

# Between brake jobs, he's a 'Cyberpaperboy'



It's said that with the Internet, everyone has a voice. Anyone can be a publisher.

And David Akerley is living proof of that. In his own right, he's very much a sort of Internet mogul.

Akerley is the proud owner and operator of "D.J.'s Brake and Strut" in Clawson. And as such, Akerley does his share of heavy work: brake jobs, car electrical work, mechanical

repairs - eight to four, Monday through Friday.

But dozens of times throughout the day, he crawls out from beneath the rack, washes the grease off his hands and heads to a tiny corner of his cluttered shop. That's where "D.J." the auto mechanic becomes "The Cyberpaperboy," publisher of a very popular Web site ([www.cyberpaperboy.com](http://www.cyberpaperboy.com)) that just may be one of the Internet's best resource sites.

On his Web site, Akerley posts headline links and brief summaries of news stories. The links are updated constantly from hundreds of Internet-based news sources. No matter what it's about ... breaking news, stock reports, sports, politics, national and international news ... you can find it on his Web site.

Akerley has no illusions about his skills.

"I'm not making any claims about being any sort of journalist," he says in the computer corner of his auto repair shop. "I'm just a news junkie. I love the news. I have since I

was a kid. And I love the Internet. So I put the two passions together. I'm just like a regular paperboy, only I distribute the news on the Internet. I'm what you'd call a Cyberpaperboy."

The 43-year-old Akerley does it very well. He posts his links so fast that often major breaking stories can be found on the Cyberpaperboy Web site before you hear about them on radio or TV. So far this year, more than 150,000 people have visited the Cyberpaperboy Web site, more visitors than many newspapers have subscribers.

His Web site has links to newspapers in every state in the country, thousands of them, as well as dozens of worldwide papers. There are also plenty of resources, from computer help to TV listings, online dictionaries, chat rooms and the like.

Akerley does this all essentially for free. Though he runs some banner ads on his site, the revenue they bring does little more than pay for his cost of Internet access and Web server fees.

"I have no illusions about being another Matt Drudge," he says, speaking of the controversial online gossip and rumormonger. "I really like fixing cars. I just also happen to like the Internet and news. I'm lucky that I can do all three all day long."

The Internet, he says, continues to amaze him daily. "It's like being in the world's greatest library, only better. Everything's right there at the click of a mouse."

What he most appreciates about the Internet is the access it gives everyday people to vast amounts of information, information that used to be the exclusive property of big and established media companies.

"In terms of access, the average person is no longer dependent on big media," he says. "We can now get all sides of a story on our own, with just a few mouse clicks. I think in the long run, that makes the professional media more accountable."

Make no mistake, Akerley is not a media basher. Quite the contrary.

"I have enormous respect for real journalists," he says. "It consider it to really be a noble profession. I spend a lot of time every day scanning their headlines and linking to their stories, and I have to say that, day in and day out, I think they're doing a pretty good job."

The Cyberpaperboy says he feels the role of his Web site is to help people focus their information and news needs. "There's now so much out there on the Internet, I feel like I'm performing a valuable service just pointing people in the right direction."

So, purely for the love of it, Akerley says he'll keep spending 20-30 extra hours every week cyber-delivering the news links - between brake jobs.

## Free Y2K booklet

Wondering what to do to protect your PC against possible Y2K problems? I just finished writing a booklet for the Iomega Corp. You can get a free copy by calling them toll-free at (888) 233-8566

Mike Wendland reports about computers and the Internet for NBC-television stations coast-to-coast. His radio show is heard every weekend on TalkRadio 1270, WXYT. You can reach Mike through his Web site at [www.pcmike.com](http://www.pcmike.com)

## BUSINESS CALENDAR

Items from the Observerland area for the Business Calendar can be sent to: Observer Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150 attention: Business Calendar.

### TUE, OCT. 19

**WORK AFTER 2000**  
The workplace and the concept of job security have changed drastically in the last quarter of the 20th century. To find out what is in store in the 21st century, come to Schoolcraft College, for a program on the world of work in the new millennium. The programs begins at 7 p.m. in the McDowell Center. The fee is \$7.50 for the general public and \$5 for any school or college student. Call Donna Nordman for information, (734) 462-4421.

### WED, OCT. 20

**TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE**  
The Detroit Oracle User Group will host their year-end technology conference at 8:30 a.m. at the Laurel Manor in Livonia. The full-day conference will feature presentations and discussions on how to use Oracle tools and database technologies to turn your data into information. Visit their Web site at [www.dougmi.org](http://www.dougmi.org) or call Eric Stegmeyer at (248) 626-8800.

**BUSINESS NETWORK INT'L**  
Meets from 7-8:30 a.m. Laurel Park Chapter, Archie's Restaurant, 30471 Plymouth Rd., Livonia and Metro Livonia, The American Table 33501 West Eight Mile, near Farmington Road. Call the BNI office (810) 323-3800.

### FRI, OCT. 22

**BUSINESS NETWORK INT'L**  
Meets from 7-8:30 a.m. Livonia Chapter, Senate Koney Island on Plymouth Road near Stark. Call BNI at (810) 323-3800.

### SAT, OCT. 23

**TOASTMASTERS CLUB**  
Learn to speak confidently one-on-one or before groups with the

Toastmasters Club of Livonia. The group is having a Saturday Sunrisers open house at 8:30 a.m. at Livonia Unity Church (28660 Five Mile Road). Contact (734) 525-0476 for more information.

