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# Telegraph



*Kelly Fitzpatrick (left) and Carly Graham (right) kept the awards program running smoothly.*



retirement and service awards program

## EMPLOYEES HONORED AT LUNCHEON

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On June 6, 2003 the Oakland County Employees' Retirement and Service Awards Program was held at the Centerpoint Marriott to honor some of Oakland County government's most valued and dedicated employees for their many years of service.

Receiving gold watches for 25 years of service were: **Kenneth Taber**, Animal Control; **Robert Lloyd** and **Yvette Thrush**, Auditing; **Matthew Treais**, Aviation & Transportation; **Helen Hanger** and **James VanLeuven, Jr.**, Board of Commissioners; **Patricia Lahar**, **Eddie Morgan**, **John Phelan** and **Paul Romzek**, Children's Village; **Deborah Bevan**, **Joan Boyle**, **Teresa Castiglione**, **Larry Clarfelt**, **Jo Ellen Cody**, **Patrick Cronin**, **Donald Epperson**, **Rebecca Halicek**, **Cynthia Harper**, **April Hutchings**, **Leonard Kleparek**, **Mary McPherson**, **Joseph Salamone**, **Kenneth Tolbert**, **Nancy Vancamp** and **Linda Wesley**, Circuit Court; **Kathleen Brang**, **Diane Hadfield** and **Deborah Lake**, Community & Economic Development; **Kathy Czinder** and **Barbara Sigety**, Community & Home Improvement; **Mary Neff**, District Court/1st Division; **Christopher Coffey**, Drain Commissioner; **Margaret Hill**, **Sandra Lantto**, **Denise Shaw** and **Tamara Smith**, Equalization; **Michael Wilhelm**, Facilities Engineering; **Thomas Cook**, **John Kelly**, **Linda Nembhard**, **Susan Roberson** and **Kurt Taylor**, FM&O; **Michael**

**Hughson**, Facilities Management; **Penny Cremer**, **Shelley Domin**, **Gail Gordon**, **Kathryn Koponen**, **Kathleen McLernon**, **Gail Naramor**, **Robyn Oesch**, **Vicki Poynter**, **Theresa Villella** and **Mark Williams**, Fiscal Services; **Dolores Bacon**, **Eva Clark**, **Nelson Haynes**, **Carolyn Lagrow**, **Deborah McKee**, **George Miller**, **Joy Schumacher**, **Thomas Smith** and **Christie Young**, Health; **Margaret Bozarth**, **Anita Campbell**, **Graceanne Hill**, **Chien-Ping Lin** and **James Tryles**, Information Technology; **Phyllis Jose**, Library; **Inez Eaton**, Medical Care Facility; **Joseph Figa, Jr.**, **Keith Lindsey**, **Billy Newton**, **Debra Sajjavara**, **Nancy Seets**, **Dean Schantz** and **Daniel Stencil**, Parks & Recreation; **Judith Eaton**, **Karen Hall**, **Roxanne Hill**, **April Sprague** and **David VandeGrift**, Personnel; The Honorable **Barry Grant**, Probate Court; **Daniel Cojanu** and **Mary Geer**, Prosecuting Attorney; **Deborah Bachman**, **Loretta Bertucci** and **Joyce Raczka**, Reimbursement; **Sandra Drogmiller**, **Bradley Froehlich**, **James Hubanks**, **Charles Johnson**, **James Karr**, **Michael McCabe**, **Connie McReynolds**, **Janet Milligan**, **Pamela Newson**, **Paul James**, **Don Pebbles**, **Thomas Quisenberry**, **Elizabeth Rogers**, **Elliott Ross**, **Kim Rossman**, **Frank Schipani**, and **Chrisophe Yuchasz**, Sheriff; **Susan Danhausen** and **Rebecca Geror**, Treasurer; **John Becher**, Veteran's Services.



# FROM WHENCE WE CAME

by Adam Hitch, Media and Communications

“Operation Iraqi Freedom” marks the first major military campaign of the new century. It also marks an appropriate time to reflect upon how many of our residents have served in the military.

The 2000 census shows that a little more than one in every ten county residents is a veteran of the armed forces. The percentages increase when age is factored in with almost four in every ten residents over the age of 65 having served in the military.

The exact number of veterans, according to the census is 95,453 veterans out of an eligible population of 893,948. This makes Oakland County home to the second largest

veterans population in the state; only Wayne County has more.

The actual number of veterans in the county is not the most important fact. County veterans have risked their lives in conflicts ranging from World War II to the first Persian Gulf War. Vietnam and World War II saw the single most participation from Oakland County residents while many more served their county in some of the other military campaigns of the century.

Almost a third of all veterans saw service during Vietnam. Although the actual number who saw actual combat is not known, 250 residents did make the ultimate sacrifice

with their lives.

Whether it was in the Pacific or European Theater, a quarter of county veterans served in the Armed Forces during World War II. An additional 14% served during the Korean War, which means that the majority of county veterans were in the military during America's three most deadly wars in the 20th century.

During the past decade Oakland County's veteran population has declined by more than a thousand, the result of death or relocation.

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## Summer Boating Safety

As the weather gets warmer people throughout the county will start rushing to one of the county's 400 plus lakes where fun in the sun awaits. It is important to be responsible and make safety the number one priority while on the water.

