Committee closing in on county landfill site

A committee studying possible sites for a new Oakland County Innd-fill is nearly ready to share its fludings with county officials.

The 25-member Landfill Site Advisory Committee on Thursday flinished rating 10 sites by giving a weight" to 28 different criteria based on a Phildelphia engineering company's analysis of the thoography and soil make-up of the sites.

The blind process — the sites were known to committee members by numbers only — put the sites into an order. The sites will be revealed when the committee appears before the county Board of Commitsoners

at a meeting tentatively scheduled for Aug. 17.

"The committee's recommendation to the board will be to move forward with hydrogeological (how the water is distributed) studies at the sites," said committee chairwoman Ardath Regan. "There may still be some unknowns."

Detailed testing of the top sites on the list will help the board decide where to locate the handfill, said Regan, who is president of the Village of Holly. But the handfill committee will be involved in the process throughout, she added.

THE COMMITTEE has been meeting since February with J.W. Spoar, an engineer with the Philadelphila firm of Rogers, Golden & Hall-hall firm of Rogers, Golden & Hall-hall firm of Rogers, Golden & Hall-

'We're not going to have a very easy time of it in the next couple of months. But it's time some of us have the guts to lead."

> – Ardath Regan chair, landfill site committee

pern, which specializes in energy, environmental and land use issues. Originally, 27 sites were looked at, but 17 were taken off the list before the committee finished the weight-ing species. Becaused:

Data from available records road commission reports, construc-tion records and other county infor-mation — were used to judge the sites. Soil borings were not done, Re-

The blind rating method was used to equitably pick the best site and avoid political disputes between committee members over where the landfill will be built, she said, adding that there "has been unanimous support of this process" by the commission, which deedees how to distribute federal Superfund envisioners at the board's Thursday meeting, someone will be unhappy.

"We're not going to have a very casy time of it in the next couple of months," she told the board. "But it's time some of us have the guts to lead."

Regan praised the committee's here ways."
An ew landfill is part of an overall." canny plan for solid waste disposal; when the state of the state

Me too! County goes for Quality of Life grants

By Matt Jachman
staff writer

Local cities and townships aren't the only ones taking advantage of a cequest to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for two recreation bond fund grants totaling should be used, with county money, to develop the beach area at Ordina for the only ones taking advantage of a not it too – to improve two county parks.

The county parks and recreation commission on Wednesday approved

a request to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for two recreated last November when voters approved Proposal D. The fund of nearly \$15 million is designed to be allowed to early \$15 million is designed to be develop the beach area at Ordina fundition facilities. The obods will be capable through the state's general fund.

The recreation bond fund, dubbed to improve the beach area at Ordina facilities. The recreation bond fund, dubbed to repaid through the state's general fund.

The recreation bond fund, dubbed to recreated in 1990 was

JUE FIGA, chief of design for the parks and recreation department, said he is uncertain of the county's chances of winning a grant.

"It's hard to say. We've got a really good track record." Figa said.

"We've won a lot of grants, and we've always done what we said we would."

Figa said he arrosts.

year.
The top priority, Figa said, is a \$450,000 grant for Groveland Oaks, a 362-acre park in Groveland Township. If approved, the grant would be used, with \$300,000 in county parks

Friday. Communities across the county are applying for grants under the program.

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"We've won a lot of grants, and we've always done what we said we

Currently, he said, each water book-pan delectrical outlet serves sever-al sites.

At Orion Oaks, an undeveloped 927-acre park in Orion Township, a \$130,000 grant would be matched with \$130,000 in parks and recre-ation money to build a dock, trails, a storage building and restrooms in the beach area.

THE GRANT REQUEST for Orion

Oaks is a copy of one sent in April to, both the Michigan Natural Re-sources Trust Fund and the Land and Water Fund, a federal program administered by the state. Those re-

and Water Fund, a federal program administered by the state. Those requests are still pending, Figa said. The commission also adopted a resolution calling for a ballot proposal for a one-year, "wmill tax to develop Orion Gaks. The plan, Figa said, would rate \$13 million to install utilities and build roads, trails, cabins, parking lots, a lodge and an activities center at the park. The county Board of Commissioners will decide later this summer whether to put the proposal on the ballot.

Abused kids

Legislators seek victims' bill of rights

Two state legislators from Oak-land County are sponsoring a propos-al they say would ensure greater protection for child victims of physi-

protection for child victims of physical and sexual abuse.
State Reps. Judih Miller, R.Birmingham, and Jan Dolan, R.Farmington Hills, last week introduced what they are calling a bill of right or sexually abused children. The measure, they say, will likely be expanded to cover children burt by physical abuse as well likely be the had been called the statistics showing that child abuse cases in the stathware nearly doubled since 1900.
"It think it is a greater problem than is perceived by the public," Dolan said, "It is more than just sexual abuse. There's a lot of physical abuse out there."

The proposal, Dolan said, is also designed to help social workers, fos-ter parents, therapists and others

who care for abused children.
The bill would:
• Require judges to complete a program on the diagnosis and treatment of child abuse in order to increase their sensitivity toward such

crease their sensitivity toward such cases.

• Prohibit a convicted child abuser from contact with the victim until the offender has completed a court-approved treatment program.

• Make evidence that an accused

attacker has abused another child admissable in court proceedings on a

admissable in court proceedings on a specific case.

• Make admissable in court expert testimony that a child suffers from behavioral problems because of abuse.

• Force a parent convicted of abuse to pay court costs and lawyer's fees incurred by the other parent and to pay for the child's therapy.

Allow a child's testimony about alleged abuse to be videotaped in-stead of forcing the child to repeat testimony several times as a case

stead of forcing the clinic to repeat testimony several times as a case progresses. We LAWMAKERS, under the numbers of the state to gather testimony from social service agencies, teachers, those who care for abused children and those who handle abuse cases. The bearings, Dolan sald, will help them broaden and revise the proposal before it goes before legislative committee hearings in the fall.

The first hearing was beld last week in Mount Ctemens. There are no hearings scheduled for Oakland County.

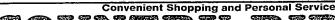
Dolan sald she expects strong support for the plan from the state Legislature.



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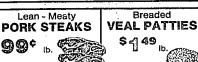
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