

Fourth annual Tri-Cities Golf Classic registering golfers

by Pam Mettler

Summer golfers from around the region are being encouraged to register for the upcoming Tri-Cities Golf Classic.

Now in its fourth year, the event will be held at the Grand Haven Golf Club on Thursday, August 13. Proceeds will support Catholic education in the Tri-Cities area.

This year's golf event begins with registration at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch at 11:30 a.m. The shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. will kick off the four-person scramble.

Adult male and female golfers are asked to get out their "sticks" and plan to support a good cause while having time for fun and fellowship. Concluding the afternoon of golf will be a 6 p.m. dinner. Cost is \$500 per team of four players, or \$125 per individual. The price includes a golf cart, lunch, awards, dinner, and prizes.

Other individuals and businesses can get in on supporting the cause. Jim Robarge, event chairman, announced that event sponsorships are also available. They begin at \$100. Individual golf hole sponsorships are available at \$100 per hole. Various types of sponsorships range from hole sponsors to lunch, ball, dinner and gift/cart sponsorships.

This fundraising event is planned to generate funds for the annual Tri-Cities Unity Auction, which occurs in November. The Unity Auction is the largest fundraising event held each year to raise funds for Saint Mary's and Saint Patrick's schools.

Anyone interested in signing up, sponsoring, or volunteering at the event should call Jim Robarge at (231) 206-0886 or Saint Mary's Parish School at (616) 842-1282. •

Pedestrians urged to get a leg up on safety

(Submitted by the Michigan Department of State)

Before you hit the streets, Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land reminds pedestrians and drivers to watch for traffic dangers and remember some simple safety tips.

"Walkers, runners, bicyclists and car drivers alike need to remember roadway rules and basic courtesy," Land said. "We've seen great progress in reducing traffic injuries among pedestrians, but we still have work to do."

Pedestrians are reminded to:

- Cross the street at a designated cross walk when possible and always stop and look left, right, and left again before crossing.

- Come to the edge of a parked vehicle and look around it if it's blocking the view of the street, before entering the street.

- Increase their visibility at night by carrying a flashlight when walking and by wearing reflective clothing that highlights body movements.

- Walk on the side of the road facing oncoming traffic where there are no sidewalks.

Land recommends drivers:

- Look out for and always yield right of way to people who are walking, jogging, biking or crossing a street in the middle of a block.

- Pull out slowly from driveways and parking areas, while watching for pedestrians

- Stop fully before turning right on a red traffic light and make sure no pedestrian or bicyclist is crossing or waiting to cross.

- Yield to anyone crossing the street if turning left on a green light. •

Secretary of State urges stronger motorcycle training

(Submitted by the Michigan Department of State)

Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land is promoting legislation for motorcycle safety by improving the state safety program for the thousands of riders who seek a motorcycle license endorsement each year.

"The improvements we propose strengthen the program by setting rigorous, consistent standards for instructors," Land said. "This ensures people seeking a license endorsement have a safe, comprehensive training experience. I thank the representatives and senators who are sponsoring these bills and look forward to working with the legislature to see them written into law."

The legislation would create uniform criteria for motorcycle safety courses, require criminal background checks for instructors, and streamline the testing process by eliminating a second written test if a rider successfully completes the safety course. The legislation would also require that instruction providers be bonded and have liability insurance, among other changes.

In 2009, about 30,000 riders are expected to attend motorcycle training or go through a third-party skills test. The training course and skills test allow riders to obtain their motorcycle license endorsement, which is required to operate a motorcycle legally in Michigan. The training courses are offered at more than 50 locations across the state.

Michigan has about 532,000 licensed motorcyclists, an increase from 517,000 in 2008.

For more information about the proposals or how to enroll in a motorcycle safety course, visit www.Michigan.gov/sos. ••

Shoreline Church of Christ to hold 2nd annual golf scramble

(Submitted by Shoreline Church of Christ)

The second annual four-person golf scramble to benefit the building fund of Shoreline Church of Christ will be held on Saturday, July 18, 2009, at West Wind Golf Course, 2644 E. Hile Road.

Two tee times are offered, 8:30 a.m. and noon. Registration begins 1/2 hour prior to tee off.

The cost is \$225 per team which includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, prizes, chicken or steak dinner, a traveling trophy and more.

Additional meal tickets will be available for purchase at \$10 for an adult meal, \$5 for kids under 12. The menu includes chicken or steak, corn on the cob, salads, and desserts, all home made.

Contact the church at kerux48@verizon.net. •

Unity Christian Music Festival at Heritage Landing

by Mary Weimer

On August 5, 6, 7 and 8, the 2009 Unity Christian Music Festival will take to the three stages at Heritage Landing in downtown Muskegon. Billed as "a different kind of festival," the entertainment features three days of the best in Christian music.

Wednesday, August 5, known as "Day Zero," offers entertainment at no cost, no tickets, and no barriers. The groups featured are Manic Drive, Fireflight, and Family Force 5.

For the remaining three days, ticket prices are \$25 for a one-day pass, \$50 for all three days. Kids ages 10 and under are admitted free of charge.

Thursday's groups include Tommee Profitt, Fee, the Michael Gungor Band and Mercy Me.

Unspoken, Natalie Grant, Israel Houghton and New Breed will perform on Friday, August 7.

Currently scheduled for Saturday, August 8 are Unity legend Geoff Moore and the Distance, downhere, Mark Schultz, and Newsboys.

In addition to the music, food vendors will be on site and extreme games will be free. •

Safety reminders for dog owners

(Reprinted from 1997 Fruitport Area News)

The best safety hint for your dog is to purchase a dog license and make sure the license is on the dog. Every day the Muskegon County Vector Control Center receives numerous calls from people who have just found a dog and are happy to quickly return it to its owner. They enjoy aiding in the return of an animal. The quicker the dog is returned to its owner, the safer the dog is, and people are more inclined to help when the dog has a license on.

