

FRUITPORT TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

Utility and Tax Payments can now be made with credit cards.

Make payments:

1. via Township website
www.fruitporttownship-mi.gov
 2. via phone (855) 893-2444
 3. at the counter
- Call Township Hall for more information (231) 865-3151

Those who need food, call
Love INC 777-3905

They will arrange for you to pick the food up at a local food pantry.

MICHIGAN Souvenirs
T-Shirts, Tote Bags, Calendar Prints, Greeting Cards, Magnets & more!
www.cybercrayon.net/store



SEE IT...REPORT IT!

Call 72-CRIME (722-7463)

MUSKEGON COUNTY SILENT OBSERVER

• STORYBOARD ARTIST / ILLUSTRATOR •



TIM HOLTROP

• Storyboard & Comp Art, Concept Sketches, Illustrations, Graphics •
• Film, TV, Video Games, Comics, Publishing, Advertising, Web •
231.750.5393 www.timholtrop.com

happy Birthday

- June 27 • Wayne Harnack "70"
- July 16 * Lorrie West
- August 3 • Lonnie Ross
- August 3 • Shirley Cuddeback
- August 19 • Carl Stenberg
- August 26 • Carson Cooper
- August 29 • Rob Weimer
- August 29 • Meredith VanOordt
- August 30 • Summer Perysian
- August 31 • Sue Cooper
- September 3 • Caleb Ahumada
- September 3 • Daniel Dault
- September 8 • Frances Stenberg
- September 11 • Dorothy Birkholz
- September 18 • Joni Olovson
- September 28 • Sarah Cooper
- September 28 • Roy Olovson
- September 28 • Grace Cooper
- September 29 • Erika Piotrowski - Sto Lat!

Get Well wishes

Kim Patterson
Fran Irwin
Gil Heyblom

If you would like to list an October, November, or December birthday or anniversary, or get well wishes for a special person in the next issue of FAN send or drop off \$4.00 with the name, date, and information to

Fruitport Area News
420 N. 3rd Ave.
Fruitport, MI 49415

Who is in favor of a casino in Muskegon County?

By Reverend William Randall

(This article includes a letter I wrote in response to news reports I read in the *Muskegon Chronicle*. It is submitted so those who do not read the *Chronicle* can know my views on a controversial subject. I am aware of the fact that many in the Fruitport area will not appreciate my point of view. There are people throughout the entire county who question the propriety of legalized gambling. Even people in Fruitport Township would no doubt agree that a county-wide vote for approval of a casino was never put on the ballot.)

The *Chronicle* headline on July 4 should have read, "Fruitport casino plan again wins county commissioner support, not county support." Is Marcia Hovey-Wright more accurate or honest when she represents her district on other matters than when she spoke about her disappointment that Governor Snyder didn't give the okay for the casino in Muskegon County? She said that the people want it. How does she know?

There was never a county-wide vote by the people. It seems that politicians wanting the casino refused to call for a county-wide vote lest it not turn out to their advantage. Instead, politicians like Marcia Hovey-Wright continue to glory in the approval by voters in the City of Muskegon. Remember that a "yes" vote was promoted as the answer to unemployment. Also remember at that time the casino under consideration was proposed for downtown Muskegon. City residents were told about the large sums of money projected for the city's coffers.

Likewise, Fruitport's affirmative vote is promoted as approval of the casino by the people of Muskegon County. Fruitport would be the recipient of funds since the casino would be within their borders. People of other municipalities know that casino costs would be shared by everyone in the county. Tax dollars would be used for courts, welfare, etc.

Please take this thought into consideration: Most of the gamblers will come from a fifty-mile radius. A casino in a resort location draws tourists. A populated area such as greater Muskegon would draw gamblers from neighborhoods that cannot afford to support the gambling industry. The number of people employed by the tribes would be insignificant compared to the number of people and businesses that would be seriously hurt by the casino.

It was disappointing to see that Senator Geoff Hansen will use his office and influence for the promotion of the casino for Muskegon County. Is he unable to see that it is morally wrong to take advantage of another's weaknesses for material gain?

Governor Snyder, as a business man, encouraged and motivated others to contribute effort and ingenuity for the success of his firm and as a contributor to society. He sought also to encourage tribal leaders to diversify and use their capital for other business endeavors rather than have their people rely only on gambling for their livelihood. This makes sense. If one's children could live off the interest of family wealth it would be a bad idea. How much better if the children were ambitious and creatively made it on their own, thereby accomplishing something of worth. The same would apply for the well being of Native Americans. How much better than to skim and scam those who want to strike it rich at the casino but won't.

