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the NOVI NEWS

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State may cut last threads of school aid

By SUZANNE HOLLYER
Staff Writer

Novi Community Schools could become a renegade district, free from the constraints of state-mandated education reforms, if a proposal by Gov. John Engler makes its way into the law books.

Engler proposed last week to end state funding to school retirement and social security funds. Novi schools already receives no per-pupil funding. Social security payments and the retirement fund are the final two programs the state funds for Novi schools. With the demise of state funding of the two programs, the state would have no purse strings to tie around Novi schools.

School board Trustee Raymond Byers wondered why the district would need to comply with state mandates if it was receiving no state money.

"You're not giving us one dime," Byers said.

Board Vice President Robert Schram agreed, saying he had always wanted Novi to be a private district.

"If that happens, I'm with Ray," Schram said.

"We're going to be a private district, and we can tell the state to shove it."

Currently, the state funds less than a percent of school district operations. Retirement funds and social security payments made by the state in the name of the school district do not show up in district revenue figures, said Superintendent William Barr.

Engler's plan, which would result in a \$1 million loss to the district, has a bright side for local educators that goes beyond freedom

"If that happens, I'm with Ray. We're going to be a private district, and we can tell the state to shove it."

Robert Schram
Vice President

from state mandated programs. The governor's plan calls for phasing out tax base sharing and the "recapture" of funds for programs like transportation and special education.

Novi will lose close to a half million dollars this year through tax base sharing, a new plan that requires property-wealthy districts to share some of their commercial and industrial taxes. The district also loses a similar amount to "recapture" of social security payments and other categorical aid.

Assistant Superintendent for the Oakland County Intermediate School District Richard Simonson told the school board at its Thursday meeting the district would see a net loss of \$1 million under Engler's new plan. Covering the retirement benefits and social security payments of school district employees would cost Novi schools about \$2 million, Simonson said. But ending recapture and tax base sharing would save the district about \$1 million.

"The bottom line is a \$1 million loss for Novi," Simonson said.

School districts that will benefit financially from Engler's plans will

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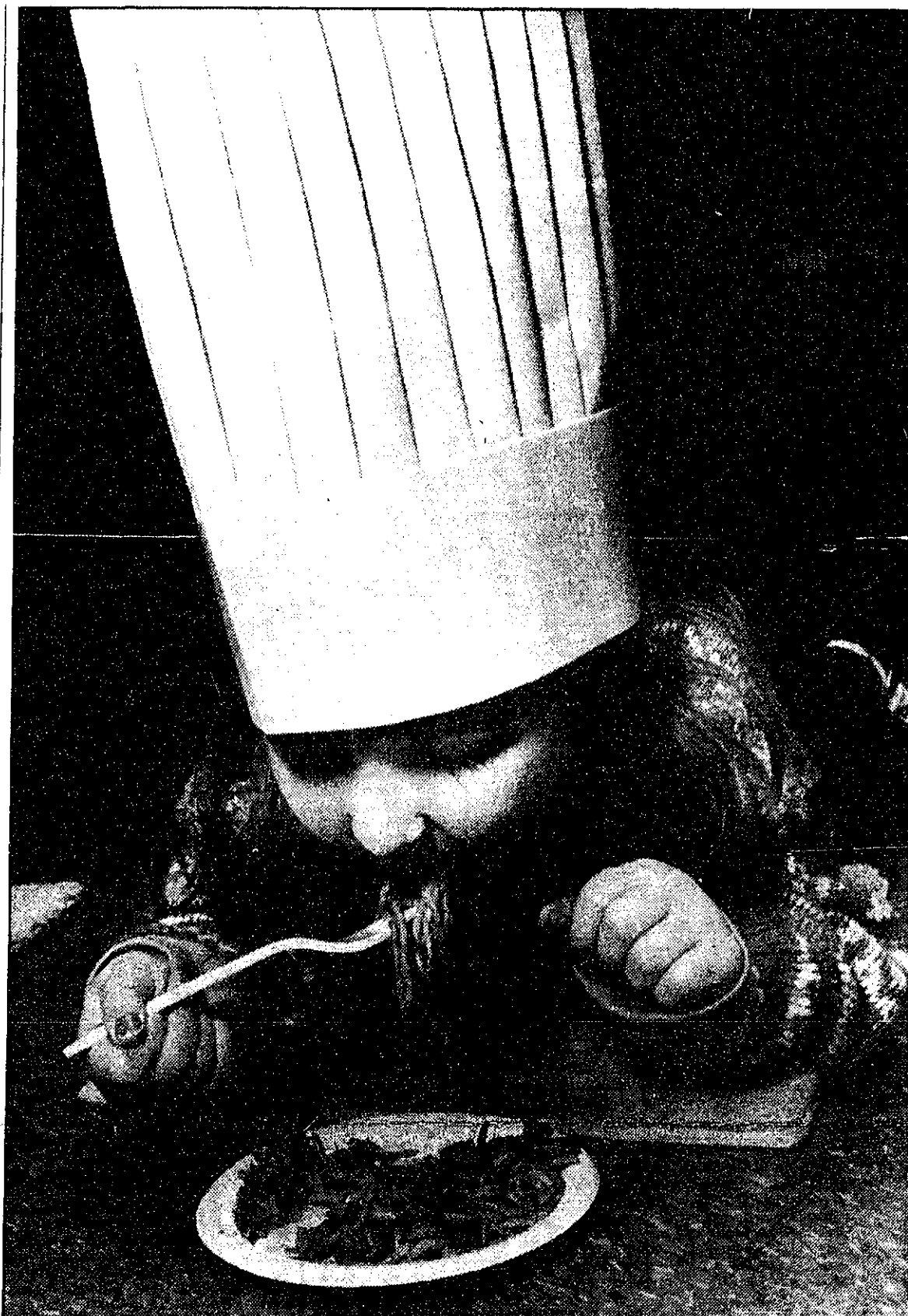


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Nelly Noodles

Marie Kennedy, also known as Nutty Nelly Noodles, visited preschool students at Novi Woods last week to share her love of noodles. Pictured above, 4-year-old Kyla Hurst scoops

up a mouth full of spaghetti. Besides sampling ready-made pasta, the Novi Woods kids made their own noodles.

Dog owner reacts to proposed pit bull ban

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Randi Holtzman is inviting the Novi City Council to meet a well-loved member of her family, Kip.

The fun-loving and friendly 2-year-old show dog is registered as an American Staffordshire Terrier with the American Kennel Club. Holtzman may also sign up the pup with the Kalamazoo-headquartered United Kennel Club (UKC), which categorizes the same breed as the American Pit Bull Terrier.

Minus Kip but with a field representative from the UKC, she will be at the city council meeting tonight to dissuade Novi from adopting any ordinance outlawing the breed popularly — but incorrectly, owners say — known as "pit bulls."

In January, the Novi City Council requested that the city attorney research a possible ban of pit bull terriers here, in response to the arrest of a lakes area man for possession of dangerous animals. His two adult pit bull terriers and 15 half-breed puppies, kept in a fenced-in back yard, have terrified a next-door neighbor.

A current city ordinance bars possession of a "dangerous animal" within Novi limits, unless the critter is restrained from contact with the general public.

Media coverage of pit bull terriers mauling adults and children has been widely circulated, contributing to public fear.

Since reading about the Novi case, Holtzman, a member of the Mid-Michigan American Pit Bull Terrier Club, has been telephoning dog owners and associations all over the country to rally support. She's also formed a new group, Novi Advocates for Non-Breed Specific Legislation.

"This is one incident. I don't think it's fair to impose any kind of ordinance when a woman got scared," Holtzman said Thursday.

"Any dog can bite, any dog can attack. People do provoke dogs. People do come into a dog's yard."

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Novi schools seek renewal of 13 mills

By SUZANNE HOLLYER
Staff Writer

Novi schools will ask voters to approve a 13-mill, three-year tax renewal tomorrow, Feb. 11.

The 13 mills, which expired on Dec. 31, represent over one-third of 33.04 mills authorized for Novi schools.

To the taxpayer, one mill represents \$1 on each \$1,000 of state equalized valuation of property. The 13 mills up for renewal would cost taxpayers \$13 on each \$1,000 of their property's assessed value if the district levies the full amount.

Novi schools typically levies slightly more than 11 of the 13 allowable mills that are up for renewal, Barr said.

But because of a tax freeze that went into effect Jan. 1, the district probably has the option of levying more of the voter-approved mills this year, Barr said. Although the law is unclear, the Headlee Amendment most likely will not restrict the number of allowable mills the district can levy this year, Barr said.

Barr said he is not ready to guess how many of mills the Novi school district will need next year.

The polls will be open Tuesday from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. Precinct one voters go to Novi Middle School, 25529 Taft Road. Precinct two voters go to Orchard Hills Elementary, 41900 Quince. Precinct three voters go to Village Oaks Elementary, 23333 Willowbrook.

Novi is favored site of new court

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Developers interested in building the new 52-1 district court clearly read the lips of the Oakland County official overseeing the project.

Of 13 proposals for district courthouses turned in by the Jan. 31 deadline, 11 were for Novi-based facilities, including several bids for sites along Grand River Avenue. One application per city was submitted by developers interested in building in Walled Lake and Wixom.

But others aren't so sure Novi is the ideal location for the facility.

A 20-year-old state law calls for a district courthouse to be placed in the most populous community, in this case the less-than-centrally-located Novi.

