

OAKLAND DIGEST

Oakland Digest provides a summary of headline stories from around the county during the past week.

BIRMINGHAM

Libraries dispute plans: The Bloomfield Township Library board is crying foul over statements claiming it wants to sever ties with Birmingham's Baldwin Library.

Baldwin officials say the issue is complex and that no one knows exactly what the relationship will be come July 1. The impetus for change — library director Stephen Kershner's resignation, effective June 30. For the last 13 years, he served as director for both libraries, which have operated jointly for 28 years. Now, Bloomfield Township library officials want their own director, but board president Virginia Smith said that will be the only change.

However, Baldwin Library board member Thomas Sweeney said many unresolved issues exist.

CLARKSTON

Counselor advises parents: Don't lose your mind if your child comes home intoxicated. That's the message Dennis Kazseta, counselor for Triad Associates in Clarkston, told parents at a Sashabaw Middle School PTA meeting. Instead, Kazseta suggests talk informally with others who know your

child to share concern and seek information that can help; contact others who can help such as doctors and counselors; learn about the effects, symptoms and dependency; tell your children you care for their health and safety and share your concerns; increase supervision and restrict activities to keep your child away from high-risk situations; follow through on consequences when family rules are broken; and if needed, seek professional assistance.

FARMINGTON

Traffic jams during construction: Traffic on Farmington Road at Eight Mile snarled last week as work on the county's Eight Mile reconstruction project reached the intersection. Farmington Road was reduced to one lane each way April 23. Farmington City Manager Frank Lauff said several businesses called to complain and officials from Farmington and Farmington Hills were to meet with Oakland County officials to discuss whether the project's impact could be reduced or its pace quickened, Lauff said.

The work on Eight Mile will extend 300 feet east of Farmington Road.

OXFORD

School could get own well: Drilling a community well may be the answer to the nagging question of how to get water to

the new Oxford middle school. However, it may cost the district more than \$300,000 earmarked from the recently passed bond issue. Should the district decide on a well system, it would need to act quickly to make sure water is available to the school by May 1998, according to John Cox, Oxford Area Community School executive director for operations.

ROCHESTER HILLS

Medical waste found: A Macomb County Community College student on a homework assignment discovered medical waste at the J&L Landfill off Dequindre Road and Hamlin in Rochester Hills. City officials fenced off the site to the public April 25. The landfill, which operated from 1967 to 1980, was put on the Environmental Protection Agency Superfund cleanup list in 1989 as one of the nation's most hazardous dumps. County officials are attempting to contact the owners, who are responsible for the cleanup.

Keep on burning: Rochester Hills council members approved an amended leaf burning ordinance despite pleas from residents to ban the burning. The approved ordinance gives homeowners more days to burn leaves, but fewer hours in those days. Leaf burning is now allowed, by permit, from noon until sunset Mondays, Wednes-

day and Fridays, and from sunrise to sunset Saturdays from March 20 to May 6 and Oct. 1 to Dec. 15.

Under the previous ordinance, residents were permitted to burn leaves from sunrise to sunset Mondays, Thursday and Saturdays from April 20 to May 6 and Oct. 15 to Dec. 15.

SOUTHFIELD

Group home could lose license: Kathleen Wilbur, director of the Bureau of Regulatory Services for the state's Department of Consumer and Industry Services, concurred April 4 that a controversial Southfield group home should have its license revoked. A state administrative law judge recommended the revocation Feb. 20, following the shooting death of group home supervisor Calvin Johnson, 46, at the Lyric Circle home, a child care institution located on Bonstelle.

TROY

Bond meetings scheduled: As the Troy School District's \$71.4 million bond issue election on June 9 draws nearer, Superintendent Janet Jopke is ready to inform the community about the proposal through a series of presentations. Jopke plans to be at Smith Middle School on May 12, Baker Middle School on May 21, Boulan Park Middle School on May 27 and Larson Middle

School on May 29.

The meetings are scheduled for 7 p.m. and open to the public.

WEST BLOOMFIELD

Electrical issue recharged: Detroit Edison's attempt to locate a substation in a West Bloomfield neighborhood flickered to life again last week. Edison planned to locate a substation on a piece of property it owns east of Halsted and north of the old Coe Railroad line. That plan was dropped following resident objections. Another

plan to locate the substation on the West Bloomfield Woods Nature Preserve was also met with objections from residents. The latest proposal calls for locating the substation still in the area of Pleasant Lake Elementary School although a specific site has not been selected. Edison is meeting with residents, township and Walled Lake school district officials.

— Compiled by staff writer Jennifer Placinto

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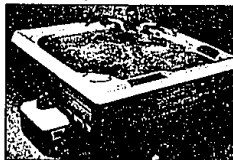
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