### OCT. 25-26

**CUSTOM-SUPPLIER RELATIONSHIPS**  
The American Society for Quality will meet at the Union State-Wyndham Grand Heritage Hotel, 1001 Broadway, Nashville. The topic will be relationships: Good relationships are essential to business, without them we will surely sink. How do we build lasting relationships and mend damaged ones with

our customers and suppliers. To register and obtain payment information call (734) 522-0587, Tom Schoenfeldt; or (414) 723-5470, Jim Oven.

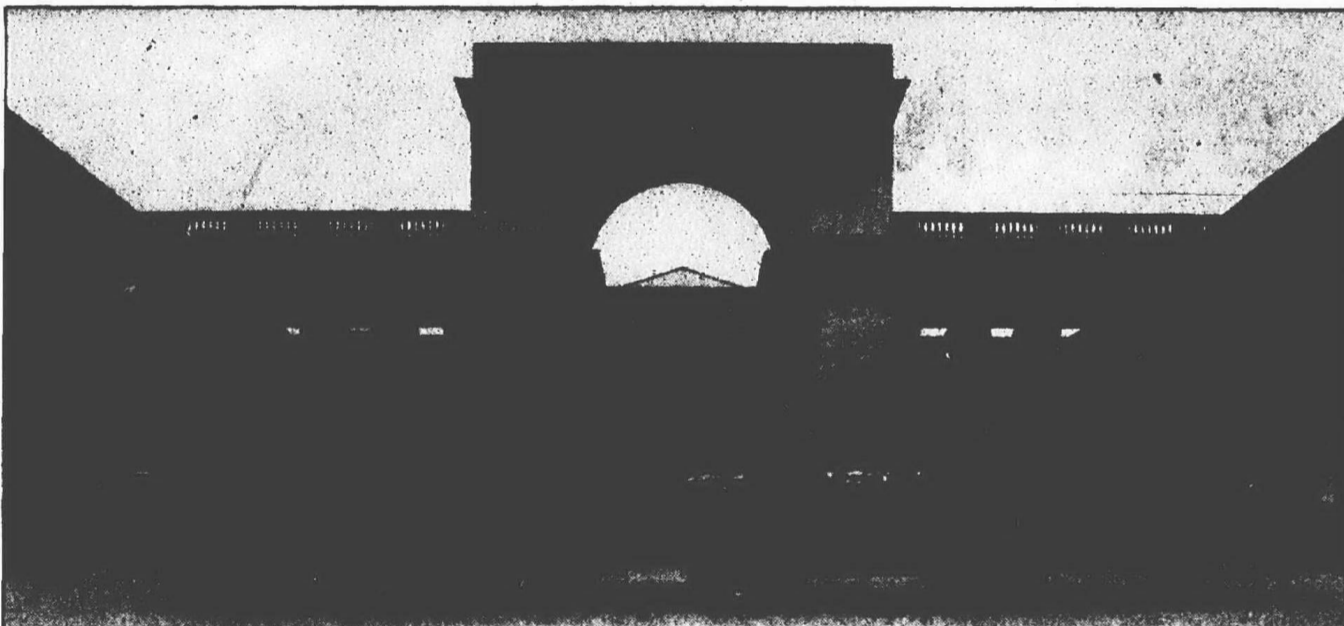
### WED, OCT. 27

**BUSINESS NETWORK INT'L**  
Meets from 7-8:30 a.m. Laurel Park Chapter, Archie's Restaurant, 30471 Plymouth Rd., Livonia and Metro Livonia, The American Table 33501 West Eight Mile, near Farmington Road. Call the BNI office (810) 323-3800.

### TUE, OCT. 28

**BUSINESS EXPO**

The Detroit Regional Chamber and National Association of Purchasing Management-Metro Detroit are presenting **Business MarketPlace '99 - "Unparalleled Opportunities for Buyers and Suppliers,"** Thursday, Oct. 28, at the Burton Manor in Livonia. This full-day expo helps area suppliers meet corporate purchasing executives through the Procurement Pavilion, purchasing department introductions, electronic commerce demonstrations, Supplier Showcase and more. Cost for the event, which is open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., is \$25 for Chamber members, \$35 for nonmembers. For more information, contact Rosemary Tokatlian at (313) 596-0392.



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# Cancer Answer

## Cancer Vaccines: A New Weapon in the War on Cancer

Presented by:

Bruce G. Radman, D.O.  
Director, Clinical Trials Program

Victor V. Baker, M.D.  
Director, Gynecologic Oncology Research

Tuesday, October 19, from 7-8:30 pm  
Livonia West Holiday Inn  
(on 6 Mile Road just east of I-275,  
near Laurel Park Shopping Mall)  
This event is free of charge.

Join us for Cancer AnswerNight and learn life-saving answers to commonly asked questions, including:  
*How are new cancer treatments discovered?*  
*Will killing off tumors someday be as simple as a shot in the arm?*  
*What are clinical trials and why should patients participate?*

Reservations are encouraged and can be made by calling 1-800-742-2300 and enter category 7874.



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Saturn North 248-620-8800	Saturn of Warren 810-979-2000
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LS	\$229/month \$1,495 due at lease signing

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STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF WAYNE  
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION  
Independent Probate  
FILE NO 99-811723 IE

Estate of LEONARD MYATT, Deceased  
Social security no. 373-03-0048

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

Your interest in the estate may be barred or affected by the following:

The decedent, whose last known address was 15909 Park, Livonia, Michigan 48154 died September 23, 1998. An instrument dated November 18, 1998 has been admitted as the will of the decedent. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, Gary B. Myatt, 207 W. Duane, Harvard, Illinois 60033, or to both the independent personal representative and the Wayne County Probate Court. Notice is therefore assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

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