Avoid the passport crunch...

By CARL STODDARD

If you plan to travel this spring or summer, Southfield Post Office advises you to apply early for your passport.

George LaBerge, superintendent of window services, says travelers should allow about six weeks for receipt of the travel document. Additional time also must be alloted for obtaining a certified copy of your birth certificate and passport photos.

Southfield Post Office forwarded to Washington D.C. more than 650 passport requests in March. Of those, about 400 passports included a request that the paperwork be expedited and the completed passport returned via airmail special delivery.

For this expedited service, customers will pay $14.04 as compared to $13 for regular handling of the request. The added expense is not much greater, but with the volume of expedited requests, the time for processing the request is not much shorter, LeBerge said.

IF YOU INTEND to get a passport, here's what you need to do.

First, request a certified copy of your birth certificate. This is needed to prove your citizenship. Requests, in most cases, must be made in writing. If you were born in Michigan, you may write to Vital Records Section, Michigan Department of Health, 35 North Logan, Lansing, 48914.

Include with your request your full name, your race and sex, your parents' names (including your mother's maiden name), your date of birth, your exact place of birth in Michigan, and the purpose for which a certified copy of your birth certificate is needed.

A $2 fee, payable with a certified check or money order, must accompany the request.

In addition to the birth certificate, you will need two pictures of you for your passport. The photos may be either black and white or color, but must be "a good and reasonable likeness of the person," government regulations say.

If you have any questions about passport photos, you should contact either the post office or your travel agent.

To apply for a passport you also will need a valid driver's license or other identification.

When you have your copy of the birth certificate, the photos and your other identification, take all three items—along with the money you will need to pay for the service—and go to the post office.

SOUTHFIELD POST OFFICE'S passport window is only open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays, so arrange to take time off from work if necessary.

At the post office, a passport official will help you fill out your request and then mail everything to the Passport Office, U.S. State Department, Washington D.C.

You can speed up the whole process somewhat by going personnally to Lansing to get a copy of your birth certicate. You may also be able to obtain copies locally at the city hall or county building in the area where you were born. LeBerge advises, however, that you call first.

He also urges you to call first if you want to speed the process by flying to Washington on your way abroad and pick up your passport in person.

Persons needing to go to another country for a serious emergency may be able to obtain a passport sooner, but only if you are able to document the emergency. The post office can supply you with more information concerning emergency applications.

Naturalized citizens who do not have a birth certificate should bring an original copy of their naturalization papers when applying for a passport.

If a birth certifcate cannot be obtained, LaBerge said, ask for a letter that states your certifcate has been lost. With that letter include documentation that will prove your age and origin of birth.

PASSPORT REQUESTS are confidential, LaBerge said, and parents of adopted children may be able to request a passport without the child knowing her or she was adopted.

Confidential requests also have another benefit.

"Many women come in and want to fill out their forms seperate from their husbands so they won't find out how old they are," LaBerge said.

Groups who want to obtain passports may request in advance that a passport official from the Southfield Post Office come to them to help fill out the request forms.

Louise Fitzgibbons and her daughter, Kelly, apply for a passport at the Southfield Post Office. Because of the volume of requests, they can expect to wait up to six weeks before the passport is approved and returned. (Staff photo by Gary Friedman)

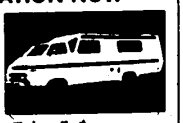
GEORGE LaBERGE

"PLAN YOUR VACATION NOW"

NO high season spending for motels and restaurants.
NO reservation troubles.

GO BY MOTORHOME.

Discoverer Dakota Motorhomes are fully self-contained • have lots of room and privacy • sleep 6 in two compartments • travel 12 for any journey.



RESERVE NOW • Rent for Days, Weeks or Month
Inspect at 777 Sowers, Birmingham • Planned Auto Management
For Information Call 645-2050

WEST BLOOMFIELD $76,000

Lakeside living in beautiful Hammond Lake Estates. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, den, hobby room, 2 family rooms, natural fireplace, built-in appliances, central air, completely landscaped. C & N Building. 332-3230

OPEN SAT. & SUN. 1-5

catering "NOW OPEN"

Farmington's Newest & Finest Catering Hall

CHOICE DATES AVAILABLE FOR MAY & JUNE

TWO INTIMATE DINING HALLS WITH ELEGANT FURNISHINGS FOR BUSINESS & SOCIAL GATHERINGS

• Champagne Fountains • Valet Parking
• Checkroom Facilities • Victorian Winding Staircase

CHALET of Farmington Hills

30689 Grand River 476-3424

Your Host, Paul Manz

NOR-WEST ASPHALT PAVING COMPANY

OWNER SUPERVISED — WE SPECIALIZE IN

RESURFACING
Asphalt or Concrete
AND
Protective Coating of Existing Driveways or Parking Lots

647-2373
BIRMINGHAM

Stretch&Sew Fabrics

T-shirts to jackets in 8 easy lessons.

