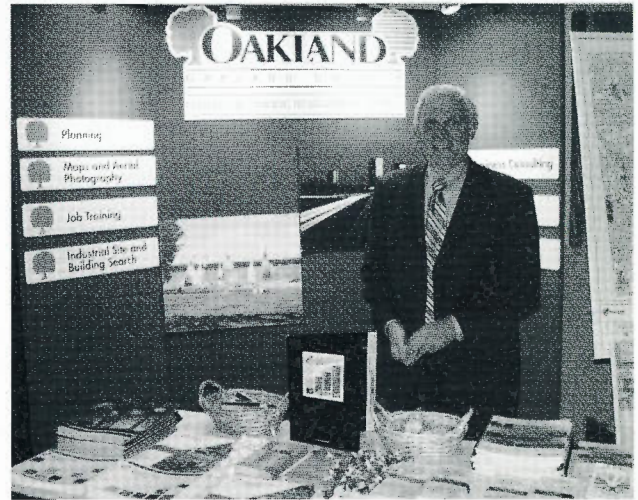


Telegraph



Dan Hunter, Planning & Economic Development, shows off some of the County's promotional material available from his department.

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Toot Thy Horn

Patterson Lauds the Accomplishments of Oakland County Employees in State of the County Address

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson used a portion of his 55-minute State of the County Address on February 8th to acknowledge the many and significant contributions made by county employees.

"Every year I say it. But every year it bears repeating. The employees who work for Oakland County government are the very best in the world – hands down," Mr. Patterson said in his speech. "They come to work each day with the sole purpose of providing the absolute best possible service they can to the citizens of Oakland County." Then on a large screen behind the County Executive as he spoke was a list of the awards and honors bestowed on county employees and departments during the past year.

Receiving their moment in the spotlight were: Information Technology, 2005 Best Application Serving the Public Award from the Michigan Department of Information Technology and Government Technology Magazine; Oakland County Purchasing Division recipient of the Outstanding Agency Accreditation Award from the National Association of Governmental Purchasing; NACo Awards for six county programs including – Count Your Steps; OakMap; CLEMIS Community Crime Watch; OakSource Enterprise Portal and Self Service Human Resource System; Mass Vaccination Clinic 2004; Breastfeeding Promotion Program and Emergency Operations System, Emergency Operations Center.

Also noted was Oakland County's selection by NACo and the Center for Digital Government as one of the most digitally advanced counties in the nation. Other departments recognized were Fiscal Services which received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers of the United States and Canada; the Oakland County Drain Commissioner's Office which received the 2005 Environmental Achievement Award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies; the Oakland County Probate Court website, singled out as one of the ten best probate court websites in the country by the National College of Probate Judges; Oakland County Human Resources / Retirement honored as the 2005 National Association of Governmental Defined Contribution Administrators Award recipient for Excellence; Automation Alley selected as one of seven Best of Troy Award winners by the Troy Chamber of Commerce and the Health Division which is the only health division in Michigan to receive the Accreditation with Commendation Award on the first visit from state regulators.

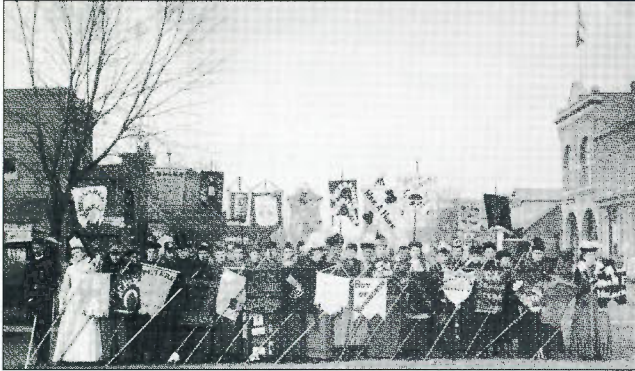


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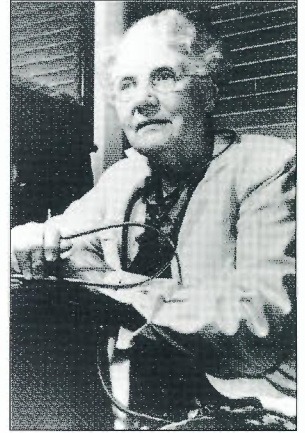
From Whence We Came



Mothers, Daughters and Leaders of Oakland County



Would you like to acknowledge the extraordinary women from your community? Maybe it's the local woman who earned the Master Farmer honor on a dairy farm in Rochester Hills, like Sarah Van Hoosen Jones. Or maybe it's the woman who became a world-renowned surgeon and the founder of the American Medical Women's Association, like Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen. Or perhaps it's the woman who created a neighborhood garden. The Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm-in partnership with the Oakland County Office of Arts and Culture and the Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce-



is pleased to announce that nominations for the upcoming exhibit "Mothers, Daughters, and Leaders of Oakland County" are now being accepted.

This traveling exhibit will showcase 40 women from Oakland County who have achieved distinction in any field. Nominees must be born in or have achieved prominence in Oakland County. Their contributions must be of an enduring nature that will be reflected upon by future generations. All nominees must be deceased. The names of the women selected will be announced at the exhibit premier in March 2007 at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm.

For more information on the criteria or to access an application, please go to www.rochesterhills.org then to "Museum" or call 248-656-4663. All applications must be postmarked by May 15, 2006.



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!!!!!!!!!!!!
Last issues puzzle question and answer:

What are the alevin, parr, smolt and grilse?

Answer:

Names for a salmon at various stages in its life cycle. The winning entry belongs to:

Jim VerPloeg
Court Administrator
52-4 District Court

Congratulations! You may claim your prize by contacting M. Zack at (248) 858-0457, or by email at zackm@co.oakland.mi.us

Brown Bag Lecture Series

The Brown Bag Lecture Series is sponsored by the Oakland County Office of Arts, Culture & Film. The presentations are from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Oakland County Auditorium, located in Building 49 West, 1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac, MI. Please bring your lunch. Coffee and tea will be served. All lectures are FREE and registration is not required. Call (248) 858-0415 or visit www.artoakland.com for more information.

