

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
NOVI PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY COMMISSION
AGENDA
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2007 – 7:30PM
NOVI CIVIC CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Vision Statement - “The Nation’s Model of Excellence in Parks and Recreation Services”
Mission Statement - “Enriching Lives . . . Strengthening Community”

- 1. ROLL CALL:** Commissioner Dooley, Goyal, Kristock, Policicchio, Radcliffe, Schwarzlose, Staab, Wingfield, Zyczynski
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
- 4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - A. Approval of the August 9, 2007 meeting minutes.
- 6. DIRECTOR’S REPORT** – Randy Auler, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry
 - A. Update on Capital Improvement Projects
 - B. Update on Senior Services Strategic Plan – Nancy Cowan, Superintendent of Recreation
 - C. Update on Naming Rights Program – Randy Auler, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry
- 7. MATTERS FOR COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**
 - A. Approval of August 9, 2007 meeting minutes.
 - B. Review of drafted five-year Tree Fund Planting Strategy – Steve Printz, City Forester
 - C. Review of drafted Park Land Acquisition Strategy – Randy Auler, Director
 - D. Review of proposed Commission Committees, Randy Auler, Director
- 8. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**
- 9. COMMISSION COMMENTS:**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT:**

11. FUTURE MEETINGS:

October 2007

- 8 Beautification Commission, 2:15 PM
- 8 City Council, 7 PM
- 10 Planning Commission, 7:30 PM
- 11 Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission, 7:30 PM
- 15 City Council Interviews, 7 PM
- 17 Historical Commission, 10 AM
- 22 City Council, 7 PM
- 24 Planning Commission, 7:30 PM

November 2007

- 6 Election Day
- 7 Planning Commission, 7:30 PM
- 8 Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission, 7:30 PM
- 12 Veterans Day Observed, City Offices Closed
- 13 Beautification Commission, 2:15 PM
- 13 City Council, 7 PM
- 21 Historical Commission, 10 AM
- 22 Thanksgiving Day, City Offices Closed
- 23 City Offices Closed
- 26 City Council, 7 PM
- 28 Planning Commission, 7:30 PM

NOTICE: People with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department (248) 347-0400 at least two working days in advance of the meeting. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission

FROM: Randy Auler, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry

DATE: September 11, 2007

SUBJECT: 2007/2008 Priorities and Commission Committees

The 2007/2010 Strategic Plan identified nine strategy priorities to lead us toward the achievement of our vision. Staff utilized these priorities to identify key tactical objectives to achieve in 2007/2008. The objectives are:

- Acquisition/development plans for additional parkland to meet the active recreation needs of the community including funds in the 2008/2009 proposed budget.
- Complete and implement a Strategic Plan to meet the needs of the “boomers” and “seniors”.
- Plan for best use of Fuerst Farm property and the re-location of Township Hall.
- Increase self-sufficiency of recreation programs and reduce general fund support for recreation programs by 10%.
- Develop a Five Year Master Plan and a six-year Capital Improvement Plan.
- Develop and provide comprehensive recreation programs for all ages and interests.
- Implement a plan to improve parks, facilities and forests.
- Establish and strengthen connection with the community, which generates additional support for services.
- Plan and implement a “Good to Great” process to become a high performance organization.
- Plan and begin process to receive National Accreditation for the department.

To accomplish the desired outcomes, these objectives have been assigned to staff and staff teams. Additionally, many of these objectives require Commission’s input and support. To that end, I recommend the following committees and related objectives:

Proposed Committee

Strategic Planning

Key Objectives

-Acquisition/development plans for additional parkland to meet the active recreation needs of the community including funds in the 2008/2009 proposed budget.

-Complete and implement a Strategic Plan to meet the needs of the “boomers” and “seniors”.

-Plan for best use of Fuerst Farm property and the re-location of Township Hall.

Master Planning

- Develop a Five Year Master Plan and a six-year Capital Improvement Plan.

Operations/Organization Development

- Plan and implement a “Good to Great” process to become a high performance organization.
- Plan and begin process to receive National Accreditation for the department.
- Establish and strengthen connection with the community, which generates additional support for services.

Two commissioners could serve on the Strategic Planning and Master Planning Committees. The Operations/Organization Development Committee would have the commission chair and two commissioners.

**City of Novi
Commission Staff Report**

Enriching Lives...Strengthening Community

To: Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission
Date: September 10, 2007
From: Tracie Ringle, Communications & Resource Development Supervisor
Subject: August 2007 SUMMARY REPORT – Parks, Recreation and Forestry Programs and Services

The following are items of interest grouped by the components of our mission (bolded below):

Individual Stewardship

[Strengthening safety and security for the individual; providing recreational experiences for the individual; promoting the individual's healthy and active lifestyle – reducing stress, etc.; creating wellness that curtails health care costs; and other things that are geared toward the individual residents we serve.]

- **Recreation programs for people of all ages provide opportunity for individual growth, skill development and increased self confidence:**
 1. The Senior Center hosted 3 great events this month, the annual picnic, volunteer appreciation and the monthly dance. The programs were highly rated by the participants: 4.9, 5.0 and 4.8 respectively. The events all provide opportunity for socialization and interaction for our older adult population.
 2. The Volunteer Appreciation event hosted over 60 volunteers and showcased our appreciation of their efforts at the senior center. Mayor Landry spoke about the value and benefit volunteers bring to the community and the individual.
 3. Novi Parks Performing Arts-Novı Theatres produced The Emperor's New Clothes on August 23-25. The show provided performance opportunity and skill development for 24 children.
 4. The Fall Adult Softball league is bigger than ever with 61 teams. The league provides an opportunity for adult recreation and promotes a healthy active lifestyle.
 - Eagle Scout-Eric Baumgarten will be contributing 250 hours to the senior center to build a small gazebo on our grounds. The gazebo will be enjoyed by the residents and Eric will be recognized for volunteer work from the scouting organization.

Community Stewardship

[Strengthening community image and sense of place; building civic pride; strengthening safety and security community-wide; increasing cultural unity; and other things that contribute to an excellent quality of life for the community]

We have continued to improve our communication and service with the community:

1. Numbers of online registration users has increased dramatically since we implemented the \$5 discount. 69% of registrations were taken online during the month of August
2. The Recreation Guide redesign has received positive feedback for the community.
3. Matt Wiktorowski has attended and presented at two Homeowner Association meetings, sharing our message and involvement opportunities.
4. A Community Awareness meeting was held on August 28 at Lakeshore to communicate with residents and business owners regarding the triathlon event and lane closures. An informational post card was sent to over 1700 effected community members.
5. We utilized the Survey Monkey on-line tool to evaluate the summer horseback riding programs. Using this system allows us to send evaluations via email and tally results quickly and accurately. This allows us to make appropriate changes and improvements to our programs to better fit our user's needs.
6. The Senior Center recently participated in a survey for older adults in the community. It will assist in the strategic plan, programming and more. The survey closed on August 25 with a 48% response rate. Results will be completed in September and the report will be final in October. The results will be presented to City Council in November.
7. Commissioner Karen Zyczynski has created a newsletter featuring recreation programs to share with her homeowners association.

Economic Stewardship

[Making Novi an attractive place for people to visit, have their businesses, live; bringing increased spending revenues into Novi; raising property values; establishing partnerships and collaborations that allow us to do more with less; and other things that have an economic impact on the city.]

- Softball tournaments provide an economic impact, not only to the department, but for the community. The annual Guardian Tournament hosted over 25 teams on August 18 & 19. The upcoming Japanese Business Society Tournament will be played at Power Park on September 9 and 16.
- The theatre saved on royalty costs by producing The Emperor's new Clothes as written by Debbie Lannen.
- During the month of July the Department received over \$5,700 in sponsorships and in-kind donations.

August 2007 Summary Report
City of Novi Parks Department

Environmental Stewardship

[Furthering historic preservation; creating and preserving parks/trails/wetlands; crafting environmentally friendly recreational experiences; and other things that care for our environment]

- The September-December Recreation Guide features a number of “green” living tips that our community members can easily utilize. These tips will continue to be a part of the guide.
- The increase in online registrations helps to save paper resources by creating receipts online.

PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2007 – 7:30 PM

NOVI CIVIC CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM with Commissioner Wingfield presiding.

ROLL CALL: Dooley (Present), Goyal (Present), Kristock (Absent), Policicchio (Present), Radcliffe (Present), Schwarzlose (Present), Staab (Present), Wingfield (Present), Zyczynski (Absent).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was moved by Commissioner Dooley, seconded by Commissioner Radcliffe to approve the agenda.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of July 12, 2007, meeting minutes.

Moved by Commissioner Policicchio, seconded by Commissioner Dooley.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Park Foundation – Commissioner Staab

The third annual Park Foundation golf outing was held August 2, 2007. We had 28 foursomes, 128 golfers and everyone had a great time. We raised about \$10,000 for the Foundation. Many thanks to the Parks and Recreation department who helped out with auction items, registration and numerous other things.

Commissioner Dooley thanked Kathy Cosentino for all her time and effort. He also thanked Commissioner Staab and Brian Burke.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Superintendent Cowan reviewed the Press Release information regarding the zamboni fire at the Ice Arena. She stated that the Ice Arena has suspended operations in order to work with the insurance adjusters and start restoration.

Fit Novi Race takes place on September 8th and 9th. The September 8th race will be a sprint triathlon and Duathlon at Lakeshore Park and on September 9th a 5K, 10K and 15K Run along with a kid run and ending with a festival in the Novi Town Center area. She encouraged everyone's participation and said they are looking for volunteers.

The Parks and Recreation brochure is getting ready to go to print and will be in the mail by August 15th. Registrations will also begin on the internet August 15th. There will be many new and exciting programs this fall and she encouraged everyone to visit the website.

Superintendent Cowan also discussed Director Auler's memorandum regarding the list of strategic priorities. She stated that during the September meeting, new committees will be established.

Commissioner Staab proposed that the Commission receive the definitions for the committees listed in Director Auler's memo of August 7, 2007, in enough time to understand what the committee's will encompass.

Commissioner Staab also wanted an update on the problems regarding the Tim Pope play structure at Community Sports Park. He would like to know if that problem has been rectified.

Superintendent Cowan said she would follow-up with him on the play structure.

Commissioner Schwarzlose asked about the feedback on the Pick and Click registration?

Superintendent Cowan replied that has been received well, and that in the next brochure we are making it easier and faster for our customers, more user-friendly, as well as more cost effective. Our numbers should continue to rise in the coming months.

Commissioner Radcliffe asked if status reports on the existing committees could be issued.

Superintendent Cowan stated that all of the information would be laid out in the future.

Commissioner Wingfield stated if the committees are going to be picked in October, he would like Randy to propose 5 committees. He could then define those committees as he would like to see them. Then we could discuss how we would like to see them in conjunction with how he would like to see them, that way, it would give us better direction.

Commission Comments:

Commissioner Radcliffe - stated that she hopes people take a serious look at the ballot proposal for the Novi Public Library, it is very important for our community.

Commissioner Staab - on September 18th, the Choralaires will begin another season and will have auditions for new members. He also thanked Brian Burke and Kathy Cosentino for their participation in the golf outing. He thanked Dave Staudt for his contribution of signage and printing and treasury work.

Commissioner Dooley - on November 9th, a Gala will be held for citizens of Novi to mingle and get to know each other better. We would like to get to know you and we feel that this would be a great opportunity to do that. The theme of this Gala will be "Diamonds Are Forever". The date will be Friday, November 9th.

Commissioner Schwarzlose – stated that he would like to thank the Parks, Recreation and Forestry department for their work behind the scenes at the recent golf outing and the involvement in the program.

Commissioner Wingfield – stated he would like to thank Commissioner Staab and everyone for the excellent golf outing. He also appreciated the update on the condition of the ice arena.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Policicchio and seconded by Commissioner Radcliffe at 7:48 PM.

