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Home wreckers

Two buildings are scheduled to be demolished soon in the city
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Editorial cartoon

This week the Novi News and Lake Area Times features an editorial cartoon by J. Bone. This will hopefully become a special feature readers will see every month — Page 13A

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE



Helping furry friends

Hidden Springs Veterinary Clinic in Northville can meet all of your pets' needs with kindness and caring.
— Page 15A

NOVI SPORTS

Cagers win three

Wildcats found the hoop open many times last week as they picked up three key games
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WL SPORTS

Central icers toughen up

The Vikings took a hefty fall last week as they lost three large match ups against Salem, Churchill and Farmington—
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Novi Park will be taken off plan

Commission votes to change Master Plan

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

After some heated words on both sides of a controversial issue, the Novi Planning Commission made their collective opinion official

regarding the future of some of Novi's largest park land.

On Jan. 9, the planning commission unanimously voted to amend the Master Plan Map of the Novi 2020 Master Plan for Land Use, reclassifying about 95 acres of land in North Novi Park from its "community park" status, with the new classification still undetermined. This decision paves the way for this former park land to be transferred to Sandstone Associates for partial

settlement in the Sandstone versus city of Novi litigation.

"This is a very difficult decision with a lot of emotion, but we must look at the facts," said Novi planning commissioner Lynn Kocan. "I believe there is a surplus of park land in the area."

With the city of Novi owing more than \$70 million in money damages - and interest accumulating at more than \$20,000 per day - there was much pressure to hand this

land over to Sandstone to save citizens the heavy tax burden from this settlement.

"We are facing extraordinary circumstance that cannot be ignored" said Novi city attorney Gerald Fisher. "We are facing a real-world problem and we need a real-world solution."

Before the levying of the final word on the master plan change, the Novi Planning Commission listened to more than 20 passionate

Novi residents butt heads on the matter in a public hearing. As residents stepped before the microphone in the council chambers at the Novi Civic Center, they engaged in an evening of public discourse that saw ideas and solutions mixed with finger-pointing and name-calling.

On one side, residents argued the importance of maintaining all valu-

Please see SETTLEMENT, 4A



Ice-carver Mike Messing works on creating a fish out of a block of ice during last year's Chilly Willy Festival in Novi.

Get ready for some frosty fun

Chilly Willy Festival happens Saturday

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

The time has come to fire up your tastebuds and head on over to the Novi Civic Center for the city's annual Chilly Willy Winter Festival.

The Saturday, Jan. 19 event showcases representatives from area restaurants competing against each other in the festival's Chili Cook-Off Contest.

Official judges and attendees will have the opportunity to sample bean-filled concoctions from Local Color Brewing Company, Red, Hot and Blue, Whole Nine Yards, Guernsey Farms Dairy and Steve and Rocky's before choosing a winner.

Gwynn Tilmann from the

Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department said it is important for everyone to attend and participate in, the contest because not only will the official judges give an award for the best tasting chili, but a people's choice award will be issued too.

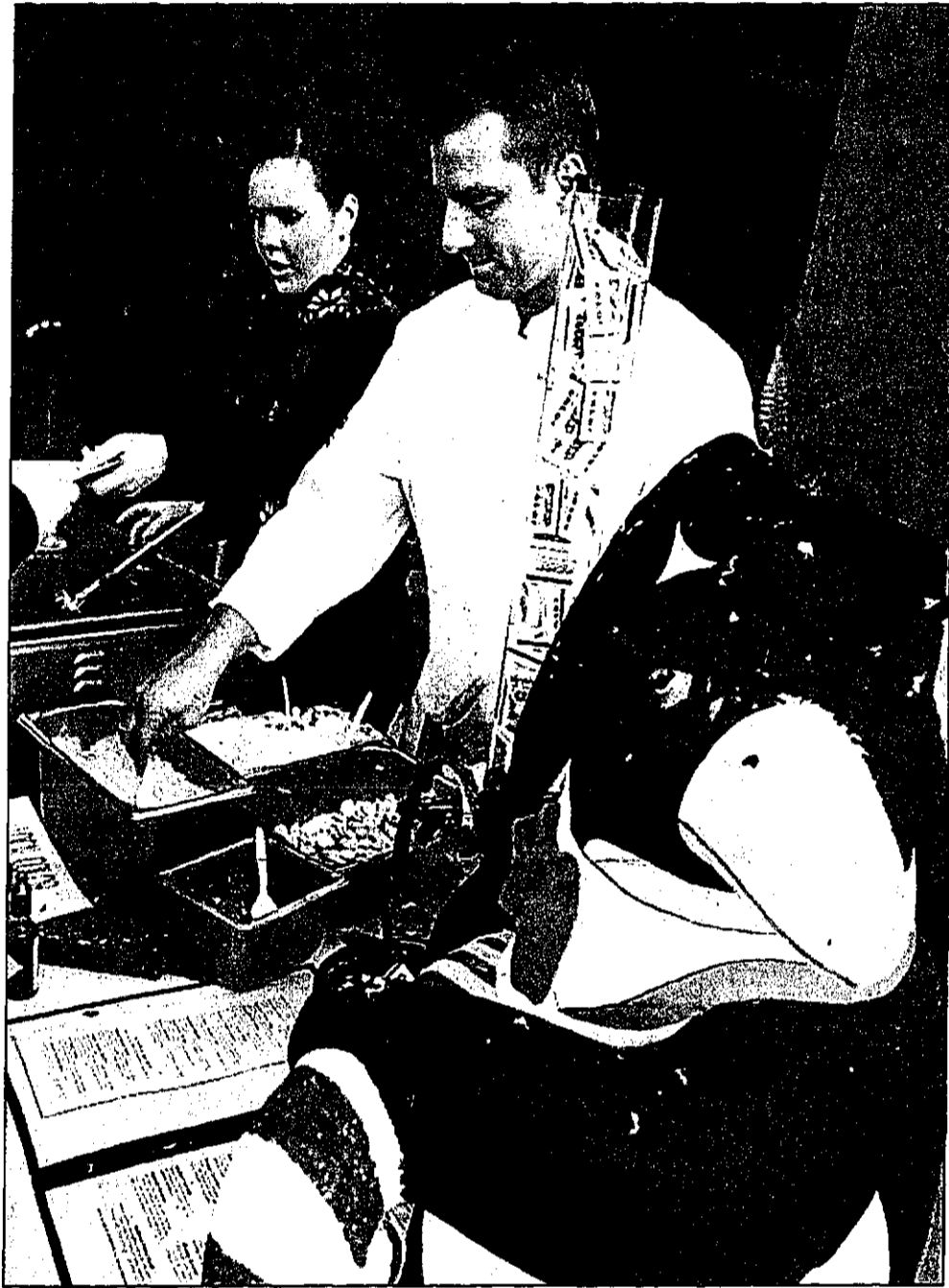
A third award for the best dressed booth will be awarded by festival organizers.

