

Environmentalists delay drain work

By JOE MARTUCCI

Construction of the Petrick Drain, a tributary of the controversial Petrick Drain, has been delayed until an environmental impact statement is completed. The Oakland County Drain Commission had been planning to award contracts yesterday for construction of the \$620,000 drain. The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) had issued a construction permit last Jan. 8 which would have expired Dec. 31.

A DNR official admitted this week that the department should not have issued the permit because an environmental impact study requested by the Michigan Environmental Review Board (MERB) in May, has not been made.

The review board acts as an advisory panel to Gov. William Milliken on environmental issues. The decision to delay construction is a victory for local environmentalists who have fought the \$625 million Petrick Drain since it was first proposed in a 1989 master drain plan for Southfield.

In a Dec. 13 letter to Gov. Milliken, Donna Lebow, a Franklin resident and member of the village's citizens drain committee, urged that action be taken to halt the letting.

"THE PETERSON AND NOWAK drains are planned as tributary drains to the proposed Petrick drain, which presently exists as a natural stream and flows to the River Rouge. Although these drains are to be constructed in the city of Southfield in the Telegraph-Northwestern Highway-Twelve Mile Road area, they will affect areas outside of Southfield," Mrs. Lebow warned.

"There still has been no consideration of the environmental impacts of these drains and review by MERB. No public hearings regarding environmental effects of these drains have been held."

"There has been no consideration of either primary or secondary impacts which the Peterson or Nowak drains may have on Franklin Village. There has been no opportunity to weigh the impacts the Peterson and Nowak may have on Franklin, such as, will these drains cause streams or ponds to back up or flood in Franklin, or will they cause them (and wells) to go dry?"

"These questions and more must be considered. Franklin Village is worth preserving. Our village is, so far, unfragmented by urban sprawl, and offers a rare environment which should be kept available to the people of this area. It permits a choice of living conditions which can't be duplicated elsewhere."

THE 1980 master drain plan for Southfield included recommendations for about 22 new drains, a number of which have since been built.

The Petrick Drain soon became the center of attention however. Public information meetings were conducted by the city and Oakland County Drain Commissioner George Kuhn agreed to defer action until completion of a study by Dr. Clifford Humphrys of Michigan State University.

That study, which was presented to officials last month, recommends open waterways and retention ponds be used in the Petrick area, rather than enclosed storm drains.

Environmentally-conscious residents have requested that the creek be maintained rather than forced into an underground Petrick Drain.

Wildlife and the natural beauty of the waterway, which leads into the Rouge River, would thus be preserved, they maintain.

But some city officials and drain engineers have warned that unless something is done, residents in the area and in areas downstream could be subjected to the ravages of flash floods.

Mrs. Lebow said Tuesday that she didn't know if her letter to the governor had anything to do with the DNR's decision to delay construction.

She noted, however, that the appointment hearing scheduled for yesterday had not been called off.



Jordan Kahn

Fashionable attire for men

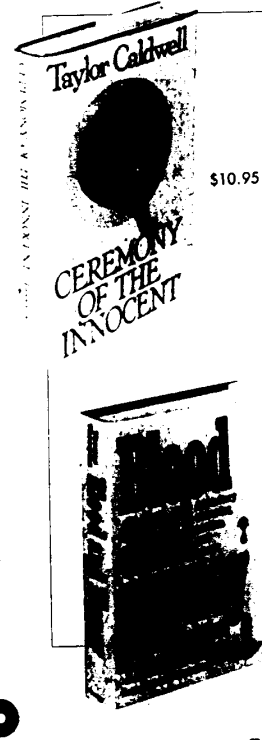
ORCHARD MALL
Orchard Lake Road N. of Maple
851-9444

grumets
4th dimension
IN West Bloomfield
LAST 10 DAYS
To Save Up To
75% off
on Quality Men's Clothing
Hurry — Hurry
PINE LAKE MALL
Orchard Lake & Lake Park Ede.
12-9 P.M. Daily 12-5 Sunday

To Serve You Better
SOMERSET MALL IS NOW OPEN 3 NIGHTS MONDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY UNTIL 9 p.m.
Other days 10-6
Closed Sundays & Holidays

SOMERSET MALL
Where the Unusual is the Usual
Big Beaver Road at Coolidge, Troy

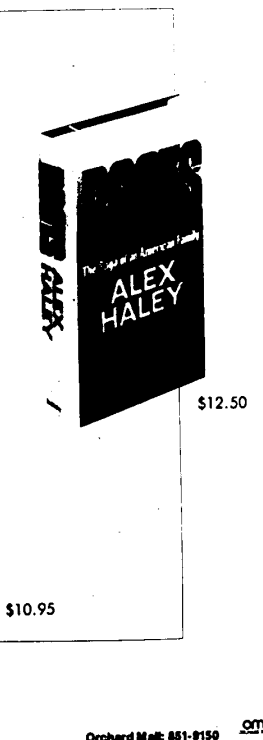
Last Minute Gifts For The Readers On Your List . . .



Taylor Caldwell

CEREMONY OF THE INNOCENT

\$10.95



ALEX HALEY

\$12.50

bookpeople

Orchard Mall: 851-8150
Monday-Friday, 10-8; Saturday 10-8; Sunday 12-5
Trom Center: 558-4646
Monday-Friday, 9:30-5:30



HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

Towne & Country interiors

Dearborn 23600 Michigan Ave.
Bloomfield — 4107 Telegraph Rd.
Rochester — 1110 S. Rochester Rd. in Winchester Mall

Finishing Touches

All the Right Trimmings are at Copper Rivet this Christmas



Complete your Christmas shopping with a gift from our fine collection of men's accessories

SWANK

Personal Jewelry
for the man with discriminating taste. Fashionable designs. Choose from bracelets, neck chains, color pins, vest chains, and more from \$6.00



Fashion Belts
The finest leather dress and casual belts. Rich-looking styles, colors, and designs. \$6.00 - \$11.00



Wembley

Men's Ties
Classic looks in neckwear. He'll appreciate your good taste in choosing a Wembley tie.
\$6.50 - \$8.50



Interwoven

Men's Sox
The most famous name in men's hosiery. Many colors, many styles. A perfect fit every time.
\$1.75 - \$2.50



COPPER RIVET

ADJACENT TO MEYER THIRTY ACRES ON FORD ROAD AT CANTON CENTER ROAD
HOLIDAY HOURS: SHOP WED. DEC. 22 AND THURS. DEC. 23 - 9 A.M. TO 10 P.M.
FRI. DEC. 24 8 A.M. TO 6 P.M. - CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
BANK AMERICARD AND MASTER CHARGE WELCOME
• FREE ALTERATIONS • GIFT WRAPPING • LAYAWAY