

Cable

from page A1

Time Warner, echoed Hartsock's optimism.

"We've been meeting with some regularity with the SWOCC negotiating team," Bjorklund said. "We've had some good discussions."

The threat of competition doesn't faze him, he added.

"We've been competing with direct broadcast satellite (service) for years," Bjorklund said. "I think we've done very well in the competitive market. I think a vast majority of people who look at it think cable is a good deal."

If the contract is denied, the next step could be an administrative hearing, designed to let both sides speak to an unbiased third party. Council discussed possibly using a retired Appeals Court judge to serve as the unbiased third party and adjudicator. Such hearings are rare.

Time Warner has gone through less than a handful (of formal hearings) nationwide," said Karen Collins, executive director of the Southwest Oakland Cable Commission, informally known as SWOCC.

She pointed out that the city of Pontiac recently denied renewing a cable contract with cable provider Comcast.

One of the issues discussed was Internet services. Some cable companies, such as Media One, have begun offering Internet access.

"This Internet thing is becoming more and more of an issue,"

TIME-WARNER

Hartsock said, adding that Internet use is estimated to double every 100 days. Some cable providers offer Internet services, but with certain limitations.

"Money is everything," Hartsock said. "The Internet situation is becoming more and more critical."

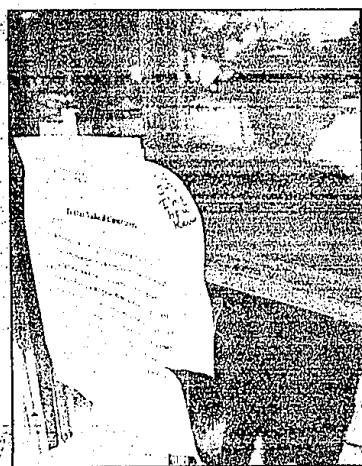
"There really isn't effective competition," he said. "All surrounding communities usually just have a single provider."

Communities that have dual cable providers include Northville, Plymouth, Canton, the first Michigan communities to get the choice of two.

And Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi could follow.

"Ameritech decided to get into the business," Hartsock said, referring to Ameritech New Media, the cable arm of the telephone company. "They most likely will make a formal request."

Ideally, cable competition helps bring lowered rates, but realistically, competition has very little impact on the consumers, Hartsock said.



Sorry: Former Bill Knapp's patrons are greeted by a small sign directing them to the nearest Bill Knapp's, at 36650 Grand River.

Closes

from page A1

weron't open by the time the movies let out."

Nonetheless, Dittenbaugh called the restaurant's closing a "jolt."

He visited once a week: His favorite dish was the restaurant's chicken fricasee.

When his daughter Sherry drove up from Lima, Ohio, that's where they'd eat.

"That's where we went when guests came here," Dittenbaugh said. "There's no other place around here like it."

Bill Knapp's lure with seniors is particularly renowned. Dittenbaugh said the food and cost appeal to him most.

The Battle Creek-based restaurant chain specializes in meals "made from scratch" that includes fried chicken, au gratin potatoes, bean soup, apple pie and chocolate cake.

Michigan Living Magazine also named Bill Knapp's the "Best Restaurant for Under \$10" in 1992.

Communities set new record

The cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills saved landfill space at a record pace this past spring, according to the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County.

Only 72 percent of all material set at the curb on garbage days in RRRASOC's eight-member communities ended up in a landfill. "Last year at this time, more than 76 percent of material at the curb went directly to the landfill," said RRRASOC's General Manager Mike Caspo. "Residents of these communities are doing a great job."

Although RRRASOC's data shows an impressive effort on the part of area residents, Oakland County has delivered a reality check via its annual certification of available disposal capacity.

"Existing landfill operations within Oakland County will have reached their ultimate capacity and be closed within five to seven years," according to RRRASOC.

You've Lived A Life Of Dignity, Independence And Choice.

At Botsford Commons' Assisted Living Center You Don't Have To Change A Thing.



Announcing the opening of Botsford Commons Assisted Living Center. This innovative facility, located in an historic and newly renovated Albert Kahn-designed

building in Farmington Hills, offers a caring environment for those who need support to maintain daily living routines. Residents receive assistance only with the services needed and requested, encouraging each individual to remain as independent as possible in a safe and secure environment. Center residents retain privacy and comfort in individual apartments while their psychological and social needs are met through a variety of programs and group activities. Easily accessible community living, dining and social areas complement comfortable accommodations with private



baths and generous space for treasured personal furnishings. The center features a chapel, clinical offices and a full range of health care services including geriatric assessment programs. As an older adult, you've lived a life that has been one characterized by dignity, independence and choice. It should continue to be. When you choose Botsford Commons Assisted Living Center, you insure that the next chapter of your life is filled with the same richness of choice and independence to which you are accustomed and that you deserve.



For more information, call 248-426-6903.



Botsford
HEALTH CARE CONTINUUM

28050 Grand River Avenue, Farmington Hills, MI 48336-5933

childs Play
The Ultimate
Old Fashioned Toy Store!
SAVE 15-30% ON
summer activities- outdoor toys
games & creative playthings
Call Office For Details
(248) 543-8115
3247 W. 12 Mile-Berkeley
M-SAT 10-5:30 Fri 10-6
SUN 9-5
www.dollhouseinc.com

150th Annual Highland Games
Saturday, August 7 • 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM
Greenmead Historic Park
8 Mile and Newburgh Roads, Livonia
Tickets \$10
(12 & under free with adult)
20 bagpipe bands perform all day
Highland dancing competition
International Athletics Invitational
Children's Activities
Scottish food vendors
Celtic crafts and gifts
Three stages of entertainers
Genealogy and Clan Tents
The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit
(248) 593-5064 www.hIGHLANDGAMES.com

The Men's Tailored Clothing Sale
Take an extra 40% off
already reduced prices
on extraordinary selections
of suits, sportcoats and trousers
consolidated from our stores
across the country
for savings of
55% to 75% off*
In Troy only.
Additional 10% off all day
when you open a
Saks Fifth Avenue
credit card account.
Subject to credit approval.
*Sale ends August 8, 1999. Reductions off original prices.
Selected merchandise only. No adjustments to prior purchases.
All sales final.
SAKS FIFTH AVENUE
The Saks Fifth Avenue Collection, Big Beaver in Oakridge, Troy (248) 443-9900
Monday through Friday 10 to 7, Saturday 10 to 7, Sunday 12 to 6
Fairlane Town Center, Dearborn (313) 326-3070 Monday through Saturday 10 to 9, Sunday 11 to 6