The cook-off portion of the festival is from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Along with great tasting chili, the day-long event features many activities for children and kids at heart.

"This is a family oriented event, Tilmann said. "There are many activities for young kids."

Please see CHILLY, 4A



Chef Matt Bronski and Jill Szczesny dish out Local Color's chili at last year's festival.

Clark delivers first city address in Civic Center

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

"Challenges Met, Opportunities Seized" in 2001 was the title and focus of Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark's State of the City Address Jan. 14 in the Novi Civic Center.

Clark spoke nearly an hour to the

near 100-person crowd in the first mayoral address held for the public instead of the usual Novi Chamber of Commerce sponsored luncheon.

Some of those in attendance included Rep. Nancy Cassis (R-Now), Sen. Bill Bullard (R-Highland), Superintendent of Schools Dr. Emmett Lippe and

members of the judiciary of the 52-1 District Court.

In the auditorium draped in red, white and blue, Novi's mayor verbally applauded the city's education system, public safety officials, economic health, substantial growth and the city's hundreds of volunteers.

"Last year, I spoke of a year of change and challenges," Clark said. "Little did any of us know how great those changes and challenges would be."

Despite the Sept. 11 tragedy and nationwide economic downturn, Clark commended the city for its viability in the prior year.

With council members seated at his side, the mayor began his speech by commending Novi's education system, calling it the "crown jewel of our community."

"Educational excellence; anything less is not acceptable," Clark

Please see CLARK, 4A



Novi High School student Teresa Dwyer sports a patriotic cap during the school's fundraiser Hat Day.

Creative fundraiser gathers money for Great Lakes Burn Camp

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

Novi High School students reached into their pockets this week to help a few Michigan burn victims.

The student council sponsored "Hat Day" to raise money for the Great Lakes Burn Camp - a camp open to burn-injured children between the ages 6-17, offering meals, transportation, activities and 24-hour medical attention.

"This was a good opportunity to provide a fun activity for students, as well as help a group of people," said Novi High School dean of students Jamil Wilkins. "They got to enjoy helping out and having fun."

Students bought "smiley-face" stickers the week of Jan. 7 for \$1, which allowed them to wear any hat to school on Jan. 11. The only catch: the sticker had to be visibly displayed on their clothes Friday in order to don their cap of choice.

To rally the entire building

"We want to make the school more enjoyable. We want to make it seem more like an upbeat place."

Mike Hendricks
Novi High School senior

around the event, the student council placed flyers and posters in the school, as well as ran short advertisements in the morning announcements, which were broadcast through the high school. In the end, the event raised more than \$300 for the burn camp.

"We try to do new things to get people involved in the community,"

said Justina Chiang, executive board secretary for the Novi High School student council.

"Hat Day" was part of a year-long student council project called "Fun Friday" - which is a series of activities that happen on Fridays, such as music in the hallway, to improve the overall mood of the school.

"We want to make the school more enjoyable," said Novi High School senior and student council member Mike Hendricks. "We want to make it seem more like an upbeat place."

