

OAKLAND DIGEST

Oakland Digest provides a summary of headline stories from around the county during the past week.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
Block scheduling set: Students may spend more time in some classes when block scheduling takes effect at Andover and Lusher high schools this fall. When students begin the 1997-98 school year, they will spend the same amount of time in each class weekly, although class times may run 60 minutes on some occasions and 50 minutes at other times. The longer time blocks allow for more intense lab time and in-depth study of topics. Students and teachers will test out the new system from April 21 to May 2.

CLARKSTON
Springfield identifies greatest needs: Springfield Township needs a new library, another fire station, better park and a bigger town hall, but what the township can afford will be decided today. Township officials are developing a capital improvements plan. Members of the township board, library board, par commission, fire department and planning commission will meet to prioritize needs.

FARMINGTON
Roads/growth are top talk:

Roads, economic development and taxes were highlighted at the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce annual State of the Cities Breakfast. While Farmington is gearing up for numerous road improvements, including the widening of Grand River from Gill to Shiawassee and bridge repair on the Farmington and Freedom overpass, Farmington Hills is creating a new economic development position. And Farmington Public Schools is preparing for a \$110 million bond issue and millage renewal election on March 25. The bond issue would increase property taxes by 2 mills — a mill is equal to \$1 of tax for \$1,000 of taxable value.

SOUTHFIELD
Donor decides to rebuild: After carefully weighing their office options, officials at W.B. Doner & Co. have decided not to move to a new building but to rebuild the existing Doner building nearly destroyed in a five-alarm fire last August. The 60-year-old, full-service advertising agency will add a third floor onto the existing structure at 25900 Northwestern Highway, bringing the total square footage to more than 106,000. Target date for employees to return to the renovated building is March 1988. This expansion and renovation is

really a result of two things," said CEO Alan Kalter. "Obviously the fire has played a role but, more importantly, prior to the fire the agency had experienced a considerable increase in billings and growth. We had outgrown our space and were considering several options."

LAKE ORION
Judge to decide on recall: Three Lake Orion school board members are hoping Circuit Judge Denise Langford-Morris will reject recently approved petition language calling for their removal. Board members Tony Rothschild, Leann Bartley and Richard White filed an appeal in circuit court asking for the judge's ruling whether petition language to recall the three is clear. Concerned Parents of Students are targeting the trustees for upholding a school appeals committee decision to deny class credit to a student who exceeded the limit on unexcused absences. The student's parents allowed their son to vacation in Alaska with his ailing grandfather.

NOVI
Gravel pit to become neighborhood: A gravel pit that operated in Novi for 35 years may be turned into a 1,000-home project. If city officials agree to proposed zoning changes, about half of woodlands and wetlands on the 901 acres of property, located at 10 Mile and Wixom roads, will be left undeveloped.

OXFORD
Water for sale: Water is being offered to Oxford Area Community School District — for a price. The district, which needs a water supply for a proposed middle school at North Oxford and Ray roads, has two options: drill its own well or buy it from Oxford Village. A resolution, passed by the village council, allows water to be supplied by the village.

SOUTHFIELD
Lighting assessment disputed: The majority of his neighbors want it, but Southfield resident Frank Crosby is opposed to the addition of two street lights near his residence on Coventry Woods at the corners of Riverview and Morning-side Drive. Riverbank Fairway Estates Neighborhood Association petitioned for the two lights

in the 12 Mile and Bell Road subdivision for safety and security purposes.

ROCHESTER
Manager management preferred: Oakland Township Supervisor Joan Buser would like to see her elected position eliminated and replaced by an appointed township manager position. Buser, who has been in office for 15 years, said appointing a professional administrator might remove some of the negative aspects of government.

TROY
Saks plans to expand: Saks Fifth Avenue representatives are proposing a 40,000-square-foot expansion, a three-level parking structure and a face lift of the exterior structure at Somerset South. The three-level Saks stands at 118,000 square feet. The two-level expansion would be located on the west side of the building. Troy city officials are

expected to conduct a public hearing on the issue.

COMMERCE TOWNSHIP
Commerce may have 14-screen theater: United Artists movie theater is planning a groundbreaking for a 14-screen theater in Commerce Township. Planned for mid-April, United Artists is awaiting final approval of the proposal by the township planning department, which is reviewing plans for underground utilities. The theater is expected to open around Thanksgiving and will be built next to the Home Depot store that opened last week, west of Haggerty and north of 14 Mile.

WALLED LAKE
Parents ponder proficiency test: Parents of about 10 percent of the junior class at Wall Lake Western High School opted their children out of a state-mandated proficiency test. — Compiled by staff writer Jennifer Placinto

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Individuals with special needs who plan to attend this program should contact the Cultural Arts Division (810) 424-9022 (voice) or (810) 354-4831 (TDD) if auxiliary aids or services are needed. Reasonable advance notice required.

Guy Lombardo Orchestra coming in June!

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There is a lot going on in AT HOME



Marty Flegley, Ruth Mossock Johnston and Joe Gagnon are just three regular contributors to our colorful, informative AT HOME section.

Every Thursday, in GARDEN SPOT, Marty gives us the scoop on things green and growing. Ruth offers our readers some really INVITING IDEAS, and Joe, THE APPLIANCE DOCTOR, saves them repair money on a regular basis. Each of them has a substantial following and they represent three reasons why AT HOME is the perfect place for your advertising message.

But, if this talented trio is not enough, how about the exciting line up of subjects we will focus on in '97?

Several on the list are sure to be perfect for your products and services. Why not let us reserve your space today?

- ☐ Builders Show At Cobo Center _____ Thursday, March 13
- ☐ Spring Home Improvement/Novi Show _____ Thursday, April 3
- ☐ Spring Garden & Landscape _____ Thursday, May 8
- ☐ Pools, Decks & Spas _____ Thursday, June 5
- ☐ Air Conditioning, Ceiling Fans, Heat Pumps _____ Thursday, July 10
- ☐ Home Appliances _____ Thursday, August 7
- ☐ Fall Home Improvement _____ Thursday, September 4
- ☐ Fall Builders Show - Novi Expo _____ Thursday, September 25
- ☐ Home Furnishings-Troy Design Center _____ Thursday, October 2
- ☐ Entertaining _____ Thursday, November 6
- ☐ Home Electronics _____ Thursday, December 4

(Entertainment Centers, TVs, Stereos, Computers)

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