

COUNTY NEWS

Road improvements could cause delays on the following Oakland County Roads this week. Roads are open unless noted. Alternative routes are advised in all instances.

I-275 AT GRAND RIVER
Community: Farmington Hills
Details: The ramp from northbound I-275 to east Grand River will be closed through Nov. 15. A detour is posted.

I-696
From: Franklin to Inkster
Community: Southfield
Details: Shoulders will be closed along westbound I-696 through Sept. 20.

ADAMS ROAD
At: Square Lake Road
Community: Bloomfield Township and Troy
Details: The center turn lane and will be widened and the road will be resurfaced through Sept. 30.
At: Grand Trunk Rail Road
Community: Rochester Hills
Details: The road will be closed at the crossing beginning Aug. 12.

AVON ROAD
At: Grand Trunk Rail Road crossing
Community: Rochester Hills
Details: The road will be closed at the crossing Aug. 12. It will reopen at the end of the day.

BALDWIN ROAD
From: I-75 to Delevan
Community: Auburn Hills and Lake Angelus
Details: The road is being widened from two lanes to a six lane boulevard. The project is expected to be completed by Oct. 31.

BRIDGE LAKE
From: Rattlesnake Lake Road to Davisburg Road
Community: Springfield Township
Details: A road paving project is being conducted through the end of August.

COMMERCIAL ROAD
From: From 1,000 feet west of South Commerce to Union Lake Road
Community: Commerce Township
Details: The stretch of road is being resurfaced.

CROOKS ROAD
At: Grand Trunk Rail Road crossing
Community: Rochester Hills
Details: The road will be closed at the crossing beginning Aug. 8.

DEQUINDRE ROAD
From: Big Beaver to Wadles
Community: Troy
Details: Dequindre is being widened from two to five lanes. The project is expected to be completed by Oct. 31.

DIXIE HIGHWAY
From: Davisburg Road to the county line
Community: Springfield, Groveland and Holly townships
Details: The road is being resurfaced.

FLEMINGS LAKE
From: Clarkston Road to Waters Road
Community: Independence Township
Details: The gravel road will be paved by Oct. 31.

FOURTEEN MILE
From: Welch to Haggerty
Community: Commerce Township
Details: The road will be closed through Oct. 6.

GRAND RIVER
At: Farmington Road
Community: Farmington
Details: Grand River will be reduced to one lane in each direction through Sept. 15.

HAMLIN ROAD
At: Grand Trunk Rail Road crossing
Community: Rochester Hills
Details: The road will be closed at the crossing Aug. 13. It will reopen at the end of the day.

LAHSE ROAD
At: Riverview Street
Community: Beverly Hills
Details: The road is being widened and a center turn lane will be added by Aug. 25.

LIVERNOIS ROAD
At: Grand Trunk Rail Road crossing
Community: Rochester Hills
Details: The road will be closed at the crossing beginning Aug. 11.

LONG LAKE ROAD
From: Palomouth to Grandy, east and west of Rochester Road
Community: Troy
Details: The road is being reconstructed and resurfaced.
From: Lahser to Woodward
Community: Bloomfield Hills
Details: The stretch of road is being resurfaced.

MAPLE ROAD
From: Pontiac Trail to Welch Road
Community: Commerce Township
Details: The stretch of road is being resurfaced.

NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY
At: Telegraph Road
Community: Southfield
Details: The right lane is closed. The ramp from northbound Northwestern to southbound Telegraph will be closed intermittently during non-rush hour periods. The ramp from northbound Telegraph to west I-696 and northbound Northwestern Highway will be closed until Oct. 30.

NINE MILE
From: Northbound Northwestern Highway and southbound Southfield Road
Community: Southfield
Details: One lane will be closed through Oct. 1.

OPDYKE ROAD
From: Square Lake Road to South Boulevard
Community: Bloomfield Township and Pontiac
Details: The stretch of road is being resurfaced.

