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Telegraph



yokland county easter egg hunt



An egg-stra special event

The air might have been a little on the chilly side for the 2nd Annual Yolklnd County Employee Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30, but the nearly 3000 current and retired employees, including their children and grandchildren, didn't seem to mind as they hopped from one activity to the next. In addition to the egg hunt and the much-anticipated marshmallow drop, the carnival-like atmosphere included an entertaining juggler on stilts, a maze, the Jupiter Jump, a puppet show, pony rides, petting farm, face

painting, fire truck rides, a musician, fingerprinting by the Sheriff's Department, and pictures with the Easter Bunny. Volunteers were kept busy at the food tents, doling out hot dogs, popcorn, doughnuts, and liquid refreshments to the hungry crowd.

As always, a big thank you is in order to the sponsors and donors, the committee and all the volunteers, headed by Suzy Vogt, whose efforts made this year's Yolklnd County Easter Egg Hunt a huge success.



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from the desk of

Libby Hrabonz

nutritionist, Health Dept.



from the desk features an employee guest columnist writing in an area of their job expertise. If you would like to be the next guest columnist, contact Margie at 85432.

Weight loss myths

"Lose weight fast! We'll tell you how!" Try the low-carbohydrate diet, the green tea diet, and the cabbage soup diet - or drink a shake and lose 10 pounds in 10 days...and so on, and so on. With so many products and weight loss theories out there, it's easy to get confused.

What makes weight control so difficult?

The way we live makes weight gain easy. We have efficient modes of transportation and pastimes that promote inactivity. High calorie foods are widely available, and fatty foods taste good. Changing unhealthy lifestyle behaviors is difficult and complicated, which is why fad diets are so widely accepted.

What's wrong with the fad diets like The Zone and Sugar Busters?

There is a lack of scientific research to back up claims made in these diet books that make suggestions or imply that weight loss is easy. They promise a quick fix and for some people weight loss may occur, but it is usually from eating fewer calories.

The Zone diet limits carbohydrates on the

theory that they promote insulin production, which leads to weight gain. The caloric recommendation in the zone diet is only 850 calories a day. Anyone can lose weight eating 850 calories whether they are following the diet or not.

Not every part of a fad diet is bad. Sugar Busters recommends decreasing sugar intake, but that is only one aspect of a healthy diet. With fad diets, the negatives outweigh the positives. The best way to lose weight is to cut back on the number of calories by eating smaller portions, consuming more fruits and vegetables, and being more physically active.

Should you be concerned about herbal diet pills?

Before using an herbal weight loss product, check with your doctor or other qualified health professional. The most popular herbal diet drug, ephedra (ma-huang), is found in Metabolife, and Herbalife, among others. When combined with caffeine, ephedra is supposed to suppress your appetite and stimulate your metabolism. However, it may increase

your risk of a heart attack, seizure, stroke, and sudden death.

Herbal laxatives and diuretics such as aloe, rhubarb root, buckhorn, cascara, senna, parsley, juniper, and dandelion leaves are found in Super Dieters Tea, Trim-Maxx Tea, and Water Pill. Herbal laxatives and diuretics cause significant loss of body fluids, not fat. Large fluid losses may result in low potassium levels, which can cause heart problems. Laxative use over a long time may cause your bowel to become dependent on them to function.

If you have any other questions, or if you want to lose weight, talk to your doctor, a registered dietitian, or other qualified health professional who can give you advice on how to eat a healthy diet and lose weight safely.

For more information contact the Weight-control Information Network at www.niddk.nih.gov/health/health.hmt or toll-free at (877) 946-4627. Another good website is www.MayoClinic.com.

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Letters to the Editor

"Add great things to do with kids on the weekends. List unique programs that are available."

Katherine Graham
Planning & Econ. Dev.

Readers, we need your help on this one.

"A reporter could spend a day in the life of employees in different departments, ie; Probate - we have lots of great stories!"

Jill Daly
Probate Court

Jill, department doings will be a regular feature on page 12 of each issue.

"During national crises, an area dedicated to Oakland County employees, family members who are serving their (our) country should be added."

Steve Percival
Children's Village

Great idea. Anyone got a story? Call 84096

"I really like the idea of the Q&A for county benefits. Also, maybe profile the retirement unit."

JoAnn Stringfellow
Board of Commissioners

Q&A will be on page 8 of every issue.

"Southfield Health is rarely included in anything. We are interesting people too!"

Donna Bidinger
Health Division

We agree. Call us, South Health!

"Publish more often especially when fund raisers are going on so all areas know dates, times, places, and volunteer needs. Circulation to all employees, not just the county center. We have many at the north and south end of the county."

Mary S. Young
Sheriff's Dept.

Unfortunately, we are only able to publish quarterly. For those who are not receiving the newsletter, call 84096.



"it was a dark and stormy night"

by Gail Novak, chief of emergency response and preparedness

Spring is here!! And with warming temperatures comes severe weather. Everyone needs to know what the alerts mean and what to do.

Be weather wise, know the weather forecast for the day when you wake up and prepare for your daily activities.



Watch -

means that conditions exist for the development of severe weather alerts such as a thunderstorm or tornado watch.



Thunderstorm warning -

means that dangerous lightning, large hail and damaging winds are expected. Multiple tornadoes may be produced.



Tornado warning -

means that a tornado has been detected, take shelter immediately

Seek Shelter

In the home, a basement offers the greatest safety. Seek shelter under sturdy furniture or, in a home without a basement, take cover in the center of the house on the lowest floor in a closet or bathroom.

At work or school, go to the basement or to an inside hallway at the lowest level. Avoid places with wide-span roofs such as auditoriums and cafeterias, large hallways and windows.