The governor did the right thing and should be commended. Hopefully, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Geoff Hansen and other politicians will not continue to try to alter the facts in the promotion of a casino because there never was a county-wide vote for or against the casino. •

"Sprint for Life" Program

Letter to the Editor:

Senior Olympian Fights on...2011 marks the 8th year for "Sprint for Life" Program in the fight against cancer. On behalf of cancer patients, survivors and care givers, our deepest thanks to our sponsors: Shoreline Sport & Spine, Plantenga's Cleaners, Spartan Stores, D & W Fresh Market, Roscoe Chiropractic & Wellness Center, Culvers, Vallier Fence Co., Russ' Restaurant, Spring Lake Fitness & Aquatic Center, Shoreline Senior Sports, Health Hutt, Stemtech, Jacki Cockram, Thelma & Bob Oosterbaan, Pro Travel, Discount Tire, and Norton Family Practice.

My motivation for competing, as a prostate cancer survivor in the Senior Olympics, the Nationals and the Michigan State Games goes far beyond winning medals. I compete for those who cannot and to raise awareness. All of us reach for the word...hope. My sincere gratitude to the unwavering support of our sponsors.

"First to the Finish Line"...where survivors always meet. - Jimmy O

OFD road race volunteers — Thank you!

Letter to the Editor:

At the risk of inadvertently omitting a name of a volunteer, appreciation is extended to the following volunteers who assisted with the 2011 OFD 5K and 10K run held on Saturday, May 28. Thank you very much for your time and effort.

Aspecial thanks goes to Chad Lundberg and Heather Fett and The Storage Group for their sponsorship of the run, giving a sizeable donation as well as their expertise with on-line registration.

On Thursday, May 26, the following helped to prepare registration packets: Lorri Essenberg, Heather Fett, Chad and Max Lundberg, Nita Leaver, Donna Pope, Valerie Rogers, Alice Szpieg and Don Wood.

The day of the run, another special thanks to members of the Fruitport Lioness Club: Alice Szpieg, organizer; Dee Barber, Lorri Essenberg, Rose Dillon, Carol Hulka, Carol Langlois, Thara Johnson, Nita Leaver, Donna Pope, Valerie Rogers and Pat Stressman. Other volunteers included Don Wood (starter and announcer for 30 years!), Coach Steve Wilson and members of the Fruitport High School varsity football team, Roger Barber, Rick Tice, Larry Rogers, Chad Lundberg and Heather Fett (who also ran in the race), Kim Langlois, Crystal Lyons, Kelly O'Neil, Lisa Parker, and Janet Smith from Shelby State Bank, Wes Owen, Jerry Lundberg, and members of the Fruitport Congregational UCC youth group.

Also, gratitude is extended to Fruitport Community Schools for use of its facilities and Tom Smith, school maintenance employee, for his assistance on the day of the run.

The road race would never happen without these great volunteers. Thank you again!

Dan Leaver

Road Race Chairperson

Noah Project extends thanks

Letter to the Editor:

The Noah Project board of directors and the open house committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those individuals who unselfishly gave of their time to help make our open house on May 21 a success. Without the generous volunteers and outside support, Noah would not succeed. We cannot express fully our gratitude to our volunteers, some of whom are first-time helpers, along with those of you who help out on a continuous basis.

We would like to give special mention to the following businesses for their gracious donations. Olmstead Signs of Grand Haven, Gordon Food Service, Plumb's, the Muskegon Chronicle, Goobers Bakery, Family Video on Apple Avenue, Cancun Connection, Suzi's Village Inn, Amy's Shear Perfection, Budweiser, and the Fruitport Area News.

It is not our intention to omit any person, business, or group that has helped our cause. Please know that we at Noah appreciate all that you do for us. In return, we will continue to work toward finding forever homes for each and every one of our critters. Your continued support will always be accepted with an overwhelming amount of gratitude.

Thank you

April Auger, chairperson

Open House Committee

A big thank you!

Letter to the Editor

The Muskegon Y's Club extends a big THANK YOU to all our supporters for donating to, and attending our 48th annual White Elephant Sale. The proceeds are en route to the YMCA Camp Pandalouan for scholarships.

After 20+ years of service, we are retiring our blue truck, and anyone with a lead on a truck that could be donated to us is asked to contact Y's Club President Dale Ertzinger at (231) 744-8491 or Past President John McFadden at (231) 755-8067.

Thank you again for all your support!

Muskegon Y's Club

Township board working to resolve water issues

July 11, 2011 (condensed)

In a work session held July 11, township officials approved several motions regarding water supply issues.

Township board members voted unanimously to transfer the financial disclosure responsibilities regarding the regional system water bonds to Bendzinski and Company for five years.

They adopted an inspection agreement with Scott Butler, 3761 Steiner Road, which allows them to enter and inspect the property at 3970 E. Broadway as a proposed site for a new DPW facility and future water tower. Also approved was an option to purchase agreement regarding the same property.

A resolution in support of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians casino project was adopted.

An additional charge of \$100 will be added to cemetery interments scheduled for 3 p.m. or later during the week. •