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THURSDAY
JANUARY 13, 1994

Volume 38
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Four Sections
44 Pages plus Supplements

NOVI NEWS

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Sports LOCAL SKATERS MAKE THE OLYMPIC TEAM / 7B

Should city pitch dollars in Main St.?

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Before any decision on how many more — if any — city dollars should go to the Main Street project, Novi City Council members are looking for a cost-benefit analysis.

"Everyone is very excited about this project. It will finally give Novi a sense of identity, a physical heart. A lot of harsh lights were turned on the project, but it boils down to only a handful of serious questions," Mayor Kathleen McLallen said.

"What it boils down to is a balance sheet so we can go to the citizens and say 'on the balance, this project works for us.'"

Some council members expressed frustration that more of the hard facts were not at their fingertips as they waded through the project details Monday.

The council was asked to give their lawyer and lawyers for the developers, Evergreen III, the go-ahead to start drafting a possible special assessment district agreement to finance the road, water mains and sewers. Evergreen president James Chen says the investment group is prepared to pay back the city for the road via the SAD.

Instead, the council chose to hold off and wait for a more complete financial picture.

"I want to be positive. I don't want to be critical. I'm disappointed the answers aren't available. I feel it's



frustrating as a policymaker," Council Member Tim Pope said.

Among the unknowns is if the tax base created will bring in more money than the city might have to spend to help make Main Street happen.

A commercial development of this scale could help pay for services used by residents. Council Member Robert Schmid said.

"I see this as an investment, not a liability to the City of Novi," he added.

The two-lane, squared-off ring road which may become Main Street is expected to cost between \$650,000 to \$1 million — without counting the price of landscaping, sidewalks and other amenities.

The water and sewer lines are anticipated to come in at \$308,500. If this portion of the project was undertaken with public money, Novi would get some dollars back in the form of water and sewer tap-in fees, but how much remains unclear.

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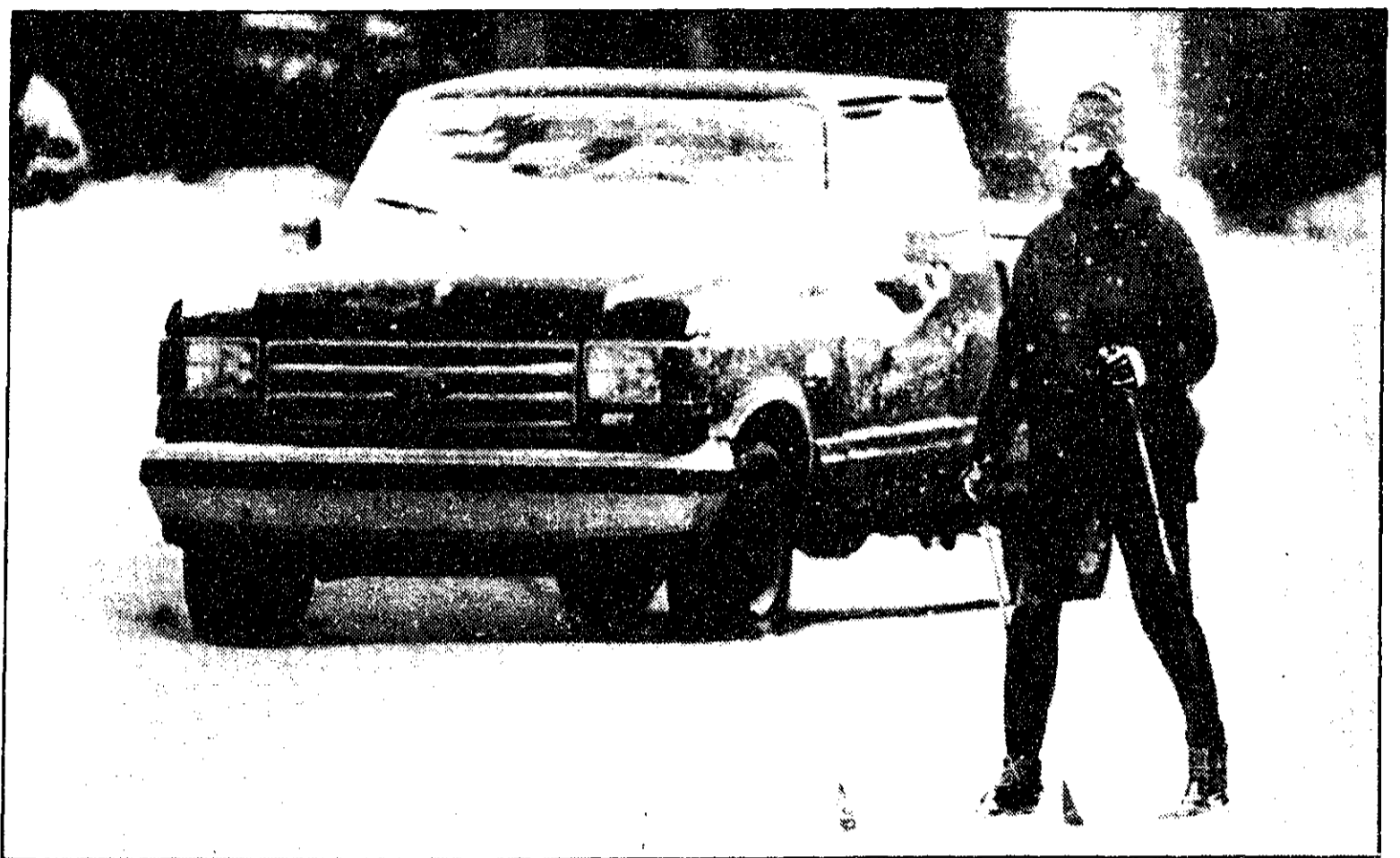


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Snowy days

No, the snow that fell last week didn't require Novi residents to abandon their vehicles in favor of cross country skis, but it was a good opportunity to break out the winter gear. Above,

Novi resident Mark Cynar cruises down the center of the street on his skis. The area received eight inches of snow last Thursday, making it the first real snowstorm of the season.

Mayor's 'coffee' chills council

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Mayor Kathleen McLallen's plans for a Jan. 26 coffee klatch with the presidents of Novi's homeowner associations boiled over into a political tempest Monday.

At issue is whether McLallen, the city's first new mayor in six years, is overstepping her authority by plan-

ning the informal session at the Novi Civic Center.

"This is a weak mayor form of government. The council has equal power. Your function is to run meetings, attend formal functions and cut ribbons," Council Member Robert Schmid told McLallen.

"This probably should have been a council function to meet with homeowners. If you have your

meeting, I probably will not attend. I hope this meeting will not be done to imply what will or will not be done."

McLallen said she hoped to use the status of the office of mayor to bring out representatives from the homeowners groups and upgrade communications with these organizations and city hall.

"As mayor, one of the functions I

serve is as a conduit and a figurehead. . . . It was a coffee 'meet-and-greet.' It was not a full-blown 'break out the china and linen and call the caterer,'" she explained.

McLallen distributed copies to the council of a letter she plans to send to 52 presidents of the homeowners groups. In it, she opens with

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Gift of fruit is giving planners indigestion

By SHARON CONDRON
Staff Writer

Novi Planning Commissioner Robert Taub may be the only commissioner who didn't find fault with the fruit baskets the commission received from developers over the holidays.

After other commissioners questioned the ethics of the planners accepting the baskets, Taub stood alone Wednesday balking at all the fuss being made about the gifts.

"... a basket of fruit valued at \$35 won't create a euphoric atmosphere in our homes that will last forever," Taub said Wednesday about the baskets each of the eight Novi Planning Commissioners re-

ceived at Christmas from Vic's Fruit Market and Evergreen III, the developer of Novi's proposed Main Street project.

"I received it and I was about to go out of town. I had others from family members, maybe they were trying to influence me, too. I mean I know my mother-in-law doesn't like the

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Fest makes the best of winter frost

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

The weather outside is frightful, which means the Chilly Willy Winter Festival on Saturday is bound to be delightful.

Chilly Willy is typically a blend of outside fun and inside entertainment for those who prefer not to spend the entire time with red noses and cold toes.

Snow bunnies can get a healthy start on the day-long event with a pancake breakfast, served up by Novi Youth Assistance. It'll be on the grill at the Novi Civic Center from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Here's what's happening in the great outdoors:

■ If you're an early morning slugger, the Snowball Softball Tournament begins at 8:30 a.m. and runs all day long. You must enter your team today with the Parks and Recreation Depart-

ment by 5 p.m. ■ Check-in time for the Snowman Building Contest is no later than 10:45 a.m. Saturday. The city will provide the snow and space. You provide the tools, the props and the Michelangelo talent. Three divisions are there to choose from: Family (at least one adult and one child); Individuals (no more than two sculptors but one's okay); and Friends (three or more snow artists.) Winners

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Planet Neon owner caught in spotlight

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Members of a Novi Chamber of Commerce committee were so electrified by Jeffrey Heyn's professional background that they will honor him today as the chamber's 1993 Small Business Person Of The Year.

Heyn is president of the Planet Neon Sign Company, a business he and his wife Anne built from a small home office-shop to a 15,000 square foot facility on Grand River Avenue which has produced, among other masterworks, the 100-foot tall neon marquee on Detroit's Fox Theater. He'll receive the award tonight (Thursday, Jan. 13) at the Chamber's annual Installation dinner at the Country Epicure restaurant.

"I'm really pleased. It's great to be recognized for the work we've accomplished. We've come a long way in the last 15 years," Heyn said Tuesday.

Connie Mallett, president of the chamber, explained that the winner is selected by the Small Business Development Committee. Criteria include "staying power," a business's established history; innovativeness of the product; originality of entrepreneurship; contributions to the community; business initiatives; and successful resolution of a professional problem.

"There was a time the business was in trouble during the recession and Jeff steered the company through that," Mallett said.

Heyn studied building and architecture at the Center for Creative Studies. In the late 1970s, he became interested in neon and took lessons at Greenfield Village from one of the few remaining master glassblowers.

In the early 1980s, Heyn launched Planet Neon into the decorator's market with its neon clocks and deco-style tabletop art. Today, most of the firm's business is for commercial customers, including the Epcot Center, United Artist Theaters and shopping malls throughout the U.S.

Planet Neon does all the special projects neon for pizza mogul Mike Ilitch, including the Second City comedy club in Detroit and a new 120-foot sign at a Little Caesar's Family Fun Center in Chicago. Recent metro area work includes signs at Tiger Stadium, Providence Hospital in Novi and Wooley Bully's in Farmington Hills.

The firm has designed corporate logos for a number of Novi businesses.

Heyn is considered a leading authority in the neon signage field. His unique company has been featured

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Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Jeff Heyn, president of Planet Neon, pictured here with his wife and partner, Anne, has been named Small Business Person of the Year.

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Community Calendar

To get your organization's activities, regular meetings or special events listed in the Community Calendar, send information to Community Calendar, The Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

Today, January 13

Parks meeting: The Novi Parks and Recreation Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Friday, January 14

Used book sale: Faith Community Presbyterian Church, 44400 W. Ten Mile Rd., is sponsoring a used book sale from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Book donations may be left at the church 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday or call the church at 349-5666 for special arrangements. Receipts for tax purposes can be provided. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Oakland Literacy Council.

Saturday, January 15

Chilly Willy Winter Festival: Novi Parks and Recreation presents the 7th annual Chilly Willy Winter Festival at the Novi Civic Center and Power Park. Individual, family and team activities will take place throughout the day. Area restaurants will provide the fixings for the Chili Cook-off/Tasting Contest. Outdoor events begin with a Sno-ball Softball Tournament at 8:30 a.m. at Power Park softball fields. There will be a pancake breakfast at 9-11 a.m.; eucyre and bridge tournaments; snowman building contest; face painting and imagination stations; hay-

rides, cartoons, concessions, super-score-o contest; and the Chautauqua Express entertains at 2 p.m. Call 347-0400 for more information.

Used book sale: Faith Community Presbyterian Church, 44400 W. Ten Mile Rd., is sponsoring a used book sale from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Book donations may be left at the church 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday or call the church at 349-5666 for special arrangements. Receipts for tax purposes can be provided. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Oakland Literacy Council.

Monday, January 17

Martin Luther King Day: City offices will be closed.

Cholesterol Screening: Total cholesterol screening by finger-stick method, will be offered 1-4 p.m., at the Botsford Center for Health Improvement-Health Development Network, 39750 Grand River Ave. Cost is \$5 fee. For more information call 477-6100.

Arts Council: The Novi Arts Council Executive Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly for all ages meets at 7 p.m. at Novi High School, Room 109. For more information, call 348-9691.

Motor City Speak Easy Toastmasters: The Motor City

Speak Easy Toastmasters Club meets from 7-9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile. For more information call Barbara Wald at 464-4199. Visitors are welcome.

Tuesday, January 18

Garden Club: The Novi Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Band rehearsal: The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For more information on the group, call manager Warren Ledger at 348-2955.

Chess Club: The Novi Chess Club will meet from 7-10 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. There is no charge to attend and all players are welcome. For more information, call Tim Sawmillier, 344-9833 evenings after 6 p.m.

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HUDSON'S



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Picture, picture

Larry Champine, owner of the Town Center Gallery, picks the winning shots in the Novi Camera Club's annual contest. Winners will take their prizes on Jan. 19 at 8 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center. Joining Champine as judges were Donna Williams, photographer and owner of Breckenridge studio and Bryan Mitchell, Novi News Photographer.

Locals snipe at school bill

By SHARON CONDRON Staff Writer

The state Legislature's new school aid bill took equal potshots from Novi school and city officials last week. "We are concerned with it," said City Manager Ed Kriewall. "Whatever they are doing to us they are doing to the whole community."

"This was a midnight decision in a backroom," said Kriewall. "The state was equally disturbed about the impact the state's new funding plan was going to have on the Novi Community School District. Both the mayor and manager aired their disaste for the new bill at Thursday's joint meeting of the Board of Education and City Council."

"This educational reform package delivers nothing to Novi except an increase in expenses," she said. "And quite frankly, our residents are going to pay through the nose." Elected officials from the two boards talked candidly about the new funding bill and about the impact it would have on the schools. Novi taxpayers and city officials, who would have to collect the new taxes,

School board President Ray Byers said the new bill does little to enhance the quality of education. "Quality was left at the door. There is no quality in this package," he said. "There's no talk of consolidation of purchasing, districts or health care costs. It deals solely with tax cuts and millage rates."

Byers was particularly concerned with the portion of the bill that mandates a statewide proficiency test for 10th graders. According to Byers and Rita Traynor's, assistant superintendent for instruction, interpretation of the test, if sophomores pass the test, they could graduate.

"I would say that if we are going to give a test why don't we give it to our representatives about school finance and school reform before they write legislation," Byers barked. "Jim Koster, the district's assistant superintendent of business and operations, has kept in constant contact with the state's Fiscal Agency since the bill emerged from the Senate floor on Christmas Eve. He said the figures coming down from the state have changed with the days on the calendar. Koster told the school board and city council Thursday he had been advised by a representative in the Fiscal Agency office to not get stung out over the bill until it is signed into law."

But what concerned Koster more was how the district was going to get to the tax dollars the city was collecting from the schools. "The city has to collect these taxes," he said. "To date there is no mechanism in place to collect the new taxes. The taxes will be collected on different classifications and under different percentages. "We have no direction from the state on how to collect these taxes. Nor do we know how to reimburse them back to the state and to the district. "We don't know how to get what you are going to collect for us," he said.

Schools, city shop for land

By SHARON CONDRON Staff Writer

The Novi schools Board of Education and City Council may be looking to buy land together on the city's west side for future school expansion and recreational uses.

The two boards of elected officials, along with City Manager Ed Kriewall and Assistant Superintendent of Operations Jim Koster, all met behind closed doors after a joint meeting Thursday night, Jan. 6 to discuss the viability of the joint purchase. After the half hour long executive session, the meeting was adjourned and no vote was taken, according to Superintendent Emmet Lippe. Lippe said Monday the elected officials are just beginning to explore

their options now as residential development in the City of Novi continues to soar and gobble up vacant land. He said it seemed like a natural land use to put a school near a park. "We are both looking to buy land so we'd be remiss to not look at the opportunity to do it together," Lippe said.

Novi Planning Director Jim Wahl gave a short overview of the city's master plan and showed school officials how development that has already been planned might impact the district's enrollment. Wahl made his presentation before the board went behind closed doors. Wahl talked mostly of projects already on the master plan and reminded school officials that residents of Sandstone, the city's largest residential development, is not within their district boundaries. Children from the 1,165 units in the development will be attending Walled Lake schools. That district is also in the real estate market looking for a site for yet another new school to accommodate its growth.

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Con nets Blazer from dealership

A salesman at Mary Feidman Chevrolet was conned out of brand new white 1994 Chevy Blazer by two men Dec. 31. The salesman allowed the two suspects the Blazer while it was running. One of the two asked the salesman to pop the hood and answer some of his questions about the engine. The salesman denied one of the suspects the right to drive the vehicle because he didn't have his driver's license with him at the time. After the pair inspected the vehicle, they asked the salesman for a quote and to fill out the credit application. The salesman complied and they left the dealership to see about financing. A half hour later, the salesman returned to the lot and found the vehicle missing. He called the police and they searched for the car keys before he noticed. The vehicle was a dark vehicle that was being driven by the same salesman. It contained his sunglasses and a garage door opener to his home. He described the suspects as two black males in their '20s. Both had thin builds. One had a house voice and was wearing a blue stocking cap. There was a third male in the pair's late model Cadillac when they first entered the dealership, but police don't have a description of the third man.

Police News

TRUCKED HIM: The driver lost control of his vehicle at the south entrance of the Novi Hilton at Eight Mile. That's when police arrested him and released his passenger at the hotel. A 31-year-old Novi man was also arrested for operating under the influence of liquor on Dec. 27 at Grand River and Novi Road. The man, who is in the United States Navy, was driving a 1992 Ford Thunderbird when police saw him turn right onto northbound Novi Road from the left turn on a red light. That same day police also arrested a 26-year-old Fowlerville man for the same offense when they saw him weaving across traffic on Novi Road near I-96. The man told police he had six beers at a Detroit bar before he got lost looking for Grand River Avenue. On Dec. 29, police found a 35-year-old Novi woman in the same condition driving her 1990 Geo on Novi Road at I-62 a.m. The woman was caught swerving across traffic on Novi Road. She was unable to find her driver's license in her purse when police asked her for it. An officer pulled the license from her purse and then asked her how many beers she had. She told police she four to five Molson Ice beers.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE: A 21-year-old Farmington Hills man was arrested for operating under the influence of liquor on Tuesday, Dec. 28. The man who is a student at Michigan State University was driving 83 miles per hour in posted 45 mph zone on Haggerty Road when police

full bottle of Brandy in the rear of the car.

COLD CUT THEFT: The owner of the Tubby's Sub Shop on Novi Road said someone stole \$458 from a cash box stored in the refrigerator at the shop on Thurs. Dec. 23. The back door of the restaurant had been pryed open after the store closed for the evening. An office and the refrigerator had been broken into the same way.

HIGH SCHOOL ROBBERY: An 18-year-old Novi High School girl lost \$80 when someone at the school stole her purse from a classroom on Jan. 1. The purse was recovered later from the boy's bathroom by the teacher, but the money was missing.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY: Police are looking for the man who punched a woman in the face and head several times on Jan. 1 before he trashed the apartment and then fled the scene. The victim told police she and the suspect got into an argument over a mess her daughter had made in the woman's nine mile home. The woman refused medical attention and told police she didn't want to press charges.

LARCENY FROM LOCKER: A woman's purse was stolen from her locker at Vic Tanny's while she was showering at the health club on Dec. 24. Inside the purse was \$250, her checkbook, and credit cards.

