

## Grand Haven's Central Park a good choice for memorial

### Letter to the Editor:

As a member of the Fallen Heroes Memorial committee, I am especially happy that the memorial will be in Central Park. During the late '30s and early '40s, the park was a gathering place for many activities. I was born and raised three blocks north of the park and the kids from our area would meet there after supper to play football, tag, and other games. Sometimes we just "hung out."

Make-up football was popular, and my neighbor, Edwin "Bud" Bishop, who was the oldest of our group, did the organizing. He was killed in Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge area. My friend from across the street, Fred Green, was a good runner, so he got the ball frequently. He was killed in July, 1950 during the Pusan Perimeter action in Korea. Another neighbor, Ed Buitenwert, always stopped to chat with me while I was cutting the grass at my house, and then he would head to his nightly route through Central Park to wherever he was going. Sometimes he would join our activities. He was the first casualty from Grand Haven in World War II. His ship was sunk in a naval battle with the Japanese off the island of Guadalcanal.

Three neighbors, three heroes, and now they will return to Central Park, their names on the memorial. They will join other names, about 100 in all, from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and all present and future wars, wherever men give their lives for our freedoms. We honor them with their names on the Fallen Heroes Memorial. I am pleased that another group, "The Fountaineers," are addressing the needed repairs to the fountain in the park. I am certain that the entire area will support these projects. Contributions for the Fallen Heroes Memorial can be made by sending your donations to The Grand Haven Area Community Foundation at 1 S. Harbor Drive, Grand Haven, MI 49417.

For additional information, contact any American Legion or VFW member.

Gary Byl  
Grand Haven

## A little gun history

(Submitted by Joni Olovson)

In 1929, the Soviet Union established gun control. From 1929 to 1953, about 20 million dissidents, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.

In 1911, Turkey established gun control. From 1915 to 1917, 1.5 million Armenians, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.

In 1938, Germany established gun control. From 1939 to 1945, a total of 13 million Jews and others, who were unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.

In 1935, China established gun control. From 1948 to 1952, 20 million political dissidents, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.

In 1964, Guatemala established gun control. From 1964 to 1981, 100,000 Mayan Indians, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.

In 1970, Uganda established gun control. From 1971 to 1979, 300,000 Christians, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.

In 1976, Cambodia established gun control. From 1975 to 1977, one million educated people, unable to defend themselves, were rounded up and exterminated.

Defenseless people rounded up and exterminated in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century because of gun control: 56 million.

It has now been 12 months since gun owners in Australia were forced by new law to surrender 640,381 personal firearms to be destroyed by their own government, a program costing Australian taxpayers more than \$500 million.

The first year results are now in:

- Australia-wide, homicides are up 3.2 percent.
- Australia-wide, assaults are up 8.6 percent.
- Australia-wide, armed robberies are up 44 percent.

Note that while the law-abiding citizens turned them in, the criminals did not and criminals still possess their guns! While figures over the previous 25 years showed a steady decrease in armed robbery with firearms, this has changed drastically upwards in the past 12 months, since criminals now are guaranteed that their prey is unarmed.

There has also been a dramatic increase in break-ins and assaults of the elderly. Australian politicians are at a loss to explain how public safety has decreased after such a monumental effort, and expense was expended in successfully ridding Australian society of guns. The Australian experience and the other historical facts prove it.

You won't see this data on the U.S. evening news or hear politicians disseminating this information.

Guns in the hands of honest citizens save lives and property and, yes, gun-control laws adversely affect only the law-abiding citizens.

Take note, my fellow Americans, before it's too late!

The next time someone talks in favor of gun control, please remind them of this history lesson. With guns, we are "citizens." Without them, we are "subjects."

During World War II the Japanese decided not to invade America because they knew most Americans were armed!•

## Curves of Norton Shores South celebrates successful food drive

(Submitted by Curves of Norton Shores South)

During the month of March, Curves of Norton Shores South at the Pointes Mall, 1038 E. Sternberg, collected non-perishable items for food banks in the local area. Their goal of 500 pounds of food was surpassed, as the women donated over 1,000 pounds of food to the local food shelters, MAPS, and Every Woman's Place.

Owner Susan Kesteloot said, "At the core of our business is the message that women are stronger when they rally together, and that is the point we brought home with our food drive. We wanted to show our community just how powerful the generosity of our members can be."

To celebrate their success, Susan Kesteloot, owner; and store manager Kathy Mason held an open house on March 31 featuring healthy snacks



and prize drawings.

Curves provides an exercise and weight control program designed specifically for women, including a proven workout plan and programs to help motivate and assist women in obtaining a healthy lifestyle.

For more information about curves, contact Susan Kesteloot at (231) 798-9811 or visit the website, [www.curvesatthepointes.com](http://www.curvesatthepointes.com).•

## Bethany Lee joins Trend Benders

By Mary Weimer

Bethany Lee of Fruitport is the newest stylist at Trend Benders, 388 N. Third Avenue in Fruitport.

She is a 2006 graduate of Fruitport High School and a graduate of French Academy of Cosmetology in Spring Lake.

Walk-ins are welcome Tuesdays between 2 and 8 p.m. and by appointment. •

## Sunday night music and fellowship

First Congregational Church of Fruitport (Pontaluna Road, across from the school office) is offering music and a message at 6 p.m. each Sunday evening.

