



SEASON'S GREETINGS

THE MESSENGER

DECEMBER 2004

Volume 20, Issue 4
Rita Wright, Editor

THE WAYNE COUNTY RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Director's Report

Well, Fall has come and almost gone and Winter is just around the corner. The Election is finally over and it is now safe to watch television commercials again. Regardless of your politics, I'm sure that no one misses the political campaign messages. It's too bad, that politicians can't just campaign based on their own merits, but feel they have to tell everyone why we should not vote for their opponent rather than why we should vote for them. Maybe someday this will change, but I fear it will not.

The World Series is also over, and it looks like Boston finally overcame the Curse of the Bambino. Professional hockey is currently in a lockout situation and not playing and the Detroit Lions have more wins this season than in all of last season. It just goes to show, that life provides such a changeable experience. You never know from day to day what will happen next. That's why you should always live life to its fullest!

We had a drawing for the Detroit Lions ticket give away and are pleased to announce that the winner of two Detroit Lion Club Level Seats is Sylvia Anderson from Southfield, MI. Hope the Lions continue their winning ways and that you enjoy yourself at the game. We will wait for the drawing for the Detroit Red Wings hockey tickets until the season actually starts (hopefully sometime this season). Congratulations! to Sylvia on winning the Lions tickets and good luck to everyone who entered the Red Wings drawing (first on having a season and second on winning the tickets).

The Retiree Trustee Election closed on November 1, 2004. The ballots were counted on November the 5th with Julia Goodman receiving 1,980 votes and Jennifer Cooper receiving 583 votes. Congratulations! to Julia Goodman on winning the Retiree Trustee Election. Her term will run from January 1, 2005 until December 31, 2008. The Active Employee Trustee Election is bogged down in the legal process. The County has taken the position that the employees working at the newly created (2002) Airport Authority are not eligible to run for the position of trustee and further are not eligible to vote in the election. Wayne County sued the Retirement System and requested that the names of Robert Murphy and Raymond Lambert (Airport Authority employees) be removed from the Active Trustee Ballot. Chief Judge Mary Beth Kelly found in favor of the County, so we are appealing her ruling to the State Court of Appeals. The employee Unions and the Airport Authority are joining us in the appeal. The Judge also ruled that Airport Authority retirees cannot vote in the Retiree Elections nor can they run for a seat on the Board as a retiree. We hope to prevail in this matter, as it is important for employees and retirees to be able to vote for the representatives that make decisions on their behalf, especially on such important issues as pension related matters. We will keep you updated on this matter.

Many of you read about Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan changing the personal identification number on your health care ID card from the Social Security number to a unique new ID. They are making this change to help prevent Identity Theft. They are going to make this change for their large Group Plans first, and then will change their smaller groups. Wayne County is one of their "Large Group Plans" and is slated to be one of the first groups changed. They had planned on doing this effective in January 2005, but have run into some System problems. They still plan to complete this process in 2005, but do not have a defined timetable at this time. We will try to keep you updated on this important change.

(CONT'D ON PAGE 3)

Office Directory

Due to changes within the office, if you have questions or need assistance in regard to: Address Changes, Optical Reimbursement, Reporting the Death of a Member, please dial (313) 224-5890 and your call will be directed to the appropriate person. For other matters, see the listing below for the appropriate contact number.

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Beneficiary Changes | (313) 224-5572 |
| Direct Deposit | (313) 224-7124 |
| Health Insurance | (313) 224-5892 |
| Life Insurance | (313) 224-5572 |
| Lost Checks | (313) 224-2774 |
| Messenger | (313) 224-2820 |
| Payroll | (313) 224-2354 or (313) 224-2774 |
| Other | (313) 224-5890 |

