

## Funding uncertain

# OCART fate remains undecided

By MICHAEL MATUSZEWSKI  
It may be some time before the Oakland County Advanced Reservation Transit System (OCART) will be shuttling residents around the county.

The state highway lobby has bottled up state funds which would have been used to implement the county-wide, "Dial-a-Ride" transit program, said Shan Topiwalla, Oakland County's federal and state aid coordinator.

The funds will be tied up until the Michigan Supreme Court decides whether the money can, under the state constitution, be used for mass transit. The money, collected through the 1/2-cent gasoline tax, had been used to construct and maintain the state's highways.

AS A RESULT, the Southeast Michigan Transit Authority (SEMTA) has been unable to purchase the necessary equipment.

Initially, a fleet of 35 passenger vans was to have provided service 12 hours a day, six days a week. This phase was to have been implemented this fall.

Even if the Michigan Supreme Court freed the necessary funds tomorrow,

Topiwalla said, it would take anywhere from three to six months to put the county-wide Dial-a-Ride system into operation. He said county officials and SEMTA were completing arrangements to bring easy transportation to county residents.

He said county officials and SEMTA were working together with local communities to complete arrangements for OCART even though it will have to wait to put the buses on the road.

OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE Daniel T. Murphy introduced OCART, a Dial-a-Ride service which would carry passengers anywhere in the county, in his State of the County address.

"The freedom to move about is among the most fundamental tenets of this nation. Protecting this freedom is among the government's highest responsibilities," Murphy said.

According to county officials, OCART "will meet the specific demands of the transportation-deprived, while providing alternatives to the private automobile." Priority will be given to senior citizens and the physically handicapped.

The system, officials said, will also tie into Detroit-based rapid transit system as it is developed.

Topiwalla said several systems were originally examined, but the Dial-a-Ride concept provided the greatest amount of flexibility.

He said that depending upon ridership, regular OCART routes could be set up. The feasibility of the route would be determined from the advanced registration format. He added that in some areas, regular routes and schedules would be established from the beginning.

Such routes would run two or three times a week so that people could plan their days around the schedules. Topiwalla suggested such a system might be provided in areas where there was a high density of the elderly. The regular Dial-a-Ride system would still be available on days when the predetermined schedule was not in effect.

He said OCART would be instituted first in the county's southeast sector with the highest population density. From there it would expand through

the rest of the county. Topiwalla estimated it would take two years for OCART to achieve its

full potential. He added that it would take approximately \$20 million to operate the system.

## 'Big Jim' to head GOP rally



GOV. JAMES R. THOMPSON  
To visit Oakland GOP

## Come to Hamtramck

The city of Hamtramck is hosting Hamtramck Homecoming on Sept. 25. Everybody who has ever lived in Hamtramck is asked to come home on that Sunday.

The celebration will begin Sept. 24 with a display of military decorations of Poland. The display will feature The Order of the White Eagle, Poland's highest award. On Sept. 25, Hamtramck will also host the Polish Day parade, beginning at 2 p.m. at Jos. Campau and Caniff.



READ YOUR  
HOMETOWN  
NEWS—HERE

## BRIGHT IDEAS FOR YOUR HOME

*Michigan Chandelier Co.*  
you'll see us in a better light

BIRMINGHAM 6580 Telegraph at Maple  
ROCHESTER 435 W. Main at University

Serving the Area For 22 Years

# ABLE HOME BUILDERS

Licensed Builders  
Completely Insured

ADDITIONS • PORCHES  
DORMERS • GARAGES  
ALUMINUM SIDING  
ALUMINUM TRIM  
ATTICS • BATHROOMS  
KITCHENS • REMODELING

FREE ESTIMATES • 5 YEARS TO PAY NO MONEY DOWN

Quality Workmanship Only

WE SPECIALIZE IN RESIDENTIAL WORK

Call LO 5-9070 8446 WHITEFIELD DEARBORN

## Newhouser to demonstrate at GOP picnic

Former Detroit Tiger pitcher Hal Newhouser's name has been added to the list of celebrities who will attend Oakland County Republican Committee on Sept. 24.

Chairman Art Elliott said Newhouser, who won more than 200 games for the Tigers in the 1940s and '50s, will put on a pitching demonstration for youngsters.

Other celebrities will include Lt. Gov. James Thompson, U.S. Rep. William Brownfield and local state legislators.

Elliott said a few tickets are left at Republican headquarters, 245 S. Woodward, Birmingham 48011. Tickets are \$2.50 per person and \$1 for children age five and under.

## ED GRAY GALLERY

birmingham 642-6609

Presenting  
**REFLECTIVE EXPRESSIONS of JAN DORER**  
*Acrylic & Watercolor*

September 9 thru October 8, 1977

Reception for the Artist on Friday evening, September 9th from 6 to 9 p.m. Jan Dorer will also be in the gallery on Saturday September 10th from 10 to 5 p.m.

280 North Woodward - Birmingham, Michigan  
On the lower level of the Great American Building  
2 block north of Maple

Gallery Hours: 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. - Mon-Sat.

## LOOSE RUG CLEANING

pick-up and delivery

**Torguson**

Carpet Cleaners  
32485 Suburban  
Livonia 525-1220

## BARGAINS

in your hometown newspaper

Come on over to our house!  
Michigan's Largest  
Ethan Allen Dealer

## the Hearthside

LIVONIA UTICA SOUTHFIELD

## GARAGE DOOR OPERATORS

**Genie 450D**  
CRYPTAR II DIGITAL CONTROLS  
\$175.00 installed  
1 Year Warranty - Any Suburb  
ALLIANCE AUTOMATIC DOOR CO.  
358-3833 SOUTHFIELD

Your next move should be with us!

• Local & long distance moving  
• Trade shows • Exhibits

## 427-6350

**Livonia Moving & Storage**

11825 Mayfield Livonia  
Agents for American Red Ball

## Two are better than one!

Apply for one, the other, or both at...

you ought to know  
a DETROIT BANK or better

**DETROIT BANK & TRUST**  
Member FDIC

# GIGANTIC PRE-SEASON skiwear sale

There's plenty to choose from. Many items selected from our dynamite all new 1978 skiwear arrivals are on sale now at pre-season prices. Here's a great chance to save. The selection is outstanding.

jackets suits sweaters vests bibs hats mitts gloves under wear down jackets down vests down gloves down mitts warm-up pants head skiwear men's-ladies' children's

save now

## Bavarian Village

SKI SPECIALISTS

1. BLOOMFIELD HILLS: 3540 WOODWARD AT SQUARE LAKE
2. BIRMINGHAM: 101 TOWNSEND COR. PIERCE
3. LATHRUP VILLAGE: 2804 S. SOUTHFIELD AT 12 MILE
4. LIVONIA-RED FORD: 15211 TELEGRAPH AT SCHOOLCRAFT
5. MT. CLEMENS: 1216 S. ORATIO NORTH OF 16 MILE
6. EAST DETROIT: 22301 KELLY RD. BET. 8 AND 9 MILE

OPEN EVENINGS 'TIL 9 SAT. 10 TO 5:30