"The statute just seems too clear to me, as the law reads today. It would be economically unsound to do anything other than putting it into Novi," said Jack Hays, Oakland County's Director of Corporation Counsel.

■ As Gov. John Engler tries to downsize state government, the Michigan Supreme Court is asking for a major increase in the judiciary. But the recommendations for new judgeships do not include one for 52-1 District Court in Walled Lake. The story is on page 3A.

What seems clear to Hays appears to be getting cloudier and cloudier. A move is afoot by State Rep. Barbara Dobb, R-Commerce Township, to introduce legislation which would give the county the discretion to place a courthouse anywhere within a district. Dobb's constituency includes Walled Lake.

And the police chiefs of Milford, Wolverine Lake, White Lake, Walled Lake and Wixom sent a

collective letter of protest to the county, saying that traveling to Novi with their cases would eat up too much staff time and transportation dollars.

"I'm getting calls from all over the place," Hays said.

In a presentation Feb. 3 at a joint Walled Lake/Novi city council meeting, a spokesperson for Walled Lake's Downtown Development Authority made it clear they'd like to keep the courthouse there.

"There are all kinds of things going on behind the scenes that are making a nightmare of this, as far as I'm concerned," County Commissioner Kay Schmid, R-Novi, said Friday.

"There's a concentrated effort on the part of some to change all this and put it back into the political arena. I don't think this should be a political decision. It should be based on the state statute."

The 52-1 district includes Novi city and town-

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Letters ask for heavy sentence

By STEVE KELLMAN
Staff Writer

Kenneth Loveday's sentencing for negligent homicide in the deaths of two joggers last June was postponed to tomorrow, Feb. 11.

His sentencing had been scheduled for Feb. 5 but was delayed after Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Francis X. O'Brien recessed to read letters sent to the court on the victims' behalf.

The letters, including one from the Northville Action Council urging "an appropriate sentence that lets (Loveday) know his actions are unacceptable," were among about 20 received regarding the case.

Loveday was convicted Jan. 9 of

negligent homicide in the June 5 deaths of Yusuf Hanania and Albert Abdelnour on Eight Mile Road just east of Beck Road. His westbound Jeep Wrangler struck the two joggers after swerving off the road toward them.

He had faced the more severe charge of involuntary manslaughter with a motor vehicle, a felony punishable by up to 15 years in prison. The maximum charge for negligent homicide, a misdemeanor, is two years.

A probation supervisor's report recommends sentencing Loveday to the State Prison of Southern Michigan for 16 to 24 months, the maximum advised by state sentencing guidelines. The report cites

Loveday's prior misdemeanor convictions for disorderly conduct, trespassing, and possession of marijuana, as well as the fact that a marijuana cigarette was found in the Jeep's ashtray after the incident.

Jeep passenger Michael Gibson testified during the trial that he and Loveday smoked a marijuana cigarette just prior to the collision.

Loveday's defense attorneys, Jerry and Ronald D'Avanzo, wrote in their own sentencing memorandum that the incident occurred when Loveday's Jeep "veered off Eight Mile Road to avoid oncoming traffic." The attorneys asked the court to take into consideration the fact that the road narrows to two

lanes just prior to the point where Loveday's Jeep struck the joggers, and that the narrow shoulder where the men were jogging was not designed for that use.

The joggers' family members, who expressed outrage when Loveday was found guilty of the lesser charge Jan. 9, are seeking two consecutive two-year sentences.

Loveday spent nearly six months in Oakland County Jail before being released on bond Dec. 23, and would likely be credited with the time served.

Hanania, a Novi resident and vice president at Singh Development Co., was 38 years old. His wife

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Community Calendar

Today, February 10

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

Library board: The Novi Public Library Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Public Library building.

City Council: Novi City Council meets in the Council Chambers at the Novi Civic Center at 8 p.m.

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly, a weight loss program for all ages, meets every Monday in room 109 of the Novi High School at 7 p.m. For more information, call 624-5293.

Debate Boosters: The Debate Boosters for Novi High School hold their regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the high school library.

Tuesday, February 11

School election: The renewal of 13 mills of property tax to support the operation of the Novi School District will be the question before voters during this special election. Polls will open at 7 a.m. at Novi Middle School, Orchard Hills Elementary and Village Oaks Elementary. Polls will close at 8 p.m.

Camera Club: The Novi Camera Club meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Walking program: Twelve Oaks mall walkers are invited to attend a health education program in the center court from 9-10 a.m. Raymond Hobbs, M.D. of the University of Michigan Health Center in Northville will discuss how to select a good doctor. For more information, call 348-9438.

Wednesday, February 12

Parenting workshop: "Stepping Stones to Creativity," a special parenting workshop will be presented at the Novi Woods Elementary School at 7:30 p.m. Author Carolyn Lesser will demonstrate the creative process that can enable parents to become more involved with their students' learning. The program is sponsored by the Novi school district's Gifted and Talented Programming. For further information, contact the Office of Instruction at 344-8330, ext. 19.

Youth baseball: The Novi Youth Baseball League's Board of Directors schedules its meetings for 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month at the Novi Civic Center. The meetings are open to the public.

Seniors polluck: The Novi Senior Citizens will hold its monthly polluck luncheon at noon in the Community Center of the Novi Civic Center.

Thursday, February 13

Parkview PTO: The PTO board of Parkview Elementary meets at 7 p.m. in the school's art room, room 103.

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

Historical Commission: The Novi Historical Commission is set to meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Friday, February 14

School recess: Mid-winter recess beings at the end of the school day.

Property taxes due: Today is the last day property tax payments will be accepted by the City of Novi without a penalty.

Daddy-Daughter Dance: The Novi Recreation Department will host the annual Daddy-Daughter Dance as a celebration of Valentine's Day. The Friday dance will be a dance only, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. Tickets will be \$8 per couple, plus \$3 for each daughter. The ticket price includes refreshments, photos, flowers, prizes and music.

Non-critical parenting: Judith Cox from Wise Mothers speaks on the topic of non-critical parenting at 7 p.m. in Novi Woods Elementary school.

Saturday, February 15

Daddy-Daughter Dance: The Novi Recreation Department will host the annual Daddy-Daughter Dance as a celebration of Valentine's Day. On Saturday, the event will include dinner and dancing at the Novi Civic Center, with the buffet provided by B & B Catering. Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m., with the dance at 6:30. Tickets are \$8 per couple, plus \$3 per additional daughter. Additional fees are \$8 for dad's dinner and \$7 for daughter's dinner. Ticket price includes refreshments, photos, flowers, prizes and music.

Monday, February 17

President's Day: Offices of the City of Novi will be closed due to President's day. The Novi Public Library will remain open.

Band Boosters: The Band Boosters for Novi High School will hold their regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in room 511 of the high school.

Tuesday, February 18

Register to vote: Today is the last day to register to vote or to declare a party preference to vote in the March 17 presidential primary election.

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

Wednesday, February 19

Planning: The Novi city Planning Commission will meet in the Novi Civic Center at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 20

NMU Open House: Northern Michigan University will hold an open house in Novi for prospective students and their parents in the Sheraton Oaks at Novi Road and I-96. Presentations, videos and discussions will provide information on the many aspects of college life at the

university. Reservations for the open house can be made by calling the admissions office at 1-800-682-9797.

Historical Society: The Novi Historical Society will meet in the old town hall building, west of the Novi Public Library on Ten Mile Road, at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, February 24

Classes resume: Students in the Novi school district return to the classroom from mid-winter recess.

City Council: The Novi City Council will meet in the Novi Civic Center at 8 p.m.

Tuesday, February 25

Youth Assistance: The board of Novi Youth Assistance will meet in the Novi Civic Center at 7 p.m.

Seniors business: The Novi Senior Citizens Club will hold its monthly business meeting at 1 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Thursday, February 27

Board of Education: The Novi school board meets in regular session at Novi Meadows Elementary school at 7:30 p.m.

Newcomers: The Novi Newcomers Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Historic district study: The Novi Historic District Study Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Friday, February 28

Novi Players: The Novi Players will present "Shay" in the Novi Circle Theater in the Expo Center on Mohawk Drive.

Property taxes: Today is the last day property taxes will be payable at the Novi city treasurer's office.

Saturday, February 29

Novi Players: The Novi Players will present "Shay" in the Novi Circle Theater in the Expo Center on Mohawk Drive.

Wednesday, February 26

Exchange club: The Japanese Cultural Exchange club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at Novi High School. The group will have a discussion about secondary education. For further information, call 348-1200.

To get your event listed in the Community Calendar, send information regarding the event, activities to be included, who is sponsoring it, location, time and date, ticket information and the purpose to which any proceeds will be put to the Novi News at 104 Main Street, Northville, 48167.

New judges needed in state, court says

By TIM RICHARD
Staff Writer

As Gov. John Engler tries to downsize state government, the Michigan Supreme Court is asking for a major increase in the judiciary.

Court administrator Marilyn K. Hall told legislators the state needs a 62.5-percent increase in the 24-judge Court of Appeals — 15 new judges. Nine would be added this election, six more in 1994.

Hall also asked for three new circuit judgeships by next year. One would go to Oakland County, which added two judges last year. The others would go to northern Lower Peninsula counties.

She asks six new district judges — one each for the Plymouth-Canton-Northville area, the Farmington area, Clarkston, Ypsilanti Township and two outstate districts.

