

A message from the County Executive

Boating safety a must

Dear Employees,

Summer's finally here! It's time to go on picnics, go swimming, have a barbecue and just get together with friends and relatives to enjoy the beautiful weather. However, it is important to remember that accidents tend to coincide with the warmer weather, and caution and safety preparation are a must.

As you may recall, I wrote about the importance of learning CPR in last summer's issue. This year, I'd like to focus on danger that is imminent when people drink and then operate a boat.

With over 400 bodies of water in our county, people flock to our area for boating, swimming and other water activities when the weather heats up. The Sheriff's Department Marine Division tells us that as boating's popularity increases, so too, do boating accidents.

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, more than 1,200 people die in boating accidents each year. Estimates are that 50 percent of all the fatalities are alcohol related.

Here are some things you should keep in mind when you are boating: As alcohol consumption increases, physical coordination decreases. Bad judgement, poor decision making and increased risk taking are all results of drinking. Alcohol affects balance. Most people killed in marine accidents fall out of their vessels or capsize. Too much

alcohol impairs vision, night vision, depth perception, peripheral vision and color distinction. Alcohol induces fatigue. It is **illegal** to operate a boat under the influence of alcohol or other controlled substances.



Dan Murphy

Please remember that when you operate a boat, you must accept responsibility for the craft, the safety of your passengers and crew and for others enjoying the water. Moderation and common sense are of utmost importance.

Keep your families and friends alive this summer.

Sincerely,
Dan Murphy



Sgt. Bob Sahajdack

by Rae Higgins

Bob Sahajdack, Day Shift Command Sergeant at the Main Jail, gets the spotlight in this quarter's issue of **The Telegraph** for his commitment and dedication to working with mentally impaired children.

Bob, who is a 16-year employee of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department (OCSD), began working with special children about five years ago when a co-worker took him to a fishing derby, sponsored by the Wayne County Sheriff's Department on Lake St. Clair

Unsung Hero

Deputy donates time to mentally impaired

for mentally impaired children.

He explained that Wayne County officials asked him to start a similar program in Oakland County since many of the participants were from Oakland.

Bob approached Sheriff Nichols, who gave his stamp of approval to initiate an Oakland program.

"Oakland has since surpassed Wayne County in numbers," Bob said.

Both the Oakland and Wayne derbies are held on the second Wednesday in August on Cass Lake and Lake St. Clair, respectively. Bob also said a plan is in place to get other sheriff's departments across Michigan involved in working with special kids.

Bob said the fishing derby is not only a fun-filled day for the children and the volunteers but also for the residents of Cass Lake.

"...when you see a smile on their faces, you melt."

"We had 402 clients and a total of about 750 people participate last year. We solicit donations and contributions from local businesses and go out and have a great day," he said. "It's really become a community effort."

He also pointed out that over 70 Sheriff's Department employees were involved in last year's derby.

Bob has been instrumental in starting the OCSD Benefit for the Handicapped, a non-profit organization. He is currently the president of the four-member board. They sponsor trips for

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Lots of info in this edition

Dear Readers,

We have an exciting issue for all of you. As we break into summer and start taking advantage of all of our summer sports, lakes and recreation areas, we must remember to keep safety at the forefront of our minds.

Mr. Murphy's column cautions us all to be careful when we go boating. If we don't focus on safety, we're likely to hurt ourselves and other boaters as well.

Inside this month's issue we have an article called "Advice for future Retirees." Several people seeking clarification of details concerning

retirement contacted *The Telegraph*. We gathered some information and hope it helps you.

Our division highlighted this month is Central Garage and we thought it would be a good idea to reacquaint you with the team headed by Jerry Elmy who recently retired.

Bob Sahajdack, Day Shift Command Sergeant in the Main Jail gets the Unsung Hero award this month for his dedication to working with mentally impaired children. Congratulations, Bob!

Last, but certainly not least, I'd like to thank everyone for all of your



Suzan Singer

participation in *The Telegraph* but remind you that **when you send photographs be sure the people's names are written on the backs of the pictures.** We don't know who every employee is.

Sincerely,
Suzan Singer

Division Highlights

Check out this garage folks



Front Row: (L to R) Keith Lawrence, Dawn Bailey, Kirt Hunt, Emrol Nembhard, Vlas Haloostock, Jerry Elmy, Chief, retiring. Second Row: (L to R) Derek Perinoff, Ed Robertson, Mike Stites, Bill Kistler, new Chief Bob Gorham.

by Ed Mandel Jr.

