

# Petition drive aims for 'water power'

City halls and township offices around the area this week began displaying petitions to regionalize the Detroit water and sewerage system, which serves some 100 communities in southeast Michigan.

"The secretary of state formally approved our petition wording Friday," said Oakland County Drain Commissioner George Kuhn, spokesman for the drive.

"We want to get 300,000 signatures from 20 counties in six months. We're shooting for the 1980 ballot. We want the people to vote it up or vote it down in 1980," Kuhn said.

Petitions will be displayed in clerks' and treasurers' offices and in some police departments in most of Oakland and much of Wayne counties.

The GROUP's formal name is Citizens for Regional Water and Sewer Systems Committee.

The petition drive, if successful, will place on the ballot a proposed state law to change the relationship between a city with a water and sewer system that is also serving non-resident customers. The law would apply only to systems that serve 25 percent or more of the state. Thus, only the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department would be affected.

At present, all seven Detroit water board members are appointed by the mayor of Detroit and removable at his will. Water and sewerage rates are set by the water board and the Detroit city council.

The proposed law would set up a metropolitan council on a one-government, one-vote basis. The council would appoint a nine-member regional water board on the same basis. Under this plan, Detroit would have three of the nine votes.

"WE CONSIDERED whether to use the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments in place of a metropolitan

"We're shooting for the 1980 ballot. We want the people to vote it up or vote it down in 1980."

— George Kuhn

council," Kuhn said, "and decided against it."

"Genesee County was adamant against it (SEMOG) because they are outside the region and couldn't be a member."

"Macomb County was against it, too, because they aren't and don't want to be a member of SEMOG."

Detroit has been selling water and sewerage services to outlying communities since the suburban boom following World War II but has retained political control of the system.

WHILE APPORTIONMENT of the Detroit water board has often been discussed in the Michigan Legislature, the issue has generated more heat in the last two years because of a federal suit against the Detroit sewage treatment plant's pollution of Lake Erie.

Corrections in the sewage treatment plant have required increased user rates of several hundred percent. There has been increased debate, both in and out of federal court, over whether the city alone can manage the system.

Theoretically, the legislature could respond to the petitions by enacting a change in the water board's governance. But Kuhn and suburban legislators doubt it will act, pointing to the defeat of less far-reaching proposals. They expect to go through with the initiative petition.

He bills the petition as "1) fighting pollution of the Great Lakes, 2) providing fair representation on the water board and 3) facilitating professional management of the sewage treatment plant at the lowest possible cost."

Discover... a better way to buy better furniture.

DOBBES

377 N. Main Street

14791 Eureka, SOUTHGATE

34150 Grafton (at 14 Mile)

19136 Telegraph (at 17 Mile)

Smiley Brothers

A TRUSTED NAME IN MUSIC

The finest keyboard products available!

● Baldwin pianos & organs ● Young Chang grands & consoles

● Hammond & Allen ● Sabatini harpsichords

● Marantz-Planocorder ● Select used instruments

"Memory" pianos

Rochester at 1449 N. Roch. Rd. 652-8238

Birmingham at 1010 N. Hunter, MI 7-1177

Also, Detroit & Dearborn



Season's Greetings from ANTARTEX



GIVE A GIFT OF WARMTH AND BEAUTY!

GIVE AN ANTARTEX SHEEPSKIN COAT



ANTARTEX shopping deserves regular attention from our fine Dry-Cleaning service. Also hats, mitts, wool sweaters and blankets. Layaways accepted.

HOURS: MON-SAT 10-5 THURS-FRI 11-9

Saks Fifth Avenue's Christmas Store Hours

For your shopping convenience, We'll be open in Troy on Friday, December 21, From 10 AM to 9 PM; Saturday, December 22, From 10 AM to 7 PM; Sunday, December 23, From 12 Noon to 5 PM; Monday, December 24, we'll be Open from 10 AM to 5 PM; And Wednesday, December 26, From 8:30 AM to 9 PM.

In Detroit, open Friday, From 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM; Saturday, open from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM; Monday, 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM; Wednesday, 9:30 AM to 6:30 PM.

Saks Fifth Avenue

Detroit, Second at Lothrop Troy, Somerset Mall, Big Beaver at Coolidge

argyle shop

has special HOLIDAY HOURS for your SHOPPING CONVENIENCE

Monday thru Friday 9:30 to 9 p.m. Saturday 9:30 to 6 p.m. Sunday 12 to 5 p.m.

Gene Birme and Harry Solomon

argyle shop

The latest styles in the best of taste Bloomfield Plaza 6320 Telegraph Road at Maple Road 625-9810 - 11

Krandall's invites you...

to bring your diamonds and jewelry in today and convert them into

Immediate Cash!

All discussions will be conducted in private offices with consideration for your confidence and respect for your dignity. Evaluations for purchase without obligation.

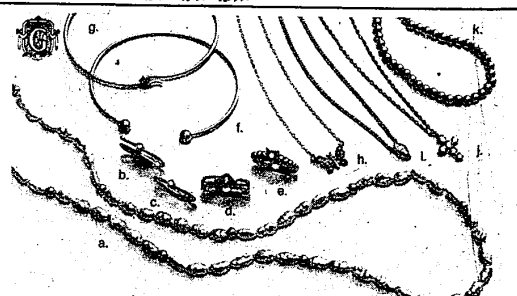
Sidney Krandall & Sons

755 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy, Michigan

(16 Mile at I-75) • Phone: 313-362-4500

The less he spoke, the more he heard: Why can't we all be like that bird?

