

OAKLAND DIGEST

Oakland Digest provides a summary of headline stories from around the county during the week leading up to May 17.

BIRMINGHAM
Search off: Birmingham Schools temporarily halted its search for a new principal for Groves High School. Six candidates were interviewed last month by administrators, teachers, students and parents, but all were rejected for "not meeting the needs of the Groves community," district assistant superintendent Bob Voss said.

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
Big development: A 45-acre project, featuring 40 houses, stores, a restaurant and a post office building, was approved for Livonia and Andersonville roads. It is the largest project of its kind in township history. The developer is Tim Birtosa, a former major league baseball player.

FARMINGTON HILLS
No lights: There won't be high school football fields this fall, even though next year's school budget contains enough money to begin the \$300,000 lighting project. School officials said there wouldn't be time to add lights and Farmington, North Farmington and Farmington Hills in time for this year's football season, pushing night home games back to fall 1999.

LAKE ORION
Memorial's day: Plans for a war memorial along M-24 moved forward when Orion Township trustees approved a \$1, 30-year lease for Orion War Memorial, Inc., the nonprofit group planning the tribute to area veterans.

OXFORD
New tower: With completion only a few weeks away, engineers for Oxford Township's new elevated water tower added a few design modifications to make it easier for residents of a nearby mobile home park and a pro-

posed subdivision to connect to the tower.

ROCHESTER
Lion king: A royal sendoff was held Thursday for King, a nine-month-old African lion, who was transported from Michigan Humane Society headquarters in Rochester Hills to a California wildlife preserve. His owner, a Detroit man, had surrendered the golden-colored cat to the humane society in November. A home is still sought for Lucky, the man's 14-month-old Siberian tiger.

SOUTHFIELD
Rouge rescue: Southfield is sponsoring its 28th annual Rouge River Cleanup 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 6. Volunteers will gather at the city's Beech Woods Recreation Area to help remove tree branches and other debris from the river. The event is open to non-resident as well as residents. Those interested in volunteering can call (248) 354-5344.

TROY
No charges: An investigation by the city attorney cleared city cable employees of any potential election law violations for their part in splicing in comments from an absent city council candidate into a videotape of a League of Women Voters' candidates night program. The investigation concluded it was "improper", but not illegal, for cable staff to have spliced councilman John Stevens' comments into the tape.

WEST BLOOMFIELD
No switch: Though she was approached by area Democrats about switching parties, 16th District state Senate candidate Barbara Dobb said she will stick with the GOP. Dobb, a West Bloomfield Republican and current state House member, is challenging incumbent Sen. Willie Hall, D-Milford, in the August party primary. The winner will face Democrat S. Ruth Fuller in the fall.

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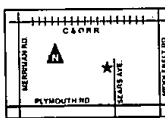
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