## I-75 traffic topic of 'Corridor Summit'

IN CHRAD FRANKEY

Intorstate 75 doesn't even travel through ports of north Cakland County, but actual mileage pales when compared to the freeway's significance.

North Oakland residents use 1-75 to get to and from work, to freequent shopping centers, and to visit relatives.

And so does everyone else, and so does everyone else, to should come as a surprise to no one, then, that the interstate becomes more and more choked with traffic and more and more of a safety problem with each passing day.

The question now is what to do about it.

Officials from the Michigan

passing day.

The question now is what to do about it.

Officials from the Michigan Department of Transportation; the Road Commission for Oakland County; the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments; cities, villages and townships; local businesses; and educational institutions attended a special 1-75 Transportation Corridor Summit on Tuesday to begin looking for an answer.

Frank Cardimen, executive director of the Traffic Improvement Association, said a prime reason for getting everyone together is to move from local initiatives that go no where to

more regional thinking.
Separately, the many and various communities along 1-75 have little power to influence the interstate, he said. Together they may be able to accomplish much more.

And there is much to accomplish.

And there is much to accomplish.

Conversation ran the gamut from adding lanes to 1-75 and high-tech solutions for moving traffic better to improvements on local roads and even changing the mind set of what is an acceptable use of 1-75.

Other concerns raised included the casine being proposed by the Bay Mills Indian Community in Auburn Hills and its impact on local roads and state plans to take central (and responsibility for) more local roads.

The point, Cardimen said, is there is a clear and present need in Oakland County. To address that need and maintain Oakland County's quality of life, it is imperative the forces in the county join together and focus.

To that end, attendees at the 1-75 Summit agreed to form various committees (to address priorities and funding) and continue meeting.

A good deal of the meeting was

ing.

A good deal of the meeting was spent reviewing county and state plans for the interstate and the



Bumper to bumper: Cars line a stretch of I-75 in North Oakland County in this file photo.

Oakland County in this file
local roads that foed it. Even
though there are few finds, plans
for the road reach out to 2020.

Noticeably absent from those
plans "ere proposals to increase
capacity on the interstate. More
than a few local government officials made note of that, too, and
joint blank asked MDOT for a
commitment.

Commitment isn't that easy,
said Susan E. Hohl, director of
the Project planning division for
the MDOT.

The story on federal funding
for 1-75 is the same as the story
for ever other infrastructure
need — too many needs, not
enough money.

Hohl said the MDOT is aware
of Oakland County and its
needs, but the MDOT has a big
ger audience. Hohl stressed that
1-75 is not a local road, and its
users are not strictly local.

"I am not trying to give the

impression that county users aren't important," she said. "They are—they're just not the only users."

By its nature, on interestate is used to move peeple and goods from one state to another. A lot of 1-76's traffic in Ondkiand County involves people using the freeway for short trips within the county. Which doesn't mean MDOT is ignorant to the needs of the county. Holl said MDOT is looking at lower-cost projects with great emphasis. That's the best way to use the limited resources available.

To that end, MDOT is also looking at forming partnerships with

To that end, MDOT is also look-need—too many needs, not seed too many needs, not seed to many needs, not seeds to the private sector to accomplish its trans-needs, but the MDOT has a big-ser audience. Hohl stressed that l-75 is not a local road, and its seers are not strictly local. "I am not trying to give the

## Eccentric to offer classified ads on World Wide Web

On Monday, June 16, Hometown Communications Network Inc. (formerly Suburban Communications Corp.) will launch AdVillage: The Internet Classified Marketplace, the first Website where people can place a classified ad directly on the World Wide Web.

World Wide Web.

The project is a joint effort of
the Livonia-based corporation's
Observer & Eccentric and HomeTown Newspapers divisions and
of Observer & Eccentric Online
and HomeTown Online.

The address (URL) of the new Web site is http://www.advil-

Web site is http://www.advil.ngc.com.
"AdVillage links the classified advertising sections of your local Eccentric newspaper with want ads from around the country delivering both through Internet technology," said Philip Power, owner and chairman of Hometown Communications Network Inc.

"AdVillage is an entirely new advertising service in Michigan that enables people to put their ads for cars, jobs and homes directly on the Web.

directly on the Web.

"It is the first online medium linking buyers and sellers in your hometown to the millions of people in the global village," said Power.

