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Telegraph



New retirees Fran Ariff and Marlys Vickers celebrate at a luncheon retirement party thrown by Planning & Development staff. Also retiring from PEDS but not pictured is Val Yezbick.



227 employees retire in mass buyout program

Hail and Farewell!

Two hundred and twenty seven of our best and brightest, not to mention most experienced employee, are calling it a career at Oakland County Government. They have taken advantage of the retirement incentive offer and will be leaving county service shortly. Some of them will spend time gardening, traveling or bonding with grandchildren while others may decide to pursue new careers. Whichever direction life takes them in the future, they should all know that they will be missed by those that remain behind.

Individually and as a group, they provided the skill, knowledge and dedication that have made Oakland County one of the premier local units of government in America. Their many and significant contributions over time have enabled Oakland County to achieve a reputation for excellence.

As they depart, each retiree leaves behind a legacy of accomplishments and service that will endure forever.

So long, good friends.

Airport: John Guisbert; Peter Zemelis; **Animal**

Control: Sandra Gay; **Auditing:** Patricia Vanlanduyt; **Children's Village:** Alvin Duncan, Sharon Gowman, Michael Worrell, Otwool C. Craft, Ronald Frink, Edward Hanson, Frances MacKinder, John Plopan, Paul Romzek, John Sibel, Phillip Strong; **Circuit Court:** Gary Contesti, Cynthia Harper, Mary McPherson, Clyde Payton, Nancy VanCamp, Pamela Voll; **Circuit Court Adm:** Mary Gohl; **Circuit Court/Family:** David Ajamy, Shirley Bauman, John Chatley, Nancy Elfes, Calvin Engelberg, Donald Epperson, Kathryn Galetto, Linda Hudson, Deborah Hyde, Allen Kaczkowski, David Leslie, John Luke, Frederick Morden, Jane Nowicki-True; **Clerk/Reg of Deeds:** Mary Jo Hammond, Ann Lloyd, Judith Paulson, Martha Schreiber, Barbara Waara; **CorpCnsl/Risk Mgt:** Richard Chartier, Stanley Fayne; **County Executive:** Jill Batey, Jean Chamberlain, Jane Oswald; **Cty Exec Admin:** Suzette Vogt; **Dev & Planning:** Fran Ariff, Marlys Vickers, Vallada Yezbick; **District Court #1:** Ann Groth, Kathleen Rexin; **District Court #2:** Patricia Hobday; **District Court #3:** Lois Foust, Diana Irving; **District Court #4:** Ada Waller; **Drain:** John A. Barber, John Benedict, Kenneth Bruske, Charles Claphan, Edward Clark, Jr., Kenneth

see EMPLOYEES on page 4

INSIDE

2
whence we came

3
leadership
academy

4
what's your story
Dan Hunter?

5
talents featuring:
Morgan Tremble
Falardeau

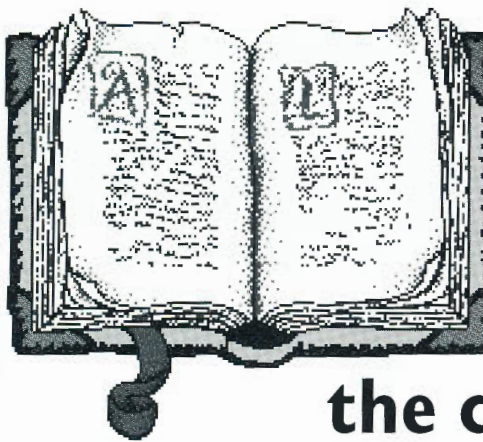
6 & 7
Employee/month

8
Q & A benefits
person to person

9
lunchbox
walk america

10 & 11
kudos

12
planning/develop



from whence we came

by Adam Hitch, Media and Communications

the creation of oakland county

"I do by these presents and in conformity with the provision of the Ordinance of Congress of July 13, 1787, "layout" that part of the said Territory included within the following boundaries, namely; beginning at the South East, corner of Township Number 1, in range Number 11, north of the base line, thence North to the North Eastern corner of Township Number 6, in the same range; thence west to the Native American boundary line; thence south to the baseline, thence east to the place of beginning into a new county to be called the County of Oakland."

These words spoken by Governor Lewis Cass on January 12, 1819 set the boundaries for the place that many of us call home.



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The Ojibwa, Chippewa and Potawatomi Native American tribes inhabited the area before the governor set these boundaries. The areas they roamed were the Saginaw, Shiawassee, and Grand River Trails. The trails are now known as Woodward Avenue, Crescent Lake Road, and Grand River.

The United States gained possession of the land from the French in 1803 when it was purchased as part of an 800,000 square mile area. Subsequently, it was given the title "Old Northwest." The potential of the land was hidden for some time afterward as evident in its official description in 1816 that said the land "has extreme sterility and barrenness."

This description began to change on November 5, 1816 when the Pontiac Company was formed for the purpose of purchasing land and establishing a town.

