

Cable business runs into technological wall

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which services they would eventually use.
... then we can say something (a service) is viable," Samouelian said.
In addition to allowing modification of services, the proposed amendment would allow merging of public access and local origination.
Public access is channels and pro-

gramming for, and produced by, residents living in the tri-city franchise area. Local origination is programs that are produced by MetroVision staff.
"The merging of these functions may include the pooling of studio equipment, personnel and funds for a more efficient and responsive effort to broaden access to the cable system," according to the proposed amendment.

IN REALITY, the two access functions have already been merged because demand has not been great enough to provide separate studios, equipment and personnel, Samouelian said.
The proposed amendment allows for the merger under the guise of "community access," she said. MetroVision still will be responsible for producing locally originated shows.

But the proposed amendment would also allow SWOCC to later separate the two functions, as originally intended in the cable franchise agreement.
The proposed amendment to allow MetroVision to request a rate increase once a year requires approval by SWOCC and the three city councils. According to the original cable franchise, MetroVision could not have asked for a

rate increase until 1986.
"Basically that's the state of the industry here, the country right now," Samouelian said.
But with new legislation under discussion, recent Federal Communications Commission rulings and U.S. Supreme Court decisions, cable firms say they can increase rates without local approval.

Because the regulations governing cable are now in a state of flux, MetroVision agreed to follow SWOCC procedures because proposed legislation could return control of rates regulation back to the local community.
Proposed legislation and recent rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court and FCC in favor of the cable industry might nullify all local cable franchise agreements, Samouelian said.

Builder recycles old homes, makes them like new

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police patrols all coordinate for each township the house goes through, Balcerzak explains.
Recycling houses is not new to Balcerzak who has been relocating and finishing houses for the past 20 years.

"It's a challenge," he says, "trying to make something old into a new home."
BUT, BALCERZAK says he received the best training for his job from his father, who used to raise houses in Detroit for fly foundations.
"As I grew up, I worked with my fa-

ther when he would construct houses. When I was around 11 years old he brought me a little hammer to use in helping him," Balcerzak recalls.
His father was a perfectionist, especially when it came to brick laying, Balcerzak says.

"Nothing was ever good enough. It always had to be as good as possible for my father," he says.
During his many years as a builder, Balcerzak has built restaurants, clinics, warehouses and shopping centers in addition to numerous homes.
He calls his latest recycling home

project his "swan song."
"I'm doing this now for my retirement. I'm taking it easy," he laughs.
"I say I'm going to retire, but every time I think of it something new pops up and I want to continue working."
Just as Balcerzak's father taught him, he is now showing his son the "ins and outs" of the construction business.

"It doesn't seem like it has been such a long time," Balcerzak says of his 20 years in the construction business. "For the future, Balcerzak says he will stay in remodeling for awhile because it is so easy for him.
"I know the structure of a home, backwards and forwards. I guess that's why it's so easy for me."

History book to be published

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being secretary for the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society, state historian for the Daughters of the American Revolution, genealogy writer and women's suffrage movement activist.
"She was quite an interesting woman," Fox said. "She did all those things and, incidentally, while she was up in the attic she painted pictures."

oldest, became the first elected woman official in Oakland County as the registrar of deeds.
Avery died in 1930 in Pontiac. But because of her paintings and early association with Farmington, she is still closely associated with Farmington.
"We feel she is 'ours,' and that is why we decided to publish the book," Fox said.
Technically, Avery grew up in what is now known as Farmington Hills. Her

parents' farm was believed to be on Drake Road, "somewhere north" of 13 Mile Road.
But, boundaries aside, Fox said residents of both Farmington and the Hills will be interested in the book.
"I would hope people would enjoy seeing what Farmington was like through someone whose watercolor brush depicted for us what it was like during a period so long gone."
The original watercolors will stay with the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society, Fox hopes that when the book comes out the paintings will gain in popularity and be displayed for the public to see.
The Farmington Hills Historical Commission has previously published four books and is planning another one centered around the 150th anniversary of the Botsford Inn in 1988.

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Voter's Choice confuses

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potential revenue losses into:
• \$432,000 in property taxes because of a tax rate rollback required by the proposed amendment.
• \$8,400 in state shared revenues.
• \$530,000 in Act 51 (a portion of the state gas and weight taxes that the city receives for road maintenance).
Act 51 money would decrease because

of a rollback in the gas and weight taxes.
Although the potential loss of Act 51 money is not a part of the city's general fund (operating budget), Rosch said that he is assuming the city "would subsidize the road funds through the general fund in order to replace this lost funding."

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The health problems to which diabetics are prone include a number of arthritic conditions.
For example, an attack of gout is more likely to occur to a diabetic than to someone who doesn't have diabetes. The reason is not completely clear, but it is related to the deleterious effects of diabetes on the kidneys. A damaged kidney is not able to rid the body of uric acid, which in high concentration, causes gout.
Diabetics who require insulin have a tendency to acquire adhesive capsulitis. In this condition, the shoulder joint capsule shrinks creating a permanent state of shoulder pain and immobility.
Because of changes in the diabetic's ability to ward off infection, transient encounters with bacteria can lead to long term illness. One expression of this lowered resistance is the risk of an infected joint.
Diabetics are prone to fractures of the bones of their feet and ankles because of damage to the nerve endings in those areas. The diabetic may have a decreased sense of touch and pain, and not receive the message to stop the activity before damage to a joint occurs.
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