Mobile homes are extremely vulnerable. When a tornado watch or warning is issued, take shelter in a building with a strong foundation. If shelter is not

available, lie in a low-lying area a safe distance away from the mobile home.

Never try to outride a tornado. Tornadoes can change direction quickly and can toss a vehicle through the air. Get out of the car immediately and take shelter. If no shelter is available, lie in a ditch or low-lying area.

Each year many people are killed or seriously injured by tornadoes despite advance warning. Some did not hear the warning, while others received the warning but did not believe a tornado would affect them. You must make the decision to seek shelter before the storm arrives.

Contact us at 858-5300 for more information or visit the Emergency Response and Preparedness website at www.co.oakland.mi.us.

you have spoken

Revamping the Telegraph

A big "Thank You" to all the employees who took the time to share their opinions and suggestions with us. The comments were insightful, helpful, honest, and amusing, and enabled us to focus on the issues that seemed to be of greatest interest for employees (check out some of the comments in the Letters to the Editor box). We appreciate the feedback, and will try to incorporate as many of the changes as possible. Our success, though, will depend on continued employee participation.

We welcome suggestions for future articles, letters to the editor, guest writers, employee benefit questions, restaurants, and "Telegraphing Our Talents" submissions. The Telegraph offers the perfect forum for sharing opinions, experiences, interests, and achievements.

The key to submitting articles in time for publication is to think ahead. Contributing articles/information should be submitted at least one month prior to publication according to the following schedule:

January - have articles/information submitted by the first of Dec.

April - first of March

July - first of June

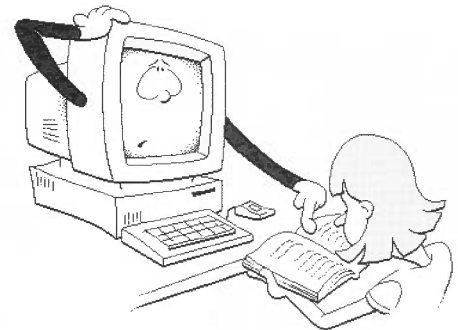
October - first of September

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*We reserve the right to edit submissions due to space constraints.



1. "Department Doings"	78%
2. Employee Benefit Q&A	76%
3. "Telegraphing Our Talents"	36%
4. Quarterly Puzzle, Contest, or Promotion	37%
5. Cartoons	26%
6. League Standings	19%
7. Letters to the Editor	27%
8. Restaurant Review	37%
9. Human Interest Stories	73%
10. Video Review	10%
11. New Design and Layout	15%
12. More Pictures	22%
13. Less Pictures	1%

A star is born



"Don't be afraid to do the things you've always wanted to do," advises Julie Skene. "It doesn't hurt to try." All our lives we've heard these, and similar motivational comments, like Nike's "Just Do It" slogan. Perhaps we've heard them so much, that we've become desensitized to the full meaning, but talking to a person who lives by those words can show us what taking a chance is all about.

Julie, a PEDS GIS technician, recently spotted an ad in the Metro Times that read, "Open Call - looking for people with unusual talents and costumes." Now, some of us might see that and think, "I can just imagine the kind of unusual talents they're looking for." But, the adventurous side of Julie thought it sounded like fun and, since she had no other plans for the day, she packed up some costumes, a recent photo inscribed with a quick rundown of her previous experience and talents, and off she went.

The audition was for a script film about vampires co-existing in three different realms: past, present, and future. Julie was auditioning for a belly-dancing part. As she waited her turn to audition, a few of the other hopefuls told Julie it would be a great idea to wear one of her costumes for the panel. "What the heck," she thought, "I don't know these people, so what if I make a fool of myself." She boldly walked in to her audition wearing the belly-dancing costume, and danced for the panel. Julie's willingness to put herself on the line got her a standing ovation, and, not one, but three parts in the movie. "Filming has been a blast," she said. "I've made a lot of new friends and have the opportunity to be cast in future local films."

"lifesaver award"



Melissa Hardenburgh, a youth specialist II at Children's Village, is a very family-oriented person. She spends her days caring for 20 girls she refers to as her daughters, offering them the same guidance, support, and loving care she gives her own children.

In March, Melissa's ability to perform under pressure was tested when she became more than just a surrogate mom to one of the girls, she became her "angel". When the teenager began choking on a piece of orange during lunch, Melissa remained calm and reacted to the situation by administering the Heimlich maneuver, which promptly dislodged the orange section, saving the girl's life. "It was no big deal," said Melissa, taking it all in stride, "I just happened to get there."

The recipient of Melissa's efforts felt differently. She showed her gratitude by presenting Melissa with a hand-made, lifesaver-encrusted picture frame, encasing a letter of thanks that lovingly listed the numerous reasons why "Mrs. H" deserves the "Lifesaver Award."

yorkland county easter egg hunt

photos courtesy of
Margie See and
Darrell Smith



◆ doreen pagel ◆

secretary - executive office



Pineapple Cake

Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees.

- 2 cups flour
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 tsp. Baking soda
- 2 eggs
- 1 20oz. can crushed pineapple, juice and all

Grease and lightly flour 9"x13" baking pan. Combine ingredients and beat for about one minute. Bake 30-35 minutes.

Cream Cheese Frosting

- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 8oz. pkg. Cream cheese
- 1 stick butter or margarine
- 1 tsp. Vanilla

Cream cheese and butter should be at room temperature. Combine all ingredients and beat until smooth. Frost cake when hot if you want a light, glaze-like frosting, or when cool for regular frosting. Sprinkle chopped nuts on top (optional).



◆ jeff helps ◆

budget systems coordinator



Jeff Phelps of Fiscal Services expresses his creativity by designing and handcrafting furniture such as coffee tables, an outdoor gym, a fireplace mantle, entertainment center, and this beautiful roll-top desk.

telegraphing our talent

Everyone has a talent. What's yours?
Call 858-4096.

