

County brightens lamp of learning

By Kathy Parrish
staff writer

Oakland County long has encouraged its employees to take courses related to their jobs.

Now members of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners can go back to school free, too.

"Why should the lamp of learning and enlightenment be extinguished for commissioners?" asked Commissioner Alexander C. Perinoff, D-Southfield, at last week's board meeting.

"God only knows that we need it. Let us take advantage wherever we can of educational opportunities," said Perinoff, an attorney. Fellow commissioners applauded.

LAST YEAR, the county spent \$105,000 to help 329 employees get more education.

The Board of Commissioners objected last week to the county's rewritten tuition reimbursement policy which would have excluded them. Voting 21-4, commissioners changed the merit system rule to cover themselves.

Director of personnel James Dunkel said that in 1979 the county civil council ruled commissioners should not receive the benefit, which now pays up to \$400 a semester or \$1,200 yearly.

That decision came after the elected officials twice turned down resolutions

spelling out the way they would be reimbursed. Dunkel said counsel concluded commissioners did not want the tuition benefit.

"Our office very thoroughly researched this and reflected on the current state of the art," said Dunkel. Commissioners were not applying for or using the benefit.

TUITION IS refunded to all county employees for course work related to a county job they now hold. Dunkel said that would be very broad for different kinds of committees.

One of those opposed to commissioners' getting tuition refunds was Vice Chairwoman Lillian V. Moffitt, R-Bloomfield.

"We do need education, but this is a part-time job, and we do have time to do that," Moffitt said. "And we do attend workshops, so you can't say commissioners are being denied education."

Commissioner Betty Fortino, D-Pontiac, said that while she attended Eastern Michigan University and Oakland University at her own expense, several classmates were getting their tuition paid by Oakland County.

"Many of the people attending were highly paid employees of this county," she recalled. "If you agree with the philosophy that it pays to educate them, why exclude the people who set the policy for this county?"

Congressman calls subway dead

By Tim Richard
staff writer

"Additionally, the committee continues to have reservations about the underground portion of the plan and suggests that this portion be reconsidered."

The death knell for an underground light rail line in the Woodward Avenue corridor was sounded last week in a congressional report on a \$10.9-billion transportation budget bill.

"That's my point of view," said U.S. Rep. Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, a long-time advocate of public transportation who has soured on the subway idea of the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority.

"It's just not in the cards. We're not funding a subway in the nation. Absolutely none. Anybody in southeastern Michigan who thinks we're going to fund a subway is whistling 'Dixie,'" Pursell said.

The building and planning committee of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners will take the subway issue

up at its Thursday afternoon meeting. Some Oakland commissioners have threatened the county would pull out of SEMTA if it adopts a plan calling for a subway.

PURSELL TOLD of the political buzzaw he ran into on the transportation subcommittee of the powerful House Appropriations Committee.

House and Senate conferees last week agreed on \$45 million for a downtown Detroit people mover. The Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority plans to break ground in September for the \$134-million rail loop through downtown Detroit.

Significantly, the people mover will require no local match construction money. It will be entirely federally funded as a demonstration grant. That proviso got Pursell some flak from a member of the Texas delegation, who asked:

"Why does Detroit get this without local match?"

THERE'S STIFF competition for

'It's just not in the cards. We're not funding a subway in the nation. Absolutely none. Anybody in southeastern Michigan who thinks we're going to fund a subway is whistling 'Dixie.'

— U.S. Rep. Carl Pursell



funds from the federal government, which provides 80 percent of the capital money for public transit.

"A lot of western and southern cities are getting interested in mass transit — would you believe that?" Pursell

said. But the appropriations committee won't consider putting any new projects underground because of budget constraints, he said. Only renovations to existing subways will be considered.

OU cancels sect's campus meeting

A national conference which would have brought 1,000 members of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam to Oakland University this weekend has been cancelled for safety reasons.

OU officials Wednesday announced the decision to call off the two-day meeting was spurred by the slaying of one leader of the sect, the attempted fire-bombing of a second leader's home and a fire in the sect's temple in which two bodies were found.

They said no campus conference has

ever been cancelled for a similar reason.