Who keeps the wheels of Oakland County government turning?

The Oakland Central Garage has both a day and a night shift working hard to maintain the county fleet of nearly 600 vehicles.

"We try to avoid any backlogging of repair work," said Jerry Elmy, former chief of garage operations. "We especially try to get police cars out in a day, or the same day if possible."

The Garage staff of 15 is responsible for maintaining and leasing vehicles to

all county divisions. Another responsibility is advising the purchasing division on the future vehicle needs of the county.

All eight Garage mechanics receive free monthly training courses taught by the General Motors Institute in Warren. This training keeps county mechanics up to date.

Each year the Garage takes charge of about 60 new patrol cars and 75 other vehicles the purchasing division has bought and preps them for county service.

The preparation of new patrol cars involves painting them, installing light bars, radios and a mobile data computer. All county vehicles get decals and identification numbers stamped into the door posts.

Elmy, who retired May 15 after 25 years of county service, said "Oakland County has been a great place to work over the years."

"We have a real good crew here and everyone gets along pretty well," said Elmy.

Men's Bowling League Needs Transfusion!

Individuals and/or 5-man teams are needed for Thursday Night League which starts in early September. Fees are reasonable, and individual handicap basis is generous. Please contact League President Bob Davis for details at 858-0524 (Materials Management Division).

To all Oakland County Employees:

We (my family and I) wish to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped raise the money needed for my bone-marrow transplant. I want to send out a big thank you to each of you who made either individual or department donations and also to each of you who participated in the bowl-a-thon held on my behalf last January. I want each and everyone of you to know that since the "John Kedmenec Transplant Fund" was initiated last November, that the fund has grown from nothing to \$51,000. The majority of these funds have come from donations from my fellow county employees and from the bowl-a-thon. It's amazing what you have accomplished for me and my family when we asked for your help! I hope you know how much we appreciate everything you've done to make this transplant a reality.

I thought you might be interested in knowing that the Veterans Administration has agreed to perform the bone-marrow transplant; the amount of needed funds has been reduced from \$250,000 to approximately \$50,000 - as you can see, you have made it possible for me! On the 14th of March, I received a call from the Seattle Veterans Hospital scheduling me to arrive there for the transplant. Due to others' "emergency needs," we have encountered some delays, however, I received "in writing" on April 25th a confirmed date of May 30th, 1991, at which time I am to arrive in Seattle and start procedures towards the transplant; if all goes well surgery should take place near the end of June. Gayle will keep in touch with both her department, the Clerks/Registers Office and my department, the Drain Office; they have promised, in turn, to spread the word.

I look forward to seeing all of you in the future and again, **thanks for everything** — your donations, your support and your prayers. My family and I will always remember this.

Sincerely,
John and Gayle Kedmenec



Pictured from L to R. Back Row: Derrick Beeler, Lawrence Rozaman, Robert Hanzl, Dan Hunter, Jeff Kaczmarek, Jack Driker, William Moon, James W. Mann, Dick Southern. Front Row: Marlys Vickers, Cindy Weil, Cheryl Gault, Mary Langhauser.

Economic Development gets Statewide praise

Oakland County was awarded the distinguished "Overall Excellence Award" by the Michigan Department of Commerce as part of the Communities of Economic Excellence Program (CEEP) at the Sixth Annual Awards Banquet on March 18 at the Clarion Hotel in Lansing. Jeff Kaczmarek, manager, Oakland County Economic Development Division, accepted the award.

The "Overall Excellence Award" is presented to communities that demonstrate an outstanding process of economic development. Cooperation between public and private sector, capitalization on economic strengths and focused efforts on economic development strategies responsive to

local needs are criteria reviewed by the judging committee.

The Michigan CEEP is an awards program designed to promote effective economic development strategies in Michigan. The program gives statewide recognition to Michigan communities that are building a stronger economic base through local organizations and cooperation between public and private sectors.

Four communities, including Oakland County, received Overall Excellence Awards for 1990. Certificates, plaques and highway signs commemorating Oakland County's receipt of the "Overall Excellence Award" were presented.

Tigers' Fans

If you're a Detroit Tigers' fan, you'll want to be a part of this year's Tigers' baseball outings. All county employees, families and friends are eligible to join in the fun.