◆ carmen talbot ◆

state gov't liaison -EOB



"Garden of Life"

In Spring we plant our garden
Our seeds of love we sow.
The days of rain and sunshine
Will help our seeds to grow.

The heat of Summer finds us
Caring for the crops we've sown.
It just doesn't seem possible
How these little seeds have grown.

With the Fall comes preparation
Oh, how carefully we sort.
For when the snow begins to fall
Our time becomes so short.

Now Winter is upon us
Our gems are such a treat.
Our children now will plant the seeds
Our lives have been made complete.

◆ paulette nadeau ◆

secretary - fiscal services



Paulette Nadeau uses her imagination to turn items she has on hand into unique objects of art. One example of her creativity is this decorative yard ornament made from a discarded bowling ball and marbles that were painstakingly glued into place.



Jeff Hibbs



Jeff Hibbs began working for Oakland County as a part-time, seasonal laborer in 1997, and was hired as a maintenance mechanic I for the airport in 1999. While Jeff is a certified firefighter, he has a variety of other duties that keep him so busy he logged in 400 hours of overtime last year alone. It's that kind of dedication that recently earned him the Employee of the Month Award. Supervisor of Maintenance/ARFF, Pete Smith, describes Jeff as a multi-talented employee who has adapted well to the rotating 10-hour shifts and wide array of duties handled at the airport.

Jeff bought a house in Waterford a year ago, and spends a lot of his free time fixing it up and working on the landscaping. He and his Chow, Nala, get away from it all by traveling up north to camp around the Mackinaw City area.

Working with small, start-up companies as well as large corporations gives Mark Adams the opportunity to meet people from a lot of different backgrounds. His position as senior business development rep. for PEDS has taken him all over the country, into Canada, and around Europe as well.

Mark, who has been with the county for five years, left his position with the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation after 10 years to join "one of the better economic development agencies in the country." The goal of his challenging job is to attract companies, retain them, and help them expand within the county. A prime example of that was recently witnessed when Covisint committed to make Oakland County its home. PEDS manager, Dan Hunter, praises Mark's high level of professionalism.

Mark and his wife, Rosa, live in Southfield with their two children, Mark, 17, and Brittany, 11. Mark stays fit by running, playing tennis, and bowling with his wife. His favorite vacation destinations are Florida, Atlanta, Chicago, and the Caribbean.



Mark Adams

" Those who dream by day are cognizant of many things which escape those who only dream by night." Edgar Allen Poe

First aid for smokers

The Oakland County Health Division's Health Education Unit and Providence Hospital are offering quit smoking classes to help smokers kick the habit. The First Aid for Smoker's class includes an educational presentation on the quitting process, a smoker's emergency kit, and instructions on how to utilize the kit. Participants will learn valuable coping skills and receive follow-up support to help in the quitting process. There is no fee for the class or materials. The classes will be held on the following dates.

Thurs., May 9, 2002

Providence Medical Center
16001 W. Nine Mile Rd.
Southfield
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
8D - Medical Bldg.

Tues., May 14, 2002

Medical Center-Providence Park
47601 Grand River
Novi
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Conference Room A

Thurs., May 16, 2002

Providence Medical Center
30055 Northwestern at Inkster
Farmington Hills
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Community Ed. Room

To register

Call Providence Hospital's toll free number (877) 345-5500. Class space is limited and pre-registration is required. For more information call: Michelle DeWyre at (248) 424-7128.



Kathy Grimm experiences a tremendous amount of diversity in both her professional and personal life. Within the Health Division, Kathy equally divides her time between the CD unit and forensic technology. While she finds all aspects of her work interesting, Kathy says her work in forensics reaffirmed her faith in people, and made her realize how short life can be. Dr. Carolyn Bird, chief of medical services, gives high praise to Kathy's dedication and outstanding work ethic.

Kathy and her husband, David, who have been married for 29 years, moved to the area from Muskegon in 1985. Away from work, her friendly, outgoing personality draws her toward people-oriented activities. Kathy enjoys plays and concerts, and has been a volunteer usher at the Fox Theater for more than 10 years. For the past six years, she and her sisters have taken a weeklong cruise with their mom. Their latest adventure, in March, took the group through the breathtaking Panama Canal.



Kathy Grimm

Rick Perry's former positions with DeBolt, and Digital Equipment Corp., included a lot of business travel, and subsequently, a great deal of time away from his family. After just a little over a year with Oakland County, he is happy to have settled into a position that allows him to keep his feet on the ground.

Rick's diligence as project manager during the recent conversion of the Friend of the Court system to the state system earned him the Employee of the Month award in November. Chief of systems development, Kevin Bertram, calls Rick a real "driver". "If human cloning ever becomes an option," he said, "Rick should be one of our first candidates."

Rick and his wife, Kris, live in Bloomfield Township. They have been married 33 years, have five children, and four grandchildren, with another due in April. In addition to the joys of a large family, Rick enjoys a lifestyle filled with outdoor activities, such as tent camping in Canada, walking, and coaching his nine-year-old daughter, Adriana's, soccer team. Favorite vacation spots include Hawaii, Rome, and the Caribbean.



Rick Perry

When Sandy Cowell isn't working, she spends the majority of her time with her husband, Bill, her four adult children, and 10 grandchildren. One of Sandy's hobbies is photography, and frequent family get-togethers at home or at their cabin in Northern Michigan provide her with innumerable opportunities to capture many of their special moments on film.

She is a long-time resident of Waterford, and has been employed as a secretary for Oakland County MSU Extension for 17 years. Office manager, Sue Johnston, refers to Sandy as "one in a million, a great people person." "We put our best foot forward, and that's Sandy," she said. Office director, Lois Thieleke, praises Sandy's abilities to handle phone calls and walk-ins, and find answers when she can't.