April 20, 2006

"African American Art: Walter O. Evans Collection"
DIA Speakers Bureau

May 18, 2006

"Vintage Base Ball - Rochester Grangers"

Pat McKay, Director of Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm

June 15, 2006

"Shakespeare in the Park" - Water Works Theatre, Royal Oak

Recognized for earning individual honors in 2005 were Treasurer Pat Dohany; County Prosecutor David Gorcyca; Business Develop Group Supervisor David Schreiber; Planning and Economic Development's Larry Falardeau; Senior Board of Commissioners Analyst Sheryl Mitchell; Chief Assistant Friend of the Court Kathy Cox; Victims Advocate Michelle Csernits; Paralegal Diane Banick; Assistant Prosecutor Greg Townsend; Assistant Prosecutor Marilyn Day and Deputy County Executive and CIO Phil Bertolini.

Mr. Patterson also commented on the generosity of county employees by telling his audience of nearly 400 people who were in attendance and the thousands more listening on the radio that \$30,000 had been raised last year during weekly Casual Days with the majority of that amount distributed to eleven local charities during the holidays.

He also noted that another \$29,000 was collected during special Casual Days for such needs as the tsunami tragedy, Hurricane Katrina victims and the young son of a Drain Office employee who is fighting a rare but serious progressive genetic brain disorder.

"Our employees are hard working folks but damn, do they have a big heart," Mr. Patterson said in conclusion.



Kathy Cox, Chief Assistant Friend of the Court.

Technology Connects Family Members to Military Personnel Overseas

On January 26th, Oakland County launched Military Video Conferencing, state of the art technology which offers military families in Michigan an opportunity for one-on-one, face-to-face visits with loved ones serving in the armed forces anywhere in the world.

This new program is an adaptation of OakVideo, a video conferencing system kicked off in 2001 that links the courts and law enforcement agencies in Oakland County.

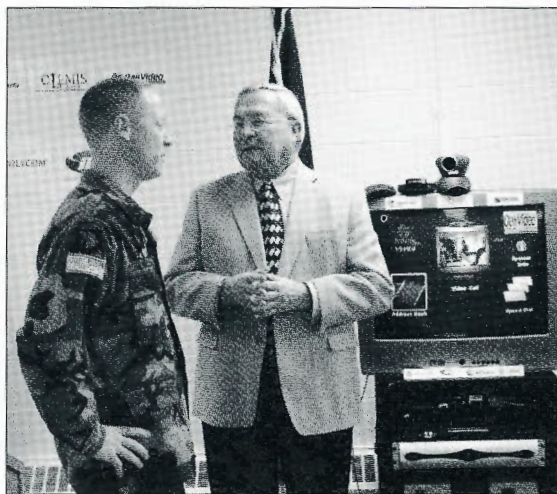
"Our military service personnel and their families make a huge sacrifice to defend the cause of freedom around the world and this is our small way of showing appreciation for the great service they provide on our behalf," said Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson at a news conference announcing the new program.

The live real-time video conferencing service is a two-year joint partnership between Oakland County and the Michigan National Guard Joint Operations Center.

The video conferencing service is made possible through the generosity of Oakland County which donated labor, materials and technical support; Polycom Corporation which contributed the video conferencing equipment; Titan Corporation which provided support, security and hardware; Integrated Digital Systems (IDS) which provided wiring, installation and video recorders and AT&T which provided ISDN line installation and will also absorb the monthly charges and connection fees for three years.

County employees with family members serving in the military who are interested in taking advantage of this new service should make arrangement through Diane Epps, Distance Learning Manager, U.S. Army National Guard, at (517) 481-8004 or (517) 481-8049 or by email at diane.epps@mi.ngb.army.mil or Bob Pence, Project Manager - OakVideo, Oakland County (248) 721-0928.

After the video conference is completed, a videotape of the visit will be provided free of charge to the participants.



Senior Days at Comerica Park

Baseball season is here again and we are going out to the ballgame. Oakland County Senior Days at Comerica Park will be held again this summer on two afternoons, June 15 and August 24. Adults, age 60 years and older can purchase up to four outfield box seats for \$15 each. Seniors from all over the county will be gathering to watch the Tigers hit one out of the park.

Inform a senior you know about these events, or better yet, bring someone with you who wouldn't go alone. You'll be sure to have a good time.

Reading Month at Little Oaks

The month of March is designated as Reading Month and Little Oaks takes great pride in promoting the importance of reading to young children. Pat Mueller, center director, states: "Children develop a sense of appreciation for books and reading when special readers visit the center to read stories." Throughout the month of March, Special Readers visit the center and read their book of choice to the children. This year's Special Guest Readers include; L. Brooks Patterson, John McCulloch, Deb Carley, Ruth Johnson, Pat Dohany, and Deputy Carolin. Each year the readers have their photo taken with the children which is then displayed on the "Special Reader Wall."

March has become such a popular reading month at Little Oaks that the center has expanded the program to include the remaining months of the year. If you are interested in becoming a Special Guest Reader at Little Oaks, contact Pat Mueller at 248-858-2080.

OAKLAND PARKS EXEC TO RETIRE; SUCCESSOR NAMED

Following 39 years in the profession and 21 years as executive officer of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission, Ralph Richard retired on Feb. 24.

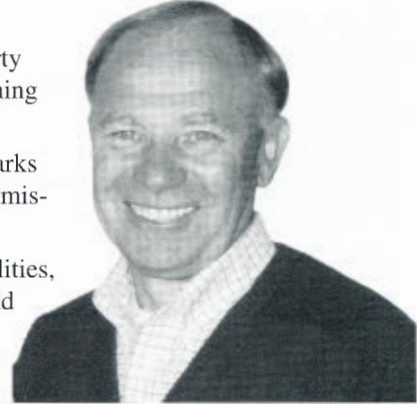
During Richard's tenure, the parks system has acquired new parks such as 1,042-acre Lyon Oaks in Lyon Township and 623-acre Rose Oaks in Rose Township. Richard oversaw many significant recreational projects, including: Michigan's first refrigerated toboggan run at Waterford Oaks in Waterford Township; a new waterpark at Red Oaks in Madison Heights; and a 4,000 square foot addition to the Lewis E. Wint Nature Center at Independence Oaks near Clarkston.