Four cities with declining caseloads would "sunset" district judges — Pontiac, Lansing, Muskegon and Flint. The posts wouldn't be abolished until a vacancy occurs by either retirement or resignation, she said.

Engler said his 1993 budget would have no increase for the judiciary.

The culprit appears to be what President Bush calls "America's love affair with the lawsuit."

The decade of the '80s, said Hall's report, "was a period of accelerated caseload growth for Michigan trial courts with reported new filings increasing by over 70 percent. Between 1984 and 1990, new filings increased by 43 percent, or over one million additional filings per year."

The biggest case explosion occurred in the Court of Appeals, which Michigan didn't have until 1964. Founded with nine judges, it has tripled in size.

Hall argues that the Michigan Court of Appeals has a far bigger caseload than the average of other states — 547 filings per judge predicted for this year versus 154 for the national median.

"Michigan would need 80 Court of Appeals judges for 1991 in order to match the national median," her report said.

Lawyers denounce a large block of appeals as "b.s." — automatic appeals, guaranteed by the state constitution, by convicts saying their sentences were too harsh or the trial

faulty.

A convict or his lawyer is entitled to write a 35-page brief to which a prosecutor must respond.

The appeals court kasses off many convicts' appeals with one-page opinions saying, "We disagree." But it still takes a panel of three judges and their staffs to review each. And no one has suggested this constitutional right be re-examined.

Hall put the annual cost per appellate judge at \$380,000 a year plus a one-time first-year cost of \$82,200. The state pays the entire cost of the Court of Appeals.

"The average annual operating cost per new (trial) judge was \$170,000," the court administrator said, although the amount varies. Sometimes counties or district judge units must add facilities.

To add a judge next Jan. 1, the Legislature must act "immediately," Hall told lawmakers. "The deadline for filing for the primary is May 12."

Outside of Detroit and Wayne County courts, local units pay part of the cost of each judge and must agree to create a judgeship. "Local resolutions of approval must be filed with the state court administrator by April 14," said a footnote.

"In the past, there have been several instances in which the local funding body did not approve the filling of a legislatively established judgeship by the statutory deadline."

The Supreme Court's recommendation is backed by more than numbers of case filings.

Hall said case trend lines, numbers of time-consuming criminal jury trials, travel time between court-houses and alternative solutions also were considered.

So were population gains/losses and the perceived needs of local officials.

Here is how the court administrator assessed judicial resources in the HomeTown Newspapers area:

■ Oakland County needs 53.02 judges, has 52.

■ Oakland Circuit Court needs 16.71 judges, has 16 on bench, should add one. "If current trends continue, there is a strong possibility that an additional judgeship will be needed in 1995."

■ Oakland Probate Court has four judges, needs 3.68.

■ District 52-1, Walled Lake, has three, needs 3.82.



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Chowing down

Heidi Walker, left, and Shannon Setzer, right, enjoy some spaghetti during a program put on by Marie Kennedy, also known as Nutty Nelly Noodles, at Novi Woods last week. Students seemed to take right to the pastas, sampling different types as well as making their own.

Novi favored in courthouse search

Continued from Page 1

Lake, but the bulk of its caseload comes from Novi.

Right now, the county is evaluating the 13 proposals. Oakland County will lease the building for five years, to be renewable for another five years. Estimates for rental in the

area range from \$12 to \$50.

A possible location suggested here is the Westbrooke Golf Course property at Grand River Avenue and Beck Road. Details of all of the proposals won't be leaked to the public for several weeks.

The county planners are evaluating the plans and will present the most likely candidates to the board of commissioners' planning and building committee.

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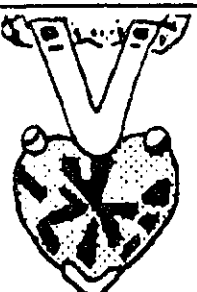
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Monthly Allergy Tip

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REGENCY CRUISES

Concealed weapon leads to arrest

Police News

Novi police arrested an unidentified man Feb. 4 for possession of a concealed weapon. The man was sitting in the back of a pickup truck parked on Garfield near Eight Mile.

Police were called to the scene for a suspicious person report and discovered the man sitting, across from another man in the back of the truck.

According to police, as they approached the man he reportedly "came tense" and refused to answer questions.

Police said he reached behind himself twice. Upon investigation, they discovered a knife in his pocket. Police charged the knife as having a 6 1/2-inch blade with a set of brass knuckles built into the handle, in the sheath.

The man was placed under arrest, during which he reportedly cursed at the police officers. As he was taken into the police station, police said he continued yelling at them, claiming that he was drunk, but they were treating him like an "armed robber."

The man refused a blood-alcohol test, but police said he was "extremely intoxicated."

SHOPLIFTING: Police arrested an alleged shoplifter Feb. 4 at JCPenney. The suspect allegedly concealed \$133 worth of merchandise in a purse and attempted to leave the store without paying.

LARCENY: Security at the Michigan National Bank on Ten Mile reported Feb. 4 that someone stole money from the bank's ATM machine.

Police said the suspect took the money between 4:02 and 4:16 p.m. Feb. 2. A security camera recorded that the suspect is a tall white male with dark hair. He was reportedly wearing a dark baseball cap and light-colored jacket. He drove a two-tone van.

DISORDERLY PERSON: Police re-

ported Feb. 5 that someone punched two tires on his 1986 Ford Mustang.

Police said the tires, both on the driver's side of the vehicle, were punctured with an unknown pointed object.

STOLEN SNOWBLOWER: A resident on Foxton reported Feb. 4 that someone stole his Toro snowblower from his garage.

The man was unsure when the snowblower had been stolen, but had used it about two weeks ago.

MISSING PURSE: A Novi woman reported Jan. 30 that she left her purse in a shopping cart at the parking lot of the Kroger store in West Oaks. When she returned for it around noon, it was gone.

EMBEZZLEMENT: An employee at Artworks in Twelve Oaks was charged with embezzlement charges in connection with nearly \$3,000 in stolen money.

According to police, the man forged about 14 cash return slips between July 1991 and kept the cash for himself. The owner of the store reportedly became suspicious when he noticed a large number of these slips with that employee's

name on them and telephoned the customers listed on them.

When the owner made the calls, he discovered that the people did not exist.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY: A woman who was shopping at Twelve Oaks reported Feb. 3 that someone assaulted her. She was pushed down on her left hip by one of four men who started fighting in the mall.

The woman was taken to Huron Valley Hospital, where police said her hip was discovered to be broken.

The fight allegedly occurred because one suspect bumped into another, then their friends jumped in to defend them.

MDOP: A Farmington Hills man reported Feb. 3 that someone smashed the passenger side front window of his 1985 Cadillac Fleetwood and stole numerous items.

Reported missing were a CB radio, a radio detector, two women's suits, four men's suits, a suitcase, and a woman's wallet.

The incident is believed to have occurred between 8:45 and 9:50 p.m.

MDOP: An employee at Record Town in Twelve Oaks Mall reported Jan. 30 that someone scratched the paint around the hatchback lock on his 1985 Chevrolet Cavalier.

A witness allegedly saw two men tampering with the lock before the car was driven away, but police were unable to locate suspects.

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

Novi Briefs

Correction: A Jan. 30 article in The Novi News refers to future proposed senior housing in The Maples of Novi as being in the \$375 to \$400 per month range. This price for the adult independent living facilities is incorrect. Classic Construction vice-president Larry DePriest said.

Correction: A Feb. 6 article in The Novi News incorrectly stated that East Lake Drive Dave Clark shot a video of traffic on the road. In addressing the city council on Feb. 3, Clark made reference to the films, but did not shoot them himself. Other East Lake residents did.

Creativity workshop: A parenting workshop called "Stepping Stones to Creativity" will be held Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Novi Woods Elementary.

Author Carolyn Lesser will demonstrate the creative process that can enable parents to become more involved with their children's learning. Lesser emphasizes overcoming the blocks to creativity and enjoyment of the creative process for its own sake.

Lesser's books include the children's book "The Goodnight Circle" and a poetry book, "Flamingo Knees." Stepping Stones to Creativity is sponsored by the gifted and talented program in the Novi Community School District.

All parents and community members are welcome to attend. Novi Woods is located at 25195 Taft Road. Call 344-8330, extension 19, for further information on the workshop.

Nominations accepted: The Novi Jaycees are putting out the call for nominations for the 20th annual Distinguished Service Award (DSA), the most prestigious award in the City of Novi. The DSA is presented annually by the Jaycees to honor an individual whose dedication to serving humanity during the previous calendar year will serve as a lasting reminder and inspiration to others in the community.

Individuals who live or work in the city may be nominated by groups or individuals. Nominations must be for individuals, not groups. Nominating forms are available at the Novi Public Library, at the Novi Parks and Recreation and Recreation Department in the Novi Civic Center and by calling 348-3121.

Deadline for nominations is Feb. 25.

Sports Briefs

Cagers win: Novi bumped its Kensington Valley Conference record to 7-0 Tuesday night as they easily defeated Lakeland 55-41.

The win kept the Wildcats a game ahead of arch rival Howell in league standings.

Novi was led by seniors Jason Walker and Mike Kramer. Walker poured in 18 points while Kramer added 16.

The Cats slowly expanded their lead over the Eagles throughout the game. After the first quarter, Novi led by one. By halftime that margin was up to eight. The Wildcats put the game away after three by taking a 14-point advantage.