Signed, Harold L. Wingfield, Chairperson

Signed, Reagan Schwarzlose, Vice Chairperson

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Operations Division Capital/Service Improvement Project Status Report 2006-2008

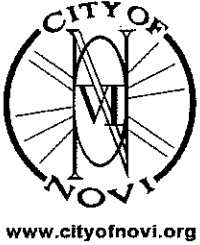
Project Description	Allocated Budget 2006/2007	Project Cost	Project Type	Project Status	Priority	Impact	Completion Date
Power Park Renovation Phase I Complete Fencing System Well Installation Irrigation System Installation Inlette Surfacing Amendment Engineering and Design	Yes \$342,000	\$270,280 \$177,399 \$28,328 \$37,500 \$21,853 \$5,240	CO Power Park	Completed	High	Completed	8/12/2007
Community Sports Park Ball Field Renovation (s) Field #5 Renovation Alternate Field #1 Renovation	Yes \$34,000	\$45,179 N/A	RR Community Sports Park	Completed	Medium	Completed	8/12/2007
Community Sports Park Maintenance Facility The construction of a new maintenance facility on a park site streamlines the cities operational process	Yes \$152,000		CO All	In Progress	High	In Progress	10/12/2007
Wide Area Mower A mower with a 15' cutting width greatly enhances our maintenance operations	Yes \$56,009	\$54,974	OE Community Sports Park	Completed	Medium	Scheduled meetings for PC, ZBA, and CC	8/15/2007
Zero Turning Radius Mower The replacement of a 1990 mower enhances our operations	Yes \$8,500	\$7,925	OE All	Completed	Low	Completed	
2007 Pick-up Truck Phasing out old vehicles to reduce maintenance costs	Yes \$30,000	\$27,694	OE All	Completed	Low	Completed	
Lakeshore Park Shelter Construction Adding picnic facilities to accommodate the growing demand of park patrons at L.S.P.	Yes \$35,500		CO Lakeshore Park	In Progress	Medium	In Progress	12/31/2007
Civic Center Chiller Materials and installation Engineering and Design A.C. unit above computer room Back-up A.C. unit above computer room	Yes \$350,000	\$210,000 \$12,500 \$7,025	OE Civic Center	Completed	High	Writing specs to secure architectural firm Significant Progress Made Significant Progress Made	8/12/2007
Civic Center Lighting Replaces all parking lot light poles on Civic Center grounds	Yes \$61,500		RR Civic Center	In Progress	High	Completed Awaiting quote from Detroit Temp	7/13/2007 7/13/2007
Council Chamber Seating Chair installation Council Chamber carpet replacement	Yes \$25,000	\$8,775	RR Civic Center	In Progress	High	Writing specs To council in September 24	8/31/2007 7/31/2007
Forestry Spring Planting Installation of 1,700 trees in ROW, parks, and municipal grounds	Yes \$280,000	\$280,000	CO Community	Completed	High	Completed Trees planted and under warranty	7/31/2007
Civic Center Parking Lot Seal Coat Sealing the Civic Center and PD asphalt and striping	Yes \$11,400	\$14,955	RR Civic Center/PPD	Completed	Medium	Completed	8/31/2007
Civic Center Elevator Modernization Meet State and Federal guidelines for municipal elevators	Yes \$46,000		OE Civic Center	In Progress	Medium	Submitting P.O. 9/17/07	8/31/2007
Civic Center Fire Alarm Enhances fire protection throughout Community Center	Yes \$35,000	\$23,800	OE Civic Center	Completed	High	Significant Progress Made Awaiting Fire Department inspection	8/15/2007 8/15/2007

Forest Jobs
CO - Construction Project. These projects are focused toward streamlining Departmental operations.
RP - Renovation Project. These are new large-scale information systems implementations.
OE - Operation, Enhancement, Project. These projects typically support the ongoing maintenance, support, and installation of IT, infrastructure and systems.

Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Operations Division Capital/Service Improvement Project Status Report 2006-2008

Project Description	Budgeted Project Dollars	Allocated Project Dollars	Planned Cost	Project Type	Parks/Facilities Affected	Impact	City Staff Resources Level	Requirements	Project Status	Completed/Completion Date
Power Park Phase 2 Engineering and Design Materials and Installation	Yes	\$560,000	OE	Power Park	Parks	High	In Progress	Writing specs for electrical engineer	12/31/2007	MW/DS
Community Sports Park Soccer Field Renovations Engineering and Design Materials and Installation	Yes	\$155,000	CO	Community Sports Park	Parks	High	In Progress	Writing specs to hire contractor	8/31/2007 11/31/2007	MW/ND
2008 Pick-up Truck Phasing out old vehicles to reduce maintenance costs	Yes	\$30,000	OE	All	Parks	Low	Significant Progress Made	Rev leaving Vendor Quotes	11/31/2007	SP
2008 Pick-up Truck Phasing out old vehicles to reduce maintenance costs	Yes	\$30,000	OE	All	Forestry	Low	Significant Progress Made	Rev leaving Vendor Quotes	12/31/2007	SP
Senior Bus (Senior Transportation) - New Phasing out old vehicles to reduce maintenance costs	Yes	\$39,000	OE	Transportation	Seniors		Significant Progress Made	Rev leaving Vendor Quotes	4/1/2008	RZ
Caulking of Side Windows/Framing in Atrium Phase 2	Yes	\$21,690	OE	Civic Center	Building & Grounds		In Progress	Quotes due back 9/19/07	6/30/2008	NC/RV/MW
Unframed Round Rollaway Tables (15)	Yes	\$6,875	OE	Civic Center	Building & Grounds		Significant Progress Made	Ordered tables 9/11/07	1/1/2008	NC/RV/SP
Vinyl Padded Chairs (60)	Yes	\$5,540	OE	Civic Center	Building & Grounds		In Progress	P.O. submits 8/24	1/1/2008	NC/RV/SP
Wall Panel Trolleys and Tracks Replacement	Yes	\$13,500	RR	Civic Center	Building & Grounds		In Progress		4/1/2008	MW/RV
Folding Wall Maintenance	Yes	\$4,000	OE	Civic Center	Building & Grounds		In Progress		4/1/2008	MW/RV
Atrium Seating Replacement	Yes	\$8,000	RR	Civic Center	Building & Grounds		In Progress		4/1/2008	MW
Infield Material	Yes	\$23,000	RR	Community Sports Pavilion/Power Park	Parks		In Progress	Samples and drawings prepared	6/30/2008	MW/SP
Soil - Top Dressing	Yes	\$10,000	RR	Community Sports Park	Parks		In Progress		6/30/2008	MW/SP
Lap Top Computer (Field Personnel)	Yes	\$2,200	OE	All	Forestry/I.T.		In Progress	Working with I.T.	1/1/2008	SP
PC Refresh - Parks, Recreation, and Forestry	Yes	\$7,062	OE	All	Parks, Recreation, & Forestry/I.T.		Significant Progress Made	Working with I.T.	1/1/2008	NC/ND
Top Dresser Distribution Machine	Yes	\$21,150	OE	All	Parks		Significant Progress Made	Rev leaving Vendor Quotes	6/30/2008	MW/SP
Utility Vehicle	Yes	\$18,000	OE	All	Parks		Significant Progress Made	Rev leaving Vendor Quotes	6/30/2008	MW/SP

Project Types
 CO - Construction Project. These projects are focused toward streamlining Departmental operations.
 RR - Renovation Project. These are new large-scale information systems implementations.
 OE - Operation Enhancement Project. These projects typically support the ongoing maintenance, support, and installation of I.T. infrastructure and systems.



Memorandum

TO: Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission

FROM: Nancy Cowan, Superintendent of Recreation

DATE: September 4, 2007

RE: Senior Services Strategic Plan

As documented, the number of seniors and boomers is on the rise all over the country and in the City of Novi. Planning to meet the expectations and needs of boomers and seniors now and into the future is critical. Therefore, Parks, Recreation and Forestry is currently developing a 2007-2010 Senior Services Strategic Plan.

The planning process will include staff, focus groups involving key stakeholders, consultations with experts in the field and research on a national, state and regional level. In addition, the information compiled from the Older Adult Survey by early November will also be included in the plan. The process will involve answering three main questions pertaining to senior services in Novi.

1. Are we doing the right things and in the right way?
2. What do we want to be and do in the future?
3. How will we get there?

The result will be a plan specifically utilized for the guidance of senior services within the City. The current timeline is to hold focus group meetings within the next two weeks and complete the plan by November 2007.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission

FROM: Randy Auler, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry

DATE: September 10, 2007

SUBJECT: Tom Holzer Ford Donation Acknowledgement and Acceptance Agreement

The attached Donation Acknowledgement and Acceptance Agreement was approved by City Council on August 27, 2007.

Attach.



CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

www.cityofnovi.org

Agenda Item C
August 27, 2007

SUBJECT: Approval of the Parks and Recreation facilities donation acknowledgement and acceptance of the agreement with Tom Holzer Ford.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation & Forestry

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ch', written over the 'CITY MANAGER APPROVAL' text.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In early 2005, City Council, the Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission, the Parks Foundation, and City staff identified the opportunity to generate additional funds for the park system through the development of a naming rights program. On April 18, 2005, City Council approved a naming rights policy and conceptually agreed to have the Parks Foundation serve as the agent to market and negotiate the naming rights agreements. On September 26, 2005, City Council and the Parks Foundation completed an agreement enabling the Parks Foundation to pursue donors through the naming rights program.

The Parks Foundation Naming Rights Committee identified prospects and continues to present the benefits of becoming a donor through the naming rights program. Recently, one prospect has agreed to become a donor. Tom Holzer Ford has agreed to donate up to \$8,500 toward a pre-paid Ford Motor Red Carpet Lease on a new, current model year Ford Division Product two-year lease, and further agrees to do so for three separate two-year leases over three (3) years – i.e., \$8,500 toward a two-year lease for the Fall 2007-2008 season, the Fall 2008-2009 season and the Fall 2009-2010 season. Donor and the City acknowledge that this cash-equivalent donation represents a minimum value to the City's parks and recreation facilities of \$25,500 over a three-year period. However, the City acknowledges that the intention of the Novi Parks Foundation is to seek to increase the value of the cash-equivalent donation by using the vehicle lease donation as a raffle item. Depending on the amount raised at such raffle, the value of the donation could be substantially more than the cash-equivalent amount, and will not be less than such cash-equivalent amount. The naming rights granted in this agreement are for the naming of a baseball field, at Power Park, as the "Tom Holzer Field" (see Attachment A), for a three-year period, beginning on December 31, 2007 and ending on December 31, 2010. In accordance with the agreement between the City and the Foundation for the administration of the naming rights, ten (10) percent of the annual donation will be placed in the Foundation Endorsement Fund, and the cost of the sign (\$1,000) will be deducted from the first donation. The Foundation is waiving its ten (10) percent for administration cost on this donation. The following is an overview of the impact of the three-year donation.

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	TOTAL
Donation	\$8500	\$8500	\$8500	\$25,500
Endowment 10%	850	850	850	2,550
Signage	1000	-	-	1,000
Foundation				
Administration				
Cost	-	-	-	-
Funds available				
for park improve-				
ments	6650	7650	7650	\$21,950

The following items are attached:

- Parks and Recreation facilities donation acknowledgement and acceptance agreement. This document outlines the terms of the donation.
- An aerial view of the ball field.
- A copy of the Naming Rights Policy approved by City Council on April 18, 2005.
- A copy of the agreement between the City and the Park Foundation for the administration of the Naming Rights Program.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of the Parks and Recreation facilities donation acknowledgement and acceptance of the agreement with Tom Holzer Ford.

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Landry				
Mayor Pro Tem Capello				
Council Member Gatt				
Council Member Margolis				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Nagy				
Council Member Paul				

CITY OF NOVI

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES DONATION ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND ACCEPTANCE AGREEMENT

The **City of Novi ("City")**, a Michigan municipal corporation, whose address is 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI, 48375, and **Tom Holzer Ford ("Donor")**, whose address is 39300 West Ten Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335, agree as follows:

The City has adopted a Parks and Recreation Facilities Naming Rights Policy that encourages individuals and entities to donate funds to benefit City parks and recreation facilities and that recognizes and acknowledges the spirit and generosity of such donations through an appropriate, City-approved public placement of the name or other message of the donor in connection with designated parks and recreation facilities to which the donation is directed by the donor.

The City's naming rights program is administered by and through the Novi Parks Foundation, a Michigan non-profit and charitable organization.

Donor agrees to donate up to \$8,500 toward a pre-paid Ford Motor Red Carpet Lease on a new, current model year Ford Division Product two-year lease, from Tom Holzer Ford, and further agrees to do so for three separate two-year leases over three years—i.e., \$8,500 toward a two-year lease for the Fall 2007-2008 season, the Fall, 2008-2009 season, and the Fall 2009-2010 season.

Donor and the City acknowledge that this cash-equivalent donation represents a minimum value to the City's parks and recreation facilities of \$25,500 over a three-year period. However, the City acknowledges that the intention of the Parks Foundation is to seek to increase the value of the cash-equivalent donation by using the vehicle lease donation as a raffle item. Depending on the amount raised at such a raffle, the value of the donation could be substantially more than the cash-equivalent amount, and will not be less than such cash-equivalent amount. The amount of the cash-equivalent donation may be used toward the lease of any vehicle; if the cost of the two-year lease exceeds \$8,500, however, Donor is not responsible for any such additional fees or costs, which shall be the responsibility of the Lessee.

