

The TELEGRAPH

A newsletter dedicated to the people of Oakland County Government

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October 1997

Mother Nature fails to dampen ceremony spirits

*"Rainy days and Mondays
always get me down."*

—The Carpenters

Monday's are bad enough, but even more so when you've planned a Hollywood type extravaganza only to have Mother Nature rain on your parade. Such was the case on Monday, July 21 as nearly 200 people gathered for the rededication of the newly renamed Oakland County International Airport.

Skies were clouding up as I drove to the airport that morning, but I had high hope the rain would hold off. The plan was to stage the ceremony outside. An elevated platform was in place with bunting, flags, a podium, and chairs. In the background was a C-130 Hercules transport plane from Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mount Clemens which had been dedicated to Oakland County and which prominently displayed the county seal on its side. An F-16 was to do a flyover during the ceremony and

everything would be topped off with the unveiling of the new Oakland County International Airport sign.

However, Lady Luck was not on our side this particular day and much of the planned pageantry fell by the wayside. Ten minutes before the ceremony began the skies opened up and washed away any prospect of holding the celebration outdoors.

Once we moved everyone inside the terminal building, things ran smoothly. Karen Newman, who sings the National Anthem prior to the Detroit Red Wings home games, performed a stirring rendition of the Star Spangled Banner, without accompaniment.

"We are here today to rededicate the new Oakland County International Airport," said Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson as he opened the ceremony with a few brief remarks. "We are recognizing more than just a change of names; we are celebrating Oakland County's growing prominence in the corridors of commerce around the world."



Mr. Patterson noted that Oakland County International Airport is Michigan's second busiest airport, behind Detroit Metropolitan. It also is ranked among the 30 busiest airports in the world,

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Oakland County earns national recognition

Oakland County Government is highly regarded around the nation as a cutting edge organization which constantly strives for creative ways to become more efficient and cost effective.

In July, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson was notified that four innovative programs launched by departments under his jurisdiction had won 1997 achievement awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo).

The Purchasing Division was singled out for honors because of a program entitled, "Facilities Management of the Convenience Copier Fund." The division came up with a way to cut costs by contracting out its day-to-day copy machine operations to the Lanier Corporation, which is based in Atlanta, Georgia. Lanier has a staff based at the county to answer requests for service, handle complaints, and field requests for additional or upgraded machines. As a result of this

privatization effort, the county has been able to save \$25,000 annually while increasing service and improving operating efficiencies.

This year the County's Department of Information Technology garnered two prestigious NACo awards, one of which will be shared with the Clerk's Office. Information Technology was recognized individually for its successful development and implementation of a regional

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PATTERSON/ *Person to Person*

There's a story which appears in this edition of the Telegraph concerning the new no smoking policy which went into effect Monday, Aug. 11. I thought it might be helpful to expound on the rationale behind this new policy.

A smoke-free environment is something many offices, public buildings, restaurants etc. have been moving toward ever since the Michigan Legislature adopted the Clean Indoor Air Act of 1987. According to a June 1997 report by the Michigan Association of Counties, 66 percent of Michigan's 83 counties have adopted smoke-free policies.

Oakland County began its march toward a smoke-free environment in the late 1980's under my predecessor, Dan Murphy. Prior to the recently enacted total smoking ban in county buildings, Children's Village, Oakland County Health Division buildings, and the Sheriff's Department had all been "off limits" to smokers.

The current policy prohibits smoking in all county buildings and that includes lavatories, cafeterias, meeting rooms, lounges, stairways, hallways etc. This total ban on smoking also extends to a reasonable distance from all entrances to county government facilities.

Not only will this policy help create a more healthy work environment for all Oakland County employees, but it will help to protect and promote a similar environment for the nearly one million visitors who enter Oakland County's many offices.

While the negative response to the smoking ban has been very minimal, nonetheless, there are some employees who feel this policy infringes upon their rights.

In a recent newspaper article an employee in the cafeteria argued that smokers are easy targets for reformers determined to change the habits of other people. Her comment was, "what about people who are obese or drastically overweight? Is society going to make them cut back on food?"

Hardly. You're not going to get lung cancer or heart disease by sitting next to an overweight person in the cafeteria. As far as I know obesity is not contagious.

But if that person sitting next to you is puffing a cigarette and blowing smoke your way, then that's an entirely different story. Study after study shows the potential health risks from second hand smoke. Freedom is a two-way street. There is a problem when your right to



L. Brooks Patterson
Oakland County Executive

smoke collides with another's right to lead a healthy life.

According to the American Cancer Society, smoking is related to about 419,000 deaths in the United States each year. In addition, tobacco use drains the U.S. economy of more than \$100 billion in health care costs and lost productivity.

I have every confidence most smokers will abide by this new policy which designed to protect the health of our employees and citizens who visit our buildings daily on business.

Parks lifeguards come to aide of swimmer

A 13-year-old Hamtramck boy may want to think about inviting three Waterford Oaks County Park lifeguards to his next birthday party. The youngster will have an opportunity to celebrate his 14 birthday, thanks to the quick action of lifeguards **Amy Hart, Jason Pace, and Tyler Kownacki.**

The teen was swimming in the Wave Pool when he suddenly went under the water. Hart notice something was wrong and immediately dove into the pool to rescue him after signaling her fellow lifeguards for assistance.

The trio of lifeguards gave the youngster the Heimlich maneuver to clear his airway while he was in the water. Once they got him to the pool deck, they performed CPR on him until Waterford Township paramedics arrived.

"Everyone who walked out of there—the paramedics, the detective from the Oakland County Sheriff's Department Marine Division—were all in agreement these kids saved the young man's life," said **Tim Kopka**, recreation supervisor at Waterford Oaks. "They did an out-

standing job and we are all very proud of them."

Oakland County Executive L Brooks Patterson recently presented each of the lifeguards with a proclamation commending them for their heroic efforts. The Board of Commissioners also recognized their good deed with a special resolution of tribute.

By the way, the young man who was rescued was released from the hospital two days after the Aug. 4 incident and reported to be doing just fine.

Employees qualify for ESP awards

Time is growing short for submitting cost saving ideas to the Employee Suggestion Program in order to be eligible for one of the grand prizes to be awarded during the Employee Holiday Party in December. Suggestions must be implemented by Friday, Oct. 31 to qualify for one of the trips or cash awards.

