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# Telegraph



## budget update

### Projected budget shortfall increases

Oakland County's elected officials were updated on January 8 concerning the current budget situation.

In welcoming the officials, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson congratulated them for meeting and exceeding the overall budget reduction target in Phase I. Noting that the budget situation is still very fluid, Mr. Patterson said, "we're not over the hump yet."

The budget task for 2004 has steadily increased from \$13.9 million initially to \$18.2 million and now stands at \$23 million. The \$16.3 million in reductions proposed to date still leaves another \$6.5 million on the table to be dealt with, and does not include additional cuts that may be handed down by

the state of Michigan for either FY 2003 or FY 2004.

On the personnel side, 171 employees have signed up for the retirement incentive program and another 41 appointments have been scheduled. By the deadline January 31, Personnel Director Judy Eaton says she expects the original target of 250 retirements will be met. In addition, Ms. Eaton indicated that the proactive, initial steps the administration took to deal with the budget situation, such as a hiring freeze, implementation of the incentive program for retirement and administrative leave without pay will head off potential layoffs in Phase I of the budget reduction process.

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### ESP Awards Highlight Holiday Party

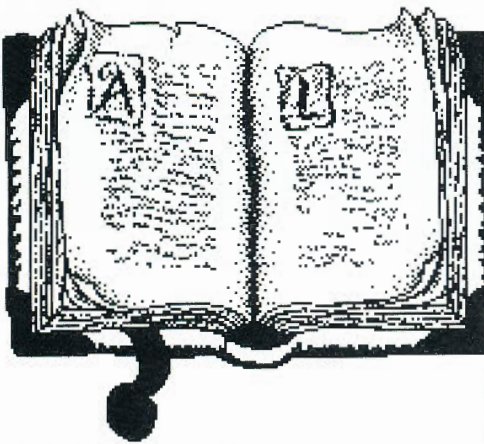
Employee Suggestion Program award winners were announced at the holiday party held at the Pontiac Center Pointe Marriott on December 14. The Employee Suggestion Program received 110 suggestions in 2002, with 14 of these suggestions implemented. Though awards were given, the true winner is Oakland County, as the suggestions saved \$109,900 last year. Since 1993 the program has saved a total of \$3.6 million.

Three grand prizes were distributed along with two \$500 awards. Nine awards of \$250 were also given.

Big winners at the party include Deputy Charlie Rash who won a choice of \$750 or a weekend at the Grand Hotel in Mackinaw for his blankets

suggestion with a projected savings of \$7,661. Paulette Nadeau's suggestion to discontinue financial support of bottled water to County departments ( a savings of \$34,261) earned her the choice between \$2,000 or a trip to Cancun. The grand prize of \$4,000 or a trip to Hawaii went to Kirt Hunt whose idea would expedite the completion of estimates on damaged vehicles with a savings of \$59,794.

Winners of the \$500 prizes were Julie Skene and Deputy Paul Caswell. \$250 winners were Kathleen Grimm, Gail Foley, Mark Brigolin, Donna Brington, Sandy Quello, Lynn Doane, Judy Fandale, Ellen Halsey, and Judy Fogilo.



# from whence we came

by Adam Hitch, Media and Communications

Chaplain Rev. Ann Williams once said, "I traveled those many tunnels and cold, dark places for six years, my thought was not what horrible places they are, but the patients I saw and passed in the hallways. I would sometimes get a smile."

She is talking about the Clinton Valley Center, now a construction zone where residential development is taking place on Elizabeth Lake Road in Pontiac. Oakland County residents are familiar with the Center, as it was the centerpiece of a battle between the State of Michigan and preservationists in 2000.

Before 1848 mentally ill people in Michigan suffered through a trying existence as some were forced to live nomadically on farms at night and scrounging for food the rest of the time. Others were forced to live in attics,



cellars, or sheds while being taken care of by relatives. Those fortunate enough to come from wealthy families were sent to asylums either in Utica, New York or Brattleboro, Vermont. This changed in 1848 when the Michigan Asylum for the Insane opened in Kalamazoo. Clinton Valley Center, then known as the Eastern Michigan Asylum, opened in 1878 to relieve crowding in Kalamazoo. One hundred twenty-one male and one hundred female patients were transported from Kalamazoo when Clinton Valley opened on August 1st. By September 30th 306 patients resided at the asylum.

Eastern Michigan Asylum was in a constant state of change as the years progressed. Its name was updated to Pontiac State Hospital in 1911 in accordance with a state act, then later changed to the more familiar Clinton Valley Center. In addition to the name change the Center underwent numerous renovations such as the establishment of additional wings, buildings, and acreage.

Patients were housed in gender specific

wards with single rooms 9 foot by 12 foot in size and 13 foot ceilings. They were kept warm by steam-heat generated by boilers that were the first of their kind built in the country.