ROAD POKES: An Arkansas man was ticketed for open intoxicants when police found him and two passengers mixing drinks in the 1984 Mercury Capri which was parked in the Roman Plaza parking lot. The driver was caught pouring a half-full bottle of Cognac from a paper bag into a cup to mix with soda when police arrived. Police also found a third-

THAT WAS SOME PARTY: A Walled Lake man said his 1985 Ford Tempo was stolen at a party in the Chateau Trailer Park on Dec. 31. The man and his friend said they told two women at a party in Waterford how many beers she had when police arrived. Police also found a third-

Novi Briefs

Under pressure: Community Emergency Medical Service reported in December that its staff since January 1992 administered blood cholesterol and/or blood pressure tests to 850 individuals, as part of a free program it offers to Novi residents. The tests are held at the Novi Civic Center on Mondays prior to the Novi City Council meetings.

Correction: In an article on oil wells, the Dec. 23 edition of *The Novi News* incorrectly referred to the Walled Lake-Novi Waste Water Treatment Plant as being located on Decker Road. The facility is on West Tree Farm, the drilling might possibly be done from the treatment plant grounds.

Cookies now on sale: Local Girl Scouts in your community will be taking advance orders for Girl Scout cookies through and Jan. 23. Proceeds from the sale support a wide variety of programs for local Girl Scout troops and more than 31,000 girls throughout southern Oakland and Wayne counties. Cookies are priced at \$2.50 per package.

Football raffle: You've got a one in 1,000 chance to win two tickets to the 1994 Super Bowl in Atlanta, if you enter the Novi Optimist Club raffle.

The tickets, which sell for \$10 apiece, provide the winner and his or her guest airfare from Detroit Metro Airport to Atlanta, four days and three nights of deluxe accommodations in the Hampton Inn Hotel in northwest Atlanta, a daily continental breakfast, reserved game tickets, transfers to and from the Georgia Dome stadium, and last but far from least, \$300 in spending money.

The lucky sports fan will be chosen in a drawing on Friday, Jan. 14 at the Novi Civic Center Auditorium, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. Only 1,000 tickets will be sold.

You can get your raffle ticket at the Novi Parks and Recreation Department. For more information, call Craig Klaver at 347-0448.

Citizens with information about the above incidents are urged to call the Novi Police Tip Line at 349-6887.

New planner has spent Mutch time volunteering

By JAN JEFFRES Staff Writer

Novi's new planning commissioner has a history of community involvement. Kathleen Mutch, president of the Novi Historical Society, long-time member of the city's Historical Commission and a member of the Historic District Study Committee, was nominated for the job by Mayor Kathleen McLellan and won the support of the council majority Monday.

"I would like to thank you for your vote of confidence. I would like to assure you that I will try to do the best I can as I try to do on all things I do for

the city," Mutch told the council. Mutch, a freelance writer and homemaker, was McLellan's campaign manager in 1993. She will fill in the six months remaining of former commissioner Rob Mitzel's three-year term, now that Mitzel has moved out to the city council. The commission term expires June 30.

Other applicants for the planner's post were Larry Czekaj, Peter Hooley, Gary Myers and Edward Phelps. Four regular terms and four alternate terms were available on the city's board of review. Novi has added an additional board to assist the original board with the load of property tax appeals.

Selected for the regular jobs were J. R. Alyeh, Herb Abugow, Robert Churella and Karl Wdzinsky. Alternates will be Lee BeCote, Miles Hart and David Ingure.

In addition, the council appointed Donald Buse to the city's Economic Development Corporation. He was the only applicant.

"We had some enormously talented people come in and interview for these," McLellan said.

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Schools haggle over land price

By SHARON CONDRON Staff Writer

Providence Hospital really wants to do business with Novi schools. Even though hospital officials believe their last offer to buy 10 acres of land owned by the school on Beck Road just south of Grand River Avenue was fair, they made a verbal counter offer last week.

Jim Koster, assistant superintendent for business and operations for the Novi Community School District, said Providence Hospital and Medical Center's Chief Executive Officer

"We are at the low end now and I'm not willing to go to the bottom."

Robert Schram School board trustee

and President Brian Connolly sent him a letter asking the district to reconsider his earlier offer of \$575,000. Koster reportedly told Connolly that the school board rejected the

hospital's offer on Dec. 2 because it included a 6 percent sales commission that would be subtracted from the offer and paid to Providence's realtor, Thompson Brown Realtors. In response, the hospital lowered the sales commission to three percent but kept the selling price at \$575,000.

After hearing the hospital's counter offer Thursday night School Board President Ray Byers asked Koster if the hospital's offer was firm. "It's a counter offer and we can counter it," Koster told the board just before they voted to do so. I think it's a

pure counter and I would be in touch with him if we discussed it tonight." The board voted 6-1 to counter offer with \$600,000 and a 3 percent commission.

Board member Michael Meyer abstained from the vote because he was late for the meeting and missed the discussion that led to the vote. Trustee Robert Schram who made the motion to counter offer. He moved to ask \$600,000 and didn't seem to want to go much lower. "We are at the low end now and I'm not willing to go to the bottom," he said.

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 Place of Work (if applicable) _____
 Work Address _____ Phone _____

Reasons for requesting membership on the Foundation Board _____

Experience that may be helpful as a Foundation member _____

Other information about yourself that would assist the Foundation members in the selection process: _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please send the completed form by February 7, 1994 to:
 Mr. John Balagna,
 President Novi Educational Foundation
 25345 Taft Road
 Novi, MI 48374

Digging for dollars

Lippe proposes to revive education foundation

By SHARON CONDRON
Staff Writer

Now that the state Legislature has put the Novi Community School District at its mercy by making it an informal school district, timing couldn't be more ripe for school officials to resurrect the Novi Educational Foundation.

Novi schools Superintendent Emmet Lippe said Monday he is working with Board of Education President Ray Byers and current members of the dormant foundation to revitalize interest and increase membership in the private, non-profit fundraising group.

The first step in the revitalization is to gain membership and appoint a board of directors.

Fliers asking residents to volunteer to sit on the foundation's board will be sent home with students tomorrow (Friday, Jan. 14) or Monday, Jan. 17. The fliers will also be distributed by the Novi Chamber of Commerce.

Lippe said the foundation's purpose is to provide alternate funding outside of the schools' budget to pay for the "little extras" to enhance the educational program for students.

"We are looking to fund things that are above and beyond what a school budget would support," Lippe said about the focus of the foundation. "We are hoping to find ways to expand opportunities for our students."

Exactly what extras the founda-

tion will fund will be left to the decision of the new board of directors, Lippe said. But he suggested that donations may be used to enhance and build upon the district's technology program or to develop and support an international studies program.

"The purpose is to enhance the program not balance the budget," Lippe said about the money that will be raised through the foundation.

Funds will be solicited as they have been in the past from private and corporate donors. There will also be fundraising activities planned to raise money for the foundation, Lippe said.

Novi's foundation was started in 1983 and remained active until 1989-90. After that, interest in and leadership of the foundation waned when the district stumbled through a change in superintendents.

When it was thriving, Lippe said its focus zeroed in on scholarships that were disbursed from an endowment. Lippe said at least \$25,000 remains in the foundation now but it is designated for scholarships.

"They've done a lot with scholarships and given a lot each year," he said. "But that could change with a new board of directors."

This Foundation would redefine itself and try to determine the kinds of things they want to support," he said.

Prior to Lippe's coming to Novi schools almost two years ago, the superintendent founded the State of

Michigan's first school foundation in Williamston schools. The foundation there was very successful then and it remains successful today, he said.

In the first 10 years, that foundation raised more than \$750,000 for the school district. It funded a variety of special interest projects that state aid fell short of providing for the informal school district which was situated in a high-tax, bedroom community with little or no industry to build a tax base.

"Our budgets were very much cramped," Lippe said remembering back to when he created the foundation in his former district.

"Williamston is very similar to Novi and Northville. It wasn't as populated. But we had a lot of retirees in the community who were not real comfortable with millage increases."

"This was one of those things we did to privatize. It helped people see that we were being creative rather than just asking them for more millage."

Williamston's foundation has helped its school district build a new auditorium for the performing arts; add computer software; provide stage lighting for drama and theater; establish an electronic music lab; and enhance library and media center resources.

"It did me a lot of good and it showed me that the district had a lot of credibility in the community," Lippe said.

It was then that Lippe learned that the foundation actually built bridges,

not walls, between the school district and the community.

"It gives community and business leaders an opportunity to become involved in the schools," he said. "The foundation allowed business and community leaders the opportunity to come into a supportive role. And even if the funds that were raised were limited, people became supporters of the district rather than critics."

Lippe said membership request forms for residents interested in sitting on the board of directors are available at each of the school buildings and at the administration office, 25345 Taft Road. A form is also included in this edition of *The Novi News*.

The superintendent said the district is looking to seat anywhere from five to 15 members on the board. Membership forms are due back to foundation President John Balagna by Feb. 7.

According to the by-laws of the Novi Educational Foundation, new members will join Lippe and Byers on the board of directors. No other active member of the board of education will be seated on the director's board. A chairman, secretary, treasurer and vice-chairman will oversee the board of directors as officers.

The foundation meets monthly and sponsors fundraisers throughout the school year.



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Digging out

Despite the media hype, Michigan wasn't buried under snow, but it did get the first substantial snow fall of the season. Eight inches of snow was enough to get Bob Glowacki out in sub-zero temperatures last Thursday to clear his driveway with a snowblower.

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Council balks at Kathy's coffee

Continued from Page 1

the lines: "During the election campaign of 1993, I had the pleasure of meeting many of you as I walked the neighborhoods and attended meetings and get-togethers. My goal for 1994 is to personally meet with each one of you to discuss ways we can improve communications between city hall and all of the Novi neighborhoods."

Schmidt challenged the mayor's verbiage, pointing out the reference to McAllen's 1993 campaign.

"Perhaps there is nothing wrong with this but I believe it is precedent-setting. I don't recall anyone using

city stationery and city time for a campaign meeting," he said.

"I'm not campaigning, I've been elected," McAllen answered.

In response to objections from Council Member Tim Pope, the mayor's meeting date was removed from the recently-released City of Novi calendar. He said he did not think city money, including the mailing costs and staff time, should be spent on the project for "an office that doesn't have the power the city council has the power."

"I thank you for inviting us but you should have included us... If I propose Tim Pope's Town Hall Hearing, can I send out 50 letters?"

In her invitation, McAllen she wrote that "my goal is to strengthen our relationship in a positive, friendly environment... I want you to communicate with me your neighborhood's concerns and issues..."

"As a united community we can brainstorm ways to improve communications, solve problems and make Novi the best place to live, work and raise a family."

Chilly Willy Fest chases chills

Continued from Page 1

will be announced at the Novi Civic Center stage at 1 p.m. — provided a heavy rain does not cancel the entire event.

Hayrides on the half-hour begin at 11 a.m. and conclude at 1:30 p.m. Hop the wagon at the south entrance of the Novi Civic Center.

Hockey fans will like this one. Starting at 12:30 p.m. in Power Park, take your chances in the Score-O Contest. Contestants have three chances to shoot a puck through a small opening in the Score-O Board. Age categories are 4-and-under; 5 to 7; 8 to 10; 11 to 13; 15 to 17; and 18-and-up.

Then, let the games begin with the Super Score-O Contest at 12:45 p.m. You get one chance and all ages compete together. The winner walks away with two free tickets to a Detroit Red Wings Game.

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. lots of fun things will be going on at Power Park, including the best ice skating this side of the Joe Louis Arena. There'll be sledding, cross country skiing, concessions on site and a big bonfire when you need to warm up a little.

Now, you don't go to an event like this without bundling up. But Chilly Willy festgoers have an incentive to do it in style. At 1:30 p.m., the person who displays the best winter spirit and dress will be selected in the Old Man/Old Woman Winter contest. Register before 12:30 p.m. at city hall that day. Contestants must be 16 years old or older.

Penalty will also be going on in the cozy confines of the Novi Civic Center, not the least of these is the now-famous Chili Cook-off from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For the first time, restaurants outside of Novi city limits are included in the contest. So many requests came in from eateries in neighboring communities, Novi Public Information Director Cindy Stewart said, that they bent the rules to include the "outsiders."

So far, these Novi restaurants have entered the cook-off: Guerney Farms Dairy, Roschi's Deli-Pub, the Sunset Grill, Mr. P's Farm, Red Robin, Malsano's Italian Restaurant and the Eli & Denny Restaurant. Also in are Bon-A-Rose of New Hudson; Crawford's of Northville; Key Largo Restaurant of Walled Lake; Rocky's of Northville; and Matt Brady's Tavern/Holiday Inn of Farmington Hills.

But more eateries may sign up before the big day, Stewart said.

"The restaurants keep pouring in. This is going to be the best year ever for Chilly Willy," she added.

Chili lovers pay 25 cents for a taste

per restaurant booth. They then vote for their favorites, to come up with the people's choice winners.

If chili's not your dish, check out the menus at the concessions stands in both Power Park and in the Civic Center's multi-purpose room.

Other indoor events include:

- The Euchre Tournament at 11 a.m. in the activities room. Check-in time is 10:45 a.m. Card decks are provided by the city and the tournament format depends on the number of two-person teams entering.
- Free facepainting for kids runs from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room.
- The Bridge Tournament, with a \$2 entry fee, begins at 12:30 p.m. in the Sixth Gate Conference Rooms.

For more information, call the Novi Parks and Recreation Department at 347-0400. After 5 p.m., phone the Chilly Willy Hotline, 347-0473.

Council asks for bottom line on Main St.

Continued from Page 1

Evergreen is also asking that the city donate to them its three properties fronting on or near Novi Road, adjacent to the 55-acre Main Street site — the former fire station, the old township hall and the Aladdin building — to help pay for the road paving. In return, the developers say they will hand over to the city the road right-of-way through their land, which Evergreen values at \$800,000 to \$900,000.

No final evaluation of the worth of the city land was available for the council, although City Manager Edward Krewell said a preliminary estimate on the three Novi Road prop-

erties is \$400,000.

Evergreen is also asking to use vacant land behind Fire Station One on Grand River Avenue for a parking lot, which the developers would build, use and maintain. Again, the land's worth has not been precisely tallied.

The city council in September agreed to pay \$45,000 for the preliminary engineering of Main Street, which would serve as part of a ring road around the Novi Road/Grand River Avenue intersection.

This designwork is done and was unveiled Monday. The next step is \$50,000 in final engineering which Chen said Evergreen will pay, if it is reimbursed through the road S&D.

The council, with the exception of Pope and Council Member Carol Mason, gave the city attorney the green light to prepare an agreement for this proposal.

"Main Street is a beautiful concept. It's something we all want... It's a wonderful project, but it will be a burden on all of our health, safety and welfare issues," Mason said.

"Can we take it upon ourselves to make decisions when the property belongs to all of us without a public hearing?"

The council can, City Attorney David Frited confirmed.

But another \$54,000 facet to the project remains, the design of the road amenities. City administrators

are suggesting that this be taken from the planning department's budget, but no decision was made yet.

It also has yet to be determined if the city can, under the city charter, hand over its Novi Road properties to Evergreen III, rather than seeking competitive bids. Before this could be done, city Finance Director Les Gibson would have to rule this was in the best interests of the city, according to a charter provision.

Evergreen anticipates that Main Street will be a \$50- to \$60-million development.

Already, queries about the project are coming in from interested businesses in places like Kansas City

and Chicago, he said. A theater group is sniffing around the site and might bring a dinner theater to Main Street, Chen says.

"I'm walking a thin line. There are a few developers who say 'Mr. Chen, do you know what you're doing?' I say, 'Yes, I do,'" he told the council.

"Main Street Town Center is the hottest development today. People are always looking for something new. The Main Street concept will be the trend for the next few years."

Another unanswered question, raised by Mason, is what demand the new downtown might make on the city's fire and police departments — and would this balance off its contribution to the tax rolls.

INNOVATIONS & Independence Village

Invite the Public to the Winter Independent Living Speaker Series

Jan. 12 Medicare Insurance for Home Care
Jan. 19 Durable Power Attorney Health Care
Jan. 26 Smoking Cessation

Sessions begin at 1:00 pm - Main Dining Area

Independence Village is located at 833 E. Grand River, Brighton

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7 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 19, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider A & M Label and Graphics SP 93-33, located at 47087 Grand River Avenue, between Beck and Tall Roads, Sidwell number 50-22-16-151-002 for POSSIBLE Preliminary Site Plan and Special Land Use Approvals.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Department of Community Development, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 19, 1994.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LODIA RICHARDS, SECRETARY
GREG CAPOTE, PLANNING CLERK

(1-13-94 NR, NN)

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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 19, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider Hudson Sanitary Sewer District SP 93-34, located at the north east corner of Meadowbrook Road and I-96. Sidwell number 50-22-19-301-014 for POSSIBLE Preliminary Site Plan and Special Land Use Approvals.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Department of Community Development, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 19, 1994.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LODIA RICHARDS, SECRETARY
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(1-13-94 NR, NN)

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Council omits path from condo plan

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

To Gerald and Laura Asher, the public path near their new Walden Woods home has been a little too public.

It's been used as a runway for vandalism, theft, arson and trespassing, according to a letter the Ashers sent to the Novi City Council.

The problem with pathways is that they look good on paper. . . . In reality, however, they are an invasion of privacy and a safety threat to residents living nearby," the couple wrote.

Gerald Asher presented the council with a petition from his neighbors, backing his request to remove the path.

The council, convinced, agreed Monday to revise the condominium development's site plan and pull out a proposed eight-foot asphalt path running from Greenway Drive in the neighboring Simmons Orchard subdivision to Walden Drive in Walden Woods. The not-yet-completed development is south of Eleven Mile Road, west of Tall Road.

To some council members, the couple's plight brought into sharper focus the need for a city ordinance requiring full disclosure to potential home buyers of amenities such as trails planned for a new development.

"I want a clear, strong responsibility on all of us for strong disclosure and the amenities in place before any one walks into a real estate office," Mayor Kathleen McAllen said.

A second path in the subdivision, part of the Natural Resources Design Plan, has already been eliminated by the planning commission.

To Council Member Robert Schmidt, the Asher's dilemma illustrates what he finds wrong with the city's nature trail program.

"If this letter doesn't convince members of the city council that the whole trail system ought to be put to rest, I don't know what will," Schmidt said.

The Ashers said they bought their home in February 1993, paying a \$20,000 premium to back up to the woods. The clearing in the woods for the trail was not visible at the time, they said, and later they were told by the builder it was a water and sewer easement.

During the summer, they wrote in their letter, children from Simmons Orchard and Roma Ridge swiped boards from the Walden Woods construction site and built tree forts and bike ramps along the trail. Three fires were set on the trail and firecrackers were common.

At a home under construction not far from theirs, vandals ignited three fires. The third time, the Ashers caught an 11-year-old alleged arsonist who told Novi police kids from Roma Ridge and Simmons Orchard set the house fires, the Ashers wrote January 3.

Things got more personal once the Ashers had their sod and landscaping installed. Children and adults veered off the path to use their yard, biking through the landscaping and wiping mud on the lawn.

"Many residents within Walden Woods asked us to delete it because of their concern for privacy within their own lands," developer Ray Cousineau told the council.

He has agreed to reforest the muddy pathway.

Any trails should be in place before the homes are built, so residents know what to expect, Council Member Rob Mittel said.

"We have to be careful of always changing something, I'm not sure the firecrackers and wood theft is due to the path," he added.



Photo by Bryan Mitchell

Manual labor

Shoveling snow can be heavy work, but Anthony Godoshian got his driveway cleared after weather dumped up to eight inches of snow on the Novi area last Thursday. Not quite the

storm the media hype made it out to be, the snowfall still counted as the area's first significant winter storm for the season.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE
PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING ROAD PROGRAM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 31, 1994, to discuss the balance of the 1990 Road Program. This hearing will be held in the Council Chambers at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road at 9:00 P.M. EST. All interested persons will be heard.

GERALDINE STIFF, CITY CLERK
(1-13-94 NR, NN)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 19, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider Hudson Sanitary Sewer District SP 93-34, located at the north east corner of Meadowbrook Road and I-96. Schematic number 50-22-13-301-014 for POSSIBLE Preliminary Site Plan and Special Land Use Approval.

