

# Telegraph



Oakland County Sheriff's Department team deployed to Hurricane Katrina relief.

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## In the Eye of the Storm

At 4:00 p.m. on August 28th, Dr. Thomas Gordon, director of the Oakland County Department of Health and Human Services, was notified that he and the other 34 members of his Michigan 1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) were being deployed to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina which at the time was threatening the Gulf Coast region.

Some members of the unit were assigned to drive trucks loaded with supplies such as tents, oxygen, medical equipment, cots and lights to Memphis, Tennessee which had been selected as the staging area. Meanwhile, Dr. Gordon and the rest of the team boarded an aircraft and were flown to the region on Monday, August 29th.

By Wednesday, August 31st Gordon's unit was in Gulfport, Mississippi, the eye of the hurricane, setting up tents, establishing operations and treating the first of the 3,200 plus patients they would be helping over the next 13 days. Forced to carry out their mission in austere living conditions devoid of electricity, public water, lighting and air conditioning, Gordon and his unit were able to take occasional showers at a nearby partially damaged hospital which operated with a generator. It provided him and the others with temporary relief from the suffocating 95 degree heat and humidity to match.

During his daily 12-14 hour shifts, Doc treated people who needed prescriptions, medications, oxygen and who suffered from severe stress and trauma caused by the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina.

"A lot of intravenous drug abusers came in looking for a fix," Gordon said. "But after we caught on to their scheme we told them we weren't going to support their addiction."

This was Gordon's fourth hurricane and by his estimation the worst. The amount of the devastation, he says, was truly astonishing. In fact, Katrina completely leveled a three-quarter mile area of Gulfport from the beach inland.



The Michigan 1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT).

Continued on page 8

# From Whence We Came

## Bluewater Michigan Chapter, NRHS



When was the last time you thought about a train? For many of us, it was probably the last time that we were stuck behind a crossing or when the evening news portrayed a horrible train wreck. Fortunately, The Bluewater Michigan Chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society, located in Royal Oak, seeks to change the way we perceive trains today.

“We want to gently provide relevance about Michigan’s railway history,” said Bob Thatcher, Bluewater Michigan Chapter President. The group seeks to entertain the general public while at the same time educating them through living history.

Established in 1982, the Bluewater Michigan Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society was founded by a group of people particularly interested in not only the historical aspect railroads, but also in preservation. The Chapter owns and maintains a number of historic passenger coaches and specialty cars as part of the organization’s rolling stock. Bluewater uses these cars to run an excursion program that allows the public to travel in style and learn

along the way about our state’s development, especially where the railroad is involved.

Bluewater Michigan Chapter in conjunction with The Steam Railroading Institute will be presenting the Grayling Steam Special, a weekend excursion featuring the locomotive that was inspiration for the film Polar Express, on October 15 and 16. For more information on the Grayling Steam Special or on other exciting excursions, please visit [www.bluewaterNRHS.com](http://www.bluewaterNRHS.com) or contact the Chapter at 248-541-1000. Then get ready to grab your conductor hats and jump aboard for the next stop - a piece of Michigan’s living history.



Photo courtesy of Jack Thompson

### Brown Bag Lecture Series

**October 20**

**Noon – 1 p.m.**

**Michigan Quilt Invitational**

**Mary Andrews, Artist and Curator**

The Michigan Quilt Artist Invitational brings selected quilters together to promote freedom of expression, experimentation, and individual style among the participants. These artists have demonstrated their commitment to using the quilt from as a vehicle for visual expression. This year’s theme of the 8th annual Quilt Invitational was Exploring Africa. Quilt Artist and Curator May Andrews will speak about the Michigan Quilt Invitational and quilt making as an art. Be sure to stop by the Oakland County Galleria to see the quilt exhibit.

**November 17**

**Noon – 1 p.m.**

**Michigan Finger Style Guitar Society – Featuring a live performance**

**J.B. Daveys, President, Artist**

The Michigan Finger Style Guitar Society is a newly formed non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the appreciation of finger style guitar through concerts, workshops and goodwill. The workshops are designed to provide students with an extraordinary look at the technique and motivation behind the artist’s songs and style. The society is also active in helping charitable causes in the metro Detroit area by using its member’s skills to help out music therapy programs, performing for assisted living communities and other charitable events. Come learn about the organization, and enjoy a live performance as well.

**December 15**

**Noon – 1 p.m.**

**Camille Claudel & Rodin: Fateful Encounter**

**Detroit Institute of Arts Speaker Bureau**

The beautiful, talented, witty and fiercely independent Camille Claudel first met the great Auguste Rodin when she was only 17 and he was 41. She became his fellow sculptor, his muse, his model, and his lover. As he gained fame she struggled against the social and artistic limitations placed upon women artists in the ninetieth century. For the first time in the United States, see the works they shared and the works they created apart before Claudel’s life crumbled under the weight of a shattered relationship, mental illness, and the prejudices of her world. The exhibition, Camille Claudel & Rodin: Fateful Encounter, is on view at the Detroit Institute of Arts from October 9, 2005 through February 5, 2006.

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## Arts, Beats & Eats and Wireless Oakland

Oakland might have been wireless at this year's Arts, Beats and Eats festival, but it was certainly not without volunteers. 35 people, made up of County employees and their spouses, took turns at the Internet Café set up for Wireless Oakland to demonstrate the new technology and wireless initiative to the public.