The population of the center reached a peak capacity of close to 3,100 people in 1955. Two decades earlier, the hospital changed its focus from being simply a custodial institution to offering psychiatric programs. This was due in large part to the growing movement out of Sweden during the second world war in which the mentally impaired were no longer "warehoused" but placed into communities where they could be cared for and treated.

The closing of the Center symbolized a change in the treatment of the mentally impaired from big institutions to smaller clinics spread throughout the area. Many memories of the historical landmark still exist, including some negative stereotypes, but for some like Williams, the people with smiles on their faces are also remembered.

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# Award Winners



**First Place: "Keeper" watercolor, Carol J. Broecker**

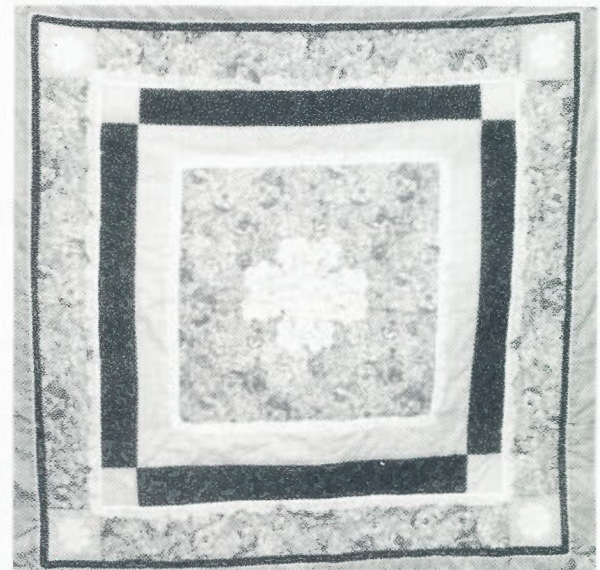


**Second Place: "Adobe Blue" Photograph, Ron Smith**

See the People's Choice Award winning lamp by Sallyanne Morris in the Talents Section on page 5.



**Third Place: "The Road Home" watercolor, Larry Falardeau**



**Honorable Mention: "Mom's Quilt" quilt, Carolina Rutkoski**

## Hidden Talents Deemed an Outstanding Success

Hidden Talents is an appropriate theme as Oakland County employees, retirees, and family members unveiled their artistic side at the Employee Art Show that took place from November 25 to January 3 at the Executive Office Building. Over 80 works of art including paintings, photographs, quilts and pottery showcased the truly great artists in our midst.

The reception held on December 4

featured a thank you to all participants from County Executive L. Brooks Patterson and the announcement of awards as determined by Carol Paster, the Executive Director for the Creative Art Center in Pontiac. Honorable mention went to Carolina Rutkoski for "Mom's Quilt" a hand sewn embroidered quilt. Larry Falardeau's watercolor "The Road Home" achieved third place status. A

photo by Ron Smith showcasing the bright colors of Taos, New Mexico, titled "Adobe Blue" took second. First place belonged to Carol J. Broecker's "Keeper," a watercolor painting. The People's Choice Award went to Sallyanne Morris for her "Art & Crafts Lamp." This wonderful array of art is sure to leave us anticipating the next time we reveal our "hidden talents."



"As a grandparent, you have no rights, but must fight on." These are the words spoken by Terese Vilella when describing her battle for custody of her grandchildren, Allie and Tony. This

battle, which encompassed a two-year span, became a war of attrition that took an emotional, physical, and financial strain on the victor.

Foster children are lucrative investments for small communities as the towns are traditionally low on finances and welcome federal monies. Terese said that a single foster child can generate between one half to one million dollars a year for the community, with federal money paying for attorney fees, therapy, and other services. Terese was in a battle with the town of Machius, Maine for her grandchildren, because it did not want to lose a valuable commodity.

When someone other than the children's parents seeks to take the children from foster custody and gain entrance into the courtroom, they must ask the judge of the case for Interveners Status. The reasoning is that in hearings such as this the courtroom is closed off to anyone other than those who seek custody. This was the only way Terese could obtain courtroom access. It was essential. It

became clear that either Terese was going to get the kids or they would stay in state custody.

Perseverance and forgiveness are vital characteristics in a situation like Terese's. If she did not forgive her daughter-in-law it would have been impossible to ever achieve custody. If the mother contested Terese's claim it would eliminate any chance the courts would rule in favor of the grandmother. The situation was very demanding both mentally and physically as the drive one way was over 1,000 miles and she was only allowed one-hour supervised visitations with her grandchildren. There were times that Terese mentally broke down as caseworkers attempted to discredit her and destroy the relationship with the mother. Her determination, love of her grandkids, and faith in God pulled her through. Her advice is simple, "never lose sight of the goal and let forgiveness always replace anger."

