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Telegraph



Summer '06



Human Services Director Nancy Scarlet offers a warm welcome to the service award recipients, retirees, and guests at the Annual Awards Banquet.

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Employees Honored for Years of Service

On June 9, 2006 the Oakland County Employees' Retirement and Service Awards Banquet was held at the Deer Lake Athletic Club to honor some of Oakland County government's most valued and dedicated employees for their many years of service. This year's banquet honored approximately 80 service award recipients and retirees. The purpose of the annual banquet is to honor those employees and retirees with 20 or more years of service.

The luncheon began with a welcome by emcee and Director of Human Resources Nancy Scarlet. Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson then congratulated all award recipients and, along with Deputy County Executives Ken Rogers and Gerald Poisson, presented service award plaques to those employees who had completed 25 years of service with Oakland County.

Receiving plaques for 25 years of service were:

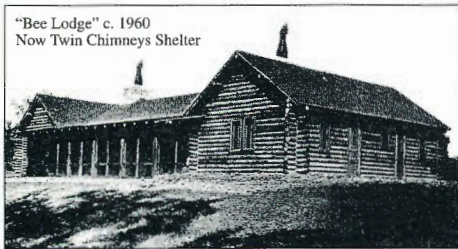
- Kevin Bertram, Information Technology
- Lawrence Clark, Sheriff
- Michael DeSantis, Sheriff
- Lawrence Falardeau, Planning & Economic Development
- Kathleen Ferguson, Support Services
- Laura Gabriel, Animal Control
- Thomas Gibbs, Parks & Recreation
- Robert Jueckstock, Circuit Court
- Hilary Kokenos, Circuit Court
- Terri Meiers, Auditing
- David Muir, Children's Village
- Gail Novak, Emergency Response & Preparedness
- Joanna Overall, Children's Village
- Carole Perry-Burrell, Circuit Court
- Lt. Gordon Pizzini, Sheriff
- Donna Riley, Circuit Court
- Margaret Risinger, Children's Village
- Margaret Schooley, Sheriff
- Donald Smith, Sheriff
- Theodore Wright, Sheriff

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From Whence We Came



Oakland County Parks Started As Historic Homes, Family Farms



"Bee Lodge" c. 1960
Now Twin Chimneys Shelter

The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission started with a vision for preserving open space, according to Dan Stencil, executive officer.

Over time, more than 6,000 acres were acquired from around the county and many parcels had unique previous uses. Addison Oaks County Park was an 1800s farm then a hunt club. Groveland Oaks was a family-operated campground. And Orion Oaks was part of a wealthy family's weekend estate.

"Manley Davis, a county resident, generously gave the county 170 acres of family farmland in Davisburg in 1926. Forty years later a group of individuals decided they wanted to start a county-wide parks system to preserve land for future generations," Stencil

said. "The system's official 'birth date' is April 8, 1966."

Today there are 11 parks and golf courses offering camping, swimming, boating and fishing. The parks system also operates two waterparks, two nature centers, the state's only refrigerated toboggan run - The Fridge - and a community mobile recreation fleet.

Additionally, the system provides summer day camps, a wheelchair basketball team for youth, senior athletics, special events and more in its year-round programming.

Last year, the parks system also reached another milestone. It recorded its highest attendance of 1.6 million visitors.

Addison Oaks County Park - Leonard

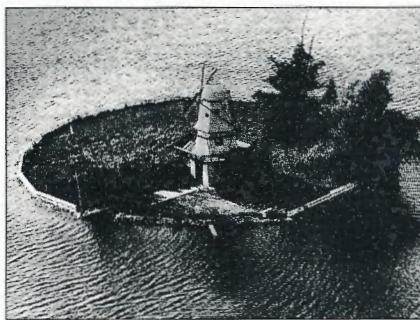
This park was formerly a family farm, summer home for wealthy Detroiters and a gun club/game preserve prior to its 1969 purchase. Historic features include a 1927 conference center and a restored milkhouse.

Glen Oaks Golf Course - Farmington Hills

Glen Oaks features a 1925 Tudor-English stone clubhouse named on the Michigan Historical Registry. Glen Oaks, originally a subdivisions course, was purchased in 1978.

Groveland Oaks County Park - Holly

In 1968 Oakland County Parks purchased the property, called Paradise Campground, from the Matthews family. It featured Honeymoon Island accessible only by rowboat.



Paradise Campground c. 1968
Now Groveland Oaks County Park

Independence Oaks County Park - Clarkston

Opened in 1976, the park is listed in the Michigan Natural Features Inventory for having one of the highest quality wetland habitats in Oakland County. Twin Chimneys Picnic Pavilion was formerly the Bee Memorial Lodge when the park was an exclusive hunt club.

Lyon Oaks County Park and Golf Course - Lyon Township

Lyon Oaks opened to the public in April, 2002. This is the first park and golf combination within the parks system. Some of its acreage is former agricultural fields.

Orion Oaks County Park - Orion Township

This park was once part of the wealthy Scripps Newspaper family Estate. Later it was owned by the Chrysler Corporation before the parks system purchased it in 1980.

Red Oaks Golf Course and Waterpark - Madison Heights

The golf course opened in 1978 and the waterpark in 1986. Both were built on top of the Red Run Drain. In 2001 the course was demolished/reconstructed for the George W. Kuhn Drain Project.

Rose Oaks County Park - Rose Township

Rose Oaks, purchased in 1993, includes meadows, wetlands and small glacial lakes.

