

Lawmakers hit consumerism

SOUTHFIELD—“A wave of consumerism is engulfing us.” That’s the assessment of Sen. Daniel Cooper and Rep. James DeFebaugh who discussed the issue at a breakfast meeting of the Southfield Chamber of Commerce Monday.

“For the past six years, we’ve been talking about a controversial consumer protection act,” Cooper said. “I’ve opposed many portions of the proposal and I’ve been accused of anti-consumerism.”

“Somebody puts a nice title on a legislative bill and it’s popular to do nothing, but not to criticize. You’re not to

cut anything with a beneficial sound name.”

The original draft of the bill gives the attorney general carte blanche to go out and beat every businessman to death and come up with some who are defrauding consumers.

I CARVED up the bill because it said the attorney general could subpoena records and bring the alleged offender to his office and file perjury charges against him.”

The presumption of innocence until proven guilty is a basic Constitutional right, said Cooper who believes

“Even business people are entitled to civil liberties and court hearings.”

Cooper maintains nobody bothered to read the 40-page bill, which, if written properly, would protect consumers from unscrupulous business practices.

“To overreact for the sins of the minority is to pass panic legislation like no-fault insurance which fails to protect victims of serious car accidents. Insurance companies sit on claims, attorneys, and everyone else, are confused and the consumer doesn’t get a rebate, though his insurance premiums go up.”

“Legislators and citizens should do their homework. Business deserves reasonable tightening but with scholarship and academic acumen.”

DeFebaugh talked about the 130 page revised mental health code which represents some \$300 million spent for that purpose.

“Few read the bill, and there have been a raft of court cases in the last

two years to protect patients’ rights. We’re supposed to be coming out of the dark ages, but the danger of the mental health bill is that it goes too far and agencies are afraid to treat patients.”

“In the long run, the mentally ill are deprived of their right to treatment.”

DeFebaugh, who serves on the corporation and finance committee of the house, said the wave of consumerism adversely affects banks, credit unions, small loans businesses and other agencies who are undergoing inflationary pressures.

“Public relations firms say banks are lowering their interest rates but there are no dollars loaned at the prime rate,” he claimed.

“Government officials are talking about the economy without an industrial development authority in Michigan. My crystal ball is cloudy about bonding power and long-term, low cost loans. These and other details should be studied.”



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Howard promoted to assistant director

SOUTHFIELD—Dr. Suzanne Howard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Howard of Southfield, has been named assistant director of program for higher education for the American Association of University Women in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Howard is also assistant professor of social and philosophical studies at the University of Kentucky, and coordinator of undergraduate studies.

Her special focus in this appointment will be on women in higher education.

A graduate of Wayne State University, her advanced degrees include a Master’s of Education from Wayne State and a Ph.D. in education from the University of Michigan. She has also studied, taught, or done research in Italy, France, and Lebanon. She held 11 grants and fellowships during her studies at University of Michigan and University of Kentucky.

During various times in her career, Dr. Howard has taught in Michigan public schools, at Wayne State University, Marygrove College, and the University of Michigan.

Blood bank slated

B’hai Brith men and women will hold their next blood bank from 5:10 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, Jan. 20 and 21 at the Pepper Elementary School on Church Street in Oak Park.

The event is part of a new program by the United States Government and the American Red Cross which will avoid the necessity of purchasing blood and the possibility of transmitting serum hepatitis.

BOW WOW!!



LOOK AT ALL THIS ATTENTION I’M GETTING. I GOT PICKED UP THIS MORNING (COURSE I COULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN) AND THEY WERE SURE TO WORK ON ME!

THEY ...

- brushed me — bathed me — manicured me — pedicured me — fluffed me — scissored me — clipped me — trimmed my mustache — cleaned my eyes & ears — drained my glands — powdered me & caligared me

AND ...

a whole lot of other things that I’ve forgotten and ALL this was done with plenty of T. L. C.

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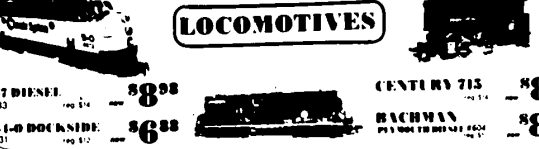
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