## The personnel department trims down

by Heather Mason, Personnel

How many of us have lamented that we'd like to lose some weight? Well, for ten women in the Personnel Department, it was time for a little less talk and a lot more action. Using various methods such as following the Weight Watcher's plan or other weight loss programs, joining a gym such as Curves for Women, Lifetime Fitness or Powerhouse, or by simply watching what they ate, these women (this reporter included) have lost a combined, amazing total of 290.4 pounds.

The quest for most of us began with the desire to be fit and lead a more healthful lifestyle. "My coworkers were doing so well and feeling so good," says Cathy Shallal. "I wanted to feel good too." As easy as it is to say that one is going to lose weight, the actuality is that it is more difficult than any of us could have even imagined. "The hardest part was the first day I walked through Weight Watcher's door, just making the decision to do it,



and I was afraid I couldn't give up things I thought I had to have," states Dorothy MacCleary. "Now I don't even want the things I thought I would miss."

While all of us would agree that one of the most difficult aspects has been trying to find time in our busy lives to plan and prepare a healthy menu or to exercise, it has been the encouragement and support of our coworkers that has helped us all persevere. Snacking throughout the

workday has become easier since doughnuts and candy were replaced with fruits and vegetables. Some have even become walking buddies and use their breaks to stretch their legs and burn calories.

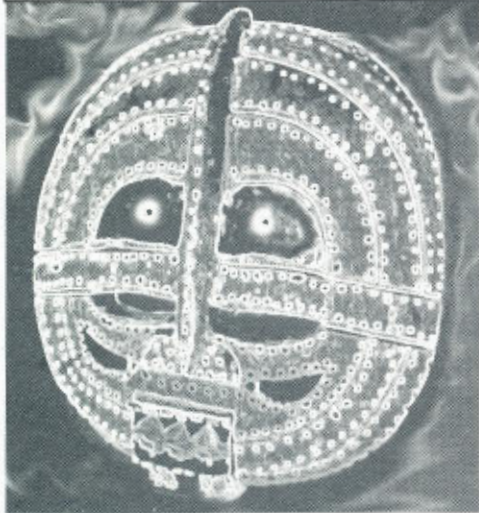
Though we haven't yet reached our weight goals, that will just be the icing on the cake. The most important part is the lifestyle change that we've adopted together.

◆ greg givens ◆

supervisor II  
fiscal services



*A new toy brought about a new hobby for Greg Givens. Interested in photography since college, Greg became intrigued with graphic arts soon after acquiring a new computer. His interests united and showcased his knack for creative computer art.*



◆ sallyanne morris ◆

horticultural specialist  
grounds



*With 25 years of experience in the art of stained glass, Sallyanne Morris has expanded her hobby to incorporate teaching for the past 13 years. Her skills escalated to a new level after she was offered the studio of her deceased uncle, a skilled glass artisan. Sallyanne is also an expert photographer and horticulturist. Check out her garden designs on the county grounds this spring.*

# telegraphing our talent

Do you or someone you know have a talent?  
Call 858-4096.

◆ dee conaway ◆

county executive assistant  
executive office



*Stop by the Executive Office and give a listen to the stupendous singing voice of Dee Conaway. It's guaranteed you'll leave with a smile on your face. To the left is pictured the Conaway Trio with backup singers Mike Zehnder and Brooks Patterson.*



Evelyn Glossinger



"It is time to learn to play, I want to feel bored." These are the words of Evelyn Glossinger as she embarks on retirement in March. Evelyn has given the county 32 years of service dating back to 1967. Gina Bohn, her supervisor, wishes her well "though it has been nothing but fun working with Evelyn. She will enjoy retirement as she is very energized."

Evelyn has been able to see first hand the growth of Oakland County and has nothing but great things to say about her career but believes it is time to go. She may be retiring but she is definitely not "old and tired" and plans on visiting relatives throughout the state along with spending more time with Bob, her husband of 31 years.

Though it will be sad to see her go, Evelyn will be remembered, Bohn says, "as a hard working and devoted employee."

"Try to eat healthy, stay active, reduce stress levels, and make time for yourself." This is the prescription of Jennifer Bouck for those who seek to live a happy life.

Jennifer worked at Healthy People, Healthy Oakland for three years before taking her current post in public relations for the Health Division during the past year and half. An interest in preventative health led her to pursue a degree from Central Michigan University in Public Health Education and Promotion.

Becoming a health educator was Jennifer's initial plan, but her job in public relations has changed her thinking. She now intends to acquire a graduate degree in communications starting in January. She states "public relations and health education go well together and I would like to pursue it further." Jennifer's supervisor, Debbie McKee, is pleased with Jennifer's intentions as "she has been instrumental in developing a communication plan for the agency."