This area became Oakland County in 1819 after Cass' proclamation and the Pontiac Company gave the state some of its land and money in exchange for the county seat being located in Pontiac. The deal was finalized in 1820 and Pontiac became the capital of Oakland County. Its centralized location was important, as it was no more than a day's journey from any point in the county.

On April 27, 1827 the county was divided into the five townships of Farmington, Bloomfield, Troy, Oakland, and Pontiac.

The population of the county grew quickly after Cass' proclamation. The first official census in 1820 pegged the population at 330. In 1830 that figure increased to 4,911. By 1840 23,646 people resided within the county. Thirty years later in 1870 the county totaled 40,867 inhabitants. The census taken in 2002 was 1,162,098 or 3521.51 times as large as the population in 1820.

Leadership Academy Looks to the Future



(L to R): Garth Wootten, Carol Golob, Rachel Shymkiw, Terri Rose, Lisa McKay, Karen Peterson, Kathy Forzley, David Norkus, David Schrieber, Carole Johnson, Elizabeth Utton

The Oakland County Leadership Academy (OCLA), which now is in full swing, is designed to accelerate employee development due to the many retirements that have created skill gaps and loss of institutional memory across County government.

Members in the Leadership Academy began the process by getting an in-depth look at their strengths and specific areas for improvement based on feedback from peers, direct reports, and managers; and a structured managerial assessment.

Participants receive a combination of resource materials on what it takes to be effective in the roles of chief, administrator and manager at Oakland County. Keep in mind that a copy of the competency model and a comprehensive Developmental Resource Guide is available to all county employees on the intranet at the following website:

(<http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/intranet/leadership/documents/>)

If your future goals include moving into one of these positions, the competency model provides a road map for the skills that must be developed and consistently demonstrated. Feel free to use this information and these readily available tools for your own self-development.

Members of the Leadership Academy participate in a variety of developmental activities that include working on special projects, experiencing specialized training and receiving coaching from other more seasoned leaders across the county.

Selection into the academy was very competitive because available resources only allowed for 12 participants, in order to ensure effective and customized developmental opportunities for each Academy participant. Academy applicants participated in a rigorous nomination process and a data-driven final screening in order to arrive at the final 12. The Executive Resource Board decided that the top candidates would be those with the highest combination of Career Achievement Profile (CAP) and a supervisory appraisal scores. This yardstick was carefully applied to all nominees and a group of 12 were chosen. Along the way, one initial candidate, **Sharon Hinkins**, found employment outside of Oakland County. Currently, a core group of 11 continue their developmental process.

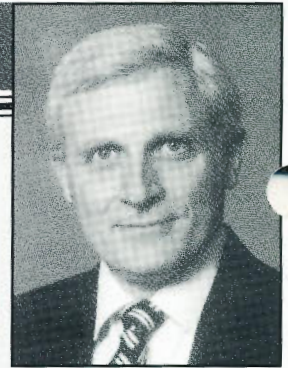
The first Oakland County Leadership Academy Participants include the following individuals:

- **David Schrieber**, Supervisor, Business Community & Economic Development
- **Elizabeth Utton**, Supervisor, Automation Alley, Community Economic Development
- **Kathy Forzley**, Environmental Health Services, Supervisor, Human Services
- **Carol Golob** - Public Health Nurse III, Human Services
- **Lisa McKay**, Administrative Assistant, Human Services

- **David Norkus**, Administrative Assistant, Human Services
- **Terri Rose**, Environmental Health Supervisor, Human Services
- **Rachel Shymkiw**, Health Program Coordinator, Human Services
- **Carole Johnson**, Supervisor II, Systems Development & Support, Information Technology
- **Karen Peterson**, Supervisor, Community Corrections, Public Services
- **Garth Wootten**, Veteran Benefits Counselor Supervisor, Public Services

Academy participants spend an average of 4 additional days per month above and beyond their current work responsibilities involved in developing their managerial skills. After a year of work, each participant has to make a formal presentation to the group of directors that oversee the program and make a "case for change" based on evaluations and assessments which occur during the course of the program. We congratulate the academy members on their effort and dedication thus far, and anticipate many future successes. For more information about the OCLA please refer to the website discussed above.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Bill Shriner at 858-1849 or Cara Bauer at 858-0536 or chat with any of the current OCLA participants.



Hockey is an exciting game but sometimes the most excitement comes just from getting to the rink! Dan Hunter had a harrowing experience with his son's hockey team a few years back on the way to Boston for a hockey tournament.

The team played strictly in tournaments for the spring season doing a couple locally and two distant competitions in Montreal and Boston.

The season was full of interesting story lines, some of which can not be talked about in the presence of children. The most interesting adventure, however, was the trip to Boston.

The team typically took a bus for the away trips because it was a good way to build team closeness, and the excursion to Boston was no exception. The bus

driver had picked the team up in Waterford after being up north on another trip. He apparently did not pay attention to the gas gauge during his travels.

Hunter's team departed late on Thursday night so everyone could sleep for part of the ride. This was a great idea until a situation with the bus caused everyone to wake up early Friday morning.

