## Congressman gets eighth grader's message

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Eighth-grader Kate Kelley says she likes "just about any-thing that doesn't have to do with sports." Schneday, that anything might just be politics, or lobbying or creiting laws. Kelley had a personal meeting with U.S. Rep. Dale Kildee (D-Flint) Monday when the con-

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gressman came to Sashahaw Middle School in response to a letter the 13-year-old wrote him last year.

"I just wanted a more environmentally and chemically clean school," ahe said during a telephone interview on Tuesday. Kelley said she did not suggest to Kildee how that task could be

DOCTOR

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accomplished when writing him during seventh grade.

Kildee's office called her immediately after she wrote the letter, she said, but it took until now for the school to coordinate a visit. She said she docided to write a letter on her own and selected him as the rectpient after her emother suggested his name.

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professionals, accounting groups, engineering groups, and others. And in addition to getting special eavings, you get someone you can count on day and night with our 24-hour claim service. It's easy to get a quote too-in person, by phone or on our web site.

Speaking of her meeting with the congressman, she said, "He said that he was really happy that I wrote him and he wants other kids my age and younger to write him letters." She expects a story about their meeting to be published in the school's newspaper, With Sugar On Top.

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Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson's proposal to cut the county tax rate sits well with Commissioner Sue Douglas. "Tax decreases are always a positive thing to strive for," said Douglas, R-Rochester. "When wo're able to propose a decrease in taxes instead of an increase, you know something is going right. I think this county is, as always, moving in the right direction."

David Moffitt. R-Binsham

direction."

David Moffitt, R-Bingham
Farms, said the tax cut is the
most welcome news to county
residents.
"I am very pleased with (Patterson's) proposal." Moffitt said.
"As a homeowner and taxpayer,
I know I am pleased."

Propositions they are a pro-

"As a homeowner and taxpayer, Iknow I am pleased."
Proposing a tax cut and providing other measures to help communities finance bonds to help fix the Twelve Towns Drain, a notwork of old pipes and underground retention tanks that service 14 southeastern Onkland County communities, was one of the items pin-pointed in Patterson's State of the County address last Thursday, Patterson's combined tax cut/drain plan would cut the tax rate from 4.5 mills to 4.19 mills and would save the owner of a \$200,000 home about \$32 a year.
Lawrence Obrecht, R-Lake Orion, said the county tax decrease would still allow local governments, which are effected by the drain, to assess residents to fix the drain.

"With the appearal, it names

"With this proposal, it seems like a win-win situation," Obrecht said, "The communities that use the drain can seek extra assistance from their own resi-dents."

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Sue Douglas

Gravicing about 400.000 resistents, the 40-year-old drain is faced with \$1.40 million in repairs ordered by the state. The current system overflows during rain storms, floods basement. Sind sends sowage into Lake St. Clair and surrounding streams. While Commissioner Frank Millard, Jr., R-Clarkston, supports Patterson's tax proposal, he said the "Automation Alley concept is a good tool to boost the county's private sector into the automation Alley is a consolidation of about 120 high-tech companies along 1-76 and 1-598 highways in Oakland County. "I think Automation Alley is a good vision for the county because it is promoting the general business," Millard said. "In very excited to carry out Brooks plans for the county. Moffitt said Automation Alley is a good vision for the county."

Moffitt said Automation Alley is a Compete the county subsinesses to compete head to head with regional powerhouses such as California's Silicon Valley and Route 128 in Boston.

"This really is a good idea,"

"This really is a good idea." Mofifit said. We are giving our businesses a profitable name that can be echoed nationwide, it is this kind of lendership from the county executive that has made the county's business expansion initiatives so successful. I look forward to seeing the details."

## Mental health programs set

Oakland County Community
Mental Health's El Centro "La
Familia" (Center for the Family)
resumes its unique series of
weekly presentations on mental
and physical health issues with
a seminar on dealing with anger
constructively. The acessions,
which are open to all Oakland
County residents and are conducted in Spanish, cover both
the physical and mental health
aspects of such topics as stress,
depression and nutrition. The
workshops are facilitated by
both a licensed social worker and
a registered nurse.

Individual sessions with the counselors are also available. El Centro was established in 1985 to provide bilingual, bicultural, ethnic-sensitive mental hoalth services to Oakland County's Hispanic community. The center offers a variety of services, including assessment and referral, outpatient treatment and case management. El Centro is also secking volunteers who would like to either teach English, be a mentorfutor, or help with daily activities. Call 1248 858-5320 for more information.



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