

Oakland Dems to choose November state ticket

Oakland County Democrats will hold a series of district conventions Saturday as they prepare to fill out their state ticket for the November election.

Saturday's meetings are to pick delegates to the Aug. 28-29 state convention in Detroit's Cobo Hall.

Attending the local meetings will be persons elected precinct delegates at the Aug. 3 primary.

HERE IS WHERE and when local delegates will meet:

•18th District—10 a.m. in M. Cernia High School's small auditorium, 155 Cass. The district includes the eastern half of the Rochester community.

•17th District—10 a.m. in Merry College of Detroit, Outer Drive at Southfield. The district includes northwest Detroit, Redford Township, the Southfield and Farmington communities.

•16th District—1 p.m. in UAW Region 1, 5 hall, 711 Thirteen Mile near 175, Madison Heights.

•15th District—1 p.m. in the Oakland County Board of Commissioners auditorium, 1300 N. Telegraph, Pontiac.

WHILE PRECINCT delegates technically elect their state convention delegates in

practice, the local conventions adopt a blanket rule for seating state convention delegates.

The standard rule is that all elected precinct delegates and all paid-up party members may attend the state convention as delegates.

District conventions may also take care of one other routine but honorary chore: picking a person to be the official member of the Electoral College. If Jimmy Carter carries Michigan in the presidential election, the local member of the Electoral College will cast one of the state's 21 electoral votes for Carter.

THE STATE CONVENTION will pick the party's candidates for three supreme court seats and two members each for three university boards.

Chief Justice Thomas Gies Kavanagh, a Democrat of Troy, is expected to seek renomination for a new eight-year term, probably without opposition.

Democrats will nominate other candidates to run against Republican Justices Lawrence Landwehr of Blackbridge for a six-year term and James Ryan of Redford Township for a two-year term.

Landwehr was appointed by Gov. William Milliken to replace the late Thomas M. Kavanagh, and Ryan was picked to re-

place John B. Swainson, who resigned.

TWO STATE BOARD of Education vacancies will be up for grabs with the retirement of Democrat Marilyn Jean Kelly of Detroit and Republican appointee Gorton Rudenheimer of Chelsea.

Seeking renomination to the University of Michigan Board of Regents will be Democrat Robert E. Niederlander, Birmingham lawyer, and Gerald Dunn, a lobbyist for nine area school districts.

On the Michigan State University Board of Trustees, the terms of Democrats Warren M. Huff of Plymouth and Dr. Blanche Martin of East Lansing are expiring. They have yet to announce whether they will seek renomination.

And on the Wayne State University Board of Governors, the terms of Democrats Augustus J. Calloway Jr. and George C. Edwards, both of Detroit, are expiring. They also have yet to reveal renomination plans.

The state convention will routinely confirm the nominations of 18 members of the Electoral College from their districts and nominate two more at-large. Typically, these nominations go to long-time party workers as a non-monetary reward for long service.

U.S.' mistakes can help others

As developing countries begin to change their wide open spaces for factories and high rises, they begin to face the problems of doing some of that space for parks and recreation. And according to Michigan State University's chairman of park and recreation resources, these countries can avoid many mistakes when the time comes by observing the United States.

Louis Twardzik, speaking at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements in Vancouver, British Columbia, last month, said parks and recreation become important only as they contribute to the overall quality of life.

"The concept of recreation and leisure services as a social function is largely a product of industrialization," Twardzik said.

Recreation and leisure opportunities developed as industry grew," he added.

TWARDZIK SAID noteworthy development in the United States include the concept and development of national parks to preserve outstanding natural resources and the organization of the central park as a source of refreshment for people of industrialized cities.

"The original concept of national parks is still sound, but the same cannot be said about the idea of local parks. There is little evidence that they really have improved the quality of life. With local parks, we have merely succeeded in making a small part of the community a pleasant place. We have failed to develop the entire community as a park," he said.

Twardzik, a member of the board of directors of the World Leisure and Recreation Association, advised developing nations not to let a narrow approach to parks and recreation interfere with the need to develop the whole community, industrial and commercial areas as well as neighborhoods, into a pleasant environment.