A large part of this responsibility is to make sure your vehicle has the necessary equipment to protect yourself and the environment. The Michigan DNR requires all marine vehicles to carry one U.S. Coast Guard approved floatation device for everyone aboard with the exact type depending on the watercraft. All motorized craft must carry a fire extinguisher, a muffler / underwater exhaust or device to muffle noise. With the exception of outboards and diesels, all motorboats must also have a U.S.C.G. approved backfire flame arrestor system on each carburetor. Running lights between sunset and sunrise and during periods of restricted visibility are required along with whistles, horns or bells.

In a change similar to the seatbelt law on the roadways, marine officers will now be able to pull over watercraft just for inspection

purposes. If a craft fails inspection the operator will be given a ticket resulting in a misdemeanor offense. An infraction would have the additional penalty of preventing an individual from being able to legally carry a concealed weapon.

Early this summer local homeowner associations will be inviting sheriff deputies to their lake to inspect resident's watercrafts. The owner's boats that fail the initial inspection will receive a written warning. If a boat owner does not fix the problem, a future inspection could result in a ticket being issued.

The primary purpose of the requirements is to ensure the safety of Michigan residents while on the waterways. Along these lines, the Michigan DNR also recommends all boats to have a compass, anchor, fenders, flashlights, line, buckets, bilge pump, first aid kit, paddle, tool kit, two-way radio and distress signals.

For more information contact the Marine Division at 248/391-0256.

## EMPLOYEES from page 1

Following presentations of the watches, department directors and managers presented service award plaques to their respective employees.

For 35 years of service: **Walter Millard**, Clerk/ROD; **Nancy Fitzpatrick** and **K. Robert Green**, Fiscal Services; **Charles Lester, Jr.**, FM&O; **William Peters**, Support Services.

For 30 years of service: **Karl Randall**, Aviation & Transportation; **Deborah Anthony**, **Lynn Erickson**, The Honorable **Richard Kuhn**, **Linda Hudson**, **Porferia Mellado**, **Linda Freeland** and **Ruth Jordan**, Circuit Court; **Donald Slavin**, Corporation Counsel; **Bridget Balzerini**, **Mary Jo Hammond** and **Stephanie Schroeder**, Clerk/ROD; **Douglas Williams**, County Executive Administration; **Joyce Renfrow**, District Court/1st Division; **Barbara Palulian**, District Court/2nd Division; **Edward Clark, Jr.**, **Stanley Inglsbee**, **Richard Shoemaker** and **Alan Wilson**, Drain Commissioner; **Douglas MacFarlane** and **Edwin Smith**, Equalization; **Alexander Skoczylas**, Facilities Engineering; **John Bohn**, **Phillip Goulding**, **Steven Schell**, **Willie Washington** and **John Wright**, FM&O; **David Shadley**, Health; **Thomas Gordon**, Ph.D, Human Services; **Linda Childers**, **Barbara Devaney** and **Debra Martin**, Information Technology; **Shirla Kugler**, Medical Care Facility; **Jon Kipke** and **Clyde Herb**, Parks & Recreation; **Maryjo Leutheuser**, Planning & Economic Development; **Robert Williams**, Prosecuting Attorney; **Cheryl Vanhorn**, Purchasing; **Linda Spiekerman-Harvey**, Reimbursement; **Dennis Davis**, **Gary Godschalk**, **James Jones**, **Phillip Kayga**, **James Lehtola**, **Patrick Miles** and **Larry Sage**, Sheriff; **John Stites**, Support Services; **Thomas Holmes** and **Carol Hunter**, Veterans' Services.

For 20 years of service: Commissioners **Thomas Law** and **Ruel McPherson**; **Cynthia Duggan**, **Cheryl Endres**, **Pamela Ferguson**, **William Hamilton** and **Karen Varvel**, Circuit Court; **Linda Howes**, Clerk/ROD; **Judith Cunningham**, Corporation Counsel; **Debra Calvin**, District Court/2nd Division; **Ruthie Curry**, District Court/3rd Division; **Alavonne Doucette**, Fiscal Services; **Carolyn Bird**, M.D., **Annice Carlson**, **Christine Galbraith**, **Julie Galka**, **Christine McKee**, **Susan Sauer** and **Corrine Serrell**, Health; **Cathy Taylor**, Information Technology; **Sharon Hill**, Medical Care Facility; **Tenessa Ramey** and **Barbara Wiser**, Personnel; **Robert Baker**, **Wesley Beltz**, **Michael Carolin**, **George Geckle**, **Richard Hanser**, **Timothy Jenkinson**, **Kenneth McLellan**, **Keith Palmer**, **Keith Parent**, **Craig Rathbun**, **Valerie Wells**, **Walter Wells** and **Gary Willemot**, Sheriff.

In commemoration of their retirement, plaques were awarded to: **Philip Ingraham**, **Donald Corey**, **Sandra Cowell**, **Bernadine Edwards**, **Gerald Sebrowski**, **David Slade**, **Donna Place**, **Patrick Campbell**, **Robert Zigler**, **Laura Stelt**, **Sharon Gast**, **Donna Steele**, **Thomas Earle**, **Jerry Dial**, **Paul Semann**, **William Harvey**, **Dennis Shiemke**, **Ronald Frink**, **Byron Hanson**, **Mona Kempf**, **Michael Krecke**, **Frances Mackinder**, **Mary Mailley**, **Mary Phelps**, **Juanita Rodriguez**, **Edward Hanson**, **Virginia Kief**, **Carol Howden**, **Sharon Hinkins**, **Donna Bigelow**, **Edward Clark, Jr.**, **Karen Hall**, **Carolyn Hammac**, **James Isaacs, Jr.**, **Judith Paulson**, **Richard Shoemaker**, **Pamela Barton**, **Michael Noder**, **Martha Anderson**, **Gary Berschbach**, **Jearl Hoisington**, **John Sibel**, **Janice Gray**, **Richard Guccini**, **Linda Munk**, **Billey Newton**, **Barbara Waara**, **Paul Romzek**, **Charles Ward, II**,