The annual amount shall be payable as a credit on three two-year leases of vehicles, as described above, on or before October 1, 2007 for the first donation year, January 1, 2008 for the second donation year, and January 1, 2009 for the third and final donation year. The City shall receive a copy of documents reflecting the application of the credit to confirm the receipt of the expected minimum cash-equivalent value of the donation.

The naming rights granted in this agreement are for the naming of a baseball field, currently called our "Green Field" in the southwest corner at Power Park, as "Tom Holzer Field" (see Attachment A), for a three-year period, beginning on December 31, 2007 and ending on December 31, 2010.

The funds donated will be used in accordance with the September 26, 2005 Agreement between the City of Novi and the Novi Parks Foundation and the City's Parks and Recreation Naming Rights Policy. Upon receipt of the initial installment, the City agrees that it will cause the plaque/sign shown on Attachment A to be ordered and placed in a mutually agreed upon location.

This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

All terms and conditions of the "Regulations Regarding Naming Rights of Parks or Facilities" adopted by the City of Novi as part of the Parks and Recreation Facilities Naming Rights Policy (receipt of which Donor acknowledges) are incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth.

This agreement is not assignable without express approval of the City.

Donor acknowledges that this agreement does not constitute an endorsement of Donor or any products or services of Donor of the City or the Novi Parks Foundation, nor does it entitle Donor to use the City's or the Foundation's name, logo, or trademark in any form or manner or for any purpose without prior approval.

Donor Information

Name: Tom Holzer Ford
Address: 39300 West Ten Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335
Telephone: (248) 474-1234
Facsimile: (248) 474-6121
Contact: Brian Burke

The term of this agreement shall be from October 1, 2007, to May 1, 2010.

DONOR
TOM HOLZER FORD

By: _____

Its: _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)ss.
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

On this ____ day of _____, 2007, before me appeared _____, authorized representative of Donor, who states that he/she has signed this document of his/her own free will on behalf of Donor.

Notary Public

CITY OF NOVI

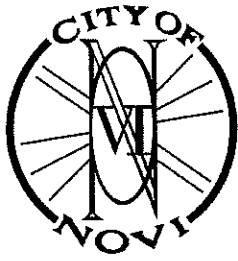
By: _____

Its: _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)ss.
COUNTY OF OAKLAND)

On this ___ day of _____, 2007, before me appeared _____, authorized representative of the City of Novi, who states that he/she has signed this document of his/her own free will on behalf of the City of Novi.

Notary Public



CITY OF NOVI

45715 W. Ten Mile Rd.
Novi, MI 48375-3024

MEMORANDUM

To: Clay Pearson, City Manager
From: Randy Auler, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry
Date: 8/24/2007
Re: 5-Year Tree Fund Planting Strategy

The attached is a draft of the 5-Year Tree Fund Planting Strategy which will be presented to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission at the September 13th meeting. This plan will be presented to City Council for discussion at a future meeting. Staff will keep you apprised of any new information as it becomes available.

5-Year Tree Fund Planting Strategy- DRAFT

Tree Fund Background

The Tree Fund, established in 1991 as a separate account in the Trust and Agency Fund, was subsequently moved to the Special Revenue Funds in 2005 – 2006 to establish a better reporting and budgeting mechanism. The revenue for this fund is provided for in several sections of the City's ordinance. The primary source of revenue is woodland replacement tree proceeds; however, street tree maintenance fees, fines and other charges have also been deposited into the Tree Fund. The tree fund's current balance is approximately \$963,000 (less approximately \$97,500 fall 2007 tree plantings). While the City is holding in approximately \$5,900,000 in woodland financial guarantees, the amount of revenue to be generated for the Tree Fund is indeterminable at this time. The ordinance allows for the developer/builder/homeowner to plant trees in public areas to be eligible for a refund of their posted financial guarantees.

The City Council, after recommendation by staff, has used Tree Fund monies historically for:

- Providing care and maintenance for existing public trees
- Tree planting on public property
- Removing hazardous public trees and limbs of public trees which in-house staff cannot address
- Providing and maintaining specialized equipment (i.e. stump grinder, tree chipper...) for services necessary to perform tree care

Funds generated by the Tree Fund will be used to plant trees on public property, cover future tree maintenance costs such as pruning, and purchase forestry related tree care equipment and vehicles. The Department recommends a reserve of \$500,000 be maintained in the Tree Fund to be used only in emergency situations, such as the devastation Novi experienced with the Emerald Ash Borer.

The Tree Fund is not the sole funding source for the City of Novi's Forestry Division. The Tree Fund is a resource to offset development's removal or regulated woodlands in the community by first replanting in their area and then the community, as a whole.

Tree Planting

Staff has identified several areas throughout the City that would benefit from the planting of trees. Table 1 identifies projected costs, quantities, and locations of trees to be planted in the next 5 years. The benefits of the plan is to promote an agreed to strategy for the City to execute. The Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department recommends following the planting plan as outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Proposed locations and estimated costs for planting trees within the City over the next five years

Planting Season	Projected QTY and Costs		Parks/City Property		Interchanges/Entries		Neighborhoods		Arterial ROW	
	Total QTY	Cost	Location	Qty	Location	QTY	Location	Qty	Location	Qty
Spring 2008	500	\$162,500			* I-96/Beck Interchange	200	Misc. per inventory	250	*Novi Rd	50
Fall 2008	250	\$81,250	Rotary Park/Lakeshore Park	50			Misc. per inventory	150	*10 Mile Rd.	50
TOTAL	750	\$243,750		50		200		400		100
Spring 2009	500	\$162,500			* M-5/12 Mile Rd. Interchange	200	Misc. per inventory	250	*8 Mile Rd.	50
Fall 2009	250	\$81,250	Wildlife Woods Park	50			Misc. per inventory	150	* Beck Rd.	50
TOTAL	750	\$243,750		50		200		400		100
Spring 2010	300	\$97,500			*12 Mile Median	200	Misc. per inventory	100		
Fall 2010	200	\$65,000	Brookfarm Park	50			Misc. per inventory	100	* Grand River	50
TOTAL	500	\$162,500		50		200		200		50
Spring 2011	300	\$97,500			* M-5 Median	200	Misc. per inventory	100		
Fall 2011	200	\$65,000	Fuerst Farm / Old Town Hall	50			Misc. per inventory	100	* Grand River	50
TOTAL	500	\$162,500		50		200		200		50
Spring 2012	300	\$97,500			* I-96/Novi and I-96 / Wixom	200	Misc. per inventory	100		
Fall 2012	200	\$65,000	Senior Center	50			Misc. per inventory	100	* Haggerty Rd.	50
TOTAL	500	\$162,500		50		200		200		50
GRAND TOTAL	3,000	\$975,000		250		1,000		1,400		350

* Requires permit from county and state agencies.

Note: The above costs (\$325/tree includes planting, staking, mulching, and warranty by a contractor) are only estimated costs based previous plantings. Exact quantities to be determined in the field prior to commencement of tree planting.

Planting, Maintenance, and Resources needed

In 1991, American Forests (formerly known as the American Forestry Association) conducted a survey of urban trees in 20 cities across the country. The findings revealed the continued decline of urban street trees, including the alarming statistic that the average life of an urban street tree is just 13 years. Trees planted in urban areas are constantly fighting poor soils, invasive asphalt, road salt, exhaust fumes, incidents, and small growing areas.

Research has shown that 80% of urban tree problems are a result of poor soil conditions. Urban soils are vastly different than natural soils resulting in a soil that is detrimental to tree growth. Maintaining vigorous, healthy trees in this type of environment requires a committed active maintenance plan well after the initial planting. The Tree Management Plan prepared by Davey Resource Group (DRG) emphasizes that newly transplanted trees are under significant stress (usually water related) until their root systems fully develop which can take approximately 3 years. Over that time, research has shown that they typically require 100 to 300 gallons of water per year.

The ultimate success of planting trees is judged by their health 2-3 years after the initial planting. The key components to transplant success are selecting the “right trees for the right places” and implementing an effective post planting tree care program. Matching a tree species to its desirable climatic and soil conditions is the most important task when planning. In addition, the size of the growing space, soil pH, water needs, transplant ease, pollution tolerance, disease and insect susceptibility, hazard potential, and future maintenance must all be considered as well. Once planted, adequate post-planting care is essential to tree survival. An effective program for establishing trees includes watering, mulching, fertilizing, pruning, and periodic inspections for approximately 3 years. Both of these components are identified in the Tree Management Plan that was prepared by Davey Resource Group for Novi last year. Table 2 indicates maintenance guidelines that will be implemented to insure that the trees become established.

Table 2: Three-year tree maintenance program.

Activity	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Watering	X	X	X
Mulching	X	X	X
Pruning	X, as necessary	X, as necessary	X, as necessary
Staking	X	Remove Stakes	
Inventory/Inspection (Spring/Fall/Watering)	X	X	X
Fertilization		X, as needed	X

NOTE: All trees will come with a 1-2 year warranty.

If we perform this level of care for all of the trees planted within the last three years in the non-residential areas of the City and take into account the care and maintenance of our existing trees, it becomes apparent that additional resources for the Forestry Division may be necessary at this time and in the future. Currently, the City employs two full-time arborists and two seasonal staff to care for its 20,000 street and 10,000 park trees. The Tree Management Plan prepared by Davey Resource Group as well as other studies have shown that investing in the resources needed to promote tree establishment during the first 3 years after planting is worthwhile, because once trees are established they have a high probability of continued survival. The average annual cost for tree maintenance (pruning, watering, fertilizing, mulching...) is \$8 for a small tree, \$33 for a medium tree, and \$36 for a large tree according to a recently conducted study by the United States Department of Agriculture. In the same study, the average annual net benefits (minus maintenance costs) were approximately \$5 for a small tree, \$10 for a medium tree, and \$34 for large tree. The environmental benefits alone, such as energy savings, stormwater runoff reduction, and reduced air-pollutant uptake, were 3 to 5 times the tree care costs for small, medium, and large trees. Table 3 identifies the necessary investments needed to effectively implement such a post planting tree care program along with their estimated costs.

Table 3: Additional resources needed to successfully implement an appropriate post planting tree care program.

Needs	Quantity	Cost	Notes
Seasonal Staff (Mid-May –Mid-August)	2	\$10,000	Annual re-occurring cost (\$9.50/hr per staff), as needed
4 x 4 Truck	1	\$29,000	
Sm. Chipper 6" capacity	1	\$17,000	
Watering	1	\$3,000	Tank, water bags, and pump
TOTAL		\$59,000	

Trained seasonal staff will implement the post-planting care program which will include mulching, pruning, cultivating, watering, removing, and inspecting all trees planted in non-residential areas for a period of 3 years following planting. All of these projected needs and costs must be considered when implementing this 5-year tree planting plan. With proper planning and adequate resources, healthy trees with greater life expectancies can be established. In order to effectively implement the plan as described above significant financial resources will be required. Table 4 indicates the per year estimated Tree Fund balance after planting costs and post care maintenance costs are factored in for the 5 year planting plan.

Table 4: Projected Tree Fund costs/revenues for the next years.

Year	Revenue*	Projected Planting Expenditures	Projected Maintenance Cost	Interest Earnings	Balance (\$865,500 after fall 2007 plantings)
2008	\$150,000	\$243,750	\$59,000	\$21,383	\$734,133
2009	\$150,000	\$243,750	\$10,000	\$18,911	\$649,294
2010	\$150,000	\$162,500	\$10,000	\$18,804	\$645,598
2011	\$150,000	\$162,500	\$10,000	\$18,693	\$641,791
2012	\$150,000	\$162,500	\$10,000	\$18,579	\$637,870

* Minimum revenue anticipated from woodlands, fees...

Summary

Over the past few years, the City Tree Fund has received substantial contributions including most recently a contribution of approximately \$600,000 from Catholic Central. At this time, the Finance Department estimates that a minimum of approximately \$150,000 per year for the next several years will be contributed to the Tree Fund. However, as the City of Novi approaches build-out, we will be challenged with establishing sustainable sources of revenue for the Tree Fund. It will be paramount to sufficiently maximize the fund and maintain its stability to secure the future of the fund.

