



Despite the cooler weather, road construction is continuing throughout Oakland County, including the following areas:

**Beverly Hills** — The intersection of 13 Mile and Evergreen is being reconstructed. The work is expected to be completed this week.

**Bloomfield Township** — Squirrel Road, between Long Lake and Westview, is being resurfaced and reconstructed the north end. A detour will route drivers along Adams and Square Lake roads until the roadway reopens in mid-November.

**Farmington** — Grand River will be widened to include a left turn lane and traffic signal at the Shiawassee intersection. Shiawassee from Grand River to Farmington Road, will be closed during construction which should be completed this month. M-6 is reduced to one lane in each direction at Farmington road. The project is expected to be completed this week.

**Farmington Hills** — Expansion of the Haggerty Connector (M-6) has closed 14 Mile Road, between Haggerty and Welch, until October 1998.

**Independence Township** — White Lake Road and Andover Road will be closed to through traffic. It is being widened to three lanes and realigned with Nelsley Road. Detours route drivers down Dixie Highway to Andersonville until the expected completion in November when the southern portion of White Lake Road will be turned into a cul-de-sac instead of intersecting Andersonville.

**Novi** — Expansion of the Haggerty Connector (M-6) has closed 14 Mile Road, between Haggerty and Welch, until October 1998.

**Orion Township** — Silverbell Road at M-24 will be widened to include a left-turn lane and the right turn lane on westbound Silverbell at M-24 will be extended. The projects are expected to be completed by November. Work is expected to be completed by November. Work is expected to be completed by November.

**Oxford** — An overlay of pavement is being added to East Street between Washington and Gladie and will be completed within a week.

**Rochester Hills** — Hamlin Road is being reconstructed to a four-lane boulevard from M-59 to Crooks Road. The project, which is expected to be completed by the spring of 1998, will include the completion of the east-west link from the new M-59 ramp to Hamlin Road. The facilities at the intersection are closed except for local traffic with detours across M-59 and Avon Road. A left turn lane is being added at the intersection of Auburn Road and Technology with a traffic light installed. The new light will assist residents of Chateau Avon Mobile Home Park. The gravel roadways of June and Tamm will be paved this month. The project is expected to last 30 days.

**Southfield** — Greenfield bridge over the Northwestern Highway (M-10) is under construction for deck replacement with southbound Greenfield closed and traffic detoured along Pembroke. Lanes are expected to reopen Oct. 30, 1997. Residential roadways east of Laher and 11 Mile are undergoing spot concrete replacement to be completed by Oct. 31. Ten Mile, between Beech and Inkster roads, will be paved due to deterioration and Holy Sepulchre Archdiocesan Cemetery, between Inkster and Telegraph, will be given a new approach. The project is expected to be completed by mid-November.

**Springfield Township** — Dixie Highway at Cedar Crest Academy is being widened to include a center turn lane. The project is expected to be completed in mid-November.

**NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, detours are unknown or not planned.**

Source: Local, county, city and village road officials.

— Compiled by staff writer Jennifer Placido

## Clarification

Funding to provide an overlay of pavement on West Burdick between Polly Anne Trail and the west village limit in Oxford will not be available this year.

# Group honors women pioneers from area

Today's offices abound with women, but their pioneering counterparts are often lost in the larger scope of history.

"I think that many people do believe that many women did just step into the workplace a few years ago," said Gladys Beckwith, president of the Women's Studies Association, the Lansing-based organization that Nov. 1 will honor several Michigan women by inducting them into the Women's Hall of Fame.

Among the inductees is Bloomfield Hills resident Marion Corwell-Sherter, who is believed to be the first man or woman to write, produce and star in a syndicated television series. Airing between 1952 and 1962, the series looked at events and activities in the Detroit area.

**Her list of accomplishments grew** at Ford Motor Company. She became the first female manager in the company's public affairs department. In 1974 she held the highest ranking post of any women at the company; she created an industrial model of affirmative action; and she created new job titles to replace gender-specific ones.

"I just saw some of these apparent inequities that seemed appropriate to eliminate," Corwell-Sherter said. "I didn't have anything in mind. I just did my job."

A workplace teeming with women in spite of the gender barriers that



Marion Corwell-Sherter, business manager, TV star

Corwell-Sherter's bosses insisted should exist lends another perspective, she said.

"And I'm not saying this with any egomania ... We did our jobs well and set the scene for others to follow. If we had failed, other women wouldn't be there."

Her underground passion springs again on the issues of women in the military and female military cadets.

"I believe that women should have equal opportunity to explore their potential. There are many jobs in the military that women can do," said Corwell-Sherter, who, incidentally, served on President Reagan's Defense Advisory Committee for



Matilda Dodge Wilson, first woman lieutenant governor - 1940

Women in the Services in the early 1980s.

"The disappointment, for me, is when a woman has the opportunity to go to a military academy and has the opportunity to make an inroad and can't cut the mustard."

But Corwell-Sherter also remembers and acknowledges the difficulty of making such inroads.

"I know and I understand," she said. "People resist change. It's much easier to continue in the same vein. It's much easier to be surrounded by people who are comfortable with, people of one's own image."

