

## Goldenrod pops with spring life

EADOWS that are brown with the stems of last years plants soon will start to turn green with new growth. Wind and snow have caused many stems to fall over, maiting blades of grasses that once stood tall.

stood tail.

Walking through an old field after
the snow has melted, you may notice
pathways of meadow voles (small
mouse-like rodents). Under the cover
of snow, they tunnel and travel on
well beaten paths.
Occasionally along their paths
there will be mounds of grass. These
were their neats.

AS YOU WALK through almost any abandoned filed, there will be remaining stems of golden rod. Last fall their golden plumes brightened meadows and roadslides.

Because of their showy flowers, goldenrod frequently is accused—unjustly - of eausing hay fever. Goldenrod is not wind pollinated, like ragweed, which has an incomplicous flower and is the main cause of hay fever.

If ower and is the main cause of bay fever.
We will have to wait until fall to see their blooms again, but as you look at many of their stems, you will see round, marble-sized growths. This is the home of a young fly that burrowed into the stem last summer. When goldenred plants are very young, a small spotted-winged fly will lay its egg on the hew stem. After the egg hatches, the larva digs

## Weight loss clinic head is indicted

A federal grand jury has indicted the owner of several suburban weight-loss clinics and medical labo-ratories on six counts of using the mails to file fraudulent health-care

mais to file fraudulent health-care claims.

Dosald B. Williams, \$7, of Lathrup Village, was indicted following a lengthy investigation conducted by agents from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM), the Postal Inspection Service and the Internal Revenue Service.

Williams operated clinics and labs headquartered in Farmington Hills, southfield and West Bloomfield, a spokesman for the Blues said.

Williams was also charged with 13 counts of failing to pay federal taxes on wages of persons who worked in the facilities.

THE CLINICS and labs operated.

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formed in the clinics by non-paysi-cians.

The indictment said the federal employee faxes were not paid in 1951 and 1953.

Gregory W. Anderson, director of the BCBSM corporate and financial investigations department, said the is the first indictment of a weight loss clinic alleging fraud against the company.

loss clane account company.

He said the lengthy probe began with a tip telephoned to the compa-ny's financial investigation hotline, 1.800-482-3787. It operates week-days during business hours.

## Tornado week opens

Oakland County's tornado warning system will be tested at 1 pm. Thursday, indirectly signaling the start of tornado season. "April 18 to June 18 is the prime season for tornadoes, but they can occur anytime and we've had the same that as Spetember," said County Executive Daniel T. Murphy. This week, March 20-26, is being observed as Tornado Week. The Birmingham Fire Department will show a film on tornado safety beginning at 1 pm. each day this week at the Adams Fire Station on Adams at Bowers.

the Adams Fire Station on Adams at Bowers.

A steady three-minute tone signals tornado warning — it means a tornado shar actually been signted in or rapidly approaching the county. Take cover immediately.

A second siren doesn't mean all clear, All-clear announcements are made by radio and TV.

If you're at home when the airen sounds, go to the basement. If there lan't a basement, go to an interior com or hallway on the lowest level. Those is a vehicle or mobile home should get out and seek shelter in a sturdy building, ditch or ravine.



The goldenrod stem, stimulated by fly larva, grows a ball that creates a home for the future fly. Cut one in half to see how large the larva is and try to find the adult's exit tunnel.

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and the plant gets a boost in growing.

INSIDE THE ball-shaped gall, the
fly larva is developing. By spring the
larva has reached its full size and
has bollowed out a chamber inside
the gall.

Before it matures into an adult
fly, it will excavate a tunnel that al-

FOLK-JORDAN

for the adult to puncture when extring.

While walking through stands of goldenrod, you will be amazed at how many galls there are.

Some galls may have large holes in them. This is probably the work of a downy woodpecker that had been excavating for a tasty morsel.

If you have a pocket knife, cut one of the galls in half, see how large the larva is, and see if you can find the exit tunnel for the adult.

## Consulting engineers honor their patriarch ance costs to this day for many CEC/M companies. Raised in Wilsconsin, Spalding earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering at the University of his moved to Michigan in 1952, lived in Dearborn for 10 years and then to Southfield. He and his wife Ardis have seven children and 12 grandchildren. Spalding praised the group for becoming a viable force against excessive bureaueratic explaints. "Before CEC/M was formed." He would have been almost inhinkable that competitive engineers would ait down together and house the special work done by other firms. Now we are friendly competitives."