ACTIONS:

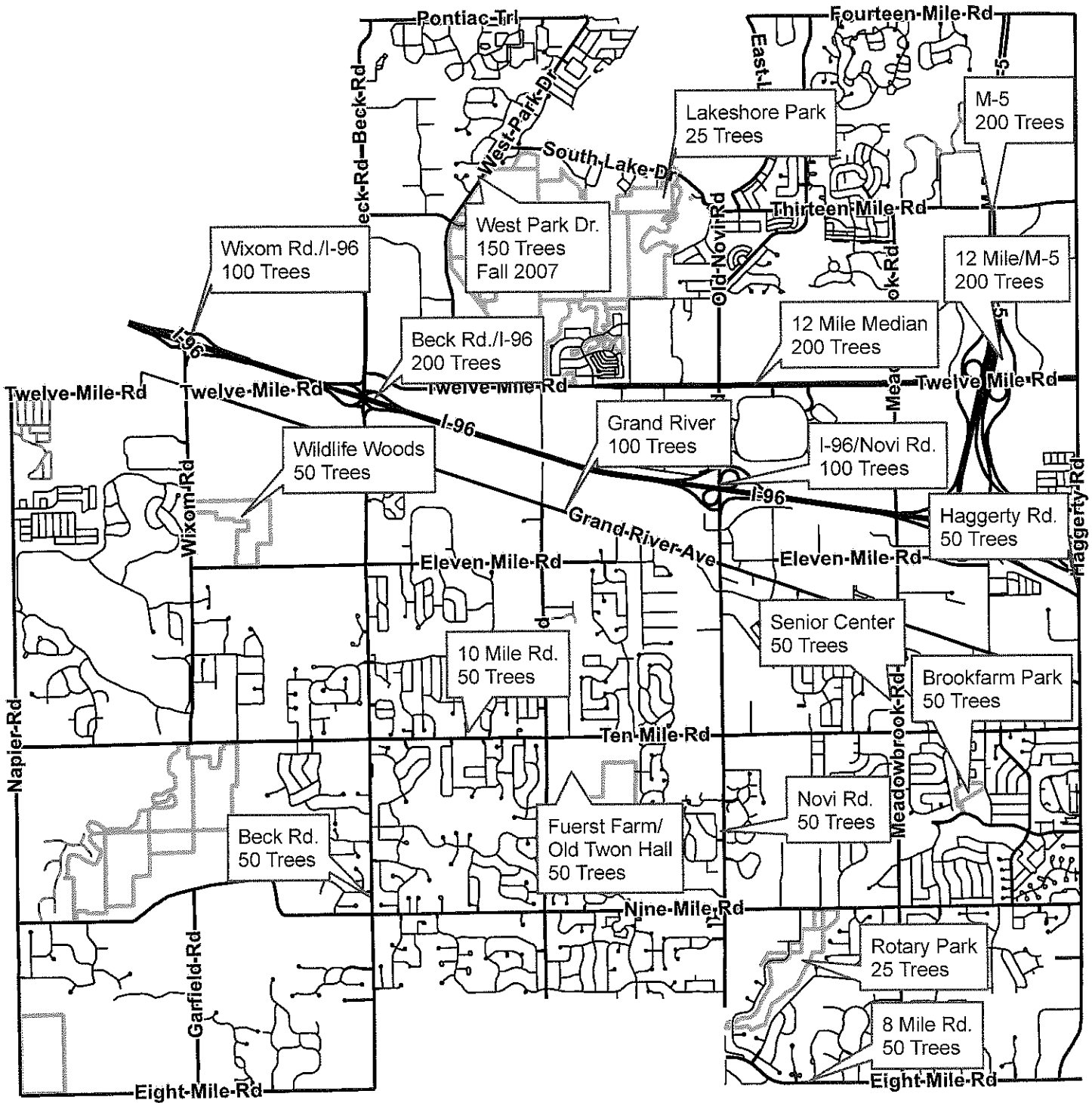
- Continue to maximize Tree Fund monies by applying for and receiving grants.
- Implement revenue generating programs and maintenance services.
- Incorporate tree establishment and long-term maintenance costs into all capital project plans that have trees.
- Develop private and public sector partnerships.
- Explore fundraising opportunities.
- Continue to further explore opportunities to generate future revenue.
- Wisely spend Tree Fund monies.

Funds generated by the Tree Fund will continue to be used to plant trees on public property, cover future tree maintenance costs such as pruning, and purchase forestry related trees care equipment and vehicles. A minimum reserve of \$500,000 should always be maintained in the Tree Fund only to be used in times of emergency such as what Novi recently experienced with the Emerald Ash Borer. However, it is important to understand that as Novi's urban forest matures a good portion of the money allocated from the Tree Fund may need to be utilized for tree maintenance activities such as pruning. The average cost of pruning a public tree during the first several years of establishment is \$25/tree. After this period, trees are typically included in a cyclic pruning program and require more expensive equipment and time to prune. The average annual pruning cost for a medium tree is \$25 and large tree is \$30 per tree if contracted out.

The Forestry Division expenditures are covered by a transfer from the General Fund. The accumulated maintenance fees (Account no. 208-000.00-260.00) total an additional of approximately \$75,800, including interest, through June 30, 2007. The recommendation at this time is to continue to accumulate the fees and related interest for at least the next five years, as long as the General Fund can continue to provide the appropriate transfer.

5-Year Tree Planting Plan

Proposed Open Space Locations

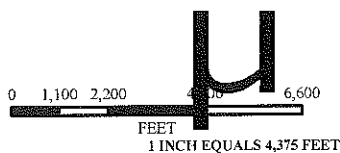


Note: Does not include residential plantings.

These will be based on identified vacant locations identified by the tree inventory performed by Davey Resource Group as well as tree removal performed by staff.



CITY OF NOVI
 GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS OFFICE
 DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
 NOVI CITY HALL/CIVIC CENTER
 45175 W. TEN MILE ROAD
 NOVI, MI 48375-3024
 (248) 347-3279
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MAP INTERPRETATION NOTICE
 Map information depicted is not intended to replace or substitute for any official or primary source. This map was intended to meet National Map Accuracy Standards and use the most recent, accurate sources available to the people of the City of Novi. Boundary measurements and area calculations are approximate and should not be construed as survey measurements performed by a licensed Michigan Surveyor as defined in Michigan Public Act 132 of 1970 as amended. Please contact the City GIS Manager to confirm source and accuracy information related to this map.

DRAFT
NOVI PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY
ENRICHING LIVES... STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

PARKLAND ACQUISITION STRATEGY

PURPOSE

This document provides a framework for parkland acquisition and provides direction for the evaluation and acquisition of parklands consistent with park standards and needs.

The document does not identify specific parcels for acquisitions because identification of specific parcels would place the City at a competitive disadvantage in acquisition negotiations by identifying the City's interest in the property and potentially inflating prices.

STRATEGY COMPONENTS

To ensure Novi's park system will meet the community recreation needs while also ensuring the protection of its unique and cultural resources, the department has formulated a comprehensive acquisition strategy which comprises five (5) program areas. Namely:

EXPANDED OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Program Objectives:

- To expand and upgrade the City's park system's recreation opportunities to meet the City's present and diverse recreation needs.
- To increase the capacity of the City's park system to meet future demands for outdoor recreation and to accommodate new kinds of opportunities to serve the needs of a city whose population continues to grow both in numbers and diversity.

Preferred Property Characteristics

In seeking potential properties for acquisition, the following characteristics should be considered:

1. The City is seeking properties adjacent to existing parks/schools that can be readily developed to increase the number and variety of outdoor recreation opportunities.
2. The City is seeking properties strategically located within the City that can provide a large number and variety of outdoor recreation settings in which a diversity of active and passive recreational opportunities can be undertaken.
3. Potential properties should be of a sufficient scale and character to allow for the development of recreation facilities such as picnic facilities, sports fields, courts, playgrounds, etc. Projects involving small acreage will be considered if these lands will offer the opportunity to significantly enhance the recreational facilities and opportunities of an adjacent/nearby park.

Property Ranking Criteria

- High priority will be given to properties that are of a sufficient scale and character so as to be readily developed for significant numbers and variety of recreation opportunities.
- High Priority will be given to acquisitions that are immediately adjacent to existing parks.
- Priority will be given to properties that are easily accessible from well-traveled transportation corridors.
- Priority will be given to proposed acquisitions that include or offer potential linkages to other parks, trails, greenways, waterways, wildlife corridors, cultural features, landscapes or corridors.

PATHWAY CORRIDORS AND CONNECTIONS

Program Objectives

- To provide people with the opportunity to participate in activities such as walking for pleasure, cycling, jogging, and the like by providing a network of recreational trails.
- To establish a network of trails that will connect parks, while also providing where appropriate an opportunity to interpretive and educational programs.
- To create a network of trails that will also serve as wildlife corridors and a catalyst for the building of community through the involvement of individuals and groups as volunteers in their building and maintenance.
- To provide safe, primarily off-street routes suitable for use by all ages and abilities, some of which may also serve as alternative transportation routes and links to the City's on-street bicycle and pedestrian system.

Preferred Property/Easement/Characteristics

In seeking potential easements/properties for acquisition, the following characteristics should be considered:

1. The City is seeking additional trail corridor opportunities within the City to facilitate the realization of its pathway master plan which is designed to ensure all citizens have the opportunity to participate in pathway related recreational opportunities such as walking, cycling, jogging.
2. Preferred acquisition of properties and easements for trail corridor purposes are those that will accommodate with minimal conflicts as many types of single and multi-use pathway interests and abilities as are possible.
3. The City is seeking opportunities that offer the greatest degree of connectivity.

Acquisition Ranking Criteria

- Highest priority will be given to acquisitions that close gaps to provide the greatest overall connectivity and usability of partially completed pathways.

- High priority will be given to acquisitions where property development threatens to preclude future pathway development.
- High priority will be given to acquisitions that provide needed safety for pathway users.
- High priority will be given to pathway corridors that provide or link public lands and/or lands with outstanding scenic, historic, natural or interpretive/educational values.
- High priority will be given to acquisition proposals that offer the greatest probability of being funded from a non City source.
- Priority will be given to acquisitions that offer the possibility of accommodating the widest variety of single or shared use pathway interests.
- Priority will be given to acquisitions where connections to existing regional and local trails, major parks and natural areas, and neighborhood centers can be made.
- Priority will be given to acquisitions that improve usability of existing pathways through support facilities such as restrooms, parking, and access points.
- Priority will be given to acquisitions in or near areas under-served by pathways or other facilities to walk, jog or bicycle.
- Priority will be given to proposals that offer the greatest probability of supportive involvement by the public and interest groups that develop and maintain pathways.

ADJACENT PROPERTIES

Program Objectives

- To address operational, resource management, and/or land use issues associated with privately owned lands located within or adjacent to certain parks within the City's park system.

Preferred Property Characteristics

1. The City is seeking various adjacent lands that will assist in the solution of operational, resource management, and land-use issues.
2. Potential properties for adjacent land status must have at least one contiguous boundary with an existing park.

SIGNIFICANT CULTURAL RESOURCES PROPERTIES

Program Objectives

- To preserve and City's rich, diverse cultural heritage by acquiring examples of irreplaceable cultural landscapes and properties which exhibit this diversity for current and future generations.

Preferred Property Characteristics

1. Potential properties will be of a sufficient scale and character to provide an accurate representation of the cultural area, time period, and human achievement for which they are being considered. In addition, these properties should have good contexts and buffer zones for protection from modern developments.
2. Potential properties could possess the potential for passive outdoor recreation that would not compromise the integrity or destroy the character of the resource.

Property Ranking Criteria

- Highest priority will be given to properties exhibiting unique cultural values that are not currently protected or are not found in the City's park system. The significance of these sites should be such that they are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Properties must be at least 45 years of age, and maintain the integrity of the site, place, and context.
- High priority will be given to cultural resource types that can be linked to significant themes and property types in the history of Novi which are deficient or under-represented in the system.
- High priority will be given to properties that document the diversity and antiquity of human achievement and have potential for effective management and interpretation.
- High priority will be given to cultural resource properties that are threatened with destruction by development.
- High priority will be given to undisturbed complexes of historic sites/properties where there is substantial preservation of the new shed, open space, and context setting.
- High priority will be given to the acquisition of properties that will complete intended original cultural acquisition to encompass the whole theme or resource.
- Priority will be given to individual properties that can be historically and/or physically linked to other protected cultural areas within the City.
- Priority will be given to cultural resource properties that are not represented within federal, state or local protected lands.
- Properties possessing significant historic cultural values that can be protected without great expense to the City and possess potential for highly-valued, compatible passive outdoor recreational opportunities will be considered for this category. However, these factors will not be counted towards their priority.
- Properties physically located so as to provide buffer space from urban areas will be given higher priority as long as they meet integrity criteria.
- Properties located in areas of the City with no or few parks will be given priority.

