

County reps bicker as SEMTA flap drags

Serious or not, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners is taking one more step toward pulling the county out of the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority.

The board asked County Executive Daniel T. Murphy to recommend ways to "rectify the uncertainties" about how Oakland could 1) quit SEMTA, 2) set up its own transit authority and 3) get state and federal funding for it.

Murphy's office told the board last week there were many doubts about setting up a county transit authority and getting it funded.

Commissioners also asked Attorney General Frank Kelley for his opinion on the "uncertainties" of the 1967 and 1976 state laws setting up SEMTA and funding it.

THE DEBATE touched on the question of whether Oakland was serious about setting up its own public transportation at a time when SEMTA, a seven-county agency, is moving toward a major 1990 project.

Commissioner Robert Page, R-Birmingham, who privately doubted a county system could be set up, urged passage of the resolution because "getting the facts is a worthwhile project. By developing facts, it may even change some minds."

Commissioner Robert Gorsline, R-Milford, said, "The county historically has been interested in working with the region. But is the reverse true? Is the region interested in us?"

TWO DEMOCRATIC commissioners, on the short side of the 21-3 vote,

called the study "a waste of time."

Larry Pernick, D-Southfield, said the county should prepare "constructive criticisms" of SEMTA's plans. He charged county officials have put no study into the SEMTA plan and will therefore be poorly prepared when SEMTA holds public hearings in September and October.

Dennis Aaron, D-Oak Park, said, "We are spinning our wheels to create another empire" — an Oakland County Transit Authority. He charged proponents of the study are "not interested in providing public transportation."

NEVER MENTIONED was the bone of contention between Oakland County and the SEMTA board — the proposal to run a light rail rapid transit line in the Woodward corridor.

Rally features Angela Davis

Put people before profits
keynote of a transition rally

Angela Davis, leader of the Black Liberation Movement, will be the keynote speaker at the rally, which will be held at the Oakland County Convention Center, 10000 Woodward Ave., on Monday, Aug. 20 at 7:30 p.m.

A full line-up of speakers will include: Angela Davis, Huey P. Newton, Bobby Seale, and others. Tickets are \$5.00.

Witch Watch

by GUNDELLA



How to spot omens of coming events

The other day, I was walking with a friend when we came to a small bush. She walked on one side of the bush and I walked on the other, allowing it to come between us.

When she saw this, my friend tapped my arm and said, "Bread and butter, hit each other."

I asked her why she did this, and she was amazed that I was not acquainted with this old superstition.

IT SEEMS THAT if two people walking together let anything come between them as they walk, they must observe this little ritual to preserve their friendship.

Otherwise, something will "come between them."

While I'm sure you don't believe in them, here are a few other old superstitions still observed by many people, just in case.

If you put any of your clothes on inside out, you should leave them that way, and not change them, or you will surely have bad luck.

IF YOU DROP silverware on the floor, it foretells the coming of company to your home. A knife represents a woman, a fork is a man, and a spoon is a child.

A man had better ne'er been born.

Than have his nails on Sunday shorn.

Cut them on Monday, cut them for health;

Cut them on Tuesday, cut them for wealth;

Cut them on Wednesday, cut them for news;

Cut them on Thursday for a pair of new shoes;

Cut them on Friday, cut them for sorrow;

Cut them on Saturday, see your sweetheart tomorrow.

A red spark on the wick of a candle signifies a letter coming to the person who sees it first.

A rabbit running across your path is an unfavorable sign.

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