

## County auction will have bargain buys

If you are in the market for top-quality items at bargain basement prices, then check out the County of Oakland's Fall Auction, which will start at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5.

All sorts of goodies will be placed on the auction block, including cell phones, bicycles, athletic equipment, tools, cameras and women's jewelry.

"This is truly a bargain hunter's dream," Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said. "Merchandise of all kinds will be available at unbelievable prices."

All of the merchandise being auctioned off is either stolen items recovered by the Oakland County Sheriff's Department or the County's surplus property.

Since 1979, the County of Oakland's Fall and Spring Auctions have netted \$5.7 million, net proceeds of \$247,738 for the 1995 spring auction was the third highest on record, surpassed only by the \$264,342

### BIDDING BLOCK

■ The Oakland County Fall Auction starts at 9:30 a.m., Oct. 5 behind the county's Central Garage at 1200 N. Telegraph.

raised during 1994's spring auction and the \$254,847 raised during the 1993 fall auction.

The highest-selling car this past spring was a 1993 Jimmy, which sold for \$8,200, while a 1993 half-ton extended cab pickup truck, which went for \$6,900 was the highest selling truck or van.

The fall auction will be held behind the County's Central Garage at the Service Center, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Pontiac.

## Prosecutor candidates speak on plea bargaining

BY PAT MURPHY  
STAFF WRITER

With the Nov. 5 election about five weeks away, the two candidates for Oakland County prosecutor seem to be focusing on the differences between them.

At a candidate forum last week at Congregation Shearoy Zedek in Southfield, for example, Republican David Goreyca and Democrat Steven Kaplan were careful as each outlined what would be his policy on plea bargaining.

Plea bargaining is the practice that offers to drop or reduce a charge in exchange for a defendant's guilty plea to a lesser offense. A defendant might be induced to plead guilty, for

example, to second degree murder — even if it meant going to prison for 10 years — if the prosecutor were to dismiss charges of first degree murder — a charge the usually carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison.

The practice varies from case to case and from prosecutor to prosecutor, with some plea bargaining more than others.

In Oakland County, however, the practice of plea bargaining was largely abandoned in 1972 by then-prosecutor L. Brooks Patterson, something that led to his tough-on-crime reputation.

His successor — Richard Thompson — continued to disdain plea bargaining, insisting

such a tough policy was a deterrent to crime.

One such exemption was earlier this year when Thompson allowed Kenneth Tranchida — charged with first degree murder in the August 1995 death of Oakland University coed Tina Bigger — to plead guilty to second degree murder at the request of the victim's family,

which did not want to go through the pain and rigors of a trial.

As a matter of general policy, however, Thompson refused to plea bargain, sometimes incurring the wrath of judges in the process.

In the Republican primary, Thompson touted his no-plea

See PLEA BARGAINING, A12

**Furs by Arpin**  
OF WINDSOR

**70 YEARS OF**  
• Glamour & Elegance  
• Quality Craftsmanship  
• Exceptional Service

*Come In and View Arpin's  
96-97 Collection of  
Luxuriously Designed Furs*

No Duty, No Sales Tax • Full Premiums on U.S. Funds

**96-97 Collection  
NOW ON  
SALE**

**Furs by Arpin**  
OF WINDSOR  
• DOWNTOWN •  
484 PELLISSIER, WINDSOR 1-519-253-5612  
OPEN MON. THROUGH SAT. 9 - 5:15

**Winter Walden  
Ski & Snowboarding  
Club for Children**



- Professional Instructions
- Classes for all skill levels - beginner to expert
- Special program for the younger skiers (ages 7-8)
- Small classes
- Adult classes too!
- Charter buses Saturday & Sunday


**810 855-1075**  
Celebrating our 22nd Season!

**Teaching Kids to Ski is Our Business**

**SKIING**

**Church of Today**  
presents

**Les Brown**



**"Taking Your Life to the Next Level"**  
Saturday, October 5 • 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Join one of the nation's foremost motivational speakers and trainers for a life-changing seminar. Discover a formula for success and happiness that will help you tap into your unlimited potential for greatness.

Tickets: \$35  
For more information, call the Church of Today at (810) 758-3050

**Church of Today**  
11200 E. 11 Mile Road  
Warren, MI 48089  
(810) 758-3050

**Sprinkler System Sale**

**TORO**



**Buy Now, Pay Later!**  
Get Your Toro Automatic Sprinkler System  
Installed This Fall with  
NO PAYMENTS until April 1, 1997.

**Spartan**  **800-822-2216**  
Distributors Your **SOLE** Distributor

**VERONICA HART**  
HARTMAN



You'll Find our  
Handcrafted  
Collection of Cases is  
Designed to be  
Exceptionally Functional...  
There's Even a Place to Put  
Your Most Precious  
Possessions.

Purchase a Business Case from the Veronica Hart Collection  
and Get a FREE Traveling Picture Frame.\*

Keep your most precious possessions with you at all times with this traveling picture frame made of our signature ECO leather. \*Limited Offer.

**MAKING THE CASE FOR WOMEN IN BUSINESS**  
A portion of the proceeds from the sale of Veronica Hart products will be donated to the Global Fund For Women.

**Humid One**  
The Ultimate Luggage  
and  
Tobacco Shop

20000 W. Ten Mile Rd.,  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(810) 366-4729  
(810) 366-4600

## Famous extras that don't cost extra...



## free homeowner's checking™ from Standard Federal Bank

No monthly service charge, no per-check fees,  
no minimum balance requirement...and much, much more!

Don't you love it when you get something extra and you don't have to pay for it? Well, if you own a home, we've got something extra to give you (even if your mortgage isn't with Standard Federal) — a Free Homeowner's Checking Account with plenty of extras:

- No monthly service charge
- No minimum balance requirement
- No per-check fees to pay, no matter how many checks you write

Plus, you'll get more extras:

- A book filled with valuable Standard Federal coupons
- 50 free checks
- Check buy-back or up to \$10 for unused checks from another bank
- \$25 payment toward a new Standard Federal no-annual-fee VISA® when you qualify
- 1/4% interest discount on automobile loan rates
- 50% off American Express® Travelers Cheque fees



Another extra: 30 minutes of free long distance calls

Call a friend. Have your kids call home from school. Call when you're out of town...it's up to you.

So stop in at a Standard Federal Banking Center or call us at 1-800/643-9600 today to find out more. Because even if you don't own a home, there are many ways to save money on monthly service charges with a Standard Federal checking account.

Helping You Along The Way.™

Standard Federal Bank  
Savings/Financial Services  
800/643-9600

  © 1996 Standard Federal Bank

**Standard  
Federal**