Sandy is planning to retire within the next six months, and intends to spend some time catching up on things around the house. Painting and gardening are a couple of priorities on her list of things to do, and she is looking forward to the time when she and Bill can travel.



Sandy Cowell

Christina Nicholas, a clinician in the girls treatment program at Children's Village, was hired just eight months ago, but her contributions quickly earned her the Employee of the Month Award. She recently compiled a substance abuse treatment program that has been implemented in all of the Residential Treatment Cottages. Joanna Overall, Clinical Services supervisor, describes Christina as energetic, enthusiastic, and always prepared to take on a new challenge. "She brought a great deal of experience with her and developed instant leadership within her work assignment," Joanna said.

Aside from her work, Christina enjoys spending time with family, friends, and her dog, Katie. Her high level of energy is fueled by daily workouts, at 5:30 a.m., that include a combination of kick-boxing, weight training, the stairmaster, and elliptical trainer. Christina earned her Master's degree, with a 4.0 GPA, from Wayne State University on a full scholarship.



Christina Nicholas

BENEFITS

Q&A

Q

How do I change my beneficiary?

A

The needed forms to change your beneficiary are found on the "O" drive under

Personnel/Forms/Employee Benefits/Employee Change Kit. Simply print out the "Change Kit" and complete the necessary forms.

Q

How often does my PPO health plan (Blue Preferred Plan) pay for routine physicals?

A

Once each calendar year. They do not need to be 12 months apart.

Q

How do I get the maximum benefit from my vision plan?

A

You must go to a participating provider in the BCBS vision plan.

Some providers may say they will accept the insurance, but it is not the same as being a participating provider. A participating provider has agreed to accept certain BCBS vision plan payments as payment in full (less your co-pay) for covered services.

person to person

L. Brooks Patterson



As is my practice every year during my Annual State of the County Address, I spend time talking about our employees whose work ethic and commitment have elevated Oakland County to a position of excellence among local governmental units in the nation.

The men and women who work on the front lines everyday are the backbone of what we do. Employees like Joel Eaton, Sandy Parucsh, Adam Bailey, Lori Marks and Vickie Smith who work in the mailroom and whose jobs have taken on new significance

and danger since September 11. The spate of anthrax scares locally and around the country mandated tighter security precautions. These dedicated and hardworking individuals wore masks and gloves to sort through the 10,000 pieces of mail the mailroom handles each day. A new x-ray machine was installed to catch any suspicious letters or packages. Not once has any of them complained or expressed fear. Despite uncertainty and potential peril they have kept the mail flowing to county departments. We owe them all a debt of gratitude.

During my February 13 speech, I also recognized those departments and individuals who distinguished themselves during the past year. For the 10th consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada, awarded the Department of

Management and Budget the Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting, the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award and the Popular Annual Financial Report, making Oakland County the only county in Michigan to receive all three prestigious awards simultaneously.

Individual honors were garnered as well. Bob Runyan, a technician in the Radio Department, was named Communications Technician of the Year by the Michigan Police Officers Association; Sandra

Dorey, Parks and Recreation, earned the Sondra Berlin Humanitarian Award and also

the Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the Michigan Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame; Darwin Spaysky, Children's Village, was selected as the Michigan Child Case Worker of the Year in the secure category while his colleague Dolores Burch received the same honor in the non-secure category; Jeff Pardee, director of Management & Budget, became one of the first four people in the nation to earn credentials as a Certified Public Financial Officer.

Congratulations to everyone for outstanding achievement.

"not once have any of these employees complained or expressed fear"

Congress Inn Coney
3418 Highland Rd.
Waterford 248-706-3456

out of the LUNCHBOX

The Peppermill Cafe
2407 Elizabeth Lake Rd.
Waterford 248-682-0083

Located just minutes from our main campus, Congress Coney Island offers fresh, homemade food at very reasonable prices. Owner Norman Bazzi, who opened the restaurant less than two years ago, guarantees the quality of the food he serves by cooking everything himself. Service is fast and friendly. And although the restaurant's interior is small, seating about 50, they also offer speedy carry-out service.

Congress Coney Island serves breakfast anytime, and offers daily specials, like tender baked chicken or fish and chips, in addition to their regular items. The extensive menu contains the usual Coney Island specialties such as coney dogs (\$1.45), chili (\$1.75), Greek salad (\$3.75 and \$4.95), and gyros (\$3.75). Other selections include a blueberry pancakes (\$3.75), chicken strip pita (\$4.35), and shish kebob (\$4.50). The fresh-squeezed orange juice is a pleasant surprise.

As an added bonus, Norman shows his appreciation to his customers by offering a punch card. After buying 5 meals, you will get the 6th meal free! Now that's a good deal.

Quality, freshness, and ample portions are just a few of the reasons the Peppermill Cafe has become a favorite area lunch spot. The restaurant's quick service enables people in a hurry to enjoy their meal without feeling rushed. Carry-out service is also available for all menu items. Peppermill sandwiches include the Monte Cristo (\$6.25); an oriental top round supreme (\$6.25); a garden pita (\$5.25); and grilled cheese supreme, which combines smoked ham, melted cheese, lettuce, tomato, and a special sauce, on a grilled steak bun (\$5.25). The homemade potato chips are a perfect accompaniment.

Delicious homemade soups are available, as well as a nice selection of crispy salads such as the Peppermill ranch, a combination of mixed greens tossed with ranch dressing and topped with sliced top round of beef or a grilled chicken breast, melted cheese, and sauteed onions (\$7.50).

The tiny cafe has very limited seating, so your best bet is to call ahead for take-out or show up early/late if you are dining in.

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

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.