GERALDINE STIFF, CITY CLERK
(1-13-94 NR, NN)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council is accepting applications from persons interested in appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Construction Board of Appeals, Economic Development Corporation, Library Board, Housing & Community Development Committee and Election Commission. Applications are available from the City Clerk's Office. Please submit applications by February 1st. If you are unable to meet the February 1st deadline, please contact the City Clerk.

GERALDINE STIFF, CITY CLERK
(1-6 & 1-13-94 NR, NN)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance 92-124-04, an Ordinance to amend Section 31-56 of the Novi Code of Ordinances to require a fee for the service of assigning address numbers.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after adoption. The Ordinance was adopted on January 10, 1994 and the effective date is January 25, 1994. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk.

GERALDINE STIFF, CITY CLERK
(1-13-94 NR, NN)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ENACTMENT ORDINANCE 94-123.04

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance 94-123.04, an Ordinance to amend Section 31-56 of the Novi Code of Ordinances to require a fee for the service of assigning address numbers.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after adoption. The Ordinance was adopted on January 10, 1994 and the effective date is January 25, 1994. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk.

GERALDINE STIFF, CITY CLERK
(1-13-94 NR, NN)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 2, 1994 at 7:30 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider an Ordinance to amend subsections 2401.3, 2402.3, and 2518.5 of Ordinance No. 84-18, as amended, the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance, to revise the time limits relating to conceptual plans and special land use approvals.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Department of Community Development, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 P.M. Wednesday, February 2, 1994.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LODIA RICHARDS, SECRETARY
GREG GAPOTE, PLANNING CLERK
(1-13-94 NR, NN)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

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All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Department of Community Development, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 P.M. Wednesday, February 2, 1994.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
LODIA RICHARDS, SECRETARY
GREG GAPOTE, PLANNING CLERK
(1-13-94 NR, NN)

CITY OF NOVI

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Woodlands Review Board, of the City of Novi, will hold a meeting on Thursday, January 20, 1994 at 4:45 P.M. in the Community Development Department, Novi City Offices, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan to review the Woodlands Review Board's Application for Class II Farms Subdivision, located on the north side of Eight Mile Road east of Novi Road, for removal of trees to relocate Detroit Edison poles.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Any written comments may be sent to the Department of Planning & Community Development, Attn: Gerrie Dent, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan, 48375, until 3:00 P.M. Friday, January 20, 1994.

GERIE DENT
PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
(1-13-94 NR, NN)

Fruit baskets spur planners talk of ethics policy

Continued from Page 1

way I dress, but I just think this thing has been blown way out of proportion," Taub said as he responded to Commissioners Glen Bonaventura and Irene Cahill concerns about the baskets.

Unlike Taub, Bonaventura seemed to take offense to the gifts and worried about the public's opinion of the commission for accepting them.

"I don't think it influenced any of us," Bonaventura said Friday. "But it made a lot of us feel uncomfortable. I don't think they did anything terribly wrong. . . . But I do have a problem with not having anyway to put it (gifts) into the public record."

At the commission meeting, Bonaventura said he didn't seek his seat on the commission for the perks and he wanted to be sure residents knew that.

"I didn't get into this for anything other than the fact that I enjoy it and I'm interested in it," he said. "I enjoy meeting people and I particularly enjoy meeting people who have been in Novi for a long time."

Cahill echoed Bonaventura's concern.

"I didn't even want to accept this thing," she said. "First of all it went to my neighbor's and then I couldn't get rid of it."

Planning Commission Chairman Richard Clark said when he received

Council shows mixed reaction

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

A developer's gift of fruit didn't seem as fresh to the Novi City Council as it did to the Planning Commission.

At least the topic didn't come up in the council meeting Monday. After the session, Mayor Kathleen McAllen confirmed that all council members — as did all planning commissioners — were sent the holiday baskets in December from the investors group Evergreen III and the Beverly Hills-based Vic's Quality Fruit Market.

Evergreen III is planning to build a Main Street in Novi — including a fruit market — and the possible financial assistance of the city is now

under discussion.

"Everybody got a basket. That's merely a courtesy. Everybody ate it. Well, not everybody, Council Member Tim Pope said his wife signed for the goodies but when he read the accompanying card, he had time to sprint out of his home and return it to the delivery truck driver.

"I handed it back," Pope said, adding that the council members also were sent a gift of Christmas decorations by JCK & Associates, the city's consulting engineers.

The city council's code of ethics, adopted in January 1991, prohibits council members from accepting gifts which might influence their decision on public policy but leaves

that up to the individual to determine what sort of gratuity would sway his or her judgment. At that time, Pope's suggestion that council members disclose their receipt of presents worth over \$10 was shot down.

When her surprise package arrived, Council Member Carol Mason said she called Vic's Quality Fruit Market in Beverly Hills and learned that the basket, which retails for \$35, actually cost the giver under \$25. Retailer Vic Ventingilia

plans to build a second store and restaurant on the proposed Main Street.

"I wrote a letter and said 'Thank

you very much. No, we are not paying for your SAD (road and water special assessment districts)," Mason added.

Several planning commissioners were so disturbed by the tribute that they have suggested a disclosure policy specifically for the volunteer, appointed commission. Mason said she agreed with their concern in this case.

"They are absolutely crazy. They're a bunch of old ladies looking for gossip. If they had a basket and they weren't happy, they should throw it out or give it to the poor people," she suggested.

"Basically you can't accept any gifts that would influence your decision," said the City of Novi's Assistant City Attorney Dennis Watson. "But in my opinion, a fruit basket wouldn't do that."

That was Taub's take on the situation.

"This is a tempest in a teapot," he said twice during his animated speech about the commission's res-

ponse to the baskets. "I think we can all make our own judgments."

Watson told Bonaventura that the City Council has established a code of conduct for elected officials that is applicable to commissioners and other appointed city board members.

But the code is very broad and lacks a disclosure form or statement, Bonaventura said.

The commissioner asked the at-

turney if planners could have a separate disclosure code written explicitly for them as volunteers or appointees. A commissioner's version of the code would require planners to disclose to the public any gifts they received valued at \$5 or more, Bonaventura suggested.

"I think it (disclosure) is up front and above board," Bonaventura said Friday.

Watson and the rest of the commission seemed to disregard the need for a second policy at the Wednesday meeting.

"This whole thing has just been blown way out of proportion," Taub said. "During my election for the city council last year, I got a check from a developer who later came before the commission and I voted against his project. I have never come across anyone here who was a crook."

"Let's get onto the business of the commission seemed to disregard the need for a second policy at the Wednesday meeting.

Since then, the commissioner said he has spoken with five of the eight commissioners. He said he spoke with Commissioners Cahill, Kim Capello, Eddy Weddington and Laura Lorenz who have all agreed to revisit the idea of a separate ethics code for planning commissioners at the next meeting, Jan. 19.

Historian teaches seminar

Learn how to do genealogical research in a two-part program at Novi Public Library on Thursday, Jan. 20 and 27. Both programs begin at 7 p.m.

On Jan. 20, Kathy Mutch, local historian, genealogical researcher and member of the Oakland County Genealogical Society, will present "Genealogical Research: An Introduction to Resource Materials and Sources." This portion will include suggestions for developing a record-keeping system, recommended readings and a display of genealogical materials.

On Jan. 27, Mutch will explain "Documenting Genealogical Research: Overcoming the Problems, Avoiding the Pitfalls." Here, using handouts and a brief slide presentation, Mutch will provide suggestions on uses of research data.

To register for these free programs, call the Novi Library at 349-0720. The library is located at 45245 W. Ten Mile Road.

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To celebrate Novi's 25th birthday, the Novi News is giving away

Free Movie Tickets
to General Cinemas at Novi Town Center.

To enter the contest, just identify the historic Novi business or building pictured below, send it to the Novi News by 5 pm Monday. Each week until the City of Novi's 25th Birthday party on Sunday, February 27, we'll draw up to 5 names of correct entries. Each weekly winner will receive two tickets to General Cinemas at Novi Town Center.

What is the name of this historic building?

We must receive your entry (including your name, address, and telephone number) in writing by 5 pm Monday for each week's drawing. Winners will be selected by the advertising staff of the Novi News and published each week in this space. Limit one (1) winning entry per person. No purchase necessary. Preview copies of the Novi News are available at our office at 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167 and at the Novi Public Library. Contest ends February 21, 1994.

the NOVI NEWS

124 W. Main Street
Northville, Michigan 48167
(313) 349-1700

Opinions

12A

THURSDAY
January 13,
1994

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As We See It

No genuine reform in tax, school overhaul

There's an old tale about a jack rabbit who tells his friend, the snail, that he has a yearning to go some place but he can't decide where.

After standing around thinking for a moment, the rabbit darts off in the direction of a clump of trees, veers over to a patch of weeds, circles around by a creek then makes a beeline back to the same spot from which he started.

"You didn't get very far," said the snail, unimpressed.

"Maybe not," the rabbit replied. "But I sure got there in a hurry."

The story illustrates what we think happened with the tax and school reform plan passed by the Legislature and later signed by Gov. John Engler.

With uncharacteristic speed, lawmakers dismantled the state's school funding system and replaced it with a highly complicated set of tax and quality mandates. The effort began last July with the sweeping move to eliminate school property taxes and culminated in the small hours of the morning Dec. 24 following a 26-hour bargaining session among legislators.

But will the package result in significant relief for taxpayers and/or major improvements in Michigan's system of education?

The answer, regrettably, is probably not.

The major provisions of the finance portion of the plan include a cut in property levies from an average of 37 mills to either six or 12 mills, depending on the outcome of the ballot proposal March 15.

This would appear to represent a substantial cut in the state's punishing property tax rate and most homeowners will, in fact, enjoy a sizeable savings.

But there are trade offs in that the gains from property tax reductions will be offset by a host of major tax increases, including:

- Either a 50 percent increase in the sales taxes (from 4 to 6 percent if the March 15 vote passes) or a 30 percent increase in the state income tax (from 4.6 to 6 percent if the vote is no).
- An increase in the real estate transfer tax from the equivalent of 1.1 mills to either 10 or 20 mills (the former if the March 15 vote is rejected, the latter if it's approved). Ten mills of taxation would translate into a tax increase of \$890 on the sale of a \$100,000 home, while 20 mills would result in a \$1,890 tax hike on the sale of the same property.

Other potential increases include a 17 percent jump in the single business tax, from 2.35 to 2.75 percent (if the ballot plan fails), a 50 percent increase in interstate and international telephone calls (from 4 to 6 percent if the vote is yes) and increases in the cigarette tax.

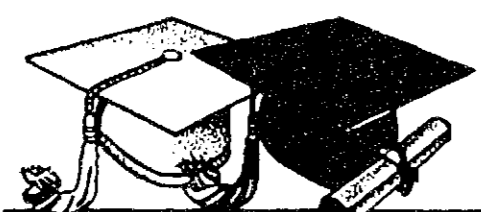
Whether state residents will realize a net reduction in their tax bills after March 15 depends on a number of individual factors, including household income, place of residence, spending habits and relocation plans.

But the mere fact that people have to make a series of calculations before knowing if they'll save money indicates that the prospects for significant tax cuts under the reforms are not immediately apparent.

The reform plans, then, amount to more of a tax shift than a tax cut. While disappointing enough, this fact could be overlooked if the school quality provisions promised a more challenging learning environment for public school children. Again, the results, though somewhat hopeful, are dubious.

The centerpiece of the quality component is a "core curriculum" that all districts in the state will be required to implement. The curriculum is to include course work in math, science, the social sciences and communication arts.

The verdict is still out on the usefulness of the core curriculum because the program has yet to be written. The state Board of Education has been charged with developing the plan, and must have



Education

it in place by September of this year. The implementation date is September 1997.

Members of the state board could use this mechanism to help Michigan schools make strides, but there will be a temptation to appeal to the lowest common denominator among Michigan's widely divergent districts and design a curriculum that reiterates much of what is already being done locally. The hope is that the board will implement meaningful change that will address rapid technological advancements as well as basic educational necessities.

Another major aspect of the quality component is the rule requiring school districts to move from 900 hours of instruction a year to 1,080 by the year 2000. This amounts to an average increase of one hour per day, achievable by either increasing the number of hours in the school day or by extending the number of days in the school year. Individual school districts have their choice.

This is the best aspect of the quality package. More classroom time is an essential part of the push to improve our competitive position with respect to other industrialized nations. An extra 180 hours equates to five-to-six additional weeks of schooling a year, and this can only help. Our preference would have been for this change to become effective in 1996.

The stagnation that can result from the public schools' virtual monopoly on education was meant to be addressed in the charter school concept. Something resembling charter schools has been included in the quality package, but the end product is vastly different from the governor's original proposal.

The plan allows for something called "public academies," facilities which can be established by certified teachers, public schools, community colleges or universities. So many of the liberties included in the original charter school proposal were deleted, however, that it is doubtful these academies will represent genuine alternatives to the regular public schools. It is unclear just how they will differ from their counterparts.

Another important facet of the quality program is the requirement that fourth and seven graders not reading at minimum levels be provided special tutoring. No student, however, will be held back a grade for poor reading performance.

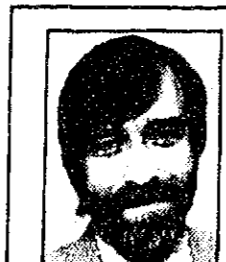
On the whole, the quality package includes some beneficial components but stops short of introducing major change of the type that's needed at the threshold of the 21st century. Many issues that should have been addressed—like consolidation of districts, tenure reform and merit pay systems—were not.

In the last analysis, then, the Lansing reforms provide a small but inadequate step in the right direction for education while giving certain residents a minor break on their overall tax bills.

In terms of funding, it is the school districts which have per-pupil spending rates of less than \$4,200 that will benefit most. Better off districts, such as Novi and Northville, are hoping just to be able to hold their own financially.

Minor improvements in educational quality, small tax cuts and a financing scheme that, at best, doesn't do major harm—that isn't exactly the stuff of which revolutionary change is made.

Kids need time to be kids



Michael Malott

When I was a kid, summers were tremendous. I remember long, hot, dusty days spent on the ballfield behind the local elementary school. I played in leagues from tee-ball to fast-pitch softball, but we didn't have to wait for an official game to get out on the diamond. If we could find enough kids in the neighborhood, we'd play a pickup game. And if we couldn't, we'd practice hitting, catching or turning double plays.

Other days were spent exploring the fields, swamps and woods at the end of my street. The woods stretched for miles, but over the years, my backyard chums and I got to know every square inch of that land.

Then there were the days spent exploring the city on our bikes. Whole days were taken up peddling about town. We went everywhere. It seemed like we knew every street and sidewalk for miles around. Years later, as an adult, I went back to my hometown to visit some of the places I'd discovered on my rides. I couldn't find most of them. But I found them once . . . on career summer vacation days.

Needless to say, they were among the best times of my life. . . rivaled only by the summer days I have recently spent watching my own kids romp on the beach or play in the park in a similarly carefree fashion. One day, they'll become a little more independent, and then they'll be off to explore the world on their own. I won't get to watch, but I'll know they will be having the time of their lives.

I wouldn't think of taking that away from them. But I worry that others are.

Among those talking about reforming education, the idea of extending the school year is a popular subject. When the state Legislature recently passed its so-called "reform" of school financing, it called for phasing in a longer school year. The extension is pretty moderate, but others are calling for even longer years.

Dr. Willard Daggett, for instance, said in his presentation to Novi and Northville teachers recently that American

schools are going to have to extend their school years if they are going to include all the things in their curriculums that are being added these days.

Daggett pointed out that back in the 50s—about the time I started experiencing those carefree summers—America's 180-day school year, with 5½-hour days, was the longest school year on the planet. Today, American schools are still operating on a 180-day schedule, but it has become the shortest school year in the industrialized world.

European schools will move to a 240-day school year in 1996, he said. Japan adopted a 243-day school year in 1992. German students now attend school 250 days a year, while those in . . . go to classes 255 days a year. Heck, the average American worker spends only 250 days a year on the job.

Korea sets the record, keeping kids in class 270 days a year, 10 hours per day. And all that time is spent strictly on academics, no athletics, no social programs.

Daggett is calling for a number of reforms that make sense, such as changing the curriculum to get rid of English, algebra and science courses in favor of integrated reading, applied mathematics, and applied science programs. But if American schools are going to provide football and basketball programs, teach health and sex education, and still get students ready for living and holding a job in a technologically-rich, electronically-sophisticated world, the education system is going to need more time with the students, Daggett argued.

I find it hard to disagree. Yes, I recognize more classroom time probably is needed. I also recognize that the major obstacle to a longer school year isn't a question of how much time off the kids should have. It is more a matter of how much time the teachers' union demands off.

Nonetheless, I think children should have time to be children. Summers are a part of that. They are very much a part of what makes growing up in America such a great experience.

Do summers really need to be three months long? Maybe not, but I'll tell you this, two weeks isn't nearly enough time.

Those aren't wasted days. Just ask any kid.

Michael Malott is the Managing Editor of The Novi News.

Moments By Bryan Mitchell



Winter driving
Mother Nature dumped a bunch of the white stuff on Novi and the area last week

Let's just agree to disagree



Sharon Condron

It ain't easy living between these ears. And sometimes, I think reporters and editors get a bum rap.

Now I know we aren't always innocent when the newspaper bumps heads with local politicians. Heck, most of the time we're just down right antagonistic.

But I hardly think our poignant viewpoints are the products of attempts to be malicious to the folks who were elected and appointed to steer progress to our communities.

Really I don't. I think we just try to offer a different spin on things. I may disagree. It's always funny to me to hear from elected officials and people on the streets of Novi and Northville that the press is out to get someone. Or that we are anti-education, anti-tax or anti-government.

I've seen you people in action. I've seen how you do your jobs and noted the difference in your styles. I've seen how you react to public pressure and how you respond when our newspapers turn up the heat.

Sometimes you're professional in your response to our coverage. Other times, you resort to name calling and wind up drawing lines in the sand.

Your reaction is understandable, but not always justifiable or professional. That's when times get tough. And it gets harder and harder to live between these ears.

We don't want to be adversaries and we recognize that we can't always be allies with local politicians. But you have to recognize that we all have jobs to do. And that it's OK to agree to disagree.

I'd like to see us bury the hatchet and start the New Year off on the right foot. Let's work together to get information to the readers.

You do your jobs, we'll do ours. And when we clash, let's be professional and agree to disagree.

Sharon Condron is a Staff Writer for The Novi News and The Northville Record.

We're threatened by tainted system



Phil Power

Carl Pursell, the former congressman from Plymouth, announced last week he was withdrawing from the race for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate.

The known and admired Carl for more than 20 years. As a county commissioner, state senator and then U.S. representative, he was diligent, sensible, committed and honest. That's more than you can say about a lot of politicians who went as far as Carl did.

And his departure from the race speaks volumes about what has become of our political system.

First, the corrosive infestation of big money. To mount campaigns for nomination and election to the U.S. Senate in a big state like Michigan, you've got to figure on raising something like \$6 million.

Here's what that means in practical terms. If you start two years in advance, you have to raise \$57,692.30 each and every week to reach



Tim Richard

Among ideologues, the Flat Earth Society was a rarity. When photos from U.S. space capsules showed the world indeed was round, the Flat Earth Society disbanded.

Most ideologues, however, refuse to quit. Take Lawrence Reed, president of the Mackinac Center, the Midland group that tried to peddle vouchers, charter schools, schools of "choice," and a variety of union busting schemes under the guise of reform.

Gov. John Engler swallowed much of that ideology. Our state legislators rejected everything but a modified version of charter schools (public educational institutions only) a majority of certified teachers on the board, and "Michigan's 'education revolution' was hijacked. . . a majority of the Legislature flunked the test," said Reed, as if the Mackinac Center

of the \$6 million goal. Try it; it isn't easy. As I said, but he told me over the weekend: "As I got more and more involved in the race, I found I had to spend so much of my time asking for money, and very little time discussing the substantive issues."