Four games have been chosen for this year's outings: Saturday, May 18; Thursday, June 20; Saturday, July 13; and Friday, Aug. 16.

The May, June and August games are box seat only events and cost \$16 per person. July 13 is a bargain day game. The reserved seat only affair will cost \$9 per person.

In addition to game tickets, round-trip bus transportation from the EOB parking lot is included.

Order tickets now to guarantee yourself a spot. Call Jim Mansfield at 625-8133 to obtain tickets.

The Key to Success

Fiona Ryberg, Oakland County Management and Budget Department clerical trainee proved that learning and perseverance makes success inevitable.

The former factory worker who was laid off with only 40 minutes notice eventually enrolled in a 15 week Office Information Systems program and is now doing excellent work for the County, according to Sandra McKay, manager, Reimbursement Division.

Employees make news...

Promotions

Debra Beck, assigned to Judge Alice L. Gilbert, has been promoted to Case Assistant.

Bonnie LaVergne, Judge Tyner's office, was promoted to Case Assistant.

Christina Conlon, ADAPT Family Counseling Unit, has been promoted to Clerk III.

Christine Miller, Family Counseling Unit, was appointed Clerical Trainee.

Janet Creed, District Court Probation, was promoted from Typist II to Clerk III.

Pam Agelink, District Court Probation, was promoted from groundskeeper to grounds equipment mechanic at Glen Oaks.

Jeff Sanborn, P & R, has been promoted from groundskeeper to grounds equipment mechanic at Glen Oaks.

Dan LaBarge, FM & O Grounds Unit, was promoted from Groundskeeper II to Groundskeeper Specialist-Mechanic as of 1-26-91.

Sheila Cannon, FM & O Custodial Unit, was promoted from Custodial Worker II to Mobile Custodial Worker as of 3-9-91.

Edna Lee, FM & O Custodial Unit, has been promoted from Custodial Worker II to Mobile Custodial Worker as of 3-23-91.

Schuyler Rogers, FM & O Admin., was a student Engineer and now is a Maintenance Planner I as of 5-4-91.

Daniel Bowles, FM & O Custodial, was promoted from General Helper to Custodial Worker II on 4-6-91.

John Walker, DPW, was promoted to Sewer Maintenance Supervisor II and will be in charge of the Sewer Maintenance Unit for Water & Sewage Operations Division.

Wayne Wilson, DPW, was promoted to Sewer Maintenance Supervisor I, Water & Sewage Operations Division.

Alan Wilson of DPW Water & Sewage Operations Division was promoted to Maintenance Mechanic II.

Ed McConney, DPW Water & Sewage Operations Division was promoted to Maintenance Mechanic II.

Henry Wallace of the Sheriff's Department was sworn in as Captain before a packed auditorium in mid-March. He is a 20 year veteran who is

known for his community involvement and kindness. Captain Wallace is the first black captain in the OCSO. He will supervise jail operations, including more than 1,000 inmates and 250 employees. Congratulations and good luck!



Captain Henry Wallace

New Employees

Welcome to **Jennifer Bisogni** to the County Clerk/Register's Administrative offices. She is a student co-op.

Also welcome to **Kit Schatz** and **Connie Cischke** to the Clerk/Register's Election Division.

The Aviation & Transportation Department welcomes **Jim Rowland** as a General Helper on February 28.

Welcome to **Jim Perizzo**, District Court Probation, who was hired as a full time clerical on February 26.

The Circuit Court welcomes **James Scott Garrison** who was appointed as Court Clerk I for Judge Robert C. Anderson.

Carol L. Silvi became Judge Steven N. Andrews' new Judicial Secretary.

Julie Truxton is a Court Clerk I for Judge David F. Breck.

Gerald Gavette was assigned as Referee to the Honorable Deborah G. Tyner.

Sandra K. Binder, M.A., was appointed as Family Counselor to Judge Rudy J. Nichols.

Royden Jones is Judge Alice L. Gilbert's Referee.

Judith Trombley, M.S.W., was hired as Family Counselor for Judge Deborah G. Tyner.

Facilities Maintenance and Operations Division welcomes the following: **Ascension Castro** as Custodial, hired on 2-11-91; **Donald Keehn**, Custodial employed on 2-19-91; **Timothy Keesling**, Custodial began on 3-18-91; **Thomas Garvey**,

Grounds, hired on 3-23-91; and **Jonathon Stewart** hired as a Custodial on 4-1-91.

