

St. Mary’s Parish School students design rosaries

By Pam Mettler

Junior high school youth attending St. Mary’s Parish School in Spring Lake have designed and created 60 beaded rosaries, which are being given to those in need and military service members.

Sixth grade teacher Tricia Suchecki led the St. Mary’s students in making beaded rosaries for two months to provide others with their creations.

“We are finding people that need these rosaries right here in the community. Our sixth- seventh- and eighth-graders have grandparents who are ill. Also, we found out a local pediatrician is dying of brain cancer and many of our students identified with him, in particular, because he was their doctor when they were small children. So, of course, they wanted to show their appreciation for him as well as their support,” said Suchecki.

“All students gave a five-dollar donation to help in the purchase of the beads and connectors, and the Rosary Project just started from there,” said Suchecki, adding, “I’ve tried to purchase very pretty beads so the students could be very creative. We haven’t had one duplicate among all 60 rosaries they’ve designed so far.”

Each rosary includes 53 “Hail Mary” beads, a crucifix, six “Our Father” beads, a Madonna connector, plus 253 seed beads.

“I felt like the people would appreciate my rosary so I thought I should make it with special care so they could use it,” said seventh grader Erin Ladd, adding, “I first started it but had to redo it because an ‘Our Father’ bead was in the wrong place.”

“This is one of my favorite service projects because I got to be creative and I chose colors that would go

New digital microfilm reader available

(Submitted by the Muskegon Area District Library)

The Muskegon Area District Library has purchased ScanPro 2000 for the Norton Shores branch library. The ScanPro 2000 utilizes cutting edge digital technologies to provide exceptional viewing of microfilm. Powerful image adjustment features and a large monitor provide ease of use to either print a document or save it to a portable device.

The Norton Shores branch, located at 705 Seminole Road, owns microfilm of the Muskegon Chronicle from 1869 to the present. Genealogists, history buffs, or anyone wanting to look at the past news of Muskegon will enjoy this easy to use equipment.

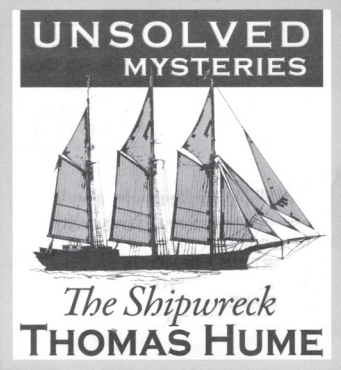
Please request the microfilm at the front desk and the staff will be happy to assist you. •

The Shipwreck Thomas Hume exhibit opens at Museum Center

(Submitted by the lakeshore Museum Center)

On May 21, 1891, the three-masted lumber schooner Thomas Hume, namesake of Muskegon’s great lumber baron, disappeared without a trace en route from Chicago to Muskegon. Mariners at the time considered the vessel’s loss one of the great unsolved mysteries of the Great Lakes.

Now, on the 120th anniversary of the disappearance, a new exhibit and documentary film will reveal the final resting place of the schooner and the secrets within its hold. *Unsolved*



Mysteries The Shipwreck Thomas Hume will be on display in the city barn at the Hackley & Hume Historic Site beginning Saturday, May 21.

The Lakeshore Museum Center partnered with Michigan Shipwreck Research Associates (MSRA) to produce this exhibit about the wreck of the Thomas Hume. MSRA and museum curators have conducted extensive research on the history of the schooner and shipping in the later 1800s. Divers from MSRA photographed the ship and its contents and have produced a film about the career and loss of the schooner and the archeological investigation of the wreck. The exhibit is sponsored by the Michigan Humanities Council.

An exhibit opening event will be held at the Hackley & Hume Historic Site on Saturday, May 21 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Participants will then move to the Muskegon Museum of Art for a concert by great lakes folksinger Lee Murdock, followed by a live narrated debut of the film, *Unsolved Mysteries The Shipwreck Thomas Hume*. Both events are free; however, because seating is limited, reservations are requested by calling the museum at (231) 722-0278.

The exhibit will be on display at the Hackley & Hume Site through the 2011 season, and excerpts of the video will be available to view. •



St. Mary’s students Erin Ladd and Grace Thornley helped construct some of the rosaries.

pretty together. It only took me a couple of days to do mine,” said Grace Thornley, sixth-grade student.

Both students and Suchecki agree the hardest part in creating the rosaries is in the counting of the beads. This is because certain beads must be put in certain places in order for it to be considered a traditional rosary.

Eventually, some of the rosaries are expected to go to persons in nursing homes, but anyone from the community who needs one for a loved one or themselves can call Barbara Wyant, church secretary at Saint Mary’s Church at (616) 842-1702 to have one sent to them.

“Just waiting to see what it looked like at the end with all the pretty colored beads was fun,” said Emily Rauch, sixth-grade St. Mary’s student, adding, “I feel like I did something very good making it for a person in need, and the hardest part was making sure I didn’t mess up.” •



Judy Wolfe, Judy Corrigan, Carolyn Morby and Clara Vickers distributing shoes to the veterans at the Grand Rapids home.