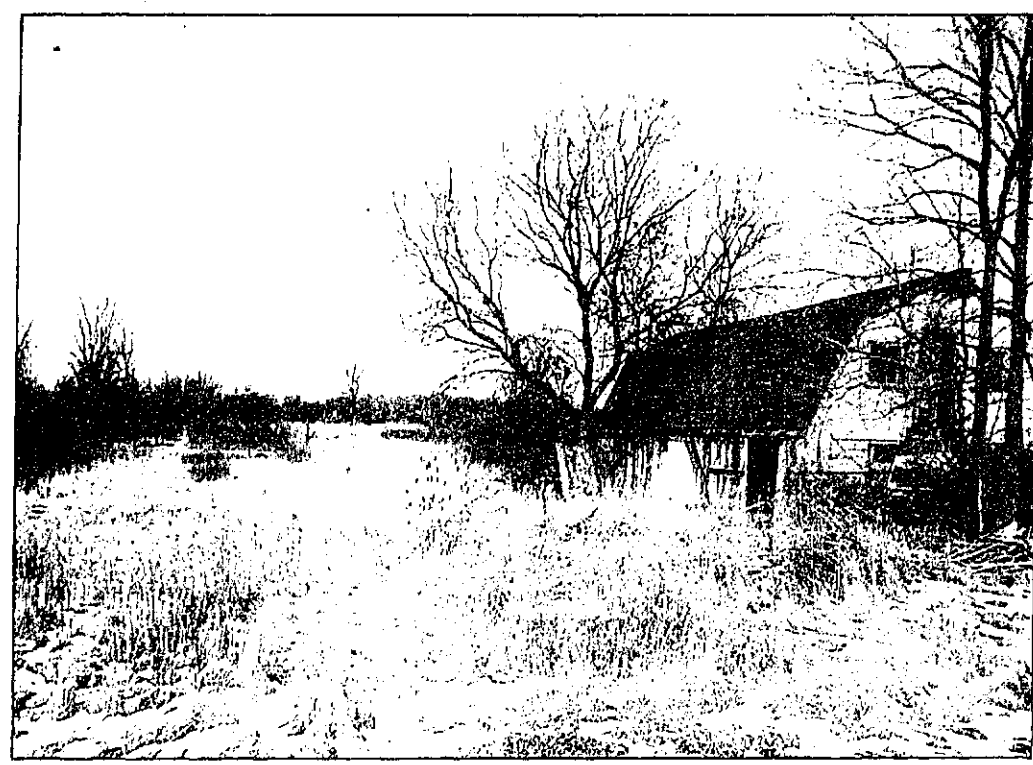
The Great Lakes Burn Camp provides its services free of charge to injured children due to the donations and support of firefighters, businesses and such school projects as the Novi High School "Hat Day."

The camp is located at the Pretty-Lake Vacation Campgrounds, which is located 12 miles from Kalamazoo. The facility encompasses more than 200 acres of trees, trails and beaches.

Record number set for volunteers

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

Novi High School students leaved the cold winter elements this past holiday season to set a local Salvation Army record. Over 60 students volunteered for the Farmington Hills Salvation Army, ringing kettle bells for a total of 374 hours and setting a local school bell-ringing record, which topped rival high school volunteers in Farmington, Livonia and Redford this year.



This land, running along 12 Mile Road in Novi, is part of the proposed settlement to Sandstone Associates by the city of Novi.

Settlement will continue with land

Continued from 1

able park land in Novi, pointing towards the city's children and future homeowners.

"In the future, I see wildlife and nature as a huge amenity," said Novi resident Ange Brader. "The master plan should hold the city back from developing everything."

On the other hand, some saw eliminating excess tax liabilities and ending this settlement immediately as the only viable solution, holding hundreds of signatures from neighbors supporting their claims.

"People are suffering due to the current economic conditions," said George Krieger, a resident for nearly 21 years in Novi. "If taxes increase in Novi, we will be the airport of suburbia."

As the public hearing turned emotional at times, it saw such words as "short-sighted" and "narrow-minded" bandied against phrases like "special-interest group" and "tree-huggers."

Nevertheless, the Novi Planning Commission made their decision on the matter conclusive, with a 9-0 vote.

"The deal on the table is the best deal you can ever get," Novi planning commission chairperson Robert Churella said in supporting the master plan amendment.

"If taxes increase... we will be the airport of suburbia."

George Krieger
Novi resident

Chilly Willy Festival celebrates winter

Continued from 1

Two kid-approved activities include the Kid's Movie House and the Imagination Station. The movie house will be held in council chambers from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and offers children the chance to relax and watch cartoons including memorabilia classics and Looney Tunes favorites.

The Imagination Station, open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., will provide children with craft materials to make fun souvenirs to take home. Face painters will also be available creating their magical transformations.

A 92' advance registration Bridge Tournament will begin at 11 a.m. along with a \$10 Euchre Tournament.

The Euchre Tournament is a Ladies Club benefit event and members of the club will also be manning a pizza, pop and popcorn stand from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Prizes from both Lions-sponsored activities will be donated to Lions Club-approved charities.

Other activities include the 1-2 p.m. Snow-O and Super Snow-O Hockey contest, a weather permitting 10:30 a.m. to noon Snow Sculpting Contest and all day ice sculpting demonstrations.

"It's not every day you can see someone carve a piece of ice," Whitman said.

One artist will be at the event carving sculptures sponsored by Community EMS, Bobstard General Hospital, JCK and Associates, Inc. and the city of Novi. The sculptures will be displayed outside of the Civic Center after the event.

And when the fun has ended, all attendees are invited to venture over to the Novi Ice Arena for open skating from 3-5 p.m.

Open skating half-off coupons will be given to the first 75 children who ask for them at Chilly Willy headquarters.

The festival, which has been a part of Novi for more than 10 years, is sponsored by Providence Hospital.

Additional help for the organizing effort of fun was provided by Copy Max, the Ladies Club, Novi Ice Arena, several Novi High School volunteers and the city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Fire-Service Department.

The Novi Civic Center is located at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 347-0100.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@tlh.com.com.net.

Clark highlights development, top education facilities as bright spots for last year

Continued from 1

Clark also stressed the efforts of Cindy Uglow in Neighborhood services for enhancing existing development by continually enforcing the city's dangerous buildings ordinance.

