

# County electrical energy task force sets up first meeting for Wednesday

The first meeting of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners' newly created Electrical Energy Evaluation Task Force is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1.

"The task force was created out of sheer frustration with widespread power failures and brownouts that residents and businesses throughout Oakland County have been experiencing with increasing frequency," said Commissioner Sue Douglas (R-Rochester Hills), who will also chair the task force.

As recently as Oct. 31, approximately 2,000 utility customers in Pontiac and Waterford Township experienced a power outage for several hours due to a mechanical failure.

"With the volume of customer complaints about electric service coming from 645 complaints in 1998 to 973 complaints in 1999, it is imperative to address how uninterrupted, high-quality

energy can be provided to our homes and businesses. This especially holds true when we realize how much our homes and offices are becoming increasingly more reliant on electrical power and computers to meet our everyday needs," Douglas said.

The Michigan Constitution gives county commissioners authority to intervene on behalf of county rate-payers regarding the services, rates and charges of privately-owned public utilities.

Fellow commissioners Terry Sever (R-Farmington) and Eric McCulloch (R-Royal Oak, Troy) joined Douglas in sponsoring a resolution to create the Electrical Energy Evaluation Task Force.

The nine-member task force will actively solicit comments from Oakland County residents who have experienced problems with their electrical service. County board chairman John P. McCulloch, in addition to nam-

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ing Douglas chairwoman of the task force, appointed commissioners Sever, David Galloway (R-White Lake) and David L. Moffat (R-Farmington Hills) to the board. Rochester councilwoman Karen Lewis was appointed to represent Oakland County's local governments.

County Executive L. Brooks Patterson appointed three members to serve on the task force - Vern Kora, Paul Whitman and Karl Grömel. Commissioners Brenda Causey-Mitchell (D-Pontiac), Charles Palmer (R-Troy,

Clawson) and Nancy Dingledy (R-Commerce, Wixom) will serve as alternates.

Sever represents Farmington, an area which also experiences frequent outages. "In addition to looking at the present and future electrical needs of Oakland County, the task force will evaluate service-related issues including brownouts, power failures, repair and maintenance," Sever said.

The Electrical Energy Evaluation Task Force is to report back to the board's Public Service Committee with a progress report in 45 days.

Task force meetings are open to the public. The first organized meeting on Dec. 1 will be held in the Pernick-Aaron Conference Room, located adjacent to the Board of Commissioners' Auditorium.

For further information, contact the Oakland County Board of Commissioners office at (248) 858-0100.

## The Farmington Observer

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### SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA

**Farmington School Board**  
Behulman Administrative Center  
32500 Shiawassee  
7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 30  
■ Evidence of Excellence:  
Recognition of Harrison High

**School Marching Band**  
■ Review/District Fall Enrollment Report; 2000/2001 Budget Parameters and Timelines; Summer Tax Collection Resolution; Substitute Employee Salary Recommendations.

### Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY  
18829 Farmington Road  
Livonia, Michigan 48152  
Phone (313) 478-7860

### NERVE AND NECK PAIN

Little neck pain results from a pinched nerve in the neck. The majority of neck pain results from tension, however, in individuals with arthritis of the shoulder, the impingement originates on the wingbone (the acromion) and anchors in the middle of the posterior aspect of the skull.

Strain on the trapezius occurs when you stand and all with your shoulders bunched forward. This posture represents a response to tension. However, in individuals with arthritis of the shoulder, the impingement originates on the wingbone (the acromion) and anchors in the middle of the posterior aspect of the skull.

If you have a pinched nerve in your neck, you are likely to feel numbness over the back of the skull. If the pinched nerve is at the side of the neck then you will have numbness, weakness, or both in your shoulders or hands.

If you have rheumatoid arthritis, you can have neck pain because the cervical vertebrae attempt to overcompensate for a severe complication of upper spinal cord compression.

In most cases, the treatment for neck pain centers on either relieving the tension state that brings you to treat your neck muscle or addressing the arthritis problem that forces the trapezius to under strain.

Most often helps relieving system, and counter traction using a weight of 25 lbs. or more is helpful as you can setup cervical traction in the home and have it available whenever a flare of neck pain occurs.

### in the 90s

by Herbert M. Gardner, D.D.S.

### TREATING PERIODONTITIS

Periodontitis is the advanced form of gum disease that occurs when plaque on and around teeth hardens into calculus (tartar). As it does so, the gums begin to pull away from the teeth, and pockets form between teeth and gums. In time, this can lead to destruction of gum tissue and bone to the point where teeth loosen and fall out. To avert this outcome, teeth must be subjected to the standard treatment for periodontitis known as scaling and root planning. It involves first cleaning the surface of the tooth below the gumline. Then, root planning consists of removing the bacteria-contaminated surface of the root to clean it and make it more acceptable for gum and tissue reattachment.

Except in rare cases, gum disease can be prevented by thorough daily plaque removal by brushing, clearing between teeth with floss or interdental cleaners, eating a balanced diet, and regularly visiting us at LIVONIA VILLAGE DENTAL ASSOCIATES for professional cleanings. For dental care that will bring you into the 21st century, call 478-2110 to schedule your appointment. LIVONIA VILLAGE DENTAL ASSOCIATES, we provide a full range of dental treatments, including preventive, restorative, and cosmetic dentistry. We also offer "Night Sleep" an intravenous sedation. We're located at 19171 Meridian Road, Smiles are our business.

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## Give your opinion on electric

The Michigan Public Services Commission will hold a meeting at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29 at the Costik Activities Center. The hearing will focus on Detroit Edison and the electrical power outages suffered in our community this past summer; the causes and effects of the outages and recommended solutions.

The public's attendance and participation at this meeting is very important to demonstrate the seriousness of our problems and concerns. This is an opportunity to be heard directly by the Public Services Commission, which regulates the utility industry.

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