

# Oakland Dems seek 'watchers' of GOP boards

"People behave differently when they know you're watching them," says Commissioner Lawrence R. Pernick, chairman of the Democratic caucus on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

Pernick is looking for watchers. Specifically, he is looking for persons to watch the Oakland County Road Commission on behalf of the Democrats.

For years, the three-member road commission — appointed by the elective county board — has been bipartisan. This year, the 15-12 GOP majority on the county board decided to make the road commission all Republican.

"Bipartisan government in Oakland County is dead," said Pernick. "Whatever happened to the 45 percent of the

popular vote the Democrats received in the November 1978 election? Republicans are not allowing the Democrats their right to participate in government. They have reduced Democratic representation on all county committees and independent boards and commissions."

WHAT THE Democratic commis-

sioners are seeking is a volunteer to act as an observer at road commission meetings, reporting back to the Democratic caucus of the county board.

"I had a call from a man in the West Bloomfield homeowners' association," Pernick said.

Interested persons should send a resume to: Lawrence R. Pernick, Demo-

cratic Caucus Chairperson; 24901 Northwestern, Suite 514-C, Southfield, MI 48075. That's his business address.

The Democratic caucus will then select an official observer. The observer will not, however, be a spokesperson for the Democratic caucus.

"These citizen representatives will be able to provide the Democratic caucus and the people of Oakland County important information about what is happening with our county roads," said Pernick.

General Assembly meeting in that capacity.

"We have been reduced to only one seat out of seven on the board of institutions and to only one seat out of nine on the parks and recreation board," he added.

Pernick announced no immediate plans to send observers to the other boards.

When the Republican caucus earlier this year began reducing Democratic appointments, the Oakland County Democratic Party hired a staff person, Bunny Goldman, to do research for Democratic commissioners and help develop issues. The citizen volunteers would augment her work, Pernick said.

Board Democrats offered their own "state of the county" message, asking Republicans to restore Democratic representation on committees and boards. So far, Republicans have not changed their minds, although the controversy temporarily split the GOP caucus.

## What's new in science? Visit LIT

Play blackjack with a computer... watch a laser light show... see glow sticks made from liquid light... or listen to Renaissance music.

Those are some of the lures Lawrence Institute of Technology is offering at its open house Saturday and Sunday, April 28-29.

More than 100 exhibits and displays will be on tap on LIT's campus at 22100 W. 10 Mile, Southfield from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. There is no admission charge.

Each year more than 5,000 persons visit to get a closeup of LIT's programs and a look at the latest advances in technology.

THIS YEAR'S displays and events will include:

An on-going test of bottled versus canned drinks, a laser light show with "dancing lasers", a measurement of the gravitation field of Earth, using high speed counters and a pendulum, and a live performance of Renaissance music.

Also featured will be an electronic dice game and roulette wheel, a demonstration of the Stirling engine, which works on an external combustion system using heat instead of gasoline; vehicle handling tests of three sports cars, with free rides for the public; and a computer that can tabulate one's biometrics.

And there will be tours of the campus.

Keynote speaker Roger B. Smith, executive vice president of General Motors, will be at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 26 in the LIT science auditorium.

## Architecture buffs to tour bank in Troy

The Detroit chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) will open another season of Sunday tours with a public open house at the Detroit Bank — Troy.

The tour will run from 2-5 p.m. April 22. The bank is located at 4999 Crooks at the corner of Long Lake Road.

The architectural firm of Harley Ellington Pierce Yee Associates of Southfield will provide guides, assisted by bank personnel.

"Architects' Sunday," as the series is called, is expected to draw even greater attendance this year, the AIA said. At least one tour is planned each month. Spotlighted buildings are designed by Detroit chapter member firms.

Detroit Bank — Troy contains 5,000 square feet of space and full banking services. A major aim of the architect was to provide a strong visual presence to link it with the community. The building has a rough-sawn cedar facade to maintain the character of the residential setting.