The volunteers were energetic and positive. We were happy to have each one," said Tammi Shephano, User Support Spec, who coordinated the volunteers. There were 5 people that were there all day, and then a rotating shift of 3 volunteers that changed every 4 hours. "On average we had 50 people per hour visiting the Café," Shephano added.

Volunteer Anita Campbell, Supervisor of Data Services Team, commented, "It was a lot of fun. The weather was awesome, there was music, and it was a great day to be downtown." Campbell went on to add that there was a lot of traffic to the booth, with many of the visitors having already heard about Wireless Oakland.

To liven things up throughout the day, several of the volunteers had competitions to see who could bring in the most people during their shift. According to Shephano, the volunteers lost track after the first hour because so many people were being brought into the Café. Despite this however, she has received very positive feedback and even though there was no clear winner in the competition, every volunteer got a cool Wireless Oakland T-shirt and a great experience to go along with it.



## A Cross-Generation Spectacular

By Dana Maleszyk

Do you need a good laugh? Are you looking for a musical that anyone, of all ages can enjoy? Well, look no further than Menopause the Musical. I recently saw this play with my mom, aunt, and grandma at the Gem Theatre in Detroit, Michigan. At first, I was a little apprehensive about attending, because as a twenty-year old female, I cannot relate to menopause, yet. However, this musical proved to be a hilarious and worthwhile experience for the entire family.

Menopause the Musical celebrates life after age 40, when women begin to experience and have endured the Change. In this musical, four friends, Power Woman, Soap Star, Earth Mother, and Iowa Housewife, share their menopausal experiences of hot flashes, mood swings and weight gain. Laughs will be heard as the characters sing along with classic tunes such as The Lion Sleeps Tonight, Good Vibrations, I Heard it through the Grapevine, What's Love got to do with it, My Guy, I got you Babe, and California Girls. At the end of the musical, the characters provide the audience with pins and invite them to sing and dance onstage.

This musical first delighted audiences in Orlando, Florida in March 2001. Since then, this musical has traveled throughout the country, continuing to entice new audiences. I highly recommend this musical to anyone who needs a good laugh and enjoys musicals.



A goshawk took refuge on the County Campus Monday, July 25th, following severe weekend weather. The large bird had a broken wing and was rescued by the Department of Natural Resources.



## It's Your Telegraph

This employee newsletter is all about you! So we welcome your suggestions and submissions. Here are ways you can help:

**SUBMISSION FORM** – submit your suggestions, kudos and article using this form. Find it online at <http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/intranet/emptools/telegraph/>

**RECIPE SECTION** – this new section will start with the next publication. If you have a special or unusual recipe you'd like to share, please email it to [zackm@co.oakland.mi.us](mailto:zackm@co.oakland.mi.us)



Now in its 13th year of operation, the Employee Suggestion Program has provided a way for County employees to share their suggestions for improving County operations, particularly those that impact the budget. Since 1993 ~ 1,806 suggestions have been submitted and 205 of these have been implemented for a total cumulative savings to the taxpayers of more than \$5.2 million.

### Doing your part

It starts with an idea. You come up with a way to reduce costs, increase efficiencies, eliminate unnecessary expenditures or

duplication; reduce energy costs, improve employee morale

- Put your suggestion on an official ESP form, which may be obtained from the ESP website, [www.co.oakland.mi.us/intranet/esp/index.html](http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/intranet/esp/index.html), or by calling 248-858-0543

### Doing our part

- The County's Suggestion Coordinator will evaluate your suggestion and determine whether it is eligible for further review.
- Eligible suggestions are assigned to Suggestion Evaluators for a comprehensive review to determine the merits of recommending the suggestion for implementation.
- The Suggestion Coordinator works with the various departments on implementing suggestions.
- Implemented suggestions are then reviewed by Fiscal Services to determine the savings or revenue associated with said suggestions.
- Prizes are awarded annually for suggestions implemented within the year.

| Year | Savings and/or revenue generated | # of suggestions implemented |
|------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 93   | \$870,000                        | 7                            |
| 94   | \$730,000                        | 21                           |
| 95   | \$432,820                        | 21                           |
| 96   | \$905,964                        | 19                           |
| 97   | \$378,860                        | 20                           |
| 98   | \$142,602                        | 24                           |
| 99   | \$40,814                         | 14                           |
| 00   | \$107,877                        | 19                           |
| 01   | \$28,800                         | 17                           |
| 02   | \$109,900                        | 14                           |
| 03   | \$1,419,872                      | 14                           |
| 04   | \$72,723                         | 15                           |



Turn Your Ideas into Dollars

## County Employees Needed for Emergency Response Efforts

The Oakland County Health Division is seeking 1,000 Oakland County employees to join Oakland County's Emergency Reserve Team (ERT). This volunteer team provides support during a critical event such as a natural disaster, disease outbreak, or other public health emergency. Any County employee is eligible to participate with Department Head approval.