Jennifer Bouck

from the desk of **Martha Ferguson**

program coordinator, MSUE



*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, call 84096.*

## Gorgeous gardens are a class away

Retirement time has arrived for the "baby boomers". This generation is looking for leisure time activities, with some turning to golf and others to gardening. This may explain why there are 150 people on the waiting list for the Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program at Oakland County.

Starting in 1978, the program has offered between one and three classes a year. The classes are 13 weeks long with one four-hour class a week. Each class is an intensive study of a particular horticulture topic outlined in a 700-page manual. The classes are designed to appeal to all gardeners and are reasonably priced.

Once the class and the required 40 hours of community service are completed each student becomes a certified Master Gardener. They can be found working on beautification projects, city tree boards, and horticultural education.

The Master Gardener Program interacts with the community in numerous projects. The "Plant a Row for the Hungry" project enlists gardeners to search throughout the community for places to plant vegetable gardens. The food grown goes to shelters and food banks to feed the hungry within the community.

Launched in 1995 by the Garden Writers Association, the program has recorded

over 1,800,000 pounds in donations since its inception. In 2001 the national donations weighed in at 1,375,661 pounds.

Anyone is welcomed in the program, not just master gardeners. The only goal of the program is to provide food for those who are unable to provide for themselves.

For more information on the master gardening program or the "Plant a Row for the Hungry Program," call Martha Ferguson at (248) 858-0900 or visit the MSUE website at [www.msue.edu/oakland](http://www.msue.edu/oakland).

# COFFEES Month



"She is awesome! Sandy is very dependable, efficient and a role model employee." These words by supervisor Vickie Smith say much about Sandy Paruch. An enjoyable person surrounded by friendly people,

Sandy helps make a day at the mailroom a pleasant experience.

Sandy agrees in her testament about the mail department. "The work itself may become tedious and demanding but to be able to joke around with good people makes it all worthwhile."

An outdoors person, Sandy often tracks for her husband Steven on his hunts. She takes photographs and enjoys the wildlife as Steven does the shooting. If not hunting or fishing, the duo spends time exploring Michigan. When the time comes to retire, she envisions two possibilities: 1) to build on their eleven acres of land in Caro or 2) to buy a trailer and go hunting and fishing out west.



Sandy Paruch

There are very few county employees who can say that they have a drain named after them. Sandy Greenacre is one such person. Drain Commissioner John McCulloch named the new drain in Rochester Hills the Greenacre Drain in Sandy's honor.

Sandy was 18 when she began her career at the county in accounts payable for FM&O. The past 20 years she has been employed at Water & Sewage. She "enjoys working with the people, including approximately 37,000 customer accounts in 17 communities." Supervisor Lynn Sonkiss notes Sandy's enthusiasm and comments, "Sandy has a strong work ethic and strong problem solving abilities. She is well respected by her coworkers."

Recently this strong work ethic has become vital as her workload has doubled with the implementation of a new billing system. The work may be more but then again she does have that drain named after her!



Sandy Greenacre

"In the past year Dave Burmeister has saved three kids' lives, two from choking and another from hanging himself," said Supervisor Chris Luzi. Dave has worked in Children's Village the past four years although he came to the county looking for opportunities in law enforcement.

The attraction to law enforcement comes from his family being in the profession during his childhood. Children's Village initially appeared to be a stepping stone into law enforcement but Dave is now considering staying with his coworkers at the village.

The program that Dave is a part of spans six to nine months and rehabilitates youngsters for reentry into society. He normally works with residents between 15-18 years of age. Dave says, "Most do not have direction and I like being able to help them out with life. It is a great reward seeing them change their life around and doing good."



Dave Burmeister

Seventeen years ago Terri Rose became a member of the Oakland County family. Educated at Oakland University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, she began her life's work in Environmental Health. In 1995 Terri received her Masters of Science Occupational and Environmental Health Degree at Wayne State and in 1999 she was promoted to supervisor.

Terri is motivated by the diversity and fast pace of her job. She works non-stop with her staff and recently finished writing food board policy. She is currently involved with creating a new drainage policy. Supervisor Keith Krinn believes, "Terri demonstrates excellent leadership qualities and is an asset to Environmental Health. She accepts added responsibility without hesitation and is a good motivator of the staff."

Terri spends time away from work being a doting mother to her sons Conner and Brett and a loving wife to her husband Norm.



Terri Rose

# BENEFITS

## Q&A

**Q** Do I have to take the six-month incentive money in a lump sum payment?

**A** No, you have several options. You can take the incentive money in a lump sum payment or you can roll it into the Oakland County Deferred Compensation Plan, the ICMA Plan, or an IRA.

**Q** If I am retiring under the Incentive for Retirement Proposal, after I make application, what do I do with the Release Agreement?

**A** The Release Agreement must be signed on your last day of employment with Oakland County and returned to Personnel, Room 112 that day or within the next couple of days.

