

## Math camp has openings

Registrations are being accepted for Oakland University's free mathematics camp for gifted pre-college students. The 1998 Summer Mathematics Institute meets June 29 to Aug. 7. Students can earn college credit. To register, or for additional information, call program coordinator Marc Lipman at (248) 370-3430.

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# Suburbs could see revenue sharing grow as Detroit's portion faces reductions

BY TBI RICHARD STAFF WRITER

There was passion behind the effort of Sen. Glenn Steil, R-Grand Rapids, to rewrite the state's revenue-sharing formula to stem the money flowing to Detroit.

"For a quarter century," said Steil, "Michigan's cities, townships and villages have been shortchanged by a revenue sharing formula that is biased toward one city—Detroit." The Senate on June 10 approved 30-6 Steil's new formula for sharing \$1.4 billion with local units. It limits any local unit to 8 percent in one year. Most importantly, it crimps the "relative tax effort" standard, a

formula that benefited units with already high taxes—namely, Detroit.

Winners would be townships and "growing cities such as Grand Rapids, Ann Arbor... Farmington Hills and dozens more," said Steil.

### How they voted

The vote on Senate Bill 1181 was 30-6 with one absent. Here's how area senators voted:

**YES**—Loren Bennett, R-Canton, Mike Bouchard, R-Birmingham, Bill Bullard, R-Milford and Mat Danaskas, R-Lake Orion.  
**NO**—George Z. Hart, D-Dearborn, and five other Wayne County Democrats.  
**ABSENT**—Gary Peters, D-

Bloomfield Township. Detroit won't be the only loser, objected Sen. Virgil Smith, D-Detroit. Once SB 1181 is fully phased in, Southfield would lose 50 percent of its share—even Northville would lose 24.7 percent. But that would be several years down the road.

Smith protested that industrial counties would lose and local units with high property values would gain.

Steil said he revised his formula seven times. The House, where Detroit has more leadership clout, gets the bill now.

on the increases and redistribution of the money and 10 percent on the yield equalization formula dated May 18, 1998. On top of the combination of both formulas is an 8 percent limit on the increases, with the excess redistributed to local units below a certain level."

The analyst goes on to say that the next fiscal year's pot (beginning Oct. 1) will be up 2.5 percent from the current year and estimates future annual increases at 9 percent.

Here are how Oakland County and its communities would do in their next fiscal year under Steil's bill:

Oakland County—\$23.7 million, up 7.4 percent; Oxford Township up 5.3 percent; Southfield Township (including Franklin, Bingham Farms and Beverly Hills) down 1 percent; Birmingham up 7 percent; all other units served by this newspaper, up 8 percent.

Refer to Senate Bill 1181 when writing to your state representative, State Capitol, PO Box 30014, Lansing 48909.

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## Nature walks are scheduled

The Southeast Michigan Group. Sierra club has scheduled nature walk for Sunday, June 21 at the Holly Recreation Area and Sunday, June 28 at Huron Meadows. There are park entrance fees and a \$1 trip fee for each event.

swimming is available at the Holly site. For more information on the Holly event, call (248) 932-5370. For more information on the Huron Meadows event, call (810) 294-7789.

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### Correction Notice

In our June 14<sup>th</sup> insert, we advertised AirTouch paging service as low as 5<sup>th</sup> per month. In order to receive the 15<sup>th</sup> per month rate, a two-year contract is required. We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.

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### Correction Notice

In our June 14 ad, we featured the Master P video, *MP Da Last Don (The Movie)* as available Tuesday, June 16. The manufacturer of this title has pushed it's release date back to Tuesday, June 23. We are offering rainchecks for this title. We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience this may have caused.

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