Rosenbergs' son to speak

Robert Meeropol, son of exe-cuted Soviet spies Ethel and julius Rosenberg, will be in Detroit this month to raise money for the Rosenberg Fund for Children, an organization he founded in 1990 to aid children whose parents have been in-jured, jailed or put cut of work. The sponsors of the Rosen-berg Fund include Mully Tan Hayden of Bloomfield Town-hip, Alice McCarthy of Bir-mingham and Shirley Skiar of West Bloomfield. Meeropol will speak at a re-ception 7:30-10 pm. Friday, March 26, at the house of Julie Woods acction of Detroit. The cost to attend is \$25 per person. Meeropol, 44, was 6 years old in 1965 when his parents were vencetud as spise by the U.S. government. Meeropol and his brother spont time in orphan-ages and were eventually slopt-ed. "As I grew older, I came to ver support, raising a trast fund that enabled us to obtain, courseling and attend schools and summer camps where pro-gensive vulces were sepreciat-ed," Meeropol said. " Z Guatemalan children liv-ing in Chicago whose parents were tortuce in Guatemala. " Providing therapy at the Margoire Kovler Center for the Treatment of Survivors of Tor-ture.

Three children of an imprisoned anti-war activist who refused to serve in the Persian Gulf War.



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New commissioner finds tough sledding COUNTY

By PAT MURPHY BYJAY WHITE Being an Oakland County com-missioner inn't as easy as it looks. Just ask freshman Sue Ann Douglas, R-Rochester, who sees herself in a loaing batile to save money on a seemingly simple is-sue: Relocating a district court. Complexity of government — even at the county lavel — and the frustration of having to make a decision in the face of conflicting data and opinions. Duglas is no stranger to gov-ernment . . or or ord tape. She was on the Rochester City Coun-cil through much of the 1980s, when the Third Division of the 52nd District Court was relocated to Rochester Hills. With the opprience, she can't understand how her colleagues are so far soling against her. "But I'l keep asking questions." she vowed. "There has to be some an-BY PAT MURPHY STAFF WRITER

swers to these complex ques-

tions." Commissioner David Moffitt, R.Farnington Hills, sgrees ... sort of. "This has been a real nightmare," he said, referring to commissioners arguing over relo-cating the court for several months. "We need a comprehen-sive policy on relocating courts." Where to move

At issue is where to move the First Division of the 52nd District Court, which is currently located in Walled Lake. Other divisions of the 52nd District Court are in Rochester Hills, Clarkston and

Troy. Troy. Like the court in Walled Lake, many of those other divisions are overcrowded and have to be relo-cated into larger quarters. Thus,

what the county does in Walled Lake can potentially be seen as setting a precedent. Douglas insists the most eco-

Jaffe Oaks. "It's a common prac-tice." But Douglas questions that contention. She cites the Roches-ter Hills experience as a case in point. The county currently leases space for the district court in Ro-chester Hills from a private devel-oper. Douglas insists the most eco-nomical way to relocate the court is to lease the building — includ-ing parking, maintenance and custodial service — from another governmental entity, manely a city. Not only is it cheaper, she said, but when the lease ends, a governmental entity — rather then a private developer — owns the building, usually a valuable asset.

and parking, minimetaning with a space store fulls from a private developer, sho said, but when the lease ends, a governmental entity — rather the building, usually a valuable static court space from Troy.
But the cost is about \$20 per square foot per year, correling to the building, usually a valuable statil court space from Troy.
Among these who agree with The county currently does that which Troy, Dougles said, leasing induced to the S2A Dirate to the statil science of the space from Troy.
Other avenues
Other commissioners, however, seem to be leaning to another all the from a private developer. "I just the most economical way to provide adequate court space is to lease the building from a municification." The set to lease each building part to lease facilities means run," said one of them, Lillian

The second most economical way for the county to provide court facilities is to own the courtroom outright. The third choice, he said, is leasing from a private developer.

Other factors further compli-cate the decision for Douglas and other commissioners.

State law, for example, stipu-lates the court must be relocated in the largest population area. In this case, that's Novi.

State Rep. Barbara Dobb, R-West Bloomfield, has introduced a bill that would give controlling entities — like the county — more flexibility in relocating a district court.

The issue of relocating the Walled Lake District Court is scheduled to come up again this week in the county board's finance committee.



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