The Detroit chapter of AIA is a component of the 1,200-member Michigan Society of Architects. Chapter headquarters is in the historic Beaubien house in downtown Detroit.



James K. Bakken (center) of Ford Motor Co. presents officials of Lawrence Institute of Technology with a \$75,000 check for the college's mechanical engineering department. From left: George O. Keutgen, Ford manufacturing staff; Wayne H. Buell, LIT board chairman; Bakken, vice president of operations support staffs for Ford; Stephen R. Davis, LIT dean of engineering; and Richard Marburger, president of LIT.

## \$75,000 aids new LIT program

Lawrence Institute of Technology in Southfield is getting \$75,000 in two years because Ford Motor Co. is worried about the dwindling supply of manufacturing engineers.

The University of Michigan-Dearborn will receive \$275,000 over five years under the same program.

LIT will use the funds to create a manufacturing engineering option in the mechanical engineering department of the School of Engineering. Ford gave a first-year check of \$75,000.

According to a Ford Motor Co. Fund announcement. Funds will be used for curriculum development, acquisition of materials and initial funding of a program director. Each school plans to establish an industry advisory committee to aid in establishing their new programs.

The fund is a nonprofit corporation operated for charitable, educational and scientific purposes. It is supported by Ford Motor Co. It is not related to the Ford Foundation.

## Roll Call Report Wage-Price Council extended

Here's how area House members were recorded on major roll call votes March 15 through March 21. There were no Senate votes.

### HOUSE

**WAGE COUNCIL** — The House passed, 242-175, bill HR2283 extending the life of the Council on Wage and Price Stability for one year, increasing the council's annual budget to \$8.48 million and expanding its staff from 39 to 233. The council, a White House adjunct, monitors President Carter's wage and price guidelines. It lacks authority to impose wage and price controls. The bill was sent to the Senate.

Rep. William Moorhead, D-Pa., a supporter, said: "A vote against this bill amounts to throwing up your hands in despair — or else putting all your chips on a very restrictive fiscal and monetary policy with all of the accompanying risks or recessions or worse. To me the choice seems very clear."

Rep. Robert Bauman, R-Md., an opponent, said: "Only in the wonder-

land that is the Congress... could we possibly think we are addressing the problem of inflation by not only extending... an agency that is virtually useless and ought to be abolished, but by increasing its budget by 300 percent... and its staff from 39 permanent employees to 233."

Members voting "yes" wanted to keep the Council on Wage and Price Stability in operation.

Rep. David Bonior, D-Mt. Clemens, William Ford, D-Taylor, William Broadhead, D-Detroit, James Blanchard, D-Pleasant Ridge, and William Broomfield, R-Bloomfield Twp., voted "yes."

Rep. Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, voted "nay."

**BALANCED BUDGET** — Voting 201-199, the House decided to not allow a budget-balancing amendment to be offered to the debt ceiling bill.

The effect of the vote was to turn away the proposed amendment, which sought to require Congress to balance the federal budget beginning in fiscal

1981, unless by a two-thirds majority Congress permitted a deficit in a given fiscal year.

This vote came prior to passage of HR2534, which raised the national debt ceiling to \$530 billion through September. HR 2534 was sent to the Senate.

Members voting "yes" argued that the debt-ceiling bill was the improper vehicle for a balanced-budget amendment. Rep. Joseph Fisher, D-Va., said "the correct way to deal with (a balanced budget) is in connection with the budget resolution, and even more, in connection with the appropriation measures..."

Rep. James Jones, R-Okla., who voted "yes," said: "The only way an alcoholic can become sober and stay sober... is to put a cork in the bottle and quit drinking."

Members voting "nay" wanted an opportunity to offer their budget-balancing amendment to the debt ceiling bill.

Bonior, Ford, Broadhead and Blanchard voted "yes."

Pursell and Broomfield voted "nay."

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