The Consulting Engineers Council of Michigan has honored Vernon Spalding of Southfield for his contri-butions to the engineering profes-

sion.
Spalding, now retired, is co-founder and former president of Spalding,
DeDecker & Associates, a civil engineering and surveying firm in Madi-

Delecker & Associates, a civil engine in Hadison Heights.

Spatiang sectived the prestigious Spatiang sectived the prestigious Spatiang sectived the recent banquet. This was the third time since the organization was formed in 1967 that the award has been bestowed.

CEC/M president Ralph Steele praised Spatiang, calling him the "patriarch of our society."

"There is not a consulting engineer in Mehigan who doesn't owe Vern a debt of gratitude for his efforts to further the business side of the consulting engineering profession."

SPALDING WAS a key figure in forming CEC/M and became its first president. The organization concentrates on the business needs of consulting engineering, land surveying and architect-engineer companies. CEC/M has grown from a beginning membership of 25 member firms to 106. The council is currently involved in such Issues as cost control, employee training, accounting and legislation at state and national levels.

After spending 10 wasse failurations.

levels.
After spending 10 years following national policies and expressing the group's views as the chapter's national director. Spalding become a national officer of the parent organization, the American Consulting Engineers Council in 1982.

He is a Fellow of ACEC and also





Vernon Spatding friendly competitor

received a recognition award from ACEC at the banquet. ACEC represents over 4000 companies in 50 states.

SPALDING WAS cited for serving as a trustee for the EADS Trust, a ACEC pension and profit-sharing trust with members in 47 states and some 655 million in deposits.

He helped organize and was named to the board of directors of the Design Professionals Insurance Co., which was formed to provide professional insurance for consulting engineers at a time when only one carrier was available. And he led the organization to select a Group Workers Compensation Plan that has resulted in reduced insur-

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tors."
Spalding presently sits on the City of Southfield's Building Board of Appeals. He is listed in "Who's Who in America."
WINNERS OF the 1988 engineer-

with Minder of the 1988 engineering and land surveying excellence competition were amounted. Honorable conceptor award went to Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc., Ann. Arbor, Ellis/Naeyaert/Genheimer Associates, Inc., Troy, Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc., Alonia. The "eminent canceptor" was Engineers, Inc., Livonia. The "eminent canceptor" went to McNamee, Porter & Sesiey, Ann Arbor. The land surveying excellence award was won by Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., Bloomfield Hills.

**MORTGAGES** 

The Michigan Lottery's exciting new instant game, "Cash Explo-sion," went on sale March 15. The following addresses why it is "the greatest scratch off game yet." Q: How is Cash Explosion differ ent?

A: This instant game gives players the highest payout and best odds ever offered by the Lottery.

A: Cash Explosion pays back 55

A: Cash Explosion pays tack 32 percent to winners, approximately 107 more than the average instant game. Over \$15 million in cash prizes is up for grabs.

prizes is up for grabs.

Q: What are the odds?

A: Including "Free Ticket" prizes,
which players seem to enjoy, odds
are about ONE IN THREE that a
ticket will be among more than 10
million winners. These tickets
would form a continuous string
across the state from Ohio to

Q: Do you play this game differ

Q: Do you may among entily?

A: No. The format is similar to that of previous games. Scratching off a Cash Explosion ticket front reveals six symbols. Three matching amounts win that prize.

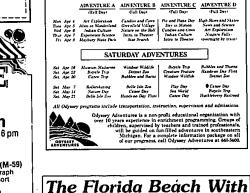
single ticket?

A: Player research has shown a preference for instant games with frequent, smaller prizes. To make sure there are a lot of winners in this game, the top prize is \$100. More than 23.000 players could win this amount! There also are millors in \$10, \$5 and \$2 prizes.

[Ors. How can I collect a Control of the control of th

nons in sis, so and \$2 prizes.
Q: How can I collect a Cash
Explosion prize?
A: All prizes can be collected immediately at any of the nearly 8,000
Michigan Lottery retailers. Just
sign and present your winning
tickets.

Q: Will proceeds from this game aid schools?



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