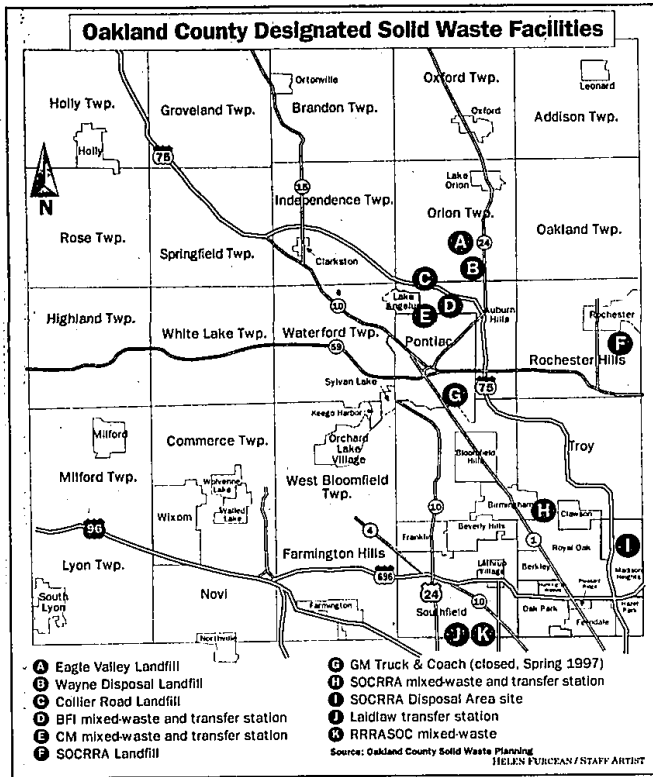


Options from page A5



ery to a landfill site at Michigan Avenue and I-275 in Canton) to recycling.

"We're processing 200 tons of recycled material a day and our numbers are increasing," Wayco said. "We serve 45,969 households from member communities and that number goes up because Waste Management brings recyclable materials here from such areas as Livonia and Dearborn."

On an annual basis, Southfield residents alone would receive a rebate of 30 cents per home, Wayco said. "So the authority pays for itself but it's not rolling in dough."

Wayco pointed out that not many people want a landfill, and that we are using up available space in remaining landfills. She points out, on tours of the facility at Eight Mile and Evergreen in Southfield, that saving energy and resources — such as recycling glass instead of using more sand and recycling plastics which are made from oil — are two of the goals of RRRASOC.

The authority also tries to educate residents about the

importance of recycling. Recently it began operating a website (<http://online.com/RRRASOC/>) that discusses facts about recycling, such as recycling facts, percent of energy saved by recycling and how much can be saved by recycling paper.

Education works, Wayco said, noting that the monthly rate of waste trucked away has dropped by 30.72 pounds per household, or nine percent.

"Combined with the recycling increase, it's absolutely incredible. We're having specific, measurable results through education," added Wayco, who also serves as chairwoman of a state recycling committee board of directors.

Even the fronts of cards are recycled and sent to the Keith Bovenschoen School, 12345 Frzho, Warren (48089), for the physically and mentally challenged. While the school accepts cards of all types year-round, RRRASOC accepts the cards at a container outside the door throughout January.

"We're asking everyone to stop and think," she said, before discarding landfill-bound trash.

SMART to seek millage renewal

By PAT MURPHY
STAFF REPORTER

The election isn't until August, but officials at the SMART transit system are already preparing to ask voters in Oakland, Macomb and suburban Wayne counties to renew the property tax millage for operating expenses.

"When voters see the changes we've made — the progress we've made — they will be pleased," said Matthew M. Wrigau, a Bloomfield Township resident who is chair of the SMART board of directors.

In 1995, SMART asked voters to approve a property tax increase of 33 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation — or about \$16.65 a year for property with a market value of \$100,000 — for three years.

On Aug. 4, SMART hopes to have another millage proposal on the ballot. While plans are still tentative, Wrigau said the proposal will likely call for renewing the existing millage for four years.

"It won't be a matter of 'convincing' voters," Wrigau insisted. "It will be more like showing them what we've accomplished."

Oakland County deputy executive Kenneth Rogers, also a member of the SMART board of directors, said the transit system has transformed itself into a community based transit system. "We made changes on the basis of what the individual communities said they needed," he said.

SMART still has big line-haul buses, Rogers said. But over the last three years there has been a shift to smaller buses and vans that offer greater flexibility, he said.

"Ridership has increased," Rogers said, "and SMART has reduced its deficit (from \$20 million in 1995 to about \$7 million in 1998)."

Rogers emphasized that executive L. Brooks Patterson has not taken a position on the expected SMART millage proposal. The executive endorsed the millage proposal three years ago, and his support was considered essential to its passage.

"But Brooks is pleased with the progress at SMART," said Rogers.

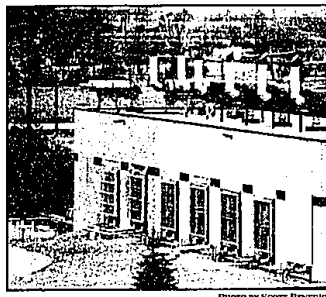
OU honored is for 2nd year as a good value

Oakland University has been selected as one of the nation's best college values for the second year in a row by *The Student Guide to America's 100 Best College Buys: 1998-99*, published by John Culler & Sons.

