

# Toxic substance abuse is public hearing subject

Dr. Larry Holcomb, executive secretary of Michigan's Toxic Substance Control Commission, has announced a public hearing for Southeast Michigan area residents April 26 at 7:30 p.m., at Oakland County Community College, Building 1, Room 306, Farmington (1-696 Farmington/Orchard Lake South exit).

This is the second of a series of hearings being conducted around the State by the TSCC in an effort to assess the concerns and the needs of Michigan's citizens with regard to environmental/public health issues.

The major topic of discussion at Monday's hearing will be the protection of Michigan's groundwater, surface water and soils from contamination by toxic substances to prevent threat to health and the environment. Discussion areas to be covered are:

- Is the problem of contaminated water being addressed satisfactorily?
- Which state agency is responding? Agriculture? Natural Resources? Public Health?
- Is there a need for consolidation of toxic substance control programs for efficiency and accountability?
- For every dollar spent on environ-

mental protection/environmental health protection, what percentage should be used for: Current regulatory programs and cleaning up mistakes of the past?

Should the state construct a hazardous waste facility (facilities) or depend upon the private sector?

The hearing is also intended to provide an informal forum to answer citizens' questions regarding the use and control of toxic substances and to make the public aware of what can be done at the local level to prevent crises of the future.

In addition to commissioners and staff, agency representatives from the Departments of Public Health, Natural Resources and Agriculture have been invited to participate. The area State legislators also have been invited to attend this hearing.

TSCC is coordinating hearing efforts with the following groups: educational associations; environmental groups; hazardous waste industry; institutions of higher education; Michigan Association of Counties; Michigan Chamber of Commerce; Michigan Manufacturer Associations; Michigan Municipal Leagues; Michigan Township Associa-

tions; League of Women Voters; local health departments; Congressmen; Sportsmen's groups; local elected officials; and citizens.

Following the hearings, the Commission will provide a series of recommendations to legislators and the Governor to improve the State's ability to effectively respond to toxic substance problems.

The Michigan Toxic Substance Control Act requires that persons report toxic substance problems to TSCC. To

help the public respond, the agency has installed a toll free number, 1-800-292-0528. This is not to duplicate the Department of Natural Resources' PEAS (Pollution Emergency Alert System) number 800-202-4706, which is to be used to report an environmental emergency. The TSCC toll free number is for the reporting of toxic substance problems or to ask questions related to that issue. For all other communications to TSCC, their office number is 517-373-1031.

# Volunteers honored for 'Village' efforts

Three residents of the Farmington area are being honored April 22 for their volunteer work at Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Honors at the Volunteers Awards Dinner being held at the museum go to volunteers who contributed 50 hours or more during 1981.

Volunteers at the museum work on a wide variety of projects, including run-

ning the Phoenixville Post Office in Greenfield Village, ushering at the Museum Theater, speaking to civic groups, and assisting in the curatorial and education departments.

Those in the Farmington area receiving awards include: Karen Brotherton and Helen Durham, of Farmington and Harriet Slater of Farmington Hills.

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This week's "Better Business Bureau Week" and we think it's an appropriate time to reiterate ourselves to our task. And to invite you to continue using us for your own good.

Permit us to tell you a little about ourselves. We've been sitting through the old apple barrel in Detroit for over 60 years now. Currently, over 2,000 businesses in Metropolitan Detroit are members of the Bureau. And it's working; we successfully resolve literally thousands of disputes annually between customers and businesses and between business people themselves.

Basically, what we do is encourage business people to adhere to a code of business ethics that protects both the legitimate business person and the buying public. With your help, we detect fraud schemes of a wide variety. If you think you have a problem with business, write us and let us handle it. Better yet, check with us before you deal with an unknown company, because a well-informed consumer is his or her own best protection.

Our services are absolutely free to you, the consumer. So remember: if you suspect you may be about to deal with a "bad apple" in the business barrel, call or write us - before you bite. Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan Detroit, 150 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48226. 962-7566.

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