**Q** When I retire, can I change health plans?

**A** Yes, please contact Megan Navarre at 248-858-7592 by December 1st to change your health plan so that it is effective the following year.

**Q** If I separate or retire and I come back to the county to work PTNE (part-time non-eligible) do I have access to my deferred compensation monies?

**A** Yes, once you are separated from service you can call Fidelity at 1-800-343-0860 and access your money.

**Q** If I am part-time, can I contribute to the deferred compensation plan?

**A** If you are part-time non-eligible (PTNE) you cannot contribute to deferred compensation, however, if you are part-time eligible (PTE) you can contribute to deferred compensation.

**Q** Does the county plan on offering another incentive program for retirement?

**A** There is a continuing rumor that the county will be offering another incentive program for retirement. We want to emphasize that there are NO plans to offer another incentive program. The current incentive program has been very successful. We do not intend to offer this program again. It is important that employees who are eligible for the incentive program understand this.

## person to person

L. Brooks Patterson



C. Hugh Dohany was a pioneer and a visionary in the truest sense of the meaning. It's hard to imagine Oakland County government carrying on without this kindly, gentlemanly man sitting behind his desk in the Treasurer's Office. Hugh, as most of you are aware by now, died last month just a few days before Christmas.

Hugh Dohany leaves behind a legacy of achievement and excellence that will be hard to match. Hugh was partly responsible for shepherding through the first appropriation for computers as a member of the old county Board of Supervisors. As a member of the Building Committee, he also played a major role in securing the land on which the current courthouse now sits.

Always the innovator looking for new and better ways to serve the citizens of Oakland County, Hugh Dohany was responsible for developing legislation that established Michigan's first Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund. Today, there is more than \$200 million dollars in the fund, which is one of the main reasons Oakland

County has been able to achieve a AAA bond rating from Wall Street.

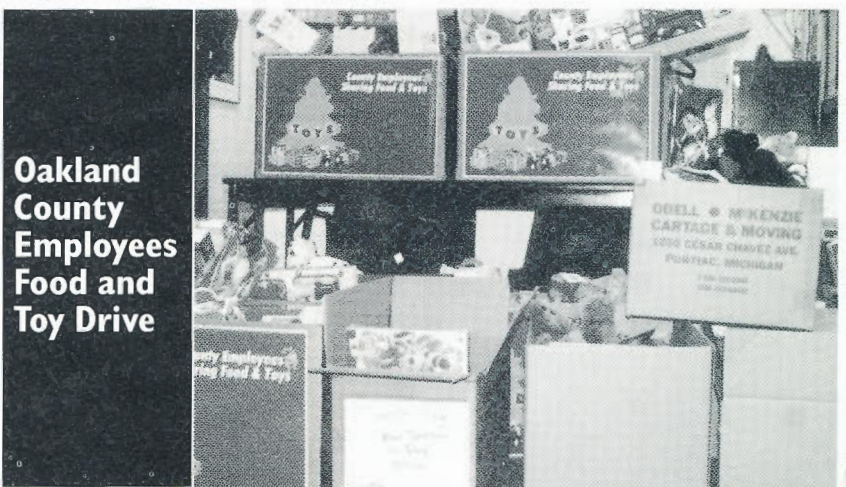
During Hugh Dohany's 30 year tenure as Oakland County Treasurer, his wise and prudent investment practices generated nearly \$2 billion for the county.

As the dean of treasurers in the state of Michigan, Hugh Dohany will long be remembered for his leadership role in bringing computerization into the Treasurer's Office, not just in Oakland County but across the state of Michigan as well.

If greatness is measured by the good people do during their lifetimes and their contributions toward making this a better world in which to live, then Hugh Dohany was indeed a great man.

Oakland County is poorer for having lost Hugh Dohany, but we are richer for having known him. He will be missed.

*Brooks*



Pictured above is a small sampling of some of the 30 boxes full of toys collected during the Christmas Food and Toy Drive organized by Barb Hankey's crew at Community Corrections. Thanks to the generosity of county employees, many needy families were helped.



**Kennedy's Irish Pub**  
 1055 W. Huron  
 (between Telegraph & Elizabeth  
 Lake) Waterford, MI 48328  
 (248) 681-1050

# out of the LUNCHBOX

**Cruisin Cafe**  
 4882 Hatchery Rd.  
 (between Dixie and Crescent Lake)  
 Waterford, MI 48329  
 248 674-2806

"May your troubles be less and your blessings be more. May you find nothing but happiness when you enter our door!" This is the motto of Kennedy's Irish Pub located west of Telegraph on Huron Street. This simple phrase says it all about this splendid pub blessed with inviting Irish decor.

