## Buzzards are adapting to life in suburbia

We've noticed large dark colored birds flying over the city this year that look like buzzards. What are they?

buzzards. What are they?

The hills are alive with the sound of soaring buzzards Actually, soaring buzzards don't make a sound but nide warm diversents in search of food. For the last two years I've seen these birds, which are called turkey vultures, fly around the Farmington area the entire summer.

As cars create more road kill appears that here birds are taking advantage of free meals. The birds are an important link in the food chain of the natural world. They clean up dead animals that might become breeding areas for disease. They are nature's "waste management'cleaning crea.

Many people don't like the way they look, but it's the service they provide in nature's web of life. I have noticed them on a weekly basis so far this summer in our area. It also appears that

### Bring your medicines on vacation

The summer travel season is here and the National Headeche Foundation offers this advice for well prepared travelers.

Medication: Be sure to take enough to last approximately double the time period you will be away. Place medication in containers in separate travel bags to prevent spoilage or loss. If you're taking liquid medication, be sure it's placed in lenk-proof plastic container.

Food: If there are certain foods that you know will precipitate an attack, have the list written up and rofer to it throughout your trip. Many times when enting out there is a tendency to overlook or not reagnize the ingredients. Notify the hotel, tour operator or air line in advance if you're on a special dist.

Contact information: Have your physician provide you will not a special dist.

Contact information: Have your physician provide you will not the drug. Also, have your health insurance company amme, address and phone number on hand, the name of a person to notify in case of an emergency, blood type and a list of drug allergies. If you have a medical alort card, be sure for the drug alore of the drug al

some of them are getting used to people the way other species have before them. I was on Skye Drive just south of 11 Mile Road a month ago and witnessed a vulture eating the remains of a skunk on a homeowner's lawn while nearby neighbors moved their grass. This bird was more concerned with its dining adventure than the noise of lawn mowers.

ers.
This scene wouldn't have thrilled many people but as a naturalist I sure enjoyed wit-

nessing it. They are adapting to suburbis and the food source available and will probably continue to be part of the landscape. We don't see them in the winter because they cannot break spart frozen firesh with their beaks which means they have to fly south for the cold months in order to eat. A word of caution to sunbathers — I'd suggest you move every hour or so. In a buzzard's mind, if you haven't moved in six hours you're a happy meal.

As many of you know, we are privileged to have the opportunity to have an award-winning and multi-talented video division in the city of Farmington Hills which produces all the fine shows on Channel 3. It's beam any pleasure to be able to work side by side with Dave Tietmeyer and Jacob Nothstine producing a show called Nature In The Hills. I would like to thank all the people I've met who comment on how much they enjoy the shows on Channel 8. Most of

these shows are filmed using just two people. The one in front of the camera and the one behind it. Then Dave and Jacob use their magic in the studies and produce a product the whole family can enjoy.

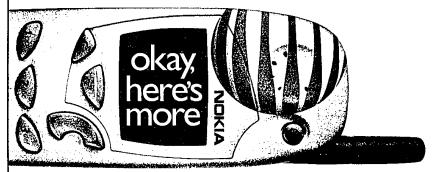
If you have an idea for a program, feel free to call the video division at (248) 442-7534. As for me, we're getting ready to send some new Nature in The Hills shows your way. Stay tuned.

Joe Derek is the city naturalist



for Farmington Hills. Leave him a message at (248) 473-9574.

# with up to 3400 minutes, need we say more?



Sign up now for the AT&T Digital Advantage \$39.99 monthly plan and get:

400 anytime minutes 2000 night and weekend minutes plus choose one of these:

1000 Mobile-to-Mobile minutes nationwide long distance included

Sign up for 1000 Mobile-to-Mobile minutes or Nationwide Sign up for 1000 Mobile-to-Mobile minutes or Nationwide long distance and we'll waive the monthly fee for one year. Mobile-to-Mobile minutes apply to calls placed to and from other AT&T Vireless subscribers while you are in the Mobile-to-Mobile Calling Area and on the AT&T Vireless network. Night and weekend minutes anytime minutes and Nationwide long distance available on calls placed from your Home Calling Area. 2000 night and weekend minutes are available at no additional monthly charge for one year.

### And get up to \$80 cash back

It's like getting a FREE phone	
mall-in phone rebate,	~\$40.00
mail-in service rebate 25%	-\$40.00
final cost WANTERS	\$ 0.00
Sales tax applies to original parchase price:	

YOUR WORLD, CLOSEAT HAND.



I-800-IMAGINE®

attwireless.com

ANN ARBOR 926 W. Elsent 248 372-7901 AUBURN HILLS 3922 Baldwin Rd. 248 745-3808

LATHRUP VILLAGE 27631 Southfield Rd. 248 372-7921 MADISON HEIGHTB 32800 John R. Rd. 248 589-2770

MONROE 2121 N. Monroe St., #K8 \*Franchtown Mall Klosk) (Frenchtown At 734 234-0533 NOVI 43267 Crescent Blvd. 248 372-7981

31902 Gratiot 248 372-7911

UTICA 13307 Hall Rd 248 372-7931 BUSINESS SALES OFFICE 25877 Northwestern Hwy.