NATURAL AREAS

Program Objectives

- To establish an interconnected system of green spaces within the region.
- To protect the City's natural areas from the pressures associated with an increasing population by acquiring properties that preserve examples of its natural landscapes and in particular environmentally sensitive habitat types.

Preferred Property Characteristics

1. The City is seeking properties adjacent to or within close proximity of existing parks and protected properties or those that provide connections between protected areas.
2. The City is seeking properties representing biological communities and habitats uncommon or under-protected within the region.
3. The City is seeking wetland and riparian areas, especially those associated with fish-bearing waterways.
4. Potential properties or eventual holdings should be of a sufficient scale and configuration to conserve ecological functions and values and to provide a buffer from urban encroachment or other off-site threats to their sustainability.
5. Potential properties should possess the potential for nature-based recreation and/or interpretation of a natural resource message unique to the site or region.

Property Ranking Criteria

- Highest priority will be given to habitat types that are under-protected and/or under-represented in the City's/region's park system, or with a presence of identified species of concern.
- Properties with intact functioning habitats will be given a higher priority than degraded sites. Sites with a high restoration potential will be given priority, especially where they offer connections between sites with high habitat values.
- Properties strategically located to provide a complete or potential habitat linkage to other federal, state, regional, city or protected lands will be given a high priority.
- High priority will be given to environmentally sensitive habitat types such as wetland and/or riparian areas linked to capable of being linked with other protected wetland/riparian areas which possess unique habitats, rare plant communities, and habitat supporting animal species of concern.
- High priority will be given to acquisitions that contribute to priority conservation needs identified in a regional/city resource conservation plan, especially properties identified in a City natural resource inventory or plan.
- Properties possessing historic cultural values that can be protected without great expense to the City or possessing the potential for high-valued outdoor recreational opportunities will be considered for this category, but these factors will not be counted towards their priority.
- Properties possessing the potential for more formal outdoor interpretation of a natural resource message unique to the site or accessible to the local or regional

trail system will be given a higher priority than those proposed properties without such potential.

- Properties with an imminent threat to natural resources by potential development or current management will be given priority over properties with similar resources but not under threat. Lack of threat to high value resources does not lower the priority of a property.

**NOVI PARKS RECREATION & FORESTRY
PROJECT PRIORITY RATING – NEW PARK ACQUISITIONS & DEVELOPMENT**

PROJECT NAME:

Criteria	3	2	1	0	Score	Weight	Total
Availability of Land	City own land	Non-City land has been approved for use via interlocal agreement	Non-City land has been identified for potential use via interlocal agreement	City must purchase land		3	0
Development Status	Existing project will be acquired via interlocal agreement with other jurisdiction/partners	Project will be developed via interlocal agreement with other jurisdictions/partners	Has potential for joint development with other jurisdictions/partners	Project developed exclusively by City		3	0
Operating budget impact	Project will result in decreased cost to budget	Project will have no impact on budget	Project will require some increase in budget	Project will require a significant increase in the budget		3	0
Use	Permanent use	Semi-permanent use through lease agreement		Interim use		2	0
Service Area	Community Park 40+ acres		Neighborhood Park 5-25 acres ½ mile radius			2	0
Intensity of Use	Project to be used year-round	Project will receive seasonal and limited and year round use	Project will receive only seasonal use			2	0
Location		Project located within City		Project located within municipality		2	0
Economic impact		Attract consumers to the City, or produce public or private revenues		Project will have no significant economic impact		1	0
Availability of funds	Project funds are currently available	Non-county funds have been identified	Potential to receive funding assistance exists	No funding has been identified at this time		1	0
Public support	Public has clearly demonstrated a significant and documented support for this project	Public has made request to the City to implement	Public has made request to City staff to implement this project	Project has been identified by City staff		1	0

248.347.3286 Fax

"Enriching Lives....Strengthening Community"

Pick & Click Online Registration is available by visiting www.cityofnovi.org

From: karen zyczynski [mailto:zyczynski2002@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2007 11:46 AM

To: Ringle, Tracie

Subject: tringle@cityofnovi.org - Found word(s) Apply online rich opportunity in the Text body - My Newsletter

Here it is! Karen

Hello Neighbors:

For more than two years I have served on Novi's Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission. During that time I have learned a great deal about the wonderful programs and events offered through our Parks and Recreation Department and wanted to take this opportunity to highlight some of them for you. At the end of August you received your new recreation guide for the months of September through December 2007. Realizing that we all live very busy, active lives I will just briefly highlight some upcoming events you or your family members might find of interest.

First of all, Novi now offers online registration and a \$5 dollar discount will apply for all online registrations. To use Pick & Click just visit www.cityofnovi.org go to Parks and Recreation and click on the Pick & Click icon. You must create a family account before you can register. I did it - it was easy!!

Events and Activities

Novi Theater Productions

(Not only does Novi offer Theater Productions, but they also offer performance classes for preschoolers to adults. Check them out beginning on pg. 22 of your Rec. Guide!)

HIT PARADE(September)

Geared more toward seniors, these afternoon performances are a great way to enjoy a few laughs and meet other seniors in the Novi Community.

THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER PERFORMING CLASS

Paintin The Fence - NEW

Join in the excitement! Actors will become part of the cast of the play "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" by learning song and dance, including the showstopper, "Paintin the Fence". Everything learned will be added to the play during tech week and performances on October 26-Nov 3.

Activities for Young Adults

(See page 16 of the Rec. Guide for these and other activities.)

Trip to Cedar Point(Oct. 13)

Eco Green Tweens(Nov.10)

Eco-Activities provide youth with recreational ideas on how helping the environment can be a blast!

Teen Flag Football(Oct. 7 - Nov. 18)

Gather your friends and form a team for a little friendly competition of co-ed football.

Senior Center Activities

(For more info go to page 30 of your Rec. Guide.)

(In case you didn't know, the Novi Senior Center is located on Meadowbrook Rd. between Ten Mile and Grand River and offers many services for seniors. 248 347-0414)

Grandparents and Family Day(Sept. 22)

Bring the grandkids and family over to the Senior Center and enjoy a great Saturday afternoon outside (weather permitting). Food. Magician for kids Games and activities. Tickets are limited and must be purchased in advance.(Must purchase tickets in advance.)

Senior Harvest Ball(Sept. 27)

Highland, Milford, Northville, Novi, South Lyon and Wixom Senior Centers invite you to our second annual Harvest Ball. Buffet dinner and dancing. Tickets are limited and must be purchased in advance. After Five Dress Attire. Prizes and 50/50 drawing.(Must purchase tickets in advance.)

Other Activities**International Festival(Oct. 6)**

(See pg. 10 of Rec. Guide for more info. and other events.)

Explore the world without leaving the city! Be a part of this rich cultural experience celebrating 20 different countries. Enjoy tasting ethnic foods, participating in traditional games, purchasing and making crafts. Entertainment will include 2 stages of music, dance and stories from around the globe. A parade of nations will march along Main and Market streets with representatives dressed in their native attire.

Halloween Storybook Stroll(Oct. 20)**Ring in the Holidays(Nov. 30)**

OK, so maybe you have already misplaced your Rec.Guide and wish to check out some of these events and activities, well you can find all the information and more at www.cityofnovi.org

under Departments/Parks, Recreation & Forestry

Good Luck and Have Fun!!

Karen Zyczynski

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Follow My Lead

Seniors enjoy a Tuesday afternoon dance at the Novi Senior Center on Aug. 28. The musical group "The Internationals" plays at the Senior Center on the last Tuesday of each month beginning at 1 p.m.

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

Get the show on the road: 'Hit Parade' opens today for Novi Theatre



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Dancers rehearse for the upcoming Novi Parks and Recreation senior variety show at the Novi Civic Center.

By Tracy Mishler
SPECIAL NEWS WRITER

Bill Evans is a singer. And he's ready for the show to begin.

As a fourth-year performer with the Novi Theatre's senior show, Evans said he hopes the audience will enjoy this year's senior variety series, "Hit Parade."

"It's not meant to be serious," he said. "It's entertaining, and we hope everyone has a good time."

Evans is one of 53 young-at-

heart seniors making this year's cast, from Novi, Northville, Redford, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Milford, Troy and Plymouth.

"I love to sing," he said. "Every show is exciting, and we've got a lot for people to enjoy with this one."

"Hit Parade" which opens its doors today, will take the audience on a trip down memory lane with music orchestrated to Frank Sinatra, Ethel Merman, Judy Garland and Jackie Gleason.

The Hit Parade was a list of

songs, both lyrical and instrumental, that were most popular. The term originated in the late 1930s and has also been used for broadcast programs featuring hit tunes, such as Your Hit Parade, which was broadcast on the radio and television for several years in the United States.

This year's production began early in the year, with director Debbie Lannen getting the show on the road.

"We're definitely ready," Lannen said. "This show is going to be wonderful and our perform-

ers really had a good time doing it."

Let the show begin

Lannen said the performers, made up of seniors ranging in age from 50 to '96, are dancers, singers and comedians, and will be dressed in tuxedos and evening gowns just as they were on the original "Hit Parade" in the 1930s to 1950s.

She said about 30 songs will be

Continued on 3A

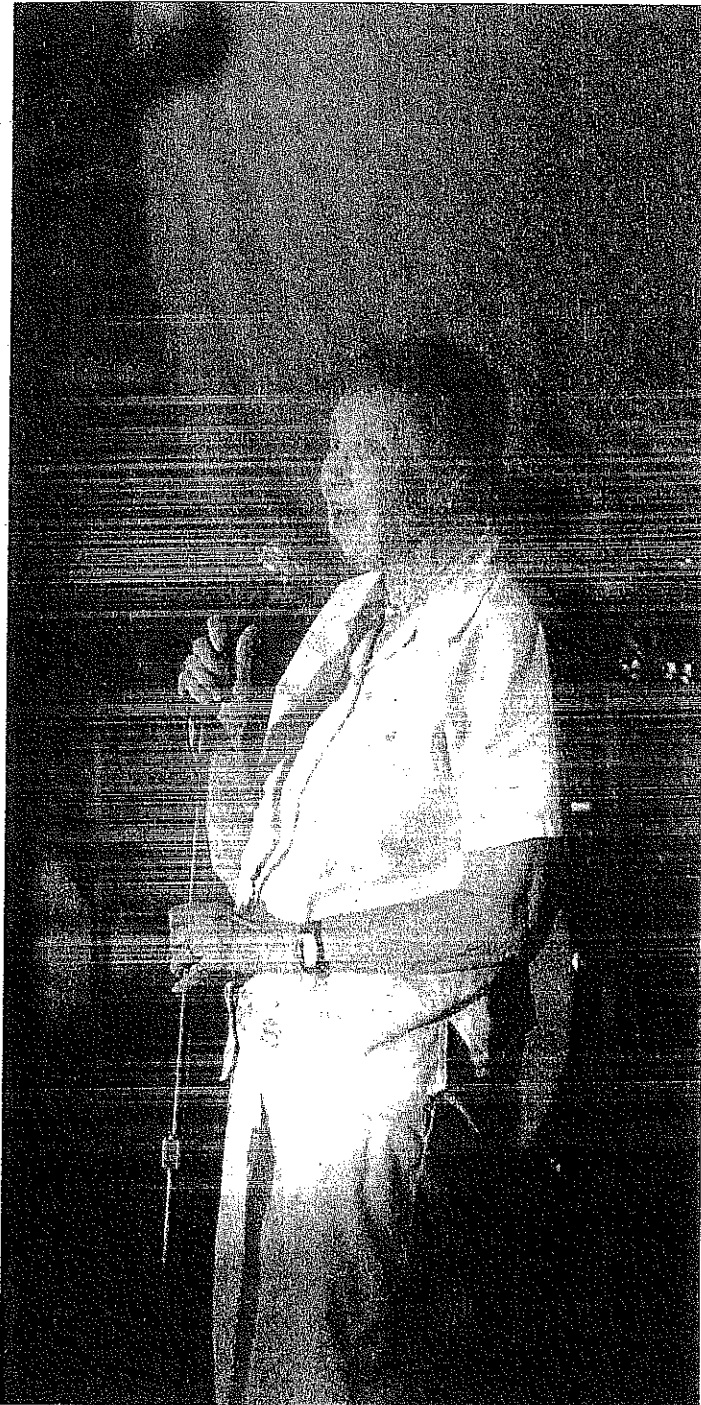


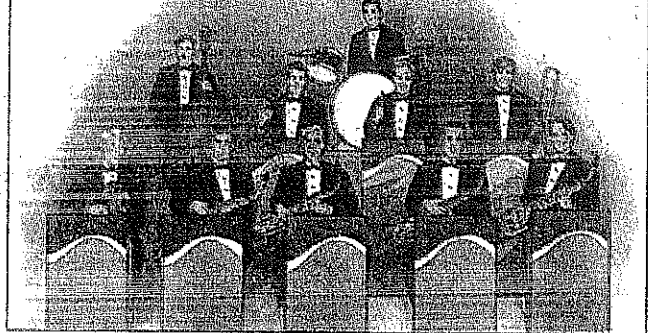
Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Mildred Burt sings "Only Make Believe" as Novi seniors rehearse for their upcoming Novi Theatre variety show "Hit Parade." The show begins today.