Ellen Halsey, Clerks/Election Division, is in line for one of the big awards because her suggestion to reduce the number of voting applications distributed to certain precincts has been implemented. That idea along with another one she came up with to provide reusable laminated signs in voting sleeves will save the Clerk's office about \$13,000 annually.

Jerry Kymla, Community Mental Health, is also a potential big winner in the ESP program. His suggestion that the Assertive Community Treatment Program take over the 24-hour phone coverage for all of south adult services is up and running. Estimates are the suggestion will save the county \$27,000 per year.

Other \$50 interim ESP winners who may be in the running for one of the grand prizes if their suggestions are implemented by Oct. 31 are:

- **Jacqueline Howes**, Children's Village, who suggested that Children's Village keep one central copy of the court schedule which will save about \$2200 a year in copies.
- **Marilyn Baker**, Parks & Recreation, who suggested that the county allow departments to leave returning seasonal and summer employees on the payroll to eliminate reappointment work.

- **Katherine Kelley**, Information Technology, who suggested that a list of ESP topics received be placed on the O: drive for employees to look through.

- **Summer Baker**, formerly of CMH, who suggested that county job descriptions be placed on the O: drive.

- **Donna Curiak**, Airport, who suggested that invoices sent to the airport only be sent through the inter-county mail rather than U.S. mail.

- **Chris Stinson** and **Rachel Shymkiw**, Information Technology, who suggested that the county budget be placed on the O: drive and the Internet to reduce the number of copies printed.

- **Sheila Cox**, **Cindi Neef** and **Richard McGraw**, Parks and Recreation, who got together and suggested that departments buying bottled water should install water purifications systems instead. This could save around \$1,000 per year.

- **Helen Hanger**, Board of Commissioners office, who suggested that the monthly board calendar on the O: drive be expanded to an annual calendar.

- **Mark Brigolin**, FM&O, who suggested the county begin a landscape donation program to enhance the county grounds.

- **Pat Hull**, CMH, who suggested the CMH south office client transport vans be equipped with running boards to improve safety.

- **Lori Motyka**, Personnel Department, who suggested the county consider a summer day care program for school age children of county employees.

Did you know?

- **Oakland County is the 2nd most active exporting County in America with exports totaling 9 billion annually.**
- **Oakland County has an economy larger than 15 states.**
- **Michigan's income tax per person is nearly 8% below the national average.**
- **18.8% of all people employed in Michigan work in Oakland County.**



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New digs for the M.E.

Digging in for the start of the new Medical Examiner's Building on Sept. 9 are: Steve Palermo (left), the LaSalle General Contractors; Medical Examiner Ljubisa J. Dragovic; County Executive Patterson; Director of Human Services Dr. Thomas J. Gordon; Commissioner Charles Palmer; and David Lawrence, Harley Ellington Design.

Non-Smoking policy is right on target

by Nicole Stec
Media & Communications

Anti-tobacco sentiment is sweeping across the country, and Oakland County is abreast of the public's concerns. In July, County Executive L. Brooks Patterson announced that a new non-smoking policy would be in effect in all county buildings starting on Monday, Aug. 11.

Many county buildings, including the Jail, Health offices and Children's Village, were already smoke free, prior to the announcement of the total ban. This means that traditional smoking havens, such as private offices, lavatories and cafeterias will be completely smoke free. Although some people are not happy with the new directive, the ban has received a "thumbs up" from most county employees.

When asked to comment on the new policy one forthright smoker complained, "It's a big pain in the butt." However, disgruntled smokers are in the minority and most are sympathetic to the demand for clean air in the workplace. "I would never

think of smoking inside in the first place," says **Ryan Anderson**, Arts, Culture & Film intern. "I don't expect anyone to breathe my smoke." Other employees are understanding, yet they miss the social interaction that smoking provides. **Renee Longstaff** of Fiscal Services puts it this way: "My cigarette breaks gave me a chance to visit with friends in the office. Plus, it's inconvenient to go outside in the winter. But overall I would rather work in a smoke-free environment."

A smoke free environment is not just a benefit for county employees—it is a policy that affects the public's well being. "A million people go through the courthouse check point, and they have a right to conduct business in a smoke free environment," says Mr. Patterson. Since county buildings are so frequently used by the public, it's only right that our policies should reflect national trends. Between 1965 and 1990, smoking decreased 40 percent among American adults. In addition, the dangers of second-hand smoke are now widely rec-

ognized. The American Cancer Society states that, "there are no safe levels of second-hand smoke." In addition, cigarette smoke is a human carcinogen. It contains over 4,000 chemical compounds, four of which are known human carcinogens. These facts prove that the risks of second-hand smoke far outweigh any inconvenience that a smoker might suffer, thus making our new policy a timely and health conscious decision.



Community Development wins top honors

by Carla Spradlin
Community Development

Each year the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) invests billions of dollars to assist housing development and human services on a community level. Ensuring that these funds are distributed fairly and used properly is an enormous task. Oakland County's Community Development Division has the organizational skills and the dedication to make federal dollars work for the communities of Oakland County.

In June, HUD honored the Community Development Division's hard work. The division was given three John J. Gunther Awards. Presented at the U.S. Conference of Mayors annual meeting in San Francisco, the awards proved that Oakland County is recognized on a national level as a stellar example of community plan-

ning. The awards specifically commended their work in three areas: decent housing, overall best practice and consolidated planning.

Since 1975, the Community Development Division has served as an integral link, joining the public and Oakland County's communities to federal funds. On a person-to-person level, Community Development helps low income families apply for low-interest home improvement loans. Filling out all the paperwork can be baffling, but Community Development makes the process easy for applicants. The staff assists applicants in preparing and filing the loan application, and by advising the applicants as improvements are implemented. "Home improvement loans are a big part of keeping Oakland County's housing stock viable," commented Community Development Manager **Karry Rieth**.

On a local level, the Community Development Division helps ensure that each

city, township and village in Oakland County uses their allocated funds according to federal regulations. Community Development also helps each of these local governments plan for future development and increase their capacity to implement programs. Ultimately, each community has the freedom to determine their own program goals, based on public need. For instance, transportation programs are developed for senior citizens, and roads and sidewalks are repaired. All these steps lead to a standard of living in Oakland County that is immediately noticeable and widely appreciated. However, according to Karry Rieth people make Community Development shine. "We have an outstanding working relationship with Oakland County's local communities, and of course these awards would not be possible without the hard work of all ninety of our staff members," said Rieth.