Not only that, but the reality of today's political giving is that a candidate has to travel around the country sucking up to the special interest groups and the political action committees. I observed that legislators were traveling the country to raise millions of dollars for their races. Raising money all over the country is not my way of representing the people of Michigan."

How many times do ambitious politicians have to sell their souls to the devil in quest of the money to run? I don't know and you don't know exactly, but the majority of the American public who view the political system with distaste and cynicism has good grounds for suspicion.

Second, the vital importance of early media coverage that dubs a candidate as either a front runner or somehow exciting.

If only because he's not particularly charismatic and certainly not a candidate for a centerfold in Playboy, Carl got hurt by the media. Bill Ballentine, Michigan's Public Access news letter, called him "a garrulous frump." Hugh McDiarmid, in the Detroit Free Press, ended his column on Carl with a "zzzzz."

That's too bad because Carl doesn't deserve the rap. He's bright as blazes, so much so that he was the author of one of the only plans to correct the federal deficit that had any chance of succeeding.

And he has his values in the right place; he came home every weekend to live the life of an ordinary citizen who happens to be part of the political system. "Most congressmen live year-round in Washington and return for a fundraiser or ribbon-cutting ceremony. This system is wrong," Carl said.

And because the system is the way it is, those who want to vote in the Republican primary will be denied the chance to vote for a candidate with strong credentials and a solid background of public service. That's too bad—for Republicans, for Michigan voters and for our country.

When will we ever learn that our political system is so tainted that it threatens to destroy both the officeholders who persistently refuse to reform it and, in the bargain, the country which needs good governing and gets money grabbers for cover boys?

Phil Power is the chairman of the company that owns this newspaper. His telephone voice mail number is (313)953-2047 ext. 1880.

Time for reform ideologues to quit



Tom Bray

Politicians are more realistic to deal with than ideologues. When a politician like George Bush or Jim Blanchard is defeated, he doesn't call out the army or the National Guard to keep in him office. He graciously cleans off his desk and turns over the great seal to his successor.

So why did the extreme form of charter schools, "choice," parental vetoes of curriculum, alleged cost containment and various union clipping notions favored by the ideologues get beaten?

Actually, there was adequate debate. Mackinac Center, Teach Michigan and the front organization set up by Amway boss Dick DeVos spent a ton of money on propaganda, including full color reprints of the Forbes magazine hatchet job on the "National Extortion Association." I state these explanations:

- Parents know kids learn from teachers, not from abstractors like the "free market" and "competition."
- The ideologues were at war with public schools, using code words like "vouchers" and "choice" to conceal the fact that nonpublic schools are prone to "cherry picking" or "cream-

ing"—skimming off the bright kids who are easiest and cheapest to educate, and leaving the cabbage heads behind for the public schools to deal with. Legislators and the public weren't fooled by the code words.

The ideologues, while targeting public schools, used the Michigan Education Association, with its warts and pimples, as a dummy target. For all its institutional faults, the MEA is composed of many respected and respectable teachers. Also, PTA types, administrators, elected trustees and allies like the League of Women Voters types rallied to the defense of public schools.

Michigan's educational traditions are 156 years old. Free public education is a right of all kids; funding public schools is the Legislature's duty; supervising public schools is Lansing's job, delegated since 1908 to the State Board of Education; private schools have a right to exist and are protected, but never can expect to share in tax dollars—never.

The Reeds, Englers, DeVoses, Brays and other ideologue peddlers should follow the lead of the Flat Earth Society. Quit.

Tim Richard reports regularly on the local implications of state and regional events. His telephone voice mail number is (313)953-2047 ext.

Some things are just meant to be



Lee Snider

I always thought Peter Dinklage smoking a joint at his buddy's wake was as pious a scene as you could ever expect a biker to be involved in. At least the wake was in a funeral home, not some place like a blind pig.

But these folks are serious—about both their Bible and their bikes—and they're determined not to let the image of a tattooed, grisly-faced rebel without a cause keep them from their favorite pursuits: God and the open road.

"We're just a bunch of motorcycleists that love the Lord," says Margaret Stoler of Novi, a member of the Christian Motorcyclists Association. "We love to talk about our bikes. We wear colors, but we're oriented around the things of the Lord."

Margaret, who with husband Ron attends First Baptist Church of Northville, explains that CMA was started in 1974 by Herb Stover, an Arkansas preacher who likes to ride with his son. As the minister and youth went around attending motorcycle rallies, the need for a measure of restraint and a king-sized helping of salvation became obvious. It isn't clear if it was the litter of empty Jack Daniels bottles or the "Lucifer Lives" gas tank decals that tipped them off.

Without a major membership drive, the association soon caught on and now there are 35,000 members in 326 chapters around the U.S., Canada, South America and other places.

For her part, Margaret said she came to the organization naturally. She was raised in a religious home, then strayed, seduced by the free-wheeling, uninhibited lifestyle of the child of the highway. She met Ron while the two of them were partying without a regard for life or limb.

The things started to change. Maturity. Marriage. Children. Responsibility. Revelation.

Before you know it, all that was left of their one-decade existence were their torn knap sacks, their battered tool kits and their scuffed leather clothes.

And their bikes. Don't forget the bikes, because, while the Stollers heard a voice telling them to follow the path of the straight and narrow, no one said they couldn't get there on a Harley Davidson.

"We can ride our cycles and still love the Lord," Margaret maintains.

Now the Stollers have settled into a way of life that offers excitement of a different kind. Scripture study, Sunday service, visits with the grandkids.

Praise the Lord and pass the drive chain oil. Why not? You can find God on a ride in the open air as soon as anywhere else. Maybe sooner.

To find out more about the Christian Motorcycle Association, catch them at the Custom Motorcycle Show at the Novi Expo Center Jan. 22 and 30.

Lee Snider is editor of The Northville Record and The Novi News.

Cable must be accountable locally



Lark Samouelian

Over the past 10 to 20 years, cable TV has become widespread in approximately 64 percent of the homes nationwide. We have had accessibility to our cable operators to talk to them one-on-one about our service and about what we would like to develop over their network.

This is because the federal law structured local franchising. The state law requires also a company which uses the public right-of-way must be accountable to the local unit of government and pay franchise fees for the use of the space.

There is now intense political activity to change this structure to have the FCC regulate and administrate all the contracts because telecommunications has become global with the advent of fiber optics and the telephone industry.

Our communities have developed specific community services with this contract. These services are developed cooperatively at each local entity and the local cable company, such as: distance learning, teleconferencing, interactive learning, and other services.

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As legislation prevails, municipalities support competition in the area of telecommunications. With local contract franchise they can assure that a community's own particular needs are met.

Keep abreast of the issues, contact your congressmen and senators and please call us with any questions. By the way, hand written letters are a very effective way to communicate with your elected officials. Your messages do count.

Lark Samouelian is the Executive Director of the SouthWest Oakland Cable Commission, which oversees the operations of MetroVision cable services.

Heyn wins Novi entrepreneur award

Heyn was scheduled to receive a plaque today at the Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting at the Country Epicure.

Another Novi businessman also was singled out by the chamber. The Novi Chamber of Commerce named Russell Buton, of Novi Building Service, as an honorary member.

Buton, a founder and past president of the chamber, has belonged to the organization for over 35 years.

Past winners of the Novi Chamber of Commerce's Small Businessperson award are Thelma Marcus of Marcus Glass, Iram Suzuki of Suzuki, Myers & Associates; John O'Brien of O'Brien Chapel; and Paul Bauman of Red Lightning. The chamber created the local honor in 1990.

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SAME DAY SERVICE ON MOST CONTACTS & GLASSES

How to become your own landlord.

How much do you pay each month in rent? Chances are, with today's interest rates, you could buy a home and have about the same monthly payment.

Our mortgages are fast and affordable. And we'll work with you to come up with a payment that's not too far from what you're paying now.

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CHURCH

Novi church
seeks inactive Catholics/3B

ENTERTAINMENT

What's happening
in and around town/3B

FROM RUSSIA, WITH LOVE

PHOTO BY PAUL GOULD

By MICHELLE HARRISON
Staff Writer

Bill and Ellen Cornelius hadn't planned on finding themselves in Russia a week before Thanksgiving.

But there they were, on a Monday morning, sitting in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. They, as well as several other American citizens, were being briefed about the Russian children they were about to adopt.

"We needed the paperwork to prove the child was an orphan, documentation of what happened to the mother and father and make sure the child had not been visited," Ellen explained of the briefing.

The Northville couple made the international trek only months after signing up with the Americans for International Aid and Adoption Agency in Birmingham.

The Corneliuses, who have two biological sons, have always wanted a daughter. So, Ellen started flipping through the Yellow Pages one day and started calling adoption agencies.

"One thing just led to another," she said. Ellen and Bill knew they didn't want an American baby because they would be considered low priority.

"We didn't want to wait a long time," said Bill, 42. This was one of the first Russian adoptions handled by the Birmingham agency, Ellen said. The first was for a couple in Plymouth Township. Adoptions through Korea, South America and India are also relatively new for the agency, she added.

The Cornelius family made the initial call to the adoption agency in July.

"I just want to let people know how quick it happened and how easy it was for us and how many children are left in the orphanage," Ellen said. "If we can turn just one family onto our experience, I would have achieved our goal."

After the Monday morning briefing, the Corneliuses had a couple hours to kill before catching the 4 p.m. train to Pleskov, near the Astoria border. Sharing the ride on the "rickety old train" were a 40-year-old single woman from St. Clair Shores, who was also adopting a child, and her sister, and three women from the adoption agency.

The people working for the adoption agency were top-notch, according to the Corneliuses.

"In their professions, if they worked in this country, they would make top dollar," Bill said. "There, the best they can do is work for an adoption agency."

When they got to the orphanage the next morning, the scene was something out of a Charles Dickens novel, Ellen said.

"It was really cold there," Bill said. "It was 6 a.m., pitch black and 5 (degrees) below zero."

"It was freezing in the office. They had this little wood burning stove. The wood burning stove was like two garbage cans stuck together."

A little old man entered the attic office to dump wood into the "stove" of the 2 1/2 story orphanage. The dwelling housed about 20 children.

"I don't think it was a typical orphanage," Ellen said, adding that most of the country's orphanages were described as more institutional.

"This was more of a hospital setting," she continued. "This was a shock. It was not a place to visit."

The Corneliuses were among the first Americans to adopt a child from the Pleskov region. Consequently, the Americans were required to bring charitable aid for the orphanage. They brought with them medicine and two 5-foot duffel bags filled with clothing.

Most of the \$15,000 cost of the adoption, which is based on income, went to the orphanage while the rest paid the salaries of the adoption officials and social worker.

"The agency prepared us and told us not to speak . . . to dress in drab colors, wear no jewelry and hardly any makeup," Ellen said.

Ellen explained that the Russians have mixed feelings about Americans adopting their native children. Terrible rumors about Americans using the children as slaves or for their body organs have circulated throughout the country.



Two-year-old Alison has a new home in Northville. Bill and Ellen Cornelius rescued the toddler from a Russian orphanage.



Ellen Cornelius admits it was a risk to adopt Alison, but "having your own is a risk," too. Within the first two weeks she was in her new home, Alison had already begun speaking English.

Continued on 4

Volunteer



Nina Fletcher

Smart about art

By DOROTHY NASH
Special Writer

"Art is an essential part of life" in that "it encourages creativity and imagination" is the belief of Nina Fletcher, a free-lance artist who started Artsmart at Novi's Elementary School three years ago when her daughter was a beginning student there.

Artsmart is a program in which she and other volunteers each visit two classrooms a month for one half-hour with an illustrated presentation of an artist from anywhere any time in history.

If the artist is French, conversation with the children may lead into Paris, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, life in France.

If the artist specialized in horses, the children may be led into techniques used in painting — brush strokes, for example — to show whether the horse is running, happy, sad.

"The children are fascinated," Fletcher said, and when she meets

them in the hall, she's apt to be asked, "When is my next Artsmart?"

The volunteers choose whatever artists they want, and they do their own research into life and style and time and place.

"I have resource material for the volunteers, and I lend it out," Fletcher said. And if she doesn't have appropriate prints, she said, PTO will pay to buy some.

At the end of the year the volunteers turn their research in to her to help build a backlog of material for others to use.

"You don't have to be an artist to do it," she assures people — men and women, any age, with and without children in school. If you're interested in researching, that's enough. You study one artist at a time and bring your findings to the children. And for instruction, you can watch Fletcher do a presentation.

If you want to know more about this volunteer opportunity, call Parkview Elementary School at 344-2600. Nina Fletcher will call you back.

SUPER BOWL COPE

Do you consider watching the Super Bowl a sentence of death by boredom? Does it confuse you that Montana, once in San Francisco, is now in Kansas City?

If you prefer to take a time out when others are tuning in to the Super Bowl, what is it that you like to do?

Do you consider this your chance to get that great parking space at the mall while everyone else is glued to the tube?

Maybe you have a tradition you follow at this time every year. Let us know how you cope with football fever when you aren't a cheerleader of the sport itself.

How I Cope _____

 Name _____
 Address _____
 Daytime Phone number _____

Send or drop off replies to Super Bowl Cope, The Northville Record/Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167.

Don't waver on ordering wafers, sale ends soon

By JEANNE CLARKE
Special Writer

Movie Night at the Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church is Saturday, Jan. 15. The program will be at 5:30 p.m., followed by pizza, which will be ordered as needed for those attending the service (donations will be accepted), and then the 1950s classic, *Martin Luther* will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Movie Night is open to the public. The church is located at 40700 Ten Mile Road, Novi. For more information, contact the church office, 477-6296.

NOVI GIRL SCOUTS

It's Cookie time for Novit Scouts with 30 troops selling them this year under the direction of Neighborhood Cookie Manager Lynn Kocan. The sale started last week and orders will be taken through March 14, however direct sales will be conducted from Feb. 15 through March 14 at cookie booths throughout the area. There are seven varieties, including a new one called Juliette which is a caramel pecan treat. Old favorites include Sammie's, Thin Mints, Tagalong, Trefal, Do-Do, Chaiet Creme (lemon or vanilla sandwich). Cost is \$2.50 and they freeze well. This is the largest fundraiser the girls have and monies earned will go towards their campouts, including the Neighborhood Encampment Memorial Day weekend at Camp Narrin.

The next leaders meeting will be on the 28th at the Civic Center at 7:30 p.m. under the direction of co-Neighborhood Service Unit Directors Angela Jean and Connie Lake Noble. Others on the team include Janice

Church, registrar who reports a total enrollment of 400 scouts this year with two Daisy troops, 17 Brownies, seven Juniors and four Cadettes. Troop Service directors include Tina Goodearl at Orchard Hills, Annette Bielski at Village Oaks, Brenda Kern at Park View, Janice Church at Novi Woods, and Connie Lake Noble at Novi Meadows.

Troop No. 1847, with 20 girls, are planning a camping trip in June to Mammoth Caves in Kentucky. The troop has been offering babysitting services to PTO meetings at Orchard Hills and are also looking forward to being part of the Drug Abuse Prevention Program (DAPP).

Troop No. 2367, which is a Brownie troop, went to Cranbrook to work on the Native American Patch, sang at Whitehall and delivered cookies, and also helped to prepare the Campbell Soup labels for mailing for their school. Coming up will be a trip to Morley Candy factory in Mt. Clemens.

NOVI JAYCEES

December was a busy month for this service group, which took time from its busy schedule to become involved in a number of projects that made a difference in many people's lives, including the delivery of 50 packages to needy families. Other projects included wrapping gifts at the mall, helping out at the Novi Choral Hares Christmas concerts that helped raise funds for the needy family program, helping with the city's annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, and helping at the annual Breakfast with Santa.

They have also started a three-part series on Public Speaking through their Individual Development prog-

Novi Highlights

ram. In January they will learn the "Ten Commandments of Public Speaking" and in February will be "Tips on Posture."

Plans are being made to attend the dedication of the Novi Police Department's Victim Interview Room on Feb. 11 as the Jaycees assisted in getting some of the items for the room.

On the 16th, they have a family group bowling outing, which will be the beginning of the Jaycee Week and will include an Open House at 7:30 p.m. on the 18th. Later in the week on the 22nd, the Jaycees will be attending the International Progressive Dinner in Canada where they will be involved in the presentation of an award for participation in the Christmas Parade. Other upcoming activities include the Snowball Tournament on Feb. 4, 5 and 6 at Mr. B's, also attendance on Feb. 18 and 19 at the Holiday Inn at the Airport. The date has also been set for the Distinguished Service Award on March 26 at the Sheraton Oaks. Nominations for the award will soon be available to nominate anyone in the community for their service to the community.

NOVI MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION
Plans were made by the association at its meeting at Holy Cross Episcopal Church last week for the Fifth Annual Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast to be held Wednesday, Jan. 19 at the Novi Civic Center at 7:30 to 9 a.m. with guest speaker Eleanor M. Josaitis, Associate Director of Focus: HOPE. Cost is \$10 per person with tickets available from any of the churches in the area and also at the door. For further information, call Father Leslie Harding at 349-1175.

Mrs. Josaitis assisted Father William T. Cunningham in 1968 in founding the organization. Focus: HOPE is known in the Detroit area as a non-profit civil and human rights organization whose purpose is to resolve the effects of discrimination and injustice and to build integration. Mrs. Josaitis has been a leader since 1971 for Focus: HOPE's Food Prescription Program which is a Commodity Supplemental Food Program that distributes USDA products to infants, pre-school children, and pregnant and post-partum mothers. She has also been a major developer in the Industry Mall, which

is a project to promote movement from poverty to productivity. She is married to her Donald and they have five children making their home in Detroit.

The public is invited to the breakfast to learn more about Focus: HOPE.

At their meeting last week the ministers also made plans to celebrate the week of prayer for Christian Unity by sponsoring their yearly pulpit exchange on Jan. 23. The list includes Father Budde of Holy Family Catholic Church will be at Faith Presbyterian; Rev. Chuck Jacobs of United Methodist will be at Meadowbrook Congregational; Rev. Tom Schreger of Spirit of Christ Lutheran will be at United Methodist; Rev. Neil Hunt of Meadowbrook Congregational will be at Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church; and Rev. Cy Smith, associate pastor of Faith Presbyterian will be at Holy Family Catholic Church.

NOVI AMVET POST No. 76

The Post continues to grow with four new members. Veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam should contact Post Adjutant Duane Bell at 349-2835 for more information on membership.

The next meeting is Feb. 2 at the City of Novi Fire Department Training Building located on Novi Road near Grand River.

The calendar of events includes plans to attend the Veterans Alliance of Novi meeting on Jan. 17 for a business meeting and on the 29th to join in a social night with other veteran groups including the American Legion and Marine Corps League at the regular meeting place. In addition hospital visits have been planned to the veterans facility in Ann Arbor. Anyone in the area knowing of a veteran of the Novi and surrounding area who might be there can call the above number. They also visit the Veterans Hospital in Allen Park and assist with the Bingo for the residents there. Locally they are assisting the City of Novi with plans for their 25th Anniversary party and anyone having "old" photos or having any historical facts about Novi are encouraged to contact Cindy Stewart, City of Novi Director of Public Information, at 347-0445.

The Post is also discussing the possibility of forming an auxiliary for new members. Veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam should contact Post Adjutant Duane Bell at 349-2835 for more information on membership.

The next meeting is Feb. 2 at the City of Novi Fire Department Training Building located on Novi Road near Grand River.

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Wedding



Adrienne and Frank Hadash

Adrienne Colette Smith and Frank Michael Hadash were married Oct. 16 at Mill Race Church, Mill Race Village, Northville. Rev. Jack Brown of Bloomfield Hills officiated at the double ring ceremony.