"The message has gone out. Dangerous buildings will not be tolerated," Clark said.

New and existing members of the Planning Department were thanked for meeting many challenges in the prior year and providing services in-house whenever possible to maintain costs.

In the prior year, 65 projects received final site approval from the department including Fox Run Village, Main Street Village II and Mainway Estates.

Clark additionally cautioned anyone who was doubting the relocation of the Novi Expo Center that the economic spin-off from the new Expo Center will be close to \$200 million.

Other new Novi businesses underway include a Jaguar dealership and Clark said Owens Corning is planning on coming to Novi - a much anticipated announcement.

Clark said all of the city's development - future and present - helps keep Novi's tax base low.

"Quality communities do not just happen," Clark said. "Quality communities are planned."

2001 was a good year for public safety as well as the completion of the Novi Police Department's new training facility and renovations to the police headquarters building occurred at the same time the fire department received its new fire truck with 100-foot ladder.

Clark commended members of the police department for a job well done because while calls to the Novi Police Department increased by almost 4 percent, crime went down 2 percent in 2001.

"We are now on a new journey in a new century," Clark said. "I am extremely confident that with all components of our community working together in a spirit of partnership and cooperation, that we will meet whatever yet unknown challenges the future may hold for us."

The mayor presented his address from 7-8 p.m. and an atrium reception followed his speech.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@tlh.com.com.net.

DeRoche announces bid for representative seat

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

After serving more than four years on Novi City Council, member Craig DeRoche announced this week he will be running for a seat in the Michigan House of Representatives.

DeRoche, 31, will be vying for the seat soon to be left vacant by Rep. Nancy Cussis (R-Nowi), after she is term-limited out.

"Craig is one of the smartest, most accomplished 31-year-olds you are going to find," said County Commissioner Hugh Crawford (R-Nowi). "Craig has been a leader in getting Novi back on track. He is going to do even better in Lansing."

The Republican said he is running for state representative because the cities in the 38th District are not getting as much support from the state as they should.

The support DeRoche primarily seeks is for roads and infrastructure.

"This area is a regional destination spot and it deserves additional consideration for the unique demands of the district," he said.

The candidate would like to see changes made in the state's formula

to bring more money to the district for road funding.

DeRoche further explained he would like to see donor communities - a community which pays more to the state in taxes than what it receives back in services - in the district receive more money back from the state.

The council member also wants to make sure the legislature avoids the temptation of raising taxes to offset lower state revenues instead of implementing spending reductions.

Before his collegiate days, the city council member attended Walled Lake Schools.

"Novi is the population base of the district, but I grew up in Wixom and briefly lived in Walled Lake as well," DeRoche said. "I also have a



Craig DeRoche

good working relationship of Northville, Lyon and South Lyon's unique needs. I plan to work to help each community."

Since 1997, DeRoche has worked as a marketing representative for a publicly traded insurance carrier handling sales in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

In 1999, he founded BidCorp.com - a software company powering online auctions and procurement for more than 50 public entities including the state of Michigan and Oakland County.

In addition to prior elective experience, extensive community involvement and numerous city council accomplishments and initiatives, DeRoche has been actively involved in politics.

"The reception that my candidacy is receiving has been overwhelming to me," DeRoche said. "It looks like we are already on track to raise over \$100,000 for the primary and we already have over 200 volunteers."

DeRoche resides in the city with his wife, Stacey, and 10-month-old daughter Carley.

He had run for the seat in 1996, losing to Nancy Cussis (R-Nowi).

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Engagements

Wes and Jean Smith of Detroit announce the engagement of their daughter, Jeanie Lee, to Brian Robert Swanson, son of Robert and Rena Swanson of Commerce Township.

The bride-elect is a 1998 graduate of Novi High School. She is currently attending Hillsdale College and anticipates graduation in June. Following graduation, Jeanie will be employed at Federal Mogul in Southfield.

The groom-elect graduated in 1998 from Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep. School. Following graduation from Hillsdale College this year, Brian will join LKX Manufacturing Co. Inc. in Plymouth.

An Aug. 3 wedding is planned.



Smith - Swanson

Allan G. and Nancy Cochrane of Wadsworth, Wash., formerly of Northville and Novi, announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Dawn, to Douglas William Turnbull, the son of Valiant R. and Rebecca Turnbull of Chelalis, Wash.

The bride-elect is a 1997 graduate of Wadsworth High School and the groom-elect is a 1997 graduate of W.E. West High School in Chelalis, Wash.

Both Lisa and Douglas graduated with honors in May 2001 from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash., each receiving a bachelor's degree in Biology. They are currently participating in the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program.

Wedding plans will be completed upon their return to the States in August.



Cochrane - Turnbull

Bob and Elaine Calco of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Cathleen Maria, to Paul Alan Forschler, the son of Laura Forschler and Gen. George Forschler, both of northern Virginia.

The bride-elect is a Novi High School graduate. She received her bachelor of arts degree from Michigan State University and her master's of business administration from Virginia Tech University.

The groom-elect is self-employed. A June 1 wedding is planned.



Calco - Forschler

Engagements

Constance and Michael Carter of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Laura Nicole, to Andrew William Hamel, son of Claudia and William Hamel of Jackson.

The bride-elect is a 1997 graduate of Novi High School. She graduated from the University of Michigan, where she received her bachelor's degree in December 2000 and her master's degree in December 2001, both degrees in computer engineering.