Everyone played in the victory. Novi now stands 9-4, heading into Friday night action.

Cash taken in gunpoint robbery

By CRISTINA FERRIER
Staff Writer

A 61-year-old Southfield man told police he was robbed at gunpoint outside Twelve Oaks Mall Jan. 26.

The man was reportedly leaving work at the mall around 9 p.m. that Saturday night when a robber came up behind him, pressed what the man believed to be a gun into his

back, and demanded his wallet.

Police said the unknown suspect then made off with \$45 cash the man had in a money clip.

Very little descriptive information is available of the suspect. The man told police that the suspect's voice sounded like that of a young, white male. The suspect was reportedly wearing a blue and black ski jacket, dark gloves and a dark ski mask, and

left in a small white car.

The Southfield man first contacted Novi police the night of the incident, but said he did not want to discuss the alleged robbery in detail because he had a heart condition and was upset by it.

The man later told police that the suspect came up behind him as he was leaving the mall and pressed a hard object into his back. He said he

believed the object was a gun, but that he did not actually see a gun. He said he gave the suspect his money clip. The suspect reportedly took the money and threw the clip into the snow, then left in a small white car.

Novi police also spoke to a witness who was with the Southfield man, who said he saw the same events the man described to police.

Students honored in Optimist's liberty essay contest

The Novi Optimist Club each year recognizes students in a writing contest. This year, six Novi High School students competed in the contest by writing about the challenges of a free society.

The entrants were recognized at a Jan. 23 breakfast meeting where top writers had a chance to read their essays to Optimist Club members. Below are the essays written by first place winner Derek Sugamosta, second place winner Matt Plerle and third place winner Franz Sales.

By Derek Sugamosta

Freedom is a direct result of work. By maintaining this work at a steady level of output and intensity, we thus preserve our freedoms. This process has been proven time and time again to be virtually foolproof. But the challenges lie in believing in, and expanding of our freedoms and not in the idle acceptance that the present situation, regardless of how pleasing to our desires, is the standard by which we should map out our futures.

I strongly believe that there is no level at which we should be eternally satisfied. There exists no plateau vast or noble enough to contain the will of the human being for any longer than the time it takes to catch our breath and move on.

Our responsibilities are the rungs on the ladder to liberty, each of which must be striven for and overcome in order to make this ladder a series of opportunities rather than a series of hindrances. This metaphorical statement is plain to the eyes of any person who has seized any amount of

freedom on our society. But as we reach the last rung, what then befalls our tired arms? A period of rest, smiling on that highest rung, intoxicated and immobilized with pride? Or do we perhaps glance above our weary heads and look for a new place to climb toward?

My opinion is this: If strength permits me the endurance of the climb, and if sanity allows me to perceive this ladder with clarity, then I shall by no means take these graces for granted by neglecting them as soon as the top of the ladder begins to show its glorious face. I shall honor these qualities and I shall honor myself by standing tall on the rung, stretching my grip onward, seizing the clouds with victorious fists, letting slip my footing as I dangle below the realm of the future, and beginning to pull upward.

We as a society have before us the challenge of expanding our freedoms. We must see that the ladder itself is a mere rung, and that the climb continues indefinitely. But if far ahead there lies a spot of rest and reward, then I will not let idleness thwart my partaking of it. Reason leads me to perceive this process as a treadmill, and that the more ambitiously I stride forward, the more tired I will become. But my intuition, that which lies in all of us, speaks of other plans. It whispers of beautiful freedoms above the clouds.

He who does not dare approach is not a man.

By Matt Plerle

The United States of America, much like a recent high school gra-

duate, is a relatively recent newcomer to freedom. The options which face this country are in several ways paralleled by the graduate and his newly found sense of sovereignty. When looking at the challenge of a free society we may examine things to include: education, relations, and directions.

Knowledge is power, so it is said. The more knowledge you have and the more imaginatively you use it, the more powerful you may become. This statement is true not only in the instance of the high school student, but in the case of our nation as well. If we the people of this country would strive not only to educate ourselves but our children and apply this knowledge to a higher level, the possibilities of remaining "free" would accelerate. Along with this goes the constant reminder of what happens when a society is restricted in their actions, and forced to conduct itself in a conforming manner. This as well tends to be an intricate part of our educating process. As the pupil must reach out for education, as well as receive it, so must our nation in order to sustain the great feeling and true love for the condition of freedom which we so honestly deserve.

Another important aspect to consider when dealing with the issue of freedom is the challenge of a free society in relations both within the nation and internationally. That is, our nation in order to survive must be able to establish positive relations with the groups of people who reside in the

U.S., and the same time effectively interact and communicate with other nations and world organizations in the hopes of spreading the word of truly "free societies." This would not only enhance the "free" lifestyle for ourselves, but also create a curiosity in the hearts and minds of people all over the world who have been thus far limited by the immediate world in which they live. In the same way that a young person must extend himself and experience as many positive situations as possible, so must our "free society." Interaction at these levels has shown to be a wonderful means of bettering all parties involved.

A final issue to consider when dealing with an autonomous way of life is the direction in which it should head. The only thing that should be expected is uncertainty in the way of the future. Although this may sound like a rather negative thought, it should conversely be a very exciting idea. An idea which says "anything is possible." What could better parallel this than the high school graduate and his hopes and aspirations?

When examining the challenge of a free society, education, relations and directions are all important aspects to look at. These things all seem to tie together when drawing an analogy with a high school graduate. From the challenge of a free society to the beautiful "free society" really is.

By Franz Sales

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal,

that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." From section of the preamble to the Declaration of Independence.

Ever since our founding fathers established the grounds from which our free society rests—life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness—we have been building our society upon a foundation that has lasted and will last through the end of time. Throughout history, people have encountered and interacted with domestic arguments, power struggles, perils and glories that have taken place in the United States and around the world. There were several resolutions that have been executed by men and women, these issues existing only because there was a need for change. Because of these changes we the people have made in the past, our lives have been based on the special God-given right to make decisions for ourselves.

Being able to make our own decisions, for whatever the reason, is what freedom really is. Maybe I am wrong, but freedom is not a privilege, it is our responsibility in life. Decisions are what the concrete of our society's foundation is comprised of. Voting for who we want as president in a primary election is freedom, or

maybe even marrying someone you love is freedom. Life is full of surprises and mysteries, but every man, woman and child in the world will always have their freedom. As you can see, freedom is what we can say or do to change or alter the course of our lives, and to continue to build upon the liberty foundation of our society.

Life is indeed full of surprises, no one person can actually know what is going to happen next in his or her life. What does the future hold, misfortune or pleasure? The challenge that exists in every family in our society, is the mere fact of vicissitudes. Everybody is afraid to change, a person gets used to one common pattern in life, then all of a sudden their routine is no longer the same. But the most challenging change of all, is the life of a son or daughter once he or she is old enough to "leave the bird's nest." Time can only tell parents what their child has amounted to, a brilliant nuclear physicist or a lowly bum wrapped in rags begging for money with a dilapidated tin cup. Basically, the future of a person is solely dependent upon the decision he or she makes presently, and if he or she is willing to take on the responsibilities offered. Life isn't always given to a person on a silver platter, and a society doesn't stay the same forever, it changes as life progresses.

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Opinions

As We See It

But why did council close the meeting?

Members Nancy Cassis and Carol Mason say they believe the Novi City Council's pair of closed-door meetings to discuss the Northstar Management company's proposed courthouse land deal violated the state Open Meetings Act.



Phil Jerome

City attorney David Fried and council member Tim Pope are these days coming around to pretty much the same position.

But Novi Mayor Matt Quinn and City Manager Ed Kriewall say they still believe the meetings qualified for an "executive session" under the law. The law does allow for closed meetings when the city is looking to acquire property. And although Northstar was looking to buy or lease property from the city, the possibility existed that the city might have decided to go out and buy land to lease to Northstar. Because of that possibility, Kriewall and Quinn argue, the meeting fell under the exemption.

What is missing from the argument is a clear indication of exactly why the city should have gone into closed session to discuss the deal. Being allowed to go into executive session doesn't necessarily mean council should go into executive session.

It is fairly easy to understand why the developer, Northstar Management and Consulting of Charlotte, wanted to take the matter up behind closed doors. Northstar was proposing to lease from the city a six-acre parcel of city-owned land on Eleven Mile Road at a price of \$1 per year to construct a \$3 million building to house the 52-1 District Court for the county. At the end of that time period, Northstar would have turned the property back over to the city.

Had the firm discussed its plans publicly, it might have brought out competitors who might have offered similar schemes — perhaps at a better price.

But why would the city agree to go along with it?

Following the meetings, Mason pointed out a 1978 state attorney general's decision which would appear to cast doubt on the legality of the closed sessions. Back then, Attorney General Frank Kelley cut a difference between meetings to discuss government sales of land and those in which land acquisition was discussed. Buying land would exempt the municipality from the OMA, he said. Selling would not.

"The principal reason that while bodies are permitted to discuss the purchase of property at a closed session is to avoid giving prospective sellers of real property an unfair advantage in negotiating for the sale of their property. If sellers are permitted to attend sessions during which the acquisition of their property is being discussed, they will be

able to determine the best strategy for obtaining the highest possible price," the attorney general determined.

