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Township treasurer awarded highest honor

by Mary Weimer

Fruitport Township Treasurer Rose Dillon is the first Muskegon County treasurer to be selected to win the Professional Recognition in Municipal Excellence award, known as PRIME, by the Michigan Municipal Treasurer's Association (MMTA).

Dillon was selected from six finalists, and was presented with the award in October, 2013.



She was instrumental in forming the Muskegon County Treasurer's Association in 1997. As a result, this association has been responsible for originating several policies which have been adopted countywide.

Dillon was elected to office in 1996. She holds a Certified Public Finance Administrator Certification and a MiCPT Certification. She served on the MMTA board of directors for eight years, and is a member of the Michigan Township Association and the Association of Public Treasurers United States and Canada.

In Fruitport, Rose has served on the Department of Public Works, Police, Fire, Cemetery and Elections Committees, and as liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission. She is chairman of the Fruitport Library Committee and Secretary of the Fruitport Lioness Club. At her church, Rose teaches Sunday School and is involved in the music ministry. •



Fruitport golfer scores second hole in one!

by Suzi Sidock

Fruitport golfer George Lindblom earned his second hole in one at University Park Golf Course in Muskegon on October 2, 2013. He was on the fifth hole using an 8 iron at 120 yards. Eight years prior, he earned his first one golfing in Florida where he would volunteer for the Senior Tour every chance he could! He is so proud of his scrapbook. He has been golfing since he was a teenager and has been on two leagues for years.

Golfing and playing his accordion for nursing homes, the veterans hospital in Grand Rapids, and even in a local band called the Pour Boys keep him young at heart and physically fit.

In his immediate family, George has five children, nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren with another one on the way.

We do have a few golfers in the family, but none are as dedicated. Growing up, I caddied for him a few times at the Pontaluna Golf Course. Mind you, this was before everyone drove in carts! I learned the hard way what "fore" meant; it didn't hurt for long, and now I have cat-like reflexes. If I was concerned about the rain forecast dad always said, "It never rains on the golf course, so don't worry." But what truly hooked me into wanting to go with him was the promise of the hotdog cooked in beer and a milk shake if I found a lot of balls in the woods. And, yes, I would come out of those woods with my shirt filled with golf balls that I would bring to the ball washer and shine them right up!

Love you, Dad and Papa George. Way to Go!!

Your children and grandchildren.

Michigan elections ranks sixth highest in nation

Submitted by Michigan Secretary of State)

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced that Michigan ranks among the best states nationally for election administration and performance, according to a national nonpartisan research organization that studied 17 elections performance indicators in depth.

The Pew Center on the States released a report that called Michigan a "high performer" for the 2008, 2010 and 2012 election cycles, one of only seven states. The state increased its national rank in 2012 to sixth overall, largely due to the creation of post-election audits, a reform that Johnson called for after taking office. The audits review compliance with several pre-election and Election Day procedures in individual precincts. Johnson proposed post-election audits in 2011 as part of her Secure and Fair Elections Initiative and successfully worked to have them signed into law by Governor Snyder.

According to the study, Michigan also has the third-highest voter registration rate in the nation. This high ranking is due in large part to the outstanding job Secretary of State offices and local clerks do in accurately and efficiently processing voter registration transactions.

"Thanks to the hard work of our state's county, city and township election officials, Michigan again ranks among the best in the nation for election administration, confirming what I've long known," Johnson said. "We have an outstanding elections system that we're continuing to improve by making it even more secure and convenient for voters." •

Fruitport Lions Club's charitable giving

(Submitted by Carl Werner, treasurer of the Fruitport Lions Club)

There's much more to the Fruitport Lions Club than their sponsorship of the annual Old Fashioned Days in the Village. In fact, their scope extends to the local community, our state, and even internationally. This list, by no means all inclusive, provides examples of just how far-reaching and how their contributions make our way of life so much better.

Within the community:

- Food coupons are given out for Easter and Thanksgiving
- Sponsorship of the Easter Egg Hunt
- The annual Old Fashioned Christmas in Pomona Park
- Sponsorship of the Christmas Kids' Wish Tree
- Support of three Boy Scout Troops
- Thanksgiving food baskets
- Eye exams and glasses
- Scholarships to high school students
- Literacy program providing books and reading in elementary schools
- Peace Poster Contest
- Purchased 3 AED batteries for Fruitport Athletics

Muskegon County Area support:

- Muskegon Hearing and Speech
- Noah Project
- Muskegon Rescue Mission
- Salvation Army
- Muskegon Literacy Program

State and International:

- Blind and Visually Impaired
- Leader Dogs for the Blind
- Lions of Michigan Foundation
- Lions Clubs International Foundation
- Michigan Eye Bank
- Paws with a Cause
- Sight Seer Radio •

Service for the Good of Others

Sandy Hosko has been a volunteer with Harbor Hospice since July 2009. During 2012, she provided social visits, spiritual care visits, and staffed the reception desk at both our Poppen Residence and the Administration Office. She ran an amazing number of errands to pick up and deliver patients' medications or supplies, staffed our booths at community health fairs, and worked at fundraising events. Sandy gave Harbor Hospice 422 hours of her time, had contact with 43 patients, and drove over 2,186 miles to provide her assistance.

We called her one snowy day to see if she would be able to pick up medications at The Lakes Pharmacy and deliver them to Twin Lake. She was already scheduled to provide a visit for a patient in the Lakewood Club area so she thought she could combine the two. Unfortunately, we needed the meds delivered sooner than her scheduled time permitted. Sandy said, "That's okay, I'll still do it. Then I can stop and see another patient on the way home."



That's one of the many reasons it was so easy to select Sandy as the 2012 volunteer of the Year.

CONGRATULATIONS SANDY!