

# Prayer answered as contest winner named

When Kristie Meyer's caller identification machine told her the Observer was calling on Friday, she wondered what it was about.

"It's a good thing I didn't ignore it," said Meyer, who picked up the phone to learn she had won a week-long Caribbean vacation for two.

Meyer, who lives in Livonia, was the grand-prize winner in the Observer & Eccentric! Scrambler contest, a word-search game that was published in all 16 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for 12 consecutive Thursdays.

Meyer, who said she "never won anything like this in my life," didn't expect to win this

time, either. "I was just praying for a trip," she said.

There was one weekly drawing for each of the 12 puzzles, with prizes of \$100 (first place), two movie passes (second) and a 60-minute phone card (third). All the winners had found at least the minimum of 10 of the 20 words hidden in each puzzle, said Larry Geiger, consumer sales and marketing manager at the O&E.

"I think the puzzle people really got into it and really wanted to find all the words," Geiger said.

After the 12th week, all entries — 5,200 — were included in the final drawing.

Meyer, who takes care of residents at Woodhaven Retirement Community in Livonia, had entered just twice. She likes puzzles, she said, but rarely finds the time to work on them.

She'll take her 20-year-old son and spend a week at the Jack Tar Village-St. Kitts Resort and Casino. "I'm sure I'll find time," she said.

Her winning entry foretells her good fortune, with words such as "island," "benches" and "surf" in the puzzle.



STAFF PHOTO BY DYLAN MITCHELL

There she is: Livonia resident Kristie Meyer is the winner of the Observer & Eccentric! Scrambler Contest.

## Police to educate tellers

BY SUE BUCK  
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Plymouth Township Police is offering a Financial Institution Crime Awareness course for bank or credit union employees.

Registration is from noon-12:30 p.m. Feb. 20. The presentation is from 12:30-5 p.m. at the Quality Inn, 40455 Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth Township.

"This will be offered free of charge and will provide an explanation why we require certain information and how your behavior may help keep your employees and customers free from harm during a robbery," said Jamie Senkbeil, Plymouth Township community resource officer, who is organizing the event. "We will also discuss topics involving everyday conduct, conduct during a robbery, conduct immediately after a robbery and the role of the police officer."

"It will also increase the likelihood (the victim) will aid in the apprehension and prosecution of the offenders, attributing to a favorable outcome," Senkbeil said. "This training could result not only in a decrease of injuries to employees and customers, but in a decrease of lost revenue to the institution as well."

The five-hour course has five blocks of instruction with 45 minutes scheduled for each segment.

"The instructors have been carefully selected for their expertise in robbery investigation, physical evidence, patrol procedures, basic crime prevention, court preparation and presentation," Senkbeil said.

The schedule is:

■ 12:30-1:10 p.m. — Introduction and Everyday Conduct, Novi Police Officer Pat Fanning

■ 1:10 - 2:20 p.m. — Conduct During and After a Robbery, West Bloomfield Police Sgt. Tom Kielman

■ 2:15-3 p.m. — Uniform Police Response to a Robbery, Plymouth Township Police Officer Jamie Senkbeil

■ 3-3 p.m. — Weapons, Plymouth Township Police Officer Eric Anderson-Smith

■ 3:30-4 p.m. Role of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Agent Terry Booth

■ 4-5 p.m. Role of the Detective/Evidence Tech, Southfield Police Officer Chris Helgart

The course will be held in conjunction with police agencies from Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield Township, Southfield and Novi.

"We have already begun to get calls and hope we will also hear from financial institutions in Canton Township," Senkbeil said.

She acknowledged the Dearborn Police Department for teaching the trainers for the program. "We would also like to thank the Suffolk County Police Department in Long Island, New York, who originally developed and implemented this successful program in 1990," she said.

For more information, call Senkbeil at (734) 354-3243.

■ This will be offered free of charge and will provide an explanation why we require certain information and how your behavior may help keep your employees and customers free from harm during a robbery.

Jamie Senkbeil  
—Plymouth Township police



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