The bus had run out of gas on a bridge in Ontario 30 minutes north of Buffalo, New York. This provided a rude awakening (pun intended) to all the players and families as they rubbed sleep out of their eyes and attempted to understand what had happen. The driver could not believe the bus was so low on fuel! He was convinced the gauge was broken!

The largest tow truck imaginable awoke those still sleeping and towed the disabled bus to the gas station on the other side of the bridge. The irony is that if the bus had traveled 50 more feet before running out of gas it could have used its own inertia to coast down the slope of the bridge to the gas station.

How was the tournament? It was full of interesting stories and was remembered by all; especially the sarcastic question asked many times, "How could a bus run out of gas if the gauge said it was only low on fuel and not empty?"

EMPLOYEES from page 1

Hamby, Byron Hanson, Jearl Hoisington, James Isaacs, Robert Krellwitz, Robert McCants, Theodor Meister Jr, Leland Needham, Michael Noder, James Porter, Richard Shoemaker, Gerald Sweetland, Charles Ward, Ronald Wintland, Stephen Zemoyan; **Equalization:** Roy P. Haney, Margaret Hill, Robert Kugler, Sandra Lantto, Clifford Robbins; **F M & O:** Susan Aniskevich, Gregg Wm. Doty, Alan Duvall, James Foltz, Evelyn Glossinger, Carolyn Hammac, Sandra Higdon, Thomas Lepping, Charles Lester, Jr., Robert Mack, Dale Marchant, Rodger Mouthaan, William Noble, Michael Shields, George G. Walker, James Weir, John Wright; **Fiscal Services:** Donna Bigelow, Alavonne Doucette, Gail Gordon, K. Robert Green, Marina Joseph, Roy Lake, Mary Mailey, Martha C. Smith, Carol Sterhan, Theresa Villella, Cheryl Wilson, Pamela Yirovec; **Friend of the Court:** Martha Anderson, Joan Boyle, Elaine Bryant, Marsha Colman, Linda Delph, Royden Jones, Patricia Miracle, Lorraine Osthause, Joseph Salamone, Marianne Schwab, Bonnie Vaughan, Cathy Zahn; **Garage:** Dawn Robertson, John M. Stites; **Health:** Doris Allen, Dolores Bacon, Eva Clark, Jean Couturier, Sharon Covalle, Juliette Cyr, Alma M. Daoudi, Alan Drenchen, Dolores Fleming, Ronald L. Grimes, Larry D. Harris, Sharon Hinkins, Destiny Johnson, Michael Kreeck, Keith Krinn, Carolyn LaGrow, John Larsen, Lillie Leverett, Robert A. Long, Helen McCredie, Carol McCullough, Patricia Parker, Shannon Pell, Mary Redman, Juanita Rodriguez, Barbara Rohde, Valery Scott, Joanne Sedor,

Karen F. Seefelt, Catherine Shadley, David Shadley, Shirley Swartz, Ellen Thomerson, Richard Vincent, Barry Wyatt, Betty Yancey; **Info Tech:** Linda Childers, Patricia Coates, Barbara Devaney, Judy Foglio, Martha Harmon, Debra Henrickson, Carol Howden, Chien-Ping Lin, Linda Munk, James Tryles; **Library:** Phyllis Jose, Betty Ramey; **Medical Care Facility:** Linda Davis, Joanne Dunsmore, Virginia Edwards, Shirla Kugler, Janice Roth, Rosemarie Rottenberk, Joyce White, Linda F. Williams; **Media:** Susan Quinlan; **Medical Examiner:** Philip Predmore, Patrick Sun, Thomas Hoyes; **Parks & Rec:** Gary Berschbach, Jon Kipke, Pamela Murphy, Billey Newton, Terry Pender, Ila Rowland, Nancy Seets, Robert Single; **Personnel:** Martha Cox, Judith Eaton, Thomas Eaton, Sharon Edwards, Karen Hall, Roxanne Hill, Lois Koeber, Dorothy MacCleary, April Sprague; **Probate Court:** Mary Phelps; **Prosecutors:** Ronald Covault, Mary K. Geer, Janice Gray, Thomas Richards; **Purchasing:** Michael Kreza, Cheryl VanHorn; **Record Retention:** Richard Guccini; **Reimbursement:** Loretta Bertucci, Barbara Eikenberry, Mona Kempf; **Sheriff's:** Thomas Quisenberry, Margaret Miller, Tom Plotinski, Elliott S. Ross; **Support Services:** Gary Slinkard, Barry Waara, David Wallace; **Treasurer:** Rebecca Geror, Arthur Halsey, Arnold Pettersen; **Veterans Services:** Pamela Barton, Karen Dedenbach, Virginia Kief; **Workforce Development:** Kathleen Brang.

