



QUARTERLY NEWS & UPDATES

FROM YOUR OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Spring, 2009

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JAIL OVERCROWDING CURTAILED



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Over the past few years, jail overcrowding has been a problem for Oakland County and has resulted in emergency early releases of non-violent prisoners when jail capacity levels have reached and exceeded 1,828.

Solutions developed, along with the successful collaboration of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners, the Courts, the Oakland County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and the Sheriff's Department have resulted in many positive breakthroughs on this issue. Our collective efforts of changing the state law and alternative sentencing options have proven to be effective.

First, new legislation passed in November 2007 changed Michigan's State Jail Overcrowding Emergency Act which allowed judges and law enforcement agencies to implement, at their discretion, small controlled early releases of non-sentenced and non-violent offenders. This legislation went into effect in February 2008.

Second, in the spring of 2008, an alternative sentencing option endorsed by Commissioners expanded the county's tethering program allowing the electronic monitoring of up to 50 low-risk prisoners released daily from jail. Prisoners stayed on tethers an average of 37 days until the completion of their sentences. As a result of these actions taken by the Board of Commissioners, the Sheriff and Courts, we proudly report that there have been 208 successful sentence completions.

Dear Neighbors,

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 commissioner, I value your input on how to make the county better.

Please contact me with any of your suggestions.

Best Wishes,

Jim Nash
COMMISSIONER

FREE COUNSELING OFFERED

Oakland County Housing Counseling and Fair Housing Division provides mortgage delinquency, foreclosure prevention, and mortgage counseling. To speak with a **Housing Counselor** call **248-858-5402**, for more information.

It is highly recommended that you contact a counselor as soon as possible if you are unable to pay your monthly, yearly tax payments or would like to have a prospective mortgage refinance proposal review before you commit.

"There's No Home Like My Own" The Oakland County Home Buyer Program for more information on how you may qualify, call 248-858-1529 or www.housing/chi.

COMMUNITY EVENT HELPS MILITARY



Commissioner Nash (center) hosts Road to Reintegration Community Event. Pictured (1- to-r), MNG Chap. Col Heavener, Commissioner Nash, Oakland HSCC Coordinator Pam Barcekholtz and MNG Col. Bartolacci.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Oakland County Clerk's Passport Day

Learn about the new passport rules. Sat. March 28, 10 a.m. - 3p.m., 1200 North Telegraph Rd, Pontiac. Call 248-858-0561.

My Home, My Future Seminar

Mon., March 30, 7 p.m., Royal Oak Library, 211 Williams at 7:00 p.m. Call 888-350-0900.

You and Your Aging Parent Class

Thurs., April 6, 16, 23 & 30, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Troy Community Ctr, 3179 Livernois, Troy, Call 248-524-3484 to register. For information, call 248-424-9160. There is a small fee.

Frisbee Fest

Tues., April 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Teens' Frisbee Sports; Addison Oaks County Park. Call 248-858-1486.

Oakland County Family Law Clinic

April 8, 22, May 6, 20, June 3, 17, 1-4 p.m., law library, 1200 North Telegraph Rd, Pontiac. Free.

Oakland County Green Business Summit

Tues., May 19, 8am-5pm, Troy Ctr., 3179 Livernois Rd. Call 248-858-2470.

Oakland County Commissioner Jim Nash serves District #15 representing Farmington Hills.