Join one of our popular Stretch & Sew Basic 8 classes and discover the how-to-techniques for making clothes that are really worth the wearing.

We'll have you sewing knit tops the first day. Pants, skirts, sweaters, swim wear, and great-looking jackets before you know it.

Learn to sew the Stretch & Sew way. It's so easy you'll wonder why you didn't start sooner.

Call 477-8777 For Information

Stretch&Sew

38503 West Ten Mile Farmington
In the Freeway Shopping Center

FANTASTIC
REMNANT SALE
Saturday, April 24

Basic 8 Classes
8-2 Hour Sessions $18.00

Time	Day	Starting Date
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Wednesday	April 28
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Monday	May 10
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Tuesday	May 18
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Thursday	May 27
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Saturday	May 29
12:30 to 2:30 p.m.	Tuesday	April 27
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.	Monday	May 10
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.	Wednesday	May 19
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	Monday	May 3
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.	Tuesday	May 4
7:00 to 9:00	Wednesday	May 19
7:00 to 9:00 .m.	Thursday	May 13

FREE DEMONSTRATION
1:00 p.m. Friday, April 23
Jacket with Hood

SPRING HOME VALUE DAYS

Rodgers

APRIL 22-MAY 8, 1976

OFFICIAL PARTICIPANT

WIN!

ONE OF 3 AMC Pacers During Spring Sweepstakes

Contest void, where prohibited by law

Consumer Products Division USM Corporation

from USM Great Guns!

$10.95

STANLEY

12' 8 FIVERLOCK TAPE RULE #FL 112 Easy to read, long-lasting 12' yellow blade. Positive blade lock features and belt clip. Regular $7.30

SPECIAL $6.99

Whole House Beauty

Clean & Beautify
Tile • Cabinets • Paneling

SPRAY ON. WIPE OFF.

NOW $1.99 EACH

REGULARLY $2.19

Crescent

#AC110V 10" Adjustable Wrench

• Chromium plated alloy steel for strength and durability
• Tension spring jaw insert to prevent jaws from changing adjustment after setting

$8.50

AMES since 1774 a McDonough company

DOWN TO EARTH

No 15-630 DIG-EZY SHOVEL
• Lightweight strong
• Forward turned steps
• Ash handle
• Smooth finished blade
$5.99

No 18-683 NEW ACTION HOE
• Cultivator, weeder, edger with sharp, double edge cutting blade
• Lightweight, easy to use
• Back and forth motion cuts both ways
$5.99

No 18-470 GARDEN HOE
• Smooth finished blade
• Lightweight
• 1-piece forged head
$5.99

No 23-805 DELUXE-TRUK HOSE REEL
• 200 5/8 hose
• Detach reel converts to handy utility cart
• Double "O" ring prevents leaks
• Free rhru design
$22.99

No 18-817 BOW RAKE
• Strong, 1-piece forged head
• Lightweight, 54" handle
$6.99

The Pick of the Pros

No. 4224-78 24 pc. 1/4" & 3/8" drive Socket Set with S-K ratchet. Finest quality auto maintenance set. Has 15 stand. and 3 deep sockets, spark plug socket, spinner handle, 2 extensions, 3/8" F x 1/4" M adaptor ratchet. Metal box.

$29.98 suggested retail price Save $21.66 vs $51.63 price by piece purchase

SAVE 61%

FULL LIFETIME WARRANTY. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. If you are not completely satisfied with any S-K tool during its life, simply notify any place S-K tools are sold for a free exchange.

HUNDREDS OF OTHER VALUABLE GIFTS GIVEN!

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
PHONE _____ ZIP _____

H. A. SMITH LUMBER & SUPPLIES, INC.
28575 GRAND RIVER AVE. (NEAR 8 MILE ROAD)
KE. 5-8440 and GReenleaf 4-6610

PRIZES AWARDED ON A NATIONAL BASIS

H. A. SMITH Lumber & Supplies
(Your HWI Link to Value)

28575 GRAND RIVER (near 8 Mile)
474-6610 or 535-8440

MON.-FRI. 7-5:30
SAT. 7-4:30