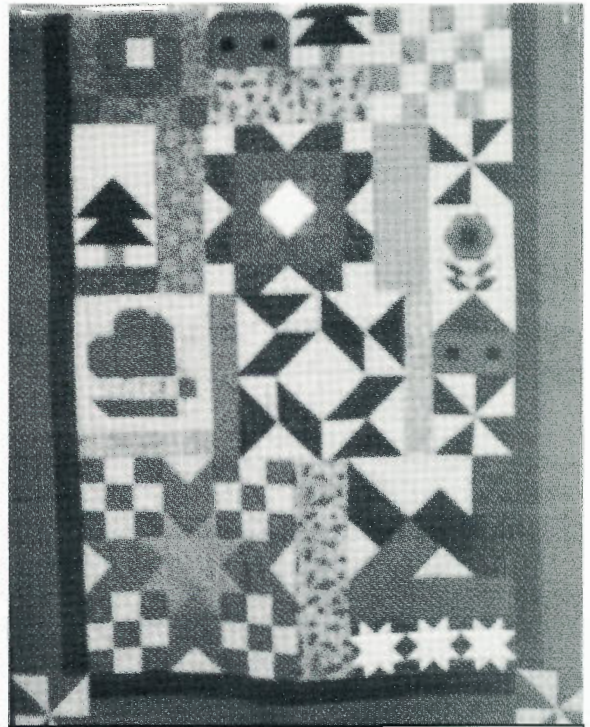
◆ **lani morgan** ◆
communications specialist
waste resource mgt.



Afraid to audition but loving theatre, Lani Morgan worked up her courage and won a role in "Annie" as a senior in high school. She's been performing ever since. Lani's latest starring appearance is in Woody Allen's production "Play It Again, Sam" at the Pontiac IV Theatre on May 1- 3. For ticket information, call (248) 737-9039.



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



◆ **sue olde** ◆
accounts payable
fiscal services



A couple of years ago Sue signed up for a quilting class because it looked like a fun thing to do. "I had already sewed a lot, but never quilted." Since then, quilting has become her passion.

◆ **dana scholts** ◆
accounts payable
fiscal services



While Dana was in grade school, her mom saw an craft magazine article that taught how to make a wreath. She passed this knowledge on to her daughter and Dana has been making wreaths as gifts ever since.



Kim Slabinski



"Everyday learning, dealing with different people and situations, never a dull moment!" These are the words of Kim Slabinski from the Reimbursement Division. Initially hired a Typist I in March of 1980, she is now a secretary II.

Linda Spiekerman-Harvey her supervisor says, "She is dedicated, conscientious, and always willing to lend a helping hand. She is also highly regarded for her competence and friendliness by her coworkers, as well as staff outside of the Reimbursement Division."

Outside of work, Kim is active in her church and counts gardening and traveling among her hobbies. When it comes to travel, it doesn't matter to Kim what mode of transportation gets her to her destination of choice just as long as she gets there. Although she has no immediate plans for a vacation, one may be in the offering sometime into her future.

Working at the Medical Care Facility, Barb Eikenberry has learned to appreciate life. Eikenberry began working for the county in 1974 after responding to an ad for a part-time switch board operator in 1974. Two-weeks later her position became full-time. She no longer is a switchboard operator and instead spends her days at the MCF sending out bills and performing other office work. She often comes into contact with the patient's families and the patients.

Though she will be retiring in March, she has fond memories of her time spent at the facility. She remembers all the interesting conversations, and people who have passed through the halls, as well as happy and sad moments. These memories will keep her company as she retires with her husband on 10 acres of land in Brandon.

In retirement Barb plans to spend time cleaning her house at least once, and pursuing her new hobby of growing the temperamental flowers known as orchids. This hobby along with collecting Santa Clauses from around the world should provide her many fulfilling and happy hours in retirement.

Barb Eikenberry



Jennifer Zoltowski



Children's Village can be a hard place to work and sometimes certain characteristics are necessary to make it through a tough day. Jennifer Zoltowski knows one of those traits; "To work in Children's Village a person must have a good sense of humor."

With a background in traumatic brain injury, Zoltowski serves as a psychologist for the village. She often deals in individual therapy, group therapy and crisis intervention. Her job has allowed her to witness the children's progress and help them sort out their lives. Zoltowski is aided in her work by the extensive knowledge she acquired while studying for a Master's Degree in Behavioral Psychology from Eastern Michigan University.

The pace of her job is so fast that Zoltowski can't remember the last time she took lunch or left work on time. It doesn't bother her because she loves the great team atmosphere at the village.

Outside of the village, Zoltowski is an exercise buff and belongs to a bowling league. She also works at Shelter Care, which assists abandoned children who range in age from infants to young adults.

"It is much easier on the heart to give dentistry away, versus working in a private practice where dentistry is being sold," says Sue Dignard of her work for the dental program at the Health Division.

Sue's work involves making sure uninsured Oakland County residents receive adequate dental care. "People with dental problems, especially those in pain need immediate help. It feels good to help people who cannot otherwise obtain dental care."

The other facet of her job deals with the internal dental program at Children's Village, the Medical Care Facility and the Jail where she provides dental care for the residents. She praises the dental staff for providing quality dental care at these Oakland County facilities.

