

## On the mend?

### County, city patching up water problems

Oakland County and the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department are patching up some of the problems, although the county still has a federal court suit pending against the city.

George Kuhn, county drain commissioner, and Charles Beckham, director of the water department, said their negotiations last week had resolved two points.

"We got credit for a faulty meter reading of storm water for the southeast sewer district," said Kuhn. The credit amounts to \$1.6 million over a nine-month period.

What had happened, said Beckham, was that lightning struck the district meter in

mid-1980, causing the meter to keep reading storm water flow when in fact little water was flowing.

The southeast district of Oakland covers 14 communities, including Troy, Birmingham, Beverly Hills and Southfield.

IN THE SECOND development, county and city agreed on system of averaging the stormwater flow in the billing process. The district uses combined stormwater and wastewater sewers.

"We wanted to be on the same basis as other suburban communities," said Kuhn. Beckham agreed that averaging the rain-

fall would lead to "a better cash flow situation" because rainfall is heavier in some years than others.

The tone of Kuhn's and Beckham's comments on their negotiations was a marked contrast to much of the bitter debate that has gone on over Detroit's treatment of suburban customers.

The parties are still battling in court over rates Detroit charges suburban customers to treat sewage. The city contends rate increases are needed to satisfy federal court orders requiring cleanup of the Detroit River.

"PEOPLE in Oakland, Macomb and western Wayne are squawking," said Kuhn. "There's a question whether all the changes are federal court-mandated."

Detroit wants to increase its sewage treatment budget from \$144 million to \$168 million. Kuhn calls the \$24 million increase excessive.

The 20 percent rate increase is due to take effect July 1. "It looks like we'll keep the rate intact," said Beckham.

Chief U.S. District Judge John Feikens, who is hearing the case, gave the parties until June 10 to continue negotiations.

## Oakland parks board honors local volunteers

Individuals who have provided outstanding volunteer service to the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission were honored at an annual recognition banquet.

Among those honored were members of the "Oaklowns" Clown Alley, Bicycle Motocross (BMX) volunteers, a parks naturalist and Nordic Ski Patrol volunteers.

The "Oaklowns" represent the Oakland County Parks at fairs, in parades and at hospitals and nursing homes throughout Oakland County and the metropolitan area. Among them is Al Clinton-Cirocco of Rochester.

The BMX group has been instrumental in developing one of the finest tracks for bicycle racing in the Midwest and achieving national sanctioning for the program. Mem-

bers include Bud Bennett of Southfield and Grant Webb of West Bloomfield.

PARKS NATURALIST aide Jack Smith of Rochester was cited for the time and teaching he provided throughout the seasons during the past three years for nature interpretive programs at Independence Oaks County Park.

The Nordic Ski Patrol has been providing volunteer assistance for the past three years to help in maintaining and improving cross country skiing at Independence Oaks County Park. Those recognized have achieved basic patroller status. They include Jim Johnson of Bloomfield Hills, Richard Marsh of Rochester, and Steve Campbell of Troy.

## Stress seminars set

The University of Detroit will host June seminars on handling stress and managing time.

The one-day time seminar will be June 4 at the library on campus. Fee is \$125.

The two-day stress

seminar will be June 10-11, also at the campus library. Fee is \$245. Registration deadline is May 27.

Call U-D at 927-1025 for information and registration.

## 4-H readies cultural camps

Oakland County 4-H will offer two separate week-long series of Cultural Arts Day camps this summer at the Waterford Oaks County Park.

The camps, which have a fee of \$45, are open to boys and girls ages 9-18. The first is set for July 6-11, the second for July 13-17. Youngsters will attend camp from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

A staff of professional artists will be on hand to help stimulate personal creative development and increase students' knowledge of art form and meaning. The camps will also include swimming, tennis, duck-deer carving, candle dipping, fiddle and dulcimer playing, spinning and weaving and ethnic dancing.

For an application and brochure, contact Oakland County's 4-H office at 1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac 48053.

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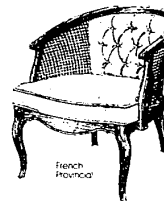
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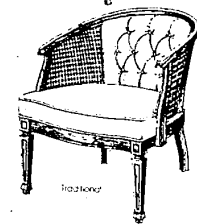
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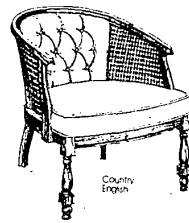
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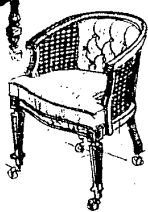
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