The groom-elect graduated in 1997 from Jackson County Western High School. He was awarded a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from the University of Michigan in December 2001.

Their Aug. 17 wedding will be held in Ann Arbor.



Carter - Hamel

The engagement of Jessica L. Horn and Jamie C. Chobot is hereby announced by their parents, Peter and Pamela Horn of Northville and Kathy and Chris Chobot of Ann Arbor.

The bride-elect graduated from Northville High School in 1995. She is a graduate of Columbus College of Art and Design and is currently employed at RE/MAX 100.

The groom-elect is a 1988 graduate of Stevenson High School and a graduate of Western Michigan University. Jamie is an associate broker at RE/MAX 100.

A Sept. 21 wedding is planned.



Horn - Chobot

William and Kathleen Selinsky of Northville Township announce the engagement of their daughter, Erin Elizabeth, to William Wayne Piazza, the son of William and Cheryl Piazza of Alta Loma, Calif.

The bride-elect is a 1997 graduate of Northville High School. She currently serves as a cryologic technician collector at the United States naval base at Kamei, Hawaii. Erin and Bill, who is also a Navy seaman, met and became engaged while attending CTR naval training school in Pensacola, Fla.

The couple plan to be married Feb. 2 on Waikiki Beach, Oahu, Hawaii, and live on the Naval Base at Pearl Harbor.



Selinsky - Piazza

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Schools could face money crisis in 2002-2003

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

The national economic downturn has the Novi Community School District in a state of uncertainty regarding its funding for next school year.

"The government is not immune to economic crisis," said Novi Schools assistant superintendent of Finance James Koster. "Novi Public Schools is not immune."

According to an educational funding package adopted by Gov. John Engler, Novi Schools was expected to receive a \$200 per student increase in state aid for its general operating fund for the 2002-2003 school year, resulting in about \$1.2 million more money overall for the district.

However, due to the recent economic decline, the state of Michigan is not promising any increase at all in state aid for schools statewide.

"If we receive zero, this school will face a serious financial crisis in

2002-2003," Koster said. "The general operating fund is uncertain to this school district and every district in Michigan."

This concern across the state has escalated for Novi Schools since it relies on state-aid for over 60 percent of its general operating fund - with the rest coming from local tax revenue.

During the 1993-1994 school year, the district relied on state funding for less than 2 percent of its general operating budget.

The trend has been towards increased reliance on state dollars.

"For the sake of the children, we hope the governor will reconsider this," Koster said. "We

hope for a promise kept for a promise made or a compromise between zero and \$200."

The general operating fund covers the cost of adequately running a school, including wages, benefits and office services, as well as books and supplies.

"We might have to reduce some of the services we provide," said Novi Schools Superintendent Emmett Lippe. "However, we can't hold up construction because this is a completely different fund."

Novi Schools has four different funds in its current budget: the general operating funds, the sinking funds, the debt funds, and the construction funds, which will see the expenditure of dollars regarding the many upcoming school construction projects over the next five years.

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or aparlove@nl.comcast.net.



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Cassis continues fiscal responsibility

State Rep. Nancy Cassis continues to exercise fiscal responsibility in the daily operations of her Lansing office. Cassis has returned more than \$82,000 in unused office expenses to the state since her legislative career began in 1996. It was recently announced, Cassis has consistently managed her office resources in a responsible and frugal manner. She has returned funds to the state every year throughout her tenure. Since

November 1996 when Cassis won a special election, she has returned \$82,764 to the state. The funds come from unused annual office allotment expenses.

"Michigan residents and families understand the importance of fiscal responsibility, and it should be no different in my office," said Cassis, R-Nowi. "It's actually more important for me as a state representative because I am dealing with the people's hard-earned money. It is a trust I will always uphold." Annual office allotments can cover such expenses as mailings, printing, publications and telephone service. "Prudent spending practices will always be a top priority in my office," Cassis said. "My commitment to fiscal responsibility, and to southwest Oakland County residents, will not waiver."

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Paul named newest member of Planning Commission

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

her David Landry, who was elected to the Novi City Council in November.



Lynne Paul

The Novi Planning Commission is hearing another new voice at the commission table. At their regular meeting on Dec. 17, the Novi City Council unanimously appointed Lynne Paul to the Novi Planning Commission. Paul sat at her first commission meeting on Dec. 19, filling the seat vacated by former planning mem-

ber David Landry, who was elected to the Novi City Council in November. While acting as the acting director for her neighborhood development program, Paul's interest in city development was ignited. She helped coordinate the expansion of Westmont Village in Novi and worked to maintain the woodlands behind her neighborhood. "I found that this is very interesting work," she said. In 1984, Paul began working as an oncology nurse, where she worked with seven doctors and managed a staff of 60 nurses. Also, she has been active with the American Cancer Society

and the Novi Woods Elementary PTO. Paul and her family moved to Novi six years ago. "There is a lot of wonderful people in Novi and the schools are fantastic," she said. The new planning commission member believes the city's master plan needs to be continually updated - a very timely matter these days in Novi. "It is a living, breathing document of the city. The city is changing and you have to change with it," Paul said. "You have to constantly look at it, constantly changing it as projects come up."

Paul is the fourth new member appointed to the Novi Planning Commission in the past two months. Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at aparlove@nvl.homecomm.net.