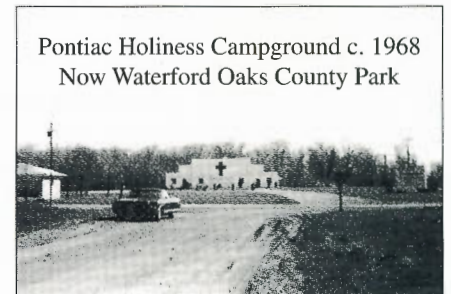
Springfield Oaks Activity Center and Golf Course - Davisburg

Last year the historic 1883 Ellis Barn was moved from Dixie Highway to the park. The 1872 James Harvey Davis House on the golf course is on the Michigan Historical Commission's State Register of Historic sites.

Waterford Oaks County Park and Waterpark - Waterford

Waterford Oaks was once the site of the Evangelical Mission Church and Pontiac Holiness Campground. Oakland County Parks acquired the property in 1968.

Pontiac Holiness Campground c. 1968
Now Waterford Oaks County Park



White Lake Oaks Golf Course- White Lake Township

In 1971 the golf course was purchased and expanded to 18 holes.

For more information on the Oakland County Parks, visit www.oakgov.com/parksrec or call 888-OCPARKS.

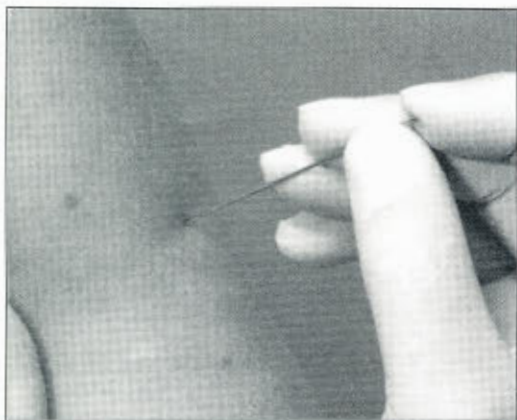
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Prepare at Home for a Pandemic or other Public Health Emergency



The best way to prevent a pandemic from affecting your family is by taking the necessary precautions.

- Bottled water (recommended 1 gallon per person/pet per day)
- Ready-to-eat canned meat, fruits, vegetables and soups
- Peanut butter or nuts
- Personal medications (three month supply)
- First aid kit
- Non-mercury thermometer
- Emergency tools including battery-operated radio, flashlight and extra batteries
- Sanitation supplies such as toilet paper, disposable diapers, garbage bags and soap

Personal hygiene is still the best method to prevent illness. The following are tips to keep in mind:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing, try to use a tissue
- Dispose of dirty tissues promptly and carefully
- Avoid sharing cups and glasses
- Be a good example to others
- Stay home when sick to prevent further spreading of the illness

Everyday operations and functions may shut down during a pandemic. Going to a grocery store to get more food may not be an option. The transportation industry may be unable to deliver groceries to the shelves if the suppliers don't have enough people to work due to illness. When you fill a prescription ask for a three month supply. In the event of a pandemic, pharmacies may be overwhelmed with vaccinations and unable to fill everyday prescriptions. Record important medical and family history for all family members and have it handy. If a vaccine or medication needs to be distributed, important medical and family history information will be requested.

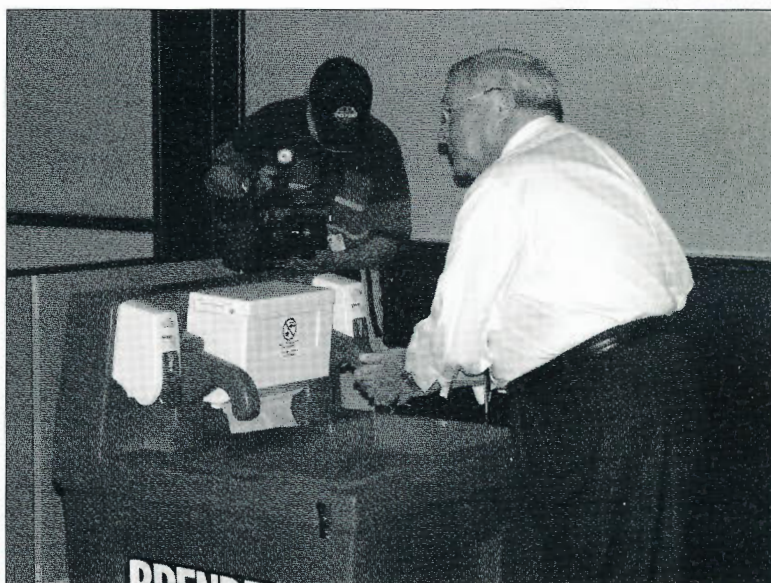
For more information and additional resources and checklists, please visit the Oakland County Health Division website at www.oakgov.com/health.

Written by Sara Wade

Public Health Educator, Oakland County Health Division

Gathering information and resources for family members is vital to prepare your home in the event of a public health emergency or pandemic. A pandemic is an epidemic occurring worldwide or over a very wide area, crossing international boundaries, and usually affecting large numbers of people. In the 20th Century there have been three such pandemics. Experts believe the world could experience another pandemic soon. It's not if we have another pandemic but when. Exactly when and what type is unknown. Being prepared is one the best prevention techniques. In the event of a pandemic or other public health emergency, people need the piece of mind that their families are safe.

It is recommended each home should have at least a three day supply of food and water for each family member. Below are some examples of items to have on hand for an extended stay at home:



Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson sets a good example of personal hygiene by washing his hands.

Losing Weight to Gain a Life

Even in high school, Steve Stanford stood out as a big kid among his peers. Back in those days he tipped the scales at 300 pounds, but that was only the beginning of a lifelong struggle with weight.



Steve before the surgery

About three or four years ago, Steve, who is a project planner in Facilities Management, weighed in at a life threatening 430 pounds.

Throughout his life, Steve had tried every diet known to man, sometimes losing 30 to 40 pounds before gaining it all back and then some.