Hit Parade

The Novi Theatres presents its annual Senior Variety Series: "Hit Parade"

Thursday, Sept. 6 & 13: Noon luncheon and matinee
Friday, Sept. 7 & 14: Noon luncheon and matinee
Tickets are \$20 for the luncheon and matinee
Sunday, Sept. 9 & 16: 2 p.m. matinee only
Tickets are \$15 for the matinee only
Group special: Groups of 15 receive 16th ticket free
Tickets are on sale now at the
Novi Parks office inside the Novi Civic Center,
45175 W. 10 Mile Rd.
For more information, call (248) 347-0400



SOURCE: City of Novi

Get the show on the road: 'Hit Parade' opens today for Novi Theatre

Continued from front

performed in the two-hour show, with short snip-its of comedy sprinkled throughout.

Lannen said the show also has a three-piece band, with two keyboards and a drummer, which will be performing on stage instead of below.

"This show is really going to be something unique," she said.

Audience members can expect performances of Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, the Andrews Sisters and skits by Abbot and Costello, George Burns and

Gracie Allen.

"We're hoping this show is really going to appeal to everyone," Lannen said. "Even if you don't know the song, you've heard it. And that was our ultimate goal."

Lannen said she hopes this year's performance will draw in more people to the Novi Theatre, making it their theater of choice.

"I'm hoping everyone likes it and sees what the Novi Theatre's are doing," she said. "We have so many wonderful things coming up this year and we're hoping people see 'Hit Parade' and come back for more."

Many of the seniors performing in the annual variety shows have been with the Novi Theatre for years, and Lannen said when "Hit Parade" is over, she hopes to see them all back next year.

"Everyone has a good time making these shows," she said. "It's a lot of fun we'd love to see more people join."

Fit Novi Series continues with Saturday and future event

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

Physical fitness and a healthy well-being. These are principles the City of Novi is trying to instill in its residents.

"We're promoting a healthy, active community," said Tracie Ringle, communications and resource development supervisor for Novi Parks. "Michigan is cited for its high obesity rates. We have beautiful parks and good neighborhoods where people can really get out and move. There's also all the sports parks. All of these things are available for community mem-

Want to race?
Contact the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department at (248) 347-0400 or stop by their office in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Rd., to register for the Sept. 8 Sprint Triathlon and Duathlon and the Nov. 30 Candy Cane 5k and Santa Fun Run.

bers to really get out."

The success of the Fit Novi Series events will continue with

Saturday's Sprint Triathlon and Duathlon and the Nov. 30 Candy Cane 5k and Santa Fun Run. The June 30 X-Tri triathlon and duathlon at Lakeshore Park brought out 55 racers earlier this summer.

"We have 120 people signed up so far and we're confident we can get 200 (total) or more," Ringle said of the event this Saturday.

The Sprint Triathlon and Duathlon will include an 800-meter swim, 15-mile bike ride and 5-kilometer run for triathletes and a 2-mile run substituted in for the 800-meter swim for duathletes. The races are

taking registration until 7 a.m. on Sept. 8, with the gun-shot start at 8 a.m.

The Candy Cane 5k and Santa Fun Run will include a 5-kilometer race for the entire family just in time for this winter's holiday season. The event will include hot chocolate, the holiday parade and tree lighting and an appearance from the jolly big man himself, Santa Claus.

Novi residents will also be designated with fit male, fit female and fit family awards, based on a cumulation of points earned throughout the entire Fit Novi Series.

The upcoming weekend for

the Fit Novi Series was supposed to include the double-header of the Run Fest and Fit Festival on Sunday, one day after the Sprint Triathlon and Duathlon. However, the Sunday festival was canceled in a joint decision by the sponsoring Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, Greater Novi Chamber of Commerce and 3 Disciplines Racing.

"Only 23 people signed up and only two of those were from Novi," Ringle said. "We didn't feel it was equitable and beneficial to the community. It wouldn't be justifiable in closing the roads. We want to support

strong, advantageous event; this wasn't going to meet standards."

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



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MY COMMUNITY

Victoria Mitchell, editor
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102
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Thursday, September 6, 2007
www.novifarms.com
fax: (248) 349-9832

Fuerst Farm event brings families back to early 1900s

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

Ever wonder what life was like in Novi in the 1930s? Now you can experience it, or at least something very reminiscent of the city's more rural era.

Fuerst Farm is holding the eighth annual Family Day on Sunday to give residents the opportunity to experience farm life firsthand through performances and activities.

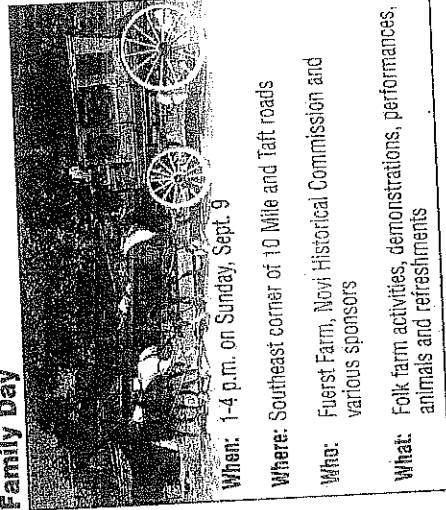
The free event runs from 1-4 p.m. on the southeast corner of 10 Mile and Taft roads, between the farm and the Novi Public Library.

Families will have the opportunity to go on wagon rides, pick apples and pears from the orchard, have their picture taken with traditionally dressed farm folk and learn how to do many of the daily chores of a farm-hand.

There will be cider-making, beekeeping, woodcarving, quilting and rope-making lessons, along with bulb-planting demonstrations by the Novi Beautification Commission. Free ice cream, apples and apple cider will be available for refreshments.

"(We want to) celebrate the end of summer and kickoff for fall," said Kathy Much, chair of the Novi Historical Committee. "We're not expecting it to be the Victorian Festival in Northville or the Michigan 50s Festival in Novi or any regional event. It's not in the commercial part of town. We expect it to be 99 percent Novi people."

Much hopes the event will give neighbors, friends and classmates a chance to meet up, socialize and learn about life between the first and second



Family Day

Fuerst Farm
Listed as a historical site since 1987, Fuerst Farm has gone through many changes in the past 180 years.

In 1825, the 180 acres of farm land in Bloomfield Township (stretching from about 8 Mile Road to 12 Mile Road and from Southfield to the western boundary of Oakland County) of the Michigan Territory was purchased by Cyrenus Simmons. For a brief period, the land was farm was on became Farmington Township and then Novi in 1852. The farm was the location of the first Novi town meeting.

The Fuerst Farm, not yet known by that name, was owned by the Dennis family from 1836 to 1898, during which time the main barn was built, according to the National Register of Historic Places. Jacob Fuerst and his family lived on the property from 1918 to 1991, experiencing changes as machinery went from mechanical to electrical and education from land grant colleges like Michigan State University increased to help farmers.

Jacob had his own farm in Detroit and sold it to the University of Detroit. When Fuerst sold his farm in Detroit, he moved to Novi and built the current farmhouse in 1936 on the foundation of the original structure erected by Simmons.

The Fuerst family sold the farm to Novi Schools for public use in 1973 and is the current site of Novi High School and the Novi Public Library.

When: 1-4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 9

Where: Southeast corner of 10 Mile and Taft roads

Who: Fuerst Farm, Novi Historical Commission and various sponsors

What: Folk farm activities, demonstrations, performances, animals and refreshments

World Wars.
"The farm was in its prime at that time," she said.
To further the experience, traditional folk music will be playing throughout the day courtesy of Art Darow of Northville and Foxtire, the duo of Denise Stein and Maggie Ferguson.

Retired Police Chief Lee Begole and professional storyteller Lois Springmether Keel will also share stories about life in Novi's early days while Brad Lowe performs two puppeteer showings of "Country Mouse, City Mouse" at 1:15 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. in the Historical Township Hall.

And don't forget about the animals. Patricia Brauer of Oxford will bring a lamb, goat, pig and other animals to the farm children will be able to safely pet.

"We started out eight years ago and hoped someone would show up," March said, noting it rained at the first Family Day. "Each year it has grown. Two years ago we had about 1,500 people. Last year we had about 1,200-1,300."

The Friends of Novi Parks, Novi Historical Society, Novi Beautification Commission, Novi Public Library, Friends of the Novi Library, Michigan Barn Preservation, Michigan State University, Toltgate Educational Center, Novi Police Department and LaSalle Bank are all assisting the Novi Historical Commission in putting on the event.

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

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Kathy Much and other Fuerst Farm supporters are preparing many activities for the upcoming Fuerst Farm Days which will take place Sunday. Much is seen walking by the farm's north barns, which still contain some of the working farm's equipment.

Ice arena closes temporarily

By Kelly Murad
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Ice Arena closed last Wednesday after a zamboni caught fire and will not reopen with limited operations as originally intended.

"Due to the extent of the damage, it will remain closed for the next few weeks," said Sheryl Walsh, Novi community relations manager. "There was extensive smoke damage."

According to Walsh, the initial estimate for damages to the ice arena was more than \$250,000. The zamboni, which was purchased in August 2004, was a total loss and replacing it will cost between \$50,000-\$60,000.

Suburban Sports Group, who manages and operates the Novi Ice Arena, is working with other arenas to help individuals and teams find ice times.

The Novi High School hockey team was at the arena practicing

when the ice resurfacing machine ignited.

The Novi Fire Department responded to the call for 42400 Arena Drive at 7:55 p.m. and was on the scene within six minutes.

As officials arrived on the scene they assisted in the evacuation and about 150 people exited the building safely with no injuries.

A hydraulic leak ignited while the zamboni was cleaning the ice. Since the hockey team was on a break, no players were on the ice.

Players, parents and coaches noticed the fire and began banging on the glass to notify the driver.

"We were very fortunate," said Chief Frank Smith of the Novi Fire Department. "It was surrounded by ice. In that respect, it was in the best location for it to catch on fire."

After the building was evacuated and the fire department was on site, one of the two propane tanks used to fuel the machine exploded.

The Novi Ice Arena

• For updates regarding the Novi Ice Arena operations visit www.cityofnovi.org.

• For inquiries regarding league play and practice times contact Suburban Sports Group at (248) 478-1600.

"It was handled well," Smith said. "It's always dangerous when compressed gas is used as a fueling agent."

The fire department was able to extinguish the blaze and clear the scene within one half hour.

"Accidents are going to happen and hydraulic lines are going to break," Smith said. "It went as well as it could. They did a terrific job of getting that fire out."

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

Start Smart prepares young athletes for future endeavors

The City of Novi Parks Department has partnered with the National Association of Youth Sports to bring the unique Start Smart Sports Development program to Novi.

The program, endorsed by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, was created for parents who want to help their pre-school aged children develop basic motor skills, such as throwing, catching, kicking and batting.

The program encourages parents or guardians to take an active roll in establishing self-esteem in their child.

They also receive a take-home guide to help them successfully coach, encourage good sportsmanship and participate with their child.

According to Start Smart coach, Susan Cusick, "Novi Parks keeps the class size small so we can introduce team concepts without intimidating kids who might be trying something new for the first time."

Novi Parks will offer its fourth session of this program with sessions beginning Sept. 1 and 10 for children 3-5 with an adult partner.

Offered for the first time will be Start Smart Football, with sessions beginning Sept. 12 or Oct. 22 for children 5-7. For more information, please contact Susan Cusick at (248) 347-0400.

Registration for all Novi Parks fall programs begins August 15 and all online registrations made via www.cityofnovi.org will receive a \$5 discount for each program. Registration is available in-person at the Novi Parks office Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, contact Tracie Ringle at (248) 735-5613.

Novi Ice Arena restoration efforts nearly complete

■ Most operations resumed two days ago

At 6 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 21, skaters donned their ice at the Novi Ice Arena following a fire less than two weeks ago.

Since the fire, city staff, insurance adjusters and

representatives from Statewide Restoration have been working to restore the majority of ice arena operations.