In addition, in 2005, Oakland County Parks acquired 347 acres of environmentally significant property adjacent to Addison Oaks in Addison Township, north of Rochester, and received a \$1.44 million matching grant for the potential acquisition of 260 acres in Highland Township.

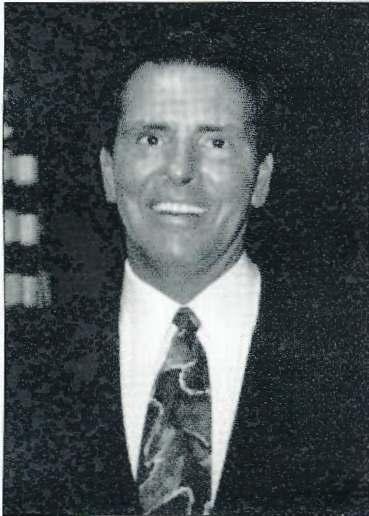
"It's been great to be trusted by the parks and recreation commission with the keys for this diverse parks system," said Richard of Wolverine Lake. "Support from County residents, our staff, and the parks commission has made this an exceptional 21 years," he added.

Under his leadership, the parks system has earned dozens of awards for outstanding recreational facilities, design, programming and community service. In 2005, the 6,000-acre system, consisting of 11 parks and golf courses, reached a record attendance of 1.6 million visitors. In June 2005, parks and recreational professionals from throughout the United States and Canada toured the Oakland County Parks to observe operations and glean ideas.

Richard was previously parks and recreation director for the City of Southfield and Waterford Township. He has served in various offices, including President of the National Association of County Parks and Recreation Officials and President of the Michigan Recreation and Park Association.



Ralph Richard



Daniel J. Stencil

Daniel J. Stencil has been promoted and appointed by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission to succeed Richard as executive officer.

Stencil currently serves as administrator of park operations and has held six positions with the parks system since 1977, including: chief of parks operations; recreation supervisor; general maintenance supervisor at Springfield Oaks Activity Center; and assistant park supervisor at Independence Oaks.

"My experience can bring a unique perspective to the inner workings of the organization and its staff. One of my priorities will be to communicate further with constituent groups, including elected official local governments and civic groups," said Stencil, 51, of Clarkston, "while maintaining the high level of excellence the Commission has realized in the past 40 years."

Stencil is currently president of the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association, where he has held numerous other posts. He is an executive board member of Michigan Senior Olympics, serving as facilities and logistics chair since 1982. Stencil, a certified parks and recreation professional, is a member of the National Parks and Recreation Association, Michigan Parks and Forestry Association, and Northwest Parks and Recreation Association.

He earned bachelor of science degrees in park management and recreational planning from Northern Michigan University, and a master of science degree in recreation administration from Western Illinois University.

For more information about the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission, call 248.858.0906, or toll free 1.888.OCPARKS, or visit www.oakgov.com/parksrec.

by Janet E. Pung

April Showers Bring May Flowers at the Farmers Market

The Oakland County Farmers Market, located in the County Market building at 2350 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford, will be open every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 6:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. starting in May.

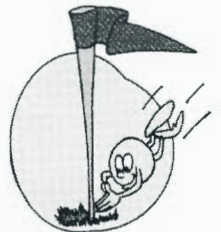
Visit the website at www.oakgov.com/cmarket for market information and download a produce availability guide indicating peak harvest times of Michigan agricultural products.



What: 17th Annual "Spring Scramble"
Hosted by the Children's Village Foundation

When: Friday, May 19, 2006

Where: Heather Highlands Golf Club
Holly, Michigan



★ Four-Person Scramble ★
★ Shotgun Start 9:00 a.m. ★

Corporate and Tee & Green Sponsorships Available

For Additional Information, Contact Greg Alessi:
248.858.1135 or alessig@co.oakland.mi.us



Telegraphing Our Talents

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS VOLUNTEERS, SPONSOR EARN STATE HONORS



Larry Falardeau A Man and the River

The people have spoken. This year's winner of the Hidden Talents VI People's Choice Award is Larry Falardeau for his watercolor *A Man and the River*. Falardeau's work features a portrait of Jerry Carvey and is dedicated to his two decades of service to the Clinton River Watershed Council.

"The objective of my artwork is to connect with life's basic elements. Elements that define us as human – our relationships with Land, Life & Spirit," describes Falardeau.

A graduate of Michigan State University, Falardeau studied landscape architecture, graphic illustration and design. Today his works are included in many collections both corporate and public. A few places that feature Falardeau's work are the National Bank of Detroit, Oakland County Information Technology Center, Bay Harbor Yacht Club, Rose Jeep Chrysler, and St Joseph Church. As the Principal Planner of the Environmental Stewardship Program, Falardeau is an Oakland County Employee in Planning & Economic Development Services.

What do coffee, winter camping and hiking have in common? All three are donations that Oakland County Parks has received from two outstanding volunteers and a business sponsor.

The work of Canton resident Michael Banks, Hartland resident Larry Falardeau and Royal Oak's Caribou Coffee were recognized with Community Service Awards from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association. The awards were presented January 12 at Lansing's Michigan Historical Museum.



Larry Falardeau, Planning & Economic Development

The Women in the Wilderness program received a helping hand from Banks, a member of SOLAR (School of Outdoor Leadership and Recreation) and employee of Eastern Mountain Sports, an outdoor specialty retailer in Farmington Hills. SOLAR, based in Southfield, promotes outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship.

Banks was instrumental in persuading both SOLAR and EMS to partner with local parks and recreation organizations and provide supplies and educational programs, according to Recreation Specialist Derenda Howard.

