

Shepherd is urging regional clout against water pollution

By TIM RICHARD

To the man on the street, "208" is just another obscure paragraph in another complicated act of Congress.

To SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, "208" means a chance to back up its six-county plans with real regulatory powers and to be greater service to member local governments.

It's all up to Gov. William Milliken to decide whether SEMCOG and 13 other regional agencies in Michigan get that 208 designation.

The number refers to the paragraph of the 1972 federal water pollution control amendments that would give areawide agencies certain regulatory powers. David Shepherd, Oak Park mayor and a SEMCOG vice chairman, is in Washington this week serving on an Environmental Protection Agency advisory committee to set up guidelines for areawide agencies.

Shepherd told Observer & Eccentric Newspapers he is confident Milliken will give SEMCOG powers under Paragraph 208 by mid-year.

Michael Glusac, SEMCOG executive director, last week outlined what 208 designation could mean to water pollution controls. "The content of a 208 plan," he said, "must include...the establishment of a regulatory program to:

- Provide area wide control or treatment of all point and non-point sources of pollution.

- Regulate the location, modification and construction of any facilities which may result in any discharge.

Assume that any industrial or commercial wastes discharged into any publicly owned treatment works meet applicable pre-treatment requirements.

Last year, the state Water Resources Commission staff opposed SEMCOG's bid to be a 208 agency. Glusac said, but later information has shown such state agencies as the WRC to be ineligible for 208 planning grants.

Why should SEMCOG be a 208 agency? Shepherd gave two answers: "First, it's the only agency involved in comprehensive planning. We're doing housing planning, open space planning, and water and sewer planning." If SEMCOG didn't get the area designation, its plans might be in conflict with the agency that is designated.

Second, this would make local units more involved in water quality management. SEMCOG would get an

additional way to be a better tool of local governments," said Shepherd.

There could, however, be a monetary problem. Glusac and Shepherd pointed out. The federal government will fund 100 per cent of the program the first two years but only 75 per cent thereafter. Thus, a 25 per cent commitment thereafter is strongly implied.

How much this would be and how SEMCOG might get the money were unanswered questions.

Dr. Brennan named cancer data chairman



MICHAEL BRENNAN

Dr. Michael J. Brennan, president of the Michigan Cancer Foundation has been elected chairman of a committee to coordinate efforts of nine U.S. cancer data - collection agencies engaged in developing and submitting statistics for the National Cancer Institute.

Other agencies involved in the data-gathering effort are located in California, Connecticut, Iowa, Louisiana, Utah, New Mexico, Hawaii, and Washington.

Each of the participating agencies has been awarded contracts from the National Cancer Institute to develop and supply data on cancer incidence, treatment, disease characteristics and patient follow-up.

Data gathered by these nine group will provide a monitoring of cancer in the communities these agencies serve and will provide the institute with a good national profile of the disease.

The program is funded under the Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) project.

Dr. Brennan said a consolidation of data can be useful in identifying high-risk populations and in determining the most effective course of treatment.

He noted the Michigan Cancer Foundation's local effort includes detailed data - collection from some 80 hospitals in the Detroit metropolitan area.

"The information we're assembling can give us a good picture of cancer incidence, causes, cures and treatment results," Brennan said.

The Michigan Cancer Foundation's research, detection, treatment, and patient services efforts established a base of operations that allowed the foundation to be one of the first agencies in the nation funded under the SEER project.

Its Registry Department, responsible for cancer patient and cancer incidence data even before the SEER project was developed, will have responsibility for administering the Michigan Cancer Foundation's segment of the nationwide effort.



ANGUS MCKELLAR

McKellar is national adv. representative

Angus McKellar has been named national advertising representative for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers effective April 1.

A member of the former Eccentric staff since 1959, McKellar will be responsible for national advertising in all 11 semi-weekly newspapers. They range continuously from Rochester in northeast Oakland County to Plymouth and Westland in Wayne County with a combined circulation of more than 155,000 in each issue.

McKellar studied advertising and journalism at Detroit Institute of Technology, worked on newspapers and then spent four years in the Navy in World War II. His military duty included service on minesweepers off Africa and Italy, being at the Salerno and Anzio beachheads and in southern France operations, and working out of public information offices on the West Coast.

After the war, he finished work on a degree at Wayne State University and worked on several newspapers.

Consumer unit to be formed

A consumer protection unit in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has been approved by the board of commissioners to provide consumer education and mediation of disputes for the first time.

Commissioners authorized a grant application for \$481,250 of mostly federal money to finance a joint program of the county and the Legal Aid and Defenders Assn.

Under direction of the prosecuting attorney, the unit will educate consumers and businessmen throughout the county, provide investigation and mediation of consumer complaints, and prosecute criminal offenses.

The prosecutor will handle all criminal offenses and the Legal Aid and Defender's Office will be responsible for non-criminal matters and consumer education.

A consumer grant application by the prosecutor had previously been denied at the state level because it failed to provide for mediation and consumer education. The budget for last year's unit was \$21,516 which paid for one investigator and one secretary.

In contrast, the new unit will have an office located in Detroit and is expected to handle a volume of 500 cases per month. Consumer complaints will also be taken at suburban city and township halls. The county and state will each contribute \$23,000 toward the total budget of the program, which will fund the program through June 1975.



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