Throughout the years Kennedy's Pub has been active in the community sponsoring youth hockey teams. Memorabilia of those teams, whether trophies or pictures, are proudly displayed throughout the dining environment. While waiting for the food to come patrons can either gaze at the assortment of pictures along the walls or at the televisions placed in every corner.

An empty stomach finds its solution in a variety of choices ranging from fish dinners to the 1/2lb Kennedy Hamburger, a specialty. The typical meal with beverage costs \$8.00 while the expedient service (even at peak times) guarantees the lunch hour will be spent eating, not waiting.

Kennedy's Irish Pub is the place to go if you need to lift your spirits, fill your stomach, or just to celebrate!

"When can I eat here again?" That will be the only thought on your mind when you leave Cruisin' Cafe located on Hatchery. Owned by John Khurkher and his wife Cindy, it offers a small out of the way diner with a 50s' style atmosphere and food that is appreciated by all senses.

Local residents may know of the cafe because of the car shows Khurkher puts on at the end of every month. The shows include old style cars along with Harley Davidson motorcycles. Pictures from previous shows decorate the interior of the restaurant and add to the nostalgic feel.

The servings are generous and homemade means not just the ice cream but also the potato chips. Six dollars will bring you a burger, a coke and a full stomach! Though it currently exists as a secret to but a few county employees, it would be a disservice to someone's taste buds to not visit Cruisin' Cafe.

When can I eat there again? When there is room in the stomach of course!

## 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.

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

### Answer to Fall issue puzzle

A clock on the wall falls to the floor and the face breaks into three pieces. The digits on each piece of clock add up to the same total. What are the digits on each piece?

To answer, call Sue at 858-0457 or e-mail to: [quinlans@co.oakland.mi.us](mailto:quinlans@co.oakland.mi.us)

Scott Lucas is the winner of an Oakland County throw for the solution to the fall edition's puzzle. Congratulations, Scott. See the solution to the right.

The puzzle stated A census taker calls at a house. He asks the woman living there the ages of her three daughters. The woman says, "If you multiply their ages the total is 72; if you add together their ages the total is the same as the number on my front door, which you can see." The census taker says, "That isn't enough information for me to calculate their ages." The woman says, "Well, my eldest daughter has a cat with a wooden leg." The census taker replies, "Ah, now I know their ages." What are the ages of the three girls?

The three ages, when multiplied, must be one of the following combinations:

- 72 x 1 x 1
- 36 x 2 x 1
- 18 x 4 x 1
- 9 x 4 x 2
- 9 x 8 x 1
- 6 x 6 x 2
- 8 x 3 x 3
- 12 x 6 x 1
- 12 x 3 x 2
- 18 x 2 x 2
- 6 x 3 x 4
- 3 x 24 x 1

When added, they equal:

- 74
- 39
- 23
- 15
- 18
- 14
- 14
- 19
- 17
- 22
- 13
- 28

The census taker should have known the number of the house, as he could see it, but he did not know their ages, therefore the house must be number 14. He needed more information to decide whether their ages were 6, 6, 2 or 8, 3, 3. When the woman says "eldest" daughter, he knows they were 8, 3, 3.

# kudos coming & going

## kudos



**Vickie Smith**, Mail Processing Center mailing services supervisor, has been certified by the United States Postal Service as a mail piece quality control specialist.

**Oakland County Circuit Judge Nanci J. Grant** has been elected secretary of the Michigan Judges Association.

**Valentina Standfield, Leigh Bouchey, and Barbara McDermott**, Equalization, passed level 2 assessor's certification.

**Mike Lewalski**, Equalization, passed level 4 assessor's certification.

**Angela Hardacre, Kendra Bontinen, and Laurie Philips**, Equalization, passed level 1 assessor's certification.

**Anne Modelski**, Probate and Circuit Court, was named General Jurisdiction Employee of the Year by Honorable David Breck.

**Corene Munro**, Probate and Circuit Court, was named Court Services Employee of the Year.

**Janet Myers**, Probate and Circuit Court, was named Friend of the Court Employee of the Year.

**Carol Esher**, Probate, was named Probate Employee of the Year.

**Francine Snyder** was named Judicial Staff Employee of the Year.

**Cheryl Macias**, Probate and Circuit Court, was named Business Division Employee of the Year.

**Nicole Bennett**, Probate and Circuit Court, was named Judicial Support Employee of the Year.

**Debra Calvin**, District Court, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Oakland University.

**Keith Sawdon**, investment administrator, Treasurer's Office, received the Phillips Award in August 2002 from the Association of Public Treasurer's.

## promotions



October 19, 2002.

