

OAKLAND DIGEST

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

BIRMINGHAM
Federal storm aid available: Although this city's big storm didn't cause the level of damage in the Birmingham and Bloomfield area as it did in Holly or Hamtramck, a declaration signed July 11 by President Bill Clinton made Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties a disaster area eligible for federal disaster aid. A Federal Emergency Management Agency representative July 24 toured Birmingham with fire officials for assessment.

Barclay Inn purchased: Birmingham businessman Geoffrey Hockman is heading a group of investors who purchased the Barclay Inn-Holiday Express. Hockman is the president of the Townsend Hotel.

CLARKSTON
Nursing home sued in assault: As of July 22, police had no suspect in the reported early July rape of a 92-year-old female patient at the Greenery Health Care Center in Independence Township. Laboratory tests conducted by the Michigan State Police laboratory proved inconclusive, according to Capt. Barnett Jones of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department. Meanwhile, H. Wallace Parker, an attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, filed a civil

suit in Oakland County Circuit Court against the Greenery on behalf of four Greenery employees, who were suspended.

FARMINGTON HILLS
Ice rink proposal on hold: Suburban Hockey wants to place two ice rinks in a Farmington Hills industrial complex. The Farmington Hills Hockey Association and Farmington Hills Figure Skating Club have stated they're in dire need of more ice time. Although the planning commission July 29 approved land for the facility, they denied the site plan because it failed to meet parking ordinance requirements.

Home development raises flood concerns: Farmington Hills City Council approved a preliminary plan for a 25-home development at 10 Mile and Orchard Lake roads. Worried about flooding, the council placed a stipulation — that city planners and the developer work further on detention and water flow issues — on their action.

OXFORD VILLAGE
Wage hikes: Acting on findings of a Michigan Municipal League study on the wages of Oxford Township employees and appointed and elected officials, the township board July 22 raised all wages. If all employees were to be paid retroactively to Jan. 1, the cost to the township would be roughly \$40,000.

ROCHESTER
Historic car XVII Historic Meadow Brook XVIII Historic

Races runs Aug. 1-3 at Waterford Hills Race Track in Clarkston and is affiliated with the Concours d'Elegance vintage car show. The top-ranked car exhibition will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 3 at Meadow Brook Hall on the Oakland University campus in Rochester Hills.

Local mail delivery brings comment: Slow mail delivery in Rochester prompted Dan Florkowski, president of the local 320 of the National Association of Letter Carriers, which also represents postal workers from Rochester, Pontiac, Bloomfield Hills, West Bloomfield, Oxford and Auburn Hills, to criticize the current system. Automated, bar-coded sorting was implemented to quicken mail carriers' work, but routes and carriers in Rochester were cut, increasing the workload, Florkowski said. The Rochester

Postmaster was not available for comment. The postal operations manager at the Royal Oak Post Office did not return phone calls from the Eccentric.

SOUTHFIELD
University makes long-awaited appointment: John S. Hyde has been appointed vice president for institutional advancement at Lawrence Technological University after being selected in a year-long, nationwide search. Hyde had been president of Capital Advantage, a Chapel Hill, N.C. marketing and consulting firm.

High school plan emphasizes resources: Southfield Public Schools' recently approved high school restructuring program is still in the planning stages, but its "partnership element," which should bring students and teachers in contact with local employers, businesses and industry representatives,

should be instituted in 1998-99.

TROY
Residents oppose cellular tower location: About 30 residents of neighborhoods surrounding Boulan Park in Troy have organized into the Bemis-Boulan Homeowners Associations to protest the siting of a 145-foot wireless communications monopole in the park. The group cites aesthetics, property values and health as reasons the Troy City Council should vote to have it placed elsewhere.

City sponsors in-line skating program: Troy Parks and Recreation Department is offering an in-line skating program complete with lessons, in-line hockey teams and a transportable border patrol rink. The rink will be comprised of vinyl-covered foam and be about the size of an ice arena.