Linda Frost, Health Department, began her career as a Public Health Sanitarian in January.

Debbie Cowdrey joined the Department of Public Works-Administration on April 27, 1991.

Anthony Agazio joined the Eight Mile Water Department, Water & Sewage Operations Division, on March 20, 1991.

Richard Cook hired on March 25, 1991 joined the Sewer Maintenance Unit, Water & Sewage Operations Division.

William Roche, Department of Public Works, joined the Sewer Maintenance Unit, Water & Sewage Operations Division on March 25, 1991.

Welcome to **Sharon Stopke** and **Lynn Close** who joined Public Works Accounting on March 25, and April 16, 1991. Welcome to all the new employees of Public Works.

Congratulations and a warm welcome to **Dr. Kanu Virani**, who comes from the Manhattan, N.Y. Medical Examiner's Office as Oakland County's Chief Deputy Medical Examiner. Dr. Virani will also assume the duties of Director of Health Division Laboratory. He began his employment on 3-11-91.

Transfers

Linda Fleischer transferred from the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Family Support Division to Circuit Court as a Legal Assistant in the Support Specialist Unit.

Marianne "Mitzi" Schwab began her position in the ADAPT department of the Friend of the Court on March 11, 1991. Mitzi transferred from District Court Probation.

Deborah Lindsey, Probation Officer, transferred from Probate Court in April to District Court Probation.

Dick Eash, P & R, was appointed grounds equipment mechanic at Independence Oaks. He was formerly stationed at Orion Oaks.

Employees make news...

Retirements

Edward "Med" Tessier, Chief of Building Safety since 1986, retired May 17, 1991 after 34 years with Oakland County. Med began his career in the Sheriff's Department in June of 1957. In 1960 he became a Lieutenant in the Sheriff's Department Marine Division where he worked until he became Assistant Chief of the Safety Division in August of 1974. Med and his wife, Carol, purchased a new home in Florida where they plan to spend their retirement. Best wishes to Med and Carol on their new venture!

Carol Tessier, Accounting, retired after 26 years, April 30, 1991. She is taking a deferred retirement and is moving to Florida with her husband, Med. Carol held the position of Data Processing Scheduler. She did a great job and will be missed.

J. Carol Chunovich retired April 26, 1991 with 30 years of County Service. A luncheon was held at Mitch's on April 24 and many of her friends attended. On April 26 an open house as also held. Carol was Supervisor of Accounts Payable and was an excellent employee. She will be missed by all.



J. Carol Chunovich

June Wright, FM & O Custodial Unit, retired after 16 years of service May 10, 1991. She was a Custodial Worker II. Congratulations and much happiness!

Margaret Miller retired on April 17, 1991 after 11 years with the County. She worked as a Clerk III with the Court Community Service Program at District Court Probation. Good luck Margaret!

Michael Lyzen, DPW, Sewer Maintenance Supervisor II in charge of the Sewage Maintenance Unit, retired on April 12, 1991 after working 31 years for the Division of Water & Sewage Operations. Mike plans on playing a lot of golf and tennis, and traveling with his



After 60 years of combined employment Med and Carol Tessier are heading south.

wife, Maria.

Kazem Shushtari, Senior Public Health Sanitarian, retired from Environmental Health Services after 25 years of devoted service.

Births

Congratulations to **Bill Stokes**, White Lake Oaks General Maintenance Mechanic, and his wife, **Nancy**, who adopted a baby boy in February. **William Allen Stokes** was just ten days old when the proud couple became his parents. Bill and Nancy are newlyweds too.

Jeff Van, Children's Village, and his wife are the proud new adoptive parents of a baby boy. **Jeffrey Robert Charles Van** was born Jan. 1, 1991.

Jim Richardson, P & R Technical Support, and his wife, **Julie**, have a new daughter, **Casey Elizabeth**, born on St. Patrick's Day. Casey weighed 8 lbs. 7 oz.

Peggy Kanaan, Circuit Court Judicial Secretary for Judge Robert Templin, gave birth to **Jason David** on January 22, 1991.

Christina Conlon, Clerk III for the Friend of the Court, and her husband, **Bob**, are the proud parents of **Jaclyn Gail**, born March 6, 1991. Jaclyn weighed 5 lbs. 4 oz.

Michael Freed of the Drain Commission, and his wife, **Judy**, Cooperative Extension Service, are the proud parents of **Jacob Michael** born March 1, 1991. Jacob Michael weighed 4 lbs.