"On his own time Michael recruited instructors to help make Women in the Wilderness a high quality program," Howard said. "Not only are the women learning outdoor recreation skills but they are also passing these experiences along to their children. The outdoors becomes a natural classroom for them to explore."

Falardeau was recognized for his work with trails.

"He is an avid outdoorsman and trail advocate who believes in preservation of natural resources and linear parks," Marge Gatliff, trails coordinator, said. "Larry first assisted the Paint Creek Trail with its master plan and all the necessary steps to build and maintain their beautiful trail system. He has organized many groups in the same manner to make trail dreams become realities."

Falardeau is employed with Oakland County's Planning and Economic Development Department.

Caribou Coffee has sponsored Canine Coffee Hours at two Bark Parks. On select Saturdays, Caribou staff provides free coffee at Lyon Oaks and Orion Oaks County Parks.

"The response was very positive. Now the partnership has expanded to include Caribou Coffee Friday Fridge nights and sponsorship of our winter star party," Sue Wells, chief of recreation, said. "Caribou will also sponsor our summer entertainment series at Independence Oaks and the Dog Days of Summer at Red Oaks Waterpark."

Oakland County Parks operates 11 parks that offer a full range of facilities and activities. In 2006, the parks system celebrates its 40th anniversary.

For more information, visit www.oakgov.com/parksrec.

Oakland County Employee Wellness Challenge

Oakland County Employee Wellness Challenge will return this year. The Wellness Challenge is an incentive-based program that promotes healthy eating, physical activity and general wellness for Oakland County employees. This program is open to all full and part-time Oakland County employees. The Wellness Challenge will run from mid-May through June. For more information contact Contessa Rudolph at rudolphc@co.oakland.mi.us or 248-424-7083



EMPLOYEES of the Month



Roxanne Condit

When it comes to turning out visually powerful images on her computer, few can equal the talents of Roxanne Condit. As the Health Division's graphic artist for the past eight years, Roxanne has transformed a cut and paste operation into a modern, state of the art computer aided design (CAD) software system.

"I design everything from brochures to billboards," said Roxanne. "The best part of this job is the people I work with. They are all very professional and work extremely hard."

Away from the office, Roxanne likes to read, hike and watch marathons on HGTV with her new husband whom she married recently in Las Vegas. Roxanne has two children, ages 17 and 22.

"Roxanne is an energetic, naturally creative and valued employee of the Health Division," said Health Division Manager George Miller. "Because of her skills, Roxanne has saved this division a great deal of time and money by eliminating the need to go outside and hire graphic arts specialists."



Jack Smith

You'd be hard pressed to find a more versatile county employee than Jack Smith. As a 30-year county employee, Jack's imprint can be found in many areas. During his 26 years at Support Services, a portion of which was spent as chief, Jack had a hand in printing, mailing, record retention and radio communications. In his current role as chief of Purchasing, Jack supervises buyers and support staff while also serving as project manager for the PeopleSoft project and overseeing eCommerce.

"Working with my fellow employees is the very best part of what I do," Jack said.

Away from the office, Jack likes to play golf and spend time with his family.

"Jack has not only been a valuable employee, he has also brought tremendous organizational skills and a high level of professionalism to his job in purchasing," said Joe Hylla, manager of the Purchasing Division.

Jack, his wife Tricia, who works for Emergency Response and Preparedness and their 15 year old daughter Whitney, live in White Lake.



Cindy Potts

Dedicated and reliable are two of the words Nancy Stobart-Mitch, supervisor of administrative services at MSU Extension-Oakland County, uses to describe December Employee of the Month Cindy Potts.

Cindy has built a 28-year career at Oakland County, the first 9 years as clerk in the Register of Deeds office and the last 18½ as a secretary for MSU Extension - Oakland County. Her current job responsibilities include answering the phones, providing clerical support, designing handouts and newsletters. "The best part of my job is the people I work with," Cindy said. "I love my co-workers."

One of her new spare time activities is photography, but she also enjoys scrapbooking and shopping. Since her 16 year old son, Jason, is involved in travel baseball and hockey, Cindy and her husband of 24 years, Keith, spend a lot of time on the road. Jason's athletic career has taken them to Nashville, Cleveland, Oklahoma and this year to Atlanta.

"Cindy is someone who will do anything to help other staff members," said Stobart-Mitch. The Potts live in Hartland.



Barb Zimanski

As an office assistant II in the Health Division's Walled Lake Office, Barb Zimanski is the clerical person for the entire field nursing staff and she also gets involved in a variety of other things including the Child Health Conference. "This is really a nice office and we all get along extremely well," Barb said.

Prior to coming over to the Health Division, Barb worked in Community Mental Health for about a year and a half.

"Barb is a valuable asset to Oakland County and I wish I could clone her," said Ami Hadden, office supervisor II at West Health. "She has a work ethic that is beyond belief and she is an all around pleasure to work with."

For the past five years, much of Barb's free time away from work has been devoted to helping her husband, Larry, finish the home they're building in White Lake. Right now the couple is in the process of finishing the lower level. But it hasn't all been work, either. Last year, Barb and Larry traveled to Europe, spending time in Italy at such exotic locations as Sienna, Elba, Portofino and Paris.

CHILDREN'S VILLAGE "GOODWILL AMBASSADORS"

By Greg Alessi

Don't let their relatively small membership size deceive you. A wise man once proclaimed "dynamite comes in small packages". That certainly is the case with the Oakland County Children's Village Foundation, a volunteer group of dedicated community leaders who have been nothing short of miraculous in their mission to support the youth of Children's Village.

Formally established in 1995, the Children's Village Foundation was spun off from the Children's Village Advisory Council, the brainchild of former Children's Village manager, Kay Karla. With fourteen board members the foundation has generated over \$500,000 and funded a multitude of projects specifically targeting the youth of the village.

Current board members are Laura Amtsbuechler, Robert Duschinske, Terri Guzy, Lyssa Kiley, Nadine Milostan, Harris Ng, Denice Richmond, Joyce Richmond, Tricia Smith, Karen Solomon, Dan Viant, Fred Vollrath, Rita Weyer and Michael Worrell.

