

Silverdome gets new director

R. Clayton Jones has been named executive director of the Pontiac Silverdome.

Jones, 50, has served as vice president of the Silverdome since 1971. He was also Pontiac's housing director since '71.

"This is not the first time I was asked to be the director (of the Silverdome)," Jones said. "But this time I decided to accept. The timing was right, and I have the desire to extend myself."

Jones said a director must have administrative skills, have the ability to work with people and the knowledge of the stadium industry.

"I've negotiated every major contract they've had," he added.

He is responsible for managing the facility, being secretary to the stadium's board of directors, negotiating contracts, overseeing parking, security and promotions.

"I want to fill the place with the kinds of quality programs that the 120 vendors can make money from. I want to attract quality shows like the Boll-



R. Clayton Jones "timing was right"

ing Stones as well as smaller shows."

The Silverdome's operating budget is \$7.8 million, Jones said. The stadium has 32 permanent employees.

When the Silverdome was first built, it required a subsidy from the city of Pontiac. This year, it should break even and by next year, Jones said, he doesn't want to receive any money from the city.

Jones replaces Gordon Matthews, who died in May.

Oakland asks U.S. funds to train 10,000

About 10,000 eligible Oakland County residents can look forward to job training classes to be offered this fall.

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners recently approved a county request for \$10 million to be allocated for Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) programs.

Harold McKay, manager of the county's employment and training division, said the three six-month training periods should yield about 80 percent job placement for 10,000 participants.

"They (students) will have on the job training and well as classroom training," he said.

THE BULK of the courses — 104 — will be in fields related to high technology, where demand is strongest, McKay said.

"We want our people to be employable when they're finished," he added.

The federally funded program is designed to provide unemployed persons, or those with a family-of-four income under \$12,000, with employable skills.

By the end of August, contracts will be awarded to businesses willing to participate.

"We're working with about 500 small businesses, this year. The majority of employment comes from small businesses," McKay said.

"All of our training is done within our communities," he explained.

TO SIGN up for the training program, notify one of the following offices:

- Berkley Community Placement, 14501 Talbot, Oak Park 48072.
- Ferndale Project Jobs, 211 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale 48220.
- Oak Park Community Placement, 13701 Oak Park Boulevard, Oak Park, 48237.
- Oakland-Livingston Human Services Agency, 106 Oakland Ave., Pontiac, 48058 (youth only).
- Troy VIP, 201 W. Square Lake, Troy, 48068.
- Southwest Community Employment Service, PO Box 258, 43315 Sixteenth, Novi, 48050.

New laws cover flare pistols in state

New laws regulating the sale and ownership of flare guns, have now gone into effect.

The laws exempt retailers and purchasers of flare gun pistols from handgun purchase permit and registration requirements. But at the same time, they restrict sales to boaters or pilots who are 18 or older.

The purchaser is required to present a boat registration or bill of sale or airplane pilot license to the retailer in order to purchase a flare gun pistol. Possession and transportation of the devices is restricted for use in conjunction with boating and aircraft emergencies.

When traveling between home and boating use, the device has to be unloaded, enclosed in a case and carried in a trunk of the vehicle. If the vehicle does not have a trunk, it should be transported in the area not readily accessible to the occupants of the vehicle.

A person who uses a device in violation of the act is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$200.

'Due on sale' initiative wins general ballot spot

The Consumer's Committee to Protect Mortgage Rights says its petition drive to place an initiative before Michigan voters was certified by the Board of Canvassers in Lansing.

The initiative, which will appear on the Nov. 2 ballot, will codify into the statute law of the so-called Nichols decision. That decision said mortgage lenders may not enforce a due-on-sale clause unless they can demonstrate that their security would be impaired by the sale.

The clause requires a seller to pay off the balance of his mortgage when he transfers the property, thus enabling lenders to call in low, old-interest loans.

The petition drive gathered 324,477 signatures by the deadline date. This was one of the larger number of signatures gathered for any petition drive in this election year, according to Sandy Eichenhorn of Consumer's Committee to Protect Mortgage Rights.

New SEMTA post for Whitty

Gail A. Whitty of Birmingham has been promoted to manager of communications of the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority. The announcement was made by Marvin Meltzer, SEMTA's director of public affairs.

In her new position, the former SEMTA coordinator of community relations-rail projects will have responsibility for media relations, internal and

external publications and employee relations. She replaces Aretha Jackson, who has left SEMTA.

Prior to joining SEMTA in 1977, Whitty held a variety of public relations and administrative positions with Marygrove College, the University of Minnesota and the city of Detroit. She is also a former instructor at Wayne State University.

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