Corwell-Sherter is one of five contemporary women who will be induct-

ed into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame.

Among the several historical honorees that will be recognized are Matilda Dodge Wilson and the Four Sisters of Charity (Loyola Ritchie, Rebecca Delone, Felicia Fenwick and Rosaline Brown).

A longtime philanthropist, Wilson contributed her estate — part of which is today's Meadow Brook Hall — and a \$2 million building fund to the founding of Oakland University. Wilson lived from 1883 to 1967 and became Michigan's first female lieutenant governor in 1940.

The Four Sisters of Charity collectively pioneered the development of several health and welfare institutions, including Southfield's Providence Hospital and the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center.

"They are, certainly, all outstanding women," Beckwith said. "To recognize these women and give them some visibility — that is what we are all about at the Women's Hall of Fame — as well as reclaiming and rediscovering women's history."

For more information about the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, Michigan Women's Studies Association or the Hall of Fame induction ceremony, slated for 6 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 1 at the Lansing Sheraton, please call (617) 484-1880.

## Meadow Brook Hall nets a federal grant

Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall has been awarded a 1997 Conservation Assessment Program grant by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property (NIC). The grant is funded by IMLS and administered by NIC.

Through on-site consultation with a professional conservator and a preservation architect, the grant will enable Meadow Brook Hall to begin evaluating its current collections care policies, procedures and environmental conditions, including the historic structure and its systems. The hall is one of 165 institutions receiving a CAP grant in 1997.

The Conservation Assessment Program assists museums in making care and conservation a fundamental priority of their institutions. CAP provides funds for a general conservation survey of museum collections and sites. Conservation priorities are identified by professional conservators who spend two days surveying the site and three days writing a comprehensive report. Reports produced by conservators help museums develop long-term plans for improved collections care.

NIC president Larry Reger said "Meadow Brook Hall is joining a growing number of museums throughout the U.S. that are learning to better care for their collections so they will be available for future generations."

Expressing appreciation for the one-time award, Lisa Ashby, executive director of Meadow Brook Hall, said "The surveys and recommendations

resulting from this grant will help us identify restoration projects to be undertaken in order to safeguard the survival of Meadow Brook Hall. By preserving that significant historic property and sharing it with the public, we strive to make Meadow Brook Hall a place at which our visitors can be entertained, educated and inspired by history."

Located on the east campus of Oakland University in Rochester, Meadow Brook Hall is a magnificent architectural landmark inspired by English country houses of the Tudor and Elizabethan period. Built in the late 1920s as the home of university founders Matilda Dodge Wilson (widow of auto pioneer John Dodge) and her second husband, Alfred G. Wilson, the 100-room mansion contains original furnishings and many objects from Dodge and Wilson family collections. Meadow Brook Hall has been open to the public since 1971 as a self-funding auxiliary operation of the university.

Several events that focus on Meadow Brook Hall collections are currently scheduled at the hall.

From Nov. 28 through Dec. 7, vintage crystal, silver, linens, china and accessories from the hall collections will be showcased in tabletop settings during the annual Holiday Walk, "See for the Holidays." In conjunction with this event, author Sheila Chefetz, stylist for the holiday settings, will also present a lecture, "Antiques for the Table," on Thursday, Nov. 13.

For additional information about any of these programs or Meadow Brook Hall itself, please call 248-370-3140.

## Governments banding together while fighting state takeover of roads

By TIM RICHARD  
STAFF WRITER

Local governments will unite to battle a Michigan Department of Transportation "divide and conquer" tactic to take over thousands of miles of local roads.

Working through the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, counties, cities, villages and even townships will swap information and combine strength to battle Gov. John Engler's plan to have MDOT take over certain local roads.

"They're pitching a grenade over your transom. Pitch it back," urged Birmingham City Commissioner Dante Lanzetta. "I'd rather deal with SEMCOG, where I have a vote."

Brighton Township Supervisor Andrew Wardach said MDOT director James DeSana wrote to each county road commission, city and village on Oct. 2 outlining MDOT's desire to take over certain local roads.

"You get only a map of your area. We're concerned that this is a fragmented," said Wardach, who chairs SEMCOG's transportation advisory council.

SEMCOG staffer Carmine Palombo said townships, which have no authority over roads, weren't seen maps at all. "Regardless of who owns the roads going through townships, they should be involved," Palombo said.

SEMCOG General Assembly delegates agreed that it wasn't enough to look at which roads MDOT proposed to take over in one local unit; they should see the overall plan for neighboring communities and even an entire county.

The administration's plan is to take over 9,800 more miles of roads. As Engler put it during an Oct. 17 forum in Southfield: State government con-

trols only 18,000 of the 118,000 miles of roads, "but we get 90 percent of the calls."

Engler's showcase exhibit: the Davison Freeway in Wayne County, which MDOT took over, rebuilt and reopened earlier this month. "The Davison is fabulous. It was a county road all these years (about 50). We took it three years ago and fixed it," Engler said.