The bride carried a lace trimmed handkerchief hand-made by her mother and wore her grandmother's wedding ring. The bride's gown had a full skirt of blush tulle with white chiffon overlay, fitted bodice, fashioned of beaded French Alton lace and styled with a Basque waistline in the front, descending to a bow-style bustle in the back.

The chapel-length train was edged in hand-appliqued beaded lace. She carried a bouquet of white and blush Lady Di roses mixed with abundant greens and baby's breath tied with a large bow of iridescent satin.

Wills to be topic at Newcomers forum

The first general meeting of the year for the Novi Newcomers and Neighbors will be held at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 20.

Novi attorney John Rexford will present a living trust and will seminar. A simple will may not meet your needs and Rexford will explain options for all financial requirements.

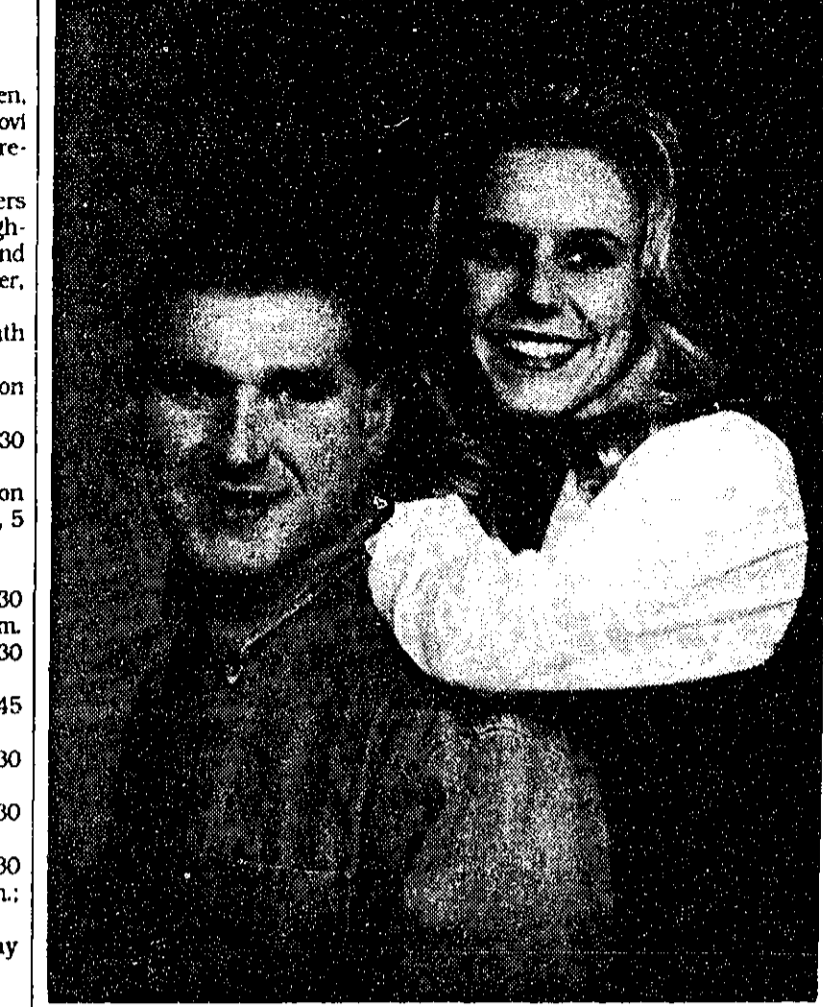
The attorney will compare wills with trusts, explain powers of attorney, living wills, patient advocate designations and how these documents can help you reduce future fees, taxes and delays in the administration of your affairs.

The meeting will be held at the Novi Civic Center.

New members of the Novi Newcomers and Neighbors include: Doris and Henry Katstra. They have two children, Wendy and Jeff. The Katstras moved to Novi three months ago from New Jersey due to a management position Henry accepted.

Pat and Kevin McKenna and their two children, Kate and Sean. The McKennas moved to Novi a month ago from St. Paul, Minn.

Engagement



Russ Nuffer/Renee Lindow

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald L. Lindow of Novi are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Renee Marie, to Russ Alan Nuffer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nuffer of Bay City.

Russ and Renee are both graduates of Michigan State University. An Oct. 15, 1994 wedding date is being planned.

Birth

Michael Patrick and Robynn Christine (Bell) Duffy of Novi announce the birth of their son, Shane Michael, on Sept. 7. Shane weighed in at seven pounds 15½ ounces and was born at Huron Valley Hospital. Shane joins a sister, Sara-Kate, eight years old.

Grandparents are Mark and Marilyn Bell Jr., of Northville; Ronald and Louise Duffy, of Strongsville, Ohio; and John and Donna Pokelssek, of Pinckney.

Inactive Catholics invited to gathering

All inactive Catholics in the Novi/Farmington Hills area are invited to a gathering at Holy Family administration building at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20. The administration building is located in the northeast of the Holy Family complex, which is located at 2455 Meadowbrook Road, near Ten Mile Road, in Novi.

The fifth annual ECUMENICAL PRAYER BREAKFAST will be held from 7:30-9 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19, at the Novi Civic Center.

BIRTHDAY Blowout

The City of Novi will celebrate its 25th birthday on February 27. For this unique event the Novi News will publish a very special issue commemorating 25 years of progress in Novi.

We'll have stories on how Novi was named, its history & leaders, historical photos, future plans, and why Novi is such a great place to shop and live!

Be part of Novi's 25th Birthday celebration by advertising your business in this historical supplement - 7,000 copies will be distributed through the Novi News and at the City of Novi Birthday Party on February 27.

Reserve your special place in this part of Novi's history by calling Gary Kelber at (810) 349-1700.

Publication Date: Thurs., February 24
Proof ad deadline: Tues., February 8
Final ad deadline: Thurs., February 10

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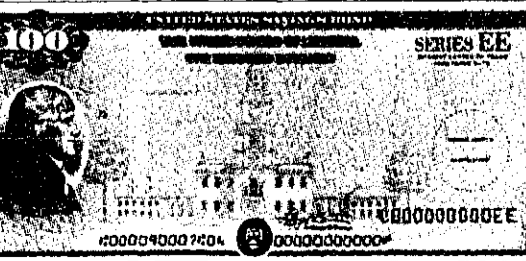
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Couple happy with decision to adopt Russian

Continued from 1

Fortunately, the Corneliuses encountered none of that mentality.

"People were very positive about what we were doing," she said. "That is, until it was time to get passports for the adopted children to leave the country. Bill explained that the Communists have control in granting the passports and are very anti-adoption when it comes to Americans."

At this point, Bill and Ellen had been up all night and were tired, yet excited, about having their new daughter, 2-year-old Alison, in their arms.

While the newly adopting parents waited in the hallway, they could hear a woman screaming at adoption officials. She wasn't happy that the kids had left the orphanage before passports were granted.

"She told people she didn't believe in international adoptions in the first place," Bill recalled.

Two hours later, after watching the parents interact with their new sons and daughters, the woman changed her position.

"She said she was sorry and could see how much we were in love," Ellen said.

Alison, who's real name is Nadezhda Ivanovna Korikova, was called Nadia at the orphanage. Within 24 hours, she was responding to her new name.

"We decided to keep Nadezhda as her middle name," Ellen said.

In the short time she's been at her new home, she has learned to say "Momma," "Dad" and "hi." Her brothers, Matthew and Michael, are affectionately referred to collectively as Michael. She can also show people where her ears and nose are.

"She's just like a typical 2-year-old anyone would know," Ellen said. "She (picks up on things) just like a sponge."

Ellen said Alison's motor skills are exceptional, probably because she was forced to be independent as such

an early age. She can dress and feed herself.

"It's almost scary and sad," Ellen said.

The typical girl, Alison loves clothing. The Corneliuses brought her new clothes when they picked her up at the orphanage. She immediately started undressing to try on her new clothes.

"She wasn't like a Barbie doll," Ellen said. "She had no clothes and no accessories."

Matthew, 9, and Michael, 6, treat Alison like she's always been their sister.

"Matthew is like a little father to her," Ellen said. "He likes to carry her around."

From the time Bill and Ellen filed the formal application to adopt in mid-August, the couple held their breath until they got the phone call. It came right before Halloween.

The Corneliuses had the chance to view a five-minute video of Alison before agreeing to a home study. A social worker visited the Northville couple's Edenderry home three times, interviewing the family for an hour and a half each time.

It was in the last interview that Ellen discovered she would be eligible to adopt Alison.

"I couldn't even talk in the last interview," Ellen said, admitting she was choked up by tears.

The agency makes the best attempt at matching the child with the family. Ellen said she thought about that after the social worker left.

"The whole night, I freaked out," she said. "What do I know about this kid?"

About the only thing Ellen did know for sure was that Alison was born in the bathroom of a train.

"The mother got off the next train and went into a maternity hospital," Ellen said. "She left her (Alison) the next day. She gave up all her rights."

It is believed the mother lives about 400 miles northwest of Russia.

Ellen said she thought Alison was adorable when she first saw her at

the orphanage. Quite honestly, Bill wasn't sure what to think.

"She looked sullen and sad," he said. "She was lifeless. She didn't smile. I thought she was traumatized. Honestly, when we were in the orphanage, I thought we would have to send her two years to a psychologist."

In two days, though, little Alison was smiling. In two weeks, she was singing.

The 2-year-old gained 2½ pounds in two weeks.

"She eats enough for six people," said Bill, noting that the little girl was literally starving to death.

"She doesn't know what it means to be full," Ellen added. "She's like a mother's dream—she eats all her vegetables."

Alison appears to be overcoming her fears, too. She seemed apprehensive of men. Ellen said the only man they saw in the orphanage was the little old man carrying the sticks of wood for the fire.

"She was scared of the bath, too," Ellen said. "When she looked at the bathtub she started screaming."

The reason was because at the orphanage Alison only had cold baths because of the lack of hot water.

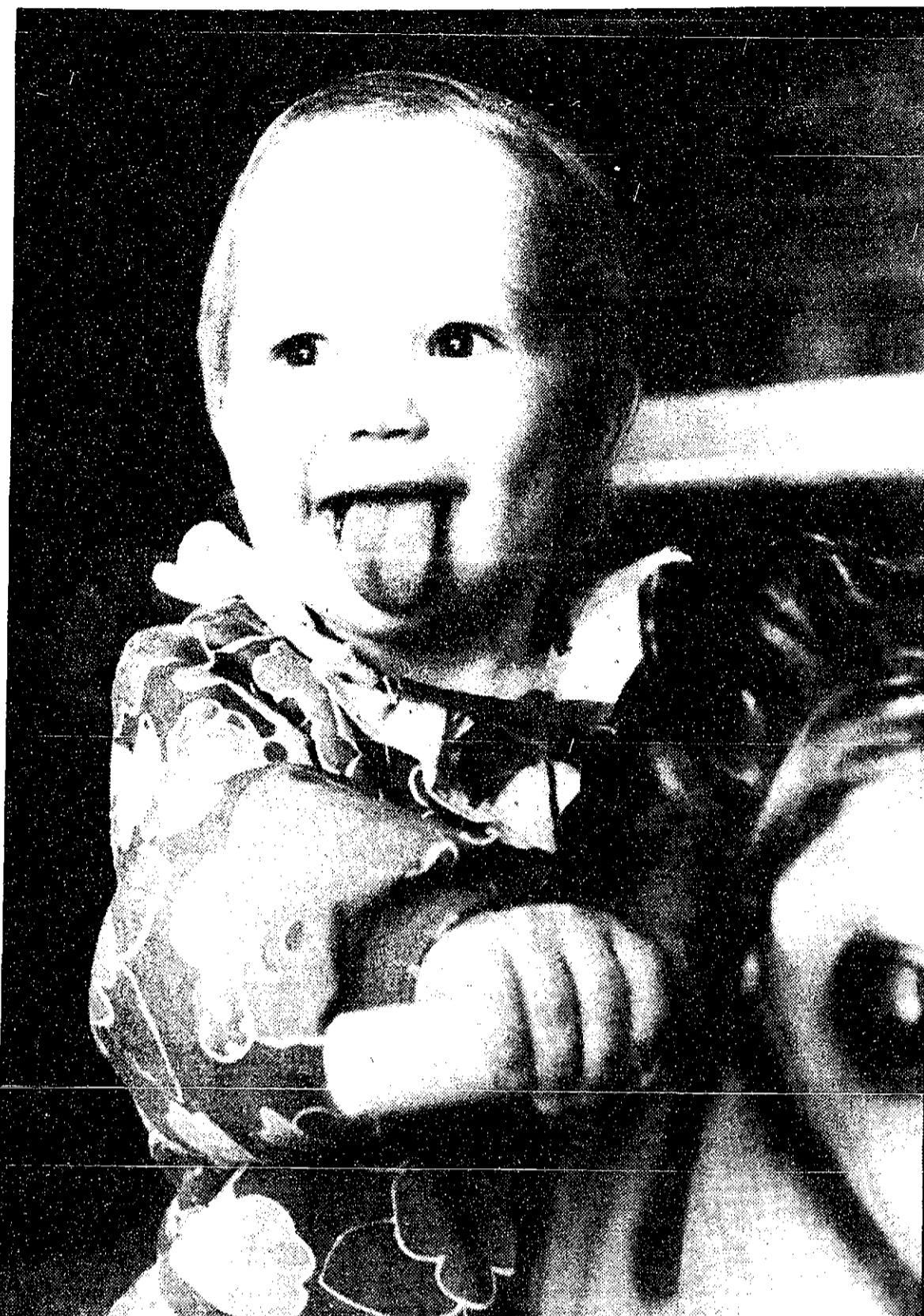
Bill, a salesman for Midwest Stamping, and Ellen, PTA president at Silver Springs Elementary, will encourage Alison to maintain her Russian heritage. The family plans to observe Russian holidays.

Alison, however, isn't the first Russian in the family. Ellen's grandmother came to America from Russia when she was 2 years old.

This was a real emotional thing for Grandma," Ellen said, explaining that they visited her family while on a layover in New York's JFK Airport on the trip back.

Ellen admitted the family was taking a chance by adopting a child. But it was a chance worth taking.

"It's a risk," she said. "It's a risk when you have your own. You just love (the child) and do your best."



Alison seems happy and secure in her new home. She is being spoiled by neighbors, relatives, her brothers Matthew and Michael and of course her new mom and dad, Ellen and Bill Cornelius.

Emotional makeovers on tap

Single Place, an adult ministry for single people meeting at the First Presbyterian Church of Northville, will gather from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Sunday morning. Bob Alwine will be the speaker.

Dr. Norman Goldner will speak on "The Gender Factor in Reflecting Relationships" at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19. Goldner, a marital and family therapist and co-author of *Why Men and Women Don't Get Along*, will discuss the 10 most frustrating situations between women and men and how to overcome them.

On the same night, Dave Beyer of Orn Jewelers in Northville will host an informal discussion on diamonds and colored stone grading and quality.

An "Opportunity for Growth Workshop" is scheduled for three Thursday evenings, beginning tonight at 7:30. Barbara Halpern, an interpersonal specialist with more than 30 years experience in creating, coordinating and returning in human resources, will present *Feeling Good in '94*. Treat Yourself to an Emotional Makeover.

The cost of the series is \$24, which includes a notebook, speaker fees, refreshments and child care.

Another growth workshop, "Co-dependency" with Ed Humenay is scheduled for Jan. 16, 23 and 30 at 7 p.m. The cost is \$24 for the series.

Humenay is a counselor with the Adult Recovery Alcohol Treatment Center of the Community Hospital of Chelsea.

The Jan. 16 session will define co-dependency while the Jan. 23 class will address the origin. The final installment will help participants make changes to take better care of themselves.

For further information about any of the Single Place programs, or to register, call 349-0911.

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5B
THURSDAY
January 13,
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Chorus to host comic known for storytelling

The Plymouth Community Chorus will present "An Evening of Comedy" starring Norm Stulz, Thursday, Jan. 27.

Known as the "Midwest's Premier Storyteller," Stulz started his professional comedy life at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in 1981 in Detroit. He began headlining clubs and concerts throughout the country with club appearances, including The Comedy Store, Dangerfields, Punchline Comedy Clubs, The Comedy Castle, Uncle Furry's, Chaplins, Cocoruts, The Milwaukee Comedy Club, Conexions, several of the Improvs, The Laugh Stop, Houston Comedy Showcase and many more.

Stulz has also headlined the Claridge Comedy Club and The Hollywood Laugh House at Merv Griffin's Resorts Hotel and Casino as well as Jester's Comedy Club at Trump's Castle in Atlantic City and the Sands in Las Vegas.

Considered the "consummate storyteller," Stulz brings to the stage the relationship with his childhood sweetheart and now wife Sharon Marie, three children and the Midwest life they lead and the world as it evolves around them.

Detroit Monthly said, "Norm Stulz is a headline performer you should not miss."

Becoming a sought-after comedy speaker at many corporate functions, with credits including General Motors, Westinghouse, Dow Chemical, Pepsi and the National Sheriff's Convention, Stulz is most comfortable working comedy clubs or concerts.

His television credits include appearances on *The Comedy Channel*, *Nightlight Comedy Showcase Live from St. Louis*, CBS's *Morning Comedy Club*, NBC's *Time to Laugh*, *Showtime from Las Vegas* . . . Na-



Comedian Norm Stulz will star in the Plymouth Community Chorus' "An Evening of Comedy" Jan. 27. Seating is limited.

ional *Lanquon, Evening at the Improvs*, CBS's *48 Hours* and HBO's *Comedy Central*.
The Holy Mich., resident will perform from 7:45 to 9:30 p.m. at the Fox

Hills County Club, 8768 North Terriorial in Plymouth. Hors d'oeuvres will be served beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and are available at Sideways Gifts in downtown Ply-

mouth or by calling 455-4080. Seating is limited.
Proceeds of the event will benefit the Plymouth Community Chorus scholarship fund.

Intown

Special events

AUDITIONS: The Marquis Theatre is looking for children, ages 9-15, to audition for *Charlotte's Web*. Auditions will take place at the Marquis, 135 E. Main St., Northville, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Performers must provide their own sheet music and be prepared to sing a song in their vocal range and dance. An accompanist will be provided.

For information, call 349-8110.

PERFORMER'S SHOWCASE: The Novi Arts Council wishes to showcase the talents of area performers. Performances will be in the atrium of the Novi Civic Center prior to selected city council meetings. On occasion, performances may be taped by Metropolitan and broadcast to residents. Musicians, actors, poets, dancers, etc. are invited to submit an application form and audition tape, if available, to the Novi Arts Council.

For further information, contact the arts council, 347-0400.

CHILLY ENTERTAINMENT: The Chautauqua Express will perform at 2 p.m. Saturday as part of the Novi Parks and Recreation's Chilly Willy Winter Festival.

The Chautauqua Express glorifies the family unit and is sponsored by the Novi Arts Council and Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

POET HUNT ON: Distinguished poet Herb Scott will judge the 11th annual "Poet Hunt," a poetry competition sponsored by Schoolcraft College and *The MacGuffin* literary magazine.

The competition is open to all Michigan residents. Individuals may submit up to five previously unpublished, original poems of 50 lines or less. Entries should be typewritten. Names and addresses cannot appear on the manuscripts, but should be placed, along with a daytime phone number, on 3- by 5-inch index cards.

There is an entrance fee of \$1 per poem, payable by check or money order to *The MacGuffin*. Entries must be received by Feb. 1. Mail to "Poet Hunt," Liberal Arts Building, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, 48152. Entries will not be returned.

Prizes include \$100 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place. Three honorable mentions will also be awarded. The six

Music

CAFFE BRAVO: On Fridays and Saturdays from 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. classical guitarist Carol Smallwood is continuing her engagement at Caffe Bravo. Smallwood also appears on Sundays from 1 to 3 p.m.

The local contemporary folk trio *The Color Wheel* performs from 9 to 11 p.m. Saturdays. The group includes Northville High School graduates Tony Stevert, Dave Murray and Chris Dattilo.