***OUR TOLL FREE # IS: 1 – 888 – 600 – 6033

*** NOTE: PLEASE DO NOT CALL
REGARDING ADDRESS CHANGES.
MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING ONLY !

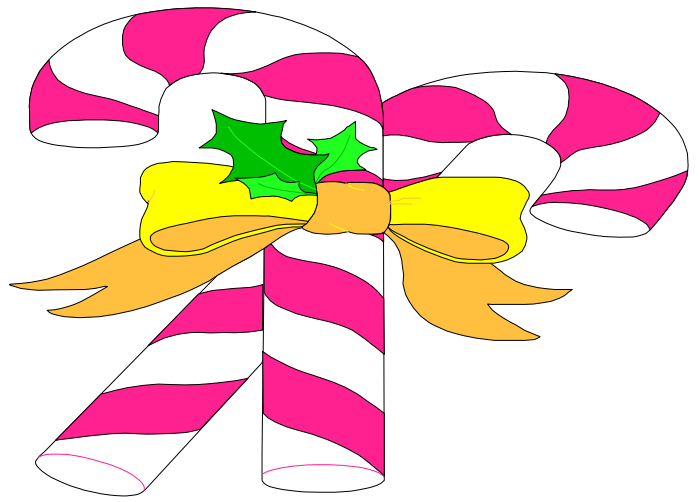
If you have any information you would like to include in “The Messenger”, please submit in writing and received in retirement office by MONDAY, JANUARY 24th, 2005 to:

The Wayne County Messenger
28 West Adams
Suite 1900
Detroit, MI 48226

The next “Messenger” will be the
“March” issue.

The Wayne County Retirement Office will be closed:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Christmas Eve Day | Dec 24th |
| thru New Years’ Day “+” | Jan 2nd |
| Monday | Jan 17th |



From The Editor:

Greetings ! Hope all is well with everyone. And everyone had a “filling” and Happy Thanksgiving?!

With all those “orange” barrels all over the place, it’s almost like driving in a maze to get to work. But, it’s all in the name of progress! And good for the 2006 Super Bowl !

The September, 2004 issue of the Messenger stated that there would be a “signature verification form” included, but due to unforeseen circumstances, it was eliminated. You will be notified at a future date whether we will be using that form or not. Thank you for your concern. At least I know you are reading the newsletter !

Greetings to the Arizona Branch of the Wayne County Employee Retirees Club.

The “holiday season” is creeping up on us, and in a minute they will be past us. Can’t believe 2004 is almost gone.

Until we meet again, I want to wish each and everyone of you, and your families, a very Happy & Safe Holiday Season.

Rita Wright

Holiday Greetings

The 13th check was paid as part of your November benefits payment. The unit dollar value for this payment was \$28.20. The Board distributed about 13.4 million dollars in 13th check payments. Now, is a good time to review your tax withholding level. If you want to make a change, it must be submitted in writing and received in the Retirement office by the 10th of the month, prior to the next check date in which you want the change to occur.

We are getting closer to implementing our internet web page but haven't received input from any retirees. If you have a suggestion of what should be available or what you would like to see, let us know. This web site is being created to provide better services and information to our retiree population, so let us know what your needs and concerns are. We hope to have something available by mid-year 2005. Stay tuned for more information.

Many retirees signed up with AFSCME to be members of their new Retiree Chapter. The Dues are \$1.00 per month and are deducted monthly from your retirement. Some of you have already forgotten that you signed up, and have questioned why we were deducting a dollar per month from you. If you decide you no longer wish to belong to the Retiree Chapter of AFSCME, just send us a letter requesting that the deduction be stopped, but make sure to date the letter and remember to sign it! We will then terminate the deduction and notify AFSCME. A number of our retirees have become very active in this group and hold official positions within the new organization.

We recently had a few complaints of checks not being honored by certain banks. For some reason, the checks were presented by member banks to be cleared through a bank other than that utilized by the Retirement System. This problem was not caused by anything you may have done. We are not sure why this occurred, however, after some investigation by our staff, we think the problem has been resolved. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused to those affected retirees and appreciate your patience.

Well, I'll leave you with a humorous thought. After visiting her doctor, a retiree got her new prescription filled at the pharmacy. Upon getting home, she called her doctor and asked if she was supposed to take this new medication for the rest of her life. The doctor said, yes, she would have to take this medication for the rest of her life and did she have any questions. Just one question she said, why does the prescription say "No Refills"?!

