

# Jobs

## Of work you may not brag, but without it you'd be had

**D** ID YOU ever notice how many people don't seem to have good things to say about their jobs?

You can hear such things as: "It's a work-a-day world." "What time ya' sprung?" "I can't — I have to work." "I put in my time."

People complain about their jobs until they don't have one. Then they complain more.

A person is often defined by his or her labor. Make a new acquaintance and what do you talk about? Work, probably.

Think back to the last party you attended. All kinds of co-workers there, right? And what did you discuss much of the time? Work.

Even if we don't like the idea of work, a lot of us are doing it.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1.5 million persons, on average, held jobs in the metropolitan Detroit area last year, the most recent period for which statistics are available.

Plenty of jobs remain to be filled today as well.

Jim Miller, placement supervisor for the Michigan Employment Security Commission in Royal Oak, said he has about 300 jobs available at any given time.

**OPENINGS RANGE** from casual laborers to cooks to engineers.

"A lot of jobs could be had without a college degree, but most require a skill or schooling of some kind," he said.

"Some are very hard (to fill) — heating and air conditioning people, numerical control machine operator. Lately, we've been having a hard time finding jewelers and goldsmiths," Miller said. "We have all the skilled trades at one time or another," he continued. "Any skilled machinist shouldn't have trouble getting a job now."

Fast-food restaurant jobs are available and often pay more than the \$3.35 per hour minimum wage, Miller said.

Elaine Felt, a placement specialist at Oakland Community College, says the phones have been ringing off the hook this summer from employers looking for help.

"We usually slow down as far as employers calling us, but it hasn't happened this year," Felt said. "Everything is available. If somebody wants to work now, they can find a job."

OCC, due to clerical constraints, generally accepts only curriculum-related jobs, Felt said. Those positions don't necessarily require a college degree, either.

**SO WHAT'S HOT?**

"Data processing is one," she said. "We're getting quite a few for accountants, and clerical is up. Comerica is building here (Auburn Hills) and EDS (Electronic Data Systems) works with us."

Pay ranges from minimum wage to more than \$20,000 per year, Felt said, and hundreds of posi-

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— Elaine Felt  
placement specialist  
Oakland Community College

tions are waiting to be filled.

Earla Smith, supervisor of guidance and counseling for the Troy schools, said many of her top students have opted for medical careers in recent years.

Good bets may be missed by passing up certification programs or assistant-type jobs, she added.

"Not enough (students) are going into technical fields, the two-year things — becoming an engineering assistant instead of an engineer," Smith said. "I think there are openings there that are being missed. I'm not sure everyone needs a college degree."

There are encouraging signs this Labor Day. Many establishments in the food and beverage industry seem to be thriving, good news for cooks, waitresses and busboys. Area hotels and motels report doing a stellar business.

**CONSTRUCTION** activity continues to make up for off years in some communities, providing opportunities for those who toil for their daily bread in the building trades.

There are even reports that new teachers are being hired or will soon be needed in suburban districts.

So what should you do if you're unemployed and want a job?

"Let everybody know you're looking for work and explore every avenue," said Miller from MESC. "Just come on in, talk to our interviewers and get some ideas."

Appointments aren't necessary. Also, anyone who has taken even a single course at a community college or university may utilize that institution's counseling and job placement services.

Knock on doors. Respond to ads. Be persistent. The search may not be easy, but jobs are available.



Approximately 1.5 million people are working in the Detroit metropolitan area — and those that aren't have some hope for employment. Job placement specialists say there are opportunities in areas ranging from skilled trades to the medical field. Most, however, require some type of education or training.

### obituarles

**GARY G. VAILLANCOURT**

Mr. Vaillancourt, 40, of Union Lake died Aug. 19 in an airplane crash.

Mr. Vaillancourt was a millwright. He was a member of Farmington Hills Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Linda; son, Gary Jr.; daughters, Colette, Paulette and Monique; sister, Gina Hollman; brother, Dale.

Services were Aug. 23 at the McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills, with Dr. G. Douglas Routledge officiating. Burial was in Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi.

**MARIE D. JACKSON**

Mrs. Jackson, 70, of Farmington Hills and Canton died Aug. 19 in University Hospital, Ann Arbor.