Leslie Strang-Martins of Children's Village and husband, **Antonio**, are parents of **Garrett Emerson**, born February 14, 1991. Garrett Emerson is Leslie & Antonio's first born and he weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 20½ inches long. Congratulations.

Oscar Trusty, Children's Village, and his wife, **Carla**, are proud parents of **Oscar Trusty III**, born February 28, 1991. He weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz. and was 19 inches long. Congratulations.

Marriages

Jacki Bramble, P & R, tied the knot April 12 with William Carland III. They're planning a summer honeymoon. Congratulations to the happy couple!

Dan Brock married Cara Rochon on January 5, 1991. Dan is the Coordinator Supervisor for the Court Community Service Program at District Court Probation. Cara works at Oakland General Hospital as a Clinical Dietician.

Best Wishes

Billy Coheley, DPW, a tanker driver for the Wastewater Treatment Unit, is recovering at home from heart surgery performed in March. He is expected to be off the job for several months. Best of luck to you for a speedy recovery.

Photos by
David Van de Grift

Keeping tabs on our friends...

Kudos

Joy Schumacher, Program Coordinator for AIDS Prevention and Control in the Oakland County Health Division, was awarded the 1991 Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing Education. Joy received the award at Oakland University's third annual "Nightingale Awards for Nursing" Recognition Dinner on May 7. The ceremony coincides each year with national Nurses Week, a week set aside to honor America's nurses. The Nightingale Awards are given in the spirit of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. Ms. Schumacher was presented with \$1,000 and an original Commemorative Award. Joy Schumacher is known for her work educating community groups, business and schools on the prevention of AIDS. She joined Oakland County Health Division in 1976.

Nelson Haynes, Health Department Senior Public Health Sanitarian, was selected by the Detroit Free Press as 1991 "Earthchiever" for his contributions to saving the planet. Nelson is cultivating endangered crops on his property such as 1,000 year old apple species and 12,000 year old wheat species. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

Rosemarie Rowney, R.N., Health Department, Administrator of Personal and Preventive Health Services, will receive the Michigan Public Health Association's Community Health Nursing Leadership Award for 1991 at the MPHA Annual Conference in June.

Dick Southern, Chief of Special Real Estate & Computer Projects for Economic Development, was recently appointed to the Michigan Real Estate Appraisal Licensing Board by Governor Engler. Dick's term will be effective through June, 1994. Congratulations!

J. Jack Becher, Veterans' Services, Supervisor/Royal Oak Office, has received the International Leadership Award presented to him by the President of the Lions Club. This award is bestowed upon Jack for his leadership qualities and commitment to the ideals of the Lions Club. Congratulations Jack!



Joy Schumacher
"Nightingale"

Bruce Karmann, Senior Auditor of the Auditing Division is now a Certified Public Accountant, CPA. Congratulations!

Cynthia L. Weil of the Oakland County Economic Development Division received her Master's of Business Administration (MBA) from Oakland University in April 1991. Good work!

Patrica Crane, District Court Probation, Probation Officer, completed her 8th marathon in Lake County, Illinois on April 28, 1991. Her next marathon is in Cleveland.

The Oakland County Register of Deeds Office collected and shipped over a great big care package to our troops in the Middle East. In addition, the entire Clerk/Register's Office made every second Thursday of the month **Support The Troops Day** — and continued to do so until our troops came home. Nice support for our troops!

In Memoriam

The County lost a friend when **Ron Fusilier**, 45, died April 5, after a six month bout with cancer. Ron worked in Economic Development as a small business counselor for six years. He was a real person"...genuinely concerned about people and their business ventures and it showed in his endeavors. He lectured on business subjects at Oakland Community College and Oakland University and was on the board of directors for the North Oakland Business Incubator. He was active in the county Veterans' Affairs and Small Business Conference along with the Carry Nation Festival Board of Directors, the Holly Village

Historic Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ron was a very loving and positive person and he touched the lives of everyone who knew him. He will be missed by many and remembered for his positive attitude and zest for life.

Sincere condolences are expressed to **William Posey**, Referee at the Friend of the Court, and his family. Bill's son, Wendell, died in a car accident on Sunday, March 17, 1991. Wendell was in the U.S. Army stationed at Ft. Polk, Louisiana.

Sincere condolences are expressed to the family of **John Bradshaw**. John died of cancer on Thursday, February 21, 1991. John was a Clerk for the Alimony and Child Support Unit. He was employed for 14 years with Oakland County.