Also each Sunday, from 3 to 8 p.m., Michael Pracausti appears with his guitar, strumming out a variety of blues and jazz numbers. He also performs from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturdays.

The coffee house is in the Main Centre in downtown Northville.

For information, call 344-0220.

MR. B'S FARM: Mr. B's Farm, on Novi Road north of Ten Mile, presents live music all week with no cover charge.

Sunday is a "Strings 'n' Things Jam" from 9 p.m. to midnight every week. Local artists get together for impromptu jams.

Music starts at 9 p.m. For more information call 348-7038.

NOVI HILTON: Whispers Lounge, in the Novi Hilton, is open Tuesday through Saturday, 8 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Live entertainment is from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

For information call 349-4000.

RIFLES: Fridays and Saturdays at 10 p.m., Rifles of Northville becomes a live rhythm and blues cafe. Rifles is at 18730 Northville Road. For information, call 348-3490.

SHERATON OAKS: It's live entertainment on Friday and Saturday at Eli & Denny's from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The music is Top 40.

The hotel is at 27000 Sheraton Drive in Novi, across from Twelve Oaks Mall.

For information, call 348-5000.

STARTING GATE: The Starting Gate Saloon offers live music every Friday and Saturday night from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Starting Gate is located at 135 N. Center St. in downtown Northville.

VICTOR'S: Where can you find an active Hammond organ, great music and good food? Answer: Victor's of Novi. Call 349-1438 ahead to find out

Art

If nostalgic Connie Mallett will be on keyboard.

Master of the Hammond, Mallett charms her audiences at Victor's with such favorites as "Misty" and "Moonlight Serenade."

ATRIUM GALLERY: Now featured is the work of South Lyon artist Dyrana Hesson, who creates dramatic oil paintings using the finely-layered color technique of the pre-impressionists.

Also featured are the watercolors of Marly Blinder of Southfield; new raku work by Suzanne Young of Berkley; glass by Birmingham artist Stan Megdall and jewelry in silver and beads by the Madison Heights couple David and Kami Turner.

The Atrium Gallery is at 109 N. Center St., Northville.

THE ARTISTS' GALLERY: Works of 30 artists featuring paintings, sculpture, glass, photography, furniture, jewelry and more will be on sale through Jan. 29.

The gallery is located in Orchard Place Mall, 30905 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. For information, call 855-8832.

ATRIUM GALLERY: Now featured is the work of South Lyon artist Dyrana Hesson, who creates dramatic oil paintings using the finely-layered color technique of the pre-impressionists.

Also featured are the watercolors of Marly Blinder of Southfield; new raku work by Suzanne Young of Berkley; glass by Birmingham artist Stan Megdall and jewelry in silver and beads by the Madison Heights couple David and Kami Turner.

The Atrium Gallery is at 109 N. Center St. in Northville. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday; and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

Contemporary arts and crafts, including raku pottery, glass, painting and jewelry are for sale.

Call 349-4131.

GATE VI GALLERY: The Gate VI Gallery in the atrium of the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile, features a changing show of the work of local artists.

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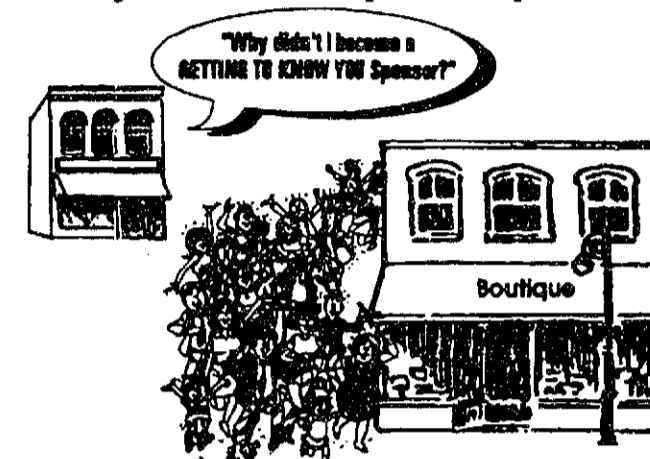
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Movies

the NOVI NEWS 6B

THURSDAY January 13, 1994

Batman legend gets reworked in cartoon form

Batman — a hero to the citizens of Gotham City, the nemesis of criminals and a mysterious figure to those who want to uncover his secret identity — is now a feature-length cartoon.

Appearing for the first time in animated form, the Caped Crusader is brought to the motion picture screen by Warner Bros. in an adventure that reveals Batman's most difficult battle as well as his confrontation with a mysterious killer, the Phantasm, who holds the key to Batman's secret past.

Starting characters voiced by Kevin Conroy, Mark Hamill, Dana Delaney, Hart Bochner and Abe Vigoda, "Batman: Mask of the Phantasm" carries its exciting, stylish animated hit television serious one step further.

The all-new story recalls Batman's beginnings, after he once again encounters his long-lost love, Andrea Beaumont, and considers giving up his cape forever.

When television's "Batman: The Animated Series" premiered on Sept. 7, 1992, viewers immediately knew they were seeing something unique. Its striking appearance, consisting of stylized characters against strong, graphically designed backgrounds, was characterized by the show producers as "Dark Deco."

Jean MacCurdy, executive producer of the series, described the look as "Somber, physiologically moody and very exciting."

In addition to its memorable look, "Batman: The Animated Series" carried the legend of the popular DC



The Joker returns in another attempt to destroy Batman in Warner Bros.' animated "Batman: Mask of the Phantasm"

comic hero to new heights, bringing infamous villains to life on the screen in all-new stories that built on the sensational success of Warner Bros.' two live-action films about the Dark Knight — "Batman" and "Batman Returns."

"Batman: The Animated Series" became an immediate hit, praised by both critics and viewers, who cited its sophisticated look as well as its well-paced stories.

Tom Ruegger and Jean MacCurdy, the show's executive producers, felt they could do even more and wanted to animate a full-length motion picture about Batman. That interest was shared by Alan Burnett, Eric Radomski and Bruce Timm, the producers.

"I was very interested in doing a Bruce Wayne love story," said Burnett, whose contributions are primarily as a writer and story editor. Radomski and Timm focus on the art.

"We had not touched on Batman's personal life in our TV series and we hadn't given him a romance other than with Catwoman. I wanted to help his fans understand the darkness that is so much a part of Batman."

Since the television series had been inspired by the 1940s and '50s, the production team went back to that time period to create a feature-length story that would meet their goals.

The writers wove a tale of love, corruption and betrayal with a film noir aura while creating a high-tech villain named the Phantasm to satisfy even the most jaded adventure fan's tastes.

In the full-length tale, Batman is mystified by a series of murders occurring in Gotham, each of which targets an aging mobster, all of whom were loyal to Mob Kingpin Salvatore Valestra (Abe Vigoda).

Although the killer has not been caught, he seems to be a large-caped and hooded character — possibly even Batman himself, charge some critics.

As Batman returns to his lonely mansion and assumes his normal

identity as millionaire Bruce Wayne, he is startled to encounter a beautiful vision from his past — Andrea Beaumont (Dana Delaney), returning from a decade spent abroad after an abrupt and unexplained departure from Gotham City.

Andrea and Bruce were once engaged to be married — indeed, she was the only person to offer him happiness after the tragic and violent death of his parents years before. With Andrea by his side, Bruce was willing to abandon his vow to avenge those deaths — for the first time he

thought it might be possible to find lifelong contentment.

But when Andrea and her powerful, influential father, Carl Beaumont (Stacy Keach, Jr.), inexplicably vanished, with only a brief note of apology and a returned engagement ring, Bruce Wayne's bitter determination to live a solitary life was hardened into resolution — and Batman, the Caped Crusader, was born.

Now that Andrea is back in town, it seems that sparks are once again flying between her and Bruce Wayne. But can he risk giving his heart to her again? Why did she leave Gotham City so abruptly? And why has she returned?

Will she ever learn his secret identity as Batman? What is her relationship with the uncouth city councilman Arthur Reeves (Hart Bochner)? And can Bruce Wayne become involved in a romance before the Phantasm is captured and the innocents against Batman are quelled forever?

The new adventure, "Batman: Mask of the Phantasm" answers all of these questions, while adding new dimensions to the character of a fantasy hero loved by millions.



Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau are reunited in "Grumpy Old Men"

'Grumpy Old Men' — a 'funny' movie

GRUMPY OLD MEN
By Sonja Turner
South Lyon

"Grumpy Old Men" has our vote as one of the best movies we've seen in a long time. It's funny, heartwarming and has a great plot.

If you're looking for something that will hold your attention and you enjoy laughing along with a tear or two, be sure and see "Grumpy Old Men."

A Jamaican bobsled team in the Olympics seems pretty far-fetched, but the delightful movie "Cool Runnings" brings the improbable story to reality in a delightful and thought-provoking story.

John Candy gives a heartfelt performance with his portrayal of the coach. His own life has become

aimless, and the energetic, persevering Jamaicans give him a reason to do something beneficial and to right his past wrongs by coaching them.

Performances by the three bobsled team members show unique personalities and individual motivations for wanting to win. The actors blend the daddy's-yes-boy; the militant, angry man; and the idealistic perseverance of the athlete together to form a winning combination.

The movie shows the loss at the running track, at the Olympics, trying to qualify, and ultimately in the race itself. The characters, however, all come out as winners in the ending with a twist.

The losses are overcome and turned around to enable the team members to become better people and true winners in their personal lives. The Jamaican townsperson, their native music, accent, dress and pride all combine in a visual feast for the viewer.

The arrival at the Canadian airport as the Jamaican team first samples winter coldness is quite hilarious, and the excitement and thrill of the bobsled race has everyone gripping their seats.

Humor, thrills, adventure and intrigue all add up to a fun-filled family movie suitable for grade-schoolers to grandmas.

MRS. DOUBTFIRE
By Mike Kapuskay
Northville

Robin Williams dressed as an old female housekeeper? Don't get scared off by this plot. This is a great movie.

"Mrs. Doubtfire" gets an exuberant 4½ stars based on a five-star grade with five being the best. Go see this movie.

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SHOWCASE 11	SHOWCASE 11	SHOWCASE 11
QUO VADIS	SHOWCAST 11	SHOWCAST 11
SHOWCASE 11	SHOWCASE 11	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MIL
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SHOWCASE 11	SHOWCASE 11	SHOWCASE 11
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7B

THURSDAY
January 13,
1994

BARRY:
Recreation page writer
Barry Franklin debuts/9B

BASKETBALL:
Northville drops a
close one/10B

Cagers crush Hartland 72-51 behind Kelly

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

Novi High got back to its winning ways on the basketball court Friday night by downing Hartland 72-51 on the road.

Shawn Kelly led the Wildcats to victory with an outstanding 28-point performance. The senior connected on 50 percent of his shots from the field and sank all five free throw attempts to post his career high.

"Kelly was hot the whole game," said Novi coach Pat Schluter. "He was on fire."

"Jason Fannon played his butt off. He got Shawn and Greg (Pierman) a lot of points. His role is to be the leader, get steals and get people the ball. He's a great leader for us."

Pat Schluter
Novi coach

The coach also pointed to the play of guard Jason Fannon. The junior made eight steals to go along with 10 assists and five points.

"Jason Fannon played his butt off," said Schluter. "He got Shawn and Greg (Pierman) a lot of points."

"His role is to be the leader, get steals and get people the ball. He's a great leader for us."

Novi kept its Kensington Valley Conference record unblemished at 3-0. The Wildcats, now 5-2 overall, had been on a two-game losing streak.

Going into the game against the Eagles, Schluter said he was concerned about a letdown. He said his players knew Hartland wouldn't be as strong as some opponents they'd faced this year.

"It was a hard game to play," Schluter commented. "The kids know Hartland's reputation."

Novi showed that it meant business in the first quarter. The Wildcats applied pressure to Hartland and forced several turnovers.

"We had a lot of steals and lay-ups," Schluter said.

Novi led 17-6 by the end of the first. That lead increased to 14

points by halftime.

The teams traded baskets in the third quarter. Schluter said Hartland started pressing, which picked the temp of the game up. The Eagles actually outscored Novi 20-18 in the quarter.

"I thought they scored too many points," said Schluter. "They gave us some trouble."

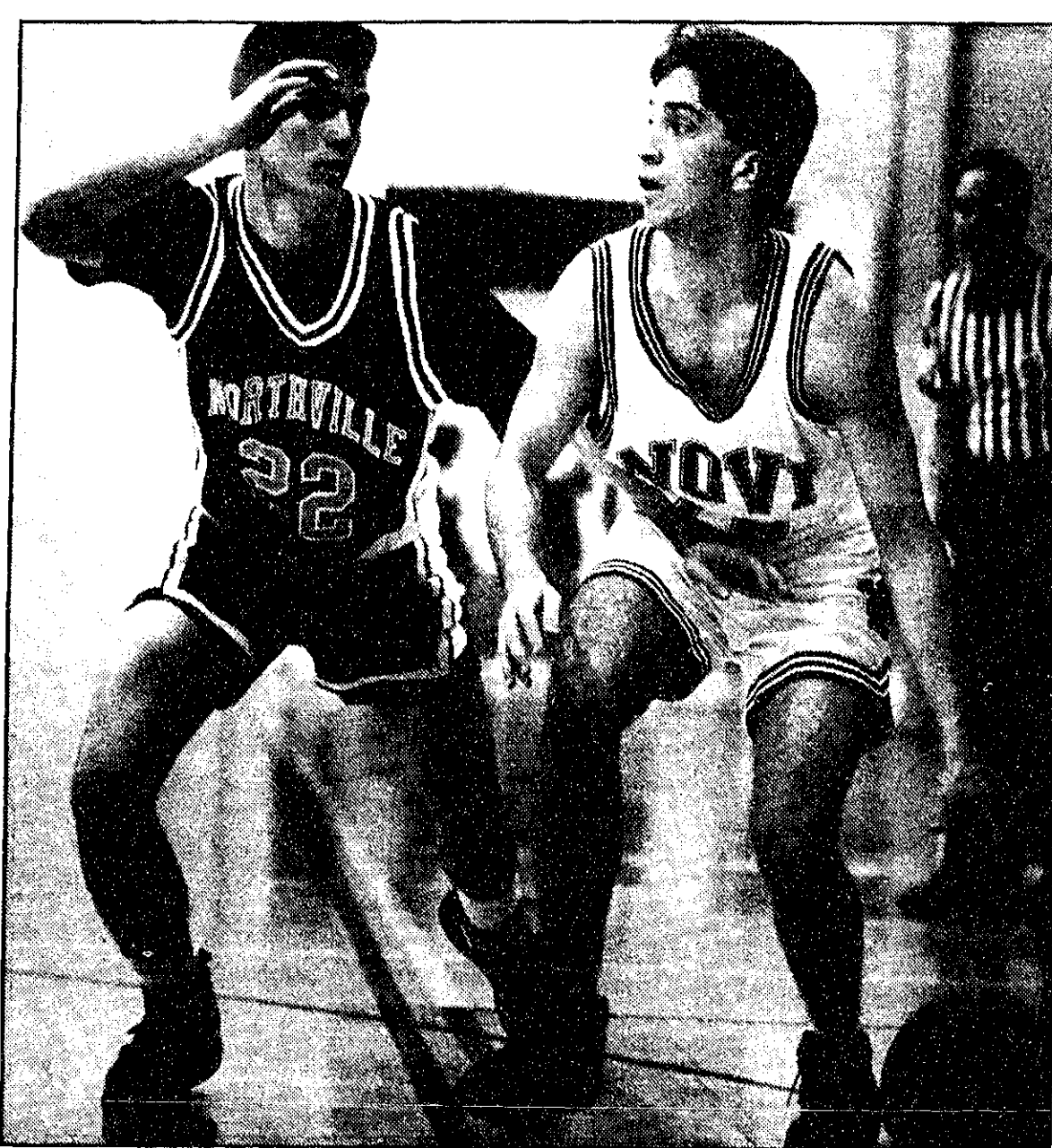
The coach got a chance to use a lot of his bench in the fourth quarter. The Wildcats outscored Hartland by nine in the final frame to take 72-51 victory.

Perman finished with 14 points. Peter Krossstein started his first varsity game at center and did a nice job with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

"He works hard," said Schluter, "and is coming along."

The Wildcats are tied for first in the league with Howell. To stay in the running, Schluter said his team will have to give maximum effort every game.

"That's the key for us," he said. "If we don't play scrappy and get the loose balls we won't win. We have to outwork our opponents."



Greg Pierman (right) is Novi's leading scorer this season.

Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 79, NOVI 47

The Wildcats came out strong, went ice-cold before halftime then got buried by the Vikings on Jan. 4 on the road.

Novi was up by four points in the late stages of the first half when Central suddenly exploded. Schluter said the Vikings went up five at halftime and never looked back.

"It was one of those games," the

coach said.

Walled Lake may be the surprise team of the area. The Vikings had a great season in winning the Western Lakes Activities Association championship and advancing far into the state tournament.

But, Central graduated almost the entire team. The Vikings, nonetheless, remained undefeated on the season after beating Novi.

"They took us out of our game plan," said Schluter.

great job," said Schluter.

Although Walled Lake doesn't have much height, he said they are very "quick."

"The play hard and aggressive," Schluter said. "They're a hard team to play with that zone trap."

Central's constant pressuring of the ball and then fierce zone defense made it tough for the Wildcats to get into their offense, he added.

"They took us out of our game plan," said Schluter.

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"They took us out of our game plan," said Schluter.

Novi was hot early in game one. Katie Shaw, Junko Matsunaga and Christine Edwards got the Wildcats a 6-0 lead on the strength of their serving. Shaw and Matsunaga, in fact, had an ace each.

South Lyon then began its comeback. The Wildcats slipped to 0-3 on the season. One silver lining of the match was the play of Kristin Kenny.

A leg injury slowed the senior before Christmas break. Fisetle said there was a question as to whether Kenny continue to play the rest of the year.

Doctors gave her the OK over break. Besides that cloud being removed, Fisetle said she moved Kenny to outside hitter from middle blocker. The move paid off.

"She was just hot," said Fisetle. "I don't think she missed (a shot). She was very controlled."

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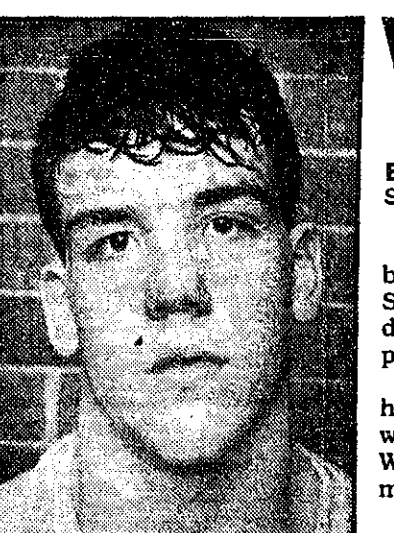
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Continued on 10



Ben Wendt took second place in the 185-pound division at the Salem Invitational.

Wrestlers place 11th at Plymouth Salem invite

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

Ben Wendt and Mark McBride both placed second at the Plymouth Salem Wrestling Invitational Saturday to highlight Novi High's performance.

Wendt and McBride took those honors in the 185 and 160 pound weight divisions, respectively. The Wildcats placed 11th in the tournament out of 18 schools.

"This is the toughest tournament I've seen since I've been here," said coach Brad Huss. "There was no easy divisions."

Livonia Stevenson won the tournament while Hazel Park was second and Detroit Catholic Central third. Huss said his team went into healthy.

"I was really pleased," he added. "Everyone wrestled as good as they could."

Although his team finished in the

bottom half of the tournament, Huss said it will help down the road.

"You can't get good unless your competition is tough," he said.

Freshman Leroy Christoff found out just how tough the competition was in the 103-pound weight division. The Wildcat wrestler has been

successful in the early season but was eliminated Saturday in three matches.

"He didn't wrestle well," said Huss. "But he's still just a freshman. It's not the end of the world."

