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Open to the public, the seminar is \$7.50 with a cash bar. To make reservations, call the bar office at \$38-2100 or \$98-3937.

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Realtors, Bar hold seminar

Oakland County Bar Association's real estate committee has scheduled an attorney/realtor crossfire for 7-10 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, in the Birmingham Community House. Attorneys and members of the Realtor Board will face-off on selected topics with audience participation encouraged.

Topics will include warranties vs. "as is" and discipliners in

## Levin says budget cuts hit cities the hardest

Paring the federal debt is going to put the squeeze on local communities. That's the consensus of five Democrats who spoke to the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) about the Reagan administration's proposed budges!

tion's proposed budget.

"Your role is key," said U.S. Rep. Sander Levin,
D-Southfield, urging SEMCOG's executive committee to protest budget cuts in programs which aid
local governments.

"You need to help Washington and the country
take a basic look at what these programs are
about."

SPEAKING TO the SEMCOG officials were Levin, who represents Michigan's 17th District in suburban Wayne and Oakland counties; Wallace Holland, Fondac mayor, Richard Petticrew, chalirman of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners; Dadrid Rutledge, Superior Township supervisor; and Charlotte Rothstein, Oak Park mayor. Saline Mayor Donald Shelton chaired the panel.

Under discussion was the Reagan administrations proposed federal badget, which calls for \$40 million in reductions to domestic spending programs.

ELIMINATED would be:

• General Revenue Sharing — a general purpose grant which funds a variety of local government functions from recreation to police and fire protection. In 1984, southeast Michigan received 58.8 million from the federal General Revenue

\$98.8 million from the federal General Revenue Sharing.

■ Urban Development Action Grants — a program gives distressed communities financial assistance with economic development projects. Last year, southeast Michigan communities received \$19.5 million to spur construction and create jobs in depressed areas.

● Mass Transit Operating Subsidies — federal subsidies for mass transit operations in liscal year 1984 accounted for \$42 million of the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authoritys \$99-million budget and \$46 million of Detroit Department of Transportation's \$121-million budget.

● Community Development Block Grant — U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's principal program to help local governments with community development needs. In 1984, southeast Michigan received \$76.8 million.

ADDRESSING THE public officials last week in the Dearborn Inn, Levin said more than half of the proposed federal budget cuts would relate to local units.

Inits.

The administration's goal, he believes, is to let rates and cities pay for such programs as subsidired housing. "It not only reduces federal spending but forces local tarapares to consider whether these programs are of benefit." Levin said.

He pressed the SEMCOG delegates, most of whom are elected officials, to make their desires, known at the national level. "You're going to have to do the same things as the farmers," explained Levin, adding that the entire South Dakota legislature was in Washington to discuss farmers' concerns.

eerns.
"We need this debate in American society."

'Your role is key. You need to help Washington and the country take a basic look at what these programs (aid to cities) are about.'

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Sander Levin to local leaders



The second-term U.S. representative said be is personally "looking forward to the battle over what our priorities should be in the country."

our priorities abould be in the country."

ALL OF THE panellist expressed concern over proposed cutbacks which would take away funds they now rely on for programs.

Pontiac would be heavily affected, because of its 78,000 population 20 percent are unemployed. Pontiac Mayor Holland said his community relies on block grants, public transportation, summer the one block grants, public transportation, summer the control of the public transportation, summer than the properties of the public transportation, summer than the public transportation, summer than the public transportation, summer than the public transportation and there has to be an assessment of these programs, "said the Pontiles mayor. "But I don't think you can just pull the rug out from underneath cities without considering what you pull the rug from underneath."

OAK PARK Mayor Charlotte Rothstein said her

OAK PARK Mayor Charlotte Rothstein said her south Oakina city also woold suffer.
"The city of Oak Park has tried fregally to consolidate its operations," hes explained, adding that it has reduced personnel from 201 to 186 full time and from 570 to 259 part-time employees.
Doing away with revenue sharing funds would cut out six public safety officers and four public works employees.
"We are at our tax limitations. People are tired of taxes and don't want to hear about taxes anymore," Rothstein said.

more," Rothstein said.

CALLING THE panel discussion a "Democratic forum," SEMCOG delegate Fred Korzon objected to some of the points made by the speakers.

The Bloomfield Township supervisor, a Republican, said his community no longer takes part in federal revenue sharing and block grant programs. Instead, it tries to take as much financial responsibility as possible at the local level.

"There has to be some cutting," said Korzon. "You cannot any longer just hand out federal dollars. They are our kids' and our grandkids' dollars. They are our kids' and our grandkids' dollars. "It's time to cut and get the country fiscally responsible again."

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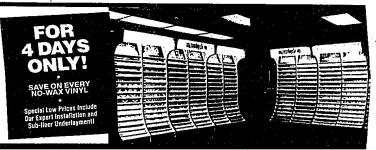
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