The View from Here

Funny thing about weight; it goes on so quickly, but comes off so slowly... it seems to get worse the older I get.

About a month and a half ago, I started back on a low-fat diet because quite frankly, the clothes I had altered after my weight loss a year ago were starting to bulge at the seams. Buttons could be seen popping everywhere... and once again my feet disappeared from view. It was time to give my heart and other vital organs a break. Pretty bad when the only accurate reading I can get on my weight is at the truck scales on I-75. Not really, but close.

Anyway, I'm back on the program, inspired by Daddow and Poisson, who have lost a combined total of about two people over the past year (See the story of their successful weight loss in the last edition of the Telegraph). By keeping my fat grams to no more than 30 per day and a rigid workout regimen which includes an hour a day on the stairmaster, I'm hoping to shed 50-60 pounds by Thanksgiving. Just in time to eat myself into oblivion. Just kidding.

By the way, the picture which accompanies this column was taken about three years ago, after I dropped 65 pounds. I was a

svelte 240 pounds then and maybe will be again.

Every time I do this, I say—never again! Well this time I mean it and that's the truth!

Now that I'm past 50, playing yo-yo with my weight is not a very good idea and it's not very healthy, so I'm trying to improve my lifestyle just a little. Nothing drastic you understand, just being more aware of the fact that since I'm no longer 25, I have to pay more attention to eating better and concentrating more on aerobic work, rather than lifting weights in my workouts.

I suppose part of my decision to shed a few pounds was prompted by a recent visit my wife and I made to our attorney. The purpose of the meeting was to finalize our wills. There's nothing more sobering than confronting your own mortality. Somewhat disconcerting to sit there and discuss who gets what after you're gone. Not that anybody's going to get that much, but what if I decide not to leave—then what?

Oh, I know my demise is inevitable, just like everybody's is. But it's not something I like to talk or think about very often. At any rate, I plan on sticking around a while and I figure my chances of doing that im-

prove proportionally to the amount of weight I lose. After all, you don't see too many 300 pound 60 year old men walking around. I still have a few years until I reach that plateau, but I also believe that the difficulty in taking off weight increases proportionally to your age.

In other words, I'm not sure that in nine years, I'll have the same enthusiasm for dieting and exercising that I do now. So it seems reasonable to get it off and keep it off now, rather than waiting until that may no longer be possible. Besides I want to keep the Grim Reaper at bay as long as possible.

Well—gotta run. It's lunch time and I can't keep my tuna and cottage cheese waiting. My new motto in life: eat to live, don't live to eat.



Bob Dustman
Media and
Communications
Officer

Health Division hits air waves to stop teen smoking

The Oakland County Health Division's Health Education Unit got some unexpected help recently in its campaign to prevent teenage smoking. A high school disc jockey for Andover High School radio station WBFH (88.1 FM) saw a newspaper article regarding a billboard contest the Health Education Unit sponsored for the Oakland Tobacco Reduction Action Coalition. DJ Martin Pieroni contacted **Kathleen Altman**, the Health Division's Youth Tobacco Use representative, about doing a series of interviews for his Summer Jamz radio show.

"We ended up doing a series of six interviews with people such as a doctor from a group called Doctors Oughta Care; a teen who was involved in an advocacy project with the Royal Oak, Troy and Birmingham Coalition and a laryngectomee patient who answered questions about

how he started smoking as a teen," said Altman. "Many of the questions from callers had to do with where teens could go to kick the habit."

Altman said teen smoking in Oakland County is dramatically on the rise. She said a 1994-95 Western Michigan University study found that 40.1 percent of all Oakland County twelfth graders surveyed reported smoking a cigarette within the last 30 days. This compares to the national average of 31.2 percent. In addition, Altman said the frequency of usage and high use among Oakland teens is consistently eight to nine percent higher than the national average.

"Michigan in general has always had one of the highest smoking rates in the country" noted Altman. "In fact, in 1990 we tied Kentucky, a major tobacco producing state for highest tobacco usage.

Now we're down to seventh, so at least the rate has been reduced somewhat."

Altman said there is no hard data to indicate why this disturbing trend is occurring, but she speculates that even though cigarettes are expensive in Oakland County teens have the money to buy them.

While the rate of adult smokers has fallen to 24 percent, Altman points out the rate among teens hovers between 27 percent and 29 percent. That she says is because the tobacco industry is using a good portion of its \$6 billion annual advertising budget to promote well researched messages that target teens.

Anyone who would like information on programs available to quit smoking, should call (248) 858-1394. The Health Education Unit will also have Teen Quit Kits available soon, so call now to be put on a list to receive one of them.

Top "Bean Counter" recognized by his peers

Robert J. Daddow, director of the Department of Management & Budget, has guided Oakland County government's ship of state through some pretty treacherous financial waters since becoming County Executive Brooks Patterson's no-nonsense, bottom-line point man on dollars and cents issues.

Daddow's masterful handling of the projected \$24.5 million budget shortfall in 1994 averted a potential crisis which could have shaken the county's previously strong financial foundation. Because of the stern measures Daddow and his staff took to fend off the sea of red ink, Oakland County's economic equilibrium was maintained.

Daddow was recently honored for his budgetary expertise and systematic approach to problem solving by the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants (MACPA), which presented him with their 1997 Outstanding CPA in Government Award.



Robert J. Daddow
Director of
Management & Budget

"I found out about the award totally by accident," said Daddow. "While thumbing through my copy of Michigan CPA Magazine, I stumbled upon the article. Needless to say, I was totally flabbergasted."

While he is naturally very honored to be receiving the award, Daddow is nonetheless modest about his achievement.

"The quarterback on a team gets all the accolades, but it's really the team members, those in the trenches who do the work and make it all happen," emphasized Daddow. "Without their effort and total commitment, none of this would have been possible."

Daddow said he is thrilled and honored that Deputy County Executive **Doug Williams** and **Jeff Pardee**, deputy director of Management and Budget, went to all the trouble to do the background work which was required in order for them to submit his name for the award.

In its summer 1997 edition, Michigan CPA Magazine devoted a full page to Daddow and his accomplishments. The headline of the article read: "Daddow Earns Government Award from Fellow CPAs." The article praises Daddow for his "bold efforts" to improve the "quality and effectiveness of services in Oakland County."

