

# State of the County speech

## Budget cuts hurt all, says Murphy

By MIKE SCANLON

The central theme in Oakland County Executive Daniel Murphy's recent annual State of the County message was both easy to spot and easy to spell. The spelling part goes like this: \$\$\$.

Murphy's 13-page address to the county board of commissioners praised his administration's spending policies, which he said were based on the belief that "thrift is income."

And while it's wonderful, Murphy added, to "have a president on our side," Reagan's recent round of revenue-shaking promises to take much of the fun out of further belt-tightening.

"THOSE WHO are already thrifty — like ourselves — will suffer along with the extravagant as the painful budget-cutting process goes forward," Murphy warned.

Just how tough are things likely to get? Well, in praising the fuel savings that will result from the county's plan to burn trash for steam and electricity, Murphy said an especially attractive aspect of the plan is the guarantee of an energy source "if fossil fuels are cut off or severely rationed in the future."

A bleak prospect — but Murphy said the county is already winning from the federal budget-cutting. A state Senate committee recently took action that could lead to requiring the county to pick up the Pontiac Silverdome's annual \$300,000 subsidy. It was cuts in Washington that led Lansing to the move, Murphy said. The county will fight the proposal, Murphy added.

MURPHY PROPOSED a series of moves to consolidate control of several county functions.

Children's institutions should be administered by the county executive with the board of commissioners acting as policy-maker, Murphy said. The system is currently administered by probate court.

The county lawyer should work for the executive rather than the board, Murphy said, and the board should set policy for the county hospital.

Hospital affairs are now run by the Board of Institutions, with the work carried out by the Department of Human Services.

That department also reports to the board of commissioners. Murphy said this spurs a duplication of efforts caused by the department's endeavors to serve two masters.

COMMISSIONER Hubert Price Jr., D-Pontiac, criticized some of Murphy's proposals. Price heads the 11-member Democratic side of the Republican-dominated, 27-member board of commissioners.

"If you talk about the county executive adminis-



"Those who are already thrifty — like ourselves — will suffer along with the extravagant as the painful budget-cutting process goes forward."

— county exec Daniel Murphy

tering, controlling the medical facility, Dan fought even the creation of the medical facility. One would have to question why he would want control now," Price said.

Price said he expected the proposal to put children's institutions in the control of the executive will "generate substantial debate."

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## Road board asks \$1 million loan

The Board of Oakland County Road Commissioners has approved borrowing some \$1 million for use in subdivision street improvements.

The money will supply the road commission's share of improvements which property owners petition for and are willing to pay special assessments to help finance.

About 10 miles of street a year have been paved under that financing system in each of the past five years, at a cumulative cost of some \$5.2 million.

The authorization to borrow is subject to approval from the state municipal finance commission and the county board of commissioners. The road commission says it plans no other borrowing this year.

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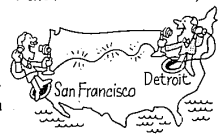
**ARTIFICIAL LARYNX:** THIS SMALL INSTRUMENT IS FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE LOST THE USE OF THEIR LARYNX. IT SUBSTITUTES ELECTRONIC VIBRATIONS FOR THE NATURAL VIBRATIONS OF THE VOICE. CALL YOUR LOCAL MICHIGAN BELL BUSINESS OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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Michigan Bell

# Turn to NORTHLAND

## Grand Opening Week March 15-22, 1981

Come celebrate the opening of 18 new stores at Northland in the all-new terrace area, located on the west side of the Center, facing Northwestern Highway.

Sunday March 15	1-4 p.m.	HighAmerica Blimp with banner Calliope in parking lot
	1-3 p.m.	March of Dimes Register for walk, free balloons and drinks
	All day	Mystery shoppers distributing discount coupons
Monday March 16	7-9 p.m.	Southfield High Jazz Band
	All day	Mystery shoppers distributing discount coupons
Tuesday March 17	6-8 p.m.	Michigan Consolidated Grass Co. Blue grass music
	7-9 p.m.	Janis Ross Highland Dancers: Scottish and Irish Dancers
	All day	Mystery shoppers distributing discount coupons
Wednesday March 18	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Cooley High Band
	Noon	Southfield Lathrup High Cheerleaders and Pom Pom Girls
	3-4 p.m.	Ribbon-cutting ceremony, 18 new stores
	6-9 p.m.	Scott McCue Mime
	All day	Jazz by George Benson, Jack Brokensha, Bess Bonnier Mystery shoppers distributing discount coupons
Thursday March 19	noon-1 p.m.	Barn Theatre
	5:30-8 p.m.	Country-Western Night: WCX's Carl and Brenda Vanover, Mike Kelly Randy Jack and Band
	All day	Mystery shoppers distributing discount coupons
Friday March 20	noon-1 p.m.	Patricia Judd Mime and Illusions
	7-9 p.m.	Rock promotion
	All day	Mystery shoppers distributing discount coupons
Saturday March 21	11 a.m.-noon	Ronald McDonald Magic Show
	1-3 p.m.	The Twins Puppet Show
	7-9 p.m.	Friendly Persuasion: Barbershop and Dixieland music
	All day	Mystery shoppers distributing discount coupons
Sunday March 22	1-4 p.m.	Late registration for Twilight Fun Run
	2-3 p.m.	Prevailing Winds: Baroque, classical and popular music
	6 p.m.	First Annual Twilight Fun Run



Greenfield South of Nine Mile, Southfield