

Parting gift: drug ordinance



By Tim Richard
Staff writer

Maybe it was because it was Betty Fortino's last day after a dozen years on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

Or maybe the holiday season made majority Republicans feel charitable toward Democrat Fortino.

Most likely, however, it was because the Michigan Legislature failed to pass a bill to outlaw the sale of drug paraphernalia that the Oakland County board decided last week to pass its own ordinance, as proposed by Fortino.

"Is this Betty Fortino's going-away present?" quipped Commissioner Roy Rowland, R-Rochester. Fortino was elected clerk of Waterford Township Nov. 4.

THE BOARD gave 26-0 approval,

without discussion, to the ordinance sponsored by Fortino, D-Waterford, and co-sponsored by James Doyon, D-Madison Heights.

If signed by Gov. James J. Blanchard — who indicated his support during a campaign appearance here last fall — the ordinance will prohibit trade in "hash" pipes, cocaine spoons, empty gelatin capsules and syringes.

"I'm sympathetic with the effort — to the extent it's constitutional," Blanchard said.

In past debate, Commissioner John Olsen, R-Huntington Woods, who chairs the general government committee, argued that the matter

was best handled by state legislation.

A bill sponsored by Sen. William Sederburg, R-East Lansing, passed the state Senate Sept. 18 but floundered in the House Judiciary Committee.

Joseph Mullen, the Oakland board's legislative researcher, reported, "Apparently, (House Judiciary) Committee Chairman Perry Bullard (D-Ann Arbor) has refused to consider the bill. Thus, it will die at the end of the year."

TWO CITIES in Oakland County have passed such measures and had them challenged in federal court in 1980.

Novi's was upheld, but Ferndale was struck down.

A constitutional question could face Oakland's ordinance: Does it attempt to regulate interstate commerce, an area the U.S. Constitution reserves to Congress?

Some — such as Republican gubernatorial nominee William Lucas, a former Wayne County sheriff and FBI agent — argue it's useless to consider anything but a national law because of the ease with which criminals can cross unguarded state and local boundaries.

But in co-sponsor Doyon's words, "county ordinance will 'send a message' to criminal elements."

Dem chief

Louis L. Miller, of Farmington Hills, was elected chairman of the Oakland County Democratic Party, succeeding Mary Ryan Teras of Birmingham. Miller, president and chief operating officer of Financial Data Systems Inc., was party treasurer for two years and was the 1984 nominee for Oakland County treasurer.

Truck-car death toll soaring

Citing an alarming increase in accidents and fatalities involving trucks, AAA Michigan released a study that urges 50 legislative and regulatory changes to make state roads safer for car and truck drivers.

Total fatal traffic accidents in the state rose 10 percent from 1982 through 1985, but fatal crashes involving trucks jumped 41 percent, according to the yearlong study entitled "Cars and Trucks: Sharing the Road Safely."

"It is almost a certainty that in fatal accidents involving cars and heavy trucks, it is the car occupants who will be killed," said AAA Michigan President Jack Avignone. "And this situation is becoming worse in Michigan."

THE STUDY found the motorist is most often killed because trucks have become longer, wider and heavier, while cars have become smaller and lighter to increase fuel efficiency.

The study also cites inadequate truck maintenance, more overweight trucks, speeding, overly fatigued truckers and motorists who fail to understand the limitations of trucks as major reasons for the dramatic rise in truck-related accidents.

AAA Michigan's Safety and Traffic Department computer-analyzed 782 police accident records for 1985 involving serious injuries and deaths. A total of 879 driving records of those involved in these accidents were also studied.

"We found that fault for most of the accidents was shared equally by truckers and motorists," Avignone explained. But investigators found that information regarding fault often came from truckers — the survivors.

OF THE 175 people who died in those accidents, 73 percent were in cars or other vehicles, and 11 percent were in trucks. The remaining deaths were pedestrians or cyclists.

The at-fault truckers and motorists in these 1985 accidents had worse driving records than 90 percent of other Michigan motorists, the study found.

In seven years, they accumulated more violation points for traffic offenses, had more accidents, received more license suspensions and revocations and had more alcohol-related citations than most motorists receive in a lifetime.

"We have provided copies of the study to state legislators, circuit court judges, 500 police agencies, trucking companies, Michigan's congressional delegation and selected federal legislative committees," Avignone said.

AAA'S SPECIFIC recommendations include governmental action to:

- Restrict heavy trucks to the freeway's right lanes except when passing, entering or leaving, or facing a hazard. Many of the more than 5,000 people who responded to a AAA magazine survey complained that heavy trucks often use every freeway lane, preventing motorists from passing, provoking them to tailgate and causing potential danger to all drivers.

- Require that all heavy trucks be equipped with tachographs, tamper-resistant devices to record information on speed, distance and time traveled and rest periods. Tachographs would help keep truckers from driving more than the 10 hours in a 15-consecutive-hour period that is allowed under federal regulations. Driver fatigue has been linked nationally to two-thirds of heavy truck crashes.

- Comply immediately with recently passed federal regulations that will set uniform standards by 1990 for all states in licensing truckers and other commercial drivers.