The staff and I want to be one of the first to wish you Happy Holidays. May the New Year bring good health and good fortune.

Ronald Yee, Director



Happy Birthday



HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO
ALL
WHO ARE CELEBRATING ONE !!!

LEA BERTA
80 YEARS
NOVEMBER 25TH

ELMER R. RACE
90 YEARS
SEPTEMBER 5TH
ROADS

EMMA MILLER
83 YEARS
DECEMBER 9TH
RECORDER'S COURT
PROBATION DEPT.

BERNICE SWATHELL
90 YEARS
JANUARY 3RD
W.C.G.H.

ADAM J. SZYMANSKI
89 YEARS
DECEMBER 24TH

ALEX MIZEJEWSKI
86 YEARS
DECEMBER 1ST

PATRICK TIMOTHY
MURPHY
64 YEARS
DECEMBER 23RD
ROADS

VICKI SHEPHARD-CLARK
66 YEARS
NOVEMBER 29TH

STEPHANIE VERMEER
69 YEARS
DECEMBER 23RD
DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT

GEORGE N. PAPPAS
84 YEARS
DECEMBER 23RD

GEORGE J. GOTTSCHALK
70 YEARS
NOVEMBER 28TH

ROBERT L. SANNER
77 YEARS
AUGUST 16TH

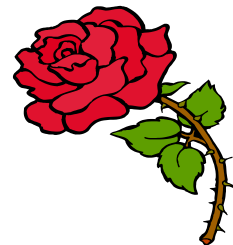
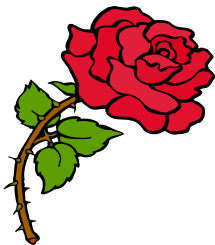
SHIRLEY SANNER
86 YEARS
SEPTEMBER 11TH

GEORGE A. MCDONALD
89 YEARS
DECEMBER 26TH
TRAINING SCHOOL
W/C CHILD DEVEL. CENTER

DOROTHY DAVIS
86 YEARS
SEPTEMBER 5TH

EDNA M. GRENIER
92 YEARS
DECEMBER 17TH

PEARL C. VANSANT
91 YEARS
DECEMBER 6TH



IN MEMORY OF . . .
We, the staff of the Wayne County Employees'
Retirement System express our
Deepest sympathy to The Families of the following deceased members:

BLACKMORE, ROBYN
 BRADLEY, VIRGINIA
 BROWE, ALICE
 BYRD, GLEN
 CONDON, STEPHEN
 CURLEE, JESSE
 DAVIDSON, GLADYS
 DICKES, DOROTHY
 FELGENAUER, TERESA
 FORESTER, CLARA * ROBERT
 GIBSON, MARY
 GLOVER, MALLARD
 GOLDBERG, RITA
 GRIFFIN, MARY
 HALL, WILLIAM * DORIS
 HAMPTON, HILLARD
 HORN, RICHARD
 HOWARD, KATHERINE
 HUNT, LEOLA
 JAMES, WILLIAM
 JAQUESS, CECILIA
 JORDON, CALVIN * BEVERLYN

SHERIFF'S
 ROADS
 COMM PLEAS CT
 ROADS
 FR OF COURT
 WCGH
 FR OF COURT
 ROADS
 WCTS
 WCGH
 SHERIFF'S
 WCGH
 ROADS
 REG OF DEEDS
 CIRCUIT COURT
 WCGH
 ROADS
 WCGH
 WCGH
 WCGH
 CIRCUIT COURT
 PROSECUTORS