Novi Briefs

Winter Property Tax Bills and Dog Licenses

The Novi City Treasury Department reminds all residents Winter 2001 property tax bills are due on or before February 14 in order to avoid late payment penalties. Also, Oakland County dog licenses are available at the department located in the Novi Civic Center through May 31 without penalty. For more information on both, call the treasurer's department at (248) 347-0440.

City Offices Closed

Novi city offices including the Recycling Center and Novi Public Library will be closed Jan. 21 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. All city offices will remain open Tuesday, Jan. 22.

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- Unit 4006 Marklow - Bedframe, glass top table, luggage, entertainment center.
- Unit 6031 Foster - Trunks, clothes, chairs, TV, bikes, lamps, sewing machine.
- Unit 5014 Foster - Clothes, TV, 50 misc. boxes Christmas decoration, chairs

Daddy-Daughter Dance

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department presents its Valentine's Daddy Daughter Dance 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15 and Saturday, Feb. 16. The special event held in the Novi Civic Center is offered to give dads an opportunity to spend a quality evening with their special young ladies. Tickets include refreshments, souvenirs, a picture of daddy and daughter and music by D.J. Willie. Admission is \$7 for residents and \$8.40 for non-residents. Tickets for Novi residents will be available at the Civic Center on Jan. 15 and Jan. 29 for non-residents. Only those with pre-purchased tickets will be allowed entrance into the event.

SWOCC

The Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission will meeting 7 p.m. Feb. 6 in the council chambers of the Novi City Hall. City Hall is located at 45475 W. Ten Mile Road in Novi.

Televised Library Board Meetings

At the Jan. 7 Novi city council meeting, council member Laura Lorenzo presented the suggestion to have future library board meetings televised on the city's community access cable station. Other members of the council agreed it

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Chen up-to-date with city taxes

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

Novi city officials say James Chen, part owner and managing partner of Evergreen III, is meeting other city obligations despite the recent announcement of the troubled Novi Fire Station and training center construction project and Main Street litigation. One of Chen's largest obligations is repayment of a special assessment (SAD) levied to fund a portion of Novi's downtown Main Street development. "As of December 2001, the spe-

cial assessment levy on the taxpayer's summer bill has been paid," said Kathy Smith-Roy, city of Novi finance director and treasurer. The city received two different sources to fund the construction of Main Street and supplemental street-scaping requirements in 1995, which Chen is invoiced for as part of his summer tax bill every year. According to documents refer-

enced by Smith-Roy, \$1.9 million came from MTS bonds for the construction of the street and \$1.7 million was received via special assessment limited tax bonds for street scaping. Chen will be billed again for the special assessment in the summer of 2002. In addition, members of the city's Treasury Department said all of Chen's property tax bills are up to date with his winter tax bill due Feb. 14. Clerks in the department said Chen had some property tax delinquencies prior to 2000, but

were referred to Oakland County for collection. According to Oakland County records, no detail of the delinquency was available, but the Main Street property tax account was satisfied. The last bill issued to Chen for the Main Street project was a water bill due Jan. 14 which is currently showing a zero balance. Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@nvl.homecomm.net.

AMERICA'S TOP CRITICS ARE RAVING ABOUT 'BLACK HAWK DOWN'

TIME MAGAZINE: Richard Schickel
"GREAT... TERRIFIC... BRILLIANT... A COMPELLING EXPERIENCE!"

NEWSWEEK: David Ansen
"★★★★ 'RIDLEY SCOTT'S UNCOMPROMISING VISION IS AWESOME!'"

THE NEW YORKER: David Denby
"BLACK HAWK DOWN IS ABSOLUTELY FIRST-RATE!"

ROLLING STONE: Peter Travers
"ONE OF THE BEST MOVIES OF THE YEAR"

LOS ANGELES TIMES: Kenneth Turan
"A TRIUMPH OF PURE FILMMAKING... AN EXHILLARATING EXPERIENCE!"

TOP TEN LIST

Richard Corliss, TIME MAGAZINE
Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE
Stephen Lee, THE WASHINGTON POST
Emanuel Levy, SCREEN INTERNATIONAL
Neil Sinhal, GOOD MORNING AMERICA

Jack Black, NEWSWEEK
Mike Clark, USA TODAY
National Board of Review

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LET'S TALK

WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN
JEWELRY GEMOLOGIST

FROM HEAD TO TOE

If you want to find the latest trend in rings, look no further than your feet. Rings have migrated down from finger to toes. This foot fashion is all part and parcel of the haute hippie look that has gone from the edge of the pop culture to mainstream. Women and girls are now sporting gold, platinum, and even diamond rings on their toes. Of course, there is nothing new in this trend. Toe rings originated in India where they are called "bichiyas." They were traditionally worn as a symbol of marriage. In our culture, toe rings are worn to draw attention to pedicured feet and a carefree barefoot attitude. It all adds up to a wonderful selection of jewelry, including rings for both casual and dressy wear, abounds here at WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF

NOVI. We also have a wonderful collection of fine gemstones. If you are already one of our valued customers, we thank you for your continued patronage. If new, stop by and see us. WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI is located at 4199 Grand River Ave., (248) 347-0303. With 3 generations of experience, we are "The name you know, the name you trust." Most major credit cards accepted. We are now licensed by the city of Novi to offer loans on jewelry. Check Newspaper Directories for Showtimes

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Due to the "overwhelming" response we are only able to service the first 350 customers per day. We appreciate your patience.