As with most foundations, financial support is generated through primary fund raisers; the spring scramble golf outing (now in its 17th year) and the autumn adventure dinner/raffle auction (19 years). Additional funding is secured through grants requests, gifts from individuals, businesses, industries, organizations and memorial donations.

To date the Children's Village school has been a major beneficiary of the foundation. Grant awards for reading programs, student recognition, school newspaper and GED testing are of high priority to the foundation.

Other notable grants are annual March of Dimes sponsorship of Youth to Walk for Healthy Babies. A pre-vocational auto shop program, athletic field development and a grant-funded position to provide a chaplaincy program for youth also rank as important projects.

Medical needs of youngster have been enhanced with funding from the foundation for STD testing and education as well as financial support of a health reproductive clinic.

The board members of the foundation continue to amaze. Their level of commitment, time and energy is something to behold. They are all so willing to lend their names and considerable networking ability for the enhancement of young people. They truly are "goodwill ambassadors."

An Exercise in Life Saving at Children's Village

Sometimes the difference between life and death can be measured in a matter of seconds. That was the case when on December 18, 2005 at around 6:55 in the evening, a 16 year old resident of Children's Village started choking on a piece of candy. Fortunately two alert youth specialists were on hand to respond quickly to the near fatal emergency.

It all began when Joshua Moyses, youth specialist, heard a call come over his radio that a youngster was choking and had stopped breathing. When Joshua arrived on the scene, another youth specialist, Kevin O'Shaughnessy was already there performing the Heimlich Maneuver on the young man. "It was really scary, but I didn't have time to think about it," said Kevin. "I just did what I was trained to do."

At first nothing seemed to work, so finally Joshua, who is trained as an EMT, blew air into the victim's mouth and the obstruction became dislodged. "All I could hear when I put my ear up to the young man's mouth was this deadly sound of silence," said Joshua. The object which stuck in the youngster's throat apparently went into his stomach after breaking free. The victim, who is now 17, has fully recovered and still resides at Children's Village. "Kevin and Joshua have proven themselves to be role models when it comes to excellence in childcare," said Joanna Overall, manager of Children's Village. "It is good to know that everyday challenges continue to be met with enthusiasm and success, which is reflective of the overall employee dedication at Children's Village."

For their heroic actions, Joshua and Kevin were presented with Life Saving Awards at a meeting of County Executive Patterson's administrative team. "At the time all this was happening, we didn't have time to be frightened," said Joshua. "But after it was all over our hands were shaking." Kevin says the young man whose life they saved hugged him immediately after waking up from his life threatening ordeal.

Crochet Club Meets Fridays at 10:00

The needles have been flying at Golden Oaks Medical Care. The Crochet Club has been working diligently to create beautiful, handmade afghans, hats and sweaters for new babies.

The club's activities are in support of the Nurse-Family Partnership, a Public Health Nursing program for first-time moms in the City of Pontiac. This program provides frequent nursing visits during the woman's pregnancy and to mom and baby through the child's second birthday.

This project has benefited both young and old. The moms in this program are so pleased to receive a hand-made (l to r): Maggie, Sadie, Lynn (staff), and Mary.

The club members at Golden Oaks are proud to have created a beautiful and useful item for a new baby in our community.



Thanks also goes to Oakland County employees who have donated yarn to be used in this project. If you would like to donate yarn to the knitting club at Golden Oaks, please contact Pearlean Lewis-Jones at 858-1415.

BENEFITS

Q & A

Q I understand I can now update my Life Insurance beneficiaries on-line through Employee Self Service.

A Yes you can. Just click on Access Now on the HR Self Service Center on Oaksourc. Then select Benefits, Insurance Summary, Life Insurance.

Q O.K., I see the Life Insurance screen, now what?

A Just click Edit. Your current beneficiaries and how you have your benefit allocated is shown.

Q If I want to keep my current beneficiaries but just change the allocation, what do I do?

A Enter the percentage you want to allocate, and whether you want them to be primary or secondary, then select Update Totals then Save. To see the change, click the Return to Life link at the bottom of the page.

Q Can I add a new beneficiary?

A Yes, click Add a New Beneficiary and enter the required information. Don't forget to click Save. Then select Return to Change Current Beneficiaries and Allocations. You can then make your changes. Don't forget to select Update Totals and Save. Your changes will be reflected when you select Return to Life.

Q Do I have to use Oaksourc to make changes to my Life Insurance beneficiaries?

A No, you can continue to complete a form if you wish. The form can be found by selecting the Benefits and Retirement link on Oaksourc.

PERSON TO PERSON

L. Brooks Patterson

When the renovation of the old Oakland Schools building is completed, hopefully by the end of the year, the Executive Offices will be moved there in stages over a two-month period. This is the first new general office space project for the administration since the early 1980's when the old county hospital was transformed into what is now the Executive Office Building.



The Oakland Schools project has involved taking the entire interior down to the bare walls and installing new medical and electrical systems along with plumbing. New windows, parking lot and entrance way are also part of the renovation plans.

The transfer of the Executive Offices to the Oakland Schools building will allow us to consolidate all Health functions in the Executive Office Building. This will provide Health with much wider corridors for blood drives and immunization clinics while making it a lot easier for citizens to locate the services they need.

Employees occupying the new building on Pontiac Lake Road will experience a couple of work related changes. First, the old workplace environment of private offices, which is about 30 years behind the times, is being replaced with an open plan that utilizes cubicles. This type of arrangement is a much more efficient and cost conscious way of utilizing space. While this may be a bit of a culture shock for some people, those who keep an open mind will find it a great way to work. The major benefit is improved communication which will make it possible for employees who are in close proximity to one another to work more effectively together. In addition, there are a number of work places where four to six people can congregate to work on various projects.

Another new feature of the building is a state-of-the-art sound masking, or as it's more commonly known "white noise," system. Speakers in the ceiling generate a low level hum, barely audible, that will muffle conversations in nearby cubicles. It's similar to what happens when the furnace in your home comes on. It makes the TV in the next room just a little bit harder to hear. Every floor of the building will have a coffee/work-room with a sink and refrigerator. It can also be used as a place for special celebrations such as birthdays.