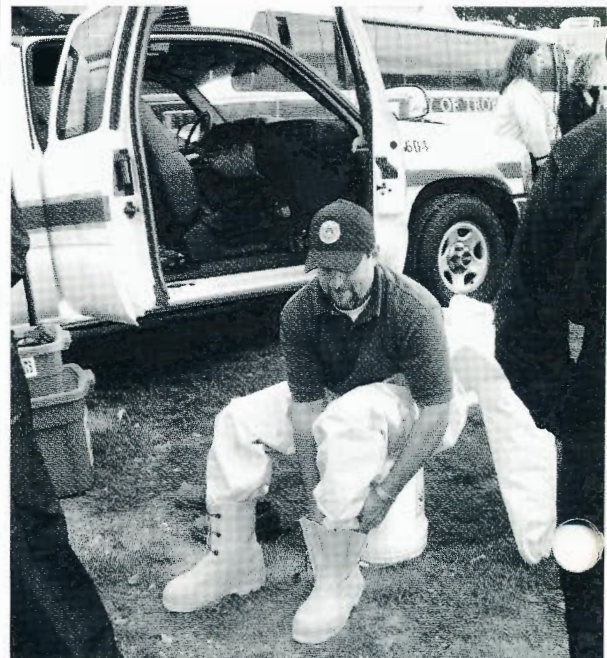
During an emergency, ERT members may work at dispensing sites where vaccinations or medications are provided to county residents. Volunteers may answer telephone hotlines, direct traffic flow, greet or register clients, and provide other assistance as needed.

"After September 11, thousands of Americans responded by volunteering to help in any way possible," stated George Miller, Manger/Health Officer of Oakland County Health Division. "Volunteers enhance the County's emergency response. Their essential skills are needed."

After registering, volunteers undergo online and classroom training to increase understanding of emergency response and volunteer roles. Subsequent mailings and updates are provided. During an actual event, on-site training is given to identify roles for that specific event.

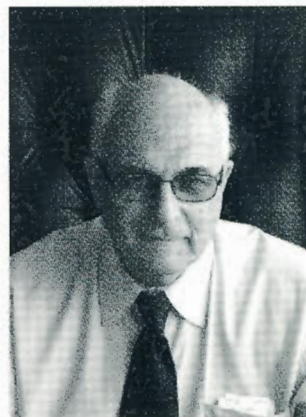
ERT volunteers help the County in a time of extreme need. If the Oakland County Executive suspends County services, registered volunteers are free to participate. Under these circumstances, Oakland County employees are paid for participating.

If you are interested in volunteering, visit the ERT website at [www.co.oakland.mi.us/intranet/ert](http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/intranet/ert) to obtain the Emergency Reserve Team Volunteer Application. Your participation is vital in the County response to a public health emergency!





## Telegraphing Our Talents



### Ode to the Class of '55 By Judge Fred Mester

"Born before television, penicillin, Salk vaccine, credit cards, frozen foods, plastic, Xerox, radar, split atoms, laser beams, ballpoint pens, panty hose, air conditioners, drip dry clothes, before man walked on the moon – fast food was what you ate during Lent, software was not a word – 5 & 10 cent stores is where you bought things for 5 and 10 cents."

Born of a depression, nurtured during war, a fragile peace, a cold war, a police action and a polio scare every August.

We came from all economic sectors, from different religions, some from families of the Mayflower to those of first generation.

We came from Washington, Grant, Whittier, Longfellow, Franklin, Parker, Northwood, Oakland and Starr.

We named Mary Lyon, Jane Adams and Clare Barton and are still in the process of understanding those names and why?

We knew those who were with us in those years of grade and junior high,  
but yet we were to be more nurtured by those who came from those other schools.

In the fall of '51, we gathered together at a place known as Royal Oak High with these others and in our presence were those who had been for what we thought were a lifetime; oh, they were so much older, much bigger, so much smarter, athletic and "cool."

This school was so much bigger, a pool, a football field and teachers that still looked so much older.

But, within weeks, if not days, Royal Oak became our school; we cheered the football team, learned the song of the Oaks.

We helped start the tradition on Friday night of cruising Woodward; from the Totem Pole to Teds, at times stopping at Marios for pizza.

We made friends with those from those other schools.

The day started at a place called homeroom at 8:30 and ended at 3:30 with a half hour for lunch.

Our activities ranged from academic clubs to HIY, the French, Latin and Varsity Clubs, Ms. Cowan's Girls Lit, et cetera.

From principal to custodians and environment of education existed that helped each of us to thrive.

What of those coaches and teams who helped us to have elations in their success and pride in their acceptance of defeats, that were few.

But, school's excellence is in their teachers and by over 50 years reflection, we were a fortunate lot having been taught and inspired by an incredible cast of teachers Hoffman, Rathberg, Cowan, Miller, the Schulte sisters, Tenhave, Hirsh, Feighner and the list goes on.

They helped to fine tune who we were and who we are.

In this the 50th year, let us reflect on those who encouraged, challenged and engaged us.

And, then in the end let us continue to realize that we are what we were and in these golden years,  
we recognize, thrive and remain forever friends.



Katherine Graham

Most days you can usually find Katherine Graham mired up to her eyeballs in facts, stats, charts, figures and demographics. Probably not too unusual for someone who is the market research analyst for the Planning and Economic Development Division (PEDS).

Katherine's main function is to research economic and demographic information that can be used to promote Oakland County and develop the appropriate marketing materials.