Engler first floated the idea in May when he unveiled his gasoline tax hike plan to improve roads and bridges. Legislators passed the tax but balked at the administration's effort to take over more local roads. But the governor isn't giving up.

Palombo said SEMCOG will set up countywide forums and collect legal units' responses to DeSana's one-town maps. "Otherwise, there's no way to know what others have responded," he said.

The Michigan Municipal League reportedly will urge member cities and villages to tell DeSana they oppose the process and want the issue discussed in Metropolitan Planning Organizations, of which SEMCOG is the state's largest.

In other road matters, SEMCOG staffer Paul Tait said the U.S. Congress is far from an agreement on a renewed ISTEA — Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act.

Expected in fall, ISTEA is unlikely to be passed before spring of 1998, Tait said. "It's a crazy right now. The Senate attached a transportation finance reform amendment to every bill," he said.

For the first time in its 30-year history, Tait added, SEMCOG has retained a Washington lobbyist.

ISTEA is also important to Engler, who contends Michigan deserves \$200 million more in federal aid considering the taxes it sends to Washington.

## OAKLAND DIGEST

**Oakland Digest** provides a summary of headline stories from around the county during the week leading up to Oct. 26.

### BIRMINGHAM

Arguments end: Closing arguments were given Oct. 23 at the trial of Anita Coomer and McConnell Adams Jr., who are accused of first-degree murder, felony murder and kidnapping in the death of Bloomfield Hills ophthalmologist Dr. Deborah Iverson. Not-guilty pleas were entered into the record on behalf of both suspects.

### CLARKSTON

Engler honors drug policy: Gov. John Engler recently honored the Clarkston Athletic Council for its new, zero-tolerance policy against drug use by school athletes. Engler presented the Governor's Blue Ribbon Award to the council in person on Oct. 17.

### FARMINGTON

**Sexual assault conviction:** The former owner of Bosco's Party Store in Farmington Hills, Don Bosco, was convicted of fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct Oct. 21 in a bench trial in Oakland County Circuit Court. Sentencing is set for Nov. 20. The assaults took place over a four-and-a-half year period when the victim, then 14, worked at the party store. Now 21, the victim came forward with allegations earlier this year.

### NOV.

**Marriott must improve plans:** Members of the Novi Planning Commission Oct. 16, told the Marriott Corporation to come back with new plans to build two large hotels near the Novi Town Center. Commissioners suggested that the buildings blend in more with the Town Center architecture. The proposed building site encompasses approximately 15 acres north of 11 Mile Road.

### LAKE ORION

**GM withdraws request:** General Motors Corporation Oct. 20 temporarily withdrew its request for a tax abatement for the expansion of its Orion plant. Orion Township board members two months ago made not granting tax abatements an official board policy.

### OXFORD

**Resident makes contest finale:** Oxford Township resident Laurel Hostetter is one of the top 15 entrants out of 4,000 contestants to finish in the Minute Maid Sensational Romance Writer Contest. Hostetter's original short story of 125 words portrays two fictional characters as they experience the sensation of eating a fresh, ripe orange.

### ROCHESTER

**Police seek witness:** Police are seeking a woman they believe may be a potential witness in the death of Elizabeth Grob, 42, of

Rochester Hills. Grob was found dead Sept. 27 in her Oak of Hampton apartment. A man described as a homeless man by police found Grob's purse on the night of her death in a Pontiac parking lot near Wide Track and Huron. The potential witness' car was parked next to where the homeless man said he found the purse. A \$11,000 reward is being offered for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect. Anyone with information should call (248) 656-4728.

### SOUTHFIELD

**Students named AP scholars:** Based on their performance on college-level Advanced Placement (AP) exams, four Southfield High School students were recently named AP scholars by the College Board.

### TROY

**County robber hits Troy:** A Troy bank was the latest target in a rash of 32 Oakland County bank robberies. The Troy inci-

dent is also possibly the fifth heist by the same robber. Troy Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the robber, who implied that he was armed, escaped with an undisclosed amount of money from the National Bank of Detroit branch on the north side of Big Beaver, west of Crooks at around 10 a.m.

### WEST BLOOMFIELD

**Used ski equipment sale:** Used ski equipment in good condition will go on sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 1 at West Bloomfield High School. To sell equipment, check items at the high school cafeteria between 4 and 8 p.m. Oct. 31. A 20 percent equipment handling fee will apply to all equipment sold. The sale benefits the high school's ski team. For information, call (248) 539-2580.

### ROCHESTER

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## Donations are sought for food

The Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLHSA) is accepting donations for its seventh annual Adopt A Senior for the Holiday Program Oct. 27 to Nov. 25 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Food donations can be dropped off at OLHSA's Community and Family Services office on the fourth floor of 196 Oakland Avenue in Pontiac, Monday through Friday.

OLHSA provides baskets of food for the Thanksgiving holiday to low-income, homebound senior citizens in Oakland County. The program is designed to assist seniors who are financially unable to buy food for a holiday meal. OLHSA is accepting donations of small turkeys, roasting chickens, hams, bread, stuffing, canned fruits and vegetables.

Donations can also be picked up on request. For more information call Joyce Allen at OLHSA (248) 858-5139.