

State selling property at public auction

Excess state highway property in Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties will be offered for sale at a 2 p.m. July 15 public auction in Southfield.

The auction, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Transportation, will be in Room 115 of the Southfield Highway and Recreation Building, 26000 Evergreen Road.

Three of the larger parcels are in Oakland County, including 45 acres in Farmington Hills, on the south side of I-696, one-and-one-half miles east of

the I-696/I-696 interchange. The parcel carries a minimum opening bid of \$250,000.

Other Oakland County parcels include 2.6 acres in Southfield, on the north side of the Northwestern Highway-Southfield Road intersection; minimum bid, \$50,700, and 15,120 square feet in Bloomfield Township, on the southwest side of Telegraph Road, one-quarter mile northwest of Square Lake Road; minimum bid, \$45,000.

In Wayne County, two parcels of 8,000 square feet and 7,988 square feet in Plymouth Township are up for bid. Each lot has a brick single-family house on it at 14685 and 14695 Bradner Road. The lots are located on the south side of M-14, one mile east of Plymouth. Minimum bid is \$28,100 for the larger lot and \$21,000 for the smaller.

A brochure containing sketches, descriptions and locations of the parcels may be obtained from the Transportation Department's Right-of-Way field office, 12800 W. Ten Mile Road, Huntington Woods, 48070; phone, 545-5322.

Alaska not job-seeker paradise

Re-elected

Charles R. Shafer, president of Michigan National Bank-Oakland, has been re-elected vice-chairman of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority by the regional parks group's board of commissioners. Shafer has been on the HCMA board for four years. Other HCMA officers include Thomas Welsh, Macomb County public works director, chairman, and Jeanette S. Weiss, a governor appointee, treasurer.

Think again before packing the bags and parkas and heading northwest to Alaska's oil-based mother lode. Despite a notoriety brought about by oil development, Alaska's economy remains small and highly seasonal compared to other parts of the country.

Edmund N. Orbeck, the state's commissioner of labor, urged job seekers to seek jobs elsewhere or stay where they're at, "because there is not an abundance of jobs to be had in the state."

Orbeck said the unemployment rate in the state is one of the highest in the nation at 11 percent and in some parts 20 percent. The cost of living also remains high.

CURRENTLY, there is an oversupply of unskilled labor throughout the state. Semiskilled and skilled labor, though not in oversupply, is already available in adequate numbers for most employers' needs.

Because of the current economic situation in many parts of the U.S., Alaskan workers who are employed are staying at their jobs. As a result, job openings due to turnover are down.

"The recent publicity about Alaska doing away with income tax is somewhat misleading," Orbeck said, "because an employee must file state returns for three years to be totally exempt from state income taxes."

"No final decisions have been made on construction of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline, and construction is not foreseen until the mid-'80s."

"If the line is built, there are already more than enough workers living in Alaska to fill all but the most technical jobs," he said.

Art classes begin this month

Summer classes at Pontiac Art Center run from June 30 to Aug. 3. Adult and children's classes are offered five days a week.

Register at the art center between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Mondays-Fridays.

Among the classes offered will be "Kits and Flying Art," "Carving and Whittling," "Puppets and Masks" and "Enameling and Cloisonne."

Other classes will be a lecture series, "A Painter's Picasso," beginning ballet, calligraphy and a variety of courses for preschoolers and adults.

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