"I really do enjoy providing businesses with the information that will help them succeed," Katherine said. For the past fourteen years, Katherine has been a student of Tae Kwon Do, a Korean martial arts form. She has almost attained black-belt status and freely admits she might be further along if not for continually injuring herself.

"Kathy has provided much of the underlying basic research to the Emerging Sectors project and the Business Roundtable's Quality of Life committee and the Oakland County Economic Forecast," said Dan Hunter, PEDS manager. "She is a very detail oriented employee."

She and husband, John, a rescue diver with the Sheriff's Department, like to travel and fix up their home. Their latest project is landscaping. The Grahams, who live in Brandon Township, have 4 children and a black lab.



EMPLOYEE of the



Pat Hannum

As an applications analyst programmer at Information Technology, Pat Hannum says she does a little bit of everything which includes programming, analysis and troubleshooting. As Pat puts it, "You name it and I do it."

Her entire 8-year career at Oakland County has been spent at IT.

"I was really shocked and surprised to find out I had been selected Employee of the Month," said Pat who considers the best part of her job working with the people.

In her spare time, Pat works with an animal rescue group, spends time with family and friends, gardens, golfs and reads.

"Pat has been an excellent and hard working employee since joining IT in 1997," said her supervisor Dale Kukla.

Pat and her 2 dogs and cats live in Waterford.



Joan Rhinevault

Twenty-seven years is a long time to stay in any one place but Joan Rhinevault has been a pillar of the Reimbursement Division for that period of time. Joan is a collections clerk/specialist a job which entails things like setting up probation accounts and working on bankruptcies. When needed she also works as a back up cashier.

That's a part of the job she likes because it gets her out of her cubicle and in front of people.

"I like interacting with people at the cashier's window," Joan said.

Away from the office, Joan likes to garden and take her dogs for long walks. She also admits to loving animals and taking in strays on occasion, which her husband, Ronald, of 40 years doesn't always find endearing.

"Joan has always been a loyal and reliable employee," says her supervisor, Judi Lockhart. "Her dedication and hard work help keep the Reimbursement Division operating smoothly."

The Rhinevault's, who live in Groveland Township, have 2 adult children.

## Medical Care Facility Becomes "Golden Oaks"



County Executive L. Brooks Patterson and Board Chairman Bill Bullard teamed up on July 27th to officially announce that the 80-year old Medical Care Facility was being renamed "Golden Oaks."

"The name change gives the facility a softer image which I think better reflects the superior quality of care and compassion provided by the staff," Mr. Patterson said.

New signage highlights the name "Golden Oaks" in gold letters on a black background with the twin oak tree logo and Medical Care Facility inserted underneath.

"Our goal of traditionally providing the best of senior services is exemplified with the Medical Care Facility being renamed Golden Oaks which will provide a golden opportunity for our Oakland County seniors," Mr. Bullard said.

Golden Oaks has more than 100 employees consisting of primarily of RN's, LPN's and Competency Evaluated Nursing Assistance (CNA). The only criterion for being admitted to the facility is that the resident require skilled nursing care or therapy services.

# EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



For some 34 years, John Bohn has been making sure the Oakland County campus is in pristine shape and sends the right message to the visiting public.



As a maintenance supervisor with FM&O, John oversees several buildings to make sure they meet the proper aesthetic and functional requirements.



"I was extremely surprised but very pleased management recognized me for this honor," Bohn said.

As John sees it the best part of his job is being able to work with a variety of people around the county and that includes his wife Gina who also works for FM&O.

"I have come to absolutely respect and count on John's ability to handle any of the myriad of problems that come his way on any given day," said Dick Johnston, FM&O manager.

When not at work, John enjoys hunting, fishing and golfing. The Bohns, who have been married 18 years, live in White Lake with their 16 year old daughter. Another daughter, 22, attends Michigan State University.



John Bohn

Megan Legrou is an autopsy assistant at the Medical Examiners office which means she assists the pathologist during autopsy procedures. Megan came to Oakland County in April of this year after three years at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing.

"I was quite surprised but very honored being selected as Employee of the Month," Megan said.

She finds her work extremely interesting and feels she's giving back to the community in some way by providing autopsy services for families.

"During her short time with the county, Megan has demonstrated her exceptional enthusiasm and initiative," said Robert Gerds, administrator of the ME's office. "Megan is always willing to go the extra mile."

Currently Megan is on maternity leave taking care of her 3-week old son, Emerson. Her favorite pastimes are camping and cooking, neither of which she has been able to do lately because of her new arrival. She and her husband, Rob, who is in psychiatric residency at Henry Ford Hospital, live in Waterford. Megan plans to be back on the job by the end of the month.



Megan Legrou

## Getting Through the Holidays

When the world seems enthralled with tinsel and glitter during the holiday season, those who grieve the loss of a loved one are frequently made more aware of the pain of their loss. Here are some helpful thoughts for coping with grief during the holiday season.

