

# Lawmakers have plans for business

By SHIRLEE IDEN  
Southfield's business community was served up a four-course agenda at Monday morning's breakfast meeting in the Bendix Corporate cafeteria, sponsored by the Southfield Chamber of Commerce.

About 50 members and guests braved the rains to attend the legislative update which touched on subjects such as the future of transportation in southeast Michigan, the state's new Consumers Protection Act, the Single Business Tax and the business community's role in political action.

Ken Franklin, legal counsel to the Consumers Protection Act, said the role of government is to foster a climate of fairness.

He detailed the difficult journey the new act had through four years of legislative deliberation and outlined the act itself.

"We don't feel that consumer protection legislation is anti-business," he stated.

The act sets up 29 broad categories of unfair trade practices such as false advertising and misrepresentation of a product or of credit provisions.

"THE ENFORCEMENT mechanism is at two levels," he said. "First

with the attorney general and second with the local prosecuting attorneys.

"Local prosecutors must advise the state of prosecutions and the law allows the prosecutors to negotiate," Franklin said that if a prosecutor obtains assurance from a business that an unfair practice has been stopped, the statement cannot be used as a basis for later prosecution.

Franklin called the expanded subpoena power granted by the act to the attorney general an "important breakthrough," which will allow easier access to business records through the circuit courts. He added the Attorney General will be able to bring class action suits, and consumers can sue in small claims court for up to \$250.

The new law becomes effective on April 1. Franklin cautioned his audience that business must watch carefully as the attorney general begins to devise rules for implementing it.

Larry E. Salei, general manager of the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA) described some of the accomplishments of the agency and some of its future options.

**SALCI, WHO IS** IS SEMTA's chief executive and operations officer, said that on April 15 an expanded board of

directors will be seated and within two months will decide which of four contending mass transit plans to put into operation.

SEMTA covers seven counties and millions of people," Salei said.

"Much of the population is too old, too young or too poor to drive their own cars."

He said that since 1971 SEMTA has gotten one-half of one per cent of state gasoline tax revenues to implement its programs.

"One of our successes has been the more than 100 dial-a-bus buses that serve people, particularly the elderly and the handicapped," he said.

He expects service to the elderly and handicapped to be expanded.

With the use of slings, he described the three main transportation corridors that SEMTA is concerned with and named some of the modes of mass transit that may be employed, emphasizing that any plan used will be a hybrid of various transportation methods.

SEMTA is unique, he pointed out, in that the authority has a \$600 million federal grant with which to implement its plans.

"We are the only ones to get this kind of grant before plans are even finalized," he said.

Describing the Single Business Tax as "a disaster," State Sen. Patrick McCullough (D-Deerborn) said that the legislature and the governor's office are both taking hard looks at the controversial law which has proved a hardship on many businesses.

"SEVERAL bills have been in-

troduced to correct these faults and even one to repeal it," he said.

The governor has set up a task force to look at SBT but there have been no findings reported yet.

McCullough, who is a probable candidate for governor, said the Senate Finance Committee of which he is chairman will begin a review of the tax this week.

"We'll ask a lot of questions," he said, "like are the original objectives being met by the law? Also, will large business really pay more and will small business get relief, and will SBT really bring new business into the state?"

McCullough said that an aspect of leadership is to admit a mistake and that may happen to the legislature and the governor with the SBT.

He pointed out that when the legislature asked for feedback from business on the tax, 80 per cent of those polled failed to respond.

McCullough said that SBT revenues last year were \$50 million lower than anticipated. But he gave no explanation of the short-fall.

Communities around the state averaged a 10 per cent loss in tax base with the city of Southfield losing 23 per cent.

"We're waiting for the data," he said. "It's not easy to change laws in an absence of data. We intend to do something about it."

Kevin Hardy, manager of business and government relations for the Michigan Chamber of Commerce urged the businessmen to form local political action committees.

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## Levey hosts career night

Levey Junior High School PTA will host its first careers night at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 31, at the school.

During the meeting, students in grades seven, eight and nine can meet with 25 adults representing a variety of careers.