Prior to joining the Patterson team in January 1993, Daddow was vice president of the public sector group of Gordon & Company, PC, which specializes in audits and consulting projects for governmental and nonprofit organizations. Earlier in his career, he was a partner at Ernst & Young in Detroit where he provided extensive auditing and consulting services to a variety of governmental and not-for-profit entities.

By the way, Daddow is as adept at streamlining his body as he is streamlining budgets. Since January, he has shed about 70 pounds from his frame, which no doubt makes it easier for him to put in the 50 or 60 miles he runs on a weekly basis.

Chief judges sign historic agreement

The concept of "one family, one judge" will come into being on Thursday, Jan. 1 when Oakland County Circuit Court inaugurates its new family division. Under an historic agreement signed by the **Hon. Edward Sosnick**, chief judge of the Oakland County Circuit Court and the **Hon. Eugene Arthur Moore**, chief judge of the Oakland County Probate Court, all domestic relations cases and juvenile matters will be handled in the future by the new family division. This means cases normally assigned to Circuit Court including divorce, custody, visitation, child support, and paternity — as well as those dealing with child abuse and neglect, delinquency and adoptions which currently fall under the jurisdiction of Probate

Court, will be heard by a family division judge as of the first of the year.

"Oakland County has the potential to be the model for the entire state," said Judge Sosnick. "We have a unique opportunity to place children and families first and our plan intends to accomplish that worthy goal."

The family division is designed so that a single judge can preside over all of the families hypothetical problems, from a couple's divorce to their daughter's truancy to a juvenile delinquency case involving their 14-year-old son.

Under the plan submitted to the state court administrative office for review and approval, six judges will be assigned full time to the family division, four from Circuit Court and two from the Probate Court.

Initially, Judges Sosnick and Moore, as

well as Circuit Court **Judges Joan E. Young, John J. McDonald, and Gene Schnelz**, and Probate **Judge Wendy Potts**, will be assigned to the family division on a full-time basis. Probate **Judge Sandra Silver** will be in the family division on a part-time basis.

Those helping to develop the Oakland County family division plan, in addition to the chief judges and their staffs, were the County Executive's Office; Clerk Register of Deeds; Information Technology; Probation; Facilities Management; Community Corrections and Human Services; the Board of Commissioners; Prosecutor's Office; Sheriff's Department; Family Independence Agency; Oakland County Bar Association; American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and Oakland-Livingston Legal Aide.

Employees receive retirement & service awards

On June 13, an Oakland County tradition continued as DeerLake Racquet Club hosted the Oakland County Employees' Annual Retirement and Service Awards Program. Since 1990, **Audrey Venus** of the Personnel Department's Employee Relations Division has coordinated the event. Thanks to six months of planning, the luncheon went off without a hitch. Approximately 200 people were in attendance to receive various honors. "The large number of employees who have remained in employment at Oakland County for 20, 25, 30 and even 35 years is a testament to the excellent working conditions here at the county," commented gold watch recipient **Jeffrey Kaczmarek**. This statement certainly sums up the feelings of all workers who have dedicated many fruitful years to county service.

County Executive L. Brooks Patterson congratulated all award recipients. Then he and Deputy Executives Doug Williams and Ken Rogers, presented gold watches to all employees who have completed 25 years of service. Receiving gold watches were: **Clarence Craft, Michael Dargan, Ida Kersey**, Children's Village; **Dodie La Marte**, Community Corrections; **Jeffrey Kaczmarek**, Community & Economic Development; **Carol Steward**, 52/2 District Court; **Gerald Bannasch**, Drain Office; **Pat Haney, Gerald Hieber, Beth Shafer**, Equalization; **Mark Brigolin, Evelyn Glossinger, James Weir**, Facilities Maintenance & Operations; **Suzanne Lifton, Cathy Zahn**, Friend of the Court; **Margaret Crowley, Larry Harris**, Health Division; **Carl Holmyard, Jr., Linda Swartz**, Information Technology; **Judy Freed**, MSU Extension; **Richard Eash, Jr.**, Parks & Recreation; **Donna Bevington, John Chatley, Allen Kaczkowski, Richard Stasys, Richard Thibodeau**, Probate Court; **Michael Bray, Keith Brodkorb, Anthony Golicz, Theodore Herkowitz, Thomas Jenkinson, Lawrence Miller, Otis Newkirk, Ronald Soncrainte, Sr., Anthony Velat, Henry Wallace**, Sheriff Department; **Dennis Smith**, Support Services.

Department directors and managers presented service award plaques to the following employees: **Delores Conaway**, Executive Office, received a plaque for 35 years of service. Receiving 30 year service award plaques were: **Peter Balzerini**, Children's Village; **Roy Lake, Peggy Wil-**

son, Fiscal Services; **Patricia Peck**, Probate Court.

Employees receiving 20 year service award plaques were: **Heidi Hawley**, Animal Control; **Jerome Avrushin, Victor Szadyr**, Community Mental Health Board; **Elaine McCracken**, Corporation Counsel; **Deborah Schutt**, Development & Planning; **Betsy Hysell**, 52/1 District Court; **Diane McGraw**, Employment & Training; **Colleen Prosygniuk**, EMS & Emergency Management; **Nancy Fournier, Renee Longstaff**, Fiscal Services; **Susan Baxter, Rebecca Halicek**, Friend of the Court; **Sally Blundo, Mary Grant, Sharon Hinkins, Virginia Howcroft, Jamie Lyon, Sheila Mayry, David Norkus, Patricia Parker, Juanita Rodriguez, Constance Scholes, Patricia White, Marilyn Zigler**, Health; **Patricia Cosner, Cathy Teague, Michael Wilk**, Information Technology; **Jeffrey Pardee**, Management & Budget; **Willard Brown**, Materials Management; **Linda Williams**, Medical Care Facility; **Bennie Ellout, Pamela Seaman**, Parks & Recreation; **Karen Walker**, Personnel; **Joseph Hylla**, Purchasing; **Michael Amshay, Mary Batchelor, Robert Proudfoot, Lorie Willing**, Probate court; **Debra Beck, R. Charles Claus, Jr.**, Prosecuting Attorney; **Laura Stelt**, Reimbursement; **Gerald Barger, Dale Cunningham, Clay Jansson, William Kucyk**, Sherriff Department.