These regulations will provide for only one driving record rather than separate state records; require a written exam and road test for a heavy truck operator; and institute a foolproof driver identification system to prevent people from illegally obtaining more than one license.

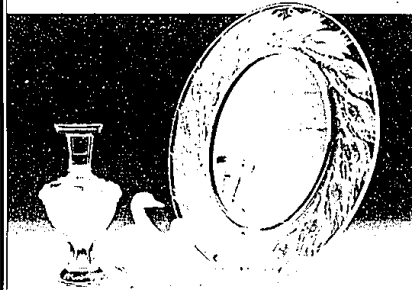
SOMERSET'S HOLIDAY HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY 10:00 AM-9:00 PM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM-6:00 PM
SUNDAY NOON TO 6:00 PM

MANY OF OUR STORES
HAVE EXTENDED WEEKEND
HOURS. PLEASE CHECK WITH
INDIVIDUAL STORES

SOMERSET-THE MALL
BIG BEAVER ROAD AT COOLIDGE, TROY

THE ART OF FRENCH DRAMA BY LALIQUE



Gifts of elegance,
sheer opulence. Crystal masterpieces that never fail to make a lasting impression. Mirror, \$850.
Perfume, \$225. Swan, \$125.

CHARLES W. WARREN
JEWELERS SINCE 1902

300 N. W. 11th St. (at 11th St.)
LAKELAND - LAKELAND - LAKELAND
OAKLAND - TROY - TROY

For our own library Card or the welcome American Express, Visa or MasterCard

drapery boutique Since 1969

78% OFF! VERTICAL BLINDS

DISCOUNT	78% OFF	77% OFF	57% OFF	78% OFF
Pattern	20% off	20% off	20% off	20% off
W.C. & H.C.	20% off	20% off	20% off	20% off
72" x 84" W	\$279	\$279	\$279	\$279
102" x 84" W	\$404	\$404	\$404	\$404
110" x 84" W	\$430	\$430	\$430	\$430
84" W x 84" H	\$688	\$688	\$688	\$688

Other Custom Sizes at Equal Savings! Visit our Showroom for Huge Selection!

HORIZONTAL BLINDS

BALE 1" CLASSIC	70% OFF
BALE 1/2" MICRO	67% OFF
CONCORD 1" BASIC	75% OFF

WALLPAPER 47% OFF

47% off 150 selected Special Order books. 40% off all other Special Order books in our library. Orders must be presented at time of order only. No charge for delivery. \$25.00 at sale price. Shipping and handling added. OE. Expires Sat. Jan. 2, 1987.

NO FREIGHT • NO HANDLING CHARGES

GRAND RIVER & HADGERTY 39253 Grand River Farmington Hills (313) 478-3133

ORCHARD & 14 MILE CENTER 30858 Orchard Lake Rd. Farmington Hills (313) 826-4313

THE SCANDIA DOWN SHOP OF BIRMINGHAM HAS EVERYTHING TO COMPLETE YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Our super cozy, tradition channel design white goose down Etheria® comforter is now on sale, 100% cotton ticking, baffle construction for all-over warmth, 5 year limited warranty.

30% OFF

	Reg. Price	Sale Price
BUNK	\$200	\$140
TWIN	\$240	\$168
FULL	\$275	\$192
QUEEN	\$335	\$234
KING	\$400	\$280

Also on sale now

- 100% Merino Wool Mattress pads - 25% OFF
- Snuggly, Warm Featherbeds - 30% OFF
- All Decorative Feather Pillows - 30% OFF
- Cozy Down Filled Robes - 25% OFF

Beautiful European Linens, flat and fitted sheets. A storeful of ducks and geese and wonderful gift items for everyone on your list.

And when it comes to a little lamb under your covers, we are ready!

Compare quality and price—now

NOW 25% OFF

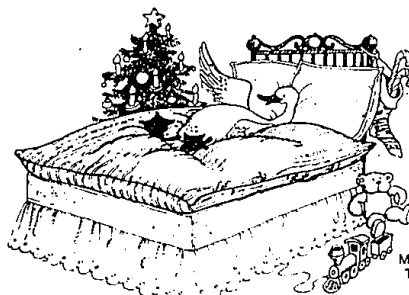
	Reg.	Sale
Crib	\$ 75	\$ 58
Twin	\$135	\$101
Full	\$165	\$123
Queen	\$210	\$157
King	\$250	\$187

(California King also available)

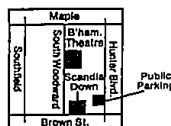


The Scandia Down Shop of Birmingham believes we have the best wool sleeper pad on the market. Compare quality and price and you will choose our 100% Merino lamb's wool pad. Warmth in the winter, coolness in the summer. Incredibly soft, you will sleep like never before. The Scandia Down sleeper pad comes with a five year warranty.

We also have a white goose down comforter, featherbeds, all our decorative feather pillows and down filled robes on sale now.



Mon.-Wed. 10-7:30
Thurs. & Fri. 10-9
Sat. 10-5:30



Birmingham Park Plaza
355 S. Woodward (& Brown)
Birmingham, MI 48011
(313) 258-6670

Scandia Down Shops

Phone & UPS orders welcome.