Genealogy society helping veterans

By Judy Wolfe

The Captain Thomas Taber Chapter of the Colonial Dames XVII, a national genealogical society, has been focusing on meeting a few of the many needs at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

Their “wish list” is filled with many opportunities to help the vets. Our chapter has chosen to purchase as many new Velcro-closure sneakers as possible. These items are given to the vets at no charge.

Despite the economic climate, we are pleased that in 2010, we purchased and distributed 209 pairs of shoes. The average cost per pair is \$12.00, which amounts to approximately \$2,500. We also spent an additional \$340 on socks, shirts and miscellaneous items.

We wish to thank all those who helped in any way to support our chapter’s efforts.

We are happy to express, in some small way, our heartfelt gratitude for the sacrifices our veterans have made on behalf of the United States of America!

Maranatha summer concert headliners

(Submitted by Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference Grounds)

Celebrating 75 years of ministry, the Maranatha Bible and Missionary Conference Grounds will again be presenting their summer concert series. Maranatha is located at 4759 Lake Harbor Road. Concerts are held each Saturday night at 7 p.m. Admission is free; however an offering is accepted.

This year’s concert series lineup:

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| June 26 | Buddy Greene |
| July 2 | Kings Brass |
| July 9 | Marie Barlow Martin |
| July 16 | Wintley Phipps |
| July 23 | Steve Green |
| July 30 | Robert & Pam Adams with Paul Satre |

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| August 6 | Chiz Rider |
| August 13 | Sara Groves |
| August 20 | Theater for the Thirsty |
| August 27 | Damaris Carbaugh |
| September 3 | Matthews Brothers • |



Agape Home celebrating one year anniversary

(Submitted by DaySpring Services)

Agape Home at Blueberry Fields Assisted Living is celebrating its one-year anniversary! Last spring, Rick and Katrinka (Sawin) Ebeling opened this assisted living residence to meet the growing needs of older adults in Fruitport Township, Muskegon County. Agape Home at Blueberry Fields is located at 4747 E. Mt. Garfield Road. It overlooks a beautiful pond and boasts views of acres of blueberries. The peaceful and quiet surroundings make for a wonderful atmosphere. Before opening, Agape Home was completely remodeled and is a beautiful, cozy new home for its new residents.

The residents have loved picking blueberries and baking wonderful treats to enjoy. Residents enjoy many life-enriching activities such as games, music, devotions, reminiscing, crafts, and exercise. They also benefit from outings to places like farmers’ markets, Lake Michigan and light tours during the Christmas season.

Agape Home residents receive loving care through socialization, daily activities, outings in the community, and home-cooked meals. They also receive excellence in areas such as medication administration, laundry, housekeeping, assistance with bathing, and other specialized services. All of these services improve the quality of these individuals’ lives and their families’ lives.

Agape Home at Blueberry Fields is one of the several DaySpring services that Rick and Katrinka have developed to minister to older adults. They and their staff have a heart to minister to the social, physical, emotional and spiritual needs of older adults. DaySpring services include: DaySpring Assisted Living, In-Home Care & Life Enrichment Services, Independent Living Apartments, The Agape Home Assisted Living at 4445 S. Brooks Rd. (which was established in 1989), Agape Home at Blueberry Fields Assisted Living, and DayBreak Adult Day Services with two locations, Norton Shores and North Muskegon. This continuum allows DaySpring Services to meet the needs of older adults with a variety of services they may need.

If you would like to schedule a tour of Agape Home at Blueberry Fields, or if you would like more information on any of the DaySpring services, please call (231) 780-2229 and ask to speak with Jena Miller, admissions coordinator. She would be pleased to share the different ways they could serve your loved one and your family. Further information is also available on the DaySpring website, www.dayspringserves.com. •

We won’t forget

By Charlene Lozicki

He was newborn. She touched his hand and he smiled. She picked him up and held him close, but gently. She said a special prayer for him and his mother. As he grew, he giggled, and reached out to her and that made her smile. She read to him, and he remembered the stories, but he liked best her stories. Favorites were stories about her when she was a little girl. He was new to the English language and he spelled her name wrong, but how she loved that box and kept her favorite necklace in it.

Brothers, sisters and cousins extended the family, and the younger ones made her smile. The girls learned the art of cooking her favorite traditional recipes. The boys teased the girls, but were very attentive and claimed they didn’t have her touch. She was uncanny at cards, and would play at a drop of a hat. She usually won, too. Flowerbeds were part of her yard, and she had a favorite tree with low branches easy to climb. Many were disciplined for climbing that tree.

As each grew they knew there was one praying for them, and they smiled because she had taught them, and listened as one who cared would. She needed more help and those she knew cared. He took her hand and she smiled. Little ones drew pictures and wrote misspelled notes. They all said prayers as they all knew how.

When we get together we remember her stories, and some of our own. Taking that tree down because it’s too big now, we heard one summer, in disbelief. She was voted down on that one. That tree still stands glorious, waiting for some little ones to challenge. •