

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 1987

DISCUSSION REGARDING
NEWSPAPER ARTICLE
CITING LODI GRAPE
FESTIVAL ELECTRIC
UTILITY CHARGES

CC-16
CC-51(d)

An article appeared in the Lodi News Sentinel February 4, 1987 pertaining to a rent hike at the Lodi Grape Festival grounds which has city merchants looking at alternate sites for future flea markets. In the article Graeme Stewart, Manager of the Lodi Grape Festival, was quoted as saying that their electricity bills have jumped from \$600 to \$1,400 a month. Following an inquiry by Council Member Snider, City Manager Peterson reported that information was not correct, in fact, utility bills in the aggregate for the festival were lower in 1986 than 1985.

time. "I've been notified by the auditor that they're destitute," North County Supervisor George Barber told the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors Tuesday.

The board is scheduled to discuss the troubled district the next time the supervisors meet.

Allen Baroni, member of the fire district's board of directors, said committee members hope to get a \$15,000 loan from the county.

"(\$15,000) would be cutting it real close," he said, but it would help the district make it through the remaining months of the fiscal year.

While waiting to learn the fate of the district, Thornton Fire De-

partment more this year. That amount, he said, will be paid in increments and not in one lump sum.

More than 50 percent of the district's budget has already been paid out, according to Sanchez.

Thornton residents have seen financial problems looming in the future for some time. The county has already loaned the district \$36,000 and funds have continued to dwindle.

Getting the county to loan more money, according to Barber, may prove difficult. The amount of money the county can lend the district is regulated by state law.

Whether the district has reached its limit was not known Tuesday. (Continued on Back Page)

ing service programs at Lodi Unified School District's elementary, junior high and high school campuses. Today's piece centers on counseling at the junior high level.

By TONI MERLINOS

News-Sentinel staff writer
Junior high school students often don't know if they're coming or going. They've either just gotten out of elementary school or are preparing to enter high school.

It is a transition time made even more difficult by the dramatic emotional and physical changes they are experiencing.



As hard as they may try to look and act beyond their years, "They're kids," said Phyllis Gomez, a counselor at Woodbridge and Houston middle schools. "We have to try to remember that."

High school counselors who must sift through seas of red tape. There is at least one counselor assigned to each middle school. Gomez shares duties at Woodbridge School with counselor Pat Drouin.

"This is a good age for counseling," said Gomez, a third-year counselor whose Woodbridge School office is crisscrossed into a portable trailer.

We serve as a buffer zone. We don't excuse students' behavior but we understand it."

The counselors help students solidify a good self-image either through group or individual therapy. The children are of-

friends. The counselors also monitor student learning progress so that class schedules can be assigned accordingly. If a student's grade point average drops below a 2.0 or 'C' average, a letter goes home.

There's good parent participation, too, said Gomez. "Ninety percent of parents are receptive to the counseling program."

Monday at Woodbridge Middle School, students were told to come in and get a kiss from their counselor as part of National School Counseling Week.

"Everyone was supposed to (Continued on Back Page)

Festival grounds rent hike may be too much

By DIANNE BARTH
News-Sentinel staff writer

A rent hike at the Lodi Grape Festival grounds has city merchants threatening to take their \$40 million flea market elsewhere.

Members of the Lodi District Chamber of Commerce Retail Merchants Association said Tuesday they may pull their twice-yearly flea markets out of the festival grounds and hold the events downtown or at Hutchins Street Square.

The association negotiated with the Grape Festival Board of Directors earlier this year over use of the grounds at Lockeford Street and Cherokee Lane. However, merchants were not told that the cost for exclusive use of the grounds would jump from \$1,500

a day to \$2,000, said Cecil Dillon, president of the Chamber.

What the daily rate hike means to the flea markets, which require one full day to set up, is a minimum of \$4,000 per event this year. In 1985, the association paid \$2,000 per event.

"The merchants have organized a committee to look into the feasibility of renting the grounds," noted Dillon. "If we keep increasing our rent by \$500 each year, it will very soon no longer be cost-effective for us."

Bob Marti, owner of Village House Furniture, is chairing the retailer's committee.

"Everybody has to do what they have to do to get by. I understand that, but we can't afford to pay

these rents," said Marti.

Last year, the flea markets, co-sponsored by the retailers and the Chamber, grossed \$20,000. Half of the gross went for expenses, Dillon said.

The other \$10,000 was spent on city promotions and contributions to such civic projects as Lodi Memorial Hospital, Hanot Foundation, Crime Stoppers, the Dial-A-Ride program, playground equipment and the city's Christmas decorations.

"We put a lot back into the community, and I guess what we would really like is some special consideration by the festival board," noted Dillon. "We feel the flea markets should be treated as an exception."

