

around Oakland

SMART says more service in Oakland

More bus service for Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties is part of the package Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation is promising for next year.

Their recently approved budget incorporates development of revenue from a variety of sources. Two possible sources are a potential fare-box increase and contributions from local governmental entities.

"The board, through further discussion and examination, will have to generate ideas for a dedicated source of funding in order for this organization to survive," said Sam Pettito, SMART board chairman.

Matt Wirgau, vice chairman and a representative from Oakland County, said: "The board should continue to maintain a working relationship and be creative in finding ways of meeting the needs of the people that need public transportation."

"Next year, we have a great deal of work ahead as we attempt to meet the goals of this organization."

A public information meeting has been scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Mon-

day, June 17, at SMART offices 660 Woodward Ave., Detroit, to address potential sources of revenue. Public hearings on the need for additional revenues will be held on July 9 in Roseville, July 10 in Allen Park and July 11 in Ferndale.

At these meetings the general public will have an opportunity to comment on a potential fare increase and other possible sources of revenue. Comments from the hearing will be considered by the SMART board.

Call SMART offices at 313-882-5515 for more information on the public information meeting and the public hearings.

OCC to host Spanish music

Oakland Community College's Auburn Hills Campus presents Los Flamencos Dance Theatre in a program of classic Spanish music and dance on Friday, June 14.

The program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Performance Space-Building F, Room 119. General admission tickets are \$7; students and senior citizens over 65 will be admitted for \$5.

Presented by the Auburn Hills Campus Fine Arts Committee, Los

Flamencos Dance Theatre is the sixth and final program in a series of full-evening entertainments held on campus this past winter and spring.

The Auburn Hills Campus is at 2900 Featherstone Road, two miles east of the Pontiac Silverdome. Free parking is available in the student lots adjacent to Building F.

For further information, please call 313-6546.

YFU seeking host families

Youth For Understanding urgently needs area families to host 20 foreign exchange students from 10 different countries by August 1991.

A 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 20, meeting has been set at the Troy Public Library if you are interested in finding out about hosting or becoming an exchange student.

The library is on Civic Center Drive north off Big Beaver, just east of I-75.

Youth For Understanding was established after World War II to encourage international understanding and peace.

For more information, call or leave a message for Barbara Nelson, 852-7804.

University funding

Lawmakers study appropriations bill

By Tim Richard
staff writer

Michigan's 15 public universities will get more of their state money from aid formulas and less through special program grants under \$1.2 billion appropriations bills passed by both houses of the Legislature.

The bills have differences that will be ironed out during June in conference committees — three members from each chamber. But the pattern is in place.

The universities will get 4 percent across-the-board," Sen. John J.H. Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, chair of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee, told the full Senate last week.

With almost no debate, senators passed the bill 25-9 with all area senators supporting it except George Hart, D-Deerborn, who was absent.

A PET PROGRAM of former Gov. James Blanchard, the \$27 million "research excellence fund," was eliminated in Gov. John Engler's proposal and the money popped into the general fund. Both House and Senate went along with that proposal.

But the Senate inserted a new pro-

gram of \$2 million in research grants. Big gainers, if the item survives: University of Michigan, \$800,000; Michigan State, \$700,000; Ferris, \$300,000; Wayne State, \$100,000; and Michigan Tech, \$50,000. Oakland University, ranked fifth in previous research budgets, was dropped to seventh with \$30,000.

The Senate restored a teaching excellence fund — a program of \$250,000 in grants to 100 teachers.

The universities asked for \$89 million for "program revisions" and were turned down cold by Engler and both chambers.

One specialized program left untouched was the Martin Luther King Jr.-Cesar Chavez-Rosa Parks Initiatives, raised 4 percent to \$204,000 by

Engler and not adjusted by either chamber. It provides days on campuses for minority students, visiting lecturers and scholarships.

BESIDES THE 4 percent across-the-board grant, the bill awards other funds to enrollment growth, agricultural programs (mostly to MSU) and facility openings. Here is how some fare:

• UM-Ann Arbor — \$275 million, up 4.7 percent.

• MSU — \$234 million, up 4.7 percent.

• Wayne State — \$190 million, up 4.7 percent.

• Eastern — \$65 million, up 5.2 percent.

• Oakland — \$37 million, up 4.7 percent.

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