The lunchroom is on the third floor and will be equipped with the usual vending machines. The new EOB also has many more conference rooms than the old one, which will make scheduling meetings less complicated.

The changes being made will not only save money but will also dramatically relieve some of our serious overcrowding problems. The moves will give our employees a nice change of scenery along with more elbow room and an improved workplace environment.

Walk America

March of Dimes Walk America is slated for April 30th in Troy. Last year Oakland County employees raised more than \$30,000 to prevent birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. Our goal this year is \$35,000. Sign up to participate by going online at www.walkamerica.com, click on "Walk on a company team" and type in Oakland County. From there look for your department and register.

Shorty's Bar & Grill
4769 Dixie Hwy
Waterford, Michigan 48329
248-674-0033

Looking for a thick juicy burger for lunch that's not short on taste? Well the search is over! Shorty's Bar & Grill in Waterford offers a delicious menu along with ½ pound certified Angus beef burgers that are bursting with flavor.

A few of the burgers on the menu include the Grand Burger, a ½ lb. burger with 1,000-island dressing, pickles, & American Cheese, the BIG Shorty, a patty covered with sautéed mushrooms, grilled onions, bacon and American Cheese, and the Wisconsin Bite, a ½ lb. patty with bacon, grilled onions and cheddar cheese. For a spicy, but not overpowering taste, try the Jalapeno Burger. This combination smoothers the delicious angus patty with jalapenos blended together with melted-to-perfection muenster cheese. If those selections fail to make your mouth water, you can also order the Original ½ Pound Burger and build your own choice of items, selecting from things such as grilled mushrooms, grilled onions, pineapple and bacon. All burgers are served with fries.

The portions are plentiful and truly big enough to split if the ½ pound serving seems intimidating. Even though the burgers steal the show, Shorty's offers a wide selection of appetizers, seafood, salads, and even pizza. The atmosphere is refreshingly casual and do not be surprised if the waitress asks your name and uses it throughout your dining experience. Located on Dixie Highway just past Sashabaw Road Shorty's is close enough to the County where you can kick back, relax, play a song or two on the jukebox and enjoy a mouthwatering burger that is sure to satisfy.

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.



Salmon Dip

3 6 oz. cans - Red Salmon - drained, flaked and boned

12-14 oz. can cream cheese - softened

2T grated onion

1/4t salt

Dash of tabasco

1T liquid smoke

1t horseradish

Beat cream cheese and then add the rest of the ingredients. Chill.

Decorate with nuts, parsley or paprika. The quantities can be adjusted to suit your personal taste.

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

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

It's "mission accomplished" for the Michigan volunteers who helped clean up and secure the old Hattiesburg High School in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

"Every room in the building has been cleaned out and there is a hollow sound when you walk down the hallway," said volunteer Kristin Wiltfang. "Afterwards, the crew put the finishing touches on the building both inside and out before the final walk through for the Hattiesburg project team members."

A team of 41 volunteers, sponsored by Main Street Oakland County (MSOC), traveled to Hattiesburg, Mississippi to help with storm damage to the historic Old Hattiesburg High School, a downtown landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The structure is destined to become the University of Southern Mississippi's Department of Art and Design and Museum of Art. Hurricane Katrina hit just as the project was about to be unveiled to the community. The team of volunteers worked through the week to remove debris, board up windows, shore up a truss and repair gaping holes in the roof.

Over 50 Metro Detroit businesses and individuals provided funds and supplies for the team, and paid for bus transportation for the team. Lodging and meals were being supplied by Hattiesburg merchants and residents.

The Main Street Oakland County Team is comprised of Oakland County staff and family members, students from Western Michigan University, Eastern Michigan University, Oakland Community College, Oakland University, and Baker College; five men in the recovery program at Grace Centers of Hope, Oakland County's oldest and largest homeless shelter; Leadership Oakland alumni; and many concerned Oakland County residents. They were assisted by Hattiesburg residents, students from the University of Southern Mississippi, men from nearby Camp Shelby, an Army staging center for troops being deployed to Iraq, and by members of a youth training program.



kudos coming & going

marriages

Jeff Parrott, Right-of-Way Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, married Cynthia Hrbcek on 01/13/06.

John Hoppesch, Info Tech- CLEMIS, married Jennifer on 12/17/05.

Darlene Whitney, Parks and Recreation, married Greg Rowley on 12/14/05.

Roxanne Strom, Health Division, married Mike Condit on 12/03/05 in Las Vegas, NV.

Erin Lapkewych, Case Evaluation, married Aaron Marinceo on 11/12/05.

Cindy Morales, Case Management, married Jeff Rogers on 08/28/05.

Angela Hardacre, Management & Budget/Equalization, married Jeff Ferguson on 09/24/05.



new hires

Deborah Petty, general helper, Facilities Management, FM & O Custodial

Brendon Jackson, facilities management, FM & O Custodial

James Munro, user support specialist, Info Tech- Application Services

Jeff Breckenridge, maintenance laborer, Sewer/Drain Maintenance Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office

Robert Case, maintenance laborer, Sewer/Drain Maintenance Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office

Anthony Echols, maintenance laborer, Sewer/Drain Maintenance Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office

Eric Foote, maintenance laborer, Sewer/Drain Maintenance Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office

Chrissy Soby, office assistant I, Management & Budget, Equalization Division

Danielle Franz, office assistant, Info Tech- Internal Services

Michael Fury, appraiser aide, Management & Budget, Equalization Division

Michael Jackson, engineering aide, Management & Budget, Equalization Division

James Licari, appraiser aide, Management & Budget, Equalization Division

Carly Block, office assistant I, Management & Budget, Equalization Division

Kristine Wood, office assistant, Animal Control

Taji Johnson, case evaluation intern, Case Evaluation Office

Nejla Atiyeh, Calvin May, Latoya Patterson, Meghan Pell, Eric Reed, and Diamond Walker were hired into the Health Division's Central Support Unit.

