

# Murphy's right-hand man is heir apparent

By Tim Richard  
staff writer

If there was any doubt about it, Patrick Nowak is more clearly than ever heir-apparent to Oakland County Executive Daniel T. Murphy.

Murphy, his voice cracking with laryngitis, Thursday turned over to his deputy the job of delivering the annual state-of-the-county address, but not before making a few off-the-cuff announcements.

James Dunkel, previously personnel director, will become deputy executive for administration until he retires at the end of the year. He succeeds William Spinelli, who left April 11 to start a law practice.

The executive is buying the Road Commission's idea that industry, which is generating the traffic that is straining county roads, ought

to be part of the financial solution. No details were offered.

NOWAK, 47, who has been Murphy's right-hand man since joining the administration, emerges not only as the senior deputy but as the top prospect to succeed Murphy should Murphy become governor.

If Murphy were to leave the office, the county commission would be empowered to appoint a successor to fill the unexpired two years of the Murphy's term. The commission, with a 29-7 Republican majority, assuredly would appoint another Republican.

Nowak was a one-term commissioner from Farmington Hills in 1974 when he was one of three prospects considered by then-Gov. William G. Milliken for lieutenant governor. Nowak was strongly backed by then state senator, now congressman, Carl Pursell. Milliken tapped Rep. James Darman of Troy, however.

In Murphy's tough 1976 re-election campaign, Nowak was at his side throughout, often filling in for the leader during debates. Nowak is a

**Nowak, 47, who has been Murphy's right-hand man since joining the administration, emerges not only as the senior deputy but as the top prospect to succeed Murphy should Murphy become governor.**

quick-witted extemporaneous speaker but acknowledges he has trouble with a script.

Nowak was given the title of deputy executive for planning projects, but he exerted far more influence than that.

UNTIL NOWAK joined the administration, Murphy was pretty much a provincial politician at war with the outside world. Almost overnight he changed tunes, got active in the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, and emerged as SEMCOG

chairman with the reputation as a regional statesman who would try to find common ground with Detroit.

When Murphy couldn't make a SEMCOG meeting, Nowak went in his place. Often Nowak went along anyway.

Reporters learned that if Murphy wasn't available, they could get an authoritative and complete answer to any political question from Nowak.

The political reality, however, is that Murphy is a long-shot for governor. The gossip is that Murphy's gubernatorial campaign is exciting few GOP politicians and that he's unlikely to win the nomination. At 62, he will have two more years as county executive.

## analysis

If he can't become governor, Murphy knows what he wants to do after his term is up: Work for a home-rule charter for Oakland County. He has spelled that out in conversation. Nowak would be in an ideal spot to run for executive in 1988.

"We're not anxious to have that kind of speculation setting out the hand," Nowak said as he waited in the corridor after delivering Murphy's speech. "It becomes more difficult to deal if people think you're a lame duck."

DEMOCRATS will have their version of the state-of-the-county address soon, promised caucus chairman Larry Pernick of Southfield.

What did they think of the Murphy-Nowak address?

"Disappointing," said Pernick. The executive's address concentrated too much on economic development, "a small fraction of the budget," and not enough on the higher-cost "people" services such as health, parks and courts.

"There's no plan for roads," Pernick added, pointing to Murphy's call for a \$20,000 study of financing alternatives. "It's not enough to study problems. Every citizen could tell us what the problems are."

## 911 plan is delayed 3 months

There'll be a slight delay in the Oakland Countywide 911 emergency telephone plan, but the system will be better because of it, county executive Daniel Murphy told the board of commissioners last week.

Murphy said a 3-month delay allows installing a "a more sophisticated system."

The county's EMS and Disaster Control Division plans a fall installation. MORE THAN 100 police, fire and other operate emergency units in Oakland County. Under the plan, anyone dialing 911 would have his or her call routed to the proper agency.

Because of technical changes required by the state law, the Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on the plan at 7 p.m. Aug. 21. After that, the board may adopt the plan.

County officials estimate the county's half of the cost at \$112,000 for first-year and \$292,000 for annual recurring costs. Local units will pick up the other half.

So far, 54 of 61 local units have said they will participate.

The county will be responsible for system planning and installation. Communities will be responsible for on-line public safety dispatch center operations and equipment.



**PRE-SEASON SPECIAL!**

**FREE**

**DIGITAL CLOCK THERMOSTAT**

WITH PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM

- IMMEDIATE INSTALLATION
- 2 YEAR PARTS & LABOR WARRANTY
- 5 YEAR COMPRESSOR WARRANTY




**Spring shines inside, too... with freshly cleaned carpets & upholstery.**

- Call Sears now for spring carpet cleaning!
- Specially trained, bonded and insured technicians power-out winter grime with truck-mounted equipment.
- For a thorough spring cleaning, they move and replace most furniture, pre-treat soiled areas, all at no extra charge.
- To keep that spring-fresh feeling, ask for Du Pont Teflon® Carpet and Fabric Protector and DuPont® Deodorizer, each available at additional cost.
- You can use your SearsCharge or Discover® Card.