**Thomas Hoyes**, Commissioner **Nancy Dingeldey**, **Gerald McNally**, Commissioner **Rochelle Taub**, **Robert McCants**, **Linda Williams**, **John Barber**, **Joyce White**, **Kalvin Engelberg**, **Agnes Carnahan**, **Jean Couturier**, **John Luke**, **Shannon Pell**, **Michael Shields**, **David Wallace**, **Ot wool Craft, Jr.**, **Gregg Doty**, **Sandra Gay**, **Mary Geer**, **Ann Lloyd**, **Helen McCredie**, **John Chatley**, **Ronald Grimes**, **Arthur Halsey**, **Mary McPherson**, **Gary Slinkard**, **Stephen Zemoyan**, **John Larsen**, **Clifford Robbins**, **Bonnie Stone**, **Loretta Bertucci**, **Joan Boyle**, **James Foltz**, **Gail Gordon**, **Ann Groth**, **Jane Nowicki-True**, **Jane Oswald**, **Tom Plotinski**, **Barbara Rohde**, **Shirley Swartz**, **Pamela Voll**, **Gerald Sweetland**, **Judy Foglio**, **Theodore Meister, Jr.**, **Kathleen Rexin**, **Thomas Richards**, **Virginia Edwards**, **Jill Batey**, **Alan Duvall**, **Rebecca Geror**, **Thomas Lepping**, **David Leslie**, **Dawn Robertson**, **Philip Strong**, **James Weir**, **Sharon Gowman**, **Linda Davis**, **Alan Drenchen**, **Sandra Higdon**, **Robert Krellwitz**, **Sandra Lantto**, **Patricia Miracle**, **Rodger Mouthaan**, **Cheryl VanHorn**, **John Wright**, **Patricia Hobday**, **Clyde Payton**, **Joanne Sedor**, **David Ajamy**, **Kenneth Bruske**, **Gary Contesti**, **Jon Kipke**, **Alvin Duncan**, **Juliette Cyr**, **John Guisbert**, **Kenneth Hamby**, **Martha Harmon**, **Keith Krinn**, **Lillie Leverett**, **Elliott Ross**, **Martha Schreiber**, **John Plopan**, **Patrick Sun**, **Ronald Wintland**, **Doris Allen**, **Susan Grace Aniskevich**, **Frances Ariff**, **Dolores Bacon**, **Kathleen Brang**, **Elaine Bryant**, **Jean Chamberlain**, **Richard Chartier**, **Linda Childers**, **Eva Clark**, **Patricia Coates**, **Marsha Colman**, **Sharon Covalle**, **Ronald Covault**, **Martha Cox**, **Karen Dedenbach**, **Linda Delph**, **Barbara Devaney**, **Alavonne Doucette**, **Joanne Dunsmore**, **Judith Eaton**, **Thomas Eaton**, **Sharon Edwards**, **Barbara Eikenberry**, **Nancy Elfes**, **Donald Epperson**, **Stanley Fayne**, **Dolores Fleming**, **Lois Foust**, **Kathryn Galetto**, **Evelyn Glossinger**, **Mary Gohl**, **K. Robert Green**, **Mary Jo Hammond**, **Roy Haney**, **Cynthia Harper**, **Larry Harris**, **Debra Henrickson**, **Margaret Hill**, **Roxanne Hill**, **Linda Hudson**, **Deborah Hyde**, **Diane Irving**, **Royden Jones**, **Phyllis Jose**, **Marina Joseph**, **Allen Kaczkowski**, **Lois Koeber**, **Michael Kreza**, **Robert Kugler**, **Shirla Kugler**, **Carolyn Lagrow**, **Roy Lake**, **Charles Lester, Jr.**, **Chien-Ping Lin**, **Robert Long**, **Dorothy MacCleary**, **Robert Mack**, **Dale Marchant**, **Carol McCullough**, **John Meiers**, **Frederick Morden**, **Pamela Lee Murphy**, **Leland Needham**, **William Noble**, **Lorraine Osthaus**, **Patricia Parker**, **Terry Lee Pender**, **James Porter**, **Philip Predmore**, **Susan Quinlan**, **Thomas Quisenberry**, **Betty Ramey**, **Mary Redman**, **Janice Roth**, **Rosemarie Rottenberk**, **Ila Rowland**, **Joseph Salamone**, **Marianne Schwab**, **Valery Scott**, **Karen Seefelt**, **Nancy Seets**, **Catherine Shadley**, **David Shadley**, **Robert Single**, **Martha Smith**, **April Sprague**, **Carol Sterhan**, **John Stites**, **Ellen Thomerson**, **James Tryles**, **Nancy Vancamp**, **Patricia VanLanduyt**, **Bonnie Vaughan**, **Marlys Vickers**, **Theresa Villella**, **Richard Vincent**, **Suzette Vogt**, **Barry Waara**, **George Walker**, **Ada Waller**, **Cheryl Wilson**, **Michaele Worrell**, **Barry Wyatt**, **Betty Yancey**, **Vallada Yezbick**, **Pamela Yirovec**, **Cathy Zahn**, **Peter Zemelis**.

