

# Oakland officials seek U.S. revenue sharing

Suburban officials this week are making a two-pronged effort to get an extension of the federal revenue sharing program.

After meeting Monday in Pontiac with some 80 persons from 38 Oakland County communities, U.S. Rep. Marvin Eash (R-Ann Arbor) was scheduled to testify Nov. 6 before a House government operations subcommittee in support of extended revenue sharing.

Oakland County Executive Daniel Murphy is coordinating efforts to get area officials to Washington Nov. 18 where they will rally and travel to Capitol Hill to buttonhole congressmen.

"THEY DEFINITELY feel it's been

a successful program," said Eash after Monday's meeting.

"Revenue sharing has meant a minimum amount of paperwork—there are only two forms to fill out. It's a minimum amount of bureaucracy and a maximum amount of money spent—only 100 employees in the revenue sharing office of the Treasury Department to administer a \$30 billion program."

The reason for the hurry, Eash said, is that the congressional subcommittee isn't planning to act on revenue sharing until next spring. "But the local budget process goes on from January to April, so for predictability we need to pass revenue sharing in a timely fashion."

"Some people at the meeting said that with the federal deficit, we shouldn't be extending

this in the next year, we really do have to decide what's essential for the federal government to spend money on," Eash said. But he added that he was an original sponsor of the concept in 1972 and is co-sponsor of the bill (HR 3244) to extend it six more years.

MURPHY, in his first year as Oakland County executive, said revenue sharing has less than a 50-50 chance of passage in this Congress.

"Revenue sharing has become important to nearly every local government, particularly in southeast Michigan, which has been hit so hard by the recession."

Murphy said that since the program began, Oakland County government has received \$8.4 million, with about half (\$4.4 million) going to expand the Children's Village facility.

Other uses included: \$1.6 million to care for patients in hospitals or state institutions; \$600,000 for court-appointed attorneys to defend the poor; \$450,000 for juveniles under the county's care; and \$400,000 each for the medical examiner's office, Camp Oakland and drain projects.

Eash said local officials generally are using 60 per cent of their receipts for capital improvements and 40 per cent for operating expenses, much of that for law enforcement.

## 477 new members join S. Oakland Y

The South Oakland YMCA ended its 1975 membership drive at a luncheon Thursday, Oct. 30. The luncheon showed the campaign resulted in 477 new memberships sold in October. The goal was 300.

Ben Bennett, chairman of this year's campaign, and a member of the YMCA Board of Management, reported that Ben Oliver of Ferndale was top salesman. Oliver brought in personally 11 new memberships and his team for the campaign brought in more than 100 memberships.

The luncheon concluded the one-month drive which had the theme of "More Fun Than a Circus—Join YMCA." Memberships at the "Y" are available year around, but the drive was a special emphasis correlated with the opening of the Y's new handball and health club facility.

The South Oakland drive was part

of a Detroit Metropolitan YMCA membership drive. At the last report, 948 new memberships were sold with South Oakland providing over half the total.

## Nov. 10 lecture topic: Orchids

"Growing Orchids in the Home" will be explained at a free lecture Monday, Nov. 10, at noon in the second floor auditorium of Michigan Consolidated Gas Co., One Woodward Avenue.

Raymond McCullough, past president of the Michigan Orchid Society, will describe how many orchids can be grown in the home on a windowsill or with the aid of lights.

The lecture will benefit the novice and would-be grower as well as those already started on the hobby.

The lectures are sponsored jointly by the Michigan Horticultural Society, the Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service and Michigan Consolidated Gas Co.

## Finances taught at OCC

The business administration department of the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College will offer a course in personal finance during the coming winter session. The class will meet on Thursday at 7 p.m., beginning Jan. 15 for 15 weeks.

A list of guest speakers will discuss such topics as: how to save money on your income tax; consumer loans and credit ratings; consumer legal rights; life, auto and homeowner's insurance; stocks and bonds; buying furniture; family budgets; unusual investments; buying and selling a home; savings and checking accounts; buying a new car; and home mortgages.

Mail-in registration begins Nov. 10. Regular registration starts Jan. 7.

## Child center opens at OCC

A supervised child play center will be available to the children of full-time and part-time students at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College this winter. The service will enable parents with young children to enroll in the college's day program. A registration fee of \$7 per semester for one child, \$10 for two, and \$12 for three will be charged. The center will operate from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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