Sympathies are also expressed to **Barbara Resnick**, Circuit Court substitute Court Reporter, and her family on the loss of her granddaughter.

Bob Sahajdack

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the handicappers to events like Tigers' games, the Shrine Circus and bowling tournaments. They also are active in some schools in the Waterford/Pontiac area.

In addition to his involvement with the OCSD group, Bob is the Vice Commander of the Order of Alhambra, Lorca Caravan, in Waterford. Alhambra is a worldwide Catholic men's organization that works with the mentally handicapped. He also is the JV girls softball coach for Our Lady of the Lakes in Waterford.

Bob finds working with special children very worthwhile. "It's very rewarding...when you first start working with the handicapped, you're taken aback. Then after you work with them and see a smile on their face you melt," he said.

Bob is always looking for volunteers for the annual fishing derby. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Bob at 858-5043.

News you can use...

July 2

"Tuning Your Tot Into Summer," a nature program, Independence Oaks Nature Center, 10-11:45 a.m.; 1-2:45 p.m. \$2/tot. Pre-registration required; call 625-6473.

July 5

Fireworks display at Addison Oaks County Park, beginning at dusk. \$5/vehicle entry fee. Call 693-6473 for information.

July 5-7

Tennis Challenge at Waterford Oaks Court Games Complex. Non-sanctioned. Call 858-5433.

July 6 & 13

"Butterfly I.D. and Census," nature program, Independence Oaks Nature Center. Identification: July 6, 1-3 p.m. Census: July 13, 9-11:30 a.m. & 1-3 p.m. Pre-registration required; call 625-6473 for details.

July 7

Possum Corner Summer Series, "Modesty Forbids," Cohn Amphitheatre, Independence Oaks, 6 p.m. Advance tickets available. Call 625-1227 for information.

July 8 & 10

"Jr. Naturalists Dig Gardening" a nature mini-class, Independence Oaks Nature Center, 1-3 p.m. \$5/session. Pre-registration required; call 625-6473 for details.

July 9 & 11

Detroit Tiger Alumni Clinics at Independence Oaks Twin Chimneys shelter, 6-7 p.m. See June 17 listing for details.

July 13 & 14

Mixed doubles Tennis Championship Tournament at Waterford Oaks Court Games Complex. Non-sanctioned. Call 858-5433.

July 14

Michigan Fat Tire Biathlon Series at Addison Oaks County Park, 6:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Two mile run, eight mile bike. Call 662-4226.

July 14

"Salute to Cole Porter," Cohn Amphitheatre, Independence Oaks, 1-2 p.m. \$2/person, \$8/family. Advance tickets available. Call 625-6473 for details.

July 16 & 30

Detroit Tiger Alumni Clinics at Waterford Oaks from 6-7 p.m. See June 27 listing for details.

CHECK OUT THESE TITLES

The Reference Library, located in the Executive Office Building, receives over 360 magazine titles on a regular basis. Some are purchased, some are distributed through the federal depository program for libraries, and some are donated by county employees.

Some journals are published with a particular audience in mind, such as the *Journal Of The American Planning Association* or *Personnel Journal*. Others have a more broad based appeal. Included in this category are:

American Health
Art in America
Changing Times
Consumer Reports
Detroit Monthly
Futurist
Foreign Affairs
In Health
Life
Michigan Living
Michigan Natural Resources
Money
National Geographic
National Review
Newsweek
People
Popular Science
Saturday Evening Post
Smithsonian
Time
U.S. News & World Report
Utne Reader

Additionally, the Library subscribes to newspapers including, the *Detroit Free Press*, the *Detroit News*, the *Daily Tribune*, the *Oakland Press*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times* (Sunday only), the *Spinal Column*, and the *County Line Reminder*.

Feel free to call the Library staff at 80738 to see if we carry a particular title or stop by and browse through our magazine area. All magazines, except the current issues of the weekly titles, circulate for a loan period of 7 business days.

Test your tornado smarts

Rae Higgins

Test your knowledge of tornado safety! It is very important to know what to do when a tornado strikes. Your life may depend on it. Try to answer these questions. Don't peek!

QUESTIONS:

1. When is a tornado WATCH issued?
2. What does a tornado WARNING mean?
3. If you are in a building, where is the best place to take shelter?
4. What do you do if you are outside, in your car or in a mobile home and a tornado strikes?