"On the other hand, no such policy consideration need be the concern of the public body when it is offering publicly-owned property for sale. In such cases, it is advantageous to the public interest to disclose all information concerning the proposed sale so that other prospective purchasers may have an opportunity to present additional offers."

When all is said and done, we doubt there really were any strong reasons for the city to go into closed session... except that the developer asked for it. And absent a strong impetus for making the process public, the city simply went along.

It seems to us, this issue strikes right to the heart of what has often been referred to as a "communications problem" within the city and its administration. The city frequently seems to lack that impetus. And it often appears that there is not so much a desire on the part of the city to withhold information, but a lack of an eagerness to explain the city's proposals and actions to the public.

Perhaps the outcome of the Northstar proposal will serve an example of why the city should be more open, more forthcoming in the future.

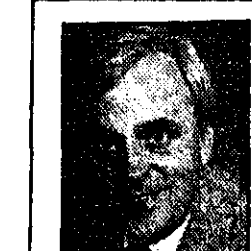
City council ultimately turned the plan down in a 4-3 vote. But the plan really was not a bad one. Indeed, it might have been a good deal for city taxpayers.

One has to wonder whether objections to the process, to the closed meetings themselves, contributed to that negative vote. One has to wonder whether a more open process might have created more public interest, and thereby generated more council interest. And one has to wonder whether open meetings might have just brought out a competitor willing to offer a more attractive package.

In the future, we would hope the council would work harder to keep the process more open, to keep meetings public until there is a clear need to go behind closed doors. We'd hope the council would seek to keep the public informed on the issues it is considering.

Ultimately, it is the public — taxpayers and voters — whose business the council is doing.

'How old do I look anyway?'



Phil Jerome

The new semester of my aerobic weightlifting class at Novi High School started last week. You'd never guess it to look at me because I would never win an Arnold Schwarzenegger look-alike contest, but I've been enrolled in the class more than five years now. And I keep signing up because I like it. Not to mention the fact it's just about the only exercise I get.

At any rate, the new semester got off to a poor start as I got zapped and zapped big by one of the new students.

The class isn't the most popular in the world. The weight room at Novi High School just doesn't compare with Vic Tanny's in terms of glamor. And, if done properly, the class can be pretty tough. It comes with none of those "lose weight and tone up without sweating" guarantees. On the contrary, you've got to work hard and sweat a lot to get results.

The class has a nucleus of about five people — Richard, Nancy and Al plus Diane and myself along with Georgeann when her back isn't hurting. Bill and Nancy Muraske also sign up every semester, although they usually pool out about half way through.

Outside of that, there are usually several newcomers each semester. And I try to go out of my way to make them feel welcome by learning their names the first day and introducing them to the regulars.

That's what I was doing last Thursday when I got zapped.

Several of us stopped off at the drinking fountain after we had finished our warm-ups and were headed for the

weight room. In front of me was Elena, one of the newcomers. Behind me was Bill Muraske.

Now I'll be the first to admit Muraske is several years younger than I. He's probably somewhere around 30 because he and Nancy welcomed their first child last year. Other than that, he's nothing special and, if the truth be known, I can typically lift significantly more weight than he can on every exercise except the curls — where he has a slight advantage.

So there we were at the drinking fountain — Elena, Bill and myself, when I was overcome by the urge to be friendly and sociable.

"Hi, Elena," I said as she finished her drink. "My name is Phil and the fellow standing behind me is Bill."

"Nice, right? Friendly. Outgoing. A pleasant gesture to help a newcomer feel comfortable."

And that's when Elena zapped me. "Is he your son?"

"Oh," she said in total innocence. "Is he your son?" The words shot through me like arrows through Custer and stuck in my heart.

My son? Bill Muraske? Hey, I'll admit to being a few years older than he. But my son? C'mon, alright. Do I really look old enough for any body to think Bill Muraske is young enough to be my son? I didn't say those things, of course. I just thought them. After all, my goal had been to make Elena feel welcome... not ill-at-ease.

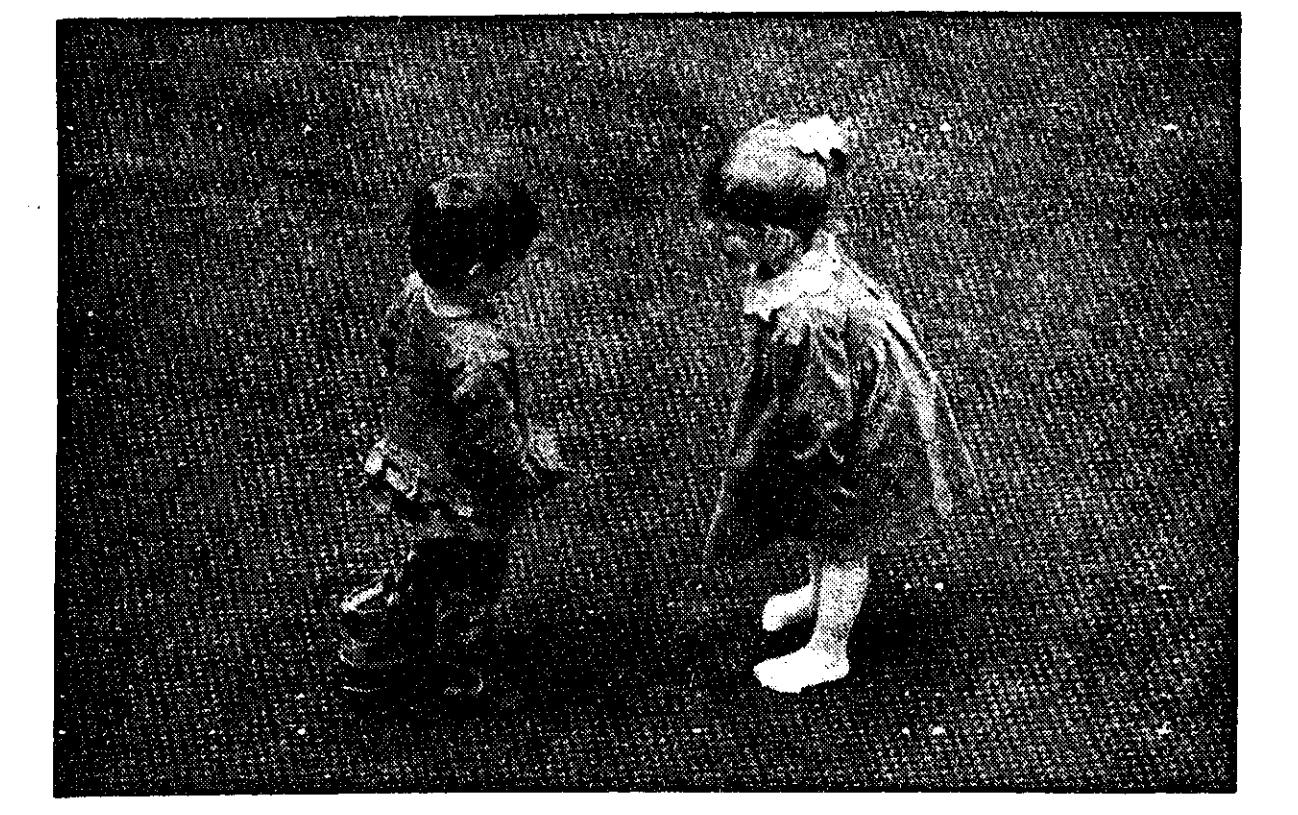
I suspect the look on my face betrayed my discomfort, but Muraske, sleezebag that he is, was enjoying himself immensely.

"Actually," he replied after he got up off the floor where he had fallen in gales of laughter when Elena had asked if he were my son, "this is my grandfather."

And that's when Elena made matters even worse. "Ohhh," she said understandingly as she headed off for the weight room.

In passing

By Hal Gould



A pair of youngsters playing at the Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi

State should suit gag orders



Tim Richard

Lynn Orr, reporter and editor nearby from 1976 to 1981, was a tenacious firebrand who constantly inspired her older and taller colleagues.

She covered a case where Ms. Teacher, passed over for promotion, sued a Redford school district for gender bias. Embarrassed, the board settled out of court for a sum — on condition that Ms. Teacher not reveal the amount.

Orr thought — correctly — that the amount should be public because the school district (a) squandered human talent and (b) paid for it with tax dollars.

But the sly devils on the school board never wrote a check directly to Ms. Teacher. They lumped her settlement in the fees they paid their lawyer, and the lawyer paid off Ms. Teacher.

Two Jackson County prisoners, beaten in their cells by other prisoners, charged jailors were negligent. One asked damages of \$50,000 to \$100,000; the other, six figures. The county paid up but demanded an agreement that neither side reveal the amount, covering up official ineptitude.

The Jackson Citizen-Patriot blistered the county and opined the deal may have been illegal because no law allows such confidential agreements.

Nuts, said Stoddard. Good for him. Stock in Michigan National is widely held.

Stoddard's publicist noted that a stockholder has filed suit in U.S. District Court against Michigan National for its "failure to notify shareholders about extensive litigation and the potential large liability (\$57 million) to the corporation and its directors."

Corporate secrecy over suits in public courts has been growing since 1986, according to Texas attorney Bob Gibbins, president of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America.

Gibbins' article, "Secrecy versus Safety," appeared in December's American Bar Association Journal. He cites federal court gag orders that did specific damage to the public interest.

Stern v. Dow Corning — a breast implant case where Stern won a jury verdict, gag order "prohibited plaintiff's attorneys and expert witnesses from telling government regulators or anyone else what the discovery documents showed about safety tests." Even a medical school professor was gagged.

