

"NO DEALS" Forms To Curb Teen & Pre-Teen Drug and Alcohol Use

By Pat Trotter

A dozen parents, teachers and high school youth met last Wednesday evening at the Lansing United Methodist Church to officially launch a grass-roots citizens' group to counter drug and alcohol use by Lansing Middle and High School students.

The group calls itself "NO DEALS" which stands for *Not Okay: Drugs, Ethyl alcohol Abuse by Lansing Students.*

- 1) A strong, unified and consistent **NO** message.
- 2) A **community** approach.
- 3) **Prevention** of first use.
- 4) **Create** drug free zones

The group intends to pursue these goals with a variety of strategies geared to parent education and the different needs of middle and high school students.

MISSION STATEMENT

The youth of our community are exposed to and involved with illegal drug/ alcohol use. Such an environment places our kids at risk for arrest, abuse, addiction, disease, accidents and death. This illegal drug use, and the actions or situations that encourage such behavior should not and can not be tolerated.

- NO DEALS

NO DEALS is a community-wide strategy based on similar efforts in Trumansburg and Watkins Glen. "Their organizations were set up after mortal tragedies," said Trotter. "We don't intend to wait for such things to happen in Lansing." Additional groups are forming in Groton and Dryden.

A survey taken last year at the high school showed 81 percent of students saying that drugs and alcohol are a problem in Lansing. "And we have confirmed sitings of drug dealing at the Middle School to our younger students," said Trotter, the group's organizer.

Lansing's obviously not immune to the national phenomenon of increased drug use, said guidance counselor Bill Hefner. Though the kids are getting drug education programs and plenty of recreation activities, it's the 'unified parents' that are missing. "The kids know what's going on," said Trotter, "but we have too many parents in denial."

NO DEALS accepts that coping with the problem of teen and preteen drug and alcohol use, like teen smoking, demands a long-term effort. To guide them, they approved a mission statement and set four goals:



OPEN SKATING at the RINK regularly draws hundreds (yes, hundreds) of children, families and seniors for several hours of exercise and entertainment.

Rebellion against authority is a natural part of adolescents' move towards adulthood, said Hefner. **NO DEALS** can help parents support youth activities that move their children towards independence at the same time we keep them safe from situations their immaturity is unable to handle.

The group discussed a number of direct actions they may undertake, including holding more Middle School activity nights, developing an alcohol-free teen night club, setting up safe houses and assisting parents who need help in dealing with children who are involved in illegal activities.

NO DEALS expects involvement from parents, site-based teams, students, businesses, teachers, clergy, law enforcement agencies and other civic groups. For further information, contact Pat Trotter at 533-7657 before 9:00 pm.

North/South Lansing Network Meets Feb. 12

(Cont'd from page 1)

By the way, you may want to have quite a few business cards on hand by February 12. One of the features of this gathering is a display table for the business cards of those present. "Just bring ten or twenty for the table and more to hand out to the other diners," advises Larison. "You'll probably use up all you bring and get to know some great people in the process."

For more information on the **North/South Lansing Network**, contact Marie Almon at 533-4275. If you get an answering machine, just leave a message.



Time To Get Ready For Winter

- ROOFING JOBS SMALL & LARGE
- INTERIOR REMODELING
- FINISHED BASEMENTS
- HEATING & PLUMBING UPGRADES

2 Graham Rd. West (Suite 200) Ithaca 14850
266-8078 Fax: 266-7057



TOWN PLANNING BOARD members Jackie Baker, Viola Miller, Brad Griffin, Chair Larry Sharpsteen and Robert Todd (plus unpictured Lin Davidson, Al White) are a diverse group who don't hesitate to passionately express their different philosophical views, but who do so with courtesy and frequent humor.

Sewer Discussion Tops Agenda At Jan 13 Lansing Planning Board Mtg

By Jerry Bass

At a relatively brief January 13 monthly meeting at Town Hall, Lansing Town Planning Board members received an update on the So. Lansing Sewer Advisory Committee's progress, heard about proposed state legislation that would ban the use of burn barrels and discussed the status of the zoning recommendations that were previously turned over to the Town Board.

So. Lansing Sewer

Sewer Committee co-chair Larry Sharpsteen reported that Lansing has examined three approaches to sewage collection and treatment systems. The first would have the town build and operate its own system in cooperation with public and private sector partners. A second possibility would be to participate in an inter-municipal sewage treatment plan using gravity collection to a system of pumping stations. These would pump the sewage to the City of Ithaca's treatment plant, which currently has excess capacity. A third option would be a hybrid of the first two. Of course, any intermunicipal solution would have to consider the partners' different needs and perceptions.