Take the wellness challenge

Join today! Have fun! Challenge your co-workers and earn great prizes while you improve your health! Take the Oakland County Employee (OCE) Wellness Challenge!

The OCE Wellness Challenge, sponsored by the Health Division's Health Education Unit, begins Monday, May 31, 2002 and ends Monday, September 2, 2002. Prizes include T-shirts, Oakland County Parks passes for you and your family, and much more.

If you would like a copy of the Wellness Challenge guidelines and a registration packet, call Mary Dettloff at (248) 424-7172. Registration ends Friday, May 17. For more information, contact Michelle DeWyre at (248) 424-7128 or dewyrem@co.oakland.mi.us.

Regular exercise can increase your energy level, reduce stress, help with weight loss, and improve your health. Don't wait. Sign up today, and begin your journey on the path of good health.

????????????

*Solve the puzzle and send your solution to:
quinlans@co.oakland.mi.us (Sue - 80457)
There will be a drawing and
the winner will receive a prize.*

**Plant ten trees in five rows
of four trees each.**

Column Contest

Your creatively challenged editors need your help. A regular feature of the Telegraph will focus on employees who have had a unique experience, exciting adventure or an inspirational story to tell about themselves or a fellow employee. (see this issue's stories on page 4) We need a name for this column. Suggestions can be e-mailed to seem@co.oakland.mi.us or call us at 84096.

The person who comes up with the best name will have their photo in the Telegraph and receive a prize.

kudos

kudos



Deborah Dean, Fiscal Services, and her husband, Tommy, an associate minister at Christland Missionary Baptist Church in Detroit, were presented with the Oakland Press Carrier of the Year award on 3/5/02. Deborah and Tommy have been delivering papers in the Pontiac area for just over a year.

The Michigan Department of Community Health, Michigan HIV/AIDS Council awarded **Joy Schumacher**, Program Coordinator of the HIV/AIDS Program, with their "Lifetime Achievement Award" for individual long-term dedication to ensuring quality services by fostering community partnerships, raising the visibility of HIV/AIDS through advocacy at state and local levels, and positive representation of planning for HIV programs.

Lani Morgan, Waste Resource Management intern, was awarded the Matilda R. Wilson award at Oakland University. This is the highest honor awarded to just one female and one male graduating senior at OU.

On 8/4/01, **Sue Johnston**, MSU Extension Office, graduated from CMU with a degree in Community Development/Public Administration, earning a 4.0 GPA.

Tricia Smith, Emergency Response and Preparedness (Emergency Management), was elected president of the Oakland County Children's Village Foundation at its annual business meeting in January, 2002. Tricia had served as secretary/treasurer for the Foundation for the last three years.

Stephen Yates, FM&O custodial unit, received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 12/01.

Cathy Appleton, IT, received a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Community Development and a concentration in Public Administration from CMU in 12/01.

Anita Campbell, IT, earned a Bachelor of General Studies degree, minor in Management Information Systems from Oakland University in 12/01.

Chris Becker, IT, completed his Master of Science in Management Information and Communications from Walsh College in 12/01.

The **Health Division** received a grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health to combat cardiovascular disease in African American women over the age of 40.

Carol Morin-Jablonski, Fiscal Services, received her Masters degree in accounting from Walsh College in 8/01.

Lynn McDaniels, Health Division, has been elected to a one-year term as president of the Michigan Public Health Association.

Oakland County Probate and Circuit Court Employees of the Year: **Deborah Fahr**, General Jurisdiction; **Tracey Howden**, Court Services; **Rhonda Taber**, Friend of the Court; **Yvonne Zerba**, Estates and Mental Health; **Karen Koshen**, Judicial Staff; **Kristy Slosson**, Business Division; and **Michael Hand**, Judicial Support.

The Honorable **Linda S. Hallmark** has been re-appointed chief judge of the Oakland County Probate Court for a two-year term, beginning 1/1/02.

Karen Kohn, Oakland County Parks, has been named Distinguished Chapter President by the International Association of Administrative Professionals because her chapter's membership had the largest increase in Michigan.

Fiscal Services has earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, the Excellence in Financial Reporting Award, and the Popular Annual Financial Report Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). Oakland County was one of only two jurisdictions in Michigan to win all three prestigious awards.

The **Oakland County Public Health Division** is celebrating 75 years of public health excellence.

Jeff Pardee, Management & Budget, and **Mary Pardee**, Personnel, have been named Vision 2020 Volunteers of the Year by the Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce.

coming & going

Sheryl Mitchell, senior analyst with the Board of Commissioners, has been selected for MSU's Michigan Political Leadership Program from among a pool of 110 candidates.

Oakland County Special Projects director, **Suzu Vogt**, was recently named a member of the National Association of Counties' (NACo) Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee by NACo president, Javier Gonzales.

Oakland County Board of Commissioner's Vice Chair, **Fran Amos**, has been appointed to the National Association of Counties' (NACo) Telecommunications and Technology Steering Committee.

Nancy Dingeldey, Oakland County Commissioner, has been appointed to the National Association of counties' (NACo) Community and Economic Development Steering Committee.

Ruel McPherson, Oakland County Commissioner, has been appointed to the National Association of Counties' (NACo) Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee.

Hugh Crawford, Oakland County Commissioner, has been appointed to the National Association of Counties' (NACo) Telecommunications and Technology Steering Committee.

Adam Kochenderfer, student intern in the Circuit Court mediation program, recently won the Wilson Award from Oakland University. The Wilson Award is given to a graduating male and female who has contributed the most to the campus community and beyond. Adam has served as the OU Student Body President, the Liaison to the Board of Trustees, and will attend the U of M Law School in May.

Ronald L. Grimes, administrator of Environmental Health Services, received the LaRue L. Miller Sanitarian of the Year Award.

