



Florence Lezotte, 75, at home in the Farmington Lanes on Grand River.

RANDY BORST/staff photographer

On the lanes

Age is no hindrance for this bowler

By Bob Sklar
staff writer

She's 75 years old — a mother to 12, a grandmother to 54 and a great-grandmother to 18. But that hasn't deterred Florence Lezotte from maintaining her fondness for bowling.

"That commitment brought a 266 game, featuring nine strikes in a row, during a Ladies League Feb. 11 at the Farmington Lanes.

"It was a beautiful game. I was on Cloud 9. I was really thrilled," said the 27-year Farmington resident, who started out with a spare and a nine count before reeling off nine strikes in a row.

Her previous high game was 229.

LEZOTTE HAS bowled two days a week for 55 years, except during pregnancies. Raising her children, including two sets of twins, also kept her away from the game of tenpins.

But once her children were grown, she resumed her love affair with the lanes.

She now bowls in the Tuesday morning Ladies League and the Thursday afternoon Senior Citizens League, both at the Farmington Lanes. Her current average is 126.

Her husband of 56 years, John, 80, also a longtime league bowler, now bowls in the Thursday afternoon Senior Citizens League.

"Besides bowling being good exercise, I like to see how good I can bowl," Lezotte said. "Just because I'm an old lady doesn't mean I have to quit."

BY DOCTOR'S orders, Lezotte said she doesn't lift her 10-pound bowling ball.

In the summer, she also enjoys golf.

And she has no plans on letting up, "as long as I can throw the ball or swing the club."

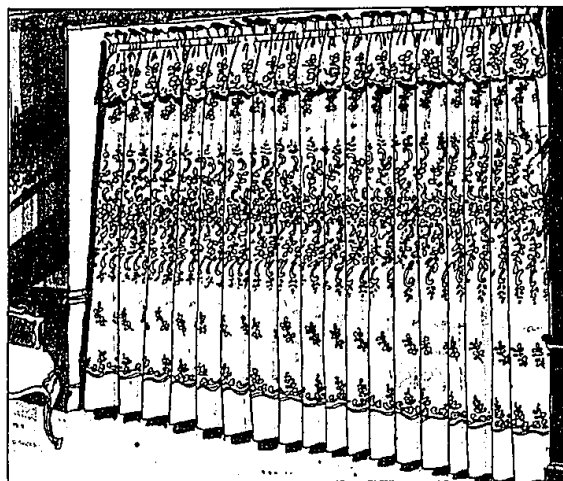
Hills church earns prize

Antioch Lutheran Church was recently recognized for its involvement with the Bill Knapp's community support program.

The Farmington Hills church received a Telex wireless microphone receiver, valued at \$351. Church goers collected more than 17,000 points at Bill Knapp's restaurants for the merchandise.

The support program is designed for non-profit organization participation. A group registers with the program, collects points at any Bill Knapp's and redeems those points for an item of the group's choice.

More than 1,000 groups are participating.



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