In addition to receiving a retirement plaque, the **Hon. Robert Templin, Jr.**, Circuit Court Judge was awarded a plaque for 30 years of service. Other employees receiving retirement plaques were: **Lee Mitchell**, Community Development; **John Walker**, Drain; **Eugene Matkowski**, Equalization; **Joan Lane**, Health; **Margit B. Beutal**, Parks & Recreation; **Elaine Palmer, Robert Coyle**, Probate Court. **Michael Bray, Anthony Golicz, Lawrence Miller, Joseph Nadison, Ronald Soncrainte, Sr.**, Sheriff Department.

The following employees were eligible for retirement but elected to leave county employment under the defined contribution plan and received service award plaques in recognition of their outstanding service records: **C. Vincent Luzi**, Personnel; **Thomas Gorney, Melvin Strickland, Jr.**, Probate Court; **Keith Brodkorb, James Coates, Ronald Winkler**, Sheriff Department; **Ronald Winkler** also received a 30 year service award plaque.

Despite their absence from the Retirement and Service Awards Program, **Henry Roehl** was recognized for 35 years of service and the **Hon. Robert Shipper** and the **Hon. Eugene Moore** were recognized for 30 years of service.

Employees with 25 years of service who were not in attendance at the program included: **Peter Zemelis**, Aviation & Transportation; **John Benedict**, Drain; **Clifford Robbins**, Equalization; **Alan Duvall, Thomas Lepping**, Facilities Maintenance & Operations; **Virginia Madill, Johanna Villella**, Fiscal Services; **Richard Parker**, Health; **Debra Henrickson**, Information Technology; **Robert Coffey, Raymond Delasko**, Parks & Recreation; **Robert Beno, William Evans, Arnold Helwig, Dale LaBair, Raymond Walko**, Sheriff Department; **Pamela Barton**, Verterans' Services.

Employees with 20 years of service but not in attendance at the program included: **Mary Hoopfer, Don McNeal**, Children's Village; **The Honorable Francis X. O'Brien, Pamela Voll**, Circuit Court; **Michael Kyle**, Community Development; **Nancy Gaydos, David Gladfelter, Jean Gramlich, Margie Olliffe**, Community Mental Health Board; **Elaine Hunt**, 52/1 District Court; **Lou Ann Cason, Virginia Reader, 52/3 District Court; Patricia Barger, Donald Chevalier, Vivian Jones, Sharon Nuttall, Susan Persinger, Manual Ruelas, Gary Smithson**, Facilities Maintenance & Operations; **Elaine Bryant, Charlyne Johnson**, Friend of the Court; **Alan Drenchen, Barbara Puckett**, Health; **Martha Harmon**, Information Technology; **Kathleen Myers**, Medical Care Facility; **Joseph Champion, Gordon Goodwin**, Parks & Recreation; **Dallas Coleman, Gerald Coury**, Probate Court; **Deborah Hool**, Reimbursement; **James A'Hearn, Jan Berg, Sheila Bowman, Thomas Earle, John Graham, David Oesch, Keith Overbuy, Tom Plotinski, Joseph Quisenberry, Janice Rhines, James Smith, Robert Spezia**, Sheriff Department; **Darlene Rice**, Treasurer.

Besides giving old friends a chance to reminisce, the Retirement and Service Awards recognize the achievements of each employee. "It's like a family here," said gold watch recipient **Dodie LaMarte**, "People want to stay at the county because morale is important. For the past twenty-five years this has been a great place to work."

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recording more than **331,000** takeoffs and landings last year.

"Oakland County is the engine that drives the Michigan economy," said Congressman Joe Knollenberg (R-Bloomfield Hills). It is important for the airport to add horsepower to that economy."

Michigan Aeronautics Commission members Lowell Kraft and Alice Gustafson, as well as Federal Aviation Administration officials Kenneth Waggoner and Sylvia Corcoran also spoke at the ceremony.

Oakland County International Airport also has the look of the "world class" air-

port it has become. There is a new boulevard entrance, lavish landscaping which includes trees, flowers, and signage. Much of the credit for this marvelous transformation goes to **J. David Vanderveen**, director of Central Services; Airport Manager **Karl Randall**, and **Pat Shull**, supervisor of Airport Administrative Services.

The Airport is home to approximately 150 corporations, businesses, air freight firms, charter companies and private owners, all of whom have a combined total of 800 aircraft based there. Since full time customs service became available on Jan.

2, 1996, the number of international flights touching down at the airport has more than quadrupled. It's been estimated that Oakland County International Airport contributes more than \$100 million to Oakland County's economy.

Our thanks to everyone who participated in making this a successful event, despite the weather. I would like to personally extend my sincere appreciation to the Oakland County Sheriffs Department Honor Guard for lending an aura of pageantry to the festivities.

NACO / Continued from Page 1

mugshot system which serves nine local police agencies, including the Oakland County Sheriff's Department. The regional mugshot system links individual mugshot systems at participating law enforcement agencies with one centralized regional processor which stores mugshots and other data that can be electronically transmitted among departments.

In addition, Information Technology and the Clerk's Office collaborated on a project which earned both departments a NACO award. In the Fall of 1996, the Oakland County Clerk's Election Division initiated a project designed to improve the method used to report election results. The goal is to make the results of individual elections in Oakland County more quickly available to those citizens only interested in learning the outcome of certain races. The solution, presented by Information Technology, was to use the Internet as a vehicle to publish the most current election results for each race taking place within Oakland County. By utilizing the county's already existing Web site, citizens could log onto their computers at home and extract information on the races of interest to them without being forced to sift through the hundreds of races being reported by local radio and TV stations.

The Community Corrections Division won a NACO award for its Pre-Trial Services Supervision Program which has proven to be effective in eliminating the needless incarceration of pre-trial defendants. The program has saved the taxpayers of Oakland County more \$3.8 million, while reducing the incarceration rate of pre-trial defendants from 60 percent to a level of between 38 and 40 percent.

"I would like to congratulate all of those individuals who played key roles in implementing the award winning programs which have earned Oakland County this national recognition," Mr. Patterson said. "Once again the creative and hard working employees of Oakland County Government have shown why they are consistently among the best in the nation. Because of their dedicated efforts, Oakland County Government is a smooth running and cost efficient operation."

Since January 1993, when Mr. Patterson took office as County Executive, more than three dozen Oakland County government programs have been singled out for NACO awards.

Dear Reader:

Since January 1993, it has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve as Editor of the Telegraph. When I came on board, I knew nothing about newsletter design or layout. I still don't, but fortunately I've been blessed with two extraordinary individuals who have talent for such things.