Finally, when nothing seemed to work and the medications he was taking for high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes were no longer effective, Steve decided drastic action had to be taken.

So on May 1, 2004 he underwent a form of bariatric surgery called Roux-en-Y gastric bypass (RGB). The procedure involves making a small stomach pouch to restrict food intake. Next a "Y" shaped section of the small intestine is attached to the pouch to allow food to bypass the lower stomach. The bypass reduces the amount of calories and nutrients that can be absorbed.

The surgery took about an hour and a half to perform. Steve was in the hospital for 3 days and off work for 3 months. During his time at home, Steve lost 75 pounds and another 100 pounds over the next 9 months. After that the weight loss was less dramatic, but he still dropped another 25 pounds during the following year.

Steve attributes his weight gain to "stress eating," using food to ease tension. Now he can eat just about anything he wants, in moderation, but he steers clear of fatty foods and products with a

Following the 25 year presentations, department directors and managers presented service award certificates to their respective employees and recent retirees with 20, 30, or 35 years of service. Of note was Ralph Richard, Executive Officer - Parks & Recreation, who retired February 26, 2006.

Recognition for employees who have completed 10 and 15 years of service is given throughout the year on the employee's anniversary date by department/division management. Congratulations to all employees receiving service awards this year!

Continued from p. 1



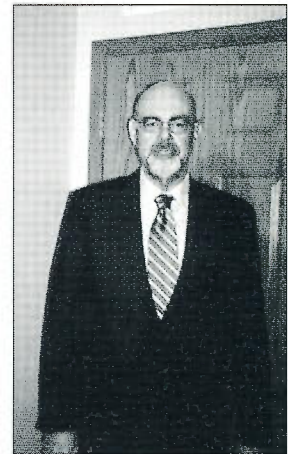
Kelly Fitzpatrick and Sandra Hill are the event planners.

high sugar content.

One important thing Steve would like to emphasize to others who have a weight problem is that many times good health can be achieved with moderate weight loss. For example, Steve found that his blood pressure and sugar readings returned to normal after losing just 50 pounds. He no longer takes any medications.

Today at a trim 220 pounds, Steve walks 30 to 60 minutes everyday and swims an average of 3 times per week.

"There is life after being fat," Steve said. "It's a different life for sure, but it's a better life."



Steve after the surgery

Heart Beats and Feet - What is it all about...

Chrysler Arts Beats and Eats has teamed up with Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson and his "Count Your Steps" pedometer walking program to combat childhood obesity for the 3rd Annual Heart Beats and Feet family charity walk, Monday, September 4th.

The 5k (3.2 miles) walk starts in front of the Oakland County Courthouse. The walk will wind from Telegraph Road to Elizabeth Lake Road and finish in downtown Pontiac at Arts Beats and Eats. Come and walk with your friends and family. In addition to promoting physical fitness and raising awareness for good exercise, walk participants will make themselves and their favorite charity a little healthier.



Oakland County employees gather to participate in a fitness walk.

For more information contact Jordie Kramer @ kramerj@co.oakland.mi.us



Employee's Son Earns Statewide Recognition

Karla Richey, associate planner in Planning and Economic Development Services, is a proud mom these days. And why shouldn't she be? Out of more than 60,000 students participating and 900 across the state invited to compete in the three-day Michigan Youth Arts Festival (MYAF) at Western Michigan University, Karla's 16-year old son, Austin, placed among the top 18 in the visual arts category with his digital photograph which accompanies this article.

The last time Austin was featured in the Telegraph he was just five years old. At that time he had just starred in a national television commercial for Chevy Trucks.

Now Austin is apparently focusing his creative talents in a whole new direction.



"Take Your Child to Work Day"

"Take Your Child to Work Day," April 27th, gave parents the opportunity to show their sons and daughters not only where they work but also what they do at work.

About 40 children whose parents work for the Clerks/Register of Deeds office got to try out the County's new voting machines. They also got to hang out with "Kelo," one of the Sheriff's drug dogs and watch the Board of Commissioners in action.

"Our employees give so much of themselves to their jobs and the people of Oakland County," said Clerk/Register Ruth Johnson. "It was great that the kids were able to see firsthand what an important role their parents play in making county government work so efficiently."

The children also toured the Treasurer's office, explored Sheriff's command vehicles and participated in a patriotic art contest.

At the end of the day, they received a goodie bag full of items from various county departments along with aerial maps of their homes.





Kerry Kampsen

Kerry Kampsen, office assistant II in Record Retention, has a goal of visiting every Big Ten football stadium in the country. He's got a long road ahead of him. An avid University of Michigan fan, Kerry so far has only visited the Big House in Ann Arbor on football Saturday's.

In Record Retention, Kerry is responsible for handling all records from every department that come into the Annex II building. He's been with the county for five years. His previous job was as a service technician for a properties management firm.

"I really enjoy interacting with the various departments and learning about what they do," Kerry said.

Kerry says the award caught him totally off guard because he was told he was coming over to the Executive Office Building to talk with the directors about high density shelving.

In addition to being a rabid college football fan, Kerry has just begun trying his talents at woodworking.

"Kerry has been an instrumental part in the installation of the new records database," said Todd Birkle, manager of Support Services.

Kerry and his wife, Kim, who just recently celebrated their 26th anniversary, live in Royal Oak. They have a 24 year old son, Jeff, who graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in mechanical engineering.



EMPL
of the



Lori Motyka

Lori Motyka began her career at Oakland County in 1996 handling recruitment and classifications in Human Resources. She was so adept at her job that she was promoted to supervisor of Recruitment three years ago. In that role, Lori oversees the application process, position selection for transfers, testing, certification, employment physicals and other duties.

