

I-96 Construction Jobs To Start In '71

Highway construction projects estimated to cost \$220 million will be put under contract in 1971, the State Highway Commission has announced.

Purchase of right-of-way and preliminary engineering are additional costs.

The Commission plans to let contracts in 1971 for construction of 82 miles of freeway designed to interstate standards; 79 miles of lesser highway; and for widening and improvement of another 320 miles of existing highways.

MAJOR PROJECTS in the Detroit Metropolitan area scheduled for contract-letting in 1971 are:

- Projects on Interstate 96 (Jeffries) freeway from its proposed interchange with Interstate 275 Freeway in Livonia, east in the Schoolcraft Avenue corridor to Schaefer Road, then southerly to Livonia along a route parallel to Grand River Avenue, (I-96) from Livonia, southerly to the Ambassador Bridge, already is under construction and scheduled to be open to traffic later this year.)

- Construction of five miles of M-59 freeway from its present eastern terminus at the Oakland-Macomb county line, easterly to Mound Road in Macomb County.

- Interstate 696 Freeway - installation of tunnel services and construction of service roads from I-75 easterly to I-94, including its interchange with I-94; and right-of-way acquisition from I-75 westerly to the present eastern terminus of I-96.

- Construction of an interchange in Novi for I-96, I-696 and M-275. This will be the start of construction for the planned I-275 and M-275 Freeway which will extend from I-75 near Monroe, northerly to I-75 west of Clarkston, providing a north-south freeway bypass of Detroit.

- Widening of 13 miles of M-102 (Eight Mile Road) from US-10 (Lodge) Freeway to Kelly Road at Harper Woods.

OPENED to traffic in 1970 were segments of I-75 in Detroit and Crawford, Oge-

maw and Arenac counties; I-696 in Lansing; and M-75 Freeway in Flint. Another six miles of I-696, north from I-94 to south of Olivet, was opened to auto traffic only.

With these openings, Michigan has completed 81 per cent of its allotted 1,175 miles of interstate freeways. Of the remaining 227 miles to be completed, 61 miles are under construction.

All interstate freeway work in Michigan is expected to be completed by 1976. The state's 81 per cent completion puts Michigan nine per cent above the national average.

Heartworm Bug Danger To Dogs

By W.W. EDGAR

A disease of epidemic proportions has gotten a foothold in the dog population of southern Michigan and particularly in the Plymouth and Livonia areas.

Officially known as "heartworm disease," the potentially fatal infection, according to Dr. Richard Kirchgatter, Plymouth veterinarian, is caused by a parasite which invades the dog's heart, grows to a length of about 13 inches and causes great damage to the heart and lungs.

"This parasite is transmitted by mosquitoes," Dr. Kirchgatter explained, "but it takes five to six months to reach the damaging stage."

"THAT'S WHY every dog, especially the outdoor dogs,

should be examined in the spring. This will determine whether the mosquitoes, work of last fall has done any damage.

"You see, mosquitoes carry the infective larvae from dog to dog, and it always is best to play safe."

The Michigan State University Veterinary College reports that some areas of the state have an 85-90% rate of infection in out-of-door dogs.

Dr. Kirchgatter stated that a recent survey in western Wayne County revealed that 40% of the 303 out-of-door dogs tested at random were infected with the parasite. He emphasized that these infected animals can be sources of infection to neighboring dogs.

A RECENT bulletin issued by Dr. Thomas P. Anderson, president of the Washtenaw County Veterinary Medical Association, stated that the symptoms include coughing, shortness of breath, decreased exercise tolerance, frequent respiratory infections, collapse, prostration and death.

Until recently the disease was confined mostly to the Gulf Coast and southern states and was of minor importance in Michigan.

In the last few years, according to the authorities, the heartworm has become a major threat to the dogs in southern Michigan.

Diagnosis is confirmed by a simple blood test, available at any veterinarian's office.



FOURTH GRADER Steve Sydor (left) points to where the baseball diamond should be if Westbrook's site development plans become a reality. Looking on is Mrs. Dorothy Cox, who

originated the idea and asked for help from students Mike Kolodziejczak, representing the fifth grade, third grader Chris Vignoe and seventh grader Pat Kolodziejczak. (Observer photo)

Turning School Yard Into An Outdoor Center

By MARIE MCGEE

There's a plan afoot to accent the positive and eliminate the negative at Clarencville's Westbrook Elementary School, 21120 Ossunus, Farmington.

It's a carefully worked-out strategy developed by sixth grade teacher Mrs. Dorothy Cox to turn the school grounds into a year-round outdoor recreation center, adding diversification to the school curriculum at the same time.

The plan already has the approval of the board of education. Still to be approved are members of Westbrook PTA. That will come Feb. 15 when Mrs. Cox will appear at their regular meeting.

AFTER THAT, the student body will be officially told of the project and asked to cooperate. Many of the children already have an inkling of the plan because of a questionnaire Mrs. Cox circulated asking them what they would like to see added to the playground area.

A student committee, one

member from each of Westbrook's six grades, was chosen to help Mrs. Cox with the final details. It's those details that the students are waiting to hear about.

Tucked away on a 5½-acre site in a remote corner of the school district, Westbrook is the largest elementary school in the Clarencville system. While the school itself is modern and functional in every respect, its setting leaves a lot to be desired.

IT'S THOSE environmental negatives that Mrs. Cox hopes to eliminate with a positive approach that includes: A school-wide tree-planting program; development and expansion of a one-acre field behind the school into an outdoor laboratory complete with a nature trail and planting area; addition of a pond in the southeast corner of the school yard, which now floods out every spring; adding playground equipment that is inexpensive but stimulates creativity; turning an unused, barren courtyard into a shady nature study

area with a sun dial as its focal point.