Graeme Stewart, manager of the Lodi Grape Festival for nine years, is not so sure.

"Everybody knows what their product is worth," he said. "We just have enormous expenses that we can't cover any other way."

Stewart said the rent hike is not exorbitant compared to other rising costs downtown.

"And we are tied by the Legislature, by state law you cannot charge less than what it costs you to operate," noted Stewart.

During the past two years, those costs have skyrocketed at the festival grounds, according to Stewart, who reported insurance payments alone went from \$6,000 to \$39,000 a year.

Electricity bills have jumped from \$600 to \$1,400 a month, he said.

(Continued on Back Page)



JIM WRIGHT (RIGHT) AND JAMES HOWARD AFTER THE VOTE.

House overrides veto of water bill

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A determined drive to save a \$20 billion clean water bill moved to the Senate today following a 401-26 House vote to override President Reagan's veto of what he calls a "pork barrel" measure.

With even Reagan conceding he would lose, there was little doubt that the Senate would come up with the needed two-thirds majority to make the bill law.

The bill would authorize \$18 billion in grants to help cities build sewage treatment plants over nine years, and an additional \$2 billion to help clean up the nation's lakes, rivers and estuaries.

It would extend and add to pollution control programs created under the Clean Water Act of 1972,

which Congress enacted when it overrode a veto by President Richard Nixon.

An identical bill was passed unanimously late last year but it

In today's edition	
Business	22
Classified	23-27
Comics	18
Crossword	18
Editorials	4
Funerals	8
Obituaries	8
Panorama	6
Sports	19-21
Weather	2

died when Reagan refused to sign it after Congress adjourned.

It became the first order of business when the 100th Congress convened and was passed 406-8 by the Senate and 416 by the House, with Republicans casting all the negative votes.

In vetoing the bill for the second time last Friday, Reagan called it a "budget buster" and accused lawmakers of larding it with "pork barrel" amendments.

Although all 26 House votes backing the president were cast by Republicans, other GOP members joined Democrats both in saying the veto was a mistake and in voting to override.

Democratic House Speaker Jim Wright of Texas said after the

crushing vote to override that it "reflected the will of the American people."

"We did not seek confrontation with the president," he said. "Mr. Reagan, for whatever reasons may have motivated him, deliberately chose to provoke a contest on this issue."

Wright said both Democratic and Republican lawmakers "tried very earnestly to give good and helpful advice" to the president and that Congress was ready to cooperate with him.

"Cooperation is, of course, a two-way street," he said. "We strongly prefer conciliation to confrontation."

"The door is still wide open to bipartisan agreements."

represented in the area of school management. Improvement is also needed in the classified personnel area in terms of hiring additional women, Hispanics and blacks, the committee concluded. The affirmative action goals are expected to be adopted at a future board meeting.

Festival rent hike...

(Continued from Page One)

"We are faced with these huge expenses that we cannot control," said Stewart. "Last year, we barely covered those expenses."

Stewart estimated it costs an average of \$500,000 a year to keep the festival grounds going. On an average year, the festival grounds earn \$400,000 to \$417,000.

Last year, the festival board charged \$1,500 per day for exclusive use of the grounds and was unable to make any surplus money to pay for improvements, Stewart said.

This year, the rent will increase by \$500 a day to cover the cost of paint, construction repairs and landscaping at the grounds, according to Stewart.

The festival grounds will receive \$85,000 from the state because it is San Joaquin County's official county fair, but the remainder of the funding must come from rents, the Spring Wine Show in April and the Grape Festival in September.

"We have to come up with more than \$400,000 ourselves," noted Stewart.

Likewise, the retailers' outside costs for putting on the flea markets have gone up.

"Clean-up alone costs \$1,500," noted Lodi jeweler John Borelli, past president of the Chamber. "Once our prices go up, it's just going to snowball."

The retail association prides itself in not raising the entrance fee of 50 cents in more than four years.

"And we don't want to leave the

Meteorite Hits Woman

More than 50 tons of meteorite material fall on our planets daily, but the only known human casualty was an Alabama woman bruised on the hip in 1954 when a meteorite fell through her roof. (CNS)

festival, it is ideal, it's covered, it's fenced, it's perfect," said Borelli. "But it costs too much."

A myriad of 150 different events from recreational vehicle outings to Hot Rod weekends to the Festival and Wine Show, comprises the bulk of the grape festival board's annual funding. But income can change with the weather.

An early cold and some rainfall dampened festival attendance in September, and ticket earnings dropped, according to Stewart.

"We go through bad years like the last one and have to make up for them," said Stewart. "Like we hope this year's golden anniversary for the Grape Festival will make up for what we lost in the fall."