Prior to her promotion as supervisor, Lori was a worker's compensation analyst for HR.

"Helping people find employment and problem solving are two of the best things about what I do," said Lori. "That and working with a great bunch of people."

Away from the office, Lori spends much of her time studying for her Masters Degree in leadership through Central Michigan University.

"Lori handles her many roles in HR with skill and understanding," said Cathy Shallal, manager of Human Resources General Division. "I am very lucky to have a supervisor like Lori to work with."

Lori lives in Lake Orion with her two teenage daughters.



Margaret Risinger

For a quarter of a century Margaret Risinger has really been dishing it out – food that is – at Oakland County.

As supervisor of food services at Children's Village, Margaret orders the food, prepares it and then serves it up to the residents.

"I was really shocked to win this award since I already received it once before," said Margaret.

Margaret started in food service at the Medical Care Facility before transferring over to Children's Village.

Margaret, who says the best part of her job is working with the residents, enjoys quilting and bowling in her off time. Bowling just once a week, Margaret still manages to hold a respectable 135 average.

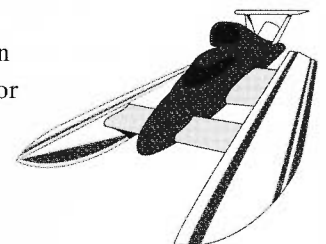
"Margaret is the best kind of employee we can hope for because she is dedicated to her work," said Jody Overall, manager of Children's Village. "Margaret is a hands-on supervisor who works tirelessly with her staff to provide excellent meals on a daily basis."

Margaret has a 28 year old son who works as a landscaper and she lives in Waterford.

Quake on the Lake

Over 70 inboard hydroplane racers will compete on Pontiac Lake at the 7th annual Quake on the Lake on July 22nd and 23rd, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at the Pontiac Lake State Recreation Area. Admission is \$5 for adults. Children 8 years and younger are admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

Proceeds benefit the Rainbow Connection, a 501(c)(3) charity, which grants wishes to children with terminal illnesses. For more information see www.QuakeOnTheLake.org.





For 30 years, Steve Stanford, project planner for Facilities Management has been a key player when it comes to expanding and improving the Oakland County campus.

Steve, who started his career at Oakland County as a student engineer, is the point man on the new Executive Office Building which is going through an extensive renovation in preparation for its grand opening later this year.

"I love working with the various departments, assessing and meeting their needs to the best of my ability and within budget," Steve said.

As a project planner, Steve works as the liaison between the County and the contractor on the job and involves himself in every phase of the construction project.

"Steve's contributions to the work of Facilities Engineering are exemplary," said Paul Hunter, manager of the division. "He manages projects through a great work ethic, delivering thorough, thoughtful administration of every detail, all of which is under laid by a delightful sense of humor."

In terms of being selected as Employee of the Month, Steve says any employee who values what he does hopes to one day to be recognized for his efforts.

Away from work, Steve is actively involved in his church. He's also discovered eBay which he uses extensively to sell household items which have accumulated over the years. Once, he even sold a car.

Steve and his wife, Becky, who live in Hartland, have four children ranging in ages from 18 to 25.



Steve Stanford



Karen Deaver - Lear

In August, Karen Deaver-Lear will celebrate twelve years with Oakland County, the first four of which were split between the Register of Deeds office and Equalization.

However, since 1998 Karen has been a mainstay of the Planning and Economic Development Division, where she started as a portfolio coordinator within the Financial Services group which administers the Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 Loan Program.

For the past six years, Karen has worked as a loan closer, putting the final touches on 94 loans for a total project amount of \$134 million.

"Working with our clients is one of the things I like most about what I do," Karen said. "I'm happy to be a part of helping them finance their business needs."

In her spare time, Karen enjoys a variety of things including shopping, gardening, crafts, bowling and golf.

"Karen is very detail oriented which is a quality that is critical to the loan closing process," said Mary Langhauser, supervisor of Financial Services. "The constant attention to the finer points of the closing and documentation process are what make Karen such a valuable employee."

Karen and her husband, Dave, who live in West Bloomfield, have a daughter, Sarah. They are also the proud owners of a dog named Penny and a cat called Lucy.

COUNT YOUR STEPS

Count Your "Steppers" Log Nearly 3 Billion Steps

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson's "Count Your Steps" pedometer walking program to fight childhood obesity wrapped up another great year in 2006 with more than 21,000 third and fourth graders across Oakland County walking a total of 2.67 billion steps.

"Count Your Steps was another huge success this year thanks to the efforts of parents, students, teachers, principals and superintendents," Mr. Patterson said. "Everyone involved has taken the program to heart. Hopefully it will provide children with a lifelong incentive to exercise on a regular basis and eat properly."

The Walled Lake School District earned first place honors with 275,355,247 total steps, followed by second place Rochester School District with 273,259,413 total steps and third place Troy School District with 250,591,218 steps.

Major sponsors for the program this year were General Motors, POH Medical Center, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan and Detroit Shock. Contributing sponsors were Rock Financial, TV-20 in Detroit, Henry Ford Health Systems, HAP, Oakland Schools and Oakland County Parks.

BENEFITS

Q & A

Q I need help with managing my personal health (managing a chronic condition such as diabetes, asthma, heart disease or other) to improve my quality of life. Where can I go for help?

A If you have a Blue Cross Blue Shield Health and/or Vision Coverage, you can go to their on-line health center to have many questions answered. Go to www.bcbsm.com, click on "I am a Member" and in the right column click on "BlueHealthConnection". HAP members can go to www.hap.org and click on the Healthy Living tab and click on "HAP's Health Track".

Q I need some answers to questions I have on treatment options for my personal health condition. Will these websites help me make informed decisions?