Kathy Baker, Teresa Bennett, Andrew Cox, Joe Ellsworth, Kathleen Muzia, and Kerin Reed were hired into the Health Division's Environmental Health Services unit.

Rob Bridson and Helen Collias were hired into the Health Division's Office of Substance Abuse.

Andrea Esu, Donna King, Karen Malmstrom,

and Felicia Mott, were hired into the Health Division's Personal & Preventive Health Unit.

Pam LaFoy was hired into the Health Division's Lab.

Lindsey Terry, Lucy VandePutte, and Sara Wade were hired into the Health Division's Health Education unit.

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

births

Christopher Hogan, groundskeeper II, FM & O Grounds, and his wife, Jennifer, had a baby boy, Aidan Jackson Hogan, 02/20/06

Laura Potts, court clerk, Circuit Court-Family Division, and her husband, Scott, had a baby girl, Kaitlyn Grace, on 01/28/06. She weighed 7 lb. 13 oz. and was 21 in. long.

Jaime Baum, Health Division, had a baby boy, Ryan, on 12/26/05. Ryan weighed 5 lb. 3 oz. and was 18 1/2 in. long.

Colin Gibbs and his wife, Abby, had a baby girl, Wiley Paige, on 12/14/05. She weighed 6 lb. 2 oz.

Kathy Stahl, Friend of the Court, and her husband, Darin, had a baby girl, Avery Mae Stahl, on 12/03/05. She weighed 8 1/2 lb. and was 21 in. long. Avery's proud grandmother, Beverly Miller is a support specialist at the Friend of the Court.

Jessie Block, Health Division, had a baby boy, Owen Ellis, on 11/09/05. He weighed 8 lb. 12 oz. and was 21 1/2 in. long.

Tracy Jones, Equalization, and her husband, Scott, had twins, MacKenzie Elizabeth and Alexander Legacy, on 11/03/05. MacKenzie Elizabeth weighed 5 lb. 2 oz and Alexander Legacy weighed 4 lb.

Kris and Tony Drautz, Health Division, had a baby boy, Luke Anthony Drautz on 09/20/05. He weighed 7 lb. 4 oz. and was 19 1/2 in. long.

Kim Reuter, Health Division, and her husband, Tim, had a baby girl, Hannah Marie, on 09/20/05. She weighed 8 lb. 3oz.

retirements

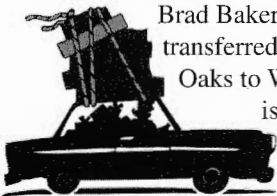
Julie Casanova, Treasurer's Office, has retired after 32 years of service.

Ralph Richard, executive officer, Parks and Recreation Commission, retired on February 24 after 21 years of service.



transfers

Brad Baker has been transferred from Independence Oaks to Waterford Oaks. He is now in charge of a Special Projects Team/Natural Resources Team.



celebrations life events

promotions

John Anderson, to deputy II, Sheriff's Office
Steven Bianchi, to deputy II, Sheriff's Office
David Carnes, to deputy II, Sheriff's Office
David Losinski, to deputy II, Sheriff's Office
Sean Stoner, to sergeant, Sheriff's Office
Elizabeth Osterkamp, to appraiser trainee, Equalization
Daniel Bowles, to skilled maintenance mechanic II, Facilities Management, FM & O Maintenance
Richard Craine, to general maintenance mechanic, Facilities Management, FM & O Maintenance
Ron Hambleton, to maintenance mechanic II, Sewer/Drain Maintenance Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office

Ariane Fountain, to office assistant II, Soil Erosion Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office
Tonya Morey, to clerk, Equalization
Ann Grady, to appraiser III, Equalization
Lisa Nader, to appraiser III, Equalization
William Thompson, to appraiser III, Equalization
Steven Zerwas, to appraiser III, Equalization
Cassandra Tovar, to office assistant II, Equalization
Michael Rana, to maintenance supervisor II, Facilities Management, FM & O Maintenance
Andrea Waggoner, to office assistant II, Equalization
Barbara Schroeder, to office assistant II, Equalization

Beverly Foss, to field supervisor, Equalization
Wendy Hibbard, to office assistant II, Equalization
Joyce Bowers, to office supervisor II, Equalization
Guy Compton, to chief, Info Tech- Technical Services
Marva Cross, Rebecca Leach, and Lisa Drouillard, Health Division, were promoted to public health nurse III
Laurie McMonagle, to account clerk II, Treasurer's Office
Diane Roark, to supervisor of personal property, Treasurer's Office
Betty Tuzinowski, to public health nurse supervisor, Health Division

kudos

Retired Probate Judge Eugene Arthur Moore, has been honored as the recipient of the 2006 "Friend of Children" award by the Lutheran Child & Family Service of Michigan. This award recognizes professionals in all walks of life who have championed children's issues.

Kathy Crawford, Parks and Recreation, and her daughter Kait, were recently featured in The Detroit News for their volunteerism at the Child Abuse and Neglect Council of Oakland County (February 2, 2006 Metro Spotlight Section). Both were placed in the organization's Nurturing Program. They work with children while the parents attend a counseling group. Kathy began volunteering for Care House Children's Center in 2002.

George Butler, Info Tech-CLEMIS, received a "Professional Excellence Award" from the Michigan State Police for the 2005 LEIN Conversion Project

Betty Tuzinowski, Health Division, received her Masters of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Phoenix

Kelly Armata, Library for the Visually & Physically Impaired, completed her Masters Degree in Business Administration from Baker College.

Joyce Bowers, Equalization Division, passed the State Certification Level I

Dawn Creamer, Equalization Division, passed the State Certification Level III

Larry Falardeau, Planning and Economic Development, was recognized for his work with trails recently with a Community Service Award from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association. "He is an avid outdoorsman and trail advocate who believes in preservation of natural resources and linear parks." Marge Gatliff, Trails Coordinator, said. "Larry first assisted the Paint Creek Trail with its master plan and all the necessary steps to build and maintain the beautiful trail system. He has organized many groups in the same manner to make trail dreams become realities.