Working with the City of Ithaca may be problematic, if purported statements by Common Council members about the need to "stop growth in Lansing" are accurate, said several members. The Lansing perspective is that there are plenty of growth opportunities for both municipalities for a stronger county economy.

Of the three options, the Sewer Advisory Committee is leaning towards recommending a Lansing owned and operated system. The primary area covered by a Lansing Treatment plant would be in an arc from the Lansing Residential Center on route 34 through South Lansing to Portland Point. Service to Myers and Ludlowville would follow as succeeding phases. Preliminary plans for such a plant have already been favorably reviewed by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for a deep water discharge of treated effluent. The DEC continues to review technical data as it is submitted. A "handshake" agreement for an, as yet, undisclosed site has also been made.

The key element in this project will be financing. Several public, non-profit and private partners are currently negotiating their respective contributions to the project and a combination of outright grants and no-interest loans are being sought from federal

and state sources.

"The Sewer Advisory Committee expects to hold public information meetings on the project very soon," said Sharpsteen. "We just want to be sure that we have "our ducks in a row" so we can answer all the public's questions about financing," he concluded.

EMC Meeting Report

The Planning Board also received a report on a recent meeting of the Environmental Management Council (EMC). It expects the state Legislature to act on a burn barrel ("open burning") bill this year. In addition, the EMC is considering establishment of a committee to study predation of songbirds by domestic and feral housecats. If data supports the belief that housecats are a threat to wild songbird species, a proposal to initiate a cat licensing and leash law might be developed.

Sharpsteen told the Board that the EMC is looking for people familiar with environmental issues to fill several open positions.

Zoning

The Town is planning up to three "Town Meetings" on the topic of zoning. These will be announced once the Town Board reviews the recommendations it received from the Planning Board.

Planning Board Action

One slot is open on the Town Planning Board. Anyone interested in serving an unpaid, seven-year term should apply to the Town Council at Town Hall. Board member Robert Todd made a motion to re-elect the present officers on the Planning Board.

In attendance were Chair Larry Sharpsteen, Lin Davidson, Robert Todd, Brad Griffin, Viola Miller, and Jackie Baker and town Code Enforcement Officer George Totman. The next meeting of the Town Planning Board is February 10, 1997 at 7.30. There will be a discussion on roads.

Drop-In Ctr News

The Lansing Community Drop-In Center is planning an 8-session parenting skills workshops from 9:30-11:30 am on Feb. 7,14,28, Mar. 7, 14,28, Apr. 4 and 11.

The programs strengthen parent skills with techniques they can apply with their children, such as encouragement, promoting self-reliance, make choices, increasing self-control and respecting feelings. Childcare will be provided. For information and registration, call Nancy Molnar (533-4183) or Diane Booth (533-7011).

TST BOCES Community Education Computer Open House

Wednesday, January 22
6:30 - 8:00 PM

BOCES B-21 & B-22 (Powell Building)
555 Warren Road, Ithaca

See our labs.
Meet our teachers.
Find a class that's right for you!

257-1561 select 1

We have more than 40 computer classes,
plus classes in ART, COOKING,
WRITING, DANCE and more.

Call today for more information.



LANSING COMMUNITY HOTLINE



533-4214



Follow the voice prompts on your touch-tone phone to get the latest update on community activities.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100. Time & Temperature 102. Road Conditions 103. CRIME ALERT 120. Sr. Citizen Events 121. Sr. Citizen Services 124. Sr. Citizen Volunteering 125. Community Events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This week 2. Next week 3. Upcoming 130. Area Churches 400. Lansing Schools 1. Elementary Menus 2. Middle School Menus 3. High school menus 4. Sports 5. Events 6. Changes/Cancellations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 430. Lansing Rec. Dept. 1. Line Dancing 2. New registrations 3. Current programs Changes/cancellations 501. Dining Experience 1. American / Steak 997. Contact the Hotline 1. Leave a message 2. Post an event (free) 3. To advertise |
|---|--|---|

It's a **FREE** call to this number from Lansing, Ithaca or Poplar Ridge phone numbers. So, pick up your phone; give us a call and check us out.

"Lansing's New Source For Information."