Dawn M. Beemer, senior public health sanitarian with Environmental Health's Pontiac Office received the David H. McMullen Young Professional of the Year Award.

Kim DeMars, a senior public health sanitarian with the Health Division's Environmental Health Services Walled Lake Office was elected to a three-year term on the MEHA Executive Board of Directors.

Information Technology is the recipient of the eGovernance Award of Distinction presented jointly by the National Academy of Public Administration and the National Association of Counties for technological innovation.

Jean Chamberlain, South Oakland Liaison, was recently presented the Mildred Stockley Memorial Award by the Salvation Army.

David Schreiber, supervisor of the Business Development Group, has been selected by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) as Michigan Economic Developer of the Year. He is the first Oakland County government recipient of the award.

Jeffrey Holler, Drain Commissioner's Office environmental planner, has been approved as a certified lake manager by the North American Lake Management Society, Madison, Wisconsin.

Valentina Standfield, **Misti Friend**, & **Leigh Bouchey** have received their state certification for a level I appraiser.

Carol Morin-Jablonski, Fiscal Services, received her masters degree in accounting from Walsh College in August 2001.

transfers



Shelley Domin transferred from the Treasurer's Office to Fiscal Services as supervisor of proprietary accounting.

Carol Sawinski transferred from Fiscal Services to Personnel.

Julie Boike transferred into the Health Education Unit as a health educator, working on the Health Division's Infant Mortality project.

Darla Diclemente was transferred from Personnel to the Drain Office as a clerk II on 11/3/01.

Steve Gay, Health Division, transferred to IT as a user support specialist in the DISC Division - GIS on 12/1/01.

John Davis, Drain Commissioner's Office, transferred to IT as an application analyst/programmer in the DISC Division - GIS on 11/17/01.

Mark Danowski, Drain Commissioner's Office, transferred to IT as a customer service tech in the DISC Division - GIS on 11/17/01.

Kathleen Altman from the Health Division's CHPIS Unit, transferred

from a position as health educator working in tobacco prevention as a health educator in school health.

Mark Wilson transferred from Parks & Rec. to FM&O on 12/1/01.

Kathryn Doebel transferred from the Health Department to Circuit Court Case Management on 9/17/02.

Chris Winkler transferred from Drain Commissioner's office to FM&O as a general maintenance mechanic 3/23/02.

Liz Raymond, FM&O Safety unit, transferred to the Treasurer's Office on 3/23/02.

promotions



Deputy director of Management and Budget, **Laurie VanPelt**, was appointed director of Management and Budget, effective upon the retirement of Jeff Pardee in May, 2002.

Mary Strobe was promoted to program coordinator of the Services to the Aging Program.

Kelly Burdinie was promoted to public health nurse III.

Tracy Feneley was promoted to office leader in Environmental Health/Field Nursing.

Israel Brown, was promoted on October 20, 2001 from engineering aide to GIS/CAD tech I for the Engineering Support Unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Roland Hamilton, was promoted on October 20, 2001 from engineering aide to GIS/CAD tech I for the Engineering Support Unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Elmer Dunny was promoted on October 22, 2001 from seasonal laborer to maintenance laborer for the Sewer Maintenance Unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Chad Reed was promoted from engineering technician to supervisory party supervisor on 9/8/01.

Roland Hamilton was promoted from engineering aide to GIS/CAD technician I on 10/20/01.

Greg Maxey was promoted from construction inspector II to III on 11/3/01.

Elmer Dunny was promoted from seasonal laborer to permanent full-time as a maintenance laborer on 10/22/01.

Fred Millard, FM&O maintenance unit, was promoted to maintenance supervisor II on 12/15/01.

Jacqueline Fouche, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted from typist I to typist II on 1/12/02.

Michele Jetke was promoted on 1/12/02 from typist I to engineering aide for the Operations & Maintenance Division of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Richard Craine was promoted on 1/26/02, from general helper to maintenance laborer in the Water Maintenance Division of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

William E. Harvey, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from sergeant to lieutenant effective 2/9/02.

Sharon A. Beltz, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy I to deputy II, effective 2/23/02.

Mark J. Forest, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy I to deputy II, effective 2/23/02.

Andrew D. Goldberg, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy I to deputy II, effective 2/23/02.

Dean W. Lambouris, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy I to deputy II, effective 2/23/02.

James L. Ridley, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy I to deputy II, effective 2/23/02.

Mark Stanaj, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy I to deputy II, effective 2/23/02.

Joseph R. Vega, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy I to deputy II, effective 2/23/02.

Adam T. Whiting, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy I to deputy II, effective 2/23/02.

Elizabeth Milner was promoted from engineering tech to engineering systems coordinator for the Metering Unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office on 2/23/02.

celebrations life events

Ly Washburn, Children's Village, was promoted from youth specialist II to youth specialist supervisor.

Robert Robbins, Children's Village, was promoted from youth specialist II to youth specialist supervisor.

Chris Luzi, Children's Village, was promoted from youth specialist supervisor to program supervisor.

Johnna Wright, Children's Village, was promoted from youth specialist supervisor to program supervisor.

Richard Kaczanowski, Children's Village, was promoted from program supervisor to child welfare worker I.

Jody Overall, Children's Village, was promoted to Clinical Services supervisor in August, 2001.

Sam Sanford, Children's Village, was promoted to youth specialist II.

Kelly Snelling, Children's Village, was promoted to youth specialist II.

Joseph Brian, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy II to sergeant effective 1/12/02.

David Hendrick, Sheriff's Department, was promoted from deputy II to sergeant effective 1/12/02.

Rima Raouf, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted from CE I to CE II on 3/23/02.