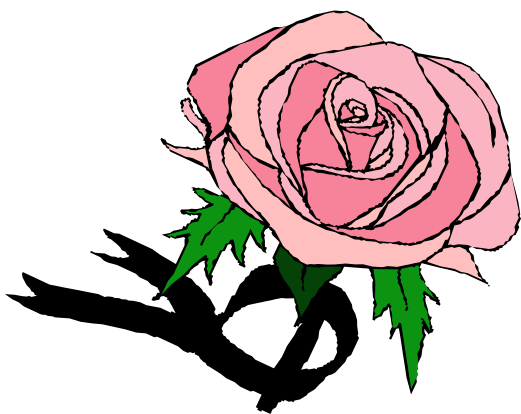
MAJAUSKAS, VYTAUTAS
 MARINUCCI, FRED
 MARKOWSKI, MICHALINE
 MAST, MARIE
 MCBRIDE, CLAUDIA
 MCDONNELL, ANN
 MERCKEL, F. ROSALIE
 MORROW, DOROTHY *** EARL
 NESBIT, LUN
 NEWTON, MARVIN
 NIMLIN, SAMUEL
 O'HARA, JUNE
 PAGE, GWENDOLYN
 PEARO, HENRY
 PERCHERER, RUTH
 POINDEXTER, SOPHIA
 SALANSKY, ALICE
 SIRHAL, CHARLES
 SUDEK, RAYMOND
 TORPEY, PAUL
 WALLACE, ERNEST
 ZUBOSKI, CHARLES

WCGH
 TREASURER'S
 JUVENILE COURT
 AIR POLLUTION
 DPS/ADMIN
 WCGH
 LIBRARY
 FR OF COURT
 ROADS
 ROADS
 HEALTH
 FR OF COURT
 JUVENILE COURT
 ROADS
 ROADS
 RECORDERS CT
 COUNTY CLERK
 ROADS
 PROBATE CT
 ROADS
 WCGH
 SHERIFF

(*) Denotes Spouse of
 (**) Denotes Beneficiary of
 (***) Also Deceased

In Memory of . . .
 O'REAR, MARVIN - passed away
 May 21, 2004, age 100. He was
 retired from Auditor/Buildings.

*His son,
 James O' Rear*



In Memory of . . .
 DAVIDSON, GLADYS - passed
 away August 1, 2004, age 93.
 She was retired from Friend of
 the Court.

*Her daughter,
 Lucinda Badillo*

"RECIPE" CORNER

DESSERTS

EXTRA CREAMY CHEESECAKE

BY Rose M. Zarkowski
Wife of Chet (dec.)

1 lb cream cheese
salt
1/2 tsp almond extract
sugar
3 eggs
1 C dairy sour cream

Beat cheese until fluffy. Gradually beat in 2/3 C sugar and a dash of salt. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each. Beat until smooth. Add almond flavoring and pour into buttered 9" pie pan. Bake at 350 for 25 minutes. Remove from oven and let cool away from drafts 20 minutes.

While cake is cooling, beat together sour cream, 3 tbs sugar, a dash of salt and vanilla in sour cream mixture. Add 1/4 C chocolate chips and mix together. Spread sour cream/chocolate chip mixture over cake. Optional, spread slivered almonds over cheese cake and return to bake for 10 minutes. Cool. Serve with chocolate syrup. For variation, use pie filling fruit on cake after cooling.



NO BAKE COOKIES

BY Donnie L. Belcher
Ret. Sheriff's Dept.

- 1.) 2 C Sugar
- 2.) 1/2 C Cocoa
- 3.) 1/2 C milk
- 4.) 1 C peanut butter
- 5.) 2 C oatmeal
- 6.) 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 7.) 1/2 stick butter (4oz)

Mix first (3) items and bring to boil. Boil 1 to 2 minutes. Add last four, stir well, and let cool.

FRESH STRAWBERRY PIE

BY Catherine (Katie) Fornwald

1 Pkg (3 oz) Strawberry gelatin
1 2/3 Cups boiling water
2 Cups or (1) 4 1/2 oz container Cool Whip
1 Graham cracker crust
2 Cups Strawberry halves

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Chill until slightly thickened. Measure 1/2 cup and blend into Cool Whip. If necessary, chill Cool Whip until firm enough to mound. Spread over bottom and up sides of crust. Stir strawberries into remaining thickened gelatin and gently spoon Cool Whip on top of mixture. Chill at least 3 hours.