Tuesday, one ice surface, administrative offices and a dance studio reopened.

The ice arena's pro shop was expected to reopen yesterday. Full operation of the arena is expected to resume 6 a.m. Monday, August 27.

time of the incident. No injuries were reported.

Assessed damages to the ice arena are more than \$200,000 and covered by the city's insurance policy.

All inquiries regarding league play and practice times can be directed to the Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010.

The Novi Ice Arena opened

in September 1988. This multi-surface facility offers two NHL-regulation sized ice sheets, seating capacities of 750 and 200, heated viewing areas, a pro shop, concessions, skate rental and meeting space. The facility is host to a variety of programs, including the Novi Youth Hockey Association, Skating Club of

Novi, Novi High School and Northville High School hockey teams and adult hockey leagues, as well as open skating and learn to skate programs.

The City of Novi also operates a dance studio out of this facility.

- Submitted to the Novi News.

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GOT A STORY IDEA? Contact the Novi News to spread the word about what's going on in Novi



MY SENIOR LIFE

Victoria Mitchell, editor
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Thursday, August 23, 2007
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Seniors honored for city volunteer services

By Tracy Mishler
SPECIAL WRITER

There's never been a better way to give back to the community than by volunteering to do something you love.

Edith Mrakitsch volunteers at the Novi Senior Center by setting up the card room three nights a week for her fellow card players.

Poker, pinocle and euchre are just some of the games the 87-year-old Meadowbrook Commons resident ensures will be available every night.

"It keeps me busy, and I figured why not volunteers to do something I love?" Mrakitsch said. "I have to put out the score pads and cards, pencils and pens and make sure the room is ready. Someone has to do it."

Mrakitsch is one of many volunteers participating in running activi-

ties and events at the Novi Senior Center.

The senior center staff is honoring their volunteers this year with the annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch 10 a.m. Saturday.

"It's an honor to our volunteers," said Jan McAlpine, Senior Center coordinator. "These are the people who put in hours and hours to help us out. Without them, we wouldn't be able to offer all we do here."

McAlpine said the center has more than 100 volunteers and could always use more.

"We have a very small paid staff, including the drivers and Meadowbrook Commons staff," she said. "Everyone else is a volunteer."

"We appreciate so much all they do. I can't say enough about them and that's the truth."

McAlpine said all special events, activities, exercise programs and

meal services are run solely by volunteers who offer their time to help out the center.

Why volunteer?

By definition, a volunteer is someone who serves in a community for the benefit of the natural environment, primarily because they choose to do so.

A significant number of volunteers serve less formally, such as those at the Novi Senior Center. Volunteer workers do not get paid or receive compensation for their services.

"These people put others before themselves, and that's what makes them wonderful," McAlpine said. "Many come here every day, even on days when they probably don't feel like it."

"People that give seem to have a better attitude. When you give back

it seems to affect your whole being."

Volunteers honored at Saturday's brunch can look forward to a wide variety of breakfast items, including bacon, eggs, sausage, fruit and pancakes.

"This brunch is just a small indicator of what we can do to let (the volunteers) know how much we appreciate them," McAlpine said. "We try not to award anyone specifically because we appreciate them all and all their services."

Clay Pearson, Novi city manager, said he's been to several volunteer appreciation brunches and hopes everyone knows how grateful the city is due to their hard work and dedication.

"Anytime we get to have residents volunteer for programs they are involved with, it makes it more real," Pearson said. "Programs are more affective with those volun-

Novi Senior Center Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

When: Saturday, Aug. 25

Time: 10 a.m.

Who: For all volunteers of the Novi Senior Center
What: For more information, contact the Novi Senior Center at (248) 349-0414

teers and we couldn't do it without them."

Pearson said by offering volunteer opportunities, the city saves money in paying for staff members to do what the seniors love so much.

He said the people who participate in programs and events are more in tune with what they want and what others want.

"Without all the volunteers, we would have less programming and a high chance we would be less in tune with what our older adults

want," he said. "Our staff does a good job in providing certain things, but with residents involved it's more relevant and in tune with the citizens we're serving."

Mrakitsch said she would like to see more people get involved and volunteer at the senior center and in the community.

"This is the first time for me, and I love it," she said. "There are a lot of other little things people could volunteer for. There's a lot of things to do and we're always looking for new ideas."



Community connections

August 23, 2007

NOVI: Summer theater group closes with 'New Clothes'

The Novi Theatres is presenting its final production of the summer, "The Emperor's New Clothes," this week.

The play, which has actors from Novi, Farmington Hills, South Lyon and Northville, will run today, Friday and Saturday at the Novi Civic Center stage, 45175 W. Ten Mile. The show will be at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. today and Friday and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Advertisement

Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. For information, call 248-347-0400 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily.

NOVI PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY: For event and inclement weather info call (248) 347-0473

MY PARKS & RECREATION

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Novi Theatres' summer performance finale takes the stage

■ **"The Emperor's New Clothes" Aug. 23-25**

By Kelly Murad
STAFF WRITER

Say farewell to summer vacation by attending The Novi Theatres production of "The Emperor's New Clothes." Although The Novi Theatres part of the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department, held performing arts camps throughout the summer. "The Emperor's New Clothes" is the only full production play.

"This is actually full scenery and costumes. It's a regular play," said Debbie Lannen, performing arts coordinator.

Normally, The Novi Theatres doesn't do a summer production. But after the completion of "Charlie and The Chocolate Factory" in May, the theatre's dedicated cast members inspired Lannen to direct another play.

"The show was not supposed to happen, but it gives them (the cast members) the opportunity to do another performance," Lannen

The Novi Theatres presents
"THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES"

When
Thursday, Aug. 23, 2007
10:00 AM & 7:30 PM

Friday, Aug. 24, 2007
10:00 AM & 7:30 PM

Saturday, Aug. 25, 2007
2:00 PM & 7:30 PM

Where
Novi Civic Center Stage
45175 W. Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375
248-347-0400

Tickets
\$8 in advance
\$10 at the door for general admission
\$5 in advance for groups of 20 or more

SOURCE: Cbc of Nov



Submitted photo
Cast members Ashley Shamoon, left, Kyle Coykendall and Haley Parker prepare for the Novi Theatres' summer production of "The Emperor's New Clothes."

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

LET'S TALK
WITH **GARY S. WEINSTEIN**
GEMOLOGIST

CHUNKY NECKLACES

The words "chunky" and "beefy" may seem more appropos of canned soup than women's jewelry, but those are just the words that designers are using to describe the latest trend in necklaces. Large, long necklaces with big beads and chunks of interesting links, chains, and metal charms are all the rage. In fact, anything goes as long as it is anything but dainty.

This, of course, does not mean that a large chunky necklace cannot be a model of chic simplicity itself. For example, a long necklace with large, shiny black beads can be as tasteful as a string of pearls. On the other end of the spectrum are big, beefy, bohemian pieces that are full of personality and fun.

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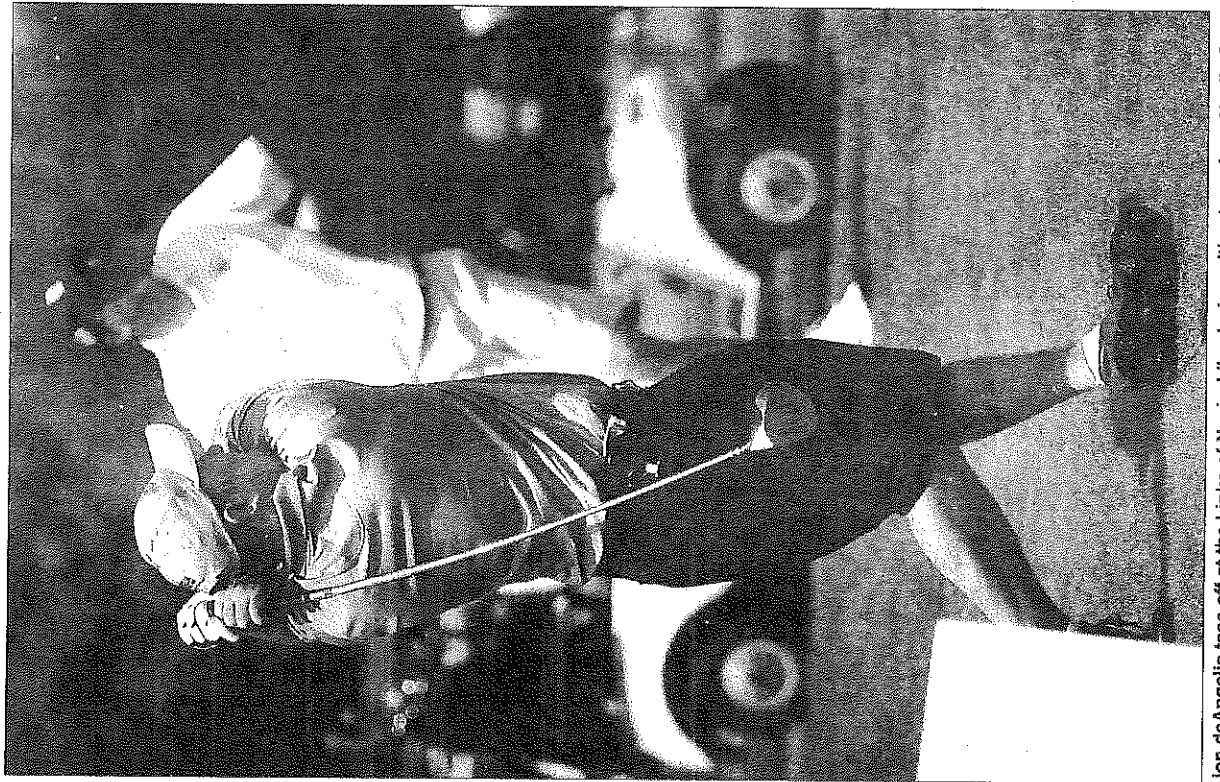
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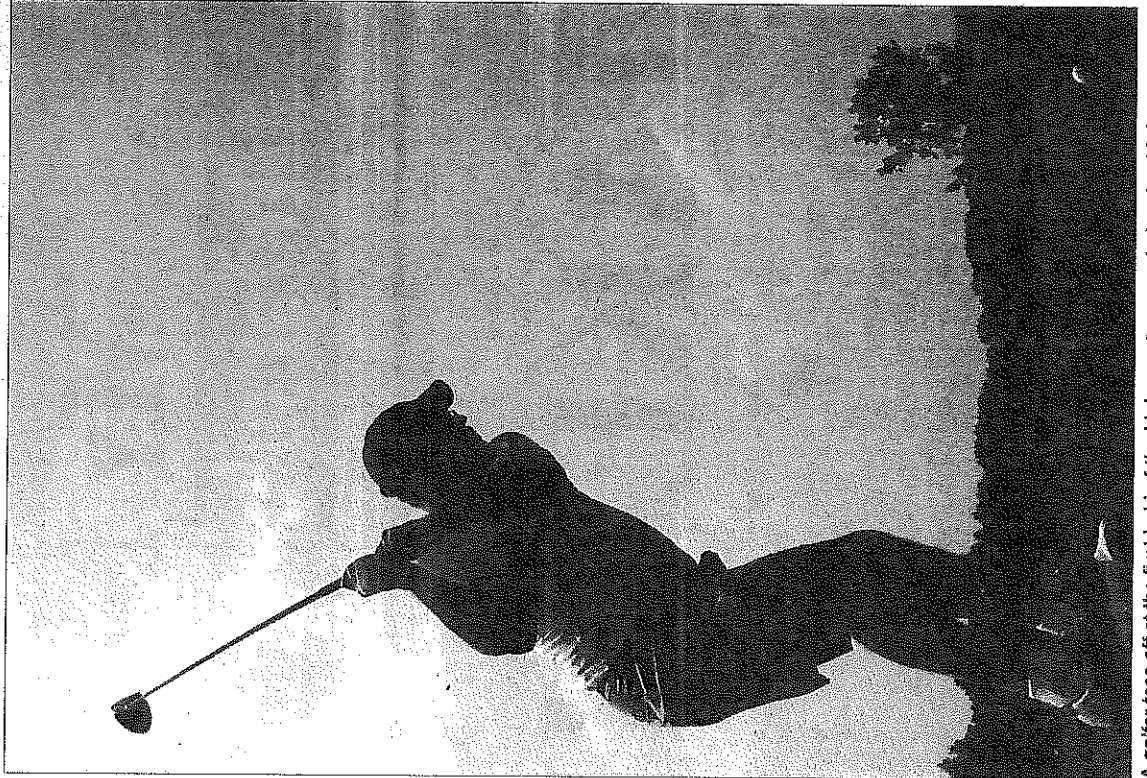
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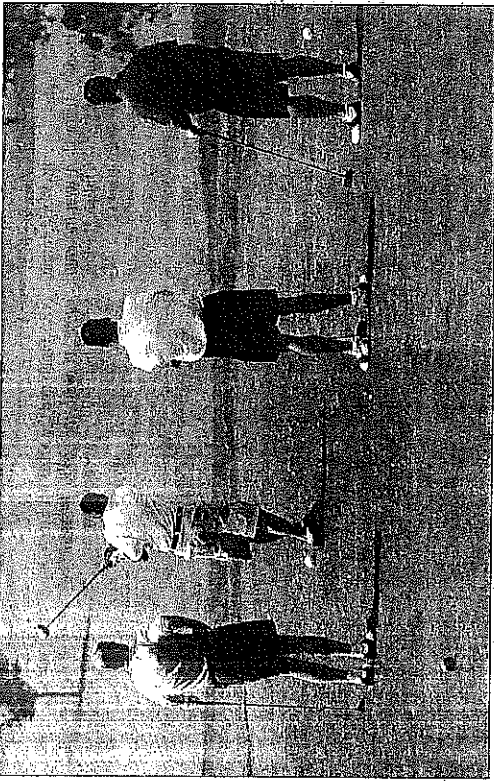
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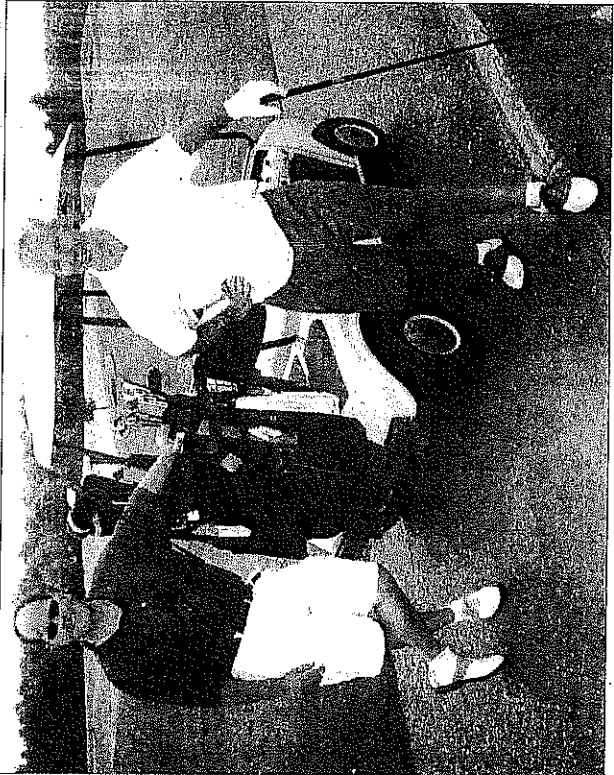
Jon deAngelis tees off at the Links of Novi while playing with a team from Novi's Gus



