

# Area peace activists still manning trenches

By Janice Brunson  
staff writer

President George Bush may be striving for a safer world through reduced military spending and new treaties banning the use of nuclear weapons, but area peace activists laugh a resounding "no" when asked if their job has been made easier.

While many applaud recent U.S. - Soviet efforts, they worry that actual results are little more than a mirage. Budget cuts, they say, are insignificant, U.S. involvement in the world arms trade is growing and the U.S. military is at risk of becoming the paid mercenaries of the world.

Activists also fear the illusion of peace may nullify other activists into misguided inactivity.

"It's very encouraging, but there are also disturbing contradictions," said Dr. Frederic Pearson of Wayne State University. Pearson, a Michigan native who lives in Beverly Hills, is director of the school's Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution, which was founded 25 years ago.

"Somehow I don't think I'm out of a job," Pearson said, laughing. "There seems to be a lot of conflict around. Look at Yugoslavia. The Kurds. Afghanistan. The Arabs and Israel. There are many unresolved disputes and civil conflicts that threaten to spill over onto the national scene."

## County budget up \$10 million

By Pat Murphy  
staff writer

Hard times are catching up with county government.

Oakland County commissioners open budget hearings today, amid calls for austerity and, for the first time in recent history, the prospect of cutting jobs from the county work force.

The 1992-93 budget was formally presented Thursday, at the regular semi-monthly meeting of the board of commissioners. It calls for total expenditures of \$332 million next year and \$342 million in 1993, compared with \$323 million this year.

"It's a constrained budget," said County Executive Daniel T. Murphy. "In order for us to live within our means, each and every person working for this county needs to abide by it."

Murphy said the constrained budget is necessary because of a slow-growth economy and the freeze in

property tax assessments enacted earlier this year by the state Legislature.

While Murphy prepared the budget, commissioners are the ones who review it — item by item, department by department — and subsequently approve it.

That monthlong process begins in earnest this morning, when the county's computer services department goes before the finance committee.

COMPUTER SERVICES is requesting \$11 million, about \$1 million over 1991's budget.

The number of employees within the department will remain constant at 101, according to department spokesman Joseph P. Maletta. But

the additional money will be used to implement an electronic image system to enable the Friend of the Court staff to retrieve documents more swiftly, using an optical disk.

That electronic system will enable the Friend of the Court to eliminate

up to 26 positions by the end of the budget cycle, the executive said in his budget message.

"It's a tedious process," said commissioner John Pappageorge, R-Troy, who estimates budget hearings will run up to six hours a day, three times a week.

The prospect of cutting county jobs — in 1993, if not earlier — arises because of reduced revenues and the need to expand some departments, said budget director Russell Martin.

Because of increased caseload, for example, Oakland will add two more circuit court judges — elected in 1992 and on the bench in January 1993. Each judge requires a staff of 16, along with office space and equipment — and is expected to cost about \$1.5 million annually.

Prosecutor Richard Thompson is expected to request as many as 10 more assistants — again because of the increased number of criminal cases in Oakland.

claiming the United States is the world's largest supplier in an industry amounting to some \$15 billion annually.

It is unlikely such trade will cease because "there are too many profits to be made."

PROKOWPOW'S MAJOR concern is "the American public reads headlines (about military cuts) and thinks things are taken care of. We'll probably see a slackening off of membership and support (in WAND), but we still need watch dogs for peace."

Mary Cary, who with husband Bill is founder and director of the Peace and National Priorities Center of Oakland County in Orchard Lake, agrees with Prokowpow that savings from less military spending should go to states.

"It should be put towards the needs of the poor, particularly in Michigan where we have come to see that budget cuts by Gov. Engler impact most heavily on the backs of the poor."

Cary is also concerned about the international role of the U.S. military and its use for pay by other nations. "We are the military force of the world. We put so much of our money into the military to bolster our economy. I'm concerned we'll become the primary enforcer of the world, the paid military of the world, paid for by others."

During the Persian Gulf conflict earlier this year, U.S. military inter-

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—Jean Prokowpow  
West Bloomfield

vention was heavily funded by other nations, substantially more so than ever before.

The future? "Hopefully there will be a real reduction in arms, a real

reduction in military spending. Perhaps we will become less concerned that we have an enemy," Cary said.