A Yes. BlueHealthConnection (BCBS) and iStrive for Better Health (HAP) are nationally recognized health management programs with a team of registered nurse "health coaches" to work with you to help you live with illness, get better and stay healthy.

Q I would like to get some literature on medications that I take and learn how to use them properly. Where do I get this information?

A On the BCBS website, click on "Medication Guides and Brochures". On HAP click on the Healthy Living tab then "Prescriptions and Medications".

Q I don't have internet service. Do they have a phone number I can use?

A Yes. Call BCBS 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-800-775-BLUE (2583). Contact HAP from 7:00am to 7:00pm at 1-800-422-4641.

PERSON TO PERSON

L. Brooks Patterson



Oakland County cares about its employees. It is important that we continually strive to make improvements to insure the County remains a great place to work. This year, I have allocated resources to develop a wellness program. This program will provide all employees with an opportunity to participate in health education and promotion activities, learn about health risk factors and ways to decrease health risk factors in an effort to maintain or improve the status of their current and long term health. The program will assist employees and family members with making voluntary behavior choices to improve their health and enhance their quality of life.

It is no secret that the County has been struggling to control the cost of health care for its active employees and retirees for the past several years. This struggle is not

unique to Oakland County as most employers, especially in Michigan, have identified health care costs as one of their primary financial challenges in the near future. Those of you that have been around for a while, know that Oakland County has implemented several proactive changes over time (primarily for new hires) in an attempt to preserve, as much as possible, the benefit package in place at the time of hire. It is our hope that by adding a WELLNESS program and encouraging employees to maintain their health (as much as possible) over a lifetime we can reduce the need to use the health care system, reduce the risk factors that contribute to long term illnesses (e.g., excess weight, smoking, lack of exercise) thus reducing costs and assisting Oakland County with its ongoing effort to preserve the benefit package as much as possible and favorably impact the quality of life of our workforce.

In 2005 health care costs for active and retirees reached just over 48 million dollars. In addition to this amount, our obligation to pre-fund future retiree health care costs (i.e., health care costs projected to be incurred for active employees and current retirees in the future) rose from 37.5 million in 2006 to 54.8 million in 2007 (46% increase in just one year). The good news is that we have been meeting our financial obligations to pre-fund our retiree health care program to the extent recommended by our actuary and at the same time managing to minimize the impact on our workforce (e.g., layoffs) and maintain the level of services provided to the citizens of Oakland County.

Many of the services required to support a successful WELLNESS initiative currently exist at Oakland County. For example, we are fortunate to have an excellent Health and Human Services Department with a wealth of health-related information, a beautifully maintained Parks system, an Information Technology Department to assist with communication and dissemination of health related information, to name a few. The WELLNESS program will attempt to harness the existing information and resources under one umbrella and relay it to employees in a way that is motivating and meaningful.

A naysayer will look at this program and think, "...if it is good for the County, then I don't want to participate in it." An optimist, big picture thinker, will see value in the fact that if it is good for the County AND good for my health (and potentially the health of my family), then perhaps we are on to something.

Employees who have participated in a WELLNESS program with other employers have reported both tangible and intangible benefits. Benefits for employees include reduced out of pocket health care costs, reduced time off for illness, reduced injuries, improved productivity both on and off the job, improved morale and increased happiness.

Oakland County is making a long term commitment to the health and well-being of its employees through a WELLNESS program. I am hopeful that you will see the value in this program and choose to participate to help make this program a shared success.

During the next several months, events will take place to build employee awareness about the program and engage employees in this cultural and exciting transition. Activities will include: Logo and name contest (currently underway -- deadline: July 14th), request for employees to complete a confidential survey to assist in determining the types of programs to offer, establishment of a website to promote existing resources, employee health fair in September. We will keep you apprised of activities as they develop and welcome your feedback along the way. Comments should be directed to Dawn Smith at 858-5473 or smithd@co.oakland.mi.us.











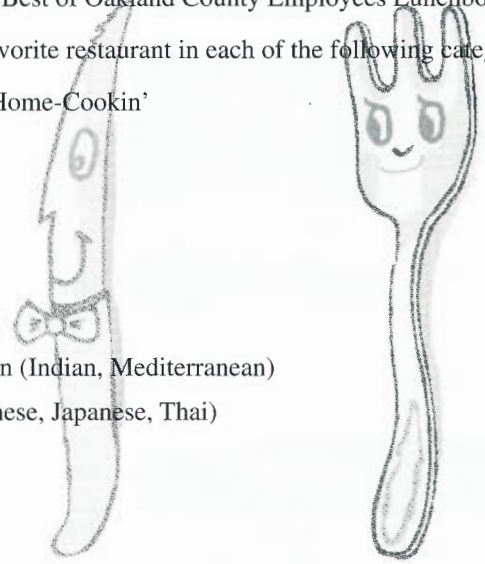
These reviews are neither an endorsement of any particular restaurant, nor an endorsement of one restaurant over another. They are informational only. The Telegraph would be happy to receive the names of other restaurants for possible review. The County is not responsible for the quality of food or service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

Best of Oakland County Employees Lunchbox

We all have our favorite hot spot for lunch, but which is the best? Let's vote for our first ever Best of Oakland County Employees Lunchbox.

Please submit your favorite restaurant in each of the following categories:

-  American or Home-Cookin'
-  Deli
-  Dessert
-  Fast Food
-  Italian
-  Mexican
-  Middle Eastern (Indian, Mediterranean)
-  Oriental (Chinese, Japanese, Thai)
-  Pizza
-  Seafood
-  Steakhouse



Fax your entry to Pam at 248-858-5111 or email to tremblep@co.oakland.mi.us.