Grundberg v. Upjohn Co. — a Halcon case. Plaintiff had killed her mother while under the influence of the sleeping medication. The gag order "leaves an unknown number of patients and doctors wondering what caused side effects."

Davis v. McNeilab Inc. — "A scientist who herself suffered a potentially fatal allergic reaction to a painkiller — later withdrawn from the market — discovers that other victims were similarly affected several years earlier but were sworn to secrecy." The gag orders "even prohibited discussion of adverse reactions in scientific journals."

Gibbins said Texas, Florida, North Carolina and Oregon have moved, either by court rule or legislation, to limit gag orders.

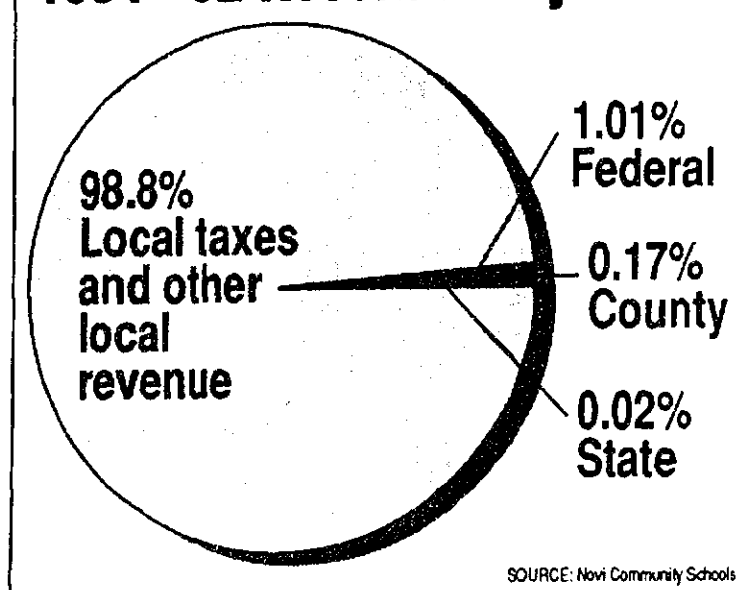
Michigan should be a leader. And thanks, Lynn Orr, for the idea.

Tim Richard reports on the local implications of state and regional events.

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Novi Community Schools 1991-92 Revenue Projections



School district may cut loose from state

Continued from Page 1

be subjected to an onslaught of new requirements, Simonson said.

Simonson said he already warned state leaders that they would have no control over school districts that fall out of the state's funding formula. But if legislators agree with Engler's plan, and the proposal becomes law, then the Novi school district will have new doors opened to it.

For example, the school district completed days of paperwork to comply with Public Act 25 during the 1991-92 school year. But because of the district's wealth, Novi schools was ineligible to receive \$25 per student in state funding provided to implement the law.

Simonson warned that Engler's

plan must still be approved by the state Legislature.

"Until they're done, . . . go along with them and comply with the law," Simonson said.

Novi schools would not be able to operate above the law, limiting enrollment or requiring prayer in school. Federal education requirements would still impact the district. The federal government funds over 1 percent of school district operations, according to district figures.

Engler's plan cuts funding to the wealthy districts, and brings a 2 to 2.5 percent increase in funding to the remaining districts, Simonson said. Oakland County school districts will lose about \$87 million if Engler's proposal becomes law, Simonson said.

Pursell announces congress candidacy

Congressional districts haven't even yet been decided, but already one candidate has announced he'll likely run for election in the district which covers Novi.

Congressman Carl D. Pursell has said he will seek re-election in the second congressional district, which would include Novi under both the Republican and Democratic apportionment plans now under consideration by the courts.

"Although we are awaiting final court action on redistricting, it appears highly likely the second district will include my hometown Plymouth area and a large part of Oakland County," Pursell said.

"I lived in Oakland County and started my family here. I also represented western Oakland County as a state senator, and the people of this area helped elect me in my first race for Congress.

No matter which party wins the fight over redrawing districts for U.S. Congress, Novi area residents are likely to wind up in the second district. Novi presently is represented by William Broomfield, R-Lake Orion.

Both the Republican and Democratic parties recently submitted redistricting plans to a three-judge panel. The judges hope to pick one plan, or create a new one of their own, by the end of March.

The second District would be a very different district than at present — instead of stretching west from Northville and Plymouth, it would go north through all of western Oakland County into Genesee County.

Under that Republican plan, Broomfield's district would shift farther to the north and east, taking in much of eastern Oakland County and most of Lapeer County.

Under the Democrats' plan, Pursell and Broomfield would be thrown into the same district, setting up a possible face-off between the two of them to represent the redrawn 2nd District.

The Democrats' version of the second include Novi, Northville, much of southwest Oakland County. The district would stretch east to include portions of Troy and Rochester Hills. It would also include northwestern Wayne County and Salem Township in Washtenaw County.

Redistricting takes place every decade, after the U.S. Census.

Owner opposes dog breed ban

Continued from Page 1

They're territorial. They're there to be protective. Most dogs don't just go on the nut and snap."

Holtzman underscores that she is not "waving the flag" for one breed, but working for all. Today, dogs such as the German shepherd, doberman pinscher, akita and chow have begun to gain a reputation as "vicious." Rottweilers have also picked up the stigma, particularly following two recent cases where the dogs attacked people in the Detroit area.

"The media has picked up on this and they've created hysteria. Bad owners can make any dog vicious," she said.

"There are some dogs that are bad, genetically not sound. But it's the owner who will make the dog a nice dog. . . Owners and non-owners can be dog-ignorant and the general public is uneducated on how to meet any dog."

"Those who own the pit bull terriers say they are much-maligned, that the animals are loving, majestic and loyal. They're also intelligent. Perhaps the most famous pit bull terrier of all time was the black-eyed "actor" who portrayed "Pete," the canine

companion of Spanky, Alfalfa and company in the "Our Gang" comedies.

Kip loves children and plays with Holtzman's neighbors kids and grandkids. Many mistake the 60-pound dog for a boxer. Enthusiasts point out that the dogs are used for pet therapy in senior citizen homes and with children.

Holtzman and Novi Advocates plan to keep a watchful eye on city government. Also looking over the city's shoulder are Milan resident John Doran, president of the Michigan American Pit Bull Terrier Club and the club's secretary, Howell resident Gayle Greenwood.

Maneuvers to ban this particular breed have not been markedly successful. Organizations such as the New York State-based American Dog Owners Association (ADOA) and the National American Pit Bull Terrier Association have raised legal defense funds to protect ownership of the animals.

An ordinance in Detroit was repealed. Another passed by Waterford Township is tied up in litigation brought by the ADOA and the Pontiac Kennel Club.

Moves to keep the dogs out of Van

Buren Township and Howell were effectively quashed.

In 1989, the Massachusetts state supreme court knocked down a municipal ordinance there on the grounds that there was no scientific way to prove a breed and therefore no standards for enforcement. Doran said.

Bessemer, a small town in the Upper Peninsula, slapped a ban on the dogs when a boy was fatally attacked there by a pit bull terrier.

Michigan Public Act No. 426 of 1988, authorizes the destruction of dangerous animals which attack people. The animal may be killed only after a serious injury or the death of a human or another dog. In the case of a death, the pet's owner may face involuntary manslaughter charges, while serious injuries may lead to a felony rap.

The law also calls for misdemeanor charges for less severe animal bites and the tattooing, confinement and/or sterilization of animals found dangerous but non-lethal by a judge.

Doran lobbied the state to ensure that this legislation was not directed toward pit bull terriers.

Enough protection is already provided by the existing regulations

Holtzman says.

"I'm urging council not to impose additional ordinances for law-abiding citizens," she said.

"You just don't ban an entire breed. It's been found unconstitutional throughout the country. It violates our due process."

As she sees it, the issue boils down to well-mannered owners as much as well-behaved dogs.

Greenwood agrees.

"All dogs can bite. I do a lot of temperament training. You find the same range of temperament in all dogs, whether they're Golden Retrievers or pit bull terriers," Greenwood said.

"I don't have any problems with my neighbors at all. But my theory of good dog behavior is that you don't let out more than one dog at a time in your backyard unless you're watching."

Doran and Holtzman concede that the much-publicized Rottweiler attacks are frightening. The recession has led to dogs abandoned on the street, Holtzman said.

Doran compares dog attacks to car-jackings.

"I think it reflects the way society is deteriorating. You're going to see it in any aspect of life," he said.

Writers ask for heavy driver penalty

Continued from Page 1

Angela Hanania said the family just wants to put the incident behind them.

She added that the entire judicial process has kept open the emotional wounds resulting from her husband's and Abdelnour's deaths.

They've already stuck the knife in; now they're twisting it. That's how it feels," she said. "I want the feeling to stop."

Abdelnour's brother Basim attributed the latest delay to the written show of support for a severe

sentence.

"I don't think (O'Brien) had any idea how people were outraged by the verdict that the jury brought in," he said. "I feel in my heart that the decision he would have made (Feb. 5) would have infuriated everybody."