The rankings are based on results of a survey sent to more than 1,750 two- and four-year, public and private colleges and universities nationwide. To be considered for inclusion in the guide, a college or university must:

- be an accredited, four-year school;
- offer full residential facilities with dining services;
- have had an entering freshman class in the fall of 1996 with a high school grade point average and/or SAT/ACT score above the national average; and
- have had a cost of attendance in 1997-98 for three quarters or two semesters of attendance below the national average of the institutions that were considered.

"We provide a high quality education at an affordable level," said OU President Gary D. Rossi. "It's a commitment we take very seriously, so it's gratifying to be recognized in a national publication for the quality education we provide."



Exterior view: Methane gas from a Lyon Township landfill is converted into electricity at this plant. A similar plant is planned in Orion Township.

PHOTO BY SCOTT BENDIS/DET

Misc. Municipal Solid Waste Services - January, 1996

Municipality	Brush Chipping	Leaves swept or vacuumed	Christmas trees Curbside	Dropoff	In-house Recycling	Waste Ordinances Full	Partial	Street Sweeping	Roadside Pickup	Sewerage Treatment	Education/Information
AUBURN HILLS				X	X			X			X
BEVERLY HILLS				X	X			X			X
BIRMINGHAM FARMS				X	X			X			X
BIRMINGHAM				X	X			X			X
BLOOMFIELD HILLS				X	X			X			X
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP				X	X			X			X
CLARKSTON				X	X			X			X
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP				X	X			X			X
FARMINGTON				X	X			X			X
FARMINGTON HILLS				X	X			X			X
FRANKLIN				X	X			X			X
INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP	X								X		
KEEGO HARBOR				X	X			X			X
LAKE ORION		X			X			X			X
LATHRUP VILLAGE				X	X			X			X
LYON TOWNSHIP				X	X			X			X
ORCHARD LAKE				X	X			X			X
ORION TOWNSHIP				X	X			X			X
OXFORD				X	X			X			X
OXFORD TOWNSHIP				X	X			X			X
ROCHESTER	X								X		
ROCHESTER HILLS				X	X			X			X
SOUTH LYON				X	X			X			X
SOUTHFIELD				X	X			X			X
SPRINGFIELD TWP.				X	X			X			X
SYLVAN LAKE				X	X			X			X
TROY				X	X			X			X
WALLED LAKE	X								X		
WATERFORD TOWNSHIP				X	X			X			X
WEST BLOOMFIELD TWP.				X	X			X			X
WIXOM	X								X		

Sites from page A5

Road, Lyon Township: received final loads of trash in September 1993; capped, closed and converted into recreational facilities for the township. Landfill is the site of the first plant in Oakland County to convert recovered methane gas into electrical energy. Owned and operated by Browning Ferris Industries.

3. Waterford Hills Landfill, 7900 Gale Road, Waterford Township: 50 acres; reported closed in October 1990.

4. L.E. Marlowe & Sons landfill, Rose Township: closed by state DNR.

5. Kingston Development Co., Rochester Hills: 6 acres; for steel slag; no longer in use.

Other areas never constructed

Other sites that were either designated but never constructed, or were identified and then abandoned, are located in Rochester, Wixom, Southfield, Auburn Hills, Novi, Oxford, Addison and Highland, among other areas.

— Source: Oakland County Division of Solid Waste Management

Fast, Effective, Affordable

Speak Spanish, French or German by Spring for \$275

Acquire basic skills in your new language or advance your existing skills in one of our beginning or intermediate groups.

- One great price — includes tuition, book and fees.
- Groups meet twice a week for 4 weeks.
- 8-week programs available for just \$500.
- Friendly, relaxed groups of 6-8 students.
- Learn practical speaking skills.
- Native-fluent instructors.
- Easy, conversational approach.
- Convenient payment — all major credit cards accepted.
- Other languages also available.

Regular and Intensive English (ESL) Group courses also available.

* Price based on minimum class size of 6 persons. For groups of 5, price is \$370. For groups of 3-4, price is \$450. Offer expires 2/28/98.

30700 Telegraph Road
1-888-260-7421

Visit our web site at: www.borlitz.com

CELEBRATE **ELMORE LEONARD DAY!!!**

PROCLAMATION CEREMONY, READING, RECEPTION, BOOKSIGNING

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 7-9 P.M.

The Governor of Michigan is proclaiming January 16 "Elmore Leonard Day" in Michigan, recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of Michigan's most famous mystery writer! At 7:00 pm, a member of the Governor's office will read the "Elmore Leonard Day" proclamation at Borders. Immediately following this, the Honorable Archie Duncombe, Mayor of Birmingham will present Mr. Leonard a "Key to the City." Mr. Leonard will read from & discuss his brand-new novel CUBA LIBRE (Delacorte, \$23.95), followed by a light hors d'oeuvres reception and booksigning! Meet Birmingham's most celebrated novelist—"Dutch" Leonard on this very special day!

BORDERS DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM
BOOKS • MUSIC • CAFE 34300 WOODWARD AVE.
(248) 203-0005