WEST BLOOMFIELD
Nature sanctuary gets mis-

sion statement: Orchard Lake's Nature Sanctuary July 22 received a mission statement from the Orchard Lake city council. Open to the public since 1992, the sanctuary is located between Orchard Lake and Upper Straits Lake. According to the statement, the 60-acre site will remain a sanctuary — safe place for wildlife where visitors can walk its trails free of noise and pollution.

Commerce Township seeking state land: Commerce Township recently applied to make a land swap with the state Department of Natural Resources. The township wants to swap a 12.3-acre parcel of land west of Union Lake Road between Cooley and Wise, for a 12-acre parcel of state-owned land that fronts Maple Glen Park. The township wishes to build a new fire station on the land.

Hall open for visits

Meadow Brook Hall, featured on an international television series and located just seven minutes from I-75 near Rochester, is now more accessible for public enjoyment.

Through Aug. 31, visitors will have expanded opportunities to tour Oakland University's 100-room, 88,000-square-foot historic house. They can enjoy light refreshments or complete luncheons in the Summer Tea Room and shop for gifts and souvenirs in the Meadow Brook Hall Gift Shop.

Built by Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of auto pioneer John Dodge and founder of Oakland University, the hall represents another era's hopes and impossible dreams that came true and changed the world.

No reservations are needed for the daily public tours, but reservations are advisable for lunch in the Tea Room. The July and August schedule is: Daily public tours, including weekends — (\$6 adults, \$3 children 5-12, no admission charge for children 4 and under.) 10:30 a.m. (no 10:30 tour on Sunday), noon, 1:30 p.m., 3 p.m. Summer Tea Room, Monday-Friday only: 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Meadow Brook Hall Gift Shop will be open daily: 1-6 p.m. Group rates for tours of 20 or more, daily by appointment.

Other 1997 Events at Meadow Brook Hall:

Aug. 3 — Meadow Brook Hall Concours d'Elegance. Prestigious antique and classic auto show, attracting car enthusiasts, designers, engineers, manufacturers, collectors and artists from around the globe for this display of 250 vintage classic, sports, racing and '50s cars from Europe and America.

Oct. 24 — Tiffany Lecture and Dessert Reception

Nov. 28-Dec. 7 — Vintage Settings at Meadow Brook Hall. Annual Holiday Walk features Meadow Brook Hall dressed in holiday finery with family treasures displayed in festive table settings created by Sheila Chefetz, antique expert and author. Background settings will be done by the renowned decorating firm, Panache of Atlanta, Inc. Music, lights, trees, Santa Claus, a delight for every age.

Meadow Brook Hall is located just off I-75, 25 miles north of Detroit on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan. Take the university exit to Squirrel Road (west campus entrance), turn left onto Squirrel and drive to Walton Boulevard. Turn right onto Walton and drive to Adams Road. Turn right onto Adams and drive one-third mile to the east campus entrance. Follow signs from there.

For more information or to schedule group tours, call (248) 370-3140.

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Medicare Blue Educational Seminars

Troy
Wednesday, July 30
at Bill Knapp's
2078 E. Big Beaver Rd.
9:30 a.m.

Rochester Hills
Wednesday, July 30
at Bill Knapp's
3010 Walton Blvd.
2:00 p.m.

Southgate
Monday, August 4
at Bill Knapp's
15750 Northline Rd.
9:30 a.m.

Woodhaven
Monday, August 4
at Bill Knapp's
21000 Allen Rd.
2:00 p.m.

Roseville
Tuesday, August 5
at Bill Knapp's
20300 13 Mile Rd.
9:30 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Livonia
Wednesday, August 6
at Bill Knapp's
16995 S. Laurel Park Dr.
9:30 a.m.

South Livonia
Wednesday, August 6
at Bill Knapp's
32955 Plymouth Rd.
2:00 p.m.

Farmington Hills
Thursday, August 7
at Bill Knapp's
36650 Grand River Ave.
9:30 a.m.

Farmington Hills
Thursday, August 7
at Bill Knapp's
27925 Orchard Lake Rd.
2:00 p.m.

Call us for additional dates of future seminars.

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