Novi's Nick Simmon wrestled at 112 pounds and went 0-2 on the day. Doug Lee won his second round match with pin of Canton's Chris Mayer in the second period. He went 1-2 Saturday at 119 pounds.

Garrett Barrons was a first round winner over Woodhaven's Jerry May in the 125-pound division. He earned two other victories on a wild and a pin over Jenison's

Luake-Jenison. Barrons didn't place, however.

Chris Young went 0-2 at 130 pounds. Huss said Young has the tools to be a state wrestler.

"He's quick and strong," he said. "He just has to finish his moves."

At 140 pounds, Craig Borashko took eighth place. He defeated Robert Jones of Ann Arbor Pioneer 10-4 in the opening round but then fell by a pin in round two. Borashko won his third match but was eliminated in round four.

James Ciri finished third at 145 pounds by winning four of five

Continued on 8

Swallow headed for Olympics

Former Northville resident Jerod Swallow and wife Elizabeth Punsalan will represent the United States in next month's Olympic Games in Lillehammer, Norway.

The ice dancing duo qualified for the Games last week in Detroit at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Swallow and Punsalan, who narrowly missed the 1992 Olympics, won the U.S. championship Friday for their free-dance performance to the music of the "Mambo Kings."

Swallow is the son of the Novi School District's Human Resource Director John Swallow.

The couple will be the only ice dancers from America in the Games. A total of 12 skaters are on the Olympic team, including four singles, three pairs plus the two Pontiac residents.

Success has followed Swallow and Punsalan since they first began performing together in 1989. The duo began competing internationally shortly after coming together and within a year were ranked fifth in the country.

Swallow and Punsalan won the U.S. championship in ice dancing in 1991 in Minneapolis, Minn. They were the first dance team in history to move up from third place after two consecutive years to win the U.S. Dance Championships. Swallow and Punsalan finished third in the 1992 U.S. Championships.

Unlike many dance teams, the duo have a special bond. Swallow and Punsalan were married last September.



Special to The Novi News by CAROL NOFFZ

America's hopes for a gold medal in ice dancing at the Norway Winter Olympics are pinned to Jerod Swallow and wife Elizabeth Punsalan. The couple has been skating together for five years and won the U.S. championships last week in Detroit. The Olympic Games start next month.

Chelsea sinks tankers 130-60 in dual meet

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

When it comes to swimming prowess, class distinctions don't mean much.

Chelsea proved that point Jan. 4 by soundly defeating the Wildcats 130-60. According to Novi coach Dave Maker, the Class B Bulldogs are one of the top squads in the state.

"They have an exceptional team," he said. "They're probably only behind (Bloomfield Hills) Andover and Milan in Class B."

Maker said his team's grueling practice schedule may have had something to do with the score as well.

Over the holiday break, the swimmers put in some 100,000 yards in the pool. Maker hopes all of that conditioning work will pay off later in the season as the Wildcats go for the Kensington Valley Conference championship and state meet qualifying times.

"It will be the end of January or early February before they feel like swimming fast," the coach said.

Although, overall, times weren't where he'd like them, Maker said there were some good performances from his Wildcats. He mentioned Tim Gibbons and Tim Kushman in particular.

"We had some good races," said Maker. "We were in the hunt in many of them."

Maker said his squad will have its work cut out for it.

The 200-yard medley relay, Erich Kelly, Curt Speerschnieder, Rob Mutch and Jason Black were second in the event in 1:53.

Jim Galford placed fourth in the 200 freestyle with a time of 2:08.6. Kelly finished as the winner of the 200-yard IM in 2:07.8 while Mutch was second.

In the 50 freestyle, Black won in 25.40 while freshman Ken Myers was fifth in 28.60. Ryan Bush walked away with first in diving as he totaled 189 points. Rick Widenrold was fifth.

Mutch's 1:01.40 was second in the 100-yard butterfly and Henry Newton was fifth. Speerschnieder placed third in the 100 freestyle in 55.80 while Gibbons was fifth.

In the 500 freestyle, Galford notched a third place finish in 5:46.40. The team of Kelly, Adam Tympanaki, Speerschnieder and Black took second in the 200 freestyle with a time of 1:39.

Kelly came right back for a second in the 100-yard backstroke. Speerschnieder was third in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:12.20. Novi closed the meet by placing third in the 400 freestyle relay. The team of Newton, Brian LeRoy, Gibbons and Mike DiCiclio finished in 4:03.6.

The next few weeks will be tough ones for the Wildcats. Novi swims against Plymouth Salem tonight at home (7 p.m.) and next Tuesday against Baseline rival Northville.

Maker said his squad will have its work cut out for it.

South Lyon stops 'Cat spikers in two

Continued from 7

While game two was even closer, poor serving did Novl in, the coach said. The 'Cats missed 11 serves. "I've never seen such bad serving in my life," said Fisetle.

The teams, nonetheless, traded points much of the way. Novi was actually ahead 13-11 late.

But the Wildcats missed a serve and South Lyon rattled off four straight points for the win in the game and the match. Fisetle said her team took the setback hard. "It was pretty traumatic," she added.

The coach said her team most improve on its passing to start winning. Good passes will allow Matsunaga to set for spikers and kill shots.

"I think the girls are gaining some confidence. Each game they're playing a little better."

Julie Fisetle
Volleyball coach

"We've got a talented setter," said Fisetle. "Especially for a sophomore."

Statistically, Keny led the way with four kills and two aces on the day. Julie Swinehart and Matsunaga each had two aces as well.

MHSAA proposes swimming changes

The following article is from the January Michigan High School Athletic Association Bulletin. It covers proposed swimming swimming and diving rule changes.

Concerned about injury to students who use starting platforms in unsupervised and unintended ways, and in an attempt to reduce liability exposure for schools, the Michigan High School Athletic Association Representative Council took the following action at its meeting Nov. 10, 1993:

1. To recommend against use of the "pike" or "scoop" start and urge again that the technique not be taught or utilized at any time, including practice.

2. To recommend that school districts prohibit the use of starting platforms of any height for starts in water shallower than 5 feet (conformance with Department of Health proposals may require 6 feet, 7 inches).

3. To recommend that school districts require in-water starts in any pool where the starting end depth is less than 5 feet (conformance with Department of Health proposals may require 6 feet, 7 inches).

4. To recommend that starting platforms be removed, covered or otherwise rendered unusable for entry into water of any depth when there are no experienced adults to supervise the proper use of the platforms.

5. Consistent with these recommendations (specifically No. 3), to require in-water starts for the Upper Peninsular Boys and Girls Swimming and Diving Championships Feb. 12, 1994 at Northern Michigan University where the water depth at the starting end of the pool is 4 feet. The MHSAA is investigating the availability of an alternative facility for the U.P. Championships which would be consistent with the above recommendations, but has found none with the deck space or spectator seating necessary for the U.P. Championships.

These actions are based on knowledge of decisions by other organizations which make it impractical to

continue to accept without modification the standards promulgated by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

At least two state high school associations and the YMCA/YWCA's nationwide are requiring in-water starts in pools less than 5 feet deep at the starting end. A bill has been introduced in the Michigan Legislature to require at least 5 feet of water for a start from a platform, regardless of the height of the platform. The Michigan Department of Public Health is seeking a sponsor for a bill that would require 2 meters of water depth for a start using a platform.

The National Federation, the NCAA and U.S. Swim allow platforms up to 30 inches high in pools with depths of 4 feet or more at the starting end. The international governing body for swimming (FINA) prescribes a 6-foot pool depth and 30-inch high starting platforms. Therefore, we do not believe that competitive swimmers are put at risk by the proper use of either 18-inch starting platforms or 3 feet, 6 inches or more of water in the starting end or 30-inch starting platforms in 4 feet or more of water in the starting end, both as allowed by the National Federation.

However, when swimmers use the "pike" or "scoop" start or use the platform in other inappropriate ways, they increase risk of injury, regardless of pool depth and platform height.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has no authority to control the conditions of member schools' swimming practices (except the starting date); and its authority for the conditions of regular season competition is limited to establishing the earliest date and maximum number of meets, and to requiring use of National Federation rules and MHSAA registered officials.

Therefore, the Representative Council's recommendations, which exceed National Federation standards, are not binding on schools for practices or regular season competition. However, MHSAA Final Meets will conform to these recommendations.

Rec Briefs

Daddy-daughter dance: The sixth annual daddy-daughter dance is coming up on Feb. 18 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. A dinner and dance is included for the price of \$5 per person plus \$8 for dad's dinner and \$6 for daughter's dinner. Tickets are on sale now. Call 347-0400 for more information.

Exercise for Heart: Exercise for heart will be hosted by Novi Parks and Recreation this year on March 12. Event coordinator Terry Snurka has pledge forms available now. You may pick up pledge forms in the Novi Parks and Recreation office.

Sweatshirts: Cold? The Novi Parks and Recreation can keep you warm. Sweatshirts are on sale for \$13 (youth), \$15 (adult small-x-large), \$17 and \$19 (2x-larger and 3x-large).

Senior Golf League: Novi residents may register now for the league which plays at Pebble Creek (Ten Mile and Currie roads). Returning golfers who are non-residents cannot register until March 1. Divisions include: Monday men's and women's, Thursday mixed. The cost is \$10. Call 347-0400 for more information.

Kensington Metro Park: One of the most popular winter playgrounds in southeast Michigan is Kensington Metro Park near Milford. Facilities for ice skating, tobogganing, sledding, cross-country skiing with a ski rental service, ice fishing, nature hikes, farm center activities and photography are available. Park hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information call 1-800-234-8534.

Lakeshore Park: Sign-ups for the 1994 season Lakeshore Park Picnic Shelters and Tent Rentals has begun for Novi residents. All reservations must be made in person at the Novi Parks and Recreation office.

Novi Trackers: The Novi Trackers is a running club whose members range from the casual jogger to serious competitor. The Trackers meet twice weekly and all runners are invited to join any of the club runs. Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at Novi High School and Saturdays at 8 a.m. at the Sundowner Restaurant parking lot, across the street from the Northville Post office. For more information, please call Hub Copp, Club President at 348-7779.

Aerobic Exercise: Designed for men and women, this aerobic exercise program stresses an individual workout at your own pace. The class, sponsored by Novi Community Education, meets at Novi Meadows Gym Monday through Thursday from 7-8 p.m. For more information, call 344-8330.

Westland beats Northville cagers

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

Tony Goins scored 12 fourth quarter points Friday to lead Westland John Glenn over the Mustang basketball 66-61.

With the game tied at 56 and just more than three minutes remaining, Goins connected on four straight free throws to give the Rockets the lead for good. His performance ruined a Northville comeback that saw the Mustangs erase a nine-point deficit and turn it into four-point lead in the early stages of the fourth quarter.

"If we had done a better job on Goins in the fourth we would have won," said coach Larry Taylor.

Northville stands at 5-1 on the season. It was the first contest this season an opponent matched up with the Mustangs physically.

John Glenn's 6-foot-11 Guy Rucker and 6-6 Goins gave Northville all it could handle. Rucker finished with 14 points and a slew of blocked shots while Goins led all scorers with 22.

"Size wise they matched up really good," Taylor commented. "I think there quickness was a little better, too. We had a bit of a disadvantage in team speed."

Starting point guard Neil Yaele, who played a solid game with 13

points, agreed with his coach's assessment. The senior said he thinks the two squads will see each other again in the WLAAs finale.

"I thought we played the best we've played all year," said Yaele. "But they're a good team. I think we'll see them in the tournament."

It was clear from the opening tip that Northville was in for a fight.

Playing at Westland, the Rockets came out on fire. Rucker scored six points early in the first period on turnaround jump shots over Northville's Josh Williams.

"They had outstanding post play in the early going," said Taylor.

Rucker's exploits pushed the home team to a 10-4 lead with about five minutes to go in the quarter. The Rockets led 20-11 by the start of the second.

The Mustangs' defense began to tighten in the final second of the first period. Northville stopped Westland on its two final offensive possessions in the quarter.

That defense carried over into the second. Yaele wished a pair of free throw to cut the lead to 22-21 with 4:32 to go before halftime.

Baskets by Rucker and Brent Washington pushed the lead back to 27-22 by the buzzer. Yaele had six in the half to lead the way while Rucker paced John Glenn with eight.

Down by nine late in the third quarter, Northville began another comeback.

Baskets by George Lemmon and John Farrar made it 45-40 with 1:20 left. John Buser then followed with four straight points on put-backs to make it 45-44 by the end of the period.

Northville got its first lead when Yaele made a steal and drove the length of the court for a basket at the 6:09 mark of the fourth. The teams then traded hoops until Williams came up with a drive and slam dunk over Rucker to give the Mustangs a 52-51 advantage. A jump-hook by Buser made it a three point lead.

Then Goins took over. He nailed a three-pointer to tie the game with 4:19 left and then hit the clutch free throw later on to push his team to victory.

Taylor said he was disappointed with the loss but proud of the way his team fought. He was particularly happy with the job Yaele did against John Glenn's pressure defense.

"He was outstanding," Taylor said. "He took a lot of pressure off of us by handling the ball, catching it in traffic and not turning it over."

Yaele said Westland's pressing defense was bothersome.

"They had a lot of tall guys with their hands up," he said. "You

couldn't throw over them so you had to dribble around."

Farrar and Buser each scored 14. Williams played a strong second half and finished with 10 points.

NORTHVILLE 62, BRIGHTON 38

The Mustangs returned from winter break with an easy win over the Bulldogs on Jan. 4.

Northville led by six after one period and 29-15 at halftime. Taylor said he expected a tougher game from Brighton.

"Our kids played well," he said. "We controlled the boards and ran well."

The key to winning the game was stopping three-point specialist Dan Steuferac, who scored 33 points against Northville last year. The Mustangs held the Bulldog marksman to just eight points.

"We were worried about his three-point shooting," Taylor said. "But he passed up a few he should have taken."

Lemmon led Northville off the bench with 14 points. Williams added 11.

"He's not intimidated by anybody," Taylor said of Lemmon. "His scoring points and getting a lot of rebounds."

Northville plays at home tomorrow night against Farmington. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

KVC's Brighton beats Mustangs

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

Brighton handed the Mustang volleyball team a quick two-game exit from the Walled Lake Central Invitational Saturday.

The Bulldogs beat Northville 15-13 and 15-6 in the quarterfinals. The Mustangs made it out of pool play by beating Waterford Kettering and South Lathrup. Their only loss in pool play was to Walled Lake Central.

According to coach Laura Murray, the tournament proved to be

beneficial.

"I'm glad we got to see Walled Lake Central," she said. "That's the type of play we have to have to do well in our conference."

The coach described Brighton as a strong team as well. But, Murray added, poor serving on the Mustangs part played a big role in the defeat.

"I don't know if it was fatigue," she said, "or mental errors."

Missed serves put Northville in a hole in both games against the Bulldogs.

Brighton jumped to a 4-0 in game

one. Northville fought back to tie the score at four. The two squads then traded points before Brighton closed it out at 15-13.

Northville fell behind early in game two and never recovered. Murray said losing the first game took a lot out of her team.

"We didn't have much heart into (the second game)," she said.

The match was highlighted by a pair of first game performances. Kate Woodrich had five kills while sophomore Jill Holloway scored five points on her serve, including an ace.

"(The tournament was) a good way to realize how much better we have to get by Monday," said Murray.

Northville resumes action against WLAAs rival Farmington on Monday. The match is on the road starting at 6 p.m.

The Mustangs opened the Walled Lake Central Tournament against Waterford Kettering.

Game one featured a hard-fought battle in which Northville came out 15-13 winners. Junior Renee Olin was the story of that game as she notched a pair of blocks.

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REAL ESTATE

Hardworking sales reps earn the big bucks

By James M. Woodard
Copley News Service

Real estate representatives who sell the most property and make the most money have some clearly defined common characteristics.

Being aware of the needed characteristics to be successful in real estate sales will encourage and motivate some sales reps. And it will probably discourage others and hasten their exit from the business. About three-fourths of sales representatives leave the business within their first year.

It's important for consumers to know these characteristics. Those top producers are the brokers and sales associates who are most likely to perform effectively in marketing a home or other real property.

One key practice of successful sales reps is a willingness to put in 50 to 60 hours a week, many of which are on evenings and weekend.

Another common trait is the ability to strategically organize working time. A sales rep often cultivates his "social farm" or sphere of influence. This simply means he makes contacts in familiar areas—where he is known by influential people—and where those contacts might lead to a

property sale or listing.

Top producers are often particularly effective in contacting owners offering their properties "for sale by owner" (no broker) and those who own properties that were listed with another broker firm but are expired. They have developed a technique for converting these property owners to new clients, listing their properties.

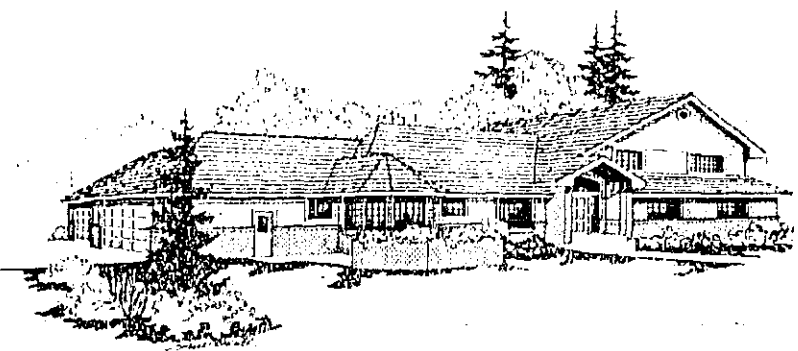
These "success characteristics" were identified by John Dennis, owner of a large Century 21 franchised office. The same points were expressed by Michael Abelson, president of Abelson & Co., a Texas-based real estate research firm that recently concluded a national study on this subject.

"Many people who consider selling real estate seem to think it's an order-taking business," broker John Dennis said. "They think it's just a matter of greeting someone at the office door or answering the phone and matching them to a desired type of property. There's a lot more to it than that."

Dennis believes in strong and consistent education, and it seems to pay off. The average sales associate in his office makes about \$60,000 per year, he reported. The

Continued on 2

HOME DESIGNS



The Dearhart's exterior is striking and stately

By James McAlexander
Copley News Service

Rich in brick work and glass, the Dearhart's exterior is at once striking and stately.

And this large home could have six or seven bedrooms, if that many are needed.

Multipaned windows over-arch a dramatic entrance, framed by a lofty high-gabled entry portico and flanked by multipaned sidelights. A brick planter-wall encloses a half-octagonal patio that echoes the shape of the eating nook, creating a secluded outdoor eating area.

Kitchen, family room, utilities and a bathroom are clustered at the left end of the house, next to the three-car garage. Formal spaces are at center, and sleeping areas are to the far right.

The master suite, an open loft and an office (or sixth and seventh bedrooms) are upstairs.

A bridge at the top of the stairs overlooks the living room and the foyer. These spaces are vaulted to the second floor ceiling, as are the dining room and family room. And both the living room and family room have a fireplace, woodbox and wide hearth.

Cupboard and counter space in the sunny, spacious kitchen are augmented by a long eating bar and a work island with cook top. A pantry and freezer are in the utility

room, which can be entered from the family room, nook or garage. The garage has space for storage and a workbench.

French doors in the family room open onto a deck that spans the back of the home.

Bedrooms two and three also have sliding glass door access. Two compartmentalized bathrooms serve the four bedrooms downstairs. And with four basins to choose from, there should be no waiting line for grooming. Linen and storage space are ample.

Adults have their own private retreat upstairs. The master suite has a locked closet for valuables, and built-in shelves for an entertainment center. The bathroom is fit for royalty, with a glass-walled spa tub, oversize shower and twin vanities.

And having an office upstairs cuts down on distractions. This room could be a nursery, sewing room, computer room or you-name-it. The loft could also be enclosed. If another bedroom is needed.

For a study plan of the design mentioned in this article (Dearhart 332-203), send \$9 to Landmark Designs, c/o HomeTown Newspapers, 323 E. Grand River Ave., Howell, MI 48843. (Be sure to specify plan name and number when ordering.)