A primary point to understand is that grieving persons have to face the limitations that grief imposes. Priorities have to be evaluated and careful decisions have to be made about what is meaningful for themselves and for their families without adding more difficulties with which to deal. Here are some suggestions:

- Decide what can be handled comfortably and inform family, friends and relatives.
- Don't isolate yourself. Try to join others as much as you can.
- Be patient with yourself. Feeling sad is not only normal, but it's also an important part of the healing process.
- Don't let others pressure you into doing things you don't really want to do or are not ready to; this will only lead to more stress and exhaustion.
- Share your emotions with others. Don't be afraid to talk with family and friends about the person who died.
- Make new memories. Plan to start new holiday traditions.
- Consider doing something for others. Some people feel they can deal with their loss in a more meaningful way by reaching out to others.
- Give yourself permission to have fun. Remember that your loved one would want you to experience laughter and joy over the holidays.

Most importantly, take time for yourself. Eat well, get plenty of rest, and take care of yourself physically with even the smallest amount of exercise daily.

Written by: Kathleen Beaudry, MSW Family Services Counselor

Oakland County Medical Examiners Office



# BENEFITS

## Q & A

- Q** Can I access information on-line regarding my dental plan?
- A** Yes, DeltaUSA, our dental plan provider, makes it easy and convenient for you to access dental information on-line.
- Q** What is the web site address?
- A** To access your dental information, go to [www.consumertoolkit.com](http://www.consumertoolkit.com).
- Q** What kind of information can I find on the DeltaUSA Consumertoolkit?
- A** You are able to access coverage information specific to your plan. You can also access claims data for you and your children. You can even print a DeltaUSA card with your specific information on it to take to the dentist or to give to your dependents who are perhaps away at school.
- Q** Can my husband or wife also use the Consumertoolkit?
- A** Yes, they can access their coverage and claim data by signing in to the web site. Due to federal HIPPA regulations, you may not view their claim data nor they yours.
- Q** What if I forget the web address for DeltaUSA?
- A** Remember, a link to this address and many other benefits and retirement related web sites can be found at [www.ocbenefits.com](http://www.ocbenefits.com). [ocbenefits.com](http://ocbenefits.com) may also be accessed through HR Services through Oaksourse.

# PERSON TO PERSON

## L. Brooks Patterson

Oakland County lost a great employee and many of us lost a close personal friend recently when Delores (Dee) Conaway passed away following a short bout with cancer.

Dee retired in January as my secretary, bought a home in Florida and was looking forward to many happy years enjoying the easy life. But it was not to be. As someone once said: Life is what happens to you when you're making other plans.

Dee had worked for Oakland County 45 years, 38 of those years as my secretary, first in the Prosecutor's office and the last 13 after I became county executive.

Just a few weeks after moving to Florida, Dee became ill and was diagnosed with a particularly deadly form of brain cancer. She faced her fate with the same dignity and grace with which she had lived her life.

As the shadows lengthened and her robust life was drawing to a close, Dee talked about how blessed she had been, how lucky she was and how she had great love in her life.

How fortunate we were to have known her and how lucky we were to have been able to share a part of her extraordinary life.



*Brooks*

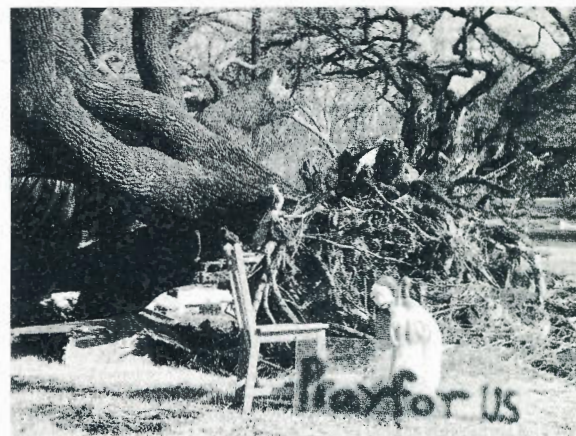
*Continued from page 1*

During his 2 week stay, Doc heard many stories of survival like the 65-year old man who put his frail 85-year old mother on a mattress and floated in the water for some 5 hours before being rescued.

One thing that most impressed Gordon was the resiliency of the people to survive and their determination to put the nightmare of Katrina behind them and move on.

"I talked to many people who lost their homes, cars, possessions and even the places where they worked yet said they were blessed because their families were OK," Gordon said. "They didn't complain. It was really kind of inspiring."

Dr. Gordon says what he has gotten out of the experience is the good feeling that comes from helping others and knowing you've made a positive difference in people's lives.



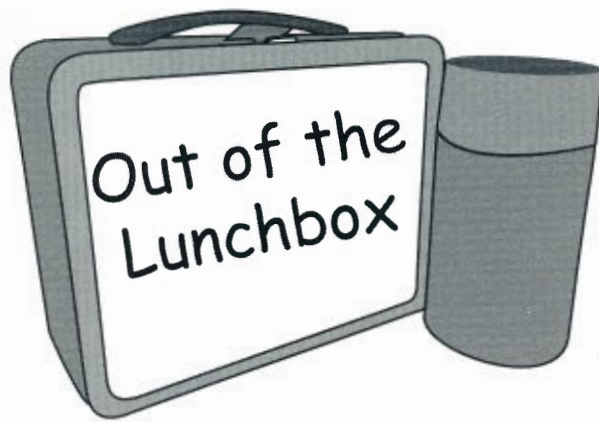


**Pastries By Ellen**  
**2495 Orchard Lake Road,**  
**Sylvan Lake**  
**(248) 681-5700**

You can find just about anything in strip malls these days, from dollar stores to specialty shops to gourmet restaurants. Before you crinkle in disbelief at the latter, remember tasting is believing. Nestled away in a plaza on Orchard Lake Road between Middlebelt and Cass Lake roads is a small window front that is often dismissed as being just a bakery. However Pastries By Ellen is more than a mere bake goods store.

