

Lakeshore Site Purchases Delayed

The state will buy no further lakeshore properties for boater access sites pending a "review of project criteria" by the State Waterways Commission.

The review was ordered last week by Gov. Milliken in the wake of many complaints from private property owners opposed to public access to their lakes.

Milliken's order came at almost the same time Carl Pursell, State Senate candidate in the 15th District, denounced the state action in a speech to property owners in Oakland County, where many of the lakes are located.

Pursell, a Wayne County commissioner seeking the Republican Senate nomination, proposed a bill to prohibit state acquisition of public access sites until a hearing had been

held on each affected lake. Such a public hearing would give private property owners a chance to vent their usually deep opposition to public access.

To some extent, the private owners' alarm appeared to be a tempest in a teapot—at least the way Milliken explained it.

It seems that the Legislature, in appropriating \$430,000 for the program, asked the Department of Natural Resources for a list of all lakes which might prove suitable for access sites.

DNR responded with a list of 174 lakes, including 15 in Oakland County. The list became public, and the private owners blew up.

A soothing statement from

the governor, however, pointed out that there would be enough money to acquire land on "less than 10" of the 174 lakes.

Nevertheless, Milliken ordered a "review of the project criteria prior to further acquisition of property on inland lakes. Milliken didn't say what he wanted specifically, nor did he say how long the review would or should take.

The site program (in Senate Bill 1183) provided funds only for purchase of lakeshore land. A further appropriation would be needed for development, and the site couldn't be used until it had been developed.

STATE SEN. George W. Kuhn (R-14th District) said

Thursday he has been doing everything in his power to fight the state's lake access purchase program ever since the list of 174 target lakes became known.

He told Observer Newspapers his "yes" vote on the enabling legislation was given before he realized lakes with predominantly private year-round homes were involved.

He said he has joined "two or three" attempts in the Senate since then to "take out some of the lakes in Oakland County that don't already have public access." All were unsuccessful.

Kuhn's district includes the western tier of Oakland County townships, Livonia, Northville, Farmington and Plymouth.

How They Voted

Observerland lawmakers cast these votes on SB 1183, the bill which provided \$430,000 for public access sites on Lakes:

YES: Sens. Loren Beebe of Dearborn, George Kuhn of West Bloomfield, William Faust of Westland; Reps. Marvin Stempion of Livonia, Vincent Pettipren of Westland and Raymond Baker of Farmington.

NO: Sen. Sander Levin of Berkley; Reps. John Bennett of Redford and James Borney of Garden City.

DIDN'T VOTE: Reps. Richard Young of Dearborn Heights and Al Kramer of Oak Park.

On an amendment to eliminate Clare County lakes from the program, the House turned it down with area representatives voting this way:

YES: Stempion, Jerney, Pettipren, Young and Kramer.

NO: Baker.

DIDN'T VOTE: Bennett.

He said he has sent a letter to the governor urging a mandate against the Department of Natural Resources purchases of any lakes at this time, which the governor's Subcommittee has done "until further review."

Kuhn said that with other senators, he has done "nothing humanly possible to slow down the whole program."

"I'm opposed to the whole program," he stated.

Asked if he is opposed to state access sites of lakes not predominantly fronted by residential property, Kuhn said, "If there's a lake that's not

located in the lake in relation to large population concentrations, and the suitability of property available for acquisition.

"Before any property is actually purchased, a detailed investigation of the lake is made to review the above factors, as well as to investigate the suitability for boating access of the property being offered to the state."

No mention is made of consulting local governments and property owners.

"A MAJOR consideration of every design is the provision of adequate screening from adjoining property owners to reduce conflicts to a minimum."

"When sites are opened, they are administered by the Waterways Commission as a part of the public access site program. Regional personnel employed for this purpose make regular visits to the site to empty trash barrels and to perform routine maintenance activities. If major maintenance is required, a special maintenance crew is sent to the site to accomplish this work."

"All funds, including funds for land acquisition, are provided by the Legislature from taxes paid by recreational boat

owners. No general tax funds are utilized in this program," said Milliken.

THE GOVERNOR'S delay order is the latest incident in the long war between private property owners seeking a closed sanctuary from the rest of the world and a growing population with a greater and greater need to have some small share of the outdoors, too.

The pressures have been aggravated by soaring prices of lake properties in the last 10 or so years and a shifting of the public taste in favor of boating.

Besides the mere numbers of boaters, the problems include "Trashing," speeding, and reckless driving, and the conflicts between water skiers, swimmers and fishermen.

Transit Funds '20 Times Better'

Legislative passage of \$2.1 million for mass transit last week "means one devil of a job" to the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA).

So says executive secretary, William Ostenson of Southfield. "That's 20 times better than the state has ever provided before."

SEMTA does not expect to

receive all of the funds, but Ostenson said the agency will be shooting for \$1.5 million.

SEMTA SOUGHT \$2 million of a total state proposal for \$2.6 million. The House, after first cutting the item to \$500,000, approved a full \$2.6 million.

The Senate June 30 cut it to \$2.1 million, and a conference

committee maintained that amount and gained House concurrence.

Observerland senators split 3-1. Favoring it were N. Lorraine Beebe (R-Dearborn), William Faust (D-Westland) and George Kuhn (R-West Bloomfield). Opposed was Sander Levin (D-Berkley).