**Any 2 Rooms \$3398**  
Minimum order: 2 rooms. Combined living areas count as separate rooms.

**Whole House... Save \$101 \$8999**  
(reg. \$99.99) Maximum 6 cleaning areas; any combination of rooms, halls or staircases. Sale ends April 26, 1986.

**UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**

**Sofa \$5500**  
Any sofa (includes matching cushions).

Sears Authorized Cleaning Services.  
Call Mon.-Sat., 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM:

**Deloit**  
West of Woodward Avenue 962-5890  
Suburbs  
West of Woodward Avenue 261-8650

*There's more for your life at*  
**SEARS**



**SHOP AND COMPARE A SIZE AND STYLE FOR EVERY BUDGET**

**FREE HOME VISIT**

DEEP END AVAILABLE

A DISTRIBUTION OF **WILLY'S POOL**

OVER 30 YEARS

CASE-FREE ALUMINUM POOL WITH DECK

**FULL SIZE INDOOR DISPLAY**

**SERVICE SPECIALISTS**

ALL ABOVE GROUND RECTANGULAR SHEDDING VINYL LINER POOLS

FREE HOME INSPECTIONS

WE SERVICE ALL AREAS

**CHEMICALS • SUPPLIES • ACCESSORIES**

**528-3620**

1974 E. WATLIES RD. (17 MILE) WEST OF JOHN R. - TROY

**Store Your Fur**

At

**Dittrich**

Since 1929

1. The storage vault is located underground and protected by two fireproof walls.
2. The fur is protected by 5 types of alarm systems.
3. The vault is humidity and temperature controlled at 34 degrees Fahrenheit.
4. Each fur has a sufficient amount of its own reserved hanging space.
5. The vaults provide elimination of and protection from moths and other vermin.
6. Every fur is given a free inspection and estimate.
7. All required work is done on the premises.
8. Free pick-up & delivery is included in the price.
9. You can always have your fur delivered within 3 days.
10. You can always pick-up your fur immediately without prior notice. Every fur is handled individually and beautifully with high pressure air prior to delivery.

**Call Dittrich Today For Free Pick-Up**  
873-8300 or 642-3003

**THE FINAL WIND-UP**


IS NOW IN PROGRESS

**HURRY!**

SALE ENDS WHEN STOCKS ARE GONE

**SHOP MONDAY & TUESDAY**

**9:30 AM to 5:30 PM**



**The Sportsman**

Fine Quality Sporting Goods, Hunting, Fishing, Camping Equipment, Clothing and Gifts.

**LOCATED AT**

**184 PIERCE ST.**

1/2 Block South of Maple, Birmingham

**ALL STOCK PRICED TO SELL OUT IN A**

**GREAT \$600,000**

**GOING OUT OF**

**BUSINESS SALE**


G.O.B. LICENSE NO. 77648

**RETIRING FROM THE RETAIL BUSINESS**

**SAVE UP TO 70% OFF ENTIRE STOCK**

**ALL SALES FINAL - CREDIT CARDS WELCOME**


**MEET NEW CONTACTS FOR \$99.**



(Price includes exam and contact lenses.)

Come in and get acquainted at Pearle. You'll see an eye filling selection of contact lenses. Bifocal. Hard. Soft. Tinted soft. Extended wear. Gas-permeable. All the latest lenses. All available with Pearle's special kind of care. And right now, you'll find a special price on daily soft wear lenses. But hurry. A price like this could change in the blink of an eye.

Price applies to American Hydron and Bausch & Lomb daily soft wear lenses. Ask about special value priced Bausch & Lomb extended wear and tinted lenses. Offer expires May 31, 1986.



**PEARLE vision center**

© 1986 Pearle Health Services Inc.

**NOBODY CARES FOR EYES MORE THAN PEARLE.**

<b>Madison Heights-Troy Area</b> Near Oakland Mall 528-5720	<b>Livonia-North</b> 20388 Middlebelt 478-0234	<b>West Bloomfield, at Maple</b> 6510 Orchard Lake Rd. 651-4404	<b>Carton</b> 44750 Ford Rd. 455-3190	<b>Southfield</b> 29429 Southfield Rd. 650-5020
<b>Birmingham</b> Hunter at Woodward 944-4410	<b>Farmington</b> 37085 Grand River Ave. 478-6511	<b>Madison Heights</b> Near Universal Mall 645-5727	<b>Livonia-South</b> 34901 Plymouth Rd. 455-2400	<b>Redford</b> 6350 Telegraph Rd. 653-4000