

We walk because they walk

(Submitted by Cheryl Snow)

Join us in the Fruitport Area Crop Walk to be held on Sunday, October 4, 2009.

We walk to signify the millions of people who have to walk each day just to survive.

- They walk for food.
- They walk for water.
- They walk for firewood.
- They walk to escape violence.
- They walk to farm their fields.

Last year, CROP hunger walks and events raised over \$15 million to support the hunger-fighting work of Church World Service around the block and around the world. Wells, seeds, tools, and training were provided to African farmers, who are mostly women. Emergency medical supplies for hurricane victims, blankets for families devastated by earthquakes, and vocational training for indigenous communities are a few of the ways our CROP hunger walk can make a difference.

You can support our CROP hunger walk this year by being a walker, pledging your support, and volunteering to help on the day of the walk; there's something for everyone. Recruit your family and friends and come out for a good cause.

Remember, 25 percent of the funds raised here are returned to our local food pantry. Help us help others in our community and around the world. For walk information, call Fruitport United Church of Christ, (231) 865-3551.

Lake Effect Winery to open tasting room

(Submitted by Lake Effect Winery)

Downtown Grand Haven will be the location for a new tasting room which will feature five Lake Effect Winery wines. The Chinook Pier shopping plaza site will offer free samples of the wines.

Customers will be able to purchase bottles or cases of the wine, along with Michigan produced meats, cheeses and breads.

Donald Stolarz, winemaker and owner, began his winery in November, 2008. The fruit wines he produces are available statewide in stores and restaurants. Persons of legal drinking age may also purchase the wines at the winery, 4285 S. Brooks Road. A complete list of locations stocking Lake Effect wines can be found at the website, www.lakeeffectwinery.com.

Grandpa

by Char Lozicki

Breathing softly with his head bowed, grandpa is asleep in his chair by the window. *The Lone Ranger* has not quite finished his story yet on the radio, but I am going to listen to it until the end. The Lone Ranger and Tonto always come out getting the bad guys in the end and ride out, victorious. I liked listening to it as much as he did.

Grandpa worked all his life by his hands, when he was younger as a lumberjack, on a farm, and in a factory. And as he had this day on his little ten-acre farm, and in the house on that farm that he remodeled with the hand tools he had. I remember a saw, a hammer, a screw driver, and a plane with blades that could make magical curved edges. He always wanted to do the best he could for grandma. He made her cupboards that went all the way across the kitchen, and at the end of the day he could sit in his favorite chair in that room and watch her as she did the dishes.

He had a garden he tilled by hand, and grandma canned the vegetables as they were harvested. There was always a row of flowers on the outside edge of the garden. Sometimes he would get scolded for pulling out some of the flowers he thought were weeds. I could never figure out how someone as knowledgeable as he could not know a flower wasn't a weed. The chickens were free-roaming. Sometimes the rooster chased us kids. He was good to his animals, and they seemed to be fond of him. One day, he was driving down the road on his tractor (the one mechanical item he owned), and following right behind him was his dog and, one-by-one, five pigs which had somehow gotten out of their pen. When he became aware, he just turned the tractor around, and they all followed him home. Grandpa's dog, a boarder collie, helped grandpa manage the animals. She brought Daisy the cow back to the barn at the end of the day, and she even saved his life once. That dog did whatever grandpa asked her to do. One day he told her to get the skunk under the barn and she did. She smelled so bad, grandma wouldn't let the dog by the house for two weeks.

Grandpa was in his eighties when my husband went to his house to help him; they dug up the whole drainage system behind the house and replaced it. That same week, grandpa noticed there were hornets on the house roof, so grandpa put a cigar in his mouth and climbed up on the roof to take care of them with a paint brush and a bucket of turpentine. My husband stood on the ground, holding the ladder, wondering if it was time to take up cigar smoking or practice for the Boston Marathon.

Grandpa's radio was getting old, and my husband noticed it needed some help. He got some new tubes for it, and refinished its wooden outer box. The radio now looked brand new and sounded pretty good, too. When grandpa saw his radio, he got a big smile on his face and gave my husband a small box. In this box were grandpa's plane and its set of blades. The small box with its planes and blades are passed down today with memories of grandpa and his love and care for his family.

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FRUITPORT Area News

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