Supervisor Jean Ulmer says, "Sue consistently exceeds customer expectations. She is an exemplary leader of the dental team and efficiently coordinates all schedules, activities and payments."

Sue's belief that public health and dentistry make a good team was one of the reasons she came to the county 19 years ago.

Sue Dignard





Sharon Stopke has a job that keeps her happy. She has been an accountant for Work Force Development and Grounds for the past 8 of her 12 years with the county. Sharon likes the variety in her job because it keeps her busy without becoming bored.

Outside of work Sharon is part of the Oakland County Bowling league and enjoys camping and biking with her husband. "What really keeps me busy though are my two new adorable granddaughters born 2 1/2 month apart," says Stopke. Maybe one day the granddaughters will visit grandma up north in Farwell "the gateway to the north" on property that one-day she hopes to retire on.



Sharon Stopke

Eric Schmidt wanted a career in the criminal justice field, but one where the risk of having a gun pointed at him was low. The end result was a spot at Community Corrections.

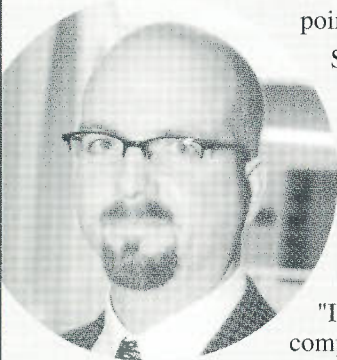
Schmidt is the supervisor of the GPS system that is now being implemented to track released inmates.

Schmidt first came to the county in 1995 after working at an electronic tether company. The move originated from his interest in the criminal justice field. He receives a new assignment every year and a half, which keeps his job fresh and interesting. This versatility is acknowledged by Barbara Hankey, "Eric really is well rounded and has worked in almost every program. He has taken every assignment without complaint, and understands what is in the best interest of the department."

"I am also an avid soccer player, and play in a competitive adult league," said Schmidt who is competing in a tournament in Las Vegas.

In the summer, Eric can be found riding his Harley Davidson on trips to a variety of locations.

Eric Schmidt



Beginning March 28th Gary Walker, will start life anew as a former county employee. Participating in the early retirement program, Gary has so many plans for retirement that it will be difficult to find enough hours in the day to do everything on his list.

The purchase of a condo in Davison has kept him busy but retirement has allowed him to rediscover his passion for fishing. This summer also will feature a Canadian fishing trip.

This trip is just one of many endeavors that will get his retirement off to a rousing start. A major fan of Myrtle Beach, Gary and wife Sue will be visiting the resort and then working their way to Disney World to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary. Disney World will also play host to his daughter Pam who will honeymoon there following her summer wedding. Gary and Sue will also make time to visit their son Steve who lives near Lake Tahoe.

The county will be missed. As Gary said, "I know just about everyone here." He has made a lot of friends as chief of custodial and values the close working relationships he's developed over the years.



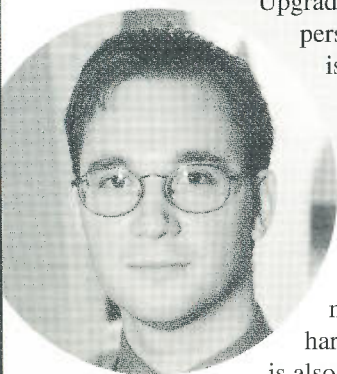
Gary Walker

Upgrading 300 computers for Utica Community Schools is a tall order for anyone, and when the person doing is only 10 years old then it serves to foreshadow an impressive talent. Paul Falinski is now showcasing his talent within the county by taking care of all networking services. When asked why he chose computers as career Paul simply says, "I have always been good at them."

After upgrading computers for Utica, Paul got his degree in Computer Information Systems at University of Detroit. He spent five years working as a consultant for the MTS computer firm before coming to the county.

The county offers Paul an easier pace since his previous job required traveling from his home in Berkley to the company headquarters in Ann Arbor. His days in Information Tech are mixed with good times and bad times but Paul's supervisor, Harshika Patel, is grateful for his hard work. She says, "Paul is very conscious about his work and pays close attention to detail. He is also willing to go that extra mile when necessary."

Paul Falinski



BENEFITS

Q&A

Q How much money will the county give me in tuition reimbursement?

A Tuition reimbursement will be limited to \$800 per session and a maximum of \$2400 for the fiscal year.

Q How many classes can I take to receive reimbursement?

A You can only take two courses each semester, and those classes which you do take must be after work hours. The courses must be related to your current or probable future position within the county.

Q Where can I take my classes?

A The school must be an accredited educational institution.

Q How do I know if I am eligible?

A Any employee with merit system status may apply for tuition reimbursement.

Q How will I know if I am getting the money?

A You will know after the Oakland County Training Unit reviews your application and decides whether or not you qualify. Applications are accepted on a first come first serve basis to the extent that funding is available.

Q What do I need to do once the class is completed to receive the money?

A You need to submit original copies of your tuition payment receipt, and grade report, no later than 60 days after the course's completion.