Surprisingly, the pastry shop/breakfast and lunch spot is home to two Culinary Institute of America graduates, a husband and wife team, that prepare a fresh array of soups, sandwiches, and of course cakes, pies, cookies and elaborate pastries. They are open from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Just looking at the affordable lunch menu makes one feel like a kid in a pastry shop, literally speaking of course. All sandwiches are served on fresh homemade breads and feature fine creations such as the Marinated Fresh Mozzarella Panini with pesto and toma-



atoes on grilled sourdough bread, or the Mediterranean Chicken Pita with, hummus, marinated tomato salad and feta cheese.

If one isn't feeling as adventurous as The Grilled Portabella Mushroom Panini with Roasted Peppers, and Sundried Tomato Pesto, the shop offers 'traditional' lunch favorites as the Italian Combo, Triple Decker Club, or the classic favorite of Chicken Salad. After lunch, be sure to check out the sweet selection of deserts, featured at the pastry counter. You can be sure that no matter if it's a cookie you desire, piece of pie or cake, it is fresh, delicious, and worth the trip.

Pastries By Ellen can also accommodate the breakfast crowd, those in need of catering, and brides looking for that perfect wedding cake. Visit their website [www.pastriesbyellen.com](http://www.pastriesbyellen.com) to view both their breakfast and lunch menus. Pastries By Ellen even offers call ahead ordering, so once you find what you would like, getting a unique gourmet sandwich (or soup, salad, or pastry) is just a phone call and short drive away.

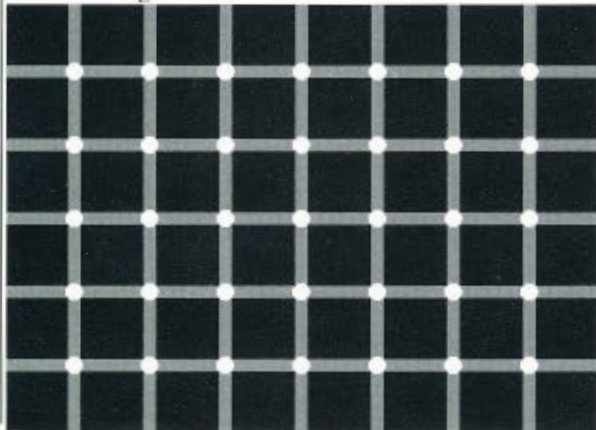
These reviews are neither an endorsement of any particular restaurant, nor an endorsement of one restaurant over another. They are informational only. The Telegraph would be happy to receive the names of other restaurants for possible review. The County is not responsible for the quality of food or service provided by any of the restaurants reviewed.

**Do you have a favorite lunch spot that is off the beaten track? Let us know!**



**Last issues puzzle:**

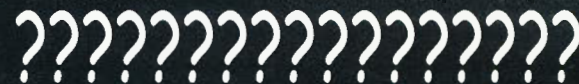
How many black dots can you find in the image? Note that the image is static.



**Answer:**

Answer: None!

The winning entry belongs to Neeta Valera.



**This issues puzzle:**

**faredce**

This word can be used to derive a word or saying.

To answer, call Mike Zack at (248) 858-0457, or email at [zackm@co.oakland.mi.us](mailto:zackm@co.oakland.mi.us).

If there is more than one correct response, the winning entry will be chosen by a drawing.

# kudos coming & going

## births

Christie Bellak, Health Division, and husband, Alex, had a baby girl, Claire Alexandra

Kathy Fraser, Health Division, and husband, Steve, had a baby boy, Brett Joseph, 06/03/05

Melissa Felice, Soil Erosion, Drain Commissioner's Office, and husband, Tony, had a baby boy, Michael Anthony, 06/06/05

Adam Cameron, Soil Erosion, Drain Commissioner's Office, and wife, Lorah, had a baby girl, Ivy, 06/23/05

Joe Kaighen, Health Division, and wife, Erika, had twins, Braden William and Ashlyn McKenna, 06/24/05

Brett Battishill, Facilities Management/Technical Support, and wife, Nancy, had a baby girl, Katherine Renee, 06/28/05

Karen Deedler, Health Division, and husband, Tom, had a baby boy, Nathan Thomas, 07/11/05

David Schoeneweg, Children's Village, and wife, Alecia had a baby girl, Madison Rae, 07/27/2005

Michelle Mader, Environmental Health, and husband, Tom, had a baby boy, Maxwell Robert, 08/01/05

Josh Nelson, Health Division, and wife, Amy, had a baby boy, Jared Michael, 08/08/05

Chris Sudbury, Children's Village, and his wife, Denise, had a baby boy, Xavier, 08/16/2005

Sudha Maheshwari, Information Technology, and husband, Gavin, had a baby girl, Arushi, 09/09/05

Joe Tabor, Technical Systems & Networking, Information Technology, had a baby boy, Gary Matthew, 09/12/05