Special thanks to those who made the Program such a success: the "go-to girl" **Karen Jones**, the selfless **Jordie Kramer**, the caring **Nancy Scarlet**, **Ed Poisson** (our **Pat Sajak** of the day), the incredibly hard-working and dedicated **Martha Smith**, our wonderful new photographer **Mike Zack** and last, but definitely not least, the awesome **Carly Graham**.

## Oakland County Remembers Police and Fire Fighters Killed in the Line of Duty

On May 15, Sheriff Michael Bouchard and emergency first responders from throughout the area gathered to remember the police officers and firefighters who have given their lives in the line of duty. The ceremony was held in conjunction with National Peace Officers Week to honor those who daily give their lives for the safety and protection of others.

“Together we remember the lives of men and women, police and firefighters, who put the lives of strangers before their own. That sacrifice is a priceless display of heroism,” Bouchard said. “Though we can't repay their selflessness, we can honor their memories and never forget this very special battalion of men and women who have gone before us.”

This ultimate sacrifice is being memorialized through the Michigan Fallen Heroes Memorial. The ceremony was held at the Memorial site, which currently displays two life-sized bronze statues, one of a police officer and one of a firefighter set side by side.



## Take Your Child to Work



*Sandra Hill and daughter Jalia*

Thursday, April 24, County Employees participated in “Take Your Child to Work Day.” The event is held the same day as the nationally recognized “Take Your Daughter to Work Day.” The goal is to introduce the next generation of employees to what their parents do when they are at the office.

Lauren and Devin Phelps had a chance to witness first hand what mom and dad do at work. In the morning they were with mom, Shawn, at the Drain Commission and the afternoon saw them with dad, Jeff in Fiscal Services.

“We want the kids to see what we do at

work; it is easier than paying for a babysitter and it is a relief for grandma.”

Tom Nahas of Information Technology brought his daughter Marisa for the third straight year. The first time Marisa participated she was just 3 years old, but on this day she was daddy's assistant drawing pictures on the computer and contributing to the creation of a website.

Kelly Stout of Personnel brought both her kids Sophia 3, and Brandon, 6, to the Personnel Department. Sophia had a great day as she got to see a jungle and had a tasty



*Kelly and Brandon Stout*



*Loren and Laurie Van Pelt*

milkshake for lunch, which she remembered with a fond smile. Sandra Hill, Personnel, and her daughter Jalia enjoyed spending time together at her desk, where Sandra keeps lots of Jalia's artwork displayed.

Tracy Konada, Health Administration, brought her daughters Kelsey and Haley to work for the second year in a row. The girls did some paper filing and learned about nutrition and the environment. Earlier in the day the girls were with dad, Pete, in the Southfield office doing deliveries.

Others who participated were Laurie Van Pelt, director of Management and Budget, and Angie Broegman of Personnel.

# telegraphing our talent

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

◆ Barb Bellows ◆

Clerical  
Health Division

## The Crafty Barb Bellows

9-5 during the week she is Barb Bellows, a county employee doing clerical work for the Health Division. The rest of the time she is "crafty" Barb Bellows immersing herself in a wide range of artistic endeavors.

Over 25 years ago she started sowing holiday outfits for her daughters. A passion was born. "It is relaxing to do after work and it keeps me busy," says Barb.

Her interest in sewing laid the foundation for a list of other craft hobbies. They include macramé, upholstery, crochet, one stroke painting, x-stitch, friendly plastic jewelry, ribbon embroidery, quilting, wreath making, glass etching, basket making and Swedish weaving being her latest glass she took.



Barb has also made stepping stones for her garden, fimo clay glass Santa heads for Christmas and has upholstered her couches. In the craft world Barb Bellows is definitely a "Jill of all trades!"

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR  
SUMMER FUN  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2003,  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
OAKLAND COUNTY  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
FREE ADMISSION AND  
PARKING

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 held at the airport on M-59 in Waterford on Sunday, August 24, 2003.

(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.yankeearmuseum.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
- 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

Diane Jeffery



After spending 30 years in the dental field, Diane Jeffery felt a change was in order. The thirty years saw her go from being a dental assistant to an office manager, but still one-day she decided to make a change.

Diane has been with the county for the past year and half working as a receptionist for the Employee Relations Division. "I wanted to jump into something else, a challenge of a different kind," says Diane. She enjoys the new work because of the people contact and the really nice benefits included in the job. "I love the growth opportunities the county affords and it is a very nice group of people to work with."

Nancy Scarlet, Diane's supervisor says, "Diane does an exceptional job. She is personable, conscientious and dependable. When she sees a co-worker overloaded with work, she takes the initiative to ask what she can do to help."

Nancy Fournier stepped right into the middle of the storm when the budget crisis hit the county. As Chief of Fiscal Services, responsible for Financial Analysis and Planning, Nancy saw a tremendous increase in both workload and pressure.

She responded to the challenge and proved instrumental in isolating the issues, and providing accurate information to the administration. Her supervisor, Timothy Soave said, "She kept a level head and proper perspective, continuing to perform and helping her staff to perform under difficult circumstances."

Besides working at the county for the past 27 years, Nancy's hobbies include gardening, playing with her dog, and biking in the summer. Winters are spent watching her son play hockey. This past season she watched as his Clarkston Junior Varsity team captured the state championship. If her son decides to retire from hockey, Nancy will have a lot more free time and says, "I will have to find a new hobby and maybe sit and watch a Red Wings game!"



Nancy Fournier

Marge Bozarth



In her job at Information Technology, Marge Bozarth supports law enforcement by maintaining the computers for the Mobile Data Project and the jail. Her current post is user support III and systems administrator.