-E. H. Richards



Innovative Creations of Competitive Value at 20% Savings

A. Bewa pearl gold bead necklace \$148 B. 2-diamond ring \$148 C. 1-diamond ring \$72 D. Ruby diamond ring \$186 E. Sapphire diamond ring \$200 F. 2-diamond bracelet \$248 G. 1-diamond bracelet \$192 H. Diamond butterfly pendant \$152 I. Diamond pendant \$720 J. Diamond cross pendant \$440 K. 32K Gold Bead Necklace \$316 Items are one of a kind. Subject to prior sale. Special Prices thru December 24.

GREENSTONE'S

Creators of Fine Jewelry for over 50 years

528 N. Woodward • Birmingham • 313-642-2650

Monday thru Saturday 9:30-5:30 Major Cards

Oriental Rugs

A MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR HER... AN INVESTMENT FOR YOU.

Mr. Robert Zahloute invites you to his shop to see his selection of newly imported, fine quality, specially priced Oriental rugs... exquisite complements to almost any home setting, whether contemporary or traditional. With striking colors and unique designs they add as much beauty to homes today as they did hundreds of years ago.

Oriental rugs, like most fine works of art, are increasing in value, making them an impressive sound investment.

Come talk with our fine staff for suggestions and ideas on how this ancient tradition can accent your home as a sound investment. Other services include cleaning, repairing, trading, buying, appraisals and brokerage of fine Oriental rugs.

Purveyors of Oriental rugs since 1897.

tadross & zahloute

Birmingham: 304 Hamilton Row—644-8200

Member of Oriental Rug Retailers of America.



Last chance to computerize your small business for nothing.

To celebrate our new Computer Store in Southfield, we're giving away a \$11,800 computer system. Absolutely free. To win, just drop by our Computer Store and enter. But do it soon, because time is running out.

Who knows? Your business could be computerized a lot sooner than you think.

Digital's Computer Store

4000 Town Center Southfield, (313) 352-4780. Mon.-Fri., 9 to 6.

digital

Looking for a long lasting gift? Refer yourself to one of these.

Here are some books that are exciting to receive, fun to look through and read for a couple of weeks, then important to put within reach for continuing reference in the future. In other words, a lasting gift.

First, the world's most prolific author presents the world's most fascinating facts, in *Isaac Asimov's Book of Facts* (Grosset & Dunlap, \$12.95). 3000 of the most astounding, unusual, educational, and entertaining facts ever assembled in one volume. This book is super.

Next, try the *International Geographic Encyclopedia and Atlas* (Houghton Mifflin, \$24.95). Every household should have one. This one volume, up-to-date encyclopedia is for those who haven't.

Then see *Yesterdays* (Norton, \$19.95), a delightful and informative book about popular music in America. This is an excellent addition to a music-loving reader's library.

Or try *High Tech* (Potter, \$27.50), an extraordinary source book of the dramatic new industrial style in home decorating. Lavishly illustrated and ac-

companied by text and guide to sources, it's a great gift for anyone interested in interior design.

For the photographer on your list, there's *The Art of Color Photography* (Simon & Schuster, \$29.95). John Hedgecoe, the highly acclaimed photography and author of *The Book of Photography*, presents a magnificently illustrated, concise and comprehensive guide to every aspect of seeing and taking great photographs.

Finally, what everyone who writes anything should have: *Doubleday Roget's Thesaurus* (Doubleday, \$7.95). It's the perfect all purpose thesaurus designed to be easy to use and time saving.

Any of these books will solve different gift problems. And if you don't have such a problem... why, give one to yourself.

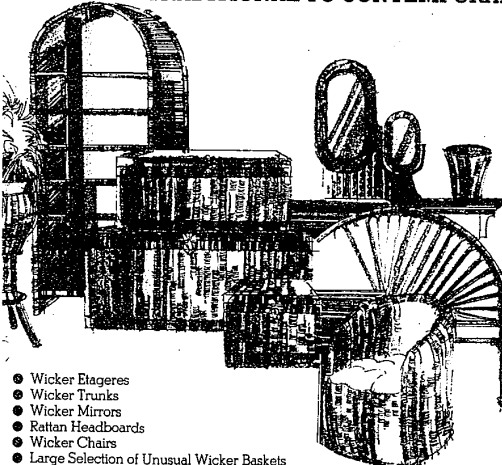
iBrowse

book store and coffee house

Northwestern Highway at Orchard Lake (next to Dunham's) 855-9353

Monday through Saturday: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

THE TIMELESS ELEGANCE OF WICKER & CANE... IT NEVER CEASES TO ENHANCE ANY ENVIRONMENT FROM TRADITIONAL TO CONTEMPORARY



- Wicker Etageres
- Wicker Trunks
- Wicker Mirrors
- Rattan Headboards
- Wicker Chairs
- Large Selection of Unusual Wicker Baskets



JAMMIES RUSTICS

COMPLETELY CASUAL FURNITURE

BIRMINGHAM ROCHESTER LYONMA

221 Hamilton 628 No. Main 2850 W. Big Hills

(N. of 15 Mile, near Woodward & Hamilton, Valley Creekway) 652-1080 (East W. of Middlebrook)

044-1919 Daily 9:30-5:30 622-6200

Thurs. & Fri. 10-9 Daily 9:30-5:30 Mon.-Thurs. Fri. 10-9

Use your Master Charge or Visa