Judge Barry Grant, Oakland County Probate, was appointed Chief Probate Judge by the Michigan Supreme Court for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2006. Judge Grant subsequently appointed Elizabeth Pezzetti as Chief Judge Pro Tem and Judge Linda Hallmark as Presiding Judge of Probate Court.

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

Sandy Kosik, chief, Health Division Office of Substance Abuse Services, received

"Honoree of the Year" from 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.

Elizabeth Osterkamp, Equalization Division, passed the State Certification I and II

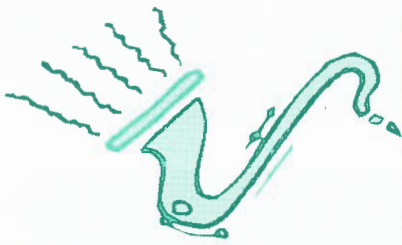
LaToya Patterson, Health Division, recently participated in the Detroit Pistons & Rock Financial "Know Your Local Black History Tour". LaToya won the three-minute oral competition. She received a \$1,000 college scholarship.

Congratulations to Linda Pierson of Accounting. Linda's son, Zac, scored the game winning goal for Ferris State University in their college hockey match up with the University of Michigan. Zac's goal gave Ferris a 4-3 win over the Wolverines.

Mary Ritchie, Equalization Division, passed the State Certification Level III

Julie Secontine, Risk Manager, received a Federal appointment to a national peer review panel for Homeland Security Grant Applications. She is one of approximately one hundred members selected for the panel and just one of two from Michigan.

Kimberly Spruill, Equalization Division, received her Associate's Degree from OCC.



Toot Thy Horn

Oakland County Sheriff's Office



New Stuff

Sheriff's Re-Cycle for Kids

The Oakland County Sheriff's Office is collecting bicycles (new, used, or in need of repair), bike accessories, tools, and parts as part of a program called Sheriff's Re-CYCLE for Kids.

The Sheriff's Re-CYCLE for Kids program was conceived with a donation. Mr. Chuck Morin owned and operated a bicycle shop in Fenton called "The Repair Stand" and it was always his belief that no child should go without the joy of having a bicycle. With Mr. Morin's passing, his family came forward with a large donation of bicycles, parts, and tools from the shop and the idea of carrying on Mr. Morin's vision was conceived. On behalf of the Morin family, Catherine Deschaine, Mr. Morin's sister, and her husband, Mark, the Oakland County Sheriff's Office received this generous donation.

The Oakland County Sheriff's Office Trusty Camp is refurbishing and repairing the bikes and is making them available to children at no cost through youth organizations such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters Metro Detroit, Boys and Girls Club of SE Oakland County, Easter Seals, Michigan, Inc., and Lighthouse of Oakland County to name a few. Additionally, in honor of Mr. Morin's original commitment to children, the Sheriff's Re-CYCLE for Kids will provide free bikes to children in need who attend St. Michael's Church in Pontiac and St. Vincent de Paul in Pontiac.

People interested in donating a bicycle that will go to a needy child should simply bring their bike or bike accessories to one of the Oakland County Sheriff's Substations or the Trusty Camp in Auburn Hills. For a list of addresses, please go to our website at www.oaklandsheriff.com.

Sheriff's Re-CYCLE for Kids is performed at no cost to Oakland County's taxpayers. Questions about the program can be directed to Mandy Ford, Sheriff's Community Liaison, at (248) 858-1947.

Overview

The Oakland County Sheriff's Office is the largest full-service Sheriff's Office in the State of Michigan, and one of the 20 largest in the United States. Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard is the 41st Sheriff of Oakland County. Today, Oakland County has 1.2 million residents, over 2500 miles of roads and 1,400 lakes within its 910 square miles. There are over 1200 highly trained professional employees and volunteers in the Oakland County Sheriff's Office in six divisions.

The Administrative Services Division provides administrative, financial and human resources support to the Sheriff's Office and oversees a 121 million dollar budget.

The Corrective Services/Main Jail Division and Corrective Services/Satellites Division are responsible for the care and supervision of over 2000 inmates. These Divisions also operate the Work Release Facility, the Trusty Camp, the Sheriff Frank Greenan Detention Facility, the Main Jail, and the Southfield Jail.

The newest Division is the Sheriff's Emergency Preparedness, Training and Communications Division (SEPTC), whose Captain is Deputy Administrator of Oakland County Emergency Response and Preparedness (ERP) and also liaisons for the Sheriff's Office and coordinates with the other county law enforcement agencies, the State Police, the FBI, USSS, Customs and Border Patrol, ICE, and the US Attorney's Office as it relates to homeland security issues. Other responsibilities include oversight of the contracted Sheriff's Civil Unit, the Sheriff's Dispatch Center, the Sheriff's Training Unit and its Firearms Range.

The Patrol Services Division provides contracted police services for two cities, two villages, eleven townships, all county-owned parks and one city-owned park. The Sheriff's Office serves over 276,000 residents via police patrol contracts. The Marine Safety Division routinely patrols 24 major lakes and randomly patrols the remaining lakes as well as performs underwater search and rescue operations. The Traffic and Alcohol Enforcement Units investigate serious injury and fatal traffic accidents. The Abandoned-Auto Unit maintains authority over impounded automobiles and oversees wrecker services under contract to the Sheriff's Office.

The Technical Services Division provides support services to the Sheriff's Office and all police agencies in the county. This Division includes a Forensic Science Laboratory, an Automated Fingerprint Identification System, a Ballistics Identification section and Crime Scene Forensic Specialists.

The Sheriff's Office also participates in many community services including internet safety presentations for parents and children, a senior citizen emergency cell-phone program, an annual Coats for the Cold coat drive, visiting hospitalized children with the Easter Bunny, snow removal for the elderly, free document shredding days for Oakland County residents, the Sheriff's Student of the Month program, and the newly created Sheriff's Re-CYCLE for Kids program, just to name a few.

For more information on the many professional and community services provided to the residents of Oakland County by the Sheriff's Office, please visit our website at www.oaklandsheriff.com.