The evening service is being arranged by a special guest speaker each Sunday. Stop by, relax, and enjoy a Christian message and fellowship. •

## Cooked dandelions

by Judy Brandow

Before the last frost of spring, a slightly reddish tangle of leaves appears at the top of well-developed perennial roots. At this time, it is a three-storied plant. Using a narrow spade, dig out the dandelion, roots and all. The newly-grown roots are tender and peel readily with a potato peeler. Slice them thinly cross-wise. Boil in two waters with a pinch of soda added to the first. Season with salt, pepper and butter. •

## Sports camps at Maranatha

(Submitted by Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference)

Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference, 4759 Lake Harbor Road in Muskegon is offering several summer sports camps for kids ages seven to 16. Pre-registration is required, along with a non-refundable \$25 registration fee. The fee includes a shirt, a sports New Testament, and a certificate.

For those not registered at least seven days in advance, the fee is \$35. You may register online at [www.vacationwithpurpose.org](http://www.vacationwithpurpose.org) or by calling 798-2161 or 798-2152.

Camps and dates include:

June 28 to July 2	Baseball camp
July 12 to 16	Soccer camp
July 26 to 30	Volleyball camp
July 26 to 30	Football camp
August 2 to 6	Basketball camp •

## New movie to be produced in Fruitport

By FAN staff

Harry Wojahn plans to produce a movie this summer, filming in the Fruitport and surrounding area. Entitled *Chest of Virtue*, the film is a treasure hunting movie, co-produced by his wife, Heidi and Richard Isacson. Chris Dragone, film maker, will direct the film. •

## The touch of a hand

by Kathleen V. Busman

The other day as I walked along  
Feeling depressed and blue,  
I thought of the things that I had done  
And the things still left to do.  
I knew that my days were growing short  
And my strength was ebbing away,  
But I knew that I must complete my tasks  
Without any more delays.  
I suddenly stopped and said a prayer—  
I needed the strength to stand.  
It was then I felt the loving peace  
From the touch of the Master's hand.  
I lifted my head and a song filled my heart,  
I felt strength I never had planned,  
All from a prayer with a special request  
And the touch of my Master's hand. •

## Fruitport CRC vacation Bible school: A cosmic adventure

By Mary Weimer

Fruitport Christian Reformed Church, 3520 Pontaluna Road, invites all children going into kindergarten through fifth grade to Galactic Blast: A cosmic adventure praising God vacation Bible school.

Board the starship Galactic Praise to see our awesome universe — and our awesome God — in a whole new way. The fun begins on Sunday, June 13 and ends Thursday, June 17. Sunday evening is the kick-off from 6 to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday's activities will take place from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Supper will be available by donation from 5:15 to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Each galactic mission includes a Bible story in the Good News Galaxy, along with science activities at the Orbital Observatory, music at Moons & Tunes, art projects at Cosmic Crafts, games at Rocket Rec, and a snack at the Astro Bistro.

Come and be a part of all the excitement at Galactic Blast!

Call 865-6548 for more information. •

## Women's Summer Breakaway features vocal artist

(Submitted by Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference)

Women are invited to attend the annual women's Summer Breakaway at Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference Grounds, 4759 Lake Harbor Road in Muskegon. The conference is entitled Timeless Truths for Trying Times, and features gospel singer Kathy Troccoli and Bible teacher Ellie Lofaro.

Two identical programs are offered: Tuesday, August 10 or Wednesday, August 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The \$25 registration includes lunch. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

Session 1: Trusting in God (Ellie Lofaro)

Session 2: Waiting on God (Kathy Troccoli)

Session 3: Looking at God (Kathy Troccoli)

Session 4: hearing from God (Ellie Lofaro)

For more information, visit the website, [www.vacation-withpurpose.org](http://www.vacation-withpurpose.org) or call 798-2161 or 798-2152. •

## Lee's TV has closed

By Mary Weimer

Lee Klemetti has been repairing televisions and electronics at 3120 Heights Ravenna Road for years. Now, at 67 years of age, he is ready to retire.

Putting in 12-hour days for 34 years can take a toll on a person and on his family. He has family members he hasn't seen for awhile and other things he would like to do rather than work on other people's electronic items. And parts are getting harder to come by due to advances in manufacturing.

Initially, Lee repaired televisions in his garage, having taken classes in electronics at Muskegon Community College. Then he opened the shop in Cloverville. He is proud to have run a successful business for so long.

And while he admits to "having fun" working with the public and fixing their televisions, he plans on traveling in his RV. •

## New computer store opens in Fruitport area

By Harry Wojahn

Computers Plus, a new computer repair shop, has opened at 4759 Airline Road. The shop is owned and operated by Fruitport residents Derek Rainbolt and Nick Rozeboom. They specialize in laptop and desktop repairs (although not Mac computers), with a turn-around time of usually one day, depending on whether they have the necessary parts in stock. They do custom-builds using various items, including, but not limited to, aquariums, turntables, as well as regular computer towers. They also carry computer parts and accessories and can order parts for regular PCs and Mac computers.

You may contact them at (231) 563-6112. •