

## Patterson rips state parole laws

Oakland County Prosecutor L. Brooks Patterson has a lot to say about the state parole laws, and none of it is good. He claims that by releasing dangerous criminals prematurely the parole system is working against the best interest of the people.

Patterson made his remarks in an after-dinner speech at the annual Plymouth Jaycees Distinguished Service Awards banquet. He told those present that the parole system is a failure.

"We are being raped, robbed, and murdered by the same people over and over again," he said. "The parole system is an abysmal failure."

His main complaint was criminals who had been convicted of violent crimes were being released from prison by the parole board to rape, rob, and kill again.

To substantiate his claim, he cited 16 pages of documented cases of crimes committed by criminals who had been paroled before they had served their minimum sentence.

PATTERSON TOLD the audience that his interest in parole abuse started when he was working on a case involving a murdered policeman.

As the circumstances surrounding the killing unfolded, Patterson said, it was discovered that the murderers were parolees. One of them had been sentenced to 15 to 25 years for murder and was released after serving only seven and one-half years.

"If those men had been made to

serve just their minimum sentence, that police officer would still be alive today," he said.

According to Patterson he started keeping a record of all violent crimes that were committed by convicted criminals who were out on parole. He said there have been 11 in Oakland County alone since 1973.

The fault, Patterson alleges, lies in the parole laws, which allow prisoners to accumulate "good time"—a certain number of days taken off their sentence for each month they serve.

To document this, Patterson produced statistics which showed that a man sentenced to 20 to 35 years in jail could, by receiving maximum good time, only serve 10 years—or 50 per cent less than the minimum number of years. A man sentenced to 40 to 45 years could be released after 13, 63 per cent less time than the minimum stipulation.

"The system defeats itself," he stated. "The longer the sentence, the higher the per cent of reduction." Patterson's solution is to change the

parole laws so people convicted of violent crimes—rape, murder, and armed robbery—are required to serve their full minimum sentence. He said in 1973 he introduced just such a bill into the state legislature. But it has yet to be reported out of committee.

"The bill I introduced four years ago has died in committee twice," he said. "The legislature has refused to act. And I don't think it is too much to ask. Just make the violent criminal serve his minimum sentence."



**We have puppies!**

Cuddly little 6-week-old poodle mixes have never been kenneled but are now receiving tender loving care at the Birmingham Humane Society. They come complete with the first puppy shot and worming. To adopt one, call the society at 524-1181.

## Park group honors Tait

By LEM MESEE  
Outdoors writer

William L. Tait, superintendent of Stony Creek Metropark near Rochester, has been honored with the president's award from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association.

Tait was honored for his work during 1976 as a member of the board of the MRPA, where he represented the resource management section.

The award was presented during MRPA's annual convocation in Dearborn.

Tait is previously assistant superintendent of Kensington Metropark near Milford. He lives in Romeo.

**SNOWMOBILES ARE fun**, but not when you chase or kill animals with them. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources reports the fine for chasing or killing an animal with a snowmobile can be up to \$100 plus a jail sentence.

A deer, for instance, is in a weakened condition in the winter when food supplies are low. Its long slender legs cannot carry it easily in the snow as they do on dry ground. A deer in this condition can die of a heart attack if chased.

Another reminder—snowmobiles should only be driven in snow that is four inches or deeper.

**IF YOU HAVE** any desire to operate a concession at the Proud Lake State Recreation Area, near Milford, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources would like to hear from you. This would include the bathhouse at the park. Sealed bids for operation of the concessions will

be opened in the department's parks division office Feb. 1 at 2 p.m.

Contact the Department of Natural Resources, Parks Division, Box 3000, Lansing.

A SPECIAL program on honeybees will be held in the nature center at Kensington Metropark near Milford on Feb. 6 at 9 a.m.

Stephen E. Horn, park naturalist, will discuss the lifestyle of the honeybee and its importance to man.

The free program lasts 90 minutes and is open to the public. Those interested should register in advance by calling the nature center at 685-1561. Don't get stung!

**FEBRUARY** is a big month for winter sports around the state and if you're a winter sport, there must be something for you. For instance:

The winter sports carnival, Feb. 4 at Grayling, will be held for the 32nd year. It includes cross-country ski races, ice skating and Klondike canoe races.

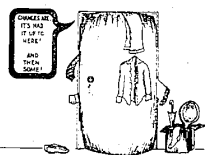
Gladwin hosts an ice carnival that weekend with motorcycle ice racing and hay rides. Lewiston's Winter Carnival is Feb. 7-8 with many events scheduled, including golf on ice, curling, and ice skating.

The Shrine Circus is scheduled Feb. 4-20 at the Michigan State Fairgrounds for kids of all ages.

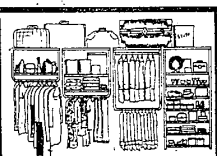
Also in Detroit the Greater Michigan Boat Show showcases the new models Feb. 3-13 at Cobo Hall.

Closer to home is the Detroit Camper and Travel Trailer Show, Feb. 1-20 at the W. Eight Mile Armory in Oak Park.