Additionally, the festival board must address its responsibility beyond the Lodi city limits. As the official county fair "our obligation is to the county," noted Stewart.

"We are not here just for the Chamber or a small group, we have a broader responsibility," he said.

Stewart said a citywide study revealed that events held at the Grape Festival grounds brought \$6 million into the community last year.

"Hotels, restaurants, every kind of service wins through the festival," said Stewart.

taxes. The proposal, which was voted on in a special mail-in election, called for a per-square-foot tax to be levied on area structures. It was voted down.

Barber believes it failed because the suggested increase was too high. He said residents and county officials are now working to contrive a less threatening tax increase.

Barber said a 3-cent-per-square-foot tax might be acceptable to the taxpayers.

Baroni declined to say what increase is being considered but he did say the board and area residents are continuing to work on the possibility.

Any property tax increase would have to be approved by a two-thirds vote.

"I don't see any real problem," he said Tuesday. "It's pretty much drawn up. Now we just want to make sure we get the rates right."

Baroni said residents could be asked to vote on the increase by early May.

As long as the paperwork approving the tax is completed by August, he said, the district would be able to get funding for the coming fiscal year.

Gomez said, "your Kiss," and Hershey's chocolate student's desk. The rest of the class asking for lots of kisses.

"You just thought of a couple of pervert trailer," Gomez said.

So began the what will be visits with Potts introductory, "no lesson given. Me the alphabet. Ea to put a word after the alphabet themselves. Only ments could be m.

Words such as tive, adorable letter 'a.' The responses such a fident. For 's,' students put down sious. For the le student decided to

**COMPARE YOUR
AUTO INSURANCE!**
CALL
339-1130
Auto Quotes By Phone
Eugene C. Yates
Insurance
Troy Beckman — Lodi Agent

**TANNING
BED**
10 visits for 20 min. each
\$29.95
R & Beauty Supply
776 W. Kettleman
In The Village and Shopping Center
334-6746

Phone 368-9215
Les' APPLIANCE
Both **BETA** and **VHS**
Home Video Movie & Recorder
RENTAL & SALES
MEXICAN MOVIES

FAN
LOWES
**BOYS
LONG SLEEVE
SHIRT
4.99**
11⁰⁰ value
**BOYS
JOGGING
SUITS
11.99**
21⁰⁰ value

Come Home To River Garden



- River Garden features:**
- Distinctively decorated, fully furnished rooms with air-conditioning, carpeting, intercom, outlets for phone and TV.
 - Three delicious meals daily. Provisions for special diets.
 - Private decks, secluded courtyards, beautiful

Chromosome Oct 1984

1984

national

Prepared By: _____
 Account No: _____

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
152.00-62.00	25014	28201	31681	27153	35165	35265	27259	61172	116425	32715	32572	63406
63.00	4316	4811	6613	4331	7680	6231	2403	7861	8972	11247	5897	8932
64.00	3802	6898	4528	19295	25344		11142	16013	59015	102110	10329	2332
65.00							9195	9195	9195	9195	9195	9195
66.00							3178	607	12798	165	12798	12798
67.00							723	512		212		
68.00							1227	502	2227	44100		
1985												
152.00-62.00	38630	39324	41693	30358	37612	37612	20325	27256	30464	131442	57071	70066
63.00	7678	7422	5351	6100	4813	4724	7920	4629	4000	9912	11827	10082
64.00	16535	26248	11492	37165	13026	15778	24403	24320	19041	71752	34231	4140
65.00	9125	9175	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984
66.00	165	10360	2271	11345	7703	2257	3325	671	15	24032	12450	5122
67.00	165	1577	465	3546	3548	417	11116	753	242	10225	12516	546
68.00	40622	44363	48876	59569	50804	51762	48670	56002	53370	92229	77132	67793
TOTAL	1127970	138589	120132	162067	127570	133074	115653	123945	118086	356906	226616	228124
1986												
152.00-62.00	47276	51209	34700	48800	41319	56024	32006	22232	36325	118926	57875	70265
63.00	12128	9125	5377	9125	6361	6403	4725	4743	5541	13274	40829	2152
64.00	44643	32634	13319	35904	214984	11157	1165	165	165	165	165	1165
65.00	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984	9984
66.00	165	5129	165	7115	13071	8107	2737	1173	4725	5129	1122	1122
67.00	264	2682	173	5253	10986	4798	9180	421	1768	13570	4216	2112
68.00	45953	52369	70275	58610	60072	68786	63487	27717	23489	105406	77115	77115
TOTAL	160113	174638	133993	174541	149814	135659	120156	101465	122377	297954	175660	178231

1985 - 19,540
 1986 - 19,291