With summer upon us, it is extremely important to take care of your pet during the hot and humid season. Don't leave your dog or cat in a parked car; always leave your window cracked a bit; and best of all, pamper your dog and keep him safe.

Sometimes a stray dog looks cute and you just want to pet it. However, for your own safety you should follow these safety rules:

- Do not run from a dog. He has four legs; you only have two. He will catch you every time.

- Even if you are on a bicycle, get off and put the front wheels between you and the dog.

- Don't turn your back on a dog. Most are "fear biters" and he is more inclined to act out in fear if he is facing your back.

- If you are confronted by a dog, keep your hands to your sides or in your pockets and side-step away from the dog.

- Do not stare at a dog; turn sideways to the dog and in a deep voice yell, "NO," and look away in disgust. If necessary, throw something to encourage him to change directions. •

A conversation on race

(Submitted by the Institute for Healing Racism)

With the goal to "build a just community in which racism, prejudice, hate, and their effects are eliminated," the Institute for Healing Racism has scheduled several leadership sessions.

The basic institute level of leadership sessions for leaders in business and community continues on July 21 and 22 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Muskegon Community Education Center (formerly M-Tec or Angell School), 571 Apple Avenue in Muskegon in Suite #204.

Additional sessions are scheduled at the same location, same times, on August 11 and 18 and September 15 and 16.

"The Next Step," Institute II sessions are scheduled for August 20 and 21 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the same location.

A continental breakfast and lunch are provided for all sessions. Reservations are limited to 20 attendees.

Please contact the Institute for Healing Racism at (231) 720-2105 for more information. •

A new beginning for the Muskegon Heritage Museum

(Submitted by the Muskegon Heritage Association)

The Hathaway Building at 561 W. Western Avenue in downtown Muskegon is the home of the Muskegon Heritage Association and Museum.

The focus of the museum is on Muskegon's industrial heritage and Muskegon's historic homes. One wall showcases the homes in Heritage Village with information and photos, plus copies of a walking tour brochure. Other sections of the museum provide new informational displays about early industries in Muskegon, logging and lumber mills, the Amazon Knitting Company, Breneman-Hartshorn Window Shade Company, Hackley-Chase Piano Factory, Voothuysen Iron Works, printing companies, and foundries. As the museum develops, more displays will be added to preserve and share the industrial, social and economic history of Muskegon.

The museum is open on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. May through December. Guided and group tours, as well as private events, may be arranged by calling the museum at (231) 772-1363. Volunteer opportunities are also available.

Visit the website at www.muskegonheritage.org. •

Voice your opinion about Michigan

by Mary Weimer

A community conversation, including the use of electronic polling devices to vote on issues, will be held on Tuesday, July 28 at the Holiday Inn Muskegon Harbor from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Participants will be able to express their views on issues and to discuss economic, education, and good government strategies for our state. What kind of place do you want Michigan to be? What future does Michigan hold for business and industry? What sort of Michigan would make your family want to live, learn, work, and play here?

Three guiding principles will help drive the agenda:

- A talented and globally competitive workforce.

- A vibrant economy and great quality of life.

- Effective, efficient, and accountable government.

The event is sponsored by the Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce, United Way of the Lakeshore, the *Muskegon Chronicle*, the Michigan Mutual League Foundation, and the Alcoa Foundation. The event is free and open to the public.

Register online at www.muskegon.org or call (231) 722-3751, or email rsvp@muskegon.org.

For more information, visit the website, www.thecenterformichigan.net. ••

Adult Foster Care providers' seminar at MCC

(Submitted by Muskegon Community College)

Muskegon Community College is offering a four-part seminar for prospective and current adult foster care (AFC) providers.

Although the first session begins on Friday, July 17, three additional sessions are scheduled for Friday, July 24 and 31 and August 7. Sessions are held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The cost to attend is \$30, and you need not attend all four sessions.

The remaining sessions will include the following topics:

July 24: Business and Legal Aspects of Operating a Home; and Sanitation and Food Preparation.

July 31: Effective Management Practices and Customer Service.

August 7: Bookkeeping and Record Keeping; Prescription Drugs and Medications.

Scholarships from Community Mental Health will be offered to the first 15 participants to register.

For more information, contact Mary Ann Williams at (231) 777-0348, or register online at www.muskegoncc.edu/ce. •

VanAndel Arena/DeVos Place present entertainment variety

(Submitted by Grand Rapids VanAndel Arena)

KISS fans can demand that KISS perform in Grand Rapids by clicking on the Eventful Demand widget on the VanAndel Arena's website and facebook pages. Fans who demand KISS perform will receive exclusive access to pre-sale tickets before the public on sale, discount merchandise from the KISS store, and the opportunity to submit their video to be displayed on screen during the tour. For more information, please visit www.kissonline.com.

Thursday, August 13, 2009, the world's #1 preschool band will appear at the DeVos Performance Hall in two performances at 3 and 6:30 p.m. *The Wiggles Go Bananas Live* brings a highly interactive, fun and educational message to Grand Rapids. Ticket prices range from \$17 to \$32. Tickets purchased at the \$32 level include an exclusive Wiggles giveaway.

Tuesday, August 25, 2009, 7:30 p.m. *Journey* will perform, along with the opening act, *Heart*, with front women Ann and Nancy Wilson. Ticket prices range from \$35 to \$125.

Tickets for all VanAndel and DeVos Place events are available through Ticketmaster, the VanAndel box office, by phone at 1-800-745-3000, or online at ticketmaster.com •