Her present duties came about after a career in the Prosecutor's office, working for Brooks Patterson. She worked there for 13 years starting in 1976 but moving over to IT in 1989. "I wanted to advance my career and could only do so by switching departments," says Marge.

During her time at the Prosecutor's Office, she acquired a bachelors degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice at Oakland University. Later she acquired a masters degree in Public Administration from the same school.

Marge's supervisor, Joe Sullivan says, "Marge epitomizes the Employee of the Month, hardworking and loyal with a complete dedication to the 142 agency public safety community she serves."

"Ever since I was at Michigan State University, I have always worked with kids and their families," says Paul Binelli of Children's Village. Binelli's duties at the village include crisis intervention, psychological referrals, and individual meetings with the residents.

While studying for his bachelor's of arts degree at State, Binelli became an intern at a psychological hospital. He later moved on to residential and family shelter care. After he graduated from State he worked at Crossroads for Youth before coming to the county in August of 2001.

His work at the county has been exceptional and his supervisor, Jody Overall, has nothing but praise for him. "He provides exceptional clinical services to residents in detention and Shelter Care. He instinctually and effectively responds to crisis situations and establishes quick rapport with the individuals he works for."

Paul also is an avid antique collector and can be found buying and selling antiques on E-Bay from his new house in Berkley.



Paul Binelli



A global childhood best describes Patricia Wright of the Children's Village. Born in Long Island, New York she spent most of her childhood overseas as her dad worked for General Motors. She called a variety of places home including Beirut, Singapore, Panama, and Puerto Rico where she graduated high school in 1985.

Through informal contact with her friends in Latin America she was able to take up Spanish and several of its dialects. Patricia says, "Although I went to school on the base, we lived in the cities and to communicate I had to learn the language. As in the United States the dialect changed when you move from place to place."

This skill is especially helpful in the village where she serves as a family and youth caseworker. She helps intimidated Latino kids overcome their uneasiness by speaking with them in their language. Her supervisor Peter Balzerini says, "Patricia has a lot of energy directed into the right places and the children really respect her for this."



Patricia Wright

## Judy Eaton Children's Library Dedicated

Oakland County Personnel Director Judy Eaton joined 226 of her co-workers in taking advantage of the retirement incentive offer. But as Judy took the pictures off the wall, cleared out her desk and packed up the boxes, she left something behind. That something was her rich legacy as an important and valued member of Oakland County Government. Throughout her many years with the county, Judy's achievements were monumental. But perhaps her proudest moment came on January 18, 2000 when the Little Oaks Childcare Center opened its doors.

Judy carried the ball on the project from that very first day in 1997 when County Executive Patterson made a commitment to explore the feasibility of establishing an on-site childcare center for employees at Oakland County.

Judy established a 17 member task force and spent countless hours gathering information to make the argument that a childcare center was needed and necessary in order to retain and attract quality people, especially those with young families.

After several years of hard fought effort, Judy Eaton prevailed and Little Oaks became a reality.

But before Judy was able to slip quietly out the front door of the Executive Office Building and into retirement, she was lured over to Little Oaks one last time. There on March 26, 2003, the Judy Eaton Children's Library was formally dedicated. The library, located in the heart of the Center, will be filled with children's books donated by Little Oaks parents. Each family is given an opportunity to place a label in their donated book, which reads, "In Honor of Judy Eaton."



Judy Eaton receiving her retirement plaque from County Executive L. Brooks Patterson

To say that Judy was caught by surprise is a gross understatement. As she basked in the glory of her moment, Judy told the 50 or so people who had gathered for the event, "Who would have imagined we would have such a wonderful center for our employees and parents in such a safe environment?"

Another feature of the Judy Eaton Children's Library is the artwork of Steve Stanford, Facilities Engineering, which depicts an oak tree in the corner of the room and the handprints of Little Oaks children representing the leaves.

"You were the perfect person at the right time," Mr. Patterson told the crowd in referring to Judy. "There are a lot of legacies from Judy Eaton, but this is the main one."

# BENEFITS

## Q&A

**Q** What are some of the changes for active employees hired prior to January 1, 1997?

**A** The major change is that the new plan will require bi-weekly pre-tax contributions for those active employees.

**Q** What about for employees who were hired on or after January 1, 1997?

**A** Bi-weekly pre-tax contributions will be added or increased for those active employees.

**Q** How is the co-payment for prescription drugs going to work?

**A** There will now be a three-tier plan with \$5 co-payment for generic drugs, \$10 for formulary (preferred) brand name drug, and \$15 for non-formulary. HAP will be \$20.

**Q** When is the target implementation date?

**A** The new plan becomes active on August 1, 2003. The changes for retirees will be effective January 1, 2004.

**Q** When can employees change their plan?

**A** All employees can select a different plan effective August 1st; they also have their usual full selection period beginning at the end of September for January 1, 2004.

**Q** Where can I go for more info?

**A** Complete information is available at [www.ocbenefits.com](http://www.ocbenefits.com) then go to the link Health Care Changes.

## person to person

L. Brooks Patterson



Beautiful weather graced the 3rd Annual Yorkland County Employee's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19. More than 2,100 RSVP's were received prior to the event and Suzy Vogt, chair of the Easter Egg Hunt, estimated the actual crowd at more than 3,000 people.

This was the first year at Waterford Oaks, which as it turned out, was a well received change of venue. Many of the people I spoke with both during and after the event said the new location had a sort of country fair feel about it.

Waterford Oaks was more spacious and spread out which allowed for moms, dads and kids to move around more freely without feeling too crowded.