Q Who can I contact if I have more questions?

A You can contact Sandra Hill at 248-452-9945.

person to person

L. Brooks Patterson



Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 19 because that's the date for the 3rd Annual Yorkland County Executive Easter Egg Hunt. This year's event is a little later in the season so we shouldn't have to be too concerned, as in past years, with snow, ice, and cold weather.

In 2001, which was our inaugural year, 400 people were expected for Yorkland, but nearly 1600 showed up. Last year, some 3,000 county employees, their families, and retirees attended. Although our ranks have been thinned by early retirements, I'm predicting another banner year for the Yorkland Employees Easter Egg - Egg - Extravaganza.

Many of the same events will return this year including face painting, pony rides, pictures with the Easter Bunny, magicians, free food, a helicopter drop with those fluffy marshmallows from the sky and an array of prizes.

One thing that is different this year is the location. The event is being moved from the south lawn of the courthouse to Waterford Oaks so we have more control in keeping this strictly an event for Oakland County employees.

Again this year the Sheriff's Department will team up with the local explorer post to conduct kiddie fingerprinting. There

will also be a petting zoo, fire truck rides, inflatable bouncer and miniature golf. As in the previous two years, the egg hunt will be divided by age groups starting with the youngest and finishing with those 7 years of age and older.

The action starts at 10:00 a.m. on April 19 and ends with the marshmallow drop at 1:00 p.m. Of course a project of this magnitude involves a lot of dedication and hard work and volunteers are always desperately needed. So if you would like to help out, please contact Jordie Kramer at kramerj@co.oakland.mi.us and be sure to provide your name, phone number and where you can be reached or you can call Jordie at 858-0543.

In closing, I would like to thank Special Projects Director Suzy Vogt for her herculean efforts in making the Yorkland Easter Egg Hunt such a huge success over the past 3 years. This is Suzy's last year at the helm of this event because she is retiring. Hers will be big shoes to fill.

I look forward to seeing all of you on Saturday, April 19 at Waterford Oaks. Be sure and come in the Wave Pool entrance on Scott Lake Road and follow the road around to the back

Hot Pepper
4212 Pontiac Lake Rd.
Waterford, MI 48328
248-618-0270

out of the LUNCHBOX

The Honey Tree Restaurant
4176 Pontiac Lake Rd.
Waterford, MI 48328
248-673-1347

"Hot, hot, hot;" lyrics to a song or the description of the food at Hot Pepper Thai Restaurant? A simple restaurant located in the strip mall across from Meijers, Hot Pepper is humble in its decor from ordinary when it comes to the delectable items on the menu.

For about \$8, a customer can order almost any dish on the menu with meal favorites being Pad Ped. The young lady at the counter recommended this choice of beef, sauteed with eggplant, onion, bell pepper, mushroom, bamboo shoot and sweet basil in red curry sauce. The recommendation was perfect and left you wanting more. The restaurant serves up the food mild, medium, hot, and extra hot. Be careful - mild is still spicy.

No meal costs more than \$9.50 with choices ranging from chicken, beef, pork, or seafood. Your mouth may be numb after leaving Hot Pepper Thai Restaurant but you will be unable to resist eating there again.

A warm place where the family can go and eat economically is one way to describe The Honey Tree Restaurant located north of M-59 on Pontiac Lake Road. Located inside a strip mall across from Meijers, the Honey Tree might look like just any other place to eat.

What makes this restaurant different is that all the items on the menu are high quality and reasonably priced. Whether it is breakfast, lunch or diner, The Honey Tree has a choice for everyone. Breakfast is served anytime, perfect if you have a hankering for an omelet right after work!

Food choices run the gamut from Greek Specialties, to steak, seafood, pasta and stir-fry. A child's menu is available for the little ones.

Typical price for breakfast and lunch is about \$5 to \$6 with dinner being more expensive at \$8 to \$9.

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.

March of Dimes "WalkAmerica 2003"

This year's March of Dimes "WalkAmerica" will be held on April 26 and 27. The designated Oakland County employee's walk site will be in Troy on Sunday, April 27, 2003.

WalkAmerica is the original and largest event of its kind in the country. Proceeds will go toward research, community services, education and advocacy: all aimed at preventing birth defects and infant mortality.

In 2002 our diligent efforts raised over \$34,000. This resulted in Oakland County placing tenth among the WalkAmerica teams in Southeast Michigan. We would like to surpass this amount in 2003.

Scott Guzy from Purchasing will serve as chairperson of the Oakland County WalkAmerica Steering Committee.

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

Two fathers and two sons went into a bar to have a Friday night drink together. They spent a total of \$15. Each spent the same amount. How much did each man spend?

To answer, call Mike at 858-0457 or e-mail:
zackm@co.oakland.mi.us

If there is more than one correct response, the winning entry will be chosen by a drawing.

Answer to Winter issue puzzle

The puzzle stated "A clock on the wall falls to the floor and the face breaks into 3 pieces. The digits on each piece of clock add up to the same total. What are the digits on each piece?"