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

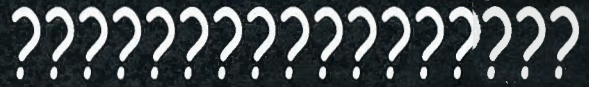
Visit the Farmers Market



The Oakland County Farmers Market, located in the County Market building at 2350 Pontiac Lake

Road in Waterford, is open every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Visit the website at www.oakgov.com/cmarket for market information and download a produce availability guide indicating peak harvest times of Michigan agricultural products.



This issues puzzle:

After a local Post Office burglary, four suspects were being interviewed. Below is a summary of their statements. Police know that each of them told the truth in one of the statements and lied in the other. From this information can you tell who committed the crime?

Alan said:

- It wasn't Derek
- It wasn't Brian

Brian said:

- It wasn't Charles
- It was Derek

Charles said:

- It was Alan
- It wasn't Derek

Derek said:

- It was Charles
- It wasn't Alan

To answer, call Mike Zack at (248) 858-0457, or email at 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

marriages

Dianna Gardner, Engineering Support Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, married Jon Stoddard on February 18, 2006.

Roxanne Strom, Health Division, married Mike Condit on December 3, 2005 in Las Vegas, NV

Kelly Karns, Human Resources, married Zishan Siddiqui on 4/27/06



retirements

Keith Attar, Supervisor, Inspection Services, Drain Commissioner's Office, retired after 38 years of service, on 6/9/06

Christopher Wrosch, STP Operator II, Walled Lake/Novi STP, Drain Commissioner's Office, retired after 18 years of service, on 5/31/06

Walter "Fred" Millard, Maintenance Supervisor II, Facilities Management / FM&O / Maintenance retired after 38 years 9 months of service on 5/30/06



fond farewells

Zachary Semke, Maintenance Laborer - Drain, GWK Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 6/2/06

Lisa Gould, intern in Case Management, graduated from Oakland University with a degree in sociology and minor in psychology and moved on to new opportunities on 5/6/06



new hires

Michael Holsworth, maintenance laborer, Water Maintenance Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 03/13/06

Julie Gianfermi, GIS/CAD tech I, GIS/IT Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 3/15/06

Dawn Maich, GIS/CAD tech I, GIS/IT Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 3/15/06

Nicholas Oliver, maintenance laborer - Drain, Cross Connection Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 03/27/06

John Kenney, sewage treatment supervisor II, Walled Lake WWTP, 4/17/06

Paul Gibbs, maintenance laborer - Drain, Sewer/Drain Maint. Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 5/8/06

Ronn Wilson, auto mechanic, Vehicle Operations, 4/28/06

Andrea Esu was hired into the Health Division's Personal & Preventive Health Unit

Donna King was hired into the Health Division's Personal & Preventive Health Unit

Karen Malmstom was hired into the Health Division's Personal & Preventive Health Unit

Felicia Mott was hired into the Health Division's Personal & Preventive Health Unit

Nejla Atiyeh was hired into the Health Division's Central Support Unit

Calvin May was hired into the Health Division's Central Support Unit

Latoya Patterson was hired into the Health Division's Central Support Unit

Meghan Pell was hired into the Health Division's Central Support Unit

Eric Reed was hired into the Health Division's Central Support Unit

Diamond Walker was hired into the Health Division's Central Support Unit

Lindsey Terry was hired into the Health Division's Health Education unit

Lucy VandePutte was hired into the Health Division's Health Education unit

Sara Wade was hired into the Health Division's Health Education unit

Kathy Baker was hired into the Health Division's Environmental Health Services unit

Teresa Bennett was hired into the Health Division's Environmental Health Services unit

Andrew Cox was hired into the Health Division's Environmental Health Services unit

Joe Ellsworth was hired into the Health Division's Environmental Health Services unit

Kathleen Muzia was hired into the Health Division's Environmental Health Services unit

Kerin Reed was hired into the Health Division's Environmental Health Services unit

Rob Bridson was hired into the Health Division's Office of Substance Abuse

Helen Collias was hired into the Health Division's Office of Substance Abuse

Pam LaFoy was hired into the Health Division's Lab

Marlene Violossi was hired into the Health Division's HIV/AIDS unit

Jack Fuson was hired 5/30/06 as a general

maintenance mechanic in Facilities Management / FM&O / Maintenance

Donald Marshall was hired 5/22/06 as a general maintenance mechanic in Facilities Management / FM&O / Maintenance

Lisa Reyna was hired 5/22/06 as a general helper in the custodial unit of Facilities Management / FM&O / Custodial

Lindsey Barriager was hired 5/15/06 as a general helper in the custodial unit of Facilities Management / FM&O / Custodial

Courtney Aldo was hired as an intern in Case Management on 6/7/06

Margaret Berry was hired as an intern in Case Management on 4/25/06

Kamrull (Hasan) Chowdhury was hired as a senior system analyst, Information Technology / eGovernment Division on 3/31/2006

Laura Kelly, student position in Case Management on 5/22/06

Brenda Beiter was hired as a court clerk for Judge Nichols

Julie Law was hired as a court clerk for Judge Schnelz

Rose Cisch was hired as a court clerk for Judge Sosnick

Aulesha Harris was hired as a court clinical psychologist

births

Angelina Sharon (court appointment specialist in the Court Administrator's Office), and husband, Rob -- Twin boys born April 2, 2006 -- Landon Robert and Cameron John

Julie Adams (judicial staff attorney for Judge James Alexander) and husband, Scott -- a daughter born April 14, 2006 -- Katherine Taylor

Kris and Tony Drautz, Health Division, are proud parents of Luke Anthony Drautz, born on September 20, 2005. Luke weighed 7 lbs., 4 oz. and was 19 1/2 inches long.