EACH NIGHT, school teacher Rita Mary Olaszewski of Troy goes to bed "thinking and praying for my own family and for people I don't even know."

An active member of the Oakland County-based SANE/Freeze: Campaign for Global Security, Olaszewski finds recent cutsbacks "misleading, confusing and inaccurate, nothing to rejoice about."

She points to increased world violence, the growing arms trade and continued testing of nuclear weapons in Nevada.

"I wouldn't call President Bush's

plan even a start. We have to do much, much more. We have so far to go to even get a test ban treaty."

Pearson, director of the Wayne State peace center, said such a treaty is necessary for future peace.

Other priorities include international nuclear proliferation and biological weapon treaties and laws severely restricting the world flow of arms.

Future concerns, he said, include the security of Europe, rearming of Japan, the development and use of missiles and nuclear weapons in third world nations and renewal later this decade of the non-proliferation treaty between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.

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## SUNDAY SPORTS & Symphony

Sunday, October 27th  
6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Make plans to attend this Gala Fundraiser to benefit The Livonia Symphony Orchestra

Highlights will include:

- A stirring performance by the Livonia Symphony Orchestra, Francesco DiBlasi conducting.
- Meet Red Wing Star Shawn Burr, and former Tiger great, Milt Wilcox - Free Autographs!
- "Holiday Wardrobing" from Ann Taylor
- Silent auction featuring resort vacations courtesy of Northwest Airlines and Marriott Hotels and Resorts.
- "A Tasting of Livonia," provided by the area's finest restaurants.

SAVE \$5.00. Tickets are \$20.00 prior to Oct. 14th and \$25.00 after Oct. 14th. Tickets available in the Laurel Park Place Management Office or The Marriott Hotel.

For further information call The Marriott Hotel at 402-3100

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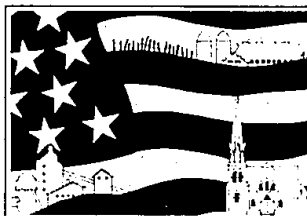
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## OUR TOWN



**COMMUNITY HOUSE**  
380 S. Bates  
Birmingham  
644-5832

Gala Preview  
Wednesday, October 16th, 7:00 PM

Thursday-Sunday, October 17th-20th  
Show Hours 10:00 AM-5:00 PM  
Free General Admission

## ART EXHIBITION & SALE

For the sixth consecutive year, The Community House is hosting a juried art exhibition and sale featuring over 150 Michigan artists and their creative interpretations of "OUR TOWN." THE OUR TOWN ART EXHIBITION & SALE opens Wednesday, October 16, 1991, with a Gala Preview evening. Four exciting days of speakers, programs and awards have been planned to benefit The Community House. Show will be juried by William A. Bostick.

**Professional Women's Breakfast** Thursday, October 17th, 7:30 a.m., William Bostick, nationally recognized artist, instructor, author and advocate of the

arts will speak on "Creativity in Business: How to Recognize It And Deal With It." An optional tour of the OUR TOWN Exhibit will follow. \$5.00.

**Lunch With Patricia Hill Burnett** Thursday, October 17th, 12:00 p.m. Internationally acclaimed portrait artist will present slides of her work and speak on "Painting The Famous And Infamous." Luncheon and optional tour of OUR TOWN. \$30.00. Limited seating.

**Art and Jazz II** Friday, October 18th, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Hor d'oeuvres, cash bar, drawing and musician Randall Fruhauf. View the exhibition. All art on sale

Gather some friends for an evening of art and fun. \$12.00 advance ticket, \$17.00 at the door.

**Children's Workshop** Saturday, October 19th, 10:00-11:00 a.m. Local teachers, Sally Jimes, Sue Babbs and Bev Dinsmore will conduct a creative mask-making session for children ages 9 through 12. \$5.00, all supplies included. Limited to 25 students.

**Artists' Reception and Awards Ceremony** Sunday, October 20th, 4:30 p.m. \$10,000 in prizes will be awarded to the artists. No charge.

To register for any of these events, call the Community House at 644-5832.

### Garden Cafe

Thursday, Friday, Saturday - 11:30 AM-5:00 PM • Sunday, 11:30 AM-4:00 PM  
Enjoy some relaxing moments over lunch in our new Garden Cafe.

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