ORCHARD LAKE ROAD
At: Grand River
Community: Farmington
Details: There will be alternating lane closures through Aug. 13.
From: Long Lake Road to Commerce Road
Community: West Bloomfield and Orchard Lake Village
Details: The stretch of road is being resurfaced.

PONTIAC TRAIL
At: Green Lake Road
Community: West Bloomfield
Details: The road is being widened to include a center turn lane through Aug. 24.
From: Decker to Haggerty
Community: Walled Lake and Commerce Townships
Details: The stretch of road is being resurfaced.

ROCHESER ROAD
From: M-59 to Avon Road
Community: Rochester Hills
Details: One lane will be closed in each direction through Aug. 31.

TELEGRAPH ROAD
At: 14 Mile Road
Community: Bingham Farms and Franklin Village
Details: There will be lane closings for road work.

UNION LAKE ROAD
From: Wise to Cooley Lake Roads
Community: Commerce Township
Details: Commerce will be restructuring the road after recent sewer work. The road will remain open, but there will be land shifts.

WALTON BOULEVARD
From: West of Saahabaw to Clintonville
Community: Waterford
Details: Walton is being widened from three to five lanes. It is limited to one lane each way during construction. It is expected to be completed by July 31.

Labor, party unity were topics of conversation at Dem's breakfast

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

One spring day, Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Doug Ross shouted "hello" across a Lansing street to a reporter. He was running a close second to Larry Owen in the polls, but Owen had the endorsements of Big Labor's leaders.

Not a serious problem, said Ross, because other labor-ordered candidates had lost primaries. And Big Labor isn't as strong as it used to be.

Ross was right, but it wasn't he who turned the tables on union leaders Aug. 4. Geoffrey Fieger, the 47-year-old governmental neophyte, won the Democratic nomination for governor, and Fieger could boast at next morning's unity breakfast: "The rank and file union members voted for me. Teachers voted for me."

"He has a lot of labor friends, rank and file support," said state Sen. Gary Peters of Bloomfield Township. "I picked that up in the union halls. This party is diverse."

At state conventions, AFL-CIO President Frank Garrison has been fond of saying that whenever the Labor Caucus endorsed would be the party's choice. But Fieger has done what no Democratic gubernatorial nominee has done for more than a generation — win a primary over labor leaders' opposition.

The unity breakfast, in the Poncechartrain Hotel in Detroit, featured former or retiring

officeholders such as Jim Blanchard, Don Riegler and Frank Kelley. But missing were:

- Frank Garrison.
- UAW president Steve Yoch.
- Ross, who finished third and wasn't expected to make peace with the man who branded him a "sniveling weasel."
- Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer.

Several members of the Michigan congressional delegation attended, led by John Dingell of Trenton, but not Sander Levin of Southfield or Lynn Rivers of Ann Arbor.

Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara, who had backed Owen, sent regrets because a younger sister died the day before. But he also sent chief of staff Charlie Williams to promise "enthusiastic support ... We will deliver Wayne County in an unprecedented way in November."

Fieger did make peace, apparently, with party chair Mark Brewer, whom he once promised to fire, even though Brewer is picked by party delegates for a term that runs until January. "Since this is a unity breakfast, Mark, you can have your job back," Fieger laughed. It set a good mood.

But not everyone was smiling. "I'm troubled," said former Oakland Democratic chair Don Tucker, an Owen supporter. "Larry Owen is a responsible, intelligent, visionary candidate. Geoffrey Fieger, on the other hand, is there because of: a)

name recognition (through representing Jack Kavarikian) and b) his facile quotes that fit into a sound bite, but he's not well versed on policy."

But he'll support Fieger over incumbent Republican John Engler.

Some Democrats who weren't shunning Fieger, however, were candidates for attorney general.

Macomb Prosecutor Carl Marlinga said he would "converse with Fieger and see how he plans to run his campaign. We agree 99 percent on issues. The difference is his personal style. If he shows he has a good, solid side, all right. If not, I would prefer not to be on the ticket."