**Jason White**, Building Safety was promoted to Safety Dispatcher, November 2, 2002.

**Randall Wilkinson**, Custodial, was promoted to Custodial Worker II, December 3, 2002.

**David Sundwall**, Drain Commissioner Engineering Support Unit, was promoted to engineering tech, September 21, 2002.

**Tim Prince**, Water Maintenance, was promoted to chief engineer operations and maintenance, August 24, 2002.

**Kathy Gasperich**, Drain & Sewer Maintenance, was promoted to office assistant II water maintenance, October 5, 2002.

**Michael Ignash**, Drain Commissioner Inspection Unit, was promoted to construction inspector II, October 5, 2002.

**Sergeant Herbert Holmes** was promoted to Lieutenant, November 16, 2002.

**Sergeant Kim Rossman** was promoted to Lieutenant, September 21, 2002.

**Sergeant Paul R. White** was promoted to Lieutenant, November 16, 2002.

**Pat Roberts**, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted to Engineering Tech, November 2, 2002.

**Lee Chrysler**, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted to Supervisor GIS/CAD, November 2, 2002.

**Jackie Fouche**, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted to office assistant II, November 16, 2002.

**Shamikia Puckett**, Drain Commissioner's Office, was changed to office assistant I, full time, December 2, 2002.

**Neal P. Curran, James D. Ginnel, Jeffery L. Kesselring, Jason E. Koteles, Raymond C. Kujawa, Robert L. Negri, Jon Peters, Carrie L. Rudzki, David A. Schroeder, David A. Slazinski, Adam S. Ward, Howard K. Weir, and Harvey L. Wilson** were all promoted to deputy II effective January 11, 2003.

**Darla DiClemente**, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted to office assistant II watershed management unit, October 5, 2002.

**Ted Middleton**, Building Safety, was promoted to Building Safety Attendant,

## new hires



**Tanya Prince** was hired GIS/CAD Tech. I, Watershed Management Unit, October 14, 2002.

**Judith Portwood** was hired as office assistant I, Drain Commissioner's Office part-time administration, October 15, 2002.

**Ryan Robinson** was hired on the Drain Commissioner's Engineering Aide Survey Unit, November 11, 2002.

**Karen Tauriainen** was hired environmental planner I, Watershed Management Unit, November 4, 2002.

**Robert Gatt** was hired chief of field operation, Community Corrections, May 24, 2002.

**David Obodzinski** was hired safety dispatcher, Safety, November 18, 2002.

**Ronald Fadior**, was hired environmental planner I, Watershed Management Unit, November 18, 2002.

**Jill Studebaker**, was hired office assistant I, Sewer and Drain Maintenance Unit, November 5, 2002.

**Mona Tighe** was hired into Disbursement Section, March 2002.

## transfers



**Elizabeth Raymond** transferred into delinquent tax, Treasurer's Office, March 2002.

**Elise Keeler** transferred into cash accounting, Treasurer's Office, June 2002.

## fond farewells



**Mary Phelps** of Probate retired November 15, 2002.

**Carolyn Hammac**, Custodial, retired November 27, 2002.

**Byron Hanson**, Drain Commissioner's Office retired November 15, 2002.

**Edward Clark**, Drain Commissioner's Office, retired November 27, 2002.

# celebrations life events

**James Isaacs**, Drain Commissioner's Office, retired 27, 2002.

**Richard Shoemaker**, Sewer and Drain Maintenance Unit retired November 27, 2002.

**L.C. Hayes**, Drain Commissioner's Office, left county employment on November 27, 2002.

**Jane Oswalt**, Executive Office, retired January 31, 2002.

**Kalvin Engelberg**, chief of Youth Assistance, retired January 15, 2003.

**John Larsen**, Substance Abuse, retired January 30, 2003.

**Max Harris**, Treasurer's Office, retired in April 2002.

**Arthur Halsey**, Treasurer's Office, retired on January 24, 2003.

**Arnold Petterson**, Treasurer's Office, retired on March 28, 2003.

## marriages



**Pamela Ball**, friend of the court, wed William Green on June 22, 2002.

**John Worthington**, Drain Commissioner SOCSDS Unit, married Pam Jackson, September 14, 2002.

**Ryan Jones**, Drain & Sewer Maintenance Unit, married Carie Adkins, September 14, 2002.

**Elmer Dunny**, Drain & Sewer Maintenance Unit, married Robin Novak, October 5, 2002.

**Lewis Tiernan**, Pump Maintenance Unit, married Toni Cooperrider, September 21, 2002.

**Lyndon Hillie**, Custodial, married Christina, October 12, 2002.

**Mona Tighe**, Treasurer's Office, married Jay Kazmouz, August 17, 2002.

**Rebekah Taylor**, Treasurer's Office, married J.J. McCoy, September 1, 2002.

**Barb Navarre**, Treasurer's Office, married John Sweet, October 11, 2002.

**Sgt. Kenneth Hurst**, Sheriff's Department, and **Melissa Hall**, Clerk/Register of Deeds, were married in Orlando, Florida at Walt Disney World on December 31, 2002.