Kim Reuter, Health Division, and her husband, Tim, are proud parents of Hannah Marie. Hannah was born on September 20th and weighed 8 lbs., 3ozs.

Jessie Block, Health Division, gave birth to a baby boy, Owen Ellis, on November 9, 2005. Owen weighed 8 lbs., 12 oz. and was 21 1/2 inches long.

Jaime Baum, Health Division, gave birth to a baby boy, Ryan, on December 26, 2005. Ryan was 5 lbs., 3 oz. and was 18 1/2 inches long.

Mike Marsac, Facilities Management / FM&O / Custodial, and his wife, Suzanne, welcomed new daughter Olivia May, 8lbs, 7oz, 20 inches long on 5/23/06

celebrations life events

Ed Joss, Facilities Management / Technical Support, and his wife, Cassandra, welcomed new daughter Isabella Lynn, 6 lbs, 12 oz. 19.5 inches long on 6/2/06

Natalie Gasioroski, Health Division, gave birth to son, Joshua Kyle on 4/5/06. he weighed 7 lbs, 4 oz. and was 20 inches long.

Phil Reppuhn, Information Technology / Tech Systems & Networking, and his wife Rebecca welcomed new son Zachary Chase on 2/16/06

Kumar Subbian, Information Technology / Application Services, and his wife, Anu, welcome new daughter Varsha Anu on 4/16/06

Jamie Munro, Information Technology / Application Services, and his wife, Lynn, welcomed new son James Joshua on 5/1/06

Jerry Cadreau, Information Technology / Application Services, and his wife, Laura, welcomed new son Gavin Joseph on 5/3/06

Lisa Oppmann, Information Technology / Internal Services, and her husband, Brian, welcomed new son Patrick Robert on 5/8/06

Dawn Milmine, Human Resources, and her husband, Chris, welcomed new daughter Hailee Jade, 6 lbs. 13oz. on 3/13/06

promotions

Pat Flood was promoted to Lake Level Technician, Sewer/Drain Maint. Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 4/29/06

Jennifer Angle promoted to Equalization Appraiser II – 03/18/2006

Tiffany Jacob promoted to Equalization Appraiser II – 02/04/2006

Amanda Marshall promoted to Equalization Appraiser II – 05/14/2006

Barbara Schroeder promoted to Equalization Clerk - 05/14/2006

Misti Sheffield transferred to from GIS/CAD Technician II to Equalization Appraiser II – 4/15/2006

Andrea Waggoner promoted to Equalization Clerk – 05/14/2006

Elizabeth Osterkamp promoted to Equalization Appraiser Trainee – 1/21/2006

Sharlene Watson was appointed to Engineering Aide, full time, GIS Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office on 5/15/06

Joseph Carley to Construction Inspector II, Inspection Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 5/13/06

Betty Tuzinowski, Health Division, was promoted to a Public Health Nurse Supervisor.

Marva Cross Health Division, was promoted to Public Health Nurse III

Rebecca Leach Health Division, was promoted to Public Health Nurse III

Lisa Drouillard Health Division, was promoted to Public Health Nurse III

Dan Kelly was promoted to Maintenance Supervisor I in Facilities Management / FM&O / Maintenance on 5/27/06

Erin Lapkewyck was promoted to office assistant II in Case Management in April 2006

David Deaver, Sheriffs Office was promoted to Deputy II on May 13, 2006

Jacqueline Grazes, Sheriffs Office was promoted to Deputy II on May 13, 2006

Todd Vanderver, Sheriffs Office was promoted to Sergeant on 5/13/06

Tammy Ayer-Belian, Sheriff's Office, was promoted to Shift Leader on 6/10/06

Jaime A. Woolley, Sheriff's Office, was promoted to Shift Leader on 6/10/06

Sean Jennings, Sheriff's Office was promoted to Sergeant on 6/24/06

kudos

Michael Fury, Equalization Division, passed the State Certification Level I

James Licari, Equalization Division, passed the State Certification Level II

Shannon Moore, Equalization Division, passed the State Certification Level II

Laurie Phillips, Equalization Division, passed the State Certification Level II

Betty Tuzinowski, Health Division, received her Master of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Phoenix in September 2005.

Sandy Kosik, Chief, Health Division Office of Substance Abuse Services, received "Honoree of the Year" for the 6th Judicial Circuit Juvenile & Adult Drug Treatment Courts, part of the Michigan Association of Drug Court Professionals, for her dedication and support of the Drug Courts Program.

Mary Hahnefeld, Health Division, received her Certificate of Achievement for 30 years of service with Oakland County.

LaToya Patterson, Health Division, recently participated in the Detroit Pistons & Rock Financial "Know Your Local Black History Tour". LaToya won the three-minute oral competition. She received a \$1,000 college scholarship.

Diana Calvin, Division Manager, Public Services / Veteran's Services has been re-elected vice president of the Michigan Association of County Veteran Counselors

Belinda Shelton Duggan, Supervisor, Public Services / Veteran's Services has been elected trustee for the Michigan Association of County Counselors.

Lynda Crowell, Public Services / Veterans Services earned her Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Baker Center for Graduate Studies in December 2005.

Jason Warner, student engineer, Facilities Management / Technical Support received his Associates Degree in Applied Science – Computer Aided Engineering from Oakland Community College in May 2006

Taji Johnson, Case Management, graduated from Oakland University on 5/6/06

Oakland County Health and Human Services/ Health Division received a certificate of appreciation from the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) for achieving an 11% increase in county immunization rates in Michigan Childhood Immunization Registry (MCIR) for children 19 to 35 months from April 2005 to April 2006

Judge Nanci Grant, Oakland County Circuit Court has been honored by Wayne State

University with the "Headliner Award," as a woman who is "making her mark in society" and is recognized by the media for her contributions.

