

Milliken declares

Gas tax can meet state needs

By SUSAN L. SILK

The two-cent a gallon gasoline tax may not be helping motorists at the pump but it's the key to solving the state's most pressing problems.

So said Michigan Gov. William Milliken in a question and answer session before 400 members and guests of the North Oakland County Chamber of Commerce in Pontiac recently.

The governor advocated the tax last year to create jobs and to "try to realize the transportation needs of the state," Milliken said.

The two-cent tax goes into the state

highway fund to expand the development of the highway system, Milliken said.

"ONE-HALF OF ONE cent (per gallon) goes into urban transit planning to enable us, for the first time in this century, to meet the needs of the urban areas," the governor said.

The expansion of transportation programs means a "reinvigoration" of the economy by "maintaining and expanding" jobs for Michigan, Milliken said.

He added that the state's current 10.3 percent unemployment rate, "two

times the national average," remains the state's number one problem.

His tax reduction program and the opening of foreign trade offices in Brussels and Tokyo are efforts to "do everything in my power to try and improve the state's business climate," Milliken said.

The governor said he was "cautiously optimistic" about the availability of gasoline during the state's summer tourist season.

"THE SHORTAGES should in no way affect the tourist industry," Milliken said, adding that 500,000 state residents depend on the \$1.5 billion tourist trade for their livelihoods.

"People can travel with reasonable assurance that they can get into Michigan and out again," the governor said.

Earlier in his appearance the governor said he would attempt to answer the questions "candidly and honestly as I know how." When asked about the state lottery he admitted that he had been wrong in opposing the fund raiser.

"It's amazingly successful," Milli-

ken said, citing the \$62 million a year the program adds to the state general fund.

After his remarks, Milliken presented an executive declaration to Oakland University President Donald D. O'Dowd proclaiming Sept. 23, 1974 Oakland University Day in Michigan.

THAT IS THE DATE O.U. is planning a day-long celebration of the school's 15th anniversary.

State Rep. Melvin L. Larsen (R-61) also presented O'Dowd with a state legislature resolution commemorating the birthdate.

The resolution congratulates O.U. for serving 60,000 students in these 15 years, establishing a "distinguished" undergraduate program, gathering a "praiseworthy faculty and administration" and fostering "high ideals of relevant graduate education."

The evening credit programs, continuing adult education, and the "Meadow Brook trinity" — the theater, music festival and art gallery — were cited as earning for the university the legislature's "highest tribute."

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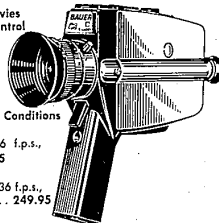
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Dr. Lakin to run for OCC trustee

Dr. Mervyn Lakin, past president of the Southfield Board of Education, has announced his candidacy for Board of Trustees of Oakland Community College. Dr. Lakin, a resident of Oakland County since 1959, is a practicing physician in Southfield.

"Recent shifts in enrollment pressures from elementary to higher education," Dr. Lakin stated, "places added responsibilities on our county's community college. I hope to be able to utilize experience and skills gained in my four years of school board assignments for the betterment of higher education in our community."

Dr. Lakin listed as major concerns for the community college the broadening of career programs geared toward employment opportunities in this area, expansion of part time student enrollment and coordination of OCC adult education courses with similar courses at local schools in Oakland County.



DR. MERVYN LAKIN

"THE TUITION squeeze," Dr. Lakin said, "is another problem of increasing importance. We must develop tuition-free programs for deserving students from middle income families who are not now eligible for aid."

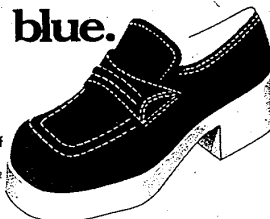
DR. LAKIN is on the staff of Sinai, Hutzel and Detroit General Hospitals. He is adjunct clinical instructor at the Wayne State University Medical College and a member of several professional organizations, including the AMA, the Michigan Diabetes Association and the American Heart Association. He has published several scientific tracts on treatment of diabetes and is an authority on forensic medicine.

Among his civic activities, Dr. Lakin was president of the Southfield Arts Council, president of the McKinley Elementary PTA, chairman of the Southfield Committee for Excellence in Education and won the title "First Citizen of Southfield" in 1972.

Dr. Lakin is president of Franklin Fairway Subdivision of Farmington Hills and is a member of the Founders Society, Cranbrook Art Association and B'Nai Brith.

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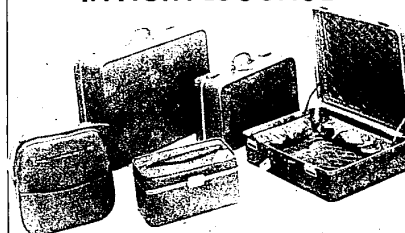
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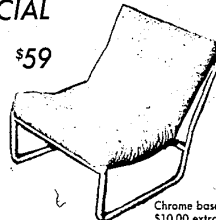
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