## births



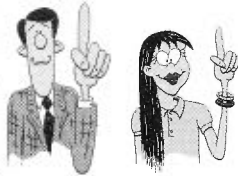
**Ryan Runnels** and his wife welcomed Maxwell Lee to their family October 3, 2002.

**Dean Serafimovski** and wife Theresa welcomed Lauren Elizabeth, August 29, 2002.

**Gordie Marshall** and wife Melissa welcomed their first daughter Lauren Catherine to the family on October 25, 2002.

**Adam Cameron** and wife Lorah welcomed their third child Emaline Abigail to the world on December 10, 2002.

## corrections



**Rima Raouf**, Drain Commissioner's Office, received a Master of Science degree in Computer Science not a Master

of Art as previously reported.

In the Early Out article in the previous Telegraph, it was mistakenly reported the minimum service time was 25 years when 20 years is the requirement.

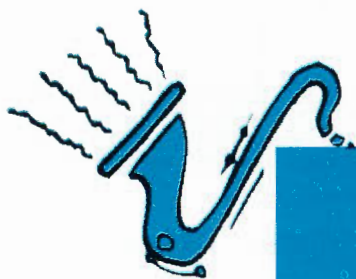
The "We Remember" article cited **Steve Zehnder** as a summer intern for Judge Joan Young instead of his actual position as a Clerk for the judge.

## mentoring program

New employees at Oakland County are handed the gift of a mentor at their orientation program. The mentoring program is designed to acclimate new employees to the nuances of county employment. The program's philosophy is to "assure all employees are as confident as can be." This is a gift and there is no obligation to make use of it.

Dorothy J. Brown and Associates train mentors in a four to eight hour workshop. They are volunteers who have been employed by the county for five or more years. The objective of the mentor is to answer the simple everyday questions that surface and to direct the more difficult ones to the appropriate person. They also answer questions about job and career paths. Typical examples are when an employee decides to go back to school; a mentor will help them balance work, school, and family. Another service provided is to facilitate the process of exposing employees to new jobs in other departments before they actually commit to them. Typically mentors are from another department than that of the person they are mentoring.

The mentoring program at present is suffering from a lack of publicity and participation. Jordie Kramer thinks the latter is due to three reasons: an "I do not need it attitude," the employee's belief that they have everything they need, or simply the possibility that the orientations are completely successful. Whatever the reason there is always someone that has a question and she hopes that a new website, which is currently in the works, will showcase the program to more people.



# Toot Thy Horn

## MSU Extension/ Oakland County Partnership



### new stuff ■

In October 2002, the Michigan State Extension launched the Oakland County 4-H Youth Leadership Institute.

In official partnership with the County Commissioners, the Institute is aimed at teenagers between the ages of 15 and 19 in Oakland County. It is a nine-month program where the youth will be taught leadership skills and how to improve their community.

Skills such as team building, decision-making, problem solving, project planning, goal setting, community needs analysis, civic engagement, and cultural competence will all be taught. Graduates of the institute will also have completed community service projects.

Applications are available at the Extension Office.

Seeking to help "people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical issues, needs, and opportunities" and providing unique citizen services is the mission of MSUE here in Oakland County. Extension exists to educate citizens in subjects not just related to agriculture, but also in family and community development.

Education is the essence of MSU Extension. The experiential based programs interpret the latest agricultural research for everyday use. Some of the programs MSUE offers are the 4-H Leadership Institute, the Master Gardener Volunteer Program, Parenting Workshops, and Yard & Garden Diagnostic Services.

Volunteers are essential for MSU Extension because they make it possible to deliver programs to a much wider audience of Oakland County citizens. Volunteers assist by teaching programs, working as mentors to young people and aiding in community projects.

### spot light ■

Working at the Diagnostic Center of MSU Extension keeps Charlene Molnar busy during the second half of her worklife.

Following a career working in Microbiology at Beaumont Hospital, Charlene started on a new path after taking a Master Gardener class. While giving gardening advice at a yard and garden show at the Silverdome, Martha Ferguson overheard her and thought she was a natural for the new job. Charlene now writes articles for the Master Gardener Newsletter, and provides advice on yard and garden questions to citizens who request it.



*Pictured are a few of the 33 MSUE/Oakland County employees.*

### Did you know??

- MSU Extension's food hotline answered 1887 calls in 2001/2002.
- 6141 consumers called or visited the MSUE Yard and Garden Diagnostic Center last year.
- MSUE has a bulletin board in their office with information and pamphlets available on anything and everything.
- E-mail MSUE at: <http://www.msue.edu/oakland>
- In 2001/2002 MSUE volunteers totaled 1710 and contributed an amazing 180,650 total volunteer hours.
- MSUE can analyze your soil for you.