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SOUTHFIELD, CLINTON TWP., ROCHESTER, WARREN, DEARBORN-10am to 6pm M-T-S 10am to 9pm W-Th-F 12 to 5pm Sun (Dearborn is Closed on Sunday)

- ♦ ROCHESTER (Westside Mall) S. Rochester Rd. at Ave. A
- ♦ DEARBORN Michigan Ave. at Monroe
- ♦ WARREN 14 Mile Rd. at Huron

Eleanor & Ray Heald/Wine

Get away to a feast of food and wine

The awning of The Rowe — Michigan's Country Inn reads "La Maison des Champignons, Le Gout du Nord." (The house of mushrooms, a taste of the north). Inside, and out of the chill of a winter storm, The Rowe Inn's owner Wes Westhoven and his *haute cuisine* crew are preparing the day's feasts that will accompany one of Michigan's best restaurant wine lists.

We are attracted to The Rowe for the wine as well as the food. The impressive list includes 800 labels and 14,000 bottles. The quality of Westhoven's wine list is not only our opinion. The Wine Spectator has awarded The Rowe Inn its "Best of" Award of Excellence.

"Americans have been spoiled by year-round availability of tomatoes and other fruits and vegetables," Westhoven maintains. "In Michigan, we appreciate the flavor of each fruit and vegetable in their own season. When we taste local apples and morel mushrooms, we are happy that we live here."

"Some may say The Rowe is influenced by French or Italian cuisine, but we really prepare what's grown locally. We are aware of trends and try to select the best, but we don't have to copy anyone else."

The philosophy at The Rowe Inn is to prepare good food, serve the best wines and be delighted by the response of customers.

"Some people take this whole food thing too seriously," Westhoven said. "This ain't art; it's eatin'." Even Andre Soltner, chef at New York's Lutece, isn't an artist, he's a craftsman. Most techniques of food preparation have been known and used for centuries.

As practiced purveyors of food and spirits, The Rowe attracts local customers as well as those from the Detroit Metro area and northern Ohio.

Westhoven grew up in a restaurant family in Toledo, Ohio. His parents operated a country club dining room. In 1972, he and his wife Arlene bought The Rowe, and Arlene became the first chef. Pete Peterson, owner/chef at Japawingo (Ellsworth) was chef from 1980-84 and Jim Millman, now of Hattie's Grill in Sutton's Bay, served in the kitchen at The Rowe from 1985-1988. Since then, Kathleen Ruis has been resident chef.

"I could tell Kathy was talented the first day she walked in the kitchen," said Westhoven. "I really prefer female chefs, they have less ego to overcome."

Long before they became popular in the Detroit Metro area, The Rowe sponsored wine-maker dinners in Ellsworth, featuring the Italian wines of Angelo Gaja, the Rhone Wines of Guigal and the Bordeaux of Chateau Mouton-Rothschild and Chateau Cheval Blanc.

Although open year-round, the "1992 Season" for The Rowe's wine extravaganza begins Friday, April 24. The Rowe will present a menu to accompany the wines of Chateau Lynch-Bages, a fifth-growth Bordeaux with first-growth quality. Currently available wines (1989, 1988 and 1985) plus wines from great older vintages (1961 and 1970) will highlight a seven-course meal.

It may seem early, but if you are interested in a taste of the north with some excellent

Continued on 3

WINE SELECTION OF THE WEEK

1989 Sterling Vineyards Winery Lake Pinot Noir (\$16) is highlighted by the aromas of cherries, leather, mushrooms and pork cracklings. Delicious cherry flavors are balanced by a mid-weight, lengthy finish. One of California's best pinots from the 1989 vintage.



Aphrodite and Adonis from Bullfinch's Mythology

Aphrodite's delights

Sample aphrodisiacs for Valentine's Day

By RICK BYRNE
Copy Editor

Food and romance just seem to go together like red hearts and Valentine's Day.

And practically since the time that man discovered that fact, his myths and fantasies have contended that it's not just a coincidence. Legends of secret elixirs with the Cupid-like power to sway indifference into passion have fueled beliefs that even common everyday foods are aphrodisiacs.

The term "aphrodisiac" is derived from the name of the Greek goddess of love and

beauty, Aphrodite. Though her legend is believed to be Oriental in origin, the Greeks glorified her in their mythology. She was said to have been born from the foam of the sea, and indeed her name derives from the word *aphros*, meaning foam.

Classical literature and philosophy from Shakespeare to Tennyson is replete with references to aphrodisiacs. Many of history's great lovers have testified to the powers of their own favorite munchies as well.

While we doubt the existence of any secret drugs that arouse interest and induce romantic prowess (let's be honest; can you

imagine anyone keeping such a thing a secret?), there is evidence, both scientific and circumstantial, that certain foods can enhance the romantic experience.

There are, after all, certain behaviors and body responses common to all people who are in love. The heart races, the pupils dilate, and we even break into a barely noticeable excited sweat. That tingly feeling you get when you're close to your Sweet Baboo isn't just your imagination. It's your neurotransmitters doing the slam dance of romance across your synapses.

Your energy level rises, and your senses become more sensitive to stimulus. Taste

being one of the five senses, it's easy to see where the food association originates.

One of the most pungent vegetables around, asparagus, may have some aphrodisiac effect. Asparagus contains a diuretic that increases the amount of urine excreted, and excites the urinary passages. It is rich in potassium, phosphorus and calcium, minerals which are either neurotransmitters or play a role in maintaining a high energy level.

However, asparagus also contains aspartic acid. This substance counteracts

Continued on 2

Chef Mary Brady

Expert chefs fine tune for peak performance

The question of the week has been, "How did your practice go?"

It is so exciting to have so many of you interested in the Culinary Olympics. It is time to expound on the competition.

The contest is held every four years in Frankfurt, Germany. Chefs from all over the world practice, practice, then practice more with hopes of winning a coveted gold medal. Or, better still, the gold with distinction. A perfect score. What a thrill that would be.

Literally thousands of cooks descend upon the city for 10 days in October. That gives us just nine more months to perfect our food. Scary. In that nine months we will do our food a hundred times and be able to reproduce it in our sleep. Without flaw.

The Internationale Kochkunst Ausstellung is the world's oldest and largest culinary competition. Started as a local cooking

contest in 1896, it has grown to a monster of an event. In 1988 Frankfurt was host to over 1,000 competing chefs. Included were individuals, regional teams and 30 official national teams.

In 1956 the first team to represent the United States was entered. Our food was not taken seriously, and it wasn't for the next 20 years.

Then, in 1976, the U.S. team brought home 28 gold medals, to celebrate its bicentennial year. The food had changed drastically. We were suddenly world class leaders with our American cuisine.

Since that year, the team has done better and better. This year the intensity and degree of precision will be at heights never experienced.

There are four major categories: show platters, hot meals displayed cold, pastry and hot food competition. The first three categories consist of food prepared off-site

of the convention hall and displayed cold.

There are deadlines set for "having your food on the table." Being late will cost a gold medal. It can be compared to falling while doing the triple loop. Points off after months of rehearsal. Time is the number one enemy.

Judging is done without tasting the food. Proper presentation, utilization, correct cooking methods and new, innovative ideas are the criteria.

In the hot food cooking, a team consisting of five chefs prepare food for 150 consisting of soup, entree and dessert. The food is tasted by a judging panel that watches every move that the chefs make during each stage of preparation. Cleanliness is next to godliness as are professionalism and creativity. To win the hot food is a true measure of a chef's ability.

Michigan sent its first team in 1988.

That team brought home more golds than any other state except Florida, that sent their entire team from Disney World. Although Michigan chefs have been winning medals since 1968, this is only the second team to be sent to the Olympics representing Michigan.

So, back to the practice. As there were two slots to be filled, this was also a tryout.

Everyone had to do their best. The food displayed was awe-inspiring.

Better than many judged shows. The two empty slots were filled by chefs Kevin Gawronski and Joe Decker, both of Schoolcraft College. Schoolcraft has been designated as our team headquarters.

We will eat, sleep and work there for many hours before October.

Yesterday we all met and talked about the commitment involved. War stories were told by the seasoned master chefs.

Blisters on toes that caused such bleeding that blood squished from shoes; working in ankle deep water for days in old, dangerous kitchens; divorces and lost jobs.

But the bottom line was this: commitment.

Chef Milos gave an analogy to commitment using bacon and eggs. The chicken makes a contribution to the meal while the pig makes a definite commitment.

The significance of committing to a project such as this is profound. I know that I speak for all my team members, Kelli Lewton, Mario Entemad, Ray Hollingsworth, Kevin and Joe when I say that we are proud to represent our state and this area of Michigan. We are so fortunate to have the team behind the team.

Electrifying, exhilarating, inspiring. Only nine more months.

118 Building Materials

TWO 8FT. doorways, good cond., \$100 a piece, both \$175. (313)437-1152.

119 Lawn, Garden Snow Equipment

OTHER SERVICES AND PRODUCTS CAN BE FOUND IN OUR BUSINESS DIRECTORY CLASSIFICATIONS.

KUBOTA tractor, 3pt. hitch, 4ft. hydraulic front blade and mower deck \$4,700. (313)685-7895.

121 Farm Equipment

FORD 8N tractor, P.T.O., 3pt. hitch, runs great, good rubber, \$2500. (313)437-1839 ask for Don.

122 Business/Office Equipment

2 DESKS, Credenza, and Photo copier with stand, NU Arc LT-42 light table. (517)546-9798 Mon-Fri 9-5.

BLUE print machine, Model 127 Blue Ray, includes ammonia filter & stand w/paper drawer, \$500. Metal desk, 36x71x35 w/ormica top, 6 drawers, \$50. 2 office chairs, \$5 each. (517)546-0535.