Some improvements though are needed for next year such as more and better signage so people have a better idea of where everything is located, closer handicap parking, maybe even golf carts to shuttle the elderly and those with disabilities to and from their cars and shorter food lines which might be accomplished by separating the food from the beverage area.

But all things considered, the Oakland County Employee's Easter Egg Hunt was another huge success.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the businesses that donated items, the 100 or so volunteers who gave their time and the committee which planned and coordinated this great event. I'd especially like to thank Suzy Vogt for doing such a masterful job of heading up the committee for her third and final year. Suzy has retired and her successor next year will be Carmen Talbot.

By the way, the four grand prize winners of \$250 were children related to Christina Calhoun, Oakland County Sheriff's Records Bureau; Christina Sanchez-Rollison, Oakland County Sheriff's Dispatch; Michelle Twomey, Community Corrections; and Sally Ann Morris, Horticulturist for FM&O.

Once again thanks to everybody for making this another great family oriented event.



*The egg-hunting was fast and furious, as the 2-4 year-olds gathered up their share of eggs.*



**Cabana Café**  
3377 Elizabeth Lake Rd  
Waterford Township  
248-738-3802

# out of the LUNCHBOX

**Coney Café**  
228 W. Walton  
Pontiac, MI  
248-338-2970

The Caribbean is in your mind as you walk into Cabana Café located at the intersection of Elizabeth Lake road and M-59.

No detail is spared, as the carpeting resembles a sandy beach on an overcast day. The "beach" is met with walls of palm trees full of coconuts so realistic you can taste the juice inside of them. The sweet island music of Jimmy Buffet adds an air of authenticity to the whole dining experience.

The food is generous and moderately priced with the typical meal and drink going for about \$8. Lunch is good but breakfast is great! The breakfast burrito, their specialty, is everything that makes your taste buds water and arteries harden. Eggs, bacon, cheese and wrapped in tortilla, the only thing better would be sitting on the beach watching the sunrise on the Gulf of Mexico as you eat your meal.

Though it may not be Margaritaville, Cabana Café allows you to escape briefly into a world of great food and tropical dreams.

Those looking for uniformed waiters, sparkling floors and slimming food will not find what they are looking for at Coney Café in Pontiac.

The restaurant is simple in design without décor but still full of personality. It is a restaurant untouched by commercialization where the food is all that matters and healthy is only associated with appetite. The service is lightning quick. The delay in ordering the food and seeing it before your eyes is so short you swear they knew you were coming before even you did!

Five dollars will get you a coney dog with everything, chili fries and a coke. Beware though, the dogs are full of bite and stay with you the rest of the day.

What is Coney Café? A restaurant with food sure to fill your belly but not empty your wallet in the process.

## 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.

## from the desk of

It's here at last;  
warmer  
temperatures AND a park pass valid at two  
park systems.

**Cheryl Hill**

New this season, Oakland County Parks and Recreation and the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (HCMA) offer a yearly park pass valid in both systems. The \$40 Parks Perk Pass provides outdoor fun until December 31. Discounts or coupons do not apply on the pass.

"For a walk in the woods, a family picnic, or an afternoon of fishing, the dual pass makes close-to-home recreation more accessible," says Jan Pung, communications officer of Oakland County Parks.

Oakland County Parks offers nearly 6,000 acres of natural landscapes and outdoor recreation in Oakland County. The Metroparks cover almost 24,000 acres in

Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties.

The pass is on sale at six Oakland County Park locations: Addison Oaks near Oxford; Independence Oaks and Nature Center in Clarkston; Groveland Oaks in Holly; Lyon Oaks in Lyon Township; and Waterford Oaks in Waterford. The pass is good at these locations plus Orion Oaks in Orion Township and Rose Oaks in Rose Township. For maps to these and other Oakland County Parks locations, visit the website at [www.co.oakland.mi.us](http://www.co.oakland.mi.us) or call 1-888-OCPARKS.

Four HCMA locations sell the pass: Indian Springs, Kensington and Stony Creek Metroparks in Oakland County, and at the HCMA Administration office at 13000 High Ridge Drive in Brighton.

The pass is valid at the following locations: in Livingston County - Huron Meadows and Kensington Metroparks; in Oakland County - Indian Springs, Kensington, and Stony

Creek Metroparks; in Macomb County - Metro Beach, Stony Creek and Wolcott Mill Metroparks; in Washtenaw County - Delhi, Dexter-Huron and Hudson Mills Metroparks; and in Wayne County - Lake Erie, Lower Huron, Oakwoods and Willow Metroparks. For maps and more information on HCMA locations, visit the website at [www.metroparks.com](http://www.metroparks.com) or call 1-800-477-PARKS.

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

The puzzle stated "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?" The correct answer is \$5 each. The winning entry belongs to Scott Lucas of Children's Village, whose name was drawn from a pool of correct entries. Scott wins an Oakland County throw. Thanks to all who entered and congratulations, Scott!

# kudos coming & going

## kudos

**GREAT!**

Heather McAtee, Health Division, received her bachelor's degree in Business Management from Cleary University in December 2002.

Lynne Gafford, Health Division, received her Nurse Practitioner certification.

Camilla Cherian, AHW, CHPIS, was recently inducted into the Eastern Michigan University Chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, as a result of outstanding academic achievement.

Lois Thieleke and Sylvia Treitman of MSU Extension Oakland County have been awarded the Food and Drug Administration's Commissioner's special citation for "exceptional performance in leveraging resources to improve food safety knowledge."

Pam Hamway, court administrator's office has been inducted into Pi Alpha Alpha, the National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration.

