



OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS NEWS & UPDATES

WINTER 2005 ISSUE

OAKLAND COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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**COMMISSIONER
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Dear Neighbor,

Oakland County is a great place to live, work and play. This newsletter shares just a few of the great services that your county government provides.

As your county commissioner, I value your input on how to make the county better. Please contact me with any of your suggestions.

Best Wishes,

Charles E. Palmer

SEVEN COMMUNITIES SELECTED FOR WIFI OAKLAND PROJECT



Oakland County is one step closer to making Wireless Oakland a reality with the selection of the following seven pilot communities: Birmingham, Madison Heights, Oak Park, Pontiac, Royal Oak, Troy and Wixom. These soon to be WIFI communities will begin the first phase of this historic initiative. Portions of each community will be included in the 18.5 square mile trial effort that will impact more than 78,000 people.

During the second and third phases of this project more communities will have the option to participate. The goal is to have all 910 square miles of Oakland County blanketed with wireless technology within the next two years. Oakland County will be the first county in the nation to provide free internet service to this extent. With this technology, any individual with wireless communication, such as a laptop computer, personal data assistant (pda), or wireless phone for example, can access the worldwide web for free.

This unique feature will add to the attractiveness of Oakland County as a welcoming place for businesses using high-technology. For more online information, go to www.wirelessoakland.org. Wireless Oakland is funded solely by MichTel Communications and its partners which won the project contract. This local company has committed \$100 million to this effort, which will not require the use of county funds.

HISTORIC ELLIS BARN GETS NEW HOME

A significant piece of Oakland County, Michigan history will be preserved thanks to state grant funds and combined efforts of the Oakland County Parks, Springfield Township, the Road Commission for Oakland County and residential developer, RBI 33 LLC. The Ellis Barn, constructed in 1883, is one of Michigan's largest barns and will be relocated to Springfield Oaks County Park. Features include an indoor riding arena, 11 box stalls, tack rooms, an office, a horse exercise room and a mechanical exercise ring.

Former major league baseball players and partners in RBI 33 LLC, Kirk Gibson and Tim Birtas, donated the park to Oakland County Parks.

OAKLAND COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL

Last year, Oakland County Animal Control serviced more than 6,500 animals. Since the establishment of the Oakland County Animal Control in 1919, residents have had the opportunity to learn about pet care.

Many programs and services such as licensing, cruelty complaints, animal shelter, adoptions, education presentations, bite investigations, and tours are offered. Volunteer opportunities are also available.

For more information, call 248-391-4100 or go to www.co.oakland.mi.us/anmlctrl





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IMPORTANT COUNTY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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