## A heartfelt thank you Letter to the Editor:

A very deserving thank you to all of our friends, colleagues and patients who have provided support, love, prayers, and assistance both in our home and at the three hospitals where Virginia has been hospitalized since September 30, 2010.

As many of you know, Virginia fell coming down steps in our residence and landed on the ceramic tile floor striking the right side of her head and sustaining a fracture in the right parietal area of the skull. A large subdural hematoma required immediate surgery and evacuation of blood clots on the evening of September 30.

Virginia received very efficient and excellent medical care by Dr. Kathryn Kampen, M.D. and her staff in the emergency room at Hackley Hospital. Dr. Kampen stabilized Virginia and had her transferred via Aero-Med to Spectrum's neurology unit so she could be evaluated by a neurosurgeon. She underwent surgery later that evening and had a steel plate placed in the right side of the skull. She remained at the Spectrum neurosurgical intensive care unit until October 14. She has been transferred to two separate hospitals and will be coming home from Mary Free Bed.

Virginia will continue with therapy in our home and her status upon arrival at our residence has been significantly improved from the initial tragedy. We are extremely thankful to her previously good health, and the excellent physicians who cared for her all the way from Hackley Hospital to Spectrum and Mary Free Bed. She had superb therapists in all aspects and excellent nursing staffs. The hundreds of cards and multiple visits she has had from friends, patients, and colleagues have been a tremendous boost to her.

Once again, myself, Kelly, Wendy, Andy and the grandchildren would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your thoughts and prayers, and your concern regarding Virginia and her recovery from injuries. Also, I would personally like to thank each of you for your concern of my own health at a time I was trying to oversee home, work at the office and traveling to Grand Rapids

Sincerely yours,
Robert H. Pierce
and family

## Bob Hope's writers

by Clif Martin

I was not a big Bob Hope fan. Oops, I should fix that before I get deported for un-American activities. Old ski-nose was one of our greatest entertainers and he brought laughs to many of us for decades, especially the men and women in our armed forces. I might better have said I'm not a big fan of the snappy, topical one-liners that Bob delivered so well. I also have the greatest admiration for the writers who put those gags in his mouth. Hope often gave them proper credit for their work and many of them worked for him for years.

Try to imagine the research and legwork it took to make Hope's jokes always about something that a particular audience would relate to. When he appeared in Muskegon several years ago he had a one-liner about Nunica. I don't remember what it was, but he pronounced the first syllable of that town's name as if it rhymed with "pew" rather than "Moon."

Wherever he did shows, Bob Hope was always topical. His overseas shows are full of laugh-getters about the enemy, the war or the particular military base where he was appearing. He did not make those up on the spot. He paid his crew of writers very well to keep on top of everything.

Zippy one-liners are not my favorite brand of humor. I like a story or monologue that might or might not have a strong punch line, but has laughs along the way. I need to savor the humor. A belly laugh is good, but a knowing chuckle about something you are familiar with is fun, too.•

## Prevailing Winds concert scheduled

*(Submitted by Chuck Richards)*

The Prevailing Winds Community Band of Grand Haven, under the direction of Bob Fullerton, will be celebrating a free Christmas concert at 3 p.m. in the Spring Lake Wesleyan Church at 15550 Cleveland.

Selections ranging from "Jingle Bells" to "Winter Wonderland" to Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus," and many more tunes will be performed by these excellent musicians who range in age from 16 to 75 years.

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