ANSWERS:

1. A tornado WATCH is issued if conditions are right for a tornado to develop. Be prepared to take shelter and keep informed of the latest weather conditions.

2. A tornado WARNING means a tornado has been sighted and confirmed in the area. Take cover immediately.

3. If you are in a building, the basement

is the best place to take cover. Seek shelter beneath a workbench, heavy table or stairway. If no basement is available, seek shelter on the ground floor in the center of the building; in a closet or bathroom. Stay away from windows and keep a flashlight and transistor radio with you.

4. If you are in your car or in a mobile home get out immediately. Seek shelter in the nearest permanent structure. If you cannot find one, take cover in a ditch or ravine. Lie flat with your arms covering your head. If possible, wrap yourself with clothing or a blanket to guard against flying objects. If you are in your car, it is important not to try to drive away from the storm.

It is important that everyone takes time to learn about tornado safety. Remember, the key to safety is knowledge. For more information, contact Gail A. Novak of EMS/Emergency Management at 858-5300.

People band together for others

Just a note to update all of you wonderful Oakland County employees on our fundraising efforts for John Kedmenec's bone-marrow transplant. We received approximately \$8,000 in donations in response to the letter that had been attached to your paychecks last December; these came in individually and as division or department contributions. Your response was overwhelming. You gave up Christmas parties, had bake sales, helped with the distribution of our canisters for donations, sold candy, gave a little every pay period to name only a few of the ways you gave. If I didn't know better, I would've thought John Kedmenec was a sheriff's deputy the way Sheriff's Department jumped in and gave, gave, gave! Not only did we receive monies from the employees in the departments where John and Gayle work, we received generous support from every single county department, it did not matter to you terrific folks whether you knew him or not, they were county employees, they needed support and you gave it to them!

In addition, when it came to the bowl-a-thon, not only did quite a few of you



Larry and Ann Mitchell have a good time, while working hard at a Bowl-A-Thon, they organized for John Kedmenec.

show up to bowl but we collected a grand total of \$21,000. Thank you! I would like to take this opportunity to thank Larry Mitchell in our Register of Deeds Office for his outstanding efforts in organizing this successful function. Hip hip hooray, Larry - You're a Saint!

Also, at this time I would like to recognize and thank Messrs. Daniel T. Murphy, Lynn D. Allen, George W. Kuhn, L. Brooks Patterson and Al Dittich (Dittrich Oldsmobile) for all those special things they helped us with to make all our efforts work. A lot of

things went on behind the scenes to make our combined, countywide, county employee efforts work, if I've not mentioned you or your division by name, please forgive me, but I know I love being an Oakland County employee and I'm proud to be part of this loving, generous work force — **OAKLAND COUNTY EMPLOYEES ARE THE BEST! THANKS SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!**

A fellow county employee,
Karen M. Dedenbach
Clerk/Register's Office

Retirement ??? answered here

by Ed Mandel Jr.

For some people retirement is a time to kick back, relax and smell the roses. For others it is a rich opportunity to start down a new career path.

However you view this time in your life, if your retirement from Oakland County is near, you will want to consider the following points:

1. If you are age 60 with 8 years of service, or 55 with 25 years, contact Carolyn White, employee records supervisor, to make an application for service retirement. Deputized members of the Sheriff's Department who are 50 with 25 years are also eligible for retirement.
2. The application for service retirement must be filed at least 30 days prior to retirement, but no more than 90.
3. Ms. White can provide you with an estimate of the benefits that are

available to you based on your current salary minus any sick or annual leave accumulation.

4. When you file for retirement there is the option of choosing Blue Cross/Blue Shield dental coverage. If you choose this coverage there is a nominal monthly payment.

5. There is no cost for continuing Blue Cross/Blue Shield health insurance into retirement. If you were insured with an HMO you can continue that coverage. However, if you were insured with Blue Cross/Blue Shield at the time of your retirement you aren't allowed the option of converting to an HMO.

6. Once you decide to retire and file the proper paper work, it is important that you inform your supervisor of your decision.

7. Patti Reedy, training coordinator with the Personnel Department, advises everyone within three years of

retirement to sign up for the County's pre-retirement planning session. This six week session is taught twice a year.

If you have any questions on retirement you can contact Carolyn White at 858-0535, or Patti Reedy at 858-1850.



Daniel T. Murphy
County Executive

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recycled paper.