Students and their parents may attend sessions with two of 25 resource persons. In each session, the person will discuss his or her profession and answer questions. Following the two 35-minute sessions, students and parents can meet informally with other resource people at the school.

Lyle Albrant, vice president of Levey PTA, said students will be able to talk with individuals working as a physician, computer scientist, accountant, lawyer, legal secretary, newspaper editor, psychologist, government employee, architect or lab technician.

The program marks the first time Levey has sponsored a careers evening. Albrant said Southfield is one of the first districts to establish career education and now has one of the most extensive programs in the area, he said. Jean King, who established the programs, is now assistant principal at Levey.

THE PROGRAM WILL give students a closer look at careers than might be possible through more conventional education programs.

"We feel the best way to do this is to give them (the students) an opportunity to talk with people in a career they might be interested in," Albrant said.

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**MONDAYS**

1:00 PM SENIOR CITIZENS MIXED - (Bowl to-day-god tomorrow)

7:30 PM GUTS & DOLLS (4) 3-6-8 League Automatic 31-45-6-9-10. Home ea game

8:30 PM MEN'S DOUBLES (4 games) - 80% handicap - good competition - last two wins

**TUESDAYS**

8:30 AM WOODLAND BOWLERETTES (4) (everyone welcome - all averages)

4:00 PM BOYS & GIRLS - 6-16 (100% handicaps - high and low averages)

7:30 PM KIDS/NETTES (4 holes - any average, beginners welcome)

7:30 PM MIXED DOUBLES - (4 games - just the two of you)

**WEDNESDAYS**

1:00 PM Daytime Mixed (something new)

1:00 PM LEARN TO BOWL CLASSES (Learn the right way)

7:30 PM MIXERS "C" (8 pin no tap league - bowls 300)

7:30 PM YOUNG ADULTS - 18 to 25 (Bowling & pizza - meet friends here)

**THURSDAYS**

1:00 PM LADIES' FOURSOME (keep time and 10)

7:30 PM FAMILY FOURSOME - MOTHER, DAD, SON, DAUGHTER (Good time)

7:30 PM MEN'S 4-700 TEAM MAXIMUM - Handicap 60% to 730, 100% over 700)

**FRIDAYS**

12:00 PM SENIOR CITIZENS MIXED (Continue your winter program)

7:30 PM KINGS & QUEENS - (start the week-end night - everyone welcome)

7:30 PM LADIES' DOUBLES - (3 games handicap 60% from 330)

**SATURDAYS**

10:00 AM JUNIORS AND BANTAM (any average - 100% handicap)

**SUNDAYS**

7:30 PM HITS AND MISSES MIXED (End the weekend mixing pins)

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## BEL-AIRE LANES

**MONDAYS**  
Beginning May 16  
8:00 P.M. MEN'S THIRD LEAGUE - Better Bowlers

**TUESDAYS**  
Beginning May 17  
8:00 P.M. FAMILY TOWNSOME - Youngster/Adult Combo  
8:00 P.M. FOUR GAL FUN LEAGUE  
8:00 P.M. GUTS & DOLLS - GALS VEGE LEAGUES

**WEDNESDAYS**  
Beginning May 11  
10:00 A.M. LADIES' MORNING COFFEE LEAGUE  
1:00 P.M. LADIES' AFTERNOON SWINGERS  
8:15 P.M. FOUR MAN FUN LEAGUE

**THURSDAYS**  
Beginning May 4  
8:45 STUDENTS' LEAGUE - Grade School Boys and Girls  
7:30 P.M. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS - Mixed League

**THURSDAYS**  
Beginning May 19  
7:30 P.M. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' Mixed League  
8:00 P.M. KINGS & QUEENS Mixed League

**FRIDAYS**  
Beginning May 15  
8:00 P.M. MIXED WEEKENDERS LEAGUE

**SATURDAYS**  
Beginning May 14  
8:00 P.M. MIXED SWINGERS LEAGUE

**SUNDAYS**  
Beginning May 15  
8:00 P.M. MIXED LOST WEEKENDERS FUN LEAGUE