The correct answer is:

$$11+12+1+2=26$$

$$10+3+9+4=26$$

$$5+6+7+8=26$$

The winning entry belongs to Mike McMahon, Drain Comm., whose name was drawn from a pool of correct entries. Mike wins an Oakland County attache case. Thanks to all who entered and congratulations, Mike!!

kudos

kudos



Congratulations to **Norma Miller**, Program Manager JIMS Project, Information Technology Administration Division, as a member of the Great Lakes Chorus Group, who were the 2001 State Champions and were selected to open for the Rockettes at the Fox Theater on December 10, 2002.

Congratulations to **Patty Salter**, Project Manager, Information Technology Administration Division, in passing the Project Management Professional Exam and becoming PMP certified on October 26, 2002.

Heather McAtee of the WIC Program, Health Division, graduated with honors from Clear University in December 2002.

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners honored **Judge Alice Gilbert**, the first woman elected to serve on the Oakland County Circuit Court bench by presenting her with a proclamation at the Oakland County Board of Commissioner's Meeting on March 6.

Oakland County Commissioner **Eric Coleman** has been appointed to the National Association of Counties (NACo) Governance Structure and Election Process Task Force.

In recognition of **Ralph Richard's** dedication to excellence in the parks and recreation profession, a \$1,000 Commitment to Excellence Scholarship will be awarded in Richard's name to a deserving college student in the parks and recreation curriculum.

The honorable **Michael Warren** has taken his place on the Oakland County Circuit Court after receiving the oath of office March 7 from Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Maura Corrigan. Judge Warren, who comes to the 6th Judicial Circuit Court from the New Common School Foundation, succeeds Judge Alice Gilbert who retired in December.

coming & going

promotions



Charles Moore, promoted to Cross Connection & Pre-treatment Coordinator, Drain Commissioner's Office, on December 28, 2002.

Suzanne Reynolds, promoted to Maintenance Mechanic II, Water Maintenance Unit on December 28, 2002.

Christopher Coffey, promoted to Sewage Treatment Supervisor I, on December 14, 2002.

Ronald Feneley promoted to Water Maintenance Supervisor II, on December 28, 2002.

Carol Griesser promoted to Water Maintenance Supervisor I, on December 28, 2002.

Larry Mills promoted to Pump Maintenance Mechanic II on January 11, 2003.

Cheryl Ferguson was promoted to Office Assistant II of the Drain Commissioner's Office on February 22, 2003.

Michael R. Wickham was promoted to Sergeant on February 8, 2003.

Ruth Allor was promoted to Maintenance Mechanic I, Water Maintenance Unit on February 22, 2003.

Vance Sharette was promoted to Meter Mechanic I, Water Maintenance Unit, on February 22, 2003.

marriages



Theodore Meister, Right-of-Way, Drain Commissioner's Office, married Roberta McGowan on January 23, 2003.

Darrell Kirby, Information Technology, married Cheryl Mosley on February 14, 2003.

Joe Nowry, Sewer & Drain Maintenance Unit married Tina Myers on January 18, 2003.

new hires



Donna Pierson, Office Assistant I, Administration Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, hired on January 2, 2003.

Michael Baker, Maintenance Laborer, Sewer & Drain Maintenance Unit, hired on February 3, 2003.

Matthew Carr, Electronics Tech, Drain Commissioner's Office, hired February 6, 2003.

Stephen Pasternak, Electronics Tech, Drain Commissioner's Office, hired December 23, 2002.

Suzanne Curtis was hired as Chemist, STP Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office on March 18, 2003.

Gregory Knauf was hired as STP Operator II, Drain Commissioner's Office on March 19, 2003.

Stephen David was hired as STP Operator I, Drain Commissioner's Office on March 19, 2003.

Ronald Hambleton, was hired as Maintenance Laborer for the Sewer & Drain Maintenance Unit on March 10, 2003.

Christopher Robertson was hired Maintenance Laborer, Sewer & Drain Maintenance Unit on February 12, 2003.

births



Aaron Sutherland, Admin. Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office and wife Shawn welcomed Logan Joseph to the family on November 25, 2002.

Brian Bennett, Operations & Maintenance Division Drain Commissioner's Office, and wife Kathy celebrated the birth of baby Hannah Rose on January 20, 2003.

Annette Metrick, Information Technology, and husband Michael welcomed their son Michael Anthony Metrick III on October 18, 2002.

Janet Brinker, Information Technology, and husband Rob welcomed twins Noah Nathaniel and Natalie Isabella on February 2, 2003.

celebrations life events

Retiree Reaches Out and Reads



Not all people have the ability to create a warm and inviting atmosphere about them. Carolyn White, Oakland County retiree and volunteer has the ability to relate to children and they are naturally drawn to her.

Sitting cozily on her Mickey Mouse blanket on the floor with her special assortment of books and tempting treats, Carolyn reads enthusiastically to children and promotes the importance of reading to the observing parents.