Katie Viokos, Health Division, graduated with a BA in e-Marketing from Walsh College on 5/20/06

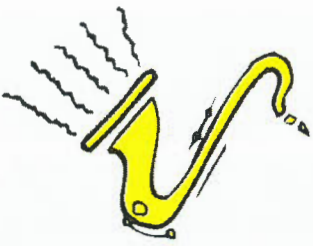
Eric Reed, Health Division, graduated from Southfield Luthrup High School on 6/5/06 and will be attending Central Michigan University in the fall.

Diamond Walker, Health Division, graduated from Southfield Luthrup High School on 6/4/06 and will be attending Eastern Michigan University in the fall.

Cathy Shallal, Human Services and Chuck Williams, eVerge Group Consulting Firm, co-wrote a white paper titled "Effective Implementation of Employee Self Service," which was accepted by the Oracle Peer Review Board as an Oracle Users Best Practice.

April Bradshaw, Human Resources, earned her Masters Degree in Human Resource Management

Sandra Hill, Human Resources, earned her Associates Degree from Oakland Community College



Toot Thy Horn

Oakland County Treasurer's Office



New Stuff

Property Tax Foreclosure Sale

Since 2001, the County Treasurer's Office has held an annual land sale of real property still delinquent for the preceding 25 months. With 500,000 real property parcels county-wide, only 200 to 300 find their way to the land sale annually. The Treasurer's Staff take extraordinary steps and great pride in the fact that no owner occupied homes have been sold as a part of this process.

Access Oakland Tax Services

Virtually any information citizens need in regards to current (from most cities and townships) and county property taxes are available through Access Oakland 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition, payments by credit card are also accepted. This service has saved many tax payers the time and expense it takes to come to the County or their own city or township to obtain property tax information.

Paychecks by Direct Deposit/ Electronic Check

Speaking of being able to pay your property taxes without going to the Treasurer's Office, Why bother to get your paycheck in the mail (sometimes late) and making a trip to your bank every other week? Why not Direct Deposit to your account and, instead of receiving your check deposit notification by mail, receive an electronic copy each Wednesday before payday directly to an email account of your choice. For more information, contact the Payroll Department at 8-0407.

Did You Know?

- ★ THAT the dedicated men and women of the Treasurer's Office have received International recognition for their Cash Handling, Investment Practices, and Debt Management Programs from the Association of Public Treasurers United States and Canada.
- ★ THAT within the last year, Sue Danhausen, Supervisor of Treasurer's Cash Accounting, earned her Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from the University of Phoenix; Marianne Miskin, Office Assistant

received her Degree in Communication from Oakland University; Lisa Johnson, Supervisor of Treasurer's Special Accounting, received her Associates Degree in Accounting from Oakland Community College; Natalie Neph, Investment Administrator, received her Associates Degree in Business Administration from Baker College; Candace Smith, 1000 hour employee, received her Associates Degree in Nursing from Oakland Community College; Diane Roark Supervisor of Personal Property Collections received her Associates

Degree in Business Administration from Davenport University and finally, County Treasurer Pat Dohany was recognized as Oakland Community College's Outstanding Alumni for 2005.

- ★ THAT each year many of the Treasurer's Office Team give their free time and talent to participate in a wide range of community service activities.
- ★ THAT one of our own moonlights is a dancer for the Detroit Pistons.

Overview

Virtually all of the functions and services of the Treasurer's Office are State mandated or are authorized by the Board of Commissioners. Along with some other duties, the two main functions of the County Treasurer's Office are to act as custodian of all of the county's money and to collect delinquent property taxes.

As the custodian of all county funds, the county receives money from several sources. The principal source of revenue is from property taxes. Other income is received from state and federal grants, interest income, and various services and license fees. Many county departments, such as the County Clerk, Parks and Recreation Commission, and Drain Commissioner collect money in the course of their business. This money is periodically deposited with the Treasurer's Office, which is in a sense, the county's bank. Besides revenue items, the Treasurer is responsible for large amounts of money in various trust and agency funds.

The Treasurer maintains well over 1.5 billion dollars in daily cash and investment balances.

While the funds are in the Treasurer's custody, the Treasurer seeks to maximize interest earnings through a process of short-term investments. The safe return of all county funds is of the utmost concern. In order to gain the maximum earnings, the Treasurer seeks the best combination of investment securities, interest rates and investment maturities. The length of an investment's maturity is partially determined by planned disbursements. Through prudent investment management the county's short-term portfolio has consistency exceeded its investment benchmark.

The disbursement of all county money, such as payroll and payments to vendors, are made by the County Treasurer as approved by the County Executive.

As the collector of delinquent taxes, the County Treasurer administers a system of property tax collections. The City, Village and Township (CVT) Treasurers send out the original tax bills for both real and personal property taxes. At the local unit level, CVT Treasurers collect the current taxes. The proceeds of their collections are forwarded to the County Treasurer's Office where an accounting is made. At the end of the collection period, March 1st, the local units return, as delinquent, any unpaid county, school, state, and local taxes. From this point, the delinquent real property tax collections are the responsibility of the County Treasurer. At the time of their delinquent settlement, the county prepays, or buys, the real property tax delinquent receivable from all of the counties more than one hundred taxing authorities throughout the county (Cities, Villages, Townships, School Districts, Community Colleges, and the State of Michigan). The prepayment is done by means of a delinquent tax revolving fund; the costs involved are offset by interest and penalties collected from delinquent taxpayers. Real property with taxes still outstanding after the next twenty-five months are sold at a County Treasurer's Land (property) Sale. Oakland County is one of only three counties, in the State of Michigan, that contracts with its local units to further collect on their delinquent personal property taxes (taxes on furniture, fixtures, and equipment of businesses).