OREO DESSERT

BY Donnie L. Belcher
Ret. Sheriff's Dept.

20 oz. Pkg oreos
16 oz. Cool Whip
1 large Chocolate instant pudding
2 8 oz. Pkgs cream cheese
2 C powdered sugar
1 C butter (8 oz.)

Crush oreos coarsely, reserving 4 or 5 for topping. Put in 13 x 9 pan. Pour 1 C melted butter over. Chill while mixing next layer. Cream the softened cream cheese with 1 C powdered sugar and 1 C Cool Whip. Spread over oreos and chill while mixing next layer. Make pudding, and pour over cream cheese layer. Cover with remaining cool whip, with powdered sugar added. You can use vanilla cookies and lemon pudding in place of oreos and chocolate.

"RECIPE" CORNER

MAIN COURSE

POT ROAST

BY Richard E. Holtmeyer

- 1 2 to 3 lb pot roast of your choice
- 6 Carrots peeled and left whole
- 4 Potatoes peeled and cut into halves
- 5 Medium dry onions peeled and cut in halves
- 1 Can of beer
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 Pkg dry onion soup mix

Method

Place roast in roasting pan and pour the beer over it.
Pour contents of dry onion soup on top of roast.
Place the potatoes, carrots and onions on top and on sides of roast.
Salt and pepper to taste.
Place cover on pan and roast at 350 degrees for 2 1/2 hours.



PORK CHOP RICE BAKE

BY Catherine (Katie) Fornwald

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 6 Pork chops | 1 Envelope Onion Soup Mix |
| 2 Tbs lard or drippings | 1 Can (4 oz) Mushrooms sliced |
| 1 Cup uncooked rice | 2 Tbs diced pimento (optional) |
| Hot water | |

Brown chops in lard or drippings. Spread rice in bottom of baking dish. Reserve one tablespoon of seasonings from envelope of onion soup mix and sprinkle remaining seasonings and bits of onion over rice. Drain mushrooms, reserving liquid, and distribute mushrooms and pimento over rice. Add hot water to reserved mushroom liquid to total 3 cups liquid and pour over rice. Arrange browned chops on top of rice mixture and sprinkle chops with reserved seasonings. Cover tightly with foil and bake in a moderate oven, (350 degrees) until just tender, 45 minutes to 1 hour, depending on thickness of chops. Remove foil and continue cooking for 10 minutes longer or until any excess liquid evaporates. 6 servings.

WAYNE COUNTY EMPLOYEES
RETIREES CLUB
P. O. BOX 851237
Westland, MI 48185-6337

The officers and the members of the Club invite Wayne County Retirees, who are not yet members, to join them.

Meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. in the Kay Beard Building, in Westland, during the months of January thru May and September thru November. Luncheons are held in June and December. (No meetings in July or August).

If you no longer live in the Wayne County area or cannot attend meetings, the periodic newsletters will keep you informed.

The Club is dedicated to improving and protecting benefits for Retirees of Wayne County.

*** NOTE ! December 16th, 2004, third Thursday in December will be the Holiday Luncheon at the Hawthorne Valley Golf Club.

For information regarding membership, send your name and address to:

JULIA GOODMAN
877 FISHER RD
GROSSE POINTE, MI 48230

ANOTHER AUTHOR'S NEW BOOKS

by Daniel J. Van Antwerp
Retired: 36th District Judge, 1992

The first one is entitled "A Smile Between Tears." It is a soft-covered book about some of my experiences in 36th District, Recorder's and Circuit Courts. It is priced at \$16.95.

The second is a hard-covered book that I co-authored with my brother, entitled "ZOON - Van Antwerp Family Saga." It is a historical novel that dates back to 1600. It is priced at \$20.

If anyone wants to order a copy, they can call the publisher at (248) 541-1788.

ELOISE BOOKS

(A NEW BOOK !)