To prepare for this event, our Warehouse will be closed Wednesday, January 23rd, at Noon and will re-open Friday, January 25th at 8 a.m.
Our Showroom will be closed on Thursday, January 24th at 5 p.m. and will re-open Thursday, January 31st at 10 a.m.

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By Annette Jaworski
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If your pet is a member of the family, you want a veterinarian who is compassionate and skilled. Maybe that's why so many animal lovers appreciate the exceptional service at Hidden Spring Veterinary Clinic. A visit to Hidden Spring is like a drive in the country with its rural farm-like setting.

The owner, Dr. Carol Geake, lives next door in an elegant pre-civil war home. Each window of the clinic has a scenic view of the former dairy farm. You might see Dr. Geake's Arabian, half-Arabian and national show horses during a visit.

"There's not a bad view in the place," commented Janet Talbot, practice manager.

The building itself is new and improved, being completely renovated in 2000. Their goal was to create something functional as well as beautiful.

"We had grown so much we needed to expand," Geake said.

The facility has come a long way from the little caretaker's house in which it began. The light and airy reception area features a kiddie play table and saltwater fish tank to entertain clients. Three exam rooms are attractively decorated. The overall effect is warm and welcoming.

During the expansion, they added state-of-the-art surgery facilities and equipment, such as several surgery tables, one with an automatic hoist to lift large animals. There's brand new X-ray and ultra sound equipment as well as a dental station. Even the lab and prescription station are well organized and convenient. The bins make it easy to do a quick inventory. There's a walk-in shower where animals can step up to get bathed, to prevent back strain.

Three front entry doors provide convenient and separate access for pet owners, staff and for delivering supplies. They carry a full line of prescription diets for pets with medical conditions and supplements for specific nutritional requirements.

Geake realizes that it's not only the attractive building and up to date facilities that makes the clinic. What's just as important is the staff, who see beyond the pet to the person behind them.

"It's the human element. You have to like people to understand how they feel about their pet," she said.

Over the years, they've developed many special relationships with their clients. Many patients offer their thanks and testimony, including this client.

"Dear Dr. Geake,
Thanks for being so kind to Julie and Bear (cat). He's all she has and means so much to her. You're always so kind to us in time of need."

It is purely coincidence that the entire staff at Hidden Spring is women that provide a wealth of knowledge, experience and skills.

"We work with each other well and confer with each other. We're very lucky to have each other's expertise," Geake said.

The benefit of having many veterinarians at their disposal is to the pet's advantage. At Hidden Spring there's a free exchange of knowledge and ideas to brainstorm difficult cases.

Hidden Springs Veterinary Clinic Doctor Mary Ruple, left, and Vet Technician Jan Grant take a look at a golden retriever who's in their care for post-operative surgery.

Photos by JOHN HEIDER

When it comes to business, don't cheat yourself with dishonesty

By Tim KISSMAN
SEMI-DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

I learned anything in my professional life. It's don't lie about your business or work ethic. Sooner or later the lie will surface, and then you'll be sorry.

Just take for example the recent hiring and firing of Notre Dame coach George O'Leary, who falsified his resume, and the inconsistencies of troop strength offered by the National Guard this past month. Both put the dirty linelight on fibbing in the workplace.

The shame of O'Leary, a successful college football coach in his own right, has to be heavy and put a serious damper on future sideline positions. And as for the National Guard and their inflated troop numbers, purposely misleading to attract more federal dollars, it's unsettling.

Don't ever lie. It's unethical and wrong. But if you must lie about your business, or personal life, save it for recreation basketball league. There, telling a fib is not only part of the game, but encouraged.

Just last week, I had a teammate tell me how he scored all his high school's team points, broke three school records, dated the best looking girl in school, and saved a bus load of nuns and orphans from a burning building while wearing thick casts on both legs. Talk about a liar, but the rest of the team and I loved it. Next year the story will be even better.

When you can't stop yourself from lying, or are worried that it's become too much of a habit, or if you just want to be cautious, read on. I have some great tips:

- Double-check. This one should be a no-brainer. Like a free throw line, the barrier between lies and the truth is well marked. Stay on the side of truth by having everything that comes out of your office, any piece of information that sees the light of day, double and triple checked by employees, and if necessary, a third party. You'll fix typos, inaccuracies and honest mistakes that could be misinterpreted by clients and local media as lies.
- Spokesperson. When dealing with sensitive issues have a plan in place and let one person from your business be the liaison with the public. This person should do well under pressure, speak well and be trustworthy.
- Check point, Charlie. Along with a spokesperson, make sure there is someone who is a check-point. The final stage before news is leaked, reported or directed. This person should have the highest clearance and held accountable if misleading information escapes.
- Telling lies, and inflating your image, is like cheating on a diet. It feels good for a while, but eventually it catches up to you in ways you can't imagine.
- A lie from your lips can ruin a business, and worse, a reputation.

Tim KISSMAN is Director of Publications for the Small Business Association of Michigan.

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Bluestein completes senior issues course

Frank Bluestein, CSA with Maximum Financial Group, Inc. Highland, completed a comprehensive course on priority senior issues in October 2001. The course is conducted by the Society of Certified Senior Advisors, a national organization that has trained more than 4,000 professional in 47 states. Successful participants complete a thorough examination to earn the Certified Senior Advisor, CSA designation. Bluestein has taken this educational initiative to become a professional leader in meeting the key needs and issues concerning senior citizens.