"In view of the tragic events of the past several days and the university's responsibility to assure the reasonable safety of all of its students and conferees as well as those attending campus events, we feel it would be imprudent to continue with the original plans made a year ago to hold the conference on this campus at this time," said Keith Kleckner, OU senior vice president and provost.

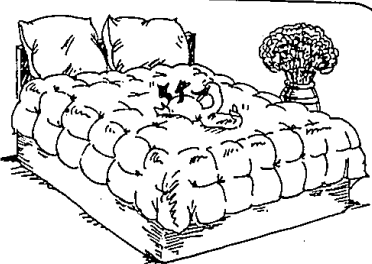
The decision took place after Tuesday's shooting of the local secretary of the Ahmadi sect in his Canton Township home. There was also an attempt that night to firebomb the Clinton Township home of the sect's treasurer.

OU officials met Tuesday with leaders of the sect, which began in India and Pakistan as an off-shoot of Islam. Conference organizers were offered a chance to persuade the university not to cancel the upcoming event.

"Organizers of the conference were

most gracious and cooperative in working with the university in every regard in connection with this conference," added Kleckner, who said his office will help the group minimize inconvenience to members resulting from the cancellation.

"We deplore the senseless acts of violence which compromise the ability of people to meet in a peaceful assembly without concerns for their personal safety and the safety of others in their proximity."



25% OFF

TWIN	Reg. \$205.	SALE \$154.
FULL	Reg. \$240.	SALE \$180.
QUEEN	Reg. \$285.	SALE \$214.
KING	Reg. \$350.	SALE \$263.

Down-to-Earth Prices

Have you often dreamed of owning a Scandia Down® comforter? Now we've made it easier to satisfy your desire.

Elysia™, our lightest, goose-down comforter, offers the luxurious European sleepstyle, at remarkable prices.

Made as impeccably as

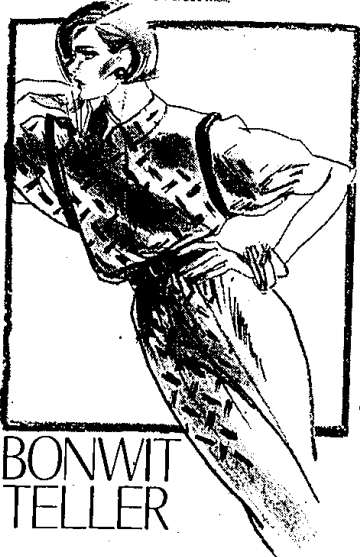
Scandia
Down Shops®

our other down products, Elysia features square quilting to give an exact amount of down everywhere. Covered in breathable 100% cotton ticking. 3-year limited warranty. Priced so your entire family can enjoy down delights. Sale ends Sept. 3.

Limited to stock on hand. Conveniently located at HUNTERS SQUARE MALL, Orchard Lake & 14 Mile Rds. 855-5720

THE SHIRT-DRESS. RELAXED.

Success is easier than ever! By Jeannene Booher for Meggy London in a red/black spaced print with hidden button front, elastic waist. Rayon crepe, self belted, for 4 to 14 sizes, \$20.00 Miss Bonwit Dresses, Second Floor, Somerset Mall.



BONWIT
TELLER

CALL 843 8700 2701 SOMERSET MALL, TROY.



Loehmann's

You are cordially invited
to attend our

Fashion Preview-
Fall '83

MONDAY, AUGUST 15TH.

9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

INFORMAL MODELING ALL DAY

Designer Dresses, Coats, Suits, Gowns, Sportswear, Sweaters,
Outerwear and Accessories — All at Our Legendary Low Prices.

NOW MORE THAN EVER...

Shopping at Loehmann's
has always meant saving a fortune on the
finest Designer Fashions for women.

Don't miss this unique opportunity
to see our spectacular selection of Fall Fashions —
each priced to live up to Loehmann's reputation for value.

If you have never visited Loehmann's before,
this is a perfect occasion to get to know us. If you're already
one of our customers, then you know
you won't want to miss this exciting shopping experience.

Monday, August fifteenth

Make this fashion date to see for yourself
why Loehmann's began as an idea...and became a legend.

Farmington Hills • Loehmann's at Hunter Square
Located on the Southwest Corner of Orchard Lake Road and
Fourteen Mile Road