Carolyn gives her time to the Oakland County Health Division Child Health Clinic at Oakland Pointe as a Reach Out and Read volunteer. Two mornings each month she shares her love of books at the well baby clinics. While waiting at the clinic visit, she role models to

parents the importance of reading to children. Each child receives a new, age appropriate book in tandem with his or her well care check up, immunizations and health teaching.

Carolyn's experience as a volunteer goes beyond the Child Health Clinic program. She also tutors children at the Baldwin Center and at the Franklin Road Christian School.

Carolyn is a valued volunteer. She has a pleasant disposition and we always look forward to her presence in the Child Health Clinic. Child Health Clinics are currently held in the Southfield, Walled Lake, Pontiac, and Oakland Pointe Health Division buildings. If you are interested in being a ROR volunteer reader please call Mary White, Program Coordinator at (248) 858-1380.

Mark Your Calendars for Summer Fun!

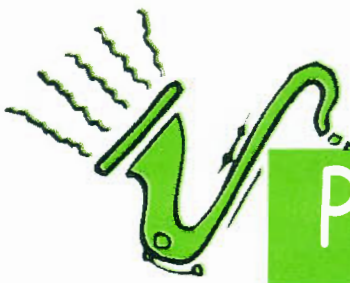
In recognition of 100 years of powered flight, and in celebration of our Oakland County International Airport's 75th year of operation, there will be a special open house (free admission and parking!) held at the airport on M-59 in Waterford on Sunday, August 24, 2003 from 10 am - 4 pm. (County website: <http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/aviation>).

This annual event is tailor-made for families and aviation enthusiasts, alike.

Attractions include:

- * WWII B17G "Yankee Lady" and Douglas C47 from the world-famous Yankee Air Force Museum (<http://www.yankeeamuseum.org>). Both will be offering once-in-a-lifetime rides. A great gift for veterans or those interested in WWII aviation. Call YAF (734) 483 4030 for more details.
- * Members of the Tuskegee Airmen Detroit Chapter
- * Kenneth D. Cameron, retired NASA astronaut (Atlantis and Discovery)
- * Helicopter rides

- * Airplane rides
- * Pontiac's own Tom Campau's AT-6 "Mystical Power", 2003 Reno Air Race Gold Champion
- * Television series Tales of the Gold Monkey airplane: Grumman Goose
- * Special Private Pilot Certificate raffle drawing sponsored by flight school Flight 101 (call (248) 666-2211 for more details).
- * Experimental/homebuilt aircraft
- * Gliders
- * Ultralights
- * Radio Controlled model aircraft
- * Corporate jets
- * Warbird fly-bys
- * PC flight simulators
- * "Art wall" where children's drawing talents can be shared with everyone
- * Pancake breakfast from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., ADI Hangar #1
- * Other food available throughout the day
- * Fun-filled day for all



Toot Thy Horn



Planning Department

new stuff

September 17 the Planning Group will host the sixth annual Heritage Conference in downtown Holly.

The seminar seeks to educate attendees about the four planning group focus areas and issues on a national, state and local level. The seminar will include a national keynote speaker in the field. Anyone is welcome to attend especially local officials, environmental groups, developers, planners, historic preservationists and local business people.

If interested in attending the seminar or if you have any other questions please contact Bret Rasegan at (248) 858-5445.

Informed decision-making highlights the services of the Planning Group within Planning & Economic Development. The staff of professional planners, architects and other specialists coordinates and educates local communities in a variety of areas that are as diverse as water quality and parking. The land use aspect of the group is also required by state law to review all local master plans and offer suggestions when problems arise between communities.

The department is broken up into four program areas; land use and zoning, environmental stewardship, downtown redevelopment, and historic preservation. Historic preservation attempts to protect sites in communities that are over 50 years old. Downtown redevelopment seeks to maximize the economic potential of the county's 30 traditional downtowns while preserving their distinct sense of place. Both contribute to the overall beauty of the area.

Environmental stewardship seeks to identify and preserve the countless water sources throughout the county, identify and protect various natural settings and help create interconnected nature trails.

spot light

As market coordinator with Planning and Development, Sue Dorris is part of the promotional mechanism of Oakland County.



Sue got her start working as the municipal community coordinator for the city of Berkley before moving to the county. The chance to work with the entire county instead of a single city is what she has always aspired to do.

Sue keeps busy preparing presentations for the Business Roundtable, the Counselor General's Golf Outing, or the Economic luncheon. She is also the unofficial mayor of Gingellville as her efforts to promote the town have led to the formation of a family fitness center.



One of the concerns of the Planning Group is environmental quality

Did you know??

- Oakland County has more lakes than any other county in the State of Michigan?
- There are 31 distinct downtowns/town centers of all sizes in Oakland County.

- Oakland County has one designated National Historic Landmark, which is the Cranbrook Educational Community.
- Oakland County gained over 1,000 acres of recreation/conservation land between 2001 and 2002.

- Oakland County has two state designated Natural Areas (one in Highland State Recreation Area and the other in Proud Lake State Recreation area).