

OAKLAND DIGEST

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

BLOOMFIELD HILLS
Open Hunt renovation delayed: The Bloomfield Hills Open Hunt's new clubhouse was scheduled to reach completion last month, but construction delays have bumped the opening to early November.

CLARKSTON
EPA grant received: Springfield Township will be given a \$75,000 federal grant to use for documentation of wildlife and natural resources at the Shiawassee and Huron river basins. Oakland County also has pledged \$25,000 in cash and \$85,000 worth of manpower for the project.

FARMINGTON HILLS
Proficiency test evaluation reform: The writing portions of the High School Proficiency Test will be broken down and examined under several categories by the State Department of Education. Pleased by the change, Farmington Hills school Super-

intendent Bob Maxfield said, "That gives you an external benchmark."

OXFORD VILLAGE
Commissioners abstain from casino stance: Last Monday, an Oakland County board of commissioners committee declined to take action on a resolution that opposes the Bay Mills Indian Tribe's proposal to build an Auburn Hills casino. The decision ensures that the tribe will complete the first phase of the application to put 5.9 acres of land in Auburn Hills into trust, according to County commissioner Larry Obrecht, author of the anti-casino resolution.

ORION TOWNSHIP
M-24 Task Force receives grant: Orion Township Supervisor Colette Dywasuk, chair of the M-24 Task Force, announced Monday that the Michigan Department of Transportation has made a \$50,000 commitment to the group. The funds will be used to study a 10-mile corridor of M-24 and to create an improvement proposal. More than 300 accidents were

reported in the corridor, according to 1996 traffic crash patterns preliminary data.

Golf course gain: The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Department is reevaluating long term plans. Township Supervisor Colette Dywasuk believes now is the time to propose a golf course at the Orion Oaks County Park, giving the township another local course.

ROCHESTER
Main drag gets quick fix: The Michigan Department of Transportation plans to add a one-inch layer of asphalt to Rochester Road, from M-69 north to Avon. But city officials say the work is cosmetic. "I think an asphalt overlay is a minimal response to a problem..." said Mayor Ken Snell. Construction would begin this fall or in early spring of next year.

Board rejects school bus

day approved a new policy that forbids school bus advertisements that solely advance the name, product or special interest of an advertiser. The measure also allows superintendents and principals to evaluate advertising and sponsorship requests.

SOUTHFIELD
Preserve gets new trail: Some 60 members of the Southfield-based Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints recently laid a wood chip nature trail at the Southfield Civic Center's Nature preserve. The volunteer effort was part of a world wide day of service.

TROY
Fund-raiser remembers Troy teens: The first annual Broken Hearts/Broken Dreams Walk for MADD begins 2 p.m. Aug. 17 at the Kmart Corp. headquarters in Troy. It occurs in memory of four Troy teens, Ashley Easterbrook, Michael

Jamieson, Jeremy St. Cyr and Andrew Stindt, who were recently killed by drunken drivers in two accidents. For more information, call the Oakland County Chapter of MADD at (810) 629-6233.

Dalmatians invade Troy
hotel: More than 500 Dalmatians, accompanied by their owners, will be on hand at the Northfield Hilton through Aug. 1 to participate in the Dalmatian Club of America's National Speciality and Show. For event schedules, call show chairwoman Sandra Milkie at (810) 632-7059.

WEST BLOOMFIELD
Runner helps leukemia victim: Larry Brandon, chairman of the Team in Training program for the Michigan chapter of the Leukemia Society of America, recently completed a marathon in Alaska. Brandon recruits walkers, runners and bicyclists to participate in marathons to

raise money for the leukemia society. Brandon runs in honor of a 14-year-old girl named Krystie who has battled the disease since age three. Last Sunday, at a leukemia society picnic at Kensington Metropark, Krystie informed Brandon that her leukemia had returned after having been in remission. For information about the Leukemia Society of America, call (800) 456-6413.

Clarification

In a column in the July 24 edition of The Eccentric Newspapers, naturalist Jonathan Schechter's affiliation was misidentified. He is a columnist for an area newspaper and has done consulting work for West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation.

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