**It's About Your Closet...**



How would you like to have extra closet space to conveniently store and organize your effects? It's possible with no mess and no fuss and in practically no time at all, regardless of the size of your present closet!



**DECORA CLOSET EXPANDERS** has the answer to closet clutter and chaos. Can you imagine custom designing your own closets—and doubling or tripling your space? And having everything in your closet at your fingertips!

Patented and professionally engineered. The ultimate in closet systems.

Call us for a **FREE BROCHURE**, estimate and closet consultation.

Distributed by: **ROBERT BUDMAN CO.**  
"You can hang it all on us!"  
CALL 968-2525

## IRS offers tax pamphlets

The Internal Revenue Service has many free publications available to answer nearly every tax question a taxpayer may have.

Some of the more popular IRS publications cover moving expenses, sick pay, interest ex-

penses, contributions, tax benefits for older Americans, medical deductions and earned income credit.

Free IRS publications can be obtained by filling out the order blank in the tax package mailed by IRS or from a local IRS office.

**ANNUAL Sale**

20% OFF ON EVERYTHING IN THE STORE

10% OFF ON ALL SPECIAL PURCHASES

UP TO 50% OFF ON SELECTIONS

## echo park school

Kindergarten a.m. or p.m.  
Full Day Program  
Preschool 2 1/2 to 5 — a.m. or p.m.  
Mother-Toddler Program

**ENROLL NOW 646-5590**  
4275 Echo Park Road  
Bloomfield Hills

## Colorful Sale!

**LINENS**  
Table — Bed — Bath  
at Special Prices!

Monday thru Saturday 9:30-5:30

**IC the linen closet**  
626-7760

## STARTING TODAY, THE FIRST MARIE NEWMAN "EVERYTHING, YES EVERYTHING" SALE IN HISTORY!

(And for 3 days only, you save up to 60% on everything you see in the store!)

Yes, everything — floor samples, one-of-a-kinds, closeouts, damaged merchandise plus stuff that's in absolutely pristine shape. It's all marked down from 10% to 60%. So low, in fact, we can't offer gift wrap or delivery, and all sales are final. Even just a sampling, so hurry in (Our first "Everything, Yes Everything" Sale just might be the last time we're so foolish!)

All items subject to prior sale.

Odd Pieces Bone China	Values to 45.00	<b>NOW 2.00 ea.</b>
Crystal Punch Bowl, Pewter Base	53.95	<b>NOW 37.00</b>
Dansk Wood Pepper Mills	21.95	<b>NOW 15.95</b>
Dansk Stainless Flatware 5 pc. Settings		<b>NOW 20% OFF</b>
Dansk Generation Mist Soups	9.95	<b>NOW 7.95</b>
Marble Revolving Cheese Server	15.95	<b>NOW 9.95</b>
Orrefors Crystal Ash Tray	125.00	<b>NOW 69.00</b>
Baccarat Crystal Decanter	80.00	<b>NOW 45.00</b>
Baccarat Crystal Bowl	160.00	<b>NOW 85.00</b>
Sigma "New Carnation" Dishes		<b>NOW 50% OFF</b>
Laufer Cast Iron Pots & Pans		<b>NOW 30% OFF</b>
Contemporary Monogrammed Glasses, Set of 6	18.95	<b>NOW 8.50</b>
Daum Crystal Mountain	265.00	<b>NOW 89.00</b>
Pewter Rimmed 14" Tray	69.95	<b>NOW 35.00</b>
Assorted Place Mats	1.50-20.00	<b>NOW 75-10.00</b>
Selected Stainless Flatware		<b>NOW 25% OFF</b>
China Figurines	12.95	<b>NOW 6.95</b>
Lucite Serving Pieces		<b>NOW 20% OFF</b>

**EVERYTHING, YES EVERYTHING!**

**TILL 9 TONIGHT,  
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY TILL 5:30 ONLY!**

## marie newman gifts

Bloomfield Shopping Plaza  
(Telegraph at West Maple)  
Phone 851-5880

## MIDWINTER STONEHENGE OVEN-TO-TABLEWARE SALE

...And Let There Be

• **SUN • MOON • EARTH • CREATION**

And Now . . . The Joys of The Four Seasons

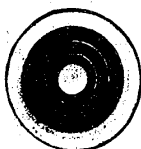
• **SUMMER • AUTUMN • WINTER • SPRING**

ALSO NASTURTIUM, WILD OATS, AND CAFE AU LAIT

**45 PIECE SETS OF DINNERWARE AND OPEN**

**STOCK**

**SPECIALLY PRICED AT 20% SAVINGS**



**Earth, Sun, or Moon**  
Circles of brown, yellow, or blue  
45 Pc. Set Reg. \$225 SALE \$180



**WILD OATS**  
45 Pc. Set Reg. \$185 SALE \$148



**SPRING**



**FOUR SEASONS Reg. \$235 SALE \$188**

45 Pc. Set Stonehenge White, Reg. \$115, Specially priced \$69.95

**Bottle 'n' Gift**

Orchard Lake Road,  
North of Maple

The Gift in Her Shop  
Orchard Mall  
West Bloomfield

851-9700