Keith Harding, Facilities Management, received Civilian Citation at annual Sheriff's Department awards program.

## promotions



Alyssa Kirchenbauer was promoted to office leader, Health Division.

Jennifer Bouck was promoted to public health educator III, Health Division.

Michelle DeWyre was promoted to public health educator III, Health Division.

Peggy McGee was promoted to personal and preventive health services chief of clinics and special programs.

Kathy Forzley was promoted to the administrator of environmental health services.

Tony Drautz was promoted to EHS chief of special programs.

Terri Rose was promoted to EHS chief of field activities.

Rachel Shymkiw was promoted to supervisor of planning & evaluation, Health Division.

Deborah Thuesen was promoted to health support specialist in the planning and evaluation unit, Health Division.

David Atkins was promoted to maintenance supervisor I.

David Cuchetti was promoted to groundskeeper special irrigation.

Mark Baker was promoted to alarm technician.

Neil Cooper was promoted to alarm technician.

Captain Michael G. McCabe was promoted to the rank of undersheriff.

Ed Joss was promoted to maintenance planner II.

Brian Wright was promoted to locksmith, Maintenance.

Phil Goulding was promoted to chief landscape services.

Derek Brown was promoted to automobile mechanic II.

Nicole Hutton was promoted to garage account clerk.

Holly Cusatis came back to the County as supervisor of Materials Management and Printing.

Allen Cooley III to Sewer Maintenance Supervisor II, Drain & Sewer Maint. Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office.

Rebecca Stepp to Summer Business Asst., Soil Erosion Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office.

Ariane Fountain to part-time General Helper, Soil Erosion Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office.

Greg Alessi, Children's Village, was promoted to chief of operations.

Maurice Cummings, Children's Village, was promoted to program supervisor.

Charles Nicholson, Children's Village, was promoted to youth specialist supervisor.

Joanna Overall, Children's Village, was promoted to manager.

Boban Ristovski, Children's Village, was promoted to youth specialist supervisor.

Christina Nicholas, Children's Village, was promoted to clinical services supervisor.

Gary Mundy, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted to sewage treatment supervisor I, stps - Walled Lake.

Paul Dove, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted to right of way unit.

David Dove, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted to meter mechanic II.

Joe Washburn, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted to maintenance mechanic II.

Darla DiClemente, Drain Commissioner's Office, was promoted to engineering aide.

Suzette Dennis, Drain Commissioner's Office, became general helper (full time).

Stacie Sabady, Drain Commissioner's Office, became general helper (full time).

Shannon Wandrei, Drain Commissioner's Office, is now full time for clerk, drain and sewer maintenance unit.

Denis Grabocka, Drain Commissioner's Office, became general helper (full time).

Thomas Moore, Drain Commissioner's Office, had his title changed to Engineering Aide on April 19, 2003.

## new hires



Amy Hauley was hired into the Health Division, Hearing and Vision Unit.

James Ryan was hired into the Health Division, Jail

Health.

Collette Baetz was hired into the Health Division, Jail Health.

Janet Freeman was hired into the Health Division, PPHS.

Stephanie Jones was hired into the Health Division, Central Support Unit.

Dayna Kennedy was hired into the Health Division, Central Support Unit.

Mong Moua was hired into the Health Division, Central Support Unit.

Steven T. Henry was hired general helper, Custodial.

Lindsey Dees, Student Engineer, Watershed Management Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office.

Joseph Slocum, Seasonal Laborer, Pump Maint. Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office.

Vincent Mazzei, Seasonal Laborer, Pump Maint. Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office.

Zachary Barker, Seasonal Laborer, Electron Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office.

# celebrations life events

Brandon Schudlich, Seasonal Laborer, Drain & Sewer Maintenance Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office.

Susan Moore, Enterprise Data Technician, was hired on May 30, 2003 in the DISC Division / GIS Unit of Information Technology.

Dennis Alexander, Children's Village, was hired youth specialist I.

Stephen T. Ballew, Children' Village, was hired youth specialist I.

Christina Courser, Children's Village, was hired youth specialist I.

Lisa Gacki, Children's Village, was hired youth specialist I.

Brandie Neil, Children' Village, was hired youth specialist I.

Patrick Render, Children's Village, was hired youth specialist I.

Cheryl Wilson, Children's Village, was hired youth specialist I.

Gregory Tait, Facilities Management, was hired general helper.

James Slawek II, Facilities Management, was hired boiler operator.

Thomas Isaacs, Drain Commissioner's Office, was hired summer business assistant.

Mark Resendez, Drain Commissioner's Office, was hired maintenance laborer.

Melvin Stafford, Drain Commissioner's Office, was hired seasonal laborer.

Charles Claphan, Drain Commissioner's Office, was hired right of way agent.

Jeffrey Kampsen, Drain Commissioner's Office, was hired summer business assistant.

## fond farewells



Donna Genre retired from Risk Management in May.

Robert Whipple, Pump Maint. Mechanic II, Pump Maintenance Unit, Drain Commissioner's Office, 5/2/03

.... Studebaker, Drain Commissioner's Office, left the county on April 9, 2003.

## for sale



Whether to keep you warm or for use on the golf course the county has what you need! A wide range of merchandise featuring the county logo is available to everyone at inexpensive prices.

Denim shirts are available in women's sizes (S - XL) priced at \$27 and men sizes (L - XL) at \$28. Men who want a (2XL) will pay \$30.

Other shirts available include the long sleeve henley in both gray and moss green priced at \$24 with sizes (M - XL) and long sleeve sweatshirts coming in moss green and chamois yellow, (XL) at \$32 and (2XL) at \$34.