## new hires

Sean Crottie, youth specialist I, Children's Village, 06/06/05

Brian Kath, youth specialist I, Children's Village, 06/06/05

Albert Robinson, youth specialist I, Children's Village, 06/06/05

Bryan Stefan, youth specialist I, Children's Village, 06/06/05

John Owens III, youth specialist I, Children's Village, 06/11/05

David Bartlett, customer service technician, Information Technology- CLEMIS, 06/13/05

Ida Herron, office assistant, Information Technology- Internal Services, 06/13/05

Dante Houseworth, general helper, Facilities Management/FM&O Custodial, 06/20/05

Lisa Nobles, social worker I, Children's Village, 06/20/05

Lisa Gould, intern, Case Evaluation Division of the Case Management Office, 06/22/05

Beth Lundgren, youth specialist I, Children's Village, 06/25/05

Evonne Mitchell, office assistant, Information Technology- Internal Services, 06/27/05

Sonya Konieczka, circuit court records clerk, Case Evaluation Division of the Case Management Office, 08/01/05

Gretchen Starr, circuit court records clerk, Caseflow Division of the Case Management Office, 08/08/05

Susan Parten, office assistant I, Cross Connections, Drain Commissioner's Office, 08/09/05

Joel Kohn, engineering aide, Engineering & Construction Div., Drain Commissioner's Office, 08/15/05

Michael Twarog, general maintenance mechanic, Facilities Management / FM&O, 9/26/05

Erin Lapkewych, office assistant, Case Evaluation Division of the Case Management Office, 08/29/05

David McKee, pump maintenance supervisor I, Pump Maint. Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 08/29/05

Timothy Hester, general maintenance mechanic, Facilities Management/FM&O/Maintenance, 09/19/05

Donna King, Health Division, Personal & Preventive Health Unit

Karen Roehl, Health Division, Hearing and Vision Unit

## fond farewells

Richard Jones, Sewer Drain Maintenance, Drain Commissioner's Office, 06/24/05

Sam Turner, Cross Connection, Drain Commissioner's Office, 07/06/05

Thomas Cherro, construction inspector II, Inspection Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 07/07/05

Ali Aljuburi, chemist, Walled Lake STP Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 07/22/05

## transfers

Kathleen Baker transferred from the Medical Care Facility to the Health Division as a sanitarian tech

Adam Cameron transferred from the airport to Soil Erosion Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, as a construction inspector, 05/28/05

Crystal Tyler, promoted to office assistant II and transferred from IT to Water Maintenance, Drain Commissioner's Office, 06/25/05

Lynda Loftis transferred from the Case Management Office to the Court Administration Office, 08/05/05

Corina Wilson transferred as an intern from the Case Evaluation Division of the Case Management Office to the Circuit Court, as Judge Warren's judicial clerk, 09/15/05

# celebrations life events

## promotions

Christine Barry, to senior sanitarian, Health Division

Karen Kubik, to senior sanitarian, Health Division

Jeanine McCloskey, to senior sanitarian, Health Division

Richard Peresky, to senior sanitarian, Health Division

Chris Strnad, to senior sanitarian, Health Division

Richard Cook, to construction inspector II, Drain/Sewer Maintenance Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 05/28/05

Michael D. Johnson, to captain, Sheriff's Office, 06/11/05

Jeffery D. Hamm, to sergeant, Sheriff's Office, 07/09/05

Debbie Stoos, to office assistant II, Administration, Drain Commissioner's Office, 07/09/05

Marie L. Rudzki, to sergeant, Sheriff's Office, 07/10/05

Kelly A. Sexton, to sergeant, Sheriff's Office, 07/11/05

Charles Bernard, to sergeant, Sheriff's Office, 07/12/05

Scott A. Patterson, to sergeant, Sheriff's Office, 07/13/05

Angela Dillen, to office assistant II, Cross Connections Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 07/23/05

Greg Knauf, to sewage treatment supervisor I, Commerce WWTP Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 07/23/05

Kirk Miller, to engineering tech, Walled Lake STP Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 07/23/05

Isaiah Johnson, to STP operator II, Walled Lake-Novi WWTP, Drain Commissioner's Office, 08/06/05

Thomas Parker, to lieutenant, Sheriff's Office, 08/20/05

Nichole L. Gradinscak, to forensic lab specialist II, Sheriff's Office, 09/03/05

Charles Piotrowski Jr., to program supervisor, Children's Village, 09/03/2005

Lawrence B. Clark, to sergeant, Sheriff's Office, 10/15/05

## marriages

Rafiah Purches, Health Division, married Terrance Meekins, 07/09/05

Lisa Schmidt, Internal Services, Information Technology, married Brian Oppmann, 08/06/05

Cindy Morales, Case Management, married Jeff, 08/28/05

Kathy Gaberty, Human Resources/Retirement, married Charles Sanders, 5/9/05

Tracey L. Steed, Facilities Management/Custodial, married Mike Kelly, 7/28/05

## retirements

Jerry Perna, Facilities Management/FM&O Maintenance, 06/14/05

Doug Raupp, Pump Maintenance, Drain Commissioner's Office, retired after 20 years of service, 06/30/05

Harvey Carr, Sewer Drain Maintenance, Drain Commissioner's Office, retired after 20 years of service, 06/30/05

Bernadette Belville, Health Division Laboratory, 09/09/05

## kudos

Barbara Donahue, Health Division, received a Leadership Award from the Health Department Nurse Administrators Forum