The AdVillage site contains thousands of classified ads that

can be accessed via an easy-to-use search engine. Other fea-tures of the AdVillage site include; per called The Coffee, the conter-called The Coffee, the control of the Coffee, the control of the Coffee, and more, a demographic survey, and more.

and more.
Classified ads on the AdVillage site will be available to millions of people with Internet access throughout the world. All classifications, including real estate, recruitment, merchandise and automotive, can be found on AdVillage.

tound on Advinge.

"Advillage is the first comprehensive stand-alone Internet. Classified site anywhere," said Steve Pope, vice president and general manager of the Observer. & Eccentric Newspapers, one of the companies that created Advillage.

lage. "AdVillage was developed forthe rapidly growing audience of Internet users that do not per-ceive newspapers as a viable information source," added Pope

information source," added Pope.
AdVillage is currently targeted at 18- to 49-year-olds and represents an inexpensive opportunity to market goods and services to a worldwide public, said Pope.

A classified ad on AdVillage costs \$25 for a 28-day run. Call 1 (800) 579-SELL (7355).

Conflict law applies
Public school academics, alias
"charter schools," are subject to
the public servant conflict of
the public servant conflict of
the result of the servant conflict of
the 1995 school code defines
public school to include entities
operated by ... a public school
academy corporation," he noted.
In an opinion requested by
House floor leader Pat Gagliardi,
D-Drummond, Kelley said the
1997 state Supreme Court ruling,
declaring PSAs constitutional, said
PSAs are public schools whose
board members are public officials
and are subject to applicable law
portaining to public officials.
Branches closed
All 78 Secretary of State
branch offices will be closed
Monday, Feb. 16, in observance
of Presidents Day.
One tip from secretary Candice Miller: "Customers can
expect fastest service mid-morn-

ake

anc

Quality Life

ing, mid-afternoon, mid-week and mid-menth."
Environmental bill
The state House passed, 102-0, a bill to establish a set of environmental indicators to be used for an annual state environmental report.

If passed by the Senate, it would require the Department of environmental Quality to develop indicators and objectives for toxic releases, air quality, surface water quality, drinking water, solid waste, hazardous waste and others.

"It's time for Michigan to join the 37 other states who have undertaken environmental indicator projects and the 16 states that have state-of-the-environmental reports," said Rep. Barbara Dobb, R-Union Lake, a ce-sponsor.

Refer to House bill 4556 when writing to your state engage.

writing to your state senator, State Capitol, PO Box 30036, Lansing, 48909.

Our Gerlatric program provides 24 hour basic nursing care. Our staff includes RNs, LPNs, CEMAs, a full-time recreational therapist and activity coordinators as well as

Cheerful semi-private rooms

Meals prepared by chef (kosher meals available)

Respite and extended stays

· 24 hour physician coverage

· Restorative nursing program

Recreational programs

To schedule a tour, or for more information, call Sherry Samson at (810) 350-8070.

26900 Franklin Rd. • Southfield

Barber/beauty shop

## CAPITOL CAPSULES

• Rep. Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, is sponsor of the
Democrats' high-profile bill to
require auto insurers to refund
\$1 billion in 'overcharges. The
fefunds would come form the
\$2.5 billion surplus in the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association. Democrats contend the
MCCA assessment is 'a tax on
every car in Michigan."
• Rep. John Freeman, D-Madison Heights, has introduced a
bill to eliminate surcharge fees
imposed by banks and automatic
teller machine (ATM) operators
for electronic transactions. Free-

man's bill will allow ATMs to continue charging "interchange fees," usually \$1 to \$2, that pays for the network. But he says consumers are being double-charged when ATM owners impose a \$1.50 to \$3 surcharge.

Appointments

Gov. Engler has appointed:

Albert Calille, of Pymouth, to the state Civil Rights Commission. He is legal counsel for Ameritech and replaces Rev. Robert Sirico of Grand Rapids at term expiring at the end of 2001.

\* Ten persons to the Workers'
Compensation Board of Magis-

trates, which conducts hearings in disability disputes. Area residents include Mary Brennan, Plymouth, previously with the law firm of Schellease, Auld and Johnston; Patrick MacLean, Novi, previously senior trial

attorney for Reliance Insurance Companies with the law firm of. McMurray, MacLean and Berg.? PC; and Sharon Smith, South; field, who was reappointed after being with the agency since 1987; All terms expire Jan. 26, 2002.