SEMTA must apply to the State Commerce Department

for specific amounts for specific purposes.

For many of its projects state grants will make possible federal matching funds, some on a two-for-one basis.

The six county region served by SEMTA will be required to provide about \$450,000 also to make such matching funds possible.



A.J. BROOKS, of 31891 Kingswood Square, Farmington, Mich., has been appointed senior vice president in charge of account management at Gray & Kilgore, Inc., a Detroit-based advertising and public relations agency. He has been with the agency 20 years. Brooks is a graduate of Detroit Institute of Technology.

Dr. Kolbe Dies At 60

Dr. Henry C. Kolbe, Schoolcraft Community College night school music instructor, died Sunday, July 5.

He served as a night school instructor at the college since its beginnings and as an assistant to Schoolcraft music director Wayne L. Dunlap.

Kolbe 60 lived at 43550 Reservoir Road, Plymouth.

No Winner

The cost of living is always about the same — all a fellow has. The words of wisdom are included in a Consumers Information Guide from the Westchester County Savings Bank, Tarrytown, N.Y.

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By LEM MESSEE

Outdoors Writer

I'm somewhat of a loner, and the popularity of camper trailers and their use have been of only passing interest to me until recently. I've passed a lot of them on the highway.

Breaking from the norm, I had trundled the family (the kids, their friends, the wife and a dog) off to a relative's cabin in the near-north for the July 4 weekend. Thanks to the wife, all seemed to have a good time and I got some solid fishing in, of course.

ONLY PROBLEM seemed to be a lack of excitement due to the fact that we'd all roughed it in the same cabin, same river site, same not-too-near but regularly-at-home neighbors.

Then, I think only by coincidence, the wife mentioned that some good friends of ours down the road were really going wild with their new fold-up camp trailer tent. She said their family of five is fitting various public campgrounds within about an hour's drive each weekend, enjoying varying facilities, surroundings, neighbors: playing cards, horseshoes, badminton and what have you. In short, having a ball.

Now, like I said, I'm pretty much a loner, and all that socializing doesn't bestir a pounding in my chest. But the gleam in my wife's eyes did. There comes a time in every man's life when he's just got to acknowledge the charm of his lady and give up some of his solitude.

THEN... PLANK! Right on my desk lands this notice of the National Campers and Hikers Association "Campvention Seventy" this weekend in the Irish Hills.

They're expecting 8,591 campers for the week-long affair. They estimate that more than \$1 million will be spent by the campers in that area during the week. This will mean a

Dateline: Outdoors

more than doubling of the numbers attending last year's national campvention. They expect 4,500 families to be involved. They've set aside an entire area of the campgrounds for "the press." Holy outdoors! This thing is BIG.

Second, the regular press release from the Pontiac office of the Dept. of Natural Resources said state parks and recreation area attendance figures for 1970 so far exceed a year ago by "one-half million persons."

All campgrounds in Oakland County State Parks filled early Wednesday and stayed

full throughout the week, with approximately 1,500 persons having to be turned away due to lack of camping space.

NANCY AND DON EDGAR of the Livonia "Tribune-Advertiser," chair of the NCRA tell us over 100 families from Observerland are "working to host" "working to host, mind you" the others from every state in the Union, plus Canada and one family from Great Britain at the annual convention.

Such clubs also are going strong in Garden City, Redford, Farmington and Plymouth.

Tap Page For Top Torch Drive Post

A Dearborn resident who is general manager of Ford Motor Co.'s Autolite-Ford Parts Division in Livonia, has been appointed to a top post in the 1970 Torch Drive.

He is Thomas C. Page, who has been named chairman of the metropolitan unit comprised of community businesses, schools and governmental groups.

The metropolitan unit is one of six major chapter campaigns which traditionally bring in more than 50% of the United Foundation drive total.

Page served as a group chairman in the metropolitan unit last year and was responsible for business campaigns in Macomb County and eastern Oakland County.

PAGE received the Town Crier award at the Metropolitan Business Day report luncheon during the drive for achieving the highest percentage of quota within the unit.

Prior to moving into his present position with Autolite-Ford Parts Division, last year, Page served as product and marketing manager for the division from its formation in 1966.

He joined the car merchandising department of the Ford Division in 1952 and later was car planning manager for the Thunderbird, Falcon and Mustang.

In 1964, he was named parts and service marketing manager for the company's Lincoln



THOMAS C. PAGE
Heads Unit

coln-Mercury Division. A year later he was appointed parts marketing assistant to the vice president for the car and truck group.

A Romance In Politics

Wedding bells will merge the political forces of a current candidate for the State House of Representatives and a former candidate in mid-campaign July 17.

Mrs. Jacquelyn Ann Boelter, Canton Township Republican eyeing the 38th District nomination in August, and Ronald C. Rice, who unsuccessfully challenged in the 34th District in 1968, will be married that date.

Romance sparked while both served as members of the 15th Congressional District Republican staff. Mrs. Boelter was active on the district Republican committee. Rice was employed as director.

Rice is currently employed as executive director of the Oakland County Republican Committee. He is a native of Redford Township. It will be his second marriage.

Mrs. Boelter and her two sons by a previous marriage presently live at 8755 Antler Circle in Canton Township.

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