As a Certified Senior Advisor, Bluestein will participate annually in continuing education provided by the Society. The CSA membership will ensure that he remains an informed professional for senior citizens.

Former Milford resident joins Chicago law firm

A former Milford resident has been elected to the membership of Bell, Boyd and Lloyd, effective Jan. 1. Jeffrey H. Canfield was formerly an associate of the firm and is resident in the Chicago office.

Jeffrey H. Canfield, 38, a registered patent attorney, is a member of Bell, Boyd's Intellectually Property Department concentrating in patent prosecution, research and litigation. He is an experienced electrical project and design engineer and worked in the machine tool manufacturing industry prior to practicing law. Canfield received his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Michigan Technological University and his J.D. for the John Marshall Law School. Canfield and his wife, Lynn, reside in Naperville, Ill.

Vector to start-up Highland station

Vector Pipeline announced the start-up of the Highland compressor station on Jan. 10.

"With the addition of the Highland compressor station to the Vector system, our total capacity will be approximately one billion cubic feet per day," said Craig R. Fishbeck, Vector President. "This continues our planned enhancement of competitive transportation services to western Indiana, southern Michigan, southwestern Ontario and markets beyond."

The 42- and 36-inch Vector pipeline transports Western Canadian and U.S. natural gas from interconnects with Alliance, Northern Border and other pipelines at the meet two in Chicago to the hub at Dawn, Ontario, while also providing access to markets and storage in the U.S. Upper Midwest.

Northville Hills named Development of the Year

Toll Brothers, Inc. announced the Northville Hills Golf Club Community had been named the 2001 Development of the Year by the Builders Association of Southeast Michigan. The club has also been honored with six awards from the National Association of Home Builders' National Sales and Marketing Council, including "Best Interior Design," "Best Product Design," "Best Sales Center" and "Best Brochure."

The course is an 18-hole, 7,003-yard par 72 Arnold Palmer Signature Golf Course and 10,000 square-foot club and pro shop.

Dr. Tuckklapper giving smiles to thousands

As part of the Crown Council's 2002 "Smiles for Life" campaign, the office of Dr. Allen Tuckklapper of Novi is donating their time and services to brighten smiles while putting smiles on the faces of thousands of children in need.

From Feb. 1 through May 31, Tuckklapper is whitening teeth at a considerably reduced price and donating 100 percent of your money to the Smiles for Life Foundation. The money raised will go to help children facing serious health and educational problems in the Novi community and communities throughout North America.

Tuckklapper emphasizes how simple the process is: "The teeth whitening procedure is painless and only takes a few minutes to complete. And, best of all, those minutes that you spend in the chair can help touch a child's life forever."

The Smiles for Life Foundation is a children's charity organization of the Crown Council - an alliance of dentists who are dedicated to providing superior dental care and active community involvement. Since 1998, Smiles for Life has contributed nearly \$12 million to 116 children's charities throughout North America, including St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Steven Spielberg's Starbright Foundation, and Camp Trillium in Canada.

"Smiles for Life provides patients with the opportunity to have their teeth whitened while donating to children's charities. Dr. Tuckklapper's entire team donates their time and expertise. Discuss Dental donates the supplies, and best of all, kids get a reason to smile. Everyone involved benefits," explained Greg Anderson, director of the Crown Council.

Tuckklapper through the Smiles for Life Foundation is working with Garth Brooks and his Teammates For Kids Foundation to brighten children's lives. Through this unique partnership, a portion of the money raised will be donated to Little League Baseball and other organizations dedicated to giving disadvantaged children new and exciting opportunities.

Together they are making a difference and giving children the gift of a smile.

For more information about Smiles for Life, contact Tuckklapper's office at 348-3100 or visit www.smiles4life.com.

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Sale prices effective through 1/21/02 unless otherwise noted. Percentages off regular prices or original prices, as shown. Actual savings may exceed stated percentage off. "Regular" and "Original" prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Any event designated as a "sale" excludes Value Right merchandise and items sold everyday with discounts if purchased in multiples of 2 or more. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken on original-priced merchandise. Clearance items available while supplies last. Merchandise selection may vary from one JCPenney store to another. *EXTRA 10% OFF STORE REGULAR, SALE & CLEARANCE PRICES, PLUS CATALOG/INTERNET REGULAR & SALE PRICES. Purchases subject to credit approval. Discount does not apply to Value Right, "2 or more" or "in combo" prices. Furniture, Mattresses, Cosmetics/Fragrances, Electronics and Major Appliances, Floor Care, Toys, Video Games, Musical Instruments, Personal Care Appliances, Small Kitchen Electronics, Tractors and Airtime cards, Calvin Klein, Easy Spirit, Hanes, Henckels, Nike MAX AIR, Ray-Ban, Jewelry Bonus Buys and Bright Buys, Catalog Outlet Stores, Catalog Jewelry, Catalog/Internet Clearance, Gift Registry, JCPenney Presents, or to Portrait, Optical or Salon Services and Products, Gift Cards/Certificates, prior purchases, or in combination with any other offer or Catalog promotional discount. If you don't have a JCPenney Card, you can open an account in minutes, subject to credit approval. See store for details. Offer good 1/17/02-1/21/02. For catalog orders, call 1-800-222-6191 and ask for code CARD52A, or enter your order online at JCPenney.com and key CARD52A in the promotional box during checkout.