Jenny Shaw was promoted on 2/23/02, from GIS/CAD tech II to user support specialist III for the Operations & Maintenance Division of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Steve Stuart was promoted on 2/23/02, from GIS/CAD tech II to user support specialist III for the Operations & Maintenance Division of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Sean Washington, FM&O Maintenance unit, was promoted to general maintenance mechanic 3/9/02.

David Hieber has been named manager of the Equalization Division.

Tim Soave was promoted to manager of Fiscal Services.

new hires



Rigolea Fhobir (Central Region), **Sherry Kraus** (Central Region), and **Kathleen Williams** (South Region), were hired as PHN's in Field Nursing.

Priscilla Carroll, AHW, transferred to the Child Health Clinic Program.

Katherine Bell was hired by Fiscal Services as the accountant for motorpool

and office equipment, while **Kathleen Bond** was hired as an accountant in the Grant Unit.

Pam Schmelzer and **Amy Sova** have accepted part-time PHN positions in the General Clinic.

Andrea Zak was hired on 11/27/01 as a student for the Pump Maintenance unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Gary Forester was hired on 12/17/01, as a maintenance laborer for the Sewer & Drain Maintenance unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Julie Frodle, Aviation & Transportation, was hired 1/7/02 as a typist I.

David Gambaro was hired on 1/14/02 as a chemist for the Walled Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Sherry Gee was hired on 1/28/02 as an ISO 9000 coordinator for the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Patricia Salter, project manager, was hired 1/28/02 in the Administration Division - GIS of Information Technology.

Sudha Maheshwari, project manager, was hired on 12/17/01 in the DISC Division - GIS of Information Technology.

Jennifer Bouck joined the Health Division as a health educator with the CHPIS unit.

Camilla Cherian joined the Health Division's Health Education unit as an AHW.

Ariane Fountain, Drain Commissioner student employee, hired into the Soil Erosion Division 2/12/02.

Richards was hired as a general helper in the custodial unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office on 1/28/02.

Gordon Bovee was hired as chief of Building Safety for FM&O.

Carl Frazier was hired on 3/4/02 as a general helper for the Water Maintenance Unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Jennifer Zoltowski - clinical psychologist at Children's Village.

Christina Nichols - social worker at Children's Village.

Paul Binelli - clinical psychologist at Children's Village.

Becky Hubarth was hired as a typist I for Children's Village.

Children's Village youth specialist I new hires: **Matt Reppuhn**, **Develon Burnett**, **Steven Glynn**, **Roger Sherman**, **Mark Mathur**, **Jon Hurst**, **Jerome Jager**, **Kevin Wells**, **Bron Leach**, **Raymond Pope**.

Thomas Cherro was hired as a construction inspector I for the Drain Commissioner on 3/11/02.

Circuit Court Case Management welcomed co-op student, **Malgorzata "Maggie" Szabla**, in December 2001.

Christopher Willhite was hired on 3/19/02 as a maintenance laborer for the Drain & Sewer Maintenance unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Joseph Nowry was hired on 3/25/02 as a maintenance laborer for the Drain & Sewer unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Shannon Wandrei was hired on 3/11/02 as a clerk I, part-time, for the Drain & Sewer Maintenance unit of the Drain Commissioner's.

Bill Thatcher was hired 3/25/02 as a groundskeeper II for FM&O.

Richard Vincent will be the new administrator of Equalization effective 4/8/02. He's leaving his post as assessor of Royal Oak City to join us.

Kristie Everett Zamora was appointed director of Arts, Culture, and Film in March 2002.

marriages



Karen Dedenbach, Veteran's Services - Troy Office, married Thomas Talbot 11/24/01. They met at their 30th high school reunion.

Suzanne Ranger of the Health Division, married But Weinert on 11/17/01.

Janette McKenna and Scott

Oppmann, both at IT, were married 11/19/01 in Colorado.

Michelle Shannon, Circuit Court Case Management, married Eric Sawyer in September 2001.

Donna Zoulek, Circuit Court Case Management, married Jerry Place on 10/6/01.

births



Sheryl Sutherland, Treasurer's Office, and her husband, Paul, welcomed their first child, Katherine Elaine, on 11/24/01 - (6lbs. 8.8oz. - 18 1/2")

Karen Warren, civil engineer II, and her husband, Chris, welcomed a baby girl, Emmalee Mary, on 10/22/01.

Sidney Lockhart, and his wife, Laura, are the proud parents of a boy, Sidney Tyler, born on 10/29/01.

Steve Korth, and his wife, Christine, are the proud parents of a baby girl, Chloe Nicole, born 11/7/01.

Congratulations to **Kathy Gasperich**, Sewer & Drain Maintenance, and her husband, Gary, on the birth of their daughter, Amaylia, born 1/20/02.

Jeremy Hunt, Operations & Maintenance Electronics Unit, and his wife, Rose, are the proud parents of a baby boy, Marcus Irving, born 1/26/02.

Deana Farley, Treasurer's Office, and her husband, **Chuck**, Sheriff's Department, had their second child on 2/8/02. Dylan Jeffrey weighed in a 6 1/2 lbs. and 18 1/2". Congratulations.

Todd and Desiree Stanfield, Parks and Recreation, welcomed their first daughter on 10/25/01. Rylee Samantha was 9lbs 4oz and 20" long.

Joycelyn Isenberg, Equalization, welcomed a baby girl, Victoria Elizabeth, 12/20/01 - 7lbs. 11 oz. & 18 1/2".

Gerald Hieber & Dave Hieber, Equalization, have a new grandson & nephew: Carter Joseph (Hieber) Mayhan, born 3/21/02 - 5lbs. 13 oz. & 21" long. Congratulations.

Juli Berres, Community Corrections, and Mike Swanson welcomed twin girls 1/27/02. Aryana Raine, 4lbs. 11 oz. - 18", and Kyra Storme, 4lbs. 13 oz. - 18 1/2".

fond farewells



Andy Case, construction inspector III, Drain Commissioner's Office, 10/19/01.

