



LEONARD BELL, 7650 Sussex, Plymouth, Mich., has been promoted to product promotion manager in the Edward C. Levy Co., Detroit. A registered professional engineer, he is a graduate of Michigan State University and was previously with the Aero Saurien Associates, where he supervised construction of the TWA Terminal Building at Kennedy Airport, the St. Louis Arch, and the IBM Pavilion at New York World's Fair.

# Wayne County Makes Park Priorities Issue

An Observer Roundup

The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and the Wayne County Board of Commissioners have locked horns over whether to renovate old parks in the county or establish new sites in other counties. David Laidlaw, HCMA director, says action taken by commissioners to cut off \$2.4 million to park in the regional park district would adversely affect the parks operation. "If the funds are in fact withheld, we would consult our legal counsel and would have to reassess our financial situation," says Laidlaw. Wayne County contributes 56 per cent of HCMA funds. Other contributing counties are Livingston, Macomb, Oakland and Washtenaw. Last week, the commissioners voted 18-2

with two abstentions, to hold back \$2.4 million, Wayne County's portion. An Observerland commissioner opposing the cut-off was Richard Manning (R-Livonia). Supporting the cut-off were Mary Dumas (R-Livonia), Tom Taylor (D-Westland), and Brian Arrowsmith (R-Wayne). "There hasn't been enough investigation to determine who actually uses the HCMA parks and whether it is possible for the authority to purchase and develop parks in Wayne County," Manning said. The action stemmed from a resolution calling on the regional park authority to acquire Belle Isle and a 2,500 acre parkway in western Wayne County. The parkway would run from lower Rouge Parkway and Canton Center Rd. to Ridge Rd. It then runs northward to Sheldon and Middle Rouge Parkway. Commissioners also unanimously directed their legal counsel to challenge the structure of the seven-member authority board in court on grounds it violates the "one-man, one-vote" principle.

fair share of use from the nine-park system. "We believe that with nine metropolitans in the system, every resident in the five-county district owns a place in the county." "The proportion of visitors from Wayne County is over one-half of our annual total users and roughly commensurate with money coming to the authority from people in Wayne County," says Laidlaw. Presently, HCMA has two Wayne County parks in operation with a third under construction. HCMA has also acquired land which will be a fourth regional recreational site north of the Huron River and along Lake Erie. The present sites are the 1,200 acre Lower Huron Metropark, and 1,500 acre Willow Metropark. Oakwood Metropark near Flat Rock is in the preliminary development stage. The HCMA is planning for future sites in Macomb.

Oakland, and Washtenaw counties which Laidlaw says are essential to future development. "We must look ahead 15 to 20 years. The availability of park sites is the portion of the program most vulnerable to the passage of time," says Laidlaw. "Unless these future sites are acquired within the next few years, then most likely these areas will become urbanized and not available." Concerning development of Belle Isle, Laidlaw says it would take major funds for redevelopment which voters turned down when HCMA requested an additional one-fourth property tax revenue in 1972.



ROBERT LEVINSON, 24603 Maryland, Southfield, has been promoted to director of salaried personnel at Burroughs Corp. Joining the company in 1956, he has served as a personnel assistant, employment administrator and director of personnel administration.

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U-M Dearborn Alumni Meet

Alumni from the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus will hold an organizational meeting Friday, May 11, at 7 p.m. in the Hilton Inn, Romulus.

William Campbell and John McRae, both of Livonia, are members of the planning committee which has worked on establishing an alumni society.

Election results on establishing a society as a constituent society of U-M's Alumni Assn. will be discussed along with a partial slate of candidates for the first board of governors and the goals and purposes of the alumni group.

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