that keeps you healthy and strong.
- ► That "spare tire" around your waist is

doing more than just slowing you down. It also increases your risk of many life-threatening illnesses. Burn it off without gutwrenching sit-ups and

grueling fitness regimens.

- Nature's wonder food for your body once praised by Gandhi. Fights heart disease, high blood pressure, stroke, arthritis, type 2 diabetes, and even protects against breast, colon, and prostate cancer!
- Clogged arteries virtually disappear when you add this to your life every day.
- Here's the secret to naturally block out calories from foods. Just add this when you eat - and watch the weight melt away.
- It protects your heart, lowers your cholesterol, fights cancer, and much more! Researchers take a good look at this 'miracle'' mineral.
- ▶ Kills cancer cells dead in their tracks! Duke University study proves this tiny seed packs a powerful punch!
- ► Just 2 glasses a day of (you won't believe this - but it's true!) lowers your cholesterol - and prevents heart attacks too!

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OFC&A 2006



Plain Answers about IBS, Constipation, Diarrhea, Heartburn, Ulcers, and More!

(By Frank K. Wood)

If you suffer from bloating, abdominal cramps, chronic constipation/diarrhea, varicose leg veins, digestive spasms, fatigue, or symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), you need The Complete Guide to Digestive Health, an informative new book just released to the public by FC&A Medical Publishing^{*} in Peachtree City, Georgia.

Intestinal problems? Learn about important new research discoveries that identify which foods are your allies and which foods are your enemies, including information about what you should avoid drinking. Discover what you can do to clean out your intestines, ease stress, and calm your digestive system. And find out how you can soothe an irritable bowel just by sipping this beverage.

The authors provide many health tips with full explanations.

- Make these simple changes and be rid
- of gas!
- Belching and bloating they could ► be warning signs of up to 7 hidden health problems.

Constipation? Discover a natural cure that's better than fiber!

- Lower blood pressure ... fewer ulcers ► ... less colitis ... just some of the benefits of letting yourself do this.
- 12 ways to ease stress and calm diges-► tion.

Does your digestive system benefit more from savory breads and cereals or from scrumptious fruits and vegetables? The answer may surprise you!

- ▶ Vitamins and minerals may keep you from getting colon cancer, even if this awful killer runs in your family.
- ▶ Drop pounds and ditch heartburn with these good fats.
- Like red meat? You can still lower cancer risks by adding this to your plate.
- ► Heal your body, improve digestion, moisturize skin, help control weight, and it's free!
- Chew this at every meal for a happy. healthy colon.
- ▶ How to prevent the embarrassment of a leaky bladder.
- Serve safe spuds ... foil wrapped potato can spell danger!
- ► These herbs may actually be better at relieving gas than some commercial products. Find out what they are.
- Learn about the secret "sponge" in your digestive tract that absorbs water and prevents constipation.
- Lower cancer risk and reduce polyps ... bone up on this mineral for healthy intestines.
- ► Don't poison yourself with over-thecounter antacids, laxatives, or pain relievers. Find out which ones to watch out for.
- This disease, often misdiagnosed as irritable bowel syndrome, can cause malnutrition, bloating -- even cancer! How diet changes can reverse its symptoms.
- ► Eyes bigger than your stomach? Find relief with this herb after overeating.
- Cinnamon spice is nice ... except to bacteria - nips E. coli in the bud! TỔ ORDER A COPY

Coupon

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