UPDATE

by Patricia Ibbotson

Retired: WCGH, 1984

There are two books which have photos of Eloise, both published by Arcadia. The first book, *Eloise: Poorhouse, Farm, Asylum and Hospital 1839-1984* is available in local bookstores, at the Eloise Museum, and Jo Johnson (734-522-3918) will ship the book for \$20 plus shipping costs. Jo can also be contacted by e-mail at ewjohnson7@aol.com. Proceeds from books purchased through the Eloise Museum and Jo Johnson benefit the Friends of Eloise.

The second book is *Detroit's Hospitals, Healers, and Helpers*, published in January 2004. It has a full chapter on Eloise with 41 photos which were not published in the Eloise book. It is available on-line at www.bn.com and www.amazon.com plus local bookstores like Barnes and Noble and Border's, or by calling Arcadia at 1-888-313-2665.

ELOISE MUSEUM

There are some new items in the Eloise Museum, including two seats from the Gruber Auditorium which was on the hospital grounds. Someone also donated a three-volume bound set of Stanislas M. Keenan's unpublished second edition of the History of Eloise which had been in the medical library at Wayne County General Hospital. The donor also told Friends of Eloise that all the books that were in the medical library when the hospital closed, were eventually boxed and shipped to Romania. If you have not visited the museum recently, do stop by and see what's been added.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS !

On January 29, my mother, Lottie Hewlett, retired from WCGH, will be 78 years old. Anyone wanting to send her a birthday greeting may do so by mailing them to her home address at 1370 Rhine Abbeyville Hwy., Rhine, GA 31077. If someone wants to write by e-mail, please forward the mail to me at vwarner11@comcast.net and I will make sure mother receives it.

Sincerely,
Valencia Warner



60TH
 JODY & ADAM
 SKORUPA
 DECEMBER 3RD
 CIRCUIT
 COURT

64TH
 ALEX &
 ELIZABETH
 MIZEJEWSKI
 NOV. 30th

13TH
 DOUGLAS &
 CARLA
 RAILEY
 NOV. 23RD
 SHERIFF'S

2ND
 SUE & ED
 LUM
 DEC. 10TH
 AIR
 POLLUTION

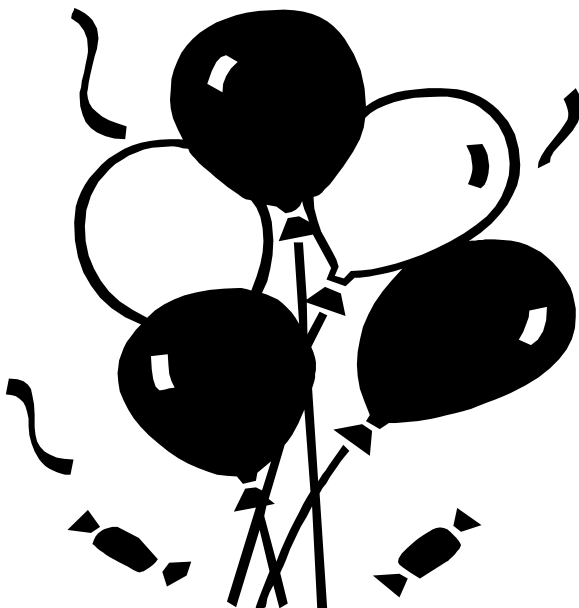
28TH
 ROBERT &
 SHIRLEY
 SANNER
 OCT. 17th