First, there was **Bob Forrest** who was a very gifted individual and should receive much of the credit for the early design changes which I think made the Telegraph more enjoyable to read. When Bob retired in 1994 because of health reasons, I had doubts about finding someone as talented to fill his shoes.

I looked to my intern at the time, **Mark Cleveland**, for help. Mark rose to the challenge beautifully and over the past three years he has tweaked, pruned and fine-tuned the Telegraph to make it an even better publication. But Mark's contributions go far beyond putting together a first-rate newsletter. Over the past three years, Mark has made his graphic skills available to a number of other executive departments, as well as the Board of Commissioners. On occasion, he has also donated his time to video tape or photograph important county sponsored events such as Mr. Patterson's annual State of the County Address.

Mark Cleveland has always been there to help when asked—without reservation or complaint. All of this is a prelude to informing you that Mark will be leaving county government (his last day was October 17). Mark has decided to follow Horace Greeley's advice and head west. He will become a resident of that "City by the Bay"—San Francisco.

While I am extremely saddened to see him go, I understand his desire to explore new horizons.

Mark has been a real asset to Oakland County government and on behalf of its 4,300 employees, I extend to him our sincere thanks for a job well done and wish him well in whatever career path he pursues in the future.

Sincerely,



Bob Dustman
Media & Communications
Officer

Michigan's Outstanding Planner of the Year

Nicole Stec,
Media & Communications

Deborah Schutt, or Debbie as she is better known, began her years at the county as a summer student. She helped edit, "Out of Small Beginnings," a book of county history. This title is an apt description of Debbie's career. She began as a summer student, and until her retirement on Oct. 3 was the supervisor of Planning and 1997 Planner of the Year. On Sept. 18, the Michigan Society of Planning Officials and the Michigan Chapter of the American Planning Association presented Debbie with the Outstanding Professional Planner of the Year Award. This award signifies that Debbie's work is valued by the community and the profession. For example, the Michigan Society of Planning Officials is a state wide organization of over 4,000 citizens who serve on community planning commissions, while the American Planning Association is a professional group of Debbie's peers. Recognition on these two fronts is proof of Debbie's exceptional skills.

As a professional planner, Debbie directed a staff of 18 full and part-time professionals, in addition to participating in project work. Since Oakland County includes 61 municipalities, Debbie and her



Debbie Schutt
Supervisor of Planning,
Community & Economic Development

group worked at finding solutions to planning problems that will be of benefit to individual communities, while satisfying the needs of the county as a whole. In addition, the opinions and needs voiced by residents must also be considered. Up to her retirement, Debbie was working on a program to address the conservation concerns of Oakland County residents. She established the Shiawassee and Huron Headwaters Resource Preservation Project which involves the identification and conservation of natural resources throughout the less developed communities of Highland, Milford, Rose, Springfield and White Lake. "Conservation is a big concern in

the county," explains Debbie. "We have quite a bit of undeveloped land in these areas. We need to establish wildlife corridors, as well as maintain the quality of the ground water. By being proactive we can insure that new economic development will not degrade the natural environment."

Although Debbie expertly handled conservation efforts in our county's more rural areas, two of her greatest professional achievements have involved highly visible urban roadways. In the past ten years she has played a key role as project manager for the Woodward Corridor Study, as well as the Eight Mile Boulevard Corridor Task Force. "Both jobs helped me grow professionally," said Debbie. These projects drew statewide recognition to her efforts. The Woodward Avenue Corridor study received the 1996 Outstanding Planning Award from MAPA/MSPO.

Even in light of her achievements, Debbie feels that she owes a debt of gratitude to Oakland County. "Oakland County has provided me with many opportunities," she said. "They helped me earn my master's degree. And, I've had the chance to work with fantastic people." After her retirement, Debbie's career will continue to move forward. She is starting a consulting firm from her Bloomfield Township home. Congratulations Debbie, and may you continue to enjoy success in your new venture!

Home economist dishes up savory honor

As Lois Thieleke, MSU Extension-Oakland County home economist, drove to the Doubletree Suites in Troy to attend the annual meeting of the Michigan Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, the last thing on her mind was that she would be awarded the organization's top honor. Her role during the two day meeting was to present an award to someone — or so she thought.

However, when the Master of Ceremonies began relating a particular story about the 1997 recipient of the Outstand-

ing Home Economist Award, Lois knew she was the honoree. It was hard for her to imagine that anyone else in the audience had been nabbed carrying a fish fillet knife on a flight from the Upper Peninsula to Detroit. But that's a whole other story, better left for another time.

"When they started telling that story, I looked around the room and thought to myself, I'm probably the only person here to try to fly with a fish fillet knife in her briefcase," laughed Lois.

When her name was announced as the winner of this prestigious award and two

of her children along with two of her grandchildren walked in through a side door, Lois said she thought she was going to lose it.

"I thought to myself; I'm going to have to make an acceptance speech and I've got to be able to make sense," said Lois. "I can't be a blithering idiot, so I said to myself — keep it together Lois."

Lois has been with MSU Extension since 1977, when she was hired to handle consumer calls on a special hotline following a botulism outbreak at a local restaurant in Pontiac.

THE BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES

GREEK & ROMAN MYTHOLOGY

November 20

The myth of Persephone, whom the god Hades snatched away to the Underworld, had deep resonance for people throughout the Greek and Roman worlds. Susan Wood, from the Department of Art & Art History at Oakland University, will discuss how this myth, from art to funerary practices, dominated the lives of those in ancient times.

ART-DECO DRESS

December 18

Fashion is an expression of the spirit of the age and there have been few times when art and fashion were more intertwined than in the Art Deco period of the early 1900s. Susannah Worth, an expert on historic costume and textiles, will talk about the exciting relationship of this period.

Presented by the Office of Arts, Culture and Film in the Information Technology Auditorium from noon to 1 p.m. Call (248) 858-0415 for more information.

NEW PLACES & FACES

FOND FAREWELLS

Jim Beauchamp, Information Technology, bid a fond farewell on July 11.

Jezebell Clark, Facilities Maintenance & Operations Division, retired on Sept. 12 after 25 years of service.

Mark Cleveland, Executive Office, bid farewell on Oct. 17 to move to San Francisco, Calif.

Kathy Craven, Park & Recreation, bid a fond farewell in June to become a full-time mother.

