

# **News**

Macomb County  
Office of Public Affairs



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 28, 2006

Contact: Phil Frame  
Office of Public Affairs  
586-469-7239  
[phil.frame@macombcountymi.gov](mailto:phil.frame@macombcountymi.gov)

## **News Nuggets – Macomb County News Highlights**

### **County Board aims to unify trails**

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners voted Thursday, July 27, to authorize a study of what it would take to link the Stony Creek and Metro Beach non-motorized biking and hiking trails.

The study calls for representatives from Macomb County government, local community governments, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) and community engineering and planning consultants to form a committee and develop a construction plan, with estimated costs, for closing gaps between the two trails.

The eventual construction of the adjoining trails, not to exceed \$60,000, will be paid for with grants from the Greenways Initiative of Southeast Michigan.

### **New dental discount program for Macomb County residents**

Macomb County residents soon will be able to sign up for a new discount dental program that offers 20 to 60 percent off a wide variety of procedures. The program was approved on Thursday, July 27, by the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.

Any county resident, regardless of age or income, can sign up for the program for an annual fee of \$69 per household. Program members must go to dentists that belong to the CAREington network in order to get the discounts.

More than 100 dentists in Macomb County currently accept the CAREington plan, and dentists who do not participate are encouraged to join the network. CAREington is a national network, so Macomb County residents who sign up for the discount dental program may see any participating dentist in Michigan or anywhere in the U.S.

The plan is administered by the Macomb County Department of Senior Citizen Services. For further information, call 586-469-6313.

– more –

### **New Macomb County morgue gets green light**

An antique at age 55, the Macomb County morgue is finally going to be retired.

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners voted on Thursday, July 27, to proceed with building a new 6,000 square-foot morgue for \$1.6 million. A discrete viewing area for families to identify bodies is one of the key features of the new facility, something the current morgue does not have.

The existing morgue was built in 1951 when Macomb County had a population of about 175,000. Now the county has nearly five times more residents, and five times the number of deaths.

The new morgue will have a walk-in cooler with a capacity to hold 20 bodies, room for four autopsy stations and office space for medical examiners. The current morgue can hold only six bodies, has only one autopsy table and office space for staff is in another building.

Construction is expected to be complete before the end of 2007.

### **County supervisors to get diversity, leadership training**

Nearly 150 Macomb County department heads, deputy department heads, division directors and other supervisors will receive diversity and leadership training in August.

The diversity training aims to educate county supervisors on being sensitive to racial and ethnic issues in the workplace, how to identify problems and handle them properly. Leadership training will help supervisors become more efficient at administering their departments and help them be more prepared to handle any situations that may arise.

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners voted on Thursday, July 27, to approve the two vendors for the training and the total cost of \$72,300.

### **Commissioner Switalski appointed to Area Agency on Aging**

Macomb County Board of Commissioners voted Thursday, July 27, to appoint Commissioner Jon Switalski to the Area Agency on Aging 1-B.

Switalski (D-Warren) will serve the remainder of former Commissioner Bob Gibson's three-year term, which ends Dec. 31, 2007.

Gibson resigned from the board in June and Switalski replaced him as chairman of the County Board's Senior Citizen Services Committee.

**Page 3**

**Mullen appointed to Michigan Economic Development Corporation**

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners voted Thursday, July 27, to appoint Arthur Mullen to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

Mullen, director of the Mount Clemens Downtown Development Authority, will serve a five-year term beginning Aug. 1 and ending July 31, 2011.

Mullen replaces former Mount Clemens DDA Director Kent Kukuk.

# # #