

OBITUARIES

ENVER R. SOLOMON
A memorial service for Enver Rapag Solomon, 76, of Southfield, will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 21, at Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington.

Mr. Solomon died June 14, 2002.
He is survived by his wife, Anna; children, Dolph (Kunkin) Diemont, Tim (Robin) Diemont, Anthony (Lucia) Diemont and Marianne (Mike) Fulkerson; and grandchildren, Miki, Derrick, Anthony, Anastasia, Gia and Ellie.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

SHIRLEY J. PERAZZA
Services for Shirley Jean Perazza, 76, of Farmington, were held June 16 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with the Rev. Larry Austin officiating.

Mrs. Perazza was born Oct. 28, 1925 in West Bloomfield and died June 13, 2002, in Howell. She enjoyed golfing.

She is survived by her daughters, Lynda Geneste and Julie (Bill) Kolesar; sister, Joyce Amos; and five grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her first husband Marvin Longyear, second husband Angelo Perazza and son, Fred Longyear.

KATHERINE M. WESTFALL
Services for Katherine M. Westfall, 95, of Farmington, were held June 18 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with the Rev. Victor Halbach officiating. Burial took place at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia.

Mrs. Westfall was born Nov. 14, 1906 in Bay City and died June 14, 2002, at Botsford Hos-

pital in Farmington Hills. She worked for Crowley's, Fred Sanders, and Federal Department Store.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews including, Donna Brown, James Driller, Nancy Verblon and David Driller; brothers, Ed and Norman Donkhaus; and sister, Dorothy Driller. She is preceded in death by her husband, John. Memorial contributions may be made to the Michigan Lupus Foundation, 26202 Harper Ave., St. Clair Shores, MI 48081.

ROGER L. EMERSON
Services for Roger L. Emerson, 49, of Howell, were held June 18 at MacDonald's Funeral Home in Howell with the Rev. Dr. Gary Brand officiating.

Mr. Emerson was born Jan. 3, 1953, in Hazel Park and died June 14, 2002. He graduated from Farmington High School in 1971.

He is survived by his wife Cindy; sons, Leo (Jessica), Jason, Jeremy and Roger II; grandchildren, Ryan, Aaron and Noah; mother, Rita Emerson; sisters, Anita (David) Martell and Amber (Wayne) Miller; and brother, Chester (Janet).

CAROLE BARDEUA
Carole Bardeua, 79, of Farmington Hills, died June 15, 2002 in Farmington Hills.

Mrs. Bardeua was born Dec. 27, 1922 in River Rouge. She is survived by her sons, Louis (Carole), Robert, Angelo (Laura) and Thomas (Kathy); and daughter, Carole (Terry) Powell; and 16 grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, Louis.

Arrangements made by Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington.

Special administrator

Leach honored for special education work

BY JONI HUBRED
JHubred@ec.homecomm.net

Having known Greg Gwisdalla made the experience of winning an award named for him all the more meaningful for Clarenceville Special Education Director Cheryl Leach.

Leach, who has just been appointed interim superintendent (replacing Tom Tattan who is moving to Waterford Schools in July), is also in charge of personnel and pupil accounting, taking a census twice a year that's related to state funding. Special education is where she started, as a teacher in Pontiac Schools. Gwisdalla was director of Special Education for Oakland Schools before his death in March, 2001 at age 53. The award is given by the Special Education Administrators of Oakland County (SEAO).

"A review of the characteristics that describe the Gwisdalla Award recipient immediately brings to mind the name of Cheryl Leach," said nominator Donna Tinberg of New Schools.

Tinberg described her colleague with words like "leader," "kind and caring" and "peacemaker." In her nomination, she referred to specific situations in which Leach's involvement led to more effective education for children with disabilities. But Leach didn't really begin her career wanting to be a special education teacher.

"I started off as a teacher of the emotionally impaired," she said.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

Honored:
Clarenceville's interim superintendent Cheryl Leach speaks about her award.

children is always a challenge," Leach said, "and meeting parents' expectations."

Parents of children with special needs are more savvy than ever about their children's conditions and needs, she added. The largest group of children served have learning disabilities, which is a growing population, as is the number of kids diagnosed with autism.

Of her 15-year tenure, Leach said, "The department has grown and we have become more knowledgeable on instructional methods and materials to use with our disabled students."

In addition to her work within the district, Leach has been very involved with SEAO, serving as organization president, past-president and secretary. She has also chaired and served on a number of committees.

"Cheryl's leadership is never of the flamboyant type; instead, she sets a quiet, steady tone that gives others the freedom to contribute to a synergistic process," Tinberg said in her nomination. "She is able to see the big picture, develop a plan to achieve a desired outcome and build the relationships and consensus that are necessary to achieve the goal."

child may be sent to center programs located throughout the county.

"Severely impaired kids go to centers," Leach said. "That's the Oakland Schools connection."

Most children with special needs are served within the district, which maintains a staff of 25 in the department including teachers, social workers, speech and language pathologist and a psychologist. Mainstreaming has become a common practice, so much so that those with disabilities are very well accepted in the classroom, Leach said.

The district has kept up well with the increasing need for a psychologist, she believes, but it has been a struggle.

"Funding is always a challenge. Transportation of handicapped

Cops for Kids raises \$4,000

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer said the department's recent "Cops for Kids 10K and 5K Run/Walk for MDA" was another success in its 13th year.

Nearly 200 runners/walkers and representatives from 15 police departments participated in this year's event. The run/walk, which was sponsored by the Hills Police Department and Oakland Community College was held on June 8 at the college's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. More than \$4,000 was raised to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. In the past 12 years, the Hills Police Department has raised more than \$47,000 to benefit MDA.

Dwyer said, "The Muscular Dystrophy Association was

selected by the Farmington Hills Police Department from the very beginning because of the importance of doing what we can to help eliminate this dreaded childhood disease."

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CORRECTION NOTICE A Printing error was made in the June 6, 2002 advertisement for "DOCTOR APPROVED ALL NATURAL HAIR PRODUCT". The ad stated... "the reactivation becomes evident within two to three weeks upon use". It should of read... two to three months upon use". We regret this error and any inconvenience it may have caused.

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