ANOTHER PROBLEM of life quality that developed nations have experienced, he said, is the conflict between work and leisure. "In the early days of the industrial age, long hours, low wages, hard and often dangerous work led naturally to the attitude that work was bad and time away from work—leisure—was good."

"For the most part, such unjust and hazardous working conditions are a thing of the past, but the negative attitude toward work still remains. This need not be, however."

"These essential characteristics that we generally ascribe to recreation—pleasure, equipment, fulfillment—can be made available during the work experience. Recreation as a leisure experience need not be limited to leisure time. With careful study, we can incorporate many of these values into the work experience, while maintaining and improving production and profit," Twardzik said.

HE ADDED that a third mistake developed countries have made is encouraging

adults to become full-time spectators in their free time. Twardzik blamed the reward system in the American culture which puts great value on commercial success and underplays the arts, creative activities and the individual. He said people tend to become watchers rather than participants.

According to Twardzik, developing nations can avoid that trap by placing the opportunity to become skilled in arts, crafts and individual sports on a level with opportunities for commercial-type activities. He added, "People who can fill their leisure time with their own creativity have a much better chance to achieve a higher quality of life than those who rely on outside influences for recreation."



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State to aid the innocent

Innocent victims of crime who have uncompensated medical bills lost wages or earning power will be entitled to be repaid by the state up to \$15,000.

A new state law will allow victims of crimes occurring on or after Oct. 1, 1977 to submit claims to the state for review.

"The victims of crime—often the poor and the elderly—are in a sense persons who have been denied protection of the law," said Gov. William Milliken when signing the law. "This progressive new law is designed to aid their citizens most in need of the state's assistance. It could help restore citizen faith in government and I sincerely hope it will encourage citizens to report crime and cooperate more fully with the police and law enforcement agencies."

The law creates a commission to review claims from victims or survivors. A three-member Crimes Victims Compensation Board will be appointed by the governor, subject to senate confirmation. The board will hold hearings on claims, direct medical examinations and make awards for the true costs of eligible losses. Board decisions may be appealed to the court of appeals. No total award may exceed \$15,000 for any case.

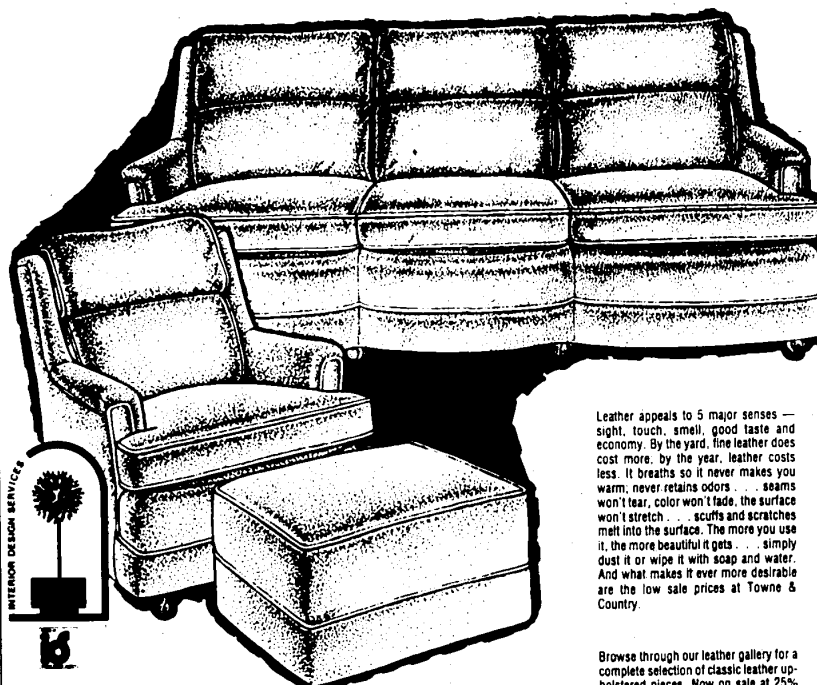
Officials estimate the program will cost the state about \$1.5 million in the first year of operation.

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