This summer Pima V Polo Golf Shirts are available for women in white and navy for \$26. Pima Polo Golf Shirts are also available for men in navy with sizes (S - L) at \$26 and (XL) at \$28. They all feature an embroidered county logo on the front. Merchandise can be viewed on the county website and in person on the second floor of the Executive Office Building.

Baseball caps and warm knitted hats featuring L. Brooks Patterson's embroidered signature can be purchased for \$12 and are one size fits all.

## births



Michelle DeWyre, Health Division, welcomed Cora Michelle DeWyre on December 14, 2002.

Dawn Beemer, Health Division, welcomed Alexis Beemer on December 2, 2002.

Mary Dettloff, Health Division welcomed her third child Choe Ann on July 24, 2002.

Thomas Renusch, Sheriff's Department, and wife Pamela of FOC, celebrated the birth of their son, Tyler Douglas on October 25, 2002.

Congratulations to Geoff Caddell, Information Technology, and wife, Heather, on the birth of their daughter, Sydney Adelaide on May 24, 2003.

The county is also selling sports bags for \$13 and canvas bags for \$9.75. New for this year is the canvas brief case at \$25.

When driving to work in the morning use the Beverage Travel Tumbler, \$9.75, and while at your desk drink coffee or tea from a coffee / tea mug, priced at \$5.25. Water bottles are also on sale for \$2.

For the golf enthusiast three Titleist golf balls with the county logo and nine tees can be had for the low price of \$9.25.

Other items available are business folders with the county logo at \$13, and women peds socks, one pair for \$6. Lanyards are also available at \$4.25 to hold county identifications.

To purchase the merchandise log onto [www.co.oakland.mi.us/intranet/shop](http://www.co.oakland.mi.us/intranet/shop) for an order form and then send a check or money order with the appropriate amount to:

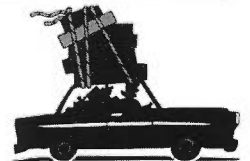
Carmen Talbot  
2nd Floor, Executive Office Building  
1200 North Telegraph  
Pontiac, MI 48341

All orders must be accompanied by payment in form of check or money order. Cash can only be paid in person at the Executive Office Building.

For more information contact Carmen at 248-858-1422 or [talbotc@co.oakland.mi.us](mailto:talbotc@co.oakland.mi.us).

## transfers

Trina Jones transferred into Administration from Fiscal Services on March 22, 2003.



Bruce Horner, Drain Commissioner's Office, was transferred to maintenance laborer on April 19, 2003.

Michael I. Johnson, Drain Commissioner's Office, was transferred to maintenance laborer stps - Commerce on April 19, 2003.

David Lawrey, Drain Commissioner's Office, was transferred to survey party supervisor on April 19, 2003.

# Toot Thy Horn

## Gretchen's House

### new stuff

During the summer months, parents with school age children often run into problems finding a day care center that fits their work and vacation schedule. Gretchen's House has dealt with this problem by instituting the School Age Program, which is open to children in kindergarten through second grade. Benefit of this program is that children can be enrolled on a daily or weekly basis to mitigate possible scheduling dilemmas.

Parents can also relax knowing their children are being cared for in a safe and learning rich environment at Gretchen's House.

In June of 2001, Gretchen's House opened at Little Oaks Child Care Center. This is much more than your average daycare center. Designed to be a place where county affiliated employees can take their kids while at work, Gretchen's House focuses on two guiding principles, supervision and education.

Enrolled as infants, children are placed into a group of four with one teacher. This "base" group will not change the entire time the child is enrolled.

As the children grow, social interaction becomes more important. Accordingly as the children progress from infants to toddlers their group size will double. The addition of another teacher gives the children greater learning opportunities.

Instructors at Gretchen's House are some of the best in the area. They all are professionals in their field with college degrees and have passed a comprehensive interview process to maintain the high standards of the center.

### spot light

When asked to choose one of my teachers and speak to their outstanding contribution, it occurs to me that I am not able to choose one person alone. I have the most knowledgeable, dedicated, committed, and professional staff I have ever had privilege to work with. Our teachers exhibit sincere regard to each of their students, families, and for each other. They promote learning among children, provide parenting support and information, and deliver the most sincere and consistent, nurturing to each child every day. Each individual at Little Oaks contributes to the success of our exceptional program and to the success of each child.

*Pat Mueller*

### Little Oaks Spring Concert



The sweet mischievous voices of children having fun filled the air of the Executive Office Building April 1. The children, from Gretchen's House at Little Oaks under the direction of Jeanice Reid accompanied by Matt Mueller, gave everything in their annual spring concert.

The children sang all of the classics from "Row Your Boat" to "I'm a Little Teapot." Many sang with the kind of energy only little kids can produce, while some of their friends decided the concert was a great place to catch-up on sleep, totally unaware of the music surrounding them.

Concertgoers seemed to be impressed by how well the kids could sing and how well their co-workers knew the words. A couple of the songs were new to even the youngest of county employees. A wonderful time was had by all and many left wishing they were still children able to have naptime!

■ Gretchen's House at Little Oaks works with 115 children from 97 families.

■ 76% of the teachers hold degrees and 67% are currently enrolled in continuing education at four local colleges.

### Did you know??

■ There are 39 children in the infant/toddler program, 62 in preschool program and 14 children in the school age program.

■ The center holds Parent Seminars during the lunch hour.

■ 71% of our teachers have been working for Little Oaks for one year or more and an additional 25% have worked with the center for more than 6 months.