Born in Bridgeport, Ohio, Mrs. Jackson worked for J.L. Hudson Co., retiring after 27 years.

Survivors include her daughters, Patricia Jeffery and Carol Valentine; sisters, Agnes and Violet; five grandchildren.

Services were Aug. 23 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Jerry Yarnell of St. Michael Lutheran Church officiating. Burial was in White Chapel Cemetery, Troy. Memorials may be made to the Cancer Society.

**CYNTHIA K. JOHNSON**

Miss Johnson, 21, of Detroit died Aug. 20 in Childrens Hospital of Michigan.

Survivors include her sisters, Denise, Carol, Karen and Judith.

Services were Aug. 23 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Everett Miller officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

**M. ELIZABETH TIMMONS**

Mrs. Timmons, 90, of Warren, formerly of Farmington, died Aug. 21.

Born in Toronto, Canada, Mrs. Timmons was a homemaker. She was first commander of Farmington Maccabees Lodge.

Survivors include her son, Richard; daughters, Edith Beaman, Elizabeth McClure, Margaret White, Lola Herren and Darlene Pelkey; sister, Rose Schauer; brothers, Bert and Henry Worrall; 23 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

Services were August 24 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Theodore D. Taylor II of the First Presbyterian Church of Brighton officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

**IDA M. MCCACHEN**

Mrs. McCachen, 77, of Livonia died Aug. 22 in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia.

Born in Georgia, Mrs. McCachen was a member of Livonia Senior Citizens.

Survivors include her stepdaughter, Mary Ruth Paschke; sisters, Beena Robinson, Nebraska Lowery and Aiena Russell; brother, Boyd Watson; two grandchildren.

Services were Aug. 26 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Herbert Noy of Gullistan Baptist Church, Livonia, officiating. Burial was in Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia.

**MARION ROBIN MAIER**

Mrs. Maier, 77, of Farmington Hills died Aug. 22 in Providence Hospital, Southfield.

Mrs. Maier was a teacher in the Detroit School System for 37 years.

Survivors include her son, Alan, and three grandchildren. Services were Aug. 26 in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Livonia, with the Rev. Kenneth G. Davis officiating. Memorials may be made to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Arrangements were made by the Heeny-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington.

**CECIL D. O'BOYLE**

Mr. O'Boyle, 76, of Farmington Hills died Aug. 23.

Born in Canada, Mr. O'Boyle was the owner of Coronet Cleaners. He retired in 1968.

Survivors include his wife, Lola; a son, Jack; three sisters; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Services were Aug. 26 at the Heeny-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Paul Blomquist of First United Methodist Church officiating. Burial was in Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi.

**RUTH I. BOSWELL**

Mrs. Boswell, 66, of Orchard Lake died Aug. 28 in Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak.

Mrs. Boswell was a teacher for the Marshall Michigan School System before retiring.

Survivors include her husband, Robert; sons, Robert, James and John; sister, Shirley Jeanne Denton; brother, Dr. Manley Capron Jr.; seven grandchildren.

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### on the agenda

**HILLS BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**  
City Hall  
31555 11 Mile Road  
7:30 p.m. Tuesday

Mayor Jan Dolan will provide the newly revived Farmington Hills Beautification Commission with an historical perspective of what's been done with prior beautification attempts. City Manager William Costick will propose a set of goals and objectives for the commission and the commission's bylaws will be discussed.

**FARMINGTON SCHOOL BOARD**  
Administrative Offices  
31500 Salwassee  
8 p.m. Tuesday

The Farmington Board of Education will consider the formation of a task force to study changing trends in education and possible effects on the district. The board will also see a video presentation on Oakland County's upcoming special education millage increase.

### Want to be a foster parent?

Mentally retarded and physically handicapped teenagers in the area need foster parents.

If you are interested in helping, call Janet Myers, community placement unit at Plymouth Center for Human Development, 433-1500, Ext. 317.

### School gets damaged car from local dealer

Newly returning auto shop students at North Farmington High School will have a 1985 Chevrolet Caprice wagon to work and

learn on thanks to Holiday Chevrolet and Chevrolet Motor Division. The Caprice Wagon had a partially

crushed roof. The vehicle was presented to Donald Cowan, principal of the school.