Kurian Joychan, chemist, Walled Lake STP, Drain Commissioner's Office.

William E. "Bill" Klockow, deputy manager of the Engineering and Construction Division of the Drain Commissioner's Office, retired on 1/31/02 after 32 years of service.

Diane Waggoner left the Health Division after 13 years of service to take a position with Oakland County Intermediate School District.

Lin White, skilled maintenance mechanic II, retired on 2/22/02 after 27 years of service.

Liz Crouse, field nursing PHN in the Central Region, concluded her 22-year, full-time tenure with the Health Division on 3/1/02. She will continue working part-time on the Infant Mortality Reduction project in the Pontiac area.

Arthur Newburn, maintenance laborer for the Sewer & Drain Maintenance Unit of the Drain Commissioner's Office, retired 2/28/02 after 24 years of service.

Suzanne Farran, Clinical Services supervisor at Children's Village, retired in July, 2001.

Robert Vandermark has retired but will remain in Equalization as a part-time employee.

Jeff Pardee, director of Management and Budget, will retire in May, 2002.

announcements



The **Oakland County 4-H Leadership Institute** is currently in need of adult mentors who are able to volunteer 3-5 hours each month, usually on a Wed. evening, to participate in the leadership activities, and lend their perspectives to group

discussions about community issues. The next nine-session program begins with a Saturday retreat on April 27th. The fall class begins Sept. 28. For more information, contact Christy Hicks at (248) 858-0890.

Learn CPR - Courses in adult and infant/child CPR are offered monthly. Call the Emergency Management office at 858-5300 for more information/course registration.

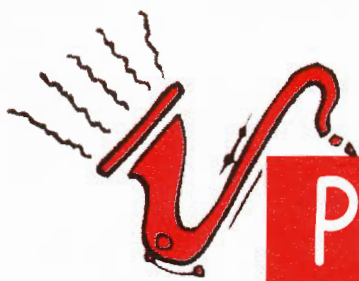
Free wood chips, which come from the annual Christmas tree recycling program, will be distributed at Orion Oaks County Park from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. during the following dates: Apr. 27; May 4, 11, 18, 25; June 29; July 27; Aug. 31; Sept. 28; and Oct. 26. Residents must bring their own shovels, wheelbarrows, and buckets. For more info., call (248) 858-0906 or TTY (248) 858-1684.

At the end of April, work was completed on the newly revamped **Oakland County Board of Commissioners' Auditorium**. Watch for upcoming auditorium dedication and open house news.

for sale



24"X20" fluorescent "Salem" cigarette sign. Asking \$50. Contact: barackj@co.oakland.mi.us



Toot Thy Horn



Parks & Recreation

new stuff

Oakland County's newest addition, Lyon Oaks County Park, is scheduled to open May 1, 2002. The 1027-acre-park is located in Lyon Township on Pontiac Trail, off I-96 at the Wixom Rd. exit. Lyon Oaks will offer visitors an 18-hole, Arthur Hills-designed golf course; driving range; 21,000-square foot, full-service clubhouse; hiking; cross-country skiing; nature trails; recreation fields; remote controlled glider field; picnicking areas; a 12-acre bark park; and environmental education opportunities. The diverse environment provides a natural habitat for plants and wildlife, and is home to Michigan's largest butterfly, the giant swallowtail. For more park information call: (248) 858-0906.

Red Oaks is currently under construction. The park is adding a 1000' action river, a wet deck with spray bubbles, and a wet play area three times the size of the present area at Waterford Oaks. The new features will be open this summer.

Oakland County's 11 beautiful parks provide year-round entertainment and educational opportunities for people of all ages. Those of us who take advantage of the well-maintained golf courses; the clean, safe environments of the water parks; beautiful campgrounds; or any of the other activities offered, rarely have an opportunity to see the kind of behind-the-scenes effort that is involved in maintaining the high standards set by the county and the park employees. Keeping the facilities and programs running smoothly during the busy summer months requires a great deal of time and utilization of organizational skills. The winter months are used for planning and equipment maintenance.

Over 400 part-time and nearly 100 full-time employees work together to provide the user friendly, environmentally friendly atmosphere that is proudly displayed throughout the park system. And it's that dedication to quality of service that has allowed Oakland County Parks to preserve and enhance their reputation for offering premier, year-round fun for everyone. Get more information regarding the parks at 1-888-OCPARKS, or online at www.co.oakland.mi.us

spot light

Oakland County Parks recreation supervisor, Mike Boyd, spends the winter months overseeing the staff and maintaining conditions at the



Fridge. In early spring, prep work for the water parks, ranging from lifeguard instructor training to mechanical maintenance, keeps him busy until the parks open Memorial Day weekend. Mike's day can begin early in the morning, or go late into the night. "I like to think I make a difference," he said.

Mike's organizational skills, combined with the assistance of an experienced staff, help him stay on top of things. "I'm fortunate the stress of the job is tempered by the support of the Parks & Rec people, the energy and enthusiasm of the young people I work with, and the occasional "thank you" from guests," said Mike.



Did you know??

- Waterford Oaks Activity Center hosts lunch-time aerobics.
- Parks & Rec offers for rent: An inflatable obstacle course, a climbing wall, dunk tank, orobotron, a space maze, Starlab (portable, inflatable planetarium), and much more.

- Annual Vehicle Permits are sold at \$5 off the current resident rate to O.C. employees. The price will be \$20 with employee ID. (limit 2 per family: one at reg. discount price & one for 2nd family vehicle at \$15)

- There is a wedding gazebo at Twin Chimneys, on the lake inside Independence Oaks.
- The wave-pool at Waterford Oaks is the oldest in Michigan, and the second oldest in North America.