COPY machines: Panasonic FP450, \$300; Sanyo 1102Z, \$200. (313)227-7508.

151 Household Pets

AKITA puppies, great temperament, flashy, AKC-OFA. (517)548-3949.

BEAT the high cost of dog grooming 23 yrs. experience \$13 includes everything. No large dogs. (313)231-1572.

CAIRN Terriers, Wheatons, AKC, shots, \$300-\$350. (313)629-4473.

CHINESE Chow pups, cute, cuddly little bears, \$75. (313)878-9113.

COCKATIELS, baby, Pied & white, 5 wks old, 1 Lulino, Gmo. old. (517)223-7678.

CORGI-PENBROKE Welsh puppies, AKC, 8 weeks, Champion lines. (313)348-4137.

GERMAN Shepherd puppies, AKC registered, Good family dog, \$250. (313)722-1859.

LAB pups, yellow, AKC, OFA, shots, dewes, champion sired, health guaranteed. (517)548-5429. (517)548-4875.

LHASA APSO, 15 months, female, AKC, Must sell. \$100. (313)345-7241.

LHASA APSO, 6 mos., housebroken, shots, Great with kids. (313)229-4409.

MANX (Tailless) kittens, CFA registered, shots, affectionate. Special prices for Valentine's Day. (517)548-2497.

PARROTS, Macaws, Cockatoos & Conures. Best prices. Also training/training. (313)881-8471.

SHIH TZU pups, AKC, 1 male, 1 female left. Health guaranteed. (313)227-2356 after 5:30pm.

SHIH Tzu Yorkie mix. Shots. \$200. 15 weeks. Carrier and bed included. (313)229-2081.

152 And Equipment

1 REGISTERED Arab, 1 paint, \$1,000 each or best offer. Plus tack. (313)629-7826.

2 HORSE Trailer. Completely rebuilt. \$1450. Western show saddle and bridle, \$350. (313)634-1234.

ARAB mare, 4 yrs., training started. (313)665-0731.

FIELD board, large shed, 8 acres, wood fence. Exc. care. \$75 per mo. (517)546-9418.

NEW & used tack & supply sale. Sat. Feb. 15, 10am to 3pm. Hartland High School. (517)548-5890.

TACK & horse equipment, retiring. 3927 E Northfield Church, Ann Arbor. (313)668-8185, evenings.

TACK repair. (313)437-7207.

161 Day Care, Babysitting

BABYSITTING needed once a week, 3pm and thereafter occasionally. (517)223-0323.

BABYSITTER needed in my home from 6:45 - 3:30, Mon-Fri. Must have own transportation. South Lyon. Experience/References. (313)486-0914.

CHRISTIAN woman has openings in her licensed day care home for infant thru 4 yrs. South Lyon. (313)437-3794.

EXPERIENCED mother willing to provide day care. Country elementary schools, afternoon kindergarten. Dexter Pinckney Rd. (313)788-5972.

HOWELL area mom would enjoy caring for your infant. \$1.75 a hour. Gloria. (517)546-6957.

MATURE non-smoker needed for infant child care in my Pinckney home. 3 days per week, some Saturdays. 2:30pm to 6:00pm. Must be flexible. Experienced with references. (313)878-9696.

MATURE, reliable person to care for our 4 month and 3 year old in my Novi home. Mon-Fri. 8am to 5:30pm. Own transportation. Non-smoker. Evenings. (313)247-3316.

MILFORD mother of 2 interested in watching your children for you. Call Amy at (313)685-3091.

162 Elderly Care & Assistance

RESPONSIBLE woman needed to babysit 4 children, Mon-Fri, in my Pinckney home. (313)878-0361.

ATTENTION motivated persons. Family needs help with disabled father, 3-4 hrs per day. Therapy, housekeeping, etc. Dependable, caring. Pay negotiable. Ask for Dan. (517)548-2111.

MIDNIGHT shift sister needed. 7 evenings, \$5 per hour. (313)227-1565 evenings.

WANTED Mature lady to live-in and care for bed ridden elderly lady. (313)878-9973.

163 Nursing Homes

COOK needed in dietary dept., 11:30am to 7:30pm part-time. Experienced. Apply at: West Hickory Rd., 3310 W. Commerce Rd., Milford between 9:30am and 3:30pm. (313)685-1400.

PART-TIME Laundry Aide. Apply at Martin Luther Memorial Home, 305 Elm Place, S. Lyon. (313)437-2048.

164 Food/Beverage

COOK and snack counter, full and part-time. Apply at Milford Lanes.

COUNTRY club seeks experienced party person and night cook. Dishwasher also needed. Call for an appointment. (517)546-4230, ask for Steve.

DAY Bartender, cooks and waitresses. Full or part-time. Experience preferred. Apply Milford Lanes. (313)685-8745.

165 Dental

DENATAL asst. experienced, team oriented with excellent people skills, for growing practice. Call Barbara Myers. (313)632-5533.

DENTAL Hygienist. Immediate opening for part-time position in our team oriented practice. Please ask for Laurie to leave message at (313)227-2323.

RECEPTIONIST wanted for progressive, computerized dental office. Must be flexible, assertive, friendly and team-oriented. Full time hours include 2 evenings and 12 day Saturday. Experience preferred, but will train the right person. Send resume to: Dr. R. Hahn, 23975 Novi Road, Novi MI 48375.

166 Medical

EXPERIENCED medical assistant wanted for a busy group practice to perform various clinical duties. Front office skills would also be a desirable plus. Certified or registered preferred. Send resume to: Box 3571, Brighton Argus, 113 E. Grand River, Brighton, MI 48116.

LIVE in home health aide needed for a case in Whitmore Lake. Call Visiting Care today. (313)229-0320, (313)930-0050, (313)344-0234.

HOME HEALTH Aides work for the only UoM affiliated home care agency - Visiting Care, relevant experience or certification required. Variety of assignments available throughout Livingston County. Flexible schedules, shift differentials. Call today, Brighton (313)229-0320. Ann Arbor (313)930-0050. Northville (313)344-0234.

MEDICAL social worker. Hospice seeks full time MSW to provide in home psychosocial needs assessments as well as counseling and coordination of community resources. MED social work and/or home care along with individual and family clinical work experiences preferred. Send resume to: 317 Fowler St. Howell, MI 48843. RECE.

RECEPTIONIST biller full-time, ear nose throat office, experience required. Call (313)442-4888.

RN's and LPN's needed immediately for contingent positions with the only UMMC affiliated home care agency-Visiting Care. Current experience with IV therapies required. Incentives provided for new equipment. Local assignments available. Join the Visiting Care IV team, providing a full range of home infusion services. Call for additional information (313)930-0050 Ann Arbor, (313)229-0320 Brighton, (313)344-0234 Northville.

EXPERIENCED biller for pediatric office, non smoker, benefit package after 90 days probation. We are an equal opportunity employer. No phone calls, callers will be disqualified.

168 Office/Clerical

ACCOUNTING/data entry clerk, full time. Excellent benefits. Computer experience, typing skills. Resume with salary requirements to: P O Box 126, Wixom MI 48393.

AUTO dealership, Brighton area, hiring experienced temporary cashier. Good math skills a must. Hours 9am-5pm, weekdays. Call Nancy (313)227-1761.

169 Help Wanted Part-Time

CONTINGENT. Must be available to work on-call-as-needed for a 24-hour department. Weekend hours available. Apply at:

DMC Health Care Centers 41835 W. 12 Mile Rd. Novi, MI 48377 (located 12 Mile & Novi Rd.)

Affiliated with The Detroit Medical Center, an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WELL organized secretary & experienced in accounts receivable, general telephone knowledge. Starting 25-35hrs/wk, will go 40hrs, full time. 3-4 yrs. experience, good typing, verbal skills. Call for application and appointment. (517)548-3000.

170 Help Wanted General

ABSOLUTELY GREAT JOBS

We need reliable man and women to work in the Novi/Hudson area. Light industrial jobs, \$5 an hour. We have mostly short term assignments (1-5 days) and a few long term available. All shifts. Call today for an immediate appointment. (313)442-7800

ADIA The employment people EOE

171 Help Wanted Sales

155 JOBS available. Avon needs people to service open territories. Sell at work or at home. Flex time. Call (313)878-6595.

172 Help Wanted

155 JOBS available. Avon needs people to service open territories. Sell at work or at home. Flex time. Call (313)878-6595.

173 Education/ Instruction

DRUM lessons, all styles. Nov. (313)348-5026, leave message.

174 Situations

AOK housekeeping, bonded and insured. References. Call Doreen (313)878-3600.

RELIABLE honest housewife to clean homes. References available upon request. Call Robin. (313)229-0502.

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MEDIUM sized construction supply company requires self motivated well organized individual for inside sales, bid & quote position. PC experience required. Resumes to: P. O. Box 1682, Brighton, MI 48116.

NOVI based service company seeking sales representative. Hourly pay plus commission. Call Greg Brooks. (313)947-3550.

PROFESSIONAL Sales person needed for fast paced carpet store. Must be good with figures, and enjoy working with people. Experience preferred but not required. Hourly, commission, and benefits. Apply 9-7 Mon thru Sat. D.E. McComb Co. 31250 S. Milford Rd. Milford. (313)437-8146.

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