Larry Dailey, Drain Commissioner's Office, Operations & Maintenance Division, resigned from the Sewer Maintenance Department on June 7 to move to Kentucky.

Gary Downhour, Drain Commissioner's Office, Right-of-Way Unit, retired on June 13 after 31 years of service.

Tracy Hackman, Risk Management & Safety, left on Sept. 12 to devote herself to being a full time mother.

Phyllis Herrick, Clerk's Office, retired on Aug. 15 after 18 years of service.

Deborah Schutt, Development & Planning unit supervisor, bid farewell on Oct. 1 after over 20 years of service.

Jeffrey Walter, Drain Commissioner's Office, resigned on May 23 to start his own business.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Kelvin Baker, Drain Commissioner's Office, Operations & Maintenance Division, was hired on July 14 as maintenance labor at the Eight Mile Water Department.

Kevin Luebbert, Drain Commissioner's Office, Operations & Maintenance Division, was hired on July 7 as engineering technician in the Sewer Maintenance Department.

Leeanne Patton, Drain Commissioner's Office, Operations & Maintenance Division, was hired on May 28 as a student in the Sewer Maintenance Department.

Denise Sedman, Development & Planning Marketing Unit, was hired on Sept. 29 as the marketing coordinator.

Christopher Winkler, Drain Commissioner's Office, Operations & Maintenance Division, was hired on July 14 as maintenance labor in the Sewer Maintenance Department.

COMING & GOING

TRANSFERS

Patrick Carr, Parks & Recreation, transferred from the Eight Mile Water Department on June 7.

Kathy Crawford, Parks and Recreation, transferred from Community Mental Health and has been assigned to the Parks Public Communications Division.

Sue Quinlan, Executive Office, transferred from the Health Department as a graphic artist on Oct. 20.

PROMOTIONS

Steve Ainsley, Drain Commissioner's Office, Operations & Maintenance Division, was promoted from pump maintenance mechanic I to pump maintenance mechanic II at SOCSDS on July 5.

Austin Amene, Facilities Engineering, was promoted to facilities engineer II on April 26.

Sammy Cowell, Maintenance Division, was promoted to skilled maintenance mechanic II on May 10.

Kathy Daniel, Clerk's Office, was promoted to junior accountant on Aug. 16.

Tomi Hunt, Risk Management & Safety, was upgraded to technical assistant.

Nicole Mills, Drain Commissioner's Office, Inspection Department, was promoted from general clerical to typist I on May 24.

Suzanne Reynolds, Drain Commissioner's Office, Operations & Maintenance Division, was promoted from clerk I to maintenance labor at the Eight Mile Water Department on June 21.

Grateful family helps others

Tom Woodard, chief of contract services for Community Mental Health, has demonstrated that giving can be contagious. Last summer after his home on Lake Oakland was destroyed by fire, Woodard's co-workers and those in other county departments chipped in and raised more than \$1500 to help him and his family get back on their feet.

But since insurance covered most of the damage, Woodard has decided that money can better be used by someone else. So with the blessing of his family, Woodard has donated the entire \$1500 to a single mom whose mobile home was demolished when

a tornado struck her trailer park in northern Oakland County last July.

"The woman is an acquaintance of a friend of ours and we just felt she needed the money more than we did because she has no insurance to cover the loss," said Woodard. "She plans to use the money to make a down payment on another mobile home."

Woodard said he would be eternally grateful to the employees of Oakland County for their generosity, but he felt the truly humanitarian thing to do would be to give the money to someone who really needed it.

KUDOS

Connie Sims, Drain Commissioner's Office, Operations & Maintenance Division, was promoted from engineering aid II to engineering technician on June 21.

Agnes Smith, R.N., received her master's in Community Health Nursing in May and was promoted to supervisor of the General Clinic at the Walled Lake Office in September.

Jack Stamper, Drain Commissioner's Office, Operations & Maintenance Division, was promoted from pump maintenance mechanic I to pump maintenance mechanic II at SOCSDS on July 5.

Heidi Talbot, Clerk's Office, was promoted to Circuit Court records clerk on Aug. 16.

Charles VanBibber, Drain Commissioner's Office, Inspection Department, was promoted from construction inspector I to construction inspector II on May 24.

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHS

Mark Baker, Facilities Maintenance & Operations, and his wife Tammy are the proud parents of Denise Leanne born on Sept. 11.

Katie Beauchamp, Register of Deeds, and husband Bernie are celebrating the birth of their daughter, Kaitlyn Anne, born on May 11.

Sheila Hall, Register of Deeds, and her husband Felix have a new son, John Turner Richardson born on June 9.

Gary Mundy, STP's, and his wife Lori welcomed their new baby boy, Joshua Cooper on July 2.

Heidi Talbot, Clerk's Office, and her husband Andy are the proud new parents of Dillon John born April 21.

Francis Zak, Information Technology, and wife, Theresa, are the proud parents of their second son, Francis Peter, Jr., born July 2.

MARRIAGES

Steve Stanford, Facilities Engineering, married Rebecca July on July 12.

Tiffany Day, Clerk's Office, was married on June 7 to Tim Boger.

Delley Davis, Clerk's Office, was married to Chet Bartle on April 5.

Jestina Booth, Safety Division, married Lawrence Redmon on Aug. 31.

Carl Pardon, Veterans Services, was re-elected as First President of National Association of County Vet Services Officers at their conference in New Jersey.

Ralph Richard, Parks and Recreation, has been appointed president of the National Association of County and Recreation Officials for 1997-98. During the last three years, he has served NACPRO as Third, Second and First Vice-President.

Dave Brown, Drain Operations/Maintenance, completed all requirements for D-1 and D-2 certification (limited treatment) from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Congratulations to **Larry Mitchell**, office supervisor II, Register of Deeds, who got a hole-in-one at Pontiac Country Club on July 21.

Mike Wilk, Information Technology, got a hole-in-one on the seventh hole (par 3, 150+ yards) at Baypoint Country Club in West Bloomfield on Sept. 5. It was his first drive of the day at a "shotgun" start outting. Obviously, it was all uphill from there.

Kathy Wheeler, Public Health nursing supervisor, has received an honorary recognition from the school district of the City of Pontiac Community Collaborative for her work with the Pontiac Schools. Kathy and her public health nurses were recognized for their work in the Prevent Unintended Pregnancy Project, School Immunization Program, Teen Health Center, School First-Aid Training, Asthma Class Teaching, Teen Mom Back to School Project and many more. A plaque was presented to Kathy by Pontiac School Superintendent Dr. Abram, at a Pontiac School Community Collaborative meeting.

