

County Road Fund Raised By \$3.5 Million

PONTIAC — The Oakland County Road Commission will receive about \$14.4 million in 1973 from the motor vehicle fund as a result of Gov. Milliken's recently passed transportation package.

"If the package hadn't been put into law this year, the road commission would have received about \$10.9 million," says William Richards, commission chairman.

"Much of the \$3.5 million increase will be used for new construction projects."

RICHARDS says Oakland's 1973 construction program includes about 40 projects at a total cost of \$15.5 million.

Many of the projects are on a "matching" basis and federal funds or money provided by local townships, cities and villages are incorporated.

"The road commission intends to use some of the new money to expand its program of paving subdivision streets under special assessment procedures," says Richards.

"Money not spent for construction will be used to provide a higher level of maintenance on more heavily traveled county roads."

Richards points out the transportation package was, from the outset, tailored to meet urban area road needs.

"Because Oakland is the fastest growing county in the state in terms of population and vehicle use, the road commission had been seeking an increase in revenues."

"The original 1951 revenue return formula had remained unchanged for more than 20 years. Designed for a predominantly rural state, the formula failed to provide an equitable distribution of funds to deal with the rapid increase in urban traffic congestion."

RICHARDS says tax on gasoline has been raised two cents a gallon, but there hasn't been any increase in license plate fees or diesel fuel tax.

Before the transportation package was passed, the State Highway Dept. received 46 per cent of state collected motor vehicle funds, the county road commissions, 34 per cent, and cities and villages, 20 per cent.

As of Feb. 1, the State Highway Dept. will receive 44.5 per cent, 83 county road commissions, 35.7 per cent, and cities and villages, 19.8 per cent.

"One half cent of the gasoline tax will be earmarked for public transit," says Richards. "The transportation package is the creation of a special urban area fund for urban county roads."

Richards doubts the program is comprehensive enough to solve all the

Sex Education To Be Topic

ROCHESTER — The Greater Oakland Zero Population Growth chapter will discuss sexuality education at its Feb. 1 meeting at 8 p.m. in University Presbyterian Church.

The meeting will be in Lawn Ridge Hall, 1385 Adams. Rochester and is open to the public.

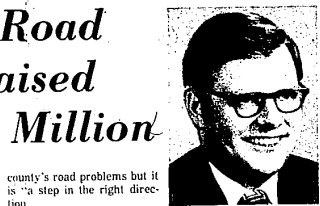
Bill Pruitt, sexuality education instructor at Southfield-Lathrup High School, will speak on "Sexuality Education: Reality or Myth in Public Education."

Pruitt will discuss sexuality education trends in Michigan and the nation, with emphasis on programs in the Detroit metropolitan area.

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RICHARD G. HALL, of Shagbark, Southfield, has been promoted to second vice-president and personnel officer of Manufacturers Bank. Hall, who will be responsible for the employment division, joined the bank in 1971 after nine years in personnel management.

Schools Fail In Teaching Kids To Read?

ROCHESTER — Adults who cannot read well are hindered by the way they learned to read when they were school children, says Jerome J. Breen who is instructor for an efficient reading course offered by Oakland University, Rochester.

About one-third of today's school children will be poor readers as adults, he predicts.

The problems encountered in teaching reading today are mainly the same problems which led to the present adult population which has reading deficiencies, adds Breen who is a reading specialist with Ferndale School District.

OF THE children now in school, about one-third are reading at a frustration level, Breen maintains.

"This means they lack vocabulary and cannot understand the concepts presented. When students are presented with material at their instructional level, their reading will improve."

"This explains why such a large segment of the adult population finds reading a chore rather than a pleasure. With adults, we attempt to provide reading materials at a level at which they can succeed."

SOME OF the colleges and universities aren't properly training teachers with techniques to teach reading in the classroom, Breen adds.

"Many universities offer teachers-to-be only one or two courses in reading. Amazingly, it takes only three readings to qualify a teacher to become a reading specialist."

Many college faculty who

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Search Starts For Handicapped Under Age 25

PONTIAC — A massive search is being held until Feb. 5 in Oakland County for handicapped persons, from birth through age 25, who aren't now in public school programs.

Parents, neighbors and acquaintances of such persons are asked to call directors of special education in their local school district.

They should report the name, age, and address of those handicapped young persons who aren't in public schools, says William J. Emerson, superintendent of Oakland Intermediate School District.

The Mandatory Special Education Act of 1972, explains Emerson, requires school programs for the handicapped under age 25 to be in operation next September.

Home visit programs are now being planned for infants and preschool children. Training programs, now enrolling moderately retarded and multiple handicapped, will be adapted to fit the needs of the more severely handicapped.

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