Let's compete for high-tech jobs

Oakland County bopes to launch its own version of the "Say, Yes to Michigan" campaign.
Instead of tourists, the county plans to lure high technology employers.
Oakland County Executive Daniel T. Murphy proposed to the Board of Cominisationers that Oakland apend \$100,000 on advertiling, consultants.
"Until now, we have chosen not to complete for globe and business, in the outpet of the sand business, in the outpet of the sand business, in the outpet of the sand business, in the said Murphy.

"We can no longer rest on our laurels, or wall for the state compile development effort to bear fruit." If the board says was to Murphy, the funds would come from a county surplus or contingency fund and be transferred to the Oakland County Economic Development Corp.

AT LEAST ONE commissioner, how-

AT LEAST ONE commissioner, how-ever, already has raised objections. Alexander C. Perinoff, D-Southfield,

'Computer' added to OU school's title

School's title

The Oakland University School of Engineering has been renamed the School of Engineering has been renamed the School of Engineering and Computer Science to reflect the growing numbers of students enrolled in the computer field.

The Board of Trustees approved the name change at its meeting last week. In a separate board action, Mohammed S. Ghausi of Bloomfield Illis was reappointed to a second five-year term as deam.

Under Chaust's leadership, the engineering school's enrollments were increased and a new center for robotics and advanced automotion were established.

The engineering school began offering programs in computer and information science nine years ago. It now offers undergraduate and master's degree programs in those fields.

Remember when you sold Girl Scout Cookies?





can't wait for state

a member of the board's finance com-mittee, said, "it seems all wo're doing is spending money for consultants. I can't see any (reason) to justify that kind of expense.
"Why don't we say yes to Oakland by putling the 27 deputles (laid off from the county's road patrol back on the job? We need them."

Commissioner Lillian V. Moffitt, R. Bloomfield Township, also a member of the finance committee, disagreed. Calling it a wise investment, she said, "It's an excellent idea. I wholehearted-

"But I'd like to see an outline of the plan and a quarterly status report as to the progress (of the campaign)."

MURPHY SAID \$500,000 is "just a ballpark figure." He added that a full plan hasn't been prepared. The "investment will pay off" by

creating new jous journal and a said.

"Oakland County has one of the highest uncomployment rates in the nation," Murphy said. "Last Christmas, we were one of 10 counties singled out by the governor for the emergency food pro-

governor for the emergency food pro-gram.

We must face the ugly fact that we're losing the battle for jobs and business, and we must roll up our sleeves and step into the fray.

The campaign will concentrate on attracting large new business and in-dustrial development to Oakland Coun-ty, Murphy said.

The emphasis will be on high tech-nology fields such as robotics, various research and development and comput-ing, he added. But we will also seek to have regional headquarters located in our county, as well as special recre-ation developments.

ation developments.*

PLENTY OF LAND is available for this new industrial development, Murphy sald. Oakland University has proposed a 356-acre site near the campus as a high technology park for companies to construct research, development and testing facilities. Another 760 acres of undeveloped property in Pontlac Township could be inade available for that purpose, Murphy sald. "In the next two to three years, there will be many people trained for technical jobs. The federal government's new Job Training Participation Act says we must retrain the unemployed. "If we're going to have jobs for

"If we're going to have jobs for them, if we're going to have someplace for them to, go, then we must feetourage) technical industries to locate here." Murphy added. "Otherwise, we're going to lose that (work) force. They're going to go outside the state of Michigan."

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