Sue Martinez, Health Division, won the Oakland County Parks Walk Michigan, Walk Oakland contest. She received a free trip to Mackinac Island to participate in the Labor Day Bridge Walk

Carmelo Moyet, Jr., Facilities Engineering, graduated from Wayne State University in May 2005 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

Jackie Goss, account clerk II, Customer Service, Drain Commissioner's Office, graduated from Baker College in June 2005 with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration

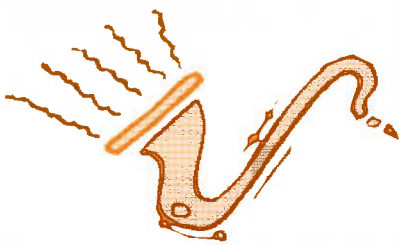
Art Holdsworth, deputy director of the Oakland County Department of

Management & Budget, has been elected to a second term as vice-president of the Michigan Association of Governmental Computer Users(MAGCU) at the organizations 25th annual conference

David Schreiber, supervisor of the Business Development Group for Oakland County Planning & Economic Development Services, has received the 2005 Mike Conboy Award from the Michigan Economic Developers Association(MEDA) for outstanding contributions in the area of education.

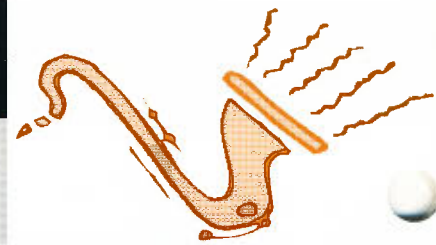
Kelly Karns of the Human Resources department received her Master of Arts degree in Organizational Management from University of Phoenix. She has been employed with Oakland County for 16 years.

Libby Smith, civil/criminal division administrator for the Circuit Court, received her Master's Degree in Business Information Technology from Walsh College, graduating Summa Cum Laude.



# Toot Thy Horn

# HEALTH



## New Stuff

### Health Division Receive Accreditation with Commendation

Oakland County Health Division recently accomplished something that no other local health department in Michigan has ever done...met 100% of the accreditation standards that were evaluated by the Michigan Department of Community Health. To achieve Accreditation with Commendation, a local health department must meet 100% of the Essential Standards and 50% of the Important Standards. The Health Division left nothing to chance and met them all. This represents an extraordinary accomplishment on the part of OCHD staff, and is indicative of the dedication and skill they bring to work with them every day.

### Babies Encourage Moms Through Billboards

Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) has developed a billboard campaign to address African American infant mortality in the City of Pontiac. Five different billboards reinforce infant health messages. The messages relate to smoking, nutrition, safe sleep, illness and Women, Infant and Children (WIC) services. The billboards educate women about their baby's health before and after birth. Educating the community about infant health is extremely important to the prevention of infant deaths. The billboards also feature the OCHD Nurse-on-Call Telephone number, which is an excellent resource for assistance with health questions and identifying community services.

### Automation of Environmental Health Services

E-Health is the Health Division's automated information management system for homeowners, well and septic contractors. This interactive system allows customers to submit online applications for on-site sewage disposal system or well permits. In addition, customers submit electronic sketches of their land, eliminating the need for a hand drawn land sketch. Health Division staff have the ability to review the electronic sketch with GIS technology, which helps determine attributes of the land on computers.

The entire E-Health system improves efficiency, accelerates the permit process, and eliminates the need for customers to have to visit Health Division offices to complete an application process.



*L. Brooks Patterson and Kaylyn Williams*

## Spotlight

- In the past two years, the Health Division has encouraged over 53,500 Oakland County third and fourth graders to increase their physical activity through L. Brooks Patterson's hallmark program, Count Your Steps. Students participating in Count Your Steps receive a pedometer to help them track their daily physical activity.
- The Health Division received a NaCo (National Association of Counties) Award for the implementation of a Mass Flu Immunization Clinic in 2004. Serving as a public health preparedness exercise, the Health Division gave over 5,500 flu shots to county residents in five hours. During the 2004 flu season, the Health Division administered over 54,000 flu shots to Oakland County residents.
- Last year, the Health Division's Public Health Sanitarians completed 14, 429 sanitation inspections at over 4,000 food service establishments.

*Thanks to Jennifer Bouck for the text and photos on this page.*

## Overview

From child car seat safety inspections to immunizations, public health preparedness and West Nile Virus prevention, Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) provides Oakland County residents with the services that help them maintain a safe and healthy lifestyle.

Organized in 1926, Oakland County Health Division is the oldest county health department in the State of Michigan. OCHD Employs about 500 staff and is one of the County's largest divisions. The Health Division operates four facilities- located in Pontiac, Southfield, Walled Lake and at the County's Oakland Pointe office.

Over 24 different Health Division programs protect the community through health promotion, disease prevention and protection of the environment. Duties of the Health Division include:

- Preventing the spread of disease
- Ensuring a safe and clean environment
- Promoting and encouraging healthy behaviors
- Preparing for public health emergencies and assisting community efforts
- Ensuring the quality and accessibility of health services.

OCHD programs benefit every Oakland County resident, as well as countless visitors. For more information, visit [www.co.oakland.mi.us/health](http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/health).