Betty Yancey, Infant Health Promotion Program coordinator, Health Division, recently received two awards for her work in the community. Betty received the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Professional Service Award, and Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Michigan Coalition Award for Outstanding Leadership and Exemplary Life Work on behalf of Women and Children. Betty has worked diligently both at work and in her Pontiac Community to improve health outcomes of mothers and children in Oakland County.

Pamela S. Howitt, Ph.D., deputy court administrator, Oakland County Probate Court, was recently selected as a presenter and panelist for the 1998 Winter Institute of the American Probation and Parole Association. Dr. Howitt's research paper, "Reducing Delinquency Through Community Collaboration: An Evaluation of Applied Prevention Strategies" was selected for presentation at the upcoming event.

THE SWAP SHOP

WANTED: Used Refrigerator for the garage. Must be in good working condition and reasonably priced. Please contact Bob at (248) 858-1048 during business hours Monday through Friday or evenings at (248) 788-9526.

FOR SALE: Sears Riding Lawnmower; 8 H.P.; 3 speeds; great condition; \$300 firm. Home: 682-8726 or work 858-2930 (Peggy).

FOR SALE: 1986 Parkwood Mobile Home; excellent condition; Located in White Lake Mobile Home Park; \$24,900. Call Julie at 858-1042 or leave message at (248) 666-3168.

FOR SALE: (2) 10-speed Huffys bikes, \$10 each; super-single waterbed with 6 drawers, \$100; queen size waterbed with headboard, \$75; end table, \$10; 2 hanging lamps with globes, \$25 each; Smith-Corona Word Processor, \$75; Please call 634-0998 evenings or 80465.

FOR SALE: 1988 Honda Accord LX; power pkg.; prime condition; new breaks; orig. owner; 113,000 miles; \$2900; Call Jan 858-4625.

Oakland County Information Hotline: (248) 858-1022

Giving you your choice of news:

Press **1** for Employee Information

Press **2** for late breaking
Oakland County news

Press **3** for Arts & Cultural Events

Press **4** for Community & Minority
Affairs News

Employee of the Month

by Nicole Stec, Media & Communications

Helping others find hope in times that can be unbearable is what **Robin Riendl** does on a daily basis in the Office of Infant Health. Oakland County is so proud of her achievements, she has been selected as the Employee of the Month.

Robin began her career in a co-op program in Personnel. She also served stints with the Accounting division and Health Substance Abuse.

The Infant Health office works very closely with the MichCare program, where Robin has spent most of her time providing pregnant females with information to make unexpected situations a little easier. Robin is also responsible for all applications, making sure follow up referrals are completed. MichCare provides services in Oakland County to 650 people a year. With offices in Southfield and Walled Lake, Robin drives one day a week to the Walled Lake office, making sure everything is running smoothly.

MichCare began in October 1988 in Oakland County. Robin has been there every step of the way. "This is a really good resource for those who need the assistance," said Robin.

Besides working for the county, Robin enjoys attending her son Kyle's baseball games. She also enjoys boating and playing with her dog, Trini and her cat Howard. Robin resides in White Lake. (Article by Jennifer Delle-Monache)



It's hard to imagine that a single letter dropped in a county mail box can contribute to a daily influx of up to 9,000 pieces of mail. However, Employee of the Month **Adam Bailey** is well aware of the tremendous effort involved in sorting and shipping all those letters. "We start sorting mail first thing in the morning. Then, we have to start our pick up route. Everything must be done by the end of the day," says Adam. With these deadlines, every member of the mail room staff must work diligently, but Adam's performance surpasses his job description. He is always willing to pitch-in and help out a co-worker. In fact, Adam's been spotted picking up mail in the Executive Office Building. The route is not part of his normal day, but Adam volunteered for the duty. Adam attributes some of his team spirit to his two years of Army experience. "Being in the service really helped me learn how to work with, and get along with, different types of people," says Adam.



Adam plays volleyball with a recreation team that competes around the state. "Traveling with the team is fun. It doesn't get too serious. My favorite part of traveling is seeing the west side of the state. I love to be on the water," says Adam. He lives in Clarkston with his family.

"It's more than just a job; I put my heart into the work," says Employee of the Month **Bonnie Milton**. Bonnie has been putting his heart into Oakland County for almost thirty years. He started his career at Camp Oakland, but he has been a Children's Village staff member since 1978. As a program supervisor, Bonnie responds to emergency situations, supervises daily activities, and coordinates special trips outside the campus. With his walky-talky by his side, Bonnie is in constant communication with other staff members. Together they form a web of support which keeps Children's Village running smoothly. However, those who know Bonnie recognize that his skills go way beyond his job description. Bonnie's cool demeanor and patient attitude have proven invaluable in crisis situations. Not surprisingly, his hard work has had long reaching effects. "My favorite part of the job is talking to former Children's Village residents and finding out that they are now productive citizens," says Bonnie.



When Bonnie's not at work, he hones his fishing skills on Michigan's lakes. Before long, he will have plenty of time to fish, because he is retiring in December. With plenty of leisure time on his future agenda, Bonnie will be able to spend more time with Carol, his wife of over 25 years, his son, and his three young grandchildren. The Miltons live in Pontiac.

In 1973, Barb Sargent began her career as a co-op student in the Treasurer's Office. Today, this Employee of the Month plays a key role in one of Oakland County's low profile, yet essential offices.

As an auditor III, Barb keeps District Court's financial records in tip-top shape. However, she also has the responsibility of keeping the county in step with technological advances. Currently, Barb is helping several departments install touch screen computer registers. Through both of these challenging projects, Barbara showcases her credentials. She completed her associate's of Accounting degree at Oakland Community College, then sought out a more advanced degree from Walsh College. She graduated with a bachelor's of Business Administration degree. Though her education reflects business minded professionalism, Barb is a well-rounded worker who finds time to address the needs of her co-workers. She is a very active alternate on the Employee Suggestion Program committee.



To keep active outside work, Barb is planning a trip to see her brother in California. "He'll be my guide for the trip," laughs Barb. "He usually comes to see me in Michigan, but this year he has a lot of plans, maybe even a visit to Santa Barbara." Barbara lives in Walled Lake with her college-age daughter Carie, and her 13-year-old son David.