THE PROJECT is practical as well as aesthetic, Mrs. Cox argues.

- Planting of 100 seedlings will provide the necessary wind-break for the north side of the school that is now cold and hard to heat because of its exposure to blustery winds.

- The planted courtyard will give relief from the glaring sun that affects classrooms in that wing of the building.

- The 60-by-80-ft. pond will add interest to the school yard and also will tie in with the adjacent outdoor nature area. But more importantly, it will be positioned in a low spot that floods out every spring. It should help the drainage.

- The outdoor laboratory will add diversification to the Westbrook curriculum, Mrs. Cox believes, particularly with the current educational emphasis on ecology.

- There'll also be picnic tables on the grounds with

enough room to accommodate a class.

"That was one of the things the kids asked for in the questionnaire," commented Mrs. Cox.

IN HER FIFTH year at Westbrook, Mrs. Cox got the site development idea when attending a summer conservation school in 1969 on a scholarship provided by the Botsford Garden Club.

"One of the speakers, Dr. William Stapp, talked on school site development and I thought: 'Why not Westbrook?'" she recalled.

That fall she talked over her idea with Mrs. Ruth Pillar, Westbrook principal, who gave her enthusiastic support to the plan. Details actually were worked out by Mrs. Cox for a class she later took from Dr. Stapp while working for her MA degree at the University of Michigan-Rackham extension.

THE BOARD'S part of the plan will be to improve the baseball-football field. The board has also indicated it would purchase the large trees necessary to provide shade for the courtyard.

They'll also provide the muscle and the machines for the installation of the playground equipment.

But the rest of the program, estimated to cost \$600 and programmed for a three-year period, will be up to Westbrook parents and children.

"It's got to be a community project or it just won't work," believes Mrs. Cox.

That's also part of the strategy: to build pride and promote community involvement.

State Gets \$1.6 Million For Wildlife

The State of Michigan will receive \$1.6 million for use in fish and wildlife restoration projects, U.S. Rep. Jack McDonald (R-Farmington), has announced.

The funds are made available by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of sport fisheries and wildlife to all 50 states, Guam, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Wildlife funds are derived from the 11 per cent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition, McDonald said. Money for fish projects comes from a similar levy on certain sport fishing equipment.

States receive amounts based on a formula using the state's area and the number of its hunting and fishing license holders.

Flipper CKLW TV
Get Smart
Dick Van Dyke
It Takes a Thief

THE MOUNTAIN
Spencer Tracy-Robert Wagner
WIN PLACE & SHOWTIME
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 11th

THE RAID
Van Heflin-Aune Bancroft
WIN PLACE & SHOWTIME
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12th 1 PM

movie murderer
Arthur Kennedy-Robert Webber
FRIDAY FEB. 12 7 PM
MILLION DOLLAR MOVIE

about \$15 million. Milliken said.

"WE HAVE not made any attempt to cut back because we do not anticipate a two per cent cut in state aid," McDowell said. "If the two per cent cut is out, the poor districts would be hurt more because a greater per cent of their budget is state aid."

"It affects the wrong districts," he said.

McDowell estimated that the Clarencville district would lose \$25,000 from its anticipated revenue if the state appropriation committee did approve the two per cent cut.

This would be an added burden on the current budget since the district had to provide \$35,000 for free textbooks this fall when the Supreme Court unexpectedly ruled that it was the school's obligation to provide school supplies.

McDowell said his district would be affected if the legislators cut school aid "catastrophically," though it is too early to see how much.

Some legislators have suggested that cuts in state aid would be more equitable if specific funds were cut on a percentage basis. In effect, this would mean that certain programs, such as driver training and special education, would receive cuts in their expected funds.

Hudson's Ups Schrashun

Alfred H. Schrashun, of Grosse Pointe, has been named to the newly created post of administration merchandise manager by the J. L. Hudson Co.

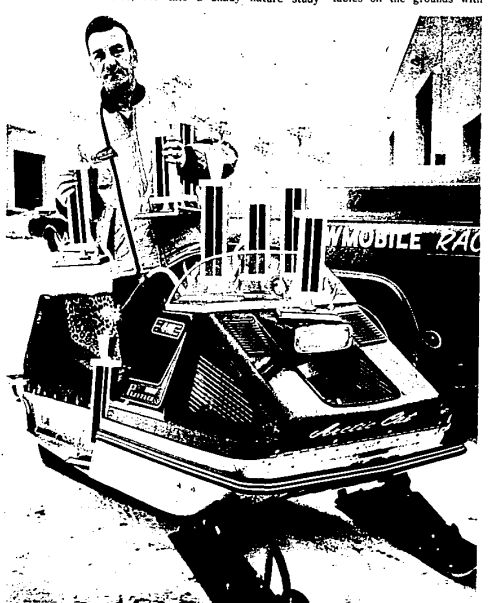
He was vice president and merchandise manager of the general division.

Schrashun graduated from Amherst College. He started working for the company during school vacations.

2 Win CPA Certificates

Two Observerland residents have been granted certified public accountant certificates by the Michigan State Board of Accountancy.

They are Anita Sue Glasser, of 2169 Parsons Dr., Southfield, and Richard P. Sheetz, of 28185 Alycekey, Farmington.



DISPLAYING TROPHIES won by his snowmobile race team in competition at Belleville, Capac and Saginaw is Frenchy Toutant, owner of Salem Lumber Co. in Livonia. The team, which features Arctic Cat snowmobiles, includes eight drivers with only four competing in any single meet. The Salem crew recently won eight trophies in two days of racing in Belleville. Joane Haas won the powder puff derby and Jerry Holmes and Pete Marselais collected the other awards. Salem will have a team in the two-day meet at Lapeer over the weekend.