

# Happy birthday

## Mercy Sisters celebrate

Approximately 400 Sisters of Mercy and guests gathered Saturday, Sept. 25, for a celebration that capped off a year-long observance of the 125th anniversary of the Sisters of Mercy in Michigan.

Bishop Carl Mengeling, Diocese of Lansing, presided at a Eucharistic liturgy. In a ceremony that symbolized remembrance of the past and hope for the future, sisters mixed soil brought from motherhouses in Grand Rapids, Big Rapids, Jackson and Detroit and used it to plant a tree on the Sisters of Mercy Regional Community of Detroit campus in Farmington Hills.

The Sisters of Mercy were founded by Catherine McAuley in Dublin, Ireland in 1831. Sister Mary Joseph Lynch, the first Sister of Mercy in Michigan, served as a nurse in the cholera epidemic in Ireland and worked with Florence Nightingale in the Crimean War. She and four companions came to Grand Rapids in 1873 to open

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**Sister Linda Werthman, RSM**  
—Sisters of Mercy President

a parochial school. In the years that followed, the sisters' ministries in education, health care, social service and prayer expanded throughout the state of Michigan.

In remarks to those attending the celebration, Sister Linda Werthman, RSM, president of the Sisters of Mercy Regional Community to Detroit, thanked everyone who has contributed to the sisters' ministries.

"We truly believe and know in our hearts that the Sisters of

Mercy have come these 125 years in Michigan by faith leaning on the Lord," she said. "It is an all merciful God who has laid the foundation for the House of Mercy in Michigan but it is literally thousands of sisters, associates, colleagues in ministry and friends who have labored to build and maintain the Houses of Mercy spread throughout Michigan over these 125 years."

In a proclamation recognizing the work of the Sisters of Mercy, Farmington Hills Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi said, "The city of Farmington Hills appreciates the Mercy presence in our community and the relationship we have shared through the years."

The sisters established their Farmington Hills campus on 11 Middle Road in 1958. It includes the regional community offices, Mercy High School, and McAuley Center, the sisters' retirement facility.

# Police looking for armed robber

By LARRY O'CONNOR  
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Farmington Hills police are looking for the man who robbed a pizza place at gunpoint Thursday night.

No one was injured in the heist, which took place around 9:20 p.m. at Hungry Howie's at 21015 Farmington Road north of Eight Mile. The robber, who brandished an Uzi or short-barreled rifle, made off with \$600.

As of Friday, authorities had few leads.

It's not fitting in with any recent hold-ups we've had or with those in any other communities nearby," Assistant Police Chief Chuck Nebus said. "We've sent teletypes to other communities."

A man wearing a hooded sweatshirt came into the pizzeria and asked for help. When one of the employees went to the counter, the man demanded money and produced a gun.

While the employee tried to

open the register, the robber reached over and grabbed the clerk's collar and told him to hurry, according to police. He also reached over and grabbed money from the drawer after the employee opened it. He ran out the front door and south along Farmington Road, police reports said.

The employee drove to Meadow Drugs and phoned police.

During the robbery, two other employees fled out a rear door. One worker ran to a house on Kirby Street and knocked on the door for help.

When no one answered, he asked a Detroit Edison worker parked in a truck if he had a phone. While trying to find a

phone to call for help, the employee saw a male with a dark hooded shirt riding a mountain bike.

"It could be just a coincidence or it could've been the perpetrator," Nebus said.

Another employee hid behind a dumpster and removed her workshirt, afraid the robber was still in the store, police reports said.

The robber is described as a white man between ages of 25 and 35, 6 feet to 6-3. He was unshaven and wore sunglasses, a black hooded zip-up jacket with a sweatshirt and blue jeans.

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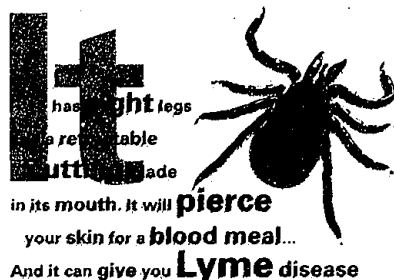
*in the 90s*  
by Herbert M. Gardner, D.D.S.

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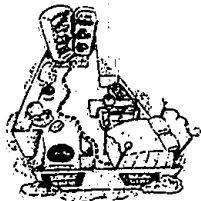
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