34TH
 PATRICK & JOANN
 MURPHY
 NOV. 14th
 ROADS

50TH
 HARRY &
 DOLORES
 HINZMAN

50TH
 GEORGE & BETTY
 PAPPAS
 NEW YEARS

CONGRATULA-

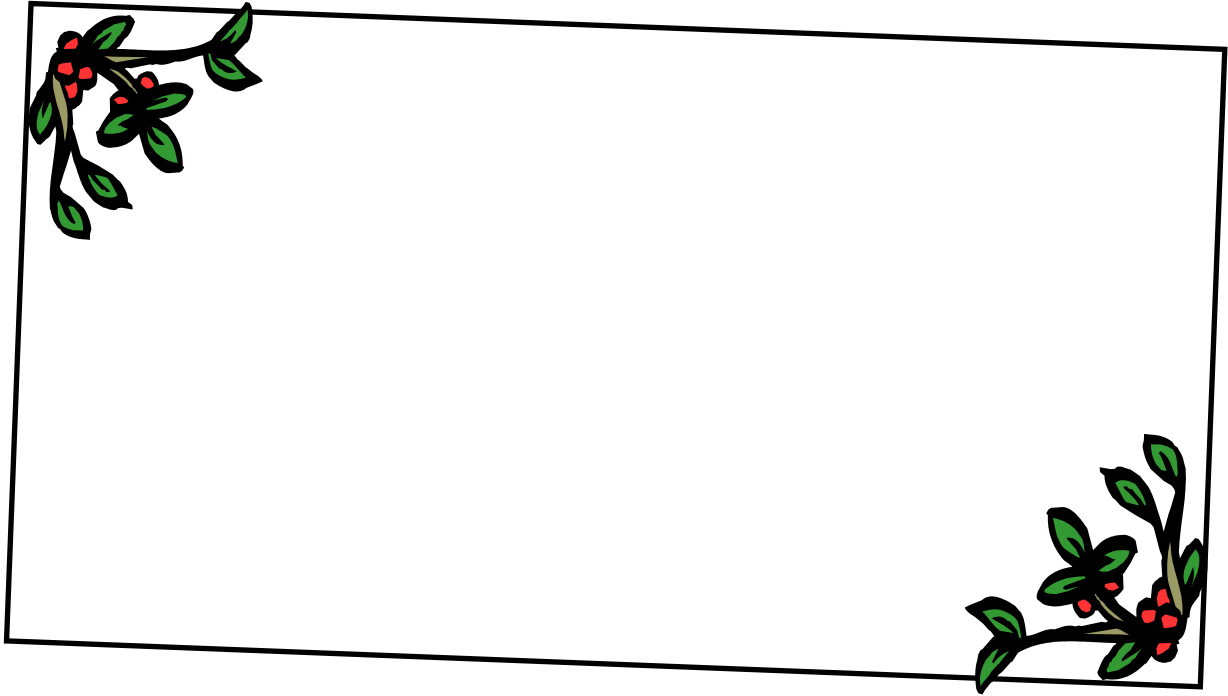


BABUSKA, PHILIP
 BALBACH, KATHLEEN
 BANKS, EUNICE J.
 CHILES, PORTIA
 COLE, SUSAN L
 DAIUTO, ROBERTQ
 DARWISH, KENNETH
 EVANS, GREGORY A
 GUSKOVICT, ROBERT
 HADDE, SUSAN S
 HORNUNG, ERNEST
 JOSEPH, LIONELL
 KETHEYIAN, RICHARD V
 LUSK, JOHN E.
 MATUSZ, BERNARD
 PAPPEN, JOYCE
 PARMENTER, JACK
 PATTERSON, TYRONE
 PETRELLA, DANIEL J
 PINSKY, JOANNE M
 RASHID, JAMES J
 SELTZER, MARIE
 WEINBERGER, ROBERT H
 WREN, FRANCIS
 ZABICK, ROBERT

SHERIFF
 HCS
 HCS/MENTAL
 RETIREMENT
 CIRCUIT COURT
 SHERIFF
 SHERIFF
 SHERIFF
 SHERIFF
 DPS
 PROSEC ATTORNEY
 DPS
 HCS
 AIRPORT AUTHORITY
 DEPT OF TECH.
 DPS
 SHERIFF
 AIRPORT AUTHORITY
 PROSEC ATTORNEY
 AIRPORT AUTHORITY
 CIRCUIT COURT
 CIRCUIT COURT
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Detroit, Michigan 48226

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Peace
ON
Earth

