

Bill would screen sex offenders

By Pat Murphy
staff writer

Parents in Oakland and Wayne counties are members of a fledgling organization determined to salvage something good from their encounter with James Stoller, the Southfield man convicted of molesting the Garden City youngsters he was empowered to coach.

They are members of the newly formed CAAP (Citizens/Adults Against Pedophiles), said Margaret Freeman-O'Neill, a spokesman who talked briefly about the group Monday at a press conference called by the Oakland County prosecutor. She was there because it dealt with the kind of things CAAP helped initiate and will actively support — action that will help protect youngsters.

"This is not too much to ask," Freeman-O'Neill said, referring to legislation introduced in Lansing last week by State Sens. David Honigman, R-West Bloomfield, and Mi-

chael Bouchard, R-Birmingham. Senate bills 567 and 569, would require schools, Scout troops and other agencies to whom parents entrust youngsters to run background checks on paid employees or volunteers.

Those reports — itemizing all felony convictions and any misdemeanors involving physical or sexual abuse — would then be made available to parents.

A school or youth organization would not necessarily be required to dismiss or exclude someone whose background check disclosed a problem, said Oakland County Prosecutor Richard Thompson. "But the information would be available to parents . . . and they would make the choice."

BACKGROUND CHECKS are already compiled by police agencies. But without new legislation, those agencies can not disclose any confidential information, said Thompson, regardless of its nature. "Privacy

Chamber presents 'network'

The Oakland County Chamber of Commerce is hosting "The Business Network" 8-9:30 a.m. Nov. 7 at the Oakland Technical Center-Northwest Campus, 8211 Big Lake Road, I-75 at Dixie Highway, in Clarkston.

Featured speakers will be Oakland County prosecutor Richard

Thompson and Bloomfield Township police Lt. Jeffrey Werner. They will discuss crime prevention and the Silent Observer witness program.

The charge is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Advance reservations can be made by calling 683-4747 or 644-1229.

'... the right to privacy has to be weighed against protecting children from harm.'

— Richard Thompson

laws prohibit," he explained.

"But the right to privacy has to be weighed against protecting children from harm," Thompson said last May at a press conference at which he asked for the new legislation.

Had that kind of legislation been in place in the summer of 1988, said the prosecutor, parents might have been able to protect their youngsters against predators like Stoller, the 46-year old coach convicted of 30 counts of criminal sexual conduct involving 16-to-13-year-old boys he coached in the Garden City Youth Athletic Association.

Apparently unknown to Garden City officials and parents, Stoller had previously been arrested for similar sexual misconduct charges in the Lansing area and in Arizona.

The proposed legislation would have enabled Garden City officials to obtain available information about Stoller's prior arrests and required them to make it available to

parents who asked.

Honigman and Bouchard said they expect bipartisan support for their bill, although there will be concerns about privacy rights. There could be vocal opposition, they said, to applying the law to employees or volunteers already associated with a school or youth group.

That's one of the times that CAP could exert its influence, said Freeman-O'Neill. "The lives of the kids and parents molested by Stoller will never be the same. It's not too much to ask that people associated with children submit to background checks."

CAAP will track the progress of S.B. 567 and 569, she said. And, if necessary, will write letters or otherwise exert pressure on behalf of legislation to protect children. "That's the least we can do."

CAAP currently has about 25 members, said Nancy Campbell, of Garden City, another member. "But we expect to grow."

The proposed legislation could be enacted early next year, said the legislators. Besides enabling organizations to run computerized checks, it would permit parents to investigate the background of people they might have babysit in their homes.

CAAP does not yet have a telephone. But the organization can be contacted at P.O. Box 1124, Garden City, Mich. 48136-1124.

Teachings of the Ascended Masters ON KARMA AND REINCARNATION

Free workshop by a representative of
Elizabeth Clare Prophet

Saturday November 9 • 7:00 pm

Northfield Hilton, 5500 Crooks Rd. at I-75, Troy

Sponsored by The Summit Lighthouse of Metro Detroit • 515-6769



Insulate your windows with
FLEX-TITE Magnetic
Interior Storm Windows

- Stop cold drafts
- Reduces Sweating & Icing
- Warms cold door walls
- Saves energy
- Greatly increases home comfort
- Install over existing windows
- Don't pay department store prices!
- BUY FACTORY DIRECT

Call for a free in home estimate -
22517 TELEGRAPH • SOUTHFIELD, MI 48034

ARE YOU EXPERIENCING:

- High heating bills?
- A cold living room?
- A cold family room?
- Sweating windows?
- Drafty windows?
- Cold floors?



ASPEN BUILDERS
358-1337

NET GREAT SAVINGS WITH THE BEST CHECKING TEAM IN TOWN.



REGULAR CHECKING	STANDARD FEDERAL BANK	AVERAGE OF FIVE OTHER AREA BANKS
Minimum Balance Requirement	\$2,500.00	\$6,500.00
Fee for Not Maintaining Minimum	5.00	3.75
Per Check Charge	0	.36
Maximum Annual Fees	36.00	181.80

Based on 1990 data. Actual fees may vary. Fees for Standard Federal Bank are based on a \$2,500 minimum balance requirement. Fees for other banks are based on a \$6,500 minimum balance requirement. Fees for Standard Federal Bank are based on a \$2,500 minimum balance requirement. Fees for other banks are based on a \$6,500 minimum balance requirement.

The best checking team in town isn't the Red Wings. It's Standard Federal Bank. As the chart shows, our Regular Checking account nets you great savings — more than \$14,500 a year, in fact. You enjoy a low minimum balance requirement and no checking fees, no matter how many checks you write.

What's more, we offer many ways to earn free checking with no minimum balance requirement — so you can save even more. Just ask us how.

The experienced Standard Federal team covers lots of territory.

You can use the ATM use at over 100 Standard Federal Cash Machine locations throughout Michigan and Indiana, plus additional outlets soon to come in Ohio.

And did you know we'll pay you up to \$10,000 for your unused checks from another bank when you open any checking account with us — Regular, Interest-Bearing or Money Market Checking.

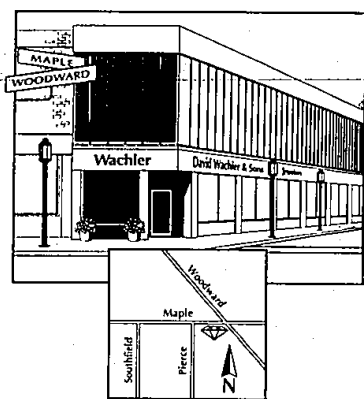
Point to your bank stack you for unnecessary checking charges. Switch to Standard Federal today, the best checking team in town.

**Standard
Federal**

Standard Federal Bank
Savings/Financial Services

1-800-643-9600

Member
FDIC
© 1991 Standard Federal Bank



David Wachler & Sons
Jewellers
SINCE 1922

100 S. Woodward (Corner of Maple and Woodward)
Downtown Birmingham (313) 540-4622

Certified Gemologists • Members American Gem Society

Open Daily, 10 - 5:30 pm
Thursday and Friday, 10 - 6:30 pm
Now Open Sunday, 12 - 5 pm
Free Validated Parking Available

ELEGANT COMFORTABLE LIVING

Innovative designs express contemporary or traditional styles. Our designers will compliment your way of living with the best in custom cabinetry and quality service.

Because It's Your Home...

ROK
Since 1954

ROYAL OAK
Kitchens & Baths
4518 N. Woodward
Royal Oak
549-2944

ROCHESTER
Kitchens & Baths
315 Water Street
Rochester
652-3500