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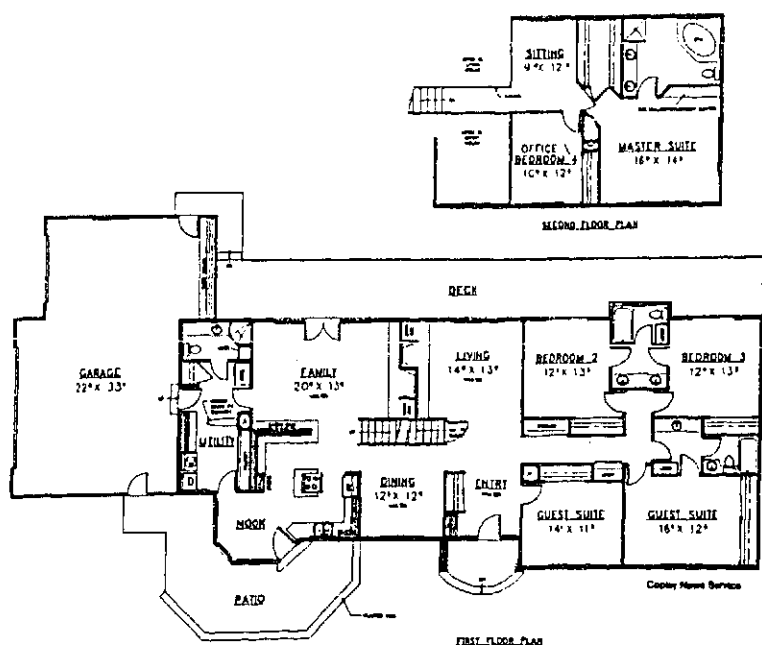


Photo by SCOTT PIPER

Dave Lyberg of Bell Plumbing, demonstrates how to protect your pipes. 1. Wrap a self-regulating heating cable around the pipe. 2. Wrap insulation around cable and pipe. 3. Cover insulation and cable with protective liner.

NO PIPE DREAM

Prevent frozen water pipes during winter

By DENNIS TOPOLINSKI
Staff Writer

When Old Man Winter sends the mercury plunging, even the slightest crack in the floor or wall can make for the biggest plumbing nightmare.

To prevent water pipes from freezing, therefore, there are a handful of preventive measures which homeowners can

follow, including plugging holes and weatherproofing pipes.

Normally, most modern wooden homes in which people live day in and day out aren't in danger of experiencing frozen pipes. That's because the water supply system often traverses between the basement and main floor, where lack of heat is generally not a problem. However, with older homes and especially mobile

homes, pipes are often exposed to the elements and when the temperatures drop to sub-freezing levels for a few days at a time, the water pipes are left vulnerable.

Dave Lyberg, who owns Bell Plumbing Supply & Home Center in Brighton, said the owners of older homes or mobile homes can take steps to prevent their pipes from icing up and possibly even

Continued on 2

Smart care of flowering plants

By C.Z. Guest
Copley News Service

GARDENING

You're not alone! Most plant lovers have pondered over violets, puzzled over poinsettias and gone up the walls about watering practices, the most difficult chore to teach most people.

The Professional Plant Growers Association, a trade organization whose members specialize in colorful plants for homes and gardens, has given me some questions to answer—the most frequently asked-about problems of houseplants.

Q. Can I reflower my poinsettia?

A. Yes, of course you can. This challenging project will help you appreciate the gorgeous poinsettias produced by professional growers under scientific greenhouse conditions.

Continue to care for your poinsettia during the winter and early spring. When danger of frost is past, cut back the stems, leaving only a few lower leaves, and repot the plant in a slightly larger pot. Place the plant outdoors where the increased light will stimulate growth.

Autumn is the time to create your own scientific greenhouse environment. Before night

temperatures fall to 40 F., bring your poinsettia back indoors for the dark/light treatment that will bring those green bracts back to color. (Poinsettia "petals" are really modified leaves, called "bracts.")

Starting Oct. 1, put your poinsettia in complete, uninterrupted darkness for 14 hours, followed by 10 hours of bright light each day. Shutting your plant in a dark closet or covering it with a large box is an effective way to create a dark world. Place "move-the-poinsettia" daily reminders for yourself since a plant in the closet is easy to forget! At all times keep your plant well watered.

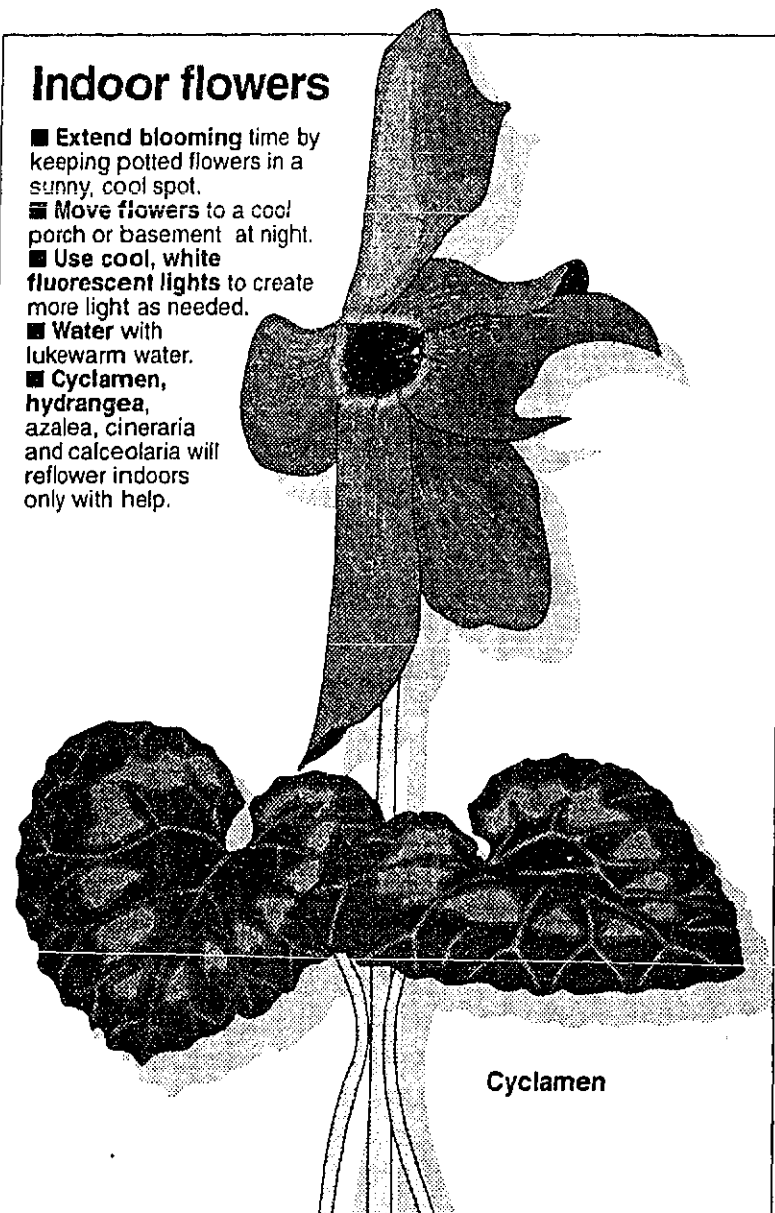
Once the bracts start to change color, you can return your plant to normal indoor conditions. Your reflowered poinsettia may not be as attractive as the original, professionally grown plant, however, it's a holiday accomplishment you can display with pride.

Q. How do I keep African violets blooming in winter?

A. As winter days grow shorter, the same windowsill

Indoor flowers

- Extend blooming time by keeping potted flowers in a sunny, cool spot.
- Move flowers to a cool porch or basement at night.
- Use cool, white fluorescent lights to create more light as needed.
- Water with lukewarm water.
- Cyclamen, hydrangea, azalea, cineraria and calceolaria will reflower indoors only with help.



Cyclamen

Copley News Service/Dan Clifford

Continued on 2

Big bucks for hard working reps; what is the hottest spot

Continued from 1
top 20 agents make more than \$75,000 and the top eight make more than \$100,000.
On average, the sales agents in his firm make more commissions than in any of the other 104 Century 21 offices in his five-county region, Dennis said.
On a national average, sales associates who earn more than \$90,000 per year work 58 hours per week, according to a survey by Abelson & Co. Those earning from \$15,000 to \$30,000 work 47 hours a week, while those with earnings between those ranges work 53 hours.
"There is a myth that associates

do not have to work long hours to earn lots of money in the real estate business," said Michael Abelson, president of Abelson & Co. "We do a disservice to the real estate business by letting people think it's easy to make money selling real estate."
However, he noted, sales associates making more than \$90,000 per year earn over three times what the \$15,000 to \$30,000 associates make, but only work 11 additional hours to earn it. Obviously, they must be working smarter.
"Most of the sales associates who earn over \$90,000 annually report spending at least 60 percent of their time and energies on list-

ing properties," Abelson said. "Those earning less than \$30,000 spend an average of 45 to 48 percent of their time on listing activities."
Most top producers don't spend all their time listing properties, but they do focus most of their time in this area. This is effective because listing properties for sale gives the associate the opportunity to delegate sales work to other associates—those in his own office or through his area multiple listing service.
Q. Is there currently any really hot real estate market in the United States?
A. Las Vegas is clearly super-

hot. It would be nice to capture a little of that vitality and inject it into the sluggish markets particularly in coastal communities. But that's not the way it works.
My wife and I were in Las Vegas recently to attend the "Starlight Express" musical production at the Las Vegas Hilton. It's a fast-paced musical—a very physical, gymnastic production with all performers zipping around on roller skates, on stage as well as in and around the audience on ramps.
The musical story line centers on a mystical, imaginary train race. The entire high-tech 90-minute production made me think of the current real estate market in Las Vegas—currently the most

active growth market in the country. And the audience, looking this way and that trying to take in all the fast action, is like Las Vegas residents witnessing the real estate boom in their area.
Housing "construction starts" were projected to reach 20,000 units in 1993, and 21,800 units in 1994, according to a report from Chicago Title and Trust Co.
"Employment opportunities are growing in Las Vegas at the rate of 3.7 percent per year," said John Pfister, vice president of Chicago Title. "And the Las Vegas population is increasing at about 2 percent a year, or better."
Much of the current activity is due to Californians moving to the

Protecting water pipes during the clutches of winter's deep freeze

Continued from 1
breaking.
"In these trailer homes, especially, you've got to get underneath the trailer and plug any places where air might be coming in," Lyberg said. "The pipes are below the flooring. Wind can get through even a hairline crack and if the temperature's cold enough, the pipes will freeze."
Mobile homes often have skirts which run around the outside of the structures. While the skirts block much of the wind, often times there are cracks which let some air through. To find and seal those cracks, Lyberg recommends the trailer owner to go beneath the home during the daytime and caulk any places where daylight can be seen.
"Doing that will not only save your pipes, but it'll do wonders for keeping the trailer warmer," Lyberg added. "You'd be amazed at how much heat people

lose in their floors because of a few holes left here and there."
Of course, even if there are cracks in the walls or flooring, pipes won't freeze unless the air is cold enough. Lyberg said if temperatures are in the single digits he coming in, "Lyberg said. "The pipes are below the flooring. Wind can get through even a hairline crack and if the temperature's cold enough, the pipes will freeze."
Mobile homes often have skirts which run around the outside of the structures. While the skirts block much of the wind, often times there are cracks which let some air through. To find and seal those cracks, Lyberg recommends the trailer owner to go beneath the home during the daytime and caulk any places where daylight can be seen.
"Doing that will not only save your pipes, but it'll do wonders for keeping the trailer warmer," Lyberg added. "You'd be amazed at how much heat people

let. After that, the pipes should be wrapped in insulation for added warmth and then covered by a plastic wrap to prevent moisture from penetrating.
"You can't just put the heat tape on and leave it," Lyberg said. "That's not enough. The tape won't work unless the insulation is placed over it."
There are basically two types of heating tape: self-regulating and thermostat-controlled. The self-regulating brand actually reacts to temperature changes in the pipe and will heat up where there are points of extreme coldness. The thermostat-controlled brand, meanwhile, features a thermostat which is placed outside the home. When the weather is cold enough, then, the tape will heat up.
"With the thermostat-controlled heat tape, you have to be sure you put the thermostat outside," Lyberg said. "Otherwise, if it's inside, it won't work. The thermostat won't trigger."
Lyberg said in the event that a homeowner does

ever have frozen pipes, the safest treatment for curing the condition is to blow a hairdryer directly on the pipes.
"It doesn't take a whole lot of time with a hairdryer," he said, "and it's a lot safer than a blowtorch. Usually, when the water gets just a little heated, it'll start flowing again."
One of Lyberg's other precautionary measures is directed at people who are going out of town for a week or more. Regardless of the type of home, Lyberg recommends that all traveling homeowners shut off their water supply before they leave. He said it's good to do that not only in the winter time, but in any season.
"It's better to be safe than sorry," he said. "You never know what could happen when you're away from home."

Smart care extends life of flowering plants and other winter tips

Continued from 1
where you provide enough light to keep them flowering. To flower, violets need bright, reflected light all day or full morning sun two to five hours daily. (Just like us, be watchful — too much sun can cause sunburn.)
If you can't move your violet to a brighter location, add artificial light. Cool white fluorescent lights are the most economical and work well as long as they are no farther than 18 inches from the plant. Special plant-growing fluorescent lamps and a variety of decorative incandescent spotlights can supplement natural daylight to boost your beautiful violets back into bloom.
Lakewarm water should always be used when watering, because cold water dropped on all fuzzy-leaf-type plants causes ugly spots on the leaves.
Q. How can I extend the life of my flowering potted plants?
A. Many beautiful flowering plants such as cyclamen, hydrangea, azalea, cineraria and calceolaria (also known as pocketbook plant) will not reflower indoors on their own. However, you can extend their bloom time by turning the light up and heat down.
These plants prefer bright window loca-

tions and cool temperatures—60 F to 65 F in the daytime, and 55 F to 60 F at night. Moving them to a cool porch or basement at night can significantly extend bloom time.
The popular chrysanthemum, with its many flower forms, does well in moderate temperatures, up to 75 F days and 70 F nights. Keep in mind that most flowering plants rest during the winter months (December, January and February) and need little or no fertilizing.
Q. Can I reflower potted tulips?
A. Yes, but not indoors. Flowering bulbs, including tulips, hyacinths, narcissus and crocus, are forced to bloom out of season in response to controlled environmental conditions in the greenhouse. To bloom again, they require a rest period and natural outdoor environmental conditions.
To reflower your bulb plants, remove the faded blooms and keep the plants watered in a cool, bright location until the foliage matures and dries out. Plant the bulb outdoors after danger of frost is past, two to three times deeper than their diameter.
Have patience, they should bloom in a year or two during their normal spring season.
Q. What can I do about mealybugs on my houseplants?
A. Mealybugs are tiny, whitish-pink crawling, sucking insects that form a white, cottony mass as they mature. They are often found on the leaf stems and crevices.
Since they can quickly spread from one plant to another upon collection, you must isolate the affected plant, observing other plants frequently to be sure they are not affected.
There are several methods of control. You can wash the plant gently but thoroughly with warm, soapy water, or use an insecticide soap and then rinse with clear water. Dabbing the mealybugs with an alcohol-soaked cotton swab is also effective.
Q. How frequently should I fertilize my houseplants?
A. With the wide variety of fertilizer types and forms on the market, it's easy to get confused. But always remember that more problems are caused by too much fertilizer than by too little. Don't exceed the dosage recommended on the package.
Fertilizer will not cure an ailing plant and could even make it worse by burning plant roots.
Slow-growing plants need less fertilizer than fast-growing ones. You can gauge feeding by the type of plant and also by season.

include lifting the pot—the lighter the pot, the drier the soil. Insert a probe—if soil "crumbs" cling, the lower soil is still moist. Tap the pot; a hollow ring means dry soil.
Remember, plant roots need air, too. Overwatering is a common mistake that damages roots and causes yellowing and dropping of lower leaves. Water thoroughly, so water runs out the pot drainage holes—but empty the saucers so that your plants don't develop overwatering symptoms from sitting in water for extended periods of time.
For some reason, people think that plants have to be swimming in water; they must have a day or two to dry out or they'll drown. Do as I do: Water only three times a week. Of course, in the winter, they need even less watering.
C.Z. Guest, author of "5 Seasons of Gardening" (Little, Brown & Co.), is an authority on gardens, flowers and plants. Send questions to C.Z. Guest, c/o Copley News Service, P.O. Box 190, San Diego, CA 92112.

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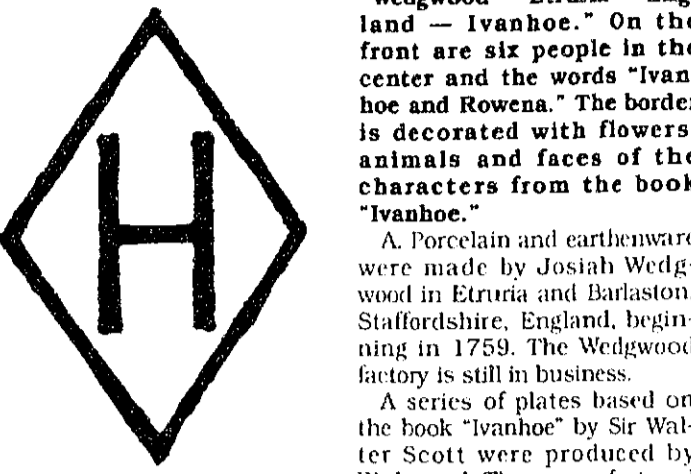
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14-year-old makes a terrific find

By Anne McCollam
Copley News Service

ANTIQUES



Q. Enclosed is a picture of a hand-painted bisque figurine that I bought at a yard sale. It is 9 inches long, 7 inches wide and 9 inches high.
A. The bottom it is marked with a pair of crossed arrows.
I purchased it because of the beautiful detail work. You can see the fingernails, knuckles, veins in the hands and even a wart.
The lady who sold it to me said she bought it about 50 years ago in New York. It is in perfect condition.
I am 14 years old and have been collecting for less than a year. Could you please tell me about the maker of this piece and its value?
A. What a terrific find! This figurine was made by the Falk Porcelain factory in Eisenberg, Thuringia, Germany, around 1904.
The value of your figurine would probably be about \$300.

Q. I have a porcelain teapot that my mother gave me. It stands 9 inches high. There are pink roses, brown and green leaves and a rosbud on the lid. It is trimmed in gold. On the bottom it is marked "Lafco China—Hand-Painted—Japan—1966."
I have been searching for the last year for information on it and can't find anything. I hope you can help me.
A. Your teapot was imported by The Geo. Zoltan Lefkon Co. The firm has imported porcelain since 1940 from Japan and Germany, and is still in business.
The numbers are the manufacturer's numbers. The Lefkon company is known for its reproductions of R&S Prussia porcelain.
This teapot would probably be worth about \$45 to \$55 in good condition.

Q. The enclosed mark is on the bottom of a clear glass figurine of a pony that I have had for over 45 years. It is approximately 5 inches high and stands on a base 1-1/2 by 2 inches.
Q. What can you tell me about its age and value?
A. This mark was used by A.H. Heisey and Co., Newark, Ohio. The firm was founded in 1895. Figurines were made from 1937 until 1957.
The Imperial Glass Co. in Beaufort, Ohio, acquired the Heisey Name and molds in 1958.
"Warman's Glass Price Guide" lists a Heisey pony for \$100 in good condition.

Q. I have a black-and-white signed photograph of President Herbert Hoover with his dog. It is in excellent condition. Is my photo of any value?
A. A signed photograph is more valuable than just a signature on a card or autograph album.
"The Price Guide to Autographs, Second Edition" lists a signed President Hoover photograph at \$315.
Q. What can you tell me about a Wedgwood plate that

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