A golfer tees off at the first hole of the Links west course during the third annual Tom Hoizer Ford/Novi Parks Foundation golf outing.



A group tees off in the afternoon at last week's Novi Parks Foundation golf outing at the Links of Novi.



Jerry Jewel, left, and David Paul get ready to tee off at the Links of Novi during the Novi Parks Foundation golf outing.

Photos by
**JOHN
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 Novi News

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BE SCENE IN NOVI

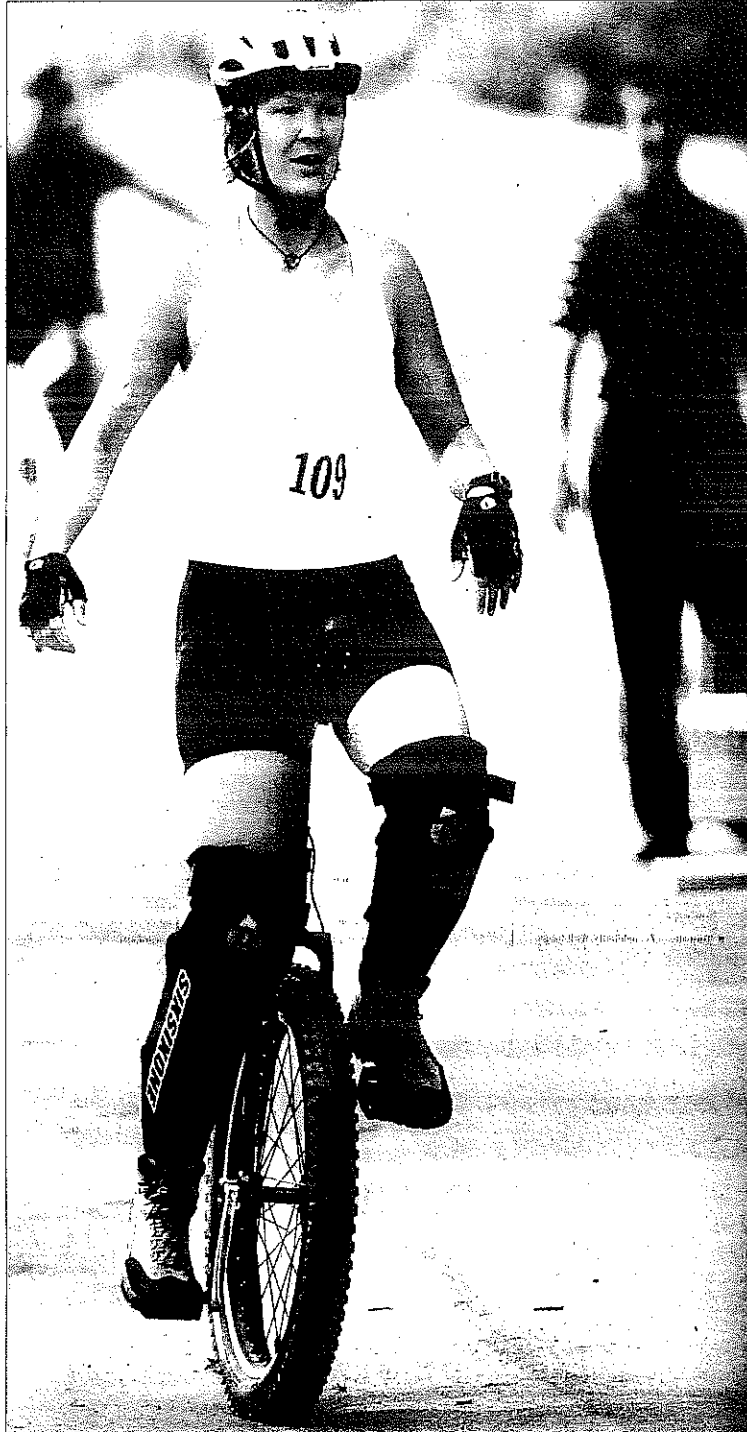
Photos by JOHN HEIDER
Novi News



A unicyclist crosses the finish line at an August competition hosted at Novi's Lakeshore Park. Racers from all over the midwest and Canada used Novi's mountain bike trail at Lakeshore beginning at 9:30 a.m.




Dale Grzych, 11, of Garden City, was one of many



Irene Grenelit, 22, of Hutchinson, MN, crosses the finish line earlier this month on her unicycle at a Lakeshore Park

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Competition is one wheel fun time

Redford Township unicycle club hosts championship race

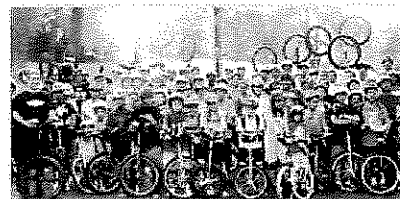
August 12, 2007

On Aug. 1, the City of Novi partnered with the Redford Township Unicycle Club to host a race as part of the 2007 North American Unicycling Championship Series and Convention. The unicycle race, held at Lakeshore Park on the shores of Walled Lake, included more than 80 participants ranging from 4 to 51 years of age.

Many of the riders came from across the country, including Washington and Tennessee.

PHOTOS

Click thumbnails to zoom



More than 80 people participated in the unicycle race at Lakeshore Park in Novi. The Redford Township Unicycle Club hosted the event.




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The National championship and convention takes place annually and rotates sites in the United States. This year, the Redford Township Unicycle Club was named host club, and Michigan the host state.

A number of club members reside in Novi and use the Lakeshore trails regularly. In addition, the Redford club annually participates in Novi's Memorial Day Parade and the Holiday Electric Light Parade.

An engaged couple from Minnesota won the races Aug. 1. Andy Cotter won the men's division and irene Genelin won the women's.

Compiled by Free Press staff

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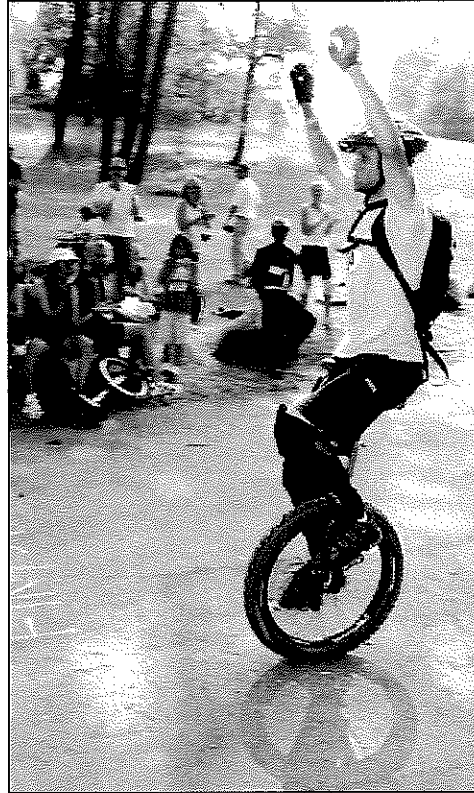


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News
Roman Allemann, of Toronto, raises his arms as he crosses the finish line during last week's unicycle race at Novi's Lakeshore Park.

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Novi hosts North American Unicycling Championship Series

More than 80 cyclists enjoy riding Lakeshore Park trails

8/1/07

Earlier today, the City of Novi partnered with the Redford Township Unicycle Club (RTUC) to host a race as part of the 2007 North American Unicycling Championship Series and Convention (photos attached). The race, held at Lakeshore Park, included more than 80 participants ranging in age from 4-51 years old. Many of the riders traveled from across the country, with some as far away as Washington and Tennessee.

Located on the shores of Walled Lake, the 350-acre Lakeshore Park hosts a number of summer activities including the Kid's Concert Series, Camp Lakeshore, Mountain Bike and Running races and more. Nature lovers enjoy the "up north" feeling in a suburban setting by walking, biking, running or skiing the 10 miles of trail.

The National Championship and Convention is held annually and rotates locations across the United States. This year the RTUC was named host club, and Michigan the host state. A number of members of the club reside in Novi and use the Lakeshore trails regularly. In addition, the RTUC annually participates in Novi's Memorial Day Parade and the Holiday Electric Light Parade.

The championship series includes a number of different disciplines held throughout Southeast Michigan. Trail races, free-style riding, long-distance road races and unicycle basketball games are just a sample of the events held during the series.

Women's Division winner Irene Genelin, 22, Hutchison, MN, is one of only 10 Level Ten riders in the world. She started riding at age 11 and has competed in Iowa, California, Minnesota, Michigan, Washington, and Ontario. Additionally, in June she traveled by unicycle from Slovenia to France on a 660 mile ride over 19 days. Genelin commented, "Lakeshore Park was a great race with outstanding trails. Overall the day was super!"



Race is one wheel good time

Convention unicyclists compete in Novi

August 12, 2007

On Aug. 1, the City of Novi partnered with the Redford Township Unicycle Club to host a race as part of the 2007 North American Unicycling Championship Series and Convention. The unicycle race, held at Lakeshore Park on the shores of Walled Lake, included more than 80 participants ranging from 4 to 51 years of age.

Many of the riders came from across the country, including Washington and Tennessee.

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The National Championship and Convention takes place annually and rotates sites in the United States. This year, the Redford Township Unicycle Club was named host club, and Michigan the host state.

A number of club members reside in Novi and use the Lakeshore trails regularly. In addition, the Redford club annually participates in Novi's Memorial Day Parade and the Holiday Electric Light Parade.


An engaged couple from Minnesota won the races Aug. 1. Andy Cotter won the men's division and Irene Genelin won the women's.

By Free Press staff

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PHOTOS

Click thumbnails to zoom



More than 80 people participated in the unicycle race at Lakeshore Park in Novi. Riders came from across the country, including Washington and Tennessee.



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