Wayne County Sheriff Bob Ficano affirmed that "we feel we have the qualifications to be there. The party leaders have to pick a consensus candidate. Jennifer (Granholm, Wayne County corporation counsel), would be an attractive candidate."

Also there were Sen. Chris Dingell of Trenton, Rep. Nick Ciaramitaro of Roseville, Rep. Laura Baird of Okemos, Rep. John Freeman of Madison Heights — a long list of potential successors to President Clinton.

A prominent Ross supporter, who asked not to be quoted by name, was unhappy at Big Labor's heretofore iron grip on party nominations. "Mark Brewer (state chair) is a smart man and a good lawyer. I don't see how he can climb in Steve Yoch's lap every morning to get his orders," she said.

REUNIONS

BIRMINGHAM SEAHOLM
Class of 1978
Sept. 19 at the Doubletree Guest Suites, Southfield.
(248) 360-7004
Class of 1988
Oct. 24 at the Kingsley Hotel and Suites, Bloomfield Hills.
(248) 542-8297 or e-mail at Seaholm88@aol.com

Class of 1973
Nov. 28 at the Birmingham Community House, Birmingham.
(248) 855-1475, (248) 391-4775 or (313) 777-6061
Class of 1988
Oct. 24 at the Kingsley Hotel and Suites, Bloomfield Hills.
Cost is \$50 per person.

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric! Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric! Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Please include the date of the reunion and the first and last name of at least one contact person, and a telephone number.

AREA SCHOOLS
BIRMINGHAM BALDWIN
Class of 1948
Sept. 12 at the Birmingham Athletic Club, Bloomfield Township.
(248) 258-5430 or (248) 642-1920
BIRMINGHAM GROVES
Class of 1978
A reunion is planned for Nov. 27.
(800) 677-7800 or reunions@daylorpatt.com

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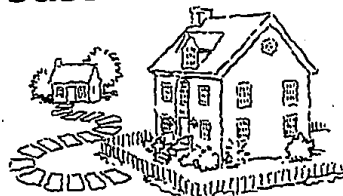
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MONDAY-FRIDAY 10-5:30, THURSDAY UNTIL 7:30, SATURDAY UNTIL 5:00

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OAKLAND COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
WE WANT YOUR HELP

Your Board of Road Commissioners for Oakland County wants you to help decide on the

1999 BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1999
AND
1999 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Board of Road Commissioners for Oakland County invites all interested citizens and elected officials to present comments prior to adoption of the 1999 Budget and Road improvement program. For this purpose, we have scheduled a Public Hearing.

Date: Thursday, August 27, 1998
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: Oakland County Auditorium
Oakland County Service Center
1200 North Telegraph
Pontiac, Michigan 48341

WHAT THE BUDGET IS

The proposed Budget sets forth the revenue anticipated to be available to the Board of Commissioners and the expenses of the Board. The Budget also designates the proposed use of these funds, including the Operating Expenditures of the Road Commission and the proposed Road improvement Program.

ADVANCE COPIES ARE AVAILABLE

Copies of the proposed 1999 Budget and related information will be available one (1) week prior to the Public Hearing. They may be obtained by contacting the Finance Department of the Road Commission for Oakland County, 31001 Lahser Road, Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025 (Telephone (248) 646-2000, ext. 2227 or TDD (248) 646-9923).

Copies of the proposed 1999 Road improvement program will be available one (1) week prior to the Public Hearing. They may be obtained by contacting the Engineering Department of the Road Commission for Oakland County, 31001 Lahser Road, Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025 (Telephone (248) 646-2000, ext. 2265 or TDD (248) 646-9923).

WE HOPE YOU WILL PRESENT COMMENTS

The Board Meeting and Public Hearing are held in accordance with the provisions of Act 2, P.A. 1908, as amended by Act 421, P.A. 1978, Act 43, P.A. 1963 (2nd executive session), and Act 297, P.A. 1970, as amended.

If you require accommodation in accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, please provide the Finance Department with five days advance notice.

BOARD OF OAKLAND COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Brent O. Balz, Managing Director

Public: August 9, 1998